

Victoria Park/Bakkabakkandi Draft Community Land Management Plan and Master Plan

Community Consultation Sheet

The South-East City Residents Association (SECRA) supports in general the draft proposal.

However, we have concerns that not enough attention has been given to design elements that connect the various activities that currently take place in the Park.

Furthermore we believe that the precinct model is too prescriptive. The plan seems to be saying that “Community Recreation”, for example, cannot take place in the “Special Events” Precinct. Or that “Sport” cannot take place in the “Heritage Listed Grandstand and Premium Field”.

We have a suggestion for the precinct currently designated ‘Special Events’:
that a demountable children’s playspace be erected on the hard stand area (utilizing a suitable rubber surface and/or synthetic turf) for the seven months when it is not in car race mode.

Other areas of hard stand could be used for hopscotch and hand ball courts. There could be a sand pit. Older children can ride their bikes safely on the adjacent race track. It could also incorporate some work-out stations.

The hard stand could then become a fun space that will draw children and families into the Park, and then lead them on to, perhaps, the kiosk and the heritage grandstand. Or, via a walking trail, through the woodland and wetland area.

This proposal would help create movement through, and around, the entire Park and ensure that a wasteland of abandoned concrete in the middle of the Park is not the only legacy of the Clipsal race each year.

Furthermore we do not agree that such a large area of the Park should be given over to ‘Special Events’ only.

The lack of clarity about what would constitute a "special event" will cause considerable community concern - particularly considering the inappropriate uses the Park has been put to in the past.

We therefore suggest that this Precinct be named Recreation/Community Events and Sport.

We also wish to restate our view that a major component of any plan for use of Victoria Park for an event should include a plan for maximising public transport.

We maintain our objection to any car parking on Victoria Park (and in other areas of Parklands).

Regarding the temporary infrastructure associated with Events (including car races) we ask that consideration be given to situating it away from residential areas (and out from under trees) on East Terrace.

Rather, it should be located near the Wakefield Street entrance.

If there is to be designated parking within the Park for an event, the same situation should apply.

By reducing vehicle movements through the Park (and there are many thousands involved in setting up for the Clipsal 500), this will reduce noise and dust for residents and improve safety for Park users.

Vehicular traffic into the Park should be from Wakefield Street only - the car race should stop using Halifax Street as a vehicular route into the Park.

Furthermore a 'welcome gate' at Halifax Street should be for pedestrians and cyclists only.

We also ask whether the threatened remnant vegetation in Precinct 2 could be preserved by relocating some of the sports ovals in Precinct Two to the grassed areas of Precinct Four. These grassed areas will not be in use for seven months of the year.

While we support strongly the increased use of the Park for school sport we believe that the tourist/educational potential of remnant vegetation **in situ** (and especially when the Park Lands achieve National Heritage status) cannot be ignored.

Finally:

Public toilets should not be sited near residential properties.
Paths should be pram and wheel-chair friendly.

With hopes that you will consider the above points made in the spirit of wishing to develop a community development plan for Victoria Park which will meet the needs of all users and the residents who reside near it,

Yours sincerely

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Chairperson

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