



WALKER PARK REGIONAL SPORTING COMPLEX

2017 STRATEGIC PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction	2
2.0	Aims & Objectives	2
3.0	Current Uses of Walker Park	2
4.0	Regional Sporting Hub	2
5.0	Consultation	2
6.0	Strategic Plan	3
7.0	Description of Management Zones	4
7.1	Sporting and Active Zone	4
7.2	Passive Recreational Zone	5
8.0	Plan of Management Program	6
9.0	Proposed Actions	6
10.0	Action Plan	7

1.0 Introduction

Walker Park is a multi-use sporting complex located within the township of Yass. The complex includes four levels of playing fields and two amenities buildings.

The purpose of this strategic plan is to provide Yass Valley Council and the community with a direction for structured development of Walker Park Regional Sporting Complex as well as meeting the legislative requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The objectives of the plan are to identify the current uses of the area and outline the long term direction of the development of the sporting complex.

2.0 Aims & Objectives

The aims and objectives of the strategic plan are:

- To provide a management approach that delineates and integrates activities within the site and surrounding recreational areas.
- To provide a proposed priority program for development of the site to a regional or national sporting level.
- Identify the need to develop a Plan of Management that will meet legislative requirements and be a supporting document for any grant funding applications.
- To enhance the aesthetics for the natural environment of Walker Park.
- To provide quality sporting and recreational space for the community.

3.0 Current Uses of Walker Park

Walker Park is a multipurpose complex that is utilised for active and passive recreation. The key local sports undertaken include:

- Soccer
- Rugby League
- Touch Football
- Junior Cricket
- Fitness Activities

The current sporting users of Walker Park participate at Local, Regional, State and National levels. Club games hosted at Walker Park include Canberra Region Rugby League and Canberra Football regional competitions. Walker Park also hosts one of the largest annual touch football competitions engaging 120 teams from around Australia with elite players included.

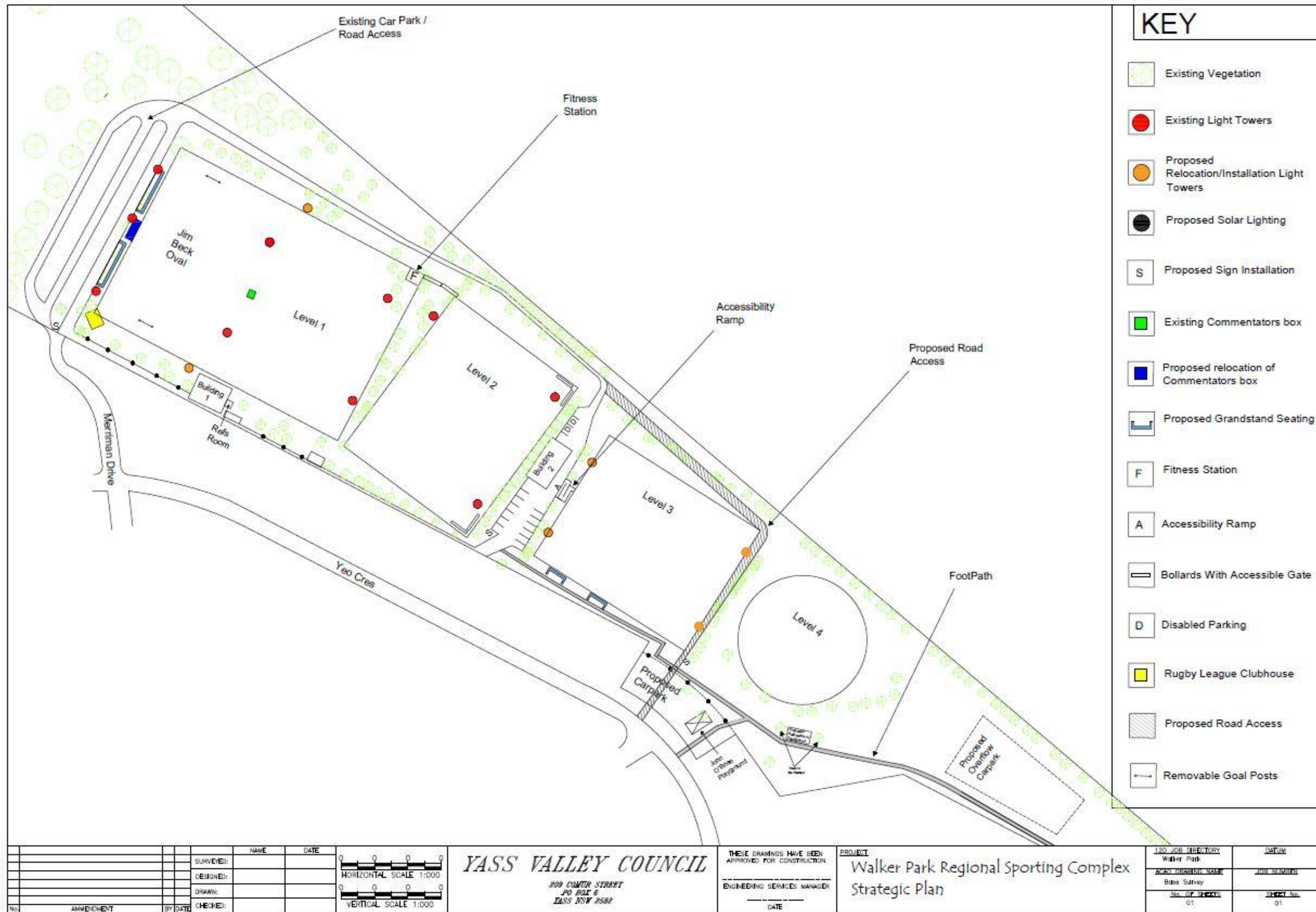
Walker Park has a designated passive recreation area which includes a category 2 playground and significant open space area.

4.0 Regional Sporting Hub

Walker Park is recognized as a regional sporting complex and as such requires facilities to adhere to these requirements. This would involve significant improvements to cater for large visitor numbers. User groups have been in consultation with Council to improve the site to increase sporting participation and ability to host major events. The strategic plan outlines the proposed future development of the site to upgrade the facility to be more in keeping with the standard of a regional facility.

5.0 Consultation

Yass Valley Council has worked extensively within the community and with local sporting bodies to develop the strategic direction in which Walker Park needs to move towards to formalise a regional sporting facility.



7.0 Description of Management Zones

7.1 Sporting and Active Zone

This zone provides an area which can be utilised for both sporting and active recreation. The site includes four levels of playing fields and a fitness station located on level two.



Figure 1 – Level one playing field



Figure 2 – Fitness Station

7.2 Passive Recreational Zone

This zone includes John O'Brien Park, a category 2 playground, which was installed in 2009 and a passive recreational open space area.



Figure 3- John O'Brien Park Playground



Figure 4- Passive open space area

8.0 Plan of Management Program

Under Section 36 of the Local Government Act 1993, Council must prepare Plans of Management for community land.

All Council owned sporting facilities will be incorporated in a generic Plan of Management. This will provide management actions that relate to all sporting facilities and will comprise the following:

- A plan of management for community land must identify the category of the land
- A current description of the natural and cultural resources.
- Planning considerations relevant to the land.
- A statement of the long term objectives for the reserve and the associated management targets for the specified period.
- Method of assessment of organized objectives and targets.
- The condition of the land, and of any buildings or other improvements on the land, as at the date of adoption of the plan of management.

9.0 Proposed Actions

It is important to develop Walker Park in a sequential and detailed approach. This allows the various tasks to be identified, resourced and programmed as appropriate. Projects can be considered annually by Council in the development of its Operational Plan and also identified for grant funding where applicable.

The proposed actions as outlined hereunder will provide the guidelines for the enhancement and development of Walker Park and its immediate surrounds into a regional sporting facility.

10.0 Action Plan

Item	Activity
1	Installation of lighting to Level 3
2	Upgrade existing fixed goalposts to removable goalposts
3	Retrofitting LED lighting to existing light towers
4	Relocation of light towers from center of Jim Beck oval to side of field (subject to advice from lighting expert)
5	Grandstand seating at Jim Beck Oval
6	Relocation of Commentators Box from center of Jim Beck oval to side of field
7	Redevelop irrigation system on Level 1 playing field
8	Refurbish building 1 & incorporate referee facilities
9	Accessibility ramp from Level 2 amenities building to Level 3
10	Bollards around Level 2 playing field with accessible gate
11	Redevelop carpark and road access
12	Relocation of John O'Brien Park Playground
13	Internal ground signage i.e. remote supervision, road signage, site information
14	Develop water supply system from Yass River for irrigation of playing fields
15	Line mark existing carpark
16	Solar lighting around carpark and building 1 and 2
17	Install irrigation system for Level 4
18	Develop landscaping features
19	Designated overflow carpark

NB: priorities and funding will be subject to consideration annually by Council in its Operational Plan Process.