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INTRODUCTION

Strategic Aim

This Playspace Plan recognises the importance of play for all people. Play is a fundamental component of health, wellbeing and community resilience. Play provides physical, social, cognitive and creative benefits for children, teenagers, and adults of all abilities. This plan defines a framework for the provision of playspaces across the Yarra Ranges municipality.

Playground or Playspace?

This plan refers to playspaces instead of playgrounds to appropriately reflect the process of designing for play in specific environments, rather than with specific structures. This results in spaces that:

- provide a variety of experiences
- include themed structures providing a range of inter-related 'experiential play' activities
- integrate and reflect the natural and cultural aspects of the site
- consider different types of play
- consider the needs of carers

Approach

This plan has been developed taking into consideration a range of strategic documents and frameworks including the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as Council's Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the Recreation and Open Space Strategy. Emerging trends in playspace design have also been considered including nature play, play for adults and integrated playspaces.

There has been ongoing discussion with Council staff from a range of disciplines to capture foundational needs and issues. Demographic data, including population projections, has been collected to inform the prioritisation of an action plan for playspace development and renewal. The annual playspace safety audit report has been used to identify opportunities for improvement in Council management practices for playspaces.

The foundational work was then challenged though a public engagement process, which asked a range of community groups, individuals and key stakeholders to provide feedback on the draft plan.



Lillydale Lake Playspace renewal completed 2017

WHAT IS PLAY?

The Importance of Play

The importance of play to children and teenagers is well documented. More recently, its importance for adults of all ages has been identified. This has resulted in a change to the way playspaces are provided. For adults, play can be pivotal for health and wellbeing.

Play provides opportunities for creating and maintaining social connections and is critical for older adults as it helps in maintaining mobility, balance and a range of motion¹.

1 Better Parks for People - Charles Sturt University

For the Child

CHILDREN are the foundation of the world's future.

CHILDREN have played at all times throughout history and in all cultures.

PLAY, along with the basic needs of nutrition, health, shelter and education, is vital to develop the potential of all children.

PLAY is communication and expression, combining thought and action; it gives satisfaction and a feeling of achievement.

PLAY is instinctive, voluntary, and spontaneous.

PLAY helps children develop physically, mentally, emotionally and socially.

PLAY is a means of learning to live, not a mere passing of time².

2 The Child's Right to Play by International Play Association 1989

For Adults

PLAY can relieve stress. It has also shown to improve brain function.

PLAY can stimulate the mind and boost creativity.

PLAY can improve social connectedness.

PLAY improves physical and mental wellbeing.



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Play Benefit	Activity	Playspace Examples
Physical	Gross motor activity/perceptual motor activity Running, hanging, climbing, agility, balance, risk taking Fall prevention, balance, strengthening	Ball games Play equipment Climbing trees/rocks Fitness equipment Balance beams Stepping stones
Social	Activities that encourage role play, imaginative play, intergenerational play and play in groups Activities that encourage meeting in groups	Structures such as cubby houses, low decks Spaces defined by natural planting, seats, rocks Ambiguous shapes, changes in levels Equipment located together, supported by accessible seating to allow gathering
Cognitive	Activities that challenge the intellect, exploration and observation Activities that keep the mind active	Natural areas for observation of living things Outdoor chess or marbles Spaces for reading/reflection Music and sound making objects Puzzles and mazes Outdoor chess, mazes and puzzles Spaces for reflection
Creative	Activities that allow things to be made and explored	Sand play, water play Play with loose and found objects Art and craft materials Music and sound making objects Natural areas Sculpture Natural materials

Play and Risk

Risk taking is a valuable component of play, it allows people to test their uncertainty and indulge their curiosity. For people of all ages and abilities play often moves from the known and familiar to the more challenging and complex, providing a satisfying sense of increased competence and autonomy. Through risk taking people develop skills such as persistence, self-reliance and adaptability.

Whilst risk taking in play is to be encouraged, steps also need to be taken to keep the users of playspaces safe. A helpful way of balancing this tension is to recognise that some risks provide benefits; they engage and challenge and provide opportunities for new experiences, growth and learning. Whilst other risks are inherently difficult to gauge and offer no clear developmental benefit.

(Source: Playing it Safe, Bernard van Leer Foundation April 2018)

EMERGING TRENDS

Nature Play

Nature based play recognises the physical, social, cognitive and creative benefits of people's contact with nature. These playspaces include natural elements (e.g. sand, water and plants) and provide materials that have no 'fixed purpose' (e.g. branches). Children in these spaces adapt them to suit their scenarios and games rather than being limited by the design.

Natural areas in an outdoor playspace can include:

- gardens where children can grow their own plants
- digging patches
- a range of plants to encourage play and touch through climbing, seed pods, branches and bark
- elements for cubby house construction
- · small pits of pebbles, gravel, coarse sand and smooth river rocks
- · natural environments that encourage birds, butterflies and other insects
- logs



lan Potter Foundation Children's Garden



Adult Playspaces

Play for adults of all ages has been recognised across the world for its health and wellbeing benefits. The best installations help to improve physical balance and minimise the risk of falls, build muscle strength and tone, extend a person's range of motion, and improve manual dexterity whilst providing creative and cognitive stimulation. Adults can also be stimulated through the provision of sculpture, puzzles and mazes.

Playspaces for adults started about two decades ago in China, after a national law came into effect that mandated fitness programs for all ages. The idea spread during the 2000's to England, Japan, Finland, Germany, Canada and Spain, where more than 40 percent of the population will be 65-plus by 2050. Barcelona now boasts more than 300 senior playspace installations.

Fitness focused playspaces can include elements such as stationary and recumbent bicycles, sideby-side striders, face-to-face leg presses and



Fitness playspace

hand-eye dexterity games. These spaces may also have walking paths with ramps, steps and arches; games like bocce, ping pong or horseshoes; and shaded seating areas.

While Asia and Europe have focused on seniors-only playspaces, some of which are built adjacent to children's playspaces to allow grandparents to stay active in the park while their grandchildren play nearby, the U.S. is moving toward multigenerational playspaces.

Multigenerational play



Multigenerational Play

Multigenerational playspaces encourage play by all ages building social connection and shared experiences through play.

They are built to accommodate kids, their parents and grandparents - these are playspaces for kids of any age. In these spaces, you'll find kid-sized slides and swings alongside outdoor fitness stations with adult-sized equipment such as stationary exercise bikes, chess boards and balance beams, all intended to help keep us physically and cognitively and emotionally fit from childhood through our senior years.1

Integrated Playspaces

Playspaces are now being designed to cater for a range of recreation activities and experiences, which help people engage across the spectrum of physical, social, cognitive and creative play types. In practice, this can mean co-locating more traditional looking playspaces with skate parks or half courts to cater for a great range of ages, abilities and interests. Playspaces are also being designed to allow the user to activate the space in ways that meet their needs rather than have the space dictate activities.

Playspaces need to be adaptive for new and emerging forms of play and patterns of use. An example of the innovative use of playspaces occurred in July 2016 when Pokémon Go, a game played though a smart phone app swept around the world and was downloaded over 500 million times. By overlaying 3D digital creatures on the phone's camera feed the game encouraged players to walk around in physical space to catch these creatures in real locations.

Playspace design elements can include:

Water play

Encourages interaction with water and is offered through a range of features such as fountains, splash pads, streams and hoses.

Street skate

Is a style of skateboarding that focuses on tricks and moving between flat surfaces and inclines in public places. Traditionally, street skateboarders have used park benches and picnic tables, guard rails, handrails, planter boxes, bins, stairs, retaining walls and other street furniture not purposebuilt for skateboarding. Specific skate-able elements are now being designed as part of linear trails and public playspaces. These elements are suitable for use by people with skateboards, bicycles and scooters.

Parkour

Is a training discipline using movement that developed from military obstacle course training. Practitioners aim to get from one point to another in a complex environment, without assistive equipment and in the fastest and most efficient way possible. Parkour includes running, climbing, swinging, vaulting, jumping, rolling, quadrupedal movement, and other movements as deemed most suitable for the situation. Parkour is an activity that can be practised alone or with others and is usually—but not exclusively—carried out in urban spaces. Parkour involves seeing one's environment in a new way, and imagining the potential for navigating it by movement around, across, through, over and under its features.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parkour





Lilydale skate park

Parkour

Yarra Ranges Council Playspace Strategy 2019–2029

¹ http://adventure.howstuffworks.com/outdoor-activities/urbansports/10-things-for-adult-playspaces9.htm

WHAT IS COUNCIL'S ROLE IN PLAYSPACES?

Council plans, designs, constructs and maintains playspaces across the municipality. Through the Local Government Act, Councils are required to promote and support people's health and wellbeing. Playspaces offer a unique opportunity to support people of all ages and abilities. This is done through providing infrastructure that encourages physical activity and also by creating spaces that encourage social connection, creativity and mental stimulation. A variety of play experiences can promote learning and development, which are important building blocks in

creating resilient communities. Council can address inequity by providing infrastructure that supports communities with particular disadvantages.

This plan focuses on Council's playspaces in the municipality's existing open space network. However, the following lists illustrate the wide range of facilities Council is responsible for that support diverse play types.

Playspaces in the Open Space Network

Council has 119 playspaces made up of:

- 110 local playspaces
- 8 district playspaces
- 1 regional playspace

Other Spaces That Provide Play Experiences

The following facilities are often co-located with community gathering spaces, sports grounds and/ or trails in Council's open space network:

- Full and Half courts/stand-alone poles
- Skate parks
- BMX tracks
- Roll Play

Playspaces Located in Council Owned or Managed Facilities

Council has 51 playspaces across Council facilities:

- 38 at preschools
- 12 at community centres and halls
- 1 at an aquatic centre

Time Frames

When a new playspace is being developed or an existing playspace is being significantly renewed or upgraded, Council undertakes a process that involves community consultation, playspace design and construction. Depending on the size of the playspace and the source of funding, this process can take up to three years from inception to delivery.

Council's Social Recreational Guidelines

Through the Yarra Ranges' Recreation and Open Space Strategy (ROSS) 2013-2023, Council has identified three categories of social recreation parks that offer areas for play, relaxation and informal recreation activities. The following guidelines cover the design and quality of these spaces

Local

Includes areas for: cooperative play and games, a variety of spaces, loose materials contact, equipment for exercise, areas with places to hide and retreats from activity that are protected from boisterous play, shade seating and paths.

Caters to a range of age groups. No BBQ or toilets.

Please note a number of local playspaces have site constraints that limit the range of play equipment that can be installed.

District

Core attributes include large shady tree, diversity of planting, high standard of maintenance, seating or place to sit, paths suitable for walking and cycling, shade and shelter, drinking water, nature play, fully accessible to people with a disability.

Some have picnic, BBQ facilities, toilets, high quality lawns, formed paths, lights and rubbish collection system.

Reflect the character of the township.

If water treatment is required, consider wetlands or lake environments with boardwalks and landscaping.

Regional

Significant planting and landscape elements, shade and shelter, seating, BBQ, public toilets. Fully accessible to people with a disability, formed paths.

Possibly access to refreshments and other commercial services.

A large playspace offering the full range of imaginative and educative play for all ages.



Standards and Guidelines

Australian Standards

Australian Standards are published documents setting out specifications and procedures designed to ensure products, services and systems are safe, reliable and consistently perform the way they were intended to. They establish a common language which defines quality and safety criteria.

Standards have been developed for the design and installation of playspaces within Australia. They specify safety requirements and ensure a high quality of workmanship associated with the design, installation, and maintenance and testing of play equipment and surfacing. The Australian Standards for Playspaces should be consulted by anyone planning, designing, building or maintaining a playspace.



Shade

Sun exposure is a significant health risk as it causes nearly all skin cancers, however, some exposure to the sun is required for good health. To limit damaging sun exposure



the Australian Cancer Council recommends:

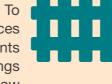
- slip on a shirt
- slop on sunscreen
- slap on a hat
- seek shade
- slide on sunglasses

In open spaces shade can be provided through built structures, such as shelters and shade sails as well as through natural shade provided by trees. Council has a preference for providing shade through vegetation especially by trees on the north and west sides of playspaces. Plants provide protection from the sun and also provide a cooling function through transpiration or the evaporation of water from the leaves. This Plan's twenty year schedule allows for the long-term planting of shade trees.

When designing water play areas where larger open spaces are required and the provision of shade trees is not possible, Council will also provide some shade through built structures.

Fences

In general Council doesn't fence open spaces or playspaces. To guide movement around playspaces Council uses landscaping elements such as paths, mounds, plantings and bollards to help direct the flow



of people in the space. Similarly, to help parents and carers monitor playspaces landscaping elements are used to create vantage points whilst maintaining the feeling of seclusion for those at play.

Fenced sites often have unintended consequences such as people leaving children unsupervised in playspaces or people locking dogs in these spaces.

Dogs

Council supports and recognises the benefits of pets and provides a number of services and guidelines to support responsible pet ownership. Dogs are not permitted in playspaces. Dogs must be on a leash at all times,



unless it is in one of Councils 23 off-leash areas. However, even in off-leash the owner must have a leash on hand and have the dog under voice or hand control. These areas are specifically located away from playspaces.

Significant Regional Playspaces

Along with Council playspaces the community also uses playspaces not owned or managed by Council. The following information identifies these popular playspaces located within or adjoining Yarra Ranges.

Parks Victoria

These playspaces are promoted on the Parks Victoria website:

- · Fern Tree Gully, Mount Dandenong Tourist Rd, Tremont
- Silvan Reservoir, Monbulk Rd, Silvan
- · Cardinia Reservoir, Red Hill Rd, Emerald
- Maroondah Reservoir, Maroondah Highway, Healesville
- Olinda Recreation Precinct, Olinda-Monbulk Rd, Olinda

Other Councils

The list below is of heavily utilised playspaces located within 750m of Yarra Ranges. The source for this data was Vicmap.

Name	LGA	Proximity to Yarra Ranges (m)
Talaskia Reserve	Knox	319
Stockton Avenue Reserve	Knox	371
Academy Drive Reserve	Knox	722
Hughes Park	Maroondah	42
Leeds Drive Reserve	Maroondah	149
Barngeong Reserve	Maroondah	240
Griff Hunt Reserve	Maroondah	270
Charles Allen Reserve	Maroondah	361
Kurrajong Reserve	Maroondah	395

Cost and Funding Opportunities

Costs

Operational costs associated with ongoing maintenance of playspaces include: safety inspections; soft-fall replacement; vandalism and graffiti response. In 2018/19 Council will spend approximately \$405,000 on operational needs for all its existing playspaces.

Capital Expenditure costs are associated with creating new, upgrading and renewing playspaces. With over 100 playspaces in the current program, the cost of renewing Council's portfolio of playspace assets is predicted to be in excess of \$36 million over the next 20 years.

Cost parameters have been established for new playspaces based on recent project design, consultation and construction costs for each playspace category:

- Regional playspace \$1.52M
- District playspace \$0.56M
- Local playspace \$0.258M

With this formula one regional playspace is worth approximately five local playspaces or one district playspace is worth approximately two local playspaces. Where site constraints limit the practical spend at local playspaces other localised options will be considered.

Funding Opportunities

Yarra Ranges' Public Open Space Fund

Through the subdivision approval process, Yarra Ranges Council is able to levy public open space contributions under the Subdivision Act, based on an amount of up to five per cent of the site land value. This may be in the form of either cash or land, or a combination of both.

Public open space contributions cannot be used to pay for historical open space deficiencies for people living in the municipality. The monies received can only be spent on open space land purchases or capital works for improvements to open space in accordance with the Environment and Planning Act and the Subdivision Act 1988.

Other Government Sources

Both State and Federal governments provide funding for initiatives that target preventative health programs and encourage more active communities. These funds often focus on infrastructure and projects for communities that improve amenity, livability, resilience and social connections.



STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Yarra Ranges

Yarra Ranges Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2017—2021

Council's approach to promoting good health is described in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The strategy looks at what makes for good health and wellbeing, and includes the priority areas of connected and healthy communities, resilient and livable communities, equitable and inclusive communities.

Recreation Open Space Strategy 2013—2023

The Recreation and Open Space Strategy is a multipurpose suite of documents. It addresses via policy, framework and action plans, how Yarra Ranges will create healthy and active environments for its community. The policy references, in part, the need for quality and diverse sport and recreation facilities, parks and community spaces. It specifically states that Yarra Ranges should:

- resource the delivery of neighbourhood parks and playspace programs
- prioritise the development of creative, imaginative and educational playspace environments
- embrace the benefits of connecting with nature

This strategy is due to be reviewed in 2019/20.

Child and Youth Strategy 2014-2024

This strategy has the vision that Yarra Ranges will be a place where every child and young person will be able to thrive, reach their potential and actively participate in decision making. Outcome 2 has the most relevance to this strategy stating that "Adequate Infrastructure exists to meet the needs of children, young people and their families."

Equity, Access and Inclusion Strategy 2013-2023

With this strategy Council recognises that inclusion for people with a disability in all aspects of community life is a human right that also brings many social, cultural and economic benefits for the wider community. It further states as one of the goals that Council buildings and infrastructure are accessible to everyone in our community.

A Gender Lens for Women 2014

This project was completed as part of the Preventing Violence against Women in Our Community for Maroondah, Knox and Yarra Ranges Councils. It focused on the leisure facilities and settings that Council can influence though policies and services to provide gender equitable leisure settings. The study highlights design initiatives that encourage greater use of social recreation spaces by women. These initiatives include:

- parking location
- well-lit and/or open community surveillance
- pathways near playspaces
- social spaces with facilities for people of all ages

Let's Talk About Warby Project Final Report 2016

Supporting families and young children in the Warburton area (including East Warburton/Reefton), the project aims to significantly improve the developmental outcomes for vulnerable children 0-5 years growing up in the Warburton area by 2019, to a level similar to the Yarra Ranges average. One of the recommendations from this report considers how existing and planned infrastructure can be more family friendly with increased opportunities for play and meeting spaces that promote community connectedness and parenting support opportunities.

Global Strategic Links

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child

In November 1989, the UN General Assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). It is the most widely ratified human rights treaty in the world. Australia ratified the CRC in December 1990. This means that Australia has a duty to ensure that all children in Australia enjoy the rights set out in the treaty.

The CRC contains the full range of human rights – civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights. Some of the core principles of the CRC are:

- the right of all children to survival and development
- respect for the best interests of the child as a primary consideration in all decisions relating to children
- the right of all children to express their views freely on all matters affecting them
- the right of all children to enjoy all the rights of the CRC without discrimination of any kind

It consists of 54 Articles with the most relevant article to the playspace plan being Article 31 (Leisure, play and culture): Children have the right to relax and play, and to join in a wide range of cultural, artistic and other recreational activities.

Child Friendly Cities (UNICEF)

The Child Friendly Cities (CFC) website provides information on how to build a CFC or Community. There is data on good practices and interventions, relevant publications, and updates on current research and initiatives.

A child friendly city is the embodiment of the 'Convention on the Rights of the Child' at the local level, which, in practice, means that children's rights are reflected in policies, laws, programmes and budgets. In a child friendly city, children are active agents; their voices and opinions are taken into consideration and influence decision making processes.

Global Strategy and Action Plan on Ageing and Health 2016—2020 (World Health Organisation)

The World Health Organisation strategy focuses on five strategic objectives:

- commitment to action on healthy ageing in every country
- developing age-friendly environments
- aligning health systems to the needs of older populations
- developing sustainable and equitable systems for providing long-term care (home, communities, institutions) and
- improving measurement, monitoring and research on healthy ageing



IDENTIFYING PLAYSPACE GAPS

A number of factors were considered in assessing the provision of playspaces in Yarra Ranges and to help develop a prioritised schedule of new, upgraded, renewed and retired playspaces. The Recreation and Open Space Strategy Guidelines for the location, size and distribution of social recreation parks provided a framework for assessing the type of service provided by a playspace, geographic spread and siting. Demographic data and Council's strategies relating to health, wellbeing, access, and equity provided a framework for assessing need over time and across locations.



Yarra Ranges Council Playspace Strategy 2019–2029

Social Recreation Park Guidelines

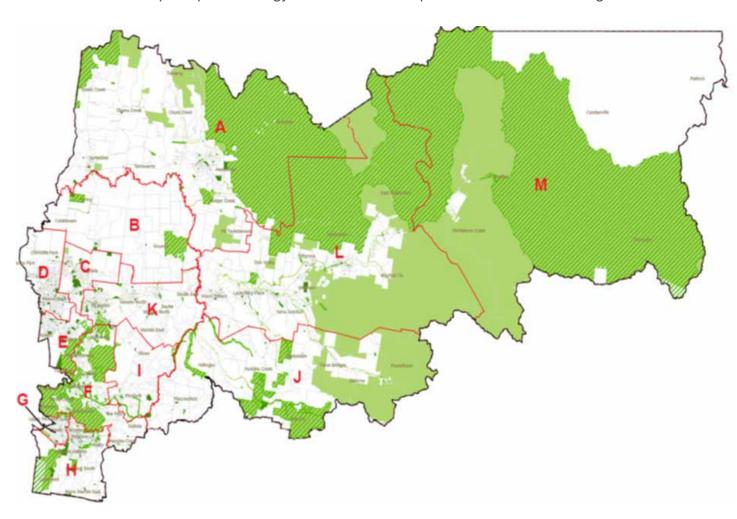
The Recreation and Open Space Strategy guidelines for the location, size and distribution of social recreation spaces parks are set out in the following table. These parks enable families and friends to meet and gather, offer an environment for play, relaxation and informal recreation activities. Whilst playspaces are not offered in every social recreation space, these guidelines help to provide a framework for playspace distribution.

Local	District	Regional
One social recreation area to serve each rural township Not on encumbered land In urban areas, provide within 400—500m of every household (without having to cross a major road/railway or other major physical barrier) Centrally located in community activity node e.g. adjacent to sports, shop or community meeting facilities Minimum size of one ha Minimum dimensions of 70m in any direction	As per local level provision In rural zones the local social recreation will be met in the nearest rural township or hub – not dispersed throughout the zone One district social recreation park in each precinct plus local social recreation parks outside 400m–500m catchment or several with different landscape setting types to create diversity in park experiences Not on encumbered land Preferably minimum size two ha Minimum dimensions of 70m in any direction Locate so as to: • be central to the population it serves • be in a prominent community hub • be large enough to allow diversity of opportunity • serve multiple age groups and abilities • front houses preferably from across a road to maximise use • maximise public surveillance and sense of community ownership • minimise conflicts between users, and between reserve users and residents • no more than two sides of the one urban residential property Promote an interface with shopping centre and residential property Pedestrian access is encouraged. Access to the public park via street frontages and connecting to other footpaths is important May be in form of plaza or ornamental garden	As per district level provision Provide in each activity centre Provide a diverse mix of activities Served by a shared path or off-road trail

These guidelines are based on the work of @leisure

Recreation and Open Space Strategy Precinct Map

The Recreation and Open Space Strategy has established 13 precincts across Yarra Ranges.



Precinct A	Healesville and Yarra Glen	Precinct I	Monbulk and Silvan
Precinct B	Gruyere, Chirnside Park & Yering	Precinct J	Rural South
Precinct C	Lilydale	Precinct K	Mt Evelyn, Wandin, Seville and Seville
Precinct D	Chirnside Park and Mooroolbark		East
Precinct E	Kilsyth and Montrose	Precinct L	Launching Place, Woori Yallock, Don Valley, Warburton, Yarra Junction,
Precinct F	Hilltop, Kallista and Surrounds		Millgrove and Wesburn
Precinct G	Upwey and Tecoma	Precinct M	Rural East
Precinct H	Belgrave Heights, Belgrave South,		

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Belgrave and Selby

Yarra Ranges Age Profile

The Yarra Ranges municipality population according to the 2016 census was 149,537; this is expected to grow to 178,150 by 2036. Analysis of age groups in the Yarra Ranges municipality area in 2016 compared to Greater Melbourne shows that there was a higher proportion of people in the younger age groups (0 to 17 years) as well as a higher proportion of people in the older age groups (60+ years). The total population projection for 2026 is 166,481.

Between 2016 and 2026, the age forecasts for Yarra Ranges municipality indicate a 3.3% increase in population under working age, a 37.7% increase in population of retirement age, and a 1.3% decrease in population of working age.

The data was divided in to the 13 ROSS precincts in the table below.

Recreation Open Space Strategy Precinct	Townships	ABS Estimated Population in 2016	Predicted changes to population under working age	Predicted changes to population at Working age	Predicted changes to population in the retirement age	Total Predicted 2026 Population
А	Healesville & Surrounds	10,537	↓0.2%	↓2.0%	↑26.4%	11,151
Α	Yarra Glen & Surrounds	3,624	↑3.6%	↑12.5	↑8.0%	3,963
В	Gruyere, Coldstream, Yering	3,351	14.0%	↑0.5%	↑7.4%	3,446
С	Lilydale	17,143	^21.0%	†20.3%	147.1%	21,604
D	Chirnside Park	10,697	18.6%	↑17.8%	146.8%	13,300
D	Mooroolbark	22,868	↑9.0%	1.7%	124.0%	24,606
Е	Kilsyth	9,555	↓1.1%	↓1.6%	↑35.6%	10,310
E	Montrose	7,018	↓ 7.8%	↓5.3%	↑16.5%	6,973
F	The Hills	5,527	↓11.8%	↓4.2%	↑12.7%	5,419
G	Upwey & Surrounds	5,421	↑3.6%	↓5.0%	↑9.9%	5,441
Н	Belgrave – Selby	9,945	↓3.3%	↓4.4%	↑32.5%	9,831
Н	Belgrave Heights & Surrounds	3,707	↓8.7%	↓2.6%	↑14.7%	3,683
I	Monbulk- Silvan	5,036	7.1%	↓2.6%	14.2%	5,040
J & M	Rural South & East	3,615	↑2.3%	↓9.8%	^26.6%	3,672
K	Mount Evelyn	10,053	↓ 7.7%	↓9.8%	↑33.0%	9,858

Recreation Open Space Strategy Precinct	Townships	ABS Estimated Population in 2016	Predicted changes to population under working age	Predicted changes to population at Working age	Predicted changes to population in the retirement age	Total Predicted 2026 Population
K	Wandin & Surrounds	3,616	↑7.7%	↓0.5%	↑34.5%	3,918
K	Seville & Seville East	3,306	↑2.2%	↓1.0%	↑38.3%	3,506
L	Launching Place, Woori Yallock, Don Valley	6,038	↓11.7%	↓9.3%	144.5%	5,994
L	Warburton and Surrounds	3,033	†5.6%	↓4.8%	↑10.2%	3,090
L	Yarra Junction, Millgrove & Wesburn	5,379	↓3.2%	^1.1%	142.8%	5,886

Advantage and Disadvantage in Yarra Ranges

In Yarra Ranges the highest levels of advantage can be found in the Hills area, in particular the towns and surrounds of Kallista, Kalorama, Olinda, Mount Dandenong, Sassafras and Belgrave Heights. Advantage is characterised by many families with large houses, high incomes, low unemployment rates and professional occupations.

In Yarra Ranges the highest levels of disadvantage occur within the Yarra Valley, in particular the townships and surrounds of Yarra Junction, Millgrove, Wesburn, Warburton, Healesville, Launching Place, Woori Yallock and Don Valley. Disadvantage is characterised by low income, families and people with little training and in unskilled occupations, as well as children in houses with jobless parents. Many of Council's strategies work to reduce the impact of early life experiences of disadvantage, which in turn reduces the likelihood of sustained disadvantage. Council also aims to improve the accessibility of its services and to deliver interventions to reduce inequity.

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Yarra Ranges Council Playspace Strategy 2019–2029

Average Number of People Per Playspace

The following table splits playspaces across each Recreation and Open Space Precinct, and indicates the average number of people based on the 2016 census that are within the same precinct.

Precinct	Townships & Suburbs	Current No. Local playspaces (Feb 2018)	Current No. District playspaces (Feb 2018)	Current No. Regional playspaces (Feb 2018)	No. ppl per playspace	Proposed No. Local Playspaces (and those in train)	Proposed No. District Playspaces (and those in train)	Proposed No. Regional Playspaces (and those in train)	No. ppl per playspace
A	Healesville & Surrounds Yarra Glen & Surrounds	o	-	0	1416	œ	0	7	1416
Ш	Gruyere, Coldstream, Yering	α		0	1117	α	-	0	1117
O	Lilydale	0	-	-	1558	0	-	—	1558
Ω	Chirnside Park Mooroolbark	30	-		1083	28	0	-	1083
Ш	Kilsyth Montrose	4	-	0	1105	1	7	0	1275
ш	The Hills	2	0	0	2190	4	0	-	2190
Ű	Upwey & Surrounds	9	0	0	1658	2	-	0	1658
I	Belgrave – Selby Belgrave Heights & Surrounds	7	0	0	1364	Ø	-	0	1364
_	Monbulk-Silvan	က	0	0	1679	2	-	0	1679
J&M	Rural South & East	2	0	0	1808	2	0	0	1808
\checkmark	Mount Evelyn Wandin & Surrounds Seville & Seville East	4	-	0	1132	13	0	-	1213
٦	Launching Place, Woori Yallock, Don Valley Warburton and Surrounds Yarra Junction, Millgrove & Wesburn	#	-	0	1314	∞	-	-	1445
	TOTALS	113	7	-	17424	66	10	7	17806

RESPONDING TO THE GAPS

The following table provide the key actions Council is proposing to undertake to help fill the gap in playspace provision in Yarra Ranges.

	Townships	Gap considerations	New	Upgrades	Reclassi- fications	Retirements
A	Healesville & Surrounds Yarra Glen & Surrounds	Stable and significant population > 10,000. Provide an additional local playspace in the most populated area Queens Park has attracted funding for upgrade to regional		Queens Park, Healesville (in train to regional)	McKenzie Reserve, Yarra Glen (to regional)	
В	Gruyere, Coldstream, Yering	Stable population with satisfactory coverage of local and district playspaces				
С	Lilydale	A highly populated area >15,000, experiencing significant growth. Has existing district and regional playspaces				
D	Chirnside Park Mooroolbark	A highly populated area, experiencing significant growth. Provide an additional regional playspace and an additional local playspace Retire Roseman Reserve, is located within a 400m walk of the recently renewed Botanic Reserve	Chirnside Urban Park (regional) Valley Park Drive, Mooroolbark (local)*			Roseman Reserve, Chirnside Park
E	Kilsyth Montrose	A stable and highly populated area with no district or regional facilities. Upgrade Elizabeth Bridge to a district playspace Retire Heathfield Creek located within 700m walk of the Avenue Reserve playspace Retire Karen Reserve Montrose, located within a court and not visible from the street		Elizabeth Bridge (to district)		Heathfield Creek Reserve, Montrose Karen Reserve, Montrose
F	The Hills	Stable population with highest number of people per playspaces. Recent upgrade to Kalorama local playspaces and Council currently providing support for the State Govt Olinda Recreation Reserve project		Olinda Recreation Reserve (in train regional)		
G	Upwey & Surrounds	A stable and significant population of approx. 10,000. Upgrade Burrinja to a district level playspace		Burrinja Cultural Centre, Upwey (to district)		

^{*} Indicates site restraints



	Townships	Gap considerations	New	Upgrades	Reclassi- fications	Retirements
Н	Belgrave – Selby Belgrave Heights & Surrounds	A stable and significant population of approx. 10,000. Provide a district level playspace in this area		Belgrave Lake (to district)	Field	
I	Monbulk- Silvan	A stable and significant population of approx. 10,000. Upgrade Monbulk Recreation Reserve to a district level playspace		Monbulk Recreation Reserve (to district)		
J	Rural South	Stable population, spread across large geographic area, with limited areas of population concentration Consolidate Powelltown local playspaces				Surrey Rd Reserve, Powelltown
K	Mount Evelyn Wandin & Surrounds Seville @ Seville East	A highly populated area with stable population Retire Greenglades Reserve, is located within 450m walk of Wandin North Recreation Reserve			Seville Water Play (to regional)	Greenglades Reserve, Wandin North
L	Launching Place, Woori Yallock, Don Valley, Warburton, Yarra Junction, Millgrove & Wesburn	Stable and significant population. This area experiences significant disadvantage. Upgrading the Warburton Recreation Reserve to regional Retire Little Yarra Walk a small item of equipment located at the rear of the football oval within 300m walk of the Yarra Junction playspace Consolidate Woori Yallock local playspaces, retire Gordon Reserve, Woori Yallock, retain Symes Road with trail access and the larger Yarra View Park		Warburton Recreation Reserve (in train regional)		Gordon Reserve, Woori Yallock Little Yarra Walk, Yarra Junction
M	Rural East	Stable population, spread across large geographic area, with limited areas of population concentration. This is the only precinct that does not have a playspace Research has identified a need for a community playspace in this area. Currently, Council does not own a suitable site. Approach State Govt to discuss suitable locations on their land	Reefton (local - on Parks Vic land at Upper Yarra Reservoir Park)			

Regional and District Playspaces

In consideration of the overlap between district and regional playspaces in relation to their location and design guidelines, a number of playspaces have been re-categorised.

Recreation and Open Space Strategy Precinct	Townships	District and Regional Playspaces	Reclassification
А	Healesville & Surrounds	Queens Park, Healesville	Reclassification to Regional
	Yarra Glen & Surrounds	McKenzie Reserve, Yarra Glen	Reclassification to Regional
В	Gruyere, Coldstream, Yering	Halley Supple, Coldstream	District
С	Lilydale	Melba Park, Lilydale	District
		Lillydale Lake, Lilydale Lake	Regional
D	Chirnside Park	Chirnside Urban Park	NEW regional
	Mooroolbark	Hookey Park, Mooroolbark	District
		Red Earth, Mooroolbark	Reclassification to District
Е	Kilsyth	Elizabeth Bridge Reserve	Reclassification to District
	Montrose	Montrose Recreation Centre	District
F	The Hills	Olinda Recreation Reserve (in train)	Reclassification to Regional
G	Upwey & Surrounds	Burrinja Cultural Centre, Upwey	Reclassification to District
Н	Belgrave - Selby	Belgrave Lake	Reclassification to District
	Belgrave Heights & Surrounds		
1	Monbulk-Silvan	Monbulk Recreation Reserve	Reclassification to District
J and M	Rural South and East		
K	Mount Evelyn	Seville Water Play	Reclassification to Regional
	Wandin & Surrounds		
	Seville @ Seville East		
L	Launching Place, Woori Yallock, Don Valley, Warburton, Yarra Junction, Millgrove & Wesburn	Warburton Recreation Reserve (in train) Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve	Reclassification to Regional District

APPENDIX

Schedule of Works

The following is a proposed schedule of works for playspaces which aims to fill the gaps in the provision of playspaces. This is based on geography, population and asset data that was reviewed during the development of the Playspace Plan.

The 20 year program is split over the following three tables:

- Table 1 The program for the first four years of this plan
- Table 2 Works proposed for the medium term (fifth through to the tenth year of the program)
- Table 3 Works for the long term (the last ten years of the program)

When developing a new playspace or renewing or upgrading an existing playspace the process from initiation through to delivery often runs over a year and can be longer if Council is seeking external funding.



Playspaces Scheduled for Works in the Short Term (Years 1-4)

Year of works	Name	Suburb	Hierarchy and works
Year 1	Roma Reserve	Badger Creek	Local renewal
Year 1	Queens Park	Healesville	Upgrade to Regional
Year 1	Jacaranda Reserve	Kilsyth	Local renewal
Year 1	Rolling Hills Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Year 1	Warburton Recreation Precinct (in train)	Warburton	Upgrade to Regional
Year 2	Chirnside Urban Park	Chirnside Park	NEW - Regional
Year 2	Roseman Road	Chirnside Park	Retire
Year 2	Castle Hill Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Year 2	Summerhill Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Year 2	Valley Park Drive	Mooroolbark	NEW Local
Year 2	Olinda Recreation Reserve (in train - Replaced by Regional playground on Parks Vic land)	Olinda	Upgrade to Regional
Year 2	East Warburton Public Hall	Warburton East	Local renewal
Year 3	Belgrave Lake Park	Belgrave	Upgrade to District
Year 3	Gateway Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal
Year 3	Luke Polkinghorne Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Year 3	Wandana Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Year 3	Bailey Road	Mount Evelyn	Local renewal
Year 3	Reefton (on Parks Vic land at Upper Yarra Reservoir Park)	Reefton	NEW Local
Year 4	Carmen Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal
Year 4	Burns Reserve	Monbulk	Local renewal
Year 4	Monbulk Recreation Reserve	Monbulk	Upgrade to District
Year 4	Mooroolbark Heights Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Year 4	Glenvalley Reserve	Seville East	Local renewal
Year 4	Wright Avenue	Upwey	Local renewal



Playspaces Scheduled for Works in the Medium Term (Years 5–10)

Name	Suburb	Hierarchy and Works
Bluegum Playground Reserve	Badger Creek	Local renewal
Belgrave Recreation Reserve	Belgrave	Local renewal
The Parkway Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local renewal
Fairway Park	Coldstream	Local renewal
Geoffrey Drive	Kilsyth	Local renewal
Hansford Reserve	Kilsyth	Local renewal
Palm Grove	Kilsyth	Local renewal
Stuart Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal
Queen Road Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal
McKenzie King Adventure Playground	Millgrove	Local renewal
Heathfield Creek Reserve	Montrose	Retire
Karen Reserve	Montrose	Retire
Keith Hume Fraser Reserve	Montrose	Local renewal
Montrose Road	Montrose	Local renewal
The Avenue Reserve	Montrose	Local renewal
Timberglades Reserve	Montrose	Local renewal
Blackburn Carronvale	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Kiloran Park	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Lancaster Road Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Larnook Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Shadowplay Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Western Way Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Williams Road	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Kemp Reserve	Mount Evelyn	Local renewal
Mount Evelyn Recreation Reserve	Mount Evelyn	Local renewal
Powelltown Recreation Reserve	Powelltown	Local renewal
Surrey Road Reserve	Powelltown	Retire
Selby Park	Selby	Local renewal
Valley Reserve	Seville	Local renewal
Burrinja Cultural & Community Centre	Upwey	Upgrade to District
Kooringal Road	Upwey	Local renewal
Konnaburra Reserve	Wandin North	Local renewal
Gordon Reserve	Woori Yallock	Retire
Yarra View Park	Woori Yallock	Local renewal
Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve	Yarra Junction	Local renewal
Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve (Little Yarra River Walk)	Yarra Junction	Retire
28		

Playspaces Scheduled for Works in the Long Term (Years 11–20)

3 1	· ·	5		
Name	Suburb	Hierarchy and works		
Belgrave Community Hub	Belgrave	Local renewal		
Belgrave South Recreation Reserve	Belgrave South	Local renewal		
Borthwick Park	Belgrave	Local renewal		
Central Park	Belgrave Heights	Local renewal		
Botanica Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local renewal		
Country Club Drive Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local renewal		
Kimberley Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local renewal		
Lancaster Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local renewal		
Yarraridge Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local renewal		
Halley Supple Reserve	Coldstream	District renewal		
Dixons Creek Recreation Reserve	Dixons Creek	Local renewal		
Ferny Creek Reserve	Ferny Creek	Local renewal		
Gruyere Recreation Reserve	Gruyere	Local renewal		
Healesville Railway Station	Healesville	Local renewal		
Queens Park Roll Play	Healesville	Local renewal		
Kalorama Recreation Reserve	Kalorama	Local renewal		
Balmoral Reserve	Kilsyth	Local renewal		
Elizabeth Bridge	Kilsyth	Upgrade to District		
Pinks Reserve	Kilsyth	Local renewal		
Wirraminna Reserve	Kilsyth	Local renewal		
Jadodade Reserve	Launching Place	Local renewal		
Lillydale Lake	Lilydale	Regional renewal		
Melba Park	Lilydale	District renewal		
Nimblefoot Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal		
Noble Park	Lilydale	Retire		
North Road Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal		
Poyner Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal		
Redmill Reserve	Lilydale	Local renewal		
Baynes Park Reserve	Monbulk	Local renewal		
Montrose Recreation Reserve	Montrose	District renewal		
Batterbee Playground	Mooroolbark	Local renewal		
Bimbadeen Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal		
Brushy Creek - Esther Park	Mooroolbark	Local renewal		
Hedwig Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal		
Hookey Park	Mooroolbark	District renewal		

Name	Suburb	Hierarchy and works
McDermott Avenue	Mooroolbark	Retire
Red Earth Community Park	Mooroolbark	District renewal
Zina Grove Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local renewal
Morrison Reserve	Mount Evelyn	Local renewal
Mt Evelyn Aqueduct Trail	Mount Evelyn	Local renewal
Mt Evelyn Memorial Preschool	Mount Evelyn	Local renewal
Warburton Trail Mount Evelyn Skatepark Playground	Mount Evelyn	Local renewal
Howard Norman Reserve (Mt Dandenong)	Olinda	Local renewal
Seville Water Play and Playspace	Seville	Reclassification to Regional renewal
Steels Creek Community Centre	Steels Creek	Local renewal
Hazel Grove	Tecoma	Local renewal
The Patch Project	The Patch	Local renewal
Main Street Walkway	Upwey	Local renewal
Upwey South Recreation Reserve	Upwey	Local renewal
Wandin East Recreation Reserve	Wandin East	Local renewal
Greenglades Reserve	Wandin North	Retire
Meadow Reserve	Wandin North	Local renewal
Wandin North Recreation Reserve	Wandin North	Local renewal
Warburton Recreation Reserve	Warburton	Local renewal
Yarra Square	Warburton	Local renewal
Wesburn Park	Wesburn	Local renewal
Pezzimenti Place	Wonga Park	Local renewal
Symes Road	Woori Yallock	Local renewal
Chardonnay Views Park	Yarra Glen	Local renewal
Hubbard Reserve	Yarra Glen	Local renewal
McKenzie Reserve	Yarra Glen	Reclassification to Regional renewal

Yarra Ranges Playspaces Listed by Suburb

The following table provides a complete list of playspaces, in alphabetical order by suburb.

Name	Suburb	Hierarchy
Bluegum Playground Reserve	Badger Creek	Local
Roma Reserve	Badger Creek	Local
Belgrave Community Hub	Belgrave	Local
Belgrave Lake Park	Belgrave	Upgrade to District
Belgrave Recreation Reserve	Belgrave	Local
Borthwick Park	Belgrave	Local
Central Park	Belgrave Heights	Local
Belgrave South Recreation Reserve	Belgrave South	Local
Botanica Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local
Chirnside Urban Park	Chirnside Park	NEW - Regional
Country Club Drive Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local
Kimberley Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local
Lancaster Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local
Roseman Road	Chirnside Park	Retire
The Parkway Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local
Yarraridge Reserve	Chirnside Park	Local
Fairway Park	Coldstream	Local
Halley Supple Reserve	Coldstream	District
Dixons Creek Recreation Reserve	Dixons Creek	Local
Ferny Creek Reserve	Ferny Creek	Local
Gruyere Recreation Reserve	Gruyere	Local
Healesville Railway Station	Healesville	Local
Queens Park	Healesville	Upgrade to Regional
Queens Park Roll Play	Healesville	Local
Kalorama Recreation Reserve	Kalorama	Local
Balmoral Reserve	Kilsyth	Local
Elizabeth Bridge	Kilsyth	Upgrade to District
Geoffrey Drive	Kilsyth	Local
Hansford Reserve	Kilsyth	Local
Jacaranda Reserve	Kilsyth	Local
Palm Grove	Kilsyth	Local
Pinks Reserve	Kilsyth	Local
Wirraminna Reserve	Kilsyth	Local
Jadodade Reserve	Launching Place	Local
Carmen Reserve	Lilydale	Local
Gateway Reserve	Lilydale	Local
Lillydale Lake	Lilydale	Regional
Melba Park	Lilydale	District
Nimblefoot Reserve	Lilydale	Local

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Name	Suburb	Hierarchy
Noble Park	Lilydale	Retire
North Road Reserve	Lilydale	Local
Poyner Reserve	Lilydale	Local
Queen Road Reserve	Lilydale	Local
Stuart Reserve	Lilydale	Local
Redmill Reserve	Lilydale	Local
McKenzie King Adventure Playground	Millgrove	Local
Baynes Park Reserve	Monbulk	Local
Burns Reserve	Monbulk	Local
Monbulk Recreation Reserve	Monbulk	District
Heathfield Creek Reserve	Montrose	Retire
Karen Reserve	Montrose	Retire
Montrose Recreation Reserve	Montrose	District
Montrose Road	Montrose	Local
The Avenue Reserve	Montrose	Local
Timberglades Reserve	Montrose	Local
Keith Hume Fraser Reserve	Montrose	Local
Batterbee Playground	Mooroolbark	Local
Bimbadeen Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Blackburn Carronvale	Mooroolbark	Local
Brushy Creek - Esther Park	Mooroolbark	Local
Castle Hill Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Hedwig Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Hookey Park	Mooroolbark	District
Kiloran Park	Mooroolbark	Local
Lancaster Road Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Larnook Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Luke Polkinghorne Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
McDermott Avenue	Mooroolbark	Retire
Red Earth Community Park	Mooroolbark	District
Rolling Hills Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Shadowplay Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Summerhill Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Valley Park Drive	Mooroolbark	NEW Local
Wandana Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Williams Road	Mooroolbark	Local
Zina Grove Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Mooroolbark Heights Reserve	Mooroolbark	Local
Bailey Road	Mount Evelyn	Local
Kemp Reserve	Mount Evelyn	Local
Morrison Reserve	Mount Evelyn	Local

Name	Suburb	Hierarchy
Mount Evelyn Recreation Reserve	Mount Evelyn	Local
Mt Evelyn Aqueduct trail	Mount Evelyn	Local
Mt Evelyn Memorial Preschool	Mount Evelyn	Local
Warburton Trail Mount Evelyn Skatepark playground	Mount Evelyn	Local
Howard Norman Reserve (Mt Dandenong)	Olinda	Local
Olinda Recreation Reserve (in train - to be replaced by Regional playground on Parks Vic land)	Olinda	Upgrade to Regional
Powelltown Recreation Reserve	Powelltown	Local
Surrey Road Reserve	Powelltown	Retire
Reefton - on Parks Vic land at Upper Yarra Reservoir Park	Reefton	NEW Local
Selby Park	Selby	Local
Seville Water Play and Playspace	Seville	Reclassification to Regional
Valley Reserve	Seville	Local
Glenvalley Reserve	Seville East	Local
Steels Creek Community Centre	Steels Creek	Local
Hazel Grove	Tecoma	Local
The Patch Project	The Patch	Local
Burrinja Cultural and Community Centre	Upwey	Upgrade to District
Kooringal Road	Upwey	Local
Main Street Walkway	Upwey	Local
Upwey South Recreation Reserve	Upwey	Local
Wright Avenue	Upwey	Local
Wandin East Recreation Reserve	Wandin East	Local
Greenglades Reserve	Wandin North	Retire
Koonaburra Reserve	Wandin North	Local
Meadow Reserve	Wandin North	Local
Wandin North Recreation Reserve	Wandin North	Local
Warburton Recreation Precinct	Warburton	Upgrade to Regional
Warburton Recreation Reserve	Warburton	Local
Yarra Square	Warburton	Local
East Warburton Public Hall	Warburton East	Local
Wesburn Park	Wesburn	Local
Pezzimenti Place	Wonga Park	Local
Gordon Reserve	Woori Yallock	Retire
Symes Road	Woori Yallock	Local
Yarra View Park	Woori Yallock	Local
Chardonnay Views Park	Yarra Glen	Local
Hubbard Reserve	Yarra Glen	Local
McKenzie Reserve	Yarra Glen	Reclassification to Regional
Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve	Yarra Junction	District
Yarra Junction Recreation Reserve (Little Yarra River Walk)	Yarra Junction	Retire

