



Mosman Council
Attention: Evan Matthews, Strategic Planner
Joe Vertel, Senior Planning Advisor

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PLAN of MANAGEMENT – REID PARK, SIRIUS COVE RESERVE, HARNETT PARK and CURRAGHBEENA PARK

Mosman Council is the reserve manager under the Crown Lands Management Act 2016 for these parks, and to comply with the Act must make a Plan of Management (PoM) and undertake a community consultation.

The Mosman Parks and Bushland Association understands that the consultation at this stage is preliminary to drawing up a Draft Plan of Management and that there will be a further opportunity to comment.

Our comments at this stage, therefore, are for the large part, of a general and preliminary nature.

- **Good maintenance:** When a Plan of Management is made or reviewed, Council should be wary of the urge to be seen to be making “improvements”. Frequently all that a park needs is good maintenance.
- **Bushland:** Considerable areas of the parks involved in the preparation of the PoMs are bushland areas. Council is to be congratulated on its success in achieving better native coverage and reducing weeds in our bushland areas. Ongoing work in these bushland areas will achieve the objective of increasing biodiversity.
- **Trees:** We notice a suggestion that tree removal in Curraghbeena Park would enhance views from the public land. When development and the desire for views from private land often results in tree loss, we continue to applaud Council’s effort to improve Mosman’s tree canopy by increasing tree cover on public land. We need not stress the importance of the tree canopy in an age of increasing temperatures.
- **Scenic qualities:** All the parks involved lie on scenic walkways which are for the enjoyment of Mosman residents, the walking public and other visitors. We suggest that the scenic qualities should take precedence over the provision of additional features.
- **Repair and upgrades to existing features** such as park furniture and paths is preferable to the provision of additional features. Toilets and disability access are the possible exceptions. If provided they should be discreet and not impair the park’s natural qualities.

- Heritage issues:
 - **Reid Park** is a listed heritage item in schedule 5 of Mosman LEP 2012. The Provisions of clause 5.10 must be considered when planning for the site.
 - **Harnett Park:** It is the Association's view that Harnett Park, because of its location and historic use, acknowledged on site with an interpretive sign and a plaque, should be included as a heritage item when the LEP is reviewed. We would like to see this possibility taken into account in the PoM.

- We are aware of requests for storage for kayaks at Harnett Park. Council will remember that we strongly resisted a proposal for kayak sheds at Harnett Park as these would have diminished the open space area of this tiny gem of harbourside park. We would not oppose a reconfiguration of kayak racks in the park so long as they did not intrude further on the public open space. As these kayak racks would be provided by Mosman Council, all the kayak spaces should be equally available to Mosman residents on application, and not for exclusive use by any particular group.

- We also note a request that a section of the steps be converted to a ramp for recreational vessels. Access to the waterside for the general public should continue to be available. The steps are attractive sandstone steps.

Thank you for the invitation to comment at this early stage of planning. Council has displayed an awareness of the value of tranquil green space to all age groups in an age of increasing population and increasing psychological stress. The Association looks forward to commenting further when the Draft Plan(s) of Management are on display.

Yours sincerely



Kate Eccles
President