



# Lois Twohig Reserve Master Plan.

Dandenong North

November 2025

# Lois Twohig Reserve Master Plan

Prepared By:

Open Space Planning

With contribution from:

Sports and Recreation  
Transport and Civil Development  
Engineering and Major Projects

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## **Acknowledgment of Country**

Greater Dandenong Council acknowledges and pays respects to the Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation, as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters in and around Greater Dandenong.

We value and recognise local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures, heritage, and connection to land as a proud part of a shared identity for Greater Dandenong.

Greater Dandenong City Council pays respect to Elders past and present and recognises their importance in maintaining knowledge, traditions, and Culture in Our Community.

Greater Dandenong City Council also respectfully acknowledges the Bunurong Land Council as the Registered Aboriginal Party responsible for managing the Aboriginal Cultural heritage of the land and waters where Greater Dandenong is situated.

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# Summary

## Site Context Summary

Lois Twohig Reserve in Dandenong North is a valued public space for sport, recreation, and relaxation. As the area grows and changes, the Master Plan provides a long-term vision to make the Reserve more inclusive, accessible, and sustainable for all members of the community.

## Why the Master Plan?

With Dandenong North expected to grow by 8% by 2038, and local demographics shifting, the plan ensures Lois Twohig Reserve remains a high-quality, multi-functional space that meets the needs of families, sports clubs, residents, and young people.

## Key Features of the Master Plan Upgrade

### Sporting Facilities and Pavilion

- Ovals 1 and 2 and the rectangular field retain their current position and primary use.
- A new centralised pavilion is proposed to replace three older buildings, with modern change rooms, accessible toilets, community meeting rooms, and canteen facilities. It will support all major sports fields and improve the spectator experience.

### Dog Park and Retarding Basin

- The retarding basin, originally built for flood control, to be upgraded with vegetated swales and drainage improvements.
- It will become a fenced dog park with airlock gates, seating, and looped walking paths, usable year-round—even during wet weather.

### Play and Recreation Areas

- A new all-abilities playground and multi-use sports court serve children and youth.
- The northern precinct includes, BBQs, picnic shelters, and public toilets, designed to be DDA-compliant and cater to all ages.

## Access, Roads and Parking

- Car parks to be expanded and upgraded with shade trees, accessible (disabled) bays, and traffic calming features like raised wombat crossings.
- McFees Road, a key pedestrian entry point, to be improved with low fencing, new signage, and more entry paths to create a welcoming, walkable park environment.

## Courts and Clubs

- Underused tennis courts to be repurposed into new pétanque terrain and a multi-use court.
- The pétanque club pavilion be relocated in proximity to the courts and upgraded to modern standards and include community use areas.

## Environmental Sustainability

- The plan prioritises tree protection, native planting, and garden beds to enhance biodiversity.
- Stormwater management improved through spoon drains, swales, and sub-surface systems—reducing waterlogging and maintaining playability.

## Lighting Upgrades

- New sports, pathway, and plaza lighting to improve safety and usability at night.
- Sensor-activated lights to reduce energy use and limit light pollution.

## Shaped by the Community

The plan reflects feedback from:

- 182 online participants
- Drop-in sessions at the Reserve
- Flyers sent to over 2,400 homes
- A student workshop with Wallarano Primary School
- Meetings with local sporting clubs and stakeholders

Community priorities included:

- Safer walking paths and lighting
- Improved dog park facilities
- More picnic, play, and fitness spaces
- Preserving nature and planting more trees

## Looking Ahead

This Master Plan sets a flexible roadmap for staged improvements over time. Once finalised, it will guide upgrades that balance sport, nature, and everyday community use – making Lois Twohig Reserve a central hub for healthy, active living and social connection.

This plan presents a long-term vision for the Reserve, involving significant infrastructure improvements that will require high levels of expenditure over an extended period. Major works, such as the new pavilion, are currently projected to commence no earlier than 2040, as several other projects across the municipality are expected to occur concurrently and remain subject to Council approvals. The master plan should be reviewed at 15 years to assess completed projects and capture any amendments required.

# The Project

## Project Purpose

The purpose of the Master Plan for Lois Twohig Reserve is to establish a long-term vision and direction for this highly valued and well-utilised community park.

## Population Growth and Planning Context

Lois Twohig Reserve is part of the City of Greater Dandenong's existing open space network. Dandenong North is projected to experience an 8% population increase between the 2023 and 2038 census periods. As State and Federal governments encourage higher dwelling densities in established suburbs, local communities are expected to become increasingly reliant on open spaces, with growing expectations for their quality, accessibility, and functionality.

Detailed forecasts for Dandenong North indicate significant growth among residents aged 35–59 and those aged 85 and over—two demographics with distinct recreational needs. These trends reinforce the importance of planning for inclusive, adaptable public spaces.

## Community Engagement

Resident sporting clubs were actively engaged throughout the community consultation process. These discussions captured club histories, current challenges, and opportunities for the Reserve to support their future growth and long-term sustainability.

Broader community engagement gathered a wide range of user perspectives, offering insights into how the Reserve is currently used and what improvements or additions are most valued. All input has been carefully considered in the development of this Master Plan.

## Strategic Role in the Open Space Network

The City of Greater Dandenong's Open Space Strategy 2020–2030 identifies Lois Twohig Reserve as a **District Level Reserve**, a classification that guides the scope and scale of facilities it should provide.

## Definition and Function of a District Park

A District Park is a large, multi-functional open space intended to attract a wide variety of users for diverse activities. These parks typically provide a combination of sporting fields, play equipment, picnic areas, and other community amenities. They generally range from more than 5 hectares to 15 hectares in size.

## Function Of The Reserve

Lois Twohig Reserve is also designated as a **Sports Reserve**, supporting organised (club-based) sports such as AFL, cricket, pétanque, and soccer.

In addition to structured sport, the Reserve is regularly used by the local community for walking, dog walking, children's play, informal recreation, and social gatherings—making it a true community hub for active and passive uses.

## Historical Context

The 8.6-hectare Reserve is named in honour of Lois Twohig, who served as a Dandenong Councillor for the North Ward from 1962 to 1969 and was the city's first female Mayor in 1968–1969.

The land was originally purchased by the Kelly family in 1919. Prominent in the area, the Kellys operated a small farm and were known for selling milk, butter, and eggs locally. The site's transformation from farmland to a key recreational asset reflects the area's changing character and the growing importance of public open space.



# Existing Site

## Site Context and Features

The site is located between residential parcels, with Wooranna Park Primary School to the north. It is bounded by Carlton Road to the north, Devira Street to the west, McFees Road to the south, and Admirala Avenue to the east.

The site predominantly slopes from north to south and has been significantly modified to accommodate the various functions of the Reserve. The flatter areas are primarily found within the sporting grounds, while some sections are bordered by steep embankments that grade toward the natural land levels. Additionally, high embankments surrounding the retarding basin obscure views into the Reserve from McFees Road.

Vehicle and pedestrian access to Lois Twohig Reserve is available via 80 Carlton Road, Dandenong North. Pedestrian access is also available from the McFees Road frontage. In addition, two pedestrian access-ways connect the Reserve to Devira Street on the western side.

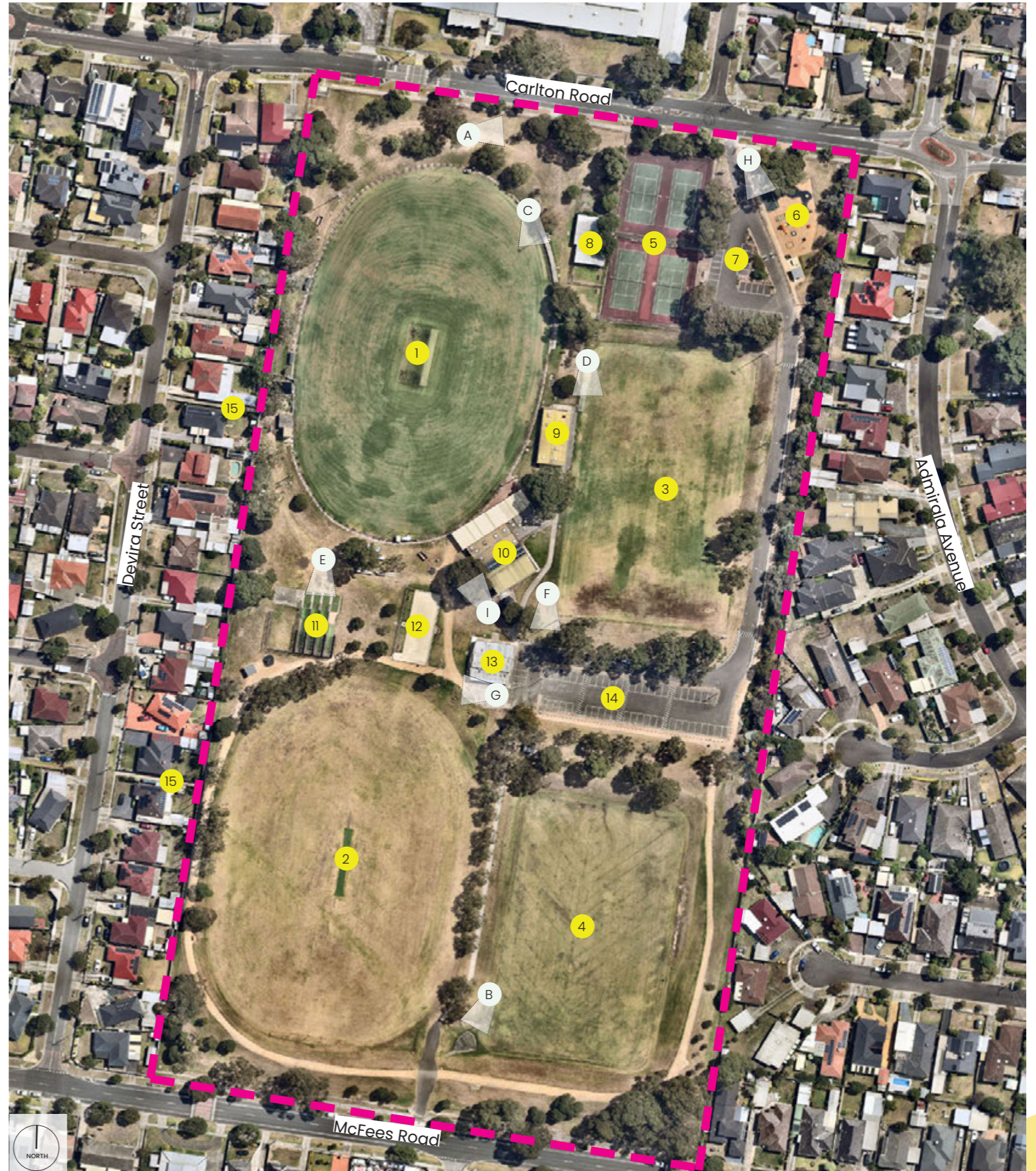
Lois Twohig Reserve is currently tenanted for sport by an AFL Club, Cricket Club, Pétanque Club and used as an overflow facility for a Soccer Club.

The Reserve includes two car parks, both serviced by a narrow road along the eastern boundary.

- Northern Car Park:** This car park accommodates 34 parking bays and features a central garden area separating it from the road. Established trees on the southern edge provide shade and a buffer from the adjacent steep embankment.
- Central Car Park:** This car park accommodates 53 parking bays, including two designated disabled bays. Its wide aisle includes multiple speed humps to calm traffic. A single service lane provides additional connectivity back to the main access road.

### LEGEND

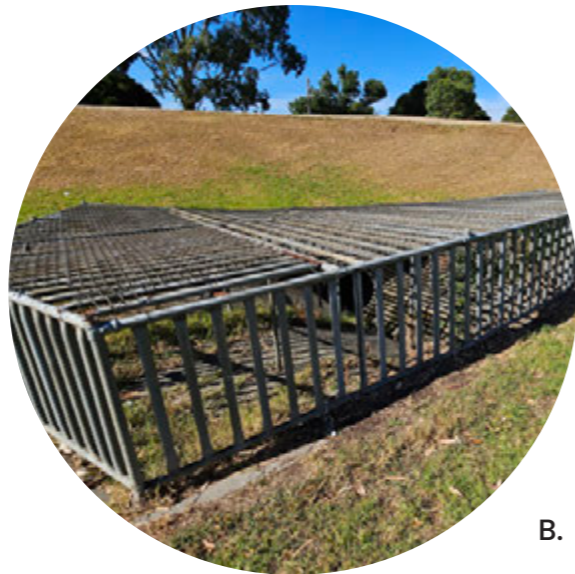
-  Site photographs and view cones. Refer images on opposite page.
-  Site boundary
-  Oval 1 - northern oval
-  Oval 2 - southern oval
-  Rectangular field
-  Retarding basin and dog off-leash zone
-  Tennis courts
-  Playground
-  Car park - northern
-  Tennis pavilion
-  Soccer pavilion
-  AFL/Cricket pavilion
-  Cricket practice nets
-  Pétanque terrain
-  Pétanque pavilion
-  Car park - central
-  Devira Street access-ways



## Site Photographs



A.



B.



C.



D.



E.



F.



G.



H.



I.

- A. Pedestrian access from Carlton Road and Tennis Courts in background.
- B. Retarding basin outlet structure
- C. Retaining wall to Oval 1 on northern interface
- D. Soccer field interface to soccer pavilion
- E. Cricket practice nets
- F. Pétanque pavilion and central car park
- G. Pétanque terrain to the right and Oval 2 to the left
- H. Playground entry and public toilets from Carlton Road
- I. Access to Gerry Sweeting Pavilion (AFL/Cricket.)

# Place

## Location

Lois Twohig Reserve is located in Dandenong North and serves as the only district-level reserve for residents within the area bounded by Eastlink to the west, the Monash Freeway to the north, Stud Road to the east, and Heatherton Road to the south.

Visitors using navigation services are typically directed to the pedestrian entry on McFees Road, which is also the most accessible route for vehicle traffic. However, parking at this entry is limited to on-street spaces. Vehicle access to the reserve's internal car park is available via Carlton Road.

## Amenities and Features

The Reserve currently includes the following amenities:

- North Oval 1 with cricket turf table
- South Oval 2 with cricket synthetic wicket
- Two piste (lane) pétanque terrain
- One rectangular grass field
- Grass retarding basin
- Practice cricket wickets
- Central car park
- Northern car park
- Four tennis courts
- Playground
- Public toilet near the playground
- Four pavilions
- Three picnic shelters
- Three fitness stations
- Established native garden beds with trees
- Various walking paths.

## Connection

Lois Twohig Reserve is situated near several key community facilities, including schools, Dandenong Hospital, upcoming Dandenong Wellbeing Centre, community halls, local shopping strips, Dandenong Wetlands, and an indoor sports stadium.

While the nearby Dandenong Stadium offers some similar activities—such as walking and a playground—it is limited to indoor sports and is not easily accessible for pedestrians. In contrast, Lois Twohig Reserve is positioned as a dedicated outdoor sporting zone for Dandenong North and surrounding areas. It provides a flexible space suitable for various leisure activities, with a focus on field sports, and has the potential to be shared by nearby community facilities.

## Green Space Linking

The Open Space Strategy 2020 - 2030 identifies the main issues in Dandenong North as:

- Several physical gaps generally due to low connectivity.
- Major freeways and roads limit pedestrian access to open space.
- Intermittent and insufficient east-west ecological links.
- Lack of different types of open space

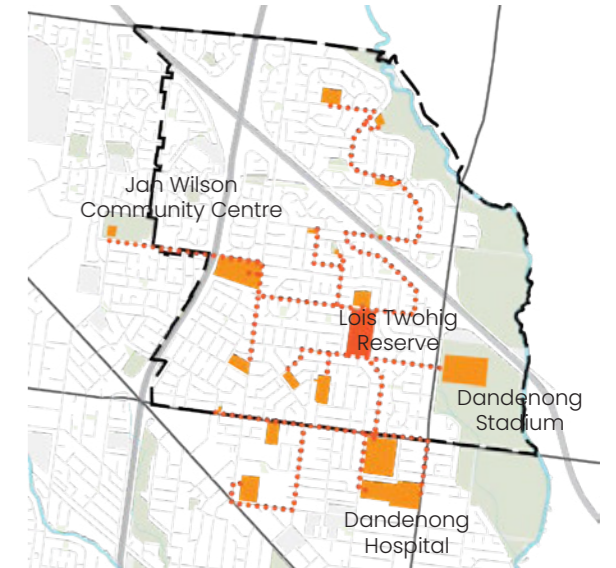
As a district-level reserve, Lois Twohig Reserve plays a vital role in addressing this gap by providing accessible

recreational areas that encourage active lifestyles.

The reserve is centrally located between Barry Powell Reserve and the expansive Dandenong Wetlands. This positioning makes it an important link in the network of green open spaces and contributes to a connected habitat corridor for local wildlife.

## Usage and Community Engagement

Lois Twohig Reserve hosts a variety of local sports clubs, community events, and casual recreation. Its facilities support year-round use by sporting groups, families, and individuals alike. The presence of pavilions, picnic shelters, and fitness stations makes it suitable for both organised activities and spontaneous leisure. Its accessibility and range of amenities make it a central hub for community wellbeing and social connection in Dandenong North.



Connection



Green space linking

# Vision and Strategies

## Vision Statement

To deliver a high-quality, accessible, and sustainable open space that enhances the unique character of Lois Twohig Reserve—strengthening its role as a hub for organised sport while thoughtfully integrating community spaces, environmental values, and inclusive design for generations to come.

## Strategies

Each of the strategies is an overarching design principle that are suitable themes for Lois Twohig Reserve. The principle themes are derived from a combination of the community consultation feedback and the current Open Space Strategy.

There are three strategies that are utilised to provide key direction, these include; Place, Connection and Sustainability & Maintenance.

***“A high quality, accessible and sustainable open space”***

### Place

*“Deliver a high-quality, inclusive, and multi-functional space that supports sport, recreation, and community life.”*

#### Key Actions:

- Upgrade sporting fields and amenities to competition standards.
- Modernise change rooms, storage, lighting, and seating to support both formal and informal use.
- Develop flexible open spaces, inclusive play areas, and recreational infrastructure.
- Design precincts that cater to diverse user needs, from active zones to quiet retreats.
- Provide quality amenities such as picnic shelters, BBQs, and shade structures.

### Connection

*“Strengthen access, movement, and social connection through inclusive design and integrated pathways.”*

#### Key Actions:

- Create accessible paths linking all key precincts and facilities.
- Ensure universal access through compliant design and mobility-friendly features.
- Facilitate opportunities for gathering and community interaction.
- Strengthen connections to surrounding neighbourhoods and active transport routes.

### Sustainability & Maintenance

*“Ensure the long-term functionality and resilience of the Reserve through responsible stewardship, adaptable design, and proactive care.”*

#### Key Actions:

- Design landscapes and facilities for durability and ease of long-term maintenance.
- Establish clear maintenance plans and responsibilities across stakeholders.
- Monitor environmental health, usage patterns, and infrastructure condition.
- Use sustainable materials and energy-efficient technologies in new infrastructure.
- Implement water-sensitive urban design (WSUD) to manage stormwater sustainably.

# Constraints

The future development of Lois Twohig Reserve must carefully navigate several key constraints that reflect the site's existing uses, physical limitations, and environmental priorities.

## Primary Function and Land Use

- The Reserve's core role as a **sporting facility** and the presence of a **retarding basin** significantly limit major changes in land use.
- **Sports fields** must remain in their current locations due to their large spatial requirements. Reconfiguration is restricted by existing **mature trees**, which are valued landscape features and must be preserved.

## Topography and Earthworks

- The **steep embankments** across parts of the site constrain opportunities for new built forms or large-scale landscaping.
- To maintain **budget feasibility** and adhere to sustainability goals, extensive earthworks should be avoided.
- **Tree retention** is a priority—any changes must be designed to preserve the Reserve's existing tree canopy.

## Access and Movement

**Vehicle Access** is limited

- Only feasible via **Carlton Road**, due to the topographical limitations created by the retarding basin.
- **Carlton Road** (north-western side) is not suitable for new vehicle access, as existing car parking and circulation is already located on the eastern boundary.
- **Pedestrian access** from Devira Street, Carlton Road and McFees Road are proposed to remain and continue to provide important community connectivity.

## LEGEND

- Site boundary cannot be expanded
- ↑ Size and scale cannot be repositioned
- ⊥ No vehicle entrance due to site and topographical constraints
- 🌳 Existing trees to be retained
- ▶ Access to Devira street retained



# Opportunities

Several key opportunities exist to enhance the functionality, sustainability, and community value of Lois Twohig Reserve, while respecting its current constraints and natural character.

## 1. Centralised Pavilion Development

- The proximity of the central car park to the two sporting ovals and rectangular field presents an ideal location for a new central pavilion.
- A well-designed, multi-use facility could provide shared amenities while ensuring Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliance and face directly onto each playing field to enhance usability and spectator experience. Examples being dedicated female-friendly and umpires' change rooms.

## 2. Embankment Integration

Existing embankments offer untapped potential for:

- Tiered seating and informal spectator zones
- Vegetation enhancement through native planting
- Reduced waterlogging and lower long-term maintenance through strategic grading and planting.

## 3. Adaptation of Drainage Infrastructure

The retarding basin and broader drainage system can be adapted to:

- Address climate resilience
- Support the creation of biodiverse habitats
- Provide educational and passive recreational opportunities.

## 4. Improved Parking and Access

Opportunities exist to:


- Reconfigure sight lines and traffic flow for improved visibility and safety
- Upgrade both the northern and central car parks for greater functionality and accessibility
- Improve pedestrian connections across the Reserve.

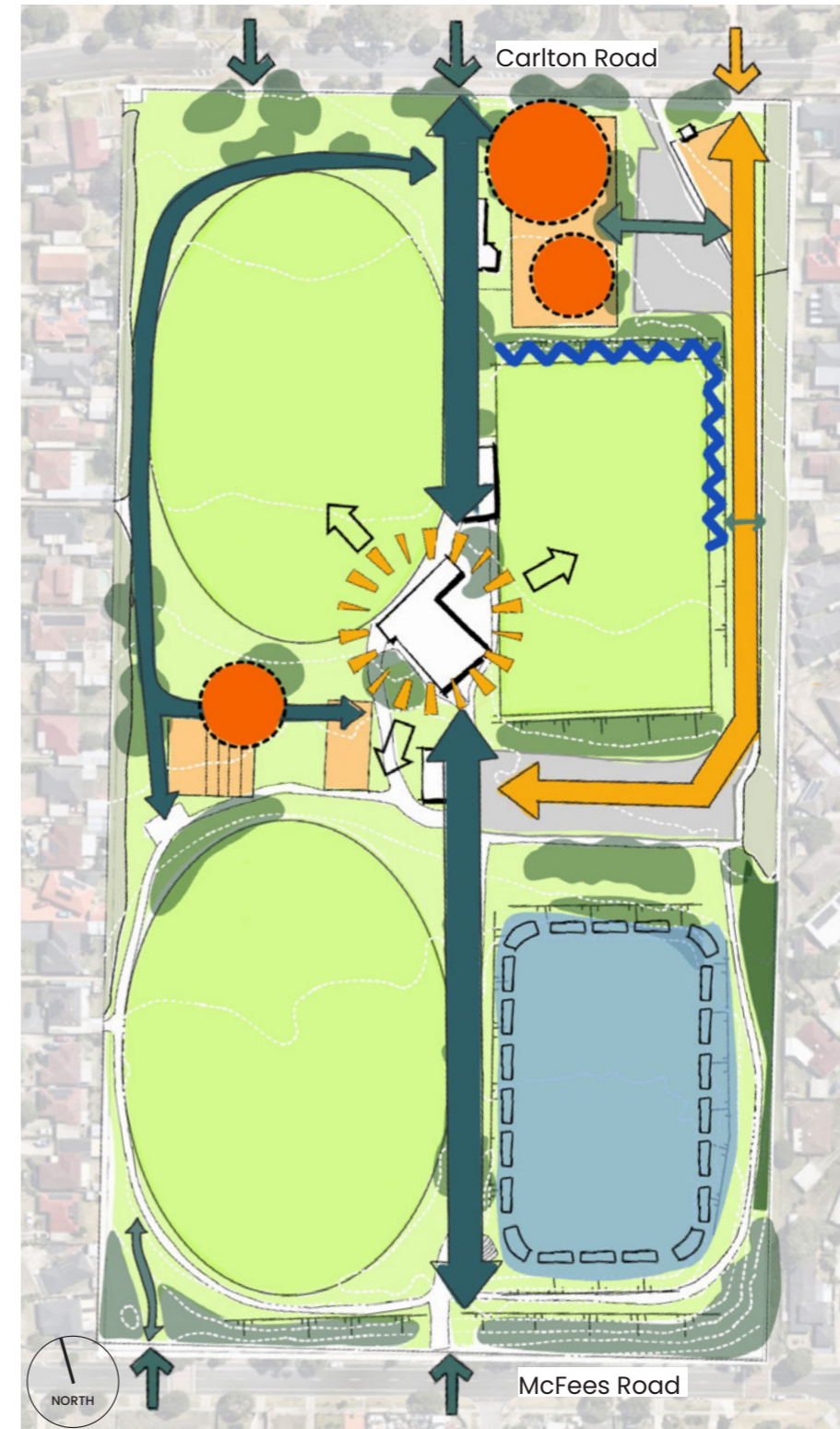
## 5. Northern Precinct Activation

The existing tennis court area, located on flat terrain with good passive surveillance, offers the potential to:

- Transition to a more frequent higher-activity recreation zone
- Accommodate new uses such as play spaces, outdoor fitness, or multi-use courts
- Improve universal accessibility and user diversity
- Improve pedestrian safety by reducing conflict between play and roads.

### LEGEND

-  Vehicle flow
-  Primary pedestrian connection
-  Secondary pedestrian connection
-  Vehicle site access
-  Improve site entrance connection and visibility
-  Centralised pavilion
-  Embankment activation
-  Dense native planting
-  Retarding basin and dog-off-leash improvement
-  Activation opportunity



# Hydrology Overview

Stormwater across the site predominantly flows from north to south. Due to the flat grading requirements of the sports fields, several areas—especially at the base of localised slopes—are prone to waterlogging. These conditions result in significant surface pooling and saturation following rainfall events.

To mitigate these issues, a series of targeted drainage interventions are required to reduce inundation and improve surface conditions throughout the reserve.

The site is currently serviced by multiple underground stormwater drainage networks:

- **Building Drainage Network:** Collects runoff from site buildings and discharges into the retarding basin.
- **Devira Street Network:** Captures stormwater from Devira Street and surrounding catchments, directing flows toward Oval 2 and the retarding basin. This network includes an overflow mechanism that connects directly into the downstream drainage system during major storm events.
- **Oval Drainage Network:** Comprises underground slot drains servicing Oval 1 and the retarding basin, providing direct capture of surface water from the field areas.

## Proposed improvements

To enhance stormwater management and reduce localised flooding across the site, the following improvements are recommended:

### 1. Low Flow Diversion Pipe - Oval 2

- Installation of a 750 mm diameter diversion pipe to redirect stormwater from the existing outlet on the western side of Oval 2 into a vegetated swale within the retarding basin.

### 2. Vegetated Swales

- Establish a vegetated swale within the retarding basin to receive and filter low-flow runoff from Oval 2, allowing gradual infiltration and controlled discharge via the basin outlet.
- Construct an additional vegetated swale at the south-western corner of Oval 2 to collect and convey stormwater more effectively.

### 3. Outlet Upgrade

- Replace the existing outlet structure in the retarding basin with a new in-ground pit to improve discharge capacity and system reliability.








### 4. Sports Slot Drains

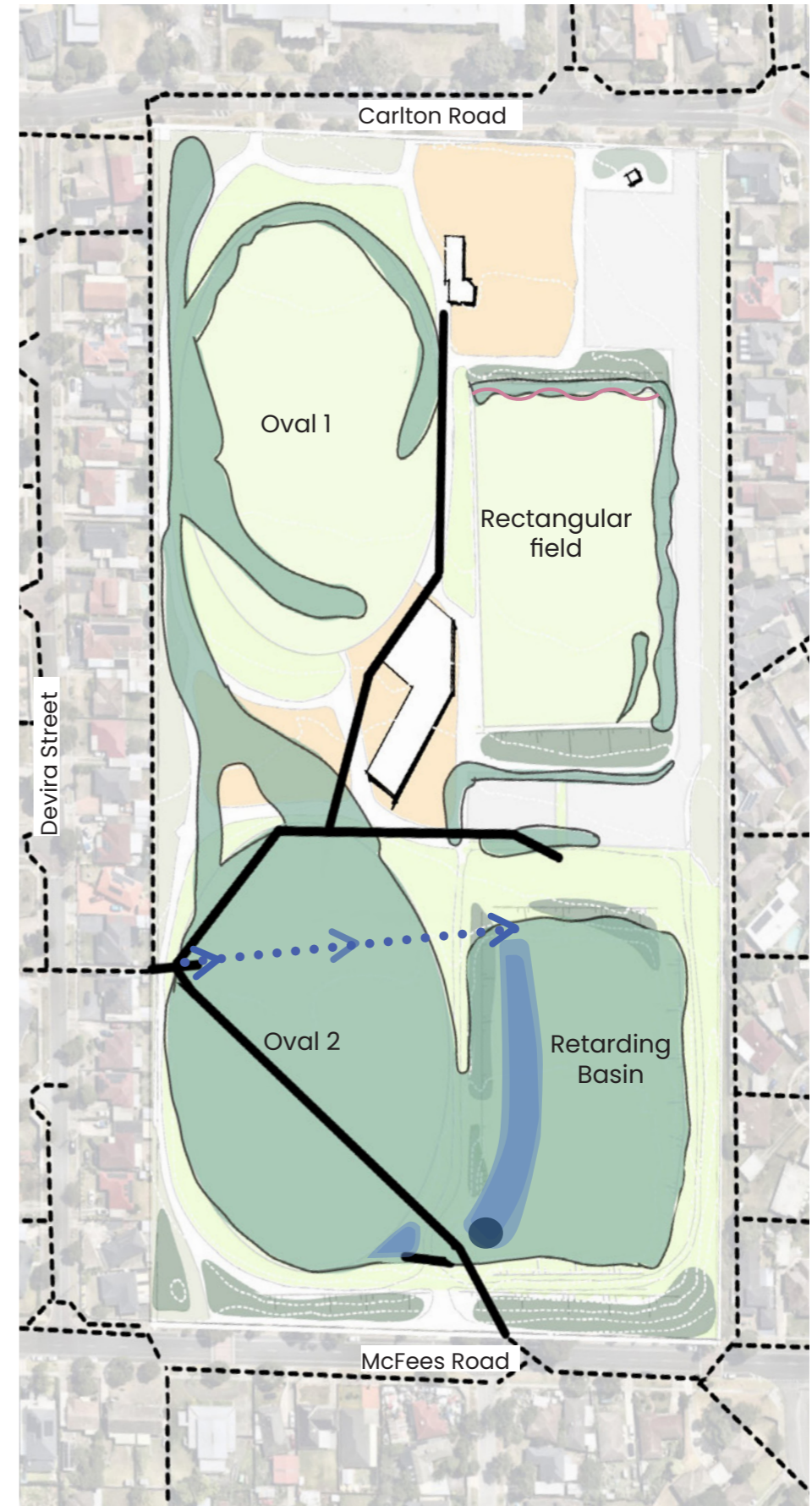
- Install sports-grade slot drains in Oval 2 and rectangular field, while upgrading slot drain in Oval 1. These efficiently capture surface runoff and divert it to the retarding basin, reducing surface saturation.

### 5. Spoon Drain Installation

- Construct a spoon drain at the base of the embankment between the northern recreation zone and the rectangular field. This aims to intercept and direct surface flows away from the embankment, mitigating waterlogging in low-lying areas.

## LEGEND

-  Site stormwater drainage network
-  Surrounding drainage network
-  Inundation prone areas
-  Proposed 750mm pipe
-  Proposed vegetated swale
-  Proposed outlet upgrade
-  Proposed spoon drain



Site hydrology map

0 m 25 m 50 m



# Lighting

Adequate lighting, informed by feedback from the community and clubs, has been incorporated into the master plan.

Lights are proposed to be installed in the car park and along the driveway to ensure visibility for both vehicular traffic and pedestrians at night.

**Primary pedestrian lighting** aims to guide movement along the north-south connection path, serving as the main thoroughfare through the site.

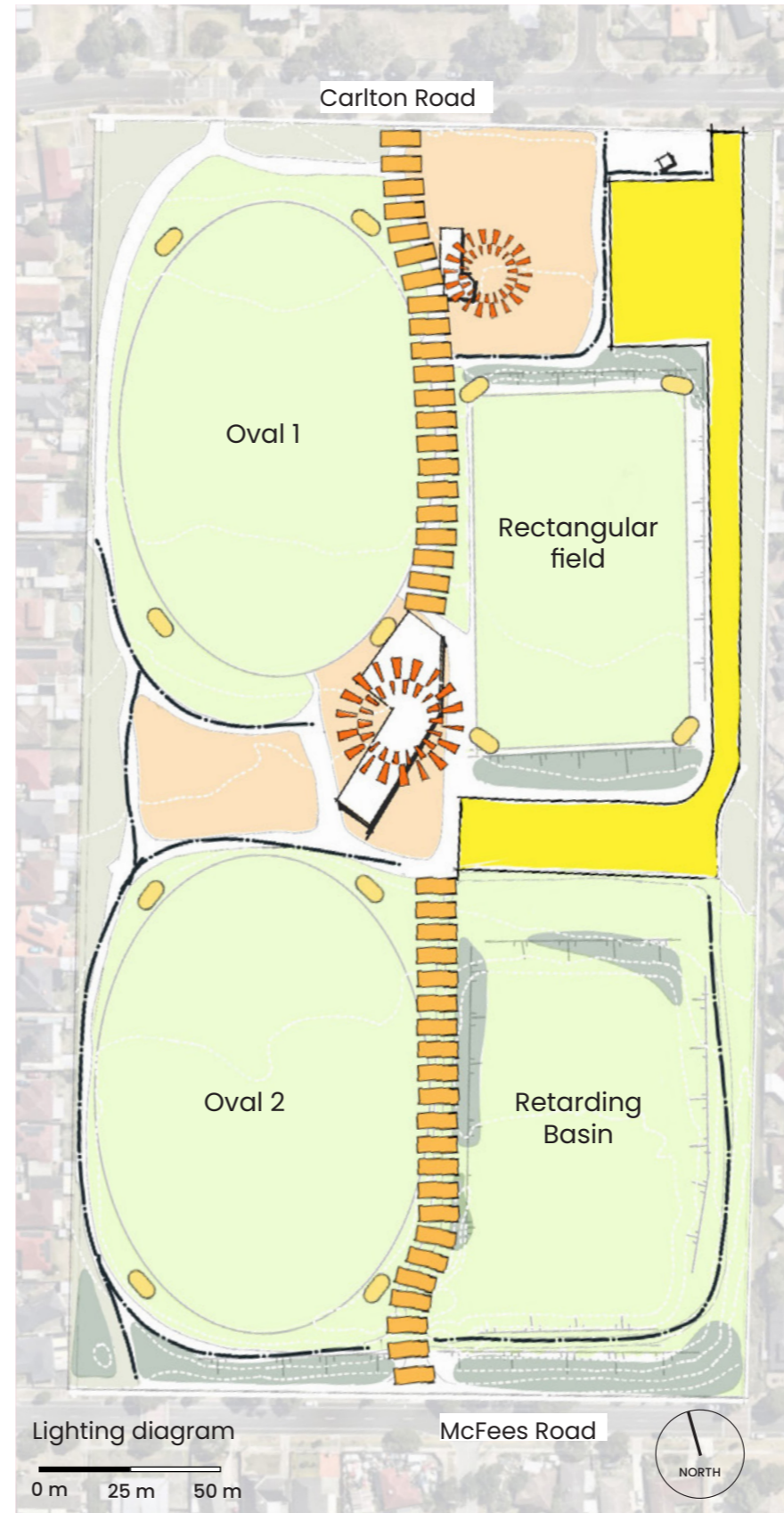
**Secondary pedestrian lighting** is proposed along key routes where visitors are likely to enter or exit the Reserve at night. These may be sensor-controlled to minimise light pollution and support a more sustainable approach.

**Sports lighting** is proposed for Oval 2 to accommodate night training, and the Rectangular Field lighting requires an upgrade. Oval 1 lighting has recently been upgraded (FY25).

**Building and plaza lighting** is proposed to feature bespoke solutions tailored to the specific functions and character of each area, enhancing both usability and ambiance.

## LEGEND

-  Lighting covering car park and road
-  Primary pedestrian lighting
-  Secondary pedestrian lighting, sensor controlled
-  Sports field lighting
-  Combination of building and plaza lighting



# Organised Sport

Lois Twohig Reserve supports a range of organised sporting activities within a relatively compact footprint. The site includes two ovals and a rectangular field, constrained in both size and location.

In addition to these larger open grass areas, the Reserve also includes smaller supporting facilities that enhance the site's functionality for sport and recreation.

### Ovals and Rectangular field

- **Oval 1 and the Rectangular Field**  
No changes to the current programming are proposed for Oval 1 or the rectangular field.
- **Oval 2**  
By introducing lighting and improving drainage, Oval 2 would be better equipped to accommodate overflow for winter sports such as AFL and soccer, while continuing to support cricket during the summer season.

### Tennis Courts

The Tennis courts are currently untenanted. During the consultation period, there was limited community interest in retaining tennis at Lois Twohig Reserve. Usage data from the court booking system showed only 45 unique users and 78 bookings across 70 days.

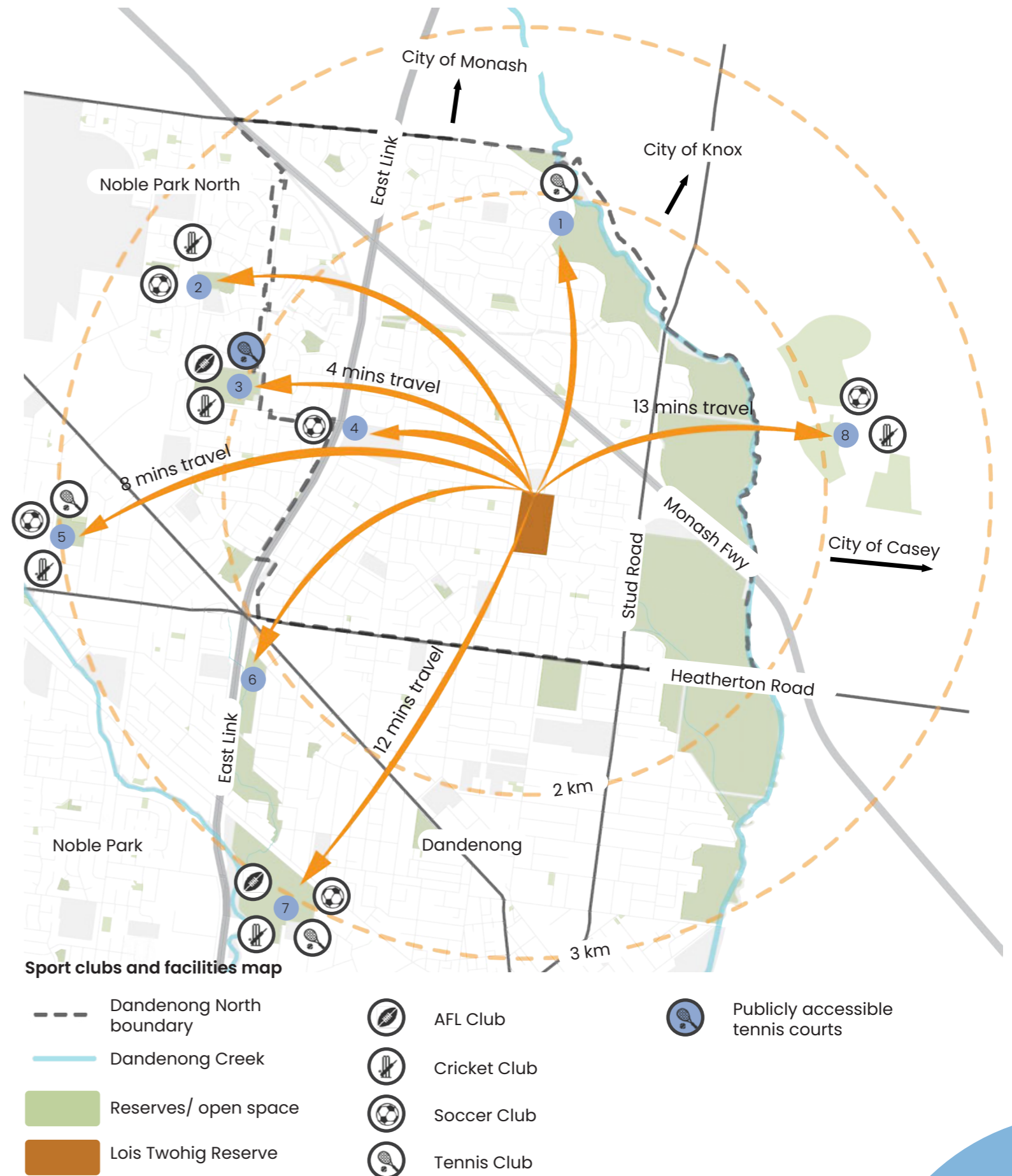
Given the availability of better tennis facilities nearby and the value of this site, it is proposed that:

- The **top two courts** be converted into a **multi-use court**, supporting a broader range of recreational activities.
- The **bottom two courts** changed into new **pétanque terrain**.
- The **vacant tennis clubrooms** be upgraded to accommodate the pétanque club and related community uses.

### Sport club and facilities map

The diagram highlights that the organised sports available at Lois Twohig Reserve are also accessible at other locations within a 3km radius. Travel times to these alternative venues range from 4 to 12 minutes, each offering different levels of facilities and amenities.

- 1 Tirhatuan Park - 112A Somerset Drive, Dandenong North VIC 3175  
Rosswood Tennis Club
- 2 WJ Turner Reserve - 125 Jacksons Road, Noble Park North VIC 3174  
Silverton Cricket Club (Summer season only)  
Greater Dandenong FC (Winter season only)
- 3 Barry Powell Reserve - 2c Bakers Road, Noble Park North VIC 3174  
Publicly accessible tennis courts  
Lyndale Football Netball Club  
Lyndale Cricket Club
- 4 Lyndale Secondary College - 14 Halton Road, Dandenong North VIC 3175  
Lyndale United FC
- 5 Parkfield Reserve - 44 Ellendale Road, Noble Park VIC 3174  
Noble Park Tennis Club  
Noble Park United FC (Winter season only)  
Parkfield Cricket Club (Summer season only)
- 6 Fotheringham Reserve - 24 Alexander Avenue, Dandenong VIC 3175  
Overflow clubs (Summer season only)
- 7 Greaves Reserve - 20 Bennet Street, Dandenong VIC 3175  
Dandenong West Cricket Club  
Dandenong West Football Netball Club  
Eastern Knights Cricket Club  
Melbourne Titans Sports Club (Cricket)  
Dandenong Tennis Club  
White Star Dandenong Soccer Club (Winter season only)
- 8 Police Paddocks - 2 Baden Powell Drive, Endeavour Hills VIC 3802  
Dandenong City Soccer Club  
Two cricket ovals (Summer season only)



# Master Plan

We've designed the master plan to take into account all open space areas, including how they connect with nearby properties and roads.



## LEGEND

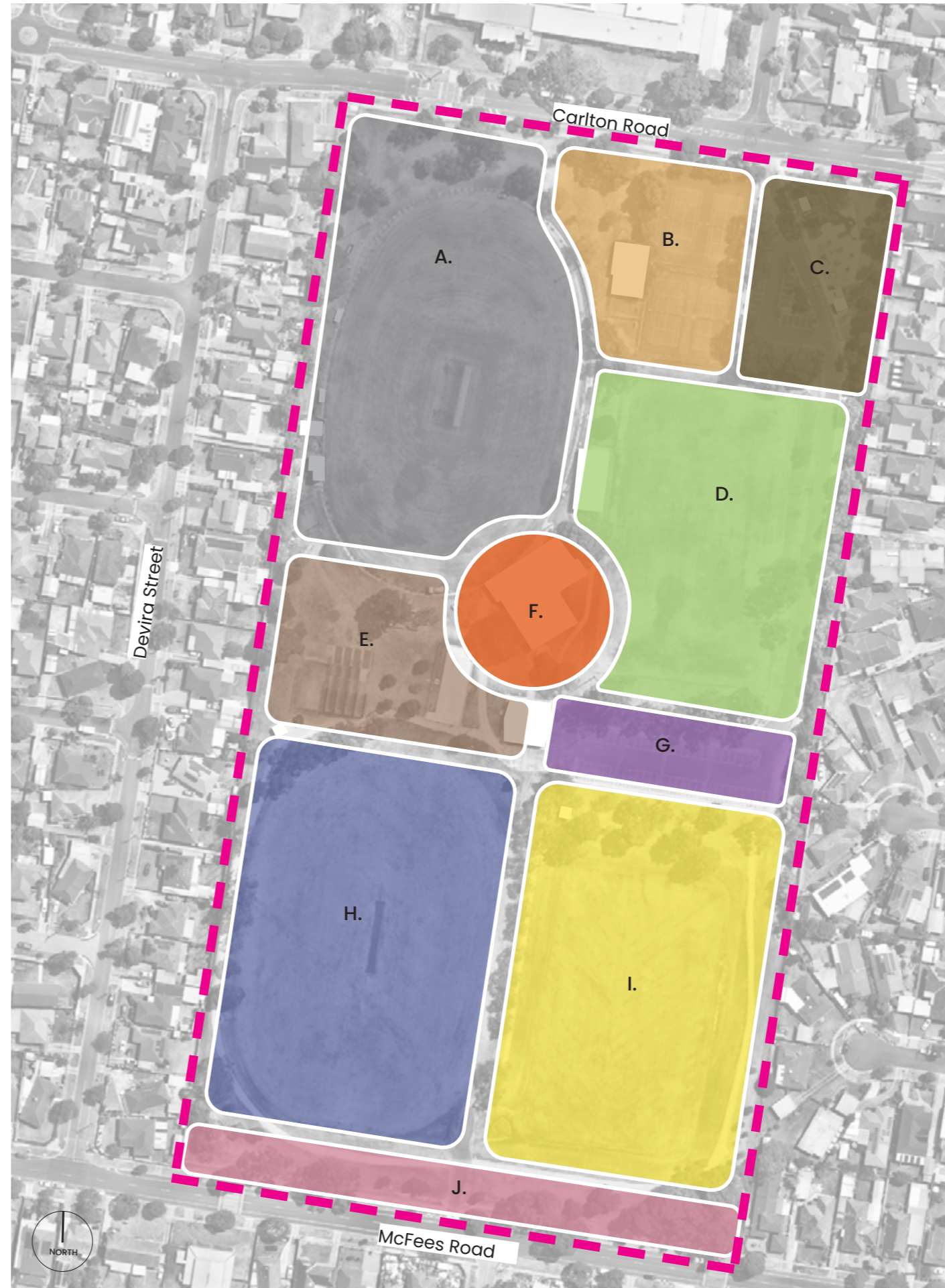
-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  New 750mm underground drain
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path
-  Car park
-  Site boundary
-  Existing ball stop fence
-  1 Oval 1 - northern oval
-  2 Oval 2 - southern oval
-  3 Rectangular field
-  4 Retarding basin and dog off-leash zone
-  5 Multi-court
-  6 Playground
-  7 Car park - northern
-  8 Consolidated pavilion - caters for Oval 1, Oval 2 and Rectangular field
-  9 Exercise equipment
-  10 Improved pedestrian access
-  11 Cricket practice nets
-  12 Pétanque terrain
-  13 Pétanque pavilion
-  14 Car park - central
-  15 Vehicle entrance
-  16 Public toilet
-  17 Pedestrian entry point

## Focus Precincts

The master plan has been developed with careful consideration of all open space areas, including their interfaces with adjacent properties and road infrastructure.

Focus precincts have been used at a finer scale to illustrate design intent that may not be visible in the broader context. These zones do not represent prioritisation of project works.

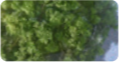
- A. Oval 1
- B. Northern recreation & pavilion
- C. Northern car park
- D. Rectangular field
- E. Central recreation
- F. Central pavilion
- G. Central car park
- H. Oval 2
- I. Retarding basin & dog park
- J. McFees Road Interface



# A. | Oval 1



## Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path



A. View from northwest of Oval 1 towards new pavilion



B. View from southwest of Oval 1 towards Pétanque pavilion

# A. | Oval 1

## ABOUT

This precinct is the main oval for AFL and a secondary field for Cricket.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

### Building infrastructure

- Scoreboard
- Coaches boxes

### Open space infrastructure

- Turf playing surface
- Turf cricket table
- Low fencing to perimeter of playing field
- Existing trees

### Drainage infrastructure

- Existing field drainage
- Spoon drains to perimeter
- Existing pits throughout

## Master Plan Actions

### Place

- 1a Remove existing high galvanised fence and provide low black fencing interface to Carlton Road.
- 1b New large signage to identify Lois Twohig Reserve for traffic traveling west to east.
- 1c Remove existing caretaker shed and consolidate into New Pavilion. This allows for loop trail to occur.
- 1d New hard surface forecourt between New Pavilion and access to Oval 1.
- 1e New playground - Refer to Northern Recreation Precinct.

### Overall

- The interface with Carlton Road should be thoughtfully designed to create an inviting and safe public space, enabling easy and welcoming access at multiple entry and exit points.
- Complete replacement of reserve perimeter fencing along western residential boundary to Carlton Road.

### Connection

- 2a Provide a formalised pedestrian access across from the primary school.
- 2b Provide a new pedestrian access to the Northern Recreation & Pavilion from Carlton Road.
- 2c Provide a new pedestrian loop trail around Oval 1.
- 2d Provide a connection to the existing Devira Street pedestrian access.
- 2e New shared path north-south connecting from Carlton Road to McFees Road.

### Overall

- Looped pathways designed for year-round accessibility to support spectators, community access, and recreational walking or running.

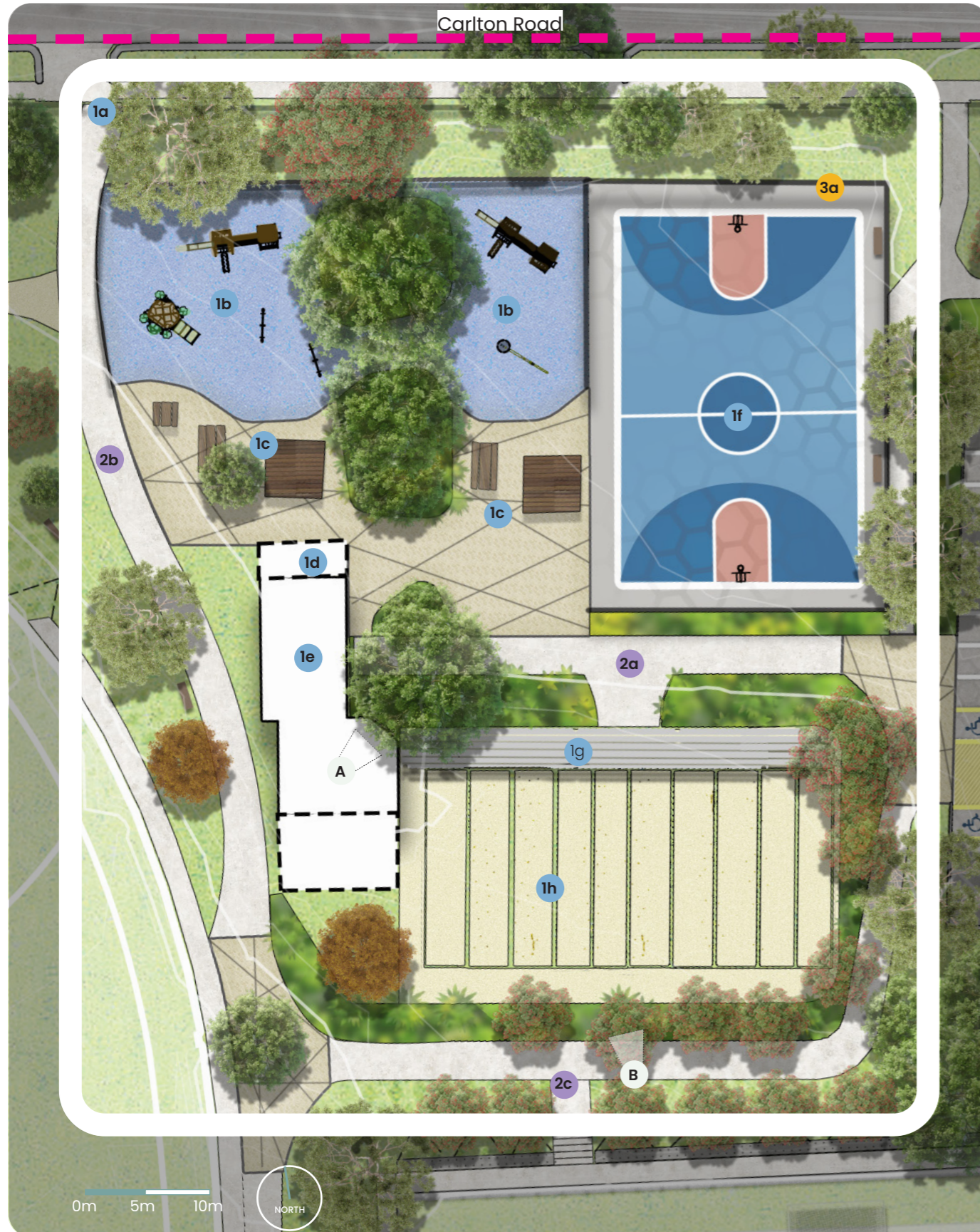
### Sustainability & Maintenance

- 3a Maintain the current vehicle gate for access for emergency vehicles and maintenance equipment. Provide new paved surface to the Central Car Park.

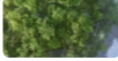


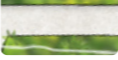


### Overall

- Use durable and appropriate surface materials in areas with steeper grades or high foot traffic to minimise gravel displacement and reduce maintenance requirements.
- Existing trees to be retained and protected.
- Additional tree planting should be incorporated to provide shade for spectators as well as community members using the space for walking and running.

## B. | Northern recreation & pavilion



### Legend

-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path
-  Rubber attenuation



A. View from above Pétanque Pavilion towards playground and multi-court



B. View from southern pedestrian path towards Pétanque Terrain and Pavilion

## B. | Northern recreation & pavilion

### ABOUT

The Northern Recreation and Pavilion has been developed to reinvigorate the previously underutilised tennis courts and pavilion.

The precinct is set to become an all-ages social hub within Lois Twohig Reserve, offering publicly accessible facilities.

The design features all-abilities access, a new playground, and a multi-use court for youth, while also providing a shared picnic and gathering space with the pétanque club.

Centrally located in the northern section of the reserve, the precinct is within close proximity to local schools and supported by an expanded northern car park.

The following existing facilities are proposed to be retained:

#### Building infrastructure

- Existing pavilion to be retained and upgraded.

#### Open space infrastructure

- Interpretive signage at playground to be relocated to new location
- Existing trees.

### Master Plan Actions

#### Place

- 1a Childlock gate at pedestrian access.
- 1b New neighbourhood level playground.
- 1c Community picnic facilities; including shelters, seating, drinking fountain and BBQ.
- 1d Outward-facing public toilet extension to **Pétanque Pavilion**.
- 1e **Pétanque Pavilion** upgraded to current service standard requirements.
- 1f **Multi-court providing Basketball and Soccer multi-goals**.
- 1g Shade structure for viewing **Pétanque Terrain**, includes seating.
- 1h Existing tennis courts demolished and replaced with multiple piste **Pétanque Terrain**.

#### Overall

- Reinvigorating the northern precinct aims to create a space with universal access, encouraging interaction among young children, youth, and senior citizens.
- Community BBQ facilities are to be DDA-compliant.

#### Connection

- 2a Provide an accessible, hard-paved path from the northern car park to the **Pétanque Pavilion** and the **Northern Recreation** community space.
- 2b Provide a north-south shared path connecting Carlton Road through to McFees Road at the southern end of Lois Twohig Reserve.
- 2c Provide a path connection from the Northern Car Park to the Rectangular Field via a set of steps, along with a DDA-compliant accessible path linking to the north-south shared path as an alternative route.

#### Overall

- Review path network lighting.

#### Sustainability & Maintenance

- 3a Lighting for the multi-court is to be installed with motion sensors and timer controls.

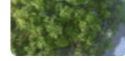

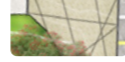



#### Overall

- Narrow areas or interfaces between hard surfaces are to be designed as garden beds capable of withstanding periodic inundation, and are intended to slow surface water movement before it enters the drainage network.
- Garden beds are strategically located in areas where runoff can be captured for passive irrigation and drainage.
- Existing trees to be retained and protected.
- Additional tree planting is to include native species along the perimeters and exotic species within the **Pétanque Terrain** and **Playground**.

# C. | Northern car park

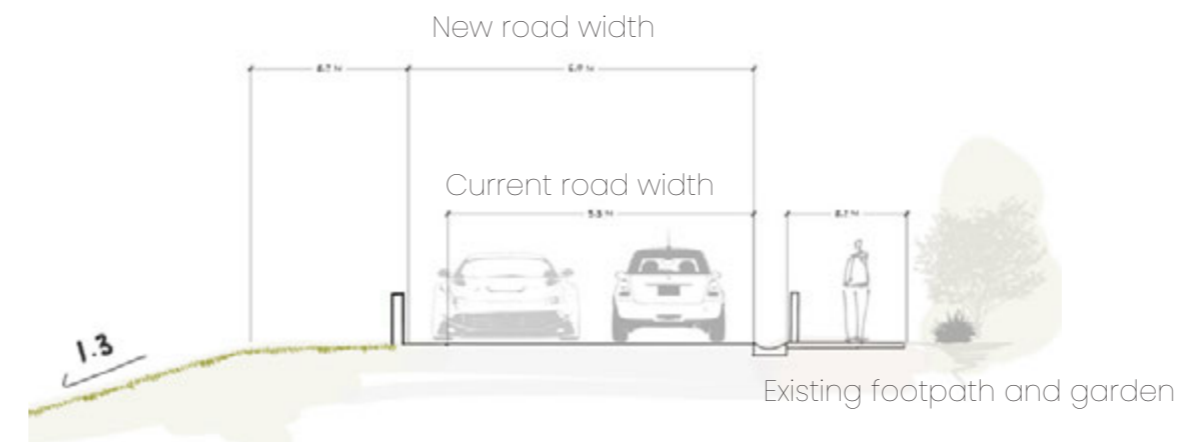


Legend

-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path
-  Car park



A. View from above southeast corner of car park looking towards multi-court



Typical road section

## C. | Northern car park

### ABOUT

The northern car park has been expanded to include an additional 20 spaces, two of which are to be designated accessible bays with shared zones.

To reduce the risk of conflict between pedestrians and vehicles—particularly small children—the playground has been relocated to the west of the multi-court. This relocation has also allowed for the internal road to be straightened, improving both pedestrian and vehicle access and safety.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

#### Building infrastructure

- Existing public toilet to remain until new public toilet is provided on exterior of Pétanque Pavilion which better services the Northern Recreation Precinct.

#### Traffic infrastructure

- The general location of existing parking bays to be retained.
- Footpath on south side of Carlton Road.

#### Open space infrastructure

- Interpretive signage at playground to be relocated to a new location
- Existing trees.

### Master Plan Actions

#### Place

- 1a New large signage to indicate approach to the vehicle entrance which is partially obscured by the nature-strip trees.
- 1b New feature hard paving to indicate gathering node and entrance to the **Northern Recreation Precinct**.
- 1c The existing car park footprint is expanded to cater for an additional 20 spaces which includes 2 dedicated disabled bays.

#### Overall

- The existing character of native garden beds, complemented by shade-providing trees that shelter the car park, is to be retained.
- Pedestrian safety and access is well considered in this design.

#### Connection

- 2a New pedestrian access from Carlton Road.
- 2b New two-way vehicle crossover providing for a straightened internal road.
- 2c Raised wombat crossings placed at key pedestrian connections and paths.
- 2d Provide a shared user zone with disabled access, connecting the **Pétanque Pavilion** and the **Northern Recreation Precinct**.
- 2e The existing gravel path is straightened and remains with kerb or bollard separation to the internal road.

#### Overall

- Pedestrians are given priority over vehicles, with raised crossings provided where appropriate.

#### Sustainability & Maintenance

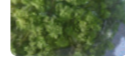

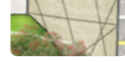



#### Overall

- Improving the passive irrigation from hard surfaces allow for retention of existing garden beds and introduction of new garden beds.
- Retain and protect existing trees.

## D. | Rectangular field



### Legend

-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path
-  Car park



Concept image subject to detailed design

A. View from above northwest corner of rectangular field looking towards central car park

## D. | Rectangular field

### ABOUT

The rectangular field faces several challenges, including a steep embankment in the northern and eastern corners, as well as an access road running parallel to the field. These factors create issues related to accessibility, drainage, and traffic management.

To enhance pedestrian flow and movement on-site, designated spectator areas are proposed to provide clear viewing spaces. Additional entry points connect the northern recreational area to the site's eastern circuit path via a wombat crossing. Drainage infrastructure be integrated alongside the access path to address water-logging issues.

Road widening to extend into the central car park to improve vehicle flow during peak times and to accommodate service vehicles. The inclusion of traffic-calming measures and kerbs enhance safety for both pedestrians and vehicles, discourage parking on nature strips, and ensure adequate space for grass slope maintenance.

Other planned features include goal storage along the north-south connection path and new areas for tree planting.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

#### Traffic infrastructure

- The general location of the access road.

#### Open space infrastructure

- Turf playing surface.
- Low fencing to perimeter of playing field.
- Existing trees.

### Master Plan Actions

#### Place

- 1a Provide terraced seating opportunities into the embankment
- 1b Team gathering location prior to entering field.
- 1c Entry plaza to **New Pavilion**. Includes specimen garden beds with seating for group gatherings.
- 1d New coaches boxes.

#### Overall

- Improvements include an uplift to the spectator experience to the **Rectangular Field**.
- Upgrade field flood lighting to LED.

#### Connection

- 2a Steps up to **Northern Recreation Precinct**.
- 2b Perimeter footpath to **Rectangular Field**.
- 2c Wombat crossing connection from north-south path stepping down to **Rectangular Field** perimeter footpath.
- 2d New footpath to north of **Central Car Park** connecting through to **New Pavilion** entrance plaza.
- 2e Maintenance and emergency vehicle access to be maintained.

#### Overall

- Providing direct access to some areas is only possible through the use of steps due to existing trees and current grades. Accessible paths are available, but they are less direct.

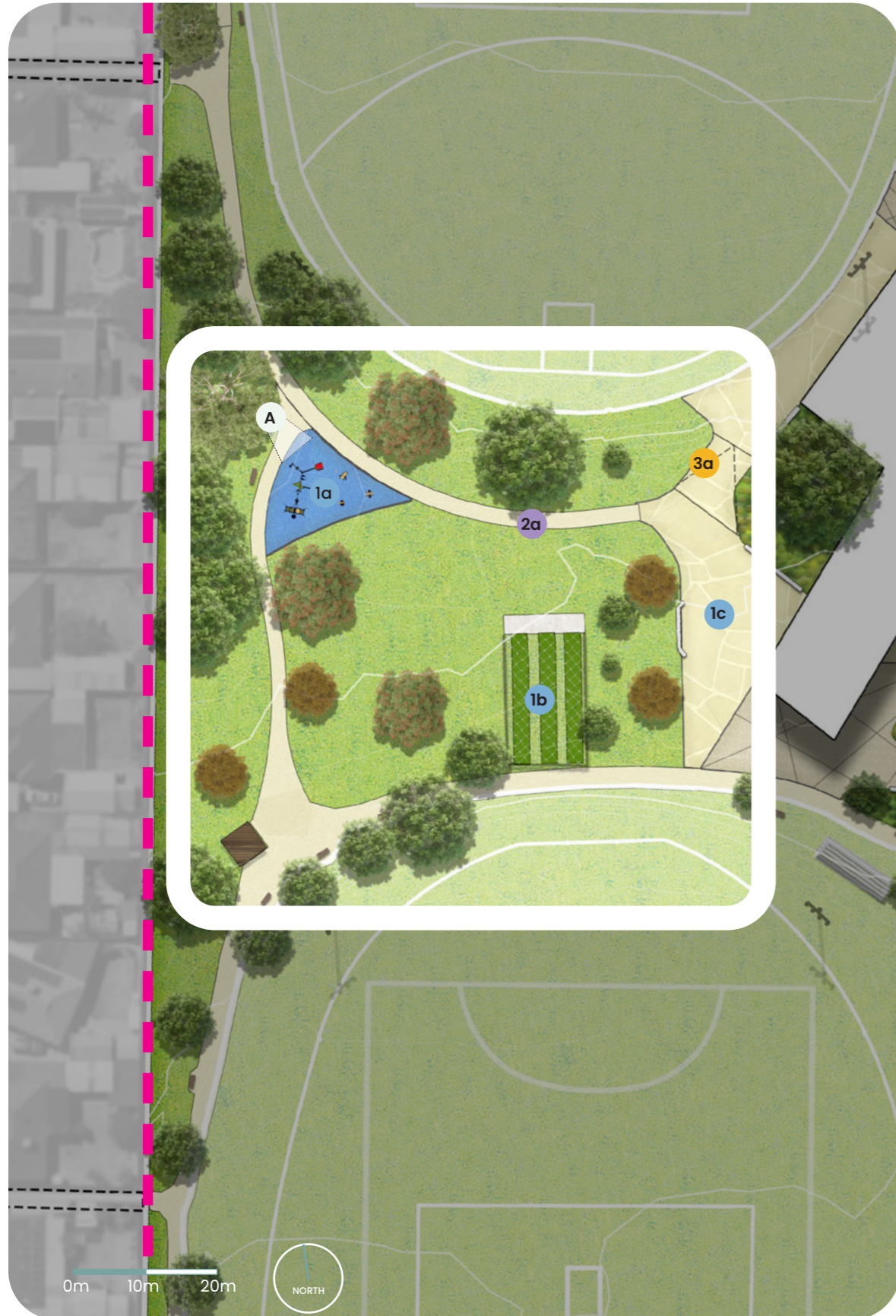
#### Sustainability & Maintenance

- 3a Spoon drain to be installed at the toe of the embankment with sub-surface drainage as required to reduce waterlogging to the northern and eastern portion of the **Rectangular Field**.
- 3b Goal storage cage.
- 3c Barrier kerb installed to edge of internal road.

#### Overall

- Implement sub-surface drainage to field.
- Existing trees to be retained and protected.

## E. | Central recreation



### Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path
-  Rubber attenuation
-  Synthetic grass surface



Concept image subject to detailed design

A. View from exercise equipment looking towards new cricket nets and New Pavilion

## E. | Central recreation

### ABOUT

The Central Recreation Precinct offers a range of amenities designed for both public and sports club use. It features outdoor exercise equipment accessible to all community members, promoting health and fitness in an inclusive setting. Additionally, the precinct now includes fully enclosed, cricket nets, providing a safe and dedicated space for practice and training, suitable for players of all skill levels.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

#### Open space infrastructure

- Low fencing to perimeter of playing fields.
- Existing trees.
- Picnic shelter and seating.

### Master Plan Actions

#### Place

- 1a New large fitness area including gym equipment.
- 1b New fully enclosed Cricket Practice Nets with three lane synthetic wickets.
- 1c Entry plaza to **New Pavilion**. Includes specimen garden beds with seating for group gatherings.

#### Connection

- 2a New gravel loop path connecting the **New Pavilion** and access around the west of **Oval 1**.

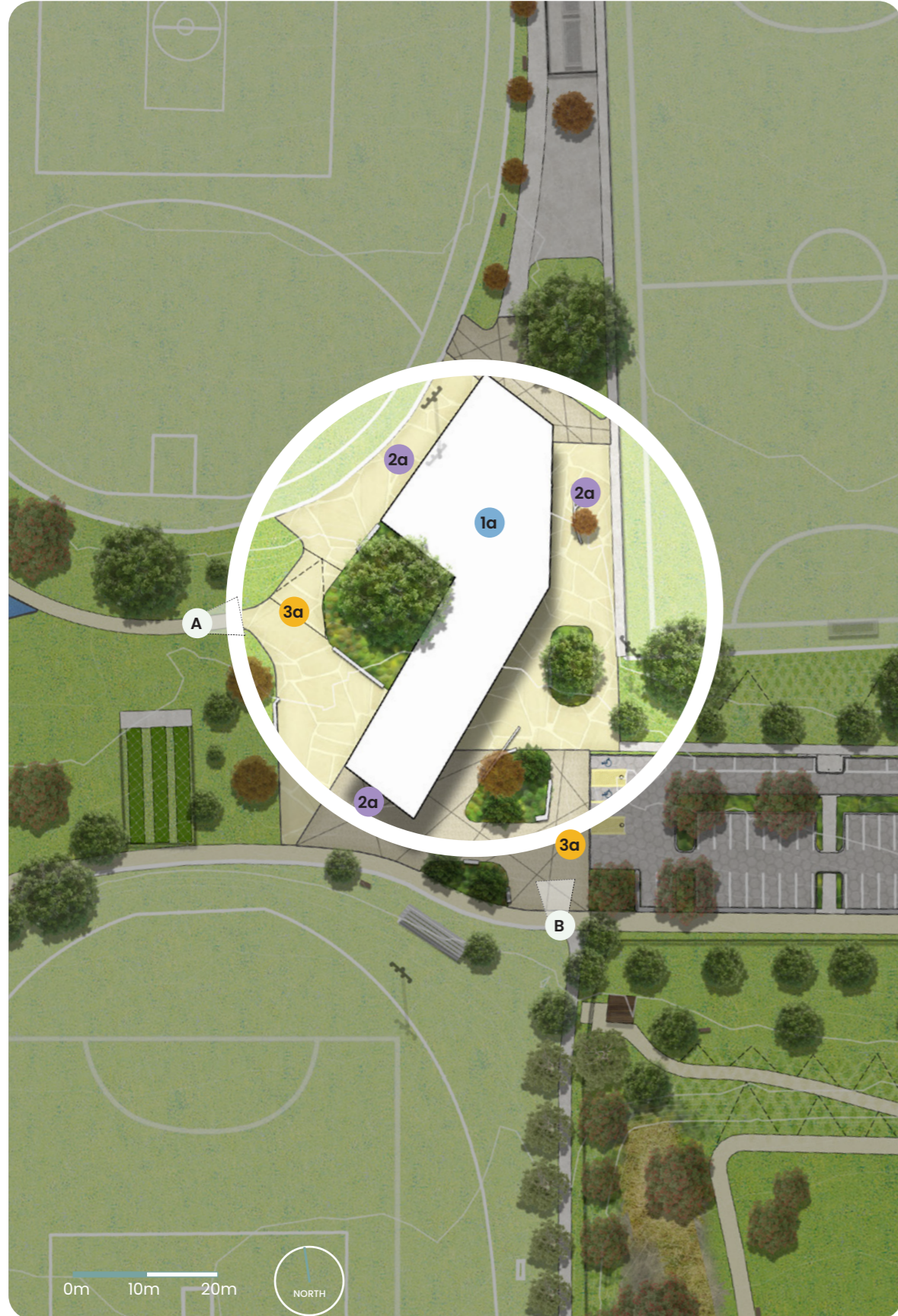
#### Sustainability & Maintenance

- 3a Provide access to **Oval 1** for maintenance and emergency vehicles from the **Central Car Park**.

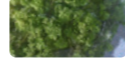

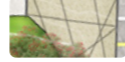



#### Overall

- Existing trees to be retained and protected.
- Additional drainage to be installed to reduce waterlogging around the fitness gym area and cricket nets.

# F. | Central Pavilion



### Legend

-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path
-  Car park



A. View from western loop path towards existing tree at New Pavilion



B. View from north-south pedestrian path towards New Pavilion entrance from Central Car Park

# F. | Central Pavilion

## ABOUT

The centralised pavilion is designed to streamline and unify amenities into one cohesive facility, replacing the existing Soccer, AFL, and Cricket pavilions. The Pétanque pavilion is to be removed, as the club is relocating to the Northern Pavilion.

Strategically positioned, the central pavilion is oriented to respond to the surrounding sports fields and existing trees. To accommodate the needs of resident clubs, the facility to offer over 1,000m<sup>2</sup> of shared space, including multi-use rooms, storage, and service areas for optimal functionality.

The pavilion also includes plaza areas designed for gatherings, events, and community activations. These spaces feature seating nodes shaded by trees, offering comfortable areas for relaxation and social interaction. The plazas are also designed to accommodate emergency and maintenance vehicles.

Prioritising pedestrian movement, the north-south pathway and other key circulatory routes converge at the pavilion, improving overall connectivity and accessibility across the precinct.

The following existing facilities be retained:

### Open space infrastructure

- Existing trees.

## Master Plan Actions

### Place

- 1a New Pavilion with entrances to each of the Ovals and Rectangular Field.

### Overall

The New Pavilion to include the following facilities:

- Community spaces
- Meeting rooms
- Storage facilities
- Change rooms for all-gender sport
- First Aid rooms
- Canteen
- Outward facing public toilets
- Exterior spectator viewing.

### Connection

- 2a New plaza gathering spaces provide access for large groups and a sense of entry to the **New Pavilion**. The pavilion is proposed to have three distinct field-facing viewing vantage points and entrances.

### Overall

- Lighting to be installed to path connections to car parks, sporting grounds and the practice cricket nets.

### Sustainability & Maintenance

- 3a Provide access to **Oval 1** for maintenance and emergency vehicles from the **Central Car Park**.




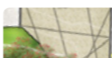

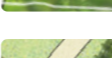

### Overall

- Existing trees to be retained and protected.

## G. | Central car park



### Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path
-  Car park



Concept image subject to detailed design

A. View from existing path at the south of the Central Car Park looking towards New Pavilion and Rectangular Field

## G. | Central car park

### ABOUT

The central parking area is being modified and upgraded to provide shade and prioritise a safer pedestrian experience.

Traffic-calming measures are being introduced, such as reducing the road to a single lane with one-way traffic, and incorporating tree nodes. These changes aim to slow down vehicle speeds within the car park.

Wider garden beds provide space for lighting, tree canopies for shade, and greater separation between roads. This aims to reduce hard surface areas and help mitigate the 'heat island' effect.

The new layout includes parallel parking and additional accessible (disabled) parking bays, resulting in a total of 50 car parking bays and 3 accessible parking bays.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

#### Traffic infrastructure

- The general location of the existing car parks.
- The general location of the access road.

#### Open space infrastructure

- Existing trees.

### Master Plan Actions

#### Place

- 1a The existing car park to be realigned to provide 3 accessible disabled parking bays in direct proximity to the New Pavilion.

#### Overall

- Car park lighting to be installed.
- Tree bays to be installed within the car park to provide a similar feeling and experience of the vegetated and shaded Northern Car Park.

#### Connection

- 2a New pedestrian path to the north of the Car Park and a central connection north-south.
- 2b Retain the existing southern gravel path connection.

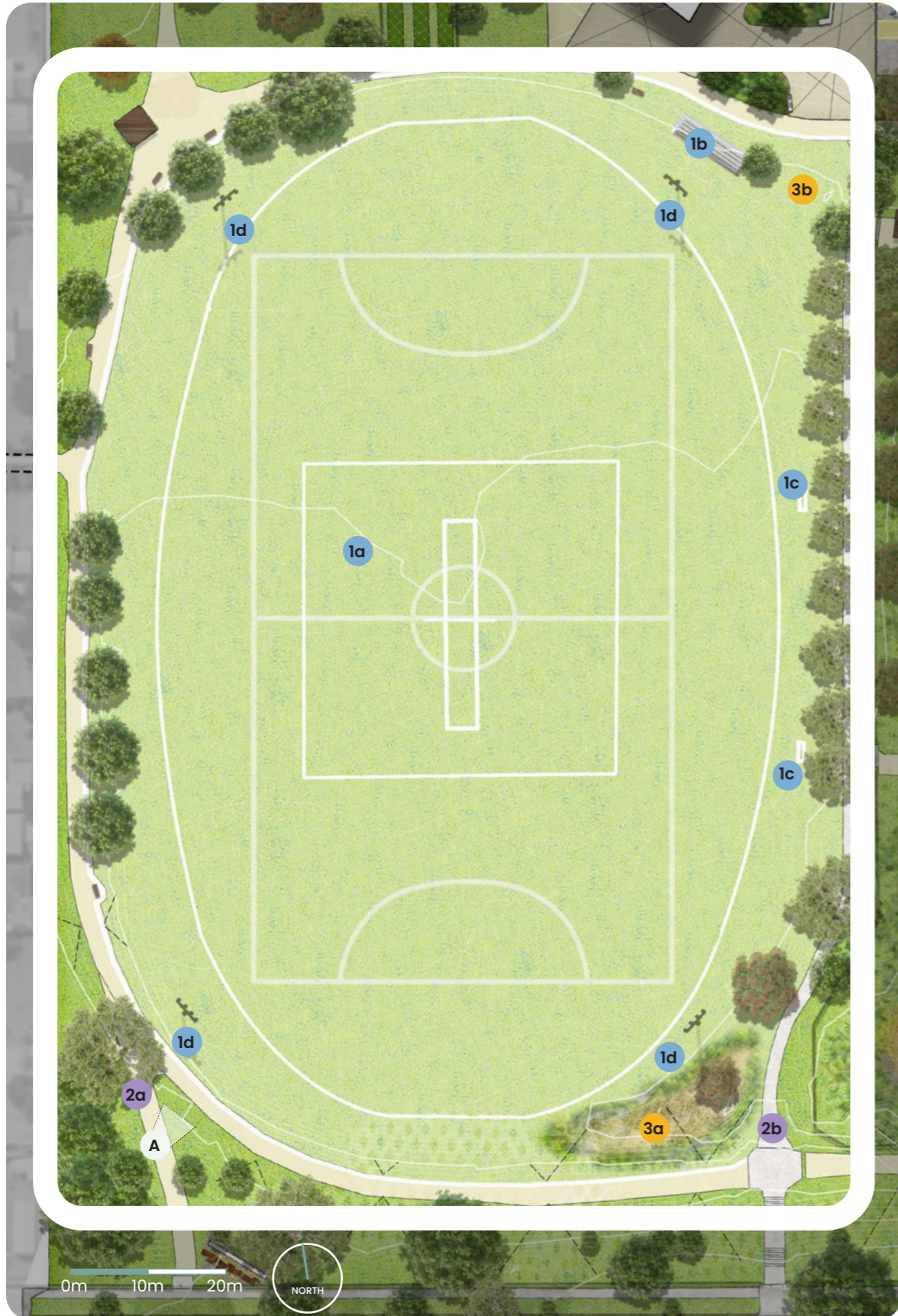
#### Sustainability & Maintenance

- 3a Introduce new garden beds via a central planting strip and tree cutouts. Kerbs to be designed to allow for passive irrigation.

#### Overall

- Existing trees to be retained and protected.

# H. | Oval 2



### Legend

-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Entrance/gathering nodes
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path



A. View from above southwest corner of Oval 2 looking towards New Pavilion

## H. | Oval 2

### ABOUT

Oval 2 has emerged as the predominant cricket oval in the area, now enhanced with new sports lighting, coaches boxes, and shade structures to support both players and spectators. The installation of sub-surface drainage ensures the ground remains in top condition throughout the year, making it suitable not only for cricket, but also as a versatile venue for overflow sports such as soccer and AFL, regardless of the season.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

#### Building infrastructure

- Shelters.

#### Open space infrastructure

- Turf playing surface.
- Synthetic cricket wicket.
- Existing trees.

#### Drainage infrastructure

- Existing field drainage.
- Grass swales to perimeter.
- Existing pits throughout.

### Master Plan Actions

#### Place

- 1a Oval 2 to be retained as the primary Oval for cricket matches. In addition, it can be utilised during winter for either AFL or Soccer overflow for games or training.
- 1b New shelter for spectators or teams.
- 1c New coaches boxes.
- 1d New sport lighting.

#### Connection

- 2a New gravel pedestrian connection to McFees Road.
- 2b Upgrade the current access from the north-south pedestrian path to be compliant with Australian Standards.

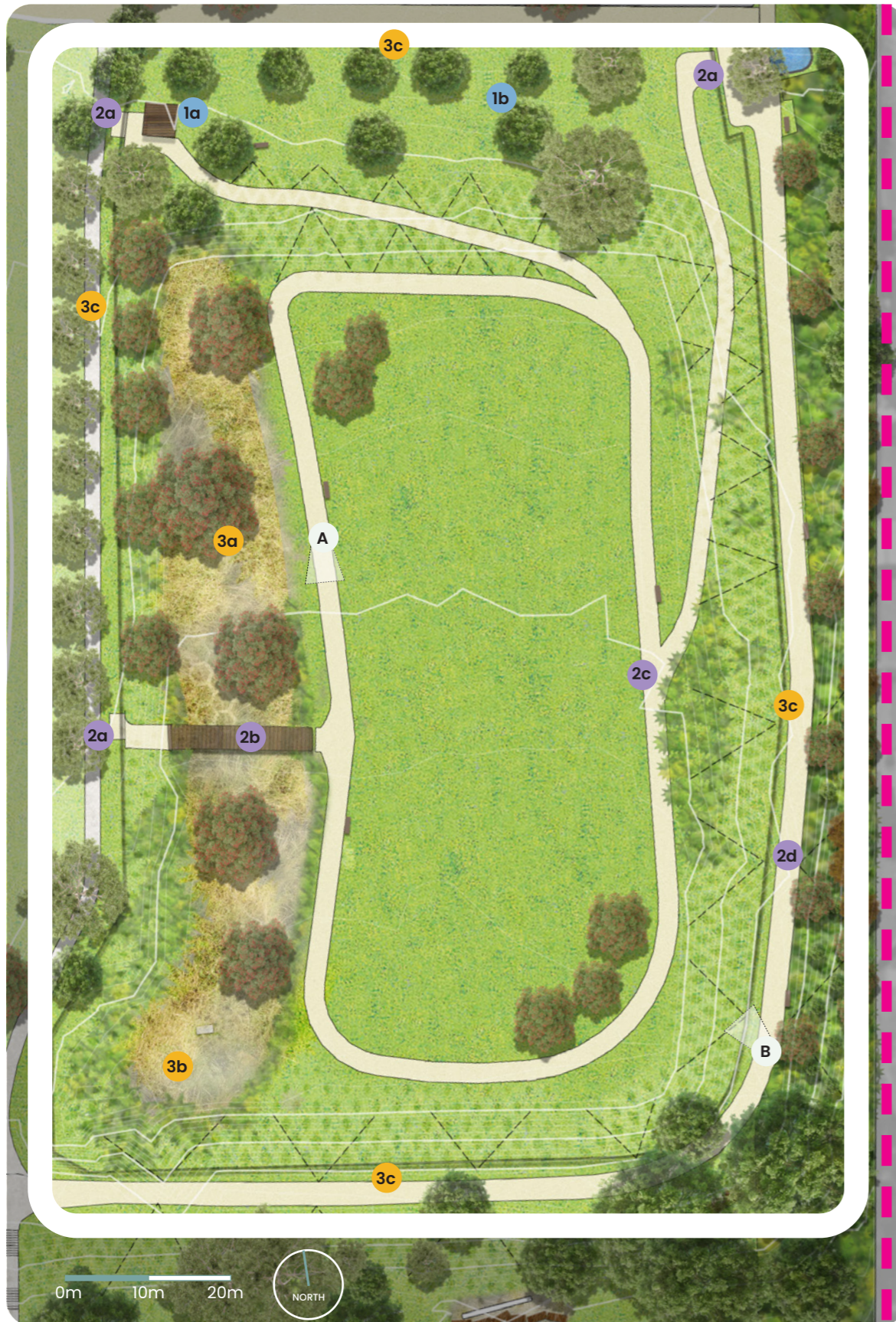
#### Sustainability & Maintenance

- 3a Install a planted swale that connects to the Retarding Basin & Dog Off-Leash Park.
- 3b Retain existing maintenance and emergency vehicle access.

#### Overall

- Existing trees to be retained and protected.
- New sub-surface drainage to allow for year round usage and reduce waterlogging.

# I. | Retarding basin & Dog Off-Leash Park



## Legend

-  Trees existing and proposed
-  Garden beds
-  Planted swale
-  Concrete path
-  Gravel path



A. View from internal loop path looking south along swale



B. View from existing loop path down into Retarding Basin & Dog Park

# I. | Retarding Basin & Dog Off-Leash Park

## ABOUT

The retarding basin at Lois Twohig Reserve was originally designed as part of a broader flood mitigation strategy for the area. This important feature helps manage stormwater during heavy rainfall, reducing the risk of localised flooding. As part of upcoming upgrades, the basin to be improved to enhance its drainage performance and ecological value, contributing to a healthier and more sustainable environment within the reserve.

In addition to its drainage function, the space to be transformed to offer more recreational opportunities for the community. Fencing be installed along the top of the embankments, allowing the area to be safely used as a fenced dog park where pets can enjoy off-leash play. To further improve accessibility, looped pathways to be created throughout the space, enabling year-round pedestrian use, even when the ground is wet or waterlogged after rain events. These enhancements make the reserve more usable and welcoming for all visitors, while continuing to serve its essential flood management role.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

### Drainage infrastructure

- Sub-surface drains to be retained.

### Open space infrastructure

- Existing trees.
- Existing park shelter, furniture and drinking fountain.
- Grass embankments.

## Master Plan Actions

### Place

- 1a Existing shelter, furniture and drinking fountain to be retained.
- 1b Existing trees and grass area on the top of embankment is to be retained for dog park use for when basin areas might be too wet.
- 1c Open lawn area for throwing balls and free dog running.

### Connection

- 2a Three airlock gated entrances provided with dog waste bins.
- 2b A boardwalk over vegetated swale.
- 2c Loop path at base of retarding basin and path access provided.
- 2d External loop access at top of embankments retained.

### Sustainability & Maintenance

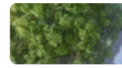

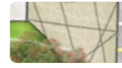



- 3a Install a planted swale that captures additional low-flows from Oval 2.
- 3b Replace the existing outlet with an appropriate pit.

### Overall

- Existing trees to be retained and protected.
- Low fencing to top of embankments provided.

# J. | McFees Road interface



- Legend
-  Trees existing and proposed
  -  Garden beds
  -  Entrance/gathering nodes
  -  Concrete path
  -  Gravel path
  -  Planted swale



A. View from McFees Road footpath to New Pavilion



B. View from McFees Road footpath towards Retarding Basin & Dog Off-Leash Park embankment

Concept image subject to detailed design

## J. | McFees Road interface

### ABOUT

The McFees Road interface serves as the primary entry point for visitors arriving by car, as it's the location most commonly directed to by navigation services. While there is no direct vehicle access into the reserve from this end, ample on-street parking is available, making it a convenient access point for park users.

To improve the visitor experience and enhance the reserve's visual appeal, plans are in place to remove the existing high galvanised fence and replace it with lower vehicle exclusion fencing. This change creates a more open and inviting frontage, encouraging pedestrian movement and improving connectivity with the surrounding community. Additional pedestrian access points to be introduced to make it easier for people to enter the reserve. Feature signage also be installed to signal to drivers that they've arrived at their destination, presenting the reserve as a welcoming and desirable place to visit.

The following existing facilities to be retained:

#### Drainage infrastructure

- Kerb and channel.
- Side entry pits.

#### Open space infrastructure

- Existing trees.

### Master Plan Actions

#### Place

- 1a Install new signage to identify Lois Twohig Reserve to vehicles traveling along McFees Road.

#### Connection

- 2a Provide a new gravel entry path from the Oval 2 loop path to McFees Road.
- 2b Install new steps and handrail access point connecting the north-south path to McFees Road.

#### Overall

- Path and entry lighting to be installed.

#### Sustainability & Maintenance

#### Overall

- Remove the high galvanised fence along McFees Road and install lower vehicle exclusion fencing.
- Retain existing Trees.

# Principles

## Council Plan

City of Greater Dandenong's Council Plan 2025-29 'Our City, Our Future' has a focus on achieving the following objectives:

1. A socially connected, safe and healthy city
2. A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts
3. A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods
4. A green city committed to a sustainable future
5. A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes
6. A council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community



## Open Space Principles

City of Greater Dandenong has established service principles, outcomes and objectives that can be found in the Open Space Strategy 2020-2030. The following principles have helped guide the master plan process in addition to meeting the objectives of the Council Plan. The following principles have been utilised to inform the development of the master plan:

### Principle 1: Place – High Quality Parks Reserves and Connections

- Ensure open space planning considers quality and multi-purpose environments
- Better connections to open spaces to make it easier and more comfortable for residents to walk or cycle
- Resilient and adaptable open spaces to serve future generations for a range of purposes, functions and experiences
- Create inviting, attractive open spaces that provide stronger human connections to nature and place

### Principle 2: People – Open Space For All

- Provide a range of opportunities for physical activity
- Well-designed, appropriate, inclusive open spaces that can be used by everyone
- Improved perception of safety in open spaces
- Increased opportunities for social connectedness

### Principle 3: Opportunity – Greening Our City

- Increase the tree canopy and vegetation coverage in open spaces
- Enhanced community access to the benefits of being outdoors and with nature
- Sustainable open space design and management practices
- Prepare for and mitigate the effects of climate change
- Enhanced wildlife habitats, habitat links/corridors and ecological value of open spaces

## Make Your Move Principles

The Make Your Move Greater Dandenong Physical Activity Strategy 2020-2030 has established service principles, outcomes and objectives that are relevant to Lois Twohig Reserve. The following principles have been utilised to inform the development of the master plan:

### Principle 1: Empower The Community

- Increase the community's understanding of the importance of physical activity
- Increase awareness of physical activity opportunities.

### Principle 2: Support And Facilitate

- Offer opportunities to be physically active with a focus on self-organised activities

### Principle 3: Be A Leader

- Build a community that values the importance of physical activity

### Principle 4: Create Environments

- Provide a diversity of physical activity opportunities and infrastructure
- Increase the opportunities to participate in physical activity by making spaces, services and facilities more affordable, safe, inclusive and functional
- Improve pathways and connection linkages to physical activity opportunities

### Principle 5: Use Evidence

- Respond to the changing needs of the community by undertaking effective consultation with our community and stakeholders

## Additional Strategies And Policies

There are a number of overlapping strategies and policies not mentioned specifically which have been considered throughout the development of the master plan.

# Community Engagement – Initial

The initial consultation was designed to provide the broader community with the opportunity to share their ideas and vision for the development of a draft master plan.

Information about site constraints, the retarding basin and flood mitigation, as well as what a master plan is, was provided as a guide for the participants.

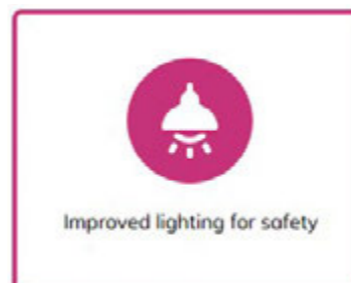
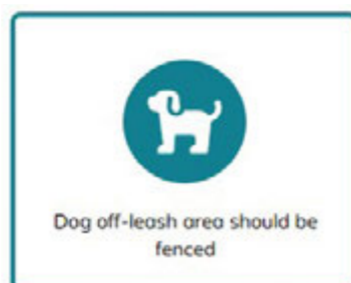
Consultation was held from 22 July to 18 August 2024. We used the following ways to promote the project and seek feedback:

- Online activities (survey, points activity and ideas wall)
- 2,433 flyers mailed to surrounding properties
- Posters placed in the reserve
- Two community drop-in sessions at the reserve
- An article in the August 2024 edition of Greater Dandenong Council News

- Social media posts
- In-class workshop with 16 students from Wallarano Primary School
- Email to people who have previously made a booking to use the tennis courts.

We received 182 online responses and engaged with a number of residents at the drop-in sessions.

The feedback we received showed strong support to enhance the reserve’s facilities and infrastructure to enable the park to be used for both informal and active recreation.



# Consultation Findings – Initial

## Points Activity

The question posed to the community was ‘Tell us what is most important to you – You can select up to six elements.’

The table provides the summary of the ideas supported by the community via the online activity and the same activity undertaken by 16 students at Wooranna Park Primary School (aged from 6-12 years) who participated in small groups.

Specific ideas provided by the school students were:

- Active Recreation – spaces for casual play such as futsal and frisbee
- Public Recreation Infrastructure – fitness equipment, bouldering and hit-up wall
- Appreciating nature – themed ornamental gardens.

Element	Description	Number of votes – community	Number of votes – students	Total Votes	How does the Draft Master Plan respond?
Picnic and gathering spaces	Shelters, BBQs, picnic tables and seating	29	3	32	A new recreation precinct, which includes BBQ’s, picnic tables and seating is proposed to the northern area. Additional seating and shade is proposed.
Appreciating nature	Trees and gardens	30	2	32	Generous new garden beds are proposed throughout the Reserve with a combination of exotic and native trees for suitable locations.
Passive open space	Grassed areas, seating areas, drinking fountains	30	0	30	Passive open space is retained to the perimeter of the sport fields. Improved access and seating is included. The northern recreation precinct and the new pavilion will include new drinking fountains.
Walking and cycle paths		29	1	30	New paths and connections are proposed throughout the Reserve.
Biodiversity and natural environment		27	1	28	New garden beds are proposed to increase the biodiversity and natural environment.
Play		24	5	29	A new playground is proposed.
Informal recreation	Such as fitness equipment, multi-use courts, activity walls	27	5	27	A new large fitness zone and new multi-court is proposed. Activity walls will be investigated for suitability during detailed design of these areas.
Active recreation		11	5	16	The reserve continues to be important for organised sport and Active recreation. Improvements are proposed to improve the quality and access of these facilities.
Dog off-leash		12	1	13	The dog off-leash area is proposed to be fenced with access, drainage and vegetation improvements.

**Ideas Wall - Community ideas submitted and supported online**

We received a number of submissions via drop-in sessions, email, post and online.

The table provides a ranked top 10 summary of the 33 themed categories of community suggestions.

**How does the Draft Master Plan respond?**

The Draft Master Plan incorporates the following proposed infrastructure:

- Fencing to be provided around the dog off-leash area with improvements to access
- Open spaces are still readily accessible for activities such as frisbee or casual sport
- A new fitness equipment zone is proposed to be centrally located within the reserve
- A new playground is proposed and bouldering and/or hit up wall can be reviewed for integration

Rank	Category	Suggestions	#Posts / Suggestions	Likes on those posts	Total support: posts + likes on those posts	How does the Draft Master Plan respond?
1	Dog off-leash area	Fence around the dog park, water facilities and separate sections for large and small dogs, and lighting	13	42	55	The dog park is proposed to be fully fenced with multiple new airlock/gate entrances. Due to the size of the space a separate area has not been created for small dogs. Lighting will be considered when a full review is undertaken of safe lighting for the whole of the Reserve.
2	Safety and Lighting to paths	Safety and lighting through the park / laneways/ walking path / dog off-leash area / recreational areas and wildlife-friendly lighting	10	27	37	It is proposed that an assessment of lighting is undertaken with key paths and the car park a priority.
3	Native trees and vegetation	More native trees and native gardens - shade and biodiversity - love driveway planting	7	26	33	New tree planting and garden beds are proposed throughout the Reserve.
4	Multi-purpose court	Basketball court / multi-purpose court	6	22	28	A new multi-court is proposed to replace the existing tennis courts.
5	Playground	Bigger playground with more activities, seats and bike racks (consider relocating to middle of park), shade sails	8	19	27	A new playground is proposed to be more centrally located along Carlton Road, but still within passive view of the street to reduce CPTED issues.
6	BBQs	More BBQ areas	4	10	14	New BBQs have been included in the northern recreation precinct.
7	Walking paths	Walking path around perimeter of park (DDA accessible)	4	6	10	New walking paths are proposed throughout with DDA accessibility a key focus of the design.
8	Pump track	Pump track for bikes and scooters	2	8	10	Due to the limitation of space a pump track was not able to be included.
9	New Public toilet	Toilet block at south end of reserve / directional signage	3	6	9	New public toilets are proposed as part of the consolidated pavilion.
10	Safety and security in central carpark	Enhanced presence of community safety officers to help prevent antisocial behaviour. Security cameras in main carpark Consider removing the central carpark	3	6	9	A new car park layout with improved lighting is proposed. Due to the necessity of access to the New Pavilion the location is to remain central.

# Stakeholder Engagement – Initial

Stakeholder engagement was undertaken concurrently with the community consultation from 22 July to 18 August 2024.

We met with the following club stakeholders in separate meetings, (the list is not in particular order of meetings):

- Masala Dandenong Football Club
- North Dandenong Cricket Club
- Stella Clavisque Club Pétanque and Yoga
- Ice Stock Sport (has since relocated to another facility)
- Lyndale United Football Club

## Stella Clavisque Pétanque Club

Background:

The Mauritian Club has been active for 56 years. The club has been located at the Lois Twohig Reserve for 15 Years. There are 120 members, 17 registered men and woman. There are no juniors, and there are 30-40 social players.

Yoga is run from the clubhouse twice a week with 10 people per class on Mondays and Thursdays at 5.30pm.

Pétanque club's tournament requirements:

- 1 tournament a week at other clubs
- 4 times a year, a tournament of 50-60 people is held at Lois Twohig Reserve
- 4m x 15m is the ideal playing surface and 3m x 15m is the minimum.

## North Dandenong Cricket Club

Background:

The North Dandenong Cricket Club was formed in 1977. The club's membership peaked in the mid-1980s and was consistent through the 1990's and early 2000's. The last ten years has seen a demographic shift in the area; however, the club has managed to adjust and attract new juniors and remain in division one. The club has five senior teams (3 on turf and 2 on synthetic). They also have junior sides with female players which they encourage, as it involves 'mums' at the club level.

There is a small number of regular supporters at matches, however finals matches can have up to 1000 spectators.

## Masala Dandenong Football Club

Background:

The Masala Dandenong Football Club has a membership made up of 80 Seniors, 50 parents and 20 Auskick junior players at 75:25 Male:Female ratio.

The club want to increase the junior membership, which may entice more female participation.

There are Tuesday and Thursday night training sessions. The seniors' game day is on Saturday and the juniors play Sunday. There are usually between 20 to 30 people watching the AFL matches on average per weekend.

## Lyndale United Football Club

Background:

The Lyndale United Football Club was formed in 1977 and was originally located at Barry Powell Reserve before moving to Lyndale Secondary College. There are two senior teams (70 adult members) and 100 junior members. The club has teams placed at Lois Twohig Reserve in the interim due to capacity issues at Lyndale Secondary College. The matches played at Lois Twohig Reserve are the senior men and the girls. The metro side is played at Lyndale SC.

## Ice Stock Sport

Background:

The Ice Stock Sport group has a small membership base that use the Lois Twohig Reserve tennis court facility.

The group trains on a Wednesday and plays socially on Sunday throughout the year. The group typically meet at 12pm for lunch and then play games between 2-6pm, often having dinner afterwards. They need 2-3 lanes for their sport. It was also noted that 90 percent of the players play indoors at an alternative location.

The club aspires to grow its small membership base and pursue interstate competitions. They have one person who plays at an elite level and are encouraging more people to be involved in the sport. They have a desire to recruit a distance track team and target which requires a playing distance of 60m in length (Sydney) and 120m length (overseas), however at Lois Twohig Reserve this would require the use of a car park.

Following the engagement process, the Ice Stock Sport group have been relocated to another facility which better caters to their sporting requirements.

Summary of Stakeholder Feedback

Individual feedback summaries from each club can be found in the appendices.

This table shows the consolidated and consistent themes that were presented by the clubs at each of their meetings and/or written submissions.

Category	Comments	How does the Draft Master Plan Respond?
Existing Pavilions	They don't cater for women in sport. Significant upgrades required to bring them up to standard including periphery DDA access.	The pavilion at the existing Tennis Courts will be upgraded to suitable standards for the Pétanque Club. All other pavilions are proposed for demolition to be replaced with a New Pavilion.
Future Pavilions	AFL, Cricket and Soccer are all open to sharing a singular new pavilion which should address the three sport fields. The Pétanque Club is open to utilising the old Tennis Club Pavilion with a small upgrade to bring it up to standard.	A new consolidated pavilion is proposed that faces the three sporting fields. This pavilion will cater for Women in sport and DDA access requirements to the current standards.
Accessibility	Generally there is no DDA compliance anywhere and paths that have been installed aren't accessible to everyone. Would like to see access improved and continuation of paths to the northern half of the reserve.	New path connections to the north of the Reserve are proposed. DDA compliance will be achieved as best as possible across the site.
Safety and Lighting	Generally, the youth and motorbikes are a safety concern in the central car park, especially at night. More lighting at night is required as the reserve is popular at night.	Car park lighting is proposed as part of a new layout design. Lighting will be considered when a full review is undertaken of safe lighting for the whole of the Reserve.
Toilets for the public	There is a lack of publicly accessible toilets, the playground facility is too far away if there is a group on the ovals or soccer field and club rooms aren't open.	A new publicly accessible toilet on the outside of the to be upgraded Pétanque Pavilion and outward facing public toilets will be included in the proposed new pavilion.
Reserve Fencing	All would like to see removal of the high fences to the perimeter providing a more welcoming interface.	It is proposed that the perimeter fence to Carlton Road is reduced to 900mm H where possible. The fence to McFees Road is proposed to be replaced with vehicle exclusion fencing.
Environment	All clubs wanted exotic species due to the mess of native species. General consensus was more trees are required.	A combination of native and exotic species have been proposed based on the suitability of locations.
Playground	Mixed feedback with some wanting it centralised but others supportive of it remaining closer to the schools in the north.	A new playground is proposed to be more central to Carlton Road, but still fronting the street and close to the schools to allow for passive surveillance.
Sport fields	General drainage improvements required to Oval 2 and the Soccer field. Lighting improvements throughout and for the public to use, not just clubs.	Significant drainage improvements are proposed to the rectangular field, Oval 2 and the Dog Park/Retarding Basin.
Dog off leash	All wish to see the dog off-leash area fenced.	The area is proposed to be fenced.
Existing Tennis Courts and Pétanque courts	With the tennis club no longer active, the courts are now rarely used and could be considered for removal. The tennis courts would be better use to be a multi-purpose court or to have the Pétanque courts relocated there to improve the accessibility and safety.	A new multi-court and Pétanque terrain are proposed to replace the tennis courts.

# Community Engagement and Findings – Second Stage

The aim of the Stage 2 consultation was to provide stakeholders and the broader community with the opportunity to review the draft master plan for Lois Twohig Reserve and provide feedback on whether they supported the design, and if there was something we missed. The feedback we received confirmed that we had generally achieved the right balance with the Pétanque Terrain requiring an increase of number of piste and other items for consideration when detailed design occurs.

Consultation was held from 2 July to 4 August 2025. We used the following ways to promote the project and seek feedback:

- Online engagement platform
- 200 flyers mail dropped
- Posters placed in the reserve
- The opportunity to book a time with project officers to discuss in person or on the phone
- Email to people who registered for further information

We received 19 online responses, five email submissions and engaged with the sporting clubs in-person.

Of the 19 responses, 12 supported the draft master plan. There were however 221 people who viewed the online second stage of consultation who did not share their opinion. We assume that this number generally supported the proposed draft master plan and did not continue with the survey.

## Summary of written feedback

Element	Description	How does the Master Plan respond?
Courts	The tennis courts should be retained and also include pickle ball.	We know from usage statistics from the Book a Court system that the facilities are underutilised and would provide significantly more active recreation opportunities if converted to the proposed multi-court. We recognise that there are some people who are interested in pickle ball. During the initial consultation where we had significant consultation with the broader community, pickle ball was not highlighted a priority for the reserve. The multi-court will be considered for pickle ball in future detailed design.
Biodiversity and natural environment	Improve habitat for native wildlife.	There is significantly more garden beds provided and in particular those with native or indigenous planting. Details of these species will be worked through at Detailed Design in consultation with the conservation team.
Safety	Lighting should be installed and the high fencing should be retained to stop people entering the reserve at night.	We have heard from the community that safety lighting is needed and that the high fencing makes the reserve feel like a prison. We agree that at certain times vehicle access should be restricted to the internal car parks, but the community require safe access to facilities for walking, dog walking and informal recreation. Lowering of the fences but retaining a fence is an appropriate safety measure to prevent undesirable activity and invites more of the community to enjoy the space and provide passive surveillance. Lighting designs will be undertaken throughout detailed design phases for each precinct and will follow the industry standards.
Improved access	The reserve should be more wheel chair friendly.	A new path is being provided from McFees Road to allow for wheelchair access and new path connections from Carlton Road have been designed to improve accessibility for all to the reserve.
Building facilities	More change rooms and toilets	Improvements to the buildings and amenities will be captured through the detailed design process where the service standards for the pavilions and facilities will be captured.
Dog off-leash	Ensure the dog off-leash area is fenced	The dog off-leash area is proposed to be fenced with access, drainage and vegetation improvements.
Picnic facilities	Include BBQ's	BBQ's are proposed to be included in the Northern Recreation and Pavilion. BBQ's have not been included in the center of the reserve as this could potentially decrease the opportunities for sporting clubs from the pavilions to host and sell food on event days.
Playground	Make the playground bigger and include trampolines. Relocate the playground to the center so its visible from the sports fields.	When the playspace is detail designed, further community consultation will be held to incorporate various elements for the community. The selected position of the playground caters for the broader community including the sport clubs. It is located in visual proximity to Carlton Road to ensure there is passive surveillance of the facility when there is no sport occurring, close proximity to public toilets and will include disabled parking nearby.

## Stakeholder Engagement – Second Stage

Stakeholder engagement was undertaken concurrently with the community consultation from 2 July to 4 August 2025.

We met with the following club stakeholders in separate meetings, (the list is not in particular order of meetings):

- Masala Dandenong Football Club
- North Dandenong Cricket Club
- Stella Clavisque Club Pétanque and Yoga
- Lyndale United Football Club

Note Ice Stock Sport has been relocated to another facility and was not re-engaged for the second stage.

Following the in-person engagement we also received emails from Cricket Victoria, Football Victoria and AFL Victoria in support of the Draft Master Plan.

### Stella Clavisque Pétanque Club

The club is supportive in general of the Draft Master Plan with the following statement:

“As long time tenants and passionate ambassadors of pétanque, the committee and members of the Stella Clavisque Pétanque Club wish to commend the City of Greater Dandenong for the vision and care evident in the Lois Twohig Reserve Draft Master Plan. The draft paints a picture of a high quality, accessible and sustainable open space that balances organised sport with recreation and community life. The proposed upgrades – new playgrounds, improved dog off-leash area, expanded car parking, enhanced lighting and a modern central pavilion – will make our cherished reserve a welcoming hub for families, athletes and visitors alike”.

The club raised concerns that only four piste had been shown within the draft master plan. Project officers did explain that the design of the space is subject to detailed design and further engagement with the club.

We have addressed the concerns and amended the Master Plan to show 10 pistes allocated, although this is still subject to detailed design.

### North Dandenong Cricket Club via Cricket Victoria

The club and Cricket Victoria are overall pleased with the outcome of the draft master plan.

One question was raised regarding the location of the outdoor cricket nets as the proposed location does not align with Cricket Australia’s Community Cricket Facility Guidelines.

Councils Sport and Recreation Officer has responded with a detailed explanation regarding site constraints and why the position was selected. Cricket Victoria have responded that they’re satisfied with the proposed location as shown on the Draft Master Plan.

### Masala Dandenong Football Club and AFL Victoria

The club are generally in support of the draft master plan.

AFL Victoria provided some comments around detailed elements for the sports lighting, ball nets and the outcomes of the New Pavilion, which will be considered at detailed design phase of each precinct.

### Lyndale United Football Club and Football Victoria

The club is supportive of the Draft Master Plan in general. There was one member request to relocate the playground to within the vicinity of the rectangular pitch so they can supervise their children while undertaking soccer games.

The location proposed is reflective of the playspace being for the sporting clubs but also all of the community and the location was selected through CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles in particular around passive surveillance from Carlton Road and the Stella Clavisque Club members. In addition the location caters for improved access for people with mobility issues.

Football Victoria are fully supportive of the Draft Master Plan.

