



GREATER
SYDNEY
PARKLANDS

Meeting summary

Parramatta Park community trustee board

Meeting 2, 2025

Date: Tuesday, 22 July 2025

Time: 6:00-7:30pm

Venue: Online

CTB members: Stewart Thompson (Chair), Thelmerie Rudd (online), Cheryl Bates OAM, Mustafa Agha, Cr Dr Diane Colman, Lord Mayor Cr Martin Zaiter

GSP staff: Zach Muldoon, Project Officer; Christian Eckhardt, Manager Education and Community Programs; Jane Donaldson, Property Advisor

Secretariat: Jenny Gleeson, Community Engagement Manager, GSP

Topic	Summary
Welcome and opening Stewart Thompson, Chair, Parramatta Park CTB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The meeting was opened by the Chair. An Acknowledgment of Country was given.Conflicts of interest declaration regarding Item 4: Lord Mayor Cr Martin Zaiter declared City of Parramatta has a sponsorship deal with Parramatta Leagues Club and is a personal member of Parramatta Leagues Club. Added to Declarations of Interest register.
Flying-fox Camp Management Plan Zach Muldoon, Project Officer, GSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GSP provided an overview of the Grey-headed Flying-Fox (GHFF) camps in Parramatta Park in context of the periodic refresh of the Camp Management Plan. GSP is consulting with key stakeholders, including wildlife rescue groups and carers, councils, volunteers and the CTB.The CTB noted:<ul style="list-style-type: none">the GHFF camp is an interesting component of Parramatta Parkthe synergies between the HGFF Camp Management Plan and the draft Biodiversity Strategy (Meeting 1, 2025)the related opportunities for education and community programs.
Community programs and volunteering update Christian Eckardt, Manager Education and	<ul style="list-style-type: none">GSP outlined its approach to education and community programs, highlighting the sustainable expansion of established initiatives across the Parklands estate. For example, nature play and bush school. Programs are place-based, ensuring a strong connection to each park.



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Community Programs, GSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pilot program for Parramatta Park included Easter events, Wistaria in Spring events, and a recent trial Spotlight Prowl. • School Holiday programs will start this Spring, and the Bush School program is anticipated to start in March 2026. Adult nature connection programs such as mindfulness and yoga will also be offered. • Following the successful introduction of monthly community planting programs (held on Sundays) at the Riverside Walk, GSP has dedicated new sites for volunteer programs. • GSP is also expanding volunteer opportunities at Parramatta Park, with upcoming community programs to include revitalisation of the Burramatta Landscape Trail on Eastern Domain Creek, and replanting and maintenance of The Dairy's garden beds. GSP is also looking to introduce corporate volunteering opportunities from late 2025. • The CTB raised the following questions and comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do Parramatta Park programs cover pollution? GSP advised that future school holiday programs for example focus on caring for the park, and part of the curriculum for school programs include water testing activities, comparing water samples throughout the park to learn about water quality. - Corporate volunteering programs provide team building opportunities and positive opportunities to promote and showcase Parramatta Park. - How will GSP promote the corporate volunteering opportunities to the corporate sector within the local region? Suggestion to promote via local business chambers/networks.
Parramatta Leagues Club proposed development Jane Donaldson, Property Advisor, GSP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSP provided an overview of the Parramatta Leagues Club's (PLC) proposed redevelopment, noting that PLC is a third party and part of the proposal concerns land currently leased by PLC from the Parramatta Park Trust. The other part of the proposal is on lands owned by PLC. • All information presented is publicly available from the PLC project webpage. • Background information was provided to CTB members prior to meeting, outlining the current lease. GSP's role is to provide landowners' consent. • The CTB provided the following feedback and questions regarding the PLC proposal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Current DA: will PLC withdraw the current DA consent (for 17-storey hotel) now that they have a new proposal (including an 8-storey hotel)? It was understood the that the new proposal responds to community sentiment and is a more appropriate precinct outcome and that it would replace the current SSD. - Connecting with Country Framework: is the proposal working within the Framework? GSP advised that this would be a matter for PLC to consider as part of the Planning Approval process. - Approval authority: that the proposal should be assessed by the Regional Planning Panel (Sydney Central Local Planning Panel), noting probity concerns regarding City of Parramatta being a major sponsor of PLC. - Zoning: What is the zoning of the land currently leased by PLC? GSP advised the current zoning is RE2 which permits the proposed uses including short stay accommodation with consent.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CTB noted that the community and stakeholders will have a further opportunity to provide feedback on the proposal through the upcoming public exhibition process as part of the planning approval process. <p>Action: The CTB has considered the PLC proposal and discussed issues and concerns for the GSPT Board to consider.</p> <p>Action: The CTB requests a further update on the PLC proposal.</p>
<p>Draft 2024 CTB performance report</p> <p>Jenny Gleeson, Community Engagement Manager, GSP</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GSP provided an overview of the reporting requirement outlined in the Terms of Reference to evaluate the CTB's performance, including self-evaluation of its level of effectiveness against its purpose and responsibilities on an annual basis. Members of the previous term were invited to complete the self-assessment survey. GSP provided an overview of the survey findings and next steps for reporting.
<p>Correspondence and other business / Next steps, thanks and close</p> <p>Stewart Thompson, Chair, Paramatta Park CTB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Joint Select Committee has released its report into the review of the <i>Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Act 2022</i>, including several recommendations regarding CTB operations, membership and recruitment. Meeting 3 will be held in person; this will be the first meeting with the new members.