

# Summary Report

## **Community engagement Draft Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019**

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## Attachments

<b>A</b>	Proposed changes and additional text for the final version of the Yarra Open Space Strategy Technical Report
<b>B</b>	Copy of the feedback form / survey

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Scope of the community engagement

### 1.1.1 Summary of the community engagement process

Council endorsed the Draft Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019 for consultation in December 2019 and it was available for public consultation from 20 January to 15 March 2020. The engagement process involved a range of consultation methods described below.

#### 1.1.1a Your Say Yarra Website page

A Your Say Yarra Website page for the Draft Strategy was the main tool used to provide information and collect feedback. The page contained essential information around the overall direction and the proposed recommendations within each of the 10 open space precincts. There were interactive maps for each of the open space precincts and the community could also access the Draft Strategy documents via the website along with a Frequently Asked Questions page and other related Yarra Strategies.

The community was invited to participate via:

- Direct emails and letters to previous participants from the first round of consultation.
- Social media posts.
- Postcards on Access Yarra counters, libraries, neighbourhood houses, letter box drops as well as other community and service centres.
- Physical copies of the Strategy and surveys were available at the Yarra service centres.
- Direct emails to key stakeholder groups such as schools, friends of groups, sporting groups and internal advisory committees.
- Contacting service agencies that assisted with the first round of consultation including St Mark's and St Mary's House of Welcome.
- Articles in the Yarra News and associated Yarra e-newsletters.

#### 1.1.1b Advisory committee meetings

Council officers attended advisory committee meetings where invited including the:

- Aboriginal Advisory Group
- Active Ageing Advisory Group
- Disability Advisory Committee
- Early Years Reference Group
- Heritage Advisory Committee
- Yarra Environment Advisory Committee
- Yarra Multicultural Advisory Group.

At the advisory committee meetings, Council officers provided an overview of the Strategy and invited members to participate in the on-line survey. They also provided information specifically on where the Strategy intersected with the relevant strategic documents of that group and asked them to test the recommendations to ensure they were aligned.

### **1.1.1c Pop up sessions**

Council officers attended four pop up sessions to provide information, encourage participation in the survey and provide copies of the Draft Strategy. These sessions were held at the following locations:

- Connie Benn Centre, 160 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy
- Citizens Park, Richmond
- Edinburgh Gardens, Fitzroy North
- Peel Street Park, Collingwood

The majority of those who attended the pop-up sessions completed the on-line survey. Notes of comments heard more than once were also recorded.

### **1.1.2 Survey / Feedback form**

A hard copy and on-line survey was prepared to encourage feedback on the key recommendations in the Draft Strategy. The key strategy recommendations were listed in the survey and respondents were asked to rate the level of importance of each key recommendation. Refer to Attachment B for a copy of survey. Everyone who left their details during the first round of consultation was notified of the exhibition of the Draft Strategy and were encouraged to complete the survey.

A total of **284** surveys were completed and the results of the survey are summarised in Section 2 of this report. The Final Strategy has taken the results of this survey into consideration and this report identifies what changes have been made in response to it.

### **1.1.3 Written submissions**

A total of ten written submission were received during the public exhibition process. These are summarised in Section 3 of this report.

## 1.2 Combined summary of the key outcomes from the consultation

Overall, there was support for all the key recommendations in the Draft Strategy. In particular, there is a strong level of support for maximising opportunities to include natural features including trees, garden bed and grass in open space to assist mitigation of urban heat island effect. Providing additional open space and increasing opportunities for inclusive design of open space so everyone is able to use it also received a high level of support.

The top key issues raised in the consultation include:

- Increasing urban densities and the impact this has on neighbourhood character including overshadowing and over use of open space, the visual dominance of built form without adequate levels of greening and more vehicles and traffic.
- Lack of existing open space to adequately cater to the recent and future development and increased population.
- The need to balance the provision of increased facilities for fitness and exercise with the unbuilt and natural qualities of green space which is highly valued as a place to relax and unwind.
- Dogs off-leash in open space leading to personal safety and health issues, particularly in relation to children, while others note the importance to provide off-leash areas given pets are important for community health and wellbeing.

## 1.3 Summary of the key changes made to the Strategy based on the consultation outcomes

### 1.3.1 Provision of additional open space

The open space survey outcomes and written submissions confirm the community support the need for providing additional open space, particularly in the high density precincts. In response to this, TBLD has reviewed the open space needs assessments undertaken to determine if any additional open space required beyond the 24 new public open spaces already proposed in the strategy. Based on this review, two additional open space have been added to the updated Strategy including:

- **Collingwood**

A proposed additional new Small Local open space in open space sub-precinct Collingwood B. This is due to the quantum of forecast growth planned for in this sub-precinct, and the concern expressed by the community about the need for more open space, the loss of urban greening and views to the sky as a result of increased urban densities. Additionally, the recommendation for a new Local open space in open space sub-precinct Collingwood B has been updated to specifically reference this potentially being located in the vicinity of the Former Police Workshop on Wellington and Stanley Streets.

- **Richmond**

A proposed additional new Small Local open space is included in open space sub-precinct North Richmond C. This is due to the quantum of forecast growth planned for this sub precinct, and particularly, the quantum of growth and density proposed in the northern section of it. While the existing Annette's Place Reserve can accommodate some additional use, the proximity of residential use and lack of passive surveillance will continue to limit the visibility, accessibility and diversity of uses that can be undertaken at that reserve in the future.

Figure 5A which schematically illustrates the type and location of new open space has been updated with the new open space and included in the Attachment A. Figure 7.5F - Recommendations for Collingwood and Figure 7.10F Recommendations for North Richmond have also been updated, and are included in Attachment A.

Refer to Attachment A which includes extracts from the Strategy Technical Report highlighting the updated recommendations referred to above.

### 1.3.2 Urban greening

The key recommendation to increase the presence of natural features in public open space, particularly in high density precincts was strongly supported during the consultation. In the feedback, people noted the importance of green open space as a contrast to the high density precincts, and the lack of overall greening in the streetscapes and on the recent development sites.

The Draft Strategy identifies the importance of green open space and includes design guidelines in Section 6 of the Technical Report in support of increased natural features in existing and new open space. Future open space design upgrades and designs of new open space as part of development sites will need to demonstrate they adhere to the design guidelines regarding natural features and urban greening. Refer to Section 6.2.1. Additional text has been added to the Strategy Technical Report to note the high level of community support for urban greening.

Refer to Attachment A for the extract of Section 3.1.5.

### 1.3.3 Streetscapes

The consultation outcomes included requests for streetscapes to be included as public open space. Section 1.2.3 of the Strategy Technical Report explains the difference between public open space and streetscapes, and the reason they have distinctly different roles in the public realm. This Section has been revised to provide a more detailed description why streetscapes are not included as public open space, and the existing plans and strategies that guide the future design and management of streetscapes in the City of Yarra.

The Strategy acknowledges the important contribution of streetscapes to neighbourhood character, urban greening and accessibility to open space. An additional section has been added to the Strategy in Section 3.1.7 Urban context.

Refer to Attachment A for the extracts of updates to Section 1.2.3 and the new Section 3.1.7.

### **1.3.4 Increased urban densities**

Many people expressed concern about the impact on increased urban densities on neighbourhood character. They generally acknowledged the need for increased densities, but are concerned at the lack of planning and improvements to public open space and other parts of the public realm including the streetscapes to adequately offset the impact. The Strategy has addressed the issues of increased urban densities by planning ahead for the forecast change. This is described in Section 4 of the Strategy Technical Report. An additional Section has been added to specifically to highlight the issue of the impacts of increased levels of use of open space.

Refer to Attachment A for the new Section 4.5.

### **1.3.5 Open space contribution program**

The open space contribution program and rate is directly linked to the projects included in the Open Space Strategy. A number of submissions made the suggestion that Council should only spend open space contributions on land acquisition.

As described in the Strategy and in this report, the open space contribution program is based around the provision of additional land area for open space and also for capital works costs to establish new open space and upgrade facilities in existing open space where appropriate to meet the additional needs of the forecast population.

The open space contribution program has been updated to reflect the additional projects as a result of the community and council officer consultation on the Draft Strategy 2019. Based on the additional projects, the contribution rate will be increased to accommodate the additional projects.

Refer to Attachment A which includes extracts from Section of the Strategy Technical Report highlighting the updated text referred to above.

The open space contribution program and rate is directly linked to the projects included in the Open Space Strategy. A number of submissions made the suggestion that Council should only spend open space contributions on land acquisition.

## 2. Survey results

### 2.1 Summary of key outcomes

Overall the majority of respondents considered the key recommendations from the Draft Strategy to be either Very important or Important. Only two recommendations were rated as being of lower importance - which are the provision of additional dog off-leash areas and encouraging participation in structured sport.

Rank	%	Recommendation
1.	95%	<i>Maximise opportunities to have large canopy shade trees and natural features including grass and garden beds to keep open space cooler in the summer and mitigate urban heat.</i>
2.	91%	<i>Provide additional open space so that the majority of people who live and work in the City of Yarra are within easy walking distance of open space.</i>
3.	90%	<i>Increase opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds to access, participate and enjoy open space.</i>
4.	89%	<i>Improve biodiversity values along waterway corridors including the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek with appropriate revegetation.</i>
5.	88%	<i>Continue to deliver sustainable water harvesting and reuse, contributing to increased urban greening in open space, particularly in higher density areas.</i>
6.	87%	<i>Implement an open space contribution rate of up to 10 per cent in the Yarra Planning Scheme that applies to new development. This is so the new population contributes fairly to new open space and improvements to existing open space.</i>
7.	86%	<i>Encourage people to be outdoors and to exercise and keep fit by providing a diverse range of facilities in open space</i>
8.	68%	<i>Encourage participation in organised sport by providing adequate open space and upgrading facilities to be more inclusive for everyone.</i>
9.	55%	<i>Investigate the provision additional dog off-leash areas as part of the future review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan.</i>



## 2.2 Survey method and respondents

### 2.2.1 Survey method and content

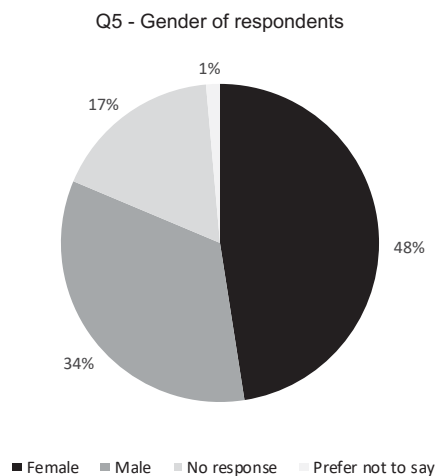
A total of **284** surveys were completed, with 36 of these completed online. The survey included a list of key recommendations from the Draft Strategy that respondents were asked to rate in terms of level of importance to them. The four categories of importance were:

- Very important
- Important
- Some importance
- Not important

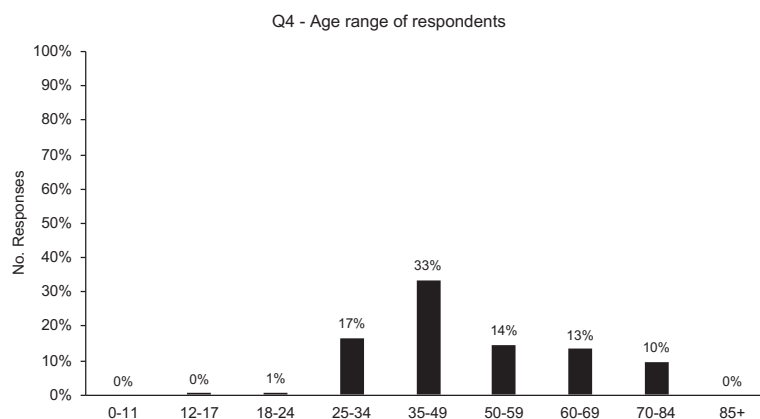
Next to each recommendation, respondents were invited to make any comments on their answer. There was also space for people to make general comments on the Draft Strategy. The other simple multiple choice questions included were to gain an understanding of who completed the survey to confirm whether a representative sample was received.

### 2.2.2 Who completed the survey

#### 2.2.2a Gender

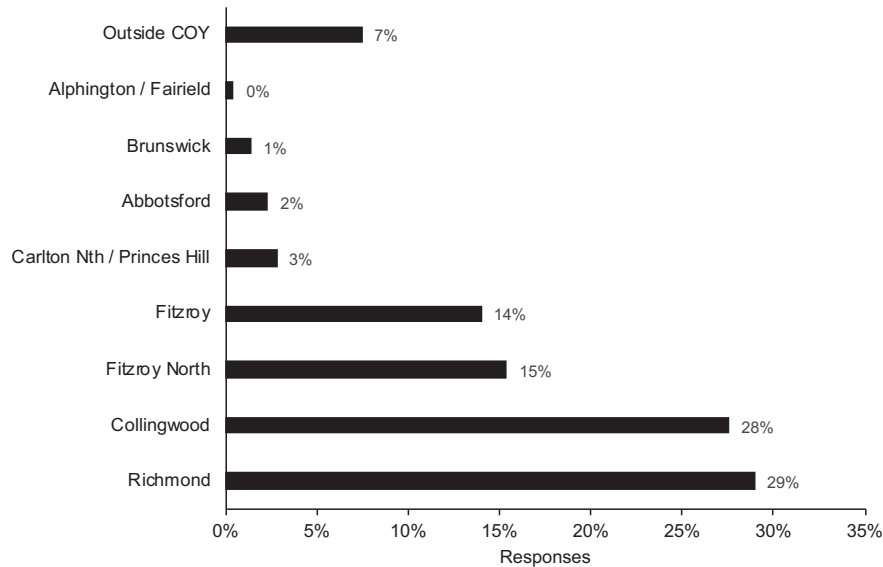


#### 2.2.2b Age range



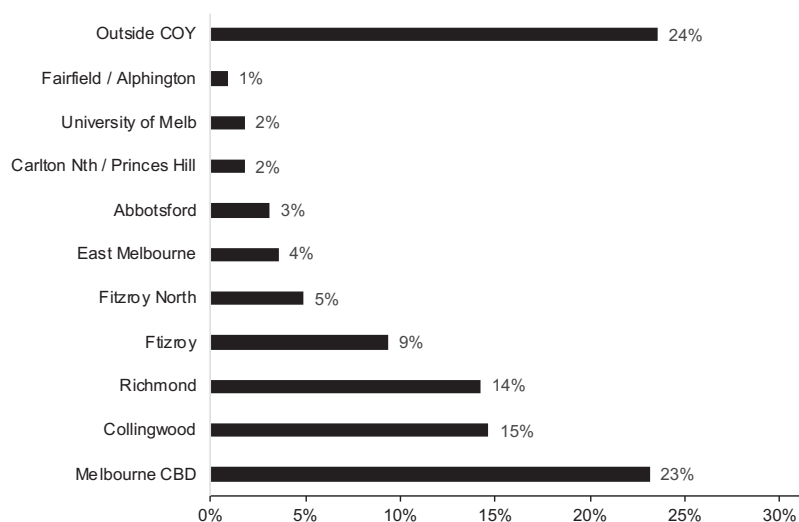
Typically these household surveys do not attract a high response rate from people under the age of 25 and there is a reasonable representation of other age groups between 25 and 84.

### 2.2.2c Where they live



The majority of the surveys were completed by residents from the City of Yarra, with representation from all suburbs. Please note that with 1No. survey received from Fairfield / Alphington, which is the reason the percentage appears as 0%. The highest percentage of results were received from Richmond and Collingwood as shown.

### 2.2.2d Where they work



Just over half of the survey respondents work outside the City of Yarra, with nearly half of them working in Melbourne CBD, and other key places being East Melbourne and at the University of Melbourne. Of the 49 per cent of those who work in the City of Yarra, they are spread across all suburbs with the majority being in Collingwood and Richmond.

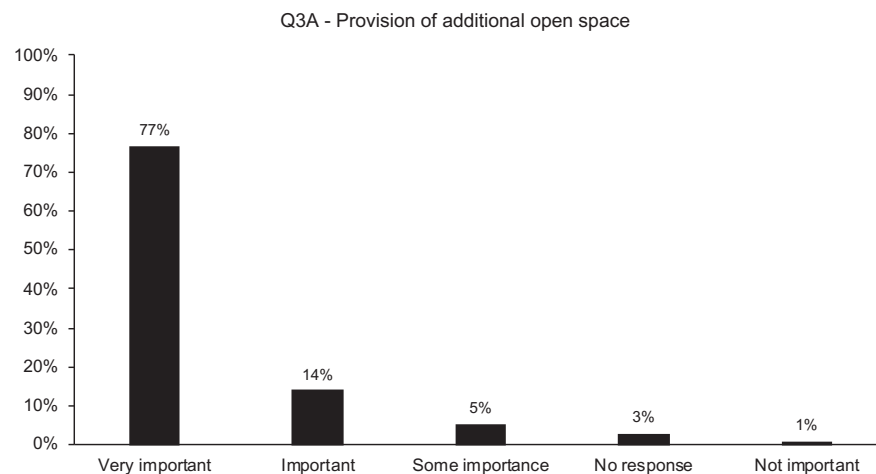
## 2.3 Results of each question

### 2.3.1 Q3A Provision of additional open space

#### 2.3.1a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Provide additional open space so that the majority of people who live and work in the City of Yarra are within easy walking distance of open space*



Overall there is a high level of support for the provision of additional open space and is ranked second highest out of the nine key recommendations, with a combined total of 91 per cent of respondents stating it is important. The comments associated with this rating indicate there that open space is highly valued and that additional open space is required, particularly as urban densities increase.

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.1c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

#### 2.3.1b Top five comments

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.1.1	Green open space beneficial to health and wellbeing (30).	Respondents highly value the contribution that green open space makes to their health and wellbeing. It reinforces the importance of incorporating natural features including trees, garden beds and grass into open space upgrades and new open space. This is consistent with the Strategy including Section 1.3 Objectives and principles, Section 1.4 the importance of open space, Section 2.4 research into the health and wellbeing benefits of open space, Section 4.3 Urban densities and open space and Section 6.2 Climate change and urban greening.

No.	Comment	Response
		<p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1.4 will be updated to reference the support of the benefits of green open space to community health and wellbeing during the consultation on the Draft Strategy.</li> </ul>
2.3.1.2	Open space - beneficial for health and wellbeing (29).	<p>This is similar to 2.3.1.1, however the key difference is that in 2.3.1.1 respondents specifically noted green open space as distinct from open space in general. Many of these comments were supported by comments related to being places to exercise, socialise and to relax and unwind. The Strategy supports these principles throughout the document.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
2.3.1.3	Open space - additional required as density increases (19).	<p>Provision of additional open space is strongly supported particularly in the higher density areas including Collingwood, Fitzroy and Richmond. There were extensive comments from people noticing the increased rate of change with taller built form leading to more people and also loss of light, longer views, urban greening and sunlight.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add an additional Small Local open space in Collingwood B sub-precinct given the level of specific comments and concerns regarding the lack of open space as urban densities increase in Collingwood.</li> <li>Add an additional Small Local open space in North Richmond C as in response to the need for additional open space where urban densities are increasing.</li> </ul>
2.3.1.4	Open space - important as density increases (14)	Refer to the response 2.3.1.3 above.
2.3.1.5	Green open space important to mitigate urban heat island effect (14).	<p>The comment supports the Strategy direction to identify mitigating urban heat island effect as a key role of public open space in the future. Critical to its function for this is for the open space to incorporate moisture retaining surfaces and large trees to promote evapotranspiration for effective cooling during periods of extended heat. This is included in the Strategy in Sections 1.4, 3.3.3, 4.4, 4.4.2 and 6.2.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

## 2.3.1c List of all comments regarding additional open space

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments regarding provision of additional open space
<b>123</b>	<b>Importance of open space</b>
29	Open space - beneficial for health and wellbeing
14	Open space - important as density increases
11	Open space - contributes to sense of community
8	Open space - for childrens play
7	Open space - essential to liveability
6	Open space - no additional open space required in my area
5	Open space - for socialisation / meeting friends
5	Open space - important for exercising pets
3	Open space - highly valued
3	Open space - trees and plants are highly valued in open space
2	Open space - beneficial to physical health
2	Open space - important due to high density living and lack of private open space
2	Open space - being outdoors is beneficial to health and wellbeing
1	Open space - buildings and roads increase the heat in Fitzroy
1	Open space - appreciate them
1	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing in high density areas
1	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing (residents and workers)
1	Open space - contact with nature
1	Open space - contributes to aesthetics
1	Open space - contributes to sustainability
1	Open space - diversity of types valued
1	Open space - dog socialisation
1	Open space - essential for work/life balance
1	Open space - for adults exercise
1	Open space - for biodiversity
1	Open space - for childrens play given no private open space
1	Open space - for fresh air
1	Open space - for outdoor activities
1	Open space - healing when you are ill
1	Open space - important access for young children
1	Open space - important every day including during the week and weekends
1	Open space - important to relax and exercise outdoors
1	Open space - improve knowledge of local eco-system
1	Open space - see the sky
1	Open space - spaces for walking valued
1	Open space - trees improve air quality
1	Open space - protect sunlight access to open space
1	Open space - unstructured and informal spaces valued
1	Open space - urban plazas are important
<b>88</b>	<b>Importance of green open space</b>
30	Green open space beneficial to health and wellbeing
14	Green open space important to mitigate urban heat island effect
11	Green open space important for biodiversity
7	Green open space that is easily accessible is important
3	Green open spaces are beautiful
3	Green open space as a break from traffic noise and pollution

No.	Comments regarding provision of additional open space
3	Green open space contributes to sense of community
2	Green open space important for physical health and fitness
2	Green open space improves air quality
2	Green open space is important for families
3	Green open space to relax and unwind
1	Green open space to absorb rainfall
1	Green open space as a break from built form
1	Green open space contributes to liveability
1	Green open space for childrens play
1	Green open space important as urban density increases
1	Green open space important for exercising pets
1	Green open space important for trees
1	Green open space important place for meeting friends
<b>74</b>	<b>Additional open space required</b>
19	Open space - additional required as density increases
9	Open space - additional green open space required as density increases
6	Open space - additional required in Collingwood
5	Open space - Edinburgh Gardens is too crowded so additional open space required to offset this
4	Open space - additional required as density increases in Fitzroy
3	Open space - additional open space required within walking distance
3	Open space - important as no access to private open space
3	Open space - important to easily reach open space for health and wellbeing
3	Open space - additional green open space required in Collingwood
1	Open space - additional open space for future generations
1	Open space - additional required in Richmond
1	Open space - additional required in Richmond Hill
1	Open space - additional required, however it is too late as urban densities are too high and land is too expensive
1	Open space - Citizens Park is overused and additional open space is required to offset this
1	Open space - convert car parks to public plazas
1	Open space - convert existing public land to open space so it is not as expensive
1	Open space - convert on-street parking to green open space and wider footpaths
1	Open space - existing open space is very busy
1	Open space - important to mitigate urban heat island effect in Collingwood
1	Open space - increase size of Greeves St Reserve in Fitzroy
1	Open space - increase the size of Napier St road closure at Webb St in Fitzroy
1	Open space - is our backyard
1	Open space - lack of open space in Collingwood impacts on ability to live there and raise a family
1	Open space - more required due to no private gardens/backyards
1	Open space - need space to kick a ball in Collingwood
1	Open space - Oxford St Collingwood to be a park
1	Open space - providing more agree with but not in locations suggested
1	Open space - support providing more that is within easy walking distance
<b>20</b>	<b>Open space within easy walking distance is important</b>
7	Open space - proximity to home valued
2	Open space - access nearby valued so you can walk there
2	Open space - accessible to everyone
1	Open space - access for workers is important
1	Open space - access to green open space reduces stress
1	Open space - access to nature contributes to sense of community
1	Open space - access to open space important to liveability

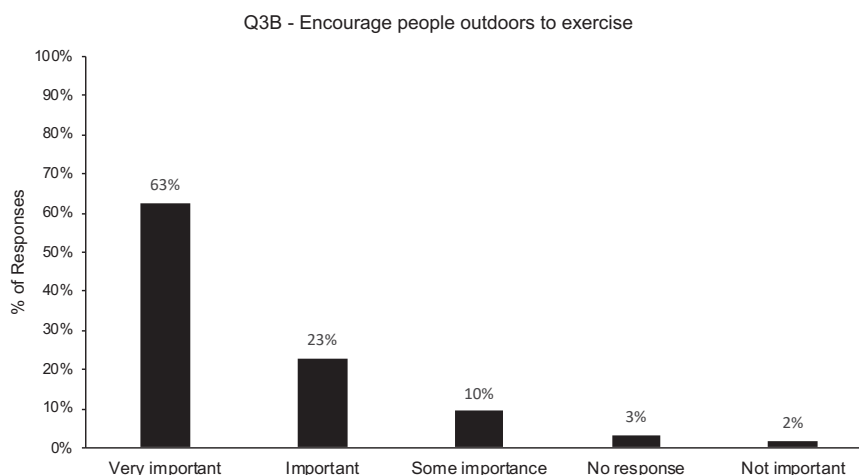
No.	Comments regarding provision of additional open space
1	Open space - access to the sky important
1	Open space - access within 300 metres of all residents a good aim
1	Access - access close to home is appreciated as I cannot walk far
1	Access - encourages use of open space
1	Open space - nearby important for wellbeing
<b>19</b>	<b>Improve utilisation and quality of existing open space rather than provide additional</b>
4	Open space - improved utilisation of existing open space required
2	Open space - quality open space is important
2	Open space - well maintained is important
2	Open space - visit open space in adjoining municipalities instead of new open space
1	Open space - consider those in adjoining areas
1	Open space - currently does not encourage community
1	Open space - currently not used to capacity
1	Open space - improve the quality of what is there rather than provide new
1	Open space - important to improve the quality of open space around the safe injecting room in Richmond
1	Open space - improve existing facilities
1	Open space - proposed open space in Central Richmond is too expensive.
1	Open space - underutilised in Richmond
1	Open space - upgrade existing open space
<b>7</b>	<b>Streets</b>
1	Streets - close streets reduce parking convert to open space
1	Streets – improve pedestrian amenity in streets in Fitzroy
1	Streets - increase planting in streetscapes in Fitzroy
1	Streets - reduce clutter from private bins left on footpaths in Fitzroy
1	Open space - improve access via local street network to major areas of open space
1	Open space - improve public road access to open space so it is safer and easier to see
1	Open space - needs to include streetscapes
<b>5</b>	<b>Dogs</b>
1	Fenced off-leash area required in Collingwood
1	Dog owners to be in control of their dog
1	Dog owners to be responsible for dog waste
1	Dog on leash area required at Citizens Park
1	Provide additional fenced dog off-leash areas
<b>3</b>	<b>Impacts of additional open space on traffic and roads</b>
1	Open space - additional would compromise traffic flow
1	Open space - need to consider traffic flow and parking.
1	Open space - retain car parking
<b>2</b>	<b>Trees</b>
1	Additional street trees to mitigate urban heat island effect required
1	Additional trees in open space to reduce carbon footprint
<b>1</b>	<b>Unstructured recreation facilities</b>
1	Unstructured recreation facilities - consider other facilities nearby so they are not duplicated

## 2.3.2 Q3B Provide a diversity of facilities to encourage people to exercise outdoors

### 2.3.2a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Encourage people to be outdoors and exercise and keep fit by providing a diverse range of facilities in open space*



While important, this was ranked seventh out of the nine recommendations. The comments made clarify that while exercise and keeping fit are important, so too is the peace and quiet that open space provides along with the social aspects of open space. Survey respondents raised issues of the need to balance facilities with natural features and green space. The highest level of importance placed on the key recommendation to maximise natural features and urban greening reinforces the need to ensure the natural features, particularly trees are retained and are not removed at the expense of facilities.

### 2.3.2b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.2c has a full list of the comments. The top 5 have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.2.1	Exercise is important for health and wellbeing (26)	<p>The Strategy acknowledges that exercise is important for health and wellbeing, including in Section 1.2 and 3.1.5. The Strategy does not have a specific section that identifies this as a key influence on open space.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Add a new Section 4.5 that confirms the importance of the provision of facilities for unstructured recreational use balanced with the protection of natural features and contemplative spaces in open space for people to relax and unwind.</i></li></ul>



No.	Comment	Response
2.3.2.2	Diversity of facilities - agree they are important (22)	As noted in 2.3.2.1.
2.3.2.3	Diversity of facilities - important to encourage people outdoors to exercise.	<p>There is recognition that the provision of facilities encourages people to be outdoors and participate in activities. There are other comments that express concern that a balance needs to be retained between the provision of facilities for exercise and other values of open space, particularly for its naturalness, peace and quiet and the social connectedness.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Section 6.3 to refer to the balance of the provision of facilities that encourage fitness are balanced the protection and maintenance of natural features and green open space.</li> </ul>
2.3.2.4	Diversity of facilities - prefer to have grass and trees so there is more space (9)	<p>This include comments in relation to the small size of exiting open space and that facilities can easily over-dominate the space, which people note is very important for being able to visit to relax and unwind. The need for green open space with natural features has been included and referenced throughout the Strategy.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
2.3.2.5	Health - encouraging people to exercise reduces stress on public health system	<p>This is noted, and is described in Section 1.4, Importance of open space in the Draft Strategy. It is also supported by the Council Plan objectives, included in Section 1.3.1 of the Strategy Technical Report which are adopted as key objectives to meet for the Open Space Strategy.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>

### 2.3.2c List of all comments regarding diversity of facilities in open space

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments regarding provision of a diversity of facilities in open space
<b>126</b>	<b>Support a diversity of facilities</b>
26	Diversity of facilities - exercise important for health and wellbeing
22	Diversity of facilities - agree they are important
15	Diversity of facilities - important to encourage people outdoors to exercise
8	Diversity of facilities - agree they are important but also need green space and trees for peace and quiet
6	Diversity of facilities - important they are accessible and free
6	Diversity of facilities - participating in exercise contributes to sense of community
6	Diversity of facilities - exercise important for social contact as well
2	Diversity of facilities - agree important and currently do not have access to this
2	Diversity of facilities - basketball rings important
2	Diversity of facilities - cycle and walking paths are important
2	Diversity of facilities - fitness is important for mental health and happiness
2	Diversity of facilities - important for children

No.	Comments regarding provision of a diversity of facilities in open space
2	Diversity of facilities - important they are outdoors
2	Diversity of facilities - important as they encourage people in older age groups outdoors
2	Diversity of facilities - tree lined paths important
1	Diversity of facilities - agree they are important as long as they feel safe to use especially women
1	Diversity of facilities - agree they are important for all age groups
1	Diversity of facilities - can be for other reasons including enjoying the arts, play, socialise
1	Diversity of facilities - exercise is important to my family
1	Diversity of facilities - important as they encourage us outdoors to exercise, especially Princes Park
1	Diversity of facilities - important for exercising dogs
1	Diversity of facilities - important for health but only in the large parks
1	Diversity of facilities - important for health, but hard to find time to do it
1	Diversity of facilities - important for health, but less options in the inner city
1	Diversity of facilities - important for health, request a major outdoor fitness station
1	Diversity of facilities - important people can walk to them to reduce vehicle use
1	Diversity of facilities - important they are close to home as I have no car
1	Diversity of facilities - important to exercise away from the traffic
1	Diversity of facilities - important to exercise in the sun for Vitamin D
1	Diversity of facilities - important to include programmed activities for older women
1	Diversity of facilities - improves accessibility to everyone
1	Diversity of facilities - more required as density increases
1	Diversity of facilities - nature play important
1	Diversity of facilities - not all open space needs to be for exercise - social contact and meeting places also important
1	Diversity of facilities - skate facilities important
1	Diversity of facilities - strategy needs more about how they will be implemented.
<b>28</b>	<b>Open space and natural character</b>
9	Diversity of facilities - prefer to have grass and trees so there is more space
3	Open space - green space is the most important, facilities are of secondary importance
2	Diversity of facilities - open grassed areas important
2	Open space - green open space with paths, trees and vegetation is a priority
2	Open space - green space encourages people to socialise and sense of community
2	Open space - large parks and gardens provide diversity of facilities and spaces that are important for community health and wellbeing
1	Open space - additional required
1	Open space - additional required in Collingwood
1	Open space - create it and people will use it and find a variety of uses for it
1	Open space - ensure ongoing maintenance
1	Open space - for children's play
1	Open space - important for workers and residents
1	Open space - people value open space when they use it
1	Open space - query whether they are already well used
<b>12</b>	<b>Unstructured recreation</b>
6	Unstructured recreation - beneficial to mental and physical health and wellbeing
2	Unstructured recreation - important to encourage people outdoors and stay active
1	Unstructured recreation - contributes to sense of community and social contact

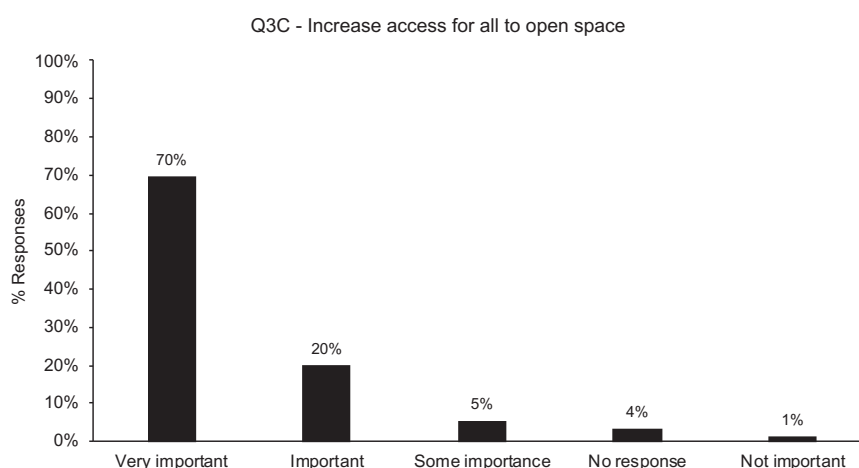
No.	Comments regarding provision of a diversity of facilities in open space
1	Unstructured recreation - important for children to access parks nearby to run and play
1	Unstructured recreation - important to keep people active
1	Unstructured recreation - personal trainers use open space
<b>9</b>	<b>Health</b>
9	Health - encouraging people to exercise reduces stress on public health system
<b>7</b>	<b>Disagree with a diversity of facilities</b>
2	Diversity of facilities - don't agree with this
1	Diversity of facilities - should not take up existing outdoor space
1	Diversity of facilities - inviting open spaces are more important than equipment
2	Diversity of facilities - no additional facilities are required
1	Diversity of facilities - don't agree with this as parks are too small
<b>6</b>	<b>Paths</b>
2	Paths - remove the commuter cycle paths from open space
1	Paths - good quality required
1	Paths - have separate cycle and pedestrian paths along the Capital City Trail
1	Paths - priority to have cycle paths
1	Paths - priority to pedestrians, bicycles and public transport
<b>6</b>	<b>Structured sport</b>
2	Structured sport - important for kids to keep fit
1	Structured sport and recreation - key reason for open space
1	Structured sport and recreation - personal trainers should not be charged to use the park
1	Sport and recreation - beneficial to mental and physical health and wellbeing
1	Sport and recreation - contributes to sense of community
<b>5</b>	<b>Informal use</b>
4	Informal use - just being outdoors is important for health and wellbeing
1	Informal use - spaces for families to enjoy as a relief from the built form
<b>3</b>	<b>Indoor recreation facilities</b>
2	Indoor recreation facilities - expensive and many cannot afford them
1	Indoor recreation facilities - important for diversity
<b>2</b>	<b>Physical activity</b>
1	Paths - walking and cycling paths are important to encourage people outdoors to exercise
1	Physical activity - improves quality of life
<b>1</b>	<b>Other comments</b>
1	Community gardens - important in open space
1	Dogs - dog walking encourages people outdoors to exercise
1	Drinking fountains - additional required
1	Electronic devices - should be banned in parks so people exercise
<b>1</b>	Facilities - quality of facilities is important
1	Nature - important for health and wellbeing
1	Play equipment - good quality required
1	Streetscapes - local streets are popular for walking
1	Weather - detracts from being outdoors

## 2.3.3 Q3C Increase access for everyone to open space

### 2.3.3a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Increase opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds to access, participate and enjoy open space*



Ranked third out of nine key recommendations, the combined very important and important total is 90 per cent. The comments clarify that access and inclusion are important to the survey respondents. Improving access covers all aspects of this including:

- open space being nearby and therefore accessible
- ensuring open space is physically accessible for people with limited mobility
- ensuring open space is safe and welcoming for people to use
- it is free and therefore socially equitable
- is important to build a sense of community.

### 2.3.3b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.3c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.3.1	Access - important for everyone including all abilities (24)	This supports on the key principles in Section 1.3.2 of the Strategy to ensure it is accessible. There were more specific comments around ensuring that open space is accessible for people with limited mobility, in wheelchairs and the for those who cannot walk far. The design guidelines in Section 6.6 encourage the inclusion of a diversity of facilities that appeal to all the different parts of our community. Section 6.7 encourages structured sport and recreation facilities to be inclusive and accessible.

No.	Comment	Response
		<b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
2.3.3.2	Access - important to build a sense of community as they are equitable (23)	<p>The more detailed descriptions associated with this comment related to open space being a place where everyone can gather and socialise irrespective of their income, cultural background, gender, age and physical ability. Having spaces that are publicly owned and bring communities together is referenced throughout the Strategy, however there is potential to strengthen it by include equitable as one of the core principles in Section 1.3.2.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add 'equitable' as a key principle to the Section 1.3.2, with the aim being - To ensure the public open space network is inclusive and accessible to everyone. .</li> </ul>
2.3.3.3	Access and inclusion – very important consideration for all open space (22)	Noted, refer to Response and proposed change in 2.3.3.2 above.
2.3.3.4	Access - important to celebrate our cultural diversity (13)	Noted, refer to 2.3.3.2 above.
2.3.3.5	Access - to green open space as well as facilities (9)	<p>Noted, refer to response in 2.3.2.1.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to 2.3.2.1.</li> </ul>

### 2.3.3c List of all comments regarding diversity of facilities in open space

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments regarding diversity of facilities in open space
145	<b>Recognise and support increasing access for all</b>
24	Access - important for everyone including all abilities
23	Access - important to build a sense of community as they are equitable
22	Access and inclusion – very important consideration for all open space
13	Access - important to celebrate our cultural diversity
9	Access - to green open space as well as facilities
6	Access - important for all ages including young and old
5	Access - important as it is free and equitable
4	Access - important as urban densities increase
4	Access - recognise difficult to make it accessible for everyone
3	Access - important for everyone to feel safe
2	Access - fitness important for everyone including all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds
2	Access - important especially for children
2	Access - important especially for children to access it independently
2	Access - important for residents and workers
2	Access - important for social contact
2	Access - important to celebrate diversity of our community
2	Access - more grassed areas required
2	Access - open space to be within a safe and easy walk of everyone
1	Access - all ability access in playgrounds

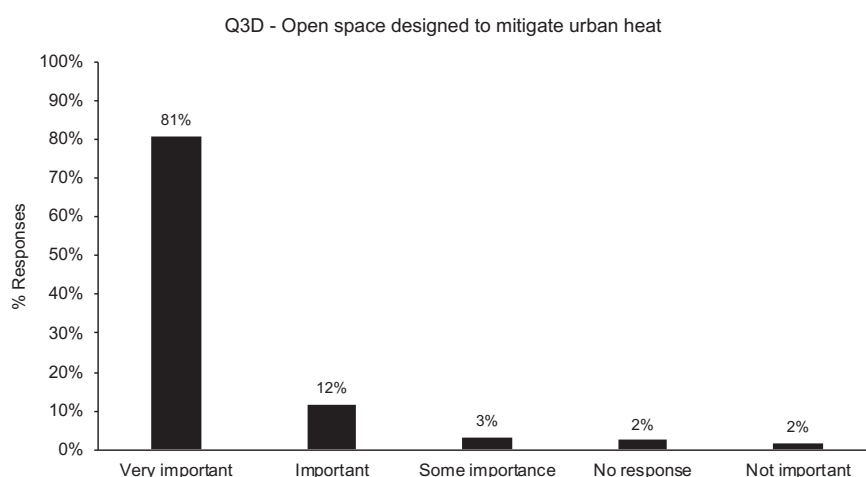
No.	Comments regarding diversity of facilities in open space
1	Access - all ability access to paths and trails important
1	Access - cobblestones in laneways difficult for people in with limited ability
1	Access - consider adjoining residents in relation to placement of facilities so it minimises noise impacts on them
1	Access - convert all of Peel Street to open space to hold community events
1	Access - Darling Gardens is a good example of an open space that is accessible for everyone
1	Access - fence playgrounds for young children
1	Access - important for community health and wellbeing of everyone
1	Access - important for everyone and Yarra does this well
1	Access - important for everyone to feel welcome and not be dominated by children's playgrounds
1	Access - important to access sports grounds
1	Access - important to ensure families can stay in the area
1	Access - increase the diversity of programs in open space - eg outdoor classes
1	Access - Rushall Reserve is not accessible for all
1	Access - safe injecting room impacts on our safe access and use of green open space
1	Access - Strategy needs to explain how this is to be implemented
1	Access - some open space is underutilised as the design and facilities are not targeted to the local demographics
1	Access - important they are well maintained to ensure they are accessible
<b>8</b>	<b>Open space</b>
3	Open space - additional open space in Collingwood required to promote access
1	Open space - additional open space required in Balmain Street Cremorne
1	Open space - additional required
1	Open space - contributes to liveability
1	Open space - contributes to the sense of place
1	Open space - improves health and well being
<b>6</b>	<b>No increase in access required</b>
3	Access - adequate now
1	Access - not important for me
1	Access - sufficient as vehicle access to roads needs to be retained
1	Structured sport - not necessary for Council to increase participation in sport
<b>4</b>	<b>Dogs</b>
1	Dogs - enforce dog off-leash regulations
1	Dogs - enforce off-leash areas at Edinburgh Gardens
1	Dogs - off-leash and dog excrement limit access for others
1	Dogs - off-leash near playgrounds limits safe access for children
<b>1</b>	<b>Paths</b>
1	Paths - separate cycle and walking paths, no shared paths

## 2.3.4 Q3D Open space designed to assist mitigating urban heat island effect

### 2.3.4a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Maximise opportunities to have large canopy shade trees and natural features including grass and garden beds to keep open space cooler in the summer and mitigate urban heat*



With 81 per cent stating that mitigating urban heat is very important to them demonstrates the highest level of support for this recommendation. Combining the Very Important and Important totals results in 95 per cent of respondents identifying this is important.

Comments demonstrate that respondents understand the important role that trees and urban greening plays in liveability, particularly during periods of extended heat.

### 2.3.4b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.5c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.4.1	Important to make the city more liveable in the context of climate change (37)	<p>Noted, and this is consistent with the Strategy.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Update Section 1.4 and 3.1.5 of the Strategy text to reference the high level of community support for open space for inclusion of natural features that contribute to mitigating urban heat.</i></li></ul>

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.4.2	Trees - plant more canopy shade trees important to retain liveability with climate change (33)	Noted, and this is consistent with the recommendations in the Strategy. This includes 1.1.1 where trees were identified as being important to the community and more highly valued compared the consultation results in 2006. The Principles reference the importance of trees, similarly in Section 1.4 regarding the importance of open space. The importance of trees is referred to throughout the Strategy including support for protecting and planting more throughout Section 6 Design and Management Guidelines. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> • None
2.3.4.3	Support green spaces and large trees to mitigate forecast temperature rise (22)	Refer to response to 2.3.4.1 and 2.3.4.2. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> • Refer to response to 2.3.4.1 and 2.3.4.2.
2.3.4.4	Streetscapes - plant canopy trees for shade, particularly in high density areas (13)	This Strategy refers to the recently prepared the Urban Forest Strategy 2017, and supports its implementation with promotes planting additional street trees. This is referred to in Section 2.1.2d with a summary of the Urban Forest Strategy 2017, Section 6.2 Climate change and urban greening, Section 6.11 Open space maintenance, <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> • None
2.3.4.5	Open space - additional trees and greening will make open space more usable and attractive (12)	This comment supports the recommendations in the Strategy, particularly the need for Council to focus on maximising urban greening and space for additional trees in future public open space design. Refer to Response to 2.3.4.4. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> • None

### 2.3.4c List of all comments regarding mitigating urban heat island effect

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments – open space designed to assist mitigating urban heat island effect
<b>66</b>	<b>Support greening of open space to assist to mitigate urban heat island effect</b>
37	Important to make the city more liveable in the context of climate change
22	Support green spaces and large trees to mitigate forecast temperature rise
3	Important given the weather is getting hotter
2	Require new developments to include urban greening requirements including green walls, roof gardens and greening between the street and the building
1	Stop approving small apartments
1	An increase in natural features will improve carbon sequestration in context of climate change
<b>39</b>	<b>Trees</b>
33	Trees - plant more canopy shade trees important to retain liveability with climate change
1	Trees - important and need to be selected well and maintained by qualified Arborist



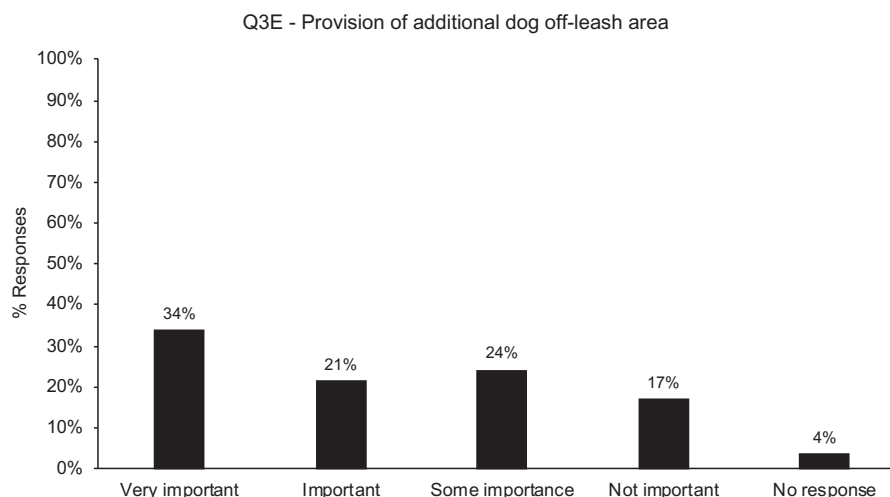
No.	Comments – open space designed to assist mitigating urban heat island effect
1	Trees - introduce mandatory protection on private land
1	Trees - need careful selection to avoid damage to infrastructure
1	Trees - plant more large canopy shade trees important to retain liveability with climate change especially in Collingwood
1	Trees - require minimum of 1 large canopy tree in front gardens
1	Trees - shade is important in high density areas.
<b>19</b>	<b>Open space</b>
12	Open space - additional trees and greening will make open space more usable and attractive
3	Include additional planting along the waterways as well
1	Ensure adequate sunlight to open space is retained
1	Open space - ensure it remains practical to use with urban greening
1	Open space - need additional large green space in Richmond
1	Open space - plant native trees and plants
<b>5</b>	<b>Water use</b>
2	Native fauna - important to provide water in open space on hot days for fauna including birds
1	Open space - grass is supported but concern to maintain with drier climate
1	Open space - recommend use of low water use native plants
1	Open space - support improved level of irrigation in open space to support grass cover year round
<b>18</b>	<b>Streetscapes</b>
13	Streetscapes - plant canopy trees for shade, particularly in high density areas
2	Streetscapes - replace footpaths with permeable surfaces
1	Streetscapes - close Gertrude Street and plant with trees for shade
1	Streetscapes - don't support converting them to open space
1	Streetscapes - existing garden beds poorly maintained
<b>9</b>	<b>Health and wellbeing</b>
8	Health and wellbeing - natural features aesthetically pleasing and beneficial for mental health
1	Health and wellbeing - green spaces are essential for health and wellbeing
<b>4</b>	<b>Biodiversity</b>
2	Biodiversity - additional natural features improve biodiversity
2	Biodiversity - additional natural features will benefit wildlife including bees
<b>3</b>	<b>Health</b>
3	Health - additional shade will provide protect the community from the sun in summer
<b>3</b>	<b>Urban agriculture</b>
3	Urban agriculture - including edible fruit trees, vegetables and herbs
<b>1</b>	<b>Dogs</b>
1	Dogs - owners to clean up after dogs so natural spaces are useable by all
<b>1</b>	<b>Sport</b>
1	Sport - maximise opportunities for natural features as long as there is room for sporting activities

## 2.3.5 Q3E Provision of additional dog off-leash areas

### 2.3.5a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Investigate the provision of additional dog off-leash areas as part of the future review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan*



This recommendation had the lowest level of importance compared with the others and was ranked last out of the nine key recommendations.

The comments identify that there is a clear divide between people who agree with providing additional dog off-leash areas and those that do not want this due to the impacts dogs off-leash have on other recreational use and values of open space. There are also numerous comments in relation to the conflicts and issues associated with dogs off-leash on sports grounds, particularly at Citizens Park.

### 2.3.5b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.5c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.5.1	Dogs - no additional off-leash areas required (24)	The response reflects the negative experience people have of dog owners not effectively controlling their dogs in public open space. Many of the comments associated with this statement refer to issues of dogs off-leash impacting on the ability to use the public open space for other purposes. Sharing is a core principle underpinning the Strategy and will continue to be an important guide as urban densities increase and open space is used by more people. By recommending that Council investigate options for additional dog off-leash areas in the Domestic Animal Management Strategy means that there will be a thorough consultation process focused on resolving the dog management issues in the City, including in public

No.	Comment	Response
		<p>open space. This recommendation is located in Section 6.6 of the Strategy.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
2.3.5.2	Citizens Park is overrun with dogs (19)	<p>The survey responses raised many concerns regarding the dog off-leash arrangements at Citizens Park. Being one of the most popular parks in the City of Yarra, and located within an area with substantial forecast growth, it is important to resolve the appropriate shared use of this space. The need for and provision of both additional open space and repurposing of existing reserves will assist to reduce the future pressure on Citizens Park. The need to resolve the dog management issues at Citizens Park are urgent and should be undertaken in the context of all the issues as part of the Domestic Animal Management Plan. This recommendation is located in Section 6.6 of the Strategy.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
2.3.5.3	Dogs - owners to be responsible for dog waste (15)	<p>The survey respondents are concerned about the health hazards from dog waste in open space and also that it limits effective use of open space for other purposes. This issue appropriate to review as part of the revisions to the next Domestic Animal Management Plan.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
2.3.5.4	Dogs - additional off-leash areas required (13)	<p>The comment reflects the need that dog owners have to exercise their dogs off-leash. As the population increases so will the number of people who own dogs and need to exercise them. As per the response in 2.3.5.2, the Strategy recommends the identification of appropriate locations for off-leash areas is to be addressed as part of the Domestic Animal Management Plan.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
2.3.5.5	Dogs - off-leash personal safety concerns, particularly children (12)	<p>Dogs off-leash and not under effective control of their owners can be intimidating for other park users. This issue needs to be addressed more effectively by the Domestic Animal Management Plan. The Strategy recommends a major update of the Domestic Animal Management Plan, refer to Recommendation 6.6-1.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>

### 2.3.5c List of all comments regarding provision of additional dog off-leash areas

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No	Comments regarding provision of additional dog off-leash areas
<b>80</b>	<b>Concerns regarding dog off-leash areas</b>
24	Dogs - no additional off-leash areas required
12	Dogs - off-leash personal safety concerns, particularly children
11	Dogs - owners to be responsible for controlling their dogs
5	Dogs - discourage dog ownership in Yarra given lack of space
4	Dogs - off-leash areas exclude other users
4	Access - unfair to create more off-leash areas as it excludes other users
3	Dogs - not important given we need access to green space
3	Dogs - need a balance of dog off-leash and dog free areas
2	Dogs - easily exercised on-leash walking in the streets
2	Dogs - increase dog on-lead or dog-free areas
2	Dog - no additional off-leash areas as they impact on wildlife
1	Dogs - off-leash areas impact on informal use of open space
1	Dogs - additional off-leash areas are not a priority
1	Dogs - adequate off-leash areas in Cremorne
1	Dogs - Edinburgh Gardens - access by dogs limits human use of park
1	Dog - owners to ensure their dog is under effective control in open space
1	Dogs - more spaces for children required
1	Dogs - not a priority
1	Dogs - support dogs exercised on-lead
<b>73</b>	<b>Support the provision of additional dog off-leash areas</b>
13	Dogs - additional off-leash areas required
5	Dogs - additional off-leash areas required in Fitzroy
5	Dogs - dog off-leash areas are important for socialisation of people and dogs
8	Dogs - additional off-leash areas required as urban densities increase
7	Dogs - additional fenced off-leash areas required
6	Dogs - off-leash areas valued
2	Dogs - additional dog drinking facilities required
2	Dogs - enlarge off-leash areas so they are effective
5	Dogs - important for socialisation of people and dogs
2	Dogs - off-leash areas means there should be no-dog areas as well
1	Dogs - additional off-lead facilities required in North Fitzroy
1	Dogs - additional off-leash area required as urban densities increase in Collingwood
1	Dogs - additional off-leash area required to support responsible pet ownership
1	Dogs - additional off-leash areas could be investigated
1	Dogs - additional off-leash areas required in large parks only
1	Dogs - adopt the UK approach of universal dog friendliness
1	Dogs - all parks and gardens to be off-leash
1	Dogs - encourage people outdoors to exercise and socialise
1	Dogs - exercising my dog is important for me
1	Dogs - important to exercise them close to home
1	Dogs - improve amenity for dogs and their owners to improve existing off-leash areas
1	Dogs - improve condition of fenced dog off-leash areas, regarding Curtain Square
1	Dogs - off-leash and on-leash areas valued

No	Comments regarding provision of additional dog off-leash areas
1	Dogs - off-leash areas additional required to reduce pressure existing small open spaces
1	Dogs - Ottery Park closed to dogs has reduced off-leash areas
1	Pets - pet owners important to have an area where they can socialise (including cats)
1	Dogs - support dog parks so that other parks don't become unusable due dog excrement - for example Peel Street Park
1	Dogs - to share spaces with community sporting activity
<b>40</b>	<b>Citizens Park dog off-leash issues</b>
19	Citizens Park is overrun with dogs
10	Citizens Park - dog waste and holes in the oval is a health hazard for sporting use of oval
3	Citizens Park - owners to take responsibility for their dogs
2	Citizens Park - ban dogs from the oval
2	Citizens Park - remove fence to oval so that owners effectively control dogs
2	Citizens Park - needs to have more time allocated to sporting use without dogs
1	Citizens Park - I don't take my dog there as it is overcrowded
1	Citizens Park - oval to be on-leash
1	Citizens Park - additional off-leash area required in Richmond to replace Citizens Park
1	Citizens Park - Dogs off-leash to be removed from this park given impact on sporting oval
<b>25</b>	<b>Dog waste</b>
15	Dogs - owners to be responsible for dog waste
4	Dogs - waste makes some areas of open space unusable by others
1	Dogs - waste not picked up hazard for children
1	Dogs - waste not picked up is a health hazard
2	Dogs - owners to be responsible for collecting dog waste
1	Dogs - additional waste bags/bins required
1	Dogs - waste makes it hard to enjoy outdoor open space
<b>14</b>	<b>Sporting grounds and dogs</b>
3	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields
3	Dogs - remove off-leash areas from sports ovals to improve safety of sport
2	Dogs - Atherton Gardens is not appropriate as an off-leash area given sporting use
2	Dogs - ban dogs on sporting fields
2	Dogs - additional off-leash areas required to reduce conflict with sporting use
2	Dogs - health and safety issue of dog excrement and holes on sporting fields
<b>8</b>	<b>Enforce dog regulations</b>
4	Dogs - enforce off-leash regulations
2	Dogs - enforce regulations
1	Dogs - Council to enforce off-leash regulations
1	Dogs - owners to be more responsible in selection of their dog in a high density environment
<b>6</b>	<b>Open space</b>
1	Open space - dog waste limits the use of parks near home
1	Open space - more required as density increases
1	Open space - no dog-free parks close to my home
1	Dogs - Cremorne no open space is large enough to provide off-leash areas
1	Dogs - lack of open space limits potential for additional off-leash areas
1	Dogs - need access to quiet, safe open spaces

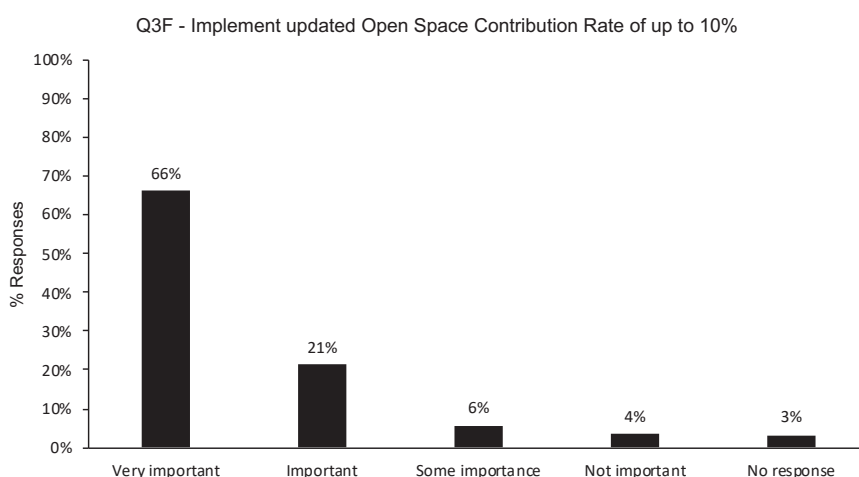
No	Comments regarding provision of additional dog off-leash areas
<b>4</b>	<b>Fenced dog areas</b>
1	Dogs - additional fenced dog parks required for training dogs
1	Dogs - additional fenced off-leash areas established by removing on-street parking adjacent to open space
1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas away from waterways due to risk of snakes
1	Dogs -fenced off-leash areas required
<b>3</b>	<b>Benefits of dog ownership</b>
2	Dogs - ownership provides range of benefits to owners
1	Dogs - increased ownership provides range of benefits to owners
<b>1</b>	<b>Playgrounds</b>
1	Playgrounds - fenced to prevent dog access

## 2.3.6 Q3F Implement an open space contribution rate of up to 10 per cent

### 2.3.6a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Implement an open space contribution rate of up to 10 per cent in the Yarra Planning Scheme that applies to new development. This is so the new population contributes fairly to new open space and improvements to existing open space.*



This recommendation is ranked sixth out of nine of the key recommendations in relation to its level of importance, with a combined total of 87 per cent.

The comments were mainly in relation to concern regarding the impact of high density development on the levels of use and quality of existing open space. The comments also reinforced the need for the provision of new open space, and specifically green open space. There were also a number of comments about the need to improve the interface between the high density development and the streetscape, requesting setbacks with planting and trees.

The comments also indicated that some people misunderstood the intent of the contribution rate. The full comments are listed in the 2.3.6c.

### 2.3.6b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.6c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.6.1	Contribution rate - agree with statement (50)	Noted. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• None</li></ul>

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.6.2	Contribution rate - 10 per cent too low given high density development (12)	<p>The statement reflects the sentiment of many of the 109 comments about the rate. This includes the concern regarding the intensity of recent and forecast development and the impact this will have on the existing open space. The Strategy specifically addresses the forecast increased urban densities and population growth in Section 4.3 of the Strategy Technical Report. The forecast growth is a key consideration in the precinct based open space needs assessments and recommendations. Refer to Section 7 of the Strategy Technical Report.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
2.3.6.3	Open space - additional green open space required as density increases (11)	<p>There is strong support in this and other related comments for the inclusion of more green public open space and also additional trees and greening on development sites. The Strategy addresses the need for greening of new open space in the Design and Management Guidelines in Section 6. Section 5.4.1 of the Strategy Technical Report includes guidelines for development adjoining or nearby public open space.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
2.3.6.4	Development - must include green open space on the development sites (9)	Refer to response to 2.3.6.3
2.3.6.5	Contribution rate - agree with statement given high density development (7)	Refer to response to 2.3.6.1.

### 2.3.6c List of all comments regarding the open space contribution rate

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments regarding the open space contribution rate
<b>109</b>	<b>Support the proposed contribution rate</b>
50	Contribution rate - agree with statement
12	Contribution rate - 10 per cent too low given high density development
7	Contribution rate - agree with statement given high density development
6	Contribution rate - contributions should be spent on new green open space close to the development
3	Contribution rate - fair and reasonable that developers contribute to new open space
3	Contribution rate - open space needs to be mandated, not just preferred
2	Contribution rate - agree due to the need for new open space to meet the needs of the new population
2	Contribution rate - agree with statement given high density development in Cremorne
2	Contribution rate - agree with statement given high density development in Collingwood and need for new green public open space
2	Contribution rate - agree with statement and include business as well as residential use
2	Contribution rate - agree with the rate for large developers, but not small developers



No.	Comments regarding the open space contribution rate
2	Contribution rate - shouldn't impact residents financially
2	Contribution rate - to be reserved for acquisition of new open space
1	Contribution rate - 10 per cent too low given high density development in Collingwood
1	Contribution rate - 10 per cent too low given high density development in Fitzroy
1	Contribution rate - agree but will only provide small areas of open space not large sporting reserves
1	Contribution rate - agree if it is a land contribution so some greening occurs for each development
1	Contribution rate - agree that the community benefit will be seen if implemented well
1	Contribution rate - agree with statement, need to do this as a priority
1	Contribution rate - all residents need to contribute
1	Contribution rate - either contribute land or cash towards purchase of open space
1	Contribution rate - everyone to contribute fully
1	Contribution rate - needs to increase relative to the density proposed on the site
1	Contribution rate - to be reserved for extraordinary capital improvement project
1	Contribution rate - too late, most of the area has been redeveloped
1	Contribution rate - use funds generated quickly
1	Development - must include open space to protect liveability of the neighbourhood
<b>29</b>	<b>Open space</b>
11	Open space - additional green open space required as density increases
3	Open space - existing open space already overcrowded
2	Open space - important it is public open space, not private open space
2	Open space - important to protect existing open space
2	Open space - provision of should be mandated as part of planning approvals
1	Open space - contributes to liveability
1	Open space - disappointed to see lack of a new larger open space in North Fitzroy
1	Open space - environmental benefits
1	Open space - important for outdoor exercise
1	Open space - important for socialisation
1	Open space - increase programming in existing open space instead of new open space
1	Open space - provide shade/habitat for wildlife
1	Open space - retain and improve existing open space to reduce costs
1	Open space - valuable but not instead of roads
<b>27</b>	<b>Development</b>
9	Development - must include green open space on the development sites
3	Development - to contribute to mitigating urban heat island effect
3	Development - development should also provide rooftop gardens and courtyards the public can use
2	Development - interface to streetscape needs improvement with increased greening
2	Development - needs space for trees to contribute to mitigating urban heat on the development sites
1	Development - avoid multi level towers
1	Development - concerned about the scale of high density development on the Gasworks Site in North Fitzroy
1	Development - concerned about the scale of recent development and no open space provided
1	Development - contribute to community facilities
1	Development - high density development in Collingwood is diminishing appeal of area
1	Development - need better planning to ensure balance of high density and open space
1	Development - prefer larger dwellings and less of them
1	Development - significant increase in urban densities without significant increase in green open space

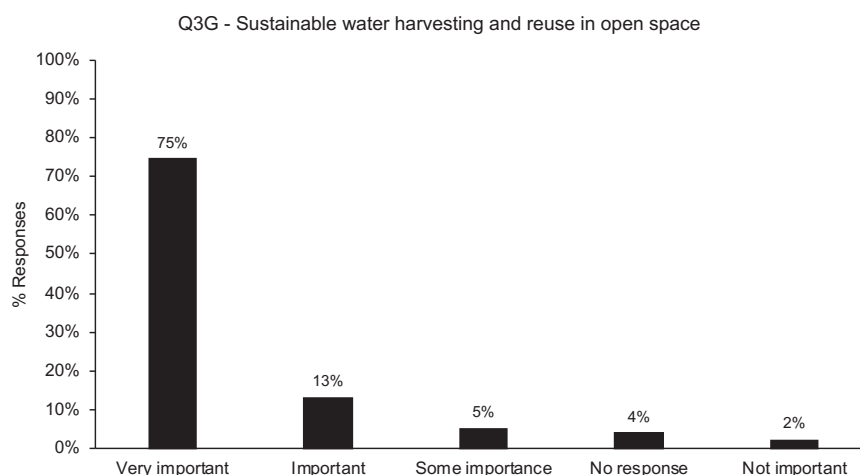
No.	Comments regarding the open space contribution rate
<b>11</b>	<b>Lack of understanding about the contribution rate</b>
7	Contribution rate - don't understand
2	Contribution rate - how is the figure calculated
1	Contribution rate - as a ratepayer cannot afford to pay more
1	Contribution rate - existing residents should not have to pay this
<b>3</b>	<b>Contributions and allocation to projects</b>
2	Contribution rate - concern about where the funds have been spent
1	Contribution rate - concern about where the funds been spent in Collingwood
<b>3</b>	<b>Do not agree with the contribution rate</b>
1	Contribution rate - don't agree as the cost will be passed onto owners and make it less affordable
1	Development - unfair to blame new residents for lack of open space - historical lack of provision
1	Contribution rate - strategy needs to further justify increase
<b>1</b>	<b>Parking</b>
1	Parking - key issue

## 2.3.7 Q3G Continue to deliver sustainable harvesting and reuse to increase urban greening

### 2.3.7a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Continue to deliver sustainable water harvesting and reuse, contributing to increased urban greening in open space, particularly in higher density areas.*



75 per cent of respondents rated this recommendation as very important and when combined with important, a total of 88 per cent place importance on it. It is ranked fifth out of the nine key recommendations.

The comments made relating to this recommendation were mainly in relation to recognising the importance to making best use of water and to ensure sustainability into the future. Other comments support irrigating open space, including small local open spaces so they are green in summer as well. There were a few comments noting the need to ensure it is implemented well and that the infrastructure associated with it does not impact on the useability of the open space.

### 2.3.7b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.7c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.7.1	Sustainable water use - important (17)	The Draft Strategy already notes the importance of sustainable water use. This referred to in relation to the importance of urban greening to community health and wellbeing and mitigating urban heat island effect. This is noted in Section 1.4 about the importance of open space, Section 4.4 regarding issues associated with the impacts of climate change on open space and Section 6.4

No.	Comment	Response
		regarding sustainable water use in the design guidelines for open space. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> • None
2.3.7.2	Sustainable water use - important for green spaces and urban cooling in the longer term (16)	The importance of green open space and its role in mitigating urban heat island effect has been incorporated into the Strategy in the Sections noted in 2.3.7.1. Additionally, Section 6.2 includes design guidelines responding to climate change and promoting urban greening. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> • None
2.3.7.3	Sustainable water use - important for sustainability (14)	The Strategy identifies the importance of the sustainability, with Sustainable being one of the key Strategy Principles referred to in Section 1.3.2 of the Strategy Technical Report. Sustainable water use is also specifically addressed in Section 6.4 of the design and management guidelines in the Strategy. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> • None
2.3.7.4	Sustainable water use - important as a precious resource (10)	Refer to Response in 2.3.7.3
2.3.7.5	Sustainable water use - important given drought and dry climate (10)	Refer to Response in 2.3.7.3

### 2.3.7c List of all comments regarding sustainable water harvesting and reuse

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments regarding sustainable water harvesting and reuse
119	<b>Support sustainable water harvesting and reuse</b>
17	Sustainable water use - important
16	Sustainable water use - important for green spaces and urban cooling in the longer term
14	Sustainable water use - important for sustainability
10	Sustainable water use - important as a precious resource
10	Sustainable water use - important given drought and dry climate
6	Sustainable water use - important contribution to environmental goals for Yarra
9	Sustainable water use - important in the context of climate change
2	Sustainable water use - important everywhere not just high density areas
2	Sustainable water use - concern about the costs
2	Sustainable water use - important in the context of increased urban densities
2	Sustainable water use - include in every green open space, not only high density areas
2	Sustainable water use - priority to establish green open space and trees
2	Sustainable water use - green open space irrigated with sustainable water supply supported

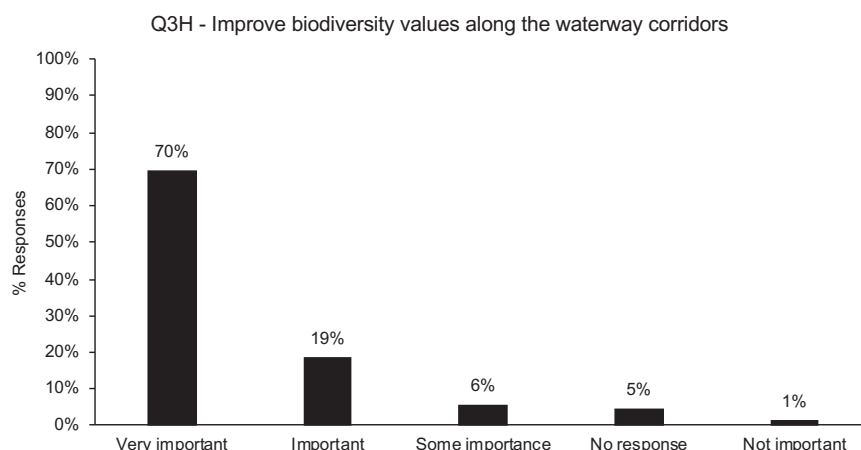
No.	Comments regarding sustainable water harvesting and reuse
2	Sustainable water use - concern at loss of open space to infrastructure associated with water harvesting
1	Sustainable water use - could be implemented on a larger scale
1	Sustainable water use - community education required
1	Sustainable water use - concern about leaking water pipes in Abbotsford area
1	Sustainable water use - concern it will cause flooding
1	Sustainable water use - consider improving water quality
1	Sustainable water use - Council can show leadership on this
1	Sustainable water use - developments to incorporate sustainable water reuse
1	Sustainable water use - happy with existing program - no need to expand
1	Sustainable water use - important for broader environmental benefits including for wildlife during hot dry weather
1	Sustainable water use - important for sustainability including supporting wildlife
1	Sustainable water use - important for urban agriculture
1	Sustainable water use - important to keep grass cover in summer in small local parks
1	Sustainable water use - important to reduce impact on waterways
1	Sustainable water use - important to research and implement successfully
1	Sustainable water use - important to store water during flood events and reuse
1	Sustainable water use - important to use the precious resources we have
1	Sustainable water use - investigate synthetic turf for sports fields
1	Sustainable water use - is it feasible in high density areas such as Cremorne
1	Sustainable water use - should be developers responsibility not Council
1	Sustainable water use - support in principle
1	Sustainable water use - support more permeable paved surfaces used in streets
1	Sustainable water use - support rainwater harvesting
1	Sustainable water use - we are all responsible
<b>4</b>	<b>Not supportive of increasing sustainable water reuse</b>
2	Poor implementation - WSUD works Clifton Ave/Roseneath St ineffective
1	Poor implementation - WSUD works in Stanley Street have been ineffective
1	Sustainable water use - reduce the population and decrease water use
<b>1</b>	<b>High density</b>
1	High density - stop over populating City of Yarra
<b>1</b>	<b>Open space</b>
1	Open space - need green open space
<b>1</b>	<b>Trees</b>
1	Trees - benefit from additional watering
<b>1</b>	<b>Vegetation</b>
1	Vegetation - use species designed to meet the natural rainfall

## 2.3.8 Q3H Improve biodiversity values along the waterway corridors

### 2.3.8a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Improve biodiversity values along waterway corridors, including the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek with appropriate revegetation*



Ranked fourth out of nine key recommendations, 70 per cent of respondents rated this recommendation as very important and when combined with important, a total of 89 per cent place importance on it.

The comments support the importance to protect the existing values and expand them with revegetation and improving water quality. They also highlight the importance of the natural values of the waterway corridors in contrast to an urban setting and are highly valued for this.

### 2.3.8b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.8c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.8.1	Waterways - support indigenous revegetation to improve riparian zone and habitat values (11)	The Draft Strategy highlights the importance of protecting and strengthening the biodiversity values along the waterway corridors. It also acknowledges the importance of protecting and improving the biodiversity values in other open space reserves within the context of character types. This is described in Section 6.3, of the Strategy Technical Report.

No.	Comment	Response
		<b><i>Proposed change to the Strategy:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>None</i></li> </ul>
2.3.8.2	Natural environment - important to protect (11)	<p>As noted in the response to 2.3.8.1, protecting the natural environment is strongly supported. The existing values are described in Sections 3.1.3 and 3.1.4 of the Strategy Technical Report. Recommendations regarding their protection and improvement are contained in Section 5.4.3, Section 6.3 and 6.10.4.</p> <b><i>Proposed change to the Strategy:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>None</i></li> </ul>
2.3.8.3	Biodiversity - protect and improve is an important goal (8)	<p>The Draft Strategy Technical Report has Ecological as one of the key Open Space Principles in Section 1.3.2 of the Strategy.</p> <b><i>Proposed change to the Strategy:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>None</i></li> </ul>
2.3.8.4	Waterways - support improvement to water quality and riparian zone to protect native fauna (6)	<p>The Draft Strategy Technical Report refers to the waterways, including the importance of the water quality and riparian zone in Section 3.1.4. Liaison with other agencies in relation to the waterway itself is included in Section 6.12.2 of the Strategy including liaison Melbourne Water and other agencies including adjoining municipalities and Parks Victoria.</p> <b><i>Proposed change to the Strategy:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>None</i></li> </ul>
2.3.8.5	Waterways - lungs of the city and require ongoing protection (5)	<p>This comment refers to the importance of the waterways to the quality and character of the City. Section 3.1 in the Strategy Technical Report describes the existing open space network and highlights the importance of the Yarra River and the waterways to the character and open space system.</p> <b><i>Proposed change to the Strategy:</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>None</i></li> </ul>

## 2.3.8c List of all comments regarding improving biodiversity values along the waterway corridors

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments regarding improving biodiversity values along waterway corridors
<b>57</b>	<b>Waterways</b>
11	Waterways - support indigenous revegetation to improve riparian zone and habitat values
6	Waterways - support improvement to water quality and riparian zone to protect native fauna
5	Waterways - lungs of the city and require ongoing protection
5	Waterways - lungs of the city and require on+A3:B15going protection
4	Waterways - highly valued for their natural environmental qualities require protection
3	Waterways - support community participation in revegetation and clean up
2	Waterways - continue the successful revegetation works already underway
2	Waterways - improvements will encourage more people to use the trails and advocate for their protection
2	Waterways - protect including to prevent erosion
2	Waterways - recognise, respect and consult with traditional owners
2	Waterways - stop approving developments so close to the Yarra River which impact on natural values
1	Waterways - concern about the noise generated by rowing clubs and commuter cyclists
1	Waterways - concern that increase in snakes is a threat to children and pets
1	Waterways - continue to maintain
1	Waterways - Council advocate to remove concrete lined channels and naturalise them
1	Waterways - ensure no loss of native trees
1	Waterways - habitat values including for insects very important
1	Waterways - implement existing plans for them
1	Waterways - introduce electric boats and phase out motor boats to improve water quality
1	Waterways - litter removal a priority
1	Waterways - Melbourne Water to improve
1	Waterways - need to address poor stormwater quality entering the waterways at the source
1	Waterways - priority to improve natural values
1	Waterways - State Government responsibility
<b>30</b>	<b>Biodiversity</b>
8	Biodiversity - protect and improve is an important goal
4	Biodiversity - important in the context of climate change
4	Biodiversity - important to protect and support the ecosystem including native fauna
2	Biodiversity - important to protect and improve for both the environment and enjoyment of open space
1	Biodiversity - important to protect bee population
1	Biodiversity - important to protect for future generations
1	Biodiversity - important to reduce introduced species and protect native fauna
1	Biodiversity - improve connectivity between Princes Park and Edinburgh Gardens
1	Biodiversity - improving and protecting will make it more sustainable in the longer term
1	Biodiversity - increase garden beds with native shrubs in larger parks and gardens to encourage smaller birds
1	Biodiversity - increasingly important in inner city due to loss in the peri-urban and regional areas



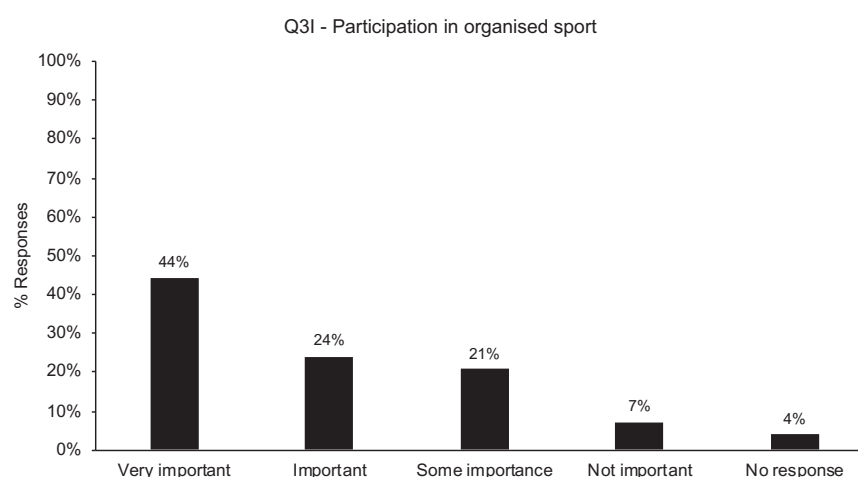
No.	Comments regarding improving biodiversity values along waterway corridors
1	Biodiversity - not important in Collingwood - increasing open space is a higher priority
1	Biodiversity - protect and promote native flora and fauna
1	Biodiversity - recognise we live in an urban environment so opportunities to improve are limited
1	Biodiversity - support expansion of native flora
1	Biodiversity - under threat, important to protect and improve
<b>13</b>	<b>Natural environment</b>
11	Natural environment - important to protect
1	Natural environment - contributes to health and wellbeing
1	Natural environment - important to connect people and pets with nature
<b>3</b>	<b>Connectivity</b>
2	Connectivity - need to improve connectivity for native fauna
1	Connectivity - along waterways important to strengthen habitat
<b>3</b>	<b>Vegetation</b>
2	Vegetation - indigenous revegetation important
1	Vegetation - weed control important
<b>1</b>	<b>Urban agriculture</b>
1	Urban agriculture - expand opportunity at Abbotsford Convent

## 2.3.9 Q3I Encourage participation in organised sport

### 2.3.9a Summary

The full recommendation that survey respondents were asked to indicate the level of importance to was:

- *Encourage participation in organised sport by providing adequate open space and upgrading facilities to be more inclusive for everyone*



Ranked second last of the nine key recommendations in relation to its level of importance, only 44 per cent of respondents identified it is very important. When combined with important, a total of 68 per cent place importance on it. This is not unusual given the lower proportion of the community who participate in structured sport and recreation compared to those who visit open space for other reasons.

The comments made relating to this recommendation noted the benefits of participation in organised sport, particularly being part of a team, health and wellbeing and encouraging young people outdoors. There were also concerns that structured sport facilities should not dominate the open space and the need to be inclusive.

### 2.3.9b Top five comments

The survey asked people to explain the reason for their answer, and 2.3.9c has a full list of the comments. The top five have been included below in a table with a response to the comments made.

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.9.1	Organised sport - local clubs encourage participation including junior teams (24)	Structured sport and recreation is important for community health and wellbeing including encouraging children to be active. The Strategy Technical Report refers broadly to the health and wellbeing benefits, it does not highlight junior participation in sport.

No.	Comment	Response
		<p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update the text in Section 3.1.5c of the Strategy Technical Report to refer to the importance of the social connectedness and participation in sport by juniors.</li> </ul>
2.3.9.2	Organised sport - participation in team sports strengthens and builds sense of community (24)	Refer to response to 2.3.9.1.
2.3.9.3	Organised sport - adequately provided for (16)	<p>The Strategy does not assess the structured sporting needs, however it does identify the need for new land area for structured sporting use if it is required. During the project, the sport and recreation team at Council advised that additional land area for structured sporting use will be required to meet the needs of the forecast population growth. The Strategy Technical Report includes recommendations to investigate repurposing existing restricted open space and potentially Yarra Bend Park, as described in Section 5.3.5 of the Technical Report.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>
2.3.9.4	Health and wellbeing - participation in organised sport along with other types of informal recreation all contribute to a healthy community (8)	<p>Refer to 2.3.9.1 regarding health and wellbeing benefits of structured sport. Informal or unstructured recreation is referred to in the Strategy including in Section 3.1.5, Community use of open space, Section 6.6 Design guidelines for unstructured recreation and throughout Section 7 regarding the use of open space at a precinct level.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add a new Section in 4.5 regarding the need to provide additional facilities and space for both structured and unstructured recreational use by the forecast population.</li> </ul>
2.3.9.5	Organised sport - needs to be inclusive of all (7)	<p>The Strategy Technical Report promotes inclusion in organised sport. This is covered mainly in Section 6.7 in the design and management guidelines for structure sport and recreation use and infrastructure.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None.</li> </ul>

## 2.3.9c List of all comments regarding the open space contribution rate

The following list of comments are assembled into topics and summarised from the full long hand comments provided in the survey. Detail has been retained in the comments to provide more insight into the comments made.

No.	Comments on encouraging participation in organised sport
<b>101</b>	<b>Support increased participation in organised sport</b>
24	Organised sport - local clubs encourage participation including junior teams
24	Organised sport - participation in team sports strengthens and builds sense of community
7	Organised sport - needs to be inclusive of all
6	Organised sport - agree with statement
5	Organised sport - facility improvement required for female sports
4	Organised sport - facilities require improvement
3	Organised sport - good for some, but not all
3	Organised sport - more facilities required as population increases
3	Organised sport - participation contributes to mental and physical health and wellbeing
2	Organised sport - additional basketball courts required
2	Organised sport - need to improve the quality of facilities in Richmond
2	Organised sport - support organised sport and informal use of the sports grounds when not being used by clubs
1	Organised sport - additional basketball courts required
1	Organised sport - clubroom design and location requires improvement
1	Organised sport - concerned regarding cost of participation
1	Organised sport - is already inclusive, no change required
1	Organised sport - need to become more adaptable to make better use of existing facilities by programming training etc differently
1	Organised sport - no room for facilities in Collingwood
1	Organised sport - Not council's responsibility
1	Organised sport - opportunities to participate extremely important in high density areas
1	Organised sport - require additional open space to provide additional facilities
1	Organised sport - strongly support community sport
1	Organised sport - support improvement of existing facilities only
1	Organised sport - support increased provision of facilities
1	Organised sport - support statement balanced with provision of adequate space and facilities for informal recreation
1	Organised sport - support the sporting clubs
1	Organised sport - upgrades to address safety
1	Organised sport facilities - increase shared use
<b>18</b>	<b>Adequate facilities for structured sport already</b>
16	Organised sport - adequately provided for
1	Organised sport - can be quite intrusive limiting the enjoyment of the space used by others
1	Organised sport - provision of facilities not appropriate in open space focused on informal use, eg Darling Gardens
<b>17</b>	<b>Health and wellbeing</b>
8	Health and wellbeing - participation in organised sport along with other types of informal recreation all contribute to a healthy community
6	Health and wellbeing - improvements to green open space will have broader health and wellbeing benefits compared to organised sport

No.	Comments on encouraging participation in organised sport
2	Health and wellbeing - all types of recreation are important including organised sport
1	Health and wellbeing - outdoor gyms are important particularly for older age groups
<b>9</b>	<b>Sporting grounds</b>
3	Sporting grounds - Citizens Park need to better manage dogs to make it safe for children to play sport
3	Sporting grounds - cost of establishing and maintaining them is disproportionate to the number of users
1	School grounds - sport facilities in schools to be available for clubs to use
1	Sporting grounds - chemical free maintenance to minimise environment impact
1	Sporting grounds - support non-potable irrigation
<b>3</b>	<b>Informal recreation</b>
1	Informal recreation - additional basketball courts required
1	Informal recreation - additional skate facilities required
1	Informal recreation - retain fence at Frank King Park so informal ball games can safely continue
<b>3</b>	<b>Open space</b>
1	Open space - informal open space is the priority
1	Open space - natural spaces attract more consistent use from diverse sections of the community than sport participants
1	Open space - required for uses other than organised sport
<b>2</b>	<b>Dogs</b>
2	Dogs - prohibit off-leash on sporting fields
<b>2</b>	<b>Inclusive for everyone</b>
1	Inclusive for everyone - does not necessarily mean competitive sports
1	Inclusive for everyone - includes older women
<b>1</b>	<b>Access</b>
1	Access - concerned about impact of vehicles when organised sport facilities are used by people outside the local area
<b>1</b>	<b>Art and culture</b>
1	Art and culture - additional facilities and access required
<b>1</b>	<b>Indoor recreation facilities</b>
1	Indoor recreation facilities - water play park and an indoor water facility are much needed
<b>1</b>	<b>Strategy</b>
1	Strategy - unclear how this will be delivered

## 3. Written submissions

### 3.1 Overview

A total of 10 written submissions were received during the community engagement process from a combination of community organisations and individuals. Some of the key issues raised include:

- Include streets in the definition of public open space.
- Identify specific locations for future street closures to provide new open space in the Strategy.
- Include recommendations to plant more street trees.
- Increase the priority and provision of new open space in Collingwood given the recent and forecast increase in urban densities.
- Support the increase in the public open space contribution rate to 10 per cent.

### 3.2 Summary of individual submissions

#### 3.2.1 Submission 1

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.1.1	The submitter proposes that streets should be included in the definition of open space.	<p>Streets are set aside primarily for transport purposes while public open space is set aside primarily for the sport, recreation and nature conservation purposes. The Strategy acknowledges that streets provide excellent connectivity between open spaces and in some locations are closed to transport and converted too public open space.</p> <p>Where streets remain open to traffic, they are referred to as ancillary open space in the Strategy. Council has previously closed parts of some streets to create small parcels of open space. Where this occurs and the land can be rezoned for public open space, then these parcels are included in the open space network.</p> <p>Refer to the Technical Report Sections 1.21 and 1.2.3 for further information regarding this.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>No change</i></li></ul>
3.2.1.2	The Strategy needs to include the role streetscapes have in providing linear connections between open space reserves.	<p>The Strategy makes reference to the role streetscapes have in providing connectivity and access to the open space network in Section 1.2.3 regarding the definition of Ancillary open space and Section 3.5.1 regarding the gaps in the open space network and Section 6.4.3 regarding improving access to open space.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>An additional section will be added to the Strategy in Section 3.1.7 in relation to urban context. This will provide an overview of the influence of urban layout</i></li></ul>

No.	Comment	Response
		<p>including streetscapes and densities accessibility to open space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional information added to the definition of Ancillary open space, refer to Section 1.2.3.</li> </ul>
3.2.1.3	Proposes that the Gap Analysis in the Strategy should be prepared based on the LAPM (Local Area Place Making). The submitter proposes that the precincts in the Strategy are too large and require a finer grain of the LAPM.	<p>The open space needs analysis is at a sub precinct level, some of which aligns with LAPM's but many are at a finer grain. They are based on walkability to open space and are also consistent with the Yarra Community Profile Precincts as shown on the .id Forecast site. The open space precincts are tailored to be the best fit for assessing walkability to open space.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.1.4	Inequitable to propose new open space in North Carlton and North Fitzroy compared to Cremorne, Collingwood and Richmond.	<p>The basis of the recommendation for new open space is not only based on the total percentage of land area as open space, but also whether people live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space. Gaps in the provision of open space are identified in North Carlton and North Fitzroy along with Fitzroy, Richmond and Collingwood. While many of the road reserves are wider in Carlton North and North Fitzroy which improves their pedestrian and cycle amenity value, they do not replace the need for public open space.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.1.5	The proposed open space contribution rate should be applied to large commercial redevelopment sites that do not subdivide.	<p>The public open space contribution rate that is proposed as part of the Strategy does not apply to properties that do not subdivide. This is a feature of the legislation and Council is not able to change this.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.1.6	The Yarra Open Space Strategy Gap Analysis and recommendations for new open space need to be reflected in the VPA Precinct Plan for Cremorne.	<p>Noted. Council officers advise that the Gap Analysis and the Draft Strategy were considered in the preparation of the Cremorne Place Implementation Plan which recognises the need for additional open space and improved connections to existing adjacent open spaces.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.1.7	Concern that open space contributions payable in Cremorne will be minimal due to large scale commercial developments that do not subdivide.	<p>Refer to response to 3.2.1.5.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>

## 3.2.2 Submission 2

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.2.1	Yarra Open Space Strategy should be renamed to Yarra Public Open Space Strategy	<p>The definition on Page 3 of the Technical Report describes that the term 'open space' is used in place of 'public open space', for ease of reference throughout. This is accepted industry practice.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.2.2	Ancillary open space should be addressed as part of the public open space.	<p>Ancillary open space is different from public open space. This is defined in Section 1.2 of the Strategy. Refer also to the response in 3.2.1.1 of this report.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.2.3	The submitter would like to see new road closures identified on the plan, rather than areas in which new open space is required. Concern that without showing the detail, the new open space will not be provided.	<p>The Strategy proposes the type and area in which new public open space is required. It has not identified specific sites as this needs to be determined during implementation of the Strategy. Some of the new open spaces may not include road closures and may require land contributions or land purchase. This is described in the Strategy Technical Report in Section 5.3 - Provision of new open space.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.2.4	Include laneways as public open space.	<p>Laneways are public spaces and provide good connectivity between streets, public spaces and public open space. They also provide access to properties. As noted in Section 1.2 of the Strategy Technical Report, laneways are different from public open space given they primarily provide access rather than primarily being for recreation and nature conservation. Refer to response to 3.2.1.2 in this consultation report.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response to 3.2.1.2 in this consultation report.</li> </ul>

## 3.2.3 Submission 3

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.3.1	Collingwood B Precinct spaces requires major change to vehicle traffic management in order to expand the size of the existing open spaces and create new open space.	<p>The Strategy Technical Report has identified the need for additional open space and expansion to the size of existing open spaces in Collingwood. The level of detailed analysis to determine how to achieve this will be undertaken during the implementation of the Strategy.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional open space is proposed in Collingwood. Refer to response to 2.3.1.3 in this consultation report for further information.</li> </ul>



### 3.2.4 Submission 4

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.4.1	Collingwood B Precinct spaces requires major change to vehicle traffic management in order to expand the size of the existing open spaces and create new open space.	<p>Refer to response 3.2.3.1</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response 3.2.3.1.</li> </ul>

### 3.2.5 Submission 5

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.5.1	<p>Collingwood has the lowest percentage of open space in the City of Yarra. It has also been established through research that open space makes a significant contribution to health and well-being of communities. The submitter proposes that it is irresponsible to allow increased urban densities without addressing significant shortfall in open space. The submitter proposes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collingwood be given highest priority for new open space.</li> <li>The Victorian Government owned Police Workshops be a priority for new open space.</li> </ul>	<p>Noted, the Strategy Technical Report at Table 3-3 identifies that Collingwood has the lowest percentage of open space as a proportion of land area in Yarra. Section 7.5 of the Strategy Technical Report identifies a range of Actions for Collingwood - including the provision of new open space and expanding the size of existing open space. The priorities vary according to the growth forecast to occur in the different parts of Collingwood. Based on the combination of all the feedback received during the community engagement process, an additional Small Local open space has been added to Collingwood B precinct, and the Police Workshops are specifically named in the actions to provide a new Local open space in Collingwood B.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to response to 2.3.1.3 in this report regarding provision of an additional Small Local open space in Collingwood B.</li> <li>Action 7.5A in the Technical Report has been updated to reference the Police Workshops and Stanley Street specifically.</li> </ul>
3.2.5.3	A higher priority for new open space actions be given in precincts where the provision of open space falls below 10.1 sqm per person.	<p>The Strategy Technical Report describes there are different measures used to assess and determine the need for new open space in established urban areas. This includes the quality and type of open space, its distribution, provision of open space in adjoining precincts, existing and proposed urban densities, community feedback on the existing open space network and the level of forecast change. To provide one measure of the quantity of open space relative to population density as the only tool to determine priorities does not acknowledge the other influences.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.5.3	Concern that the amount of open space relative to the residential population density has not been included in the precinct chapters.	<p>Noted. The quantity of open space relative to residential density will be added to each precinct rather than only referenced in Section 3.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Section 7 to include reference to the quantity of open space relative to residential population</li> </ul>

No.	Comment	Response
		<i>density in each precinct from Table 3-3 in the Strategy.</i>
3.2.5.4	Strongly support winter sunlight access to open space.	Noted. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.5.5	There needs to be improved heritage protection measures for heritage values in open space and streetscapes.	The Strategy Technical Report identifies the need for protecting heritage and nature conservation values in open space in Sections 6.8 and 6.10.4. There is a list of the existing open spaces that are identified to have heritage significance with some heritage controls in Table 6-2 in the Report. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.5.6	Increase urban greening in Collingwood with additional street trees, promotion of planter boxes and managing surface water runoff.	The comments relate to the implementation of other Council Strategies including the Urban Forest Strategy. Reference to improved urban greening and urban agriculture are included throughout Section 6, Design and Management Guidelines in the Strategy Technical Report. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.5.7	Support an increase in the public open space contribution rate to 10 per cent, and the expansion of the contribution rate being applicable to non-residential development as well.	Noted. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>

### 3.2.6 Submission 6

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.6.1	Fence to Frank King Park makes it a secure park for young children and is also used by the John Street Community Early Childhood Co-op. Therefore the submitter does not support removing the fence.	While the fence is valued by younger children, it is uncommon for public open spaces to be fenced. Given the community concern regarding the fence, this will be removed. The recommendation has also been updated to include investigating the expansion of the size of Frank King Park to increase its capacity to cater to the increased levels of use as a result of the forecast additional residents and workers in Fitzroy. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove reference to fence removal and investigate options to expand the size of the reserve into the adjoining road reserve to increase its capacity to cater to the forecast additional population.</li> </ul>

### 3.2.7 Submission 7

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.7.1	Proposes that streets and lanes should be included as public open space.	Refer to Response to 3.2.1.1 <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Refer to Response to 3.2.1.1.</li> </ul>
3.2.7.2	Heritage values and issues have not been included in the Strategy, including the connection to Carlton Gardens and the Exhibition Buildings as key adjoining open space.	Carlton Gardens are shown on the diagrams and plans included in the Strategy Technical Report. Specific reference to them will be added to Section 7.8 in the Strategy Technical Report. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Update Section 7.8 Fitzroy to reference the adjoining Carlton Gardens and Exhibition Buildings.</li> </ul>

### 3.2.8 Submission 8

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.8.1	The trees and vegetation in Burnley Park are in poor condition and their heritage values are not recognised or interpreted.	The strategy recommends preparation of a Masterplan incorporating recommendations from the Heritage Conservation Management Plan. The Masterplan will address plantings and vegetation management and health. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>

### 3.2.9 Submission 9

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.9.1	Recognise the need to convert sections of streets to create new open space	Refer to response 3.2.1.1 <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change.</li> </ul>
3.2.9.2	Additional streetscape planting should be included in the Strategy.	The City of Yarra has an Urban Forest Strategy which guides the street tree planting and urban greening program and the Strategy Technical Report refers to and supports the implementation of the Urban Forest Strategy. It is referred to in the Strategy Technical Report in Section 2.1.2d, Section 3.1.5a, Section 6.2, Section 6.2.3 and Section 6.11.1. <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.9.3	Encourage planter boxes in the streets.	Refer to 3.2.9.2 <b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.9.4	Roof top gardens in major developments should not be considered as a replacement for open space at ground level.	Noted. Roof top gardens are not a replacement for public open space at ground level and the Strategy does not recommend they are accepted as that. The reasons for not accepting roof top gardens as a replacement for public open space at ground level includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>They are not as visible and accessible to the general public as public open space at ground level</li> </ul>

No.	Comment	Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public open space contributes to the neighbourhood character and urban greening, whereas roof gardens are not as visible and the greening benefits are limited.</li> <li>Roof gardens do not have the longevity and certainty associated with the provision of public open space at ground level for future generations, as they are linked to the longevity of the building</li> <li>Open space at ground level is capable of supporting large, long-lived canopy trees that are beneficial to air quality, mitigating urban heat and carbon sequestration.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.9.5	Streets to be included as public open space.	<p>Refer to response 3.2.1.1.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.9.6	Winter sunlight access to open space.	<p>Section 4.4.3 of the Strategy Technical Report includes the benefits of winter sunlight access to public open space. It also includes recommendations for winter sunlight protection to open space in Table 5-2 Criteria to assess suitability of land as open space and Section 5.4.2 and Action 5.4-2.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>

### 3.2.10 Submission 10

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.10.1	Concern about the build-up of traffic in Collingwood given the increased urban densities without any change to traffic management to decrease the impact of increased traffic on the local area.	<p>The issue raised by the submitter highlights the reason why streets are not included as open space in the Strategy. While they are publicly owned, their primary role and purpose is to provide access through and within the urban areas including access to people's properties.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>
3.2.10.2	Concern that prioritising cycle access is not necessarily inclusive for everyone as people with limited mobility cannot cycle, and for some, vehicles are the only safe and accessible form of transport.	<p>Refer to response to 3.2.10.1.</p> <p><b>Proposed change to the Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No change</li> </ul>

# Attachment A

## Extract of key changes made to the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report

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The following extracts show the amended text with **yellow** highlight. We have included the whole section in which the change is made for context and ease of reference back to the main document.

### 1. Introduction

#### Extract of key changes

#### 1.2.3 Ancillary open space

The term ancillary open space is used to differentiate parts of the public realm that are not included in the definition of public open space. This includes streetscapes, urban spaces between buildings, school and educational facility grounds, **along with** community facility grounds, for example, neighbourhood houses.

##### **Streetscapes**

Streets are used by people to socialise and exercise including walking and cycling, and while these are common to activities that are also undertaken in open space, the streets are primarily set-aside for their transport **and travel** function and purpose. **Streets complement the open space network by providing transport and tree canopy links between them. The community use the streets to walk or cycle along to reach open space and other destinations in the neighbourhood. Many of the streets include street trees that make a contribution to the landscape character and urban greening in Yarra. While streets complement the open space network, they do not replace the need for open space. The local street network is owned by Council and parts of them can be converted to open space where they are no longer required for transport and travel purposes and meet the criteria for open space. In this situation the street would change its designation and become public open space.**

**Overall the streets and roads in Yarra are managed by an overarching *Road Management Plan 2017-2021*, along with a series of more detailed Local Area Place Making Plans. The street tree planting is managed through the implementation of the *Urban Forest Strategy 2017* and other more detailed plans and policies.**

##### **School grounds**

This Strategy recognises the contribution that ancillary open space provides including opportunities such as schools that can partner with Council, however school land is not reserved for open space and can be sold for other purposes or converted through building construction. The lack of certainty over this land being available to supplement

the open space system is the reason the use of school grounds is not referred to in the Strategy as it does not replace the need for public open space.

#### **Other public land**

Other public land that falls into the ancillary open space category is railway corridors where they have not already been developed and secured as public open space. A simple test for distinguishing public open space from other public land is whether the land is suitable for inclusion in the Public Parks and Recreation Zone or the Public Conservation and Resource Zone.

This Strategy focuses on planning for the adequate provision, design and management of a public open space network that is secured for future generations to enjoy. This means that the open space is publicly owned, without the ability for that land to be sold or converted to another use without clear demonstration that it is no longer required by the community as open space.

The future provision, design and funding for ancillary open space is guided by a range of other plans and strategies prepared by Council and other State Government agencies and will not form part of the open space capital works program in this Strategy.

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### **1.2.4 Publicly accessible private open space**

Some publicly accessible private open space complements the public open space system including church grounds and private forecourts to buildings. These are referred to as publicly accessible private open space. They can complement the public open space network, but they cannot be relied on as a replacement for public open space as Council does not have direct control over them and they can potentially be converted to another use, or sold.

Other private land that contributes to the open space system is private golf courses, which are available to members on a fee paying basis. La Trobe Golf Club in Alphington is located within the City of Yarra, and there are additional privately owned golf courses adjoining municipality. Golf courses contribute to the natural and unbuilt quality of the landscape, have some benefits in mitigating urban heat island effect associated with climate change, and contribute to the environmental values and landscape character of an area. They are not a replacement for public open space as they can potentially be converted to different uses in the future, given they are privately owned.

## 2. Policy context

### Extract of key changes

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#### 2.1.1f **Yarra River Protection (Willip-gin Birrarung Murrn) Act 2017**

The Act enshrines the protection of the Yarra River, recognising its great importance to Melbourne and Victoria and the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung language is used in the title of the Act in recognition of Traditional Owners' custodianship of the river and connection to the lands through which the river flows.

The Act underlines the importance of the public parklands and open spaces along the Yarra River within metropolitan Melbourne and allows these to be collectively declared as the Greater Yarra Urban Parklands.

A number of guiding principles are set out in the Act which must be used by agencies with responsibilities for managing the river and parklands. Two important purposes of the Act are:

- requiring the development and implementation of a *Yarra Strategic Plan* as an overarching policy and planning framework; and
- establishing the Birrarung Council to provide advice to government and to report annually on the implementation of the proposed *Yarra Strategic Plan*.

The Act will affect how Council protects and manages the Yarra River and the associated parklands. The importance of the river and parklands is elevated and the Act places additional obligations and accountabilities on Council, as a land owner and manager, in the way it plans and manages the river and parklands in accordance with the principles under the Act.

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#### 2.1.1g **Draft Yarra Strategic Plan (2020)**

Melbourne Water is leading the development of the *Yarra Strategic Plan* which will give effect to the community's 50 year long-term vision for the Yarra River and provide the basis for future planning of the river corridor and each of its reaches.

The *Draft Yarra Strategic Plan* is the first integrated corridor plan developed collaboratively by the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and all 15 state and local government agencies involved in managing the river. Central to elevating the significance of the Yarra River and parklands, and managing it as "one living and integrated natural entity" is the development of the Plan. The Plan responds to the key challenges of climate change and population growth and provides a 10 year regional strategy that supports the 50 year community vision for the river and provides overarching guidance for responsible agencies to achieve the community vision and the aspirations of traditional owners.

The plan works towards meeting the 50 year Community Vision and the Birrarung Water Policy *Nhanbu narrun ba ngargunin twarn Birrarung (Ancient spirit and lore of the Yarra)*.



It identifies immediate actions for the river, enables long-term collaborative management between agencies and Traditional Owners and guides local planning.

There are four 10 year performance objectives to deliver the 50 year Community Vision that is outlined Yarra River Strategic Plan:

- A healthy river and lands  
Improving the water quality of the Yarra River and protecting its land, floodplains and billabongs to achieve greater biodiversity.
- A culturally diverse river corridor  
Acknowledging, protecting and commemorating the rich heritage of the Birrarung and its stories.
- Quality parklands for a growing population  
Improving the river's parklands to support community wellbeing and strengthen the relationship between the Yarra River, its community and visitors.
- Protecting the natural beauty of the Yarra River corridor  
Respecting the significance of the Yarra River's landscapes. Where we build, we protect and celebrate the river's natural beauty, landscapes and views.

The plan includes a Yarra River 50 Year Community Vision along with a vision for all the four main reaches. The City of Yarra is located predominantly in the Inner City Reach, and the vision for this reach is extracted below:

#### ***Yarra River Inner City Reach 50 Year Community Vision***

*Our Yarra River, Birrarung is a thriving river for our thriving city.*

*It provides a unique place of transition, both spiritually and physically. Here the river and its treasured banks and backdrops are Melbourne's meeting place; an inclusive and iconic place for connection, celebration, recreation and learning.*

*Our love for its vast and expanding green spaces and clean waters provide a healthy habitat for all.*

While still being finalised, the Plan is expected to change the way in which Council and other agencies conceive and manage the Yarra River and its parklands. There will be an increasing focus on how council manages the river and parklands as a single living entity and how it achieves the new statutory obligations. Greater coordination with other agencies and improved management will be expected as will be the participation and involvement of traditional owners.

The *Yarra Strategic Plan* will bring opportunities for stronger collaboration, more holistic and integrated management of the river corridor, improved health of the river and greater recognition of the cultural values of the river and parklands.

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### **2.1.2f Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023**

The *Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023* is the fourth partnerships policy and this plan continues to build upon the successes and challenges of previous plans. Formerly known as the Aboriginal Partnerships Plans, Yarra's official policy will from here-on-in be known as the *Yana Ngargna Plan*. *Yana Ngargna* is a Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung phrase meaning 'continuing connection'. This refers to the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung's continuing



connection to culture, country and identity – as well as Council's commitment to developing continuing connections with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and organisations. The plan was renamed in 2019, the International Year of Indigenous Languages.

The plan has important notes and clarifications on terminology, Welcome to Country and Official Acknowledgement of Country. The Plan clearly sets out the role of the *Yana Ngargna* Advisory Group and the *Yana Ngargna* Working Group who guide and action, including coordinating projects that build cultural awareness and confidence across the Council. It also sets out the broader Social and Political context, along with National and State Policies, Acts and Commitments.

The Plan includes four priority areas, commitments, context and actions:

- **Priority 1 – Relationships** – supporting community connections, promoting culture and protecting important places.
  - **Priority 2 – A Visible Culture** – increasing the visibility of Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culture, issues and achievements in Yarra.
  - **Priority 3 – Community Health and Wellbeing** – working towards improved health and wellbeing outcomes for the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Yarra.
  - **Priority 4 – Organisational Development** – increasing Council's capacity, confidence and connection through improved Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment pathways, cultural awareness and internal coordination.
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### 3. Existing open space network

#### Extract of key changes

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#### 3.1.5a Community open space survey outcomes

The community consultation outcomes about open space have identified that trees are at the top of list of what the community value about open space. This is followed by open space being a place to relax and unwind and the feeling of space. When comparing this to the outcomes of what people most valued in 2006, trees were fifth, so their level of importance is now higher than it was then. The *Yarra Urban Forest Strategy* provides a clear direction for the future care and management of trees in the City. Since the 2006 Strategy, the relationship between the importance of trees in mitigating the effects of climate change has become more prominent and may explain the increased awareness and value of trees by the community. The open space network provides opportunities to plant and retain large canopy trees that are more difficult to manage in the local street network due to space constraints. The *Yarra Urban Forest Strategy* also confirms that the canopy cover of trees in open space is an important component of the total canopy cover in the city.

Small local parks are the most visited type of open space in the current survey, which has increased since 2006, where small local parks were ranked as being the fourth most visited. Since the preparation of the Strategy, an additional six Small Local open spaces have been added to the network, which may also have influenced the levels of use of these small spaces. In Collingwood, the most visited open space is now Peel Street Park compared with Fitzroy Gardens when the survey was completed in 2006. This supports valuable contribution that Small Local open spaces make to the open space network, and people will use these small spaces regularly if they are provided.

As part of the research for the Strategy, the worker community was surveyed regarding their use patterns of open space. The surveys have confirmed that more than 80 per cent of workers use open space during the time they spend at work, and that it is important to them. This is different from the 2006 Strategy, where less than 50 per cent of workers surveyed visited open space during their time at work. In Collingwood, additional Small Local open space has been added to the network that is noted as being well used by the worker community, however they are requesting additional open space.

In relation to the reasons residents visit open space, there is a greater diversity of reasons they visit, with socialising, relaxing and dog walking more frequently mentioned than the previous survey in 2006.

The resident survey results have been summarised at a detailed precinct level, which has informed the precinct recommendations and 15-year Action Plan in Section 7 of the Strategy. The worker survey results have been summarised at a more detailed level by each of the four employment precincts and these have informed the Precinct Recommendations in Section 7 of the Strategy.

Council sought community feedback on the Draft Strategy. This feedback confirmed there was a strong level of support for increasing natural features including trees, garden beds

and grassed areas to increase urban greening and assist to mitigate urban heat. There was also a strong level of support for providing additional open space in the locations where medium and high density development is forecast to continue. The feedback highlighted the importance of open space as a place to relax and unwind, and so while many people support the increased provision of facilities to encourage people to keep fit, socialise and use open space, they noted that it is also equally important to retain the natural qualities and character in open space. Refer to the Design and Management Guidelines in Section 6 of this Strategy which promotes the inclusion of natural features and urban greening in existing and new open space. Also refer to the Precinct Recommendations in Section 7 which include actions to add new open space to the network.

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### **3.1.5c Structured sport and recreation use**

Structured sport and recreational use of open space is important to community health and wellbeing. It is provided for in the large Regional and City-wide open spaces across Yarra including Victoria Park, George Knott Reserve, Kevin Bartlett Reserve, Coulson Reserve, Quarries Park, Ramsden Street Reserve, Alphington Park, Fairfield Park, Yarra Bend Park, Edinburgh Gardens, Citizens Park, Burnley Park, Alan Bain Reserve, Ryans Reserve, Yarra Bend Golf Course and Burnley Golf Course. There are also some key sporting reserves that adjoin the City of Yarra including Princes Park, Northcote Park, Gosch's Paddock and Como Park. Structured sport and recreation not only encourages participation in physical activity, it also promotes social connectedness in the community associated with attending training and matches and club based activities.

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## **3.1.6 Cultural heritage values**

### **3.1.6a Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage values**

*The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung's unique connection to the land and waterways in Yarra extends back tens of thousands of years to the time when their creator spirit, Bunjil, created the land, the people and all living things. Given this enduring and special connection, it is vital that Council continues to develop a stronger relationship with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people and especially with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council Aboriginal Corporation (the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Corporation).*

*Council also deeply values its relationships with the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community connected to Yarra. The area remains an important place for members of this community, who live, work and spend time in the area. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history of Fitzroy maintains a deep resonance with the community. And it is perhaps because of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community's pride in and connection to Fitzroy that Yarra has developed such a strong relationship with and commitment to the community. (Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023).*

The waterway corridors, wetlands and open plains and forests in Yarra were the natural features of the landscape, which have now largely been destroyed or modified by urbanisation. The Yarra River offered a permanent water source along with the streams of the Merri and Darebin Creeks and made the surrounding land desirable. Despite the enormous change and devastating effects of European occupation including diseases, forced removal from traditional lands, family and lifestyle, Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung traditions and culture continues in Yarra today. Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to live in the suburbs of Collingwood and Fitzroy. (Yarra Aboriginal Partnership Plan, 2004).

Remaining notable cultural features in the City identified to date include the Burnley Park Corroboree Tree, Scar trees (Coate Park/Rudder Grange and Studley Park), Dights Falls Mission School and Native Police Corps, the potential Merri Creek Treaty Site opposite Rushall Station (just outside the City boundaries), the confluence of the Yarra River and Merri Creek and the Fig Tree in Carlton Gardens where many legendary Aboriginal speakers addressed gatherings from the 1920s to the 1940s (*Aboriginal Partnerships Plan 2015-18*).

Some of these are described in more detail below.

- **Burnley Park Corroboree Tree** - In 1926 a young boy found a boomerang wedged in the branch of the giant Burnley Park Corroboree tree when he climbed it. In 1991 his brother returned the boomerang to a Wurundjeri elder, Marth Nicholson, in a ceremony at the tree site. The tree is now dead, but it is believed it was a meeting and corroboree place for many Aboriginal clans until well after European settlement. (Eidelson, 1997)
- **Dights Falls Mission School**, which wattle-and-daub school hut, opened on January 1, 1846 by the Collins Street Baptist Church. Nearby was the Dights Mill which provided flour for the colony. The location was already a popular meeting and trading place for Aboriginal clans in and around Melbourne. The school closed in 1851 after devastating floods in 1850 washed away the cultivated gardens and footbridge over the river. (Eidelson, 1997)
- **Dights Falls Native Police Corps** was set up in 1837 as a regional base from their main base in Dandenong Creek flats. Elders of the clans around Melbourne participated as it offered prestige. It was set up as a military encampment with rows of up to 50 tents/shelters and their role was to act as official escorts, tracking lost people and guard duty at the Pentridge Stockade. The camp was disbanded three times, the last in 1853. (Eidelson, 1997)

Fitzroy stands alongside Redfern in its stature as an urban area of special significance. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders gained influence and important organisations were born in and around the streets of Fitzroy. The area has seen Stolen Generations and estranged families reunited and it has given rise to renowned artists, activists and athletes. The positive impacts that ripple out from this community continue to be felt today. Many of the community members that advise and partner with Council today are the descendants of Elders and political activists who have led great social change. Many are strong social justice advocates in their own right. The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community connection to the area is under pressure due to forecast increased growth that is causing property prices up and making it unaffordable for the community to continue to stay in the area. (*Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023*)

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### 3.1.7 Urban context

The urban context and densities in the City of Yarra vary from predominantly medium to high density inner-city areas of Collingwood, Richmond and Fitzroy to the medium density areas of Princes Hill, Carlton North, North Fitzroy and Clifton Hill. Fairfield and Alphington have a predominance of detached dwellings with a more suburban character.

The historical land use and urban development patterns influence the provision, layout and access to public open space. Suburbs that were principally laid out as residential neighbourhoods from the start incorporate public gardens and parks as an integral part of the layout. In the areas of the City that were predominantly commercial and industrial land use, open space was not generally included. Broadly, the suburbs north of Alexandra Parade and the Eastern Freeway were established primarily for residential use. While they are more nuanced than this, overall these suburbs have a network of established parks and gardens that date back to the early subdivision of land. Many of the streets in Princes Hill, Carlton North and Fitzroy North have large road reserves with established avenues of street trees. This contributes to the ease of walking and cycle access through these neighbourhoods along with overall urban greening.

In the areas south of Alexandra Parade and the Eastern Freeway, the historical land use patterns included major areas of industrial and commercial use with pockets of residential, mainly to house the worker community for the industrial and commercial precincts. The subdivision of land for non-residential purposes generally did not include public open space as part of it. A limited number and size of parks and gardens were included in the layout of the former residential areas in amongst the industrial and manufacturing uses.

In more recent times the conversion of the commercial and industrial land use to high density mixed use settings has resulted in a much larger population working and living in areas with limited or no open space. As part of this more recent conversion of land use it has been difficult for Council to secure enough new open space to adequately cater to the significant population increase. As such, in the areas south of Alexandra Parade and the Eastern Freeway the built form has a greater predominance than in the north and overall there is less greening. This is also due to the predominance of smaller road reserves and lack of mature street trees - as street tree planting was not a priority in the former industrial areas of the City. While generally the streets are narrower they are in a grid layout which contributes to the ease of access and connectivity. There are some pockets, however, where larger land holdings have meant the street layout is disjointed and access is not as easy via the street network.

The Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek provide excellent habitat, cultural and open space connectivity through the City. The presence of the waterways has influenced the historical land use and urban layout of the City. As land use continues to change and redevelop it creates opportunities to improve the interface between urban development and the waterways thereby strengthening their cultural significance, biodiversity and recreational values and contribution to the urban character and identity of the City. The *Yarra Strategic Plan* will assist to deliver an improved urban interface to the Yarra River corridor.

As the City continues to grow over the next 15 years there are opportunities to expand the open space network to improve the sustainability and liveability of Yarra in the future, particularly in the parts of the City where land use is changing. Key to this is to implement the actions for the provision of new open space shown in Section 7 of the Strategy consistent with the design guidelines in Section 6 that promote increased urban greening and diversity. It will also be important to continue to implement the other key strategies and plans that strengthen and improve the quality and greening of other parts of the public realm including the streetscapes.

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## 3.6 Quality of open space

### 3.6.1 Overview

The quality of open space is important as it influences whether the open space makes a valuable contribution to the open space network.

The quality and character of each open space is influenced and formed by a range of factors including its inherent physical and natural qualities, the urban context, its size, form, use, position, design and history. These factors are measured against the outcomes of the community survey and other research including the biodiversity and nature conservation values.

### 3.6.2 Quality assessment and recommendations

The three main methods used to gather data on the quality of open space are the site assessments; the community and council stakeholder engagement outcomes; and the background document research.

During the site assessments each open space is evaluated against the same set of criteria in relation to the following:

- Location
- Existing landscape character and overall condition
- Topography and views
- Adjoining land use
- The urban context and influences including built form, public access points and interface treatments.
- Forecast change
- Existing infrastructure and facilities
- Vegetation character and values

Following the site assessment work, the background research and consultation outcomes then informs the quality and context of each individual open space.

The quality of each open space is assessed in the context of the network as a whole - both in relation to the existing context and also in the context of the forecast change that is planned over the next 15 years. If the quality of the open space is assessed as being

adequate, there will be no specific actions or upgrade works required. Where the quality of the open space is assessed as being inadequate, recommendations are developed to provide guidance on the extent of change proposed. This may include a minor upgrade to existing facilities or a major change to the facilities and/or the landscape character and function of the open space, and in some locations expansion to its size.

The recommendations for all the existing open spaces in the City are made in Section 7 of this Strategy. Refer also to Section 4.5 regarding the issues of for increased levels of use in open space.

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## 4. Forecast change and implications on open space planning

### Extract of key changes

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#### 4.2.6 Population growth not included in the forecasts

Additional population growth beyond the forecasts used in the Strategy can be expected beyond the planning period. This has been demonstrated with the high level of population growth that occurred following the adoption of the Open Space Strategy 2006. There will also be locations not currently anticipated for redevelopment or included in the forecasts at this time but that will come forward in their redevelopment timing due to land sales, market trends, availability of investment finance and other factors. Redevelopment in the City of Yarra is high density in nature and increases the need to provide an adequate amount of quality open space that is easily accessible for residents and workers.

Council expects that additional new open space is likely to be needed if higher density redevelopment occurs beyond what is anticipated in the forecast numbers. This will become particularly evident in locations that currently do not have safe and easy walking access to the existing open space network or where the existing network is reaching capacity. The recommendations for new open space in Section 7 of this Strategy will need to be supplemented if additional population growth occurs beyond the level forecast.

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#### 4.4.4 Vegetation management

The changing climate, including the forecast increase in severe weather events, impacts on plant health and survival. The inclusion of sustainable water harvesting and reuse will assist with managing vegetation. Other major impacts will be forecast increase in storm events with increased wind velocities and changing patterns of rainfall that will potentially damage existing mature trees.

Balancing the need to retain existing large canopy trees for habitat, shade and evapotranspiration will mean that a focus on the ongoing management of tree health, including adaptive management, will be required in the future. The changing climate will likely impact on the health of remnant indigenous vegetation as well as planted vegetation.

The future management of large canopy trees and vegetation will be implemented through the *Urban Forest Strategy* and the *Yarra Street Tree Policy*.

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## **4.5 Increased levels of use of open space**

### **4.5.1 Overview**

With the forecast increase in urban densities and population growth the existing open space network will need to cater to increased numbers of people using it. While additional open space is also proposed, the intensity and levels of use in the existing and new open space is anticipated to continue to increase. At the same time, the important role open space plays in the health and wellbeing of the community, particularly in high density precincts is also now better understood. One of the key factors in open space continuing to make an important contribution to liveability is the inclusion of natural features including large mature canopy trees, garden beds and grassed areas. The natural features require more ongoing maintenance as they are not as robust as built features and paving. This has implications for the design, management and maintenance of open space.

The community feedback during the exhibition of the Draft Strategy reinforced the importance of public open space for both the mental and physical health and wellbeing of the community. There is also strong support for maximising urban greening in open space including trees, garden beds and grassed areas and supporting this with sustainable stormwater harvesting and reuse.

### **4.5.2 Diversity of facilities balanced with the natural character**

Providing additional facilities in open space to cater to more people using it will be required. The facilities will encourage the community outdoors to exercise and socialise in open space and include paths, fitness stations, multi-use courts, playspaces, seats, picnic shelters and barbecues. Balanced with the facilities, is also the need to retain a sense of space and naturalness so that people can relax and unwind and have a break from built form. The need to achieve this balance is the reason why additional open space is required. This is based on the need to increase the total amount of open space that is available to accommodate the thousands of additional residents and workers benefiting from it and using it. This is why in some precincts additional new open space is recommended, even though it may not actually be a gap area. Refer to Section 3.5.1 for a description of the gap areas.

### **4.5.3 Increased costs associated with managing natural features in open space in the context of climate change and forecast growth**

Managing and maintaining natural features in the context of high levels of use and in this changing climate is challenging. For example open grassed areas are increasingly being used for informal and casual ball sports as per the changing trends in the way people participate in exercise. This increases the wear and tear on them and creates the need to irrigate them during summer so they can cope with the additional levels of use. In the current context of the climate emergency and changing rainfall, water is an increasingly valuable resource. Therefore, the preference is for future irrigation to be sourced from

sustainable water harvesting and reuse. The infrastructure and investigation to do this increases the capital cost of providing open space that can more sustainably accommodate higher levels of use throughout the year.

As part of the future planning for open space, the capital works budgets will allow for the inclusion of the additional infrastructure for sustainable water harvesting and reuse.

Section 6 of this Strategy provides guidance regarding the design and management of existing and new open space. Section 7 of this Strategy includes the recommendations to upgrade existing open space and the provision of new open space to meet the open space needs of the existing and forecast population.

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## 5. Open space framework recommendations

### Extract of key changes

### 5.3 Provision of new open space

#### 5.3.1 Overview

This Strategy has identified where additional open space is required to 2031 for both the existing and forecast community. Some of the additional open space is to be provided primarily for the forecast population, and others are proposed to meet both the needs of the existing and forecast population. The method to secure additional land area as open space can be a combination of different mechanisms including contribution of land area by larger redevelopment sites, the purchase of undeveloped land, the purchase of developed sites and conversion of public land to open space.

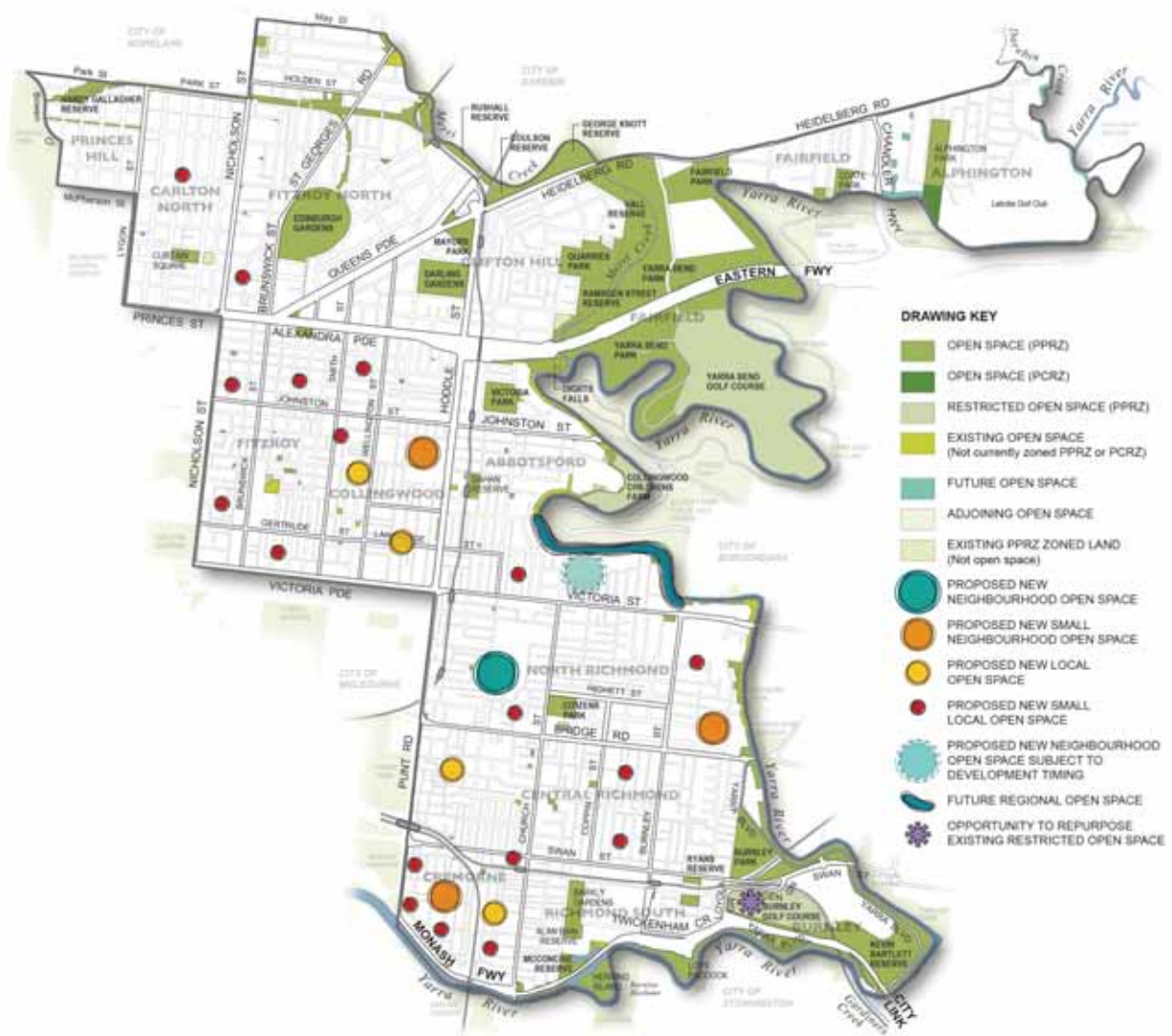


Figure 5A Schematic plan illustrating the type and location of proposed new open space

## 6. Open space design and management recommendations

### Extract of key changes

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#### 6.2 The climate emergency and urban greening

As described in Section 4.4 of this Strategy, open space is influenced by the changing climate and also has an important role to play in mitigating and adapting to its effects. This includes supporting a significant tree canopy cover which provides multiple benefits to the character and liveability of Yarra. The *City of Yarra Urban Forest Strategy 2017* provides a clear charter for the future custodianship of Yarra's street and park tree population. The Urban Forest Strategy highlights the multiple benefits of trees including the health and wellbeing benefits, environmental benefits and the economic benefits.

Additional to the importance of canopy trees is the positive effects that open space can have on urban cooling in this time of climate change, particularly during periods of extended extreme heat. For open space to assist with mitigating urban heat, ideally it is well distributed across the urban areas, retains moisture through the inclusion of moisture absorbing surfaces such as grass and garden beds and includes large broad spreading canopy trees that will transpire overnight and effectively cool the higher density urban areas. This is one of the key reasons that the Strategy recommends additional small, distributed areas of open space across the higher density precincts, particularly in the areas where growth is forecast. The other key reason is that they will provide open space that is within easy and safe walking distance of residents and workers.

In order for these open spaces to be effective in mitigating urban heat they need to have retained moisture, preferably in garden beds and grassed areas, large mature canopy trees combined with some open areas within them so there is room for air circulation and effective evapotranspiration.

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##### 6.4.1 Sustainable water use in open space

Key issues include:

- The City of Yarra supports a water sensitive city approach to water use and this needs to be reflected in future open space design and upgrades.
- In order to assist with urban greening and cooling there is a need to investigate options to increase sustainable water use in open space. The scope and need for these projects will deliver multiple benefits and requires a partnership across the different disciplines and teams at Council. Refer also to Section 6.2, Climate change and urban greening.
- High levels of informal use of open grassed areas in the municipality which is forecast to continue to increase over time. There is a need to consider irrigating in high use areas so they remain viable and useable in the summer.

- Conversion of sports fields to warm seasons grasses, which has been difficult to manage during the winter sports season.
- The high cost of stormwater re-use projects limits their implementation to all sites, however appropriate external funding will be sourced to assist and maximise implementation where feasible. As an alternative, in situations where stormwater re-use is not viable or where funding is not available in the short term, investigate passive irrigation a short-term method of improving urban greening in open space without always necessarily meeting water quality improvement objectives.
- Council has a *Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) Policy for Council Infrastructure Assets* that may be of assistance in open new open space projects.

**Guidelines regarding sustainable water use in open space:**

- Incorporate best practice principles for stormwater reuse in open space using passive irrigation principles. This includes redirecting stormwater and rainwater runoff from buildings and paved surfaces within the open space and the surrounding local catchment to the open space.
- For new open space and upgrades to existing open space in medium and high density areas, consider the multiple benefits of mitigating urban heat as part of the evaluation of appropriate stormwater reuse and treatment systems proposed for open space.
- Maximise the use of porous paving and permeable surface treatments to reduce concentrations of stormwater runoff and improve the moisture retaining (and passive cooling) qualities of open space.
- Where car parking is provided the stormwater runoff is to be reused within the open space.
- Water features in open space will need to demonstrate they meet the principles of sustainable water use/re-use and that they contributes to the landscape character, amenity and urban cooling qualities of the open space.
- Water tanks/storage devices, where required, are to be preferably located underground. If this is not feasible, the second preference is to co-locate them with other built form and infrastructure in the open space. If they are the only built feature in the reserve, then their siting, size, material selection, colour and design is to complement the character of the open space. Tanks are to minimise impact on major view sheds of the open space from the surrounding area and viewlines into the open space from entries and paths/trails.
- Consider synthetic surfaces at selected locations to reduce pressure and irrigation requirements for natural turf sports fields. This will require the development of an agreed assessment method for determining suitable locations for synthetic surfaces. Refer to Guidelines for Synthetic Sports Surfaces in Section 6.7.6 of this Strategy.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.4-1	<b>Irrigation guidelines</b> Develop guidelines to determine where and what scale of irrigation is appropriate in the different types of open space. This is to specifically address the need for increased urban greening in all types of open space including Small Local open space in high density neighbourhoods and other principles outlined and described in Section 6 of this Strategy.	YCC	Very High

### 6.6.3 Provision of unstructured recreation facilities

The open space survey undertaken for this project identified that people visit open space for a diversity of reasons with the most popular reasons including walking, dog walking, relaxing, playgrounds and social reasons. In answer to the question about why people don't visit open space a number of reasons were given including that the open space was unappealing. Therefore, the guidelines in this Strategy encourage the inclusion of a range of different facilities that encourage people to use them and improve their physical fitness and health. This is balanced with the need to retain the natural qualities and character of the open space as described in Section 6.2

#### Guidelines to promote and increase unstructured recreational use of open space:

- a) Refer to guidelines in 6.5.3 regarding encourage a diversity of facilities in open space.
- b) Location and type of active unstructured recreation facilities to complement other identified structured, unstructured and informal uses in the open space and the overall character.
- c) Include associated facilities that support and encourage participation in exercise including seats of different types, drinking fountains and shade. This is so that people of all levels of ability and fitness are encouraged to exercise and improve their fitness by providing opportunities for people to rest while exercising.
- d) Placement and design of these facilities is to demonstrate they minimise visual and noise impacts on adjoining land, particularly in relation to noise and activity in proximity to adjoining residents and nature conservation areas.
- e) Placement and design of these facilities is to demonstrate they are balanced with retaining the natural and unbuilt qualities of the open space.

## 7. Precinct analysis and recommendations

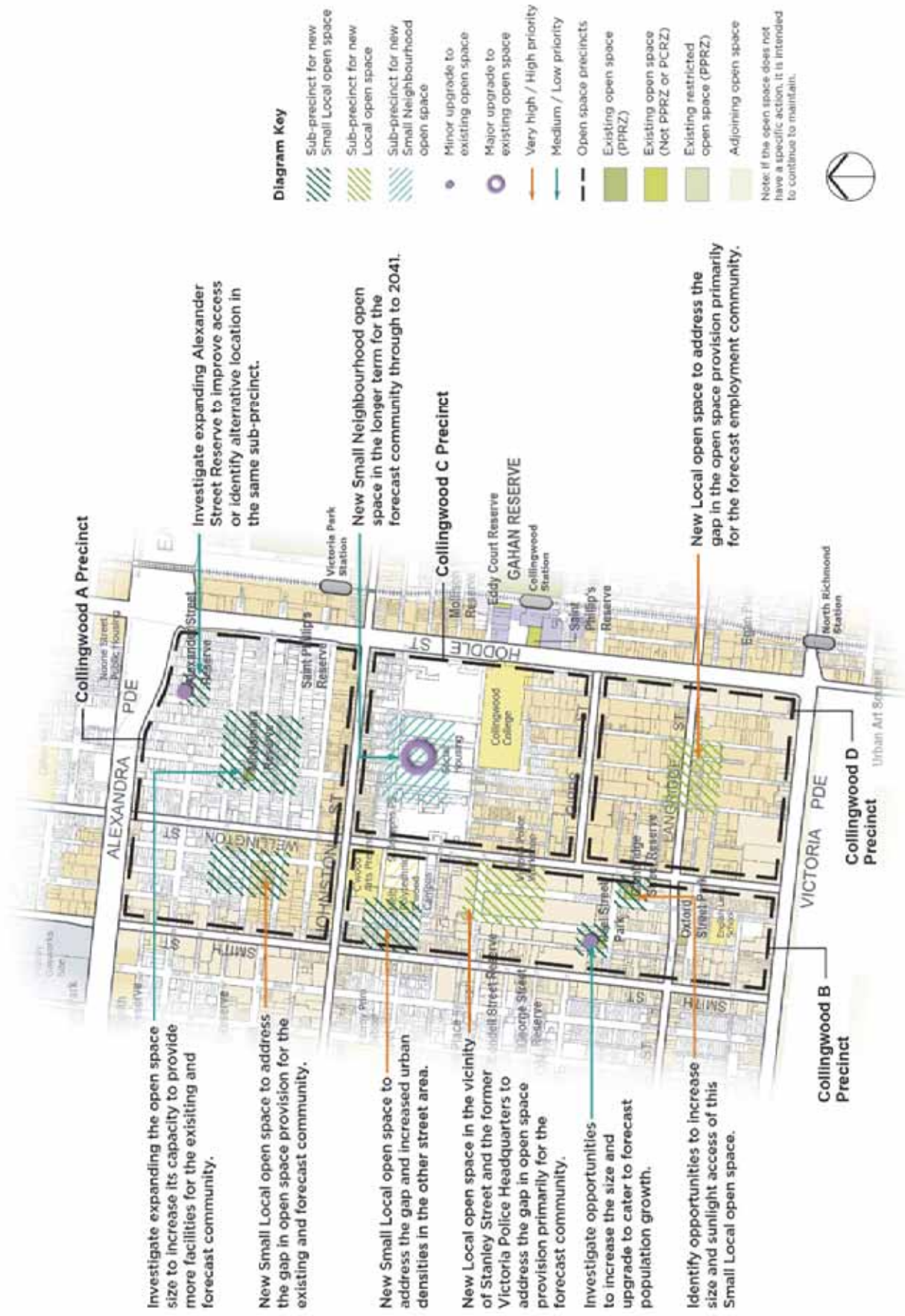
### Extract of key changes

#### 7.5.5b Precinct Actions for Collingwood

##### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5A-1	Provide a new Small Local open space between Smith and Wellington Streets in open space precinct Collingwood A to cater to the existing and forecast population.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.5A-2	Investigate options to expand the size of McNamara Reserve to increase it to a Local open space size to provide space to include diversity of facilities that appeal to both the existing and forecast community.	YCC Developer	Medium
7.5A-3	Investigate options to expand the size of Alexander Street Reserve in Collingwood A to make it more accessible and useable. Alternatively provide a new Small Local open space for both the existing and forecast population in a more accessible and visible location in Collingwood A sub-precinct. This can either be in addition to Alexandra Reserve, or to replace it.	YCC	Medium
7.5A-4	Provide a new Local open space in the northern part of open space precinct Collingwood B in the vicinity of the Former Victoria Police Workshop on Stanley Street. This is to cater primarily for the forecast new population.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.5A-5	Increase the size of Peel Street Park and Cambridge Street Reserve to accommodate additional facilities and people, given both these open spaces are experiencing signs of over-development.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.5A-6	Provide a new Small Neighbourhood open space in Collingwood C. The future open space will need to be accessible to the moderate change area associated with Johnson Street to the north and any future change to the social housing estate. This can be staged so that it firstly provides a Local open space and can be expanded later to a Small Neighbourhood to cater to the 2041 forecast population	YCC Developer	High
7.5A-7	Provide a new Small Local open space between Gipps and Langridge Streets for both the existing and forecast worker population in Collingwood D.	YCC Developer	High
7.5A-8	Provide a new Small Local open space in Collingwood B south of Langridge Street within the high change area identified in the Yarra Housing Strategy 2018. This is primarily for the forecast population	YCC Developer	Very High





**Figure 7.5F Recommendations for Collingwood**



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## 7.8 Fitzroy

### 7.8.1 Introduction

Fitzroy is bounded to the north by Alexandra Parade, to the South by Victoria Parade, the west by Nicholson Street and the east by Smith Street. The land is gently undulating with Brunswick Street on a ridgeline.

The land use of Fitzroy is mixed with core residential precincts combined with the commercial spines running north south and east west along the major roads. Fitzroy has intact original residential pockets of Victorian terraces amongst mixed land use including former small scale manufacturing and warehouses, many of which today are converted to residential use. Along Nicholson Street the substantial larger historical terraces opposite the Carlton Gardens and the World Heritage Listed Royal Exhibition Buildings contribute to the character and context of Fitzroy. There are large pockets of mixed use and an area of social housing known as the Atherton Gardens Estate. Other key land use includes St Vincents Hospital and the Australian Catholic University along Victoria Parade. Brunswick Street, Gertrude Street, Smith Street and Johnston Street are key commercial and retail precincts with cafes and restaurants along with a vibrant art scene including galleries and studios.

Fitzroy is identified as an urban area of special significance to the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders gained influence and important organisations were born in and around the streets of Fitzroy. The area has seen Stolen Generations and estranged families reunited and it has given rise to renowned artists, activists and athletes.

The *Smith Street Structure Plan*, adopted by Council in November 2008, provides the key direction for the future expansion and change within it. The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) provides direction on the future level of change for residential use within the precinct.

With the mixed land use, there is a significant worker population in Fitzroy which is greater than the resident population as shown below:

- Existing residential population 2016: 11,485 (Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: 17,314 (Source: SEES, SGS 2018)

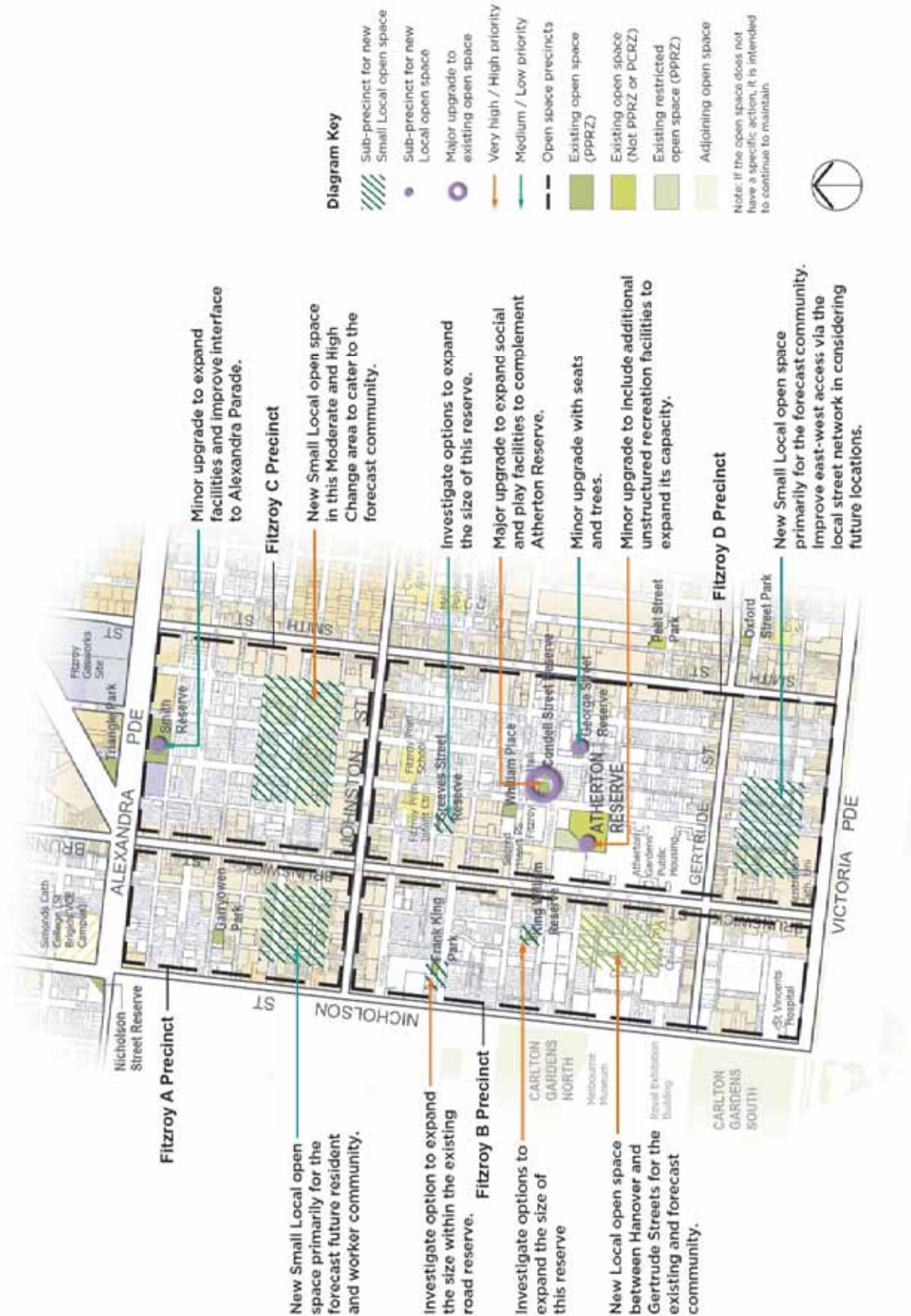


Figure 7.8F Recommendations for Fitzroy

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## 7.10.6 North Richmond Recommendations

### 7.10.6a Summary of overall intent

#### Provision and distribution

Citizens Park and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute significantly to the open space character of North Richmond. With the forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population in North Richmond. Key recommendations include to provide a new Neighbourhood open space on the DHHS land between Punt Road and Church Street. This will primarily cater to the forecast population and better meet the open space needs of the existing community. With substantial change forecast east of Burnley Street, a new Small Neighbourhood open space is proposed towards the southern part of North Richmond C. This will cater to the forecast growth associated with the eastern end of the Bridge Road Activity Centre and for the forecast change within the sub-precinct as a whole. An additional Small Local open space is proposed in the vicinity of Doonside Street to address the recent and forecast change to high density development in this area.

#### Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the existing Local and Small Local open spaces in North Richmond. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect.

Refer to Figure 7.10F for the spatial location of recommendations for North Richmond.



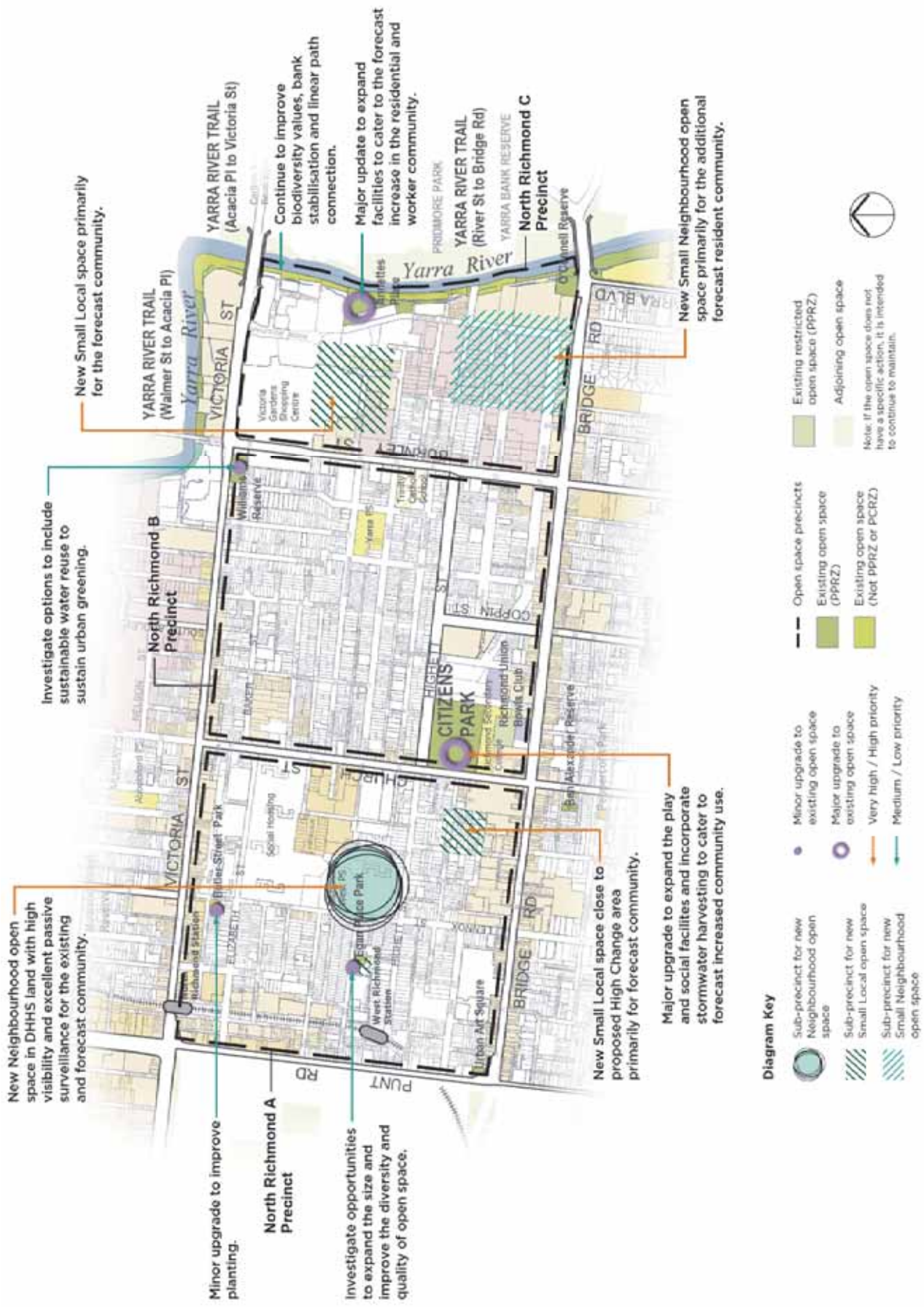


Figure 7.10F Recommendations for North Richmond

## 7.10.5b Precinct Actions for North Richmond

### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.10A-1	Provide a new Neighbourhood open space in sub-precinct North Richmond A. There is potential to provide this on the DHHS land, central to the sub-precinct and accessible to the existing and forecast new population.	YCC DHHS Developer	Very High
7.10A-2	Provide a new Small Local open space in sub-precinct North Richmond A, in the Bosisto/Cameron Street area north of Bridge Road as shown in Figure 7.10F. This is to cater primarily to the forecast new population in the high change area in the south east portion of the sub-precinct.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.10A-3	Provide a new Small Neighbourhood open space in sub-precinct North Richmond C primarily for the forecast population. This is to be located in the south east area of the sub-precinct in the vicinity of Murphy Street and improve the north south pedestrian connectivity between Bridge Road Murphy Street if feasible.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.10A-4	Provide a new Small Local open space in sub-precinct North Richmond C primarily for the forecast population. This is to be located in the northern part of the sub-precinct in the vicinity of Doonside Street/Victoria Gardens.	YCC Developer	Very High

## 8. Funding and open space contributions

### Extract of key changes

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#### 8.3.1 Development of a new contribution rate

This Strategy updates the City of Yarra's open space program. It is timely to review the contribution rate to ensure it will support Council's implementation of the new Strategy.

New open space contribution rates will be used to update the Yarra Planning Scheme and reflect the changes in the open space program going forward. In calculating the rate options, several factors are being considered including:

- The existing open space reserves, their function, location and qualities, and the improvements to open space that the City of Yarra has undertaken since the adoption of the 2006 Strategy.
- The significant population growth, demographic change and land use change that has occurred in Yarra since the adoption of the 2006 Strategy.
- The increased open space use by the employment population in Yarra.
- The substantial redevelopment that will occur in Yarra in the short and medium term, leading to the forecast increases in both residential and employment populations.
- The need for the City of Yarra to acquire land for new open space and fund capital improvements to open space based on the detailed analysis undertaken for this Strategy.
- The value of providing an updated set of open space upgrades and new open space to respond to the changes in Yarra for a 15 year period to 2031 and beyond.
- The expectation that contributions should fund a reasonable proportion of the future open space program having regard to population growth and demographic changes, so that the open space contributions levied provide for the open space needs of the population on whose behalf the contributions are collected.
- The value of land purchase for new open space is to be included in the calculation of the new contribution rate.
- The rate should apply to all eligible subdivisions in the City of Yarra irrespective of land use type.
- The benefits of implementing a higher single municipal rate to apply to all eligible subdivisions.
- Development outside the existing residential and employment population growth forecasts may trigger the need for expanded or additional open space beyond the specific recommendations in Section 7 of this Strategy.

It is anticipated that a higher municipal open space contribution rate would be in the order of 10 per cent. This is due to the high level of population growth that the Strategy plans for and the density of development in the City of Yarra, both of which are factors in the need for Council to provide new open space in the future. It is noted that the former

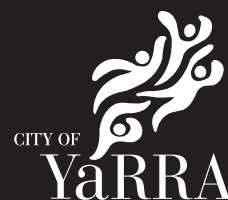
Amcor Alphington Paper Mill Site and the Former Fitzroy Gasworks Site would be exempt from any change in the current rate because the open space contribution requirements for these sites have been established separately.

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# Attachment B

## Open space survey / feedback form





## Draft Yarra Open Space Strategy

This draft open space strategy was informed by nearly 3000 participants in our consultation across 2018/2019. Now we'd like to hear what you think of the draft before the final strategy is formally endorsed by Council. Use this form to have your say by 15 March 2020 or visit [yoursayyarra.com.au/openspace](https://yoursayyarra.com.au/openspace).

**Q1** What is the postcode where you live?

Postcode

**Q2** What is the postcode where you work?

Postcode

**Q3** Below is a summary of the overall directions in the draft strategy. Tell us how important each of them are to you and why.

Overall directions	Very important	Important	Some importance	Not important	Comment
<b>A</b> Provide additional open space so that the majority of people who live and work in the City of Yarra are within easy walking distance of open space (Diagram C in the Strategy).					
<b>B</b> Encourage people to be outdoors and to exercise and keep fit by providing a diverse range of facilities in open space.					
<b>C</b> Increase opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds to access, participate and enjoy open space.					
<b>D</b> Maximise opportunities for open space to have large canopy shade trees and natural features including grass and garden beds to keep them cooler in the summer and mitigate urban heat.					
<b>E</b> Investigate the provision of additional dog off-leash areas as part of the future review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan.					
<b>F</b> Implement an open space contribution rate of up to 10 per cent in the Yarra Planning Scheme that applies to new development. This is so the new population contributes fairly to new open space and improvements to existing open space.					
<b>G</b> Continue to deliver sustainable water harvesting and reuse, contributing to increased urban greening in open space, particularly in higher density areas.					
<b>H</b> Improve biodiversity values along waterway corridors, including the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek with appropriate revegetation.					
<b>I</b> Encourage participation in organised sport by providing adequate open space and upgrading facilities to be more inclusive for everyone.					

If you would like to be kept informed about the project directly, please supply your contact details.

Name: .....

Email: .....

Address: ..... Postcode: .....

**Q4 Age range** (Please tick appropriate box)

- |                                |                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 0-11  | <input type="checkbox"/> 25-34 | <input type="checkbox"/> 60-69 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12-17 | <input type="checkbox"/> 35-49 | <input type="checkbox"/> 70-84 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 18-24 | <input type="checkbox"/> 50-59 | <input type="checkbox"/> 85+   |

**Q5 Gender** (Please tick appropriate box)

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male  | <input type="checkbox"/> Female            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say |

**Q6 Are there any other comments you would like to make on the draft strategy?**

Thank you for taking the time to provide us with feedback on the Draft Strategy. Please fold in accordance with the diagram below, hold it closed with a small piece of tape (no staples please) and return free of charge via the post by Sunday 15 March 2020.

Note: Your name and address will be entered onto a separate data base and will not be linked to the information contained in this survey.

The personal information requested on this form is being collected by the City of Yarra for the purpose of understanding community views about open space provision in the municipality. The personal information will be used solely by Council for that primary purpose or directly related purposes.

For information in your language, please call 9280 1940 and quote the **REF** number below. | 欲知粵語版本的資訊，請致電9280 1932並報上下列**REF**號碼。 | Για πληροφορίες στα Ελληνικά, παρακαλούμε καλέστε το 9280 1934 και αναφέρετε τον αριθμό **REF** παρακάτω. | Per informazioni in italiano siete pregati di chiamare il numero 9280 1931 e di citare il numero di riferimento (**REF** number) sottoindicato. | 欲知普通话版本的信息，请致电9280 1937并报上下列**REF**号码。 | Para información en castellano, llame al 9280 1935 y cite el número de **REF**. De más adelante. | Để biết thông tin bằng tiếng việt, xin hãy gọi số 9280 1939 và nói số **REF** dưới đây. | للمعلومات باللغة العربية، يرجى الإتصال هاتفيا بالرقم 9280 1930 والإشارة الى رقم المرجع **REF** المذكور أعلاه.

Delivery Address:  
PO Box 168  
RICHMOND VIC 3121

**FOLD DIAGRAM**  
Once completed fold survey  
as shown in diagram:



No stamp required  
if posted in Australia



City of Yarra  
Reply Paid 168  
RICHMOND VIC 3121