



Adelaide Park Lands Authority

## 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final - South Australian Motor Sport Board Event Consultation

Public

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Board Meeting**

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### Purpose

This report seeks Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) advice on the proposed declarations for the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final (formerly VAILO Adelaide 500), which will be presented to the City Community Services and Culture Committee on 1 July 2025, relating to:

- The Declared Area, being the Park Lands area proposed to be used as part of the event.
- The Prescribed Works Period, being the period of event setup and removal.
- The Declared Period, being the proposed period of event operation.

The event dates for 2025 are from 27 to 30 November 2025.

The 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final is a premier event in the Supercars Championship. The race attracts fans and drivers from around the country and continues Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16)'s dual legacy as a public park and Australian motorsport hub.

Under the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984* section 20(1), the Premier of South Australia (Premier) may declare a specified Declared Area and Declared Period for the purposes of carrying out motor sport events. They may also specify a Prescribed Works Period, during which the South Australian Motor Sport Board (SAMSB) may have access to the land within the Declared Area for the purpose of carrying out works for the event.

Before the Premier can declare the Declared Area, Declared Period, and Prescribed Works Period for the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final, the SAMSB must first consult with the City of Adelaide and Kadaltilla.

The total occupation period of the Park Lands has decreased by two days compared to 2024.

The proposed Declared Area within the Park Lands for the 2025 event has decreased by approximately 25,000m<sup>2</sup> of Park Lands area, compared to the area declared for the 2024 event. These changes are detailed in point 9 of this report.

The occupation of the Park Lands follows a staged approach, which begins in the central area of Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16). Much of the Declared Area remains open and accessible for most of the Prescribed Works Period.

Following Kadaltilla's advice in 2024, a working group was established between City of Adelaide (CoA) and SAMSB and meets regularly to address items relevant to the Park Lands and the event.

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# Recommendation

## THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND COUNCIL:

### That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Notes the Declaration of the proposed Declared Area, Declared Period and Prescribed Works Period for the purpose of conducting the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final event, as contained in this report.
  2. Authorises the Presiding Member to write to the Chief Executive Officer of the South Australian Motor Sport Board on behalf of Kadaltilla with its feedback to the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final consultation as follows:
    - 2.1. Work collaboratively to pursue greening and tree canopy increase in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) in line with the Master Plan.
    - 2.2. Ensure the use of or the reinstatement of permeable pathways.
    - 2.3. Request further exploration to increase access to the bikeways and pathways and further promote access considerations to members of the public, during the Prescribed Works Period.
    - 2.4. Investigates legacy infrastructure in keeping with the Victoria Park Master Plan and intentions of the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy.
  3. Notes that Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority's advice will be presented to the City Community and Culture Committee on Tuesday 1 July 2025.
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# Implications

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|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy 2015-2025             | <a href="#">Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy 2015-2025</a><br>The Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy supports promoting the Park Lands as a visitor and tourist destination (Strategy 1.3.1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 2023-2028 Strategic Plan                                      | <a href="#">Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority 2023-2028 Strategic Plan</a><br><a href="#">Strategic Plan Alignment – Expert Advice</a><br>4.1 Provide advice on plans, projects and policies for the Adelaide Park Lands<br>4.2 Engage with City of Adelaide and State Government including input into State Government initiatives                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| City of Adelaide Strategies                                   | Economic Development Strategy 2024 – 2028:<br>Goal 1: More than the gateway to South Australia.<br>Strategic Plan 2024-2028:<br>Outcome: Adelaide's unique experiences and opportunities attract visitors to our city                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Policy                                                        | The Community Land Management Plan (CLMP) for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) states that one of the key uses of the park is motor sports, including the State Government's bp Adelaide Grand Final.<br>The CLMP notes that the State Government has identified Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) as the location for the Adelaide 500 motor racing event which is held annually, and which occupies a significant portion of the site. Currently, the Adelaide 500 event operates within a Declared Area under the <i>South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984</i> . This has significant impact on public access to the park during the event, and during set-up and take-down of the temporary infrastructure. |
| Consultation                                                  | Under section 20 (4) (c) of the <i>South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984</i> there is a legislative obligation for the Premier, through the SAMSB, to consult with Kadaltilla and Council regarding the Declared Area, Declared Period and Prescribed Works Period for the event. The SAMSB consultation period is open and concludes 11 July 2025.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Resource                                                      | This activity will be facilitated within existing resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Risk / Legal / Legislative                                    | Pursuant to powers provided under the <i>South Australian Motor Sport Act (1984)</i> section 20 (1), the Premier may declare a Declared Area, Declared Period and Prescribed Works Period for the purpose of conducting motorsport events.<br>Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects- not as a result of this report.<br>Sites of Importance within the Declared Area- not as a result of this report.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Opportunities                                                 | Administration continues to work with the SAMSB to identify opportunities for greening (short term and long-term) within the Declared Area for the benefit of the event, spectators and general Park visitors.<br>The CLMP lists the following opportunity to be investigated, 'Incorporate temporary greening (i.e., pop up planting and solar powered furniture) during and outside of Adelaide 500 event'.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| City of Adelaide Budget Allocation                            | Not as a result of this report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Capital Infrastructure Projects                               | Not as a result of this report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset | The Declarations referred to in this report are in reference to the bp Adelaide Grand Final 2025 event only, with the end of the Prescribed Works Period proposed to be 8 February 2026.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)                           | Not as a result of this report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Other Funding Sources                                         | Not as a result of this report                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

# Discussion

## Background

1. The 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final (the event) event is staged by the South Australian Motor Sport Board (SAMSB) each year pursuant to powers provided under the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984* (the Act). Under section 20 (1) of the Act, the Premier of South Australia may declare:
  - 1.1. A specified area (consisting of public road or Park Land or both) in Adelaide, to be a Declared Area under the Act for the purposes of running the event; and
  - 1.2. A specified period (not exceeding five days) to be a Declared Period under this Act for the purposes of the event; and
  - 1.3. A specified period or periods (Prescribed Works Period) under the Act during which the SAMSB may have access to land within a Declared Area for the purposes of carrying out works in the manner contemplated by section 22 (1a) (and different periods may be specified in respect of different categories of work).
2. On behalf of the Minister responsible for the *South Australian Motor Sport Act 1984*, the Chief Executive, SAMSB wrote to the Lord Mayor on 15 May 2025. The Letter ([LINK 1](#)) outlines the Declarations of the event and was addressed to the Lord Mayor in their capacity as Lord Mayor of the City of Adelaide and as the Presiding Member for Kadaltilla.
3. The Declared Period covers the event days as well as the day immediately prior to the event. The event dates are from 27 to 30 November 2025, therefore the Declared Period is from 26 to 30 November 2025 (5 days).
4. The event date is two weeks later in 2025 compared to 2024. The 2025 event dates coincide with Black Friday trading in the City, as was the case in 2023. The timing of the event is based on the Supercars national calendar.
5. Feedback is being sought on the Declared Area, Prescribed Works Period and Declared Period. Any feedback provided will be presented to the City Community Services and Culture Committee on Tuesday 1 July 2025.

## Declared Area

6. The Declared Area in ([LINK 2](#)) shows the boundary in red. This does not represent a physical fence line, but a boundary of potential occupation for undertaking the event. The occupation of the Park Lands takes a staged approach, commencing in a central section of Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) and progressing through the build process. Many areas of the Park Lands within the Declared Area are left open and accessible for large periods of time during the Prescribed Works Period. King Rodney Park / Ityamai-itpina (Park 15) and Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) are only occupied from 2- 3 weeks prior to the event dates.
7. The Declared Area for the event in 2025 incorporates:
  - 7.1. Continued exclusion of the Quentin Kenihan Inclusive Playspace from the Declared Area, allowing it to remain open to the public.
  - 7.2. Continued exclusion of the Protected Conservation Zone and Butterfly Conservation Zone from the Declared Area.
  - 7.3. New removal of an area within the north-west section of Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) between the O'Bahn tunnel and Rundle Road.
  - 7.4. New inclusion of car parks along East Terrace between the intersections at Angas and Halifax Streets, and the extension of Dequetteville Terrace north up to Bartels Road intersection, to allow for improved gate operations, including patron egress.

## Prescribed Works Period

8. The Prescribed Works Period is proposed to commence on Wednesday 3 September 2025 and conclude on Sunday 8 February 2026. This is a decrease of two days compared to the 2024 event, to a total of 159 days.

## Noted Changes for 2025

9. The table following illustrates the changes to the size of the Declared Area and duration of the Prescribed Public Works Period.

Table 1 – Comparison Table

|                                                            | 2022                                                                                                                      | 2023                                                          | 2024                                                                                                    | 2025                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Size of the Declared Area (within the Park Lands)</b>   | Approximately 705,000m <sup>2</sup>                                                                                       | Approximately 703,000m <sup>2</sup>                           | Approximately 766,000m <sup>2</sup>                                                                     | Approximately 741,000m <sup>2</sup>                                    |
| <b>Duration of the Prescribed Works Period</b>             | 196 days ( <i>this was the first year of the event's return. Additional time was required to complete capital works</i> ) | 154 days<br>(28 August 2023- 28 January 2024)                 | 161 days<br>(19 August 2024- 26 January 2025)                                                           | 159 days<br>(3 September 2025- 8 February 2026)                        |
| <b>Addition of Declared Areas (within the Park Lands)</b>  | The first year of the event's return                                                                                      | Within Rymill Park/<br>Murlawirrapurka (Park 14)              | Within Victoria Park/<br>Pakapakanthi (Park 16)<br><br>Within Rymill Park/<br>Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) | Nil.                                                                   |
| <b>Reduction of Declared Areas (within the Park Lands)</b> | The first year of the event's return                                                                                      | Within Victoria Park/<br>Pakapakanthi (Park 16)- Southern end | Within Rymill Park/<br>Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) (the Quentin Kenihan Inclusive Playspace)              | Within the northwest area of Rymill Park/<br>Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) |

10. [LINK 3](#) shows the locations of the Park Lands areas that are proposed to increase and reduce from 2024 to 2025.

#### **Native Vegetation Area and Native Grass Restoration Site**

11. The location of the Native Vegetation Management Area, enclosed by a low-lying fence which restricts vehicle access, is shown in [LINK 3](#).
12. A Native Grass Restoration Site exists immediately south of the Native Vegetation Management Area. The location of this area is also shown in [LINK 3](#).
13. The Native Vegetation Area and Native Grass Restoration Site sit outside the events declared area for 2025.

#### **Butterfly Conservation Zone**

14. The Chequered Copper Butterfly and its caterpillar food plants were found in Park 16 in 2011. This butterfly species is not formally protected or listed as threatened under State or Federal legislation however it is considered rare and of biological significance by butterfly experts and ecologists.
15. The extent of the primary habitat for the Chequered Copper Butterfly has been mapped and is shown in [LINK 3](#).
16. The Butterfly Conservation Zone sit outside the events declared area for 2025

#### **Criterium Track and Cycling Events**

17. The Criterium Track is a purpose built offroad cycling facility and the only one of its kind servicing metropolitan Adelaide. Criterium racing is traditionally held in the summer months, on weeknights, taking advantage of daylight savings.
18. This event will have an impact on the ability of cycling organisations to hold a full criterium season with the track not being available for over three weeks (including the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final event dates).
19. A meeting will be proposed to be held between AusCycling and the SAMSB (and/or its representatives) before the Prescribed Works Period commences, to set timeframes for use of the Criterium Track pre and post-event. Where possible the SAMSB will accommodate use of the Criterium Track for night racing up until it is determined by SAMSB that it is no longer safe to do so.

#### **Other User Impacts:**

20. Other User Impacts will include:
- 20.1. Community use of the skate park and 3-on-3 basketball courts in Park 15.
- 20.2. Community use of the Glover East Playground.

- 20.3. Use of the three playing fields and cricket nets in Park 15 used for school and community sport, including post-event impacts due to playing surface remediation requirements.
- 20.4. Community use of the disc golf facility in Park 15.
- 20.5. Existing commercial lessees of the Victoria Park Grandstand, Victoria Park Social Club and Kiosk Lola, with trading encumbrances on the lessees, if they choose to be involved in the event.
- 20.6. Seasonal hire users of the playing fields in Park 16.
- 20.7. Parkrun, a free community running event held every Saturday morning in Park 16.
- 20.8. Significant number of visitors and casual users who recreate in Park 16 every day.
- 21. Council and the SAMSB will write to all of these operators to ensure they are well informed of the planned impacts and respective dates, with details on who to contact with any questions.

#### **Path Access Restrictions**

- 22. To maintain public access to the Park Lands for as long as possible, the event uses a staged build methodology, which leaves the erection of fencing and particularly the closing of sections, as late as possible.
- 23. The two east-west footpaths through Park 16 between Fullarton Road and Halifax Street will remain open for as long as possible during the Prescribed Works Period.
  - 23.1. To facilitate the safe and timely delivery of the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final, there will be a requirement to periodically close one of these paths.
  - 23.2. The organisers note that planning is proceeding to allow the two east-west bike tracks to remain open for as long as possible. At least one track will be open at all times except for the seven days prior to the Declared Period and seven days post the Declared Period. There will be additional short closures during high-risk construction works.
  - 23.3. Upon re-opening the paths after seven days post-event, access for the travelling public will be available on the southern pathway.
- 24. The SAMSB will develop an event signage plan that informs users of the Park Lands of access changes, path closure times and dates as well as alternative access routes. This will be complemented by planned website notifications, advising the public what will be inaccessible and for what period.

#### **Master Plan for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16)**

- 25. A Master Plan for Park 16 has been developed, including Kadaltilla advice and community consultation.
- 26. A key consideration is exploring opportunities for short term and long-term greening in the northern section of the park, which falls within the Declared Area. This would help with addressing the lack of trees and shade in the park to provide a hospitable and attractively landscaped environment for a future, hotter climate.
- 27. There are opportunities for greening and shading which can assist in discussions with the SAMSB for the event to provide a more attractive and cooler environment for the event and general park visitors. New trees have been planted in Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) following the 2024 event and will continue to be planned in consideration of the event.

#### **Working Group**

- 28. A working group between CoA and the SAMSB was established following a decision of Kadaltilla in 2024. This group meets regularly through the year to address items at a strategic and operational level, relevant to the Park Lands and the events occupation.

#### **Remediation**

- 29. Assessment and remediation of the area impacted by the 2025 bp Adelaide Grand Final event occurs in a staged approach as infrastructure is removed. The SAMSB covers costs associated with remediation.

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## **DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

[Link 1](#) – Letter from Chief Executive, SA Motor Sport, Department of the Premier and Cabinet to the Lord Mayor

[Link 2](#) – Map of the Proposed 2025 Declared Area

[Link 3](#) – Map of the 2025 changes to the Declared Area and the Park Lands protection areas.

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## Attachments

Nil

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