Creating Better Parks Policy & Plan 2016

Creating Better Parks was first adopted by Council in 2008 as a blueprint to transform the park network. The aim was to create one of the best park networks in Melbourne through developing a hierarchical park network at a cost of $34m. The plan provides for six Flagship Parks; 27 Suburban Parks; 114 Neighbourhood Parks and 106 Local Reserves.

Industry Recognition

In May 2017 CBP won an award of excellence for Open Space Planning at the annual Parks & Leisure Australia awards for Victoria.

The jury citation said:
Creating Better Parks was adopted by Brimbank City Council in 2008 as a blueprint to transform the municipal park network. Since then, Brimbank City Council has upgraded 93 parks investing around $22 million to ensure that the community has access to quality green places that support physical and mental wellbeing.

Creating Better Parks has now been recognized on six occasions since 2008 by the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, Planning Institute Australia and Parks & Leisure Australia.
In 2016/2017 Council achieved the following:

**Suburban Parks**
- Upgrade of Dellbridge Drive Reserve, Sydenham
- Stage 2 upgrade of Delahey Drive Reserve, Delahey
- New BMX dirt track at Ardeer Community Park

**Neighbourhood Park Upgrades**
- Stage 2 of Selwyn Park Master Plan implementation
- Pioneer Park, Sydenham – playground upgrade
- Rutherglen Way, Taylors Lakes – playground upgrade
- Glenmaggie Drive, St Albans, playground upgrade
- Krambruk Street Reserve, Sunshine West – new playground, park furniture and tree planting

**Local Reserves**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New paths in parks (Number of parks)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seats</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BBQ</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picnic tables</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelters</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drinking fountains</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitness equipment stations (No of stations)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playgrounds</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior BMX tracks</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees (Mature)</td>
<td>4,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trees (Tube stock)</td>
<td>60,660</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Community Consultation/Engagement**

The Lakes Reserve, Taylors Lakes, Flagship Upgrade – Stages 2 and 3

On Saturday 22 April 2017, Council held a ‘listening post’ in relation to the proposed upgrade works to The Lakes Reserve Flagship Park. There was a good turnout of residents from different age demographics and the Taylors Ward Councillors were in attendance. The overall feedback to the proposed design of Stage 2 and Stage 3 was positive. Council officers will assess the comments and suggestions from the residents and update the design accordingly.

Krambruk Street Reserve, Sunshine West

A listening post was conducted on site on Wednesday 30 November 2016 which proved very successful in assisting Council officers with the design. Council officers gathered feedback from more than 50 local residents on the day and the Harvester Ward Councillors were in attendance.

**Park Classification Changes**

As part of the 2016 update to Creating Better Parks, Council included the ability to assess changes to park classifications known as Hierarchical Amendments. There were five reports prepared that examined hierarchical changes to existing park classifications.

1. 8 Yale Walk, Kings Park is a Local Park with an old playground. Creating Better Parks states that Local Parks do not contain a playground. The assessment approved the upgrade of playground but kept the park as a Local Park. The existing playground is scheduled for upgrade in 2017/2018.

2. Eurora Court Reserve, Taylors Lakes has been reclassified from a Local Park to a Neighbourhood Park. The existing playground is scheduled for upgrade as part of Council’s annual capital works program.

3. Suffolk Road Reserve, Sunshine North has been reclassified from a Local Park to a Neighbourhood Park. The existing playground is scheduled for upgrade in 2017/2018.

4. Ashton Avenue, St Albans has been reclassified from a Local Park to a Neighbourhood Park. The existing playground is scheduled for upgrade as part of Council’s annual capital works program.

5. Bickley/McCoubrie Reserve, Sunshine West is a Local Park with no park assets except for concrete paths. This assessment approved provision of play equipment and picnic furniture but the classification remains as a Local Park. This project is subject to further community consultation to determine final park layout. Once this has been completed, the upgrade works will be scheduled as part of Council’s annual capital works program.