

Kings Reserve Masterplan - Design Brief

Project Name	Kings Reserve (west) Masterplan	Prepared For	City of West Torrens
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LOCATION

Kings Reserve forms part of the Thebarton Oval Precinct and is located in the north-east quadrant of the City of West Torrens. Kings Reserve is situated on the corner of Ashwin Parade and South Road at Torrensville.



Kings Reserve is one of the city's premier multi-use open spaces and is used for active and passive recreation, and currently comprises the following elements.

- Large areas of irrigated open space for sport, events and recreation;
- Trees for natural shade and play;
- Skate and bike bowl for older children;
- Thebarton Oval complex;
- Torrensville Bowling Club;
- A large accessible playground and playing courts along Ashley Street;
- Multiple toilets supporting extended visitation; and
- Thebarton Community Centre.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT INCLUDING BACKGROUND

The City of West Torrens (the **Council**) is seeking to appoint an appropriately qualified design consultant to work with Council and its Community Reference Group to shape the development of an updated Kings Reserve Masterplan (the **Masterplan**).

The 2018 Kings Reserve Masterplan (the **2018 KRMP**) presented a long-term, overarching vision for Kings Reserve, a contiguous part of the larger Thebarton Oval precinct. The 2018 KRMP sought to provide a sustainable, high-value, high-quality public reserve, which reflected community expectations and Council's designation of the main project site as part of a precinct-scale reserve.

The recent lease arrangements between Council and the AFC, and the acquisition of the Thebarton Community Centre by the State Government to facilitate the Torrens to Darlington upgrade of South Road have altered the implementation of the 2018 KRMP. This will result in the removal of the Torrensville Bowling Club, the Thebarton Community Centre and the Ashley Street playground, bocce pistes and playing courts.

Council has established the Kings Reserve Community Reference Group (the **KRCRG**) which comprises Council and community representatives. The KRCRG will guide the process of creating a new masterplan for Kings Reserve which will build upon the foundations laid by the 2018 KRMP and takes into account new site boundaries, changing demographics, accessibility and emerging trends in public spaces.

In addition, consideration will be given to the surrounding recreation and education facilities that offer the potential to extend visitation and activation of the reserve at various times of the week:

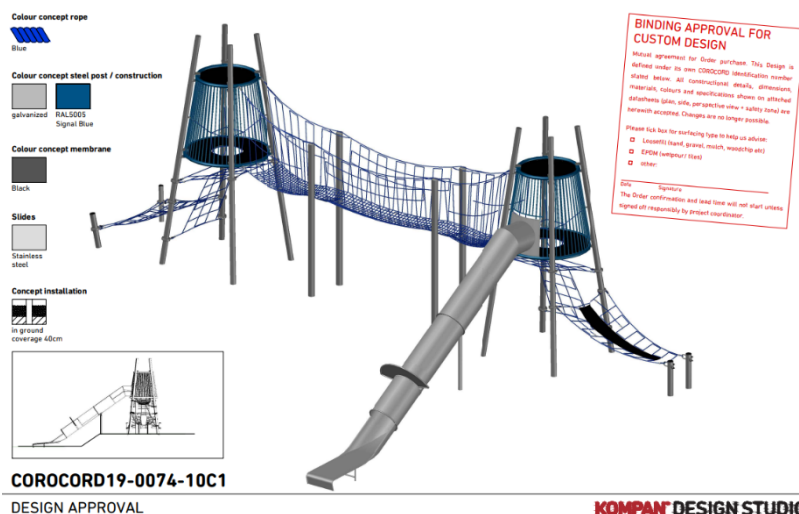
- Thebarton Aquatic Centre;
- Thebarton Senior College;
- Torrensville Childcare and Kindergarten;
- Thebarton Oval / Adelaide Football Club;
- Brickworks Marketplace; and
- Torrensville Primary School.

The City of West Torrens is seeking consultants to lead the design process of a new masterplan for Kings Reserve in collaboration with the KRCRG and Council staff.

An important part of the design process will entail the active involvement of the KRCRG at regularly scheduled meetings. The design consultant will collaborate with members of the group to co-create the masterplan for Kings Reserve, fostering interactive and cooperative engagement throughout.

A Kompan Play Tower has previously been purchased for this project and is being stored at Council's Works Depot.

It is expected that this tower is incorporated into a new masterplan design for Kings Reserve (see image).



DESCRIPTION OF TARGET AUDIENCE

Kings Reserve is classified as a Regional Level open space and has the capacity to service or attract people from across and beyond the City of West Torrens due to its location, size, uniqueness, visitor appeal, quality, levels of service, play value or focus of the activity.

Regional open spaces are often reached by car, public transport as well as walking and cycling.

VISION

Our vision for Kings Reserve is to create a beautiful, integrated, vibrant park that celebrates nature, community, and heritage. It will prioritise inclusivity, connectivity, and sustainability, fostering engagement through decentralised spaces and universal accessibility. The masterplan for Kings Reserve will meet the current and future aspirations of our community whilst enriching the visitor experience, supporting the environment, and fostering a profound sense of place.

AREA

The area within the red dotted line forms the scope of this new masterplan area for Kings Reserve.



DESIGN PRINCIPLES

1. Develop a reserve that seamlessly integrates with its natural surroundings while promoting engagement of multiple groups at one time through decentralised seating and play areas, prioritising connectivity and inclusivity over built infrastructure.
2. Foster an inclusive and welcoming environment within Kings Reserve by prioritising universal accessibility, embracing a diversity of activities, and creating lively spaces adaptable for various community events/activities, ensuring equitable participation and enjoyment for all.
3. Embrace and enhance the natural features of the reserve by creating a beautiful and planned landscape, integrating strategic plantings and preserving an element of level surface, to create unique areas that enhance the experience for visitors, support the environment, and foster a strong sense of place.
4. Respectfully acknowledge and celebrate the rich Kurna heritage and the historical significance of the site, integrating elements of naming, art, and storytelling to foster a deeper connection and cultural appreciation of the land.
5. Develop the reserve as an-integrated component of its surrounding context, which enhances connectivity with neighbouring facilities and users (particularly Thebarton Oval, Thebarton aquatics centre and Brickworks Marketplace), responds to regional characteristics (such as the River Torrens) and establishes a distinct and unified park identity that can adapt to the changing landscape (e.g. South Road motorway).
6. Develop a future-oriented and flexible design that reflects the current values of the community and is adaptable to ensure its long-term significance for future generations.
7. Enhance and preserve the biodiversity within the reserve through the selection and inclusion of species that bloom throughout the year, providing continuous food and habitat for wildlife while enriching the aesthetic experience for visitors, ensuring that any enhancements prioritise the well-being and conservation of existing local wildlife.
8. Improve the amenities of the reserve in a manner that complements its existing activities, with an emphasis on safety, accessibility, and sustainability to ensure a resilient and adaptable environment for future generations.

KEY COMPONENTS

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

KEY COMPONENTS

Key themes to be integrated into the design are:

1. Fundamentals - adequate provision of seating, shelters, drink fountain, bbq, security lighting and after dark use of play spaces lighting until 10pm, bins, along with a public toilet and paths etc
2. Play - a variety of play elements to enhance different experiences for a variety of ages such as fixed equipment (including purchased Play tower) combined with natural and water play elements/spaces; decentralised play areas with good connections, configured for use by multiple groups.
3. Active recreation - basketball/netball area, expansion of skate park, multipurpose.
4. Inclusion - providing accessible opportunities for all, including a combination of play equipment and paths, sensory-rich experiences, and quiet spaces.
5. Recognition - celebrate and honour the connections to and between Country, culture, nature and history (potential for public art, tree/wildlife labels and educational opportunities through signage)
6. Shade - Natural and artificial across the site not only over play spaces.
7. Vegetation - provide beauty, shade, peace, aroma, texture, food, habitat for wildlife, and apparatus to climb; enrich the connection to nature. Consider colour, forms, seasons, native and non-native species along with the inclusion of multifunctional elements such as stormwater management which can provide engaging experiences whilst supporting existing local wildlife.
8. Landscape - provide diversity, interest and opportunities through the topography - mounds, swales etc.
9. Connections - seamless connections between different elements within the Kings Reserve community space and broader public spaces adjacent e.g. Brickworks Marketplace, Swim Centre and Adelaide Football Club leased area and respond to the evolving landscape including South Road motorway.
10. Unity - weave together a series of unique but interconnected spaces that are united and allow multiple groups to engage in the site at one time.
11. Screening - natural screening from major roads and eastern boundary with consideration given to future growth; fencing along Ashwin Parade (with pedestrian access points) for safety of children and dogs and as a buffer from litter collecting from the north.
12. Relationships - consider and provide infrastructure (such as seating, bins) to support existing use from neighbours e.g. waiting area for students and Swim Centre patrons; maximise opportunities for social interaction through arrangement of seating and other infrastructure.
13. Wayfinding - signage and other ways to address how people navigate across and within the site, especially during events or lessee activities that may necessitate alterations to pathways.
14. Surveillance - ensure good visibility in and around all access paths, public toilet and play areas; with consideration given to sightlines without compromising the decentralised vision for the site.
15. Resilience - an area that can host special events as well as support everyday neighbourhood use; can adapt to the changing climate, changes in demographic trends and potential future changes to site boundaries.

Elements that may be integrated into the design, subject to availability of space and funding are:

1. Water - water plaza such as at Glenelg or Bowden
2. Active recreation - expanding the offering of active recreation opportunities such as a pump track, soccer goals, running track (check with AFC - may be able to be included in Thebarton Oval or Kings Reserve east).
3. Social Play - table tennis; tables for BYO chess boards; volleyball
4. Flight - Flying fox
5. Technology - Wi-Fi, charging stations, smart furniture

REFERENCE MATERIALS

- Kings Reserve Masterplan Report June 2018
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/objective-digitalpublications/external-website/master-plans/kings-reserve-masterplan.pdf>)
- Adelaide Football Club Thebarton Oval Precinct Master Plan Report as approved by Council 19 December 2024 (beginning page 75 of the Agenda)
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/objective-digitalmeetings/2023/agendas-2023/agenda-special-council-19-december-2023.pdf>)
- City West Torrens Community Plan 2030
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Council/Plans-and-Reports/Community-Plan>)
- City of West Torrens Open Space Plan 2021-2026
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Council/Plans-and-Reports/Open-Space-Plan>)
- City of West Torrens Public Realm Design Manual
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Building-and-Planning/Public-Realm-Design-Manual>)
- City of West Torrens Public Health Plan 2021 - 2026
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/objective-digitalpublications/external-website/management-plans/public-health-plan-2021-2026.pdf>)
- City of West Torrens Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2021 - 2025
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Community/Lifestyle-and-inclusion/Disability-Access-and-Inclusion-Plan>)
- City of West Torrens Transport and Movement Strategy 2022 - 2032
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Services/Streets-roads-footpaths-and-restrictions/Traffic-transport-road-safety-and-speed-limits/Transport-and-movement>)
- City of West Torrens Tree Strategy 2018-2025
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Environment-and-Sustainability/Trees-and-greening/Tree-Strategy>)
- City of West Torrens Climate Mitigation and Adaption Strategy 2023-2027
(<https://www.westtorrens.sa.gov.au/Environment-and-Sustainability/Climate-change/Climate-Mitigation-and-Adaption-Strategy>)
- Kings Reserve Play Space Landscape Concept (developed by Greenhill)
- Consultation results from 2018 Kings Reserve Masterplan development
- ABS Census Data