JOONDALUP SKATEPARK REVISED DESIGN

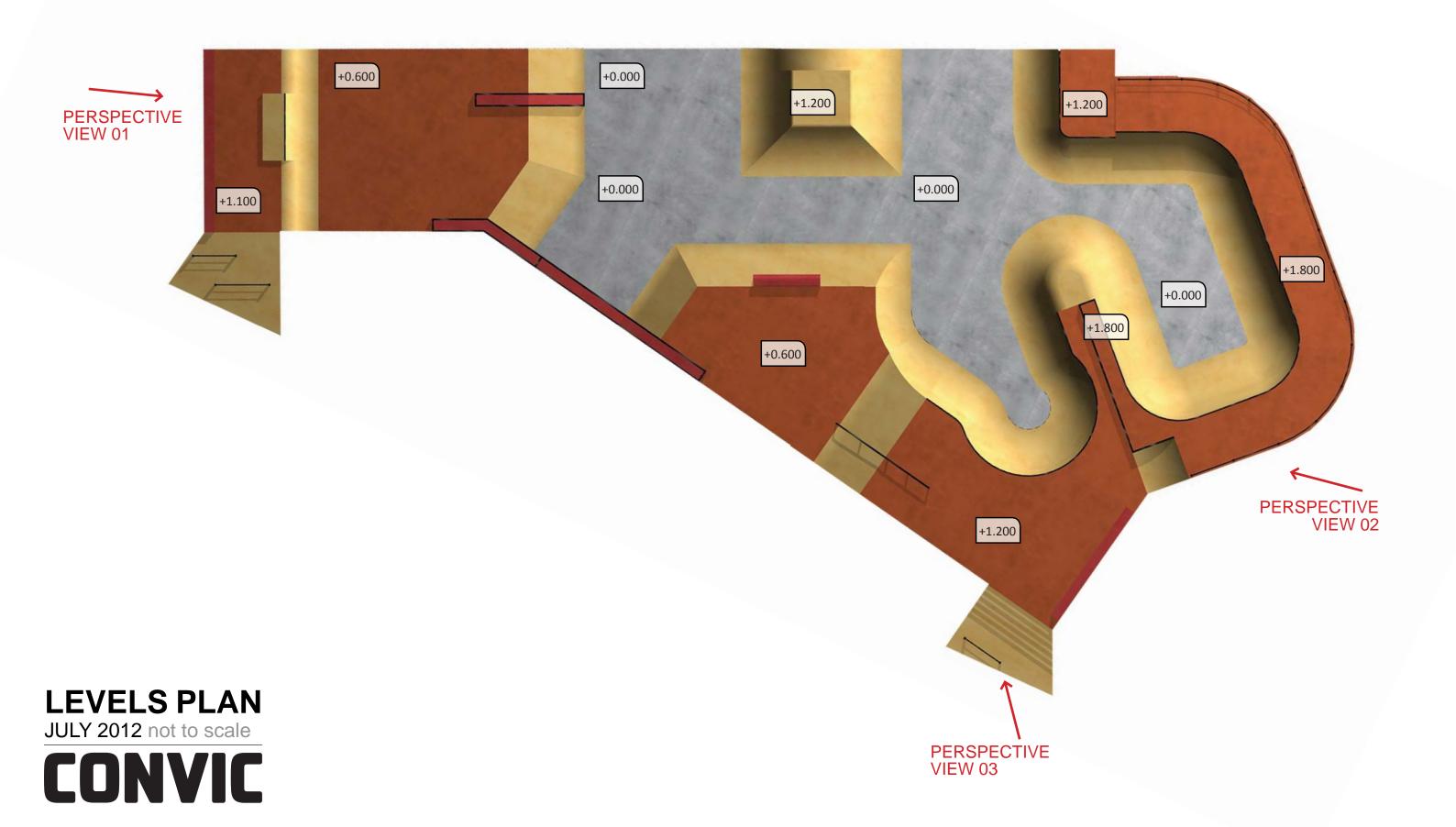


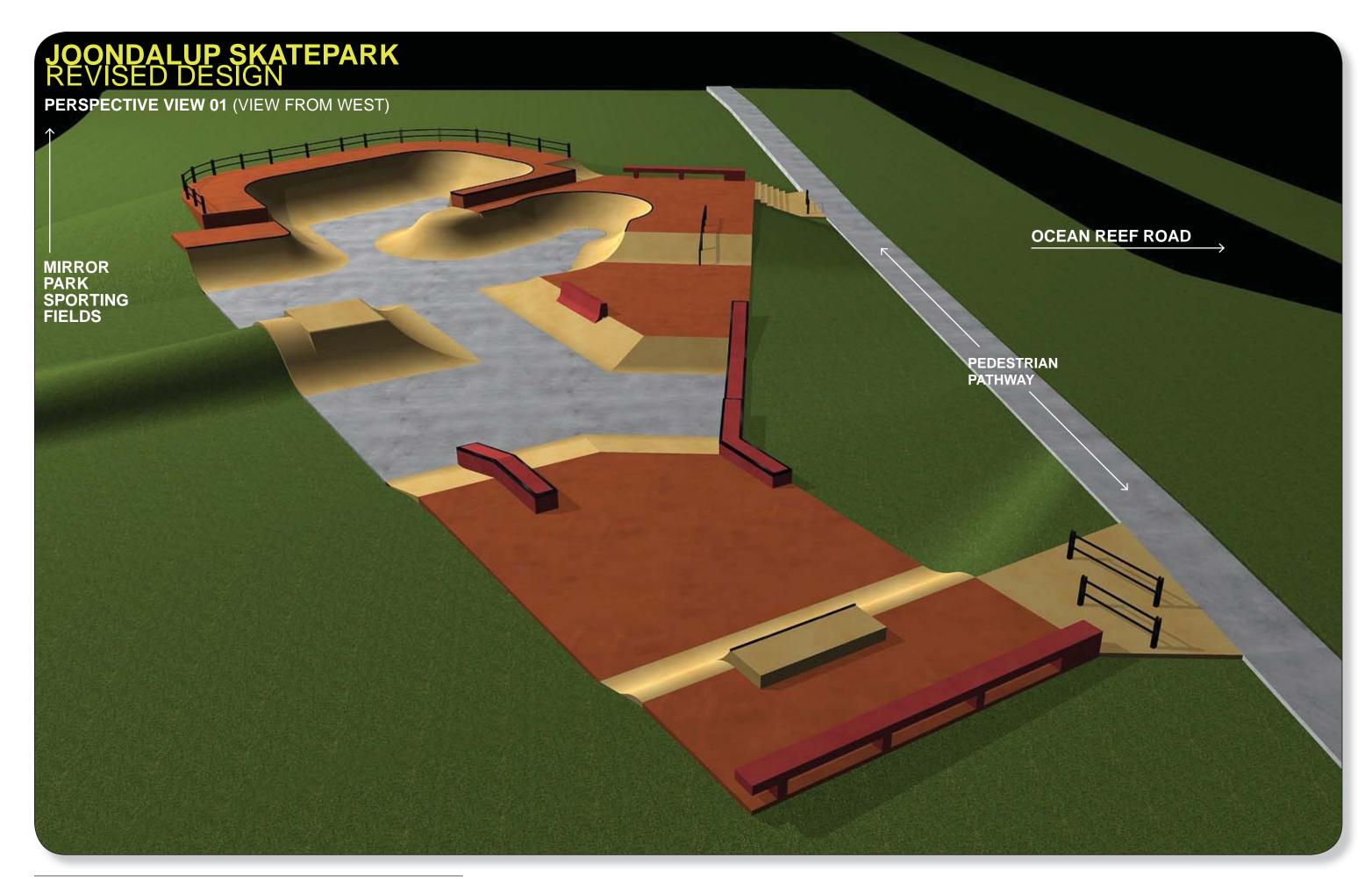


CONTEXT PLAN
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Skate Park Facility Management Plan

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Executive Summary

The City of Joondalup encompasses a total land area of 97 square kilometres, including substantial areas of coastline, parkland, foreshore reserves and bush land. The City has an estimated population of 160,000 residents with approximately 20% of these being young people aged 5-17 years.

The City of Joondalup is a sustainable City that is committed to service delivery excellence and operates under the principles of good governance. It is the mission of the City of Joondalup to undertake all activities with the endeavor of meeting community expectations and achieving sustainable lifestyles.

The City currently has two skate park facilities within its municipality - a freestanding semi mobile facility at the Craigie Leisure Centre and a static concrete facility at Kinross MacNaughton Park. In 2003, the City partnered with the City of Stirling to develop the static concrete skate park at Carine with ongoing costs being met by the City of Stirling. These facilities are uncovered, signed, 'fee-free', fenced, have lighting, are well utilised and are accessible via public transport.

Since the skate park facility at Kinross was developed in 2001, the City has received numerous requests for the provision of further skate parks across the City.

This Plan has been developed with input from City staff with professional expertise in the provision of youth, recreation, community safety, asset management and operations services with the aim of ensuring that:

- Future facilities are well developed and maintained in a co-ordinated manner.
- Unnecessary facilities are decommissioned or repositioned.

Definition

Skate Parks are primarily used for in-line skating, skateboarding, scooter riding and BMX cycling.

Purpose

The Plan provides guidance on the development, management and decommissioning of skate parks within the City of Joondalup.

Objectives

The objectives of the Plan are to:

- Plan for and provide multi-purpose sports facilities that will meet the evolving lifestyle, sporting and recreational needs of the community.
- Provide for a co-ordinated approach to skate park development, maintenance and decommissioning.

Principles

The City aims to provide skate parks that have been developed in consultation with the local community that are:

- developed and maintained in line with relevant standards and principles;
- accessible, welcoming of visitors and inclusive of people living with disabilities;
- managed to avoid predictable risks to person and/or property;
- a safe space for people to skate and ride; and
- supportive of healthy and active lifestyles.

Benefits

Skate Parks were developed within the City of Joondalup in response to the identified social, health and recreational needs of young people aged between 12-20 years. Facilities of this nature provide the following benefits:

- creating a local meeting place for young people in the community;
- involving young people in positive activities;
- encouraging the development of new skills and abilities;
- promoting healthy lifestyles and the benefits of physical activity;
- facilitating a sense of belonging and positive interaction within the local community.

Facility Development

The City regularly receives requests for the development of new skate parks. When considering the development of a new skate park the following factors will be taken into account in the decision-making process.

Consultation

The City's vision is for public open spaces that feel safe and that can be used by anyone for outdoor recreation and leisure. The development of any new facility must consider the issues and concerns of the local community as well as looking at models of good practice used by other local governments. Information of this type will be gathered through a process of consultation in alignment with the City's Community Consultation and Engagement Policy.

Types of Facilities

Currently in Australia, facilities are developed utilising one of three methods. The most suitable type of facility will be selected based on user needs, site design/location and resources.

Semi-mobile – uncovered and freestanding (minimally supervised)

- These ramps are of metal construction, are re-locatable and can be positioned on a flat concrete pad, car park or purpose built.
- Graffiti can be removed easily and ramps are difficult to damage although susceptible to becoming dented after inappropriate use.

Static concrete – uncovered and freestanding (minimally supervised)

- These ramps are structurally solid and have a life-span of approximately 20 years.
- Ramp design can be more varied and this is due to the workability of the construction materials.
- Provision of general amenities is expected, as the facility remains present in a community for a long period of time.
- Ramps are difficult to damage; they are, however, susceptible to graffiti vandalism, which is costly to remove. It can be difficult to close the facilities when maintenance is required.

Enclosed and fully supervised

- These ramps are supervised and need to be covered by a fixed building or fully fenced. These facilities might be developed to be sustainable or profitable and could function as part of a greater 'community hub'.
- There is opportunity for sponsorships, partnerships, club development, skills coaching and events.
- Can be comparatively costly to run as they are managed.

Coordination and development of park and facilities use

The facilities and those who use them will form a focal point within a larger public space setting. The development, maintenance and usage of the park's surrounds are important in determining the culture experienced at the park; no one group should be allowed to have dominance over the space. The City's Youth Services Team will participate in youth and community engagement programs to assist in the positive utilisation of these facilities.

Funding and budget

Skate parks require financial resources, both for development and maintenance. To lessen the impact on the City's financial resources the availability of fundraising, grants, sponsorship and other sources of income will be investigated.

Design style and construction

The design and construction of any new facility will be undertaken by professional contractors under the supervision of the City. New facilities and any upgrades to existing facilities will be based on relevant information gathered from people with knowledge of skate park design and construction, the likely/current users of the facility and other relevant stakeholders. Any new development will be affordable, safe and clean.

Site suitability and accessibility

Placement of a skate park will be considered taking account of factors such as risk prevention, community participation, and disability access and inclusion strategies. The City aims to provide facilities that are affordable, safe and accessible as well as avoiding any predictable and preventable maintenance costs.

Parking

Suitable parking facilities will be provided to encourage the use of facilities. Car and motor bike bays will be clearly marked. If bicycle racks are provided, they will be well anchored and constructed of a durable material.

Surveillance

Implemented soundly, electronic surveillance can prove an effective tool in managing a site or facility. It can also prove effective in mitigating the impact of graffiti and vandalism, as well as improving perceptions of safety for users. Installation of surveillance at skate parks will be considered in accordance with the City's public areas video surveillance protocol. Where installed, CCTV systems at skate parks will be able to be viewed and controlled remotely by the City.

Lighting

The needs of facility users and surrounding residents will be considered in determining if installation of lighting is appropriate. If lighting is deemed appropriate, lighting fixtures will be durable, easily maintained and provide appropriate levels of light for the proposed activities. Lighting times will be set with the aim of providing community members equitable opportunity to access the facility. The City's aim will be that facilities are well utilised and patrons are kept as safe as is reasonably possible, but at the same time ensuring this is not at an unnecessary financial or social cost to the community.

Toilets and drinking fountains

Toilets and drinking fountains may be provided by the City. In the main these amenities will be placed at sites that have high levels supervision and patronage and hence are at lower risk of sustaining criminal damage. In the absence of toilets and drinking fountains directions to the nearest public amenities will be included on the skate park signage and the City's website.

Risk management strategies

There are inherent dangers involved in using extreme sports facilities and there is a need to ensure users are aware of these risks. It is also important to identify and reduce levels of risk. As such the City will ensure that emergency contact numbers are provided on the facility signage, facility users have access to first aid trained staff at all City-operated events and regular facility inspections are carried out.

Seating

Seating will be provided at facilities, be durable and may be designed to have multi-purpose functions, i.e. litter collection or riding surface. The City's aim is to encourage spectator participation and broader community interaction.

Fencing

Fencing will be provided where it is appropriate. Where fencing is installed it will incorporate appropriate access points, be multi-functional and observe relevant standards. Fencing should not dramatically impede the public view of the facilities. Fencing can have a variety of functions and these are to be considered prior to installation or when retro-fitting a facility, e.g. litter collection, seating, highlight the ride area and/or as a safety barrier.

Shelter

As skateboarding, in-line skating, scooter riding and BMX cycling are active outdoor activities adequate provision of shelter may be considered to complement the facility. The appropriateness of installing a shelter at a facility will be considered on a case by case basis.

Signage

Signage will be provided at all facilities, be durable, multi-functional and linked to safety. Patrons will be able to access emergency contact numbers, be aware of the facilities intended uses and the code of conduct. As a minimum it will contain the numbers for emergency services, City Watch and the City. The print used to display safety and other messages will be large and legible from approximately 5 metres. Signage will be positioned to ensure it can be readily viewed by the patrons of the facility.

Litter

Litter management strategies will be identified and implemented to reduce littering behaviour. Litter receptacles at facilities will be durable and appropriately secured.

Insurance and public liability

With the increase in proliferation of unsupervised, freely available skate parks in Western Australia, Local Government insurers reviewed their position and now consider skate parks as being akin to playgrounds. Any skate park will be listed with the insurers for coverage under the City's Public Liability Insurance Policy.

Facility Management

Issue/objective	Strategy
Control of litter on site including broken glass, leaves and other potential hazards	 Adequate number of bins Daily rubbish collection
Deter graffiti and other damage to lessen negative public perception of the facility and its users	 Installation of CCTV Graffiti paint out as required Youth education and diversionary programs offered to young people Maintain facility and surrounding areas at a high standard to encourage use and 'ownership'.
Maintenance of facility and early identification of potential hazards	 Weekly inspection of facility using facility inspection sheet Monthly inspection of all sites and infrastructure by Asset Management
Continual consultation and engagement with facility users	 Youth working group formed at each facility Youth Mobile to visit facilities on a regular basis
Noise mitigation	 Where possible: Heavy gauge steel used for pipe work. Rails capped and hot dip galvanised with all coping ends capped to minimise noise. Construction joints are flush finished with minimal size saw cuts to minimise noise. Noise complaints will be managed in accord with the City's processes
Skate Park Closure	Where skate parks are due to close at a specified time: Signage at facility will clearly indicate closure time Lighting will automatically switch off at closure time City Watch and Ranger patrols may have a presence to assist with informing users that a facility is closed

Infrastructure Failure	When infrastructure fails at a skate park the designated officer must be contacted to rectify.
	Lighting including timing of when lights turn on and off
	• CCTV
	Fencing, bins and shade

SKATE PARK WEEKLY CHECKLIST

Name of Facility:	
Date of inspection:/ Time	
Name of inspecting officer:	
Please tick box and make comments as appropriate	Y N
Has officer walked the site and visually inspected the facility?	
Is the facility free from debris (i.e. leaves, branches, broken glass?)	
If no has the officer organised to have debris removed?	
Details:	
Is the skate park free from superficial damage/cracks?	
If no, has the officer organised to have damage repaired?	
Details:	
Is the facility signage in place and readable?	
If no, has the officer organised to rectify signage?	
Details:	
Are all facility infrastructures free from damage (lights, seating and fencing)?	
If no has the designated officer been contacted?	
Details:	
Is the site free from graffiti?	
If no, then contact the City's graffiti report line 9400 4528	
Please comment on any other items that need attention for the benefit of publi enjoyment	
Inspecting Officer's Name:	
Inspecting Officer's Signature:	
Following completion this form should be returned to the Team Leader Par	ks North
Team Leader Name:	

Signature:	

Facility Decommissioning

Demolition

The demolition of a facility will occur when it has reached its life-span as determined by the original construction company or certified engineer, and/or when it is deemed to be unsustainable due to other factors including financial, social or environmental. When considering decommissioning of a skate park, the City will consider the issues relating to displacement of facility users as well as recognising the potential competing interest of key stakeholders.

Repositioning

Facilities that are considered to be mobile will be repositioned to ensure that they are being appropriately utilised. Repositioning of mobile facilities will only occur when supported by the stakeholders and where it is feasible to do so.