

Draft Lifetime Play Strategy Feedback Submissions June 2017

No.	Name	Feedback	Officer Response	Proposed change to Strategy
1	Nicola Neyland	Looks good. My feedback is that many of the parks have great items the layout is terrible - flying fox or swings in the middle. You sit and watch the toddlers get knocked out. Maybe consult with some mums about the parks? Also water is unsafe. As is a lack of shade. And toilets can be disgusting.	Notes support. Officers assume feedback relates to Eltham Lower Park. Design feedback will be considered in future playground upgrades. Officers acknowledge congestions at Eltham Lower Park at peak times and encourage parents/carers to actively supervise young children particularly around the faster moving equipment. The Park's toilets are cleaned daily Monday to Saturday, and on three occasions on Sunday when the Diamond Valley Railway is in operation or on other event days. Residents are encouraged to contact Council cleaners if additional services are required. There are currently 3 shade structures in the Park, and officers acknowledge these are highly utilised by the community. There is little opportunity for further additional shade structures, but Council has landscaped and placed synthetic grass under a tree to provide an additional shaded picnic area. Funding for additional shade structures, both within and outside the perimeter of the playground will continue to be explored in further enhancing the Shire's most visited playspace.	None required
2	Melissa Cusick	The park next to the library should be fenced and gated for child safety. It is on a main road and has a pond.. very unsafe.	Notes submission did not indicate support or opposition. Fencing of playgrounds is considered on a site basis. Fences will be provided where barriers to hazards are needed. In some cases, fully enclosed playgrounds are appropriate to cater for people with a disability. This will be considered in the implementation plan. Council will also draw on Play Australia's best practice advice on fencing.	Refer to implementation plan
3	Nikki Waterfall	It would be great to have a place space for older children who still need to move their bodies, stimulate their mind, socialise and explore the outdoors. There is a wonderful example of a space that caters for a wide range of ages, abilities and needs at Royal Park Nature Playground, Parkville. I have attached photos.	Notes support. The Strategy recommends provision of diverse facilities and play opportunities for all ages and abilities.	None required. Opportunity to explore through a range of play designs, including nature-based play. Consider as a priority at Diamond Creek Regional Playground.
4	Narelle Campbell	Overall the plan is a terrific reflection of play grounds and is innovate - which is awesome. The plan would serve council and the community better if it embraced the strategic opportunity to integrate trails as play spaces (which is what they are). The plan would serve council and the community better if it did not ignore 80% of the land mass of the Shire and 20-30% of the population of the Shire and the needs and opportunities in this space. It is interesting the plan seeks to promote inclusion by making spaces wheelchair friendly (which is important an impacts less than 0.5% of the population, and yet is quite comfortable excluding rural residents 20-30% of the population altogether. The plan needs to recognise that recreational horse riding and recreational motor bike riding are important play activities in rural areas that cross all age ranges and meet the play definitions in the plan. I am firmly of the view that this plan currently misses the biggest opportunity in the district which is to work with Melbourne Water to embrace the single largest shire play space and destination asset - which is Sugarloaf Dam - and council might want to think about whether the Infrastructure Victoria 30 year plan (which talks about integration and working together across agencies) might mean ensuring plans like this can incorporate ALL public spaces as play spaces, not just play grounds in parks in Eltham, Diamond Creek, Hurstbridge - all of which are important. I have marked up notes in the document attached as specific feedback. It is possibly valuable to include consideration of mental health benefits of play - depression was mentioned earlier - and I think it is pertinent to continue this theme - which brings together the considers the health and nature aspects well. Public transport across rural areas is a barrier to access for rural residents to access the regional and township play spaces included in this plan.	Notes support. Council has an existing Shire wide strategy (Nillumbik Trails Strategy) that recommends the development of recreation trails for horse riding, cycling and walking. Also numerous horse and pony club facilities owned by Council. Horse-riding is actively supported by Council, however this sits outside the scope of the Lifetime Play Strategy. In accordance with Clause 41(b), of Council's Amenity Local Law, without a permit a person must not use or allow the use of a motorised toy vehicle on any Council land other than a road. (Permits are not issued for this type of activity). Notes recommendation regarding Sugarloaf Dam. In the Implementation Plan (stage three) Council will advocate to State Government, Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria for delivery of play opportunities consistent with this framework on Crown and State land. Agree with point to include consideration of mental health benefits of play, and recommend change to Strategy. Notes suggestion regarding public transport to rural areas. Council continues to advocate for improved public transport to the rural areas of the Shire, as evident in the current Draft Council Plan 2017-2021.	Acknowledge, add text on page 27, Next Steps: 'Identify where playful opportunities may be delivered in the future through other delivery of strategic documents e.g. The Nillumbik Trail Strategy'. Acknowledge mental health benefit of play. Change to text on page 16 to: 'As an ageing society that is becoming more sedentary, opportunities that improve both our mental and physical health and gets us active is so critical'
5	Janet Boddy	I would like to suggest that you include a much needed level and gravelled area in parkland or other to provide for Petanque/ Boules/Bocce players. There is no suitable level place on which to play. I would also like to suggest that bikers are separated on paths in parks. Walking becomes hazardous with bikers who do not respect the needs of walkers.	Specific request for petanque, boules and bocce will be reviewed as part of the Implementation Plan (stage three). The Nillumbik Trail Strategy notes that all trails in Nillumbik are shared-use trails.	Refer to implementation plan
6	Pamela Johnson	It is commendable that Council is bringing the Nillumbik land into use. Is there disabled access for the proposed areas? Toilet access is also essential as is play areas for dogs -and owners. Onsite access to biodegradable plastic bags for dog excreta is also helpful. A swimming pool in the Hurstbridge area -perhaps privately owned with Gym access would keep local people strong. Local gardens are also an easy way for older people to maintain communication with others outside the home.	Notes support and general comments. The 2013-2017 Domestic Animal Management Plan, states it is the responsibility dog owners to ensure they carry their own bags. It's an offence, under the Amenity Local Law not to carry a receptacle when in charge of a dog in a public place. Feedback pertaining to Hurstbridge will be referred to the Open Space and Precinct Plan project.	None required