

# DRAFT ADELAIDE PARK LANDS MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – TOWARDS 2036

Council Submission

2 July 2024

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The City of Adelaide acknowledges that we are located on the traditional Country of the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We also extend that respect to visitors of other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

## DOCUMENT PROPERTIES

### Contact for enquiries and proposed changes

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## INTRODUCTION

On 23 May 2024, the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) endorsed the draft Adelaide Park Land Management Strategy (APLMS) – Towards 2036 for the purposes of public consultation, which is being undertaken from 17 June to 9 August 2024.

At its meeting on 4 June 2024, Council noted that a workshop will be held with Council Members at the City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee (CPDBAC). This workshop was held on 2 July 2024 to gather feedback on the draft APLMS – Towards 2036.

This draft submission on the draft APLMS summarises the feedback provided by CPDBAC at that meeting.

Council Members were invited to respond to key questions:

1. What are Council Members' views on the draft APLMS – Towards 2036?
2. What feedback do Council Members have for consideration by Kadaltilla on the draft APLMS – Towards 2036?

Following the conclusion of the public consultation period, the draft APLMS will be presented to Kadaltilla in September/October 2024 for approval. Following approval by Kadaltilla, the draft APLMS will be sent to Council and the Minister for Planning seeking adoption of the draft APLMS with or without amendment.

This submission provides the Council's response to the draft Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036.

## 1. COUNCIL FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

For the current financial year and the duration of this Council's term, the Council has approved a Business Plan and Budget that allocates 1.5% of the total budget specifically for improvements to community buildings located in the Park Lands. This allocation signifies a substantial commitment by the Council to enhance these facilities. It is important that this commitment is clearly reflected in the draft APLMS. The inclusion of this information in the APLMS will underscore the Council's dedication to maintaining and improving community infrastructure within the Park Lands, ensuring that these spaces continue to serve the needs of the community effectively.

### Recommendation:

- Include reference to the City of Adelaide's commitment to investment in Park Lands infrastructure.
- Consider the inclusion of an understanding of the total investment required to undertake the work for the priorities and strategies outlined in the APLMS.

## 2. CAR PARKING

The current APLMS states that Council wants to see a reduction in parking by 5%, acknowledging that this target has not yet been achieved. In contrast, the draft APLMS fails to mention a car parking target, and potentially suggests an increase in car parking.

The current APLMS sets a clear goal of reducing parking by 5%, though it acknowledges that this target has not yet been met. This objective highlights the Council's commitment to minimizing car usage and promoting more sustainable transportation options within the Park Lands.

However, the draft APLMS does not include a specific target for car parking reduction. Instead, it potentially implies an increase in car parking availability. This omission and potential shift in focus could undermine the original intent of promoting a greener, more pedestrian-friendly environment in the Park Lands. It is crucial for the draft APLMS to align with the established goals of reducing car dependency to ensure consistency in the Council's vision for sustainable park management.

**Recommendation:**

- The draft APLMS should clearly articulate the Council's objective to restore hardstand areas of the Park Lands to their intended use as open green spaces, with a specific emphasis on reducing parking within the Park Lands.

### 3. HERITAGE ITEMS

Council Members expressed strong endorsement for the transfer of heritage items from the Community Land Management Plans (CLMPs) into the draft APLMS. It was observed that in the North Park Lands, specifically in Parks 8-10, there were items previously recommended for heritage listing that are now included as historical items in the draft APLMS. Among these are gate posts which were part of the original Park Lands when they were established, including those associated with the War Memorial. This inclusion underscores the Council's commitment to preserving and highlighting the rich historical and cultural heritage of the Park Lands, ensuring these significant elements are protected and celebrated for future generations.

**Recommendation:**

- Include a more active interpretation of the heritage items to enhance understanding and appreciation of the Park Lands' rich history and cultural value.

### 4. KAURNA SITES

Council Members noted the presence of significant Kaurna sites within the Park Lands that are related to early European settlement and hold substantial cultural importance to the Kaurna people. These sites should be recognised and considered as heritage items to honour and preserve the historical and cultural legacy of the Kaurna community.

**Recommendation:**

- Ensure that all areas and items of significance are considered as heritage items.

### 5. GOLF COURSE – NORTHERN AREAS

The draft Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy (APLMS) indicates an intention to explore alternative uses for the northern area of the golf course. Council Members expressed a desire for the inclusion of a clear definition of "alternative uses" to specify the intended activities or purposes for this area. Providing a detailed definition will help ensure transparency and prevent any potential confusion or misinterpretation regarding the Council's plans for the northern part of the golf course

**Recommendation:**

- Consider including language that defines "alternative" uses of Park Lands or uses that contribute positively to the Park Lands' preservation and enhancement.

## 6. ROAD CLOSURE – LEFEVRE ROAD

While supporting the investigation of return of hardstand to open green space, Council Members highlighted the considerable volume of traffic currently using Lefevre Road. It is crucial to thoroughly assess the implications for traffic flow if these vehicles were redirected to alternative routes. Understanding these potential consequences is essential for making informed decisions that balance the restoration of Park Lands' functions with the practicalities of traffic management.

### **Recommendation:**

- Clarify that any considerations for road closure, including Lefevre Road, would undergo modelling and consultation with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport to ensure thorough qualification and assessment.

## 7. WELLINGTON SQUARE

Council Members noted that the draft APLMS proposes structural alterations to the square, which currently stands as the last remaining square in its original established form. Council considers these proposed changes to be contradictory to the current objective of the APLMS, which aims to preserve and maintain heritage elements within the Park Lands. The Council emphasises the importance of safeguarding historical integrity and advocates for strategies that respect and uphold the original design and character of such significant cultural assets.

### **Recommendation:**

- Reconsider altering the structure of Wellington Square in order to retain heritage elements.

## 8. PRIVATE INVESTMENT FUNDING

Council Members noted the inclusion of a "private investment" section in the draft APLMS and expressed the need for clarification. It is essential to specify that the intended source of this investment is community clubs rather than private corporations. This distinction aims to safeguard the Park Lands from corporate interests and ensure that any financial contributions align with community-oriented goals and values. Clarifying this point will reinforce the commitment to preserving the Park Lands as public, community-focused spaces.

### **Recommendation:**

- Include a clear definition of "private funding" to exclude any consideration of funding from private corporations, aligning with the intended scope of the draft APLMS.

## 9. INVESTMENT IN THE PARK LANDS

While the draft APLMS includes an investment section, there is a need for clarity on how these investments align with the outlined priorities. Nevertheless, Council Members offered positive feedback, especially regarding the inclusion of Part C in the draft APLMS and its accompanying investment framework. There is a suggestion to consider acknowledging the necessity of a new funding model to secure the investments needed for the protection and enhancement of the Park

Lands. This would ensure that financial strategies are robust and aligned with the overarching goals of the APLMS.

**Recommendation:**

- Review the wording concerning investment in the Park Lands, clarifying the distinction between maintenance and investment in new infrastructure.
- Consider enhancing clarity regarding opportunities and implications for contributions from others, including neighbouring Councils, through the implementation of a new funding model.

## 10. NORTH PARK LANDS PRECINCT – HORSE PASTURING

Given the historical significance of horses being located in Lefevre Park / Nantu Wama (Park 6) and its importance to certain individuals, it is crucial to explore how this can be appropriately recognised and acknowledged within the draft APLMS. This could involve incorporating provisions that respect and honour the cultural and recreational practices associated with horses in the Park Lands, ensuring their continued relevance and accessibility for those who value this aspect of the area's heritage.

**Recommendation:**

- Consider including more references or providing additional details regarding the historical practice of horse pasturing in Lefevre Park / Nantu Wama (Park 6).

## 11. SUMMARY

Council Members commended the progress made and the high quality of the presented document. They highlighted several key recommendations for improving the draft APLMS, which include:

1. **Investment and Funding Clarity:** Include a reference to the City of Adelaide's commitment to investment in Park Lands infrastructure and outline the total investment required for APLMS priorities and strategies.
2. **Park Land Use and Heritage Preservation:** Clearly state the goal of returning hardstand Park Lands to their intended use, emphasise reducing parking, ensure all significant areas and items are designated as heritage items, and recognise and protect significant Kaurna heritage sites.
3. **Alternative Uses and Road Management:** Define "alternative" uses of Park Lands that contribute positively to preservation and enhancement, clarify road closure considerations through modelling and consultation with the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.
4. **Heritage and Infrastructure:** Enhance interpretation of heritage items and reconsider altering the structure of Wellington Square to preserve heritage elements.
5. **Private Funding and Collaborative Funding Models:** Include a precise definition of "private funding" excluding consideration from private corporations, review investment wording distinguishing between maintenance and new infrastructure, and clarify opportunities and implications of contributions from neighbouring Councils through a new funding model.
6. **Historical Context:** Provide additional references or details on the historical practice of horse pasturing in Lefevre Park / Nantu Wama (Park 6).

These recommendations aim to strengthen the APLMS by addressing clarity, inclusivity of cultural heritage, financial planning, and historical preservation within the Park Lands.