

An aerial photograph of McKittrick Park in Grafton, New Zealand. The park is a large, roughly circular green space with a central area. It is surrounded by residential streets. The text 'McKittrick Park' and 'Plan of Management' is overlaid in large black font. Other text includes 'Adopted by Council 26 November 2001' and 'Grafton City Council'. At the bottom, it says 'Prepared by Sustainable Futures in conjunction with Grafton City Council' and 'Plan Adopted by Council at its meeting of 26 November 2001'. Street names like 'SETTLEMENT NEW ST', 'CHRIST ST', 'RYAN ST', 'MCKITTRICK PARK', 'VERE ST', and 'ST' are visible in purple.

McKittrick Park

Plan of Management

Adopted by Council
26 November 2001

Grafton City Council

Prepared by Sustainable Futures
in conjunction with Grafton City Council

Plan Adopted by Council at its meeting of 26 November 2001

Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Scope of this Plan	1
1.2	Background	3
1.3	Aim of the Plan	4
1.4	Management Principles	5
	1.4.1 <i>Enhancing Lifestyle</i>	5
	1.4.2 <i>Sustainability Principles</i>	5
	1.4.3 <i>Community Involvement</i>	5
1.5	Strategic Framework	7
1.6	Council's Corporate Goals	8
2	EXISTING SITUATION	9
2.1	Historical Context	9
2.2	Local and Regional Context	10
2.3	Values of McKittrick Park	11
	2.3.1 <i>Organised Sporting Facilities</i>	11
	2.3.2 <i>Informal Recreational Use</i>	11
	2.3.3 <i>Educational</i>	11
	2.3.4 <i>Character & Heritage</i>	11
	2.3.5 <i>Social</i>	12
	2.3.6 <i>Environmental</i>	12
	2.3.7 <i>Visual</i>	12
	2.3.8 <i>Economic</i>	12
2.4	Land Use	13
2.5	Current Management Practice	15
2.6	Key Issues	16
	2.6.1 <i>Future of Cycle Track</i>	16
	2.6.2 <i>Drainage & Flooding</i>	17
	2.6.3 <i>Lighting, Clubhouse & Grandstand Facilities</i>	17
	2.6.4 <i>Youth Activities</i>	18
	2.6.5 <i>Passive Recreational Use</i>	19
	2.6.6 <i>Amenity</i>	19
	2.6.7 <i>Car-parking</i>	20
	2.6.8 <i>Maintenance</i>	20

3	MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES	21
3.1	Management Objectives	21
	<i>3.1.1 Flexibility of Use</i>	<i>21</i>
	<i>3.1.2 Sporting Profile</i>	<i>21</i>
	<i>3.1.3 Social & Informal Recreation Uses</i>	<i>21</i>
	<i>3.1.4 Streetscape & Amenity</i>	<i>21</i>
3.2	Precinct Plan	22
	<i>3.2.1 Precinct 1 - McKittrick Oval</i>	<i>23</i>
	<i>3.2.2 Precinct 2 - JJ Lawrence Fields</i>	<i>24</i>
	<i>3.2.3 Precinct 3 - Community Environment</i>	<i>25</i>
	<i>3.2.4 Precinct 4 - Future Parking</i>	<i>26</i>
3.3	Management Tables	26
	<i>3.3.1 Management Objective 1 - Flexibility of Use</i>	<i>27</i>
	<i>3.3.2 Management Objective 2 - Sporting Profile</i>	<i>30</i>
	<i>3.3.3 Management Objective 3 - Social & Informal Recreation Uses</i>	<i>32</i>
	<i>3.3.4 Management Objective 4 - Streetscape & Amenity</i>	<i>34</i>
4	MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS	37
4.1	Maintenance, Improvement & Development	37
4.2	Action Plans	37
4.3	Regulatory Framework	38
4.4	Community Involvement and Review of Plan	38

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I	Consultation with User Groups
APPENDIX II	Survey Results

1 - INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope of this Plan

The title of this plan is McKittrick Park Plan of Management 2001. It is a specific plan relating to the South Grafton community ground and facilities known as McKittrick Oval, and the adjoining open fields known as JJ Lawrence Fields. The land is bounded by Ryan Street to the north, Skinner Street to the west, Bligh Street to the east and Vere Street to the South. Refer Location Map 1.

Precise details of the location, area and Community Lands Category of the land are listed in Table 1. Reference should be made to Council's Land Register for a full identification of the parcel of land.

Table 1 – Location and Category of Land in McKittrick Park

Land Register No.	Property No.	Land Description	Ownership	Category
89	Reserve 540037	Sections 17/18	Council	Sportsground

Map 1 – Location of McKittrick Park (Source – City of Grafton, 2001)



1.2 Background

Under the Local Government Act, 1993, Councils are required to develop and implement plans of management for all Community Land adopted by each Council. The plans need to identify:

- The category of land;
- The objectives and performance targets of the plan;
- The means by which Council proposes to achieve the plan's objectives and targets; and
- The manner in which Council proposes to assess its performance.

Under the Act, a plan of management is required prior to implementation of a change of use on community land. This is so that the needs of all users and the broader community are taken into account in all decision-making about these lands. The Plan of Management will provide a decision-making framework that takes into account all users of the Park and the wider community, and assist Council in managing McKittrick Park in an efficient and effective and equitable manner.

1.3 Aim of the Plan

The aim of this plan is to provide a management direction and framework for McKittrick Park that ensures that the reserve:

- Provides high standard sporting grounds and facilities to meet the sporting and passive recreation needs of the city's residents and sporting associations;
- is an attractive City park for the use and enjoyment of the residents of South Grafton and the wider Grafton City community, which complements the South Grafton business area;
- contributes to South Grafton's amenity, streetscape and character as well as that of the whole of Grafton City;
- may accommodate ongoing upgrading of grounds and facilities in order to provide for significant regional and local sporting events;
- is safe and well maintained without incurring unreasonable burdens on public finances;
- provides for partial cost recovery from user groups and encourages users to contribute to the upgrading of specific infrastructure;
- provides for user groups to obtain income from sporting activities to offset the costs of the sport; and
- meets the requirements of the Local Government Act, and the principles and objectives of Council's Corporate Management Plan and draft Strategic Management Planning Framework for Community Lands.

1.4 Management Principles

These principles are adopted to guide Council decision-making in relation to the management of McKittrick Park, and reflect Council's future direction for management of Community Lands.

1.4.1 Enhancing Lifestyle

The Plan of Management reflects Council's Draft Corporate Management Plan for 2001-2004 including its mission to "enhance the lifestyle of the City and encourage ecologically sustainable development" and Council's goal for recreational, cultural and community services:

"To develop adequate, equitable and appropriate recreational, cultural and community services and facilities for the whole community in consultation and co-operation with local people, community organisations, Clarence Valley Councils and State and Federal Government authorities"

Other Council goals relevant to this Plan of Management are: Tourism - "to support and promote regional tourism", and Environmental Health - "to secure the quality of life of the City through the protection and enhancement of public health and the built and natural environment".

1.4.2 Sustainability Principles

In line with Council's general aims to encourage ecologically sustainable development (ESD), management of community lands will also reflect the philosophy and principles of sustainability. In particular, McKittrick Park will be managed in a way that promotes quality of lifestyle, protects environmental and cultural heritage values, and provides for benefits, costs and responsibilities to be shared equitably by the community.

1.4.3 Community Involvement

Council prioritises the active and meaningful involvement of the community in the development and implementation of its Plans of Management. Accordingly, Council has sought the participation of users and affected parties in the preparation of the Plan of Management.

For the preparation of the McKittrick Park Plan of Management, involvement by the community and user groups in the process includes:

- Meetings or discussions with all major user groups to determine values, needs, concerns, issues and future management ideas;
- Surveys of parks users and residents of South Grafton to elicit views on the park;
- Observation of usage, and review of bookings and other Council records;
- Written advice to all adjoining land holders, seeking feedback; and
- Display of the Draft Plan and invitation for community review and comments during the formal public exhibition period.

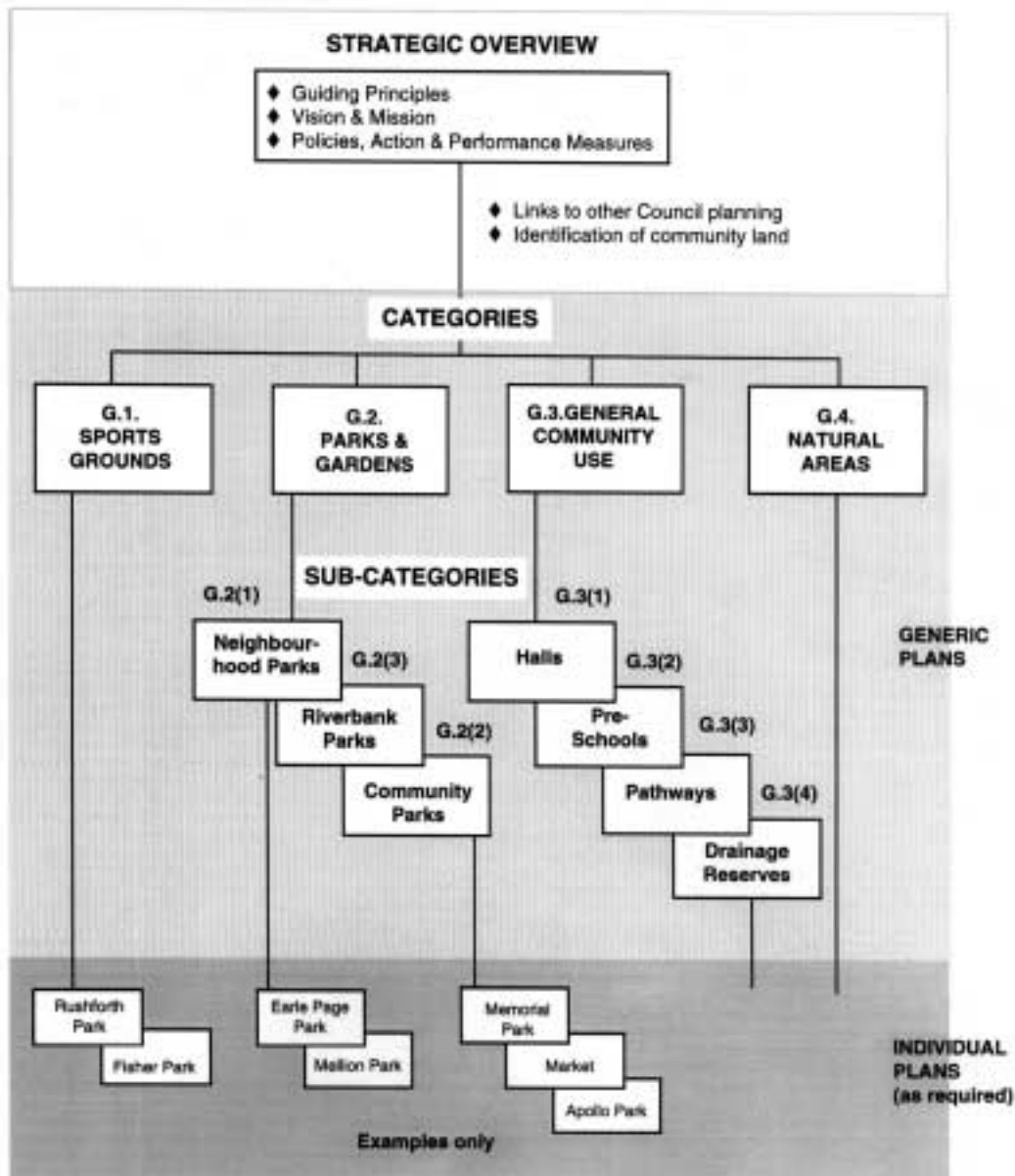
The results of this process are summarised in Appendices I and II to the Plan. The results were utilised to develop the goals, objectives, management strategies and precinct maps associated with the Draft Plan.

Comments received during the formal exhibition period will be considered by Council, and changes made where appropriate prior to the Plan's final adoption by Council. Ongoing community involvement in management planning is also promoted through regular review of implementation of the Plan, based on feedback received by users and the general public.

1.5 Strategic Framework

Using the draft Community Lands Plan of Management Strategic Framework adopted by Council in October 2000, the Management Plan for McKittrick Park is based on the structure of management plans for community land within the City of Grafton, shown in Figure 1 below. McKittrick Park is designated G1 (Sportsgrounds) and G2 (Parks and Gardens).

Figure 1: Strategic Overview of Grafton Community Lands



1.6 Council's Corporate Goals

Council's Draft Corporate Management Plan 2001-2004 is a statement of its intended direction across the whole range of its functions for the next three years, and provides a general context within which the more specific plans of management are prepared.

Vision: **Grafton: The major regional centre of the Clarence Valley**

Mission: To enhance the lifestyle of the City and encourage ecologically sustainable development.

Goal (Recreational, Cultural and Community Services):

“To develop adequate, equitable and appropriate recreational, cultural and community services and facilities for the whole community in consultation and co-operation with local people, community organisations, Clarence Valley Councils and State and Federal Government authorities”

Parks and Gardens Program Outcome:

“Community outdoor recreation facilities and enhanced streetscape for the enjoyment of the residents of Grafton, and visitors, to meet current needs and based on sound long term strategies”.

2 - EXISTING SITUATION

2.1 Historical Context

McKittrick Park was reserved 14th October, 1899. McKittrick Oval itself was formally known as the Tin Park to local residents. Outer McKittrick Park (grounds one and two) was renamed JJ Lawrence Fields by resolution of Council in August, 1996 acknowledging the contribution of a well-known local sporting identity.

"it is a great honour to be here this morning to officially name the JJ Lawrence Fields and unveil the sign.

Many of the older generation would be well aware of the great contribution that Joseph John Lawrence played in promoting sport in South Grafton. Mr Lawrence held many positions with sporting bodies, particularly in cricket, rugby union and rugby league as well as with the South Grafton Water Brigade, School of Arts and the Philharmonic Society.

As many would also know the Lawrence family lived close by and McKittrick Park virtually became their backyard and was a second home to the large Lawrence family. Because his children of seven sons and five daughters used the park so much, he took it upon himself to see that the grounds were kept in a tidy condition. The concrete cricket pitch and bike track he also helped maintain.

So it is fitting that Outer McKittrick Park be renamed the JJ Lawrence Fields honouring a great man."

(Extract from Speech at the Naming Ceremony, December 1996)

The South Grafton area has historically had a strong Aboriginal presence, and the relatively open nature of the parklands and watercourse across the land, may indicate potential indigenous cultural heritage significance of parts of the reserve and surrounding area. Very little is known of the Aboriginal heritage significance of the area.

2.2 Local and Regional Context

McKittrick Park is located within the distinct community of South Grafton, and future planning for the park needs to take into account the population and demographic characteristics of South Grafton, which assist to define general recreational and social needs. This differs somewhat from Grafton and the wider region, as shown in Tables 2 and 3 below. In particular, South Grafton has a lower median age (indicating a high proportion of young people and usually families with children), a higher proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islanders, and a slightly higher unemployment rate often linked to lower income levels.

McKittrick Park also contributes significantly on a City-wide and regional basis. Future planning for the park will also take into account the population and demographic characteristics of Grafton City and the region.

Table 2: Population of South Grafton and surrounding areas, 1996

Local Government Area Population	1996
South Grafton	6740
City of Grafton	17110

Source: ABS, 1996 Population Census

Table 3: Social Indicators, 1996, Local Government Areas on NSW North Coast

Local Government Area	Median Age	Median Individual Income	Unemployment Rate	%Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander	% Non-English Speaking Background
South Grafton	30-34	\$200-299	15.9	5.2	0.9
City of Grafton	35	\$231	13.3	3.8	1.5
Northern Rivers	38	\$218	15.8	2.7	3.1
NSW North Coast	34	\$298	8.8	1.7	15.7

Source: ABS 1996 Population Census, Clarence Valley Social Plan 2000 – Draft.

Furthermore, the Plan of Management takes into account the findings and direction of regionally based social and cultural studies, and these include:-

- The City of Grafton Management Plan 2000-2001
- City of Grafton Stormwater Management Plan 2000
- Youth-Friendly Spaces Report, 2000
- Clarence Valley Social Plan, May 2000
- Draft Cultural Policy for Grafton Cultural Catchment, 2000
- City of Grafton Disability Action Plan, 2001
- Grafton City Council Section 94 Plan
- Existing Plans of Management for Council and Crown lands
- Relevant Council policies, eg. for recreational and community land, or dogs, horses

2.3 Values

The major values of McKittrick Park, as identified by the users and the wider public through community involvement in the Plan, are as follows:-

2.3.1 Organised Sporting Facilities

- Quality of playing surfaces, especially for cricket and rugby league
- Grandstand, gates, and lighting allows for larger and night games
- Fields are adjacent to a primary school, allowing for complimentary use
- Fields are also used by other groups such as baseball and Fire Brigade
- Night matches for cricket are a prominent use of the park
- Other sporting groups may be interested in sharing facilities

2.3.2 Informal Recreational Use

- Sealed basketball courts are a busy space, with a lot of informal use
- Cricket nets and open fields are also a play and practice space
- The trees and shade provide for passive activities, such as sitting and eating
- The open space provides opportunity for peaceful relaxation and walking though
- Visible and close to central area, so essentially a youth-friendly space
- There are public facilities such as toilets, available for use by all
- Attractive streetscape / visual appeal, important even when not directly used.

2.3.3 Educational

- The fields are used for sports activities for schools, particularly South Grafton Primary School immediately adjacent to JJ Lawrence Fields
- Use by the school community also includes local and regional competitions such as the Daily Examiner Shield
- The school has initiated a small planting area in the south eastern corner

2.3.4 Character and Heritage

- McKittrick Park is the home of the oldest cycling club in Australia
- Home to one of the oldest rugby league clubs
- JJ Lawrence Fields linked to a strong sporting identity in the area
- Gates, grandstand and oval provide a central-place feel
- The trees, lawns, landscaping and natural amenity of the park
- Possible Aboriginal cultural heritage significance

2.3.5 Social

- Oval and facilities are 'home' for several clubs and competitions, including the South Grafton Rugby League, Cycling and Cricket Clubs
- Fields are used as an informal walkway and hang-out/ play space
- The area is close to the central area of South Grafton, and acts as a city park for many locals – particularly children and youth
- Watching sporting games is a key use of the parks, also social activity
- It is a stopping and picnicking place for tourists and visitors to the city

2.3.6 Environmental

- Part of the drainage and ponding function of the wider floodplain/catchment system
- Christopher Creek feeds into the water course traversing the land

2.3.7 Visual

- The fields provide an open and green space close to the CBD area
- Trees around the perimeter provide for an attractive streetscape

2.3.8 Economic

- The canteen, bar and gates allow for income to be secured by some clubs
- Regional carnivals provide an economic benefit to local businesses and the city
- The Nungera Cooperative has a beneficial maintenance contract with Council.

Plate 1: McKittrick Oval - organised recreation, social, heritage and economic values



2.4 Land Use

McKittrick Park consists of two key areas, being the formalised McKittrick Oval surrounded by a cycle track, fence and grandstand facilities and the open JJ Lawrence Fields. These two key areas are traversed by a modified waterway, used for the drainage of Christopher Creek, and the fields also provide a drainage and ponding function during major rain and flood events. A number of facilities for general community use, such as basketball courts, toilets, seating, and picnic/BBQ areas are located along Ryan Street. The facilities and layout of each area is detailed in Section 3.2 - Precinct Plan.

Plate 2: Aerial photography showing the key elements of McKittrick Oval



Plate 3: Aerial photography showing the key elements of JJ Lawrence Fields



McKittrick Park adjoins residential housing to the north and west, with the South Grafton Primary School being located immediately south east of the park. To the south and east, the park abuts rural fields used for the agistment of horses and cattle, with some commercial land also being located to the east of the reserve.

The park is also within close proximity to the South Grafton town centre, and immediately adjacent to a major 'feeder' road into Grafton from the west, which increases its profile to the local community and visitors alike.

2.5 Current Management Practice

McKittrick Park is currently managed, maintained and improvements undertaken by the City of Grafton. Arrangements are made between Council and the sporting clubs in relation to the provision, maintenance, upgrading and replacement of facilities. The groups generally provide the specific facilities they require to undertake their respective games, and also undertake field marking and labour for other general improvements. Larger scale infrastructure upgrading is generally coordinated and funded by Council.

The Council undertakes regular maintenance of the grounds, and facilities as requested. Sporting groups and other user groups expressed satisfaction with the standard of the fields, and the level and timing of services provided by the City of Grafton.

The outer grounds (JJ Lawrence Fields), basketball courts and associated facilities are open to the wider community for general public use. Bookings are taken for schools, sporting clubs and other community groups to hold events in the park in accordance with Council's hiring policies and list of Fees and Charges.

2.6 Key Issues

The following issues outline the major influences and challenges that define the context for the McKittrick Park Plan of Management.

2.6.1 Future of Cycle Track

- There is a conflict between the existing cycle track around the field, and Rugby League requirements for an elite competition to be held in Grafton, which may also deter other potential users of the oval
- The cycle track may pose a potential safety hazard should a player fall onto it, and the rail around the track is also identified as hazardous by some users
- There is a strong history of the Cycling Club into McKittrick Park, including its role in initially funding the original grandstand and lights around McKittrick Oval
- The cycling club is presently not track-racing orientated, and a criterium or flat track facility may be more appropriate for the club
- The deteriorated state of the track will continue, rendering it unusable, and substantial reconstruction, replacement or removal is required in the near future
- It is important to ensure that the Cycling Club does not lose its connection to the area
- The South Grafton Rugby League Club (SGRLC) has advised that it is unable to host elite games due to the location of the safety track, and has offered assistance to the Cycle Club to relocate, in the form of labour for construction of alternative facilities
- Other sporting groups may also use the grounds if they are changed/enlarged, including an expression of interest from the Grafton Australian Rules Football (AFL) club which has been involved in discussions with the SGRLC on the issue

Management Direction – Council investigate a suitable location for a 1km criterium racing facility, with the potential for a flat track space within this area for future development
- the existing cycling track around McKittrick Oval be removed to improve flexibility for user groups, and if possible an area be identified for construction of suitable cycling facilities

Plate 4: The close proximity of the cycle track and rugby field poses safety issues



2.6.2 Drainage and Flooding

- JJ Lawrence Fields is part of the Christopher Creek stormwater run-off area, and is also subject to ponding in flood and heavy rain events
- This drainage and retention function protects adjoining properties, and this function is part of the City Council's Flood Management Strategy which cannot be compromised
- Drainage of part of McKittrick Park is also slow, which may indicate inadequate drains

Management Direction

– that the ponding concerns be acknowledged and potential drainage inadequacies in addressed in future improvements and maintenance
- the ponding function of the fields be retained.

Plate 5: Waterway, showing effects of ponding caused by the March 2001 flooding.



2.6.3 Lighting, Clubhouse and Grand Stand Facilities

- There is a concern that there are not enough grand stand facilities in the Park
- Some clubs believe that the lighting costs are unviable, and lighting inadequate
- The Council currently subsidises the lighting facilities
- Safety of the grandstand and canteen facilities requires regular review and action
- Users of JJ Lawrence Fields prioritise a canteen facility and lighting for the fields

Management Direction – Council liaise with light user groups to investigate opportunities for funding to improve the lighting facilities and support their ongoing usage
- Ongoing maintenance and upgrading of built facilities as required

2.6.4 Youth Activities

- There is an identified need for more youth facilities in South Grafton
- JJ Lawrence is considered appropriate due to its appeal, visibility and central location

- JJ Lawrence is already used extensively by young people, particularly on an informal basis, and the basketball courts are a key draw card
- There is some concern by nearby residents in relation to noise and events in the park
- A range of youth facilities has been suggested by those consulted, including improved (multi-use) basketball courts, a skate park, and more passive socialising facilities

Management Direction – Promote the greater use of McKittrick Park and JJ Lawrence Fields for youth activities and community-based activities, taking into account adjoining residents issues such as noise and lighting.

Plate 6: The basketball courts, showing toilets, seating and shade in background.



2.6.5 Passive Recreational Use

- The park is well used for walking through, “hanging out”, and informal play
- The park is also used by visitors and tourists for resting and picnicking
- There is a concern re visitors leaving litter to blow around
- Provision of more enclosed bins promotes domestic use, and should be discouraged
- Council provides temporary facilities for sports carnivals, and clean-up soon after
- More trees and shade is suggested by a number of park users
- There are currently no children’s play facilities or shelter/picnic facilities on the southern side of the fields

Management Direction – provision of signage regarding littering, provide further shade trees, shaded seating/picnic areas and informal children’s play equipment, and improved lighting around public facilities and for crossing the park in the evening
- Consider additional seating, tables and shelter facilities around JJ Lawrence Fields
- Prohibit golfing, dogs and horses to minimise conflicts between passive users

2.6.6 Amenity

- The fencing, entrance and grandstand structures have a visual impact to the south
- The grandstand has been modified from its original design, and was occasionally deteriorated by flooding although this threat has now been removed due to the levee
- The perimeter trees are highly valued by users, and the wider community
- More trees and shade is suggested by a number of park users

Management Direction- Upgrading of entrance to McKittrick Park, and provision of more shade trees and landscaping of the park perimeter, to promote “village green” feeling

Plate 7: McKittrick Oval fencing and structures has a visual impact on streetscape.



2.6.7 Car-parking

- Users generally feel that there is adequate on-street parking facilities around the park
- During busy events there is a possible hazard with parking on both sides of Ryan Street and vehicle manoeuvring, and the road is frequented by a lot of through traffic

Management Direction - Consider development of Vere Street reserve, south of the park, as a car parking area to remove the majority of manoeuvring vehicles from adjoining streets during busy periods

Plate 8: Existing parking areas, located adjacent to Ryan Road.



2.6.8 Maintenance

- There is a general perception by users and adjoining landowners that the fields are well maintained and provide good playing conditions
- The off-field maintenance is undertaken by the Nungera Cooperative, which is currently a satisfactory arrangement for both Council and the Cooperative
- The Cooperative noted that greater funding was required to cover cleaning up after all events in the park; a situation noted also by some users
- There are other sporting clubs interested in undertaking maintenance to support club activities, and reduce Council maintenance expenditure
- Safety and public health remains a key priority of the Council maintenance programs

Management Direction

– Review maintenance practices and arrangements, when and as required.

3 - MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

3.1 Management Objectives

3.1.1 Flexibility of Use

Provide flexibility for a range of future sporting and recreational activities in McKittrick Park, and promote compatible relationships between all users of the park.

3.1.2 Sporting Profile

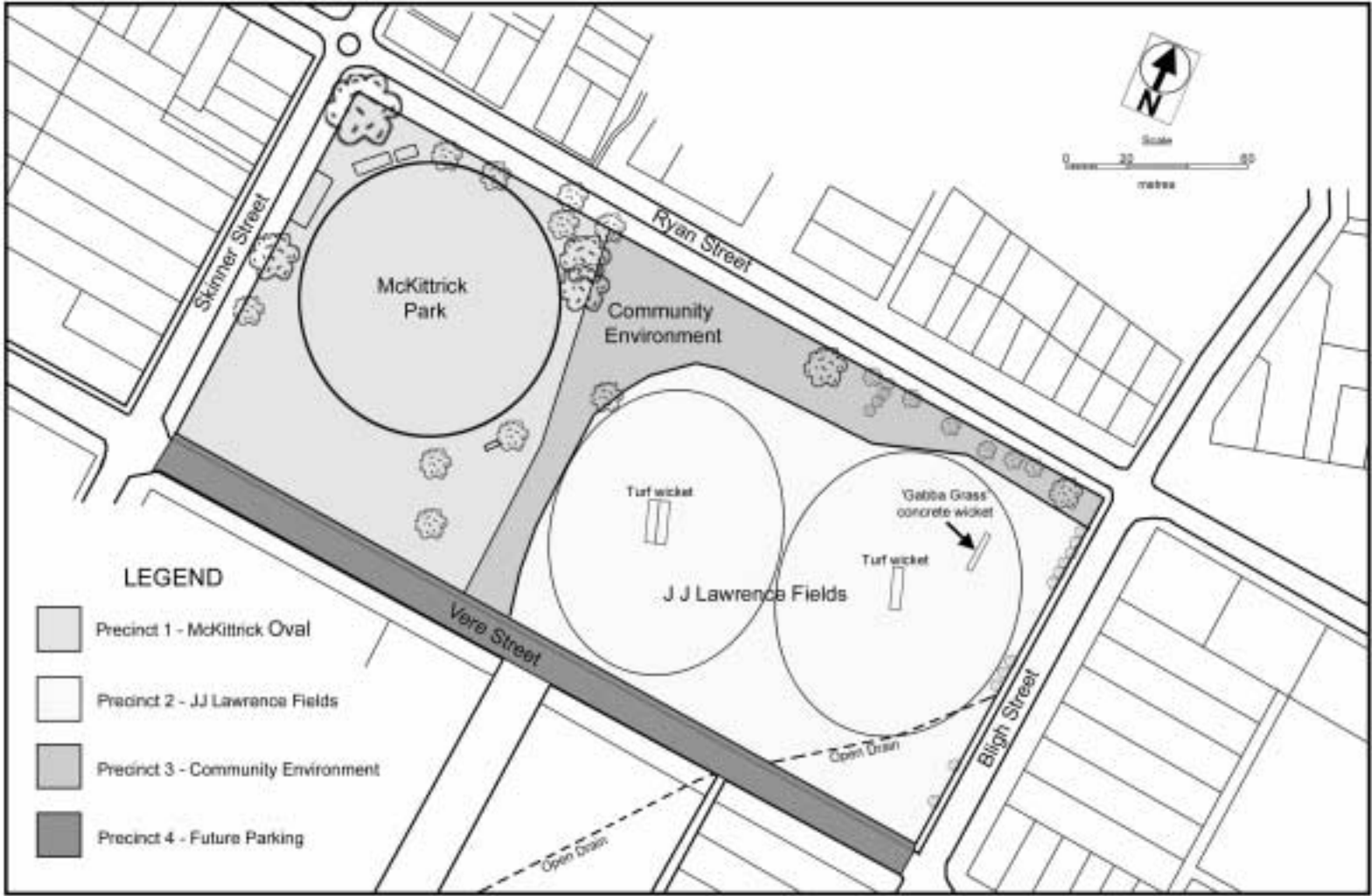
Retain and enhance the use and profile of McKittrick Park for schools and sporting clubs, and allow for the continued upgrading of existing and future facilities to meet regional sporting, public health and safety standards.

3.1.3 Social and Informal Recreation Uses

Recognise the significance of McKittrick Park for informal recreational use and social activities, through retention of its open and informal character and provision of suitable safe, high standard facilities.

3.1.4 Streetscape and Amenity

Ensure that McKittrick Park reflects and compliments the South Grafton central area, and amenity and streetscape of the surrounding neighbourhood.



McKittrick Park Precinct Plan (Draft)

3.2 Precinct Plan

The key values and issues, and associated management objectives, have formed the basis of the following Precinct Plan. The purpose of the Precinct Plan is to promote management actions based on identifiable management areas that correspond to physical boundaries and features and use characteristics.

3.2.1 Precinct 1 – McKittrick Oval

Description:

Precinct 1 is located in the western portion of the land, adjacent to Skinner, Ryan and Vere Streets. It contains most of the traditional formalised sporting facilities within the reserve, including 3 covered grandstands (pipe/timber/iron); large grandstand, toilets and clubrooms (cement brick/steel/iron); broadcast box (cement brick/iron); garage; an oval surrounded by a 400m circular cycling track and rail; scoreboard and lighting. It is delineated from the remainder of the reserve by a fence. This allows for an entrance fee to be charged and entry/egress movements controlled, when major games are played.

The area provides for the South Grafton Rugby League Club training needs and home-ground games, as well as for cycling practice, and cricket matches during the summer period. The standard of the ground and level of facilities allow for major games to be played, with considerable numbers of spectators.

Management Approach:

- Ongoing maintenance and improvement of grounds/facilities to support regional status
- Relocation of the cycling track, and redesign of existing oval to increase usage
- Upgrading of facilities and surrounds to improve the visual amenity of the precinct
- Investigate opportunities for use by additional sporting groups to share costs/facilities

Plate 9: Entrance to McKittrick Oval, showing amenity of structures and fencing.



3.2.2 Precinct 2 – JJ Lawrence Fields

Description and Function:

Precinct 2 (JJ Lawrence Fields) consists of two open fields with cricket pitches, and a small planted area in the south eastern corner adjacent to the South Grafton Primary School. There is also a footpath along the eastern boundary of the precinct (adjacent to Bligh Street) which is partly shaded by mature trees.

The precinct is used by the Grafton Cricket Association, Clarence Valley Pirates, South Grafton Rugby League Club, several schools and the South Grafton Fire Brigade for training, competitions, and games. It is also used extensively for informal play and sporting/physical activity practice; as well as for walking through, to, and from the South Grafton town centre.

Management Approach:

- Provide reasonable standard fields and associated basic facilities for a range of informal sports, training and physical activities available to the wider community
- Retain the open and informal character, and use, of the fields
- Continue to provide for a range of groups to utilise the fields for games and practice.

Plate 10: JJ Lawrence Fields, showing open vistas and use for walking through.



3.3.3 Precinct 3 – Community Environment

Description:

The key facilities in this precinct include male and female public toilets (brick) which are open to the general public 24 hours a day, bus stop, civic guide signage, netball/basketball courts and lights (2) taps, sheltered BBQ facilities, cricket nets and kiosk/storage shed (wood/iron). The toilets are not classified as accessible by the Disability Action Plan 2001.

Management Approach:

- * Recognise and enhance the role of the precinct in providing a social, practice, play space for the local South Grafton neighbourhood
- * Continue to provide for visitor and local stops, picnics and outings through BBQ/seating
- * Develop the precinct as a youth-friendly area through provision of suitable facilities and promoting organised youth events compatible with the surrounding neighbourhood
- * Improve the basketball courts and associated facilities as required, catering also for other informal physical activities where compatible
- * Promote the environmental functions of the waterway and surrounds by suitable planting
- * Maintain and improve the streetscape and environment of the precinct by retaining existing vegetation and undertaking suitable planting as required

Plate 11: Toilets, Civic Guide, seating and shade form part of Precinct 3.



3.3.4 Precinct 4 – Future Parking

Description:

Precinct 4 lies immediately adjacent to land subject to this plan, and is a road reserve which currently contains a gravel track used for parking and vehicular access to the fields when required. This area also forms part of the drainage and ponding function of Christopher Creek and the overall area during flood events.

Management Approach:

- Develop the area as a formalised parking and access facility to improve the safety and function of the overall Park.
- Additional tree planting to provide shade and improve the character/amenity of the area.
- Retain the existing drainage and ponding functions of the area.

3.3 Management Tables

The approach outlined in the McKittrick Park Precinct Plan provides the management framework for the Management Tables shown in Section 3.3 of the Plan. The Management Tables are based on the key issues and Management Objectives which emerged from the consultation process.

Management Objective 1: Flexibility of Use

Provide flexibility for a range of future sporting and recreational activities in McKittrick Park and promote compatible relationships between all users of the park.

Management Guidelines:

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
1.1 Improve and promote McKittrick Oval for a higher level of use by a range of sporting groups	1.1.1 Liaise with the South Grafton Rugby League Club, AFL, Soccer and other potential users to determine opportunities for multi-use of facilities, and design 1.1.2 Implement ground improvements, including expansion of the oval, removal of cycle track and rail as per Objective 2.1, drainage improvements as required, improved oval lighting and sheltered tables/seating area	* Upgrading of McKittrick Oval grounds to National Rugby League and standards which provide also for other major sporting games, such as AFL and soccer regional standards. * Multiple use of McKittrick Oval facilities by a range of sporting clubs	* Increased bookings of grounds and facilities by sporting groups and clubs • Improved returns to Council, minimised cost increases for user groups • Appropriate National Standards achieved for AFL, NRL and other potential major users	1
1.2 Retain the open nature of Precinct 2, and provide complimentary facilities, to support a wide range of organised and casual recreational uses	1.2.1 Retain existing general style and character of JJ Lawrence Fields 1.2.2 Consider upgrading shed for potential access by users 1.2.3 Lighting adjacent to courts for limited night training (such as Baseball, Fire Brigade, and evening use of Basketball Courts)	* Improved facilities and use of JJ Lawrence Fields by a range of user groups and clubs, including potential for night use	• Increased bookings and regular casual usage of fields • No complaints from South Grafton community regarding facilities	2

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
<p>1.3 Develop Precinct 3 with a distinct informal recreational theme, focussing on multi-use of facilities</p>	<p>1.3.1 Upgrade basketball courts and assoc. facilities for even greater casual usage, and use for complimentary sports such as netball and volleyball, including a safety net to assist in preventing balls on to the road</p> <p>1.3.2 Work with youth groups and service providers to determine additional facilities most beneficial to South Grafton. Considerations include Skate Park, upgraded outdoor courts and outdoor art/culture space.</p> <p>1.3.3 Improve lights adjacent to basketball courts, for use also by Baseball cricket nets practice and other sports</p>	<p>* Improved facilities and use of Precinct 3 in accordance with Objective 3.1.</p>	<p>* Agreed facility priorities and layout for Precinct 3 adopted by Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding allocated in Council's Management Plan and budget process. • Overall local community support, as determined by a survey associated with review of the Plan 	<p>3</p>
<p>1.4 Effectively coordinate development and maintenance requirements between Council and clubs</p>	<p>1.4.1 Regular meetings to identify future requirements, including concept planning for expansion of the grounds and facilities as required, and provide timely assistance as budget allows</p>	<p>* Upkeep of grounds and facilities to sporting association standards, in accordance with agreed annual program</p>	<p>* Annual adoption of joint agreed management arrangements with key clubs</p> <p>* Positive feedback from user groups</p> <p>* Adequate resources available to implement agreed program annually</p>	

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
1.5 Regular maintenance upgrading in order to ensure a high standard of safety in the provision and use of facilities, as part of a city-wide risk minimisation strategy on community lands	1.5.1 Implement part of the safety minimisation strategy as it relates to McKittrick Park, including regular inspection, review of risks, hazard identification and reporting procedures, monitoring and review 1.5.2 Implementation of an agreed program associated with a risk minimisation strategy, and Objective 1.1, with safety priorities to include:- 1.5.3 Removal of Cycle track and associated rail as a priority 1.5.4 Provision of a safety net behind basketball court 1.5.5 Improved security lighting near basketball courts, toilets, and along path adjacent to Bligh Street	* Upkeep of grounds and facilities to sporting association standards, in accordance with agreed annual program	* Annual adoption of agreed joint management arrangements between key sports/user clubs * Positive feedback from user groups * Adequate resources available to implement agreed program annually	
1.6 Adopt regulations to promote safety and minimise conflicts between users	1.6.1 Prohibit golfing, dogs and horses on McKittrick Park to minimise potential conflicts	* No unauthorised activities * Minimised liability to Council	* No unsafe incidents/actions caused by these activities	
1.7 Provision of an equitable system of charges for grounds and facilities so as to promote use and allocate costs to users.	1.7.1 Implementation of Council's Corporate Management Plan, and incorporation of user comments into future reviews of that Plan 1.7.2 Allow for cost recovery by groups through gate charges/sales of food and drink within regulations	* Minimised costs to Council, high standard of facility provision and promote cost recovery	* No incidents of facilities being under-utilised on the basis of 'onerous' cost structures	

Management Objective 2: Sporting Profile

Retain and enhance the use and profile of McKittrick Park for sporting clubs and schools, and allow for the continued upgrading of existing and future facilities to meet regional sporting, public health and safety standards.

Management Guidelines:

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
2.1 Progressive expansion of McKittrick Oval to meet appropriate safety and sporting ground standards	2.1.1 Remove existing cycle track, and investigate/initiate moves towards provision of suitable alternative facilities, in conjunction with the Grafton Cycling Club 2.1.2 Co-ordinate the support of the South Grafton RLC where able to assist in the provision of suitable alternatives for the cycling club 2.1.3 Design of a modified, enlarged oval layout in conjunction with South Grafton Rugby League Club, Grafton Cricket Association, Grafton AFL Club and other interested sporting groups 2.1.4 Implement the oval redesign in conjunction with interested groups	* Upgrading of McKittrick Oval grounds to National Rugby League and AFL standards * Provision of support and coordination of sporting club assistance for the relocation initiatives of the Cycling Club	* Enhanced use of the grounds for regional and state games and trials, as measured by number of larger games, and overall attendance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive feedback from the Cycling Club re benefits of developing alternative facilities • Appropriate National Standards achieved for AFL, NRL and other potential major users 	1
2.2 Promote the enhanced use of McKittrick Oval for sporting competitions, training and trials - inc. local, regional, state and national events.	2.2.1 Implement ground improvements, including expansion and drainage 2.2.2 Implement ground improvements, including expansion of the oval, removal of cycle track and rail as per Objective 2.1, drainage improvements as required, improved oval lighting and sheltered tables/seating area	* Multiple use of McKittrick Oval facilities by a range of sporting clubs * Improved returns to Council, minimise costs to user groups	* Enhanced use of grounds by local groups for games and competitions * Satisfaction of users via periodic survey.	1

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
2.3 Continue to encourage community-based management of grounds and facilities	2.3.1 Support the Nungera Co-operative maintenance arrangements, and expand budget/arrangements to encompass all significant events as appropriate 2.3.2 Investigate opportunities for other sporting clubs, such as SGRLC, if future opportunities arise	* High standard of cleanliness and surrounding ground care • Minimise cost to Council in budgeting, and setting use charges, by utilising community resources • Incorporation of sufficient funding into budget process	* Feedback from users and surrounding neighbours (no. of complaints, and via periodic survey) * Positive feedback from Nungera cooperative and other involved groups/clubs	1, 2
2.4 Effectively coordinate development and maintenance requirements between Council and clubs.	2.4.1 Regular meetings to identify future requirements, inc. concept planning for expansion of the grounds and facilities as required, and provide timely assistance as budget allows	* Upkeep of grounds and facilities to sporting association standards, in accordance with agreed annual program	* Annual adoption of joint agreed management arrangements with key clubs * Positive feedback from user groups * Adequate resources available to implement agreed program annually	1, 2

Management Objective 3: Social and Informal Recreation Uses

To recognise the significance of McKittrick Park for informal recreational use and social activities, through retention of its open and informal character and provision of suitable facilities.

Management Guidelines:

Policy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
3.1 Develop Precinct 3 with a casual recreation/play theme, focussing on multi-use of facilities and appeal to the wider community including children, families and visitors to South Grafton	3.1.1 Improve lights near basketball courts, for multi-purpose practice/play purposes, and safety	* Upgrade Precinct 3 to improve safety and promote general community use, including security lighting, accessible toilets, sheltered seating areas, shade planting and play equipment.	* Agreed facility priorities and layout for Precinct 3 adopted by Council • Funding allocated in Council's Management Plan and budget process • Positive feedback from local residents and other reserve visitors/users	3
	3.1.2 Upgrade basketball courts and assoc. facilities for greater casual usage, and use for complimentary sports such as netball, volleyball			3
	3.1.3 Provide additional sheltered seating and tables around courts and under trees towards Vere Street, within Precinct 3			3
	3.1.4 Retain existing trees and strategic planting of shade trees to provide shelter as per Objective 4.6			3
	3.1.5 Provision of children's play equipment within Precinct 3			3
	3.1.6 Upgrade/replace toilets to meet safety and access requirements			
3.2 Ensure that all improvements retain open vistas over the park, public access across the fields and general access to all users	3.2.1 Retain existing general style and character of JJ Lawrence Fields, as per 1.2	* Program of timely tree replacement with local species and retain existing trees as per Objective 4.6	* No negative feedback from the South Grafton community and nearby residents	2
	3.2.2 Additional planting/ street-scaping to be largely trees, to allow open vistas to be retained			All

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
3.3 Promote youth use of the park that does not compromise the enjoyment of other users and nearby residents, to provide a focal point for outdoor youth activities in South Grafton	3.3.1 Investigate additional youth facilities most beneficial to South Grafton, in conjunction with young people, City of Grafton, local businesses, Residents and Progress Association and youth groups/youth service providers. Considerations include Skate Park, roller-blading space, improved outdoor courts, and outdoor art/culture space 3.3.2 Work with youth service providers to promote the development of a program of youth events	* Recognition of McKittrick Park as an outdoor youth-friendly space, suitable for South Grafton-based youth events	* Positive feedback from young people, youth service providers and the South Grafton Residents Progress Association * Staging of youth events in McKittrick Park	3
3.4 Identify, acknowledge and protect the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the locality in park works and improvements.	3.4.1 Liaise with the local Aboriginal community prior to works which may disturb the ground, in accordance with NPWS Aboriginal heritage guidelines 3.4.2 Incorporate local Aboriginal themes into facility improvements within Precinct 3.	* Any future disturbance/modifications to be made with the consent of the local Aboriginal community, and in accordance with legislation * Creation of an Aboriginal theme in relevant improvements to Precinct 3.	* Compliance with relevant cultural heritage legislation * Feedback from the NPWS, Grafton Ngerrie LALC, and local elders/traditional owners	All 3
3.5 Create accessible facilities and grounds within the Park	3.5.1 Upgrade toilets to comply with Access legislation 3.5.2 Provide disabled parking bay adjacent to improved toilet facilities, and incorporate into future planning of Precinct 4.	* Compliance with the recommendations of the Disability Action Plan, 2001.	* Accessible toilets and designated parking spaces be placed in Council's Management Plan and included in budgeting.	3 4

Management Objective 4: Streetscape and Amenity

To ensure that McKittrick Park reflects and compliments the South Grafton central area, and the amenity and streetscape of the surrounding neighbourhood.

Management Guidelines:

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
4.1 Enhanced appearance of McKittrick Oval and facilities	4.1.1 Upgrading and painting of grandstand and associated facilities, in conjunction with users 4.1.2 Improve entrance, gates, fencing to improve amenity as per Objective 4.2	* Agreed program of works to improve the visual appearance of the grandstand/facilities	* Upgrading done as per agreed program * Positive feedback from Residents Progress Association and the local community	1
4.2 Create a heritage/ village green theme to enhance the streetscape and surrounds of McKittrick Oval to portray its historical significance to the South Grafton community	4.2.1 Create a heritage theme/ style and colour scheme for the park in conjunction with the South Grafton Residents Progress Association, Business Association, Historical Society and other local groups 4.2.2 Design and construct a heritage theme entrance for the main gates, reflected also in the street corner closest to South Grafton centre 4.2.3 Provide a heritage-style fence to be placed in front of existing wire fence surrounding McKittrick Oval along the street 4.2.4 Provide improved landscaping along the frontage to Skinner and Ryan Streets, including a range of vegetation heights	* Heritage style and theme agreed by appropriate groups * Improved appearance of entrances, fencing, and corner statement of McKittrick Oval	* Positive feedback from Residents Progress Association and the local community	1

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
4.3 Environmental repair and enhancement of appearance of waterway	4.3.1 Consider landscaping of waterway in Precinct 3, particularly on the slopes adjacent to Ryan Street, with regenerating local species such as shrubs and reeds	* Improved environmental function and safety and provision of a more natural riparian appearance of drain/waterway in Precinct 3.	* Implementation of appropriate landscaping as required	3
4.4 Ensure clean, well maintained and hygienic facilities, and reduce the incident of litter	4.4.1 Ensure maintenance contracts remove litter and clean facilities after all events, and provide additional bins for major games 4.4.2 Provide signage re litter/household refuse, and install special lids to discourage placing of other litter 4.4.3 Investigate recycling opportunities where possible	* Provision of safe, clean 24-hour toilets * No litter left lying around after games and events * Reduced cost to Council of rubbish removal from the park	* Complaints received from nearby residents, the local community or park users * Reports of park being in an untidy condition to/from Council maintenance staff	1, 3
4.5 Retain and upgrade existing parking areas and provide for improved off-street parking	4.5.1 Adopt a design for Precinct 4 including Vere Street between Bligh and Skinner Streets and exclusive designation for parking/access 4.5.2 Retain and progressively upgrade existing parking areas as required, including provision of an accessible parking area near toilets and other key facilities	* Maintenance of standard and safety of existing on-street parking * Adoption of Vere Street parking area layout to guide the future provision of off-street parking in Precinct 4. * Provision of accessible parking areas	* No incidents related to unsafe parking conditions * Parking layout approved for Precinct 4.	4 and surrounds of other precincts

Policy/Strategy	Action	Target	Measure	Precinct/s
<p>4.6 Protect existing mature trees from encroachment by facilities/utilities and undertake additional planting to replace trees as required.</p>	<p>4.6.1 Retain the streetscape of mature trees along Ryan, Bligh and Skinner Streets 4.6.2 Undertake a program of progressive replacement of these trees as they age, also replacing exotics (such as Camphor Laurels) with local native trees when appropriate 4.6.3 Undertake plantings along Vere Street and future parking area (where in accordance with proposed layout)</p>	<p>* Program of timely tree replacement with local species to improve overall shade/canopy * Development of a shady southern boundary and future parking area</p>	<p>* Overall increase in the number of shade trees around McKittrick Park * Positive comments from users via periodic survey</p>	<p>All</p>

4 - MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Section 4 outlines the regulatory guidelines and requirements that apply to the overall management of McKittrick Park.

4.1 Maintenance, Improvement and Development

- 4.1.1 Council shall progressively implement this Plan of Management in accordance with the Objectives, Policies and Actions of Section 3 as funding becomes available. The Plan recognises that Council's ability to provide such works will be determined partly by other budgetary demands on the Council, which is specified through Council's Corporate Management Plan.
- 4.1.2 Where Council is required to make a decision in relation to potentially incompatible uses of the Park, Council shall take into account the aims and objectives of the McKittrick Park Plan of Management and any relevant management guidelines outlined by the Plan.

4.2 Action Plans

- 4.2.1 Council, or a user group of the Park with agreement by Council, may develop an Action Plan for provision, replacement or progressive upgrading of facilities. These will be considered in accordance with this Plan of Management and, if necessary, in relation to Council's budget considerations. Action Plans beyond the scope of the Concept Plan attached to this plan should be presented with a detailed design plan, and any details of staging. Specific action plans adopted by Council will be attached to this Plan of Management and the background information will be kept with Council records.

4.3 Regulatory Framework

This Plan of Management authorises Council to enter into a leasing arrangement with a specific user of any part of McKittrick Park, where it is considered appropriate.

- 4.3.1 Prior to entering into a leasing arrangements with a user, Council will publicly advertise its intention to lease the subject area, and consult with the key user groups of McKittrick Park in order to obtain the views of affected parties.
- 4.3.2 Council shall develop a coordinated regulatory and by-law framework based on the strategic direction provided by the McKittrick Park Plan of Management, and Council policy, to be associated with and guided by the Plan of Management.

4.4 Community Involvement and Review of Plan

- 4.4.1 Council will ensure practical and ready access to the McKittrick Park Plan of Management, any amendments, and relevant supporting information in a manner which assists community involvement in and understanding of management processes.
- 4.4.2 Council shall undertake ongoing liaison with user groups and encourage feedback on the implementation of the Plan of Management.
- 4.4.3 Council shall be involved in ongoing review and liaison with user groups and the broader community as issues arise regarding the implementation of the Plan of Management. Where appropriate, the outcomes of this ongoing review and liaison shall be considered by Council in the preparation of its annual budget.
- 4.4.4 Council shall comprehensively review the management plan, including all goals, objectives and strategies, within a period of not less than five years from its adoption.

APPENDIX I

Summary of Consultation – User Groups and Affected Parties *McKittrick/JJ Lawrence Fields*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Key Points</i>
Bruce Baxter	Grafton Cricket Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Features - Council do a great job mowing, McKittrick playing surface is very good, well maintained • McKittrick gets the most use: lights are real asset, is set up for big games - has gate, and grand stands • Outer grounds only used for minor games • Issues - drainage is a problem on McKittrick, water tends to hang in the ground, esp. the SE corner (perhaps a few drain holes not working) severe ponding • Lights are at limit of financial viability/prohibitive also less effective over time • Not really conflict of seasons - work in well, footballers have an alternative when there's conflict • Cycleway doesn't interfere - safety issue if runners trip over oval but been there for 30 years • No future changes envisaged: want to keep as now
Mal Tilse, Rikki Corkaram, Tony Fischer, Greg Robertson, Narrelle Tilse, Geoff Chapman, Geoff Hill	Grafton Cycle Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oldest cycling club in Australia- still have all the records • Track is good entry point for new cyclists - safe • Have paid, in the past, for many facilities such as the grandstand and lighting, would not like to see these lost • Track already a long track now (ie 400m, new are 250m) • Used only in summer, Friday evenings if weather OK • Declining interest due to cost, insurance, safety issues • Extension would mean redesign, must be done very well • Track condition is deteriorated - needs substantial repair and probably relocation due to trees • Fence is not safe, people have hit it, incorrectly designed • In the past, looked at a velodrome alternative

		<p>beside tip, but not enough stable, committed volunteers to help</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest a criterium racing circuit as an alternative - more the direction of the sport, offroad improves safety • Some members still interested in velodrome/track • Looking for a piece of land where a dedicated track/s could be built -1km, more useful than a flat track, though one could be built inside, could train anytime, off-road • Several reserves suggested - agreed to examine possible sites, advise members, and meet with Council 29th May
Tom McKenna	South Grafton Rugby League Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been on McKittrick park since 1917 • One of the oldest Rugby League Clubs in Australia • Facilities are great, well set up, visitors enjoy • Best Rugby League ground on the N Coast for Group 1 • Club trains on JJ Lawrence Jan-April (cricket has oval) • Play on McKittrick from April - August, train Tues/Thurs • Issue - club pays majority of \$ to maintain/upgrade • Dearest ground to hire in the Northern Rivers • Needs a face lift to make it more conducive to today ie painting main grandstand- canteen has been redone, with several \$'000 worth of equipment. Council put in benches, club owns all the equipment. Upgrading is ongoing. • If Council supplies materials, club can produce the labour, ie putting picnic tables around the ground, and put a covered BBQ area adjacent to broadcast box • There are also holes in the fence to be fixed • Would like to see cycling track gone to allow elite games • Could take inner fence out another 3-5 metres for length • Cycle club is mainly road users, track too dangerous and cracks cause damage to bikes. • Could get people to help build an alternative track • Would like to see others use their equipment by hire • To save \$, proposes that the RL Club maintains the

		<p>ground (with help from people doing Community Service), and also around the hill (ie take over from Nungera)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Could also share facilities with OZ Rules and also cricket, soccer (big matches) - have a permanent PA, canteen, etc • Could lure national games and international trials/comps if the bike track wasn't there - bad spills over the track • Perhaps also Rugby Union - they can't charge now • Sharing use of the ground would reduce cost to RLC
Kerry Skinner	Clarence Valley Pirates Baseball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perfect home base - access and visibility is good, central and people can stop by/free, water resilient (drains well) • Play mostly in winter - from Easter to Sept, Sat. 7-4pm • Use playing area adjacent to basketball courts, and shed • No lighting on fields, so cant train there • Also no electricity in the shed/kiosk/storage area • Used as public thoroughfare - stop games whilst people walk through, but that's OK • Council maintenance good - supply bins, soil, paint, clean toilets, do their best to keep shed safe • Suggest a common light pole with basketball courts - don't need much light • Have portable nets to put up - permanent would be best • Suggest another amenities block - near cricket nets • Coffs Harbour also use the field when washed out • Also trying to get a junior comp, and softball, if an area • Still need another place to train until lights available • Priorities are light post, and electricity in the shed
Trevor Capene	Nungera Co-operative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance arrangements work well - if anything the group would like more work, and are capable to carry out • Some more budgeting for increased maintenance re cleaning up and removing litter after events, and upkeep of grounds, etc. (Sometimes not notified of all events)
Tressna Flower	Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need events location accessible to youth in South

	Development Officer, Grafton City Council	<p>area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options for youth activities , noise-generating Bike locking facilities required Suggest a questionnaire at South Grafton markets: ways to enhance park to provide things to do for young people
Sue Howland	Accessibility Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No accessible toilets No designated car parking
Pat Wilde	Adjoining land owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter - bin near picnic area but few walk across to use it, perhaps need education not to litter, blows around place Suggest little notices about rubbish near cricket areas Council maintains park very well - there often The more trees the better
Aboriginal Elders - details provided to Council	Local Aboriginal Elders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kids use the area a lot - need to be consulted Basketball court very popular - needs upgrading, perhaps an outdoor multi-use facility (netball, volleyball also) Suggest more seats, BBQs on the far side, upgrade of the toilets, seating and shelter near planted area, fence to stop the basketballs going on to road, light along the path near school, skate park on south side - safer, somewhere to rollerblade, stop going to Silver Jubilee
Tony Rhoder, Margaret Wilsmore	Grafton High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely use McKittrick, except for cricket and PSSA
Jim McDougal	Catherine McAuley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rarely use McKittrick -occasional football match and cricket (ie Daily Examiner Shield) up to 6times/year Good facilities, surface OK, excellent for football Very rarely use JJ Lawrence, facilities limited, but a good open space and adequate use of area Unlikely to change a great deal in the future
Wayne Phillips	Grafton Australian Rules Football Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If invited, would seriously consider McKittrick as ground Has all the facilities, change rooms, grandstand, fence Currently don't use - good length, may be a little narrow Would still need to train at Ellem - same nights as rugby May necessitate an extra set of goal posts at McKittrick

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFL plays Saturdays, Rugby League on Sunday so OK • Potential to negotiate on training days • Lights better, could also have night games at McKittrick • Good numbers and support this season • AFL now has school programs, so likely to expand
Cr Marie Matthew	South Grafton Business Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking at using McKittrick to a greater extent • Cycle track a danger - cant hold major games there • Perhaps to investigate a velodrome elsewhere • Could do with upgrading the entrance/pedestrian access
Bill Wynn	South Grafton High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Features - Good fields, well set up, good condition • Book JJ Lawrence in Terms 2,3, sometimes 4, and cricket also in Terms 1 and 4, during week days • Sometimes also use basketball facilities • Issues - will share some times with Grafton, no problems
Charles Huskins, Captain	South Grafton Fire Brigade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the fields for training for championships and fire fighting - has measured track, hydrants and drains • Main training ground, use varies - up to 2-3 days/week • No concerns, happy as is - not changes envisaged • Used to have good lights at Blight St end • Would use lights if they were there • Brigade maintains hydrants, puts in stand pipes
Tony Skinner	South Grafton Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sporting fields in Grafton are fantastic • Drainage of fields could be more effective, wet in corner nearest the school • Use a couple of times a week in school hours, very close • Will continue as is, plenty of space, no foreseen conflicts

APPENDIX II: KEY FINDINGS OF SURVEY

MCKITTRICK PARK/JJ LAWRENCE FIELDS

Demographic Analysis (N=35)

Age

0-10	4 (representing 14)
11-20	9
21-30	3
31-40	4
41-50	6
51-60	6
over 60	3

Gender

Male:	14 (representing 24)
Female:	12
Not recorded:	9

Resident of South Grafton:

Yes	21
No:	8
Not recorded:	6

YOUTH SURVEY (12 participants)

Key Findings - Likes & Dislikes

McKittrick Park / JJ Lawrence Fields

Likes	Number of Respondents
Grass / Open Space / Big	6
Sports	4
Picnics	3
Clean/Well-maintained	2
Fun	2
Climbing Trees	2
Dogs - walking, playing with	2
Wind-surfing in floods	1
Facilities	1

McKittrick Park / JJ Lawrence Fields

Dis-Likes	Number of Respondents
Nothing	8
Location	3

YOUTH SURVEY (12 participants)

Key Findings - Ideas for the Future

McKittrick Park / JJ Lawrence Fields

Future Ideas	Number of Respondents
More facilities	4
Better Maintenance	3
Leave the same	2
More Activities	2
More Trees	2
Change Use (less sport)	1
Canteen	1

ADULT SURVEY (23 participants)

Key Findings - Likes & Dislikes

McKittrick Park / JJ Lawrence Fields

Likes	Number of Respondents
Sports / Sporting Facilities	11
Green Open Spaces	8
Clean / Well Maintained	3
Public Access	2
That they exist	1

McKittrick Park / JJ Lawrence Fields

Dis-Likes	Number of Respondents
Nothing	12
Non-native Trees	2
Lack of Shade / Trees	2
Lack of Toilets	2
Lack of Seating	1
Flooding / Wet	1
Lack of Canteen	1
People / "Louts"	1

ADULT SURVEY (23 participants)

Key Findings - Ideas for the Future

McKittrick Park / JJ Lawrence Fields

Future Ideas	Number of Respondents
More Shade / Trees	6
Leave the Same	3
Change Use	3
More Seating	3
More Maintenance	2
More / Better Toilets	2

What Do you Like about the Parks?

Clean
Made well
Like to play there
Good place for playing sports
Watching sports
Picnics (2), Great for picnics
Fun (2)
walking
Lots of grass (2)
Very soft grass good to sit on
Green grass
Big
Big areas of space
Cricket turf and nets (2)
Cricket
Trees you can climb (2)
Quiet
Place to practice
Play with dogs
Good spot to take dog for a run
Not really sure, I mean it's not the most exciting park in Grafton
Wind-surfing in the floods
Facilities

What Don't you Like about the Parks?

Nothing (7)
Nothing, it is good.
Position
Where it is
Too close to each other

What would you Like to see Happen in the Future?

Leave them as they are (2)
Stay the same, good as they are
Cleaner Toilets
More facilities
More activities
Get some more happening things there - e.g., bands and stuff
Canteen
Big screen & scoreboard
Playground
Pool
Less sport
More sitting areas, trees etc
Changed into parkland (i.e., more trees)

Be kept neat and tidy
 Keep them maintained and in good condition

Adults - McKittrick Park/JJ Lawrence Fields

Importance of Parks?

Very – 18
 Moderately - 3
 Slightly - 1
 Not at all - 1 (needed for younger generations)

Ever Visit the Parks?

Yes – 18
 No – 4

How Often?

At least every day - 0
 Few Days a Week - 5
 Once a Week - 4
 Every few weeks - 3
 Once a month - 0
 Less than Once/Month - 6

What For?

Walking through - 5
 Hanging Out - 0
 Play/relaxing - 0
 School Sports - 3
 Sports Games - 3
 2 (rugby)
 1 (cricket)
 Watching Sport - 3
 4 (rugby league)
 3 (cricket)
 Other - 1
 1 (walking with dog)
 1 (shows/amusements)
 1 (relax on a bench)

What Do you Like about the Parks?

They're there
 Well kept
 Nice and neat, well attended to
 A lot of money has gone into maintenance (flood prevention)
 Good Fields

Flat and good grass for playing
Three cricket pitches in one park
Practice nets
Amenities block
Encourage youth to do sports
Somewhere children can play sport and families can go together
Good venue for neice and nephews' sport games
Nice and green, open space
Open space, no buildings, recreational facility
Great to have open expanses in the city
Grassy hill
Wide open green spaces
Spacious, open air
Wide open spaces accessible to the public
Open aspect
Freely accessible to general public (don't need to play sports)
That it gets kids out to play sport
A good oval for Rugby League – the South Grafton Rebels
Good ground, level, open - can pick up a lot of speed, great for training

What Don't you Like about the Parks?

Nothing (11)
Character and history
Not Enough Grand Stands
Nothing – 100% in favour of them
They flood easy
Camphor laurel trees (non-native, prevents regrowth of vegetation natives)
Insufficient shade trees - non-native shade trees
'louts"/rough people around the toilets/basketball courts
toilets
not enough toilets
No canteen

What would you Like to see Happen in the Future?

Keep them there
Take out cycle track
Make it bigger
Maybe some play equipment for smaller children
Just well maintained as they are at present, but more trees and seats
Better flood planning but basically stay the same
Leave them the same - they are fine the way they are
Maintained as is
Further maintenance (keep them well kept)
Left as they are with no changes other than improvements for their use
Expanded light, airy, clean toilets
Another toilet block on far side of park from road

More native shade trees

More trees

More shade trees (2)

More shade

More stands in there

More seating

Get used a bit more

Upgraded and used for activities other than soccer (e.g., festivals)

Allow dogs on the park

SURVEY FORM



McKittrick/JJ Lawrence Fields and Rushforth Road Soccer Fields



About you: (please tick)
 Age: (child) 0-10 (teen) 11-20 (adults) 21-30
 31-40 41-50 51- 60 over 60
 Male Female
 Are you a resident of South Grafton? Yes No

Council is preparing Plans of Management to:

- Be a framework for managing and improving the parks
- Provide a vision for the future of the parks
- Ensure the community is involved and your views included
- Fulfil Council's statutory requirements

About the parks:

1. How important/valuable are the parks to you? (please tick)

a. McKittrick/JJ Lawrence Fields not at all slightly moderately very
 b. Rushforth Soccer Fields not at all slightly moderately very

2. Do you ever visit the parks? (please tick)

a. McKittrick/JJ Lawrence - Yes No b. Rushforth Rd - Yes No

<p>If yes, how often?</p> At least every day <input type="checkbox"/> A few days a week <input type="checkbox"/> Once a week <input type="checkbox"/> Every few weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Once a month <input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a month <input type="checkbox"/> Comment.....	<p>What for?</p> Walking Through <input type="checkbox"/> Hanging Out <input type="checkbox"/> Play/Relaxing <input type="checkbox"/> School sports <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Games <input type="checkbox"/> (Which?)..... Watching Sport <input type="checkbox"/> Which?)..... Other <input type="checkbox"/>	<p>If yes, how often?</p> At least every day <input type="checkbox"/> A few days a week <input type="checkbox"/> Once a week <input type="checkbox"/> Every few weeks <input type="checkbox"/> Once a month <input type="checkbox"/> Less than once a month <input type="checkbox"/> Comment.....	<p>What for?</p> Walking Through <input type="checkbox"/> Hanging Out <input type="checkbox"/> Play/Relaxing <input type="checkbox"/> School sports <input type="checkbox"/> Sports Games <input type="checkbox"/> (Which?)..... Watching Sport <input type="checkbox"/> Which?)..... Other <input type="checkbox"/>
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3. What do you like about the parks? (their positive aspects?)

McKittrick/JJ Lawrence	Rushforth Rd Soccer Fields

4. What don't you like about the parks? (their negative aspects, your concerns?)

McKittrick/JJ Lawrence	Rushforth Rd Soccer Fields

5. What would you like to see happen to the parks in the future?

McKittrick/JJ Lawrence	Rushforth Rd Soccer Fields