

1. POLICY STATEMENT

Council recognises its responsibility to facilitate the use of council controlled open space, including the future provision, role, use, development, management and maintenance of the open space facilities within the Townsville local government area.

2. PRINCIPLES

The objectives of the policy are:

- to devise a strategy for the effective and appropriate use of open space areas across the city;
- to respond to new and changing demands for open space use;
- to balance competing interests relating to the use of open space; and
- to provide clarity and reasonable certainty for users of open space in relation to the requirements and expectations of open space use.

3. SCOPE

The policy applies to all users of council controlled open space including council and the community.

4. **RESPONSIBILITY**

The General Manager Infrastructure Planning, Assets and Fleet is responsible for ensuring that this policy is understood and adhered to by all council personnel.

5. **DEFINITIONS**

Open space – outdoor space that is in the public realm and is freely accessible, however specifically excludes the following:

- all roads, medians and reserves;
- Paluma Dam and recreation area;
- Ross Dam and catchment area;
- Northern Beaches camping facilities; and
- Curralea and Keyatta Lakes

6. POLICY

Council will:

- provide a variety of public open spaces that aim to fulfil the community's recreational and environmental needs;
- support best management practices for council controlled open spaces while recognising community needs and council responsibilities;
- ensure open space assets are preserved utilising a sustainable, holistic approach; and
- maintain detailed procedures relating to the use of open space to guide and ensure consistency in day to day decision making about that use.

7. LEGAL PARAMETERS

Local Government Act 2009 Local Government Regulations 2012 Peaceful Assembly Act 1992 Liquor Act 1992 Council's Local Laws

8. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Landscape Policy Council Fees and Charges