

# FOCUS GROUP OUTCOMES

## HARTLEYVALE SPORTS PRECINCT CONTEXTUAL FRAMEWORK



### HERITAGE LANDSCAPE

- The TRUP has significant heritage value linked to the sense of place, particularly to First Nations groups.
- Heritage considerations should extend beyond individual buildings to include the landscape and broader cultural context of the area.
- The sports precinct itself also has a history of sporting uses and clubs, which has evolved over time.



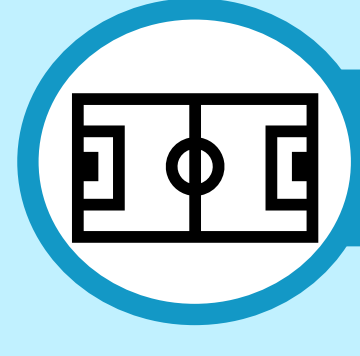
### ENVIRONMENT

- Improvement of safety and infrastructure along Liesbeek River can alleviate demand for public recreational space.
- Large events result in uncontrolled littering and noise disruptions to neighbours.
- Sewerage infrastructure blockages in the area contribute to the degradation of the Liesbeek River water quality.



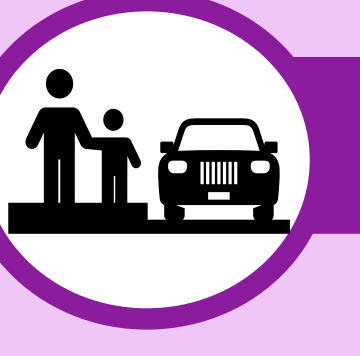
### IMPROVEMENTS TO PRECINCT

- The old Hartleyvale Stadium stand is considered unsafe and has been condemned.
- The former South African National Circus School building is considered unsafe, and part of the site is desired for public use.
- Stormwater infrastructure upgrades are essential for improving use of the area.
- Sewer infrastructure upgrades are also required.
- Additional sporting interests include tennis, squash, netball, skateboarding, and Padel.
- A multi-use indoor hall is proposed for activities like martial arts and dance.
- More spectator facilities, including benches and shade trees, are needed.
- Fences around sports fields should be reconfigured to improve pedestrian access.
- The Observatory Swimming Pool grounds should be expanded for picnics and passive recreation.
- Better wheelchair accessibility is needed throughout the precinct.
- More bins are required to reduce littering.



### EXISTING USES & FACILITIES

- The precinct is used by a wide range of groups, including sports clubs, schools, community organisations, and film/marketing companies.
- Fields are maintained differently to comply with various league and federation standards.
- There is strong demand for more public open space for informal sport and recreation. Currently, the public makes use of the Malta A field for dog-walking.
- Spectator facilities along the sports field edges are insufficient.
- Flooding is a major problem and limits field availability.
- Some sports clubs flagged the absence of a sewer connection as a concern.



### ACCESSIBILITY & TRANSPORT

- Parking often poses a challenge with large sporting and entertainment events – leads to inappropriate parking along the Liesbeek River.
- Limited safe public transport options were noted to be obstacles to accessing the precinct.
- Pedestrian access was noted to be difficult due to limited safe crossing points across Liesbeek Parkway.
- Traffic congestion is an issue particularly to the west of the site.



### MANAGEMENT & COMMUNITY

- Sports clubs are concerned about managing public access during training, which often results in conflict.
- Dogs pose specific problems, including biting incidents and damage to prepared cricket pitches.
- The community feels progressively excluded from areas that were once publicly accessible.
- Collaboration with the community is viewed as essential for effective space management.
- A mixed approach was proposed where some fields remain open while others are leased to help fund maintenance.
- Observatory's diversity should be reflected in precinct changes to ensure benefits for all residents.