

KURRI KURRI CENTRAL SPORTS PRECINCT
LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

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Prepared by

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for

CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL

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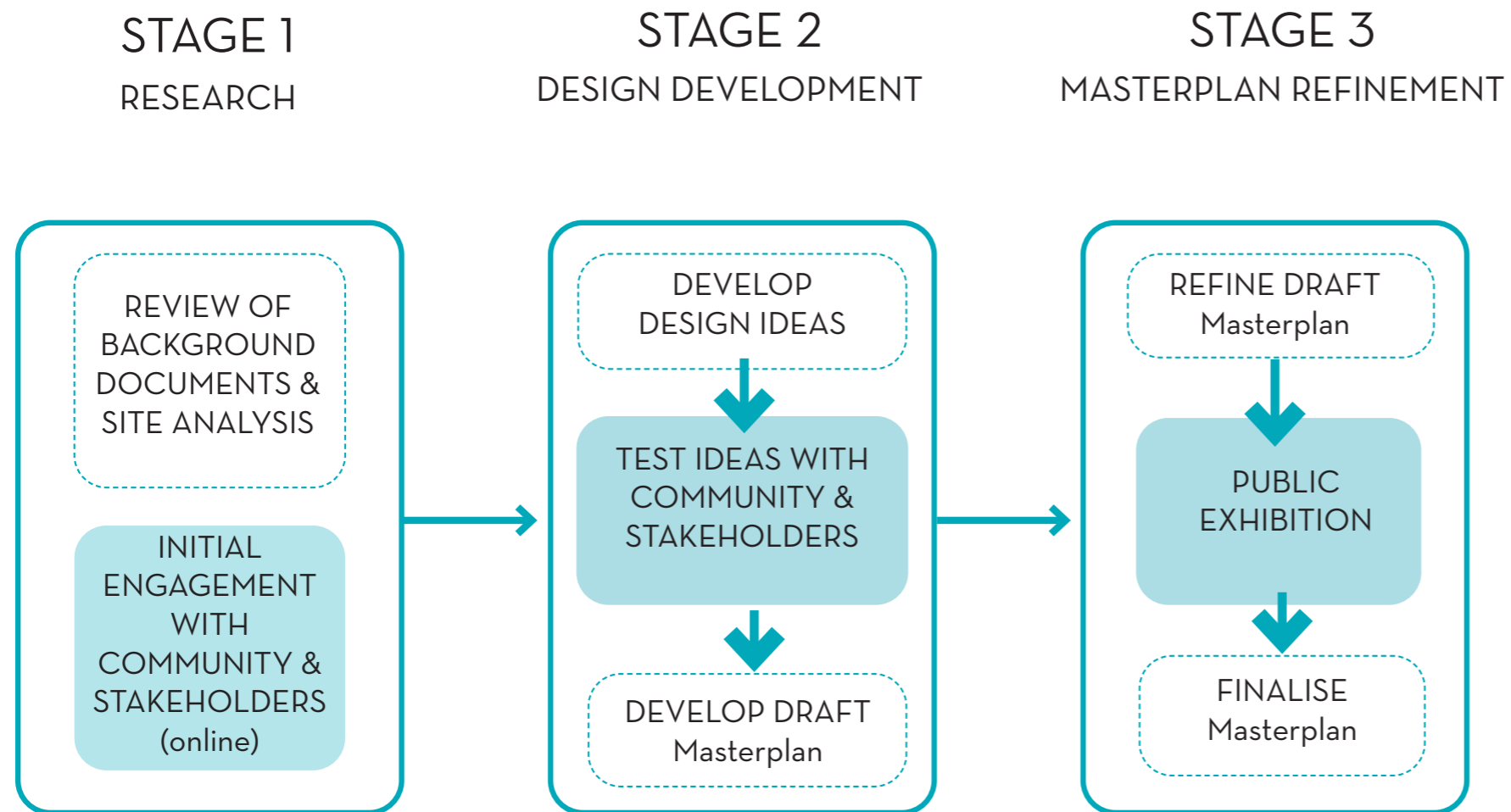
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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which this project and Cessnock City Council is located, the Wonnarua people, the Awabakal people and the Darkinjung people

Revision	Issue	Date
A	Internal Review	13/09/2023
B	Revised Draft	14/11/2023
C	Final	16/04/2024

ANALYSIS

1.1 CONTEXT & BACKGROUND



PROJECT SCOPE AND BRIEF

Gallagher Studio were commissioned by Cessnock City Council to develop a landscape masterplan for Kurri Kurri Central Sports Precinct. The project commenced in November 2022.

The masterplan process has been undertaken in three stages - stage 1: research, stage 2: design development and Stage 3: masterplan refinement. Community feedback has been sought in Stages 1 and 2 prior to exhibition of the draft masterplan.

ANALYSIS

1.2 SUMMARY: ISSUES



1. KURRI KURRI HAS AN UNDERSUPPLY OF LOCAL AND DISTRICT PARKS.

According to the Recreation and Open Space Strategic Plan (2019) 10 hectares of open space is needed to address recreational demand for the community. Recreation demand will increase with population growth with a projected deficit of 13-hectare of local and neighbourhood parks in Kurri Kurri by 2036. Many residents will be families with young children.



2. THE PARK PRECINCT IS MADE UP OF SEGREGATED SPORTS FACILITIES.

More than half (57 %) of Kurri Kurri Central Sports Precinct is fenced and not accessible to the wider public outside of sports events. This makes it hard to navigate and walk through.



3. THE PARK HAS POOR STREETScape EDGES, ILL-DEFINED ENTRANCES.

The lack of designated on street parking creates issues/ conflicts. The limited perimeter tree planting means that park edges are not defined by trees. This poorly defined park edge makes the precinct feel disorganised, unkempt and hard to navigate.

ANALYSIS

1.2 SUMMARY: ISSUES



4. THERE ARE NO AMENITIES FOR EVERYDAY PARK USERS.

There is limited shade trees, few walking paths and no informal recreational facilities such as play elements, outdoor gym or picnic tables for everyday use. There is not much to do for non-sports users.



5. DEGRADED FACILITIES.

Many of the sports facilities are no longer fit for purpose. The rugby league stadium does not provide equitable access for all, and the lack of female friendly changerooms and toilets limits capacity for women's rugby league. Half of the tennis courts are no longer fit for purpose. There is inadequate spectator seating for the rugby league and cricket fields. The Rotary Club of Kurri Kurri's storage shed takes up important open space.



6. SOME OF THE FACILITIES ARE UNDERUSED, WHILE OTHERS ARE IN DEMAND.

The three sports groups - tennis, cricket and rugby league have their own separate buildings and fields. The lack of shared use of facilities means that a lot of open space is underused. The lack of lighting on the cricket field means that there is not much opportunity to use this space in the evenings.



7. THE RV AREA CONFLICTS WITH PARK AMENITY.

The RV area creates an unattractive space at a key location within the park, and takes away valuable green open space. There are concerns about waste management, refuse and overstay by users.

ANALYSIS

1.2 SUMMARY: OPPORTUNITIES

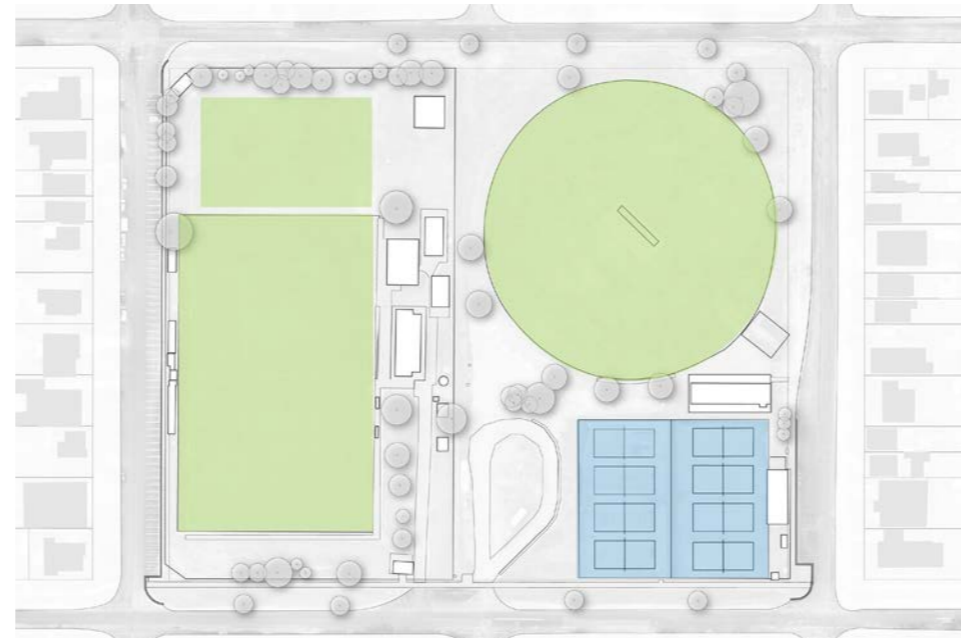


Image source: The Maitland Mercury

1. THE PARK SIZE AND LOCATION

The park is large, generally flat and within 5 minutes' walk of the town centre. Its central rectangular shape with streets to all sides provides an excellent foundation for an accessible multipurpose community sports precinct.

2. SPACE FOR RECREATION.

The precinct can provide a range of recreational opportunities that can improve the health and wellbeing for all members of the community. There is capacity to improve the quality of existing sports facilities, while also providing more opportunities for informal recreation.

3. PARK HISTORY AND LOCAL IDENTITY.

The grounds are important as the home ground for the Kurri Kurri Rugby League Club. Established in 1909, the rugby league club has been a continuous presence in the park for over 65 years. The rugby league club is an integral part of community life.



2.0 CONSULTATION

CONSULTATION

2.1 OVERVIEW & STAGE 1 RESULTS

Table 1: Which suburb do you live in?



Table 4: How do you currently use the precinct?

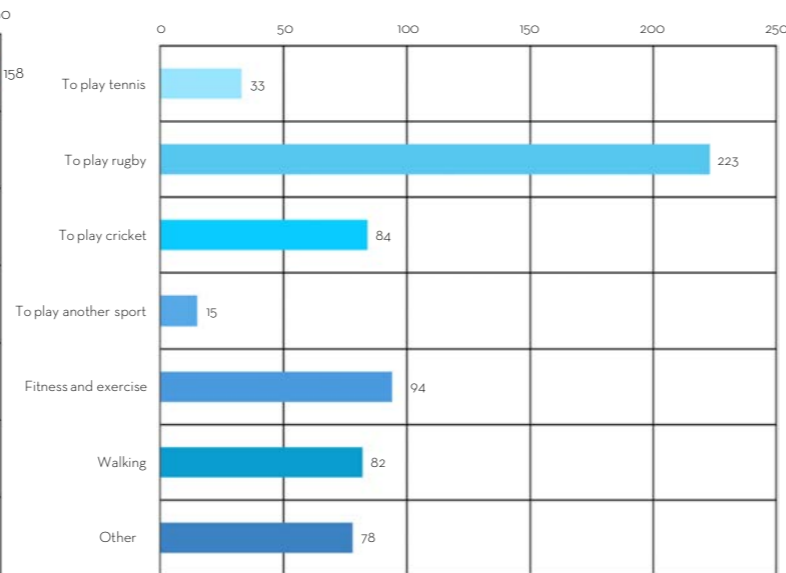


Table 7: How often do you use the precinct?

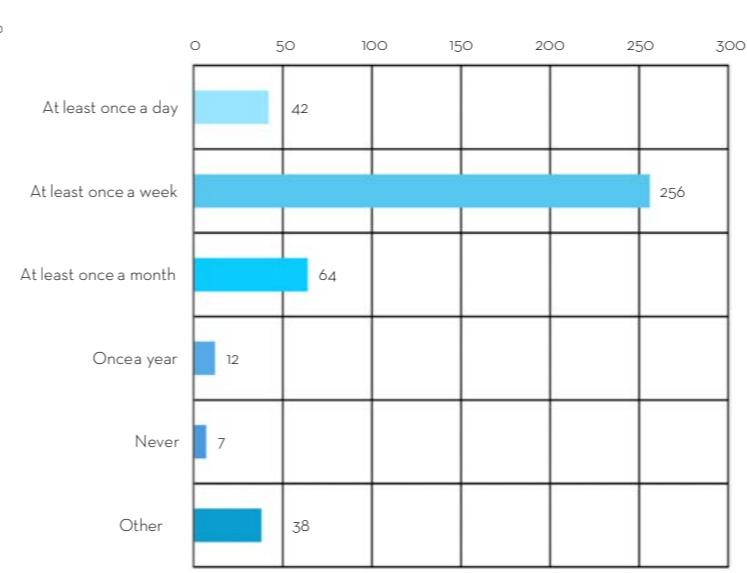


Table 2: What age bracket are you in?

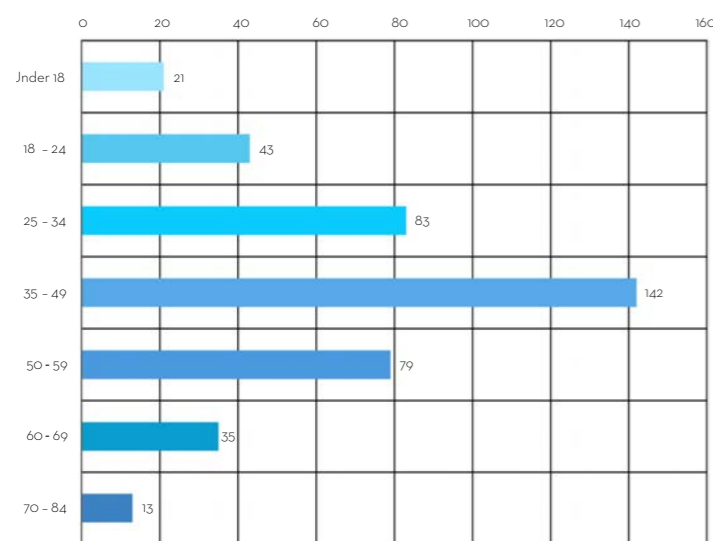


Table 5: Do you use the precinct as a spectator?

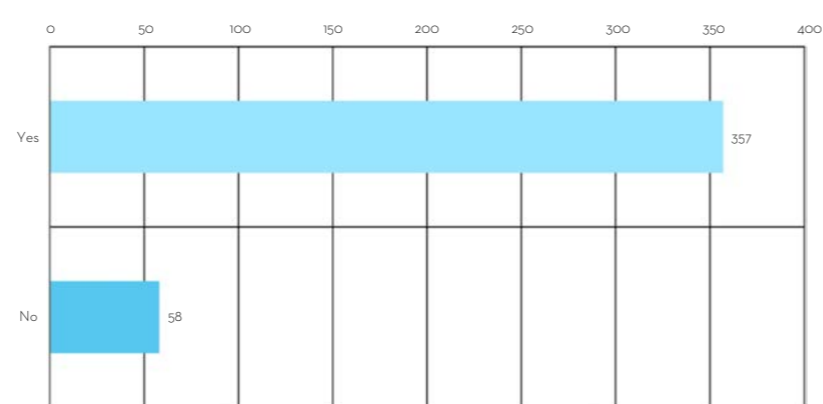


Table 8: What time do you usually use the precinct?

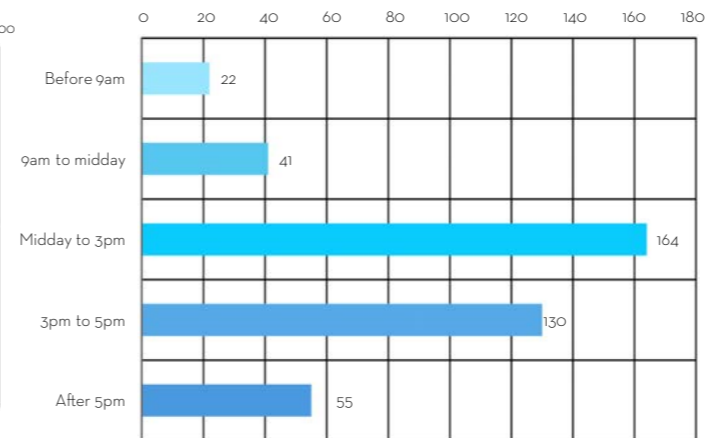


Table 3: Are you a member/player of a sports club based at Kurri Kurri Central Sports precinct?

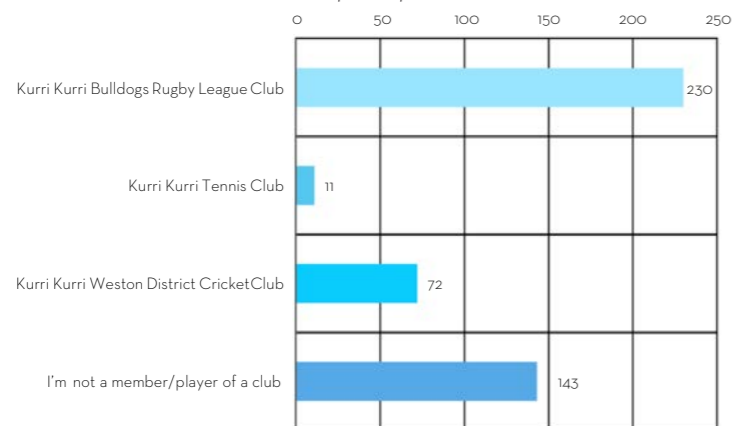


Table 6: If yes what do you spectate?

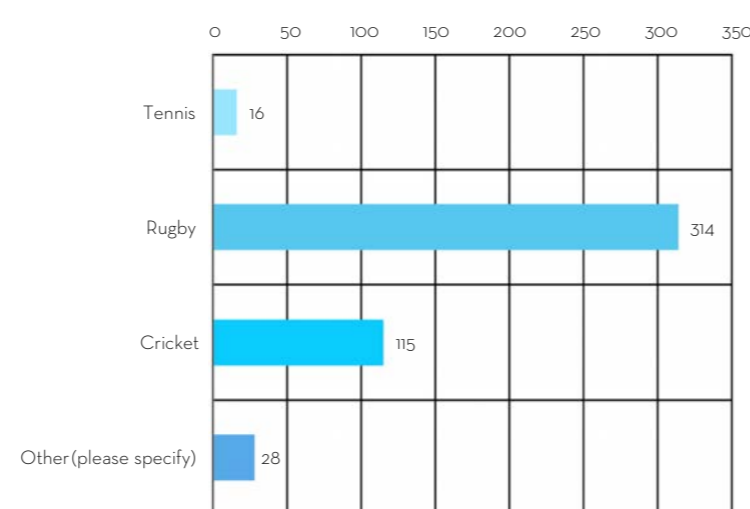
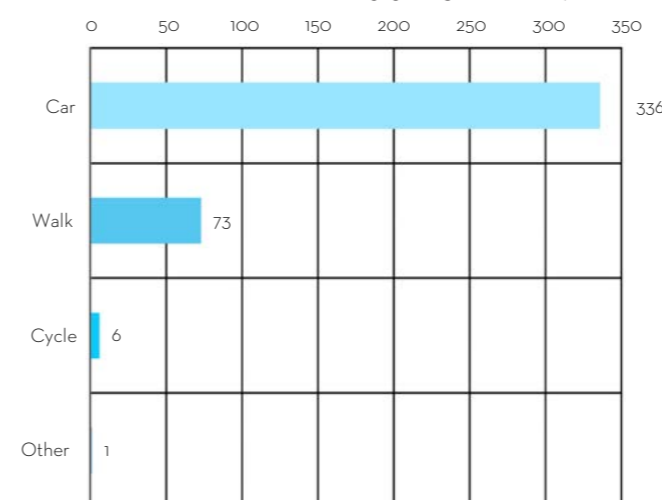


Table 9: What is the main way you get to the precinct?



OVERVIEW

Two stages of engagement were undertaken prior to public exhibition of the draft masterplan. Stage 1 was an online survey conducted between 5 December 2022 and 15 January 2023, through Together Cessnock. Additionally, telephone and in person interviews were held with representatives from the Kurri Kurri Rugby League Football Club, the Kurri Weston Mulbring District Cricket Club and the Kurri Kurri Tennis Club. Stage 2 included an online survey, through Together Cessnock, between 19 June and 10 July 2023 and intercept surveys conducted on the 17th of June and 1st July 2023.

In stage 1 general feedback on how participants currently used the precinct what they liked and did not like about the space, and what improvements they would like to see occur was sought. Stage 2 sought feedback on seven design ideas for the precinct.

RESULTS: STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT

In Stage 1, 410 responses to an online questionnaire through Together Cessnock were received. The majority of respondents (158) lived in Kurri Kurri. Most respondents were between the ages of 35-49 (142), followed by 25-34 (83) and 50-59 (79). Most responses were provided by Kurri Kurri Rugby League Football Club members (230 responses). 72 responses were provided by Kurri Weston Mulbring District Cricket Club members. Over one third of the respondents (143) were not a member or a player of a sports club.

Most respondents used the precinct for rugby league (223), cricket (84), fitness (94), and walking (82). 357 respondents used the space to spectate, primarily to watch rugby league (314) and cricket (115). When asked how often they visited the site, 256 people use the precinct at least once a week. 46 used it once a month and 42 visited at least once a day. The park is most visited between 12pm and 3pm (164 responses), followed by 3pm till 5pm (130), and 5pm onwards (55). Most respondents (336) travelled by car to the precinct.

CONSULTATION

2.1 OVERVIEW & STAGE 1 RESULTS

Table 10. What do you like the most about Kurri Kurri Sports Precinct?

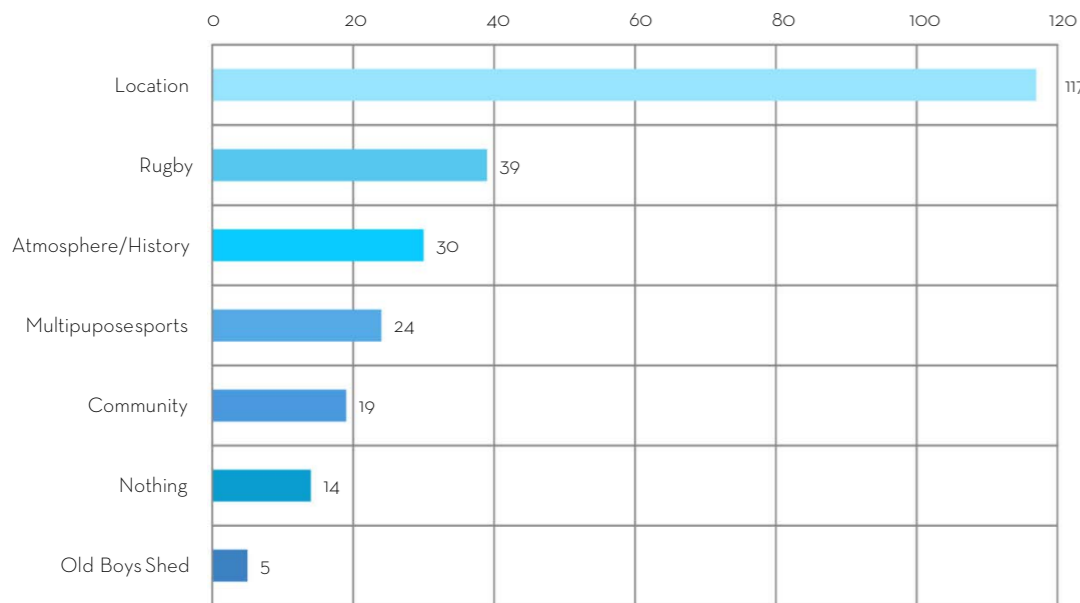
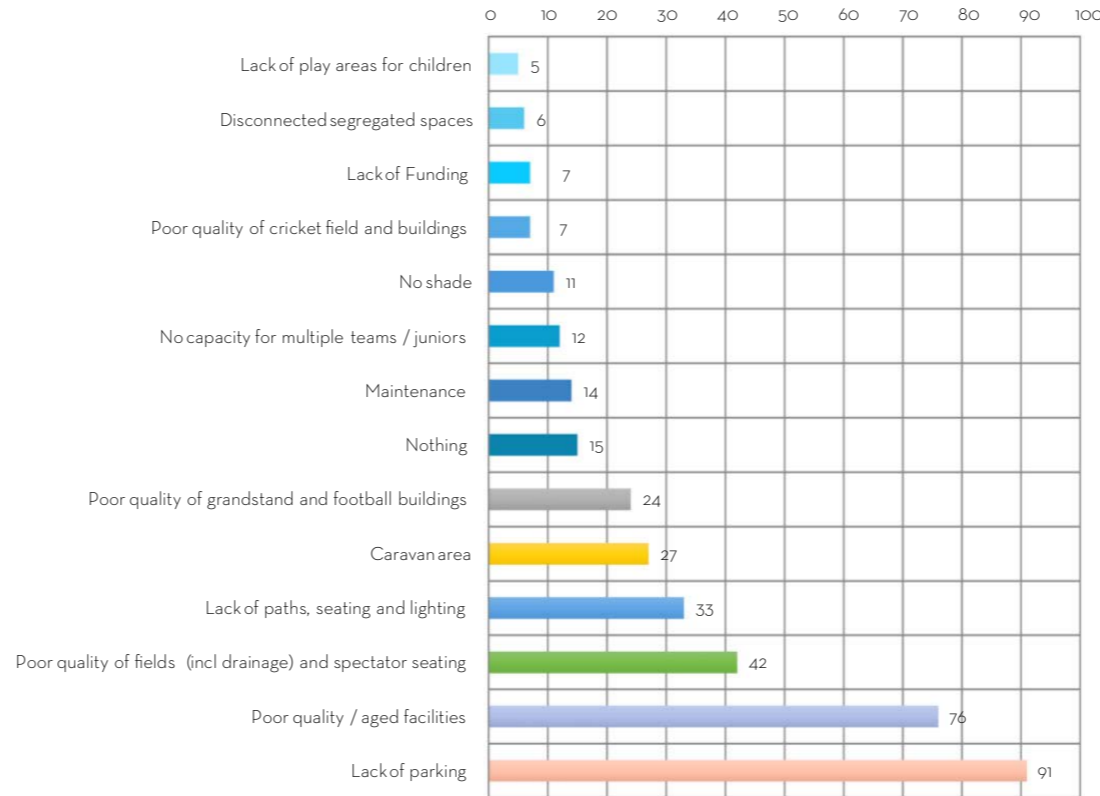


Table 11. What don't you like about Kurri Kurri Sports Precinct?

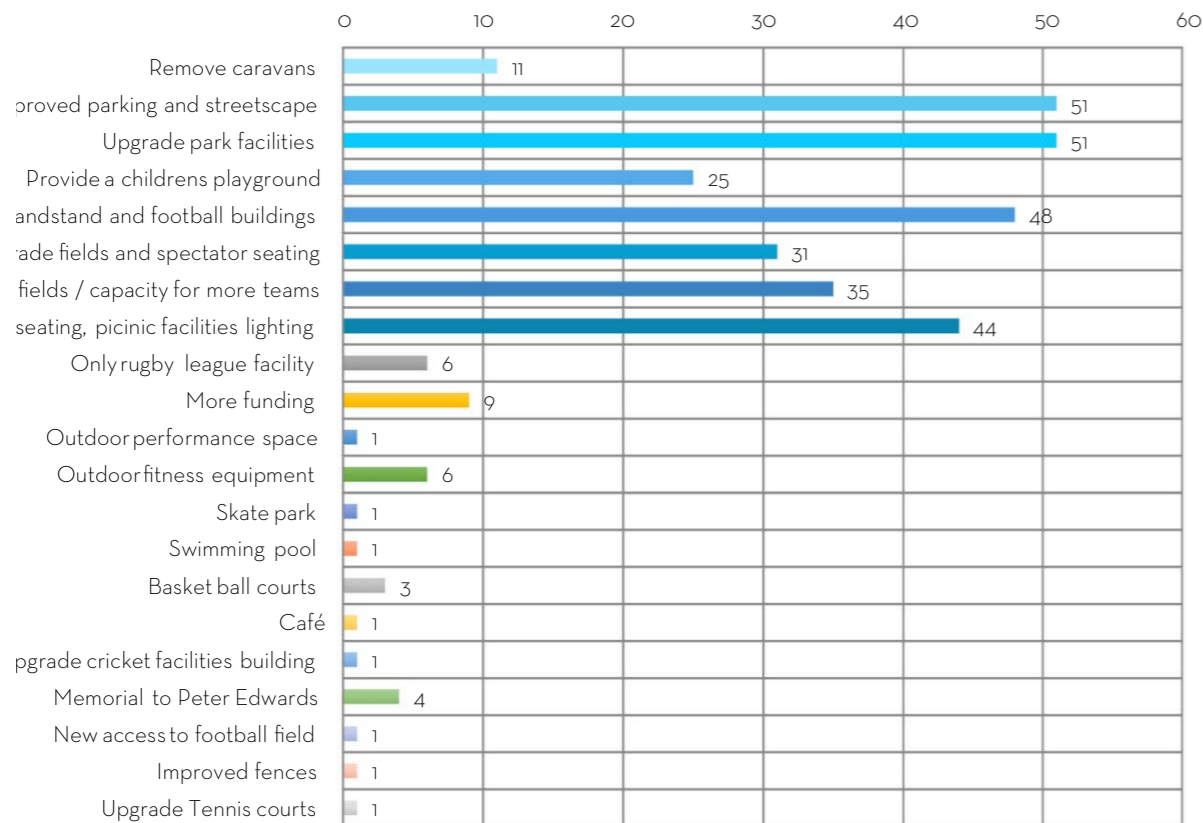


The consultation surveyed respondents likes and dislikes for the precinct. Most respondents stated that the location was what they liked most about the precinct (117 comments). Other things respondents liked about the precinct was the rugby league (39 comments) the atmosphere and history (30 comments) and that there are multiple sports in the one location (24 comments).

The lack of parking was what was most disliked about the precinct (91 comments). Aged facilities no longer fit for purpose (76 comments) was also disliked by participants. The lack of appropriate spectator seating and poor field quality including drainage was also disliked (42 comments).

When asked for ideas for improvements, 332 comments were received. The most popular responses were to improve parking and streetscape (51 comments), upgrade facilities (51 comments), the rugby league grandstand and buildings (48 comments) and provide new paths, seating, picnic facilities and lighting to the precinct (44 comments).

Table 12. What ideas do you have for improvements to Kurri Kurri Sports Precinct?



CONSULTATION

2.1 OVERVIEW & STAGE 1 RESULTS

Additional comments were provided through interviews with key stakeholders. These discussions are summarised below.

KURRI KURRI RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB CURRENT USE

- 4,000 spectators on average.
- 8,000 for finals.
- 16-20 minor rugby league teams (3 girls teams).
- 5 senior teams (1 womens).
- Pre season starts mid November.
- Games on Saturdays March to September.
- Training Monday to Friday nights.
- Mostly senior games played at the park.

COMMENTS

- Many buildings need upgrading and are no longer fit for purpose.
- Old boys shed gets used for events in and out of season.
- Not enough shade around grandstand.
- Parking a major issue, not enough on game days.
- Street parking rules aren't clear.
- RV area is an issue. Leave rubbish and use toilets and showers if any gates are unlocked.

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENTS:

- Resurfacing, regrading and drainage.
- Facilities upgrade.
- Removal of RV area short stay.

KURRI WESTON MULBRING DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB CURRENT USE

- Around 100 to 200 spectators at any given time.
- No spectators if the weather is very hot.
- 10 teams, 5 junior, 5 senior.
- Pre season starts late August/early September.
- Training Tuesday to Friday afternoons/early evenings.
- Games on Saturdays October to late March.

COMMENTS

- Club changerooms and kiosk are working well, some minor maintenance issues that council will be fixing.
- Interest in providing a family friendly club and space for kids.
- Spectators bring own seating and shade.
- Some vandalism of pitch but not often bad enough to stop play.
- Sometimes negative interactions with caravans wanting access to toilets and showers.
- Oval gets used for dog walking but not a big issue.

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENTS:

- Installation of practice nets (already funded).
- Lighting to oval.
- Irrigation.

ROTARY CLUB OF KURRI KURRI CURRENT USE

- Rotary club have 2 shipping containers plus their catering van and BBQ trailer stored within the Rugby league area.
- Lions club also have 1 shipping container and the Rugby league club own the other.

- Catering van is used for events and BBQ trailer is being used 3-4 times a month now.
- Been using the site for storage for around 10 years. Rotary have made improvements including the roof cover and hardstand.
- Storage is meeting their current needs. Don't have a permanent site, meetings are held at the Chelmsford Hotel.

KURRI KURRI TENNIS CLUB CURRENT USE

- 40 members.
- Not usually any spectators other than players and occasionally family members
- Play year round.
- Competition Monday and Tuesday nights, with social games on Wednesday nights.
- Some use of the courts by the primary school during weekdays.
- General public can hire courts.

COMMENTS

- Club rooms are currently meeting club needs.
- Storage is insufficient, mower gets stored in the club rooms.
- Bottom courts aren't being used need maintenance and don't have enough players to warrant it.
- Courts 3 and 4 also need upgrading.

PRIORITIES FOR IMPROVEMENTS:

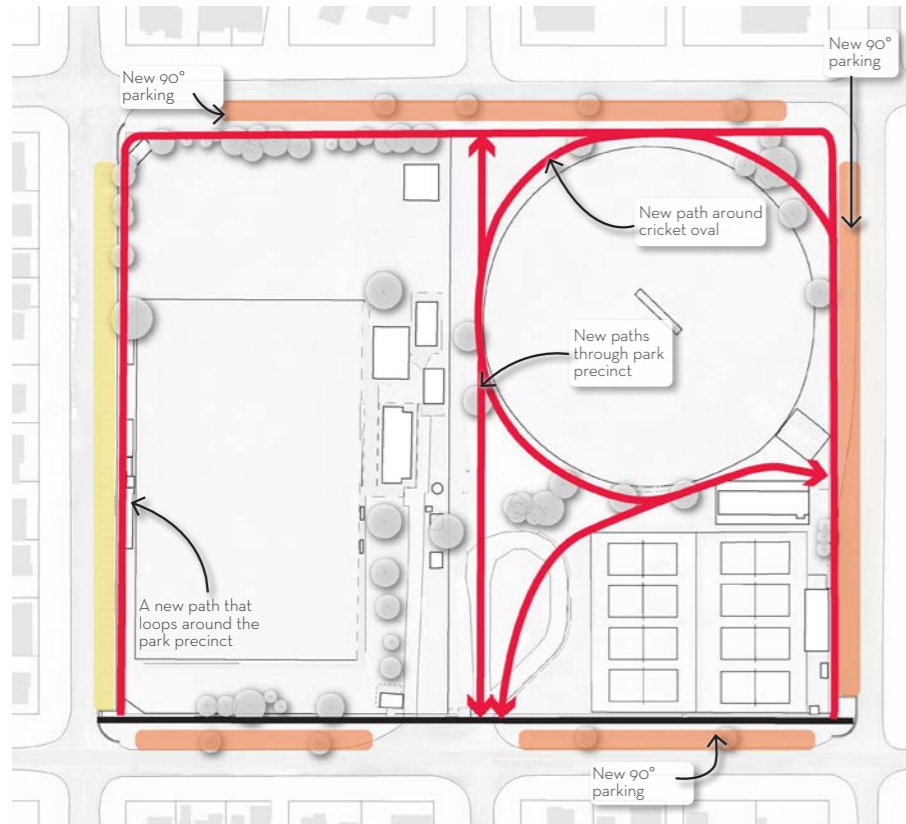
- Upgrade BBQ area with new seating, bbq and storage shed.
- Don't have a lot of funds available through the club.
- If money was no object probably still wouldn't renovate the bottom courts as they could be put to better use.

CONSULTATION

2.2 OVERVIEW & STAGE 2 RESULTS

In stage 2 feedback was sought on seven design ideas for the precinct. These are described below.

IDEA #1 - PROVIDE BETTER PARKING AND IMPROVED ACCESS



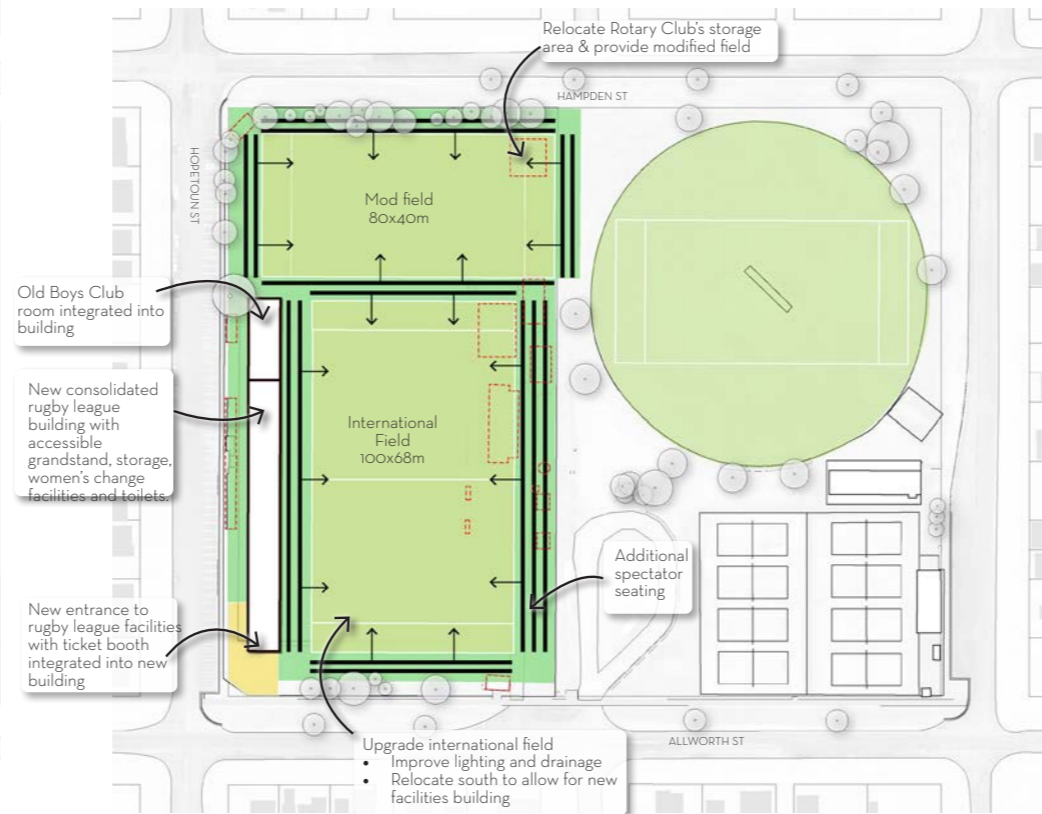
WHY?

- To provide more and better parking along street edges for everyday users and for events
- To improve park access and make walking easier and safer.
- To provide more opportunities for enjoying the park.
- To improve park safety.
- You told us that you would like to see more and better parking and new paths in the park precinct. This was the most important priority from consultation stage 1.

DETAILS

- Provide new angled parking, within street verges to provide more parking for visitors.
- Provide new footpaths to street edges.
- Provide new paths connecting through the park precinct, to allow easier access to adjoining neighbourhoods.
- Provide an interconnected path circuit that allows for fitness, jogging and walking.
- Provide new park lighting along these paths to improve safety.

IDEA #2 - UPGRADE THE RUGBY LEAGUE FACILITIES, GRANDSTAND AND FIELDS



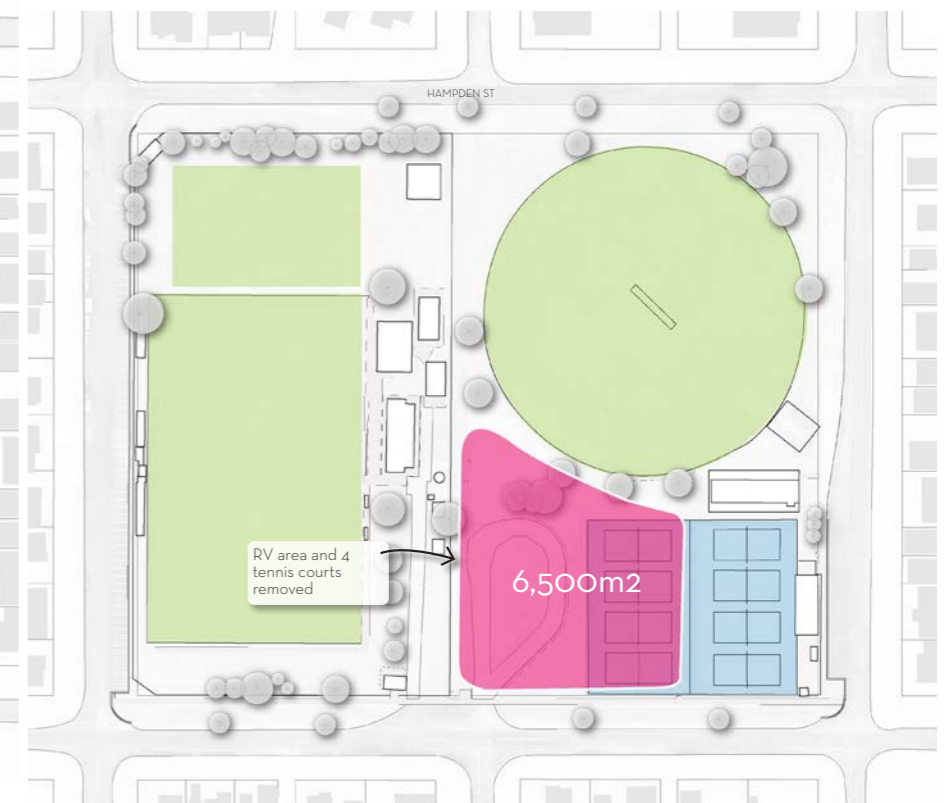
WHY?

- The existing rugby league facilities are no longer fit for purpose.
- The existing facilities do not have space for female friendly changerooms.
- Spectator seating in the grandstand on southern side of the field is no longer fit for purpose and not accessible for non-able users. Spectator seating is limited on the northern side of the field.
- You told us that rugby league facilities, spectator seating and fields were in poor condition and needed to be improved.
- You told us that you wanted more field space.

DETAILS

- Provide a single consolidated rugby league facility that provides existing and new facilities including female friendly changerooms, showers and toilets, storage and upgraded grandstand. Integrate Old Boys Club room as a separate wing in the facility.
- Relocate international field and provide expanded spectator seating to all sides
- Relocate the Rotary and Lions Club's storage containers and provide an expanded mod field to the east of the precinct. Integrate terraces/ seating on the southern boundary of this expanded field.
- Upgrade field drainage and lighting.

IDEA #3 - RECLAIM UNDER USED SPACES TO PROVIDE MORE PARK AREA



WHY?

- The RV area in the middle of the park precinct impacts on views and park amenity. There is rubbish and an unsightly dump point.
- Four of the tennis courts are in poor condition. The Tennis Club has said that these are courts are not being used and are not currently in demand.
- Removing the RV area and underused tennis courts would provide around 6,500m² for green space and other recreational facilities.
- By removing these facilities additional green space could be provided to the park for public use.
- You told us that the RV area was unsightly and should be removed.
- You told us you wanted more facilities such as playgrounds and tree planting.

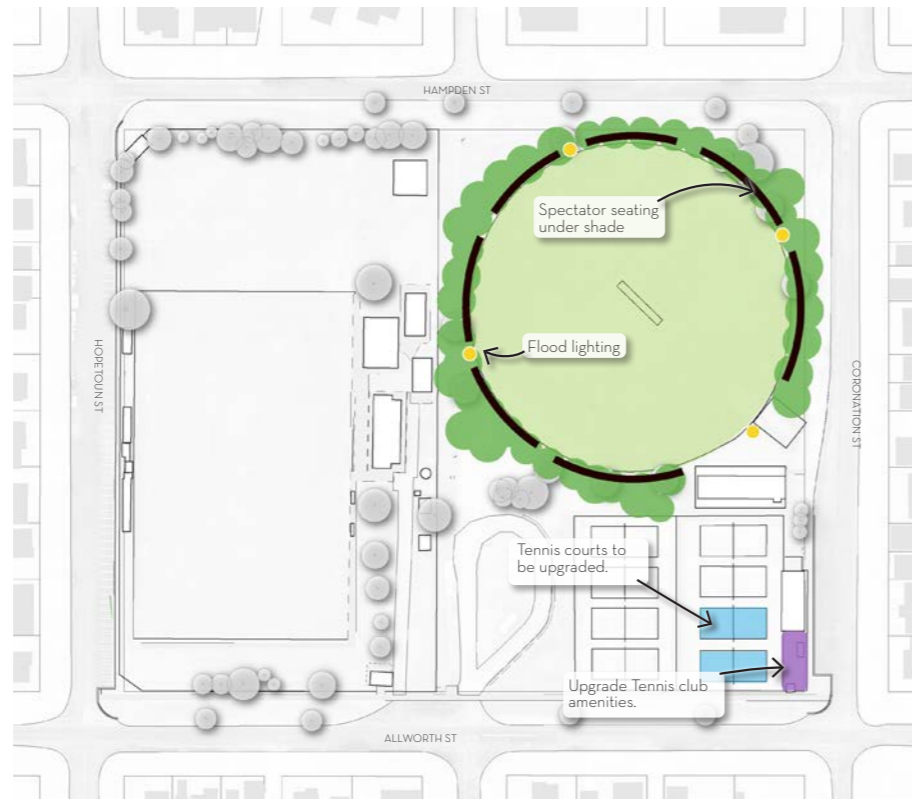
DETAILS

- There is an expectation from RV users that the parks club facilities should be available for RV short stay use. This creates conflicts with the sports clubs. It would be better to provide an RV area at another location which can provide appropriate facilities such as shower/toilet facilities.
- Provide more green space, tree planting and park amenities for everyday use.

CONSULTATION

2.2 OVERVIEW & STAGE 2 RESULTS

IDEA #4 - IMPROVE EXISTING CRICKET FIELDS AND TENNIS COURTS



WHY?

- There is not enough seating around the Cricket oval.
- Seats around the tennis courts and cricket oval are no longer fit for purpose.
- There are few places to watch sport in the shade.
- The lack of lights around the cricket oval limits use at night by other sports users or for informal exercise.
- You said you wanted more spectator seating and better amenities.

DETAILS

- Provide new floodlighting to the cricket field, to allow for night time use
- Provide more seating around cricket field under shade trees.
- Upgrade two of the tennis courts and explore opportunities to improve storage and more outdoor furniture.

IDEA #5 - PROVIDE A NEW PLAYGROUND IN THE PARK PRECINCT

OPTION 1: ADVENTURE PLAY

Emphasis on developing and testing physical skills such as climbing, jumping and balancing.

Elements could include ropes, tunnels, trampolines and climbing wall.



OPTION 2: INFORMAL NATURE PLAY

Emphasis on informal elements such as trails, stepping stones and sensory gardens to encourage non-structured and imaginative play.



OPTION 3: TRADITIONAL PLAY

Elements include classic play elements such as swings, slides and see-saws.



WHY?

- To provide a place for families and children to enjoy the park every day.
- By providing a diverse range of play equipment and facilities that are appealing to all ages, more people can enjoy the park precinct.
- You told us you wanted a playground.

DETAILS

- Provide new picnic shelters, shade trees and seating in the playground.
- There is an opportunity to provide adventure play and nature play elements, which make the

playground a popular destination for children and families.

- Providing the playground adjacent to the sports facilities means that families can use the playground on game days, between events or during training times.
- This could include different features such as
 - Kids cycle path.
 - Adventure play
 - Nature play
 - Basketball Half Court

CONSULTATION

2.2 OVERVIEW & STAGE 2 RESULTS

IDEA #6 - PROVIDE NEW SHADE TREES AND PARK FURNITURE



WHY?

- There are very few public benches in the park precinct.
- The lack of shaded areas makes the park precinct hot and uncomfortable to use.
- You told us that you would like to see more trees and shade.
- You told us you would like to see more park facilities such as benches and picnic tables.

DETAILS

- Provide more large shade trees and seating to oval and surrounds.
- Provide new shade trees to footpaths and street edges to shade hot pavements.
- Provide more seats, picnic tables and drinking fountains across the park.

IDEA #7 - CREATE A FITNESS CIRCUIT IN THE PARK PRECINCT



WHY?

- To improve health and wellbeing for the community.
- To provide opportunities for exercise and for unstructured fitness activities.
- To provide more opportunities for walking and exercise.
- You told us that you wanted more facilities in the park precinct.

DETAILS

- Provide a fitness circuit with signage to allow users to calculate their walking distances.
- Provide additional exercise equipment hubs along the circuit.
- Provide additional drinking fountains across the park and along the primary paths.
- Provide new lighting to the primary park paths to allow for evening use.
- Locate the improved fitness equipment adjacent to play elements for families to use.

CONSULTATION

2.2 OVERVIEW & STAGE 2 RESULTS

DESIGN IDEA 1:

Provide better parking and improved access



DESIGN IDEA 2:

Upgrade the rugby league facilities, grandstand and fields



DESIGN IDEA 3:

Reclaim under used spaces to provide more park area



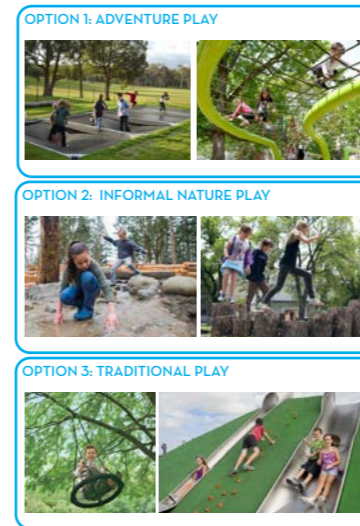
DESIGN IDEA 4:

Improve existing cricket fields and tennis courts



DESIGN IDEA 5:

A new playground in the park precinct



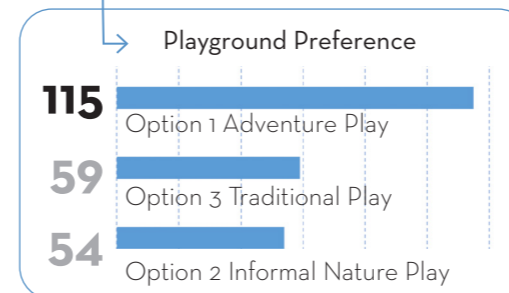
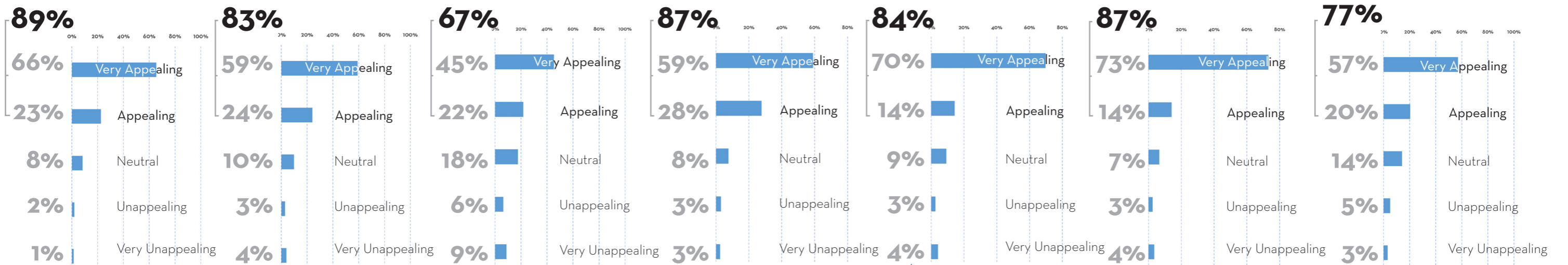
DESIGN IDEA 6:

Provide new shade trees and park furniture



DESIGN IDEA 7:

Create a fitness circuit in the park precinct



CONSULTATION

2.2 OVERVIEW & STAGE 2 RESULTS

RESULTS: STAGE 2 ENGAGEMENT

A total of 208 respondents participated in the surveys - 105 online and 103 in person. In general the design ideas were very well received. Of the seven design ideas, 5 were supported or strongly supported by over 80% of participants. Design Idea 1, better parking and improved access was the most popular, supported or strongly supported by 89% of participants. This was followed by Design Idea 4: Improve existing cricket fields and tennis courts (87%), Design Idea 6: Provide new shade trees and park furniture (87%), Design Idea 5: A new playground in the park precinct (84%) and Design Idea 2: Upgrade the Rugby League facilities, grandstand and fields (83%). Design Idea 7 create a fitness circuit was supported or strongly supported by 77% of participants.

Design Idea 3 reclaim unused spaces was supported or strongly supported by 67% of participants. 18% of participants were neutral on Design Idea 3 and 15% found it to be unappealing/ very unappealing. This was mainly related to concerns about loss of tourism through removal of the RV parking and dump spot. Respondents identified the importance of replacing the RV parking in another location close to town.

Additional comments were also provided on each design idea. A selection is included below:

DESIGN IDEA 1 :PROVIDE BETTER PARKING AND IMPROVED ACCESS

- "Access needs to also be good for folks with disabilities and mobility scooters given the general population of Kurri."
- "Well designed, safe parking around the perimeter is highly desirable."
- "Connectivity for the community is important."
- "I would like to see proper 90 degree parking made around the whole sporting area and maintain the existing trees and incorporate the palm trees into the parking plan."

DESIGN IDEA 2 :UPGRADE THE RUGBY FACILITIES, GRANDSTAND AND FIELDS

- "These plans look and sound fantastic will definitely be a big draw card for spectators and families."
- "It is essential to have separate women's change rooms to allow the woman's game to grow within the community."
- "Looks good. The proposed single consolidated building could have additional uses as well. For example, the lower level (near the proposed entrance) could allow for temporary or permanent facilities such as a coffee shop or canteen - or even an Information Centre (relocated from the main street of the CBD)."

- "This does not consider residents that live in Hopetoun Street. I absolutely think that a new grandstand, sheds etc should be built but not on Hopetoun Street side. This is going to stop any possible southerly breezes from reaching the houses in that section of the street, on hot days in Summer the heat is going to bounce off of the buildings making the homes hotter, the noise coming from the men's shed is also going to disturb the residents as they have very loud music when they are having events"

DESIGN IDEA 3 - RECLAIM UNDER USED SPACES TO PROVIDE MORE PARK AREA

- "Removal of the RV park is strongly discouraged without replacing it in another location central to the town."
- "The bottom four courts of the tennis club are not used as much as the top four courts precisely."
- "I believe the RV parking is not under used. I pass this everyday and there are always tourists and visitors to our communities. The RV park should remain but reclaim the old unused tennis court"

DESIGN IDEA 4 - IMPROVE EXISTING CRICKET FIELDS AND TENNIS COURTS.

- "Team sports are great for mental and physical health of players. spectators get to socialise and be outdoors which increase their mental well-being. This design could help promote team sports in schools and help increase community belonging amongst younger people and senior cricket players of all genders."
- "Lighting for the cricket field will allow for the club to host more matches and improve their training regimes. The entire tennis clubs facilities are well past their prime."
- "Great idea to upgrade the tennis courts - I see people using those frequently, and I think if they were better they'd be used even more."
- "The lighting just needs to be mindful of the nearby residences."
- "There is no shade for spectators for the cricket and barely enough for two teams. There is zero seating for the cricket. Dilapidated seating for the tennis."

DESIGN IDEA 5- PROVIDE A NEW PLAYGROUND IN THE PARK PRECINCT

- "Kurri needs a beautiful park for families to enjoy not sporting

fields we have enough!! Kids need adventure !!"

- "This will allow families from all backgrounds to access and use the new area bringing the community together."
- "Must be suitable for children of all ages."
- "Please ensure whichever park you build is inclusive so kids with disabilities can also have a great time."
- "Please include toilets near the play facilities and bbq/ shelters to bring families and communities together."
- "Needs shade with play. Skin cancer starts early."
- "A nature play park would be phenomenal (akin to that in Centennial Park in Sydney albeit smaller scale)."
- "I believe a mix of adventure play and traditional play is required. As a local disability therapist I always take clients to Bridges Hill Park, it would be great to boost their skills closer to their homes."
- "I'd love to see some kind of sensory play as well. The lark park at Singleton has a sound play device that is fantastic."

DESIGN IDEA 6 - PROVIDE NEW SHADE TREES AND PARK FURNITURE

- "Yes. Yes. Yes. All of this. The precinct feels more like a barren wasteland at the moment that people visit to play sport. Add places for us to rest, enjoy and socialise and it'll be more like a park."
- "Highly desirable - so long as the current trees are retained, and the proposed facilities are protected (via a careful choice of shade trees and locations)."
- "There is no seating across the complex now. More seating will allow for more comfort for spectators."
- "More trees all over Kurri please. It beautifies our town as well as providing shade and good for our environment."
- "Yes but have some open shaded places without tables too for other gatherings"
- "Plant more native trees and maintain the existing ones, natural shade is sorely needed in this area. It provides shade for humans and places for birds to roost."

DESIGN IDEA 7 - CREATE A FITNESS CIRCUIT IN THE PARK PRECINCT

- "I think with the increasing issue of obesity, mental health and general well-being it would be a great area for the community in an area close to town."
- "I think the idea of a fitness circuit together with trees and furniture is a good idea but in the wrong location" "

CONSULTATION

2.2 OVERVIEW & STAGE 2 RESULTS

DESIGN IDEA 1:

Provide better parking and improved access



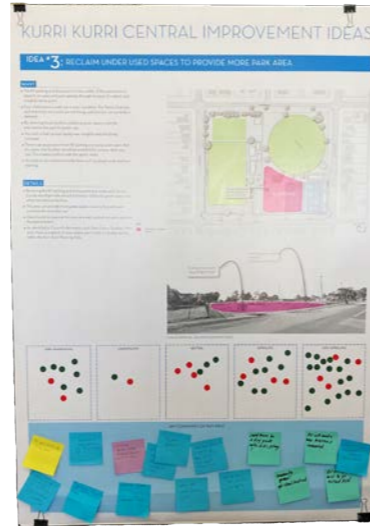
DESIGN IDEA 2:

Upgrade the rugby league facilities, grandstand and fields



DESIGN IDEA 3:

Reclaim under used spaces to provide more park area



DESIGN IDEA 4:

Improve existing cricket fields and tennis courts



DESIGN IDEA 5:

A new playground in the park precinct



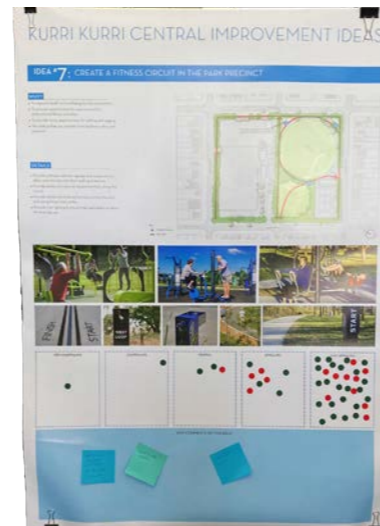
DESIGN IDEA 6:

Provide new shade trees and park furniture



DESIGN IDEA 7:

Create a fitness circuit in the park precinct



GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT STAGE 2 DESIGN IDEAS

- “More trees will make the space appear more natural and inviting.”
- “Awesome ideas. Kurri Bulldogs and the community deserve these upgrades. A lot more use as in concerts, movie nights or market days could be held at this ground during offseason. It`s perfectly positioned to attract the locals to games and events in the future.”
- “Kurri desperately needs this! So many park options for Cessnock and none within Kurri town centre.”
- “More trees will make the space appear more natural and inviting.”
- “The area has been dwarfed in terms of investments by other areas such as Cessnock and Maitland, this can provide an genuine upgrade to our facilities.”
- “This would be an enormous boost for the local community. With further housing developments appearing within the area, an updated and leading sporting facility will provide users of all ages, sexes and sporting ability access to a health orientated area.”
- “Would like to see some Aboriginal heritage interpretations. Opportunities for visitors to learn.”
- “Please remember that there is more than rugby league in this town the other sports deserve their space and amenities and not feel like they are being pushed out.”
- “It would benefit the sporting children and adults within the rapidly growing community that thrives of sport.”
- “Looks very promising just have to keep security and not create a haven for local young hoodlums to gather and wreck, as sad as it is, it has become a reality of late in both Kurri and Weston.”

Examples of in person engagement panels from Saturday 17th June 2023 - at kurri kurri coles



3.0 LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.1 PRINCIPLES



PRINCIPLE 1: A PARK FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE KURRI KURRI COMMUNITY.

The precinct can provide a range of recreational opportunities that improves the health and wellbeing for all members of the community. This can include space for organised sports activities as well as for casual activities like going for a walk or bike ride, picnicking, exercising or play.

PRINCIPLE 2: A GREAT PLACE TO WATCH AND PLAY SPORT.

The park is home to the Kurri Kurri Rugby League, Kurri Weston Mulbring District Cricket Club, and the Kurri Kurri Tennis Club. This mix of clubs and facilities is unique in providing a single destination for playing and watching multiple sports. There is an opportunity to better organise the park to provide expanded use year-round, improve space for spectators and upgrade existing facilities.

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.1 PRINCIPLES



PRINCIPLE 3: AN OPEN SPACE THAT'S EASY TO ACCESS AND MOVE THROUGH.

There is an opportunity to improve access in and through the precinct. New footpaths and entrances in and through the park can make it easier to access different facilities. Paths can provide opportunities for passive recreation such as walking and cycling. The park upgrade can also provide a link from Kurri Kurri Town centre to the Richmond Vale Rail Trail, the regional bike network, with an entrance located at the Log of Knowledge Park.

PRINCIPLE 4: A SHADED, COMFORTABLE AND INVITING PARK.

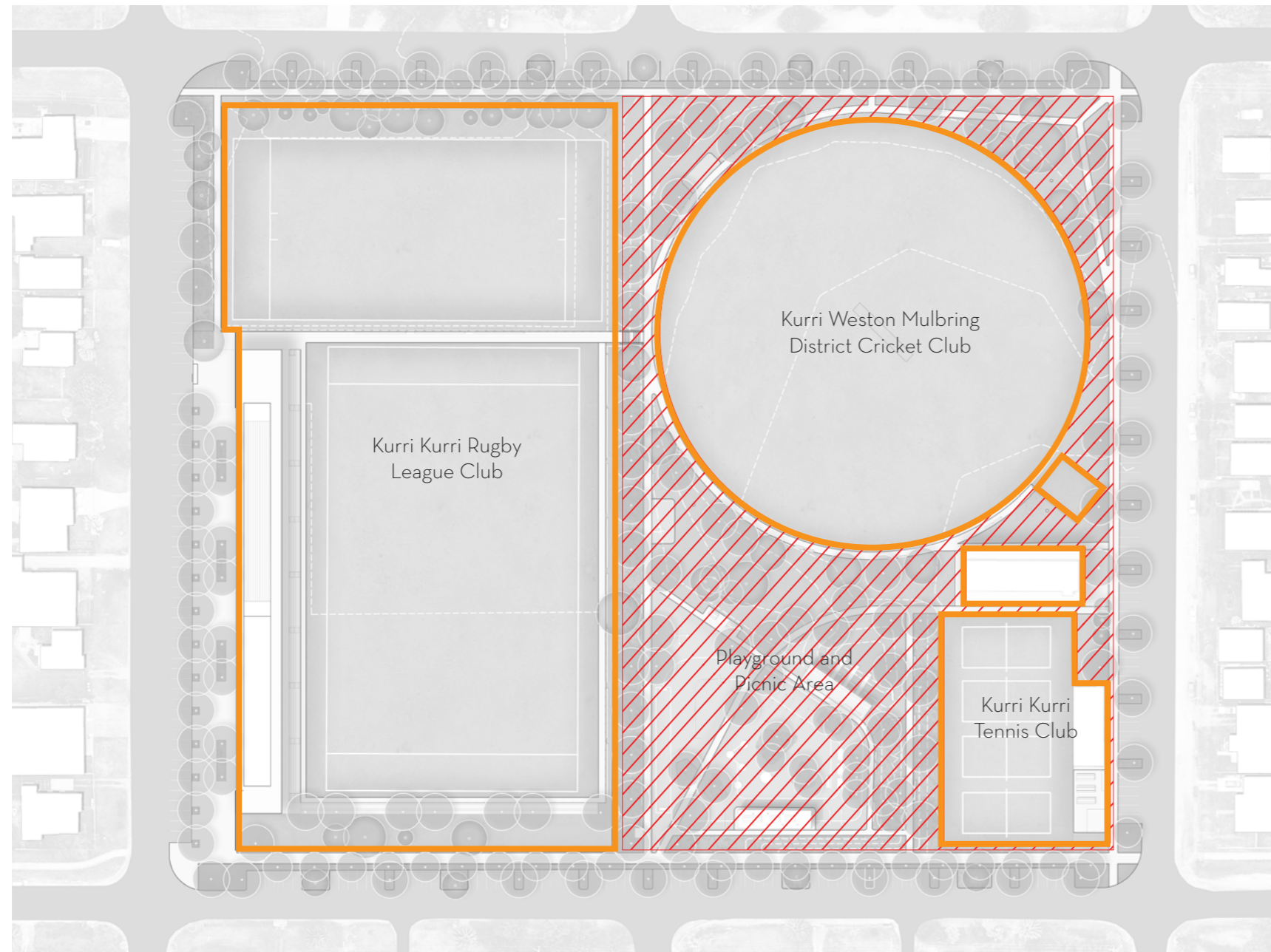
The park can be a cool and inviting green space with more shade trees, and planting to provide attractive spaces to enjoy. There is an opportunity to make it more comfortable to use every day, by providing parkland seating, and picnic tables in shaded locations. Park elements such as drinking fountains and litter bins can improve amenity, and other facilities such as outdoor fitness equipment and play elements can provide more ways to enjoy the park.

PRINCIPLE 5: A PLACE THAT REFLECTS THE IDENTITY OF KURRI KURRI.

The Kurri Kurri township, where the park is located, is a significant place for Wonnarua and Awabakal peoples with Kurri Kurri meaning 'the beginning' or 'the first in traditional language. The Kurri Kurri Rugby league Club established in 1909 has been a continuous presence in the park for over 65 years. There is an opportunity to create a space that reflects the character and identity of Kurri Kurri, as a place on Country, as a historic coal mining town, and as a place for sport and celebration.

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.2 PARK ZONES



The precinct provides a range of recreational opportunities that improves the health and wellbeing for all members of the community. This includes space for organised sports activities as well as for casual activities like going for a walk or bike ride, picnicking, exercising or play. It is also a cool and inviting green space with more shade trees, and planting to provide attractive spaces to enjoy



The landscape masterplan maintains the general location of the active sporting areas while providing new and upgraded elements and facilities. The Kurri Kurri Rugby League Club is reconfigured with upgraded fields and a new single consolidated facilities building and grandstand on the northern precinct boundary. This building accommodates current uses as well as new facilities including female friendly changerooms, showers and toilets, storage, the Old Boys Club room, and an upgraded grandstand. The international field is repositioned south to provide expanded spectator seating to all sides. A new mod field is located to the east of the precinct.

The cricket oval is retained in the current location, with new perimeter paths, shade trees and spectator seating. New floodlighting is provided, to allow for nighttime use. In the west, four of the existing underused tennis courts no longer fit for purpose are removed and replaced with additional parkland. Two of the existing tennis courts are upgraded, and new amenities provided including a shade structure, storage and seating.

Approx. 6500m² of new green space is proposed in the western portion of the park. This has been enabled through the removal of the tennis courts and relocation of RV area. A new local playground, paths, picnic shelters, trees, and seating adjacent are proposed in this area. The playground includes adventure play and nature play elements, providing a new destination for local children and families.

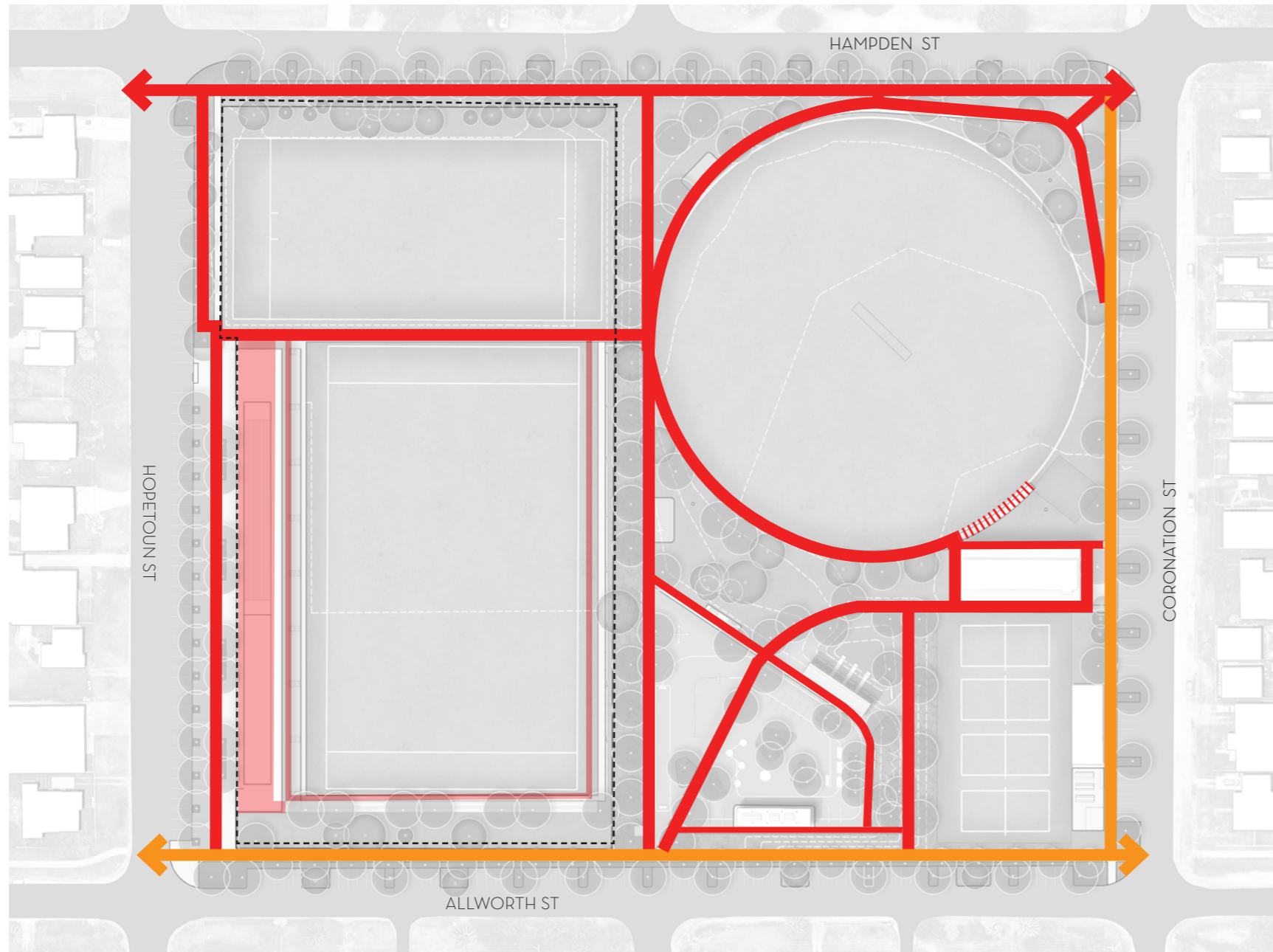
A network of new paths connects through the precinct, allowing easier access through the open spaces and to adjoining neighbourhoods. Streetscape improvements, including new kerbs, designated parking bays, footpaths and street trees are located on all sides of the precinct. Additional trees are proposed across open space areas to provide more shade, amenity, and habitat.



- KEY**
-  Passive Recreational Park Areas
 -  Formal Organised Sport Facilities

3. LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.2 ACCESS & CIRCULATION



A new pedestrian path circuit is proposed in the precinct. This path network connects in and through the park precinct, to allow easier access to sports facilities as well as providing paths for fitness, jogging and walking. New shade trees, seating and lighting are also proposed in conjunction with the new path network.

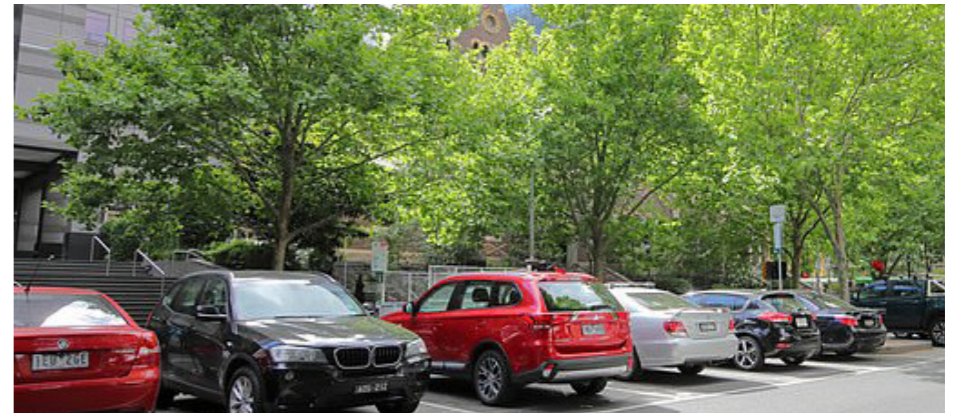
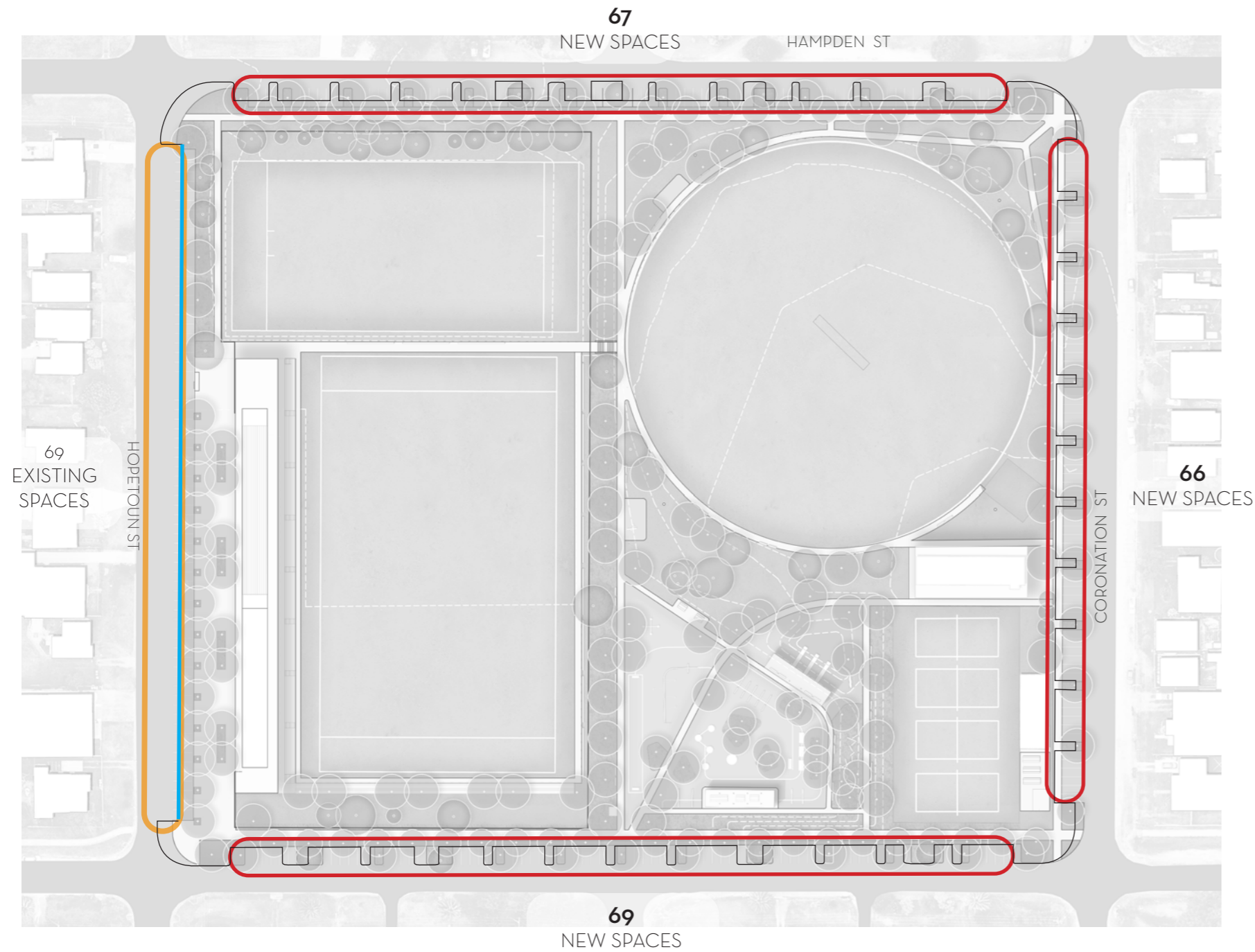
N 1:1500 @ A3

KEY

- Shared path
- New pedestrian path
- - - - - Boundary fence

3. LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

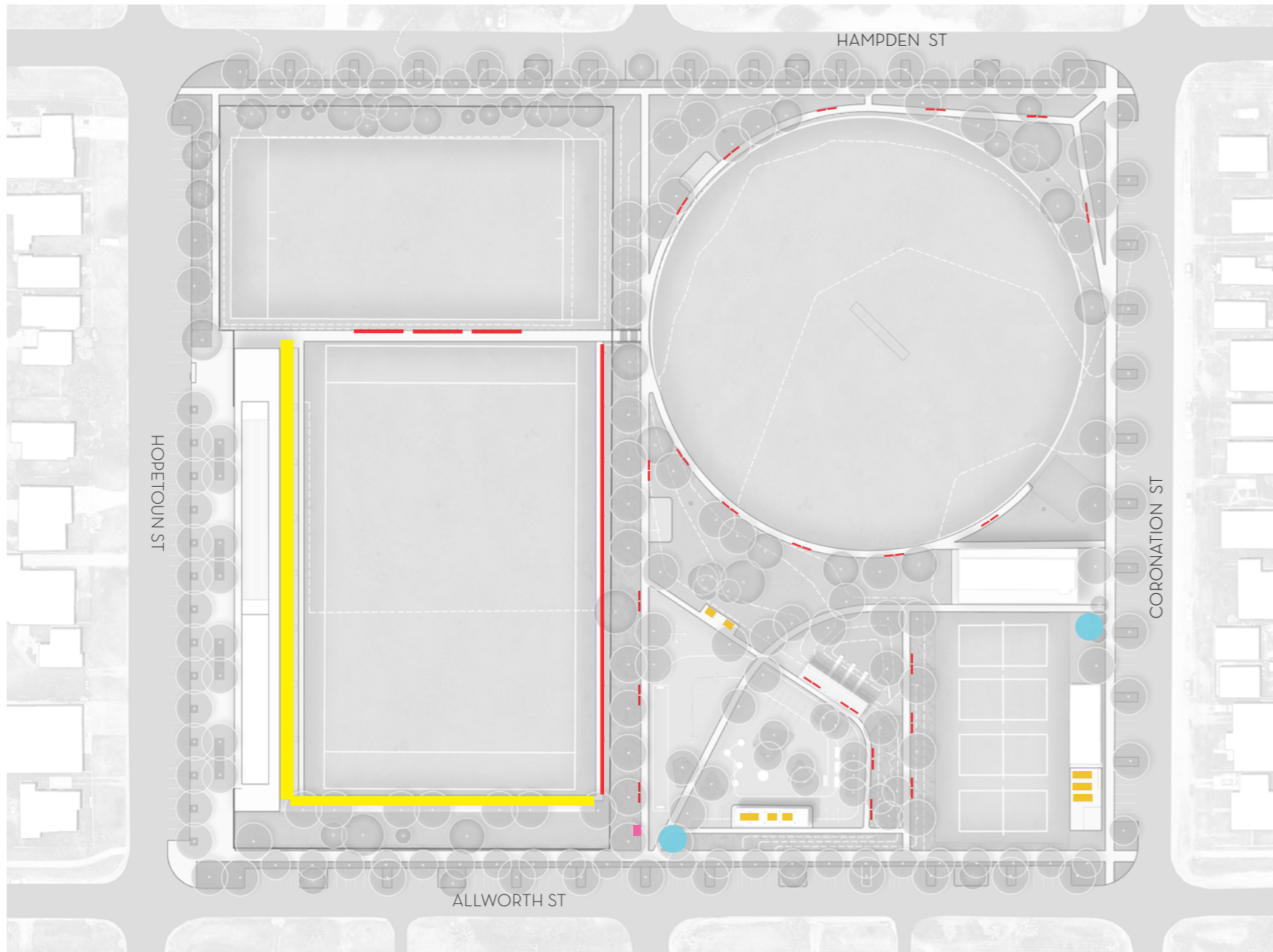
3.2 STREETScape & PARKING



Streetscape improvements are proposed to all street edges. New footpaths, kerb and designated parking bays are located within street verges on Allworth, Coronation and Hampden Streets. This supplements the existing angled parking on Hopetoun Street and provides capacity for 202 cars. New street trees are proposed to all street verges, in conjunction with tree plantings in parking bays, to provide shade to proposed parking spaces.

3. LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.2 PARK FURNITURE



The plan includes new park furniture to make it more comfortable for every day use as well as for people attending sports events. New park benches and picnic tables in shaded locations, under new trees and picnic shelters. New tiered seating is proposed to the perimeter of the rugby league international and mod fields to supplement seating provided in the new grandstand. New bench seats are provided around the cricket oval and tennis court facility.

Drinking fountains are located adjacent to the tennis club, and at the new playground. Bike racks are proposed at the entry to the proposed playground. .

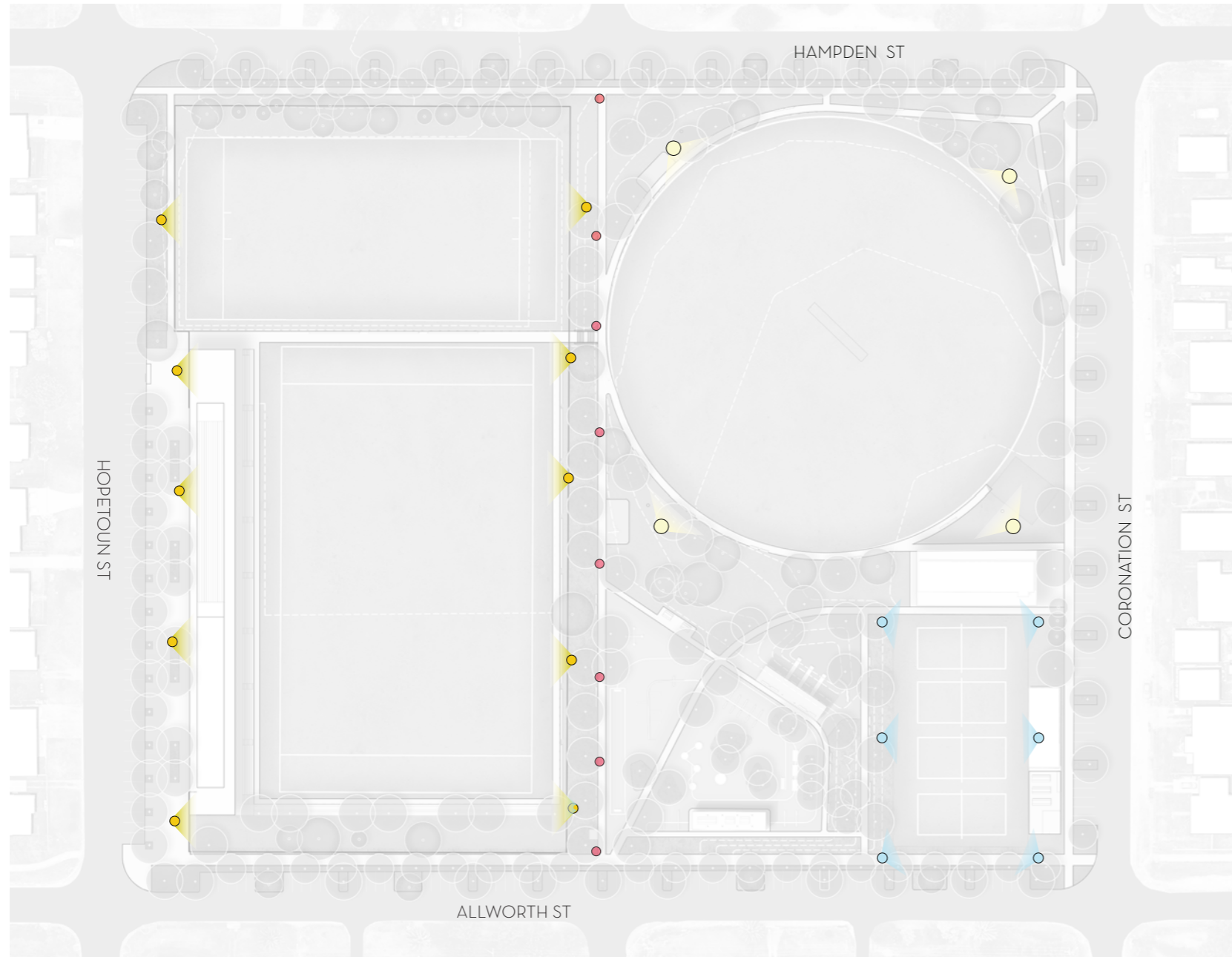
KEY

- Bike Rack
- Freestanding Benches
- Tiered Seating
- Picnic Tables
- Bubbler

1:1500 @ A3

3. LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

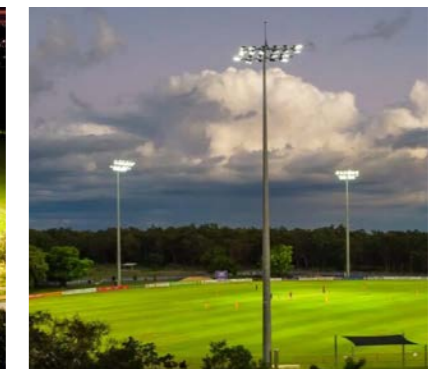
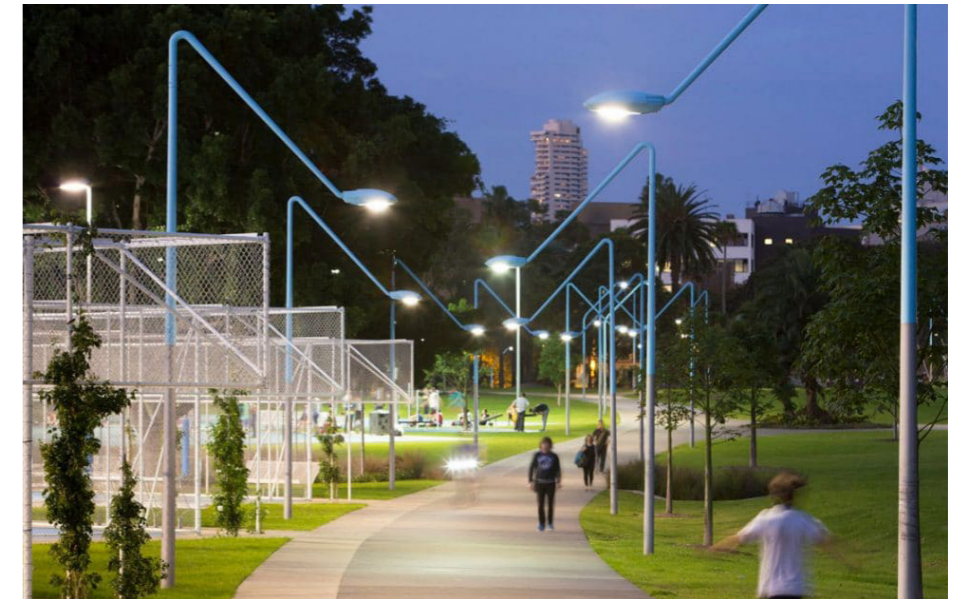
3.2 LIGHTING



KEY

- New Rugby League Field Lighting
- New Cricket Field Lighting
- Tennis Lighting
- New Park Lighting

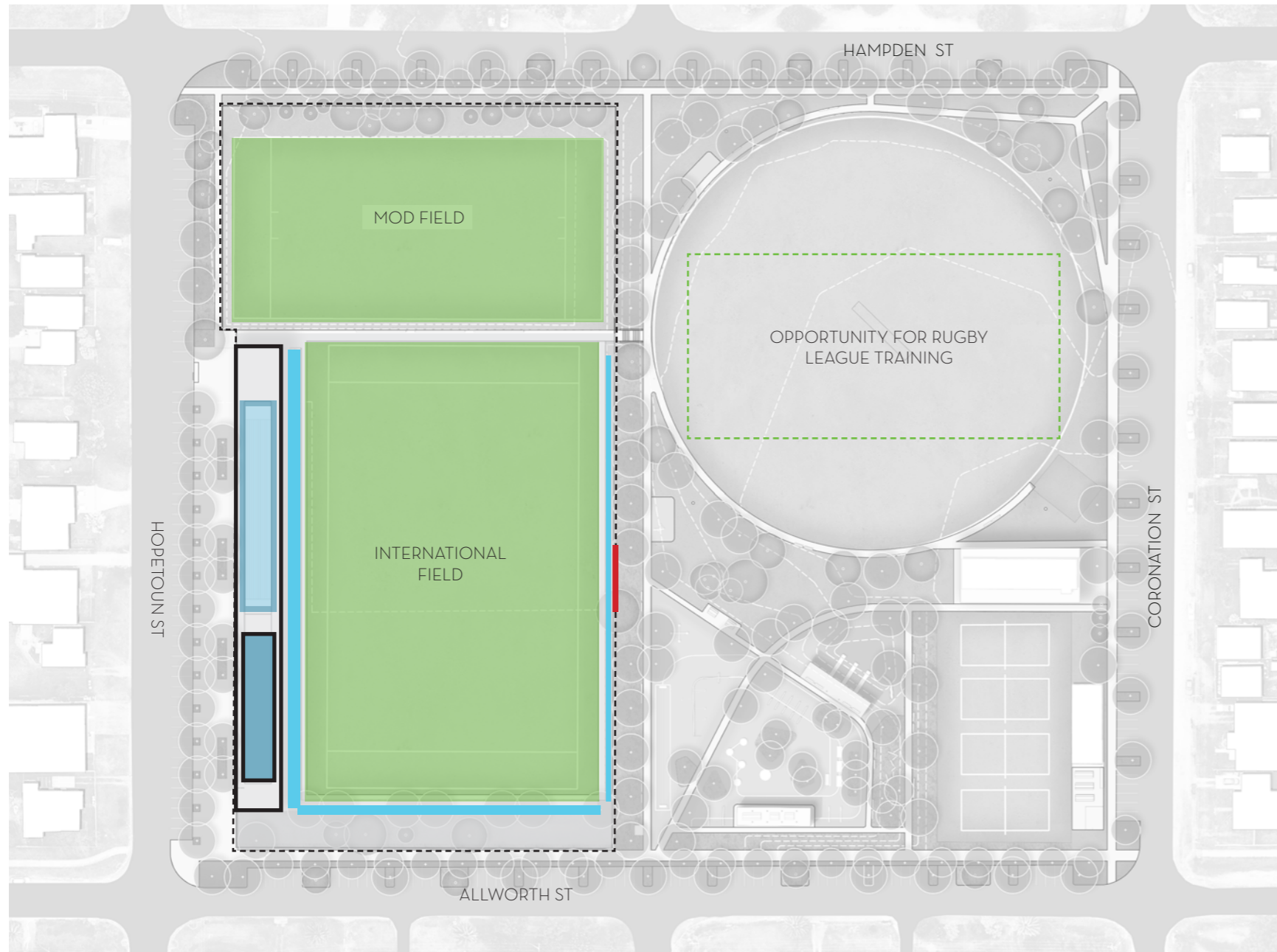
1:1500 @ A3



New park lighting and sports field lighting is proposed in the plan. Pole top park lighting is located on the main pedestrian paths through the precinct. Sports field lighting is proposed for the Rugby League Fields. Upgraded pole lighting is proposed in four locations around the cricket oval (100 lux maximum) to accommodate night training for both Rugby League and Cricket. This lighting has been located to minimize obtrusive light spill to adjoining housing while also providing capacity for nighttime use. Existing lighting around the tennis courts is retained.

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN






3.2 RUGBY LEAGUE FACILITIES



A newly configured range of facilities is provided in the rugby league club grounds. This includes an upgraded international field, and mod field. A new rugby league amenity building is proposed. This 2 storey building incorporates change rooms, men and women's showers and toilets, storage, kiosk and old boys club and an undercover grandstand with spectator seating. New tiered seating, circulation paths, scoreboard and perimeter fencing is also proposed.

Entries to the proposed building would be located on Hopetoun Street. The building is set back from Hopetoun Street with a generous footpath and a double avenue of new street trees. This space provides a buffer to neighbouring residential properties as well as providing a cool green entry to the facility.

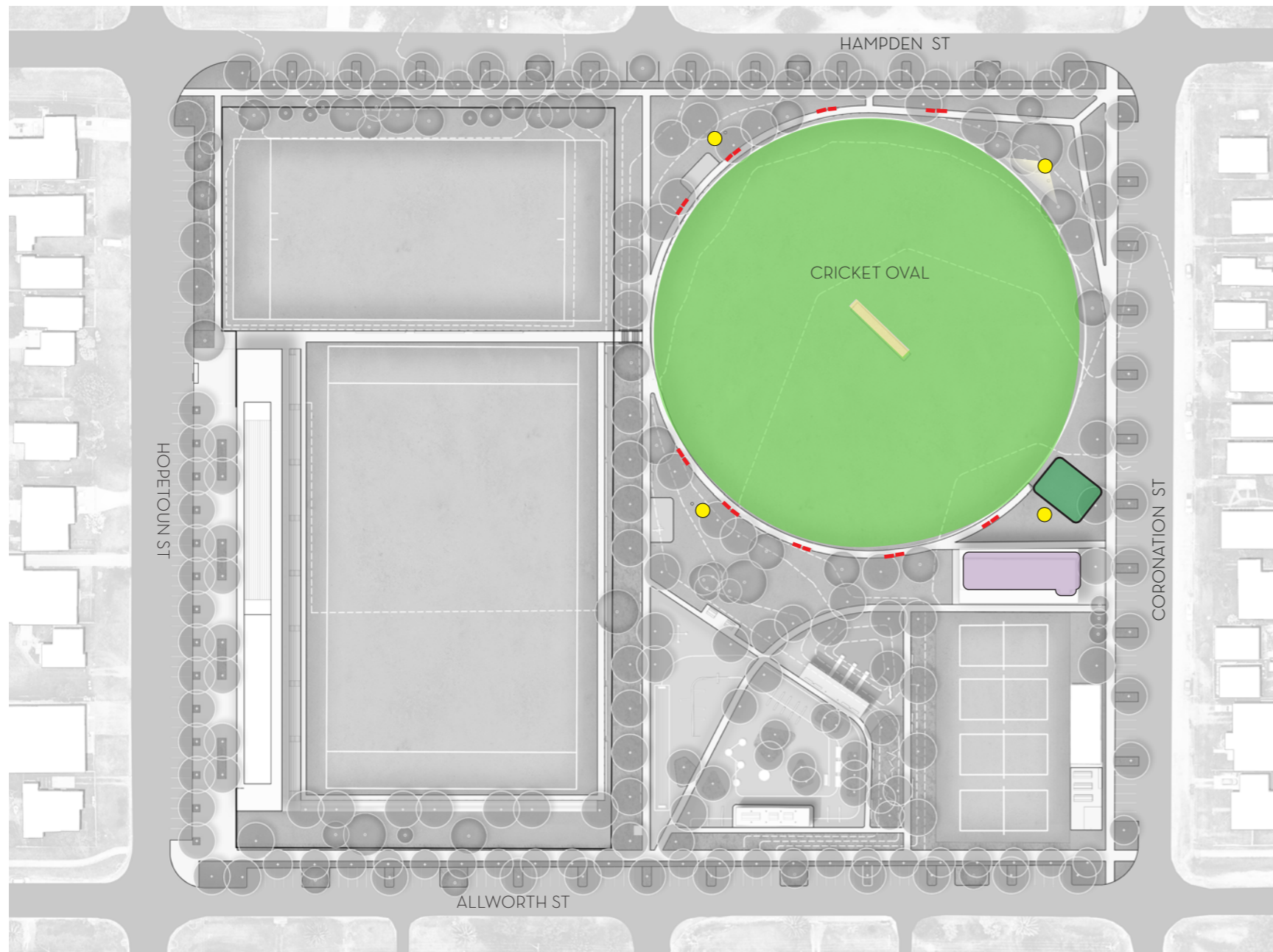
KEY

-  New amenity building incorporating old boys shed
-  Spectator seating
-  Boundary fence
-  Undercover grandstand
-  Scoreboard

 1:1500 @ A3

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.2 CRICKET FACILITIES



The cricket oval is upgraded with new irrigation, field lighting, and spectator seating positioned adjacent to a new perimeter path around the oval. Shade trees are positioned back from the oval, providing shade to seating areas.

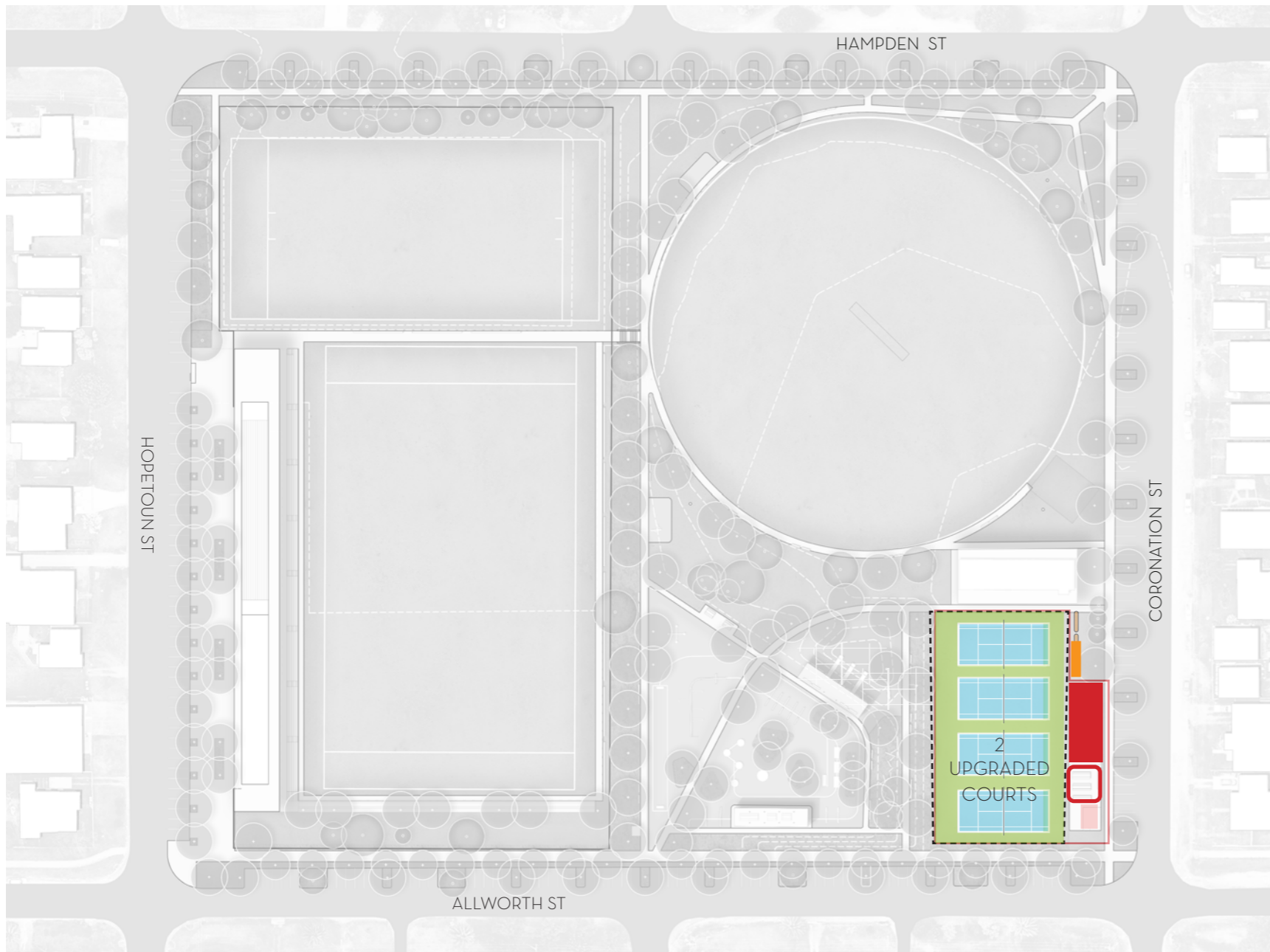
N 1:1500 @ A3

KEY

- Cricket oval- new irrigation
- Cricket nets
- Existing cricket amenities building
- New spectator seating
- New sports field lighting

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.2 TENNIS FACILITIES



KEY

- Tennis court area
- Fenced area
- Tennis club
- Shade canopy with new picnic tables
- Expanded storage area
- Additional Seating



Two of the existing courts are to be resurfaced. A new shade canopy with picnic tables has been proposed to the tennis club outdoor area. A small additional storage space is also included adjacent to the building.

1:1500 @ A3

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN





3.2 TREES & PLANTING



Trees play a critical role in cooling neighbourhoods and a key priority for the plan is to provide more tree planting across the precinct, to improve comfort, and create an attractive destination year-round.

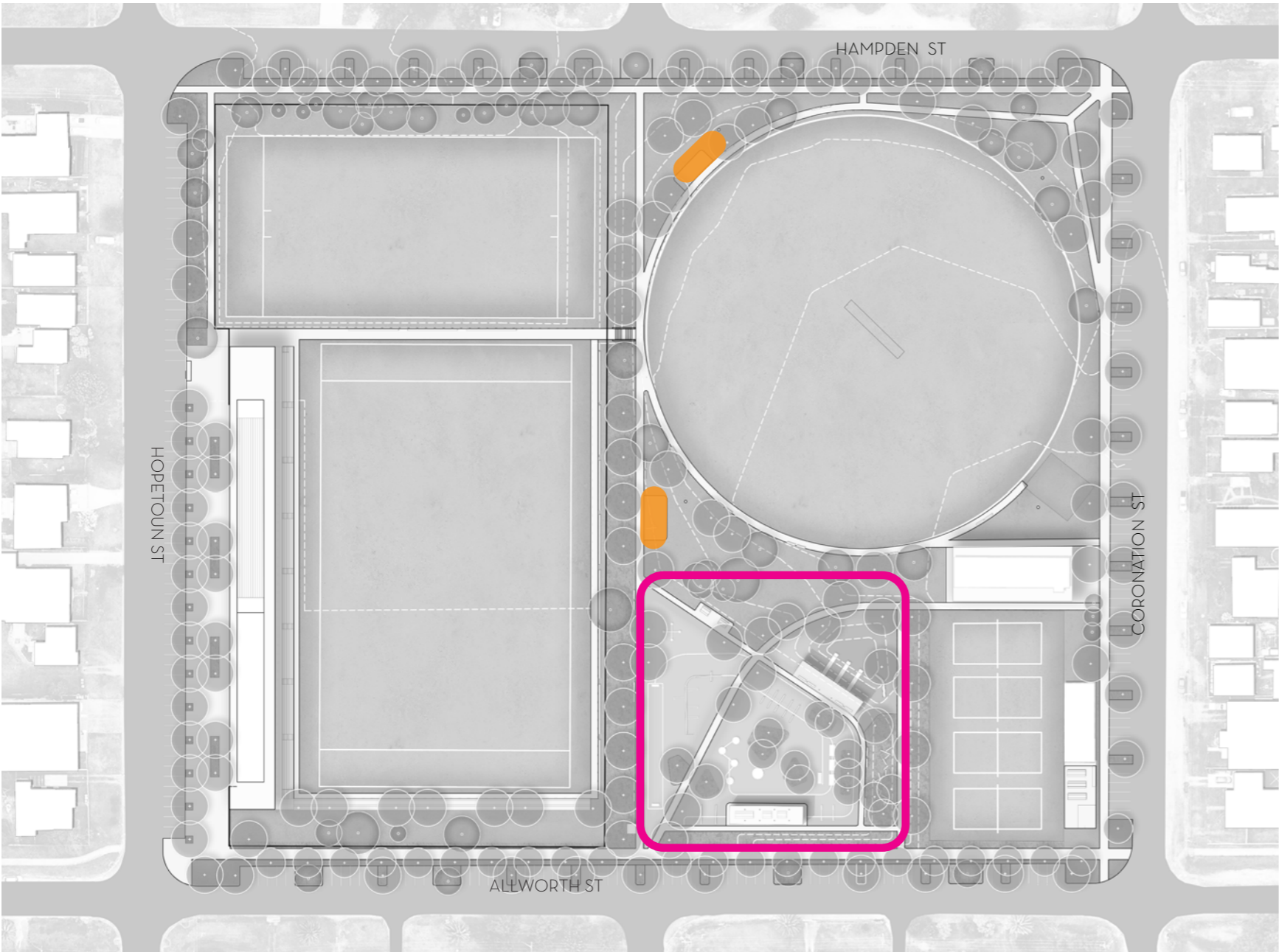
All existing trees have been retained and supplemented with a mix of native and exotic trees are proposed. Accent trees are proposed to the playground entry and park gateway on Allworth Street. A more detailed selection of species would be developed in the next stage of works.

 1:1500 @ A3



- KEY**
-  Mixed native trees
 -  Shade trees
 -  Existing tree
 -  Accent trees

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

3.2 PLAY & RECREATION



KEY

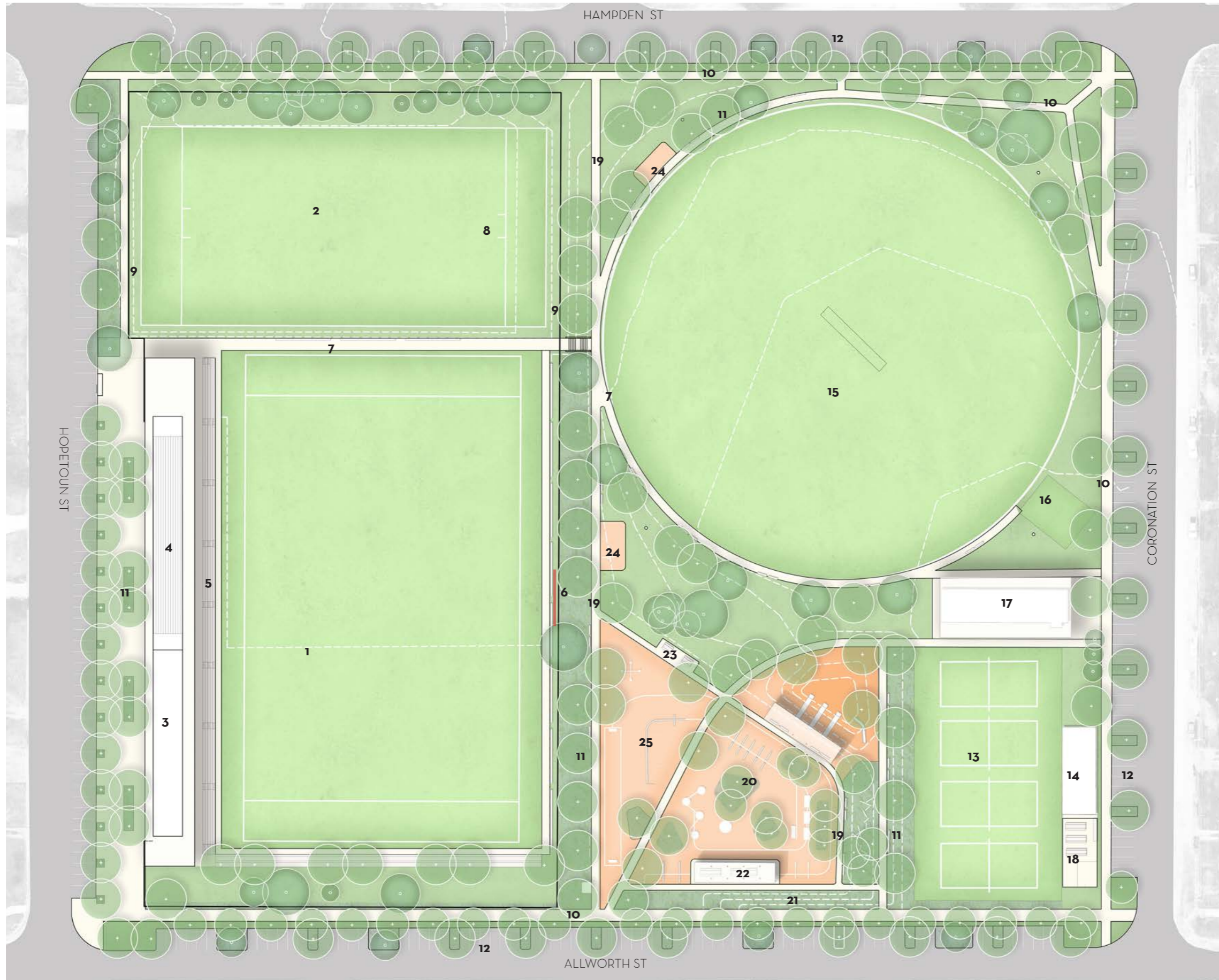
-  Playground
-  Exercise equipment

 1:1500 @ A3





A new playground is proposed in the western edge of the precinct adjacent to Allworth Street. New shade trees, picnic tables and park benches are also proposed in this location.

LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN



KEY

1. International field 100 x 68m.
2. Mod field 80 x 40m.
3. New 2 storey Rugby League Amenity Building incorporating Old Boys Shed.
4. New undercover grandstand with tiered spectator seating.
5. Spectator seating.
6. Scoreboard.
7. Circulation path.
8. Regraded field with improved drainage.
9. Perimeter fencing.
10. New shared path.
11. Shade tree planting.
12. New carparking with shade tree planting.
13. Tennis courts.
14. Existing tennis amenities building.
15. Cricket oval with new irrigation.
16. Existing cricket nets.
17. Existing cricket club amenities building.
18. Expanded seating area to tennis club outdoor area with shade canopy and new seating and storage.
19. New pedestrian paths with bench seating.
20. New playground.
21. Gardens with low planting.
22. New shade structure with picnic tables overlooking the playground.
23. Picnic tables
24. New outdoor exercise station.
25. RV area to be relocated within Kurri Kurri CBD area.

-  Proposed trees
-  Existing trees

