

Local Parks Program Guidelines



Oxford Street Park, Collingwood

New pocket parks

The \$50 million local parks program's vision is to create new parks and revitalise existing local parks to provide much-needed recreation space, and green our suburbs in built up urban areas of Metropolitan Melbourne. The program includes a \$35 million targeted investment towards creating up to 25 new pocket parks across Metropolitan Melbourne. This investment is part of the Victorian Government's broader commitment to *creating a ring of new parkland in our growing suburbs* and is guided by the new Metropolitan Open Space Strategy principles under *Plan Melbourne*, the Victorian Government's long-term vision for our city in 2050.

The following guidelines will be used to consider locations of 25 new pocket parks.

Guidelines

The proposed site is:

- within the state electorate district boundaries identified in the program (refer overpage)
- underutilised open space, or suitable for repurposing
- up to 0.2 hectares or 2000 square metres in size
- in a built-up area, and will provide recreation and socialising opportunities in a green space
- ideally already publicly owned (either by local government or by another public land manager), with some limited capacity for land purchase
- not going to significantly impact wildlife or existing vegetation if developed
- ideally already identified in an approved open space, precinct structure or recreation plan that has undergone community engagement, and demonstrates a need (i.e. lack of open space in the area)
- safe for users; this may include good visibility across the site and proximity to other users/visitors/activity centres
- easily accessible via road, public transport or well-linked to bike or walking trails
- not contaminated
- already supported by or in proximity to services/amenities e.g. seating, lighting, toilets, access to water and shading

Additional co-investment is encouraged, this may include costs associated with land purchase. Across all local park programs, opportunities to involve volunteers will be encouraged.

The following state electorate districts have been specified as areas where local pocket parks will be located:

- Prahran (2)
 - Richmond (2)
 - Albert Park (2)
 - Eltham (2)
- Bentleigh (2)
 - Footscray
 - Brunswick
 - Northcote
 - Williamstown
 - Essendon
 - Oakleigh
 - Caulfield
 - Ivanhoe

Seven locations are yet to be determined and will be allocated based upon further consideration of open space needs.



Example: Richmond Terrace and Docker Street Corner Richmond Terrace and Docker Streets, Richmond

This pocket park is 0.6 hectares or 600 square metres of open space including lawn terraces, seating, garden beds, trees, feature lighting, bicycle racks and a drinking fountain. The park features a paved 'shared zone' inspired by the stained-glass windows of nearby historic buildings.

To create this park, a section of road at the intersection of Docker Street and Richmond Terrace was permanently closed. The road closure only impacts vehicle traffic, with cyclists and pedestrians continuing to have through access.

Photos courtesy of Yarra City Council