

Devonport City Council



The City with Spirit



Pioneer Park Master Plan 2018-2028



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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The Pioneer Park Master Plan 2018-2028 is a guiding document for the design, development and management of Pioneer Park over the next ten years.

The Master Plan has been developed in acknowledgment of the infrastructure and use changes since the adoption of the 2008 Master Plan.

1.2 Methodology

Development of this Master Plan has involved:

1. Consultation with community organisations, local residents and the broader community in the form of workshops, electronic and hard copy surveys (268 participants);
2. Review of key consultation themes and considerations of opportunities and constraints in line with the purpose of the Park, characteristics of the local community, and resourcing options;
3. Further discussion with the East Devonport Special Interest Group regarding the recommended key principles and activities.

1.3 Implementation and Review

Devonport City Council will be responsible for implementing the plan. Review of actions will occur on an annual basis and align with Council's Annual Plan and Estimates process.

1.4 Related Plans and Strategies

The following Council documents inform the development and implementation of the Master Plan.

- Devonport City Council Strategic Plan 2009-2030
- East Devonport Community Plan 2014-2019
- Public Open Space Strategy
- Guidelines for the Planning, Design & Construction of Public Open Space 2007
- Public Open Space Service Level Document
- Signage Strategy 2017-2023

2. Context

2.1 Description

Pioneer Park is 1.7 hectares of public open space in ownership of Devonport City Council, located at 17 and 17a Thomas Street, East Devonport (refer Map 1).

The park is bordered by Drew Street to the North; East Devonport Bowls Sporting and Recreation Club (40-46 Wright St), the East Devonport Tennis Club (48-50 Wright St), and private property (42-54 Wright St) to the East; Thomas Street to the South; and the Saint Paul's Anglican Church and historical cemetery to the West (15 Thomas St).

Under Council's Public Open Space classification scheme, Pioneer Park is characterised as follows:

1. Catchment: Neighbourhood
This is defined as public open space which services an area contained within a 500 metre radius, generally with a population of up to 900 people or 200 - 300 households. It may contain facilities and/or features of neighbourhood natural or cultural significance.
2. Key Function: Family Social Recreation
This is defined as public open space where facilities cater for a range of age groups, and the emphasis is on family social activities
3. Landscape Character: Informal parkland
This is defined as informal garden structure, made up of all or some groundcovers/ grass like plants with shrubs and trees scattered throughout. These can be natives and/ or exotics. Well managed lawns.

Map 1: Location Pioneer Park



2. Context (continued)

2.2 Brief History of Pioneer Park

There are two known cemeteries which were originally established in Pioneer Park, being the Church of England Cemetery, known as Torquay-God's acre (North West Post,1888) and Wesleyan Cemetery located along Wright Street. In 1965 these sites were considered an eyesore and the town council decreed that something needed to be done (North West Post,1887). Due to vandalism and neglect, many headstones were damaged, and the sites were bulldozed and converted to parkland. The remaining headstones which were salvaged are currently located at the corner of Church and Drew Streets, on property owned by the Anglican Diocese of Tasmania. The earliest remaining headstone is dated 1857.

The East Devonport Pioneer Park Cemetery, (also known as the East Devonport Cemetery and Church of England Cemetery) is located next to St Paul's Church of England, which was built in 1876 and opened for services in July 1879. The Cemetery became disused and was offered to the Devonport City Council for development into a reserve by St Pauls and All Saints Parish Council on 25 August 1969.

The parcel of land located at 17a Thomas Street, formally known as Apex Park, was transferred to Council from the Crown on 13 October 2010.

2.2 Achievements of the 2008 Master Plan

Council adopted the first Pioneer Park Master Plan in 2008. The following actions outlined in the 2008 plan have been completed.

- Removal of existing metallic fence separating Pioneer Park from Apex Park
- Park bench seats, picnic tables and BBQ installed
- Removed damaged and installed new bins
- Pathways constructed surrounding play space including link to amenities block
- Single user pathway constructed from play space to Drew Street
- Play equipment, skate park and road safety bike park installed – the latter two with generous community financial and in-kind contributions
- Soft landscaping
- Construction of new toilet amenities



3. Key Findings From Community Consultation

The Pioneer Park Master Plan considers community issues and solutions raised through three main avenues:

1. Survey of East Devonport Primary School students, as part of the Road Safety Bike park project evaluation - September 2017 (174 participants)
2. Targeted Community Workshops– three sessions held (28 participants)
3. Community Survey – closed 6 October 2017 (45 responses)

The main findings are summarised below. Refer to the Consultation Outcomes Report for more detail.

3.1 Key Uses

Key uses of the park mentioned in feedback include, in no particular order:

- Community events and activities
- Use of play equipment
- Social gatherings - BBQs, picnics, weddings, birthday parties
- Enjoying the open space
- Walking, walking through, walking dog
- Toilet amenities
- Stopping point for visitors and the travelling public

3.2 Values

The main benefits and value of the park raised include, in no particular order:

- Active and passive recreation
- Area for young people and families
- Large green open space - allows people to connect with nature; versatile; good for events
- Central, accessible location; safe; free activities and parking
- Sense of community ownership, connection to place
- Community/social meeting and gathering space

3. Key Findings From Community Consultation (continued)

3.3 Opportunities

Some of the main ideas in relation to maximising the value of the park include, in no particular order:

- Installing more supporting infrastructure – BBQ, tables, seating, shelter, footpaths, bins Wi-Fi
- Installing more recreation equipment – play equipment for all ages, outdoor fitness equipment
- Security aspects – lighting, CCTV, fencing in playground
- Landscaping – reflective gardens, native plants, fruit trees, retain trees
- Supporting infrastructure for large community events – power, water, lighting etc
- Somewhere to purchase food and drinks when local businesses are closed
- Interpretation and promotion of park's history
- Restricting vehicle access

3.4 What to Avoid

Feedback in relation to what should be avoided in the park's development and use include, in no particular order:

- Too much built infrastructure crowding the park, losing open space
- Too much structure / formal development
- Anti-social behaviour
- Vehicles driven and parked on grounds
- Uses in conflict with the core values

4. Key Principles of the Master Plan

The following principles have been developed in response to community feedback and will guide the development and implementation of activities of the Master Plan.

1. Enhancing the Park as a peaceful oasis (green open space, landscaping)
2. Creating family friendly spaces with passive and active recreational opportunities for a range of ages
3. Increasing social and community gathering opportunities
4. Improving safety, access and amenity for all Park visitors
5. Maintaining, rather than expanding, the current area of built fabric within the Park

5. The Master Plan

The key principles have guided the proposed actions which fall into the following categories:

1. Enhance the Park as a peaceful oasis
2. Provide play spaces for all ages
3. Support community activities and interests
4. Improve safety and amenity for park users

Actions are described as follows

Item	Description
Responsibility	Council Department or external organisation to organise the action.
Timeframe	Time in which the action will be undertaken Short term 0-2 years Medium term 3-6 years Long term 7-10 years Ongoing Throughout the life of the plan

Item	Description
Cost Estimate	Price range estimate for undertaking works depending on number of items required, design, and price increases. Estimate includes design costs, labour, plant & equipment, and materials.
Funding Source	<p>The level of human or financial resources required:</p> <p>A-OPEX: Annual operational expenditure by Council – staffing or operational resource allocated as part of the annual plan</p> <p>F-OPEX: Future operational expenditure by Council – identified increased requirements for future consideration in annual allocation</p> <p>CAPEX: 2018/19 allocated capital expenditure – identified infrastructure requirements of Council</p> <p>F-CAPEX: Future capital expenditure – no current allocation would need to be considered in future capital budget</p> <p>External: In-kind or cash contributions sourced from grants, sponsorship and partnerships.</p>

5.1 Enhance the Park as a peaceful oasis

	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Cost Estimate (\$)	Funding Source
1.1	Maintain an informal parklike amenity when landscaping, ensuring the tree landscape remains	DCC – Infrastructure & Works	Ongoing	1-5,000	A-OPEX
1.2	Restrict any further built infrastructure excluding that which is listed in this plan	DCC	Ongoing	-	-
1.3	Investigate improvement of the former burial area located in the south-east corner of the Park, as a dedicated memorial	DCC - Community Services	Medium term	1-5,000	F-OPEX External

5.2 Provide play spaces for all ages

	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Cost Estimate (\$)	Funding Source
2.1	Upon renewal, consider diversifying play equipment to cater for a wider range of ages and abilities	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Long term	50-150,000	F-CAPEX External

5.3 Support community activities and interests

	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Cost Estimate (\$)	Funding Source
3.1	Identify a dedicated space for large community events and activities that considers any impact on underground infrastructure and balances other park uses	DCC Community Services	Medium term	Staff resources only	A-OPEX
3.2	Include Pioneer Park in any future heritage interpretation projects	DCC Community Services	Long term	TBC depending on project	External

5.4 Improve safety and amenity for Park users

	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Cost Estimate (\$)	Funding Source
4.1	Install seating at the skate park	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Short term	8-10,000	F-CAPEX
4.2	Install additional picnic tables for users of the BBQ	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Short term	8-10,000	F-CAPEX

	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe	Cost Estimate (\$)	Funding Source
4.3	Review location of waste bins to reduce litter across the park	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Short term	1-3,000	F-CAPEX
4.4	Investigate methods to improve pedestrian safety and restrict vehicular access (e.g. dedicated car parking, increased signage and compliance, soft landscaping to create natural barriers etc	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Short term	TBC upon further investigation	F-CAPEX
4.5	Consider natural or built shelter options for shade/wind/rain	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Medium term	Built shelter: 10-15,000	F-CAPEX
4.6	Construct a path to the skate park from the main thoroughfare	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Medium term	6-7,000	F-CAPEX
4.7	Construct a path linking Thomas/Wright St intersection with the park	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Medium term	12-14,000	F-CAPEX
4.8	Consider installing a second BBQ plate on existing BBQ	DCC Infrastructure & Works	Medium term	5,000	F-CAPEX

