



PLA Submission – Environmental Infrastructure Inquiry

31 March 2021



What is Parks and Leisure Australia?



National member-based peak industry association for professionals working in the sport, leisure, parks and open space sectors in Australia

Organisational Framework

- 5 Regions throughout Australia aligned to states and territories
- Centralised administration and support services

Membership

- More than 2,500 National members, but reach to more 10,000 industry professionals through sharing of information and on-forwarding member news
- Vic/Tas Region has 750 members
- Majority of members are LGA staff, others include peak body organisations, consultants, tertiary institutions, industry suppliers and service providers

Inquiry into Environmental Infrastructure for Growing Populations

Submission Focus



Split into two distinct and important areas:

- Active and passive recreation
- Urban green infrastructure

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Active and Passive Recreation



Important factors to note:

- Not just about COVID-19. Other influences also make this important
- Increasing importance of trails and walking paths
- Opportunities for innovative new approaches: engage more people
- Access to sporting fields and facilities for structured sport

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Urban Green Infrastructure



Important factors to note:

- Immeasurable benefit to human life (physical, social and mental health)
- 5 particularly important components
 - Environmental areas
 - Connected green corridors
 - Grassed areas
 - Urban forests
 - Wetlands
- Potential to help mitigate climate change impacts

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Conclusion



Key messages:

- Planning and Policy changes
- Making as much space available as possible
- Design to increase and intensify use

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