



Holroyd City Council

Wentworthville Memorial Park

Plan of Management



EDAW

Holroyd City Council

Wentworthville Memorial Park
Plan of Management

Edaw (Aust) Pty Ltd
Landscape Architects - Environmental Planners

211 Pacific Highway
ST LEONARDS NSW 2065
Ph. (02) 9906 6899 Fax. (02) 9906 4380

16 . 9 . 97

WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

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WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Under the Local Government Act of 1993, Local Councils are required to prepare Plans of Management for all Community Land, to ensure it is effectively planned and managed. Community Land, as defined by the Act may be classified as:

- Parks
- Sportsgrounds
- Natural Areas (watercourses, wetlands etc)
- General Community Use

Under these definitions, Wentworthville Memorial Park is classified as a Sportsground. A Sportsground is defined as an area of community owned open space which is used primarily for formal active recreational activities. Classification within the terms of the Act, assists the formulation of objectives for the long term management of this important Community Land resource.

The main objective of this Plan of Management (POM) is to guide future management and development of Wentworthville Memorial Park within the legislative requirements of the Local Government Act, taking account of community expectations and the resources available to Holroyd City Council.

Wentworthville Memorial Park is located near the corner of the Cumberland Highway and Dunmore Street at Wentworthville. (See Figure 1) The park contains the Wentworthville Memorial Swimming Centre (See Figure 2) together with a small area of public open space adjoining the eastern boundary and the Wentworthville Youth Centre in the northern end of the park. The facilities within the park attract a number of user groups. It is therefore important to ensure that future development and management of the park effectively responds to community expectations and requirements.

1.2 Scope of this Plan of Management

Wentworthville Memorial Park has been developed over many years by both Holroyd City Council (HCC) and the Wentworthville RSL Club. Due to the diversity of facilities available on the site, it is used by a wide range of user groups. This Plan of Management (POM) aims to incorporate the varying needs of each group as well as the wider community into the park's future management and development. These needs are expected to continue to focus primarily on sporting activities, ceremonial activities, passive recreation and the activities of the Youth Centre.

Objectives of this POM are based on the Programs and Broad Objectives that are expressed in HCC's "Towards 2000 Management Plan" and "State of the Environment Report". Other documents consulted in preparing this Plan of Management included the Upper Parramatta River Catchment Trust Policy Manual (UPRCT), and the HCC Policies, Codes and Delegated Authority Manual. Direction was also obtained via discussions with Council staff and relevant user groups.

The specific objectives of this POM are to:

- ensure the park is a safe environment available/accessible for use by all sectors of the community.
- achieve a consistent and responsible approach to the management and maintenance of the park's resources.

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- provide adequate, equitable and appropriate services for the community and to ensure they are managed efficiently.
- manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environmental values of the park, to ensure it is sustainable for future generations while being visually attractive and pollution free.

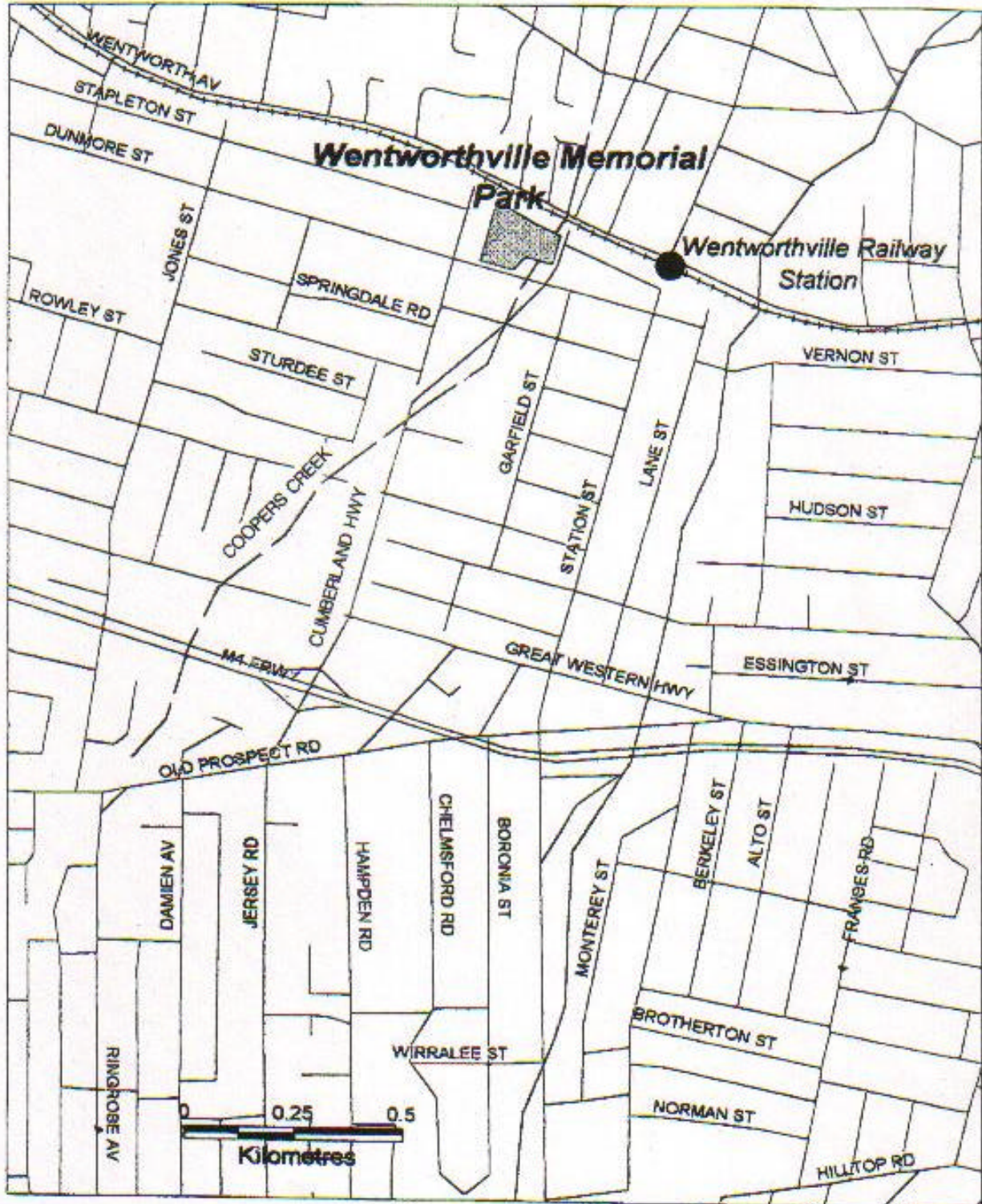
1.3 Community Consultation

The Draft POM was placed on public display for a period of 42 days to provide an opportunity for interested members of the community to comment. Comments received were considered by Council and the final POM amended where appropriate.

WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK LOCATION PLAN

Figure 1.

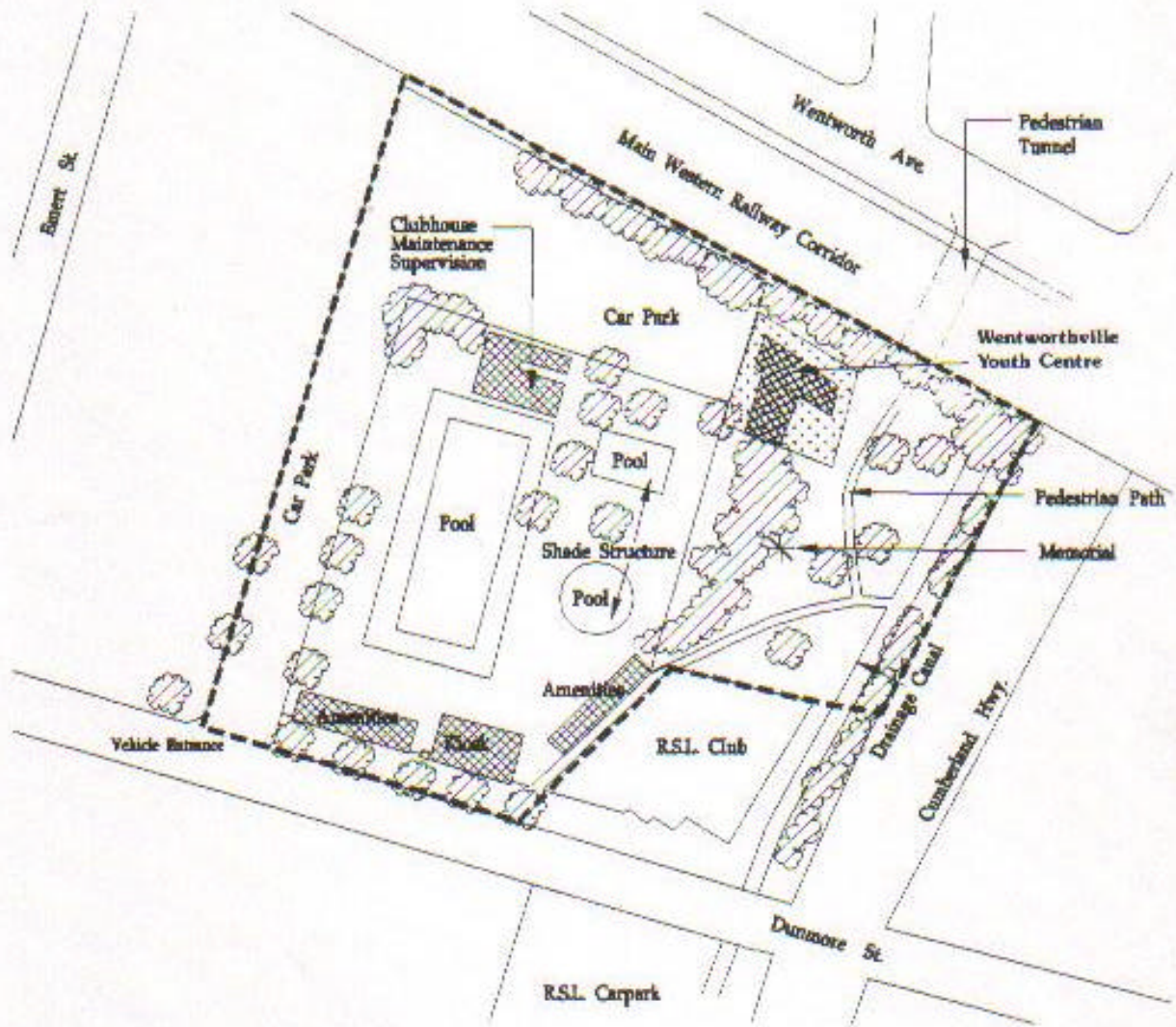


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WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

SITE LAYOUT
Figure 2.



LEGEND

-  Existing Structures
-  Existing Pathways
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Vegetation
-  Park Boundary



WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

2. CONTEXT

2.1 Regional Significance

Covering an area of approximately 1.9ha, Wentworthville Memorial Park is located at the intersection of the Cumberland Highway and Dunmore Street at Wentworthville. The park forms an important component of the recreational facilities managed by Holroyd City Council. Wentworthville Memorial Park is regionally important as it is used by some sixteen schools in the area, for their sport and recreation activities. These schools use the swimming pools at Wentworthville Memorial Park for their swimming carnivals and weekly sport activities during summer. The pools are also utilised by several swimming clubs which train at the park for competitive swimming events. In addition the pool facilities are available to the general public.

Recreation demand for the Park is discussed in more detail in section 2.5 of this POM.

2.2 Cultural and Historical Significance

Wentworthville Memorial Park is an important part of the cultural resources of Wentworthville. It is named the Memorial Park due to the location of a war memorial on the eastern side of the park. It has also been the site of the Wentworthville RSL Youth Club for more than 30 years. The Club building was recently upgraded and is now known as the Wentworthville Youth Centre. The local popularity of the centre is evident by its high attendance figures. The Youth Centre premises, located in the north east corner of the park, is an important venue for youth social functions and entertainment.

Wentworthville Memorial Park is also used by several other organisations involved in the following range of activities:

- Youth Groups
- Schools (for weekly sports activities and carnivals)
- Charity Groups
- Memorial Services

The Wentworthville Swimming Centre was constructed in the park in November 1965. Since the centre's opening it has provided recreational facilities for the residents of Holroyd and surrounding areas.



The Wentworthville Youth Centre is located along the northern boundary of the park, behind the Swimming Centre

2.3 Physical Site Factors

2.3.1 Introduction

For the purposes of this POM Wentworthville Memorial Park has been divided into four broad management zones, based generally on landuse and other physical determinants, as indicated on Figure 3. These include:

- Zone A** Car park area along the northern and western boundary of the park
- Zone B** Southern zone incorporating the Swimming Centre and associated amenity buildings
- Zone C** North east zone of open space incorporating the drainage channel

WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

corridor and War Memorial

Zone D The Wentworthville Youth Centre premises located along the northern boundary of the park

Existing trees particularly natives, can be regarded as providing some habitat to bird species and invertebrates that have adapted to an urban environment.

2.3.2 Climate

The climate of Wentworthville Memorial Park is typical of the western suburbs of Sydney. The months of highest rainfall generally occur within the first half of the year and the area receives an average of 970mm rain per year. Temperatures in the Holroyd area vary between 4-34 degrees Celsius.

2.3.3 Vegetation

No remnant natural vegetation occurs at Wentworthville Memorial Park. The vegetation which does occur consists of a variety of mainly exotic deciduous and evergreen trees both within the pool compound and in the parking areas and streets outside. The most common species is Cocos Palm (*Arecastrum romanzoffianum*), which is planted extensively in the pool complex.

2.3.4 Wildlife

Due to the absence of indigenous vegetation, there is no significant wildlife habitat within Wentworthville Memorial Park. The park is surrounded by urban development and physical linkages with other open space areas are therefore limited. Potential exists for development of a vegetated wildlife corridor along the canal passing through the park. Other open space areas along this canal include Ringrose Park, and Carolyn St. Reserve to the south of the M4 Motorway.

However the corridor is cut by a number of major roads including the M4 Motorway, Great Western Highway and Western Railway.

2.3.5 Landform and Drainage

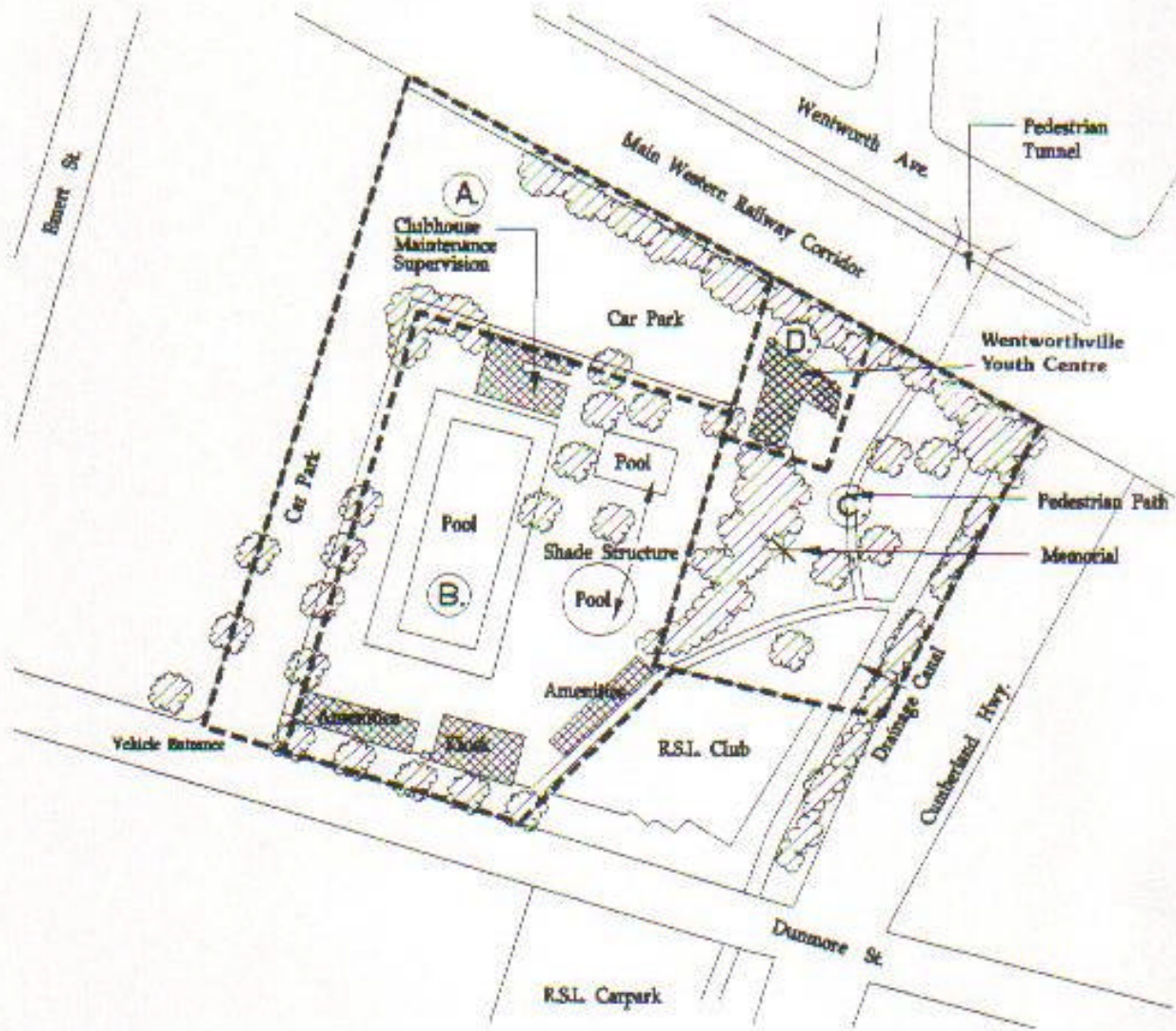
Along the eastern side of the park, Coopers Creek, now a concrete lined drainage channel carries stormwater through the park from up stream areas to the south. Water passing through the channel eventually drains into Toongabbie Creek to the north and then east into the Parramatta River. As this open channel has been designed to carry flood flows, it is rarely filled to capacity. Consequently the vertical concrete sides are visually prominent from the pedestrian bridge connecting Wentworthville Memorial Park to the Cumberland Highway corridor and from adjoining areas within the park. Drainage patterns are illustrated in Figure 4.

2.3.6 Buildings and Structures






The location of buildings on the site is indicated on Figure 2. In Zone B there are four buildings; two amenity blocks located at the southern and northern ends of the swimming pool, a kiosk located in the south east corner of the zone and a clubroom / maintenance / supervision building. The premises of the Wentworthville Youth Centre and a mini basketball court are located in Zone D.

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MANAGEMENT ZONES
Figure 3.



LEGEND

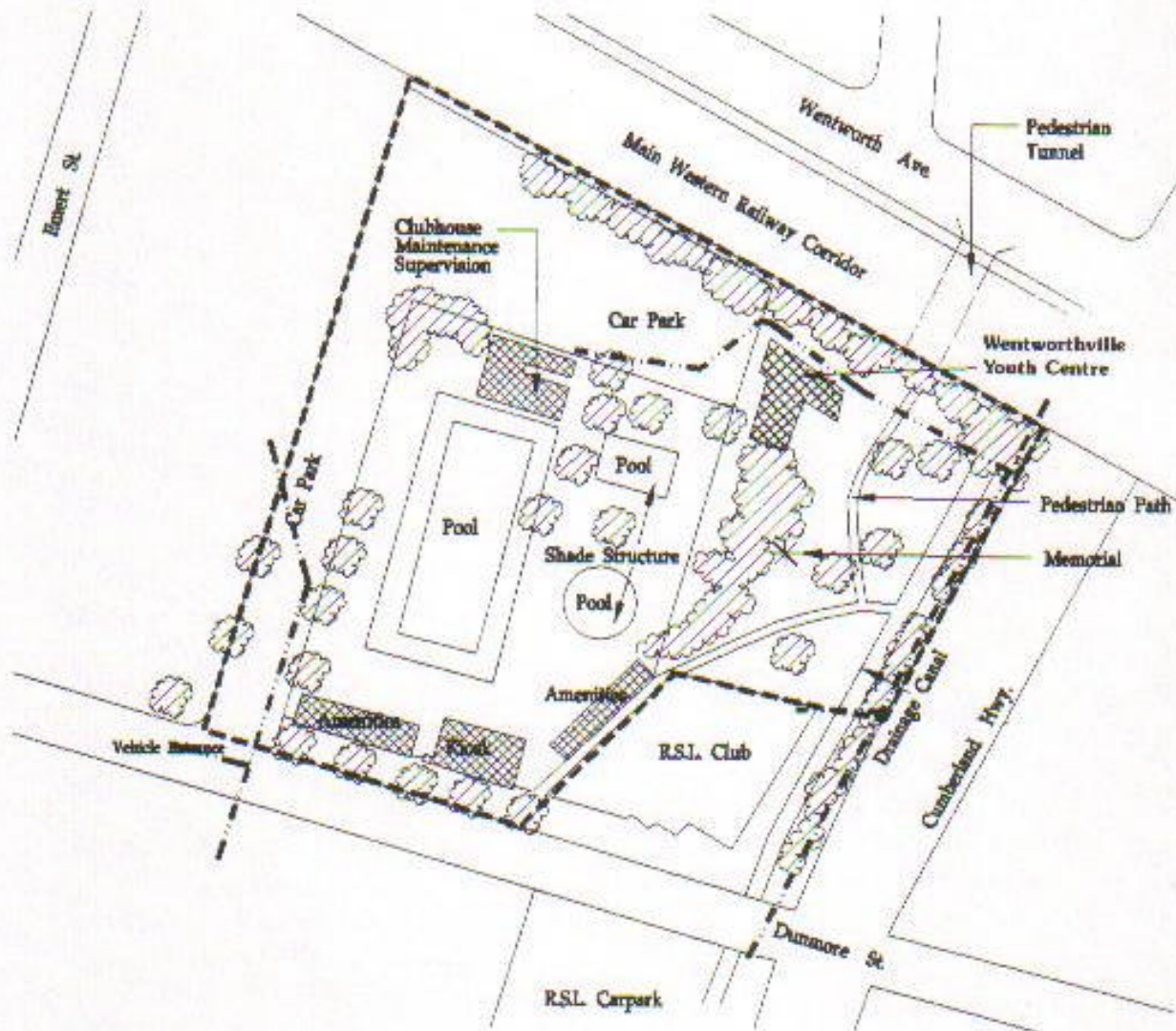
-  Existing Structures
-  Existing Pathways
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Vegetation
-  Zone A-D Boundaries









WENTWORTHVILLE MEMORIAL PARK PLAN OF MANAGEMENT

STRUCTURES, SERVICES & DRAINAGE

Figure 4.

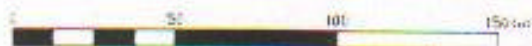


LEGEND

-  Existing Structures
-  Existing Pathways
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Vegetation
-  Wentworthville Memorial Park
-  Approx. Route of Sewer Line



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The Wentworthville RSL Club building, located on the boundaries of the south east corner of the park is visible in the background while the concrete drainage channel can be seen in the foreground.

2.3.7 Services

The location of existing services is illustrated by Figure 4. All buildings within the park have water, sewerage and electricity. The pool and carpark are provided with lighting through a series of pole-mounted floodlights. The park contains an adequate number of rubbish bins for its current usage levels.

2.4 Visual Considerations

From within the park views to the north are screened by the railway embankment. While passing trains are visible, areas beyond the railway tracks cannot be seen from the park. Passengers on trains travelling along this railway line (the main Western Line) are provided with attractive views of the park (refer to Figure 5).

A high fence separates the park from the residential development adjoining the western edge of the park. This fence provides the adjoining residents with a degree of privacy, although two storey units along this edge are still visible from the park.

The southern boundary of the park adjoins Dunmore Street. This two lane local road has medium traffic flow but does not visually intrude into the park due to the location of the kiosk and amenity buildings along the southern boundary of

the park. These buildings block views and noise from Dunmore Street and the residential development beyond. Views to the south from Zone C and D are obscured by the visually dominant RSL Club building.

The eastern boundary of the park adjoins the Cumberland Highway. This six lane highway has a high to very high traffic flow particularly during peak periods. It produces a high level of noise intrusion into Zones C and D. From the Highway, views of the park are partially obscured by tree and shrub planting along the channel corridor of Zone C. From within the park the commercial and residential development areas east of the Highway are only partially visible through the roadside planting.

2.5 Current Recreational Usage

2.5.1 Introduction

Wentworthville Memorial Park is utilised by a number of groups and individuals who from time to time may have differing needs and priorities for use of the park.. These priorities may in some instances conflict with Council objectives and the surrounding community. Such conflicts can result in complaints such as excessive noise, problems of illegal parking and differing demands on Council's resources.

Wentworthville Memorial Park is used for sports, ceremonial and passive recreational activities. The swimming centre area of the park is used for both competition and general recreational swimming. The open space area along the eastern portion of the park is used to a small extent for passive recreational activities due to the high level of noise intrusion and its isolation from the rest of the park. However, it is used as the focus of annual memorial services conducted by the Wentworthville RSL Branch.

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The Wentworthville Youth Centre is used by Council to provide activities and support for local youth. This facility is also shared with the Wentworthville RSL Youth Club.

2.5.2 User Demand

The major users of Wentworthville Memorial Park include swimming clubs, local residents, schools, returned service men and women, charity groups and private swimming coaching organisations. The Swimming Centre records higher attendance levels in summer than those of both Merrylands Park Swimming Centre and Guildford Indoor Aquatic Centre. This is possibly due to the park's proximity to the local railway station and other public transport services.

Schools use the Swimming Centre for their weekly summer sport for approximately 2 hours a week on schools days. In addition schools often use the centre for their annual swimming carnivals which take place between the months of February to April. Facilities are not adequate to cater for the number of students who attend these carnivals as there is inadequate shade and shelter during adverse weather conditions. As students are required to spend the entire day out of doors during summer months at these carnivals, additional facilities are required to ensure children are protected from the sun while being spectators at sporting events.



The Swimming Centre is used by several schools in the area for their weekly school sports.

Due to the lack of shelter, spectators and competitors are subject to high levels of sun and heat exposure. The school groups currently using the swimming centre include:

- Model Farm High School
- Greystanes Primary
- Pendle Hill Primary
- Arthur Phillip High School
- Lalor Park Public School
- Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School
- Wentworthville Public School
- Baulkham Hills Public School
- The Meadows Public School
- Darcy Road Public School
- Toongabbie East Public School
- Oakhill College
- Our Lady of Mercy College
- Toongabbie West Public School
- Toongabbie Baptist
- Winston Hills Public School
- St. Bernadette's
- St. Anthony's
- Girraween High School
- Pendle Hill High School
- Girraween Public School
- St Mary's Public School
- Metella Road Primary School
- Toongabbie Public School

In addition, the following swimming clubs use the pool facilities:

- Wentworthville RSL Diggers Swimming Club
- Wentworthville RSL Youth Group Swimming Club

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The Wentworthville RSL Diggers Swimming Club use the pool several times a week during summer for training purposes. The Wentworthville RSL Youth Group Swimming Club uses the facilities every afternoon during summer months as well as Saturday mornings. The Youth Group provides free swimming lessons to the public each Saturday morning. This is part of the Youth Group's community service work throughout Holroyd. Students are asked to pay the normal entrance fee into the swimming centre and are then coached free of charge by the youth group's swim team.

Individual swimming lessons are also available at the pool by a qualified instructor. A charge is made for these lessons which is separate to the entrance fee to the pool. The instructor is not contracted by Council to provide lessons at the pool and accordingly Council makes no direct income from these lessons except through the additional people who pay to enter the Swimming Centre.

The Wentworthville Youth Centre is a facility established for youth activities. Wentworthville Youth Services (WYS) and the Wentworthville RSL Youth Club (WRSLYC) jointly use the centre. Two youth workers employed by the Council manage the WYS programs which include structured information and training programs, as well as drop-in sessions for general activities.

Gymnastics training is held by the WRSLYC usually on a weekly basis at the Youth Centre and the club has an office within the building for their administration functions.

There is a high demand for youth services within the Wentworthville area and the recently upgraded centre adequately services this need.



The larger pool is used for swimming training several times a week by a variety of groups in the Holroyd community

2.6 Planning Considerations

2.6.1 Adjoining Land Use

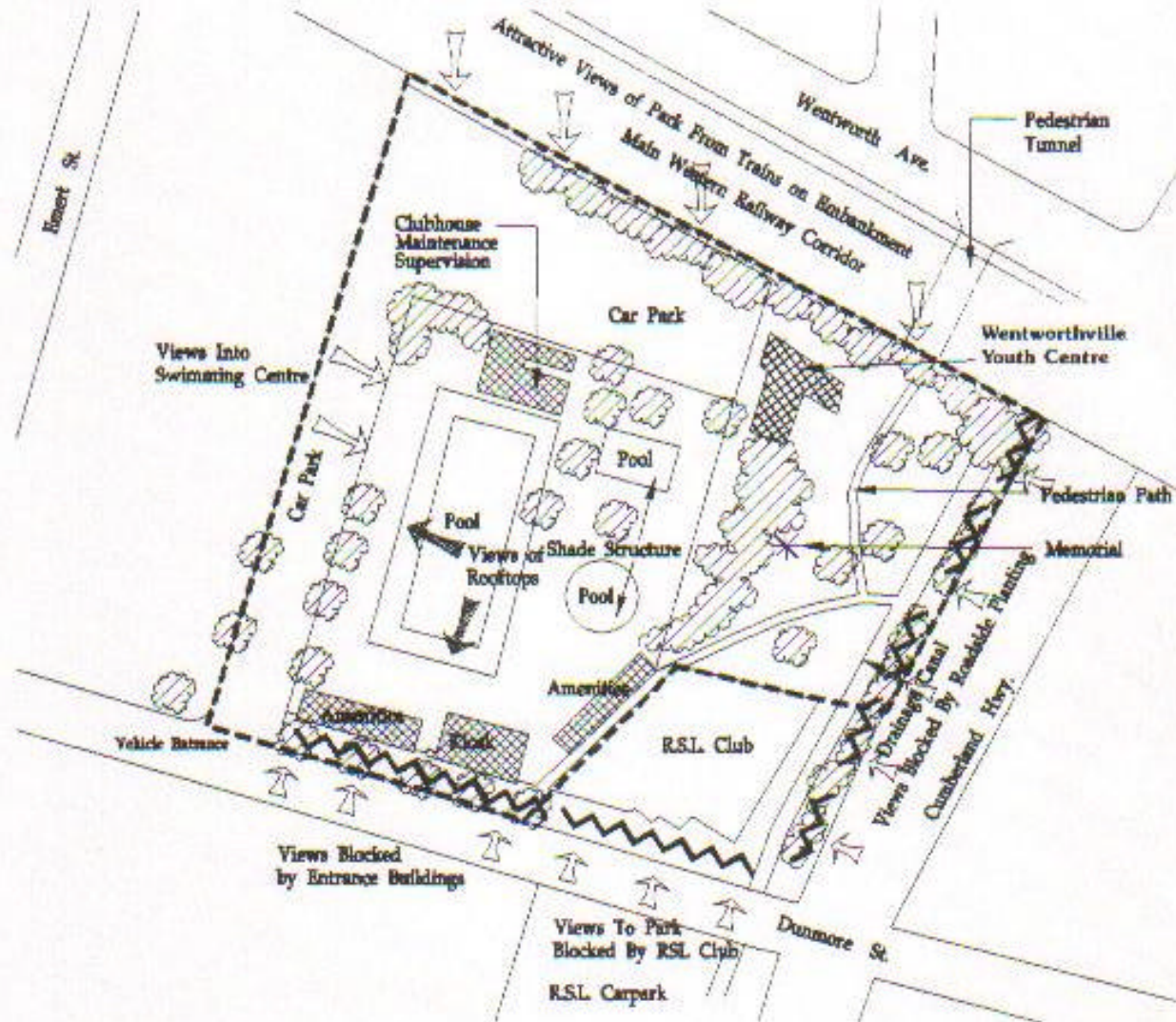
Residential development is the primary adjoining land use to the west of the park, to the south (beyond Dunmore Street) and along parts of the eastern boundary (beyond the Cumberland Highway). Residents in these areas have at times complained of noise generated by the Wentworthville Youth Centre and the Swimming Centre (Refer to Figure 6).

These complaints are less frequently received from residents living along the eastern side of the park as they are subject to a high level of traffic noise from the Cumberland Highway. In addition these homes have been largely screened with vegetation on the western side of the highway, which provides a visual separation. This vegetation also reduces the visual prominence of the Highway in respect to the Park and screens the channel from passing motorists.








The western boundary of the park is separated from activities within the Swimming Centre by the carpark and a two metre high chainmesh fence. Screen planting along this boundary also reduces the amount by which residents along this western side are effected by park activities.

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VISUAL ASSESSMENT
Figure 5.



LEGEND

-  Existing Structures
-  Existing Pathways
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Vegetation
-  Views Into Park Screened By Buildings and Vegetation
-  Views Out of Park
-  Views Into Park



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The northern boundary of the park is defined by railway lines located on top of a steep embankment.

2.6.2 Zoning and Planning Controls

The Wentworthville Memorial Park site is zoned 6(a) Open Space. Holroyd City Council's objectives for this zone are to:

- identify land which is currently used or is intended to be used for the purposes of open space or public recreation
- allocate sufficient open space to serve the present and future recreational needs of residents and visitors
- enable development associated with, ancillary to or supportive of public recreational use

Within these open space areas the following works can be undertaken without development consent:

- landscaping
- gardening
- bushfire hazard reduction

The following activities are not permitted without development consent:

- construction of advertising structures
- buildings for the purposes of landscaping
- caravan parks
- child care centres and children's playgrounds
- drill grounds
- forestry
- public baths
- public reserves
- racecourses
- recreation areas and facilities

- showgrounds, sportsgrounds and tourist facilities
- utility installations
- uses or buildings associated with those purposes which are under the care, control and management of the Council.

Purposes other than those listed above are prohibited in areas zoned 6(a) Open Space.

Except that Council may construct roads, stormwater drainage, recreation areas, public amenities, parking areas and cycleways in this zoning without obtaining its own consent.

2.6.3 Access and Circulation

Access and circulation relating to Wentworthville Memorial Park is shown on Figure 7. Vehicle access into the park is gained via the Dunmore Street entrance. A carpark is located along the west and northern boundaries of the park. Vehicle access to the Wentworthville Youth Centre is gained via the car park. There is also restricted vehicle access to the war memorial via the lane on the western side of the RSL Club.

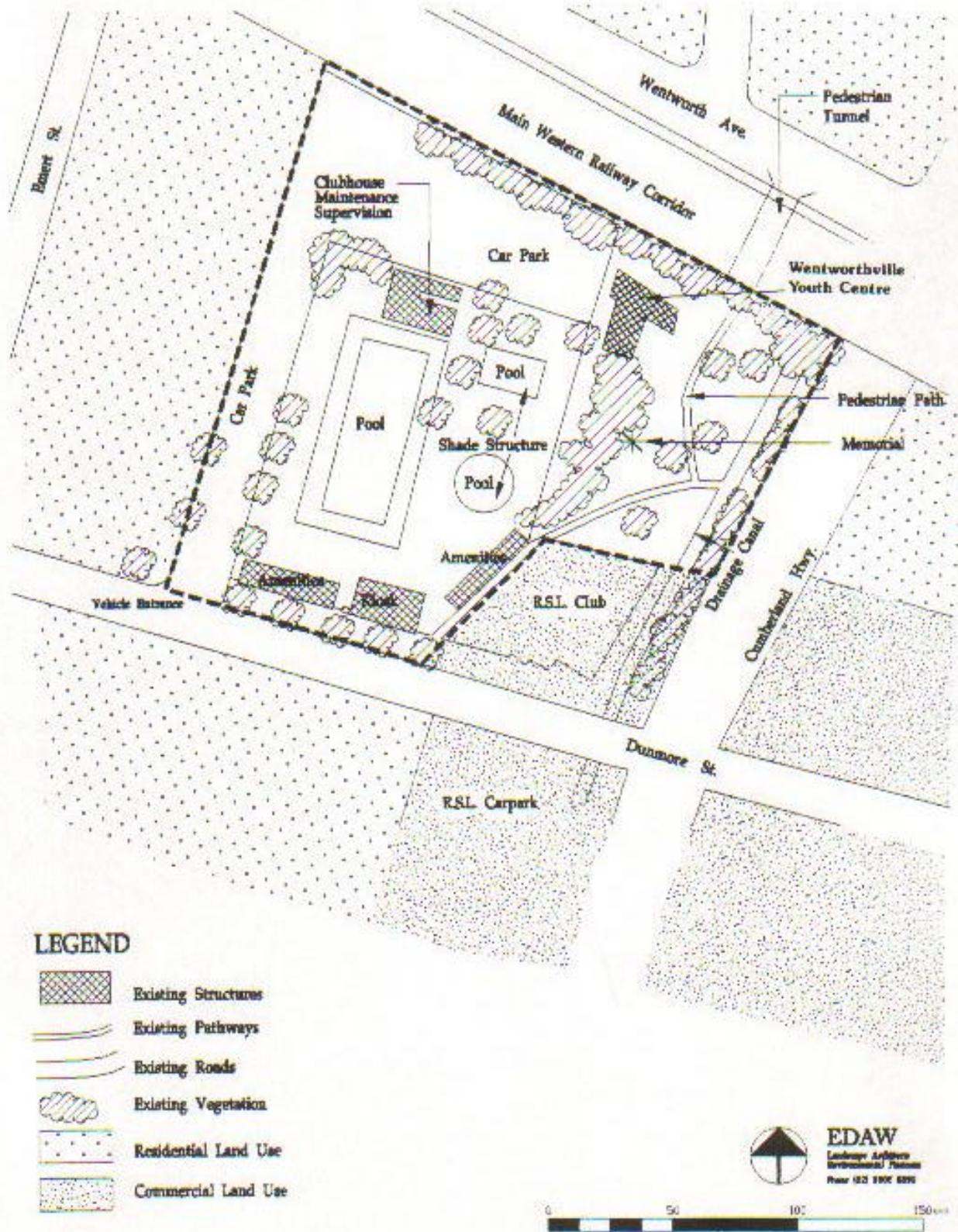
Pedestrian and disabled access into the swimming centre is through the entrance gates fronting onto Dunmore Street. Pedestrians who approach the park from the other side of the road should be encouraged to use the traffic signals at the intersection of Cumberland Highway and Dunmore Street. From the main entrance pedestrians can circulate around the perimeters of all three pools to access other areas of this Zone. Ramps from the main entrance are provided for disabled access to the flat areas around the pools.

Pedestrian access across the drainage channel is provided via a bridge which runs from the footpath along the Cumberland Highway into the park. This path provides access for pedestrians to the Youth Centre and to the railway underpass

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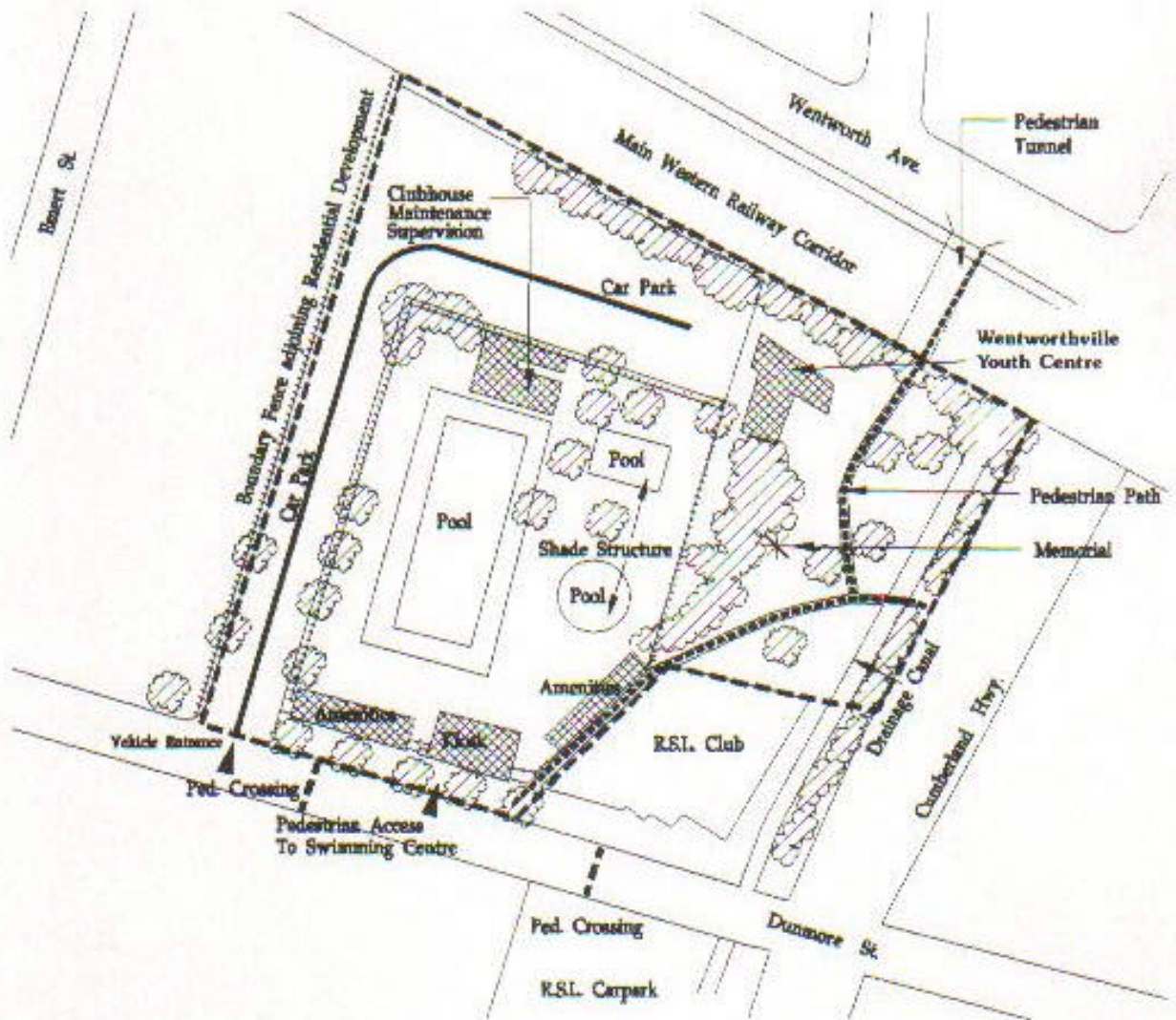
ADJOINING LAND USES

Figure 6.










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ACCESS AND CIRCULATION Figure 7.

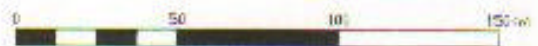


LEGEND

-  Existing Structures
-  Existing Pathways
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Vegetation
-  Pedestrian Access
-  Vehicle Access
-  Security Fence



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for residents on the northern side of the rail corridor.



The carpark at the northern boundary of the Swimming Centre provides parking for all park users as well as access to the Wentworthville Youth Centre.

2.7 Management and Maintenance

2.7.1 Introduction

Management and maintenance of Wentworthville Memorial Park is the responsibility of Holroyd City Council. Whilst a full analysis of maintenance activities is beyond the scope of this POM, the situation is summarised in the following sections.

2.7.2 Management

Management of Wentworthville Memorial Park, including the Swimming and Youth Centres is the responsibility of Holroyd City Council. Council's management responsibilities are summarised below:

- control of access and circulation through the construction of fencing, paths and gates etc
- liaison with specific user groups
- coordination of the construction of new facilities and services
- compliance with relevant planning and environmental legislation that applies to development and management of public open space

2.7.3 Maintenance

Maintenance of Wentworthville Memorial Park is the responsibility of Holroyd City Council.

Council's responsibilities are as follows:

- general maintenance and repair of the pools, buildings and other facilities as required
- grass cutting within the Swimming Centre
- maintenance of the open space area in the northeast section of the park
- maintenance of the carparking area
- responding to maintenance requests from the major user groups

2.8 Asset Register

Council's Asset Management Database (TAMS) includes the property details and a list of the facilities at the park.

This register contains information on the various facility's condition, value and maintenance responsibility.

2.9 Staffing

Council maintenance of Wentworthville Memorial Park is carried out by crews employed by Council. There is currently two full time employees at the Wentworthville Memorial Swimming Centre. During the summer months extra part-time and casual staff are employed.

While the Wentworthville RSL Club is not directly responsible for any maintenance of the park, the club assists with the maintenance of the War Memorial on the eastern side of the park where their annual services are held.

2.10 Community Involvement

There are a number of community groups involved with Wentworthville Memorial Park including sporting groups, returned servicemen and women, schools, charity groups, and various recreation

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clubs. Council holds annual meetings with the swimming clubs to discuss any significant issues. As they arise, routine matters are raised by the clubs directly with the Swimming Centre superintendent.

The activities of the Youth Centre is overseen by the Wentworthville Youth Services staff in consultation with a Community Committee. The Wentworthville RSL Youth Club also plays an active role in promoting the centre for youth recreation.

2.11 Funding

The majority of funding for maintenance and general improvement works in the Swimming Centre and surrounding park area comes from rate revenue. Other sources of funding include pool entry charges and grants for the Youth Centre.

Section 94 contributions also provide a source of potential funds for improvements within the park. These are discussed further in Section 4.3.

Maintenance and improvement of the Youth Centre is generally the responsibility of Council, however in 1995 the Wentworthville RSL Youth Club contributed \$18, 000 towards improvements to the Youth Centre premises which cost \$110 000. These major works included new toilet facilities, offices, kitchen improvements and a mini basketball court.

3. MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

3.1 Introduction

The primary objective of this Plan of Management (POM) is to provide a framework for the future management of Wentworthville Memorial Park. Management of the park must be in line with Council's vision for the HCC Local Government Area (LGA) and its objectives for land zoned 6(a) Open Space.

This POM provides a basis for the ongoing care and development of Wentworthville Memorial Park in response to demand and the availability of funding. It should be noted that the availability of funding will be a major factor determining the timing of implementation of actions identified in the POM.

3.2 Management Objectives

Council's management objectives for Wentworthville Memorial Park will remain in line with those adopted for all areas zoned 6(a) Open Space Recreation as stated in Section 2.6.2. In addition to those listed in Section 1.2 of this report, Council's planning and management objectives for Wentworthville Memorial Park include the following:

- provision of a safe and healthy environment that meets reasonable community expectations.
- maintenance and replacement of existing Council assets
- visually attractive and pollution free environment
- management and conservation of natural resources
- provision of community services which are accessible to all sections of the community and are appropriate to community needs
- operation of the park in a manner that has a minimum impact on adjoining land users.

3.3 Access and Circulation

The POM aims to address the need for convenient and safe access and circulation throughout the park by identifying issues related to the objectives and by proposing solution to these issues. At this stage circulation within the park is adequate for the current levels of demand. Vehicle access is confined to the carparking areas where adequate parking is provided for the current levels of use. Maintenance vehicle access it also available to open space area and the pools.

Pedestrian access is controlled through the turnstiles at the Swimming Centre and limited entrances points to other parts of the park. In order to minimise the safety risk, pedestrians should be encouraged to cross Dunmore Street and the Cumberland Highway by using the traffic signals at that intersection. This could be further encouraged by the use of extended fencing along the front of the main entrance to prevent people from crossing Dunmore Street.

Access for disabled persons into the Swimming Centre is via the main entrance gates. Once inside the Swimming Centre facilities are provided to enable wheelchair reliant persons to be lowered into the water. These facilities consist of a motorised chair which slowly lowers disabled persons into the water in a seated position. Access to amenity blocks is provided via the pedestrian pathways.

3.4 Provision of Facilities

While the facilities provided at Wentworthville Memorial Park have been developed in accordance with Council's objectives to meet the needs of a range of user groups, a number of issues have been identified including:

- the need to provide increased shelter for spectators

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- the need for improved playground facilities within the Swimming Centre to increase the range of recreation activities
- the need for the larger pool to be heated to encourage greater usage

During school carnivals and competitive swimming events spectators spend several hours in direct exposure to the summer sun. Shade facilities at the Swimming Centre are concentrated around the infant and learners pools, while the greatest spectator numbers exist around the 50 metre pool which has little or no shade trees or shade structures. As shade trees have the potential to drop leaves which may clog pool filters, it is proposed that additional shade be provided in the form of covered seating structures. These may consist of either a large capacity grandstand or a series of smaller structures, constructed along the perimeter of the 50 metre and learners pools to cater for spectators.

The provision of covered seating structures would also help to alleviate the problem of reduced patronage during wet weather conditions, thus retaining a reliable revenue from pool entry fees. This option will also assist to attract other groups to use the Centre's facilities for their sporting events.

As a part of Council's ongoing playground renovation scheme the Swimming Centre playground should be upgraded to provide additional activities for younger users of the centre.

Presently Wentworthville Swimming Centre is only able to be used during the warmer months because the water temperature is unacceptably low at other times of the year. The provision of a pool heater in the 50 metre pool is a long term goal that would extend pool use for up to 10 months of the year and increase annual revenue. While Council already has an indoor heated pool centre within the Holroyd area at Guildford, use levels at

Wentworthville Swimming Centre indicates that a heated pool would be well utilised. It is recommended that Council further investigate this option.



At present the Wentworthville Memorial Swimming Centre can only be used during summer months

3.5 Health and Safety Issues

There are three main health and safety issues identified at Wentworthville Swimming Centre, these are:

- replacement of "scum gutters" around the perimeter of the pool
- the open drainage channel along the eastern side of the park
- lack of shade in the Swimming Centre

"Scum gutters" are part of the water filtration system within the 50 metre pool at Wentworthville Swimming Centre. The system works via a gutter which runs around the perimeter of the pool and is inset into the wall. Water laps over the edge of the gutter where it is carried to the filters. This system of guttering is generally being replaced at Council pools throughout Australia in preference of a flush gutter system. A "flush gutter" system runs along the outer perimeter of the pool and is flush to the ground. Water levels are kept at a constant height so that any activity in the pool will cause water to lap over the top of the pool and into the guttering system where it is carried by pipes to the filter.

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This type of system avoids the possibility of injury to children. As a part of future upgrades to the swimming centre, Council is to consider replacement of the present scum gutter filtration system with a flush gutter system.

The concrete-lined open drainage channel (Coopers Creek) running along the western side of the park is potentially dangerous particularly during periods of high stormwater flows because it is possible for people to gain access to the channel. The channel needs to be fenced off entirely from public access. While fencing the channel is the responsibility of Sydney Water, Council should liaise with that organisation to ensure the channel is safely fenced on both sides as soon as possible.

Shade trees and/or shade structures are required within the Swimming Centre area to reduce the level of sun exposure for users. This issue is further discussed in Section 3.4 and 3.6.

3.6 Landscape Improvements

3.6.1 Summary

Vegetation may be used to address a number of issues associated with poor physical or visual amenity. Planting within Wentworthville Memorial Park should perform a range of functions including:

- improve visual amenity by blocking undesirable views
- weed control
- provide shade to reduce the level of sun exposure of park users

Proposed planting is illustrated on Figure 8.

Screen planting is required alongside the chainwire fence enclosing the Swimming Centre. While the fence is necessary for both safety and security reasons it is generally unattractive. The visual amenity of the perimeter fence would be

improved by screen planting. Perimeter planting of the Swimming Centre could also provide shade for users alongside the fence as well as for cars parked in the adjoining carpark. Additional planting should be considered on the eastern side of the park to screen the Highway.

Additional shade tree planting is not recommended near the pools as falling leaves can block filter systems. However, shade trees would be appropriate in the open areas along the eastern boundary of the park and in areas clear of the swimming pools.

A number of weed species have been introduced to the park via the railway corridor. The spread of these weeds will need to be controlled as part of an overall landscape strategy for the park.

3.6.2 Recommended Species

The planting strategy aims to perform the functions listed above by using predominantly native species, supplemented by exotic species that are known to perform well in the area and are able to provide shade for spectators and children using the facilities. Those species known to be locally indigenous to the Holroyd area have been marked with an asterisk.

(a) Perimeter Planting

Shrubs

- *Acacia elata* (Cedar Wattle)
- *Acacia glaucescens* (Coast Wattle)
- *Callistemon salignus* (Pink-tip Bottlebrush)*
- *Callistemon viminalis* (Weeping Bottlebrush)

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Trees

- Eucalyptus tereticornis (Forest Red Gum) *
- Eucalyptus crebra (Ironbark) *
- Eucalyptus elata (Willow Peppermint) *
- Eucalyptus maculata (Spotted Gum)
- Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Pink Flower Ironbark) *
- Casuarina glauca (Swamp Oak) *
- Casuarina torulosa (Forest Oak) *

(b) Shade

Trees

- Fraxinus oxycarpa Raywoodii (Claret Ash)
- Pistacia chinensis (Pistacia)
- Sapium sebiferum (Tallow Tree)
- Eucalyptus maculata (Spotted Gum)
- Eucalyptus nicholii (Small leaved Peppermint)
- Lophostemon confertus (Brush Box)

In order to minimise the area of turf that needs to be maintained it is recommended that surface mulch be used in areas where clumps of trees and shrub planting are to be carried out.

3.7 Planning Issues

3.7.1 Introduction

This POM for Wentworthville Memorial Park has taken account of the various planning issues which relate not only to the park itself but also the surrounding areas. The character of surrounding urban areas will continue to change over time. It is therefore important to ensure that these changes do not adversely affect the function and amenity of Wentworthville Memorial Park.

While most of the planning issues related to this POM are under the direct control of Holroyd City Council, some involve other authorities and organisations, such as the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA), Sydney Water and the Railway Services Authority (RSA).

Council will need to communicate with these authorities when any of their proposed works impact on the park.

3.7.2 Adjoining Land Use

In accordance with existing legislative requirements, owners of land adjoining the park will need to be consulted before any major works are undertaken. Through Council liaison with adjoining land users, several land management issues can be addressed. These include:

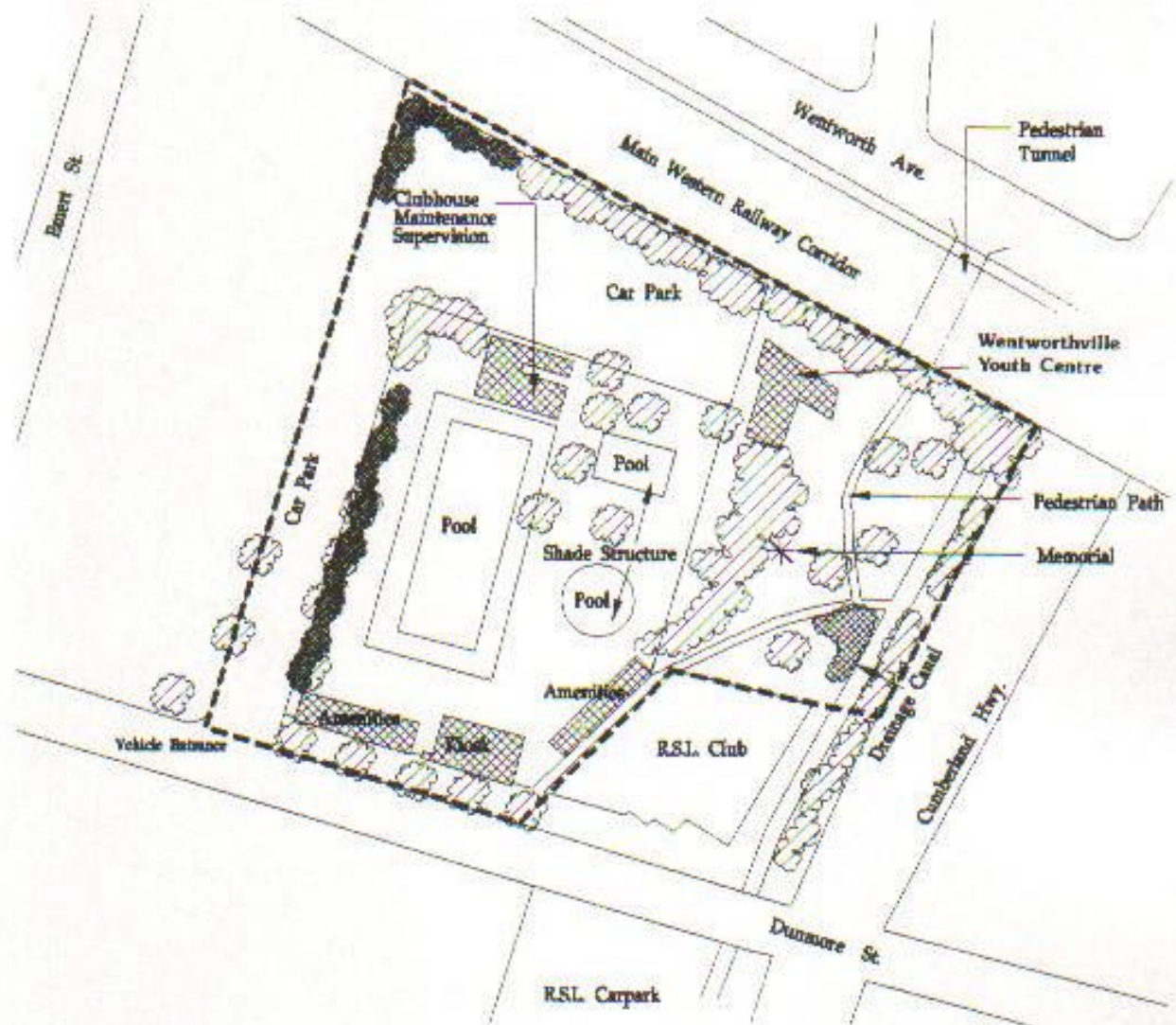
- dumping of rubbish
- weed growth

3.7.3 Major Road Developments







The RTA control the road reserve for the Cumberland Highway which adjoins the eastern side of the park. While there are no current plans for expansion of this road, the reserve provides the RTA with the option to undertake works at some time in the future. Should the highway be widened the volume of traffic would increase. This would produce a greater level of traffic noise and the visual impact would also be increased if extensive screen planting is not maintained along the eastern edge of the park.

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PROPOSED PLANTING
Figure 8.



LEGEND

-  Existing Structures
-  Existing Pathways
-  Existing Roads
-  Existing Vegetation
-  Proposed Shade Planting Area
-  Proposed Screen Planting Area



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4 IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 Introduction

Implementation of this POM will be an ongoing process that will proceed in response to user requirements and the availability of funding. Council will need to monitor future demand for recreation facilities, develop new facilities and provide an appropriate level of management to meet community expectations.

4.2 Management Structure

As the management and development of Wentworthville Memorial Park involves the cooperation of several major user groups, it is essential to have a clear definition of management responsibilities as well as the involvement of a range of people with the necessary management skills and experience. These groups and their respective responsibilities are summarised below.

Holroyd City Council

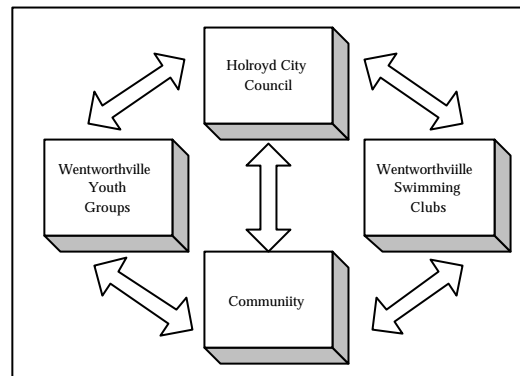
- ultimate responsibility for development and management of Wentworthville Memorial Park.
- liaison with major user groups
- budget allocation for development, and maintenance of the park
- allocation of resources (financial, human and physical) for effective development of the park
- assessment of applications for development of commercial recreation facilities
- liaison with authorities that have responsibilities relevant to development and management of Wentworthville Memorial Park eg.: RTA, RSA and Sydney Water.
- maintenance of landscape works and recreation facilities

The Community/ Main User Groups

- reporting maintenance requirements and vandalism to Holroyd City Council

- presentation of requests and proposals to Council for development or upgrading of facilities in the park.

The Council, the community and main user groups are expected to work together in implementing the development and ongoing maintenance of Wentworthville Memorial Park. The relationship between these groups is illustrated in the following diagram.



4.3 Funding

The timing for implementation of the POM will be directly dependent on the availability of funding. Such funding is required to cover capital expenditure as well as recurrent costs for repairs and maintenance. In allocating funds to the park, Holroyd City Council needs to consider such expenditure within the context of its overall annual budget limits and priorities.

Section 94 contributions provide a major source of potential funds for capital improvements within the park. These funds are generated by the contribution of developers involved in new development. The funds are intended to increase the capacity of public facilities to cater for the expected population increase resulting from the new development. However, as this source of funds is directly linked to the timing of development they depend on the rate of development which fluctuates significantly.

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Funding for the recurrent cost of repairs and maintenance is provided through Council's annual budget. Council's annual budget allocation for recreation areas is aimed at achieving a satisfactory level of maintenance in all Sportsgrounds.

4.4 Priorities

In order to provide a framework within which to implement the POM a prioritised schedule of actions has been prepared. The schedule will assist Council to allocate the financial, human and physical resources required for implementation of this POM. In determining the priority rating for each action the following criteria have been applied:

H- High Priority

- safety issues in situations where there is a high probability of injury occurring
- work needed to ensure that the essential functions of the park are not compromised
- work needed to eliminate and / or reduce severe environmental problems such as erosion or water pollution, in line with the requirements of the Environmental Protection Act and Soil Conservation Act.

M- Moderate Priority

- ongoing preventative and remedial maintenance of existing park assets
- work needed to ameliorate adverse environmental conditions such as inadequate shade, views that require screening, noise intrusion, poor pedestrian circulation and access
- works aimed at reducing ongoing maintenance costs

L- Low Priority

- works aimed at enhancing the habitat value of areas associated with the park

- works aimed at improving the aesthetic quality of the park

The above criteria may require modification over time in response to special circumstances as well as changing community attitudes and expectations.

Implementation Schedule

The following schedule lists each proposed management action, giving it a priority rating as determined from the criteria above. Each activity is also listed against a performance indicator and its current status is noted.

The status ratings are as follows:

O- Ongoing- this denotes activities which take place as part of the normal maintenance routine of the park.

P- Proposed- these activities have been proposed by the Plan of Management, but work on these activities has not been commenced

Co- Commenced- this refers to proposed activities for which work has already begun

Cp- Complete- this refers to activities which have been completed (their performance indicators have been fulfilled) since the last Plan of Management Review.

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ACTIVITY	PRIORITY	RESPONSIBILITY	PERFORMANCE INDICATOR	STATUS
Development of spectator seating/shelter in the swimming centre	M	HCC	Facilities provided	P
Investigate need for additional children's play facilities	M	HCC	Investigation undertaken	P
Investigate viability of heating the 50 metre pool	L	HCC	Investigation undertaken	P
HEALTH AND SAFETY				
Replacement of scum gutters around pool with flush gutters	M	HCC	Flush gutters installed	P
Fencing of channel	M	SW	Channel fenced	P
Provision of shade in the swimming centre	M	HCC	Increased areas of shade	P
LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS				
Screen planting along the Cumberland Highway frontage	M	HCC	Highway adequately screened	P
Perimeter planting of the Swimming Centre	L	HCC	Perimeter adequately screened	P
Additional tree planting	L	HCC	Increased tree stock	O
MAINTENANCE				
Ongoing preventative and remedial maintenance	M	HCC	Park adequately maintained	O
Reduce maintenance costs	M	HCC	Maintenance costs reduced	O

HCC- Holroyd City Council

SW- Sydney Water

The above schedule should be reviewed annually for the purpose of scheduling works for inclusion in Council's annual works program, as well as for monitoring of performance indicators.

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4.5 Staffing

The current level of staffing at Wentworthville Memorial Park is adequate to maintain an acceptable level of recreational opportunities and landscape quality. If, however, major new facilities are implemented then additional staff may be required to provide an acceptable standard of maintenance and supervision.

Development of new facilities could also be carried out by contractors engaged by Council.

4.6 Commercial Development Opportunities

HCC has no current plans for development of commercial facilities within Wentworthville Memorial Park. Such development would be constrained by the high level of development already present at the park. HCC is not currently considering any applications by private or community organisations to develop commercial facilities in the park.

4.7 Easements, Licenses and Leases

Council may approve licences or leases over Community Land in accordance with Section 45(3) of the Local Government Act (1993). This POM authorises Council to issue permits or grant interests or estates, including licenses, leases and easements in accordance with the Local Government Act (1993). Licences and leases are used to formalise the use of community land by groups such as sporting or recreation clubs and organisations or individuals providing facilities or services for public use. Currently, a licence agreement applies to the operation of the swimming centre kiosk.

4.8 Plan of Management Review

As noted in Section 4.4, priority works will be considered by Council each year for budgeting and

setting of implementation targets as well as for consideration of other works as needed or determined.

In addition to these annual assessments, a review of the POM will be carried out when necessary to update the Plan to reflect any changes in circumstances or community needs.