



Cambooya Shire Council

**Cambooya Shire Sport and
Recreation Needs Study**

Summary Report

July 2003



Contents

1.	Executive Summary	1
1.1	Purpose of the Study	1
1.2	Study Tasks and Report Structure	1
1.3	Sport and Recreation Supply	2
1.4	Community Needs – Existing and Future	3
1.5	Key Recommendations	7
2.	Strategies and Actions	11
2.1	Key Strategies for Cambooya Shire	11
2.2	Action Plan	41



1. Executive Summary

1.1 Purpose of the Study

Cambooya Shire located in Queensland's Darling Downs region, adjacent to the southern boundary of Toowoomba City and approximately 160km west of Brisbane. It has a total area of 631km² and a current population of about 4,900 people (ABS, 2001).

The Shire offers an enviable blend of rural and urban lifestyles, together with the convenience of major facilities and services in nearby Toowoomba. Although it is predominantly an agricultural and grazing area, intensive rural residential development is occurring in the Shire's north (Hodgson Vale, Vale View) and around the key centres of Westbrook, Wyreema, Cambooya and Greenmount.

Sport and recreation are important to Cambooya Shire residents. With ongoing population change across the Shire, this study examines sport and recreation supply, the community's needs, and leisure participation trends, to provide a clear, realistic and coordinated strategy for future planning, management and expenditure for sport and recreation initiatives.

The **Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study** has been prepared with the assistance of GHD Pty Ltd and is made possible through the Local Government Development Program 2002/03, administered by Sport & Recreation Queensland.

Reference should be made to the full Study Report which provides details of all study processes, findings and recommendations.

1.2 Study Tasks and Report Structure

The study comprised four key stages and the main study report has been structured accordingly:

STAGE 1 – INTRODUCTION AND DIRECTION SETTING

The project formally commenced with a kick-off meeting involving Council, the Steering Committee and study team to discuss project aims and objectives, confirm areas of investigation, highlight critical planning issues and collect essential information.

STAGE 2 – ASSESSMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION SUPPLY

Stage 2 involved an assessment of the current provision of sport and recreation resources throughout Cambooya Shire. The implications of regional supply were also considered, given the high use of facilities and services in Toowoomba, and neighbouring shires.



Based on site investigations throughout the Shire, the principal outputs from Stage 2 were a GIS-based Facilities Inventory and a preliminary indication of facility shortfalls and surpluses.

STAGE 3 – ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS

Stage 3 sought to determine the current needs and future demands for sport and recreation facilities, services and programs. It involved two components:

- ▶ assessments of the Shire's demographic profile and leisure participation trends; and
- ▶ consultation activities to identify the community's needs, concerns and priorities.

The consultation program was broad-based to facilitate feedback from all relevant stakeholders. It involved various activities including a media and poster campaign; public meetings; workshops with school students in each community; surveys of local residents, sport/recreation groups and school principals; and public display of the Draft Report. The community's response to the study consultation program was very supportive, as follows:

- ▶ Attendance at public meetings – approximately 50 participants
- ▶ Community Surveys – 65 received
- ▶ Sport & Recreation Club Surveys – 50% returned
- ▶ School Principal Surveys – 66% returned

Consultation with other relevant stakeholders was also conducted, including discussions with facility managers, State Government agencies (eg. Environmental Protection Agency, SRQ), adjoining Local Government Authorities (to identify regional needs and initiatives) and local community organisations.

STAGE 4 – DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Based on these investigations, Stage 4 involved development of broad management strategies and a detailed Action Plan for the Shire, according to Immediate, High, Medium and Low implementation priorities over the next 10 years.

Council's new Planning Scheme (draft) was also considered to determine how well strategic and development control provisions support sport, recreation and open space initiatives in the Shire.

1.3 Sport and Recreation Supply

The major characteristics of sport and recreation supply in Cambooya Shire include the following:

- ▶ There are approximately 20 sport and recreation facilities within Cambooya Shire. These are generally basic but support surrounding communities for their social interaction and recreational values.

- ▶ Popular sport and recreation activities for local residents across the Shire are walking, cycling, swimming and tennis. Horse riding is also popular in rural and rural residential areas.
- ▶ Cross-boundary facility usage is very common, with many Cambooya Shire residents utilising higher order sport and recreation facilities / competitions in Toowoomba.
- ▶ The standard and range of sport and recreation supply varies across the Shire – an imbalance is evident between some communities. Major facilities are located in Cambooya and Hodgson Vale. Shortfalls are evident in Greenmount and Wyreema.
- ▶ Existing facility supply primarily caters for court sports (eg. tennis, basketball), informal recreation (eg. walking, picnicking, children’s play) and equestrian activities.
- ▶ There are several large playing fields catering for activities such as cricket and football, but these are only used for infrequent events. Irrigation problems have impacted on these facilities.
- ▶ The Shire has a significant youth population, but limited infrastructure is available catering for youth-oriented sport and recreation needs.
- ▶ The Shire has a good supply of parkland. There are 14 parks in total and these range from small neighbourhood “pocket parks”, to large reserves incorporating picnic facilities, playground equipment, informal recreational kick-about areas, basketball half-courts and interpretive displays on local history.
- ▶ There are no purpose-built facilities catering for swimming, golf or indoor sport and recreation (eg. squash courts, gymnasium, indoor cricket).
- ▶ Only 25% of the Shire’s facilities are multi-purpose venues. Many single purpose facilities are under-utilised but offer capacity for future use diversification.
- ▶ There is limited public access to sport and recreation facilities on school grounds.

1.4 Community Needs – Existing and Future

Consultation with a broad range of stakeholders was an essential part of the study. The community identified a number of critical issues and priority needs for future action, as follows:

1.4.1 Shire-wide Issues

- ▶ Participant numbers in organised sport are decreasing, primarily due to residents’ work schedules / lack of time, lack of participants, insurance costs, proximity to Toowoomba and a lack of locally based coaches, organisers and volunteers. Local clubs need more support to keep their activities going, particularly in the areas of preparing funding grant applications, risk management, recruitment and fundraising.
- ▶ There is a shire-wide trend towards greater participation in informal recreation during non-working hours. Therefore, residents are seeking enhanced recreation settings in close proximity to key population centres – priorities are:
 - enhanced parkland areas, particularly for family and youth recreation;

- connective pathway networks within local communities for recreational / fitness walking, cycling, jogging etc; and
- nature-based recreational trails catering for non-motorised public access activities, such as bushwalking, horse riding and mountain biking.
- ▶ Residents in all communities have highlighted a need for a public swimming pool in the Shire, catering for:
 - leisure, recreation and fitness activities;
 - competitive swimming, water sports and training;
 - education / learn to swim activities; and
 - therapeutic and rehabilitation activities (particularly for older people).
- ▶ Concerns have also been expressed in respect to the high construction and ongoing maintenance costs of this proposal.
- ▶ Shire-wide community information and awareness initiatives are required to increase local participation in sport and recreation activities. Motivation is lacking in some communities, given limited resources and other “barriers” to access (eg. need for travel outside the Shire, lack of public transport services).
- ▶ Enhanced settings for youth-oriented sport and recreation are needed in all communities. Priorities are:
 - interesting and imaginative multi-purpose recreation areas which are safe, visible and highly accessible;
 - organised youth programs and events, particularly during school holiday periods;
 - opportunities for junior sports development; and
 - better public transport services, that access major sport and recreation venues outside the Shire.
- ▶ There is support to optimise use of other community infrastructure for sport and recreation purposes (eg. school facilities, public halls).
- ▶ Other major needs and shortfalls included indoor sport and recreation facilities, golf courses, and leisure pursuits with a cultural orientation (eg. public libraries, museums, arts and crafts).
- ▶ There is strong support to strengthen the Shire’s regional identity through sport and recreation initiatives, particularly in light of the shrinking supply of available land for sporting activities in Toowoomba. Key opportunities relate to equestrian activities, nature-based recreation settings (eg. trail networks for bushwalking, horse riding and mountain biking), and maximising the heritage and education value of local recreation areas.



1.4.2 Major Communities

Greenmount

- ▶ Upgrades to facilities at the Bicentennial Memorial Park and Greenmount Hall are required. There is strong community support for improvements within this precinct, to re-establish it as an important community focal point or key “social space” where people can come together to undertake sport, recreation and other community activities.
- ▶ A walking circuit around the township is required to address the growing demands for recreational / fitness walking, cycling and jogging. Residents have identified an opportunity to integrate this with the Streetscaping Project on Ramsay Street, open space reserves at the “top of town” between Ramsay and Haldon Streets, and establishment of a scenic lookout.
- ▶ Young people support reinstatement of the local BMX area – overgrown vegetation has impacted on its utilisation. They also support parkland improvements and an upgrade of the Greenmount Hall, to provide a more contemporary community facility.
- ▶ Better community information networks are seen as an important way to encourage more participation in sport and recreation. Apart from coverage in the media and Council newsletter, a community noticeboard and facility signage will help to improve local awareness.

Cambooya

- ▶ Cambooya residents would like to see an indoor swimming pool constructed in their community.
- ▶ Despite the good range of local sport and recreation facilities, Cambooya’s large youth population say they have “nothing to do”. This has led to some anti-social behaviour in the past. The principal needs include the following:
 - expansion of the skate park, including new complementary facilities to enhance overall appeal and useability of the site;
 - organising more youth activities and events; and
 - upgrading the BMX area.
- ▶ Paterson Park is an important community asset, however it is under-utilised. Residents have suggested that a walking circuit around the park’s perimeter, different playground equipment and more shade would make it more functional and appealing.
- ▶ Cambooya Lawn Bowls Club is one of the few remaining sporting clubs in the community. The club requires greater support from both residents and Council to increase membership in future.
- ▶ The Cambooya Recreation Reserve is an important venue for equestrian activities and events. Ongoing investment and facility improvement is supported. Short term needs include replacement of fencing around the main arena, together with increased security and power supply. In the longer term, the development of a covered arena has been suggested by local equestrian groups.



Wyreema and Vale View

- ▶ Priorities in Wyreema are focussed on youth needs, including development of a skate park and bicycle training facility.
- ▶ The community's major sport and recreation facility, FE Obst Park, requires a range of improvements to increase its utilisation (eg. expanded playground and basketball areas, cricket practice nets). Residents are supportive of hosting district and regional sporting fixtures at the venue.
- ▶ The need for a more extensive pathway network has been highlighted, in response to the popularity of recreational walking, cycling and jogging. Safe and connective pathways are also required to provide access to the primary school – an upgrade of the rail line crossing for safer pedestrian and cyclist access is considered to be a priority.
- ▶ Wyreema has a number of scattered “pocket parks” within the local neighbourhood – landscape modifications and night lighting are required at some sites to improve visual surveillance and discourage anti-social behaviour.
- ▶ Greater cooperation is required between Cambooya and Jondaryan Shire Councils to achieve coordinated and consistent levels of community infrastructure provision, as the township straddles both Shires.
- ▶ A range of improvements are required at Federation Park in Vale View. Apart from facility and landscape enhancements, residents would like cycle and pedestrian linkages to be strengthened between the park, the local school and surrounding communities. Longer term needs include provision of a playing field and cricket practice nets.

Top Camp and Hodgson Vale

- ▶ Ongoing expansion of the Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club will be required to support high population growth in the district, together with growing demands from outside the shire for use of local facilities.
- ▶ There is considerable demand for trail linkages for recreational walking and horse riding within these communities.
- ▶ Local teenagers have identified needs for a skate ramp, enlarged basketball court at the Lions Park, finalisation of work on the BMX area, organised youth activities and facilities for cycling and mountain biking.
- ▶ Measures to support casual horse riding in the district are also supported, such as regular roadside maintenance / slashing of the verge to provide clear access for riding.

1.5 Key Recommendations

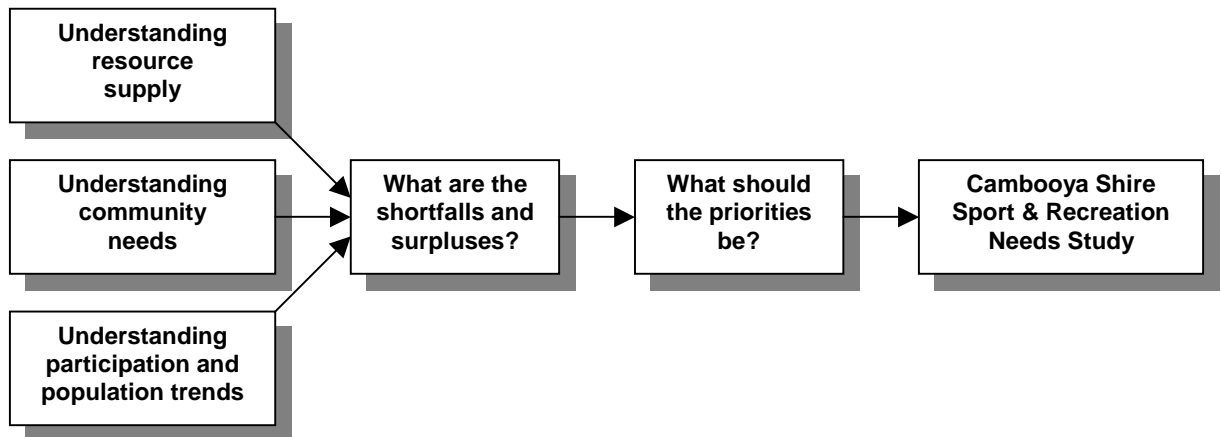
1.5.1 Supply and Demand Analysis

The assessment of sport and recreation issues in Cambooya Shire has largely been based on a supply and demand approach, as follows:

- ▶ comparing the community's sport and recreation needs, leisure participation trends and population growth patterns

with

- ▶ the actual supply of facilities, services and programs.



The results of this analysis indicate the adequacy of current sport and recreation supply in Cambooya Shire, and highlight emerging needs and priorities requiring future attention. These outcomes provide the framework for formulation of study recommendations. The major “gaps” in sport and recreation supply for the Shire are outlined below:

Group	Main Gaps
Youths / Teenagers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ High quality recreation settings ▶ Water-based sport and recreation ▶ Venues for social gatherings ▶ Leisure-related cultural pursuits (particularly libraries, movie screenings, music and theatrical performances, cultural heritage appreciation) ▶ Junior sports development ▶ Nature-based recreation and outdoor education settings ▶ Transport (public transport and local linkages to community activity nodes – walking and cycling paths)

Group	Main Gaps
Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Competitive sport at a senior level (males and females) ▶ Choice and flexibility in informal recreation participation ▶ Nature-based recreation settings ▶ Physical fitness activities
Older Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Walking, passive recreation and nature appreciation opportunities ▶ Water-based recreation, fitness and hydrotherapy activities ▶ Leisure-related cultural pursuits (libraries, arts and crafts) ▶ Transport

1.5.2 Key Strategies

The study's recommendations have been presented as ten broad strategies for the Shire as a whole, together with targeted actions for specific communities and facilities. Actions have been prioritised so they can be implemented in a logical and useful sequence.

Major strategies include:

- Strategy 1** **Sport and Recreation Policy** – Adopt a policy to guide Cambooya Shire Council's future planning, management and funding for sport and recreation initiatives.
- Strategy 2** **Active Australia** – Demonstrate Cambooya Shire Council's commitment to sport and recreation service delivery, through membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network.
- Strategy 3** **Regional Profile** – Build a strong regional identity for Cambooya Shire by harnessing its unique sport and recreation strengths, to maximise the benefits for the Shire as a whole and each local community.
- Strategy 4** **Community Awareness** – Deliver up-to-date information, education, training and support on sport and recreation matters, in response to community needs.
- Strategy 5** **Cambooya "Get Active"** – Implement initiatives to motivate the community to participate in sport, recreation and fitness activities.
- Strategy 6** **Optimising Use of Existing Infrastructure** – Implement initiatives to achieve more efficient and sustainable use of sport and recreation resources, through consolidation of multi-purpose facility precincts, facility co-location and targeted improvement works.
- Strategy 7** **Informal Recreation** – Enhance and maintain a range of high quality facilities and settings, that are consistent with community needs for



informal recreation and contribute to health, social cohesion and a “sense of place”.

Strategy 8 **Youth Sport and Recreation** – Encourage and motivate Cambooya Shire’s youth population to participate in sport and recreation, through affordable and accessible initiatives that target their unique needs.

Strategy 9 **Swimming Pool** – Facilitate adequate access to, and encourage the provision of, water-based sport and recreation opportunities for the people of Cambooya Shire.

Strategy 10 **Cross Boundary Planning and Management** – Be proactive to achieve regional coordination and cooperation in sport and recreation planning outcomes between neighbouring Local Government Authorities.

1.5.3 Major Actions

Following on from the strategies above, key sport and recreation projects recommended for the Shire include:

- ▶ Raising regional profile and maximising benefits for local communities through the identification and development of facilities, services and programs that capitalise on the Shire’s unique strengths and assets. Opportunity identification and market development will focus on the core areas of:
 - nature-based recreation;
 - heritage-based recreation and outdoor education; and
 - equestrian-based sporting activities and events.
- ▶ Development of a skate park and bicycle training facility in Wyreema.
- ▶ Expansion of the Cambooya skate park’s role to create a more interesting “youth space” for a broader range of user groups.
- ▶ Redevelopment of Greenmount’s Bicentennial Memorial Park as a “Feature Park” for the district and establishment of a walking circuit around the township.
- ▶ Encourage greater participation in sport, recreation and fitness activities across the Shire, underpinned by the theme “Get Active”, through initiatives such as “Just Walk It” programs and “Come and Try” events.
- ▶ Preparation of Master Plans to guide ongoing development of strategic multi-purpose sport and recreation precincts – priorities include Hodsgon Vale Community Sports Club, FE Obst Park, and the Lucy Street precinct in Cambooya (Recreation Reserve, Tennis Courts and Skate Park).
- ▶ Implementation of a strategy to deliver improved access to public swimming pools for Cambooya Shire residents, which will involve ongoing needs identification and feasibility analysis for construction of a local pool complex.
- ▶ Identification and protection of significant open space / recreational trail corridors.



- ▶ Launching an integrated community information network, including an up-to-date Sport & Recreation Directory for Cambooya Shire, internet features, a calendar of events and signage strategies.
- ▶ Encouraging ongoing community involvement and consultation on sport and recreation needs in the Shire.

The strategy also recommends the recognition of these initiatives in Council's Corporate Plan and new Planning Scheme, to achieve better recognition of sport, recreation and open space as integral features of the Shire's future development. The recommendations are presented in Section 2 of this report.



2. Strategies and Actions

This section provides the recommendations for future planning, management and funding for sport and recreation initiatives in Cambooya Shire over the next 10 years. It comprises 10 key strategies addressing facilities, services and programs – their implementation will occur by means of specific actions, set out in an Action Plan.

2.1 Key Strategies for Cambooya Shire

STRATEGY 1 – SPORT AND RECREATION POLICY

Adopt a policy to guide Cambooya Shire Council's future planning, management and funding for sport and recreation initiatives.

The Sport and Recreation Vision

It is essential for Cambooya Shire Council to recognise how important its sport, recreation and open space resources are and the role that they play.

In conjunction with implementation of the *Sport & Recreation Needs Study*, it is recommended that Council develop an overall sport and recreation “vision” for inclusion in its Corporate Plan, together with objectives and principles to guide Action Plan implementation and deal with community needs in future.

A broad vision for the Shire is suggested below:

There is a range of useable, safe and accessible settings, facilities and linkages which are located and designed to offer multi-purpose sport and recreation opportunities, catering adequately for the changing needs of Cambooya Shire’s urban and rural communities, including groups with special access needs.

Improved organisational structures and forward planning practices should also be implemented to ensure that activities are undertaken according to an agreed direction, facility maintenance and upkeep regimes are proactive rather than reactive, and responsibilities / tasks are assigned according to an overall plan.

This approach will generate a more transparent link between Council’s actions, funding allocation and community needs.



Objectives

- ▶ To plan and develop sport and recreation facilities, services and programs that meet community needs.
- ▶ To improve the health and wellbeing of the Cambooya Shire community through participation in organised competitive sport and informal recreation activities.
- ▶ To build social cohesion, community identity and local pride by harnessing the unique sport and recreation strengths of the Shire.
- ▶ To remove, as far as possible, barriers to sport and recreation participation on the basis of age, gender, location, mobility, level of ability, income or cultural background.
- ▶ To manage and maintain Council's sport, recreation and open space assets in a coordinated, efficient and sustainable manner.

Guiding Principles

- ▶ Council will take a proactive and coordinated approach to sport and recreation planning and service delivery in Cambooya Shire. This planning approach will be informed by an appreciation of changing demographic profile and leisure participation trends. Service delivery will be underpinned by a culture of continuous improvement.
- ▶ Council will work in partnership with community groups, sporting clubs, schools, adjoining Councils, State Government agencies, regional bodies and other stakeholders to deliver appropriate sport and recreation opportunities.
- ▶ Council will take a coordinated approach in sport and recreation planning that encompasses the wider regional community for the benefits of Cambooya Shire.
- ▶ Council will be committed to ensure that staff are given the relevant support and resources to implement the *Sport & Recreation Needs Study*.
- ▶ Council will be proactive in conducting community consultations and needs assessments to guide future sport and recreation provision. Relevant community stakeholders will be encouraged to participate in decision making processes.
- ▶ Council will strive to achieve innovation through sport and recreation initiatives that utilise and showcase the Shire's local communities and resources.
- ▶ Council will ensure that the levels of sport and recreation provision are commensurate with local needs and population growth, recognising that Toowoomba is the primary provider of higher order facilities, services and programs to the Darling Downs region.
- ▶ Council will create and consolidate sport and recreation facilities into multi-purpose "hubs" or "precincts" within major population centres, to achieve greater sustainability over time and positively contribute to community development.
- ▶ Council will strive to achieve equity in the delivery of sport and recreation initiatives across the Shire, which can help reduce social isolation, enhance community wellbeing and improve physical health.



- ▶ Council will be proactive in raising community awareness through effective communication, promotion and information dissemination, to encourage greater participation in sport and recreation across the Shire.



STRATEGY 2 - ACTIVE AUSTRALIA

Demonstrate Cambooya Shire Council's commitment to sport and recreation service delivery, through membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network.

It is recommended that Council seek membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network (AALGN).

Local Government Authorities are key stakeholders in delivering sport and recreation opportunities to the public, as such they are an integral part of the Active Australia initiative. The AALGN is a national network of Councils committed to improving the quality of sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities available to their communities.

The major benefit of membership will be access to examples of best practice planning, pilot projects and resources that have been produced in the support and promotion of Active Australia. These will provide assistance and ideas in the key areas of:

- ▶ infrastructure, services and programs;
- ▶ encouraging community participation in sport and recreation;
- ▶ promoting the benefits of sport and physical activity to the local community;
- ▶ advocating and information on services and infrastructure; and
- ▶ sport and recreation publications and other information sources.



STRATEGY 3 - ENHANCING CAMBOOYA SHIRE'S REGIONAL PROFILE AND IDENTITY THROUGH SPORT AND RECREATION

Build a strong regional identity for Cambooya Shire by harnessing its unique sport and recreation strengths, to maximise the benefits for the Shire as a whole and each local community.

Over the next 10 years, Council should be committed to enhancing Cambooya Shire's identity and profile through the ongoing development, investment and promotion of its sport and recreation assets.

In response to emerging demographic trends and leisure participation demands across the region, Cambooya Shire is well placed to:

- ▶ encourage the establishment of new sport and recreation opportunities, capitalising on the Shire's strategic location and proximity to major urban populations, good land availability, unique environmental and scenic qualities, semi-rural character, strong local history, existing infrastructure base, growing population, and synergies with Toowoomba-based facilities, activities and organisations;
- ▶ capitalise on the diminishing supply of available space for sport and recreation facility development in surrounding urban municipalities;
- ▶ address unmet local and regional demands for sport and recreation participation;
- ▶ maximise linkages between sport / recreation initiatives and benefits for community and economic development, including increased private sector investment;
- ▶ maximise the benefits for residents, by providing greater diversity, quality and quantity in sport and recreation choice, through attracting new activities and events into the Shire; and
- ▶ better market or "showcase" the Shire's assets to local communities and the region; and
- ▶ strengthen the collective shire identity or "sense of place" held by individual communities.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council strengthen its regional profile and identity, by focussing opportunity identification and market development on the core areas of:

1. Nature based recreation;
2. Heritage based recreation and outdoor education; and
3. Equestrian based sporting activities and events.

It will be Council's responsibility to facilitate these goals through appropriate land use planning, management and resourcing activities. Strong promotion and marketing of the Shire's natural, heritage, recreational and sporting assets throughout the region will also be critical to attract new opportunities and investment.

Other major stakeholders who will play a lead role in achieving this strategy include:



- ▶ State Government agencies, such as Sport & Recreation Queensland, Education Queensland, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Natural Resources & Mines;
- ▶ tourism bodies such as Toowoomba & Gold West Regional Tourist Association and Tourism Queensland;
- ▶ local sporting clubs, community groups and schools;
- ▶ regional sport and recreation clubs;
- ▶ State sporting bodies;
- ▶ neighbouring Local Government Authorities;
- ▶ other service providers; and
- ▶ the private sector.

1. Nature-based Recreation

Recent assessments such as the *South East Queensland Outdoor Recreation Demand Study* have clearly demonstrated escalating demands for nature-based recreational access.

Therefore, by recognising the Shire's opportunities and constraints, it is recommended that Council develop appropriate facilities, programs and settings for:

- ▶ Bicycle riding
- ▶ Picnicking and visiting parks
- ▶ Nature appreciation (eg. bushwalking, bird watching, fishing)
- ▶ Horse trail riding (ie. short and long distance routes away from vehicular traffic)
- ▶ Mountain bike trail riding
- ▶ Camping (ie. a limited number of low impact camping sites)
- ▶ Outdoor recreation activity programs

The principal initiative for nature-based recreation in Cambooya Shire will be the development of a trail network utilising strategic open space corridors for non-motorised activities (ie. horse riding, mountain biking and bushwalking) .

The trail network should provide connections to:

- ▶ local parks and other sport and recreation venues;
- ▶ sites of local heritage significance;
- ▶ local camping areas;
- ▶ outdoor recreation settings in surrounding municipalities (regional connections); and
- ▶ other trails within the region.



Secondary nature-based opportunities will focus on:

- ▶ driving for pleasure and access to parkland and scenic lookouts; and
- ▶ developing opportunities for short and long distance bicycle touring, training and competitive circuit racing within the Shire;

The success and value of Cambooya Shire's nature-based recreation projects will be underpinned by:

- ▶ selective enhancement of existing sites and development of new recreation areas;
- ▶ education and interpretation material (educational information at key sites, directional and educational signs, guided activities, brochures, maps etc);
- ▶ marketing (promotional events and materials, media coverage, signage, maps etc);
- ▶ adequate resource allocation; and
- ▶ community support.

2. Heritage Based Recreation and Outdoor Education

Council should embrace the opportunity to capitalise on the social, cultural and educational values of local recreation areas. In particular, Council should enhance and promote recreational experiences which are integrated with:

- ▶ local history; and
- ▶ outdoor education.

Local History

The "Steele Rudd Country" theme will be a critical element in developing and promoting heritage-based recreation opportunities in the Shire. Key actions will involve:

- ▶ promoting attractions of historic or cultural significance (eg. Steele Rudd Park, Federation Park, historic township buildings, war memorials);
- ▶ preparation and distribution of more interpretive / promotional material at strategic locations throughout the Shire (eg. local parks) and region (eg. visitor information services and facilities, public libraries);
- ▶ establishing interpretive and educational facilities, supported by local history groups and networking with regional historians; and
- ▶ packaging local history settings / features as part of day trips and touring activities within the Shire.

Outdoor Education

Outdoor Education includes a wide spectrum of out-of-school programs ranging from students working outside the classroom in the local park, visiting town or a local agricultural show, through to outdoor recreation and adventure education programs.



Typically, outdoor education programs are designed to challenge students and teachers to extend their individual capabilities and develop team building and leadership skills through a spirit of cooperation¹.

Both nature- and heritage-based recreation are complementary to the outcomes of outdoor education programs. Therefore, to maximise these synergies, it is recommended that Council investigate the establishment outdoor education settings, services and programs that take advantage of the vast range of learning opportunities and resources available in the Shire's local communities and natural environs.

This initiative should be developed in conjunction with relevant government and community stakeholders. Target participants would include schools, youth groups, scouts and guides etc, as well as the general community.

Outdoor education activities that may be suitable include:

- ▶ Bushwalking (day / overnight)
- ▶ Camping
- ▶ Cycling (cycle touring, mountain biking, BMX)
- ▶ Experiential programs (eg. leadership courses, team building exercises, nature study)
- ▶ Horse riding
- ▶ Orienteering
- ▶ Ropes courses

3. Equestrian-based Sporting Activities and Events

Ongoing support and promotion of equestrian-based facilities and activities should be a priority. This will focus on:

- ▶ investment and progressive development of existing equestrian facilities;
- ▶ attracting new equestrian activities and events to the Shire, to maximise the local profile, economic development opportunities and community benefit;
- ▶ strategic development of new equestrian-related facilities and initiatives that dovetail with the existing resource base in Toowoomba City and the surrounding region, as appropriate; and
- ▶ ongoing support for private sector development in the equine industry.

¹ Adapted from the Education Queensland website.

STRATEGY 4 - ACHIEVE GREATER COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF SPORT AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Deliver up-to-date information, education, training and support on sport and recreation matters, in response to community needs.

1. Community Awareness

The need to improve community awareness of sport and recreation opportunities should be given high priority from the outset, focussing on:

- ▶ Preparation of the Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Directory (in booklet form) detailing the range of facilities, services and programs available, their locations and contact details. The directory should be updated on an annual basis and circulated throughout the Shire. All new residents should also receive the directory.
- ▶ A sport and recreation “calendar of events” to raise awareness and avoid scheduling clashes.
- ▶ Development of a webpage that features local sport and recreation facilities, programs and upcoming events, linked to Council’s internet site and featuring ‘downloadable’ versions of the Sport & Recreation Directory and events calendar.
- ▶ Visually prominent community noticeboards and town maps, indicating the location of key facilities and attractions. These should be deployed in Greenmount, Cambooya, Wyreema, Hodgson Vale and Vale View.
- ▶ Exhibitions and facility promotions, such as feedback forms and updates in rates notices, newsletters and use of an ‘on-hold’ message on Council’s telephone lines.
- ▶ More effective and balanced coverage of sport and recreation facilities, services and programs in Council’s newsletter “On Our Selection” and website, for example, a regular feature on different parks throughout the Shire.
- ▶ Targeting community awareness information at sporting organisations and communities from outside the shire, highlighting the positive aspects and opportunities that exist in Cambooya Shire (eg. more prominent coverage in regional newspapers).

2. Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee

An advisory committee should be established to monitor the progress of study recommendations and develop ownership of the outcomes. The Committee’s role would extend beyond study implementation to address other sport and recreation matters such as upcoming events, facility development, accessing funding, facility planning and community needs etc. The committee should meet every six months and comprise representatives of Council, each community, sport and recreation groups, local organisations, young people, older adults and other stakeholders as appropriate (eg. SRQ).



3. Ongoing Community Involvement

Ongoing public involvement in the planning, management and decision making processes will also be essential. Council should be proactive in encouraging and promoting avenues for local clubs and residents to provide feedback and identify needs / opportunities for sport and recreation in the Shire. This should be facilitated through existing consultation and information networks. This collaborative approach will also be important to keep residents informed on this study's implementation progress (eg. through "On Our Selection" and website), together with other issues as they arise such as upcoming events, facility development, accessing funding, facility planning and sharing etc.

Young people should also have the opportunity to be involved in the planning of facilities and activities. This approach will contribute to the overall success of the project, through instilling greater youth ownership, pride and interest in the outcomes.

4. Support for Local Sport and Recreation Organisations

The small number of sporting clubs in the Shire are subject to external pressures such as declining membership and complex funding processes to secure grants through public and private sector schemes. As highlighted during the consultation phase, local groups lack the understanding and expertise to address these issues.

Council recognises the need to be more proactive in working with groups to develop and maintain their assets. At the same time, measures to develop local skills need to be provided.

It is recommended that Council seek the support of SRQ to provide local clubs with more information and support on issues such as coaching, facility management, fundraising, event organisation, public liability insurance and grant application preparation.

5. Council Personnel

The knowledge and abilities of Council personnel will be critical to the successful implementation of the study recommendations, as well as Council's long term approach to planning and management for sport and recreation in the Shire.

It is recommended that Council:

- ▶ investigate the feasibility of appointing a Sport & Recreation Development Officer, possibly in partnership with a number neighbouring Shires; or
- ▶ train an existing Council officer to be solely responsible for the coordination of sport and recreation matters in the Shire.

This Coordinator's duties would include:

- ▶ coordinating implementation of the *Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study*;
- ▶ providing a link between the community and Council;
- ▶ liaising with State Government agencies and other key sport, recreation and youth organisations;



- ▶ facilitating education and training workshops for residents, clubs and community groups;
- ▶ organising sport and recreation programs;
- ▶ preparing funding submissions with, and on behalf of community groups;
- ▶ participating in regional and state forums on sport, recreation and youth related issues;
- ▶ establishment and chairing of sport and recreation committees; and
- ▶ ongoing community needs identification.

STRATEGY 5 - ENCOURAGE THE CAMBOOYA SHIRE COMMUNITY TO GET MORE ACTIVE

Implement initiatives to motive greater community participation in sport, recreation and fitness activities.

Encouraging more participation in sport, recreation and fitness activities will yield important social, health and lifestyle benefits for Cambooya Shire. For some residents, there is a perception that these opportunities only exist in Toowoomba – travel can a big disincentive to get involved.

Therefore, Cambooya Shire Council be more proactive is seeking support from other service providers in the provision of affordable and accessible encouragement programs across the Shire, based on the theme “Cambooya Get Active”.

The responsibility to provide the services would rest with State Government and health organisations. They would aim to address specific community needs, maximise the use of local resources, and raise awareness.

The following measures will be critical to the success of this strategy:

- ▶ Achieving better links between Council and community organisations.
- ▶ Achieving better links between Council and local schools.
- ▶ Achieving better links between Council, SRQ and health organisations.
- ▶ Improving access to community facilities, including enhanced transportation services and linkages (public and private modes).
- ▶ Developing partnerships with service providers and support mechanisms to help local sport and recreation organisations.
- ▶ Effective promotion, marketing, information dissemination.

These matters are will also be advanced through implementation of the other study recommendations.

A selection of potential “Get Active” programs are presented below – Council should continue to maintain a watching brief on the need for different programs with guidance from SRQ and health organisations.

1. “Just Walk It” Campaign

“Just Walk It” was developed by the Heart Foundation and is a community based walking program that aims to increase participation in regular and enjoyable physical activity, regardless of age or gender.





It utilises volunteer “walk organisers” to establish small groups to walk in their local area. Currently, the program is being implemented in over 50 areas throughout urban and rural Queensland, including Crows Nest, Dalby, Warwick and Gayndah.

2. Come and Try Days

“Come and Try” Participation Days should be conducted in partnership with local sporting clubs, with the objective of increasing participation rates, motivation and the profile of Cambooya Shire’s sporting clubs.

“Come and Try” events should be trailed in the major communities first (eg. lawn bowls in Cambooya, tennis in Wyreema) – they should involve modified games, basic skill training and highlight the enjoyment participants of all ages will receive from participating in these sports. Other community activities should be held as part of the “Come and Try” Days to attract potential participants and members (eg. family picnic, inviting sporting identities, coaches etc). The events will also help promote social interaction, which is particularly important given the high number of new residents in the Shire.

3. Guide to Great Walks of Cambooya Shire

It is recommended that Council work with community groups to develop a guide to the “Great Walks of Cambooya Shire”. It is envisaged that this could be a simple booklet with maps of short, medium and longer distance walking circuits in the Shire, information on points of interest and tips for walking (eg. comfort, safety).



STRATEGY 6 - OPTIMISING USE OF EXISTING SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Implement initiatives to achieve more efficient and sustainable use of sport and recreation resources through consolidation of multi-purpose facility precincts, facility co-location and targeted improvement works.

One of the first steps to achieve activity diversification is to identify measures to make better use of existing facilities. It is recommended that Council be proactive in undertaking the following actions:

1. Public Use of School Facilities

Opportunities to increase the public use of school sport and recreation facilities should be pursued and promoted in all communities, to improve the range of activities available to the Shire's residents and save capital expenditure on the provision of new (duplicate) facilities.

School facilities are usually occupied during weekdays and offer spare capacity for community use at night and on weekends. It is noted however, that long term access cannot be guaranteed (subject to the principal's permission).

Council should liaise with local schools to consider how public access arrangements can be improved, particularly where it is not permitted or available on a restricted basis. Opportunities should be investigated with school principals, P&C Associations, sporting clubs and residents.

2. Under-utilised Sport and Recreation Facilities

The under-utilisation of existing sport and recreation facilities is evident in the Shire. It is in the best interests of Council and the community to assess the longer term viability of such facilities, by considering:

- ▶ possible rationalisation of the land; or
- ▶ conversion to a different land use and relocation of activities to another venue; or
- ▶ upgrades to promote intended facility purpose.

In the short term, it is recommended that Council consider the future use of the following facilities:

- ▶ old Greenmount Recreation Reserve on Woodlands Road;
- ▶ Greenmount Memorial Hall;
- ▶ grass netball courts at Wyreema;
- ▶ BMX area and basketball half-court at Cambooya (located behind the tennis club); and
- ▶ BMX area at Hodgson Vale.

3. Sport and Recreation Precincts / Co-location of Facilities

Achieving viable and balanced community facilities, services and programs in a decentralised settlement pattern is a constant challenge for service providers. Promotion of multi-purpose sport and recreation precincts, together with the co-location of compatible facilities will be a key strategy for Council, to achieve:

- ▶ more cost effective outcomes;
- ▶ more efficient management and maintenance practices;
- ▶ enhanced public access to facilities, for both the township and rural populations; and
- ▶ enhanced multi-purpose capabilities.

Where possible, activity spaces should also be planned with the flexibility to absorb the changing demands for different activities over time.

It is recommended that major priorities for future facility planning, expansion and consolidation include:

- ▶ FE Obst Oval Complex, Wyreema;
- ▶ Lucy Street Precinct in Cambooya – Skate Park / Youth Space, Tennis Courts and Showgrounds / Recreation Reserve; and
- ▶ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club.

In recognising the strategic importance of the three precincts, it is recommended that Council prepare master plans to guide future development and improvement works, with the intent of providing venues with the capacity to meet local, district and regional needs. The master plans will also strengthen the position of Council, facility management committees and local communities in securing funding assistance.

Forward planning for all three precincts should include liaison with sporting clubs and community groups from throughout the region seeking to relocate to a new site.

It is recommended that the following major improvements be considered in future master planning and funding allocation processes:

FE Obst Oval, Wyreema

- ▶ Provision of two (2) cricket practice nets.
- ▶ Playground improvements, including provision of a shade cloth over play equipment and a soft-fall surface beneath.
- ▶ Enlarged basketball court – full half-court size with two (2) backboards and hoops.
- ▶ Improved landscaping and security lighting.
- ▶ Installation of a town map.
- ▶ Improved facility maintenance and rubbish collection regimes.
- ▶ Redevelopment of the grass netball courts as a skate park or bicycle training facility.

- ▶ Multi-sport line marking at the tennis courts (should the demand for netball facilities increase in future).
- ▶ Longer term improvements to the quality of the oval playing surface, including multi-sport line marking.

Lucy Street Precinct Cambooya

- ▶ Strengthening accessibility and safety by providing pedestrian linkages between individual facilities within the precinct.
- ▶ Landscape enhancement / gateway planting schemes along Lucy Street.
- ▶ Skate Park / Tennis Club:
 - Expansion of the skate park, together with the provision of new activity settings and support facilities – this proposal is developed further in Strategy 8.
 - Rationalisation or upgrading of the BMX area.
 - Removal of old playground equipment.
 - Upgraded clubhouse and support facilities at the tennis courts, including landscaping and security provisions.
- ▶ Showgrounds / Recreation Reserve:
 - Upgraded site security and policing.
 - Full replacement of perimeter fencing around the main arena.
 - Progressive improvement of the covered shelter to provide a more versatile area for community gatherings and activities – provision of a concrete slab beneath the shelter (short term); installation of walls and roller doors to establish a fully enclosed community facility (longer term).
 - Increased power supply to site, particularly for major equestrian events.
 - Provision of an all-weather covered arena in the longer term (ie. redevelopment of existing arena). This would be multi-purpose venue catering for a range of uses such as equestrian events, farm shows, rodeos, rallies and market days. Development of the covered arena should be subject to feasibility assessments.



Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club

- ▶ Provision of two (2) cricket practice nets.
- ▶ Provision of goal posts on the existing oval.
- ▶ Provision of a children's playground near the hall and tennis courts.
- ▶ Upgraded vehicular access to the site.
- ▶ Creek enhancement through the site.
- ▶ Provision of a formalised pedestrian / cyclist crossing point along the New England Highway for safer access to the site for local residents.
- ▶ Formalisation of internal site access for pedestrians between the sports club and Lions Park (eg. walking track).
- ▶ Identification of suitable land for the longer term development of:
 - a new multi-use playing field (eg. soccer, cricket); and
 - additional sports court(s).

STRATEGY 7 - ENHANCED SETTINGS FOR INFORMAL RECREATION

Enhance and maintain a range of high quality facilities and settings, that are consistent with community needs for informal recreation and contribute to health, social cohesion and a "sense of place".

The competing demands of work and home often mean that people have less leisure time. Accordingly, the need for with greater choice, convenience and flexibility in recreation and fitness activities is becoming very important for Cambooya Shire residents.

Accordingly, over the next 10 years the major priorities for informal recreation will be:

- ▶ enhanced parkland settings catering for all age groups;
- ▶ safe, attractive and connective pathway networks within local communities, catering for different recreational uses such as walking, cycling, jogging, skating etc; and
- ▶ informal tracks and bridle trails for nature-based recreation activities such as bushwalking, mountain biking and horse riding.

1. Parkland and Open Space

Development Priorities

In setting priorities for upgrading parks and reserves, Council must consider the broad range of community interests and benefits. Targeting works that will benefit the largest sector of the community should be a criteria. In addition, works that add value to existing parks by improving facilities, access and public safety should also be given priority. With these criteria as a guide, the following key works are recommended:

Priority	Recommended Actions
Immediate	<p><u>Embellishments to Basic Facilities and Landscaping</u></p> <p>Improvements to equipment and landscaping are required to enhance existing parks. Over time, local parks will require facility replacement / upgrades, together with enhancement landscaping and maintenance. Better shade cover over activity areas is also required at some sites.</p> <p>The short term priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ FE Obst Park, Wyreema (shade, replace sand with softfall surface, some equipment replacement within the playground) ▶ Memorial Park, Cambooya (replacement of some equipment, seating and BBQs; replace dilapidated public toilets with two disabled toilets – male / female). ▶ Paterson Park, Cambooya (more shade and seating) ▶ Federation Park, Vale View (replacement of some playground equipment) ▶ Lions Park, Hodgson Vale (shade cloth over playground equipment) ▶ Greenmount Bicentennial Park (repair cricket practice facility, erect higher fence on western side of basketball court to reduce potential impacts on nearby residences)

Priority	Recommended Actions
High - Medium	<p><u>Feature Park for Greenmount</u></p> <p>The Shire has a good supply of parkland catering for informal recreation needs. The major gap exists in Greenmount which needs an 'feature park' to provide a quality recreation setting for the township and surrounding rural population, particularly for families. The park should contain a higher standard of facilities, including picnic tables, barbeques, playground equipment, informal 'kick-about' space, shelters, significant planting and formal landscape features. Implementation of different landscape themes and interpretive signage could also be developed to add meaning and interest to the park.</p> <p><u>Gateway Parks / Improving Visual Landscape Character</u></p> <p>Open space can play a significant role in defining the visual character of local townships. In particular, parks and nature strips located at the entrances to a town are important in making a positive contribution to visual amenity, acting as a green "gateway" to the town for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Simple avenue planting along major entrance roads can make a very effective contribution to enhance the appearance of towns with minimal outlay. Gateway planting is being established along Ramsay Street in Greenmount.</p> <p>Gateway treatments should also be considered for Wyreema and Cambooya through street tree planting along major approach routes.</p>
Low / Timed with Development	<p><u>New Local Park – Cambooya</u></p> <p>Council should identify and acquire land for development a new local park on the western side of the Cambooya community, coinciding with future residential expansion. The timing of this action will be subject to growth patterns and demonstrated community needs.</p>

Open Space Location and Design Guidelines

It is recommended that Council establish guidelines to prevent inappropriate allocation of resources and potential under or over supply. In developing the guidelines, the following considerations are relevant:

- ▶ Concentrate on developing a limited number of parks with a high standard of facilities.
- ▶ Adopt a minimum size for new local parks of 0.4ha (if area is available), a standard commonly regarded as being able to accommodate a wide range of passive recreation activities including informal kick-about areas.
- ▶ Apply standards to the design and construction of facilities in parks and open space areas to enhance visual and landscape character; and ensure such structures have a consistent design, colour scheme and theme, so that they do not detract from the presentation of the town.
- ▶ Apply an open space hierarchy to the Shire's resources to facilitate a range of recreational experiences and settings.



Regionally Significant Open Space

Prominent or significant natural landscape features are often the focus of recreation interest – this is evident in eastern escarpment of the Great Dividing Range, which forms the eastern boundary of Cambooya Shire. Significant areas are also found on the higher ridge lines west of Greenmount and pockets of land including hill tops and gullies of rural residential areas in the north.

It is recommended that Council be proactive in identifying, protecting and managing these prominent natural landscape features for their recreational potential, nature conservation, historical, visual, educational and cultural heritage values (eg. Panoramic Park, Federation Park).

2. Walking and Cycling Facilities

Local Pathway Networks

It is recommended that Council facilitate ongoing development of pathway network in Cambooya and Wyreema. These facilities will cater for recreational / fitness purposes and access to local activity nodes (eg. schools, sports facilities, parkland, shops, residential areas).

Safe and convenient multi-use pathways should be constructed and their design should also consider the special needs of potential users (eg. pathway grades and surface treatments for wheelchairs and the elderly).

For cyclists, the network should be supported by appropriate warning and guidance signage, together with “end-of-trip” facilities at key destinations, such as bicycle parking racks at parks.

Walking Circuits and Tracks

In Greenmount and Hodgson Vale the community has expressed a need for recreational walking tracks / circuits located within local parks and road reserves, in-keeping with the natural and semi-rural surroundings.

Highest priority pathway and walking circuit projects are:




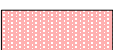
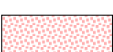




Greenmount

- ▶ The Greenmount walking circuit should be developed in stages and integrated with the Streetscaping Project on Ramsay Street and proposed Bicentennial Feature Park. It should also incorporate the establishment of a scenic lookout and nature appreciation reserve at the “top of the town”. The first stage will include a walking track from eastern end of Ramsay Street to Haldon Street (provide a concrete shared pathway for pedestrians and cyclists from the Greenmount Post Office to the western side of the railway line). Future stages of the project should extend north and south as opportunity presents. This circuit should be integrated with resting areas (eg. shaded seating),



Walking Circuit Components

- ### Other Features

- | | |
|---|--|
|  | Proposed Feature Park |
|  | Proposed Scenic Lookout and Nature Reserve |
|  | Other Community Nodes |
|  | Existing Residential Land * |
|  | Possible Future Residential Development * |
|  | 500m to Local Parkland |
|  | Areas Out of Parkland Catchment |
|  | Rail Line |
|  | Town Bypass Corridor |

* Source: Cambooya Shire Council Statement of Proposals, Feb 2001



0 100 200m

SCALE 1:5,700



Queensland Government
Getting more people active
through sport and recreation



directional or distance markers, and exercise stations. The circuit is depicted in Figure 1.

Top Camp / Hodgson Vale

- ▶ Walking tracks through the park area from the established Panoramic Park to Carroll Road, and then via the wide road reserve of Carroll Road to the end of the existing road construction on the northern end of Carroll Road.
- ▶ Complete the concrete pathway from Pendoma Drive to the tennis courts at Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club.
- ▶ Provide a pathway to the Lions Park from Kearney Street to enhance local access to the site.
- ▶ Provide a formalised crossing point on the New England Highway for cyclists and pedestrians accessing the Lions Park and Sports Club.
- ▶ In assessing development applications for new rural residential subdivisions, Council will require that appropriate access easements are provided to enhance local accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.
- ▶ Improve road verges to provide for safer access by walkers, cyclists and joggers.

Key walking and trail corridors linkages are depicted in Figure 2.

Cambooya

- ▶ Establish a fitness walking circuit track around the perimeter of Paterson Park. The circuit should incorporate distance markers and exercise stations (exer-sites).

Wyreema

- ▶ Lobby Queensland Rail to upgrade the existing rail line crossing on Umbiram Road, to facilitate safer access for pedestrians and cyclists in Wyreema.

Vale View

- ▶ Complete the walking circuit on the southern side of Smith Creek and Federation Park to provide a circuit walking track.
- ▶ Provide a pathway connection along Drayton Connection Road from Federation Park to Vale View School.

Regional Connectivity

- ▶ Ongoing identification and implementation longer distance regional cycle route connections between Cambooya Shire and Toowoomba City as recommended in the *Toowoomba Cycle and Pedestrian Strategy (2002)*.







3. Recreational Trails

As discussed in Strategy 3, the creation of a multi-purpose recreational trails system should be pursued by Council as opportunity presents in response to the strong demand from

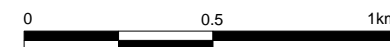


Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 2
Recommended Local Access Improvements for Top Camp and Hodgson Vale (Indicative Only)

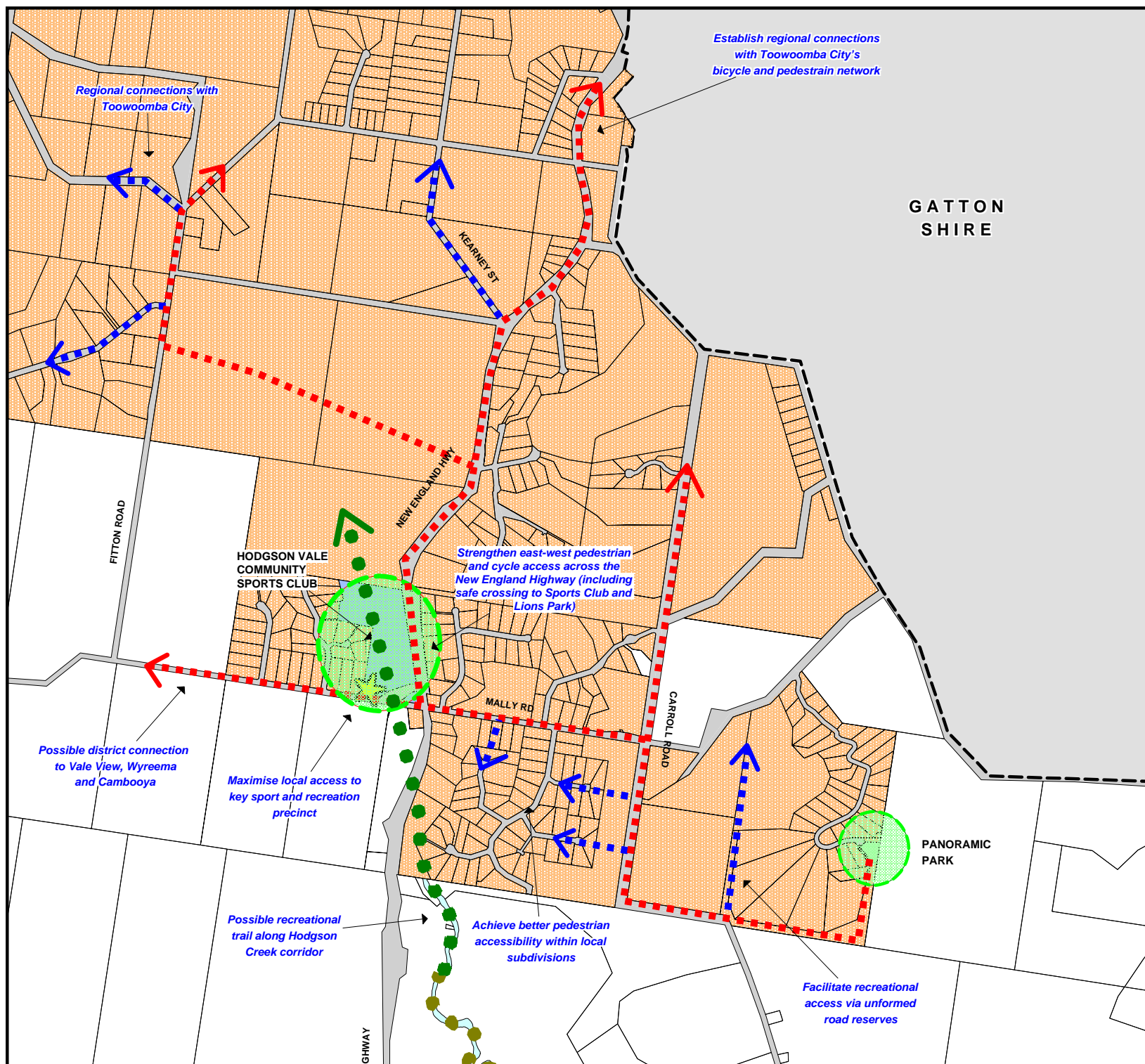
-  Key Pedestrian / Cycle Linkages
-  Secondary Linkages
-  Hodgson Creek Trail
-  Recreational Nodes
-  Shire Boundary
-  Rural Residential Land (Existing and Future)

North



SCALE 1:20,000

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Shire and regional residents for outdoor recreation settings for horse riding, bushwalking and mountain biking.

The trail system should focus on linking land parcels along strategic open space corridors, with connections to Council reserves, the future sporting complex at Mt Peel, Toowoomba's cycle network and other regional trails. Good bridle trail opportunities also exist around the Hodgsonvale Polo Club and west of Greenmount, where there are many small land holdings (eg. hobby farms) and a high participation in horse riding etc – linkages from these areas back to the National Trail should also be sought.

The trails should accommodate non-motorised modes and should be cooperatively developed in stages, with community groups, adjoining Local Government Authorities, State Government agencies and regional tourism authorities. The system will be complementary to trails already developed or proposed elsewhere in the region (eg. SEQ Regional Trails Network).

Community support and cooperation should be developed in achieving these objectives, in particular, creating wildlife corridors along waterways in the Shire.

Protection from fragmentation and from being subsumed by other land uses will be essential. These trails should be supported by the Shire's IPA Planning Scheme.

As a general guide, the selection of recreational trails in Cambooya Shire should consider the following criteria²:

- ▮ location in a somewhat natural setting;
- ▮ clear well-defined network;
- ▮ adequate access from major population centres within the Shire;
- ▮ diverse opportunities with trails that cater for various compatible activities;
- ▮ equitable opportunities for residents;
- ▮ links with points of interest;
- ▮ links with regional trails and bicycle networks;
- ▮ diverse and varied terrain;
- ▮ provision of short and longer distance trails;
- ▮ sustainable management practices;
- ▮ interpretive material that emphasises the environmental value of the bushland;
- ▮ active community and user participation in policing and education;
- ▮ codes of conduct for users
- ▮ signage at access points informing users;
- ▮ utilising existing trails such as fire trails and unformed road reserves; and

² Based on advice from the Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation.

- undulating terrain with some excitement and challenge.

It will be important to promote a trail “code of conduct” to minimise conflicts between different trail user groups. The content of a code of conduct should address the following³:

- Sharing of the trail
- Keeping to the left
- Passing other trail users
- Dogs
- Rubbish
- Fires
- Disturbance of stock

The code should be clearly displayed at all major access points to the trail and in trail guides / promotional material. Appropriate directional and warning signage should also be deployed along the trail – this will help reinforce the code of conduct.

Trail access management should consider measures to limit use by motorised trail bikes which will be incompatible with other non-motorised activities.

A sample code of conduct is provided below³.

SAMPLE CODE OF CONDUCT	
ALL TRAIL USERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Share the Trail. This is a shared trail for walkers and cyclists. Horse riders also share the reserve and use a few short sections of the trail. • Respect the rights of other users and adjoining landowners. • Where the trail reserve is grazed, don't disturb the stock. Close all gates unless you find them fastened open. • Where the trail reserve is cropped, keep away from the crops and machinery. • Use the designated picnic sites. • Take your rubbish with you. • Obey any signs for trail users. • Leave your dog at home. Dogs can be a nuisance to other trail users, can disturb stock, and frighten horses. • Observe all fire restrictions and take all due care with fires. 	
WALKERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep to the left so that cyclists can readily pass. • Stay on the trail, except to allow horses to pass. 	
CYCLISTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give walkers right-of-ways. • If you approach walkers from behind, slow down, ring your bell and announce your presence. • Ride in control at all times. • Some horse are frightened by bicycles. If you are going to overtake a horse, slow right down and announce your presence to the rider, then pass when the rider says it is safe to do so. • Stay on the trail, except to allow horses to pass. 	
HORSE RIDERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep off the walking and cycling trail except to pass through shared gates and cross bridges where necessary. • Whenever possible, cross creeks by fording them rather than use the bridges. • Where there is a crop in the reserve, keep clear of the crop. • Where there is stock on the reserve, walk past quietly. 	

³ Source: Victorian Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (1994), Planning, Design & Management of Multi-Use Recreational Trails.

STRATEGY 8 - YOUTH SPORT AND RECREATION

Encourage and motivate Cambooya Shire's youth population to participate in sport and recreation, through affordable and accessible initiatives that target their unique needs.

It is necessary to overcome the barriers faced by young people in accessing opportunities for sport and recreation.

Although this is not a youth development strategy, study recommendations and outputs can improve awareness, recreation participation and self esteem in young people. This will be achieved by:

- ▶ encouraging youths to become involved in planning and decision making processes, to increase youth ownership and interest in the project;
- ▶ allocating appropriate, accessible, safe and visible youth-oriented facilities, that provide settings for unstructured / informal recreation and socialising with friends;
- ▶ conducting supervised youth programs and events; and
- ▶ working in partnership with local schools, clubs and other service providers.

Council support is needed to achieve these outcomes and to establish youth groups / organisations within separate communities across the Shire. This support could be a youth officer, in-kind facility support or event funding support. Other Shires have had some success in establishing Youth Councils, to generate enthusiasm, motivation and empowerment amongst young people, and facilitate involvement in community development projects (including sport and recreation).

These goals are developed further in the Action Plan. Major proposals are outlined below.

1. Wyreema Skate Park

It is recommended that a new skate park facility be established at Wyreema in response to the shortfall in recreation settings for local teenagers, the large youth population and ongoing community support which has been demonstrated since the late 1990's. Funding assistance should be sought from Jondaryan Shire Council and the State Government.

In selecting an appropriate site, accessibility and visibility are critical considerations. Potential synergies for co-location with existing land uses should also be identified (eg. recreation facilities, shops, schools). Other key planning issues will include⁴:

- ▶ **Facility Design** – cater for a range of skill levels and provide challenges for both novice and intermediate skaters.

⁴ Adapted from "Skate Park Facility Planning" Information Sheet, Sport and Recreation WA, May 2001.



- ▶ **Minimise Risk to Users** – construction plans should be ratified by “expert” user groups, promote a “code of conduct” at the site, and conduct regular ongoing maintenance to prevent injury.
- ▶ **Management Plan** – addressing issues such as graffiti, programs to increase use and community support.

Full consultation with local residents and community groups is essential to provide information on the proposed style of skate park, management issues and possible locations for the facility.

To overcome some of the common concerns associated with skate facilities, it is also useful to consider other successful examples to guide this project – whilst these factors do not represent the full range of criteria for a good outcome, they do provide a useful starting point:

- ▶ ***Input from park users is essential***

Skate park users are very articulate about what kind of facility they would like and the features the park should have. A lot of riders spend time “designing” parks in their heads and on paper. Maximising involvement of potential users is essential. Residents and other stakeholders should also be engaged in the planning, design and management.

- ▶ ***Parents and families of park users are often supportive***

Parents of riders are aware of the dangers riders face when riding illegally or in areas not readily supervised. Mobilising adults who support the concept of a properly established park is important.

- ▶ ***Publicity campaigns assist in gaining support***

The needs of youth for high energy, risk taking recreation is often not understood by the wider community. Getting youth to speak up about their needs and demonstrating their skills in board riding can be organised into a public education campaign. Such campaigns are often very useful in gaining public support.

- ▶ ***Breaking down stereotypes improves understanding***

Some adults have very negative views of riders. Most riders are teenagers with few acceptable community outlets for their energy and self expression. Bringing adults into contact with riders needs to be carefully managed, but can aid in their understanding of the sport and the behaviours that go with it. Breaking down stereotypes can help bring the community together.

- ▶ ***Visibility is important***

Skaters need to show off their skills. As with any athletes an audience is usually appreciated. An area of with high public use and easy access is therefore desirable. A highly visibility site is also essential - parks tucked away out of sight can be more problematic.

2. Cambooya “Youth Space”

There will always be trends in skating, so it is best to design skate facilities for long term use. In this way, it is proposed that Council expand the role of Cambooya skate park to create a “social space” for young people.

Community feedback indicated that the existing stand-alone facility is under-utilised due to:

- ▶ its small scale and lack of challenging design elements for older users;
- ▶ the absence of other complementary facilities or supporting infrastructure (eg. seating, shade, drinking water bubblers); and
- ▶ anti-social behaviour.

It is recommended that the site be developed into an integrated activity precinct or “youth space”. As shown in Figure 3, several complementary facilities are proposed, including a new basketball half-court, children’s playground, covered shelter and seating, together with lighting and an imaginative landscaping theme, to give the site identity and character. This proposal also allows for future expansion of the skate area and fencing along the rail line.

The site’s central location maximises opportunities for access, linkages to nearby facilities, passive surveillance and public safety. The new activity mix will encourage visitation by different user groups (eg. children, teenagers, parents, families) which will help the site to become more “self regulating” and appealing.

3. Collaboration with Schools

It is recommended that Council, in partnership with SRQ, liaise with local schools to encourage more youth participation in sport and recreation from an early age, through initiatives such as:

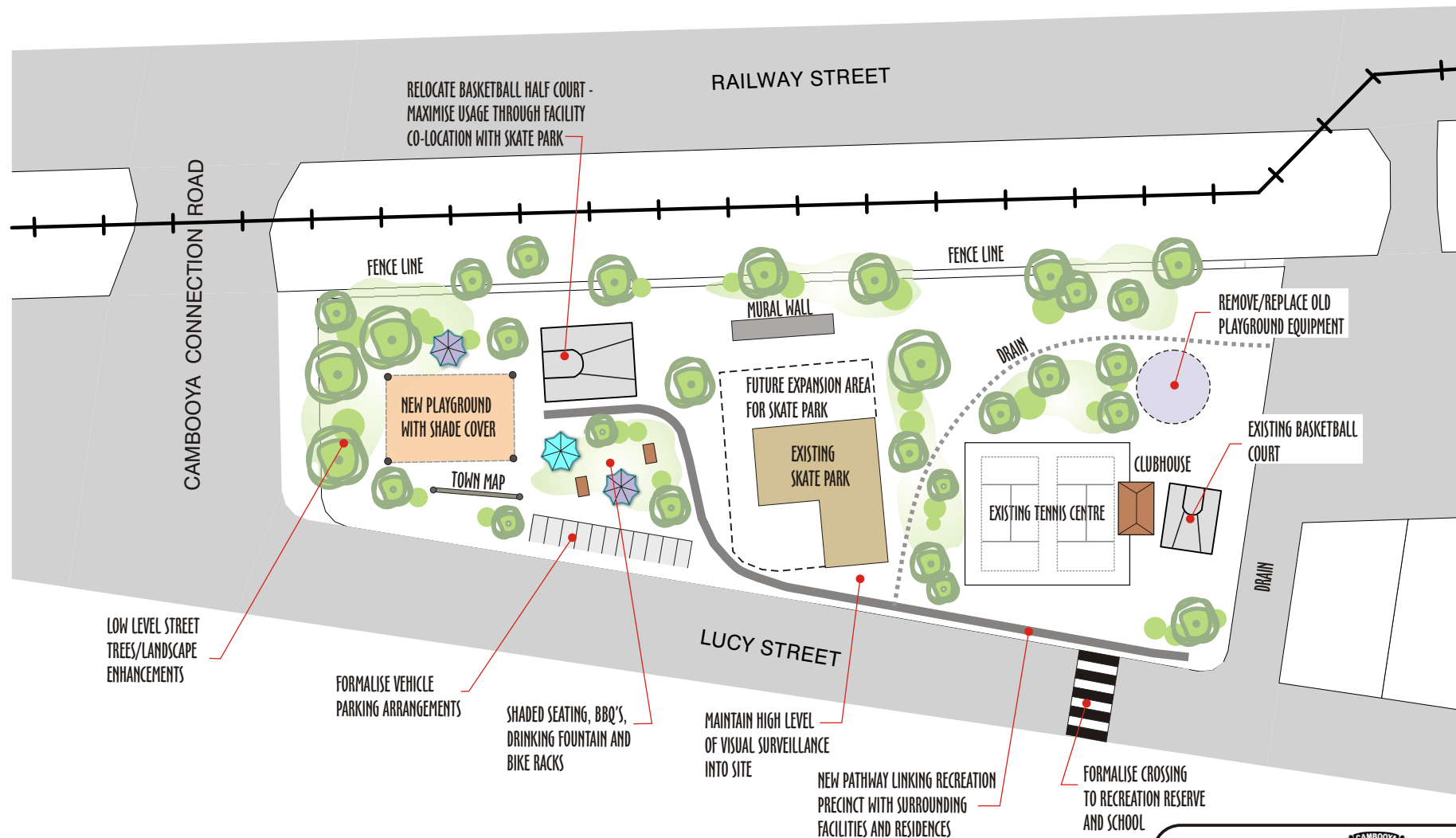
▶ Get Active Queensland Schools Program:

A Queensland Government initiative delivered by SRQ in conjunction with the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS), featuring lifestyle presentations by QAS athletes aimed at giving primary and secondary school students an insight into the benefits of physical activity and good health. The successful trial was launched in April 2002 and the program is now being undertaken throughout the State.

Interested schools are required to complete and expression of interest form once applications for their school regions open.

▶ Partnerships with Local Sport and Recreation Clubs:

Expand the schools’ Health and Physical Education Syllabus to include opportunities for local sport and recreation clubs to have their activities introduced at the school level (eg. Come ‘n’ Try Days, club presentations). It is noted that timetabling and resourcing constraints may limit opportunities to conduct these activities at some schools.



**Cambooya Shire
Sport & Recreation Needs Study**

FIGURE 3
Concept Plan for Cambooya
Youth Recreation Precinct
(Indicative Only / Not to Scale)



► **Collaboration between Schools:**

Schools within Cambooya Shire and beyond working together to motivate students and encourage participation through more regular inter-school events.

► **School Physical Activity Policy:**

In January 2003, SRQ developed a policy model to get more children and young people active. It has been developed for use by teachers to complement the curriculum and other school policies (eg. Sun Smart).

To encompass the abovementioned recommendations, the policy could help Cambooya Shire's schools to provide quality physical activity experiences for students in the classroom, playground or on the sports field. It is also a way of promoting these practices to the school community. A downloadable version of the policy model is available from SRQ's website.

4. Bicycle Training Facility

It is recommended that Council establish a children's bicycle education training facility at Wyreema, preferably co-located with existing parkland / recreation facilities. Lobby Jondaryan Shire Council, Education Queensland and SRQ for funding assistance.

5. Youth Events

It is recommended that Council encourage the conduct of regular social events for the Shire's youth. Although Council's role will be to coordinate the events, young people should be motivated to demonstrate leadership in event organisation and promotion. Council and / or community groups will also provide assistance with development of young people's organisational skills, together with event resourcing (eg. venues) and supervision.

6. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Council should implement the principles of "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design" (CPTED) for all youth facility projects, to prevent inappropriate siting and minimise the attraction of inappropriate or "at risk" behaviours at the site.

The key elements to promote this are:

- maximising the sense of safety through open public spaces between facilities;
- improving security lighting in activity areas and along major pedestrian pathways;
- maximising natural surveillance;
- creating a strong sense of identity and community ownership in the site;
- providing controlled access points, directional and guidance signage; and
- providing clear, unconfused pathways to and within the site.

STRATEGY 9 - SWIMMING POOL

Facilitate adequate access to, and encourage the provision of, water-based sport and recreation opportunities for the people of Cambooya Shire.

There is very strong community support for the development of an indoor swimming pool in Cambooya Shire. Preliminary estimates indicate the cost of developing a new 25m x 8 lane indoor pool on a greenfield site, with water treatment, filtration and heating systems, vertical bi-folding doors at either end of the facility (to allow for greater flexibility during summer) and an infant pool, would be in the order of \$2.5M. An outdoor heated pool would be about \$1M - \$1.5M.

The high infrastructure and ongoing maintenance costs of such a facility may not be justified from a cost-benefit perspective, when considering the small population base and distribution of public swimming pools within 10-15km of the Shire.

However, Council recognises that the issue is significant and warrants further consideration, given high growth projections and broad leisure trends placing swimming as one of Australia's most popular pastimes.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council be proactive, realistic and flexible in responding to community needs for water-based sport and recreation, as follows:

Immediate Actions

- ▶ Implement measures for Cambooya Shire residents to have better access to swimming pools in surrounding municipalities:
 - Liaise with neighbouring Councils and / or service providers to offer subsidised admission fees for Cambooya Shire residents.
 - Liaise with Clifton Shire Council to address existing restrictions on the use of Clifton Swimming Pool by school groups.
 - Provide a special public transport / bus service during school holiday periods to support community access to major sport and recreation facilities in Toowoomba, including aquatic centres. The Shire's key population centres should be included in the service.
- ▶ Promote these schemes across the Shire to maximise community awareness and benefit.

Short to Medium Range Actions (Next 5 Years)

- ▶ Monitor community demand for a swimming pool complex in Cambooya Shire coinciding with future population growth.
- ▶ Maintain dialogue with local schools and Education Queensland to ascertain the need and feasibility of jointly funding a pool on school grounds (subject to condition of ongoing community involvement in management and use of facility).



- ▶ Liaise with Jondaryan Shire Council to gauge community demand for a swimming pool complex in Westbrook. Monitor potential facility duplication with other surrounding shires.
- ▶ Keep Cambooya Shire's residents informed of these actions.

Long Range Actions (5-10+ Years)

- ▶ By 2008, conduct a community needs assessment for a swimming pool complex in Cambooya Shire:
 - “GO” Scenario... Commence appropriate feasibility, master planning and pre-construction activities in order to secure funding. Construct the facility.
 - “NO GO” Scenario ... Council to maintain a “watching brief” and assess community needs by 2012 if required.
- ▶ Keep the Shire's residents informed of these actions.

STRATEGY 10 - CROSS BOUNDARY PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Be proactive to achieve regional coordination and cooperation in sport and recreation planning outcomes, between neighbouring Local Government Authorities.

It is important that Council's within the Darling Downs region recognise the need for coordination and cooperation in their efforts to advance sport and recreation initiatives. This approach will encourage the complementary strengths of adjoining municipalities to be harnessed – historically, Toowoomba has provided major sporting facilities to the Downs region and this role will continue in future. However, Cambooya Shire has the potential to supply a unique and complementary range of outdoor recreation and leisure opportunities to district and region.

Regional cooperation in planning and management is also critical to:

- ▶ achieve coordinated and consistent levels of service in communities that straddle local government boundaries (eg. Wyreema);
- ▶ avoid inappropriate and incompatible land uses in adjoining local government areas;
- ▶ avoid unnecessary facility duplication;
- ▶ achieve continuity of outdoor recreation networks across the region;
- ▶ achieve continuity of bikeways and other non-motorised trail networks;
- ▶ improve user access through compatible policies and practices; and
- ▶ address recreation management issues which cross government boundaries and / or affect adjoining local government areas (eg. control of off-road vehicles, development of long distance walking trails), to ensure they are dealt with in a coordinated and complementary way.

On the basis of the preceding study findings and recommended strategies, Council should be particularly proactive in:

- ▶ participating in planning for the major multi-purpose outdoor sports facility at Mt Peel, in partnership with Toowoomba City Council and other stakeholders; and
- ▶ strengthening ties with Clifton and other neighbouring Shire Councils to advance equestrian-based recreation pursuits and recreational trails.

2.2 Action Plan

2.2.1 Implementation

The Action Plan contains targeted actions for Cambooya Shire and its major communities. Organisational and resource constraints mean that they will need to be implemented over several years, in a logical and useful sequence, as follows:

- ▶ **Immediate Priority:** Implement within 2 years of the Study being adopted by Council.
- ▶ **High Priority:** Implement within 3 to 5 years.
- ▶ **Medium Priority:** Implement within 6 to 10.
- ▶ **Low Priority:** Implement within 10+ years.

Resource constraints mean that some of the recommendations may not be implemented over this period. Accordingly, the study is intended to provide a set of strategic directions that may be added to and reviewed over time. This approach will ensure that it is a 'living' document, which evolves and responds to new opportunities for sport and recreation as they arise.

Many of the 'immediate' priorities are actions of an administrative nature, which can be undertaken quickly, to set the foundation for the key strategies. It is suggested that Council consider the logical sequence of implementing individual actions following adoption of the Study.

Council will have the lead role in implementing the actions, however support from government and community stakeholders will be critical. Council should also provide local residents with regular updates to demonstrate progress.

Actions have been prioritised with the guidance of Council, the project Steering Committee and other community stakeholders. All recommendations have been developed on the basis that they are 'SMART':

Specific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**ealistic, **T**imed

2.2.2 Planning Scheme Considerations

It is critical for sport, recreation and open space initiatives for the Shire to be supported and advanced by Council's new Planning Scheme.

The new Planning Scheme when finished will identify the development outcomes sought for the Shire and provide a policy framework for determining the merits of development proposals in terms of these outcomes and the overriding outcome of achieving ecologically sustainable development.



The development of private sport and recreation facilities in the Shire will be regulated through the Integrated Development Assessment System (IDAS) and Council's new planning scheme.

It is essential that the new planning scheme include appropriate provisions to ensure that the outcomes sought with regard to sport and recreation, particularly those identified through this Study, are achieved.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council recognise the outcomes of this Study by including appropriate provisions in its new planning scheme. Some suggested matters for consideration are outlined in the full Study Report.

2.2.3 Funding for Sport and Recreation

Major funding sources to advance sport and recreation initiatives are provided in the full Study Report, to support implementation of the study recommendations.

2.2.4 Ongoing Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Action Plan is the working part of the *Sport & Recreation Needs Study* and should be updated on a regular basis as recommendations are completed. Furthermore, priorities should be adjusted at any time, in light of Council needs, community demands and funding availability.

Council will monitor the Action Plan through inclusion in its planning and budgetary processes. It will be responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer to oversee its adoption and implementation by other Council officers / departments.

Following Council's adoption of this study, it is recommended that the Steering Committee reconvene in December 2003 to assess the progress and recommend any amendments. While the plan will be adjusted on an ongoing basis, it is recommended that a full review be completed within 2 to 3 years (by the end of 2006).



Actions for Cambooya Shire

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
A. ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES				
1.	Improve Council's planning and management of sport, recreation and open space in Cambooya Shire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Implement the <i>Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i>, and recommended Sport & Recreation Policy which embraces the principles of social equity, access, sustainability, facility consolidation / multi-use and partnerships with the community and neighbouring Local Government Authorities. ■ Reflect principles of the <i>Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i> in Council's Corporate Plan, new Planning Scheme and budget processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ SRQ 	■ Immediate (Ongoing)
2.	Appoint appropriate personnel to coordinate, manage, plan and promote sport and recreation in Cambooya Shire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Review staffing resources with a view to creating a position for, or appointing a new individual as, Sport & Recreation Development Officer (SRDO), with the responsibility to coordinate implementation of the study recommendations, together with coordination of general sport, recreation and open space planning and management issues. ■ Liaise with SRQ and adjoining Councils to determine feasibility of appointing a SRDO responsible for a number of shires in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ SRQ ■ Adjoining Councils ■ Schools 	■ Immediate
3.	Ensure the Sport & Recreation Needs Study is a flexible and dynamic strategy which is responsive to the community's changing needs over time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conduct a review of the <i>Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i> within 2-3 years of adoption by Council (ie. by the end of 2006) and every 2 years thereafter, to ensure that recommendations are advancing and consistent with community needs, Council resources and available funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC 	■ High (Ongoing)
4.	Review outputs and recommendations of the Sport & Recreation Needs Study for applicability and relevance preparation of Council's new Planning Scheme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider recommendations of the Sport & Recreation Needs Study in preparation of Council's new Planning Scheme (refer to Appendix C of the Study Report). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC / Shire Planner 	■ Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
A. ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES (CONT)				
5. Council to take a more proactive approach in the planning and management of sport, recreation and open space resources.	■	Establish the Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Advisory Committee.	■ CSC	■ Immediate
	■	Ensure that Council maintains an active role in the provision and development of sport, recreation and open space resources through land use planning, management, maintenance and advocacy/support for local clubs.	■ CSC / Shire Planner	■ High
	■	Consider membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network.	■ SRQ	
	■	Liaise with SRQ and the Eastern Downs Regional Organisation of Councils (EDROC) to determine opportunities for participation in regional forums on sport and recreation planning.	■ EDROC	
	■	Encourage local entrepreneurs and the private sector to work in partnership with Council and the State Government to provide a range of sport and recreation settings in Cambooya Shire that meet community needs.		■ Low
6. Ensure maintenance of parks and reserves is adequate and consistent with an overall Shire vision.	■	Direct public requests for maintenance to a single point of contact within Council.	■ CSC	■ Immediate (Ongoing)
	■	Identify existing parks and reserves which require maintenance and carry out necessary works.		
7. Prioritise actions and endeavour to meet sport and recreation needs, within the scope of available funding.	■	Structure expenditure for sport and recreation projects (including maintenance) considering priority actions identified in this report.	■ CSC	■ Immediate (Ongoing)
	■	Ensure Council officers keep up-to-date on available funding sources to advance sport and recreation initiatives.	■ General Community	
	■	Assist community groups and clubs to access funding sources.	■ SRQ	



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
A. ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES (CONT)			
8. Support a cooperative planning approach between Cambooya Shire Council, surrounding Councils and the State Government to better regional outcomes for sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Be proactive in working with neighbouring Councils to achieve better coordination and cooperation in planning and management for sport and recreation initiatives across the region. These efforts should focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – coordinated marketing and planning of events in the region (sport, recreation, tourism); – planning for regionally significant facilities (eg. Aussie Rules venue at Mt Peel); – lobbying for improved education, training, coaching and skills development for local sporting clubs in communities outside Toowoomba; – forward planning for sport and recreation facilities (to minimise duplication); – identification of sporting clubs within the region in need of a new venue that could be accommodated in Cambooya Shire; – advancing planning for regional trail and cycle networks; and – achieving consistent and compatible policies and practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Adjoining Councils ■ State Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate (Ongoing)
B. REGIONAL IDENTITY AND PROFILE			
1. Enhance Cambooya Shire's regional profile and identity through sport and recreation initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Encourage the development of new and enhanced sport and recreation opportunities in the Shire, with a particular focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – nature-based recreation; – heritage-based recreation; – outdoor education; and – equestrian-based sporting activities and events. ■ Be proactive in the promotion and marketing of Cambooya Shire's natural, heritage, recreational and sporting assets throughout the region, to attract more sport and recreation activities and events into the Shire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ State Government ■ Regional Tourism Authority ■ Sport and Recreation Groups ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate (Ongoing) ■ High – Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
B. REGIONAL IDENTITY AND PROFILE (CONT)				
2.	In response to local and regional leisure demands, provide and protect suitable settings for low impact nature-based recreation activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Establish a network of trails to provide linear recreation areas for non-motorised activities including horse riding, bush walking and mountain biking, together with nature appreciation. ■ Support the recreational trail network. ■ Establish connections to outdoor recreation settings and trails in neighbouring Local Government Areas. ■ Prepare and distribute informative and interpretive materials on nature-based recreation opportunities (eg. signage, trail guides) ■ Minimise impacts on adjacent land uses through appropriate planning, management and monitoring mechanisms. ■ Promote Cambooya Shire's nature-based recreation assets to local residents and the regional community. ■ Refer to Strategy 7 and Actions E1 and E2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ EPA ■ DNRM ■ Adjoining Councils ■ Community Groups ■ Regional Tourism Authority 	■ High – Medium
3.	Protect and promote features of historic significance to provide opportunities for heritage-based recreation and outdoor education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Preserve and enhance sites of historic significance across the Shire, including buildings, monuments and local parkland (eg. Steele Rudd and Federation Parks). ■ Prepare and distribute interpretive and educational materials to add meaning and value to key sites. ■ Integrate outdoor education opportunities with nature-based recreation and heritage settings across the Shire. ■ Collaborate with key stakeholders to identify opportunities and needs for outdoor education facilities– allocate / purchase of suitable land to meet local, district and regional needs. ■ Collaborate with key stakeholders to develop and deliver outdoor education programs as required. ■ Promote the recreational and educational values of Cambooya Shire's local history to residents and the regional community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Historical Societies ■ Schools ■ Education Queensland ■ SRQ ■ Outdoor Education Service Providers ■ Regional Tourism Authority 	■ High – Medium
4.	Encourage the development of Cambooya Shire as an important base for the equine industry within the Darling Downs Region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support ongoing improvement and investment in the Shire's existing facilities for equestrian-based sport and recreation. ■ Identify in conjunction with Toowoomba City and other neighbouring Councils the region's short, medium and long term needs for in supply of venues for equestrian sports (ie. competition, training, stabling). ■ Encourage private investment in the development of venues for equestrian-based sport and recreation. ■ Be proactive in hosting equestrian-based festivals, activities and sporting events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Adjoining Councils ■ Equestrian Groups ■ Private Sector ■ Regional Tourism Authority 	■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
C. COMMUNITY AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT				
1.	Achieve a high level of community awareness of sport and recreation facilities, programs and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Compile a Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Directory (in booklet form) for residents and visitors detailing facilities available and relevant contact details. The booklet should be free of charge.■ Ensure it is widely available to the public through the Council office, local stores, service stations, accommodation providers and schools. Distribute copies to all sport, recreation and community groups, and provide a 'downloadable' version of the directory on Council's web page. Also supply the directory to new residents in the Shire.■ Include a regular feature in "On Our Selection" and Council's website on different parks within the Shire.■ Review the directory on an annual basis to ensure it is kept up-to-date.■ Raise community awareness of available activities through local publicity initiatives (eg. Council office, Council newsletter, community noticeboards, internet).■ Develop a web page that features sport and recreation activities on Council's internet site. The page should provide a regularly updated "calendar of events".■ Encourage greater coverage of sport and recreation activities in Cambooya Shire.■ Promote town-based facilities and activities to residents in rural areas.■ Locate new Community Noticeboards in the key centres to promote local activities, events and attractions. Noticeboards should be easy to read and located in prominent locations (eg. outside school grounds, local store, major parks).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Local Clubs■ Adjoining Councils■ Local Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
C. COMMUNITY AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT (CONT)				
2. Cambooya Shire Council to provide more accessible and responsive support / advisory services to local sport and recreation organisations.	■	Encourage community awareness of the <i>Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i> .	■ CSC	■ Immediate
	■	Encourage local clubs and residents to express issues, needs and planning priorities for sport and recreation across Cambooya Shire. This should be facilitated through Council's existing consultation, support and information dissemination processes, and include input from other key stakeholders as appropriate eg. SRQ Advisors.	■ Local Clubs	■ High
	■	Direct local clubs to available information and support networks, when assistance is required with preparation of funding grant submissions to develop / improve their facilities.	■ SRQ	
3. Raise awareness on training and support available to local sport and recreation clubs.	■	Promote education and training programs available to local sport and recreation clubs through "On Our Selection, Council's internet site, school newsletters and local newspapers.	■ CSC	■ Medium - Low
			■ Local Media	
			■ Schools	



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
C. COMMUNITY AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT (CONT)				
4.	Public transport services are required enhance sport and recreation participation levels in Cambooya Shire and the surrounding region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage support for a voluntary transport system in the Shire, such as use of school buses for “on demand” travel (ie. outside school hours), to access community facilities / events in Cambooya Shire or elsewhere in the region (eg. trial a special service in school holiday periods to key facilities in Toowoomba City such as Milne Bay Aquatic Centre). If warranted, articulate public transportation gaps in Cambooya Shire to Queensland Transport, as part of any future Integrated Transport Plan for the Downs region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Community organisations Private Sector Adjoining Councils Queensland Transport 	High
5.	Encourage residents to participate in sport, recreation and physical fitness programs through a range of “Get Active” initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote a shire-wide “Just Walk It” campaign, with assistance from the Heart Foundation and regional health bodies. Encourage the establishment of walking groups in major communities, and provide regular updates of their progress in “On Our Selection” and Council’s website. Encourage a program of “Come and Try” Days in partnership with local sporting clubs, with events promoted to all communities. Encourage and support community groups to prepare a booklet documenting short and long distance walks within the Shire. Maintain a watching brief on the need for “Get Active” participation initiatives in Cambooya Shire, with guidance from lead agencies (eg. SRQ, health organisations) to increase community participation rates and wellbeing, and to support local sporting organisations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Community organisations Health Organisations Adjoining Councils 	Immediate (ongoing)
6.	Local schools have an important role to play in delivering the “Get Active” message to young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage local schools to participate in the Get Active Queensland Schools Program. Encourage local schools to conduct “Come ‘n’ Try” Days for students, with the assistance of local sporting clubs. Work with SRQ to encourage all local schools in Cambooya Shire to develop a School Physical Activity Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Local Schools Education Queensland SRQ 	High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
D. MULTI-USE, CONSOLIDATION AND DUPLICATION OF FACILITIES				
1.	Review use of existing and planned areas to ensure provisions for multi-user arrangements are being implemented, where possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the establishment of multi-use facilities under leases and master plans. Where appropriate, review facility leases / agreements to include provisions that the lessee be required to allow for other compatible uses of the same facility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Facility Management Committees Local clubs 	High
2.	Recognise the strategic importance of key multi-use sport and recreation precincts within the shire by undertaking forward planning to guide future site development to meet community needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the preparation of master plans for strategic sport and recreation sites in the shire, with assistance from local clubs, management committees and residents. Seek State Government funding to support the process. Priorities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club FE Obst Oval, Wyreema Lucy Street Precinct in Cambooya (Recreation Reserve, Tennis Club, Skate Park) Maintain dialogue with SRQ regarding clubs from outside the shire looking to relocate to a new venue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Local Clubs Facility Management Committees SRQ 	High / Medium
3.	Develop strategies to address under-utilised sport and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with community stakeholders to assess the longer term viability of under-utilised sport and recreation facilities, considering possible rationalisation of land, conversion to a different land use or upgrades to promote use for sport and recreation purposes. Priorities are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenmount Recreation Reserve Greenmount Memorial Hall Grass netball courts at Wyreema BMX area and basketball court at Cambooya (located behind tennis courts) BMX area at Hodgson Vale Seek Council resolution on the future use of these facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Facility Management Committees 	High
4.	Minimise duplication of sport and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid future facility duplication through the development assessment process. Do not support the construction of new facilities if it is economically viable and physically possible to modify or enhance existing facilities to provide the same result (ie. Council to encourage multi-use initiatives). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC CSC / Shire Planner 	High
5.	Encourage optimum use of sport and recreation facilities on school grounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage local schools to permit greater public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Local Schools / Education Queensland 	Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
E. NATURE BASED RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLANNING				
1.	Investigate strategic open space linkages within the Shire, and connections with the surrounding region for public recreational access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Where possible, identify and develop linear open space links along strategic corridors, which provide convenient and safe recreational trail connections between natural attractions, parkland and activity nodes for non-motorised modes (bushwalking, mountain biking, horse riding).■ Consult with community stakeholders throughout the region (eg. mountain biking, bushwalking and equestrian clubs, ecotourism groups and regional tourism agencies) to establish user needs, to inform the trail network planning process.■ Liaise with the Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation (Environmental Protection Agency) to identify possible linkages with the South East Queensland Regional Trails Network and other strategic links.■ Identify, maintain and enhance regionally significant open space elements and recreational corridors through cooperative planning efforts with adjoining Councils and the State Government.■ Determine joint management strategies for regionally significant open space elements and recreational corridors that cross shire boundaries.■ Minimise fragmentation of significant open space systems and corridors (both local and regional) through planning practices.■ Liaise with State Government to negotiate public access to Crown land and easements as open space links.■ Lobby surrounding Councils to prepare a regional trails strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Adjoining Councils■ EPA■ SRQ■ Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High / Medium
2.	Improve existing parkland resources and provide additional reserves to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Undertake targeted improvement works on key parkland reserves as recommended in Strategy 7, including playground equipment replacement, shade covers, seating and landscaping etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
F. WATER BASED SPORT AND RECREATION				
1.	Facilitate adequate access to, and encourage the provision of water-based sport and recreation opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Liaise with Clifton Shire Council to lift restrictions on use of Clifton Swimming Pool for school groups from Cambooya Shire.■ Undertake schedule of actions outlined in Strategy 9 – improve access to public swimming pools in surrounding Local Government Areas in short term (subsidised admission fees, public transport); and ongoing needs assessment and feasibility investigations for pool construction in medium-long term (if appropriate).■ Monitor opportunities for partnerships with local schools / Education Queensland in advancing this project.■ Monitor regional trends and swimming pool projects.■ Ensure that the community is informed of Council actions and investigations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Adjoining Councils■ Local Schools / Education Queensland■ Bus Operators■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ Staged Implementation Years 1-10
G. WALKING AND CYCLING				
1.	Provide pathways and access tracks within all major communities for local access, fitness and recreational purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Provide safe and connective multi-use pathway networks within urbanised communities, coinciding with future residential development and guided by community access priorities.■ Establish walking circuit tracks in urbanised communities and open space reserves, as opportunity presents. Priorities include Paterson Park (Cambooya), Federation Park (Vale View) and Greenmount “Loop” and recreational trail networks throughout rural and rural residential areas in the Shire’s north.■ Pro-actively seek State Government funding to assist with establishment of the local networks eg. Traffic Improvement Development Scheme (TIDS), SAFEST (defining and promoting safe pedestrian and cycling routes to schools).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Department of Main Roads■ Queensland Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate-High (ongoing)
2.	Raise the Shire’s profile through regional bikeway connectivity and the hosting of regional cycling events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Facilitate cycle and pedestrian access between Toowoomba City and Cambooya Shire as opportunity presents, guided by the <i>Toowoomba Cycle & Pedestrian Strategy</i> (2002).■ Articulate priorities for regional cycle access to the Department of Main Roads, where preferred routes are located on State Controlled Roads.■ Encourage the conduct of road cycling events in Cambooya Shire – liaise with the Toowoomba Cycling Club and Cycling Queensland to identify event requirements and upcoming opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Toowoomba City Council■ DMR■ Toowoomba Cycling Club■ Cycling Queensland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
H. YOUTH SPORT AND RECREATION				
1.	Encourage and motivate young people to participate in sport and recreation, through affordable and accessible initiatives targeting their unique needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Plan youth-oriented settings in major communities through facility modification and development, including the following major projects (refer to Strategy 8 for details):<ul style="list-style-type: none">— Wyreema Skate Park— Bicycle Training Facility at Wyreema— Cambooya Youth Space— Greenmount Feature Park and Walking Circuit Projects— Hodgson Vale BMX area and improvements at the Lions Park■ Support the conduct of regular youth events. Empower young people to take a lead role in event organisation.■ Be proactive in encouraging local clubs, volunteers and other service providers to conduct activity programs and themed weeks in partnership with Council, particularly during school holiday periods.■ Ensure that young people are involved in planning and decision making processes for new youth projects.■ Ensure youth participation activities and events are effectively promoted to reach target audience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ Medium■ High■ High■ Immediate (ongoing)■ Immediate (ongoing)



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
I. SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS				
1.	Enhance the quality, safety and standard of all sport and recreation facilities, including supporting infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Provide consistent treatments to landscape elements and facilities within parks and sport/recreation reserves:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– develop design guidelines to ensure structures in open space areas maintain a consistent standard; and– develop planting guidelines for parks, reserves and streetscapes within the townships.■ Establish a system for reporting, monitoring and recording on the condition of infrastructure.■ Implement the principles of “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design” (CPTED) when undertaking new sport and recreation infrastructure projects, particularly those catering for youth needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ CSC / Shire Planner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High / Medium
2.	Implement disabled access provisions at Council and non-Council sport and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Incorporate disabled access provisions into parks and sport/recreation facilities when modifications are taking place, in accordance with Australian Standards.■ Incorporate disabled and aged access design considerations into the provision of future parks and sport/recreation facilities to comply with Australian Standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High
3.	Ensure facilities are clearly identifiable and easy to locate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Develop guidelines for signage in open space / recreation areas.■ Ensure sport and recreation facilities are well signed and clearly identifiable from approach routes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Local Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Medium / Low
4.	Enhance access for recreational horse riding throughout the Shire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Recognise the recreational value of casual horse riding in rural and rural residential parts of the Shire, by considering implementation of a policy addressing the development and maintenance of local roads, to ensure that they are clear of obstacles and regularly maintained / slashed to optimise horse access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Medium



Key Actions for Individual Communities

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
GREENMOUNT AND EAST GREENMOUNT			
1. Improve existing parkland resources to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conduct small scale improvements to sport and recreation facilities at Bicentennial Memorial Park to provide more usable facilities for local residents, including upgraded cricket practice nets and improved basketball court (including fencing on the western side to limit impacts on adjoining residences). ■ Establish Bicentennial Memorial Park as a Feature Park serving Greenmount and the surrounding district – consider improvements to enhance the attributes of the Park such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provision of upgraded playground and picnic facilities; - provision of a town / district map; - enhanced pedestrian access and visibility into the site; - security lighting; and - interpretive information on local history. ■ Work in partnership with the Greenmount Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee to assess the feasibility of upgrading the hall to provide an important focal point catering for social, youth, recreation, cultural and other community activities / events. ■ Promote Greenmount's local parks in Council's newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ General Community ■ Greenmount Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
GREENMOUNT AND EAST GREENMOUNT (CONT)				
2.	Walking paths and bikeways are desired by all age groups in Greenmount township.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support staged implementation of the Greenmount "Loop" walking circuit (refer to Strategy 7). This will involve liaison with Queensland Rail to provide the short section along Pilton Street, parallel to the rail corridor. ■ Investigate feasibility and community support for establishment of a scenic lookout / nature appreciation reserve at the "top of town" in the vicinity of Ramsay and Haldon Streets. ■ Seek assistance from community, environmental and school groups to advance the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ QR ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High
3.	Provide opportunities for informal recreation directed at Greenmount's youth population, in response to identified shortfalls in existing resource supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support the conduct of more regular youth events and programs in Greenmount. ■ Seek resolution on the preferred option for the Greenmount BMX area, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinstatement of track / site clean-up in the current location at the top of Ramsay Street. - Relocation to a more central and visible site within the township area. ■ Involve local youths in the decision making process for the Greenmount BMX Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate
4.	Encourage the use of public facilities for maximum community benefit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liaise with Greenmount State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Advise Greenmount State School on the relevant outcomes of this study, including community suggestions to provide a second set of goal posts on the school oval, to make the area more useable for social games and training purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Greenmount State School ■ Education Queensland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate
5.	East Greenmount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liaise with Emu Creek State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Advise Emu Creek State School on the relevant outcomes of this study, including community suggestions to provide cricket practice nets on the school oval, to make the area more useable for social games and training purposes. ■ Promote Steele Rudd Park in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Support the conduct of more regular youth events and programs in East Greenmount (possibly in conjunction with Greenmount residents). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Emu Creek State School ■ Education Queensland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
CAMBOOYA				
1.	Recognise the “Lucy Street area” as the principal multi-purpose sport and recreation precinct in Cambooya.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Undertake small scale improvements at the Cambooya Recreation Reserve – priorities include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- full replacement of perimeter fencing around main arena;- upgraded security and power supply to the site; and- provision of a slab beneath the covered shelter for community activities.■ Prepare an overall master plan for the Lucy Street precinct in conjunction with local residents and sporting groups, incorporating the Tennis Courts, Recreation Reserve, Skate Park and Youth Space.■ Liaise with existing and potential tenants to confirm priorities for facility expansion, upgrades and development, and how these issues should be addressed in the master plan – Refer to Strategy 6 which identifies key activity settings / components for inclusion in the master plan.■ Conduct a feasibility study into the provision of a covered multi-purpose arena (ie. upgrading existing arena).■ Staged implementation of the Master Plan, as appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Cambooya Campdrafting Association■ Cambooya Pony Club■ Cambooya Tennis Club■ Other Sporting Clubs■ General Community■ Cambooya State School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ High■ Medium
2.	Provide enhanced settings and participation opportunities for youth-oriented sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Implement the Cambooya “Youth Space” Project as detailed in Strategy 8. Encourage youth involvement in the planning and design stages to achieve ownership and pride in the project.■ Provide a covered shelter / gazebo next to the skate park for a youth meeting place.■ Encourage a program of “Come and Try” Days in partnership with local sporting clubs in Cambooya, including more traditional activities such as lawn bowls. Ensure promotion targets participation by local youths.■ Investigate future action for the BMX area – upgrade or remove? Consult with local youths to ensure that preferred course of action is acceptable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High
3.	Encourage the use of public facilities for maximum community benefit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Liaise with Cambooya State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours.■ Advise Greenmount State School on the relevant outcomes of this study, including community suggestions to provide goal posts on the school oval, to make the area more useable for social games and training purposes.■ Promote the Cambooya Hall for community purposes, including suitable indoor sport and recreational activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Cambooya State School■ Education Queensland■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
CAMBOOYA (CONT)			
4. Improve existing parkland resources and provide additional reserves to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conduct targeted upgrades of facilities at Cambooya Memorial Park, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - replacement of some equipment, seating and BBQs; and - replace dilapidated public toilets with two disabled toilets – male / female. ■ Conduct small scale modifications to encourage greater use of Patterson Park. Priority improvements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish a walking circuit track around the perimeter of park, with exer-sites and seating; - provide playground equipment catering for older children and youths; - enlarge the basketball court (with handball court line markings); - remove or relocate the handball wall; - provide more shaded seating; and - promote the park in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Consider implementation of "gateway" planting schemes along Lucy and Eton Streets. ■ Investigate the need to provide a drinking water bubbler at Rolleston Park. ■ As opportunity presents, undertake targeted rehabilitation and landscaping works along the Hodgson Creek corridor, to enhance environmental, recreational and nature appreciation values (particularly through park settings). ■ Determine long term requirements for new parkland coinciding with future residential growth in Cambooya. ■ Promote Cambooya's local parks in Council's newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High ■ Medium
5. Consolidation of pathway network is desired by all age groups in Cambooya. Cyclist and pedestrian access to community facilities will ultimately result in greater facility utilisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Establish additional shared cycle/pedestrian paths to enhance public accessibility to key activity nodes in Cambooya, including the school, sport and recreation facilities, residential areas, local shops and other community focal points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High – Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
WYREEMA AND VALE VIEW				
1.	Recognise the FE Obst Park as the principal multi-purpose sport and recreation venue in Wyreema.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider preparation of an overall master plan for the FE Obst Park in conjunction with local residents. Liaise with existing and potential tenants to confirm priorities for facility expansion, upgrades and development, and how these issues should be addressed in the master plan – Refer to Strategy 6 which identifies key activity settings / components for inclusion in the master plan. ■ Staged implementation of the Master Plan, as appropriate. ■ Support the establishment of a cricket club in Wyreema, following implementation of improvement works. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High ■ Medium
2.	Improve existing parkland resources to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conduct improvements at Barton Park including repair of public toilet and better implementation CPTED principles – address safety concerns with landscaping and lighting strategies to promote enhanced public surveillance of the site. ■ Ensure regular maintenance of Stratford Park is undertaken. ■ Investigate “gateway” planting schemes along major approach routes into Wyreema (ie. north and south approach along Umbiram Road). ■ Promote Wyreema’s local parks in Council’s newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High – Medium
3.	Provide opportunities for informal recreation directed at Wyreema’s youth population, in response to identified shortfalls in existing resource supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Maintain dialogue with SRQ, Jondaryan Shire Council and the local community to secure funding for the development of a skate park, within Obst Park or another suitable site. Proceed with planning and construction phases as appropriate. ■ Encourage youth involvement in the planning and design of the skate park to achieve ownership and pride in the project. Facilitate this process in conjunction with the Wyreema State School. ■ Investigate a small scale bicycle training circuit in Wyreema for educational and recreational use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Jondaryan Shire Council ■ SRQ ■ Wyreema State School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate – High ■ Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
WYREEMA AND VALE VIEW (CONT)				
4.	Consolidation of pathway network is desired by all age groups in Wyreema. Cyclist and pedestrian access to community facilities will ultimately result in greater facility utilisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lobby Queensland Rail to upgrade the existing rail line crossing on Umbiram Road, to facilitate safer access for pedestrians and cyclists in Wyreema. ■ Establish additional shared cycle/pedestrian paths to enhance public accessibility to key activity nodes in Wyreema, including the school, recreational facilities, residential areas, the general store and community hall. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Queensland Rail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High (ongoing)
5.	Encourage the use of public facilities for maximum community benefit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liaise with Wyreema State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Regularly promote availability of Wyreema Hall for community purposes in Council's newsletter and website, together with the local residents' newsletter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Wyreema State School ■ Education Queensland ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High
6.	Upgrade existing facilities for outdoor sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support Wyreema Tennis Club to secure funding for priority improvements including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - upgrade tennis clubhouse, including paving, landscaping and more shade; and - upgraded security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Wyreema Tennis Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High-Medium
7.	Vale View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Complete the walking circuit on the southern side of Smith Creek and Federation Park to provide a circuit track. ■ Provide a pathway connection along Drayton Connection Road from Federation Park to Vale View School. ■ Consider the feasibility of providing a pathway / walking track connection between Wyreema and Vale View for improved pedestrian / cyclist accessibility. ■ Establish recreational trail linkages between Vale View and surrounding communities. ■ Establish cricket practice nets and a multi-purpose playing field as part of the Federation Park precinct, coinciding with population growth in the surrounding district. ■ Liaise with Vale View State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Promote Federation Park in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Liaise with DMR to articulate priorities for cycle network connectivity between Vale View and Toowoomba City (eg. Drayton Connection Road). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Vale View State School ■ Education Queensland ■ Department of Main Roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High ■ Medium ■ Medium ■ Medium – Low ■ Immediate ■ Immediate ■ Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
TOP CAMP AND HODGSON VALE				
1.	Improve existing parkland resources and provide additional reserves to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Upgrade local recreation parks and rest areas to provide a more diverse range of informal recreation settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lions Park: enlarge basketball court and erect fencing on downhill side, seating and shade adjacent to the basketball court, shade over playground, new play equipment and exer-sites catering for older youths; walking track from Park to Community Sports Club. - Panoramic Park: establish recreational trail connections to the park to strengthen local access (refer to Strategy 7), erect signage on highway to improve awareness of park's location and promote in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Coinciding with future rural residential growth, determine long term requirements for new parkland within the district. ■ Promote Hodgson Vale's local parks in Council's newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High
2.	Provide enhanced settings and participation opportunities for youth-oriented sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Finalise work on the Hodgson Vale BMX area to provide a safe and useable facility for local residents. ■ Promote the completion of works in Council's newsletter and website to raise community awareness. ■ Provide a sealed area / circuit path for skating in the Lions Park. ■ Maintain a watching brief on the need for a skate park facility at the Lions Park in Hodgson Vale. ■ Should the above action proceed, ensure youth involvement in the planning, design, construction and management stages to achieve ownership and pride in the project. ■ Encourage a program of "Come and Try" Days in partnership with local sporting clubs in the district. Ensure promotion targets participation by local youths. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High-Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
TOP CAMP AND HODGSON VALE (CONT)				
3.	Pathways, tracks and trails are desired by all age groups in district for recreation, fitness and transportation purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Coinciding with future development, establish pathway and walking track connections linking residential areas with local activity nodes. Key actions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Walking tracks through the park area from the established Panoramic Park to Carroll Road, and then via the wide road reserve of Carroll Road to the end of the existing road construction on the northern end of Carroll Road. – Complete the concrete pathway from Pendoma Drive to the tennis courts. – Provide a pathway to the Lions Park from Kearney Street to enhance local access to the site. ■ Improve road verges to provide for safer access by walkers, cyclists and joggers. ■ In assessing development applications for new rural residential subdivisions, require that appropriate easements are provided to enhance local accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists. ■ Liaise with DMR to provide a formalised crossing point on the New England Highway for cyclists and pedestrians accessing the Lions Park and Community Sports Club. ■ Ensure planning for recreational trails in the district secures linkages with major community focal points (eg. the Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club, Lions Park, Panoramic Park and equestrian venues), and cross-boundary links. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Community Groups ■ State Government Agencies ■ Adjoining Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ Immediate ■ Immediate (ongoing) ■ Immediate ■ Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider an overall master plan for the site in conjunction with the Facility Management Committee and local residents. Liaise with existing and potential tenants to confirm priorities for facility expansion, upgrades and development, and how these issues should be addressed in the master plan – Refer to Strategy 6 which identifies key activity settings / components for inclusion in the master plan. ■ Staged implementation of the Master Plan, as appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Community Groups ■ State Government Agencies ■ Adjoining Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High
4.	Recognise the Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club as the principal multi-purpose sport and recreation venue in the district, particularly for field and court sports.			



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Cambooya Shire Council

**Cambooya Shire Sport and
Recreation Needs Study**

Final Report

July 2003



Contents

Executive Summary	i
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PART A - Introduction and Direction Setting

1. Introduction	2
1.1 Why is this Study Important?	2
1.2 Study Aim and Objectives	3
1.3 The Study Area	3
1.4 Definitions	4
1.5 Timeframe	4
1.6 Report Structure	5

PART B - Assessment of Sport and Recreation Supply

2. The Current Situation – Sport and Recreation Supply in Cambooya Shire	7
2.1 Sport and Recreation Facilities	7
2.2 Organised Sport and Recreation Activities	19
3. Regional Context	21
3.1 Cross-Boundary Participation Trends	21
3.2 Regional Planning Initiatives and Future Needs	22
3.3 Implications and Opportunities for Cambooya Shire	25



PART C - Assessment of Current and Future Needs

4.	Demographic and Leisure Participation Trends	27
4.1	Key Demographic Characteristics	27
4.2	Leisure Participation Trends	31
5.	What are the Community's Needs?	36
5.1	Community Consultation Activities	36
5.2	Needs Identification	38
5.3	Conclusion	53

PART D - Analysis and Recommendations

6.	Analysis of Supply and Demand	55
6.1	Overview	55
6.2	Surpluses	55
6.3	Shortfalls	56
6.4	Directions for Future Planning	58
7.	Strategies and Actions	59
7.1	Overview	59
7.2	Key Strategies for Cambooya Shire	60
7.3	Action Plan	89

Appendices

- A** Community Consultation Materials
- B** Community Feedback
- C** Planning Scheme Considerations
- D** Major Funding Sources for Sport and Recreation Projects



Executive Summary

Purpose of the Study

Cambooya Shire located in Queensland's Darling Downs region, adjacent to the southern boundary of Toowoomba City and approximately 160km west of Brisbane. It has a total area of 631km² and a current population of about 4,900 people (ABS, 2001).

The Shire offers an enviable blend of rural and urban lifestyles, together with the convenience of major facilities and services in nearby Toowoomba. Although it is predominantly an agricultural and grazing area, intensive rural residential development is occurring in the Shire's north (Hodgson Vale, Vale View) and around the key centres of Westbrook, Wyreema, Cambooya and Greenmount.

Sport and recreation are important to Cambooya Shire residents. With ongoing population change across the Shire, this study examines sport and recreation supply, the community's needs, and leisure participation trends, to provide a clear, realistic and coordinated strategy for future planning, management and expenditure for sport and recreation initiatives.

The Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study has been prepared with the assistance of GHD Pty Ltd and is made possible through the Local Government Development Program 2002/03, administered by Sport & Recreation Queensland.

Study Tasks and Report Structure

The study comprised four key stages and the main study report has been structured accordingly:

STAGE 1 – INTRODUCTION AND DIRECTION SETTING

The project formally commenced with a kick-off meeting involving Council, the Steering Committee and study team to discuss project aims and objectives, confirm areas of investigation, highlight critical planning issues and collect essential information.

STAGE 2 – ASSESSMENT OF SPORT AND RECREATION SUPPLY

Stage 2 involved an assessment of the current provision of sport and recreation resources throughout Cambooya Shire. The implications of regional supply were also considered, given the high use of facilities and services in Toowoomba, and neighbouring shires.

Based on site investigations throughout the Shire, the principal outputs from Stage 2 were a GIS-based Facilities Inventory and a preliminary indication of facility shortfalls and surpluses.



STAGE 3 – ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS

Stage 3 sought to determine the current needs and future demands for sport and recreation facilities, services and programs. It involved two components:

- ▀ *assessments of the Shire's demographic profile and leisure participation trends; and*
- ▀ *consultation activities to identify the community's needs, concerns and priorities.*

The consultation program was broad-based to facilitate feedback from all relevant stakeholders. It involved various activities including a media and poster campaign; public meetings; workshops with school students in each community; surveys of local residents, sport/recreation groups and school principals; and public display of the Draft Report. The community's response to the study consultation program was very supportive, as follows:

- ▀ *Attendance at public meetings – approximately 50 participants*
- ▀ *Community Surveys – 65 received*
- ▀ *Sport & Recreation Club Surveys – 50% returned*
- ▀ *School Principal Surveys – 66% returned*

Consultation with other relevant stakeholders was also conducted, including discussions with facility managers, State Government agencies (eg. Environmental Protection Agency, SRQ), adjoining Local Government Authorities (to identify regional needs and initiatives) and local community organisations.

STAGE 4 – DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS

Based on these investigations, Stage 4 involved development of broad management strategies and a detailed Action Plan for the Shire, according to Immediate, High, Medium and Low implementation priorities over the next 10 years.

Council's new Planning Scheme (draft) was also considered to determine how well strategic and development control provisions support sport, recreation and open space initiatives in the Shire.

Sport and Recreation Supply

The major characteristics of sport and recreation supply in Cambooya Shire include the following:

- ▶ *There are approximately 20 sport and recreation facilities within Cambooya Shire. These are generally basic but support surrounding communities for their social interaction and recreational values.*
- ▶ *Popular sport and recreation activities for local residents across the Shire are walking, cycling, swimming and tennis. Horse riding is also popular in rural and rural residential areas.*
- ▶ *Cross-boundary facility usage is very common, with many Cambooya Shire residents utilising higher order sport and recreation facilities / competitions in Toowoomba.*
- ▶ *The standard and range of sport and recreation supply varies across the Shire – an imbalance is evident between some communities. Major facilities are located in Cambooya and Hodgson Vale. Shortfalls are evident in Greenmount and Wyreema.*
- ▶ *Existing facility supply primarily caters for court sports (eg. tennis, basketball), informal recreation (eg. walking, picnicking, children's play) and equestrian activities.*
- ▶ *There are several large playing fields catering for activities such as cricket and football, but these are only used for infrequent events. Irrigation problems have impacted on these facilities.*
- ▶ *The Shire has a significant youth population, but limited infrastructure is available catering for youth-oriented sport and recreation needs.*
- ▶ *The Shire has a good supply of parkland. There are 14 parks in total and these range from small neighbourhood "pocket parks", to large reserves incorporating picnic facilities, playground equipment, informal recreational kick-about areas, basketball half-courts and interpretive displays on local history.*
- ▶ *There are no purpose-built facilities catering for swimming, golf or indoor sport and recreation (eg. squash courts, gymnasium, indoor cricket).*
- ▶ *Only 25% of the Shire's facilities are multi-purpose venues. Many single purpose facilities are under-utilised but offer capacity for future use diversification.*
- ▶ *There is limited public access to sport and recreation facilities on school grounds.*

Community Needs – Existing and Future

Consultation with a broad range of stakeholders was an essential part of the study. The community identified a number of critical issues and priority needs for future action, as follows:

SHIRE-WIDE ISSUES

- ▶ *Participant numbers in organised sport are decreasing, primarily due to residents' work schedules / lack of time, lack of participants, insurance costs, proximity to Toowoomba and a lack of locally based coaches, organisers and volunteers. Local clubs need more support to keep their activities going, particularly in the areas of preparing funding grant applications, risk management, recruitment and fundraising.*
- ▶ *There is a shire-wide trend towards greater participation in informal recreation during non-working hours. Therefore, residents are seeking enhanced recreation settings in close proximity to key population centres – priorities are:*
 - *enhanced parkland areas, particularly for family and youth recreation;*
 - *connective pathway networks within local communities for recreational / fitness walking, cycling, jogging etc; and*
 - *nature-based recreational trails catering for non-motorised public access activities, such as bushwalking, horse riding and mountain biking.*
- ▶ *Residents in all communities have highlighted a need for a public swimming pool in the Shire, catering for:*
 - *leisure, recreation and fitness activities;*
 - *competitive swimming, water sports and training;*
 - *education / learn to swim activities; and*
 - *therapeutic and rehabilitation activities (particularly for older people).*
- ▶ *Concerns have also been expressed in respect to the high construction and ongoing maintenance costs of this proposal.*
- ▶ *Shire-wide community information and awareness initiatives are required to increase local participation in sport and recreation activities. Motivation is lacking in some communities, given limited resources and other “barriers” to access (eg. need for travel outside the Shire, lack of public transport services).*
- ▶ *Enhanced settings for youth-oriented sport and recreation are needed in all communities. Priorities are:*
 - *interesting and imaginative multi-purpose recreation areas which are safe, visible and highly accessible;*
 - *organised youth programs events, particularly during school holiday periods;*
 - *opportunities for junior sports development; and*



- *better public transport services, that access major sport and recreation venues outside the Shire.*
- ▶ *There is support to optimise use of other community infrastructure for sport and recreation purposes (eg. school facilities, public halls).*
- ▶ *Other major needs and shortfalls included indoor sport and recreation facilities, golf courses, and leisure pursuits with a cultural orientation (eg. public libraries, museums, arts and crafts).*
- ▶ *There is strong support to strengthen the Shire's regional identity through sport and recreation initiatives, particularly in light of the shrinking supply of available land for sporting activities in Toowoomba. Key opportunities relate to equestrian activities, nature-based recreation settings (eg. trail networks for bushwalking, horse riding and mountain biking), and maximising the heritage and education value of local recreation areas.*

MAJOR COMMUNITIES:

Greenmount

- ▶ *Upgrades to facilities at the Bicentennial Memorial Park and Greenmount Hall are required. There is strong community support for improvements within this precinct, to re-establish it as an important community focal point or key "social space" where people can come together to undertake sport, recreation and other community activities.*
- ▶ *A walking circuit around the township is required to address the growing demands for recreational / fitness walking, cycling and jogging. Residents have identified an opportunity to integrate this with the Streetscaping Project on Ramsay Street, open space reserves at the "top of town" between Ramsay and Haldon Streets, and establishment of a scenic lookout.*
- ▶ *Young people support reinstatement of the local BMX area – overgrown vegetation has impacted on its utilisation. They also support parkland improvements and an upgrade of the Greenmount Hall, to provide a more contemporary community facility.*
- ▶ *Better community information networks are seen as an important way to encourage more participation in sport and recreation. Apart from coverage in the media and Council newsletter, a community noticeboard and facility signage will help to improve local awareness.*

Cambooya

- ▶ *Cambooya residents would like to see an indoor swimming pool constructed in their community.*
- ▶ *Despite the good range of local sport and recreation facilities, Cambooya's large youth population say they have "nothing to do". This has led to some anti-social behaviour in the past. The principal needs include the following:*

- expansion of the skate park, including new complementary facilities to enhance overall appeal and useability of the site;
 - organising more youth activities and events; and
 - upgrading the BMX area.
- ▶ *Paterson Park is an important community asset, however it is under-utilised. Residents have suggested that a walking circuit around the park's perimeter, different playground equipment and more shade would make it more functional and appealing.*
 - ▶ *Cambooya Lawn Bowls Club is one of the few remaining sporting clubs in the community. They require greater support from both residents and Council to increase membership in future.*
 - ▶ *The Cambooya Recreation Reserve is an important venue for equestrian activities and events. Ongoing investment and facility improvement is supported. Short term needs include replacement of fencing around the main arena, together with increased security and power supply. In the longer term, the development of a covered arena has been suggested by local equestrian groups.*

Wyreema and Vale View

- ▶ *Priorities in Wyreema are focussed on youth needs, including development of a skate park and bicycle training facility.*
- ▶ *The community's major sport and recreation facility, FE Obst Park, requires a range of improvements to increase its utilisation (eg. expanded playground and basketball areas, cricket practice nets). Residents are supportive of hosting district and regional sporting fixtures at the venue.*
- ▶ *The need for a more extensive pathway network has been highlighted, in response to the popularity of recreational walking, cycling and jogging. Safe and connective pathways are also required to provide access to the primary school – an upgrade of the rail line crossing for safer pedestrian and cyclist access is considered to be a priority.*
- ▶ *Wyreema has a number of scattered "pocket parks" within the local neighbourhood – landscape modifications and night lighting are required at some sites to improve visual surveillance and discourage anti-social behaviour.*
- ▶ *Greater cooperation is required between Cambooya and Jondaryan Shire Councils to achieve coordinated and consistent levels of community infrastructure provision, as the township straddles both Shires.*
- ▶ *A range of improvements are required at Federation Park in Vale View. Apart from facility and landscape enhancements, residents would like cycle and pedestrian linkages to be strengthened between the park, the local school and surrounding communities. Longer term needs include provision of a playing field and cricket practice nets.*

Top Camp and Hodgson Vale

- ▶ *Ongoing expansion of the Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club will be required to support high population growth in the district, together with growing demands from outside the shire for use of local facilities.*
- ▶ *There is considerable demand for trail linkages for recreational walking and horse riding within these communities.*
- ▶ *Local teenagers have identified needs for a skate ramp, enlarged basketball court at the Lions Park, finalisation of work on the BMX area, organised youth activities and facilities for cycling and mountain biking.*
- ▶ *Measures to support casual horse riding in the district are also supported, such as regular roadside maintenance / slashing of the verge to provide clear access for riding.*

Key Recommendations

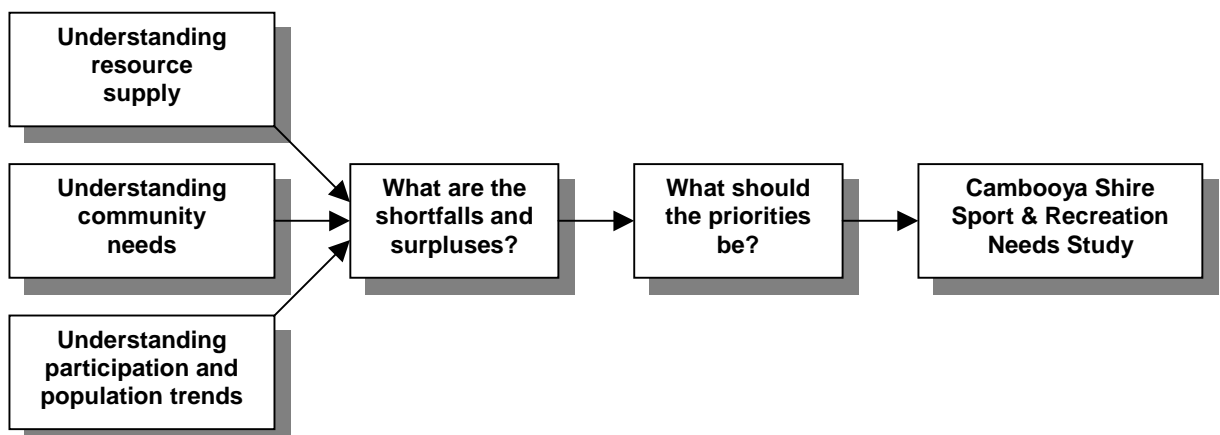
SUPPLY AND DEMAND ANALYSIS

The assessment of sport and recreation issues in Cambooya Shire has largely been based on a supply and demand approach, as follows:

- ▶ *comparing the community's sport and recreation needs, leisure participation trends and population growth patterns*

with

- ▶ *the actual supply of facilities, services and programs.*





The results of this analysis indicate the adequacy of current sport and recreation supply in Cambooya Shire, and highlight emerging needs and priorities requiring future attention. These outcomes provide the framework for formulation of study recommendations.

The major “gaps” in sport and recreation supply for the Shire are outlined below:

<i>Group</i>	<i>Main Gaps</i>
<i>Youths / Teenagers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ <i>High quality recreation settings</i> ▸ <i>Water-based sport and recreation</i> ▸ <i>Venues for social gatherings</i> ▸ <i>Leisure-related cultural pursuits (particularly libraries, movie screenings, music and theatrical performances, cultural heritage appreciation)</i> ▸ <i>Junior sports development</i> ▸ <i>Nature-based recreation and outdoor education settings</i> ▸ <i>Transport (public transport and local linkages to community activity nodes – walking and cycling paths)</i>
<i>Adults</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ <i>Competitive sport at a senior level (males and females)</i> ▸ <i>Choice and flexibility in informal recreation participation</i> ▸ <i>Nature-based recreation settings</i> ▸ <i>Physical fitness activities</i>
<i>Older Adults</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▸ <i>Walking, passive recreation and nature appreciation opportunities</i> ▸ <i>Water-based recreation, fitness and hydrotherapy activities</i> ▸ <i>Leisure-related cultural pursuits (libraries, arts and crafts)</i> ▸ <i>Transport</i>



KEY STRATEGIES

The study's recommendations have been presented as ten broad strategies for the Shire as a whole, together with targeted actions for specific communities and facilities. Actions have been prioritised so they can be implemented in a logical and useful sequence.

Major strategies include:

- Strategy 1 Sport and Recreation Policy – Adopt a policy to guide Cambooya Shire Council's future planning, management and funding for sport and recreation initiatives.*
- Strategy 2 Active Australia – Demonstrate Cambooya Shire Council's commitment to sport and recreation service delivery, through membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network.*
- Strategy 3 Regional Profile – Build a strong regional identity for Cambooya Shire by harnessing its unique sport and recreation strengths, to maximise the benefits for the Shire as a whole and each local community.*
- Strategy 4 Community Awareness – Deliver up-to-date information, education, training and support on sport and recreation matters, in response to community needs.*
- Strategy 5 Cambooya "Get Active" – Implement initiatives to motivate the community to participate in sport, recreation and fitness activities.*
- Strategy 6 Optimising Use of Existing Infrastructure – Implement initiatives to achieve more efficient and sustainable use of sport and recreation resources, through consolidation of multi-purpose facility precincts, facility co-location and targeted improvement works.*
- Strategy 7 Informal Recreation – Enhance and maintain a range of high quality facilities and settings, that are consistent with community needs for informal recreation and contribute to health, social cohesion and a "sense of place".*
- Strategy 8 Youth Sport and Recreation – Encourage and motivate Cambooya Shire's youth population to participate in sport and recreation, through affordable and accessible initiatives that target their unique needs.*
- Strategy 9 Swimming Pool – Facilitate adequate access to, and encourage the provision of, water-based sport and recreation opportunities for the people of Cambooya Shire.*
- Strategy 10 Cross Boundary Planning and Management – Be proactive to achieve regional coordination and cooperation in sport and recreation planning outcomes between neighbouring Local Government Authorities.*



MAJOR ACTIONS

Following on from the strategies above, key sport and recreation projects recommended for the Shire include:

- ▶ *Raising regional profile and maximising benefits for local communities through the identification and development of facilities, services and programs that capitalise on the Shire's unique strengths and assets. Opportunity identification and market development will focus on the core areas of:*
 - *nature-based recreation;*
 - *heritage-based recreation and outdoor education; and*
 - *equestrian-based sporting activities and events.*
- ▶ *Development of a skate park and bicycle training facility in Wyreema.*
- ▶ *Expansion of the Cambooya skate park's role to create a more interesting "youth space" for a broader range of user groups.*
- ▶ *Redevelopment of Greenmount's Bicentennial Memorial Park as a "Feature Park" for the district and establishment of a walking circuit around the township.*
- ▶ *Encourage greater participation in sport, recreation and fitness activities across the Shire, underpinned by the theme "Get Active", through initiatives such as "Just Walk It" programs and "Come and Try" events.*
- ▶ *Preparation of Master Plans to guide ongoing development of strategic multi-purpose sport and recreation precincts – priorities include Hodsgon Vale Community Sports Club, FE Obst Park, and the Lucy Street precinct in Cambooya (Recreation Reserve, Tennis Courts and Skate Park).*
- ▶ *Implementation of a strategy to deliver improved access to public swimming pools for Cambooya Shire residents, which will involve ongoing needs identification and feasibility analysis for construction of a local pool complex.*
- ▶ *Identification and protection of significant open space / recreational trail corridors.*
- ▶ *Launching an integrated community information network, including an up-to-date Sport & Recreation Directory for Cambooya Shire, internet features, a calendar of events and signage strategies.*
- ▶ *Encouraging ongoing community involvement and consultation on sport and recreation needs in the Shire.*
- ▶ *The strategy also recommends the recognition of these initiatives in Council's Corporate Plan and new Planning Scheme, to achieve better recognition of sport, recreation and open space as integral features of the Shire's future development.*



CAMBOOYA SHIRE SPORT & RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
PART A – Introduction and Direction Setting



1. Introduction

1.1 Why is this Study Important?

Sport, recreation and open space contribute key social and environmental attributes to life in Cambooya Shire. The range in size, type, location and condition of these assets, coupled with ongoing population change, reflects the challenge faced by Cambooya Shire Council to manage, fund and maintain them in a sustainable and cost effective manner.

Accordingly, Council recognises that the provision of sport and recreation resources should be more proactive and coordinated. Accordingly, Council resolved to prepare a shire-wide *Sport & Recreation Needs Study*.

The need for this important planning initiative has been prompted by various factors:

- ▶ population change and unbalanced growth across the Shire is placing different demands on the provision of community infrastructure, including sport and recreation facilities;
- ▶ lack of facilities, services and programs in the Shire, requiring travel to Toowoomba and other nearby centres;
- ▶ under-utilisation of some Council owned facilities and reserves;
- ▶ requests from community groups for financial and other assistance;
- ▶ high capital cost in development and maintenance of sport and recreation facilities, including some unnecessary facility duplication;
- ▶ growing Council and community support for the Shire to enhance its identity, utilising its recreational and sporting strengths; and
- ▶ preparation of the Shire's new Planning Scheme under the *Integrated Planning Act, 1997 (IPA)*.

The *EDROC Regional Recreation Strategy (RRS)*, prepared in 1997, also provides a catalyst for this study. The RRS highlights the need for Local Governments to be proactive in the recreation planning and development process. It also provides a strategic framework for the systematic planning and proactive enrichment of recreation facilities, programs and services throughout the Eastern Downs region (EDROC, 1997:1).

Planning consultants GHD Pty Ltd were commissioned to undertake the *Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study*, which was made possible through the *Local Government Development Program 2002/03*, administered by Sport & Recreation Queensland (SRQ). The study was overseen by a Steering Committee of community and Council representatives.



1.2 Study Aim and Objectives

The overall aim of the study is:

To identify sport and recreational needs within Cambooya Shire, provide direction for future development of facilities, services and programs, and guide Council input and expenditure for sport and recreation resources according to priorities.

This aim will be underpinned by a number of specific objectives:

- ▶ To quantify current sport and recreation facilities an open space available in the Shire.
- ▶ To identify sport and recreation opportunities (including, but not limited to natural area activities, sport, vehicle and non-motorised activities), participation levels and the clubs / organisations involved.
- ▶ To identify cross-boundary and regional issues, in regards to opportunities, participation and willingness to travel.
- ▶ To identify and assess the current needs and future demands / trends of the community for sport and recreation facilities and open space.
- ▶ To develop a plan for future sites of sport and recreation areas throughout the Shire, while recognising the need for the Shire to build an identity of its own, utilising recreational and sporting strengths.
- ▶ To assess open space needs.
- ▶ To develop a draft Sport and Recreation Policy that will guide Council in implementing recommendations from the Sport & Recreation Needs Study, and prioritise future demands from community organisations.

1.3 The Study Area

Cambooya Shire is located on the eastern Darling Downs in Queensland, adjacent to the southern boundary of Toowoomba City and approximately 160km west of Brisbane.

The Shire has a total area of 631km² and a current population of about 4,900 people (ABS, 2001). It is characterised by an enviable mix of rural and urban lifestyles – although it is predominantly an agricultural and grazing area, more intensive rural residential development is occurring in the northern part of the Shire (Hodgson Vale, Westbrook and Vale View), and around the key centres of Wyreema, Cambooya and Greenmount. A significant proportion of the Shire's labour force participants also maintain employment in Toowoomba City.

State Government projections forecast continued growth at 2.2% p.a., reaching a total population of 6,759 persons by 2016 (DLGP Medium Series Projections, 2001). Future growth will be characterised by a high number of family households, together with retirees. Some population stabilisation and decline is anticipated for smaller rural settlements.



The Shire has five primary schools and five community halls. Major secondary and tertiary education institutions are located in Toowoomba. Cambooya Shire residents also attend high schools in neighbouring shires.

The extent of the study area is shown in Figure 1.

1.4 Definitions

For the purpose of this report, the following definitions will be used:

Definition of Sport

'Sport' activities are those:

- ▶ people undertake for enjoyment in their own free time;
- ▶ based on formal competition and / or organised administration; and
- ▶ that have a formal set of rules.

Definition of Recreation

'Recreation' activities are those:

- ▶ people undertake for enjoyment in their own free time;
- ▶ not based on formal competition and / or organised administration; and
- ▶ that lack formal sets of rules.

Definition of Open Space

'Open Space' is a spatial concept that typically includes parks, gardens, trails, habitat corridors, foreshore area, waterways, utility reserves, sportsgrounds and conservation areas¹.

1.5 Timeframe

This study is intended to guide the implementation of sport and recreation initiatives in Cambooya Shire, based on a 10 year plan.

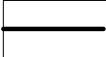

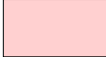



It is recognised that some of the recommendations may not be implemented over this period. Accordingly, the study is intended to provide a set of strategic directions that may be added to and reviewed over time. This approach will ensure that it is a 'living' document, which evolves and responds to new opportunities for sport and recreation as they arise.

¹ Moran, J (2001), "Strategic Framework for Open Space Planning" in Parks & Leisure Australia, Vol 4, No. 3

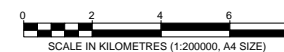


Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

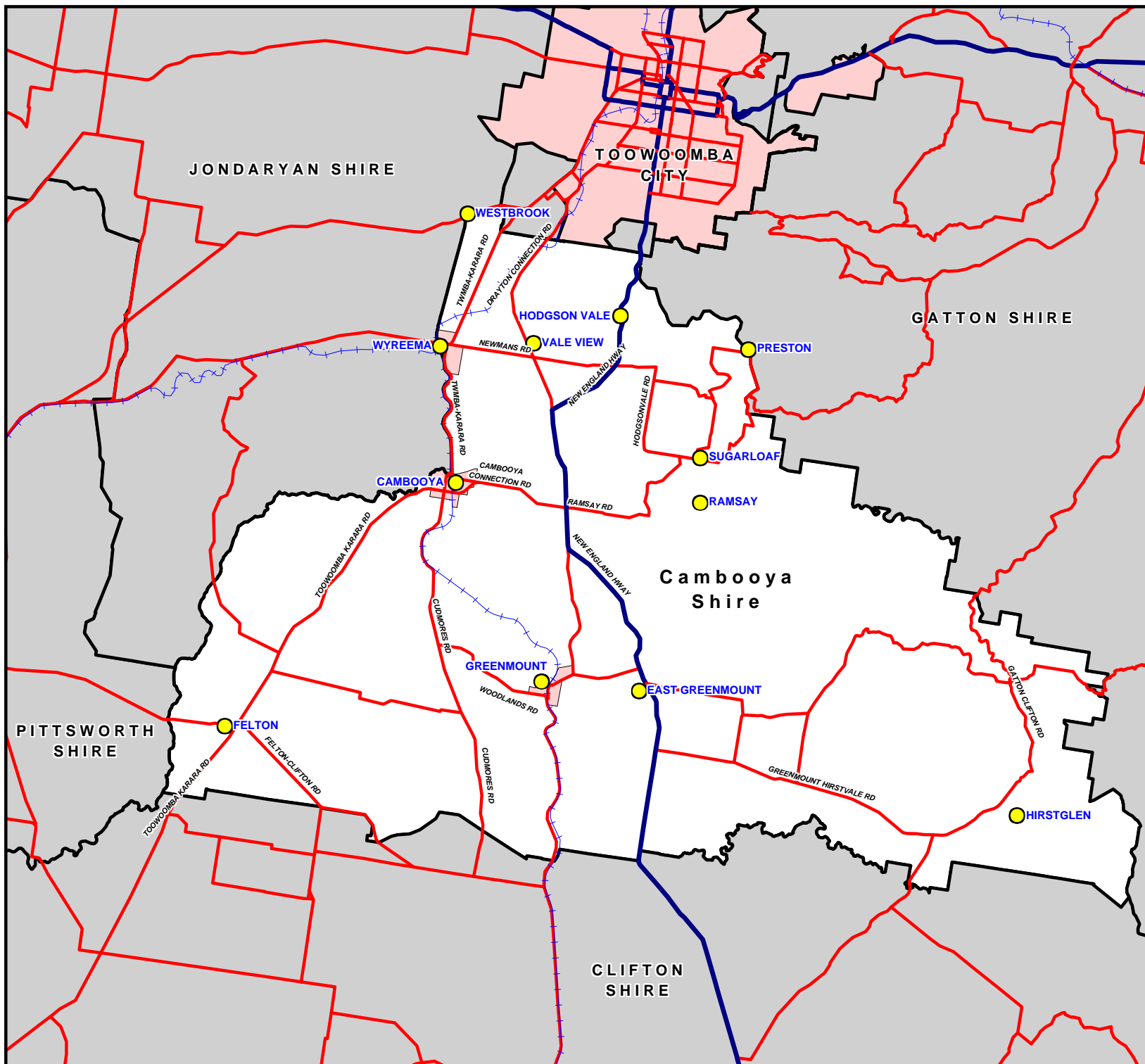
FIGURE 1
Study Area Map

-  LGA Boundaries
-  Key Localities
-  Existing Urban Areas
-  Highways
-  Other Major Roads
-  Rail Line

North



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SOURCE: ABS, 1998 & QSD.





1.6 Report Structure

This report is presented in four parts that consider the study context, resource supply, community needs and recommended strategies, as follows:

Part A – Introduction and Direction Setting

- ▶ **Section 1** introduces the study, outlining its aim, objectives and scope.

Part B – Assessment of Sport and Recreation Supply

- ▶ **Section 2** provides an overview of the Shire's existing 'supply' of sport and recreation facilities, services and programs.
- ▶ **Section 3** establishes the regional planning context and its implications for future sport and recreation planning in Cambooya Shire.

Part C – Assessment of Current and Future Needs

- ▶ **Section 4** provides a snapshot of the Shire's population characteristics and projected growth, to identify implications for future sport and recreation planning.
- ▶ **Section 5** provides an overview of the study's consultation program and its results, highlighting the community's current needs and future demands for different sport and recreation resources.

Part D - Analysis and Recommendations

- ▶ **Section 6** is a synthesis of study findings and considers the Shire's sport and recreation needs/demands relative to the actual resource supply. The results provide the framework for strategy recommendations.
- ▶ **Section 7** presents the study's recommendations in the form of a prioritised Action Plan. This will provide strategic direction on the management, provision and funding of sport and recreation initiatives throughout Cambooya Shire for the next 10 years. Section 7 also provides direction on:
 - a policy framework to guide Council's actions and prioritise future demand;
 - potential funding sources for sport and recreation initiatives; and
 - advancing sport and recreation initiatives under Council's new Planning Scheme.



CAMBOOYA SHIRE SPORT & RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
PART B – Assessment of Sport and Recreation Supply

2. The Current Situation – Sport and Recreation Supply in Cambooya Shire

This section provides a summary of existing sport and recreation supply in Cambooya Shire, including facilities, services and programs.

2.1 Sport and Recreation Facilities

In February 2003, the study team compiled an inventory of all public sport and recreation facilities in the Shire. For each site, the following characteristics were recorded:

- ▶ Location
- ▶ Function (refer to Table 2.1)
- ▶ Service Catchment (Local, District, Regional)
- ▶ Setting (Indoor / Outdoor)
- ▶ Type and Number of Facilities

Table 2.1 – Functional Classifications for Facilities

Classification	Intent
Recreation	Venue for passive or active unstructured leisure activity, such as local parkland or a picnic area.
Sport	Venue for organised sporting activities (competition and training), such as courts and playing fields / reserves.
Multi-use	Combination of the above facility classifications; precinct serving various activities, user groups and / or other community purposes.
Education	Primary and secondary school grounds.
Other Open Space	Undeveloped / unused open space reserves, water reserves and camping grounds, or unable to be classified.

Facilities contained in the inventory have also been broadly classified according to their service catchment, as follows:

- ▶ **Local** – Catering for the immediate area surrounding the facility, that is, the facility is readily accessible to local residents.
- ▶ **District** – Catering for the needs of an entire community and its surrounding district.
- ▶ **Regional** – Catering for the broader region (beyond Shire boundaries), or facilities that could be considered as “regional” due to their standard or quality.

The facilities inventory is shown in Table 2.3 and Figures 2, 3, 4 and 5 at the end of this section. A “snapshot” of the Shire’s existing sport and recreation supply is provided overleaf.

Shire Overview

- ▶ There are approximately 20 sport and recreation facilities within Cambooya Shire² – most of these are located in major population centres. These are generally basic but support surrounding communities for their social interaction and recreational values. A number of local facilities have a service catchment beyond the Shire's boundaries, including:

- Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club;
- Toowoomba Amateur Radio Model Aircraft Club;
- Hodgson Vale Polo Club;
- Cambooya Showgrounds & Recreation Reserve.

The Toowoomba Cycle Club also conducts regular weekend rides through Cambooya and Clifton Shires.

- ▶ The standard and range of sport and recreation facility supply varies across the Shire – an imbalance is evident between different communities. Major facilities are located in Cambooya and Hodgson Vale. Shortfalls are evident in Greenmount and Wyreema.
- ▶ Existing facility supply primarily caters for court sports (eg. tennis, basketball), informal recreation (eg. walking, picnicking, children's play), equestrian activities, lawn bowls and model aerosport.
- ▶ There are several large playing fields / reserves catering for activities such as cricket and football, but these are only used for infrequent events. Irrigation of playing fields has also been a significant issue.
- ▶ The Shire has a large youth population, but has limited infrastructure specifically catering for youth-oriented sport and recreation needs.
- ▶ The Shire has a good supply of parkland. There are 14 parks in total and these range from small neighbourhood "pocket parks", to large reserves incorporating picnic facilities, playground equipment, informal recreational kick-about areas, basketball half-courts and interpretive displays on local history.
- ▶ There are no State Forests or National Parks in Cambooya Shire.
- ▶ There are no purpose-built facilities catering for swimming, golf or indoor sport and recreation (eg. squash courts, gymnasium, indoor cricket). This shortfall has led to the following trends:
 - cross-boundary facility usage is very common. Residents who participate in higher level sport or more specialised activities, generally utilise Toowoomba's facilities and competitions (refer to Section 3); and
 - public halls and clubhouses are valued as important venues for small-scale recreational and social activities such as indoor bowls, dances and meetings.
- ▶ Only 25% of the Shire's facilities are multi-purpose venues. Many facilities tend to serve a single activity and have separate infrastructure (playing areas, seating, clubhouses etc). This can be costly and inefficient to maintain, requiring duplication of facilities and maintenance

² Not including facilities on school grounds or public halls.



efforts. Many single purpose facilities are under-utilised but offer capacity for future use diversification.

- ▶ In more recent times, Council and the community has recognised the benefits and efficiencies of facility co-location and sharing, with the establishment of venues such as the Sports Club at Hodgson Vale and Cambooya Recreation Reserve.
- ▶ There is limited public access to sport and recreation facilities on school grounds.

Major Communities

Greenmount and East Greenmount (Figure 2)

A limited range of sport and recreation facilities are available in Greenmount. Facility under-utilisation is also common in this community.

The town's main recreation area is Bicentennial Memorial Park, centrally located on Ramsay Street behind Greenmount Hall and private residences. It incorporates a basketball court, playground, cricket practice wicket, seating and a monument. A BMX area is located on Haldon Street near the primary school and has experienced declining rates of use in recent years – vegetation growth has contributed to this. The town also has two smaller parks – Violet Brodie Park (for nature appreciation / passive recreation) and Jack Derrick Park with playground equipment and historic display of the former Greenmount Railway Station. The tennis court at Greenmount State School is available for use by school families.

The old Greenmount Recreation Reserve is located to the west of the township on Woodlands Road – it has not been used for sport or recreation for many years. The land is currently used for grazing and equipment storage purposes.

Council also holds a number of open space reserves on the eastern edge of the township, adjacent to a possible future bypass road corridor.

Council is currently implementing a streetscape project along Ramsay Street, incorporating avenue planting, upgraded pathways and reconfiguration of on-street parking. This “gateway or entrance” treatment will make an effective contribution to the town’s visual amenity.

Recreational facilities in the small East Greenmount community include a public hall and themed parkland, based on the life of local author Steele Rudd (1868-1935), best known for his stories and illustrations about the Rudd Family and the “Dad and Dave” series.

Sporting facilities at the Emu Creek School are used for private tennis coaching and junior cricket training.

Cambooya (Figure 3)

Cambooya has a very good supply of sport and recreation facilities, catering for different activities and age groups. Major facilities include the lawn bowls club, recreation reserve and pony grounds, skate park, tennis courts, BMX area, community hall and three parks of various sizes. Cambooya also has a scout group (for boys and girls). The recent refurbishment of Cambooya Hall will cater for more community and recreational activities in future.

Local facilities are quite dispersed, although some are concentrated around the primary school on Lucy Street. A comprehensive pathway network provides access to local activity nodes and is well used by residents for recreational / fitness walking, jogging and cycling.

The Cambooya Recreation Reserve is a major equestrian venue. A number of major pony club, campdrafting and gymkhana events are conducted throughout the year at the site. It also caters for a range of community activities, and has a multi-purpose oval for cricket and football.

Given Cambooya's large youth population, the skate park has been a popular facility, however its small size, lack of challenging design features and incidents of bullying have discouraged use at times. Paterson Park is also an important asset for family recreation. Both facilities have capacity for further enhancement to increase utilisation.

Currently, sporting facilities at Cambooya State School are not available for public use.

Wyreema (Figure 4) and Vale View (Figure 5)

Wyreema is an urbanised community located about 15km from Toowoomba and straddles the boundaries of Cambooya and Jondaryan Shires – this boundary is formed by the rail line which runs through the centre of the township.

Within the Cambooya Shire part of Wyreema, there is a large multi-purpose sport and recreation reserve, FE Obst Park Complex, which contains an oval, playground, picnic and BBQ facilities, tennis courts and old grass netball courts. The playground and tennis courts are popular. The rough oval surface has limited its useability – Council recently installed a new irrigation system. There is also a BMX area and two small neighbourhood “pocket parks” with playground equipment.

On the Jondaryan Shire side, there is a primary school, public hall and small park. The hall is extremely well used by local residents for social gatherings. Pathways have been constructed on both sides of the rail line – these are important for school access and recreational walking, cycling and jogging.

There appears to be a shortfall of suitable recreation settings for older youths in Wyreema.

Sport and recreation facilities in the Vale View area include:

- ▶ Federation Park; and
- ▶ a model aero sports field on the New England Highway.

Top Camp and Hodgson Vale (Figure 5)

Top Camp, Hodgson Vale and Vale View are growing communities on the Shire's northern boundary with Toowoomba City. Their subdivision pattern is characterised by larger semi urban and rural residential lots.

The Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club fronts the New England Highway and services the district. It is a multi-purpose activity precinct, incorporating a playing field (Graham Geddes Oval), tennis courts and clubhouse adjacent to Hodgson Creek. Vehicular access is provided



via a small easement from a local cul-de-sac. The site offers excellent potential for future expansion.

The nearby Lions Park incorporates a large BBQ / picnic area, playground equipment, basketball half-court and caretaker's residence. The Park is popular for local residents and as a rest stop for passing motorists.

Panoramic Park is located in the Preston Ridge Estate – it takes advantage of the area's undulating topography and provides a scenic lookout across the Shire. It also has a BBQ and picnic shelter.

Other major facilities in this district include the Hodgson Vale Polo Club, which is located on private land and is a regionally significant equestrian facility.

Recreational walking and horse riding is also very popular – many people use grassy road verges and unformed road reserves for these purposes. Privately owned facilities are also being developed in the Shire including horse riding schools in Hodgson Vale and motor bike trail riding in the Mount Rascal area.

Access to Local Facilities

Major Communities

A common standard used to assess park distribution is a requirement for “urban” parkland, either small play parks, urban bushland or accessible sport reserves, to be within 500m walking distance of residential areas, which is regarded as a common play range for children – this standard does not apply to rural and rural residential development. Figures 2-4 identify the 500m distance around local parkland, relative to existing and future residential areas.

On this basis, parks appear to be within 500m of *most* existing residents in the urbanised centres. As shown in Figures 2 and 3, there are some “out of catchment” areas on the outskirts of Greenmount and Cambooya – this may be compounded with future residential expansion, particularly in Cambooya where limited facilities are available on the western side of the rail line. In these communities, strengthening local access with pathways may be more feasible than developing additional parkland.

As shown in Figure 4, all existing and future residential land in Wyreema is located within 500m of a local park.

Rural Areas

Findings from previous research on rural and rural residential areas reveal a preference for driving to well appointed and maintained destination parks. Thus, small and under-developed neighbourhood parks have little attraction.

In areas such as Hodgson Vale, Vale View and Ramsay, the cost implications of duplicating and maintaining adequate facilities at many small parks will be prohibitive. By consolidating open space, Council increases the range of possible activities that can be accommodated in the reserve, thereby maximising the benefit from expenditure on facilities and maintenance, and increasing the potential flexibility to adapt the space to other uses in the future.



As shown in Figure 5, most rural and rural residential areas are within 2-3km of the nearest park.

Are Residents Satisfied with Local Sport and Recreation Facilities?

As part of this study, a survey of interested residents was conducted. It revealed that 46% of respondents were 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with the standard and management of sport and recreation facilities in Cambooya Shire.

Table 2.2 – Public Satisfaction with Sport & Recreation Facilities in Cambooya Shire

Community	<i>Very Satisfied</i>	<i>Satisfied</i>	<i>Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Very Dissatisfied</i>	<i>Not Stated</i>
Greenmount	0%	0%	33%	17%	50%
Cambooya	0%	40%	7%	13%	40%
Wyreema	17%	67%	0%	16%	0%
Hodgson Vale	15%	45%	0%	15%	25%
Other Areas	0%	33%	11%	0%	56%
Total Shire	7%	39%	7%	13%	34%

Highest rates of facility **satisfaction** were expressed by residents of Wyreema (84%) and Hodgson Vale (60%).

Highest rates of **dissatisfaction** were expressed by residents of Greenmount (50%) and Cambooya (20%) – key issues related to:

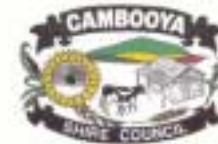
- ▶ lack of facilities;
- ▶ inappropriate facility location and accessibility constraints; and
- ▶ poor facility condition and maintenance.



Table 2.3 – Inventory of Sport and Recreation Facilities in Cambooya Shire

LOCALITY: Greenmount

Resource Name	Location	Facility Function & Type(s)	Service Catchment	Setting	Facilities
Jack Derrick Park	King St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Playground / Education 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Historical Display (Old Greenmount Railway Station)
Bicentennial Memorial Park	Ramsay St (Located adjacent to Greenmount Hall)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Sports Court Parkland / Playground 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball Court (1) – Full court with half court line markings Playground Equipment Cricket Wicket with Fencing (1) BBQ and Picnic Facilities Community Hall Monument
Violet Brodie Park	Haldon St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Open Space Reserve / Nature Appreciation 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
Greenmount Recreation Reserve	Woodlands Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Open Space (Converted to non-recreation purpose) 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grazing and Equipment Storage
BMX Area	Ramsay / Haldon Sts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Open Space Reserve 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BMX Mounds (Unused)
Greenmount Soldiers Memorial Hall	Ramsay St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Community Hall 	Local	Indoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Activities
Open Space Reserve	Gilbrade St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Open Space 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil / Water bore
Greenmount State School	Haldon St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Multi-purpose Court (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball Tennis Handball Tennis Court (1) Multi-purpose Oval (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball Cricket Soccer Rugby



Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 2
Existing Sport and Recreation Facilities
(Greenmount and East Greenmount)

- Schools
- Multi-Use Sport & Recreation Facilities
- Parkland
- Sports Facilities
- Environmental and Other Reserves
- Other Community Nodes
- Existing Residential Land *
- Possible Future Residential Development *
- 500m to Local Parkland
- Areas Out of Parkland Catchment
- Rail Line
- Corridor for Possible Future Town Bypass Road

* Source: Cambooya Shire Council Statement of Proposals, February 2001

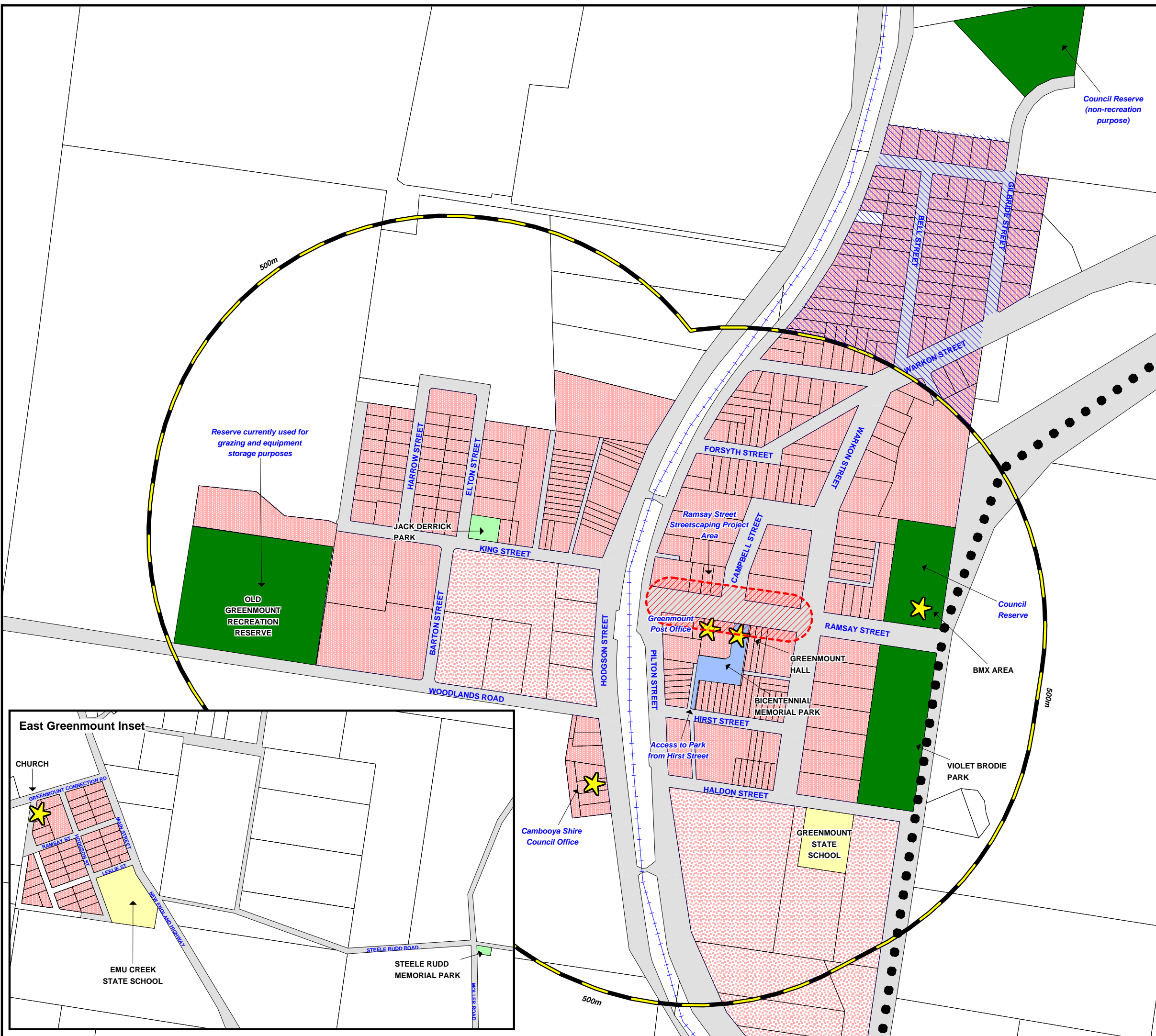
North



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SCALE 1:6,115

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LOCALITY: Cambooya

Resource Name	Location	Facility Function & Type(s)	Service Catchment	Setting	Facilities
Cambooya Memorial Park	Ramsay St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Playground / Park 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment BBQ and Picnic Facilities Monument
Rolleston Park	Quarry St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Playground / Park 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment
Cambooya Recreation Reserve (incorporating Campdrafting and Pony Club Grounds)	Lucy St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Playing Field / Reserve 	Regional	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Showground / Main Arena (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equestrian Activities Community Events Pony Club Grounds Oval (Cricket / Football) Covered Shelter with Catering Facilities
Cambooya Tennis Courts	Lucy St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Sports Courts Parkland / Playground 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Courts (2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis Volleyball Netball Playground Equipment BBQ Facilities Clubhouse Basketball Half-court
Cambooya BMX Area	Lucy St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Open Space Reserve 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BMX Mounds
Cambooya Skate Park	Lucy St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Open Space Reserve 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skate Facility Informal Kick-about Area
Cambooya Bowls Club	Lucy St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport Sports Facility 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lawn Bowls Green (1) Clubhouse
Paterson Park	George St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Parkland / Playground 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment BBQ and Picnic Facilities Multi-purpose Half Court (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball Handball (court with wall)
Cambooya Hall	Ramsay St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Community Hall 	Local	Indoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Activities



Resource Name	Location	Facility Function & Type(s)	Service Catchment	Setting	Facilities
Cambooya State School	Harrow St	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Cricket Practice Nets (2) Handball Courts (5) Multi-purpose Court (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Netball Basketball Tennis Multi-purpose Ovals (2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletics Cricket Soccer



Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 3
Existing Sport and Recreation Facilities
(Cambooya)

-  Schools
-  Multi-Use Sport & Recreation Facilities
-  Parkland
-  Sports Facilities
-  Other Community Nodes
-  Existing Residential Land *
-  Possible Future Rural Residential Development *
-  500m to Local Parkland
-  Areas Out of Parkland Catchment
-  Rail Line
-  Shire Boundary

* Source: Cambooya Shire Council Statement of Proposals,
February 2001



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SCALE 1:7,500

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LOCALITY: Wyreema

Resource Name	Location	Facility Function & Type(s)	Service Catchment	Setting	Facilities
FE Obst Oval Complex	Umbiram Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Playing Field / Reserve Sports Courts Playground / Park 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment BBQ and Picnic Facilities Basketball Half-court Grassed Netball Court (Unused) Multi-purpose Field (1) Multi-purpose Courts (2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis Volleyball Netball Town Map BMX Area
Wyreema Park	High St (Jondaryan Shire)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Playground / Park 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Informal Kick-about Area
Stratford Park	Stratford Dr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Playground / Park 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Basketball Half-court (with Handball Wall)
Barton Park	McDougall Ct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Playground / Park 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment BBQ and Picnic Facilities
Wyreema Hall	Umbiram Rd (Jondaryan Shire)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Community Hall 	Local	Indoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Activities Dancing Indoor Bowls
Wyreema State School	High Street (Jondaryan Shire)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Multi-purpose Ovals (2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletics Netball Cricket Multi-purpose Court (1): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball Tennis Junior Soccer Field (1)



Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 4
Existing Sport and Recreation Facilities
(Wyreema)

- Schools
- Multi-Use Sport & Recreation Facilities
- Parkland
- Sports Facilities
- Other Community Nodes
- Existing Residential Land *
- Possible Future Residential Development *
- 500m to Local Parkland
- Areas Out of Parkland Catchment
- Rail Line
- Shire Boundary

* Source: Cambooya Shire Council Statement of Proposals,
February 2001

North



0 100 200m

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LOCALITY: Top Camp / Hodgson Vale

Resource Name	Location	Facility Function & Type(s)	Service Catchment	Setting	Facilities
Lions Park	New England Hwy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Parkland / Playground 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rest Area Playground Equipment BBQ and Picnic Facilities Basketball Half-court Caretaker's Residence
Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club	New England Hwy (access easement via Maydean Pl)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Playing Field / Reserve Sports Courts 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cricket Oval (1) – "Graham Geddes Oval" Multi-use Courts (2) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tennis Volleyball Netball Playground Equipment (2 x Swings) BBQ Facilities Clubhouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dancing Community Activities Informal Kick-about Area (Possible Future Expansion Area)
BMX Area	Freyling Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Sports Facility 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BMX Mounds (Unused)
Panoramic Park	Panoramic Dr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation Parkland 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BBQ and Picnic Facilities Scenic Lookout
Hodgsonvale Polo Club	Hodgsonvale Rd	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Active Sport Playing Field / Reserve 	Regional	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Polo Fields (4) Clubhouse Stables / Holding Areas



Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 5
Existing Sport and Recreation Facilities
(Top Camp, Hodgson Vale, Vale View)

- Schools
- Multi-Use Sport & Recreation Facilities
- Parkland
- Sports Facilities
- Other Community Nodes
- Rural Residential Land Use Areas (Existing and Future) *
- Local Parkland Catchment (Extended Coverage in Rural Residential Areas)
- Areas Out of Parkland Catchment
- Rail Line
- Shire Boundary

* Source: Cambooya Shire Planning Scheme (Draft),
January 2003

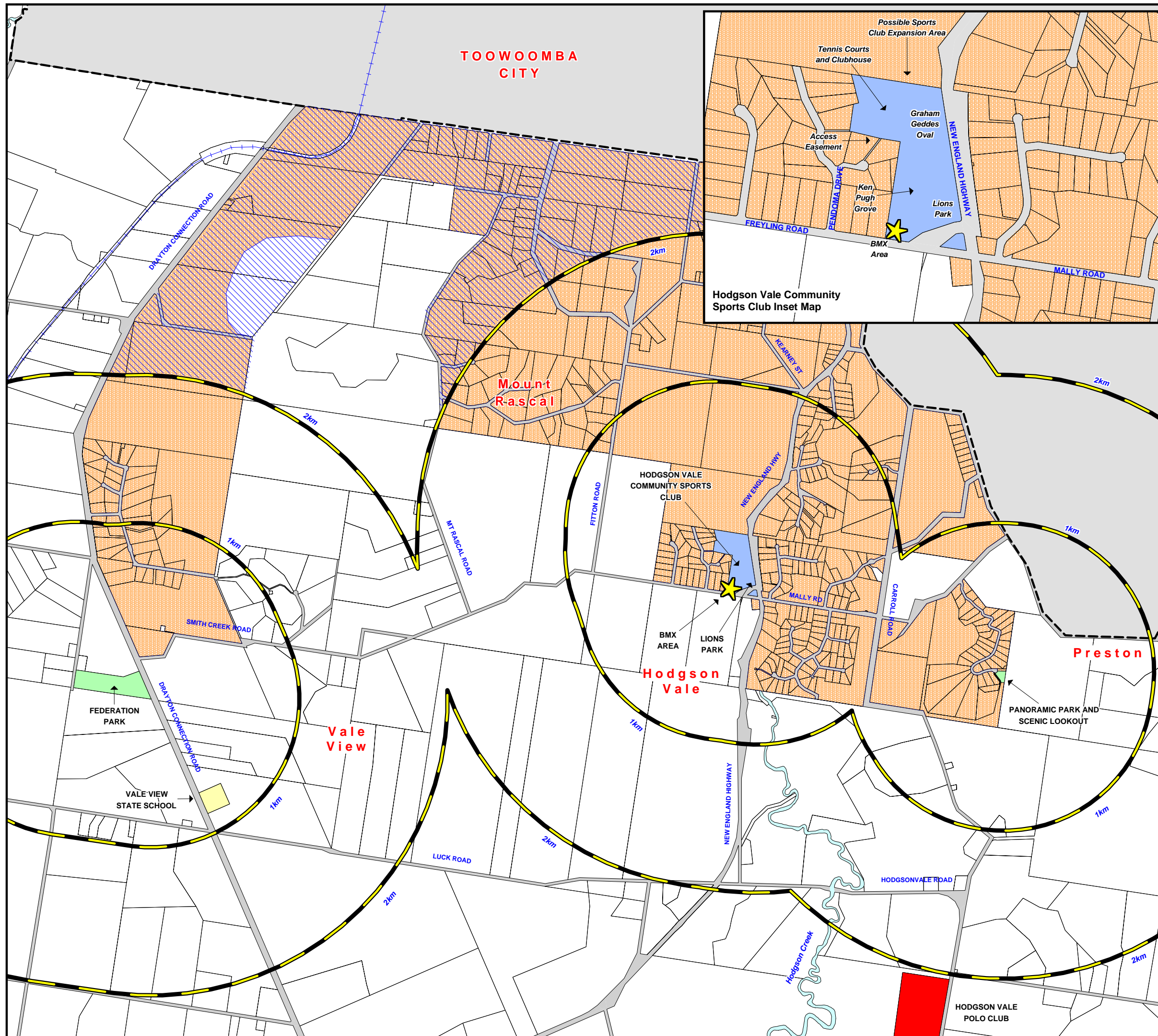
North



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LOCALITY: Balance of Shire

Resource Name	Location	Facility Function & Type(s)	Service Catchment	Setting	Facilities
Steele Rudd Memorial Park	Moller Rd, East Greenmount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation / Education Parkland 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Themed Parkland / (Interpretive display on the life of Steele Rudd) BBQ and Picnic Facilities
Emu Creek State School	New England Hwy, East Greenmount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Multi-purpose Playing Field (1) Cricket Practice Nets (3) Netball Court (1) Tennis Court (1) Half-court (1) Shot Put / Discuss Enclosure
Federation Park	Drayton Connection Rd, Vale View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation / Education Parkland / Playground 	Local	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Themed Parkland (Australian Prime Ministers) Playground Equipment BBQ and Picnic Facilities
Toowoomba Amateur Radio Model Aircraft Club (TARMAC)	New England Hwy, Vale View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air-based Recreation Sports Facility 	Regional	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model Aero Sports Field: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grass Strip (1) Bitumen Strip (1)
Vale View State School	Drayton Connection Rd, Vale View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Tennis Court (1) Multi-purpose Oval (1)
Ramsay State School	Ramsay School Rd, Ramsay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education 	District	Outdoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground Equipment Tennis Court (1) Multi-purpose Oval (1)
Felton Community Hall	Toowoomba-Karara Rd, Felton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-use Community Hall 	Local	Indoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Activities

2.2 Organised Sport and Recreation Activities

Limited information is available on organised sport and recreation groups within the Shire. It is evident that local participation in organised sport and recreation activities has declined significantly over the last 10 years. Based on feedback to this study, the following groups currently exist:

Group	Facilities Used
Greenmount Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee	▶ Greenmount Hall
Life Yoga	▶ Greenmount Hall
Cambooya Bowls Club (Ladies and Men)	▶ Lawn Bowls Green ▶ Clubhouse
Cambooya Pony Club	▶ Cambooya Recreation Reserve
Cambooya Campdraft & Gymkhana Association	▶ Cambooya Recreation Reserve
Cambooya Cards Group	▶ Cambooya Roman Catholic Hall
Cambooya Community Hall Committee	▶ Cambooya Hall
F.I.V.E. Family Fitness (Fitness Classes, Cheerleading, Junior Gymnastics, Rhythmic Gymnastics)	▶ Cambooya Hall
Wyreema Tennis & Sports Club Inc	▶ Wyreema Tennis Courts
Wyreema Indoor Bowls Club Inc	▶ Wyreema Hall
Wyreema Community Events Inc	▶ Wyreema Hall
Hodgson Vale Community Sport & Recreation Club	▶ Tennis Courts ▶ Multi-use Oval ▶ Clubhouse
Toowoomba Amateur Radio Model Aircraft Club (TARMAC)	▶ Model Aero Sports Field, Vale View
Toowoomba Polo Club	▶ Hodgson Vale Polo Club Grounds
Felton Hall Committee	▶ Felton Hall



The scout group in Cambooya is well supported. Junior tennis coaching is also popular in a number of communities. There are few opportunities for junior or senior participation in more specialised activities or programs, primarily due to lack of local organisers / coaching personnel, the small population base and the dominance of Toowoomba-based activities.

3. Regional Context

3.1 Cross-Boundary Participation Trends

3.1.1 Toowoomba City's "Shadow Effect"

As shown in Figure 1, Cambooya Shire is located adjacent to the southern boundary of Toowoomba City – the key service centre for the Darling Downs Region. Toowoomba provides a range of higher order community infrastructure to its catchment population, which extends beyond the City's boundaries into surrounding municipalities including Cambooya Shire – in this way, Toowoomba has a "shadow effect" across the region.

In terms of sport and recreation supply, most of the region's major venues, competitive fixtures and services / programs are based in Toowoomba. Cambooya Shire's residents and schools utilise these resources on a regular basis primarily due to their diversity, good standard, proximity / convenience, specialised coaches and the opportunity to access all-weather indoor venues throughout the year. Based on feedback to this study, almost 70% of Shire residents regularly use facilities in Toowoomba – the most popular types are:

- ▶ swimming pools for recreation, fitness, swimming club activities, learn to swim classes and hydrotherapy;
- ▶ golf courses;
- ▶ indoor facilities such as gymnasiums, basketball courts, squash courts and ten pin bowling alleys; and
- ▶ equestrian venues.

In terms of specific destinations, the most popular facilities are:

- ▶ Milne Bay Aquatic Centre;
- ▶ sporting facilities at the University of Southern Queensland Campus (particularly the gymnasium and basketball stadium); and
- ▶ indoor swimming pool and gymnasium at Harristown State High School.

3.1.2 Other Areas

Apart from Toowoomba City, other facilities within the region that are regularly used by Cambooya Shire residents include:

- ▶ Clifton Swimming Pool
- ▶ Clifton Tennis Courts
- ▶ Toowoomba Showgrounds (Jondaryan Shire)
- ▶ Gatton Showgrounds
- ▶ Pittsworth Indoor Bowls Club



- ▶ Pittsworth Swimming Pool
- ▶ Westbrook Children's Bicycle Training Facility (Jondaryan Shire)

It is evident that many residents accept the travelling distances required to access higher order facilities in Toowoomba and elsewhere. However, whilst the regional supply partly addresses the current shortfalls experienced in Cambooya Shire, travelling is not a feasible option for all residents (eg. youths).

3.2 Regional Planning Initiatives and Future Needs

Previous studies have assessed the requirements for sport and recreation resources within the Darling Downs region. Major findings are summarised below to provide a background to this study's investigations and consultations.

3.2.1 South West Region Sporting Facilities Plan – A Needs Analysis (1998)

This study was undertaken by the former Department of Tourism, Sport & Racing (DTSR) to determine the needs of regional sporting affiliates and the 29 Local Government Authorities in the south west region of Queensland.

It found that:

- ▶ the region has a wide spectrum of sporting opportunities which play an important role in community life;
- ▶ a number of common “barriers” to sport and recreation participation exist, including:
 - vast travelling distances;
 - cost constraints;
 - limited services from state associations;
 - lack of access to training, coaching, officiating and administration;
 - difficulty in maintaining members (particularly in rural communities); and
 - facility maintenance costs;
- ▶ the region lacks a suitable outdoor venue (ie. stadium) to conduct major events, particularly for football codes;
- ▶ more effective use of sport and recreation facilities is required throughout the region. Opportunities to modify or upgrade existing infrastructure should be investigated before the construction of something new is approved; and
- ▶ measures to encourage and promote the more effective public use of school sport and recreation facilities should be investigated.



3.2.2 Toowoomba City

Toowoomba City Recreation Needs Study (1996)

This study was undertaken to assess the recreation needs and aspirations of the City's residents. Its primary focus was the development of regional, city-wide and sub-municipal initiatives, rather than small scale facility-specific outcomes.

Key findings of regional significance were as follows:

- ▶ Toowoomba City has a limited supply of land with the flexibility to support future sport and recreation development and expansion. Opportunities to address this shortfall need to be investigated in adjoining Shires;
- ▶ limited supply of multi-use venues which can or do support a number of different sports;
- ▶ limited provision of outdoor sporting venues in newer, outer suburbs of the City; and
- ▶ major infrastructure deficiencies or needs are a multi-purpose indoor sports facility and an outdoor sports stadium with the capacity to accommodate 8,000-10,000 spectators.

An updated needs assessment was prepared by Toowoomba City Council in December 2000 and reiterated the following issues:

- ▶ since the 1996 study, sporting group numbers (from a regional base) and their subsequent requirements have continued to grow, while little development has been completed over this time;
- ▶ sporting bodies are currently competing in confined spaces; and
- ▶ sports which have expressed a short to medium term need for expanded or new facilities in the region include Australian Rules Football, junior cricket, soccer and baseball.

In terms of forward planning for Cambooya Shire, the following recent cross-border happenings are significant:

New Sporting Complex at Mt Peel

TCC has now acquired a 62 hectare site at Mt Peel, as the proposed "home" of Aussie Rules in the region. The site is in close proximity to Wyreema and Cambooya, located between Old Wyreema Road and Rosevale Street (sharing the Cambooya Shire boundary on Hayden Street). The project is currently in the planning phase – it is envisaged that the venue will also cater for other outdoor field sports (eg. cricket, soccer) and incorporate informal recreation areas. TCC is keen to maintain "naturalness" of the site through selective clearing, new tree planting along creek lines and recreational trails. It is envisaged that site development could commence within 3-4 years.



Middle Ridge Park Closure

In TCC's December 2000 report, Middle Ridge Park was identified as an under-utilised sporting reserve. At the time, Middle Ridge Park was home to the Toowoomba Pony Club, which used the facility one Sunday each month.

TCC assessed that the site was suitable for sporting field development given its large, flat, open area ideally suited to sports playing field development – it has since been redeveloped for this purpose and the Pony Club has relocated to the Toowoomba Showgrounds (Jondaryan Shire).

In future, there may be opportunities for Cambooya Shire to provide for equestrian venues that dovetail with facilities at the Toowoomba Showgrounds. The Shire has a traditional base of interest in equestrian sports, together with the availability of highly suitable land with good road access and close proximity to the regional population.

Toowoomba Cycle and Pedestrian Strategy (2002)

This strategy embraces the vision of Toowoomba as a *“cycle and pedestrian friendly city with a network of accessible, integrated, convenient and safe shared paths, on-road cycle ways and crossing treatments ... a ‘healthier Toowoomba’ is evolving”*.

The strategy recommends a network of cycle and pedestrian routes to be established within the city's boundaries, together with regional connections into surrounding shires for future investigation. Cambooya Shire Council provided direct input to the strategy – major connections are recommended with the Top Camp, Hodgson Vale, Mount Rascal and Vale View areas (refer to Figure 6).

3.2.3 Other Considerations

The *Jondaryan Shire Sport & Recreation Plan (2001)* contained the following key findings and recommendations for the community of Wyreema:

- ▶ strengthen walking / cycling linkages between Wyreema State School, FE Obst Park Complex and other community focal points;
- ▶ facility upgrades and diversification at FE Obst Park Complex to increase public utilisation; and
- ▶ upgrade facilities at Wyreema Park on High Street.

It is also relevant to note that there is strong community support to construct an indoor swimming pool in Westbrook, near Cambooya Shire's north-western boundary.

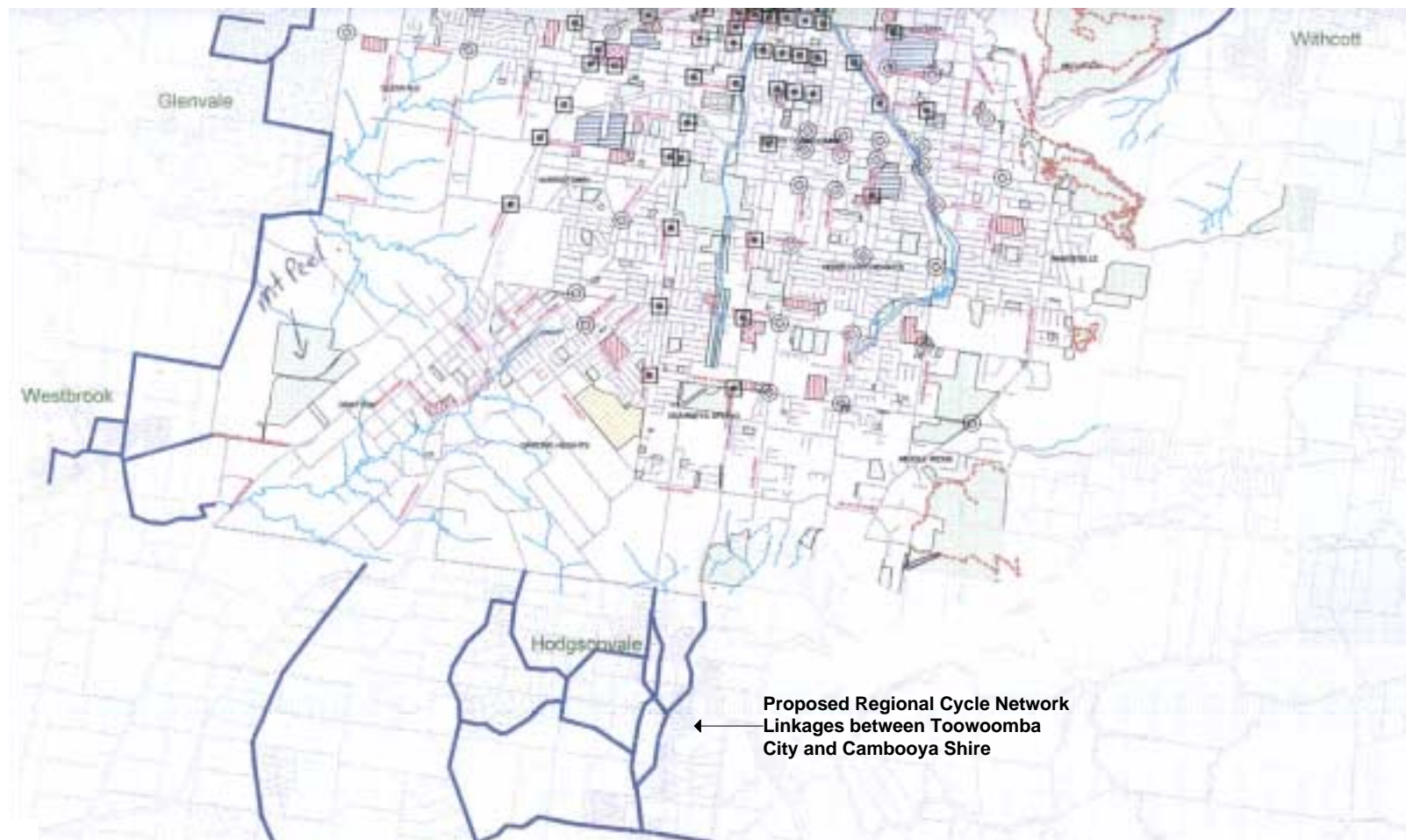
As discussed, various sport and recreation facilities in Clifton are utilised by residents in the southern parts of Cambooya Shire. The *Clifton Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study* is scheduled for completion by June 2003. At the time of writing, findings of relevance to Cambooya Shire were not available for review.



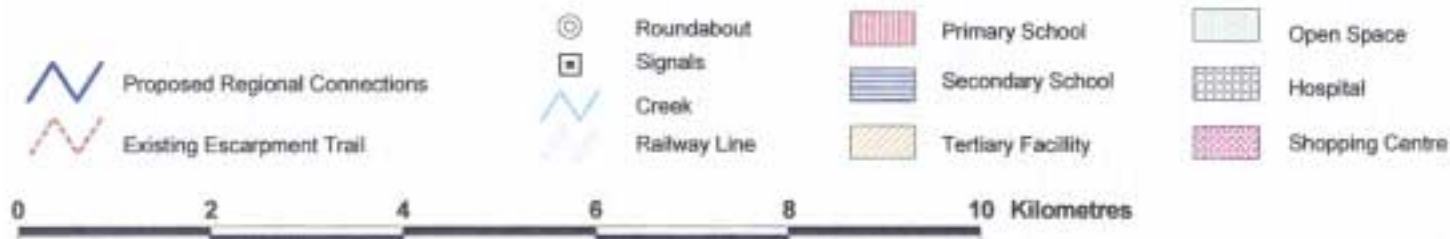
Cambooya Shire Sport and Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 6
Regional Connections with
Toowoomba City Bicycle Network

Source:
*Toowoomba City Cycle and
Pedestrian Strategy, March 2002*



Proposed Regional Cycle Network
Linkages between Toowoomba
City and Cambooya Shire



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3.3 Implications and Opportunities for Cambooya Shire

- ▶ Cambooya Shire residents frequently access sport and recreation facilities, services and programs in nearby Toowoomba, Clifton, Pittsworth and Jondaryan Shires. This reinforces the need for cooperative planning efforts between neighbouring Councils coinciding with future population growth.
- ▶ Shires surrounding Toowoomba may have a growing role to play in accommodating some sport and recreation activities, as the availability of suitable sites within the city becomes more limited (eg. motor bike riding, off road vehicle use, car racing, horse trails, equestrian sports, shooting ranges).
- ▶ Major opportunities to enhance Cambooya Shire's identity and regional profile, include:
 - provision of unique outdoor recreation initiatives (eg. trail networks for non-motorised activities such as bushwalking, mountain biking and horse riding); and
 - provision of new and improved venues for equine sports complement and support the supply of other major facilities in the region (eg. The Toowoomba Showgrounds).
- ▶ The high cross-boundary usage of aquatic, equestrian, golf and indoor sporting facilities located in neighbouring centres highlights the principal shortfalls in Cambooya Shire's sport and recreation supply.
- ▶ It is often unsustainable for small population bases to support the duplication of higher order sport and recreation facilities such as indoor venues or swimming pools – previous studies have shown that while there may be considerable community enthusiasm during the planning stage, there is a possibility that the project could fail, as the population demand thresholds required for such facility could exceed the scale of individual centres within a rural municipality (Gatton Shire Council, 1997).
- ▶ With the need for travel to major facilities, it is anticipated that demands for public transport will increase with population growth in Cambooya Shire, particularly for those persons that do not access to a private vehicle.



CAMBOOYA SHIRE SPORT & RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
PART C - Assessment of Current and Future Needs

4. Demographic and Leisure Participation Trends

This section provides a 'snapshot' of the Shire's population profile and leisure participation trends, to identify potential implications for future sport and recreation planning.

4.1 Key Demographic Characteristics

4.1.1 Population Growth, Composition and Mobility

Cambooya Shire has a current population of about 5,000 persons (ABS, 2001). The settlement pattern is quite dispersed, with a number of small but growing semi-urban communities in the north of the Shire near Toowoomba City. These centres constitute about 60% of the total population, with the balance residing in rural areas.

The Shire's recent population growth has been solid, increasing from 2,860 persons in 1991 to 4,856 persons in 2001. Average annual growth for this period has been 5.4% p.a., over double the state average and significantly higher than surrounding municipalities (Table 4.1).

The 2001 ABS Census indicated that Wyreema³ is the largest population centre in the Shire with about 900 residents, followed by Cambooya (700), Hodgson Vale / Top Camp (600), and Greenmount (270).

Table 4.1 – Recent Population Growth (Cambooya Shire and Region)

Locality	1991	1996	2001	Average Annual Growth 1991-2001
Cambooya Shire	2,860	4,079	4,856	5.4%
Toowoomba City	81,043	83,633	86,642	0.7%
Jondaryan Shire	10,308	11,056	12,323	1.8%
Gatton Shire	13,810	14,730	14,925	0.8%
Pittsworth Shire	4,035	4,264	4,445	1.0%
Clifton Shire	2,301	2,308	2,327	0.1%
Darling Downs Statistical Division	185,553	193,618	203,397	0.9%
Queensland	2,977,810	3,368,850	3,655,139	2.1%

Source: ABS, 2001

The Shire's population migration and mobility levels are high, as measured by comparisons of residency changes in the last two Census counts (ie. numbers of people at the same address in 1996 and 2001) – nearly 55% of persons moved house since 1996, a high proportion of which are new residents to Cambooya Shire. For the same period, the State average was 49%. There

³ Includes Jondaryan Shire portion of the Wyreema community.

are also high numbers of rental properties, contributing to population transiency in some areas (eg. Greenmount).

State Government projections indicate that the Shire's future growth will continue to be strong relative to state and regional trends, reaching almost 6,800 persons by 2016 (Table 4.2). Future growth will be focussed on the shire's north, coinciding with population decline in some rural areas in the south.

Table 4.2 – Projected Population Growth

Locality	2006	2011	2016	Average Annual Growth 2001-2016
Cambooya Shire	5,584	6,168	6,759	2.2%
Toowoomba City	90,411	92,896	95,360	0.6%
Jondaryan Shire	13,159	13,974	14,793	1.2%
Gatton Shire	16,425	17,614	18,965	1.6%
Pittsworth Shire	4,526	4,612	4,711	0.4%
Clifton Shire	2,331	2,288	2,247	-0.2%
Darling Downs Statistical Division	209,437	215,367	221,755	0.6%
Queensland	2,624,595	2,960,951	3,338,690	1.6%

Source: DLGP, 2001 (Medium Series Projections)

Cambooya Shire has a young age profile, with about 47% of persons aged under 30 years old, compared with a state average of 41%. The Shire has a median age of 31 years old. There is high representation children/youths in the 0-19 age cohorts, and low representations in the age groups over 60 (Table 4.3(a)).

Table 4.3(a) – Current Age Profile of Cambooya Shire (Proportion of Total Population %)

Age Group	Cambooya Shire	Queensland
0-9	18.3	13.7
10-19	16.8	14.2
20-29	11.5	13.3
30-39	14.6	14.4
40-49	15.4	14.2
50-59	11.8	11.9
60+	11.5	18.3

Source: ABS, 2001

The table below presents the current age profile for individual communities:

Table 4.3(b) – Current Age Profile for Key Communities (Proportion of Total Population %)

Age Group	Greenmount	Cambooya	Wyreema	Hodsgon Vale*	Cambooya Shire
0-9	23.8	20.1	26.3	19.7	18.3
10-19	14.3	18.4	13.9	21.4	16.8
20-29	11.0	10.5	18.1	13.2	11.5
30-39	14.7	20.2	19.9	16.4	14.6
40-49	12.5	11.6	11.6	16.3	15.4
50-59	12.5	9.5	6.5	8.8	11.8
60+	11.4	9.8	3.7	4.5	11.5

Source: ABS, 2001,

* ABS Collection District No. 3140409

These figures indicate the following:

- ▶ Wyreema, Cambooya and Hodgson Vale have very large youth populations, with about 40% of residents aged under 20.
- ▶ Greenmount is characterised by an older profile with almost 25% of residents aged over 50. It also a high representation of children aged under 10 (24%).
- ▶ Cambooya has a reasonable representation of older residents over 50 (19%).
- ▶ Wyreema and Hodgson Vale have a small proportion of persons aged over 50.
- ▶ All communities have a large proportion of adults aged 30-50 years old (around 30%).

While the total shire population will age in the future, it will not keep pace State and regional averages, as shown below.

Table 4.4 – Projected Age Profile for Cambooya Shire (Proportion of Total Population %)

Locality	< 15 years		Over 65 years	
	2001	2021	2001	2021
Cambooya Shire	26.9	26.6	6.6	7.7
Toowoomba City	21.1	18.5	13.9	17.6
Darling Downs Stat. Div'n	22.5	18.9	13.1	18.9
Queensland	20.9	17.5	11.5	18.8

Source: DLGP, 2001

4.1.2 Workforce and Household Characteristics

A majority of the Shire's workforce is employed in the agricultural/forestry sector (16%), while the next largest categories are retail trade (14%) and manufacturing (11%). A growing proportion of local residents work outside the Shire, with employment for the region being concentrated in

Toowoomba. Participation in the horse racing industry is also significant, with many horse studs located in the Shire.

The Shire has a low unemployment rate at 4.7% when compared with the national and state averages of 7.8% and 8.2% respectively (ABS, 2001). The Shire as a whole is also characterised by lower income levels.

Table 4.5 – Weekly Household Incomes

Locality	Less than \$300 / wk	Greater than \$2,000 / wk
Cambooya Shire	3.0%	5.6%
Queensland	3.5%	7.3%
Australia	3.5%	10.1%

Source: ABS, 2001

Couples with dependent children are the dominant family household type, representing about 70% of the total population, followed by couple only households (21%).

Car ownership is very high with at about 95% of all households. Participation in sport and recreation is typically higher amongst car owners than non-car owners. This is compounded in rural and regional areas, with greater distances to travel and limited public transport services. Young people and the elderly often face the greatest transport difficulties, with many being dependent on others to drive them to sporting facilities.

4.1.3 Implications for Future Planning

Based on the demographic trends above, the following issues may impact on future recreation demand in Cambooya Shire:

- ▶ The population growth imbalance across the urban and rural portions of the Shire results in a range of different needs and demands.
- ▶ Ongoing development of rural residential subdivisions and small hobby farms will be mainly focussed on the Hodsgon Vale, Preston and Vale View areas. This will be accompanied by higher rates of horse ownership, correlating to needs for accessible horse riding areas, and possibly greater participation in locally-based equestrian activities over time.
- ▶ With a high number of new residents settling in the Shire, community awareness will be an important consideration to promote sport and recreation participation.
- ▶ A diverse range of sport and recreation facility types or specialised activities cannot necessarily be supported by small communities. Furthermore, consolidation of facility 'hubs' to serve district and regional catchments may be more sustainable, than establishing new / duplicate facilities at the local level.
- ▶ The transient nature of some communities associated with high rental rates may have implications for maintaining sporting club membership numbers.

- ▶ A significant proportion of the adult population is engaged in employment outside the Shire – commuting patterns may reduce the availability of personal time for participation in sport and recreation.
- ▶ The young workforce corresponds to a potential demand for access to a range of active, higher impact sport and recreation activities.
- ▶ The growing number of young family households, particularly in Cambooya, Wyreema and Hodgson Vale, suggests that the demand for a range of youth and family-oriented informal recreation settings will be a significant planning issue.
- ▶ The older age profiles of Greenmount, Cambooya and smaller rural settlements suggests that provision of lower impact, passive forms of sport and recreation will be important in future planning and development.

4.2 Leisure Participation Trends

4.2.1 Sport and Recreation Participation for Queensland and Australia

State and national statistics highlight a number of broad participation trends for adults and children which may be of some relevance to future sport and recreation planning in Cambooya Shire. The limitations of this data should be noted, as certain activities may not be indicative of age groups and / or communities in Cambooya Shire.

Adult Participation

In 2001, the Australian Sports Commission conducted an *Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey* (ERASS) in conjunction with the State / Territory Departments of Sport and Recreation. The ERASS revealed the following key trends:

- ▶ In terms of overall participation, the 'top ten' sports and physical activities for persons aged over 15 years in Australia and Queensland are:

Australia		Queensland	
Activity	Participation Rate	Activity	Participation Rate
1. Walking *	28.8%	1. Walking *	32.6%
2. Swimming	16.0%	2. Swimming	15.6%
3. Aerobics / fitness	13.0%	3. Aerobics / fitness	11.1%
4. Cycling	9.5%	4. Cycling	8.4%
5. Tennis	9.2%	5. Tennis	8.0%
6. Golf	8.2%	6. Golf	7.3%
7. Running	7.2%	7. Running	7.3%
8. Walking (bush)	5.3%	8. Touch Football	6.2%

Australia		Queensland	
Activity	Participation Rate	Activity	Participation Rate
9. Rock Climbing	4.1%	9. Weight Training	5.5%
10. Soccer (outdoor)	3.7%	10. Walking (bush)	4.4%

* Activity does not include bushwalking.

- ▶ For males and females in all age groups, recreational walking registered the highest participation rates.
- ▶ At a national level, participation in “non-organised” activities is higher than “organised” activities for males and females in all age groups. Participation rates for non-organised activities increases with age.
- ▶ Queensland registered a lower rate of participation in organised sport and physical activities than other all states and territories at 39.4%, with the exception of New South Wales (38.7%). The highest rate was the Northern Territory at 44.9% and the national average was 39.9%.
- ▶ In Queensland, 79.1% of males and 75.5% of females participated in physical activities.

Other relevant leisure participation research highlights the following:

- ▶ ABS statistics show that the growing sports / activities in Australia are swimming, fishing and cycling.
- ▶ The *2001 South East Queensland Outdoor Recreation Demand Study* investigated the nature and extent of participation in outdoor recreation activities by the residents of the SEQ region. It found that the region’s most popular outdoor recreation activities are bicycle riding, walking, nature study and picnicking (based on participation frequency).
- ▶ Further to the above point, the Australian Cycling Industry Association reports that over 80% of new bike sales Australia wide in recent years are mountain bikes – many of these cyclists are looking for opportunities to get “off-road” on their mountain bikes on trails in somewhat natural settings in close proximity to where they live.

Junior Participation

- ▶ The most popular non-organised activities for children in Queensland are:
 1. Cycling (66.2%)
 2. Skateboarding or roller blading (32.2%)
 3. Swimming (14.4%)
- ▶ The ‘top five’ organised activities for children in Queensland are:

Boys		Girls	
Activity	Participation Rate	Activity	Participation Rate
1. Soccer (outdoor)	20.2%	1. Swimming	15.2%
2. Rugby League	11.9%	2. Netball	11.0%
3. Swimming	11.6%	3. Tennis	7.1%
4. Tennis	9.8%	4. Gymnastics	5.4%
5. Cricket (outdoor)	8.1%	5. Athletics, Track & Field	3.7%

Source: *Children's Participation in Cultural & Leisure Activities – Australia, 2000, ABS Catalogue 4901.0*

4.2.2 Local Participation Trends

A survey of interested Cambooya Shire residents was conducted as part of this study – the results give an indication of the most popular activities in the Shire:

Organised Activities		Non-Organised Activities	
Activity	Response Rate	Activity	Response Rate
1. Tennis	30%	1. Walking	27%
2. Various at HVCSC*	20%	2. Swimming	13%
3. Bowls (Indoor and Lawn)	20%	3. Tennis	11%
4. Model Aero Sports	10%	4. Cycling	8%
5. Cricket	5%	5. Horse riding	3%
6. Equestrian	5%	6. Golf	3%
7. Ballet	5%	7. Squash	3%
8. Scouts	5%	8. Aerobics / Fitness	3%
-		9. Volleyball	3%
-		10. Reading, Arts & Crafts	3%

* Denotes membership with Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club.

When considering different age groups, the most popular activities for local residents appear to be:

Rank	Under 15 Years Old	16-30 Years Old	31-50 Years Old	Over 50 Years Old
1	Swimming	Cycling	Walking	Walking
2	Cycling	Tennis	Swimming	Nature Appreciation*
3	Cricket	Swimming	Tennis	Cycling
4	Tennis	Walking	Cycling	Tennis
5	Basketball	Golf	Aerobics / Fitness	Bowls**

* Refers to picnicking, gardening, bird watching, bushwalking etc.

** Refers to lawn and indoor bowls.

It is noted that recreational horse riding is a more prominent activity than these results would suggest, particularly in rural and rural residential areas.

A survey of local sporting clubs was also conducted for this study – their feedback highlights the following participation trends in Cambooya Shire:

- Membership profiles are dominated by active adult participants (66%) and social / administrative members (27%). Juniors only represent 7% of the total.
- Highest club participation rates are evident in Hodgson Vale and Wyreema, possibly due to their existing facility supply, age profile and steady population growth.
- About half of the clubs who responded to the survey anticipate an increase in membership over the next five years, coinciding with residential growth. However, other clubs are less optimistic about recruiting new members (eg. lawn bowls).

4.2.3 Implications for Future Planning

Based on the leisure participation trends above, the following issues may impact on future recreation demand in Cambooya Shire:

- Walking, cycling and swimming are important physical activities for persons in all age groups (both males and females).
- Participation in outdoor recreation and non-organised activities is clearly dominant.
- The most popular sport and recreation activities for adults are informal / social and are not based on a specific schedule or fixtures. Typically, these activities do not rely on a high number of participants, as required for many team sports.
- Existing facility supply in Cambooya Shire caters for several of the most popular activities such as walking, cycling and tennis. Major shortfalls are evident in swimming and some organised or specialised activities (particularly in smaller communities).



- ▶ Some of the more popular activities in the Shire are not reflected in state and national trends, such as horse sports and indoor bowls – these examples often have a stronger affinity with rural communities.
- ▶ Assuming that the participation rates remain constant for outdoor recreation activities and that the population in Cambooya Shire increases to about 7,000 persons by 2,016 as predicted, the future demand for places to walk, cycle, horse ride and picnic could be more substantial, requiring suitably planned recreational trails / pathways and other natural recreation settings (eg. parkland) that are reasonably close to residential areas.
- ▶ The retention of a junior participant base for sporting clubs will be an ongoing challenge in future. Strategies that encourage participation amongst all age groups will be important.

5. What are the Community's Needs?

5.1 Community Consultation Activities

Community consultation was an integral part of this study. It aimed to encourage input from local sport and recreation clubs, community groups, schools and residents, together with Council, the State Government and special interest groups to:

- ▶ identify existing and future sport and recreation needs in Cambooya Shire;
- ▶ ensure that a useful and realistic strategy could be achieved; and
- ▶ promote community ownership and support for the study's outcomes.

The consultation process is depicted in Figure 7 and comprised six broad stages:

Stage 1 – Raising Community Awareness

At the commencement of the study, feature stories and a public notice were placed in *The Toowoomba Chronicle* and Council's newsletter *On Our Selection*, to promote the study and its consultation activities to interested individuals and groups.

Colourful posters advertising the study were also circulated throughout the Shire to raise awareness and encourage community involvement (Appendix A). Local Councillors were also informed of the study and invited to participate.

Stage 2 – Survey of Sport & Recreation Groups

One of the first steps was to identify the particular needs and aspirations of the various groups who use the Shire's facilities for sport and recreation purposes. This information enabled the study team to gain an appreciation of what the current needs are and what should be done in the future.

Surveys were distributed to all known clubs in Cambooya Shire based on SRQ's mailing list. The survey sought to identify:

- ▶ opportunities for participation in organised sport activities;
- ▶ membership and participation trends;
- ▶ current usage of facilities;
- ▶ levels of satisfaction amongst user groups;
- ▶ multi-user / facility sharing arrangements between different groups;
- ▶ whether there are any activities which are not adequately catered for; and
- ▶ future needs (facilities, services and programs).

12 clubs were surveyed – the response rate was supportive at 50%. Responses were received from:

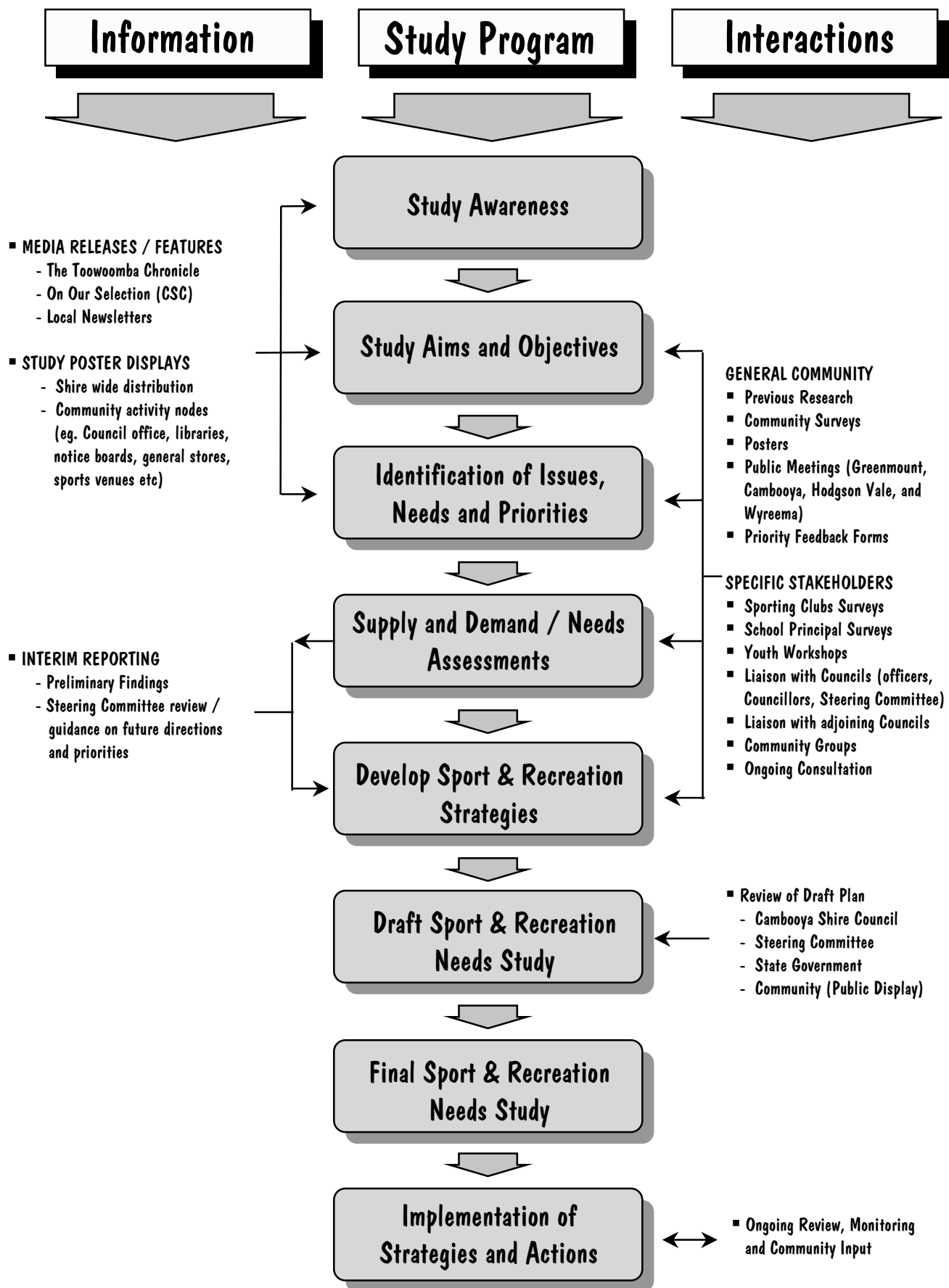


FIGURE 7
Community Consultation Process



- ▶ Cambooya Ladies Bowling Club Inc.
- ▶ Cambooya Pony Club Inc.
- ▶ Cambooya Cards Group
- ▶ Wyreema Community Events Inc.
- ▶ Wyreema Tennis and Sports Club Inc.
- ▶ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club Inc.

It is noted that a number of clubs invited to participate no longer exist or could not be located, which contributed to the response rate.

Stage 3 – Community Survey

Apart from clubs, it was important to capture feedback from the general public on their sport and recreation characteristics and needs. Community Surveys were distributed throughout the Shire to the Council office, local convenience stores, service centres and post offices for collection by interested residents.

65 surveys were returned to the study team, with all parts of the Shire well represented:

- ▶ Hodgson Vale / Top Camp - 34%
- ▶ Cambooya - 24%
- ▶ Wyreema - 11%
- ▶ Greenmount - 11%
- ▶ Vale View / Mount Rascal - 11%
- ▶ Other Areas / Not Stated - 9%

Stage 4 – Public Meetings

Stage 4 involved the conduct of public meetings in Greenmount, Cambooya, Hodgson Vale and Wyreema. Attendees included interested residents, local sport, recreation and community groups, together with representatives of Council and the study team.

The meetings were an open forum to discuss community needs and prioritise demands. Meeting attendance figures are shown below and in Appendix B.

Table 5.1 – Attendance at Public Meetings

Locality	Venue and Date	Approx. No. of Participants
Greenmount	Greenmount Hall, Tues 25 Feb 2003	15
Cambooya	Cambooya Hall, Wed 26 Feb 2003	17
Hodgson Vale	Hodgson Vale Sports Club, Tues 4 March 2003	6
Wyreema	Wyreema Hall, Wed 5 March 2003	16

Stage 5 – Youth Consultation

Typically, young people are under-represented in consultation programs because they are reluctant speak up at public forums and the like. Therefore, a more proactive, targeted approach was adopted for this study to:

- ▶ determine the particular sport and recreation needs of young people; and
- ▶ discuss their vision for future community development.

This involved meetings with students at each primary school in the Shire⁴, and meetings with older youths in Greenmount, Cambooya, Hodgson Vale and Wyreema. School principals were also surveyed to investigate opportunities for increasing public access to sport and recreation facilities located on school grounds.

5.2 Needs Identification

5.2.1 Cambooya Shire

The community has highlighted the following key issues or needs for Cambooya Shire:

- ▶ Declining participation rates in organised sport and recruitment of volunteers.
- ▶ Greater flexibility and choice in recreation participation, that is, enhanced settings for informal or non-structured recreation during non-working hours.
- ▶ Development of a public swimming pool in Cambooya Shire.
- ▶ Ongoing development and support for equestrian-based sport and recreation activities.
- ▶ Development of a golf course in Cambooya Shire.
- ▶ Enhanced settings for youth-oriented sport and recreation.
- ▶ Encouragement strategies to motivate residents to participate in recreation and fitness activities – better promotion of sport and recreation facilities, services and programs is critical.
- ▶ Minimising the need for excessive travel outside the Shire to participate in sport and recreation.
- ▶ Optimising use of other community infrastructure for sport and recreation purposes.

⁴ Vale View Primary School declined to participate in the study.



(1) Participation in Organised Sport

Declining Participation Rates

Local participation rates in organised team sports are declining. Some sporting teams no longer exist due to a lack of members or interest. Contributing factors include:

- ▶ the difficulty for small communities to support a range of teams, coinciding with high levels of workforce participation (males and females) – team sports involving training and reliable participation in competition are the main activities which suffer due to work schedules;
- ▶ the escalating costs of public liability insurance, together with perceived risks of claims against clubs or event organisers;
- ▶ the “rural-urban” drift of young people from the Shire to major centres for education and employment reasons, impacting on replacement membership for clubs;
- ▶ the shadow effect of Toowoomba in attracting sport and recreation participation from a regional catchment;
- ▶ travelling distances to some venues outside the Shire are a disincentive;
- ▶ lack of locally-based sporting competitions, together with the availability of accredited coaches, officials, organisers, administration personnel and other volunteers; and
- ▶ the age, condition and standard of some facilities impacts on patronage.

Support for Clubs

Local sporting clubs highlighted a need more support and training in the core areas of:

1. Facility Development and Preparation of Grant Applications
2. Risk Management
3. Membership and Recruitment (particularly junior sports development)
4. Sponsorship and Fundraising
5. Strategic Planning for Club Development

Volunteers

All communities highlighted the difficulties in attracting new volunteers to assist with club organisation and activities programming. This is consistent with previous research – in small communities it is typical for a core group of volunteers to be spread thinly across a range of school, sport, church and community groups, particularly in positions of responsibility. Volunteerism also appears to be less evident in young people – this is attributed to increasing numbers of households where both parents are working, lack of commitment, lack of interest and out-migration from small towns to larger centres⁵.

⁵ Driscoll, K & Wood, L (1999), Sporting Capital – Changes and Challenges for Rural Communities in Victoria, RMIT.

(2) Changing Needs for Informal Recreation

Increasingly, work schedules are impacting on the sport and recreation patterns of Cambooya Shire residents and their families. Community feedback has shown that:

- ▶ residents are seeking greater flexibility, choice and convenience in recreation participation;
- ▶ there is a tendency for greater involvement in informal recreation activities (ie. non structured events);
- ▶ available leisure time is often focussed around participation in:
 - self or family organised recreational activities outside the home (eg. outdoor physical activities such as walking, cycling and picnicking); and
 - social activities.

Accordingly, community priorities for enhanced recreation settings are:

- ▶ connective pathway networks within local communities for recreational / fitness walking, jogging and cycling – integration with the Toowoomba cycle network was also suggested, particularly for commuter and sporting cyclists;
- ▶ recreational trails in response to the high demand for participation in non-motorised nature-based activities including horse riding, bushwalking and mountain biking; and
- ▶ targeted parkland improvement:
 - removal and replacement of old equipment (eg. tables, seating, swings, BBQs);
 - enhanced landscaping schemes;
 - provision of different facilities and activity spaces, catering for passive and active recreation (eg. shaded picnic spots, informal kick-about areas, playgrounds, fitness walking circuits);
 - shade over activity settings;
 - more suitable facilities for teenagers (eg. half-court basketball, handball courts, interesting playground equipment) – feedback indicates that many parks equipped for young children's needs and not older youths;
 - “destination” parks in major communities;
 - creek rehabilitation / enhancement projects incorporating walkways, interpretive signage and picnic areas; and
 - integration of fitness walking circuits with parks where possible.

Labour initiatives such as the Community Jobs Plan (CJP) were suggested by respondents to assist with small-scale parkland and pathway projects.

The CJP is part of the State Government's 'Breaking the Unemployment Cycle' initiative. This program targets long-term unemployed people and those at risk of long-term unemployment. It aims to provide skills and experience to increase the participants' ability to gain sustainable employment. Typical CJP projects include refurbishing and upgrading community facilities and environmental initiatives.

(3) Public Swimming Pool in Cambooya Shire

All communities and age groups have highlighted a need for a swimming pool complex in Cambooya Shire, catering for:

- ▶ Leisure, recreation and fitness activities;
- ▶ Competitive swimming, water sports and training;
- ▶ Education / learn to swim activities; and
- ▶ Therapeutic activities (particularly for older people).

Currently, there is high participation in water-based sport and recreation. As discussed, facilities located outside the Shire are well used by local residents. The strong support for a public swimming pool in Cambooya Shire is also reinforced by:

- ▶ high population growth, particularly family households with young children and teenagers;
- ▶ restrictions on public and school group access to swimming pools in Clifton Shire;
- ▶ the need for some excessive travel to pools outside the Shire – this has particular disadvantages for:
 - school groups – travel to and from swimming lessons can take up a large portion of the school day; and
 - young people who have limited mobility in the absence of a regular public transport service.

The community has identified a preference for an indoor heated pool for year round use. The preferred location appears to be Cambooya – Wyreema and Hodgson Vale were also suggested as possible sites.

Clearly there is strong support for a public swimming pool to be constructed, however, concerns were also expressed in respect to:

- ▶ construction and ongoing operating / maintenance costs, together with the impact on ratepayers to fund the project;
- ▶ the existing supply of swimming pools in adjoining areas, including 11 public swimming pools in Toowoomba City; and
- ▶ the overall feasibility of this proposal given the Shire's small population base and proximity to a major regional centre.

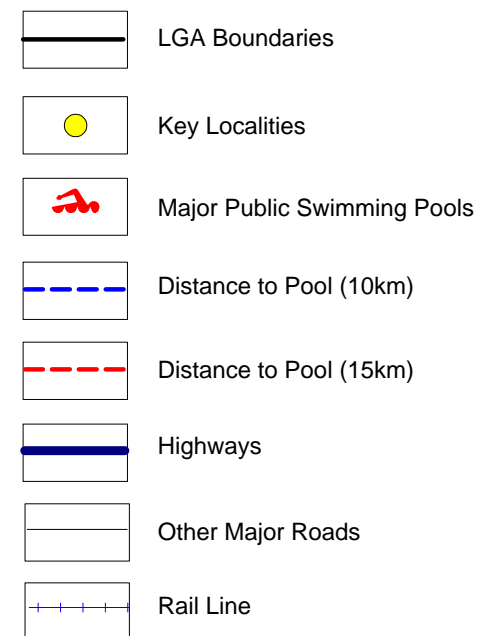
Figure 8 shows the distribution of major swimming pools used by local residents – this demonstrates that most parts of the Shire are within 10-15km of their nearest public pool.

A summary of the community's arguments "for" and "against" a swimming pool in Cambooya Shire are presented below:



Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 8
Distribution of Major
Public Swimming Pools used by
Cambooya Shire Residents

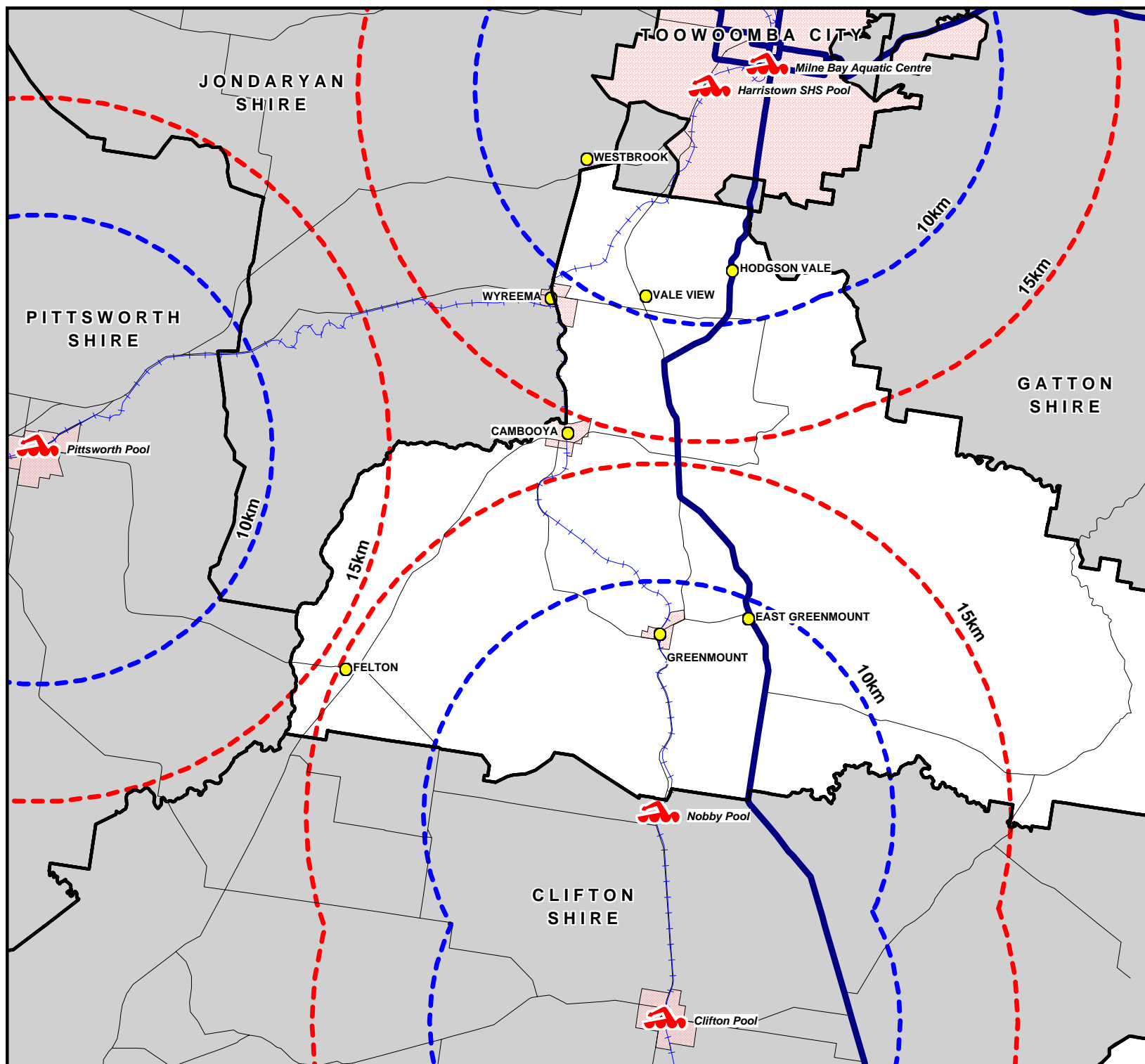


North



0 2 4 6 8
SCALE IN KILOMETRES (1:200000, A4 SIZE)

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<i>Arguments for ...</i>	<i>Arguments against ...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is strong community support for development of a local swimming pool, coinciding with population growth in the Shire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toowoomba City and surrounding shires have a good supply of indoor and outdoor aquatic centres to service Cambooya Shire.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some local residents and school groups need to travel excessive distances to use pools outside the Shire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too expensive! Many public swimming pools are deficit funded – the high construction and ongoing maintenance costs are not feasible for a small population base like Cambooya Shire. The “flow-on” effect to ratepayers will also be significant.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A local pool could deliver community benefits for recreation, education, fitness, training and therapeutic purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is greater community benefit in funding a range of different sport and recreation projects throughout the Shire, rather than one major project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local school children are being disadvantaged in developing their swimming skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other opportunities exist to improve access to swimming pools outside the Shire (eg. subsidised admission fees for residents, public transport).

(4) Equestrian-based Sport and Recreation Activities

There is significant horse ownership in the rural and rural residential parts of the Shire. A lot of these residents enjoy recreational horse riding. They have expressed a need for local roads in these areas to be prepared and maintained to a standard to make them more usable and comfortable for casual riding purposes (eg. removal of roadside debris and other obstacles, regular slashing / cleared access). Riding on smooth bitumen road edges is more preferable than rough gravel roads. The establishment of nature-based bridle trails was also highlighted as a priority.

In respect to competitive equestrian activities, there is strong support for ongoing improvement of local facilities such as the Cambooya Recreation Reserve. There is also some support to provide new facilities that are complementary to other equestrian venues in the region.

(5) Golf Course in Cambooya Shire

The development of golf course or practice driving range was identified as a longer term need by residents in both urban and rural parts of the Shire. This proposal received particular support from teenagers and adult males. It is anticipated that this need could increase over time with population growth and ageing.

(6) Youth Sport and Recreation Needs

There appears to be a shortfall in youth-oriented sport and recreation settings throughout the Shire, particularly in Wyreema and Greenmount. The provision of resources for teenagers was identified as a high priority – their needs focus on:

- ▶ informal recreation / non-structured activities;
- ▶ safe, visible and highly accessible recreation settings where kids can “hang out” with friends;
- ▶ facilities that are close to home;
- ▶ interesting multi-purpose activity precincts;
- ▶ contemporary leisure activities such as skate boarding, roller blading, half court basketball and mountain biking;
- ▶ school holiday programs; and
- ▶ better access to public swimming pools.

A range of specific initiatives were nominated by youths in the Shire, including:

<i>Facilities ...</i>	<i>Services and Programs ...</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Swimming pool ▶ Skate parks ▶ Playground equipment catering for children and older teenagers ▶ Recreational trail networks ▶ Areas for BMX, trail and mountain bikes ▶ Youth centres ▶ Pathways for walking, cycling and skating ▶ Goal posts and lighting on playing fields to make existing facilities more useable and appealing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Greater interaction with other young people (eg. inter-community youth events and sporting competitions) ▶ Organised social activities in non-school time (eg. movie nights, dances) ▶ Organised sporting activities and more specialised training (eg. talent identification and coaching programs, martial arts) ▶ Improved public transport services to Toowoomba, particularly during school holidays ▶ Traineeships for young people seeking a career in sport and recreation / leisure service industry

Feedback to a youth survey conducted by Council in August 2002 reinforced youth priorities for a swimming pool, skating facilities and more interesting playground equipment.

It also highlighted a number of other youth needs, such as:

- ▶ junior sports based in the Shire (notably soccer, football and netball);
- ▶ organised classes / tuition in dance, music, arts and crafts;
- ▶ golf driving range or mini course;
- ▶ public library facilities; and
- ▶ convenience store (Greenmount).



(7) Community Awareness and Leisure Participation

A lack of community awareness has been attributed to falling participation rates in some activities and a general lack of motivation to get involved in sport and recreation.

Suggestions to raise awareness and interest included:

- ▶ a calendar of sport and recreation events for the Shire and region;
- ▶ a directory of sport and recreation facilities, including their location and contact details;
- ▶ a page devoted to sport and recreation issues on Council's website;
- ▶ better promotion of sport, recreation and fitness programs available to the community, including more coverage in Council's newsletter "On Our Selection" and other print media;
- ▶ "welcome packs" for new residents to the Shire, providing information on sport and recreation;
- ▶ better signage of facilities and "town maps" in major communities, identifying the location of sport and recreation areas; and
- ▶ better promotion of training and support services available to local sporting clubs, from Council, SRQ, state sporting bodies and other providers.

(8) Travel Considerations and Levels of Service

Although many people are willing to travel to more specialised venues outside the Shire, there is a strong expectation that reasonable levels of service will be delivered at the local level – that is, an appropriate and accessible range of quality sport and recreation settings is supplied and maintained in each community, limiting the need for excessive travel.

This expectation relates to the provision basic facilities such as:

- ▶ parks;
- ▶ sports courts;
- ▶ playing field or informal kick-about area;
- ▶ indoor venues / public halls; and
- ▶ pathways.

In terms of access to major regional facilities, there is a need for a public transport service during peak periods (eg. school holidays). This should be well promoted to ensure that residents are aware of its schedule.



(9) Optimising Public Use of School Facilities

Schools can play an important role in the delivery of sport and recreation opportunities, to both their students (as part of the curriculum) and the general community.

The public use of sporting facilities located on school grounds is subject to the permission of individual schools, rather than Education Queensland policy. In Cambooya Shire, there is low public use of school sport and recreation facilities.

There is widespread support to improve the current situation, in order to achieve a range of mutually beneficial outcomes for both the school and community, such as:

- ▶ securing a wider range of activity choices (particularly in rural areas);
- ▶ enhancing the public surveillance, ownership and security of school grounds; and
- ▶ reducing the need for capital expenditure on the provision of new (duplicate) facilities elsewhere in the community.



5.2.2 Major Communities and Facilities

At the local level, a number of needs have been identified for sport and recreation facilities, services and programs in each community. Major issues are discussed below. The full list of community suggestions is presented in Appendix B.

Greenmount

1. **Bicentennial Memorial Park and Greenmount Hall** – Based on site investigations and community feedback, the poor location and standard of facilities at Bicentennial Memorial Park are major disincentives for its use – the park is concealed from public view behind Greenmount Hall and nearby residences.

Parks are an important focal point in small communities – Greenmount residents do not consider that their local park adequately fulfils this role or provides a positive contribution to township identity.

Greenmount Hall is also of concern for many residents. Given the age and condition of the hall, it offers limited versatility or appeal to cater for recreational purposes and community gatherings such as indoor bowls, fitness programs, youth events or playgroup meetings. Residents noted that hall security, ventilation, equipment storage and public toilet facilities also require attention.

There is strong support for parkland enhancement and hall upgrading, coinciding with the streetscape project on Ramsay Street – residents recognise the excellent potential for this prominent site to be re-created as an important community “hub” or key social space where people of all ages can come together for a range of purposes, including sport and recreation.

Accordingly, the following actions were suggested by the community:

- provide clear, unobstructed views of the park from surrounding areas to increase public surveillance and appeal;
 - enhance visual and landscape amenity;
 - upgrade pedestrian access into the park from Ramsay and Hirst Streets;
 - install a town map and information board for residents and visitors;
 - upgrade basketball court (surface, multi-sport line marking etc);
 - upgrade playground equipment, seating, shade and picnic facilities; and
 - hall refurbishment (including new public toilets and library facilities).
2. **Walking Circuit** – For some time there has been support to establish a walking circuit around Greenmount, which could be integrated with local parks and the streetscaping project on Ramsay Street. It is proposed that the circuit would commence at the BMX area near the school grounds, and run north-south on Council land adjacent to the bypass road reserve at the top of the town. It would divert into Ramsay Street and then adjacent to the rail corridor on Pilton Street. Finally it would run into Haldon Street passed the school



grounds, covering a total distance of about 2 km. Planting schemes and distance markers could be featured along the circuit.

Residents propose that the circuit could be developed in stages, utilising existing pathways and new walking trails – over time this could extend across the community area. It was also suggested that a nature appreciation reserve and scenic lookout be established near the BMX site – local school students and environmental groups could be involved in the project.

3. **Youth Facilities and Activities** – Activity settings are required to accommodate informal/unstructured recreation for local youths. Actions suggested by the Greenmount community include:
 - ▶ reinstatement of the BMX area;
 - ▶ upgrading of facilities at Bicentennial Memorial Park (particularly the basketball court), together with provision of new facilities for older youths;
 - ▶ areas for skating (skate ramp and pathways);
 - ▶ establishment of a youth centre – refurbishment of the Greenmount Hall was suggested for this purpose;
 - ▶ opportunities for participation in competitions and events with other townships – the operation of a mini-bus service scheduled for special events was suggested;
 - ▶ more activities for young people in Greenmount and East Greenmount (eg. movie nights, dances);
 - ▶ permit public use of sporting facilities at the Greenmount School; and
 - ▶ better public transport service between Greenmount and Toowoomba.
4. **Community Awareness** – A lack of community awareness or information on the sport and recreation opportunities available has seriously impacted on participation rates in Greenmount. Residents agreed that more effective communication targeted towards key stakeholder groups is a priority to increase involvement (eg. young people, new residents).

Town's sport and recreation facilities are not optimally located or out of public view. An effective signage strategy is required to raise awareness, incorporating directional signage to local facilities, a community noticeboard and town map.

Cambooya

1. **Swimming Pool** – As discussed, there is strong community support for the development of an indoor swimming pool complex in Cambooya.
2. **Youth Facilities and Activities** – Despite the good range of facilities, many young people in Cambooya say they have “nothing to do”. This has led to some anti-social behaviour in the past. Getting these youths involved in new sport and recreation initiatives will be critical, to create more interest and ownership in their local community.

Key priorities for Cambooya are:

- enlarge skating area to cater for a range of skill levels from novice to experienced users;
 - provide support facilities (eg. shade, seating, drinking fountain, mural wall, landscaping);
 - covered shelter / rotunda for organised youth events; and
 - co-locate new complementary facilities with the skate park to make it a more interesting precinct (eg. basketball half-court, play equipment, mural wall).
 - Upgrade BMX area for better safety and useability.
 - Provide goal posts on the school oval.
 - More organised youth activities (eg. movie screenings, dances, youth festivals) and improved publicity initiatives. Young people indicated that existing activities were targeted at younger children and were not well publicised.
 - Youth involvement in community projects and representation on management committees.
 - Better public transport service between Cambooya and Toowoomba.
- 3. **Paterson Park** – There is a need to modify existing activity areas to generate more usage of the park. Community suggestions included:
 - enlarge the basketball court for social games (including two hoops and backboards; remove handball wall);
 - establish a fitness walking circuit, distance markers and exer-sites around the perimeter of the park. The walking circuit / pathway should have a “natural” surface treatment in-keeping with the parkland setting (eg. compacted road base);
 - provide different playground equipment for teenagers; and
 - more shade.
- 4. **Cambooya Lawn Bowls Club** – For many years, the lawn bowls club has been an important sporting venue. More recently, the impacts of increasing insurance costs and falling membership numbers have been significant. There is some concern that the club will

have to cease operations in the near future⁶.

To address this situation, the club requires immediate assistance with the following:

- ▶ clear guidance on public liability insurance options; and
- ▶ greater support from local residents (membership and volunteers).

The club is very supportive of encouraging junior and senior participation in lawn bowls, together with other activities to raise interest (eg. school groups, “BBQ and bowls”).

5. Cambooya Recreation Reserve – A number of improvements were identified for the Cambooya Recreation Reserve. Priorities include:

- ▶ progressive improvement of the covered shelter to make it more equipped for community purposes – provision of a concrete slab beneath the shelter was highlighted as a short term priority. Installation of walls and roller doors were suggested as longer range objectives to establish a fully enclosed (ie. indoor) community facility;
- ▶ increase security and policing at the premises in response to recent theft and vandalism;
- ▶ upgraded power supply, particularly for major campdrafting and gymkhana events;
- ▶ full replacement of perimeter fencing within the main arena;
- ▶ upgraded equipment for Pony Club and campdrafting activities;
- ▶ review of existing insurance arrangements between tenants and Council to reduce high financial burden on clubs; and
- ▶ establish a multi-use covered arena in the longer term (ie. upgrading of the existing outdoor arena), together with additional yards and support facilities .

6. Community Involvement – As discussed in Section 5.2.1, securing volunteer support for the organisation of sport and recreation activities has been very difficult in the Cambooya community. The lack of a full time physical education teacher at Cambooya School, together with locally based coaching staff, has also impacted on participation in junior sports.

⁶ Advice from Cambooya Men's Bowling Club Inc.

Wyreema

1. **FE Obst Park Complex** – This is under-utilised resource. Local residents suggested the following improvements to enhance its role as the local sport and recreation hub:
 - ▶ Oval – upgrade uneven playing surface for improved user comfort and safety, install goal posts (soccer / football), provide lighting for night use, provide cricket practice nets and multi-sport line markings to attract inter-town competitions to the venue. A longer range objective flowing from these improvements would be the establishment of a local cricket and / or football club.
 - ▶ Playground – replace shade cloth, replace sand beneath play equipment with a “softfall” surface to improve hygiene and safety, enlarge basketball court to standard half-court with two hoops and backboards.
 - ▶ Grass Netball Courts – reinstate this facility or convert to a different use (eg. skate park, bicycle training circuit).
 - ▶ Tennis Courts – upgrade clubhouse, provide more shade, enhance landscaping, upgrade security and increase membership.
 - ▶ Other suggestions:
 - landscape enhancements around the site, including more shade; and
 - more frequent facility maintenance.
2. **Skate Park** – There is considerable demand for the development of a skate park in Wyreema. Support for the facility was expressed by local youths and adults, including a community petition submitted to Council. Residents identified FE Obst Park as a preferred site, due to its centrality and existing facilities. Residents suggested that Council seek State Government funding for the project in partnership with Jondaryan Shire Council, given the “whole of community” benefit.
3. **Other Youth Facilities and Activities** – Priorities for Wyreema include the following:
 - ▶ Bicycle training circuit for educational and recreational use – a similar facility has been established at Westbrook and comprises a simulated road network. It could be used by local residents and school groups undertaking “Bike Ed” activities. Residents agreed that the circuit should be located within close proximity to an existing park or playground.
 - ▶ Better public transport service between Wyreema and Toowoomba.
 - ▶ More youth-oriented activities, including inter-community events and festivals.
4. **Walking and Cycling** – Several pathways have already been established in Wyreema and these are well used by local residents. These facilities provide a good foundation for the development of more comprehensive local network catering for a range of different user groups including cyclists, pedestrians, joggers, strollers, wheelchairs etc.

Residents also support an upgrade of the rail line crossing for pedestrians to improve safety, particularly for children.

5. **Barton Park** – Landscape modifications and night lighting are required at Barton Park to improve visual surveillance and discourage anti-social behaviour.
6. **Partnership Approach between Neighbouring Councils** – Residents highlighted the need for greater cooperation and collaboration between Cambooya and Jondaryan Shire Councils to ensure that community infrastructure provision was more equitable and coordinated either side of the rail line.

Hodgson Vale / Top Camp

1. **Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club** – This was identified as a site of significance for future sport and recreation development in the northern part of Cambooya Shire.

Facility users and local residents have suggested various actions to consolidate the venue's role as a multi-purpose sport and recreation 'hub' and to attract more users from local and district catchments. It is noted that the site has adequate room for new / expanded facilities, coinciding with population growth.

Community priorities for future development were:

- ▶ Provide two cricket practice nets.
- ▶ Upgrade the existing oval to improve usability – goal posts, lighting, improved playing surface.
- ▶ Develop a new multi-use playing field (eg. soccer, cricket).
- ▶ Establish a children's playground near the hall and tennis courts.
- ▶ Provide more secure equipment storage facilities.
- ▶ Expand the community hall in the long term.
- ▶ Provide an additional court(s) in the long term.
- ▶ Upgrade vehicular access into the site.
- ▶ Formalise internal site access for pedestrians between the sports club and Lions Park (eg. walking track).
- ▶ Base new sporting teams based at the site (eg. cricket, netball) for participation in district competitions – encourage local residents to get involved.
- ▶ Investigate opportunities for new clubs to base their activities at the site, including the Toowoomba Company of Archers. Also promote the site to other potential users throughout the district (eg. Toowoomba based clubs, school groups, university sporting clubs).
- ▶ Implement a creek rehabilitation and landscape enhancement project, including recreational walking trails and settings for picnics etc.

2. Lions Park – The community has identified the following issues and needs:

- ▶ Provide a pathway to the Lions Park from Kearney Street to enhance local access to the site.
- ▶ Some parents are concerned about their children crossing the New England Highway to access the Lions Park – there is a need to provide a safer crossing point. It is noted that the highway's function may be downgraded in future when the Second Range Crossing is established – in this case, traffic volumes and freight movements may decline.
- ▶ Discourage the use of Lions Park for overnight camping and caravans.

3. Recreational Trails and Local Access – Enhancing local access is a significant issue in Hodgson Vale / Top Camp. Primary needs relate to the following:

- ▶ There is considerable support for Council to protect remnant bushland, wetlands and wildlife corridors within the open space system through rural lands in the Shire's north, to allow for linear forms of public access for recreation (eg. walking and bridle trails). The growth of nature-based recreation and ecotourism is also increasing demands for bushwalking, mountain biking and camping areas throughout the region.
- ▶ The circuitous nature of the local subdivision patterns has implications for pedestrian access within and between residences and local activity nodes – for examples, few provisions have been made for “short cut” easements between cul-de-sacs. The demand for appealing walking circuits and enhanced accessibility appears to be increasing with the influx of new residents.

4. Youth Facilities and Activities – Priorities for Hodgson Vale / Top Camp include:

- ▶ Enlarge the basketball court at the Lions Park, and erect a small fence on one side to prevent basketballs from rolling down the hill (young people have highlighted this as a problem which discourages use of the court).
- ▶ Finalise work on the BMX area to provide a functional and safe recreational setting – work on the facility is being completed by Council as opportunity presents. Many youths and parents also believe that it is unsafe in its current state.
- ▶ More organised activities for young people, including inter-community youth events.
- ▶ Facilities for cycling and skating.
- ▶ Better public transport service between Hodgson Vale and Toowoomba.

5. Community Awareness – Greater effort is required to encourage new residents to utilise the local sports club and participate in community events. The need for better promotion and awareness of sport and recreation across the Shire was highlighted, with support for the preparation of a sport and recreation directory.



Community Needs and Priorities – Balance of Shire

1. Vale View:

- ▶ Pathway from Federation Park to Vale View School along Drayton Connection Road.
- ▶ Pedestrian / cycle linkages from Vale View to Wyreema.
- ▶ Improvements at Federation Park:
 - provide cricket practice nets;
 - upgrade maintenance of pathway through park;
 - replace old swings;
 - establish recreational trails from Federation Park to surrounding communities; and
 - develop a multi-purpose playing field as part of the Federation Park reserve to serve the demands from the growing community.

2. East Greenmount:

- ▶ Playground for children.
- ▶ Organised activities for old youths.
- ▶ Cricket practice nets at Emu Creek Primary School.
- ▶ Pathways for walking and cycling.
- ▶ Increase promotion of Steele Rudd Park.

3. Ramsay:

- ▶ Adventure playground for children.
- ▶ Pathways for cycling and skating.
- ▶ Swimming pool in the Shire.

4. Felton:

- ▶ Trail bike areas.
- ▶ Bushwalking trails.

5. Mount Rascal:

- ▶ No specific suggestions received from Mount Rascal residents.

5.3 Conclusion

It is evident that the community's sport and recreation needs range from small to large scale infrastructure projects. The practicalities of achieving some of these outcomes will be constrained by different economic realities, population trends, resources and the Shire's location.

While it is impossible to address all of the issues raised during the consultation phase, the study's findings will better inform Council, State Government and private service providers on the full range of issues, needs and concerns held by local residents and community organisations.



CAMBOOYA SHIRE SPORT & RECREATION NEEDS STUDY
PART D – Analysis and Recommendations

6. Analysis of Supply and Demand

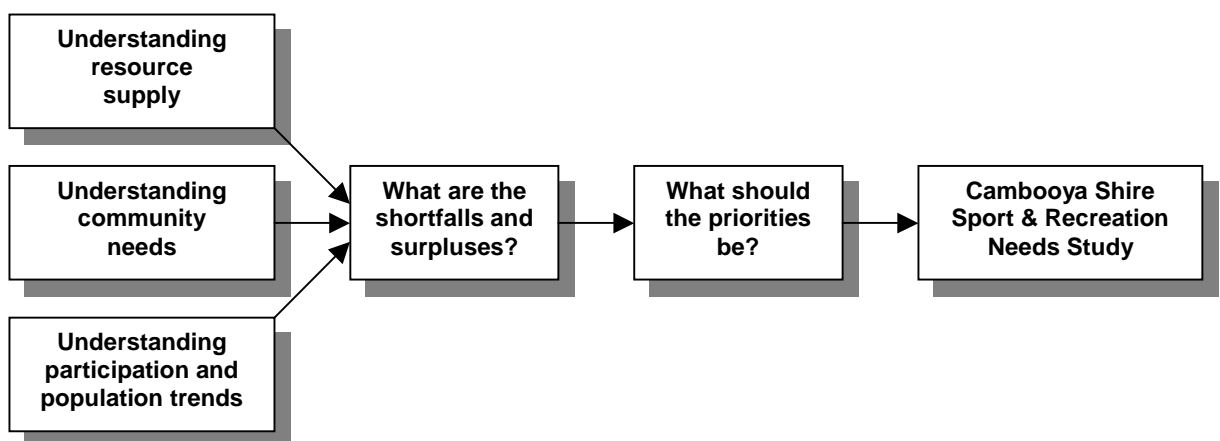
6.1 Overview

The assessment of sport and recreation issues in Cambooya Shire has largely been based on a supply and demand approach, as follows:

- ▶ comparing the community's sport and recreation needs, leisure participation trends and population growth patterns

with

- ▶ the actual supply of facilities, services and programs.



The results of this analysis indicate the adequacy of current sport and recreation supply in Cambooya Shire, and highlight emerging needs and priorities requiring future attention. These outcomes provide the framework for formulation of study recommendations.

6.2 Surpluses

Based on supply and demand results, Cambooya Shire's principal surpluses in sport and recreation supply appear to be the following:

- ▶ Existing parkland appears adequate to meet future needs in all communities. Modifications and improvements to existing reserves will be required over time, to provide greater diversity, interest and quality in these recreation settings.
- ▶ With the exception of Hodgson Vale, all communities have an adequate supply of sports courts to meet future needs. Many existing facilities have the capacity to cater for a broader range of activities through multi-sport line marking. Future demands could also be addressed by increasing public utilisation of school facilities.

- ▶ The Shire has a good supply playing fields for activities such as cricket and different football codes (eg. Wyreema, Cambooya, Hodgson Vale). Many of these reserves are currently under-utilised. They have capacity to optimise use through improvements to playing surfaces and support facilities, boosted by ongoing population growth and the youthful age profile in major communities.
- ▶ Further to the above point, development of the regional Australian Rules Football complex at Mt Peel could generate more local interest in participation and demand for suitable Aussie Rules venues.

Existing land supply means that Cambooya Shire also has the potential to respond to regional shortfalls in venues for:

- ▶ equestrian-based sport and recreation activities;
- ▶ nature based recreation – linear forms of non-motorised outdoor recreation such as bushwalking, mountain biking and horse riding, which are within reasonable proximity to urban areas;
- ▶ archery; and
- ▶ long distance road cycling routes and short distance road racing criterion courses.

6.3 Shortfalls

The principal gaps in Cambooya Shire's sport and recreation supply are outlined below.

Gaps for Demographic Groups

<i>Group</i>	<i>Main Gaps</i>
Youths / Teenagers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ High quality recreation settings ▶ Water based sport and recreation ▶ Venues for social gatherings ▶ Leisure-related cultural pursuits (particularly libraries, movie screenings, music and theatrical performances, cultural heritage appreciation) ▶ Junior sports development ▶ Nature-based recreation and outdoor education settings ▶ Transport (public transport and local linkages to community activity nodes – walking and cycling paths)

Gaps for Demographic Groups (cont)

Group	Main Gaps
Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Competitive sport at a senior level (males and females) ▶ Choice and flexibility in informal recreation participation ▶ Nature-based recreation settings ▶ Physical fitness activities
Older Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Walking, passive recreation and nature appreciation opportunities ▶ Water-based recreation, fitness and hydrotherapy activities ▶ Leisure-related cultural pursuits (libraries, arts and crafts) ▶ Transport

Facilities

- ▶ Water-based sport and recreation – community demands for a local swimming pool are linked to year round needs for swimming, education, leisure and therapeutic activities. It is anticipated that this will continue to escalate with population growth (younger and older age groups). In the short term, constraints on access to swimming pools in surrounding areas will also compound the issue (eg. lack of public transport, admission fees, schedule clashes for school groups).
- ▶ Youth-oriented sport and recreation facilities, particularly skating and cycling areas, appropriately sized and equipped basketball courts for social games, playground equipment (catering for teenagers) and venues for social gatherings / youth centres, together with organised activities and inter-community youth events.
- ▶ Support infrastructure for field sports – many playing fields / ovals lack practice facilities, goal posts and night lighting. These small scale modifications may have a significant impact on overall useability.
- ▶ Sports courts and playing fields – projected growth trends, population distribution and regional demands suggest that additional sports courts and playing fields may be needed at the Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club.
- ▶ Informal recreation:
 - infrastructure for short distance walking and cycling;
 - public libraries and other venues for arts, crafts and cultural pursuits; and
 - parkland supply in Greenmount has limited capacity to meet community needs, particularly for family and youth-oriented activities.
- ▶ Public access to school sport and recreation facilities.
- ▶ Specialised or single purpose venues for activities such as golf and indoor sport – it is anticipated that local needs will continue to be absorbed by nearby venues outside the Shire.

Services and Programs

- ▶ Effective community information networks.
- ▶ Locally-based coaching, officiating, administration and volunteer personnel.
- ▶ Support and training networks for local sporting organisations.
- ▶ Organised activities and programs (in all age groups and communities).
- ▶ Information and interpretive materials on recreational settings, including historic value of some parkland areas and public halls.
- ▶ Public transport services to facilitate community access to higher order sport and recreation venues across the region.

6.4 Directions for Future Planning

This analysis has highlighted a number of broad directions to guide future sport and recreation planning in Cambooya Shire:

- ▶ Recognise Toowoomba City's role in the supply of higher order sport and recreation facilities to the regional population (ie. "shadow" effect), and the inefficiencies of duplicating some major infrastructure items at the local level.
- ▶ Identify and develop initiatives that will raise the Shire's regional profile through unique and complementary sport and recreation opportunities.
- ▶ Focus future planning and expenditure on improvements to existing facilities, and minimise facility duplication where possible. For example, implement small scale improvements at existing sports reserves to greatly enhance usability for social games and training purposes (eg. cricket practice nets, installation of goal posts).
- ▶ Consolidate sport and recreation facilities to achieve more effective facility use and maintenance.
- ▶ Enhance public access to integrated open space networks and parkland, to better satisfy the broad range of community needs for informal recreation.
- ▶ Place greater emphasis on the sport and recreation needs of young people and older adults.
- ▶ Maximise benefits for recreational and competitive equestrian activities.
- ▶ Strengthen opportunities for outdoor education and appreciation of local heritage through sport and recreation projects.
- ▶ Promote cooperative planning efforts between Cambooya Shire Council, the community, surrounding Councils and the State Government.
- ▶ Integrate sport and recreation planning principles into Council's Corporate Plan and new Planning Scheme, to facilitate better recognition of sport, recreation, open space, pathways and trails as features integral to the shire's future development.
- ▶ Prepare individual management/master plans for major reserves.
- ▶ Develop initiatives to achieve a more supportive and better informed community.

7. Strategies and Actions

7.1 Overview

This section provides the recommendations for future planning, management and funding for sport and recreation initiatives in Cambooya Shire over the next 10 years. It comprises 10 key strategies addressing facilities, services and programs – their implementation will occur by means of specific actions, set out in an Action Plan. The strategies are:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| <u>Strategy 1</u> | <i>Sport and Recreation Policy</i> – Adopt a policy to guide Cambooya Shire Council's future planning, management and funding for sport and recreation initiatives. |
| <u>Strategy 2</u> | <i>Active Australia</i> – Demonstrate Cambooya Shire Council's commitment to sport and recreation service delivery, through membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network. |
| <u>Strategy 3</u> | <i>Regional Profile</i> – Build a strong regional identity for Cambooya Shire by harnessing its unique sport and recreation strengths, to maximise the benefits for the Shire as a whole and each local community. |
| <u>Strategy 4</u> | <i>Community Awareness</i> – Deliver up-to-date information, education, training and support on sport and recreation matters, in response to community needs. |
| <u>Strategy 5</u> | <i>Cambooya "Get Active"</i> – Implement initiatives to motivate the community to participate in sport, recreation and fitness activities. |
| <u>Strategy 6</u> | <i>Optimising Use of Existing Infrastructure</i> – Implement initiatives to achieve more efficient and sustainable use of sport and recreation resources, through consolidation of multi-purpose facility precincts, facility co-location and targeted improvement works. |
| <u>Strategy 7</u> | <i>Informal Recreation</i> – Enhance and maintain a range of high quality facilities and settings, that are consistent with community needs for informal recreation and contribute to health, social cohesion and a "sense of place". |
| <u>Strategy 8</u> | <i>Youth Sport and Recreation</i> – Encourage and motivate Cambooya Shire's youth population to participate in sport and recreation, through affordable and accessible initiatives that target their unique needs. |
| <u>Strategy 9</u> | <i>Swimming Pool</i> – Facilitate adequate access to, and encourage the provision of, water-based sport and recreation opportunities for the people of Cambooya Shire. |
| <u>Strategy 10</u> | <i>Cross Boundary Planning and Management</i> – Be proactive to achieve regional coordination and cooperation in sport and recreation planning outcomes between neighbouring Local Government Authorities. |

7.2 Key Strategies for Cambooya Shire

STRATEGY 1 – SPORT AND RECREATION POLICY

Adopt a policy to guide Cambooya Shire Council's future planning, management and funding for sport and recreation initiatives.

The Sport and Recreation Vision

It is essential for Cambooya Shire Council to recognise how important its sport, recreation and open space resources are and the role that they play.

In conjunction with implementation of the *Sport & Recreation Needs Study*, it is recommended that Council develop an overall sport and recreation “vision” for inclusion in its Corporate Plan, together with objectives and principles to guide Action Plan implementation and deal with community needs in future.

A broad vision for the Shire is suggested below:

There is a range of useable, safe and accessible settings, facilities and linkages which are located and designed to offer multi-purpose sport and recreation opportunities, catering adequately for the changing needs of Cambooya Shire's urban and rural communities, including groups with special access needs.

Improved organisational structures and forward planning practices should also be implemented to ensure that activities are undertaken according to an agreed direction, facility maintenance and upkeep regimes are proactive rather than reactive, and responsibilities / tasks are assigned according to an overall plan.

This approach will generate a more transparent link between Council's actions, funding allocation and community needs.

Objectives

- ▶ To plan and develop sport and recreation facilities, services and programs that meet community needs.
- ▶ To improve the health and wellbeing of the Cambooya Shire community through participation in organised competitive sport and informal recreation activities.
- ▶ To build social cohesion, community identity and local pride by harnessing the unique sport and recreation strengths of the Shire.
- ▶ To remove, as far as possible, barriers to sport and recreation participation on the basis of age, gender, location, mobility, level of ability, income or cultural background.
- ▶ To manage and maintain Council's sport, recreation and open space assets in a coordinated, efficient and sustainable manner.

Guiding Principles

- ▶ Council will take a proactive and coordinated approach to sport and recreation planning and service delivery in Cambooya Shire. This planning approach will be informed by an appreciation of changing demographic profile and leisure participation trends. Service delivery will be underpinned by a culture of continuous improvement.
- ▶ Council will work in partnership with community groups, sporting clubs, schools, adjoining Councils, State Government agencies, regional bodies and other stakeholders to deliver appropriate sport and recreation opportunities.
- ▶ Council will take a coordinated approach in sport and recreation planning that encompasses the wider regional community for the benefits of Cambooya Shire.
- ▶ Council will be committed to ensure that staff are given the relevant support and resources to implement the *Sport & Recreation Needs Study*.
- ▶ Council will be proactive in conducting community consultations and needs assessments to guide future sport and recreation provision. Relevant community stakeholders will be encouraged to participate in decision making processes.
- ▶ Council will strive to achieve innovation through sport and recreation initiatives that utilise and showcase the Shire's local communities and resources.
- ▶ Council will ensure that the levels of sport and recreation provision are commensurate with local needs and population growth, recognising that Toowoomba is the primary provider of higher order facilities, services and programs to the Darling Downs region.
- ▶ Council will create and consolidate sport and recreation facilities into multi-purpose "hubs" or "precincts" within major population centres, to achieve greater sustainability over time and positively contribute to community development.
- ▶ Council will strive to achieve equity in the delivery of sport and recreation initiatives across the Shire, which can help reduce social isolation, enhance community wellbeing and improve physical health.
- ▶ Council will be proactive in raising community awareness through effective communication, promotion and information dissemination, to encourage greater participation in sport and recreation across the Shire.

STRATEGY 2 - ACTIVE AUSTRALIA

Demonstrate Cambooya Shire Council's commitment to sport and recreation service delivery, through membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network.

It is recommended that Council seek membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network (AALGN).

Local Government Authorities are key stakeholders in delivering sport and recreation opportunities to the public, as such they are an integral part of the Active Australia initiative. The AALGN is a national network of Councils committed to improving the quality of sport, recreation and physical activity opportunities available to their communities.

The major benefit of membership will be access to examples of best practice planning, pilot projects and resources that have been produced in the support and promotion of Active Australia. These will provide assistance and ideas in the key areas of:

- ▶ infrastructure, services and programs;
- ▶ encouraging community participation in sport and recreation;
- ▶ promoting the benefits of sport and physical activity to the local community;
- ▶ advocating and information on services and infrastructure; and
- ▶ sport and recreation publications and other information sources.

STRATEGY 3 - ENHANCING CAMBOOYA SHIRE'S REGIONAL PROFILE AND IDENTITY THROUGH SPORT AND RECREATION

Build a strong regional identity for Cambooya Shire by harnessing its unique sport and recreation strengths, to maximise the benefits for the Shire as a whole and each local community.

Over the next 10 years, Council should be committed to enhancing Cambooya Shire's identity and profile through the ongoing development, investment and promotion of its sport and recreation assets.

In response to emerging demographic trends and leisure participation demands across the region, Cambooya Shire is well placed to:

- ▶ encourage the establishment of new sport and recreation opportunities, capitalising on the Shire's strategic location and proximity to major urban populations, good land availability, unique environmental and scenic qualities, semi-rural character, strong local history, existing infrastructure base, growing population, and synergies with Toowoomba-based facilities, activities and organisations;
- ▶ capitalise on the diminishing supply of available space for sport and recreation facility development in surrounding urban municipalities;
- ▶ address unmet local and regional demands for sport and recreation participation;
- ▶ maximise linkages between sport / recreation initiatives and benefits for community and economic development, including increased private sector investment;
- ▶ maximise the benefits for residents, by providing greater diversity, quality and quantity in sport and recreation choice, through attracting new activities and events into the Shire; and
- ▶ better market or "showcase" the Shire's assets to local communities and the region; and
- ▶ strengthen the collective shire identity or "sense of place" held by individual communities.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council strengthen its regional profile and identity, by focussing opportunity identification and market development on the core areas of:

1. Nature based recreation;
2. Heritage based recreation and outdoor education; and
3. Equestrian based sporting activities and events.

It will be Council's responsibility to facilitate these goals through appropriate land use planning, management and resourcing activities. Strong promotion and marketing of the Shire's natural, heritage, recreational and sporting assets throughout the region will also be critical to attract new opportunities and investment.

Other major stakeholders who will play a lead role in achieving this strategy include:



- ▶ State Government agencies, such as Sport & Recreation Queensland, Education Queensland, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Natural Resources & Mines;
- ▶ tourism bodies such as Toowoomba & Gold West Regional Tourist Association and Tourism Queensland;
- ▶ local sporting clubs, community groups and schools;
- ▶ regional sport and recreation clubs;
- ▶ State sporting bodies;
- ▶ neighbouring Local Government Authorities;
- ▶ other service providers; and
- ▶ the private sector.

1. Nature-based Recreation

Recent assessments such as the *South East Queensland Outdoor Recreation Demand Study* have clearly demonstrated escalating demands for nature-based recreational access.

Therefore, by recognising the Shire's opportunities and constraints, it is recommended that Council develop appropriate facilities, programs and settings for:

- ▶ Bicycle riding
- ▶ Picnicking and visiting parks
- ▶ Nature appreciation (eg. bushwalking, bird watching, fishing)
- ▶ Horse trail riding (ie. short and long distance routes away from vehicular traffic)
- ▶ Mountain bike trail riding
- ▶ Camping (ie. a limited number of low impact camping sites)
- ▶ Outdoor recreation activity programs

The principal initiative for nature-based recreation in Cambooya Shire will be the development of a trail network utilising strategic open space corridors for non-motorised activities (ie. horse riding, mountain biking and bushwalking) .

The trail network should provide connections to:

- ▶ local parks and other sport and recreation venues;
- ▶ sites of local heritage significance;
- ▶ local camping areas;
- ▶ outdoor recreation settings in surrounding municipalities (regional connections); and
- ▶ other trails within the region.



Secondary nature-based opportunities will focus on:

- ▶ driving for pleasure and access to parkland and scenic lookouts; and
- ▶ developing opportunities for short and long distance bicycle touring, training and competitive circuit racing within the Shire;

The success and value of Cambooya Shire's nature-based recreation projects will be underpinned by:

- ▶ selective enhancement of existing sites and development of new recreation areas;
- ▶ education and interpretation material (educational information at key sites, directional and educational signs, guided activities, brochures, maps etc);
- ▶ marketing (promotional events and materials, media coverage, signage, maps etc);
- ▶ adequate resource allocation; and
- ▶ community support.

2. Heritage Based Recreation and Outdoor Education

Council should embrace the opportunity to capitalise on the social, cultural and educational values of local recreation areas. In particular, Council should enhance and promote recreational experiences which are integrated with:

- ▶ local history; and
- ▶ outdoor education.

Local History

The "Steele Rudd Country" theme will be a critical element in developing and promoting heritage-based recreation opportunities in the Shire. Key actions will involve:

- ▶ promoting attractions of historic or cultural significance (eg. Steele Rudd Park, Federation Park, historic township buildings, war memorials);
- ▶ preparation and distribution of more interpretive / promotional material at strategic locations throughout the Shire (eg. local parks) and region (eg. visitor information services and facilities, public libraries);
- ▶ establishing interpretive and educational facilities, supported by local history groups and networking with regional historians; and
- ▶ packaging local history settings / features as part of day trips and touring activities within the Shire.

Outdoor Education

Outdoor Education includes a wide spectrum of out-of-school programs ranging from students working outside the classroom in the local park, visiting town or a local agricultural show, through to outdoor recreation and adventure education programs.



Typically, outdoor education programs are designed to challenge students and teachers to extend their individual capabilities and develop team building and leadership skills through a spirit of cooperation⁷.

Both nature- and heritage-based recreation are complementary to the outcomes of outdoor education programs. Therefore, to maximise these synergies, it is recommended that Council investigate the establishment outdoor education settings, services and programs that take advantage of the vast range of learning opportunities and resources available in the Shire's local communities and natural environs.

This initiative should be developed in conjunction with relevant government and community stakeholders. Target participants would include schools, youth groups, scouts and guides etc, as well as the general community.

Outdoor education activities that may be suitable include:

- ▶ Bushwalking (day / overnight)
- ▶ Camping
- ▶ Cycling (cycle touring, mountain biking, BMX)
- ▶ Experiential programs (eg. leadership courses, team building exercises, nature study)
- ▶ Horse riding
- ▶ Orienteering
- ▶ Ropes courses

3. Equestrian-based Sporting Activities and Events

Ongoing support and promotion of equestrian-based facilities and activities should be a priority. This will focus on:

- ▶ investment and progressive development of existing equestrian facilities;
- ▶ attracting new equestrian activities and events into the Shire, to maximise the local profile, economic development opportunities and community benefit;
- ▶ strategic development of new equestrian-related facilities and initiatives that dovetail with the existing resource base in Toowoomba City and the surrounding region, as appropriate; and
- ▶ ongoing support for private sector development in the equine industry.

⁷ Adapted from the Education Queensland website.

STRATEGY 4 - ACHIEVE GREATER COMMUNITY AWARENESS OF SPORT AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

Deliver up-to-date information, education, training and support on sport and recreation matters, in response to community needs.

1. Community Awareness

The need to improve community awareness of sport and recreation opportunities should be given high priority from the outset, focussing on:

- ▶ Preparation of the Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Directory (in booklet form) detailing the range of facilities, services and programs available, their locations and contact details. The directory should be updated on an annual basis and circulated throughout the Shire. All new residents should also receive the directory.
- ▶ A sport and recreation “calendar of events” to raise awareness and avoid scheduling clashes.
- ▶ Development of a webpage that features local sport and recreation facilities, programs and upcoming events, linked to Council’s internet site and featuring ‘downloadable’ versions of the Sport & Recreation Directory and events calendar.
- ▶ Visually prominent community noticeboards and town maps, indicating the location of key facilities and attractions. These should be deployed in Greenmount, Cambooya, Wyreema, Hodgson Vale and Vale View.
- ▶ Exhibitions and facility promotions, such as feedback forms and updates in rates notices, newsletters and use of an ‘on-hold’ message on Council’s telephone lines.
- ▶ More effective and balanced coverage of sport and recreation facilities, services and programs in Council’s newsletter “On Our Selection” and website, for example, a regular feature on different parks throughout the Shire.
- ▶ Targeting community awareness information at sporting organisations and communities from outside the shire, highlighting the positive aspects and opportunities that exist in Cambooya Shire (eg. more prominent coverage in regional newspapers).

2. Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee

An advisory committee should be established to monitor the progress of study recommendations and develop ownership of the outcomes. The Committee’s role would extend beyond study implementation to address other sport and recreation matters such as upcoming events, facility development, accessing funding, facility planning and community needs etc. The committee should meet every six months and comprise representatives of Council, each community, sport and recreation groups, local organisations, young people, older adults and other stakeholders as appropriate (eg. SRQ).



3. Ongoing Community Involvement

Ongoing public involvement in the planning, management and decision making processes will also be essential. Council should be proactive in encouraging and promoting avenues for local clubs and residents to provide feedback and identify needs / opportunities for sport and recreation in the Shire. This should be facilitated through existing consultation and information networks. This collaborative approach will also be important to keep residents informed on this study's implementation progress (eg. through "On Our Selection" and website), together with other issues as they arise such as upcoming events, facility development, accessing funding, facility planning and sharing etc.

Young people should also have the opportunity to be involved in the planning of facilities and activities. This approach will contribute to the overall success of the project, through instilling greater youth ownership, pride and interest in the outcomes.

4. Support for Local Sport and Recreation Organisations

The small number of sporting clubs in the Shire are subject to external pressures such as declining membership and complex funding processes to secure grants through public and private sector schemes. As highlighted during the consultation phase, local groups lack the understanding and expertise to address these issues.

Council recognises the need to be more proactive in working with groups to develop and maintain their assets. At the same time, measures to develop local skills need to be provided.

It is recommended that Council seek the support of SRQ to provide local clubs with more information and support on issues such as coaching, facility management, fundraising, event organisation, public liability insurance and grant application preparation.

5. Council Personnel

The knowledge and abilities of Council personnel will be critical to the successful implementation of the study recommendations, as well as Council's long term approach to planning and management for sport and recreation in the Shire.

It is recommended that Council:

- ▶ investigate the feasibility of appointing a Sport & Recreation Development Officer, possibly in partnership with a number neighbouring Shires; or
- ▶ train an existing Council officer to be solely responsible for the coordination of sport and recreation matters in the Shire.

This Coordinator's duties would include:

- ▶ coordinating implementation of the *Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study*;
- ▶ providing a link between the community and Council;
- ▶ liaising with State Government agencies and other key sport, recreation and youth organisations;
- ▶ facilitating education and training workshops for residents, clubs and community groups;



- ▶ organising sport and recreation programs;
- ▶ preparing funding submissions with, and on behalf of community groups;
- ▶ participating in regional and state forums on sport, recreation and youth related issues;
- ▶ establishment and chairing of sport and recreation committees; and
- ▶ ongoing community needs identification.

STRATEGY 5 - ENCOURAGE THE CAMBOOYA SHIRE COMMUNITY TO GET MORE ACTIVE

Implement initiatives to motive greater community participation in sport, recreation and fitness activities.

Encouraging more participation in sport, recreation and fitness activities will yield important social, health and lifestyle benefits for Cambooya Shire. For some residents, there is a perception that these opportunities only exist in Toowoomba – travel can be a big disincentive to get involved.

Therefore, Cambooya Shire Council be more proactive is seeking support from other service providers in the provision of affordable and accessible encouragement programs across the Shire, based on the theme “Cambooya Get Active”.

The responsibility to provide the services would rest with State Government agencies and health organisations. They would aim to address specific community needs, maximise the use of local resources, and raise awareness.

The following measures will be critical to the success of this strategy:

- ▶ Achieving better links between Council and community organisations.
- ▶ Achieving better links between Council and local schools.
- ▶ Achieving better links between Council, SRQ and health organisations.
- ▶ Improving access to community facilities, including enhanced transportation services and linkages (public and private modes).
- ▶ Developing partnerships with service providers and support mechanisms to help local sport and recreation organisations.
- ▶ Effective promotion, marketing and information dissemination.

These matters are will also be advanced through implementation of the other study recommendations.

A selection of potential “Get Active” programs are presented below – Council should continue to maintain a watching brief on the need for different programs with guidance from SRQ and health organisations.

1. “Just Walk It” Campaign

“Just Walk It” was developed by the Heart Foundation and is a community based walking program that aims to increase participation in regular and enjoyable physical activity, regardless of age or gender.





It utilises volunteer “walk organisers” to establish small groups to walk in their local area. Currently, the program is being implemented in over 50 areas throughout urban and rural Queensland, including Crows Nest, Dalby, Warwick and Gayndah.

2. Come and Try Days

“Come and Try” Participation Days should be conducted in partnership with local sporting clubs, with the objective of increasing participation rates, motivation and the profile of Cambooya Shire’s sporting clubs.

“Come and Try” events should be trailed in the major communities first (eg. lawn bowls in Cambooya, tennis in Wyreema) – they should involve modified games, basic skill training and highlight the enjoyment participants of all ages will receive from participating in these sports. Other community activities should be held as part of the “Come and Try” Days to attract potential participants and members (eg. family picnic, inviting sporting identities, coaches etc). The events will also help promote social interaction, which is particularly important given the high number of new residents in the Shire.

3. Guide to Great Walks of Cambooya Shire

It is recommended that Council work with community groups to develop a guide to the “Great Walks of Cambooya Shire”. It is envisaged that this could be a simple booklet with maps of short, medium and longer distance walking circuits in the Shire, information on points of interest and tips for walking (eg. comfort, safety).

STRATEGY 6 – OPTIMISING USE OF EXISTING SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Implement initiatives to achieve more efficient and sustainable use of sport and recreation resources through consolidation of multi-purpose facility precincts, facility co-location and targeted improvement works.

One of the first steps to achieve activity diversification is to identify measures to make better use of existing facilities. It is recommended that Council be proactive in undertaking the following actions:

1. Public Use of School Facilities

Opportunities to increase the public use of school sport and recreation facilities should be pursued and promoted in all communities, to improve the range of activities available to the Shire's residents and save capital expenditure on the provision of new (duplicate) facilities.

School facilities are usually occupied during weekdays and offer spare capacity for community use at night and on weekends. It is noted however, that long term access cannot be guaranteed (subject to the principal's permission).

Council should liaise with local schools to consider how public access arrangements can be improved, particularly where it is not permitted or available on a restricted basis. Opportunities should be investigated with school principals, P&C Associations, sporting clubs and residents.

2. Under-utilised Sport and Recreation Facilities

The under-utilisation of existing sport and recreation facilities is evident in the Shire. It is in the best interests of Council and the community to assess the longer term viability of such facilities, by considering:

- ▶ possible rationalisation of the land; or
- ▶ conversion to a different land use and relocation of activities to another venue; or
- ▶ upgrades to promote intended facility purpose.

In the short term, it is recommended that Council consider the future use of the following facilities:

- ▶ old Greenmount Recreation Reserve on Woodlands Road;
- ▶ Greenmount Memorial Hall;
- ▶ grass netball courts at Wyreema;
- ▶ BMX area and basketball half-court at Cambooya (located behind the tennis club); and
- ▶ BMX area at Hodgson Vale.

3. Sport and Recreation Precincts / Co-location of Facilities

Achieving viable and balanced community facilities, services and programs in a decentralised settlement pattern is a constant challenge for service providers. Promotion of multi-purpose sport and recreation precincts, together with the co-location of compatible facilities will be a key strategy for Council, to achieve:

- ▶ more cost effective outcomes;
- ▶ more efficient management and maintenance practices;
- ▶ enhanced public access to facilities, for both the township and rural populations; and
- ▶ enhanced multi-purpose capabilities.

Where possible, activity spaces should also be planned with the flexibility to absorb the changing demands for different activities over time.

It is recommended that major priorities for future facility planning, expansion and consolidation include:

- ▶ FE Obst Oval Complex, Wyreema;
- ▶ Lucy Street Precinct in Cambooya – Skate Park / Youth Space, Tennis Courts and Showgrounds / Recreation Reserve; and
- ▶ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club.

In recognising the strategic importance of the three precincts, it is recommended that Council prepare master plans to guide future development and improvement works, with the intent of providing venues with the capacity to meet local, district and regional needs. The master plans will also strengthen the position of Council, facility management committees and local communities in securing funding assistance.

Forward planning for all three precincts should include liaison with sporting clubs and community groups from throughout the region seeking to relocate to a new site.

It is recommended that the following major improvements be considered in future master planning and funding allocation processes:

FE Obst Oval, Wyreema

- ▶ Provision of two (2) cricket practice nets.
- ▶ Playground improvements, including provision of a shade cloth over play equipment and a soft-fall surface beneath.
- ▶ Enlarged basketball court – full half-court size with two (2) backboards and hoops.
- ▶ Improved landscaping and security lighting.
- ▶ Installation of a town map.
- ▶ Improved facility maintenance and rubbish collection regimes.
- ▶ Redevelopment of the grass netball courts as a skate park or bicycle training facility.

- ▶ Multi-sport line marking at the tennis courts (should the demand for netball facilities increase in future).
- ▶ Longer term improvements to the quality of the oval playing surface, including multi-sport line marking.

Lucy Street Precinct Cambooya

- ▶ Strengthening accessibility and safety by providing pedestrian linkages between individual facilities within the precinct.
- ▶ Landscape enhancement / gateway planting schemes along Lucy Street.
- ▶ Skate Park / Tennis Club:
 - Expansion of the skate park, together with the provision of new activity settings and support facilities – this proposal is developed further in Strategy 8.
 - Rationalisation or upgrading of the BMX area.
 - Removal of old playground equipment.
 - Upgraded clubhouse and support facilities at the tennis courts, including landscaping and security provisions.
- ▶ Showgrounds / Recreation Reserve:
 - Upgraded site security and policing.
 - Full replacement of perimeter fencing around the main arena.
 - Progressive improvement of the covered shelter to provide a more versatile area for community gatherings and activities – provision of a concrete slab beneath the shelter (short term); installation of walls and roller doors to establish a fully enclosed community facility (longer term).
 - Increased power supply to site, particularly for major equestrian events.
 - Provision of an all-weather covered arena in the longer term (ie. redevelopment of existing arena). This would be multi-purpose venue catering for a range of uses such as equestrian events, farm shows, rodeos, rallies and market days. Development of the covered arena should be subject to feasibility assessments.



Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club

- ▶ Provision of two (2) cricket practice nets.
- ▶ Provision of goal posts on the existing oval.
- ▶ Provision of a children's playground near the hall and tennis courts.
- ▶ Upgraded vehicular access to the site.
- ▶ Creek enhancement through the site.
- ▶ Provision of a formalised pedestrian / cyclist crossing point along the New England Highway for safer access to the site for local residents.
- ▶ Formalisation of internal site access for pedestrians between the sports club and Lions Park (eg. walking track).
- ▶ Identification of suitable land for the longer term development of:
 - a new multi-use playing field (eg. soccer, cricket); and
 - additional sports court(s).

STRATEGY 7 - ENHANCED SETTINGS FOR INFORMAL RECREATION

Enhance and maintain a range of high quality facilities and settings, that are consistent with community needs for informal recreation and contribute to health, social cohesion and a "sense of place".

The competing demands of work and home often mean that people have less leisure time. Accordingly, the need for with greater choice, convenience and flexibility in recreation and fitness activities is becoming very important for Cambooya Shire residents.

Accordingly, over the next 10 years the major priorities for informal recreation will be:

- ▶ enhanced parkland settings catering for all age groups;
- ▶ safe, attractive and connective pathway networks within local communities, catering for different recreational uses such as walking, cycling, jogging, skating etc; and
- ▶ informal tracks and bridle trails for nature-based recreation activities such as bushwalking, mountain biking and horse riding.

1. Parkland and Open Space

Development Priorities

In setting priorities for upgrading parks and reserves, Council must consider the broad range of community interests and benefits. Targeting works that will benefit the largest sector of the community should be a criteria. In addition, works that add value to existing parks by improving facilities, access and public safety should also be given priority. With these criteria as a guide, the following key works are recommended:

Priority	Recommended Actions
Immediate	<p><u>Embellishments to Basic Facilities and Landscaping</u></p> <p>Improvements to equipment and landscaping are required to enhance existing parks. Over time, local parks will require facility replacement / upgrades, together with enhancement landscaping and maintenance. Better shade cover over activity areas is also required at some sites.</p> <p>The short term priorities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ FE Obst Park, Wyreema (shade, replace sand with softfall surface, some equipment replacement within the playground) ▶ Memorial Park, Cambooya (replacement of some equipment, seating and BBQs; replace dilapidated public toilets with two disabled toilets – male / female). ▶ Paterson Park, Cambooya (more shade and seating) ▶ Federation Park, Vale View (replacement of some playground equipment) ▶ Lions Park, Hodgson Vale (shade cloth over playground equipment) ▶ Greenmount Bicentennial Park (repair cricket practice facility, erect higher fence on western side of basketball court to reduce potential impacts on nearby residences)

Priority	Recommended Actions
High - Medium	<p><u>Feature Park for Greenmount</u></p> <p>The Shire has a good supply of parkland catering for informal recreation needs. The major gap exists in Greenmount which needs an 'feature park' to provide a quality recreation setting for the township and surrounding rural population, particularly for families. The park should contain a higher standard of facilities, including picnic tables, barbeques, playground equipment, informal 'kick-about' space, shelters, significant planting and formal landscape features. Implementation of different landscape themes and interpretive signage could also be developed to add meaning and interest to the park.</p> <p><u>Gateway Parks / Improving Visual Landscape Character</u></p> <p>Open space can play a significant role in defining the visual character of local townships. In particular, parks and nature strips located at the entrances to a town are important in making a positive contribution to visual amenity, acting as a green "gateway" to the town for residents and visitors.</p> <p>Simple avenue planting along major entrance roads can make a very effective contribution to enhance the appearance of towns with minimal outlay. Gateway planting is being established along Ramsay Street in Greenmount.</p> <p>Gateway treatments should also be considered for Wyreema and Cambooya through street tree planting along major approach routes.</p>
Low / Timed with Development	<p><u>New Local Park – Cambooya</u></p> <p>Council should identify and acquire land for development a new local park on the western side of the Cambooya community, coinciding with future residential expansion. The timing of this action will be subject to growth patterns and demonstrated community needs.</p>

Open Space Location and Design Guidelines

It is recommended that Council establish guidelines to prevent inappropriate allocation of resources and potential under or over supply. In developing the guidelines, the following considerations are relevant:

- ▶ Concentrate on developing a limited number of parks with a high standard of facilities.
- ▶ Adopt a minimum size for new local parks of 0.4ha (if area is available), a standard commonly regarded as being able to accommodate a wide range of passive recreation activities including informal kick-about areas.
- ▶ Apply standards to the design and construction of facilities in parks and open space areas to enhance visual and landscape character; and ensure such structures have a consistent design, colour scheme and theme, so that they do not detract from the presentation of the town.
- ▶ Apply an open space hierarchy to the Shire's resources to facilitate a range of recreational experiences and settings.



Regionally Significant Open Space

Prominent or significant natural landscape features are often the focus of recreation interest – this is evident in eastern escarpment of the Great Dividing Range, which forms the eastern boundary of Cambooya Shire. Significant areas are also found on the higher ridge lines west of Greenmount and pockets of land including hill tops and gullies of rural residential areas in the north.

It is recommended that Council be proactive in identifying, protecting and managing these prominent natural landscape features for their recreational potential, nature conservation, historical, visual, educational and cultural heritage values (eg. Panoramic Park, Federation Park).

2. Walking and Cycling Facilities

Local Pathway Networks

It is recommended that Council facilitate ongoing development of pathway network in Cambooya and Wyreema. These facilities will cater for recreational / fitness purposes and access to local activity nodes (eg. schools, sports facilities, parkland, shops, residential areas).

Safe and convenient multi-use pathways should be constructed and their design should also consider the special needs of potential users (eg. pathway grades and surface treatments for wheelchairs and the elderly).

For cyclists, the network should be supported by appropriate warning and guidance signage, together with “end-of-trip” facilities at key destinations, such as bicycle parking racks at parks.

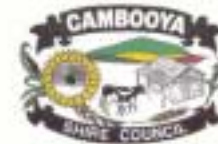
Walking Circuits and Tracks

In Greenmount and Hodgson Vale the community has expressed a need for recreational walking tracks / circuits located within local parks and road reserves, in-keeping with the natural and semi-rural surroundings.

Highest priority pathway and walking circuit projects are:

Greenmount

- The Greenmount walking circuit should be developed in stages and integrated with the Streetscaping Project on Ramsay Street and proposed Bicentennial Feature Park. It should also incorporate the establishment of a scenic lookout and nature appreciation reserve at the “top of the town”. The first stage will include a walking track from eastern end of Ramsay Street to Haldon Street (provide a concrete shared pathway for pedestrians and cyclists from the Greenmount Post Office to the western side of the railway line). Future stages of the project should extend north and south as opportunity presents. This circuit should be integrated with resting areas (eg. shaded seating), directional or distance markers, and exercise stations. This circuit is depicted in Figure 9(a).



Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 9 (a)
Recommended Walking Circuit and
Feature Park for Greenmount

Walking Circuit Components

- Major Footpaths (Existing)
- Stage 1 - Nature Reserve / Ramsay St / Pilton St / Haldon St Loop
- Future Stages (as opportunity presents)

Other Features

- Proposed Feature Park
- Proposed Scenic Lookout and Nature Reserve
- Other Community Nodes
- Existing Residential Land *
- Possible Future Residential Development *
- 500m to Local Parkland
- Areas Out of Parkland Catchment
- Rail Line
- Town Bypass Corridor

* Source: Cambooya Shire Council
Statement of Proposals, Feb 2001

North

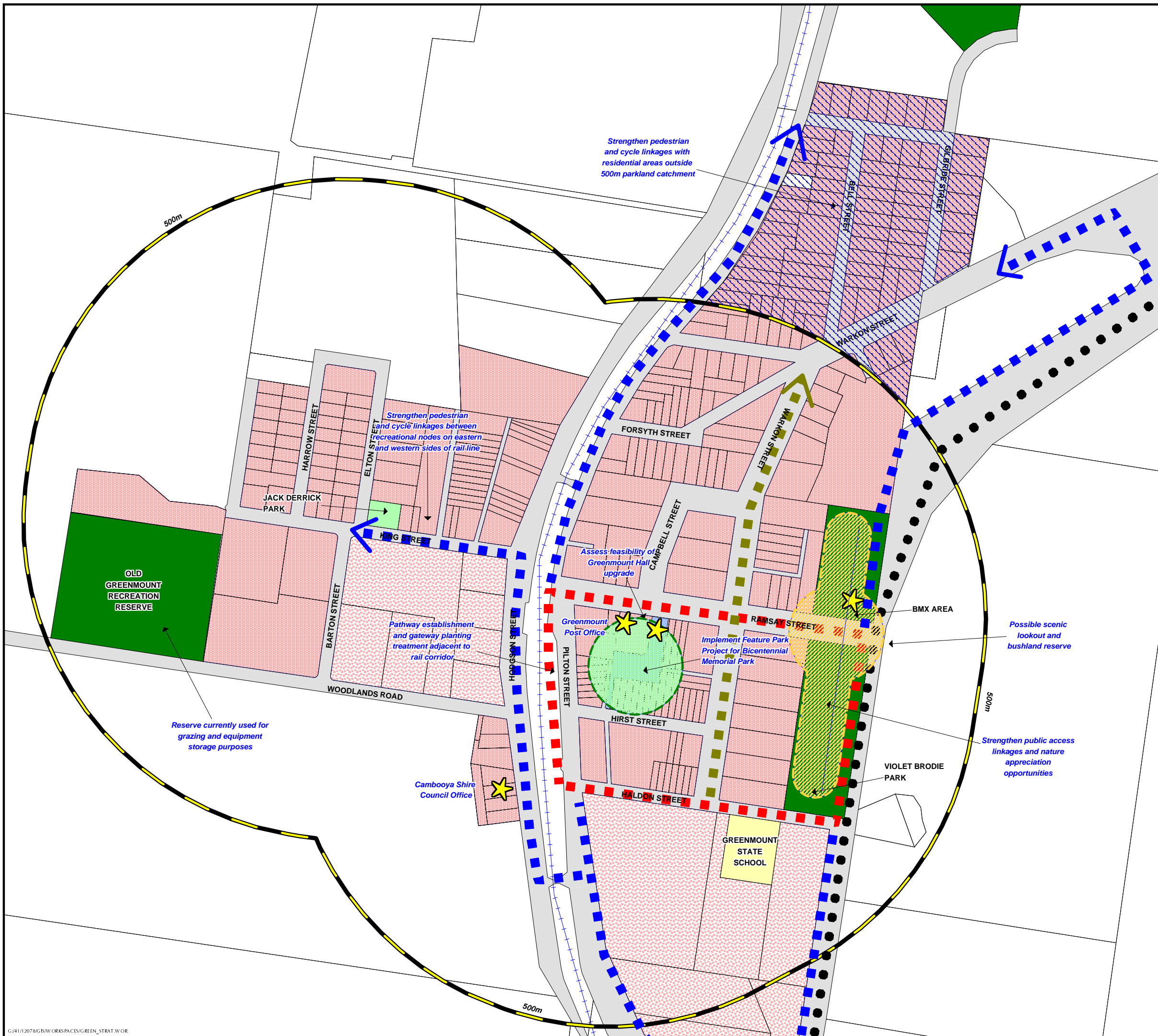


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Queensland Government
Getting more people active
through sport and recreation





Top Camp / Hodgson Vale

- ▶ Walking tracks through the park area from the established Panoramic Park to Carroll Road, and then via the wide road reserve of Carroll Road to the end of the existing road construction on the northern end of Carroll Road.
- ▶ Complete the concrete pathway from Pendoma Drive to the tennis courts at Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club.
- ▶ Provide a pathway to the Lions Park from Kearney Street to enhance local access to the site.
- ▶ Provide a formalised crossing point on the New England Highway for cyclists and pedestrians accessing the Lions Park and Sports Club.
- ▶ In assessing development applications for new rural residential subdivisions, Council will require that appropriate access easements are provided to enhance local accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.
- ▶ Improve road verges to provide for safer access by walkers, cyclists and joggers.

Key walking and trail corridors linkages are depicted in Figure 9(b).

Cambooya

- ▶ Establish a fitness walking circuit track around the perimeter of Paterson Park. The circuit should incorporate distance markers and exercise stations (exer-sites).

Wyreema

- ▶ Lobby Queensland Rail to upgrade the existing rail line crossing on Umbiram Road, to facilitate safer access for pedestrians and cyclists in Wyreema.

Vale View

- ▶ Complete the walking circuit on the southern side of Smith Creek and Federation Park to provide a circuit walking track.
- ▶ Provide a pathway connection along Drayton Connection Road from Federation Park to Vale View School.

Regional Connectivity

- ▶ Ongoing identification and implementation longer distance regional cycle route connections between Cambooya Shire and Toowoomba City as recommended in the *Toowoomba Cycle and Pedestrian Strategy (2002)*.

3. Recreational Trails







As discussed in Strategy 3, the creation of a multi-purpose recreational trails system should be pursued by Council as opportunity presents in response to the strong demand from Shire and regional residents for outdoor recreation settings for horse riding, bushwalking and mountain biking.

The trail system should focus on linking land parcels along strategic open space corridors, with connections to Council reserves, the future sporting complex at Mt Peel, Toowoomba's cycle

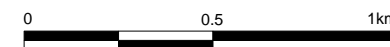


Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

FIGURE 9 (b)
Recommended Local Access Improvements for Top Camp and Hodgson Vale (Indicative Only)

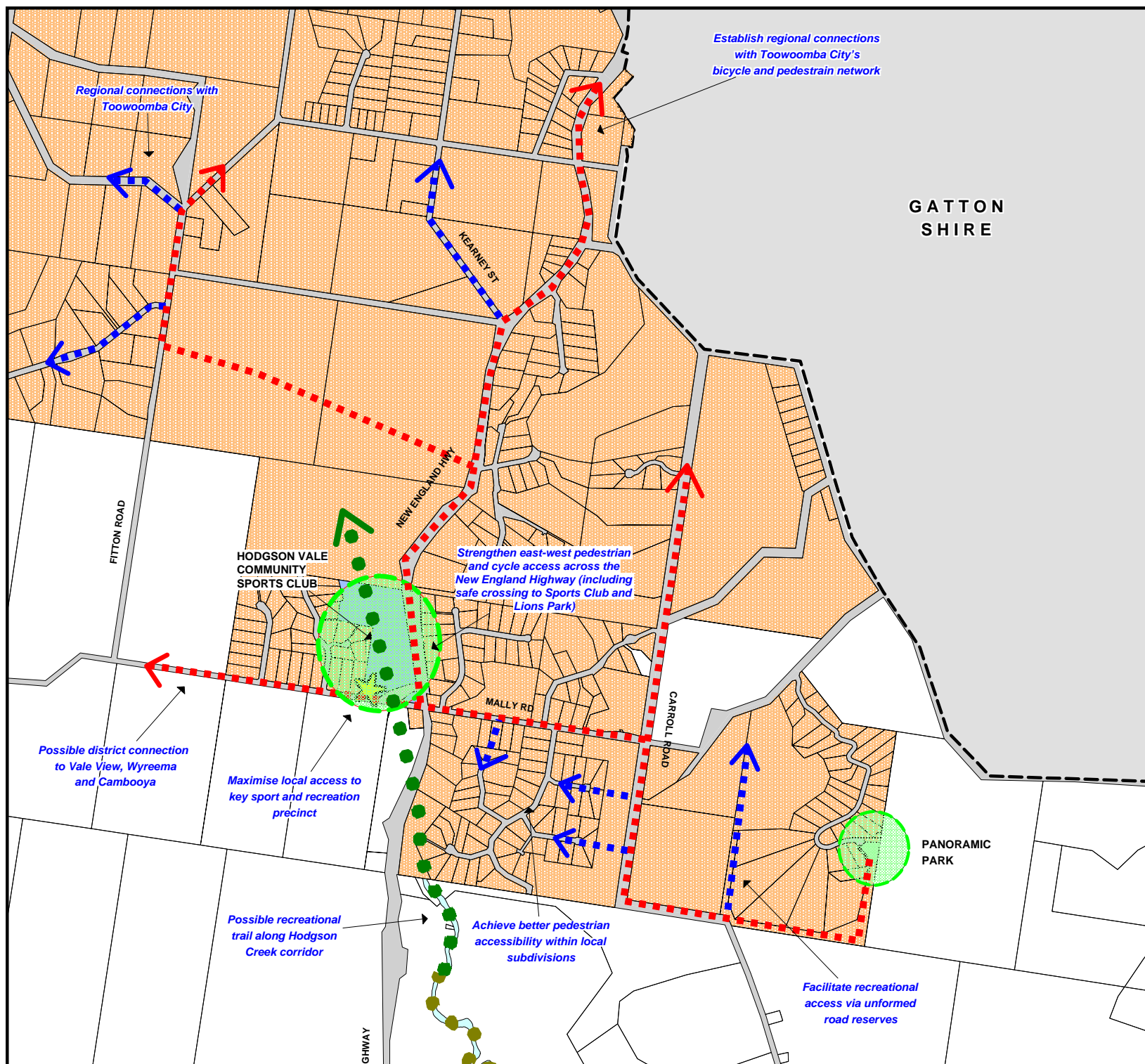
-  Key Pedestrian / Cycle Linkages
-  Secondary Linkages
-  Hodgson Creek Trail
-  Recreational Nodes
-  Shire Boundary
-  Rural Residential Land (Existing and Future)

North



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network and other regional trails. Good bridle trail opportunities also exist around the Hodgsonvale Polo Club and west of Greenmount, where there are many small land holdings (eg. hobby farms) and a high participation in horse riding etc – linkages from these areas back to the National Trail should also be sought.

The trails should accommodate non-motorised modes and should be cooperatively developed in stages, with community groups, adjoining Local Government Authorities, State Government agencies and regional tourism authorities. The system will be complementary to trails already developed or proposed elsewhere in the region (eg. SEQ Regional Trails Network).

Community support and cooperation should be developed in achieving these objectives, in particular, creating wildlife corridors along waterways in the Shire.

Protection from fragmentation and from being subsumed by other land uses will be essential. These trails should be supported by the Shire's IPA Planning Scheme.

As a general guide, the selection of recreational trails in Cambooya Shire should consider the following criteria⁸:

- ▶ location in a somewhat natural setting;
- ▶ clear well-defined network;
- ▶ adequate access from major population centres within the Shire;
- ▶ diverse opportunities with trails that cater for various compatible activities;
- ▶ equitable opportunities for residents;
- ▶ links with points of interest;
- ▶ links with regional trails and bicycle networks;
- ▶ diverse and varied terrain;
- ▶ provision of short and longer distance trails;
- ▶ sustainable management practices;
- ▶ interpretive material that emphasises the environmental value of the bushland;
- ▶ active community and user participation in policing and education;
- ▶ codes of conduct for users
- ▶ signage at access points informing users;
- ▶ utilising existing trails such as fire trails and unformed road reserves; and
- ▶ undulating terrain with some excitement and challenge.

It will be important to promote a trail “code of conduct” to minimise conflicts between different trail user groups. The content of a code of conduct should address the following⁹:

⁸ Based on advice from the Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation.

⁹ Source: Victorian Department of Conservation & Natural Resources (1994), Planning, Design & Management of Multi-Use Recreational Trails.



- ▶ Sharing of the trail
- ▶ Keeping to the left
- ▶ Passing other trail users
- ▶ Dogs
- ▶ Rubbish
- ▶ Fires
- ▶ Disturbance of stock

The code should be clearly displayed at all major access points to the trail and in trail guides / promotional material. Appropriate directional and warning signage should also be deployed along the trail – this will help reinforce the code of conduct.

Trail access management should consider measures to limit use by motorised trail bikes which will be incompatible with other non-motorised activities.

A sample code of conduct is provided below⁹.

SAMPLE CODE OF CONDUCT	
ALL TRAIL USERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share the Trail. This is a shared trail for walker and cyclists. Horse riders also share the reserve and use a few short sections of the trail.• Respect the rights of other users and adjoining landowners.• Where the trail reserve is grazed, don't disturb the stock. Close all gates unless you find them fastened open.• Where the trail reserve is cropped, keep away from the crops and machinery.• Use the designated picnic sites.• Take your rubbish with you.• Obey any signs for trail users.• Leave your dog at home. Dogs can be a nuisance to other trail users, can disturb stock, and frighten horses.• Observe all fire restrictions and take all due care with fires.	
WALKERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep to the left so that cyclists can readily pass.• Stay on the trail, except to allow horses to pass.	
CYCLISTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give walkers right-of-ways.• If you approach walkers from behind, slow down, ring your bell and announce your presence.• Ride in control at all times.• Some horse are frightened by bicycles. If you are going to overtake a horse, slow right down and announce your presence to the rider, then pass when the rider says it is safe to do so.• Stay on the trail, except to allow horses to pass.	
HORSE RIDERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep off the walking and cycling trail except to pass through shared gates and cross bridges where necessary.• Whenever possible, cross creeks by fording them rather than use the bridges.• Where there is a crop in the reserve, keep clear of the crop.• Where there is stock on the reserve, walk past quietly.	

STRATEGY 8 - YOUTH SPORT AND RECREATION

Encourage and motivate Cambooya Shire's youth population to participate in sport and recreation, through affordable and accessible initiatives that target their unique needs.

It is necessary to overcome the barriers faced by young people in accessing opportunities for sport and recreation.

Although this is not a youth development strategy, study recommendations and outputs can improve awareness, recreation participation and self esteem in young people. This will be achieved by:

- ▶ encouraging youths to become involved in planning and decision making processes, to increase youth ownership and interest in the project;
- ▶ allocating appropriate, accessible, safe and visible youth-oriented facilities, that provide settings for unstructured / informal recreation and socialising with friends;
- ▶ conducting supervised youth programs and events; and
- ▶ working in partnership with local schools, clubs and other service providers.

Council support is needed to achieve these outcomes and to establish youth groups / organisations within separate communities across the Shire. This support could be a youth officer, in-kind facility support or event funding support. Other Shires have had some success in establishing Youth Councils, to generate enthusiasm, motivation and empowerment amongst young people, and facilitate involvement in community development projects (including sport and recreation).

These goals are developed further in the Action Plan. Major proposals are outlined below.

1. Wyreema Skate Park

It is recommended that a new skate park facility be established at Wyreema in response to the shortfall in recreation settings for local teenagers, the large youth population and ongoing community support which has been demonstrated since the late 1990's. Funding assistance should be sought from Jondaryan Shire Council and the State Government.

In selecting an appropriate site, accessibility and visibility are critical considerations. Potential synergies for co-location with existing land uses should also be identified (eg. recreation facilities, shops, schools). Other key planning issues will include¹⁰:

- ▶ **Facility Design** – cater for a range of skill levels and provide challenges for both novice and intermediate skaters.

¹⁰ Adapted from "Skate Park Facility Planning" Information Sheet, Sport and Recreation WA, May 2001.



- ▶ **Minimise Risk to Users** – construction plans should be ratified by “expert” user groups, promote a “code of conduct” at the site, and conduct regular ongoing maintenance to prevent injury.
- ▶ **Management Plan** – addressing issues such as graffiti, programs to increase use and community support.

Full consultation with local residents and community groups is essential to provide information on the proposed style of skate park, management issues and possible locations for the facility.

To overcome some of the common concerns associated with skate facilities, it is also useful to consider other successful examples to guide this project – whilst these factors do not represent the full range of criteria for a good outcome, they do provide a useful starting point:

- ▶ ***Input from park users is essential***

Skate park users are very articulate about what kind of facility they would like and the features the park should have. A lot of riders spend time “designing” parks in their heads and on paper. Maximising involvement of potential users is essential. Residents and other stakeholders should also be engaged in the planning, design and management.

- ▶ ***Parents and families of park users are often supportive***

Parents of riders are aware of the dangers riders face when riding illegally or in areas not readily supervised. Mobilising adults who support the concept of a properly established park is important.

- ▶ ***Publicity campaigns assist in gaining support***

The needs of youth for high energy, risk taking recreation is often not understood by the wider community. Getting youth to speak up about their needs and demonstrating their skills in board riding can be organised into a public education campaign. Such campaigns are often very useful in gaining public support.

- ▶ ***Breaking down stereotypes improves understanding***

Some adults have very negative views of riders. Most riders are teenagers with few acceptable community outlets for their energy and self expression. Bringing adults into contact with riders needs to be carefully managed, but can aid in their understanding of the sport and the behaviours that go with it. Breaking down stereotypes can help bring the community together.

- ▶ ***Visibility is important***

Skaters need to show off their skills. As with any athletes an audience is usually appreciated. An area of with high public use and easy access is therefore desirable. A highly visibility site is also essential - parks tucked away out of sight can be more problematic.

2. Cambooya “Youth Space”

There will always be trends in skating, so it is best to design skate facilities for long term use. In this way, it is proposed that Council expand the role of Cambooya skate park to create a “social space” for young people.

Community feedback indicated that the existing stand-alone facility is under-utilised due to:

- ▶ its small scale and lack of challenging design elements for older users;
- ▶ the absence of other complementary facilities or supporting infrastructure (eg. seating, shade, drinking water bubblers); and
- ▶ anti-social behaviour.

It is recommended that the site be developed into an integrated activity precinct or “youth space”. As shown in Figure 10, several complementary facilities are proposed, including a new basketball half-court, children’s playground, covered shelter and seating, together with lighting and an imaginative landscaping theme, to give the site identity and character. This proposal also allows for future expansion of the skate area and fencing along the rail line.

The site’s central location maximises opportunities for access, linkages to nearby facilities, passive surveillance and public safety. The new activity mix will encourage visitation by different user groups (eg. children, teenagers, parents, families) which will help the site to become more “self regulating” and appealing.

3. Collaboration with Schools

It is recommended that Council, in partnership with SRQ, liaise with local schools to encourage more youth participation in sport and recreation from an early age, through initiatives such as:

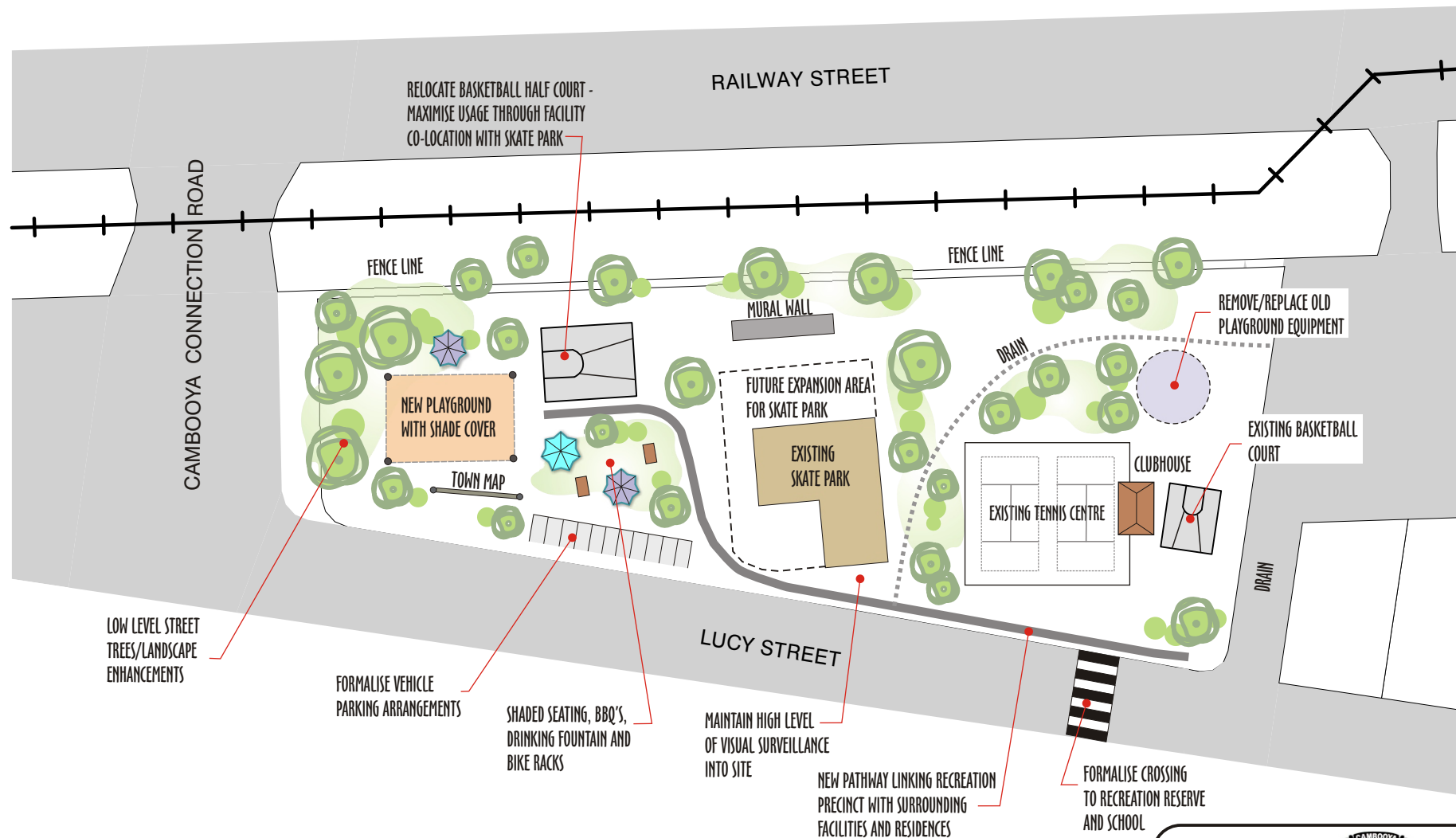
▶ Get Active Queensland Schools Program:

A Queensland Government initiative delivered by SRQ in conjunction with the Queensland Academy of Sport (QAS), featuring lifestyle presentations by QAS athletes aimed at giving primary and secondary school students an insight into the benefits of physical activity and good health. The successful trial was launched in April 2002 and the program is now being undertaken throughout the State.

Interested schools are required to complete and expression of interest form once applications for their school regions open.

▶ Partnerships with Local Sport and Recreation Clubs:

Expand the schools’ Health and Physical Education Syllabus to include opportunities for local sport and recreation clubs to have their activities introduced at the school level (eg. Come ‘n’ Try Days, club presentations). It is noted that timetabling and resourcing constraints may limit opportunities to conduct these activities at some schools.



**Cambooya Shire
Sport & Recreation Needs Study**

FIGURE 10
Concept Plan for Cambooya
Youth Recreation Precinct
(Indicative Only / Not to Scale)



► **Collaboration between Schools:**

Schools within Cambooya Shire and beyond working together to motivate students and encourage participation through more regular inter-school events.

► **School Physical Activity Policy:**

In January 2003, SRQ developed a policy model to get more children and young people active. It has been developed for use by teachers to complement the curriculum and other school policies (eg. Sun Smart).

To encompass the abovementioned recommendations, the policy could help Cambooya Shire's schools to provide quality physical activity experiences for students in the classroom, playground or on the sports field. It is also a way of promoting these practices to the school community. A downloadable version of the policy model is available from SRQ's website.

4. Bicycle Training Facility

It is recommended that Council establish a children's bicycle education training facility at Wyreema, preferably co-located with existing parkland / recreation facilities. Lobby Jondaryan Shire Council, Education Queensland and SRQ for funding assistance.

5. Youth Events

It is recommended that Council encourage the conduct of regular social events for the Shire's youth. Although Council's role will be to coordinate the events, young people should be motivated to demonstrate leadership in event organisation and promotion. Council and / or community groups will also provide assistance with development of young people's organisational skills, together with event resourcing (eg. venues) and supervision.

6. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Council should implement the principles of "Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design" (CPTED) for all youth facility projects, to prevent inappropriate siting and minimise the attraction of inappropriate or "at risk" behaviours at the site.

The key elements to promote this are:

- maximising the sense of safety through open public spaces between facilities;
- improving security lighting in activity areas and along major pedestrian pathways;
- maximising natural surveillance;
- creating a strong sense of identity and community ownership in the site;
- providing controlled access points, directional and guidance signage; and
- providing clear, unconfused pathways to and within the site.

STRATEGY 9 - SWIMMING POOL

Facilitate adequate access to, and encourage the provision of, water-based sport and recreation opportunities for the people of Cambooya Shire.

There is very strong community support for the development of an indoor swimming pool in Cambooya Shire. Preliminary estimates indicate the cost of developing a new 25m x 8 lane indoor pool on a greenfield site, with water treatment, filtration and heating systems, vertical bi-folding doors at either end of the facility (to allow for greater flexibility during summer) and an infant pool, would be in the order of \$2.5M. An outdoor heated pool would be about \$1M - \$1.5M.

The high infrastructure and ongoing maintenance costs of such a facility may not be justified from a cost-benefit perspective, when considering the small population base and distribution of public swimming pools within 10-15km of the Shire.

However, Council recognises that the issue is significant and warrants further consideration, given high growth projections and broad leisure trends placing swimming as one of Australia's most popular pastimes.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council be proactive, realistic and flexible in responding to community needs for water-based sport and recreation, as follows:

Immediate Actions

- ▶ Implement measures for Cambooya Shire residents to have better access to swimming pools in surrounding municipalities:
 - Liaise with neighbouring Councils and / or service providers to offer subsidised admission fees for Cambooya Shire residents.
 - Liaise with Clifton Shire Council to address existing restrictions on the use of Clifton Swimming Pool by school groups.
 - Provide a special public transport / bus service during school holiday periods to support community access to major sport and recreation facilities in Toowoomba, including aquatic centres. The Shire's key population centres should be included in the service.
- ▶ Promote these schemes across the Shire to maximise community awareness and benefit.

Short to Medium Range Actions (Next 5 Years)

- ▶ Monitor community demand for a swimming pool complex in Cambooya Shire coinciding with future population growth.
- ▶ Maintain dialogue with local schools and Education Queensland to ascertain the need and feasibility of jointly funding a pool on school grounds (subject to condition of ongoing community involvement in management and use of facility).
- ▶ Liaise with Jondaryan Shire Council to gauge community demand for a swimming pool complex in Westbrook. Monitor potential facility duplication with other surrounding shires.
- ▶ Keep Cambooya Shire's residents informed of these actions.



Long Range Actions (5-10+ Years)

- ▶ By 2008, conduct a community needs assessment for a swimming pool complex in Cambooya Shire:
 - “GO” Scenario... Commence appropriate feasibility, master planning and pre-construction activities in order to secure funding. Construct the facility.
 - “NO GO” Scenario ... Council to maintain a “watching brief” and assess community needs by 2012 if required.
- ▶ Keep the Shire's residents informed of these actions.

STRATEGY 10 - CROSS BOUNDARY PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Be proactive to achieve regional coordination and cooperation in sport and recreation planning outcomes, between neighbouring Local Government Authorities.

It is important that Council's within the Darling Downs region recognise the need for coordination and cooperation in their efforts to advance sport and recreation initiatives. This approach will encourage the complementary strengths of adjoining municipalities to be harnessed – historically, Toowoomba has provided major sporting facilities to the Downs region and this role will continue in future. However, Cambooya Shire has the potential to supply a unique and complementary range of outdoor recreation and leisure opportunities to district and region.

Regional cooperation in planning and management is also critical to:

- ▶ achieve coordinated and consistent levels of service in communities that straddle local government boundaries (eg. Wyreema);
- ▶ avoid inappropriate and incompatible land uses in adjoining local government areas;
- ▶ avoid unnecessary facility duplication;
- ▶ achieve continuity of outdoor recreation networks across the region;
- ▶ achieve continuity of bikeways and other non-motorised trail networks;
- ▶ improve user access through compatible policies and practices; and
- ▶ address recreation management issues which cross government boundaries and / or affect adjoining local government areas (eg. control of off-road vehicles, development of long distance walking trails), to ensure they are dealt with in a coordinated and complementary way.

On the basis of the preceding study findings and recommended strategies, Council should be particularly proactive in:

- ▶ participating in planning for the major multi-purpose outdoor sports facility at Mt Peel, in partnership with Toowoomba City Council and other stakeholders; and
- ▶ strengthening ties with Clifton and other neighbouring Shire Councils to advance equestrian-based recreation pursuits and recreational trails.

7.3 Action Plan

7.3.1 Implementation

The Action Plan is presented at the end of this section and contains targeted actions for Cambooya Shire and its major communities. Organisational and resource constraints mean that they will need to be implemented over several years, in a logical and useful sequence, as follows:

- ▶ **Immediate Priority:** Implement within 2 years of the Study being adopted by Council.
- ▶ **High Priority:** Implement within 3 to 5 years.
- ▶ **Medium Priority:** Implement within 6 to 10.
- ▶ **Low Priority:** Implement within 10+ years.

Resource constraints mean that some of the recommendations may not be implemented over this period. Accordingly, the study is intended to provide a set of strategic directions that may be added to and reviewed over time. This approach will ensure that it is a 'living' document, which evolves and responds to new opportunities for sport and recreation as they arise.

Many of the 'immediate' priorities are actions of an administrative nature, which can be undertaken quickly, to set the foundation for the key strategies. It is suggested that Council consider the logical sequence of implementing individual actions following adoption of the Study.

Council will have the lead role in implementing the actions, however support from government and community stakeholders will be critical. Council should also provide local residents with regular updates to demonstrate progress.

Actions have been prioritised with the guidance of Council, the project Steering Committee and other community stakeholders. All recommendations have been developed on the basis that they are 'SMART':

Specific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**ealistic, **T**imed

7.3.2 Planning Scheme Considerations

It is critical for sport, recreation and open space initiatives for the Shire to be supported and advanced by Council's new Planning Scheme.

The new Planning Scheme when finished will identify the development outcomes sought for the Shire and provide a policy framework for determining the merits of development proposals in terms of these outcomes and the overriding outcome of achieving ecologically sustainable development.

The development of private sport and recreation facilities in the Shire will be regulated through the Integrated Development Assessment System (IDAS) and Council's new planning scheme.



It is essential that the new planning scheme include appropriate provisions to ensure that the outcomes sought with regard to sport and recreation, particularly those identified through this Study, are achieved.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council recognise the outcomes of this Study by including appropriate provisions in its new planning scheme. Some suggested matters for consideration are outlined in Appendix C.

7.3.3 Funding for Sport and Recreation

Major funding sources to advance sport and recreation initiatives are provided in Appendix D, to support implementation of the study recommendations.

7.3.4 Ongoing Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The Action Plan is the working part of the *Sport & Recreation Needs Study* and should be updated on a regular basis as recommendations are completed. Furthermore, priorities should be adjusted at any time, in light of Council needs, community demands and funding availability.

Council will monitor the Action Plan through inclusion in its planning and budgetary processes. It will be responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer to oversee its adoption and implementation by other Council officers / departments.

Following Council's adoption of this study, it is recommended that the Steering Committee reconvene in December 2003 to assess the progress and recommend any amendments. While the plan will be adjusted on an ongoing basis, it is recommended that a full review be completed within 2 to 3 years (by the end of 2006).



Actions for Cambooya Shire

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
A. ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES				
1.	Improve Council's planning and management of sport, recreation and open space in Cambooya Shire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Implement the <i>Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i>, and recommended Sport & Recreation Policy which embraces the principles of social equity, access, sustainability, facility consolidation / multi-use and partnerships with the community and neighbouring Local Government Authorities. ■ Reflect principles of the <i>Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i> in Council's Corporate Plan, new Planning Scheme and budget processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ SRQ 	■ Immediate (Ongoing)
2.	Appoint appropriate personnel to coordinate, manage, plan and promote sport and recreation in Cambooya Shire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Review staffing resources with a view to creating a position for, or appointing a new individual as, Sport & Recreation Development Officer (SRDO), with the responsibility to coordinate implementation of the study recommendations, together with coordination of general sport, recreation and open space planning and management issues. ■ Liaise with SRQ and adjoining Councils to determine feasibility of appointing a SRDO responsible for a number of shires in the region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ SRQ ■ Adjoining Councils ■ Schools 	■ Immediate
3.	Ensure the Sport & Recreation Needs Study is a flexible and dynamic strategy which is responsive to the community's changing needs over time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conduct a review of the <i>Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i> within 2-3 years of adoption by Council (ie. by the end of 2006) and every 2 years thereafter, to ensure that recommendations are advancing and consistent with community needs, Council resources and available funding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC 	■ High (Ongoing)
4.	Review outputs and recommendations of the Sport & Recreation Needs Study for applicability and relevance preparation of Council's new Planning Scheme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider recommendations of the Sport & Recreation Needs Study in preparation of Council's new Planning Scheme (refer to Appendix C of the Study Report). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC / Shire Planner 	■ Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
A. ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES (CONT)				
5. Council to take a more proactive approach in the planning and management of sport, recreation and open space resources.	■	Establish the Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Advisory Committee.	■ CSC	■ Immediate
	■	Ensure that Council maintains an active role in the provision and development of sport, recreation and open space resources through land use planning, management, maintenance and advocacy/support for local clubs.	■ CSC / Shire Planner	■ High
	■	Consider membership with the Active Australia Local Government Network.	■ SRQ	
	■	Liaise with SRQ and the Eastern Downs Regional Organisation of Councils (EDROC) to determine opportunities for participation in regional forums on sport and recreation planning.	■ EDROC	
	■	Encourage local entrepreneurs and the private sector to work in partnership with Council and the State Government to provide a range of sport and recreation settings in Cambooya Shire that meet community needs.		■ Low
6. Ensure maintenance of parks and reserves is adequate and consistent with an overall Shire vision.	■	Direct public requests for maintenance to a single point of contact within Council.	■ CSC	■ Immediate (Ongoing)
	■	Identify existing parks and reserves which require maintenance and carry out necessary works.		
7. Prioritise actions and endeavour to meet sport and recreation needs, within the scope of available funding.	■	Structure expenditure for sport and recreation projects (including maintenance) considering priority actions identified in this report.	■ CSC	■ Immediate (Ongoing)
	■	Ensure Council officers keep up-to-date on available funding sources to advance sport and recreation initiatives.	■ General Community	
	■	Assist community groups and clubs to access funding sources.	■ SRQ	



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
A. ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE PRACTICES (CONT)			
8. Support a cooperative planning approach between Cambooya Shire Council, surrounding Councils and the State Government to better regional outcomes for sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Be proactive in working with neighbouring Councils to achieve better coordination and cooperation in planning and management for sport and recreation initiatives across the region. These efforts should focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – coordinated marketing and planning of events in the region (sport, recreation, tourism); – planning for regionally significant facilities (eg. Aussie Rules venue at Mt Peel); – lobbying for improved education, training, coaching and skills development for local sporting clubs in communities outside Toowoomba; – forward planning for sport and recreation facilities (to minimise duplication); – identification of sporting clubs within the region in need of a new venue that could be accommodated in Cambooya Shire; – advancing planning for regional trail and cycle networks; and – achieving consistent and compatible policies and practices. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Adjoining Councils ■ State Government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate (Ongoing)
B. REGIONAL IDENTITY AND PROFILE			
1. Enhance Cambooya Shire's regional profile and identity through sport and recreation initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Encourage the development of new and enhanced sport and recreation opportunities in the Shire, with a particular focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – nature-based recreation; – heritage-based recreation; – outdoor education; and – equestrian-based sporting activities and events. ■ Be proactive in the promotion and marketing of Cambooya Shire's natural, heritage, recreational and sporting assets throughout the region, to attract more sport and recreation activities and events into the Shire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ State Government ■ Regional Tourism Authority ■ Sport and Recreation Groups ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate (Ongoing) ■ High – Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
B. REGIONAL IDENTITY AND PROFILE (CONT)				
2.	In response to local and regional leisure demands, provide and protect suitable settings for low impact nature-based recreation activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Establish a network of trails to provide linear recreation areas for non-motorised activities including horse riding, bush walking and mountain biking, together with nature appreciation. ■ Support the recreational trail network. ■ Establish connections to outdoor recreation settings and trails in neighbouring Local Government Areas. ■ Prepare and distribute informative and interpretive materials on nature-based recreation opportunities (eg. signage, trail guides) ■ Minimise impacts on adjacent land uses through appropriate planning, management and monitoring mechanisms. ■ Promote Cambooya Shire's nature-based recreation assets to local residents and the regional community. ■ Refer to Strategy 7 and Actions E1 and E2. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ EPA ■ DNRM ■ Adjoining Councils ■ Community Groups ■ Regional Tourism Authority 	■ High – Medium
3.	Protect and promote features of historic significance to provide opportunities for heritage-based recreation and outdoor education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Preserve and enhance sites of historic significance across the Shire, including buildings, monuments and local parkland (eg. Steele Rudd and Federation Parks). ■ Prepare and distribute interpretive and educational materials to add meaning and value to key sites. ■ Integrate outdoor education opportunities with nature-based recreation and heritage settings across the Shire. ■ Collaborate with key stakeholders to identify opportunities and needs for outdoor education facilities– allocate / purchase of suitable land to meet local, district and regional needs. ■ Collaborate with key stakeholders to develop and deliver outdoor education programs as required. ■ Promote the recreational and educational values of Cambooya Shire's local history to residents and the regional community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Historical Societies ■ Schools ■ Education Queensland ■ SRQ ■ Outdoor Education Service Providers ■ Regional Tourism Authority 	■ High – Medium
4.	Encourage the development of Cambooya Shire as an important base for the equine industry within the Darling Downs Region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support ongoing improvement and investment in the Shire's existing facilities for equestrian-based sport and recreation. ■ Identify in conjunction with Toowoomba City and other neighbouring Councils the region's short, medium and long term needs for in supply of venues for equestrian sports (ie. competition, training, stabling). ■ Encourage private investment in the development of venues for equestrian-based sport and recreation. ■ Be proactive in hosting equestrian-based festivals, activities and sporting events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Adjoining Councils ■ Equestrian Groups ■ Private Sector ■ Regional Tourism Authority 	■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
C. COMMUNITY AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT				
1.	Achieve a high level of community awareness of sport and recreation facilities, programs and services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Compile a Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Directory (in booklet form) for residents and visitors detailing facilities available and relevant contact details. The booklet should be free of charge.■ Ensure it is widely available to the public through the Council office, local stores, service stations, accommodation providers and schools. Distribute copies to all sport, recreation and community groups, and provide a 'downloadable' version of the directory on Council's web page. Also supply the directory to new residents in the Shire.■ Include a regular feature in "On Our Selection" and Council's website on different parks within the Shire.■ Review the directory on an annual basis to ensure it is kept up-to-date.■ Raise community awareness of available activities through local publicity initiatives (eg. Council office, Council newsletter, community noticeboards, internet).■ Develop a web page that features sport and recreation activities on Council's internet site. The page should provide a regularly updated "calendar of events".■ Encourage greater coverage of sport and recreation activities in Cambooya Shire.■ Promote town-based facilities and activities to residents in rural areas.■ Locate new Community Noticeboards in the key centres to promote local activities, events and attractions. Noticeboards should be easy to read and located in prominent locations (eg. outside school grounds, local store, major parks).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Local Clubs■ Adjoining Councils■ Local Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
C. COMMUNITY AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT (CONT)				
2. Cambooya Shire Council to provide more accessible and responsive support / advisory services to local sport and recreation organisations.	■	Encourage community awareness of the <i>Sport & Recreation Needs Study</i> .	■ CSC	■ Immediate
	■	Encourage local clubs and residents to express issues, needs and planning priorities for sport and recreation across Cambooya Shire. This should be facilitated through Council's existing consultation, support and information dissemination processes, and include input from other key stakeholders as appropriate eg. SRQ Advisors.	■ Local Clubs	■ High
	■	Direct local clubs to available information and support networks, when assistance is required with preparation of funding grant submissions to develop / improve their facilities.	■ SRQ	
3. Raise awareness on training and support available to local sport and recreation clubs.	■	Promote education and training programs available to local sport and recreation clubs through "On Our Selection, Council's internet site, school newsletters and local newspapers.	■ CSC	■ Medium - Low
			■ Local Media	
			■ Schools	



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
C. COMMUNITY AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT (CONT)				
4.	Public transport services are required enhance sport and recreation participation levels in Cambooya Shire and the surrounding region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage support for a voluntary transport system in the Shire, such as use of school buses for “on demand” travel (ie. outside school hours), to access community facilities / events in Cambooya Shire or elsewhere in the region (eg. trial a special service in school holiday periods to key facilities in Toowoomba City such as Milne Bay Aquatic Centre). If warranted, articulate public transportation gaps in Cambooya Shire to Queensland Transport, as part of any future Integrated Transport Plan for the Downs region. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Community organisations Private Sector Adjoining Councils Queensland Transport 	High
5.	Encourage residents to participate in sport, recreation and physical fitness programs through a range of “Get Active” initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote a shire-wide “Just Walk It” campaign, with assistance from the Heart Foundation and regional health bodies. Encourage the establishment of walking groups in major communities, and provide regular updates of their progress in “On Our Selection” and Council’s website. Encourage a program of “Come and Try” Days in partnership with local sporting clubs, with events promoted to all communities. Encourage and support community groups to prepare a booklet documenting short and long distance walks within the Shire. Maintain a watching brief on the need for “Get Active” participation initiatives in Cambooya Shire, with guidance from lead agencies (eg. SRQ, health organisations) to increase community participation rates and wellbeing, and to support local sporting organisations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Community organisations Health Organisations Adjoining Councils 	Immediate (ongoing)
6.	Local schools have an important role to play in delivering the “Get Active” message to young people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage local schools to participate in the Get Active Queensland Schools Program. Encourage local schools to conduct “Come ‘n’ Try” Days for students, with the assistance of local sporting clubs. Work with SRQ to encourage all local schools in Cambooya Shire to develop a School Physical Activity Policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Local Schools Education Queensland SRQ 	High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
D. MULTI-USE, CONSOLIDATION AND DUPLICATION OF FACILITIES				
1.	Review use of existing and planned areas to ensure provisions for multi-user arrangements are being implemented, where possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the establishment of multi-use facilities under leases and master plans. Where appropriate, review facility leases / agreements to include provisions that the lessee be required to allow for other compatible uses of the same facility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Facility Management Committees Local clubs 	High
2.	Recognise the strategic importance of key multi-use sport and recreation precincts within the shire by undertaking forward planning to guide future site development to meet community needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the preparation of master plans for strategic sport and recreation sites in the shire, with assistance from local clubs, management committees and residents. Seek State Government funding to support the process. Priorities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club FE Obst Oval, Wyreema Lucy Street Precinct in Cambooya (Recreation Reserve, Tennis Club, Skate Park) Maintain dialogue with SRQ regarding clubs from outside the shire looking to relocate to a new venue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Local Clubs Facility Management Committees SRQ 	High / Medium
3.	Develop strategies to address under-utilised sport and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with community stakeholders to assess the longer term viability of under-utilised sport and recreation facilities, considering possible rationalisation of land, conversion to a different land use or upgrades to promote use for sport and recreation purposes. Priorities are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenmount Recreation Reserve Greenmount Memorial Hall Grass netball courts at Wyreema BMX area and basketball court at Cambooya (located behind tennis courts) BMX area at Hodgson Vale Seek Council resolution on the future use of these facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Facility Management Committees 	High
4.	Minimise duplication of sport and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid future facility duplication through the development assessment process. Do not support the construction of new facilities if it is economically viable and physically possible to modify or enhance existing facilities to provide the same result (ie. Council to encourage multi-use initiatives). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC CSC / Shire Planner 	High
5.	Encourage optimum use of sport and recreation facilities on school grounds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage local schools to permit greater public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Local Schools / Education Queensland 	Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
E. NATURE BASED RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLANNING				
1.	Investigate strategic open space linkages within the Shire, and connections with the surrounding region for public recreational access	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Where possible, identify and develop linear open space links along strategic corridors, which provide convenient and safe recreational trail connections between natural attractions, parkland and activity nodes for non-motorised modes (bushwalking, mountain biking, horse riding).■ Consult with community stakeholders throughout the region (eg. mountain biking, bushwalking and equestrian clubs, ecotourism groups and regional tourism agencies) to establish user needs, to inform the trail network planning process.■ Liaise with the Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation (Environmental Protection Agency) to identify possible linkages with the South East Queensland Regional Trails Network and other strategic links.■ Identify, maintain and enhance regionally significant open space elements and recreational corridors through cooperative planning efforts with adjoining Councils and the State Government.■ Determine joint management strategies for regionally significant open space elements and recreational corridors that cross shire boundaries.■ Minimise fragmentation of significant open space systems and corridors (both local and regional) through planning practices.■ Liaise with State Government to negotiate public access to Crown land and easements as open space links.■ Lobby surrounding Councils to prepare a regional trails strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Adjoining Councils■ EPA■ SRQ■ Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High / Medium
2.	Improve existing parkland resources and provide additional reserves to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Undertake targeted improvement works on key parkland reserves as recommended in Strategy 7, including playground equipment replacement, shade covers, seating and landscaping etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
F. WATER BASED SPORT AND RECREATION				
1.	Facilitate adequate access to, and encourage the provision of water-based sport and recreation opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Liaise with Clifton Shire Council to lift restrictions on use of Clifton Swimming Pool for school groups from Cambooya Shire.■ Undertake schedule of actions outlined in Strategy 9 – improve access to public swimming pools in surrounding Local Government Areas in short term (subsidised admission fees, public transport); and ongoing needs assessment and feasibility investigations for pool construction in medium-long term (if appropriate).■ Monitor opportunities for partnerships with local schools / Education Queensland in advancing this project.■ Monitor regional trends and swimming pool projects.■ Ensure that the community is informed of Council actions and investigations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Adjoining Councils■ Local Schools / Education Queensland■ Bus Operators■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ Staged Implementation Years 1-10
G. WALKING AND CYCLING				
1.	Provide pathways and access tracks within all major communities for local access, fitness and recreational purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Provide safe and connective multi-use pathway networks within urbanised communities, coinciding with future residential development and guided by community access priorities.■ Establish walking circuit tracks in urbanised communities and open space reserves, as opportunity presents. Priorities include Paterson Park (Cambooya), Federation Park (Vale View) and Greenmount “Loop” and recreational trail networks throughout rural and rural residential areas in the Shire’s north.■ Pro-actively seek State Government funding to assist with establishment of the local networks eg. Traffic Improvement Development Scheme (TIDS), SAFEST (defining and promoting safe pedestrian and cycling routes to schools).	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Department of Main Roads■ Queensland Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate-High (ongoing)
2.	Raise the Shire’s profile through regional bikeway connectivity and the hosting of regional cycling events.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Facilitate cycle and pedestrian access between Toowoomba City and Cambooya Shire as opportunity presents, guided by the <i>Toowoomba Cycle & Pedestrian Strategy</i> (2002).■ Articulate priorities for regional cycle access to the Department of Main Roads, where preferred routes are located on State Controlled Roads.■ Encourage the conduct of road cycling events in Cambooya Shire – liaise with the Toowoomba Cycling Club and Cycling Queensland to identify event requirements and upcoming opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Toowoomba City Council■ DMR■ Toowoomba Cycling Club■ Cycling Queensland	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
H. YOUTH SPORT AND RECREATION				
1.	Encourage and motivate young people to participate in sport and recreation, through affordable and accessible initiatives targeting their unique needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Plan youth-oriented settings in major communities through facility modification and development, including the following major projects (refer to Strategy 8 for details):<ul style="list-style-type: none">— Wyreema Skate Park— Bicycle Training Facility at Wyreema— Cambooya Youth Space— Greenmount Feature Park and Walking Circuit Projects— Hodgson Vale BMX area and improvements at the Lions Park■ Support the conduct of regular youth events. Empower young people to take a lead role in event organisation.■ Be proactive in encouraging local clubs, volunteers and other service providers to conduct activity programs and themed weeks in partnership with Council, particularly during school holiday periods.■ Ensure that young people are involved in planning and decision making processes for new youth projects.■ Ensure youth participation activities and events are effectively promoted to reach target audience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ Medium■ High■ High■ Immediate (ongoing)■ Immediate (ongoing)



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
I. SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS				
1.	Enhance the quality, safety and standard of all sport and recreation facilities, including supporting infrastructure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Provide consistent treatments to landscape elements and facilities within parks and sport/recreation reserves:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– develop design guidelines to ensure structures in open space areas maintain a consistent standard; and– develop planting guidelines for parks, reserves and streetscapes within the townships.■ Establish a system for reporting, monitoring and recording on the condition of infrastructure.■ Implement the principles of “Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design” (CPTED) when undertaking new sport and recreation infrastructure projects, particularly those catering for youth needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ CSC / Shire Planner	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High / Medium
2.	Implement disabled access provisions at Council and non-Council sport and recreation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Incorporate disabled access provisions into parks and sport/recreation facilities when modifications are taking place, in accordance with Australian Standards.■ Incorporate disabled and aged access design considerations into the provision of future parks and sport/recreation facilities to comply with Australian Standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High
3.	Ensure facilities are clearly identifiable and easy to locate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Develop guidelines for signage in open space / recreation areas.■ Ensure sport and recreation facilities are well signed and clearly identifiable from approach routes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Local Clubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Medium / Low
4.	Enhance access for recreational horse riding throughout the Shire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Recognise the recreational value of casual horse riding in rural and rural residential parts of the Shire, by considering implementation of a policy addressing the development and maintenance of local roads, to ensure that they are clear of obstacles and regularly maintained / slashed to optimise horse access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Medium



Key Actions for Individual Communities

MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
GREENMOUNT AND EAST GREENMOUNT			
1. Improve existing parkland resources to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conduct small scale improvements to sport and recreation facilities at Bicentennial Memorial Park to provide more usable facilities for local residents, including upgraded cricket practice nets and improved basketball court (including fencing on the western side to limit impacts on adjoining residences). ■ Establish Bicentennial Memorial Park as a Feature Park serving Greenmount and the surrounding district – consider improvements to enhance the attributes of the Park such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provision of upgraded playground and picnic facilities; - provision of a town / district map; - enhanced pedestrian access and visibility into the site; - security lighting; and - interpretive information on local history. ■ Work in partnership with the Greenmount Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee to assess the feasibility of upgrading the hall to provide an important focal point catering for social, youth, recreation, cultural and other community activities / events. ■ Promote Greenmount's local parks in Council's newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ General Community ■ Greenmount Soldiers Memorial Hall Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
GREENMOUNT AND EAST GREENMOUNT (CONT)				
2.	Walking paths and bikeways are desired by all age groups in Greenmount township.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support staged implementation of the Greenmount "Loop" walking circuit (refer to Strategy 7). This will involve liaison with Queensland Rail to provide the short section along Pilton Street, parallel to the rail corridor. ■ Investigate feasibility and community support for establishment of a scenic lookout / nature appreciation reserve at the "top of town" in the vicinity of Ramsay and Haldon Streets. ■ Seek assistance from community, environmental and school groups to advance the project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ QR ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High
3.	Provide opportunities for informal recreation directed at Greenmount's youth population, in response to identified shortfalls in existing resource supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support the conduct of more regular youth events and programs in Greenmount. ■ Seek resolution on the preferred option for the Greenmount BMX area, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reinstatement of track / site clean-up in the current location at the top of Ramsay Street. - Relocation to a more central and visible site within the township area. ■ Involve local youths in the decision making process for the Greenmount BMX Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate
4.	Encourage the use of public facilities for maximum community benefit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liaise with Greenmount State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Advise Greenmount State School on the relevant outcomes of this study, including community suggestions to provide a second set of goal posts on the school oval, to make the area more useable for social games and training purposes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Greenmount State School ■ Education Queensland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate
5.	East Greenmount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liaise with Emu Creek State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Advise Emu Creek State School on the relevant outcomes of this study, including community suggestions to provide cricket practice nets on the school oval, to make the area more useable for social games and training purposes. ■ Promote Steele Rudd Park in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Support the conduct of more regular youth events and programs in East Greenmount (possibly in conjunction with Greenmount residents). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Emu Creek State School ■ Education Queensland 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
CAMBOOYA				
1.	Recognise the “Lucy Street area” as the principal multi-purpose sport and recreation precinct in Cambooya.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Undertake small scale improvements at the Cambooya Recreation Reserve – priorities include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">- full replacement of perimeter fencing around main arena;- upgraded security and power supply to the site; and- provision of a slab beneath the covered shelter for community activities.■ Prepare an overall master plan for the Lucy Street precinct in conjunction with local residents and sporting groups, incorporating the Tennis Courts, Recreation Reserve, Skate Park and Youth Space.■ Liaise with existing and potential tenants to confirm priorities for facility expansion, upgrades and development, and how these issues should be addressed in the master plan – Refer to Strategy 6 which identifies key activity settings / components for inclusion in the master plan.■ Conduct a feasibility study into the provision of a covered multi-purpose arena (ie. upgrading existing arena).■ Staged implementation of the Master Plan, as appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Cambooya Campdrafting Association■ Cambooya Pony Club■ Cambooya Tennis Club■ Other Sporting Clubs■ General Community■ Cambooya State School	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate■ High■ Medium
2.	Provide enhanced settings and participation opportunities for youth-oriented sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Implement the Cambooya “Youth Space” Project as detailed in Strategy 8. Encourage youth involvement in the planning and design stages to achieve ownership and pride in the project.■ Provide a covered shelter / gazebo next to the skate park for a youth meeting place.■ Encourage a program of “Come and Try” Days in partnership with local sporting clubs in Cambooya, including more traditional activities such as lawn bowls. Ensure promotion targets participation by local youths.■ Investigate future action for the BMX area – upgrade or remove? Consult with local youths to ensure that preferred course of action is acceptable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ High
3.	Encourage the use of public facilities for maximum community benefit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Liaise with Cambooya State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours.■ Advise Greenmount State School on the relevant outcomes of this study, including community suggestions to provide goal posts on the school oval, to make the area more useable for social games and training purposes.■ Promote the Cambooya Hall for community purposes, including suitable indoor sport and recreational activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ CSC■ Cambooya State School■ Education Queensland■ General Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Immediate



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE	RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
CAMBOOYA (CONT)			
4. Improve existing parkland resources and provide additional reserves to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Conduct targeted upgrades of facilities at Cambooya Memorial Park, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - replacement of some equipment, seating and BBQs; and - replace dilapidated public toilets with two disabled toilets – male / female. ■ Conduct small scale modifications to encourage greater use of Patterson Park. Priority improvements include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establish a walking circuit track around the perimeter of park, with exer-sites and seating; - provide playground equipment catering for older children and youths; - enlarge the basketball court (with handball court line markings); - remove or relocate the handball wall; - provide more shaded seating; and - promote the park in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Consider implementation of "gateway" planting schemes along Lucy and Eton Streets. ■ Investigate the need to provide a drinking water bubbler at Rolleston Park. ■ As opportunity presents, undertake targeted rehabilitation and landscaping works along the Hodgson Creek corridor, to enhance environmental, recreational and nature appreciation values (particularly through park settings). ■ Determine long term requirements for new parkland coinciding with future residential growth in Cambooya. ■ Promote Cambooya's local parks in Council's newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High ■ Medium
5. Consolidation of pathway network is desired by all age groups in Cambooya. Cyclist and pedestrian access to community facilities will ultimately result in greater facility utilisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Establish additional shared cycle/pedestrian paths to enhance public accessibility to key activity nodes in Cambooya, including the school, sport and recreation facilities, residential areas, local shops and other community focal points. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High – Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
WYREEMA AND VALE VIEW				
1.	Recognise the FE Obst Park as the principal multi-purpose sport and recreation venue in Wyreema.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider preparation of an overall master plan for the FE Obst Park in conjunction with local residents. Liaise with existing and potential tenants to confirm priorities for facility expansion, upgrades and development, and how these issues should be addressed in the master plan – Refer to Strategy 6 which identifies key activity settings / components for inclusion in the master plan. Staged implementation of the Master Plan, as appropriate. Support the establishment of a cricket club in Wyreema, following implementation of improvement works. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Community Groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High Medium
2.	Improve existing parkland resources to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct improvements at Barton Park including repair of public toilet and better implementation CPTED principles – address safety concerns with landscaping and lighting strategies to promote enhanced public surveillance of the site. Ensure regular maintenance of Stratford Park is undertaken. Investigate “gateway” planting schemes along major approach routes into Wyreema (ie. north and south approach along Umbiram Road). Promote Wyreema’s local parks in Council’s newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High – Medium
3.	Provide opportunities for informal recreation directed at Wyreema’s youth population, in response to identified shortfalls in existing resource supply.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain dialogue with SRQ, Jondaryan Shire Council and the local community to secure funding for the development of a skate park, within Obst Park or another suitable site. Proceed with planning and construction phases as appropriate. Encourage youth involvement in the planning and design of the skate park to achieve ownership and pride in the project. Facilitate this process in conjunction with the Wyreema State School. Investigate a small scale bicycle training circuit in Wyreema for educational and recreational use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSC Jondaryan Shire Council SRQ Wyreema State School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediate – High Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
WYREEMA AND VALE VIEW (CONT)				
4.	Consolidation of pathway network is desired by all age groups in Wyreema. Cyclist and pedestrian access to community facilities will ultimately result in greater facility utilisation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Lobby Queensland Rail to upgrade the existing rail line crossing on Umbiram Road, to facilitate safer access for pedestrians and cyclists in Wyreema. ■ Establish additional shared cycle/pedestrian paths to enhance public accessibility to key activity nodes in Wyreema, including the school, recreational facilities, residential areas, the general store and community hall. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Queensland Rail 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High (ongoing)
5.	Encourage the use of public facilities for maximum community benefit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Liaise with Wyreema State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Regularly promote availability of Wyreema Hall for community purposes in Council's newsletter and website, together with the local residents' newsletter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Wyreema State School ■ Education Queensland ■ General Community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High
6.	Upgrade existing facilities for outdoor sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Support Wyreema Tennis Club to secure funding for priority improvements including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - upgrade tennis clubhouse, including paving, landscaping and more shade; and - upgraded security. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Wyreema Tennis Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High-Medium
7.	Vale View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Complete the walking circuit on the southern side of Smith Creek and Federation Park to provide a circuit track. ■ Provide a pathway connection along Drayton Connection Road from Federation Park to Vale View School. ■ Consider the feasibility of providing a pathway / walking track connection between Wyreema and Vale View for improved pedestrian / cyclist accessibility. ■ Establish recreational trail linkages between Vale View and surrounding communities. ■ Establish cricket practice nets and a multi-purpose playing field as part of the Federation Park precinct, coinciding with population growth in the surrounding district. ■ Liaise with Vale View State School to establish opportunities for increasing public use of their sport and recreation facilities in non-school hours. ■ Promote Federation Park in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Liaise with DMR to articulate priorities for cycle network connectivity between Vale View and Toowoomba City (eg. Drayton Connection Road). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Vale View State School ■ Education Queensland ■ Department of Main Roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High ■ Medium ■ Medium ■ Medium – Low ■ Immediate ■ Immediate ■ Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
TOP CAMP AND HODGSON VALE				
1.	Improve existing parkland resources and provide additional reserves to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Upgrade local recreation parks and rest areas to provide a more diverse range of informal recreation settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lions Park: enlarge basketball court and erect fencing on downhill side, seating and shade adjacent to the basketball court, shade over playground, new play equipment and exer-sites catering for older youths; walking track from Park to Community Sports Club. - Panoramic Park: establish recreational trail connections to the park to strengthen local access (refer to Strategy 7), erect signage on highway to improve awareness of park's location and promote in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Coinciding with future rural residential growth, determine long term requirements for new parkland within the district. ■ Promote Hodgson Vale's local parks in Council's newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High
2.	Provide enhanced settings and participation opportunities for youth-oriented sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Finalise work on the Hodgson Vale BMX area to provide a safe and useable facility for local residents. ■ Promote the completion of works in Council's newsletter and website to raise community awareness. ■ Provide a sealed area / circuit path for skating in the Lions Park. ■ Maintain a watching brief on the need for a skate park facility at the Lions Park in Hodgson Vale. ■ Should the above action proceed, ensure youth involvement in the planning, design, construction and management stages to achieve ownership and pride in the project. ■ Encourage a program of "Come and Try" Days in partnership with local sporting clubs in the district. Ensure promotion targets participation by local youths. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High-Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
TOP CAMP AND HODGSON VALE				
1.	Improve existing parkland resources and provide additional reserves to achieve better diversity in open space and recreation settings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Upgrade local recreation parks and rest areas to provide a more diverse range of informal recreation settings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lions Park: enlarge basketball court and erect fencing on downhill side, seating and shade adjacent to the basketball court, shade over playground, new play equipment and exer-sites catering for older youths; walking track from Park to Community Sports Club. - Panoramic Park: establish recreational trail connections to the park to strengthen local access (refer to Strategy 7), erect signage on highway to improve awareness of park's location and promote in Council's newsletter and website. ■ Coinciding with future rural residential growth, determine long term requirements for new parkland within the district. ■ Promote Hodgson Vale's local parks in Council's newsletter and website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High
2.	Provide enhanced settings and participation opportunities for youth-oriented sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Finalise work on the Hodgson Vale BMX area to provide a safe and useable facility for local residents. ■ Promote the completion of works in Council's newsletter and website to raise community awareness. ■ Provide a sealed area / circuit path for skating in the Lions Park. ■ Maintain a watching brief on the need for a skate park facility at the Lions Park in Hodgson Vale. ■ Should the above action proceed, ensure youth involvement in the planning, design, construction and management stages to achieve ownership and pride in the project. ■ Encourage a program of "Come and Try" Days in partnership with local sporting clubs in the district. Ensure promotion targets participation by local youths. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ High-Medium



MANAGEMENT STRATEGY / ISSUE		RECOMMENDED ACTIONS	STAKEHOLDERS	PRIORITY
TOP CAMP AND HODGSON VALE (CONT)				
3.	Pathways, tracks and trails are desired by all age groups in district for recreation, fitness and transportation purposes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Coinciding with future development, establish pathway and walking track connections linking residential areas with local activity nodes. Key actions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Walking tracks through the park area from the established Panoramic Park to Carroll Road, and then via the wide road reserve of Carroll Road to the end of the existing road construction on the northern end of Carroll Road. – Complete the concrete pathway from Pendoma Drive to the tennis courts. – Provide a pathway to the Lions Park from Kearney Street to enhance local access to the site. ■ Improve road verges to provide for safer access by walkers, cyclists and joggers. ■ In assessing development applications for new rural residential subdivisions, require that appropriate easements are provided to enhance local accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists. ■ Liaise with DMR to provide a formalised crossing point on the New England Highway for cyclists and pedestrians accessing the Lions Park and Community Sports Club. ■ Ensure planning for recreational trails in the district secures linkages with major community focal points (eg. the Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club, Lions Park, Panoramic Park and equestrian venues), and cross-boundary links. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Community Groups ■ State Government Agencies ■ Adjoining Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Immediate ■ Immediate ■ Immediate (ongoing) ■ Immediate ■ Medium
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Consider an overall master plan for the site in conjunction with the Facility Management Committee and local residents. Liaise with existing and potential tenants to confirm priorities for facility expansion, upgrades and development, and how these issues should be addressed in the master plan – Refer to Strategy 6 which identifies key activity settings / components for inclusion in the master plan. ■ Staged implementation of the Master Plan, as appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ CSC ■ Community Groups ■ State Government Agencies ■ Adjoining Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ High
4.	Recognise the Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club as the principal multi-purpose sport and recreation venue in the district, particularly for field and court sports.			



Appendix A

Community Consultation Materials

- ▶ Study Poster
- ▶ Community Survey
- ▶ Sport & Recreation Club Survey
- ▶ Public Meeting Attendance Lists

CAMBOOYA SHIRE

SPORT & RECREATION STUDY

Cambooya Shire Council, in cooperation with Sport & Recreation Queensland, has commissioned consultants GHD to undertake a study to determine what the community's needs are for sport and recreation opportunities in the Shire, now and in the future.

All interested residents, community groups and sporting bodies are encouraged to participate.

HOW TO HAVE YOUR SAY...

1 Write a letter to Council

Drop it off at the Cambooya Shire Council's Office in Greenmount ... OR

Send it to the address below by 3 March 2003 (no stamp required)

Attention: Stephanie Oldroyd

GHD Pty Ltd

Reply Paid 668

GPO Box 668

Brisbane Qld 4001

or email to

soldroyd@ghd.com.au



2 Attend a Community Meeting

to discuss your ideas with Council and the study team:

MEETING 1 - Greenmount Hall, Tues 25 Feb, 7.30pm

MEETING 2 - Cambooya Hall, Wed 26 Feb, 7.30pm

MEETING 3 - Hodgson Vale Sports Club, Tues 4 March, 7.30pm

MEETING 4 - Wyreema Hall, Wed 5 March, 7.30pm



Pick up a Community Survey

FROM: Cambooya Store and Newsagency, Cambooya Post Office, Greenmount Post Office, Council Office (Greenmount), Felton Produce, Eton Vale Roadhouse, Hodgson Vale Rural Centre, and Wyreema Store



Queensland Government
Getting more people active
through sport and recreation

Study Contacts:
Stephanie Oldroyd (GHD)
Ph: 3316 3522

Debbie Gillhespy (Cambooya Shire Council)
Ph: 4697 0217

COMMUNITY SURVEY – HAVE YOUR SAY!

Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

Cambooya Shire Council is conducting a study to determine the sport and recreation needs of the Shire's residents and visitors for the next 5-10 years. Community feedback will be vital!
Please complete the survey below and return it to GHD (no stamp required), or drop it off at Council's Greenmount office by FRIDAY 21 MARCH 2003. Thank you for your input.

PART A - INTRODUCTION

1. Contact Details (Optional):
 - Your Name: _____
 - Postal Address: _____
 - Phone Number: _____
2. Other Details (Please complete):
 - What town/community do you live in? _____
 - Your Age Group (please circle): 0-15 16-24 25-30 31-40 41-50 50+
 - Gender (please tick): MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐
3. Please indicate the type of household that you live in:

<input type="checkbox"/> Single Person Only	<input type="checkbox"/> Single Adult with Children	<input type="checkbox"/> Couple Only
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Adults with Children	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 2 Adults	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 2 adults with Children
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Household Type (specify): _____		

PART B - SPORT AND RECREATION IN CAMBOOYA SHIRE

4. Is the range of local sport and recreation facilities, activities and services adequate for persons in your age group? YES ☐ NO ☐
5. Your Sport and Recreation Participation:
 - Sporting Clubs that you belong to in Cambooya Shire: _____
 - Your favourite leisure time activities (eg. walk, jog, picnicking etc): _____
6. If relevant, what reasons prevent you from participating in sport and recreation activities?

<input type="checkbox"/> Not Interested	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Time / Too Busy	<input type="checkbox"/> Cost to Participate
<input type="checkbox"/> Facility Location / Travelling Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Facility Condition	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Approp. Facilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Climate	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____	
7. Please list the sport and recreation facilities, services and programs available in Cambooya Shire that you use on a regular basis:

8. Please rate your overall satisfaction with the standard and management of these resources:

☐ VERY SATISFIED ☐ SATISFIED ☐ DISSATISFIED ☐ VERY DISSATISFIED

a) Do you feel welcome at the venue?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
b) Are admission / hire fees reasonable?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
c) Are opening hours appropriate?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
d) Are the venues well maintained?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
9. Please detail any problems / concerns associated with these facilities, services or programs?

10. Organisation of Sporting Activities and Volunteers:

- a) Are local sporting programs activities well organised?
b) Are there enough people to assist with their organisation, coaching etc?
c) Do you provide assistance to organise any local sporting activities?

<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO

11. What are the priorities for new and / or improved sport and recreation facilities, services or programs in Cambooya Shire and where should these be located? (eg. skate ramp for young people, walking trails, new competitions or recreational activities etc).

PART C - SPORT AND RECREATION IN OUTSIDE CAMBOOYA SHIRE

12. Do you use any sport and recreation facilities or participate in competitions outside Cambooya Shire (eg. Toowoomba, Gatton, Pittsworth)? Please provide details below.

13. Please describe why you like to use these facilities or participate in these competitions?

Fold

No postage stamp
required if posted
in Australia.



Stephanie Oldroyd

REPLY PAID 668

GHD Pty Ltd

GPO Box 668

BRISBANE QLD 4000

Fold

Fold in 3 on the dotted line,
seal with tape and post

Please return this form by Friday 21 March 2003.

*For more information, contact Stephanie Oldroyd at GHD (ph. 3316 3522), or
Debbie Gillhespy of Cambooya Shire Council (ph. 4697 0217).*

*Public meetings will be held at Greenmount Hall (25 Feb), Cambooya Hall (26 Feb),
Hodgson Vale Sports Club (4 March), and Wyreema Hall (Wed 5 March) to discuss
the community's sport and recreation needs – meetings commence at 7.30pm.*

All interested members of the public are invited to attend.



Queensland Government
Getting more people active
through sport and recreation



MANAGEMENT
ENGINEERING
ENVIRONMENT

SURVEY OF SPORT & RECREATION GROUPS

Cambooya Shire Sport & Recreation Needs Study

PART 1 - INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR GROUP

1. Please provide your contact details:

Your Name: _____

Name of Group/Club you Represent: _____

Your Position in Group (eg. Secretary): _____

Postal Address: _____

Telephone Numbers (home & mobile): _____

E-mail Address: _____

2. (a) What is the main sport or activity organised by your group (eg 'Junior Cricket for under 16s')? _____

(b) How would you categorise this activity?

☐

INFORMAL / SOCIAL FIXTURES

☐

ORGANISED COMPETITION

☐

OTHER _____

3. Membership Details:

a) What is your group's current membership for 2003? (Please complete table below)

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP	NUMBER OF MEMBERS
Active - Adult	
Active - Junior	
Social / administrative / life / non-active	
Total Members	

b) What was the group's total membership in 1998? _____

Please indicate the reasons for the membership increase or decline since 1998?

For example: Decline – economic conditions, lack of participants, popularity of other sports;

Increase – better facilities, coaching, popularity of sport, good publicity.

c) Do you think membership numbers will increase, decline or remain stable by 2008?

☐

INCREASE

☐

DECLINE

☐

NO CHANGE

Why? _____

4. Please fill in the following table to indicate:

a) which facilities your group uses;

b) when they are used (season, day of the week and time);

c) what activities your group uses it for (eg. competitions and / or training);

d) costs to hire / lease the land or facility (eg. \$/hour, \$/annum or contribution to maintenance).

A) WHICH FACILITIES ARE USED?	B) WHEN?	C) WHAT DOES YOUR GROUP DO THERE?	D) COST TO HIRE OR LEASE THE FACILITY

PART 2 - INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR GROUP'S SPORT & RECREATION NEEDS

5. a) Is your group adequately catered for in terms of facilities, services, programs and other support?
☐ YES ☐ NO
- b) How would you rate your group's overall satisfaction with the facilities you use?
☐ VERY SATISFIED ☐ SATISFIED ☐ DISSATISFIED ☐ VERY DISSATISFIED
- c) Please detail any problems / concerns associated with the facilities you use or services, programs and support available to local sporting clubs in Cambooya Shire?

- d) What are the best things about the facilities, services or programs you use?

6. What are your needs or priorities for the next 5 years (eg. increase membership, night lighting for tennis courts, upgrade grandstand, assistance with public liability, more volunteers etc)

7. What sport and recreation facilities in Cambooya Shire could be better utilised and how could this be achieved? For example, through a sharing arrangement between different groups or facility upgrades?

PART 3 - GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SPORT & RECREATION IN CAMBOOYA SHIRE

8. Are there any other sport / recreational activities, facilities, services or programs that should be provided in Cambooya Shire? (eg. 'a skateboard ramp for young people would be good', 'walking trails', 'parkland enhancement' etc)

PART 4 - PUBLIC MEETINGS

Public meetings will be held to discuss the community's sport and recreation needs, as follows:
 GREENMOUNT HALL – Tues 25 February HODGSON VALE SPORTS CLUB – Tues 4 March
 CAMBOOYA HALL – Wed 26 February WYREEMA HALL – Wed 5 March

All interested residents, sporting clubs and community groups are encouraged to attend.
 The meetings will commence promptly at 7.30pm.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

If you have any other comments, please provide them on a separate piece of paper and attach to this form.

PLEASE RETURN SURVEY TO GHD OR COUNCIL BY MONDAY 3 MARCH 2003, AS FOLLOWS:

Attention: Stephanie Oldroyd
 Reply Paid 668
 GHD Pty Ltd
 Brisbane QLD 4001
 (Return Envelope Enclosed –
 No Stamp Required)

ALTERNATIVELY ... you can FAX the survey to:
 Attention: Stephanie Oldroyd
 (07) 3316 3333
 ORDrop it off at the Cambooya Shire
 Council office in Greenmount



Appendix B

Community Feedback

- Summary of Issues Relevant to Specific Facilities



Summary of Issues / Needs Relevant to Specific Facilities

The following tables summarise the community's suggestions for new and improved sport and recreation facilities in Cambooya Shire. The tables have been compiled from feedback received as part of the study's consultation program.

Greenmount

Facility Name	Community Suggestions / Comments
Pathways and Recreational Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish walking and cycling circuit around township, integrated with existing pathways, Ramsay Street landscape enhancement project, greenspace corridor adjacent to rail line and Violet Brodie Park. Deploy "exersites", distance markers and shaded seating along walking circuit. Utilise land parcels in Council ownership at rear of town for walking trails.
BMX Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reinstate BMX area for better safety and usability (removal of sharp objects from BMX mounds is a priority – old dump site). Cater for a range of skill levels. Establish parkland / bushland / lookout site adjacent to BMX area.
Greenmount Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floor not suitable for recreational activities (eg. indoor bowls). Hall is old, poorly ventilated and not secure – upgrade it to better serve community needs (eg. recreation, childcare, youth centre, function venue, library, community events and meetings etc). Upgrade public toilet facilities.
Bicentennial Memorial Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise land use incompatibilities between recreation facilities and adjacent residences. Upgrade basketball court. Upgrade playground facilities. Improve public access and visibility of site (concealed from public view). Greater recognition of local history – interpretive signage etc.
Greenmount Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage more public use of sport and recreation facilities on school grounds. Upgrade existing ant-bed tennis court. Develop basketball area. Get school students involved in new park / nature appreciation projects for town.
Miscellaneous Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More frequent maintenance of all local facilities required.
Community Priorities for New Facilities, Programs and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of open space adjacent to rail line for community / recreation purposes. Attractive settings for picnicking and nature appreciation. All-weather, multi-purpose sports venue (eg. indoor soccer, volleyball, netball, cricket). Sport and recreation initiatives to enhance community identity and provide community 'focal point'. Encourage greater collaboration between local residents through sport and recreation initiatives.



Facility Name	Community Suggestions / Comments
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Signage, community noticeboard and community directory are very important to raise awareness and increase facilities usage.▶ New playground catering for children and older youths.▶ Skate park.▶ Youth centre / covered shelter.▶ More organised activities for young people in Greenmount.▶ Ensure future facility development projects meet appropriate standards.



Cambooya

Facility Name	Community Suggestions / Comments
Skate Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Extend facility to cater for a range of age groups, activities and skill levels from novice to experienced users. ▶ Mural wall. ▶ Strategies required to minimise anti-social behaviour / bullying by some youths at skate park – self regulation through diversified use? ▶ Shelter and seating / gazebo adjacent to skate area.
Pathways and Recreational Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ More pathways throughout community area for walking and cycling. ▶ Widen existing pathways to cater for different user groups. ▶ Creek enhancement strategy incorporating walking trails, landscaping and parkland.
Tennis Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ General facility upgrade required due to condition of existing courts. ▶ Replace tennis nets (ripped).
Lawn Bowls Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ More support from the local community – increase membership. ▶ More guidance required for club activities (public liability insurance costs are a major concern).
Cambooya Recreation Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Seal earth surface beneath covered shelter to provide more usable setting for community activities and gatherings. ▶ Support for Pony Club activities – increased volunteers, funding and membership. ▶ Measures to deter vandalism of facilities. ▶ Full replacement of perimeter fencing around main arena. ▶ Increase security / policy and power supply to site for major equestrian events.
Cambooya Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increase public access to school sport and recreation facilities. ▶ Goal posts required to make playing field more usable (football / soccer). ▶ Encourage school to appoint a full-time physical education teacher.
Paterson Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Park is under-utilised – modify activity areas to attract more patronage. ▶ Establish walking circuit around park for recreation and physical fitness. “Natural” surface treatment preferred in-keeping with parkland setting (eg. compacted road base). ▶ More shade. ▶ Extend basketball court and removal handball wall (in middle of court). ▶ Different playground equipment to cater for young children and older youths. ▶ Full sized handball court.
BMX Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Upgrade BMX area to increase safety and usability.
Cambooya Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Improve promotion of hall as venue for community and recreational uses, following replacement of hall floor.



Facility Name	Community Suggestions / Comments
Community Priorities for New Facilities, Programs and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ New recreational facilities catering for large teenage population, including youth centre / youth space (a safe place to “hang out” with friends).▶ Swimming pool complex in Cambooya and support for subsidised access for residents to aquatic facilities in other areas outside Shire.▶ Hut for local scout group.▶ Gymnasium or indoor multi-purpose sports centre.▶ Public library.▶ More organised recreational activities for young people.▶ Training for local people and increasing volunteer base to keep existing activities going and introduce new ones.▶ Appointment of a Sport & Recreation Development Officer for the Shire.



Hodgson Vale

Facility Name	Community Suggestions / Comments
Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade vehicular access to site coinciding with residential growth. Upgrade pedestrian linkages between activity nodes within site (eg. sports club to Lions Park), including creekside recreational trails and picnic areas. Establish children's playground adjacent to tennis courts and community hall (Lion's Park is too far away). Develop new multi-purpose field for soccer and cricket. Cricket practice nets. Existing oval is under-utilised – raise profile of local facilities and target district service catchment (eg. Toowoomba based clubs, schools, university clubs); install goal posts (soccer / football); improve oval surface. Archery area. Secure equipment storage areas required. Pathway circuit around sports club ground for recreational and fitness walking. Fencing of creek to improve safety for young children. Longer term needs include expansion of community hall; additional tennis court. Formation of local sporting clubs based at venue, coinciding with population growth in the area (eg. netball, cricket).
Lions Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade crossing of New England Highway for safer access to the Lions Park and Sports Club. Upgrade basketball halfcourt – shaded seating around court, fencing, different playground facilities for older youths. Picnic area in wrong location – too close to Highway.
Pathways and Recreational Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational Trails Strategy for Cambooya Shire – establish multi-purpose recreational trails along strategic corridors for horse riding, bushwalking, mountain biking and nature appreciation; establish connections throughout shire and region to major recreational activity nodes (including future sports ground at Mt Peel). Recreational trails should be dedicated for non-motorised activities – limit trail bike access. Council to keep grassy roadside verges mowed for horse riding. Continue to provide wide verges for this purpose, as part of future development in Hodgson Vale area. Establish off-road pathways within residential subdivisions for walking and cycling – secure connections as part of development approval process; pathway construction material should be in-keeping with rural residential setting (eg. compacted road base, not cement or asphalt). Provide connections from Cambooya Shire to Toowoomba City bicycle network.
BMX Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise work on BMX area to improve usability and public safety.
Panoramic Drive Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase community awareness of park. Establish recreational trails linking park with surrounding community via public land and road reserves.



Facility Name	Community Suggestions / Comments
Community Priorities for New Facilities, Programs and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Designated precincts and trails for recreational horse riding.Golf putting green.Skate park for young people.Public library.Swimming pool within Community Sports Club precinct.Squash courts.Public transport service linking Hodgson Vale to Toowoomba.Recruitment and training of more volunteers to provide a greater range of activities for the local community.Improve community awareness of existing facilities, activities and local contacts through a Sport and Recreation Directory.More organised activities for young people in Hodgson Vale and surrounding district.Social sporting competitions between local communities.



Wyreema

Facility Name	Community Suggestions / Comments
Pathways and Recreational Trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Ongoing development of multi-purpose pathway network serving local community (Cambooya and Jondaryan Shire sides). ▶ Provide children's bicycle training circuit for recreation and educational purposes (similar to facility at Westbrook). ▶ Lobby Queensland Rail to upgrade rail line crossing for improved safety of pedestrians and cyclists (especially children travelling to school and Obst Park). ▶ Establish recreational trails for bushwalking, mountain biking and horse riding.
Tennis Courts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Upgraded tennis clubhouse, including paving, landscaping and shade. ▶ Measures to deter vandalism of facilities and trespass.
FE Obst Park Complex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Playground – replace shade cloth as equipment gets very hot during summer; replace sand surface with softfall to improve hygiene; provide drinking water fountain; replace swing set to improve safety; lighting of facilities. ▶ Promote BBQ facilities at park available for public use. ▶ Enlarge basketball court (ie. standard half-court size with two hoops / backboards). ▶ Upgrade oval – replace surface and top dress; lighting for evening use; install football / soccer posts; line markings for different activities (eg. athletics, football codes). ▶ More frequent maintenance of facilities required (including cleaning of BBQ). ▶ Reinstate grass netball courts or consider site for an alternative recreational use. ▶ Cricket practice nets.
Wyreema Hall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Formalise visitor parking area.
Barton Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Landscape modifications and night lighting to enhance visibility of site and public safety.
Miscellaneous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Enhanced settings for family recreation (eg. picnic areas). ▶ Shortfall in recreational settings and activities for local teenagers.
Community Priorities for New Facilities, Programs and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Greater choice in local sport and recreation facilities to limit need for travel to other communities. ▶ Centrally located skate park facility – Obst Oval complex was suggested as an appropriate venue. ▶ Indoor multi-purpose sports centre. ▶ Swimming pool. ▶ Golf driving range or putting green. ▶ More organised activities for young people (eg. movie nights). ▶ Public transport service linking Wyreema to Toowoomba. ▶ Clubs require assistance with increasing membership and public liability issues. ▶ Local coaching for junior sports development. ▶ Public library / community learning centre. ▶ Partnership approach with Jondaryan Shire Council required for future sport and recreation initiatives.



Balance of Shire

Locality	Community Suggestions / Comments
East Greenmount	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Pony club. ▶ Multi-purpose playing field. ▶ Golf putting green or driving range. ▶ More organised activities for young people in East Greenmount. ▶ Mural wall. ▶ Walking and cycling pathways. ▶ Cricket practice nets on school grounds. ▶ Public library. ▶ Raise community awareness of Steele Rudd Park.
Ramsay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Bicycle training circuit. ▶ Public library. ▶ More organised activities for young people in Ramsay. ▶ Gymnasium in Cambooya Shire. ▶ Opportunities for nature appreciation and walking trails.
Vale View	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Establish recreational trails for bushwalking and horse riding, linking Federation Park / Vale View to surrounding communities of Wyreema, Mount Rascal and Hodgson Vale. ▶ Establish off-road pathway link for improved cyclist / pedestrian safety from Vale View School to Federation Park along Drayton Connection Road. ▶ Upgrade pathway through Federation Park (overgrown). ▶ Establish multi-purpose playing field as part of Federation Park precinct, catering for Vale View / Mount Rascal area. ▶ Cricket practice nets at Federation Park.
Felton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Designated areas for trail bike access. ▶ Golf course or practice driving range. ▶ Walking trails.
Mount Rascal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ More organised sporting activities in the Shire, particularly soccer, cricket and football.
Miscellaneous Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Encourage a regional planning approach with Toowoomba City Council and adjoining Shires for communities located on shire boundaries.



Public Meeting Attendance List – Meeting No. 1
Greenmount Hall, Tuesday 25 February 2003

Paul Brown-Duthie – Greenmount Progress Committee

Grant Hartley – Greenmount Progress Committee

Malcolm Goody – Greenmount Progress Committee

Gary Strickland – Interested Resident

Michael Strickland – Interested Resident

Anthony Strickland – Interested Resident

Paul Winters – Interested Resident

Pauline Dorian – F.I.V.E. Family Fitness / Interested Resident

Cr John Savage – Cambooya Shire Council

Cr Coral Richards – Cambooya Shire Council

Cr Michael Williams – Cambooya Shire Council

Cr Frank Menzel – Cambooya Shire Council

Ian Slader – CEO, Cambooya Shire Council

Debbie Gillhespy – Cambooya Shire Council

Stephanie Oldroyd – GHD Consultants



Public Meeting Attendance List – Meeting No. 2
Cambooya Hall, Wednesday 26 February 2003

T.Cumner – Cambooya Bowls Club

Garry Bourne – Cambooya Bowls Club

Ron Spoelder – Rural Fire Service / Interested Resident

Bob Caldwell – Interested Resident

Jenna Caldwell – Interested Resident

Hayley Caldwell – Interested Resident

Kay Caldwell – Interested Resident

Monica Timmins – Cambooya Shire Council

J.Hansen – Interested Resident

P.Hansen – Interested Resident

Cr Coral Richards – Cambooya Shire Council

Cr Michael Williams – Cambooya Shire Council

Cr Max Middleton – Cambooya Shire Council

Cr John Savage – Cambooya Shire Council

Ian Slader – CEO, Cambooya Shire Council

Debbie Gillhespy – Cambooya Shire Council

Stephanie Oldroyd – GHD Consultants



Public Meeting Attendance List – Meeting No. 3
Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club, Tuesday 4 March 2003

Glenda Henry – Ramsay School P&C Association / Hodgson Vale Playgroup

Jim Grassick – Hodgson Vale Community Sports Club Inc

Cr John Savage – Cambooya Shire Council

Tony McDonald – Cambooya Shire Council

Debbie Gillhespy – Cambooya Shire Council

Stephanie Oldroyd – GHD Consultants

Public Meeting Attendance List – Meeting No. 4
Wyreema Hall, Wednesday 5 March 2003

Maisie Folker – Wyreema Hall Committee

Stephen Kiri – Wyreema Hall Committee

Sel Vickers – Wyreema Hall Committee

Ian (Surname Unknown) – Wyreema Hall Committee

Robyn Eastwell – Wyreema Neighbourhood Watch

Cr Carol Taylor – Cambooya Shire Council / Wyreema Community Events Committee Inc.

Helen Riethmuller – Wyreema Tennis Club

Lynda Rowitz – Interested Resident

Jenny Lowe – Interested Resident

David Wilson – Interested Resident

Colin Middleton – Wyreema Tennis Club

Roger Taylor – Wyreema Community Events Committee Inc.

Cr John Savage – Cambooya Shire Council

Cr Max Middleton – Cambooya Shire Council

Debbie Gillhespy – Cambooya Shire Council

Stephanie Oldroyd – GHD Consultants



Appendix C

Planning Scheme Considerations



Overview

This Appendix provides a brief review of the provisions contained in the draft planning scheme for Cambooya Shire being prepared under the *Integrated Planning Act 1997* (IPA). The review assesses the adequacy of the draft scheme provisions to provide for sport and recreation opportunities in Cambooya Shire.

Draft IPA Planning Scheme

The draft planning scheme for Cambooya Shire is currently on public display (commenced in early March 2003 and expected to be completed by late May/early June 2003).

The key elements of the draft planning scheme are:

- ▶ Desired Environmental Outcomes;
- ▶ Land Use Areas;
- ▶ Codes;
- ▶ Infrastructure Provisions; and
- ▶ Planning Scheme Maps

Desired Environmental Outcomes

The Desired Environmental Outcomes set out in Section 2 of the draft planning scheme express Council's broad intentions for growth and development for the whole of the Shire.

Whilst the Desired Environmental Outcomes do not directly reference sport and recreation issues, they are sufficiently broad in their reference to community wellbeing, protecting natural habitat/linkages and promoting economic development to provide for the outcomes of any sport and recreation planning for the Shire.

Amongst other things, the Desired Environmental Outcomes seek to achieve consolidation of residential development into the Shire's existing towns and the rural residential area in the north of the Shire in order to maximise accessibility to existing facilities and infrastructure and efficiency in terms of provision of new facilities and infrastructure (eg. sport and recreation facilities).

Land Use Areas

Under the draft planning scheme a key issue relevant to sport and recreation planning is how uses are defined and what level of assessment is required for development of such uses in each of the land use areas.

Depending on the nature of sport and recreation development, the following definitions from Section 1.3 of the draft planning scheme may be relevant:

- ▶ Indoor entertainment;
- ▶ Outdoor entertainment; and
- ▶ Park.



The draft planning scheme divides the Shire into 4 land use areas, being:

- Rural;
- Rural Residential;
- Township; and
- Major Community Facilities.

Rural Land Use Area:

Although it is intended that this area be used for rural pursuits and broadscale landscape/ecological protection, the development of *recreational or tourism related uses of a low intensity and scale* may be supported in certain circumstances where it can be demonstrated that there will be no environmental harm to neighbouring farms and residents or natural areas.

In the Rural Land Use Area, a material change of use for a park is exempt and a material change of use for indoor entertainment or outdoor entertainment is impact assessable development.

Rural Residential Land Use Area:

Section 3.2.1 indicates that the intent for this land use area is low density residential dwellings within an area of generally rural character. Urban type uses are not intended to be developed within this land use area. Neighbourhood parks are not intended due to the relatively large allotments (minimum 4000m²).

Non residential development is generally not intended in this land use area, unless it is of a small scale, provides a local service and is co-located with other non residential activities as far as practical. However, it is noted that some support facilities (such as community and recreational facilities) are intended in the land use area:

However, a major community facility area accessible by an arterial road will be enhanced at the Hodgson Vale and Vale View areas to support community recreational and cultural activities. Further, these will be linked over time with the residential communities of those areas through the development of a green belt providing tracks for walking, cycling and/or horse riding.

In the Rural Residential Land Use Area, a material change of use for a park is exempt and a material change of use for indoor entertainment or outdoor entertainment is impact assessable development.

Township Land Use Area:

This land use area incorporates the existing townships of Cambooya, Wyreema, Greenmount and East Greenmount, in which it is intended that urban uses will be developed through infill rather than expansion of the urban areas. Section 3.3.1 of the draft planning scheme indicates that:

Neighbourhood parks and community facilities are intended to be provided in this land use area; and

Commercial and community uses will be supported in this land use area where it is convenient and accessible to local residents. New development of this type is intended to locate with existing non-residential land uses and to provide appropriate landscaping to reinforce community focal points.

In the Township Land Use Area, a material change of use for a park is exempt and a material change of use for indoor entertainment or outdoor entertainment is impact assessable development.



Major Community Facilities Land Use Area:

This land use area comprises specific sites which accommodate major infrastructure and community facilities, such as schools, major public utilities, railway facilities and infrastructure and the like.

In the Major Community Facilities Land Use Area, a material change of use for a park is exempt and a material change of use for indoor entertainment or outdoor entertainment is impact assessable development.

Codes

Section 4.0 of the draft planning scheme identifies codes which apply to self-assessable and code assessable development and which *are relevant to aspects of development which are impact assessable*.

Whilst there are no specific codes directly relevant to development of sport and recreational facilities, there are general aspects of development (such as setbacks, carparking and open space provision for subdivision) that are relevant and would be considered as part of impact assessment of proposed facilities.

Recommendations for IPA Planning Scheme

It is recommended Council consider the following issues when reviewing its draft planning scheme following the public notification period:

- ▶ Recognise sport and recreation as features which are integral to advancing the purpose of the IPA;
- ▶ Recognise the outcomes of the *Sport & Recreation Needs Study* in formulating Shire-wide Desired Environmental Outcomes and associated Shire-wide Strategies in accordance with the IPA. Some examples of DEO's/Shire-wide Strategies are:
 - The community's need for a range of active and passive recreational opportunities including facilities at regional, district and local levels is satisfied through the provision of land and infrastructure and equitable accessibility;
 - Areas which present significant constraints to development or possess important ecological or scenic values are conserved;
 - Recreational activities within areas of conservation value are co-located based on synergies between activities and the environmental values of host areas;
 - A network of open spaces across the Shire is established through corridors providing movement opportunities for people and wildlife between the coast and hinterland and access to coastal areas/beaches and other significant natural and cultural features.
- ▶ Consider the merits of depicting the main outcomes of *the Sport & Recreation Needs Study* on the Planning Scheme Maps with localised outcomes being referenced in codes relevant to the specific land use area.
- ▶ Consider the merits of identifying particular circumstances where specific sport and recreation facilities might be self-assessable or code assessable. If Council intends to identify such circumstances, it will be necessary for a code/s to be included in the IPA Planning Scheme against which assessment of proposals can be undertaken.
- ▶ Specific development standards need to be introduced into the new Planning Scheme to address:
 - disabled access considerations;



- the need for buffering / other amenity protection requirements for development and conduct of higher impact outdoor activities (e.g., model airplane, motorsports, shooting, etc); and
- appropriate noise buffer zones around the Toowoomba Amateur Radio Model Aero Club Inc. facilities at Hodgson Vale.



Appendix D

Major Funding Sources for Sport and Recreation Projects



Funding Programs Administered by Sport and Recreation Queensland

Overview

The following information has been extracted from Sport & Recreation Queensland's web site and is current at 10 February 2003.

Sport & Recreation Queensland (SRQ), is part of the *Department of Innovation and Information Economy, Sport and Recreation Queensland*. It administers the following financial assistance programs in Queensland:

- ▶ National Standard Sport Facilities Program (NSSFP);
- ▶ Club Development Program (ex-Community Sport and Recreation Development Program);
- ▶ Indigenous Community Development Program (ICDP);
- ▶ Local Government Development Program (LGDP);
- ▶ State Development Program (SSRDP);
- ▶ Minor Facilities Program (SRMFP); and
- ▶ Major Facilities Program.

Funding for these programs is provided under the Sport and Recreation Benefit Fund. The Sport and Recreation Benefit Fund is established under Section 313 of the Gaming Machine Act (1991), to provide benefits to the whole community.

Reference should also be made to the resource booklet "Finding Funding" and Government funding websites.

How to Apply for Financial Assistance

Each funding program follows the process of:

- ▶ advertising the availability of financial assistance and calling for applications via statewide and regional newspaper advertisements, media releases and industry newsletters;
- ▶ providing application forms and guidelines through regional and area offices;
- ▶ processing applications to ensure they meet the eligibility and accountability requirements of the particular program.



Who is Eligible for Financial Assistance?

Each program focuses on different aspects of sport and recreation development and has specific eligibility requirements. These requirements are detailed in each program's guidelines which are available when the program is advertised. However, the following organisations have been deemed to be generally eligible by the Department:

- ▶ an incorporated Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation or community council;
- ▶ a non-profit, incorporated, community or sport or recreation organisation (whose primary objective is sport or active recreation);
- ▶ an incorporated sport or recreation peak body which assumes responsibility for promoting sport or active recreation;
- ▶ Universities that can guarantee a high level of community access to the proposed facility (not applicable to Minor Facilities Program); or
- ▶ a local government (not applicable to Minor Facilities Program);
- ▶ applicants must be legal entities ie. organisations recognised by law, including incorporated associations, local government authorities, educational institutions or other organisations with non-profit sport or recreation objectives which are approved by the Minister for Sport;
- ▶ applicants must be properly constituted and have sport and recreation as a primary objective;
- ▶ applicants must have solely non-profit objectives (regarding private or personal gain) in relation to services; and
- ▶ unincorporated organisations, individuals, political organisations, government departments and parents and citizens associations are not eligible for financial assistance.



NAME OF PROGRAM	AIM	FUNDING	DATES	EXAMPLES
National Standard Sport Facilities Program (NSSFP)	The National Standard Facilities Program 2003-2004 provides financial assistance to eligible organisations to construct, extend, upgrade or develop facilities to conduct state and national standard sporting competitions and international levels of training.	Funding of \$1,996,256 was allocated under the 2002-2003 Program. Projects may receive financial assistance of up to 50% (educational institutions 30%) of the total eligible cost of the project and must demonstrate sound planning principles.	Annual programme. Applications close late March (2003-2004 program closed on 28th March 2003).	Examples of eligible projects include synthetic athletics tracks, synthetic hockey fields, swimming pools, a fourcourt indoor complex used for competition and training for netball and basketball, and venues that provide for a number of football codes.
Club Development Program (ex-Community Sport and Recreation Development Program)	<p>The Club Development Program (CDP) provides financial assistance to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> incorporated local organisations with a primary purpose of sport or physically active recreation for education and training, participation initiatives and planning; and unincorporated local organisations with a primary purpose of sport or physically active recreation to become incorporated. <p>The program aims to increase participation and improve the management and administration of organisations providing sport and physically active recreation opportunities.</p>	<p>Funding of \$2 million annually.</p> <p>Minimum \$500 grant, maximum \$3000 grant.</p> <p>Funding is available in a number of categories:</p> <p>Category 1 - Education and Training: These projects focus on enhancing the knowledge, skills and abilities of people in your organisation.</p> <p>Category 2 - Participation Initiatives: These projects focus on initiatives that will help attract new members/clients/participants [both players and volunteers] and support their ongoing participation.</p> <p>Category 3 - Planning: These projects focus on developing or reviewing planning documents associated with your organisation.</p> <p>Category 4 - Rural or Regional: for eligible project costs under categories 1, 2 or 3; or for participants' travel to regular competition where a competition is not offered in the local community and participants need to travel to a neighbouring community.</p> <p>Category 5 – Startup funding: for incorporation of an association process.</p>	2003-2004 program closed on 28th March 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> committee and/or volunteer education coach education, including general principles courses administration and management courses referee, umpire or official accreditation sports medicine and/or first-aid education courses for creating child and youth friendly organisations outdoor recreation leader/instructor education fitness leader/instructor education working with a target group population eg cross-cultural training/education risk management, financial management, facility management, GST education or other courses that contribute to better administration and management programs to enhance school-club links come-and-try initiatives establishing a new competition regional, zonal, district, association or club development plans volunteer management plan business plan venue operating plan operational plan marketing plan



NAME OF PROGRAM	AIM	FUNDING	DATES	EXAMPLES
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> risk management plan travel to regular competition for organisations located in rural and regional locations incorporation of an association only
Indigenous Community Development Programme (ICDP)	The Indigenous Community Development Program (ICDP) provides financial assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community councils and organisations for sport and active recreation plans, events, education and training programs and employment of local recreation officers.	<p>Funding of \$1,428,619 was provided under the 2002 program.</p> <p>Minimum funding \$3,000, Maximum \$50,000. Participation activities (100% for up to \$5000, up to 66% for >\$5000).</p> <p>Four categories are available:</p> <p>Planning; People; Participation; and Education & Training.</p>	2003 programme closed 2nd May 2003.	
Local Government Development Program	The program provides funding assistance to Queensland local governments to increase or enhance participation in sport and active recreation by delivering a planned approach to the development and management of built and natural environments, increasing and enhancing opportunities for participation, and developing activity places for sport and active recreation.	<p>Funding of \$5,369,772 was provided under the 2002 program.</p> <p>Financial assistance is provided in the following categories:</p> <p>Planning (up to 50% of the total cost): projects having a focus on identifying existing and future land allocation, facilities, services, programmes and policies.</p> <p>Participation (first \$5000 at 100%, rest at 50%): projects having a focus on increasing and supporting ongoing participation in sport and active recreation.</p> <p>Places (50% of project, max. \$75,000): projects have a focus on the development of physical activity spaces, which are open to the public.</p>	Annual programme. Applications for 2003 programme closed at beginning of May.	
State Development Program	Provides assistance to eligible sport and recreation organisations, industry service organisations and industry peak bodies to achieve outcomes which contribute to developing their organisation, increasing participation in sport and physically active recreation, and developing the sport and recreation industry throughout Queensland.	<p>Total \$8.5 million available under programme, divided into two funding categories:</p> <p>Development Initiatives (min. \$5,000, max. \$250,000) contribute to the improved management and development of organisations and/or those that demonstrate a clear commitment to providing opportunities for participation in sport and recreation.</p> <p>Special Initiatives (max. \$50,000) contribute to increasing participation in sport and recreation and improved service delivery and infrastructure throughout Queensland.</p>	Annual programme. Programme for upcoming year closes mid September (2003 programme closed 16th September 2002).	



NAME OF PROGRAM	AIM	FUNDING	DATES	EXAMPLES
Minor Facilities Program	The Minor Facilities Program 2003 provides financial assistance to eligible organisations to undertake minor construction, extension or upgrade works to sport and recreation facilities for local sporting competition and for community participation in active recreation and outdoor recreation activities.	Funding of \$4,805,980 was allocated under the 2002 program. Total eligible project cost must be between \$10,000 and \$150,000. Organisations can receive up to 66% of the project cost to \$75,000.	Annual programme. 2003-2004 program closed on 14 March 2003.	Examples of eligible projects include shade structures over activity areas, installation of lighting or fixed irrigation, access for disabled persons, spectator seating, and minor upgrades or extensions to sport and recreation facilities.
Major Facilities Program	The program provides financial assistance to eligible organisations to construct, extend, upgrade or develop sporting facilities for the community to participate in sport and active recreation and regional sporting competition.	Funding of \$12,843,230 was allocated under the 2002 Program. Grants up to 50 per cent of the eligible project costs, to a maximum of \$1 million, for projects ranging from \$150,000 to \$2 million.	2003/2004 program applications close 14th March. Projects must be completed and grants spent by 20th June.	Examples of eligible projects include grass athletic tracks and fields, a swimming pool incorporating leisure water activities, a multi-activity indoor sport or active recreation venue, an outdoor multi-activity sport or recreation venue, multi-sport fields and walking trails.



Funding Programs Administered by Others Departments

In addition to funding from Sport & Recreation Queensland, several other organisations provide funding for sport, recreation and open space related activities. Funds reviewed are as follows:

- ▶ Gaming Machine Community Benefit Fund;
- ▶ Jupiter's Casino Community Benefit Fund;
- ▶ Rural Living Infrastructure Program; and
- ▶ Showground Capital Works Subsidy Scheme.

Details of these different funds are shown in the table below.



NAME OF PROGRAM	AIM	FUNDING	DATES	EXAMPLES
Gaming Machine Community Benefit Fund	<p>The fund provides one-off grants to Queensland-based community organisations to assist these organisations to provide services and activities within their local communities.</p> <p>The fund is open to virtually all Queensland non-profit organisations. Projects which are deemed to be the responsibility of other grants programs are ineligible.</p>	<p>Applications of up to \$30,000 are encouraged, but larger grants are considered (subject to special selection criteria).</p>	<p>Four funding rounds per year, closing at the end of March, June, September, and December.</p>	<p>Eligible projects benefit Queensland communities for example, the purchase of equipment, minor capital works, or events and activities.</p>
Jupiter's Casino Community Benefit Fund	<p>The Trust has the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve participation by organisations which have a beneficial influence in the community. • To achieve a measure of community acceptance and/or involvement in approved projects. • To be attuned to the needs of the community. • To approve general or specific projects providing facilities which have an obvious community benefit. 	<p>Funds available vary according to casino profits. Funding has ranged from \$300 to \$200,000. The casino recommends a maximum amount of \$150,000.</p> <p>Funding is available to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Organisations • Youth Organisations • Charitable Organisations • Special Interest Groups • Religious Organisations • Service Groups (in special circumstances) • Sporting Organisations <p>Preference will be given to those applications which indicate a high level of community involvement and /or where the expenditure of the funds will result in a benefit to the community at large. Projects may not commence prior to the approval of grant funding.</p> <p>Eligible projects are limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital expenditure/fixed assets; • The cost of limited time projects – e.g. community education programs, training programs, workshops – not exceeding 12 months duration; and • Pilot programmes for new or additional services – not exceeding 12 months duration. <p>Grants are not made as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To individuals for sponsorship • For regular budgetary costs, including loan repayments 	<p>Grants announced each March, June, September and December with lodgement of applications at any time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • purchase/construct/modify/upgrade premises and facilities; • purchase specialised equipment; • purchase office furniture/equipment; • purchase buses and vehicles to transport the disabled, handicapped and elderly; • purchase and fitout vehicles/buses used as mobile educational/information units; • construct hydrotherapy pools; • purchase and/or equip rescue vehicles/boats; • fund the appointment to staff and associated costs to conduct pilot programs; and • fund the cost of running limited time community training and/or education programs.



NAME OF PROGRAM	AIM	FUNDING	DATES	EXAMPLES
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For research costs (equipment used in research is eligible) To Government Departments, Local Authorities or organisations whose total administrative budgets are met by the State and/or Federal Governments To playgroups, child care/minding centres, kindergartens, pre-schools, special schools, primary, secondary and tertiary Education -either Government funded or non-Government To Hospitals - either public or private To P & C's, Auxiliaries To Service Clubs applying for funds for a project of another organisation For projects which will be completed by the time grant funds are allocated 		
Rural Living Infrastructure Program (DLGP)	<p>The objective of the RLIP is to enhance the quality of life of people living in rural Queensland. The Program will provide financial assistance toward facilities, infrastructure or projects</p> <p>which -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> improve community, social, recreational, sporting or physical infrastructure to increase the diversity and quality of amenities available to rural people; provide incentives for people to migrate to and/or continue to live in rural towns; and/or increase the tourism potential, or other economic potential, of rural communities. <p>The RLIP is directed to local governments with a population of fewer than 15,000 as</p> <p>Measured by the latest 30 June estimated resident populations available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics at the closing date for applications.</p>	<p>\$16 million available over four years from 2000/2001. Approximately \$15 million dollars has been allocated in the last two financial years.</p> <p>As an indicative guide, RLIP funding will be up to a maximum of \$100,000 per successful applicant local government in each invitation for applications.</p>	No specified closing date.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> community facilities such as parks, community centres, playgrounds etc.; sport and recreation facilities; access to community facilities for the aged and impaired; communication facilities; shade cover at swimming pools, playgrounds, malls and pedestrian areas; landscaping of community facilities, town centres, business districts, street tree plantings; and installation of watering systems.



NAME OF PROGRAM	AIM	FUNDING	DATES	EXAMPLES
Showground Capital Works Subsidy Scheme	The program provides percentage based subsidies to showground societies, or local governing bodies acting as trustees to a showground, to assist in providing or improving infrastructure for the use and benefit of show patrons.	<p>Funds have been provided through a State Budget allocation of \$1.5M for each of the past 5 years.</p> <p>A subsidy of up to 33.3% is provided for public toilet facilities and 40% for other capital works. Acquisition of land may be included. In the case of grounds used for show and other purposes, the proposed works must be intended principally for the use, convenience or enjoyment of the show society and show public, otherwise subsidy will not be payable.</p>	No specified closing date.	Eligible works include new capital works or improvements to existing infrastructure, i.e. not replacement or maintenance of existing infrastructure.



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