

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Red Hill and Golden Grove Parks are significant areas of land for the community living within the Local Government Area of Warringah. They provide an area of open space commonly used for passive recreation and bushland which provides regional open space linkages to Garigal National Park and Narrabeen Lagoon.

This is a Significant Area Plan of Management which takes a values-based approach to land planning and management. The Plan provides a sound basis and framework for the future management of the parks. A Landscape Concept Plan has been developed in conjunction with the Plan of Management, detailing future works including the restoration of the severely degraded Red Hill park, linkages between the two park areas and the provision of walking tracks throughout Golden Grove park.

The key objectives of this plan are to:

- Provide a sound basis for the future management of Red Hill and Golden Grove Parks, guiding the major strategies and actions that are needed to achieve the vision for these areas;
- Manage the areas in accordance with ecologically sustainable principles;
- Incorporate participatory style of management in all aspects of park operations so as to develop a sense of ownership between the community and the park;
- Be consistent with and contribute to Council's overall management plan; and
- Incorporate other relevant study recommendations.

As part of the process of preparing this Plan of Management, extensive community consultation and a number of background studies have been carried out. Several meetings were held with the local community and high school students to identify community values of the area and future management issues, whilst the background studies provided insight into these issues. Threatened Species, as defined under the Threatened Species Conservation Act (1995), were surveyed within the area during the background studies. The vision of the area is an outcome of the values identified and states:

“To enhance the bushland setting of the area, create an awareness of the site’s cultural and natural environment, provide passive recreational pursuits, recognise the view potential of the area, and provide habitat for birds and animals”.

A number of management objectives, additional to the core objectives identified in the Local Government Amendments (1998) Act, have been established throughout the consultation process. These objectives are:

- To preserve and enhance the cultural environment;
- To ensure the parks remain accessible to all people and facilitates social interaction;
- To manage and protect the parks for future generations; and

- To create a safe, healthy and attractive environment.

These objectives aim to uphold, protect and enhance community values and address community needs, whilst integrating Council management processes in an ongoing planning framework. They complement the core objectives as defined in the Local Government Amendment Act 1998, and are consistent with Council's objectives for the management of community land and other relevant planning policies.

In order to maintain the values of the area this Plan of Management outlines how Council will achieve the management objectives (means of achievement) and how it will assess its performance (means of assessment). A number of actions relate to the Landscape Concept Plan and those have been divided into two implementation stages to ensure high priority actions are implemented first.

