

1.1 ALTONA MEADOWS PRECINCT

OVERVIEW

The Altona Meadows precinct has a high proportion of open space per person. Significant central gap areas in the suburb need to be addressed and the facilities within many reserves require improving, offering an opportunity to increase diversity.

PRECINCT FEATURES		
Current population (2017)	19,256	
Forecast population (2036)	19,513	
Amount of open space per person	4.4ha per 1000 people	
Total precinct area	1,025ha	
Passive open space	7.3%, or	74.95ha
Formal open space (e.g. Sports fields)	4.2%, or	42.67ha
Encumbered open space accessible to the public	10.2%, or	104.24ha
Other open space (e.g. Not accessible to the public)	31.9%, or	326.8ha
Strategic or key development sites	-	
Types of open space (Hierarchy classification)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » 1 buffer » 3 district » 8 linear » 4 link » 15 local » 9 neighbourhood » 2 regional 	

EXISTING OPEN SPACES	CURRENT/PROPOSED HIERARCHY
Alma Avenue Reserve (Altona Meadows)	Local
Altona Green Park	Neighbourhood
Altona Meadows BMX Park	District
Altona Meadows Community Park	Neighbourhood
Brown Avenue Reserve	Local
Bruce Comben Reserve	Neighbourhood
Cameron Avenue Reserve	Local
Carinza Reserve	Neighbourhood
Carlsson, C. W. Reserve	Local
Dickenson Street Walkway	Linear
Edina Grove Reserve	Linear
Everingham Road Reserve	Linear
Featherby Way Reserve	Local
Graham, H. D. Reserve	District
Grieve, D. Reserve	Local/ Neighbourhood
Hoddle Way Reserve	Link
Hoise Street Reserve	Link
Hubble, W. E. Reserve	Neighbourhood
Knight Reserve, A. W. (Altona Meadows)	Local
Lady Nelson Reserve	Neighbourhood
Laverton Park	District
Markham Way Reserve	Local/ Neighbourhood
Norval Terrace Reserve	Link
O'Brien, J. F. Reserve	Local

EXISTING OPEN SPACES	CURRENT/PROPOSED HIERARCHY
Oakdene Grove Reserve	Local
Queen Street Reserve	Buffer
Richards, R. K. Reserve	Local
Shaw, A.B. Reserve	Neighbourhood/ District
Skeleton Creek Linear Parkland	Regional
Sommers Drive Walkway	Linear
Stewart, J. J. Reserve	Local/ Neighbourhood
Stirling, G. F. Reserve	Local
Tatman Reserve	Neighbourhood
Truganina Park	Regional
Victoria Street Reserve	Local
Woodyard Court Reserve	Neighbourhood



Truganina Park, Altona Meadows (Image: Planisphere)

PRECINCT OVERVIEW

Altona Meadows has the most open space and the second highest amount of open space per capita (4.4ha per 1000 people). The precinct also has the highest proportion of encumbered open space that is still accessible to the public such as expansive conservation areas and waterway corridors. Despite the overall amount of open space, there are some significant gap areas central to the suburb, where residents and workers do not have access to any open space within a kilometre of their homes or workplace.

The area has good access to a number of off road cycling connections, however walking paths within reserves and new footpaths on key walking routes are needed to improve access within and to open space.

CURRENT PROFILE

Altona Meadows is the most populated neighbourhood in Hobsons Bay with over 18,000 residents. The suburb has a high number of young families with immediate needs being improved diversity of play spaces and improvements to opportunities for youth.

FUTURE TRENDS

The forecast indicates that the population will remain stable with a large proportion of the community predicted to age in place with the greatest increase in age being people over 60 years old.

The precinct is vulnerable to heat stress. As a result of this trend, provision of shade, accessible walking paths, drinking fountains and seating as well as provision of self directed activities and diversity in landscapes to cater for both young and old will be important.

The condition of facilities requires improvement in many reserves, which offers an opportunity to increase diversity.

The area has a number of open space attractions such as Truganina Park, Cheetham Wetlands, the State Baseball and Softball Centre and HD Graham Skate Park. There are also three large sporting reserves that cater to surrounding areas.

It is of particular importance to continue to celebrate and raise awareness of the significant natural values of the birdlife and habitat of Cheetham Wetlands and the indigenous cultural heritage of the waterways to help protect them from inadvertent damage e.g.: from dogs and vehicles.

The following spaces have been highlighted as particular opportunities for upgrades:

- » WE Hubble Reserve
- » Laverton Park
- » AB Shaw Reserve
- » Truganina Park.

Refer to the actions table over the following pages for more detail and in Appendix E and G.

Figure 22. Altona Meadows Precinct Map



Truganina Coastal Park, Altona Meadows (Image: Hobsons Bay City Council)

ALTONA MEADOWS PRECINCT ACTIONS

PRIORITY	ACTION
Short-term 0-2 years	<p>Investigate and implement improvements to several local parks to neighbourhood park status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Complete park improvements to Altona Meadows Community Park - explore options for designated dog off leash space to the far southern end. » Prepare a concept plan and implement improvements to WE Hubble Reserve to help address current gap in distribution. » Prepare a concept plan to implement new works at JJ Stewart reserve to upgrade to a neighbourhood park. » Prepare a concept plan and implement improvements to Markham Way Reserve to Neighbourhood Park standard (including the play space) to help address the current gap in distribution, or » Complete delivery of a concept plan and implement improvements to Tatman Drive Reserve to improve the accessibility and condition of facilities, or » Prepare a concept plan and implement improvements to Carinza Drive Reserve to better integrate play and picnic facilities, improve accessibility, including an upgrade of the play space to neighbourhood standard. <p>Review the extent and location of car parking areas at AB Shaw Reserve and upgrade to service key destinations.</p> <p>Complete required fencing for ovals and explore alternative dog off lead area in proximity to Laverton Park and AB Shaw Reserve.</p> <p>Undertake upgrade works at Truganina Park to maintain regional park status and cater for existing and future demand.</p> <p>Upgrade bridge over Laverton Creek along Queen Street to enhance bicycle access.</p>
Medium-term 2-5 years	<p>Complete the master plan for Bruce Comben Reserve to enhance regional recreation opportunities and implement remaining works</p> <p>Revise the master plan for HD Graham Reserve including a review of access and car parking arrangements, future expansion of sporting facilities and creation of a dedicated youth space with enhanced cycling facilities.</p> <p>Investigate options to establish a dog off leash area in the identified gap area to service a 2km catchment</p> <p>Complete footpath/cycle links from residential streets to shared trail networks (Laverton Creek, Skeleton Creek)</p>

PRIORITY	ACTION		
Medium-term 2-5 years	Undertake feasibility to prioritise and implement renewal works at:		
	Brown Avenue Reserve	Featherby Way Reserve	Queen Street Reserve
	Cameron Avenue Reserve	H. D. Graham Reserve	R. K. Richards Reserve
	CW Carlsson Reserve	D. Grieve Reserve	Sommers Drive Walkway
	Edina Grove Reserve	Hoddle Way Reserve	G. H. Stirling Reserve
	Dickenson Street Walkway	A. W. Knight Reserve	Victoria Street Reserve
	Everingham Road Reserve	Norval Terrace Reserve	Woodyard Court Reserve
		J. F. O'Brien Reserve	
	Oakdene Grove Reserve		
Long-term 5-10 years+	Undertake planning for groups of local reserves in identified diversity gap areas to create a point of difference between each		
	Prepare a concept plan and implement improvements to Lady Nelson reserve to create a point of difference to nearby reserves including a new neighbourhood play space		
	Continue to improve AB Shaw Reserve to regional standard, especially to address sporting needs of the Laverton and Altona Meadows community.		
	Expand sporting facilities at HD Graham Reserve including car parking and connections		
Advocacy	Advocate to VicRoads to provide an off road cycling connection along Central Avenue from Laverton Creek Trail and over the Point Cook Road overpass to Laverton.		
	Advocate to VicRoads for the installation of priority pedestrian crossings at Central Avenue in the vicinity of Skehan Blvd and Newland Street in the vicinity of Hall Avenue		
Other actions	Explore potential to utilise land associated with the water treatment plant as public open space.		