# Draft Keperra Picnic Ground Park Sport and Recreation Precinct Plan

**Creating more to see and do in a clean and green Brisbane means more opportunities to enjoy Brisbane’s beautiful climate and connect with family and friends in the places that make our city great, like Keperra Picnic Ground Park.**

## Project background

Keperra Picnic Ground Park is a large sports park located on the north-west side of Brisbane, approximately 15 km from the CBD.

Keperra Picnic Ground Park is bordered by two main roads, Upper Kedron Road and Samford Road. The Ferny Grove train line runs adjacent to the site with the train station located 400 metres to the north of the park. The park is surrounded by a mixture of land uses, with Ferny Grove State High School directly to the west and a Hanson Quarry to the south.

The park is in great demand and lessees are seeking further facility expansion and upgrades. As a result, there is a clear need to review the existing layout and uses of Keperra Picnic Ground Park.

## Existing situation

Keperra Picnic Ground Park is zoned Sport and Recreation (District level). The precinct plan covers all of the park, including the sporting uses, recreation uses, the community use areas and the Ferny Grove Resource Recovery Centre.

The park features two volleyball courts, four cricket fields, a hockey field, an AFL/cricket pitch and three netball courts. The park has two clubhouses, one occupied by the Ferny Grove and Districts Junior Australian Football Club Inc, and the other by the Ferny Districts Cricket Club, who sub-lease to Phoenix Netball Club and Arana Hockey Club.

The site also contains a number of community uses including the Ferny Grove Bowls, Sports and Community Club, the Arana Contract Bridge Club and the Brisbane Tramway Museum. The park also contains several informal recreation areas including picnic areas, a designated drone flying area, a children’s playground and a dog off-leash area.

## Key findings to date

The demand for improvements to the park has been identified through wide-ranging consultation with park lessees and users, and from consideration of existing and potential site opportunities. The key findings are listed below.

* *Overall*
* Park topography and closed landfill issues will increase the cost of and limit the area available for development
* The two park entries off Tramway Street need to be reconfigured into one entry
* *Sports*
	+ The park is considered to be at full capacity, with organised activities each day of the week and overlapping demand for space from different user groups
	+ Participation numbers across user groups showed reasonably significant growth, particularly in the increased rates of female participation
	+ New game formats for sports are emerging to cater for the changing community demand
* *Community facilities*
	+ There is a shortfall of facilities for a district-level park
* *Recreation*
	+ This is one of only 10 suitable sites for drone flying in Brisbane parks
	+ Paths around the site are inadequate
* *Common areas*
	+ Vehicular access and parking need improvement
	+ Signage is lacking around the park
	+ The main toilet block needs replacement.

## Vision and design principles

The vision for Keperra Picnic Ground Park is:

*‘to provide district-level sport and recreation opportunities for residents of Keperra and the surrounding suburbs’.*

Preparation of theconcept plan reflects efforts to:

* encourage shared park usage
* cater for trending sports formats i.e. 20/20 cricket
* improve the park entry and sense of arrival off Tramway Street
* improve accessibility to the park’s facilities.

## Proposed concept plan

The elements of the proposed Sport and Recreation Precinct Plan are discussed below.

Proposed embellishments for the park include:

* *Sporting opportunities*
	+ re-structured layout of the central fields to maximise available field space
	+ investigation into possible new artificial sports field on a structure, potentially for hockey and cricket training, with integrated storage facilities
	+ new spectator seating for the central sports fields.

### Community facilities

* + upgrades to clubhouses including

changerooms/toilets

* + possible co-location of Arana Bridge Club with the Ferny Grove Bowls, Sport and Community Club
	+ investigating extension of the tramway track in alignment with the internal road network
* *Recreational opportunities*
	+ improved pedestrian and cycle circulation
	+ retention of the designated drone flying

 area in the medium term

* + upgrades to play and exercise equipment
	+ improved barbecue and picnic facilities
* *Common areas*
	+ improve intersection at the park’s entry
	+ improved lighting and signage to entry road
	+ improved access to informal parking north of cricket fields
	+ replaced public amenity block
	+ formalise parking around AFL oval.

*The recommendations contained within this plan do not commit Council or tenants to their implementation, however the plan does support Council and the community to seek grant funding and other investment opportunities.*