

Position Description

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Position Title	MANAGER PARKS SERVICES
Directorate	City Futures
Department/Business Unit	Parks Services
Team	Parks Services
Classification	SO
Date	May 2025
Reports to:	Director City Futures
Supervises:	Coordinators of City Presentation, Active Parks, Urban Forest and Conservation, Administrative Support Officer.
Internal Liaison:	City Futures Director and Managers, Directors / Managers / Councillors / Staff.
External Liaison:	Engagement with residents, State Agencies.

Position Objectives

Manager Parks Services is responsible for leading the strategy and policy development, planning, maintenance relating to Parks Services.

The Parks

team also contributes to the development of strategy and policy relating to sustainability, open space, recreation facilities and Council's urban forest and to do this must establish and maintain a wide range of working relationships including with internal stakeholders (specifically the City Futures Directorate), community stakeholders and government agencies.

This is a critical role in defining the perceptions of Council through engagement with residents.

Key Selection Criteria

Essential qualifications, knowledge and skills to carry out this position:

- A relevant tertiary qualification.
- Experience in managing open space and sports ground management, horticulture, landscape and natural resources.
- Able to effectively lead and manage Parks Services Department.
- Accountable for the forward planning, financial planning, program development and implementation.
- To pro-actively plan and implement operational strategies, plans, projects, policies, programs.
- Actively participate in achieving the City Futures Directorate objectives.

As part of the Selection Criteria, you must hold and supply these licences, registrations, certificates, etc., prior to offer of employment and commencement and continue to maintain them throughout your employment in this role with Council:

- ☒ satisfactory (and ongoing) Working with Children's Check
- ☒ satisfactory (and ongoing) Police Check
- ☒ current valid (and ongoing) Victorian Driver's Licence

Position Specific Responsibilities & Skills

In this position, you are responsible for:

Functional Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effectively lead and manage the Parks Services Department. To be accountable for the forward planning, financial planning, program development and implementation, staff development, reporting and communication relevant to the Department's activities. To pro-actively plan and implement asset management and operational strategies, plans, projects, policies, programs. To ensure occupational health and safety and administrative coordination and administrative support services are provided that meet identified needs and other requirements. Actively participate in achieving the City Futures Directorate objectives.
Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure staff development programs are implemented. Reporting and communication is relevant to the Department's activities. Promote a positive image of the Department by demonstrating professionalism, ethical work standards and a high level of integrity through open communication. Motivate staff by ensuring they have the necessary role clarification, support, and resources for the job. Ensure performance feedback is provided to individuals and teams, with ongoing development. Show strength, character, and courage by leading the day-to-day management of the Department, providing clear direction and decision making to meet strategic goals and objectives. Guide staff in timely and quality business outcomes for the Engineering Services Provide professional specialist Parks management advice to the Director.
Relationship Management	<p>Contribute to and add value to the other project teams / working groups.</p> <p>Foster a commitment to a customer service culture, which maximises relationships between departments and promotes shared accountability for meeting customer needs.</p>
Continuous Improvement Innovation	<p>To ensure occupational health and safety and administrative coordination and administrative support services are provided that meet identified needs and other requirements.</p>

Core Organisational Capabilities

We have a Core Capability framework to help everyone succeed and develop for their current and future positions. The relevant capabilities for this position are at the back.

REACH Values

Our REACH values define who we are and how we interact with others. They define how each of us should aim to operate in the workplace regardless of the role we hold. Our REACH values are at the back.

Organisational Responsibilities

Everyone at Council has the following responsibilities and obligations:

Emergency Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help Council fulfil its emergency management obligations by assisting in emergency management activities as required
Occupational Health and Safety	<p>All employees have responsibilities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Take reasonable care of their own health and safety. Take reasonable care that their acts do not adversely affect the health and safety of other persons or themselves.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow policy, procedure or instructions to ensure as far as is reasonably practicable a safe workplace. Report all incidents, injuries and near misses to their supervisor immediately and adhere to Council's occupational health, safety and return to work (RTW) policies and procedures. Participate in health and safety training programs and initiatives. <p>People managers have additional responsibilities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, implement, promote and review Council's OHS management system within their area of responsibility. Work with Health and Safety and People and Change departments to ensure accurate and timely OHS reporting, and implementation of health and safety culture, policies, procedures, and training programs. Ensure employee compliance with relevant OHS regulatory requirements through local and corporate policies and procedures in order to provide and maintain a safe work environment, including providing training and guidance on OHS responsibilities. Monitor and review workplace environment to identify, manage and respond to any health and safety hazards and risks, including psychosocial.
Child Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand obligations and act in an appropriate manner with and around children Promote positive work practices with children Establish boundaries around acceptable and unacceptable behaviour in relation to children Adhere to reporting obligations where there is suspected or discovered child abuse
Climate Change & Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Help support Council's response to the climate emergency by helping facilitate a whole-of-organisation approach where climate change mitigation and adaptation is embedded into all Council services, assets, operational and decision-making processes.
Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remain mindful of the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights at all times Manage Council records in accordance with the relevant Council policies and corporate requirements to protect personal information. Perform other duties as directed within the limits of acquired skills, knowledge, and training. At all times, take responsibility for maintaining the strictest levels of confidentiality regarding ratepayers, customers and employees. At all times, comply with Council's Code of Conduct - Staff.
Diversity, inclusion and equity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate an understanding of and the ability to work with, diversity in the workplace, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> zero tolerance of racism and expectations that staff will act on incidents of racism supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children to express their culture and enjoy their cultural rights.
Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent and address violence against women and workplace sexual harassment, including by modelling acceptable behaviour, responding decisively to improper conduct and properly managing initial disclosures

Inherent requirements of the position

These are the essential requirements of this position:

Council has a Flexible Work Policy. All staff are required to attend the workplace for the minimum number of days specified in the Policy.

Vision and Hearing Requirements

- ☒ This position requires a vision test
- ☒ This position requires a hearing test

On a typical day, approximately this much time would be spent on the following activities:

Cognitive Requirements	Task details (typical tasks)	Frequency (% of the working day)			
		Rare/ Never	Occasional 0 – 33%	Frequent 34 – 66%	Constant >66%
Working independently – ability to utilise autonomy with respect to the processes by which tasks are completed. Little to no autonomy with respect to the work allocated to them by the supervisor		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Team based work – works in a team of people and not exposed to isolation		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Communicating with others – Verbally		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Communicating with others - Written		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Focused Attention to task – high levels of attention required to minimise errors and ensure accuracy		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Concentrating – high levels of concentration required while completing required tasks		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planning and sequencing tasks and activities		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Decision making – required to exercise sound decision making while completing all aspects of the position		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Problem solving – requirement to develop sound solutions to novel or unusual problems arising during the course of the day		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reasoning – required to exercise sound reasoning while completing all aspects of the position within defined scope		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Judgement – required to exercise sound judgement while completing all aspects of the position within defined scope		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Short and long-term memory recall – ready access to documented procedures or precedents to perform requirements of the position		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Emotional resilience – exposure to stressful or distressing situations including meeting		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Cognitive Requirements	Task details (typical tasks)	Frequency (% of the working day)			
		Rare/ Never	Occasional 0 – 33%	Frequent 34 – 66%	Constant >66%
<i>specified deadlines and production demands, dealing with aggressive or upset customers/clients, high conflict situations, general workload demands, change beyond individual's personal control</i>					
Interruptions – frequency of interruptions to daily work plans and requirement to change work plans at short notice		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Physical Requirements

☒ This position does not require more than 10-15% manual handling/physical exertion

Physical Requirements	Task detail	Frequency (% of the working day)			
		Rare Never	Occasional 0 – 33%	Frequent 34 – 66%	Constant >66%
Mobility/Postures					
Sitting – stay in a seated position		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Standing – standing in an upright position, moving less than 3 steps		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking – In an upright position, moving more than 3 steps		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Crawling – Move on the hands & knees or by dragging the body close to the ground		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-manual handling					
Crouch/squat – To lower the body by bending forward from legs and spine, buttocks on or near the heels		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kneeling – To lower the body		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bending – To bend forward and down from the waist or the middle of the back, rounding the shoulders and back for more than 3 seconds		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reaching – Extending arms out in any direction		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Twisting/trunk rotation – Rotating the body to one side or the other without moving the feet		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fine manipulation/pinch grip – Fingers are on one side of the object and thumb on the other, typically without the object touching the palm		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Power/open hand grip – Using the whole hand to grasp an object, typically used to handle large or wide objects where the fingers are extended		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing/typing		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Climb ladders		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Climb or descend stairs		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low level work – Performing manual handling actions at or near ground level		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manual Handling					
Lift/Carry/Hold – Raising or lowering an object from one level to another and		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Physical Requirements	Task detail	Frequency (% of the working day)			
		Rare Never	Occasional 0 – 33%	Frequent 34 – 66%	Constant >66%
<i>holding/transporting the object using the hands, arms or on the shoulders</i>					
Pushing/Pulling – Applying force to move something away or closer to one's self, including static positions		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kilograms of force (kg.f) – Amount of force or effort required to perform a specific task or part of a task		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Weight requirements – lift, carry, push, pull or hold					
1-5kg		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.1 – 10kg		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10.1 – 15kg		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15.1 – 20kg		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lift floor to hip		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lift waist to shoulder		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lift overhead		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pushing/pulling		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Band descriptors (as defined in Council's Enterprise Agreement)

These descriptors help to classify the position:

Accountability and Extent of Authority

- Managing and leading the operations of Parks Services Department and related services, including professional contract management, continuous improvement principles, ethical work standards and a high level of integrity across the broader organisation in the delivery of a comprehensive range of services within legislative and corporate guidelines, to achieve quality business outcomes within agreed timeframes and corporate service standards.
- Manage Parks Services within broad organisational goals and policies and by statute and subordinate legislation as well as periodic reviews to ensure conformity with goals including through human resource management, staff planning and performance measures and a reporting mechanism to ensure adherence to Annual Budgets.
- Develop strategic policy options and strategic plans to address future service requirements of the Parks Services Department, identifying and managing risk issues, understanding the substantial effect of these upon the management of the operational unit, the organisation as a whole and / or on the public perception of the wider organisation.
- High quality specialised infrastructure advice and counsel provided by this position is relied upon for guidance and part-justification for adopting particular Infrastructure Services policies the impact of which may be substantial upon the organisation.
- The freedom to act is wide and limited only to the areas nominated by the Director City Futures.

Judgement and Decision-Making Skills

- Makes decisions on the day-to-day allocation of resources and ongoing operations / coordination of Parks Services staff, planning for priorities and contingencies within business plans, and broader responsibilities of the department. This includes completing all projects and aspects of Department activities / service delivery needs within agreed timeframes and budget.
- Developing and managing business plans and budgets including financial commitments, expenditure and payments as well as initiatives leading to improvement of the services of the Parks Services Department including specific operational teams.
- Resolve disputes and human resource issues with early intervention, efficient consultation and consistent decision making to minimise impact and disruption.
- Develop and report on the Departments long-term planning, budget, recruitment, performance management and other corporate requirements.

- Develop and implement ongoing improvements to work systems, procedures and Unit activities from an unspecified range of options.
- Identify and develop policy options in the Parks Services Department for consideration and choice by the Director City Futures. This work will typically require the identification and analysis of an unspecified range of options before a choice can be made.
- Works independently under broad direction from the Director City Futures.

Specialist Knowledge and Skills

- Staff Management, Contract Management and Project Delivery expertise translating these into achievable action plans and outcomes.
- Excellent knowledge of current relevant Acts, Regulations, Local Laws, Government and Council policies.
- Demonstrated ability a broad range of Parks Services requirements of a large public sector organisation.
- Deliver exceptional service value within detailed budgetary structures.
- Business and political acumen to monitor and manage financial responsibilities combined with prudent judgement dealing effectively with sensitive and confidential internal department and Council issues.
- Understanding of the long-term goals of Council, its values and aspirations and the legal and socioeconomic and political context in which it operates.

Management & Interpersonal skills

- Will lead, motivate, mentor, coach, educate and develop all employees in the Parks Services Department and influence contractors through a positive 'can-do' approach which incorporates professionalism, ethical standards, and integrity. This includes facilitating the professional development of senior team members.
- Highly effective interpersonal skills, incorporating verbal and written communication, presentation, problem solving, conceptual thinking and conflict resolution with staff at all levels within the department and organisation.
- Required to persuade, convince or negotiate with staff, unions, Councillors, external agencies, clients and members of the public but also with relevant boards / authorities / tribunals and persons in other organisations, representing Council in the pursuit and achievement of specific and set objectives of the Parks Services Department.

Verification & Approvals

I certify that the content of this Position Description accurately reflects the overall role and accountabilities of the position:

	Name	Signature	Date
Occupant			

Appendix

Core Capability Framework – People Leaders

Relationship Management

Develops and maintains strong and enduring relationships with colleagues and/or external stakeholders which are built on mutual respect and commitment. Ensures that all people are treated with dignity and respect regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion or sexual orientation.

- Ensures a wide range of views and opinions are encouraged and valued
- Builds strong and trusting relationships with team members and across the directorate
- Seeks to achieve outcomes that are beneficial to all stakeholders
- Demonstrates high levels of integrity and teamwork in all relationships

Planning & Organising

Thinks from a wholistic perspective and sees the patterns in the complex relationships that exist between the different parts of the organisation. Uses these insights to ensure that the organisation's human, physical and financial resources are effectively used in the achievement of the organisation's, team's or the role's agreed priorities.

- Ensures that team members are able to see the connections between the work of the team and the broader organisational context
- Actively engages team members in the development of realistic plans to deliver work unit priorities
- Allocates work unit resources to achieve desired results
- Takes corrective action as required when concerns have been identified

People Development

Demonstrates a deep commitment to ongoing learning and development as fundamental to the organisation's sustained success and to the realisation of the potential of its people.

- Encourages people to undertake ongoing professional and personal development
- Uses reflection as a key tool for ongoing development and organisational improvement
- Uses transformational leadership practices to engage and grow the capabilities of team members
- Regularly gives and receives constructive feedback
- Communicates with staff in a positive and proactive manner

Future focused organisation

Is keenly aware of the social, political, economic and technological trends that impact the global and local environments and ensures these are factored into the work of individuals, teams or the organisation to deliver on the needs and expectations of the Council and the community it serves

- Monitors the broader environment to understand the impact of emerging trends on the work of the team
- Identifies changes to systems and processes that will lead to the effective implementation of organisational change initiatives
- Encourages others to recognise and value the inevitability of change in organisations
- Assists the team to adapt to a constantly changing environment by communicating change information honestly, empathetically and in a timely manner

Outcome orientation

Demonstrates a strong commitment to a high-performance culture by constantly striving for high quality customer service outcomes and accepting responsibility for outcomes within their control

- Creates opportunities for people to come together to creatively address issues facing the team and the clients they serve
- Sets short-term goals with the team for the team to achieve agreed objectives
- Tracks progress against job expectations and makes adjustments as required
- Sets challenging goals that will deliver superior results

Service focus

Ensures there is a focus on delivering work priorities to agreed quality and timeliness standards

- Demonstrates commitment to quality client/customer service
- Maintains regular customer communication to ensure mutual expectations are clear
- Responds appropriately to client/customer requests and/or complaints

Self-management

Demonstrates self-awareness through understanding own responses to a range of situations as well as understanding the impact their behaviour has on others

- Accepts personal responsibility for outcomes within her/his control
- Demonstrates the ability to regulate and adapt behaviour according to the circumstances and the audience
- Seeks out feedback with the purpose of reflecting on work performance with a view to self-improvement
- Models Greater Dandenong's ethical and organisational standards
- Acts decisively during times of ambiguity and pressure

Safety, health and wellbeing

Ensures that the safety, health and wellbeing of employees, contractors, service users and councillors is at the heart of the organisation's culture and the way work is organised and services delivered

- Aligns team/unit work plans with Council's vision and objectives for employee safety, health and wellbeing
- Allocates adequate resources to achieve safety, health and wellbeing initiatives and objectives
- Monitors departmental performance indicators for the continuous improvement of safety, health and wellbeing practices and culture

Council's REACH Values

Respectful

We respect and care about our community, each other and ourselves.

We act with integrity at all times and in all matters.

We take time to listen to and seek to understand the other point of view.

We strive to understand and respect the diversity of our community and our workplace.

We understand our role in the community and respect the responsibility that comes with

Creative

We care about getting the best outcomes.

We constantly ask: What's the future and what's possible?

We have the courage to try new ideas.

We strive for excellence in everything we do.

Engaged

We listen to our community and respond.

We work together with our community and each other, to achieve the best outcome.

We have the confidence to challenge the status quo, to reach for better outcomes.

We are action-oriented in identifying and responding to new challenges.

Honest

We tell the truth, even when we know people may not want to hear it.

We form our opinions and give advice from sound, evidence based research.

We act with humility and apply the highest standards of ethical behaviour to everything we do.

Accountable

We are proud of our city, our community and our achievements.

We spend our time and effort on solutions rather than looking for someone to blame.

We take responsibility for our actions.

