

# AGENDA CULTURE AND COMMUNITY COMMITTEE 11 AUGUST 2022

MEMBERSHIP: Councillors J Black, L Burns, S Chowdhury, M Dickerson, V Etheridge, J Gough, R Ivey, D Mahon, P Wells and M Wright.

The meeting is scheduled to commence at .

|          |  | Page |  |  |  |  |
|----------|--|------|--|--|--|--|
| CCC22/33 | LEAVE OF ABSENCE (ID22/1487)   |      |  |  |  |  |
| CCC22/34 | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID22/1485)  |      |  |  |  |  |
| CCC22/35 | REPORT OF THE AQUATICS WORKING PARTY - MEETING 25 JULY 2022 (ID22/1530) The Committee had before it the report of the Aquatics Working Party meeting held 25 July 2022.  | 2    |  |  |  |  |
| CCC22/36 | MACQUARIE RIVER MASTER PLAN (NORTH AND SOUTH PRECINCTS) UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (ID22/1521)  The Committee had before it the report dated 30 July 2022 from the Manager Recreation and Open Space regarding Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts) Update on Community Consultation. | 6    |  |  |  |  |
| CCC22/37 | SPARC DUBBO REGIONAL COUNCIL CULTURAL PLAN - TWO YEAR UPDATE (ID22/1524) The Committee had before it the report dated 1 August 2022 from the Cultural Development Coordinator regarding SPARC Dubbo Regional Council Cultural Plan - Two Year Update.  | 71   |  |  |  |  |



# Report of the Aquatics Working Party - meeting 25 July 2022

AUTHOR: Administration Officer - Governance and

**Internal Control** 

REPORT DATE: 1 August 2022

The Council had before it the report of the Aquatics Working Party meeting held 25 July 2022.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Aquatics Working Party meeting held on 25 July 2022, be noted.



# REPORT AQUATICS WORKING PARTY 25 JULY 2022

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Black and S Chowdhury, the Director Community, Culture and Places, the Manager Aquatic Leisure Centres, R Mutton (Community Representative), J McKechnie (Community Representative), A Lavelle (Community Representative), Y McDonald (Community Representative) and C Gain (Community Representative).

#### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

The Chief Executive Officer.

The Chief Executive Officer assumed the Chair of the meeting.

The proceedings of the meeting commenced at 5.05 pm.

#### AWP22/1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY (ID22/1409)

The Chief Executive Officer delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

#### **AWP22/2 APOLOGIES (ID22/1406)**

There were no apologies for this meeting.

C Gain attended via-audio visual link and joined the meeting at 5.15 pm due to technical difficulties.

#### AWP22/6 ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON (ID22/1408)

At this juncture, the Chief Executive Officer called for nominations for Chairperson of the Aquatics Working Party.

Councillor J Black was nominated by Councillor S Chowdhury.

Councillor J Black accepted his nomination and was elected Chairperson of the Aquatics Working Party for the Mayoral term.

#### AWP22/3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (ID22/1407)

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

#### AWP22/4 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION (ID22/1410)

Councillor J Black provided a welcome and introduction to the Working Party.

#### AWP22/5 TERMS OF REFERENCE AND CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE (ID22/1405)

The Working Party had before it the report dated 20 July 2022 from the Administration Officer - Governance and Internal Control regarding Terms of Reference and Code of Meeting Practice.

#### **OUTCOME**

That the Terms of Reference (Appendix 1) and Code of Meeting Practice for Community Committees and Working Parties (Appendix 2) be noted.

#### AWP22/7 FUTURE MEETING DATES (ID22/1411)

The Working Party gave consideration to Future Meeting Dates.

Scheduled months for the Aquatics Working Part meetings are as follows:

- July 2022
- September 2022
- January 2023
- May 223
- July 20223

#### OUTCOME

- 1. That future meetings of the Aquatics Working Part be held at 5.30 pm on the third Monday of the scheduled months as follows:
  - Monday, 19 September 2022 at 5.30pm
  - Monday, 16 January 2023 at 5.30pm
  - Monday, 15 May 2023 at 5.30pm
  - Monday, 17 July 2023 at 5.30pm
- 2. That calendar invitations be sent out to all members of the Aquatics Working Party for above dates.

#### AWP22/8 2022/2023 FEES AND CHARGES (ID22/1412)

The Working Party was addressed by the Manager Aquatic Leisure Centres regarding 2022/2023 Fees and Charges.

#### Items of note:

- Large number of submissions were received regarding the initial draft budget released for public submission.
- Council reviewed the membership prices and as such, decreased the proposed costs.
- Promotion will be underway shortly for the new season and a membership pre-sale will

- be available via the online Pool Portal in the coming weeks
- A question was asked whether tracking of membership sales was undertaken. Aquatics Management is currently working on establishing a baseline for sales however raised that membership sales have been effected by an increase in Fitness Passport usage by Club Members. This may change in the 2022/2023 season due to Fitness Passport strictly enforcing their usage guidelines, that is, Fitness Passport can only be used for casual visits and lap-swimming and not for squads, sports or carnivals.

#### **OUTCOME**

That the 2022/2023 Aquatic Fees and Charges be noted.

#### AWP22/9 2022/2023 SEASON OPERATING DATES AND TIMES (ID22/1413)

The Working Party was addressed by the Manager Aquatic Leisure Centres regarding 2022/2023 Season Operating Dates and Times.

#### Items of note:

- Dubbo and Wellington season opens Friday, 2 September 2022
- Geurie Season opens Friday, 4 November 2022.
- Dubbo and Wellington season lengths same as 2021/2022 season (33 and 29 weeks respectively).
- Geurie has reverted to the traditional 18 week season (4 November 2022 12 March 2023).

#### **OUTCOME**

2.

- 1. That the 2022/2023 proposed season calendar, as follows, be noted:
  - Retain the 33 week operating period for the Dubbo facility, ending the season at the close of the April school holidays – Friday, 2 September 2022 – Sunday, 23 April 2023 (33 weeks)
  - Retain the 29 week season at the Wellington facility Friday, 2 September 2022
     Sunday, 26 March 2023 (29 weeks)
  - Shorten the Geurie season, returning to an 18 week season closing in mid-March
     Friday, 4 November 2022 Sunday, 12 March 2023 (18 Weeks)
  - That once confirmed, the calendar be released to the public.

| The meeting closed at 5.47 pm. |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
|                                |  |
|                                |  |
|                                |  |
| CHAIRPERSON                    |  |



# REPORT: Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts) Update on Community Consultation

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places

REPORT DATE: 30 July 2022 TRIM REFERENCE: ID22/1521

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

| Purpose                    | Strategic Project Update                                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| Issue                      |   | Provide Elected members a progress report on the |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            | community consultation undertaken for the Macquarie River |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            | Master Plan (North and South Precincts).                  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Reasoning                  | Update on the progress of the development of the master   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            | plan, and the community consultation already undertaken,  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            | requested by Council                                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Financial                  | Budget Area Recreation and open Spaces                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Implications               | Funding Source  | s94 Open Space Restricted Asset                  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            | Proposed Cost   | \$92,000   |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            | Ongoing Costs   | \$0  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <b>Policy Implications</b> | Policy Title  | There are no policy implications arising from    |  |  |  |  |  |
|                            |   | this report.                                     |  |  |  |  |  |

#### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.5 Our community has access to a diverse range of

recreational opportunities

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.5.1 Passive and active open space is located to maximise

access and use by the community

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.5 Our community has access to a diverse range of

recreational opportunities

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.5.2 Unique recreation and open space facilities are

available

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts) progress report provided by Manager Recreation and Open Space be noted.

Jane Bassingthwaighte
Director Community, Culture and Places

IMManager Recreation andOpen Space

#### **BACKGROUND**

#### **Previous Resolutions of Council**

| 1. That the Regand Park Master Plan produced by Moir Landscape Architecture be noted.  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2. That the Regand Park Master Plan be placed on public  |  |  |  |  |  |
| exhibition for a period of 28 days.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. That a revised Regand Park Master Plan, addressing public   |  |  |  |  |  |
| comments and the provision of an opportunity for an eatery   |  |  |  |  |  |
| area, be further considered by Council.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| That all persons who made submissions be thanked for their   |  |  |  |  |  |
| contribution and informed as to how their submissions were   |  |  |  |  |  |
| considered.  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>Show the species of trees identified at the entry<br/>statement to be deciduous trees found onsite already</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |  |
| and species endemic to the floodplain of the Macquarie   |  |  |  |  |  |
| River in Dubbo   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Change the illustration of wind turbines to be solar   |  |  |  |  |  |
| panels   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Show the alignment of the pathway behind the Regand  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Park subdivision to be 100 metres from residences  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Show toilet facilities near the playground elements  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. That the modified Regand Park Master Plan be adopted  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| That the report of the Works and Services Committee meeting held   |  |  |  |  |  |
| on 18 February 2013 be adopted, save and except Clauses  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WSC13/2, WSC13/9 and WSC13/20 of the report with such Clauses  |  |  |  |  |  |
| being dealt with separately.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. That the contribution of the Dubbo Stampede and the Titan   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Macquarie Mud Run to public infrastructure be noted.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. That no further capital improvements be undertaken on land  |  |  |  |  |  |
| identified in the Regand Park Master Plan.   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. That the Regand Park Master Plan be revoked with the  |  |  |  |  |  |
| exception of environmental related activities such as tree   |  |  |  |  |  |
| planting.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. That savings identified at the December 2017 Quarterly  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operational Plan and Budget Review allocate \$60,000 to the  |  |  |  |  |  |
| development of a Master Plan for CBD parks and reserves that   |  |  |  |  |  |
| are between the LH Ford and Serisier bridges.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. That the Dubbo Stampede and Titan Macquarie River Mud   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Run Committee be invited to be integral contributors to the  |  |  |  |  |  |
| new master plan in view to their former proposed upgrades to   |  |  |  |  |  |
| the river corridor be an equally significant component of the  |  |  |  |  |  |
| new CBD plan.  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. That Council consider the allocation of \$500,000 to the  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

|                               | embellishment and improvement of CBD parks and reserves that are between the LH Ford and Serisier bridges during the development process of the Draft 2019/2020 Operational Plan and Budget and associated draft Delivery Program.   |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 22 February 2021<br>(in part) | <ol> <li>That the Mayoral Minute, dated 22 February 2021, be noted.</li> <li>That Council welcomes the proposal for the St John's Junior Rugby League Football Club proponents to potentially develop up to 10 hectares of Regand Park, comprising playing fields and ancillary infrastructure, contingent upon Council endorsement of site drawings, technical plans, relevant supporting documentation and approvals.</li> <li>That a notice of rescission motion be submitted in writing no later than five business days prior to the March 2021 Ordinary Council meeting relating to the resolution of Council at its meeting held 25 June 2018, "That no further capital improvements be undertaken on land identified in the Regand Park Master Plan."</li> </ol> |  |  |  |  |
| 22 March 2021                 | <ol> <li>That Council determine this Notice of Motion of Rescission.</li> <li>That the modified Regand Park Master Plan of 2013 be withdrawn.</li> </ol>   |  |  |  |  |
| 22 March 2021                 | That the Director Liveability provide a further report regarding the Review of the Regand Park Master Plan along with the River Corridor Master plan for Dubbo and incorporate environmental related activities, sporting and leisure related activities.  |  |  |  |  |
| 27 January 2022               | <ol> <li>That the Chief Executive Officer provide a staff report outlining the history and current status of formal plans in place for the development of the Regand Park area as public open space and advising on opportunities for the reinstatement of the Regand Park Master Plan, including the proposals for private sporting field development.</li> <li>That that the CEO provide a report updating council on the progress of master planning for Macquarie River corridor.</li> <li>That council notes the importance of public awareness and consultation in relation to proposed uses of public land.</li> </ol>  |  |  |  |  |
| 24 February 2022              | <ol> <li>That \$140,000 from the current Section 94 Open Space and Facilities Plan be utilised to engage suitably qualified landscape architects to develop a northern and southern Macquarie River Master Plan, with any unexpended funds being returned to the Restricted Asset.</li> <li>That a procurement process be undertaken to appoint appropriately qualified consultants to undertake a review of the original Regand Park Master Plan and the development of a master plan for the northern Macquarie River recreational precinct.</li> </ol>  |  |  |  |  |

Dubbo City Council purchased Regand Park in 2005 at a cost of \$490,000. This purchase was consistent with a long standing strategic direction of acquiring land adjacent to the Macquarie River for recreational purposes dating back to the 1960s. In addition to Council owned land, a

significant amount of land through the urban river corridor is Crown Land for which Dubbo Regional Council is the Trust Manager for. In total Dubbo Regional Council owns or manages approximately 85% of the river frontage through the urban area of Dubbo City.

Following the purchase of Regand Park (2005), and subsequent purchases including the ex Sunderland's Land, ex Smith's Land, ex Pavan's Land and ex Battistel's Land these areas were zoned RE1 – Public Recreation. This land was zoned under the Dubbo Local Environment Plan as RE1 – Public Recreation. As shown in Figure 1 Regand Park's zoning has remained unchanged (RE-1 Public Recreation) since the 2011 Dubbo Local Environment Plan (DLEP). The same situation applies to Sunderlands Land and the land immediately south of Tamworth Street (red outline). Under the DLEP 1991 Regand Park was zoned 7 – Environmental Protection and the 1998 DLEP it was 6(b) Private Open Space. The development of sporting fields were not precluded under any of these zoning classifications.

Regand Park, Sunderlands (apart from a small section of Community Land adjacent to the Shed) and Smiths Land were classified as "Operational" land under the *Local Government Act* 1993 at the time of purchase. This classification has allowed Council to offer grazing licences over these areas to reduce recurrent maintenance costs, as well as undertaking various improvements including environmental rehabilitation and restoration works.

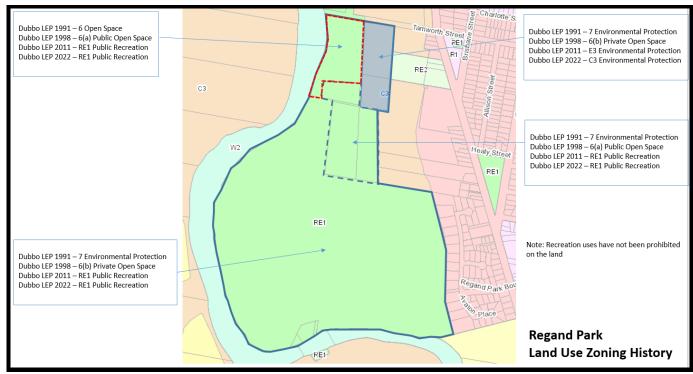
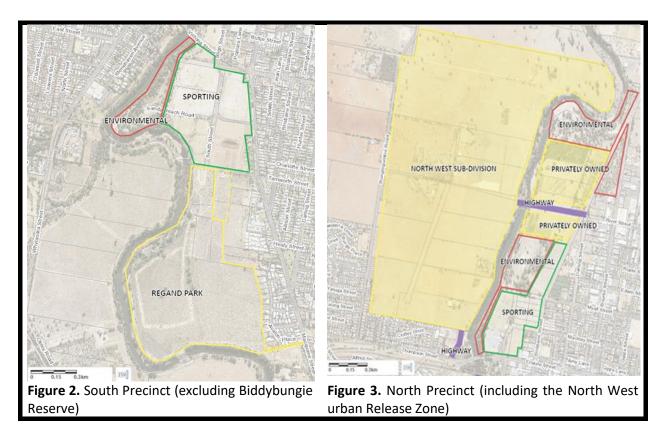


Figure 1. Zoning history of Regand Park and associated land (Council owned).

Following the Ordinary Meeting of Council in February 2022, quotations for the Development of a Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts) were called. The brief identified the extent of the master plans, shown in **Figures 2** and **3** below.



The requirements of the brief was to include the following:

- i. Site Analysis including:
  - a. Existing use
  - b. Risks and opportunities
  - c. Aboriginal/European heritage
  - d. Connectivity with other public open space/pathways/cycleways along the extent of the river corridor, as shown in figures 1-4.
  - e. Review of existing plans, including Regand Park
  - f. Macquarie River hydrology and flooding impacts and constraints
  - g. Identification and detailing of any Recreational, Environmental, Cultural/Educational.

Following the assessment of the received quotations Moir Landscape Architects, in association with Sala4D, were engaged to undertake the master planning process.

#### **REPORT**

#### Consultation

As part of the consultation process a Councillor Workshop was held 7 June 2022 with Moir Landscaping Architects (MLA) and Sala4D to seek early Elected Members input into the master planning process. Following this workshop Sir Roden Cutler Park was included as part of the South Precinct master plan.

An internal key stakeholder meeting was held 7 June 2022, with staff from Culture, Community and Places (Recreation and Open Space, Regional Events and Regional Experience), Infrastructure (Infrastructure Delivery, Infrastructure Strategy and Design and Traffic Engineer), Development and Environment (Environmental Compliance and Growth Planning) and Organisational Performance (Building Assets). A subsequent meeting was held with Manager Growth Planning to review future options regarding Public Open Space in the North West Urban Release area.

A meeting with St Johns Junior Rugby League was held to hear of their aspirational goals with regards to their proposal, distinct from identifying a specific site.

Two community workshops were held on 21 July 2022 (morning and evening) with approximately 38 key external stakeholders attending. These key stakeholders included members of the various environmental and sporting groups.

The Community Workshops were facilitated by Sala4D and MLA to identify community values with regards to the public open space. As part of each Workshop a SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats) analysis was undertaken. The purpose of these Workshops were to develop Guiding Principles for the development of the initial concept plans that would then assist in informing the final master plan. The resultant Community Consultation Report has been distributed to the participants.

A walk-through of the South Precinct with Traditional Owners was undertaken on 21 July 2022 with Councillor Burns and Councillor Wells in attendance.

Additional work on identifying other elements including access and movement, connection with other open space, environmental/flooding issues, land use and development, connection to other key destination points and heritage has been undertaken to help inform the development of these plans. A report identifying these issues and considerations, along with the Community Consultation Report, is attached.



**Figure 4.** Community Workshop No.1 – identification of Key Values for Public Open Space.

The resulting community consultation report from these workshops has been distributed to the participants and uploaded to the Dubbo Regional Council website.

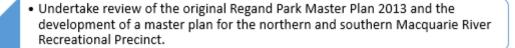
The broader community will have the opportunity to provide input into the development of the master plans through the following avenues:

- A pop-up stall at the Church Street rotunda on 1 September 2022;
- The draft concepts will be made available on the Dubbo Regional website with an attached targeted survey to ensure that the community can make a formal submission to help inform the master plan;
- A pop-up BBQ at the South (Regand Park) and North (John McGrath Fields) Precincts will be held to capture users of the facilities. The South Precinct will timed for an early morning, and the North Precinct will be timed to maximise opportunities for user groups;
- Two workshops evening of the 1 September 2022 and morning of the 2 September 2022;
- Public exhibition of the final draft master plan potentially late November or early 2023. We would avoid the Christmas and New Year period as people may be away.

Additional opportunities can be added to further maximise exposure of the concept and draft plans prior to the development of the final draft master plan for public exhibition.

Residents are also being encouraged to send through feedback directly to the consultants. A register of all comments is being maintained to ensure the community of the transparency of the process. The consultant's email address is: <a href="mailto:shah@sala4d.com">shah@sala4d.com</a>

An overview of the full consultation process is provided in **Figure 5**.



- Inception Project Meetings and the appointment of a Consultant.
- Internal Stakeholder Meetings to gain understanding of background, previous consultation and site analysis.
- Targeted workshops inviting diverse interest groups including environmental groups, sporting groups, recreational groups, to gain an understanding of interest groups' plans, needs and concerns.

Current

- Draft Analysis and Constraints Report by the Consultant complete, attached to this report.
- Broad community feedback option available to community via website direct to consultant during August.
- Draft Concept Master Plan to be presented to a Councillor workshop in September.
- Open Community Engagement program commences, through Workshops, Popups and BBQs.
- Final Draft Master Plan prepared, and presented to Council for endorsement for 28 days' public exhibition.
- Review of the Master Plan based on Community Feedback, before Council adoption of Final Master Plan.

Figure 5. Overview of consultation

#### **Resourcing Implications**

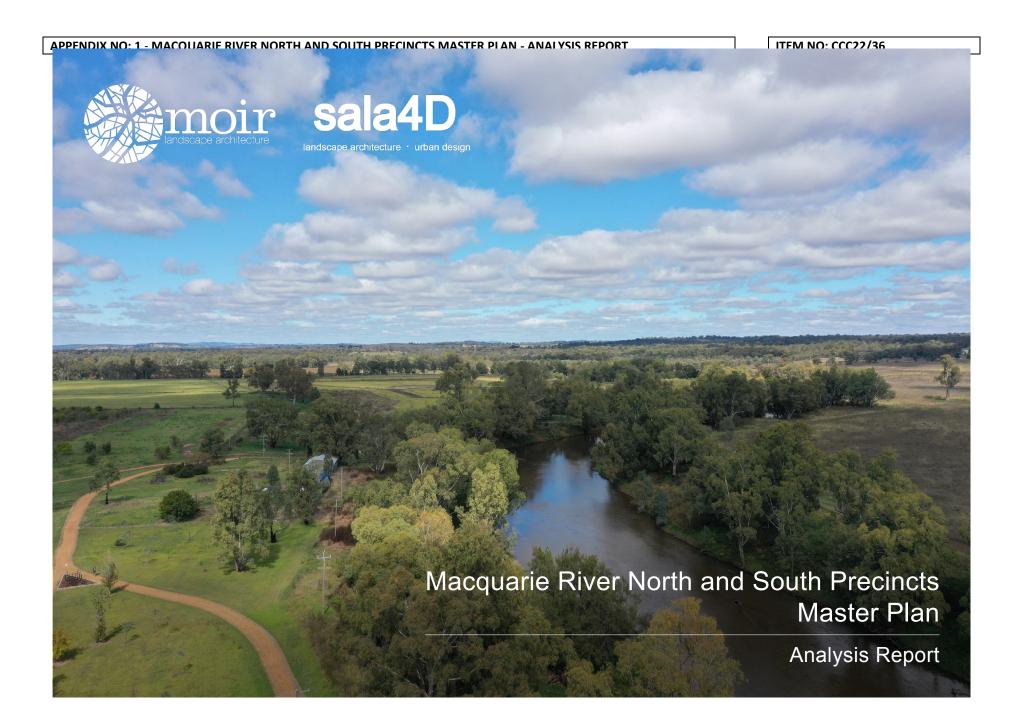
For the preparation of the Macquarie River Master Plan (North and South Precincts) the resources required are largely external of Council. Some management time is required to oversee the project and to ensure that works are progressing in a timely manner.

| Total Financial<br>Implications            | Current<br>year<br>(\$) | Current<br>year + 1<br>(\$) | Current<br>year + 2<br>(\$)  | Current<br>year + 3<br>(\$) | Current<br>year + 4<br>(\$) | Ongoing<br>(\$) |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| a. Operating revenue                       | 0                       |                             | 0  | 0                           | 0                           | 0               |
| b. Operating expenses                      | 91,500                  | 0                           | 0  | 0                           | 0                           | 0               |
| c. Operating budget impact (a – b)         | -91,500                 | 0                           | 0  | 0                           | 0                           | 0               |
| d. Capital Expenditure                     | 0                       |                             | 0  | 0                           | 0                           | 0               |
| e. Total net impact<br>(c – d)             | -91,500                 | 0                           | 0  | 0                           | 0                           | 0               |
| Does the proposal require ongoing funding? |                         |                             | Yes  |                             |                             |                 |
| What is the source of this funding?        |                         |                             | Once adopted the implementation of these master plans will be contingent on Council being able to secure grant funds. Funds may be available from the Section 94 (Old Plan 1998) Developer Contributions Restricted Asset. |                             |                             |                 |

**Table 1.** Ongoing Financial Implications

#### **APPENDICES:**

1 Macquarie River North and South Precincts Master Plan - Analysis Report



# Acknowledgement of Country

Moir Landscape Architecture and sala4D would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and waters of Australia, most notably the Wiradjuri Nation, the traditional owners of the lands on which this project resides. We acknowledge their contribution to our community and their deep connection to the land. We pay our respects to Elders, past and present.



landscape architecture · urban design

sala4D Pty Ltd Ph. 0421 860 186
2/25 Sale Street www.sala4d.com
Orange NSW 2800 ACN: 611 054 114
shah@sala4d.com au ABN: 32 611 054 1



Moir Landscape Architecture Pty Ltd Ph Studio 1, 88 Fern Street ww PO Box 111, Islington NSW 2296 AC

Ph.(02) 4965 3500 www.moirla.com.au ACN: 097 558 908 ABN: 48 097 558 908

ITEM NO: CCC22/36

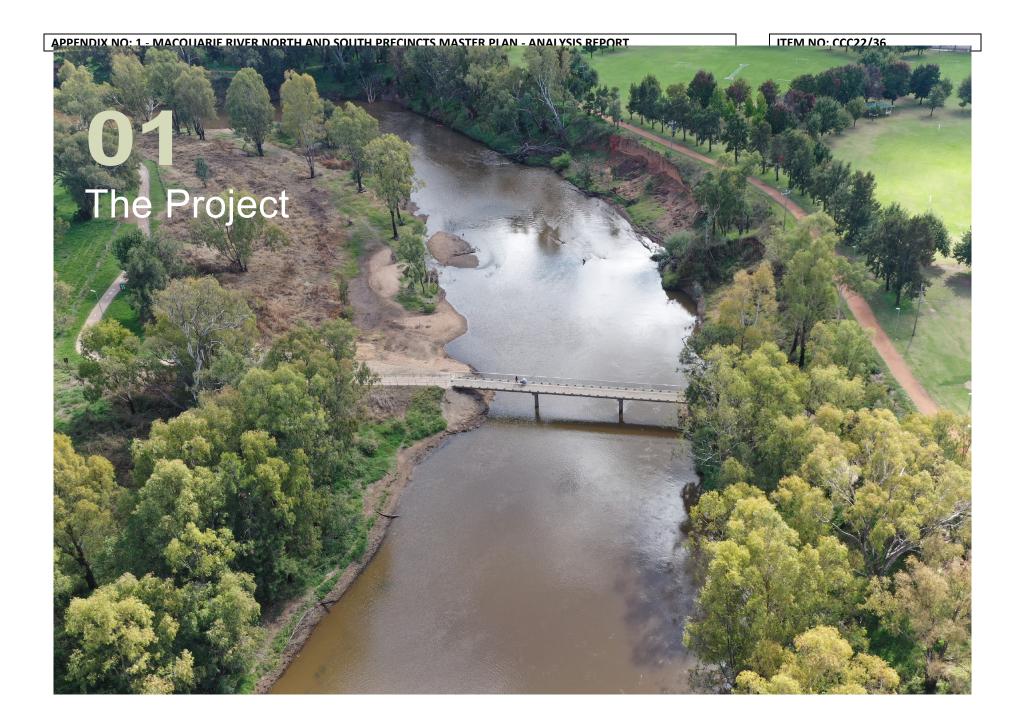
## Contents

- 01 The Project
- 02 Overall Site Analysis
- 03 North Precinct
- 04 South Precinct
- **05** Community Consultation Results
- **06** Opportunities and Constraints

## Issue 01

| Revision | Date     | Author | Checked | Comment                          |
|----------|----------|--------|---------|----------------------------------|
| 01       | 20.07.22 | AG     | AL      | Draft for review                 |
| 02       | 01.08.22 | AG     | AL      | Distributed to Client for review |
| 03       | 08.08.22 | AG     | AL      | Distributed to Client for review |





## Project Overview

Moir LA have been engaged by Dubbo Regional Council to prepare a Landscape Master Plan for Macquarie River's North and South Precincts. The project will be undertaken in collaboration with the regional landscape architecture practice, sala4D.

The precincts consist of an important stretch of open space with vital ecological, cultural and environmental functions. The open space includes parkland, sporting grounds, riparian corridors and bushland, drawing users from a wide catchment within the Dubbo Regional Council LGA. The wide open spaces and movement networks along the Macquarie River offer passive recreation opportunities such as walking, cycling and general kickabout.

The intent of this project is to strengthen connections along the river bank and to key destinations, increase utilisation of the river corridor by better defining the current precincts, increase accessibility to the river, harness key views and connections back through to the CBD (Macquarie Street) and along the river, incorporation of future Ollie Robbins events precinct and Legacy Shared Pathway and improve the riparian vegetation/biodiversity values throughout the riverine corridor.

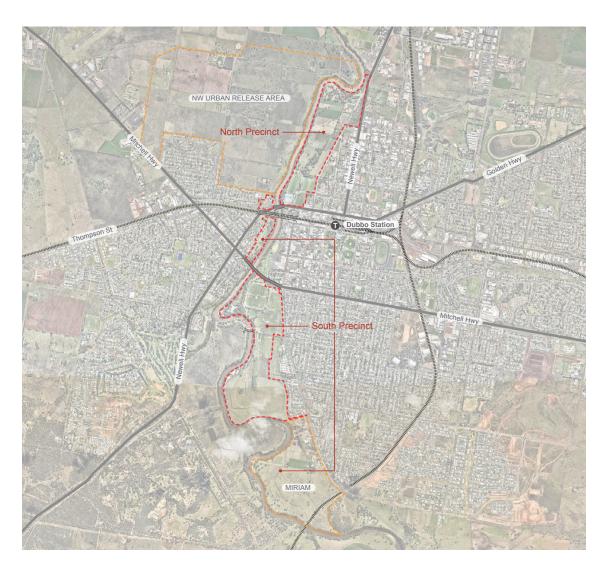
Site boundary

Future development boundary

Train line

Major road

Future desired pedestrian link



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#### ITEM NO: CCC22/36

#### The Plan

#### **Purpose of the Master Plan**

The Macquarie River North and South Precincts Master Plan (the Plan) will be the guiding plan for investment by Council in the River precincts to the North and South of the Central Business District River precinct. These are important community spaces now and into the future for the City of Dubbo and hold cultural, sporting, environmental and connectivity values.

The Plan will focus on work to be completed over the next 5 - 10 years, with a recommended review at 10 years, it is understood these assets have a long lifespan and impact upon the City, so the Plan must have a view to the next 100 years or beyond.

To ensure the Plan is sustainable and is a reflection of community aspirations, it will be a synthesis of existing planning documents, Council's management needs, community consultation and best practice design. The first step is to identify the Values of the community and, from that, determine what the Guiding Principles for Design will be. This provides rationale for design decisions that are anchored in the values of the Dubbo community.

#### **Design Process**

The Plan will be developed by Moir and sala4D, using the Values, Guiding Principles for Design, other design requirements and best practice urban design methods. The draft Plan will then be presented to the Community and Council for comment and placed on public exhibition.

The comments received over the course of the exhibition period will then be compiled and incorporated into a final Plan.







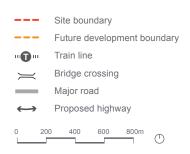


Photographs from Early Intervention Workshop for community consultation, 21 July 2022.

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

### North Precinct

The Northern Precinct includes the eastern side of Macquarie River between Serisier Bridge and Devil's Hole and is generally bound to the east by Brisbane Street and residential areas.





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Site Photos - North Precinct













Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report







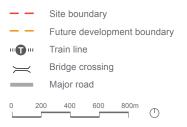




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### **South Precinct**

The Southern Precinct includes the eastern side of Macquarie River between Regand Park and the LH Ford Bridge and is generally bound by residential areas to the east. This precinct also extends to the western side of Macquarie River to include Sir Roden Cutler Park and open space between LH Ford Bridge and Serisier Bridge, including Biddybungie Reserve and Lions Park West.



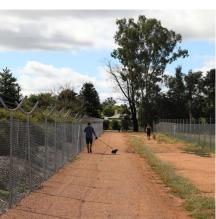


Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

Site Photos - South Precinct









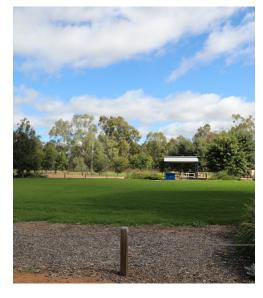


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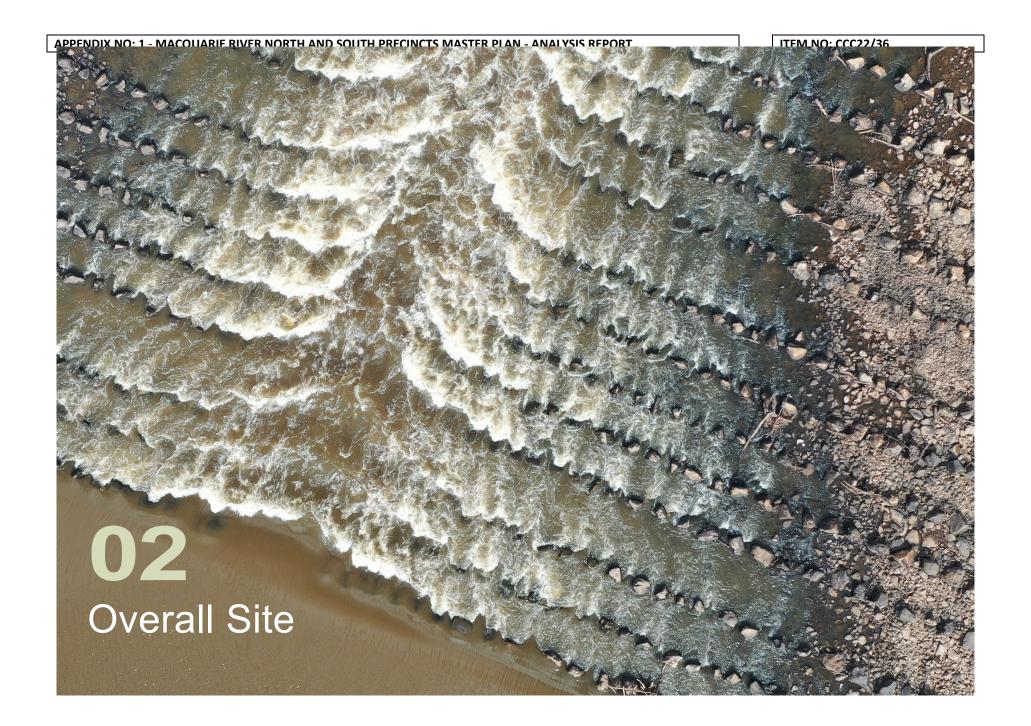








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# Access & Movement

Site boundary

Future development boundary

Major road

Train line

Bridge crossing

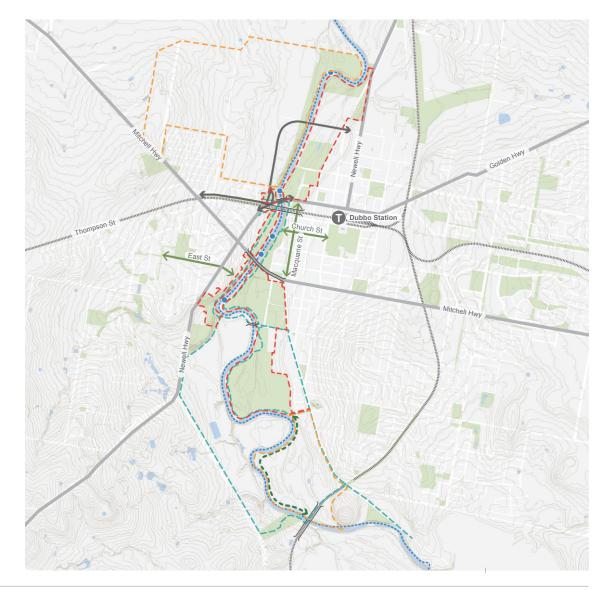
Proposed highway

Major pedestrian open space connections

Off-road / riverfront connections

···• River access

**- - -** Future desired pedestrian link



0 400 800 1200m

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# **Existing Open Space**

Site boundary
Major road

Train line

Bridge crossing

General open space\*

Local open space\*

District open space\*

Regional open space\*

\*Source: DRC Dubbo Open Space Masterplan 2018



0 400 800 1200m

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

## Environment

Site boundary

Future development boundary

Major road

Train line

Bridge crossing

Contour line

Native biodiversity

Flood planning area (DRC LEP 2022)

Vegetation corridor - 300m offset



0 400 800 1200m

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ITEM NO: CCC22/36

# Land Use & Development



Future development boundary

Major roa

"Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Environmental

Sport & recreation

Park

Private

Urban release area

New open space

Proposed open space (Approved / masterplan)

Future development

#### Recent and proposed development

Ollie Robbins Events Precinct and Boardwalk (proposed)

2 Regand Park (masterplan)

Miriam Residential Development (proposed)

4 Old Dubbo Gaol Heritage Plaza (under construction)

Victoria Park Ovals Redevelopment

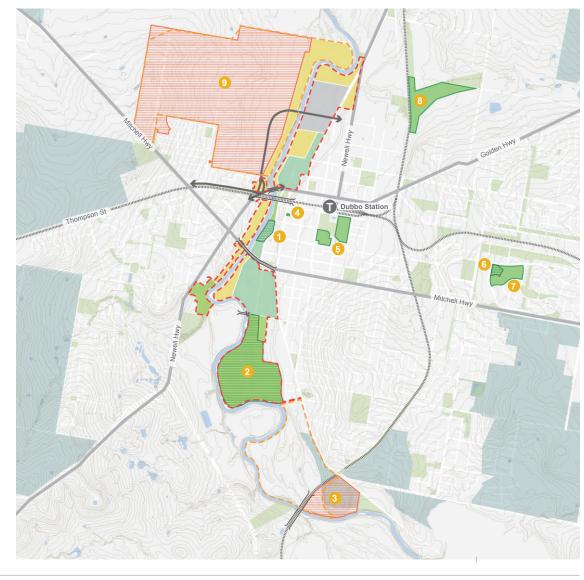
6 Wiradjuri Tourism Centre (proposed)

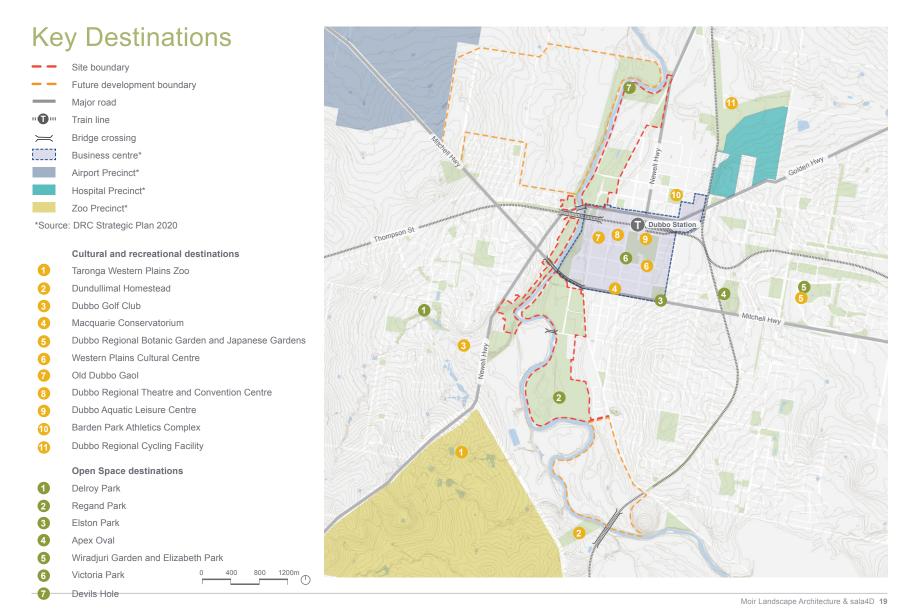
Wiradjuri Garden, Elizabeth Park, Botanic Gardens and Japanese Gardens

8 Dubbo Regional Cycling Facility

Future residential development site







## Heritage

Site boundary

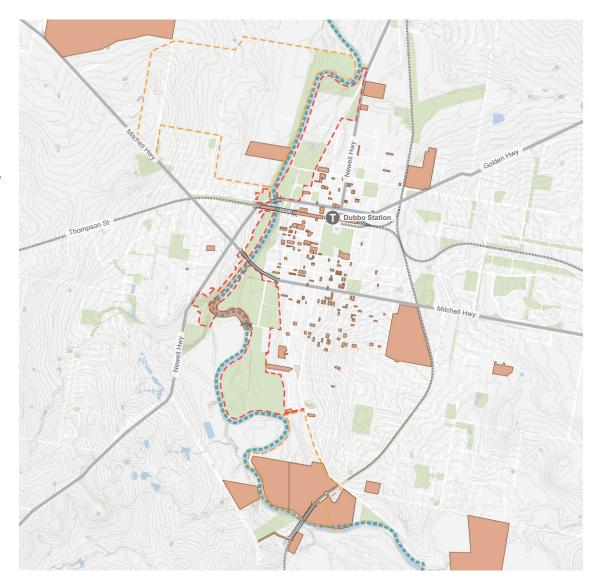
Future development boundary

Major road

Train line

General Heritage Item (DRC LEP 2022)

Shared European and Indigenous cultural significance of the Macquarie River





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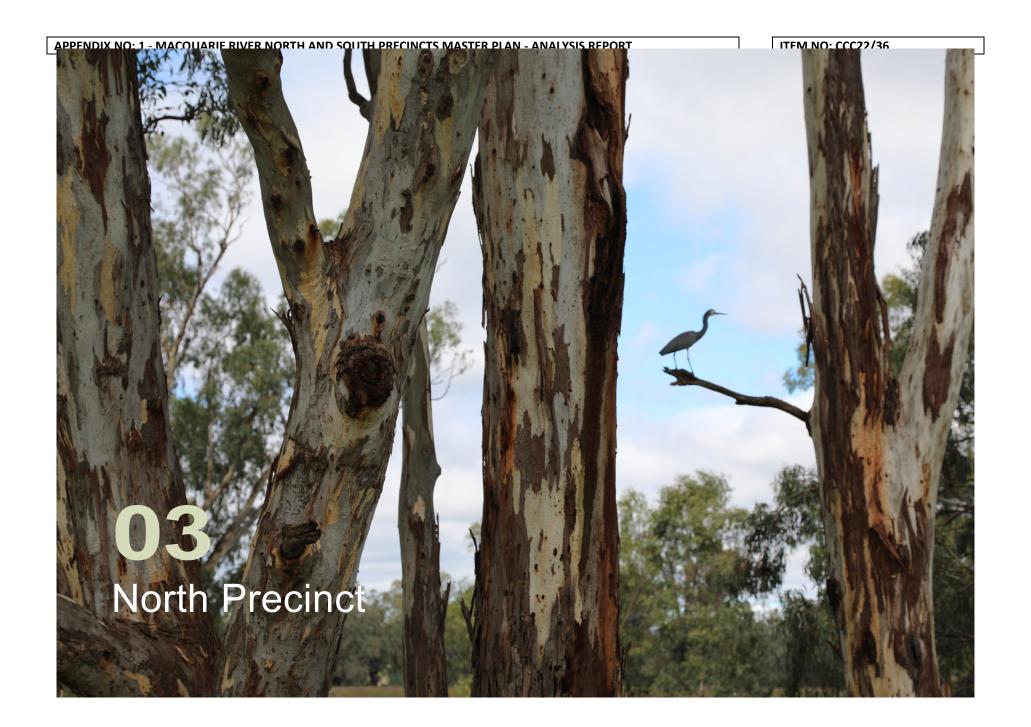
# 1961 Aerial Image

Site boundary



0 400 800 1200m

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## Vehicular Movement

Site boundary

Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Major road

Secondary road

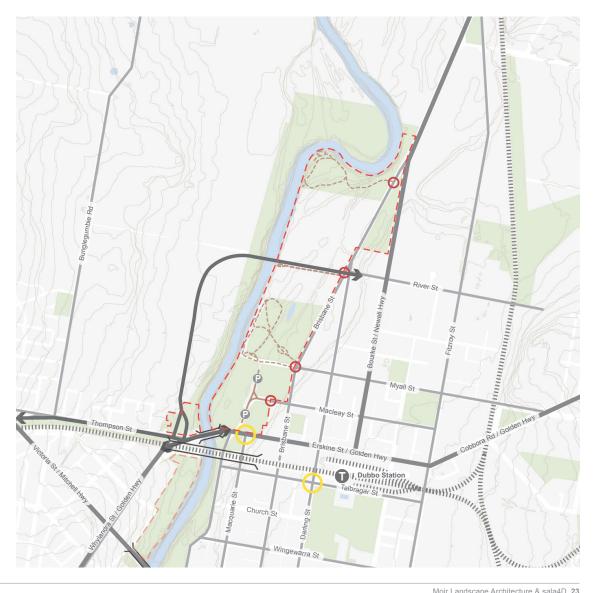
Internal road - sealed

Internal road - unsealed

0 Carpark

0 Site access

Signalised intersection



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## Pedestrian Movement

Site boundary

Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Major road

Secondary road

Internal road - sealed

Off-road/riverfront access

Bus stop

Carpark

Signalised intersection

Walking catchment



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# Cycle Connectivity

Site boundary

Train line

Bridge crossing

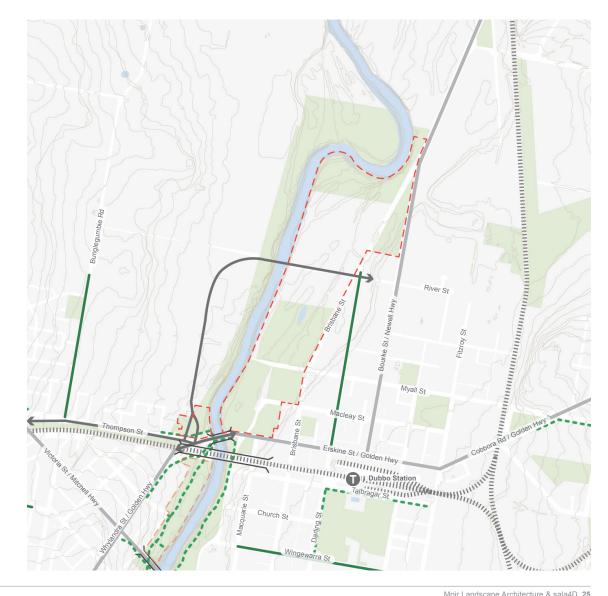
Proposed highway

Major road

On-road cycle path\*

Off-road cycle path\*

\*Source: DRC Cycleways of Dubbo Map



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### Land Use Site boundary Train line Bridge crossing Proposed highway Major road Public open space\* Private recreation\* Environmental\* Tourism \* Residential\* Mixed use / commercial \* Industrial\* Infrastructure\* Rural\* Agricultural use (zoned residential) Crown land reserves (NSW Planning Portal) \*Source: DRC LEP 2022 Land Zoning Map Local destinations NRMA Dubbo Holiday Park Charles Sturt Univeristy Riverdale Shopping Centre TAFE NSW Old Dubbo Gaol Erskine St./ Golden Hwy **Dubbo Visitors Information Centre** Dubbo Regional Theatre & Convention Centre Western Plains Cultural Centre Dubbo North Public School **Dubbo Base Hospital** Dubbo Private Hospital

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

Barden Park

Dubbo Regional Cycling Facility

Victoria Park

## Built Form & Amenity

Site boundary

Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Major road

Environmental

Sports field/court

Private

Surrounding open space

Built form

Shelter

River access

Popular fishing spots

Amenities & recreation

Biddybungie Reserve

Lion's Park West

Ollie Robbins Oval

Dubbo Farmers' Markets

Netball courts x 15

John McGrath Fields & Bob **Dowling Ovals** 

Katrina Gibbs Fields

**Dubbo Touch Association** 

Public toilet block

**Dubbo Netball Association** 

Pump track

400 600 800m



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# Shade & Drainage

Site boundary

Train line

■ Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Major road

Tree canopy

Shelte

Building

Key stormwater channel



0 200 400 600 800m

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report



## Vehicular Movement

Site boundary

Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Major road

Secondary road

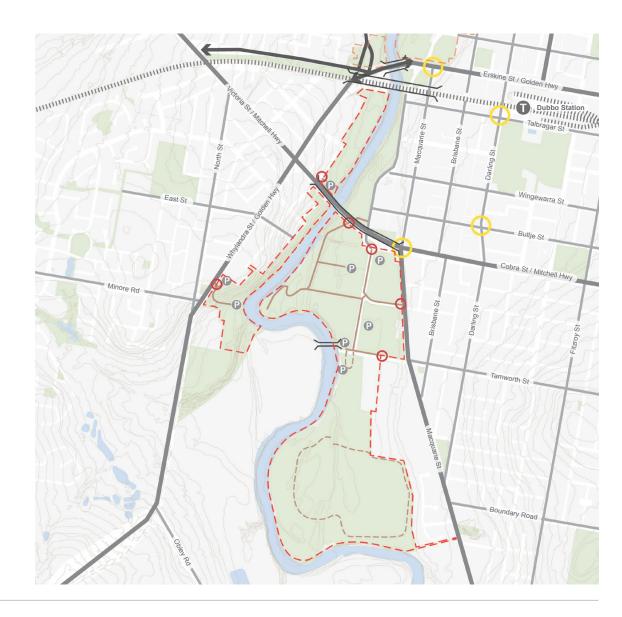
Internal road - sealed

Internal road - unsealed

Carpark

O Site access

Signalised intersection



0 200 400 600 800m

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

## **Pedestrian Movement**

Site boundary

Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Major road

Secondary road

Internal road - sealed

Off-road/riverfront access

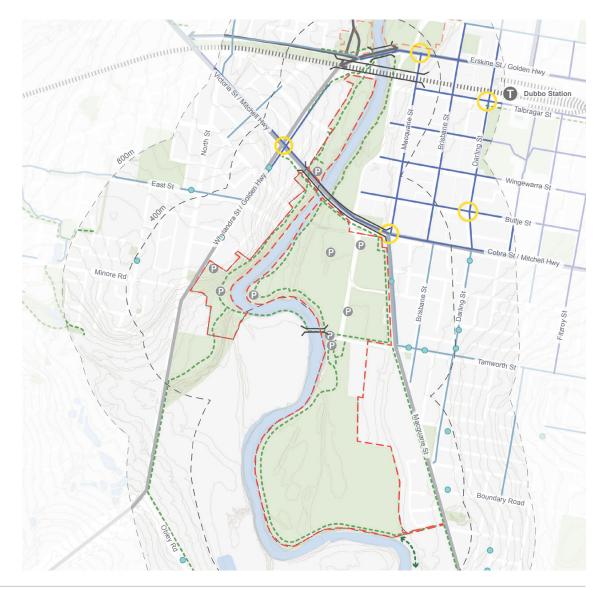
Future desired pedestrian link

Bus stop

Carpark

Signalised intersection

Walking catchment



0 200 400 600 800m

Moir Landscape Architecture & sala4D 31

## **Cycle Connectivity**

- Site boundary

Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Major road

On-road cycle path\*

Off-road cycle path\*

Proposed on-road cycle path\*

Proposed off-road cycle path

\*Source: DRC Cycleways of Dubbo Map



0 200 400 600 800m

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

### Land Use THE THE PARTY OF T Site boundary типтининий т Train line Bridge crossing Proposed highway Major road Public open space\* Private recreation\* Environmental\* Tourism \* Residential\* Mixed use / commercial \* Industrial\* Minore Rd Infrastructure\* Crown land reserves (NSW Planning Portal) \*Source: DRC LEP 2022 Land Zoning Map Local destinations Riverdale Shopping Taronga Western Plains Zoo Centre Dubbo Golf Club Old Dubbo Gaol Woolworths **Dubbo Visitors** 4 Delroy High School Information Centre 5 Yawarra Community School Dubbo Regional Theatre & Discovery Parks - Dubbo Convention Centre Club Dubbo Western Plains Macquarie Club Cultural Centre Western Plains Tourist Park NRMA Dubbo Holiday Park

Moir Landscape Architecture & sala4D 33

## **Built Form & Amenity** Site boundary

Bridge crossing Proposed highway

Major road

Environmental

Sports field/court

Private

Surrounding open space

Built form

Shelter

River access

Popular fishing spots

Dragon boat racing route

### Amenities & recreation

Pioneer Park

2 Lion's Park Amenities

3 Lion's Park West

Biddybungie Reserve

6 Ollie Robbins Oval

Hans Claven Oval

Victoria Park

Elston Park

Ninja Course

Sir Roden Cutler Park

Sandy Beach

Sandy Beach Amenities

Park Run Lady Cutler Oval North Lady Cutler Oval South Lady Cutler Oval East

Lady Cutler Canteen Toilet block

Riverside Amenities

Community Garden

Regand Park

Titan Macquarie Mud Run

Wahroonga Park

South Dubbo Weir

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report



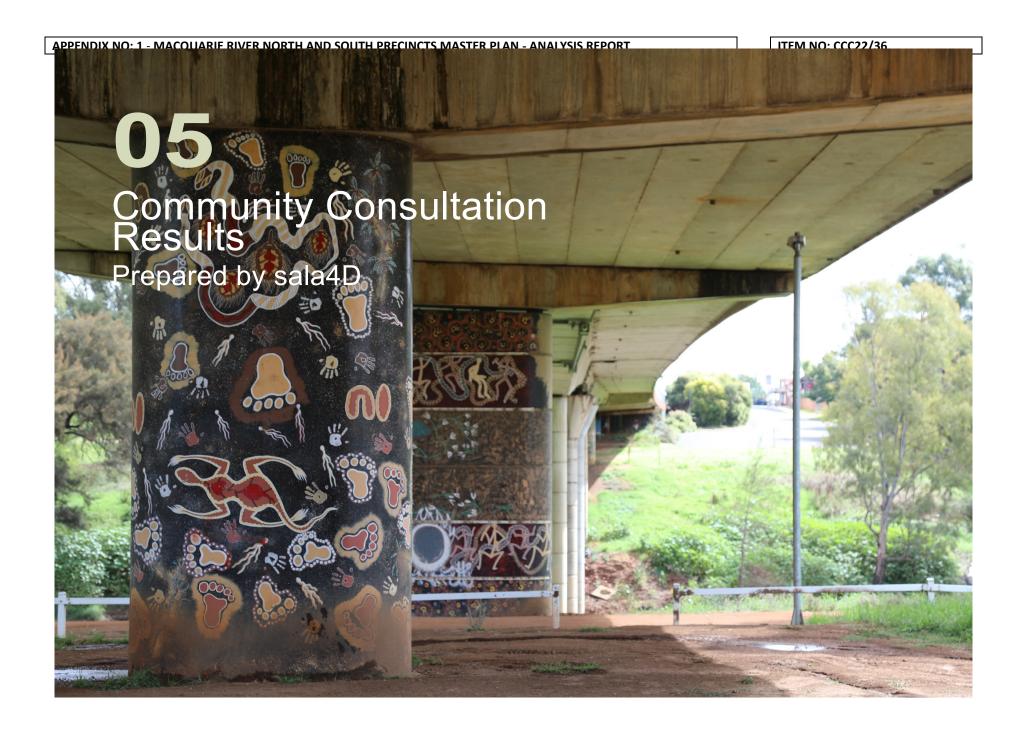
## Shade & Drainage





0 200 400 600 800m

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## Design Foundation

### **Community Consultation Process**

Community consultation is the first step in the design process, used to elicit the values of the people that will use Dubbo's river precincts for years to come; these become the guiding principles for the design.

Dubbo Regional Council is particularly aware of the importance of community consultation in ensuring a project responds effectively to its unique community and, as a result, will have enduring acceptance and value for the region.

The sala4D and Moir team conducted community consultation events in Dubbo on Thursday 21 of July, 2022. They received follow-up emails and phonecalls to make comment, all of which have been documented and considered for this summary report.

The consultation is detailed in the following section, including the exercises used to understand the community at a deeper level. The information gathered through this process is critical in the development of the design as it gives the design team a background on which to develop a design that meets the needs of the community.











Photographs from Early Intervention Workshop for community consultation, 21 July 2022.

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# Community Design Values

### 1. Conceptual Values

To start the workshops sala4D uses a warm-up exercise to remind participants of the value of planning for the whole community and how most people have very similar needs. The answers to the three questions asked at each workshop are listed in the table on the following page.

The three questions were:

Write down a fond memory of where you grew up?

When do you feel part of your community?

If you could do one thing for your community, what would it be?

In their response to their questions about a fond childhood memory; workshop participants overwhelmingly mentioned outdoor activities, with particular reference to playing, swimming and fishing in rivers, within the setting of the Australian bush; we have summarised this as "Outdoor activities in a bush setting". Key value: public open space, and the natural environment.

Community participants also highly valued connection with their community through participating in sports and local events and as they interacted in public open space; we have summarised this as "Participation and interaction". The community felt included when they walked along the Macquarie River paths, enjoying the natural environment. This is important for showing the types of spaces that should be provided in the master plan. Key value: Interaction with others

Lastly, participants expressed a desire to see Dubbo maintain its public open space, restore the river

environment and encourage events to come to Dubbo, including sporting events. We have summarised this as:

"Open space improvements, sporting events and river environment restoration". Key value: Long term viability

### 2. Image Values

sala4D then moved to an image page exercise designed to uncover subconscious preferences, free from the burden of vocabulary. The image page exercise results are shown on the next few pages and revealed the following ideals from participants:

### **Activity**

- Maintain & enhance sporting amenity
- · Provide access to water
- Provide a hierarchy of path types throughout the parkland

### **Design & Aesthetic**

- Enhance the riparian corridor
- · Use natural materials
- Provide wetland environments

### **Amenity**

- Provide basic park amenity
- · Increase bushland area
- · Provide better connections

### 3. Descriptive Word Values

The second dot exercise asked participants place three dots on each of two pages of words. One page was for Regand Park and one for the Police Paddock. The questions on each page were:

What is the most important future use of Regand Park?

What is the most important future use of the Police Paddock?

Responses for Regand Park were predominantly "Restoring Nature" and "Wilderness Close to City", the next most common selections were "Rugby Fields", "Sporting Infrastructure" and "Open to All", then "Bicycle Links" and "Lots of Paths".

Responses for the Police Paddock were mostly "Connection to River" and "Regenerating Native Vegetation", the next most common selections were "Playing Fields", "Car Parking", "First Nations Culture" and "Club Houses".

These answers are all consistent with other exercises but provide another level of detail specifically for Regand Park and for the Police Paddock. In particular 18 people indicated sporting infrastructure and fields were important for Regand Park, while this number was only 11 for the Police Paddock; this could be reflective of the codes of sport represented at the meetings but may indicate a strong desire to protect the native vegetation at the Police Paddock.

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

# Community Design Values

### 4. SWOT Analysis

The final exercise in each workshop was a site analysis SWOT exercise with the participants identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for the Macquarie River north and south precinct. These findings are included in the SWOT Analysis Plans.

The main results from the consultation SWOT analysis, combined with on-site analysis and comments from various stakeholders are:

- Opportunities for improving walkability from the CBD to the river, and linkages along and to the river should be enhanced and developed in the master plan and should consider the following:
- Taronga Western Plain Zoo
- Miriam Hill (south of the river)
- Macquarie Street (through the residential areas and retirement homes)
- From Seriser Bridge to Devil's Hole
- North West land release
- "It's precious what we've got" and it's recognised by the community that it needs to be managed and restored
- There is a need for a cultural space on the river to integrate the cultural heritage of the Tubba-Gah and the broader Aboriginal community of the Dubbo area into Macquarie River north and south precinct
- There is opportunity to interpret the historic and cultural past through integrating interpretive signage and artwork throughout the parkland

- It was identified that West Dubbo is a growth area where there is a need for greater sport and park amenity to cater for the population increase
- Many of the sporting ovals and fields have parking constraints and traffic congestion, raising safety issues due to the conflict between vehicles and pedestrians. The Macquarie River does not alleviate this pressure as there are restricted access points
- Many of the sport facilities require expansion and upgrade which needs to be considered in the master plan
- The river is a dynamic element within the CBD and is constantly changing, as seen in the recent floods.

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## 1. Conceptual Values

### **CONCEPTUAL VALUES**

### Fond memory of where you grew up?

- · Admiring the beautiful hills around me on the family farm
- Spending countless hours with siblings in a creek area then called 'Black Flat"
- Walking through paddocks & foraging for mushrooms
- Fish & chips at Victoria Park
- · Summer swimming at the Macquarie River
- Outdoors with family
- Lots of open space and plenty of birds
- Exploring the neighborhood and climbing trees
- Playing barefooted in the bush and creek with my brother
- Open space
- Town pool
- Baradine-Coonabarabran open space, Warrumbungles
   Pillioa Forest
- Big loop, bike/walking track around local wetlands dog friendly
- Swing and playset with half court
- Plaving sport
- Safe, playing with friends, sport, adventure
- Mix of sports and friends
- Living in the bush, nature, bush walking
- Living in the bush, hature, bush
- Swimming in the Macquarie River
   Going to sporting events at Riverbank as a child
- Goilig
- Spending time at Brewarrina Weir after school with dogs in summer during sunset
- Lazy days on the Lachlan River in summer swimming,
- swinging on ropes, floating down on tubes
- Playing safely at parks, pools etc
- Boating, fishing, swimming in the river
- Playing sport hockey
- Being around river systems
- Outside on the farm with my grandfather
  - Playing in the bush as a kid
- Roaming freely in the wilderness
- On my dairy farm
- Playing in parks for birthday parties
- Playing football/cricket with my neighbours in our cul-desac

### When do you feel part of your community?

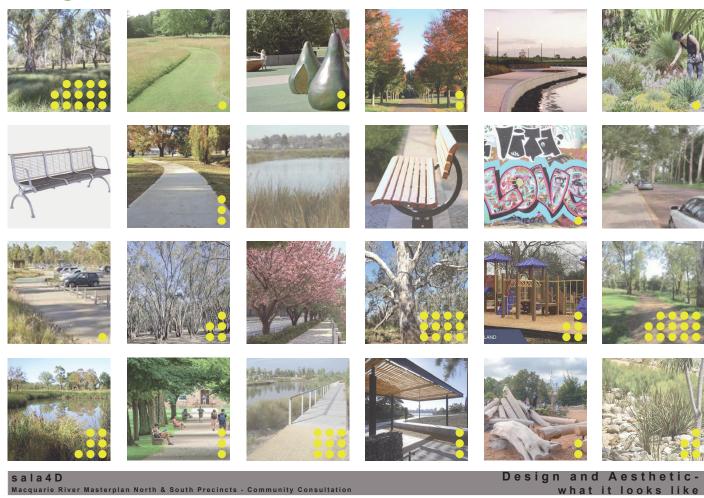
- Engaged in an activity or event a bush walk, mingling at a market, enjoying a concert or other cultural event
- Always, but never more than when I walk on the Macquarie River with the birds and wonder of the River
- Walking along the river, visiting reserves and conservation areas
- Assist in community work that makes Dubbo a better place to live
- Playing sport or involved/ supporting in community events
- Being with like-minded people
- When I go out, know people, part of community groups
- When helping out at various groups
- Living in it
- When councillors acknowledge my emails and DRC makes decisions reflecting community consultation
- Engaging in social and sporting events, open spaces
- Whilst doing community activities, sport, kayaking, dinners
- When working with groups to provide an event or facility that will benefit the community going forward
- When I become involved
- Playing sport and community events, markets
- When engaged in community events sport, cultural
- Sports
- During sports/community events
- When we work towards common goals
- Being involved in organisations
- Volunteering for Rivercare Group
- When I am involved with sport and volunteering with sport and other activities
- Sporting, social, being heard
- When I'm involved in major events like the Dubbo Stampede
- When we are gathered to look after local places e.g. planting trees together, picking up rubbish
- When it is inclusive and welcoming, when it is diverse and respects all cultures
- Playing sport
- Playing sport, contributing to clubs
- When I am at or involved in netball

### If you could do one thing for your community, what would it be?

- Maintain open space around the Macquarie River
- Assist in providing strategic direction for an appropriate tree preservation order
- Bring greener spaces to areas of Dubbo that invite members to walk ride, play etc
- Incorporate endemic plant species to the area
- Actively make it better for future generations to enjoy
- Strengthen community engagement via sporting clubs
- Take everyone for a bush walk and teach them about their local environment
- Leave it a better place for future generations
- Protect it from development, especially bad development
- Make Dubbo a great place and great sports facilities
- Change the staff and councillors at DRC so that they are people who value the environment over business and
- development
  Involve more participants in well managed and organised
- sporting activities
- Help younger people become better adults
- Fix stairs at Terramungamine Reserve
- Involve more people, particularly women and teenagers in active recreation
- Volunteer
- Create more sporting fields, improve sporting facilities
- Strong investment in environmental and green spaces
- Leave a healthier environment for younger generation
- Bring more events, sporting etc to town
- Increase community awareness of the river environment and facilitate communal advocacy
- · Improve the hockey fields provide a second turf
- Slow/ stop pollution growth to favour or look after what little native habitat we have left
- Stronger environmental values, actions and expenditure by Dubbo Council
- Save our passive green spaces and environmental restoration of the riparian zone
- Help restore riparian environment of Wambuul Macquarie River
- Create a state of the art sports precinct

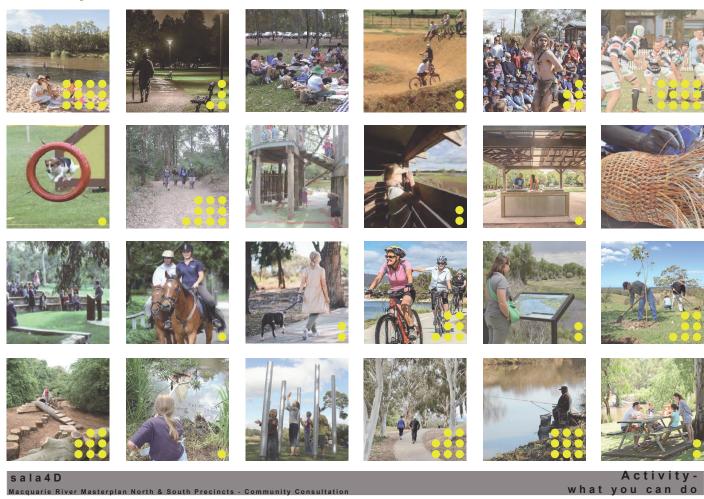
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# 2. Image Values - Design & Aesthetic



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# 2. Image Values - Activity



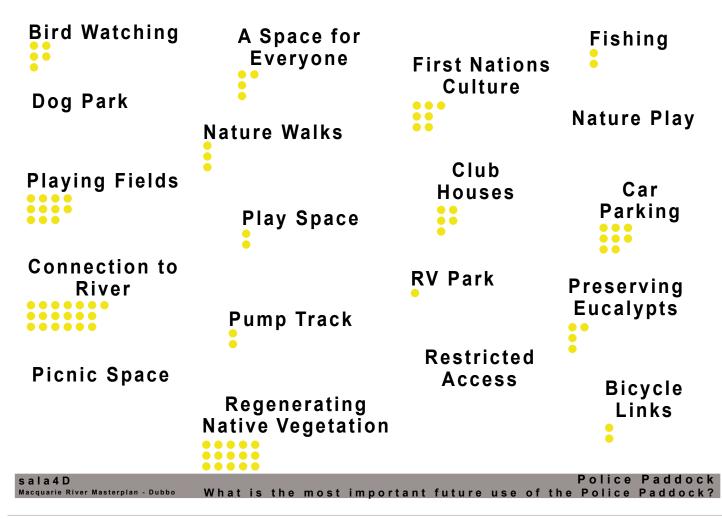
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# 2. Image Values - Amenity



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## Descriptive WordValues - North Precinct



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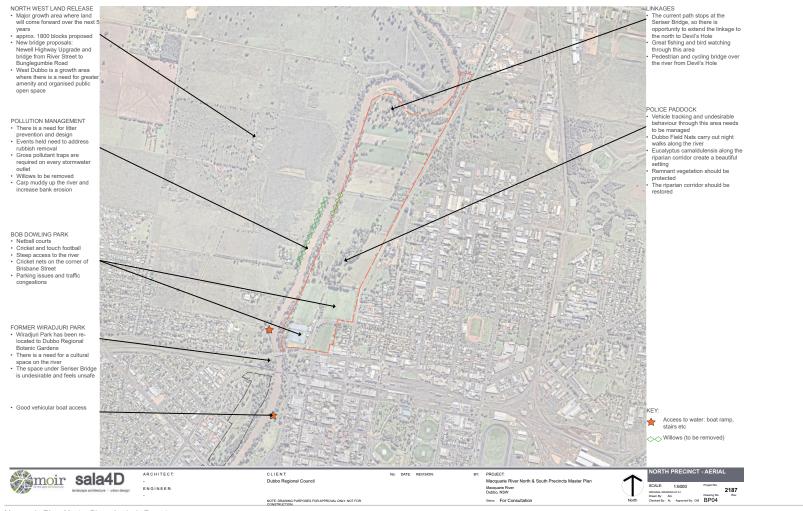
## **3.** Descriptive Word Values - South Precinct



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## 4. SWOT Analysis

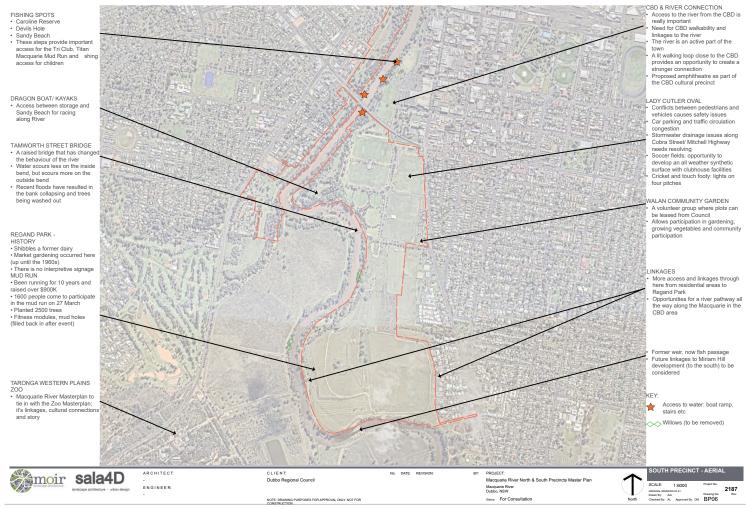
## - North Precinct



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## 4. SWOT Analysis

## - South Precinct



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# Guiding Principles for Design

### The Brief

The key outcomes identified by the brief for the Plan are:

- Ensure connectivity of the eastern bank is integrated with the adopted Macquarie River CBD Master Plan, Events Precinct on Ollie Robbins Oval and the Legacy Shared Pathway Project;
- Strengthen the connections to the future North-West Sub-division and look for value-add opportunities;
- Increasing utilisation of the river corridor by better defining the current precincts;
- Increase accessibility to the river through the development of pedestrian, cycle and vehicular networks that cater to a diverse range of demographics and abilities;
- Harness key views and connections back through to the CBD (Macquarie Street) and along the river;
- Improve the riparian vegetation/biodiversity values throughout the riverine corridor; and
- Identify wayfinding and interpretive signage opportunities.

The Plan should deliver the outcomes identifies in the brief but add to these the results of the community consultation. It is the unique nature of the environment and community that will provide the design with a genuine sense of place and therefore from where the design should stem.

Although the consultation was conducted with a select and relatively small group, the stakeholders who took part represented the most opposing views expected throughout the community. Yet, the conversation was constructive and largely cohesive in a joint desire to improve the natural environment while ensuring sporting amenity is managed. Most agreed that traffic issues inhibit further development of sporting amenity where insufficient streets and parking can be provided.

The consultation has provided us with a set of design principles and values that can be used to inform the design process both in broadscale planning and in detailed design.

### **Key Values and Guiding Principles for Design**

Based on the findings from the community consultation, the following key values and guiding principles should be used in the design of the Macquarie River North and South Precincts Master Plan. They form a useful rationale that ground the project in the values of the community and provides a basis for future design stages.

### **Key Values:**

- Public open space, and the natural environment
- · Interaction with others
- Long term viability

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

# Guiding Principles for Design

### **Guiding principles**

**SPORT:** Maintain and enhance sporting amenity

**SWIMMING AND FISHING:** Provide access to water for swimming and fishing

**PATHS:** Provide a hierarchy of path types throughout the parkland

**RIPARIAN:** Enhance the riparian corridor

**NATURAL:** Use natural material

WETLAND: Provide wetland environments

**AMENITY:** Provide basic park amenity

**ENVIRONMENT:** Increase bushland area

WATER: Provide better connections to water



















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## North Precinct -Constraints

Site boundary

Future development boundary

Major road

Train line

Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Private land

Lack of facilities / low surveillance / anti-social

Existing sporting precinct at capacity

Congested internal roads

Limited vehicular site access

Interface with busy road

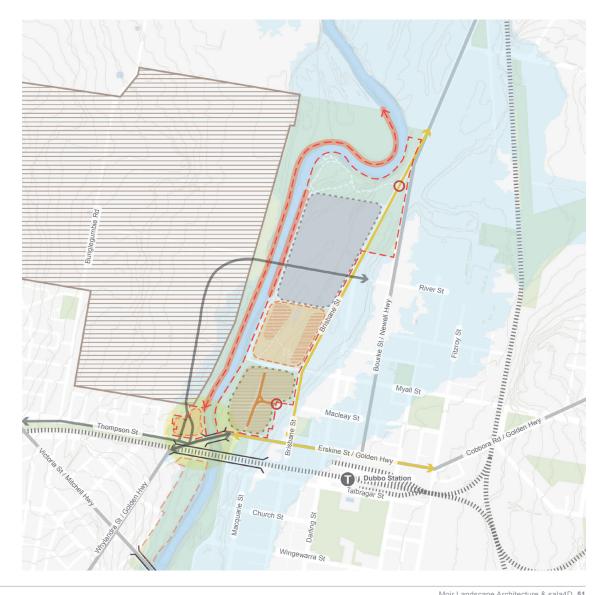
Restricted access to riverfront

Interface with highway & bridge

Lack of shade

Future residential subdivision area

Flood planning area (DRC LEP 2022)



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Page 66

# North Precinct - Opportunities

Site boundary

Future development boundary

Major road

Train line

□ Bridge crossing

Proposed highway

Potential passive recreation & parkland

Potential sporting fields out of flood zone & near

future development

Existing sporting precinct to be retained / enhanced

Key open space connections

Potential riverfront connections

Connection to existing cycle path

Existing/future water sensitive areas

Potential wetland environment

Existing signalised intersection

Popular fishing spots - Improve access / amenity

800m

Enhance existing river access

Key activity zones - Improve access / amenity



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# South Precinct - Constraints

Site boundary

Future development boundary

Major road

Train line

Bridge crossing

Lack of amenity / surveillance

Existing sporting precinct at capacity

Congested internal roads

Limited vehicular site access

Interface with busy road

--- Lack of lighting along shared pathways

Residential interface

Poor interface / pedestrian connectivity under bridge

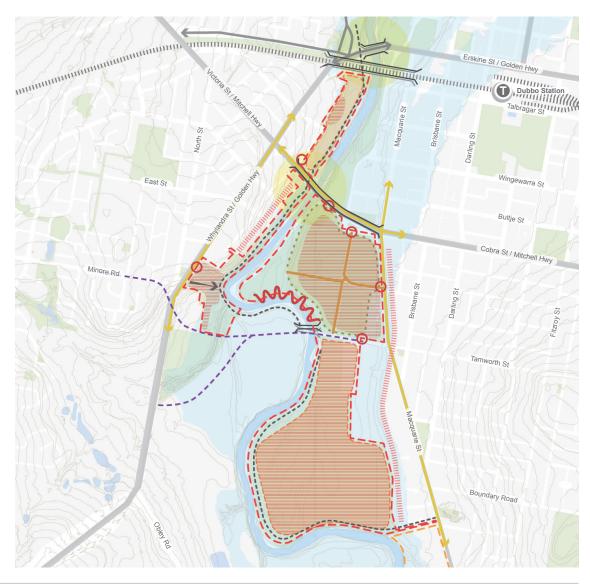
Lack of shade

Flood planning area (DRC LEP 2022)

Steep topography

Fourth bridge (to be determined)

Riverbank erosion



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# South Precinct - Opportunities

Site boundary

Future development boundary

Major road

"Train line

Potential passive recreation & parkland

Potential activity zones

Existing sporting precinct to be retained / enhanced

Key open space connections

Connection to existing cycle path

Existing/future water sensitive areas

Potential wetland environment

Existing signalised intersection

Popular fishing spots - Improve access / amenity

Enhance existing river access

Key activity zones - Improve access / amenity

Potential parking areas

Improve bridge crossings

Improve connectivity to adjacent residential area

 Environmental expansion zone - riverfront walkway from Regand Park to Shibble's Bridge and environmental habitat restoration in flood prone areas

800m

Tabragar St. Annumin in the Cobra St / Mitchell Hwy Tamworth St Boundary Road Contin. on page 55

Macquarie River Master Plan - Analysis Report

# South Precinct - Opportunities

Site boundary

Future development boundary

Major road

Train line

Potential passive recreation & parkland

Potential activity zones

Existing sporting precinct to be retained / enhanced

Key open space connections

Connection to existing cycle path

Existing/future water sensitive areas

Potential wetland environment

Existing signalised intersection

Popular fishing spots - Improve access / amenity

Enhance existing river access

Key activity zones - Improve access / amenity

Potential parking areas

Improve bridge crossings

--- Improve connectivity to adjacent residential area

Environmental expansion zone - riverfront walkway from Regand Park to Shibble's Bridge and environmental habitat restoration in flood prone areas



0 200 400 600 800m

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# REPORT: SPARC Dubbo Regional Council Cultural Plan - Two Year Update

DIVISION: Community, Culture and Places

REPORT DATE: 1 August 2022 TRIM REFERENCE: ID22/1524

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

| Purpose             | Strategic Project Update  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Issue               | SPARC Dubbo Region Cultural Plan.   |  |  |  |  |
| Reasoning           | <ul> <li>Provide update to Councillors on the delivery of Dubbo<br/>Region cultural development through outcomes and services<br/>as per the SPARC Dubbo Region Cultural Plan.</li> </ul> |  |  |  |  |
| Financial           | Budget Area   | Regional Experience: Community, Culture and  |  |  |  |
| Implications        | Places Division   |  |  |  |  |
|                     | Funding Source  | Regional Experiences adopted budget and partnerships with CREATE NSW and a range of community organisations. |  |  |  |
|                     | Proposed Cost   | As per adopted budget.   |  |  |  |
|                     | Ongoing Costs   | As per adopted budget.   |  |  |  |
| Policy Implications | Policy Title  | There are no policy implications arising from this report.   |  |  |  |

### STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Towards 2040 Community Strategic Plan is a vision for the development of the region out to the year 2040. The Plan includes six principle themes and a number of objectives and strategies. This report is aligned to:

Theme: 5 Liveability

CSP Objective: 5.6 The diversity of our heritage, cultural services and

facilities are maintained and promoted

Delivery Program Strategy: 5.6.1 Our community participates in and celebrates the high

quality of cultural services and facilities available

### RECOMMENDATION

That the report of the Cultural Development Coordinator, dated 1 August 2022, be noted.

Jane Bassingthwaighte JM

Director Community, Culture and Places Cultural Development

Coordinator

### **BACKGROUND**

### **Previous Resolutions of Council**

| 13 July 2020 | 1. | That information contained within the report of the Cultural |
|--------------|----|--|
|              |    | Development Coordinator dated 26 June 2020, be noted.        |
|              | 2. | That the draft Regional Cultural Plan (SPARC), be adopted    |

SPARC: Shaping Plans to Advance Regional Culture (2020 - 2025) is a five-year framework detailing the priorities for Council's development for arts and culture in the Dubbo Local Government Area.

The plan was adopted by Council in June of 2020.

Developed to be a living document, it serves to define the key priorities and actions that collectively will provide our strategic direction. The plan will help to determine Council's role in developing regional culture and positions the organisation to meet the cultural needs of the region. This Strategy expands on the cultural components of Dubbo 2040: Community Strategic Plan and outlines the Council's cultural actions that will contribute to delivering the overall vision for the Community Strategic Plan.

SPARC makes culture intrinsic to the region, valued for its contribution to people's wellbeing, our sense of identity and its economic, educational and tourism values. SPARC addresses the importance of partnering with our community, engaging with our audiences, embracing diversity and ideas and supporting our artists and practitioners. The growth of a vibrant, diverse cultural sector is fundamental to the overall vision for the region as smart, liveable and economically sustainable.

A copy of the adopted Cultural Plan can be found here;

https://www.dubbo.nsw.gov.au/ArticleDocuments/242/Cultural%20Plan%202020 Final.pdf.aspx?Embed=Y

### **REPORT**

To support the increased presentation and development of cultural activity across the region, Dubbo Regional Council has partnered with a number of cultural groups within the community to support a range of projects. Through these partnerships we are empowering community groups to help us enact SPARC throughout the region. As a true community lead, strategic plan, the engagement of the community to help realise a range of SPARC outcomes is vital to its success and ensures that it is not solely the obligation of DRC to resource all creative and cultural growth in the region.

To enact SPARC over the last two years, the Cultural Development Team has developed a number of partnerships with regional creative groups to support a range of projects and events. In these annual Partnerships, funding is provided to groups to enable them to enact a range of events and programs in support of direct SPARC outcomes

Partnerships have been developed with;

- Orana Arts
- Dubbo Filmmakers
- Songwriters and Original Musicians of Dubbo
- ORISCON
- Dubbo Drama Club
- Outback Writers Centre
- Wellington Arts
- Fresh Arts
- Dubbo and District Family History Society
- University of the Third Age
- Studio 138
- Kim V Goldsmith
- Dubbo Neighbourhood Centre
- ILBIJERRI Theatre Company
- Art Connect Creative

Through these partnerships across the last two years we have supported the provision of more than 50 standalone events, including the WestWords Writers Festival, One Eye Film Festival, Under Western Skies Music Festival, Fong Lees Lane Festival, and Community Creators Investment Program (CCIP), Art workshop for Dementia Patients and Carers, Regional Futures Wellington Caves Residency Program, Oriscon Cross Cultural Festival, Voices of Women Creative Performance Program and the International arts and sciences discussion panel in support of the Mosses and Marshes program.

### Successes

Over the last two years there have been a range of projects undertaken by DRC Staff in support of SPARC. It should also be noted that the operational output across a range of DRC managed facilities and units' works in support of SPARC outcomes, with the annual programs and services provided by the WPCC, DRTCC, Old Dubbo Gaol, Wellington Caves, MRL, and Regional Events Team address a wide range of outcomes in the Cultural Plan and these daily services are a responsible for a most of the realised actions within SPARC. Over the last two years there have been a number of specific, standalone projects that have been supported by the distinct allocation of SPARC funding provided through the annual operational budget, and highlight the breadth of projects that have been able to be supported even with two periods of extended closures due to COVID.

- AUSLAN Interpretation Services at 2 performances at the DRTCC 2022 Season
- Local Music Content at NRL Game One
- CoCID-19 Projects, including 6 online live performances with Local Musicians and online presentation of School Holiday Workshops and MiniMakers throughout lockdown
- This Business Called Art
- Creation of the Dubbo Regional Museum Virtual experience.
- A Haunting with Tracey Moffatt
- The Grand Tour lecture program

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- Curatorial, Collection Management and Educational content support to the development of the award winning, Gallows Gallery at Old Dubbo Gaol and Ancient Landscapes at the Wellington Caves
- Expansion of 'MiniMakers' preschool art program to Wellington
- Black Box Creatives Youth Theatre
- Photographic Archive of Covid 2020-2021
- Dubbo Art Fair (DAF)
- Wellington Caves Artists Residency Program
- Dubbo Filming Locations Workshops with Screen NSW and DRC Economic Development Unit
- Dubbo Public Art Strategy (in Development)
- Stop Motion Education Project Wellington Caves and Old Dubbo Gaol
- Curatorial and Collection Support, Wellington Historical Society
- New Temporary Exhibition Space fit out Wellington Caves and Old Dubbo Gaol

In 2021 the Cultural Plan supported the Dubbo Regional Council application to Create NSW for three year program funding to support the work of Council. DRC was successful in gaining \$268,500.00 (\$89,500 per year, over three years) from the NSW Government to support cultural programing in the region. It was the second highest funding allocation in NSW for the program.

### **Challenges**

Due to the two periods of lockdown experienced since the inception of the Cultural Plan in 2020 a number of planned actions have not been completed within the indicated timeframes. Closures to facilities and restrictions on events and public gathering impacted the delivery of initiatives and have consequently pushed back other planned actions. This knock on effect has seen the actions of a five year plan condensed, with more actions needing to take place over a shorter allocation of time.

Over the past two years a number of significant changes to the region and Council have highlighted operational changes that can be made to improve the implementation of the Cultural Plan moving forward. These proposed changes aim to better align the implementation of the Cultural plan alongside the Dubbo Community Strategic Plan 2040, the new Committees of Council, address delays to the aspects of the plan caused by Covid mandated lockdowns and improve the annual planning to better schedule and resource actions within the plan.

It is proposed that that the plan be reviewed in 2023 to assess the value of;

Dividing the current Cultural Plan into two parts, a single overarching strategic plan and secondary annual delivery and operational plan. This would see no additions or deductions from the plan, its goals or actions, but rather a clearer division between longer term strategic goals (that remain the guiding principles), and annual operational tasks. This division will support clearer allocations of annual resourcing and support extending the life of the Cultural Plan without the need to redevelop or revise the plan in two years as is currently scheduled.

2. Extending the planned timeframe for the Cultural Plan from 2020 - 2025 to move finalisation of the plan to 2030. With delays to some planned outcomes as a result of COVID-19 and the new focus on resourcing efficiency within Council, the extension to timeframes will allow for sensible forward planning and the allocation of resources. It will increase the opportunities to source grant funding and provide staff the time to address and respond to emerging opportunities without compromising the overall goals of the Cultural Plan.

### Consultation

- Consultation to develop the Cultural Plan in 2020 was extensive. 23 public consultation sessions were held, across Dubbo, Wellington, Wongarbon, and Geurie.
- 92 formal submissions were made and 10 direct stakeholder group sessions were held.
- The direction provided thorough this consultation remains as the foundation to the Cultural Plan and has provided the overarching themes, values and vision for the plan.
- To develop the proposed annual delivery and operational plan and revise the proposed timeline for actions to be completed a new process of internal consultation will be undertaken with relevant divisions and branches, through the adopted SPARC Committee of Council, and in consultation with strategic stakeholders, public consultation as to the structure of the annual delivery and operational plan will also be undertaken.

### **Resourcing Implications**

- The Cultural Plan is directly supported through the work of the Cultural Development Team. The team currently consists of 7 staff who undertake cultural programing at the WPCC, support cultural programing at other DRC facilities and develop a range of cultural projects that are developed across the LGA. An 8<sup>th</sup> role, that of *Aboriginal Cultural Co-Ordinator* is currently in development. This role will help support the programing at the new Wiradjuri Centre as well as supporting wider creative programs to engage and promote regional cultural development and opportunities for Aboriginal creative producers across all art forms.
- Council, as per forward 2022/2023 budgets have forecast operational expenses to support the Cultural Plan. There is currently \$100,000 per annum budgeted to fund projects and partnerships that action the Cultural Plan.
- Additional Funding has also been allocated in the 2022/2023 budget to support two key projects outlined in the Cultural Plan. These projects are;
  - \$15,000.00 to Development of a Strategy to support Dubbo as Music City \$30,000.00 to support a Cultural Precinct Masterplan for Wingewarra Street
- Additional Funding has also been allocated in the 2023/2024 adopted forecast budget to support a key project outlined in the Cultural Plan. This projects is;
  - \$15,000.00 to Development of a Strategy to position attract film productions to the region and support Dubbo as a hub for filmmaking.

| Total Financial<br>Implications            | Current<br>year<br>(\$) | Curren<br>year + :<br>(\$) | _                                     | Current<br>year + 2<br>(\$) | Current<br>year + 3<br>(\$) | Current<br>year + 4<br>(\$) | Ongoing<br>(\$) |
|--|-------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| a. Operating revenue                       | 89,000*                 | 89,000                     | )*                                    | 89,000*                     | 0                           | 0                           | 0               |
| b. Operating expenses                      | 100,000                 | 145,00                     | 00                                    | 115,000                     | 100,000                     | 100,000                     | 100,000         |
| c. Operating budget impact (a – b)         | -11,000                 | -56,00                     | 00                                    | -26,000                     | -100,000                    | -100,000                    | -100,000        |
| d. Capital Expenditure                     | 0                       |                            | 0                                     | 0                           | 0                           | 0                           | 0               |
| e. Total net impact<br>(c – d)             | -11,000                 | -56,00                     | 00                                    | -26,000                     | -100,000                    | -100,000                    | -100,000        |
| Does the proposal require ongoing funding? |                         |                            | No                                    |                             |                             |                             |                 |
| What is the source of this funding?        |                         |                            | Grant Funding and Operational Funding |                             |                             |                             |                 |

**Table 1.** Ongoing Financial Implications

### Timeframe

| Key Date        | Explanation  |  |  |
|-----------------|--|--|--|
| October 2022    | Internal Review of Current Cultural Plan                       |  |  |
| November 2022   | Consultation with community via SPARC Committee and strategic  |  |  |
|                 | stakeholder consultation.                                      |  |  |
| December 2022 – | Development of 12 Month Operational Delivery Plan              |  |  |
| January 2023    |  |  |  |
| March 2023      | Presentation of 12 Month Operational Delivery Plan to Council. |  |  |

<sup>\*\*</sup>Revenue from 3 Year Create NSW Funding secured in 2021