

# Edward Millen Park Upgrade



## Project Vision

The Edward Millen Park Upgrade is a landmark regional project combining a destination parkland with the restoration and redevelopment of the State Heritage-listed building. Set within a 4.7-hectare landscape, the Edward Millen Park is a much-loved exercise and recreation space for Town residents and community members. The park upgrade will see the installation of an amphitheater and performance space, BBQ facilities, public toilets, shelters and more, all under a significant amount of existing tree canopy. Artistic and interpretative elements throughout the park will represent the unique Aboriginal and non-aboriginal history of the site.



## Play Area

At the heart of the park will be an expansive play area, beneath the existing tree canopy. This play space has been designed to provide a regional recreational opportunity for all ages as well as embedding specific play experiences for neurologically diverse children, designed with support of Autism WA and intended as a resource for the adjacent Carson Street School and others with inclusive educational programs.

The various play elements, such as ropes, nets, slides, spinning plates and talking tubes, provide sensory stimulation experiences that complement more passive recreation zones. The playground will provide enjoyment for all children and includes elements educating the public on contemporary concepts of neurodiversity.



## Project Objectives

- Create precinct that is a major regional destination by realising the full potential of the expansive Edward Millen Park, to complement the State Heritage-listed building restoration which has attracted a significant Federal Heritage Grant.
- Deliver the regionally significant Mildred Creak Playground to create an inclusive play space where all children can feel safe and welcome.
- Incorporate Indigenous art and cultural interpretation elements along with improving the Urban Ecosystem - supported by the innovative community planting programs
- Complements the State and Federal goals of supporting community access for people living with a disability.



## The Opportunity

To enhance the regionally significant project with the additional scope that will truly allow the project to set a new benchmark for inclusive public space in WA.



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## Project Status

The project has undergone design, planning and budgeting. The detailed design has undergone redesign with the aim of bringing the project within a \$7.5 million budget.

A construction tender process is planned for early-2024 with the aim for construction to commence mid-2024. The high value elements of the stage and spectrum shelter will be included in the tender as separable components that can be removed if required to reduce costs. This will not impact the neurodivergent play facilities.

Completion and public access are planned by summer 2024/25. Garden beds will be planted by the community in the winter of 2025. Indigenous art and cultural interpretation elements will be undertaken once the main construction is complete. This may be informed by the Noongar Place Names project (listed as a separate project).



## Partnership Opportunities

The grant requested will enable the Town to deliver on the full scope and the wider impact for children, young people and their families across the metropolitan region and visitors from other regions.

## The Vision

Let's work together to set a new benchmark for inclusivity at a major destination precinct that enlivens a treasured place in Victoria Park and Western Australia's history.

## Funding Model

