

Parks and Reserves

2024-2034 Activity Summary

Over the next 10 years, key factors such as demographic and social changes, climate change, and tourism will impact on the city's parks and reserves. The increase in population will increase demand and result in higher use, requiring increased maintenance, monitoring and possible development of resources.

Key environmental impacts are occurring from activities like habitat loss, plant and animal pests, chemical and waste product use and continued fuel consumption leading to an increasing carbon footprint. Many of these have been linked to climate change (sea level rise and impacts on trees and vegetation) and increasing natural disasters. The challenges of climate change are assumed to be moderate but will impact the planning and maintenance of parks and reserves in the future if not managed.

In recent years, there has been increased demand for walking, cycling and mountain biking trails in the city along with more informal or passive recreation. This is expected to continue which will therefore result in additional use of electric vehicles such as scooters and bikes and therefore the need for EV chargers and safe, active connections to places. It will also trigger the review for parking and roading networks and sharing of infrastructure provision.

In addition, the activity will also be subject to changes in participation of sports and community groups and fluctuations in popularity of sporting codes, as well as financial constraints of maintaining single-use buildings. The decline in participation of traditional team sports is also in line with national trends that will impact the utilisation of sports fields and the overall requirement for fields. As a result, consolidation of assets for shared collective use by sports clubs and the community is likely needed.

Key Projects

Queens Park – Landscaping for connection to Te Unua – Museum of Southland and operational costs for the maintenance of the new Tuatara facility.

\$1 million capital expenditure is allocated for landscaping to link the new museum facility to the rest of Queens Park. In addition, increased maintenance for the new facilities, including the new Tuatara centre - \$35,000 operational expenditure. This is a level of service increase.

Turnbull Thompson vehicle safety improvements

Improvements are planned for access and car parking for Turnbull Thompson Park to deal with congestion issues on match days. \$0.4 million capital expenditure is allocated. This is a project which will deliver both level of service and compliance driven improvements.

Improvements to security across parks operations

Investment of \$100K capital expenditure will be made to improve security systems across the parks holdings. This is a compliance project to improve health and safety.

Bluff Boat Ramp – Toilets and scoping for a carpark

An additional allocation of \$290,000 has been made to provide for toilets and scoping of a new car park to support the Bluff Boat Ramp.

New Pump Track

Provision of \$125,000 has been made towards a forecasted \$250,000 new pump track which will likely be in South Invercargill at a location to be identified. Pump tracks provide an increasingly popular recreation facility for tamariki and rangatahi. This planned project is a level of service increase.

Review of City Sports and Recreation facilities

A future focused review of key facilities including Rugby Park and Surrey Park including how they could work better together is planned to ensure we have the facilities we need for the future.

Review of Elizabeth Park

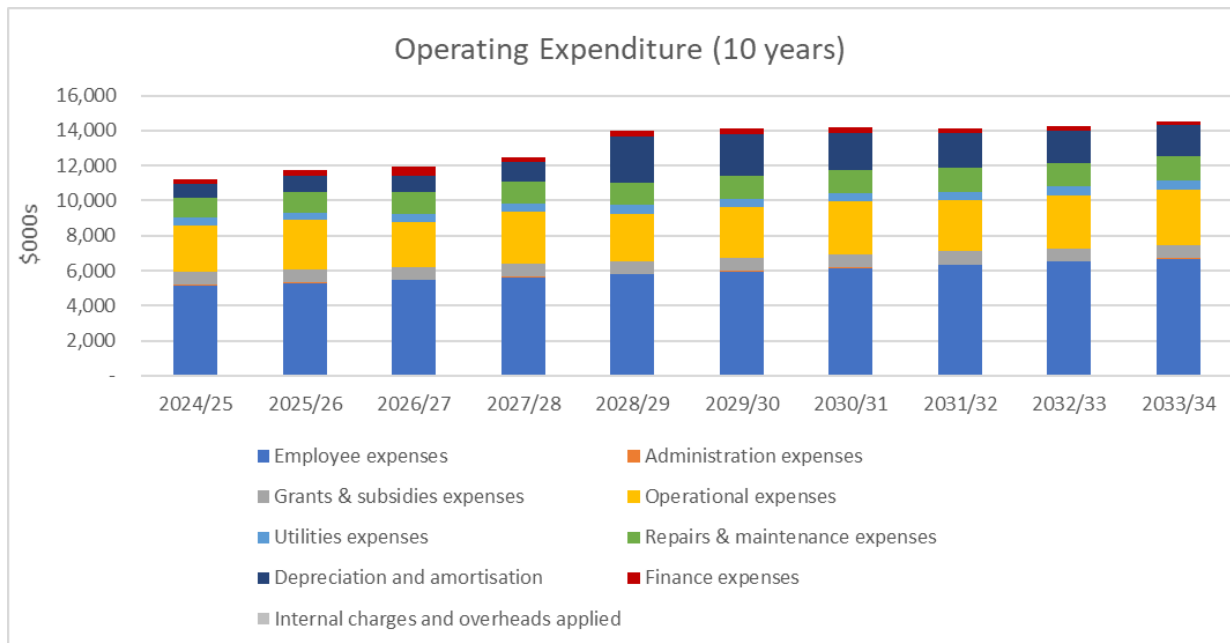
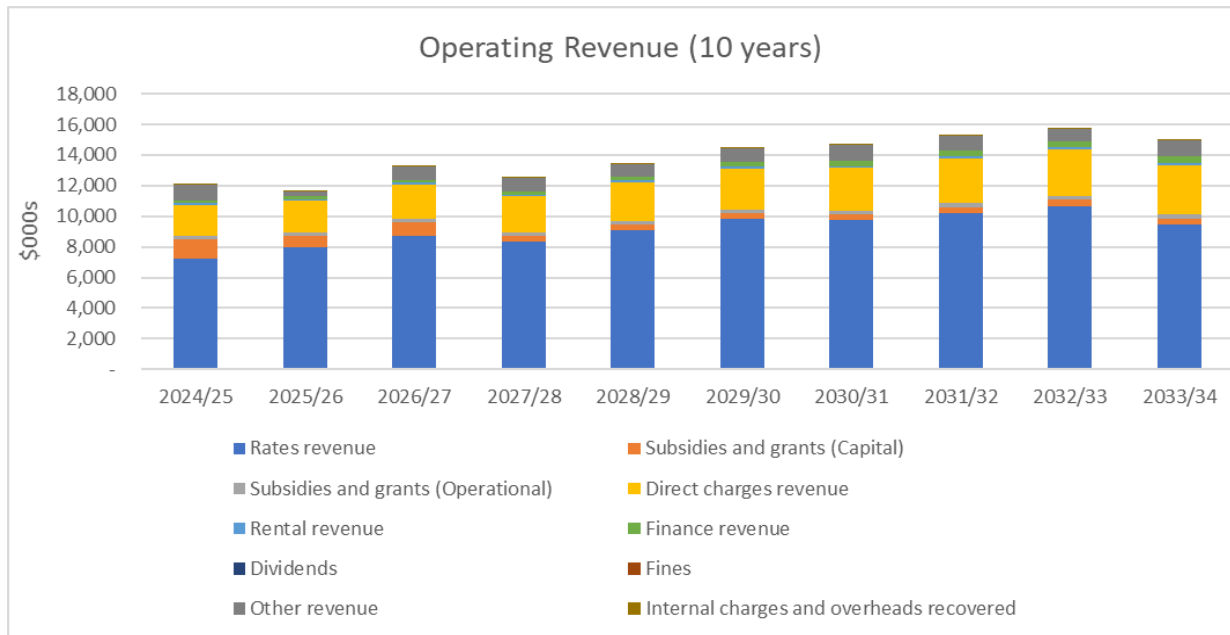
Council will invest in a strategic review and planning for improvements of Elizabeth Park to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community into the future. This is likely to include new toilets and improvements to the bike tracks.

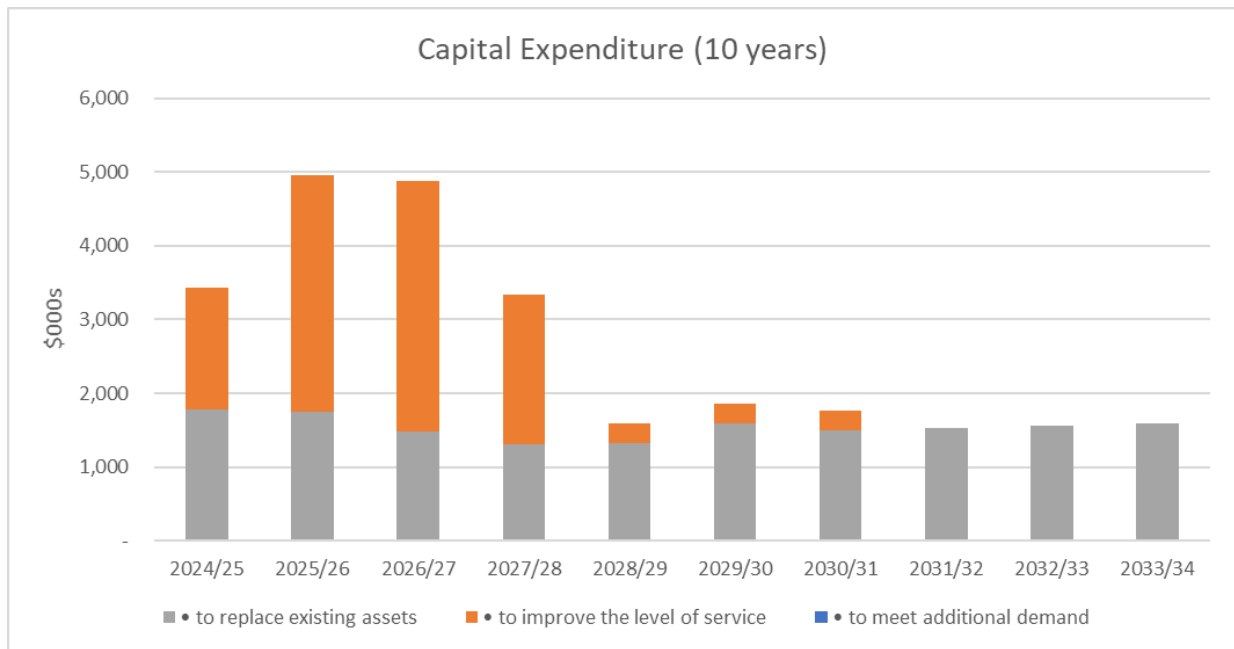
There is provision for maintenance of parks buildings, including those in Queens Park. See the Property Asset Plan for more information.

Key Performance Indicators

Measure		Target
Queens Park is accredited as a “Garden of National Significance”		Maintained
Percentage of residents satisfied with parks and recreation spaces		80%
Annual number for park usage	Percentage of users per head of (Invercargill City) population	New measure
	Total number of park user counts	Maintained or increasing from 2022/23 Baseline
Percentage of urgent requests for Parks and Reserves services are completed within specified timeframes		New measure
Number of Active Partnerships in place to support activation of Parks and Reserves Space		New measure

Budget





Figures in the graphs have been inflation adjusted. All other numbers are uninflated and are based on 2024-dollar levels.