

## Acquiring Land for the Wolli Creek Regional Park

There is quite a complex process for this. In simple terms, there is a pipeline:

1. Land is identified and agreement to acquire for the Park is reached with the current owners
2. Land is acquired from Government agencies or private owners by the Office of Strategic Lands (OSL) on behalf of the State Government.
3. Usually in bundles, the land is then 'gazetted' – formal announcement in the Government Gazette that the land has been transferred to the Minister for Environment, who becomes the nominal owner of the land.
4. The Minister then transfers the land to the National Parks estate for management by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Land transfer can be delayed at any of these stages of the pipeline.

There are several portions of land held up in the pipeline:

- Between steps 1 and 2 of the pipeline there are large parcels where agreement has been reached, but transfer to OSL is not complete
  - Land owned by Transport for NSW at Jackson Place currently being remediated prior to transfer,
  - Sydney Water land just east of Jackson Place, cause of delay not known,
  - Two parcels of Turrella Reserve owned by Canterbury-Bankstown Council, where negotiations for easements (eg for stormwater) are still incomplete,
  - An anomalous portion of land owned by Bayside Council on the N side of Wolli Creek, cut off when the creek was straightened around 1950, where complex adjustments are needed, involving changes to Council boundaries
- Between steps 2 and 3, there are lands already acquired by the OSL, but still awaiting gazettal:
  - Former Roads and Maritime Services land close to Bexley North station originally acquired for the second M5,
  - Land acquired from private owners below Bayview Avenue.

But there are several parcels of land (one large, four small) where agreement to acquire for the Park has not yet been reached (i.e. held up before Step 1):

- A parcel of Sydney Water land adjacent to its sewer aqueduct where it crosses Wolli Creek at the eastern end of the Park),
- Four sections of privately owned long blocks (inaccessible to the owners and zoned as Regional Open Space) close to the above Sydney Water land.

These constitute the 2% of the Park's area that are not yet 'in the pipeline' and for which we are campaigning.

The lands identified above are all shown on the plan below, prepared by the OSL

