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GMU1                      DRAFT PLANS OF MANAGEMENT FOR MASON PARK AND HUDSON PARK

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## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the draft Plan of Managements for Hudson Park and Mason Park be placed on public exhibition for a 42 day period.
2. That the draft plans, submissions received and recommendations from the public hearing be presented to Council for adoption following the public exhibition process.
3. In the event of proposed substantive amendments arising from the consultation process, the draft plans be submitted for Minister consent to adopt.

## PURPOSE OF REPORT

The Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure – Crown Lands has advised that the Department has consented to Council adopting the draft Plans of Management for Hudson Park and Mason Park under clause 70B of the *Crown Land Management Regulation 2018* and that Council can now progress to public exhibition. The 2023-2024 Operational Plan includes the action 'prepare and review Plans of Management for community land including Crown Lands reserves'.

## REPORT

The *Local Government Act 1993* and *Crown Lands Management Act 2016* requires that Plans of Management (PoM) are prepared for all public land that is classified as 'community' land. Plans of Management are important strategic governance documents. PoMs describe the features of the land and set out how Council intends to manage, use and develop the land in the future, thereby providing a transparent and coordinated approach to public land management. The Plans also include action plans with objectives and performance targets for the land and prescribe permissible uses and management of tenures over the land.

Under section 38 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Council must give public notice of a draft PoM and allow for up to 42 days for the acceptance of submissions.

Council has prepared draft PoMs for Hudson Park and Mason Park. During the preparation of the draft plans, community engagement processes were undertaken for both parks. The feedback from the community was considered in the preparation of the report and the action plans for future management of the parks. Both parks contain significant natural areas and therefore, an environmental assessment was undertaken which is included in the draft PoMs. Upon completion the final drafts were then forwarded to the Department of Department of Planning and Environment – Crown Lands for consideration.

Both Hudson Park and Mason Park are major parks with catchment across the Strathfield Local Government Area (LGA). Under Council's Community Engagement Strategy, impact of the draft plans is assessed as high level e.g. LGA-wide high level of impact. The methods of engagement will include:

- Exhibition of the draft plans on Council's online engagement site at <https://haveyoursay.strathfield.nsw.gov.au>, which included feedback forms and related documents to view
- Issue of notifications via eNews and social media
- Issue of flyer to all households in Strathfield LGA
- Email notification to local community clubs and sporting groups, particularly those with associations with these parks
- Print copies of the draft plans available to view in Council's Customer Service Centre and Library

The draft plans must be exhibited as approved by the Department.

Following exhibition, the draft plans will be presented to a future Council Meeting to consider any submissions received during the exhibition period.

If the draft Plans of Management are amended after public exhibition (except for minor editorial and formatting changes), Council must resubmit the draft PoM for Minister's consent to adopt.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Proposed Expenditure: \$2,987 (incl. GST).

Funding has been provided in the current budget for this purpose as set out below:

<b>Budget Item</b>	<b>Approved Budget</b>	<b>Expenditure To Date</b>
Community Liaison Program	\$28,000	\$16,900

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Draft Mason Park Plan of Management
2. Draft Hudson Park Plan of Management