

FAQs

DIGMAN RESERVE MASTER PLAN

Q. Will the reserve be changed to a dog off leash area?

- A.** No. Council will still require dogs to be on leash. The management of Dogs in Public Spaces Policy states that off leash areas must not be located near high use sporting areas or children's playgrounds.

Q. Will there be additional planting on the reserve?

- A.** Additional planting and landscaping will be developed for the open space areas in the next phase of the project.

Q. Will there be additional planting and screening along the fence near the tank farm?

- A.** There are legislative requirements that restrict new developments where an underground fuel pipeline exists, including new planting. Root systems may present a risk to this infrastructure which must be kept clear within a certain area, above or underground. We will continue to further investigate with the multiple owners of the infrastructure within the reserve regarding future planting possibilities.

Q. How will access through the Reserve be improved?

- A.** The Master Plan proposes a path to be constructed along the northern boundary to encourage access along the reserve outside the area being used for formal sport.

Q. How will the public open space and facilities be upgraded?

- A.** New and upgraded public facilities and landscape embellishments are proposed throughout the reserve, including the playground, paths, planting, seating and fencing. The public area to the west near the playground is proposed to be slightly enlarged by relocating the fence so that the existing trees can be incorporated. Concepts for the development of the, playground and proposed activity area will be prepared in future project stages.

Q. What about the public toilets?

- A.** These will be redeveloped as part of the proposed new central pavilion that will service all parts of the reserve.

Q. Will the amount of open space area be protected?

- A.** Whilst some parts of the reserve are proposed to be used to increase the amount of off-street car parking, the intent of the Master Plan is not to reduce the amount of usable open space available to residents. The public open space will be improved with better access, additional seating and a potential new activity area, adjacent to the playground.

Q. How will car parking be managed in the short term?

- A.** The Master Plan incorporates a solution for car parking as part of the wider redevelopment and provides an increased parking solution for the use of Digman Reserve for sport in summer and winter. Short term parking issues will continue to be monitored by Council's internal operational traffic team and are not part of the Master Plan.

Q. Why are soccer pitches shown on the Master Plan?

- A.** Council has identified that there is a shortage of fields to meet the current and future demand for winter sport. Following investigation of possible options, Digman Reserve is considered suitable to accommodate soccer activities on a reduced scale.

Q. Were other sports, such as AFL considered?

- A.** The Master Plan study investigated a number of possible additional sporting uses at the reserve. Many were not feasible due to the size and orientation of the fields of play, and the likelihood of significant additional traffic being generated.

Q. Why is floodlighting required, what will it mean for residents?

- A.** With the introduction of a winter sport, floodlighting will be required to facilitate training conducted at night. The specific operating hours for the floodlights will be subject to a future planning process, and Council will consider the amenity of adjoining residents.

Q. The proposed new pavilion looks larger than the existing one – why?

- A.** The existing pavilion was built more than 40 years ago and no longer meets minimum standards to support sustainable sporting uses. The Master Plan shows the indicative footprint for a new pavilion that will incorporate appropriate spaces, including female friendly facilities. This will include umpire change rooms, a canteen/kitchen, a social space, and equipment storage (to allow the removal of the existing container store).

Q. When will the works take place?

- A.** Community feedback will be reviewed and considered by the project team. Subject to the feedback, a report will be submitted to Council in early 2018. Once endorsed, the Master Plan will then be subject to capital works programming and funding opportunities.

