# SPORTS FACILITY NEEDS ANALYSIS

Hobsons Bay is an active community that offers a range of formal and casual sporting opportunities for its residents. The city also offers generous open space and natural assets that encourage residents to engage in sport and recreation activities to improve their health and wellbeing.

More than 10,000 local Hobsons Bay residents of all ages participate in a diverse range of sporting activities on a weekly basis at local sporting clubs and venues. Additionally, more than 10,000 residents from neighbouring municipalities (particularly Wyndham and Maribyrnong) also visit Hobsons Bay facilities to participate in regular sporting activities.

To respond to such a high level of participation in sport in our city, the Sports Facility Needs Analysis has been developed to determine the future planning and development of Council's sporting infrastructure, and identify priorities for the effective and sustainable delivery of sport facilities across the city.

# Informing the analysis

The Sports Facility Needs Analysis has been informed by a sports participation assessment of 29 individual sports, an audit of existing sports facilities, analysis of 68 local online club survey responses, demand assessments, feedback from regional and State Sporting Association (SSA) stakeholders, desktop research and feedback from the community during the public exhibition period of the draft report.



### Goals

The analysis informs future facility improvements, upgrades and renewals of Council owned and managed sporting infrastructure to best support clubs and venue operators in meeting the community's needs.

The focus of the Sports Facility Needs Analysis is to understand the needs of Hobsons Bay's existing sporting clubs and organisations to provide information on their future demand and growth areas.

## **Principles**

Planning and development principles have been used to guide the interpretation, consideration and preparation of strategic directions and will underpin future sports facility development priorities in Hobsons Bay.

The principles align with the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision priority for 'a visionary, vibrant, accountable urban planning for community spaces that cater for shared activities and services'.

- 1. Maximise use of existing facilities
- 2. Participation and access
- 3. Facility sustainability

The following sports have had detailed participation analysis conducted to inform the Sports Facility Needs Analysis.

### **Australian** Lawn Bowls **Rules Football Athletics and** Lifesaving **Little Athletics Badminton** Netball Baseball **Rugby League Basketball Rugby Union Calisthenics** Soccer **Combat Sports** Softball Cricket Squash Croquet **Swimming** Cycling/BMX **Table Tennis** Golf **Tennis Touch Football Gymnastics** Hockey **Triathlon** Vollyball Lacrosse

# Sports with forecasted growth

Formalised sport is an integral part of the local community and has a strong future focus across the inner western region of Melbourne. The analysis has identified that a number of sports are experiencing growth and diversification of their participation.

Netball, Basketball, Tennis, Football (Soccer), Cricket and Australian Rules Football have identified high growth rates, current waiting lists and restrictive competition formats as key indicators of the need for additional or improved infrastructure to support the future demands of their sports.

This expressed demand is also compounded by the emergence of new sports and the sustained participation in other key local sports including Hockey, Baseball, Badminton, Lacrosse, Rugby League, Rugby Union and Touch Football, which are all popular in Hobsons Bay. In addition, more than 56% of online club survey respondents indicated that demand for their sport 'was strong' and projected an increase in demand within the next five years.

To ensure an evidence based approach to the future planning and development of sports facilities, audits of all sporting infrastructure have been undertaken. The audit process included a mix of physical onsite audits, club meetings and desktop analysis. Online club surveys indicated that approximately half of the respondent clubs believe 'capacity is being exceeded' now, with a further 20% indicating that 'their club/facility is approaching capacity'.

### **Priorities**

The analysis has been developed to highlight short, medium and long-term priorities for identified sports played in Hobsons Bay.

Priorities have been identified from detailed data analysis, facility audits and online club survey responses. Priorities are provided to assist Council and the local sporting community in their budgeting process, investment attraction activities and future decision making. Priorities reflect key infrastructure directions and projects by sport and are not designed to provide individual recommendations for each and every sporting club venue.

In the context of the Sports Facility Needs Analysis, the following timeframes have been used to define short, medium and long-term priorities.

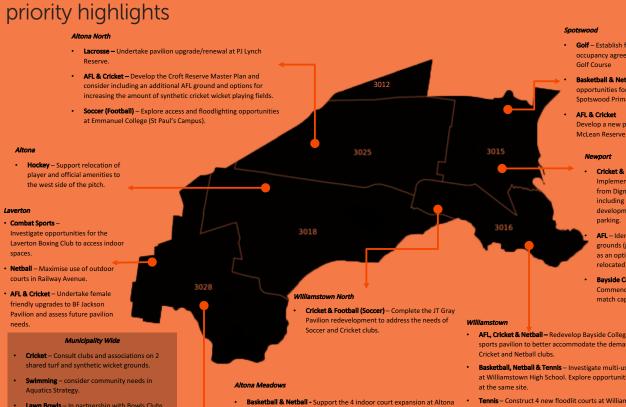
Short-term: within 2 years

Medium-term: within 3-5 years

Long-term: within 6-10 years

The following provides a summary of the short, medium and long-term development priorities for Hobsons Bay's sporting facilities and related infrastructure.

### **Short-term**



Cycling - Engage cyclists and BMX track users in upcoming HD Graham

Rugby Union – Consider relocation to a site that better connects the

- Golf Establish formal management and occupancy agreement with Westgate
- Basketball & Netball Investigate Spotswood Primary School

Develop a new pavilion at Donald

- Cricket & Football (Soccer) -Implement high priority actions from Digman Reserve Master Plan including playing field development, floodlighting and
- AFL Identify access to 2 new AFL grounds (potentially Loft Reserve as an option if Rugby Union are relocated).
- Bayside College (Paisley)match capable sporting grounds.

### AFL, Cricket & Netball - Redevelop Bayside College (Williamstown) sports pavilion to better accommodate the demands of community AFL,

- Basketball, Netball & Tennis Investigate multi-use court opportunities at Williamstown High School. Explore opportunities to activate tennis
- Tennis Construct 4 new floodlit courts at Williamstown Bayside TC, 2 at Dennis Reserve (Williamstown Central TC) and review management operations at the Bayside College Tennis Facility
- Lifesaving Undertake Precinct Upgrade Plan with the Williamstown Lifesaving Club to identify optimal use and development of this WLSC site

### **Medium-term** priority highlights

• Tennis - In-line with club demand,

Master Plan implementation.

Laverton Tennis Club.

investigate 2 new full-size courts and Hot

Shots courts and review pavilion needs at

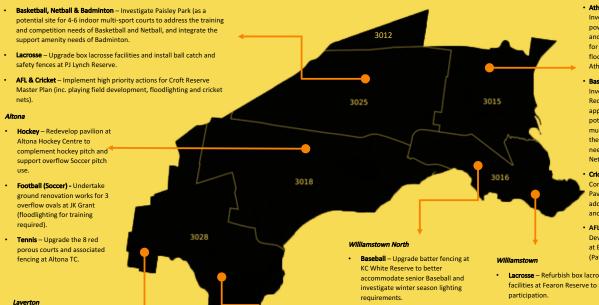
Cricket, AFL, Soccer, Tennis & Lawn Bowls -

Engage stakeholders in AB Shaw Reserve

Lawn Bowls – In partnership with Bowls Clubs

operational assessments of each club and

owls Victoria, undertake financial and



Cycling / BMX – Undertake upgrades of the existing BMX

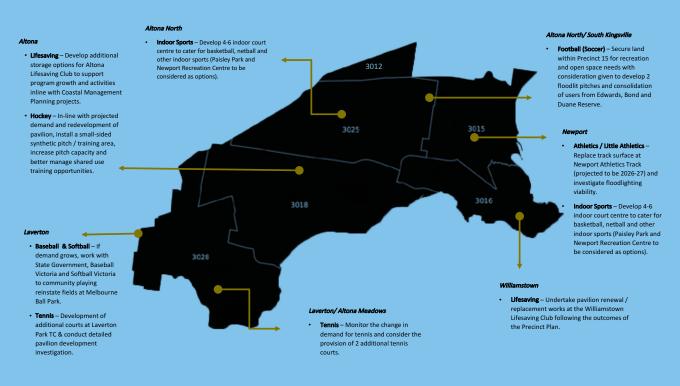
Cricket & Soccer - Include the provision of 1-2 synthetic

wicket Cricket grounds / soccer pitches in the future master planning of HD Graham Reserve.

track in-line with HD Graham Reserve Master Plan

- Athletics / Little Athletics Investigate floodlighting and power supply requirements and develop a business case for the introduction of floodlighting at Newport Park Athletics Track.
- · Basketball & Netball -Investigate Newport Park appropriate sites) as a potential site for 4-6 indoor . multi-sport courts to address the training and competition needs of Basketball and Netball
- · Cricket & Football (Soccer) -Complete the Digman Reserve Pavilion redevelopment to address the needs of Soccer and Cricket clubs
- AFL, Cricket & Soccer -Develop new playing fields at Bayside College
- Lacrosse Refurbish box lacrosse and pavilion facilities at Fearon Reserve to allow for unisex
- Tennis Renew court lighting at Williamstown Tennis Club to competition standards.
- Tennis Renew Williamstown Central TC pavilion inline with future court development.
- Basketball, Netball & Tennis Upgrade multi-use courts at Williamstown High School (Pascoe Street) with acrylic surface, fencing and lighting for shared

## **Long-term** priority highlights



More detailed information on the short, medium and long term priorities can be found in the full analysis.

# Facilities not listed as a priority in the analysis

Priorities identified within the analysis are not the only sporting infrastructure projects that will be undertaken by Council over the next ten years. The priorities within the analysis, along with others identified separately in Council's Sports Ground Floodlighting Renewal Program, Sports Ground Renewal Program, Sports Pavilion (minor) Renewal Program and Cricket Practise Net Renewal Program, will inform future Council budgets.

### Costs

Costs associated with short, medium and long-term priorities have also been estimated to provide a guide as to the scale and funding required in order to support their implementation. Costs remain a guide only and detailed estimates will need to be obtained at the time of implementation.

These estimates are not part of Council's long tern financial plan at this stage. Council needs to develop a funding strategy to implement identified priorities.

The following provides a breakdown of costs for each of the short, medium and long-term priorities incorporating all estimated budget allocations.



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