

Swim site activation overview

The purpose of this document is to provide a top-level site by site overview of the evidenced gathered to date on the 12 proposed swim sites on the Parramatta River. It is based on the swim site activation framework structured around vulnerability, feasibility and desirability criteria.

This document is supported by several more in-depth reports and the data that sits behind them, these include:

- The Parramatta River Swim Site Activation Framework report
- Parramatta River Masterplan Stakeholder and Community Engagement Report
- Parramatta River Masterplan – Stage 1 Report
- Water Quality Modelling Report

The swim site activation framework

The swim site activation framework (the framework) was developed by McGregor Coxall in 2017 to provide guidance on the potential for activation at a swim site and the type of activation that can be achieved. The Parramatta River Swim Site Activation Framework report provides an in-depth explanation of how each of the criteria was developed.

Vulnerability

The vulnerability criteria determine the relative risks at the site and will influence the type of potential activation. The vulnerability score does not rule out a site for activation but gives an indication of the level of management measures that are needed to mitigate risk.

The sites have been scored **low, medium or high** on each criterion and been given an overall vulnerability score.

Feasibility

The feasibility criteria are used to initially determine the physical viability of activating a site for swimming. The feasibility assessment may rule out certain activations as they would be very difficult or excluded, for example if the site is too close to a ferry route it could exclude in river swimming.

The sites have been scored **low, medium or high** on each criterion.

Desirability

The desirability criteria are used to assess how likely it is that once activated a site will be used by the community. It looks at a range of criteria including access, parking and availability of facilities.

A desktop analysis of the desirability criteria, completed by a qualified urban planner, can be found in The Parramatta River Swim Site Activation Framework report. For the purposes of this report we have used the findings from the desirability assessments completed by the community.

The community desirability assessments were commissions as it was felt important to ask the community directly to assess the desirability of the 12 potential swim sites. Rather than take a traditional workshop approach to gain community feedback, RPS designed an experiential engagement process that took

community representatives to the swim locations to take part in site-based desirability assessments. These site-based assessments were supplemented by digital versions, hosted on the online engagement platform sydneywatertalk.com.au and promoted through social media and at the Riverfest community event

A total of 37 community members attended three workshops, each completing a desirability assessment. In addition, a further 131 surveys were completed at Riverfest and online at Sydney Water Talk.

The output of the desirability assessments has been analysed to provide a desirability score for each site. This scoring allows us to rank each of the 12 sites and unpick what aspect of the site is driving the score.

Participants were asked to consider 17 questions about the site and indicate whether they:

- Strongly agreed
- Agreed
- Neither agreed or disagreed
- Disagreed
- Strongly disagreed

In all cases strongly agreed indicated a high desirability of the site in relation to that attribute. We assigned a score to each answer ranging from 5 for strongly agreed to 1 for strongly disagree. This gave us an average score for each site out of 85 derived from the on-site and online assessments with a higher score indicating a more desirable site. These scores then informed a **low, medium or high** score.

It is important to note that a low desirability score does not mean that a swim site should be ruled out for activation or that it will not be desirable to the community in the future. It is instead an indication on the amount of change or investment that would be needed to activate the site. On the other hand, a high desirability score does not mean a site should be prioritised for activation, it is therefore important to read the desirability scores in conjunction with views from the community.

Any stakeholder views represented in this report were gathered at the **swim site prioritisation and interventions workshop** held in August 2017. More detail of the outcomes of this workshop and attendees can be found in the Parramatta River Masterplan Stakeholder and Community Engagement Report.

Water quality modelling

Water quality outcomes were modelled using enterococci data in line with current Beachwatch methodology. For this report we have used the modelled 2025 water quality outcomes. More detail can be found in the full Water Quality Modelling Report.

Location	2014	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Lake Parramatta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Little Coogee	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Parramatta CBD	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Macarthur St Bridge	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx
Silverwater Park	xxx	xxx	xx	xx	x	x
Meadowbank	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Brays Bay	x	x	x	✓	✓	✓
Putney Park	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Kissing Point Park	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Cabarita beach	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Quarantine Reserve	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Henley Baths	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Bayview Park	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Chiswick Baths	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓
Callan Park	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dawn Fraser Pool	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓

Legend

Enterococci concentration (cfu/100ml) 95% of the time below.

xxx	10,000	Water quality unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming
xx	1,000	Water quality unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming
x	500	Water quality unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming
✓	200	Water quality suitable for full immersion swimming
✓✓	40	Water quality suitable for full immersion swimming

1 Little Coogee



Background information

Little Coogee, is located within Parramatta Park and was a very popular swimming and picnic spot as far back as the 1880s. It was home to the Olympic Carnival of 1914, amongst other events. The site is owned and managed by the Parramatta Park Trust.

Recommended activation









Splash contact – boating and secondary contact activities.

Key actions and considerations






- Any activation at the site would need to consider heritage constraints as these mean it is very difficult to get approval for new structures and facilities.
- There is a flying fox colony upstream which needs to be considered both in terms of potential impacts on the colony as well as impacts of the flying fox colony on the water quality of the river.
- Although there was praise for the natural beauty and ease of access to the site, there was concern from both the community assessments and stakeholder workshop that any activation at this site could lead to overdevelopment and damage to the natural environment.

Site vulnerability

Overall score – low to medium vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immediately adjacent is parklands and the Parramatta Stadium There were no major stormwater outlets at this location 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate turbidity. Visible to about 0.2m from the surface and visible oily film on the surface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct dive study
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No embayments Fine muddy sediments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any activation at the site would need to consider heritage constraints as these mean it is very difficult to get approval for new structures and facilities
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities in dry weather on the inside of the meander bend. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a flying fox colony upstream which needs to be considered both in terms of potential impacts on the colony as well as impacts of the flying fox colony on the water quality of the river
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Logs, rubbish, dumped materials, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A small sediment bar was present allowing access. Access to the water is typical of a natural riverbank, with a short drop at the top of bank Scattered trees growing along the river edge Location consists of natural banks and a natural bed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map historical land use and contaminated lands to assess risk Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire at the site
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve is heritage listed and has significant heritage constraints The Trust has indicated that they do not support any structures or other facilities located at Little Coogee due to the heritage constraints of the site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do an initial heritage screening assessment to determine potential heritage constraints

Site feasibility

	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N.A. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey river to confirm best locations Heritage study Ecological impact assessment Undertake further water quality modelling Undertake flora and fauna study as required
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known at present 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depth may limit swimming 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Large areas of land available. Restrained by heritage 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GHFF colony 	

Water quality modelling

Unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

Location	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Little Coogee	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
1	 Many desirable features	Most desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount of open space, tree shade and plants The site's good views and attractive landscape Least desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access via public transport The available facilities

What the community told us

'Leave it alone! It is too beautiful and peaceful. This is a natural resource that can quickly become eroded'

'I really like this place because it is so natural, it feels like you are close to nature when you are here'

'There is a strong history of swimming in this area, good historical context. It is a desirable site; it's nice and quiet, there is open / green space and plenty of trees providing shade. It feels very calm and peaceful'

Despite the water quality levels in 2025, participants involved in the community desirability assessments listed swimming in the river as an activity they would most like to do at the site.

2 Parramatta CBD



Background information

The site is located off Sorrell Street, just downstream of the Parramatta Heritage and Visitors Centre. It has minimal existing facilities, although there is a children's playground nearby and it is located between the current Riverside Theatre and future Powerhouse Museum site. Major development is already underway on the Parramatta River foreshore on the opposite side of the river. The land manager is City of Parramatta Council.

Recommended activation








Splash contact and/or filtered pool

Key actions and considerations






- The reserve is likely to undergo significant transformation in the short, medium and long term with the continuing development of Parramatta CBD.
- The site is scheduled for a number of significant upgrades including the potential for a new Powerhouse Museum facility as well an upgrade to Riverside Theatre along the river's edge.
- Additional facilities would be needed to make the site desirable to the community.
- There were concerns from stakeholders and community members that activation might be constrained by the available space at the site.

Site vulnerability

Overall score – low to medium vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central Business District area Stormwater outlets are located within the section from the CBD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate turbidity. Visible to about 0.2m from the surface and visible oily film on the surface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No embayment, however flushing is controlled by the weirs in this section of the river Muddy fine sediments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map historical land use and contaminated lands to assess risk Conduct dive study
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities in dry weather. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire at the site
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing identified on site, but likely to be hazards such as sharps, dumped material 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do an initial heritage screening assessment to determine potential heritage constraints
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No beach or other accessible water edge, Sea wall restricts access to the river No vegetation along the river. 	
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No heritage items are mapped in Council's LEP maps along the riverbank, however there are a number of heritage items in close proximity which may need to be considered 	

Site feasibility


	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N.A. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake further water quality modelling Implement Masterplan Survey river to confirm best locations
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor water quality 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depth may limit swimming 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited ecological constraints 	

Water quality modelling

Unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

Location	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Parramatta CBD	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
8	 Range of desirable features	<p>Most desirable features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The level of access via public transport and cycling The proximity of shops and cafes <p>Least desirable features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The available facilities on site Attractiveness of the water for swimming and paddling

What the community told us

'This site has enormous potential for cultural activities'

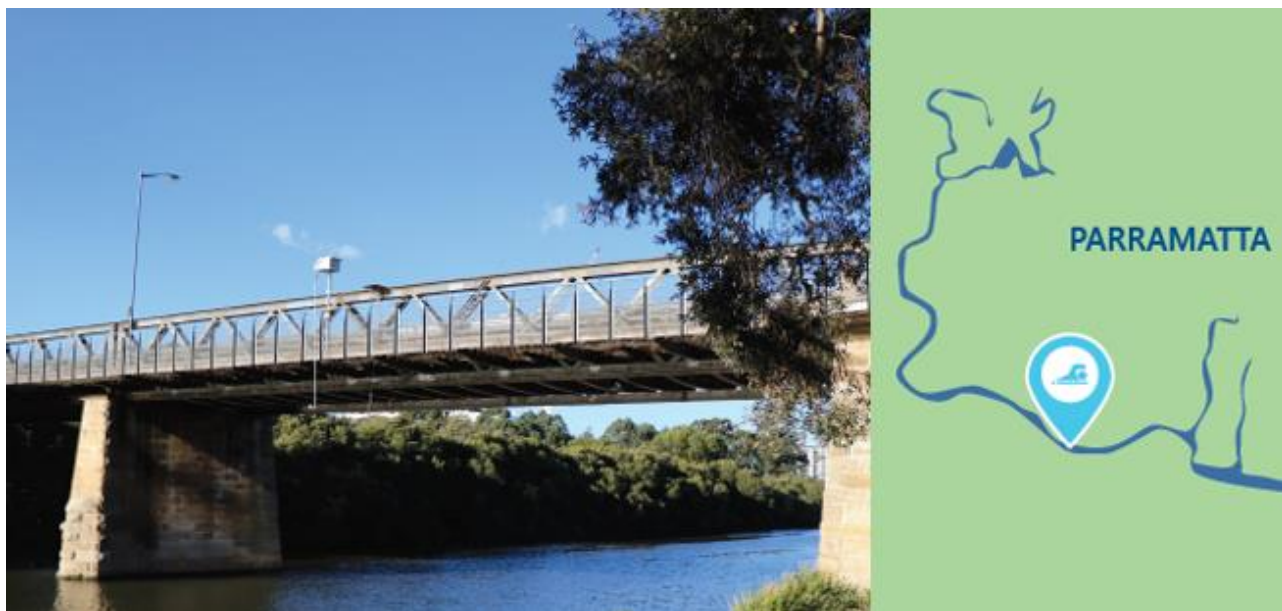
'The river here holds lots of opportunity for water boating and a challenging obstacle course for kids'

'I don't think there is enough physical space for a proper pool, change rooms, toilets and showers without ruining the current space. Therefore, a kid's splash pool is probably the only thing feasible'

There were differing views from stakeholders when asked to prioritise this site against the other 3 sites in the Upper Parramatta River catchment area. For some, it was given top priority due to the level of development in the area and therefore that a public recreational space would be utilised. However, for others, although the possible demand for the site was acknowledged, the potential cost of activating it was a concern. There were additional concerns about the amount of available land at the site, as there is limited space for any additional facilities.

Stakeholders agreed on a splash contact activation however there was also the suggestion of creating a filtered pool and a water park, whilst recognising that these activations would need substantial investment.

3 MacArthur Street Bridge



Background information

The site is located very close to the MacArthur Street Bridge and currently has minimal facilities and dedicated parking. The proposed Light Rail will pass close to this site. The land manager is City of Parramatta Council.

Recommended activation








Land based activities and splash contact

Key actions and considerations






- The site has a relatively high sea wall therefore a river-based activation would need to consider ease of access to the water.
- The site is scheduled for a new stop on the new Parramatta Light Rail service.
- The site is close to the Parramatta wharf and the ferry passes in relatively close proximity to the river bank/sea wall.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential area Stormwater outlets are located close by 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire for river edge access for the site Conduct a dive study Undertake high level background studies, including heritage constraints and develop initial concepts options for swim site activation developing a sketch plan with options for discussion Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand levels of contamination risk
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate turbidity. Visible to about 0.3m from the surface 	
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No embayment, however minimal tidal flushing due to location at upstream end of tidal section of river Sandy sediments with minimal fine sediments Some muddy sediments at site 	
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities, some boat wash 	
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some rocks identified 	
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No beach or other accessible shore, High sea wall restricts access to the river Mangroves located restrict areas of open access. 	
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queens Wharf Reserve is a locally listed heritage item including the stone wall and archaeological site and the Parramatta River wetlands 	

Site feasibility

	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivercat passes in close proximity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss exclusion zones with RMS Design in barriers Undertake further water quality modelling Bathymetry survey as required Ecological impact assessment
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known at present 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not known 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing mangroves 	

Water quality modelling

Unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
Location	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Macarthur St Bridge	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xx

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
5	 <p>Range of desirable features</p>	<p>Most desirable features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount of plants and trees Proximity to shops and cafes The attractiveness of the river to walk alongside <p>Least desirable features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The available facilities on site Availability of car parking

What the community told us

'This park has a quiet, peaceful ambiance. The Light Rail will certainly have an impact on that'

'Limited use of the waterway due to ferry but could have gondola hire!'

'I am reluctant to use this site: no parking, no toilets and a huge drop to the river'

When stakeholders were asked to prioritise the sites, McArthur Street Bridge was consistently at the bottom, both against the three other upper Parramatta River sites and the other 8 potential sites. It was recognised that Light Rail will be there in the future, which would improve access however the amount of space and proximity of the ferry were seen as limitations on activation.

4 Silverwater Park



Background information

This site was home to Silverwater Baths which was once located on the southern bank of the Parramatta River where the Silverwater Bridge crosses. They were opened in 1929 and were popular and well patronised until 1935, when the Council was advised by the Department of Health that the waters were polluted. The structures of the old baths were finally removed in the 1960. The site is located in the Greater Parramatta Olympic Park (GPOP) and is managed by City of Parramatta Council

Recommended activation








Splash contact, land based activities and swimming

Key actions and considerations






- The ferry route and the proximity to the river's edge is a key issue at this site.
- The site is close to Duck River which provides additional opportunities for activation.
- The site is already activated for a range of land based activities.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability













	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The park's location at the junction of Duck River and Parramatta River means there is significant vulnerability of the site to water quality from large areas of upstream industrial land use within this catchment. High vulnerability. Monitoring undertaken during wet weather indicated very poor water quality and rapid deterioration of water quality even after small rainfall events. Initial preliminary screen monitoring has shown that water quality was reasonable during dry weather and very poor during even small rainfall events. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing Liaise with RMS to understand implications of proximity to ferry wharf and potential restrictions due to proximity of ferry Further develop and workshop initial concept options that have been developed into an adopted Masterplan for the site
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasonable with visibility to about 0.5m from surface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire at the site and align this consultation with the development of the Masterplan for the park
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major embayment at the site. Sediments are dark muddy sediments with high proportion of fines. Muddy sediments at low tide as well as hazards on the floor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally low velocities with boat wash occurring when the Rivercat passes the site. The park's location at the junction of Duck River and Parramatta River is likely to cause a backwater eddy condition at the site and likely stagnant zones allowing for less scouring of fine sediment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand levels of contamination risk
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of hazards including slippery surfaces from fine sediment on rocks, bricks, rocks, oysters, concrete, reo bars, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with Sydney Olympic Park and the EPA to better understand sediment
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is very good access from the land where the sea wall is present, approx. 80 meter in length, is present. There is a path immediately adjacent to the sea wall. Further to the west and up Duck River there is very poor access due to the dense stand of mangroves and access is generally not possible or preferable in this location. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake high level background studies, such as service constraints and heritage constraints Consider potential for integration with future re-development for the area and developer contributions to park upgrades
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no listed heritage items in the LEP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct a dive study

Site feasibility

	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivercat passes in close proximity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss exclusion zones with RMS. Design in barriers Implement Masterplan Bathymetry survey as required Ecological impact assessment
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor in wet weather. Industrial catchment upstream. Historical landuses 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not known 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing mangroves 	

Water quality modelling

Unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

Location	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Silverwater Park	  	  	 	 		

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
10	 Range of desirable features	Most desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Availability of car parking The amount of open space around the site Least desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ease of access via public transport Proximity to shops and cafes Available facilities at the site Attractiveness of the water

What the community told us

'The water does not look attractive to walk alongside or swim in'

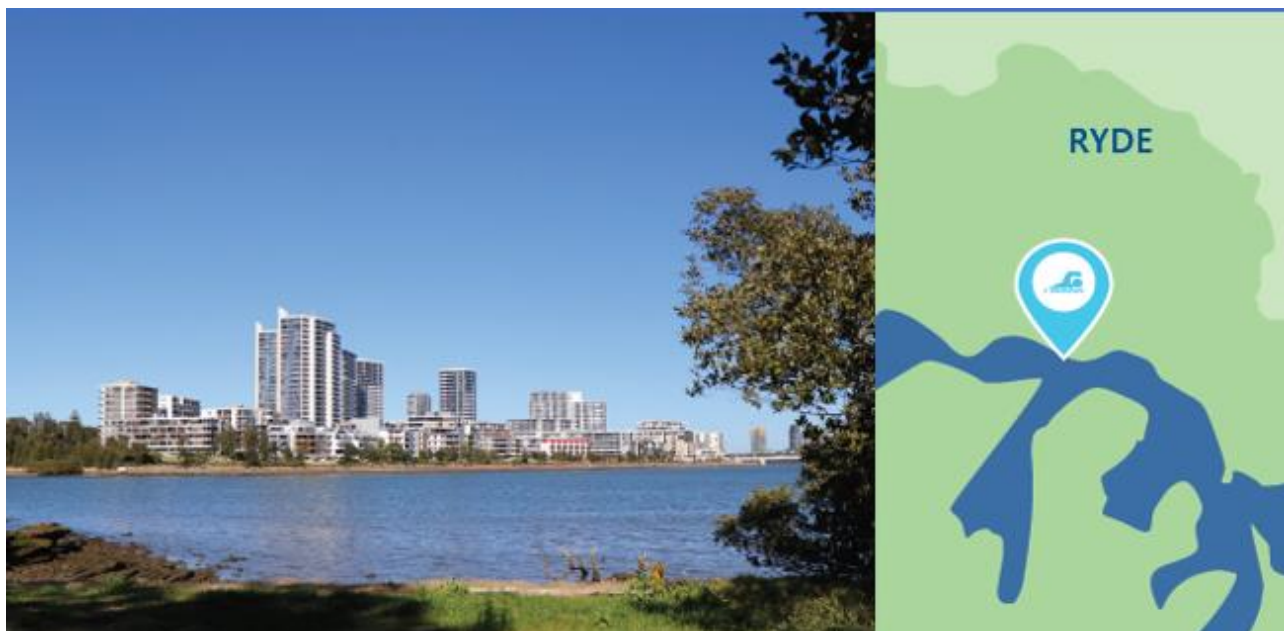
'Facilities need to be upgraded and access to a café or mobile food truck is needed'

'I can hear a lot of noise from the traffic on the bridge'

'The proximity to nearby suburbs makes improving this site very attractive'

Stakeholders recognised that there were challenges at this site, due to the water quality, industrial surroundings, limited parking and public transport access, and cost of making changes to the river edge. However, the proximity to Duck River and the Olympic Park were seen as opportunities when thinking about how the site could be activated.

5 Meadowbank



Background information

The Meadowbank site is in Memorial Park close to Meadowbank Rail station. It has BBQ, picnic and toilet facilities. There is also a children's play area. The site is managed by City of Ryde Council

Recommended activation

Land based activities

Key actions and considerations

- Proximity to the ferry would need to be considered from a safety point of view.
- The site's industrial heritage and close proximity of storm drains pose challenges to any river based activation.
- The site is in a major re-development area with nearby high density residential buildings.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential area on the southern side of the river, but opposite a major industrial chemical zone on the northern shore Major stormwater outlet upstream of the site 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing. Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension. Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand risk of contamination Liaise with RMS to understand implications of proximity to ferry wharf and potential restrictions due to proximity of ferry Conduct dive study Undertake high level background studies, including heritage and environmental constraints Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire at the site and align this consultation with the development of the Masterplan for the park
Water Clarity		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate turbidity. Visible to about 0.2m from surface 	
River Sediment Type and Quality		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No embayment, generally sandy sediments with some scattered fine sediment. Minimal muddy sediments. Generally low levels of sediment contamination for most contaminants identified in screening assessment, with potential risk identified with tests for chromium and dioxin like compounds associated with muddy sediments. However the dominant sediment is coarse sand with few visible fine sediments. 	
River Dynamics		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities, some potential for boat wash. 	
River Bed Physical Hazards		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rocks, and dumped ballast material as part of river bank protection. Shallow bedrock. 	
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No beach area. Steep banks. Access points would need to be provided. 	
Heritage		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meadowbank Railway Bridge is State Significant Heritage listed and Memorial Park (reserve behind baths) is a locally listed heritage item 	

Site feasibility


	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivercat in close proximity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map exclusion zones, design in barriers Undertake further water quality modelling Undertake bathymetry survey. Understake flora and fauna study as required
Water quality		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known at present 	
Bathymetry		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observations indicate reasonable depths 	
Publicly Available Land		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited land available 	
Ecological Restriction		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited, some mangroves are present 	

Water quality modelling

Unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

	2017	2025	2025 with INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	Business as usual	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Meadowbank	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
7	 <p>Range of desirable features</p>	<p>Most desirable features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ease of access via public transport and cycling The amount of tree shade and plants at the site. <p>Least desirable features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the site felt safe from hazards both on land and in the water The attractiveness of the water.

What the community told us

'Not suitable for swimming or even paddling, but it is near a pleasant park and cycle route'

'Too much industrial waste'

'Opposite polluted Homebush Bay'

'Water brown!!!

Stakeholders recognised the challenges that exist at this site due to the area's industrial heritage, the proximity to ferries and nearby storm drains. These challenges led to land based and secondary contact activations being suggested that would aim to make the most of the site's easy access especially from public transport.

However, there were some suggestions that this site should be focused on as interventions would improve the water quality to levels suitable for swimming by 2025. Therefore, any activations at the site could be held up as an inspirational example of interventions turning a non-swimmable site in to one suitable for full immersion swimming.

6 Brays Bay



Background information

Brays Bay Reserve is in the Rhodes East precinct and is the start of the Kokoda memorial track. It is situated between Mcllwaine Park and Rhodes Park and has some existing facilities. These include a large car park and toilets, BBQs and a children's play area in Mcllwaine Park. The land is managed by City of Canada Bay Council.

Recommended activation








Splash contact, land based activities and swimming

Key actions and considerations






- The site is located in Rhodes East which has been identified as a potential priority precinct for redevelopment. Improving the amenities and facilities in Brays Bay is being considered as part of this redevelopment.
- The area's industrial heritage is likely to pose a challenge to activation and the community's desire to use the site.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability







	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site has a range of land uses including industrial, commercial and retail and residential. Brays Bay reserve is on a large, wide embayment in the river 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing. Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension.
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarity was OK with visibility to about 0.5 to 1m from surface. In contrast to other locations in the estuarine section of the river the lack of flushing resulted in more floating litter and other visual indicators (e.g. oils) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand risk of contamination
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the sea wall location sediments are fine typically fine sediments grey to dark grey. There is substantial coarse sand behind the residential houses to the north of the reserve Dark grey muddy sediments present at low tide Initial screening sediment assessment undertaken at Brays Bay low risk and compliance of samples with guideline values except for potential dioxin like compounds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collate community consultation and consultation for Brays Bay Reserve based on consultation for the Rhodes East Peninsula Precinct Plan, developed by the Department of Planning Further investigate the bathymetry and bed hazards using a dive study and the potential options for a constructed swimming pool type option Do an initial heritage screening assessment to better understand the heritage of the site and any heritage constraints
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities 	
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of hazards at the sea wall location including rocks some evidence of rubbish, etc 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop and workshop initial concept options that have been developed into an adopted Masterplan for the site
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the sea wall area, there is good access from the landward side. There is poor access to the water at present requiring physical intervention to enable access. Combined with shallow depths at the edges this will likely require some jetty or wharf structure into the water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider potential for integration with future re-development for the area and developer contributions to park upgrades including swim site activation at the site
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve is listed as a local heritage item. The reserve also looks out to a heritage item - the Thomas Walker Hospital Group which will need to be considered in a visual analysis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider requirements for shark netting

Site feasibility


	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N.A 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake further water quality modelling Detailed survey of river to confirm best locations Flora and fauna study as required
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known at present 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depth may limit swimming at low tides 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited, some mangroves are present 	

Water quality modelling

Unlikely to be suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

Location	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4
	Brays Bay		Targeted Overflows Contained	All Overflows Contained	Medium Catchment Intervention	High Catchment Intervention
						

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
11	 Range of desirable features	Most desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ease of access via public transport The amount of green space around the site Least desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The attractiveness of the water and riverbank Access to the river.

What the community told us

'With the heavy industry previously in the area, water quality here is extra important. A swimming pool in the area should be fully segregated from the river with extra effort in filtering the water and building a structure around the pool with a deck'

'I find this site easy to access and exciting. It feels a bit industrial and there is a lot of road noise. I would use it for kayaking, sunbathing and walking as it is much closer than going to the beach. Adding netting would make me feel safer going to the water'

'The water doesn't look inviting enough to go in. Improvements would include a stepped sea wall edge for splash play, outdoor shower/tap, wooden board walk, ramp or sand beach to put in kayaks and places to go for a coffee'

The general view from stakeholders was that the amount of development in the area would mean that there is a demand and need for the site to be activated. It was recognised that there was lots of potential at the site due great access from public transport and amount of space however that it would be costly to realise this potential.

An additional challenge identified was how to break away from the area's industrial past and how this would influence people's perception of the water quality.

7 Kissing Point Park



Background information

Kissing Point Park is located adjacent to a local residential community along the foreshore of the Parramatta River. The park is a relatively active site due to its adjacent uses including the Ryde river walk, a boat launch wharf, a ferry wharf, playground, carpark and toilet facilities. The site has a small sandy beach area which provides the best access to the river foreshore due to its current open outlook and gentle slopes to the water edge. The site also has a small community of salt marsh at the back of the beach. The land is managed by City of Ryde Council.

Recommended activation








Swimming in the river or natural water pool / educational activities.

Key actions and considerations

- The site has a stormwater outlet onto the beach which restricts access to the water's edge due to its location.
- RMS have safety concerns around the proximity of the ferry route and wharf.
- Stakeholders and community members expressed a desire for any activation to be linked to the nearby Putney Park proposed swim site.






Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential Local stormwater outlets directly into the beach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing.
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally good, visible to about 1m from surface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension.
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No major embayments In the beach location, sediments are generally coarse to fine sand with some fine sediment. Minimal muddy sediments at low tide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map historical land use and contaminated lands to Liaise with RMS to understand implications of proximity to ferry wharf and potential restrictions due to proximity of ferry.
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities, site is affected by boat wash including from the rivercat as well as private recreational vehicles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct dive study. Monitor the impact of new drainage works on the site including impact on water ponding at the beach
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor hazards in the beach area were visible including shallow bedrock in some locations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire at the site and align this consultation with the development of the Masterplan for the park
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very good access from the landward side and into the water along a sandy beach. The key constraints are small patches of salt marsh and poor drainage from the stormwater outlet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do an initial heritage screening assessment to determine potential heritage constraints
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kissing Point Park is listed as a local heritage item (former boat slip lanes). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider requirements for shark netting Further develop a strategy for access to the beach and promotion of the beach as a destination Further investigate options for a pontoon or similar structure in the water which could provide a different river site activation experience







Site feasibility

Feasibility assessment – Kissing Point Park

	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivercat wharf in close proximity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map exclusion zones, design in barriers Undertake further water quality modelling Investigate the bathymetry as required, noting that the general bathymetry of the site is for a relatively flat shallow gradient into the river from the beach Understate flora and fauna study as required
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known at present 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very shallow depths limits swimming 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some land available, but is limited in size 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Salt marsh present 	

Water quality modelling

Water suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

Location	2017	2025	2025 with INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	Business as Usual	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Kissing Point Park						

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
6	 Range of desirable features	Most desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The good views and attractive landscape The accessibility and attractiveness of the riverbank The attractiveness of the water in general Least desirable features <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proximity of shops and cafes How safe the site feels from hazards and accidents Ease of access via public transport.



What the community told us

The site is really beautiful'

'I would be concerned about walking barefoot on the sand because of the glass and rubbish, however this could be tidied up'

'The stormwater drain is unsightly, and I wonder, is it healthy?'

Stakeholders identified the stormwater drains as a key challenge at the site as relocation would most likely be needed. There was an opportunity identified to link the site to Putney Park by creating an intertidal Ryde River walk.

8 Putney Park



Background information

Putney Park is an active park due to its range of existing facilities. It has a large children's playground with a water feature, BBQs and a picnic area, car park and toilet block. There is limited access to the water due to a sea wall with a steep drop. The land is managed by City of Ryde Council.

Recommended activation

Natural water pool swimming, land based activities

Key actions and considerations

- Access to the beach area at the site is limited due to the sea wall.
- The proximity of moored boats was a safety concern for community members.
- A quick win to activate the site was to put some stairs in the sea wall so the beach could be accessed at low tide.
- The site is highly active and used for land based activities.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential area Minor stormwater outlets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing. Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire for swimming at the site Conduct dive study Undertake high level background studies, including heritage constraints and develop initial concepts options for swim site activation developing a sketch plan with options for discussion Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand levels of contamination risk.
Water Clarity	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low turbidity. Visible to about 1.0m from surface 	
River Sediment Type and Quality		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor embayment, sandy sediments with minimal fine sediments. 	
River Dynamics	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities, some boat wash. 	
River Bed Physical Hazards	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few hazards, some rocks identified 	
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overtopping of the sea wall is creating dead patches of grass in the low-lying areas behind the wall. Overtime this overtopping will undermine the wall. 	
Heritage		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putney House is a locally listed heritage home 	

Site feasibility


	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private boat traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map exclusion zones Undertake further water quality modelling Undertake bathymetry survey. Access to the shoreline is required
Water quality		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well know at present 	
Bathymetry		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observations indicate reasonable depths, 	
Publicly Available Land	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited ecological constraints 	

Water quality modelling

Water suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

	2014	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
Location	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Putney Park	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
5	 Range of desirable features	Most desirable feature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount of open space, plants and tree shade at the site The good views and attractive landscape Least desirable feature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ease of access via public transport, bike and foot The attractiveness of the water for swimming in How safe the site feels from hazards and accidents

What the community told us

'A well-established family area, which is already activated for leisure activities'

'The site is less accessible than I would like; no public transport and poor cycling access. If there were swimming baths I would be more likely to use this site'

'Ideal site for baths, such as Dawn Fraser or Bondi'

Stakeholders identified several challenges at the site but suggested ways that these could be overcome, including replacing the sea wall with an environmentally friendly option that would make access to the water easier, putting up a netted enclosure and improving access by moving the bike path closer to the water.

9 Quarantine Reserve



Background information

Quarantine Reserve is in Abbotsford and is a large open space with a sandy foreshore which can be accessed via a grassy hill. The site has existing facilities, including BBQs, covered picnic spaces and toilets. The site also has several heritage buildings from when it was used as an animal quarantine facility. The land is managed by City of Canada Bay Council.

Recommended activation








Natural water swimming, install shark net and water quality signage

Key actions and considerations






- The site was rated as highly desirable by community members however people expressed concern around any major changes at the site that may lead to increased visitor numbers.
- The beach area is limited in size meaning large numbers of visitors could not be accommodated.
- There are heritage items at the site that any activation would need to consider.
- The site is located in a quiet residential area with limited access via public transport.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability







	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential area Minor local stormwater outlets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire for river edge access for the site Conduct a dive study Undertake high level background studies, including heritage constraints Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand levels of contamination risk
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ok slightly turbid. Visible to about 0.5m from surface 	
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low levels of sediment contamination, with only potential risk identified with tests for dioxin like compounds associated with muddy sediments. However, the dominant sediment is coarse sand with few visible fine sediment. In the opening to a large embayment on the river, sediments were coarse sandy sediments, very few fine sediment Minimal muddy sediments 	
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities 	
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some branches, however few hazards identified 	
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandy beach with gentle sloping access with existing establishing native vegetation including mangroves and good areas of bushland vegetation along the foreshore in some locations. There are obvious access points outside the vegetation, however there are no paths to the foreshore edge at present, limiting universal access. 	
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarantine Reserve is a local heritage item and is heritage listed in the LEP 	

Site feasibility

	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N.A. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake further water quality modelling Undertake bathymetry survey. Flora and fauna study as required
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known at present 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observations indicate reasonable depths 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited, some mangroves are present 	

Water quality modelling

Water suitable for full immersion swimming by 2025.

Location	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Quarantine Reserve						

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
3	 Lots of desirable features	Most desirable feature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The attractiveness of the site, amount of tree shade and plants The attractiveness of the water to paddle in Least desirable feature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ease of access via public transport and car

What the community told us

'This is pretty in terms of vegetation, it would be a pity to disturb it'

'Nice spot but more suited to local access. Could not sustain large crowds. If selected need to keep it a local spot e.g. scale the amenities provided'

'There is no wheelchair access and the toilet facilities are far away from the river'

‘This is a passive recreational area, leave it alone’

Participants agreed that very little would need to be done at the site for it to be swimmable. Many said they would be happy to use the site if shark nets were installed. There were suggestions to improve the access to the riverside as currently there is a steep drop which would be challenging for those with disabilities, children and older people.

There was a desire for any changes to be minimal as they did not want to drive lots of visitors to the site, feeling it was best kept for those in the local area.

10 Bayview Park



Background information

Bayview Park is located at the end of Burwood Road in Concord. It was once a regular swimming spot with public baths, which no longer remain. Bayview Park has several picnic tables, undercover areas, BBQ's, toilets and a public boat ramp. The land is managed by City of Canada Bay and is close to the site of the former Bushells Factory which is proposed for redevelopment.

Recommended activation








Swimming in the river.

Key actions and considerations

- The proximity of the ferry to the beach area would need to be considered in any proposed activation.
- The site is already active for a range of river based activities included boating, paddle boarding and a swim site for dogs.
- Several community members suggested that all they would need to start using the site was a shark net and assurance the water quality was safe for swimming.
- Concerns were expressed around over use at this site and driving more visitors to the area.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Peninsula is a former industrial area Minor local stormwater outlets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing Dive study Undertake high level background studies, including heritage and service constraints and develop initial concepts options for swim site activation developing sketch plans for a range of upgrades. Liaise with RMS to understand implications of proximity to ferry wharf and potential restrictions due to proximity of ferry Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire for swimming at the site. Consider potential for integration with Bushell Site re-development and developer contributions to park upgrades Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand levels of contamination risk
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ok slightly turbid. Visible to about 0.3m from surface 	
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within a large embayment on the river, although sediments found to be coarse sandy sediments, very few fine sediment Minimal muddy sediments Low levels of sediment contamination, with only potential risk identified with tests for dioxin like compounds associated with muddy sediments. However the dominant sediment is coarse sand with few visible fine sediment. 	
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities 	
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The area to the immediate west of the wharf was undergoing erosion and exposing former fill at the site including bricks and concrete. 	
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandy beach with gentle sloping access with some existing establishing native vegetation dominated by casuarinas and further to the west of the wharf there are good mangrove stands which restrict access 	
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bayview Park is a local heritage item and is heritage listed in the LEP 	

Site feasibility


	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rivercat wharf in close proximity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss exclusion zones with RMS and design in barriers as required Undertake further water quality modelling Undertake bathymetry survey
Water quality		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known at present 	
Bathymetry		●		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observations indicate reasonable depths 	
Publicly Available Land	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction	●			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited ecological constraints 	

Water quality modelling

Water suitable for full immersion swimming in 2025.

Location	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Bayview Park	✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
2	 Lots of desirable features	<p>Most desirable feature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The attractiveness of the site, amount of tree shade and plants The attractiveness of the river bank and ease of access to the water The attractiveness of the water for boating and walking alongside <p>Least desirable feature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proximity to shops and cafes

What the community told us

'Beautiful and quiet location. Overcrowding this site would be a shame as it is small and not enough car parking. Better suited to swimming than Brays Bay'

'This site is beautiful. It would be worth catching a bus instead of a train just to get to this site over Brays Bay. More picnic tables would be an improvement. It feels so safe and relaxing, like an inner west oasis '

'Facilities need to be upgraded. Additional bus services need to be provided.'

Stakeholders shared the view of community members that minimal interventions were needed to make the site swimmable. It was suggested that this site could be a 'quick win' and making it swimmable could be used to generate momentum and support for some of the sites that are more challenging to activate

11 Henley Baths



Background information

Henley Baths is on the north shore of the Parramatta River, off Dick St in Henley. The site previously had shark nets, however these were removed, and the site closed, as it was infrequently used. Most of the shoreline is stone walls built upon the sandstone rock, with a small beach sitting along a small bay. The water becomes deep very quickly to about 4 m near the old net posts. There are boat houses and jetties along the shore. The land is managed by Hunters Hill Council.

Recommended activation








Minimal change

Key actions and considerations






- The site is in a quiet residential area and has limited access.
- The area for swimming is small and cannot accommodate large numbers of people.
- There was clear feedback from stakeholders and the community that the site was not suitable for further activation and that it should be left as is.
- Some identified that there was an opportunity to make the site more accessible for launching kayak and boats.

Site vulnerability

Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Single dwelling residential area No major outlets No major embayments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing Undertake a dive study. Conduct a heritage screen to determine potential heritage constraints Upgrade access to the swim spot Upgrade the signage and wayfinding to the mainswim site Consider requirements for shark netting Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and the community needs and desire for swimming at the site.
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally good, visible to about 1m from surface 	
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At sea wall location sediments are fine grey and coarse sand At beach location sediments are coarse sand 	
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities 	
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are hazards on the bed at the baths including a rocky substrate. A range of hazards at the sea wall location including rocks, oysters, boat moorings, etc 	
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The small available open space area is physically disconnected from the water by a small sandstone 'cliff'. The access to the water edge is steep and is not universally acceptable. 	
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The house adjacent to the baths has been identified as heritage significance 	

Site feasibility


	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Private boat traffic limits swim area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map exclusion zones Undertake further water quality modelling Flora and fauna study as required
Water quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water quality not well known as present 	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observations indicate reasonable depths 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited land available especially at access to shore 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited constraints 	

Water quality modelling

Water quality suitable for full immersion swimming in 2025.

Location	2017	2025	2025 with INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	Business as usual	Scenario 1 Targeted Overflows Contained	Scenario 2 All Overflows Contained	Scenario 3 Medium Catchment Intervention	Scenario 4 High Catchment Intervention
Henley Baths	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
12	 Few desirable features	In general, the site received low scores across all measures.

What the community told us

'I wouldn't recommend this site for consideration for swimming or other activities considering the accessibility, location and lack of basic amenities'

'The site is too small, not accessible and too narrow for many people to fit'

'Not practical, move on'

12 Callan Park



Background information

Callan Park, is a 60-hectare site on the Parramatta River in the Inner West which was previously the home of the Rozelle Psychiatric Hospital. The site is owned by NSW Health and managed by The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH). It is already an active recreational space and is part of the Bay Run however there are limited existing facilities to support swimming near the foreshore.

Recommended activation








Floating pontoon and netted pool, secondary contact and land based activities.

Key actions and considerations

- There are three potential locations for a swim site; the sea wall immediately adjacent to the Bay Run, the sea wall adjacent to the open lawn and the rocky, beach shore area.
- Governance and heritage considerations are very important when considering any type of activation.
- Some areas at the site are already being used to access the water, for dogs and for launching kayaks and boats.
- This is a highly active site due to its location on the Bay Run.

Site vulnerability






Overall score - Low to Medium Vulnerability

	Score			Key vulnerability observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Water Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous hospital, and fill at site. Large stormwater channel outlet near sea wall location No major outlets near beach section No major embayments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake water quality modelling – initial 20 samples and evaluate to determine need for further testing. Conduct dive study Carry out a Health Risk Assessment of chemical contaminants in sediment included resuspension.
Water Clarity				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generally good, visible to about 1m from the surface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map historical land use and contaminated lands to understand levels of contamination risk. Undertake high level background studies, including heritage and environmental constraints. Consider requirements for shark netting Undertake community consultation to better understand existing site uses and community needs Investigate the bathymetry and bed hazards and the potential options for a constructed swimming pool type option in the Callan Park Excellent opportunities for ecological sea wall restoration
River Sediment Type and Quality				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At sea wall location sediments are fine grey and coarse sand At beach location sediments are coarse sand Minimal muddy sediments at low tide 	
River Dynamics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low velocities Current beaches are used by local dogs and their owners and are also being used to store boats. The site has lots of different users which need to be accommodated including people using the bay run for walking, running, cyclists using the bay run for recreation and commuting, vehicle access, sports clubs and their players. 	
River Bed Physical Hazards				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are a number of large services and submarine cables at the site which need to be considered. There are a range of hazards on the bed in the sea wall section including oysters, rocks, fill and dumped material (concrete, reo, bricks, glass, etc). 	
River Bank and River Edge Characteristics				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant erosion of the sea wall is occurring in a number of locations. 	
Heritage				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Callan Park is a heritage listed site with a range of heritage items that need to be considered. 	

Site feasibility







Feasibility assessment – Callan Park

Overall score = Swimming (subject to future investigations)


	Score			Key feasibility observations	Recommended actions/mitigations
	Low	Medium	High		
Boat Traffic				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake further water quality modelling Undertake bathymetry survey Flora and fauna study as required Heritage study
Water quality				Water quality not well known at present	
Bathymetry				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unknown at present 	
Publicly Available Land				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Land available 	
Ecological Restriction				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Native veg present 	

Water quality modelling

Water suitable for full immersion swimming in 2025.

Location	2017	2025	INTERVENTIONS			
	Baseline	BAU	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4
	Callan Park		Targeted Overflows Contained	All Overflows Contained	Medium Catchment Intervention	High Catchment Intervention
						

Site desirability

Rank (of 12)	Score	What did the community find desirable?
9	 Range of desirable features	Most desirable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount of open space and trees around the site The attractiveness of the water to walk alongside Least desirable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How safe it felt from accidents and hazards (this is likely to be due to the number of rocks and oyster shells at the riverside) The attractiveness of the water for swimming Ease of access via public transport

What the community told us

'Difficult to see how it would be developed, due to oyster shells and rocks. It could be good but would need some imaginative ideas. The area off the rocky point might be good for a 'constructed' pool.'

'There are so many oysters and barnacles on the river edge and large rocks in the water, I feel there is a lot of risk of injury to feet and toes'

'Park is very utilised already, the adding of swimming facilities may cause too much traffic, hence park could lose its appeal'

'This looks like a good place to kayak, it doesn't seem exclusive or as private as the other spots. I would feel happy to kayak around but not to swim. Boats make it feel unsafe to swim'