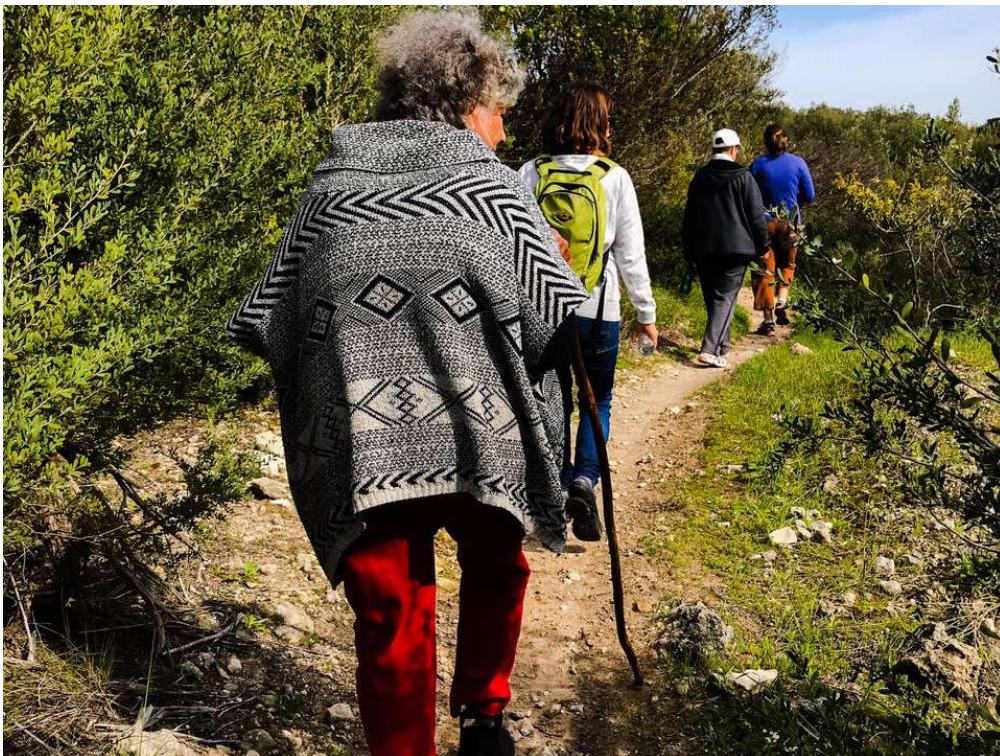




MANNING PARK TRAILS: COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP OUTPUTS REPORT



[Dave Lanfear Consulting / OPG |Manning Park | April 2022](#)

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Executive Summary

This report represents the outputs of a series of workshops undertaken with a Community Engagement Group (CEG) established by the City of Cockburn following comments received in respect of the Manning Park Mountain Bike Concept Plan.

To establish the CEG the City called for Expressions of Interest (EOI) which was advertised from September through to October 2021. 51 expressions of interest were received. These were independently shortlisted under a range of criteria agreed with City officers. Eighteen, including three representatives from the aboriginal community were invited to attend a series of four workshops which followed the following process:

- Workshop 1: Establish the contextual background, agree the Terms of Reference and initial discussions
- Workshop 2: Endorse the Terms of Reference and the critical considerations of each representative
- Workshop 3: Finalise the critical considerations of each representative and consider additional detail related to Manning Park.
- Workshop 4: Discuss key themes and potential priorities for consideration in the future planning of trails at Manning Park.

Each workshop was followed by the sharing of notes / presentations and the ratification of the items discussed.

Through the workshop process the following areas of consensus were agreed:

- The planning to date had not followed a structured process in accordance with the published Trails Development Process - Eight Staged Trail Planning Process. In order for the community to have faith in the outcome of the process it was considered essential that the process going forward should incorporate this tried and tested approach.
- As a result of the failure to adhere to the above process previous planning was not fully informed by a series of studies which would provide the basis against which clear decision making may be made. These included:
 - A full evaluation of the sites biodiversity and environmental value.
 - An Aboriginal Heritage Assessment
 - A European Heritage Assessment.
- The development of unsanctioned trails was not supported by any group or individual.
- Manning Park required careful management from an ecological / environmental perspective. This primary concern would influence the extent that the land could provide for a variety of users.
- Statutory approval requirements must be met.
- The need to respond to local community need.
- There is a need to manage conflict between users more effectively and be

clear with communication to the community from the City. This included:

- Concerns were expressed regarding the consultation process and involvement of all user groups to date.
- Frustration was felt on all sides related to either promises not being fulfilled (in respect of the development of trails) or the inadequate assessment of the value of the land (in respect of ecology, biodiversity and heritage).
- Current control and management of the site. This included unauthorised and unmanaged modification, development and damage to a unique limestone ridge and conversely the interference by unknown people causing danger to individuals using the trails.
- Making the right decision for future generations even if this takes time.

The CEG representatives were not in agreement on the following matters:

- The need to formalise mountain bike, running and hiking trails within the Park.
- The use and role of unsanctioned trails and their future use.
- The activities which are appropriate for Manning Park.
- The level of degradation and ecological value of the Ridge.
- In respect of the use of the trails, whether they could be effectively self-policed by users.
- Whether it is reasonable for individuals / groups to prune bushes, remove weeds etc. without appropriate management practices being put in place.
- Whether it is appropriate for some users to clear trails and other areas for safety reasons outside of an agreed plan due to the damage which may occur to sensitive areas and Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC).
- While environmental protection and rehabilitation is important, there needs to be a balance to cater for all users of Manning Park.

The recommended future approach included:

- The City are to follow the DBCA Eight Staged Trail Planning Process and undertaking all of the background informing studies required which as a minimum should include:
 - A full evaluation of the sites biodiversity and environmental value.
 - An Aboriginal Heritage Assessment
 - A European Heritage Assessment.
- The group identified a need for a community advisory committee to be established to assist in guiding and informing the management plan and future management of the park.
- A Community Advisory Committee could assist the City by contributing to:
 - The development of an appropriate management model for the Park.
 - Determine the future direction, ongoing management of all areas of Manning Park and the implementation of agreed actions.

- Include engagement by the City and other responsible bodies (including state government departments).
- Involve user groups as an integral part of the management of the site.

1.0 Background

This report represents the outputs of a series of workshops undertaken with a Community Engagement Group (CEG) established by the City of Cockburn following comments received in respect of the draft concept design for a proposed Mountain Bike Network at Manning Park. The draft concept was released for comment in 2020 following a process which included:

- The City of Cockburn Trails Master Plan was completed in 2013 and the Manning Park Mountain Bike Concept Plan in 2015. The Trails Master Plan identified the need to investigate options for potential locations for mountain biking within the City of Cockburn. The release of the concept plan was put on hold pending the completion of the Perth and Peel Mountain Bike Master Plan (PPMBMP).
- The PPMBMP was developed by Westcycle (State Sporting Association) with the support of State Government and followed an extensive statewide consultation process. The PPMBMP was adopted and published at the end of 2016. The plan referenced Manning Reserve as a priority site for mountain bike opportunities with a primary focus being the development of a cross country trail network and bike park facility to establish an accessible recreation resource for young people and enthusiasts.
- Subsequent to this the City of Cockburn developed the Manning Park Master Plan 2018 which, following a period of public consultation, was endorsed by Council in December 2018 with a 7.25M commitment to its implementation. A recommendation of the Master Plan was the formalisation of some mountain bike trails in Manning Park to mitigate the unsanctioned trails being created.

Over recent years some of the recommendations and actions identified in the Manning Park Master Plan has been implemented including upgraded signage, installation of new park furniture, new bin enclosures, replacement of BBQs and drink fountains and the commencement of the upgrade of the lake side path.

While the draft concept design for the Mountain Bike Network at Manning Park received a high level of support there were a number of concerns raised. These included environmental impacts, safety concerns, heritage and impacts on amenity. Additionally, concerns were raised from those respondents who were dissatisfied with the draft concept as they were unaware of the prior processes and as a result suggested the planning was flawed.

As a result of the comments received the City considered there was a need to revisit the concept design and general trail network to seek to address the concerns raised.

2.0 Establishing the Community Engagement Group

To implement the above process it was decided that a further round of community consultation was unlikely to achieve a solution and that a targeted discrete engagement approach would be necessary. This was to be aimed at securing specific advice / guidance from representatives of the broader community cohort. It was considered that this would be best achieved by establishing a Community Engagement Group to review the issues, opportunities and solutions associated with

a trail network in Manning. To establish the CEG the City called for Expressions of Interest (EOI) with the aim of engaging with representatives across a range of disciplines, user groups, skill sets and representative bodies with a direct interest in Manning Park. This would include residents / individuals / representative bodies in support and those that didn't support elements of the draft concept plan to ensure all matters could be openly debated.

The EOI process was advertised from September through to October 2021 and 51 expressions of interest were received with many being of a high calibre. The EOI's were then assessed by an independent adjudicator against a number of agreed criteria which included:

- Local Resident
- Demonstrated local knowledge of Manning Park area and surrounds.
- A proven track record of being actively involved in community projects and working positively and collaboratively with others holding differing opinions in a group.
- Demonstrated willingness to represent their group equitably and fairly.
- Demonstrated ability to add value to the project (related to a series of diverse skills including track / trail design, land use planning, Aboriginal heritage and environmental matters)
- The ability to attend all advertised sessions to maintain a level of consistency.

In addition to the above, a further balancing was undertaken to ensure all interested groups were represented as equitably (equal) as possible. As a result 15 invitations were sent out to nominated individuals which scored highest under the assessment criteria. A further three representatives from the aboriginal community were invited to attend. The CEG consisted of the following representatives which covered a cross section of individuals and representative members of specific interested groups:

- Aboriginal representative x 3
- Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor
- Friends of Manning Ridge
- Hamilton Hill Community Group
- Manning Park Trail Runners
- Mountain Bike Riding Group
- Trail / track running group / Mountain Bike
- Orienteering User Group
- SES and Local Community
- Spearwood Progress Association
- Surrounding Manning Park resident / local community representative / User of Manning Park x 6

A number of roles and representation overlapped. The intent was to ensure a balance across the diverse interests of users of Manning Park.

3.0 The Workshop Process and Notes

The workshops were facilitated by an external consultant. The focus was initially on establishing an agreed Terms of Reference within which the CEG could operate. The process was then to work through the key constraints / opportunities within and adjacent to Manning Park; the requirements of each representative / and to provide an overview of areas of disagreement and consensus. This would then be consolidated into one report to inform the Council.

As a working group it was not considered that the taking of formal minutes was appropriate as many of the matters would require general discussion around key themes and potential solutions. It was agreed in workshop 1 (referenced below) that the purpose of the CEG was to provide advice and guidance and it was not a decision making body, nor would it recommend agreed actions. Recordings of the sessions were undertaken as a reference point if any matters of issue required clarification, but were not to be made available for general distribution.

While some representatives were members of groups, during the workshop process it became clear that they could not necessarily represent the diverse views of all of their members and therefore sought to strike a balanced approach in the discussions. By agreement it was also considered that a proxy would be permissible provided that their input was in accordance with an agreed terms of reference and suitable briefing by the member or group they were to represent. This was to ensure that the workshops could be conducted in a consistent, transparent and fair manner and avoid the revisiting of previously agreed items and areas of consensus.

Each workshop session included a representative from the City of Cockburn who were principally in attendance to clarify any technical or Council process matters which were raised by the CEG. In addition during the first workshop, a representative from the Department of Parks and Wildlife was in attendance and provided a presentation on the stages recommended in the published DBCA Trail Development Series.

To provide context to the subsequent discussions reference is also made to the 2006 Beeliar Regional Park Management Plan (BRPMP). On page 68 of the plan it identifies the Manning Park Ridge and Manning Park Lake, Area 30 and 31 respectively, as areas for Conservation and Protection. The area around Manning Lake (Area 32) is identified for Recreation. The plan identifies the City of Cockburn as the management agency for each of these areas.(page 12). The management emphasis of Area 30 and 31 is to protect and where possible, enhance the biodiversity conservation values and landscape qualities of these areas. In these areas priority is given to maintaining the natural state with a minimum of impairment. The management emphasis of Area 32 is to provide a variety of recreational opportunities. The type and scale of these recreation facilities will depend on the values of any given area, community demand and the appropriate management of the Park. Minimising the impact of visitor activities is emphasised in this area. When referencing Manning Park throughout the report the main areas of concern / contention relate to the most sensitive environmental areas (Areas 30 and 31). These areas are referenced at Appendix A which contains the relevant extract from the BRPMP.

The workshops included:

- Workshop 1: Held on 10th November 2021 5:30pm to 7:30pm to:
 - Establish the contextual background.
 - Confirm the engagement ground rules and how the Working Group meetings will be managed.
 - Clarification of community groups / stakeholders involvement .
 - Discuss a draft Terms of Reference of the CEG for endorsement by the Group.
 - To open up discussion related to the background and requirements of representatives with other attendee's and preparation for Workshop 2.

The initial presentation and notes agreed from Workshop 1 by the CEG are provided in Appendix 1 to this report. Additional correspondence was provided after the workshop and these are contained at the end of the workshop notes.

In addition the Terms of Reference were agreed at Workshop 1 and ratified at the beginning of Workshop 2. The Terms of Reference finally adopted are contained at Appendix B.

- Workshop 2: Held on 17th November 2021 5:30pm to 7:30pm to:
 - Endorse the agreed Terms of Reference.
 - Ratify the previous workshop notes
 - To continue the process of identifying the key objectives and critical considerations of each individual representative or community group representative. This involved a brief overview from each participant which are contained in the workshop notes.
 - To allow for group discussion related to the requirements of representatives with other attendee's to gain an understanding of broader challenges and issues related to the use of Manning Park and potential mitigation of issues (if any).

The presentation and notes agreed by the CEG at Workshop 2 are provided at Appendix C to this report. Additional correspondence contained in the notes was provided after the workshop and these are contained at the end of the workshop notes.

- Workshop 3: Held on 24/11/2021 5:30pm to 7:30pm to:
 - Ratify the previous workshop notes
 - Finalise the process of identifying the key objectives and critical considerations of each individual representative or community group representative.
 - Provide an opportunity to review previous considerations and, in particular, further information related to the unique position of Manning Park as a feeding ground for Carnaby Cockatoos and issues related to the development of authorised and unauthorised trails.
 - To enable the group to consider additional detail related to the vegetation degradation and highlight on aerial plans of Manning Park,

potential opportunities and no-go areas. This was undertaken on a table by table basis to assist in confirming specific locational site issues, opportunities and constraints. The intent was not to provide a suit of development suggestions which were representative of the full CEG membership but to capture additional site specific information not picked up elsewhere relating to individual ideas, solutions and if further knowledge was required.

The presentation and notes also agreed by the CEG at Workshop 3 are provided at Appendix D to this report. Additional correspondence was provided after the workshop and these are contained at the end of the workshop notes.

- Workshop 4: Held on 08/12/2021 5:30pm to 7:20pm to:
 - Ratify the previous workshop notes
 - Discuss and confirm the key themes which have emerged from the workshop process and priorities to be considered for the future approach to trails at Manning Park. The themes were grouped for discussion with the CEG members to ascertain whether they reflected their views accurately or required amending / re-working.
 - Prioritise potential actions for consideration by the City of Cockburn Council in their future deliberations in relation to trails within Manning Park. Detailed discussion was also held around the continued involvement of the community in the ongoing management of Manning Park in an advisory capacity.

The Workshop 4 presentation, which was amended following feedback from group representatives, and notes, similarly amended are provided at Appendix E to this report. Specific concern was raised in respect of potential opportunities and no-go areas which were highlighted on a plan contained in the presentation. It was stated that they should be subject to a 'health warning' as they merely represented a number of individual suggestions which were not endorsed by the CEG nor would they receive the support of individual CEG members. The heading associated with the plan was altered to reflect this concern.

On the completion of Workshop 4 and feedback on the meeting notes and presentation, four representatives of the group requested an opportunity to meet again to clarify any misunderstandings / misrepresentation. It was suggested that this could be combined with their consideration and review of the draft Outputs Report. This was to ensure the CEG have input to the final report before it is formally considered by Council, to ensure the diverse views of each contributor is represented are appropriately referenced and incorporated.

The request was considered and agreed by City of Cockburn Officers.

4.0 Representatives Key Considerations

The CEG representatives were requested to identify their key responsibilities / objectives related to the future of Manning Park. The detailed output and discussion points are provided in the notes to the workshops. A summary of the outcomes from the discussion identifying one overarching objective and a key challenge is provided in Table 1 below

Table 1: Overview of the objectives related to the objective and key challenges related to meeting the objectives referenced

Representative	Responsibilities / Objective	Key challenges
Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor	To protect and maintain the intrinsic environmental values of the park.	There is a need to undertake a proper user survey of the site in order that the environmental values can be managed for the greater benefit of the community.
Orienteering	To provide opportunities for people to participate in the activity from racing to exploring.	To maintain opportunity for orienteering activity while promoting environmental protection and safety.
Mountain Biking	A wish to access good quality and sustainable mountain bike trails.	Maintenance needs to be considered for both current unsanctioned trails and new sanctioned trails. Some of the existing unsanctioned trails have become badly eroded and require maintenance.
Trail Runners	To continue to operate trail running within Manning Park all year round.	To ensure the trails are maintained and free from obstruction
Hamilton Hill Community Group	To represent the views of over 6,000 residents in seeking a balance of activities for local users while also considering the biodiversity, conservation and protection of the natural environment.	The process cannot alienate the immediate residents by putting state based sports activities within Manning Park

Representative	Responsibilities / Objective	Key challenges
Aboriginal Community Representatives	To recognise and protect sites within Manning Park which are valued by the Aboriginal Community and ensure future development does not adversely impact on sites of significance	The representatives were only able to provide input but do not represent the views of their elders. There are many other aspects which need to be investigated with the community who are connected to the land which is beyond the knowledge base in the CEG. This will require an Aboriginal Heritage Survey to be undertaken.
Spearwood Progress Association	They undertake and support community events based on need and see their role to listen and ensure they are aware of the finer details to assist the process.	None identified
Friends of Manning Park Ridge	They want the site to be preserved as it is a Bush Forever site	Want Manning Park Ridge to remain as an area for conservation and protection and it should not be an area for trails. Future planning proposals impacting on the biodiversity and unique environmental values of Manning Park to be referred to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA).
Resident representatives	Represents a tiny little community within an adjoining street and the active communities being formed which need to be supported at the appropriate level.	The need to understand the broader impacts from use and loss of biodiversity in a fragile area and basic management of invasive weeds. In addition, the limited POS and community facilities with a bridged access proposed to access the beach.

Representative	Responsibilities / Objective	Key challenges
	To maintain a perspective over the whole project by recognising that rehabilitation is important and a core pillar of the future use where recreation is at its core.	The need to strike a balance between competing interests and provide a good sustainable model to include the ability to hold events. Any action should include doing something to avoid unsanctioned trails.
Coogee Beach Progress Association	Represent 7-8,000 ratepayers and recognise the area used for non-organised passive social activities including social bike riding. The CPA is seeking a managed solution where all interests of recognised importance are protected.	The site contains both significant Aboriginal Heritage, and European Settlers Heritage sites as well as Conservation areas which need to be protected. Currently there is insufficient information to take a reasoned view of the future of Manning Park, except that rationalisation and restoration of unsanctioned trails is required after a detailed review.

5.0 Areas of Consensus

The CEG representatives were in agreement on a number of critical areas:

- The planning to date had not followed a structured process in accordance with the published Trails Development Process - Eight Staged Trail Planning Process. In order for the community to have faith in the outcome of the process it was considered essential that the process going forward should incorporate this tried and tested approach.
- As a result of the failure to adhere to the above process previous planning was not fully informed by a series of studies which would provide the basis against which clear decision making may be made. These included:
 - A full evaluation of the sites biodiversity and environmental value.
 - An Aboriginal Heritage Assessment
 - A European Heritage Assessment.
- The development of unsanctioned trails was not supported by any group or individual.
- Manning Park required careful management from an ecological / environmental perspective. This primary concern would influence the extent that the land could provide for a variety of users.
- Statutory approval requirements must be met.
- The need to respond to local community need.
- There is a need to manage conflict between users more effectively and be clear with communication to the community from the City. This included:
 - Concerns were expressed regarding the consultation process and involvement of all user groups to date.
 - Frustration was felt on all sides related to either promises not being fulfilled (in respect of the development of trails) or the inadequate assessment of the value of the land (in respect of ecology, biodiversity and heritage).
 - Current control and management of the site. This included unauthorised and unmanaged modification, development and damage to a unique limestone ridge and conversely the interference by unknown people causing danger to individuals using the trails.
- The importance of making the right decision for future generations even if this takes time.

6.0 Areas of Disagreement

The CEG representatives were not in agreement on the following matters:

- The need for formalised mountain bike, running and hiking trails within Manning Park.
- The use and role of unsanctioned trails and their future use.
- The activities which are appropriate for Manning Park.
- The level of degradation and ecological value of the Ridge identified as Area 30 within the BRPMP).
- In respect of the use of the trails, whether they could be effectively self-policed by users.
- Whether it is reasonable for individuals / groups to prune bushes, remove weeds etc. without appropriate management practices being put in place.
- Whether it is appropriate for some users to clear trails and other areas for safety reasons outside of an agreed plan due to the damage which may occur to sensitive areas and Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC).
- While environmental protection and rehabilitation is important, there needs to be a balance to cater for all users of Manning Park.

7.0 Recommended Future Approach to be Considered

The process from the outset sought to develop a common approach which could be agreed across all members of the CEG. It is evident that there is a level of disagreement in relation to the extent of trail provision, how it could be managed and even if Manning Park is appropriate for mountain bike use in particular. These matters cannot be resolved without the City reverting to the DBCA Eight Staged Trail Planning Process and undertaking all of the background informing studies required. This would enable the community to input at various stages and ensure matters of acknowledged importance are fully understood and tested. As a minimum the following additional studies will need to be undertaken:

- A full evaluation of the sites biodiversity and environmental value.
- An Aboriginal Heritage Assessment
- A European Heritage Assessment.

In addition to the above key outcomes, the process also covered a number of aspects which related to the future management of Manning Park for the greater benefit of all users. Clearly there will continue to be conflict if the status quo is maintained. This needs to be addressed in the short term while the trail planning process progresses. The general view of the group was the importance of determining the future direction for Manning Park which is dependent on the outcomes of the above planning process and complementary studies. This should result in a specific management plan for the park. The group identified a need for a community advisory committee to be established to assist in guiding and informing the management plan and future management of the park. A Community Advisory Committee could assist the City by contributing to:

- The development of an appropriate management model based on industry 'good practice' which could be adapted to be representative of all user groups and in particular local residents who require access to the park for a variety of recreational pursuits.
- Determining the future direction, ongoing management of all areas of Manning Park and the implementation of agreed actions. The management model needs to be more than just facilitation as the lack of effective control of Manning Park has created the current issues.
- identify mechanisms that could be implemented to resolve conflict through engagement with the City and other responsible bodies (including state government departments).
- Ensure user groups are actively involved as an integral part of the management of the site.

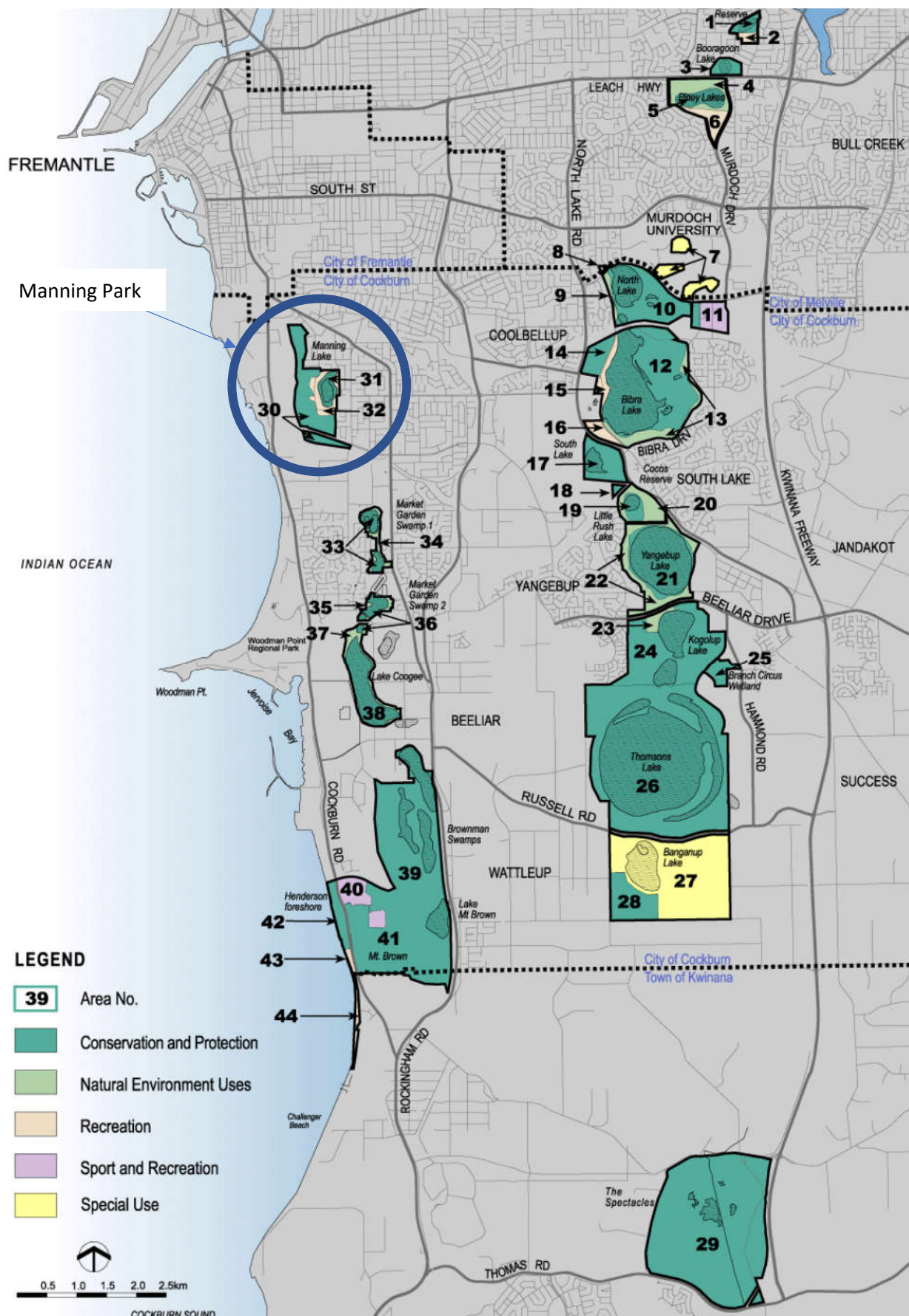
The above would clearly need the City to endorse this approach to work towards establishing both a Community Advisory Committee which can contribute to the ongoing evolution of the management of Manning Park. This would include establishing a terms of reference and working through potential membership and key roles and responsibilities. The CEG also suggested a number of potential actions which would be a starting point for consideration once a management body is established.

Examples exist which could be used as reference points / benchmarks and include:

- The Lake Claremont Committee which incorporates extensive community participation. The Committee ensures that the lake is managed by the Town of Claremont as a healthy natural seasonal lake for both conservation and recreational purposes. This is underpinned by a five year Management Plan. The latest management plan is from 2016 to 2021 and is currently subject to review. The Friends of Lake Claremont are an active volunteer group based within the lake reserve having been supported by the Town of Claremont in accessing over \$600k of grant assistance to enhance the conservation category wetland and Bush Forever site and balancing those objectives with community recreational use.
- The recently adopted Perry Lakes Reserve Management Plan 2021-2031 which includes management recommendations to encourage community stewardship of the site through the establishment of a Friends of Perry Lakes group. Part of the rationale for this is to obtain greater community involvement in the flora, fauna and recreational value of the park and to access grants which are not available to the Town directly.
- The Yellagonga Regional Park (Management Plan 2003-2013 and Integrated Catchment Management Plan 2009-2014 and 2014-2019) which has been developed and updated through a Partnership Agreement between the Cities of Joondalup and Wanneroo. The cities, who jointly funded the Integrated Catchment Management Plan project, sought considerable input from the community and key stakeholders in the development of the initial process to enable the park to be effectively managed for a variety of uses. The process was adopted in order to maintain and enhance amenity, recreational, scientific, educational and conservation values of the Park (i.e. balancing competing user groups requirements). A Community Reference Group and a Technical Working Group were established to develop the initial integrated management plan in 2009. This included Friends of Yellagonga FOY (a non-for-profit that was formed in 1993 and works in tandem with the Department of Parks and Wildlife - DPAW), Edith Cowan University, DPaW and the Department of Water (DoW). The FOY group manage several sites within the park to ensure their long term environmental sustainability, while there are also considerable recreation, sporting and dual use pathways within the regional park managed separately.

The above is not a full precis of management options but identifies a select number of approaches adopted by local governments in partnership with others in the management of sensitive areas which incorporate matters of environmental and heritage significance balanced against ongoing community access to a range of casual recreational and sporting uses.

Appendix A: BRPMP Proposed Management Zones and Areas



Appendix B: Workshop No.1 Meeting Notes and Agreed Terms Of Reference

Community Working Group (CWG) Meeting Notes – Workshop No. 1: 10th November 2021

The following represents the main points raised during Workshop No.1 which focused on the background to the group and intent with a particular focus on the Terms of Reference.

- The development of the trails within Manning Park could be stopped if an Aboriginal Heritage Survey is not undertaken. This was accepted as a critical future requirement.
- Request to have maps available to discuss trail detail. Agreed this would be happening at subsequent meeting.
- Question about evidence on level of trail visitation/usage and by whom? Noting this information would be very helpful in understanding the needs and user groups. Dave requested that each members bring to the next meeting an indication of numbers in their groups and how they are using the park.

Terms of Reference:

- Purpose should include cultural considerations
- Greater reference is required to be given to environmental values and biodiversity.
- There should be reference to including benefits with suitable control measures.
- Remove governance and replace it with 'Code of Conduct'. As it is not a decision making body and merely to provide advice and guidance to the City, the terminology should be toned down.
- Advocating and supporting are potentially contentious. The group should be about identifying issues and potential solutions.
- A suggestion was made that the group should visit Manning Park together to gain an understanding of what others value and appreciate about the park. A suggestion was made to attend a Trail Walk on Thursday at 5pm.
- The group should look at developing a common aim
- The role is to provide a diversity of views for the council to consider.
- Strike out advocate.
- Include a comment that the members of the group will not disseminate personal and confidential information.
- People / Representatives are to provide an up to date representation of activities in the park.
- A question was asked why there were no horse riding representatives and it was explained their had been ongoing meetings with the horse riding community regarding other areas and it was not considered to be a priority for Manning Park trails.
- Also noted absence of Historical Society. It was noted that they were invited to have a seat on the CWG but the City didn't receive a response.
- Governance: Additional meetings should be referenced as an when required.
- Remove reference to minuting the meeting. This was questioned. The response was provided that as the workshops are related to participants providing guidance and advice to the City, formal minute taking over and above the notes being taken by the facilitator would not be required. A recording would be undertaken of each workshop for referencing by the City in the event matters require clarification. The recording would not be publicly available.
- The group should contribute to developing the base layers (suggested by members of the group following a short presentation on the Trail development process from Dept of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions Representative. Link to documents: <https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/193-trails>).

- The group considered the need to identify short term actions required for the development of trails in Manning Park and to provide the City with guidance.
- It was also noted that there was no representative from the City Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG). While representation in relation to blood line ties with the land will be addressed, it is important for the ARG to be represented – City to Confirm.

Manning Park Trails-Community Working Group (CWG)

Terms of Reference Version 2

Purpose

- To establish a common understanding and to work collaboratively to identify opportunities for a trail network for users of Manning Park.
- To review potential challenges and benefits related to the function and operation of the trails network, as used by walkers, bicycle riders and other recreational user groups.
- To consider cultural, environmental and biodiversity implications with regard to the development of the trails network and provide guidance on future planning and potential mitigation measures which may be considered to address any of the initial challenges identified.
- To be a sounding board at the start of the planning process for potential trail related infrastructure and related issues.

Role

- To assist the City of Cockburn understand the usage of Manning Park and how this may impact on the development of a trails network within Manning Park.
- The group has no formal or delegated decision-making authority as Council are the final decision makers. However, the CWG is important in providing the input for the City in achieving successful outcomes through:
 - Providing guidance, advice and general appreciation of the diverse uses within Manning Park.
 - Identify and discuss issues associated with the development of a trails network within Manning Park and explore potential solutions to inform future concept planning processes undertaken by the City.
 - Maintaining a perspective on the long-term view of the development of the trail network and Manning Park.

Obligations of Members

- Members contribute in a professional manner, attending meetings and respecting the confidential and personal information of individual members views and perspectives of Manning Park.

- All members will undertake agreed actions, including obtaining the views of their wider representative body / group / organisation / club in a timely manner to assist with the CWG in understanding the broader planning requirements for trails at Manning Park.
- All members are required to contribute by providing advice and information as appropriate to their skills, role and function.
- Members will not make any media comment on behalf of the CWG in relation to its activities unless approved by the City of Cockburn.
- Members will not disseminate any confidential information that is discussed at the CWG.

Key responsibilities of members include

- Participate in consultative engagement and provide constructive and structured feedback in a respectful manner.
- Establish or confirm the current situation related to the diversity of activity throughout Manning Park; the extent of current usage and implications on the short, medium and long-term development of trails at Manning Park.
- Seek opinion and feedback, if requested, of specific trails and project components and identify gaps in knowledge related to the development of base layers to inform the planning process as required.
- Communicating outcomes as necessary to their respective broader representative membership, as agreed.

Governance of the Workshops

- All meetings of the CWG will be facilitated by an external independent facilitator.
- Members appointed to the CWG are not entitled to a sitting fee, or any type of remuneration.
- The workshops are to be conducted amongst CWG members only, with others to participate by invitation.
- CWG members who are not able to attend may nominate a proxy for the session. It is expected that this proxy will faithfully communicate back to the member and associated group/organisation any matters that require input from the group/organisation.
- The workshops to be held in accordance with the identified dates and an additional reserve date, if required, where specific project coordination issues dictate.
- The workshops should not exceed 2 hours in duration, unless extended by resolution of the CWG. It is anticipated that there will be a minimum of three meetings from 10 to 24 November 2021 with an option for a fourth and further additional meetings should further discussion on the guidance provide to the City be

required.

- Meetings are to follow an agenda. Notes of the key outcomes of each workshop are to be distributed to all members of the CWG by the facilitator.

Outputs and Outcomes

To review the current trails / tracks within Manning Park and provide an informative framework for future consideration of trails / tracks infrastructure including solutions to any potential conflict which are to be documented to assist Council, alongside other considerations, in future decision-making processes.



MANNING PARK WORKSHOP DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



INTRODUCTION

Background:

- The Project and
- The Facilitator

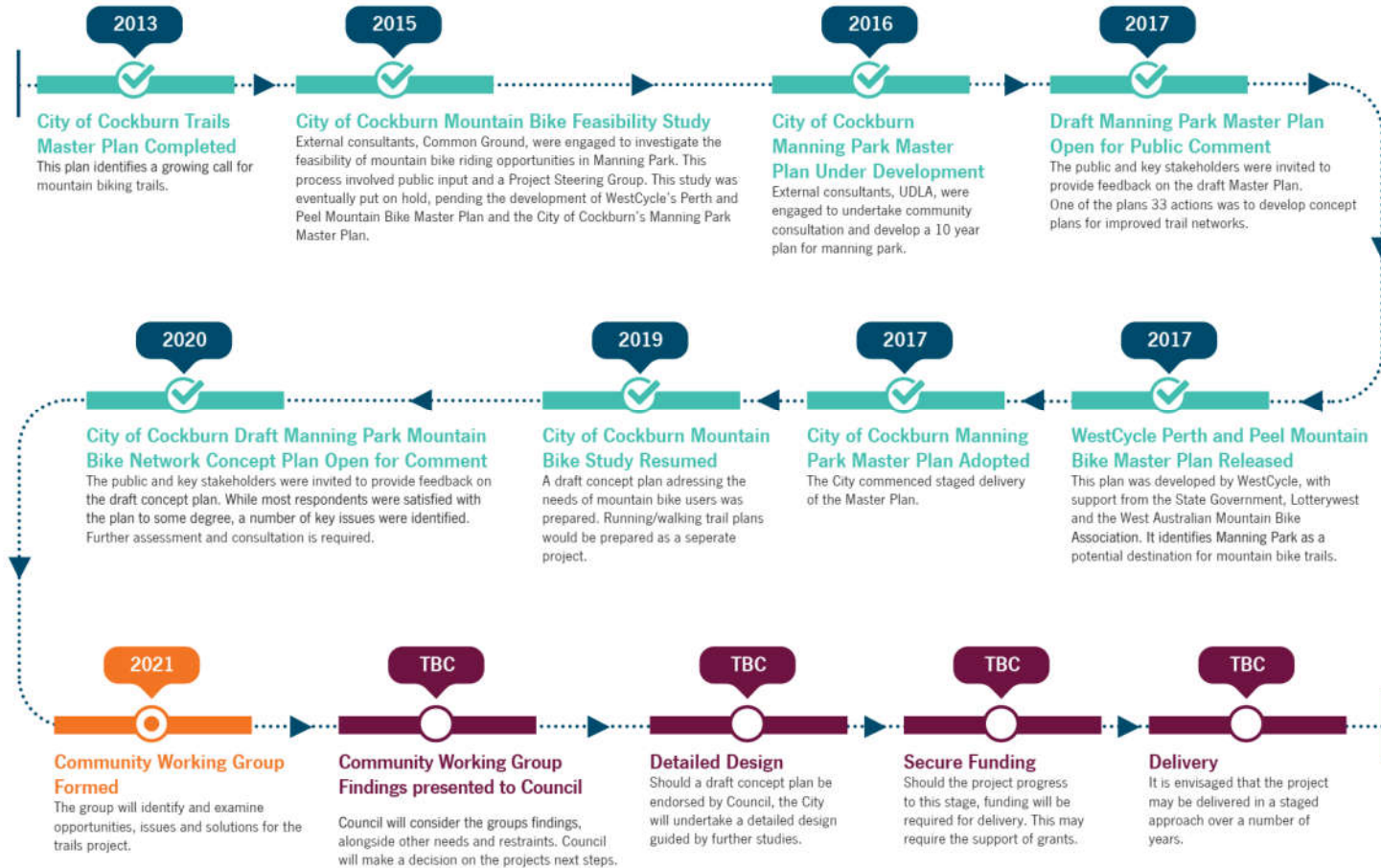
Expectations – Ground Rules

- The focus is on Manning Park Trail Network and its future development having regard to all interested parties
- Everyone is to participate, no one is to dominate.
- Open dialogue throughout – this is not a lecture, but a sharing of ideas and a process to provide a solution
- Listen to other people's views to understand and respect differences.
- Please respect one speaker at a time.
- Disagree without being disagreeable.
- All ideas are valid.
- Be brief and meaningful when voicing your opinion.
- Keep phones and pagers on silent or vibrate mode during the session.



OVERVIEW

Project Timeline



PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOPS

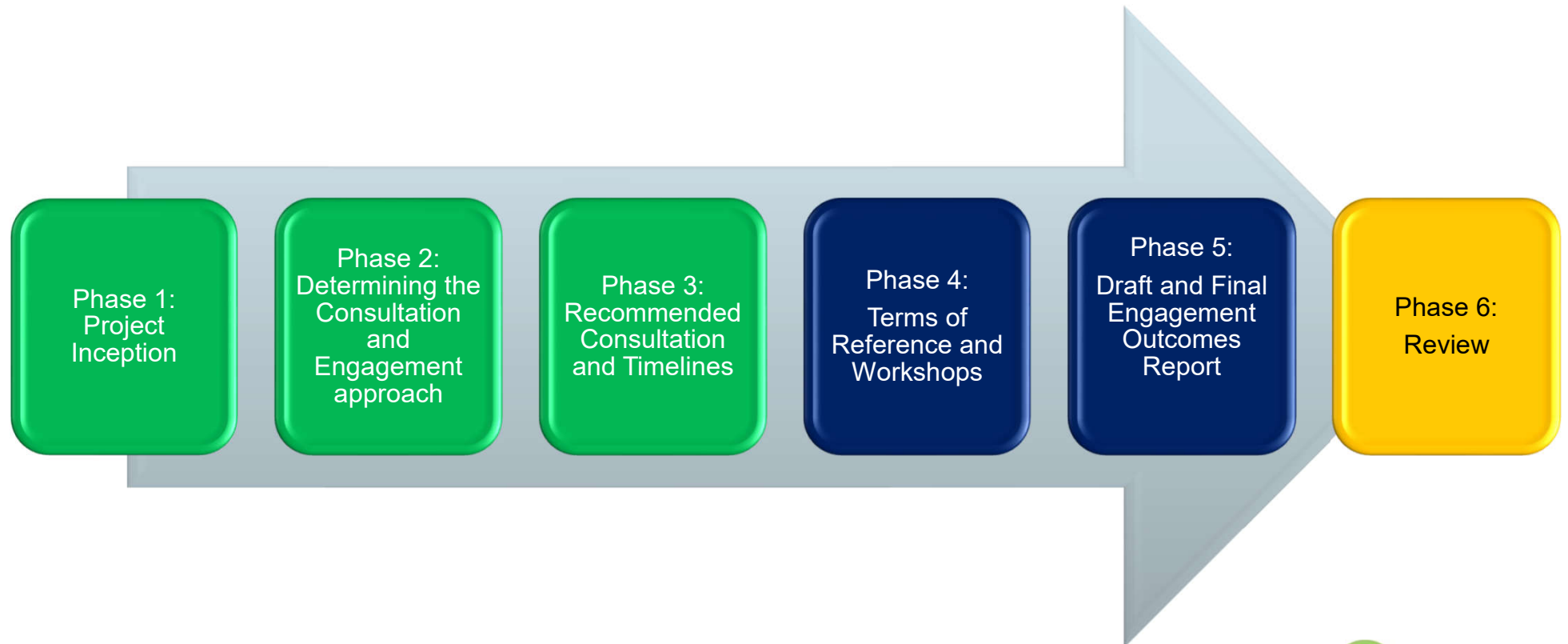
- To work through any concerns and requirements raised and develop the specification for the Trails Network based on a consensus. This consensus is to be based on the range of responsees and representatives of interested groups.
- Where a consensus cannot be reached:
 - Identify of the areas of difficulty and potential mitigation measures.
 - Identify those areas where there is an impasse for City of Cockburn elected members to consider

Key points to note:

- Master Plan has been adopted by Council. The Mountain Bike Concept Plan is merely that and will be subject to change to take into account the community / range of users / stakeholder requirements.
- This is not a decision-making body but an advisory group.
- The aim is to consider how the requirements of the following may be best met:
 - The heritage value of Manning Park
 - The environmental values of Manning Park
 - The needs of walkers, runners and casual recreational users
 - The needs of mountain bike users
 - The requirements of local residents and other representative groups



THE APPROACH



WORKSHOP PROCESS

Choosing Representatives:

- An EOI process Independently evaluated
- Prioritised representation based on fair and equitable representation of all individuals, residents, groups and users

The Workshops:

- **Workshop 1:** To confirm the Terms of Reference and Identify / Clarify the critical issues which need to be considered:
 - Present the draft Terms of Reference and agreement / consensus
 - Re-visit the Trail Network Concept and advise of the critical issues which were identified:
 - Those which are current
 - Those which may emerge
 - Those which need to be considered in addition
 - Identification of initial solutions
- **Workshop 2:** Consideration by City officers of outputs and reporting back regarding draft changes / suggestions/ detailed considerations - development options, cost and implementation implications.
 - Annotated Plan with suggested solutions to be discussed / debated / agreed / contended.
 - Agreement of priority considerations, management and implementation parameters



WORKSHOP PROCESS

- **Workshop 3:** To consider the detailed interpretation of the groups requirements including:
 - Areas of disagreement and potential implications of inaction / action
 - Areas of agreement and mitigation approaches associated with:
 - Heritage
 - Conservation / Environmental protection
 - Mountain biking / walking / / Running / passive recreational areas
 - Conflict and site management – including directional signage, information boards, associated infrastructure, recommended controles etc.
- **Workshop 4 (if required):** To review and consider items which have yet to be resolved pending the detailed consideration of competing requirements and / or consideration of ongoing management and compliance obligations.
- **Consolidated Report:** Containing all the outputs from the consultation process. The document will represent the views of all representative in an objective manner and identify those areas for consideration in future concept plan developments by the City of Cockburn Council



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose of the Manning Park Trails Community Working Group (CWG):

- To establish a common understanding and a statement of intent to work collaboratively across the considerations, requirements and opportunities of a potential trail network for users of Manning Park.
- To establish an agreed governance structure for the development and deliverables.
- To review potential issues related to the function and operation of the network, as used by walkers, bicycle riders and other recreational user groups.
- To be a sounding board for potential infrastructure related issues; short, medium and long term.

Role:

To assist the City of Cockburn in the consideration of a potential trail network in Manning Park.

It must be noted the group has no formal or delegated decision-making authority as Council are the final decision makers. However, the CWG is critical to achieving successful outcomes through:

- Steering the project with a high degree of certainty that the outcomes are, and do receive the support, of stakeholders, the general community and key City of Cockburn decision makers.
- Lending advice and support to achieving the desired outcomes for a potential concept design development.
- Maintaining a perspective on the long-term view of the development of the trail network and Manning Park.
- Providing advocacy, activation, input and engagement towards achieving the strategic objectives as identified within the master plan for the site.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Obligations of Members:

- Members contribute in a professional manner, attending meetings and respecting confidentiality. Conflict of interest and confidentiality declarations will remain a standing agenda item in meetings.
- All members will act in a united manner once decisions are made and undertake agreed actions in a timely manner.
- All members are required to contribute by providing advice, information and support as appropriate to their skills, role and function.
- Members will advocate and champion the outputs of the CWG and recommendations.
- Members will not make any media comment on behalf of the Community Working Group in relation to its activities unless approved by the City of Cockburn.
- Members will not disseminate confidential information that is discussed at the Community Working Group.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Key responsibilities of members include:

- Assisting with identifying potential trail opportunities and solutions to guide the development of a sustainable and considered trail network.
- Participate in consultative engagement and provide constructive and structured feedback in a respectful manner.
- Establish or confirm the potential different users / implications on the short and long-term use of Manning Park.
- Provide feedback and input on relevant project development including acting as a viable two-way conduit between the CWG, the public and other club members/users.
- Undertaking reviews of specific trails and project components as required.
- Communicating outcomes as necessary.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Governance:

- All meetings of the CWG will be facilitated by an external independent facilitator.
- Members appointed to the group are not entitled to a sitting fee, or any type of remuneration.
- Meetings are to be conducted amongst CWG members only, with others to participate by invitation.
- Meetings shall be undertaken in accordance with adopted City protocols (to be confirmed).
- Meetings to be held in accordance with the identified dates and an additional reserve date, if required, where specific project coordination issues dictate.
- Meetings should not exceed 2 hours in duration, unless extended by resolution of the CWG meeting. It is anticipated that there will be a minimum of three meetings from 10 to 24 November 2021 with an option for a fourth meeting should further discussion and decision making be required.
- Meetings are to follow an agenda and minutes taken are to be distributed to all members of the CWG by the facilitator.

Outputs and Outcomes:

- A review of the current trails / tracks within Manning Park and determine a relative priority for future trails / tracks infrastructure which is to be documented to assist Council, alongside other considerations, in future decision-making processes.
- The development of an agreed plan for Manning Park trails / tracks to determine development with relevant projects prioritised for implementation and a clear rationale for investment (to be subsequently reviewed and considered by Council).

COMMUNITY RESPONSES



*Excludes doubles (some respondents submitted feedback more than once, using different channels).

What our community said

Manning Park is a popular regional destination

People visit for a variety of reasons, from trail running to picnics by the lake

The park is special to many and has strong environmental, social, recreational and cultural values

A key priority is to create a safe, welcoming space for users to co-exist respectfully with each other and the environment

The degraded quarry sites may be suitable destinations for mountain bike riding activities

While over 60% of respondents were satisfied with the concept plan to some degree, a number of key issues were identified, such as:

- How to enhance environmental outcomes and protect important areas
- How to achieve a suitable scale and scope of trails
- How to integrate the needs of other user groups

Environmental assessments need to be considered in any detailed design process

The concept needs further assessment and feedback to achieve an outcome that meets the needs and aspirations of the community

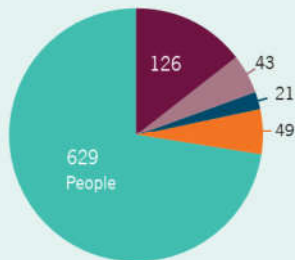
ADDITIONAL BREAKDOWN

Comment on Cockburn Quick Poll

What do you think of the draft Concept Plan?

868* respondents

Makes up 76% of all responses



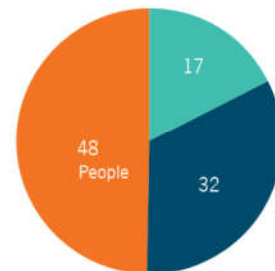
- Very Good
- Good
- OK
- Poor
- Very Poor

Comment on Cockburn Online Feedback Form

Which best describes your thoughts on the draft Concept Plan?

97* respondents

Makes up 8% of all responses



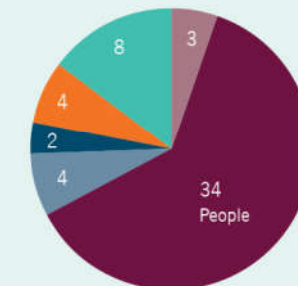
- I am happy with the draft, I wouldn't change anything
- I am happy with the draft, but I would change something
- I am not at all happy with the draft

Hard Copy Feedback Form

What do you think of the draft Concept Plan?

55* respondents

Makes up 5% of all responses



- Very Good
- Good
- OK
- Poor
- Very Poor
- Unspecified

Email Submissions

126* respondents

Makes up 11% of all responses

*Please note that some respondents submitted their feedback using multiple methods. For equity reasons, only feedback from one of the methods they used is included in these statistics.



ADDITIONAL BREAKDOWN

Comment on Cockburn Responses

Reasons respondents visit:



RANKING THE KEY ISSUES

- Essential / lacking compromise (8-10):
- Desirable / Acceptable subject to adequate policy / management / restraint of use (4-7):
- Non-Essential / unimportant (1-3)

WORKSHOP 2 PREPARATION

- Dialogue with representative groups regarding the critical issues and where:
 - Compromise could be reached
 - Alternative solutions may provide a viable option.
 - Review the relative ranking of the key issues
- Workshop 2 will begin with a review of the above and annotated identification of challenges / solutions on a site plan for further discussion and working through by each table.

Appendix C: Workshop No.2 Meeting Notes

Manning Park Workshop No.2 16/11/2021 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Terms of Reference discussion:

- Purpose. It was agreed to replace 'offset' within bullet point 3 with 'address' and add in 'initial' before *challenges*.
- Purpose. To confirm that as a group being a sounding board the intent is that the working group would not be a long term commitment – this was acknowledged and the intent of the working group is to look at the site from a short, medium and long term perspective. This is the start of the planning process.
- Key Responsibilities. Bullet point 3. It was agreed to include:
 - Seek opinion and feedback
 - Identify gaps in knowledgeThis was to clarify the responsibilities of the group regarding technical matters which were deemed to be the responsibilities of others.

Discussion and feedback on the use of Manning Park, key constraints and opportunities (references in italics represented those comments of general discussion and not of the representative groups):

Cockburn Community Wildlife Corridor:

- First point to clarify is the need to undertake a proper user survey of the site.
- The corridor has 400 community members.
- Members primarily use the site for passive recreation and nature based activities (bird watching, coastal views etc.)
- Wish to protect and maintain the intrinsic environmental values of the park.

Orienteering

- Orienteering WA provided downloadable maps with courses of different levels of difficulty and length. Participants use the map to navigate their way around their chosen course. On each course there are features – control points marked by a small plaque.
- Enable people to explore a lovely environment
- It is an official sport but people's participation varies from racing to exploring.
- 1600 user in 2020 and has grown to 1900 in 2021 with COVID-19 resulting in a significant increase.
- Manning Park has been used for school championships (last in 2019 where there were 450 participants at secondary school and over 400 primary – from throughout the state)
- They encourage environmental protection.

Mountain Biking

- It is difficult to calculate numbers but the App (STRAVA) provides actual data of the number of users and how often they ride in the park. The lower age group do not generally have, access to the GPS devices the software required to use Strava. Strava might only represent 50% or 60% of the total MTB users of Manning Park.
- 1,233 members on Manning Park Facebook page. Est Oct 2015.
- 13 members of the Mudrollers Strava Group.
- The highest usage numbers on Manning Park are at 3,238 (users annually)
- They have 528 individual leaders based on STRAVA data

- Year to Date = 179 different users of the Park.
- The Trails Fork site <https://www.trailforks.com/> is an alternative mountain bike web site to Strava which has over 3,000 registered MTB users of Manning Park.
- They wish to access sustainable mountain bike trails (good quality)
- The fire breaks are the only official trails within the site (with the exception of the Davilak Heritage Trail).
- Because trails are not maintained some become dangerous to use.
- *The size of Manning Park is also a constraint.*
- There is a need to drive a considerable distance to access good quality mountain bike trails.
- *The Trails Fork site <https://www.trailforks.com/> is an alternative mountain bike web site to Strava which has over 3,000 registered users MTB users of Manning Park..*
- *A question was raised as to whether the App might provide an opportunity to manage the trails and ensure trails are not miss-used (potentially mandated by the City?).*
- The Southern Quarry was identified as a good area for building more challenging trails with jumps. This is likely to reduce the need for people to build further unsanctioned trails. This is likely to reduce the need for people to build further unsanctioned trails.
- *A statement was made that the development of new sanctioned trails within Margaret River has actually increased the number of unsanctioned trails.*
- It was suggested that the use of the trails by mountain bikers could be self-policing.
- *A suggestion was made that Parks (City of Cockburn) could go in annually and remove new unsanctioned tracks/trails (App based). This may provide an opportunity for sanctioned trails to grow.*
- *The option to put in fencing (while a high cost) was also suggested to address rogue elements. This could close off trails to highly protected areas.*
- *A further question was raised how we go from unsanctioned to sanctioned. Manning Park is a Bush Forever - Ridge is identified for conservation and management.*
 - *Biodiversity is unique for the state and should be managed accordingly.*
 - *The base use is conservation / protection.*
- *Reference was made to Kings Park which reduced the extensive trail network from 48k to 26k as an example of good practice. (current draft management plan for Kings Park and the Botanical Gardens can be found here: https://www.bqpa.wa.gov.au/images/pdf/kings_park/draft_mp_kpbq_2125.pdf)*
- *Night time use was also raised as a consideration as mountain biking is occasionally undertaken into the night.*

Trail Runners

- Started in 2016 – originally at 6pm on a Thursday. Initially with the intent of getting friends / the community together. A passion related to connecting people in the community and to provide a social and wellbeing opportunity.
- There are 1,942 members – covering the full age range and capabilities. Sessions are still run on a Thursday with a kids session at 5pm. Last week it attracted 10 parents and 17 kids.
- It operates all year round and 95 has been the peak attendance for one session.
- 30 people attend during the winter (evening walks with head torches).
- They use all the trails there and do not have any interest in building trails.
- Some members also do mountain biking.
- Trails are constantly being cleared by members due to damage / materials causing danger.

- They do have safety concerns with the potential collision with mountain bikers but there is generally separation of use with mountain biking occurring mainly on a Monday and Trail Running on a Thursday.
- Car parking – generally ok with members carpooling and the availability of space near the amphitheatre (music shell).
- Opportunities exist to maintain the trails more – there is a lot of dumped rubbish still there. It was suggested users could form a maintenance group to maintain trails and remove rubbish. It was then suggested this was the City's responsibility and individual pruning of bushes etc. should not be encouraged due to the lack of control / damage which may occur.
- *Constraints – It was suggested that there were clear constraints with the area being too small and the issue of pruning; reptiles being harmed by bikes / walkers; predator animals. It was re-iterated by a member that the space is too small and there are threatened ecological communities (TEC) at the top and bottom of the ridge.*
- *The question should be 'what activities are appropriate for this site?' A further suggestion was that the group could suggest a short term process to address current issues. This is about the location and whether the activities are suitable for the location.*
- *It was further suggested that the council should adopt the 8 staged DBCA process in respect to trail development.*
- *A question was raised on the ability to make the trails dual use?*
- *Reference was then made to the Wellington Dam – they have built really good trails which keep away from the flora and fauna. It is also developed in a small area and potentially could be a way forward through a facilitated design process (the facilitator agreed to provide information on the Park for reference). Some links are provided below:*
<https://parks.dpaw.wa.gov.au/park/wellington>
<https://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/images/documents/conservation-management/trails/Collie%20Adventure%20Trails%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>
https://ehq-production-australia.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/c279484aae1824fad693305a657f845d2a872e84/documents/attachment/s/000/082/464/original/Shire_of_Collie_-_Trails_Strategy_2018_-_2021_Community_Consultation.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAIBJCUKKD4ZO4WUUA%2F20211116%2Fap-southeast-2%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20211116T232751Z&X-Amz-Expires=300&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=71e5e9775563098933705237493189528ae1cdfb0fd20b49e605d4cc406875f0
<https://westcycle.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/FINAL-South-West-Master-Plan.pdf>
- *It was stated that under mountain biking guidelines there would be a requirement to allocate 20% of Manning Park as a minimum to the activity.*
- *It was stressed that the statutory requirements should first be met.*

Hamilton Hill Residents

- 3,065 followers on Facebook.
- 600 on the mailing list
- Over 6,000 residents they are potentially representing.
- The group meets monthly – the spokesperson has been the chair and is currently the treasurer.
- Manning Park is a Hamilton Hill POS. The area has lost a lot of its green canopy and there is no other POS available for multiple uses locally.

- It is the only limestone ridge in the area
- It was stated that if biodiversity, conservation, protection of the environment becomes a priority it will have a significant impact on how the site is to be considered. One option would be to close off all tracks and trails (including those for walkers) and the group needs to be mindful of that.
- It could mean a general reduction from 30k of trails to 13k or less (i.e. Kings Park process).
- All of the local community use the site for a variety of activities including bushwalking, the elderly, mountain biking, running, walking, dates etc.
- It is a place where the kids go and it's used for a lot of community events, birthday parties and celebrations.
- It connects Coogee and North Coogee with Hamilton Hill.
- The group would like to keep it as a local park with activities for the local community and residents.
- The process cannot alienate the immediate residents by putting state based sports activities within Manning Park.

Indigenous Representation

- Representatives re-iterated that they do not represent the views of their elders.
- It is difficult to track down the appropriate elders to gain information and there will be a need to undertake this and ask about more specific issues related to Manning Park.
- The site, due to the limestone ridge and lake would relate the Wagyl dreamtime story and this will need to be confirmed.
- There is a women's site in Manning Park (birthing site) and it could possibly be the site of stillborn children.
- The site is used by the member for toolmaking and for throwing boomerangs where it is clearly visible space around which cockatoo's do not enter when undertaken.
- The site is also used for teaching opportunities.
- The member has created a native garden where wildlife come from the park
- All of the above aspects need to be looked at in more detail if the Park is to be considered for further development.
- There is a whole lot of other aspects which need to be investigated which is beyond the knowledge base in the room.
- The important aspect will be to get a heritage survey to pull things together.
- The representatives expressed they would be uncomfortable expressing a view without consulting wider.
- *A question was asked as to whether a Section 18 approval would be required. This is still open to consideration.*
- *The view was expressed that an Aboriginal Heritage Study must be undertaken as a top priority which was supported by the majority.*
- The process will include referring to the Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG) and then the appropriate link with the land can be identified. The process the City is following is a good process to enable this to occur.

Spearwood Progress Association

- Currently 80 members
- They undertake and support community events based on need.
- The average age of the group is high

- They feel their role is to listen and ensure they are aware of the finer details to assist the process.

Friends of Manning Park Ridge:

- They were formed 18 months ago in response to activities / planning proposals impacting on the area.
- They include local environmentalists / professional expertise in biodiversity, environmental management
- They have a pre-eminent botanist within the group who was not considered suitable to be part of the working group which raised concern.
- The group have between 500-600 on their mailing list.
- They want the site to be preserved as it is a Bush Forever site.
- They are passionate about the bushland.

Resident representative

- A walker and lives right next to the park
- Has descendants that planted not native trees in park.. Therefore is a sense of responsibility in removing weeds and stop invasive species taking over areas of the park
- Kids use the park
- Represents a tiny little community within an adjoining street.
- With regard to biodiversity – the basic management needs to be undertaken by the City to manage the invasive weeds.
- Constraints include:
 - The increase in population locally will mean demand for greater access to limited POS;
 - car parking concerns;
 - Accidents / collisions resulting from increased use;
 - Concerns mountain biking having a stronger presence and being dominant over other users (biggest car on the road analogy).
 - Not a NIMBY but the increasing density of the Shoreline development is an issue. They have limited POS and community facilities with a bridged access proposed to access the beach.
 - The need to understand the broader impacts – increased erosion from use and loss of biodiversity in a fragile area (direct impact).
- Opportunities:
 - Growing recreational opportunities for all users
 - The need to formalize some tracks / trails – turning away and doing nothing is a big risk.
 - Mountain biking – pay for use should be considered.
 - Provide managed dog off leash areas – there is a need to create a space for dogs.
 - Should be protected habitat areas
 - Invest big money into communicating
 - Consideration of the power easement area which is denuded – is there an opportunity there?
 - There is also the potential at the Roe Highway extension (lazy land) which could be utilized for mountain biking.

- New active communities are being formed and these need to be supported at the appropriate level.
- *A general comment was made prior to finishing the second workshop 'Don't rush into a decision – make the right decision for future generations even if this takes time'.*

Session 3 is to focus initially on those who are still to present their role / membership / usage numbers, constraints and opportunities. The session will then focus on the planning process and capturing key issues related specifically to the Manning Park area under consideration.

-----WORKSHOP NOTES END-----

Additional Notes provided by those unable to attend the workshop – provided verbatim:

Community Representative:

- TAFE students, Cert III in Outdoor Leadership
- Up to 32 students per semester could be using the area at different times for varying activities and assessment
 - Bushwalking skills
 - Leading techniques for bushwalking
 - Basic bush craft
 - Building shelters (tarps, not destroying the bush)
 - Navigation planning and preparation
 - Navigation in tracked but unmarked trails
 - There is little need to have trail markers all over the area for walking/running tracks, due to fact you cannot get lost. West you will get wet, East you will hit roads, North Roads, South roads!
 - Leading Navigation exercises
 - The established orienteering WA check points are used as collection points for some of the drills we run, which is something already in place and valuable for more than just the orienteering crew.
- Personal (local resident)
 - led Cape to Cape training, incorporating the stairs, trails, and easy connection to Coogee beach to create a trail about 15-17km long
 - dog walking **MUST REMAIN AN ON LEAD AREA**, for the whole area!.
 - Plenty of practice drills for preparation for hikes and TAFE Delivery

Benefits of trails- what's most important to you and your group

- The natural aspect, it doesn't have trail markers everywhere for walking and running and it **SHOULD NOT!**
- The fact you can be emersed in natural surroundings in the middle of suburbia is rare and needs to be maintained
- The fact it is a bit rough and ready, this is refreshing and should remain as it is part of the beauty of the place
- If there (and there should be) dedicated mountain bike tracks, they should be to the North and planned and marked so that there is little risk of a person being cleaned up by a bike, however people are responsible for their own actions, if someone chooses to walk on a designated MB track then they take on the risk.

Impacts of trails- what are the areas you think we need to be most mindful of

- OVER COMMERCIALISING THE TRAIL AREAS, this would be sad to see, it is not a vast area like king's park for example, so keep the adventure of "just going for a walk and working it out as you go" due to the unique nature of the small and amazing area we have here.
- Keeping the "raw" aspect of the trails
- Some of the smaller trails that have been forged but are not necessarily on maps should be preserved as they add some variety to the different ways to get from A to B

Ideas:

- snake bite first aid information signs
- defib station

Original Mountain Bike Representative Notes (Bram Biesiekierski):

Who uses trails ?

- At least 500 STRAVA MTB users on popular trails. As much as 624 STRAVA MTB users at some trails (eg. Sandy hill)
- many more non-strava MTB's, perhaps 1000s.
- global heat map of STRAVA!
- Facebook numbers!

Why do they use trails ?

- no other locations close by.
- 100s of parks/reserves in Cockburn for all other user groups. Only this one for MTB.
- unique and challenging terrain only available in these trails

Environmental benefits of establishing MTB trails ?

- control ongoing degradation of existing trails, and limit to designated areas.
- allow rehabilitation for badly degraded areas, by limiting to designated areas.
- Establish more sturdy trails, less susceptible to further degradation.
- reduce further trail cutting, by facilitating purpose built trails.
- reduce environmental impact of MTB travel to locations like Murray Valley (3hr return), Kalamunda or goat farm (2hr return)
- establish a sense of purpose for local MTB community, which will foster better land care at a grass roots level.

Safety benefits of establishing MTB trails ?

- reduce potential for collision between MTB and non-MTB users.

Economic benefits of MTB trails ?

- draw card for surrounding regions. Bringing economic stimulus to local business.
- possibilities to establish cafes or similar at manning park which would serve the whole community.
- pay to ride / annual membership / trail use fees / donations with possibility of bringing money back in to local government to continue ongoing land management at manning park.

Community benefits of MTB trails ?

- better physical health outcomes for Cockburn and surrounds.
- better mental health outcomes for Cockburn and surrounds.
- participation of youth into MTB from a grass roots level.
- sense of community for MTB users. Involve MTB community in land care / trail care of trails via working groups and busy bees.
- opportunities for regular/annual MTB community competition/event.
- reduce conflict between various groups who use the trail network, by facilitating a safe and harmonious trail network for all to use.

Additional input from the MTB user group (received on 15th December 2021 - Mark Santo).

General

- Council should adopt the 8 steps from the WA MTB Trail Management Guidelines
- MTB riders, trail runners, walkers, orienteers etc are all co-existing in the park and have done so for many years.

Opportunities

- Formalised trails will provide the foundation for building a visible, inclusive and responsible mountain bike community at Manning Park.
- A well represented and well organised MTB community is Manning Parks best defence against the building of unsanctioned trails. Sanctioned trails will drive increased ownership by MTB users.
- Youth recruitment. Getting kids and teenagers of the streets and riding MTB trails as part of a wider community is good for everyone.
- Both the Southern and Northern quarry's are badly degraded and well suited to building MTB trails
- The easement under the high voltage power lines is badly degraded and well suited to building MTB trails
- Large sections of the Western Boundary and the designated road reserve are badly degraded. This area provides a link between the Northern and Southern quarries
- Trail development should include revegetation I.e. revegetate both quarries as part of the trail building process
- Directional trails will support dual use by MTB'ers and trail runners
- Sustainability. Formalised and maintained trails are far more sustainable than what we have currently
- New formalised trails will allow the reclaiming and revegetation of existing unsanctioned trails in the more environmentally sensitive areas of the park.

I was asked in the last meeting to provide a link for a video that might assist with understanding the difference between a common suburban pump track and the less common jumps and skills course.

The below link includes a video of the Albany Youth Challenge park which includes both a skills and jumps course. The black top course at the top of the image is the skills loop which is focused on beginners mainly children. The course at the bottom is a jumps loop which has lines of different degrees of difficulty. This course is popular with teenage riders and those riders looking to improve there jumping skills or who enjoy taking to the air.



<https://www.albany.wa.gov.au/facilities/recreation/SKATE-BMX-PARKS.aspx>



MANNING PARK WORKSHOP 2

DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



RE-CAP - TERMS OF REFERENCE KEY POINTS

AMENDMENTS:

- Include cultural considerations
- Reference to be given to environmental values and biodiversity.
- Remove governance – relate to 'Code of Conduct'
- Role agreed is to provide a diversity of views for the council to consider.
- The group should contribute to developing the base layers
- The groups has no role to champion, promote and support but is to provide guidance, information

COMMENTS:

?



WORKSHOP 2 PREPARATION

- List of Current User Groups:
 - Numbers
 - Requirements
 - Limitations / Constraints
 - Opportunities
- Dialogue with representative groups regarding the critical issues and where:
 - Compromise could be reached
 - Alternative solutions may provide a viable option.
 - Review the relative ranking of the key issues



WORKSHOP 2 PREPARATION

- Identification of challenges / solutions on a site plan for further discussion and working through by each table.
 - Annotated Plan with suggested solutions to be discussed / debated / agreed / contended.
 - Agreement of priority considerations, management and implementation parameters



WORKSHOP 2 SUMMING UP AND WORKSHOP 3 PREPARATION

Review and Consider Broader Implications of the discussions
Discuss with representative of your Groups:

- Areas of concern
- Mitigation requirements
- Gaps in knowledge which need to be addressed



Manning Park Workshop No.3 24/11/2021 5:30pm to 7:30pm

Ratification of previous notes from 16/11/21:

- The notes need to make a distinction between the user groups statements and the general discussion by the working group.
- It was re-iterated that the Council should consider undertaking the future planning for Manning Park under the 8 stages of Trail Development Guidelines.

The initial discussion then focused on the groups who had yet to present (references in italics represented those comments of general discussion and not of the representative groups):

Coogee Progress Association:

- The organisation is 70 years old
- They meet bi-monthly
- They represent 7-8,000 ratepayers.
- Manning Park is seen as an area for non-organised passive social activities including social bike riding.
- The site is a both a significant Aboriginal Heritage and European Settlers Heritage site which needs to be protected.
- In addition the rare flora and fauna should be protected.
- There is a need to rationalise tracks and trails for safety.
- Car parking increase should be considered for organised tour buses and organised group usage.
- Opportunities. There are significant areas of degraded land. It is to be noted that between 2017 and 2020 (plans supplied by the City) the extent of degradation has increased. There are however areas within Manning Park (south and north quarries) which could provide opportunities for bikes with a connection between the areas via the west of the boundary of the park.
- Pump tracks would be suitable in the quarry areas.
- Provide natural protection from the mountain bike areas.

Orienteering

- Further information was supplied by the representative who confirmed that environmental protection and safety underpinned the activity with a multiple of different user types (hardened athletes, runners, walkers and casual leisure).
- Opportunities for the activity will be dependent on what decisions are made by council and informed by the group.
- Use could be prohibitive if there are major changes proposed.
- A map of the area showing controlled sites (places where markers are placed at specific mapped features) is available online:
<https://www.wa.orienteering.asn.au/anytime-orienteering/manningpark>

Resident Representative

- It is important to put the whole project into perspective: It is not show stopping stuff.
- Not aware of all of the findings *what is the plan?) and recognises that rehabilitation is important and a core pillar of the future use.
- Recreation is also core.
- There does however need to be a balance.

- It should be a desirable place to be – super important.
- Maintenance of everything needs to be considered.
- A good sustainable model is to include the ability to hold events.

Community Representative:

- No mention is made of the youth and building trails off the cuff.
- Any action should include doing something to avoid unsanctioned trails.
- Sanctioned trails are easier to maintain and structured – they are considered to be best practice.

Hamilton Hill Community Group:

- Infrastructure amenity - biodiversity and raw nature is critical
- Biodiversity is being adversely impacted upon by development.
- Carnaby Cockatoo's – large frequency users of the wider park area and are being impacted upon by human behaviour.
- *The Carnaby Cockatoo have an important cultural position.*
- *Reference was made to the need to mark off what is there and how we can provide for it. Reference was also made to the need to provide feeding stations and interactive signage (Ref: Victoria Park, elevated watering station recently installed).*
- *This was explained as being one of the most important feeding sites for the Carnaby Cockatoos (one of the top 5 roost sites within Metropolitan Perth) and evidence of their feeding habits are seen in the way they feed by entering at 45 degrees and feed off the available Banksia.*
- *The disturbing factor is an issue which needs to be looked at. It is a complex issue and the Carnaby Cockatoo is gradually disappearing. The discussion needs to centre on how it is best to co-exist. Future planning and works should steer the direction.*
- *The situation will not improve within the metropolitan area as the gradual clearance of the Banksia at Gnanagara. This will require more space to be found for the Carnaby Cockatoos elsewhere. This impact was obvious when the initial work on clearing for Roe 8 moved the birds to Manning Park. As a result of these actions the pressure gets put on the fewer remaining areas.*
- *There is a potential opportunity to create more feed for the endangered species.*
- *The question was raised about the degrading limestone ridge – it is a fragile geological structure.*
- *Reference was made that it takes a lot of hard work to build unsanctioned trails – it was further stated that the Margaret River approach had not worked and it should not be replicated at Manning Park. This was stated as being related to the additional trail bike (motorised use) which had impacted on the Margaret River trails, and that was not a consideration at Manning Park. It could potentially be achieved by increased Ranger control and additional signage.*
- *Reference was made to a significant area of the land being identified as a road reserve. The future for this strip of land should be clarified (This provides an opportunity to consolidate).*
- *Previous vegetation quality assessment reports were also stated by a representative as being merely a desktop assessment. They did not put a quadrat in, which would be expected to be included in the report to provide an accurate analysis. The City responded by stating the state government guidelines had been followed and the appointed consultants had visually audited Manning Park.*

- *It was stated actions need to be considered avoiding further clearing and further modification. This will require an independent ecological assessment.*

-----WORKSHOP NOTES END-----

Additional Notes provided by Coogee Beach Progress Association – provided verbatim:

- Is almost 70 years old and has operated continuously over that period representing Cockburn Coastal residents & ratepayers.
- Meets Bi-monthly and has a newsletter distribution of 4,000 bi-monthly and represents potentially 7-8,000 residents & ratepayers
- Daryll Smith is currently Vice President, has been a Past President, and is a Life Member
- Manning Park is a Public Open Space (POS) well used by Coastal residents for predominantly passive social activities, including cycling, jogging, recreational and bush walking, dog on lead walking, as well as family recreation and community events.

Constraints

- Aboriginal Heritage & Cultural areas must be protected, as well as the early European settlement heritage in Manning Park.
- Manning Park Ridge is a Limestone Ridge, with high conservation value and status, with unique biodiversity including endangered and threatened species of flora and fauna. This quality area and environment needs to be protected.

There are currently some 30kms of predominantly unsanctioned and unmaintained trails & tracks, which need to be substantially rationalised, with natural separation and barriers, between Mountain bike trails and other recreational tracks/paths within Manning Park with protection of the natural environment and safety being a key focus for all tracks/paths.

- Public car parking at Manning Park needs improvement to cater for the needs of all and increasing numbers of users and visitors to the park, including organised groups and tour buses.

Opportunities

- There are significant areas in Manning Park which have been degraded, particularly in the north and south west of the Park. These areas could well be used to establish sanctioned and sustainable Mountain Bike Trails. These include the northern quarry and surrounding areas, as well as the south western areas of the Park including the southern quarry. Interconnection between these northern and south western areas could be via the western fire breaks/track or even the land on the western boundary of the Park, to protect and conserve the high value biodiversity areas along the Manning Ridge. A Pump track could be established adjacent to suitable carparking.

In the rationalisation of unauthorised tracks, there is potential to establish a sustainable Manning Park network of recreational and passive use paths to meet the needs of a range of Park users, with natural protection from the separate Mountain Bike trails, ensuring they are all well maintained, and unauthorised trails removed.



MANNING PARK WORKSHOP 3

DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



RE-CAP – PREVIOUS NOTES

COMMENTS / CLARIFICATIONS



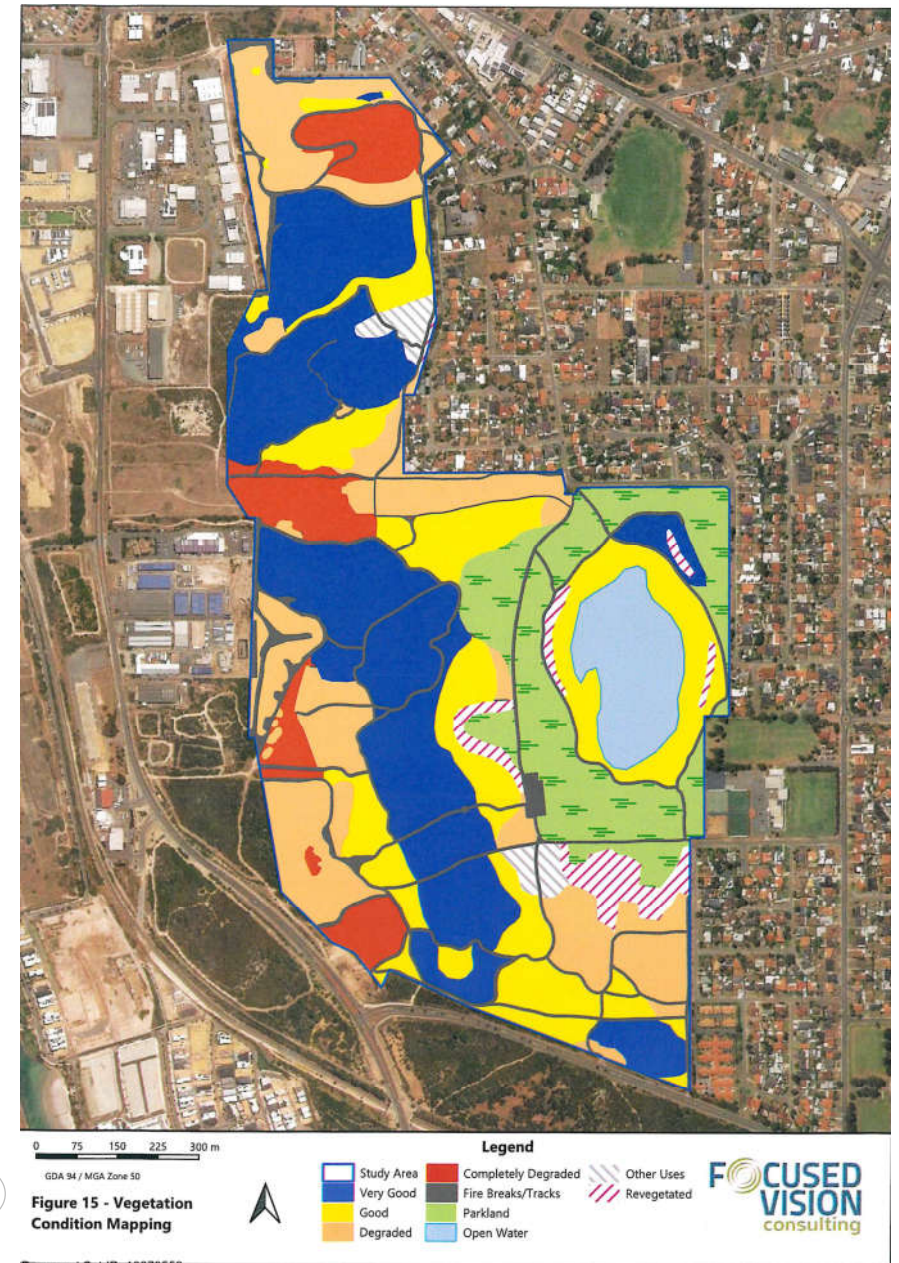
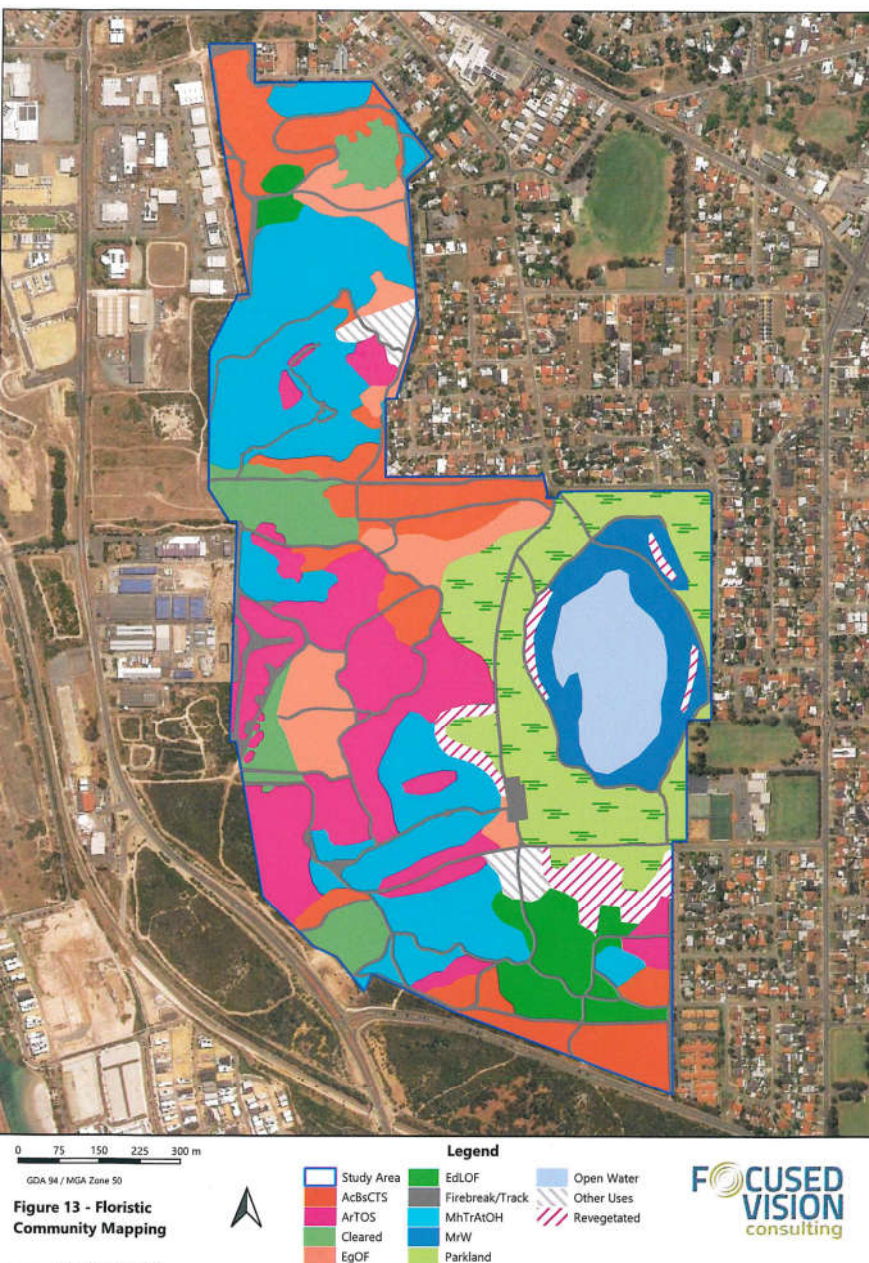
WORKSHOP 3

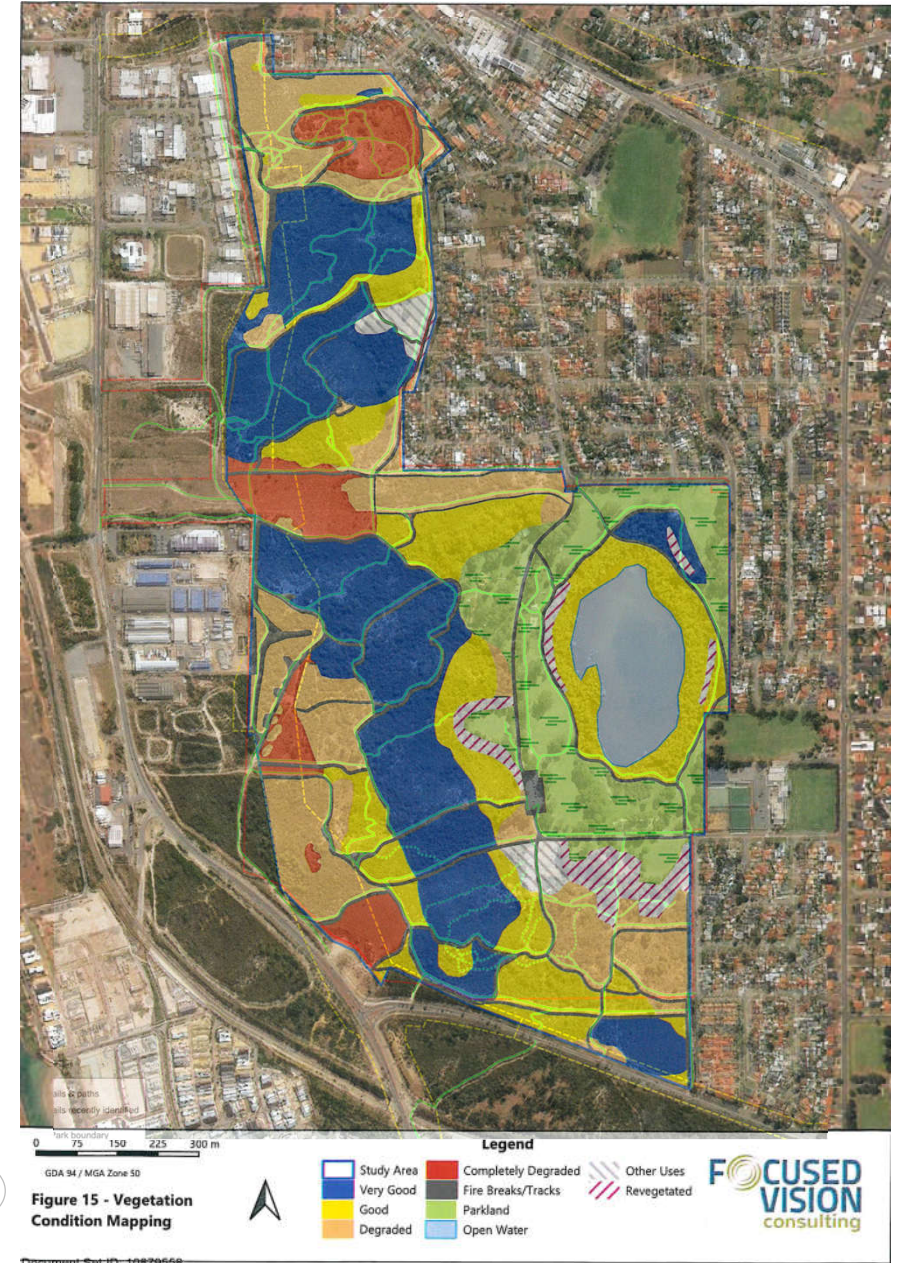
- Continuation of Workshop 2 - List of Current User Groups:
 - Numbers
 - Requirements
 - Limitations / Constraints
 - Opportunities
- Dialogue with representative groups regarding the critical issues and where:
 - Compromise could be reached
 - Alternative solutions may provide a viable option.
 - Review the relative ranking of the key issues



WORKSHOP 3 – SITE CONSIDERATION PLANNING

- Identification of challenges / solutions on a site plan for further discussion and working through by each table.
 - Annotated Plan with suggested solutions to be discussed / debated / agreed / contended.
 - Agreement of priority considerations, management and implementation parameters





WORKSHOP 3 SUMMING UP AND WORKSHOP 4 PREPARATION (IF REQUIRED)

Review and Consider Broader Implications of the discussions

Discuss with representative of your Groups:

- Areas of concern
- Mitigation requirements
- Gaps in knowledge which need to be addressed



Appendix E: Workshop No.4 Meeting Notes

Manning Park Workshop No.4 08/12/2021 5:30pm to 7:20pm

These notes reference presentation No.4 which summarised the outputs of workshops 1 to 3 and amendments suggested to reflect the views of the group. These are to be provided separately in the full council report to be developed following the workshop.

Reference was also made to the notes from Workshop 3 that those views expressed of the Hamilton Hill Community Group (HHCG) were personal views and not those of the HHCG. This was countered by stating that the HHCG had looked into the Carnaby Cockatoo's and therefore the concerns raised were those of the resident association which consisted of a number of people with diverse views and experience.

Three other matters were raised:

- Connection between the ridge and the lake.
- Gail Beck - Aboriginal significance in the southern area of Manning Park. Would wish to speak to the City when available to ensure these matters are addressed.
- Booyeembara Park Master Plan (within the City of Fremantle) has mountain bike trails identified for public use. Can be found at: <https://mysay.fremantle.wa.gov.au/boo-park> (right hand side fourth document). The plan distinguishes between users.

Presentation No.4 Discussion:

Two things people agreed upon:

- All were agreed that Manning Park required careful management from an ecological / environmental perspective. This primary concern would influence the extent that the land could provide for a variety of users.
- There was a need for a greater understanding of the site Aboriginal and European Heritage.

General Group Discussion was undertaken with regard to:

- The need to follow the Eight Staged Trail Planning Process. While reference was also made to the process produced for mountain biking (a re-iteration of the adopted DPaW methodology), the approach is advocated across the planning process for all trails in their generic form.
- Remove reference to a Section 18 determination. There is an approval process which will naturally be followed through outcome of the Heritage assessment.
- The need to / must follow technical guidelines from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). All proposals should be referred to the EPA for consideration (follow best practice).
- A comment was raised related to Orienteering who has 'Friends of the Park' – to address degradation / changes.
- The question was asked regarding the ongoing Management Arrangement i.e. Community involvement and decision making:
 - What does it look like?
 - There will be a need to report back to a representative group.
- There was a general agreement to potentially break up the actions into those which can be achieved in the short term while an Ecological, Cultural and Heritage Management Plan is being undertaken as there is an opportunity to help the Park now.
- Immediate suggestions included:
 - Dog poo bags

- Trail regeneration (agreed plan)
 - Clean-up days and events
 - Education / Training – learning lessons from issues resulting in ecological degradation.
 - Longer term options:
 - Potential to expand the park area back onto the road.
 - Strategic purchasing of the industrial area by the City to be investigated.
- With regard to longer term options, reference was made to the need to consider the Local Structure Plan and also the Metropolitan Region Scheme (MRS) amendments required through this process.
- A strong sentiment was raised with regards to ensuring that the “Bigger Picture” was considered.
 - MTB representative highlighted:
 - The anti MTB attitudes of some users over the years has hampered the growth of a more formal MTB community group.
 - There are massive safety concerns – which have put some people off riding there anymore.
 - Safety concerns are due to intentional sabotage of MTB trails which include the placing of large rocks and branches on trails and blind corners and in some extreme cases wire being strung across the trails.
 - MTB riders are on occasion verbally abused while riding in the park.

The formalisation of MTB trails will confirm a place for MTB riders at Manning Park. This will provide an opportunity for a community MTB group to flourish in a similar fashion to the highly successful Manning Park Trail Runners.

Establishing a visible and open MTB community group will provide a pathway for local youth interested in MTB riding and drive ownership and responsibility for the park and its infrastructure amongst users (and address anti-social use / creation of the trails).

- General view of the group was there was a need for some form of co-operative / joint management model:
 - An appropriate model based on industry ‘good practice’ could be adapted.
 - It needs to be more than just facilitation.
 - It needs engagement by the City and other responsible bodies.
 - User groups are to be involved – this is seen as essential.
- General comment was made on the need to look at the priorities for the group:
 - Actions – should be identified and agreed by the group
 - Ongoing – weed eradication and ongoing monitoring
 - Immediate Action: Clean-up day – organise it.
 - Leadership is needed and this should come via the City to empower the group.

Further comments were made on the outputs of workshop 3: The annotated plan required a Health Warning – it is just a series of suggestions and individual observations. The City indicated it was important to have the plan as a reference point as it did represent comments across the group, albeit on an individual basis. The group suggested the numbering be removed and the document be described in the methodology as to how the suggestions were derived (i.e. not developed by consensus but mere considerations for a future management body).

The City were requested to feed back on the following points:

- Confirm that the final report which is to be presented to committee will be made public.
- Confirm that all the consensus of the group be appropriately represented and the option for a local management body with representation across all stakeholders be tabled.
- Clarify the process from now on and the likely timescale for reporting to committee.
- The Hamilton Hill Community Group representative offered to liaise with the Mountain Biking representatives to discuss future workshops and events, which included MTB Education Programs.

Workshop attendees were thanked for their input and proactive approach in the process.

Workshop Closed 7:20pm.



MANNING PARK WORKSHOP 4

SUMMING UP AND KEY THEMES



RE-CAP – PREVIOUS NOTES

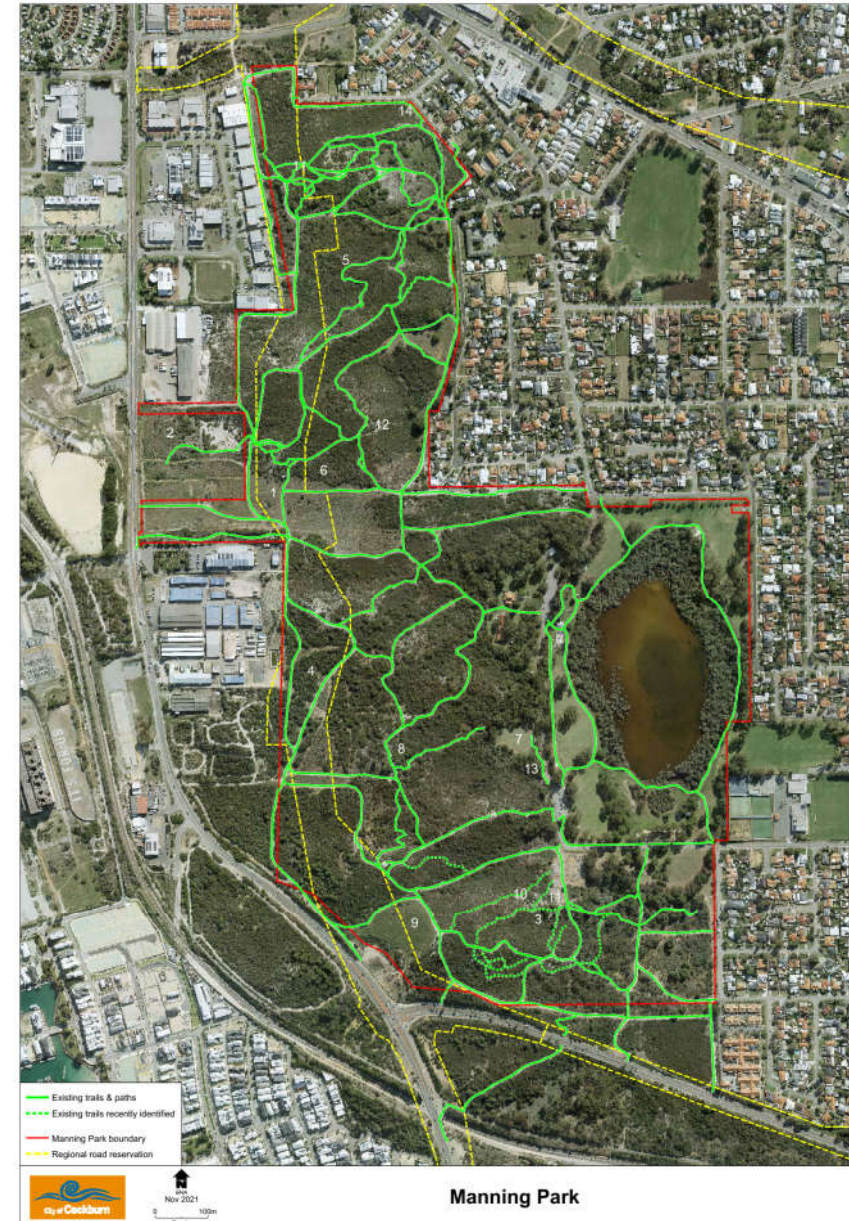
COMMENTS / CLARIFICATIONS



1. Western Power Easement is good for mountain bike riding and within completely cleared land / Utilise area under power lines for mountain bike trails
2. Parking? / Build car park under power lines on Cockburn Road to provide direct access to mountain bike trails.
3. An important ridge Cliff to be protected if possible. A protected trail through would be great.
4. Currently large drops on trails – safety concern
5. Opportunity to rehabilitate some of the smaller informal goat tracks
6. Foot based recreation in the northern Part of Manning Park.
7. Cultural teaching area
8. Foot based recreation along ridgeline
9. Quarry – Opportunity to be developed for jump tracks and other restricted mountain bike areas.
10. Restore the Eucalyptus Woodland here
11. Opportunity to rehab some of the smaller informal goat tracks (just one example)
12. Cave
13. Reconnect the ridge to the lake.
14. Build car park or off street parking near northern quarry to provide direct access to the mountain bike trails



NOTE: THE REFERENCE NUMBERS BELOW AND ANOTATED COMMENTS ACCOMPANYING THIS PLAN ARE MADE BY INDIVIDUALS AND DO NOT REPRESENT ANY CONSENSUS OF THE MANNING PARK TRAILS WORKING GROUP



PRIORITIES

1. Priority 1: The following must be undertaken prior to making future decisions on the use of Manning Park:
 - Detailed Assessment of the quality of ecology / biodiversity / geology
 - Aboriginal and Cultural Heritage Study
 - Early European settlement Heritage Study
2. Priority 2: The DBCA Eight Staged Trail Planning Process should be followed and informed by the outputs of the studies
3. Priority 3: Further consultation and engagement with the working group members and wider community
4. Priority 4: Protection of the limestone ridge – cultural and ecological significance



GENERAL GROUP AGREEMENT

1. The importance of Manning Park is recognised as a recreation space for local residents.
2. Manning Park is recognised as being of value to a diverse range of user groups.
3. There needs to be consistency in any decision making process with regard to the park's designation as Bush Forever and in accordance with state conservation objectives.
4. Self policing / self management – There is a need to ensure this is practical / achievable
5. Ongoing maintenance and control – It is considered to be the responsibility of the City and those bodies with the knowledge and capability to manage the environment without adversely impact on it. The appropriate management structure however needs to be resolved.

ACTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED IN ADDITION TO THOSE IDENTIFIED IN THE WORKSHOP NOTES

Potential visitor mitigation measures:

- Additional car parking could be provided on land to the west of Manning Park and / or adj to northern Quarry
- Protection of habitat nesting (exploring innovative solutions)
- Protection of medium to high quality flora in designated areas (fencing / no go areas).
- Reduce extent of trails and removal of all trails through TEC's and areas comprising endangered / threatened species.
- Signage Strategy: Waymarking / Cultural Interpretive / Standards of behaviour – But maintain its natural aspect.

PROCESS FROM HERE

- All documentation to be collated into one report
- Presented to the City along with the key themes
- Consideration by Officers – report to Council
- Consideration by Council – decision making body

