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NORTHERN  
BEACHES  
COUNCIL

# FRESHWATER COASTAL OPEN SPACE SCOPING PAPER

March 2017



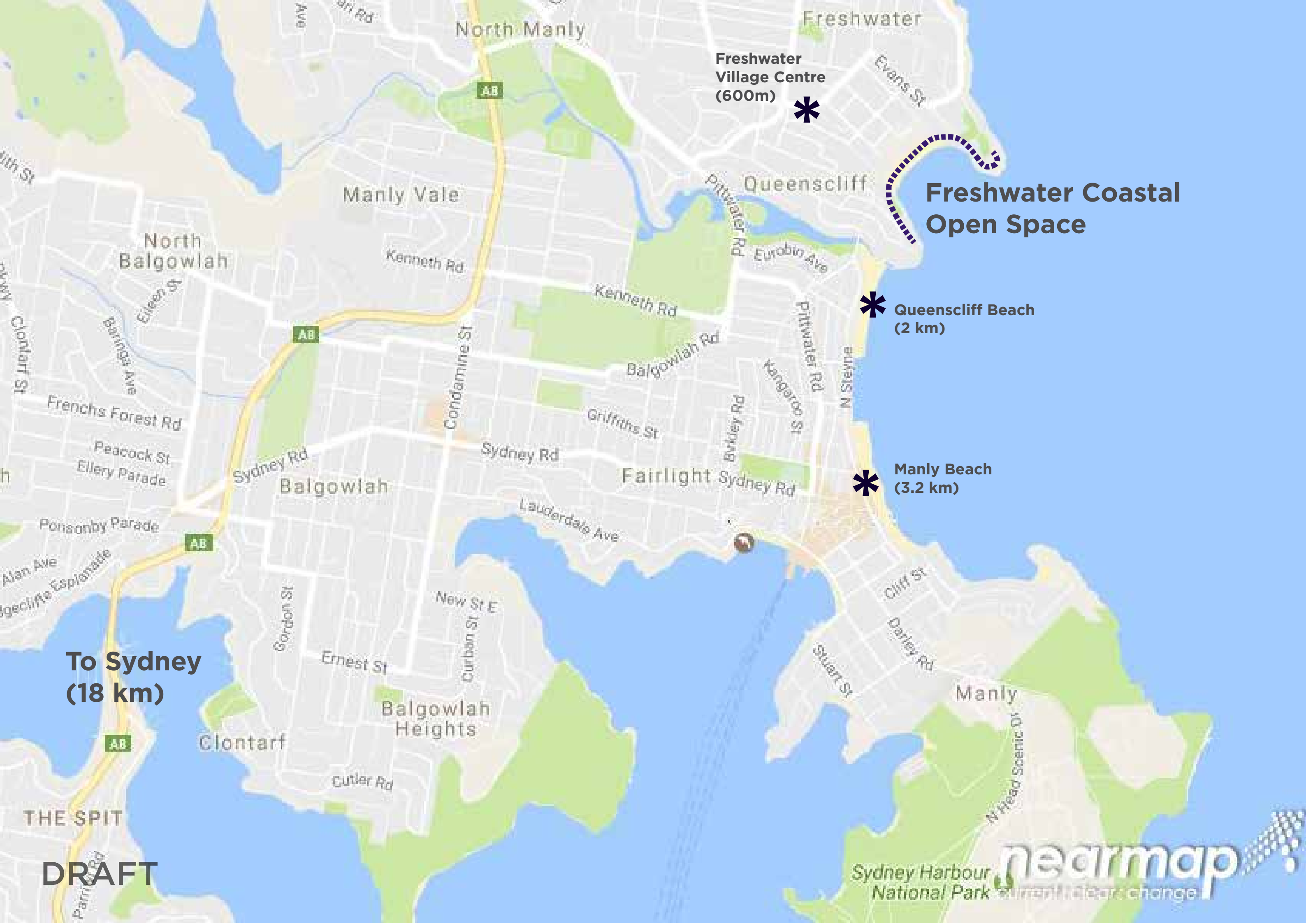


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# **“we want you to get involved in the future planning of Freshwater coastal open space”**

This paper summarises the area unique features as a way of exploring the possibilities for the future planning of Freshwater coastal open space. Various stakeholders, local business, residents and visitors will be invited to join in this engagement process and participate in creating a thriving future for the area in the long term. This stage of engagement is to gain a thorough knowledge of the area and together with the community, create visions for future placemaking and design of public spaces.



Freshwater  
Village Centre  
(600m)



**Freshwater Coastal  
Open Space**



**Queenscliff Beach  
(2 km)**



**Manly Beach  
(3.2 km)**

**To Sydney  
(18 km)**

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# strategic context



Freshwater Village - Albert and Lawrence Streets



Existing Freshwater village plaza



Corner cafe at Moore Road



Local business at Moore Road



Bus stops (photo taken at Moore Road)



Residential apartments adjacent to park



Harbord Beach Hotel



Cafe near the beach



Pilu Restaurant



Freshwater Beach

## Planning for the area

The scope of this project covers only the coastal area as shown by the blue dotted line. However, good planning practice always considers the surrounding area as part of the analysis to ensure that the plan of the area continues to be relevant in the long term.

Considering Freshwater coastal area is located only approximately 500m away from its local centre and 2km away from the nearest beach Queenscliff, connections to the surrounding network are very important to maintain accessibility and establish activities within this public space.





- 1 Freshwater View
- 2 Freshwater Beach
- 3 McKillop Park

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Steep slope south of the beach



Path from beach



Pedestrian path adjacent to the restaurant



End of pedestrian path from beach



Pedestrian link continues to Bridge Road



Pedestrian link on verge



Steps to Bridge Road



Corner restaurant



Public park with view of Freshwater



Freshwater View Reserve is secluded

# freshwater view

## Things to consider in this area:

- The beach is enclosed by steep slope at southern end with no direct pedestrian link between private lands to Freshwater View Reserve (1)
- Pedestrian link from Freshwater Beach to Queenscliff area is not straight forward and partially ends on-street (2,3,4,5,6,7)
- Limited signage indicating direction to Freshwater View Reserve (3,7,9)
- A valuable public asset, Freshwater View Reserve has great views over Freshwater coastal areas, but it is hidden between private residences (9,10)

## Freshwater View Reserve is a special place. What do you think about these ideas?

- Consider better signage and landscape treatments for pedestrian link to Queenscliff area
- Consider landscape and/or paving treatments as well as better signage to maintain continuity of pedestrians experience
- Install better signage and/or mapping to indicate direction to Freshwater View Reserve
- Consider creating a track and/or entry sequence to the Reserve





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Small playground that the end of Moore Rd



Cafe at SLSC



Open areas for outdoor exercise



Kooroola Avenue



Gazebo frequently used as an exercise area



A driveway to SLSC



Landscape mound & limited shade



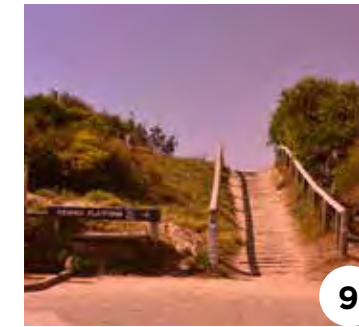
Dedicated car parking area



Formal pedestrian path entering central park



Larger children's playground



Path to the beach



Open space for occasional parking space

# freshwater beach

## Things to consider in this area:

- View from Moore Road and to the beach obstructed by gazebo and children playground. This playground is also adjacent to a low key pedestrian entry to the reserve (1,2,3)
- Surf Lifesaving Club Cafe opens to the park area, however a large portion of the building wall is facing the park. Cafe seating is currently adjacent to a garage entry and driveway access, and is separated from a central children playground. This driveway cuts through the pedestrian link and separates the park from the beach area (4,5,6)
- Central open space is mainly on a slope with more activities occurring on a flatter land. View to the beach is restricted (7,8,9)
- A large part of the reserve is dedicated for at-grade open car parking. Access to this and occasional parking off Kooroola Avenue is separating the central park to the rest of the reserve (10,11,12)

## Freshwater beach area is known for its beauty. What do you think about these ideas?

- Opening up area at the end of Moore Park to create a better arrival experience and view to Freshwater Beach
- Allocate more opening to west of the building to address the park and improve cafe seating location. Co-locating children playground with complementary activities may improve safety
- Improve opportunity for views and design change of level to accommodate various activity areas and special events
- Create improved pedestrians experience at Kooroola Avenue and explore opportunities for landscape treatments to reduce glare from open parking





Entry to beach



Rocky areas at the end of pedestrian path



Swim club with views to Freshwater



Ramp to the hilltop car parking area



Pedestrian path to beach



Entry to pedestrian link



Steps to hilltop parking



Some seating with overview to Freshwater



Pedestrian path ends



Pedestrian link to the swimming pool



Ramp to the swimming pool



Pedestrian path to the pool and beach from hilltop carpark

# mckillop park

## Things to consider in this area:

- Pedestrian path ends at various points with no clear path linking Freshwater beach and the pool. Very limited directional signage in this area (1,2,3,4,5,6)
- Swim club building with view to Freshwater has limited use during the week (7,12)
- Access to swimming pool can be improved to cater all users. The ramp to the pool does not comply with the accessibility code (8,9)
- The highest point with overview to Freshwater does not attract people to use the space and very limited directional signage to direct pedestrian access to these areas (10, 11, 12)

## Coastal walk followed by a swim is one way to experience this space. What do you think about these ideas?

- Creating better accessibility and clearer route for pedestrians from the beach to connect to the existing pedestrian link. Seamless recreational link along the coastal area will encourage more activities along this route
- Explore some improvements to swim club building uses and the surrounding public domain
- Improve amenity and experience for pool visitors including for accessibility
- Explore potential for better viewing platform on the headland. Consider installation of directional signage to provide clearer direction to the surrounding area as part of integrated pedestrian network





# questions

- What do you love about each space?
- How do you use each space?
- Which top 3 features do you love and frequently visit?
- What are your top 3 concerns about these spaces?
- What can we do to make each space better?
- What can we do to improve the relationship between each space?
- How can we maintain and enhance the beauty of Freshwater Coastal Open Space area as a legacy which remain relevant for our future generation?





Note: the implementation of the master plan is subject to further detailed design and future funding. Place making programme and quick wins can be discussed as part of activation for the area.



# i love freshwater coastal area because .....

We want your help to shape the future of Freshwater Coastal Open Space area. It is easy to have your say.

For more information visit: <http://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/freshwatercoastalopenspace>

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