

Open space**Objective**

To establish, manage and improve a diverse and integrated network of public open space that meets the needs of the community.

Strategies

Plan for regional and local open space networks for both recreation and conservation of natural and cultural environments.

Ensure that open space networks:

- Are linked, including through the provision of walking and cycling trails.
- Are integrated with open space from abutting subdivisions.
- Incorporate, where possible, links between major parks and activity areas, along waterways and natural drainage corridors, connecting places of natural and cultural interest.
- Maintain public accessibility on public land immediately adjoining waterways and coasts.

Create opportunities to enhance open space networks within and between settlements.

Ensure that land is set aside and developed in residential areas for local recreational use and to create pedestrian and bicycle links to commercial and community facilities.

Ensure that land use and development adjoining regional open space networks, national parks and conservation reserves complements the open space in terms of visual and noise impacts, preservation of vegetation and treatment of waste water to reduce turbidity and pollution.

Improve the quality and distribution of open space and ensure long-term protection.

Protect large regional parks and significant conservation areas.

Ensure land identified as critical to the completion of open space links is transferred for open space purposes.

Ensure that where there is a reduction of open space due to a change in land use or occupation, additional or replacement parkland of equal or greater size and quality is provided.

Ensure that urban open space provides for nature conservation, recreation and play, formal and informal sport, social interaction, opportunities to connect with nature and peace and solitude.

Accommodate community sports facilities in a way that is not detrimental to other park activities.

Ensure open space provision is fair and equitable with the aim of providing access that meets the needs of all members of the community, regardless of age, gender, ability or a person's location.

Develop open space to maintain wildlife corridors and greenhouse sinks.

Provide new parkland in growth areas and in areas that have an undersupply of parkland.

Encourage the preparation of management plans or explicit statements of management objectives for urban parks.

Ensure exclusive occupation of parkland by community organisations is restricted to activities consistent with management objectives of the park to maximise broad community access to open space.

Ensure the provision of buildings and infrastructure is consistent with the management objectives of the park.

Ensure public access is not prevented by developments along stream banks and foreshores.

Ensure public land immediately adjoining waterways and coastlines remains in public ownership.

Plan open space areas for multiple uses, such as community gardens, sports and recreation, active transport routes, wildlife corridors and flood storage basins.