

PART C

Pymont Peninsula Place Strategy, Social infrastructure assessment

Department of Planning,
Industry and Environment

July 2020

A photograph of a person wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a white bucket hat, seen from behind, looking out over a body of water. In the background, there is a shoreline with various buildings, including some with corrugated metal roofs, and a line of trees. The water is bright and reflects the light. A large teal semi-circle is overlaid on the bottom left of the image, containing the text.

Part 4

Open space
and recreation
infrastructure
baseline

8. Introduction to Open space and recreation facilities

This part of the report aims to understand open space and recreation infrastructure needs. It includes an analysis of open space and recreation facilities in order to determine what open space and recreation facilities will be needed to meet the needs of the Pyrmont Peninsula.

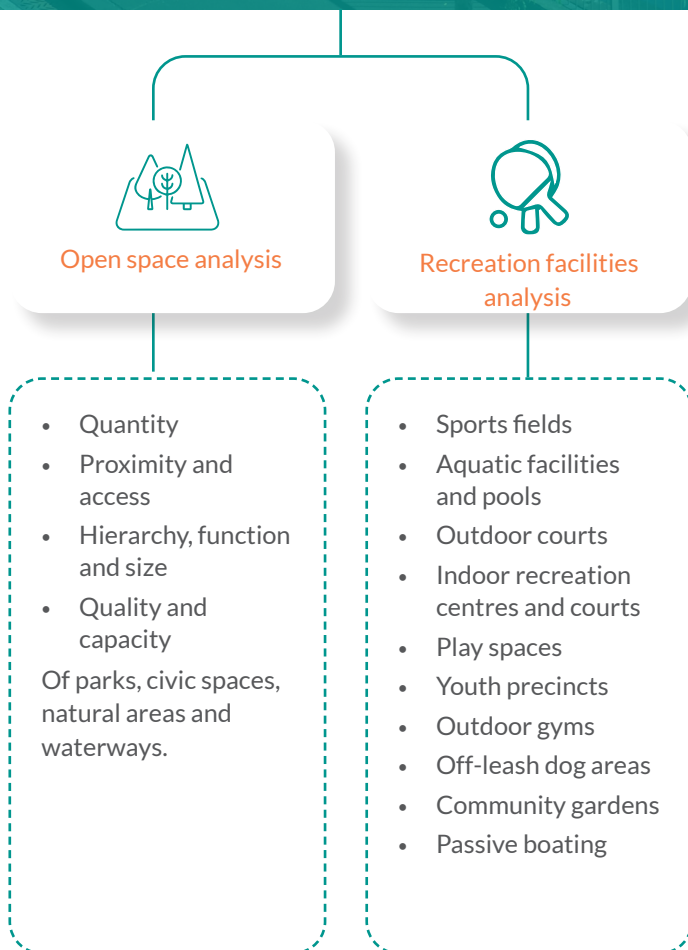


Figure 37 - Part 4 open space and recreation structure

Part 4 of this study analyses the open space and recreation opportunities that are available to residents and workers living within the Pyrmont Peninsula.

It is broken into two sections as shown by Figure 37 including:

- Open space analysis (breaking open space within the Pyrmont Peninsula down into quantity, proximity and access, hierarchy, function and size and quality and capacity).
- Recreation facilities analysis which audits and analyses facilities by type across the Pyrmont Peninsula.

8.1. Audit and mapping approach

All open spaces and recreation facilities within the Pyrmont Peninsula have been audited and mapped and where available their ownership, age and capacity have been included. We have also audited any recreation facilities located outside the Pyrmont Peninsula in close proximity (within 800m walking distance) but these have not been included for benchmarking purposes.

8.2. Benchmarking approach

This baseline report provide early benchmarking against:

- Proximity.
- Population benchmarks.

Benchmarking is just one of many indicators that can be used to understand the community and cultural facility needs of a community. Benchmarking provides an indication of the demand for infrastructure in terms of the number or size of infrastructure in an ideal situation.

8.3. Definitions

What is open space?

For the purposes of this study, open space is broadly defined as:

Land that is publicly owned and used for recreation, leisure and outdoor entertainment purposes. This includes recreation spaces (such as parks and play spaces), sports grounds, community/civic spaces (such as urban public space and plazas that form part of our public domain), linkage parks (such as recreation trails) and natural areas.

The open space analysis is based on open spaces identified in the City of Sydney's infrastructure baseline, which includes both civic spaces (e.g. Union Square) and parkland.

While we have audited private and communal recreation facilities (e.g. UTS sports hall), for benchmarking purposes only Government owned or managed facilities have been counted within the quantum benchmarks.

What is recreation?

Recreation includes a broad range of passive and active leisure activities that we participate in for fun, relaxation, health and wellbeing and to connect to our families and communities. This includes casual activities like going for a walk or a picnic with friends, fitness activities, and social, organised and elite sporting activities.

In keeping with recreation trends, it's important to approach recreation planning as a spectrum (see Figure 38), ranging from passive recreation such as visiting gardens or enjoying nature, through to personal fitness such as using outdoor gym equipment though to organised, representative and elite sport.

What are recreation facilities?

Recreation facilities are the built infrastructure that supports recreation activities, such as: Facilities in open space e.g. BBQs, play spaces, furniture; Sports fields and courts; Indoor leisure centres; Aquatic centres; Recreation trails, and Water-based recreation (e.g. sailing clubs).



Figure 38 - Recreation as a

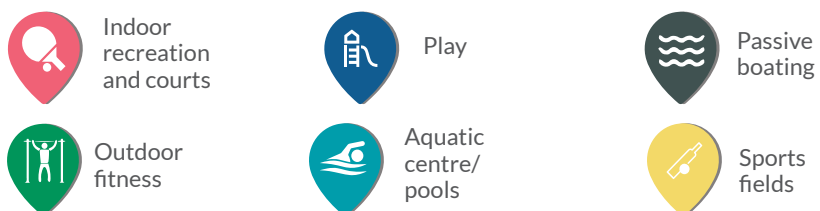
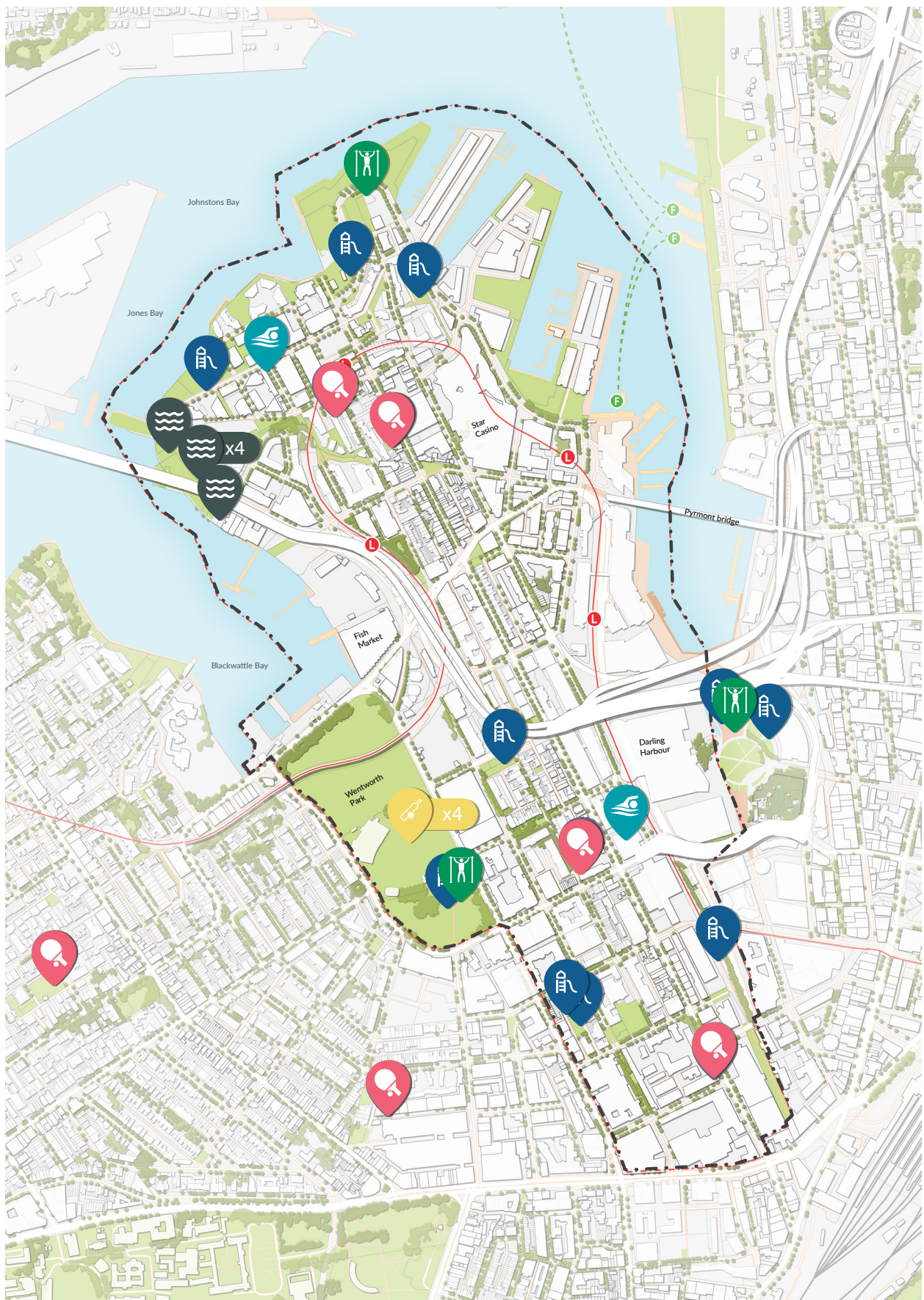


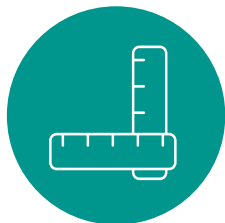
Figure 39 - Audit of all open space and recreation facilities in the Pyrmont Peninsula and within an 800m walking catchment

9. Open space analysis

This section analyses the open space within the Pyrmont Peninsula according to the following approaches: Quantity; proximity and access; quality and capacity (will be completed phase 2 of this report); hierarchy, size and function. Collectively these different forms of analysis paint a picture of the Pyrmont Peninsula's open space needs.

9.1. Approach to open space analysis

Based on current approaches to open space and recreation planning this section breaks down open space analysis according to:



Quantity

- How much open space do we have now?
- How much open space is there per person?
- How will this change as the population grows?



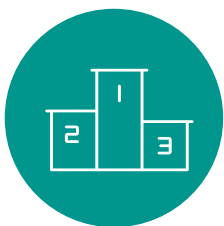
Proximity and access

- Can we access our open space?
- Can residents easily walk to a park within 400m?



Hierarchy, function and size

- How do different parks service different open space needs?
- Are there diverse types of open space available to cater for different activities and functions?



Quality and capacity

- What are resident's experience of open space and recreation facilities?
- Does the quality of open space and recreation facilities vary?
- Are there needs for improvements to increase capacity?



Figure 40 - Sitting by the water's edge at Pirrama Park

9.2. Quantity of open space

Quantum of open space is a high level indicator of how the Pyrmont Peninsula is performing in terms of the total amount of open space there is available per person living there. This can be benchmarked based on the quantum of open space per person, and the % of a site or place.

Measuring the quantity of open space is a high level indicator of how the Pyrmont Peninsula is performing in terms of its open space provision.

As a high level indicator, quantum does not account for accessibility barriers that may be present – such as highways, or rail – and must be read in conjunction with proximity and connectivity. Despite this drawback, quantum is a tool to establish minimum benchmarks for open space as future development occurs.

Data source: City of Sydney baseline as the data source, cross-referenced with the Pyrmont Peninsula boundary.

There are two approaches to understanding the quantity of open space:

9.2.1. Quantum – proportion of the site

#1 The quantity of open space as a proportion of the total land area of the site.

Pyrmont Peninsula target: 15% of the total area is open space

The City of Sydney's LSPS has a clear target that at least 15 per cent of the site area of NSW Government urban renewal projects and major urban renewal projects are to be delivered as public open space in a consolidated and accessible location.



Figure 41 - Despite its location just outside the Pyrmont Peninsula boundary, Tumbalong Park is a significant open space servicing the Tumbalong Sub-precinct

9.2.2. Key findings

1 overall quantity of open space as a proportion of the total land area of the site findings

- **Pyrmont Peninsula land total:** 180ha
- **Total open space:** 31ha
- **Proportion of Pyrmont Peninsula as open space:** 17%
- **Target met:** The Pyrmont Peninsula currently meets the City of Sydney's target of 15% open space.

Despite 17% of the Pyrmont Peninsula being open space, this differs between the sub-precincts. Table 21 below shows how Pyrmont's overall open space provision is heavily reliant on its large fringe parks (Wentworth Park and Pirrama Park), with these sub-precincts having a large proportion of open space compared to others.

Table 21 - Open space as proportion of sub-precincts

Sub-precinct	ha of open space	% of open space
Pirrama	5.4	24
Pyrmont Village	0.4	2
Darling Island	2.3	8
Blackwattle Bay	1.8	9
Tumbalong Park	5.2	22
Wentworth Park	13.9	49
Ultimo	2.1	7

It is important to read Table 21 in context, understanding that each sub-precinct is not an island and may have significant open space just beyond the border (e.g. Tumbalong sub-precinct does not include Tumbalong Park). Other built form characteristics, such as a significant heritage core in Pyrmont Village, may also limit opportunities for large parks within these sub-precincts.

Taking this into account, Table 21 demonstrates the high need to ensure there are easy public transport, walking and cycling connections from Pyrmont Village, Ultimo and Darling Island to the large anchor Pirrama, Wentworth, Tumbalong Parks.

It also shows that Blackwattle Bay needs to increase open space by at least 1.2ha to meet the City's 15% target.

9.3. Proximity and access

Regardless of the amount of open space there may be in a particular area, if it's not easy to get to, it's not likely to be used. This is why it's important to plan for open space by considering both the amount of open space, as well as how people can access it.



Figure 42 - The Goods Line is an example of enhancing pedestrian and cycling access, while serving as an open space destination, programmed to support a diverse range of uses.

9.3.1. Approach

The Greater Sydney Commission indicates that all residents should have access to Regional Open Space within 5km, District Open Space within 2km and that all dwellings should be within 400m of quality open space of at least 0.3ha.

Dwellings in high density should also be within 200m of quality open space of at least 0.1ha.

Proximity and connectivity benchmarks can assess the geographic distribution and accessibility of open space in terms of how far people need to travel to access open space. There may be different proximity benchmarks for different types of open space: for example, local open space should be within walking distance of most people, but regional open space could be further away. When applying proximity benchmarks, connectivity and access should be considered – for example, how walkable are the main access routes, is their a main road or rail line obstructing access?

Pymont Peninsula target:

All residents and workers are to be within 400 metres of quality, functional open space of at least 0.3ha.

All residents within high density, can walk to a park with 200m of at least 0.1ha to 0.3ha.

9.3.2. Key findings

Figure 43 illustrates pedestrian walking catchments (pedsheds) of 200m for parks 0.1 - 0.3ha in size, and 400m for parks greater than 0.3ha.

Analysis has also taken into account significant barriers including cliff-faces (raised parks such as Grassy Knoll, Gipa Park), significantly sloped streets (part of William Henry Street, Quarry Street, Fig Street), and high traffic roads/streets including the Western Distributor, Harris Street and Darling Drive that become mental, if not physical, barriers for pedestrians.

Figure 43 shows that the majority of the Pymont Peninsula has access to a park within walking distance, including larger parks above 0.3ha that can facilitate a diverse range of activities. The one clear gap in the Pymont Peninsula is located at the Blackwattle Bay redevelopment site, indicating the significant need for new open space across the redevelopment site, including a district park of at least 2ha at the Bank St area to allow for a diverse range of recreation activities.

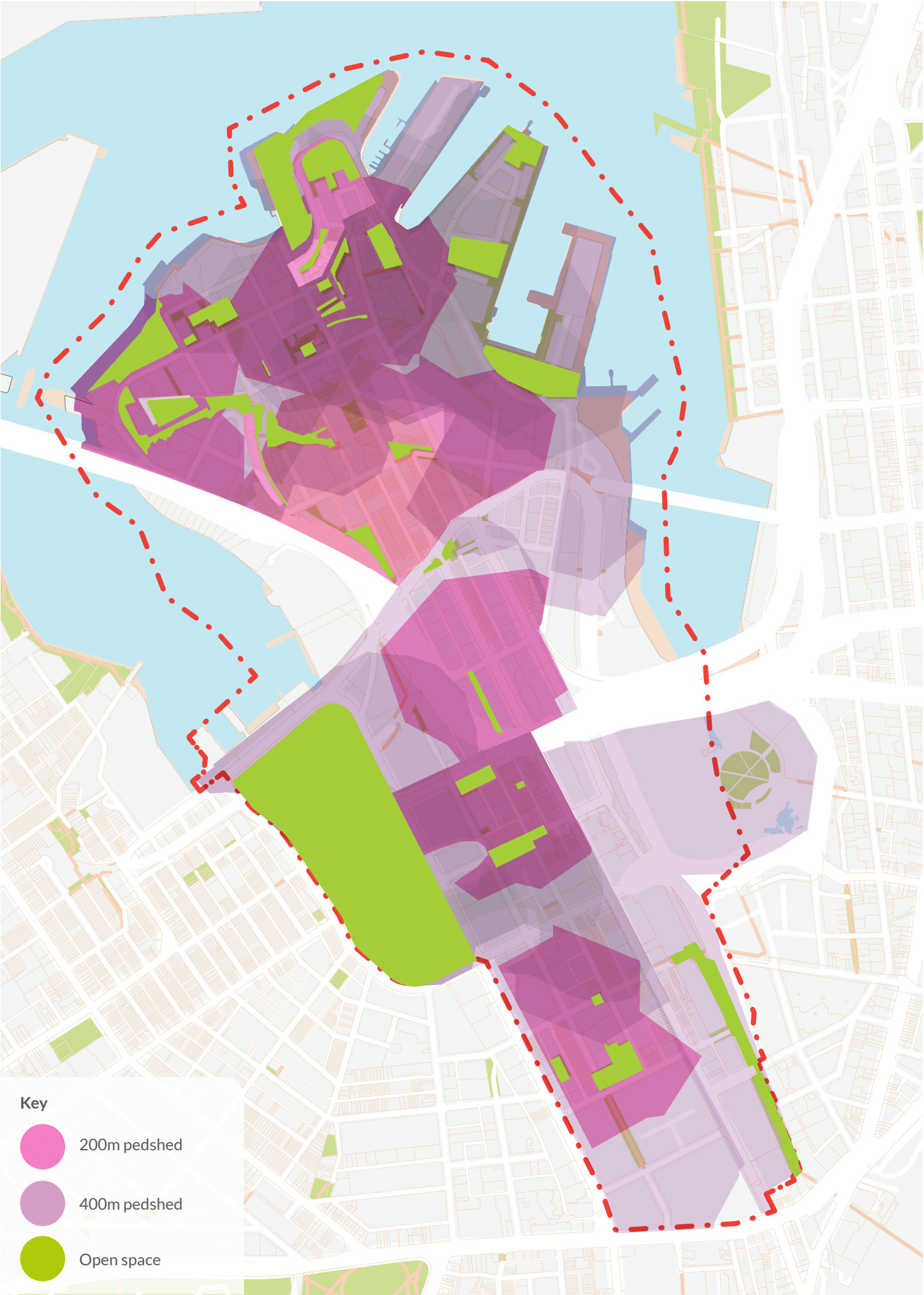


Figure 43 - 400m and 200m Pedshed analysis of the Pymont Peninsula

9.4. Hierarchy, size and function

Having a diversity of open spaces that range in hierarchy and size (from regional, down to local), and functions (sports spaces through to natural areas) are important to ensure an area can meet the needs of a diverse population. Understanding hierarchy and function gives an understanding of the types and sizes of parks within the Pymont Peninsula in order to assess whether a diversity of recreation needs are being met.

9.4.1. Approach

Hierarchy

Hierarchy and size gives an indication of the scale of parks within the Pymont Peninsula. Hierarchy can range from Regional parks that are unlimited in size and service the whole of the City of Sydney and beyond, to Neighbourhood parks that service locals and are usually around 0.3ha or less.

The City of Sydney’s hierarchy has been applied to assessing open space within the Pymont Peninsula as shown in Table 22 below:

Size

Size is another element that can shape what a park can offer to the community. To maximise the diversity of uses a park can offer, the minimum ideal size for a park is 3,000m² which is one benchmark to understand open space function, useability and service levels.

Function

Function indicates how an open space functions and what it is primarily used for. Our approach to assessing function is based on the Government Architect’s Greener Places definitions as described in Table 23 below.

Table 22 - City of Sydney Hierarchy

Catchment	Description	Typical Scale	Catchment from home
Regional	Any large or unique area with good links to public transport that attract visitations from the whole of the City of Sydney or broader than the City, including tourists.	Unlimited	Unlimited
District	Serving more than one Village Area. Are generally large or significant areas that attract visitors from surrounding suburbs and offer a more diverse range of activities. Can cater for a wide cross section of community interests, including informal recreation and sporting opportunities. Provides a diverse range of facilities to encourage longer stays.	1-5ha	2-3ha
Local	Serving residents within a Village Area. Open space that provides facilities for visitors within walking distance for 30-60 minute stays. Open space areas that are positioned and designed to attract residents living within a 0.5km radius. Cater for informal recreation, relaxation and children’s play, and should be within walking distance of all households.	0.3 - 1ha	500m
Neighbourhood	Serving residents within immediate locality. Open space in easy walking distance from home to provide for short stay activities, usually children’s play.	0.1ha - 0.3	400m
Small Neighborhood	Usually pocket or small parks that include a small rest area or very small play for passersby to stop and rest.	Less than 0.1ha	NA

Table 23 - Government architect Greener Places function

Function	
Sports space	Primary function is to support formal/organised sporting activities
Park	Primary function is to support informal recreation activities
Natural space	Primary function is to support biodiversity
Linkage (green grid)	Primary function is to connect one open space are to another with recreational green links
Waterways	Primary function to connect and support water-based recreation
Civic/urban public space	Public space in urban, developed areas, includes elements of the public domain such as streets and plazas, often hard surface and event ready spaces.

9.4.2. Key findings

Hierarchy

Figure 44 breaks down open space within the Pymont Peninsula by its hierarchy. It shows that a significant majority of open spaces are either Neighbourhood or small neighbourhood (56%) and local (33%), with only 3% of parks being categorised as district, and 8% regional.

While having a relatively low proportion of district parks, the provision of regional parks is relatively high for a study area of this size, reflecting the access residents have to regionally significant open spaces like Wentworth and Tumbalong park that can offer high quality spaces and facilities for recreation.

Size

Figure 45 illustrates that the majority of open spaces (62%) within the Pymont Peninsula are less than 0.3ha or 3,000m². This means that parks may be constrained in terms of the uses they can offer the community. Opportunities to enhance connections to the larger fringe parks, while strengthening connections between small neighbourhood and pocket parks should be explored within the Place Strategy.

Function

The majority of open spaces within the Pymont Peninsula function as 'parks', which are typically places for informal, social recreation activities.

This is closely followed by civic/urban spaces (36%) which corresponds with the above hierarchy and size analysis that shows many local to neighbourhood parks that are below 3,000m² within the Pymont Peninsula. The Pymont Peninsula has many civic/urban parks such as Union Square or Scott Street Plaza that offer central places for the community, or respite from the dense, busy and urban environment.

There are also many linkage open spaces within the Pymont Peninsula, with many open spaces (like the Goods Line, or John Street Cliff Top Walk) that connect one place to another through a recreational link. These linkage open spaces are important to continue developing in the Pymont Peninsula to ensure that people can both access recreation opportunities, as well as use open space as a safe and enjoyable way to move across the city on foot or bike.

3% of the Pymont Peninsula is sports space, reflecting the highly dense and limited land space for large fields and courts across the precinct (noting that all courts are provided alongside recreation facilities and therefore do not fall into the open space assessment).

3% of the Pymont Peninsula is 'natural' reflecting the highly urbanised nature of the Pymont Peninsula.

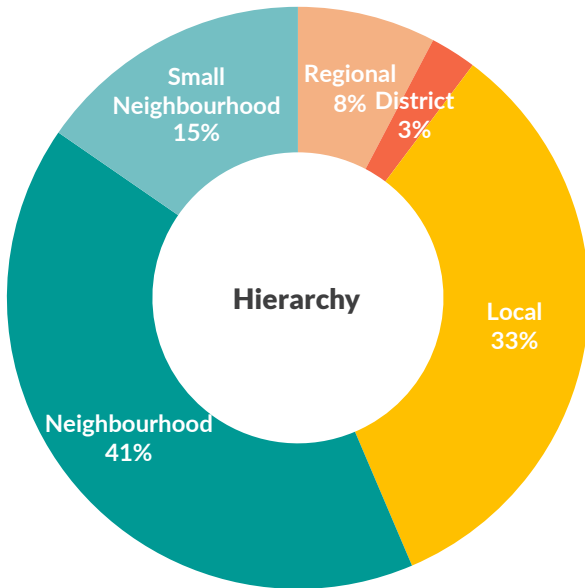


Figure 44 - Analysis of open space by

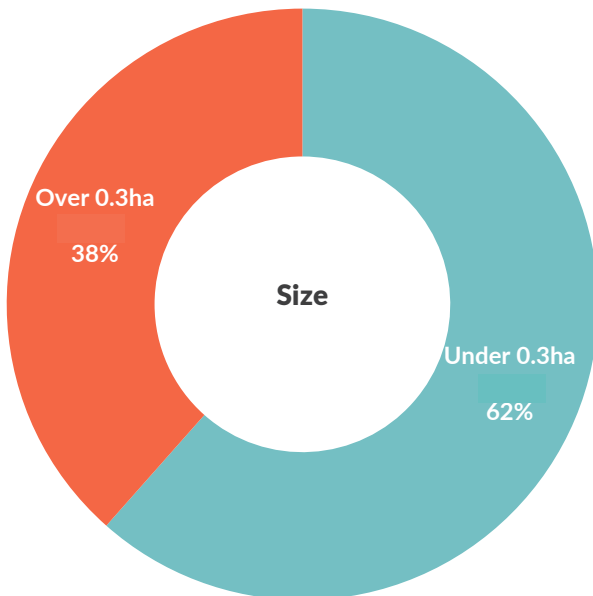


Figure 45 - Analysis of open space by

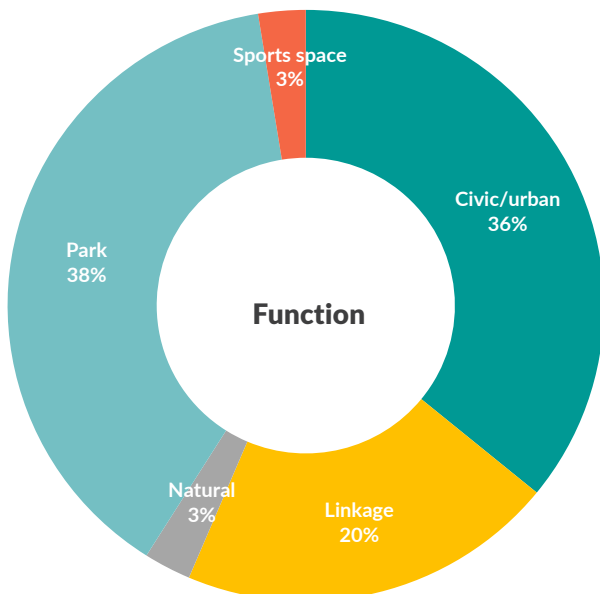


Figure 46 - Analysis of open space by function

9.5. Quality and capacity

The quality of open space is key to its usability and attractiveness. Quality indicators can include for example amenity (e.g. maintenance, noise, facilities and equipment, aesthetics); access (visual and physical access, disability access); safety; size, shape and topography; vegetation and setting. A large amount of poor quality open space may not meet a community’s needs as well as a smaller, high quality open spaces.

9.5.1. Approach

In places like the Pymont Peninsula, where finding new land for open space can be scarce, and land values are high, increasing the quality of existing open space can be one way to unlock capacity.

Our assessment of open space within the Pymont Peninsula is based off a qualitative assessment of open space, as well as web-scraping community reviews of open spaces (in lieu of community engagement).

Our qualitative assessment is based off the following to rate each park either very poor, poor, fair, good or excellent:

- Is it visually interesting?
- Is it comfortable to rest in?
- Does it offer recreation activities?
- Does it have adequate shade and shelter?
- Does it feel safe and welcoming for all ages, abilities and genders?



Figure 47 - Quality analysis of open space

9.5.2. Key findings

Table 22 below summarises the findings of the quality assessment (for full Audit see Appendix A). It shows that overall the Pymont Peninsula has a large proportion of parks rated excellent (18%) and good (35%), with the majority of parks rated fair (38%).

This is because the Pymont Peninsula benefits from many best practice, and unique open spaces ranging from Pirrama Park through to Jones St Pocket Park, as well as well-loved open spaces like McKee St Park and Quarry Green.

There were no parks found to be ‘very poor’ and only 9% of parks were rated as poor.



Quarry Green, Pirrama Park and The Goods Line are examples of ‘excellent’ parks within the Pymont Peninsula

9.5.3. Needs analysis

New open space through development

To expand open space provision to support future growth, particularly in Ultimo and Blackwattle Bay, new open space is required. Given the limited capacity of the Pyrmont Peninsula, ensure the delivery of 15% of all future development sites as public open space including the Blackwattle Bay redevelopment in alignment with targets set in the City's LSPS. This translates to the need for a district park 1.5-2ha as well as additional communal and public local parks across the development. There are also opportunities to increase the amount of open space in Ultimo through the expansion of the Goods Line, further embellishment of Mary Ann St Park, and closing the beginning of Jones Street (adjoining UTS and TAFE) to traffic.

Increase capacity of existing open space

Around 63% of parks are below 0.3ha and of little recreational value. There are opportunities to increase capacity of what is there already. A number of actions are included in the City's Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs study including:

- Increase capacity of existing larger parks to accommodate casual active recreation including Metcalfe Park, Pyrmont.
- Negotiate with Wentworth Park Sports Complex for increased sporting use of infield.

We propose to improve Wentworth Park as newly activated, publicly accessible open space as part of a larger and enhanced parkland.

Linkage parks to increase capacity and connectivity

Aligning with the City's actions in the LSPS, Recreation and Open Space Needs Study, Greening Sydney and Liveable Green Network Implementation Plan, create new recreational walkable linkage parks, with amenities including shade, seating, bubblers and toilets, connecting to large parks including:

- Links to Wentworth Park, Pirrama Park and Tumbalong Park
- The Bays Precinct from Bank Street foreshore access around Pyrmont to Blackwattle Bay Park and Glebe Island, and
- Wentworth Park to Central Pyrmont/Ultimo.

This also responds to the high proportion of parks in the Pyrmont Peninsula that are less than 0.3ha with little recreational value.

Open space for innovation clusters and workers

Upgrade parks that are in proximity to innovation and creative industry clusters with wifi, power points and recreational facilities like table tennis, half courts and skate friendly furniture. For new innovation clusters developers can deliver public open space that supports the needs of their workers and the local community.

Environmental stewardship and leadership and protection of biodiversity

Initiate partnership to increase biodiversity along transport/utility corridors. Promote and enhance endemic species planting in the following utility corridors including Pyrmont Light Rail Corridor.

10. Recreation facilities



10.1. Play spaces

10.1.1. Audit of play spaces

The Pyrmont Peninsula has a total of eight play spaces, including two regional play spaces, two neighbourhood play spaces and four pocket play spaces. The quality of play spaces across the Pyrmont Peninsula is generally high, ranging from destination water play areas at Tumbalong Park and Pirrama Park, to integrated pocket play opportunities at the Goods Line.

Within the Pyrmont Peninsula



Pirrama Park

An extensive, partially fenced playground located within a scenic harbourside park. Public toilets and a café kiosk are adjacent to the playground.



Waterfront Park

A small playground featuring equipment for younger children is adjacent to barbecue and picnic facilities within the harbourside park.



Tumbalong Park Playground

Features equipment for children of all ages. Public toilets available. As it is located on the immediate border of the Pyrmont Peninsula, we have included it within our analysis.



Fig Lane Park Playground

This pocket playground includes separate fenced area for toddlers and an unfenced area for older children with adjacent barbecue and picnic facilities. The play space is currently being upgraded.



James Watkinson Reserve Playground

This local playground with natural shade and adjacent barbecue facilities features spectacular views over Darling Harbour.



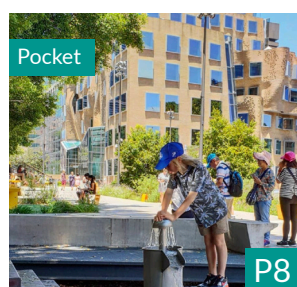
McKee Street Reserve

A local shaded playground suitable for toddlers and younger children. Picnic and barbecue facilities are located within the Reserve.



Wentworth Park Playground

A shaded popular playground with equipment for children of all ages.



Goods line

Linear park that includes some Child-friendly play features.

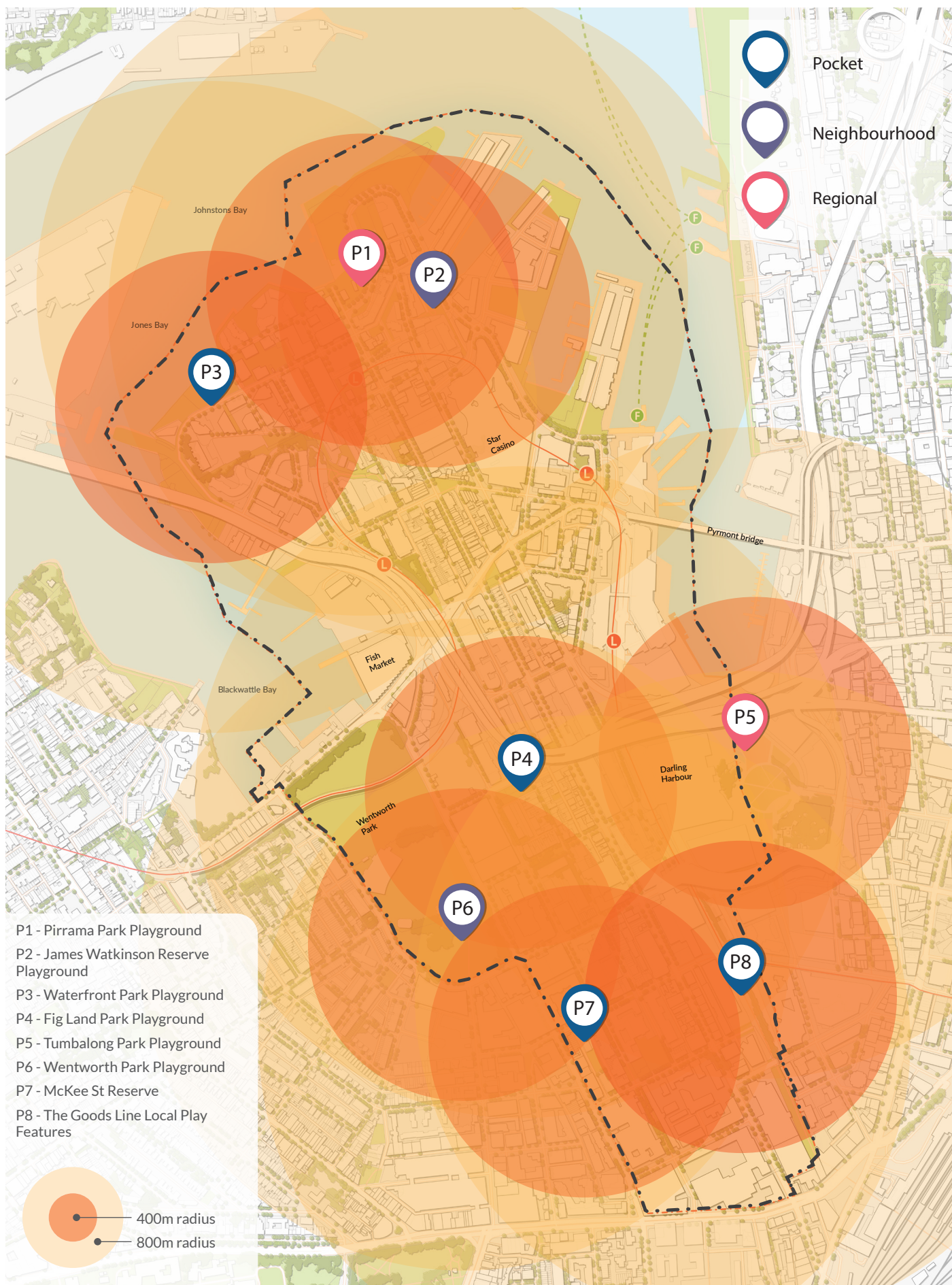


Figure 48 - Audit of play spaces within the Pyrmont Peninsula

10.1.2. Proximity and access

Figure 48 shows that all of the Pyrmont Peninsula is located within an 800m radius of play spaces, however when observing the 400m catchments, early findings indicate that there is a gap in provision of play spaces in the centre of the Pyrmont Peninsula from the Fish markets, across to Pyrmont Bridge.

10.1.3. Population based benchmarking

Parks and Leisure Australia (2012) identify a benchmark provision of: **One play space per 2,000 people (including district and regional provision).**

As Table 24 shows, there is currently 8 existing play spaces within the Pyrmont Peninsula. This means that there is an existing gap of 2.3 play spaces, growing to 6.5 in 2041.



Table 24 - Play spaces population benchmarking. Benchmark applied: 1: 2,000 residents

Year	Population	Benchmark demand	Current provision	Deficit
2021	20,500	10.3	8	2.3
2041	29,000	14.5		6.5

10.1.4. Best practice trends for delivery

Best practice is to provide a diverse range of play opportunities which include play spaces for different age groups, risky and adventure play spaces to support healthy development, places to play and interact with nature, and inclusive play for all abilities.

It should be noted that Pirrama Park and Tumbalong Park are examples of best practice play within the Pyrmont Peninsula. As these play spaces demonstrate, the provision of play is rapidly expanding beyond the notion of traditional, fixed play equipment in a park. Considerations include:

The value of free play

Playgrounds should promote free play to build social skills, confidence, and self-esteem. As children's schedules fill up with activities, the free play opportunities provided by playgrounds become more important. The provision of flexible spaces for ball games and active play.

Nature

Playground design increasingly integrating play equipment and the living landscape that stimulate contact with nature. Designing nature back into children's lives not only to benefits children's play create richer play experience for all users. Imaginative, exploratory and social play.

In addition to physical activities like running, jumping, climbing and swinging, playgrounds should promote fantasy and dramatic play, as research suggests that the latter types of play improve children's cognitive development, peer relationships and emotional well-being. Encouraging exploratory play allows children to navigate and manage risks and which encourages independent mobility, particularly as children get older.

Support amenities

The provision of accessible toilets, seating, shade, bubblers provide a comfortable environment both for children and carers to stay and enjoy the facilities.

The street as a play space

There is a growing trend to integrate children's needs into the streetscape through play streets and play yards. Play trails incorporate play spaces into pathway networks providing opportunities for play along the way and encourage use by children and families. Examples might include small areas along a trail that encourage parents and kids to interact and learn about their environment from leaves and trees to spiders and ants. Playful public art can also be an example of public domain features that cater for children.

Inclusive play

Approaches to designing inclusive play spaces are changing. More than only installing a wheelchair accessible swing, or installing an accessible toilet, inclusive play strives to remove obstacles and barriers that prevent people of all ages, abilities (both physical and mental) and cultural backgrounds from being invited to play. The Department of Planning has recently released 'Everyone can Play,' a best practice toolkit for local government to use as a reference guide to ensure that anyone regardless of age, ability or cultural background can play. Applying universal design theory, the principles behind the toolkit are the three questions: 'Can I get there?', 'Can I play?', and 'Can I stay?' The six design principles behind Everyone can Play are as follows:

- 1. Find:** Communicate the purpose and location of play elements, facilities and amenities - a play space needs to be legible regardless of ability, age or language spoken.
- 2. Fit:** Provide a range of play opportunities for people of all abilities and sizes - a universal approach would be to ensure where possible and appropriate, that play equipment is large enough for adults as well as children.
- 3. Choose:** Enable exciting individual experiences and social interaction by providing a variety of play options for a variety of levels.
- 4. Join in:** Create opportunities for everyone to connect - if there is only a small play piece is it engaging and accessible for all people?

5. Thrive: Challenge and involve people of all capabilities - beyond play equipment are there imaginative and unique play opportunities such as different scents and textures through plants, sand or water? Are there different zones for different ages, levels and abilities?

6. Belong: Create a place that is welcoming and comfortable - is the play space comfortable for family and carers to stay? Is there seating and shade to promote social interaction?

Applying these principles to the upgrade of strategic play spaces, and the design of new ones is particularly important in Fairfield City, considering it has a significantly higher proportion of people reporting need for assistance due to disability than Greater Sydney.

A universal design approach would be to design play equipment to be large enough for both adults and children to ensure all ages can use them, or to either fence, or create clear barriers through landscaping in all parks to decrease the likelihood of children running into traffic.

The Northern Beaches inclusive play network demonstrates how a network can be designed to provide diverse play experiences across an LGA. Additionally the use of sensory elements is important for people with all abilities, with one space set to include accessible gardening activities in 2019. The 'seniors playground' in Hyde Park also highlights how different spaces can be directed towards different ages.

10.1.5. Needs Analysis

Audit: The Pyrmont Peninsula has a total of eight play spaces, including two regional, two neighbourhood and four pocket play spaces.

Accessibility: all of the Pyrmont Peninsula is located within an 800m radius of play spaces, however there is a gap in 400m catchments in the centre of the Pyrmont Peninsula from the Fish markets, across to Pyrmont Bridge.

Benchmarking gaps: there is an existing gap of 2.3 play spaces, growing to a gap of 6.5 play spaces in 2041.

Best practice trends for delivery: Despite having examples of best practice play within the Pyrmont Peninsula, there is a gap of inclusive play opportunities.

Opportunities: To meet a gap of 6.5 play spaces, there is opportunity to incorporate elements of play creatively across the precinct. This includes the opportunity to create a linked play network to regional and neighbourhood play through additional play spaces in pocket parks, and child-friendly public domain treatments that make the Pyrmont Peninsula a more fun and friendly

place for children and adults alike.

While there are two existing regional play spaces within the Pyrmont Peninsula, future development also presents opportunities to enhance existing play opportunities to include inclusive play. This can happen at a range of scales from local, through to regional. The City of Sydney already has plans to introduce inclusive play at Pirrama Park. The City's Open Space and Recreation Needs Study identified inclusive play as an action for Pirrama Park.

The identified need for a large 2ha park at Blackwattle bay should also include a new regional, inclusive play space.

There may also be potential for Mary Ann St Park to support play equipment/swing sets suitable for both children and adults.

10.2. Outdoor fitness stations



10.2.1. Audit of outdoor fitness stations

The Pyrmont Peninsula has two outdoor fitness stations. One is located at Wentworth Park and is managed by the City of Sydney, while the other is located at Darling Quarter, and while publicly accessible is managed privately. A third outdoor fitness station is planned for inclusion within Pirrama Park and is due for completion mid 2020.

Within the Pyrmont Peninsula



Wentworth Park

The Wentworth Park Outdoor Gym is located in Wentworth Park, Glebe, and can be accessed via Railway Street. This gym has calisthenics equipment in a cluster designed for strength training.



Darling Quarter

The Tumbalong Park Outdoor Gym is located in Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour, and can be accessed via Harbour Street. This gym has calisthenics equipment in a hub designed for strength training.

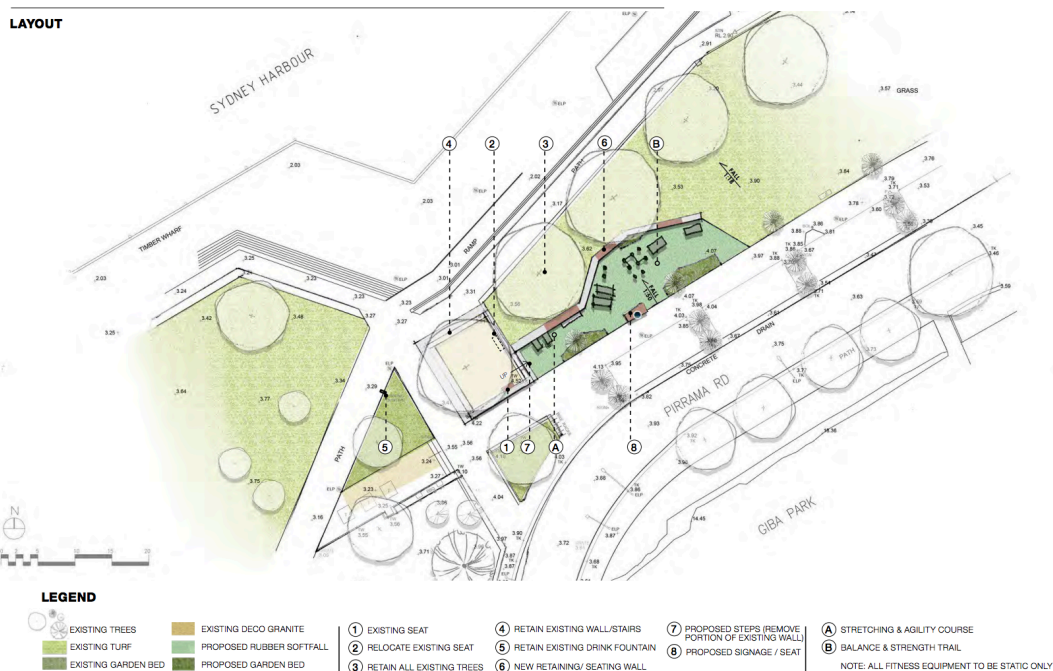


Pirrama Park

Pirrama Park was nominated as a site for outdoor fitness equipment. The proposed fitness area will include: new static fitness equipment for high and low intensity strength training; platforms and stairs for cardiovascular exercises.

PRELIMINARY CONCEPT DESIGN

LAYOUT



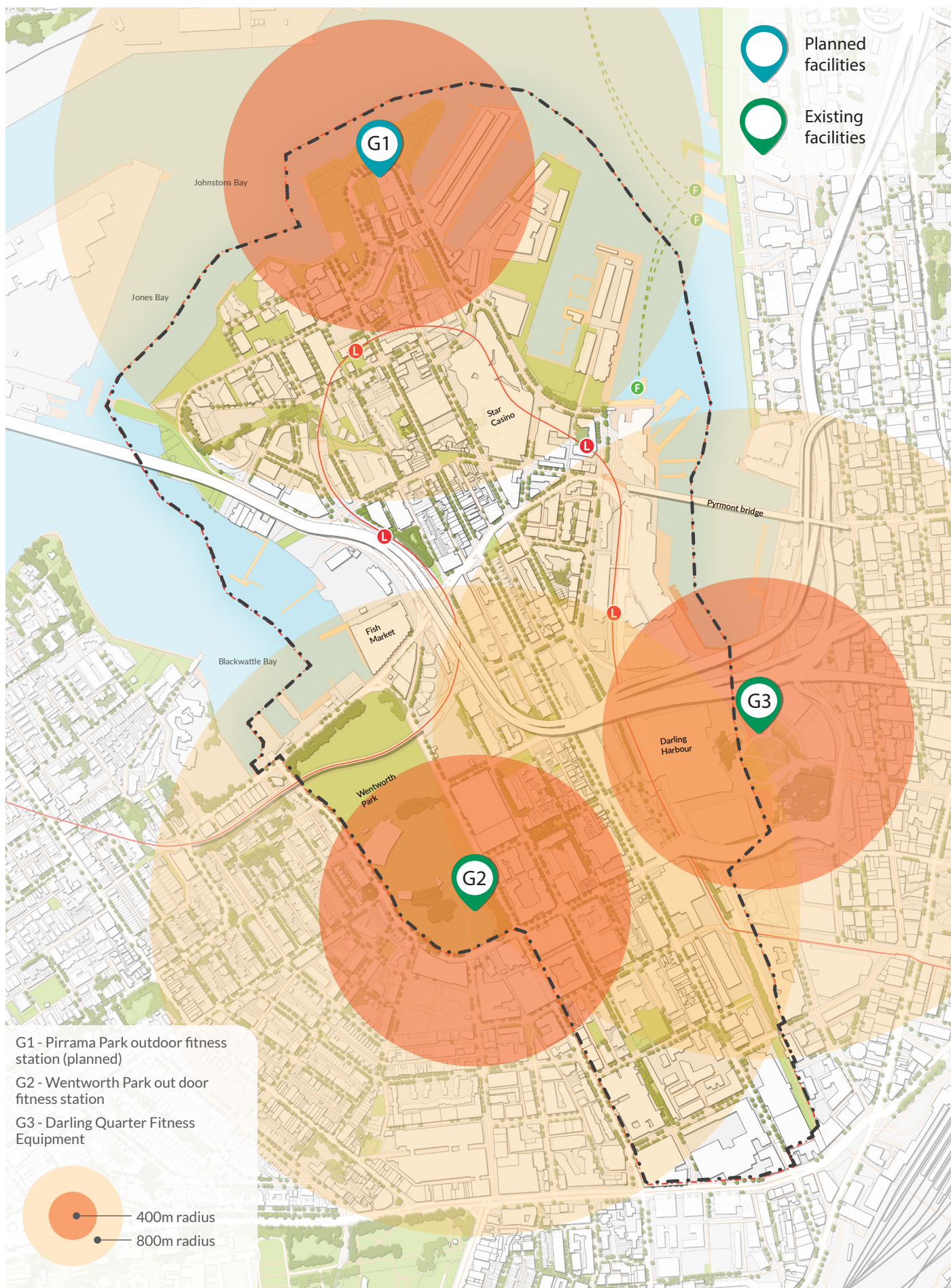


Figure 49 - Audit of outdoor fitness station in the Pyrmont Peninsula and within 800m of the area

10.2.2. Proximity and access

Figure 49 shows that while most of the Study Area is located within an 800m radius of outdoor fitness stations, there is a gap along the Blackwattle Bay border through to the Pyrmont ferry wharf. When analysing the 400m catchments, the gap is much larger and covers most of the Pyrmont suburb.

10.2.3. Population based benchmarking

There are multiple approaches to outdoor fitness provision. At a minimum, Parks and Leisure Australia indicate a benchmark of 1 outdoor fitness station per 15,000 people (workers apportioned to demand of 0.2 residents).

Based on this benchmark, as shown by Table 25, in 2020 and in 2041 this benchmark is met within the Pyrmont Peninsula.

Table 25 - Fitness Station benchmarking. Benchmark applied: 1: 15,000 people

Year	Resident poulation	Benchmark demand	Provision (planned and existing)	Deficit
2021	27,900	1.9	3	0
2041	41,000	2.7		0

10.2.5. Best practice trends for delivery

Outdoor exercise equipment provides an opportunity to participation in one of the most popular recreation activities (fitness/gym) in an affordable and informal way. Physical activity in a natural or green environment has additional health and wellbeing benefits above participating indoors; while outdoor fitness stations also provide an opportunity for social connections and encourage physical recreation. Targeted areas for fitness activities also relieve pressure on other areas of open space. Outdoor exercise equipment can provide specific equipment to allow for gentle exercise for older people.

Best practice is to provide a mix of static and dynamic equipment for a range of users made of robust materials to handle exposed locations. Stations should provide for aerobic, anaerobic, stability and flexibility exercises. Where possible, duplicates should be provided of equipment that is likely to be popular. Signage, shade, seating and drinking fountains should be provided and charging stations could be included. Stations should be located in active areas e.g. pedestrian routes with good passive surveillance.

10.2.4. Needs Analysis

Audit: The Pyrmont Peninsula has a total of two existing outdoor fitness stations, with another planned for Pirrama Park due for completion in 2020.

Accessibility: There are some parts of the Pyrmont Peninsula that are not within an 800m radius of outdoor fitness stations, the gap is even larger when considering 400m catchments from existing facilities.

Benchmarking gaps: Zero population benchmarking gaps indicated to 2041.

Best practice trends for delivery: Despite having no gaps based on population benchmarking, all existing outdoor fitness station equipment is static, with a lack of dynamic options that are friendlier to use for diverse ages and abilities.

Opportunities: Opportunities to provide a mixture of dynamic and static outdoor fitness stations along the future active transport loop should be considered within the Place Strategy.



10.3. Aquatic facilities

10.3.1. Audit of aquatic facilities

The Pyrmont Peninsula has a one public aquatic centre with 3 indoor heated pools, a spa, health club and gym area. The Pyrmont Peninsula also includes one communal indoor pool available for Jacksons Landing residents. Outside of the Pyrmont Peninsula, Victoria Park Pool and Prince Alfred Park pools are also within 800m and potentially service Ultimo residents.

Within the Pyrmont Peninsula

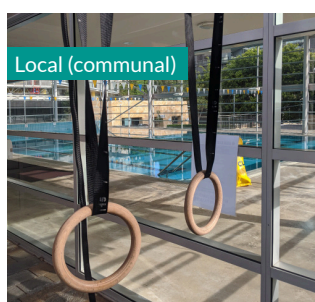


Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre

Three indoor heated pools and a spa, health club with an extensive cardio and weights area, spin room and group fitness studio, and a sauna and steam room.

Facilities and features include:

- 50m Indoor Heated Lap Pool
- Leisure Pool
- Program Pool
- Spa, Sauna & Steam Room
- Fully equipped Gym
- Café



Glasshouse Pool (communal)

Communal pool and gym available to Jacksons Landing residents only. Includes a 20m, 5 lane pool, shower and fitness area.

Within proximity to the Pyrmont Peninsula



Prince Alfred Park Pool

Prince Alfred Park Pool is the City's first accessible heated outdoor pool with a ramp into the water. Its facilities include:

- 50m outdoor pool
- Splash deck with water toys for toddlers
- Change rooms and kiosk



Victoria Park Pool

Located within Victoria Park at the outer edge of the Pyrmont Peninsula, features a 50m heated outdoor pool, fitness centre and cafe.

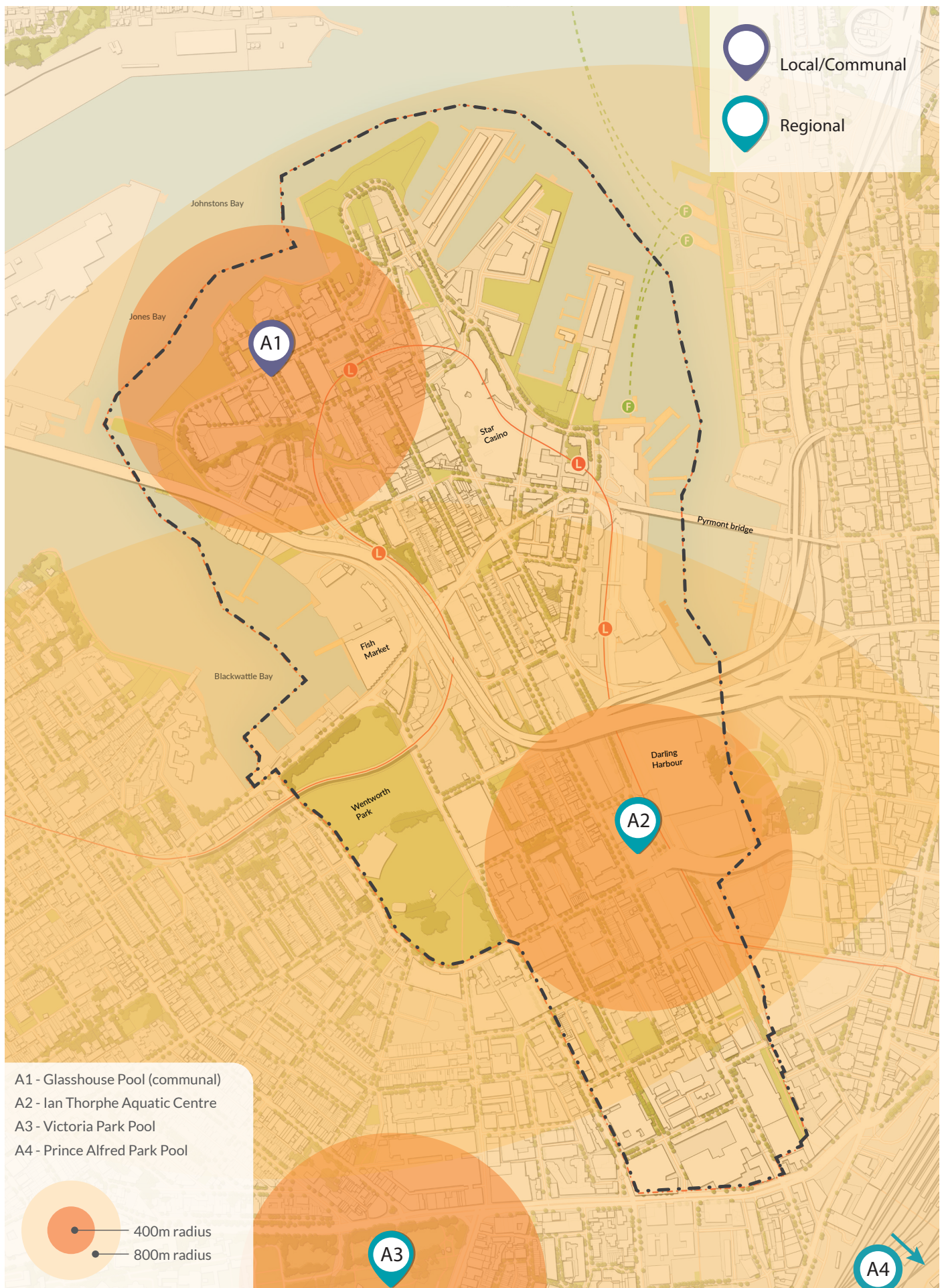


Figure 50 - Audit of aquatic facilities in the Pyrmont Peninsula and within 800m of the area

10.3.2. Proximity and access

Figure 50 shows that all of the Pyrmont Peninsula is located within 800m of an aquatic facility, however when you consider that A1 (Glasshouse/Jacksons landing communal pool) is a local facility only available to certain residents, the residents of Pyrmont suburb do not have walking access to a public pool (although generally pools are district or regional facilities with a 2km to 5km catchment).

10.3.3. Population based benchmarking

The City of Sydney's Baseline Infrastructure Study uses the following benchmarks for indoor aquatic centres:

- 1:50,000 to 100,000 residents.

As there is currently one regional aquatic facility within the Pyrmont Peninsula (Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre) and as shown by Table 26, in both 2020 and in 2041 this benchmark is met within the Pyrmont Peninsula.

10.3.4. Best practice trends for delivery

With increasing high density living, higher temperatures, and an ageing and culturally diverse population, swimming facilities are increasingly in demand. However, many councils across Australia face increasing costs of maintaining older facilities that are reaching end of life.

Current market focus trends include:

- Aquatic facilities that can adapt for family fun through the inclusion of slides and water spouts are very popular with children/families.
- Outdoor pools are important spaces for the community, friends and family to come together for leisure and play rather than laps only.
- Aquatic facilities are typically co-located with dry facilities such as gyms, exercise rooms, court spaces.
- There is an increased demand for Hydro-therapy/warm water pools from older residents, people with a disability, people with need for rehabilitation and continued demand for program related pools that meet health, relation, exercise, learn to swim and other activities.
- High quality wet and dry lounge areas that encourage people to sit down and relax – for outdoor pools includes tables seats and umbrellas to allow people to stay close to water in comfort.

- The current trend is to provide specialist pools for learn to swim, child water safety, rehabilitation, schools programs, squads, and unstructured family activities rather than standardised provision of 50/25m pools which are only suited to competition.

10.3.5. Key findings

Audit: The Pyrmont Peninsula has one regional aquatic centre, and one local communal pool. There are also two regional aquatic facilities within 800m proximity of the Pyrmont Peninsula's Ultimo border.

Accessibility: As the catchment of a regional aquatic facility is 2km, all of the Pyrmont Peninsula has access to an indoor pool. However there is a lack of access to outdoor pools.

Benchmarking gaps: there is no forecast population gap for aquatic facilities to 2041.

Best practice trends for delivery: Despite having adequate access to indoor aquatic facilities, there is a lack of access to outdoor facilities.

Opportunities: As it is the foreshore areas that currently don't have walking access to Ian Thorpe Aquatic Centre, there is the opportunity to explore the possibility of a regional harbourside pool and/or designated swimming areas in Blackwattle Bay. This approach also draws on recreation trends that highlight the growing demand for swimming, and makes opportunistic use of the Pyrmont Peninsula's unique waterfront setting.

Table 26 - Aquatic Centre benchmarking. Benchmark applied: 1: 50,000 - 100,000 residents

Year	Resident population	Benchmark demand	Provision (planned and existing)	Deficit
2021	27,900	0.6	1	0
2041	41,000	0.8		0

10.4. Sports fields and ovals



10.4.1. Audit of sports fields and ovals

Wentworth Park is the only major outdoor sporting space within the Pyrmont Peninsula, including four sports fields and a sport complex (privately managed) that includes an oval available for sporting use.

District



Wentworth Park

Wentworth Park's sports fields are a district facility which serves both the Glebe and Harris Street village areas. They support a mix of local training or social use and inter-club completion.

Due to the open nature of the sports fields, they also attract a lot of use from informal, social sport in addition to formal organised club sports.

Directions in the City of Sydney's Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study Study, 2016 for Wentworth Park sports fields include:

- Investigation of synthetic surfaces, and
- Upgrades to lighting, change rooms, toilets and supporting amenities.

District (free public access constrained)



Wentworth Park Sports Complex Trust

The Wentworth Park Sports Complex (Crown land, managed by a Trust) includes a greyhound racing track that also serves as a sporting oval and field.

The oval is available for hire and can support Rugby Union, Rugby League or Soccer. The facility also includes 3,000 undercover spectator seats in the Grandstand. Hiring charges of the oval range from \$600 to \$6,000.

Directions for Wentworth Park Sports Complex Trust from the City of Sydney's Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study, 2016 include:

- Negotiate with the Wentworth Park Sports Complex Trust for increased sporting use of the infield (p. 49).
- Long-term, develop additional sports fields with any redevelopment of Wentworth Park (following any relocation of the greyhound track) (City of Sydney, Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study 2016, p. 49).

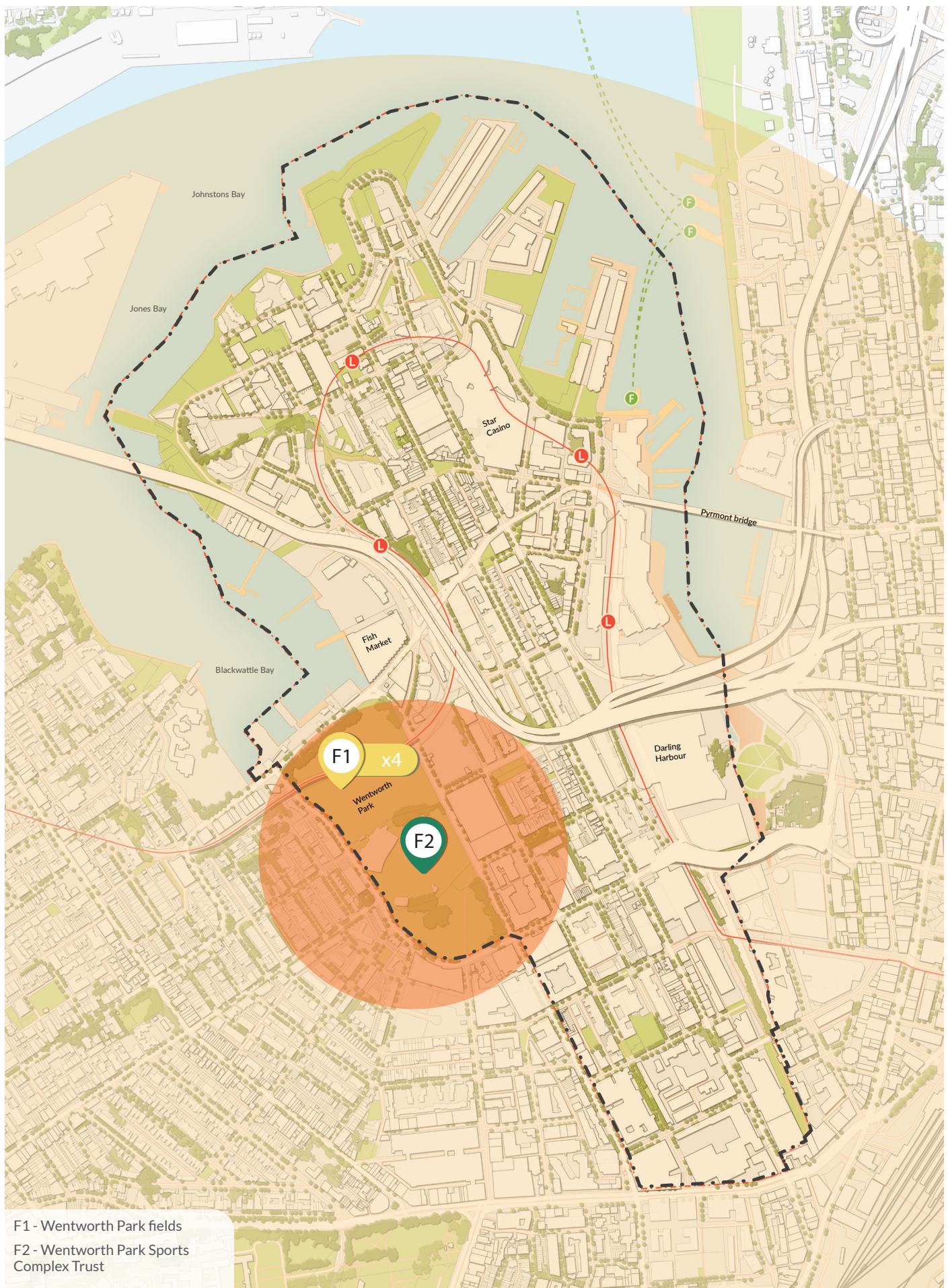


Figure 51 - Audit of sports fields and ovals in the Pyrmont Peninsula and within 800m of the area

10.4.2. Proximity and access

Figure 51 below shows that all of the Pyrmont Peninsula is located within 2km of a sports field/oval. Wentworth Park, including its sports fields and ovals, serves formal sports functions for all of the Pyrmont Peninsula.

10.4.3. Population based benchmarking

The city of Sydney's Baseline Infrastructure Study uses the following benchmarks for sporting fields

- Sporting Fields (residents) 1:5,600 residents
- Sporting Fields (workers) 1:120,000 workers

The Pyrmont Peninsula currently has 4 publicly accessible sporting fields all located at Wentworth Park, and an additional field within the Wentworth Park Sports complex (managed by a trust) that has not been included for benchmarking purposes as it is not fully public.

Table 27 below shows that in 2021 there no existing deficit and that the Pyrmont Peninsula is adequately serviced by Wentworth Park. This grows by 2041 to a need for 1.4 additional fields.

It should be noted that Wentworth Park also services the Glebe catchment, meaning that the need for even greater additional fields is likely. There is also a City-wide demand for additional sports fields (city-wide gap of 20 fields by 2031), and due to its size, Wentworth Park is the ideal location to help fill these gaps.

10.4.4. Best practice trends for delivery

There is a growing trend for the use of half and non-standard sized fields

With people becoming more time poor, the formal and large scale use of sports fields has decreased. However this has led to a surging trend for small sided modified games for juniors and for social field sport, including soccer, Oztag, and touch football, characterised by reduced numbers of players and smaller field size enables more players to utilise available field space. Half field, non-standard size fields are also valuable for casual active recreation.

There is a trend to the conversion of under-utilised tennis courts and bowling greens to futsal fields which can be run as a commercial enterprise, generating revenue for clubs and

councils. Consideration should be given to the benefits of State Sporting Organisation affiliated competitions as opposed to private enterprise in this process.

Planning for a network of fields

Sporting fields have the potential to be managed and planned for as a network, meaning that frequent users, including sports clubs and organisations, can utilise different sporting grounds and clubs for training and competition purposes, as well as sharing the use of sporting grounds and club buildings by different sports clubs, organisations and codes (where appropriate) to maximise their utilisation, and reduce competition for spaces. Technology can play a key role in organising existing sporting fields as a network of spaces, with an app or website able to inform teams which fields are available for their sport during what times, as well as allow them to book the fields easily and efficiently.

Increasing the capacity of existing fields

There are opportunities to increase the capacity and utilisation of existing fields to meet demand, reducing demand for new facilities. The capacity and utilisation of sports fields is an important influence on the availability and quality of recreation opportunities. Capacity is impacted by turf type and quality, location (eg light spill or noise impacting on neighbours may mean that a field cannot be used at night), irrigation and drainage, and usage patterns. Increasing the capacity and use of existing fields can help to avoid or reduce the need for new fields.

Smarter configuration

Sports fields are generally provided at a city-wide level, for example across one LGA rather than a group of suburbs. Best practice is to provide sports fields in a double field format (e.g. two rectangular fields with a cricket pitch in the middle) to support summer and winter sports as well as senior and junior club-based sport. Associated infrastructure can include club houses (with storage, canteen, toilet and change facilities), spectator areas, play spaces, parking, and other recreation facilities such as multipurpose outdoor courts.

Table 27 - Sports field population benchmarking.

Year	Resident population	Worker population	Benchmark demand	Current provision	Deficit
2021	20,500	37,000	3.8	4	0
2041	29,000	60,000	5.4		1.4

10.4.5. Needs Analysis

Audit: The Pymont Peninsula has four sports fields and an additional oval/field within the Wentworth Park Sports Complex (managed by a trust with limited free public access).

Accessibility: As the catchment of regional sports fields is 2km, all of the Pymont Peninsula has access.

Benchmarking gaps: there is a forecast population gap of 1 field by 2041.

Best practice trends for delivery: There is opportunity to enhance the sporting fields at Wentworth Park by investigating synthetic surfaces to increase capacity. There is also opportunity to review field configurations for optimisation.

Opportunities: At least 1 additional synthetic sports field could be provided at Wentworth Park. Further capacity and utilisation data analysis will provide further detail on sports fields needs.

We propose to improve Wentworth Park as newly activated, publicly accessible open space as part of a larger and enhanced parkland.



10.5. Indoor recreation centres and courts

10.5.1. Audit of indoor recreation centres and courts

The Pyrmont Peninsula has a total of 2 Council-owned indoor recreation centres, that collectively have 1 indoor court and 4 outdoor courts. Other private/communal indoor recreation and courts include the UTS Ross Milbourne Sports Hall and Jacksons Landing Tennis Courts.

Within the Pyrmont Peninsula



Local

Maybanke Recreation Centre (City of Sydney)

Maybanke includes an indoor facility that supports health-focused programs and 2 outdoor basketball courts (lower level) and 2 multi-purpose courts (upper level).



Local

Ultimo Community Centre (courts) (City of Sydney)

District community centre that includes local indoor recreation from fitness classes, through to social table tennis. Also includes formal court facilities: 2 multi-purpose courts (rooftop); 1 multi-purpose court (indoor).



Local

Jacksons Landing Tennis Courts (private/communal)

2 tennis courts available to Jacksons Landing residents free of charge. They are also available between Monday and Saturday to non-residents for \$24/hour Monday to Friday and \$30/hour Saturday.



Local

Ross Milbourne Sports Hall, UTS

The indoor hall is used for indoor sport, dance performances and gatherings. Includes 1 multi-purpose court (basketball, netball, futsal/soccer, volleyball court and 3 badminton courts). Facility also includes Dance Studio, Gymnasium and meeting room.

Within proximity to the Pyrmont Peninsula



District

Coronation recreation centre and Tennis Courts (Prince Alfred Park) + basketball courts

5 plexicushion tennis courts (surface of the Australian Open), lights, community room, amenities and office.



Local

Glebe Tennis Courts

The facilities at Glebe include 2 hard courts, lights, amenities and a kitchenette.



District

Peter Forsyth Auditorium

1 indoor multi-purpose court (also suitable for indoor soccer, volleyball and netball) with sprung floor (supporting dance, physical theatre and rehearsals). Facility also includes 1 outdoor basketball court (also used as informal skate space).

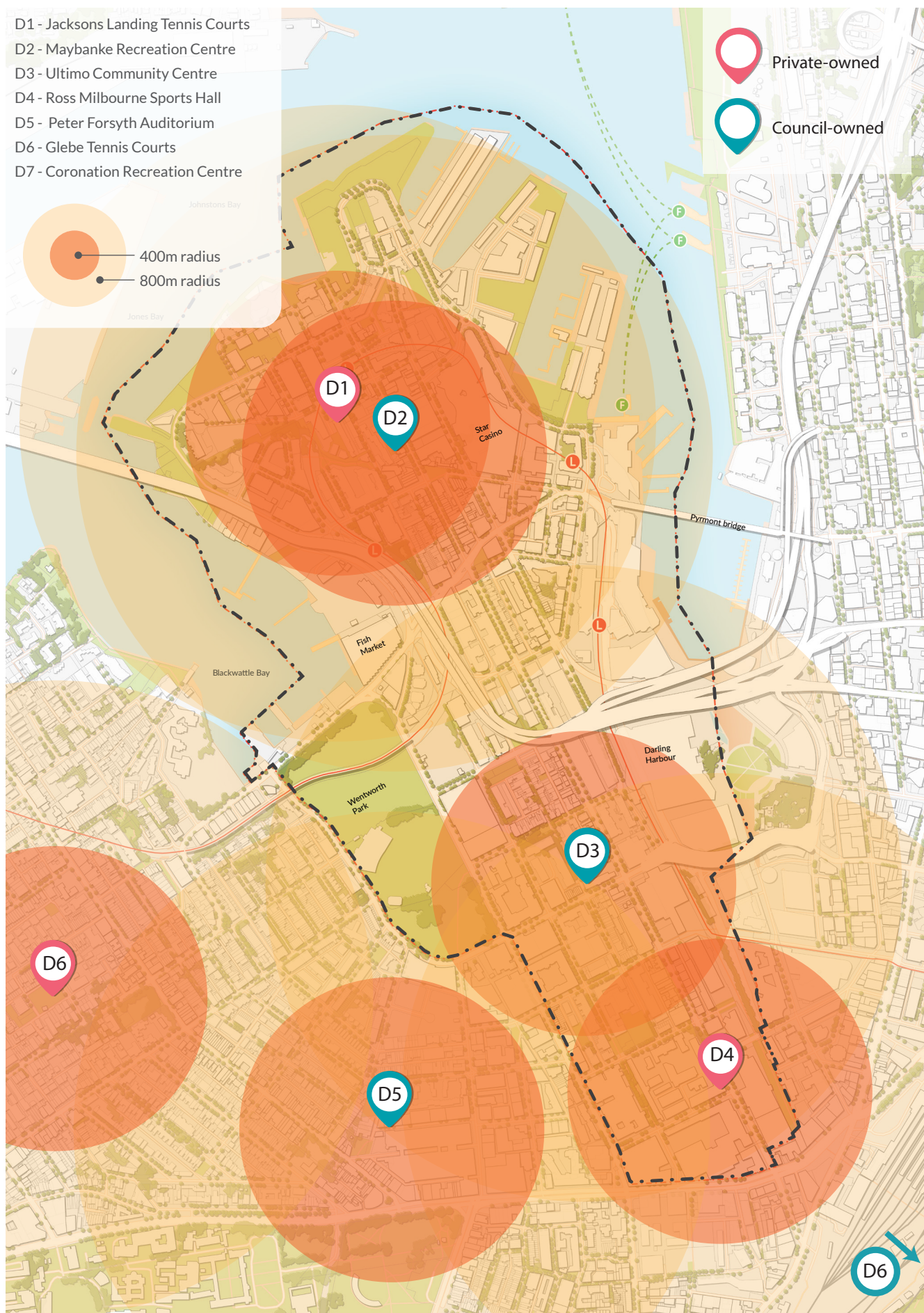


Figure 52 - Audit of indoor recreation centres and courts in the Pyrmont Peninsula and within 800m of the area



Figure 53 - Indoor Courts, Ultimo Community Centre. Source: City of Sydney

10.5.2. Proximity and access

Figure 52 shows that all of the Pyrmont Peninsula is located within 800m of an indoor recreation centre and courts. When analysing on the 400m level, a majority of residents have adequate access to indoor recreation centres and courts, however, only half are Council owned.

10.5.3. Population based benchmarking

The city of Sydney's Baseline Infrastructure Study uses the following benchmarks for indoor recreation centres, indoor courts, and outdoor courts:

- **Indoor recreation centres:** 1: 50,000 - 100,000 residents.
- **Indoor courts:** 1:10,000 residents and 1:100,000 workers.
- **Outdoor multi-purpose courts:** 1: 2,719 people (workers apportioned 0.2 demand of residents).

As shown in Table 28 the benchmarking needs for the Pyrmont Peninsula are:

- **Indoor recreation centres:** the current provision of an indoor recreation centre is met within the Pyrmont Peninsula through Ultimo Community Centre.
- **Indoor courts:** In 2020 there is an existing deficit of 1.3 indoor courts. By 2031 this is forecast to grow to 2.1 by 2031 and 2041.
- **Outdoor multi-purpose courts:** In 2020 there is an existing gap of 3.7 outdoor multipurpose courts, projected to grow to 6.1 in 2031, and 6.5 in 2041.

Table 28 - Indoor recreation and courts benchmarking

Year	Resident population	Workers	Benchmark demand	Current provision	Deficit
Indoor leisure centre					
2021	20,500	37,000	0.6	2	0
2041	29,000	60,000	0.8		0
Indoor courts					
2021	20,500	37,000	2.3	1	1.3
2041	29,000	60,000	3.2		2.2
Outdoor courts					
2021	20,500	37,000	10	4	6
2041	29,000	60,000	15		11

10.5.4. Best practice trends for delivery

Indoor recreation centres

Indoor recreation centres should be provided close to public transport, and in areas of higher density, employment, or high cultural diversity. There are also opportunities to provide space for indoor recreation in other facilities such as community centres, in particular for activities such as table tennis, gymnastics and dance. In additional indoor recreation centres and courts should:

- Be flexible and multi-purpose to cater for diverse preferences and skill levels (e.g. cater to both competition level and casual/social sport).
- Be co-located with other community uses such as libraries, community centres, etc (to create a community hub), or with other services such as retail precincts and town centres.
- Joint use and shared arrangements with schools and other bodies also provide the opportunity to increase provision of courts. This could include sharing existing facilities, or jointly funding facilities that would be used by schools and the broader community. It also allows the potential to share upgrade and maintenance costs while still meeting recreation needs of the community.

Indoor and outdoor courts

In the Pyrmont Peninsula where demand for courts space is high, recreation demand for multi-purpose court space for informal/casual use is expected to increase with population growth and the continued trend of students and young people in the area.

Multi-purpose courts: Multipurpose outdoor courts provide space for informal and social sport, and are increasingly popular in particular in areas with young populations and high cultural diversity. Multipurpose outdoor courts should be designed for safety including lighting for use at night. They should provide for a range of sports popular in the local area which may include futsal, basketball, netball, volleyball and tennis. Providing courts in a cluster (e.g. 4 courts) can support use by schools and for social/low level competitions or training. Grouping courts (e.g. minimum 2 courts together) enables better sharing of space, with enough space and hoops/goals for a number of groups of people to play at once. Consideration should also be given to creating a space that is welcoming for different groups including children and families as well as women and girls, rather than becoming a space dominated by one group (for example through signage, use of colour, or using non-competition standard makings to highlight the informality of the space).

Different types of courts also have different trends including:

Basketball: hoops and half courts are popular and well used for informal sport particularly for young adults. Outdoor courts are mostly used for social and informal games with some training use. Demand for competition use by basketball is focused on indoor courts.

Tennis: Tennis management practices are encouraging less provision of 1 and 2 court facilities and prefers min 4 court complexes for running competitions, coaching, efficient management and financial feasibility.

Shared spaces: Providing high quality sports facilities in schools can be shared with the community to deliver programs to support vulnerable groups, in particular newly arrived young people (rather than for increased use by club sport).

10.5.5. Key findings

Audit: the Pyrmont Peninsula has two public indoor recreation centres, one indoor multi-purpose court, and 3 multi-purpose outdoor courts. In addition to these facilities owned and managed by the City of Sydney, UTS also has an indoor sports hall and there are communal tennis courts at Jacksons Landing available to the wider community during the week for a fee.

Accessibility: There are two council-owned indoor recreation centres and courts within the Pyrmont Peninsula which means that while everyone has access within 800m, walking to a public court/recreation centre within 400m is more limited, with the central portion of the Pyrmont Peninsula out of reach.

Benchmarking gaps: Benchmarking shows that there is no future demand for an additional indoor recreation centre, however there is forecast demand for 2 additional multi-purpose indoor courts by 2041 and over 10 outdoor multi-purpose courts by 2041.

Best practice trends for delivery: best practice trends indicate clearly that future courts should be multi-purpose to accommodate the maximum range of uses, consideration should be given to clusters of courts (e.g. four courts together) to enable social use and potentially competition. Investigation should also be given to shared use arrangements for indoor recreation centres with either public or private bodies.

Opportunities: Within the Pyrmont Peninsula there is a need to supply an additional 2 indoor, and 5 outdoor multipurpose courts which require larger footprints than basketball courts of around 38 x 22m and can accommodate a range of users.

As land is highly constrained, the Place Strategy should explore the use of rooftops (set as a precedent by Ultimo Community Centre) and podiums within both public and private developments. There may be opportunities to explore public roof top recreation at future redevelopment sites, especially of public infrastructure.

10.6. Off-leash dog areas



10.6.1. Audit of off-leash areas

There are six off-leash dog areas in the Pyrmont Peninsula. These spaces are especially important in inner-city areas with high-density dwellings like the Pyrmont Peninsula. Outdoor exercise also benefits owners with dog parks bringing people together.



Waterfront Park

Available at all times.

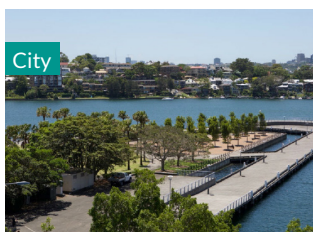
Prohibited areas include barbecue areas and playground.



Fig Lane Park

Available at all times.

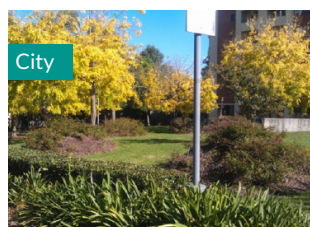
Prohibited areas include playground.



Giba Park

Available at all times.

No prohibited areas.



Mary Ann Street Park

Available at all times.

No prohibited areas.



Metcalf Park

Available at all times.

No prohibited areas.



Wentworth Park (North of Greyhound Stadium)

Available at all times.

Prohibited areas include sports field during games, barbecue areas and playground.

10.6.2. Proximity and access

Figure 54 shows that all of the Pyrmont Peninsula is located within 800m of a off-leash dog area. When analysing on the 400m level, a large majority of residents have adequate access to off-leash dog areas.

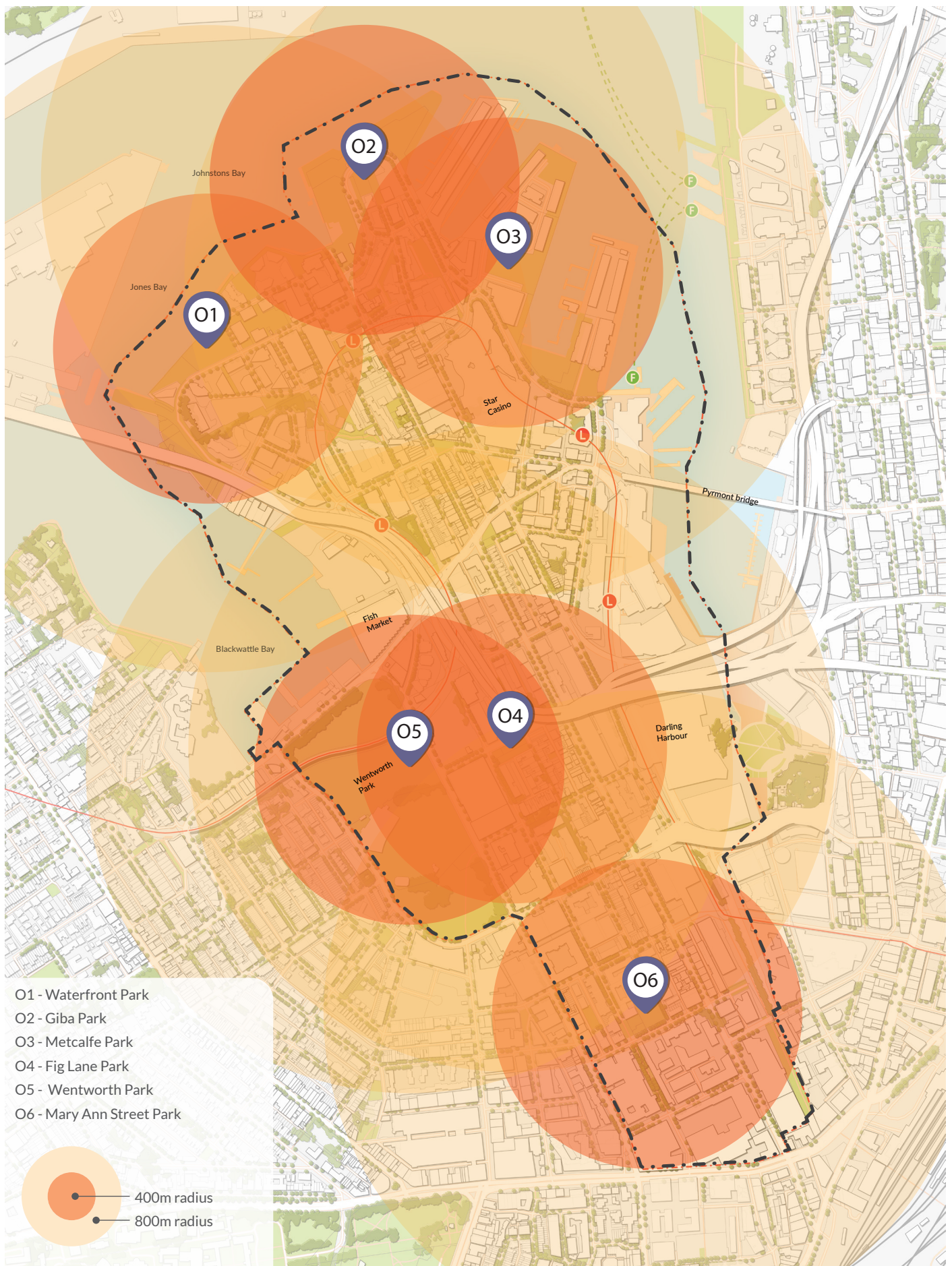


Figure 54 - Audit of off-leash areas in the Pyrmont Peninsula and within 800m of the area

10.6.4. Population based benchmarking

Parks and Leisure Australia recommends the following benchmark to measure demand for off-leash dog areas:

- 1:50,000 residents.

As there are currently six off-leash areas within the Pymont Peninsula as shown by Table 29, this benchmark is met up until 2041.

Table 29 - Off-leash dog area population benchmarking

Year	Population	Benchmark demand	Current provision	Deficit
2021	20,500	0.4	6	0
2041	29,000	0.6		0

10.6.3. Key findings

Audit: The Pymont Peninsula has six off leash dog areas that are always accessible at all times.

Accessibility: all of the study area is located within 800m of an off-leash area, however there is a gap in 400m accessibility in the central portion of the Pymont Peninsula.

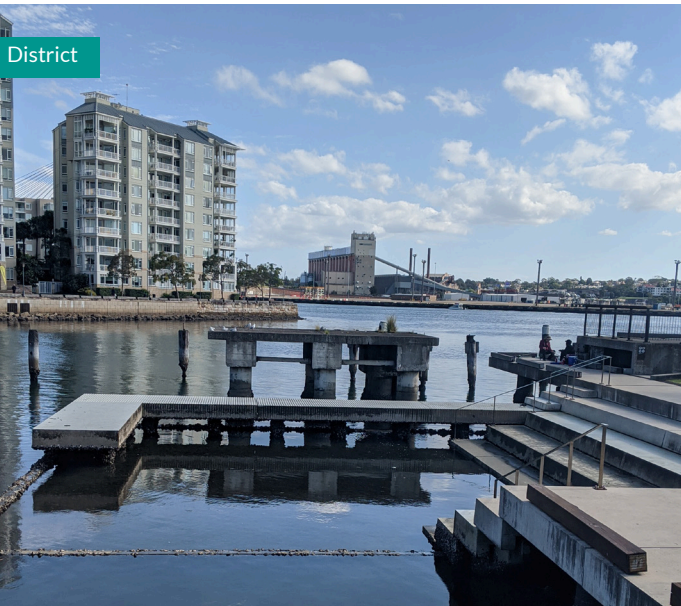
Benchmarking gaps: there is no forecast population gap for off-leash dog areas to 2041.



10.7. Passive boating and water recreation

10.7.1. Audit of passive boating and water recreation

There is 1 passive boating launch area at Pirrama Park, and six Dragon Boat clubs located on the Peninsula. As noted by the City of Sydney’s Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs Study, passive boating is defined as non-motorised water craft such as kayaks, canoes and dragon boats. Sydney Harbour is one of the world’s busiest waterways on which cargo, commuters, tourist leisure and passive craft share an increasingly congested space. The calm waters west of the Harbour Bridge have been extensively used by passive boating including rowing clubs, kayaks, canoes and dragon boats.



Pirrama Park seawall steps launch point

Seawall steps into the water like that provided at Pirrama Park are a good example of how open space can also provide water recreation opportunities.

Dragon boat sheds

As shown by Figure 55 Bank St is a hub for Dragon Boat clubs due to the current dragon boat storage.

Name	Map Code
Blackwattle Bay Dragon Boat Club	B1
Sydney Tsunami Dragon Boat Club Inc	B2
ACCA Dragon Boat Racing Team	B3
Bluefins Dragon Boat Team	B4
Mavericks Dragon Boat Club	B5
NAGA Spirit Dragon Boating Club	B6

10.7.2. Proximity and access

Figure 55 illustrates that the west point of the Pymont Peninsula has some opportunities for water recreation however there are opportunities to enhance connection to the water through the provision of launch points and boat storage facilities.

10.7.3. Population based benchmarking

There are no established benchmarks for passive boating and water recreation.

10.7.4. Key findings

Opportunities: As the Pymont Peninsula is a peninsula that benefits from incredible access to Sydney Harbour, there are many opportunities to better utilise the water for recreation. This includes exploring increased opportunities for passive boating, and as discussed earlier, potentially swimming.

The City’s Recreation Needs Strategy indicates that where appropriate, provide landing sites for passive craft, such as ramps, pontoons and seawall steps.

There is also the opportunity through the Pymont Peninsula Place Strategy to develop public boating facilities at Bank Street, Pymont to accommodate passive-use boating activities including Dragon Boat racing. It’s important that these storage facilities are formalised with the redevelopment of Blackwattle Bay.

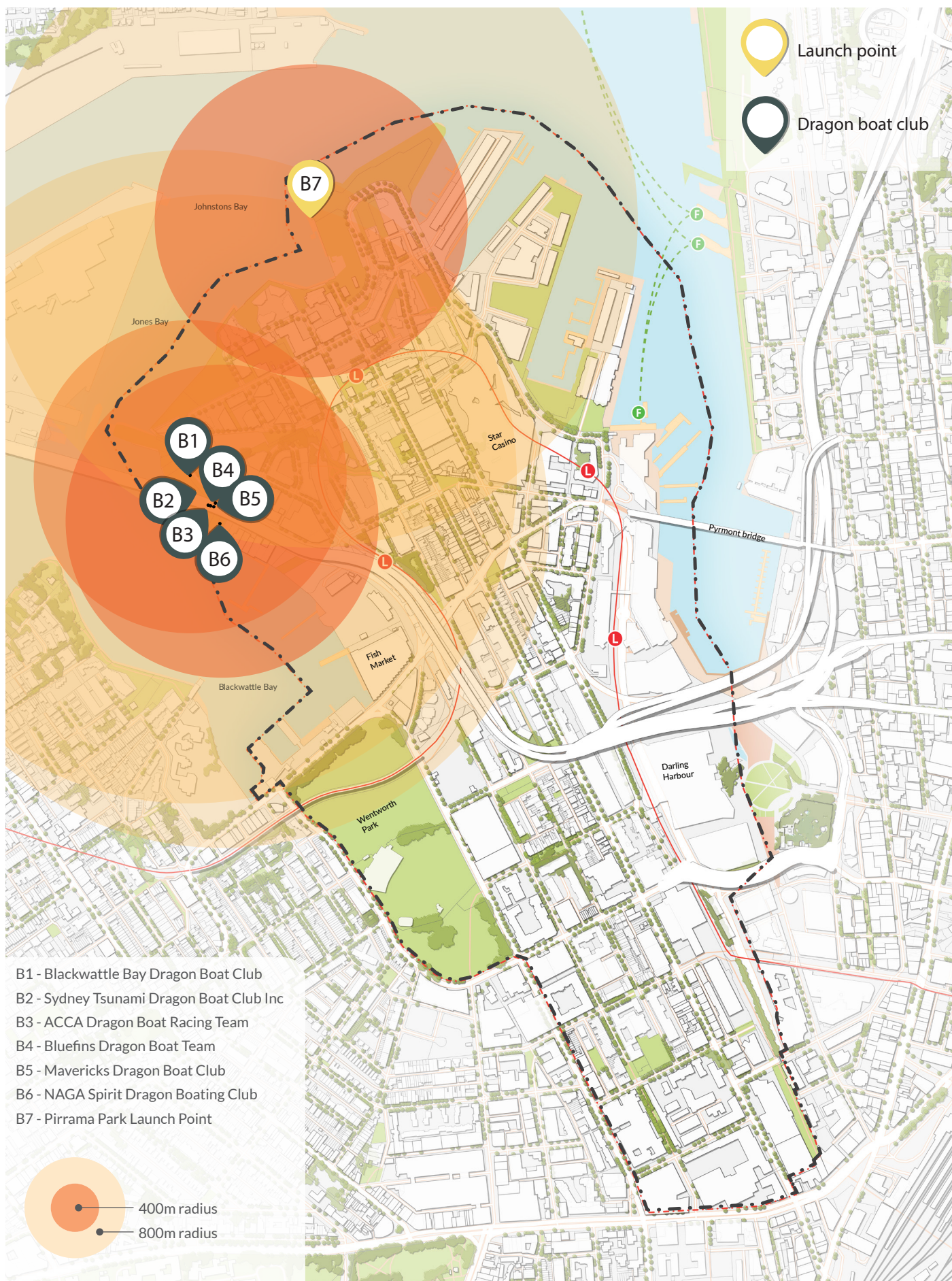


Figure 55 - Audit of passive boating and water recreation in the Pyrmont Peninsula and within 800m of the area

10.8. Community gardens



10.8.1. Audit of community gardens

Community gardens are places where people can connect with each other and nature by growing fruits, vegetables and flowers. There is one community garden within the Pyrmont Peninsula, located at McKee Street Reserve.

10.8.2. Proximity and access

Figure 56 shows that only the southern half of Pyrmont residents are within 800m of a community garden. When analysing on the 400m level, a larger gap is present as only those further south have adequate access to a community garden.

10.8.3. Best practice trends for delivery

Best practice community garden spaces include the following features:

Location: Linking community gardens to community spaces or centres, or within high density housing areas has become increasingly important. Locating gardens near community spaces and facilities provides opportunities to support and partner gardening projects. Sites in high density housing areas that are appropriately designed and managed for high productivity in a small area, will contribute to urban greening. These sites also provide appealing outdoor settings for residents.

Design: A mixed use design of community gardens including communal areas and individual spaces is considered good practice in a community garden. Large, family sized allotments, along with smaller plots will encourage a diverse range of users. It is also important to consider all-abilities access design for a community garden, by integrating raised garden beds, particularly giving people with a disability access to the garden bed. A wide range of amenities such as seating, tables, shade and storage are important inclusions in a community garden, as well as considerations for a meeting space, rain water tanks and solar panels are also important. Access to cooking facilities and kitchens can broaden the use and scope of the community garden.

Environment: Community gardens should include a well built and managed composting system. Community gardens should be designed to respond to climate change and have a positive impact on global warming. This includes various initiatives such as managed water use, drought tolerant plants, reduced use of chemicals, organic methods and energy efficiency.

Access: Community gardens should offer regular and consistent access to the garden and support broad community access. Opportunities for establishing low vandalism unfenced gardens should be considered. Approaches to security within a community garden should be included in management plans.

Partnerships: Links and partnerships with local schools and community groups should be encouraged and fostered¹.



Ultimo community garden

Ultimo community garden is a 100% communal garden open only to members to plant and tend to the garden, although publicly accessible

10.8.4. Key findings

Opportunities to increase community gardens within the Pyrmont Peninsula should be explored, including opportunities to link to the Fish Market precinct.

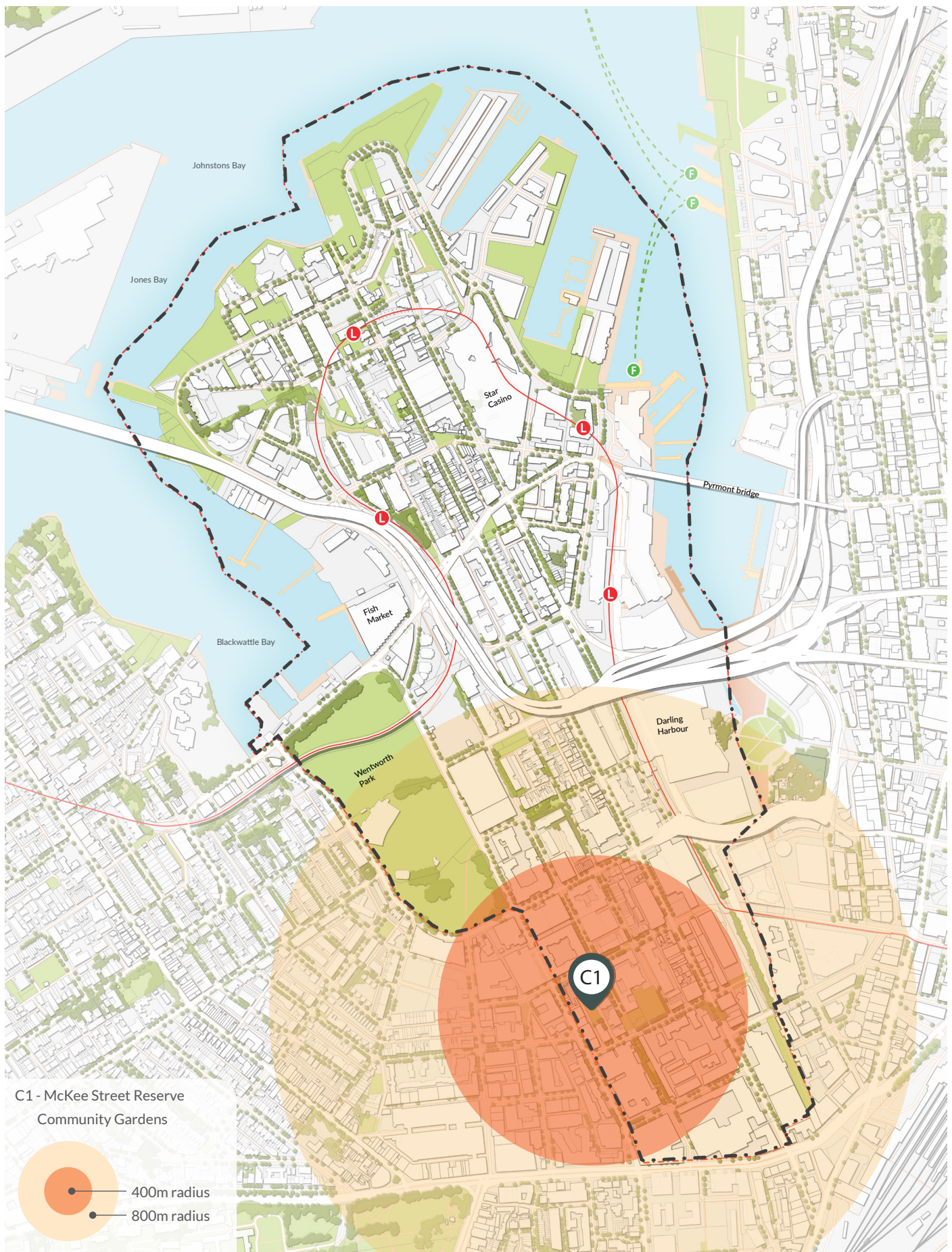


Figure 56 - Audit of community gardens in the Pyrmont Peninsula



10.9.1. Audit of youth precincts

While there are youth friendly elements within existing open spaces and recreation facilities such as the Goods Line and Maybank Recreation Centre, there is no dedicated outdoor youth precinct within the Pyrmont Peninsula.

10.9.2. Best practice trends for delivery

The major trend both nationally and internationally is a move toward the provision of holistic youth inclusive public spaces which provide multiple opportunities and challenges for a wider demographic of young people. Youth recreation spaces are now being considered in broader urban design and city planning to cater for the needs of young people.

The provision of skate parks/ramps is now considered to be just one part of a youth outdoor recreation space, rather than the sole or only component.

Youth recreation spaces can cater for a larger demographic of young people and be welcoming to both young girls and boys through additional inclusions such as wifi, tables to study at, power points, ping pong tables etc.

Best practice youth recreation spaces include the following features:

- Sufficient lighting into the evening
- Access to public transport (ideally within 400m), shops, schools and other community facilities
- Amenities such as seating, shelter, shade and bins
- Access to technology such as wi-fi, power, smart screens, speakers
- Involvement of young people in the design and management of the space, and
- Consideration of the needs of a range of young people including girls and culturally diverse young people.



10.9.3. Key findings

With such a high population of young people in the Pyrmont Peninsula (particularly in Ultimo) there is a need for a youth precinct within the Pyrmont Peninsula. Opportunities to create a unique space for skating, basketball, gathering should be investigated in the underpasses that cut through the area. Regional sporting and gathering spaces should also be investigated along the Harbour foreshore.