

1.1 SPOTSWOOD-SOUTH KINGSVILLE PRECINCT

OVERVIEW

The Spotwood-South Kingsville precinct has a low proportion of open space per person. Improving gap areas and making more open space for passive uses is recommended to optimise the open space available to residents and workers within the precinct.

PRECINCT FEATURES		
Current population (2017)	5,027	
Forecast population (2036)	7,835	
Amount of open space per person	1.8ha per 1000 people	
Total precinct area	371ha	
Passive open space	1.1%, or	4.25ha
Formal open space (e.g. Sports fields)	1.8%, or	6.72ha
Encumbered open space accessible to the public	0.0%, or	0.14ha
Other open space (e.g. Not accessible to the public)	10.3%, or	38.2ha
Strategic or key development sites	Precinct 16 Former Caltex Site	
Types of open space (Hierarchy classification)	» 2 district » 6 local » 3 neighbourhood » 1 regional	

EXISTING OPEN SPACES	CURRENT/PROPOSED HIERARCHY
Craig Street Park	Neighbourhood
Donald McLean Reserve	Neighbourhood to District
Edwards Reserve	Neighbourhood
Fred Goldsmith Oval	Local to Neighbourhood
Mary Street Reserve	Local to Neighbourhood
Riverside Park	Regional to Regional with Neighbourhood Function
Smith, E.G. Reserve	Local

EXISTING OPEN SPACES	CURRENT/PROPOSED HIERARCHY
Stony Creek	Local to District with Local Function
The Avenue Reserve	Local
Veteran Reserve	Local to Neighbourhood
Walkers Corner (Vernon Street Reserve)	Local



Stony Creek, Spotwood-South Kingsville (Image: Planisphere)

PRECINCT OVERVIEW

The precinct has the lowest rate of overall provision (less than 3%) and increasing pressure from development which is anticipated to see the population almost double in 20 years, particularly in Precinct 16. The precinct also has the second lowest open space per capita ratio at 1.8ha per 1000 people.

There are many gap areas, where residents and workers do not have access to open space within walking distance, particularly the area between the Newport-Sunshine freight train line and the Williamstown suburban train lines and within industrial areas.

Connectivity within the precinct is inhibited by a range of road and rail barriers.

CURRENT PROFILE

Spotswood-South Kingsville has a diverse mix of age groups. There have been increasing numbers of very young children (0-4 years) and adults aged 35-69 since the last census in 2006.

There are very high numbers of young adults 24 to 34 (19.9% compared to 14.5% average for Hobsons Bay) and 60% of households do not have children.

The area also has a higher than average number of group households. The precinct has seen change in cultural diversity with a significant increase in English speaking households.

FUTURE TRENDS

The most noticeable growth in this precinct is expected in the numbers of young and maturing families. Private open space is also likely to diminish, placing greater pressure on the existing low provision of open space.

Provision of a diverse range of self directed activities, landscape settings, dog off leash areas, play spaces and social gathering spaces should be a priority for this community.

Securing more open space when the opportunity arises, such as through purchasing surplus government agency land or as an open space contribution through large subdivisions, should be pursued to ensure that population increase does not impact on the livability of the area.

The trend for higher numbers of young couples and lone person households is also expected to continue as further high density development occurs.

Addressing the gap areas for Spotswood-South Kingsville involves securing new open space as part of large new developments (e.g.: Precinct 16) and potential acquisition of open space. A review of open space restricted by buildings, fenced areas and fee paying uses (e.g.: Mary Street Reserve) is recommended to identify opportunities to make more open space available for passive use.

It is not recommended that more sporting facilities are developed in this precinct, rather at nearby sporting precincts in Newport and Altona North. This is to ensure that what little open space there is can be optimised to meet the passive recreation needs of the community and more viable sporting areas can be created where more open space is available.

Advocacy with Port of Melbourne Corporation is required to improve the amenity of coastal open space for this community.

Consideration of pedestrian crossings, over or underpasses, an east west cycling connection and potential off road connection along Blackshaws Road could significantly improve access to open space within and surrounding this precinct.

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

- » Craig Street Park and Fred Goldsmith Oval
- » Donald McLean Reserve
- » Edwards Reserve
- » Mary Street Reserve
- » Stony Creek Backwash
- » Veteran Reserve.

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



Figure 28. Spotswood/South Kingsville Precinct Map



SPOTSWOOD-SOUTH KINGSVILLE PRECINCT ACTIONS

PRIORITY	ACTION
Short-term 0-2 years	<p>Upgrade Donald McLean from a local park to a neighbourhood park, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Renewal of the play, skate and picnic spaces » Major sports field upgrade works <p>Develop a concept plan for Mary Street Reserve to improve passive recreation opportunities and implement priority improvements, that incorporate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » An assessment of all public space within the precinct including the Spotswood RSL and Veterans Reserve » An investigation about the potential to collaborate with Spotswood RSL to develop improved activation and integration with the nearby parks. <p>Complete the priority improvements at Edwards Reserve including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Installation of public toilets » Pathway and fencing improvements » Complete playground upgrades/renewal » Sports grounds improvements under the 10-year capital works program. <p>Develop Craig Street Reserve from local to neighbourhood park status, including the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Incorporate Fred Goldsmith oval into the precinct » Work with the local community to rename Craig Street Reserve to a more suitable choice reflecting the park's improvement and an opportunity for local collaboration <p>Implement improved street scape and public realm improvement works in Hudsons Road as identified in the Spotswood Structure Plan.</p> <p>Undertake works to implement minor asset renewal works in Walkers Corner (Vernon Street Reserve) to cater for existing demand.</p>

PRIORITY	ACTION
Medium-term 2-5 years	<p>Implement new works proposed at Riverside Park (refer also to actions for Newport East precinct) and upgrades at Stony Creek Backwash to cater for existing and future demand.</p> <p>Undertake works to renew assets in E. G. Smith Reserve and The Avenue Reserve to cater for existing demand</p>
Advocacy	<p>Advocate to VicRoads for the installation of priority pedestrian crossings on Melbourne Road</p> <p>Advocate for east-west off road cycling connection and a large new neighbourhood space as part of Precinct 16 development.</p> <p>Advocate for improvements to soundwalls and noise attenuation as part of the West Gate Tunnel Project advocate for no loss of open space as part of the project. Advocate for enhanced cycle routes from the Federation Trail extension to key open spaces and Spotswood Train Station as part of the project.</p> <p>Advocate for community compensation and funds to improve McLean Reserve as a result of the Western Distributor Project.</p> <p>Advocate to the PoMC for improved access and quality of open space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Refer to Newport East recommendations to advocate for improved access, connectivity and amenity for Bay Trail/Yarra River Interface and top section of Riverside Park.
Special Areas	<p>Where appropriate, provide way-finding signage and celebrate special areas through creative interpretive information linking visitors to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Stony Creek Backwash
Other Actions	<p>Provide open space as part of the former Caltex Terminal on Blackshaws Road (Precinct 16).</p> <p>Advocate for access and development of open space for the Birmingham Section of the Spotswood Rail Depot redevelopment.</p>