

**CITY OF NEDLANDS**

**STRATEGIC RECREATION PLAN  
REVIEW & UPDATE**

**FINAL REPORT**

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## VISION

(Amended 2010)

*The City of Nedlands is committed to making a significant and sustainable contribution to the quality of life of the people living within, and who visit, its boundaries through support of a broad range of sport and recreation services, facilities and programs.*

### ENVISAGED OUTCOME

In 2015 the City of Nedlands Sport and Recreation will be:

- ❖ Centralised around six major sporting/recreation venues as follows:
  - ⇒ **College Park** catering for Cricket, Baseball, Minkey Hockey, Joey Soccer and Australian Rules Football and unstructured community activities including physical activity, leisure and cultural activities. All users have use of a centralised social clubrooms and all sporting codes work together to ensure the financial viability of their sports and facilities.
  - ⇒ **Allen Park** catering for Rugby Union, Cricket and Junior Australian Rules Football and the community's recreational needs with sport and recreation facilities. The development of an integrated recreation park in the centre of Swanbourne provides for a clear focus and potential for unstructured activities as well as to conduct a number of additional community events.
  - ⇒ **Hollywood-Subiaco Bowling Club/Highview Park** catering for Hockey, Bowls, Gridiron, Volleyball and a range of unstructured community activities. A vibrant Sporting Association has ownership and management of centralised social clubrooms with all users working together to ensure the financial viability of their sport and facilities.
  - ⇒ **DC Cruickshank Reserve** catering for Tennis, Lawn Bowls and AFL, Cricket and Ultimate Frisbee and the community's recreational needs. All users will have a centralised social clubrooms and all sporting clubs working together to ensure financial viability of their sports
  - ⇒ **Nedlands River Foreshore** catering for Rugby Union, Soccer, Cricket and the community's recreational needs for organised sports and unstructured activities, as well as an area to conduct a number of additional community events.
  - ⇒ **Melvista Reserve** catering for Cricket, Hockey, AFL, Golf and Croquet. All users have use of a centralised social clubrooms and all sporting codes work together to ensure financial viability of their sports and facilities.
- ❖ The six major venues will be floodlit to enable all users to participate throughout the year in the evenings and early mornings.
- ❖ Additional facilities in the form of BBQ's, playground equipment at the six major sporting/recreational reserves are supported by smaller local venues
- ❖ A network of linked and un-linked walking, and cycle paths for use by the community.
- ❖ A trails network (Bush to Beach) has been developed around the four themes of Bush, Heritage, Natural and Coastal.
- ❖ Specialised sporting venues for tennis, golf, etc shall compliment the major sporting reserves ensuring that the community has access to a wide range of sporting activities
- ❖ All clubs will have documented management/user agreements and understand their responsibilities in terms of outgoings for maintenance, power, water and public liability insurance.
- ❖ All facility specific groups will have documented leases. (eg Bowling Club, Tennis Club, Golf Clubs.)

- ❖ Two multi-use community centre's to better meet the community's use and needs patterns
- ❖ Policies will be in place detailing community standards/responsibilities for:
  - ⇒ Fees;
  - ⇒ Signage;
  - ⇒ Floodlights;
  - ⇒ Facility development;
  - ⇒ Council community grants
  - ⇒ Fences;
  - ⇒ Reserve utilisation;
  - ⇒ Lease/licence/user agreements;

# 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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This review has brought together information on a range of areas including, but not limited to:

- An assessment of progress of the initial plan (2005)
- Demographic changes
- Participation Trends
- Changes in Federal and State Priorities
- Current cost recoveries
- Assessment of current expectations and standards

The Strategic Recreation Plan's purpose remains the same as that adopted by the Council in 2005 and clearly stated;

- The purpose of the Recreation Plan was to establish the local community's current and future need/s for sporting, recreational and leisure facilities and services.
- It was to be used as a basis to guide future decision-making and development in relation to sport and other recreational and leisure facilities, infrastructure and services.
- It enabled Council to prioritise the competing demands for resources from sporting clubs through the CSRFF process

The major issues on which this plan is based are as follows:

## **Major Recreation Reserves**

There is a need to identify a number of key reserves on which the City's major sporting facilities will be concentrated. The main criteria in determining whether a reserve is considered as a major recreational reserve are the following:

- its capacity to accommodate multiple sports
- its capacity to accommodate a multi-use recreational building
- its capacity to accommodate the related traffic and parking.

Identifying a number of major recreational reserves will guide future decisions about the location of recreational facilities. This will focus expenditure efficiently and will help channel resources towards multi-use facilities. (See section 8.1)

## **Activity Specific Ratings**

The activity (sport and recreation) specific ratings consider both demand (national participation rates and membership trend information from local clubs) and supply (the number, quality and standard of existing facilities and therefore the supply of opportunities to play that particular sport). Putting both of these considerations (demand and supply) together then allows a priority rating for each activity type. This priority rating is not a comment on the relative value or importance of each activity. Rather it is a way of considering demand in relation to supply, so that the City can target scarce facility funding where the community benefit will be greatest. (See section 9)

## **Unstructured Recreation**

The change in participation towards less formal structures and changing work patterns results in the majority of the community wishing to participate in activities and programs outside of the formal club base. There is a need to ensure that both structured and unstructured are supported by the provision of city resources. (See section 8.2)

## **Climate Change**

Climate change has emerged as having increasing importance since the initial Plan and the City will need to consider climate change in their recreational planning for the future. (See section 8.3)

## **Regional Approach**

The need to take a regional view, particularly in the context of local government reform is addressed further in section 8.4 of this report.

## 2 INTRODUCTION & BACKGROUND

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The initial Strategic Recreation Plan was adopted by the Council in 2005 and clearly stated;

- The purpose of the Recreation Plan was to establish the local community's current and future need/s for sporting, recreational and leisure facilities and services.
- It was to be used as a basis to guide future decision-making and development in relation to sport and other recreational and leisure facilities, infrastructure and services.
- It enabled Council to prioritise the competing demands for resources from sporting clubs through the CSRFF process

The initial reasons given for the 2005 plan on why we need to plan for Sport and Recreation are still relevant namely:

- To establish priorities;
- To address innovative strategies to meet the challenges of the future;
- To improve the community's quality of life;
- Ensure the effective use of existing facilities;
- Avoid duplication; and
- Consultation with a wider audience

Finally the existence of a Sport and Recreation Plan provides a blueprint and a direction for the future and can limit ad hoc planning and guide political decisions

The need to review the plan on a regular basis enables council to ensure its priorities are still relevant and take account of any changes in the community and any outside influences are accounted for.

To this end the review has considered the following changes since its initial creation these being:

- Progress to date in terms of the 2005 Action Plan;
- Any changes to the City's Demography;
- Any changes in Federal and State Government;
- Current Participation Trends;
- Current cost recovery; and
- Facility demands.

This culminated in the hosting of a workshop for Councillors held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010.

### 3 PROGRESS SINCE ADOPTION OF 2005 PLAN

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Since the adoption of the 2005 plan a number of recommendations have been actioned and ensured that the council has a good knowledge of the actions needed and can measure progress.

To date the following projects have been actioned;

- **Reserve booking fee implemented**

*"A Booking fee needs to be implemented to deter multiple booking of reserves and be a set amount for each booking not each club"*

This has been implemented and well accepted by all users and now gives administration a clearer picture of the utilization of the reserves.

- **A range of facilities have been installed to support unstructured sport and recreation**

*"Consideration needs to be given to the placement of additional passive recreation facilities in the form of:*

- ❖ *Multi-use paths (providing a pedestrian and cycling link throughout the City);*
- ❖ *Seating and picnic facilities, BBQ's;*
- ❖ *Wooden wind shelters and wind breaks with plants;*
- ❖ *Pedestrian lighting; and*
- ❖ *Security lighting.*

*The need to cater for the increasing demand of the public's "passive" use of facilities is evident in all recent trend analysis and, whilst it will result in capital expenditure to provide facilities, it will also lead to better use of the Council's existing resources and assets."*

Since adoption of the 2005 plan a range of facilities have been installed to aid unstructured sport and recreation including:

- 21 combination tables, two of which have shelters
- 11 benches
- Barbeques
- Lighting for tennis courts and ovals as well as bollard safety lights
- 4 items of exercise equipment located at Charles Court Reserve

- **Concept plans for Highview Park, Allen Park, College Park**

Concept plans have been developed for three of the four major precincts identified in the 2005 Plan. A Master Plan for DC Cruickshank Reserve and Melvista Reserve should be developed during the next 5 years.

- **Croquet Club now leased**

*"That negotiations be held with the Nedlands Croquet Club to determine a timeframe to hand over responsibility for the maintenance of the croquet facilities to the club.*

There is now a lease in place between the City and the Croquet Club which came into effect on December 31 2009.

- **Claremont Nedlands Cricket Club now responsible for centre wicket maintenance**

The responsibility for centre wicket maintenance has now been passed over to the cricket club with an annual donation to costs made by the council which is set on an annual basis. Turf wickets at College Park and Allen Park are also maintained by the local cricket clubs.

- **UWA-Nedlands Football club to be relocated**

Subject to the development of change rooms and installation of training lights, the UWA-Nedlands Football club will be relocated from the Paul Hasluck Reserve to Mt Claremont Oval and Charles Court Reserve.

- **New standard lease agreements developed and utilised**

“All clubs will have documented management/user agreements and understand their responsibilities in terms of outgoings for maintenance, power, water and public liability (\$10 M).”

Standard Leases have been developed and are being implemented with groups as their current leases terminate. Since 2005, 10 sporting club leases have been renewed and one new lease has been put in place (Riverside Lions Hockey Club – JC Smith Pavilion).

## 4 DEMOGRAPHY

The city's population base has risen slightly since the 2001 Census with the 2006 Census data showing that the population has risen to 20,334 from the base of 20,155 in 2001.

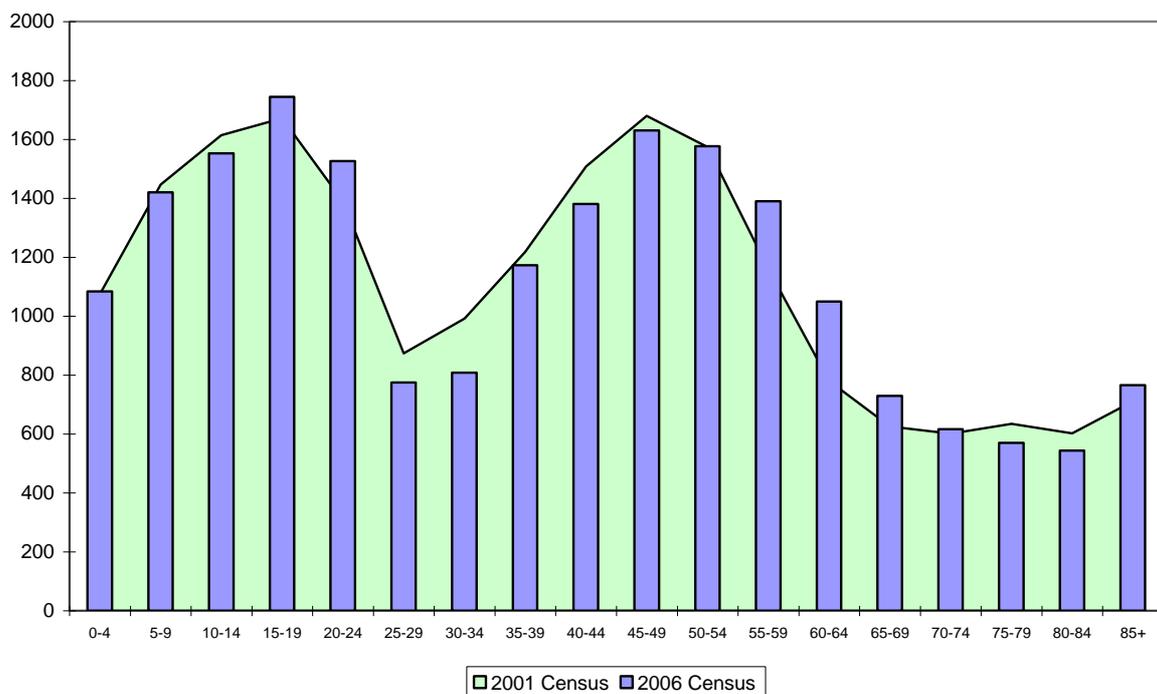
When the data is compared with the previous figures it shows that there have been increases in the population bases in the following age groups:

- 0-4
- 15-19
- 20-24
- 50-54
- 55-59
- 60-64
- 65-69
- 70-74
- 85+

Whilst here have been decreases in the following age groups:

- 5-9
- 10-14
- 25-29
- 30-34
- 35
- 39
- 40-44
- 45-49
- 75-79
- 80-84

These differences are shown in the graph below:



## 5 CHANGES AT THE FEDERAL AND STATE LEVEL

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The Rudd Government appointed an independent expert panel to make recommendations on the specific structures, programs and reform required to ensure the continuing robustness of the Australian Sports System.

This panel has since reported and is known as the Crawford Report

Of direct importance to Local Government is the Chapter 6 Building Community Sport with People and Places which contains the following recommendations:

- “6.1     *The Australian Government should develop and fund a national volunteer program for sporting and physical activity organisations that aims to attract and retain volunteers to sport through education, accreditation and recognition and in particular takes account of the potential offered by the growing number of older Australians to become volunteers.*
  
- 6.2     *The Australian Government should establish and fund a national scheme that encourages past high-performance scholarship holders (Australian Institute of Sport and state and territory institutes and academies of sport) to volunteer within community sport organisations as coaches, managers, administrators and mentors.*
  
- 6.3     *The Australian Government, in consultation with the state and territory governments, should develop a strategic national facilities initiative for the funding and development of Australia's community sport and recreation facilities over the next decade.*
  
- 6.4     *The Australian Government should establish a national sport facilities fund with an initial allocation of \$250 million each year for four years, to begin the implementation of the strategic national facilities initiative in partnership with state, territory and local government and the private sector, where appropriate.*
  
- 6.5     *The national sport facilities fund should have an initial focus on drought-proofing assets that are determined to be of 'high-priority'.*
  
- 6.6     *In any infrastructure programs, preference should be given to projects that have the potential to engage wide sections of the community, such as multi-sport facilities in proximity to other community infrastructure, to help with sustainability and to increase social capital.”*

The potential development of a national sports facilities fund would provide an additional avenue for fund generations particularly for multi sport facilities and monitoring of the progress needs to be ongoing.

Similar to the WA state sports and recreation funding program which also states:

*“Priority will be given to projects that lead to facility sharing and rationalisation. Multi-purpose facilities reduce infrastructure required to meet similar needs and increase sustainability.”*

This further supports the previous council decision to concentrate on the development of major sport and recreation hubs for the development or redevelopment of facilities.

## 6 PARTICIPATION TRENDS

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### 6.1 Participation of Australians Aged 15 Years and Over

The Exercise, Recreation and Sport Survey (ERASS) collects information on the frequency, duration, nature and type of physical activities that are participated in for exercise, recreation or sport by persons aged 15 years and over. ERASS has been collecting this information since 2001.

It was conducted quarterly in 2008 with an annual total of 17,293 respondents across Australia.

A summary of key findings is provided below.

#### 6.1.1 Findings — overall participation (including organised and non-organised activities)

- ⇒ An estimated 13.8 million persons aged 15 years and over, or 83.4% of the population living in occupied private dwellings, participated at least once annually in physical activity for exercise, recreation or sport. This is the total participation rate in any physical activity.
- ⇒ An estimated 11.9 million persons aged 15 years and over, or 71.5% of the population, participated at least once per week, on average, in physical activity. This is the weekly participation rate.
- ⇒ An estimated 8.2 million persons aged 15 years and over, or 49.3% of the population, participated at least three times per week, on average, in physical activity. This is the regular participation rate.
- ⇒ The median frequency of participation in any physical activity was 2.9 times per week in 2008. Females (3.0 times per week) tended to participate more frequently than males (2.5 times).
- ⇒ The regular participation rate in any physical activity increased 12 percentage points between 2001 and 2008 (from 37.2% to 49.3%). This increase occurred equally for both males and females.
- ⇒ Except in the youngest and oldest age groups, females had higher regular participation rates in any physical activity. Regular participation rates in any physical activity were also higher among the university-educated and those still at secondary school.
- ⇒ Persons speaking a non-European language at home, especially females, had lower than average regular participation rates.
- ⇒ The top ten physical activities in 2008, in terms of the total participation rate, were walking, aerobics/fitness, swimming, cycling, running, golf, tennis, bushwalking, outdoor football and netball. An estimated 6.5 million persons or 39.2% of the population, participated at least once in walking for exercise, recreation or sport in 2008.
- ⇒ In terms of the top ten physical activities, the largest increase in total participation between 2001 and 2008 was for aerobics/fitness, increasing by 99% over 2001. Participation in walking, outdoor football, running, bushwalking and cycling also increased over 2001.
- ⇒ Activities experiencing declines in participation between 2001 and 2008 included tennis (down 19% over 2001) and golf (down 5%)

#### 6.1.2 Findings — organised participation

- ⇒ The total participation rate in organised physical activity was 40.8% in 2008. About half of all participation in physical activity was partially or fully organised (48.7%).

- ⇒ An estimated 2.0 million persons aged 15 years and over participated at least three times per week in organised physical activities, a regular participation rate of 12.1%.
- ⇒ Unlike non-organised participation, the regular participation rate in organised physical activity increased slightly between 2001 and 2008 (three percentage points for males; two percentage points for females).
- ⇒ Overall, regular participation rates in organised physical activity were equal between males and females in 2008. However, regular participation in organised physical activity was higher for males in the 15 to 34 years age group and higher for females in the 35 years or older age groups.
- ⇒ Regular participation in organised physical activity was most common among those aged 15 to 24 years, regardless of gender, while participation in non-organised physical activity increased with age.
- ⇒ Those still at secondary school had the highest regular participation rate in organised physical activity.
- ⇒ The top ten organised physical activities in 2008, in terms of the total participation rate, were aerobics/fitness, golf, outdoor football, netball, tennis, touch football, basketball, Australian rules football, swimming and outdoor cricket.
- ⇒ In terms of the top ten organised physical activities, outdoor football had the largest increase in total participation between 2001 and 2008, increasing by 50% over 2001. Other organised activities in the top ten to experience increases in participation since 2001 were Australian rules football (36% increase), aerobics/fitness (35%), outdoor cricket (23%) and touch football (19%).
- ⇒ Out of all top ten organised activities, tennis (-18%) and golf (-8%) had the greatest decline in participation between 2001 and 2008.

### **6.1.3 Findings — non-organised participation**

- ⇒ The total participation rate in non-organised physical activity was 72.5% in 2008. Most participants engaged in partially or fully non-organised activities (86.6%).
- ⇒ An estimated 6.6 million persons aged 15 years and over participated at least three times per week in non-organised physical activities, a regular participation rate of 39.7%.
- ⇒ The regular participation rate in non-organised physical activity increased 12 percentage points between 2001 and 2008. This increase occurred for both males and females. Although the regular participation rate in organised physical activity also increased in the same period, increases were small. Overall increases in physical activity were mainly due to increases in non-organised participation.
- ⇒ Females had higher regular participation rates in non-organised physical activity (42.6%) than males (36.7%). This was true in all age groups except the oldest.
- ⇒ Regular participation in non-organised physical activity gradually increased with age for females and males, peaking at 55 to 64 years among females. Females aged between 55 and 64 years were the most active in non-organised physical activity, with a regular participation rate of 51.2%.
- ⇒ Regular participation in non-organised physical activity was higher among those with a university education.
- ⇒ Regular participation rates in non-organised physical activities were lower than average among persons speaking a non-European language at home.
- ⇒ The top ten non-organised physical activities in 2008, in terms of the total participation rate, were walking, aerobics/fitness, swimming, cycling, running, bushwalking, tennis, golf, weight training and fishing. Almost all participation in cycling and running was non-organised, and most participation in swimming was non-organised

The table below provides a complete list of the type of activities participated in, the number of participants and the participation rate as a percentage for WA for the survey period 2007:

### Participation in Sports and Physical Recreation, West Australia 2008<sup>1</sup>

	Number ('000)	Participation rate (%)
Walking for exercise	663.3	40.1
Aerobics / fitness	385.8	23.3
Swimming	280	16.9
Cycling	224.6	13.6
Running	153.4	9.3
Golf	110.8	6.7
Basketball	91.9	5.6
Tennis	90.5	5.5
Australian rules football	86.5	5.2
Bush walking	75.5	4.6
Soccer (outdoor)	73	4.4
Netball	69.2	4.2
Cricket (outdoor)	58.6	3.5
Yoga	57	3.4
Weight training	55.4	3.4
Surf sports	50.6	3.1
Squash / racquetball	45.7	2.8
Dancing	43.1	2.6
Soccer (indoor)	39.5	2.4
Hockey Outdoor	37.2	2.3
Fishing	35.7	2.2
Lawn bowls	33.7	2
Martial arts	33.7	2
Volleyball	29.8	1.8
Canoeing / kayaking	26.8	1.6
Badminton	24.6	1.5
Scuba Diving	21	1.3
Aquarobics	20.5	1.2
Athletics	16.7	1
Touch Football	16.4	1

## 6.2 Participation of Australians Aged 5 to 14 Years<sup>2</sup>

### 6.2.1 Children's Participation in Organised Sport- 2000, 2003, 2006

The Survey of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities was conducted throughout Australia as part of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' (ABS) Monthly Population Survey (MPS) in April 2000, 2003 and 2006.

Information on children's participation in selected organised sports and organised cultural activities was collected in regard to the 12 months prior to interview. Information on children's participation in selected other activities was collected in regard to the two weeks prior to interview.

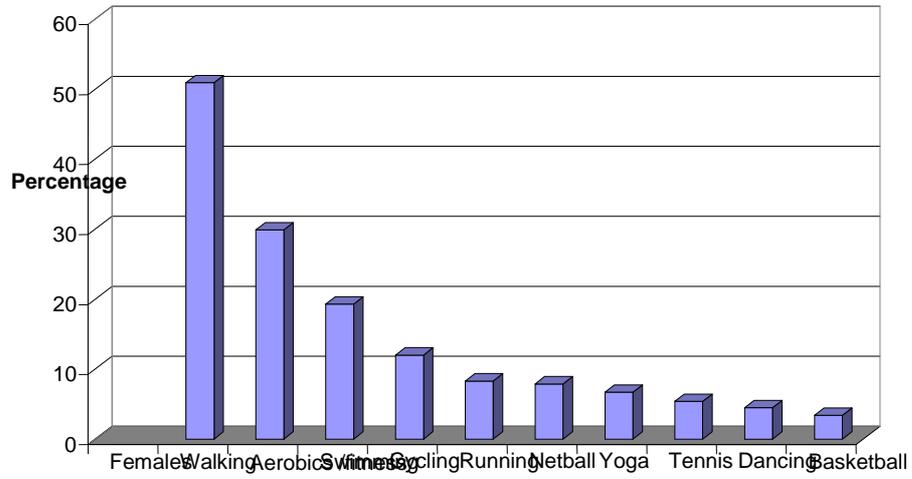
<sup>1</sup> Participation in Exercise, Recreation and Sports Survey, Australia 2008, SCORS 2009

<sup>2</sup> 2003 Survey of Children's Participation in Cultural and Leisure Activities (ABS)

- ⇒ Children's participation in organised sport increased between 2000 (64%) and 2003 (67%), with little change occurring in 2006 (68%).
- ⇒ Most of the increase is due to increased participation by girls and by children aged 5-8 years.
- ⇒ An increase in the average hours of participation by children in organised sport (in the 2 weeks prior to interview) occurred between 2003 (5.2 hours) and 2006 (6.4 hours). This increase occurred for both boys and girls and for children of all age groups.
- ⇒ An increase in the average frequency of children's participation in organised sport (in the 12 months prior to interview) occurred between 2003 (75 times per year) and 2006 (81 times per year). This increase was primarily by children aged 9-11 years and by girls of all ages.
- ⇒ The sport which showed the largest increase in organised participation outside school hours for boys and girls was swimming, in which participation increased from 14% in 2000 to 17% in 2006.
- ⇒ The average hours that boys and girls spent watching television, videos or DVDs decreased from 22 hours in 2000 and 2003, to 20 hours in 2006.
- ⇒ The proportion of children playing computer games decreased from 71% in 2003 to 64% in 2006. However, the average hours of participation increased from 7.5 hours over a 2 week period in 2003 to 7.9 hours in 2006.
- ⇒ In 2006, more boys played computer games (77%) than girls (50%). Boys also spent more time playing computer games (9.3 hours) than girls (5.7 hours).
- ⇒ Children increased their participation in bike riding (in the 2 weeks prior to interview) from 62% in 2003 to 68% in 2006. This increase was recorded primarily among girls.

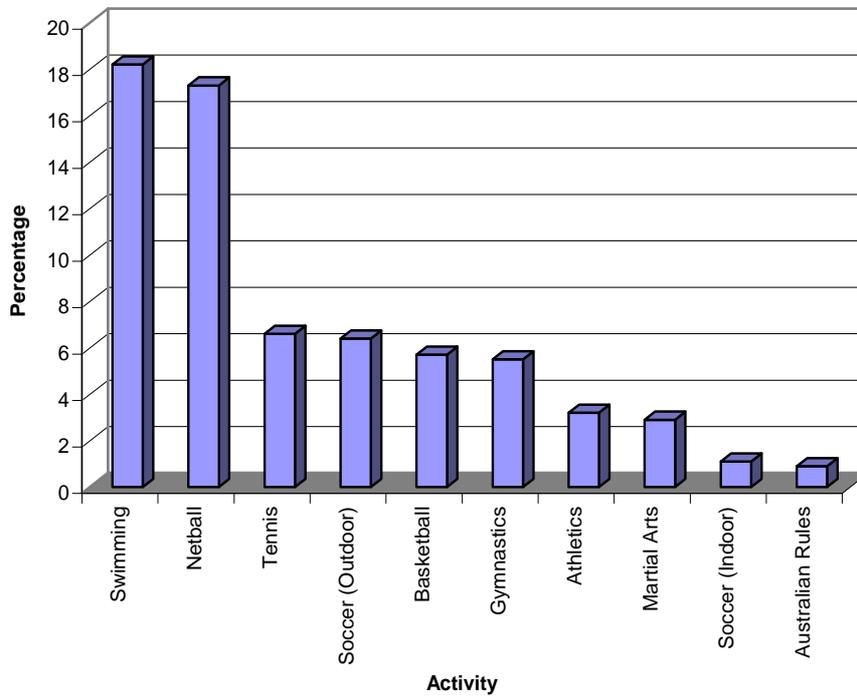
Specific statistics for females/girls and males/boys split into the type of activities is provided graphically on the following pages.

**Top Ten Activities – Females**



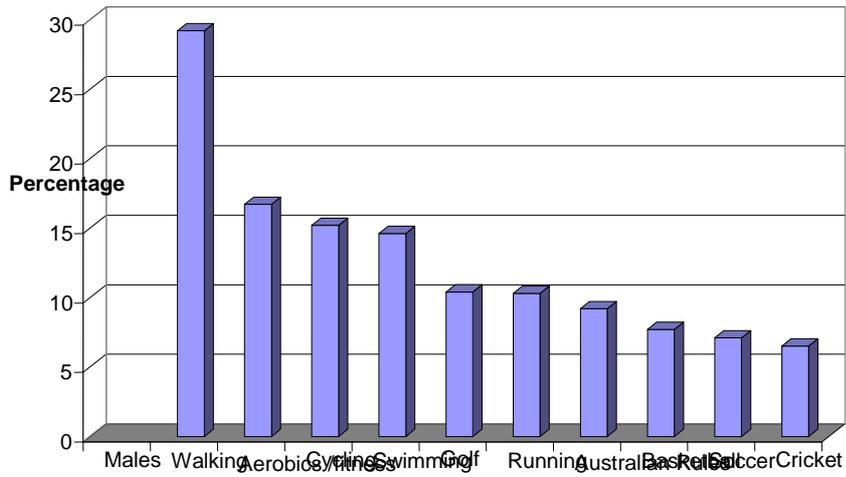
**Activities**

**Top Ten Activities - Girls**



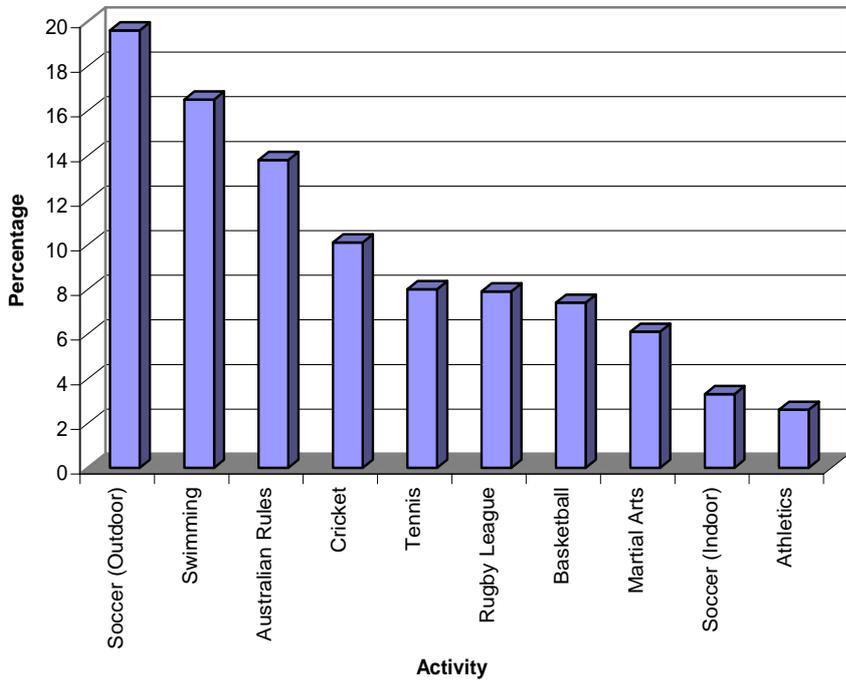
Relates to children aged 5–14 years who participated in organised sport (to a maximum of three per child) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview.

**Top Ten Activities - Males**



**Activity**

**Top Ten Activities - Boys**

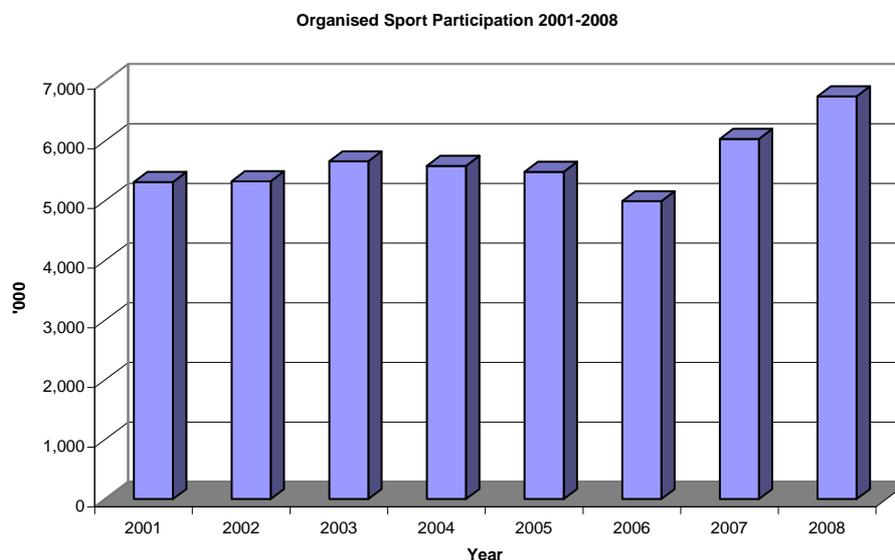


Relates to children aged 5–14 years who participated in organised sport (to a maximum of three per child) outside of school hours during the 12 months prior to interview.

### 6.3 Participants in Organised Sport 2001-2008

Regular participation in exercise, recreation and sport is defined as those participating three times a week or more, on average.

- ⇒ The median frequency of participation in organised physical activity among participants was 1.8 times per week in 2008.
- ⇒ In 2008, the median frequency of participation in organised activity among participants was at its highest level since 2001.
- ⇒ For female participants, the median frequency of participation in organised activities was 1.8 times per week in 2008. This was lower than in 2007, when it peaked at 2.0 times per week.
- ⇒ Among male participants, the median frequency of participation in organised activities increased between 2001 and 2008, and was at its highest level ever in 2008 (1.7 times per week in 2008, compared to 1.3 in 2001).



- The participation trends indicate the level of participation and the type of activity which allows for the planning of appropriate facilities to cater for the community trends.
- The top ten activities are:
  - ⇒ Walking for exercise (40.1%)
  - ⇒ Aerobics / fitness (23.3%)
  - ⇒ Swimming (16.9%)
  - ⇒ Cycling (13.8%)
  - ⇒ Running (9.3%)
  - ⇒ Golf (6.7%)
  - ⇒ Basketball (5.6%)
  - ⇒ Tennis (5.5%)
  - ⇒ Australian Rules football (5.2%)
  - ⇒ Bush walking (4.6%)
- At the same time it can be seen that participation in organised sport has increased for the past two years of the surveys from a low in 2006.

## 7 CURRENT COST RECOVERY

The cost recovery rates for all recreation and sports facilities have been extrapolated from the actual figures of the 2008/9 budget to provide an understanding of the levels of expenditure and income received.

The figures reveal that the cost recovery for public tennis courts and public halls / pavilions has increased and in the case of the tennis courts show a 188% recovery rate. It should be noted that no tennis court resurfacing was required during the year as courts on average only require resurfacing every 10-15 years dependant upon use and wear and tear.

<b>COST RECOVERY FOR COMMUNITY RECREATION FACILITIES 2008/09</b>			
<b>Facility</b>	<b>Income (actual)</b>	<b>Expenditure (actual)</b>	<b>Cost recovery (%) 08/09 actual</b>
Active Reserves	20,492	588,924	3
Passive (only) Reserves	1,499	1,038,998	0
Public Tennis Courts	20,395	10,844	188
Turf Wickets	2,043	93,196	2
Public Halls/Pavilions	137,271	226,350	61
Beaches**	214	58,862	0
Youth Recreation Facilities	0	0	0
Nedlands Croquet Club	6,878	35,388	19
Tresillian Community Centre	264,764	535,442	49
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>453,556</b>	<b>2,588,004</b>	<b>18</b>

The figures do not include depreciation and are for operating only and do not include capital improvements.

The Nedlands Croquet Club has now been leased and therefore it is expected that the current cost recovery of 19% will improve substantially.

\*\*No separate income account for Swanbourne Beach so can only include income with Swanbourne Beach in narrations of payment on Authority.

Overall all the cost recovery in 2004 was 14% and, as can be seen, a small improvement is evident with a current cost recovery of 18%.

### 8.1 Major Recreation Reserves:

There is a need to identify a number of key reserves on which the City's major sporting facilities will be concentrated. The main criteria in determining whether a reserve is considered as a major recreational reserve are the following:

- its capacity to accommodate multiple sports
- its capacity to accommodate a multi-use recreational building
- its capacity to accommodate the related traffic and parking.

Identifying a number of major recreational reserves will guide future decisions about the location of recreational facilities. This will focus expenditure efficiently and will help channel resources towards multi-use facilities.

It is a key concept in moving away from the ad hoc way of allocating facility resources that sometimes occurred in the past, towards a more efficient, effective and strategic approach.

Therefore, when considering which reserves should be major recreational reserves, the capacity of the reserves should be the key consideration. The other consideration should be whether or not the reserve is managed and controlled by the City.

The purpose of identifying major recreational reserves is to guide sporting facility development and the City would not wish to fund facilities on reserves it does not control, such as UWA Sports Park. Therefore there is no value in including UWA Sports Park in the list of major recreation reserves, despite its capacity and significance.

Based on the above criteria, it will be recommended that the following reserves are endorsed as major recreational reserves for the purpose of focusing future facility development:

1. **College Park**
2. **Allen Park**
3. **Highview Park**
4. **DC Cruikshank Reserve**
5. **Nedlands Foreshore**
6. **Melvista Reserve**

Each of the reserves listed above is currently accommodating a high level of use by multiple sports; has the capacity to accommodate a multi-use recreational building; and is managed and controlled by the City, thereby being a suitable location for the City's major recreational facilities and activities.

This is a change to the 2005 plan which identified four major sporting/recreation venues as follows:

- College Park
- Allen Park
- Hollywood Bowling Club/Highview Park
- Nedlands River Foreshore

Given the current population and participation trends this may not be sufficient and there may be a need to increase the number of active areas to acknowledge the existing clubs and community demands.

The WA Liveable Neighbourhoods guideline of;  
*“provide for district parks of at least 3.0 ha generally for a combination of passive (including informal play areas) and active (formal playing fields) use, within 2 km of most dwellings*

When ascribed to the City of Nedlands identifies that based on the current four major precincts that there is a gap in provision in the Mt Claremont locality. (See map overleaf). However this standard does not take into account the volume of use, availability of land or the demand from differing sporting codes

The Collegians Football Club are keen to look at an upgrade of facilities on DC Cruickshank reserve and given the use of the reserve it is warranted that this reserve be upgraded to a major reserve.

Riverside Lions Hockey Club have requested Melvista Reserve to be included as a major recreation reserve and given the use of the reserve it is warranted that this reserve be upgraded to a major reserve.

Over the next five year period of the plan it may well be that the City would be best served by acknowledging the existence of the “gap” in provision but be conscious of the potential development of a further reserve at the old Brockway tip site.

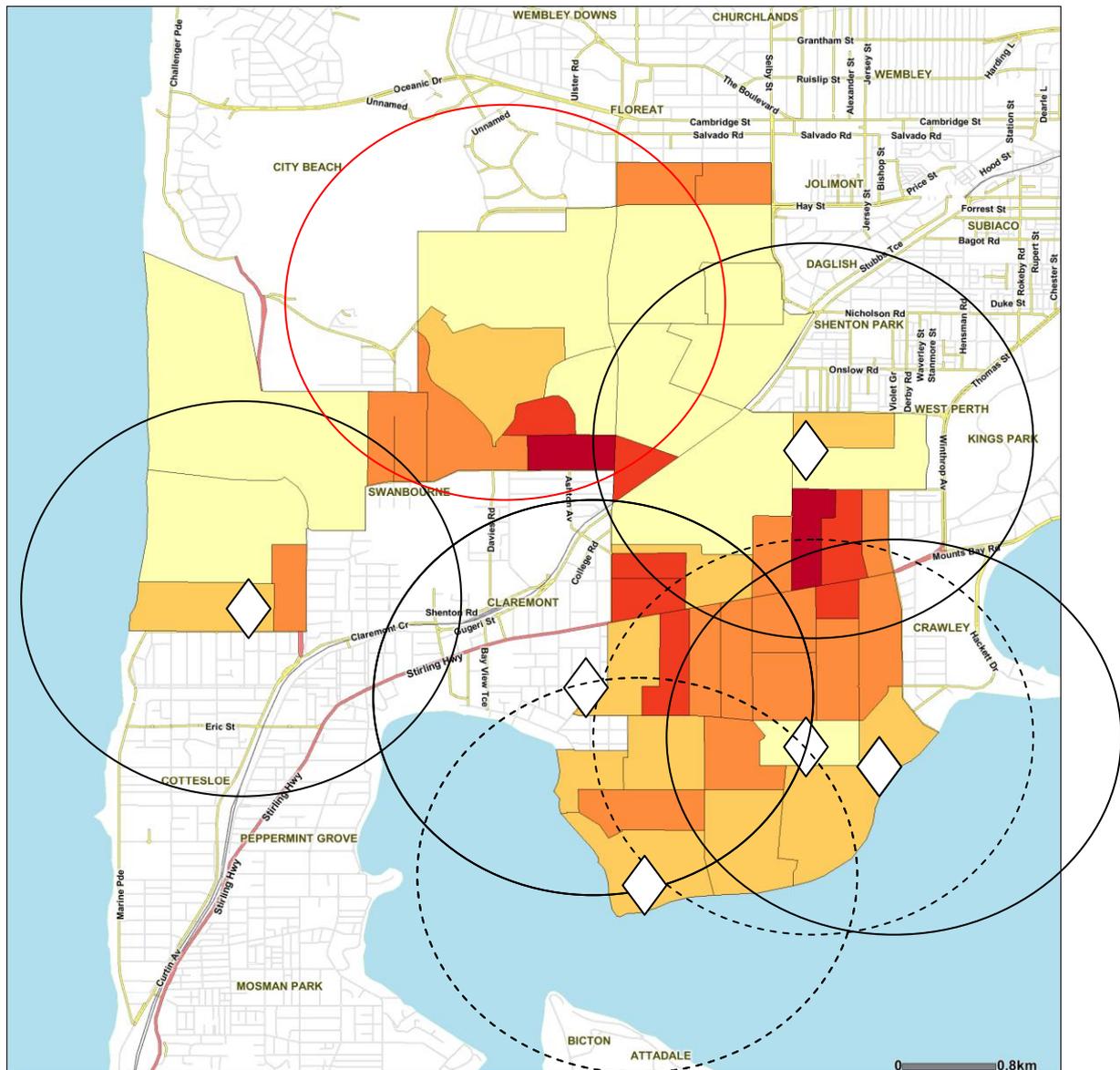
Whilst it is acknowledged that the City is not directly involved in the provision of facilities and programs from the Challenge Stadium/McGilvray location these facilities and programs are available to the local community and cannot be discounted as a resource for the local community.

The level of demand from existing clubs would support the expansion of the current four major sporting/recreation venues to ultimately have two river, one beach and four major active reserves thus allowing for DC Cruickshank and Melvista Reserve to be developed in conjunction with existing demand.

The determination of major reserves should not be determined on catchment population alone but needs to be responsive to community need, current and future use and the reserve capacity for development.

The map overleaf indicates the location of the existing four major sporting / recreation venues with 2km catchments approx. The dotted catchment has been shown for the proposed DC Cruickshank Reserve and Melvista Reserve as additional major sporting /recreational hubs. Additionally a 2km catchment has been shown from the Challenge Stadium/McGilvray site in red to indicate the accessibility to the local community. It should be noted that the major passive reserve of Bold Park and Perry Lakes is also within this catchment.

The base map indicates the population density within the City of Nedlands.



In addition to the issue of identification of major sporting precincts the City also needs to be conscious of the volume of ageing facilities within the City and the additional maintenance demands this places on the council budget.

## 8.2 Unstructured Participation

The rate of participation in Australian organised sport and physical activity is changing (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 1999). According to McKay (1983) this is directly related to the interaction between sport and society and the way that society impacts on and shapes sport.

- the change in Australia's demographic composition, an ageing society and an increasingly culturally diverse population are ensuring correspondingly diverse attitudes to participation, in a range of activities;
- technology is challenging physical activity as a main source of entertainment for young Australians and resulting in a diversity of lifestyle and leisure patterns;
- the amount of disposable income available for sports participation;
- greater emphasis on access and equity in all areas of life are reflected in attitudes towards sports participation; and

- promotional messages are highlighting the health benefits of leading a physically active lifestyle.

The allocation of funding for Recreation and Culture within the City of Nedlands is similar to other local metropolitan Councils and historically favours the traditional sports.

The change in participation towards less formal structures and changing work patterns results in the majority of the community wishing to participate in activities and programs outside of the formal club base

### **8.3 Climate Change**

The continued media attention on the issue of climate change will increasingly become an issue for the Council in provision of its recreational and natural areas.

The City needs continually be aware of technological and technical advances and be responsive to any necessary changes

It could well be that a simple statement be included within the reviewed plan along the lines of:

"That the City of Nedlands recognises the potential impact of climate change on recreation and acknowledges the importance of responding to the challenges presented by climate change on the City's ability to provide recreational facilities and opportunities."

The use of synthetic turf for public use is supported and acknowledged within CSRFF guidelines in recognition of the issue.

### **8.4 Regional Approach**

The City of Nedlands has increased demands placed on it from outside of its physical boundaries due to its close proximity to central Perth, and the level of service provision both quantity and quality.

These demands place pressure on the Council to ensure that its limited resources are best used not only for its resident community but also the visitors to the City of Nedlands.

The natural drift of people within the community to travel towards the City for their shopping, and social activities leads to demands being placed on the City's resources from people outside the City's boundary. This is further exacerbated by the low fees and charges in the City of Nedlands particularly in provision of community facilities from sporting ovals to libraries. It would be beneficial to ensure that fees are benchmarked within the region to ensure that levels are set at an appropriate rate and thus alleviate any influx due to economics, that is, the low fee base currently makes the City of Nedlands facilities attractive to groups looking to participate.

There is a need to ensure that regional collaboration is considered in the development of new facilities and in the defining of pricing policies and utilisation.

This issue is still and will continue to be of importance

## 9 ACTIVITY SPECIFIC RATINGS

The ratings consider both demand (national participation rates and membership trend information from local clubs) and supply (the number, quality and standard of existing facilities and therefore the supply of opportunities to play that particular sport). Putting both of these considerations (demand and supply) together then allows a priority rating for each activity type. This priority rating is not a comment on the relative value or importance of each activity. Rather it is a way of considering demand in relation to supply, so that the City can target scarce facility funding where the community benefit will be greatest. Based on the information provided, the following assessment has been completed and grading of facilities provided where:

Poor	=	Does not meet the needs of the activity or is in a state of disrepair
Adequate	=	Meets the playing needs of the activity but some attention needed
Good	=	No action required currently but monitoring of situation required in terms of demand and maintenance required
Excellent	=	No action required in the foreseeable future

Activity	Current Venue/s	Quality of Venue	Requirements	Priority for City Funding
Badminton	⇒ Challenge Stadium ⇒ UWA Rec & Fitness Centre	Excellent	Whilst badminton is not catered for directly by the City of Nedlands access to 16 courts is available at Challenge Stadium and no further facility development is required	None
Baseball	⇒ College Park	Good	Baseball is adequately catered for within the City and whilst some minor maintenance may be required it is not considered a high priority	Low
Basketball	⇒ Challenge Stadium ⇒ State Basketball Centre ⇒ UWA Sports ⇒ 9 schools	Excellent	Unlike badminton the sport of basketball whilst not catered for directly by the City of Nedlands with an indoor facility there are basketball rings throughout the City's parks (7). Access is provided to facilities at a number of educational facilities as well as Challenge Stadium	Low
Bowling	⇒ Dalkeith /Nedlands Bowling Club ⇒ Hollywood /Subiaco Bowling Club	Good	Bowling is well catered for within the City and it may well be over supplied at the culmination of the ten year period this plan covers. Bowling as a sport is increasing as a social sport and at clubs which have a strong social emphasis. The two existing bowling clubs are "thriving" and there is no indication at this stage that any changes are required. Lawn Bowls WA is currently assessing the placement of synthetic greens at a number of bowling clubs and this may reduce maintenance costs for some clubs.	Low
Bridge	⇒ Nedlands Bridge Club ⇒ WA Bridge Club ⇒ Dalkeith Hall ⇒ Tresillian Community Centre	Excellent	Bridge is well catered for within the City with 3 clubs providing sessions and lessons and Tresillian catering for bridge lessons.	Low
Croquet	⇒ Nedlands Croquet Club	Good	Croquet is well catered for within the City and whilst they would like to install lights for the rinks the financing of such should be funded by the club as an exclusive sport. The facility has now been leased to the club and will require monitoring from a management view point to ensure the facility is maintained to the previous standards provided by the City.	Low

Activity	Current Venue/s	Quality of Venue	Requirements	Priority for City Funding
Cricket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Allen Park</li> <li>⇒ College Park</li> <li>⇒ Mt Claremont Oval</li> <li>⇒ Melvista Park</li> <li>⇒ Charles Court Reserve</li> <li>⇒ David Cruickshank Reserve</li> </ul>	Good	Cricket is well catered for within the City and it is questionable whether the current allocation is appropriate for the numbers playing and could well be excessive. Should additional summer sports be seeking reserve space then cricket numbers need to be ascertained and free space made available to other users. Besides the ongoing maintenance and upgrade of change-room toilet facilities no further demand is evident	Low
Football (Australian Rule)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Melvista Park</li> <li>⇒ David Cruickshank Reserve</li> <li>⇒ College Park</li> <li>⇒ Allen Park</li> </ul>	Good	See comments for cricket	Low
Golf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Cottesloe Golf Club</li> <li>⇒ Nedlands Golf Club</li> </ul>	Excellent	Any developments should be funded entirely by the clubs due to the exclusive nature of the sport.	Low
Gridiron	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Highview Park</li> </ul>	Good	Currently utilise Highview Park for training during the summer months.	Low
Hockey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ College Park</li> <li>⇒ Highview Park</li> <li>⇒ Melvista Park</li> <li>⇒ UWA Sports Park</li> <li>⇒ Shenton College</li> </ul>	Excellent	The access to 2 synthetic turf pitches within the City supplements the already significant allocation and, whilst hockey has traditionally been located heavily in the Western Suburbs, it is difficult to justify the existing allocation. Overall registered members for hockey have been in decline in some instances and at best are static.	Low
Netball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ 10 educational facilities</li> <li>⇒ Mathews Netball Centre</li> <li>⇒ Challenge Stadium</li> </ul>	Good	The structure of netball sees all netball matches played at the regional level with teams from the City of Nedlands participating at Mathews Netball Centre. The development of the proposed State Netball Centre at Mathews Netball Centre will provide additional opportunities for the playing of netball	Low
Rugby Union	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Charles Court Reserve</li> <li>⇒ Allen Park</li> </ul>	Good	See comments for cricket and football	Low
Football (Soccer)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ College Park</li> <li>⇒ Mt Claremont Oval</li> <li>⇒ Paul Hasluck Reserve</li> <li>⇒ Charles Court Reserve</li> </ul>	Poor	Soccer is increasing in participant numbers and it is currently be relocated to two reserves, these being Mt Claremont Oval and Charles Court Reserve. Support for the development of change rooms and placement of floodlighting is of high priority to ensure the demands of soccer are met. The 2010 World Cup is expected to have a positive impact on participation numbers.	High
Surf Lifesaving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Swanbourne Nedlands Surf Life Saving Club</li> </ul>	Excellent	Recent developments at Swanbourne Beach are expected to be sufficient for the next 10 years	Low

Activity	Current Venue/s	Quality of Venue	Requirements	Priority for City Funding
Swimming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Challenge Stadium</li> <li>⇒ Claremont Aquatic Centre</li> </ul>	Excellent	Whilst swimming is not catered for directly by the City of Nedlands, access to world class facilities are available at Challenge Stadium and Claremont Aquatic Centre and no further facility development is required. Additionally the City contributes an annual subsidy to two local Primary school swimming pools (Hollywood and Nedlands) to make them available to the general public during the summer months	Low
Teeball	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Charles Court Reserve</li> </ul>	Good	See comments for cricket, football and rugby	Low
Tennis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Dalkeith</li> <li>⇒ Nedlands</li> <li>⇒ Hollywood</li> <li>⇒ Allen Park</li> <li>⇒ Lawler Park</li> <li>⇒ College Park</li> <li>⇒ Mt Claremont</li> <li>⇒ UWA</li> </ul>	Good	Tennis is well catered for within the City and besides ensuring that the public tennis courts are resurfaced in keeping with the manufacturers recommendations no further development is expected	Low
Youth Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Nedlands Foreshore Skate Park</li> <li>⇒ Swanbourne Beach</li> <li>⇒ College Park Bike Facility</li> </ul>	Poor	The Skate Park on the Nedlands foreshore is well used and meets the needs of the young people in this area. The College Park facility is in a poor state and whilst it was anticipated that the dirt track would be remodelled on a regular basis this has not occurred and now does not meet the needs of the young people. The Youth Recreation Area planned for Swanbourne Beach has not been constructed despite originally being planned as the first Youth Recreation area. There is no facility designed to meet the needs of young people in the vicinity and a relatively high number of young people and children in the area. Therefore the need for a youth facility accessible to young people in the coastal area is high, as well as the need for maintenance of the College Park bike facility.	High
Community Leisure Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Tresillian Community Centre</li> <li>⇒ Mt Claremont Community Centre</li> </ul>	Poor	Whilst the Tresillian Centre has serviced the community well over the past 20 years the facilities are incapable of the flexibility required to service the expressed demands of the community. The Tresillian Centre should be redeveloped on an appropriate site and the existing centre sold to fund its replacement. This will ensure residents both side of Stirling Highway will have access to appropriate facilities.	Med
Passive Recreation Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Various</li> </ul>		The changing community activity patterns needs some attention with the development of a network of multi-use paths for walking and cycling as well as subsidiary facilities such as BBQ's and playgrounds (to meet Australian Standards)	High
Built Facilities General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Sporting Venues</li> </ul>		Average age of buildings is 52 years and an upgrade program needs to be implemented to ensure compliance with legislation and community expectations as a matter of urgency	High

## RECOMMENDATIONS

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Based on the review of data and discussions at the Councillors workshop a number of amendments and additions are required to the 2005 plan as follows:

### Management

- 8.1 That an annual review of fees and charges be conducted within the WESROC area to ensure equity and relevance for the City of Nedlands
- 8.2 That any changes to fee schedules must take into account the capacity of groups to pay and therefore it is expected that a sliding scale of fees should be developed.
- 8.3 That resident clubs are required to provide statistical breakdown of membership that provides detail of the percentage of City residents to allow for trend analysis to be developed and provide administration with a sound knowledge base of the use of the City's facilities.
- 8.4 That the City investigates the potential for development of a "Sponsorship Signs on Reserves Policy" to assess the potential financial gain to clubs against the visual impact on residents.

### Facilities

- 8.5 That funds be allocated on the 2010/2011 budget for the development of facilities at Mt Claremont Oval and Charles Court Reserve to facilitate the smooth transition and movement of the UWA-Nedlands Football Club from Paul Hasluck Reserve.
- 8.6 That the amended Activity Specific listing contained in Section 9 of this report be endorsed as the blue print for the next five years and clubs be advised accordingly. The high priorities have been identified as:
  - The relocation of Football (Soccer) from Paul Hasluck Reserve, see recommendation 8.5
  - The redevelopment/reshaping of the College Park Youth Bike trail
  - The continued development of paths, trails and ancillary facilities to meet the unstructured leisure needs of the community
  - The need to ensure the City's ageing facilities are maintained and/or redeveloped
- 8.7 That the amended Vision, including the addition of the DC Cruickshank Reserve as a Major Sporting/Recreation listing to allow for development of facilities at the venue, be adopted.
- 8.8 That the City continue consideration and action in the placement of additional passive recreation facilities in the form of multi-use paths, walk trails, seating and picnic facilities, security lighting around the City to cater for the change in participation trends.
- 8.9 That the City of Nedlands recognises the potential impact of climate change on recreation and acknowledges the importance of responding to the challenges presented by climate change on the City's ability to provide recreational facilities and opportunities.
- 8.10 That the City as a member of WESROC continues to support the development of a network of Trails (Bush to Beach) centred on four key themes, these being Bush, Heritage, Natural and Coastal.