



Agenda

Council Meeting

6.30pm, Tuesday 9 April 2024

Richmond Town Hall
Wurundjeri Country

Council Meetings

Council Meetings are public forums where Councillors come together to meet as a Council and make decisions about important, strategic and other matters. The Mayor presides over all Council Meetings, and they are conducted in accordance with the City of Yarra Governance Rules.

Council meetings are decision-making forums and only Councillors have a formal role. However, Council is committed to transparent governance and to ensuring that any person whose rights will be directly affected by a decision of Council is entitled to communicate their views and have their interests considered before the decision is made.

Question Time

Yarra City Council welcomes questions from members of the community.

Registration

To ask a question, you will need to register and provide your question by 6.30pm on the day before the meeting. Late registrations cannot be accepted, and you will be unable to address the meeting without registration.

Asking your question

During Question Time, the Mayor will invite everyone who has registered to ask their question. When your turn comes, come forward to the microphone and:

- state your name;
- direct your question to the Mayor;
- don't raise operational matters that have not been previously raised with the organisation;
- don't ask questions about matter listed on tonight's agenda;
- don't engage in debate;
- if speaking on behalf of a group, explain the nature of the group and how you are able to speak on their behalf.

You will be provided a maximum of three minutes to ask your question, but do not need to use all of this time.

Comments not allowed

When you are addressing the meeting, don't ask a question or make comments which:

- relate to a matter that is being considered by Council at this meeting;
- relate to something outside the powers of the Council;
- are defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable;
- deal with a subject matter already answered;
- are aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or a member of Council staff;
- include or relate to confidential information; or
- relate to something that is subject to legal proceedings.

Addressing the Council

An opportunity exists to make your views known about a matter that is listed on the agenda for this meeting by addressing the Council directly before a decision is made.

Registration

To ask address Council, you will need to register by 6.30pm on the day before the meeting. Late registrations cannot be accepted, and you will be unable to address the meeting without registration.

Addressing the Council

Before each item is considered by the Council, the Mayor will invite everyone who has registered in relation to that item to address the Council. When your turn comes, come forward to the microphone and:

- state your name;
- direct your statement to the Mayor;
- confine your submission to the subject being considered;
- avoid repeating previous submitters;
- don't ask questions or seek comments from Councillors or others; and
- if speaking on behalf of a group, explain the nature of the group and how you are able to speak on their behalf.

You will be provided a maximum of three minutes to speak, but do not need to use all of this time.

Comments not allowed

When you are addressing the meeting, don't make any comments which:

- relate to something other than the matter being considered by the Council;
- are defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable;
- are aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or a member of Council staff;
- include or relate to confidential information; or
- relate to something that is subject to legal proceedings.

Arrangements to ensure our meetings are accessible to the public

Council meetings are held on the first floor at Richmond Town Hall. Access to the building is available either by the stairs, or via a ramp and lift. Seating is provided to watch the meeting, and the room is wheelchair accessible. Accessible toilet facilities are available. Speakers at the meeting are invited to stand at a lectern to address the Council, and all participants are amplified via an audio system. Meetings are conducted in English.

If you are unable to participate in this environment, we can make arrangements to accommodate you if sufficient notice is given. Some examples of adjustments are:

- a translator in your language
- the presence of an Auslan interpreter
- loan of a portable hearing loop
- reconfiguring the room to facilitate access
- modification of meeting rules to allow you to participate more easily

Recording and Publication of Meetings

A recording is made of all public Council Meetings and then published on Council's website. By participating in proceedings (including during Question Time or in making a submission regarding an item before Council), you agree to this publication. You should be aware that any private information volunteered by you during your participation in a meeting is subject to recording and publication.

Order of business

1. **Acknowledgement of Country**
2. **Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence**
3. **Announcements**
4. **Declarations of conflict of interest**
5. **Confirmation of minutes**
6. **Question time**
7. **Council business reports**
8. **Notices of motion**
9. **Petitions and joint letters**
10. **Questions without notice**
11. **Delegates' reports**
12. **General business**
13. **Urgent business**
14. **Confidential business reports**

1. Acknowledgment of Country

“Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra.

We acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders.

We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have never ceded sovereignty and retain their strong connections to family, clan and country despite the impacts of European invasion.

We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra.

We pay our respects to Elders from all nations here today—and to their Elders past, present and future.”

2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence

Attendance

Councillors

- Cr Edward Crossland Mayor
- Cr Anab Mohamud Deputy Mayor
- Cr Michael Glynatsis Councillor
- Cr Stephen Jolly Councillor
- Cr Herschel Landes Councillor
- Cr Claudia Nguyen Councillor
- Cr Bridgid O’Brien Councillor
- Cr Amanda Stone Councillor
- Cr Sophie Wade Councillor

Council staff

Chief Executive Officer

- Sue Wilkinson Chief Executive Officer

General Managers

- Brooke Colbert Governance, Communications and Customer Experience
- Sam Hewett Infrastructure and Environment
- Kerry McGrath Community Strengthening
- Mary Osman City Sustainability and Strategy
- Jenny Scicluna Corporate Services and Transformation

Governance

- Phil De Losa Manager Governance and Integrity
- Rhys Thomas Senior Governance Advisor
- Mel Nikou Governance Officer

3. Announcements

An opportunity is provided for the Mayor to make any necessary announcements.

4. Declarations of conflict of interest

Any Councillor who has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered at this meeting is required to disclose that interest either by explaining the nature of the conflict of interest to those present or advising that they have disclosed the nature of the interest in writing to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting commenced.

5. Confirmation of minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12 March 2024 be confirmed.

6. Question time

An opportunity is provided for questions from members of the public.

7. Council business reports

Item		Page	Rec. Page	Report Presenter
7.1	Draft 2024/25 Budget and Long Term Financial Plan	9	14	Wei Chen - Chief Financial Officer
7.2	Deliberative engagement - Service planning and review principles	200	208	Joe Daniel – Manager Business Transformation
7.3	Climate Emergency Plan - Stage Two Community Consultation	257	260	Michael Oke – Sustainability Unit Manager
7.4	Miller Street Local Area Place Making Upgrades	356	366	Danny Milican – Senior Coordinator Traffic Engineering
7.5	Amendment C286yara - Public open space contribution final panel report	385	395	Leonie Kirkwood – Project and Policy Coordinator Strategic Planning
7.6	Arts and Culture Annual Grants	1375	1378	Vicky Guglielmo – Manager Libraries, Arts and Events
7.7	Yarra Community Awards	1392	1397	Malcolm McCall – Manager Equity and Community Development
7.8	Maintenance of Department of Transport and Planning assets	1416	1420	Sam Hewett – GM Infrastructure and Environment
7.9	Street Garden Guidelines	1421	1425	Susan Stanes – Senior Coordinator Design and Place Making
7.10	Facility name for the new Collingwood kindergarten	1441	1443	Malcolm Foard – Manager Family, Youth and Children’s Services
7.11	Governance report - April 2024	1447	1450	Phil De Losa – Manager Governance and Integrity

8. Notices of motion

Nil

9. Petitions and joint letters

An opportunity exists for any Councillor to table a petition or joint letter for Council's consideration.

10. Questions without notice

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to ask questions of the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer.

11. Delegate's reports

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to table or present a Delegate's Report.

12. General business

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to raise items of General Business for Council's consideration.

13. Urgent business

An opportunity is provided for the Chief Executive Officer to introduce items of Urgent Business.

14. Confidential business reports

The following items were deemed by the Chief Executive Officer to be suitable for consideration in closed session in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020. In accordance with that Act, Council may resolve to consider these issues in open or closed session.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the meeting be closed to members of the public, in accordance with section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020, to allow consideration of confidential information
 - (a) confidential meeting information, being the records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a)

Item

14.1 Gasworks site update

This item is to be considered in closed session to allow consideration of confidential meeting information, being records of meetings closed to the public under section 66(2)(a).

These grounds are applicable because this report contains the text of resolutions made by Council at past Council meetings while the meeting was closed to the public under section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020.

7.1 Draft 2024/25 Budget and Long Term Financial Plan

Reference	D24/111145
Author	Dennis Bastas - Manager Financial Services
Authoriser	General Manager Corporate Services and Transformation
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. To present the draft Budget 2024/2025 (Attachment One) and Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) (Attachment Two) for adoption for the purpose of public exhibition.

Critical analysis

Background

2. Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020 provides that Council must prepare and adopt a Budget for each financial year and the subsequent three financial years.
3. Section 91 of the Local Government Act 2020 provides that Council must prepare and adopt a Financial Plan for a period of at least the next 10 financial years.
4. The draft 2024/25 Budget has been developed over the last six months through a rigorous process of review by Councillors and Council Officers.

Financial Sustainability

5. One of Council's key responsibilities is to ensure it is financially sustainable for both current and future communities. Furthermore, it is important that decisions are future focused and have regard to the emerging and future needs of the City.
6. Council is deeply committed to serving the best interests of the community and recognises that consistent effort will be required to ensure that we remain financially sustainable and make the most effective use of public funds.
7. The whole of the Victorian local government sector continues to face significant financial pressures including rate capping and cost shifting. Constant changes to the economic landscape over the last few years have compounded these challenges with no real reduction of the general level of prices (despite declining inflation) and significant increases to the cost of materials and services and labour.
8. The reality for Yarra City Council (and the whole sector) is that increases in the price of services in real terms are significantly higher than the rate cap. This has been the case year on year since the rate cap system was introduced.
9. Financial sustainability and the ability to plan and provide for community in the years to come remains a key strategic risk for all Victorian local Councils. For Yarra the population is predicted to almost double by 2041 putting increasing pressure on services and infrastructure.
10. In December 2023, Council adopted a Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS) as part its commitment to strengthening Council's long term financial position. A Victorian first for local government, the FSS identifies a series of reforms required to maintain a healthy long-term financial position.
11. Council has already achieved significant improvements in its financial position over the last two years, as a result of holding costs, operational efficiencies, and a strengthened approach to project management.

2024/25 draft Budget

12. Council has worked hard to prepare a balanced draft budget that aligns with Yarra's Council Plan 2021-25 and Community Vision and to deliver what our community has told us it wants, while also addressing ongoing financial challenges and prioritising financial sustainability.
13. The draft budget seeks to strike a balance between addressing financial challenges, prioritising existing services and infrastructure and delivering a range of projects that will help achieve our community's vision for Yarra.

Highlights of the draft 2024/25 Budget

14. Addressing the climate emergency and sustainability:
 - (a) Introducing the Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) service to turn food waste into compost, addressing the climate emergency and contributing to the circular economy;
 - (b) Implementing the new Climate Emergency Plan with a focus on protecting those most at risk from the impacts of climate change;
 - (c) Electrifying Council assets, including commencing works to get Collingwood Leisure Centre off gas; and
 - (d) Accelerating Yarra's Tree Planting program as a natural cooling climate emergency response by increasing annual planting of trees.
 15. Creating more open space including parks:
 - (a) Designing and delivering new open spaces through Council's Roads to Parks program in consultation with the community; and
 - (b) Upgrading sporting facilities including Yambla Pavilion and Brunswick Street Oval.
 16. Building a stronger and safer city and transport network:
 - (a) Renewing critical infrastructure like roads, footpaths and kerbs including renewal of drains and re-lining of brick drains to mitigate flood risks; and
 - (b) Improving infrastructure and safety for vulnerable road users while encouraging uptake in sustainable transport with the New Deal for Walking, New Deal for Cycling and New Deal for Schools.
 17. Investing in our future through children and young people:
 - (a) Expanding kindergartens to accommodate free 3 and 4-year-old kinder under the State Government's reforms including the refurbishment and reactivation of the new 44-place Atherton Gardens Kindergarten; and
 - (b) Providing empowering programs and activities for children and young people with a focus on members of culturally and linguistically diverse, at risk and hard-to-reach communities, including leadership training for the Yarra Youth Advocacy Group.
 18. Supporting people who are vulnerable or at risk:
 - (a) Trialling pop-up heatwave cooling relief centres for people experiencing homelessness and people from other at-risk communities within the municipality, improving safety and inclusion; and
 - (b) Supporting the Yarra Zero program, a collective and collaborative initiative addressing homelessness and rough sleeping in Yarra.
 19. Investing in new initiatives to improve Council connections with community:
 - (a) A deliberative engagement on the new Council Plan that will bring a representative panel of the Yarra community together to inform Council's plans for years to come; and
 - (b) Uplifting digital capability, improving efficiency, and providing a better customer experience that enables the community to connect with Council.
 20. Keeping our vibrant city active and connected:
-

- (a) Delivering the hugely successful Leaps and Bounds Music Festival for its 12th year to support our diverse arts community and stimulate the local economy in the winter months; and
 - (b) Partnering and supporting Yarra's Neighbourhood Houses, which offer responsive, local programs designed to empower, connect, and educate individuals and groups.
21. The draft budget and LTFP have been developed in alignment and consideration of the following:
- (a) Council Plan 2021-25 and Community Vision;
 - (b) Financial Sustainability Strategy (2023);
 - (c) Municipal Monitor's Report (2022);
 - (d) VAGO ratios and principles;
 - (e) Economic, employment and general market conditions, and
 - (f) Councillor feedback.
22. General rates will increase by 2.75%, in line with the 2024-25 rate cap implemented by the Victorian Government.
23. It is important to note that the cost of providing Council services in real terms are significantly higher than the rate cap set by the State government. This has been the case year on year since the rate cap system was introduced.
24. The draft 2024/25 budget proposes no new debt and no increase to staffing numbers.
25. Fees and charges have been informed by a comprehensive bench marking exercise across similar metropolitan councils, ensuring consistency (where relevant) and fairness.
26. Council will continue to support vulnerable community members through its Hardship Policy and Pensioner Rebate.
27. Council's cash and cash equivalents will decrease from \$95.7m to \$75.8m over the four years of the budget, this in part reflects the repayment of borrowings. Non-current assets of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment is expected to increase from \$1.9b to \$2.1b over the four years of the budget.
28. The Capital Works Program is a comprehensive asset renewal, upgrade and new works program of \$34.6 million.
29. A surplus for the 2024/25 Budget of \$15.7m is projected despite increasingly challenging economic circumstances. Generating sufficient levels of surpluses is critical to fund our capital works and other programs in the future.
30. Local Government Victoria (LGV) released Minister's Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges in late December. It is noted that the guidelines are not legally binding and together with the whole of the Victorian local government sector we are working to better understand the intent of guidelines and what, if any actions are required.
31. The program of service reviews will continue 2024/25 to ensure services are efficient, cost effective and align to community benefit.

Community and stakeholder engagement

32. The draft Budget 2024/25 consultation is planned to be undertaken from Friday, 12 April to Friday 10 May 2024.
33. The proposed engagement approach including promotion will aim to reach the diverse community and will include:
- (a) Online survey via the Your Say Yarra project page;
 - (b) Two in person 'pop-up' sessions with Bi-cultural Liaison Officers at relevant sessions, and hardcopy surveys available;

- (c) Your Say Yarra email newsletter;
 - (d) News item via corporate website;
 - (e) Yarra Life newsletter;
 - (f) Yarra News;
 - (g) Digital Screens in customer service centres, libraries and leisure centres;
 - (h) Postcards (for pop-up sessions and at customer service centres);
 - (i) Social media;
 - (j) Hard copy surveys and postcards distributed to key Council locations;
 - (k) FAQs on Your Say Yarra project page; and
 - (l) Email to past budget participants.
34. It is recommended that Council call an Extraordinary Council meeting on Monday, 3 June 2024 to provide an opportunity for Councillors to hear from community members wanting to speak to their feedback.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

35. Council adopted its first Community Vision on 20 July 2021, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020. The Vision – Yarra 2036 - identifies the long-term aspirations and priorities of the community and provides a future lens to guide planning and decision making.
36. The Council Plan 2021-25, formally adopted on 19 October 2021 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, addresses Yarra 2036 Community Vision and outlines six Strategic Objectives, representing Council's direction for the next four years.
37. The draft Budget and draft LTFP incorporate the financial resources necessary to implement the Council Plan objectives and to work towards achieving the Community Vision over the next 10 years.
38. The 2021-25 Council Plan includes commitment on financial stewardship in strategy objective 6:
'Manage our finances responsibly and improve long-term financial management planning.'

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

39. The Draft Budget and the Draft LTFP support Council's climate emergency and sustainability policies and objectives.

Community and social implications

40. The draft Budget and draft LTFP Discounts places an emphasis on the delivery of services for our community. Council will continue to support vulnerable community members through its Hardship Policy and Pensioner Rebate.

Economic development implications

41. Fees and charges have been drafted in consideration to the benefit and cost to users of services, business owners and residents and are reflective of Council's commitment to support and promote access and participation.

Human rights and gender equality implications

42. There are no human rights and gender equality implications.

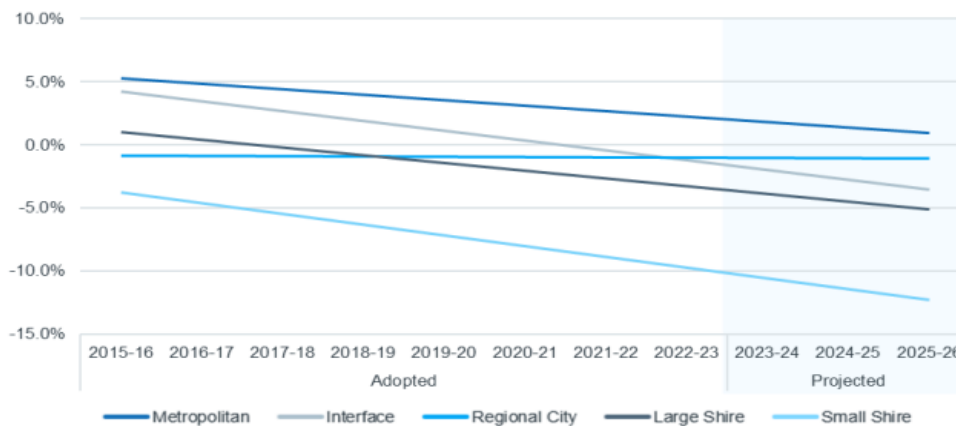
Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

43. The 2024/25 draft budget and LTFP documents have been prepared in accordance with Local Government Victoria (LGV) planning and reporting, the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) and Australian Accounting Standards.
44. 2024/25 will deliver constant changes to the economic landscape, compounding the challenges with no real reduction of the general level of prices (despite declining inflation) and significant increases to the cost of materials and services and labour.
45. A balanced draft 2024/25 budget has been achieved whilst still delivering on the Council Plan. This is despite Yarra continuing to experience external pressures from rate capping, Enterprise Agreement obligations, labour market pressures and significant increases to the costs of materials and services.
46. A balanced draft 2024/25 budget means that unrestricted cash will match borrowings by the end of 2024/25. This is consistent with goals outlined in the Financial Sustainability Strategy.
47. Ongoing efforts to ensure financial sustainability are critical. A recent Discussion Paper – Committee Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Services, outlines that Adjusted underlying results trends are deteriorating across the Local Government sector in Victoria. Refer to Table 1 below.

Table 1 Local Government Sector Performance

Adjusted Underlying Result Ratio Trendlines



48. Deteriorating adjusted underlying results result in less cash and are a direct result of the following:
 - (a) Fees and charges not reflecting the cost to deliver services and capital works programs;
 - (b) Increasing costs from population growth - this is a major concern if the population growth exceeds predications in the LTFP and where there is population growth due to social housing increases;
 - (c) Cost shifting from state and federal government, especially in many areas such as libraries', aged care and school crossings;
 - (d) Greater capital requirements to be identified through the asset plan and strategy objectives (including the high number of heritage buildings and ageing infrastructure);
 - (e) Capital works price increases, especially with supply chain challenges and inflation;
 - (f) Expenses increase at a higher rate than assumed in the LTFP (enterprise agreements, waste management, environmental sustainability, etc.);

- (g) Historical underinvestment in information technology coupled with escalating Information technology costs;
- (h) Pressure to expand service delivery, and
- (i) Rate cap unaligned with inflation.

Legal Implications

- 49. The overarching objectives of the Act are to ensure councils adhere to sound financial practices, put in place long-term planning and effective risk management frameworks to support financial sustainability and achieve the best interests of the community, including future generations.
- 50. Section 9 (2) of the Local Government Act 2020 ("the Act") states: "...overarching governance principles include "the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured".
- 51. Section 101 of the Act provides for financial management principles, including 101 (b); "financial risks must be monitored and managed prudently having regards to economic circumstances."
- 52. Section 102 (1) states a Council must prepare and adopt financial policies that give effect to the financial management principles.

Conclusion

- 53. It is recommended that Council endorse the draft 2024/25 budget and LTFP for the purpose of public exhibition.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council adopts, for the purpose of public exhibition:
 - (a) the Draft Budget 2024/2025 at **Attachment One** as a draft of the budget prepared for the purpose of section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020, and
 - (b) the Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2024/2025 to 2033/2034 at **Attachment Two**.
- 2. That in accordance with Governance Rule Chapter Two, Rule 10.1, Council call an Extraordinary Council meeting at 6.30pm on Monday 3 June 2024 to hear feedback in relation to the Draft Budget 2024/2025 and Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2024/2025 and that in accordance with Governance Rule Chapter Two, Rule 54.6 determine that persons be heard at that meeting in accordance with Governance Rule Chapter Two, Rule 54.
- 3. That Council note the intention to consider the feedback and adopt the Budget 2024/2025 and the Long-Term Financial Plan 2024/2025 at the Ordinary Council meeting on Tuesday 18 June 2024 and further note that under Governance Rule Chapter Two, Rule 54.1.2 there will not be an opportunity for members of the public to address Council in relation to that item.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Attachment 1 - Yarra City Council 2024/25 Draft Budget
- 2 [↓](#) Attachment 2 - Yarra City Council Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2024/25



Draft Annual Budget 2024/25



Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.

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A message from the Mayor

I am proud to present the draft Budget for 2024/25 that delivers the essential services and infrastructure our community relies on, funds the priority projects our diverse community wants and needs, and works to future proof the financial sustainability of our great city so that we can continue delivering for our growing community.

Priority projects this year tackle the climate emergency, provide more open space where our community needs it most, focus on the future by investing in our children and young people and deliver upgrades to our much-loved community sporting facilities.

We're also investing in active and sustainable transport with the New Deal for Walking, New Deal for Cycling and New Deal for Schools that will see better pedestrian and cycling infrastructure across the city.

We're supporting people who are vulnerable or at risk through initiatives that address homelessness, promote inclusion and equity and create stronger community connections through social programs and events.

And we're investing in new initiatives to improve Council connections with community including a deliberative engagement on the new Council Plan and improvements to customer service and experience.

In addition to delivering vital projects and initiatives for our community, I am confident that this balanced and responsible Budget will leave a lasting, positive impact on Council's long-term financial sustainability.

Building on last year's Budget, we have again taken great strides towards our goal of financial sustainability, with smart investments, significant savings and careful and timely measures to reduce expenditure.

Despite significant financial challenges shared across the local government sector, including increases to the costs of delivering services and infrastructure outpacing the rate cap and cost shifting from other levels of government, I am pleased to say we have delivered a \$15.7m surplus.

This surplus will ensure we can invest in capital works for future growth, avoid unnecessary new borrowings, respond to unforeseen challenges and address the emerging needs of our community.

Rates revenue will increase by 2.75% overall in line with the Victorian Government's rate cap and we will continue to support vulnerable community members through our Hardship Policy and Pensioner Rebate.

Highlights of the draft 2024/25 Budget include:

Addressing the climate emergency and sustainability

- Introducing the Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) service to turn food waste into compost, addressing the climate emergency and contributing to the circular economy.
- Implementing the new Climate Emergency Plan with a focus on protecting those most at risk from the impacts of climate change.
- Electrifying Council assets, including commencing works to get Collingwood Leisure Centre off gas.
- Accelerating Yarra's Tree Planting program as a natural cooling climate emergency response by increasing annual planting of trees

Creating more open space including parks

- Designing and delivering new open spaces through Council's Roads to Parks program in consultation with the community.
- Upgrading sporting facilities including Yambla Pavilion and Brunswick Street Oval.

Building a stronger and safer city and transport network

- Renewing critical infrastructure like roads, footpaths and kerbs including renewal of drains and re-lining of brick drains to mitigate flood risks.
- Improving infrastructure and safety for vulnerable road users while encouraging uptake in sustainable transport with the New Deal for Walking, New Deal for Cycling and New Deal for Schools.

Investing in our future through children and young people

- Expanding kindergartens to accommodate free 3 and 4-year-old kinder under the State Government's reforms including the refurbishment and reactivation of the new 44-place Atherton Gardens Kindergarten.
- Providing empowering programs and activities for children and young people with a focus on members of culturally and linguistically diverse, at risk and hard-to-reach communities, including leadership training for the Yarra Youth Advocacy Group.

Supporting people who are vulnerable or at risk

- Trialing pop-up heatwave cooling relief centres for people experiencing homelessness and people from other at-risk communities within the municipality, improving safety and inclusion.
- Supporting the Yarra Zero program, a collective and collaborative initiative addressing homelessness and rough sleeping in Yarra.

Investing in new initiatives to improve Council connections with community

- A deliberative engagement on the new Council Plan that will bring a representative panel of the Yarra community together to inform Council's plans for years to come.
- Uplifting digital capability, improving efficiency, and providing a better customer experience that enables the community to connect with Council.

Keeping our vibrant city active and connected

- Delivering the hugely successful Leaps and Bounds Music Festival for its 12th year to support our diverse arts community and stimulate the local economy in the winter months.
- Partnering and supporting Yarra's Neighbourhood Houses, which offer responsive, local programs designed to empower, connect, and educate individuals and groups.

With our city's population set to almost double by 2041, these key projects have been carefully chosen to ensure they both meet the needs of our community now and respond to growing community demand, making sure Yarra remains one of the best places to live, work and play.

I look forward to working with my fellow Councillors and the Yarra community on making these fantastic initiatives a reality.

Mayor Cr Edward Crossland
Yarra City Council

Executive Summary

Yarra City Council is committed to serving the best interests of our community and delivering value for rates. Council's draft Budget 2024/25 is informed by the Council Plan 2021-25, Community Vision 2036 and our Financial Sustainability Strategy.

Development of the draft Budget is guided by the Financial Management Principles in the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act). These principles require the careful monitoring and management of financial risks, including those that arise from broader economic circumstances.

The Act also requires that Council considers the importance of both ongoing financial viability and the provision of services for future generations when considering financial matters.

The draft Budget 2024/25 has been prepared for the four-year period ending 30 June 2028. It is set within the Long-Term Financial Plan, which assists Council with adopting a Budget within a longer-term financial framework. The key objective of the Financial Plan is to maintain financial sustainability in the medium to long term, while still delivering on Council's strategic objectives.

Yarra City Council's draft Budget for 2024/25 is balanced and responsible, investing in our community's future and delivering a more liveable city, while taking great strides towards financial sustainability.

The local government sector continues to face significant financial pressures including rate capping and cost shifting. Continual changes to the economic landscape have compounded these challenges with no real reduction of the general level of prices (despite declining inflation) and significant increases to the cost of materials and services and labour. At the same time, Yarra's population is set to almost double by 2041, putting increasing pressure on services and infrastructure.

Delivering a balanced draft Budget for 2024/25 in the face of these significant challenges is a pleasing result largely achieved by improved efficiencies across all areas of Councils' operations and services. We have cut expenditure, improved efficiencies and strengthened our focus on future proofing the organisation, including investing in new technology and holding spending on salaries and wages despite rising costs.

With smart investment and savings, we have delivered a surplus of \$15.7m. This surplus will ensure we can invest in capital works for future growth, avoid unnecessary new borrowing, respond to emergencies and address the emerging needs of our community.

General Rates revenue will increase by 2.75% overall in line with the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). We will continue to support vulnerable community members through our Hardship Policy and Pensioner Rebate.

While this is an excellent outcome, financial sustainability and Council's ability to provide for our community in the years to come, remains a key strategic risk.

The reality for the whole sector, is that increases in the price of services in real terms are significantly higher than the rate cap. This has been the case year on year since the rate cap system was introduced.

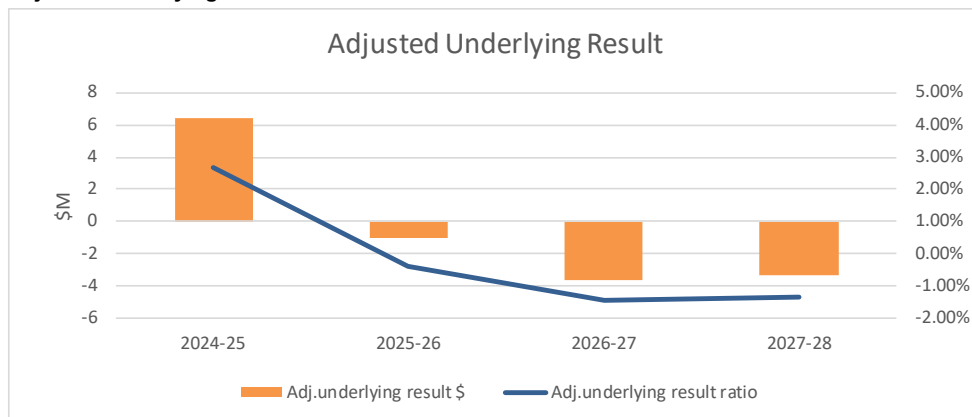
As part of our commitment to improve Council's financial health and ensure we are financially sustainable in the future, Council adopted a Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS) in December 2023. The FSS looks at the predicted numbers in our Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) and identifies ways to address them. It also identifies reforms and provides direction on how to achieve a healthy long-term financial position.

In the last 12 months, significant gains have already been made towards financial sustainability and Council is committed to the consistent focus required to ensure we can provide for our community now and into the future.

The 24/25 draft Budget provides a significant opportunity to bring about lasting and positive change in the financial trajectory for Yarra City Council and the journey to financial sustainability.

1. Financial Sustainability

Adjusted Underlying Result



The adjusted underlying result is the surplus/deficit for the year adjusted for capital grants and contributions. This is a measure of financial sustainability, and the ongoing Adjusted Underlying Result provided a decline over the term of the Budget. This present outcome provides that Council will not generate sufficient cash to pay for capital works programs in the medium term unless the objectives and actions of the FSS are fully executed.

Cash

Insufficient ongoing Adjusted Underlying Results reduces cash available to fund capital work programs.

Whilst the budget presents high cash levels, (Refer to 3.4 Statement of Cash Flows – Cash and Cash equivalents at the end of the year) a significant portion is allocated to statutory reserves or allocated to capital works that is funded by a grant. The remaining cash levels are called unrestricted cash.

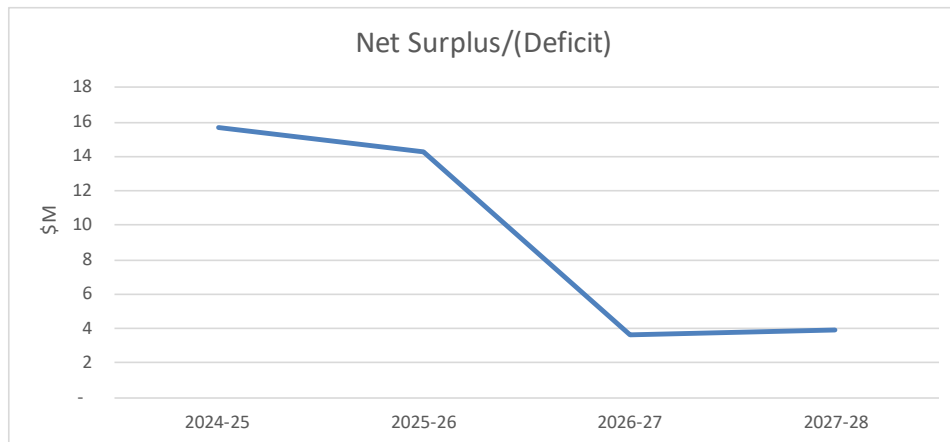
An example of a statutory reserve is the Open Space reserve, The open space reserve is an example of funds received from developers specifically set aside for future investment in open spaces within the municipality. The higher the level of unrestricted cash the more funding available to pay for roads, footpaths, parks and other open space assets and to repay borrowings.

Council has limited unrestricted cash and cash levels have been subsidised by borrowings and this places Council at significant financial risk of not delivering required services to the community in a sustainable manner.

Council must increase levels of unrestricted cash to ensure long-term financial sustainability and to continue to deliver the services and programs expected by the community. It is also important that community assets are maintained so that the cost does not become a burden for future ratepayers.

Council must also maintain an adequate amount of cash to meet the requirements of Council business, to ensure timely payment of all liabilities.

2. Operating Result



Council is not immune to global financial challenges, including higher inflation and rapidly rising costs.

In the face of these pressures, we've gone to work every day to provide essential support to our community – and we've reactivated Yarra City by setting a new pace and investing for growth.

Through continued disciplined financial management and prudent decision making, we are forecasting a consistent surplus in 2024/25.

Council will not have to borrow and instead focus on to continue to build a better Yarra City, create jobs and continue growing our economy.

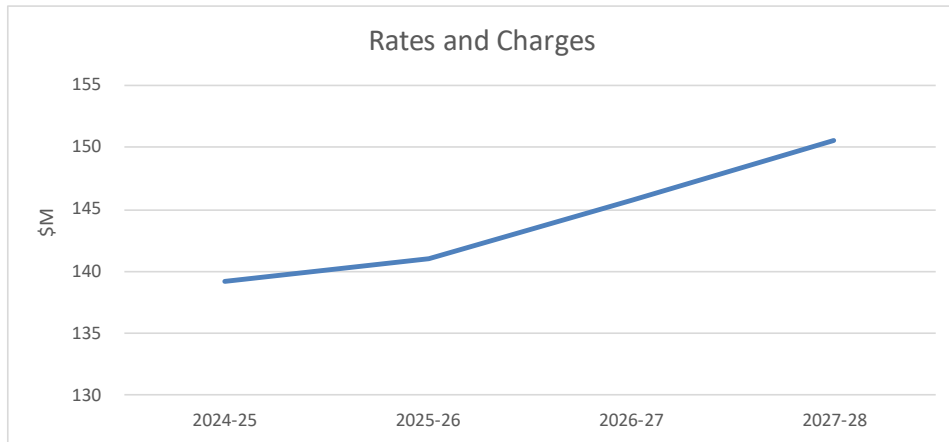
We have improved efficiencies and implemented cost-saving measures across our organisation. This will include investing in new technology.

The surplus for the 2024/25 budget is \$15.7m, and improvement from \$15.2m in 2023/24, despite experiencing higher costs due to increasingly challenging economic circumstances and sector wide legacy issues. This is a result of applying prudent costs saving measures whilst sustainably managing the price of services for the community.

Generating sufficient levels of surpluses is critical to fund our capital works and other programs in the future.

From 2026-27 there is a significant risk of reduced surpluses which will not generate sufficient cash flows to fund capital work programs and repay debt.

3. Rates and Charges



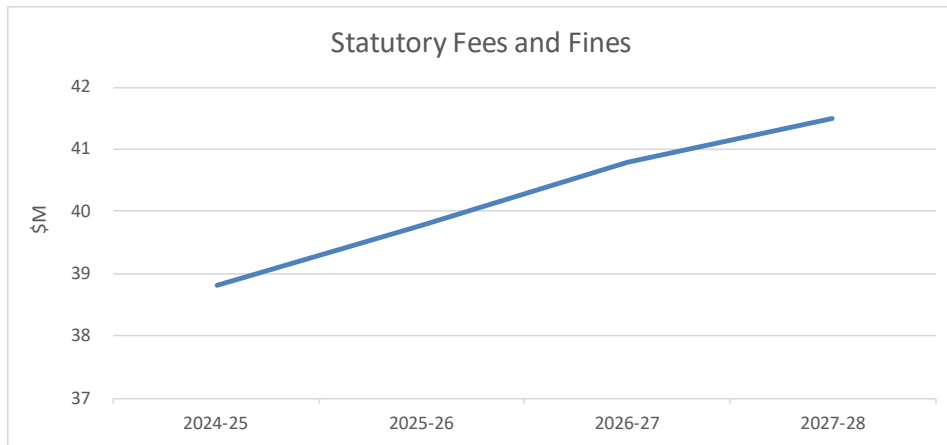
Rates are necessary to keep our city running. Our teams work around the clock to deliver essential services – from waste and recycling collections to road works and street cleaning, public health and safety, and keeping our parks and gardens in great shape for everyone to enjoy.

It is important to note, the actual rate increases experienced by individual ratepayers may differ from the 2.75% increase due to revaluations. Rate increases are impacted by the average rate increase (2.75%) and the property valuation increases (or decreases) of individual properties relative to the average across the municipality.

Any ratepayers experiencing financial hardship can apply for rate relief through the City of Yarra Rates Financial Hardship Policy.

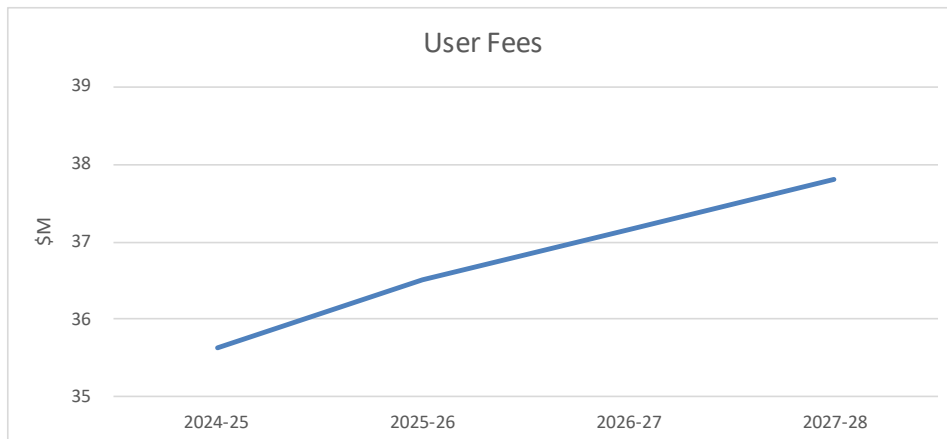
Total revenue from rates and charges is projected to be \$139.2m which incorporates the average rate increase of 2.75%. This is in line with the Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) which caps rates increase by Victorian councils for the 2024/25 financial year.

4. Statutory Fees and Fines



Statutory Fees and Fines are established by legislation. Revenue from Statutory Fees and Fines for 2024-25 budget is expected to be \$38.8m.

5. User Fees



Our draft Budget projects revenue of \$35.6 million in User fees and charges – an increase of only \$0.411 million or 1.2% (well below the rate cap of 2.75%) compared with 2023/24 budget.

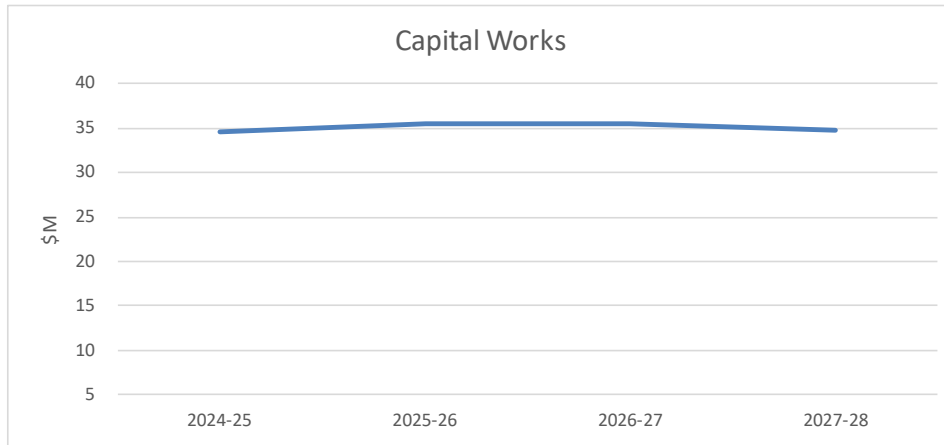
Yarra City Council is not proposing to introduce new user fees for 2024/25, in fact some fees were restructured or reclassified for simplification and improved customer experience. This is in addition to 135 (18%) of fees having no movement in price or were decreased or discontinued.

Officers reviewed fees and charges with the intention to:

- Continue to provide excellent service to the community;
- Align our products;

- Have consistency with fees and charges, and
- Have a logical decision-making process for any increases beyond CPI;

6. Capital Works



Council is pleased to provide a community focused budget in capital investment across the next four years. The proposed Capital Works Program (as detailed in section 4.5) is a comprehensive asset renewal, upgrade and new works program of \$34.5m. Capital works investment has been assessed on the basis of community need, deliverability and affordability.

7. Borrowing

Council borrowed \$32.5m in 2013/14 to settle the Vision Super unfunded defined benefit liability and fund major capital projects, including acquisition of 345 Bridge Road, Richmond. This borrowing was interest only and the full principal amount was refinanced in February 2022 through Treasury Corporation Victoria (a principal and interest facility) for a term of 10 years.

An additional loan of \$13.5 million was drawn down in 2016-17 to fund the construction of Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library. This loan is funded on a principal and interest basis and will be repaid in 2027.

The 2024/25 budget has been prudently developed to ensure no new borrowings are required, in fact borrowings have reduced from 2023/24 to 2024/25.

The implementation of the FSS assesses the capacity to repay borrowings earlier and also assess the need for borrowings over the medium to longer term. Should the principles of the FSS not be fully implemented, then the risk for borrowings to pay for operations costs will increase significantly and this is not preferred option of the FSS.

The FSS considers borrowing as a final option and when sources of funds are required for capital works only. While it is not always an optimum solution, because of the interest costs involved, it does have benefits. It matches the consumption of the asset with the future generations of the community using the asset. In order to be able to meet the infrastructure needs of a growing city Council will need to assess its level of borrowings over the next decade.

Budget Influences

The draft Budget 2024/25 is based on a number of influences and assumptions, which are likely to impact funding for the delivery of services provided by Council.

The financial sustainability of local governments across Australia continues to be a challenge, with increasing community demand for services, population growth and rising costs associated with maintenance and renewal of ageing infrastructure.

Council commits to serving the best interests of the community and is driven to provide community value whilst remaining financially sustainable.

The 2021-25 Council Plan includes commitment on financial stewardship in strategy objective 6: 'Manage our finances responsibly and improve long-term financial management planning'.

Yarra city Council adopted a Financial Sustainability Strategy in December 2023 (FSS).

In summary, the FSS seeks to:

- reduce borrowings to ensure capacity for future years;
- establish and invest in new cash reserves for to enable future investment in community infrastructure and to address risk for unforeseen events;
- maintain Yarra's asset base at a standard that can service the needs of our community now and into the future;
- ensure new community infrastructure investment is informed by evidence of need and is undertaken in a financially sustainable manner with the right blend of renewals and new infrastructure;
- ensure the right level of services are provided to the community and effectively plan for future and changing community needs;
- optimise revenue generating assets (including property) and services;
- ensure user fees and charges reflect the true cost of service (that is, rates funding is not unreasonably subsidising services that provide private benefit);
- improve operational efficiencies through technology, process, procurement, and project planning and delivery improvements;
- take a careful and fiscally responsible approach towards the use of reserves for strategic property acquisitions and major projects that will provide intergenerational community benefit;
- strengthen Yarra's advocacy and partnerships to achieve a better share of, and weather the storm of declining, government grants and subsidies, and
- achieve an overall 'low-risk' rating on all Victorian Auditor General's (VAGO) financial sustainability indicators.

The four years represented within the Budget are 2024/25 through to 2027/28. In preparing the 2024/25 budget, a number of influences have been taken into consideration. These are outlined below:

The City of Yarra is a vibrant inner metropolitan municipality which is home to a diverse community.

- **Population Growth** – Drawing upon ABS data and other sources, id@ consulting estimates that as of 2023, the City of Yarra has an estimated resident population of 99,557 and 47,988 households. The average household size is 2.02 people compared with Greater Melbourne at 2.7. Half of these households rent their home which is well above the Greater Melbourne average (29%). Ten per cent of Yarra's residents live in public housing, well above the Greater Melbourne rate at 2.6%. Almost 4 in 10 Yarra households are in the highest income quartile earning over \$2,395 per week. Around 1 in 5 households are in the lowest quartile group earning up to \$740 per week. 29% of Yarra's residents were born overseas. By 2041, the population for the City of Yarra is forecast to increase to 157,607 residents.

- **Location** – Yarra's 19.5 square kilometres include the suburbs of: Abbotsford, Alphington (south of Heidelberg Road), Burnley, Carlton North, Clifton Hill, Collingwood, Cremorne, Fairfield (south of Heidelberg Road), Fitzroy, Fitzroy North, Princes Hill and Richmond.

Yarra City Council has the second highest population density in the state, has infrastructure and buildings generally older than those of most other Council's and has the largest number of heritage listed buildings in Victoria. Whilst recognising the impact of these challenges, Council is committed to continue with the delivery of high levels of community services and asset maintenance and upgrades.

- **Coronavirus** – COVID-19 - whilst COVID-19 significantly impacted Council's financial position, pre-existing budgetary structural issues have also contributed to Council's ability to generate adequate its own cash flow to fund community services, capital work programs and reduce debt levels.

Council does not generate enough annual surpluses to fully fund the wide service delivery model and the capital works program. Annual service reviews are ongoing to ensure services align to community benefit. Investment in capital programs will be informed by the asset plan and strategy and alignment with the Council Plan.

- **Rising inflation** - Expenses such as cost of construction materials, service contracts, utilities costs etc present a risk to Council's budget outcomes given the global and local impacts of events over the past four years and uncertainties with the future economic outlook.
- **Waste Disposal Costs** – The Environment Protection Agency (EPA) regulation has a sustained impact on Council with regards to compliance with existing and past landfills sites. Waste disposal costs are also impacted by industry changes such as levies and negotiation of contracts e.g. recycling sorting and acceptance.

The financial cost of waste and recycling services has risen dramatically. The State Government's circular economy plan, Recycling Victoria: A New Economy, includes positive measures to reduce waste and stimulate the local recycling industry but this comes at a cost. In accordance with the Plan, Council must provide a standardised kerbside service which includes a fourth bin for food and garden organic (FOGO) by 2030.

The rising costs to provide existing and mandated waste services to the community are also due to several factors, including:

- (a) Market volatility due to limited players in processing and remanufacturing as well as end markets for the recycle product;
- (b) yearly % increase of logistic contracts due to increased fuel and supply chain costs;
- (c) increased landfill levy (90% over the last 3 years),
- (d) any increase in service levels, additional services and/or innovation in embedding circular principles, and
- (e) encouraging recycling and reducing contamination of recycling stream.

- **Cost shifting** - Cost shifting has been a major financial issue for many years and poses a risk on the ability for Council to deliver services and our financial sustainability. Cost-shifting occurs where local government provides a service to the community on behalf of the State and Federal Government. Over time the funds received by local government do not increase in line with real cost increases.

Cost shifting can occur in the following ways:

- (a) Provision of grant funding to commence a new service (and then withdrawing those funds at a later stage leaving Council to fully fund the service);
- (b) Inadequate growth or indexation of funding provided to services;
- (c) Legislative transfer of responsibilities to Local Government;
- (d) Removal of services at one level of Government leaving Local Government as the only service provider, and
- (e) Increasing the expectations of service delivery without a commensurate increase in grant funding.

Rate revenue is commonly used by councils to cover funding shortfalls and to meet increasing service demands, new government policy, rising costs and community expectations.

For example public libraries were originally funded 50:50 by State and local government. Victorian Government funding has since declined to just 17 per cent of public library operating costs, with councils now contributing 83 per cent of the total cost.

- **Enterprise Agreement (EA)** – The next EA is due to be completed by the end of 2025. The impacts of the new EA cannot be accurately predicted.
- **Superannuation** – Council has an ongoing obligation to fund any investment shortfalls in the Defined Benefits Scheme, which has been closed to new members since 1993. The last call on Local Government was in the 2012-2013 financial year where Council was required to pay \$11.3m to top up its share of the Defined Benefits Scheme. The amount and timing of any liability is dependent on the global investment market. At present the actuarial ratios are at a level that additional calls from Local Government are not expected in the next 12 months.
- **Financial Assistance Grants** – The largest source of government funding to Council is through the annual Victorian Grants Commission allocation. The overall state allocation is determined by the Federal Financial Assistance Grant.
- **Capital Grant Funding** – Capital grant opportunities arise continually and council is proactive in seeking grant support for its projects and services. Only confirmed capital grants are included in the budget.
- **Rate Capping** – The Victorian State Government continues to apply a cap on rate increases. The cap for 2024/25 has been set at 2.75 %, lower than the current CPI of 4.1%. (*ABS Dec quarter 2023*)

Councils have limited sources of revenue to deliver on community needs with funding derived from:

- (a) Rates and charges; (b) Grants and contributions; (c) User fees and charges, and (d) Statutory fees and fines.

Rates are the most significant revenue source for Council and make up approximately 55 per cent of annual income. The ability for Council to levy rates is controlled by the Government's 'Fair Go Rating System' which provides that the Minister for Local Government will set an annual cap above which rates cannot be increased without the permission of the Essential Services Commission.

Since its inception, the 'Fair Go Rates System' has challenged all Victorian councils long-term financial sustainability and it continues to restrict local governments ability to raise revenue to maintain service delivery levels and invest in community assets.

In recent years, the Essential Services Commission has recommended that the rate cap be set equal to the CPI forecast. However, the CPI does not accurately reflect increases in costs faced by local councils, because they have a significantly different composition of expenditure compared to

households. Key council expenditures (wages, construction, utilities, etc.) required to provide council services and deliver infrastructure projects have been increasing faster than the CPI.

- **Supplementary Rates** – Supplementary rates are additional rates received after the budget is adopted each year, for the part of the year when a property value increases in value (e.g. due to improvements made or change in land class), or new residents become assessable. Importantly, supplementary rates recognises that new residents require services on the day they move into the municipality and Council is committed to providing these. Supplementary rates income is based on historical and forecast data and is set at anticipated levels. Supplementary rates become part of the general rates in the following year.
- **Development Contributions** – The rate of growth and flow of development contributions income depends on land sales and the desire of developers to construct new developments within the municipality. As Yarra's Development Contribution scheme only formally commenced in early 2021, development contributions income is based on forecast data and is set at anticipated levels.

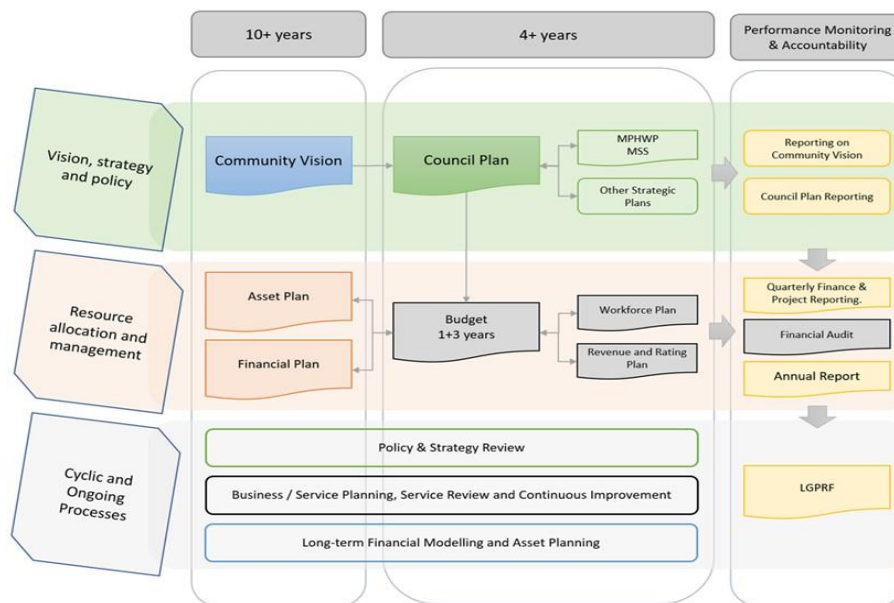
Budget Reports

1. Link to the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community Vision and Council Plan within an overall integrated strategic planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision and Financial Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

1.1. Legislative planning and accountability framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework that applies to local government in Victoria. At each stage of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers.



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

The timing of each component of the integrated strategic planning and reporting framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes. Councils planning and accountability framework

ensures integrated policy and strategy development to help plan and guide the municipality into the future.

1.2. Key planning considerations

Service level planning

Although councils have a legal obligation to provide some services— such as animal management, local roads, food safety and statutory planning—most council services are not legally mandated, including some services closely associated with councils, such as libraries, building permits and sporting facilities. Further, over time, the needs and expectations of communities can change. Therefore, councils need to have robust processes for service planning and review to ensure all services and service levels offered continue to provide value for money and are in line with community expectations. In doing so, councils should engage with communities according to the Community Engagement Policy and Public Transparency Policy to determine how to prioritise resources and balance service provision against other responsibilities such as asset maintenance and capital works. Yarra City Council recently underwent a deliberative engagement process with a representative sample of community members to define service planning and review principles. These principles need to be considered when planning any services or changes to services.

1.3. Our purpose

Our Vision

Yarra is a vibrant, safe and inclusive environment. We celebrate and embrace our diversity and connection to each other and the land. Our community is empowered to work together and support one another with respect and trust.

Our values

We aim to achieve the greatest outcomes for the community through delivering our Council Plan and working with, and for, all in Yarra. Our values guide our conduct and working relationships with colleagues and the community.

Accountability

We own what we do and expect others to do as well.

Respect

We include all. Diversity is our strength.

Courage

We are intentional in our actions. We seek the brave path.

1.4. Strategic objectives

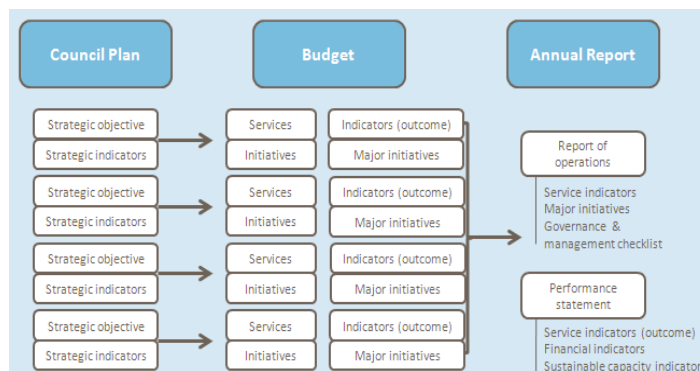
Council delivers services and initiatives across a number of Branches and Business Units. Each contributes to the achievement of one of the Strategic Objectives as set out in the Council Plan incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan for the years 2021-25.

The following table lists the six Strategic Objectives as described in the Council Plan 2021-25.

Strategic Objective	Description
1 Climate and environment	Yarra urgently mitigates climate change while also adapting to its impacts and developing resilience in everything we do. The community, business and industry are supported and encouraged to do the same.
2 Social equity and health	Yarra's people have equitable access and opportunities to participate in community life. They are empowered, safe and included.
3 Local economy	Yarra's neighbourhoods and major activity centres, nightlife and employment precincts are thriving, accessible and connected. They support and inspire diverse creative communities, cultural activities, businesses, and local employment.
4 Place and nature	Yarra's public places, streets and green open spaces bring our community together. They are planned to manage growth, protect our unique character and focus on people and nature.
5 Transport and movement	Yarra's transport network is sustainable and recognises that streets are important shared public spaces. Transport and movement is accessible, safe and well connected.
6 Democracy and governance	Yarra is smart, innovative and sustainable. Our decisions and advocacy are built on evidence and meaningful engagement. Good governance is at the heart of our processes and decision-making.

2. Services and service performance indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for the 2024/25 year and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan. It also describes several initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of Council's operations. Council is required by legislation to identify major initiatives, initiatives and service performance outcome indicators in the Budget and report against them in their Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these accountability requirements in the Council Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

2.1. Strategic Objective 1 - Climate and environment

Yarra urgently mitigates climate change while also adapting to its impacts and developing resilience in everything we do. The community, business and industry are supported and encouraged to do the same.

Services

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Sustainability	<i>Inc</i>	112	400	265
Services	<i>Exp</i>	3,458	4,549	4,081
	Surplus/(deficit)	(3,346)	(4,149)	(3,816)

Description of services provided

Sustainability Services delivers overarching environment and sustainability policy, programs, engagement and communications, focused strongly on responding to the climate emergency.

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
City Works	<i>Inc</i>	18	50	4
	<i>Exp</i>	26,221	27,120	28,990
	Surplus/(deficit)	(26,203)	(27,070)	(28,986)

Description of services provided

City Works oversees the delivery of all waste services, including waste minimisation.

Key Services:

- Waste minimisation and recycling services, policy and planning
- Cleansing Services
- Open space maintenance
- Biodiversity and Urban agriculture
- Fleet

Major Initiatives - Climate and Environment

- 1) Collingwood Leisure Centre gas removal - (\$0.600m)
- 2) Accelerating Zero Carbon Homes - (\$0.150m)
Continue to lead the strategic direction, project delivery, and engagement with residential sector to broad and specific household types and 'ownership' types in Yarra to take necessary action to reduce emissions and go all Electric
- 3) Accelerating Zero Carbon Business - (\$0.145m)
Continue to lead the strategic direction, project delivery, and engagement for commercial and industrial entities in Yarra to reduce emissions and electrify.
- 4) Implementation of new Climate Emergency Strategy - (\$0.200m)
- 5) Implementation of actions identified in the new Climate Emergency Plan (due for Council endorsement mid-2024)

Service Performance Outcome Indicators - Climate and Environment

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target
Waste management*	Waste diversion	33%	30%	34%

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.2. Strategic Objective 2 – Social Equity and Health

Yarra’s people have equitable access and opportunities to participate in community life. They are empowered, safe and included.

Services

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Aboriginal	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
Partnerships	<i>Exp</i>	129	152	280
	Surplus/(deficit)	(129)	(152)	(280)

Description of services provided

Aboriginal Partnerships connects Yarra City Council to the Yana Ngargna Advisory Group, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Corporation and the broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, brokering relationships and embedding Aboriginal community issues within Council policy, programs and practice.

Key Services:

- *Development and implementation of the Yana Ngargna Plan*
- *Support for Yana Ngargna Advisory Group and other networks*
- *Promotion and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures*

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Building and Asset Management	<i>Inc</i>	1,626	2,096	1,607
	<i>Exp</i>	8,121	8,113	7,487
	<i>Surplus/(deficit)</i>	(6,495)	(6,017)	(5,880)

Description of services provided

Building and Asset Management is responsible for Council's building assets as well as coordinating asset management and capital works planning and reporting activities across all of Council's asset classes.

Key Services:

- *Strategic Asset Management*
- *Capital Works planning, development, delivery, monitoring, and reporting*
- *Buildings and Facilities Maintenance*
- *Building Projects delivery*
- *Development Contribution Plan administration*

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Aged and Disability	<i>Inc</i>	3,871	4,448	4,575
	<i>Exp</i>	5,871	5,940	6,564
	<i>Surplus/(deficit)</i>	(2,001)	(1,491)	(1,989)

Description of services provided

Aged and Disability Services provide a range of services to assist older adults and people with disabilities to live independently in their homes. The services include home care, personal care, home maintenance, social support groups, meals and social support to older people, younger people with disability and their carers. The Branch carries out community development and strategic planning roles to support the inclusion of older adults and people with disability in community life, through the renewal of our Access and Inclusion plan to ensure that Yarra is an inclusive and accessible community and a place where everyone can live well and the renewal of our commitments to Ageing Well in Yarra to enable people who are aged 50+ opportunities to actively participate and connect.

Key Services:

- *Delivering community care and social inclusion services*
- *Community Development*
- *Support for Older Persons Groups*
- *Strategy planning and development for Disability, Access and Inclusion and Active Ageing*
- *Community Transport*

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Community Development	<i>Inc</i>	20	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	3,339	3,578	4,092
	Surplus/(deficit)	(3,319)	(3,578)	(4,092)

Description of services provided

Community Development strengthens civic participation, social inclusion and cohesion and supports community groups and organisations through programs including Council's Community Grants Program, Neighbourhood Houses Partnership Strategy, Social Justice Charter, Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Engagement, Volunteering Strategy, Multicultural Partnerships Plan and Community Strengthening Policy Framework.

Key Services:

- Community capacity building initiatives
- Supports multicultural community networks
- Manages relationships and funding agreements with Neighbourhood Houses and community centres
- Grant making through management of Council's significant Community Grants Program
- Engagement with people experiencing homelessness and service coordination

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Compliance	<i>Inc</i>	5,453	5,166	5,424
Services	<i>Exp</i>	6,868	6,481	6,693
	Surplus/(deficit)	(1,415)	(1,315)	(1,269)

Description of services provided

Compliance Services is responsible for a range of statutory enforcement services to maximise the health, safety and harmony of the City.

Key services:

- Animal Management
- Local Laws Enforcement
- School Crossing Management
- Temporary Liquor Licensing referrals
- Local Law permits
- Litter Enforcement
- Construction Enforcement
- Planning Enforcement
- Health Protection

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Family, Youth and Children's	<i>Inc</i>	11,584	14,398	13,878
	<i>Exp</i>	20,231	20,530	20,617
	Surplus/(deficit)	(8,647)	(6,131)	(6,739)

Description of services provided

Family, Youth and Children's Services provide a diverse range of contemporary, affordable, responsive and accessible quality frontline services to children, young people and families aged 0-25 years and is also responsible for municipal wide planning for children and young people. Areas of key advocacy include: responding to the early year's reforms of increasing access to free three-Year-old kindergarten hours across Yarra including the refurbishment and re-activation of the new 44-place Atherton Gardens Kindergarten and provide specific programs/activities for young people aged from 12 to 25 years, which seek empower young people to have a greater voice through youth led and supported action.

Key services:

- *Early years services, including childcare and kindergarten*
- *Maternal & Child Health*
- *Family Support and Programs including maternal and child health*
- *Youth & Middle Years support programs*
- *Connie Benn Community Hub*

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Library Services	<i>Inc</i>	854	1,321	710
	<i>Exp</i>	6,355	6,346	6,743
	<i>Surplus/(deficit)</i>	(5,501)	(5,026)	(6,032)

Description of services provided

Library Services are provided through 5 branches located in Carlton, Collingwood, Fitzroy, North Fitzroy and Richmond including outreach programs. These enable community access to build life skills, connect through digital and physical channels and utilise collections, programs and partnership events that positively impact literacy, learning and creativity.

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property and	<i>Inc</i>	11,647	11,094	12,269
Leisure Services	<i>Exp</i>	14,767	12,884	13,339
	<i>Surplus/(deficit)</i>	(3,120)	(1,790)	(1,070)

Description of services provided

Management of Council's property portfolio, three major leisure Services and aquatic facilities, a public golf course and a community gymnasium and provides a range of high quality facilities and programs that encourage participation from a broad cross section of the community. The branch is also responsible for developing and maintaining multiple sporting facilities, grounds and pavilions and Property Services.

Key Services:

- *Leisure Centres*
- *Burnley Golf Course*
- *Recreation planning, club development and sports field allocation*

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Social Strategy	<i>Inc</i>	10	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	825	714	744
	Surplus/(deficit)	(825)	(714)	(744)

Description of services provided

Social Strategy has responsibility for developing and implementing strategies on public, social and affordable housing and homelessness, alcohol and other drugs, gambling, community safety and population health and wellbeing.

Key services:

- Social policy advice
- Strategic advocacy
- Qualitative and quantitative survey research
- Demography and population forecasts, social and health statistics
- Geospatial analysis
- Literature reviews

Major Initiatives – Social Equity and Health

- 1) Provide backbone and practical support to the Yarra Zero program, a collective and collaborative initiative addressing homelessness and rough sleeping in Yarra
- 2) With partner agencies, create a framework for improved data systems and collaborative models to promote public amenity, support individuals with complex needs who inject drugs, and promote community safety
- 3) Leveraging existing facilities and local services, trial pop-up heatwave cooling relief centres for people experiencing homelessness and people from other at-risk communities within the municipality, improving both safety and inclusion.
- 4) Yarra Youth Advocacy Group - (\$0.050m)
To provide leadership training to the Yarra Youth Advocacy Group, and other interested young people to support their facilitation of community workshops on topics of relevance to the young people, including establishing youth entrepreneurship, youth justice and community safety

Service Performance Outcome Indicators - Social Equity and Health

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target
Animal Management*	Health and safety	100%	100%	100%
Aquatic Facilities*	Utilisation	7.0	7.0	7.0
Food Safety*	Health and safety	99%	100%	100%
Libraries	Participation	13.0	13.0	13.0
Maternal and Child Health*	Participation	92%	92%	92%
Maternal and Child Health*	Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children.	51%	51%	51%

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.3. Strategic Objective 3 – Local Economy

Yarra’s neighbourhoods and major activity centres, nightlife and employment precincts are thriving, accessible and connected. They support and inspire diverse creative communities, cultural activities, businesses, and local employment.

Services

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Arts, Culture and Venues	<i>Inc</i>	688	863	832
	<i>Exp</i>	5,122	4,196	3,429
	Surplus/(deficit)	(4,434)	(3,333)	(2,597)

Description of services provided

Arts, Culture and Venues facilitates creative, vibrant and connected communities through place making, community building, capacity building and direct service delivery.

Key services:

- Venues bookings
- Service delivery for the operation of three civic buildings and community spaces
- Events permits
- Parks and open spaces bookings
- Arts development
- Community arts
- Festivals and events
- Art and heritage collections
- Room to Create (creative spaces support) program
- Civic halls and events management

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Economic Development	<i>Inc</i>	771	209	-
	<i>Exp</i>	1,453	1,352	1,128
	Surplus/(deficit)	(683)	(1,144)	(1,128)

Description of services provided

Economic Development develops programs to support Yarra’s economy and promote local businesses and key retail precincts.

Key Services:

- Providing advice, support, and services to local businesses
- Undertaking tourism and marketing programs
- Gleadell Street Market

Major initiatives – Local Economy

- 1) Implement the annual Leaps & Bounds Music Festival for its 12th year with a focus on supporting diverse artists and music workers, new programs, live music venues in Yarra and building audiences and local economy in the winter months when trade slows

- 2) Continued support for the Learning Bank Hub connecting with the Community in Victoria Street.
- 3) Commencement of the preparation of a Night Time Economy Strategy in partnership with adjacent Councils
- 4) Local Economy support, work with local trader groups and association to market and activate our commercial precincts

Service Performance Outcome Indicators – Local Economy

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target
Governance*	Consultation and engagement	45%	50%	51%

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.4. Strategic Objective 4 – Place and Nature

Yarra's public places, streets and green open spaces bring our community together. They are planned to manage growth, protect our unique character and focus on people and nature.

Services

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Building Services	<i>Inc</i>	575	633	852
	<i>Exp</i>	1,875	2,187	2,303
	Surplus/(deficit)	(1,300)	(1,554)	(1,451)

Description of services provided

Building Services ensures the safety of the public in the built environment, maintains building permit documentation and fulfils Councils statutory functions under the Building Act.

Key services:

- Statutory Compliance for buildings and structures
- Building Customer Service
- Manage Combustible Cladding across the municipality

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
City Strategy	<i>Inc</i>	140	20	-
	<i>Exp</i>	3,427	4,061	4,442
	Surplus/(deficit)	(3,287)	(4,042)	(4,442)

Description of services provided

City Strategy plans for Yarra's future growth, sustainability and liveability, guides the design of key public spaces and increases and improves Yarra's open space network.

Key Services:

- Strategic Planning
- Urban Design and Place Making
- Open Space Planning and Design

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Heritage	<i>Inc</i>	0	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	311	265	252
	Surplus/(deficit)	(310)	(265)	(252)

Description of services provided

Heritage Services covers all aspects of cultural heritage and heritage places and includes sites, buildings (including interiors), landscapes, streets, laneways, objects, collections, documents and records of the City.

Key services:

- *Providing strategic advice to Council*
- *Managing the Heritage Restoration Fund*
- *Heritage Strategy development and implementation*
- *Coordination of the Heritage Advisory Committee*

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Open Space	<i>Inc</i>	286	170	160
	<i>Exp</i>	7,169	7,762	7,732
	Surplus/(deficit)	(6,882)	(7,592)	(7,572)

Description of services provided

City Works oversees the delivery of all street cleaning, open space maintenance and urban agriculture.

Key Services:

- *Street cleaning*
- *Open space maintenance*
- *Services improvement*
- *Biodiversity and Urban Agriculture*

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Statutory	<i>Inc</i>	7,842	8,595	8,144
	<i>Exp</i>	6,984	6,877	6,689
	Surplus/(deficit)	857	1,718	1,455

Description of services provided

Statutory Planning makes balanced and reasonable decisions about the use and development of land which give effect to state and local planning policies and manages change to respect the liveability of the city. These decisions are to be based on clear procedures, appropriate public participation and coordination with other Branches of Council and the policies and controls outlined with the Yarra Planning Scheme.

Key Services:

- *Planning Applications*
- *VCAT and Panel Hearings*
- *Advice on planning and specialist heritage and environmental sustainability issues*
- *Subdivision compliance*

Major Initiatives - Place and Nature

- 1) Brunswick Street Oval Project - Design and Year 1 partial construction of new sports pavilion - (\$1.000m)
- 2) Yambla Pavilion redesign and build - (\$1.000m)
- 3) Flood mitigation works - (\$0.500m)
- 4) Roseneath Street Clifton Hill
- 5) Charlotte Street new park - (\$1.900m)
- 6) Charles Evans Reserve park upgrade, including playground - (\$0.900m)
- 7) Yambla Reserve renewal of Turf irrigation and drainage - (\$0.800m)
- 8) Improvements to public realm in activity centre, pavement, plantings, furniture, drainage, irrigation, civil works
- 9) Tree Planting Project - (\$0.500m)
- 10) Infill planting of new street and park trees
- 11) Ongoing development of land use and development controls across the municipality to appropriately manage growth. Continue to work with the State Government to gain approval for existing planning scheme amendments
- 12) Development of a Community Infrastructure Plan - (\$0.100m)
- 13) The Open Space Strategy identified a gap in open space in this precinct of Richmond, Allocation of (\$1.900m) for the construction of Charlotte Street Park
- 14) Streetscape Improvement - Corner of Gertrude and Brunswick Streets, northeast corner new public space - (\$0.600m)
- 15) Continued Design and Feasibility work including community engagement through 2024-25 for the establishment of two new open space areas within the road reserve - (\$0.480m)

Service Performance Outcome Indicators – Place and Nature

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target
Statutory Planning*	Service standard	46%	42%	44%

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.5. Strategic Objective 5 - Transport and movement

Yarra's transport network is sustainable and recognises that streets are important shared public spaces. Transport and movement is accessible, safe and well connected.

Services

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Infrastructure, Traffic and Civil Engineering	<i>Inc</i>	7,150	8,315	7,912
	<i>Exp</i>	6,445	6,494	5,944
	Surplus/(deficit)	705	1,821	1,969

Description of services provided

Infrastructure, Traffic and Civil Engineering provides technical assessment, planning, community consultation, design and project management of all road infrastructure and development works throughout the municipality.

Key Services:

- Road Services
- Development and Civil Engineering
- Capital project delivery
- Drainage and Stormwater
- Traffic - including Local Area Place Making (LAPMs)
- Construction Management

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Parking	<i>Inc</i>	35,712	37,579	38,831
	<i>Exp</i>	14,055	13,926	13,457
	Surplus/(deficit)	21,657	23,653	25,374

Description of services provided

Parking Services is responsible for a range of statutory enforcement services to maximise the safety, compliance and harmony of the city and for the management of limited parking resources.

Key Services:

- Parking Enforcement Program
- Processing Parking Infringements
- Parking Permit Scheme
- Prosecutions

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Strategic	<i>Inc</i>	102	227	-
Transport	<i>Exp</i>	664	617	1,666
	Surplus/(deficit)	(561)	(390)	(1,666)

Description of services provided

Strategic Transport focuses on advocacy and policy and delivers cycling infrastructure projects.

Key Services:

- *Advocating for improved public transport services*
- *Improving bicycle infrastructure*
- *Developing initiatives to increase number of cyclists*
- *Delivering road safety projects for cyclists and pedestrians*

Major Initiatives - Transport and Movement

- 1) Road Safety - Miller Street - Slow point improvement construction - (\$0.500m)
- 2) Upgrade slow points with full width speed humps and bicycle cut throughs. Expands garden beds where applicable.
- 3) New Deal for Cycling Spot Improvements (seed funding) - (\$0.470m)
- 4) Seed funding for projects to deliver options assessment, data collection, concept designs, initial service checking, evaluation, any consultation, and early approvals:
 - Nicholson/Victoria St Intersection Upgrade Design
 - Coppin St Intersection Upgrades
 - Elizabeth St Intersection Upgrades Design and Corridor Design
 - Johnson/Victoria St Intersection Upgrade
 - Langridge St Corridor Study
 - Wellington/Johnston Street (North) Intersection Upgrade
 - Balmain/Cotter/Church St Intersection Upgrade
 - Minor upgrades to the New Deal Network
 - Minor Upgrades to the Neighbourhood Network
- 5) New Deal for Walking Spot Improvements (seed funding) - (\$0.110m)
- 6) New Deal for Cycling corridor studies (\$0.300m):
 - Wellington Street (Clifton Hill) Stages 3 & 4
 - Johnson/Baker (Richmond) - Elizabeth Street extension; and
 - Coppin Street (Richmond)
- 7) Seed funding for projects to deliver;
 - Clifton Hill Bus Interchange Priority Crossing and Lighting Upgrade
 - New Deal for Walking Audit Study
- 8) Minor pedestrian upgrades design works
- 9) New Deal for Schools (seed funding) - (\$0.100m) Seed funding for projects to deliver the New Deal for Schools. Program development, evaluation, promotion and implementation.
- 10) Continuation of work on the Kerbside and Parking Strategy

Service Performance Outcome Indicators – Transport and Movement

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target
Roads*	Condition	97%	95%	94%

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.6. Strategic Objective 6 - Democracy and Governance

Yarra is smart, innovative, and sustainable. Our decisions and advocacy are built on evidence and meaningful engagement. Good governance is at the heart of our processes and decision-making.

Services

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Advocacy and Engagement	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	3,370	4,009	3,533
Surplus/(deficit)		(3,370)	(4,009)	(3,533)

Description of services provided

Advocacy and Engagement provides an end-to-end communications function (internal, external, media, brand, digital channels, civic events, brand management, marketing, graphic design, speeches, consultation).

Key Services:

- *Communications and engagement*
- *Digital communications and marketing*
- *Strategic advocacy*

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Customer Service	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	2,982	3,187	3,320
Surplus/(deficit)		(2,982)	(3,187)	(3,320)

Description of services provided

The Customer Service Branch is responsible for engaging and assisting customers/community with information, issues and business transactions across all corporate channels.

Key Services:

- *Customer Service*
- *Customer Relationship Management system and Customer Experience Strategy*
- *Records management*

Service area		2022/23 Actual \$'000	2023/24 Forecast \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000
Corporate Planning and Performance	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	884	372	414
Surplus/(deficit)		(884)	(372)	(414)

Description of services provided

The Corporate Planning and Performance provides leadership and resources to support and enable the organisation to achieve Council's service delivery objectives, legislative requirements and strategic objectives. A key purpose of the Branch is to support Councillors and the community to develop their long and medium term strategic direction, through the Community Vision and Council Plan, and achieve their stated goals and outcomes.

Key Services:

- Corporate planning and reporting
- Community Vision and Council Plan development
- Council Plan development, monitoring and implementation

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Digital and Technology Services	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	11,779	15,228	21,543
	Surplus/(deficit)	(11,779)	(15,228)	(21,543)

Description of services provided

Digital and Technology Services facilitates the acquisition, maintenance, retirement and usage of all information systems maintained or used by the operations and staff of the City of Yarra including fixed and mobile hardware, installed and cloud sourced software and telecommunications equipment.

Key Services:

- Business Analysis
- Support of business applications and process improvements
- Administration and maintenance of the IS Infrastructure
- Geospatial (GIS) Administration

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Finance	<i>Inc</i>	4,614	1,944	3,435
	<i>Exp</i>	5,206	5,049	4,945
	Surplus/(deficit)	(592)	(3,104)	(1,510)

Description of services provided

The Finance Branch provides high quality financial services across Council, ensuring that robust systems and processes are in place to safeguard the integrity of Council's assets and to ensure the long-term financial sustainability of Council.

Key Services:

- Management Accounting
- Revenue Management
- Rates and Valuation Services
- Financial Accounting
- Financial Audit
- Contracts and Procurement

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual \$'000	Forecast \$'000	Budget \$'000
Governance and Integrity	<i>Inc</i>	1,375	1,470	1,526
	<i>Exp</i>	6,101	13,471	7,772
	Surplus/(deficit)	(4,726)	(12,002)	(6,246)

Description of services provided

Governance and Integrity includes the Governance and Support Office and the Office of Mayor and Councillors. It is responsible for a range of professional services to internal and external clients, with an emphasis on governance related issues including compliance, regulation, transparency probity and Internal Audit. It is also responsible for managing Councils property portfolio including leases, licences and management agreements. Internal Audit ensures the organisation has policies and procedures in place to manage its risks and engender confidence in our corporate governance. It is responsible for oversight of the organisation's Internal Audit Program and provides the Secretariat function for Council's Audit Committee.

Key Services:

- Council agendas and minutes
- Freedom of Information
- Internal ombudsman
- Mayor and Councillors Office
- Place naming
- Property Management
- Public Registers
- Management of Legal Services
- Audit Committee
- Internal Audit program

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
People and Culture	<i>Inc</i>	3	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	3,676	3,482	3,521
	Surplus(deficit)	(3,673)	(3,482)	(3,521)

Description of services provided

People and Culture work with leadership, individuals, teams and across the whole of Yarra to ensure that Yarra offers a safe, vibrant and inclusive culture where everyone can make a positive difference in our community. It also manages the employee lifecycle (this includes, on boarding and off boarding) and administering employee benefits whilst enabling the organisation to get the most out of their employees and enhance the overall employee experience.

Key Services:

- Diversity & Inclusion
- Safeguarding Children & Young People
- Culture & Organisational Development
- Leadership, Learning & Development
- HR Business Partnering
- Industrial Relations
- Payroll

Service area		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
		Actual	Forecast	Budget
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Risk and Safety	<i>Inc</i>	-	-	-
	<i>Exp</i>	3,386	3,652	5,872
	Surplus(deficit)	(3,386)	(3,652)	(5,872)

Description of services provided

The Risk and Safety team provides both strategic and operational guidance, advice and resources to support and enable the organisation in minimising risk and safety exposure in Council's service delivery objectives, legislative requirements and strategic objectives.

Key Services:

- Risk Management
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Emergency Management

Major Initiatives - Democracy and Governance

- 1) VEC Council election - (\$0.600m)
- 2) Costs associated with the 2024 Local Government Elections. Based on quote provided by the VEC
- 3) Council is required to reimburse the VEC
- 4) Implementation of an Enterprise Resource Planning technology system

Service Performance Outcome Indicators – Democracy and governance

Service	Indicator	2022/23 Actual	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Target
Governance*	Satisfaction	45%	50%	51%

* refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Summary of All Service Performance Outcome Indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Computation
Governance	Consultation and engagement	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement. (Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council)	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed on community consultation and engagement
Statutory planning	Service standard	Planning applications decided within required timeframes (percentage of regular and VicSmart planning application decisions made within legislated timeframes)	[Number of planning application decisions made within 60 days for regular permits and 10 days for VicSmart permits / Number of planning application decisions made] x100
Roads	Condition	Sealed local roads below the intervention level (percentage of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level set by Council and not requiring renewal)	[Number of kilometres of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kilometres of sealed local roads] x100
Libraries	Participation	Library membership (Percentage of the population that are registered library members)	[Number of registered library members / Population] x100
Waste management	Waste diversion	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill. (Percentage of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill)	[Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities. (Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of population)	Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Population
Animal Management	Health and safety	Animal management prosecutions. (Percentage of animal management prosecutions which are successful)	Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Total number of animal management prosecutions
Food safety	Health and safety	Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications. (Percentage of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by Council)	[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about food premises] x100
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in the MCH service. (Percentage of children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100
		Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children. (Percentage of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service)	[Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the financial year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100

2.7. Reconciliation with budgeted operating result

	Surplus/ (Deficit) \$'000	Expenditure \$'000	Income / Revenue \$'000
Climate and environment	(32,802)	33,071	269
Social equity and health	(28,095)	66,558	38,463
Local economy	(3,725)	4,557	832
Place and nature	(12,262)	21,419	9,156
Transport and movement	25,676	21,067	46,744
Democracy and governance	(45,960)	50,921	4,961
Total	(97,168)	197,593	100,425
Expenses added in:			
Depreciation	(25,477)		
Amortisation - right of use assets	(1,298)		
Finance costs - Borrowings	(788)		
Finance costs - Leases	(185)		
Other Expenses	(5,301)		
Surplus/(Deficit) before funding sources	(130,216)		
Funding sources added in:			
Rates and charges revenue		117,296	
Waste charge revenue		21,920	
Capital Grants		2,434	
Other Income		4,257	
Total funding sources		145,906	
Operating surplus for the year		15,691	

3. Financial Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2024/25 has been supplemented with projections to 2027/28.

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020.

Comprehensive Income Statement

Balance Sheet

Statement of Changes in Equity

Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Capital Works

Statement of Human Resources

3.1. Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Forecast/ Actual	Budget	Projections		
		2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Income / Revenue						
Rates and charges	4.1.1	131,684	139,215	141,017	145,677	150,566
Statutory fees and fines	4.1.2	37,479	38,816	39,787	40,781	41,495
User fees	4.1.3	33,486	35,628	36,518	37,157	37,808
Grants - operating	4.1.4	18,778	18,751	19,220	19,701	20,045
Grants - capital	4.1.4	1,930	2,434	8,303	259	259
Contributions - monetary	4.1.5	7,715	6,879	6,925	6,974	7,008
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and		430	260	50	50	50
Other income	4.1.6	5,159	4,348	2,772	2,796	2,814
Total income / revenue		236,661	246,332	254,592	253,395	260,044
Expenses						
Employee costs	4.1.7	102,735	103,263	109,181	113,081	116,468
Materials and services	4.1.8	88,859	94,694	96,952	99,854	101,291
Depreciation	4.1.9	25,697	25,477	27,189	28,900	30,611
Depreciation - right of use assets	4.1.10	234	1,298	1,409	1,418	1,418
Allowance for impairment losses		5,112	4,184	4,000	5,000	5,000
Borrowing costs		894	788	661	519	397
Finance costs - leases		136	185	185	215	141
Other expenses	4.1.12	757	752	771	791	820
Total expenses		224,424	230,641	240,347	249,778	256,145
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		12,237	15,691	14,246	3,618	3,899
Other comprehensive income						
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods						
Net asset revaluation gain /(loss)		-	-	77,568	-	81,222
Total other comprehensive income		-	-	77,568	-	81,222
Total comprehensive result		12,237	15,691	91,813	3,618	85,121

3.2. Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

NOTES	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Assets					
Current assets					
	95,390	95,745	92,808	83,653	75,804
	24,754	24,829	27,032	27,660	28,320
	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148
	147	147	147	147	147
Total current assets	4.2.1	122,439	122,868	122,134	113,607
Non-current assets					
	5	5	5	5	5
	1,930,132	1,939,188	2,024,510	2,030,546	2,115,454
	3,483	2,292	1,459	41	4,064
Total non-current assets	4.2.1	1,933,621	1,941,485	2,025,974	2,119,522
Total assets		2,056,059	2,064,353	2,148,108	2,225,941
Liabilities					
Current liabilities					
	16,601	17,234	17,234	17,234	17,234
	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797
	13,063	10,704	6,919	5,489	5,489
	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759
	4,532	4,669	4,811	3,305	3,391
	1,140	1,177	1,434	1,523	1,492
Total current liabilities	4.2.2	68,892	67,340	63,954	61,162
Non-current liabilities					
	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227
	386	386	386	386	386
	25,968	21,299	16,489	13,184	9,792
	2,455	1,279	1,417	43	-
Total non-current liabilities	4.2.2	30,037	24,192	19,519	11,406
Total liabilities		98,929	91,532	83,474	72,568
Net assets		1,957,130	1,972,821	2,064,634	2,153,373
Equity					
	683,761	699,479	713,724	717,342	721,241
	1,273,370	1,273,342	1,350,910	1,350,910	1,432,132
Total equity		1,957,130	1,972,821	2,064,634	2,153,373

3.3. Statement of Changes in Equity

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	NOTES	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2024 Forecast Actual					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,944,894	674,425	1,244,894	25,575
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		12,237	12,237	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain / (loss)		-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(5,200)	-	5,200
Transfers from other reserves		-	2,299	-	(2,299)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,957,130	683,761	1,244,894	28,476
2025 Budget					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,957,130	683,761	1,244,894	28,476
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		15,691	15,691	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain / (loss)		-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	4.3.1	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	4.3.1	-	5,027	-	(5,027)
Balance at end of the financial year	4.3.2	1,972,821	699,479	1,244,894	28,449
2026					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,972,821	699,479	1,244,894	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		14,246	14,246	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain / (loss)		77,568	-	77,568	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves		-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year		2,064,634	713,724	1,322,461	28,449
2027					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		2,064,634	713,724	1,322,461	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,618	3,618	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain / (loss)		-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves		-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year		2,068,252	717,342	1,322,461	28,449
2028					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		2,068,252	717,342	1,322,461	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		3,899	3,899	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain / (loss)		81,222	-	81,222	-
Transfers to other reserves		-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves		-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year		2,153,373	721,241	1,403,683	28,449

3.4. Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities					
Rates and charges	132,651	139,141	138,814	145,048	149,906
Statutory fees and fines	32,367	34,633	35,787	35,781	36,495
User fees	33,486	35,628	36,518	37,157	37,808
Grants - operating	18,604	17,572	17,327	18,271	20,045
Grants - capital	1,755	1,255	6,410	259	259
Contributions - monetary	7,715	6,879	6,925	6,974	7,008
Interest received	3,000	3,400	1,800	1,800	1,800
Other receipts	2,159	948	972	996	1,014
Employee costs	(102,735)	(103,263)	(109,181)	(113,081)	(116,468)
Materials and services	(79,446)	(94,061)	(96,952)	(99,854)	(101,291)
Other payments	(757)	(752)	(771)	(791)	(820)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities 4.4.1	48,798	41,378	37,650	32,561	35,756
Cash flows from investing activities					
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant	(29,575)	(34,578)	(35,444)	(35,435)	(34,797)
Proceeds from sale of property,	616	305	550	550	550
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities 4.4.2	(28,959)	(34,273)	(34,894)	(34,885)	(34,247)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Finance costs	(894)	(788)	(661)	(519)	(397)
Repayment of borrowings	(4,399)	(4,532)	(4,669)	(4,811)	(3,305)
Interest paid - lease liability	(136)	(185)	(185)	(215)	(141)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(143)	(1,246)	(179)	(1,286)	(5,515)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities 4.4.3	(5,572)	(6,751)	(5,694)	(6,831)	(9,357)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents	14,267	354	(2,937)	(9,155)	(7,848)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	81,124	95,390	95,745	92,808	83,653
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	95,390	95,745	92,808	83,653	75,804

3.5. Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Property					
Buildings	4,731	9,074	15,980	13,858	14,315
Total buildings	4,731	9,074	15,980	13,858	14,315
Total property	4,731	9,074	15,980	13,858	14,315
Plant and equipment					
Plant, machinery and equipment	412	940	690	690	690
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	191	165	135	285	140
Computers and telecommunications	323	1,440	1,342	1,400	1,325
Library books	600	600	600	600	600
Total plant and equipment	1,526	3,145	2,767	2,975	2,755
Infrastructure					
Roads	6,944	7,704	4,425	4,295	4,800
Bridges	-	-	-	150	150
Footpaths and cycleways	1,499	-	2,000	2,000	2,000
Drainage	2,495	4,000	3,500	3,500	3,500
Waste management	1,040	250	200	200	200
Parks, open space and streetscapes	8,324	7,370	4,675	6,790	5,480
Other infrastructure	3,015	3,035	1,897	1,667	1,597
Total infrastructure	23,317	22,359	16,697	18,602	17,727
Total capital works expenditure 4.5.1	29,575	34,578	35,444	35,435	34,797
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	8,600	7,114	11,895	10,850	5,312
Asset renewal expenditure	19,626	18,717	15,299	15,090	15,215
Asset upgrade expenditure	1,349	8,747	8,250	9,495	14,270
Total capital works expenditure 4.5.1	29,575	34,578	35,444	35,435	34,797
Funding sources represented by:					
Grants	1,930	2,434	8,303	259	259
Contributions	2,299	5,027	5,000	5,000	5,000
Council cash	25,346	27,117	22,141	30,176	29,538
Total capital works expenditure 4.5.1	29,575	34,578	35,444	35,435	34,797

3.6. Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Staff expenditure					
Employee costs - operating	104,085	105,063	111,044	115,009	118,463
Employee costs - capital	(1,350)	(1,800)	(1,863)	(1,928)	(1,996)
Total staff expenditure	102,735	103,263	109,181	113,081	116,468
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Staff numbers					
Employees	932.0	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2
Employee - Capital	(12.7)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)
Total staff numbers	919.3	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

Department	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Comprises			
		Permanent Full Time \$'000	Permanent Part time \$'000	Casual \$'000	Temporary \$'000
Chief Executive Office	627	627	-	-	-
Corporate Services and Transformation	13,065	12,503	414	-	148
City Sustainability and Strategy	22,744	20,014	1,903	710	113
Community Strengthening	31,871	21,257	8,893	1,370	341
Infrastructure and Environment	28,233	22,493	1,686	3,909	70
Governance, Communications and Customer Service	7,104	6,115	885	104	-
Total permanent staff expenditure	103,643	83,010	13,781	6,093	672
Other employee related expenditure	1,420				
Capitalised labour costs	(1,800)	(1,800)			
Total expenditure	103,263	81,210	13,781	6,093	672

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

Department	Budget 2024/25	Permanent			
		Full Time	Part time	Casual	Temporary
Chief Executive Office	2.0	2.0	-	-	-
Corporate Services and Transformation	94.2	89.0	3.4	-	1.8
City Sustainability and Strategy	183.0	155.0	19.1	7.0	2.0
Community Strengthening	302.8	196.8	88.4	13.2	4.3
Infrastructure and Environment	235.2	191.0	19.4	41.9	2.0
Governance, Communications and Customer Service	59.9	49.0	9.9	1.0	-
Total staff	877.1	682.8	140.3	63.1	10.1

Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure

For the four years ending 30 June 2028

	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000
Chief Executive Office				
Permanent - Full time	627	663	687	708
Women	627	663	687	708
Men	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	-	-	-	-
Women	-	-	-	-
Men	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Chief Executive Office	627	663	687	708
Corporate Services and Transformation				
Permanent - Full time	11,171	11,811	12,233	12,599
Women	5,668	5,993	6,207	6,393
Men	5,503	5,818	6,026	6,206
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	315	334	345	356
Women	315	334	345	356
Men	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services and Transformation	11,486	12,144	12,578	12,955
City Sustainability and Strategy				
Permanent - Full time	18,838	19,918	20,629	21,247
Women	8,591	9,083	9,408	9,689
Men	10,248	10,835	11,222	11,558
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,477	1,562	1,618	1,666
Women	741	784	812	836
Men	736	778	806	830
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total City Sustainability and Strategy	20,316	21,480	22,247	22,913
Community Strengthening				
Permanent - Full time	18,531	19,593	20,293	20,900
Women	14,278	15,096	15,635	16,103
Men	4,253	4,497	4,657	4,797
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	7,459	7,887	8,169	8,413
Women	6,532	6,906	7,153	7,367
Men	928	981	1,016	1,046
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Community Strengthening	25,990	27,480	28,461	29,314
Infrastructure and Environment				
Permanent - Full time	20,598	21,778	22,556	23,231
Women	5,875	6,212	6,434	6,627
Men	14,722	15,566	16,122	16,605
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,025	1,083	1,122	1,156
Women	731	773	800	824
Men	294	311	322	331
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Infrastructure and Environment	21,622	22,861	23,678	24,387
Governance, Communications and Customer Service				
Permanent - Full time	5,404	5,713	5,918	6,095
Women	4,075	4,309	4,463	4,596
Men	1,329	1,405	1,455	1,499
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	885	936	969	998
Women	558	590	611	629
Men	327	346	358	369
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Governance, Communications and Customer Service	6,289	6,649	6,886	7,093
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	18,733	19,766	20,471	21,094
Capitalised labour costs	(1,800)	(1,863)	(1,928)	(1,996)
Total staff expenditure	103,263	109,181	113,081	116,468

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Chief Executive Office				
Permanent - Full time	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Women	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Women	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Chief Executive Office	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Corporate Services and Transformation				
Permanent - Full time	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0
Women	39.0	39.0	39.0	39.0
Men	40.0	40.0	40.0	40.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Women	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Corporate Services and Transformation	81.6	81.6	81.6	81.6
City Sustainability and Strategy				
Permanent - Full time	145.0	145.0	145.0	145.0
Women	66.0	66.0	66.0	66.0
Men	79.0	79.0	79.0	79.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	14.4	14.4	14.4	14.4
Women	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.6
Men	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.8
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total City Sustainability and Strategy	159.3	159.3	159.3	159.3
Community Strengthening				
Permanent - Full time	164.8	164.8	164.8	164.8
Women	127.8	127.8	127.8	127.8
Men	37.0	37.0	37.0	37.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	72.1	72.1	72.1	72.1
Women	61.9	61.9	61.9	61.9
Men	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Community Strengthening	236.9	236.9	236.9	236.9
Infrastructure and Environment				
Permanent - Full time	173.0	173.0	173.0	173.0
Women	49.0	49.0	49.0	49.0
Men	124.0	124.0	124.0	124.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	11.1	11.1	11.1	11.1
Women	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
Men	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.6
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Infrastructure and Environment	184.1	184.1	184.1	184.1
Governance, Communications and Customer Service				
Permanent - Full time	43.0	43.0	43.0	43.0
Women	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0
Men	11.0	11.0	11.0	11.0
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Permanent - Part time	9.9	9.9	9.9	9.9
Women	6.1	6.1	6.1	6.1
Men	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.8
Persons of self-described gender	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Governance, Communications and Customer Service	52.9	52.9	52.9	52.9
Casuals and temporary staff	179.4	179.4	179.4	179.4
Capitalised labour	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)
Total staff numbers	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1

4. Notes to financial statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. Council needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1. Comprehensive Income Statement

4.1.1. Rates and charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

As per the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four-year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges were identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2024/25 the FGRS cap has been set at 2.75%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate will increase by 2.75% in line with the rate cap.

This will raise total rates and charges for 2024/25 to \$139,215,292.

4.1.1(a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

	2023/24 Forecast Actual \$'000	2024/25 Budget \$'000	Change \$'000	%
General rates*	111,493	116,118	4,625	4.15%
Public waste rate	7,186	6,705	(481)	(6.69%)
Kerbside waste rate	11,679	15,215	3,536	30.27%
Service rates and charges	53	55	2	3.04%
Special rates and charges	143	143	-	-
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	1,000	1,000	-	-
Interest on rates and charges	550	400	(150)	(27.27%)
Revenue in lieu of rates	39	40	1	2.73%
Less Council Pension Rebate	(439)	(439)	-	-
Cultural & Recreational Lands and EPU's	(21)	(21)	(1)	2.79%
Total rates and charges	131,684	139,215	7,531	5.72%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

*This item is subject to the rate cap established under the FGRS

4.1.1(b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year

	2023/24 cents/\$NAV*	2024/25 cents/\$NAV*	Change
General rate for rateable residential properties	0.032237540	0.032237540	-
General rate for rateable commercial properties	0.032237540	0.032237540	-
General rate for rateable industrial properties	0.032237540	0.032237540	-

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(c) The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Residential	79,690	82,744	3,054	3.83%
Commercial	24,866	26,464	1,598	6.43%
Industrial	6,937	6,910	(27)	(0.39%)
Total amount to be raised by general rates	111,493	116,118	4,625	4.15%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	Number	Number	Number	%
Residential	51,688	52,062	374	0.72%
Commercial	6,590	6,688	98	1.49%
Industrial	1,317	1,286	(31)	(2.35%)
Total number of assessments	59,595	60,036	441	0.74%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(e) The basis of valuation to be used is the Net Annual Value (NAV).

4.1.1(f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Residential	2,471,973	2,498,015	26,042	1.05%
Commercial	771,347	798,942	27,595	3.58%
Industrial	215,174	208,595	(6,579)	(3.06%)
Total value of land	3,458,494	3,505,552	47,059	1.36%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(g) The municipal charge under Section 159 of the Act is \$Nil per ratable property (2023/24: \$Nil)

4.1.1(h) The estimated total amount to be raised by municipal charges is \$Nil (2023/24: \$Nil)

4.1.1(i) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

Public Waste Rate

Type or class of land	Budget	Proposed Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$	%
	cents/\$NAV*	cents/\$NAV*		
Residential	0.00207960	0.00207960	-	-
Commercial	0.00207960	0.00207960	-	-
Industrial	0.00207960	0.00207960	-	-

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

Kerbside Waste Rate

Type or class of land	Budget	Proposed Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$	%
	cents/\$NAV*	cents/\$NAV*		
Residential	0.00464092	0.00464092	-	-
Commercial	0.00464092	0.00464092	-	-
Industrial	0.00464092	0.00464092	-	-

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

Non-Rateable Garbage charge

Type of Charge	Per Rateable Property	Per Rateable Property	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$	%
	\$	\$		
Non-Rateable Property	417.10	428.57	11.47	2.75%
Total	417.10	428.57	11.47	2.75%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(j) The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year

Public Waste Rate

Type or class of land	Budget	Proposed Budget	Change	
	2023/24	2024/25	\$	%
	\$'000	\$'000		
Residential	5,141	5815	674	13.11%
Commercial	1,604	747	(857)	(53.43%)
Industrial	447	144	(304)	(67.90%)
Total	7,192	6,705	(487)	(6.77%)

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

Kerbside Waste Rate

Type or class of land	Budget	Proposed Budget	Change	
	2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	\$	%
Residential	9,861	13,194	3,333	33.80%
Commercial	1,474	1,695	221	14.96%
Industrial	539	326	(213)	(39.56%)
Total	11,874	15,215	3,340	28.13%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

Non-Rateable Garbage charge

Type of Charge	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Non-Rateable Property	53,376	55,286	1,910	3.58%
Total	53,376	55,286	1,910	3.58%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(k) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year

	2023/24	2024/25	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Rates and Charges	131,684	139,215	7,531	5.72%
Total Rates and charges	131,684	139,215	7,531	5.72%

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(l) Fair Go Rates System Compliance

Victoria City Council is required to comply with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System (FGRS). The table below details the budget assumptions consistent with the requirements of the Fair Go Rates System.

	2023/24	2024/25
Total Rates	126,144,804	113,010,386
Number of rateable properties	59,595	60,036
Base Average Rate	2,116.70	1,882.38
Maximum Rate Increase (set by the State Government)	3.50%	2.75%
Capped Average Rate	2,190.79	1,934.14
Maximum General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	130,559,872	116,118,172
Budgeted General Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	130,559,872	116,118,172
Budgeted Supplementary Rates	1,500,000	1,000,000
Budgeted Total Rates and Municipal Charges Revenue	132,059,872	117,118,172

Subject to final valuation data being received from the valuer general

4.1.1(m) Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges

There are no known significant changes which may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

The making of supplementary valuations

The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals)

Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land and vice versa

Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land and vice versa

4.1.2. Statutory fees and fines

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Infringements and costs	31,581	32,602	1,021	3.23%
Court recoveries	4,010	4,050	40	0.99%
Permits	1,887	2,164	277	14.66%
Total statutory fees and fines	37,479	38,816	1,337	3.57%

4.1.3. User fees

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Aged and health services	311	378	67	21.67%
Leisure centre and recreation	11,217	12,453	1,237	11.03%
Child care/children's programs	3,527	3,728	200	5.68%
Registration and other permits	4,667	4,853	185	3.97%
Building Services and Construction Management	7,738	8,310	572	7.39%
Statutory Planning	3,241	3,144	(97)	(2.99%)
Lease income	1,312	1,289	(23)	(1.75%)
Other fees and charges	1,473	1,472	(1)	(0.05%)
Total user fees	33,486	35,628	2,142	6.40%

Increases in user fees are largely attributed to benchmarking performed against other similar councils.

4.1.4. Grants

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	\$'000	%
Grants were received in respect of the following:				
Summary of grants				
Commonwealth funded grants	10,415	12,304	1,890	18.14%
State funded grants	10,293	8,881	(1,412)	(13.71%)
Total grants received	20,708	21,186	478	2.31%
(a) Operating Grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Victorian Grants Commission	1,590	3,040	1,450	91.23%
Family, Youth & Children's Services	5,263	5,461	198	3.77%
Aged & Disability Services	3,174	3,285	112	3.51%
Recurrent - State Government				
Health Protection	33	37	4	11.94%
School crossing supervisors	434	434	-	-
Libraries	716	671	(45)	(6.27%)
Family, Youth & Children's Services	5,442	4,662	(779)	(14.32%)
Aged & Disability Services	964	912	(52)	(5.42%)
Total recurrent grants	17,615	18,502	888	5.04%
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Economic Development	732	-	(732)	(100.00%)
Statutory Planning	154	-	(154)	(100.00%)
Waste & Cleansing Services	40	-	(40)	(100.00%)
Library Services	20	-	(20)	(100.00%)
Family, Youth & Children Services	153	27	(126)	(82.39%)
Building Surveyor	-	202	202	100.00%
Infrastructure Traffic and Civil Engineering	65	20	(45)	(69.23%)
Total non-recurrent grants	1,164	249	(915)	(78.60%)
Total operating grants	18,778	18,751	(27)	(0.15%)
(b) Capital Grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Roads to recovery	259	259	(0)	(0.00%)
Total recurrent grants	259	259	(0)	(0.00%)
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Roads to recovery	130	259	130	100.00%
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Buildings	1,228	1,916	688	56.04%
Other	312	-	(312)	(100.00%)
Total non-recurrent grants	1,670	2,175	505	30.25%
Total capital grants	1,929	2,434	505	26.19%
Total Grants	20,708	21,186	478	2.31%

4.1.5. Contributions

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Monetary	7,715	6,879	(837)	(10.85%)
Total contributions	7,715	6,879	(837)	(10.85%)

4.1.6. Other income

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Interest	3,000	3,400	400	13.33%
Reimbursements	1,489	351	(1,138)	(76.40%)
Other	669	597	(73)	(10.83%)
Total other income	5,159	4,348	(810)	(15.71%)

4.1.7. Employee costs

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Wages and salaries	82,886	87,803	(4,917)	(5.93%)
Workcover	1,592	1,592	-	-
Superannuation	9,532	10,294	(763)	(8.00%)
Other	8,725	3,574	5,151	59.04%
Total employee costs	102,735	103,263	(528)	(0.51%)

4.1.8. Materials and services

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Contract payments	30,349	27,895	2,454	8.09%
Building maintenance	5,847	6,318	(471)	(8.05%)
General maintenance	3,176	2,981	195	6.13%
Utilities	4,298	3,970	329	7.65%
Office administration	3,706	3,612	94	2.55%
Information technology	8,985	8,056	929	10.34%
Insurance	2,339	2,803	(464)	(19.84%)
Consultants	5,374	12,850	(7,477)	(139.14%)
Other materials and services	24,785	26,209	(1,425)	(5.75%)
Total materials and services	88,859	94,694	(5,836)	(6.57%)

4.1.9. Depreciation

	Forecast	Budget	Change	
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	\$'000	%
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Property	3,669	3,594	75	2.05%
Plant & equipment	4,059	3,215	844	20.80%
Infrastructure	17,968	18,669	(701)	(3.90%)
Total depreciation	25,697	25,477	219	0.85%

4.1.10. Amortisation - Intangible assets

	Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change	
			\$'000	%
Intangible assets	-	-	-	-
Total amortisation - intangible assets	-	-	-	-

4.1.11. Depreciation - Right of use assets

	Forecast Actual \$'000	Budget \$'000	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Right of use assets	234	1,298	(1,064)	(454.21%)
Total depreciation - right of use assets	234	1,298	(1,064)	(454.21%)

4.1.12. Other expenses

	Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	%
Auditors Remuneration	314	283	30	9.59%
Councillor Allowances	444	469	(25)	(5.69%)
Total other expenses	757	752	5	0.64%

4.2. Balance Sheet

4.2.1. Assets

Council's cash and cash equivalents will decrease from \$957.45m to \$75.80m over the four years of the budget, this in part reflects the repayment of borrowings. Non-current assets of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment is expected to increase from \$1.94b to \$2.12b over the four years of the budget.

4.2.2. Liabilities

Council's current liabilities are expected to decrease marginally over the four years of the budget, decreasing from \$67.34m to \$61.16m. Council's non-current liabilities are expected to decrease from \$24.19m to \$11.41m, as Council continues to reduce its loan borrowings over the longer term.

4.3. Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings specifically required by the Regulations.

	Forecast	Budget	Projections		
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Amount borrowed as at 30 June of the prior year	30,500,772	25,831,841	21,157,431	17,994,844	13,097,114
Amount projected to be redeemed	(4,532,372)	(4,668,931)	(4,810,968)	(3,304,625)	(3,391,386)
Amount of borrowings as at 30 June	25,968,400	21,162,910	16,346,463	14,690,219	9,705,727

4.3.1. Leases by category

As a result of the introduction of AASB 16 Leases, right-of-use assets and lease liabilities have been recognised as outlined in the table below.

	Forecast	Budget
	Actual 2023/24	2024/25
	\$	\$
Right-of-use assets		
Plant and equipment	3,483,427	2,292,393
Total right-of-use assets	3,483,427	2,292,393
Lease liabilities		
Current lease Liabilities		
Plant and equipment	1,139,802	1,176,738
Total current lease liabilities	1,139,802	1,176,738
Non-current lease liabilities		
Plant and equipment	2,455,312	1,278,574
Total non-current lease liabilities	2,455,312	1,278,574
Total lease liabilities	3,595,115	2,455,312

Where the interest rate applicable to a lease is not expressed in the lease agreement, Council applies the average incremental borrowing rate in the calculation of lease liabilities. The current incremental borrowing rate is 6.0%. Statement of changes in Equity

4.4. Statement of changes in Equity

4.4.1. Reserves

Within the equity section of the balance sheet, Council has Asset Revaluation Reserves, Statutory Reserves, and General Reserves. The asset revaluation reserve reflects movements in the value of Council's property and infrastructure assets. It is a non-cash reserve, backed by the value of Council's non-current property and infrastructure assets. The statutory reserves comprise funds received from external parties for specific purposes such as open space. They are restricted funds and cash backed.

4.4.2. Equity

Council's equity will increase from \$1.97b to \$2.15b over the four years of the budget.

4.5. Statement of Cash Flows

4.5.1. Net cash flows provided by/used in operating activities

Council's net cash provided by operating activities will decrease from \$41.38m to \$35.76m over the four years of the budget.

4.5.2. Net cash flows provided by/used in investing activities

Net cash outflows for investing activities is expected to decrease from \$34.27m to \$34.25m over the four years of the budget. The majority of this outflow is for the Capital Works program each year.

4.5.3. Net cash flows provided by/used in financing activities

Net cash flow from financing activities is anticipated to change from a net outflow of \$6.75m to \$9.36m over the four years of the budget.

4.6. Capital works program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2024/25 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source. Works are also disclosed as current budget or carried forward from prior year.

4.6.1. Summary

	Forecast Actual 2023/24 \$'000	Budget 2024/25 \$'000	Change \$'000	%
Property	4,731	9,074	4,343	91.79%
Plant and equipment	1,526	3,145	1,619	106.07%
Infrastructure	23,317	22,359	(958)	(4.11%)
Total	29,575	34,578	5,003	16.92%

	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Property	9,074	2,055	4,082	2,937	2,175	320	6,579
Plant and equipment	3,145	180	2,350	615	-	-	3,145
Infrastructure	22,359	4,879	12,285	5,195	259	4,707	17,393
Total	34,578	7,114	18,717	8,747	2,434	5,027	27,117

4.6.1. Current Budget

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
PROPERTY							
Buildings							
Alphington Bowls Club	200	-	-	200	-	-	200
Brunswick Street Oval project	1,000	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	-
Fitzroy Union Bowls Club roof	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Painting program	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Switch boards replacement	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Fire indicator panels replacement	100	-	100	-	-	-	100
ESM compliance	102	-	102	-	-	-	102
Malcolm Graham Pavilion refurbishment	150	-	150	-	-	120	30
Designs for future programs	350	-	350	-	-	-	350
Fairfield Amphitheatre	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Public toilets minor renewals	310	-	310	-	259	-	51
Collingwood Town Hall waste water plumbing remediation	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Depot renewal works	200	-	-	200	-	-	200
Coulson Pavilion redevelopment	130	-	-	130	-	-	130
Richmond Town Hall roof renewal and façade works	400	-	400	-	-	-	400
Asbestos remediation works	30	-	30	-	-	-	30
Various buildings renewal	600	-	600	-	-	-	600
Fairlea security	50	-	-	50	-	-	50
North Carlton Child Care roof and landing repairs	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Fitzroy Town Hall crack investigations	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Plumbing renewals and inspections	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Contaminated soil remediation	300	-	-	300	-	-	300
Collingwood Leisure Centre gas removal	600	-	-	600	-	-	600
Ray Coverdale Pavilion gas removal	120	-	-	120	-	-	120
Richmond Town Hall electrification documentation	200	-	-	200	-	-	200
Collingwood Leisure Centre renewal works	34	-	34	-	-	-	34
Collingwood Leisure Centre renewal works	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Collingwood Leisure Centre renewal works	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Collingwood Leisure Centre renewal works	40	-	40	-	-	-	40
Collingwood Leisure Centre renewal works	15	-	15	-	-	-	15
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	51	-	51	-	-	-	51
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	80	-	80	-	-	-	80
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	30	30	-	-	-	-	30
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	30	-	30	-	-	-	30
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	150	-	-	150	-	-	150

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	100	-	100	-	-	-	100
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	40	-	-	40	-	-	40
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Fitzroy Swimming Pool renewal works	75	-	75	-	-	-	75
Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works	10	-	10	-	-	-	10
Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works	40	-	40	-	-	-	40
Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works	10	-	10	-	-	-	10
Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works	400	-	400	-	-	-	400
Richmond Recreation Centre renewal works	75	-	75	-	-	-	75
Leisure mechanical plant and equipment	300	-	300	-	-	-	300
Leisure mechanical plant and equipment	140	-	140	-	-	-	140
Yarralea Kindergarten	25	25	-	-	-	-	25
Children Services building redevelopment works	50	-	-	50	-	-	50
Childrens Services buildings renewal works - Richmond and John Street Kindergarten	90	-	90	-	-	-	90
Atherton Gardens Kindergarten	897	-	-	897	822	-	75
Yambla Pavilion	1,000	1,000	-	-	94	200	706
TOTAL BUILDINGS	9,074	2,055	4,082	2,937	2,175	320	6,579
INFRASTRUCTURE							
Roads							
Parkins Lane Richmond, Richmond	153	-	153	-	-	-	153
Lane Seal 72.6 from Walker St to Lane 72.4, Clifton Hill	147	-	147	-	-	-	147
Lane Seal 70.2 from Walker St to Lane 70.4, Clifton Hill	164	-	164	-	-	-	164
Lane Seal 1099 from Lane 1098 to Lane 1100, Richmond	131	-	131	-	-	-	131
Lane Seal 1100 from Lane 1099 to End Of Lane, Richmond	36	-	36	-	-	-	36
BS ROW off Fitzroy St, between Bell St and Greeves St (connects to ROW 1739), Fitzroy	92	-	92	-	-	-	92
BS ROW off both Bell and Greeves St, Fitzroy	91	-	91	-	-	-	91
Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works on Delbridge St from Rowe St to Mckean St (Refer to detail design)	120	-	120	-	-	-	120

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works on Hope St, North Fitzroy (Rae St to Holden St (Full Street))	40	-	40	-	-	-	40
Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works on Lightfoot St, Richmond (Tudor St to End Of Street)	5	-	5	-	-	-	5
Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works on McIlwraith St, Carlton North (Macpherson to Pigdon)	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Footpath and kerb and channel works on Lang St, Clifton Hill (Noone St to Entire Length)	10	-	10	-	-	-	10
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Albert Pl, Fitzroy (Gore St to End Of Street)	48	-	48	-	-	-	48
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Belgium Ave, Richmond (Highett St to Vere St)	108	-	108	-	-	-	108
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Fenwick St, Clifton Hill (Spensley St to Heidelberg Rd)	180	-	180	-	-	-	180
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Green St, Richmond (Electric St to Balmain St)	104	-	104	-	-	-	104
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Hull St, Richmond (Bank St to Thomas St)	93	-	93	-	-	-	93
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Taylor St, North Fitzroy (Glenlyon St to Miller St (TBC))	54	-	54	-	-	-	54
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Yarraford Ave, Alphington (from End Of Street to Divided Road)	38	-	38	-	-	-	38
Delbridge St from Rowe St to Mckean St - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	141	-	141	-	-	-	141
Delbridge St from Rowe St to Mckean St - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	235	-	235	-	-	-	235
Hope St, North Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	79	-	79	-	-	-	79
Hope St, North Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	25	-	25	-	-	-	25

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Lightfoot St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	60	-	60	-	-	-	60
Lightfoot St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	38	-	38	-	-	-	38
McIlwraith St, Carlton North - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	90	-	90	-	-	-	90
McIlwraith St, Carlton North - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Bank St, Richmond - road pavement works.	77	-	77	-	-	-	77
Fenwick St, Carlton North - road pavement works.	147	-	147	-	-	-	147
Hotham St, Collingwood - road pavement works.	61	-	61	-	-	-	61
Strafford St, Richmond - road pavement and footpath works.	35	-	35	-	-	-	35
Strafford St, Richmond - road pavement and footpath works.	32	-	32	-	-	-	32
Albert Pl, Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Albert Pl, Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	17	-	17	-	-	-	17
Albert Pl, Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	4	-	4	-	-	-	4
Belgium Ave, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	161	-	161	-	-	-	161
Belgium Ave, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	135	-	135	-	-	-	135
Belgium Ave, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	26	-	26	-	-	-	26
Fenwick St, Clifton Hill - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	231	-	231	-	-	-	231
Fenwick St, Clifton Hill - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	41	-	41	-	-	-	41
Fenwick St, Clifton Hill - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Green St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	124	-	124	-	-	-	124

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Grants	Contrib.	Council cash
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Green St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	67	-	67	-	-	-	67
Green St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	14	-	14	-	-	-	14
Hull St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	86	-	86	-	-	-	86
Hull St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	100	-	100	-	-	-	100
Hull St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	40	-	40	-	-	-	40
Neptune St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	202	-	202	-	202	-	-
Neptune St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	26	-	26	-	-	-	26
Neptune St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	199	-	199	-	-	-	199
Neptune St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	60	-	60	-	57	-	3
Taylor St, North Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Taylor St, North Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	72	-	72	-	-	-	72
Taylor St, North Fitzroy - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Yarraford Ave, Alphington - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	66	-	66	-	-	-	66
Yarraford Ave, Alphington - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	88	-	88	-	-	-	88
Yarraford Ave, Alphington - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	54	-	54	-	-	-	54
Lang St, Clifton Hill - footpath and kerb and channel works.	51	-	51	-	-	-	51

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Alexander St, Collingwood - footpath works and root barrier works.	138	-	138	-	-	-	138
Alexander St, Collingwood - footpath works and root barrier works.	35	-	35	-	-	-	35
Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works on Wall St, Richmond (Coppin to Lord)	38	-	38	-	-	-	38
Road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works on Wangaratta St, Richmond (Stage 2) (Tanner to Montgomery)	55	-	55	-	-	-	55
Footpath and kerb and channel works on O'grady St, Clifton Hill VIC (Dwyer to The Esplanade)	10	-	10	-	-	-	10
Footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Westgarth St, Fitzroy (George to Napier)	86	-	86	-	-	-	86
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Fraser St, Richmond (Corsair to Boyd)	61	-	61	-	-	-	61
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Raphael St, Collingwood (Langridge to Bloomburg St)	71	-	71	-	-	-	71
Road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works on Westgarth St, Fitzroy (Napier to Young).	124	-	124	-	-	-	124
Wall St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	211	-	211	-	-	-	211
Wall St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	72	-	72	-	-	-	72
Wangaratta St, Richmond (Stage 2) - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	60	-	60	-	-	-	60
Wangaratta St, Richmond (Stage 2) - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	80	-	80	-	-	-	80
Gibson St, Alphington - road pavement works.	55	-	55	-	-	-	55
Fraser St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	71	-	71	-	-	-	71
Fraser St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	64	-	64	-	-	-	64

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Fraser St, Richmond - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	11	-	11	-	-	-	11
Raphael St, Collingwood - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	25	-	25	-	-	-	25
Raphael St, Collingwood - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	9	-	9	-	-	-	9
Raphael St, Collingwood - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	6	-	6	-	-	-	6
Westgarth St, Fitzroy (George St to Napier St) - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works	138	-	138	-	-	-	138
O'grady St, Clifton Hill VIC - footpath and kerb and channel works.	104	-	104	-	-	-	104
Tudor St, Richmond - footpath works.	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Westgarth St, Fitzroy - footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works (George to Napier).	28	-	28	-	-	-	28
Westgarth Street, Fitzroy (Napier St to Young St) - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	30	-	30	-	-	-	30
Westgarth St, Fitzroy (George St to Napier St) - footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	31	-	31	-	-	-	31
Westgarth St, Fitzroy George St to Napier St) - road pavement, footpath, kerb and channel and root barrier works.	30	-	30	-	-	-	30
Church St civil (Stage 2 Nicholson to St Georges Rd) - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	217	-	217	-	-	-	217
Church St civil (Stage 2 Nicholson to St Georges Rd) - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	151	-	151	-	-	-	151
Church St civil (Stage 2 Nicholson to St Georges Rd) - road pavement, footpath and kerb and channel works.	70	-	70	-	-	-	70
Road safety - Design budget for next year construction	109	109	-	-	-	-	109
Capital City Trail - St Georges Road - Pedestrian Signal changes	180	-	-	180	-	-	180
Road safety - Yambla St/ Ramsden St, Clifton Hill	75	75	-	-	-	-	75
Road safety - Miller St, Richmond slow point improvement construction	500	500	-	-	-	-	500

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Grants	Contrib.	Council cash
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Drainage							
Flood mitigation works	500	-	-	500	-	-	500
Drainage and flood design	60	-	-	60	-	-	60
Drainage and flood design	70	-	-	70	-	-	70
Drainage and flood design	60	-	-	60	-	-	60
Drainage and flood design	60	-	-	60	-	-	60
Brick drain renewal	350	-	350	-	-	-	350
Brick drain renewal	200	-	200	-	-	-	200
Brick drain renewal	300	-	300	-	-	-	300
Brick drain renewal	200	-	200	-	-	-	200
Drainage renewal project - Otter St and Bedford St, Collingwood (South side in Otter St and East end on Bedford St)	145	-	145	-	-	-	145
Drainage renewal project - Victoria St, Fitzroy between Fitzroy St and Brunswick St (sound side)	145	-	145	-	-	-	145
Gertrude St, Fitzroy Between Brunswick St and Young St - Section 1 and Section 2	265	-	265	-	-	-	265
Drainage renewal project - Abinger St, Richmond - between Church St and Lyndhurst St, Richmond	210	-	210	-	-	-	210
Drainage renewal project - Gore St, Fitzroy - between Rose St and Kerr St, Fitzroy	135	-	135	-	-	-	135
Drainage renewal project - Westgarth St, Fitzroy - between Brunswick St and Fitzroy St, Fitzroy	145	-	145	-	-	-	145
Gertrude St, Fitzroy Between Brunswick Street and Young Street - Section 1 and Section 2	160	-	160	-	-	-	160
Hanover St, Fitzroy - Between Fitzroy St and Brunswick St and laneway	220	-	220	-	-	-	220
Moor St, Fitzroy - Between Nicholson St to Pit 2595	175	-	175	-	-	-	175
Condell St, Fitzroy	165	-	165	-	-	-	165
Brunswick St / Palmer St, Fitzroy	250	-	250	-	-	-	250
Princess St, Fitzroy	185	-	185	-	-	-	185
Other Infrastructure							
LGBTIQA+ memorial installation	30	30	-	-	-	-	30
Powerline undergrounding ground works	100	-	-	100	-	-	100
Traffic light renewal	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Balmain St pedestrian crossing works	50	-	-	50	-	-	50
Street furniture replacement project	40	-	40	-	-	-	40
Street light renewal	25	-	25	-	-	-	25
Climate emergency works placeholder	300	-	300	-	-	-	300
Solar upgrade	300	300	-	-	-	-	300
Intersection treatment - Lennox St / Bridge Rd	60	-	-	60	-	-	60

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Intersection treatment – Highett St / Lennox St	50	-	-	50	-	-	50
Undertake road safety studies	120	-	-	120	-	-	120
New Deal for Walking - Clifton Hill bus interchange	150	-	-	150	-	-	150
TAP - Road safety studies Alphington design	50	-	-	50	-	-	50
Easey Street bike parking corral and kerb outstands	160	160	-	-	-	-	160
Adolph St contraflow bike lane	80	-	-	80	-	-	80
Bicycle hoops	30	30	-	-	-	-	30
Bike repair stations	40	40	-	-	-	-	40
Micromobility hub parking policy Implementation	60	-	-	60	-	-	60
Balmain/Cotter/Church St - intersection upgrade	300	-	-	300	-	-	300
Langridge/Hoddle St - intersection upgrade	250	-	-	250	-	-	250
Lennox/Swan St - intersection upgrade	140	-	-	140	-	-	140
Wellington/Gipps St - signals modification	100	-	-	100	-	-	100
New Deal for Walking - Alfred Cr priority crossing and lighting upgrade	250	-	-	250	-	-	250
Minor infrastructure works in response to community requests	50	-	-	50	-	-	50
Wellington/Johnston St (North) intersection upgrade	250	-	-	250	-	-	250
Parks, open space and streetscapes							
Childcare playground works	75	-	75	-	-	-	75
Charlotte Street new park	1,900	1,900	-	-	-	1,900	-
Roads to Parks project - Budd St, Collingwood and Kent St, Richmond	300	300	-	-	-	300	-
Charles Evans Reserve park upgrade	900	-	-	900	-	900	-
Smith Reserve upgrade	280	-	-	280	-	280	-
Fairfield Park playground	160	-	-	160	-	160	-
Merri Creek Parklands - Quarries Park playground	220	-	-	220	-	220	-
Garryowen Reserve - park and playground upgrade	60	-	-	60	-	60	-
Cairns Reserve irrigation	60	-	-	60	-	48	12
Main Yarra Trail path upgrade	300	-	-	300	-	240	60
Flockart Reserve plantings	25	-	-	25	-	25	-
Irrigation - minor works project	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Playground - minor works project	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Pathway - minor works project	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Furniture and horticulture - minor works project	150	-	150	-	-	-	150
Turf - minor works project	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Lighting - minor works project	60	-	60	-	-	-	60
Walls and fences - minor works project	50	-	50	-	-	-	50

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types			Summary of Funding Sources		
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council cash \$'000
Signage - minor works project	30	-	30	-	-	-	30
Cambridge Street Park	250	250	-	-	-	250	-
Sports infrastructure - minor works project	75	-	75	-	-	-	75
Coulson Reserve	200	-	-	200	-	-	200
Victoria Park	60	-	60	-	-	30	30
Yambla Reserve	800	-	800	-	-	160	640
Alphington Park Oval	80	-	80	-	-	56	24
Fletcher 1 Soccer Pitch	35	35	-	-	-	28	7
Streetscape improvement - Cnr Gertrude and Brunswick St, Fitzroy NE corner new public space	600	600	-	-	-	-	600
Tree planting project	500	500	-	-	-	50	450
Waste Management							
Fixed bin replacement	200	-	200	-	-	-	200
Container deposal civil works	50	50	-	-	-	-	50
TOTAL INFRASTRUCTURE	22,359	4,879	12,285	5,195	259	4,707	17,393
Computers and telecommunications							
Network infrastructure replacement	430	-	430	-	-	-	430
Mobile phone replacement	160	-	160	-	-	-	160
Mobile tablet replacement	30	-	30	-	-	-	30
Laptop replacement	550	-	550	-	-	-	550
Desktop replacement	120	-	120	-	-	-	120
Meeting room audio equipment replacement	30	-	30	-	-	-	30
Printer and/or copier	120	-	120	-	-	-	120
Library books							
Digital library collection renewal	234	-	234	-	-	-	234
Physical library collection renewal	366	-	366	-	-	-	366
Fixtures, fittings and furniture							
Murals renewal	30	30	-	-	-	-	30
Whitegoods replacement	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Furniture replacement	50	-	50	-	-	-	50
Signage and wayfinding	20	-	20	-	-	-	20
Security renewal program	15	-	-	15	-	-	15
Plant, machinery and equipment							
EV charger project	150	150	-	-	-	-	150
Parking technology	200	-	-	200	-	-	200
Bus fleet renewal	150	-	150	-	-	-	150
Small truck electrification	350	-	-	350	-	-	350
Trade tools and equipment replacement	40	-	40	-	-	-	40
Passenger fleet electrification	50	-	-	50	-	-	50
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	3,145	180	2,350	615	-	-	3,145
TOTAL CAPITAL WORKS 2024-25	34,578	7,114	18,717	8,747	2,434	5,027	27,117

Summary of Planned Capital Works Expenditure

For the years ending 30 June 2026, 2027 & 2028

2025/26	Asset Expenditure Types				Funding Sources			
	Total	New	Renewal	Upgrade	Total	Grants	Contributions	Council Cash
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property								
Buildings	15,980	10,380	3,655	1,945	15,980	8,000	325	7,655
Total Buildings	15,980	10,380	3,655	1,945	15,980	8,000	325	7,655
Total Property	15,980	10,380	3,655	1,945	15,980	8,000	325	7,655
Plant and Equipment								
Plant, machinery and equipment	690	-	140	550	690	-	-	690
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	135	50	70	15	135	-	-	135
Computers and telecommunications	1,342	-	1,342	-	1,342	-	-	1,342
Library books	600	-	600	-	600	-	-	600
Total Plant and Equipment	2,767	50	2,152	565	2,767	-	-	2,767
Infrastructure								
Roads	4,425	298	4,127	-	4,425	303	-	4,122
Bridges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Footpaths and cycleways	2,000	-	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Drainage	3,500	-	1,550	1,950	3,500	-	-	3,500
Waste Management	200	-	200	-	200	-	-	200
Parks, open space and streetscapes	4,675	790	1,500	2,385	4,675	-	4,675	(0)
Other infrastructure	1,897	377	115	1,405	1,897	-	-	1,897
Total Infrastructure	16,697	1,465	9,492	5,740	16,697	303	4,675	11,719
Total Capital Works Expenditure	35,444	11,895	15,299	8,250	35,444	8,303	5,000	22,141

2026/27	Asset Expenditure Types				Funding Sources			
	Total	New	Renewal	Upgrade	Total	Grants	Contributions	Council Cash
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property								
Buildings	13,858	7,538	2,415	3,905	13,858	-	325	13,533
Total Buildings	13,858	7,538	2,415	3,905	13,858	-	325	13,533
Total Property	13,858	7,538	2,415	3,905	13,858	-	325	13,533
Plant and Equipment								
Plant, machinery and equipment	690	100	140	450	690	-	-	690
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	285	50	220	15	285	-	-	285
Computers and telecommunications	1,400	-	1,400	-	1,400	-	-	1,400
Library books	600	-	600	-	600	-	-	600
Total Plant and Equipment	2,975	150	2,360	465	2,975	-	-	2,975
Infrastructure								
Roads	4,295	195	4,100	-	4,295	259	-	4,036
Bridges	150	-	150	-	150	-	-	150
Footpaths and cycleways	2,000	-	2,000	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
Drainage	3,500	-	1,250	2,250	3,500	-	-	3,500
Waste management	200	-	200	-	200	-	-	200
Parks, open space and streetscapes	6,790	2,690	2,500	1,600	6,790	-	4,675	2,115
Other infrastructure	1,667	277	115	1,275	1,667	-	-	1,667
Total Infrastructure	18,602	3,162	10,315	5,125	18,602	259	4,675	13,668
Total Capital Works Expenditure	35,435	10,850	15,090	9,495	35,435	259	5,000	30,176

2027/28	Asset Expenditure Types				Funding Sources			
	Total	New	Renewal	Upgrade	Total	Grants	Contributions	Council Cash
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property								
Buildings	14,315	2,695	3,880	7,740	14,315	-	325	13,990
Total Buildings	14,315	2,695	3,880	7,740	14,315	-	325	13,990
Total Property	14,315	2,695	3,880	7,740	14,315	-	325	13,990
Plant and Equipment								
Plant, machinery and equipment	690	-	140	550	690	-	-	690
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	140	50	75	15	140	-	-	140
Computers and telecommunications	1,325	-	1,325	-	1,325	-	-	1,325
Library books	600	-	600	-	600	-	-	600
Total Plant and Equipment	2,755	50	2,140	565	2,755	-	-	2,755
Infrastructure								
Roads	4,800	600	4,200	-	4,800	259	-	4,541
Bridges	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drainage	4,000	-	3,250	750	4,000	-	-	4,000
Waste management	250	50	200	-	250	-	-	250
Parks, open space and streetscapes	7,370	3,585	1,580	2,205	7,370	-	4,675	2,695
Other infrastructure	3,035	560	415	2,060	3,035	-	-	3,035
Total Infrastructure	19,455	4,795	9,645	5,015	19,455	259	4,675	14,521
Total Capital Works Expenditure	36,525	7,540	15,665	13,320	36,525	259	5,000	31,266

5. Performance indicators

5a. Targeted performance indicators

The following tables highlight Council's current and projected performance across a selection of targeted service and financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's intentions and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The targeted performance indicators below are the prescribed performance indicators contained in Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Results against these indicators and targets will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Targeted performance indicators – Service

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Forecast	Target	Target Projections			Trend
			2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	+/-
Governance								
Consultation and engagement	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with the consultation and engagement efforts of Council	1	50%	51%	53%	55%	56%	+
Roads								
Condition	Number of kms of sealed local roads below the renewal intervention level set by Council / Kms of sealed local roads	2	95%	94%	92%	90%	90%	o
Statutory planning								
Service standard	Number of planning application decisions made within the relevant required time / Number of decisions made	3	42%	44%	46%	48%	50%	+
Waste management								
Waste diversion	Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins	4	30%	34%	35%	35%	36%	+

Targeted performance indicators - Financial

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Forecast	Target	Target Projections			Trend
			2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	+/-
Liquidity								
Working Capital	Current assets / current liabilities	5	178%	182%	191%	186%	174%	o
Obligations								
Asset renewal	Asset renewal and upgrade expense / Asset depreciation	6	82%	108%	87%	85%	96%	-
Stability								
Rates concentration	Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue	7	56%	57%	57%	58%	58%	o
Efficiency								
Expenditure level	Total expenses / no. of property assessments	8	\$ 3,766	\$ 3,842	\$ 3,924	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,024	-

5b. Financial performance indicators

The following table highlights Council's current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide a useful analysis of Council's financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

The financial performance indicators below are the prescribed financial performance indicators contained in Part 3 of Schedule 3 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020. Results against these indicators will be reported in Council's Performance Statement included in the Annual Report.

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Forecast	Budget	Projections			Trend
			2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	+/-
Operating position								
Adjusted underlying result	Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying	9	1.14%	2.69%	(0.41%)	(1.47%)	(1.33%)	-
Liquidity								
Unrestricted cash	Unrestricted cash / current liabilities	10	35%	40%	43%	32%	19%	-
Obligations								
Loans and borrowings	Interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue	11	23%	19%	15%	11%	9%	+
Loans and borrowings	Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate		4.0%	3.8%	3.8%	3.7%	2.5%	+
Indebtedness	Non-current liabilities / own source revenue		33.1%	30.9%	29.1%	27.0%	26.3%	+
Stability								
Rates effort	Rate revenue / CIV of rateable properties in the municipality	12	195.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	o
Efficiency								
Revenue level	General rates and municipal charges / no. of property assessments	13	\$ 2,207	\$ 2,316	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,330	\$ 2,363	+

Key to Forecast Trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

Notes to indicators (5a)

1. Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement

The definition of engagement and consultation means different things to different people. Some think it's about how much their feedback is taken on board in the final decision, others think it's how responsive the Council is to community questions or feedback and others think it's about access to their elected representatives. All of these factors will influence individual satisfaction levels depending on an individual's interpretation of what they think constitutes engagement. Council is currently responding to feedback provided through the Municipal Monitors Report and has recently introduced a number of new engagement programs, particularly around community conversations with councillors.

2. Sealed local roads below the intervention level

Council aligns its condition audit methodology to Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia Practice Notes and sector best practice. Council has adopted IPWEA recommends that councils should have 80% of their transport assets < condition 4. Council's asset management lifecycle activities for transport assets (operations, maintenance, renewal) are performing well at the current funding levels.

3. Planning applications decided within the relevant required time

Council has set improvement targets for this indicator.

4. Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill

The forecasts are based on Council's current waste operations and recycling promotion programs. Council does not currently provide a Food Organic Green Organic waste service; investigations are underway for the introduction of this service in the future.

5. Working Capital

Sufficient working capital is required to meet Council's obligations as and when they fall due. A high or increasing level of working capital suggests an improvement in liquidity.

6. Asset renewal

This percentage indicates the extent of Council's renewal of assets against its depreciation charge (an indication of the decline in value of its existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100% indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while a percentage less than 100% means its assets are deteriorating faster than they are being renewed and future capital expenditure will be required to renew assets.

7. Rates concentration

Revenue should be generated from a range of sources. Reflects extent of reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's ongoing services. A high or increasing range of revenue sources suggests an improvement in stability.

8. Expenditure level

Trend indicates an increase over the term of the financial plan, which is consistent with CPI forecasts.

Notes to indicators (5b)

9. Adjusted underlying result

An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. Improvement in financial performance expected over the period, although continued losses means reliance on Council's cash reserves or increased debt to maintain services and invest in capital works.

10. Unrestricted Cash

Unrestricted cash is forecast to be maintained at existing levels to achieve the delivery of the capital works program as well as ensuring the open space reserve is cash backed.

11. Debt compared to rates

Trend indicates a reduced reliance on long term debt.

12. Rates effort

Rates effort is expected to decrease slightly over the term of the financial plan, due to the forecast increase in Rate Cap exceeding the forecast increase in CIV of rateable properties.

13. Revenue level

Trend indicates an increase over the term of the financial plan, which is consistent with Rates cap forecasts.

6. Schedule of Fees and Charges

This appendix presents the fees and charges of a statutory/non-statutory nature which will be charged in respect to various goods and services during the financial year 2024/25. The non-statutory fees and charges are based on information available at the time of publishing and may vary during the financial year subject to any changes in Council's policy. The statutory fees are set by statute and are made in accordance with legislative requirements. These fees are updated as of 1 July 2024 and will be reflected on Council's website.

Fees and charges are based on information available at the time of publishing and may vary during the financial year subject to any changes in Council's policy or legislation.



Fees & Charges

Yarra City Council

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Explanation Table

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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City of Yarra

Property & Rating Fees

0001	Land information certificates	Per Certificate	N	\$27.00	\$27.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0002	Land information certificates – 24 hour turnaround (online application only)	Per Certificate	N	\$77.06	\$77.06	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0003	Non-Rateable Garbage Charge	Per service	N	\$419.12	\$428.47	2.23%	\$9.35	N
0004	Payment Arrangement fee (Rates – Referred for Legal Action)	Per Arrangement	Y	\$10.00	\$10.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0005	Rate Notice reproduction	Per Notice	N	\$30.00	\$30.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0006	Debt Recovery Field Call	Per Notice	N	\$65.00	\$65.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0007	Debt Recovery Administration	Per Referral	N	\$55.00	\$55.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0008	Debt Recovery Administration Summons Trace successful	Per Trace	N	\$165.00	\$165.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0009	Debt Recovery Administration Summons Trace unsuccessful	Per Trace	N	\$110.00	\$110.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0010	Debt Recovery Title Search	Per Search	N	\$35.00	\$35.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0011	Debt Recovery Company Search	Per Search	N	\$35.00	\$35.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N

Governance Support

0012	FOI Application Search Charges	Per hour	N	\$23.00	\$23.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
per hour or part of an hour								
0013	FOI Inspection Supervision	Per hour	N	\$23.00	\$23.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
To be calculated per quarter hour or part of a quarter hour								
0014	Freedom of information requests		N	\$30.60	\$30.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Libraries

0015	Book delivery	per delivery	Y	\$15.84	\$16.50	4.17%	\$0.66	N
0016	Inter Library Loan Public Library Fee	Per Item	N	\$5.00	\$0.00	-100.00%	-\$5.00	N
0017	Damaged / Lost Books	Per item	Y	Cost + \$13.00 (incl. GST)				N
							Min. Fee incl. GST: \$13.02	
0018	Damaged / Lost Magazines	Per item	Y	Cost + \$4.00 (incl. GST)				N
							Min. Fee incl. GST: \$4.40	

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Libraries [continued]

0019	Lost Card	Per item	Y	\$4.50	\$4.75	5.56%	\$0.25	N
0020	Inter Library Loan Academic Library Fee	Per item	Y			Cost + \$4.00 (incl. GST) Min. Fee incl. GST: \$13.06		N

Library Merchandise

0021	Library Bags	Per Bag	Y	\$5.01	\$5.20	3.79%	\$0.19	N
0022	Library USBs	Per USB	Y	\$10.00	\$10.40	4.00%	\$0.40	N
0023	Library Keep Cups	Per Cup	Y	\$17.50	\$17.50	0.00%	\$0.00	N

Photocopies

0024	Photocopies A4	Per Copy	Y	\$0.21	\$0.25	19.05%	\$0.04	N
0025	Photocopies A3	Per Copy	Y	\$0.41	\$0.45	9.76%	\$0.03	N
0026	Photocopies A4 (colour)	Per Copy	Y	\$1.14	\$1.20	5.26%	\$0.06	N
0027	Photocopies A3 (colour)	Per Copy	Y	\$2.13	\$2.20	3.29%	\$0.07	N

Book Sales

0028	Book delivery	per delivery	N	\$15.84	\$16.45	3.85%	\$0.61	N
0029	Hardbacks	Per Sale	Y	\$3.07	\$3.20	4.23%	\$0.13	N
0030	Paperbacks	Per Sale	Y	\$1.61	\$1.65	2.48%	\$0.04	N
0031	Magazines	Per Sale	Y	\$0.51	\$0.55	7.84%	\$0.04	N
0032	Bag of Books	Per Bag	Y	\$5.10	\$5.30	3.92%	\$0.20	N

Finance

0033	Credit Card Surcharge	Per Transaction	Y			0.5% to payments made via Credit Card		N
0034	Dishonoured Cheque Administration Fee	Per Cheque	Y	\$40.00	\$40.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0035	Dishonoured Direct Debt Administration Fee	Per Cheque	Y	\$40.00	\$40.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N

Aged & Disability Services

Home Care, Personal Care and Respite Care

Home Care General – Low Fee Range

0036	Home Care General Low fee range – Single Up to \$28,605	Per hour	N	\$4.58	\$4.76	3.93%	\$0.19	N
0037	Home Care General Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	Per hour	N	\$7.02	\$7.30	3.99%	\$0.28	N
0038	Home Care General Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$6.30	\$6.30	0.00%	\$0.00	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Home Care General – Low Fee Range [continued]

0039	Home Care General Low fee range – Couple Up to \$59,802	Per hour	N	\$7.07	\$7.35	3.96%	\$0.28	N
0040	Home Care General Low fee range – Couple Up to \$59,802 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$6.30	\$6.30	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0041	Home Care General Low fee range – Family Up to \$66,009	Per hour	N	\$7.07	\$7.35	3.96%	\$0.28	N
0042	Home Care General Low fee range – Family Up to \$66,009 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$6.30	\$6.30	0.00%	\$0.00	N

Home Care General – Medium Fee Range

0043	Home Care General Medium fee range – Single \$39,089 to \$54,795	Per hour	N	\$10.04	\$10.44	3.98%	\$0.41	N
0044	Home Care General Medium fee range – Single \$54,795 to \$70,501	Per hour	N	\$13.00	\$13.52	4.00%	\$0.52	N
0045	Home Care General Medium fee range – Single \$70,501 to \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$15.86	\$16.49	3.97%	\$0.63	N
0046	Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$59,802 to \$78,283	Per hour	N	\$11.80	\$12.27	3.98%	\$0.47	N
0047	Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$78,283 to \$96,764	Per hour	N	\$14.98	\$15.58	4.01%	\$0.60	N
0048	Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$17.68	\$18.39	4.02%	\$0.71	N
0049	Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$15.70	\$15.70	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0050	Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$66,009 to \$83,521	Per hour	N	\$11.80	\$12.27	3.98%	\$0.47	N
0051	Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$83,521 to \$101,033	Per hour	N	\$14.98	\$15.58	4.01%	\$0.60	N
0052	Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$17.68	\$18.39	4.02%	\$0.71	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Home Care General – Medium Fee Range [continued]

0053	Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$15.70	\$15.70	0.00%	\$0.00	N
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Home Care General – High Fee Range

0054	Home Care General High Range – Single Above \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$38.64	\$40.19	4.01%	\$1.55	N
0055	Home Care General High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$38.64	\$40.19	4.01%	\$1.55	N
0056	Home Care General High Range – Family Above \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$38.64	\$40.19	4.01%	\$1.55	N

Personal Care

Personal Care – Low Fee Range

0057	Personal Care Low fee range – Single Up to \$28,605	Per hour	N	\$4.42	\$4.60	4.07%	\$0.18	N
0058	Personal Care Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	Per hour	N	\$5.25	\$5.46	4.00%	\$0.21	N
0059	Personal Care Low fee range – Couple Up to \$44,309	Per hour	N	\$4.42	\$4.60	4.07%	\$0.18	N
0060	Personal Care Low fee range – Couple \$44,309 to \$59,802	Per hour	N	\$5.25	\$5.46	4.00%	\$0.21	N
0061	Personal Care Low fee range – Family Up to \$44,309	Per hour	N	\$4.42	\$4.60	4.07%	\$0.18	N
0062	Personal Care Low fee range – Family \$44,309 to \$66,009	Per hour	N	\$5.25	\$5.46	4.00%	\$0.21	N

Personal Care – Medium Fee Range

0063	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Single \$39,089 to \$54,795	Per hour	N	\$8.32	\$8.65	3.97%	\$0.33	N
0064	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Single \$54,795 to \$70,501	Per hour	N	\$8.74	\$9.09	4.00%	\$0.35	N
0065	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Single \$70,501 to \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$9.57	\$9.95	3.97%	\$0.38	N
0066	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$59,802 to \$78,283	Per hour	N	\$8.32	\$8.65	3.97%	\$0.33	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Personal Care – Medium Fee Range [continued]

0067	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$78,283 to \$96,764	Per hour	N	\$8.74	\$9.09	4.00%	\$0.35	N
0068	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$9.57	\$9.95	3.97%	\$0.38	N
0069	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Family \$66,009 to \$83,521	Per hour	N	\$8.32	\$8.65	3.97%	\$0.33	N
0070	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Family \$83,521 to \$101,033	Per hour	N	\$8.74	\$9.09	4.00%	\$0.35	N
0071	Personal Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$9.57	\$9.95	3.97%	\$0.38	N

Personal Care – High Fee Range

0072	Personal Care General High Range – Single Above \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$43.16	\$44.89	4.01%	\$1.73	N
0073	Personal Care General High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$43.16	\$44.89	4.01%	\$1.73	N
0074	Personal Care General High Range – Family Above \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$43.16	\$44.89	4.01%	\$1.73	N

Respite Care

Respite Care – Low Fee Range

0075	Respite Care Low fee range – Single Up to \$28,605	Per hour	N	\$3.07	\$3.19	3.91%	\$0.12	N
0076	Respite Care Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	Per hour	N	\$3.54	\$3.68	3.95%	\$0.15	N
0077	Respite Care Low fee range – Couple Up to \$44,309	Per hour	N	\$3.07	\$3.19	3.91%	\$0.12	N
0078	Respite Care Low fee range – Couple \$44,309 to \$59,802	Per hour	N	\$3.54	\$3.68	3.95%	\$0.15	N
0079	Respite Care Low fee range – Family Up to \$44,309	Per hour	N	\$3.07	\$3.19	3.91%	\$0.12	N
0080	Respite Care Low fee range – Family \$44,309 to \$66,009	Per hour	N	\$3.54	\$3.68	3.95%	\$0.15	N

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Respite Care – Medium Fee Range

0081	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Single \$39,089 to \$54,795	Per hour	N	\$4.11	\$4.27	3.89%	\$0.17	N
0082	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Single \$54,795 to \$70,501	Per hour	N	\$5.04	\$5.24	3.97%	\$0.20	N
0083	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Single \$70,501 to \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$5.15	\$5.36	4.08%	\$0.21	N
0084	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$59,802 to \$78,283	Per hour	N	\$4.11	\$4.27	3.89%	\$0.17	N
0085	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$78,283 to \$96,764	Per hour	N	\$5.04	\$5.24	3.97%	\$0.20	N
0086	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$5.15	\$5.36	4.08%	\$0.21	N
0087	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Family \$66,009 to \$83,521	Per hour	N	\$4.11	\$4.27	3.89%	\$0.17	N
0088	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Family \$83,521 to \$101,033	Per hour	N	\$5.04	\$5.24	3.97%	\$0.20	N
0089	Respite Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$5.15	\$5.36	4.08%	\$0.21	N

Respite Care – High Fee Range

0090	Respite Care General High Range – Single Above \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$39.88	\$41.48	4.01%	\$1.59	N
0091	Respite Care General High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$39.88	\$41.48	4.01%	\$1.59	N
0092	Respite Care General High Range – Family Above \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$39.88	\$41.48	4.01%	\$1.59	N

Home Maintenance

Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range

0093	Home Maintenance Low fee range – Single Up to \$28,605	Per hour	N	\$4.99	\$5.19	4.01%	\$0.20	N
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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range [continued]

0094	Home Maintenance Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	Per hour	N	\$7.80	\$8.11	3.97%	\$0.31	N
0095	Home Maintenance Low fee range – Couple Up to \$44,309	Per hour	N	\$4.99	\$5.19	4.01%	\$0.20	N
0096	Home Maintenance Low fee range – Couple \$44,309 to \$59,802	Per hour	N	\$9.26	\$9.63	4.00%	\$0.37	N
0097	Home Maintenance Low fee range – Family Up to \$44,309	Per hour	N	\$4.99	\$5.19	4.01%	\$0.20	N
0098	Home Maintenance Low fee range – Family \$44,309 to \$66,009	Per hour	N	\$9.26	\$9.63	4.00%	\$0.37	N

Home Maintenance – Medium Fee Range

0099	Home Maintenance Medium Fee Range Single – \$39,089 to \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$19.34	\$20.11	3.98%	\$0.77	N
0100	Home Maintenance Medium Fee Range Couple – \$59,802 to \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$19.34	\$20.11	3.98%	\$0.77	N
0101	Home Maintenance Medium Fee Range Family – \$66,009 to \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$19.34	\$20.11	3.98%	\$0.77	N

Home Maintenance – High Fee Range

0102	Home Maintenance High Range – Single Above \$86,208	Per hour	N	\$55.64	\$57.87	4.01%	\$2.23	N
0103	Home Maintenance High Range – Single Above \$86,208 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$52.42	\$52.42	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0104	Home Maintenance High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	Per hour	N	\$55.64	\$57.87	4.01%	\$2.23	N
0105	Home Maintenance High Range – Couple Above \$115,245 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$52.42	\$52.42	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0106	Home Maintenance – Family Above \$118,546	Per hour	N	\$55.64	\$57.87	4.01%	\$2.23	N
0107	Home Maintenance – Family Above \$118,546 (HACCPYP)	Per hour	N	\$52.42	\$52.42	0.00%	\$0.00	N

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Delivered / Centre Meals

Delivered / Centre Meals – Low Fee Range

0108	Delivered / Centre Meals Single Up to \$39,089	Per meal	N	\$7.28	\$7.57	3.98%	\$0.29	N
0109	Delivered / Centre Meals Couple Up to \$59,802	Per meal	N	\$7.28	\$7.57	3.98%	\$0.29	N
0110	Delivered / Centre Meals Family Up to \$66,009	Per meal	N	\$7.28	\$7.57	3.98%	\$0.29	N

Delivered / Centre Meals – Medium Fee Range

0111	Delivered / Centre Meals Single – \$39,089 to \$86,208	Per meal	N	\$9.46	\$9.84	4.02%	\$0.37	N
0112	Delivered / Centre Meals Couple – \$59,802 to \$115,245	Per meal	N	\$9.46	\$9.84	4.02%	\$0.37	N
0113	Delivered / Centre Meals Family – \$66,009 to \$118,546	Per meal	N	\$9.46	\$9.84	4.02%	\$0.37	N

Delivered / Centre Meals – High Fee Range

0114	Delivered / Centre Meals – Single Above \$86,208	Per meal	N	\$24.60	\$25.58	3.98%	\$0.99	N
0115	Delivered / Centre Meals – Couple Above \$115,245	Per meal	N	\$24.60	\$25.58	3.98%	\$0.99	N
0116	Delivered / Centre Meals – Family Above \$118,546	Per meal	N	\$24.60	\$25.58	3.98%	\$0.99	N

Willowview

Willowview – High Care

Willowview – Outing Group

0117	Willowview – Low Fee Range Single Up to \$39,089	Per session	N	\$9.15	\$9.52	4.04%	\$0.36	N
0118	Willowview – Low Fee Range Couple Up to \$59,802	Per session	N	\$9.15	\$9.52	4.04%	\$0.36	N
0119	Willowview – Low Fee Range Family Up to \$66,009	Per session	N	\$9.15	\$9.52	4.04%	\$0.36	N
0120	Willowview – Medium Fee Range Single – \$39,089 to \$86,208	Per session	N	\$9.15	\$9.52	4.04%	\$0.36	N
0121	Willowview – Medium Fee Range Couple – \$59,802 to \$115,245	Per session	N	\$9.15	\$9.52	4.04%	\$0.36	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Willowview – Outing Group [continued]

0122	Willowview – Medium Fee Range Family – \$66,009 to \$118,546	Per session	N	\$9.15	\$9.52	4.04%	\$0.36	N
0123	Willowview – High Fee Range – Single Above \$86,208	Per session	N	\$22.93	\$23.85	4.01%	\$0.92	N
0124	Willowview – High Fee Range – Couple Above \$115,245	Per session	N	\$22.93	\$23.85	4.01%	\$0.92	N
0125	Willowview – High Fee Range – Family Above \$118,546	Per session	N	\$22.93	\$23.85	4.01%	\$0.92	N

Community Transport

0126	Social Support Group Outing	per session	N	\$1.04	\$1.08	3.85%	\$0.04	N
0127	Community Transport General	Per trip	N	\$1.04	\$1.08	3.85%	\$0.04	N

Home Care Packages (HCP)

0128	Community Transport	Per trip	Y	\$28.60	\$29.74	3.99%	\$1.14	N
0129	All Meals	Per meal	Y	\$22.82	\$23.74	4.03%	\$0.92	N
0130	Home/Personal/Respite Care (8.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday)	Per hour	Y	\$53.04	\$55.15	3.98%	\$2.12	N
0131	Home/Personal/Respite Care (6.00pm to 8.00am Monday to Friday)	Per hour	Y	\$112.84	\$117.36	4.01%	\$4.52	N
0132	Home/Personal/Respite Care (6.00pm Friday to 8.00am Monday)	Per hour	Y	\$112.84	\$117.36	4.01%	\$4.52	N
0133	Adult Day Care	Per session	Y	\$39.06	\$40.62	3.99%	\$1.57	N

*Based upon HACC services used and other services as negotiated

Parking Services

Parking Meter Rates

0134	Parking Fees – meters/ ticket machines (per hour) spread from 0.00 to \$15.00 max	per hour	N		\$ 0.00 - \$ 15.60 - default price \$5.40			N
						Last year fee		
						\$ 0.00 - \$ 15.00 - default price \$5.20		
0135	All Day Parking (various locations)	Per Day	Y	\$15.00	\$15.60	4.00%	\$0.60	N
0136	Half Day Parking (4 Hours, various locations)	Per 4 Hours	Y	\$9.00	\$9.40	4.44%	\$0.40	N
0137	Night parking rate	Per Night	Y	\$15.00	\$15.60	4.00%	\$0.60	N

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Parking Permits

0140	Parking Permits – 1st Resident permit concession or 1st Visitor permit concession	Per permit	N				FREE	N
0142	Parking Permits – 2nd Resident permit concession or 2nd Visitor permit concession	Per permit	N	\$52.00	\$54.50	4.81%	\$2.50	N
0141	Parking Permits – 3rd Resident permits concession or 3rd Visitor permit concession	Per permit	N	\$52.00	\$54.50	4.81%	\$2.50	N
0139	Replacement Parking permit fee		N	\$20.80	\$22.00	5.77%	\$1.20	N
0138	Tradesperson permit monthly fee- non metered	Per bay	N	\$208.00	\$216.50	4.09%	\$8.50	N
0143	Parking Permits – 1st Resident permit	Per Permit	N	\$52.00	\$54.50	4.81%	\$2.50	N
0144	Parking Permits – 2nd Resident permits	Per Permit	N	\$126.90	\$132.00	4.02%	\$5.10	N
0145	Parking Permits – 3rd Resident permits	Per Permit	N	\$238.20	\$247.00	3.69%	\$8.80	N
0146	Parking Permits – Business – 1st permit	Per Permit	N	\$147.20	\$153.00	3.94%	\$5.80	N
0147	Parking Permits – Business – 2nd and subsequent permits	Per Permit	N	\$273.00	\$283.00	3.66%	\$10.00	N
0148	Parking Permits – Disabled	Per Permit	N				No Charge	N
0149	Parking Permits – 1st Visitor permit	Per Permit	N	\$52.00	\$54.50	4.81%	\$2.50	N
0150	Parking Permits – 2nd Visitor permits	Per Permit	N	\$126.90	\$132.00	4.02%	\$5.10	N
0151	Parking Permits – 3rd Visitor permits	Per Permit	N	\$238.20	\$247.00	3.69%	\$8.80	N
0152	Parking Permit – Car Share Bay	Per Permit	N	\$645.00	\$660.00	2.33%	\$15.00	N
0153	Installation of Car Share Bay	Per Bay	Y	\$700.00	\$735.00	5.00%	\$35.00	N
0154	Tradesperson permit per day- non metered	Per Bay	N	\$20.80	\$22.00	5.77%	\$1.20	N
0155	Tradesperson permit per week- non metered	Per Bay	N	\$62.40	\$65.00	4.17%	\$2.60	N

Parking Occupation Fees

0156	Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/ first day – Non Commercial Street	Per Day	Y	\$83.20	\$85.00	2.16%	\$1.80	N
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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Parking Occupation Fees [continued]

0157	Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/ subsequent day – Non Commercial Street	Per Day	Y	\$41.60	\$44.00	5.77%	\$2.40	N
0158	Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/ first day – Commercial Street	Per Day	Y	\$124.80	\$130.00	4.17%	\$5.20	N
0159	Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/ subsequent day – Commercial street	Per Day	Y	\$72.80	\$76.00	4.40%	\$3.20	N

Towing & Impounding Fees

0160	Derelict vehicles/pound fee – abandoned/ unregistered vehicle	Per Vehicle	Y	\$478.40	\$500.00	4.52%	\$21.60	N
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Parking Offence Fees

0161	Parking offences set out in Schedule 6 of the Road Safety (General) Regulations 2019	Of a Penalty Unit	N			0.5 of a penalty unit		N
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Local Laws / Legislative Services

0164	Parklet Application and Inspection - Neighbourhood	Per application	N	\$300.00	\$325.00	8.33%	\$25.00	N
0163	Parklet Application and Inspection - Primary	Per application	N	\$300.00	\$325.00	8.33%	\$25.00	N
0166	Parklet Application and Inspection - Secondary	Per application	N	\$300.00	\$325.00	8.33%	\$25.00	N
0165	Parklet Permit 12 Month - Neighbourhood	Per permit	N	\$2,340.00	\$2,435.00	4.06%	\$95.00	N
0162	Parklet Permit 12 Month - Primary	Per Bay	N	\$5,200.00	\$5,408.00	4.00%	\$208.00	N
0169	Parklet Permit 12 Month - Secondary	Per permit	N	\$3,120.00	\$3,244.80	4.00%	\$124.80	N
0170	Parklet Permit Summer 6 Month - Neighbourhood	Per permit	N	\$1,170.00	\$1,217.50	4.06%	\$47.50	N
0167	Parklet Permit Summer 6 Month - Primary	Per permit	N	\$2,600.00	\$2,704.00	4.00%	\$104.00	N
0168	Parklet Permit Summer 6 Month - Secondary	Per permit	N	\$1,560.00	\$1,622.40	4.00%	\$62.40	N
0171	Mobile Food Vans – Normal Rate	Per Van	N	\$2,825.00	\$2,938.00	4.00%	\$113.00	N
0172	Mobile Food Vans – Concession Rate (Yarra Resident Only)	Per Van	N	\$2,010.00	\$2,090.40	4.00%	\$80.40	N
0173	Mobile Food Van – small private events permit 1 day or less	Per Van	N	\$120.00	\$122.00	1.67%	\$2.00	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Local Laws / Legislative Services [continued]

0174	Mobile Food Van – Charity or Non for profit event	Per Van	N	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0175	Significant Tree Application fee (Non-refundable)	Per application	N	\$180.00	\$187.00	3.89%	\$7.00	N
0176	Significant Tree Permit – Removal	Per Permit	N	\$277.00	\$287.00	3.61%	\$10.00	N
0177	Significant Tree Permit – Pruning only	Per Permit	N	\$120.00	\$124.00	3.33%	\$4.00	N
0178	Excess Animal Permit – Application Fee (Non Refundable)	Per Permit	N	\$65.00	\$68.00	4.62%	\$3.00	N
0179	Cat trap – rental per week	Per Week	N	\$30.00	\$31.00	3.33%	\$1.00	N
0180	Commercial dog walking permit (annual permit)	Annual Permit	N	\$150.00	\$153.00	2.00%	\$3.00	N
0181	Excess Animal Permit – Fee	Annual Permit	N	\$63.00	\$65.52	4.00%	\$2.52	N
0182	Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) multi max 5 stalls/promotional activities Charity or Non for profit	Per Permit	N	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0183	Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) multi max 5 stalls/promotional activities	Per Permit	N	\$113.50	\$118.00	3.96%	\$4.50	N
0184	Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) each additional stall/promotional activity over 5 for Charity or Non for profit	Per Permit	N	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0185	Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) each additional stall/promotional activity over 5	Per Permit	N	\$35.00	\$38.00	8.57%	\$3.00	N
0186	Temporary Public Space Licences up to 7 days	Per Permit	N	\$76.00	\$80.00	5.26%	\$4.00	N
0187	Local law permit application fee (As required)	Annual Permit	N	\$62.00	\$65.00	4.84%	\$3.00	N
0188	Busking Permit (Monthly charge)	Per Month	N	\$16.50	\$17.00	3.03%	\$0.50	N
0189	Planter box/tubs – Laneway garden permit fee	Per Permit	N	\$61.50	\$64.00	4.07%	\$2.50	N
0190	General Local Law Permit	Per Permit	N	\$373.00	\$388.00	4.02%	\$15.00	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Local Laws / Legislative Services [continued]

0191	Temporary Public space permit – Promotional Short Term (1) 0-3 days	Per Permit	N	\$119.50	\$125.00	4.60%	\$5.50	N
0192	Temporary Public space permit – Promotional Short Term (2) 3-7 days where admin/detailed review required	Per Permit	N	\$190.50	\$200.00	4.99%	\$9.50	N
0193	Local Laws permit Inspection fee – After hours	Per Permit	N	\$178.00	\$185.00	3.93%	\$7.00	N
0194	Miscellaneous / Impound release Fee	Per item	N	\$123.50	\$130.00	5.26%	\$6.50	N
0195	Shopping Trolley Release fees	Per trolley	N	\$72.00	\$75.00	4.17%	\$3.00	N

Public Space Licences

Items on Footpath

0196	Footpath Trading – Application/ Inspection fee (Non-refundable)	Per application	N	\$61.50	\$64.00	4.07%	\$2.50	N
0197	Footpath heaters	Annual fee- per heater	N	\$120.00	\$125.00	4.17%	\$5.00	N
0198	Footpath awning fee	Annual fee	N	\$237.00	\$247.00	4.22%	\$10.00	N
0199	Planter Box/Tubs (Excludes Tables & Chairs) Footpath trading only	Annual fee	N	\$62.00	\$65.00	4.84%	\$3.00	N
0200	Additional miscellaneous item Footpath trading	Per item	N	\$62.00	\$65.00	4.84%	\$3.00	N
0201	Advertising Sign – per sign (licensed)	Annual Permit	N	\$195.00	\$203.00	4.10%	\$8.00	N
0202	Advertising Sign – per sign (unlicensed)	Annual Permit	N	\$135.00	\$138.00	2.22%	\$3.00	N
0203	Goods Display	Annual Permit	N	\$455.00	\$474.00	4.18%	\$19.00	N

Tables & Chairs

0204	Licensed premises – per table over 800mm (Including benches)	Annual Permit- per table	N	\$100.00	\$104.00	4.00%	\$4.00	N
0205	Licensed Premises – per table up to 800mm	Annual Permit- per table	N	\$88.50	\$92.00	3.95%	\$3.50	N
0206	Licensed Premises – per chair (600mm = 1 Chair)	Annual Permit- per chair	N	\$81.50	\$85.00	4.29%	\$3.50	N
0207	Unlicensed Premises – per table over 800mm (including benches)	Annual Permit- per table	N	\$100.00	\$104.00	4.00%	\$4.00	N
0208	Unlicensed Premises – per table up to 800mm	Annual Permit- per table	N	\$88.50	\$92.00	3.95%	\$3.50	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Tables & Chairs [continued]

0209	Unlicensed Premises – per chair (600mm = 1 Chair)	Annual Permit- per chair	N	\$25.00	\$26.00	4.00%	\$1.00	N
0210	Real Estate Sign License	Annual Permit	N	\$872.00	\$900.00	3.21%	\$28.00	N
0211	Mobile Food Van (prescribed event area) multi max. 5 vans	Per Permit	N	\$373.00	\$388.00	4.02%	\$15.00	N
0212	Mobile Food Van (prescribed event area) each additional food van/stall over 5 vans	Per Permit	N	\$373.00	\$388.00	4.02%	\$15.00	N
0213	Mobile Food Van public land (once-off day rate)	Per Permit	N	\$373.00	\$388.00	4.02%	\$15.00	N

Kerb Market

0214	Gleadell Street Market (per stall)	Per Stall weekly charge	Y	\$99.00	\$103.00	4.04%	\$4.00	N
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Other

0215	Major Amplified Sound Permit	Per Permit	N	\$356.00	\$370.24	4.00%	\$14.24	N
0216	Major Amplified Sound Permit Concession	Per Concession	N	\$123.40	\$128.34	4.00%	\$4.94	N
0217	Miscellaneous / Impound Fee	Per item	Y	\$123.00	\$128.00	4.07%	\$5.00	N

Planning Enforcement

0218	Liquor Licensing Advice Requests	Per advise	Y	\$178.50	\$185.00	3.64%	\$6.50	N
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Animal Control

Community Amenity (Local Laws and Animal Control)

Dog Registration

0219	Standard Maximum Fee	Per dog	N	\$225.00	\$234.00	4.00%	\$9.00	N
0220	Standard Reduced Fee	Per dog	N	\$75.00	\$78.00	4.00%	\$3.00	N
0221	Foster care – Dog	Per dog	N	\$8.00	\$8.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0222	Concessional Maximum Fee	Per dog	N	\$112.50	\$117.00	4.00%	\$4.50	N
0223	Dogs & cats currently registered at another Council – transfer and 1st registration	Per animal	N	No charge – 1st year only				N
0224	Dogs & Cats under 6mths of age	Per animal	N	No charge – 1st year only				N
0225	Concessional Reduced Fee	Per dog	N	\$22.50	\$23.40	4.00%	\$0.90	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Dog Registration [continued]

0226	Registration – Declared menacing, dangerous & restricted breed dogs	Per dog	N	\$360.00	\$372.00	3.33%	\$12.00	N
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Cat Registration

0227	Standard Maximum Fee	Per cat	N	\$130.00	\$135.00	3.85%	\$5.00	N
0228	Standard Reduced Fee	Per cat	N	\$43.00	\$44.50	3.49%	\$1.50	N
0229	Concessional Maximum Fee	Per cat	N	\$65.00	\$67.50	3.85%	\$2.50	N
0230	Concessional Reduced Fee	Per cat	N	\$16.50	\$17.50	6.06%	\$1.00	N
0231	Foster care – Cat	Per cat	N	\$8.00	\$8.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0232	Animal Registration refund	Per registration	N	50% refund prior to 1 October each year				N
0233	Replacement Animal Registration tag	Per tag	Y	\$7.00	\$7.50	7.14%	\$0.50	N

Animal Pound Release Fees

0234	Release fee – Dog	Per animal	Y	\$175.00	\$182.00	4.00%	\$7.00	N
0235	Release fee – Cat	Per animal	Y	\$120.00	\$125.00	4.17%	\$5.00	N
0236	Livestock (small)	Per animal	Y	\$200.00	\$208.00	4.00%	\$8.00	N
0237	Livestock (large)	Per animal	Y	\$272.00	\$283.00	4.04%	\$11.00	N

Registration of Domestic Animal Business

0238	Annual Registration Fee	Per animal	Y	\$455.00	\$473.50	4.07%	\$18.50	N
0239	Transfer Fee	Per Permit	Y	\$35.00	\$37.00	5.71%	\$2.00	N
0240	Request for copy of dog/cat registration certificate (per entry)	Per entry	Y	\$118.00	\$123.00	4.24%	\$5.00	N
0241	Service Requests – Animal Control	Per animal	Y	\$86.00	\$89.00	3.49%	\$3.00	N
0242	Inspection of Dog/Cat register (per entry)	Per entry	N	\$26.00	\$27.00	3.85%	\$1.00	N
0243	Deposit Cat trap (Refundable)	Per trap	N	\$123.00	\$128.00	4.07%	\$5.00	N

Health Protection Registrations

- The annual registration period for all premises is 1 January to 31 December - The period for which registration lasts ranges from a minimum of 3 months to a maximum of 15 months (excludes temporary and mobile food premises)
- Pro rata of renewal fee – Registration in Q1 = full renewal fee, Q2 = 3/4 of renewal fee, Q3 = 1/2 renewal fee, Q4 = 1.25 x renewal fee where registration expires 31 December the following year (Max 15 months registration)
- Refund of annual renewal fee for registered premises that close before the registration expiry date - Business closes Q1 = refund 3/4 renewal fee, Q2 = refund 1/2 renewal fee, Q3 = refund 1/4 renewal fee, Q4 = no refund

Food Premises

Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises

0244	Renewals	Annual Registration	N	\$650.00	\$676.00	4.00%	\$26.00	N
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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises [continued]

0245	Additional fee for each employee over 10 (Max fee is for 61+ employees)	Per employee > 10 (3PT=1FT)	N	\$32.50	\$33.80	4.00%	\$1.30	N
0246	New Registrations – Application fee	Per application	N	\$325.00	\$338.00	4.00%	\$13.00	N
0247	New Registrations – Registration fee	Per registration	N	Pro-rata of renewal fee				N
0248	Re-inspection Fee	Per inspection	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N
0249	Additional Assessment Fee (Section 19H)	Per assessment	N	\$325.00	\$338.00	4.00%	\$13.00	N

Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises

0250	Renewals	Per renewal	N	\$325.00	\$338.00	4.00%	\$13.00	N
0251	Additional fee for each employee over 10 (Max fee is for 61+ employees)	Per employee > 10 (3PT=1FT)	N	\$16.50	\$16.90	2.42%	\$0.40	N
0252	Seasonal (6 month operation) sporting clubs – Registration is for annual period	Per registration	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N
0253	New Registrations – Application fee	Per application	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N
0254	New Registrations – Registration fee	Per registration	N	Pro-rata of renewal fee				N
0255	Re-inspection Fee	Per inspection	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N
0256	Additional Inspection Fee Under 19(H)	Per inspection	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N

Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises

0257	Renewals	Per renewal	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N
0258	Additional fee for each employee over 10 (Max fee is for 61+ employees)	Per employee > 10 (3PT=1FT)	N	\$8.50	\$8.45	-0.59%	-\$0.05	N
0259	Seasonal (6 month operation) sporting clubs – Registration is for annual period	Per registration	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N
0260	New Registrations – Application fee	Per application	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N
0261	New Registrations – Registration fee	Per registration	N	Pro-rata of renewal fee				N
0262	Re-inspection Fee	Per inspection	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N
0263	Additional Inspection Fee Under 19(H)	Per inspection	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N

Temporary and Mobile Food Premises

Registered via "Stretrader" and Short Term Registrations of Food Premises (on request of proprietor)

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Once-off Events

No more than two consecutive days operation.

Component/s (per component) attached to a fixed registered (not Class 4) premises.

0264	Class 1 and 2	Per Permit	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N
0265	Class 3	Per Permit	N	\$41.00	\$42.25	3.05%	\$1.25	N
0266	Not for profit organisations – all classes	Per Permit	N				No Charge	N

Short Term Registrations

Less than 12 months.

Note: new approval fee does not apply.

Temporary and mobile food premises that are not "once off" events or components of a fixed registered premises, components of notified (Class 4) premises.

0267	Registrations for a period of up to 3 months	Per registration	N				1/4 annual renewal fee	N
0268	Registrations for a period of 3 to 6 months	Per registration	N				1/2 annual renewal fee	N
0269	Registrations for a period of more than 6 months will be treated as a 12 month registration	Per registration	N				Full annual renewal fee	N
0270	Re-inspection Fee (temp and mobile food premises)	Per inspection	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N

Aquatic Facilities

0272	New registration - Application fee	Per registration	N	\$106.00	\$110.00	3.77%	\$4.00	N
0274	New registration fee	Per registration	N				Pro-rata of renewal fee	N
0273	Renewal - Additional fee for each additional facility in premises in excess of one (1)	Per additional facility >1	N	\$10.50	\$11.00	4.76%	\$0.50	N
0275	Renewal fee	Per renewal	N	\$212.00	\$220.00	3.77%	\$8.00	N
0271	Transfer fee	Per transfer	N	\$106.00	\$110.00	3.77%	\$4.00	N

Prescribed Accommodation Premises

Commercial

0276	Renewal for premises accommodating not more than 5 persons	Per Person	N	\$325.00	\$338.00	4.00%	\$13.00	N
0277	Renewals - Additional fee for each additional person that can be accommodated in excess of 5 (Max fee for 61+ persons)	Per Person > 5 (Max fee based on 61+ persons)	N	\$16.50	\$16.90	2.42%	\$0.40	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Commercial [continued]

0278	New registrations - Application fee	Per registration	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N
0279	New registrations - Registration fee	Per Transfer	N	Pro-rata of renewal fee				N
0280	Transfers	Per Transfer	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N

Not For Profit

0281	Renewals for premises accommodating not more than 5 persons	Per renewal	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N
0282	Renewals - Additional fee for each additional person than can be accommodated in excess of 5 (Max fee for 61+ persons)	Per Person > 5 (Max fee based on 61+ persons)	N	\$8.50	\$8.45	-0.59%	-\$0.05	N
0283	New registrations - Application fee	Per application	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N
0284	New registrations - Registration fee	Per registration	N	Pro-rata of renewal fee				N
0285	Transfers	Per transfer	N	\$81.50	\$84.50	3.68%	\$3.00	N

Premises Providing Personal Services

Hairdressers, Beauty Salons, Ear Piercing, Tattooing, Skin Penetration

If proprietor is a not for profit/charitable organisations above will be discounted by 50%. No current applicant are NFP.

0286	Renewals	Per renewal	N	\$211.50	\$220.00	4.02%	\$8.50	N
0287	New Registrations	Per registration	N	\$106.00	\$110.00	3.77%	\$4.00	N

Excluding low risk premises where the full renewal fee applies as registration is not subject to renewal.

0288	New registrations - Registration fee – higher risk services	Per registration	N	Pro-rata of renewal fee				N
				15 fees raised YTD				
0289	New registration - Registration fee – lower risk services (note that registration is not subject to renewal)	Per registration	N	\$211.50	\$220.00	4.02%	\$8.50	N
0290	Transfer Fee (transfers not applicable to lower risk services)	Per transfer	N	\$106.00	\$110.00	3.77%	\$4.00	N

Other Fees

0291	Overdue Registration Renewal Fee	Per late renewal	N	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.50	N
0292	Waste Water System Approval	Per approval	N	\$325.00	\$338.00	4.00%	\$13.00	N

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Information/Service Fees

0293	Copy of Certificate of Analysis for person from whom sample obtained	Per Copy of Certificate	Y				No Charge	N
0294	Copy of Registration Certificate – Only available to current proprietor	Per copy of certificate	Y	\$59.00	\$0.00	-100.00%	-\$59.00	N
0295	Extract of premises register	Per Extract	N				No Charge	N
0296	EHO hourly charge rate	Per Hour	Y	\$162.50	\$169.00	4.00%	\$6.51	N

Recreation

Multi-purpose Sporting Facilities

Casual Sports Ground B Hire

Casual Pavilion Hire

Casual Hire – Tennis, Netball, Basketball Court

Pavilions

Seasonal Fee Per Team

Category A

Graham, Johnson, Coulson, Ramsden, Fairfield, Burnley, Alfred Cres, Fitzroy Grandstand, Gillon

Category B

Yambla, Citizens, Bain and Alphington, George Knott

Sportsgrounds

Seasonal Fee Per Team

Turf Cricket

Loughnan, Citizens (Summer Turf Wicket)

Cricket Synthetic

Football

Soccer

Registered Yarra Sports Clubs out of season hire

Permit to hire Park for Commercial Fitness Trainers

Casual Facility Hire

Commercial: Private hirers, non-Yarra based private schools and professional sporting clubs

Concession 1: Non-Yarra based not-for-profit community groups (inc. sports clubs), non-Yarra based government high schools and Yarra based private schools

Concession 2: Yarra based not-for-profit community groups (inc. sports clubs), Yarra based government high schools

Concession 3: Yarra based primary schools

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Sportsgrounds

Premier Sportsground Hire - Victoria Park, Bastow 1

0297	Commercial fee	Per Hour	Y	\$310.00	\$322.40	4.00%	\$12.40	N
0298	Concession 1	Per Hour	Y	\$91.00	\$94.60	3.96%	\$3.59	N
0299	Concession 2	Per Hour	Y	\$42.00	\$43.70	4.05%	\$1.70	N
0300	Concession 3	Per Hour	Y	\$21.00	\$21.80	3.81%	\$0.80	N

Community Sportsground Hire - All other sportsgrounds

0301	Commercial (ongoing) - Community Sports Ground Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$30.00	\$31.00	3.33%	\$1.00	N
0302	Commercial fee	Per Hour	Y	\$122.00	\$126.80	3.93%	\$4.81	N
0303	Concession 1	Per Hour	Y	\$30.00	\$31.00	3.33%	\$1.00	N
0304	Concession 2	Per Hour	Y	\$11.00	\$11.40	3.64%	\$0.40	N
0305	Concession 3	Per Hour	Y				No Charge	N

Pavilions

Pavilion Hire - Alfred, Alphington, Barkly Gardens, Burnley, Coulson, Fairfield, Fitzroy Grandstand, Gillon, Graham, Johnson, Ramsden, Sherrin Stand, Stanton Street Hall (table tennis)

0306	Commercial (ongoing) - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$36.00	\$37.40	3.89%	\$1.40	N
0307	Commercial fee	Per Hour	Y	\$122.00	\$126.90	4.02%	\$4.91	N
0308	Concession 1	Per Hour	Y	\$36.00	\$37.40	3.89%	\$1.40	N
0309	Concession 2	Per Hour	Y	\$29.00	\$30.20	4.14%	\$1.20	N
0310	Concession 3	Per Hour	Y	\$22.00	\$22.90	4.09%	\$0.90	N

Tennis and Netball Court Hire

Ryan's Reserve

0313	Commercial (off-peak)	Per Hour	Y	\$26.50	\$27.60	4.15%	\$1.10	N
0311	Commercial (off-peak) - ongoing	Per Hour	Y	\$23.85	\$24.80	3.98%	\$0.95	N
0312	Commercial (peak) - ongoing	Per Hour	Y	\$29.70	\$30.90	4.04%	\$1.20	N
0314	Commercial (Peak)	Per Hour	Y	\$33.00	\$34.30	3.94%	\$1.30	N
0315	Concession 1	Per Hour	Y	\$16.30	\$16.90	3.68%	\$0.60	N
0316	Concession 2	Per Hour	Y	\$6.50	\$6.70	3.08%	\$0.19	N
0317	Concession 3	Per Hour	Y				No Charge	N

Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre

0320	Commercial (off-peak)	Per Hour	Y	\$26.50	\$27.60	4.15%	\$1.10	N
0323	Commercial (off-peak) - ongoing	Per Hour	Y	\$23.85	\$24.80	3.98%	\$0.95	N
0321	Commercial (peak)	Per Hour	Y	\$33.00	\$34.30	3.94%	\$1.30	N
0324	Commercial (peak) - ongoing	Per Hour	Y	\$29.70	\$30.90	4.04%	\$1.20	N
0318	Concession 1	Per Hour	Y	\$16.30	\$16.90	3.68%	\$0.60	N
0319	Concession 2	Per Hour	Y	\$6.50	\$6.70	3.08%	\$0.19	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre [continued]

0322	Concession 3	Per Hour	N				No Charge	N
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Fairlea Reserve

0326	Commercial (off-peak)	Per Hour	Y	\$33.00	\$34.30	3.94%	\$1.30	N
0325	Commercial (off-peak) - ongoing	Per Hour	Y	\$29.70	\$30.90	4.04%	\$1.20	N
0329	Commercial (peak)	Per Hour	Y	\$40.00	\$41.60	4.00%	\$1.61	N
0330	Commercial (peak) - ongoing	Per Hour	Y	\$36.00	\$37.40	3.89%	\$1.40	N
0331	Concession 1	Per Hour	Y	\$25.00	\$26.00	4.00%	\$1.00	N
0327	Concession 2	Per Hour	Y	\$15.00	\$15.60	4.00%	\$0.59	N
0328	Concession 3	Per Hour	Y	\$5.00	\$5.20	4.00%	\$0.20	N

Tennis and Netball Pavilion Hire

Ryan's Reserve

0332	Commercial (ongoing) - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$36.00	\$37.40	3.89%	\$1.40	N
0333	Commercial - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$122.00	\$126.90	4.02%	\$4.91	N
0334	Concession 1 - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$36.00	\$37.40	3.89%	\$1.40	N
0335	Concession 2 - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$29.00	\$30.20	4.14%	\$1.20	N
0336	Concession 3 - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$22.00	\$22.90	4.09%	\$0.90	N

Fairlea Reserve

0340	Commercial - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$122.00	\$126.90	4.02%	\$4.90	N
0339	Commercial (ongoing) - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$36.00	\$37.40	3.89%	\$1.40	N
0337	Concession 1 - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$36.00	\$37.40	3.89%	\$1.40	N
0338	Concession 2 - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$29.00	\$30.20	4.14%	\$1.21	N
0341	Concession 3 - Facility Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$22.00	\$22.90	4.09%	\$0.90	N

Seasonal and Annual Hire

Pavilion Hire

0342	Pavilion Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$1.15	\$1.72	49.57%	\$0.57	N
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Sportsgrounds

0343	Premier Sports Ground Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$2.89	\$4.33	49.83%	\$1.44	N
0344	Community 1 Sports Ground Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$2.53	\$3.80	50.20%	\$1.27	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Sportsgrounds [continued]

0345	Community 2 Sports Ground Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$2.30	\$3.45	50.00%	\$1.16	N
0346	Training Sports Ground Hire	Per Hour	Y	\$1.79	\$2.69	50.28%	\$0.90	N
0347	Sports Lighting Surcharge (after 5.30pm)	Per Hour	Y	\$5.76	\$5.76	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0348	Turf Wicket Recovery	Per Item	Y	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0349	Pre Season Training	Per Hour	Y	\$27.40	\$28.50	4.01%	\$1.10	N
0350	Practice Match	Per Hour	Y	\$98.80	\$102.70	3.95%	\$3.90	N
0351	Netball Court Hire (per court) - Tenant Sports Club (Fairlea Netball)	Per Hour	Y	\$7.50	\$7.80	4.00%	\$0.30	N
0352	Netball/Tennis Court Hire (per court) - Tenant Sports Club (Ryan Reserve/Mayors Park)	Per Hour	Y	\$2.40	\$2.50	4.17%	\$0.10	N

Premier Grounds : Bastow 1 Pitch , Victoria Park
 Community 1 Grounds : Alphington Park Oval, Fairfield Park Oval, Fletcher 1 Pitch, Loughnan Oval, Peterson Oval, Ramsden Oval, Yambla Reserve
 Community 2 Grounds : Alan Bain Reserve, Alfred Crescent Oval, Bastow 2 Soccer Pitch, Burnley Oval, Citizens Park, Coulson Reserve, Fletcher 2 Oval, George Knott Soccer Pitch
 Training Grounds : Walker Street Reserve

Personal Training

0353	Annual Licence Fee	Per Year	N	\$317.70	\$323.90	1.95%	\$6.20	N
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Construction Management Support Unit

0354	Counter Fast Track Assessment Fee	Per Assessment	N	\$165.00	\$189.75	15.00%	\$24.75	N
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Permit Inspections

0355	Private single dwelling and local shop traders	Per Inspection	Y	\$165.90	\$172.54	4.00%	\$6.64	N
0356	Commercial – includes house modules	Per Inspection	Y	\$295.90	\$325.49	10.00%	\$29.59	N
0357	Out of Hours	Per Inspection	Y	\$504.40	\$524.58	4.00%	\$20.18	N
0358	Out of Hours Permit	Per Permit	Y	\$214.75	\$223.34	4.00%	\$8.59	N

Asset Protection Permit

0359	Permit – Works up to \$10k*	Per Permit	Y				No Charge	N
0360	Permit – Works between \$10,001 and \$500K Application Fee*	Per Permit	Y	\$270.40	\$281.21	4.00%	\$10.81	N
0361	Permit – Works more than \$501K Application Fee*	Per Permit	Y	\$814.30	\$846.87	4.00%	\$32.57	N

*Additional drainage inspection charges may apply

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Vehicle Crossing Permit

0363	Inspection - Commercial/Industrial Vehicle Crossing	Per Permit	N	\$295.90	\$307.74	4.00%	\$11.84	N
0362	Inspection - Private single dwelling Vehicle Crossing	Per Permit	N	\$166.40	\$173.06	4.00%	\$6.66	N
0364	Permit – Private Single Dwelling Vehicle Crossing	Per Permit	N	\$174.70	\$181.69	4.00%	\$6.99	N
0365	Permit – Commercial/ Industrial Vehicle Crossing	Per Permit	N	\$295.90	\$325.49	10.00%	\$29.59	N
0366	Profile Design Service	Per Permit	Y	\$395.20	\$411.00	4.00%	\$15.81	N

Road / Footpath Occupation Permit

0367	Permit – work area / public protection occupation	Per Permit	N	\$91.10	\$94.74	4.00%	\$3.64	N
0368	Occupancy Fee – Private single dwelling and local shop trader	Per Square Metre Per Week	Y	\$5.50	\$5.72	4.00%	\$0.22	N
0369	Occupancy Fee – Commercial License/ Occupancy	Per Square Metre Per Week	Y	\$12.00	\$13.20	10.00%	\$1.20	N
0370	Permit – Plant and Equipment – Private single dwelling and local shop traders.	Per Day	N	\$174.70	\$181.69	4.00%	\$6.99	N
0371	Permit – Plant and Equipment – Commercial – No road closure	Per Day	Y	\$295.90	\$325.49	10.00%	\$29.59	N
0372	Plant and Equipment Permit – Commercial – Local road – Full road closure	Per Day	Y	\$449.25	\$494.18	10.00%	\$44.93	N

Skip Bin Permit

0373	Skip Bin Permit – Skip placement – unmetered	Per Day	N	\$25.85	\$26.88	3.98%	\$1.03	N
0374	Skip Bin Permit – Skip placement – metered	Per Day	N	\$70.10	\$72.90	3.99%	\$2.81	N
0375	Skip Bin Permit – Container placement	Per Day	N	\$150.30	\$156.31	4.00%	\$6.01	N

Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit

0376	Application fee – Commercial Profit Making (non refundable)	Per Permit	Y	\$112.30	\$116.79	4.00%	\$4.50	N
0377	Commercial Profit Making – Film/Ad Producers – Major impact: Permit	Per Permit	Y	\$1,372.80	\$1,427.71	4.00%	\$54.91	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit [continued]

0378	Filming (incl ads/still photography) inspection (Mon to Fri)	Per Inspection	Y	\$162.30	\$172.44	6.25%	\$10.14	N
0379	Filming inspection (incl ads/still photography) – Out of hours	Per Inspection	Y	\$504.90	\$524.58	3.90%	\$19.67	N
0380	Permit – Commercial Profit Making – Minor impact/small budget productions (incl films & ads)	Per Permit	Y	\$458.65	\$477.00	4.00%	\$18.35	N
0381	Permit – Student Filming (incl still photography)	Per Permit	N				No Charge	N
0382	Permit – Non Profit Making Filming (incl still photography)	Per Permit	N				No Charge	N

Road / Footpath Openings

Consent (RMA 2004)

0383	Consent fee*	Per Consent	N	\$88.90	\$88.90	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Minimum charge

*Areas greater than 40m2 or greater than 30 lineal metres Council may consider a reduced charge

0384	Inspection	Per Inspection	Y	\$165.90	\$172.54	4.00%	\$6.64	N
0385	Inspection – Out of hours	Per Inspection	Y	\$504.40	\$524.58	4.00%	\$20.18	N

Minimum charge

Drainage Cleaning and Inspection

0386	Admin Fee – Organising CCTV inspection or drain cleaning for one occurrence	Per Inspection	Y	\$166.30	\$172.95	4.00%	\$6.65	N
0387	CCTV inspection (Traffic management not included)	Per Hour	Y	\$254.50	\$268.49	5.50%	\$13.99	N

Minimum charge \$800

0388	Drain/Pit Cleaning – Jet/Educator Cleaning (Traffic management and tipping fees not included)	Per Hour	Y	\$268.65	\$283.43	5.50%	\$14.78	N
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Minimum charge \$800

Road Reinstatement

In accordance with the Road Management Act 2004

0389	Road – deep lift asphalt/concrete/bluestone	Per Square Metre	N	\$344.25	\$358.02	4.00%	\$13.77	N
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Minimum charge \$800

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Road Reinstatement [continued]

0390	Road – asphalt/concrete <100mm	Per Square Metre	N	\$229.85	\$239.04	4.00%	\$9.19	N
Minimum charge \$500								
0391	Footpath – residential – asphalt (as per YSD33 RAF) – less than 60mm	Per Square Metre	N	\$206.95	\$215.23	4.00%	\$8.28	N
Minimum charge \$500								
0392	Footpath – industrial – asphalt / concrete (as per YSD33 IAF & CF) greater than 60mm & less than equal to 100mm	Per Square Metre	N	\$287.55	\$299.05	4.00%	\$11.50	N
Minimum charge \$800								
0393	Footpath – industrial – concrete with asphalt surface (as per YSD33 ICAF) <=170mm	Per Square Metre	N	\$321.90	\$334.78	4.00%	\$12.88	N
Minimum charge \$800								
0394	Traffic Management	unit	N	\$575.10	\$598.10	4.00%	\$23.00	N
0395	Parking sensor removal/reinstatement	Per Sensor	Y	\$113.00	\$117.52	4.00%	\$4.52	N
0396	Urgent removal/reinstatement	Per Sensor	Y	\$160.00	\$166.39	3.99%	\$6.40	N

Child Care**Late Fee – Childrens Services**

0397	Late Fee for Vac Care, ASC, LDC, Kinder	Initial 10mins	N	\$28.81	\$29.96	3.99%	\$1.15	N
0398	Late Fee for Vac Care, ASC, LDC, Kinder	Per Minute	N	\$1.40	\$1.46	4.29%	\$0.05	N

Outside School Hours Care

0401	Casual Booking Fee	per booking	N	\$2.08	\$2.16	3.85%	\$0.08	N
0400	Outside School Hours Care Fee	per hour	N	\$8.31	\$8.64	3.97%	\$0.33	N
0399	Vacation Care Excursion Fee	Per day	N	\$15.60	\$16.22	3.97%	\$0.62	N
0402	Vacation Care Fee – Late booking	Per day	N	\$10.40	\$10.82	4.04%	\$0.42	N

Long Day Care

0403	Long Day Care	per hour	N	\$13.28	\$14.34	7.98%	\$1.06	N
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Pre School 3 Year Olds**Funded Kindergarten**

0404	July to December	Per Term	N	\$429.52	\$446.70	4.00%	\$17.18	N
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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Funded Kindergarten [continued]

0405	January to June	Per Term	N	\$437.84	\$455.35	4.00%	\$17.51	N
0406	Term Fee Concession	Per Term	N	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N

Occasional Child Care

0407	Occasional Care	per hour	N	\$13.28	\$14.34	7.98%	\$1.06	N
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Youth Services

0408	School Holiday Programs	Per Day	Y	\$22.49	\$23.30	3.60%	\$0.81	N
0409	School Holiday Programs – Concession	Per Day	Y	\$4.08	\$4.20	2.94%	\$0.12	N

Hire of Meeting Rooms – Connie Benn Centre**Community Meeting Room**

0410	Concessional Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$35.40	\$36.85	4.10%	\$1.45	N
0411	Concessional Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$58.90	\$61.30	4.07%	\$2.40	N
0412	Commercial Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$118.00	\$123.00	4.24%	\$5.00	N
0413	Commercial Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$212.00	\$220.50	4.01%	\$8.50	N

Community Kitchen

0414	Concessional Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$47.10	\$49.00	4.03%	\$1.90	N
0415	Concessional Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$82.50	\$85.80	4.00%	\$3.30	N
0416	Commercial Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$118.00	\$123.00	4.24%	\$5.00	N
0417	Commercial Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$212.00	\$220.50	4.01%	\$8.50	N

Training Room

0418	Concessional Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$58.90	\$61.30	4.07%	\$2.40	N
0419	Concessional Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$118.00	\$123.00	4.24%	\$5.00	N
0420	Commercial Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$118.00	\$123.00	4.24%	\$5.00	N
0421	Commercial Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$212.00	\$220.50	4.01%	\$8.50	N

Consultation Room

0422	Concessional Rate per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$35.40	\$36.85	4.10%	\$1.45	N
0423	Concessional Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$94.30	\$98.10	4.03%	\$3.80	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Consultation Room [continued]

0424	Commercial Rate per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$47.10	\$49.00	4.03%	\$1.90	N
0425	Commercial Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$177.00	\$184.50	4.24%	\$7.50	N

Playgroup Room 2

0426	Concessional Rate per 2 hour session	Per 2hr Session	Y	\$47.10	\$49.00	4.03%	\$1.90	N
0427	Commercial Rate per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$35.40	\$36.85	4.10%	\$1.45	N
0428	Commercial Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$177.00	\$184.50	4.24%	\$7.50	N

Front Room

0429	Concessional Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$23.60	\$24.55	4.03%	\$0.95	N
0430	Concessional Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$43.85	\$45.60	3.99%	\$1.75	N
0431	Commercial Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$70.70	\$73.60	4.10%	\$2.90	N
0432	Commercial Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$118.00	\$123.00	4.24%	\$5.00	N

Foyer Room

0433	Concessional Rate Half Day	Per Half Day	Y	\$70.70	\$73.60	4.10%	\$2.90	N
0434	Concessional Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$118.00	\$123.00	4.24%	\$5.00	N
0435	Commercial Rate Half Day*	Per Half Day	Y	\$94.30	\$98.10	4.03%	\$3.80	N
0436	Commercial Rate Full Day	Per Day	Y	\$177.00	\$184.50	4.24%	\$7.50	N
0437	Groups auspiced by Council business units		Y				No Charge	N

* Evening and weekend hire only

Hire of Community Facility - The Stables

Top Floor

0444	After hours call out fee	per hour	Y	\$88.09	\$91.61	4.00%	\$3.52	N
0438	Commercial Rate hourly	per hour	Y	\$65.62	\$68.24	3.99%	\$2.62	N
0443	Community hall public liability insurance	per event	Y	\$35.46	\$36.88	4.00%	\$1.42	N
0441	Concession Rate hourly	per hour	Y	\$22.51	\$23.42	4.04%	\$0.90	N
0442	Groups out spaced by Council business units	per event	N	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0439	Late booking fee	per event	Y	\$51.54	\$53.60	4.00%	\$2.06	N
0440	Security deposit (bond)	per event	N	\$106.08	\$110.32	4.00%	\$4.24	N

* Minimum \$100

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Immunisation

Vaccine

0449	Bexsero	per vaccine	N	\$130.00	\$133.00	2.31%	\$3.00	N
0450	Boostrix	per vaccine	N	\$49.06	\$51.00	3.95%	\$1.94	N
0446	Engerix B Adult	per vaccine	N	\$29.00	\$29.45	1.55%	\$0.45	N
0448	Havrix Adult	per vaccine	N	\$70.01	\$72.80	3.99%	\$2.79	N
0445	Havrix Junior	per vaccine	N	\$52.20	\$54.30	4.02%	\$2.10	N
0452	Influenza vaccine	per vaccine	N	\$20.00	\$20.30	1.50%	\$0.31	N
0447	Nimenrix	per vaccine	N	\$75.00	\$76.15	1.53%	\$1.16	N
0451	Varilrix	Per Vaccine	N	\$70.00	\$71.05	1.50%	\$1.05	N
0453	Immunisation – vaccinations	Per vaccine	N	Fee varies with Vaccine				N
0454	Immunisation – alternative vaccinations	Per vaccine	N	Fee varies with Vaccine				N

Planning & Subdivision

Amendments to Planning Scheme

0455	Request to amend planning scheme	Per application	N	\$3,275.40	\$3,275.40	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
<p>a) Considering a request to amend a planning scheme; and b) Taking action required by Division 1 of Part 3 of the Act; and c) Considering any submissions which do not seek a change to the amendment; and d) If applicable, abandoning the amendment</p>								

Consideration of submissions to Amendment and reference to panel

0456	a) up to and including 10 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel	Per application	N	\$16,233.90	\$16,233.90	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0457	b) 11 to (and including) 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel	Per application	N	\$32,436.00	\$32,436.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0458	c) Submissions that exceed 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment, and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel	Per application	N	\$43,359.30	\$43,359.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Other

0459	Notice/Advertising	Per Letter	Y	\$6.60	\$6.86	3.94%	\$0.26	N
0460	Adoption of an Amendment	Per application	N	\$516.80	\$516.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0461	Approval of an Amendment	Per application	N	\$516.80	\$516.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Other [continued]

0462	Amendments under 20A	Per application	N	\$1,033.50	\$1,033.50	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0463	Amendments under 20(4)	Per application	N	\$4,293.00	\$4,293.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Under section 96A(4)(a) of the Act: The sum of the highest of the fees which would have applied if separate applications were made and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications

0464	For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under section 173 of the Act	Per application	N	\$707.60	\$707.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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For the first 12 months from commencement of the regulations (13 October 2016), the fees for planning scheme amendments will be charged at 50% of the fees set out in regulations

Applications for permits Reg 9 Type of Permit Application

0465	Class 1 Use only/ reduction of car parking/ loading bay requirements/liquor licence	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Reg 9 Single Dwellings

To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 7 or 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the cost of development is:

0466	Class 2 < \$10,000	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0467	Class 3 > \$10,001 – \$100,000	Per application	N	\$675.80	\$675.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0468	Class 4 > \$100,001 – \$500,00	Per application	N	\$1,383.30	\$1,383.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0469	Class 5 > \$500,001 – \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$1,494.60	\$1,494.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0470	Class 6 > \$1,000,001 – \$2,000,000	Per application	N	\$1,605.90	\$1,605.90	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 9 VICSMART Applications

0471	Class 7 < \$10,000	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0472	Class 8 > \$10,000	Per application	N	\$461.10	\$461.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0473	Class 9 VICSMART application to subdivide or consolidate land	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0474	Class 10 VICSMART A permit that is a VicSmart Application (other than a Class 7, 8 or 9)	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Reg 9 Other Development

0475	Class 11 < \$100,000	Per application	N	\$1,232.30	\$1,232.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0476	Class 12 > \$100,001 – \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$1,661.60	\$1,661.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0477	Class 13 > \$1,000,001 – \$5,000,000	Per application	N	\$3,665.00	\$3,665.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0478	Class 14 > \$5,000,001 – \$15,000,000	Per application	N	\$9,341.30	\$9,341.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0479	Class 15 > \$15,000,001 – \$50,000,000	Per application	N	\$27,546.80	\$27,546.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0480	Class 16 > \$50,000,001	Per application	N	\$61,914.60	\$61,914.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 9 Subdivision

0481	Class 17 Subdivide an existing building	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0482	Class 18 Subdivide land into 2 lots	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0483	Class 19 To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate two or more lots	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0484	Class 20 Subdivide land (per 100 lots created)	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0485	Class 21	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

To:

- a) Create, vary a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988, or
- b) Create or remove a right of way; or
- c) Create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or
- d) Vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than right of way) in a Crown grant

0486	Class 22 A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Certification

0487	Reg 6 Certification of a plan of subdivision	Per application	N	\$187.60	\$187.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0488	Reg 7 Alteration of a plan under section 10 (2) of the Act	Per application	N	\$119.30	\$119.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Any instance where Council requires a change to the plan to make it suitable for certification whether it be conditioned on the permit or prior

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Revised Plans Amend an application for a permit after notice has been given – Reg 12

0489	Reg 12	Per application	N	40% of application fee for that class of application				Y
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a) Under section 57A(3)(a) of the Act the fee to amend an application for a permit after notice is given is 40% of the application fee for that class of permit set out in the Table at regulation 9 c)

If an application to amend an application for a permit or amend an application to amend a permit has the effect of changing the class of that permit to a new class, having a higher application fee set out in the Table to regulation 9, the applicant must pay an additional fee being the difference the original class of application and the amended class of permit

Other Applicable Statutory Fees

0490	Reg 15 Application for Certificate of Compliance	Per application	N	\$349.80	\$349.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0491	Reg 18 Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council	Per application	N	\$349.80	\$349.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Including lodging plans to comply if the first submission to Council was unsatisfactory

Planning schedule of permit application revision fees under section 57a – Reg 12 Type of Permit Application

0492	Class 1 Use only/ reduction of car parking/ loading bay requirements/liquor licence	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Reg 12 Single Dwellings

To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 7 or 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the cost of development is:

0493	Class 2 – Less than \$10,000	Per application	N	\$85.90	\$85.90	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0494	Class 3 – More than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000	Per application	N	\$270.30	\$270.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0495	Class 4 – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000	Per application	N	\$553.30	\$553.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0496	Class 5 – More than \$500,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$597.80	\$597.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0497	Class 6 – More than \$1,000,000 and not more than \$2,000,000	Per application	N	\$642.40	\$642.40	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 12 Other Development

To develop land (incl single dwelling per lot) if the estimated cost of development is:

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Reg 12 Other Development [continued]

0498	Class 11 – Less than \$100,000	Per application	N	\$492.90	\$492.90	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0499	Class 12 – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$664.60	\$664.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0500	Class 13 – More than \$1,000,000 and not more than \$5,000,000	Per application	N	\$1,466.00	\$1,466.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0501	Class 14 – More than \$5,000,000 and not more than \$15,000,000	Per application	N	\$3,736.50	\$3,736.50	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0502	Class 15 – More than \$15,000,000 and not more than \$50,000,000	Per application	N	\$11,018.70	\$11,018.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0503	Class 16 – More than \$50,000,000	Per application	N	\$24,765.80	\$24,765.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 12 Subdivision

0504	Class 17 To subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0505	Class 18 To subdivide land into two lots (other than a class 9 or class 17 permit)	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0506	Class 19 To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate two or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0507	Class 20 To subdivide land (other than a class 9, class 17, class 18 or class 19 permit)	Per application	N	\$544.3 per 100 lots created Min. Fee incl. GST: \$574.49				Y
0508	Class 21	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

To:

- a) create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or
- b) create or remove a right of way; or
- c) create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or
- d) vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than right of way) in a Crown grant.

0509	Class 22 A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Reg 11 Permit Amendment Fees

0510	Class 1 Use only/ reduction of car parking/ loading bay requirements/liquor licence	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Reg 11 Permit Amendment Fees [continued]

0511	Class 2 Application to amend a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot, use & develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to: To change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Reg 11 Single Dwellings

To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 7 or 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of any additional development is:

0512	Class 3 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – Less than \$10,000	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0513	Class 4 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000	Per application	N	\$675.80	\$675.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0514	Class 5 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000	Per application	N	\$1,383.30	\$1,383.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0515	Class 6 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$500,000	Per application	N	\$1,494.60	\$1,494.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 11 VICSMART Applications which meet the VicSmart criteria

0516	Class 7 Amendment to a Class 7 permit	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
If the estimated cost of any additional development is less than \$10,000								
0517	Class 8 Amendment to a Class 8 permit	Per application	N	\$461.10	\$461.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
If the estimated cost of any additional development is more than \$10,000								
0518	Class 9 Amendment to a Class 9 permit – Subdivide or consolidate land	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0519	Class 10 Amendment to a Class 10 permit (other than a class 7, class 8 or class 9 permit)	Per application	N	\$214.70	\$214.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Reg 11 Other Development

0520	Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – Less than \$100,000	Per application	N	\$1,232.00	\$1,232.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0521	Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$1,661.60	\$1,661.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0522	Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$3,665.00	\$3,665.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 11 Subdivision

0523	Class 14 – Class 19 Amendments	Per application	N	\$1,415.10	\$1,415.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Reg 8 Recertification

0524	Reg 8 Recertification of a plan of subdivision	Per application	N	\$151.10	\$151.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Reg 12 Revised Plans Amend an application for an amendment to a permit after notice has been given

0525	Fee to amend an application for a permit after notice is given	Per application	N	40% of application fee for that class of application			Y
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If an application to amend an application for a permit or amend an application to amend a permit has the effect of changing the class of that permit to a new class, having a higher application fee set out in the Table to regulation 9, the applicant must pay an additional fee being the difference the original class of application and the amended d class of permit

Other Applicable Statutory Fees

0526	Reg 16 For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under S173 of the Act	Per application	N	\$707.60	\$707.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0527	Reg 18 Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council Including lodging plans to comply if the first submission to Council was unsatisfactory	Per application	N	\$349.80	\$349.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Reg 12 Planning schedule of permit amendment revision fees under Section 57A Type of Permit Amendment

0528	Class 1 Use only/ reduction of car parking/ loading bay requirements/liquor licence	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0529	Class 2 Application to amend a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot, use & develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to: To change the statement of what the permit allows or To change any or all of the conditions	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 12 Single Dwellings

To develop land for a single dwelling per lot or use and develop land for a single dwelling per lot and undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot included in the application (other than a class 7 or 8 permit or a permit to subdivide or consolidate land) if the estimated cost of any additional development is:

0530	Class 3 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – Less than \$10,000	Per application	N	\$85.90	\$85.90	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0531	Class 4 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000	Per application	N	\$270.30	\$270.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0532	Class 5 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000	Per application	N	\$553.30	\$553.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0533	Class 6 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$500,000	Per application	N	\$597.80	\$597.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Reg 12 Other Development

0534	Class 10 Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – Less than \$100,000	Per application	N	\$492.80	\$492.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0535	Class 11 Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$664.60	\$664.60	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Reg 12 Other Development [continued]

0536	Class 12 Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$1,000,000	Per application	N	\$1,466.00	\$1,466.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
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Reg 12 Subdivision

0537	Class 14 Amendment to a Class 17 permit – To subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0538	Class 15 Amendment to a Class 18 permit – To subdivide land into two lots (other than a class 9 or class 17 permit)	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0539	Class 16 Amendment to a Class 19 permit – To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate two or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0540	Class 17 Amendment to a Class 20 permit – To subdivide land (other than a class 9, class 17, class 18 or class 19 permit)	Per application	N	574.49 per 100 lots created Min. Fee incl. GST: \$574.49				Y
						Last year fee 544.30 per 100 lots created Min. Fee incl. GST: \$566.00		
0541	Class 18 Amendment to a Class 21 permit - To: a) create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or b) create or remove a right of way; or c) create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or d) vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than right of way) in a Crown grant.	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0542	Class 19 Amendment to a Class 22 permit – A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	Per application	N	\$566.00	\$566.00	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Other Fees

0543	Application for certificate of compliance	Per request	N	\$336.40	\$336.40	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0544	Application for a planning certificate	Per request	N	\$23.90 (hard copy) or \$7.82 (Electronic)				Y
				Min. Fee incl. GST: \$7.82				
0545	Determination whether anything is to Council's satisfaction	Per request	N	\$349.80	\$349.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Request to extend expiry date of a permit

0546	Vicsmart	Per request	Y	\$120.25	\$334.05	177.80%	\$213.80	N
0547	Single Dwelling	Per request	Y	\$515.31	\$535.93	4.00%	\$20.61	N
0548	2 to 0 Dwellings	Per request	Y	\$804.96	\$837.17	4.00%	\$32.20	N
0549	10 or more Dwellings	Per request	Y	\$1,076.40	\$1,371.36	27.40%	\$294.96	N
0550	Subdivision	Per request	Y	\$515.31	\$563.43	9.34%	\$48.11	N
0551	Use only	Per request	Y	\$515.31	\$571.13	10.83%	\$55.81	N
0552	Other Development less than 5M	Per request	Y	\$1,341.60	\$1,395.27	4.00%	\$53.67	N
0553	Other Development more than 5M	Per request	Y	\$2,147.60	\$2,233.50	4.00%	\$85.90	N

Request to amend a permit/plans Secondary Consent (other than under s72)

0554	De-scaling a project	Per request	Y	\$590.72	\$614.34	4.00%	\$23.62	N
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If the estimated cost of any additional development to be permitted by the amendment is

Single Dwelling

0555	Class 2 < \$10,000	Per request	Y	\$214.76	\$223.35	4.00%	\$8.59	N
0556	Class 3 > \$10,001 – \$100,000	Per request	Y	\$676.00	\$703.05	4.00%	\$27.04	N
0557	Class 4 > \$100,001 – \$500,00	Per request	Y	\$1,388.40	\$1,443.95	4.00%	\$55.54	N
0558	Class 5 > \$500,001 – \$1,000,000	Per request	Y	\$1,497.60	\$1,557.50	4.00%	\$59.90	N
0559	Class 6 > \$1,000,001 – \$2,000,000	Per request	Y	\$1,606.81	\$1,671.08	4.00%	\$64.27	N

VicSmart

0560	Class 7 < \$10,000	Per request	Y	\$214.76	\$223.35	4.00%	\$8.59	N
0561	Class 8 > \$10,000	Per request	Y	\$461.24	\$479.69	4.00%	\$18.45	N
0562	Class 9 VICSMART application to subdivide or consolidate land	Per request	Y	\$214.76	\$223.35	4.00%	\$8.59	N
0563	Class 10 VICSMART A permit that is a VicSmart Application (other than a Class 7, 8 or 9)	Per request	Y	\$214.76	\$223.35	4.00%	\$8.59	N

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Other Development

0565	Amendment to a Development Plan Approval	Per Request	Y	\$3,603.60	\$3,747.74	4.00%	\$144.14	N
0564	Application for Development Plan Approval	Per Application	Y	\$3,603.60	\$3,747.74	4.00%	\$144.14	N
0566	Secondary Consent value \$100,000 or less	Per request	Y	\$1,232.40	\$1,281.69	4.00%	\$49.29	N
0567	Secondary Consent value more than \$100,001 and not more than \$1,000,000	Per request	Y	\$1,658.80	\$1,725.15	4.00%	\$66.35	N
0568	Secondary Consent value \$1,000,001 and above	Per request	Y	\$3,666.01	\$3,812.64	4.00%	\$146.64	N
0569	Subdivision	Per request	Y	\$1,419.60	\$1,476.39	4.00%	\$56.79	N
0570	Property enquiry	Per request	Y	\$340.60	\$354.23	4.00%	\$13.63	N
0571	Advertising Letters and Notices	Per requirement	Y	\$6.60	\$6.86	3.94%	\$0.26	N
0572	First on-site notice	Per requirement	Y	\$188.76	\$198.20	5.00%	\$9.44	N
0573	Subsequent on-site notice	Per application	Y	Subsequent on-site notice per application Min. Fee incl. GST: \$63.04				N
0574	Notice in a Newspaper	Per requirement	Y	\$1,331.20	\$1,384.46	4.00%	\$53.25	N
0575	Plans to comply with Condition 1 of the permit – Second and subsequent assessments	Per request	Y	\$349.96	\$363.96	4.00%	\$14.00	N
0576	Public Photocopier (per copy)	On demand	N	Standard Fee				N
0577	Plan photocopying (larger than A3)	On demand	Y	Standard Fee				N

Planning Scheme Amendment

Archive Request

0578	Residential	Per request	Y	\$160.67	\$167.10	4.00%	\$6.43	N
0579	Commercial	Per request	Y	\$429.51	\$446.70	4.00%	\$17.18	N

Building Control/Regulation

Lodgement Fees (building work permit)

0580	Value \$5,000 and greater (Statutory fee)	Per application	N	\$123.70	\$123.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0581	Building permit levy for a Building greater than \$10,000 (Statutory fee) – Residential Only	Per application	N	Cost x 0.00128				Y
0582	Certificate S327 (incl. Flood Certificate)	Per application	N	\$47.95	\$47.95	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Lodgement Fees (building work permit) [continued]

0583	Property information request (incl Solicitor 's request fee) (Statutory Fee) (incl inspections owner/builder projects)	Per application	N	\$47.95	\$47.95	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0584	Urgent fee	Per certificate	N	\$98.18	\$102.11	4.00%	\$3.93	Y

Building Permit Fees**Class 1 & 10**

0585	Demolish – detached dwelling	Per application	Y	\$786.24	\$1,021.00	29.86%	\$234.76	N
0586	Demolish – attached dwelling	Per application	Y	\$898.55	\$1,167.00	29.88%	\$268.44	N
0587	Demolish – commercial building	Per application	Y	\$967.19	\$1,257.00	29.96%	\$289.81	N

Min \$500

0588	Swimming Pools	Per application	Y	\$786.24	\$1,021.00	29.86%	\$234.76	N
0589	Fences (Class 10 Structure)	Per application	Y	\$561.60	\$729.00	29.81%	\$167.40	N
0590	Carports, Garages, Shed etc. (Class 10 Structure)	Per application	Y	\$786.24	\$943.00	19.94%	\$156.76	N
0591	Alterations & Additions – Up to \$10,000	Per application	Y	\$786.24	\$943.00	19.94%	\$156.76	N
0592	Alterations & Additions – \$10,001-\$20,000	Per application	Y	\$1,010.88	\$1,313.00	29.89%	\$302.12	N
0593	Alterations & Additions – \$20,001-\$100,000	Per application	Y	\$1,346.80	\$1,400.67	4.00%	\$53.87	N
0594	Alterations & Additions – \$100,001-\$300,000	Per application	Y	\$1,684.80	\$1,752.20	4.00%	\$67.39	N
0595	Alterations & Additions – \$300,001-\$400,000	Per application	Y	\$2,241.20	\$2,330.84	4.00%	\$89.64	N
0596	New dwellings: single	Per application	Y	\$2,022.80	\$2,103.70	4.00%	\$80.90	N
0597	New dwellings: 2 attached	Per application	Y	\$2,241.20	\$2,330.84	4.00%	\$89.64	N
0598	New Multiple Class 1 developments (Quotation)	Per application	Y	\$1,929.20	\$2,006.36	4.00%	\$77.16	N

Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9

0599	Miscellaneous commercial work e.g. remove hydrant hose	Per application	Y	\$561.60	\$584.07	4.00%	\$22.47	N
0600	Up to \$30,000	Per application	Y	\$898.55	\$934.50	4.00%	\$35.94	N
0601	\$30,001-\$100,000	Per application	Y	\$1,684.80	\$1,752.20	4.00%	\$67.39	N
0602	\$100,001-\$300,000	Per application	Y	\$2,241.20	\$2,330.84	4.00%	\$89.64	N

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Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Yarra City Council 2024/25 Draft Budget

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 [continued]

0603	\$300,001-\$500,000	Per application	Y	\$3,369.59	\$3,504.38	4.00%	\$134.79	N
0604	Class 2 (Residential fit outs)	Per application	Y	\$1,123.20	\$1,168.13	4.00%	\$44.92	N
0605	Over \$500,000 (quotation based on consulting building surveyors schedule)	Per application	Y	Quotation + 14%				N
							Last year fee Quotation + 10%	
0606	Extension of permit/application 3/6/12 months	Per application	Y	\$500/\$600/\$700 Min. Fee incl. GST: \$550.00				N
							Last year fee \$418/\$522/\$627 Min. Fee incl. GST: \$459.80	
0607	VBA cladding rectification levy Classes 2 – 8 (works \$800,000 to \$1M) (Statutory fee)	Per application	N	\$1.28/\$1,000 cost in works (\$0.00128 x cost of works)				Y
0608	VBA cladding rectification levy Classes 2 – 8 (works \$1M - \$1.5M) (Statutory fee)	Per application	N	\$2.56/\$1,000 cost in works (\$0.00256 x cost of works)				Y
0609	VBA cladding rectification levy Classes 2 – 8 (over \$1.5M) (Statutory fee)	Per application	N	\$8.20/\$1,000 cost in works (\$0.00820 x cost of works)				Y

Miscellaneous

0610	Consent & Report applications (other than demolition) (Reg 116)	Per Application	N	\$299.10	\$299.10	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0611	Building Record search Class 1 & 10	Per application	N	\$158.08	\$164.40	4.00%	\$6.32	N
0612	Building Record search Class 2-9	Per application	N	\$422.24	\$439.13	4.00%	\$16.89	N
0613	Consent & Report applications (other than demolition)	Per application	N	\$294.70	\$294.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0614	Consent & Report applications Reg 116	Per application	N	\$306.49	\$306.49	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0615	Report and consent advertising	Per application	Y	\$105.25	\$109.46	4.00%	\$4.21	N
0616	Consulting charge out rate p/hr i.e. dilapidation surveys	Per application	Y	\$228.80	\$237.95	4.00%	\$9.15	N
0617	Variation to Building Permit (change of details)	Per application	Y	\$336.97	\$350.44	4.00%	\$13.48	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
0618	Variation to Building Permit (amended documentation)	Per application	Y	\$560.56	\$582.98	4.00%	\$22.42	N
Minimum charge								
0619	Additional Occupancy Permits	Per application	Y	\$165.88	\$172.52	4.00%	\$6.64	N
0620	Siting Approval Public Entertainment Fast – Track Assessment Fee (<10 business days notice)	Per application	Y	\$529.36	\$550.54	4.00%	\$21.18	N
0621	Siting Approval Public Entertainment – 1 Structure	Per application	Y	\$434.93	\$452.33	4.00%	\$17.40	N
0622	Siting Approval Public Entertainment – 2-5 Structures	Per application	Y	\$1,040.00	\$1,081.59	4.00%	\$41.60	N
0623	Siting Approval Public Entertainment – 6-9 Structures	Per application	Y	\$1,560.00	\$1,622.40	4.00%	\$62.40	N
0624	Siting Approval Public Entertainment – 10+ Structures	Per application	Y	\$2,646.80	\$2,752.68	4.00%	\$105.88	N
0625	Public Entertainment Permits Fast Track Fee Assessment Fee (<10 business days notice)	Per application	Y	\$780.00	\$811.20	4.00%	\$31.20	N
0626	Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site up to 1,000m2 (Max. 5 structures. Max 2hrs inspection time)	Per application	Y	\$1,040.00	\$1,081.59	4.00%	\$41.60	N
0627	Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 1,001 m2 to 5,000m2 (Max. 5 structures. Max 2hrs inspection time)	Per application	Y	\$1,560.00	\$1,622.40	4.00%	\$62.40	N
0628	Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 5,001 m2 to 15,000m2 (Max. 5 structures 2. Max 3hrs inspection time)	Per application	Y	\$2,600.00	\$2,704.00	4.00%	\$104.00	N
0629	Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 15,001m2+ (Max.30 structures. Max. 4 hrs inspection time)	Per application	Y	\$4,160.00	\$4,326.39	4.00%	\$166.39	N
0630	Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 25,001m2+ (Max.50 structures. Max. 6 hrs inspection time)	Per application	Y	\$6,266.00	\$6,516.64	4.00%	\$250.64	N
0631	Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) additional Inspection per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$150.80	\$156.83	4.00%	\$6.03	N

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Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Yarra City Council 2024/25 Draft Budget

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
0632	Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) additional Inspection per hour (out of hours)	Per Hour	Y	\$260.00	\$270.40	4.00%	\$10.40	N
0633	Public Entertainment Permits – Charity or other Council specific endorsed Public Entertainment events	Per application	Y	No Charge				N
0634	Liquor Licence Reports (site check and measure up to 500m2 of building)	Per application	Y	\$1,352.00	\$1,406.08	4.00%	\$54.08	N
0635	Change of Use/ Combined Allotment Statements	Per application	Y	Quotation + 14%				N
				Last year fee				
				Quotation + 10%				
0636	A1 Copies – per copy	Per Copy	Y	\$18.36	\$19.10	4.03%	\$0.74	N
0637	A3 Copies – per copy	Per Copy	Y	\$2.19	\$2.28	4.11%	\$0.09	N
0638	A4 Copies – per copy	Per Copy	Y	\$0.88	\$0.92	4.55%	\$0.03	N
0639	Emergency work/cost recovery	Per submission	Y	Cost + 24%				N
				Last year fee				
				Cost + 20%				
0640	Additional Consulting Services re Building Permits	Per application	Y	Quotation + 14%				N
				Last year fee				
				Quotation + 10%				
0641	Final Inspection – (Class 1 & 10) Lapsed Building Permit – No Works	Per application	Y	\$437.84	\$455.36	4.00%	\$17.51	N
0642	Final Inspection – (Class 2-9) Lapsed Building Permit – No Works	Per application	Y	\$605.28	\$629.49	4.00%	\$24.21	N
0643	Inspection – per inspection	Per Inspection	Y	\$220.48	\$229.30	4.00%	\$8.82	N
0644	Inspection – per inspection (out of hours)	Per Inspection (out of hrs)	Y	\$455.52	\$473.74	4.00%	\$18.22	N
0645	Computation checking	Per application	Y	Quotation + 14%				N
				Last year fee				
				Quotation + 10%				
0646	Certification fee	Per application	Y	\$4,186.00	\$4,353.43	4.00%	\$167.44	N
Building Permit fee x 350% with a minimum charge of \$3,896.75 – Refer C.O.W								

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Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Yarra City Council 2024/25 Draft Budget

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Miscellaneous [continued]

0647	Adjoining Property Owners Details (search)	Per property	Y				\$30.00/property Min. Fee incl. GST: \$30.01	N
							Last year fee \$10.00/property Min. Fee incl. GST: \$10.00	
0648	Alternative Solution/Dispensation/ Change of Use determination	Per application and item	Y				\$750.00 for first determination + \$80.00 per additional item Min. Fee incl. GST: \$825.00	N
							Last year fee \$694.30 for first determination + \$69.55 per additional item Min. Fee incl. GST: \$694.30	

Pool & Spa Register related fees

0649	Registration & Search Fee for each pool/spa built before 1 November 2020	Per registration	N	\$80.30	\$80.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0650	Registration Fee for each pool/spa built after 1 November 2020	Per registration	N	\$32.30	\$32.30	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0651	Lodgement of each certificate of pool and spa barrier compliance	Per lodgement	N	\$20.70	\$20.70	0.00%	\$0.00	Y
0652	Lodgement of each certificate of pool and spa barrier non-compliance	Per lodgement	N	\$390.80	\$390.80	0.00%	\$0.00	Y

Hire of Town Halls

0653	Overtime - past 2am	per hour	N	\$520.00	\$540.00	3.85%	\$20.00	N
0654	Hourly hire – Full (min 3 hourly hire)	Per Hour	Y	\$282.00	\$293.00	3.90%	\$11.00	N
0657	NEW sound system package - full day (8 hours)	Per Day	Y	\$0.00	\$600.00	∞	\$600.00	N

package price includes equipment and staff AV support. Full Day 8 hours

0656	NEW sound system package - half day (4 hours)	Per Day	Y	\$0.00	\$340.00	∞	\$340.00	N
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package price includes equipment and staff AV support. Half Day 4 hours

0658	NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	Per hour	Y	\$0.00	\$117.00	∞	\$117.00	N
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40% of full rate. students, indiv carers, indiv seniors, community groups, business start ups

0655	NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	Per hour	Y	\$0.00	\$59.00	∞	\$59.00	N
0659	Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit (min 3 hourly hire)	Per Hour	Y	\$136.00	\$141.00	3.68%	\$5.00	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Hire of Town Halls [continued]

0660	Kitchen Use Only – per day	Per Day	Y	\$299.00	\$310.00	3.68%	\$11.00	N
0661	Balcony (per day)	Per Day	Y	\$472.00	\$490.00	3.81%	\$18.00	N
0662	Security Deposit (Bond)	Per Event	N	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
* Minimum value \$1,000								
0663	Town Hall Public Liability Insurance (per day)	Per Day	Y	\$92.00	\$95.00	3.26%	\$3.00	N
0664	Late Booking Fee	Per Event	Y	\$53.00	\$50.00	-5.66%	-\$3.00	N
0665	Late Booking Change Administration Fee	Per Change	Y	\$23.00	\$23.92	4.00%	\$0.92	N
0666	Sound Technician (per hour)	Per Hour	Y	\$57.00	\$59.00	3.51%	\$2.00	N
0667	Hire of Sound System - per day * requires sound technician	Per Day	Y	\$224.00	\$233.00	4.02%	\$9.00	N
*requires sound technician								
0668	Hire of Inbuilt Projector - per day	Per Day	Y	\$170.00	\$177.00	4.12%	\$7.00	N
0669	Hire of Portable Projector (per day)	Per Day	Y	\$58.00	\$61.00	5.17%	\$3.00	N
0670	Hire of Piano - per day	Per Day	Y	\$170.00	\$177.00	4.12%	\$7.00	N
0671	Site Induction (additional)	Per Occurrence	Y	\$87.00	\$90.00	3.45%	\$3.00	N
0672	After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$88.00	\$88.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N

Community Halls

Small Community Spaces

Library meeting rooms, Williams Reserve Community Room, Hugo Wertheim Room, Radio Room

0675	Hourly hire – Full	Per Hour	Y	\$37.00	\$38.50	4.05%	\$1.50	N
0673	NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	Per hour	Y	\$7.70	\$7.70	0.00%	\$0.00	N
20% of full rate. Eligibility: indiv students, indiv carers, indiv seniors, community groups, business start ups								
0674	NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	Per hour	Y	\$59.30	\$59.30	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0676	Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit	Per Hour	Y	\$8.00	\$11.90	48.75%	\$3.90	N
0677	Groups auspice by Council business units		Y				No Charge	N
0678	Security Deposit (Bond)	Per Event	N	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
^Minimum value \$100								
0679	Community Hall Public Liability Insurance (per day)	Per Day	Y	\$36.00	\$40.00	11.11%	\$4.00	N
0680	After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$88.00	\$88.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0681	Late Booking Fee	Per Event	Y	\$53.00	\$50.00	-5.66%	-\$3.00	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Small Community Spaces [continued]

0682	Late Booking Change Administration Fee	Per Change	Y	\$23.00	\$23.92	4.00%	\$0.92	N
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Medium Community Spaces

0685	Hourly hire – Full (min 3 hourly hire)	Per Hour	Y	\$67.00	\$70.00	4.48%	\$3.00	N
0683	NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	Per hour	Y	\$13.50	\$14.00	3.70%	\$0.51	N

20% of full rate. Eligibility: students, carer, senior, community groups, small business

0684	NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	Per hour	Y	\$59.30	\$59.30	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0686	Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit (min 3 hourly hire)	Per Hour	Y	\$23.00	\$24.00	4.35%	\$1.00	N
0687	Groups auspiced by Council business units		N			No Charge		N
0688	Security Deposit (Bond)	Per Event	N	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N

^ Minimum value \$100

0689	Community Hall Public Liability Insurance - per day	Per Day	Y	\$37.00	\$39.00	5.41%	\$2.00	N
0690	After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$88.00	\$88.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0691	Late Booking Fee	Per Event	Y	\$52.00	\$50.00	-3.85%	-\$2.00	N
0692	Late Booking Change Administration Fee	Per Change	Y	\$23.00	\$23.95	4.13%	\$0.95	N

* Loughnan Hall, Mark Street Hall, Richmond Senior Citizens Centre

Large Community Spaces

0695	Hourly hire – Full (min 3 hourly hire)	Per Hour	Y	\$75.00	\$78.00	4.00%	\$3.00	N
0693	NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	Per hour	Y	\$19.50	\$19.00	-2.56%	-\$0.51	N

25% of full rate. Eligibility: students, indiv carers, indiv seniors, community groups, business start ups

25% of full rate. Eligibility: students, indiv carers, indiv seniors, community groups, business start ups

0694	NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	Per hour	Y	\$59.30	\$59.00	-0.51%	-\$0.30	N
0696	Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit (min 3 hourly hire)	Per Hour	Y	\$27.00	\$28.00	3.70%	\$1.00	N
0697	Groups auspiced by Council business units		Y			No Charge		N
0698	Security Deposit (Bond)	Per Event	N	\$100.00	\$100.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N

*

** Minimum value \$100

0699	Community Hall Public Liability Insurance (per day)	Per Day	Y	\$37.00	\$39.00	5.41%	\$2.00	N
0700	Sound Technician - per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$57.00	\$59.00	3.51%	\$2.00	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Large Community Spaces [continued]

0701	After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$88.00	\$88.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0702	Site Induction (additional)	Per Occurrence	Y	\$87.00	\$90.00	3.45%	\$3.00	N
0703	Late Booking Fee	Per Event	Y	\$52.00	\$50.00	-3.85%	-\$2.00	N
0704	Late Booking Change Administration Fee	Per Change	Y	\$23.00	\$23.95	4.13%	\$0.95	N

* Collingwood Senior Citizens Centre, Edinburgh Gardens Community Room, Studio 1, Community Space at Bargoonga Nganjin

Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatrette)

0705	Hourly Hire - Full rate	Per Hour	N	\$70.00	\$73.00	4.29%	\$3.00	N
0706	Hourly Rate - Non for profit	Per Hour	N	\$20.00	\$21.00	5.00%	\$1.00	N
0707	Day Rate – Full	Per Day	Y	\$775.00	\$807.00	4.13%	\$32.00	N
0708	Day Rate – Not-for-Profit	Per Day	Y	\$200.00	\$208.00	4.00%	\$8.00	N
0709	7 Day Rate – Full	Per Week	Y	\$5,000.00	\$5,200.00	4.00%	\$199.99	N
0710	7 Day Rate – Not-for-Profit	Per Week	Y	\$1,350.00	\$1,400.00	3.70%	\$50.01	N
0711	Security Deposit (Bond)	Per Event	N	\$200.00	\$200.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N

* Minimum value \$200

0712	Community Hall Public Liability Insurance - per day	Per Day	Y	\$35.00	\$36.95	5.57%	\$1.95	N
0713	Sound Technician - per hour	Per Hour	Y	\$54.00	\$49.95	-7.50%	-\$4.05	N
0714	Site Induction (additional)	Per Occurrence	Y	\$84.00	\$90.00	7.14%	\$6.00	N
0715	Late Booking Fee	Per Event	Y	\$50.00	\$50.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0716	Late Booking Change Administration Fee	Per Change	Y	\$22.00	\$22.88	4.00%	\$0.88	N

Parks and Open Space

Site Fees, Occupation Charges & Other Usage Charges

0717	Site fee for use of Parks, Reserve or Rotunda – Full	Per Day	Y	\$178.36	\$185.50	4.00%	\$7.14	N
0718	Site fee for use of Parks, Reserve or Rotunda – Concession	Per day	Y	\$57.00	\$59.28	4.00%	\$2.28	N
0719	Occupation of public land (parks, roads, footpaths etc.) for events (commercial)	For every 5m2	Y	\$4.06	\$4.22	3.94%	\$0.16	N
0720	Power	Per Day	Y	\$115.44	\$120.06	4.00%	\$4.62	N
0721	Event Inspection Charge	Per Event	Y	\$263.63	\$274.18	4.00%	\$10.55	N

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Fairfield Amphitheatre

0726	Amphitheatre Hire (per hour)	Per hour	Y	\$0.00	\$77.00	∞	\$77.00	N
0727	Amphitheatre Hire (per hour) - Concession	Per hour	Y	\$0.00	\$24.20	∞	\$24.20	N
0722	Change Rooms (per hour)	Per event	Y	\$0.00	\$117.44	∞	\$117.44	N
0724	Daily Rate - Full	Per Day	Y	\$401.96	\$418.03	4.00%	\$16.07	N
0723	Kiosk (per hour)	Per event	Y	\$0.00	\$117.44	∞	\$117.44	N
0725	Power (per hour)	Per event	Y	\$0.00	\$132.07	∞	\$132.07	N
0728	Day Rate – Concession	Per Day	Y	\$125.84	\$130.87	4.00%	\$5.03	N
0729	Power	Per Day	Y	\$115.44	\$120.06	4.00%	\$4.62	N
0730	Kiosk	Per Day	Y	\$102.65	\$106.76	4.00%	\$4.11	N
0731	Change Rooms	Per Day	Y	\$102.65	\$106.76	4.00%	\$4.11	N
0732	Bond	Per Event	N				From \$100	N
							Min. Fee incl. GST: \$100.00	

Burnley Circus Site

0735	Day Rate – Concession (Not-for-Profit)	Per day	Y	\$572.00	\$594.88	4.00%	\$22.88	N
0734	Weekly Rate - Concession (Not-for-Profit)	Per Week	Y	\$2,860.00	\$2,974.40	4.00%	\$114.40	N
0733	Weekly Rate - Full (Commercial)	Per Week	Y	\$8,580.00	\$8,923.20	4.00%	\$343.20	N
0736	Day Rate – Full (Commercial)	Per Day	Y	\$1,716.00	\$1,784.64	4.00%	\$68.64	N
0737	Power	Per Day	Y	\$115.44	\$120.06	4.00%	\$4.62	N
0738	Bond	Per Event	N				Up to \$10,000	N

Permits

0739	Minor Sound Permit Concession	Per Permit	N	\$19.00	\$19.75	3.95%	\$0.75	N
0740	Event Application Fee	Per Event	Y	\$69.89	\$72.68	3.99%	\$2.79	N
0741	Event Permit Application Fee for events of 500 or more persons or with significant structures or risks, as assessed by council officer, less than 12 weeks prior to event	Per Event	Y	\$274.05	\$285.00	4.00%	\$10.96	N
0742	Market Permit (One Off fee) – Full	Per Event	Y	\$459.16	\$477.52	4.00%	\$18.36	N
0743	Market Permit (One Off fee) – Concession	Per Event	Y	\$184.08	\$191.45	4.00%	\$7.37	N
0744	Minor Sound Permit	Per Event	Y	\$57.10	\$59.39	4.01%	\$2.29	N

Event Permit – Up to 100 persons with no structures and minimum risks

0745	Small Event Permit (per event day) – Full	Per Event	Y	\$120.63	\$125.46	4.00%	\$4.83	N
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Event Permit – Up to 100 persons with no structures and minimum risks [continued]

0746	Small Event Permit (per event day) – Concession	Per Event	Y	\$41.00	\$42.64	4.00%	\$1.64	N
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Event Permit – 100 persons 500 or with minimal structures and risks

0747	Medium Event Permit (per event day) – Full	Per Event	Y	\$298.48	\$310.42	4.00%	\$11.94	N
0748	Medium Event Permit (per event day) – Concession	Per Event	Y	\$120.63	\$125.46	4.00%	\$4.83	N

Event Permit – 500 or more persons or with significant structures or risks, as assessed by Council Officer

0749	Major Event Permit (per event day) – Full	Per Event	Y	\$825.00	\$857.73	3.97%	\$32.73	N
0750	Major Event Permit (per event day) – Concession	Per Event	Y	\$125.84	\$130.87	4.00%	\$5.03	N

Yarra Leisure Centres

Casual Entry

0753	Adult Swim, Spa & Sauna	Per Adult	Y	\$14.60	\$15.20	4.11%	\$0.60	N
0754	Centre Visit Pass	Per Visit	Y	\$0.00	\$29.20	∞	\$29.20	N
0752	Centre Visit Pass Concession	Per visit	Y	\$0.00	\$17.50	∞	\$17.50	N
0757	Child Swim	Per Child	Y	\$5.10	\$5.20	1.96%	\$0.10	N
0758	Concession Swim	Per individual	Y	\$5.10	\$5.20	1.96%	\$0.10	N
0761	Family Swim	Per Family	Y	\$20.80	\$21.60	3.85%	\$0.80	N
0755	Gym Consultation	Per Consultation	Y	\$0.00	\$51.90	∞	\$51.90	N
0762	Locker	Per Locker	Y	\$3.00	\$3.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0759	Supervising Adult Fee		Y	\$0.00	\$4.00	∞	\$4.00	N
0751	Swim Upgrade to S/S/S	Per Upgrade	Y	\$6.20	\$6.50	4.84%	\$0.30	N
0756	Swim Upgrade to S/S/S Concession	Per Upgrade	Y	\$3.60	\$3.90	8.33%	\$0.29	N
0760	Swim, Spa & Sauna (concession)	Per Individual	Y	\$8.70	\$9.10	4.60%	\$0.41	N
0763	Adult Swim	Per Adult	Y	\$8.40	\$8.70	3.57%	\$0.30	N

Bulk Tickets

0768	10 Adult Swims	10 Visits	Y	\$75.60	\$78.30	3.57%	\$2.69	N
0765	10 Child Swims	10 Visits	Y	\$45.90	\$46.80	1.96%	\$0.90	N
0766	10 Concession Swim	10 Visits	Y	\$45.90	\$46.80	1.96%	\$0.90	N
0764	25 Adult Swims	25 Visits	Y	\$168.00	\$195.80	16.55%	\$27.80	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Bulk Tickets [continued]

0767	25 Adult Swims Concession	25 Visits	Y	\$102.00	\$117.00	14.71%	\$15.00	N
0769	25 Child Swims	25 Visits	Y	\$102.00	\$117.00	14.71%	\$15.00	N
0770	10 Swim, Spa, Sauna & Steam	10 Visits	Y	\$131.40	\$136.80	4.11%	\$5.40	N
0771	10 Swim, Spa, Sauna & Steam Concession	10 Visits	Y	\$78.30	\$81.90	4.60%	\$3.60	N
0772	25 Swim, Spa, Sauna & Steam	25 Visits	Y	\$292.00	\$342.00	17.12%	\$50.00	N
0773	25 Swim, Spa, Sauna & Steam Concession	25 Visits	Y	\$174.00	\$204.80	17.70%	\$30.80	N
0774	10 Group Fitness	10 Visits	Y	\$168.30	\$180.00	6.95%	\$11.70	N
0775	10 Group Fitness Concession	10 Visits	Y	\$100.80	\$108.00	7.14%	\$7.20	N
0776	25 Group Fitness	25 Visits	Y	\$374.00	\$450.00	20.32%	\$76.00	N
0777	25 Group Fitness Concession	25 Visits	Y	\$224.00	\$270.00	20.54%	\$46.00	N

Lane Hire

0778	Commercial Lane Hire 25 metres (per hour)	Per lane	Y	\$66.00	\$68.60	3.94%	\$2.60	N
0779	Community Groups Lane Hire 25 Metres (per hour)	Per lane	Y	\$44.50	\$46.30	4.04%	\$1.80	N
0780	Commercial Lane Hire 50 metres (per hour)	Per lane	Y	\$88.40	\$91.90	3.96%	\$3.50	N
0781	Community Groups Lane Hire 50 Metres (per hour)	Per lane	Y	\$60.00	\$62.40	4.00%	\$2.40	N
0782	Commercial Lane Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	Per lane	Y	\$51.00	\$53.00	3.92%	\$2.00	N
0783	Community Groups Lane Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	Per lane	Y	\$36.40	\$37.90	4.12%	\$1.50	N
0784	Commercial Pool Hire 25 metres (per hour)	Per booking	Y	\$286.00	\$396.00	38.46%	\$110.00	N
0785	Community Groups Pool Hire 25 Metres (per hour)	Per booking	Y	\$228.80	\$267.00	16.70%	\$38.20	N
0786	Commercial Pool Hire 50 metres (per hour)	Per booking	Y	\$311.00	\$530.40	70.55%	\$219.40	N
0787	Community Groups Pool Hire 50 Metres (per hour)	Per booking	Y	\$285.00	\$360.00	26.32%	\$75.00	N
0788	Commercial Pool Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	Per booking	Y	\$103.00	\$107.10	3.98%	\$4.10	N
0789	Community Groups Pool Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	Per booking	Y	\$78.00	\$81.10	3.97%	\$3.10	N

RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Program Classes

0790	Group Fitness	Per class	Y	\$18.70	\$20.00	6.95%	\$1.29	N
0791	Group Fitness (Concession)	Per class	Y	\$11.20	\$12.00	7.14%	\$0.80	N

Gym

0793	10 x Empower sessions	10 Sessions	Y	\$93.60	\$97.20	3.85%	\$3.60	N
0795	10 x Empower sessions concession	10 Sessions	Y	\$55.80	\$58.50	4.84%	\$2.70	N
0797	10 x Move for Life Sessions	10 Sessions	Y	\$93.60	\$97.20	3.85%	\$3.60	N
0808	10 x Move for Life Sessions Concession	10 Sessions	Y	\$55.80	\$58.50	4.84%	\$2.70	N
0806	25 x Empower Sessions	25 Sessions	Y	\$208.00	\$243.00	16.83%	\$35.00	N
0799	25 x Empower sessions concession	25 Sessions	Y	\$124.00	\$146.30	17.98%	\$22.30	N
0803	25 x Move for Life Sessions	25 Sessions	Y	\$208.00	\$243.00	16.83%	\$35.00	N
0801	25 x Move for Life Sessions Concession	25 Sessions	Y	\$124.00	\$146.30	17.98%	\$22.30	N
0792	Empower + Session	Per Sessions	Y	\$10.40	\$10.80	3.85%	\$0.40	N
0809	Empower + Session Concession	Per Session	Y	\$6.20	\$6.50	4.84%	\$0.30	N
0796	Empower Session	Per Session	Y	\$10.40	\$10.80	3.85%	\$0.40	N
0800	Empower Session Concession	Per Session	Y	\$6.20	\$6.50	4.84%	\$0.30	N
0794	Gym Casual Access	Per Session	Y	\$22.90	\$23.80	3.93%	\$0.90	N
0804	Gym Casual Access Concession	Per Session	Y	\$13.70	\$14.30	4.38%	\$0.61	N
0798	Gym Facility Hire	Per Session	Y	\$113.40	\$117.90	3.97%	\$4.50	N
0802	Move for Life and Empower Programs Initial Assessment Fee	Per Assessment	Y	\$49.90	\$51.90	4.01%	\$2.00	N
0807	Move for life session	Per Session	Y	\$10.40	\$10.80	3.85%	\$0.40	N
0805	Move for life session concession	Per Session	Y	\$6.20	\$6.50	4.84%	\$0.30	N

Personal Training

0810	½ hr (Casual)	Per 1/2 Hour	Y	\$58.90	\$61.30	4.07%	\$2.40	N
0811	½ hr (Member)	Per 1/2 Hour	Y	\$49.60	\$51.60	4.03%	\$2.00	N
0812	45 Minutes (Casual)	Per Hour	Y	\$95.40	\$92.00	-3.56%	-\$3.40	N
0813	45 Minutes (Member)	Per Hour	Y	\$76.30	\$77.40	1.44%	\$1.10	N
0814	10 Visit Pass Casual – 1/2 Hr	10 Visits	Y	\$530.10	\$551.70	4.07%	\$21.60	N
0815	10 Visit Pass Member – 1/2 Hr	10 Visits	Y	\$446.40	\$464.40	4.03%	\$18.00	N
0816	10 Visit Pass Casual – 45 Minutes	10 Visits	Y	\$860.00	\$828.00	-3.72%	-\$32.00	N

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Personal Training [continued]

0817	10 Visit Pass Member – 45 Minutes	10 Visits	Y	\$690.00	\$696.60	0.96%	\$6.60	N
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Swim Lessons

0819	Advanced Swim Clinic	Per Lesson	N	\$32.20	\$33.50	4.04%	\$1.30	N
0822	Beginner Swim Clinic	Per Lesson	N	\$32.20	\$33.50	4.04%	\$1.30	N
0818	Intermediate Swim Clinic	Per Lesson	N	\$32.20	\$33.50	4.04%	\$1.30	N
0820	Member - Stroke Improvement Course	Per Course	N	\$133.10	\$138.50	4.06%	\$5.40	N
0821	Non-Member Stroke Improvement	Per Course	N	\$145.60	\$151.50	4.05%	\$5.90	N
0823	Swim Lessons Child - per lesson	Per Lesson	N	\$22.00	\$22.90	4.09%	\$0.90	N
0824	Child – Concession per lesson	Per Lesson	N	\$13.20	\$13.70	3.79%	\$0.50	N
0825	One on One Lessons	Per Lesson	Y	\$61.40	\$63.90	4.07%	\$2.50	N
0826	Two on One Lessons	Per Lesson	Y	\$92.60	\$96.30	4.00%	\$3.70	N
0827	Swim Lesson Child Fortnightly Debit**	Per Lesson	N	\$45.01	\$45.80	1.76%	\$0.79	N
0828	School Lessons	Per Lesson	N	\$13.90	\$14.50	4.32%	\$0.60	N
0829	School Lessons Concession	Per Lesson	N	\$8.30	\$8.70	4.82%	\$0.40	N

Miscellaneous

0830	Replacement RFID band/key fob (New fee)	Per band	Y	\$6.20	\$6.40	3.23%	\$0.20	N
0831	Lost Locker RFID key fob	Per Key Fob	Y	\$11.90	\$12.40	4.20%	\$0.50	N
0832	Shower	Per visit	Y	\$4.10	\$4.30	4.88%	\$0.20	N

Burnley Golf Course

0833	18 Holes Weekend Concession	Per Session	Y	\$20.00	\$20.80	4.00%	\$0.80	N
0835	9 Hole Midweek	Per Session	Y	\$26.00	\$27.00	3.85%	\$1.00	N
0834	9 Hole Midweek Concession	Per Session	Y	\$15.60	\$16.20	3.85%	\$0.60	N
0837	9 Holes Weekend Concession	Per Session	Y	\$17.50	\$18.20	4.00%	\$0.70	N
0838	Community Golf (Affiliated Organisations)		N	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0836	Junior 9 Holes	Per Session	Y	\$15.60	\$16.20	3.85%	\$0.60	N
0839	18 Hole Midweek	Per Adult	Y	\$30.10	\$31.30	3.99%	\$1.20	N
0840	18 Holes Midweek Concession	Per Junior	Y	\$17.80	\$18.80	5.62%	\$0.99	N
0841	9 Holes – Weekend	9 holes	Y	\$29.10	\$30.30	4.12%	\$1.20	N
0842	18 Holes Weekend	18 holes	Y	\$33.30	\$34.60	3.90%	\$1.29	N
0843	1 Hour Lesson	Per Hour	Y	\$124.00	\$129.00	4.03%	\$4.99	N

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Burnley Golf Course [continued]

0844	1/2 Hour Lesson	Per 1/2 Hour	Y	\$61.10	\$64.50	5.56%	\$3.40	N
0845	6 Lesson Voucher	Per pass	Y	\$305.00	\$317.20	4.00%	\$12.20	N
0846	Clinic	Per clinic	Y	\$124.00	\$129.00	4.03%	\$5.00	N
0847	Mini Clinic	Per clinic	Y	\$22.30	\$23.20	4.04%	\$0.90	N
0848	Buggy Hire	One cart	Y	\$5.90	\$6.10	3.39%	\$0.20	N
0849	9 Hole Cart Hire	9 holes	Y	\$30.70	\$31.90	3.91%	\$1.20	N
0850	9 Hole Single Cart Hire	9 holes	Y	\$20.90	\$21.70	3.83%	\$0.80	N
0851	18 Hole Cart Hire	18 holes	Y	\$51.50	\$53.60	4.08%	\$2.10	N
0852	18 Hole Single Cart Hire	18 holes	Y	\$34.40	\$35.80	4.07%	\$1.40	N
0853	Practice Fees	Per visit	Y	\$5.20	\$5.40	3.85%	\$0.20	N
0854	Hire Set	Per set	Y	\$16.50	\$26.00	57.58%	\$9.50	N

Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees

0855	Bronze Concession - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$23.00	\$23.90	3.91%	\$0.90	N
0866	Bronze Full - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$38.40	\$39.90	3.91%	\$1.50	N
0869	Burnley Concession Membership - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$33.50	\$34.80	3.88%	\$1.31	N
0856	Burnley Full Membership - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$55.80	\$58.00	3.94%	\$2.20	N
0860	Burnley Golf Course membership add-on Concession - Leisure centre members - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$12.00	\$12.50	4.17%	\$0.50	N
0865	Burnley Golf Course membership add-on Full - Leisure centre members - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$20.00	\$20.80	4.00%	\$0.80	N
0861	Burnley Intermediate Membership - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$33.50	\$34.80	3.88%	\$1.31	N
0857	Burnley Junior Membership - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$16.70	\$17.40	4.19%	\$0.70	N
0862	Burnley Practise Membership – (Annual fee)	Per Annum	Y	\$145.60	\$151.40	3.98%	\$5.80	N
0871	Corporate Burnley Golf Course membership - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$41.90	\$43.50	3.82%	\$1.60	N
0858	Corporate Leisure + Burnley membership - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$62.90	\$63.60	1.11%	\$0.70	N
0870	Corporate Leisure Centre membership - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$47.90	\$48.00	0.21%	\$0.10	N

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RefNo	Name	Unit	GST	Year 23/24 Fee (incl. GST)	Year 24/25 Fee (incl. GST)	Increase %	Increase \$	S
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Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees [continued]

0868	Gold Concession - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$38.40	\$38.40	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0859	Gold Full - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$64.00	\$64.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0867	Silver Concession - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$30.70	\$30.70	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0863	Silver Full - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$51.20	\$51.20	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0864	Yarra Youth - Fortnightly debit	Per Fortnight	Y	\$23.00	\$23.90	3.91%	\$0.90	N

Engineering Planning

0872	Traffic Surveys – classified counts	Per count	N	\$287.60	\$299.10	4.00%	\$11.50	N
0873	Parking signs – sign changes	Per sign	Y	\$212.70	\$221.22	4.01%	\$8.51	N

Drainage Fees (Levy)

0874	Drainage information Report (DIR)	Per application	Y	\$144.70	\$144.70	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0879	Drainage Plan Approval (10-20 Lot Development)	Per application	Y	\$862.00	\$862.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0876	Drainage Plan Approval (20+ Lot Development)	Per application	Y	\$1,295.00	\$1,295.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0877	Drainage Plan Approval (2-3 Lot Development)	Per application	Y	\$366.00	\$366.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0878	Drainage Plan Approval (4-9 Lot Development)	Per application	Y	\$550.00	\$550.00	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0875	Drainage Plan Approval (Single or Extension)	Per application	Y	\$156.90	\$156.90	0.00%	\$0.00	N
0880	0-400m2	Per m2	N	\$14.15	\$14.36	1.48%	\$0.21	N
0881	401-500m2	Per m2	N	\$18.55	\$18.83	1.51%	\$0.28	N
0882	501-600m2	Per m2	N	\$23.45	\$23.80	1.49%	\$0.36	N
0883	601-700m2	Per m2	N	\$25.25	\$25.63	1.50%	\$0.38	N
0884	701-800m2	Per m2	N	\$27.75	\$28.17	1.51%	\$0.42	N
0885	801-900m2	Per m2	N	\$29.60	\$30.04	1.49%	\$0.44	N
0886	901-1,000m2	Per m2	N	\$30.80	\$31.26	1.49%	\$0.47	N
0887	1,001m2 + (negotiable fee)	Per m2	N	\$30.80	\$31.26	1.49%	\$0.47	N

Subdivision Developments

0888	Plan Checking Subdivisions	By Works value	N			0.75% by works value		N
0889	Subdivision Supervision	By works value	N			2.50% by works value		N

Waste Management

0890	Garbage 80lt MGB	Per Bin	N	\$126.89	\$131.97	4.00%	\$5.08	N
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Waste Management [continued]

0891	Garbage 120lt MGB	Per Bin	N	\$167.98	\$174.70	4.00%	\$6.72	N
0892	Garbage 240lt MGB	Per Bin	N	\$298.51	\$310.45	4.00%	\$11.94	N
0893	Residential and Commercial (and Multi-Unit Developments per unit/apartment) MRB 120lt plus 80lt MGB	Per Bin	N	\$207.49	\$215.79	4.00%	\$8.30	N
0894	Relocation of Street Litter Bins	Per Bin	Y	\$537.68	\$559.19	4.00%	\$21.51	N

Urban Agriculture

0895	Footpath/nature strip garden permit fee	Per Permit	Y	\$22.00	\$22.88	4.00%	\$0.88	N
0896	Footpath/nature strip planter box yearly rental fee	Per year	Y	\$61.15	\$63.60	4.01%	\$2.45	N
0897	Footpath/nature strip planter box yearly rental fee – concession	Per year	Y	\$30.11	\$31.31	3.99%	\$1.20	N

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10 Visit Pass Member – 1/2 Hr	[Personal Training]	53
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10 x Empower sessions	[Gym]	53
10 x Empower sessions concession	[Gym]	53
10 x Move for Life Sessions	[Gym]	53
10 x Move for Life Sessions Concession	[Gym]	53
18 Hole Cart Hire	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
18 Hole Midweek	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
18 Hole Single Cart Hire	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
18 Holes Midweek Concession	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
18 Holes Weekend	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
18 Holes Weekend Concession	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
2		
2 to 0 Dwellings	[Request to extend expiry date of a permit]	40
25 Adult Swims	[Bulk Tickets]	51
25 Adult Swims Concession	[Bulk Tickets]	52
25 Child Swims	[Bulk Tickets]	52
25 Group Fitness	[Bulk Tickets]	52
25 Group Fitness Concession	[Bulk Tickets]	52
25 Swim, Spa, Sauna & Steam	[Bulk Tickets]	52
25 Swim, Spa, Sauna & Steam Concession	[Bulk Tickets]	52
25 x Empower Sessions	[Gym]	53
25 x Empower sessions concession	[Gym]	53
25 x Move for Life Sessions	[Gym]	53
25 x Move for Life Sessions Concession	[Gym]	53
4		
401-500m2	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
45 Minutes (Casual)	[Personal Training]	53
45 Minutes (Member)	[Personal Training]	53
5		
501-600m2	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
6		
6 Lesson Voucher	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
601-700m2	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
7		
7 Day Rate – Full	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatrette)]	49
7 Day Rate – Not-for-Profit	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatrette)]	49

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
7 [continued]		
701-800m2	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
8		
801-900m2	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
9		
9 Hole Cart Hire	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
9 Hole Midweek	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
9 Hole Midweek Concession	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
9 Hole Single Cart Hire	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
9 Holes – Weekend	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
9 Holes Weekend Concession	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
901-1,000m2	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
A		
a) up to and including 10 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel	[Consideration of submissions to Amendment and reference to panel]	31
A1 Copies – per copy	[Miscellaneous]	45
A3 Copies – per copy	[Miscellaneous]	45
A4 Copies – per copy	[Miscellaneous]	45
Additional Assessment Fee (Section 19H)	[Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises]	19
Additional Consulting Services re Building Permits	[Miscellaneous]	45
Additional fee for each employee over 10 (Max fee is for 61+ employees)	[Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises]	19
Additional fee for each employee over 10 (Max fee is for 61+ employees)	[Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises]	19
Additional fee for each employee over 10 (Max fee is for 61+ employees)	[Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises]	19
Additional Inspection Fee Under 19(H)	[Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises]	19
Additional Inspection Fee Under 19(H)	[Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises]	19
Additional miscellaneous item Footpath trading	[Items on Footpath]	16
Additional Occupancy Permits	[Miscellaneous]	44
Adjoining Property Owners Details (search)	[Miscellaneous]	46
Admin Fee – Organising CCTV inspection or drain cleaning for one occurrence	[Drainage Cleaning and Inspection]	27
Adoption of an Amendment	[Other]	31
Adult Day Care	[Home Care Packages (HCP)]	12
Adult Swim	[Casual Entry]	51
Adult Swim, Spa & Sauna	[Casual Entry]	51
Advanced Swim Clinic	[Swim Lessons]	54
Advertising Letters and Notices	[Other Development]	41
Advertising Sign – per sign (licensed)	[Items on Footpath]	16
Advertising Sign – per sign (unlicensed)	[Items on Footpath]	16
After hours call out fee	[Top Floor]	30
After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	[Small Community Spaces]	47
After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
After Hours Call-Out Fee per hour	[Large Community Spaces]	49
All Day Parking (various locations)	[Parking Meter Rates]	12
All Meals	[Home Care Packages (HCP)]	12
Alterations & Additions – \$10,001-\$20,000	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Alterations & Additions – \$100,001-\$300,000	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Alterations & Additions – \$20,001-\$100,000	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Alterations & Additions – \$300,001-\$400,000	[Class 1 & 10]	42
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Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$1,000,000	[Reg 11 Other Development]	37
Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	[Reg 11 Other Development]	37

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
A [continued]		
Amendment to a Development Plan Approval	[Other Development]	41
Amendments under 20(4)	[Other]	32
Amendments under 20A	[Other]	32
Amphitheatre Hire (per hour)	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Amphitheatre Hire (per hour) - Concession	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Animal Registration refund	[Cat Registration]	18
Annual Licence Fee	[Personal Training]	25
Annual Registration Fee	[Registration of Domestic Animal Business]	18
Application fee – Commercial Profit Making (non refundable)	[Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit]	26
Application for a planning certificate	[Other Fees]	40
Application for certificate of compliance	[Other Fees]	40
Application for Development Plan Approval	[Other Development]	41
Approval of an Amendment	[Other]	31
B		
b) 11 to (and including) 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel	[Consideration of submissions to Amendment and reference to panel]	31
Bag of Books	[Book Sales]	5
Balcony (per day)	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Beginner Swim Clinic	[Swim Lessons]	54
Bexsero	[Vaccine]	31
Bond	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Bond	[Burnley Circus Site]	50
Book delivery	[Libraries]	4
Book delivery	[Book Sales]	5
Boostrix	[Vaccine]	31
Bronze Concession - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Bronze Full - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Buggy Hire	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
Building permit levy for a Building greater than \$10,000 (Statutory fee) – Residential Only	[Lodgement Fees (building work permit)]	41
Building Record search Class 1 & 10	[Miscellaneous]	43
Building Record search Class 2-9	[Miscellaneous]	43
Burnley Concession Membership - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Burnley Full Membership - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Burnley Golf Course membership add-on	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Concession - Leisure centre members - Fortnightly debit		
Burnley Golf Course membership add-on Full - Leisure centre members - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Burnley Intermediate Membership - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Burnley Junior Membership - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Burnley Practise Membership – (Annual fee)	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Busking Permit (Monthly charge)	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
C		
c) Submissions that exceed 20 submissions which seek a change to an amendment, and where necessary referring the submissions to a panel	[Consideration of submissions to Amendment and reference to panel]	31
Carports, Garages, Shed etc. (Class 10 Structure)	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Casual Booking Fee	[Outside School Hours Care]	28
Cat trap – rental per week	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
CCTV inspection (Traffic management not included)	[Drainage Cleaning and Inspection]	27
Centre Visit Pass	[Casual Entry]	51
Centre Visit Pass Concession	[Casual Entry]	51
Certificate S327 (incl. Flood Certificate)	[Lodgement Fees (building work permit)]	41
Certification fee	[Miscellaneous]	45
Change of Use/Combined Allotment Statements	[Miscellaneous]	45
Change Rooms	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Change Rooms (per hour)	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Child – Concession per lesson	[Swim Lessons]	54
Child Swim	[Casual Entry]	51
Class 1 and 2	[Once-off Events]	20

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Class 1 Use only/reduction of car parking/loading bay requirements/liquor licence	[Applications for permits Reg 9 Type of Permit Application]	32
Class 1 Use only/reduction of car parking/loading bay requirements/liquor licence	[Planning schedule of permit application revision fees under section 57a – Reg 12 Type of Permit Application]	34
Class 1 Use only/reduction of car parking/loading bay requirements/liquor licence	[Reg 11 Permit Amendment Fees]	35
Class 1 Use only/reduction of car parking/loading bay requirements/liquor licence	[Reg 12 Planning schedule of permit amendment revision fees under Section 57A Type of Permit Amendment]	38
Class 10 Amendment to a Class 10 permit (other than a class 7, class 8 or class 9 permit)	[Reg 11 VICSMART Applications which meet the VicSmart criteria]	36
Class 10 Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – Less than \$100,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	38
Class 10 VICSMART A permit that is a VicSmart Application (other than a Class 7, 8 or 9)	[Reg 9 VICSMART Applications]	32
Class 10 VICSMART A permit that is a VicSmart Application (other than a Class 7, 8 or 9)	[VicSmart]	40
Class 11 – Less than \$100,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	35
Class 11 < \$100,000	[Reg 9 Other Development]	33
Class 11 Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	38
Class 12 – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	35
Class 12 > \$100,001 – \$1,000,000	[Reg 9 Other Development]	33
Class 12 Amendment to a Class 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 or 16 permit – More than \$1,000,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	39
Class 13 – More than \$1,000,000 and not more than \$5,000,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	35
Class 13 > \$1,000,001 – \$5,000,000	[Reg 9 Other Development]	33
Class 14 – Class 19 Amendments	[Reg 11 Subdivision]	37
Class 14 – More than \$5,000,000 and not more than \$15,000,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	35
Class 14 > \$5,000,001 – \$15,000,000	[Reg 9 Other Development]	33
Class 14 Amendment to a Class 17 permit – To subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	39
Class 15 – More than \$15,000,000 and not more than \$50,000,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	35
Class 15 > \$15,000,001 – \$50,000,000	[Reg 9 Other Development]	33
Class 15 Amendment to a Class 18 permit – To subdivide land into two lots (other than a class 9 or class 17 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	39
Class 16 – More than \$50,000,000	[Reg 12 Other Development]	35
Class 16 > \$50,000,001	[Reg 9 Other Development]	33
Class 16 Amendment to a Class 19 permit – To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate two or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	39
Class 17 Amendment to a Class 20 permit – To subdivide land (other than a class 9, class 17, class 18 or class 19 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	39
Class 17 Subdivide an existing building	[Reg 9 Subdivision]	33
Class 17 To subdivide an existing building (other than a class 9 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	35
Class 18 Amendment to a Class 21 permit - To: a) create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or b) create or remove a right of way; or c) create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or d) vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement (other than right of way) in a Crown grant.	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	39
Class 18 Subdivide land into 2 lots	[Reg 9 Subdivision]	33
Class 18 To subdivide land into two lots (other than a class 9 or class 17 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	35
Class 19 Amendment to a Class 22 permit – A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	39

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
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Class 19 To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate two or more lots	[Reg 9 Subdivision]	33
Class 19 To effect a realignment of a common boundary between lots or to consolidate two or more lots (other than a class 9 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	35
Class 2 – Less than \$10,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	34
Class 2 (Residential fit outs)	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	43
Class 2 < \$10,000	[Reg 9 Single Dwellings]	32
Class 2 < \$10,000	[Single Dwelling]	40
Class 2 Application to amend a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot, use & develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to: To change the statement of what the permit allows or to change any or all of the conditions	[Reg 11 Permit Amendment Fees]	36
Class 2 Application to amend a permit (other than a permit to develop land for a single dwelling per lot, use & develop land for a single dwelling per lot, or to undertake development ancillary to the use of land for a single dwelling per lot) to: To change the statement of what the permit allows or To change any or all of the conditions	[Reg 12 Planning schedule of permit amendment revision fees under Section 57A Type of Permit Amendment]	38
Class 20 Subdivide land (per 100 lots created)	[Reg 9 Subdivision]	33
Class 20 To subdivide land (other than a class 9, class 17, class 18 or class 19 permit)	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	35
Class 21	[Reg 9 Subdivision]	33
Class 21	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	35
Class 22 A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	[Reg 9 Subdivision]	33
Class 22 A permit not otherwise provided for in the regulation	[Reg 12 Subdivision]	35
Class 3	[Once-off Events]	20
Class 3 – More than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	34
Class 3 > \$10,001 – \$100,000	[Reg 9 Single Dwellings]	32
Class 3 > \$10,001 – \$100,000	[Single Dwelling]	40
Class 3 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – Less than \$10,000	[Reg 11 Single Dwellings]	36
Class 3 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – Less than \$10,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	38
Class 4 – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	34
Class 4 > \$100,001 – \$500,00	[Reg 9 Single Dwellings]	32
Class 4 > \$100,001 – \$500,00	[Single Dwelling]	40
Class 4 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000	[Reg 11 Single Dwellings]	36
Class 4 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	38
Class 5 – More than \$500,000 and not more than \$1,000,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	34
Class 5 > \$500,001 – \$1,000,000	[Reg 9 Single Dwellings]	32
Class 5 > \$500,001 – \$1,000,000	[Single Dwelling]	40
Class 5 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000	[Reg 11 Single Dwellings]	36
Class 5 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$100,000 and not more than \$500,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	38
Class 6 – More than \$1,000,000 and not more than \$2,000,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	34
Class 6 > \$1,000,001 – \$2,000,000	[Reg 9 Single Dwellings]	32
Class 6 > \$1,000,001 – \$2,000,000	[Single Dwelling]	40
Class 6 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$500,000	[Reg 11 Single Dwellings]	36
Class 6 Amendment to a Class 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 permit – More than \$500,000	[Reg 12 Single Dwellings]	38
Class 7 < \$10,000	[Reg 9 VICSMART Applications]	32
Class 7 < \$10,000	[VicSmart]	40

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Class 7 Amendment to a Class 7 permit	[Reg 11 VICSMART Applications which meet the VicSmart criteria]	36
Class 8 > \$10,000	[Reg 9 VICSMART Applications]	32
Class 8 > \$10,000	[VicSmart]	40
Class 8 Amendment to a Class 8 permit	[Reg 11 VICSMART Applications which meet the VicSmart criteria]	36
Class 9 Amendment to a Class 9 permit – Subdivide or consolidate land	[Reg 11 VICSMART Applications which meet the VicSmart criteria]	36
Class 9 VICSMART application to subdivide or consolidate land	[Reg 9 VICSMART Applications]	32
Class 9 VICSMART application to subdivide or consolidate land	[VicSmart]	40
Clinic	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
Commercial	[Archive Request]	41
Commercial - Facility Hire	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Commercial - Facility Hire	[Ryan's Reserve]	24
Commercial – includes house modules	[Permit Inspections]	25
Commercial (off-peak)	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Commercial (off-peak)	[Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre]	23
Commercial (off-peak)	[Ryan's Reserve]	23
Commercial (off-peak) - ongoing	[Ryan's Reserve]	23
Commercial (off-peak) - ongoing	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Commercial (off-peak) - ongoing	[Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre]	23
Commercial (ongoing) - Community Sports Ground Hire	[Community Sportsground Hire - All other sportsgrounds]	23
Commercial (ongoing) - Facility Hire	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Commercial (ongoing) - Facility Hire	[Pavilion Hire - Alfred, Alphington, Barkly Gardens, Burnley, Coulson, Fairfield, Fitzroy Grandstand, Gillon, Graham, Johnson, Ramsden, Sherrin Stand, Stanton Street Hall (table tennis)]	23
Commercial (ongoing) - Facility Hire	[Ryan's Reserve]	24
Commercial (peak)	[Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre]	23
Commercial (peak)	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Commercial (Peak)	[Ryan's Reserve]	23
Commercial (peak) - ongoing	[Ryan's Reserve]	23
Commercial (peak) - ongoing	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Commercial (peak) - ongoing	[Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre]	23
Commercial dog walking permit (annual permit)	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Commercial fee	[Premier Sportsground Hire - Victoria Park, Bastow 1]	23
Commercial fee	[Community Sportsground Hire - All other sportsgrounds]	23
Commercial fee	[Pavilion Hire - Alfred, Alphington, Barkly Gardens, Burnley, Coulson, Fairfield, Fitzroy Grandstand, Gillon, Graham, Johnson, Ramsden, Sherrin Stand, Stanton Street Hall (table tennis)]	23
Commercial Lane Hire 25 metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Commercial Lane Hire 50 metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Commercial Lane Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Commercial Pool Hire 25 metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Commercial Pool Hire 50 metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Commercial Pool Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Commercial Profit Making – Film/Ad Producers – Major impact: Permit	[Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit]	26
Commercial Rate Full Day	[Community Meeting Room]	29
Commercial Rate Full Day	[Community Kitchen]	29
Commercial Rate Full Day	[Training Room]	29
Commercial Rate Full Day	[Consultation Room]	30
Commercial Rate Full Day	[Playgroup Room 2]	30
Commercial Rate Full Day	[Front Room]	30
Commercial Rate Full Day	[Foyer Room]	30
Commercial Rate Half Day	[Community Meeting Room]	29
Commercial Rate Half Day	[Community Kitchen]	29
Commercial Rate Half Day	[Training Room]	29
Commercial Rate Half Day	[Front Room]	30
Commercial Rate Half Day*	[Foyer Room]	30
Commercial Rate hourly	[Top Floor]	30
Commercial Rate per hour	[Consultation Room]	30
Commercial Rate per hour	[Playgroup Room 2]	30
Community 1 Sports Ground Hire	[Sportsgrounds]	24
Community 2 Sports Ground Hire	[Sportsgrounds]	25
Community Golf (Affiliated Organisations)	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
Community Groups Lane Hire 25 Metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52

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Community Groups Lane Hire 50 Metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Community Groups Lane Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Community Groups Pool Hire 25 Metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Community Groups Pool Hire 50 Metres (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Community Groups Pool Hire Learn to Swim Pool (per hour)	[Lane Hire]	52
Community hall public liability insurance	[Top Floor]	30
Community Hall Public Liability Insurance - per day	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
Community Hall Public Liability Insurance - per day	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
Community Hall Public Liability Insurance (per day)	[Small Community Spaces]	47
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Community Transport	[Home Care Packages (HCP)]	12
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Concession 1	[Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre]	23
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Concession 1	[Premier Sportsground Hire - Victoria Park, Bastow 1]	23
Concession 1	[Community Sportsground Hire - All other sportsgrounds]	23
Concession 1	[Pavilion Hire - Alfred, Alphington, Barkly Gardens, Burnley, Coulson, Fairfield, Fitzroy Grandstand, Gillon, Graham, Johnson, Ramsden, Sherrin Stand, Stanton Street Hall (table tennis)]	23
Concession 1	[Ryan's Reserve]	23
Concession 1 - Facility Hire	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Concession 1 - Facility Hire	[Ryan's Reserve]	24
Concession 2	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Concession 2	[Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre]	23
Concession 2	[Premier Sportsground Hire - Victoria Park, Bastow 1]	23
Concession 2	[Community Sportsground Hire - All other sportsgrounds]	23
Concession 2	[Pavilion Hire - Alfred, Alphington, Barkly Gardens, Burnley, Coulson, Fairfield, Fitzroy Grandstand, Gillon, Graham, Johnson, Ramsden, Sherrin Stand, Stanton Street Hall (table tennis)]	23
Concession 2	[Ryan's Reserve]	23
Concession 2 - Facility Hire	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Concession 2 - Facility Hire	[Ryan's Reserve]	24
Concession 3	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Concession 3	[Mayors Park Tennis and Netball Centre]	24
Concession 3	[Premier Sportsground Hire - Victoria Park, Bastow 1]	23
Concession 3	[Community Sportsground Hire - All other sportsgrounds]	23
Concession 3	[Pavilion Hire - Alfred, Alphington, Barkly Gardens, Burnley, Coulson, Fairfield, Fitzroy Grandstand, Gillon, Graham, Johnson, Ramsden, Sherrin Stand, Stanton Street Hall (table tennis)]	23
Concession 3	[Ryan's Reserve]	23
Concession 3 - Facility Hire	[Fairlea Reserve]	24
Concession 3 - Facility Hire	[Ryan's Reserve]	24
Concession Rate hourly	[Top Floor]	30
Concession Swim	[Casual Entry]	51
Concessional Maximum Fee	[Dog Registration]	17
Concessional Maximum Fee	[Cat Registration]	18
Concessional Rate Full Day	[Community Meeting Room]	29
Concessional Rate Full Day	[Community Kitchen]	29
Concessional Rate Full Day	[Training Room]	29
Concessional Rate Full Day	[Consultation Room]	29
Concessional Rate Full Day	[Front Room]	30
Concessional Rate Full Day	[Foyer Room]	30
Concessional Rate Half Day	[Community Meeting Room]	29
Concessional Rate Half Day	[Community Kitchen]	29
Concessional Rate Half Day	[Training Room]	29
Concessional Rate Half Day	[Front Room]	30
Concessional Rate Half Day	[Foyer Room]	30
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Concessional Reduced Fee	[Dog Registration]	17
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Consulting charge out rate p/hr i.e. dilapidation surveys	[Miscellaneous]	43
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Copy of Registration Certificate – Only available to current proprietor	[Information/Service Fees]	22
Corporate Burnley Golf Course membership - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Corporate Leisure + Burnley membership - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Corporate Leisure Centre membership - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	55
Counter Fast Track Assessment Fee	[Construction Management Support Unit]	25
Credit Card Surcharge	[Finance]	5
D		
Daily Rate - Full	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Damaged / Lost Books	[Libraries]	4
Damaged / Lost Magazines	[Libraries]	4
Day Rate – Concession	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Day Rate – Concession (Not-for-Profit)	[Burnley Circus Site]	50
Day Rate – Full	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
Day Rate – Full (Commercial)	[Burnley Circus Site]	50
Day Rate – Not-for-Profit	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
Debt Recovery Administration	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Debt Recovery Administration Summons Trace successful	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Debt Recovery Administration Summons Trace unsuccessful	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Debt Recovery Company Search	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Debt Recovery Field Call	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Debt Recovery Title Search	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Delivered / Centre Meals – Couple Above \$115,245	[Delivered / Centre Meals – High Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals – Family Above \$118,546	[Delivered / Centre Meals – High Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals – Single Above \$86,208	[Delivered / Centre Meals – High Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals Couple – \$59,802 to \$115,245	[Delivered / Centre Meals – Medium Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals Couple Up to \$59,802	[Delivered / Centre Meals – Low Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals Family – \$66,009 to \$118,546	[Delivered / Centre Meals – Medium Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals Family Up to \$66,009	[Delivered / Centre Meals – Low Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals Single – \$39,089 to \$86,208	[Delivered / Centre Meals – Medium Fee Range]	11
Delivered / Centre Meals Single Up to \$39,089	[Delivered / Centre Meals – Low Fee Range]	11
Demolish – attached dwelling	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Demolish – commercial building	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Demolish – detached dwelling	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Deposit Cat trap (Refundable)	[Registration of Domestic Animal Business]	18
Derelict vehicles/pound fee – abandoned/unregistered vehicle	[Towing & Impounding Fees]	14
De-scaling a project	[Request to amend a permit/plans Secondary Consent (other than under s72)]	40
Determination whether anything is to Council's satisfaction	[Other Fees]	40
Dishonoured Cheque Administration Fee	[Finance]	5
Dishonoured Direct Debt Administration Fee	[Finance]	5
Dogs & cats currently registered at another Council – transfer and 1st registration	[Dog Registration]	17
Dogs & Cats under 6mths of age	[Dog Registration]	17
Drain/Pit Cleaning – Jet/Educator Cleaning (Traffic management and tipping fees not included)	[Drainage Cleaning and Inspection]	27
Drainage information Report (DIR)	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
Drainage Plan Approval (10-20 Lot Development)	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
Drainage Plan Approval (20+ Lot Development)	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
Drainage Plan Approval (2-3 Lot Development)	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56

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Drainage Plan Approval (4-9 Lot Development)	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
Drainage Plan Approval (Single or Extension)	[Drainage Fees (Levy)]	56
E		
EHO hourly charge rate	[Information/Service Fees]	22
Emergency work/cost recovery	[Miscellaneous]	45
Empower + Session	[Gym]	53
Empower + Session Concession	[Gym]	53
Empower Session	[Gym]	53
Empower Session Concession	[Gym]	53
Enerix B Adult	[Vaccine]	31
Event Application Fee	[Permits]	50
Event Inspection Charge	[Site Fees, Occupation Charges & Other Usage Charges]	49
Event Permit Application Fee for events of 500 or more persons or with significant structures or risks, as assessed by council officer, less than 12 weeks prior to event	[Permits]	50
Excess Animal Permit – Application Fee (Non Refundable)	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Excess Animal Permit – Fee	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Extension of permit/application 3/6/12 months	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	43
Extract of premises register	[Information/Service Fees]	22
F		
Family Swim	[Casual Entry]	51
Fee to amend an application for a permit after notice is given	[Reg 12 Revised Plans Amend an application for an amendment to a permit after notice has been given]	37
Fences (Class 10 Structure)	[Class 1 & 10]	42
Filming (incl ads/still photography) inspection (Mon to Fri)	[Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit]	27
Filming inspection (incl ads/still photography) – Out of hours	[Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit]	27
Final Inspection – (Class 1 & 10) Lapsed Building Permit – No Works	[Miscellaneous]	45
Final Inspection – (Class 2-9) Lapsed Building Permit – No Works	[Miscellaneous]	45
First on-site notice	[Other Development]	41
FOI Application Search Charges	[Governance Support]	4
FOI Inspection Supervision	[Governance Support]	4
Footpath – industrial – asphalt / concrete (as per YSD33 IAF & CF) greater than 60mm & less than equal to 100mm	[Road Reinstatement]	28
Footpath – industrial – concrete with asphalt surface (as per YSD33 ICAF) <=170mm	[Road Reinstatement]	28
Footpath – residential – asphalt (as per YSD33 RAF) – less than 60mm	[Road Reinstatement]	28
Footpath awning fee	[Items on Footpath]	16
Footpath heaters	[Items on Footpath]	16
Footpath Trading – Application/ Inspection fee (Non-refundable)	[Items on Footpath]	16
Footpath/nature strip garden permit fee	[Urban Agriculture]	57
Footpath/nature strip planter box yearly rental fee	[Urban Agriculture]	57
Footpath/nature strip planter box yearly rental fee – concession	[Urban Agriculture]	57
For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under section 173 of the Act	[Other]	32
Foster care – Cat	[Cat Registration]	18
Foster care – Dog	[Dog Registration]	17
Freedom of information requests	[Governance Support]	4
G		
Garbage 120lt MGB	[Waste Management]	57
Garbage 240lt MGB	[Waste Management]	57
Garbage 80lt MGB	[Waste Management]	56
General Local Law Permit	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
G [continued]		
Gleadell Street Market (per stall)	[Kerb Market]	17
Gold Concession - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	56
Gold Full - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	56
Goods Display	[Items on Footpath]	16
Group Fitness	[Program Classes]	53
Group Fitness (Concession)	[Program Classes]	53
Groups auspice by Council business units	[Small Community Spaces]	47
Groups auspiced by Council business units	[Foyer Room]	30
Groups auspiced by Council business units	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
Groups auspiced by Council business units	[Large Community Spaces]	48
Groups out spaced by Council business units	[Top Floor]	30
Gym Casual Access	[Gym]	53
Gym Casual Access Concession	[Gym]	53
Gym Consultation	[Casual Entry]	51
Gym Facility Hire	[Gym]	53
H		
Half Day Parking (4 Hours, various locations)	[Parking Meter Rates]	12
Hardbacks	[Book Sales]	5
Havrix Adult	[Vaccine]	31
Havrix Junior	[Vaccine]	31
Hire of Inbuilt Projector - per day	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Hire of Piano - per day	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Hire of Portable Projector (per day)	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Hire of Sound System - per day * requires sound technician	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Hire Set	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
Home Care General High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	[Home Care General – High Fee Range]	7
Home Care General High Range – Family Above \$118,546	[Home Care General – High Fee Range]	7
Home Care General High Range – Single Above \$86,208	[Home Care General – High Fee Range]	7
Home Care General Low fee range – Couple Up to \$59,802	[Home Care General – Low Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Low fee range – Couple Up to \$59,802 (HACCPYP)	[Home Care General – Low Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Low fee range – Family Up to \$66,009	[Home Care General – Low Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Low fee range – Family Up to \$66,009 (HACCPYP)	[Home Care General – Low Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	[Home Care General – Low Fee Range]	5
Home Care General Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089 (HACCPYP)	[Home Care General – Low Fee Range]	5
Home Care General Low fee range – Single Up to \$28,605	[Home Care General – Low Fee Range]	5
Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$59,802 to \$78,283	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$78,283 to \$96,764	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245 (HACCPYP)	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546 (HACCPYP)	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	7
Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$66,009 to \$83,521	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Family \$83,521 to \$101,033	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Single \$39,089 to \$54,795	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Care General Medium fee range – Single \$54,795 to \$70,501	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
H [continued]		
Home Care General Medium fee range – Single \$70,501 to \$86,208	[Home Care General – Medium Fee Range]	6
Home Maintenance – Family Above \$118,546	[Home Maintenance – High Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance – Family Above \$118,546 (HACCPYP)	[Home Maintenance – High Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	[Home Maintenance – High Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance High Range – Couple Above \$115,245 (HACCPYP)	[Home Maintenance – High Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance High Range – Single Above \$86,208	[Home Maintenance – High Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance High Range – Single Above \$86,208 (HACCPYP)	[Home Maintenance – High Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Low fee range – Couple \$44,309 to \$59,802	[Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Low fee range – Couple Up to \$44,309	[Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Low fee range – Family \$44,309 to \$66,009	[Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Low fee range – Family Up to \$44,309	[Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	[Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Low fee range – Single Up to \$28,605	[Home Maintenance – Low Fee Range]	9
Home Maintenance Medium Fee Range Couple – \$59,802 to \$115,245	[Home Maintenance – Medium Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Medium Fee Range Family – \$66,009 to \$118,546	[Home Maintenance – Medium Fee Range]	10
Home Maintenance Medium Fee Range Single – \$39,089 to \$86,208	[Home Maintenance – Medium Fee Range]	10
Home/Personal/Respite Care (6.00pm Friday to 8.00am Monday)	[Home Care Packages (HCP)]	12
Home/Personal/Respite Care (6.00pm to 8.00am Monday to Friday)	[Home Care Packages (HCP)]	12
Home/Personal/Respite Care (8.00am to 6.00pm Monday to Friday)	[Home Care Packages (HCP)]	12
Hourly hire – Full	[Small Community Spaces]	47
Hourly hire – Full (min 3 hourly hire)	[Hire of Town Halls]	46
Hourly hire – Full (min 3 hourly hire)	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
Hourly hire – Full (min 3 hourly hire)	[Large Community Spaces]	48
Hourly Hire - Full rate	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit	[Small Community Spaces]	47
Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit (min 3 hourly hire)	[Hire of Town Halls]	46
Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit (min 3 hourly hire)	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
Hourly hire – Not-for-Profit (min 3 hourly hire)	[Large Community Spaces]	48
Hourly Rate - Non for profit	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
I		
Immunisation – alternative vaccinations	[Vaccine]	31
Immunisation – vaccinations	[Vaccine]	31
Influenza vaccine	[Vaccine]	31
Inspection	[Consent (RMA 2004)]	27
Inspection - Commercial/Industrial Vehicle Crossing	[Vehicle Crossing Permit]	26
Inspection – Out of hours	[Consent (RMA 2004)]	27
Inspection – per inspection	[Miscellaneous]	45
Inspection – per inspection (out of hours)	[Miscellaneous]	45
Inspection - Private single dwelling Vehicle Crossing	[Vehicle Crossing Permit]	26
Inspection of Dog/Cat register (per entry)	[Registration of Domestic Animal Business]	18
Installation of Car Share Bay	[Parking Permits]	13
Inter Library Loan Academic Library Fee	[Libraries]	5
Inter Library Loan Public Library Fee	[Libraries]	4
Intermediate Swim Clinic	[Swim Lessons]	54
J		
January to June	[Funded Kindergarten]	29

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J [continued]		
July to December	[Funded Kindergarten]	28
Junior 9 Holes	[Burnley Golf Course]	54
K		
Kiosk	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Kiosk (per hour)	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Kitchen Use Only – per day	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
L		
Land information certificates	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Land information certificates – 24 hour turnaround (online application only)	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Late Booking Change Administration Fee	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Late Booking Change Administration Fee	[Small Community Spaces]	48
Late Booking Change Administration Fee	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
Late Booking Change Administration Fee	[Large Community Spaces]	49
Late Booking Change Administration Fee	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
Late booking fee	[Top Floor]	30
Late Booking Fee	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Late Booking Fee	[Small Community Spaces]	47
Late Booking Fee	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
Late Booking Fee	[Large Community Spaces]	49
Late Booking Fee	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
Late Fee for Vac Care, ASC, LDC, Kinder	[Late Fee – Childrens Services]	28
Late Fee for Vac Care, ASC, LDC, Kinder	[Late Fee – Childrens Services]	28
Library Bags	[Library Merchandise]	5
Library Keep Cups	[Library Merchandise]	5
Library USBs	[Library Merchandise]	5
Licensed premises – per table over 800mm (Including benches)	[Tables & Chairs]	16
Licensed Premises – per chair (600mm = 1 Chair)	[Tables & Chairs]	16
Licensed Premises – per table up to 800mm	[Tables & Chairs]	16
Liquor Licence Reports (site check and measure up to 500m2 of building)	[Miscellaneous]	45
Liquor Licensing Advice Requests	[Planning Enforcement]	17
Livestock (large)	[Animal Pound Release Fees]	18
Livestock (small)	[Animal Pound Release Fees]	18
Local law permit application fee (As required)	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Local Laws permit Inspection fee – After hours	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	16
Locker	[Casual Entry]	51
Lodgement of each certificate of pool and spa barrier compliance	[Pool & Spa Register related fees]	46
Lodgement of each certificate of pool and spa barrier non-compliance	[Pool & Spa Register related fees]	46
Long Day Care	[Long Day Care]	28
Lost Card	[Libraries]	5
Lost Locker RFID key fob	[Miscellaneous]	54
M		
Magazines	[Book Sales]	5
Major Amplified Sound Permit	[Other]	17
Major Amplified Sound Permit Concession	[Other]	17
Major Event Permit (per event day) – Concession	[Event Permit – 500 or more persons or with significant structures or risks, as assessed by Council Officer]	51
Major Event Permit (per event day) – Full	[Event Permit – 500 or more persons or with significant structures or risks, as assessed by Council Officer]	51
Market Permit (One Off fee) – Concession	[Permits]	50
Market Permit (One Off fee) – Full	[Permits]	50
Medium Event Permit (per event day) – Concession	[Event Permit – 100 persons 500 or with minimal structures and risks]	51
Medium Event Permit (per event day) – Full	[Event Permit – 100 persons 500 or with minimal structures and risks]	51
Member - Stroke Improvement Course	[Swim Lessons]	54
Mini Clinic	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
Minor Sound Permit	[Permits]	50
Minor Sound Permit Concession	[Permits]	50
Miscellaneous / Impound Fee	[Other]	17

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M [continued]		
Miscellaneous / Impound release Fee	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	16
Miscellaneous commercial work e.g. remove hydrant hose	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	42
Mobile Food Van – Charity or Non for profit event	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Mobile Food Van – small private events permit 1 day or less	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Mobile Food Van (prescribed event area) each additional food van/stall over 5 vans	[Tables & Chairs]	17
Mobile Food Van (prescribed event area) multi max. 5 vans	[Tables & Chairs]	17
Mobile Food Van public land (once-off day rate)	[Tables & Chairs]	17
Mobile Food Vans – Concession Rate (Yarra Resident Only)	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Mobile Food Vans – Normal Rate	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Move for Life and Empower Programs Initial Assessment Fee	[Gym]	53
Move for life session	[Gym]	53
Move for life session concession	[Gym]	53
N		
Netball Court Hire (per court) - Tenant Sports Club (Fairlea Netball)	[Sportsgrounds]	25
Netball/Tennis Court Hire (per court) - Tenant Sports Club (Ryan Reserve/Mayors Park)	[Sportsgrounds]	25
NEW sound system package - full day (8 hours)	[Hire of Town Halls]	46
NEW sound system package - half day (4 hours)	[Hire of Town Halls]	46
New dwellings: 2 attached	[Class 1 & 10]	42
New dwellings: single	[Class 1 & 10]	42
NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	[Hire of Town Halls]	46
NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	[Small Community Spaces]	47
NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
NEW Hourly hire – Concession (min 3 hourly hire)	[Large Community Spaces]	48
New Multiple Class 1 developments (Quotation)	[Class 1 & 10]	42
New registration - Application fee	[Aquatic Facilities]	20
New registration - Registration fee – lower risk services (note that registration is not subject to renewal)	[Premises Providing Personal Services]	21
New registration fee	[Aquatic Facilities]	20
New Registrations	[Premises Providing Personal Services]	21
New registrations - Application fee	[Commercial]	21
New registrations - Application fee	[Not For Profit]	21
New Registrations – Application fee	[Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises]	19
New Registrations – Application fee	[Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises]	19
New Registrations – Application fee	[Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises]	19
New registrations - Registration fee	[Commercial]	21
New registrations - Registration fee	[Not For Profit]	21
New Registrations – Registration fee	[Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises]	19
New Registrations – Registration fee	[Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises]	19
New Registrations – Registration fee	[Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises]	19
New registrations - Registration fee – higher risk services	[Premises Providing Personal Services]	21
NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	[Hire of Town Halls]	46
NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	[Small Community Spaces]	47
NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
NEW Venue Support Officer (per hour)	[Large Community Spaces]	48
Night parking rate	[Parking Meter Rates]	12
Nimenrix	[Vaccine]	31
Non-Member Stroke Improvement	[Swim Lessons]	54
Non-Rateable Garbage Charge	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Not for profit organisations – all classes	[Once-off Events]	20
Notice in a Newspaper	[Other Development]	41
Notice/Advertising	[Other]	31
O		
Occasional Care	[Occasional Child Care]	29
Occupancy Fee – Commercial License/ Occupancy	[Road / Footpath Occupation Permit]	26

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Occupancy Fee – Private single dwelling and local shop trader	[Road / Footpath Occupation Permit]	26
Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/first day – Commercial Street	[Parking Occupation Fees]	14
Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/first day – Non Commercial Street	[Parking Occupation Fees]	13
Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/ subsequent day – Commercial street	[Parking Occupation Fees]	14
Occupation of parking bays – parking meter/ subsequent day – Non Commercial Street	[Parking Occupation Fees]	14
Occupation of public land (parks, roads, footpaths etc.) for events (commercial)	[Site Fees, Occupation Charges & Other Usage Charges]	49
One on One Lessons	[Swim Lessons]	54
Other Development less than 5M	[Request to extend expiry date of a permit]	40
Other Development more than 5M	[Request to extend expiry date of a permit]	40
Out of Hours	[Permit Inspections]	25
Out of Hours Permit	[Permit Inspections]	25
Outside School Hours Care Fee	[Outside School Hours Care]	28
Over \$500,000 (quotation based on consulting building surveyors schedule)	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	43
Overdue Registration Renewal Fee	[Other Fees]	21
Overtime - past 2am	[Hire of Town Halls]	46
P		
Paperbacks	[Book Sales]	5
Parking Fees – meters/ticket machines (per hour) spread from 0.00 to \$15.00 max	[Parking Meter Rates]	12
Parking offences set out in Schedule 6 of the Road Safety (General) Regulations 2019	[Parking Offence Fees]	14
Parking Permit – Car Share Bay	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 1st Resident permit	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 1st Resident permit concession or 1st Visitor permit concession	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 1st Visitor permit	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 2nd Resident permit concession or 2nd Visitor permit concession	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 2nd Resident permits	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 2nd Visitor permits	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 3rd Resident permits	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 3rd Resident permits concession or 3rd Visitor permit concession	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – 3rd Visitor permits	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – Business – 1st permit	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – Business – 2nd and subsequent permits	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking Permits – Disabled	[Parking Permits]	13
Parking sensor removal/reinstatement	[Road Reinstatement]	28
Parking signs – sign changes	[Engineering Planning]	56
Parklet Application and Inspection - Neighbourhood	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Application and Inspection - Primary	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Application and Inspection - Secondary	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Permit 12 Month - Neighbourhood	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Permit 12 Month - Primary	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Permit 12 Month - Secondary	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Permit Summer 6 Month - Neighbourhood	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Permit Summer 6 Month - Primary	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Parklet Permit Summer 6 Month - Secondary	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	14
Pavilion Hire	[Pavilion Hire]	24
Payment Arrangement fee (Rates – Referred for Legal Action)	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Permit – Commercial Profit Making – Minor impact/ small budget productions (incl films & ads)	[Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit]	27
Permit – Commercial/Industrial Vehicle Crossing	[Vehicle Crossing Permit]	26
Permit – Non Profit Making Filming (incl still photography)	[Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit]	27
Permit – Plant and Equipment – Commercial – No road closure	[Road / Footpath Occupation Permit]	26

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Permit – Plant and Equipment – Private single dwelling and local shop traders.	[Road / Footpath Occupation Permit]	26
Permit – Private Single Dwelling Vehicle Crossing	[Vehicle Crossing Permit]	26
Permit – Student Filming (incl still photography)	[Filming & Commercial Still Photography Permit]	27
Permit – work area / public protection occupation	[Road / Footpath Occupation Permit]	26
Permit – Works between \$10,001 and \$500K	[Asset Protection Permit]	25
Application Fee*		
Permit – Works more than \$501K Application Fee*	[Asset Protection Permit]	25
Permit – Works up to \$10k*	[Asset Protection Permit]	25
Personal Care General High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	[Personal Care – High Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General High Range – Family Above \$118,546	[Personal Care – High Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General High Range – Single Above \$86,208	[Personal Care – High Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$59,802 to \$78,283	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	7
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$78,283 to \$96,764	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Family \$66,009 to \$83,521	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Family \$83,521 to \$101,033	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	8
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Single \$39,089 to \$54,795	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	7
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Single \$54,795 to \$70,501	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	7
Personal Care General Medium fee range – Single \$70,501 to \$86,208	[Personal Care – Medium Fee Range]	7
Personal Care Low fee range – Couple \$44,309 to \$59,802	[Personal Care – Low Fee Range]	7
Personal Care Low fee range – Couple Up to \$44,309	[Personal Care – Low Fee Range]	7
Personal Care Low fee range – Family \$44,309 to \$66,009	[Personal Care – Low Fee Range]	7
Personal Care Low fee range – Family Up to \$44,309	[Personal Care – Low Fee Range]	7
Personal Care Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	[Personal Care – Low Fee Range]	7
Personal Care Low fee range – Single Up to \$28,605	[Personal Care – Low Fee Range]	7
Photocopies A3	[Photocopies]	5
Photocopies A3 (colour)	[Photocopies]	5
Photocopies A4	[Photocopies]	5
Photocopies A4 (colour)	[Photocopies]	5
Plan Checking Subdivisions	[Subdivision Developments]	56
Plan photocopying (larger than A3)	[Other Development]	41
Plans to comply with Condition 1 of the permit – Second and subsequent assessments	[Other Development]	41
Plant and Equipment Permit – Commercial – Local road – Full road closure	[Road / Footpath Occupation Permit]	26
Planter box/tubs – Laneway garden permit fee	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Planter Box/Tubs (Excludes Tables & Chairs)	[Items on Footpath]	16
Footpath trading only		
Power	[Site Fees, Occupation Charges & Other Usage Charges]	49
Power	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Power	[Burnley Circus Site]	50
Power (per hour)	[Fairfield Amphitheatre]	50
Practice Fees	[Burnley Golf Course]	55
Practice Match	[Sportsgrounds]	25
Pre Season Training	[Sportsgrounds]	25
Premier Sports Ground Hire	[Sportsgrounds]	24
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Profile Design Service	[Vehicle Crossing Permit]	26

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Property enquiry	[Other Development]	41
Property information request (incl Solicitor 's request fee) (Statutory Fee) (incl inspections owner/builder projects)	[Lodgement Fees (building work permit)]	42
Public Entertainment Permits – Charity or other Council specific endorsed Public Entertainment events	[Miscellaneous]	45
Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) additional Inspection per hour	[Miscellaneous]	44
Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) additional Inspection per hour (out of hours)	[Miscellaneous]	45
Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 1,001 m2 to 5,000m2 (Max. 5 structures. Max 2hrs inspection time)	[Miscellaneous]	44
Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 15,001m2+ (Max.30 structures. Max. 4 hrs inspection time)	[Miscellaneous]	44
Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 25,001m2+ (Max.50 structures. Max. 6 hrs inspection time)	[Miscellaneous]	44
Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site 5,001 m2 to 15,000m2 (Max. 5 structures 2. Max 3hrs inspection time)	[Miscellaneous]	44
Public Entertainment Permits (temporary) Site up to 1,000m2 (Max. 5 structures. Max 2hrs inspection time)	[Miscellaneous]	44
Public Entertainment Permits Fast Track Fee Assessment Fee (<10 business days notice)	[Miscellaneous]	44
Public Photocopier (per copy)	[Other Development]	41
R		
Rate Notice reproduction	[Property & Rating Fees]	4
Real Estate Sign License	[Tables & Chairs]	17
Reg 12	[Revised Plans Amend an application for a permit after notice has been given – Reg 12]	34
Reg 15 Application for Certificate of Compliance	[Other Applicable Statutory Fees]	34
Reg 16 For an agreement to a proposal to amend or end an agreement under S173 of the Act	[Other Applicable Statutory Fees]	37
Reg 18 Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council	[Other Applicable Statutory Fees]	34
Reg 18 Where a planning scheme specifies that a matter must be done to the satisfaction of a responsible authority, Minister, public authority or municipal council Including lodging plans to comply if the first submission to Council was unsatisfactory	[Other Applicable Statutory Fees]	37
Reg 6 Certification of a plan of subdivision	[Certification]	33
Reg 7 Alteration of a plan under section 10 (2) of the Act	[Certification]	33
Reg 8 Recertification of a plan of subdivision	[Reg 8 Recertification]	37
Registration – Declared menacing, dangerous & restricted breed dogs	[Dog Registration]	18
Registration & Search Fee for each pool/spa built before 1 November 2020	[Pool & Spa Register related fees]	46
Registration Fee for each pool/spa built after 1 November 2020	[Pool & Spa Register related fees]	46
Registrations for a period of 3 to 6 months	[Short Term Registrations]	20
Registrations for a period of more than 6 months will be treated as a 12 month registration	[Short Term Registrations]	20
Registrations for a period of up to 3 months	[Short Term Registrations]	20
Re-inspection Fee	[Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises]	19
Re-inspection Fee	[Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises]	19
Re-inspection Fee	[Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises]	19
Re-inspection Fee (temp and mobile food premises)	[Short Term Registrations]	20
Release fee – Cat	[Animal Pound Release Fees]	18
Release fee – Dog	[Animal Pound Release Fees]	18

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Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
R [continued]		
Relocation of Street Litter Bins	[Waste Management]	57
Renewal - Additional fee for each additional facility in premises in excess of one (1)	[Aquatic Facilities]	20
Renewal fee	[Aquatic Facilities]	20
Renewal for premises accommodating not more than 5 persons	[Commercial]	20
Renewals	[Class 1 or Class 2 Food Premises]	18
Renewals	[Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises]	19
Renewals	[Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises]	19
Renewals	[Premises Providing Personal Services]	21
Renewals - Additional fee for each additional person than can be accommodated in excess of 5 (Max fee for 61+ persons)	[Commercial]	20
Renewals - Additional fee for each additional person than can be accommodated in excess of 5 (Max fee for 61+ persons)	[Not For Profit]	21
Renewals for premises accommodating not more than 5 persons	[Not For Profit]	21
Replacement Animal Registration tag	[Cat Registration]	18
Replacement Parking permit fee	[Parking Permits]	13
Replacement RFID band/key fob (New fee)	[Miscellaneous]	54
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Request for copy of dog/cat registration certificate (per entry)	[Registration of Domestic Animal Business]	18
Request to amend planning scheme	[Amendments to Planning Scheme]	31
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Residential and Commercial (and Multi-Unit Developments per unit/apartment) MRB 120lt plus 80lt MGB	[Waste Management]	57
Respite Care General High Range – Couple Above \$115,245	[Respite Care – High Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General High Range – Family Above \$118,546	[Respite Care – High Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General High Range – Single Above \$86,208	[Respite Care – High Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$59,802 to \$78,283	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$78,283 to \$96,764	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Couple \$96,764 to \$115,245	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Family \$101,033 to \$118,546	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Family \$66,009 to \$83,521	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Family \$83,521 to \$101,033	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Single \$39,089 to \$54,795	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Single \$54,795 to \$70,501	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care General Medium fee range – Single \$70,501 to \$86,208	[Respite Care – Medium Fee Range]	9
Respite Care Low fee range – Couple \$44,309 to \$59,802	[Respite Care – Low Fee Range]	8
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Respite Care Low fee range – Family Up to \$44,309	[Respite Care – Low Fee Range]	8
Respite Care Low fee range – Single \$28,605 to \$39,089	[Respite Care – Low Fee Range]	8
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Road – deep lift asphalt/concrete/bluestone	[Road Reinstatement]	27
S		
School Holiday Programs	[Youth Services]	29

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School Holiday Programs – Concession	[Youth Services]	29
School Lessons	[Swim Lessons]	54
School Lessons Concession	[Swim Lessons]	54
Seasonal (6 month operation) sporting clubs – Registration is for annual period	[Class 3 and Not for Profit Class 1 and 2 Food Premises]	19
Seasonal (6 month operation) sporting clubs – Registration is for annual period	[Not for Profit Class 3 Food Premises]	19
Secondary Consent value \$1,000,001 and above	[Other Development]	41
Secondary Consent value \$100,000 or less	[Other Development]	41
Secondary Consent value more than \$100,001 and not more than \$1,000,000	[Other Development]	41
Security deposit (bond)	[Top Floor]	30
Security Deposit (Bond)	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Security Deposit (Bond)	[Small Community Spaces]	47
Security Deposit (Bond)	[Medium Community Spaces]	48
Security Deposit (Bond)	[Large Community Spaces]	48
Security Deposit (Bond)	[Performance Spaces (Richmond Theatre)]	49
Service Requests – Animal Control	[Registration of Domestic Animal Business]	18
Shopping Trolley Release fees	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	16
Shower	[Miscellaneous]	54
Significant Tree Application fee (Non-refundable)	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Significant Tree Permit – Pruning only	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Significant Tree Permit – Removal	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Silver Concession - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	56
Silver Full - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	56
Single Dwelling	[Request to extend expiry date of a permit]	40
Site fee for use of Parks, Reserve or Rotunda – Concession	[Site Fees, Occupation Charges & Other Usage Charges]	49
Site fee for use of Parks, Reserve or Rotunda – Full	[Site Fees, Occupation Charges & Other Usage Charges]	49
Site Induction (additional)	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Site Induction (additional)	[Large Community Spaces]	49
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Siting Approval Public Entertainment – 1 Structure	[Miscellaneous]	44
Siting Approval Public Entertainment – 10+ Structures	[Miscellaneous]	44
Siting Approval Public Entertainment – 2-5 Structures	[Miscellaneous]	44
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Siting Approval Public Entertainment Fast – Track	[Miscellaneous]	44
Assessment Fee (<10 business days notice)		
Skip Bin Permit – Container placement	[Skip Bin Permit]	26
Skip Bin Permit – Skip placement – metered	[Skip Bin Permit]	26
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Small Event Permit (per event day) – Concession	[Event Permit – Up to 100 persons with no structures and minimum risks]	51
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Standard Maximum Fee	[Dog Registration]	17
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Supervising Adult Fee	[Casual Entry]	51
Swim Lesson Child Fortnightly Debit**	[Swim Lessons]	54
Swim Lessons Child - per lesson	[Swim Lessons]	54
Swim Upgrade to S/S/S	[Casual Entry]	51
Swim Upgrade to S/S/S Concession	[Casual Entry]	51
Swim, Spa & Sauna (concession)	[Casual Entry]	51
Swimming Pools	[Class 1 & 10]	42

Fee Name	Parent Name	Page
T		
Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) each additional stall/promotional activity over 5	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) each additional stall/promotional activity over 5 for Charity or Non for profit	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) multi max 5 stalls/promotional activities	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Temporary Public Space Licence (prescribed event area) multi max 5 stalls/promotional activities Charity or Non for profit	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Temporary Public Space Licences up to 7 days	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	15
Temporary Public space permit – Promotional Short Term (1) 0-3 days	[Local Laws / Legislative Services]	16
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Term Fee Concession	[Funded Kindergarten]	29
Town Hall Public Liability Insurance (per day)	[Hire of Town Halls]	47
Tradesperson permit monthly fee- non metered	[Parking Permits]	13
Tradesperson permit per day- non metered	[Parking Permits]	13
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Traffic Management	[Road Reinstatement]	28
Traffic Surveys – classified counts	[Engineering Planning]	56
Training Sports Ground Hire	[Sportsgrounds]	25
Transfer fee	[Aquatic Facilities]	20
Transfer Fee	[Registration of Domestic Animal Business]	18
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Transfers	[Commercial]	21
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U		
Unlicensed Premises – per chair (600mm = 1 Chair)	[Tables & Chairs]	17
Unlicensed Premises – per table over 800mm (including benches)	[Tables & Chairs]	16
Unlicensed Premises – per table up to 800mm Up to \$30,000	[Tables & Chairs]	16
Urgent fee	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	42
Urgent removal/reinstatement	[Lodgement Fees (building work permit)]	42
Use only	[Road Reinstatement]	28
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V		
Vacation Care Excursion Fee	[Outside School Hours Care]	28
Vacation Care Fee – Late booking	[Outside School Hours Care]	28
Value \$5,000 and greater (Statutory fee)	[Lodgement Fees (building work permit)]	41
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VBA cladding rectification levy Classes 2 – 8 (works \$1M - \$1.5M) (Statutory fee)	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	43
VBA cladding rectification levy Classes 2 – 8 (works \$800,000 to \$1M) (Statutory fee)	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	43
Vicsmart	[Request to extend expiry date of a permit]	40
W		
Waste Water System Approval	[Other Fees]	21
Weekly Rate - Concession (Not-for-Profit)	[Burnley Circus Site]	50
Weekly Rate - Full (Commercial)	[Burnley Circus Site]	50
Willowview – High Fee Range – Couple Above \$115,245	[Willowview – Outing Group]	12

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Willowview – High Fee Range – Single Above \$86,208	[Willowview – Outing Group]	12
Willowview – Low Fee Range Couple Up to \$59,802	[Willowview – Outing Group]	11
Willowview – Low Fee Range Family Up to \$66,009	[Willowview – Outing Group]	11
Willowview – Low Fee Range Single Up to \$39,089	[Willowview – Outing Group]	11
Willowview – Medium Fee Range Couple – \$59,802 to \$115,245	[Willowview – Outing Group]	11
Willowview – Medium Fee Range Family – \$66,009 to \$118,546	[Willowview – Outing Group]	12
Willowview – Medium Fee Range Single – \$39,089 to \$86,208	[Willowview – Outing Group]	11
Y		
Yarra Youth - Fortnightly debit	[Fortnightly Direct Debit Membership Fees]	56
Other		
\$100,001-\$300,000	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	42
\$30,001-\$100,000	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	42
\$300,001-\$500,000	[Class 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9]	43
½ hr (Casual)	[Personal Training]	53
½ hr (Member)	[Personal Training]	53



Draft Long Term Financial Plan 2024/25



Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.

Draft and Confidential

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Draft and Confidential

Executive Summary

Yarra City Council has prepared this updated Long Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2033/34 (the Financial Plan) to support the Community Vision and Council Plan. Through the development of the Vision, the community has told us about their desire for Yarra City Council to be financially sustainable to support a strong and vibrant community. The Council Plan includes actions to deliver on this vision with a focused investment in new and renewed assets and community-valued services.

Yarra's long-term planning principles are focused on creating a sustainable financial environment to enable Council to continue to provide the community with high quality services and infrastructure into the medium and long term, driven by the Yarra 2036 Community Vision.

We have committed to updating the Financial Plan annually in conjunction with the Budget. This updated Financial Plan is keeping with that commitment.

The Financial Plan is developed in the context of the following strategic planning principles as required under section 89 of the Local Government Act 2020:

- **Integrated approach to planning, monitoring, and performance reporting** - The Financial Plan has been developed alongside the Council Plan and in alignment with the Community Vision and other core strategic plans to ensure integration.
- **Addresses the Community Vision** - The Financial Plan addresses the Community Vision by outlining the resources and funding required to deliver the planned services, initiatives and capital works projects over the next 10 years working towards achieving Yarra's 2036 Community Vision;
- **Takes into account the resources needed for effective implementation** - The Financial Plan statements incorporate the financial resources necessary to implement the Council Plan objectives and strategies over the next 4 years and to work towards achieving the Community Vision over the next 10 years.
- **Identifies and addresses the risks to effective implementation** - Council's strategic planning principles identify and address the risks to effective implementation of the Financial Plan.
- **Provides for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances** - Council reports on its financial performance and position on a quarterly basis and a review of strategic documents is conducted regularly to ensure they remain current.

The Financial Plan is a continuation of Council's responsible financial program and aims to:

- Increase Council's commitment to sustainable asset renewal and maintenance of the community's assets;
- Improve Council's cash position for financial sustainability;
- Improve long-term financial sustainability including, cost containment and transformation programs;
- Include rate and fee increases that are both manageable and sustainable, and
- Provide a framework to deliver balanced budgets including sustainable annual underlying surpluses to fund community service levels, capital work programs and debt repayment.

Yarra's Financial Plan outlines the resources required to deliver the Council Plan and ensure we are investing in assets the community values; our services meet the needs and expectations of the community, are affordable and accessible for the community; and our organisation remains financially sustainable.

Drawing upon ABS data and other sources, id@ consulting estimates that as of 2023, the City of Yarra has an estimated resident population of 99,557 and 47,988 households. The average household size

is 2.02 people compared with Greater Melbourne at 2.7. Half of these households rent their home which is well above the Greater Melbourne average (29%). Ten percent of Yarra's residents live in public housing, well above the Greater Melbourne rate at 2.6%. Almost 4 in 10 Yarra households are in the highest income quartile earning over \$2,395 per week. Around 1 in 5 households are in the lowest quartile group earning up to \$740 per week. 29% of Yarra's residents were born overseas. By 2041, the population for the City of Yarra is forecast to increase to 157,607 residents.

The local government sector continues to face significant financial pressures including rate capping and cost shifting. Constant changes to the economic landscape have compounded these challenges with no real reduction of the general level of prices (despite declining inflation) and significant increases to the cost of materials and services and labour. At the same time, Yarra's population is set to almost double by 2041, putting increasing pressure on services and infrastructure.

These financial pressures have significantly contributed to Council's ability to generate adequate cash flow to fund a large scope of community services, capital work programs and reduce debt levels.

The reality for Yarra City Council (and the whole sector) is that increases in the price of services in real terms are significantly higher than the rate cap. This has been the case year on year since the rate cap system was introduced.

In addition, we have limited untied reserves in the bank as a result of the COVID pandemic, legacy commitments on superannuation, and interest on borrowings. That means less funds available to pay for roads, footpaths, parks and other open space assets and to repay borrowings.

As part of our commitment to improve Council's financial health, in December 2023 we adopted a Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS). Financial sustainability is achieved when service and infrastructure levels and standards are delivered according to a long-term plan without the need to significantly increase rates or significantly reduce services.

The FSS looks at the predicted numbers in our Long-Term Financial Plan (LTFP) and identifies ways to address them. It also identifies reforms and provides direction on how to achieve a healthy long-term financial position.

In the last 12 months, significant gains have already been made towards financial sustainability and Council is committed to the consistent focus required to ensure we can provide for our community now and into the future.

Yarra must continue to reinvest in our existing assets so our roads, parks, gardens, pools, and buildings that we value stay in a condition we are proud of. As we bring on new assets, to remain sustainable we must also review the assets we already have to ensure community meeting spaces, service buildings and facilities evolve and adapt to reflect the changing needs of our diverse community, continue to maximise the use of unused public spaces, and increase availability and usability of open spaces to address existing shortages and respond to population growth.

Services also evolve, and Council will assess the performance and future for current services to understand whether they are relevant and whether Yarra needs to continue to deliver them or whether there is a role for an alternative delivery model. To remain sustainable over the life of this plan, some Yarra services may have to change.

Financial Plan Context

This section describes the context, principles and considerations in determining the 10-year financial projections and assumptions.

1.1. Introduction

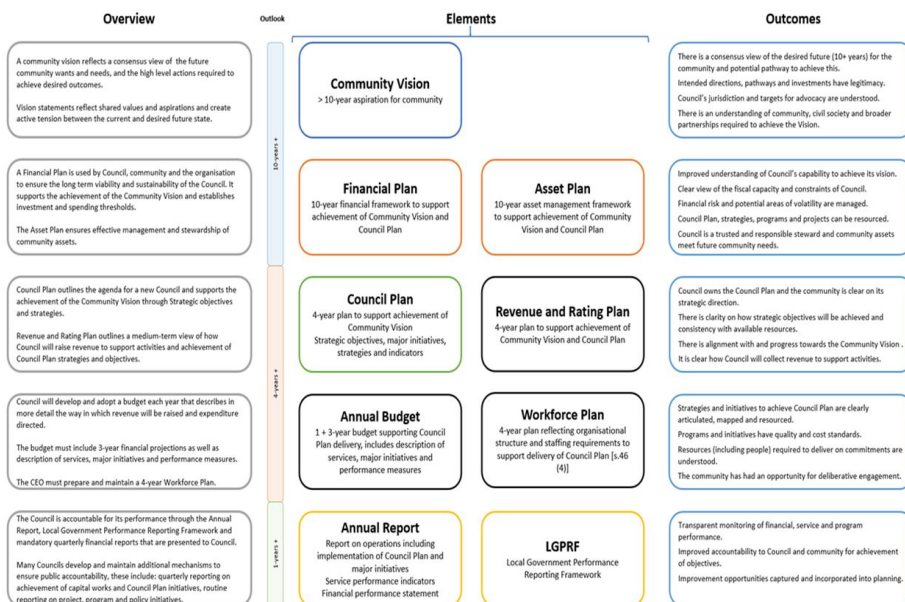
The Long-Term Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 was required to be developed through the Local Government Act 2020 (LGA) and provided a ten year financially sustainable projection regarding how the actions of the Council Plan 2021-2025 may be funded to achieve the aspirations in Yarra 2036 Community Vision.

Council is committed to a transparent and accountable budget and financial plan process. Whilst not required under the LGA, Council is updating the Financial Plan document annually as part of the budget preparation process. Together with the budget document, it is subject to ongoing review and may be updated during the budget year through a revised budget process. This updated Long Term Financial Plan 2024-25 to 2033-34 is keeping with that commitment.

This section describes how the Financial Plan links to the achievement of the Community Vision and the Council Plan within the Integrated Strategic Planning & Reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision), medium term (Council Plan) and short term (Annual Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

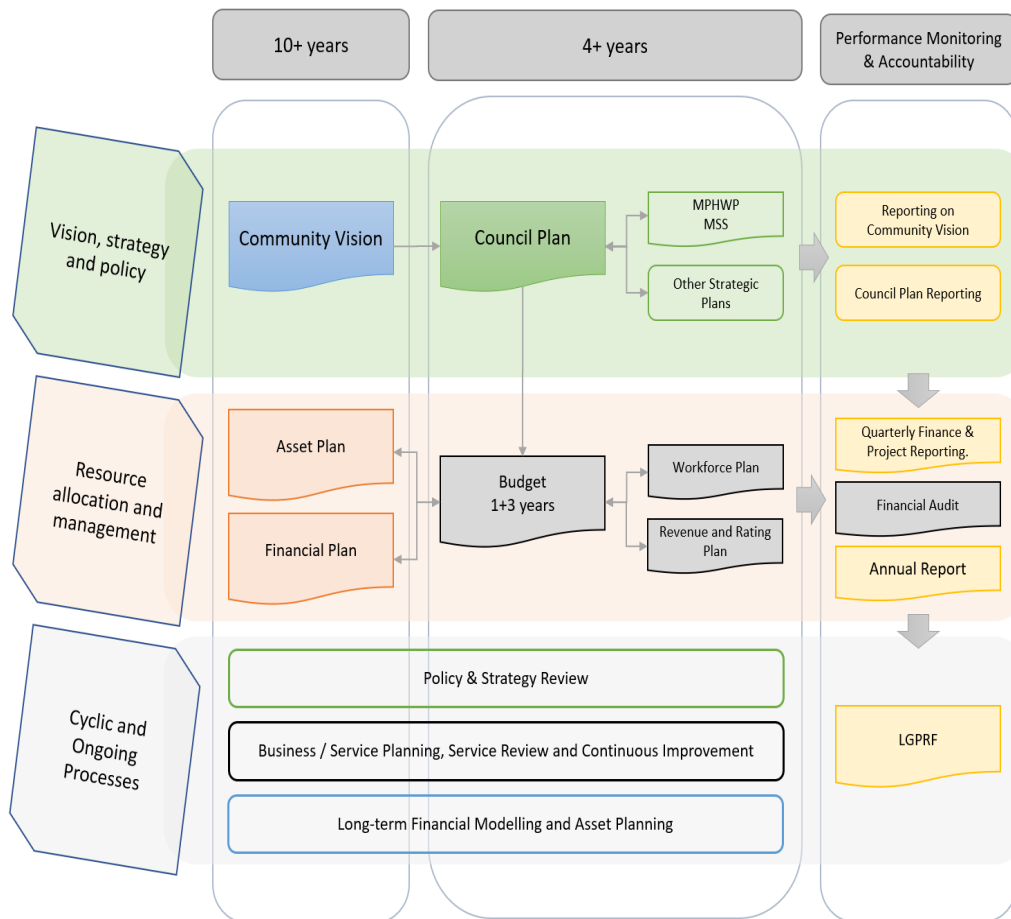
1.2. Integrated Strategic Planning & Reporting Framework

Part 4 of the LGA addresses planning and financial management and Division 1 covers strategic planning. The Financial Plan is one of the strategic plans subject to the Strategic planning principles. Section 89 of the Act sets out the Strategic planning principles and the following diagram provides an



overview of the core legislated elements of an integrated strategic planning and reporting framework and outcomes.

The following figure demonstrates how each element might inform or be informed by other parts of the integrated framework.



1.3. Engagement Principles

Yarra has implemented the following consultation process to obtain input and feedback from stakeholders to help inform the development of the Financial Plan:

The Community Vision informs all planning and decision making for Council and our community. It informs our Council Plan (effective from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2025) and our 10-year financial and asset management plans. The community engagement on the 2024/25 Budget and Financial Plan was delivered in line with our Community Engagement Policy.

As part of the development of the 2024/25 budget and the financial plan Council adopted a Financial Sustainability Strategy in December 2023. This followed a four-week engagement process seeking feedback from the community. The strategy is a representation of Council's commitment to the responsible management of ratepayer's funds. By making this move we're ensuring that we can meet the service and infrastructure needs of our community, now and into the future.

The Strategy identifies two main levers for change to ensure Council's long term financial sustainability:

1. Strategic levers - to ensure that future investment decisions are based on need, underpinned by evidence and guided by informed strategies including detailed asset management plans, contemporary property management and community infrastructure planning and an ongoing program of service reviews.
2. Systemic levers - to manage expenditure, prudent debt management, operational efficiencies, and capital works delivery management among others.

The Strategy will guide future decision-making so Council can transparently, proactively and prudently plan to be financially sustainable. It will ensure financial sustainability remains consistent with maximizing our community impact and delivering efficient and effective services and infrastructure and meet our financial obligations both today and in the future.

In the long term, the Financial Sustainability Strategy aims are:

- 0-2 years: Maintain a net positive position by delivering a surplus, ensure our operating activities no longer relies on borrowings, hold costs and start to build cash reserves for specified purposes;
- 3-5 years: Achieve a financial position where Council has sufficient cash reserves to repay borrowings, generate new revenue, can cover all known operating expenses without borrowing, deliver a long-term financial plan that more reliably reflects future financial requirements ('unknown risks'), and have approximately \$20m available in cash reserves for risk and strategic growth; and
- Within 10 years: Ensure that Council has sufficient cash reserves (approximately \$30m) to meet unforeseen or emergency expenses and support population growth without relying on borrowing or compromising essential services.

The draft Budget and associated documents were presented to the Ordinary Council meeting on 9 April 2024. These were adopted in principle, to seek community feedback. The next stage of community engagement included a public exhibition period which closed on 10 May, seeking feedback on the draft Budget and draft Financial Plan. Engagement during the exhibition period included on-line portal, hard copy through various points and a significant number of in person community engagement sessions to promote the draft Budget 2024/25 and explain the separation of the waste services charge.

The proposed engagement approach including promotion will aim to reach the diverse community and will include:

- (a) Online survey via the Your Say Yarra project page;
- (b) Two in person 'pop-up' sessions with Bi-cultural Liaison Officers at relevant sessions, and hardcopy surveys available;
- (c) Your Say Yarra email newsletter;
- (d) News item via Corporate website;
- (e) Yarra Life newsletter;
- (f) Yarra News;
- (g) Digital Screens in customer service centres, libraries and leisure centres;
- (h) Postcards (for pop-up sessions and at customer service centres);
- (i) Social media;
- (j) Hard copy surveys and postcards distributed to key Council locations;
- (k) FAQs on Your Say Yarra project page; and
- (l) Email to past budget participants.

1.4. Service Performance Principles

Yarra seeks to provide services on a community needs and value for money basis. The service performance principles are listed below:

Services are provided in an equitable manner and are responsive to the diverse needs of the community. The Council Plan is designed to identify the key services and projects to be delivered to the community. The Financial Plan shows how the service aspirations within the Council Plan may be funded;

- Services are available to the relevant users within the community;
- Yarra delivers quality services seeking to provide value for money to the community. The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) is designed to communicate Council's performance regarding the delivery of services; and
- Yarra has a Feedback and Complaints Policy and a Community Engagement Policy enabling Council to consider and respond to community feedback and complaints regarding service provision and provides opportunities to be involved in planning and decision-making respectively. Community involvement in planning and decision making improves Council's planning and delivery of services.

1.5. Financial Management Principles

Financial strategy principles have been developed and provide the framework for the development of Council's Long Term Financial Plan and Annual Budget. The principles enable consistent and informed decision-making by Council. The Financial Strategy Principles as outlined below aim to ensure a balanced and sustainable budget for the Council:

- To ensure significant forecast in population underpinning high levels of development can be provided in a financially sustainable manner;
- To ensure the right level of services are provided to the community and effectively plan for future and changing community needs;
- To ensure that Council can maintain its asset base at a standard that can effectively service the needs of our community now and into the future;
- To achieve our desired financial sustainability targets whilst minimising the impact on our ratepayers;
- To achieve sufficient annual operational surpluses to fund capital work programs;
- To have a deliverable capital construction program with the right blend of renewal, upgrade and new works in alignment to community preference;
- To improve cash levels to enable future investment;
- Any borrowings are directed towards funding of inter-generational growth infrastructure special projects and major asset renewal that support growth;
- Trust funds and statutory reserves are fully cash backed, and
- Improved integrated strategic planning (including asset management) underpinned by efficiency, evaluation, and ongoing service reviews

1.6. Asset Plan Integration

Integration to the Asset Plan is a key principle of the Council's strategic financial planning principles. The purpose of this integration is designed to ensure that future funding is allocated in a manner that supports service delivery in terms of the plans and the effective management of Council's assets into the future.

The Asset Plan identifies the operational and strategic practices which will ensure that Council manages assets across their life cycle in a financially sustainable manner. The Asset Plan, and associated asset management policies, provide council with a sound base to understand the risk associated with managing its assets for the community's benefit.

The Asset Plan is designed to inform the 10-year Financial Plan by identifying the amount of capital renewal, backlog and maintenance funding that is required over the life of each asset category. The level of funding will incorporate knowledge of asset need and condition, the risk assessment issues as well as the impact of reviewing and setting intervention and service levels for each asset class.

In addition to identifying the operational and strategic practices that ensure that Council manages assets across their life cycle in a financially sustainable manner, the Asset Plan quantifies the asset portfolio and the financial implications of those practices. Together the Financial Plan and Asset Plan seek to balance projected investment requirements against projected budgets.

1.7. Financial Policy Statements

This section defines the measures that demonstrate Council's financial sustainability in order to fund the aspirations of the Community Vision and the Council Plan.

Measure	Target	Forecast/ Actual										
		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	
Adjusted underlying result												
Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) /Adjusted underlying revenue	> 5.0%	1.1%	2.7%	(0.4%)	(1.5%)	(1.3%)	(2.5%)	(4.9%)	(6.2%)	(8.1%)	(9.1%)	
Working Capital												
Current Assets/ Current Liabilities	>1.4	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.0	
Asset renewal												
Asset renewal and upgrade expenses/ Depreciation	> or = 1.0	0.8	1.1	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	
Indebtedness												
Non-current liabilities/ own source revenue	<40.0%	33.1%	30.9%	29.1%	27.0%	26.3%	25.8%	24.4%	22.8%	22.3%	21.8%	

Adjusted underlying result

An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. Improvement in financial performance expected over the period within the Financial Plan, as adjusted underlying deficit means reliance on Councils' cash reserves or increased debt to maintain services and invest in capital works.

In our view, the gap between the rate cap and inflation, rising construction costs, and the expectation of future wage increases has presented major cost pressures on councils going forward.

Working Capital

Sufficient working capital is required to meet Council's obligations as and when they fall due. A high or increasing level of working capital suggests an improvement in liquidity. Council is targeting a working capital ratio of above 1.4.

Asset renewal

Allocate adequate funds towards renewal and upgrade capital in order to replace assets and infrastructure as they reach the end of their service life. Council is targeting an asset renew ratio of above 1.0.

Indebtedness

Council applies loan funding to new capital and maintains total noncurrent liabilities in line with own source revenue and growth of the municipality. Debt servicing and debt redemption will be maintained within the financial capacity of Council reflected in a cap on indebtedness of less than 40.

1.8. Assumptions to the financial plan statements

This section presents information regarding the assumptions to the Comprehensive Income Statement for the 10 years from 2023/24 to 2032/33. The assumptions comprise the annual escalations/movement for each line items of the Comprehensive Income Statement.

The escalation factors are the main drivers of future estimates of each revenue and expense items. Further adjustments are made for specific movements or factors when needed. CPI fluctuates through the Financial Plan period; however, Yarra City Council has applied a consistent and conservative indicators across the 10 year period.

Escalation Factors %movement	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
Rates and charges	2.75%	2.50%	2.00%	2.50%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
Statutory fees, fines and User Fees	3.50%	2.50%	2.50%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
User fees	4.00%	2.50%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
Operating Grants	2.75%	2.50%	2.50%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%
Employee costs	2.00%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%	3.50%
Materials, services & Other	3.50%	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%	3.70%
Depreciation & Amortisation	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m	1.71m

1.9. Financial Plan Overview and Strategic Actions

The Financial Plan includes a ten-year projection of Council's financial performance and position, cash flows, capital works program, and planned human resources outlining the expected resources that will be required to achieve the Community Vision 2036 and Council Plan 2021-2025. It also includes information about Council's financial management principles, assumptions, strategies, and other influences that have had a significant impact on these projections.

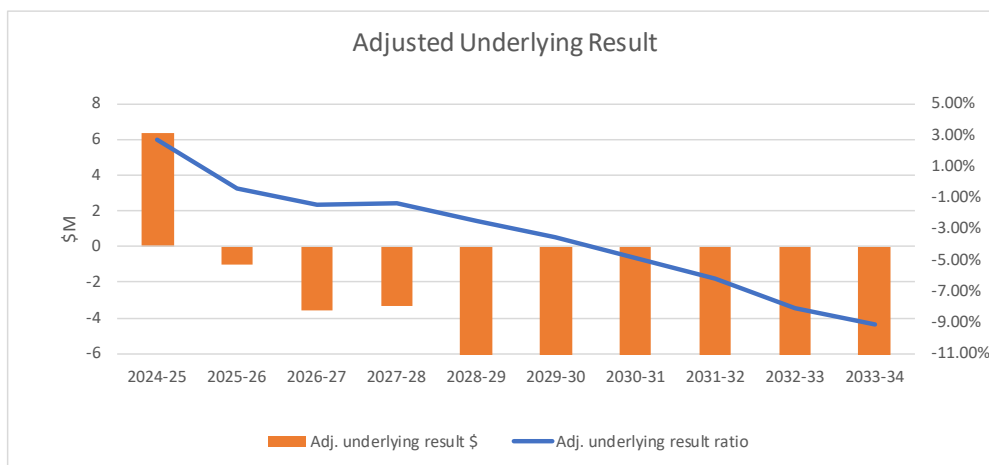
Council is deeply committed to serving the best interests of the community and recognises that consistent effort will be required to ensure that we remain financially sustainable and make the most effective use of public funds.

The Financial Plan does not incorporate future growth in FTE numbers. Requirements to fulfil statutory obligations or increased customer demand in a rate capped environment will be a challenge and Yarra will continue (as achieved in 2022/23) and for 2023/24 identify efficiency gains in the operating budget to hold costs and increase revenue without impacting community service levels.

1.9.1 Adjusted Underlying Result

The Adjusted underlying result is an important indicator as it measures the level of sustainable operating results, critical to ensure Council can provide core services and meet its objectives. To continue to deliver what our community wants and expects, as well as continuing to deliver on Yarra's vision.

Whilst Financial Performance improved during 2023/24 and 2024/25 budget as a result of achieved improved operational efficiencies and the management of costs, despite escalation of costs, structural challenges and sector wide legacy structural issues, the medium- and longer-term presents escalating uncontrollable costs and restrained income levels as a result of the impact of the rate cap Lower than target and negative net results will not also result in the inability to provide core services and meet its objectives but also reduce unrestricted cash significantly.



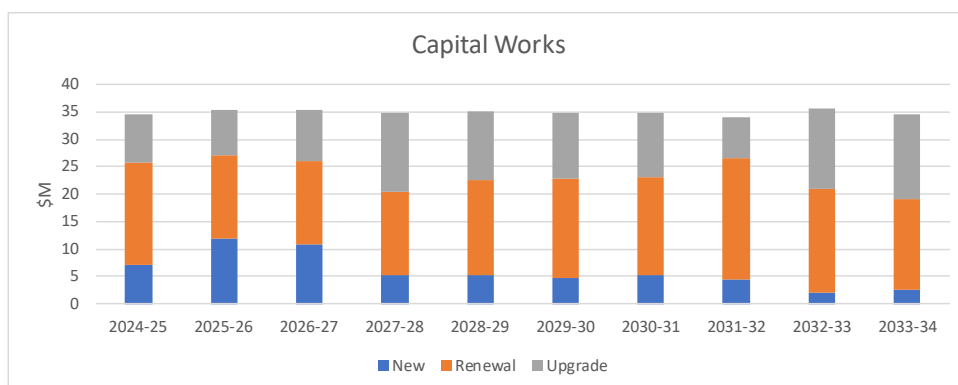
1.9.2 Asset Renewal, New and Upgrade expenditure

Council intends to spend approximately \$35m to renew, improve and create new community facilities and infrastructure over the next 10 years. This will be funded by a mix of rates, reserves and external funding sources including grants, contributions and proceeds of sale from assets assessed as no longer required.

Information from Council's Asset Management Plans determines Council's capital expenditure priorities. Funding for capital expenditure is primarily sourced from rates. In addition, Council utilises a Developer Contribution Plan which will contribute towards capital works projects. Contribution levels will depend on land sales and the desire of developers to construct new developments within the municipality. A strategic effort is also undertaken continuously to fund capital projects utilising other funding sources such as grants.

The financial sustainability strategy will focus on the capturing, processing and monitoring of data and making informed decisions in alignment to community benefit.

In addition, as part of Council's approach to responsible and sustainable asset management, Council's 10 Year Capital Works Program assigns funding priority to the renewal and upgrade of existing infrastructure over the creation of new assets.



Sustainable asset management is necessary for Council to meet its responsibilities to:

- Provide sustainable services to current and future generations;
- Provide and maintain necessary sustainable community infrastructure, and
- Encourage and support the economic and social development of the area.

Council's approach to asset management includes:

- The application of Yarra's Asset Management Strategy and Plan;
- Defining sustainable service levels that meet sustainable community expectations;
- An organisational wide information system for asset data management, reporting and works planning, and
- A planned and fully funded approach to timely asset renewal driven by a lifecycle management practices.

1.9.3 Council property

In 2018, Council adopted a Property Strategy, which provides a comprehensive framework for the management of all Council property assets and establishes guiding principles for the alignment of Council's property portfolio with its future community and service delivery requirements. As part the Financial Sustainability Strategy Council will review and evaluate its property portfolio to ensure that public value is maximised.

1.9.4 Rates and Other Revenue

Rates

Rate increases in accordance with the Fair Go Rates framework (Rate Cap) and Council's Revenue and Rating Plan.

The Minister for Local Government has declared the rate cap level for 2024/25 at 2.75%. This follows rate caps of 3.5% in 2023/24, 1.75% in 2022/23, 1.5% in 2021/22, 2.0% in 2020/21, 2.50% in 2019/20, and 2.25% in 2018/19. As the rate cap is lower than CPI, this will continue to put pressure on price, level and delivery of services.

Council separates waste and recycling costs from general rates. (First introduced through the adopted budget 2023/24). General rates are now reduced by the same amount to ensure that total revenue is within the rate cap. Waste service charges are not subject to the rate cap however, as it is for cost recovery only, it is capped by the cost of providing waste and recycling services.

Separating the waste charge from general rates is a critical component to ensuring Council's future financial sustainability is not eroded further.

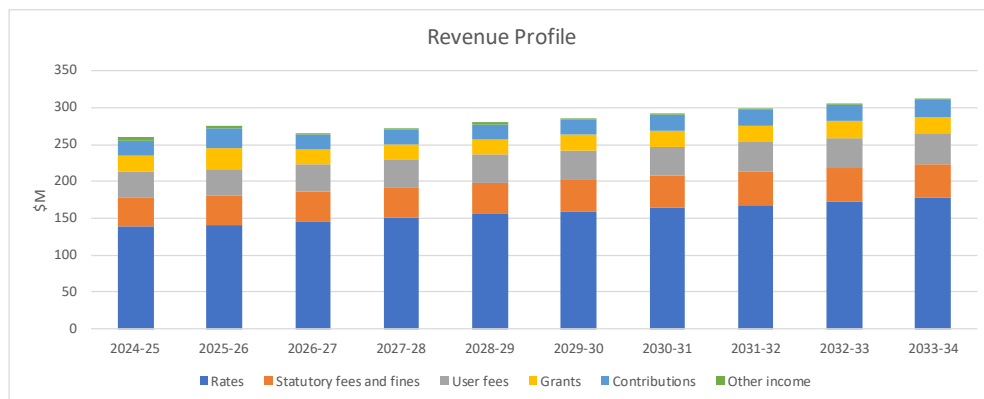
All other councils in Victoria have taken this into consideration of their financial future and have either separated or made the decision to separate waste services charges. Yarra was the last Council in Victoria to make the decision to separate waste charges from general rates.

Other Revenue

User fees and charges are reviewed annually with consideration given to a range of factors such as cost of service, community access, equity and affordability and market forces. A list of fees and charges are included within the Budget each year.

Council will continue to develop partnerships (which are beneficial to Council and community) to source external grants and grow its own-sourced revenue, which includes contributions, interest, asset sales and other income. Council will pro-actively advocate to other levels of government for grant funding support to deliver infrastructure and service outcomes for the community.

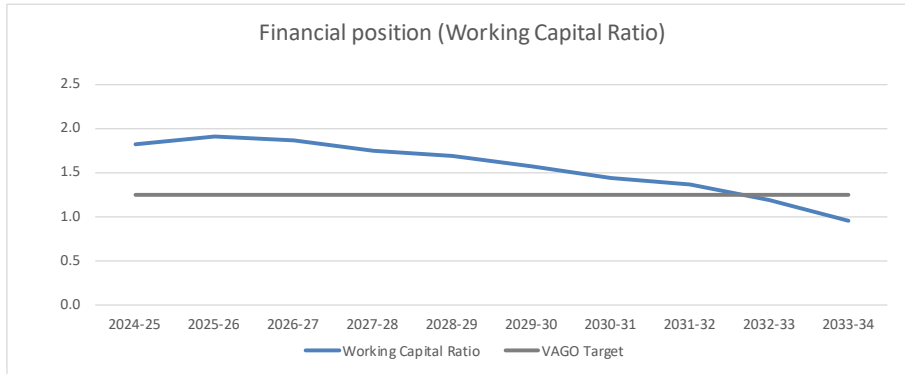
Council collects revenue from the application of statutory fees and fines under the direction of legislation or other government directions. These can be: Planning and subdivision fees, Building and Inspection fees, infringements and fines and land information certificate fees.



The Financial Plan is reviewed annually as part of Council's budget deliberations and future rate increases will be considered in light of prevailing economic conditions, community needs and the rate cap ordered by the Minister for Local Government.

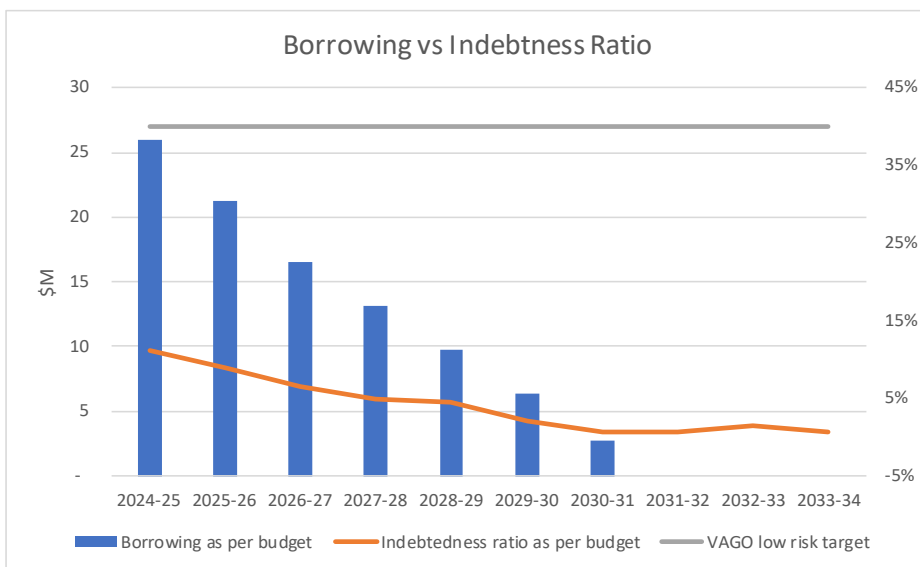
1.9.5 Financial position (Working Capital Ratio)

Despite the increases to the working capital position throughout the Financial Plan, Council is still at risk of not generating sufficient funds to maintain existing (and plan for future) levels of service, maintain and improve Council facilities and infrastructure through the Capital Works Program and re-pay debt.



1.9.6 Borrowings

The introduction of rate capping as well as debt required to be repaid in the short term, has had a significant impact on the Financial Plan and challenged Council's financial position. Existing debt is serviced by a \$32.5m principal and interest loan, due to be repaid by 2031/32 and a \$13.5m principal and interest loan due to be repaid by 2027.



The Victorian Auditor-General has indicated through its recommendation on financial ratios that Indebtedness (Non-current liabilities/Own sourced revenue) above 40% places Council in the medium risk category and above 60% in the high risk category. The indebtedness ratio in the Financial Plan is expected to be 14% at the end of the current 2023/24 budget year and will continue to decrease during the life of the Financial Plan, to reduce the already low risk to Council.

2. Financial Plan Statements

This section presents information in regard to the Financial Plan Statements for the 10 years from 2024/25 to 2033/34.

Comprehensive Income Statement

Balance Sheet

Statement of Cash Flows

Statement of Capital Works

Statement of Human Resources

Statement of Changes in Equity

2.1. Comprehensive Income Statement

	Assumptions	Forecast/										
		Actual 2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000	2030/31 \$'000	2031/32 \$'000	2032/33 \$'000	2033/34 \$'000
Income / Revenue												
Rates and charges	4.1.1	131,684	139,215	141,017	145,677	150,566	155,590	159,782	164,065	168,443	172,916	177,489
Statutory fees and fines	4.1.2	37,479	38,816	39,787	40,781	41,495	42,221	42,960	43,712	44,477	45,255	46,047
User fees	4.1.3	33,486	35,628	36,518	37,157	37,808	38,469	39,142	39,827	40,524	41,234	41,955
Grants - operating	4.1.4	18,778	18,751	19,220	19,701	20,045	20,396	20,753	21,116	21,486	21,862	22,244
Grants - capital	4.1.4	1,930	2,434	8,303	259	259	259	259	259	259	259	259
Contributions - monetary	4.1.5	7,715	6,879	6,925	6,974	7,008	7,043	7,079	7,115	7,152	7,190	7,228
Net gain (or loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		430	260	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Other income	4.1.6	5,159	4,348	2,772	2,796	2,814	2,831	2,849	2,868	2,887	2,906	2,925
Total income / revenue		236,661	246,332	254,592	253,395	260,044	266,860	272,875	279,013	285,278	291,672	298,198
Expenses												
Employee costs	4.1.7	102,735	103,263	109,181	113,081	116,468	120,650	124,979	129,458	134,095	138,893	143,828
Materials and services	4.1.8	88,859	94,694	96,952	99,854	101,291	105,366	107,809	111,763	115,866	121,323	124,296
Depreciation	4.1.9	25,697	25,477	27,189	28,900	30,611	32,322	34,033	35,744	37,455	39,166	40,877
Depreciation - right of use assets	4.1.9	234	1,298	1,409	1,418	1,418	1,606	1,610	1,610	1,698	1,829	1,829
Allowance for impairment losses		5,112	4,184	4,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Borrowing costs	4.1.10	894	788	661	519	397	310	221	129	36	-	-
Finance Costs - leases	4.1.10	136	185	185	215	141	53	292	208	110	162	289
Other expenses	4.1.11	757	752	771	791	820	850	882	914	948	983	1,019
Total expenses		224,424	230,641	240,347	249,778	256,145	266,156	274,825	284,827	295,208	307,355	317,138
Surplus/(deficit) for the year		12,237	15,691	14,246	3,618	3,899	704	(1,950)	(5,814)	(9,930)	(15,683)	(18,940)
Other comprehensive income surplus or deficit in future periods												
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)		-	-	77,568	-	81,222	-	84,713	-	88,056	-	91,268
Total other comprehensive income		-	-	77,568	-	81,222	-	84,713	-	88,056	-	91,268
Total comprehensive result		12,237	15,691	91,813	3,618	85,121	704	82,763	(5,814)	78,127	(15,683)	72,328

2.2. Balance Sheet

	Forecast /											
	Actual	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	
	2023/24	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Assets												
Current assets												
Cash and cash equivalents	95,390	95,745	92,808	83,653	75,804	73,156	65,329	55,866	46,482	36,224	21,436	
Trade and other receivables	24,754	24,829	27,032	27,660	28,320	28,998	29,563	30,141	30,732	31,336	31,953	
Other financial assets	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	2,148	
Inventories	147	147	147	147	147	147	147	147	147	147	147	
Total current assets	122,439	122,868	122,134	113,607	106,419	104,448	97,187	88,302	79,509	69,854	55,683	
Non-current assets												
Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	
Property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	1,930,132	1,939,188	2,024,510	2,030,546	2,115,454	2,117,824	2,202,786	2,201,412	2,285,710	2,281,702	2,366,182	
Right-of-use assets	3,483	2,292	1,459	41	4,064	4,064	4,064	4,064	4,064	4,064	4,064	
Total non-current assets	1,933,621	1,941,485	2,025,974	2,030,591	2,119,522	2,121,893	2,206,855	2,205,480	2,289,779	2,285,770	2,370,250	
Total assets	2,056,059	2,064,353	2,148,108	2,144,198	2,225,941	2,226,341	2,304,042	2,293,782	2,369,288	2,355,624	2,425,933	
Liabilities												
Current liabilities												
Trade and other payables	16,601	17,234	17,234	17,234	17,234	17,634	17,634	17,634	17,634	17,634	17,634	
Trust funds and deposits	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	15,797	
Contract and other liabilities	13,063	10,704	6,919	5,489	5,489	5,489	5,489	5,489	5,489	5,489	5,489	
Provisions	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	17,759	
Interest-bearing liabilities	4,532	4,669	4,811	3,305	3,391	3,480	3,572	2,740	-	-	-	
Lease liabilities	1,140	1,177	1,434	1,523	1,492	1,581	1,679	1,724	1,743	1,851	1,743	
Total current liabilities	68,892	67,340	63,954	61,107	61,162	61,741	61,930	61,143	58,422	58,530	58,422	
Non-current liabilities												
Provisions	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	1,227	
Other liabilities	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	386	
Interest-bearing liabilities	25,968	21,299	16,489	13,184	9,792	6,312	2,740	-	-	-	-	
Lease liabilities	2,455	1,279	1,417	43	-	2,599	920	-	100	2,011	100	
Total non-current liabilities	30,037	24,192	19,519	14,840	11,406	10,524	5,273	1,613	1,713	3,625	1,713	
Total liabilities	98,929	91,532	83,474	75,947	72,568	72,265	67,203	62,756	60,136	62,155	60,136	
Net assets	1,957,130	1,972,821	2,064,634	2,068,252	2,153,373	2,154,076	2,236,839	2,231,025	2,309,152	2,293,469	2,365,797	
Equity												
Accumulated surplus	683,761	699,479	713,724	717,342	721,241	721,945	719,995	714,181	704,251	688,568	669,628	
Reserves	1,273,370	1,273,342	1,350,910	1,350,910	1,432,132	1,432,132	1,516,845	1,516,845	1,604,901	1,604,901	1,696,169	
Total equity	1,957,130	1,972,821	2,064,634	2,068,252	2,153,373	2,154,076	2,236,839	2,231,025	2,309,152	2,293,469	2,365,797	

2.3. Statement of Changes in Equity

	Total	Accumulated Surplus	Revaluation Reserve	Other Reserves
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2024 Forecast Actual				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,944,894	674,425	1,244,894	25,575
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	12,237	12,237	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,200)	-	5,200
Transfers from other reserves	-	2,299	-	(2,299)
Balance at end of the financial year	1,957,130	683,761	1,244,894	28,476
2025				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,957,130	683,761	1,244,894	28,476
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	15,691	15,691	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,027	-	(5,027)
Balance at end of the financial year	1,972,821	699,479	1,244,894	28,449
2026				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,972,821	699,479	1,244,894	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	14,246	14,246	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	77,568	-	77,568	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,064,634	713,724	1,322,461	28,449
2027				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,064,634	713,724	1,322,461	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	3,618	3,618	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,068,252	717,342	1,322,461	28,449
2028				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,068,252	717,342	1,322,461	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	3,899	3,899	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	81,222	-	81,222	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,153,373	721,241	1,403,683	28,449

	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
2029				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,153,373	721,241	1,403,683	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	704	704	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,154,076	721,945	1,403,683	28,449
2030				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,154,076	721,945	1,403,683	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(1,950)	(1,950)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	84,713	-	84,713	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,236,839	719,995	1,488,396	28,449
2031				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,236,839	719,995	1,488,396	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(5,814)	(5,814)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,231,025	714,181	1,488,396	28,449
2032				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,231,025	714,181	1,488,396	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(9,930)	(9,930)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	88,056	-	88,056	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,309,152	704,251	1,576,452	28,449
2033				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,309,152	704,251	1,576,452	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(15,683)	(15,683)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,293,469	688,568	1,576,452	28,449
2034				
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,293,469	688,568	1,576,452	28,449
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(18,940)	(18,940)	-	-
Net asset revaluation gain/(loss)	91,268	-	91,268	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(5,000)	-	5,000
Transfers from other reserves	-	5,000	-	(5,000)
Balance at end of the financial year	2,365,797	669,628	1,667,721	28,449

2.4. Statement of Cash Flows

	Forecast / Actual										
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities											
Rates and charges	132,651	139,141	138,814	145,048	149,906	154,912	159,216	163,487	167,852	172,313	176,872
Statutory fees and fines	32,367	34,633	35,787	35,781	36,495	37,221	37,960	38,712	39,477	40,255	41,047
User fees	33,486	35,628	36,518	37,157	37,808	38,469	39,142	39,827	40,524	41,234	41,955
Grants - operating	18,604	17,572	17,327	18,271	20,045	20,396	20,753	21,116	21,486	21,862	22,244
Grants - capital	1,755	1,255	6,410	259	259	259	259	259	259	259	259
Contributions - monetary	7,715	6,879	6,925	6,974	7,008	7,043	7,079	7,115	7,152	7,190	7,228
Interest received	3,000	3,400	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Other receipts	2,159	948	972	996	1,014	1,031	1,049	1,068	1,087	1,106	1,125
Net GST refund / payment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employee costs	(102,735)	(103,263)	(109,181)	(113,081)	(116,468)	(120,650)	(124,979)	(129,458)	(134,095)	(138,893)	(143,828)
Materials and services	(79,446)	(94,061)	(96,952)	(99,854)	(101,291)	(104,966)	(107,809)	(111,763)	(115,866)	(121,323)	(124,296)
Short-term, low value and variable lease											
Other payments	(757)	(752)	(771)	(791)	(820)	(850)	(882)	(914)	(948)	(983)	(1,019)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	48,798	41,378	37,650	32,561	35,756	34,666	33,590	31,249	28,728	24,820	23,387
Cash flows from investing activities											
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(29,575)	(34,578)	(35,444)	(35,435)	(34,797)	(35,192)	(34,782)	(34,869)	(34,197)	(35,657)	(34,589)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and	616	305	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550	550
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	(28,959)	(34,273)	(34,894)	(34,885)	(34,247)	(34,642)	(34,232)	(34,319)	(33,647)	(35,107)	(34,039)
Cash flows from financing activities											
Finance costs	(894)	(788)	(661)	(519)	(397)	(310)	(221)	(129)	(36)	-	-
Repayment of borrowings	(4,399)	(4,532)	(4,669)	(4,811)	(3,305)	(3,391)	(3,480)	(3,572)	(2,740)	-	-
Interest paid - lease liability	(136)	(185)	(185)	(215)	(141)	(53)	(292)	(208)	(110)	(162)	(289)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(143)	(1,246)	(179)	(1,286)	(5,515)	1,082	(3,191)	(2,485)	(1,579)	191	(3,848)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	(5,572)	(6,751)	(5,694)	(6,831)	(9,357)	(2,672)	(7,185)	(6,394)	(4,465)	29	(4,137)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents	14,267	354	(2,937)	(9,155)	(7,848)	(2,648)	(7,827)	(9,464)	(9,383)	(10,259)	(14,788)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	81,124	95,390	95,745	92,808	83,653	75,804	73,156	65,329	55,866	46,482	36,224
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial	95,390	95,745	92,808	83,653	75,804	73,156	65,329	55,866	46,482	36,224	21,436

2.5. Statement of Capital Works

	Forecast / Actual										
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property											
Buildings	4,731	9,074	15,980	13,858	14,315	14,350	12,635	11,340	10,680	13,410	12,820
Total buildings	4,731	9,074	15,980	13,858	14,315	14,350	12,635	11,340	10,680	13,410	12,820
Total property	4,731	9,074	15,980	13,858	14,315	14,350	12,635	11,340	10,680	13,410	12,820
Plant and equipment											
Plant, machinery and equipment	412	940	690	690	690	840	840	1,130	940	1,090	940
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	191	165	135	285	140	100	110	260	240	60	170
Computers and telecommunications	323	1,440	1,342	1,400	1,325	1,690	1,400	1,407	1,400	1,840	439
Library books	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600
Total plant and equipment	1,526	3,145	2,767	2,975	2,755	3,230	2,950	3,397	3,180	3,590	2,149
Infrastructure											
Roads	6,944	7,704	4,425	4,295	4,800	4,200	4,800	4,950	4,880	4,970	5,200
Bridges	-	-	-	150	150	-	-	-	1,000	-	-
Footpaths and cycleways	1,499	-	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
Drainage	2,495	4,000	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	4,500	5,000	5,000	4,800	4,800
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Waste management	1,040	250	200	200	200	200	200	300	300	300	300
Parks, open space and streetscapes	8,324	7,370	4,675	6,790	5,480	5,535	5,520	6,005	5,280	5,120	4,930
Other infrastructure	3,015	3,035	1,897	1,667	1,597	1,677	1,677	1,377	1,377	967	1,890
Total infrastructure	23,317	22,359	16,697	18,602	17,727	17,612	19,197	20,132	20,337	18,657	19,620
Total capital works expenditure	29,575	34,578	35,444	35,435	34,797	35,192	34,782	34,869	34,197	35,657	34,589
Represented by:											
New asset expenditure	8,600	7,114	11,895	10,850	5,312	5,167	4,747	5,285	4,517	1,997	2,600
Asset renewal expenditure	19,626	18,717	15,299	15,090	15,215	17,355	18,025	17,755	22,035	18,970	16,554
Asset upgrade expenditure	1,349	8,747	8,250	9,495	14,270	12,670	12,010	11,830	7,645	14,690	15,435
Total capital works expenditure	29,575	34,578	35,444	35,435	34,797	35,192	34,782	34,869	34,197	35,657	34,589
Funding sources represented by:											
Grants	1,930	2,434	8,303	259	259	259	259	259	259	259	259
Contributions	2,299	5,027	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Council cash	25,346	27,117	22,141	30,176	29,538	29,933	29,523	29,610	28,938	30,398	29,330
Total capital works expenditure	29,575	34,578	35,444	35,435	34,797	35,192	34,782	34,869	34,197	35,657	34,589

2.6. Statement of Human Resources

Staff expenditure	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Staff expenditure											
Employee costs - operating	104,085	105,063	111,044	115,009	118,463	122,716	127,116	131,671	136,385	141,263	146,281
Employee costs - capital	(1,350)	(1,800)	(1,863)	(1,928)	(1,996)	(2,066)	(2,138)	(2,213)	(2,290)	(2,370)	(2,453)
Total staff expenditure	102,735	103,263	109,181	113,081	116,468	120,650	124,979	129,458	134,095	138,893	143,828

Staff numbers	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Staff numbers											
Employees	932.0	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2	896.2
Employees -Capital	(12.7)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)
Total staff numbers	919.3	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1	877.1

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of Council is included below:

Department	Total	Comprises			
		Permanent			
		Full Time	Part Time	Casual	Temporary
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Chief Executive Office	627	627	-	-	-
Corporate Services and Transformation	13,065	12,503	414	-	148
City Sustainability and Strategy	22,744	20,014	1,903	710	113
Community Strengthening	31,871	21,257	8,893	1,370	341
Infrastructure and Environment	28,233	22,493	1,686	3,909	70
Governance, Communications and Customer Service	7,104	6,115	885	104	-
Total permanent staff expenditure	103,643	83,010	13,781	6,093	672
Other employee related expenditure	1,420				
Capitalised labour costs	(1,800)	(1,800)			
Total staff expenditure	103,263	81,210	13,781	6,093	672

A summary of the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Council staff in relation to the above expenditure is included below:

Department	Total	Comprises			
		Permanent Full Time	Permanent Part Time	Casual	Temporary
Chief Executive Office	2.0	2.0	-	-	-
Corporate Services and Transformation	94.2	89.0	3.4	-	1.8
City Sustainability and Strategy	183.0	155.0	19.1	7.0	2.0
Community Strengthening	302.8	196.8	88.4	13.2	4.3
Infrastructure and Environment	235.2	191.0	19.4	41.9	2.0
Governance, Communications and Customer Service	59.9	49.0	9.9	1.0	-
Total staff	877.1	682.8	140.3	63.1	10.1

2.7. Summary of Planned Human Resources Expenditure For the ten years ended 30 June 2034

	2024/25 \$'000	2025/26 \$'000	2026/27 \$'000	2027/28 \$'000	2028/29 \$'000	2029/30 \$'000	2030/31 \$'000	2031/32 \$'000	2032/33 \$'000	2033/34 \$'000
Chief Executive Office										
Permanent - Full time	627	663	687	708	733	759	787	815	844	874
Women	627	663	687	708	733	759	787	815	844	874
Men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Chief Executive Office	627	663	687	708	733	759	787	815	844	874
Corporate Services and Transformation										
Permanent - Full time	11,171	11,811	12,233	12,599	13,052	13,520	14,004	14,506	15,025	15,559
Women	5,668	5,993	6,207	6,393	6,622	6,860	7,106	7,360	7,624	7,895
Men	5,503	5,818	6,026	6,206	6,429	6,660	6,899	7,146	7,401	7,664
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	315	334	345	356	369	382	395	410	424	439
Women	315	334	345	356	369	382	395	410	424	439
Men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services and Transformation	11,486	12,144	12,578	12,955	13,420	13,902	14,400	14,916	15,449	15,998
City Sustainability and Strategy										
Permanent - Full time	18,838	19,918	20,629	21,247	22,010	22,800	23,617	24,463	25,338	26,239
Women	8,591	9,083	9,408	9,689	10,037	10,397	10,770	11,156	11,555	11,966
Men	10,248	10,835	11,222	11,558	11,973	12,402	12,847	13,307	13,783	14,273
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,477	1,562	1,618	1,666	1,726	1,788	1,852	1,918	1,987	2,057
Women	741	784	812	836	866	897	930	963	997	1,033
Men	736	778	806	830	860	890	922	955	990	1,025
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total City Sustainability and Strategy	20,316	21,480	22,247	22,913	23,736	24,588	25,469	26,381	27,325	28,296
Community Strengthening										
Permanent - Full time	18,531	19,593	20,293	20,900	21,651	22,428	23,232	24,064	24,925	25,810
Women	14,278	15,096	15,635	16,103	16,682	17,280	17,900	18,541	19,204	19,886
Men	4,253	4,497	4,657	4,797	4,969	5,148	5,332	5,523	5,721	5,924
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	7,459	7,887	8,169	8,413	8,715	9,028	9,352	9,687	10,033	10,390
Women	6,532	6,906	7,153	7,367	7,632	7,905	8,189	8,482	8,786	9,098
Men	928	981	1,016	1,046	1,084	1,123	1,163	1,204	1,248	1,292
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Community Strengthening	25,990	27,480	28,461	29,314	30,366	31,456	32,583	33,750	34,958	36,200
Infrastructure and Environment										
Permanent - Full time	20,598	21,778	22,556	23,231	24,066	24,929	25,823	26,747	27,704	28,689
Women	5,875	6,212	6,434	6,627	6,865	7,111	7,366	7,630	7,903	8,183
Men	14,722	15,566	16,122	16,605	17,201	17,818	18,457	19,118	19,802	20,505
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,025	1,083	1,122	1,156	1,197	1,240	1,285	1,331	1,378	1,427
Women	731	773	800	824	854	884	916	949	983	1,018
Men	294	311	322	331	343	356	368	382	395	409
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Infrastructure and Environment	21,622	22,861	23,678	24,387	25,263	26,169	27,107	28,078	29,083	30,116
Governance, Communications and Customer Service										
Permanent - Full time	5,404	5,713	5,918	6,095	6,314	6,540	6,775	7,017	7,268	7,527
Women	4,075	4,309	4,463	4,596	4,761	4,932	5,109	5,292	5,481	5,676
Men	1,329	1,405	1,455	1,499	1,552	1,608	1,666	1,725	1,787	1,851
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	885	936	969	998	1,034	1,071	1,109	1,149	1,190	1,232
Women	558	590	611	629	651	675	699	724	750	777
Men	327	346	358	369	382	396	410	425	440	456
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Governance, Communications and Customer Service	6,289	6,649	6,886	7,093	7,347	7,611	7,884	8,166	8,458	8,759
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	18,733	19,766	20,471	21,094	21,850	22,632	23,441	24,279	25,146	26,038
Capitalised labour cost	(1,800)	(1,863)	(1,928)	(1,996)	(2,066)	(2,138)	(2,213)	(2,290)	(2,370)	(2,453)
Total staff expenditure	103,263	109,181	113,081	116,468	120,650	124,979	129,458	134,095	138,893	143,828

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34
	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE	FTE
Chief Executive Office										
Permanent - Full time	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Women	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Chief Executive Office	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
Corporate Services and Transformation										
Permanent - Full time	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00	79.00
Women	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00	39.00
Men	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63
Women	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63	2.63
Men	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Services and Transformation	81.63	81.63	81.63	81.63	81.63	81.63	81.63	81.63	81.63	81.63
City Sustainability and Strategy										
Permanent - Full time	144.95	144.95	144.95	144.95	144.95	144.95	144.95	144.95	144.95	144.95
Women	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00	66.00
Men	78.95	78.95	78.95	78.95	78.95	78.95	78.95	78.95	78.95	78.95
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	14.39	14.39	14.39	14.39	14.39	14.39	14.39	14.39	14.39	14.39
Women	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64	6.64
Men	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75	7.75
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total City Sustainability and Strategy	159.34	159.34	159.34	159.34	159.34	159.34	159.34	159.34	159.34	159.34
Community Strengthening										
Permanent - Full time	164.80	164.80	164.80	164.80	164.80	164.80	164.80	164.80	164.80	164.80
Women	127.80	127.80	127.80	127.80	127.80	127.80	127.80	127.80	127.80	127.80
Men	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00	37.00
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	72.11	72.11	72.11	72.11	72.11	72.11	72.11	72.11	72.11	72.11
Women	61.88	61.88	61.88	61.88	61.88	61.88	61.88	61.88	61.88	61.88
Men	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23	10.23
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Community Strengthening	236.91	236.91	236.91	236.91	236.91	236.91	236.91	236.91	236.91	236.91
Infrastructure and Environment										
Permanent - Full time	173.00	173.00	173.00	173.00	173.00	173.00	173.00	173.00	173.00	173.00
Women	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00
Men	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00	124.00
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	11.09	11.09	11.09	11.09	11.09	11.09	11.09	11.09	11.09	11.09
Women	7.54	7.54	7.54	7.54	7.54	7.54	7.54	7.54	7.54	7.54
Men	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55	3.55
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Infrastructure and Environment	184.09	184.09	184.09	184.09	184.09	184.09	184.09	184.09	184.09	184.09
Governance, Communications and Customer Service										
Permanent - Full time	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00	43.00
Women	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00	32.00
Men	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	9.87	9.87	9.87	9.87	9.87	9.87	9.87	9.87	9.87	9.87
Women	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05	6.05
Men	3.82	3.82	3.82	3.82	3.82	3.82	3.82	3.82	3.82	3.82
Persons of self-described gender	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Governance, Communications and Customer Service	52.87	52.87	52.87	52.87	52.87	52.87	52.87	52.87	52.87	52.87
Casuals and temporary staff	179.37	179.37	179.37	179.37	179.37	179.37	179.37	179.37	179.37	179.37
Capitalised labour cost	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)	(19.1)
Total staff numbers	877.06	877.06	877.06	877.06	877.06	877.06	877.06	877.06	877.06	877.06

3. Financial performance indicators

The following table highlights Council's projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide an analysis of Council's 10 year financial projections and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives and financial management principles.

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Forecast												Trend
			Actual	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	+/-
Operating position															
Adjusted underlying result (an adjusted underlying surplus is generated in the ordinary course of business)	Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue	1	1.1%	2.7%	(0.4%)	(1.5%)	(1.3%)	(2.5%)	(3.5%)	(4.9%)	(6.2%)	(8.1%)	(9.1%)	-	
Liquidity															
Working Capital (sufficient working capital is available to pay bills as and when they fall due)	Current assets compared to current liabilities Current assets / current liabilities	2	177.7%	182.5%	191.0%	185.9%	174.0%	169.2%	156.9%	144.4%	136.1%	119.3%	95.3%	o	
Unrestricted cash (sufficient cash that is free of restrictions is available to pay bills as and when they fall due)	Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities Unrestricted cash / current liabilities	3	34.7%	39.6%	43.0%	32.3%	19.5%	15.0%	2.3%	(13.1%)	(29.8%)	(47.3%)	(72.7%)	o	
Obligations															
Loans and borrowings (level of interest bearing loans and borrowings is appropriate to the size and nature of Council's activities)	Loans and borrowings compared to rates Interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue	4	23.2%	18.7%	15.1%	11.3%	8.8%	6.3%	4.0%	1.7%	-	-	-	+	
Loans and borrowings (level of interest bearing loans and borrowings is appropriate to the size and nature of Council's activities)	Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue	5	4.0%	3.8%	3.8%	3.7%	2.5%	2.4%	2.3%	2.3%	1.7%	-	-	+	
Indebtedness (level of long term liabilities is appropriate to the size and nature of a Council's activities)	Non-current liabilities compared to own-source revenue Non-current liabilities / own source revenue	6	33.1%	30.9%	29.1%	27.0%	26.3%	25.8%	25.3%	24.4%	22.8%	22.3%	21.8%	+	
Asset renewal (assets are renewed as planned)	Asset renewal compared to depreciation Asset renewal and upgrade expense / Asset depreciation	7	81.6%	107.8%	86.6%	85.1%	96.3%	92.9%	88.3%	82.8%	79.2%	85.9%	78.3%	o	
Stability															
Rates concentration (revenue is generated from a range of sources)	Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue	8	56.1%	57.1%	57.3%	57.5%	58.0%	58.4%	58.6%	58.9%	59.1%	59.3%	59.6%	+	
Rates effort (rating level is set based on the community's capacity to pay)	Rates compared to property values Rate revenue / CIV of rateable properties in the municipality	9	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	+	

Indicator	Measure	Notes	Forecast												Trend
			Actual	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	+/-
Efficiency															
Expenditure level (resources are used efficiently in the delivery of services)	Expenses per property assessment Total expenses / no. of property assessments	10	\$3,738	\$3,766	\$3,849	\$3,924	\$3,949	\$4,028	\$4,085	\$4,159	\$4,236	\$4,335	\$4,398	o	
Revenue level (resources are used efficiently in the delivery of services)	Average rate per property assessment General rates and municipal charges / no. of property assessments	11	\$2,191	\$2,271	\$2,256	\$2,286	\$2,319	\$2,353	\$2,373	\$2,394	\$2,415	\$2,437	\$2,460	o	

Key to Forecast Trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

Notes to indicators

1. Adjusted underlying result

An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services and meet its objectives. Improvement in financial performance expected over the period, although continued losses means reliance on Councils' cash reserves or increased debt to maintain services and invest in capital works.

2. Working Capital

Sufficient working capital is required to meet Council's obligations as and when they fall due. A high or increasing level of working capital suggests an improvement in liquidity.

3. Unrestricted Cash

Unrestricted cash is forecast to improve to achieve the delivery of the capital works program as well as ensuring the open space reserve is cash backed.

4. Loans and borrowings to rates

Trend indicates Council's reducing reliance on debt against its annual revenue through redemption of long term debts. The level of long-term liabilities is reasonable to the size and nature of a council's activities. A low or decreasing level of long-term liabilities suggests an improvement in the capacity to meet long-term obligations.

5. Loans and borrowings repayments to rates

Trend indicates a reduced reliance on long term debt and forecast increasing rates base.

6. Indebtedness

Trend indicates a reduced reliance on long term debt and increasing own source revenue.

7. Asset renewal

This percentage indicates the extent of Council's renewal of assets against its depreciation charge (an indication of the decline in value of its existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100% indicates Council is maintaining its existing assets, while Council has achieved greater than 100% in the past, forward planning of less than 100% is still sustainable whilst ensuring assets are not deteriorating faster than they are being renewed

8. Rates concentration

Revenue should be generated from a range of sources. Reflects extent of reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's ongoing services. A high or increasing range of revenue sources suggests an improvement in stability

9. Rates effort

Rates effort is expected to decrease slightly over the term of the financial plan, due to the forecast increase in Rate Cap exceeding the forecast increase in CIV of rateable properties.

10. Expenditure level

Trend indicates an increase over the term of the financial plan, which is consistent with CPI forecasts.

11. Revenue level

Trend indicates an increase over the term of the financial plan, which is consistent with Rates cap forecasts.

4. Strategies and Plans

This section describes the strategies and plans that support the 10 year financial projections included to the Financial Plan.

4.1. Borrowing Strategy

4.1.1 Current Debt Position

Council recognises that long term borrowings can be a useful tool for funding renewal of existing and major new assets. It also recognises that while borrowings enhance the capacity of Council's short term capital program, debt repayment and borrowing costs may potentially limit the capacity of future capital programs. It is, therefore, important that the utilisation of debt as a funding tool is applied judiciously.

Council borrowed \$32.5m in 2013/2014 to settle the Vision Super unfunded defined benefit liability and fund major capital projects, including acquisition of 345 Bridge Road Richmond. This borrowing was an interest only loan and repaid in full in November 2021. In February 2022, Council re-borrowed \$32.5m through Treasury Corporation Victoria (a principal and interest facility) for a term of 10 years. An additional loan of \$13.5 million was drawn down in 2016/17 to fund the construction of Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library. This loan is funded on a principal and interest basis and will be repaid by the end of the Financial Plan.

Council cash levels are currently supplemented by borrowings. The FSS key strategy is to reduce debt and increase cash levels. This has been achieved for 2024/25 through careful management of costs and improved cash flow management. However, for the medium- and longer-term Council must generate additional cash flows to ensure delivery significant program of capital works. The FSS defines the requirements of borrowings and strategies for improved generation of cash flows.

This Financial Plan assumes Council will repay principal and interest on all borrowed funds (new and renewed) on an annual basis with a long-term reduction in borrowings across the next ten years. Our principal repayments will allow us, depending on prevailing circumstances in the future, to have capacity to borrow further in later years, should that be required.

The following table highlights Council's projected loan balance, including new loans and loan repayments for the 10 years of the Financial Plan.

4.1.2 Future Borrowing Requirements

	Forecast / Actual											
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening balance	30,501	25,832	21,157	17,995	13,097	9,703	6,221	3,572	2,740	-	-	-
Plus New loans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less Principal repayment	(4,532)	(4,669)	(4,811)	(3,305)	(3,391)	(3,480)	(3,572)	(2,740)	-	-	-	-
Closing balance	25,968	21,163	16,346	14,690	9,706	6,223	2,649	832	2,740	-	-	-
Interest payment	894	788	661	519	397	310	221	129	36	-	-	-

4.2. Reserves Strategy

Performance Indicator	Target	Forecast / Actual											
		2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Total borrowings / Rate revenue	Below 60%	23.16%	18.65%	15.10%	11.32%	8.76%	6.29%	3.95%	1.67%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	
Debt servicing / Rate revenue	Below 5%	0.68%	0.68%	0.57%	0.47%	0.36%	0.26%	0.20%	0.14%	0.08%	0.02%	0.00%	
Debt commitment / Rate revenue	Below 10%	4.12%	3.92%	3.88%	2.62%	2.52%	2.44%	2.37%	1.75%	0.02%	0.00%	0.00%	
Indebtedness / Own source revenue	Below 60%	33.08%	30.85%	29.05%	26.98%	26.28%	25.82%	25.30%	24.41%	22.79%	22.31%	21.76%	

4.2.1 Current Reserves

Open Space Reserve

The Open Space Reserve is a statutory reserve holding funds contributed by developers for the purpose of acquiring, developing and improving public open space and recreational facilities within the Municipality. Funds are contributed in accordance with section 18 of the Subdivision Act and transfers are restricted to the purpose of creating open space such as parks, playgrounds, pavilions and other such items where it is deemed that these works should occur at a later point in time than the initial development.

Movements (transfers) to the reserve (inflows) comprise contribution income from subdividers in lieu of the Open Space Requirement. Transfers from the reserve (outflows) are applied to fund Open Space capital projects on an annual basis.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 was adopted by council on 1 September 2020. The strategy guides how Council manages Yarra's open space network for the next 15 years. Through the implementation of this strategy, open space projects will be identified, prioritised and funded from the Open Space Reserve. Those projects and reserve funding will be reflected in the LTFP accordingly upon the implementation of the Open Space Strategy.

4.2.2 Reserve Usage Projections

The table below discloses the balance and annual movement for each reserve over the 10-year life of the Financial Plan. Total amount of reserves, for each year, is to align with the Statement of Changes in Equity.

Reserves	Restricted / Discretionary	2023/24 \$000's	2024/25 \$000's	2025/26 \$000's	2026/27 \$000's	2027/28 \$000's	2028/29 \$000's	2029/30 \$000's	2030/31 \$000's	2031/32 \$000's	2032/33 \$000's	2033/34 \$000's
Public Open Space Reserve	Restricted											
Opening balance		25,575	28,476	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449
Transfer to reserve		5,200	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Transfer from reserve		(2,299)	(5,027)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Closing balance		28,476	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449	28,449

7.2 Deliberative engagement - Service planning and review principles

Reference	D24/64675
Author	Joe Daniel - Manager Business Transformation
Authoriser	General Manager Corporate Services and Transformation
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. Like all Councils in Victoria, the City of Yarra is facing challenges to our financial sustainability from rising cost pressures, rate capping and cost-shifting, along with increasing pressure and demand on our services and infrastructure from a rapidly growing population.
2. As part of our commitment to strengthen Council's financial health, Council adopted its Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS) in December 2023. The Strategy will guide Council on how to best manage our resources for the long-term in the best interests of our community.
3. Strategic Lever 4 of the FSS - *Review the Service Landscape* commits Council to establishing a (new) robust service planning and review framework to ensure all services are relevant, financially sustainable and can meet future community needs.
4. To inform this work, a deliberative engagement process was conducted to develop a draft set of community-supported service planning and review principles.
5. This report outlines the details of the deliberative engagement process and the outcomes and recommends that the principles developed in consultation with the community participants be adopted by Council.

Critical analysis

History and background

Financial Sustainability Strategy

6. One of Council's primary obligations is to be financially sustainable and to make effective use of the public funds entrusted to us and ensure the responsible management and planning of community assets, so that future ratepayers are not burdened unnecessarily.
7. Long-term financial sustainability is essential to ensuring that Council can continue providing the services and programs our community relies on. Towards this, it is crucial that decisions made today are forward-thinking and consider the evolving needs of our current and future community.
8. Now more than ever with rising cost pressures, a tightening fiscal environment and a growing population, Council has recognised that it must establish a robust and forward-thinking financial strategy that extends beyond short-term budgeting cycles.
9. At Yarra, it is acknowledged that addressing these challenges requires continuous effort and the journey has already begun.
10. Over the past 2 years, Council has taken a number of steps to strengthen its financial position. This has had significant benefits – including addressing known future financial risks, reducing borrowings and improving Council's overall cash position.
11. In addition, Council adopted its Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS) in December 2023. A sector first, the FSS guides Council on how to best manage our resources for the long-term in the best interests of our community.

12. The Financial Sustainability Strategy identifies seven levers for change: strategic measures for evidence based investment decisions and systemic changes for efficient cost controls and resource management.
13. The strategic levers include plans to build reserve funds, responsible borrowing, optimisation of revenue, a focus on well-planned assets, ongoing reviews of the service landscape, digital transformation, robust financial management and a strengthening of advocacy and strategic partnerships.

Service Planning and Review

14. Over the next decade the Yarra community will grow substantially and change, meaning that Council's service mix and delivery levels may also need to change and adapt to address the current and future needs of Yarra community.
15. Strategic Lever 4 of the Financial Sustainability Strategy - *Review the Service Landscape* commits Council to establishing a (new) robust service planning and review framework to ensure all services are relevant, financially sustainable and can meet future community needs.
16. To inform this work, a deliberative engagement process was conducted to develop a draft set of community-supported service planning and review principles.
17. The engagement approach to develop Council's service planning and review principles was undertaken in two stages.
18. Stage one of the engagement included a social research component and general community consultation.
19. This stage of engagement sought broad feedback from the community through an online survey and in-person opportunities to understand community sentiment on Council's service offering. The social research conducted provided a baseline of community sentiment on service provisioning from a representative sample of the community. This approach ensured that missing voices from the community were captured. These groups include young people, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and community members who are renting.
20. Feedback received from stage one of the engagement was provided as inputs in the deliberative engagement process.
21. Council engaged Capire Consulting, community engagement specialists, to facilitate the recruitment of the participants and deliver a deliberative engagement process, which was Stage Two.
22. This engagement process was designed to align with the 'Involve' level of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) framework. At the 'Involve' level the promise is that 'Council will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how the input influenced the decision.'
23. This level was considered appropriate given the complexity of how this work relates to the Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS) and the technical nature of service planning and review processes and aligns with Council's Community Engagement Policy engagement principles.
24. Engaging a representative sample of the Yarra community is a critical element of deliberative practice. The aim was to recruit a working group of 44 people. The size of the group was recommended based on the deliberative recruitment objectives of having a large enough group to ensure diverse participation, but also acknowledging the level of influence and the need to match resources with influence.
25. The recruitment process was managed by Capire, with support from Council, and promoted through a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process.

26. Across the public EOI and social research, 237 people expressed interest in the process with 50 community members selected to participate who were considered to be a representative sample of the Yarra community.
27. A range of demographic criteria and diversity characteristics informed the recruitment of 50 community members who reflected the attitudinal, social and demographic diversity of the community.
28. The selected participants formed a Community Working Group (CWG) that met over four sessions (a total of 15 hours) in February 2024.
29. Information from the broader stage one engagement was provided to the CWG, along with further service data, various aspects of a service and diverse examples of how councils deliver services.
30. In developing the draft principles, Council asked the CWG to consider Council's financial pressures, Yarra's increasing population and changing community need, all with the following dilemma in mind;
How can Council deliver value for rates and make sure its services meet the needs of our growing and diverse community?
31. Overall, the engagement aimed to:
 - (a) Design a process where participants are given time and space to digest information, share and listen to different perspectives and deliberate ideas;
 - (b) Design a process that is transparent and clear on the level of influence the process entails;
 - (c) Design and deliver a process where participants clearly understand the remit, their role, tasks and the expected outcomes;
 - (d) Provide participants with objective plain English information that will be presented from a mixture of internal and external sources, including results of stage 1 broad engagement and social research;
 - (e) Deliver an independently facilitated process and provide a safe space for dialogue; and
 - (f) Develop a draft set of community-supported service planning and review principles.

Discussion

32. Across the four sessions the following overarching themes emerged:
Financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation:
33. This was strongly considered by the CWG. They accepted that this was a key driver and that change to service delivery is inevitable to achieve financial sustainability. They understood that these principles would help guide how change happens. A key intent from the CWG is that decisions around improving financial sustainability need to demonstrate community benefit.
Social justice and community benefit:
34. This is the overarching intent of the CWG. They want to ensure that community members experiencing vulnerability are being cared for, and that when making decisions around subsidising services and charging fees that social impact and equity are accounted for. They want Council to consider in its review of services how it can strengthen community through incorporating First Nations' voice and values, place-making and environmental sustainability.
35. The CWG also wants Council to ensure that when assessing the adequacy of the market to deliver services that these same values are considered.

Governance and evidence-based decisions:

36. The CWG wants to see Council continue to be connected to what the community needs and how it is changing to ensure they have access to the services they need (no matter who delivers them).
37. They want Council to make evidenced-based decisions and to ensure that input from those impacted by service changes are part of that evidence base.

Maintaining influence of quality and social benefit:

38. The CWG accepts the reality that various models of service delivery will continue to be part of change (such as inhouse, partnerships, outsourced etc.), however there is concern around how various models are able to guarantee quality and social benefit.
39. The CWG wants to ensure that in any future changes to service delivery models Council seeks ways to maintain influence over quality and social benefit.

Get creative and think holistically:

40. The CWG wants council to be proactive and innovative in adapting to community need and when finding solutions to challenges e.g. partnering with other Councils facing the same challenges.
41. The CWG also wants Council to consider the overall benefit of service reviews and planning; how a change in one service can provide opportunity and benefit to other services and the community elsewhere.
42. The final draft set of service planning and review principles from the CWG are outlined below in no particular order.

When planning and reviewing services, Council will:

1. *Actively include a range of local Indigenous voices and values in all decision-making and placemaking to ensure ongoing community resilience.*
2. *Be proactive in supporting communities and service providers to dramatically reduce waste and greenhouse emissions and prioritise regenerative systems to improve wellbeing and biodiversity and sustainable outcomes.*
3. *Ensure Yarra's artistic and cultural identity is valued and supported given their contribution to community resilience.*
4. *Select service providers that are in line with Council sustainability policies and goals.*
5. *Be adaptable and proactive by identifying, planning for, and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors and community need (such as means, levels of advantage and disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics).*
6. *Deliver qualitative and quantitative, evidenced-based outcomes that include community input, which will be shared and communicated in an accessible way to the community.*
7. *Use comparative benefit analysis to measure value for money and the positive impact of service reform on the community.*
8. *Actively engage the community, prioritising those most directly impacted and in line with the Community Engagement Policy.*
9. *Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation to enable us to respond to changing community needs, now and into the future.*
10. *Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control of quality and influence the community benefits and outcomes.*
11. *Prioritise social benefits, especially those that address the needs of vulnerable and diverse people.*

12. *Seek creative and innovative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating and partnering with others facing the same challenges (e.g. working with councils, not-for-profits, government, businesses, volunteers).*
 13. *Ensure social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market-comparable service.*
 14. *Make decisions based on the analysis of the impact of a change in one service on all other services.*
 15. *Evaluate the alignment of market services against Council's Social Justice Charter (the values of Access, Equity, Rights, and Participation).*
 16. *Ensure services are accessible within a user's ability and means, including geographically (prioritising active and public transport access) and digitally accessible.*
43. The expectation of the CWG is that Council will consider the dialogue and intent of the draft principles and work to refine the principles for adoption.
44. Officers assessed the draft principles prepared by the CWG for their practical application to a service review with the following measures of success considered:
- (a) Do the principles provide Council with the ability to change?
 - (b) Do the principles provide clarity on how Council could change?
 - (c) Are the principles relevant to service planning and reviews?
 - (d) Are the principles implementable/usable during service planning and reviews?
45. As a result, Officers consider that almost 90 per cent (88%) of the Working Group's draft principles can be adopted in their original form or with minor wording changes.
46. Nine out of 16 of the draft community-supported service planning principles are recommended for adoption with no changes or minimal change and are outlined below in no particular order (corresponding to principle number shown at point 22).
1. *Actively include a range of First Nations' voices and values in all decision making and placemaking to ensure ongoing community resilience.*
 2. *Be proactive in supporting communities and service providers to dramatically reduce waste and greenhouse emissions and prioritise regenerative systems to improve wellbeing and biodiversity and sustainable outcomes.*
 3. *Ensure Yarra's artistic and cultural identity is valued and supported given their contribution to community resilience.*
 4. *Select service providers that are in line with Council's sustainability policies and goals.*
 6. *Deliver qualitative and quantitative evidence-based outcomes that include community input, which will be shared and communicated in an accessible way with the community.*
 7. *Use a comparative benefit analysis to measure value for money and the positive impact of service reform for the community.*
 9. *Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation to enable us to respond to changing community needs, now and into the future.*
 10. *Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control of quality and influence the community benefits and outcomes.*
 13. *Ensure social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market-comparable service.*

47. Of the remaining 7 principles, Officers propose that 5 can be adopted with minor wording changes. The remaining 2 principles have been reworded to improve usability, whilst keeping true to the dialogue and intent heard during the deliberative engagement process as shown in the table below (Corresponding to Principle number above):

#	Community Working Group final draft principle	Final Version proposed for adoption	Rationale for change
5.	Be adaptable and proactive by identifying, planning for, and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors and community needs (such as, means, levels of advantage and disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics).	Be adaptable and proactive by identifying, planning for, and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors and the current and future community needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor wording change. • Minor adjustments for simplicity and readability as the words following “such as” are implied within community needs. • Added present and future community needs to address the 50% population growth
8.	Actively engage the community, prioritizing those most directly impacted and in line with the Community Engagement Policy.	Actively engage the community, prioritising those most directly impacted and in line with Council’s Community Engagement Policy, where appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor wording change. • Added a qualifier, which was discussed by the CWG in this context, for some internal services that may not need to consult with community. Similar for services with little community usage or where there are only minor service operational changes with little or no community impact.
11.	Prioritise social benefits, especially those that address the needs of vulnerable and diverse people.	Prioritise social benefits, especially those that address the needs of vulnerable and diverse people, within financial means.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor wording change. • Added a qualifier, which was discussed by the CWG in this context and throughout the session about Council operating within its financial means.
12.	Seek creative and innovative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating and partnering with others facing the same challenges (e.g., working with councils, not-for-profits, government, businesses, volunteers)	Seek creative and innovative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating and partnering with other councils, other levels of government, not-for-profits, businesses, and volunteers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor wording change. • Minor adjustments for simplicity and readability
14.	Make decisions based on the analysis of the impact of change in one service on all other services	When making decisions, be considerate and evaluate the impact a change to one service will have on all other services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minor wording change. • Minor wording changes to improve usability

#	Community Working Group final draft principle	Final Version proposed for adoption	Rationale for change
15.	Evaluate the alignment of market services against Council's Social Justice Charter (the values of Access, Equity, Rights, and Participation)	When considering a change to service that is also provided by an external market, evaluate the external market against Council's Social Justice Charter principles, of Access, Equity, Rights and Participation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reworded to improve the usability of the principle, whilst keeping true to the dialogue and intent heard
16.	Ensure services are accessible within a user's ability and means, including geographically (prioritizing using active and public transport) and digitally accessible.	Assess and consider the accessibility of services within a user's ability and means, both geographically and digitally, when proposing changes to service locations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reworded to improve the usability of the principle, whilst keeping true to the dialogue and intent heard

48. A secondary output of the deliberative engagement process was to develop a mechanism that would support Council to prioritise which services it reviews and when.

49. The CWG members were sent a survey following the final session to complete this activity. As part of the survey, Council also shared two non-negotiable triggers:

- (a) Changes to the legislative requirements; and
- (b) Changes to funding arrangements or cost of delivering service.

It was also reiterated that the triggers would not determine the output of the service review, they just signal to Council that a review may be needed.

50. Eight potential triggers were shared with the CWG for prioritisation and feedback. A total of 25 participants completed the trigger survey. The results of the ranking of the triggers are shown below with number 1 being the highest ranked trigger and number 8 the lowest.

51. Non-negotiable triggers:

- (a) Changes to the legislative requirements; and
- (b) Changes to funding arrangements or cost of delivering service.

52. Community prioritised triggers:

1. Service has a low social benefit (e.g. not responding to community need).
2. Service has poor community satisfaction.
3. Service has a negative impact(s) on the environment.
4. Service is not well utilised by the community (e.g. low demand).
5. Service is unable to maintain the quality expected by the community.
6. A gap or new community need has emerged (e.g. we need to consider reallocation of resources to meet an identified need).
7. Service is not directly delivering on the Council Plan / Community Vision.
8. A comparable service of same quality and price has become available by external provider(s) (external market maturity and availability).

53. Capire Consulting used the following indicators to evaluate the process from the perspective of the participants. All indicators received high levels of agreement:

- (a) The recruitment process was clear;
- (b) Members understood what was expected of them;

- (c) Members had many opportunities to express their opinions and views;
 - (d) Members felt their views were respected by other CWG members;
 - (e) The quality of information provided allowed members to form an opinion;
 - (f) The presentations were valuable to members;
 - (g) Desire to take part in similar engagement activities;
 - (h) Members would recommend this type of process to friends or family; and
 - (i) Members felt their participation was worthwhile.
54. Through a pre- and post-process survey, Capire Consulting measured the impact of the process on CWG members' relationship with Council, trust in Council, individual skills to contribute to Council decision making and community connection.
55. Overall, CWG members reported an increase in these measures at the completion of the process. The survey data showed that:
- (a) 79% of CWG members reported that they have a positive relationship with Council (compared to 67% in pre-survey);
 - (b) 59% reported that they trust that Council supports community involvement in making decisions (compared to 48% in the pre-survey);
 - (c) 59% reported that they understand how Council plans and delivers services (compared to 21% in the pre-survey);
 - (d) 84% reported that they have the skills to contribute to Council decision-making (compared to 79% in the pre-survey); and
 - (e) 84% reported that they feel connected to the Yarra community (compared to 82% in the pre-survey).

Community and stakeholder engagement

56. The process undertaken for the development of the draft community-supported service planning and review principles reflected the principles of deliberative engagement.
57. The importance of community and stakeholder engagement to the CWG is demonstrated by principle 8 that is concerned with actively engaging the community in service reviews and principle 1 that is concerned with including First Nations' voice and values and decision-making processes.
58. Attachment 1 - Caprie deliberative engagement process and evaluation report, prepared by Capire the community engagement specialist who facilitated the process, further outlines the details of the deliberative engagement process and the evaluation of the process by the participants.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

59. The development of the service planning and review principles is action 4.1 of the Financial Sustainability Strategy. The Financial Sustainability Strategy delivers on the Council Plan (Objective 6 – Democracy and Governance) by being future-focused, managing our finances responsibly and innovatively responding to challenges.
60. The community-supported service planning and review principles, align with the goals of the Council Plan 2021-2025, which was also developed in partnership with the community.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

61. The principles provide overarching ability to be financially sustainable and there are positive climate emergency and sustainability implications as identified in principles 2, 4, and 5.

Community and social implications

62. The principles provide positive Community and Social implications as identified in principles 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 16.

Economic development implications

63. The principles that provide positive Economic development implications as identified in principles 4.

Human rights and gender equality implications

64. The principles provide positive Human rights implications as identified in principle 15.
65. Additionally, a Gender Impact Assessment will typically be undertaken as part of a service review process.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

66. The principles will be used in conducting service planning and service reviews, resulting in changes to operational outcomes and therefore will have a positive financial implication.

Legal Implications

67. Not applicable

Conclusion

68. The community supported service planning and review principles, and the service review prioritisation triggers will inform and guide Council's future planning and review of services.
69. Further communication will occur to close the loop with the CWG by explaining the way Council has considered the dialogue and intent of the draft principles as they worked to refine them for adoption as well as the rationale for any changes made.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
- (a) notes the details of the deliberative engagement process and the outcomes achieved, and thanks the Community Working Group for their involvement; and
 - (b) adopts the service planning and review principles and the potential service review prioritisation triggers as outlined below:

When planning and reviewing services, Council will:

1. *Actively include a range of First Nations' voices and values in all decision making and placemaking to ensure ongoing community resilience.*
2. *Be proactive in supporting communities and service providers to dramatically reduce waste and greenhouse emissions and prioritise regenerative systems to improve wellbeing and biodiversity and sustainable outcomes.*
3. *Ensure Yarra's artistic and cultural identity is valued and supported given their contribution to community resilience.*
4. *Select service providers that are in line with Council's sustainability policies and goals.*
5. *Be adaptable and proactive by identifying, planning for, and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors and the current and future community needs.*

6. *Deliver qualitative and quantitative evidence-based outcomes that include community input, which will be shared and communicated in an accessible way with the community.*
7. *Use a comparative benefit analysis to measure value for money and the positive impact of service reform for the community.*
8. *Actively engage the community, prioritising those most directly impacted and in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy, where appropriate.*
9. *Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation to enable us to respond to changing community needs, now and into the future.*
10. *Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control of quality and influence the community benefits and outcomes.*
11. *Prioritise social benefits, especially those that address the needs of vulnerable and diverse people, within financial means.*
12. *Seek creative and innovative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating and partnering with other councils, other levels of government, not-for-profits, businesses, and volunteers.*
13. *Ensure social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market-comparable service.*
14. *When making decisions, be considerate and evaluate the impact a change to one service will have on all other services.*
15. *When considering a change to service that is also provided by an external market, evaluate the external market against Council's Social Justice Charter principles, of Access, Equity, Rights and Participation.*
16. *Assess and consider the accessibility of services within a user's ability and means, both geographically and digitally, when proposing changes to service locations.*

The service principles are outlined in no particular order.

The following prioritised triggers could initiate a Service Review in order of priority:

Non-negotiable triggers:

1. *Changes to the legislative requirements*
2. *Changes to funding arrangements or cost of delivering service.*

Community prioritised triggers:

1. *Service has a low social benefit (e.g. not responding to community need).*
2. *Service has poor community satisfaction.*
3. *Service has a negative impact(s) on the environment.*
4. *Service is not well utilised by the community (e.g. low demand).*
5. *Service is unable to maintain the quality expected by the community.*
6. *A gap or new community need has emerged (e.g. we need to consider reallocation of resources to meet an identified need).*
7. *Service is not directly delivering on the Council Plan / Community Vision.*
8. *A comparable service of same quality and price has become available by external provider(s) (external market maturity and availability).*

Attachments

- [1](#) Attachment 1 - Capire deliberative engagement process and evaluation report

Yarra Service Planning and Review Principles

Deliberative engagement process and evaluation report

City of Yarra

29.02.24

capire

Giving every person a voice.

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Capire acknowledges
and deeply respects the Wurundjeri
people and
the Traditional Owners
of the Victorian land.

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Corporation

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For the purpose of program delivery, and on behalf of our clients, we collect personal information from individuals, such as e-mail addresses, contact details, demographic data and program feedback to enable us to facilitate participation in consultation activities. We follow a strict procedure for the collection, use, disclosure, storage and destruction of personal information. Any information we collect is stored securely on our server for the duration of the program and only disclosed to our client or the program team. Written notes from consultation activities are manually transferred to our server and disposed of securely.

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Consultation

Unless otherwise stated, all feedback documented by Capire Consulting Group and any person(s) acting on our behalf is written and/or recorded during our program/consultation activities.

Capire staff and associates take great care while transcribing participant feedback but unfortunately cannot guarantee the accuracy of all notes. We are however confident that we capture the full range of ideas, concerns and views expressed during our consultation activities.

Unless otherwise noted, the views expressed in our work represent those of the participants and not necessarily those of our consultants or our clients.

VERSION	AUTHOR	AUTHORISED	DATE
1	Mollie Rashleigh, Merryn Appelby, Emily Mellon	Emily Mellon	29/02/2024
2	Mollie Rashleigh, Merryn Appelby, Emily Mellon	Mollie Rashleigh	04/03/2024
3	Mollie Rashleigh, Merryn Appelby, Emily Mellon	Emily Mellon	06/03/2024

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Executive summary

OVERVIEW

Yarra City Council (Council) is refining its approach for how it plans and reviews its services. To inform the new approach, Council asked a representative sample of the Yarra community to develop a draft set of community-supported service planning and review principles. The timeline for this project was late November 2023 – March 2024.

Council engaged Capire Consulting Group (Capire) to design, deliver and report on a process that aligns with the principles of deliberative engagement. These deliberative engagement principles included a wicked dilemma, the ability to influence the outcomes, information sharing, representative views and experiences, time to learn, deliberate and form recommendations, and participant-led reporting.

The representative sample of the Yarra community was selected from a public Expression of Interest process. The selected participants formed a Community Working Group (CWG) that met for four sessions (a total of 15 hours) in February 2024. In developing the draft principles, Council asked the CWG to consider Council’s financial pressures, Yarra’s increasing population and changing community need, all with the following dilemma in mind:

How can Council deliver value for rates and make sure its services meet the needs of our growing and diverse community?

As part of the process, the CWG were made aware that change is a non-negotiable for Council to be financially sustainable; that Council is not asking them to consider which services council should or shouldn’t deliver; and that the draft principles may be edited by council officers or councillors prior to Council endorsement to ensure the principles are usable.

THE COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

The aim was to recruit approximately 44 people representing a medium-sized group for a deliberative engagement process. Overall, 237 people expressed interest in the process. Some of the criteria used to match the CWG membership to the Yarra community included gender, age, suburb, representation from diverse cohorts (such as those who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, speaking a language other than English at home, a member of the LGBTIQ+ community, and/or have a disability), household type and tenure.

Following an extensive selection process that ensured those selected to the best of their ability represented Yarra’s diverse community, 50 people were recruited and 38 people completed the process (attending a minimum of three sessions). It is normal in processes like this to have people drop out before and during the engagement.

PROCESS FOR DEVELOPING THE DRAFT PRINCIPLES

Throughout the four sessions the CWG developed a draft set of service planning and review principles. through an iterative process. The objectives for each session are described in the below table.

1. Introductions and scene setting	2. Exploring the issues and drafting the principles	3. Testing and refining the principles	4. Finalising recommendations to Council
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet and greet participants. To introduce participants to their role and the purpose and outcomes of the process. To introduce participants to local government’s role in relation to service delivery. To build a shared understanding of the project context. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To continue to explore issues and opportunities in relation to service planning. To identify of key themes that the group want to focus the principles around. To begin drafting the service planning and review principles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To explore scenarios using the principles to support the testing and refining of them. To consider the suitability of the principles in helping Council to prioritise service reviews. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consolidate final feedback and agree final edits. To finalise any additional recommendations or considerations for how service reviews are prioritised. To present the draft principles to council officers. To present the journey to Councillors.

OVERARCHING THEMES

Across the four sessions and the creation of the draft principles, the following overarching themes emerged:

Financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation: This was strongly considered by the CWG. They accepted that this was a key driver and that change to service delivery is inevitable to achieve financial sustainability. They understood that these principles would help guide how change happens. A key intent from the CWG is that decisions around improving financial sustainability need to demonstrate community benefit.

Social justice and community benefit: This is the overarching intent of the CWG's work. They want to ensure that community members experiencing vulnerability are being cared for, and that when making decisions around subsidising services and charging fees that social impact and equity are accounted for. They want Council to consider in its review of services how it can strengthen community through incorporating First Nations' voice and values, place-making and environmental sustainability. The CWG also wants Council to ensure that when assessing the adequacy of the market to deliver services that these same values are considered.

Governance and evidence-based decisions: The CWG wants to see Council continue to be connected to what the community needs and how it is changing to ensure they have access to the services they need (no matter who delivers them). They want Council to make evidenced-based decisions and to ensure that input from those impacted by service changes are part of that evidence base.

Maintaining influence of quality and social benefit: The CWG accepts the reality that various models of service delivery will continue to be part of change (such as inhouse, partnerships, outsourced etc.), however there is concern around how various models are able to guarantee quality and social benefit. The CWG wants to ensure that in any future changes to service delivery models Council seeks ways to maintain influence over quality and social benefit.

Get creative and think holistically: The CWG wants council to be proactive and innovative in adapting to community need and when finding solutions to challenges e.g. partnering with other Councils facing the same challenges. The CWG also wants Council to consider the overall benefit of service reviews and planning; how a change in one service can provide opportunity and benefit to other services and the community elsewhere.

DRAFT PRINCIPLES

The following are the final community-supported draft principles. Council will consider the dialogue and intent of principles as they work to refine the principles for adoption.

When planning and reviewing services, Council will:

- Actively include a range of local Indigenous voices and values in all decision-making and placemaking to ensure ongoing community resilience.
- Be proactive in supporting communities and service providers to dramatically reduce waste and greenhouse emissions and prioritise regenerative systems to improve wellbeing and biodiversity and sustainable outcomes.
- Ensure Yarra's artistic and cultural identity is valued and supported given their contribution to community resilience.
- Select service providers that are in line with Council sustainability policies and goals.
- Be adaptable and proactive by identifying, planning for, and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors and community need (such as means, levels of advantage and disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics).
- Deliver qualitative and quantitative, evidenced-based outcomes that include community input, which will be shared and communicated in an accessible way to the community.
- Use comparative benefit analysis to measure value for money and the positive impact of service reform on the community.
- Actively engage the community, prioritising those most directly impacted and in line with the Community Engagement Policy.
- Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation to enable us to respond to changing community needs, now and into the future.
- Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control of quality and influence the community benefits and outcomes.

- Prioritise social benefits, especially those that address the needs of vulnerable and diverse people.
- Seek creative and innovative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating and partnering with others facing the same challenges (e.g. working with councils, not-for-profits, government, businesses, volunteers).
- Ensure social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market-comparable service.
- Make decisions based on the analysis of the impact of a change in one service on all other services.
- Evaluate the alignment of market services against Council's Social Justice Charter (the values of Access, Equity, Rights, and Participation).
- Ensure services are accessible within a user's ability and means, including geographically (prioritising active and public transport access) and digitally accessible.

EVALUATION FINDINGS

The following indicators were used to evaluate the process from the perspective of the participants. All indicators received high levels of agreement.

- The recruitment process was clear
- Members understood what was expected of them
- Members had many opportunities to express their opinions and views
- Members felt their views were respected by other CWG members
- The quality of information provided allowed members to form an opinion
- The presentations were valuable to members
- Desire to take part in similar engagement activities
- Members would recommend this type of process to friends or family
- Members felt their participation was worthwhile.

Through a pre and post-process survey, Capire measured the impact of the process on CWG members' relationship with Council, trust in Council, individual skills to contribute to Council decision making and community connection. Overall, CWG members reported an increase in these measures at the completion of the process. The survey data showed that:

- 79% of CWG members reported that they have a positive relationship with Council (compared to 67% in pre-survey)
- 59% of CWG members reported that they trust that Council supports community involvement in making decisions (compared to 48% in the pre-survey)
- 59% of the CWG reported that they understand how Council plans and delivers services (compared to 21% in the pre-survey)
- 84% of the CWG reported that they have the skills to contribute to Council decision-making (compared to 79% in the pre-survey)
- 84% of the CWG reported that they feel connected to the Yarra community (compared to 82% in the pre-survey).

1. Introduction

This report outlines the engagement process designed and delivered to develop a draft set of community supported service planning and review principles (draft principles). This report details the engagement design process, the recruitment of a representative sample of the community to form a Community Working Group (CWG), and the process for supporting the CWG to develop the draft principles.

1.1. Project background

Yarra City Council (Council) committed to undertaking an engagement process that would support Council in preparing a framework that would guide the planning and review of its services. The objective was to develop a draft set of community-supported service planning and review principles. The principles will inform and guide Council's future planning and review of services. The principles will also guide service planning and review decisions and identify a mechanism for prioritising service reviews for current and future Councils.

Council committed to delivering a process that aligns with the principles of deliberative engagement including:

- A wicked dilemma: a change that is complex and requires deep thinking and deliberation to consider.
- Influence: The ability to influence the outcomes, meaning there is elements of the project that the public can influence.
- Information sharing: Providing comprehensive information to help participants understand the dilemma and consider any trade-offs.
- Representative: To ensure diversity of views and experiences are representative of the broader community.
- Time: Appropriate amount of time to learn, deliberate and form recommendations.
- Participant-led reporting: The process for preparing the outputs from the process is led by the participants.

Council engaged Capire Consulting Group (Capire) to design, deliver and report on the engagement process. This work was part of a broader engagement program, as illustrated in Figure 1.



Figure 1. Broader engagement program to inform the service planning and review approach

1.2. Engagement scope and objectives

The purpose of the CWG was to help Council plan for and prioritise services for the years ahead by recommending and identifying draft principles that will support future service planning and reviews.

The dilemma that Council asked the CWG to consider when developing the draft principles was:

How can Council deliver value for rates and make sure its services meet the needs of our growing and diverse community?

As part of this, Council asked the CWG to consider Council's financial pressures, Yarra's increasing population and changing community need.

The following key messages were shared throughout the process to ensure the CWG were aware of the non-negotiable parts of this process:

- Change is a non-negotiable. Council will need to change how it delivers its services to ensure financial sustainability. The principles would help guide the extent and type of change.
- Council was not asking the CWG to recommend which services it should or shouldn't deliver.
- The principles that the CWG are developing are draft, which means officers and councillors can edit before they are adopted. The CWG's work will go to Councillors as a report along with council officers' recommended principles.

Overall, the engagement aimed to:

- design a process where participants are given time and space to digest information, share and listen to different perspectives and deliberate ideas.
- design a process that is transparent and clear on the level of influence the process entails.
- design and deliver a process where participants clearly understand the remit, their role, tasks and the expected outcomes.
- provide participants with objective plain English information that will be presented from a mixture of internal and external sources, including results of stage 1 broad engagement and social research.
- deliver an independently facilitated process and provide a safe space for dialogue.
- develop a draft set of community-supported service planning principles.

This engagement process was designed to align with the 'Involve' level of the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) (see Figure 2). At the 'Involve' level the promise is that 'Council will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how the input influenced the decision.' This level is considered appropriate given the complexity of how this work relates to the Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS) and the complexity of service planning and review processes.

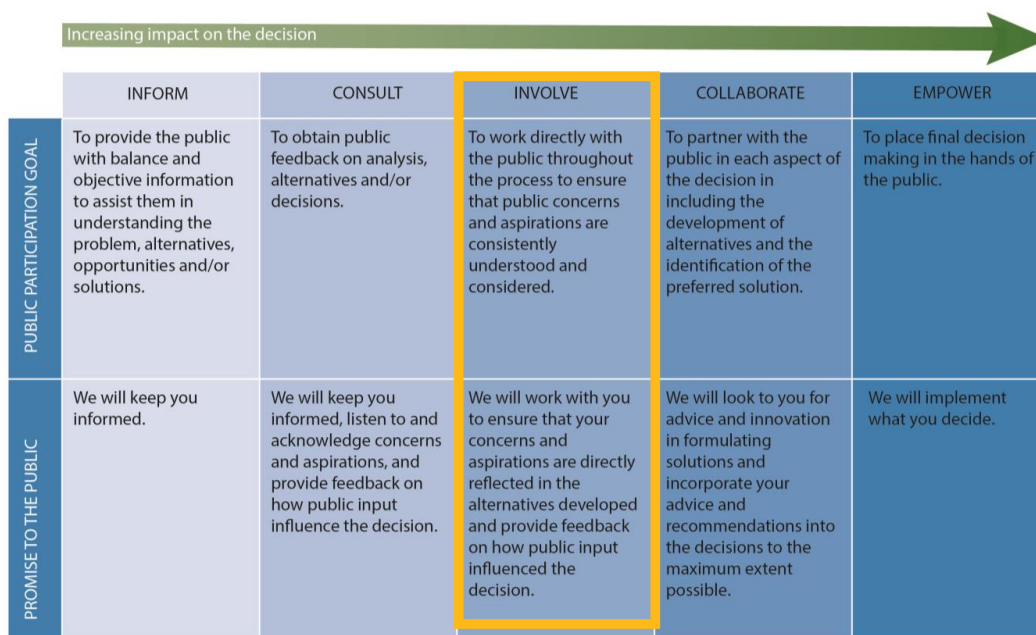


Figure 2. IAP2 public participation spectrum

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1.3. Engagement limitations

Several limitations regarding the engagement methodology and analysis should be acknowledged when reading this report. The limitations are outlined below.

- It was taken with good faith that the information participants provided in their Expression of Interest (EOI) forms about their demographics was true.
- Session discussions were largely participant-led. Some participants may have chosen to contribute to some activities and not to others.
- The participants were selected to represent the demographic profile of the City of Yarra. However, the final membership is not necessarily a statistically accurate sample of the whole population due to some people exiting the process or lower EOIs received from some demographic categories.
- The EOI process occurred over the summer holidays, at a time where less people may be accessing Council communication channels. This may have impacted the number of EOIs received. The mitigation strategy for this limitation was to keep the EOIs open for eight weeks, which is a longer period than usual. This extended time period may have impacted people being able to commit to the dates.
- While the working group members delivered a strong cross-section of views across the municipality, it cannot be guaranteed that the community's complete set of views was represented.
- The number of participants fluctuated across the sessions. This is normal due to the unexpected personal commitments of members.
- Given the quick turnaround required for this project and the extent of the work that took place between Capire and Council in between sessions, the proposed edits on the principles between session 3 and 4 were provided to participants to read the day before only (i.e. not enough time to consider proposed edits before the session). This limitation was mitigated by allowing a significant part of session 4 to enable participants to read, discuss and reflect on the proposed edits before further refinement.

2. Engagement design

The following section provides an overview of the activities delivered as part of the deliberative engagement process. Figure 33 illustrates a high-level overview of the key project phases.

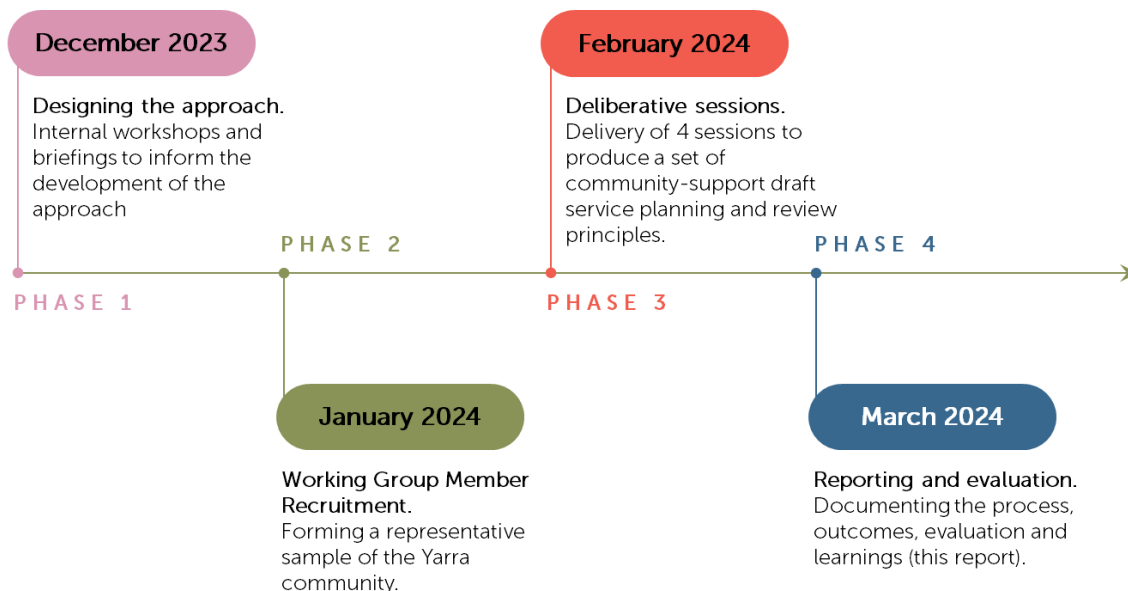


Figure 3. High-level process overview

2.1. Designing the approach

Internal engagement

A series of internal engagement activities informed the design of the engagement process. Specifically, the scope of engagement, the working group’s remit, outputs and key information Council wanted to share with the group.

Internal engagement activities included:

- Project working group co-design sessions
- Regular Project Control Group briefings
- Regular Councillor briefings.

Alignment with Council’s Community Engagement Policy

Council’s Community Engagement Policy has a guiding set of engagement principles. These are applied to each of Council’s engagement projects. Table 1 demonstrates how the engagement principles guided the design of this engagement program.

Table 1. Alignment of the engagement approach with Council's engagement principles

Engagement principles	How the project aimed to deliver on these principles
<p>Representative: We identify people and groups likely to be affected by our decisions and ensure they have the chance to participate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given service review and planning impacts the whole community, targets were set to ensure that recruitment of the CWG reflected the demographic make-up of the Yarra community (aiming for the CWG to be representative).
<p>Accessible: We use methods that empower underrepresented groups to get involved. We use a variety of online, print and face-to-face methods to maximise our reach and remove potential barriers and ensure culturally safe spaces for engagement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broad recruitment was undertaken, as well as direct communication to specific groups and through Council departments (e.g. Youth Services) to inform a diverse mix of community members about the opportunity and support them to submit an expression of interest. Those expressing an interest were asked whether they required any support to participate including interpreters and transportation. Council and Capire were adaptive and solutions-focused to remove barriers to participation for CWG members as they arose, including offering transport to and from sessions, providing parking permits and providing quiet spaces when needed. The tools and techniques employed throughout the engagement accounted for the diverse ways people absorb information and participate, including verbal/aural, visual, kinaesthetic and reading/writing communication and activities.
<p>Meaningful: We empower stakeholders with relevant, objective and plain English information and resources to allow informed participation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CWG received an online welcome pack prior to session one (see table of contents in Appendix A) with extensive background information to contextualise the remit. Printed versions of the welcome pack were also provided, and critical information was printed for table discussion across the four sessions. All other materials were printed on request. Understanding that not all CWG members would have read the welcome pack or feel comfortable reading that amount of information (some technical), the first session was dedicated to establishing the context and explaining the technical information provided e.g. Council's financial position and sustainability factors. The CWG were encouraged to learn and seek information that would help them to make informed contributions.
<p>Transparent: We explain which elements the community can influence, to what level and how we will use our community's input.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The remit, 'the current state of play' and the purpose of the CWG were communicated on the first session and reiterated throughout the four sessions. The purpose and use of the draft principles was also communicated, including answering questions from the CWG about who would see them, further refine them, approve them and ultimately use them. Council has made a commitment to circle back to the CWG and report to the community on how the engagement outputs have been considered.
<p>Accountable: We report back to the community, explaining what we asked, what we heard, and what we did.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council will inform community about how the CWG process has been considered in the final decision and what principles it could (or couldn't) adopt.
<p>Respectful: We value and respect our community's time, engaging closely when their influence is high and scaling back when it is more limited.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council reimbursed each CWG member for their time (\$100 per session). The time required to participate in the process is reflective of the 'involve' engagement level. There was no expectation that CWG members would do 'homework' in between sessions and any information provided via email was explored during sessions.

Engagement principles	How the project aimed to deliver on these principles
<p>Flexible: We adapt to evolving circumstances, including allowing for newly identified stakeholders to engage as necessary throughout the process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The engagement was highly adaptive. Council and Capire undertook collaborative session planning between each session, adjusting how the sessions were delivered to best meet the needs of the members and the project as needs emerged and changed.
<p>Supportive: We advocate on behalf of the Yarra community where the work of external agencies (including other tiers of government) impacts our community.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Prepared: We ensure our engagement practitioners and decision makers have the appropriate training, guidance and resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capire and Council worked collaboratively throughout the engagement to prepare for and deliver the sessions, including pivoting where necessary and drawing on the expertise of each; Council delivering the technical information and guidance regarding the remit and project expectations, Capire guiding and facilitating the CWG journey.

2.2. Working group member recruitment

Selection process

Engaging a representative sample of the Yarra community is a critical element of deliberative practice. The aim was to recruit a working group of 44 people. The size of the group was recommended based on the deliberative recruitment objectives of having a large enough group to ensure diverse participation, but also acknowledging the level of influence and the need to match resources with influence.

The recruitment process was managed by Capire, with support from Council. Recruitment was promoted through a public Expression of Interest (EOI) process. An invitation and EOI form were set-up and promoted through the dedicated Your Say Yarra page. Promotion activities included:

- Promotion to networks and advisory groups.
- Utilising Council’s social media channels.
- An article on Yarra Life and December edition of the Your Say newsletters.
- Direct invitation to contacts from previous phases of this project or related projects (e.g. social research, Financial Sustainability Strategy and the Service Planning and Review Principles stage 1 engagement participants who indicated that they want to stay informed).

All recruitment materials directed people to the Council Your Say project page for more information and to access the EOI form. For those who preferred to complete the form over the telephone, they were able to call a dedicated number for support.

The EOI form asked a series of questions that allowed Capire to understand the applicant and they should be included in the pool of potential participants.

The EOI form included questions that identified:

- Whether they could attend all sessions (this is compulsory).
- Demographics to enable selection against targets.
- Service use and experience.
- Any support or assistance required to participate.
- Any known or perceived conflicts of interest.

Once the EOI period had closed, Capire and Council evaluated the EOIs received and the participants from previous project phases and relevant projects that had indicated their interest in participating in the CWG, for their eligibility against the agreed demographic criteria (stratification targets) to create a representative sample of the Yarra population. From those that were eligible, individuals were then randomly selected to meet the stratification targets, and to ensure a diversity of views, voices and experiences.

Capire contacted individuals to advise them that they had been selected for the CWG. Where individuals declined the invitation, Capire selected a new participant from the eligible list that met the same demographic profile. This process took place until 50 people confirmed their participation in the CWG.

Support offered to participants

Each participant received a per diem to cover costs in recognition of their commitment and acknowledgement of any out-of-pocket expenses incurred to participate.

Participants received \$100 per session, with a combined total of \$400 paid at the final session. Each session was fully catered and held in an accessible venue, near public transport (Richmond Town Hall). The following supports were also made available to participants as needed:

- Transport.
- Translated materials and interpreters.
- Prayer room.
- Quiet rest room.
- Accessibility aids such as hearing loops.

2.3. Session Attendance

A total of 38 people completed the process. The following number of people attended each session. The group’s attrition was comparable to similar processes. Section 5 outlines CWG feedback and insights regarding their participation in the engagement.

42	41	38	37
Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4

2.4. Process overview

Figure 4 provides a high-level overview of the process. The CWG crafted their draft principles over four sessions, 15 hours in total. The following sub-sections detail the follow key outcomes of the process:

- Building informed participation.
- Crafting the principles.
- Prioritising service review triggers.

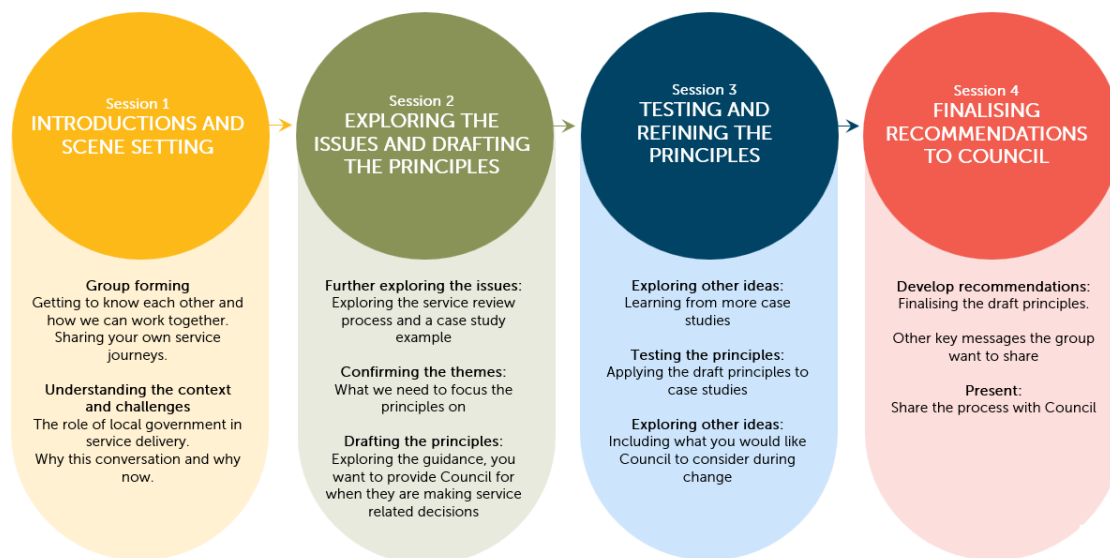


Figure 4. Overview of the CWG sessions

2.4.1. Building informed participation

Building informed participation is a key element of a deliberative process. The following methods were used to build informed participation throughout the process.



Background reading

Prior to the first session, Council shared with CWG members a Welcome Pack of background reading. The pack included:

- A welcome from the Mayor and CEO.
- Project background.
- Information on the role of local government.
- Information on the Yarra community.
- Information on Yarra’s current financial position.
- High-level findings from the stage 1 engagement.
- Information on the services offered by Council.
- Links to additional reading (e.g. the Council Plan and Vision, see Appendix A for the full list).



Presentations

Over the first and second sessions the following presentations were delivered:

- Overview of the Financial Sustainability Strategy.
- Current financial position of Council.
- Overview of the stage 1 engagement with general community and social research findings.
- Service review process.
- Case study presentation: Tony Kennen presented on Port Phillip’s review of childcare services.



Learning from each other

CWG members shared their own connections to various services in Yarra through a table-based activity. Members mapped their past and current services and the kinds of services they expected to access in the future. They then discussed their knowledge of Council’s role in the services they access.



Questions on notice

Throughout the sessions, CWG members had the opportunity to pose questions in response to presentations and background information. Where answers were not readily available the project team worked between sessions to gather answers and any supporting information to be shared at the following session.



Tactile learning

CWG Members worked together at their table to explore the various levels of government, and which is responsible for various services.

2.4.2. Crafting the draft principles

This section provides an overview of the CWG journey and the facilitated activities which aimed to support the group to create, refine and finalise their recommended draft principles for Council.

The following activities were delivered to support the CWG members in preparing their draft principles.

1. Brainstorming values to identify key themes

The CWG brainstormed in small groups the important values that Council needs to consider when reviewing and planning services for the Yarra community. From that brainstorming, the groups identified emerging key themes.

The whole CWG then came together, with small groups placing each of their themes onto a wall, and a sorting and categorising exercise took place to converge the various themes into one set of overarching themes.

The overarching themes were:

- Social justice
- Community need
- Affordability
- Futureproofing
- Responsible governance
- Quality and value.
- Environmental.

Outcome: CWG understand the themes that are most meaningful to them (to guide the draft principles).

Output: High-level themes to help the CWG start to craft draft principles under each theme.

2. Drafting principles under the key themes

Capire distributed the themes across the tables, and those tables became the 'theme champions'. Members were able to choose which theme they wanted to focus on initially. Tables considered what factors required consideration and added more detail under their theme to begin to craft principle/s that could help direct Council when planning and reviewing services.

Tables then presented their initial drafts to the rest of the group.

Outputs: Preliminary draft principles under each theme.

3. Exploring the qualities of a good principle and assessing the preliminary drafts

The project team shared high-level feedback on the preliminary draft principles that highlighted:

- areas of potential duplication.
- that the focus was more on the planning of services, and that the group needed to balance that with principles that would also be suitable for reviewing services.

- the opportunity to make the principles more specific to support Council to making hard decisions in the future.

To guide refinement, the project team reshared the qualities of a good principle, which were:

- Clear: The principle is easy to understand with clear intent.
- Specific: The principle provides direction on how Council should plan services and decide on the appropriate level of change.
- Relevant: The principle is relevant to the challenge Council is faced with (providing value for rates, being financially sustainable and planning for a growing community).
- Flexible: The principle is flexible enough it can be adapted to different situations (e.g. different services, unforeseen circumstances like a pandemic, changing community need).

With consideration for the project team’s feedback, CWG members started to assess and refine the preliminary drafts at their tables using the above qualities, including producing additional principles where they thought necessary.

Simultaneously, three CWG members volunteered to form an editor’s group with support from two project team members who helped with wordsmithing and sense checking around how the principles delivered on the qualities. The editor’s group was responsible for collating the proposed edits and any additional draft principles from the CWG working in small groups, in real-time. With the information provided from their fellow CWG members, the editors produced the next iteration of the draft principles for review.

At this stage, the themes were no longer used but remained presented on the wall for members to reflect on as needed.

Outcome: CWG understand the qualities of a good principle in this context.

Outputs: CWG edited draft principles.

4. Testing draft principles with case studies

Each table was given a service case study. The case study shared key information, such as:

- The role of the service.
- Council’s strategic objectives that it aligns with.
- Number of staff.
- Operational expenditure, revenue and net position.
- How many people use the service.
- Community benefits.
- Challenges for Council in delivering the service.

Each table was provided with the latest iteration of the draft principles to consider and document how they would support Council to review the service in their case study. The purpose wasn’t to deliberate over the future of the service but to consider the useability of the principles against the service and then suggest further edits.

Capire gathered the feedback and the further edits proposed from each table and collated them for the next session.

Outcome: CWG understands the extent to which the current draft principles are useful for a service review.

Output: Feedback and suggestions to help with the final refinement of the principles.

5. Considering the proposed edits

Between sessions 3 and 4, Capire gathered feedback from the project team on the draft principles. Some CWG members also sent (via email) additional commentary on the draft principles and/or new principles to consider. Based on the CWG member edits and suggestions, and Council feedback, Capire proposed some suggested revisions to principles, focusing on clarity and removing duplication only. The collated feedback and proposed edits can be found in Appendix B.

These were shared with the CWG members as A3 posters on easels at the start of the final session (session 4). Members rotated around the room to read, consider, accept/reject the proposed edits and provide further ideas or alternatives for refinement if they deemed necessary. During this activity several gaps and additional principles were proposed.

Outcomes: An understanding of the principles needing the most work to guide the CWG members to then focus on refining them.

Step 6: Final edits

The draft principles and additional proposed principles were themed to allow them to be divided amongst the tables. Tables then worked to refine their designated 2-3 principles accounting for CWG feedback and the level of acceptance/rejection.

The revised principles were collated and presented on-screen and read out, one-by-one, to the whole group. Members were asked to identify if they could 'live with it' – encouraging members to focus on the intent rather than the need to further wordsmith. At times members proposed further edits or alternatives which required majority approval by the CWG. Through this process, the principles were accepted or updated to create the final set of draft principles.

Output: Final draft principles for presentation to Council.

2.4.3. Prioritising service review triggers

A secondary objective of this engagement was to test the idea as to whether the draft principles would also serve the purpose of helping Council prioritise what order services get reviewed and when. In consultation with Council's project team, it was identified that the principles were not going to completely cover off all the various elements that might trigger a service review. As such, the project team developed a draft set of triggers that considered the various reasons a service may need to be reviewed with consideration for the values identified by the CWG. The draft triggers included two non-negotiable triggers which must remain up-front and through an online survey, CWG members were able to prioritise the order of the remaining eight triggers.

Outcome: CWG informs the prioritisation of triggers to guide what order services are reviewed and when.

3. Community working group members

The following section provides an overview of the community members who Capire recruited to make up the CWG. Across the public EOI and social research, 237 expressed interest in the process and in the end 50 community members were selected to participate.

104

Expression of Interest

133

Social Research Interest

50

Selected participants

The 50 participants were selected to match the demographic profile of Yarra and achieve diverse representation and views. There were some limitations in being able to match the demographic profile, primarily due to limited EOIs from some cohorts and last-minute drop-out which is not unusual for processes like this (especially one occurring over summer holidays, see limitations). The following table details the key gaps and strategies undertaken to address notable gaps.

Notable gaps	Recruitment efforts
Alphington-Fairfield	Our target was two, we recruited none. We received one public EOI and nine from the social research participants were from these suburbs and we contacted all. Capire also undertook targeted promotion with local community groups to try and increase the number of EOIs received.
Young workforce (25 to 35 years)	Our target was 13, we recruited 8. We received 15 public EOIs and all were contacted to participate. An additional 18 participants who expressed interest in participating in the deliberative engagement process from the social research were contacted.
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17 years)	Our target was 2, we received 0 EOIs and the social research did not engage people under the age of 18 years. Council undertook targeted promotion of the opportunity via the Youth Services team to try and increase the EOIs received.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	Our target was two, we recruited one. We received one public EOI. Council undertook targeted promotion of the opportunity via the Aboriginal Partnerships Officer who reached out to some contacts.

The following pages provide a snapshot of how the demographic make-up of the recruited 50 CWG members compares to the community profile of Yarra as well as other diversity characteristics that were aimed for.

Gender

50%	48%	2%
Female	Male	Identified as other

Typically underrepresented community cohorts¹

1	7	10	8
who identifies as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	speak a language other than English at home	members of the LGBTQI+ community	with a disability

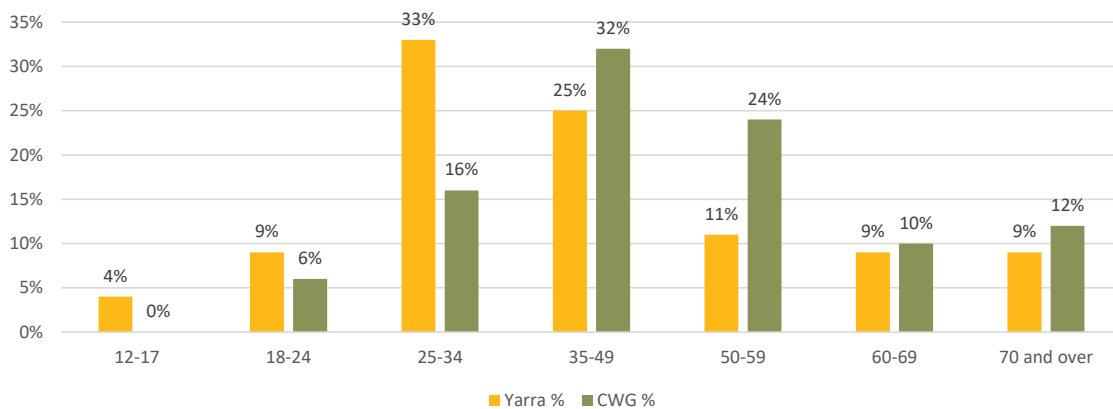
Concessions card status Past participation in Council engagement activities

40%	67%
were concession card holders	had not participated in Council consultation in the past 12 months

Years connected to Yarra

10%	26%	16%	48%
Less than 2 years	2-5 years	6-10 years	11 years or more

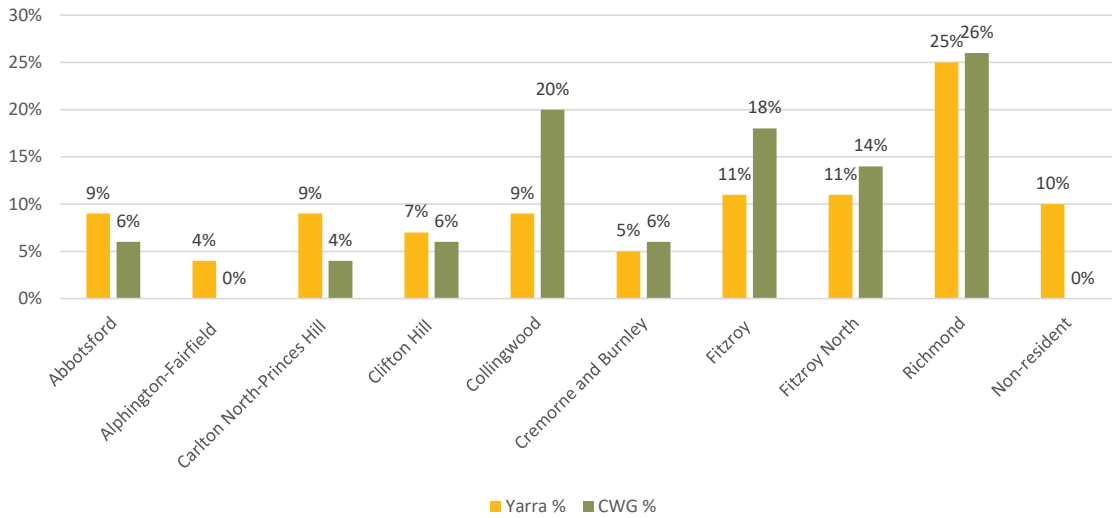
Age-groups represented²



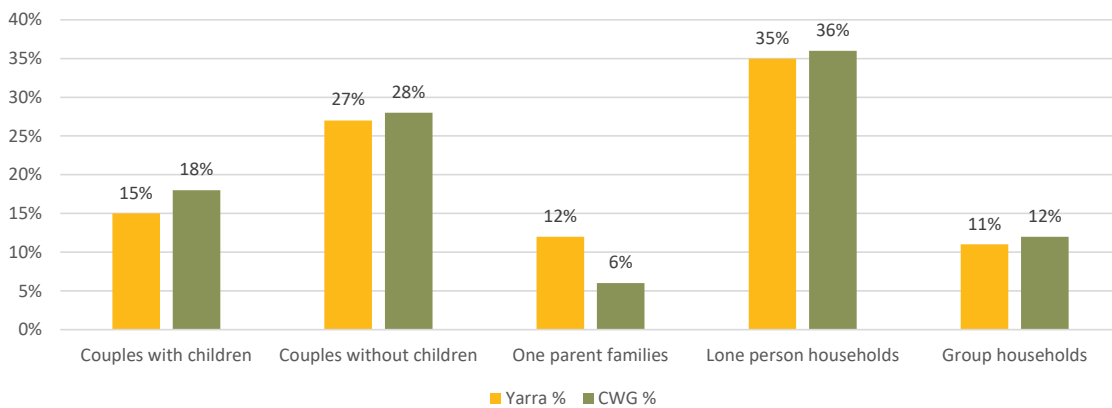
¹ This data does not include the demographic information of the social research participants. This information could not be shared with Capire for confidentiality reasons.

² Note social research age brackets were slightly different to the EOI age brackets.

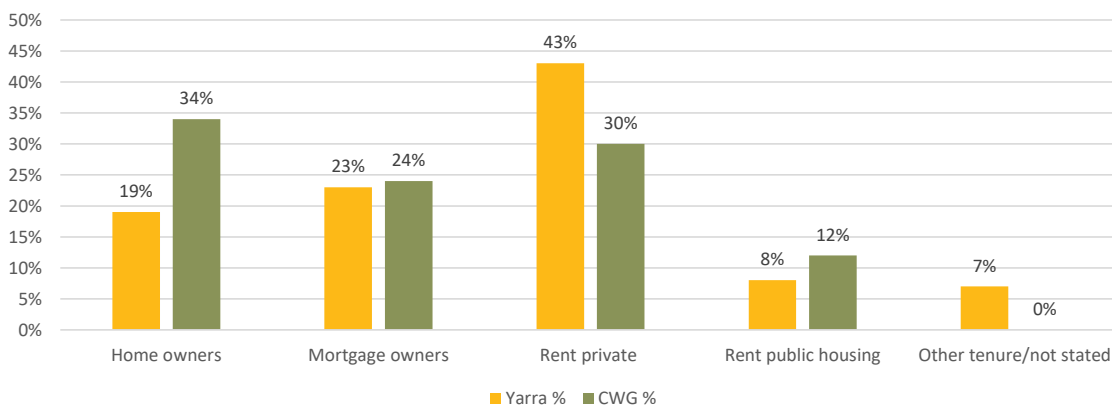
Geographic spread



Household types



Housing tenure represented



4. Outputs

The following section details the key outputs developed through the deliberative engagement.

1. The final community-supported draft principles: Where the group landed at the completion of the final session.
2. Refinement of the principles process and observations: Critical input for supporting Council to understand the CWG's intent relating to the draft principles and their refinement, which should be considered in the refinement of the draft principles for Council's endorsement.
3. Prioritisation of triggers to undertake a service review: Overall results of a survey undertaken with the group following the final session, which asked members to consider order of prioritisation of the various triggers Council may use to identify which service needs to be reviewed and when.

4.1. Final community-supported draft principles

The following are the final community-supported draft principles. Section 4.2 outlines the outcomes of the refinement process and highlights how principles evolved and associated CWG dialogue. We recommend that Council consider the dialogue and intent of principles as they work to refine the principles for Council adoption.

When planning and reviewing services, Council will:

- Actively include a range of local Indigenous voices and values in all decision-making and placemaking to ensure ongoing community resilience.
- Be proactive in supporting communities and service providers to dramatically reduce waste and greenhouse emissions and prioritise regenerative systems to improve wellbeing and biodiversity and sustainable outcomes.
- Ensure Yarra's artistic and cultural identity is valued and supported given their contribution to community resilience.
- Select service providers that are in line with Council sustainability policies and goals.
- Be adaptable and proactive by identifying, planning for, and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors and community need (such as means, levels of advantage and disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics).
- Deliver qualitative and quantitative, evidenced-based outcomes that include community input, which will be shared and communicated in an accessible way to the community.
- Use comparative benefit analysis to measure value for money and the positive impact of service reform on the community.
- Actively engage the community, prioritising those most directly impacted and in line with the Community Engagement Policy.
- Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation to enable us to respond to changing community needs, now and into the future.
- Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control of quality and influence the community benefits and outcomes.
- Prioritise social benefits, especially those that address the needs of vulnerable and diverse people.
- Seek creative and innovative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating and partnering with others facing the same challenges (e.g. working with councils, not-for-profits, government, businesses, volunteers).
- Ensure social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market-comparable service.

- Make decisions based on the analysis of the impact of a change in one service on all other services.
- Evaluate the alignment of market services against Council's Social Justice Charter (the values of Access, Equity, Rights, and Participation).
- Ensure services are accessible within a user's ability and means, including geographically (prioritising active and public transport access) and digitally accessible.

4.2. Refinement of principles process and observations

The following section details the draft principles finalised by the CWG in session 4. Table 2 details the proposed edits and suggestions that were shared at the start of session 4 against the refined draft principles. It also includes facilitator observations of the process undertaken to refine the draft principles.

Appendix B details the process undertaken to reach the proposed edits including the below, all of which informed the proposed suggested edits:

- The previous draft principles prepared in session 3
- The CWG feedback shared on the previous draft principles
- The project team feedback on the draft principles.

Table 2: Draft principles and facilitator observations

Suggested revision (shared at the start of session 4)	Updated draft principle (finalised in session 4)	Facilitator observations
1. Improve environmental performance and resilience and identify opportunities to implement Indigenous practices.	<p>1a. Actively include a range of local Indigenous voices and values in all decision-making and placemaking to ensure ongoing community resilience.</p> <p>1b. Be proactive in supporting communities and service providers to dramatically reduce waste and greenhouse emissions and prioritise regenerative systems to improve wellbeing and biodiversity and sustainable outcomes.</p> <p>1c. Ensure Yarra’s artistic and cultural identity is valued and supported given their contribution to community resilience.</p> <p>1d. Select service providers that are in line with Council sustainability policies and goals.</p>	<p>Capire’s suggested revision attempted to refine down a previously broad principle that was trying to include too much in one principle. CWG members felt that the suggested edit left out key themes. The suggested edit received low levels of acceptance.</p> <p>The group went back to unpack key elements from the previous CWG version:</p> <p><i>Ensure the environmental impact and sustainability of the services are considered for both the present and future by considering the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Climate emergency - Indigenous practices - Place making - Community resilience - Moving around in physical and lived context. <p>They accepted that the previous version was trying to cover too much and instead revised it to form multiple principles, resulting in four updated principles that cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Indigenous voice and practices - The climate emergency and environmental sustainability - Arts and culture. <p>With some tweaking as a whole group, there was acceptance from the CWG for the four updated principles.</p>
2. Be adaptable and responsive by proactively identifying, planning for and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors, such as means, level of advantage/disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics.	2. Be adaptable and proactive by identifying, planning for, and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors and community need (such as means, levels of advantage and disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics).	<p>CWG members were supportive of the suggested revision, which had only received minor edits from the previous version developed by the CWG.</p> <p>The CWG agreed on minor edits as a whole group, made for readability purposes only.</p> <p>When the new revised version was presented to the whole CWG it was accepted.</p>

Suggested revision (shared at the start of session 4)	Updated draft principle (finalised in session 4)	Facilitator observations
<p>3. Make transparent and evidence-based decisions about how and why decisions are made and include input from those impacted.</p>	<p>3. Deliver qualitative and quantitative, evidenced-based outcomes that include community input, which will be shared and communicated in an accessible way to the community.</p>	<p>The suggested revision of the principle was accepted by approximately half of those who chose to participate in the accept/reject activity.</p> <p>A new draft was prepared by an assigned small group considering feedback shared by other CWG members, and from the project team on earlier iterations. The group based their revised version on an alternative version that has been proposed by the project team as part of their earlier feedback.</p> <p>The CWG wanted to ensure that the principle included the assertion that information that is shared with the community will be accessible to the audience.</p> <p>When the new revised version was presented to the whole CWG it was accepted.</p>
<p>4. Use a cost-benefit analysis to demonstrate the positive impact of service reform on the community.</p>	<p>4. Use comparative benefit analysis to measure value for money and the positive impact of service reform on the community.</p>	<p>CWG members shared mixed levels of support for the suggested edits. Members expressed concerns about the limitations of a cost-benefit analysis being able to identify the more intangible social benefits. The CWG critiqued the inclusion of the word 'cost' and the assumption that all benefits have a monetary value.</p> <p>A small group workshopped an alternative to cost-benefit, and, following advice from the project team, adjusted it to 'comparative benefit analysis'. When presented to the whole CWG the new revised principle was accepted.</p>
<p>5. Ensure the community is consulted, prioritising the community members directly affected by/actively using/engaging with that service. Consultation should be accessible and timely, using diverse range of methods, where appropriate, as per Council's Community Engagement Policy.</p>	<p>5. Actively engage the community, prioritising those most directly impacted and in line with the Community Engagement Policy.</p>	<p>Overall, CWG members supported the intent of this principle but agreed on the need to refine the language and readability.</p> <p>Some discussions questioned the need for a principle of this kind given Council has an existing Community Engagement Policy. However, the CWG deemed it important that a principle highlights a requirement to actively engage with those directly impacted by a service review that may result in change.</p> <p>During the testing of the draft principles against case studies, some CWG members suggested that engagement may not be needed for all service reviews. The insurance case study was noted as an example of this.</p> <p>The revised principle was accepted by the CWG.</p>

Suggested revision (shared at the start of session 4)	Updated draft principle (finalised in session 4)	Facilitator observations
6. Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation in order to continually respond to changing community need and expectation.	6. Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation to enable us to respond to changing community needs, now and into the future.	<p>CWG members were broadly supportive of the suggested edits. The CWG agreed that being financially sustainable in order to be adaptive within a service context is critical.</p> <p>There was a common had across principle 6 and principle 7 regarding 'in-house' and 'outsourcing' of services. Not all CWG members agreed on the suitability of including reference to prioritising inhouse service delivery. An alternate principle proposed by a CWG member sought to encourage Council to consider other areas for efficiencies across the organisation (namely, not community services) to reinvest in service delivery that has a direct community benefit. This was not supported by the CWG and highlighted as out of scope because it is picked up by other levers in the Financial Sustainability Strategy.</p>
7. Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control or influence the community benefits, outcomes and quality of the service.	7. Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control of quality and influence the community benefits and outcomes.	<p>The suggested revision received mixed levels of acceptance. While more accepted the revision than not (11, compared to 6). Others requested to reconsider previous versions or shared their thoughts via post-it notes.</p> <p>The CWG members working to refine this principle debated the need to specify prioritising inhouse service delivery. Not all CWG members agreed on which model is preferred, but the majority agreed that while it will likely be a mixture of both, appropriate resource allocation, community benefit and quality criteria must be determined and monitored by Council. Some members were also concerned about the word 'control', feeling like it invoked authoritarian oversight.</p> <p>A CWG member proposed an alternative principle to the group which encouraged the prioritisation of in house service delivery. A vote was taken with the whole CWG; 26 (majority) voted for the updated draft principle (as it reads in the adjacent column), and 13 voted for the proposed alternative. There was a small number that voted for both options.</p> <p>Given it received the majority vote, the principle remained as it reads.</p>
8. Ensure that where a service is subsidised the service delivers a clear social benefit, considers the needs of vulnerable community members and delivers on our Community Vision and Council Plan.	8. Prioritise social benefits, especially those that address the needs of vulnerable and diverse people.	<p>Of those CWG members who undertook the accept/reject activity for this principle, 19 accepted the suggested revision and 2 rejected it.</p> <p>Throughout the sessions, there were numerous conversations around the intent and complexity of this principle; responding to community need, particularly those experiencing vulnerability or with different needs to the</p>

Suggested revision (shared at the start of session 4)	Updated draft principle (finalised in session 4)	Facilitator observations
		<p>mainstream population while ensuring that Council operates within its means.</p> <p>In a small group, CWG members reflected on CWG comments and discussed and edited the principle to ensure that it focused on addressing the needs of vulnerable and diverse people, not just when considering subsidising a service.</p> <p>When the new revised version was presented to the whole CWG, it was accepted.</p>
<p>9. Seek creative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating with other’s facing the same challenges.</p>	<p>9. Seek creative and innovative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating and partnering with others facing the same challenges (e.g. working with councils, not-for-profits, government, businesses, volunteers)</p>	<p>CWG members had mixed views about the suggested revision.</p> <p>Members suggested including concepts from other previous principles to be more specific about what is meant by ‘others’, which drove the final edits made to this principle.</p> <p>The use of words like creative and innovative was somewhat contested but from the perspective of the majority, the intent is for Council to consider alternative and progressive ways to address challenges when undertaking service reviews and planning.</p> <p>When the new revised version was presented to the whole CWG it was accepted by the majority.</p>
<p>10. Ensure social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market comparable service.</p>	<p>10. Ensure social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market-comparable service.</p>	<p>The CWG supported the suggested version, which is a version with only minor amendments from previous iterations of this same principle by the CWG.</p>
<p>11. Look at service reviews holistically: compare the impact of a change in one service with the impact of a change in another.</p>	<p>11. Make decisions based on the analysis of the impact of a change in one service on all other services.</p>	<p>Of those CWG members who undertook the accept/reject activity for this principle, 17 indicated that they accepted the suggested revision and 3 rejected it.</p> <p>The CWG were keen to have a principle that highlighted a whole of organisation lens on service review and planning. However, members noted that the word holistically was not plain language and deemed the principle required work for clarity.</p> <p>When the new revised version was presented to the whole CWG it was accepted by the majority.</p>

Suggested revision (shared at the start of session 4)	Updated draft principle (finalised in session 4)	Facilitator observations
12. Consider withdrawing from services that are adequately delivered by the market.	12. Evaluate the alignment of market services against Council’s Social Justice Charter (the values of; 1) Access 2) Equity 3) Rights 4) Participation). ³	<p>This principle was proposed by a CWG member between sessions 3 and 4, it read: <i>Council should withdraw from services that are adequately delivered by the market.</i></p> <p>The project team proposed the addition of ‘consider’ e.g. Council may stay in a service if it is profitable so that it can subsidise something else. The project team also noted that the term ‘adequately’ required definition and provided an example <i>e.g. there is enough market providers with capacity in reasonable proximity that are charging similar prices.</i></p> <p>From those that undertook the accept/ reject activity for this principle, 17 rejected the suggested version and two accepted. Feedback from the CWG focused on defining what ‘adequately delivered by the market’ means.</p> <p>CWG members decided that Council’s Social Justice Charter values described what was meant by ‘adequate’ and highlighted the important values that should guide the evaluation of market services when considering withdrawing from a service during service planning and review.</p> <p>When this principle was presented to the whole CWG, not all members knew of Council’s Social Justice Charter, however, once the values were read out, the CWG agreed that this captured the intent of the principle.</p>
13. Consider equitable access to services and promote 20-minute neighbourhoods.	13. Ensure services are accessible within a user’s ability and means, including geographically (prioritising active and public transport access) and digitally accessible.	<p>This principle was proposed by a CWG member not captured in versions collated during session 3. CWG feedback rejected the proposed principle however agreed on a new principle that highlights geographic and digital accessibility.</p> <p>The ‘20-minute neighbourhoods’ term was discussed and both Capire and Council highlighted that is a planning term. It was also highlighted that there has been misinformation circulated on the web and social media about 20-minute neighbourhoods that make it a decisive concept. In response the group worked to suggest an alternative that still captured the intent of geographical accessibility.</p> <p>When the new revised version was presented to the whole CWG it was accepted.</p>

³ Yarra’s Social Justice Charter reflects Council’s values of Access, Equity, Rights and Participation (<https://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/about-us/council-information/social-justice-charter>)

4.3. Prioritisation of triggers

A secondary output of this process was to develop a mechanism that would support Council to prioritise which services it reviews. Following session 3, Council considered the usability of the draft principles to also support the prioritisation of service reviews. It was agreed that the principles alone would not support this objective. The project team reflected on other council practices and what we heard is important to the community over the course of the four sessions to recommend to the CWG for consideration and prioritisation. The CWG were asked to prioritise the triggers and provide any feedback on the proposed triggers.

CWG members were sent a survey following the final session to complete this activity. As part of the survey, Council also shared two non-negotiable triggers:

1. Changes to the legislative requirements
2. Changes to funding arrangements or cost of delivering service.

It was also reiterated that the triggers do not determine the output of the service review, they just signal to Council that a review is needed.

The following eight principles were shared with the CWG for prioritisation and feedback:

- Service is not well utilised by the community (e.g. low demand).
- Service has a negative impact(s) on the environment.
- Service has a low social benefit (e.g. not responding to community need).
- A comparable service of same quality and price has become available by external provider(s) (external market maturity and availability).
- Service has poor community satisfaction.
- Service is unable to maintain the quality expected by the community.
- A gap or new community need has emerged (e.g. we need to consider reallocation of resources to meet an identified need).
- Service is not directly delivering on the Council Plan / Community Vision.

A total of 27 participants completed the trigger survey, with the results illustrated in Figure 5. The two triggers which were ranked highest priority were 'social benefit' (1st 19%, 2nd 37%) and 'poor community satisfaction' (1st 22%, 2nd 19%). The trigger ranked the lowest priority is 'a comparable service of same quality' (7th 15%, 8th 56%).

The triggers listed below are in the order of priority, as ranked by participants:

1. Service has a low social benefit (e.g. not responding to community need).
2. Service has poor community satisfaction.
3. Service has a negative impact(s) on the environment.
4. Service is not well utilised by the community (e.g. low demand).
5. Service is unable to maintain the quality expected by the community.
6. A gap or new community need has emerged (e.g. we need to consider reallocation of resources to meet an identified need).
7. Service is not directly delivering on the Council Plan / Community Vision.
8. A comparable service of same quality and price has become available by external provider(s) (external market maturity and availability).

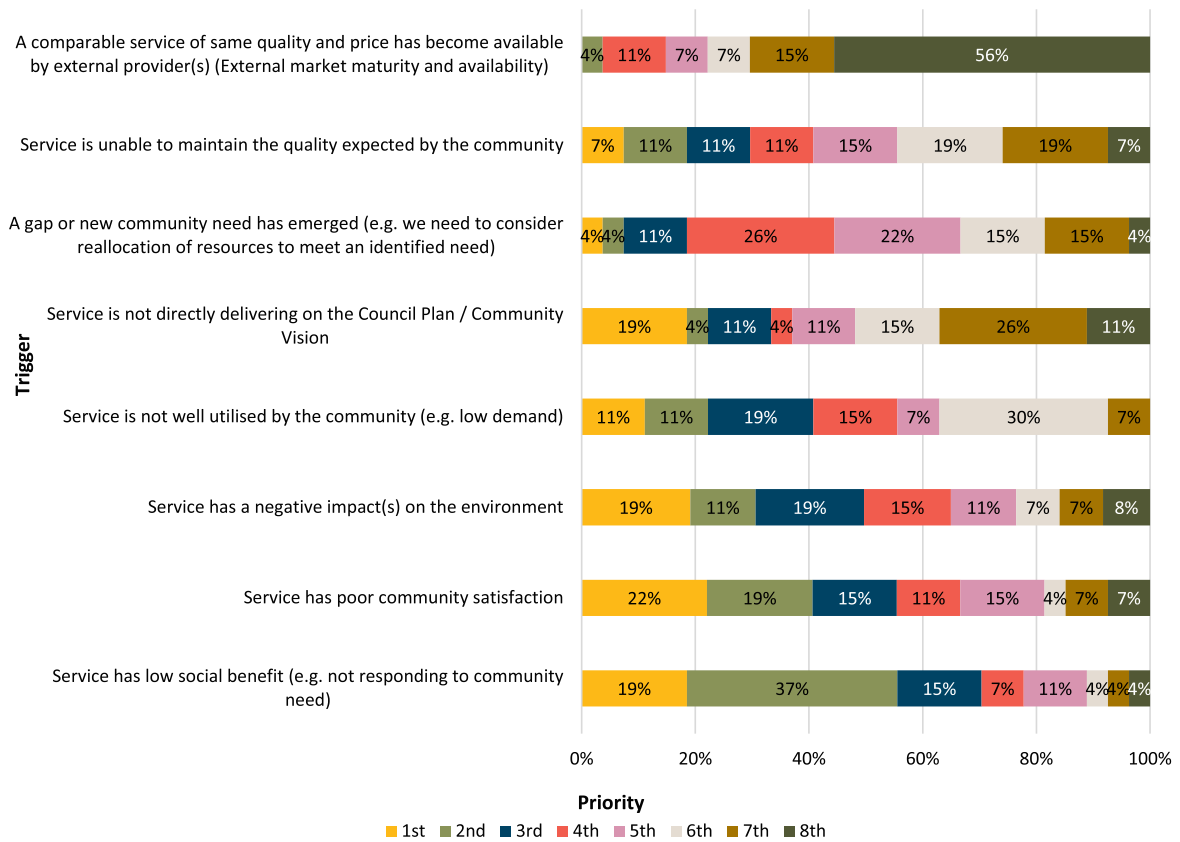


Figure 5. Priorisation results of service review triggers (n=27)

The CWG were asked if there were any additional things they wanted Council to consider when initiating a service review. The most common responses discussed how Council should ensure it cares for vulnerable community members and that services should create efficiencies/cost savings where possible including:

- collaborating with other services.
- sharing resources.
- interrogating staff levels.
- investing in technology.

“The above [triggers] don’t fully capture the prioritisation of vulnerable community members. If a service is satisfying the most privileged, but not the most disadvantaged, that requires a review.” – CWG member

“[Consider] Not for profit providers with outstanding experience and reputation for outsourcing”- CWG member

Other considerations highlighted by CWG members are summarised below:

- Service quality is integral.
- Services should address gaps in the market.

- Services should meet community need.
- The 'environmental impact' trigger should also consider reference to the City of Yarra's built environment heritage.
- The 'low demand' trigger should not be an issue as long as the service is value for money and the target population are happy with the service provision.
- The 'Council Plan / Council Vision' trigger is a lower priority as the assumption is this is a background factor.
- A participant suggested Council establish a sub-committee of community representatives to have input on decision-making.

A couple of participants provided additional triggers for consideration and/or specific examples of when service review should be undertaken.

"If new expert or external evidence, identifies an area where significant benefit could be derived, a review could be undertaken to capture that benefit, or save those costs. E.g. Solar panels on school roofs to save electricity bills" – CWG member

"Council needs to make some key decisions in the short term to stabilise the financial position. Priority focus should be on the areas where significant savings & improvements can be made quickly e.g. finding 5% savings in waste services would deliver approx. \$1m savings which will be a lot more impactful than cancelling a fitness class with 4 attendees." – CWG member

5. Evaluation

5.1. Participant journey

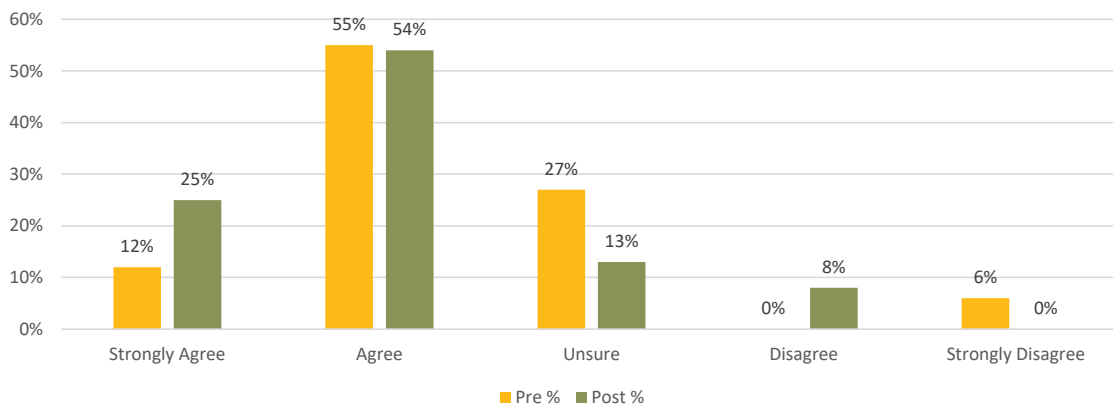
This section details data gathered via surveys pre and post CWG participation on participants' perceptions, trust and confidence in Council, civic participation, and knowledge of Council's administration of services. Collecting this data at the beginning and end of the process helps Council understand what impact engagement processes like this have on their community.

Surveys were distributed via QR codes, with hardcopies and support offered to aid completion. The completion rate was as follows:

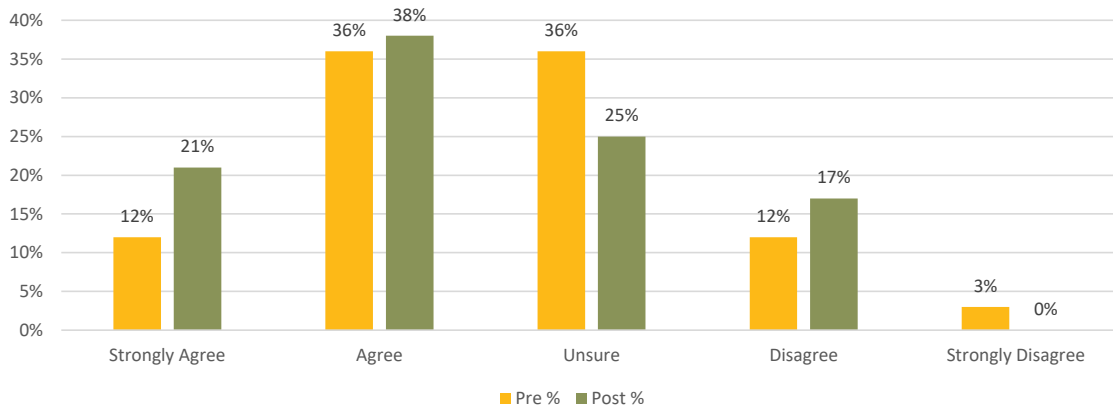
- Pre-surveys (collected on session 1), n = 33
- Post-surveys (collected on session 4), n = 24.

The surveys included multiple choice questions, the results of which are presented in the graphs and open-ended questions from which, responses have been themed, and all quotes have been included verbatim, attributable to CWG members.

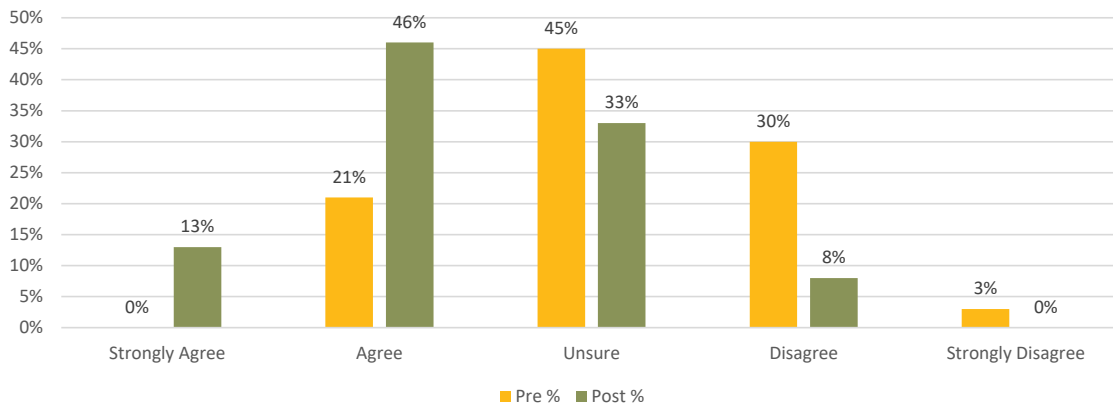
I have a positive relationship with Yarra Council



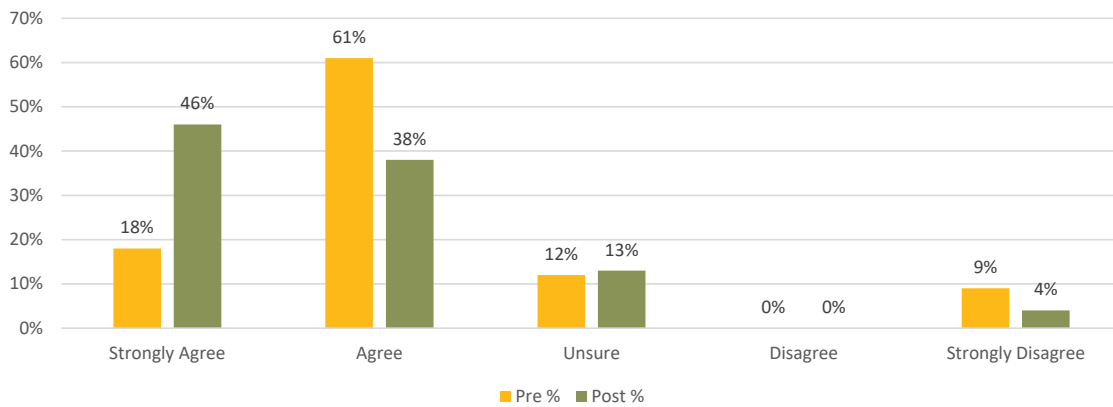
I trust that Yarra Council actively supports community involvement in making decisions



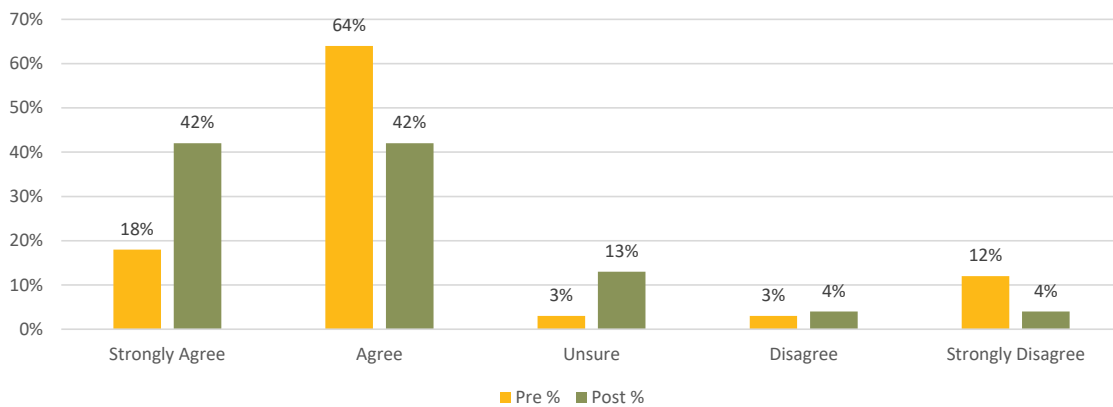
I understand how Yarra Council plans and delivers services



I feel like I have the skills to contribute to Council's decision making



I feel connected to the Yarra community



Motivation to Participate

Participants were asked ‘what motivated you to join the Community Working Group?’. Most responses highlighted a desire to represent their community and have a positive impact on Council decision making. The high-level themes that emerged for this question are listed below:

- Be a representative for my community
- Contribute to change and help inform long term decision making
 - To bring forward thinking, concerned mainly about budget decisions, social equity, future residents and the environment.
- To understand Council processes
- Concerns regarding Council transparency
- An opportunity to meet new people

- An opportunity to see how the deliberative and decision-making process works

"Chance to see how the decision-making process works and see the diverse views of other community members."

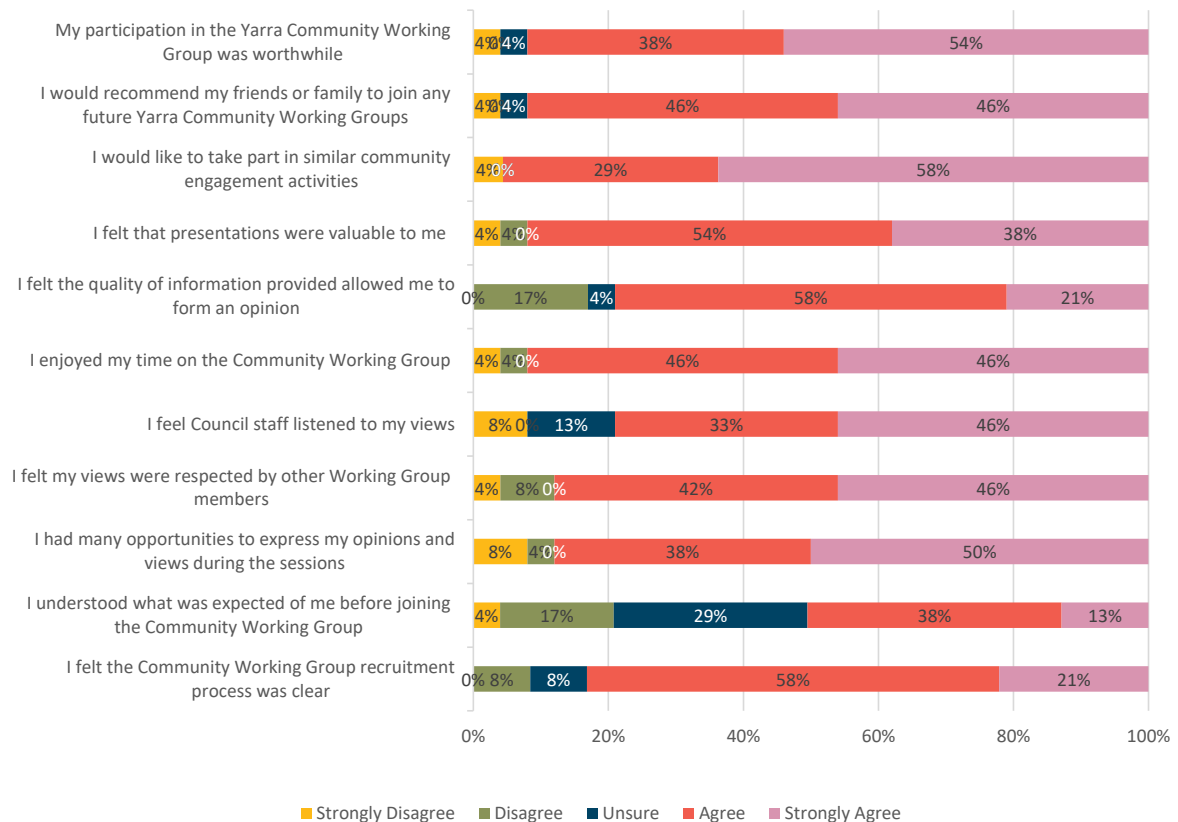
"To learn and give back and support my community."

"Under representation of young people in government."

5.2. Process evaluation

A series of indicators were used to assess the overall project delivery from the perspective of the CWG members. Participants completed a process evaluation survey at the end of the fourth session. The survey collected feedback on the recruitment process, their experience of the CWG, the information provided, interest in future events and whether they felt the experience overall was worthwhile. The below graph illustrates the results of the survey. Overall, across all areas, the evaluation was highly positive. The question which received the least support was “I understood what was expected of me before joining the CWG”.

Participant process evaluation survey results



CWG Reflections

Participants were also asked to reflect on the process and suggest any improvements they would recommend for future Yarra CWGs in two open-text questions. Overall, participants highlighted that there was great facilitation of a complex process, they valued Council contributions and catering at the sessions. A couple of participants commented that they hope Council listen to the CWG and takes on the feedback. However, several suggestions related to receiving reading material 48 hours in advance, to allow enough time for CWG members to adequately consider the content before the session. One participant highlighted that this is of particular importance for those who have English as their second language. Several participants also requested more pre-reading including information on,

- Council processes
- Council policies and strategies
- Examples of Council activities in-house and outsourced

Participants also suggested that the sessions could include more activities that require physical movement (i.e. out of chairs) on longer days and that it was difficult to concentrate in the evenings—other comments related to concerns that louder individuals dominated certain discussions. Some practical suggestions include,

- Better hearing loop machine
- Wi-Fi access
- Provision of iPads

One person felt there was not enough consideration given to the benefits and efficiencies of in-house provision of services. This person felt that the process *“preferred the conclusion that out-sourcing essential community services is the only viable option”*.

Other open-ended feedback included:

“Thanks for the opportunity. Great to meet so many people enthusiastic to make Yarra an even better place to live.”

“The catering did an excellent job, as did the council officers and the representatives of Capire.”

“Keep consultation going and listen to the community.”

“If English wasn’t your first language then participation was harder. Some participants had a lot more previous experience in council and therefore I had to do some catching up trying to work out what was required of me. The process needs participants to be confident to speak up and be able to synthesise information very quickly and for those who have a disability and if different linguistic and educational levels providing more time, support, earlier information to help them.”

“Make them longer, split the cohort into smaller groups, avoid bottlenecking the group’s opinions through a small number of people at any point, provide more information, give community opinions statutory power.”

“Word smithing component was difficult, sometimes those with personal views were taken into account more so than the majority. More structure breaks and timing of these as we spent long periods sitting and working.”

Appendix A: Welcome pack table of contents

The welcome pack was provided via email to the CWG prior to the first session. The pack included:

1. Welcome from the Mayor
2. Welcome from the CEO
3. Project context
4. The role of local government
5. About Yarra City Council
6. Our current financial position and how we pay for the future
7. City of Yarra services and costs associated
8. Comparing data to other Councils
9. What did we hear from community to date?
10. What happens next?
11. Support and payments, who can I contact, getting to the venue.

Documents provided to the CWG along with the welcome pack:

- City of Yarra Council Plan
- City of Yarra Quarterly report
- City of Yarra – Your Rates 2023 – 2024
- City of Yarra Annual Report 2022 –2023
- City of Yarra – Service Catalogue Graphic Designed Pdf
- City of Yarra – Service Overview
- City of Yarra – Pricing Policy.

Appendix B: Materials provided to support final principle refinement

Each of the draft principles, with suggested edits, information on previous iterations, CWG comments and Council comments were displayed on easels around the room for consideration, deliberation and refinement by the CWG during session 4.

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Improve environmental performance and resilience, and identify opportunities to implement Indigenous practices.

Previous draft principle/s:

- Ensure the environmental impact and sustainability of the services are considered for both the present and future by considering the following:
 - Climate emergency
 - Indigenous practices
 - Place making
 - Community resilience
 - Moving around in physical and lived context.

CWG comments on draft principle/s:

- Do we need to be more specific? We are already prioritising the environment due to the council environmental policy. Should this have more specific goals? (e.g. prioritise service reviews for services with worse environmental impact)
- Cultural events does not apply
- Can this point reference a pro-active approach with regards to the climate emergency?
- Divide info of environmental sustainability, impacts and community connections.
- Refine the principle with these details:
 - Placemaking – defined by designing of physical environment to enrich the wellbeing of residents and visitors. Ability for people of any ability to move around in a physical & livable context.
 - Community resilience – the intergenerational ability to respond to climate crisis.

Project team comments on draft principle/s:

- This principle commits us to building many layers into each service review. Is the focus on environmental sustainability?
- Consider breaking this one up. It is trying to cover too many things.

<p>Suggested edits/revisions:</p> <p>When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:</p> <p>Be adaptable and responsive by proactively identifying, planning for and implementing solutions that respond to dynamic factors, such as means levels of advantage/disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics.</p>
<p>Previous draft principle/s: Be adaptable and responsive to proactively identify, plan for and implement solutions that respond to the current and future needs of the community. They must identify and consider dynamic factors such as means levels of advantage/disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics.</p>
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too wordy • Consider separating it into two sentences
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggest adding market conditions, as this is one of the key aspects that changes frequently. • Suggested alternative: Proactively identify, plan for and implement solutions that respond to current and future needs of the community and adapts to evolving market conditions. • Suggest removing 'they must identify and consider dynamic factors such as means levels of advantage/disadvantage, life stages and changing demographics' - this detail is a standard practice for council.

<p>Suggested edits/revisions:</p> <p>When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:</p> <p>Make transparent and evidence-based decisions about how and why decisions are made and include input from those impacted.</p>
<p>Previous draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be transparent about how and why decisions are made that directly impact the community. • Provide evidence-based outcomes, that can be understood by the community through transparent business principles that are both qualitative and quantitative. • Consult community members directly affected by/actively using/engaging with that particular service as a priority. • Ensure the community is consulted in an accessible and timely way using diverse range of methods as per their needs, where appropriate, as per councils engagement policy.
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First two dot points are saying similar things. The second one can bog people down by having to jump through reporting hoops. • First two both cover transparency, evidence-based and impact. How can we make these cleaner? • Any service provided by Council must be made through evidence-based decision-making considering both qualitative and quantitative. • Council should use evidence to make recommendations.
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested alternative: Services will deliver qualitative and quantitative evidence-based outcomes, that can be shared and understood by the community.

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Use a cost-benefit analysis to demonstrate the positive impact of service reform on the community.

Previous draft principle/s:

- Ensure they have a demonstratable positive impact on community and service used whilst showing
 - Cost effectiveness / value for money
 - Measurable outcomes that are targeted for; local businesses, community amenities and resident needs.

CWG comments on draft principle/s:

- Council should prioritise service reviews where reform is most likely to deliver community benefit.
- Demonstratable positive impact on community and service used whilst balancing the impacts. Positive impacts that Council should measure;
 - Cost effectiveness / value for money
 - Measurable outcomes that are targeted for; local businesses, community amenities and resident needs.

Project team comments on draft principle/s:

- Suggested alternative: Cost benefit analysis will be used to demonstrate the positive impact of services on the community

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Ensure the community is consulted, prioritising the community members directly affected by/actively using/engaging with that service. Consultation should be accessible and timely, using diverse range of methods, where appropriate, as per Councils' Community Engagement Policy.

Previous draft principle/s:

- Consult community members directly affected by/actively using/engaging with that particular service as a priority.
- Ensure the community is consulted in an accessible and timely way using diverse range of methods as per their needs, where appropriate, as per councils engagement policy.
- Council should outsource reviews of the most contentious services to deliberative engagements panels.
- Continue community engagement and have regular representative samples and lived experiences of specific service users.

CWG comments on draft principle/s:

- Who else is doing this?
- Council should outsource reviews of the most contentious services to deliberative engagement panels.

Project team comments on draft principle/s:

- First dot point could be considered an approach not a principle - recommend including it in and introductory preamble
- Combine with dot points together.
- I like the as per council engagement policy, so that we are not creating duplicates. The policy guides the depth of engagement.

- Consider adding where appropriate - because we could be looking at an internal service or a service that doesn't directly impact community.

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Prioritise financial sustainability and appropriate resource allocation to enable us to respond to changing community needs now and into the future.

Previous draft principle/s:

- Ensure financial sustainability to provide for community needs now and into the future by including but not limited to:
 - where community needs change
 - demographics
 - community trends
 - market trends
- Will be high quality and adequately resourced

CWG comments on draft principle/s:

- Not clear enough
- Isn't clear how to prioritise financial or community needs
- Council to allocate appropriate resources to meet the expected standard of delivery and need (i.e. don't just half-arse it)
- Council should assess the ability of a service model to reallocate resources, or scale as required, in response to a crisis.

Project team comments on draft principle/s:

- Suggested alternative: Financial sustainability of services will be prioritised so as to provide for the diversity of current and future needs of the community.
- If there is a desire to include expectations around delivery standards, can we be more specific e.g. is about quality, access, pricing etc.?

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Prioritise service delivery models where it can maintain control or influence the community benefits, outcomes and quality of the service.

Previous draft principle/s:

- Set and maintain control of service quality standards that allows for a delivery of service that meets community needs
- Council will prioritise service delivery models where they can maintain control and influence the outcomes and quality, resorting to outsourcing only when there is evidence of community benefit

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • will be high quality and adequately resourced
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will prioritise service delivery models where they can maintain control and influence the outcomes and quality of the service • Can this principle be finished at quality? • Not about control, needs to prioritise community benefit more • Council should assess the ability of a service model to retain control over service level and service quality, alongside the cost to deliver.
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggested Alternative: Service delivery models where Council can maintain control or influence the community benefits, outcomes and quality of the service, will be prioritised.

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Ensure that where a service is subsidised the service delivers a clear social benefit, considers the needs of vulnerable community members and delivers on our Community Vision and Council Plan.

<p>Previous draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where council has to subsidise a service, it must deliver a clear community benefit and deliver on our community vision
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should deliver a package of services that best gives effect to the Council Vision and Council Plan, as well as all adopted policies, strategies, and plans. • Ensure continuity of service provision where they are affected by legislative change particularly affecting those with high needs
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I believe the more common terminology that relates to competitive neutrality is “social benefit”, could we swap the word community benefit with social benefit? • Suggested Alternative: Council subsidised services, must deliver a clear social benefit and deliver on our community vision else charge market pricing • Regarding the second principle, legislative as the reason for review is narrow, do we want to consider this in the event of any change? • Do we want to prioritise delivering services to those most vulnerable? • Consider that the term high-need could be interpreted in various ways. Consider vulnerable/experiencing vulnerability as an alternative.

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Seek creative ways to continually improve and address challenges, including collaborating with others facing the same challenges.

Previous draft principle/s:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council will not be afraid to seek creative ways to address challenges in service delivery, encouraging diverse voices to contribute to a culture of continuous improvement
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove “not be afraid” and “culture” • Council should avoid a status quo bias • Council should consider opportunities to collaborate with other Council’s, or to source services from other Council’s. • Council should consider alternative methods of achieving the same objective.
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional to the CWG suggestions the diverse voices could be read as community engagement, which has been addressed in other principles. • Collaborating with other Councils is one way to creatively address challenges. Do we need to specifically state it? Another creative way is partnership, which is similar but more broadly applicable. • Suggested Alternative: Council will seek creative and diverse/innovative ways to address challenges in service delivery and contribute to continuous improvements.

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Ensure that social impact and equity are accounted for when pricing a user-pays, market-comparable service.

<p>Previous draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that when pricing a market-comparable service, social impact and equity are accounted for.
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p>
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The principle isn’t fully clear. Using the word ‘pricing’ could be interpreted in different ways. Is this about when we make decisions about user-pay models and how much we charge a user? • Consider Tony Keenan’s example about Kindergarten pricing in Port Melbourne, where they were subsidising a service with lower fees than others operating in the market. Do you raise prices or target the service to those most in need (or both) to maximise social impact?

Suggested edits/revisions:

When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:

Look at service reviews holistically: compare the impact of a change in one service with the impact of a change in another.

<p>Previous draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should compare the impact of a change in one service with the impact of a change in another service.
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p>
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this about not looking at service reviews in isolation? e.g. looking at them holistically.

<p>Suggested edits/revisions:</p> <p>When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:</p> <p>Consider withdrawing from services that are adequately delivered by the market.</p>
<p>Previous draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council should withdraw from services that are adequately delivered by the market.
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p>
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a strong principle but good. Maybe update to 'consider', e.g. we may stay in a service if it is profitable even if others in the market are delivering it, 'so that we can subsidise something else'. • We also need to define 'adequately' e.g. there is enough market providers with capacity in reasonable proximity that are charging similar prices.

<p>Suggested edits/revisions:</p> <p>When planning or reviewing a service, Council will:</p> <p>Consider equitable access to services and promote 20-minute neighbourhoods.</p>
<p>Previous draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider the accessibility of services (i.e. 20-minute neighbourhood)
<p>CWG comments on draft principle/s:</p>
<p>Project team comments on draft principle/s:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This talks to the planning for and distribution of services, which we need to consider if we were planning a new service, stepping out of a service or consolidating our facilities – which we might consider if they were under utilised. • Need to consider that the term '20-minute neighbourhoods' is used and understood in different ways within the community. To avoid confusion, it may be better to focus on equitable access.

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Capire acknowledges
and deeply respects the Wurundjeri
people and
the Traditional Owners
of the Victorian land.

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7.3 Climate Emergency Plan - Stage Two Community Consultation

Reference	D24/101378
Author	Samantha Green - Climate Emergency Coordinator
Authoriser	General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. To seek Council endorsement of the draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 to enable public exhibition and stage 2 community consultation, scheduled to run between April- May.

Critical analysis

History and background

2. In June 2020, Council adopted its first Climate Emergency Plan. This Plan outlined Council's climate emergency response for the period 2020-2024 including strategic objectives, priorities, targets and key actions.
3. The Plan adopted in June 2020 expires in June 2024.
4. The new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 has been developed to ensure a continued climate emergency response and builds upon Council's existing Plan (see Attachments One and Two).
5. The new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 also supersedes the expiring Nature Strategy and Circular Economy Strategy. Council's work in relation to nature and circular economy are represented in the new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030.
6. The new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 includes a 6-year strategic plan and a 3-year action plan. (A second 3-year action plan will be developed for 2027-2030, ensuring that the actions undertaken are appropriate to the climate emergency context at that time).
7. The year 2030 is important from a climate science and action perspective being an important benchmark year locally, nationally and globally. Additionally, given climate science and action is a fast evolving space, a six year strategy will provide a longer-term visionary direction for Council with the inclusion of three-year Action Plans allowing Council to also be responsive to changing need and opportunity.
8. The new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 has been developed based on extensive consultation with our community and across the organisation (refer to detail provided in Community and stakeholder engagement).
9. Five key perspectives have been integrated into the new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 in order to broaden our climate emergency response and act on current and emerging challenges across our community, natural environment and economy. These are:
 - (a) Centring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experiences and knowledges;
 - (b) Fostering social justice and equity;
 - (c) The rights of young people and future generations;
 - (d) The rights of nature; and
 - (e) A commensurate climate emergency response.

10. The new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 recognises the scale of ambition required to appropriately respond to the climate emergency and outlines seven transformations across society which will bring forth our vision of a climate-safe, sustainable and just society. These are:
 - (a) In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency;
 - (b) In Yarra, community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported, and empowered to build resilience;
 - (c) Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response;
 - (d) Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city;
 - (e) Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature;
 - (f) In Yarra, everyone lives and works in comfortable and climate-safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure; and
 - (g) In Yarra, we are transitioning to a circular economy by consuming less, reusing, repairing, sharing and recycling more and sending less waste to landfill.
11. Objectives, indicators and targets have been developed for each transformation so that Council can transparently monitor and report on our progress towards these.

Discussion

12. Officers are seeking Councillor approval to proceed to enable public exhibition and stage 2 community consultation, scheduled to run between April- May.
13. Stage 2 community consultation will include the following activities:
 - (a) Your Say Yarra online survey;
 - (b) Community pop-up events (including Talking Yarra events);
 - (c) Targeted consultations with communities most at-risk of climate impacts including young people;
 - (d) Meetings with select advisory groups;
 - (e) Consultations with key stakeholders; and
 - (f) Consultation with the Wurundjeri Council (details still to be confirmed).
14. Feedback provided as part of stage 2 community consultation will be used to finalise the draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 so that the final Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 may be adopted mid-year.

Options

Option One - Recommended

15. Councillors endorse the draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 for stage 2 community consultation scheduled to begin in mid-April. Undertaking stage 2 community consultation in mid-April allows for scheduled adoption of the Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 in July 2024.

Option Two – Not recommended

16. Councillors do not endorse the draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 for stage 2 community consultation.

*Note that this delay in exhibition and consultation could mean the Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 may **not** be able to be endorsed during 2024.*

Community and stakeholder engagement

17. The draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 has been developed based on extensive consultation with the community and across the organisation. Activities included:
 - (a) Your Say Yarra (198 contributions: 93 survey responses and 105 ideas for action);
 - (b) Community pop-up events (3 events);
 - (c) Targeted consultations with communities most at-risk of climate impacts including young people (20 events);
 - (d) Meetings with advisory groups (youth, business, active aging, disability, multicultural, environment);
 - (e) Consultations with key stakeholders via the Yarra Climate Summit, the Nature Focus Group and the Climate x Health community event; and
 - (f) Consultation with First Nations peoples and representatives from the Wurundjeri Council.
18. As noted above (point 12), stage 2 community consultation will seek community feedback on the Plan's transformations and objectives and provide opportunity for feedback on indicators and targets, as well as any other more general feedback community members wish to provide.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

19. The development of the draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 connects strongly to:
 - (a) Yarra 2036 Community Vision, Theme 4: Environmental Sustainability: '*We are all custodians of the City of Yarra. While our skyline is growing, so are our green spaces. We are smarter in how we manage growth and use our resources and energy. We celebrate, enable and promote a circular economy*'; and
 - (b) Council Plan 2021-2025, Strategic Objective 1: Climate and Environment: '*Yarra urgently mitigates climate change while also adapting to its impacts and developing resilience in everything we do. The community, business and industry are supported and encouraged to do the same*'.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

20. The development of a new Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 will direct Council's comprehensive response to the climate emergency over the next 6 years.

Community and social implications

21. This new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 recognises that while the climate emergency affects everyone in our community, it is having a disproportionate impact on some. This includes those in our community who have been do not have access to adequate housing or income, have accessibility needs or chronic health conditions, work in unsafe conditions or are marginalised due to culture, language or gender identity.
22. This new draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 delivers a climate emergency response which centres justice and equity, ensuring that our entire community – particularly those at greatest risk of climate impacts – are resilient, connected and share in the benefits of our investments.

Economic development implications

23. Climate Emergency action supports strong current and future economic development in Yarra.

[Human rights and gender equality implications](#)

24. The climate emergency is one of great inequity, with those least responsible for the crisis, facing the greatest impacts and having the least resources to respond to the crisis. This includes people who do not have access to adequate housing or income, have accessibility needs or chronic health conditions, work in unsafe conditions or are marginalised due to culture, language or gender identity.

Operational analysis

[Financial and resource impacts](#)

25. Costings for each action included in the draft action plan will be finalised following the stage 2 consultation prior to adoption of the Climate Emergency Plan.

[Legal Implications](#)

26. Nil.

Conclusion

27. The draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030, including a 6-year strategic plan and a 3-year action plan (2024-2027) have been developed based on extensive consultation with our community and organisation.
28. The year 2030 is important from a climate science and action perspective being an important benchmark year locally, nationally and globally. Additionally, given climate science and action is a fast evolving space, a six year strategy will provide a longer-term visionary direction for Council with the inclusion of three-year Action Plans allowing Council to also be responsive to changing need and opportunity.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
 - (a) Endorse the draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 for stage 2 community consultation scheduled to begin in mid-April.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Attachment 1 - Draft Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030 - Strategic Document for Stage 2 Consultation
- 2 [↓](#) Attachment 2 - Climate Emergency Plan - Draft Action Plan for Stage 2 Consultation
- 3 [↓](#) Attachment 3 - Climate Emergency Plan - Community Engagement Overview for Stage 2 Consultation

Yarra Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030

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Acknowledgement of Country

Wominjeka.

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past and present.

Draft

Introduction

We are in a climate emergency.

The dire warnings of climate scientists are actualising at an alarming rate, with each year bringing a distressing portfolio of broken records and natural disasters. 2023 was our hottest recorded year by a huge margin, with the preceding nine years being the warmest on record (SOURCE). Bushfire seasons are lengthening and intensifying, threatening the lives and livelihoods of more and more people and wildlife. Many scientists argue that we are in the midst of a sixth mass extinction event, with extinctions occurring at 100–1,000 times the naturally occurring rate (SOURCE). Prolonged drought, extreme weather and food insecurity are driving political instability and mass migration.

And yet, this moment of crisis is a moment for hope. For from crisis comes transformation.

The climate and ecological crisis are an opportunity to rethink everything. To transform our relationship to one another and to the natural world of which we are part and upon which we depend. Due to the effects of colonisation, the dispossession of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on this continent, and of First Nations peoples around the world, a worldview of interdependence of all life was replaced by a worldview that separates humans from nature. This is an opportunity to critically examine the logic that drives the crisis: that the natural world is ours to extract from, that endless growth on a finite planet is possible, that financial systems can replace communities of care. We cannot address these crises with the same thinking that caused them.

In rethinking our worldview, we must also rethink the way we organise our society. We recognise the need to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and at the same time, we know that net-zero is not enough. A transformation to a zero emissions society requires us to revise our human-centric worldview and remedy the fundamental inequalities of our economic system. Responding to this crisis presents an opportunity to build the kind of communities where everyone thrives, including our natural world, with safe housing for all, fair distribution of resources, and shared decision-making.

In 2020, Yarra City Council (Council) adopted its first Climate Emergency Plan (2020-2024), which outlined our ambitious response to the climate crisis. To ensure this subsequent Climate Emergency Plan (2024-2030) builds on this first plan and responds to the challenges across our community, natural environment, and economy - all of which are exacerbated by the climate emergency - Council has

integrated five key perspectives. These five perspectives have informed our engagement strategy, the transformations, and the action plan.

The perspectives

Centering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experiences and knowledges

For over 60,000 years, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander nations have cared for country across this continent. In this moment of crisis, we must adopt Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander knowledge and practices to guide the way towards a regenerative relationship with our environment. The effects of colonisation, including the climate emergency, directly and disproportionately threatens the ongoing practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' way of life, including the capacity to care for country. We must act and partner with the Traditional Owners of the land that Yarra occupies, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung nation, to further build resilience to climate impacts and share in the benefits of a transition to a greener economy.

Fostering social justice and equity

People are not inherently vulnerable; it is the failures of our social and economic systems that make them so. We recognise that while the climate emergency affects everyone in our community, it is having a disproportionate impact on some. This includes those in our community who are unable to access adequate housing or income, have accessibility needs or chronic health conditions, work in unsafe conditions or who experience marginalisation due to culture, language or gender identity. Additionally, the climate emergency is one of great inequity, with those least responsible – those on lower incomes, from low and middle-income countries, and children and generations to come – facing the greatest climate and health impacts. We will commit to and advocate for a climate emergency response which centres justice and equity, ensuring that our entire community – particularly those at greatest risk – are resilient, connected and share in the benefits of our investments.

The rights of young people and future generations

The climate emergency is an issue of intergenerational injustice. Children and young people have done the least to contribute to the climate emergency yet will inherit the worst impacts and experience disproportionate risk, both physically and psychologically. We recognise the current and future rights of every child and young person to a healthy environment and safe climate. We will work to ensure our children and young people are represented and can meaningfully participate in decision making. Additionally, we will work towards and advocate for climate mitigation and adaptation strategies which limit the exposure of children and young people to climate impacts.

The rights of nature

As the impacts of the climate emergency accelerate, natural ecosystems are being driven towards collapse. The inherent resilience of these ecosystems is being tested by bushfires, extreme heat, and changes to precipitation patterns, among other impacts. We recognise that humans depend on functioning ecosystems for our survival, while also acknowledging the intrinsic value and rights of nature. In its climate emergency response, Council will integrate the rights of nature through minimising harmful environmental impacts while acting to improve the stability and resilience of local ecosystems.

A commensurate climate emergency response

The science is clear and unequivocal: without immediate and deep emissions reductions across all sectors, limiting global heating to 1.5°C will be beyond reach. Global heating has increased at an unprecedented rate over the past decade with Australia warming faster than the global average, resulting in more extreme weather events including flooding, bushfires, droughts and storms ([SOURCE](#)). The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change noted that “there is a rapidly closing window of opportunity to secure a liveable and sustainable future for all.” ([SOURCE](#)) A commensurate response to the scale of this challenge requires rapid decarbonisation alongside efforts to adapt to and build resilience in the face of worsening climate impacts. In the development and implementation of this Plan, we aim to deliver a climate emergency response which is commensurate with the scale, urgency, and severity of the crisis.

Our Climate Emergency Plan

This Climate Emergency Plan (the Plan) is our assurance that we’ve heard the calls for climate action, and for a more equitable and just society. We recognise the scale of ambition required to match this moment of crisis. In this plan, we outline seven transformations across society which will bring forth our collective vision of a climate-safe, sustainable and just society.

Our seven transformations

1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency.
2. In Yarra, community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported, and empowered to build resilience.
3. Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response.

4. Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.
5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature.
6. In Yarra, everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate-safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure.
7. In Yarra, we are transitioning to a circular economy by consuming less, reusing, repairing, sharing and recycling more and sending less waste to landfill.

At this time of collective anxiety, frustration, and suffering in the face of the climate crisis, this plan signals our role in these key transformations from now until 2030. Within this timeframe we will deliver two three-year action plans, which will map the actions we plan to take to achieve the seven transformations outlined above. These transformations are not inevitable or easy to achieve but will be the result of everyone uniting towards a shared vision.

To move forward we need to look backwards. Around the country, Traditional Owner knowledge and practices are being adopted to inform and improve land management and promote sustainability. The revitalisation of the *Budj Bim* cultural landscape of the Gunditjmarra people restored traditional fishing practices. This unique cultural landscape has universal heritage values that demonstrate how the Traditional Owners worked with the natural resources and environment in that region over the past 30,000 years and beyond. This example shows how traditional practices can rejuvenate an entire ecosystem and change the relationship between the wider community and the environment. It shows how the narrative can be rewritten.

The land that Yarra occupies is a small proportion of the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people. Yarra sits at the lower end of the Yarra River (Birrarung in Woi Wurrung language) in a highly urbanised landscape that bears witness to the ongoing effects of colonisation. While these effects can be seen all around us, if we are in tune with the land we can find a different direction. We need to change the narrative, and the way we look at our environment, adjusting our view to align with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung knowledge and practices, passed on through stories. The most astounding transformations happen right before our eyes, like the Bullum Bullum (white butterfly in Woiwurrung) emerging from its cocoon. We see on the horizon the fruits of this endeavour - the more beautiful world we know is possible.

Looking back

This is Wurundjeri Country

The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung nation has a history that extends over 60,000 years, to the beginning of time when the creator spirit, Bunjil the eagle, formed the Wurundjeri people, the land, and all living things.

Long ago Bunjil, the Wedge-Tail Eagle, was the headman of the Kulin. Bunjil had two wives and a son whose name was Binbeal, the Rainbow, whose wife was the second bow. Bunjil has also six other "Young Men", who were together in pairs, looking after the people for him, and carrying out his orders.

The six young men were: Djurt-Djurt, the Nankeen Kestrel and Thara, the Quail Hawk; Yukope, the Green Parakeet, and Dantum, the Blue Mountain Parrot; Tadjeri, the Brush-tail Possum, and Turnung, the Glider Possum, both of whom lived in the trees.

After Bunjil had made the mountains and rivers, and man and all the animals, he taught the men how to make weapons, how to fight with them, and how to behave with one another. When he had finished he became tired of staying upon the earth. So he gathered about him his wives and sons, and told Bellin-bellin, the Musk Crow, who had charge of the winds: "Open your bags and let out some wind." So Bellin-bellin opened one of the bags in which he kept the whirlwinds and let out a blast that blew great trees into the air, roots and all. Bunjil said, "That is not enough, let out more wind." Bellin-bellin opened all his bags at once, and a terrific whirlwind came out, and blew Bunjil and all his people to the sky where they live in plenty and look down on the world as stars (SOURCE).

River Red Gums were dotted across the land, with an understory of grasses, herbaceous plants, and some small shrubs. Along the waterways, the River Red Gums were joined by Swamp Gums, and a rich variety of shrubs, sedges, rushes, herbs, and grasses that changed with the seasons.

The Birrarung (Yarra River) supported wildlife like quolls, plains wanderers, bandicoots, bettongs, and perhaps even diprotodon, a large wombat-like marsupial the size of a hippopotamus. River Red Gums were dotted across the land, with an understory of grasses, herbaceous plants, and some small shrubs. Along the waterways, the River Red Gums were joined by Swamp Gums, and a rich variety of shrubs, sedges, rushes, herbs, and grasses that changed with the seasons.

The Birrarung was also central to the livelihood and identity of the Wurundjeri people. The Wurundjeri respected the land which provided food, water, resources, medicine, and shelter, and knew the land intimately. They understood the ecosystems and lived their lives according to the six seasons. In cooler months they regularly camped in the higher areas, as the land near the river flooded. In warmer seasons, crops such as mirr-n'yong (yam) were ready for harvesting, birds' eggs were plentiful, and it was time to eat wildfowl, eel, fish, and game. In these ways, people and country were interconnected - providing, nurturing, and caring for each other for tens of thousands of years.

Despite resistance from Wurundjeri people, colonisation disrupted this way of life and caused devastating changes to the lands and waters. Wurundjeri people were forced from their lands, with their population suffering a dramatic decline because of frontier violence and diseases introduced by the colonists. Sacred sites were desecrated, and Aboriginal people were forcibly isolated from family, community, language, and culture under government policies over successive generations.

Colonisation brought with it a new worldview, one which saw humanity as separate from nature, and nature as something to control. The colonisers brought industrial technologies and practices that extracted resources from the land without replenishing them. Ecosystems were altered to better align to the priorities of people and financial wealth, rather than nature. The course of the Birrarung was altered, and industrial waste began to pollute the lands and waterways. These shifts were the start of global heating and the climate emergency.

Yarra City Council: Altering the course

Over time, Yarra City Council has taken big steps towards repairing the harm done to our environment since colonisation. Though we still have much to do, we have improved the health of the Birrarung, reduced waste sent to landfill, and worked towards restoring and protecting our local biodiversity. Council is committed to its formal relationship with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung. This Climate Emergency Plan is an opportunity to strengthen this relationship by embedding Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung knowledge and practices in the ways that we will care for Country.

We have made significant progress in our commitments to responding to the climate emergency. Since 2001, we have achieved a 70% reduction on the emissions included in our baseline inventory, despite an increasing population and demand for services. Additionally, in 2012 we became the first Victorian council to be certified carbon neutral, meaning all remaining emissions since that year have been offset to bring our net emissions to zero. The recent increase in emissions (see Figure 1) represents a recovery

from COVID-19 to business-as-usual, as well as the inclusion of additional emissions sources in line with best practice carbon accounting methods.

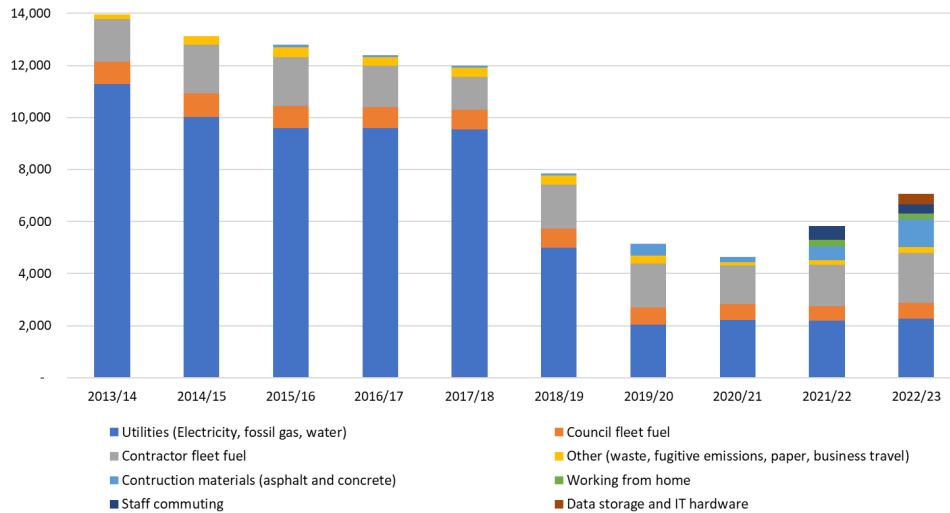


Figure 1 Yarra Council's organisational emissions trend from 2013/14 to 2022/23

Over the past decades, as our community's calls for climate action grew stronger, so too did our response. We have built partnerships locally with community organisations, businesses and industry, across other councils, and with other levels of government to maximise our impact. Additionally, we have been stepping up to support our community in taking climate action and assisting community members at greater risk from climate impacts to adapt.

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
2002		Council was a founding member of the Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, a partnership between 9 neighbouring councils	Despite the impacts of colonisation, today Wurundjeri and other First Nations people are active in the Yarra community – practising culture, performing	

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
		Council joins Cities for Climate Protection – a 5 milestone program	ceremonies and passing on knowledge to the younger generation	
2005		Council delivered multiple Sustainable Transport behaviour change programs such as ride to school day		
2006				Al Gore launched An Inconvenient Truth and the Climate Reality Project – bringing discussion about carbon emissions and global heating into the mainstream
2007		Implemented Travel Smart Program in partnership with business, schools and staff.		Australia became a Party to the Kyoto Protocol, setting our first emissions reduction target
2009		Council developed the first Waste Management Strategy		
2010		Council established the Yarra Energy Foundation as a not-for-profit providing		

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
		energy services and advice to homes and businesses. First solar system installed on Council buildings		
2011		Council published Yarra's first Climate Change Adaptation Plan		
2012		Council was certified as Victoria's first carbon neutral council		
2013		Council implements first-Victorian bulk change of all residential streetlights to energy efficient alternatives (DATE TBC)		
2014		Council initiated Victoria's first comprehensive Energy Performance Contract – reducing organisational emissions by over 2,000 tCO ₂ e p.a Council becomes Australia's first		

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
		certified One Planet Living council Council developed the first Waste Minimisation Strategy		
2015		Council led the development and delivery of Australia's first ever food waste avoidance program, Food Know How in partnership with 4 other Councils.		
2016				Australia signs onto the Paris Agreement, reconfirming emissions reduction targets
2017		Council adopts its first Urban Forest Strategy which aims to enhance Yarra's healthy and growing urban forest, improving liveability and mitigating the		

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
		impacts of the urban heat island effect.		
2018		Council declares a climate emergency Council developed the second Waste Minimisation Strategy		
2019		Council begins trialling 4- stream waste and recycling service, including separate glass and FOGO, across 1,300 households in Abbotsford with great results. Over the first 12 months of the trial, 1269 tons of glass and 102 tons of FOGO was recovered or diverted from landfill. Council acquired Australia's first electric powered tipper truck.	Yarra's first School Strike for Climate was held	The Victorian government identified "tackling climate change and its impacts on health" as a priority area in the state public health and wellbeing plan.

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
2019		All Council's electricity needs met by 100% renewable power via the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project.		The Victorian Climate Change Act 2017 sets a net zero emissions by 2050 target, alongside a range of interim targets.
2020		<p>Council adopted its first Climate Emergency Plan In November 2022.</p> <p>Council adopted its first Yarra Nature Strategy. One of the four goals is to - Increase the diversity, connectivity and resilience of Yarra's natural environment to resist the impacts of climate change on biodiversity values.</p> <p>Council rollout the separate glass stream across the municipality. Since then 7598.51 ton glass has been made</p>		The Local Government Act was updated to require all Victorian councils to include climate and health into their 2021–2025 Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plans Victoria beat its first target - to reduce emissions 15-20% below 2005 levels by 2020 – with a cut of almost 30%

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
		into new jars and bottles.		
2021		The number one strategic objective in the 2021-25 Council and Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan was		

Year		Yarra City Council	Yarra Community	Other
		the climate and environment		
2022		Launched the Solar for Apartments Guide and Unlocking Sustainable Strata Guides to help apartment communities participate in a zero emissions, climate adapted future		Victorian Government delivered a set of Adaptation Action Plans, seeking to drive vital adaptation action across 7 essential systems
2023		Launched Yarra's Circular Economy Map making it easy for people to shop for package free groceries, repair or borrow items Reached 537kw (~1,800 panels) solar power capacity on council-owned & operated facilities	Reached 238kW (~800 panels) solar power capacity on council-owned, community-operated facilities	Victorian Government strengthened its emissions target, now aiming for net zero emissions by 2045 Victorian Government announced a gas connection ban for new developments

Yaalingbu (Today)

Our community

Despite the devastating impacts of colonisation, Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have survived, with strong connection to Country persisting. It is a testament to their resilience that Wurundjeri Elders and community members continue to share their ancestral knowledge and engage with us on their traditional lands.

The City of Yarra is home to a diverse community of approximately 103,000 people. Among these are the successive waves of refugees and migrants who have been welcomed into the community, beginning in the post-war era with our Greek and Italian communities. From the 1970s, our Vietnamese, Chinese and East Timorese communities grew, and in the last 15 years our east African community. There is great cultural and linguistic diversity in Yarra, with 20% of people using a language other than English at home ([SOURCE](#)).

Yarra is home to many sites of natural and cultural significance. There are 38 conservation bushland sites that are actively managed by Council, making up over 40 hectares of open space. Yarra is bordered to the east by the Birrarung and Merri Creek corridors. Across Yarra there are at least 603 different plant species, including seven threatened species. Over 275 of these species are indigenous to the area. More than 278 animal species, including 21 threatened species, rely on local habitats for food and shelter ([SOURCE](#)).

Yarra is home to one of the largest economies in metropolitan Naarm Melbourne, with more than 16,600 businesses operating. The highest employing sectors are healthcare and social assistance, professional, scientific and technical services, and retail trade. The past century has seen a shift away from heavy industry, with significant growth in small businesses and large commercial enterprises. Our community is supported by a great diversity of community service organisations, which operate to ensure the connectedness, safety, and wellbeing of our community members. Among these are Yarra's Neighbourhood Houses, community health services, Aboriginal community-led organisations, and a range of other service providers. These organisations play a pivotal role in building community health and resilience amid worsening climatic conditions.

Our community has a long history of climate and social change activism. We are also proud to host many climate and environmental groups, artists and arts organisations, volunteer organisations and community groups all actively taking climate action and advocating for change.

Climate Impacts today

While future projections of global climate change are alarming, we are already witnessing the breakdown of essential climatic functions, the collapse of ecosystems, and widespread human displacement and migration due to sudden and ongoing environmental stress. These impacts are being acutely felt in low and middle-income countries, who have contributed least to the issue.

Locally, accelerating climate impacts are placing immense pressure on the environment, threatening the health and wellbeing of our community, and interrupting the provision of essential goods and services. These climate impacts and emerging public health risks are anticipated to worsen without significant investment in climate mitigation and adaptation.

It's hot: The number of unusually hot days has increased, as have overall temperatures. Between 1981 and 2010, Yarra experienced an average of 8 days each year with temperatures above 35°C. By the 2050's, this is expected to rise to between 13 and 21 days each year ([SOURCE](#)).

- In 2022, excess deaths associated with extreme heat in Europe exceeded 15,000 across Spain, Germany, the UK, France and Portugal ([SOURCE](#)).
- 2023 was the planet's hottest year on record by a large margin, with 2024 forecast to be hotter ([SOURCE](#)).
- Summer heatwaves in Melbourne now start on average 17 days earlier and are more frequent, long-lasting and more intense. ([SOURCE](#)).
- In 2014, Victoria experienced its first ever four-day period above 41°C. This led to an estimated 167 excess deaths associated with heat, corresponding to a 24% increase in the number of deaths during the week of the heatwave ([SOURCE](#)).

It's dryer: The average annual rainfall in Yarra has declined by 100-200mm since 1950 ([SOURCE](#)).

- In East Africa, rainfall has been below average in five consecutive wet seasons, contributing to acute food insecurity for an estimated 37 million people across the region ([SOURCE](#)).

- The millennium drought persisted from 1996 to 2010 across much of southern Australia, with Narm Melbourne experiencing major water scarcity and strict restrictions on water use ([SOURCE](#)).

Fires are more frequent and intense: In Victoria, the number of very high fire-risk days are increasing, and fires are becoming more intense. It is estimated that the number of days where there is a high fire risk in Narm Melbourne will increase by 42% by the 2050's ([SOURCE](#))

- Australia experienced its catastrophic Black Summer of bushfires, with more than 24 million hectares burned, over 450 deaths as a result of the fires and smoke, and an estimated 3 billion animals killed or displaced ([SOURCE](#)).
- In January 2020, Narm Melbourne's air quality was the worst in the world due to smoke from bushfires ([SOURCE](#)).

Weather is extreme and patterns are changing: Heavy rainfall events are becoming more frequent in Yarra, despite annual overall rainfall dropping. ([SOURCE](#)). Additionally, the climate emergency threatens to increase the frequency of thunderstorm asthma, which carries substantial health risks ([SOURCE](#)).

- In 2016, Narm Melbourne experienced the largest recorded epidemic thunderstorm asthma event, with an additional 3,365 respiratory-related emergency department presentations which led to ten deaths ([SOURCE](#)).
- Record-breaking rain in Pakistan in 2022 led to at least 1,700 deaths, with 8 million people displaced ([SOURCE](#)).

Mental well-being is impacted: mental health and well-being can be negatively impacted by climate-related anxiety and grief, as well as acute impacts to mental health of those experiencing extreme weather.

- Two thirds of young Australians report that climate concerns are having a negative impact on their mental health ([SOURCE](#))

Infectious diseases are exacerbated: a hotter and more unstable climate poses risks of increased proliferation of pathogenic diseases. There are many ways this occurs, including through an expansion of suitable climates for pathogen vectors such as insects and birds, and climate impacts such as heat increasing the reproduction rates of pathogen vectors like mosquitos.

- Research suggests there are over 1,00 ways in which the climate emergency increase risks from pathogenic diseases, with 58% of infectious diseases being aggravated by climate hazards. ([SOURCE](#))

Who in our community is at greater risk from climate impacts?

Across Yarra, there is a spectrum of socio-economic advantage and disadvantage. While many Yarra residents experience relatively high socio-economic advantage, there are many in our community who experience significant disadvantage and face elevated risk from climate impacts. In our extensive consultations, we heard loud and clear that a major focus of Council should be on supporting those in the community facing the greatest risks. While we all face the same climate impacts, they affect at-risk communities more intensely and sooner than those whose incomes, abilities, residences, or other factors provide greater protection.

Communities at greater risk include:

- Community members who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness
 - o People who are experiencing homelessness are acutely exposed to extreme weather. This, in combination with other factors such as social isolation, prejudice, or inadequate access to goods and services, can threaten health and wellbeing. Recent research led by The Guardian calculates the average age of death for a person who is experiencing homelessness as 44 years ([SOURCE](#)). A significant factor in this disparity is the health impacts arising from exposure to extreme weather.
 - o Yarra has the fourth highest rate of homelessness of any Victorian municipality, more than double the state average ([SOURCE](#)).
 - o “We get a number of clients who are homeless... they're particularly vulnerable to extreme weather and it can have long term physical health ramifications for them.”
Food relief organisation in Yarra
- Social housing residents
 - o Community members in social housing can be at greater risk from climate impacts, particularly extreme heat or cold, due to the lack of investment in climate resilient and thermally comfortable infrastructure. Even where measures such as air conditioning are present, tenants' incomes may limit their ability to use them. Substantial investment in increasing the climate readiness and thermal comfort of these buildings is urgently necessary. Yarra City Council strongly opposes plans by the Victorian Government to demolish public housing towers across the State, including 12 in our

municipality. These community members deserve to have the option to remain in their homes, which require investments to ensure thermal comfort and climate resilience.

- o 8% of Yarra’s population are in social housing, compared to just 2% for Greater Naarm Melbourne ([SOURCE](#)).
- o “The impact that heatwaves were having on our young people who live in the [public housing] towers: their ability to be able to learn, their ability to be able to manage their emotions was really impacted because kids are just not able to sleep. The kids swelter and as a result they just don't sleep." - School principal in Yarra
- People who are newly arrived as refugees and seeking asylum, and culturally and linguistically diverse community members
 - o Many community members in this group face barriers to preparing for and coping with climate impacts. Noting that this is a diverse group, with risk factors that do not apply uniformly, there are a range of factors which may compound exposure to climate impacts. These can include constrained financial resources, limited social connection, linguistic barriers, and an unfamiliarity with local processes, services, and climate.
 - o 29% of Yarra residents were born overseas, with 4.1% reporting difficulty speaking English ([SOURCE](#)).
 - o “In my country we just have two seasons – winter and summer. Since I was young to maybe 10 years ago but now I’m hearing about the changes and it’s very dry and not raining and too many animals dying. The animals don’t have food to eat. The government doesn’t look after the farmers and... we lose the trees and plants.” – Adult student in an English language class
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
 - o In 2021, there were 517 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members living in Yarra ([SOURCE](#))
 - o Due to the ongoing effects of colonisation, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are disproportionately affected by climate impacts, with threats to traditional practices, cultural knowledge, and the destruction of traditional lands ([SOURCE](#)). Many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have strong cultural connection to Country, and damage to natural environments can have a significant impact on mental, cultural and spiritual wellbeing ([SOURCE](#)).
 - o Impacts of racial discrimination contributes to the structural and systemic inequalities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

- o In 2021, there were 517 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members living in Yarra ([SOURCE](#))
- People with disabilities, and those living with chronic health conditions
 - o People with disabilities can be at greater risk of climate impacts, often sustaining higher rates of mortality during extreme weather events. This can be the result of several factors, including inaccessible emergency-related information, inadequate housing, or disrupted access to food, water, medication and healthcare services. Additionally, extreme heat and rapid temperature changes can be a major risk for people with temperature-related health sensitivities.
 - o In Yarra, 31% of the population has a long-term health condition, with 4% of the population needing assistance with daily activities due to disability ([SOURCE](#)).
 - o "I live with an autoimmune disease (HIV) – whenever we get towards summer, my immune system starts to drop. I'm getting older too. It wears you down physically and mentally." – Yarra community member
- Older adults, children and young people
 - o Older adults are particularly sensitive to temperature extremes and are more likely to have additional risk factors such as living alone, experiencing underlying health conditions, and having lower socioeconomic status. The climate emergency also threatens the physical, psychological, and emotional wellbeing of children and young people, particularly regarding long-term exposure to extreme weather during the development of their brains and bodies. Heatwaves are correlated with a heightened demand for ambulance services, with considerable increases for people under five, over 65, and those from areas with higher disadvantage ([SOURCE](#)).
 - o People aged 65 years or more make up ~12% of Yarra's population, with ~3% being 80 years or older. Children under 5 make up 4% of our community, while those under 25 make up ~20% ([SOURCE](#)).
 - o "Many older people live in old houses that are draughty – we're equally as vulnerable in many ways [as other at-risk cohorts]. I remember at the height of the heatwave not that long ago being unable to find funding for a pensioner who lived in her own home who had cancer and needed an air conditioner." Older adult in Yarra
 - o "I live in the old high rise [public housing]...When there are 2-3 consecutive hot days, children are really suffering. We go to the shopping centre to cool off. But we can't go to the shops or library at night. ... The children can't sleep, and then can't focus at school." Yarra community member

- At-risk workers
 - o Climate impacts are disproportionately experienced by workers in certain at-risk sectors. Notably, those who work outside, in environments with poor temperature control, or are exposed to situational extreme weather. These can include construction workers, gardeners, manufacturing workers, paramedics, and delivery riders.
 - o Of this cohort, delivery riders face heightened risk due to factors including the physical nature of the work, cycling during extreme weather, income being linked to productivity, a lack of places of refuge, and fewer financial resources to support adaptation.
 - o In Victoria, there were 917 injuries among delivery riders over the past seven years. Further, 73% reported being worried about being “seriously hurt or killed” at work ([SOURCE](#); [SOURCE](#))
 - o “Delivery riders recognise bouts of bad weather as meaning a lower supply of riders, and therefore a good time to go out and work. It's only when wind or rain becomes really severe that people will temporarily wait for adverse weather to die down.”
Delivery rider

Potential graphic element	Annotation/quote
Social housing tower or a child	“We know that the day after a hot night is going to be a tough day.” - School principal in Yarra
Person of colour	“There's no fish! Used to find lots of mussels and now there's none.” - Yarra community member
Older person	“There's power cost, people won't want to pay for power, so we need to think about how we financially support people even when they do have cooling systems. I've been to many places where people leave the oven door open as their heating.” – Yarra community member

Potential graphic element	Annotation/quote
Veggie garden and/or gardener	<p>"I used to have heaps of melons but now only a few, and very late (in the season). I used to share with friends, go to temple, but now I have nothing to donate." – Yarra community member</p> <p>"You don't know when you can grow your own veggies – all the gardeners are having the same problem - not only me" – Yarra community member</p>
Person standing outside a community centre	<p>"Most clients either walk or take some form of public transport. So if the weather is isn't agreeable, we definitely see an impact or reduction in numbers of people that come." – Yarra Food relief service professional</p>
Person sitting on the sidewalk or sleeping on a park bench	<p>"People experiencing homelessness wouldn't know when it was going to be hot and it would be the last thing on their mind. By the time it's a thought it is too late... Need refrigeration for medication" – Social services professional</p>
Groups of young people	<p>"It's more of an emotional impact...it's distressing. At some point the effects of climate change are going to be irreversible." (14 y.o)</p>
Public housing tower	<p>"Harvest Festival at Collingwood public housing estate cancelled today because of hot weather. Food was wasted from the cancelled event and an important day for the community was missed." – Yarra community member</p>
Community centre	<p>"The first thing that occurred to me in terms of climate and how it is impacting our operations... flooding in Queensland and Victoria impacts our clients because everything got expensive, clients weren't able to afford to buy them, and we didn't have as much of a supply" – Food relief service professional</p>
Food delivery rider on their bike riding in the street	<p>"Delivery riders, especially of gig workers, are the most exposed workers in our society. Who else is outside as often? All it takes is going outside in a day of extreme weather to see countless riders waiting out rainstorms</p>

Potential graphic element	Annotation/quote
	underneath the front of restaurants, or similarly, waiting in shade when it's too hot." – Delivery rider
Older person	"I will not go outside when it's too hot but when its ok weather I go out visiting. It affects social life." – Yarra community member
Person on a balcony of an apartment	"We live in an apartment, so we need a dryer to dry our clothes in winter, and we need heating and air con a lot. Our electricity bill – everything keeps going up!" – Yarra community member
Single home	"I don't use AC because it's expensive. Big bill when I did use it" – Yarra community member
Flying fox hanging asleep in a tree	In 2019, more than 2,000 native flying foxes in Naarm Melbourne died during a heatwave (SOURCE).
Tree or shrub	Extreme heat is killing our trees, shrubs and grasses. 90-100% of the trees and shrubs planted in Australian capital cities could be at risk by 2050 (SOURCE).
Tram or railway track or road	Transport is interrupted when roads and railways melt and buckle in extreme heat (SOURCE).
Commercial shop front or shopkeeper	Victoria's economy is predicted to lose \$179 million by 2030 from heatwaves. This decade, bushfires in Australia will cost the economy \$17.2 billion (SOURCE ; SOURCE)
Someone eating	Drought and dryer seasons impact farming and reduces the availability of affordable, healthy food (SOURCE).
Sports field or someone jogging	Drought, and associated extreme heat, compacts our sporting fields, leading to an increase in injuries for players or training and game cancellations (SOURCE).
Tree or park or creek/river	Our parks and gardens dry out, reducing greenery and further exacerbate urban heat. Water quality in rivers and creeks worsens

Potential graphic element	Annotation/quote
Pregnant woman	Bushfire smoke increases the risk of pregnancy complications including high blood pressure, gestational diabetes, low birth weight and premature birth. Smoke from the Australian bushfires of the 2019-20 summer caused an estimated 445 deaths and put more than 4,000 people in hospital (SOURCE ; SOURCE).
Ambulance	The smoke which blanketed Naarm Melbourne during the 2019-20 bushfire season provoked respiratory issues across the state, with Ambulance Victoria reporting increases of up to 51% in calls from people needing help for breathing problems.
Is there some way to visually represent bushland beyond Naarm Melbourne? Native animals	3 billion animals - mammals, birds, reptiles and frogs - were impacted by fires including 60,000 koalas during the 2019-20 mega-fires (SOURCE).
Person	Climate anxiety - concern for the environmental, political, and health effects of climate change – is increasing across the community, with implications for health and wellbeing (SOURCE).
Council building or community hall	Costs of maintaining and repairing our homes, buildings and other infrastructure are increasing because of extreme weather.
Road	Critical council infrastructure including roads and drainage, is being damaged by more frequent and/or severe extreme weather, and state and federal assistance is falling short of what is required (SOURCE).
A home	We are experiencing higher insurance premiums. Average home insurance premiums have risen by 52% across Southern Australia in the decade between 2007-08 and 2018-19 (SOURCE).
A fire service responder	“As extreme events increase, so will the demands on full-time and volunteer emergency service workers and agencies. There will be requirements for larger numbers of staff and volunteers to be involved in

Potential graphic element	Annotation/quote
	emergency response activities for prolonged periods, at increased frequencies, and responding to more extreme events. This will result in greater strains on emergency management organisations, volunteers and communities.” (SOURCE)

Draft

Yarra City Council: The emission reduction challenge

Council is committed to responding to this crisis at the scale and urgency required. This means acting to rapidly reduce emissions through our operations and across the municipality. As a local government, Yarra must step up our crucial role in helping reduce emissions from our homes, businesses, industry and transportation, and ensure that our community is safe, resilient and thriving. Simultaneously, we must work to ensure that the costs and benefits from the transition to a zero emissions society are shared equitably.

A snapshot of our municipality’s current emissions

To design programs and allocate resources with maximum impact, it is necessary to understand how and where our municipality’s emissions are generated.

In 2021/22 residents, organisations and industry within the City of Yarra produced approximately 1.1MtCO₂e. The largest sources of community emissions (74%) are from residential and commercial energy use (electricity and gas) as well as from transport (15%), with the remaining (11%) arising from waste, industrial processes and refrigerants.

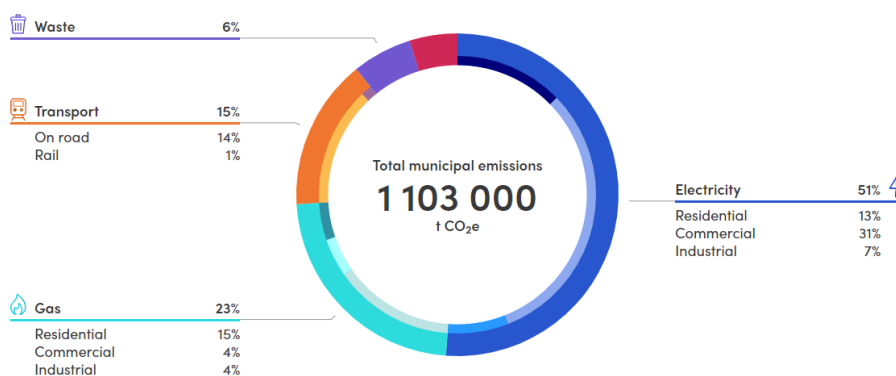


Figure 2 City of Yarra Municipal Emissions Profile 2021/22 – Snapshot Climate

Just over half of Yarra’s emissions are from electricity use – down significantly from just a few years earlier, primarily due to Victoria’s electricity grid being increasingly powered by renewable energy. Updated renewable energy targets and significant investments in renewable energy generation are

continuing to shift our electricity grid towards being powered by renewable energy. By 2035, we expect 95% of the electricity in Victoria’s grid to be from renewable energy.

However, fossil gas use in Yarra is on the rise. The most direct path toward reducing emissions is to reduce energy use and accelerate the transition to all-electric homes, businesses, industry and transport. This must be a major focus across the community, industry, and from all levels of government.

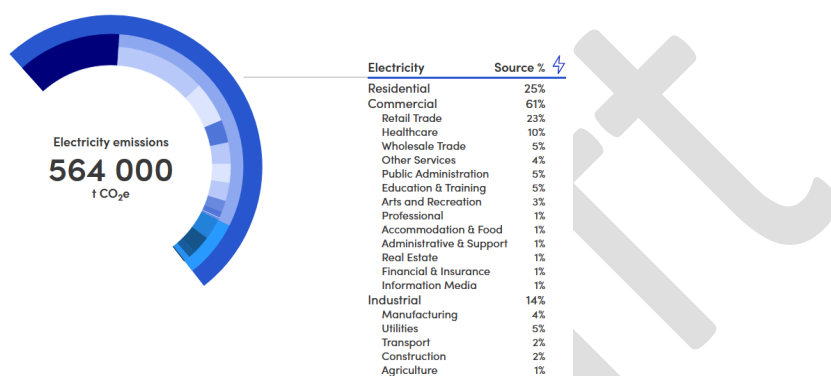


Figure 3: City of Yarra breakdown of electricity emissions by subsector 2021/22 (Snapshot Climate)

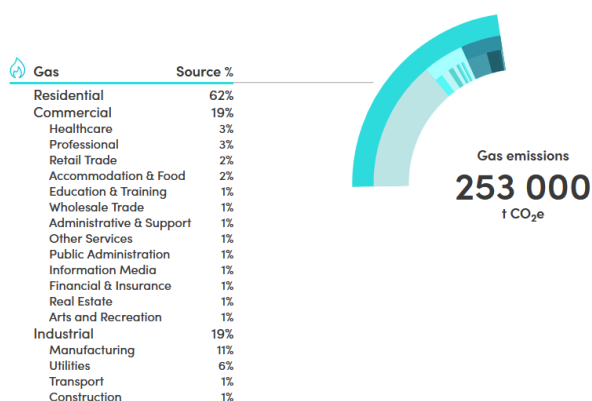


Figure 4: City of Yarra breakdown of fossil gas emissions by subsector 2021/22 (Snapshot Climate)

Council’s current emission sources

Council has made great strides in reducing emissions, most notably through sourcing 100% renewable electricity through the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP), investing in energy efficiency,

and making progress towards electrifying our buildings and fleet. In 2012, Yarra was certified as Victoria’s first carbon neutral council. Since this year, we have maintained net-zero emissions by purchasing carbon offsets for any emissions we haven’t been able to eliminate.

In 2022/23, the majority of our 7,070 tCO₂e of emissions come from the use of fossil gas (27%) in our buildings, the transport fuels from our vehicles (9%), our contractors’ vehicles (27%) and staff commuting (5%) (Figure 5). Beyond working towards reducing Council’s direct emissions, we also have been improving our quantification of the significant ‘indirect’ emissions which are embodied in the products we buy. Methods to identify and quantify these indirect emissions will continue to improve, informing our future emission reduction strategies.

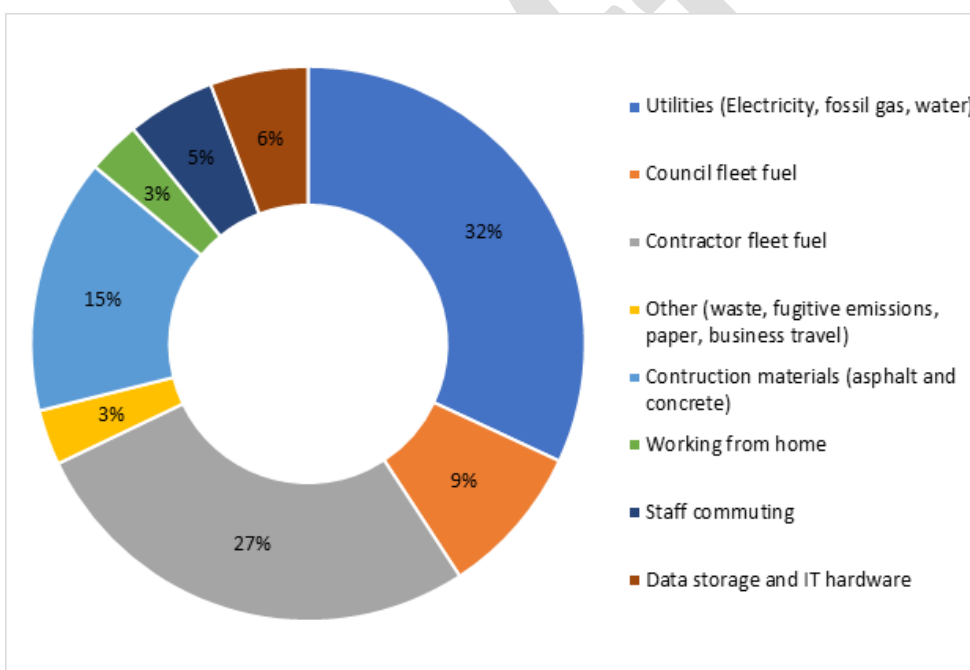


Figure 5: Yarra City Council's organisational carbon emissions profile 2022/23 (7,070tCO₂e)

Targets that are ambitious and achievable

In 2023, the Climate Council released their analysis of the latest climate science which highlighted that Australia must achieve net-zero emissions by 2035 for us to collectively limit global heating to 1.5°C ([SOURCE](#)). This means the Australian Government’s current plan to reach net-zero by 2050 and

Victoria's newly legislated target of reaching net-zero by 2045 are not ambitious enough to safeguard our climate.

Draft

Australia has the technology, resources, and geography to drastically reduce our emissions, including through accelerating the transition to renewable energy, swiftly electrifying our infrastructure and transport, and shifting towards regenerative land management and agricultural practices. This transition holds the potential for a vast expansion of clean industries and jobs.

In 2020, the Yarra City Council set an ambitious objective for the municipality to achieve net-zero emissions by 2030. Given the current policy and economic conditions and our learnings over the past four years, we will revise our objective in line with latest scientific findings: to reach net-zero emissions as a municipality by 2035.

Impacts of animal agriculture

There is substantial evidence to suggest that the emissions associated with current dietary patterns - particularly the high and increasing consumption rates of animal products - are likely to make it impossible to limit global heating to 1.5°C, even if fossil fuel emissions were eliminated completely ([SOURCE](#)). The emissions impacts from animal agriculture arise from deforestation for the expansion of pasture for ruminants, methane emissions from livestock, as well as the vast amount of land and resources directed towards producing crops for livestock consumption.

Australia is now a global hotspot for deforestation, with widespread land clearing being a central driver of biodiversity loss and a key factor driving world-leading rates of mammal extinctions. Between 2016 and 2021, 2 million hectares (4.94 million acres) of bushland in Queensland has been cleared, including large swathes of habitat for koalas and other threatened species. It is estimated that more than 90% of this deforestation was to facilitate beef production ([SOURCE](#)).

Deforestation also has significant implications for the availability of fresh water, with animal agriculture responsible for around one-third of global freshwater consumption, and pollution associated with animal agriculture being a major source of freshwater contamination ([SOURCE](#)).

It is widely understood that a shift to plant-based diets is a critical in responding to the climate emergency.

Much more than reducing emissions

Efforts to transition towards a zero emissions society provide a range of benefits, including improvements to health and wellbeing, economic opportunities, and the potential to minimise existing inequities and disadvantages.

While electrification and energy efficiency are important processes in driving emission reductions, this transition also provides opportunities to improve health and comfort while reducing expenses. Efficient, all-electric homes are more comfortable year-round and can save thousands each year on energy costs. Additionally, fossil gas appliances like heaters and stovetops emit a range of air pollutants. As a result, our indoor air is often more polluted than outdoor air, which can trigger and exacerbate respiratory conditions like asthma and allergies. This transition provides opportunities to improve health and comfort while reducing expenses, enabling our homes and community to be more resilient. Critically, we must collectively ensure that these benefits are shared across the community, particularly among those most exposed to climate impacts.

The transition also offers significant opportunities for Yarra's businesses and workforce to participate in decarbonisation, reduce energy costs, and become employers of choice. Yarra has the opportunity to enhance its reputation as the municipality where sustainable business are supported in their efforts to be renewable, circular and climate resilient.

Our climate emergency response is shaped by an understanding of our community and where our emissions come from. We will work towards supporting those in our community most exposed to climate impacts. Simultaneously, in our efforts to limit the severity of global heating, we will prioritise eliminating the dominant sources of emissions at both organisational and municipal levels

Yirramboi (Looking forward)

What if we decided to build a better future?

It's 2030.

People told us and our community that the transformation we envisioned was impossible. They told us that it wasn't technically feasible. That it was happening too fast. That protecting the environment was a lost cause.

But together, we did it. With unprecedented collaboration and commitment across all levels of government, business, and the community, we transformed our community and our environment. We reflected on our worldview - which saw nature as a resource for us to use – and understood that this needed to change. We were guided by the expertise of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung nation. From this understanding, we could no longer sit by idly while the environment was harmed.

Collectively, we mobilised to demand a rapid shift to a zero-emissions and circular economy. It was a big task but eventually it became clear that this transition was good for workers, communities and the environment. We swiftly set out on electrifying our homes, workplaces, and infrastructure, and are increasingly powering them with abundant energy from the sun and wind. We started to show the world what a just transition to a zero emissions and circular economy could look like, with representative decision making, decent work opportunities and no one left behind. And we shared technology like advanced solar equitably across the community, so that those who previously struggled to pay their energy bills could cool and heat their homes. At this rate, it is looking like we will achieve our net zero by 2035 target ahead of schedule!

We also made our homes comfortable and resilient. We retrofitted our homes so that they are now thermally safe through extreme heat or cold. And we didn't just retrofit existing housing; new, efficient developments were built right across the country so that everybody has access to safe and affordable housing. With these investments, community members who were experiencing homelessness were finally able to shelter from extreme weather.

How we travel has also changed. The streets look different now, with protected bike lanes and shady trees, so that more people are cycling and walking. Major investments in public transport mean it is more accessible, affordable, and reliable. Those who drive do so in electric vehicles, which they recharge easily with cheap renewable energy. The health of our community has improved as indoor and outdoor air pollution is reduced, with rates of childhood asthma plummeting.

There are still extreme weather events locked in by past emissions, but when they happen now, the effect on our community is manageable. Our physical infrastructure is resilient, and so are our people and organisations. There are warning systems in place to alert us to extreme weather and we make sure these messages reach everyone across the community. We are connected to each other and to the community services we rely on. Neighbourhood houses and other community service organisations are supported to continue their critical work of bolstering wellbeing and connection across our community.

Where before we were producing an enormous amount of waste, we now embed circular economy principles into everything we do. A sharing economy is flourishing, with shared ownership of things we only use every now and then. And a booming industry has emerged in the reuse, repair and resale of resources that would have been destined for landfill.

We all played a role in restoring our ecosystems, and now our biodiversity is flourishing. Threatened species have recovered. Native bird populations have expanded. Greenery and flowers are everywhere. Yarra Bend Park's grey-headed flying fox colony numbers have increased as our street trees provide ample nectar resources right through winter. Now our community has shelter from the sun under our growing tree canopy and more areas of open space. And best of all, the restored Birrarung welcomes swimmers and biodiversity alike.

Along with flourishing native plant and animal species, hundreds of food gardens have popped up all over the community. These gardens play a central role in connecting the community and ensuring that there will always be enough fresh produce to eat. Our food choices have become more considered too, and we eat more and more plant-based foods.

Council played a leadership role in many of these transitions, forming partnerships across the community and with other local governments. We continue to ensure that everyone has a say in how our community functions. Children and young people, who once experienced the heaviest eco-anxiety,

now feel empowered by the contributions they make to our society. Others who were once excluded now have a seat at the table and shape the decisions and projects affecting their lives.

The first step towards this future was taking the time to imagine the transformations that needed to happen.

Better together: The importance of government, industry, and community partnerships

Achieving these transformations requires a collective effort across all levels of government, business, and the community, in line with their level of influence, capacity and resources. Council is committed to partnerships that will help build resilience among those most in need, amplify climate action, and use resources wisely. To facilitate effective partnerships, and support the broader climate emergency movement, Council will collect and actively share information and report the results of its climate emergency work and investments.

The role of the Federal Government

In Australia, the Federal Government has the greatest opportunity, and legislative powers, to tackle the climate emergency on a systemic level, and build a climate-proof economy to keep us thriving. As of 2024, our federal targets and action are not commensurate with the level of threat posed by the climate emergency.

Australia is a signatory to the global Paris Agreement, which seeks to limit global temperature increase to below 2 degrees Celsius, while pursuing efforts to limit the increase to 1.5 degrees. Despite this, our current Federal Government emissions reduction targets - 43% below 2005 levels by 2030 and net zero by 2050 – fall short of meeting the Paris Agreement ([SOURCE](#)).

Australia has a long history of supporting the fossil fuel industry - an unsustainable position in a climate-damaged world. At the 2023 UN Climate Change Conference (COP 28) COP28 Australia committed to phasing out offshore financing and support for coal, oil and gas within 12 months ([SOURCE](#)). However, the Federal Government continues to provide subsidies to the local fossil fuel industry and to approve new fossil fuel projects in Australia.

The Federal Government has produced a National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy, along with a National Health and Climate Strategy to help anticipate, manage and adapt to climate change.

Through the Nature Positive Plan, the Federal Government has a goal of zero new extinctions and has committed to protect 30% of Australia's land and seas by 2030, create a nature repair market to leverage private investment to help halt environmental destruction and regenerate nature.

The Federal Government has also established a Circular Economy Ministerial Advisory Group to guide decisions and investments on Australia's transition to a circular economy. However, no formal strategy, policy or plan has been released at the time of this plan's development.

The Federal Government must significantly and rapidly strengthen its targets and climate response to support a safe climate and Yarra's climate ambitions. Council will use all available opportunities to positively influence the Federal Government's response to the climate emergency which must reflect the scale and speed that the crisis requires.

The role of the Victorian Government

The Victorian Climate Change Act 2017 outlines the State's climate response. Victoria has taken a proactive approach to climate action, surpassing its first emissions reduction target to reduce emissions 15-20% below 2005 levels by 2020, with a reduction of almost 30%. Subsequently, the net zero target was brought forward to 2045, along with a 95% renewable energy target for 2035 ([SOURCE](#)). The Victorian Government has mandated that all new developments be all-electric, springing forward progress towards electrifying our energy consumption. However, support remains for the fossil fuel sector in the State, with a ban on onshore gas exploration being lifted in 2020 ([SOURCE](#)).

The Victorian Government's plan for a circular economy has a strong focus on recycling, but misses opportunities presented by a fully circular approach ([SOURCE](#)). Notable initiatives include the four-stream waste and recycling system for households (implemented by Council), the Container Deposit Scheme, investment in innovative waste management solutions and a State-wide ban on single-use plastics.

Alongside its emissions reduction work, the Victorian Government is also promoting climate resilience and adaptation. It has developed a set of seven sectoral Adaptation Action Plans, covering the built environment, education and training, health and human services, natural environment, primary production, transport, and water cycle. In addition, the Victorian Government has worked with councils and communities to develop Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategies. These five-year,

practical strategies address the unique challenges and opportunities the climate emergency poses to different regions. Yarra is covered by the Greater Melbourne Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy.

The intersection between climate change, public health, and emergency management has been recognised at the state level. Emergency Management Victoria's vision and impact statement identifies the climate emergency as a primary factor impacting Victoria's risk profile. The Strategic Roadmap for Emergency Management in Victoria 2022–28 sets out a pathway to strengthen emergency management responses, alongside adaptation efforts and investment in reducing the exposure of state-wide infrastructure and systems to climate impacts. Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2023–2027 identifies responding to the impacts of the climate emergency on health as a major priority and sets out strategies to respond.

While there are many positive elements to Victoria's climate response, further strengthening of the targets, funding, and approach is needed to support a safe climate and Yarra's climate ambitions.

The role of business and industry

Business and industry are accountable for approximately half of the emissions in our municipality and have a significant role to play in the local climate emergency response. While many local businesses recognise the implications of the climate emergency, there are significant barriers to action, including a lack of time, money, resources, or knowledge. This is especially true for small businesses whose resourcing limitations often challenge their capacity to understand and navigate decisions around reducing emissions and building climate resilience. Additionally, government policy is not strong enough to drive the level of action required.

Large businesses with substantial resources should be setting and working towards ambitious targets in line with the Paris Agreement. Community pressure to this end is likely to increase from 2024/2025, when financial institutions and large listed companies will need to commence mandatory climate reporting in Australia ([SOURCE](#)).

Some large businesses with a presence in Yarra have committed to climate-related targets and begun reducing emissions. While several businesses have announced their target to reach net zero by 2050 or earlier, others are aiming to procure 100% renewable electricity by 2030 or earlier. While positive, these targets need to be accelerated to support Council and community's climate ambitions.

Alongside emissions reduction efforts, business and industry must increasingly focus on managing climate risks and understanding the opportunities to deliver climate positive goods and services.

The role of community

For over a decade, our community has made clear its desire for Yarra to be a climate leader. We are fortunate to host a long list of passionate, knowledgeable, and active people, groups, clubs, and community organisations who play important roles in reducing emissions, Caring for Country, and increasing community resilience.

Purposefully building connections with neighbours, across communities, groups, organisations and with government plays a critical role in building trust and ensuring we have strong foundations for taking action and building resilience. When communities are heard and actively involved in issues that impact their lives, and are co-creating solutions, the outcomes are often improved. Additionally, deeper connection between community members, and with local organisations such as neighbourhood houses, can bolster a sense of solidarity. This solidarity and care is essential to improving quality of life and ensuring that mutual aid and support prevail as climate impacts accelerate.

In a world that's already impacted by climate change, it's going to take all of us to reach our vision of the future (Yirramboi). We all have a role to play in bringing the transformations to life. Of course, no one person or organisation can do it all. Instead, we can each play to our strengths, work together, raise our voices, support each other, grow our community connections and, ultimately, accelerate our collective impact.

Step into the future: stories looking forward

Deng arrived at the neighbourhood house, arms laden with zucchinis he was donating for local food relief. The zucchini were dripping, as was he. "Is it that hot already?" gasped Marjie. "No", laughed Deng, "I just walked through the pop-up splash park – kids are having such a great time! I bumped into my friend there, cooling down before a hot day on the bike. He said might pop by later on."

Deng put the zucchini on the bench and picked up a knife to help Marjie slice up the mountain of veggies. Many locals donated or swapped their excess produce, and donated their time, too, while other locals relied upon the meals for their own nutrition – not to mention the company and connection. Like all neighbourhood houses, this place buzzed with life, and it was a lifeline to many.

Another local wandered past and emptied a bucket of food scraps into the communal compost bin and grabbed a Council map of the free, cool spaces accessible to everyone before moving off. Its removal exposed one last flyer translated into Oromo, flapping on the notice board. It was two years old, from the time when Council had supported locals in public housing to advocate for more thermally safe homes. The Youth Advocacy Group had joined in the campaign, adding a call for more cool, natural spaces on the estates. Now residents could take refuge from heatwaves in their own homes, but also enjoy the green space and mist just at the bottom of their buildings when their children needed a run around.

As Deng finished putting the veggies in a big pot, the enticing smell of onions and garlic spreading, the manager came around the corner with the Mayor. They were discussing the expansion of the community leaders program. For the last four years, Council had provided funding and resources to train up locals to be community leaders that could support social connectivity and resilience for those at greater risk from climate impacts. With more climate refugees being welcomed into the area, from different language backgrounds, there was always need for more community leaders in this successful program.

Nehemiah wandered over to Romy with his lunch, smiling. She moved over to make space on her small picnic rug - there had been a deluge the day before, but today the grass around them was almost glowing green. "Do you remember how flooded this used to get?" Nehemiah asked as he plonked himself down with barely a squelch of the ground. Since the nearby carparks had been converted to a permeable surface, with more trees planted for shade, the risk of flash flooding had been greatly reduced. He had been seeking a compliment from Romy, because it was his team that

removed the asphalt, but he knew that she deserved the praise equally, as it was her team that then converted some of that space into vegetation which eagerly soaked up the rainfall. In fact, it was this project that had brought them, and their teams, together. Every job was a climate job at Council, and it felt so rewarding to be part of something so much bigger - and so much more collaborative, too! Another colleague rode past. It was a pleasure cycling beneath the canopy, and much cooler than on the roads. Since the Cool Routes project was completed, getting around Yarra a pleasure, even in the warmer months. They stopped at one of the many sheltered spots along the way to drink from a water fountain and take a seat. As they watched dozens of people go past them, they could see that their work in Strategic Transport was making a difference to the people in this City.

A child ran past them, gleefully chasing butterflies but then stopped still to watch as the butterfly landed on a Sticky Everlasting. She took her shoes off and let her soft bare feet rest on the native violets that covered the earth. The childcare educator walked over with a small group of children to see what she was looking at. "A Yellow Admiral Butterfly!" one child exclaimed. The Council childcare educator felt a rush of emotions, remembering how she had supported her children and their families to advocate to bring nature back to this park near their centre. The children had been involved in the design and planting stages, and she knew that there was more hope now than ever – this generation were so deeply connected to the land, that they would always care for it.

Collecting his cloth shopping bags, Leroy heads out his apartment door to do his weekly shop. On the way to the lift, he stops at Abel's door, knocks and calls out "Hey Abel, it's Leroy. I'm heading to the shops. Do you need anything?".

Shuffling sounds come from inside before Abel's head pops out. "I'm short on oat milk. I would appreciate you grabbing me some. Come in and I'll give you some money."

"Don't worry about it, you more than pay for oat milk with those home-grown veggies you keep dropping at my door. Luckily I know how to cook hey." Abel smiles and Leroy turns for the lift.

As Leroy steps out of the building, the sweet and earthy smells of nature encase him. This continues to surprise him. Moving from regional Victoria a few years ago, he expected hard, hot surfaces that would make him homesick. Instead, he was surprised and delighted to see how green the city had become. He immediately felt at home and connected to Country which is gradually being regenerated.

Coming home, Leroy again stops at Abel's door to deliver the oat milk. "It's pretty hot out there" says Leroy "how are you coping in here?"

"I haven't even turned the air con on yet. This is a good apartment, especially when you put the blinds down early. Cool, even when it's hot outside" replies Abel.

Taking the oat milk from Leroy's hand, he replaces it with another laden bag. "I've been down the community garden" he says with a wink and a smile.

At the shops, Trish loads up her shopping cart, with the help of her 4-year-old, Archie. She recalls how stressed shopping used to make her environmentally conscious mother. Every purchase was a big decision. Was it designed in a way that it can be repaired and reused and then recycled at its end of life? How much packaging did it have? Would it end up in landfill? Was it ethically produced?

Nowadays, she doesn't battle those decisions. Packaging and product laws means she can confidently buy locally produced products that she and Archie need without concern. Polluting plastic and unnecessary packaging just don't exist. Regenerative style farming and local food production and distribution is becoming the norm, and like the much older days, things are made to last, be shared, repaired and recycled when no one can use them anymore.

Riding his-bike home, Archie points from his seat and delightedly yells "Bullum Bullum" at a butterfly landing to drink nectar from a blossom. Trish smiles and thinks how lucky she is live in a beautiful city where she can ride home under the shade trees and arrive home to her small but lush garden.

Turning off the path, she rides down the middle of the road, feeling safe on the one-way street. There were only a handful of EVs in sight but all along the street and side verges, there are pockets of people. Some gardening, some on their phone, some chatting, people walking, and other cyclists. A couple of kids were investigating the insect life near the swales that carried and purified stormwater. Trish and Archie shout hello to a neighbour as they roll by.

Connie stepped off the tram and walked towards the Birrarung. Even after a few years as a Councillor, she still loved the Council meetings that were held on Country by the Birrarung. It was a reminder of all the great work they'd done, in collaboration with other councils, the State Government, Wurundjeri Traditional Owners and Custodians, and a bunch of community groups. Right up and down the length of the river, it was cleaner than it had been since colonisation. So clean that on a hot summer day, it was as full of swimmers as any local pool. Sections of the

riverbank has been specially designed so the swimmers could enjoy this special place without eroding the bank or damaging the ecosystem.

Below the surface, she knew the eels were breeding, and the fish were swimming. And above that, birds were dipping themselves into the water to cool off. She could hear the thrum of insects and noticed bats asleep high up the trees. She was proud of the way the bushland that lined the Birrarung also extended out, into nearby streets and lanes. It really was becoming like the Kakadu of the south, and a rich opportunity for everyone to learn from Wurundjeri knowledge and culture.

As she walked, Connie considered the first thing on the meeting agenda, a discussion around community health services. This was always a challenging topic as the needs of the Yarra community were diverse. During discussions and decisions like this, she was often thankful for the hard work of those that had come before her. Her generation had inherited housing stock and a municipality that really was taking steps to being climate resilient and zero carbon. A community that was connected, caring, and passionate. Without these things, she knew they'd be facing a full blown and completely unmanageable community health crisis, not just a discussion of how best to invest resources to meet community needs.

It's Monday morning and Xuan is off to work. After shouting goodbye to their two teenage kids, they step into their much-loved electric van, ready for a day of installing highly efficient solar panels.

Going to work these days was a breeze. Yes, the roads were smaller but that didn't matter because there were less cars on the road. And because all homes and businesses are electric and powered by renewable energy, they hardly had to travel outside of Yarra to get enough clients.

First stop was to pick up Beth, their apprentice. 10 minutes later, they were at their first job. They would be pulling down and replacing a very old, ineffective solar system on the local cafe. Xuan loved these jobs. They knew the shop owner would see a quick financial return on this investment, and with this new solar system, could continue to provide sustainably-produced and delicious plant-based sandwiches, cakes, and drinks.

After installing the new system, Xuan and Beth loaded the old solar system back into the van. Grabbing an ice cream for the road, they headed to Merri-Merri Solar Cycle, a local business that

recycled old solar systems. It felt good to feed the local circular economy, certainly better than the guilt Xuan used to feel disposing of solar panels some years ago.

Next stop, lunch. They were close to their favourite café so they dropped in and then walked to nearby pocket park to eat. This was one of their regular lunch spots. It had everything, nice seats, good outlook, a public toilet, easy access to delicious plant-based food, and Beth's favourite, the yarning circle space.

There were often interesting people gathered here - discussing ideas, swapping cultures, and eating together. Lunching here, Beth felt her world expand. She learned new words, met people she now considered friends, and had even gathered a new client or two.

Making progress visible

In Yarra's Climate Emergency Plan 2024-2030, we will transparently monitor and report on our progress towards the seven transformations, and in delivering on the action plans. We are committed to evaluating our work, and sharing what we learn. By making our progress visible and sharing our learnings widely, we intend to celebrate our successes, acknowledge any barriers and limitations, and spur climate action across the community, the corporate sector, and across other municipalities and levels of government.

Progress monitoring and reporting

We will prove our commitment to transformation by transparently tracking and reporting on progress against the action plan. This includes demonstrating how we are changing our processes to centre the climate emergency, including in our asset management, operations, service delivery and financial decision making. We will publicly report our progress against the Plan through an annual Climate Emergency Plan report, in addition to our ongoing Quarterly Community Reports.

Outcomes monitoring and reporting

Our community has shared the changes they want to see in an equitable, climate-resilient and net-zero future. The seven transformations describe the outcomes that will produce that future (Yirramboi), and we are committed to delivering on them.

In the first year of the Plan, we will establish a publicly accessible Climate Emergency Indicators Database to show Yarra's transformation. The Climate Emergency Indicators Database will consolidate existing datasets, and include new data, to help us understand how the climate is changing, and how those changes are affecting people, nature, and the economy of Yarra. It will also help us track and verify our progress so we can celebrate successes and learn from what has worked well. Each of the Key Transformations include targets and indicators, which will be available through the Climate Emergency Indicators Database, to measure our progress towards these outcomes.

Evaluation

The Plan will be evaluated, with evaluation reports published, at the three-year mark and upon completion. The mid-term evaluation will inform any revisions to the Plan, and the development of the next three-year action plan. Agreeing when and what we will be evaluating is part of how we are

demonstrating our commitment to taking bold action on the climate emergency. It means we are dedicated to learning along the way, and sharing our learnings, as well as celebrating our successes.

The mid-term evaluation will assess our progress towards Yirramboi through the key transformations, objectives, and actions. This evaluation will inform the next three years of delivery against the Plan, and the development of the next action plan. It will consider:

- Are we progressing as planned towards the transformations and objectives through implementation of the action plan?
- Do we require any revisions to the transformations, objectives, indicators or actions to achieve the future we want?

Additionally, at the mid-term evaluation we will assess how well we are implementing the Plan in alignment with the five key perspectives (see Introduction). The evaluation will consider:

- Is the delivery of the Plan appropriately aligning with the key perspectives?
- Where are there opportunities to further integrate the key perspectives in the subsequent action plan?

At the mid-term evaluation, we will develop a final evaluation approach and key evaluation questions for use at the end of the Plan.

Transformation 1: In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency

Ambition

Acting on the climate emergency requires that we change the way we think, make decisions, and prioritise action. We must embed proactive climate responses in the ways we govern, live our lives, and conduct our work. Every choice we make today and into the future will have an impact; this is true for Council and the community.

Our community has opportunities to consider the climate emergency in the decisions they make, for example by choosing to use active and public transport, consume resources consciously, shift their banking and superannuation away from fossil fuel investments, and increase plant-based eating.

For Council, consideration of the climate emergency must be embedded into all decision-making, so our assets, services, operations, and policies actively reduce emissions and build resilience against climate impacts. Acknowledging the scale of this crisis, Council is committing to making every job a climate job meaning that each staff member will play a key role in shaping our climate response.

This new approach - where the climate emergency is considered in everything Council and community does - requires relevant, timely and accurate data so we can make informed choices towards the future we want. This data will inform important decisions like our financial management, how we allocate resources, invest in assets or refine our service provision. Making this data publicly available will assist community members and groups in making climate-informed decisions.

To survive, adapt and thrive in our rapidly changing world, we must also learn from the Traditional Owners of the land Yarra occupies, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung nation. We are collectively responsible for the health of Country and the wellbeing and prosperity of future generations.

Making choices that consider climate implications, and investing in solutions now, will prevent considerable future harm and costs. Our individual and collective choices to reduce emissions and build resilience will create a more sustainable and just Yarra for everyone.

Objectives

1.1 Our individual and collective choices and behaviours reduce emissions, conserve resources, and build climate resilience

While addressing the climate emergency requires systemic change, individual choices matter in reducing emissions, protecting biodiversity, and creating a climate-adapted future. Individuals and groups can make choices to use active and public transport, reduce food waste, move our banking and superannuation away from fossil fuel investments, and shift to plant-based eating.

Those with the means can also invest in adaptation and build their resilience by doing things like installing double-glazing, planting shade trees, or putting in a water tank; even choosing to learn about climate change helps prepare for the future.

1.2 Every Council decision and action responds to climate emergency

Council must demonstrate leadership in reducing Yarra’s emissions and building a climate resilient future. Our existing processes need to further embed climate considerations, and we will do so by ensuring that every role and member of staff at Council considers the climate emergency in the work they do. Knowing the climate emergency is a significant risk to the financial viability of local government, our risk and financial management processes must actively plan for and, where possible, minimise future costs and climate impacts.

Indicators and targets

Indicators	2030 target
Percentage of participants in Council climate emergency engagements who then take steps to reduce household emissions (Social Impact Tool)	75%
Uptake of active and public transport	Increased use of active and public transport (as per targets in Council’s Transport Strategy)
Volume of rubbish produced per capita	15% reduction on baseline
Percentage waste diverted from landfill	80%
Food waste per capita	50% reduction on baseline
Recycling contamination rates	5% reduction

Indicators	2030 target
Progress against Council's operational and strategic climate risks reported to Audit and Risk Committee	N/A
Council progress on Climate Emergency Plan actions, reported in the Quarterly Community Report	N/A

Draft

Transformation 2: Yarra's community, especially those most at risk, are connected, supported and empowered to build climate resilience

Ambition

The diversity of ages, abilities, housing status, and cultural backgrounds in Yarra means that climate change is experienced in different ways across our community. The climate emergency highlights and exacerbates existing social injustices and inequalities. For some community members, the experience of extreme weather is mitigated by durable, thermally comfortable housing, and leafy, green streets. Others are more exposed to the hazards of progressively worsening climatic conditions due to existing vulnerabilities, challenges and inequities. This may include community members who are experiencing isolation, do not have adequate housing or income, have additional accessibility needs, work in unsafe conditions, or are experiencing marginalisation and exclusion from decision making. For these community members and our broader community, we need to build climate resilience. This can be understood as the ability to avoid, absorb and recover from climatic shocks and stresses, while transforming systems to address the underlying drivers of risk.

Our community's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from extreme weather is shaped by our connectedness to each other and our access to information, resources, and services. Across communities, community organisations, and Council, we need to invest in building the social infrastructure essential for building resilience against the worst impacts of extreme weather. This means communities that know each other, have access to key information and services, and are empowered to act.

People are not inherently vulnerable; different levels of vulnerability are created by our economic and social structures and systems, resulting in greater levels of risk for some in our community. We need to use our platform to advocate for changes to these systems, such that people are not disadvantaged or marginalised in ways that put them at risk. Our interconnectedness is our key to climate resilience.

Objectives

2.1 Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience.

There is great diversity in the ways in which our community members are at-risk from or resilient to climate impacts. People who are resilient to some hazards may be at risk from others, due to characteristics like language(s) spoken, ability, housing status, employment type, and age. We acknowledge that there are community members who are currently, or are likely to become over time, significantly exposed to climate risk. We know these people, and the nature of the risks they face, will change as the climate emergency progresses. Further, we recognise that identified strategies for supporting people and communities who are at risk will need to evolve in response to the changing context, and through engagement with community members.

2.2 Council works collaboratively with community organisations that service community members at greater risk from climate impacts.

Council recognises the critical role of trusted community organisations such as neighbourhood houses, Aboriginal community-led organisations, and community health organisations, in building the social infrastructure which underpins a climate resilient Yarra. Through strategic partnerships and support mechanisms, Council aims to assist Yarra's diverse community organisations to integrate climate resilience into their own operations and increase preparedness and adaptivity among the communities which they support.

2.3 Climate resilience is embedded across Council services

We envision a Yarra where community members, particularly those most exposed to climate impacts, are prepared for, connected during, and supported to recover from chronic and extreme weather events. Council will act to embed climate resilience considerations across our assets and services, such that the services community rely on, and which underpin their resilience, are not disrupted by climate change.

2.4 Council advocates for policies and programs which facilitate climate resilience among community members at greater risk.

Ensuring all community members are safe in the face of worsening climate impacts will require significant investment by industry and all levels of government into the physical and social infrastructure across our community. Further, systemic inequities and marginalisation from decision-making must be addressed to ensure existing disadvantages are not exacerbated by climate impacts.

We will use our platform to advocate for policy interventions which improve climate resilience across the community.

Indicators and targets

Indicators	2030 target
Number of climate-related disruptions to critical Council services in excess of service-level standards	No disruptions outside of the service-level standard to critical Council services due to climate impacts
Number of Community Service Organisations (Neighbourhood Houses, community health organisations) with a climate resilience plan	All partner Community Service Organisations have undertaken climate resilience planning
Number of at-risk community members indicating confidence coping with climate impacts (Social Indicators Survey)	All
Number of at-risk community members with connections in the community for emergency support (Social Indicators Survey)	All
How frequently Council uses bicultural workers/ interpreters to ensure information is available regarding climate impacts.	Interpreters and/or bi-cultural workers are used in all in-person interactions with multicultural communities. Written translations are available for all climate impact information.
How we make digital comms accessible to community with digital inequity and accessibility issues.	Digital and hard copy information is always available, particularly at known places of low digital access (e.g. public housing estates). Hard copy information is always available at libraries and neighbourhood houses.

Dissemination of leisure centre vouchers to people sleeping rough access pools and showers, vouchers for cold drinks, etc.	Vouchers are available all year round for all extreme weather events to people who are sleeping rough.
How we ensure messaging gets to people experiencing homelessness, and giving information on cool places i.e. heatwave protocols etc.	Information on cool places is shared in a coordinated effort through our networks of service providers.

Draft

Transformation 3: Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response.

Ambition

We are on the precipice of climate and ecological collapse. With each year bringing worsening storms, frequent floods, devastating bushfires, and unbearable prolonged heat, the impacts on our community intensify, including on people's mental and physical health, homes, and general quality of life.

The landscapes and wildlife we cherish are also suffering. The natural ecosystems which underpin all life are at risk of collapse due to the scale and speed of the climate emergency, and the consequent extreme weather events, as well as land clearing and habitat loss.

Given the unprecedented challenge that the climate emergency poses, and the magnitude of the response required, we cannot respond to, nor solve the climate emergency alone. It is imperative that we join with others to advocate for stronger climate policies, targets and actions, and an equitable future for all.

Objectives

3.1 Our community is actively and consistently leading and participating in collective climate action.

Our community wants strong action on the climate emergency. Council has a significant role in bringing our community together and building their capacity to lead and participate in collective climate action and effectively advocate for change.

We need everyone in our community and across Council to understand the urgency of the climate crisis, recognise that we will not all be impacted in the same ways, know how to access the information they need to understand the opportunities for action, and feel empowered to contribute to and demand the future we all want.

3.2 Council, community, and other partners are advocating on climate emergency issues together.

As the tier of government closest to the community, Council is well placed to partner with other councils, alliances, business, and community. We can use existing federal, state and metropolitan peak bodies, other government levers and direct action to influence council partners, other levels of governments and industry to respond to the climate emergency. This must be at the scale and speed, and with the resources that the crisis requires, and based on the most up-to-date climate science and information.

Each year Council will identify a minimum of one national and one state climate emergency area on which to focus its strategic advocacy.

3.3 Young people are supported to engage in democratic processes and decision making.

Young people have largely done little to contribute to the climate emergency yet will inherit its worst impacts. Many are also experiencing mental health impacts because of the sense of disempowerment that comes from being insufficiently included in decision making, and through the inaction, or insufficient action, on the climate emergency by leaders and governments. Beyond simply consulting with them to ‘hear their voice’, we need to recognise their right to have a say in decisions that affect them – and that the climate emergency is about their own future. Young people must have agency and a seat at the table to genuinely shape decisions and influence action.

Indicators and targets

Indicators	2030 target
Yarra participates in all relevant opportunities to influence State and Federal Government policies and commitments including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being members of Government advisory Committees and Working Groups • Submissions / input to all relevant Parliamentary Inquiries and formal Policy consultation/participation 	N/A

Indicators	2030 target
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Seeking to meet at a minimum twice yearly with relevant Ministers and advisors• Grant applications to all schemes of relevance, including those that provide funding for additional open and green space.	
Percentage of participants in Council climate emergency engagements who then join with other to take collective action (Social Impact Tool)	75%

Draft

Transformation 4: Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city

Ambition

Victoria's accelerated renewable energy target – 95% renewable energy by 2035 - means the most direct path to net-zero emissions is to prioritise programs to reduce overall energy use and stimulate the transition to all-electric homes, businesses, industry and transport, and to reduce overall energy use. To achieve our net-zero ambitions we will need to demonstrate leadership in innovation and investment, while collaborating and partnering within Yarra and beyond. Additionally, we will need to advocate to government and industry for strong targets and policies to facilitate this transition.

This transition provides opportunities to improve the thermal comfort of our homes and the health of our community while at the same time reducing expenses, enabling our community and our homes to be more resilient. It also offers significant opportunities for Yarra's businesses and workforce to participate in a thriving zero-carbon economy. Our vision is that Yarra is the destination for zero-carbon and climate focused businesses, with a workforce supported with the skills necessary to support this transition, and support for businesses to grow and transition to be renewable, circular and climate resilient.

We recognise that these transitions have an upfront cost, and many in our community have been unable to benefit from these technologies due to housing, financial, regulatory, health and social barriers. We aim to support the uptake of energy efficient, electric technologies powered by renewable energy across our entire community, with additional targeted support for those in our community most at-risk of climate impacts and with fewer resources to adapt.

Our ambition is not only to reach net-zero emissions by 2035, but to set the benchmark for a fair and just transition. This means ensuring equitable distribution of the benefits (and costs) of the renewable energy transition, as well as broad representation and participation in decision making.

Objectives

4.1 Zero carbon homes

Council will develop, deliver and lead on programs, policies and support to enable Yarra homes to become all-electric, energy efficient and powered by renewable energy by 2035. Additional support and investment will be directed towards those most at risk from climate impacts and with reduced ability to adapt. Council will continue to advocate for ambitious renewable energy targets, policy interventions, and investment to enable an equitable energy transition.

4.2 Zero carbon businesses

Yarra's businesses and workforce are participating in a thriving zero-carbon economy. Yarra is the destination for zero-carbon and climate focused businesses to locate, with a workforce with the skills necessary to support this transition, and support for businesses to grow and transition to be renewable, circular and climate resilient.

4.2 Zero carbon transport

We are actively working towards ensuring electric and other zero emission vehicles are commonplace, with a network of publicly and privately available chargers throughout Yarra. The transition to electric vehicles and zero emissions transport must be accessible to all community members. Additionally, advances in vehicle technology and an electricity grid increasingly powered by renewable energy mean that all public transport is carbon positive or neutral.

4.3 Zero carbon organisation

As Council has direct control over our emissions, we must lead by example to demonstrate what is possible and address obstacles inhibiting broader community emissions reductions. Guided by our Organisational Roadmap to Zero Emissions (2022), Council aims to reduce emissions from Council operations to zero (without offsets) as rapidly as possible. Key areas of focus include:

- Transition buildings off fossil gas with a priority on energy-intensive aquatic centres
- Transitioning our fleet to zero emissions
- Work with procurement policies and our contractors to transition contractor vehicle fleets to zero emissions vehicles – priority on heavy kerbside collection trucks

- Our new electricity contract (from 2029) to be continue to buy 100% renewable electricity and demonstrate leadership in ‘next’ practice such as time-of-use energy use that matches renewables generation.

Beyond our direct emissions, there are significant ‘indirect’ emissions which are ‘embodied’ in the products and services we purchase such as fuel, asphalt and concrete used by our contractors. Strengthening supplier requirements and supporting suppliers to reduce their emissions is therefore another key focus area for Council. At the same time, as methods to identify and quantify these indirect emissions continue to improve, we commit to transparently reporting a comprehensive emissions profile which will inform our future emission reduction strategies.

To address emissions we cannot yet reduce, or eliminate entirely, Council will continue to purchase carbon offsets to achieve net-zero emissions. This includes investigating how we might, working with others, be involved in developing or supporting innovative carbon offset projects to strengthen alignment with Council’s objectives.

Indicators and targets (by 2030)

Indicators	2030 target
Municipal greenhouse gas emissions	Zero emissions by 2035
Gas usage in Council-owned buildings	No gas usage in Council-owned buildings by 2035
Municipal solar capacity	A doubling of capacity by 2030
Percentage of Council-owned & contractor vehicles and equipment that is zero emissions	100% (where feasible and fit for purpose)
Household fossil gas usage	A reduction of 40% from 2023 usage
Business (commercial and industrial) fossil gas usage	A reduction of 20% from 2023 usage
Percentage of vehicles registered in Yarra that are zero emissions vehicles	25%

Transformation 5: Yarra is Caring for Country.

Ambition

We need to rethink and recreate our relationship with nature. Balanced, healthy ecosystems provide immeasurable benefits to people, including improved health and wellbeing. Increasing biodiversity and urban greening are crucial ways of safeguarding our community against the impacts of climate change ([SOURCE](#)) and playing our part in repairing the harms caused to these lands since colonisation. Rethinking and recreating our relationship with nature needs to happen in every regard, from how we design and maintain our public spaces, to the way that we support our community to connect with nature.

A whole-of-Council approach is needed to facilitate further innovation and collaboration in our approach to urban design, open space, biodiversity, and storm water so that we maximise the benefits for nature and for our community. In these endeavours, we need to continue to expand our biodiversity corridors to further connect people with nature. We need these corridors and our public spaces to be permeable and green, reducing urban heat and flash flooding risks, while incentivising active transport and leisure in our outdoor spaces.

Part of the decolonisation process will be making climate-resilient indigenous and native vegetation the default choices, so our city increasingly reflects Wurundjeri land. By prioritising climate-resilient indigenous and native flora, including grasses and ground covers, we will benefit from less resource-intensive maintenance of our open spaces and our shared spaces will naturally thrive and better support our native wildlife.

Decolonising our outdoor spaces also means ensuring that the knowledge and practices of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung are embedded into our landscape and land management. We must establish outdoor spaces in our parks and reserves that encourage and nurture cultural practices and allow all members of our community to feel a connection to, and appreciation of, the cultural and ecological richness of this Country.

Objectives

5.1: Collaborate with Traditional Owners as decision-makers and partners on Country.

To foster social and environmental justice, we must increase our commitment to working with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung when planning for, creating, and maintaining our streetscapes and public spaces. This includes decolonising these spaces at every stage, from the selection of street trees and other flora to learning about and supporting cultural land management practices. Further, the Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murrn) Act 2017 requires building partnerships to help us all manage and protect the Birrarung (Yarra River) as one living and integrated natural entity.

5.2: Everyone in Yarra will have access to biodiverse-rich spaces and nature within a walkable distance from their home, workplace or school

Everyone has the right to experience the positive mental and physical effects of spending time in nature, and we all benefit when this right is fulfilled (SOURCE). To achieve this, we need to understand our diverse community's needs so that we can provide a variety of spaces that people of all ages, physical abilities, and cultural backgrounds can access and feel safe in. This includes working towards a swimmable Birrarung (Yarra River) by focussing on advocacy and actions to improve the health and water quality of the river.

By supporting all Yarra residents to learn about and deeply connect with our local flora and fauna, our community is more likely to care for nature. This is in line with the [Victorian Government's Biodiversity 2037 Plan](#). We aspire to nurture a community in which every resident actively protects and improves the local natural environment through volunteering, improving the habitat quality of gardens (in homes, schools, community centres, neighbourhoods, and workplaces), and caring for the street trees and open spaces in their communities and beyond.

5.3: Invest in nature and expand climate-adaptive greening, biodiversity and urban agriculture outcomes

Investing in nature is investing in our own health, wellbeing, and safety in the face of climate impacts. Council needs to invest in innovative ways to improve outcomes for nature and community, including by working collaboratively across teams that manage our public outdoor spaces, streetscapes, open spaces, and storm water.

To maximise nature-based strategic opportunities on both public and private land, we also need to invest in programs and resources to support our community to improve the biodiversity on their properties, with benefits for wildlife, food generation, and cooling. We must also use all levers available to Council (regulations, fees, processes, rates, and incentives) to ensure the expansion of climate-adaptive greening and biodiversity.

5.4: Advocate for nature within Yarra and beyond

It will take a conscious and sustained effort to change the way that our systems and lives are governed so that all processes and decisions consider their impacts on nature. We need to allocate sufficient resources for community members and Council staff to actively participate in decision-making about, and advocacy for, nature in local, regional, and national settings. We need planning and development regulations that include requirements to protect, promote, and expand native plants, canopy cover, and habitat, including the Birrarung (Yarra River). We need to advocate for stronger national environment laws to protect nature from climate impacts, and for a greater collective effort to restore ecosystems and prevent extinctions.

Further, all Council staff and community members should be supported to better understand their impact on our natural world and how our natural world impacts on us, because what we do to Country, we do to ourselves.

Indicators and targets

Indicator	2030 target
Percentage of space allocated to canopy cover in the public realm	Annual increase
Native biodiversity in Council-managed natural spaces (based on annual biodiversity audits)	Annual increase in the health of biodiversity in Class 1 and 2 vegetation sites managed as bushland (assessed via annual audits)
Percentage and distribution of canopy cover across Yarra	21.25% by 2040 (this target aligns with the target in the Urban Forest Strategy and will be reviewed when the Urban Forest Strategy is reviewed in 2027)

Indicator	2030 target
Extent of shaded routes to essential services, active and public transport	Ongoing prioritization of these areas and continue to monitor further opportunities as they arise
Percentage and distribution of urban heat islands	Annual reduction
Amount of open space managed for biodiversity	Increase of 5% annually (currently have approx. 40ha, 5% is approx. 2ha, or 20,000m ²)
Number of plantings in open space areas (noting number of indigenous, Victorian native, Australian native)	100,000 plantings per year (for a range of purposes including shade/cooling, biodiversity, habitat, pollination).
Number of advanced trees, ground and understory species planted that are local native, Victorian native and Australian native, in line with DEECA Biodiversity revegetation with provenance mixing for climate change adaptation guidelines	Number of species, diversity and record species provenance
Number of local native trees planted specifically to provide winter foraging opportunities for threatened grey-headed flying fox	200 annually
Number new local extinctions of flora or fauna; and number vulnerable or near-threatened species will have become endangered	0
Stormwater nutrient loads into the Birrarung (Yarra)	1.6mg/L nitrogen and 0.05mg/L for phosphorous in line with the ANZECC Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality

Transformation 6: Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate-safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure

Ambition

We must create homes, public infrastructure, and public spaces that are safe and comfortable in a climate ravaged future. This is especially critical for those in our community at greater risk from climate impacts, and those who will become at risk as climate change progresses. How well we integrate climate-related considerations into our built environment will influence our ability to support climate-positive behaviours and to cope with increasingly volatile climatic conditions.

Many of the most severe climate hazards will impact on the physical safety and comfort of our homes, workplaces, and communities. In the past years, we have experienced serious heatwaves, bushfire smoke, and damage from flash flooding. For people in insufficient housing, those with chronic health conditions, older and very young people, and those on low incomes, extreme weather can quickly become life-threatening. Improving the quality of our buildings, while promoting retention and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings, will avoid those significant health and wellbeing impacts that are already occurring, and which will become worse as the climate emergency progresses.

Our public infrastructure underpins our climate resilience and connectivity. It influences how water moves through and is consumed in our city, our access to electricity and communications, and how we get food, medical care, and other essentials. The essential services our infrastructure provides are exposed to accelerating climate hazards because our public infrastructure is not designed to withstand current and future climate impacts. We cannot afford to continually rebuild infrastructure as it is damaged, or regularly lose critical services. Given the significant social and economic implications of disruptions to public infrastructure and critical services, we must design, build, and retrofit infrastructure to meet our community's changing needs under climate change.

Public infrastructure and public spaces shape our lives, including how easy it is for us to access critical services, connect with our community and make daily choices that reduce emissions. We must create public spaces that make it easier to safely access services, connect with neighbors and nature, foster social cohesion, and make climate-conscious choices like using active or public transport options.

Objectives

6.1 Yarra’s homes and workplaces are climate-safe, resilient and thermally comfortable

Our homes, workplaces and other private buildings are often inadequate to protect us from current climate impacts, let alone more frequent and severe hazards. We need to build and retrofit homes and workplaces to withstand our changing climate while ensuring new developments and redevelopments do not lock-in risk for future residents and businesses. We must support those currently in inadequate housing and with vulnerabilities that increase their risk.

6.2 Yarra is building, upgrading and maintaining safe and resilient public infrastructure

Though we rely on our public infrastructure to provide essential services, it is often critically exposed to the impacts of climate change. Some of this infrastructure is managed by Council, but much of it is outside Council’s direct control. Council needs to make important decisions about how and where it invests in critical infrastructure to avoid significant future costs and impacts, while working with other public infrastructure owners and operators to improve the resilience of their assets. Council must identify and prioritise the resilience of its buildings necessary to deliver the critical services that support community resilience, including health and emergency services.

6.3 Yarra’s public spaces and streetscapes are connected, climate resilient and create an enabling environment for climate conscious living

As the climate crises accelerates, we need public spaces that protect us from the impacts of climate change, build our resilience, and make it easier and safer to live climate conscious lives. This means creating public spaces that reduce urban heat and provide safe and shaded active and public transport routes to our jobs, schools, grocery stores, doctors, and other services. It also means creating and expanding public spaces that connect us to nature and each other, including parks and social spaces. Safe and welcoming public spaces will help us connect and support each other during difficult times.

Indicators and targets

Indicator	2030 target
Elevating ESD Targets Amendment gazetted in Planning Scheme	By 2026
Number community homes where Council has supported residents to improve climate safety/thermal comfort	TBD

Indicator	2030 target
Percentage of people reporting that their homes are adequately insulated, heated, and cooled (Social Indicators Survey)	Increase on baseline established in 2024
Extent of shaded routes to essential services, active and public transport	TBD
Percentage and distribution of canopy cover across Yarra	21.25% by 2030 (30% by 2040)
Percentage and distribution of urban heat islands	Annual reduction
Average walking time to food and other essential services	Annual reduction
Uptake of active and public transport	Increased use of active and public transport (as per targets in Council's Transport Strategy)
Increased availability and accessibility of active and public transport options	Increased use of active and public transport (as per targets in Council's Transport Strategy)
Amount of hard, sealed surfaces vs. permeable surfaces (assessed through GIS survey)	Annual reduction in hard, sealed surfaces Annual increase in permeable surfaces
Number and geographic locations of flooding, flash flooding and water over road incidents Council is called to respond to	TBD
Number of Council buildings closures due to climate change-related events	TBD
Number and value of claims against Council from weather damage due to Council infrastructure failures	TBD
Spending on critical repairs to Council built assets due to weather-related damage	TBD

Transformation 7: Yarra is transitioning to a circular economy by consuming less, repairing, sharing, and repurposing more, and sending less waste to landfill.

Ambition

Moving to a circular economy is critical to acting on the climate emergency. Globally, material extraction, use, and disposal accounts for 70% of emissions ([SOURCE](#)); we can reduce our contribution to this by repairing, renting, recycling, and remanufacturing materials. Adopting circular practices for cement, steel, plastics, and aluminium can reduce global emissions by 40% by 2050. Within the food system alone, we could achieve as much as a 49% reduction in global emissions.

Unlike the post-industrial linear economy of make-use-dispose, the circular economy is a transformative model. It mirrors natural systems, reduces emissions, avoids use of unnecessary materials, and does not produce waste or need new inputs. Necessary products and materials are designed to last, be sharable, repairable, reusable, or recyclable.

In a circular economy, everything we do will be based on three principles:

1. Avoid and design out waste and pollution
2. Keep products and materials in use at their highest value
3. Regenerate natural systems.

A circular economy benefits us all, individuals, communities, businesses, and nature. Moving to a circular economy would create 6 million jobs globally by 2030 (ILO). Circular practices also foster community connection and equitable access to resources, allowing us to better support vulnerable community members. It also reduces impacts on our natural systems as they are no longer used as recipients of our 'waste'.

Objectives

7.1 Yarra is transitioning to a circular economy by demanding circular design, buying less, borrowing, reusing, repairing, repurposing and recycling more

We can create a future in which everyone is making fewer material purchases, and instead borrows, reuses, repairs, repurposes, and recycles more. In this future, materials are used at their highest value

before being reused, repaired, or repurposed. Recycling only happens when materials are at the end of their usable life. Achieving this requires that we connect with our community to pass materials on, or borrow from each other, rather than sending things to landfill. It is a model that supports access to materials for everyone, significantly reduces emissions from making, using, and disposing of products and creates economic opportunities via reused, repaired and repurposed items.

7.2 Waste to landfill and recycling contamination are eliminated

By adopting circular practices, we will be avoiding the production of 'waste', diverting the majority of waste from landfill, reducing the emissions associated with making products, and avoiding it impacting our natural systems. This starts at the beginning, when we make conscious choices to borrow or buy second-hand rather than buy new, or to buy less material-intensive products. We will also reduce the incidence of recycling being contaminated with non-recyclable materials.

7.3 Council and local businesses are implementing circular economy principles across supply chains

Council and local businesses have a significant part to play in the transition to a circular economy. Council's own practices and purchasing choices, including in the materials it uses to build and renew our public infrastructure, must reflect circular principles. Local businesses have the power to influence how materials move through Yarra, through their own practices and the choices they make along their supply chain. Reducing the material inputs into the cycle has financial benefits to Council and businesses as they must manage less waste and associated costs through product life cycles.

7.4 We are advocating to government and key stakeholders to embed circular economy principles in the design and manufacture of goods and services

Though we can change our purchasing choices, how we use materials within our community and the quantity of 'waste' produced, we are limited by the way many goods are produced. Goods are often not made to last, as single-use, or as difficult to repair, repurpose, or dispose of. However, we can advocate to government and industry to embed circular economy principles in the manufacturing of goods such that the goods are made to last and manufacturers are required to take responsibility for the entire life cycle of their products.

Indicators and targets

Indicator	2030 target
Volume of rubbish produced per capita	15% reduction on baseline
Percentage waste diverted from landfill	80%
Food waste per capita	50% reduction on baseline
Recycling contamination rates	5% reduction
Reduce the use of raw material in Council operations	10% reduction
Proportion of second-hand, repair, reuse and recycled content in material used in Council capital works	One third

Draft

[Appendix 1: Yarra Climate Emergency Action Plan 2024-2027](#)

See attachment

Draft

Appendix 2: How this plan was developed

This Plan was developed based on feedback and insights from:

- Our City of Yarra community
- Staff, Executive and Councillors
- Our experience implementing City of Yarra's inaugural Climate Emergency Plan
- Best practice climate emergency response research and practice

Community consultation included:

- Yarra Climate Summit (workshops with key stakeholders)
- Focus groups with people living with disabilities, housing insecure, newly arrived, migrants and refugees, social housing residents and people living on low incomes
- Conversations with community organisations who provide services
- Workshops with young people via schools, youth hubs and youth library programs
- Council advisory committees
- Your Say Yarra online survey and ideas board
- Community pop-up stalls

Glossary

Adaptation

Adjustments in ecological, social or economic systems in to reduce or avoid potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change.

Carbon offset

The action or process of compensating for carbon (or greenhouse gas) emissions arising from industrial or other human activity, by participating in schemes designed to make equivalent additional reductions in carbon emissions. Examples include tree planting to sequester carbon, methane capture and use and renewable energy projects.

Carbon neutral

Carbon neutral refers to the balance achieved when carbon (or greenhouse gas) emissions created by human activity are calculated and offset by an equal amount.

Climate crisis

See climate emergency.

Climate emergency

Climate emergency can be understood in two ways. Firstly, it refers to the catastrophic changes to the climate brought about by human activity that poses a dangerous threat to all life on the planet. Secondly, a climate emergency response can be considered taking effective action at a scale and speed commensurate with the magnitude of the crisis.

Circular economy

A Circular Economy aims to keep materials in use at their highest value for as long as possible. This differs from the 'take-make-waste' of a linear economy.

Drawdown

The removal of excess greenhouse gases from the atmosphere with the aim of restoring a safe climate.

Carbon emissions

See Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions definition.

Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD)

Environmentally sustainable development is the integration of environmental considerations in urban planning, development and construction, with the aim of protecting the environment while meeting current and future community needs. The term also refers to building performance in relation to the use of environmentally sustainable design and orientation, low-impact materials, reuse and recycling of materials, energy efficiency, waste management and the use of closed loop systems.

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

Carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and other gases that contribute to global heating. Also referred to as carbon emissions.

Integrated Water Management

Integrated Water Management (IWM) is a holistic approach to water management that considers the interactions of all elements of the water cycle including potable (drinking quality) water, rainwater, stormwater, recycled water and groundwater to ensure they support and enhance social, ecological and economic outcomes.

Just transition

The transition to an ecologically sustainable, zero greenhouse gas emissions world in a way that ensures a fair distribution of the economic burdens and benefits and that those most exposed to climate impacts are protected.

Mitigation

Action to limit climate change. Mitigation action either reduces emissions of greenhouse gases or removes those gases from the atmosphere.

Net zero

Net zero is the internationally agreed-upon goal for mitigating global heating. It goes beyond carbon neutrality as it demands real and significant reductions first and supports investing in projects that go above and beyond (like additional investments in biodiversity projects or wetland restoration). This means rapidly reducing all emissions as close to zero as possible (generally 90%), then offsetting residual emissions (with high-quality, permanent carbon offsets) and exploring values-aligned investment opportunities that respond to the climate and biodiversity emergency.

Resilience

The ability of social-ecological systems to avoid, absorb and recover from climatic shocks and stresses, whilst positively adapting and transforming their structures and means for living in the face of long-term change and uncertainty.

Safe climate

A climate that allows the natural environment, existing and future generations and communities to survive. The current climate conditions are not safe for a large range of species and increasingly unsafe for millions of people.

Social capital or ties

The networks of relationships among people who live and work in a particular society, enabling that society to function effectively.

Tipping point

The point at which a series of small changes becomes so significant it causes a larger, more important change that is harder to stop and usually drives a cascade of other changes. Tipping points can be positive or negative. Going from having substantial Greenland ice sheet to a largely ice-free Greenland, will trigger wide-reaching negative changes. An example of a negative change. On the other hand, when renewable energy takes hold and starts to dominate an economy once driven by fossil fuels, it is positive tipping point.

Urban heat island

An urban heat island is an urban area that is significantly warmer than its surrounding areas. This increased warmth is due to heat being retained by roads, buildings, footpaths made of concrete and asphalt, and waste heat created by cars, industry and people. The urban heat island effect can negatively impact the natural environment and human health.

Water sensitive urban design treatments (WSUD)

Water sensitive urban design (WSUD) attempts to mimic the natural water cycle as closely as possible, such as by slowing down, intercepting and reusing stormwater and improving the quality of water discharged to waterways. Examples of WSUD treatments include raingardens, rainwater tanks, swales, wetlands and sediment ponds.

Climate Action Playlist

Throughout our consultations with our community and across Council, we asked each person we engaged with to contribute a song to our Climate Action Playlist. This might be a song which motivates them to take climate action, it might be a song which reminds them of a beautiful place in nature, it might be a song which in some other way, connects them to the issue of climate change. You are welcome to listen to and add to our [Climate Action Playlist](#), and we hope that you find it inspirational, motivating, soothing, or whatever you need it to be as you take climate action and drive a better future for all.

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ACTION NUMBER	TRANSFORMATION (PRIMARY)	OBJECTIVE (PRIMARY)	ACTION
1.1.1	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.1 Our individual and collective choices and behaviors reduce emissions, conserve resources and build climate resilience	<p>Support the community to make individual and collective choices to reduce emissions, conserve resources and build climate resilience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to deliver the Take Climate Action campaign, including promoting sustainable food choices and ethical investment/divestment. - Deliver programs/resources to acknowledge eco-anxiety and support wellbeing in the context of the climate emergency. - Deliver programs, resources and campaigns documented in the actions in Transformations 2 through 7 to support the community to meet Climate Emergency Plan objectives.
1.1.2	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.1 Our individual and collective choices and behaviors reduce emissions, conserve resources and build climate resilience	<p>Ensure Council and community are collaborating to deliver a strong, measurable, Climate Emergency response that brings everyone along.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bring together Council, community and delivery partners to inform the mid-term review (in 2027) through a reflection on progress against the CEP and opportunities for further action. - Create opportunities to ensure cross-organisation responsibility for delivery, collaboration on, and monitoring of CEP. - Report on the Climate Emergency Plan through the Quarterly Community Report
1.1.3	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.1 Our individual and collective choices and behaviors reduce emissions, conserve resources and build climate resilience	<p>Deliver brave, honest, and hopeful climate emergency communications and engagement to reach all corners of the Yarra community and encourage participation in the local response.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Apply a climate lens to all Council communications and community engagement outputs to ensure they support the climate emergency response - Review Council's emergency activation and response protocol for communicating with the local community in times of crisis, with particular consideration to marginalised, multicultural and at-risk communities - Establish and extend trusted communication networks so Council (directly or via partners) can effectively communicate with all of our community, in particular marginalised, multicultural and at-risk communities - Connect the climate emergency narrative across our broader council projects - notably Infrastructure, Open Space and Building Assets - to communicate environmental considerations in the design, construction and delivery of Council assets.
1.1.4	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.1 Our individual choices and behaviors reduce emissions, conserve resources and build climate resilience	<p>Support the uptake of plant-based eating across the organisation and municipality.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engage local businesses to increase their provision of plant-based products - Continue to deliver programs and communications which encourage more plant-based eating - Update the Council catering policy to be exclusively plant-based
1.1.5	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.1 Our individual choices and behaviors reduce emissions, conserve resources and build climate resilience	<p>Advocate to state government for policy changes to enable Yarra community members to access climate-safe, accessible and affordable public transport and associated infrastructure (i.e. sheltered transit stops)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate for increased availability and accessibility of public transport infrastructure, including sheltered bus and tram stops, wheelchair-accessible stops, etc.
1.1.6	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.1 Our individual choices and behaviors reduce emissions, conserve resources and build climate resilience	<p>Continue to implement and evaluate Moving Forward: Yarra's Transport Strategy 2022-32 and the associated Transport Action Plan to support reduced car trips and increase, public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>Including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementing and monitoring the proposed 30km/hr trial in Fitzroy and Collingwood and continuing to work with the State Government to explore the potential of future trials or permanent 30km/hr speed zones.
1.2.1	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.2 Every Council decision and action responds to climate emergency	<p>Develop systems within Council for capturing, integrating, and sharing data relevant to climate resilience to support decision making.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop the Climate Emergency Indicators Database to monitor and record adaptation and resilience across the city, and inform decision making. The database will include socioeconomic data, at-risk communities, urban heat, flood mapping, extreme temperatures, extreme rainfall etc. - Conduct a Social Indicators Survey to understand varying characteristics across the community and how they intersect with climate risks
1.2.2	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.2 Every Council decision and action responds to climate emergency	<p>Strengthen strategic documents and local laws to align with Yarra's climate emergency vision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure all new and updated strategies, plans, policies, and local laws have integrated and will strengthen Yarra's climate emergency response. - Integrate climate emergency considerations into policy, strategy and guideline development processes - Review emergency management planning documents and processes across Council to ensure that climate risk factors and any additional requirements of people with a disability, older adults, and other community members at greater risk are accounted for. - Integrate climate resilience into the asset management planning processes to ensure Council assets meet future community needs under climate change, and are appropriate to climate conditions over their planned service life - Consider emerging best practice in climate risk management and incorporate into our processes as appropriate.
1.2.3	1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency	1.2 Every Council decision and action responds to climate emergency	<p>Drive Yarra's climate emergency response through Council's role as a rental provider and public space licensing authority.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthen and support green lease requirements of tenants - Review and update the Terms and Conditions of hire with climate emergency lens - Develop and implement policies/guides for Council events and users of Council facilities to improve climate emergency response, including circularity and nature outcomes - Consider including circular principles in waste collection for events in new waste contract (commencing 2026).

ACTION NUMBER	TRANSFORMATION (PRIMARY)	OBJECTIVE (PRIMARY)	ACTION
2.1.1	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.1 Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience	Advance self-determination for the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and other First Peoples in Yarra <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support the identification and implementation of opportunities to further develop climate resilience. - Partner with other Councils to fund a climate change liaison position within the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Council
2.1.2	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.1 Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience	Support communities to understand and prepare for the climate risks relevant to their neighbourhood. This may include initiatives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create and promote maps of locally specific climate risks and advice about how to stay safe - Continue to support bicultural liaison officers so that climate risk and resilience information can be shared across the community - Determine the effectiveness of information distributed to community members most at risk before and during extreme weather events - Ensure the distribution of information considers diverse accessibility needs.
2.1.3	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.1 Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience	Increase food security through promoting equitable and healthy food systems and local food networks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support residents to grow food via identifying and delivering of innovative food growing sites across the municipality - Strengthen requirements for developers to consider inclusion of food gardens - Facilitate collaboration and resource sharing across local food security agencies and programs - Provide information about food security providers and opportunities to the community - Create opportunities to facilitate local food relief by connecting food relief providers to the community through social programs and council spaces - Support the tracking of food relief demand and provision across the municipality
2.1.4	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.1 Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience	Co-design and implement initiatives to mitigate climate impacts on delivery riders. This may include initiatives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Educate businesses on climate risks to delivery riders and encourage the provision of water and access to facilities such as bathrooms and sheltered areas to wait - Provide climate-safe spaces for delivery riders to rest and seek shelter during extreme weather (e.g. Council facilities, neighbourhood houses)
2.1.5	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.1 Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience	Foster grassroots climate action and resilience through community grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporate climate resilience into the Council Annual Grants: Climate Action and Environment stream - Introduce a Climate Resilience Small Grant, which supports community groups or organisations with programs or projects which support resilience building
2.2.1	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.1 Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience	Work with the Yarra community to create and promote a network of cool spaces and informal places of refuge from extreme weather events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively engage and work with neighbouring councils, local businesses, organisations, and community who can provide climate safe spaces during periods of extreme weather and make these available to the community. - Promote awareness of climate-safe spaces that community can access during extreme events, ensuring this reaches culturally and linguistically diverse community members. - Investigate options to support community members experiencing homelessness to access cool spaces during extreme heat events, including establishing a co-designed mobile cooling hub.
2.2.2	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.2 Council works collaboratively with community organisations that service community members at greater risk from climate impacts	Support the Yarra Neighbourhood House Network with the implementation of their 2023 Climate Action & Resilience Plan and the individual implementation plans
2.2.3	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.2 Council works collaboratively with community organisations that service community members at greater risk from climate impacts	Provide climate resilience related support to community organisations who support community members at greater risk from climate impacts. This may include initiatives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Replicate/scale the Yarra Neighbourhood House Network Climate Action & Resilience Project with health-related Community Service Organisations who support at-risk community members. - Provide climate resilience education to aged care and NDIS service providers to ensure consideration of local climate risk. - Delivery of the Yarra Climate Adaptation Inter-Organisation Compact (YCAIC), an annual forum that brings together local health and social service agencies to address the disproportionate impacts of climate change on at-risk communities
2.2.4	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.2 Council works collaboratively with community organisations that service community members at greater risk from climate impacts	Build social resilience through facilitating and bolstering connection among and between community members and community organisations. This may include initiatives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop a program to connect community members at greater risk during climate impacts with community organisations or neighbour volunteers who can provide wellbeing checks - Pilot a community leaders training for people eager to lead social connectivity and resilience within their hyper-local community (for example, their block, street or apartment building) - Promote Neighbours Day and associated events and resources
2.3.1	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.3 Climate resilience is embedded across Council services	Develop the climate resilience of Council services, such that critical services underpinning community resilience are not disrupted by, and are able to meet changing community needs, under climate change. Priority areas include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aged and Disability - Arts and Culture - Equity and community development - Family Youth and Children (Maternal and Child Health) - Libraries - Recreation and Leisure - Waste Collection and Cleansing - Open Space Services
2.3.2	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.3 Climate resilience is embedded across Council services	Reduce barriers for community members at greater risk from climate impacts to access free, safe, thermally comfortable spaces during extreme heat events. This may include initiatives to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review Council's emergency and relief centres protocols and processes to ensure the diverse needs of Yarra's community are accounted for (including considerations for culturally safe and appropriate spaces, pet ownership, security requirements, and additional wellbeing needs) - Map and promote free cool spaces that are accessible to all

2.3.3	2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience	2.4 Council advocates for policies and programs which facilitate climate resilience among community members at greater risk.	<p>Implement advocacy actions regarding community wellbeing and public and social housing, including as outlined in Yarra's Advocacy Action Plan (Nov 2023), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - advocate to State Government through Council and as a participating member of the M9, to improve energy efficiency and thermal comfort for the residents of existing high-rise public housing - advocate to State Government through Council and as a participating member of the M9 to ensure current residents of public housing are not dislocated from their homes and communities as a result of the demolition and redevelopment of the public housing towers - advocate to State Government through Council and as a participating member of the M9 and the Municipal Association of Victoria to grow the stock of public and social housing - advocate to State Government through Council and as a participating member of the M9 to retain and increase open space, including in the context of public housing redevelopments - advocate to and work with State Government to support the transition of community members experiencing homelessness into stable housing
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ACTION NUMBER	TRANSFORMATION (PRIMARY)	OBJECTIVE (PRIMARY)	ACTION
3.1.1	3. Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response	3.1 Our community is actively and consistently leading and participating in collective climate action	<p>Build a movement of people taking climate action across Yarra, raising their voices and pushing for the urgent change we need.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facilitate, support and encourage community-led climate action campaigns that amplify climate emergency messaging in the community. - Encourage community members to join local climate and environmental groups and campaigns, and share stories of their impact. - Communicate stories of community members taking climate action in order to amplify and normalise climate action. - Increase readership of Yarra Environment News. - Support the community to become more effective advocates for strong climate action and policies (to know what to advocate for, who to advocate to, and how to advocate).
3.1.2	3. Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response	3.1 Our community is actively and consistently leading and participating in collective climate action	<p>Support young people to develop climate advocacy and collective action skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deliver programs for young people to develop their skills and knowledge of climate change, advocacy, community organising, civics and democratic rights so they can actively shape, influence and share power.
3.2.1	3. Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response	3.2 Council, community, and other partners are advocating on climate emergency issues together	<p>Empowering underrepresented communities to participate in decision making and advocate around issues relevant to them</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deliver a climate conversations program to upskill at-risk community members to advocate within their networks for climate action. - Ensure underrepresented voices are heard during strategic decision-making, and communities are designing solutions for issues related to them. This should include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people living on low incomes, multicultural communities, young people and future generations, and the voice of nature. - Support underrepresented communities to develop climate advocacy and collective action skills
3.2.2	3. Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response	3.2 Council, community, and other partners are advocating on climate emergency issues together	<p>Update Council's approach to climate emergency advocacy to ensure a more targeted and coordinated overall effort around specific advocacy needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each advocacy priority is clearly aligned with the climate emergency priorities and supported by a specific and detailed communications or advocacy plan - Ensure the approach aligns with stakeholder advocacy priorities and activity where relevant - Partner with other councils, levels of government, peak bodies, community groups and industry to influence the broader agenda and climate emergency response. Work with but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - M9 Councils - Municipal Association of Victoria - Australian Local Government Association - Victorian and Australian Governments - Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action (NAGA) - Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment - Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy - Climate Emergency Australia - Merri Creek Management Committee - Consider the disproportionate impacts of climate change on underrepresented groups including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people living on low incomes, multicultural communities, young people and future generations, and the voice of nature, when developing advocacy priorities - Work with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to identify climate emergency advocacy priorities and integrate these into Council's advocacy approach, and build support for these across the community. - Invite and encourage the community to participate through a range of training, tools, resources and events - Regularly reviewed and refine priorities

ACTION NUMBER	TRANSFORMATION (PRIMARY)	OBJECTIVE (PRIMARY)	ACTION
4.1.1	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero carbon homes	<p>Investigate and deliver smart, innovative community-scale energy solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review opportunities to deliver a community renewables program to accelerate the installation of solar and energy storage for Yarra households. - Investigate mechanisms to enable increased access to lower energy costs and locally produced renewable energy and energy storage for those who experience barriers in participating in the renewable energy transition (such as associated Virtual Power Plant and/or neighbourhood scale batteries). - Review, develop and support the development of innovative smart energy solutions based on scale and effectiveness into the Yarra community to reduce emissions, such as battery storage, neighbourhood batteries, virtual power plants, solar gardens and alike. - Implement recommended next steps of the Wired for Tomorrow Pilot Project and share outputs and evaluation of the project with the sector. - Seek opportunities to support households facing barriers to renewable energy - Review, develop and support ways that property investors or businesses can use surplus solar capacity to provide more affordable day time energy to small businesses, apartment residents and other buildings experiencing barriers to rooftop solar - Partner with other Councils, other levels of government, industry, and academia to deliver innovative energy solutions and learn through action research.
4.1.2	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero carbon homes	<p>Deliver targeted support for the development of, and transition to, zero carbon and climate resilient homes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify opportunities to leverage Council funding, build on established partnerships, advocate for government support and/or seek private investment to scale up programs and reach. - Partner with other councils, levels of government and other partners to build on existing campaigns such as the existing multi-council Electrify Everything campaign, to maximise reach and impact. - For low-income, at-risk, and rental households, this will also include providing financial incentives, and ensuring information reaches marginalised and at-risk communities. - For apartments and multi-dwelling units, this will also include sustainable retrofits, and building on previous work done to support apartments through the Unlocking Sustainable Strata project, High Life Expo and alike. - For existing dwellings, this will also include supporting awareness of and access to all relevant rebates, incentives and programs delivered by other levels of government and delivering information and support to make easier the switch to renewable energy and increased climate resilience - Actively support the development of new/refurbished zero carbon and climate resilient homes and developments going through the Planning Scheme process, including those in a Heritage Overlay.
4.1.3	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero carbon homes	<p>Advocate to State and Federal Government to ramp up support and targets for electrification in homes and businesses.</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Significant and direct support and rebates for households on a low income - Mandatory energy ratings and disclosure at point of lease and sale
4.2.1	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero carbon business	<p>Further build Yarra as the 'place to be' for sustainable business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a plan/campaign to promote Yarra as 'the place to be' for zero-carbon and climate focused businesses - Develop, deliver and market initiatives that position Yarra to attract, retrain and support sustainable, climate-focused, circular economy businesses - Support and partner with key influential local businesses to agree to and deliver ambitious climate action. - Advocate for learning institutions to support increased training opportunities, including free TAFE programs, to prepare local residents in the zero-carbon economy.
4.2.2	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero carbon business	<p>Support all businesses to reduce emissions and work towards being carbon neutral.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support medium-large businesses to purchase renewable energy, transition from gas to electricity, undertake climate-friendly property upgrades to reduce energy use. - Investigate and support opportunities for business investment in large-scale rooftop solar and the installation of neighbourhood batteries on-site to support lower grid costs and cheaper electricity costs for the community. - Support businesses to reduce emissions across the lifecycle of goods and services including scope 3 emissions. - Support businesses to purchase high-quality and cost effective carbon offsets, in partnership with other Councils, Victorian Greenhouse Alliances, and other key stakeholders - Support businesses to meet customer demand for sustainable, low-carbon products.
4.3.1	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero carbon transport	<p>Continue to work towards reduced transport emissions from cars within and beyond Yarra, and support the community to be ahead of the curve in the transition to EVs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actively support the uptake of eBikes as a mechanism to further reduce car trips and car ownership. - Expand car-share in Yarra (and work with car share providers) to progress zero emissions car share vehicles - Continue to advocate for increased EV charging infrastructure and incentives (funding, support, and policies) to increase the affordability of electric vehicles, especially for low-income residents - Continue to develop clear guidance and policy for Yarra residents who don't have off-street parking to support localised charging. - Continue to design and deliver localised EV charging pilots and evaluate outcomes for potential city-wide EV rollout. - Continue to support trials and demonstration projects to unlock barriers to charging in apartment buildings - Continue to review opportunities and develop resources to support 3rd parties to install public chargers on Council land, including consideration of accessibility needs. - Work with business that have car parks in Yarra to install public charging and support the broader suite of charging opportunities.
4.4.1	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero Carbon Organisation	<p>Transition all Council buildings off fossil gas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transition all Council assets off fossil gas by 2035 (when part of other works and/or utilising co-funding from other levels of government where available), aiming for at least one aquatic centre off gas by 2030. - All Council building works (including for sites not operated by Council) to follow Sustainable Building Design Policy (including no new fossil-gas appliances)
4.4.2	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero Carbon Organisation	<p>Reduce Council's transport emissions</p> <p>Continue the transition of Council fleet to zero emissions vehicles (ZEV) towards aiming for all zero emissions fleet by 2030. All new vehicles will be ZEVs. Where no fit for purpose ZEV is available, select lowest emissions alternative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Develop fleet transition plan, including potential reduction in vehicle fleet. - Increase staff sustainable transport uptake - Review mechanism to support and increase staff sustainable travel
4.4.3	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero Carbon Organisation	<p>Efficient, smart, zero carbon buildings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure Council-owned and operated buildings demonstrate best practice energy efficiency and emissions management. Examples include improved building envelope, higher efficiency and zero emissions equipment, maximised renewable energy and storage (where appropriate), smart automated control and integrated management, and potential energy market participation, of our solar and battery resources. - Apply, review and update (as required) Council's Sustainable Building Design Policy to all building works

4.4.4	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero Carbon Organisation	<p>Addressing our indirect and unavoidable emissions through supply chains and offsets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update procurement policy to strengthen sustainability considerations of suppliers such as requiring consideration of zero emission vehicles, carbon neutral status, emissions reduction commitments etc - Identify key 'material-emissions' suppliers and work closely with these suppliers to improve their climate action credentials and engagement and to supply us with lower emissions products. Examples of some key suppliers include heavy vehicle contractors, concrete, asphalt and IT equipment and data storage services. - Maintain council status as a carbon neutral organisation. - Progressively increase portion of 'premium quality' offsets by 5% per year to achieve 25% premium quality offsets by 2027. - Link to action 4.2.5 to support an enhanced pathway for influence and procurement of cost effective local premium quality carbon offsets with multiple benefits.
4.4.5	Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.	Zero Carbon Organisation	<p>Energy and biodiversity friendly streetlighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to enhance streetlighting in Yarra, and participate in innovative trials, to increase energy efficiency and light quality of Yarra streetlights to reduce emissions, improve active transport benefits, and reduce light-spillage/night lighting to enhance biodiversity benefits. - Advocate to State and Federal Government to fund and coordinate a bulk upgrade to energy efficient, nature sensitive main road street lighting.

Attachment 2 Attachment 2 - Climate Emergency Plan - Draft Action Plan for Stage 2 Consultation

ACTION NUMBER	TRANSFORMATION (PRIMARY)	OBJECTIVE (PRIMARY)	ACTION
5.1.1	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.1: Support Traditional Owners as decision-makers and partners on their Country	<p>Begin working towards decolonising Yarra's landscape so that our city increasingly reflects Wurundjeri land</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise our decision making processes and guidelines around land management and open space to ensure that our City increasingly reflects Wurundjeri land, inviting involvement from Wurundjeri - Develop guidelines or a matrix for selecting vegetation (including grasses, ground covers, and trees) so that we prioritise climate-resilient indigenous and native plants, guided by DEECA's Biodiversity revegetation guidelines and welcoming input from Wurundjeri - Explore how open space can be maintained differently with less intervention i.e. reduced mowing, fertilising, spraying, water etc. - Continue to learn about, and support, Wurundjeri cultural land management strategies
5.1.2	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.1: Support Traditional Owners as decision-makers and partners on their Country	<p>Partner with, invest in, and support Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invest in a program with Wurundjeri to offer all Yarra residents the opportunity to connect with and care for Country, including community education and engagement that increases our residents' connection to and responsibility for Country - Establish a system for sharing climate and biodiversity data between Council and Wurundjeri to build knowledge and capacity of both organisations, as well as the community. - Work with Wurundjeri to identify culturally relevant indicators for the health and wellbeing of Wurundjeri Country, including the Yarra River. - Support Wurundjeri in our implementation of Burndap Birrarung Burndap Umarkoo (Yarra Strategic Plan) 2022-32
5.2.1	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.2: Everyone in Yarra will have access to biodiverse-rich spaces nature within a walkable distance from their home, workplace or school.	<p>Promote and respect everyone's rights to enjoy the health benefits of nature, addressing inequalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better understand the needs of our diverse community when it comes to accessing and spending time in nature, so that we can ensure that everyone (all ages, all bodies, all backgrounds) can access and feel safe in at least some, if not all, biodiverse-rich natural spaces including water-based spaces such as the Birrarung (Yarra). - Advocate to State Government to improve nature outcomes in new developments and in social and public housing, supporting the residents to have genuine involvement in decision making around the design. - Develop a plan to ensure that every resident can access biodiversity-rich open space within 500m of their home. This can be a park, bushland, or even a pocket park so long as it has undergone a "Bringing Nature Back" or decolonisation treatment in order to maximise the use of space for human wellbeing and for biodiversity.
5.3.1	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.3: Invest in nature and expand climate-adaptive greening, biodiversity and urban agriculture outcomes	<p>Rethink the way that we approach our City's connection with nature and how we bring teams together</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Map all Council work areas that can contribute to our nature transformation (e.g. engineering services, new community infrastructure, storm water, street refurbishment). - Bring representatives together to plan interventions that will embed nature and biodiversity, and urban greening/cooling outcomes into everyday practices. - Create new decision making processes for all Open Space, Infrastructure, etc so that it carefully consider nature's rights, how we can positively impact on our flora and fauna in each decision and how, in turn, our nature can positively impact on our residents' health and wellbeing. - Review and strengthen the targets, timelines and resources required to deliver the Integrated water management Plan 2020-2030. On review, update the Plan to align with Council's increasingly ambitious position on the climate emergency, including increased WSUD and improved stormwater quality - Bring together a mix of teams to explore the removal of asphalt in certain settings with the replacement of more permeable surfaces.
5.3.2	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.3: Invest in nature and expand climate-adaptive greening, biodiversity and urban agriculture outcomes	<p>Bringing Nature Back to Yarra - Expand climate-adaptive urban greening, biodiversity and urban agriculture on public land, thus reducing habitat fragmentation and providing greater connectivity for wildlife</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - For all street and park plantings, apply DEECA's Biodiversity revegetation guidelines and prioritise plantings along the recommended habitat corridor enhancement paths, ensuring that we don't plant any species rated as a moderate risk or above according to the Advisory list of environmental weeds in Victoria - Review and strengthen the targets, timelines and resources allocated to delivering the Urban Forest Strategy to maximise greening on public land, to help cool the City, increase biodiversity, provide habitat (with a focus on the vulnerable colony of Grey Headed Flying Foxes), support reconciliation (plant the Wurundjeri totem tree species, Manna Gum), enhance carbon drawdown potential, and ensure locals reap the health and wellbeing benefits of nature - Support plantings in identified hotspots and areas with limited natural landscapes - Adequately resource programs that support our community's engagement with nature, to expand and protect the level of biodiversity in the public and private realm for wildlife, food generation, shade, or a combination (e.g. Gardens for Wildlife/My Smart Garden). - Continue to undertake feasibility and implementation of Roads to Parks program.
5.3.3	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.3: Invest in nature and expand climate-adaptive greening, biodiversity and urban agriculture outcomes	<p>Utilise nature to mitigate urban heat island (UHI) effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investigate water-based cooling options that are accessible for those at the greatest risk of exposure to heat-related impacts, that connect residents with nature, and that promote and support a healthy Birrarung - Undertake urban heat mapping (in GIS) to identify heat islands and track their extent and severity seasonally and over time. This data, overlaid with mapped socioeconomic data, can support identification of vulnerability and hazard exposure 'hotspots'. - Develop with the community, and implement, a nature-based urban cooling and resilience program targeting urban heat island hotspots, with a focus on areas of higher disadvantage. - Identify streets in higher density neighbourhoods that would most benefit from being converted to a one-way street lined with trees to mitigate some of the UHI effects - Review and strengthen the targets, timelines and resources allocated to delivering the Urban Forest Strategy to maximise greening on public land, to help cool the City, increase biodiversity and habitat, enhance carbon drawdown potential, and ensure locals reap the health and wellbeing benefits of nature - Research models of best practice and trial the removal of asphalt to improve permeability, create space for greening, and test circular economy opportunities for the removed asphalt. Use the trial of the findings to update policy and practices related to the future use of asphalt with the aim of it no longer being the default. - Update Council's standard designs to maximise the impact of all plantings for the benefit of urban cooling, reduced impacts of flash flooding, and climate-resilient indigenous and native biodiversity (e.g. infiltration kerbs for trees by default, planting understory in tree plots by default, WSUD, increasing the level of biodiversity)
5.4.1	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.4: Advocate for nature within Yarra and beyond	<p>Advocacy & partnerships for nature</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate to State Government to improve nature outcomes in new developments and in social and public housing, supporting the residents to have genuine involvement in decision making around the design. - Continue building partnerships with Melbourne Water, Wurundjeri Council, and other stakeholders on the implementation of Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo (What is good for the Yarra is good for all) Yarra Strategic Plan 2022-32 which recognises the Birrarung (Yarra River) as a living and integrated natural entity. - Advocate for more resources and attention towards improving the water quality of the Birrarung (Yarra River), working towards a swimmable Birrarung - Advocate for stronger National Environment Laws and the protection and expansion of the wild natural places that underpin our ecosystem across Victoria, recognising Yarra's ecosystem is dependent on the broader ecosystems right across the country - Advocate (with other councils) to Vic Road and Vic Track to get more indigenous plantings in their vacant land. - Consider a stronger cat curfew (24 hours), building on the current overnight cat curfew in Yarra. - Advocate for more resources to tackle all invasive species on a catchment basis with adjacent public land managers and the community

5.4.2	5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature	5.4: Advocate for nature within Yarra and beyond	Planning Laws, Requirements, & Regulations for Nature Outcomes - Use all available powers to get new developments to integrate more green infrastructure.
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Attachment 2 Attachment 2 - Climate Emergency Plan - Draft Action Plan for Stage 2 Consultation

ACTION NUMBER	TRANSFORMATION (PRIMARY)	OBJECTIVE (PRIMARY)	ACTION
6.1.1	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.1 Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe and resilient	<p>Facilitate and support the accelerated transition of existing dwellings to climate resilient, energy efficient homes, with targeted support for low-income households and those who are least able to act.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deliver information and support to make it easier for residents to increase climate resilience at home, such as by installing insulation, window shading, double glazing, draughtproofing, drainage improvements and other measures. - Ensure information reaches marginalised and at-risk communities. - Support awareness of and access to all relevant rebates, incentives and programs delivered by other levels of government . - Assess the quality of current housing stock in Yarra and target programs and resources to support less climate-safe homes. - Provide direct support to at-risk households to improve climate resilience in their homes by providing financial incentives such as direct rebates, no-interest loans, rates reductions or other incentives. - Identify opportunities to leverage Council funding, build on partnerships, advocate for government support and/or seek private investment to scale up programs and reach. - Engage with residential tenancy and landlords groups to build the climate-safety and resilience of the residential rental stock. - Advocate to renters and residential landlords on approaches to improving the climate-safety and resilience of rental properties.
6.1.2	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.1 Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe and resilient	<p>Develop and deliver a 'Climate Safe Rooms'-style pilot project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake thermal comfort and energy efficiency upgrades to create one climate-resilient room for at-risk households where at least one resident receives support services for an existing chronic health condition that puts them at risk from heatwaves and extreme cold. - Identify opportunities to leverage Council funding, build on partnerships, advocate for government support and/or seek private investment to scale up the pilot project.
6.1.3	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.1 Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe and resilient	<p>Deliver a coordinated and compassionate response to people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, including advocating for swift transition into secure housing to reduce exposure to extreme weather.</p>
6.1.4	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.1 Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe and resilient	<p>Facilitate and encourage climate-resilient renovations, including for homes in the Heritage Overlay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support individual planning permit applicants to deliver enhanced climate adaptation measures and climate resilience - Investigate further integration of climate resilience into local scheme provisions, including potentially strengthening built form requirements in DDOs to integrate planting/greening infrastructure and adaptability of built form for various uses - Provide and promote sustainable design/retrofit information, including continuing to develop sustainability retrofit advice and guidance for homes in the Heritage Overlay
6.1.5	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.1 Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe and resilient	<p>Avoid creating climate risk through new developments and retrofits in the built environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to investigate further integration of climate resilience into local area planning projects - Integrate adaptation measures into local scheme provisions, such as strengthening built form requirements to better integrate planting/greening infrastructure and adaptability of built form for various uses over time - Support individual planning permit applicants to deliver enhanced climate resilience responses
6.1.6		6.1 Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe and resilient	<p>Support small to medium businesses in developing their climate resilience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support small to medium businesses in exploring and understanding their physical climate risks, and developing approaches to addressing and managing critical risks to business viability and employee safety - Advocate to businesses and commercial landlords to work with business tenants to reduce climate risk and build the climate-safety of premises
6.1.7	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.1 Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe and resilient	<p>Advocate to State and Federal Government for legislative changes and resources to be deployed towards climate resilient, heatwave safe homes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approval of the Elevating ESD Targets so that it is gazetted in the Planning Scheme - Advocate for particular policies and resources to support households likely to be most exposed to climate risk, including renters, low income households, elderly people, people with a disability, public housing residents and people living in apartments. - Advocate for an increase in the stock of thermally comfortable and climate resilient public, social and affordable housing. - Leverage existing campaigns, community voices, and industry partnerships such as Sweltering Cities, Victorian Council of Social Services, Renters & Housing Union, Tenants Victoria, and Strata Community Association.
6.2.1	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.2 Yarra is building, upgrading and maintaining safe and resilient public infrastructure	<p>Prepare and upgrade Council facilities and assets to provide climate-safe public buildings able to deliver core services to build community resilience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that renewal works on Council's public buildings provide facilities that are able to meet the community's likely future service needs under climate change, and are appropriate to future climate conditions over the planned service life of the building - Prioritise the renewal and upgrading of facilities necessary to deliver core Council services underlying community resilience, particularly in areas of concentrated vulnerability and hazard exposure (e.g. maternal and child health clinics in areas with low-income families with young children) - Ensure Council workplaces are prepared for and safe during extreme weather events - As appropriate, plan building renovations and upgrades to provide additional Emergency Relief Centres for foreseeable climate-related events
6.2.2	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.2 Yarra is building, upgrading and maintaining safe and resilient public infrastructure	<p>Prepare and upgrade Council-managed public infrastructure (roads, drainage etc) to be climate resilient and able to manage the impacts of current and future climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure consideration of climate resilience in public infrastructure management line community's likely future service needs under climate change, and future climate conditions over the planned service life of the infrastructure - Prioritise the renewal and upgrading of public infrastructure necessary to deliver core Council services underlying community resilience, particularly in areas of concentrated vulnerability and hazard exposure (e.g. old drainage systems in high flood risk areas, maternal and child health clinics in areas with low-income families with young children)
6.2.3	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.3 Yarra's public spaces and streetscapes are connected, climate resilient and create an enabling environment for climate conscious living	<p>Prepare and upgrade Council-managed parks, sports fields and open spaces to be climate resilient and able to deliver appropriate services under climate change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure consideration of climate resilience in open space asset management activities in line community's likely future service needs under climate change, and future climate conditions - Prioritise the renewal and upgrading of open spaces where they deliver multiple benefits (e.g. community amenity, urban heat reduction, increasing biodiversity, increasing permeability)

6.3.1	6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure	6.3 Yarra's public spaces and streetscapes are connected, climate resilient and create an enabling environment for climate conscious living	<p>Ensure cool routes support active transport and walkability of Yarra in a changing climate, and residents have access to safe, cool green spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to create cool routes between/around community services frequently used by community members. - Increase integration between transport planning, biodiversity, and street tree planting to support delivery, including priority planting plans. - Investigate how best to map and communicate cool, shady corridors to increase active transport and walkability. - Review how Council can provide cool spaces to community members during extreme heat (including residents of public housing, unboxed community members, delivery riders, and older adults and children) such as pop-up splash parks and water misting areas or alike.
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ACTION NUMBER	TRANSFORMATION (PRIMARY)	OBJECTIVE (PRIMARY)	ACTION
7.1.1	Circular Economy	Yarra is transitioning to a circular economy by demanding circular design, buying less, borrowing, reusing, repairing, repurposing and recycling more	<p>Deliver innovative circular services and encourage recycling that keeps materials circulating at their highest value.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transition the Clifton Hill Recycling Centre to a Circular Centre which reuses, re-purposes, repairs and recycles materials in a way that benefits our most vulnerable community members - Extend the 'lending library of things' program at the libraries - Continue to deliver programs and education campaigns that support residents and businesses to maximise use of Council's circular economy and waste services - Continue to deliver education and behaviour change programs to re-enforce the correct usage of recycling bins and reduce contamination in line with the evolving changes to the state government service standards across councils - Research, develop and trial an innovative program that empowers and supports the community to implement a circular lifestyle including avoiding waste and influencing the design of products and packaging - Trial 'carry in carry out' policy in Council managed parks - Work with State Government and residents to improve reuse, recycling and resource recovery in social housing - Develop and deliver education programs about where to repair, reuse, share and recycle items rather than booking a hard rubbish service
7.2.1	Circular Economy	Waste to landfill and recycling contamination are eliminated	<p>Deliver a best practice, circular food and garden organics (FOGO) service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review existing food waste avoidance program and deliver improved version - Develop and deliver education programs to support the community to understand how to use the new FOGO service which includes supporting, incentivise and promote home composting - In partnership with our community, deliver and where needed develop a program to stimulate a local circular food system - Research and trial opportunities to improve circularity of food and green waste locally E.g., Buying back good quality compost to regenerate Yarra soil and grow local food - Develop and deliver best practice education and behaviour change programs to stop 'waste' at the sources, including food waste avoidance - Investigate and support ways for the community to reuse and recycle cement, steel, plastic and aluminium to go into low emission alternatives - Continue education programs about what can be recycled, how and why, specifically focused on items that need to be recycled at the depot
7.3.1	Circular Economy	Council and local businesses are implementing circular economy principles across supply chains	<p>Work closely with, support and promote Yarra as a Circular Economy hub for businesses. Promote businesses who are implementing circular operations where possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build the Sustainable Business Yarra network and host circularity events, including a focus on developing a Circular Economy 'education program' for businesses to be a part of - Promote businesses supporting a circular economy through our Business EDM - Where possible work in with the business community to facilitate circularity in process design and product lifecycles. Including investigation of increased recycling options for businesses - Work to redesign products, systems and stop waste at the source through business and industry support programs, including the development of a single-use free retail precinct - Deliver 'Join the Circular Economy' education program to business and community (now included in bullet point 3 above, delete if ok) - In partnership with retailers develop single-use free shopping precincts (now included in bullet point 4 above, delete if ok). - Facilitate and build relationships with local processors and manufactures to support implementation of circular design - Develop education program for traders at Venue & Events to use 'circular' products and packaging
7.4.1	Circular Economy	We are advocating to government and key stakeholders to embed circular economy principles in the design and manufacture of goods and services	<p>Support community to participate in the circular economy through advocacy, education, businesses and industry programs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocate to the Federal Government for stronger National Packaging Targets, including a pathway to supply chain circular packaging - Advocate to the Federal Government for a 'Right to Repair' policy, stricter product durability standards and product steward schemes - Advocate and facilitate working with Federal and Victorian Government to implement extended product stewardship and producer responsibility - Work with State Government to mandate clearer & easy to understand recycling labelling on all packaging - Ensure new waste contract specifications embed circular economy principles

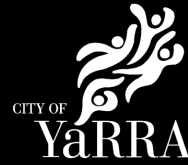
Transformations

1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency
2. Yarra community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported and empowered to build resilience
3. Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response
4. Yarra is efficient and powered by 100% renewable, zero-emissions energy
5. Yarra is Caring for Country. Our landscapes and waterways are healthier, greener and more biodiverse, and our communities feel at one with nature
6. Everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate-safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure
7. Yarra is transitioning to circular economy by consuming less, repairing, sharing, and repurposing more, and sending less waste to landfill

Perspectives

Centring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experience and knowledges
Social justice and equity
The rights of young people and future generations
The rights of nature
Climate emergency

Engagement overview – Climate Emergency Plan (Stage 2)



Overview

Project background:

Our current [Climate Emergency Plan 2020-2024](#) is ready for a reboot. It's now time to develop the next plan which will underpin our response to the climate crisis in the years to come and ramp up our ambition.

We know addressing the climate crisis is a top priority for the Yarra community and that they want us to do more. We want our community to be part of the climate solutions we develop, every step of the way.

Why do we need a new Climate Emergency Plan?

We all want to live in a healthy and just community where everyone is supported, no matter their age, background, ability or circumstances. A world where people and nature thrive together, now and into the future.

But right now, we are living in a climate crisis, driven by burning fossil fuels, land clearing, and excessive waste. Here in Yarra, we are seeing our unique plants and wildlife disappear before our eyes. People in our community are suffering the impacts of more frequent and intense heatwaves and storms – and those most at risk are bearing the brunt of it.

The good thing is, the solutions are here and now, and we can all make a difference. Every day we get bolder and more courageous and the number of people taking action grows.

Already, many in the Yarra community are cutting emissions by:

- switching to renewable energy in droves
- reducing waste and recycling by thousands of tonnes a year
- moving to a less energy-intensive plant-based diet
- standing up and speaking out for political action and climate justice.

What are we already doing to tackle the Climate Emergency?

Here at Council, we are working in partnership with other local councils, community groups, businesses and schools to reduce emissions and create local climate solutions.

We are advocating for stronger climate policies and supporting our community to take climate action. We are creating a circular economy, improving sustainable transport, and championing neighbourhood batteries. And so much more!

Together with our community, we have achieved so much through our [Climate Emergency Plan 2020-24](#).

But right now, the climate crisis is accelerating. If we want to create a safe and just future where people and nature thrive, all levels of government must do more, and faster, to address it.

Stage 1 consultation - 23 October to 4 December 2023

In late 2023, we asked the community for their feedback to help form the next Climate Emergency Plan.

The methods we used included:

- Gather ideas board
- Survey (YSY and hard copy)
- Pop up sessions
- Workshops with key stakeholders

Level of Community influence

Negotiable

The community can influence:

1. The feedback from community can help shape the objectives for the final CEP.
2. The community can also provide feedback on the transformations, indicators, targets which will be taken into consideration as the final CEP is developed.

Non-negotiable

The community cannot influence:

1. We will deliver a new Climate Emergency Plan that is best practice, sector leading and has a meaningful and maximum impact.
2. We will be ambitious and ramp up our response to the climate emergency.
3. The plan must capture the voices and experiences of those most impacted by, and most at risk of, the impacts of climate change.
4. The plan must cover a broad range of themes and actions to respond to all aspects of the climate emergency.
5. The plan can only contain actions that are realistic and achievable.
6. The 5 overarching perspectives guide this plan and are not negotiable (the general community cannot change these perspectives; however some details of the perspectives may be changed if requested by groups associated with those perspectives. E.g. the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Council may have input).
7. Council will be conducting separate stakeholder engagement with the the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Council to gather stories and unique cultural perspectives to be included in the Climate Emergency Plan.
8. The new Climate Emergency Plan will be delivered in 2024.

Engagement objectives

1. Informing the Yarra community and key stakeholders about the progress of the draft Climate Emergency Plan and closing the loop on the first stage of community engagement.
2. Checking in with the community and seeking feedback on key elements of the draft Climate Emergency Plan, including:
 - level of agreement with the objectives listed under each of the 7 transformations.
 - gaps in the draft Climate Emergency Plan and checking if we missed anything that the community think is important to include.
 - any other comments about the draft Climate Emergency Plan.
3. Understanding the community's level of support for the Climate Emergency Plan based on the above feedback.
4. Making sure that the voices of those most impacted by the climate emergency (groups identified in Stage 1 of the consultation) are given the opportunity to provide their feedback on the draft Climate Emergency Plan.

Project phases

Stage of engagement	Details of the stage	Timeline
Engagement Planning Phase	Finalise engagement plan. Community Engagement Plan completed (approved by Managers) Engagement Overview completed (approved by GM) Cr Workshop - Inform Councillors (Tues 19 March) Council Meeting - seek approval to commence consultation (Tues 9 April) Your Say Yarra page created (3 weeks before consultation begins) Build collateral and comms outputs (1 week before consultation begins).	February to April 2024
Engagement Delivery Phase	Your Say Yarra page launched Communications actions delivered In person pop up sessions delivered Targeted stakeholder engagement activities held.	10 April to 6 May 2024
Engagement Reporting Phase	Review and process feedback.	Mid-2024
	Community Engagement Summary Report completed by Engagement lead and provided to project team.	Mid-2024
	Community Engagement Results Report completed by consultants and project team. Report back to ELT and Council on the outcomes of the engagement.	
	Participants of this stage of engagement will be informed of the outcome.	Mid-2024

Engagement Methods

- Survey (online and hard copy)
- Targeted stakeholder engagement with community groups who are most at risk.
- 2 in person pop up engagement sessions held at the following locations across the municipality:
 - **Otter Street Reserve in Collingwood** on Saturday 20 April from 10am to 12midday
 - **Gleadell Street Market** on Saturday 27 April from 10am to 12midday.

Engagement Questions

Intro text

In the draft Climate Emergency Plan there are 7 transformations that guide our vision for a just and sustainable Yarra. Each of the 7 transformations has objectives, indicators and 2030 targets to help guide our actions and make sure we are delivering a strong climate emergency response.

These are the 7 Transformations which guide the Climate Emergency plan:

1. In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency.
2. In Yarra, community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported, and empowered to build resilience.
3. Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response.
4. Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.
5. Yarra is Caring for Country.
6. In Yarra, everyone in Yarra lives and works in comfortable and climate-safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure.
7. In Yarra, we are transitioning to a circular economy by consuming less, reusing, repairing, sharing and recycling more and sending less waste to landfill.

In the next set of questions, you will be asked to indicate your level of agreement with the objectives listed under each of the 7 transformations.

Transformation 1: In Yarra every choice we make and every action we take responds to the climate emergency.

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the objectives for transformation 1 (use a matrix table and scale: strongly disagree to Strongly agree)

- Our individual and collective choices and behaviours reduce emissions, conserve resources, and build climate resilience.
- Every Council decision and action responds to climate emergency.

Transformation 2: In Yarra, community members at greater risk from climate impacts are connected, supported, and empowered to build resilience.

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the objectives for transformation 2 (use a matrix table and scale: strongly disagree to Strongly agree)

- Understand and support the diverse needs of our community to bolster climate resilience.
- Council works collaboratively with community organisations that service community members at greater risk from climate impacts.
- Climate resilience is embedded across Council services.
- Council advocates for policies and programs which facilitate climate resilience among community members at greater risk.

Transformation 3: Yarra is active, empowered and raising our voice together for a stronger climate emergency response.

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the objectives for transformation 3 (use a matrix table and scale: strongly disagree to Strongly agree)

- Our community is actively and consistently leading and participating in collective climate action.
- Council, community, and other partners are advocating on climate emergency issues together.
- Young people are supported to engage in democratic processes and decision making.

Transformation 4: Yarra is a leading and prosperous zero-emissions city.

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the objectives for transformation 4 (use a matrix table and scale: strongly disagree to Strongly agree)

- Zero carbon homes
- Zero carbon businesses

- Zero carbon transport
- Zero carbon organisation.

Transformation 5: Yarra is Caring for Country.

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the objectives for transformation 5 (use a matrix table and scale: strongly disagree to Strongly agree)

- Collaborate with Traditional Owners as decision-makers and partners on Country.
- Everyone in Yarra will have access to biodiverse-rich spaces and nature within a walkable distance from their home, workplace or school.
- Invest in nature and expand climate-adaptive greening, biodiversity and urban agriculture outcomes.
- Advocate for nature within Yarra and beyond.

Transformation 6: In Yarra, everyone lives and works in comfortable and climate-safe homes and buildings, supported by climate resilient public spaces and infrastructure.

Please indicate your level of agreement with each of the objectives for transformation 6 (use a matrix table and scale: strongly disagree to Strongly agree)

- Yarra's homes and workplaces are climate-safe, resilient and thermally comfortable.
- Yarra is building, upgrading and maintaining safe and resilient public infrastructure.
- Yarra's public spaces and streetscapes are connected, climate resilient and create an enabling environment for climate conscious living.

Transformation 7: In Yarra, we are transitioning to a circular economy by consuming less, reusing, repairing, sharing and recycling more and sending less waste to landfill.

Please indicate your level of agreement with the each of the objectives for transformation 7 (use a matrix table and scale: strongly disagree to Strongly agree)

- Yarra is transitioning to a circular economy by demanding circular design, buying less, borrowing, reusing, repairing, repurposing and recycling more.
- Waste to landfill and recycling contamination are eliminated.
- Council and local businesses are implementing circular economy principles across supply chains.
- We are advocating to government and key stakeholders to embed circular economy principles in the design and manufacture of goods and services.

Do you think there are there any gaps in the draft Climate Emergency Plan? Have we missed anything that you think is important to include?

(Please note: if you are providing feedback on the indicators or 2030 targets, please indicate which transformation they are connected to).

Do you have any other comments about the draft Climate Emergency Plan?

Communications methods

- Your Say Yarra page with online survey and FAQs
- Email to past participants to invite them to take part in the consultation
- News item (corporate website)
- Social media (organic and advertisements)
- Council email newsletters, including Yarra Life & the Your Say Yarra EDM
- Yarra News (March/April edition)
- Workshop with key stakeholders who attended the Yarra Climate Summit during Stage 1
- Targeted Stakeholder engagement
 - email to representatives of at risk communities
 - involve Council advisory committees
 - contact key partners

- email invite to nature focus group
- attend Neighbourhood House Managers meeting
- Youth Workshops
 - High school students (online workshop)
 - 18-30's (in person focus group)
- Translated materials, including:
 - newspaper ads in other languages: Arabic, Vietnamese, Chinese, Italian and Greek.
 - translated posters (translations same as news ads)
 - radio ads (Yarra news promo)
- Posters and postcards at pop ups and displayed at Libraries and Customer Service Centres
- Digital Screens in our customer service centres.

Managing the risk

Describe the risk	Level of risk	Potential mitigation measures
Targeted stakeholders from Stage 1 consultation may feel that they haven't been given as much opportunity to participate.	Medium	Clear communication about opportunities and options (at least 1) to provide feedback (even if may be different to Stage 1).
Tight timeframes for this consultation could impact the delivery of the Final CEP.	Medium	Everyone involved in project is aware and reminded of timeframes.
The community does not support the priorities/ambition/transformations/objectives/ indicators/targets listed in the draft CEP	Low	Feedback from Stage 1 of this consultation, the Yarra 2036 Community Vision and other data shows strong community support for climate action in Yarra. During Stage 2 consultation, the community will be given an opportunity to input into these elements of the plan.
Transport and setup of engagement equipment – City Works have indicated that they will not be able to assist with this.	Medium	Discussions are ongoing at GM level to try and resolve this issue.
OH&S – Potential for injury during set up and pack down of in person “pop up” engagement sessions.	Low	We will ensure that equipment is returned using accessible entrances to RTH / no stairs (where possible). Officers to be careful when carrying equipment and assist each other with lifting heavy objects.
Negative media coverage	Medium	Ensure that timing of engagement does not overlap with other controversial engagement topics that may impact perceptions of CEP development. Prepare statements or responses in advance where topics are seen to be potentially controversial.

7.4 Miller Street Local Area Place Making Upgrades

Reference	D24/111100
Author	Danny Millican - Coordinator Civil Engineering
Authoriser	Manager Infrastructure, Traffic and Civil Engineering
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. To provide an update on the proposed upgrade to existing traffic management treatments on Miller Street, Fitzroy North, following a Local Area Place Making Study in 2018/19.
2. To advise on issues identified during the design process and how this has both limited and determined the scope of the upgrade to treatments that can feasibly be delivered.
3. To present two designs options to upgrade the existing traffic treatments on Miller Street.

Critical analysis

History and background

Miller Street features and people movement

4. Miller Street is a residential street with mostly single detached lots with limited off-street parking, a local primary school, a couple of local retail businesses and an area of open space with a playground.
5. The street layout includes the following features:
 - (a) Ten off-set slow points with a road narrowing to one lane managed by give way restrictions with a narrow bicycle priority bypass lane supported by a plastic bollard;
 - (b) Alternating sections of parallel and angled parking with landscaped kerb build outs which creates a meandering path of travel along the street;
 - (c) Bus stops located in straight sections between the slow points; and
 - (d) A range of mature and more recently planted trees located within the slow points, in kerb build outs and on road between parking spaces.
6. As shown by the below photos, the historic layout, design, and type of street features continually change along the length of the street. This restricts the extent of feasible change to street infrastructure options without full reconstruction, including the removal of existing trees and vegetation along the length of the street.



7. Traffic volumes along Miller Street have been reasonably stable since 2011 at around 3,000-3,500 vehicles per day (vpd).
8. This level of traffic is higher than neighbouring streets in this pocket of Fitzroy North. However, it is not necessarily high for an inner-city residential street with similar functions in Fitzroy North or similar locations:
 - (a) Other east-west streets in Fitzroy North connecting St Georges Road and Nicholson Street: Reid Street (5,200vpd) and Scotchmer Street (5,900-6,200vpd); and
 - (b) Residential streets in neighbouring suburbs: Fenwick Street, Clifton Hill (3,500vpd) and Roseneath Street, Clifton Hill (5,800vpd).
9. Vehicle speeds along Miller Street have been reasonably stable since 2011 with 85%tile speeds between 38km/hr-40km/hr, indicating that the historic traffic calming is overall relatively effective.
10. A review of the latest available crash data shows that nine crashes have occurred on Miller Street over the past 15 years.
11. Two of the crashes resulted in a serious injury to cyclists who collided with vehicles entering/exiting angled parking bays, with two other crashes resulting in non-serious injuries also involved parked cars. A further crash involving a serious injury to a cyclist occurred from a collision with a vehicle exiting a laneway/driveway.
12. Two non-serious crashes have occurred at the intersection of Miller Street and Rae Street, noting that over recent years Council has made modifications to line marking at this intersection to provide improved visibility for road users at this location. The other accidents that occurred also involved non-serious injuries with no notable causation associated with the street layout.
13. As per Yarra's Transport Strategy 2022-32 (YTS), Miller Street is identified as a non-compliant route on Council's New Deal for Cycling (NDC) network as:
 - (a) There are currently no existing on-street cycling facilities outside of the narrow bicycle priority cut-through lanes at the slow points; and

- (b) The street accommodates a high number of angled parking spaces, which present a higher risk to the safety of cyclists. As per the direction set out in the YTS, dangerous angled parking would be phased out over time, and replaced with parallel parking and bicycle lanes.
- 14. Based on vehicle volumes and speeds, the NDC assessment framework identifies that the appropriate treatment for Miller Street would be painted on-street bicycle lanes. However, there is insufficient road space to install painted bicycle lanes given the limited road carriageway widths provided within the historic street layout.
- 15. As per the direction of Council's Transport Action Plan 2022-32 (TAP), the upgrade of cycling routes on the NDC network will be informed by corridor studies.
- 16. There is no current timeline for a corridor study on Miller Street, noting that Yarra's major cycle routes (such as Wellington Street) have been prioritised for study work under the TAP.
- 17. The proposed upgrade of existing traffic management would not impact on any future upgrade of bicycle facilities, under the two designs presented later in this report.

Local Area Place Making (LAPM) Study Fitzroy North / Scotchmer Precinct

- 18. Council undertook a LAPM study in 2018/19 in which some Miller Street residents expressed concerns regarding the volume and speed of vehicles using the street.
- 19. While most vehicles using Miller Street travel within the speed limit, the study identified a need to upgrade the slow points noting:
 - (a) The existing speed cushions do not slow down most vehicles when travelling through the slow points, thereby potentially encouraging riskier driver behaviour, with this also contributing to the perception of a high level of speeding vehicles on the street;
 - (b) The 'give-way' restrictions and 'right-of-way' could be clearer for road users, who would benefit from a consistent and simple design of traffic management along the length of the street to reduce the potential for road user error;
 - (c) Cyclists would benefit from redesigned bicycle priority bypasses given the minimal separation from moving, waiting and parked vehicles as cyclists enter, pass through and exit the slow points; and
 - (d) Ongoing maintenance issues with vehicles damaging the plastic bollards separating the traffic lane and bicycle priority bypasses.
- 20. The LAPM plan endorsed by Council in March 2019 included the following treatments for Miller Street:
 - (a) The upgrade of existing slow points on Miller Street with full width road humps and bike cut throughs, and the expansion of garden beds where possible;
 - (b) A median closure on Miller Street to restrict traffic movements between White Street and Rae Street, while continuing to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian crossing movements; and
 - (c) A right turn ban from Miller Street into St Georges Road during the PM peak.
- 21. Following an independent traffic modelling assessment, the Department of Transport & Planning (DTP) advised that it did not support the proposed median closure on Miller Street (at White Street and Rae Street) as the likely redistribution of traffic would impact the operation of the nearby arterial roads (i.e. St Georges Road and Nicholson Street).
- 22. The proposed treatment at this location has therefore been redesigned as a raised median that, while retaining all existing vehicle movements, will slow and better manage driver behaviour for vehicles crossing Miller Street and turning right into White Street or Rae Street.
- 23. DTP supported the proposed PM peak right turn ban from Miller Street into St Georges Road and which was implemented in 2021.

Design process of endorsed upgrades to Miller Street slow points

24. Council allocated budget to prepare functional and detailed designs of the proposed Miller Street upgrades during the 2022/23 financial year, that could be subsequently costed and considered for delivery in future year budgets.
25. An initial draft functional design that included full width road humps, bike priority cut throughs, and the expansion of garden beds was prepared in line with the endorsed LAPM treatment, for internal review (refer to Figure 1).

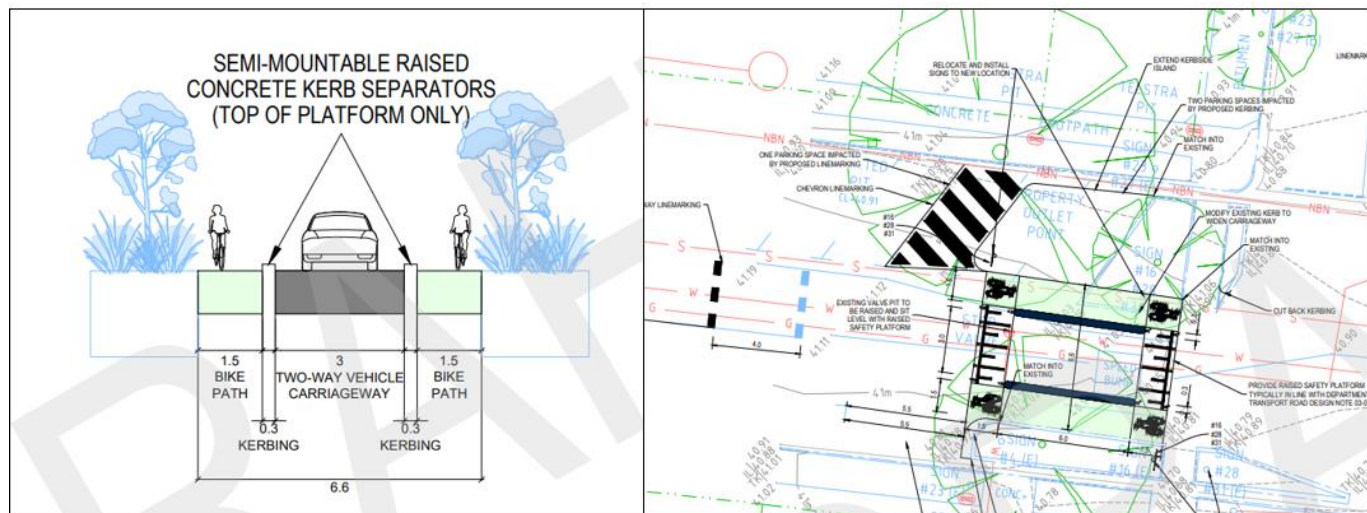


Figure 1: Typical cross section and functional treatment design of endorsed treatment

26. The design and internal review process identified a range of potential issues regarding the implementation of the endorsed treatment including:
 - (a) How to best manage overland stormwater;
 - (b) The widening of the slow points to accommodate the protected bicycle priority cut throughs would have significant impact on a number of street trees and likely require the removal of a significant number of trees; and
 - (c) The required improvements to address the current access, safety and separation issues with the existing bicycle priority cut throughs requires a longer treatment with additional space each side of the slow point for cyclists to be able to safely negotiate and dismount the platforms. This in turn also requires the removal of approximately 23 on-street parking spaces, which was considered unlikely to be supported given the high-utilisation of on-street parking.
27. Given the extent of the issues identified through this process, officers undertook an extensive design review.
28. The design review found no alternative solution to accommodate bicycle priority cut throughs, without impacting mature trees, multiple on-street parking spaces and other streetscape features.
29. The review identified one feasible design option for Miller Street that, in comparison to all other options reviewed:
 - (a) best met the intended outcomes of the endorsed treatment (without the bicycle cut throughs);
 - (b) fully met other key road safety, infrastructure design, and access requirements including:
 - (i) a consistent and simple design approach along the length of the street to reduce the potential for road user error;
 - (ii) effective speed management while accommodating the movement requirements of vehicles that use the street (including cyclists); and

- (iii) retaining access to off-street driveways and on-street parking spaces; and
- (c) had little-to-no impact on existing trees and vegetation and includes measures to increase vegetation and introduce passive irrigation.

30. A plan showing the design of the treatment proposed and an existing example of the type of outcome this treatment is aiming to achieve is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2: Proposed treatment design and example of similar type treatment on Noone Street, Clifton Hill

- 31. Prior to advising the residents of the proposed upgrades to Miller Street, the designs were sent to DTP for comment.
- 32. Following feedback from DTP, some minor modifications were made to the design to help buses enter the modified slow points at a straight angle. DTP or the bus operators had no further influence over the design.
- 33. Miller Street residents were sent a copy of the proposed treatments in November 2023 and were advised that we plan to advance to detailed design and costing so the delivery of the treatments could be considered as part of the 2024/25 budget process.

Miller Street community feedback post-engagement

- 34. Since November 2023 there has been ongoing correspondence, including onsite meetings, with some residents, officers and councillors.
- 35. The feedback provided by those residents representing some members of the Miller Street community noted the willingness to retain the bicycle priority cut-throughs, at the expense of trees, with the safety of cyclists noted as the key priority (the loss of parking was not universally supported by all residents).
- 36. Bicycle priority cut throughs can be accommodated within the endorsed upgrade to slow points on Miller Street (resulting in the loss of trees and car parking spaces) with the option to proceed with treatments incorporating the cut throughs discussed later in this report.
- 37. The residents representing some of the Miller Street community also provided a range of feedback and requests to further investigate the proposed upgrades including:
 - (a) Higher and more aggressive road humps to slow vehicles, with references to bus routes elsewhere in Yarra where this has occurred;
 - (b) Shorter length road humps to reduce loss of on-street parking;
 - (c) Retention of slow point to the west of Taylor Street;
 - (d) New wombat crossings on Miller Street at White Street/Rae Street and near Ida Street;
 - (e) Speed reduction treatments on Miller Street between St Georges Road and Ida Street;
 - (f) North/south bicycle improvements between White Street/Rae Street;
 - (g) Possible closure of Miller Street; and
 - (h) Additional treatments in close proximity to the school.

38. The constrained width, configuration and layout of the existing street networks means:
- (a) Options to feasibly upgrade the street are limited and there is not a range of options for the Miller Street community to choose from; and
 - (b) It is not possible to deliver every outcome that the community is asking for.
39. A detailed response has been provided separately to those residents representing the Miller Street community, with a summary of officer’s position on each topic provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary response to feedback provided

Feedback	Officer response
Higher and aggressive road humps to slow vehicles	Higher profile road humps will increase the complexity of negotiating the slow points along the length of the street, with a higher risk of driver error, with no notable benefit in speed reduction. The road humps have also been designed to best manage overland stormwater with increasing frequency and intensity of heavy rain events.
Shorter length road humps	The length of road humps is influenced by the required improvements to the bicycle priority cut throughs to address the issues with the current treatments.
Retention of slow point to the west of Taylor Street	There is sufficient width for two vehicles to pass at this location at slower speeds with the narrowing of the road. The removal of the slow point will result in safer overall access to and from Taylor Street.
New wombat crossings at White Street/Rae Street	It is not possible to install a wombat crossing due to the location of bus stops and private driveways located at crossing points at this intersection.
New wombat crossings near Ida Street	It is not possible to install a wombat crossing within the vicinity of Ida Street, but improvements to the existing school crossing can be considered as a separate exercise, subject to meeting DTP approval requirements.
Further speed reduction measures on Miller Street	The existing rubber road humps between St Georges Road and Ida Street are at the end of the treatments lifecycle and will be reviewed through future maintenance programs. Additional treatments could be considered as a separate project in a future year.
North/South cycle improvements between White Street/Rae Street	The proposed median closure to improve north/south cycle movements was not supported by DTP. This can be reviewed as part of any future NDC corridor study.
Miller Street road closure	A road closure on Miller Street will not be supported by DTP at this stage due to impacts the closure will be on St Georges Road and Nicholson Street.

Discussion

40. The extensive design process has identified only two design options to deliver the endorsed LAPM project for Miller Street. These being:
- (a) Design A – inclusion of bicycle cut throughs within the upgraded slow points as per the endorsed LAPM proposal; and

- (b) Design B – removal of the bicycle cut throughs as per the design circulated to the community in November 2023. **This is the recommended option.**

Design A

41. Design A is the initial draft functional design prepared at the start of the design process (refer to **Attachment A** for design drawings).
42. The upgrade of traffic management of Miller Street requires an integrated approach, that slows vehicles and allows all road users to safely negotiate multiple conflicting movements along the length of the street.
43. This is reflected in the profile of the road humps, within the narrowed carriageway, which have been designed to manage the complexity of the road layout, to reduce the potential for road user error.
44. The design of the bicycle priority cut throughs follows this integrated approach with the length and width of this infrastructure designed to best address existing issues experienced by cyclists due to moving, waiting and parked cars. Shortening road humps and the cut throughs will reduce the improved outcomes for cyclists, without any notable benefits in reducing vehicle speeds in comparison to the proposed design.
45. The design process identified that accommodating bicycle priority cut throughs will result in:
- (a) significant impact on many (up to 17) street trees which will likely result in the loss of mature street trees; and
 - (b) a reduction in approximately 23 on-street parking spaces on Miller Street.
46. Council's Open Space Services team has advised:
- (a) It is not supportive of the removal of the mature trees;
 - (b) If the existing trees had to be removed, they would be replaced with *Zelkova Serrata* which can be found elsewhere on Miller Street;
 - (c) Replacing the existing trees will result in a loss of shade and potential habitat due to the size of the canopy produced by the mature trees;
 - (d) The presence of electric lines in the street provides some restrictions;
 - (e) It would take 20-30 years for these new trees to fully mature and provide the same level of canopy as per existing; and
 - (f) The removal of (up to 17) trees would be supported if there is an opportunity to plant larger canopy trees elsewhere, however, this would likely result in a reduction of 10 angled on-street parking spaces (in addition to the 23 parking spaces required to accommodate the bicycle cut throughs).
47. The bicycle cut throughs are treatments that provide bicycle priority (as cyclists can bypass the give way restrictions) rather than a safety treatment.
48. While retaining and increasing the number of priority measures for cycling is an important aspect of transport planning in Yarra, the benefits of providing this type of feature on Miller Street is currently limited, given the insufficient space to provide bicycle facilities elsewhere on the street, the existing configuration of on-street parking, and the limited road carriageway widths provided within the historic street layout.

Design B – Recommended option

49. The design plans circulated to the Miller Street community in November 2023 are provided in **Attachment B**.
50. If bicycle cut throughs are not provided, the safest option for cyclists (and all other road users) is to narrow the slow point (i.e. reduce the road carriageway width) and install a road hump in between the narrowed slow point.

51. This effectively provides a full width road hump, although the narrowing of the road carriageway is likely to increase the effectiveness of the treatment as a speed deterrent.
52. The profile of road hump within the design presented to the community in November 2023, has been determined with consideration to:
 - (a) The needs of buses and specifically cyclists (particularly with the removal of the cut throughs), with the road humps designed as per recommendations for buses and cyclists as set out in design standards; and
 - (b) The best way to manage overland stormwater with increasing frequency and intensity of heavy storms.
53. While cyclists will be required to travel through give way restrictions, officers do not consider this situation to be less safe, noting the improvements to slow and better manage access for all road users through the slow points.

Summary

54. Both design options would be equally effective in managing vehicle speeds and provide a consistent and simple design of traffic management along the length of the street that is clearer for all road users.
55. The respective design options would also:
 - (a) remove the ongoing maintenance issues with infrastructure;
 - (b) include additional plantings with opportunities for passive irrigation; and
 - (c) include the road hump profiles specified by Council to manage risk as the road and infrastructure manager.
56. However, both designs are constrained by what can feasibly be delivered with the street, and the preferred outcome ultimately comes down to a decision on:
 - (a) Design A: the removal of a number of street trees (as many as 17) and the removal of approximately 23 on-street parking spaces; or
 - (b) Design B: the removal of the bicycle priority cut throughs.
57. Officers consider that, on balance, design option B provides a better overall option for Miller Street, particularly considering the currently limited opportunities to upgrade bicycle facilities elsewhere on the street, and the impact on shading and habitat with the removal of mature street trees.

Future proofing

58. The upgrade of Miller Street in line with NDC network objectives will be informed by a future corridor study.
59. This may include further adjustments to the street layout or possible measures to reduce the level of traffic using the street, noting that DTP does not currently support road closures or other restrictions to traffic movements.
60. There is no timeline for a corridor study on Miller Street, noting that Miller Street is a lower priority cycling corridor, compared to other cycling corridors in Yarra.
61. Either of the presented design options will not impact on the ability to upgrade cycling infrastructure in the future or can be modified to meet future needs as required.

Options

Option A – Proceed with Design A (upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut-throughs)

62. A design for this option has not been presented to Miller Street residents, and it is unclear the extent to which the Miller Street community would be open to the significant impact to street trees and reduced on-street parking.

63. This does present risks to the delivery of the project in 2024/25 (subject to funding), should others within the Miller Street community subsequently object to the impact on street trees and loss of on-street parking. Council's draft 24/25 capital works program includes provision for a project at Miller St.

Option B – Proceed with Design B (upgrade of slow points with removal of bicycle priority cut-throughs)

Recommended

64. Design B has been previously presented to the Miller Street community, and there would likely be a lower subsequent risk to delivering the project in 2024/25, subject to funding.
65. As above, Council's draft 24/25 capital works program includes provision for a project at Miller St.

Option C – Defer the project and undertake further community consultation

66. Officers will write to all Miller Street properties and ask the community to indicate the preferred upgrade to traffic treatments. This outcome of this localised consultation would be presented at a future meeting of Council to inform a decision.
67. This option would allow the community to consider both designs, noting that design A has not been presented to the community.
68. Should Council prefer to undertake community consultation, it is unlikely that the project can be constructed in 24/25.

Option D – Not proceed with any option

69. Council can decide not to proceed with the upgrade of traffic management on Miller Street at this stage, should this project not be considered a priority.

Officer recommendation

70. Officers recommend that Council proceeds with Option B, noting that on balance design B represents to best overall option to upgrade existing traffic treatments, and the existing community awareness of the proposal from previous engagement in November 2023.

Community and stakeholder engagement

71. Since the completion of the LAPM study, Council has received numerous and continual requests from some Miller Street residents for the endorsed project to be delivered.
72. Officers have provided updates to Miller Street residents regarding the status and progress of the project.
73. Miller Street residents were sent a copy of the Plan B alternative design proposal in November 2023, using an inform approach to engagement, in line with Council's Communications and Engagement protocols.
74. Officers have met residents representing the Miller Street community, with the last meeting held on 4 March 2024.
75. A letter has been sent to all Miller Street properties informing the community of the options to be considered at the 9 April 2024 Council meeting.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

76. The proposed upgrades to Miller Street were endorsed by Council as part of a Local Area Place Making Study in 2018/19.
77. Undertaking Road Safety Studies (which replaced LAPM) is a stated initiative under Strategic Objective Five: Transport and Movement in the Council Plan (2021-25).

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

78. Climate emergency and sustainability implications have informed the design process, particularly with regards to managing the impacts of heavy storm events and increasing vegetation and permeable surfaces.

Community and social implications

79. There are no community and social implications associated with the proposal to upgrade existing traffic management treatments on Miller Street.

Economic development implications

80. There are no economic development implications associated with the proposal to upgrade existing traffic management treatments on Miller Street.

Human rights and gender equality implications

81. There are no human rights and gender equality implications associated with the proposal to upgrade existing traffic management treatments on Miller Street.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

82. The cost of implementing the proposed upgrades on Miller Street has yet to be accurately determined, although it is currently estimated to be in excess of \$500k.
83. Should Council decide to proceed with either of the design options presented, officers will finalise the design and have the treatments costed.
84. Provision for a project at Miller St has been included in Council's 2024/25 draft capital works program. It has yet to be determined whether this funding allocation will fully cover the costs of delivery, or whether infrastructure upgrades will need to be delivered over a staged multi-year approach.
85. There may be a limited opportunity to seek external funding to help part fund project delivery. To meet timelines to potentially obtain this external funding, there is a requirement to make an immediate decision on the design option to upgrade the traffic management treatments.

Legal Implications

86. There are no legal implications associated with the proposal to upgrade existing traffic management treatments on Miller Street.

Conclusion

87. The upgrade of existing traffic management on Miller Street is an endorsed Council project.
88. The design process identified a range of complexities that has:
- (a) identified significant issues with the delivery of the endorsed project;
 - (b) identified that alternative options and design modifications are limited; and
 - (c) identified that any design put forward will not meet the wide range of expectations of some Miller Street residents.
89. Two design options that meet the overall road safety and access requirements of the street have been identified, each of which has its strengths and limitations.
90. Officers consider, that on balance, a design which removes the bicycle priority cut throughs provides a better overall option for Miller Street, particularly considering the currently limited opportunities to upgrade bicycle facilities elsewhere in the street, the loss of a significant amount of on-street parking, and the impact on shading and habitat with the removal of up to 17 street trees.
91. Officers recommend Council proceed with design B option and progresses with finalising the design and costings, for construction in 24/25 (and potentially 25/26 – subject to cost).

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
 - (a) notes the feedback received from some residents of Miller St Fitzroy North and the required trade-offs to deliver upgrades to existing traffic management on Miller Street and as endorsed by Council following the Local Area Place Making study in 2018/19;
 - (b) proceeds with option B (upgrade of slow points with removal of bicycle priority cut-throughs) to upgrade traffic management treatments generally as presented to the Miller Street community in November 2023; and
 - (c) finalises the design and costing of the recommended design for consideration for funding as part of the 2024/25 budget process.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs
- 2 [↓](#) Attachment 2 - Design B Upgrade of slow points as presented to Miller Street community in November 2023

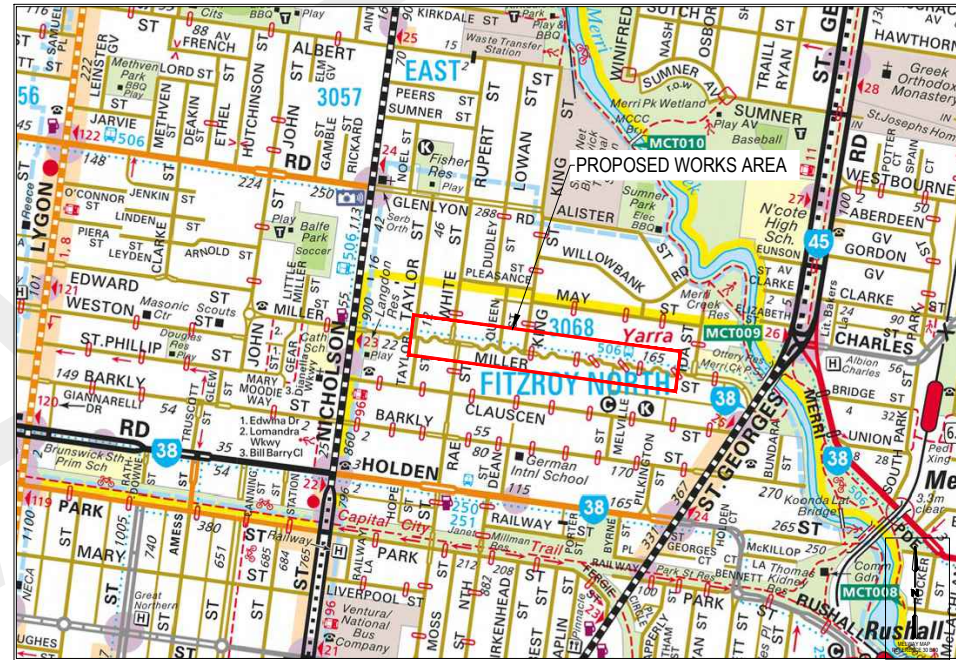
FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN - COVER PAGE

MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH

ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS

CONTENTS

SHEET NO.	INSET	ROAD SECTION
T001	COVER PAGE	-
T002	OVERALL INSET PLAN	-
T003	TYPICAL CROSS SECTION	-
T004	INSET 01	TAYLOR STREET INTERSECTION
T005	INSET 02	WHITE STREET INTERSECTION
T006	INSET 03	WEST OF QUEEN STREET INTERSECTION
T007	INSET 04	EAST OF QUEEN STREET INTERSECTION
T008	INSET 05	EAST OF KING STREET INTERSECTION
T009	INSET 06	100 METRES EAST OF KING STREET INTERSECTION
T010	INSET 07	205 METRES EAST OF KING STREET INTERSECTION
T011	INSET 08	290 METRES EAST OF KING STREET INTERSECTION



SITE LOCALITY PLAN

WARNING
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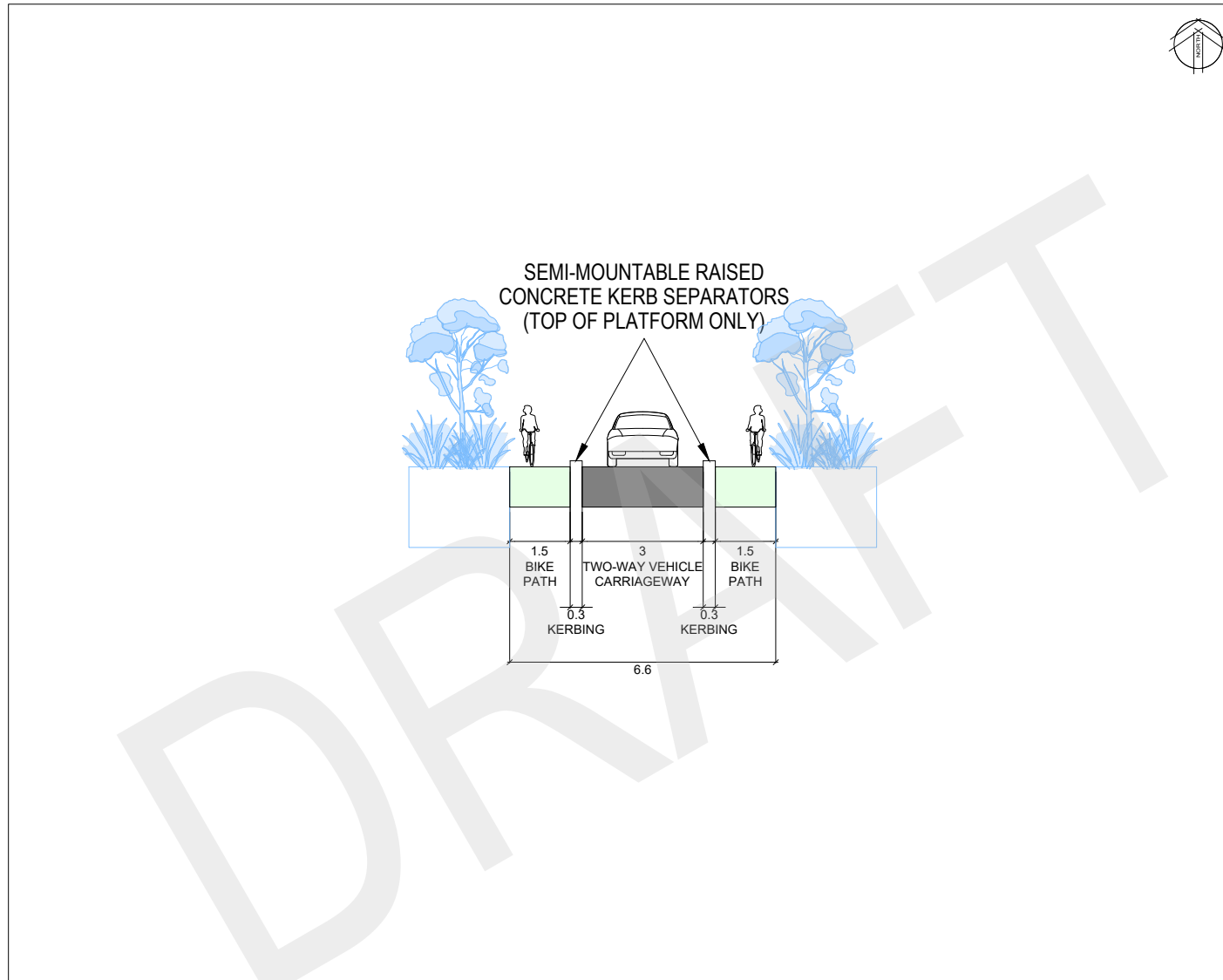
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B	25/01/23	REVISED ISSUE	T.B.	C.H.
A	23/12/22	INITIAL ISSUE	T.B.	C.H.

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DATE	22/03/2023
SCALE	1:1000
GRID	MGA2020 ZONE 55
PREPARED	T. BRITT
SHEET	01 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN COVER PAGE
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T001
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



LEGEND

- EXISTING CONDITIONS
- SERVICES (DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG)
- TITLE/ROAD RESERVE BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED LINEMARKING
- PROPOSED INVERT OF KERB SIGN AND POST

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

R1-1	R1-2	R2-3(L)
D4-1-2(L)	R2-16	D4-1-2(R)
R4-1(40)	R6-10-3	R5-4
R5-10	R5-10(DOAL)	#R5-20
#R5-35	W5-10	W5-3F
W5-V2-2	W5-2	W5-33
#33		

- GENERAL NOTES**
- FEATURE SURVEY BASE SUPPLIED BY MILLARMERRIGAN - 19/11/2022 - 29654F1_V1
 - EXISTING SPEED LIMITS ON MILLER STREET IS 40KM/H.
 - ALL SIGNAGE TO BE SIZE 'B' AS PER AS1742.2 (INCLUDING ALL AMENDMENTS) AND DOT SUPPLEMENT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
 - ALL SIGNS TO BE CLASS 1 HIGH INTENSITY TYPE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1743 AND VICROADS SUPPLEMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS PART 2.17 - AS 1743 ROAD SIGNS SPECIFICATIONS.
 - ALL LINEMARKING TO BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH AS1742.2 (INCLUDING ALL AMENDMENTS) AND VICROADS SUPPLEMENTS TO AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS PART 2.2 - AS1742.2; TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES FOR GENERAL USE.
 - ALL PAINT USED FOR ROAD LINEMARKING PURPOSES SHALL CONFORM WITH AS4049 (INCLUDING ALL AMENDMENTS) AND CLAUSE 6.3 OF VICROADS SUPPLEMENT TO AUSTRADSDS GUIDE TO TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PART 10.
 - ALL REDUNDANT SIGNS, LINEMARKING, RRP/RS, KERB & CHANNEL, LANDSCAPE TO BE PERMANENTLY REMOVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY.
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 - IF EXISTING FLEXIBLE SOLIDARS AT THE EXISTING SLOW POINTS ARE TO BE RETURNED TO THE CITY OF YARRAS CLIFTON HILL DEPOT.
 - CONCRETE SEPARATORS ARE TO BE CHARCOAL IN COLOUR.
 - ALL NEW KERBS ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH YARRA CITY COUNCIL STANDARD DRAWING W5311 - SEMI-MOUNTABLE PITCHER KERB - AND ARE TO BE 90mm IN HEIGHT TO ALLOW FOR VEHICLE OVERHANG.
 - PROPOSED ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS ARE TO RESULT IN THE NET LOSS OF 23 ON-STREET CAR PARKING SPACES

Filename: C:\Users\BRC\OneDrive\Documents\BES\2023\34481_T003_T011\BRC\DWG\04481_T003_T011_BRC\DWG_04481_T003_T011.dwg, printed on Friday, 3 November 2023 3:24:27 PM by CHK_Landis

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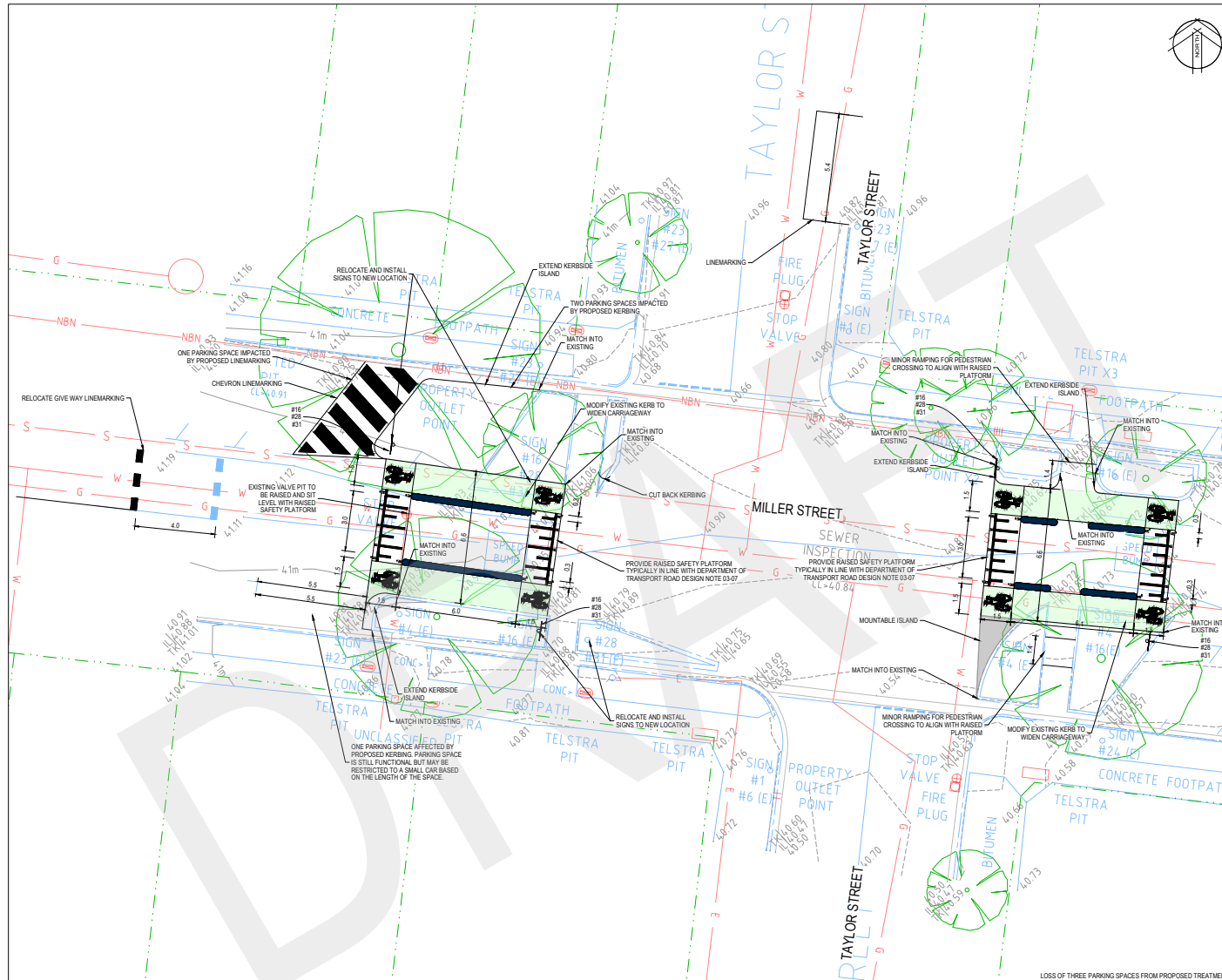
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A	23/12/22	INITIAL ISSUE	T.B.	C.H.



DATE	22/03/2023
SCALE	1:100
AT AS	
GRID	MGA2020 ZONE 55
PREPARED	T.BRITT
SHEET	03 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN TYPICAL CROSS SECTION DETAIL
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T003
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



LEGEND

- EXISTING CONDITIONS
- SERVICES (DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG)
- TITLE/ROAD RESERVE BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED LINEMARKING
- PROPOSED INVERT OF KERB
- SIGN AND POST

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

- ### GENERAL NOTES
- FEATURE SURVEY BASE SUPPLIED BY MILLARMERRIGAN - 1911/2022 - 28664F.L.V1
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 - CONCRETE SEPARATORS ARE TO BE CHARCOAL IN COLOUR.
 - ALL NEW KERBS ARE TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH YARRA CITY COUNCIL STANDARD DRAWING W50311 - SEMI-MOUNTABLE PITCHER KERB - AND ARE TO BE 90mm IN HEIGHT TO ALLOW FOR VEHICLE OVERHANG.
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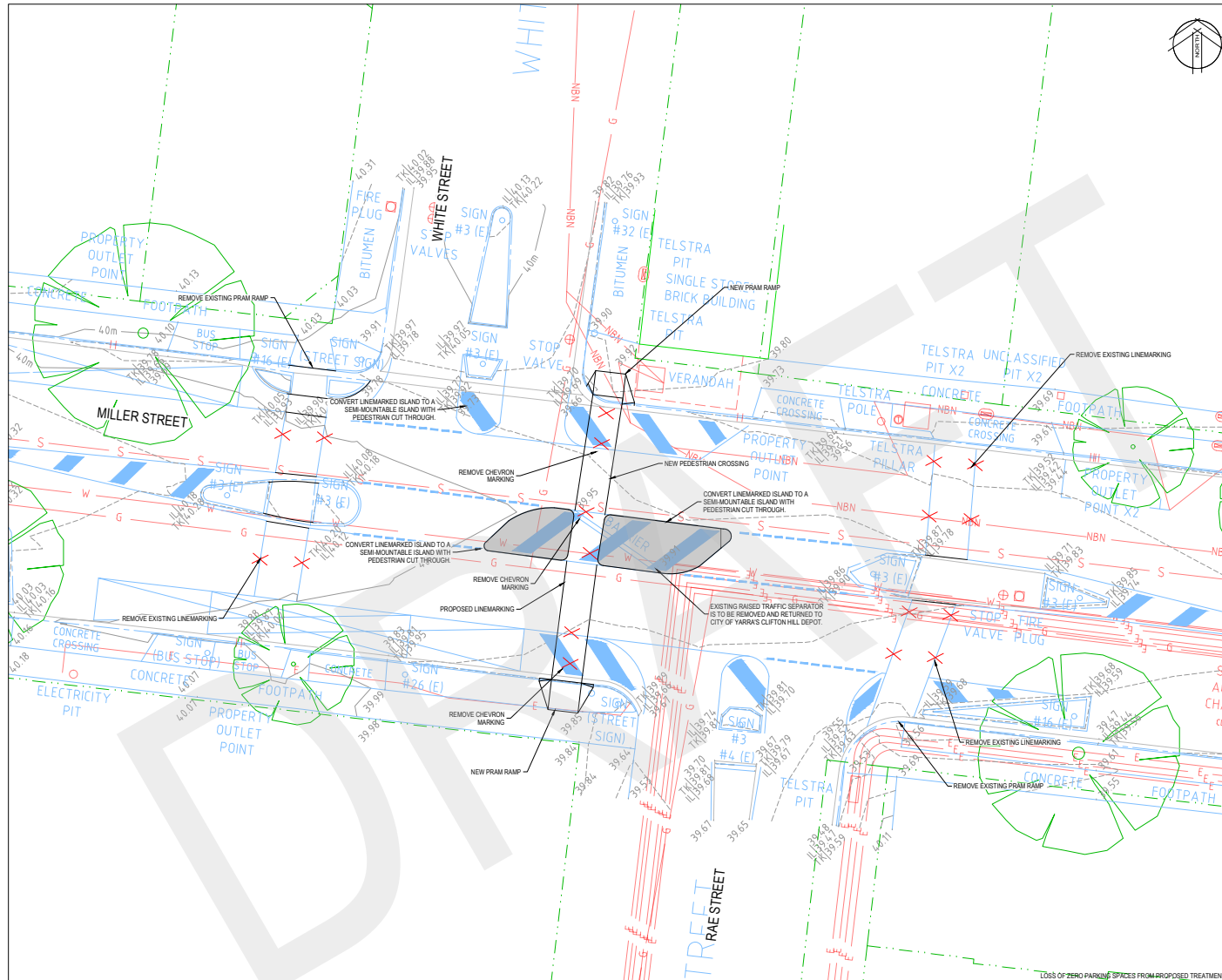
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DATE	22/03/2023
SCALE	AS SHOWN
GRID	MGA2020 ZONE 55
PREPARED	T. BRITT
SHEET	04 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 01
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T004
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



LEGEND

- EXISTING CONDITIONS
- SERVICES (DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG)
- TITLE/ROAD RESERVE BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED LINEMARKING
- PROPOSED INVERT OF KERB
- PROPOSED SIGN AND POST

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

	#1		#2		#3
R1-1		R1-2		R2-3(L)	
	#4		#6		#23*
D4-1(2L)		D4-1(2R)		R6-10-3	R5-4
	#21		#22		#20*
R4-1(40)		R6-10-3		RS-100AL	RS-20
	#24*		#25*		#20*
RS-10		RS-100AL		RS-20	
	#27		#28		#29
RS-35		WS-10		WS-3F	
	#30		#31		#32
WS-V2-2		WS-2		WS-33	
	#33				

- GENERAL NOTES**
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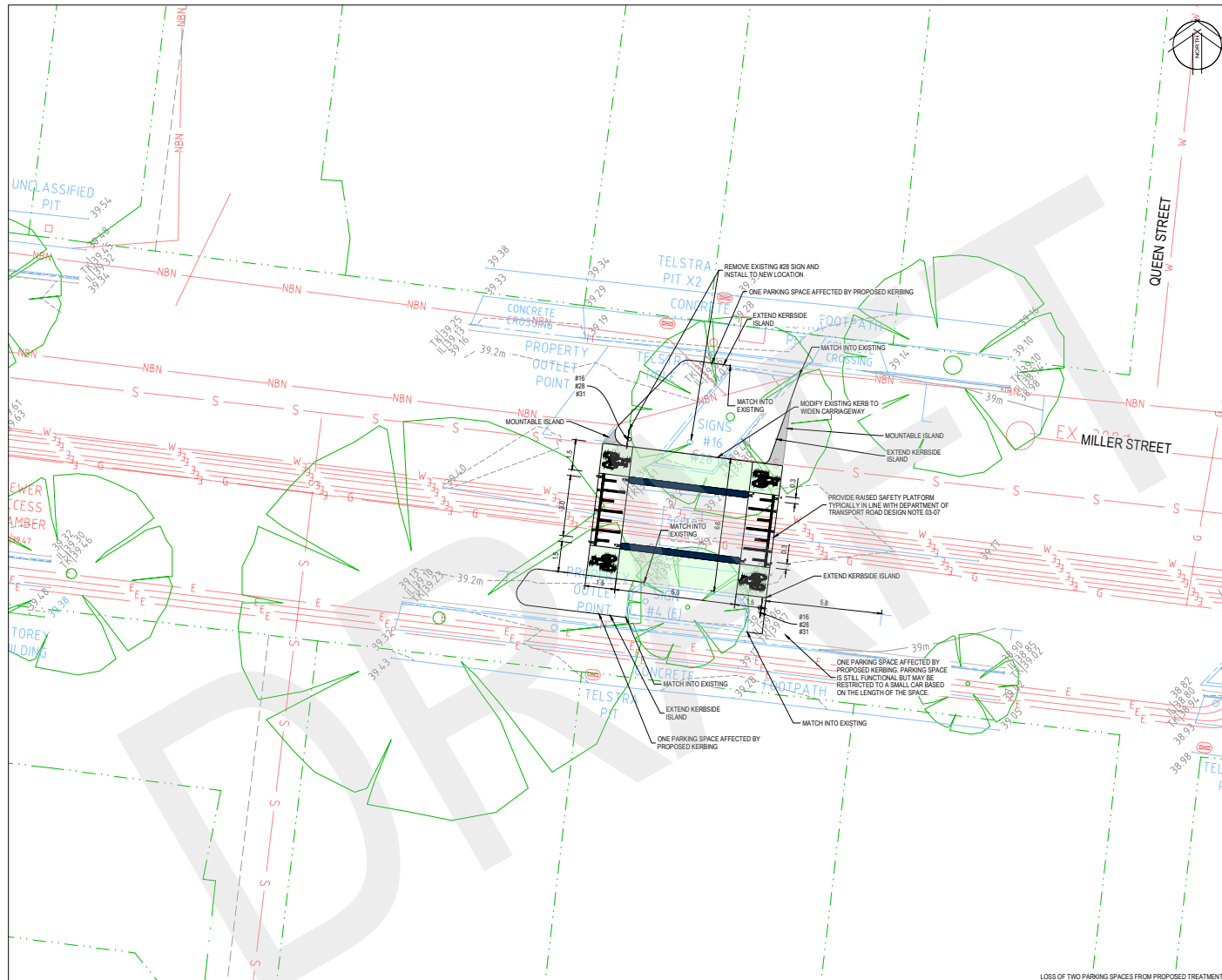
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DATE	22/03/2023
SCALE	AS SHOWN
GRID	MGA2020 ZONE 55
PREPARED	T. BRITT
SHEET	05 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 02
PROJECT No.	PS134881
SKETCH No.	T005
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



LEGEND

- EXISTING CONDITIONS
- SERVICES (DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG)
- TITLE/ROAD RESERVE BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED LINEMARKING
- PROPOSED INVERT OF KERB SIGN AND POST

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

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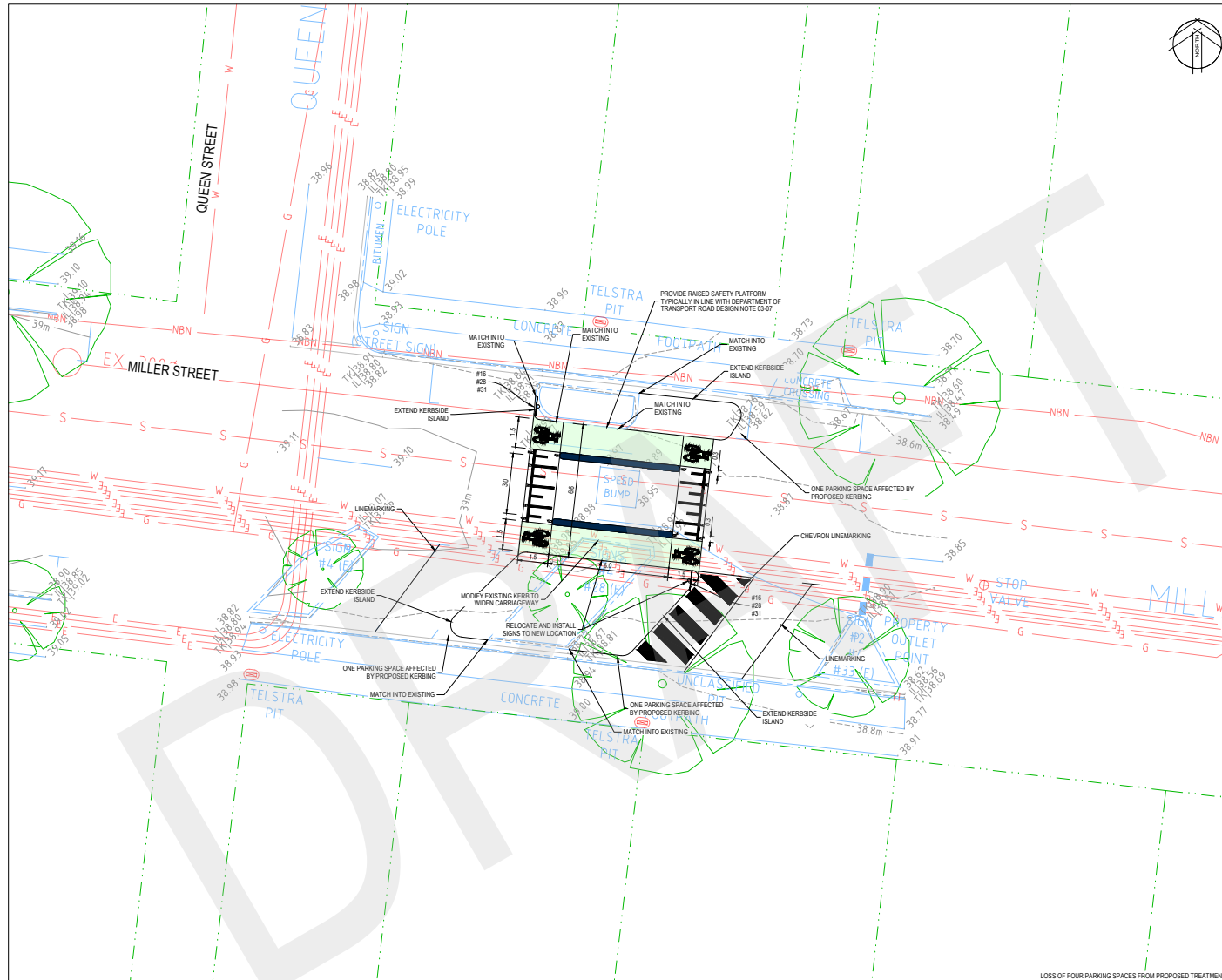
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SCALE	1:200
GRID	MGA2020 ZONE 55
PREPARED	T. BRITT
SHEET	06 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 03
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T006
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



LEGEND

- EXISTING CONDITIONS
- SERVICES (DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG)
- TITLEROAD RESERVE BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED LINEMARKING
- PROPOSED INVERT OF KERB SIGN AND POST

SIGNAGE SCHEDULE

	#1 R1-1		#2 R1-2		#3 R2-3(L)
	#4 D4-1-2(L)		#6 R2-16		#16 D4-1-2(R)
	#21 R4-140)		#22 R6-10-3		#23* R5-4
	#24* R5-10		#25* R5-10DUAL		#26* R5-20
	#27 R5-35		#28 W5-10		#29 W5-3F
	#30 W5-V2-2		#31 W6-2		#32 W5-33
	#33				

- GENERAL NOTES**
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PROJECT: MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
 TITLE: FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 04
 DATE: 22/03/2023
 SCALE: 1:200
 GRID: MGA2020 ZONE 55
 PREPARED BY: T. BRITT
 SHEET: 07 OF 11
 PROJECT No: PS134481
 SKETCH No: T007
 REV: C

WARNING
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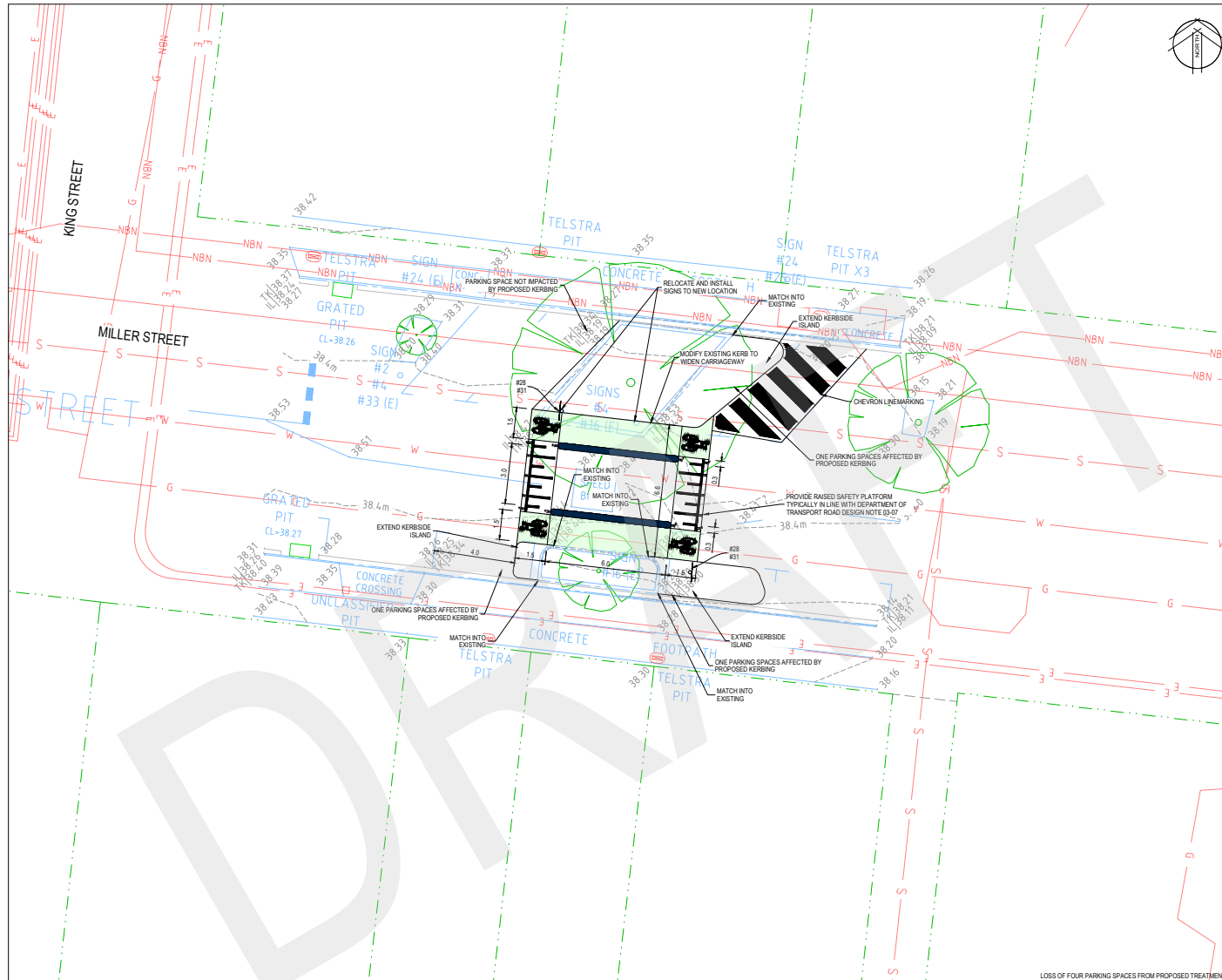
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SHEET	07 OF 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 04
PROJECT No	PS134481
SKETCH No	T007
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



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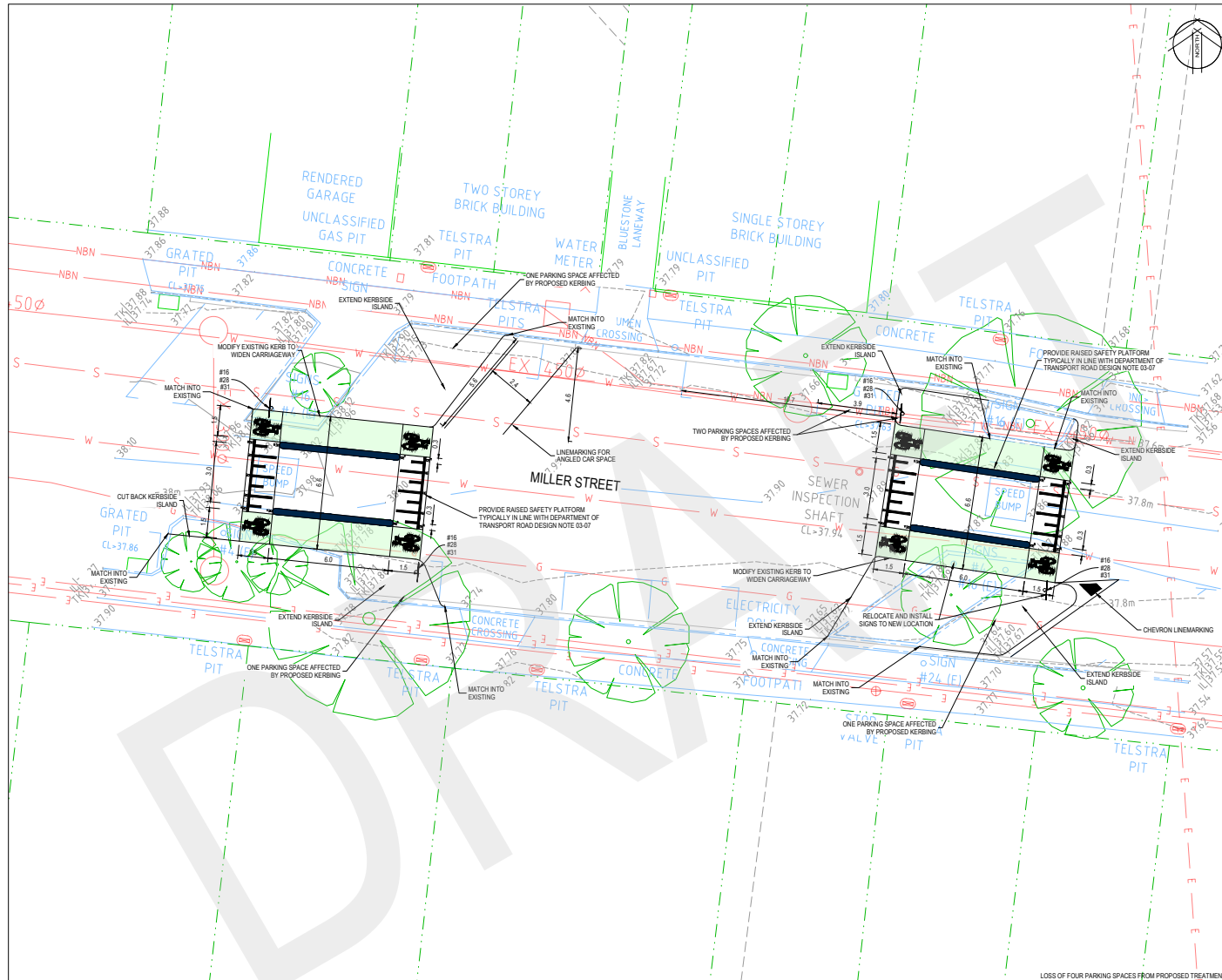
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PREPARED	T. BRITT
SHEET	08 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 05
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T008
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



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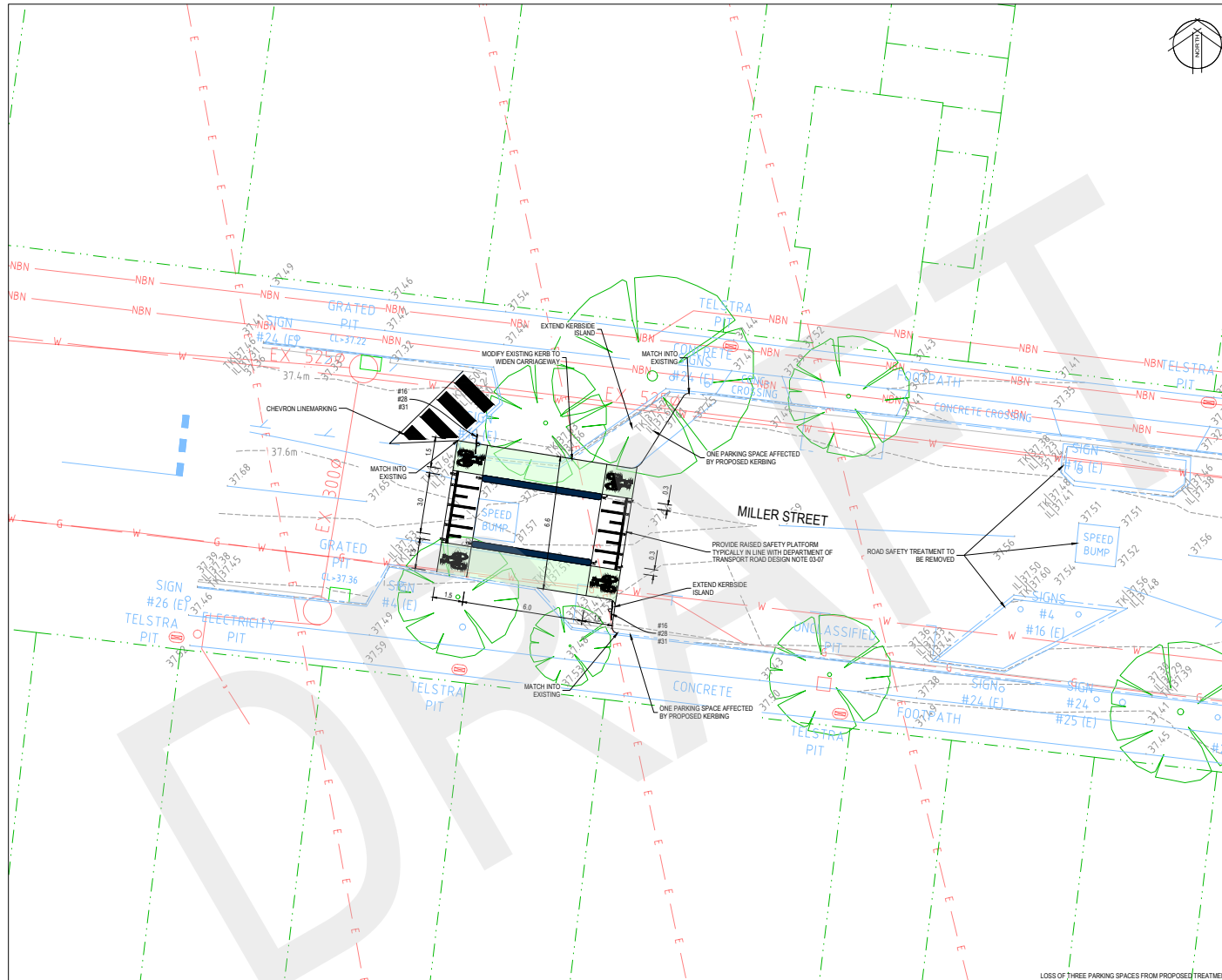
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PREPARED	T. BRITT
SHEET	09 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 06
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T009
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



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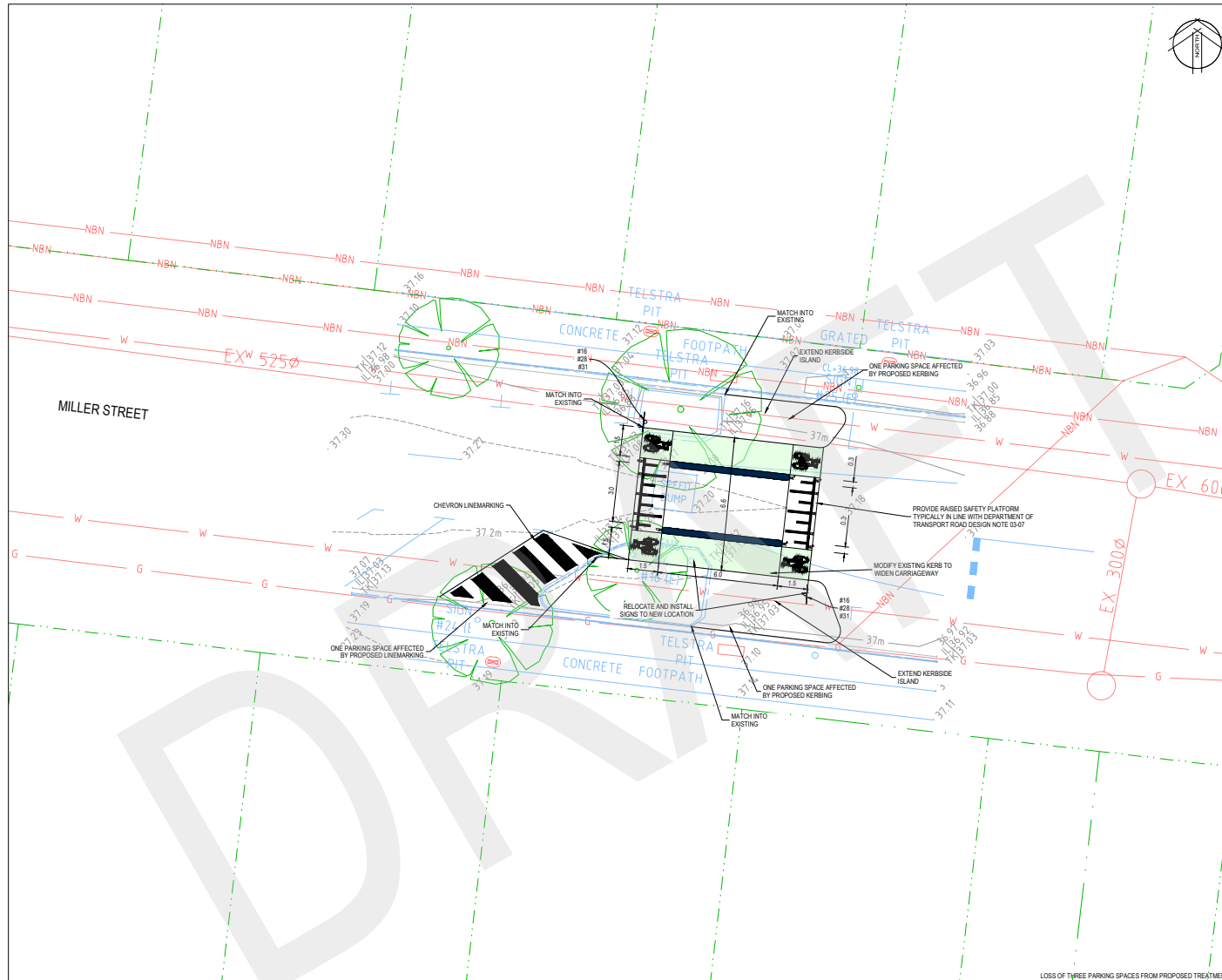
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PREPARED	T. BRITT
SHEET	10 of 11

PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 07
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T010
REV	C

Attachment 1 Attachment 1 - Design A Upgrade of slow points with bicycle priority cut throughs



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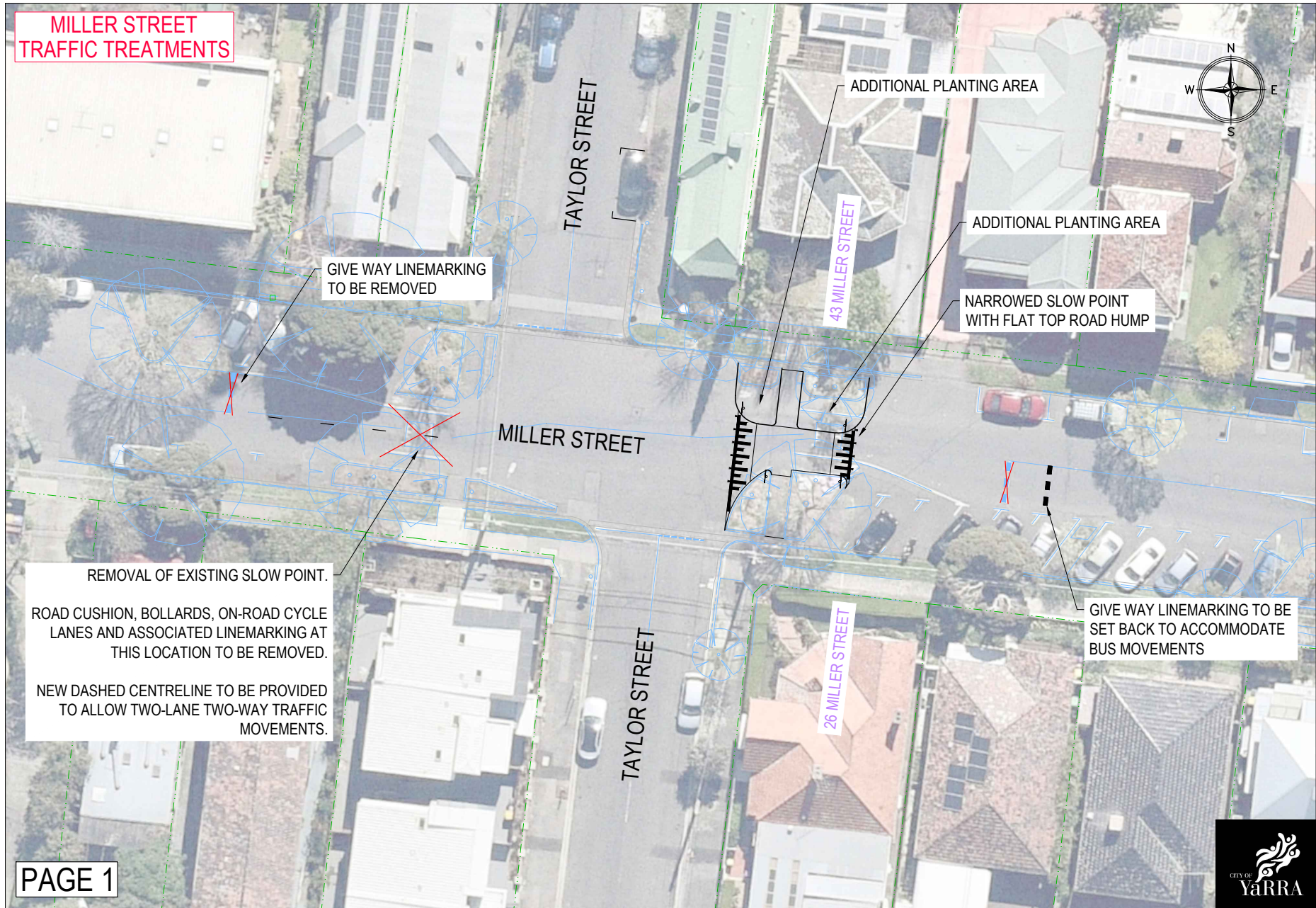
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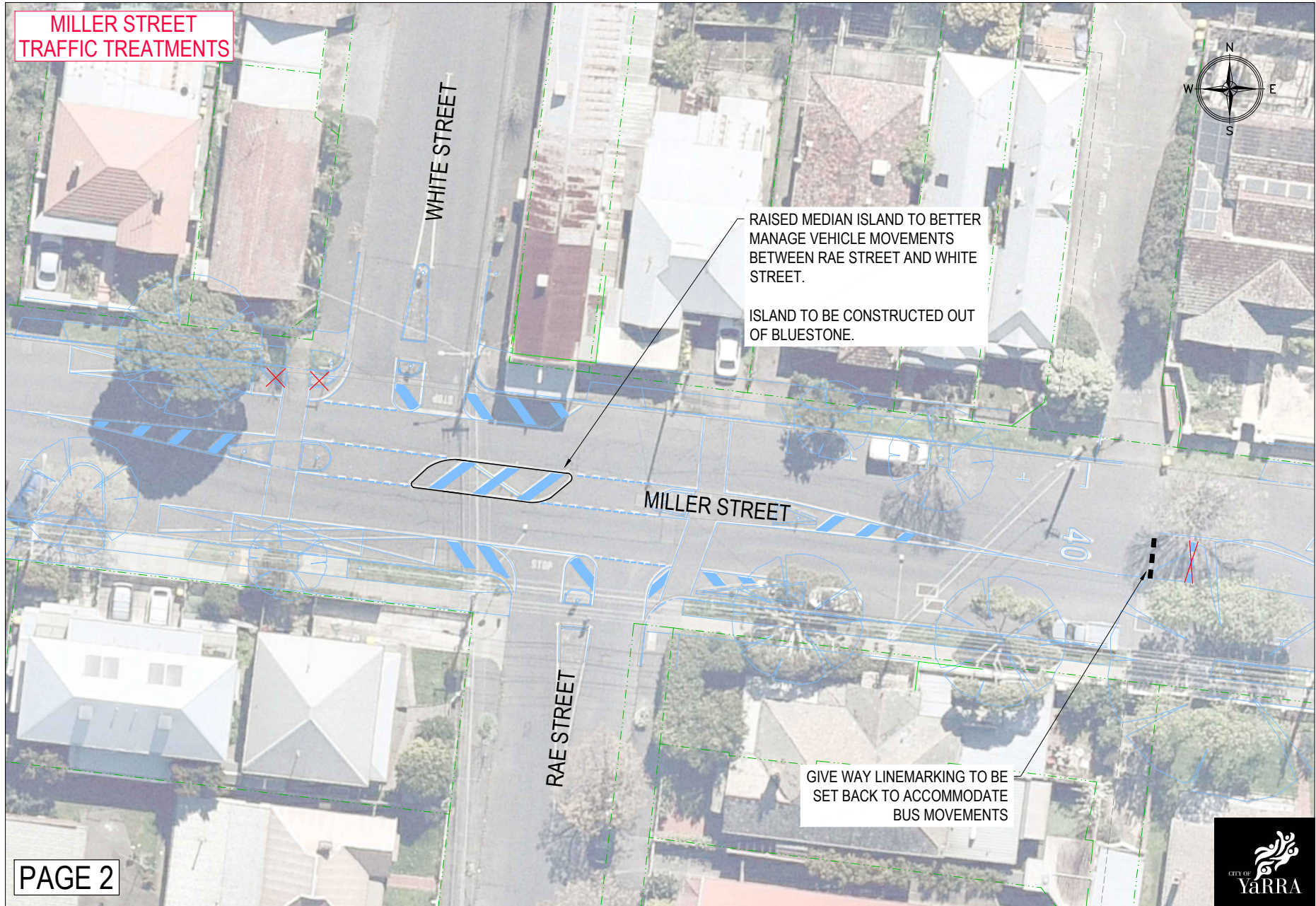
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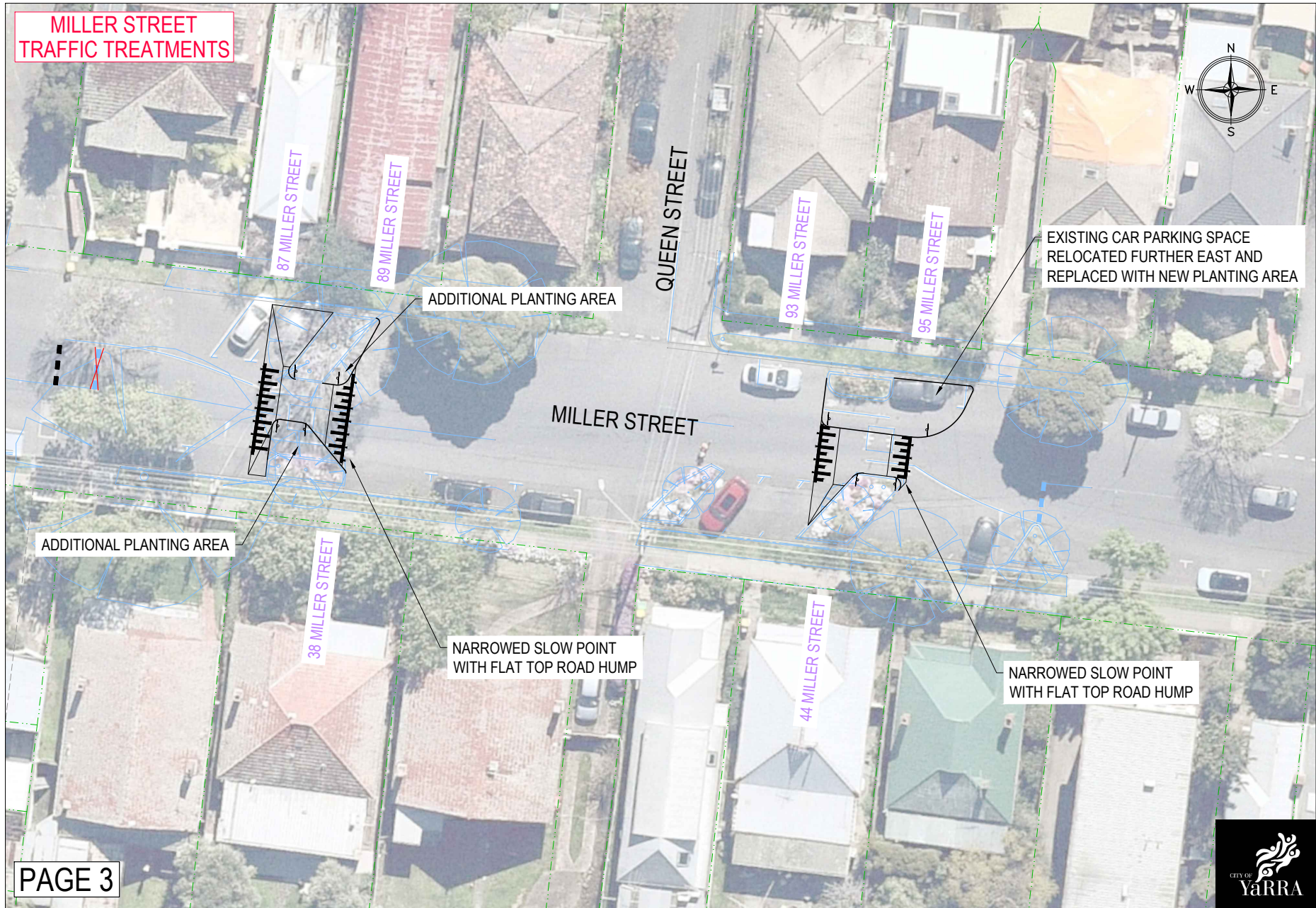
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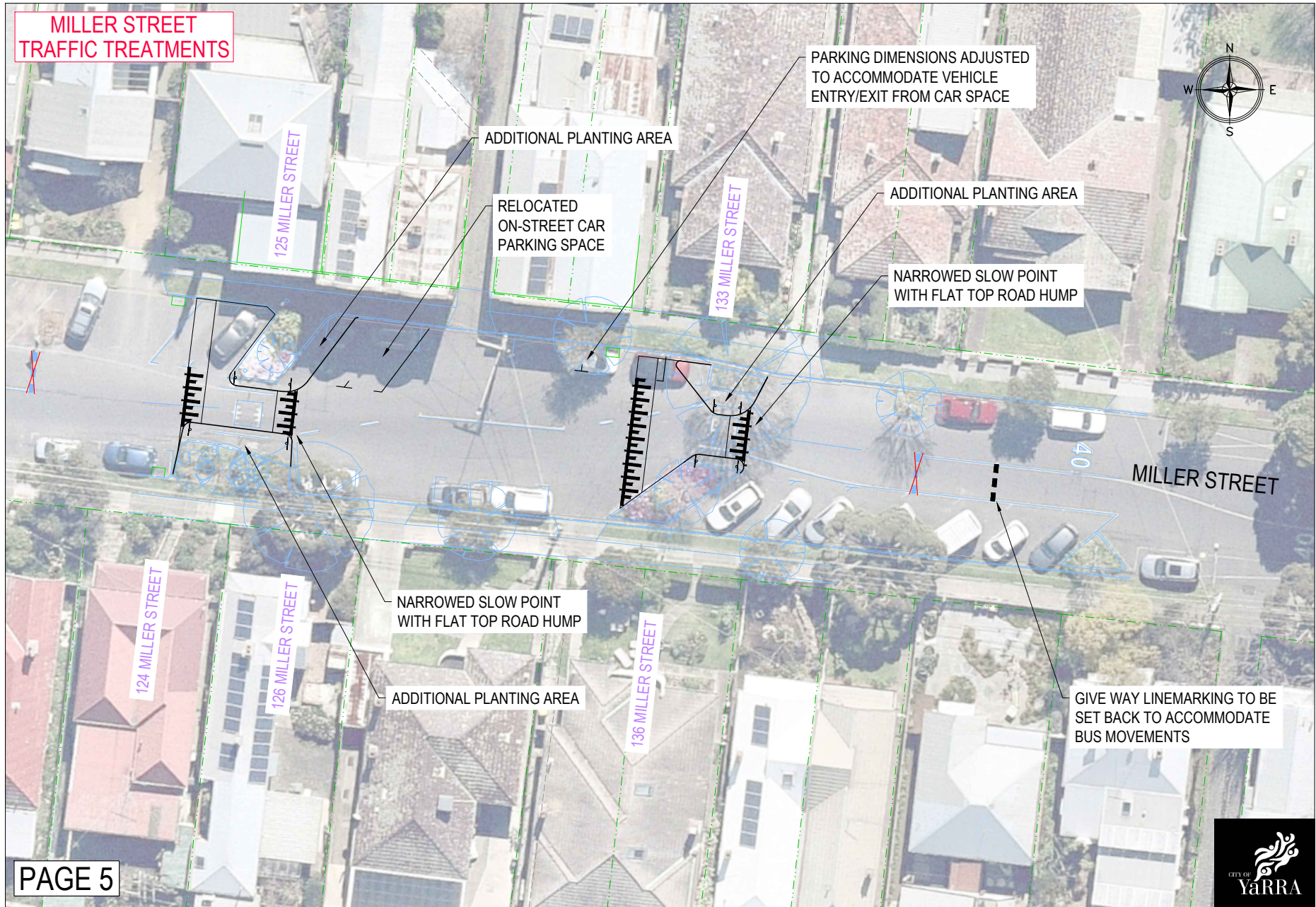
PROJECT	MILLER STREET, FITZROY NORTH ROAD SAFETY TREATMENTS
TITLE	FUNCTIONAL LAYOUT PLAN INSET 08
PROJECT No.	PS134481
SKETCH No.	T011
REV	C















7.5 Amendment C286yara - Public open space contribution final panel report

Reference	D24/116371
Author	Leonie Kirkwood - Project and Planning Coordinator
Authoriser	General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is for Council to consider:
 - (a) the report of the independent Planning Panel in relation to Amendment C286 ('the Amendment');
 - (b) the officers' responses to the recommendations of the independent Planning Panel;
 - (c) the officers' recommendations in regard to changes and adoption of Amendment C286yara; and
 - (d) the next steps for advancing Amendment C286yara in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act).

Critical analysis

History and background

What does the amendment do?

2. The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 (YOSS) and the associated Technical Report 2020 identified the public open space needs of existing and future residents and workers of Yarra, gaps in the provision of public open space and opportunities to address those gaps.
3. The YOSS, adopted in September 2020, informed Amendment C286yara.
4. Amendment C286yara proposes to:
 - (a) increase public open space contributions from developments that subdivide land in Yarra from 4.5 per cent (applied residential subdivisions only) to 10.1 per cent (noting this was the exhibited rate. This report recommends a rate of 8.65 per cent);
 - (b) apply the rate to all eligible residential, commercial and industrial subdivisions;
 - (c) update local planning policy; and
 - (d) include the YOSS and Technical Report as background documents to the Planning Scheme.

The amendment process

5. Amendment C286yara was publicly exhibited between 7 September to 5 October 2021. 72 submissions were received.
6. Council considered the submissions and referred the amendment and submissions to an independent planning panel on 19 October 2021.
7. The first of two Panel hearings was conducted over 11 hearing days between December 2021 and February 2022.
8. The Panel released an Interim Panel Report on 14 April 2022 (A corrections report was released on 16 May 2022).

9. Council considered the Interim Panel Report on 31 May 2022 and determined to progress a peer review of the apportionment of costs for the projects identified by the YOSS Technical Report and request Amendment C306yara. Amendment C306yara, recommended by the Panel, requested a Ministerial amendment to apply a public open space rate of 7.4 per cent while C286yara was finalised.
10. On 12 September 2023, Council resolved to request the panel hearing be reconvened and refer the completed peer review to the panel.
11. The reconvened panel hearing (the second hearing) was held between 5 and 9 February 2024 (for three hearing days).
12. The Panel's Final Report (at **Attachment One**) was received on 4 March 2024 and was publicly released on 19 March 2024. (In accordance with section 26 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Panel reports become public 10 business days after their receipt by Council.)
13. The C286yara webpage was updated and submitters to the amendment advised of the release of the report.
14. **Attachment Two** provides further details around the key steps in the amendment process.

Interim panel report (April 2022)

15. The Interim Panel Report specifically considered the YOSS, the background to the Amendment and the need for open space in Yarra.
16. The Panel, in the Interim Report, concluded:
 - (a) The Yarra Open Space Strategy, 2020, is strategically justified and is a sound and appropriate strategy;
 - (b) There is a clearly established need for the existing open space contribution rate to be increased as a matter of some urgency;
 - (c) The open space projects proposed to meet identified needs are, with a minor exception, supported. (The Panel did not support the inclusion of an action in Fairfield);
 - (d) The proposal by Council to add 30 per cent (adjusted down to 20 per cent during the Hearing) to the Capital Improved Value (CIV) of land to be acquired for new open space is not supported by the Panel. The Panel regarded 10 per cent as appropriate;
 - (e) The amount of the total costs apportioned to new residents and workers has not been adequately justified and should be subject to peer review before Amendment C286 can be finalised; and
 - (f) The hearing for Amendment C286yara be adjourned pending the completion of this further work.
17. Amongst its recommendations were:
 - (a) A new planning scheme amendment be prepared seeking an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent; and
 - (b) A peer review of the apportionment of costs of open space projects between existing and new populations be commissioned.
18. Council implemented the Panel's recommendations:
 - (a) On 2 June 2022, it requested a Ministerial amendment to apply a public open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent; and
 - (b) Council commissioned a peer review on the methodology of the apportionment of costs in Amendment C286yara. On 12 September 2023, it resolved to request Planning Panels Victoria reconvene the Amendment C286yara Planning Panel hearing and refer the peer review to the Panel for consideration. Council also resolved to adopt use of the 10 per cent margin above CIV as recommended in the Interim Panel Report.

19. In October 2023, the reconvened panel was requested.
20. Prior to the reconvened Hearing, the Panel wrote to all parties noting it 'would only consider the approach to the apportionment of costs of proposed open space projects between existing and new residents and workers, as the basis for the revised open space contribution rate of 8.67 per cent. No other issues considered in the Interim Report will be re-prosecuted and no new issues will be considered by the Panel.'

Discussion

Final Panel Report (March 2024)

21. Based on the reasons set out in the interim and final Panel reports, the Panel recommends C286yara be adopted as exhibited subject to the following changes:
 - (a) Recommendation 1 - Amend the Schedule to Clause 53.01 – Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision to apply an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent and include location-specific alternative contribution rates for three sites - the Gasworks site, AMCOR site and Channel 9 site;
 - (b) Recommendation 2 - Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 Background Documents to insert the following documents:
 - (i) Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020; and
 - (ii) Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report;
 - (c) Recommendation 3 - Delete Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 and other documents; and
 - (d) Recommendation 4 - Update the policy in Clause 19.02-6L-01 Public open space contribution.
 22. The Panel noted:
 - (a) The strategy and its strategic underpinnings were not significantly challenged;
 - (b) The apportionment of project costs between existing and new users could not be replicated by the peer review. The Panel noted Council provided an alternative approach to justify the proposed apportionment of costs. This was found to be acceptable to the Panel;
 - (c) The context for the amendment has changed significantly in the almost two years between the Interim Report and the reconvened Hearing;
 - (d) An open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent compares acceptably with recent outcomes in other municipalities;
 - (e) The urban form and open space context in Yarra contribute to the justification for the proposed open space contribution rate; and
 - (f) A rate of **8.65** per cent is therefore justified.
 23. It is noted that the Panel's final recommended public open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent is the rate that results from:
 - (a) the Panel's recommendation to adopt a 10 per cent allowance to CIV in calculating the cost of land to be acquired for new open space, and
 - (b) the removal of Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs.
 24. Council must now consider the Panel Report and decide whether or not to adopt the Amendment (with or without changes).
 25. If Council decides not to accept one or more of the Panel's recommendations, it must give its reasons for this when it submits the adopted Amendment to the Minister under section 31 of the Act.
-

Panel recommendations and officer responses

Recommendation 1 - Public open space contribution rate

26. The Panel in its final report recommended a public open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent.
27. Council exhibited a public open space contribution rate of 10.1 per cent. This rate included the addition of a 30 per cent margin above the CIV of land to be acquired for new open space.
28. The 30 per cent rate (or a reduced 20 per cent rate as submitted by Council at the hearing in 2021/2022) was not supported by the Panel in its interim report. It considered 10 per cent as appropriate.
29. At its meeting on 12 September 2023 Council adopted the use of the 10 per cent margin above CIV, as recommended in the Interim Panel Report, and a consequential public open space contribution rate of 8.67 per cent.
30. In the calculation of this rate, officers had not factored in the removal of a project the Panel recommended for deletion in its interim report (see discussion on Action 7.5B-4 Fairfield below).
31. At the reconvened hearing, Council provided the Panel with an updated figure (calculated by Council's expert, Esther Kay of Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd) that took into account the removal of the Fairfield project. This results in a rate of 8.65 per cent. This figure was used throughout the Panel hearing.
32. The Panel noted (at Page 19) 'there is no prescribed approach to determining an appropriate open space contribution rate.'
33. In terms of the peer review recommended in the Panel's Interim Report, the Panel noted the apportionment of costs between existing and new populations using the approach in the exhibited Amendment was not able to be replicated by the peer reviewer. It noted at Page 17 'If the cost apportionment that underpins the proposed rate is to be strategically justified, that justification must be found elsewhere.'
34. The Panel considered a range of factors in determining a rate of 8.65 per cent is strategically justified, including the alternative approach presented by Council for the cost apportionment outcome and outcomes in other municipalities.
35. Council provided evidence (from Alex Hrelja of Hill PDA) at the hearing regarding the apportionment of open space contribution costs. Mr Hrelja's evidence undertook a quantitative assessment, based on the ratio of new population as a proportion of total population and the project cost apportioned to those populations, as a comparator to the apportionment used by other municipalities in their amendments and the resulting rate.
36. Mr Hrelja's evidence concluded that the outcome of the apportionment process used by the authors of the YOSS is consistent with the apportionment outcomes of other approved schemes that use a similar methodology.
37. The Panel found a 'The cost apportionment outcome that underpins the Amendment is not out of line with what has been accepted as strategically justified in other municipalities' and 'The proposed rate of 8.65 per cent is not unreasonable or out of line with what has been approved in other municipalities'. (Page 26 of the Final Panel Report.)
38. Recent outcomes in other municipalities and rates that apply in other inner city municipalities, include:
 - (a) Monash - 7.61 per cent (approved July 2023);
 - (b) Glen Eira - 8.3 per cent (approved March 2023);
 - (c) Stonnington - 8 per cent (any subdivision in Armadale, Prahran, Windsor, South Yarra, and identified sites), 5 per cent (any subdivision in Glen Iris, Malvern, Malvern East, Toorak, Kooyong);

- (d) Melbourne - 8 per cent (Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area), 7.06 per cent (identified area, typically, within the CCZ and urban renewal/growth areas), 5 per cent (identified areas, typically established residential or commercial/industrial areas);
- (e) Greater Dandenong (residential rate) – 6.3% (approved 2023); and
- (f) Maribyrnong - 5.7 per cent.

39. The Panel also found:

- (a) The growth, high proportion of medium and high-density dwellings, urban context and need which exists in Yarra justifies a higher open space contribution rate than those approved in metropolitan Melbourne to date (excluding Melbourne and Maribyrnong for the reasons discussed in the report);
- (b) The proposed rate is consistent with the objectives of planning and meets the requirements of section 4 of the Act including:
 - (i) providing for the 'fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land'(section 4(1)(a));
 - (ii) assisting to secure 'a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians' (section 4(1)(c)); and
 - (iii) facilitating development in accordance with these objectives (section 4(1)(f)).

40. It commented on Page 28 of its Final Report:

While none of the factors discussed above, considered in isolation, is considered by the Panel to provide adequate justification for an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent, the Panel is of the view that in combination they provide adequate justification for the higher rate.

In this context, and in light of the Panel's previous findings that the YOSS is strategically justified, a high population growth is forecast for Yarra and the YOSS demonstrates a very significant need for open space, the Panel considers that the combination of factors is sufficient to establish that an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent is strategically justified.

41. Officers therefore accept the Panel's recommendation to amend the public open space contribution rate in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 to 8.65 per cent (see **Attachment Three** for the proposed Schedule to Clause 53.01 which is marked up to show changes since exhibition).

Recommendation 1 – Inclusion of specific sites with different contribution rates

42. The Panel (in its Interim and Final Panel Reports) recommends Council includes specific public open space rates in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 for three sites that already have agreed public open space contributions negotiated through other amendment processes.

43. This affects three sites:

- (a) Channel Nine Site, Bendigo Street, East Richmond (Land in Development Plan Overlay Schedule 5, DPO5) - 4.5 per cent comprising land and/or cash contribution in accordance with an approved development plan and planning permits, as amended from time to time;
- (b) Amcor Site, Heidelberg Road, Alphington (Land in Development Plan Overlay Schedule 11, DPO11) - 4.58 per cent for the whole of the land in DPO11, as amended from time to time, but excluding the 30 metre setback from the Yarra River (agreed via section 173 agreement); and
- (c) 111 Queens Parade and 433 Smith Street, Fitzroy North (Former Fitzroy Gasworks) (Land in Development Plan Overlay Schedule 16, DPO16) - A minimum of 8 per cent comprising land and/or cash contribution in accordance with an approved development plan, as amended from time to time.

44. Officers accept this recommendation. This position was advocated for by Council at the Panel hearing in 2021/2022. The public open space contributions for these sites were negotiated through separate planning amendment processes and they are largely constructed / under construction (see **Attachment Three** for the proposed Schedule to Clause 53.01).

Recommendation 3 - Deletion of Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield

45. The Panel, in its interim and final reports, recommended deletion of Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020, the Yarra Open Space Strategy Technical Report 2020, and from the Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs (POPC).
46. Action 7.5B-4 is to 'continue to implement the [Fairfield] masterplan including a major upgrade to the playground and picnic facilities at the park. Future upgrades are for both the existing and forecast populations'.
47. The Panel considered all specific Actions identified in the YOSS, except Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield, are strategically justified.
48. The project was questioned by Porta (a submitter to the amendment) and the Panel.
49. Issues identified in the Interim Panel Report included:
- (a) The YOSS Technical Report identifies the need to continue to implement the existing masterplan for Fairfield Park but does not provide any identifiable reason for the proposed major upgrade to the playground and picnic facilities at the park;
 - (b) The increase in residential population in Fairfield is forecast to be only 57 people and the number of children in this forecast population would be considerably less;
 - (c) No need for further improvement to the existing open space network for the existing population in Fairfield was identified in the YOSS survey results;
 - (d) Cross examination of Ms Thompson (one of the authors of the YOSS) did not provide any real justification for the major upgrade; and
 - (e) The Fairfield Park Master Plan 2010 and the Fairfield Park Masterplan Summary Report 2010 does not shed any further light on why the upgrade is said to be needed.
50. The Panel considered there was no strategic justification for Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield and this item should be removed from the YOSS POPC.
51. The POPC costed the individual open space projects which arise from the YOSS. The POPC also informed the calculation of the public open space contribution rate however it is not proposed as a background document to the Yarra Planning Scheme.
52. In the POPC, the approximate total project cost for Action 7.5B-4 was \$2.5 million. \$750,000 (the portion attributed to the new population) was included in the calculation of the rate.
53. Based on the Panel's recommendation, officers consider there are three options:
- (a) Option 1 - Accept the Panel's recommendation - delete the project from the YOSS and the POPC, including the proposed project cost. The resulting public open space contribution Council would then adopt is 8.65 per cent; or
 - (b) Option 2 - Partially accept the Panel's recommendation - Leave the reference to the project in the main Yarra Open Space Strategy and the Technical Report. However, text would be added to the Technical Report noting the action/project has not been included in the calculation of the public open space contribution rate. The resulting rate for adoption would be 8.65 per cent as recommended by the Panel; or
 - (c) Option 3 - Not accept the Panel's recommendation - retain the project in the YOSS and as a project cost and adopt the rate of 8.67 per cent.
54. Officers recommend Option 2 i.e. Council partially accept the Panel's recommendation.
55. The reasons for this position are:

- (a) Officers do not support the Panel's findings around the need for the project. Fairfield Park is identified as a regional open space / city-wide destination in the YOSS. The project is needed to upgrade the playground to replace aged equipment and ensure it caters for all abilities. The upgraded playground will cater for both the local and wider Yarra community. It is therefore important to retain the project in the YOSS and in the project list in the Technical Report; and
- (b) The upgrades could be funded through other sources e.g. general revenue, grants noting that the YOSS is a municipal-wide public open space strategy which seeks to improve open space for both the existing and future community.
56. Noting the minimal change that would be required to the YOSS and Technical Report to add the additional text about this project, this approach would also be an efficient way to finalise the documentation and expedite the Minister's consideration of the amendment.
57. To implement this, a note would be added to the inside cover of the YOSS Technical Report that reads:
- 'NOTE FROM YARRA CITY COUNCIL (9 APRIL 2024) - Following consideration of the Final Panel Report on Amendment C286yara which implements the public open space contribution rate, Action 7.5B-4 - Fairfield Park has been retained as an action/ project for Fairfield on Page 295 of this document but has not included in the calculation of the final public open space contribution rate.'

Recommendation 4 - Updated Planning Policy

58. The exhibited version of Amendment C286yara included updated policy at Clause 22.12 - Public Open Space Contribution.
59. The purpose of the updated policy is to guide public open space contributions within the City of Yarra. It will apply to all applications for development or subdivision of land and it identifies the locations where land as opposed to cash contributions are preferred and sets out criteria for that land e.g. access, free of encumbrances and contamination.
60. The Interim Panel Report included some edits to the policy at Appendix 1.
61. Clause 22.12 was deleted when Amendment C269yara – Local Policy Rewrite was approved on 21 December 2023. The content from Clause 22.12 has been translated into Clause 19.02-6L-01 Public open space contribution.
62. At the reconvened panel hearing, an updated version of Clause 19.02-6L-01 Public open space contribution was circulated which reflected the Panel's recommendations for Clause 22.12.
63. The Panel recommended one additional change to that policy in the Final Report to correct unclear wording proposed as part of the Interim Panel Report.
64. It recommended replacing the first policy guideline's first sub dot point with the following (changes recommended by the Panel are underlined):
- Should be of a shape and size that will be adequate for the proposed use and its position in the public open space hierarchy, having regard to the nature of the public open space in an inner-city environment, or be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land with these attributes.
65. The Panel at Page 29 of the Final Panel Report noted 'The Panel's initial recommendation with respect to Clause 22.12 is now redundant because of the approval of Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C269yarra which incorporated much of the previous Clause 22.12 into a new Clause 19.02.'
66. Officers accept the Panel's recommendations in Interim and Final Panel Report in relation to the planning policy (see **Attachment Four** for a track version of Clause 19.02-6L-01 Public open space contribution).

Recommendation 2 - Background documents

67. Background documents are reference documents which inform policy or a provision. They not part of the planning scheme.
68. The exhibited amendment proposes to amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 – Background Documents to insert the:
 - (a) Yarra Open Space Strategy (2020); and
 - (b) Yarra Open Space Strategy Technical Report (2020).
69. These two reports will replace the 2006 version of the YOSS in the planning scheme. The amendment will need to delete the reference to the YOSS 2006.
70. The Panel (at Recommendation 3) recommends Council amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 Background Documents to insert references to these two background documents in the Yarra Planning Scheme.
71. Officers accept this recommendation, noting an edit is proposed to the YOSS Technical Report on Page 296 in relation to Fairfield Park (see **Attachment Five** for the two background documents).

Updated amendment documents

72. An updated explanatory report and instruction sheet is at **Attachment Six**.

Amendment C306yara

73. Council prepared Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C306yara in 2022 to introduce a public open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent – a recommendation of the Interim Panel Report. This was refused by the Minister on 27 November 2023.
74. The refusal of Amendment C306yara was reported to Council on 18 December 2023. At that meeting, Council resolved to request the Minister for Planning (amongst others) provide reasons for her decision.
75. Reasons for refusal were provided by the Minister for Planning on 28 February 2024.
76. The reasons stated were:
 - (a) 'The status and timing of Amendment C286yara (permanent public open space contribution);
 - (b) The potential uncertainty of the final rate pending consideration by a panel and Council's decision on whether to adopt the amendment as exhibited, adopt the amendment with or without changes or abandon the amendment;
 - (c) Matters of procedural fairness arising from the introduction an interim rate that has not been subject to specific notice; and
 - (d) Live planning permits that may be affected by the proposed interim rate.'

Next steps

77. The process for Council's consideration of a Planning Scheme amendment is prescribed in the Act.
78. Under Sections 27, 28 and 29 of the Act, Council must:
 - (a) consider the Panel's report before deciding whether to adopt the Amendment or not; and then;
 - (b) either abandon all or part of the Amendment; or
 - (c) adopt all or part of the Amendment with or without changes.
79. Section 9 of the Planning and Environment Regulations 2015 (the Regulations) sets out the information to be submitted to the Minister for Planning under Section 31 of the Act with an adopted amendment.

80. Amongst other matters, Council must provide the following:
- (a) the reasons why any recommendations of a Panel were not adopted; and
 - (b) a description of and the reasons for any changes made to the Amendment before adoption.
81. This report sets out what the Panel recommended and explains why the recommendations are supported by officers, or not supported by officers. This report, together with the attachments to this report, illustrate the changes to the exhibited Amendment in mark up.

Options

82. Council has the opportunity to form a final position on the amendment which would then be considered by the Minister for Planning.
83. Council has the option to:
- (a) Option 1 - Adopt the exhibited amendment; or
 - (b) Option 2 - Adopt the amendment with changes; or
 - (c) Option 3 – Abandon all or part of the amendment.
84. Option 1 is not recommended. The exhibited rate of 10.1 per cent was not supported by the Panel. In September 2023, after considering a recommendation of the Interim Panel Report (to reduce the addition of the Capital Improvement Value from 30 per cent to 10 per cent), Council subsequently adopted a lower rate to take to the reconvened panel.
85. Option 3 is not recommended as abandoning the amendment would forgo the opportunity to increase the public open space contribution rate and address the need for a significant amount of new and upgraded open space in the City of Yarra.
86. The Panel supported the amendment, with changes largely as advocated for by Council in response to the interim panel report. Officers recommend adopting the amendment with the minor changes outlined in this report and reflected in the attachments to this report.

Community and stakeholder engagement

87. The wider community and submitters were notified during the exhibition of the amendment and the two hearing processes. (See **Attachment Seven** for details of the exhibition process).
88. Submitters have also been notified of the release of the Final Panel Report and have been advised of this report.
89. Given the length of time between the close of submissions and reconvening of the Panel hearing, some submitter details had changed. Officers at Council and at Planning Panels Victoria endeavoured to contact all submitters or their representatives through multiple emails and phone calls.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

90. Amendment C286yara supports the following themes in the Yarra 2036 Community Vision – Shared Spaces and Growing Sustainably:
- (a) Priority 7.1 - All our shared spaces are made physically accessible and welcoming to people of all abilities, linguistic, cultural backgrounds and age groups;
 - (b) Priority 7.3 - Create and innovate solutions to maximise the use of under or unused streets and spaces;
 - (c) Priority 7.4 - Increase availability and diversify use of open spaces to address existing shortages and respond to population growth; and

- (d) Priority 8.4 - Ensure that as we grow, community services and public spaces are adapted and created so that our unique lifestyle is maintained and continues to improve.

91. The amendment supports the following strategies in the Council Plan 2021-2025:

- (a) Strategic Objective 1: Climate and Environment – Yarra urgently mitigates climate change while also adapting to its impacts and developing resilience in everything we do. The community, business and industry are supported and encouraged to do the same; and
- (b) Strategic Objective 4 – Place and nature – ‘Yarra’s public places, streets and green open spaces bring our community together. They are planned to manage growth, protect our unique character and focus on people and nature.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

92. An expanded open space network would help achieve a number of sustainability actions in Council strategies:

- (a) Developing biodiversity corridors;
- (b) Creating opportunities for sustainable water management (e.g. through passive irrigation and stormwater harvesting); and
- (c) Reducing the urban heat island effect by creating more permeable surfaces.

Community and social implications

93. The Panel recognised the importance of the public open space contribution rate in meeting community needs resulting from increased development in the municipality.

94. Progressing Amendment C286yara would facilitate the delivery of more open space for the community, providing space to exercise and socialise.

Economic development implications

95. Progressing Amendment C286yara would ensure Yarra remains an attractive place to live and work by supporting the creation of new public open space and improvement of existing public open space.

96. The application of the public open space contribution rate to residential, commercial and industrial subdivisions would enable Council to provide for public open space demands in residential and employment areas, that would serve both the resident and worker populations.

Human rights and gender equality implications

97. The upgrade and improvement of the public open space network through the application of a new public open space contribution rate would support the Yarra community and enhance their quality of life and liveability of Yarra.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

98. An increase of the public open space contribution rate from 4.5 per cent and the inclusion of non-residential subdivisions in the rate is an important matter for Council, to assist in funding both the new and improved public open space provision in the municipality over the next 15 years. (Noting the projects in the Yarra Open Space Strategy would need to be funded from a mix of general rates revenue, grants and the public open space contribution rate).

99. The costs associated with the 2022 Panel process, including Panel fees, representation and other experts who provided evidence on behalf of Council were met by the 2022/23 budget. The majority of the costs associated with the preparation of the peer review were also paid in 2022/23.

100. Costs for this financial year will include further Panel, legal and statutory costs and are budgeted for in the 2023/24 Strategic Planning budget.
101. A statutory fee of \$516.80 is required for consideration by the Minister of a request to approve the amendment in accordance with section 35 of the Act.

Legal Implications

102. There are no known legal implications. The amendment is being progressed in accordance with the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
103. The amendment process has included two Independent Planning Panel hearings that have enabled submitters to be heard. Submitters have also been notified of Council meetings.

Conclusion

104. Council has received the Final Panel Report in relation to Amendment C286yara.
105. This is a significant step in finalising the amendment which has been underway since 2020 (with the request for authorisation to exhibit the amendment) and prior to that through the development of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020.
106. The Panel broadly supported the Amendment. It found that Amendment C286yara is well founded and strategically justified.
107. It supported a proposed rate of 8.65 per cent (for all subdivisions), considerably higher than Yarra's existing rate of 4.5 per cent for residential subdivisions.
108. Officers support all but one of the Panel's four recommendations, specifically around the deletion of Action 7.5B-4 - Fairfield Park from the YOSS.
109. The next step in the process, should Council resolve to adopt a final version of the amendment (with or without changes), is to request the Minister for Planning approve it.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
 - (a) notes the officer report regarding Amendment C286yara, officer recommendations and **Attachment One to Attachment Seven**;
 - (b) notes the public release of the Final Panel Report for Amendment C286yara under Section 26 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;
 - (c) having considered the Interim and Final Panel Reports, under section 27 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, adopts Amendment C286yara in accordance with section 29(1) of the Act with the changes set out in this report and at **Attachment Three, Attachment Four, Attachment Five and Attachment Six** to this report;
 - (d) delegates to the Chief Executive Officer authority to finalise Amendment C286yara in accordance with Council's resolution (1)(c), and to make any administrative or formatting changes to the Amendment C286yara documentation and maps required to give effect to Council's resolution;
 - (e) submits Amendment C286yara to the Minister for Planning and requests she approves the amendment adopted under resolution (1)(c) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987; and
 - (f) notifies all submitters of this Council resolution.

Attachments

- 1** [↓](#) Attachment 1 - C286yara - Final Panel Report (Includes Interim Report)
- 2** [↓](#) Attachment 2 - C286yara - Summary of key steps and dates
- 3** [↓](#) Attachment 3 - C286yara - Schedule to Clause 53.01 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision
- 4** [↓](#) Attachment 4 - C286yara - Clause 19.02-6L-01 Open Space Contribution
- 5** [↓](#) Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)
- 6** [↓](#) Attachment 6 - C286yara - Amendment Documents (Explanatory Report and Instruction Sheet)
- 7** [↓](#) Attachment 7 - C286yara - Summary of exhibition

**Planning
Panels
Victoria**

**Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara
Open Space Contributions**

Final Panel Report

Planning and Environment Act 1987

4 March 2024



How will this report be used?

This is a brief description of how this report will be used for the benefit of people unfamiliar with the planning system. If you have concerns about a specific issue you should seek independent advice.

The planning authority must consider this report before deciding whether or not to adopt the Amendment.

[section 27(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the PE Act)]

For the Amendment to proceed, it must be adopted by the planning authority and then sent to the Minister for Planning for approval.

The planning authority is not obliged to follow the recommendations of the Panel, but it must give its reasons if it does not follow the recommendations. [section 31 (1) of the PE Act, and section 9 of the *Planning and Environment Regulations 2015*]

If approved by the Minister for Planning a formal change will be made to the planning scheme. Notice of approval of the Amendment will be published in the Government Gazette. [section 37 of the PE Act]

Planning Panels Victoria acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung People as the traditional custodians of the land on which our office is located. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Final Panel Report pursuant to section 25 of the PE Act

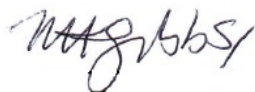
Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yarayara

Open Space Contributions

4 March 2024



Rodger Eade, Chair



Dr Meredith Gibbs, Member



John Hartigan, Member

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Glossary and abbreviations

CIV	Capital Improved Value
Council	Yarra City Council
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (former)
DTP	Department of Transport and Planning
existing population/s	The existing resident and worker populations that were present in Yarra at 2016 and are forecast to remain in Yarra at 2031
Interim Report	The Panel's Interim Report dated 14 April 2022 as corrected by the Correction Report dated 16 May 2022
multiple	The ratio of the new population as a proportion of total population divided by the project cost apportioned to new populations as a proportion of total project cost
new population/s	The projected resident and worker populations forecast to move to or come to work in Yarra between 2016 and 2031
PE Act	<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>
Planning Scheme or Scheme	Yarra Planning Scheme
POPC	Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs
PPP group	The group of submitters listed in Appendix B represented by Paul Chiappi of Counsel instructed by Planning and Property Partners
YOSS	<i>Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020</i> , Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd

Overview

Amendment summary	
The Amendment	Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara
Common name	Open Space Contributions
Brief description	To implement the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 by increasing the contribution for open space in the Schedule to Clause 53.0
Subject land	All residential, commercial and industrial land in the City of Yarra
The Proponent	Yarra City Council
Planning Authority	Yarra City Council
Authorisation	18 June 2021
Exhibition	7 September to 5 October 2021
Submissions	Number of Submissions to the exhibited Amendment: 72, including four late submissions. Of these 43 opposed and 27 supported the Amendment. The position of the remaining two submissions is unknown. Fifteen submitters initially requested to be heard at the reconvened Hearing in February 2024. This was subsequently reduced to nine.

Panel process	
The Panel	Rodger Eade (Chair), Meredith Gibbs and John Hartigan
Supported by	Amy Selvaraj for reconvened Hearing
Directions Hearing	By video conference 10 November 2021 and 7 December 2023
Panel Hearings	By video conference, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14 15 and 17 December 2021 and 9, 10 and 23 February 2022. Reconvened Hearings - in person 5 and 7 February and by video conference on 9 February 2024
Site inspections	No site inspection was required
Parties to the Hearing	See Appendix B
Citation	Yarra PSA C286yara [2024] PPV
Date of Interim Report	14 April 2022
Date of Corrected Interim Report	16 May 2022
Date of Final Report	4 March 2024

Executive summary

Population forecasts for the Yarra City Council identify that there will be an additional 77,000 new residents and workers in Yarra, generating the need for a significant amount of new and upgraded open space. In response Council has sought to update its existing Open Space Strategy prepared in 2006 through the development of the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* (YOSS) which proposes 26 new open space projects and the upgrade or expansion of existing open spaces to meet this demand to be funded, in part, by public open space contributions from the subdivision of land.

Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara (the Amendment) as exhibited sought to implement the YOSS by increasing the public open space contribution rate in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision from the current 4.5 per cent to 10.1 per cent. It proposed to do this by making the following changes to the Yarra Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme or Scheme):

- amending the Schedule to Clause 53.01 to require that all subdivision provides a public open space contribution at a rate of 10.1 per cent
- replacing Clause 22.12 Public Open Space Contribution with a new Clause 22.12
- amending the Schedule to Clause 72.08 Background Documents to include the following documents:
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd.

There were 72 submissions to the exhibited Amendment, with 43 opposed, and 27 supporting the Amendment. The position of the remaining two submissions is unknown.

The key focus of those opposed to the Amendment was that an increase in the open space contribution rate to 10.1 per cent is excessive. The increase was opposed because:

- some identified open space projects proposed were not needed
- the cost of both the land and capital components of the costs of open space projects was excessive
- the apportionment of total project costs between existing and new users of open space was inappropriate
- there were no transitional provisions for projects part way through their approval processes
- there would be a detrimental impact on housing affordability.

The strategy and its strategic underpinnings were not significantly challenged.

The Panel considered the submissions and evidence in Hearings in December 2021 and February 2022. The Panel's assessment is included in the Panel's Interim Report dated 14 April 2022 as corrected by the Correction report (Interim Report) is at Appendix D. In the Interim Report the Panel concluded:

- The *Yarra Open Space Strategy, 2020*, is strategically justified and is a sound and appropriate strategy.

- There is a clearly established need for the existing open space contribution rate to be increased as a matter of some urgency.
- The open space projects proposed to meet identified needs are with a minor exception, supported.
- The proposal by Yarra City Council (Council) to add 30 per cent (adjusted down to 20 per cent during the Hearing) to Capital Improved Value of land to be acquired for new open space is not supported by the Panel which regards 10 per cent as appropriate.
- The amount of the total costs apportioned to new residents and workers¹ has not been adequately justified and should be subject to peer review before Amendment C286 can be finalised.
- The Hearing for Amendment C286yara be adjourned pending the completion of this further work.

Amongst its recommendations were that:

- A new planning scheme amendment be prepared seeking an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent.
- A peer review of the apportionment of costs of open space projects between existing and new populations be commissioned.

Council implemented each of those recommendations and in October 2023 wrote to Planning Panels Victoria requesting that the Panel be reconvened to consider a revised open space contribution rate of 8.67 per cent, subsequently revised to 8.65 per cent.

The Panel wrote to the initial submitters to determine which of them wished to be heard by the Panel at a reconvened Hearing. Three submitters including one group of 13 (the PPP group) indicated that they wished to be heard. Two submitters subsequently advised the Panel that they no longer wished to be heard and the PPP group of submitters was subsequently reduced to nine.

The broad thrust of the submission and evidence of the PPP group was that the peer review had failed to validate the apportionment of costs between new and existing populations and consequently the open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent recommended by the Panel in its Interim Report should be applied.

As a result of a reconvened Hearing held over three days on 5,7 and 9 February to hear submissions and evidence from Council and the PPP group of submitters, the Panel draws the following broad conclusions:

- The apportionment of project costs between existing and new users could not be replicated by the peer reviewer.
- An alternative approach to justifying the proposed apportionment of costs is acceptable to the Panel.
- A comparison of the ratio of the percentage of project cost apportioned to the new populations, divided by the new populations' share of the total populations, termed a multiple, is a useful indicator for comparing apportionment outcomes across comparator municipalities.
- The context for consideration of the Amendment has changed significantly in the almost two years between the Interim Report and the reconvened Hearing.

¹ For definition see glossary and abbreviations

- An open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent compares acceptably with recent outcomes in other municipalities.
- The urban form and open space context in Yarra contribute to the justification for the proposed open space contribution rate.
- Considering all the factors listed above, in combination, an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent is justified.
- The Panel's initial recommendation with respect to Clause 22.12 is now redundant because of the approval of Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C269yara which incorporated much of the previous Clause 22.12 into a new Clause 19.02.
- Panel's initial recommendation regarding a ten per cent allowance to CIV in calculating the cost of land to be acquired is also redundant as it has been incorporated into the recommended open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent.

The Panel's recommendations in the Interim Report relating to Clause 53.01 exemptions for specific sites with different contribution rates, Clause 72.08 Background Documents, and YOSS Action 7.5B-4 have been carried forward into the Panel's Final Report.

Recommendations

Based on the reasons set out in this Report and the Panel's Interim report, the Panel recommends that Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara be adopted as exhibited subject to the following:

- 1. Amend the Schedule to Clause 53.01 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision to apply an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent and to include the specific location alternative contribution rates set out in the Schedule at Appendix D of the Interim Report.**
- 2. Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 Background Documents to insert the following documents into the table at Clause 1.0:**
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd (Technical Report).
- 3. Delete Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020*, the *Yarra Open Space Strategy Technical Report 2020*, and from Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs.**
- 4. Amend Clause 19.02-6L-01 Public open space contribution to replace the first policy guideline's first sub dot point with:**
 - *Should be of a shape and size that will be adequate for the proposed use and its position in the public open space hierarchy, having regard to the nature of the public open space in an inner-city environment, or be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land with these attributes.*

1 Introduction

1.1 The Amendment

(i) Amendment description

The purpose of the exhibited Amendment is to increase the public open space contribution rate in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 from 4.5 per cent to 10.1 per cent to collect funds to support the implementation of the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020*. Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd (YOSS).

Specifically, the Amendment proposes to:

- amend the Clause 53.01 Schedule to require subdivisions to provide a public open space contribution at a rate of 10.1 per cent of the total land area
- replace Clause 22.12 Public Open Space Contribution with a new Clause 22.12
- amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 to insert the following documents into the table at Clause 1.0:
 - YOSS
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd.

Yarra City Council (Council) when requesting the Panel be reconvened proposed that the Open Space contribution rate be reduced 8.67 per cent, and subsequently revised the rate down further to 8.65 per cent.

(ii) The subject land

The Amendment applies to all residential, industrial and commercial land in the municipality. Council is the planning authority for the Amendment.

1.2 Background

Open space planning in Yarra is currently undertaken under the guidance of the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2006*. Since the time of adoption of that strategy, Yarra has continued to develop and at a faster pace than was forecast. Growth is forecast to continue over the period to 2031, the planning horizon for the new open space strategy, the YOSS.

The forecast development over the next 15 years is significant with a 40 per cent increase in the resident population and a 47 per cent increase in the worker population visiting and using open space, thereby increasing demand on existing space and facilities. The extent of forecast growth changes across different parts of the municipality. Less than 10 per cent growth is forecast in Princes Hill-Carlton North, compared to 106 per cent in Cremorne-Richmond South-Burnley and 214 per cent in Fairfield-Alphington.

Over 85 per cent of Yarra's population lives in medium and high-density dwellings compared to 33 per cent in Greater Melbourne. This means that residents have less private open space available which increases their reliance on public open space. Typically, this adds to the amount of people using public open space and increases the diversity of reasons why they use it.

Many of the areas in Yarra that are forecast to change are the former industrial and manufacturing areas which historically did not have public open space. These areas are being redeveloped to become mixed use precincts with a combination of residential, commercial and business use. This

is introducing increased building heights and a change to a predominantly office-based professional workforce. Surveys undertaken as part of the development of the YOSS found that 60 per cent of workers visit public open space during the day at least once a week. With increased numbers of people working and living in the former industrial precincts there is a need to provide new areas of public open space in these areas.

The chronology for the preparation of this Amendment is set out in Table 1.

Table 1 Chronology of events

Date	Event / Description
April 2003	Council commissioned Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd and Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd to prepare the 2006 Strategy
19 December 2006	Council adopted 2006 Strategy
12 June 2008	Amendment C87 was gazetted, implementing the recommendations of the 2006 Strategy
February – March 2018	Consultation undertaken to inform the YOSS
20 January – 15 March 2020	Consultation undertaken on the Draft 2019 YOSS
July 2020	YOSS finalised
1 September 2020	Council adopted the YOSS
15 September 2020	Council resolved to request the Minister for Planning for authorisation to prepare the Amendment
December 2020	Council submitted a request for authorisation to prepare the Amendment to the Minister for Planning
18 June 2021	Council received authorisation to prepare the Amendment from the Minister subject to conditions
20 July 2021	Council resolved to make changes to the Amendment to satisfy the conditions of authorisation and give notice of the Amendment
7 September 2021	Public exhibition of the Amendment commenced
5 October 2021	Public exhibition of the Amendment ended
19 October 2021	Council resolved to refer all submissions to a Planning Panel
26 October 2021	Planning Panel convened in respect of the Amendment
10 November 2021	Directions Hearing held in respect of the Amendment
6 December 2021	Public Hearing commenced
14 April 2022	Interim Report submitted to Council (<i>Note: a Correction Report was subsequently issued on 16 May 2022. All references to the Interim Report are to the Interim Report as corrected by the Correction Report</i>)
11 October 2023	Letter from Maddocks lawyers for Council requesting that the Panel hearing be reconvened
7 December 2023	Further Directions Hearing held
5 February 2024	Reconvened Panel Hearing commenced

Source: Council Part A submission, Attachment A (part)

1.3 Yarra Open Space Strategy

The contents and methodology of the YOSS are described in the Interim Report (included in Appendix D of the Interim Report) and are not repeated here.

1.4 The Panel's Interim Report

In the Interim Report the Panel concluded:

- The *Yarra Open Space Strategy, 2020*, is strategically justified and is a sound and appropriate strategy.
- There is a clearly established need for the existing open space contribution rate to be increased as a matter of some urgency.
- The open space projects proposed to meet identified needs are with a minor exception, supported.
- The proposal by Council to add 30 per cent (adjusted down to 20 per cent during the Hearing) to Capital Improved Value of land to be acquired for new open space is not supported by the Panel which regards 10 per cent as appropriate.
- The amount of the total costs apportioned to new residents and workers has not been adequately justified and should be subject to peer review before Amendment C286 can be finalised.
- The Hearing for Amendment C286 be adjourned pending the completion of this further work.
- While this further work recommended by the Panel is being undertaken, Yarra City Council should seek approval from the Minister for Planning for an interim increase in the open space contribution rate to 7.4 per cent. This would occur via the preparation of a new Planning Scheme Amendment.

In the Interim Report, the Panel recommended that Council:

1. Prepare and seek Ministerial approval under the Planning and Environment Act 1987, for a new Planning Scheme Amendment which:
 - a) includes an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent in the Schedule to Clause 53.01.
 - b) includes exemptions in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 as set out in the version of the Schedule at Appendix D.
 - c) amends the Schedule to Clause 72.08 to insert the following documents into the table at Clause 1.0:
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd (Technical Report).
 - d) deletes Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020*, the *Yarra OpenSpace Strategy Technical Report 2020*, and from Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs.
 - e) replaces the exhibited Clause 22.12 with the version at Appendix E.
2. Commission a peer review of the apportionment of total open space Action costs between existing and new resident and worker users of open space.
3. Replace the 30 per cent allowance added to Capital Improved Value of land with 10 per cent, in calculating the cost of land to be acquired.

The Panel’s initial recommendation with respect to Clause 22.12 is now redundant because of the approval of Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C269yara which incorporated much of the previous Clause 22.12 into a new Clause 19.02.

1.5 Council actions

The summary of Council actions since receiving the Interim Report is set out in Table 2.

Table 2 Summary of Council actions since receiving the Interim Report

Date	Event / Description
31 May 2022	Council considered the Interim Report and resolved to pursue a new planning scheme amendment proposing the open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent for all subdivisions, and seek the approval of the Minister for Planning via a s20(4) provision under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (PE Act), and as a separate exercise, undertake a peer review of the apportionment methodology used in Amendment C286yara, and then determine if it wishes to have the Planning Panel reconvened to finally determine that Amendment, with a view of possibly seeking a higher rate than 7.4 per cent
2022	Amendment C306yara prepared as recommended by the Panel and submitted to the Minister for Planning for approval under s20(4) of the PE Act
2022	Peer review of the Open Space Contributions methodology commissioned from Mr Rob Panozzo, ASR Research.
2 August 2023	Final Report of the peer review by Mr Panozzo received
12 September 2023	Council resolved to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - request Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) reconvene the Amendment C286yara Planning Panel hearing - refer the Amendment C286yara Open Space Project Cost Apportionment Final Report (dated 2 August 2023) prepared by Robert Panozzo to the reconvened Amendment C286yara Planning Panel for consideration - adopt the use of the 10 per cent margin above Capital Improved Value (CIV) as recommended in the Interim Panel Report, and a consequential public open space contribution rate of 8.67 per cent. Council subsequently decided not to refer the Panozzo Report.
11 October 2023	PPV received letter from Council in line with the Council resolution of 12 September 2023.

1.6 Procedural issues

In the letter providing notification to submitters for this reconvened Hearing the Panel stated:

At the reconvened Hearing, the Panel will only consider the approach to the apportionment of costs of proposed open space projects between existing and new residents and workers, as the basis for the revised open space contribution rate of 8.67 per cent. No other issues considered in the Interim Report will be re-prosecuted and no new issues will be considered by the Panel.

At the Directions Hearing, Council indicated that it would provide the Panel and parties to the Hearing with copies of correspondence between it and the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) (previously the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)) and the Minister for Planning on the response to the Interim Report. It subsequently did so in response to a Panel Direction. The Panel has read and noted that correspondence and indicated at the Hearing that the Panel intended to provide no comment on this correspondence other than to note that the Panel considered that the wording of its Interim Report recommendations were clear.

1.7 The Panel's approach

The Panel has assessed the Amendment against the principles of net community benefit and sustainable development, as set out in Clause 71.02-3 (Integrated decision making) of the Planning Scheme.

In its Interim Report the Panel considered all written submissions made in response to the exhibition of the Amendment, and submissions, evidence and other material presented to it during the Hearing. The Panel's Interim Report is appended (Appendix D). The Panel has reviewed a large volume of material and has had to be selective in referring to the more relevant or determinative material in the Report. All submissions and materials have been considered by the Panel in reaching its conclusions, regardless of whether they are specifically mentioned in the Report. In this Final Report it considered submissions and evidence provided at the reconvened Hearing.

The Final Report deals with the issues under the following headings:

- Context for determining an open space contribution rate
- Strategic justification for a higher open space contribution rate
- Clause 19.02-6L policy guideline.

2 Context for determining an open space contribution rate

2.1 Planning context

The planning context for the Amendment was addressed in Chapter 2 of the Panel's Interim Report and is not repeated here.

2.2 Strategic justification

In the Interim Report the Panel concluded (Chapter 2.5):

The Amendment is well founded and strategically justified, and the Amendment should proceed subject to addressing the more specific issues raised in submissions as discussed in the following Chapters.

Among the issues addressed in the following chapters of the Interim Report were the methodology used to determine the open space contribution rate and the Council proposed contribution rate. The Panel was broadly satisfied that the methodology was appropriate except for the approach used to apportion open space project costs between existing resident and worker populations and the new populations which would move into the area within the time horizon of the Amendment. Consequently, the Panel did not support the proposed contribution rate (10.1 per cent adjusted down to 9.35 per cent by the end of the original Hearing).

The strategic justification for an open space contribution rate and its quantum are the subject of this Report.

2.3 Context for the Panel's considerations

Issues addressed in this Report are of necessity set in the context of the discussion, conclusions and recommendations made in the Interim Report. In particular, the Panel wishes to set out the following key points from the Interim Report as the basis of, and starting point for, its deliberations in its Final Report:

- the YOSS is strategically justified (Chapter 3.2(iv))²
- the time horizon for the YOSS is appropriate (implied in Chapter 3.2(iv))
- except for project 7.5B-4 in Fairfield, the YOSS projects to be funded are appropriate (Chapter 3.2(iv))
- the inclusion of both resident and worker populations is appropriate (Chapter 3.3(iv))
- the application of a flat municipal wide rate applying to all residential and non-residential subdivision is appropriate (Chapter 5.2(iv))
- the qualitative approach to apportioning costs between existing and new populations is appropriate (Chapter 4.3(iv))
- it is not appropriate to simply apply the new population percentage in the apportionment exercise (Chapter 4.3(iii))
- the eight variables used in determining the apportionment of costs between existing and new populations are appropriate (Chapter 4.3(iv))

² References in brackets are to the Interim Report

- Ms Thompson’s apportionment methodology requires a level of professional judgement (Chapter 4.3(iii))
- Ms Thompson’s professional expertise in open space planning was not challenged and was accepted by the Panel (Chapter 4.3(iii))
- an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent based on the methodology used in the exhibited Amendment is strategically justified (Chapter 8.2 and 8.4)
- the Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs (POPC) was made available to the Panel and submitters (Document 6 in Interim Report).

Further, the Panel notes:

- there is no single generally accepted or used methodology for developing an open space contribution rate
- there is currently no specific guidance on a preferred methodology
- the cost apportionment method used in this Amendment has also been used and accepted by panels in other recent planning scheme amendments and in some instances based on the analysis prepared by the same consultants. See for example, Melbourne C209melb, Monash C169mona and Glen Eira C218glen. Based on the panel reports in those cases, the cost apportionment approach did not receive the same level of detailed scrutiny as in this Amendment
- different methodologies for calculating need or demand are not unusual in planning assessment. For example, retail economists often use slightly different methodologies to assess future demand for retail floorspace. These approaches are generally broadly comparable. The Panel is not aware of any other type of assessment that generates such divergent approaches and expert opinions as the different methodologies used to calculate open space contributions rates.

2.4 Process since Interim Report was submitted and the peer review undertaken

(i) The issue

The issue is whether the Council has undertaken an appropriate process following the recommendations of the Interim Report.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

In summary, the two key relevant recommendations in the Interim Report were:

- Council commission a peer review of the methodology used to apportion open space project costs between existing and new users in the exhibited Amendment.
- Council prepare a new Amendment to introduce an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent into Clause 53.01 of the Planning Scheme.

Council submitted that it had followed the Panel’s recommendations.

Peer review

Council accepted that the peer review concluded that the methodology used in the cost apportionment in the exhibited Amendment could not be replicated by the peer reviewer. Council submitted this was not fatal to its case for a higher rate of 8.65 per cent because:

- the fact that Mr Panozzo was unable to replicate Ms Thompson’s project-by-project apportionments does not lead to the conclusion that Ms Thompson’s apportionments were “*wrong, inappropriate or illegitimate*”, but rather that the professional judgements of Ms Thompson applying a methodology that the Panel has accepted as appropriate are to be relied on
- the Panel’s concern in the Interim Report about the potential allocation of one higher percentage decile than might have been justified in the cost apportionment allocations for some projects was ‘at the margins’, and there is a basic alignment between Ms Thompson’s project descriptions and the cost apportionment between new and existing populations
- the circumstances surrounding the original Hearing and Interim Report have changed.

The peer review developed yet a further methodology to apportion costs between existing and new populations which generated an open space contribution rate of 9.4 per cent. Council did not rely on either this alternative methodology or the open space rate it generated. In his expert evidence, Mr Shipp gave three reasons for rejecting the alternative approach.

Mr Shipp’s evidence, consistent with his evidence in the original Hearing, was that the lack of a quantitative basis for Ms Thompson’s apportionments between new and existing populations³ brings into question the equity of the cost apportionment outcome and the final rate. When questioned, Mr Shipp continued to express concern about the lack of replicability of the application of Ms Thompson’s apportionment methodology.

The group of nine submitters represented by Mr Chiappi and Planning and Property Partners and listed in Appendix B (PPP group) submitted:

- the outcome of the peer review was that Ms Thompson’s apportionments have not been, and are not capable of, validation
- Mr Panozzo’s alternative method (and its outcome) should be put to one side
- the concerns of the Panel that led it to recommend a peer review have not been answered and, in this context, there are no relevant changed circumstances that support an increased rate of 8.65 per cent.

Preparation of Amendment C306yara and re-convening of the Hearing

Council prepared Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C306yara in 2022 to introduce an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per. This was refused by the Minister on 27 November 2023.

Council requested that the Panel be re-convened and sought support for an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent which is based on:

- the original project-by-project cost apportionments undertaken by Ms Thompson (as exhibited)
- replacing the 30 per cent allowance added to Capital Improved Value of land with a 10 per cent allowance, in calculating the cost of land to be acquired (in accordance with the Panel’s recommendation in the Interim Report)
- deleting Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the POPC (in accordance with the Panel’s recommendation in the Interim Report).

That Council had implemented the Panel’s recommendations was not contested at the Hearing.

³ Existing populations are resident and workers populations present in Yarra in 2016 and are forecast to remain in Yarra in 2031. New populations are the resident and worker populations forecast to move to or come to work in Yarra between 2016 and 2031.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel accepts that Council followed the recommendations made in its Interim Report.

It notes the conclusions of the peer review and, in particular, that the reviewer was unable to replicate the project-by-project cost apportionments that underpinned the exhibited Amendment. As a result, the project-by-project cost apportionments have not been validated or verified. If the cost apportionment that underpins the proposed rate is to be strategically justified, that justification must be found elsewhere. In this context, the Panel purposively uses the term 'justify', rather than 'validate' or 'verify', in the following discussion.

The Panel disagrees with Mr Shipp's contention that because the application of the Thompson methodology in this instance could not be replicated, the cost apportionment outcome and the resulting rate was not equitable. There are many factors that contribute to a conclusion that an outcome is equitable, and replicability of the method is only one factor. The Panel accepts that a qualitative methodology, particularly one as nuanced as Ms Thompson's approach with its eight variables and decile percentage cost allocations, will be difficult to replicate exactly. A methodology with less granularity may well be easier to replicate, but the Panel agrees with Council that a less granular approach may itself be criticised for not being nuanced enough to capture all situations. The Panel also notes that although the application of the Thompson methodology was not able to be replicated in the peer review, it is not satisfied that the method could never be replicated. There was simply not enough evidence before the Panel to reach such a conclusion.

The Panel relies on the fact that its original concern was that some apportionments may have been allocated a higher percentage decile than was justified, for example, a 10/90 (existing/new population) apportionment might have been better as a 20/80 apportionment. The Panel agrees with Council that there is a basic alignment of the project descriptions and the cost apportionment and notes that some descriptions could have been better expressed and more detail provided on the weightings given to each of the eight factors to provide a higher degree of transparency. The Panel notes that while it was taken by submitters opposing the Amendment to examples where cost apportionment to the new population was potentially high, the Panel has not assessed whether there might be some projects where this apportionment may have been low (one would not expect opposing submitters to bring such examples to the Panel's attention).

For these reasons, the Panel considers that the fact that the peer reviewer was unable to replicate the project-by-project apportionment is not fatal to the Council's case to have a higher rate than that recommended in the Interim Report. However, the justification for any higher rate cannot rest on the project-by-project apportionment undertaken by Ms Thompson. The Panel considers the submissions on whether there are changed circumstances that justify the higher rates sought by Council in Chapter 3.4.

The Panel notes that Council does not rely on the alternative cost apportionment method developed in the peer review report. The Panel considers this appropriate given that it has not been tested through any process and could not be tested in this process without further notification and submissions.

The Panel does not comment on either the content of Amendment C306yara, the process followed in developing it or the Minister's refusal of it in November 2023.

The Panel also notes that the method Council has used to re-calculate the proposed open space contribution rate has taken into account the Panel's recommendations with respect to the use of a 10 per cent allowance on CIV and the deletion of Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- Council followed the Panel's recommendations in the Interim Report.
- The apportionment of costs between existing and new populations using the approach in the exhibited Amendment was not able to be replicated by the peer reviewer.
- The strategic justification of the proposed rate of 8.65 per cent cannot rest on the project-by-project apportionment undertaken by Ms Thompson.

3 Strategic justification for a higher open space contribution rate

3.1 Strategic justification of an open space contribution rate

Because the project-by-project apportionment outcomes could not be validated by peer review (refer Chapter 2), the Panel is faced with the following interrelated questions:

- can the overall cost apportionment outcome be justified another way?
- can the open space contribution rate otherwise be justified?

In the following sections of this Chapter, based on the conclusions and context from Chapter 2, the Panel addresses these two questions.

The Panel reiterates that there is no prescribed approach to determining an appropriate open space contribution rate. Given this, and because this Panel and some previous panels have accepted the approach to cost apportionment used in the exhibited Amendment, the Panel considers it appropriate to examine alternative approaches to justify the cost apportionment outcome that underpins the Amendment and the proposed open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent.

3.2 Alternative justification for the cost apportionment outcome: the 'multiple'

In his expert evidence, Mr Hrelja proposed that one way to analyse the cost apportionment outcome in Yarra is to use the ratio of the new population as a proportion of total population, divided by the project cost apportioned to new populations as a proportion of total project cost. He termed this ratio a 'multiple'.

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the 'multiple' approach proposed by Mr Hrelja is appropriate to use
- what are the appropriate comparator municipalities?
- whether the multiple approach justifies the cost apportionment proposed in the Amendment.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

In the absence of verified project-by-project cost apportionments, Council referred to the 'multiple' developed by Mr Alex Hrelja, an expert in development and open space contributions, for the following purpose:

as a comparator to identify at a global level whether the outcome of the apportionment exercise which underpins the Amendment is fair and equitable by reference to the apportionment outcomes which underpin approved rates in other schemes.

Mr Hrelja calculated the multiple for ten of the most recent open space contribution rates struck at or above 5 per cent in metropolitan Melbourne.⁴ These are reproduced in Table 3.

⁴ Not calculated for Merri-bek due to insufficient data.

Table 3 Comparison of 'Multiples' across municipalities

Method/Case	New population share of total population	Cost apportioned to new population / cost recovery	Multiple
Apportionment method			
Monash	18.2%	48.9%	2.68
Glen Eira	14.3%	58.6%	4.10
Greater Dandenong (Residential rate)	14.1%	31.9%	2.26
Maribyrnong	29.3%	73.3%	2.50
Melbourne (High growth and remaining areas)	40.5%	59.3%	1.47
Moonee Valley	5.6%	31.6%	5.68
Average	20.3%	50.6%	3.12
Median	16.3%	53.8%	2.59
Cost recovery method			
Frankston (Frankston Major Activity Centre and all other areas)	15.2%	92.7%	6.08
Kingston (Activity centres and other areas)	15.8%	85.9%	5.45
Manningham (Incremental change and substantial change)	16.3%	85.2%	5.22
Stonnington	18.7%	60.2%	3.21
Average	16.5%	81.0%	4.99
Median	16.0%	85.5%	5.33
Both methods combined			
Average	18.8%	62.8%	3.86
Median	16.0%	59.8%	3.66
Yarra			
Yarra (for proposed 8.65% rate)	29.2%	67.1%	2.30
Yarra (for 7.4% rate from the Interim Report)	29.2%	57.1%	1.96

Source: Expert evidence of Mr Hrelja, Tables 4 and 6

Mr Hrelja concluded:

This quantitative assessment shows that the outcome of the apportionment process used by the author of the Yarra open space contributions report is consistent with the apportionment outcomes of other approved schemes that use a similar methodology.

Further, the outcome in Yarra is more conservative in terms of apportioning costs of planned open space investments to new population in almost all of the cases I reviewed.

The 8.65% open space contribution rate option for Yarra (cost apportionment multiple of 2.3) is the best fit of options when benchmarked to other apportionment schemes shown in this statement (average multiple of 3.9).

Council submitted:

- the multiple is a tool that allows the Panel to understand where the proposed 8.65 per cent rate sits in the collection of approved rates. It was also described as ‘a helpful rule of thumb’
 - the multiple was not put forward to verify the apportionment exercise by Ms Thompson or as an alternative form of peer review
 - it is appropriate to consider multiples derived from both the application of apportionment methods and cost recovery methods
 - the arrangements for the provision of open space in the municipality of Melbourne (including the contribution rate and the multiple) are unique in Victoria, and not a direct comparison for other municipalities, even other inner-city municipalities such as Yarra because:
 - a) Melbourne hosts many large areas of public open space of State and national significance
 - b) its worker and visitor populations far outstrip its resident population, so the profile of use of open space differs
 - c) the strategic settlement pattern for Melbourne is materially different from other municipalities by virtue of the CBD (and other Capital City zone areas), expansive urban renewal areas and highly intact, heritage protected stable residential areas, so the delineation of high growth areas and low growth areas (and associated demand for additional open space for new populations) is more stark than in other municipalities
 - d) by contrast with Yarra, Melbourne contains significant urban renewal precincts such as Docklands which are exempt from contributions under Clause 53.01.
- Council also referred to the age of the open space strategy on which the Melbourne rate was based (2012).
- the more recent Monash, Glen Eira and Greater Dandenong examples provide a more timely and equivalent point of comparison.

Mr Shipp gave evidence for the PPP group stating:

... a proposed apportionment of cost of 67.1% to new development, which, when compared with the projected increase in population in the order of 30% and considered in the context of a strategy which primarily seeks to acquire land to address existing open space provision and access deficiencies, is unreasonably high in my view.

Mr Shipp rejected Mr Hrelja’s multiples approach and his conclusions because:

- using multiples to compare cost apportionment outcomes does not include consideration of whether projects are needed by existing or future developments
- the ‘implied apportionment’ from comparing multiples derived from cost recovery methods does not provide a suitable benchmark for the consideration of whether an assessment prepared using a deliberate cost apportionment approach (such as the Amendment) is appropriate
- a cost apportionment outcome depends on the particular open space strategy in question, and which vary from municipality to municipality. Therefore, cost apportionment outcomes in different municipalities are not directly comparable.

The PPP group submitted the multiple approach should not be relied on by the Panel because:

- the use of multiples derived from cost recovery apportionment is inappropriate due to the nature of the exercise used in the cost recovery method
- multiples derived from apportionment methods have no relevance as a guide to the appropriateness of an apportionment in particular cases because:
 - the range of multiples allow for significant variation which results in an imprecise test
 - the relevant question is whether the apportionments in the particular case in question are justified based on the specifics of that case
 - a similar multiple does not verify that individual apportionments were correct or appropriate and may obscure errors in individual apportionments
- the multiple has not been adopted by a known panel report or open space assessment, nor recommended in any practice note
- use of the multiple cannot address the shortcomings in Ms Thompson's apportionment identified by the Panel in its Interim Report.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel notes at the outset that there was no serious challenge to either Mr Hrelja's calculations or the data he relied on, and the Panel accepts these components of his evidence. The Panel considers that of the ten municipalities used for comparison, the Melbourne example should be put to one side for the reasons submitted by Council.

The Panel acknowledges a multiple has not been used in this context before and is not recognised in any guidance. However, the Panel notes that it is not unusual to use ratios such as this when comparing data sets.

The Panel does not consider it appropriate to use the multiple to validate or verify the project-by-project apportionment undertaken by Ms Thompson, or indeed the apportionment outcome, and has not done so. However, the Panel has found comparisons of the various multiples calculated by Mr Hrelja a useful tool as an indicator to assess the fairness and reasonableness of the cost apportionment outcome in Yarra compared with other municipalities. It accepts that this is not a precise test.

Comparison of the multiples demonstrates that the apportionment outcome in Yarra is not out of line with what has been accepted by panels and the Minister for Planning as appropriate and therefore presumably equitable in other municipalities. It also demonstrates that it is not unusual for the cost apportionment to new populations to deviate considerably from the proportion they comprise of the total population at the end of the planning period, a matter about which the Panel expressed surprise in its Interim Report.

The Panel reaches the above conclusions regardless of whether multiples derived from only apportionments based on cost apportionment methodologies are considered or whether multiples derived also from cost recovery methodologies, are used. The Panel notes that multiples derived from cost apportionments using cost recovery methodologies are significantly higher than those derived from cost apportionments using cost apportionment methodologies. Even confining the comparison to only multiples derived from apportionments using cost apportionment methodologies, the Yarra multiples of 1.96 and 2.3 sit comfortably within the range of what has been considered acceptable in other municipalities.

While not placing much weight on the multiples derived from the cost recovery-based municipalities, the Panel does not accept Mr Shipp's argument that they are not directly relevant. They represent the same ratio of variables regardless of the different method used and therefore provide some guidance.

In terms of preferring a final rate of 7.4 per cent or 8.65 per cent, the Panel considers that the multiple comparison better supports a rate of 8.65 per cent than 7.4 per cent because a multiple of 2.3 sits more comfortably in the group of comparator municipalities than a multiple of 1.96. Having put Melbourne to one side, a multiple of 1.96 would be the lowest in the group (refer to Table 3).

The Panel considers Maribyrnong to be a particularly good comparison because the expected growth in Maribyrnong is of a similar magnitude to that expected in Yarra, 29.3 per cent compared with 29.2 per cent. Having put Melbourne to one side, Maribyrnong and Yarra stand out in the group as big growth municipalities (refer Table 3). Maribyrnong's multiple is 2.5, which in the Panel's view further supports the higher rate of 8.65 per cent for Yarra.

Although the multiple supports a rate of 8.65 per cent as being fair and reasonable, the Panel considers that it would not be appropriate to rely solely on this indicator to justify it as the recommended open space contribution rate for Yarra.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- Comparison of multiples from other municipalities provides a useful indicator of whether a cost apportionment outcome is acceptable.
- Comparing the multiples derived from apportionments using cost apportionment methodologies demonstrates that the Yarra multiples of 1.96 and 2.3 are not out of line with what has been accepted as equitable in other municipalities.
- Maribyrnong provides a good comparison with Yarra because of similar urban form, population growth and a similar multiple.
- A multiple of 2.3 sits more comfortably than a multiple 1.96 within the range of multiples calculated for comparator municipalities with approved outcomes.
- It is not appropriate to rely solely on the multiple to justify a recommended open space contribution rate for Yarra.

3.3 Outcomes in other municipalities

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether comparing open space contribution rates in other municipalities is appropriate
- what are the appropriate comparator municipalities?

(ii) Background

The gazetted open space contribution rates and the year gazetted in the municipalities used by Mr Hrelja (excluding Melbourne) are set out in Table 4.

Table 4 Open Space contribution rates and years gazetted

Municipality	Approved Rates	Year of gazettal
Apportionment method		
Monash	7.61%	2023
Glen Eira	8.3%	2023
Greater Dandenong (Residential rate)	6.3%	2023
Maribyrnong	5.7%	2016
Merri-bek	Range from 2.5% to 6.8% depending on suburb (12 different rates)	2013
Moonee Valley	5%	2013
Cost recovery method		
Frankston (Frankston Major Activity Centre and all other areas)	8%*	2019
Kingston (Activity Centres and other areas)	8%*	2018
Manningham (incremental change and substantial change)	8%*	2018
Stonnington (high growth areas)	8%*	2015

* Lower rates for some other parts of the municipality

(iii) Evidence and submissions

Council submitted that it was ‘routine’ for panels considering open space amendments and contribution rates, as well for open space strategies and their authors, to have regard to comparative metrics across municipalities, including approved contribution rates. Council added that these comparators are not irrelevant simply because each municipality has a different open space strategy, projects and land values, and preferred methodologies for deriving contribution rates. Rather, they provide a useful tool to understand where a proposed contribution rate sits within the range of open space rates that have been considered fair and reasonable.

In terms of appropriate municipalities for comparison, Council submitted:

- the contribution rate in Melbourne is an outlier
- more recent (2023) examples in Monash (7.61 per cent), Glen Eira (8.3 per cent) and Greater Dandenong (6.3 per cent for residential subdivision and 2 per cent for industrial and commercial subdivision) provide a more timely and equivalent point of comparison.

It noted that each of Monash, Glen Eira and Greater Dandenong used a different methodology for calculating the cost to be apportioned to the new population with the Glen Eira rate being underpinned by the same cost apportionment methodology developed by the same consultants as used in the Amendment.

Mr Shipp gave evidence that each rate depended on the underlying open space strategy and its projects and therefore municipal comparisons could not provide justification for the proposed

Yarra rate. In cross examination he conceded that it is contextually relevant to compare outcomes in other municipalities.

The PPP group noted the Monash Planning Scheme Amendment C169mona Panel cautioned against relying on outcomes in other municipalities. The PPP group made submissions rejecting any direct comparison between the final rate in Yarra and Monash, Greater Dandenong or Glen Eira. It highlighted that two of the three rates, Monash and Greater Dandenong, are generally at or less than the rate of 7.4 per cent recommended in the Interim Report.

(iv) Discussion

The Panel agrees with Council's submissions that comparison of the final open space contribution rates approved in other municipalities is another useful tool to understand where a proposed contribution rate sits within the range of rates that by virtue of their approval have been considered fair and reasonable.

Looking first at the three rates approved in 2023, the Panel notes that they range from 6.3 per cent to 8.3 per cent. In the Panel's view, the fact that rates of this quantum have recently been accepted as fair and reasonable demonstrates that a rate of 8.65 per cent (and the lower 7.4 per cent) is not unreasonable. What is now proposed for Yarra is clearly not an order of magnitude higher than the rates accepted in other municipalities.

However, the Panel considers that these three examples do not provide direct comparisons for Yarra, or a stand-alone justification, for a rate of 8.65 per cent because:

- the three municipalities concerned do not have an urban form similar to Yarra
- the development pressures in Yarra are much higher than the three municipalities, evidenced by the much higher new population shares predicted for Yarra.

In Chapter 3.2, the Panel considered Maribyrnong to be a good comparator for the purposes of comparing cost apportionment outcomes. However, its final rate was 5.7 per cent, much lower than either 7.4 per cent or 8.65 per cent. The Panel considers the final rate for Maribyrnong is not directly comparable with Yarra because:

- the rate was based on works proposed (and costed) in 2015, noting the total value of approved projects for Maribyrnong was approximately \$301 million as compared to Yarra's \$569 million
- since that time the cost of projects has increased substantially and the community's expectations for open space have increased significantly, both of which would be likely to lead to a higher final rate if calculated today.

The Panel accepts that although the proposed rate of 8.65 per cent is not an order of magnitude higher than the rates approved for other municipalities, if accepted it would become the highest municipal rate to date. The Panel considers that the following factors set Yarra apart and justify a higher rate than other municipalities in the data set (excluding Melbourne, as discussed in Chapter 3.2, and Maribyrnong, discussed above):

- Yarra has much higher expected growth than other municipalities, as evidenced by new population as share of total population
- the high proportion of medium and high-density dwellings (with less private open space) in Yarra as compared to Greater Melbourne
- the historical urban form (former industrial and manufacturing areas which historically did not have public open space).

(v) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- Comparing open space contribution rates in other municipalities is appropriate as an indicator of what has been accepted by both panels and the Minister for Planning as fair and reasonable.
- The proposed rate of 8.65 per cent is not unreasonable and is not an order of magnitude higher than the rates accepted in other municipalities.
- The open space contribution rates struck for Monash, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong and Maribyrnong are not directly comparable to Yarra.
- The context in Yarra justifies a higher open space contribution rate than those approved in metropolitan Melbourne to date.

3.4 Proposed open space contribution rate

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether there are factors other than those discussed in Chapters 3.2 and 3.3 which should be taken into account
- whether an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent for Yarra can be strategically justified.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Council submitted that the context for consideration of the Amendment had changed in the two years since the Interim Report. The Council highlighted that the Panel made the following observations in its Interim Report:

- the open space contribution rate initially proposed by Yarra (10.1 per cent) was an order of magnitude higher than had been approved elsewhere
- the quantum of revenue to be collected through the open space contribution rate was such that validation of the cost apportionment methodology outcomes was appropriate.

In Council's submission and the evidence of Mr Hrelja:

- the proposed open space contribution rate is no longer an order of magnitude higher because rates of up to 8.3 per cent have been approved (Glen Eira, 2023)
- the amount of money to be collected from new populations (and existing populations from other revenue sources) in Yarra is no longer significantly higher than elsewhere, noting the total value of approved projects in Monash is approximately \$851 million and Glen Eira \$434 million as compared to Yarra's \$569 million
- given the share of new population in Yarra is projected to be substantially higher than in either Monash or Glen Eira, Council would collect about \$90 million less than Monash City Council, and about \$73 million more than Glen Eira City Council
- with respect to the Panel's surprise (in its Interim Report) that the apportionment to new population deviates significantly from the proportion of total population, Mr Hrelja's analysis shows that in every case (Council's emphasis), the apportionment of costs to new population deviates significantly from the proportion of total population; this deviation is the norm not the exception

- approval of Amendment C269yara clearly designates Yarra’s high growth areas. It illustrated, by way of an annotated map (Document 40), that many of the projects which have a high proportion of their cost apportioned to new populations are located in or adjacent to those high growth areas.

Council also referred to the fact that the Minister had accepted three “*very different methodological approaches*” as justifying approval of increased Clause 53.01 contribution rates, including Ms Thompson and Ms Kay’s approach used in Glen Eira.

Council submitted that in this changed context, a rate of 8.65 per cent is strategically justified.

Under cross examination, Mr Shipp conceded that a rate of 8.65 per cent is not an order of magnitude different to recently approved rates.

The PPP group submitted there are no relevant changed circumstances that support an increased rate of 8.65 per cent. The group further submitted that the other justifications put forward by Council fall well short of addressing the Panel’s concerns and, in this context, a rate of 8.65 per cent is not justified.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel agrees with Council’s submission that the Panel’s concerns identified in the Interim Report were made, cognisant of the context at the time, and that context is now changed. This was not seriously challenged at the Hearing, although the parties drew differing conclusions from the changed circumstances.

The Panel considers that it is relevant that the proposed open space contribution rate is no longer an order of magnitude higher (and has referred to this in Chapter 3.3) and that the quantum of revenue to be collected in Yarra is no longer the highest in metropolitan Melbourne. It is also relevant that the Minister for Planning approved three increased open space contribution rates of a similar magnitude in 2023. This provides an indication of what has been considered to be fair and reasonable in other municipalities and the evidence and submissions before the Panel has not, in the Panel’s view, demonstrated unequivocally that the proposed 8.65 per cent rate is *not* fair and reasonable.

The Panel notes that since the Interim Report, Amendment C269yara has been approved. It confirms the location of Yarra’s high growth areas.

Further, the Panel has found:

- Comparing the multiples derived from apportionments using cost apportionment methodologies demonstrates that:
 - the cost apportionment outcome that underpins the Amendment is not out of line with what has been accepted as strategically justified in other municipalities
 - the multiple for the proposed rate of 8.65 per cent sits most comfortably within the range of multiples calculated for comparator municipalities with approved outcomes
- The proposed rate of 8.65 per cent is not unreasonable or out of line with what has been approved in other municipalities.
- The growth, urban context and need which exists in Yarra justifies a higher open space contribution rate than those approved in metropolitan Melbourne to date.

Finally, in considering whether the Amendment is consistent with the objectives of planning, the Panel is of the view that a rate of 8.65 per cent meets the requirements of section 4 of the PE Act by:

- providing for the “*fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land*” (s4(1)(a))
- assisting to secure “*a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians*” (s4(1)(c))
- facilitating development in accordance with these objectives (s4(1)(f)).

While none of the factors discussed above, considered in isolation, is considered by the Panel to provide adequate justification for an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent, the Panel is of the view that in combination they provide adequate justification for the higher rate.

In this context, and in light of the Panel’s previous findings that the YOSS is strategically justified, a high population growth is forecast for Yarra and the YOSS demonstrates a very significant need for open space, the Panel considers that the combination of factors is sufficient to establish that an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent is strategically justified.

(iv) Conclusions and recommendation

The Panel concludes:

- The changed circumstances since the original Hearing and the Interim Report are relevant.
- An open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent is strategically justified.

The Panel recommends:

Amend Clause 53.01 public Open Space Contributions and Subdivision to apply an open space contribution rate of 8.65 per cent.

4 Clause 19.02-6L policy guideline

Clause 22.12-4 which was part of the exhibited Amendment documentation in 2021, under the heading of Policy Guidelines required to be considered as relevant under 'Land to be contributed', the first sub dot point read:

Should be of a shape and size that will be adequate for the proposed use, having regard to the nature of public open space in an inner-city environment or be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land with these attributes.

The Panel recommended version of that clause was:

Should be of a shape and size that will be adequate for the proposed **use and its position in the public open space hierarchy** having regard to the nature of **the** public open space **in an inner-city environment or** be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land with these attributes.

In the recommended version the word 'or' following the words 'in an inner city environment' was inadvertently deleted. This policy clause has subsequently been translated to Clause 19.02-6L-01 with the error also translated as part of the process undertaken through Amendment C269yara. This minor omission should be corrected as part of the process of approving this Amendment.

The Panel further notes that with the approval of C269yara its recommendation with respect to Clause 22.12 in the Interim Report is now redundant and is deleted from the Panel's final recommendations.

The Panel recommends:

Amend Clause 19.02-6L-01 Public open space contribution to replace the first policy guideline's first sub dot point with:

"Should be of a shape and size that will be adequate for the proposed use and its position in the public open space hierarchy, having regard to the nature of the public open space in an inner-city environment, or be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land with these attributes."

Appendix A Submitters to the Amendment

This is the list of submitters to the exhibited Amendment. Where there was a change in the ownership or changed corporate entities after the Panel's Interim Report the changed entity is included in brackets.

No.	Submitter	No.	Submitter
1	Alison Clarke	28	DPG Management P/L, Delpar Development Investments P/L (DPG Hawthorn Pty Ltd)
2	Nicole Eckersley	29	DJC Property Group
3	Roisin Murphy	30	Streets Alive Yarra Inc
4	James Hanlon	31	Lendlease Apartments Pty Ltd as trustee for the Lendlease RL Richmond No. 2 Trust
5	Angeline Sparks	32	Milieu Property Pty Ltd
6	Candyce Presland	33	UDIA
7	Amy Henson	34	Fortis
8	Sam York	35	Glenville Developments
9	Beth Anderson	36	Astrodome
10	Aimee Mensink	37	Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd
11	Liam Skoblar	38	Paul Cusmano
12	David Jorm	39	Outline JV Smith Pty Ltd
13	Joel Wells	40	Nijon Nominees Pty Ltd
14	Leneen Forde	41	Dare Property Group Pty Ltd (Napier Street Developments Pty Ltd)
15	Sam Bailey	42	Caydon Property Group Pty Ltd
16	Emmanuel Murphy	42(a)	Caydon Property supplementary submission
17	Katerina Nemcova	43	UEM Sunrise (Collingwood Development) Pty Ltd
18	Dr Malachy Feeney	44	Porta Investments Pty Ltd
19	Xavier O'Shannessy	45	Beulah International Holdings Pty Ltd
20	Oliver Ramsay	46	Salta Properties Pty Ltd
21	Daniel Inchincoli	47	Zero Nine
22	Shawn Ashkanasy	48	Goldfields Richmond Pty Ltd
23	City of Darebin	49	288 Johnston Street Abbotsford Pty Ltd
24	Duke Ventures Pty Ltd	50	Gurner TM
25	Alison Wirtz	51	Vicinity
26	Jane Brownrigg	52	LPC 10 Nominee Pty Ltd
27	Meredith Kefford	53	Fenwick 84 Pty Ltd

54	JCL Prime Development Pty Ltd	63	Housing Industry Association Inc
55	Assembly House Pty Ltd	64	Piccolo Investment Group Pty Ltd
56	Aheron Investments Pty Ltd	65	Consulting Surveyors Victoria
57	Salta Properties Pty Ltd	66	David Balding
58	Development Victoria	67	DCF Developing Group Pty Ltd
59	Eva Fabian	68	U-Home Oceania Pty Ltd
60	Alycia Ashcroft	69	The Marble House
61	Mary Keyser	70	Time and Place
62	ACC Smith Street Pty Ltd	71	Riverside Vic Pty Ltd (Riverlee)

Appendix B Parties to the reconvened Panel Hearing

Submitter (submission number)	Represented by
Yarra City Council	Susan Brennan SC assisted by Jordan Wright of Counsel instructed by Briana Eastaugh of Maddocks Lawyers who called expert evidence on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- apportionment of open space contribution costs from Alex Hrelja of HillPDA Consulting
Salta Properties Pty Ltd (46 and 57), Gurner (50), Goldfields (Richmond) Pty Ltd (48), Nijon Nominees Pty Ltd (40), Napier Street Developments Pty Ltd (41) (name of original submission - Dare Property Group Pty Ltd), ACC Smith Street Pty Ltd (62), Riverside Victoria Pty Ltd.(71), Outline JV Smith (39), DPG Management Pty Ltd(28)	Paul Chiappi of Counsel instructed by Tom Morrison of Planning and Property Partners who called expert evidence on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- open space contributions from Paul Shipp of Urban Enterprise

Appendix C Document list for reconvened Hearing

No	Date	Description	Presented by
R001	11 Oct 2023	Letter from Council to Planning Panels Victoria (PPV) - Request Yarra City Council to reconvene the Panel Hearing	Council
R002	11 Oct 2-23	Council Agenda - 31 May 2022	Council
R003	11 Oct 2023	Council Minutes - 31 May 2022	Council
R004	11 Oct 2023	Council Agenda - 15 August 2023	Council
R005	11 Oct 2023	Council Minutes - 15 August 2023	Council
R006	11 Oct 2023	Council Agenda - 12 September 2023	Council
R007	11 Oct 2023	- Council Minutes - 12 September 2023	Council
R008	25 Oct 2023	Directions Hearing notification letter	PPV
R009	26 Oct 2023	Email from Housing Industry Australia (HIA) to PPV - question on original submission presentation consideration	HIA
R010	26 Oct 2023	Email from PPV to HIA - response to question (R009) on consideration	PPV
R011	27 Oct 2023	Email from HIA to PPV – confirmation no further comment	HIA
R012	11 Dec 2023	Panel Directions, Hearing Timetable and Distribution List (version 1)	PPV
R013	20 Dec 2023	Email confirmation that Porta Investments will no longer be participating at reconvened Hearing	Porta Investments
R014	20 Dec 2023	Email confirmation that Piedimonte Properties will no longer be participating at reconvened Hearing	Piedimonte Properties
R015	21 Dec 2023	Email confirmation of expert witness and memorandum of recalculation of open space contribution rate	Council
R016	21 Dec 2023	Email confirmation of representation and expert witness	Planning and Property Partner (PPP) group
R017	21 Dec 2023	Hearing Timetable and Distribution List (version 2)	PPV
R018	22 Dec 2023	Document share platform details (Direction 1)	Council
R019	8 Jan 2024	Email to Panel (Direction 6) enclosing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Index to Council and Department Correspondence b. Email from Yarra CC to DELWP – Am C286 – Panel Interim Report and Recommendations (11 May 2022) Redacted c. Email exchanges between DELWP and PPV - Clarification sought of Panel report (11 May 2022- to 16 May 2023) Redacted d. Email from DTP to Council - Clarifications regarding C286yara interim panel report (17 May 2022) Redacted 	Council

No	Date	Description	Presented by
		e. Letter from Council to Minister for Planning - Amendment C306yara 20(4) request (2 June 2022) Redacted	
		f. Letter from DELWP to Yarra CC -Request for further information regarding Amendment C306yara (30 June2022) Redacted	
		g. Letter from Yarra CC to DELWP - Response to request for further information Amendment C306yara (22 July 2022) Redacted	
		h. Email exchanges between Yarra CC and DELWP - Yarra amendments update (29 September – 4 October 2022) Redacted	
		i. Email exchange between Yarra CC and DTP officers - Progress of peer review (22 December 2022) Redacted	
		j. Email exchange between Yarra CC and DTP - Re progress of Amendment C306yara and peer review (25 January 2023) Redacted	
		k. Email exchange between Yarra CC and DTP - Re update on Yarra Amendments (2 February 2023 to 3 February 2023) Redacted	
		l. Email exchanges between Yarra CC and DTP - Request for updates on C286yara and C306yara (23 March 2023) Redacted	
		m. Email from Yarra CC to DTP Amendment C289yara and C306yara (9 June 2023) Redacted	
		n. Letter from Yarra CC to DTP (27 June 2023) with attachments Redacted	
		o. Email from Yarra CC to DTP - Re Letter to DTP - Public Open Space Contribution Rate (16 July 2023-with attachments – Redacted	
		p. Letter from Yarra CC to Minister for Planning - C286yara Extension of Time Letter (5 July 2023) Redacted	
		q. DTP decision on extension of Amendment C286yara (7 August 2023) Redacted	
		r. Email exchange between Yarra CC and DTP (31 July to 17 August 2023) Redacted with attachments	
		s. Letter from Yarra CC to DTP - Amendment C286yara and Amendment C306yara (15 September 2023) Redacted	
		t. Letter from DTP to Yarra CC - Decision on C306yara 20(4) (27 November 2023) Redacted	
		u. Letter - Yarra CC to Secretary DTP C306yara (22 December 2023) Redacted	
		v. Letter - Yarra CC General Manager to Deputy Secretary DTP C306yara (22 December 2023) Redacted	
		w. Letter - Yarra CC to Minister for Planning C306yara (22 December 2023) Redacted	

No	Date	Description	Presented by
		x. Council Agenda – Public Open Space report - 12 December 2023	
		y. Council Minutes – Public Open Space report - 12 December 2023	
R020	25 Jan 2024	Letter from Council to Panel - Part D submission and evidence	Council
R021	25 Jan 2024	Part D submission (Direction 12)	Council
R022	25 Jan 2024	Part D Attachment 01 - Summary of Amendment C269yara - 25 January 2024	Council
R023	25 Jan 2024	Part D Attachment 02 - Clause 19.02-6 Open space - Track change version from Council	Council
R024	25 Jan 2024	Expert Witness Statement -Alex Hrelja - Review of Open Space Council Contributions C286yara	
R025	25 Jan 2024	Memorandum prepared by Esther Kay - recalculation of the Public Open Space contribution rate - dated 23 January 2024	Council
R026	25 Jan 2024	Document 117.Yarra C286yara Memorandum prepared by Joanna Thompson - dated 18 January 2022	Council
R027	30 Jan 2024	Email from PPV to Parties - Ms Kay will not attend hearing	PPV
R028	31 Jan 2024	Expert Evidence Statement of Mr Paul Shipp - Open space contributions	PPP group
R029	31 Jan 2024	Public Open Space Contributions Review, Kingston City Council, SGS, May 2017	PPP group
R030	31 Jan 2024	Public Open Space Contributions and Subdivision, Moreland City Council, SGS, Updated July 2011	PPP group
R031	31 Jan 2024	Greater Dandenong Open Space Strategy Open Space Contributions Assessment, Urban Enterprise, December 2023?	PPP group
R032	2 Feb 2024	Letter to Panel – Response to Panel Directions 9c and 13 and open space map	Council
R033	2 Feb 2024	Council - Expert Witness Statement Reply - Alex Hrelja – Memo response to Paul Shipp Evidence (Direction 9c)	Council
R034	2 Feb 2024	Housing change area and Open Space project map	Council
R035	5 Feb 2024	Glen Eira C218glen (PSA) [2022] PPV 32 Panel Report	Council
R036	5 Feb 2024	Monash C169mona (PSA) [2023] PPV 3 Panel Report	Council
R037	5 Feb 2024	Table of revenue foregone - Updated	Council
R038	6 Feb 2024	Hearing Submission	PPP group
R039	6 Feb 2024	Email from Council to Panel - marked up version of the open space project map and legend	Council
R040	6 Feb 2024	Housing change area and Open Space project map marked up version for R034	Council
R041	6 Feb 2024	Map legend for R040	Council

No	Date	Description	Presented by
R042	9 Feb. 2024	Council closing submission	Council

Appendix D Panel's Interim Report

**Planning
Panels
Victoria**

**Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara
Open Space Contributions**

Correction to the Interim Panel Report

Planning and Environment Act 1987

16 May 2022



Planning and Environment Act 1987

Final Panel Report pursuant to section 25 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987

Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara

Open Space Contributions

4 March 2024



Rodger Eade, Chair



Dr Meredith Gibbs, Member



John Hartigan, Member

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Overview

Amendment summary	
The Amendment	Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yarayara
Common name	Open Space Contributions
Brief description	Increase the contribution for open space at Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme from 4.5 per cent to 10.1 per cent of site value to support the implementation of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020.
Subject land	All residential, commercial and industrial land in the City of Yarra
The Proponent	Yarra City Council
Planning Authority	Yarra City Council
Authorisation	18 June 2021
Exhibition	7 September to 5 October 2021
Submissions	Number of Submissions: 72, including four late submissions. Of these 43 opposed and 27 supported the Amendment. The position of the remaining two is unknown.

Panel process	
The Panel	Rodger Eade (Chair), Meredith Gibbs and John Hartigan
Directions Hearing	By video conference, 10 November 2021
Panel Hearing	By video conference, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, 15 and 17 December 2021 and 9, 10 and 23 February 2022
Site inspections	No site inspection was required
Parties to the Hearing	See Appendix B of the Interim Report
Citation	Yarra PSA C286yara [2022] PPV
Date of interim report	14 April 2022
Date of corrections report	16 May 2022

1 Correction

This report is to be read in conjunction with the Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara Interim Panel Report dated 14 April 2022.

1.1 Issues raised

Planning Panels Victoria received an email from Yarra Council on 12 May 2022, which is provided in Appendix A. In this letter, Council raised the following issues:

- *In the Panel's conclusion on page 81 (section 8.4), the third dot point appears to be repeated at the top of page 82.*
- *In the Panel's calculation of the interim rate at the top of page 81, the report uses the following calculation to arrive at 7.4% ($\$329,653,383 / \$3,789,238,620$). However, this division appears to produce a result of 8.7%. On the basis that the Panel's approach is to use 57.1% of $\$491,111,053$, the resultant figure is $\$280,424,411$. If that figure is used as the numerator in the division, the result is 7.4%.*

1.2 Panel response

The Panel appointed to consider Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara has reviewed these items and offer the following response:

- Council is correct that a conclusion has been inadvertently repeated.
- Council is correct in that an incorrect numerator has been included in the formula in the calculation of the interim rate in the second paragraph on page 81 of the Panel Report. The calculation of the interim rate in that paragraph is based on the correct numerator and is confirmed as 7.4 per cent.

1.3 Revisions

Having considered the above, the Panel recommends that the following changes be made to the Interim Panel Report dated 14 April 2022 as follows:

1. Revision 1

Delete the dot point at the top of page 81 which reads, *"if the Council wishes to achieve a higher final contribution rate, Council should commission a peer review of the apportionment of costs between existing and new populations and subsequently request the Panel to reconvene the Hearing for Amendment C286 to allow the Amendment to be finalised"*.

2. Revision 2

Replace the second paragraph on page 81 with the following:

"If 57.1 per cent of the reduced total project cost of $\$491,111,053$ is applied to the total value of the property that is to be developed for open space of $\$3,789,238,620$ (that is $\$280,424,411 / \$3,789,238,620$), an interim open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent is generated."

The Panel has prepared the Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara Corrections Report, dated 16 May 2022 that incorporates these changes.

1.4 Notice to submitters

As Council has made the Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara Interim Panel Report dated 14 April 2022 available to the Public, they are to write to all submitters and advise them of the Corrections Report dated 16 May 2022.

Appendix A Email from Council

Planning.Panels@delwp.vic.gov.au

Re: Amendment C286yara

Good morning

I write in relation to the recent Planning Panel Report to Yarra City Council on an Amendment regarding the proposed open space levy for the Yarra Planning Scheme (Amendment C286yara).

My senior staff have pointed out to me that there is a couple of matters that need clarification from the Panel – and the purpose of this email is to seek this clarification.

The 2 matters are outlined below

1. In the Panel's conclusion on page 81 (section 8.4), the third dot point appears to be repeated at the top of page 82.
2. In the Panel's calculation of the interim rate at the top of page 81, the report uses the following calculation to arrive at 7.4% ($\$329,653,383 / \$3,789,238,620$).

However this division appears to produce a result of 8.7%.

On the basis that the Panel's approach is to use 57.1% of \$491,111,053, the resultant figure is \$280,424,411. If that figure is used as the numerator in the division, the result is 7.4%.

These matters need clarification please

Would you ask the Panel to look at these queries please and then provide a prompt response

Kind regards
Bruce Phillips

Bruce Phillips
Director, Planning and Place Making

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Planning Panels Victoria

Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara Open Space Contributions

Interim Panel Report

Planning and Environment Act 1987

14 April 2022



How will this report be used?

This is a brief description of how this report will be used for the benefit of people unfamiliar with the planning system. If you have concerns about a specific issue you should seek independent advice.

The planning authority must consider this report before deciding whether or not to adopt the Amendment.

[section 27(1) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the PE Act)]

For the Amendment to proceed, it must be adopted by the planning authority and then sent to the Minister for Planning for approval.

The planning authority is not obliged to follow the recommendations of the Panel, but it must give its reasons if it does not follow the recommendations. [section 31 (1) of the PE Act, and section 9 of the *Planning and Environment Regulations 2015*]

If approved by the Minister for Planning a formal change will be made to the planning scheme. Notice of approval of the Amendment will be published in the Government Gazette. [section 37 of the PE Act]

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Final Panel Report pursuant to section 25 of the PE Act

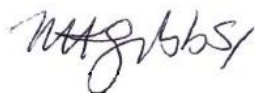
Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara

Open Space Contributions

4 March 2024



Rodger Eade, Chair



Dr Meredith Gibbs, Member



John Hartigan, Member

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Glossary and abbreviations

CIV	Capital Improved Value
Contributions Report	<i>Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020: Public Open Space Contributions</i> , Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd in association with Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd, 10 December 2020
Council	Yarra City Council
DCP	Development Contribution Plan
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
HIA	Housing Industry Association
new population/s	The projected resident and worker populations forecast to move to or come to work in Yarra between 2016 and 2031
PAO	Public Acquisition Overlay
PE Act	<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i>
Planning Scheme	Yarra Planning Scheme
POPC	Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs
PPN	Planning Practice Note
SEES	Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018 prepared by SGS Consulting
Technical Report	<i>Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report</i> , Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd
UDIA	Urban Development Institute of Australia
UHIE	Urban heat island effect
VCAT	Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
YOSS	<i>Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020</i> , Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd

Overview

Amendment summary	
The Amendment	Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yarayara
Common name	Open Space Contributions
Brief description	Increase the contribution for open space at Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme from 4.5 per cent to 10.1 per cent of site value to support the implementation of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020.
Subject land	All residential, commercial and industrial land in the City of Yarra
The Proponent	Yarra City Council
Planning Authority	Yarra City Council
Authorisation	18 June 2021
Exhibition	7 September to 5 October 2021
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Directions Hearing	By video conference, 10 November 2021
Panel Hearing	By video conference, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14 15 and 17 December 2021 and 9, 10 and 23 February 2022
Site inspections	No site inspection was required
Parties to the Hearing	See Appendix B
Citation	Yarra PSA C286yara [2022] PPV
Date of this report	14 April 2022

Executive summary

Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C286yara (the Amendment) seeks to increase the public open space contribution rate in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 from 4.5 to 10.1 per cent. It proposes to do this by making the following changes to the Planning Scheme:

- amending the Schedule to Clause 53.01 to require that all subdivision provides a public open space contribution at a rate of 10.1 per cent
- replacing Clause 22.12 Public Open Space Contribution with a new Clause 22.12
- amending the Schedule to Clause 72.08 to insert the following documents into the table at Clause 1.0:
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd.

There were 72 submissions to the exhibited Amendment, with 43 opposed to, and 27 supporting the Amendment. The position of the remaining two is unknown.

The key focus of those opposed to the Amendment was that the increase in the open space contribution rate from the current 4.5 per cent of land area or site value to 10.1 per cent is excessive. The increase was opposed because:

- some open space projects proposed were not needed
- the cost of both the land and capital components of the costs of open space projects was excessive
- the apportionment of total project costs between existing and new users of open space was inappropriate
- there were no transitional provisions for projects part way through their approval processes
- there would be a detrimental impact on housing affordability.

The key underpinning strategic document is the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020*, which is proposed to be introduced into the Yarra Planning Scheme. The current open space strategy was prepared in 2006 and is now significantly out of date because of the magnitude of development both residential and non-residential that has occurred in the intervening period. The strategy and its strategic underpinnings were not significantly challenged.

The proposed new strategy forecasts that between 2016 and 2031 there will be an additional 77,000 new residents and workers in Yarra, generating a need for a significant amount of new and upgraded open space. Much of the forecast growth will occur in areas that were traditionally developed for manufacturing industry much of which no longer exists. These areas are not well endowed with open space. To meet this identified need the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* proposes 26 new open space projects and the upgrade or expansion of a number of existing open spaces.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 proposes projects with a total cost \$564.9 million. The cost is very high because many of the new open space projects require Yarra City Council to acquire significant land, which in this and other inner municipalities has to be acquired at a very significant cost to Council.

Most submitters recognised that the current open space contribution rate of 4.5 per cent is inadequate but strongly opposed the magnitude of the increase proposed for the contribution rate.

At the Hearing, this opposition focussed mainly on two issues. The first of these was the addition by Council of 30 per cent to the Capital Improved Value of land to be acquired to cover the costs to Council of acquiring the required land. Secondly, the total costs of the open space projects was apportioned between existing users and the municipality's new residents and workers with approximately 67 per cent of the total costs being apportioned to the new users. This apportionment to new users was strongly opposed by a number of submitters.

Having considered submissions and evidence, the Panel broadly concludes:

- the *Yarra Open Space Strategy, 2020*, is strategically justified and is a sound and appropriate strategy
- there is a clearly established need for the existing open space contribution rate to be increased as a matter of some urgency
- the open space projects proposed to meet identified needs are with a minor exception, supported
- the proposal by Council to add 30 per cent (adjusted down to 20 per cent during the Hearing) to Capital Improved Value of land to be acquired for new open space is not supported by the Panel which regards 10 per cent as appropriate
- the amount of the total costs apportioned to new residents and workers has not been adequately justified and should be subject to peer review before the Amendment can be finalised
- the Hearing be adjourned pending the completion of this further work
- while this further work recommended by the Panel is being undertaken, Council should seek approval from the Minister for Planning for an interim increase in the open space contribution rate to 7.4 per cent. This would occur via the preparation of a new Planning Scheme Amendment.

For the reasons set out in Chapter 8, the Panel considers this to be an interim report pending the completion of the extra work recommended by the Panel. A final report will be prepared after that work has been undertaken.

Recommendations

Based on the reasons set out in this Report, the Panel recommends:

- 1 **Prepare and seek Ministerial approval under the Planning and Environment Act 1987, for a new Planning Scheme Amendment which:**
 - a) **includes an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent in the Schedule to Clause 53.01.**
 - b) **includes exemptions in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 as set out in the version of the Schedule at Appendix D.**
 - c) **amends the Schedule to Clause 72.08 to insert the following documents into the table at Clause 1.0:**
 - **Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd**

- **Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd (Technical Report).**
 - d) **deletes Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020, the Yarra OpenSpace Strategy Technical Report 2020, and from Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs.**
 - e) **replaces the exhibited Clause 22.12 with the version at Appendix E.**
3. **Commission a peer review of the apportionment of total open space Action costs between existing and new resident and worker users of open space.**
 4. **Replace the 30 per cent allowance added to Capital Improved Value of land with 10 per cent, in calculating the cost of land to be acquired for future open space, in the calculation of the open space contribution rate.**

1 Introduction

1.1 The Amendment

(i) Amendment description

The purpose of the Amendment is to increase the public open space contribution rate in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 from 4.5 per cent to 10.1 per cent to collect funds to support the implementation of the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* (YOSS).

Specifically, the Amendment proposes to:

- amend the Clause 53.01 Schedule to require subdivisions to provide a public open space contribution at a rate of 10.1 per cent of the total land area
- replace Clause 22.12 Public Open Space Contribution with a new Clause 22.12
- amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 to insert the following documents into the table at Clause 1.0:
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd (Technical Report).

(ii) The subject land

The Amendment applies to all residential, industrial and commercial land in the municipality.

1.2 Background

Open space planning in Yarra is currently undertaken under the guidance of the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2006*. Since the time of adoption of that strategy, Council has continued to develop and at a faster pace than was forecast. Growth is forecast to continue over the period to 2031, the planning horizon for the new open space strategy, the YOSS.

The forecast development over the next 15 years is significant with a 40 per cent increase in the resident population and a 47 per cent increase in the worker population visiting and using open space, thereby increasing demand on existing space and facilities. The extent of forecast growth changes across different parts of the municipality. Less than 10 per cent growth is forecast in Princes Hill-Carlton North, compared to 106 per cent in Cremorne-Richmond South-Burnley and 214 per cent in Fairfield-Alphington.

Over 85 per cent of Yarra's population lives in medium and high density dwellings compared to 33 per cent in Greater Melbourne. This means that residents have less private open space available to them which increases their reliance on public open space. Typically, this adds to the amount of people using public open space and increases the diversity of reasons why they use it.

Many of the areas in Yarra that are forecast to change are the former industrial and manufacturing areas which historically did not have public open space. These areas are being redeveloped to become mixed use precincts with a combination of residential, commercial and business use. This is introducing increased building heights and a change to a predominantly office-based professional workforce. Surveys undertaken as part of the development of YOSS found that 60 per

cent of workers visit public open space during the day at least once a week. With increased numbers of people working and living in the former industrial precincts there is a need to provide new areas of public open space in these areas.

The chronology for the preparation of this Amendment is set out in Table 1.

Table 1 Chronology of events

Date	Event / Description
April 2003	Council commissioned Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd and Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd to prepare the 2006 Strategy
19 December 2006	Council adopted 2006 Strategy
12 June 2008	Amendment C87 was gazetted, implementing the recommendations of the 2006 Strategy
February – March 2018	Consultation undertaken to inform the YOSS
20 January – 15 March 2020	Consultation undertaken on the Draft 2019 YOSS
July 2020	YOSS finalised
1 September 2020	Council adopted the YOSS
15 September 2020	Council resolved to request the Minister for Planning for authorisation to prepare the Amendment
December 2020	Council submitted a request for authorisation to prepare the Amendment to the Minister
18 June 2021	Council received authorisation to prepare the Amendment from the Minister subject to conditions
20 July 2021	Council resolved to make changes to the Amendment to satisfy the conditions of authorisation and give notice of the Amendment
7 September 2021	Public exhibition of the Amendment commenced
5 October 2021	Public exhibition of the Amendment ended
19 October 2021	Council resolved to refer all submissions to a Planning Panel
26 October 2021	Planning Panel convened in respect of the Amendment
10 November 2021	Directions Hearing held in respect of the Amendment
6 December 2021	Public Hearing commenced

Source: Council Part A submission, Attachment A

1.3 Yarra Open Space Strategy 2030

(i) Methodology

The YOSS and the proposed open space contribution rate were developed broadly as follows:

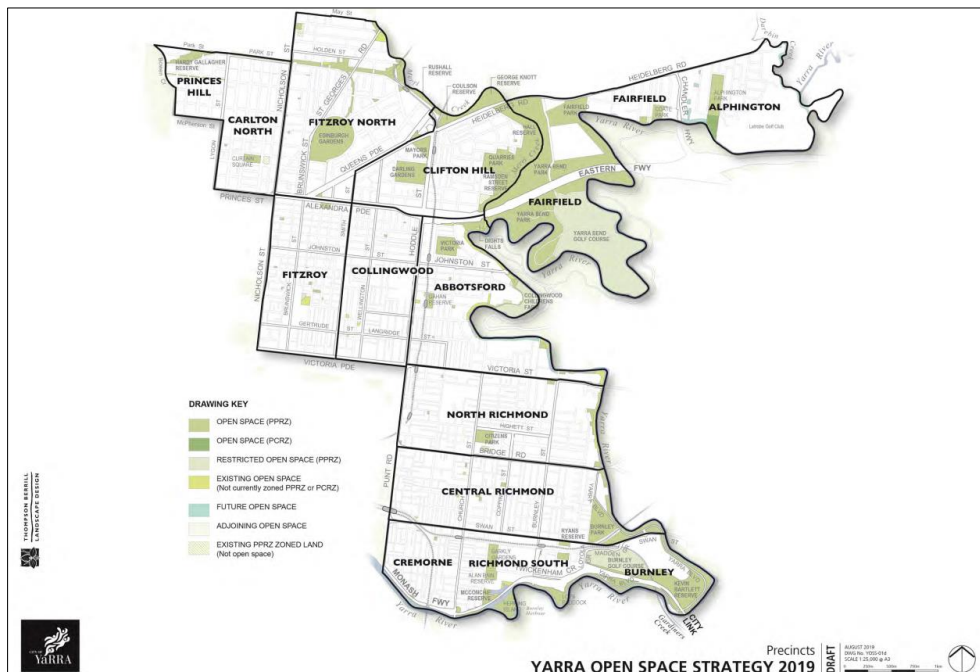
- assessment of current open space provision
- assessment of open space needs of the current and future forecast resident and worker populations based on both community surveys and expert input on open space provision requirements

- analysis of the gap between current provision and forecast future requirements on a precinct-by-precinct basis
- assessment of the needs gap in terms of open space hierarchy needs
- development of proposed projects to meet the future needs
- estimating a Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs (POPC) of the proposed projects
- estimate of the proportion of project costs attributable to the new population on a project-by-project basis
- calculation of the open space levy required to raise the revenue required to meet the new population's contribution to the costs of proposed projects.

(ii) Precincts and sub-precincts

The analysis and proposed future provision of open space were precinct-based. Ten precincts were identified based on existing suburb boundaries. Each precinct was divided into sub-precincts. Precinct and sub-precinct boundaries are set out in Figure 1.

Figure 1 Open space planning precincts and sub precincts



Source: Yarra Open Space Strategy: Public Open Space Contributions, 2020, Figure 2

(iii) Existing open space

Based on research undertaken in preparing the YOSS, Yarra currently has 107 open space reserves occupying a total of 263.4 hectares. This equates to 13.5 per cent of the total land area of the municipality. If open space area which is only accessible by members or on a fee-paying basis is included, the total current open space increases to 348.66 hectares or 17.8 per cent of land area.

Existing open space as identified in the work undertaken for the YOSS is set out in Figure 2.

Figure 2 Existing open space in Yarra



Source: Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020, Technical Report, Appendix A

(iv) Open Space hierarchy

The open space hierarchy adopted by Yarra is summarised in Table 2. The future need for open space was assessed based on the projected growth in both residents and workers.

Table 2 Yarra open space hierarchy

Size	Catchment	Purpose
Regional open space		
Unlimited	No specific distance for Melbourne wide population	Primarily caters for regional population including residents of Yarra
City-wide open space		
Generally 3 to 7 hectares	Located within 1 kilometre of 95 per cent of dwellings	Primarily caters for residents and workers of Yarra
Neighbourhood open space		
Minimum of 1 hectare	Located within 400 metres walking distance of dwellings and workplaces	For neighbourhood use within walking distance of home or workplace and provides a multiple range of facilities
Small neighbourhood open space		
0.5 to 0.99 hectares	Located within 300 metres walking distance of homes and workplaces	Large enough to provide for at least three activities. For example, multi-use half court, play area and picnic facility

Size	Catchment	Purpose
Local open space		
0.1 to 0.49 hectares	Located within 200 metres walking distance of homes and workplaces	Large enough to provide for two activities. For example, a play area and grassed area with seating
Small local open space		
0.1 to 0.3 hectares	Located within 150 metres walking distance of homes and workplaces	Generally able to provide for a single use

Source: Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020, Technical Report, Table 3-1

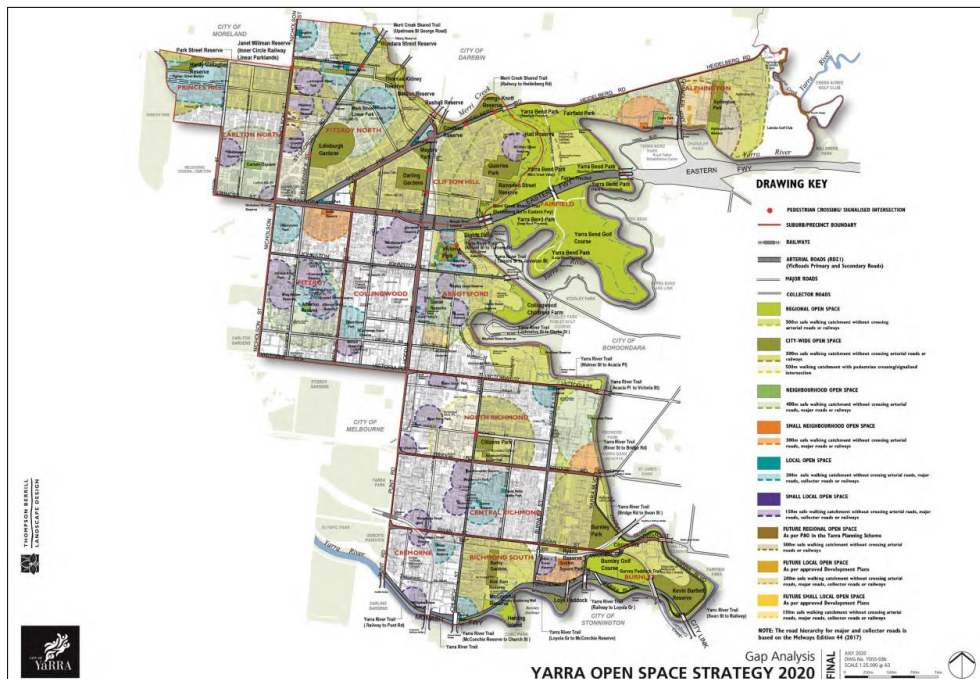
(v) Projected growth

For the period between 2016 and 2031, which is the period for the data used in preparing the YOSS, the population is forecast to increase by over 77,000 people, which represents a 41 per cent increase in the number of residents and a 47 per cent increase in the number of workers.

(vi) Gap analysis

Based on the existing provision and the estimated future need for open space, analysis was done to identify the gaps in current provision, as illustrated in Figure 3. The areas without any colour are areas where a gap in provision has been identified. Figure 3 shows significant gaps in Collingwood-Cremorne and parts of Richmond in particular.

Figure 3 Yarra open space gap analysis

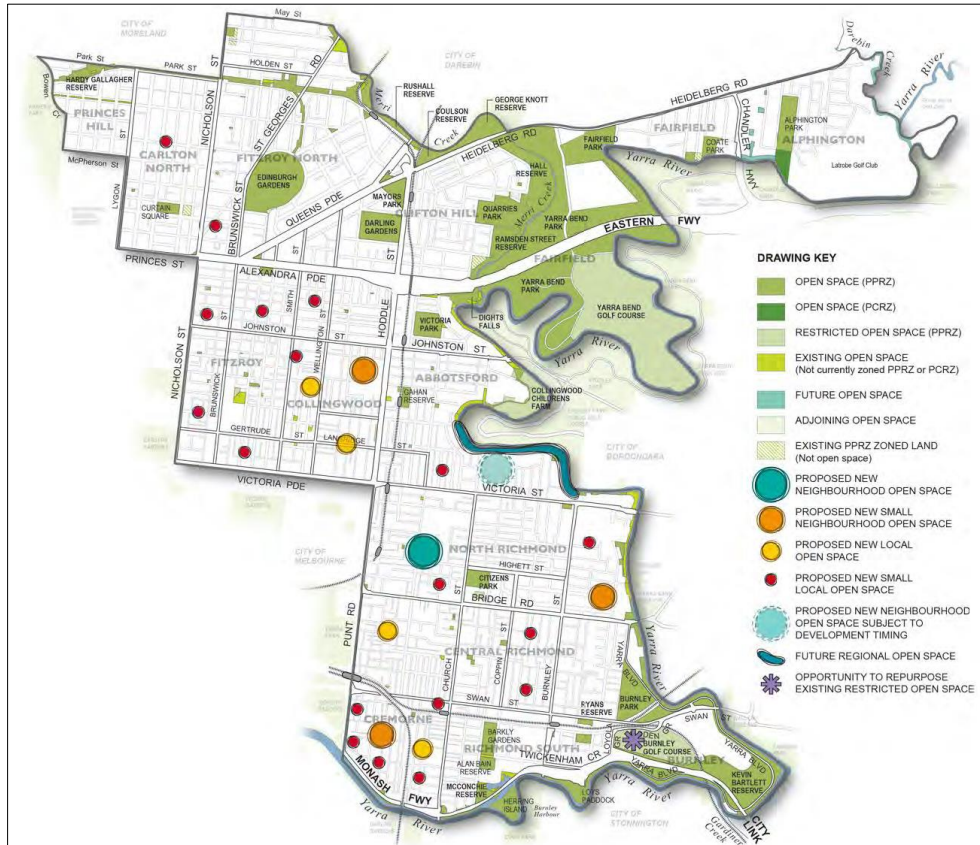


Source: Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020, Technical Report, Appendix A

(vii) Proposed new open space

A schematic plan of the proposed 26 open space projects identified in the YOSS, showing the various levels in the open space hierarchy and indicative locations is set out in Figure 4.

Figure 4 Indicative provision of new open space



Source: Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020, Public Open Space Contributions, Figure 1

(viii) Open space contribution rate

The open space contribution rate is calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Contribution rate} = \frac{\text{Total allocation of open space project costs to the new population}}{\text{Total site value of the estimated land to accommodate the new population}} \text{ multiplied by } 100$$

Detailed consideration of the various factors which contribute to the numerator and denominator in this equation is set out in Chapter 4. The following section provides an overview of the basic data used in the rate calculation.

Numerator

The starting point is calculating the total cost of open space projects to be funded by the contribution. An allocation of the total cost as between the existing and forecast (or new) population is then made.

Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs (POPC) is an approach used by open space planners to make a provisional estimate of the likely future cost of providing open space. The YOSS POPC only includes proposed projects that would be fully or partially funded by an open space contribution under Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme). These projects (called 'Actions' in the YOSS) include the provision and establishment or upgrade of neighborhood, small neighborhood, local and small local open space. The YOSS POPC also includes the costs of providing facilities for the local community in higher order open space including the Regional and City-wide open space. The (revised) POPC summary by precinct is set out in Table 3.

Table 3 Open space project cost allocation

Precinct	Total value of included projects	Allocation to existing population	Allocation to forecast population
Abbotsford	\$15,910,482	\$8,055,284	\$7,855,198
Carlton North – Princes Hill	\$10,461,318	\$9,938,252	\$523,066
Central Richmond	\$53,299,684	\$24,851,251	\$28,448,433
Clifton Hill	\$5,120,000	\$4,096,000	\$1,024,000
Collingwood	\$147,856,471	\$49,118,463	\$98,738,008
Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley	\$157,614,101	\$40,369,225	\$117,244,876
Fairfield – Alphington	\$6,266,108	\$2,880,814	\$3,385,294
Fitzroy	\$78,681,285	\$29,640,209	\$49,041,076
Fitzroy North	\$17,926,385	\$6,802,405	\$11,123,980
North Richmond	\$76,252,211	\$11,100,373	\$65,151,838
Municipal total	\$569,388,045	\$186,852,276	\$382,535,769

Source: Yarra Open Space Strategy, Public Open Space Contributions, Appendix A.

Denominator

Based on Council valuation records, Council estimated that total value of land forecast to be developed to 2031 at \$3.789 billion.

Calculation

Council arrived at the proposed open space contribution by calculating the per centage of the total costs allocated to the new population, being \$379,973,479, as a per centage of \$3,789,238,260, resulting in a rate of 10.0 per cent. The exhibited rate of 10.1 per cent was calculated using an earlier version of the POPC which accounts for the difference. It is noted that if this calculation is applied on a precinct-by-precinct basis, contribution rates much higher than this would apply in some precincts. Further discussion of municipal-wide versus precinct-based contribution rates is in Chapter 5.2. It is also noted that the Council's final proposed contribution rate was lower again, 9.35 per cent, based on adjustments to the value of land to be developed for open space as discussed further in Chapter 4.1.

(ix) Underpinning principles

This section sets out the principles underpinning the assessment undertaken by the Panel. Their application in particular aspects of the Panel’s consideration is included in following Chapters as relevant.

It was generally accepted that the principles set out in the Eddie Barron case⁵, while applied in that instance to development contributions, are relevant here. However, in this context they can be interpreted differently. The interpretations applied by the Panel in this instance are as follows:

Need

In this case the relevant need is the need for new or upgraded open space infrastructure. This is broadly consistent with the interpretation that flows from Eddie Barron, as applied with respect to development contributions.

Nexus

The interpretation of nexus commonly applied with respect to development contributions is that the contributions made should be spent in the area in which they are raised. Council submitted that for funds raised under Clause 53.01 there is no requirement in the *Subdivision Act 1988* or in Clause 53.01 itself that contributions be spent in the exact area in which they are raised. In the context of open space, Council submitted that the requirement is that, rather than a *spatial* nexus there must be a *causal* nexus, that is a link between the subdivision and the need to provide more or upgraded open space. In his evidence, Mr Shipp (for the Planning and Property Partners (PPP) group of clients) gave a slightly different interpretation but he did not argue for the spatial nexus interpretation which underpins development contributions. The Panel accepts Council’s submissions in this respect.

Equity

In its Supplementary Part B submission, Council submitted that there are three equity considerations relevant in this instance:

- first, there is a need to do equity [sic] as between existing and new residents, to ensure that contributions are collected in an appropriate proportion from the new population only ...
- second, there is the need for equity between residential and worker populations, to reflect any differential needs for open space arising as between those two populations ...
- third, there is a need for equity between different parts of the municipality, which are differentially served by open space. Some parts of the municipality, by reasons of location or accident of history are far better served than other parts ...⁶

In his evidence, Mr Shipp agreed that the first two of these are relevant but did not address the third. The Panel accepts that each of the three interpretations of the equity principle are relevant, and they form the basis of a significant part of the Panel’s assessment in Chapters 3, 4 and 5.

Accountability

Council submitted that the strict accountability requirements that apply to development contributions and which are set out in Part 3AB of the *Planning and Environment Act (1987)* (PE Act) do not apply here. Rather, the *Subdivision Act 1988* merely requires that funds raised be

⁵ *Eddie Barron Constructions v Shire of Pakenham* 6 AATR 10.

⁶ Document 76, [8].

spent on the provision of open space within the municipality. Mr Shipp's interpretation did not differ materially from this. The Panel accepts this position.

1.4 Council's approach

To deliver the required open space needs of the municipality, Council's approach is to use Clause 53.01 of the Planning Scheme to generate contributions of land or a cash contribution equal to a percentage of site value at the time of subdivision. The Panel considers that it has used this provision appropriately.

In his expert evidence for the PPP group of clients, Mr Milner criticised this approach, stating:

The strategic work, with its focus on resident and worker populations and not on subdivision, draws attention to the fundamental weakness of being dependent upon subdivision and a categorisation of land use and subdivision between residential, industrial or commercial purposes as a basis of levying open space contributions.⁷

The Panel understands the concern raised by Mr Milner. It considers that the primary driver of the need for new open space infrastructure is population, both residents and workers. Subdivision is a useful but imperfect indicator of likely future populations; imperfect because not all larger developments will be subdivided. For example, many commercial developments are not subdivided and an increasing number of residential developments, such as build to rent and student accommodation, are not subdivided. This gives rise to a fundamental inequity between development which is subdivided and therefore contributes to the provision of open space, and development which is not subdivided and creates an increased need for open space but does not contribute under this mechanism.

The Melbourne metropolitan open space strategy, *Open Space for Everyone*, which was introduced into the Planning Scheme during the Hearing through Amendment VC199, has as one of its enabling actions an update to funding and financing models. The Panel considers that it would be appropriate to review the use of the basis of, and trigger for, Clause 53.01 open space contributions as part of any future review of open space funding mechanisms.

It is not the Panel's role to discuss this issue in detail or to suggest alternative models. However, the Panel has a responsibility to identify fundamental weaknesses where it sees them. It considers that given the nature of much commercial development, particularly in inner areas, the Clause 53.01 methodology used is no longer fit for purpose. This is not a criticism of Council. It has used an appropriate mechanism available to it.

Mr Balding submitted that he supported YOSS but did not support the proposed levy. He submitted that on-street car parking spaces used by residents were significantly under-priced and he suggested an annual fee of approximately \$2,000, the revenue for which could be used to provide open space. The Panel offers no comment on this approach.

Consulting Surveyors Victoria (CSV), a body that represents Victorian firms of surveyors, submitted that the lack of discretion in the application of Clause 53.01 can lead to inequity in some cases (Document 51). CSV's concerns focussed on the blanket application of Clause 53.01 to subdivisions necessary for land tenure matters such as realignment of boundaries or a reduction in the number of lots, rather than 'development' as such, and which do not result in an increase in the need for open space.

⁷ Document 29, [63].

In oral submissions, after acknowledging the existing exemption in Clause 53.01-1 for two-lot subdivisions where the relevant council considers it unlikely that each lot will be further subdivided, Mr Shone for CSV explained that, in practice, CSV members were reporting that councils are deeming two-lot subdivision as being able to be re-subdivided more and more often. Mr Shone explained that as a result, landowners were turning to 'sub-optimal' alternatives such as 99-year leases to avoid having to pay open space contributions for basic boundary realignments which do not create any additional need for open space.

The Panel acknowledges the concerns of CSV and its members and notes that they are not specific to the Yarra provisions. The Panel considers that there may be a case for exemption of purely administrative subdivisions but is concerned how this would be defined and the administrative burden on councils in applying any appropriately worded exemption. For example, how would a council officer determine that a subdivision was purely administrative and would not result in an increase in open space needs. Further, it seems to the Panel that the current issues being experienced result from the *application* of the current exemption, rather than the provision itself.

The Panel considers that it is outside the scope of its role to comment further on the suitability of the existing exemptions to Clause 53.01 but wishes to place CSV's concerns on the record. It is an issue that could be taken up in any future review.

1.5 Procedural issues

Translation of local policy

Initially, Council had not proposed changes to Clause 22.12 as part of the draft Amendment documents. This was because Council had proposed to translate the current Clause 22.12 into Clause 19.02-6L (Public Open Space Contribution) as part of Council's translation of local policy into the Municipal Planning Statement and Planning Policy Framework via Amendment C269yara. To avoid confusion, Council considered that Clause 22.12 should not form part of the Amendment at that stage. Amendment C269yara is proceeding in parallel with this Amendment.

As a condition of authorisation of this Amendment, the delegate of the Minister required an updated Clause 22.12 Open Space Policy to be exhibited. A revised Clause 22.12 was prepared and exhibited. The subsequent translation of Clause 22.12 will depend on the timing of the approval of Amendment C269yara and of this Amendment.

Exhibition period

In its Part A submission, Council advised the Amendment had been exhibited for slightly less than the statutory minimum exhibition period of one month. Notice of the Amendment was sent by post and email on 6 September 2021 and published in the Government Gazette on 9 September 2021. The exhibition period closed on 5 October 2021. Council acknowledged this shortcoming at the Hearing and no submitter raised an issue in response. The Panel determined that there was no evidence that any submitter or potential submitter was detrimentally impacted by the defect and, as provided for under section 166(1) of the PE Act, it would continue to hear and report on the Amendment.

Request for further information

At the Hearing, Mr Gobbo made a submission for a group of clients represented by Planning and Property Partners Pty Ltd⁸ on the appropriateness of the approach used by Council to apportion open space project costs between existing and new populations. As a result, the Panel issued a Direction dated 20 December 2021 (Document 102) seeking further information from Council on the approach used. This followed a pre-Hearing Direction seeking information on the same issue. The Panel made the Direction on the basis that under section 161 (1)(d) of the PE Act it may inform itself in any way it sees fit. Mr Gobbo objected strongly to this proposed request by the Panel on the grounds that he had completed his cross examination of Council's witness, Ms Joanna Thompson, on this matter and that at the time he had almost completed his submission. In subsequent correspondence, Rigby Cooke on behalf of Porta Investments Pty Ltd (Porta), submitted that:

... any such explanation must be limited to an explanation of what was considered in the apportionment that was actually made for the Amendment as exhibited not an ex post facto explanation of the details so provided.⁹

The Panel did not accept the submission by Mr Gobbo. To ensure that all parties were afforded natural justice, the Panel allowed submitters further opportunity to submit on the information provided by Council, both orally at the Hearing on 9 February 2022 and in writing.

The information requested by the Panel was provided (Documents 116 to 121) and was presented to the Panel on 9 February 2022. Further written submissions in response to the further information provided by Council were accepted until 12 noon on 16 February 2022 and the Panel reconvened on 23 February 2022 to allow Council to respond to these. Written submissions on the further information provided to the Panel were received from Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd (Piedimonte), Porta, and the PPP group of clients (Documents 131 to 133).

With respect to the claimed unfairness of this process in response to the further information provided by Council, Ms Pepler for the PPP group of clients submitted:

The material has also been allowed following Council being able to hear the full case against it. It provides Council with an opportunity to create new substantive technical material to respond to the case put against it, but without the opportunity for proper challenge or response. This process does not allow for procedural fairness.¹⁰

Norton Rose Fulbright on behalf Piedimonte also submitted that the process was unfair.

The Panel responds that it has afforded parties an opportunity to respond to the further information it requested. The Panel notes that Table 1 in Document 121 is new information prepared specifically for the response to the Panel's request, a matter which was raised on the submissions on the new information and acknowledged by Ms Thompson. It is weighted accordingly by the Panel. This is discussed further in Chapter 4.3 which addresses apportionment between existing and new populations.

⁸ At the Hearing, Mr Gobbo QC and Ms Pepler represented a group of 13 clients of Planning and Property Partners Pty Ltd. Refer to Appendix B of this Report for a full list of submitters.

⁹ Document 104.

¹⁰ Document 133, [3].

1.6 Summary of issues raised in submissions

The key issues raised were:

- the magnitude of the proposed increase in the open space contribution rate
- the strategic justification for the increased contribution rate
- lack of transitional provisions
- inconsistency of proposed rate as compared to that imposed in other municipalities
- the appropriateness of a single rate for the whole municipality
- apportionment of costs between existing and new users of open space
- the total costs of open space, both land and capital components
- impact on housing affordability
- justification for imposing the contribution on non-residential uses
- lack of bespoke arrangements for strategic redevelopment sites
- the adequacy of open space in Yarra currently
- impact of the contribution rate on the economic viability of projects
- need for greater flexibility in the way in which an increased contribution is implemented
- the consideration of the principles of need, nexus, accountability and equity
- the currency of the data on which the YOSS is based
- the timing of the Amendment in relation to the economic impact of COVID19.

1.7 The Panel's approach

The Panel has assessed the Amendment against State and local policy. Further, it has assessed the YOSS and its proposed implementation. It has not undertaken a formal 'net community benefit' analysis. This is because the need for more and enhanced open space in Yarra is clear and was not disputed. The Panel considers that the implementation of the Amendment will generate significant benefits for existing and new populations in Yarra.

The Panel considered all written submissions made in response to the exhibition of the Amendment, and submissions, evidence and other material presented to it during the Hearing. It has reviewed a large volume of material and has had to be selective in referring to the more relevant or determinative material in this Report. All submissions and materials have been considered by the Panel in reaching its conclusions, regardless of whether they are specifically mentioned in the Report.

This Report deals with the issues under the following headings:

- Planning context
- Yarra Open Space Strategy (YOSS)
- Open space contribution rate
- Issues arising in calculating and applying the open space contribution
- Impacts of the proposed open space contribution rate
- Statutory planning issues
- Interim open space contribution rate.

2 Planning context

2.1 Planning policy framework

Council submitted that the Amendment is supported by various clauses in the Planning Policy Framework. These are summarised below.

Victorian planning objectives

The Amendment will assist in implementing State policy objectives set out in section 4 of the PE Act by facilitating the fair, orderly economic and sustainable use and development of land. Council submitted that this objective is addressed by providing:

- an equitable method to collect contributions for public open space based on the need created by subdivision of new development
- certainty and consistency as to the required public open space contribution for subdivision of land in Yarra.

Further, Council submitted that the Amendment addresses the following objectives in section 4 of the PE Act:

- to secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria
- to protect public utilities and other assets and enable the orderly provision and co-ordination of public utilities and other facilities for the benefit of the community
- to balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.

Clause 11 - Settlement

The Amendment supports Clause 11 by:

- building on strengths and capabilities of each region across Victoria to respond sustainably to population growth and changing environments
- developing settlements that will support resilient communities and their ability to adapt and change
- balancing strategic objectives to achieve improved land use and development outcomes at a regional, catchment and local level.

Clause 12 - Environmental and landscape values

The Amendment supports Clause 12 by ensuring that natural features are protected and enhanced.

Clause 15 - Built Environment

The Amendment supports Clause 15 by promoting a diversity of public open space to support future subdivision development that foster a healthy lifestyle and achieve community benefit from well-designed neighbourhoods.

Clause 19 - Community Infrastructure

The Amendment supports Clause 19 by seeking to protect and expand the public open space network to address the current and future gaps of provision.

Clause 21.02 – Municipal Strategic Statement

With respect to open space this Clause recognises:

There is an inherent discrepancy in open space distribution across the municipality due to historical settlement patterns and types of land use. The majority of Yarra's open space is located in the north-eastern area of the municipality with just over 70% located in North Fitzroy, Clifton Hill, Alphington and Fairfield, where 25% of the population lives. By contrast, Collingwood has just 0.12 hectares of open space with 7.4% of the population in residence there. 13% of Yarra's population lives in Fitzroy where there is a total of 2.2 hectares of open space. Other areas with almost no open space include Cremorne and North Richmond. There are important open space resources adjacent to Yarra's boundary, one of which is Princes Park.¹¹

Clause 22.12 - Public Open Space Contributions)

The Amendment supports the following objectives of Clause 22.12 which are common to both the existing and amended Clause 22.12:

- to fund a fair proportion of the open space projects contained in the YOSS that will meet the needs of the forecast residential commercial and business population
- to contribute to improvements to existing public open space and provide new public open space on behalf of the forecast population
- to expand the public open space network to accommodate the growth in population predominantly in medium to high density urban development located across the municipality.

The Amendment meets these objectives by:

- addressing current and future gaps in the provision of public open space to support the needs of new residents
- ensuring that adequate public open space is provided for development, including sites that seek higher residential densities
- improving the diversity, functionality and inclusiveness of public open space facilities and landscape settings to meet the needs of the community.

2.2 Other relevant planning strategies and policies

State and regional plans and strategies

(i) Plan Melbourne

Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 (Plan Melbourne) sets out strategic directions to guide Melbourne's development to 2050, to ensure it becomes more sustainable, productive and liveable as its population approaches 8 million. It is accompanied by a separate implementation plan that is regularly updated and refreshed every five years.

Plan Melbourne is structured around seven Outcomes, which set out the aims of the plan. The Outcomes are supported by Directions and Policies, which outline how the Outcomes will be achieved. Outcomes that are particularly relevant to the Amendment are set out in Table 4.

¹¹ Document 22, [122].

Table 4 Relevant parts of Plan Melbourne

Outcome	Directions	Policies
5. A city of inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods	5.1 Create a city of 20 minute neighbourhoods	5.4.1 Network of accessible high quality local open spaces
	5.3 Deliver social infrastructure to support strong communities	
	5.4 Local parks and green neighbourhoods	
6. Sustainable and resilient city	6.4 Cooler and greener Melbourne	6.4.1 Support a cooler and greener Melbourne by greening urban areas, buildings, transport corridors and open spaces to create an urban forest.
		6.4.2 Strengthen the integrated metropolitan open space network

(ii) Protecting Victoria’s Biodiversity 2037

The strategy recognises that the natural environment is fundamental to the health and wellbeing of every Victorian.

(iii) Lower Yarra River Corridor Study, 2016

This Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) commissioned study was aimed to ensure that development does not further encroach on the river and impact its value for recreational purposes.

(iv) Yarra River Action Plan 2017

A Victorian Government prepared plan which supports the importance of the Yarra River corridor as an open space corridor that adjoins the City of Yarra.

(v) Yarra River Protection (Willip-gin Birrarung Murrn) Act 2017

This Act enshrines the protection of the Yarra River. The Act includes a number of guiding principles which affect how the Council protects and manages the river and associated parklands.

(vi) Draft Yarra Strategic Plan

This integrated corridor plan was developed collaboratively by the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and all 15 state and local agencies involved in managing the river.

(vii) Active Victoria – A strategic framework for sport and recreation in Victoria 2017-2021

This framework highlights the benefits of sport and active recreation in developing a healthier community, economic growth and jobs, community cohesion and liveability.

(viii) Inner Melbourne Action Plan – regional sport and recreation strategy

Prepared for inner metropolitan councils, this plan recognises that historic approaches will not be enough to meet current and future sport and recreation needs due to the high cost of land.

(ix) Open Space for Everyone

Open Space for Everyone: Open Space Strategy for Metropolitan Melbourne, 2021 (Open Space for Everyone) is a broad strategic policy prepared by the State government with a vision of Melbourne being a city in nature with a flourishing and valued network of public open space that is shared and accessible to everyone. Based around the following four goals, it sets out actions to deliver on its vision for future open space in metropolitan Melbourne:

- improved community health and well being
- healthier biodiversity
- enhanced climate change resilience
- maximised economic and social benefits.

During the Hearing, this adopted State strategy was introduced into the Planning Scheme at Clause 19.02-6R through Amendment VC199, therefore giving it greater weight.

Relevant Council Plans and Strategies

(x) Council Plan 2017 – 2021

The community consultation undertaken in the preparation of this plan identified open space as the second most important characteristic that residents like about Yarra and the third most important issue for Council to address. The Plan is based around seven objectives which open space has a role in contributing towards.

(xi) Yarra Housing Strategy 2018

This strategy addresses housing trends in Yarra and the challenges arising from the continuing trend of higher density housing projects. This has provided input into the open space strategy.

(xii) Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018

This strategy provides a detailed assessment of land use and floorspace demand in six retail (mixed use) and seven commercial/ industrial precincts in Yarra. The YOSS uses the non-residential forecasts prepared as part of this strategy as input.

(xiii) Urban Forest Strategy 2017

This strategy provides a clear direction for the future care and management of trees in Yarra. It includes evidence of the cooling effect of the tree canopy cover in Yarra.

(xiv) City of Yarra Biodiversity Health Survey, Discussion Paper 2018

This study establishes a baseline for biodiversity values associated with open space. A total of 30 open spaces were assessed along with 10 pocket parks and 12 streetscapes.

(xv) Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023

The Plan clearly sets out the role of the Yana Ngargna working group who guide action and coordinate projects that build cultural awareness and confidence across Council. The plan has four

priority commitments which include protecting important places and improved health and wellbeing outcomes.

2.3 Planning scheme provisions

The Amendment applies to all land zoned for residential, industrial and commercial purposes in the City of Yarra.

2.4 Ministerial Directions and Practice Notes

Ministerial Directions

The Amendment is consistent with Ministerial Direction 9, Metropolitan Strategy as it:

- provides a greater understanding of public open space needs for the Yarra
- increases the availability, usability and access to public open space
- provides opportunities for social interaction
- greens the urban environment.

The exhibited Explanatory Report discusses how the Amendment meets the relevant requirements of Ministerial Direction 11 (Strategic Assessment of Amendments).

Planning Practice Notes

The following Planning Practice Notes (PPN) are relevant:

PPN13 – Incorporated and Background Documents

PPN13 provides guidance on when a document should be an incorporated or background document and describes the role of each. The Amendment has been prepared having regard to PPN13 and as such it is proposed to include the YOSS as a reference document, replacing the 2006 Strategy.

PPN70 – Open Space Strategies

PPN70 provides guidance on the preparation of an open space strategy, including open space classifications and undertaking analysis in relation to existing supply, future demand and gaps in the existing open space network. Council submitted that there is a high level of correlation between the methodology adopted in the YOSS and PPN70. PPN70 sets out a list of principles that an open space strategy should include. Council included an assessment of YOSS against these principles at Attachment D to its Part A submission (Document 22).

PPN70 does not provide guidance on the methodology for calculating an open space contribution rate, nor on apportioning costs of open space projects between residents and workers or between existing and new populations.

2.5 Discussion and conclusion

Some submitters contended that the Amendment lacked strategic justification. However, these submissions generally focussed on aspects of the Council's approach rather than the overall support in State and local policy for the provision of appropriate high quality open space, a matter which was either essentially supported or at least not challenged to the extent that is of concern to the Panel.

For the reasons set out in the following Chapters, the Panel concludes that the Amendment is supported by, and implements, the relevant sections of the Planning Policy Framework, and is consistent with the relevant Ministerial Directions and Practice Notes. The Amendment is well founded and strategically justified, and the Amendment should proceed subject to addressing the more specific issues raised in submissions as discussed in the following Chapters. However as set out in Chapter 8, finalisation of the Amendment should not occur until further work is undertaken by Council.

3 Yarra Open Space Strategy

This Chapter outlines the key elements in determining the need for and distribution of future open space in Yarra.

In Chapter 2, it was concluded that the Amendment is broadly strategically supported by State and local policy. Further there was little suggestion that the YOSS was not strategically supported by policy. In its part B submission, Council assessed the YOSS against the strategic principles in PPN70. Under cross examination by Ms Brennan, Mr Milner conceded that the YOSS was generally sound, well researched and laudable and broadly complies with PPN70. The Panel concludes that the YOSS is well supported in policy.

3.1 Projections of the new resident and worker population

(i) The issues

The issues are:

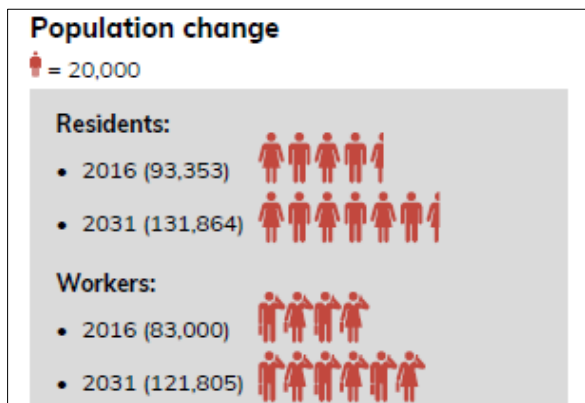
- whether the projections of new resident population are appropriate
- whether the projections of new worker population are appropriate.

(ii) Background

The resident population forecasts used in preparing the YOSS are based on data from .id Consulting dated 16 October 2018 which indicates that Yarra’s resident population is expected to increase by about 40 per cent between 2016 and 2031. The worker population forecasts are based on the *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018* (SEES) prepared by SGS Economics and Planning which forecasts an increase in Yarra’s worker population by about 47 per cent between 2016 and 2031.

These resident and worker populations are referred to collectively in this report as the “new population”. These population changes are illustrated in Figure 5.

Figure 5 Components of population change



Source: Council Part A submission (Document 22) [44]

(iii) Evidence and submissions

Both forecasts were prepared prior to the impact of COVID19. Dr Eagleson prepared a memorandum canvassing the potential impacts of COVID19. On her assessment, the population growth for Yarra will still be met, albeit most likely three or four years later than forecast due to COVID19 impacts. This issue is discussed further in Chapter 3.4.

Some submissions questioned the accuracy of the data used and contended that the data was out of date referencing, in particular, the YOSS being based on data from the Council's Housing Strategy and the SEES both of which were produced using 2016 census figures.

The forecast changes in resident and worker populations were prepared at the municipality level and broken down at the precinct level used in the YOSS. The details of the forecast changes and implications on open space planning are explained in detail in Chapter 4 of the Technical Report (Document 15). The Housing Industry Association (HIA) questioned the accuracy of Council's significant resident population growth projection of 41 per cent over the period 2016 to 2031 in the context of its own economic modelling and the Victoria in Future forecasts, a falling dwelling completion rate based on its analysis, the COVID19 pandemic and the projections of transport modelling to 2036 on Melbourne's population growth. HIA submitted that its economic modelling forecasts that Yarra's resident population will grow by 33.9 per cent (31,802 people) over the period 2016 to 2031 and that the Victoria in Future forecast at 35.5 per cent (32,962 people) growth is closer to the HIA forecast.

Council rejected HIA's submissions that the new population forecasts used in the YOSS were not accurate. In oral submissions, Ms Brennan asserted that no better information than the forecasts prepared by .id Consulting are available and are as accurate as can be, given the impacts of COVID19.

Ms Kay noted in her evidence for Council that the population data cover the period 2016 to 2031, both of which are census years. She stated that census years are preferred because it is easier to go back to a census year to determine the accuracy of the original forecasts and thus the appropriateness of the open space program being implemented. Ms Kay expressed a high level of confidence in using data developed for the same time period, being 2016 to 2031, and viewed as significant the fact that the resident and worker population forecasts were prepared at the same time and using the same urban planning framework. She stated that:

I would have less confidence in the public open space contribution rate if data from different time periods were to now be substituted in the calculation, for example, the use of data prepared in both 2018 and 2021, or for different population forecast periods. I would view this as potentially being an "apples and oranges" situation. I note that the rate calculation directly results from the residential and worker forecasts, and from the 2020 Strategy needs assessment.¹²

Ms Thompson commented in oral evidence that the new population forecasts are linked to census years.

(iv) Discussion

Aside from the HIA which cited lower population forecasts, no other parties questioned the new population projections used by Yarra in preparing the YOSS. The HIA did not provide details of its economic modelling.

¹² Document 24, [66].

The Panel notes that the .id Consulting resident population forecasts and the SEES employment forecasts are over the same timeframe as the YOSS, and are tied to census years which, as noted by Ms Kay, is an important factor in allowing ease of reference back to a census year to confirm the accuracy of the forecasts.

The Panel has no concern as to the accuracy and currency of the data used in the forecasting work which was done in 2018 based on 2016 census data, the most current and comprehensive data available at the time. The Technical Report sets out in some detail the analysis done to determine the new population forecasts and the Panel is satisfied that this analysis is robust and is the best available forecasting for the City of Yarra at the municipality level.

The impacts of COVID19 will most likely affect the timelines as to when the projected population levels will be met but in the Panel's view, this does not fundamentally call into question the quantum of the new population growth projections.

(v) Conclusion

The Panel concludes the projections of new resident and future worker populations are appropriate.

3.2 Quantum and distribution of proposed open space

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the quantum of proposed open space is appropriate to the needs of the existing and new populations
- whether the open space proposed is appropriate given the open space hierarchy
- whether the treatment of barriers to accessing open space is appropriate
- whether the accessibility of existing open space in adjoining municipalities is appropriately allowed for
- whether the distribution of proposed open space is appropriate to the needs of existing and new populations.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Ms Thompson gave expert evidence for Council on open space planning as the principal author of the YOSS and the Technical Report. Her evidence was that open space is important for a range of reasons including physical health, fitness and wellbeing, mental health and wellbeing, social connectedness, urban heat island effect (UHIE) mitigation, biodiversity, cultural heritage and character, and events and arts. On many occasions during her evidence and cross examination, Ms Thompson referred to the provision of open space that is easily accessible to all within the municipality as being one of the key underlying objectives of the YOSS.

She described the magnitude of forecast change of an extra 77,000 new population forecast in Yarra from 2016 to 2031 as 'substantial'.¹³

She stated that the overall directions that guide the detailed precinct analysis and actions that implement the YOSS over the next 15 years are to:

¹³ Document 25, [3.1.6].

- improve the quality of existing open spaces including the type of facilities and the overall character and condition
- provide open space within easy walking distance of where everyone lives and works to address the gaps in the existing network with priority given to locations where higher levels of growth is forecast to occur
- assist to mitigate urban heat island effect with a well distributed open space network through high density precincts that contain natural features which absorb moisture
- improve community health and wellbeing with a linked and accessible open space network that people can easily walk to
- increase urban greening.¹⁴

Ms Thompson explained that the methodology for the open space needs assessment that informed the YOSS included:

- visiting all existing open space reserves in the City of Yarra and documented their quality
- reviewing background documentation
- working with her in-house team to map and quantify the existing open space (Section 3 of the Technical Report)
- allocating the open space hierarchy and the walking catchment applicable to each existing open space to produce the Open Space Gap Analysis map (Figure 3F in the Technical Report)
- using the dwelling and population forecast data sourced and assembled by Ms Kay, assessed (with Ms Kay) the influence of the forecast change on open space needs, including population growth, increased urban densities, climate emergency and increased levels of use on the open space planning (Section 4 of the Technical Report)
- developing the open space hierarchy and criteria for open space based on her research (including a community engagement process) and applied this to the precincts as part of a precinct-based open space needs assessment
- preparing individual prioritised 'Actions' (or projects) for each precinct to address the open space needs identified
- preparing the YOSS POPC (which is described in Chapter 1.3).¹⁵

To assess the needs of the existing population,¹⁶ Ms Thompson relied on a range of factors including the outcomes of a community engagement process undertaken by Council (using questions and a survey prepared by Ms Thompson's firm). Ms Thompson stated the survey results were used in a more qualitative than statistical way and she took note of existing levels of use and satisfaction with the open space as expressed in the surveys.

To assess the needs of the new residential population, Ms Thompson relied on the projected population and its distribution within Yarra, as provided by .id Consulting, together with the projected spatial distribution of the residential population in the *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018* (Figure 4A in the Technical Report). For the new employment population, she relied on Tables 4, 5 and 6 of the SEES, in particular the spatial distribution of Employment and Retail Precincts (Figure 4B in the Technical Report).

¹⁴ Document 25, [3.1.7].

¹⁵ Document 25, [2.1].

¹⁶ Although the YOSS includes projects addressing the needs of both existing and forecast populations, Ms Thompson's evidence clarified that where the forecast population is not creating the need for a project, the project would not be eligible for a contribution. Document 25, [3.1.2].

Ms Thompson considered a range of factors in assessing the needs of the new population including:

- future population densities
- spatial distribution of existing open space
- the hierarchy, character and condition of the existing open space
- the proposed urban form. In locations where higher densities and concentrations of the new resident and worker population are proposed as shown in the Yarra Housing Strategy and the SEES. It is assumed there will be a greater demand placed on open space in the immediate vicinity of the new population. The increased number of residents and workers using existing open space creates additional demand for facilities such as seating areas, fitness equipment, picnic facilities, paths and playgrounds etc.
- urban layout including presence of any physical barriers to safe pedestrian access to open space.¹⁷

These factors were also used in the apportionment of costs between existing and new populations and are addressed further in Chapter 4.3.

Ms Thompson reviewed and assessed the above information and analysis and assessed the additional works that would be required for the new population beyond catering for the existing population for each precinct. These became the developed 'Actions' (or projects) which were then costed in the YOSS POPC.

Ms Kay gave expert planning evidence for Council on the strategic underpinnings of the YOSS and related documentation. She referred to the following aspects of Plan Melbourne as being particularly relevant:

- The 20-minute neighbourhood: Ms Kay noted that a *"key feature of the YOSS is to provide access to safely walkable public open space"*¹⁸
- Delivering local parks and green neighbourhoods: After referring to the need to ensure that open space across the municipality is of sufficient size and quality to support an appropriate mix of activities, to improve the environment and habitat, and to provide urban cooling, Ms Kay stated that *"This principle is further enhanced with Policy 5.4.1 to develop a network of accessible, high-quality, local open spaces that includes access for all members of the community"*.¹⁹

Ms Kay stated that *Open Space for Everyone* shifts focus from its predecessor strategy *"from regional parks to work toward more equitable access to open space across metropolitan Melbourne"* and that the themes of *Open Space for Everyone* had already been incorporated in the YOSS including *"strategy recommendations to deliver safe and walkable accessibility to open space; promote community health and well-being; maintain and enhance a healthy biodiversity; and address climate change resilience and sustainability"*.²⁰

Council submitted that the YOSS meets the requirements of PPN70 and that despite challenges to specific aspects of the YOSS, the vast majority of the work undertaken for the YOSS had not been challenged.

¹⁷ Document 25, [3.3.3]. The Contributions Report states at p. 3: *"Major roads and other physical features can form 5 to safe and easy walking access to public open space, which is a key consideration in the open space needs analysis."*

¹⁸ Document 24, [27].

¹⁹ Document 24, [30].

²⁰ Document 24, [34] & [35].

Mr Milner gave evidence that the Amendment “*should be recognised as generally sound strategic open space planning*”²¹ for a range of reasons. These included that it systematically documents Yarra’s existing current open space provision and identifies existing gaps, analyses expected open space demand having regard to population projections and socio-economic analyses and systematically identifies anticipated open space needs on a sub-precinct basis. However, he criticised the weight given to open space in adjoining municipalities (discussed further below) and the needs assessment’s failure to account for a wider range of open spaces such as streetscapes, school grounds and privately owned business open space. Under cross examination, Mr Milner stated that providing open space within safe and easy walking distance has strong strategic support.

Mr Black in evidence for Piedimonte, stated that the YOSS has been prepared generally in accordance with PPN70 and “*is in a form that is generally consistent with other public open space strategies that have been prepared for municipalities in the inner and middle ring municipalities of Melbourne*”.²² Under cross examination, Mr Black said that the planning underlying the YOSS was broken but then retracted that statement and said that the gap analysis was flawed.

Overall, the PPP group of clients submitted that Council’s needs assessment and the substantiation of the projects (the Actions in the POPC) was not satisfactorily undertaken. After acknowledging that Ms Thompson’s needs assessment had been informed by a variety of relevant factors, Mr Gobbo for the PPP group of clients submitted that the YOSS lacks an objective justification for *how* the open space projects said to be needed have been determined including:

- whether any given open space project is needed in a particular location or form
- which population is producing the need
- what type of open space within the open space hierarchy is justified.

Mr Shipp criticised Ms Thompson’s open space needs assessment:

While there is no doubt that the additional population and employment projected for the municipality will generate additional demand for open space, in my view it is difficult to determine from the exhibited material exactly how the quantum of projected growth has been translated into an estimate of open space need, and subsequently whether the recommended actions are needed by the existing or future populations, and in what proportions.²³

Mr Shipp stated that the Actions specified for each precinct are “*as much designed to address existing gaps in provision [of open space] as they are to provide new open space for projected growth*” (noting that Mr Shipp also took issue with the apportionment of costs as between existing and forecast populations, which is discussed in Chapter 4.3).²⁴

Reliance on open space in adjoining municipalities

Mr Milner stated that it is unclear what weight had been given to Yarra’s access to open space on nearby land in adjoining municipalities in the open space needs assessment and the accounting for open space in adjoining municipalities had not been clearly or consistently applied. He provided examples where adjoining open space was considered in the precinct needs assessments and others where it was not.

²¹ Document 29, [9].

²² Document 31, [12] to [13].

²³ Document 28, [85].

²⁴ Document 28, [145b].

Mr Milner concluded:

... greater weight should be given to the City's extraordinarily good access to a choice of substantial parks and river corridors of metropolitan significance located proximate in the adjoining municipalities. These open space assets, at the fringe of the municipality, enable integrated access through expansive parklands and extended trails without equal in many outer and middle-distance suburbs.

C286 accordingly lacks the balance and justification to levy what would be one of the highest open space contribution rates in the State to deliver public opens space potentially well exceeding the City's reasonable open space requirements.²⁵

Mr Gobbo questioned whether the need for Action 7.8A-2, a \$37,000,000 new Local Open Space in Fitzroy B, to the immediate east of the Carlton Gardens, had been adequately justified or whether a Small Local Open Space in the realm of \$7,000,000 would be sufficient. He submitted that Ms Thompson had given no recognition to the proximity of the Carlton Gardens, which he submitted is readily accessible across Nicholson Street.

Along similar lines, Piedimonte submitted that the YOSS overstates the need for open space, with one reason for this being the failure to consider existing public open space which is close to the municipal boundary. Mr Black stated that this failure "*sets unrealistic pressures on the open space needs within the municipality, and results in an inaccurate gap analysis*".²⁶ He gave as an example the suburbs of Central Richmond and Cremorne which have large areas of open space adjacent to Yarra on the western side of Punt Road, yet the YOSS showed these areas as having large gaps in the provision of existing open space.

In its closing submission, Council rejected suggestions that the YOSS had not appropriately considered access to and use of open spaces outside the municipality and pointed to examples of where the Technical Report referred to adjoining and nearby open spaces such as Yarra Park, Princes Park, Northcote Park, Gosch's Paddock, Como Park, Hardy Gallagher Reserve, Fitzroy Gardens, Carlton Gardens and the Royal Botanic Gardens. Council also pointed to Figure 5A of the Technical Report, the 'Schematic plan illustrating the type and location of proposed new open space', which it submitted clearly showed adjoining open space and had been misinterpreted by Mr Black and the PPP group submission.

Crossing roads

Piedimonte submitted that the open space needs of Fitzroy North in particular but also more generally across Yarra are overstated because roads do not constrain access to open space as much as has been assumed in the YOSS, giving as an example the need for the new Fitzroy North small local park on the basis that crossing Brunswick Street would be a barrier. Mr Black gave evidence that roads do not constrain access to open space as much as indicated in the YOSS, although he did acknowledge that for some people crossing a main road can be a physical barrier to accessing open space.

Specific Actions

Action 7.5A-6 in Collingwood

The PPP group of clients questioned why a Small Neighbourhood Open Space rather than a Local Open Space was needed for Action 7.5A-6 in Collingwood C, submitting that the relevant

²⁵ Document 29, [121] to [122].

²⁶ Document 31, [172].

explanation in the POPC suggests that the population that justifies the larger open space is expected to come after 2031 and therefore outside the YOSS.

Under cross examination by Mr Gobbo on whether the Small Neighbourhood Open Space was justified by the population growth to 2031, Ms Thompson gave evidence that the strategy was to deliver a smaller area during the timeframe of the YOSS rather than waiting for the whole area to be delivered at a later date. She referred to the relevant population forecasts and confirmed that she had not applied a different methodology to this needs assessment. Council submitted that Ms Thompson had responded to cross examination on this point that the open space could be provided in a staged way. However, it submitted that if the Panel is not satisfied that a Small Neighbourhood Open Space is justified for the 2031 population, the Panel could recommend that this action (and related costs) be adjusted accordingly which would reduce the costs from \$59,000,000 to \$30,000,000 to be apportioned between the existing and new population on a 50:50 basis.

Action 7.8A-2 in Fitzroy B

As noted above, the PPP client submission questioned Action 7.8A-2 in Fitzroy B on the basis that insufficient account had been taken of access to Carlton Gardens.

Action 7.9A-1 in Fitzroy North

Piedimonte questioned the need for the proposed new Small Local Open Space in Fitzroy North B, using this as an example to illustrate its submission that the need for new open space has been overstated.

Ms Thompson gave evidence that there is an existing need for this open space and that Edinburgh Gardens is becoming overused. She said it would also be required for the new population and to take pressure off Edinburgh Gardens. Mr Black did not give evidence on this matter.

Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield

Action 7.5B-4 is to “continue to implement the [Fairfield] masterplan including a major upgrade to the playground and picnic facilities at the park ... for both the existing and forecast populations”.²⁷ Porta submitted that there had been no explanation of the need for a full upgrade of the playground and picnic facilities, part of the Fairfield Masterplan, particularly where the increase in residential population in Fairfield is forecast to be only 57 people and the number of children in this forecast population would be considerably less. Furthermore, there had been no need for further improvement to the existing open space network for the existing population in Fairfield identified in the survey results.

Ms Thompson noted that there is no land acquisition proposed in Fairfield and the contribution required was to cover upgrades which would be targeted at neighbourhood use. Under cross examination, Ms Thompson would not agree that Fairfield and the area around the Porta site was overendowed with open space, but she did accept that it abuts public open space that even in 2041 would be over three times the standard aspired to by the Amendment. Council submitted that Porta did not challenge the Action *per se*, but merely the apportionment.

²⁷ Technical Report, p. 295.

(iii) Discussion

At the outset, the Panel notes the expert evidence of Mr Milner that the Amendment and supporting documentation should be recognised as generally sound strategic open space planning. All experts appeared to agree that the Amendment is generally in accordance with the statutory framework and PPN70. The Panel notes the evidence of Mr Black given under cross-examination by Ms Brennan that the planning underlying the YOSS was broken, and which was later retracted and confined to criticism of the gap analysis (8 February 2022). The Panel considers that Mr Black's evidence was not convincing in this regards.

The Panel notes that submitters did not question the open space hierarchy itself or the factors that Ms Thompson considered in the needs assessment, but instead focussed their criticism on how that assessment translated into specific Actions, or projects, including the particular open space type in the hierarchy was said to be required, and that it allegedly lacked an objective basis. The Panel has interpreted this as being an objection to the weight given to the various factors in the needs assessment and application of the methodology by Ms Thompson, including whether Ms Thompson should have quantified the relevant factors. Indeed, much of the disagreement between experts, Mr Shipp and Ms Thompson in particular, appeared to be a difference of approach: Mr Shipp clearly prefers a quantitative approach while Ms Thompson's approach is unashamedly qualitative. However, the statutory framework and PPN70 do not mandate, or even prefer, one approach over another. The YOSS and the open space needs assessment cannot fail on this point alone.

The Panel agrees that, in terms of the needs assessment and the resulting recommended Actions, a great deal rests on the qualitative judgement of one person, Ms Thompson. Her role in this respect is addressed further in Chapters 4.3 and 8. However, the Panel notes that while other experts questioned Ms Thompson's application of the YOSS methodology, there was no serious questioning of her expertise as an open space planner and her experience in the field. Further, the Panel also notes that Mr Milner and Mr Black, while planners, both agreed under cross examination that they were not expert open space planners. The Panel agrees that it may have been better to have a more thorough (peer) review built into the process and the Panel would recommend this to other planning authorities embarking on this exercise in the future. However, the Panel does not consider that this is fatal in terms of the needs assessment and the YOSS overall. The Panel discusses the role of a peer review in relation to the apportionment exercise in Chapters 4.3 and 8 below.

The Panel has carefully reviewed the way in which the Technical Report treats the issue of access to and use of adjoining open spaces in other municipalities and agrees with Council's submission that the issue was specifically considered as part of the needs assessment. The Panel takes note of the evidence of Ms Thompson that one of the key drivers of the YOSS was the desire to provide open space to all within the municipality and that it should be easily accessible to people of all ages and abilities. In many instances, use of open space in adjoining municipalities would require crossing of major roads. The Panel considers the weight given to this factor to be clearly justified by reference to the strategic direction for open space as set out in *Open Space for Everyone*. As a result, the Panel does not agree that the YOSS suffers from an over statement of the barriers of roads. The fact that Council has no control over the condition or continued existence of open spaces outside its municipality is important and that an over-reliance by Council on open spaces existing in adjoining municipalities would be open to the criticism that the strategy is 'undercooked'.

As a result, the Panel considers that there has been appropriate weight given to open space in adjoining municipalities.

In terms of the particular Actions that were questioned, the Panel makes the following comments:

- Action 7.5A-6 in Collingwood C: The Panel has reviewed the justification for the need for a Small Neighbourhood Open Space in this location rather than a Local Open Space and considered the evidence given by Ms Thompson under cross examination by Mr Gobbo on this point. Although the Panel considers that under cross examination Ms Thompson did not adequately clarify that the Small Neighbourhood Open Space was required by the forecast population up to 2031, that is the population to be considered within the YOSS timeframe, rather than being driven by later population growth (that is the population forecast between 2031 and 2041), the justification given in the Technical Report for the recommendation for a Small Neighbourhood Open Space in Collingwood C is clearly confined to the 2031 forecast population. The Technical Report notes that this open space will need to be increased in size between 2031 and 2041 to add a new Local Open Space and *“it is recommended that this be considered in the siting of this new Small Neighbourhood open space”*.²⁸
- Action 7.8A-2 in Fitzroy B: The Panel notes that one of the key reasons given by the PPP client submission for disputing the size of the proposed open space was that the gap analysis contained *no* recognition of the Carlton Gardens. As discussed above, the Panel considers that the needs assessment has properly considered adjoining open space in other municipalities.²⁹ A further reason given was that the Carlton Gardens is readily accessible across Nicholson Street. The Panel has considered the evidence given by Ms Thompson in response to cross examination by Mr Gobbo. The Panel acknowledges that there are several pedestrian crossings on Nicholson Street, an arterial road, that could be used to access the Carlton Gardens. However, the Panel has already noted above that it considers it appropriate that the YOSS and background documentation are premised on the strategy that open space must be accessible to all, regardless of ability, and that there has not been an overstatement of the barriers presented by roads. On this basis, the Panel considers that there is no compelling evidence to overturn the existing recommendation for a new Local Open Space in Fitzroy B.
- Action 7.9A-1 in Fitzroy North: The Technical Report states that Action 7.9A-1 is to be provided to address a gap in the existing open space network in the southern part of Fitzroy North B and so that the community living and working in Fitzroy North B can easily walk to open space nearby without crossing a major road. As noted above, given the clear strategic justification for making open space easily accessible to people of all ages and abilities, the Panel considers that appropriate weight has been given to the issue of crossing roads. More generally, the Technical Report states that new (and expanded) areas of open space in Fitzroy North will aim to cater to the local open space needs as suitable alternatives to Edinburgh Gardens, *“given the high levels of use and activity at the Gardens”*.³⁰ The Technical Report also identifies that in Fitzroy North the forecast new population will lead to pressures on existing open space and the risk of

²⁸ Technical Report, p. 254.(original emphasis)

²⁹ In relation to the Carlton Gardens, the Panel notes in particular that the Technical Report recognises that “Carlton Gardens in the adjoining City of Melbourne is valued and forms part of the open space network that is used by the community” (at p. 310).

³⁰ Technical Report, p. 332.

overcrowding. The Panel accepts the evidence of Ms Thompson that the Edinburgh Gardens is reaching its capacity, a proposition that was not generally challenged at the Hearing, and that a smaller area of open space in this area is required to take the pressure off Edinburgh Gardens and to provide an alternative, easily accessed area of open space in the southern part of Fitzroy North B.

- Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield: The Panel notes that the open space and future need description for Fairfield in the Technical Report identifies the need to continue to implement the existing masterplan for Fairfield Park but does not provide any identifiable reason for the proposed major upgrade to the playground and picnic facilities at the park. Cross examination of Ms Thompson did not reveal any real justification for the major upgrade. The Panel has considered both the Fairfield Park Master Plan 2010 and the Fairfield Park Masterplan Summary Report 2010 (Documents 37 and 38) and considers that they shed no further light on why the upgrade is said to be needed. The Panel does not accept Council's submission that Porta did not challenge the need for the upgrade and considers that Porta challenged both the need for the Action and the apportionment.

The Panel notes that the above objections to the above specific Actions were given by submitters as examples of the YOSS having overstated the open space needs of the municipality, or in particular precincts or locations. The Panel considers that the specific Actions are strategically justified in all instances except Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield. As detailed above, the overall methodology and factors considered by Ms Thompson in the needs assessment to be appropriate, including the weight given to open space in adjoining municipalities and the desire to provide open space that is accessible to all.

While the Panel would have preferred to have seen some kind of (peer) review of Ms Thompson's needs assessment and translation into specific Actions, on balance the Panel is of the view that the lack of peer review is not fatal on this point, and the quantum and distribution of proposed open space is appropriate to the needs of existing and new populations and is appropriate to the open space hierarchy proposed.

(iv) Conclusion

The Panel concludes that the YOSS and the Actions identified in the POPC are sound and strategically justified except that there is no strategic justification for Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield and this item should be removed from the YOSS POPC.

3.3 Open space needs of new residents and workers

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the open space needs of new residents and workers are appropriately assessed
- whether the open space needs of residents and workers should be regarded as equivalent for the purpose of calculating total future open space provision.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

As noted in Chapter 3.2, surveys and other forms of community engagement were used to understand what people value about open space and the current patterns of use of existing open space by residents and workers. The resident survey was a self-selecting survey with 1274

completed surveys received (out of 92,894 residents). The worker survey was an intercept survey in four different employment precincts in Yarra with 498 worker surveys completed. The survey findings are detailed in the Technical Report (Appendix B).

Ms Thompson stated that the research work done for the YOSS confirmed that workers use open space as well as residents and:

Based on the outcomes of the worker surveys and the aim of creating attractive and sustainable high density employment precincts in Yarra, I am of the opinion that addressing the local open space needs of the worker population is of equal importance to the resident population in the City of Yarra.³¹

In oral evidence, Mr Milner stated that it was difficult to reconcile the resident and worker surveys and one cannot draw the link that the need for open space for workers and residents is the same. He noted that 25 per cent of residents worked in Yarra and a significant per centage worked and lived in the same precinct which in his view could amount to 'double counting'.

Mr Black noted in his evidence that the open space strategies of other councils do not appear to consider worker population growth to the same extent as has Yarra and while the impact of worker growth is considered in other strategies, "*this is not treated as equal to resident population growth in the context of calculating the need for new open space*".³² He concluded that the approach taken to treat residential and worker population growth separately results in an overestimation of demand for public open space. He added that approximately 9-10 per cent of residents also work in Yarra thus resulting in double counting. In oral evidence Mr Black expressed strong reservations about treating the need for open space of workers as the same as for residents.

Council submitted that:

... the research undertaken as part of the development of the YOSS indicates that there is no meaningful distinction between the demand for and use of public open space by residents v workers. Council notes that no contrary evidence has been filed that provides an empirical basis to refute the conclusions reached by Ms Thompson in this regard.³³

It added that the empirical evidence indicates that there has been a substantial change in workers' use of open space since 2006 (when workers needs were not accounted for) such that there is no longer a material distinction between the need for and use of open space between residents and workers and the frequency of use by each group is not materially different.

In closing submissions, Council argued that those experts who challenged the equivalence between residents and workers in the YOSS had approached the question in the wrong way by erroneously focussing on the differential usage of open space between residents and workers rather than asking whether the need for, or importance of, open space to residents is different to that of workers. Council submitted that the Panel was effectively being asked by these experts to treat the open space needs of residents and workers differently based on different usage and that this is not consistent with community focussed approach sought by *Open Space for Everyone* and the YOSS. Council also urged the Panel:

... not to fall into the trap of assuming particular patterns of usage in its assessment of the YOSS and resolving the question of 'equivalence' by reference to the language and conceptualisation of 'demand units'.³⁴

³¹ Document 25, [3.6.4].

³² Document 31, [198].

³³ Document 34, [154].

³⁴ Document 134, [39] to [42].

Council pointed out that there had been no challenge to the collective assessment of the needs of residents, nor a suggestion that the residential needs assessment should be discounted because some individuals use open space for shorter periods than others, that residents visit open space at different times, or that there is a difference in the type and duration of use between residents but this was what was being done in the context of worker's use of open space.

Council observed that no alternative assessment of equivalence had been put to the Panel by any of the experts and only Mr Shipp provided numbers by reference to the Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines which recommend public open space provision of 10 per cent for residential areas and 2 per cent for employment/economic activity areas, a differential rate of 5:1. Council noted that Mr Shipp did not suggest that this rate should be adopted for workers and residents in Yarra. Council submitted that the land areas associated with open space for precinct structure planning are not good proxies for resident and worker open space needs in a mixed use, established inner city municipality like Yarra.

While noting that the Development Contribution Plan (DCP) approach is not directly comparable to, and not appropriate for, a public open space contribution rate under Clause 53.01, Council drew the Panel's attention to the Arden draft DCP³⁵ which contemplates the provision of open space using an equivalence ratio of 71 per cent between residential and commercial land uses. Council observed that the apparent basis for the 71 per cent ratio is that commercial uses are limited to business days, that is, only 5 out of 7 days per week. Council submitted that the Arden DCP example confirms that there is no set approach to worker and resident demand for open space and that it is not a suitable approach for this Amendment having regard to the different values based approach to open space used in the YOSS and the worker profile in Yarra.

Mr Gobbo submitted that Council had not established that workers make the same use of open space as residents or have an equal need for public open space. On this basis and that of common sense, he submitted, the Panel should reject the 1:1 assumption used in the YOSS. He noted that no in-workplace surveys were conducted and suggested that other data such as mobile phone data to verify the home location of park users could have been obtained and put before the Panel, but was not. He noted that Ms Thompson mistakenly assumed that the survey data suggested that more than 60 per cent workers visited open space daily whereas the survey said they visited open space at least once per week. Mr Gobbo submitted that Ms Thompson's conclusions therefore proceeded on an erroneous basis.

Mr Walker for Piedimonte also submitted that treating demand generated by a new worker as equal to one new resident is not justified and supported the submissions made by Mr Gobbo on behalf of the PPP group of clients.

In relation to the 'double counting' issue raised by Mr Milner and Mr Black, Council noted that while there are a proportion of workers who are also residents of Yarra, that is not say those people live and work in the same precinct such that there is no distinction between the times or reasons for using open space by those people or that they use the same open space when working or otherwise. It submitted:

Further, there is a distinction to be drawn between a 'residential' use for those people, such as walking the dog in the evening, and a 'worker' use such as eating lunch in a park, and those uses can reasonably be considered separate and distinct uses – those uses are for different purposes, may be in entirely different parts of the municipality, and in the Council's

³⁵ Amendment C407 (Arden Structure Plan) to the Melbourne Planning Scheme.

submission, can both equally be considered as part of the needs assessment, and in considering equity between residents and workers.³⁶

Council submitted that it would be impossible to account for the disparate needs of all people that are both workers and residents, an assessment at that level of granularity would be impractical and unnecessarily complicated. It added that any risk of 'double dipping':

... is not a material issue which has any significant implications for the POSC. It is a fringe issue that can be discounted by the Panel.³⁷

Mr Walker, noting the estimate of Mr Black that around 9-10 per cent of residents also work in Yarra, submitted that adjusting for this in the apportionment of costs would result in a "significant reduction" in the overall cost and the resulting public open space contribution rate.³⁸

(iii) Discussion

Evidence that clearly establishes whether there is a significant difference in the level of use of open space between workers and residents was not presented to the Panel. The Panel considers that a strong point was made that the worker use survey did not establish that workers' use of open space is equivalent to that of residents and the Panel is inclined to agree with Mr Gobbo that common sense suggests that the use of open space by workers will be of a different nature and probably less than that of residents.

However, it is unclear to the Panel whether any lesser use by workers would be significant and if so, how it would translate into the calculation of the overall future open space needs of workers. The Panel notes Council's submission that just because workers may use open space less often than residents, workers' need for open space is not of less importance than the need of residents and should be given equal weight. The Panel accepts the distinction between the use of and need for open space and agrees with Council that adopting need is the appropriate metric in calculating future of open space provisions. Adopting equal need and giving equal importance to the open space needs of all within the municipality underpins Council's approach and is consistent with the community focus sought by *Open Space for Everyone*.

Other methods to take into account worker use of open space versus that of residents were canvassed during the Hearing, for example, the ratio adopted in the precinct structure planning for outer Melbourne and that proposed in the Arden DCP. Neither of these methods is appropriate for Yarra, it being an established, mixed use municipality rather than a 'green fields' area or a clearly delineated urban renewal area.

With regard to the issue of 'double dipping', the Panel notes that undoubtedly, some people live and work in Yarra and perhaps even in the same suburb or precinct. However, an analysis to determine the potential overestimation of the need for future open space on this account would be difficult and in the Panel's view unnecessary. It would not be as straight forward as simply reducing the amount of future open space by the percentage of people who live and work in Yarra. For example, how would one calculate the need for open space for a worker who also lives in Yarra and uses open space during both work hours and after work and at weekends? It could be argued that that person would place more demand on open space than if they only worked in Yarra and lived elsewhere, but would that higher demand be twice the demand of a worker not residing in Yarra, 50 per cent higher, or some other amount? What if their workplace was at one end of Yarra

³⁶ Document 76, [32].

³⁷ Document 135, [49].

³⁸ Document 127, [43].

and their home at the other? In any event, the Panel considers that 'double dipping' in so far as it may occur would be inconsequential and would not materially change the amount of additional open space that should be provided to meet the needs of the new population of Yarra.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- the open space needs of new residents and workers are calculated appropriately
- the open space needs of new residents and workers can be considered as equivalent for the purpose of calculating future open space provision.

3.4 Proposed commencement and end dates for implementation of the Strategy

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the proposed commencement date of 2016 and end date of 2031 for the strategy are appropriate
- whether the population growth impacts of the COVID19 pandemic are such that the proposed end date of the strategy is still appropriate.

This issue arose because with the Hearing being held in late 2021 and early 2022, if the Amendment was approved by mid-2022 (say), by that time six years of the 15-year time frame of the YOSS would have elapsed. Further, it is recognised that Melbourne's population growth (in at least the short term) has been negatively impacted by the COVID19 pandemic and that should be considered in terms of any impact on the timeframe for the YOSS.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Council submitted that the vagaries of the Victorian planning system are such that Amendments such as this can take a number of years to prepare. It further submitted that while the data sets used should be the latest available at the time of preparation of an Amendment, even at the commencement of a project they can already be some years old.

Council, supported by the evidence of Ms Thompson, submitted that this was not a significant issue. It explained that the key target metric that underpins YOSS is not the projected end date but rather the forecast increase of 77,000 new residents and workers between 2016 and 2031. Ms Thompson emphasised that the list of projects proposed under YOSS were geared to providing open space for an increase in new population of 77,000, not necessarily what would be required at a particular point in time. At the time of preparation of YOSS that increase was expected to be reached by 2031.

Under cross examination and questions from the Panel, Ms Thompson explained that the 15-year implementation period of YOSS needed to be understood in the context of a continuum, of growing need for open space as the population increases and revenue that will be collected before the commencement date and after the end date for the implementation of YOSS. She explained that the start and end dates need to be viewed in the context of that continuum.

Council further acknowledged that a key impact of the approval of the Amendment about six years after the nominal commencement date was that the anticipated revenue of \$25.5 million per year

from 2016 to 2022 resulting from a levy rate of 10.1 per cent would not be met because during this period the existing levy of 4.5 per cent had been charged.

Mr Gobbo rejected any contention that the start and end dates of YOSS are ‘fuzzy’. He was critical of the use of census years to define the start and end dates contending that *“the sanctity of the data and the maths should not be thrown out the window because it becomes too hard”*.³⁹ He submitted the end date should not be pushed out because the start date has already been pushed out. He submitted that the data used, and the contribution rate were for a defined 15-year period.

Mr Gobbo further submitted that five years of the strategy period have now passed and that contributions at the proposed higher rate have not been collected from subdivisions during that time. He suggested to account for this, adjustments should be made including adding a further five years of developable land to the denominator used in the contribution rate calculation. With no adjustment to the numerator this would have the impact of reducing the contribution rate.

In calling evidence from Ms Kay, Ms Brennan questioned her on the commencement date of the YOSS. In response, Ms Kay stated that she saw no need to deduct unspent funds collected for the implementation of the 2006 strategy from the total project costs for YOSS and that any unimplemented projects remaining from the 2006 strategy, if carried forward, would likely be in a different form because of the higher growth expected since the 2006 strategy was adopted.

In cross examination, Ms Pepler put to Ms Kay that since 2016 some of the projected new residents had become existing residents. In response, Ms Kay emphasised the rolling nature of the time period and the analysis undertaken.

Impact of the COVID19 pandemic

Prior to the Hearing, the Panel directed that Council address the likely impacts of the COVID19 pandemic on the forecasts of new populations upon which the implementation of YOSS was based. Dr Eagleson attached a memo prepared at the request of Council to her expert evidence dealing with this issue (Document 26).

In her memo, Dr Eagleson considered a range of resident population forecasts, not all of which were specific to Yarra, more recent than the forecasts underpinning the YOSS prepared by .id Consulting. She acknowledged that the rapid slowdown in international migration was likely to slow Yarra’s population growth in the short term, but its medium-term impact was less certain.

With respect to the future growth in non-residential floor space, Dr Eagleson stated that the pace of growth has been faster than projected in 2018 in the SEES and relied on in the YOSS, and that there is currently a considerable development pipeline. In her view it was not possible to know with any certainty how this would affect worker population forecasts to 2031.

Dr Eagleson concluded that her best estimate of the impacts of COVID19 was that the forecast increase of 38,500 new residents and 38,000 new workers might not be met until 2034 or 2035.

In her evidence, Ms Thompson outlined what she observed as a possible impact of the COVID19 pandemic on the demand for and use of open space, in particular that working from home had had an impact on the way open space is used.

³⁹ Document 88, [166].

(iii) Discussion

The Panel makes three observations at the outset. Firstly, many strategies and revenue raising mechanisms such as DCPs in the urban planning context start from scratch and are not a successor to a previous strategy as is the case here. Secondly, there is often a time lag between development of the strategy and approval and implementation, but six years from the base data point to implementation as is likely to be the case with this strategy is unusual. Thirdly, most strategies have a clearly defined end date and don't necessarily have any implied continuation of actions beyond that end date as is the case here.

In this instance, each of these factors have understandably caused some uncertainty and confusion amongst submitters.

While an end date of 2031, a census year, was specified in YOSS, the Panel understands and accepts that it is equally valid to specify that the YOSS is geared towards a population increase of about 77,000, rather than a particular year. While this was not made explicit in YOSS, it is quite understandable why this was not the case. Apart from being a census year, there is nothing inherently significant about a planned end date of 2031.

The Panel accepts that it is appropriate to view YOSS as a strategy set in a context of continuing population growth and therefore open space needs, a continuing revenue stream and a rolling but updated program of open space projects to meet growing needs. Viewed in this context, the YOSS does pose some challenges for clear accountability for revenue collection and expenditure but these are not insurmountable.

The Panel further accepts that some projects may be updated versions of unimplemented projects from the 2006 strategy and that there may also be unspent funds both from developer contributions and from Council sources that may be carried forward and expended during the implementation of YOSS. The Panel sees no compelling argument for adjustments to be made for either of these circumstances.

The Panel does not accept Mr Gobbo's argument that the start and end dates of the YOSS are not 'fuzzy'. Where there is a continuum of growth and therefore a continually growing need for open space together with a system whereby the approved levy continues past a strategy end date, in the Panel's opinion there will inevitably be some 'fuzziness' as a result of these continuums.

The work of Dr Eagleson which indicated that projected new populations might not be met until 2034 or 2035 was not seriously challenged by submitters and the Panel accepts this is as good an estimate as can currently be obtained.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- the start and end dates proposed for the life of YOSS are appropriate
- viewing YOSS and the income and expenditure from contributions in the context of a rolling set of strategies is appropriate
- the adjustments to the likely timeframe for reaching population forecasts made because of the likely impact of COVID19 on future population and worker projections are appropriate.

3.5 Conclusions and recommendations

The Panel concludes that subject to other conclusions in this report that the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* and the accompanying *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* are appropriate to be introduced into the Yarra Planning Scheme as background documents in the Table in at Clause 1 of the Schedule to Clause 72.08

The Panel recommends:

Delete Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield from the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020*, the *Yarra OpenSpace Strategy Technical Report 2020*, and from Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs.

Amend the Schedule to Clause 72.08 of the Yarra Planning Scheme to insert the following documents into the table at Clause 1.0:

- ***Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd**
- ***Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd (Technical Report).**

4 Open space contribution rate

The open space contribution rate which is proposed to be included in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 to the Planning Scheme is calculated using the following formula:

Contribution rate = $\frac{\text{Total allocation of open space project costs to the forecast population}}{\text{Total site value of the estimated land to accommodate the population increase}}$ multiplied by 100

This Chapter examines the appropriateness of the data used in calculating both the numerator and denominator in this formula. Chapters 4.1 to 4.3 address issues relevant to the numerator and Chapter 4.4 addresses issues relevant to the calculation of the denominator in the equation above.

4.1 Value of land to be developed for open space

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the methodology used to value the land that will be acquired for open space is appropriate
- whether the values attributed to the land to be acquired are appropriate
- whether the 30 per cent allowance added to the value of land to cover Council's costs is appropriate.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

The value of land to be acquired to provide new or expanded open space is significant and as Mr Shipp stated in his evidence, it comprises 86 per cent of the cost of implementing YOSS. Based on the YOSS POPC (Document 6), Mr Shipp stated the total land acquisition cost as \$486.9 million.

Council submitted that the POPC was the metric commonly used in open space planning and is comprised of the sum of the land cost associated with new or expanded open space plus the capital costs associated with improvements to the land to provide appropriate open space facilities. The issues associated with the second of these are addressed in Chapter 4.2. The apportionment of these costs between existing and new populations is addressed in Chapter 4.3.

Calculation of land acquisition costs

The exhibited *Public Open Space Contributions* report (Contributions Report) describes the calculation of the land values as:

The cost of the land for proposed new open spaces is based on the average land area size for the hierarchy of open space. For example, a new Local open space has a minimum land area of 0.1 hectares and a maximum of 0.5 hectares. The average land area for a new Local open space is 0.3 hectares. This average land area is multiplied by the average (land) value for the sub-precinct in which the open space is proposed.⁴⁰

The average Capital Improved Value (CIV) of the relevant land was used as it was considered to be the measure that most appropriately reflects the market cost of acquiring land. CIV information was extracted from the Council rate data base by Dr Eagleson specifically for this purpose and assembled on a sub-precinct basis.

⁴⁰ *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020: Public Open Space Contributions*, y Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd in association with Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd, 10 December 2020, p. 9.

In his evidence, Mr Shipp stated that it is not possible to undertake a detailed assessment of the reported cost of purchasing land for open space because all the information required was not available. Some of that information was provided by Council after Mr Shipp prepared his written evidence.

Mr Gobbo submitted that using average CIV on a sub-precinct basis overstates the actual cost of acquiring land for open space for three reasons. Firstly, the average for a precinct will include properties already developed to their highest and best use and which are not likely to be purchased for use as open space. Such properties will have a relatively high unit value and including them in the calculation of the average inflates that average figure.

Secondly, Clause 21.12 indicates that public open space is intended to be located away from main or secondary roads. Mr Gobbo submitted that activity centre properties, which are located mostly on main roads and already developed or have high development potential, and therefore higher unit land values, are also included in the average CIV calculations. He contended that this has the effect of further inflating the average CIV. He submitted:

A more nuanced exercise of determining the likely sub-area for purchase, or even a list of potential sites or areas within a precinct, would be justified, however the current approach is not.⁴¹

The third reason given by Mr Gobbo for the overstatement of the total cost of acquiring land was that Council's approach ignores the repurposing of public land to open space use and assumes for the purposes of the cost calculation that all required land will be acquired on the open market. Mr Shipp pointed out that YOSS indicates that the land required for open space will be acquired through a number of methods including the conversion of land currently owned by Council or other government agencies. Mr Shipp stated:

The [YOSS] favours strategic, cost-effective acquisitions which are more practical to implement than large scale acquisition of developed sites – the latter option is effectively considered a 'last resort' by the Strategy, although it does note that a combination of several approaches may be necessary⁴²

To emphasise the potential to repurpose public land, Mr Gobbo identified a number of sites in proximity to the indicative location of open space projects. For example, Project 7.5A-4 in the Collingwood precinct is near the former Victoria Police workshop in Stanley Street and Project 7.5A-6 is located near Collingwood College. He cited a further example in Cremorne.

Council responded, submitting:

Council acknowledges that land acquisition will be a key strategy for delivery of the YOSS program of new open space. If there are other opportunities available, whether land contributions or conversion of publicly owned land, Council will act on those opportunities, as suggested in the Technical Report. However, there are obvious challenges in obtaining sufficient land to cater to the needs of the forecast populations and providing all of the projects recommend in the YOSS, whether from land contributions, or land conversions. As such, in order for Council to deliver the YOSS program, it will need to purchase land. The costings for the program have been undertaken on that basis.⁴³

Further, Council submitted that the evidence of Ms Thompson indicated that the 'low-hanging fruit' had already been picked and that opportunities for the conversion of public land are

⁴¹ Document 88, [178].

⁴² Document 28, [93].

⁴³ Document 76, [46].

becoming harder to find. Ms Thompson identified six projects proposed in the 2006 Strategy that had been implemented by repurposing public land.

Cost to Council of acquiring land

The Contributions Report further states that on the advice of the Council Property Office an amount was added to the average CIV to cover *“independent valuations, legal fees and other costs to Council”*. To cover these costs, a 30 per cent allowance was added to the land values.

As pointed out in the evidence of Mr Shipp, the amount of the allowance was not disclosed initially. The quantum of 30 per cent was only made clear in the evidence of Ms Thompson. Under cross examination, Dr Eagleson acknowledged that an amount had been added to the average CIV data she provided but that she was not involved in its calculation. Ms Kay stated under cross examination that the 30 per cent allowance had been added at the request of Council officers but that she had not been involved. She further stated that she was unable to comment on whether this had been the practice in other similar projects because she was usually given a land value figure and was not aware of what amounts may have been added to cover Council costs.

At the Hearing, Council produced a memo from the Property Services section of Council which indicated that the proposed add-on included an allowance to reflect the difference between CIV and market value (Document 64). Council also sought to table information in support which set out the difference between market value and CIV for a small selection of properties in Yarra (Document 65). Mr Gobbo strenuously objected to this information being provided so late in the proceedings but acknowledged that the Panel had initially quite correctly identified this as an issue and had requested further information from Council before the Hearing.

Mr Gobbo submitted that the Panel should reject the 30 per cent allowance and that the Council’s justification for the allowance gave rise to significant concerns about procedural fairness. He indicated that the 30 per cent allowance is significant and that if it was removed the open space contribution rate would fall from 10.1 per cent to 7.5 per cent. He submitted that:

The actual 30% isn’t justified in any or proper manner – whether it represents an administrative allowance, or some other broad kind of ‘add-on’ to the purchase costs.

If the 30% is an administrative allowance, it is quite clearly manifestly excessive. \$146M of administrative costs to purchase 31 properties amounts to an administrative cost of \$4.7M per project. This would be very difficult to justify by way of evidence, and there is no evidence to support this amount before the Panel.

But also, if the 30% is some kind of add-on to the purchase price, it isn’t justified.

As a matter of principle, it isn’t appropriate to simply ‘add’ 30% to the estimated average Capital Improved Values (CIVs) of the projects. The clear intent was to use average CIVs, based on the rationale that this represented an appropriate valuation. Average CIVs represent the ‘highest’ valuation method for contribution calculations that we are aware of. To add 30% on top of this to purportedly reflect ‘real market value’ is unprecedented.⁴⁴

Mr Gobbo noted that the sales ratio table put forward by Council (Document 65) does not appear to justify the 30 per cent allowance and added that ratios in the table show that *“for all the listed properties bar three, adding an allowance of 30% to CIV would result in more than the actual recent market value of the property”*.⁴⁵

⁴⁴ Document 88, [150] to [153].

⁴⁵ Document 88, [155]. Original emphasis.

After the submission of Mr Gobbo, the Panel requested that Council provide more detail on how the 30 per cent allowance had been calculated. Council subsequently advised that the officer who requested the 30 per cent allowance was no longer with the Council and that it was considering an alternative appropriate per centage allowance. The Panel issued a Direction on 20 December 2021 (Document 102) that this information be provided and that a revised contribution rate be calculated based on the revised per centage allowance. Further, the Panel directed that a sensitivity analysis be provided for a range of alternative allowances to cover costs to Council of acquiring land. The Panel also directed that Council provide an explanation as to how and why the 22 properties in the sales ratio table (Document 65) were chosen.

In response, Council tabled a letter from Westlink Consulting (Document 119) which stated that the criteria used to identify properties in the sales ratio table were:

- sales were selected from the 'commercial industrial retail' sector, from a total of 521 sales for the 2018 Council general revaluation
- the sales were chosen because they represented a broad geographic, property size and underlying zoning spread with the 'commercial industrial retail' sector chosen primarily as it satisfied the above criteria and included residential land (General Residential and Mixed Use)
- a focus on the areas of Yarra where most development is underway because those areas will have the greatest need for open space
- sales ratios ranged from 0.47 to 1.06 with most between 0.8 and 0.9 and were not chosen to fit the preferred Valuer General Victoria's preferred range (0.85 to 1.00) but rather to provide an actual reflection of the sale ratios generated.

Council also tabled a sensitivity analysis of applying revised percentage allowances (Document 117) and what the open space contribution rate would be for a '20 per cent allowance' and '10 per cent allowance' which showed rates of 9.35 per cent and 8.67 per cent respectively (Document 118).

In closing submissions, Ms Brennan submitted that an allowance above CIV should be included to reflect the costs that Council will actually incur in acquiring land on the open market. She stated that the allowance above CIV was always intended to capture property market values in addition to the administrative costs involved in buying property but Council now "*accepted that there is not sufficient justification for an allowance of 30% above CIV for the land acquisition component of the POSC rate calculation*".⁴⁶ Ms Brennan submitted, however, that there is legitimate justification for a 20 per cent allowance above CIV and this became Council's final position on this issue.

Piedimonte submitted in response to the memo and spreadsheet prepared by Westlink Consulting (Document 119):

The vast majority of properties set out in the spreadsheet were within a Commercial or Mixed use zone. These are properties with higher development potential and hence likely to have a higher market value. They are not likely to be representative of the average cost to purchase land for public open space.⁴⁷

(iii) Discussion

With respect to using average CIVs in calculating the costs of land to be acquired for open space projects, the Panel accepts that this is an appropriate, albeit imperfect, metric to use as a basis for

⁴⁶ Document 135, [83].

⁴⁷ Document 131, at [6c].

calculations. The Panel does not accept that a measure based on average CIVs in small defined areas where it is proposed to provide new open space is a practical approach, both because of the difficulty of defining such areas in any useful way and the possible and unforeseen impacts on property values of closely identifying defined areas or even specific properties at an early stage.

In accepting average CIVs as the base for this calculation, the Panel acknowledges the submission of Mr Gobbo that the inclusion of already developed properties and higher value properties in activity centres are likely to have some, probably fairly small but difficult to assess, impact on the averages calculated. The Panel believes that for these reasons it is likely that the average CIVs calculated are probably on the high side but not by a significant amount.

Further, the Panel accepts that it is possible that some of the proposed open space projects may utilise, in full or part, repurposed public land. In this respect it accepts the submission of Mr Gobbo and the evidence of Mr Shipp. However, in saying this the Panel acknowledges the evidence of Ms Thompson and the submission of Council that the 'low hanging fruit' has to an unknown degree already been harvested in implementing the 2006 strategy.

The Panel notes the examples of public land in Yarra that might be available for public open space in the future as identified by Mr Gobbo. Two of these are education facilities that are in areas identified for significant growth and the Panel considers it highly unlikely that the relevant agencies would responsibly agree to proposals to give over part of these sites to public open space or to sell the land to Council at substantially less than market value. The Panel acknowledges that some shared space used by schools and the public have been developed and innovative approaches such as this should form part of the broader menu of approaches. It is not the Panel's role to provide detailed commentary on the best use of surplus public land.

The Panel acknowledges that any repurposing of Council-owned land will reduce the total land acquisition costs of the YOSS. However, the Panel accepts that the Council's approach in not assuming further repurposing of Council-owned land in preparing its cost estimates is prudent. If it did make such an assumption, it would leave itself open to the accusation of not properly funding the YOSS. In some respects, Council is in a no-win situation here. The Panel notes that the YOSS acknowledges that further repurposing of public land is an important part of the land acquisition mix and will be pursued when possible.

With respect to the allowance to cover Council's costs of acquiring land, the Panel considers that Council has not operated with full transparency. To include a 30 per cent allowance recommended by an officer no longer with Council without subjecting it to scrutiny is not acceptable. To have got to the Hearing without a clear, transparent and defensible justification for the inclusion of such a significant amount is at best difficult to understand. To have believed that such a significant cost element would not come under considerable scrutiny appears naïve.

The Panel agrees with Mr Gobbo that there is not sufficient evidence before it to justify 30 per cent as originally sought by Council, nor indeed the 20 per cent allowance that Council is now advocating. Such a higher allowance could only be reached if an uplift in the average CIV to match market values was considered an appropriate approach. However, some properties sell above their CIV but equally others sell below. The Panel considers that the 'best' and most transparent way to determine the cost of acquiring land for this purpose is to use CIV (averaged) and not to attempt to reflect what is purported to be 'market value' by adding on a selected allowance which has not in the Panel's view been justified.

The Panel accepts that there will be material administrative, conveyancing and other costs which will add to the cost of purchasing land and that these costs will vary depending on the method used. For example, direct purchase in a public auction will likely incur different costs to a compulsory acquisition as a result of applying a Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO). No evidence on the range of costs the Council is likely to incur was led by any party, so the Panel has little to guide it on the quantum of an appropriate allowance. In the absence of such information the Panel has opted to recommend 10 per cent allowance be added to CIV to cover Council's administrative and acquisition costs. In the Panel's view, such an allowance is likely to be generous.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- on balance, the methodology used to value the land to be acquired for public open space is appropriate
- the values applied to the land to be acquired are appropriate overall
- an allowance of 10 per cent applied to the average CIV to reflect Council's administrative and land acquisition costs is appropriate.

4.2 Capital value of proposed open space projects

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the methodology used to cost open space projects is appropriate
- whether the costings proposed are appropriate
- whether the 30 per cent uplift on the capital cost estimate of the open space projects is appropriate.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

The capital cost of the proposed open space projects is based on a methodology used by the landscape architectural profession to estimate the determine the POPC without a quantity surveyor. The YOSS POPC is the total cost of the projects listed in the Technical Report and includes the cost of capital works to build new, or upgrade existing, open space plus the cost of acquiring land for new open space. The land cost component is discussed in Chapter 4.1.

An explanation of the YOSS POPC methodology is set out in a memorandum prepared by Ms Thompson dated 17 November 2021 (Document 7). The POPC includes an allocation of costs to existing and future populations. This aspect of the POPC is discussed in Chapter 4.3.

In her evidence (Document 25), Ms Thompson stated she prepared the YOSS POPC based on draft average park costings for each level in the hierarchy of open space and that the Yarra Open Space Planning team provided input to these average park costings consistent with Council's typical park design and construction costs. She elaborated in oral evidence that not every park was costed but instead the average cost for each category of park was used to determine the POPC.

Mr Shipp did not question the methodology used to estimate the open space project costs. He considered the methodology to be sound but that some of the inputs lacked justification and clarity. In particular, details of the average park POPC, such as cost per square metre and components, were not made available and in his view, *"it is not possible to make a full assessment*

of all the quantitative information underpinning the Amendment in the absence of this information".⁴⁸ In oral evidence, Mr Shipp noted that the information he considered missing had subsequently been provided but he had not had sufficient time to determine that the POPC costs were appropriate although he could see how the costs flowed through to the calculation of the proposed open space contribution rate.

In cross examination by Ms Brennan, Mr Black acknowledged that he had no criticisms with the YOSS with respect to the costings of the proposed Actions.

As to the 30 per cent uplift, Ms Thompson stated it was standard practice for the landscape architectural industry when preparing POPCs to include a 10 per cent contingency for design, 10 per cent for construction and 10 per cent for survey (Document 80).

In response to a question from the Panel, Mr Macintosh commented that a 30 per cent contingency was typical for government projects but property developers would typically use a 5 per cent cost contingency once a project was 80 per cent documented.

In answering a question from the Panel, Mr Shipp considered that an allowance of 10 per cent each for survey and design and a 10 per cent construction contingency – in total 30 per cent – was not unreasonable.

Council stated in a memorandum dated 13 December 2021 (Document 81) that a 30 per cent contingency for high level planning is appropriate. Ms Brennan submitted that a 30 per cent contingency on capital costs was standard. She added that the 30 per cent contingency had been arrived at independently by Ms Thompson and subsequently confirmed by Council officers.

Mr Gobbo stated in oral submissions that a contingency in the order of 30 per cent was not opposed by the PPP group of clients.

(iii) Discussion

Leaving aside the cost of acquiring land for the open space projects (which is discussed in Chapter 4.1), the methodology for determining the capital cost of projects included in the POPC was not called into question in any substantive way by submitters or expert witnesses. Nor was the estimated capital cost of each project as described in the YOSS disputed.

There was also general agreement that the 30 per cent uplift applied to the project costs to allow for survey and design work and a contingency for construction costs was reasonable. The Panel considers that the 30 per cent uplift in capital project costs is appropriate, noting that this 30 per cent uplift is separate to the 30 per cent allowance applied to the CIV of the cost of land to be acquired for the open space projects.

The Panel is satisfied that the methodology used to determine the capital cost and the proposed capital costings are appropriate as one input for the purpose of calculating the proposed open space contribution rate.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- the methodology used to cost the open space projects and the proposed costing for these projects are appropriate

⁴⁸ Document 28, [89].

- the 30 per cent uplift to the capital cost of the projects to allow for survey and design work and a contingency for construction costs is reasonable and appropriate.

4.3 Apportionment between existing and new populations

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the apportionment methodology proposed is appropriate
- whether the apportionment between existing and new populations is appropriate
- whether there are particular precincts in which the apportionment proposed is inappropriate.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Apportionment of the costs associated with new and enhanced open space projects between existing and new populations was a highly contested issue because the outcome has a significant impact on the quantum of the open space contribution rate eventually paid by developers.

In closing, Council submitted:

It is first appropriate for Council to acknowledge that the apportionment exercise undertaken by Ms Thompson has clearly not been an easy one for the Panel to understand.⁴⁹

The apportionment in the YOSS was undertaken by Mr Thompson. In her evidence, she identified eight factors which influence the need for open space by new (or future) populations. These are:

- future population densities
- spatial distribution of existing open space
- the hierarchy, character and condition of the existing open space
- proposed urban form
- urban layout including presence of any physical barriers to safe pedestrian access to open space
- the location and magnitude of forecast future resident and worker population growth
- the existing open space within the precinct
- the existing level of use and satisfaction with the open space.⁵⁰

Ms Thompson stated that the allocation of the total costs for each project involved a qualitative assessment based on each of these eight factors. At the direction of the Panel, as part of her evidence Ms Thompson provided a detailed description of the apportionment of project costs for the following three projects:

- 7.6A-2 Small local open space in the north-west part of Cremorne
- 7.6A-3 Small local open space in the south-west part of Cremorne
- 7.3B-9 Minor upgrade to the existing Quarries Park in Clifton Hill.

As indicated in Chapter 1.5, as a result of cross examination of Ms Thompson and submissions made by Mr Gobbo, the Panel requested further information on the apportionment methodology

⁴⁹ Document 135, [88].

⁵⁰ Document 25, [3.3.3 and 3.3.4]. This information was repeated in the information on apportionment requested by the Panel (Document 121).

used by Ms Thompson. Ms Thompson’s response details the four-step process she used in determining open space needs and subsequently the apportionment of costs:

Step 1 Assess and understand the existing open space network including how it functions for the existing population who live and work there, and what changes are required to meet the needs of the existing population. This involves research, site visits and review of the community surveys (worker and resident surveys) to understand the existing patterns of use.

Step 2 Assess and understand the type and scale of the forecast change, to determine what open space needs will be generated by this change. Part of this assessment includes considering the impact of this change on the existing open space network. This includes a review of the population forecasts, analysis of the spatial distribution of the forecasts relative to the open space network, site assessments to understand the scale of the proposed change on the open space and a review of relevant background documents about the forecast change.

Step 3 Make recommendations about what changes are required to address the open space needs of the existing and the forecast population. This includes the Actions to provide new open space and also upgrades to the existing open space network, which are included in the YOSS POPC. Part of determining the actions includes site assessments to identify what is feasible to implement in the context of the existing development and urban layout. It is important to note that the Strategy also includes recommendations and actions for changes that are not included in the contribution rate but will benefit the existing and forecast population including changes to the Municipal open space network and guidelines regarding the future design and management of open space.

Step 4 For each eligible recommendation assess and determine the appropriate proportion of cost attributable to the existing and forecast population based on the assessment in steps 1 to 3.⁵¹

Ms Thompson also provided a table which describes the relative importance of the eight factors in determining the apportionments. See Table 5.

Table 5 Apportionment ratios

Apportionment	Reasons for the apportionment
10/90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the need for the project is primarily driven by one group (i.e. either existing or forecast) of the population with some benefit (as distinct from the need) as a result of the project being delivered to the other group. typically this apportionment ratio applies where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in the case of 10 (existing) / 90 (forecast) the existing open space network adequately meets the open space needs of the existing population and the magnitude of forecast change of more than 350 people creates a high demand for new open space or major upgrades to existing open space. in the case of 90 (existing) / 10 (forecast) the existing population creates a high demand for new open space or major upgrades to existing open space and the forecast change is less than 350 people.
20/80	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the need for the project is high for one group of the population with the other group having a low need for the project. typically this apportionment ratio applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> in the case of 20 (existing) / 80 (forecast) there is a low need for improvement to the open space network for the existing population and the magnitude of forecast change of more than 350 people

⁵¹ Document 121, [2.1].

Apportionment	Reasons for the apportionment
	<p>creates a high demand for new open space or major upgrades to existing open space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in the case of 80 (existing) / 20 (forecast) the existing population creates a high demand for new open space or major upgrades to existing open space and the forecast change is less than 350 people.
30/70	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the need for the project is high for one group of the population with the other group having a moderate need for the project. • typically this apportionment ratio applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in the case of 30 (existing) / 70 (forecast) there is a moderate need for improvement to the existing open space network for the existing population and the magnitude of forecast change of more than 350 people creates a high demand for new open space or major upgrades to existing open space. - in the case of 70 (existing) / 30 (forecast) the existing community creates a high demand for new open space or major upgrades to existing open space and the magnitude of forecast change is less than 350 people with other factors having an influence on the need beyond the magnitude of the forecast change within that precinct. For example the need for the upgrade to larger open space reserves is created by the forecast change in adjoining precincts where there is a lack of larger open space reserves.
40/60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the need for the project is high for both the existing and forecast population but with other factors resulting in a difference. • typically this apportionment ratio applies where the existing open space network requires major improvements to meet the needs of both the existing and forecast population, with additional factors also being relevant such as the magnitude of the change (i.e. substantially more than 350 people) or the implications of the change in urban densities.
50/50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the need for the project is high for both the existing and forecast population. • typically this apportionment ratio applies where the existing open space requires major upgrade or where new open space is needed for both the both the existing and forecast population; or • alternatively, this apportionment ratio applies where the existing open space network is adequate with capacity for additional use and the forecast change is less than 350 people and can be accommodated in the existing open space network but will require consequential upgrades to the existing open space facilities.
95/5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the need for the project is high for one group and will deliver a minor benefit to the other group. • typically this apportionment ratio applies where the need for the project is primarily driven by the existing population and a minor benefit will be provided to the forecast population. This may include the forecast population in adjoining precincts.

Source: Memorandum from Ms Thompson dated 31 January 2022, Table 1 (Document 121).

The Panel questioned Ms Thompson on how, in practical terms, a distinction could be made between say a 90/10 apportionment and an 80/20 apportionment. She explained this by reference to the relative importance of the eight factors listed above.

Further, Ms Thompson provided a detailed description of how, using the descriptors set out in Table 5, she arrived at the apportionment of costs for eight projects nominated in advance by the Panel.⁵² These projects were selected to allow the Panel to better understand the apportionment used for similar types of projects within one precinct and similar types of projects between precincts. For each of these projects, Ms Thompson identified the relative importance of each of the eight factors set out above, by designating them as 'very important', 'high level', 'important', 'less important' and so on.

Questions from the Panel to Ms Thompson when she reappeared at the Hearing to present the further information requested by the Panel revealed the following:

- Ms Thompson has previously used this apportionment methodology in 10 to 12 open space strategies
- Ms Thompson acted alone in undertaking the apportionment exercise for the YOSS
- there was no peer review, or review by Council officers, of the apportionment outcomes
- Ms Thompson prepared the information set out in Table 5 for the express purpose of answering the Panel's questions and it had not been used in previous apportionment exercises undertaken by her
- the apportionment exercise was an iterative process with checks back on the apportionments allocated.

Ms Thompson stated that the "*relative proportion of the overall existing and future population did not have a key role in determining the proposed apportionment of cost*".⁵³

In describing the apportionment method, Ms Thompson stated:

For each individual open space project an estimate of the proportion of the total cost of the project that is attributable to the forecast development is made. The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 provides the basis for this estimate. The balance of the cost is attributed to the existing population.⁵⁴

The Panel questioned Ms Thompson on the logic of this statement, and she acknowledged that in making an estimate of the allocation to future population an allocation to existing population is a necessary part of that assessment.

Mr Gobbo submitted that the new population would make up 30.5 per cent of the total population in 2031 but is to be apportioned 67 per cent of the cost of delivering the YOSS. He described this situation - where approximately one-third of the 2031 population was being asked to pay for two-thirds of the costs of new open space - as a 'flip' and submitted that Council had not justified the flip. Mr Walker supported Mr Gobbo in this assessment.

With regard to the apportionment of costs, Mr Gobbo submitted:

⁵² The eight projects were: Project 7.5A-1: Small local open space between Wellington and Smith Streets; Project 7.5A-5: Increase the size of the Peel and Cambridge Street reserves; Project 7.5A-6: Small neighbourhood open space in Collingwood sub-precinct C; Project 7.5A-7: New local open space between Gipps and Victoria Streets; Project 7.5B-2: Overlaps with project 7.5A-5; Project 7.5B-3: Major upgrade the McNamara Reserve in longer term; Project 7.6A-1: Small neighbourhood open space in Cremorne; and Project 7.6A-3: Small local open space in the western part of Cremorne.

⁵³ Document 121, [1.4].

⁵⁴ Document 121, [3.1].

- a very significant question for this Amendment is whether the proportional allocations have been undertaken in a credible manner
- the Submitters have serious concerns about how the proportional allocations have been designated, and say, most forcefully, that they have not been allocated appropriately
- those concerns have not been allayed by the evidence
- at the outset, it must be said that it is here nigh impossible to determine why the proportional allocation for any particular project has been set as it has, in the Strategy POPC
- despite Ms Thompson being directly asked by the Panel to address this question, and multiple attempts to explain the allocations in evidence in chief, and cross-examination, the methodology and allocations have become no clearer through the hearing process.⁵⁵

Mr Gobbo described Ms Thompson's approach to apportionment as something of a 'black box', a claim repeated by Ms Pepler in response to the further information provided by Council. He acknowledged the use of the qualitative factors used by Ms Thompson but submitted that it was impossible to understand how each had influenced the apportionment. He pointed out that this is not a minor concern and that even a minor shift in the relative apportionments would have a material impact on the contribution rate.

Mr Gobbo submitted that an alternative approach of apportioning costs based on the proportions that existing and new populations comprise at 2031, the end date of the YOSS, would be a simpler approach and readily understandable. Mr Gobbo was supported in this position by the evidence of Mr Shipp who endorsed an approach based on the proportions of existing and new populations. Under cross examination by Ms Brennan, Mr Shipp acknowledged that his experience was mainly in the preparation and assessment of DCPs rather than open space, but he argued that many of the same principles applied. He further accepted that factors other than the relative proportions of the existing and new population could be relevant to the apportionment exercise.

In his expert evidence, Mr Milner offered no direct criticism of the specific factors influencing the apportionment exercise identified by Ms Thompson. While acknowledging the role played by these factors, Mr Milner set out the proportions of the existing and new populations would comprise the total at the end of the planning period.

Other than the evidence of Mr Shipp, who acknowledged that he is not an open space planner, no evidence was called to question the methodology used by Ms Thompson, nor did any submitter suggest an alternative. Mr Gobbo submitted:

The question is not whether the Submitters can put forward a more suitable alternative, or different numbers, or different solutions. This is not their role. The question is whether the Council has substantiated that the proposal *it* puts forward is justified.⁵⁶

In addressing the issue of apportionment of costs, Mr Walker cited the Eddie Barron principles as a starting point and submitted that they suggested that a fair and equitable apportionment was required. He submitted that the starting point was the proportions of the existing and new population in 2031 (adopting Mr Gobbo's 'flip' terminology) and that to deviate from those required an evidentiary base which, he submitted, was not provided by the evidence of Ms Thompson. He submitted that the departure from an apportionment based on populations proposed here was so significant that sound justification was needed.

⁵⁵ Document 88, [55] to [59].

⁵⁶ Document 88, [31].(original emphasis)

In terms of the factors which influenced the apportionment of costs, in cross examination Mr Gobbo pursued Ms Thompson in detail on the importance of two factors which he submitted appear to have had a disproportionate influence on the apportionment of costs. The first of these was the nature of future residential stock compared with existing residential stock. Mr Gobbo contended that Ms Thompson had relied on the assumption that new housing stock would have less private open space than existing housing stock and therefore would place greater reliance on public open space. Ms Thompson, while defending this as a legitimate and important factor in the apportionment, acknowledged that no analysis of access to private open space of existing residents had been undertaken.

The second factor is the impact of UHIE (urban heat island effect). Mr Gobbo pointed out that there were few references to UHIE in the POPC document as revised (Document 61). He submitted that while not being an expert in this area, Ms Thompson had used this factor, arising from the increased intensification of development likely in the future, to allocate a disproportionate cost burden to new populations compared with existing populations.

In arguing that an inappropriate apportionment of costs had occurred, submitters and Mr Shipp identified a small number of projects where they argued that the apportionment proposed was inappropriate. These included:

- Project 7.3A-1 where 50 per cent of the cost of land acquisition is apportioned to the new population but the Technical Report identifies it as a project to address an existing gap.⁵⁷
- Project 7.5A-6 which is a Small Neighbourhood open space in Collingwood with 50 per cent apportioned to new development. The Technical Report identifies this as an area of limited residential population increase but substantial worker increase, and that the main driver of demand is growth beyond the planning horizon.⁵⁸
- Project 7.9A-1 which is a Small Local open space with 60 per cent of costs allocated to the new population but is in an area designated for minimal and incremental change. Mr Walker submitted there was an existing need and but somewhat contradictorily an area well served by existing open space.⁵⁹
- Project 7.5B-4 which is a major upgrade to facilities in a playground in Fairfield Park. Mr Pitt noted the 30 per cent allocation to new residents who he said totalled 57 persons in 47 households and an expenditure of \$750,736. He submitted that if 47 households comprised only one adult that there could be only 10 children in the precinct resulting in an expenditure of more than \$75,000 per child.⁶⁰

The response by submitters to the further information provided by Council addressed specific apportionment in respect of projects 7.5A-5, 7.5A-7, 7.5A-1 and 7.5A-6⁶¹ and 7.9A-1⁶². In each case the submitters pointed out perceived inconsistencies between the criteria given for the apportionment as reproduced in Table 5, and reference to existing needs and existing gaps in provision in the relevant section of the Technical Report.

It is noted that no expert open space planning evidence was called to substantiate these claims nor was any alternative apportionment proposed.

⁵⁷ Document 28, [104].

⁵⁸ Document 28, [104].

⁵⁹ Document 88, [85e] and Document Mr Walker submitted 127, [35].

⁶⁰ Document 129, [9.12] to [9.1].

⁶¹ Document 133, [7h].

⁶² Document 131, [2b].

In closing, Council submitted:

Council accepts that the Panel is, to an extent, being asked to trust Ms Thompson's professional judgement, but the trust that the Panel is asked to have is based on Ms Thompson's acknowledged expertise and experience in open space planning, and on the detailed testing and examination of the methodology, and of Ms Thompson directly, by Council, the parties, and the Panel through this process.⁶³

Council further explained that:

- all actions described in the YOSS POPC (Doc 61) to meet the needs of the "existing and forecast" population are in the range 30:70, 40:60, 50:50; and
- all actions described in the YOSS POPC (Doc 61) to meet "primarily future" or "forecast" needs are in the range 30:70, 20:80, 10:90.⁶⁴

Council provided an Appendix B to its closing submission (Document 137) which presented information from exhibited and other previously tabled documents for all projects with apportionments of 90/10 or 10/90 (existing populations/ new populations) and 40/60 and 60/40 populations. This was intended to assist the Panel in better understanding the apportionments.

Further, Council submitted in closing that if the Panel had residual concerns about apportionment, two options available to the Panel were for it to:

- request further documentation
- request Council to engage a consultant to undertake a peer review.

(iii) Discussion

The further information on cost apportionment requested by the Panel and provided by Council, together with the information provided in Appendix B to the Council's closing submission, has informed the discussion here. In using that information, the Panel has been cognisant of the submission by Rigby Cooke that the further information provided by Council should not include a new information and explanation justification but should be limited to an explanation of what Ms Thompson considered in the original apportionment undertaken and as exhibited. The Panel notes that Ms Thompson acknowledged the information in Table 5 was prepared in fulfilling the Panel's request, but the Panel does not interpret it as new information and explanation as such.

At the outset, the Panel acknowledges:

- Ms Thompson has extensive experience in cost allocation in open space planning settings and this expertise was not questioned by any expert or submitter; nor is it questioned by the Panel
- the broad methodology used by Ms Thompson has been used in a number of other open space contribution settings in recent years
- the cost allocation methodology used by Ms Thompson has been used in other like amendments without, to the Panel's knowledge, extensive questioning of it or adverse comment by other panels
- no contrary evidence by open space planning experts was called to question the methodology used by Ms Thomson to allocate costs between existing and new open space users
- evidence which did question aspects of the methodology and outcomes of cost apportionment was given by witnesses with primarily DCP expertise

⁶³ Document 135, [96].

⁶⁴ Document 135, [100].

- the approach used by Ms Thompson in using professional qualitative judgment rather than a purely quantitative approach was not seriously challenged.

The Panel acknowledges the undoubted expertise and experience that Ms Thompson brings to this matter and that is born out through, in her estimate, the approach having been used around a dozen times in recent years in both Yarra and other municipalities.

The Panel first addresses the methodology used in apportioning costs between existing and future populations and secondly addresses the application of that methodology.

The Panel does not question the broad qualitative approach used. It considers that attempting quantification of relevant factors would most likely create more problems than it would solve. Hence the Panel rejects any suggestion that a quantitative approach is preferable or indeed possible. The Panel acknowledges the temptation to apply aspects of the DCP methodology to this issue but considers that such an approach is not appropriate.

Nor does the Panel question the eight factors listed above as being relevant to the apportionment exercise. While the interpretation of, and weight given to, some of the eight factors were questioned, the eight factors themselves were not seriously challenged. The impact that the nature of development and UHIE has on cost apportionment was questioned and is addressed separately below.

The Panel notes that the apportionment methodology appears, by Ms Thompson's own acknowledgment, to rest on her professional judgment alone. As stated above, her professional judgment is not questioned by the Panel. The Panel acknowledges that it does not possess specific expertise in this area.

However, the Panel understands the 'black box' label applied to the apportionment exercise by Mr Gobbo and Ms Pepler, and notes that neither it nor submitters are able to readily validate the apportionments made for particular projects. The apportionments made by Ms Thompson were, by her own acknowledgment, not reviewed either within her own firm or by Council officers. Further, the Panel is a little surprised that criteria for the apportionment between existing and new populations as used by Ms Thompson and reproduced at Table 5 were not already documented, in one form or another. It had assumed that there would be a rigorous and clearly documented set of guidelines or protocols underpinning such a qualitative exercise. The Panel notes the concession made by Council in its closing submission that the Panel is being asked 'to an extent' to take Ms Thompson's professional judgment on trust.

In light of this, the Panel has concerns about the professional judgment of one person, however expert and experienced, being used to apportion costs as part of the calculation of a levy intended to raise in the order of half a billion dollars over the planning period. Based on the revised POPC calculation tabled at the Hearing (Document 61), the overall apportionment to the new population was calculated at 67.1 per cent, that is \$379,973,479 of projects apportioned to new populations as per centage of the total cost of \$566,079,822.

For sake of argument, if the apportionment to new populations was reduced to 57.1 per cent, the total cost to new populations would be \$323,231,578, some \$56 million less, a significant amount.

The Panel is not suggesting that the methodology should not rely on the expertise and experience of one person. However, given the quantum of revenue to be collected it considers that there should be a transparent review process that ensures validation of the outcomes reached and a degree of transparency for external parties. That review process should be based on an

independent peer review. It is not the Panel's role to suggest an appropriate apportionment methodology.

In making these comments on Ms Thompson's methodology, the Panel is acutely aware that previous panels have either endorsed, or at least made no comment about, the methodology. The Panel recognises that in this respect it is departing from the outcomes reported by at least some previous panels. In doing this, the Panel comments that it is basing its observations on material before it and cannot know the full extent of material or submissions put before previous panels. The Panel notes that in this case the contribution rate proposed is an order of magnitude higher than any other existing open space levy in Victoria, and as such has attracted a level of scrutiny that may not have been applied before. The scrutiny is appropriate given the quantum of the contribution rate and the likely revenue it would generate.

The Panel now turns to the application of the apportionment methodology.

Both Mr Gobbo and Mr Walker placed emphasis on the so-called 'flip', that is approximately one-third of the new population being apportioned approximately two-thirds of the total costs. The Panel places little weight on this because the one-third and two-thirds ratios have emerged from the methodology used and are essentially coincidental. However, the broad point of apportionment of costs deviating significantly from the ratio of new to existing populations is relevant.

The Panel notes Ms Thompson's statement that relative proportions of existing and new populations did not have a significant influence on the apportionment between these two groups. The Panel finds this comment somewhat puzzling as the open space is provided to meet the needs of these populations. Ms Thompson acknowledged that her point could have been better stated.

The Panel considers that the fundamental problem is that neither it, nor submitters, are able to validate the apportionments made and therefore cannot have comfort that the apportionment of costs is appropriate.

The Panel notes that in applying the eight factors, Ms Thompson allocated an order of importance to each in the further information she provided to the Panel (Document 121). However, it is not clear to the Panel what weight was given to each factor in the apportionment of costs in each of the case studies provided. In the Panel's view, the indicators of 'very important', 'high level', 'important', 'less important' and so on were not used consistently and the distinction between 'very important' and 'high level' is not clear to the Panel. Despite further explanation by Ms Thompson, the Panel is still not clear what the relative weights applied to each of the factors was or their impact on particular apportionment outcomes.

With respect to the apportionment categories set out in Table 5, the Panel notes Ms Thompson's explanation of how an apportionment might be made by her at the margins. Despite this, the Panel considers that an external user (and indeed the parties to this Hearing or the Panel) have little in terms of practical guidance that allows validation of a particular apportionment.

In considering the nature of development and the impact of UHIE which Mr Gobbo submitted each had a disproportionate impact on the apportionment of costs to new populations, the Panel does not address these in any great detail. The reason for this is that despite extensive cross examination of Ms Thompson by Mr Gobbo, the Panel is not able to be certain of the weight given to each in the cost apportionment exercise. The Panel accepts that UHIE is relevant and is addressed in local policy. The Panel was presented with no convincing evidence as to its impact or the extent to which it has influenced particular apportionments. Further, it is not clear to the

Panel that the existing population has been allocated a fair share of the costs of this relatively recent factor in influencing the need for open space and greater tree canopy cover in particular. As an example of this, the Panel notes that for Project 7.8A-6 which has a 90 per cent apportionment to the new population, the description in the POPC (Document 61) includes reference to mitigating the UHIE. It is unclear to the Panel why the existing population should not be making a greater contribution in this respect.

Only a small number of projects were identified for which apportionments were questioned and proposed by experts and submitters as inappropriate. Mr Pitt set out in numerical terms how a particular apportionment in Fairfield resulted in an outcome that makes little logical sense in terms of the data which was presented in the exhibited documents. In the responses to the further information provided by Council and Ms Thompson, further projects were listed above where submitters perceived a bias towards over apportionment to new populations. The Panel accepts that despite its comments above that it is difficult to validate the apportionments proposed, it can understand the possible inconsistencies identified with respect to at least some projects.

No alternative apportionments were proposed in any instance. From this small number of examples, the Panel is unable to draw any firm conclusion on the appropriateness or otherwise of the apportionments. However, it acknowledges that some apportionments to new populations do appear to be higher than might be expected based on the information provided. The Panel is not in a position to suggest appropriate apportionments and submitters have not attempted this.

The different way the apportionment exercise was explained in Appendix B to the Council's closing submission has not added a great deal of clarity to the Panel's understanding of the apportionments made.

In attempting to understand particular apportionments, the Panel has asked itself whether it can be confident that the apportionment should not be one category or apportionment ratio (from Table 5) in either direction from that selected by Ms Thompson. In many cases, the way the apportionments are explained does not provide the Panel the comfort it would like. Where there is doubt, it seems to the Panel that there could be an over apportionment to new populations.

On this basis, the Panel cannot confidently conclude that the apportionments are justified. The Panel draws this conclusion somewhat reluctantly and despite two requests for information which it had hoped would add a greater level of transparency to the outcomes proposed.

The Panel is, however, surprised that the apportionment to new populations deviates to the extent it does from the proportion they comprise of the total population at the end of the planning period. Having said this, the Panel accepts that apportionment based on the proportion of new and existing populations is too simplistic and that other factors have legitimately been taken into account. It notes that the overall apportionment proposed (67.1 per cent to the new populations) has a significant impact on the comparatively high open space levy that is proposed.

In drawing these conclusions, the Panel acknowledges that given the qualitative methodology used it is not likely that a non-expert Panel or submitters would be able to comfortably validate outcomes. However, because of the magnitude of revenue involved, the Panel considers that validation of the apportionment outcomes through a suitably structured peer review is required.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- a qualitative, as opposed to quantitative, methodology to apportion costs between existing and future populations is appropriate
- the basis of and factors influencing the qualitative approach used to apportion costs are appropriate
- the apportionment of costs should be the subject of a suitably structured peer review.

4.4 Value of land required to accommodate future residents and workers

(i) Issues

The issues are:

- whether the methodology used to calculate the value of land required to accommodate the new population is appropriate
- whether that methodology has been appropriately applied in calculating the value of land required to accommodate the new population.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

The value of land required to accommodate the new population is the denominator in the contribution rate calculation equation. The Contributions Report describes how the denominator was established:

The resident and worker population forecasts and the dwelling and non- residential floor space forecasts were apportioned spatially to the open space planning precincts based on the City of Yarra's forecast data. This provided the starting point for determining how much land would be needed to accommodate the forecast increases. The value of land estimated to redevelop was determined using site values based on Council's property rate valuations, as the public open space contribution rate is applied to site value only.⁶⁵

Dr Eagleson, an expert in spatial modelling and author of the technical document titled 'Data for Residential and Non-residential Development to assist calculation of the Public Open Space Contribution Rate' (Document 8), gave evidence for Council on the methodology that she applied to determine the denominator. This involved:

- developing a model to estimate the land area required to support residential and employment growth in the City of Yarra small areas 2016 – 2031; and
- sourcing land valuations data from the City of Yarra and aggregating this data within a Geographical Information System (GIS) into the required spatial units to support the City of Yarra Open Space Strategy.⁶⁶

Dr Eagleson's evidence considered the impact of COVID19 on each of the inputs to the denominator calculation. She stated that the key impact of the pandemic was that development would likely be slowed in the short term (2022-2023) after which forecast growth is likely to resume, with the result that population forecasts for 2031 would be more likely to be achieved by 2034 or 2035. She said that for a range of other inputs, it was too early to predict what the longer-

⁶⁵ Contributions Report, p. 10.

⁶⁶ Document 26, p. 5.

term impact would be. The impact of the pandemic on the denominator calculation was not raised as a key issue at the Hearing and is dealt with more generally in Chapter 3.4.

The PPP group of clients took issue with two aspects of how Dr Eagleson had applied the methodology:

- how the population forecasts had been apportioned spatially to the open space planning precincts
- the use of 2016 median site values.

On the first point, Mr Gobbo submitted that there was a mismatch between where Ms Thompson assumed populations would go, according to strategic documents, and where Dr Eagleson assumed they would go, according to her predictions of market forces and land values. Dr Eagleson stated under cross examination that in terms of the spatial mapping exercise, she had looked at sites where development (or growth) would occur based on capacity and market forces rather than where proposed open space would occur based on relevant strategic planning documents.

On the second point, Mr Gobbo submitted that the costs in the denominator had been undervalued because median site values, assessed according to 2016 values, for the most undeveloped sites within Yarra had been used. He argued that the site values on which the contribution amount will be calculated when subdivision occurs will be higher than the 2016 values used in the calculation not only due to the passage of time, but also because site values of these undeveloped sites will go up once purchased for redevelopment, rise again when developed, and rise further when a subdivision permit is granted and a valuation done for the purposes of the subdivision contribution. Undervaluing site values in this way, he submitted, reduces the denominator, which in turn increases the overall contribution rate. He stated that an allowance could have been made for this undervaluing using, for example, evidence from an expert valuer.

Under cross examination and re-examination, Dr Eagleson gave evidence that the 2016 median site values had been used because:

- median values are more reliable (than average values)
- the 2016 values had been formally adopted and were the most authoritative available, as opposed to the 2018 values which were only pending and had not been formally adopted by Council at the time (and which she acknowledged would generally be higher than the 2016 values) and matched the census figures.

Under cross examination, Dr Eagleson generally agreed that the site value of land being developed would generally rise over time and as it was developed.

This part of the Mr Gobbo's submissions was supported and adopted by Piedimonte.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel notes that the overall methodology used to calculate the total site value of the land forecast to be developed (the denominator) itself was not seriously challenged at the Hearing. Rather, the key issues raised were about the application of the methodology.

It is not clear to the Panel what impact the suggested spatial 'mismatching' of forecast populations to precincts would have on the relevant site values and the denominator calculation. This was not drawn out in any of the submissions and in the Panel's view, no compelling argument was advanced to overturn Dr Eagleson's calculations.

In terms of the use of 2016 median values, the Panel acknowledges the arguments advanced by Mr Gobbo that at the time any given contribution is actually calculated, the site valuations will be higher than the 2016 median values used to calculate the rate. It is also accepted that it would be possible for the Council to have made an appropriate adjustment to the denominator on this basis. However, if such an adjustment exercise were to be undertaken, a similar exercise would need to be undertaken for other inputs to the rate calculation. If this had occurred, the Panel considers that each of these variations would most likely have been challenged and various competing adjustment methods or amounts put forward by relevant experts. There would also be the question of exactly what date the adjustment should be made up to and any date chosen would have an element of arbitrariness. On the basis that the majority of data informing the rate calculation has been taken as at 2016 (based on the most recent census data available at the time the relevant work was undertaken), the Panel is satisfied that the 2016 data set for site values is appropriate.

The Panel accepts Dr Eagleson's evidence that the use of the median values is most appropriate and notes that the use of the median (as opposed to the average, for example) is a common approach in this type of exercise.

(iv) Conclusion

The Panel concludes that the methodology used to calculate the value of land required to accommodate future residents and workers is appropriate and has been appropriately applied.

4.5 Recommendation

The Panel recommends:

Replace the 30 per cent allowance added to Capital Improved Value of land with 10 per cent, in calculating the cost of land to be acquired for future open space, in the calculation of the open space contribution rate.

5 Issues arising in calculating and applying the open space contribution

5.1 Proposed approach to acquiring land

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the proposed approach to acquiring land required for open space is realistic
- whether the heavy reliance on acquiring land required for open space on the open market is appropriate
- whether the potential conversion to open space of publicly owned land has been given sufficient weight in the approach to acquiring land
- the role of PAOs in acquiring land for open space.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

The Technical Report states that the land required to deliver the YOSS will be acquired through a range of mechanisms:

- as a land contribution as part of future subdivision of land for large development sites
- conversion of Council-owned land from its existing use to open space
- conversion of land owned by another government agency to open space
- purchase of undeveloped land
- purchase of developed sites where no other opportunities are available.

Council submitted that its reliance on land acquisition on the open market as a key strategy for delivery of the YOSS is entirely appropriate because insufficient land will become available to deliver the YOSS from land contributions and land conversions. The Contributions Report refers to the experience of councils in inner and middle ring suburbs needing to purchase private land at market rates to meet the open space needs of forecast populations due to the limited number of redevelopment sites large enough to provide usable land contributions and that there are limited opportunities for Council-owned sites to be converted due their limited availability, size and location.

The evidence and submissions relating to repurposing of public land has been discussed in Chapter 4.1.

The Contributions Report states that Council is not proposing to use the PAO to purchase property to deliver the YOSS. Ms Thompson's evidence was that the PAO could be used by Council to acquire land for open space, but only after Council had undertaken a more detailed assessment at a sub-precinct level to identify potential land that meets the criteria for new open space (Table 5-2 in the Technical Report). Once this had been done, Council could prepare an action plan for each sub-precinct which would include various options including introducing a PAO over relevant land. Ms Thompson said that Council would be able to acquire the new open space in the sub-precincts identified to deliver the YOSS and that the timing of the acquisition and establishment of new open spaces would become clearer once the detailed assessment had been undertaken. She explained that the reliance on purchase on the open market is *"based on the understanding that*

*there are only a limited number of redevelopment sites are large enough for the land contribution deliver suitable land contributions as open space”.*⁶⁷

Mr Milner stated:

The identification of land at an early stage assists the affected landowners and others in the vicinity to make informed decisions about the use and development of their land.

Early ‘reservation’ also enables control of the use and development of land that will eventually be acquired, including insofar as all further use, development, or subdivision of the land will generally require a planning permit and permit applications must be referred to the acquiring authority.⁶⁸

Council submitted that delaying the imposition of PAOs until it had more clarity or certainty around which properties would be purchased would avoid “*significant uncertainty and angst for landowners and the community*”, particularly when PAOs are in place for long periods of time.⁶⁹ In contrast, Mr Gobbo submitted that uncertainty would be created by the existence of the YOSS (and associated documentation) itself because it generally identified the areas where open space would be delivered and properties acquired.

Mr Shipp stated that the lack of the use of PAOs in the YOSS was a factor in his view that the YOSS is ‘speculative’. In his opinion, the acquisition strategy of the YOSS was not guaranteed to be successful, and even if successful, would take a long time to achieve which could push acquisitions outside the timeframe of the YOSS. Mr Shipp said this was inequitable because developers were being asked to pay for open space that may never be delivered or would be delivered outside the timeframe of the YOSS.

Mr Shipp also considered that there is a ‘mis-alignment’ between the YOSS’s heavy reliance on the acquisition of ‘improved’ properties and the stated strategy for land acquisition which places acquisition of developed properties on the open market as the last option. In his opinion, the other methods identified in the YOSS are more practical to implement. Under cross examination by Ms Brennan, Mr Shipp stated that he accepted that land acquisition would be required to deliver the YOSS.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel considers that Council has taken a realistic and measured approach to the way in which it intends to acquire land to deliver the commitments of the YOSS. The Panel agrees that the Council will face considerable difficulties in acquiring suitable areas of open space using land contributions and repurposing of either Council-owned or other public land. As noted in Chapter 4.1, the Panel acknowledges the evidence of Ms Thompson and the submission of Council that the ‘low hanging fruit’ with respect to repurposing of public land has to an unknown degree been harvested in implementing the 2006 strategy and that it would not be appropriate for Council to rely too much on this method of acquiring land for open space. It considers that most larger development sites in Yarra have already been developed. For these reasons, the Panel considers that the acquisition of developed land on the open market, as the final method proposed by Council if other opportunities are not available, is appropriate and that the Council will need to rely heavily on purchasing privately held land on the open market to deliver the YOSS.

⁶⁷ Document 25, at [3.7.6].

⁶⁸ Document 29, at [28]-[29].

⁶⁹ Document 75, at [52].

The Panel notes the concerns of submitters about the challenges facing Council in acquiring and delivering open space on the scale contemplated by the YOSS. In this regard, the Panel notes the exhortation in *Open Space for Everyone* to be bold in planning for open space across metropolitan Melbourne.

The Panel supports Council's approach of not applying the PAO to land until it has properly assessed all potential land that meets the criteria for new open space in each precinct and whether a PAO is the most appropriate option. However, if a PAO is to be used, it should be applied as early as possible once that decision is made to ensure that the land is not further developed in a manner contrary to its future use as open space and potentially thereby increasing the compensation payable under the compulsory acquisition process.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- the proposed approach to acquiring land for open space is measured and realistic
- the heavy reliance on acquiring land for open space on the open market is appropriate
- the potential conversion and use of publicly owned land has been given appropriate consideration
- it is appropriate for the Council to wait until it has identified properties for acquisition before applying PAOs to land.

5.2 Municipal-wide contribution rate

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the appropriate principles have been applied in choosing to apply a single, municipal-wide rate
- whether a differential open space contribution rate can and should be applied
- whether the use of a single, municipal-wide contribution rate is appropriate.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

The Contributions Report states that the proposed uniform rate provides “*municipality consistency, policy neutrality and perceived equity*”.⁷⁰ Further:

The single public open space contribution rate is considered to meet the equity principle because a uniform rate provides an even benchmark, with clarity and simplicity about what the rate will be. All subdivisions are treated equally, the principles of need, nexus, accountability and equity having been established in the setting of the rate.

As the public open space contribution is determined as a per centage of the land or a per centage of the site value of such land, the actual land or cash contribution will vary, depending on the circumstances of the site.⁷¹

Ms Kay gave evidence that applying a uniform rate across the municipality as a per centage of land value is fair. She said that it results in differing amounts paid by developers where a higher site value is likely to result from a higher density development. In addition, Ms Kay stated that a uniform rate is equitable because:

⁷⁰ Contributions Report, p. 5.

⁷¹ Contributions Report, pp. 5-6.

Everyone will benefit from the new open space reserves as well as the improvements to existing reserves. Even precincts with a smaller number of open space projects will benefit from the public open space expansions and improvements in other parts of the city. There is less likely to be cross over demand from precincts where there is a large population increase if their local open space needs can be met within their own precinct.⁷²

In Ms Kay’s view, equity in the rate also includes consideration of making open space accessible to everyone in the municipality and that there is equity in distributing costs across the municipality in an even-handed way. She noted that *Open Space for Everyone* has a focus on “*more equitable access to open space across metropolitan Melbourne*”.⁷³

In her written evidence, Ms Kay provided a table which set out the results of her re-calculation of the rate on a precinct basis (reproduced here as Table 6).

Table 6 Open space contribution rate by precinct

Precinct	Total costs	SV of land to be developed	Open space contribution rate
Abbotsford	\$7,855,198	\$286,757,014	2.7%
Carlton North - Princess Hill	\$523,066	\$23,588,482	2.2%
Central Richmond	\$28,448,433	\$500,779,083	5.7%
Clifton Hill	\$1,024,000	\$68,930,172	1.5%
Collingwood	\$98,738,008	\$815,247,821	12.1%
Cremorne, Richmond South, Burnley	\$117,244,876	\$635,975,223	18.4%
Fairfield - Alphington	\$3,385,294	\$22,555,590	15.0%
Fitzroy	\$49,041,076	\$717,813,963	6.8%
Fitzroy North	\$11,123,980	\$158,903,603	7.0%
North Richmond	\$65,151,838	\$558,687,669	11.7%
City of Yarra	\$382,535,769	\$3,789,238,620	10.1%

Source: Expert evidence of Ms Kay, Document 24, [86]

Ms Kay opined that the differential in the highest and lowest rates, 1.5 per cent in Clifton Hill to 18.4 per cent in the Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley precinct, would raise new equity issues and cancel out the benefits of a municipal-wide rate.

When cross-examined about a precinct-based rate, Ms Kay accepted that under a precinct-based rate, an area with a lower need would have a lower contribution rate but pointed out that, in her opinion, the context for the two-rate approach in *Melbourne C209*⁷⁴ (which was based on different levels of forecast growth) was very different to that in Yarra, because Melbourne has well defined very high growth areas and other areas with very limited change expected and this is not the case in Yarra. She did not agree with Mr Walker’s proposition that there was a similar difference in Yarra between high growth areas and low growth areas that could justify two (or possibly three) different rates. Her evidence was that Yarra’s expected growth across the municipality does not

⁷² Document 24, [124].

⁷³ Document 24, [34].

⁷⁴ Melbourne C209 [2014] PPV 116.

have enough differential in terms of land use development and level of transformation for such an approach, and Yarra has a very different planning framework to that in Melbourne.

Mr Milner stated that the YOSS methodology, did not support a uniform, municipal-wide rate.

Mr Shipp stated that he did not support a single, municipal-wide rate, but his reasons focussed on whether the rate should be applied to both residential and non-residential land uses alike. Under cross examination, Mr Shipp stated that he did not believe that equity required a split rate between high growth and low growth areas.

Mr Black's evidence was that that a municipal-wide flat rate had not been adequately justified by the YOSS and was inequitable. In his opinion, a uniform rate is simple, but that does not necessarily mean that it is equitable. Mr Black took issue with the result of applying a flat rate, being that:

... developments in areas with abundant open space will be left paying disproportionately for open space in other parts of the municipality, [and] which its future residents or workers are likely to receive little to no benefit.⁷⁵

He pointed out that about 80 per cent of forecast dwellings will be in Alphington/Fairfield, Richmond, Collingwood, Cremorne/Burnley and Abbotsford but that other suburbs with significantly less growth will end up paying more to reduce the amount paid by the higher growth suburbs. He said different rates should be applied to different precincts to reflect the public open space needs of each precinct more accurately and questioned why the detailed work in assessing the anticipated growth and open space needs on a precinct basis in the background documents to the YOSS had not flowed through to the rate.

Mr Black stated that it is not unusual to have a rate that varies, with different rates attaching to different circumstances including different levels of projected growth. He described the flat rate as a 'blunt instrument' and gave evidence that the background work undertaken by the Council supported a differential, or precinct-based, rate.

However, when cross-examined by Ms Brennan, Mr Black accepted that a precinct-based analysis does not necessarily result in a precinct-based rate. His evidence was that while he supported a 7 per cent rate for Fitzroy North, as set out in Table 6, he did not support a consequential rate of 18.5 per cent for Cremorne, 15 per cent for Fairfield, 12.1 per cent for Collingwood or 11.7 per cent for Richmond. He did not expect the rate in Clifton Hill to be 1.5 per cent. When Ms Brennan put to Mr Black that despite his expert witness statement saying so, he did not actually support a precinct-based approach, Mr Black replied that the planning for these areas was wrong. However, Mr Black retracted this when Ms Brennan pointed out that he had previously agreed that he had no criticism of the Actions, costings and apportionment in the YOSS and associated documents. Mr Black then stated that the gap analysis was incorrect.

When questioned by the Panel, Mr Black clarified that his evidence was that the methodology of the YOSS is sound, but its application went awry in the application of the methodology in the gap analysis. He added that, in his opinion, Yarra's planning framework provides clear statements about the differences between different areas within the municipality and applying a differential rate in a similar manner to Stonnington would produce a fair result. He acknowledged that a lot of the background work had been done by Council but thought Council could undertake further work to distinguish areas where growth is encouraged and where it is not (and potentially areas of

⁷⁵ Document 31, [17].

medium growth), based on the work already undertaken, which could then be used as the basis for the application of differential rates.

Council submitted that Mr Black's evidence in this regard was "*simply untenable*"⁷⁶:

He cannot, on the one hand, advocate for a 7% rate for his client's precinct, on the basis of the precinct-based approach founded on the work done for the YOSS; and on the other hand, refuse to accept that it is consequently appropriate to accept much higher rates than 10.1% in the precincts that generate the most demand for new open spaces.⁷⁷

Council submitted that the Panel should give no weight to this aspect of Mr Black's evidence.

Council submitted that the adoption of a flat rate is equitable:

because all subdivisions captured by the Schedule to Clause 53.01 pay the same rate (whether in cash or land) regardless of location, and regardless of whether that location is or is not already well served by open space.⁷⁸

Council argued that this approach avoids the *inequitable* outcome where a development in a precinct where there is less need for new open space than others obtains an economic advantage through having to pay a lower contribution while still contributing to the population growth in the area. Council accepted that imposition of a single, municipal-wide rate would result in some cross-subsidisation within precincts and across the municipality. In its closing submission, Council also referred to several parts of *Open Space for Everyone* to argue that open space planning must encompass and be accessible to everyone. Council highlighted that in relation to funding models, *Open Space for Everyone* recognises the need to update funding and financing models and that the strategy states that "*funding arrangements must result in equitable access to quality open space for all Melburnians*".⁷⁹

Council relied on previous Panel reports including *Monash C148*⁸⁰ in which the Panel accepted that a council can validly adopt a single planning unit for the purposes of collecting a contribution under Clause 53.01:

The effect of a single planning unit is that future development in areas with adequate existing provision [for open space] may subsidise expenditure in areas where provision is poor.

...

The Panel notes that the concept of cross-subsidy is effectively built into the provisions of Clause 53.01 because it provides no direction on where the funds collected should be spent [and the] ... Panel agrees that, notwithstanding higher growth is expected in some areas of the municipality over other areas, the allocation of funds raised through an open space contribution is a matter for Council through its budget process.⁸¹

In this respect it also relied on *Melbourne C209*⁸² in which the Panel stated:

... the Panel considers that to ... conclude that because the Amendment may be inequitable to specific properties means that the Amendment must fail on equity grounds is overly simplistic and fails to accord any weight to the strategic view being taken by Council in the [Open Space Strategy].⁸³

⁷⁶ Document 135, [117].

⁷⁷ Document 135, [118].

⁷⁸ Document 34, [125].

⁷⁹ Document 135, [20].

⁸⁰ *Monash C148* [2020] PPV 23.

⁸¹ *Monash C148* [2020] PPV 23, p. 24 of 40. Refer to Document 34, [65].

⁸² *Melbourne C209* [2014] PPV 116.

⁸³ [2014] PPV 116, pp. 44 - 45 of 68.

In oral submissions, Ms Brennan took the Panel to a range of provisions of the Planning Scheme which direct and encourage growth in various parts of the municipality. Council submitted that, unlike the City of Melbourne, Yarra does not have a clear delineation between areas for urban renewal and stable residential areas, but rather has some established areas with growth areas scattered throughout the municipality. For this reason, it was submitted, the Melbourne approach is not appropriate in Yarra.

Overall, Council submitted that a municipal-wide rate was justified given the following two factors:

- the significant benefits of a simple, clear, and easily applied flat rate approach; and
- the significant implications for development in areas with high growth and minimal (or no) existing open space of taking a precinct-specific approach where the contributions rates would be far more than 10 per cent.

Mr Walker submitted that a uniform contribution rate across the whole municipality would be inequitable, giving the following example:

Fitzroy North is already well served by open space and it is unreasonable to impose a relatively high contribution requirement to offset public open space upgrades for other areas within the municipality that are poorly served by public open space and that require significant upgrades. The amendment should provide a more sophisticated demand assessment for areas within the municipality where public open space upgrades are required, and adopt a suburb / precinct approach to contribution rates.⁸⁴

Along similar lines, Urban Development Institute of Australia (Victoria) (UDIA) submitted that the contribution rate should not apply as a 'blanket rate' to the entire municipality but should instead *"be varied for individual areas within the municipality, having regard to the open space available and the specific and projected needs of the future population in such areas"*.⁸⁵ It argued that in this sense there should be a nexus between the areas that require public open space and those who pay for it, and recommended to the Panel the approach taken in Stonnington where broad areas were allocated differing rates reflecting the open space needs in those different areas. When questioned by the Panel, Mr Vorchheimer for the UDIA appeared hesitant to accept the high rates that a precinct-based approach (based on Table 6) would entail and suggested that the Council should cast the net differently to smooth out the results (as in Stonnington).

Mr Pitt submitted that while there will be a level of cross-subsidy as a result of applying a uniform rate, it is a matter of degree and where the divergence in outcomes becomes too great a flat contribution rate across the municipality is *"simply unfair and inequitable"*.⁸⁶ He also contended that the argument about avoiding over burdening development in shortfall areas applies equally to well-provisioned areas if the contribution rate is uniform. He submitted that a flat rate is not simple, clear or easily applied as asserted by the Council because site values are assessed on the basis of differing facilities, location, topography and built form context within 12 months of statement of compliance under the *Subdivision Act 1988* and that just because a rate is equal does not mean that it is equitable. Porta's concluding position was that Fairfield should be excluded from the Amendment and continue to be subject to the current contribution rate of 4.5 per cent.

In response, Council submitted that to exclude Fairfield from the new, municipal-wide rate would result in an inequity for the balance of the municipality. In its closing submission, Council provided a table that set out the proportions of the total expenditure proposed by the YOSS POPC for each

⁸⁴ Document 127, p. 1

⁸⁵ Document 53, [3.1].

⁸⁶ Document 129, [9.70].

precinct (as a per centage of the total, and as a per centage of the apportionments to each of the new and existing populations). Council submitted that the table demonstrated that the expenditure proposed for Fairfield is only 1.19 per cent of the total cost of the YOSS, and only 0.96 per cent of the total cost apportioned to the new population. It submitted:

The point that Council seeks to make is that the YOSS does not overprovide for upgraded open space in Fairfield. The provision for Fairfield is less than 1% of the total costs apportioned to the new population. The vast majority of the costs of the YOSS relate to precincts that are underserved by open space, and where most development is expected to occur. In Council's submission it is entirely appropriate for the POSC to be levied at the municipal level so that the load is shared across the whole municipality, rather than disproportionately charging those precincts that, by contrast to Fairfield, do not benefit from substantial provision of open space, by accident of history.⁸⁷

The Housing Industry Association submitted that to apply a flat rate "*regardless of the differences in 'need' within the municipality would set an undesirable precedent*".⁸⁸

A number of submissions asserted that the municipal-wide, flat rate was not justified. DCF Developing Group Pty Ltd and JCL Prime Development Pty Ltd submitted that a blanket contribution rate is unjustifiable because "*it overlooks significant site-specific contextual factors, such as easements and other site constraints that may affect yield of development*" and raised concerns about equity issues.⁸⁹

(iii) Discussion

The Panel considers that, while a consideration, the benefits of a simple, clear, and easily applied municipal-wide rate approach only take the matter so far.

The Panel has given considerable thought to whether a precinct-based approach would be more appropriate. However, the Panel is concerned that if differential, precinct-based rates were used, such as those in Table 6, there would be too high a burden on development taking place in some areas. While some experts and submitters were willing to accept a precinct-based approach for precincts where the rate would be in the middle of the rate range, there was little acceptance that the higher (or lower) rates were reasonable. The Panel is concerned that the level of disparity in contribution rates resulting from a precinct-based approach may have unintended consequences such as pushing development into other areas, preventing development of the areas with the highest rates or other impacts which have not been fully debated before the Panel and are not considered in the background reports.

The Panel has carefully considered whether a middle ground could be found as suggested by some submitters (for example, UDIA). It notes that the Stonnington approach recommended to the Panel applied a two-tiered approach, where a 5 per cent contribution rate was applied to areas in the east of Stonnington which had significantly greater areas of existing open space and 8 per cent applied to the three remaining suburbs (in the west) where the open space needs were greater and the highest population growth was set to occur.⁹⁰ The Panel considers that there is insufficient evidence before it that there is a similarly clear distinction between suburbs or

⁸⁷ Document 135, [126]. Council also submitted that since the calculations in the YOSS, Porta had lodged a planning permit application that would potentially bring more than 500 residents, and an additional number of workers to Fairfield, if approved, and which is far in excess of the 57 new residents on which the YOSS assessment is made: Document 135, at [135].

⁸⁸ Document 50, [12].

⁸⁹ DCF Developing Group Pty Ltd submission, p. 3. JCL Prime Development Pty Ltd submission, p. 3.

⁹⁰ *Stonnington C186 (PSA) [2015] PPV 9* referred to in Document 53, [3.6].

precincts in Yarra to support a two-tiered approach such as in *Stonnington C186* (or *Melbourne C209*). Instead, the Panel found the case presented by Council, backed by Ms Kay's evidence, that the growth areas in Yarra cannot be easily separated but instead are dispersed within suburbs and precincts, to be convincing. This is particularly so when considering the location of Major Activity Centres and Neighbourhood Activity Centres together with projected spatial distribution of the residential population in the *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018*. In this respect, the Panel notes Mr Black's evidence that under the Yarra Housing Strategy, approximately 80 per cent of the total planned dwellings forecast will be in the suburbs of Alphington/Fairfield, Richmond, Collingwood, Cremorne/Burnley and Abbotsford. However, this point takes no account of where worker populations will be accommodated.

The Panel considers that while not like Melbourne with its large, spatially discrete areas of new urban development and the balance of the municipality being largely minimal change (with some exceptions), there are, nonetheless, notable differences between precincts in Yarra in terms of how well they are currently provisioned for open space and where population growth is expected to occur. These differences do result in some inequity when applying a single, municipal-wide rate, not just on a property-by-property basis, but more generally at the precinct level. The Panel considers however, as did the Panel in *Melbourne C209*, some inequity to specific landowners and properties will not be fatal to the application of a uniform rate and that it is acceptable that there be some cross-subsidisation between areas or precincts.

Therefore, on balance, and mindful of the potential disadvantages of a precinct-based approach and the absence of a better model before it, the Panel considers that it is appropriate to take a municipal-wide, strategic approach to the setting of a contribution rate.

Unlike the existing open space contribution rate which only applies to residential development, the Amendment applies the uniform rate to both residential and non-residential development. The appropriateness of this was not seriously contested. Mr Shipp commented on it, as did Mr Milner but in the context of residential and non-residential resulting in different patterns of usage. The Panel accepts that the uniform rate should apply to both residential and non-residential land. It also notes that to an extent, this conclusion follows from the Panel's acceptance of an equal ratio for residential and worker needs, as discussed in Chapter 3.3.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- the appropriate principles have been applied in choosing to apply a single, municipal-wide rate
- a differential open space contribution rate is not appropriate for Yarra
- the use of a single, municipal-wide contribution rate is appropriate
- the single contribution rate should apply to both residential and non-residential land.

5.3 Transitional provisions

(i) The issue

The issue is:

- whether the Amendment should provide for transitional provisions for development which is part way through the approval and development process at the time of approval of the Amendment.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

With respect to transitional provisions, Council submitted that:

... in the event there is an approved subdivision permit or an existing planning scheme provision (e.g. DPO) that contains a condition or provision specifying an open space requirement or per centage provision, that condition or provision will prevail, and the revised contribution rate of 10.1% would not apply⁹¹

With respect to the reference to existing DPOs, Council tabled an updated version of the Schedule to Clause 53.01 (Document 60) at the Hearing and subsequently provided a further updated version (Document 139). This is discussed in Chapter 7.1.

Council submitted that for any existing permit for subdivision, the open space levy would be applied at the current rate of 4.5 per cent. No other transitional provision would be made.

Mr Gobbo submitted that a number of his clients had purchased land based on assumptions relating to costs likely to be incurred, including contributions to open space at the existing rate. Supporting this, he quoted the evidence of Mr Mackintosh who stated that in situations where development costs increase there would be downward pressure on land values. Where land has already been purchased, there is no opportunity for this to occur and, Mr Gobbo submitted, market pressures are such that the sale price of completed units cannot be increased to absorb increased costs. Mr Gobbo argued that in such circumstances transitional provisions should be applied and he suggested wording that could be added to the Schedule to Clause 53.01 to achieve this. He argued that the situation that these submitters find themselves is fundamentally unfair.

Mr Milner supported the inclusion of transitional provisions exempting any development that held a planning or subdivision permit at the time of approval of the Amendment, citing the case of the residential zones when a minimum garden area was introduced as an example of where this has occurred.

Similarly, Mr Black supported transitional provisions for development approved before the gazettal of this Amendment. He stated that it would have been unreasonable for Piedimonte to allow for a contribution rate of 10.1 per cent at the time the planning permit was considered by Council on 21 May 2020.

Mr Gobbo further submitted that special provision should be made for the Harry the Hirer site, for which DPO15 has been approved with a 4.5 per cent contribution, but for which no development plan had yet been approved. Mr Gobbo submitted that the Panel which considered DPO15 had effectively deferred the rate at which the open space contribution should be made to this Panel. It is currently proposed that the Harry the Hirer site contribute land as its contribution. The Panel was provided with an image that depicted proposed open space. Mr Gobbo submitted that if this Panel is so minded not to recommend a transitional rate, the Panel should recommend that any further contribution above the 4.5 per cent land contribution should be made by way of cash.

Mr Walker submitted that Piedimonte had obtained a planning permit while the Amendment was under preparation and that it was not fair or equitable to impose a 'retrospective development contribution.' He supported this on the basis that Piedimonte had applied for permit and undertaken project feasibility on the basis of a 4.5 per cent contribution for open space. He argued that the proposal was contrary to the principle that planning scheme amendments do not

⁹¹ Document 34, [213]

affect existing development rights and cited Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) cases in support.

In its closing submission, Council submitted that the grant of a planning permit to Piedimonte does not give an accrued right to subdivide the property or to be issued with a statement of compliance. As a result, there is no sense in which the change to the contribution rate is being applied retrospectively.

Other submitters raising the issue of lack of transitional provisions were DPG Management Pty Ltd, Duke Ventures Pty Ltd, Zero Nine, and Fenwick 84 Pty Ltd, most commonly raising the unfairness of the lack of such provisions.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel notes that some changes to planning provisions are accompanied by transitional provisions but in other cases, including DCPs, transitional provisions are uncommon. The Panel acknowledges that this is a difficult position and understands the fairness argument where land has been acquired and costings undertaken based on a particular set of assumptions.

Three factors have influenced the Panel's consideration of this issue. Firstly, wherever the 'line' that separates development paying levies at a new, higher rate is drawn there will be perceptions of unfairness depending on which side of the line a particular development falls.

Secondly, choosing for example an approved planning permit as the cut-off for a levy at the existing rate, while superficially appealing, introduces complexities around amendments to that permit where they are later sought.

Thirdly, this Amendment, or at least the strategy which it implements, has been in preparation for a number of years and while the proposed rate may not have been known until relatively recently, prudent developers would have recognised that a significantly increased levy was likely and planned accordingly.

For these reasons, the Panel does not support providing transitional provisions other than those already provided for in the amended Schedule to Clause 53.01 (Document 139).

The Panel accepts the position of Council that there is no accrued right to subdivide implied by the grant of a planning permit and that as such there is no retrospectivity in applying the open space contribution rate in place at the time of subdivision.

With respect to the Harry the Hirer site, the Panel accepts Mr Gobbo's contention that the Panel considering DPO15 effectively deferred consideration of the appropriate rate at which open space is to be provided to this Panel. The Panel notes that the Yarra C223 Panel stated:

It would, however, be reasonable to tie the provision of public open space for this site to the controls at the point at which the site is redeveloped, so that if the Planning Scheme rate was to increase, the Proponent would be liable for a higher contribution.⁹²

The Panel sees no reason why the open space contribution rate in place at the time of subdivision should not apply to the Harry the Hirer site. However, the Panel accepts that at this stage of development it would be unnecessarily disruptive to require any provision above that provided for in development plans to be provided by way of extra land. For this reason, the Panel accepts Mr Gobbo's submission that any extra contribution should be made by way of a cash payment.

⁹² Panel Report for Amendment C223 to the Yarra Planning Scheme, p. 48.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- not including transitional provisions, other than those provided for, is appropriate
- any additional requirement above the open space provided for as a land contribution on the Harry the Hirer site should be made by way of a cash contribution.

5.4 Offsets for the provision of communal open space

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the Amendment has adequately considered the contribution of privately held, communal open space
- whether there should be a discount, offset or credit for provision of communal open space in new developments.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Porta submitted that private communal open space in new developments should be taken into account in the Amendment. It argued that if assumptions about the forecast population having a greater need for public open space than the existing population (for example, because the existing population is more likely to have a backyard than the forecast population) were valid, then an allowance for private or communal open spaces must be made.

Mr Gobbo submitted that communal open space for apartments, now a requirement of the Better Apartment Design Standards (BADs), should be factored into the consideration of the open space needs assessment and in particular, the apportionment between existing and future populations.

Piedimonte submitted that the Amendment should make provision for the public open space contribution to be offset, or a credit provided, if a 'very high standard' of on-site communal open space is supplied. It submitted that this could be built into the Schedule to Clause 53.01.

Mr Black stated that:

There should be provision to reduce the required rate where it can be demonstrated that the open space provided within a development will reduce the reliance on public open space (i.e. substantial communal open space)⁹³

Mr Black referred to the 217 square metre communal roof top garden that his client was proposing to deliver as part of the redevelopment of the Piedimonte site in North Fitzroy as an example of such a situation.

Under cross examination by Ms Brennan, Mr Black stated in relation to the proposed Piedimonte development:

- the development would lead to close to 150 new residents in addition to an increase in workers from the commercial part of the development
- to access the communal rooftop open space, some residents would have to take a lift down to Level 6, then walk along a corridor and take a second lift to the roof. Similarly, others would have to take a lift up to Level 6 and take a second lift to the roof. Residents

⁹³ Document 31, [221].

of the townhouses would need to enter the apartment building to access lifts to the rooftop⁹⁴

- the communal rooftop space would not be open to the public, but Mr Black was not sure if it would be accessible to the workers in the commercial tenancies
- there was nothing to stop the rooftop open space being changed and there was no certainty or perpetuity (unless a legal agreement was in place to protect it) but changing the rooftop space would be unlikely because it would impact on the planning permit.

The UDIA submitted that the Amendment fails to adequately consider “... *the extent of restricted public open space or communally accessible private open space that would serve the open space needs of residents or workers in student accommodation, apartment, commercial, industrial or mixed-use developments*”.⁹⁵

Relying on the evidence of Ms Thompson, Council submitted that there should be no discount, offset or credit for the provision of communal open space in developments. Ms Thompson stated that private open space can complement public open space but does not replace the need for public open space for the following reasons:

- Council has no influence over the protection and retention of the private open space on individual sites into the future. Over time, the private open space can be changed and redeveloped without consideration for the resultant impact this change may have on the public open space network. The private landowner can also restrict, change or place conditions on public access to private open space at any time. The purpose of the public open space is that the land is zoned for the purposes of public park and recreation and it is secured as a public asset into the future.
- Public open space has a range of important functions and roles that are articulated in the Strategy on pages 3 and 4. Many of these functions and roles are not achieved on private open space and public open space is an important part of the fabric of sustainable, social communities into the future. The City of Yarra encourages the provision and use of public open space as a place that is accessible to everyone irrespective of income level, cultural background, age, health and ability. The provision of open space and/or recreation facilities on private land does not necessarily provide for everyone.⁹⁶

Her evidence was that as a result, there should be no offset for private communal open space.

Under cross examination, Ms Thompson stated that communal rooftop areas were considered in her assessment, but not at a micro level, and more generally that it was fair to take into account the provision of communal spaces that would be available to workers and residents. She also accepted that communal areas can provide opportunities for the kind of activities associated with open space and make a contribution to the health and wellness of the workforce. However, Ms Thompson was firm in her evidence that communal open space that is open to the public does not replace the need for public open space because there is no certainty as to its availability to all of the public all of the time, and over the long term, or its condition over time. She gave an example of the possibility that the public may need to purchase a coffee in order to access the space and as a result the space might not be accessible to all. She confirmed that there had been no offsets for communal open space in this project.

⁹⁴ Council referred to *Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd v Yarra CC* [2021] VCAT 428 which stated that Piedimonte had acknowledged that for 11 apartments out of 66, a resident would have to use three lifts to access the communal roof space, at [148].

⁹⁵ Document 53, [8.1(e)].

⁹⁶ Document 25, [4.3.1].

Council submitted that there is a qualitative difference in the type of open space provided in communal open spaces in private developments as compared the space in the public open space network. It submitted that communal open spaces on private land play a limited role in meeting some open space needs at certain times but are not guaranteed in perpetuity and are not *“an equivalent alternative to, and do not obviate the need for, new public open spaces as provided for in the YOSS”*.⁹⁷

Council submitted that the communal areas being required in multi-unit developments are relatively small and only required where there at least 10 dwellings⁹⁸ with the result that residents would still need to access public open spaces for activities such as walking the dog. Taking the proposed Piedimonte development as an example, Council submitted that the nature of the communal space with hard surfaces, no canopy trees, and noise from air-conditioning units which would be positioned there, meant that they were not a substitute for public open space and provide no assistance in combatting UHIE.

Council also submitted that communal open spaces in workplaces do not meet worker needs in terms of being away from work, do not provide areas for exercise and there is no canopy planting. Council submitted that such spaces are not enjoyed in perpetuity and provide no assistance in combatting UHIE. The limited benefits they do provide do not justify a discount or lower rate.

Porta challenged the position that communal open spaces would not provide canopy planting and assist to combat UHIE, referring to Clause 58 requirements for solar access, deep soil planting and setbacks that would apply. Mr Milner stated that the maximum amount of communal open space required under Clause 58.03 is smaller than the average size of a small local park and there is no certainty that such spaces would allow for the planting of canopy trees. He said that while an appropriately designed communal open space could contribute to managing urban heat island effect, there was no guarantee that it would do so.

In its closing submissions, Council rejected Piedimonte’s submission that a credit should be applied if a ‘very high standard’ of communal open space was provided in a development as being unworkable and too subjective, questioning how ‘very high standard’ would be assessed. It submitted that such an approach would place an unreasonable burden on Council in its application and would lead to significant challenges. It also questioned what would happen if a credit were given for a high quality communal open space which degraded over time due to lack of upkeep, given Council would have no ability to upgrade that open space or to require the owner to upgrade it, and no mechanism to require the owner to pay back the credit. Council also submitted that such an approach does not find any support in the Subdivision Act, the Planning Scheme, or PPN70.

(iii) Discussion

The Panel accepts that while communal open space is now required for certain developments, there is no certainty as to the quality, form and benefits that such communal open space will provide either to the development’s residents and/or workers, or to the wider-public (if any). There is also no guarantee that the open space will be maintained and Council has no way of monitoring or controlling this. Council could require the developer to enter into a legally binding

⁹⁷ Document 75 [68].

⁹⁸ The Panel notes that Clause 58.03-2 currently requires between 30 and 220 square metres depending on the number of dwellings, 30 square metres of which is required to be outdoors.

agreement, including a section 173 agreement, to secure the communal open space but no argument that this should be required for every communal open space was advanced by submitters (or at least for communal open space that would receive a 'credit'). Accordingly, it would be inappropriate for Council to rely on communal open space as a permanent part of its open space network.

Further, the type of communal open space provided in multi-unit developments generally is of a different nature to that sought to be provided in the public open space network. Importantly, communal open space is not provided based on it being easily accessible by all in the sense required under *Open Space for Everyone*. The Panel considers that the proposed Piedimonte communal open space is a good example of this as it will not be open to the public and it was unclear whether workers from the commercial tenancies would have access. Considering the indirect routes for many residents to the rooftop (three lifts for some), there may be barriers to it being accessed even by the residents of the development itself.

Clause 58.03-2 currently requires at least 30 square metres of communal open space to be outdoors but also Mr Milner's evidence that communal open spaces are not required to be such as to allow for the planting of canopy trees. While tree planting, including canopy tree planting, is possible, the Panel does not believe that communal open spaces provide the same opportunities for tree planting (in terms of number of trees and size of trees, for example) as the open space network. This, together with the likelihood that many communal open spaces will have hard surfaces rather than grass and could be fully or partly covered (such as in office building atriums or laneways), leads the Panel to the conclusion that while communal open spaces could provide some assistance against UHIE, in general they will not provide very much assistance in this regard, and it is not guaranteed.

The Panel considers that the range of activities in such areas is more limited than in the open space network.

Therefore, the Panel agrees with Council's submission that there is a qualitative difference in the type of open space provided in communal areas and accepts the evidence of Ms Thompson that these types of spaces do not replace or obviate the need for public open space.

The Panel also accepts Council's submission that the idea of an 'offset', 'credit' or 'discount' for communal open space of a 'very high standard' would be very hard to administer and place an unreasonable administrative burden on it. The Panel has no doubt that it would provide fertile ground for challenges. The Panel agrees that the concept of 'very high standard' is too subjective without any further guidance on the criteria according to which this test would be assessed and notes that no such criteria were advanced by submitters. The Panel notes the difficulties in assessing how much 'credit' or 'discount' would be given and that no evidence or submissions were received on this particular point or more generally on how the offsetting or credit would actually work in practice. As a result, the Panel does not accept the suggestion for an offset, credit or discount for the provision of communal open space.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- the Amendment has adequately considered the contribution of communal open space
- it would be inappropriate for Council to rely on communal open space in new developments as a permanent part of its open space network

- there should not be a discount, offset or credit for provision of communal open space in new developments.

6 Impacts of the proposed open space contribution rate

6.1 Economic viability of projects and impact on housing affordability

(i) The issues

The issues are:

- whether the proposed contribution rate will have an unacceptable impact on the economic viability of proposed development projects
- whether the proposed open space contribution rate will lead to unacceptable impacts on housing affordability.

Because of the way submissions have been presented the two issues of project viability and impacts of housing affordability are addressed together.

(ii) Evidence and submissions

Council and the group of submitters represented by Mr Gobbo have approached these related issues from different perspectives: Council from the perspective of housing affordability and Mr Gobbo, drawing on Mr Mackintosh's evidence, on the impact of the increased levy on project viability and consequently its impact on housing affordability.

Council acknowledged that the increased open space contribution rate may have an economic impact on some developments in Yarra, where the land is already owned by the developer.

In his evidence, Mr Macintosh stated that there are three key variables in the development financial equation, being:

- the price which is paid for a development site
- the minimum margin that the developer requires for the project to be financially viable
- the price which the finished product will attract in the current market.

Mr Mackintosh stated that a developer will not proceed with a project with a development margin of less than 15 per cent, this being the level below which potential project financiers will not lend. Further, he stated that there is little upwards flexibility in the price for which a product can be sold due to the inherently highly competitive property market. He concluded that any increase in the open space levy would therefore flow through to a lower price being paid by the developer for a development site. Mr Mackintosh acknowledged under cross examination that one of the impacts of an increased open space contribution and downward pressure prices could be that some land holders would withhold development sites from the market.

Mr Gobbo submitted that a number of Mr Mackintosh's assumptions were questionable. Under cross examination by Mr Gobbo on the assumptions that he had made in the two case studies on which his expert evidence was based, Mr Mackintosh acknowledged that these assumptions vary from developer to developer and therefore impact the financial outcomes that might be achieved. They included costs such as insurance, the selling commission that might be paid, a range of other fees which might be applicable, and the development margin expected by the developer. He stated that he had taken a valuer's perspective and developers would take a range of different

approaches and use different assumptions. He stated that his assumptions were commonly used by valuers to ensure consistency in valuation approach. Mr Mackintosh confirmed under cross examination that a development margin of 15 per cent was a minimum needed to get finance but acknowledged that some developers would seek a higher margin where higher risks were involved.

Based on the evidence of Mr Mackintosh, Mr Gobbo contended:

If the projects don't happen, or landowners hold and don't sell, then supply goes down and prices go up.

In this way, there is a 'cost' to housing affordability by reason of the contribution.⁹⁹

UDIA submitted that the proposed increased open space contribution rate would impact housing affordability in Yarra. Based on an example development, it submitted that the proposed levy together with the recently approved DCP could add almost \$20,000 to the cost of an apartment.

The Housing Industry Association similarly submitted the increased contribution would have a significant impact on housing affordability. It cited indicative case studies sourced from the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation which purport to show that developer contributions (including open space contributions) can add \$37,000 to \$77,000 to the cost of a dwelling in Victoria. This was not a Yarra specific example.

A number of other submitters listed the impact of the proposed increase in the open space levy on development costs and therefore impacting housing affordability as a reason for opposing the Amendment in their written submissions. These include: Millieu Property Pty Ltd, Outline JV Smith Pty Ltd, Nijon Nominees Pty Ltd, Dare Property Group Pty Ltd, Beulah International Holdings Pty Ltd, Salta Properties Pty Ltd, Goldfields Richmond Pty Ltd, Aheron Investments Pty Ltd, ACC Smith Pty Ltd.

Relying on the evidence of Mr Mackintosh, Council submitted:

Council does not, however, agree with submissions that the Amendment will have a significant adverse effect on housing affordability in Yarra. In Council's submission, the likely economic effect of the Amendment will not be to materially increase housing prices for the end purchaser by passing on the cost of the additional contribution rate or to reduce development margins for developers; the more likely outcome will be to reduce residual land values.¹⁰⁰

Further, Council quoted from the Panel Report for Amendment C137 to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme which stated:

The Panel notes Mr Montebello's submission in reply in relation to housing affordability. The Panel agrees there is no evidence before the Panel of a substantive effect, and this it is difficult to conclude that the Amendment should be changed or abandoned on this basis. The submission does not fairly acknowledge that even if open space contributions do worsen housing affordability to some extent, again a point not proven to the Panel, then this should be offset over the life of a development or dwelling by improved quantity and quality of open space and its consequent positive effects on liveability.¹⁰¹

A significant number of other submitters cited the negative impact of the proposed contribution rate increase on housing affordability as an issue of concern in their written submissions. These included the DJC Property Group Pty Ltd, Fortis Pty Ltd, Dare property Group Pty Ltd, Beulah International Holdings Pty Ltd, Vicinity Centres Ltd, JCL Prime Development Pty Ltd.

⁹⁹ Document 88 [207 and 208]

¹⁰⁰ Document 34 [166]

¹⁰¹ Document 34, [84].

(iii) Discussion

Council and Mr Mackintosh both acknowledged that a development can be placed in a difficult position where land is already in the hands of the developer and there is no possibility of reducing the price paid for the development site. The Panel accepts this possibility and acknowledges that the financial viability of some developments currently underway may be adversely impacted by an increase in the contribution rate. There are a number of possible outcomes that could arise, but as they are not material to the Panel's conclusions they are not explored here.

Based on the information provided in Appendix A to Mr Gobbo's submission (Document 88), a significant number of the 22 sites covered by the submission have been held by the current owner for more than four years, and many, more than a decade. While the current owner may not be the developer and the arrangements between the developer and owner are unknown, it appears that not all current owners of land will be impacted in a way such that financial viability of the relevant project will be threatened. The Panel makes this observation based on the assumption that while the owner may have incurred significant holding costs, the increase in land values over significant periods in at least some cases, perhaps many, will exceed holding costs.

The Panel acknowledges that the project feasibility facing many developers is likely to be more complex than Mr Mackintosh's land valuation focussed case studies, a fact acknowledged by him.

It would be unwise for the Panel to conclude that the financial viability of some projects will not be under significant pressure if the open space contribution rate as proposed is approved. However, no evidence was presented to the Panel to convince it that this pressure will be such that a significant increase in the open space contribution rate cannot be supported.

With respect to housing affordability, the Panel acknowledges at the outset that this is a very significant, complex and on-going societal issue. Further, there is no agreement on the role of supply side and demand side contributors to the issue and therefore possible solutions. Nor is it this Panel's role to canvass those wider issues.

While accepting the broad thrust of Mr Mackintosh's evidence that an increase in the open space contribution is likely to put some downward pressure on the price paid for development sites, the Panel accepts that at least some of this increase may find its way into higher prices being paid for the finished product. How much is not known and likely to vary considerably given the complex financial calculations and risk assessment that accompanies development financing.

Consequently, the Panel accepts that there may be some negative impact on housing affordability, but how large is unknown. The Panel agrees with the conclusion drawn by the Maribyrnong C137 Panel that any negative impact on housing affordability must be offset against the undoubted increased liveability of the area resulting from increased or enhanced provision of open space.

No evidence was presented to the Panel that convinces it that any affordability impact is such that a significant increase in the open space contribution cannot be supported.

(iv) Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- there may be some, but difficult to quantify, impacts on the financial viability of some projects where the land has been acquired recently
- there may be some, but difficult to quantify, impact on housing affordability

- neither of these impacts is demonstrably significant enough not to proceed with an increase to the open space contribution rate.

7 Statutory planning issues

7.1 Proposed changes to the Schedule to Clause 53.01

(i) Submissions and discussion

In addition to the proposed open space contribution rate, the revised Schedule to Clause 53.01 proposes contribution rates lower than the proposed rate for three sites as follows:

- Former Channel 9 site in Bendigo Street, Richmond (4.5 per cent)
- Former Amcor site in Heidelberg Road, Alphington (4.58 per cent)
- Former Fitzroy Gasworks site in Smith Street, Fitzroy (minimum of 8 per cent).

The Panel understands that these exceptions are the subject of agreements already in place under section 173 of the PE Act.

In the case of the Channel 9 and Amcor sites, some impacted landholders made written submissions to the Amendment but on the receipt of an updated Schedule (Document 60), each indicated that they were satisfied with the outcome, with some further minor change agreed by the Council. Consequently, these submitters indicated that they no longer wished to be heard by the Panel. The Panel accepts that the agreements in place are appropriate and makes no further comment in this regard.

In its closing submission, Council noted a further amendment to the Schedule to Clause 53.01 was required to ensure that the revised contribution rate applied to 'all other land'.

(ii) Conclusion

The Panel concludes that the exemptions to the proposed interim open space contributions rate set out in the Panel recommended version of the Schedule to Clause 53.01 at Appendix D are appropriate.

7.2 Public Open Space Contribution policy

(i) Submissions and discussion

It is proposed to replace the existing policy at Clause 22.12 with a new Clause 22.12 reflecting the YOSS. A number of submissions were made about the specific content of Clause 22.12, but these were generally in relation to broader issues associated with aspects of the YOSS or assumptions made in the calculation of the proposed open space contribution rate. These have been addressed in other sections of this report. As part of its Part B submission, Council tabled a revised version of its proposed Clause 22.12 to align its text with the evidence of Ms Kay and Ms Thompson (Document 45). No submissions were made making specific requests or recommendations to the wording of Clause 22.12 and the parties at the Hearing made no objection to the amendments suggested by Council. The Panel accepts Clause 22.12 as set out in Document 45.

(ii) Conclusion

The Panel concludes that Clause 22.12 should be adopted as set out in Document 45.

7.3 Recommendation

The Panel recommends to:

Replace the exhibited Clause 22.12 with the version at Appendix E

8 Interim open space contribution rate

As indicated in Chapter 4.3, the Panel has reservations about the apportionment of costs of open space projects between existing and new populations. These reservations are, however, held in the context of the YOSS not seriously being contested by submitters and which, in the Panel's view, is a generally sound open space strategy for Yarra. Further, all parties appeared broadly to acknowledge that Yarra's current open space contribution rate of 4.5 per cent and which applies to residential subdivision only, is inadequate to meet documented open space needs. The Panel believes that it has an obligation to keep the process moving towards a new and more appropriate open space contribution rate.

The Panel has considered two options:

- adjourn the Hearing indefinitely while further work recommended by it is undertaken and leave the existing open space contribution rate of 4.5 per cent in place
- accept the majority of the proposed Amendment, require some further work and recommend an interim open space contribution rate.

The Panel considers that concluding the Amendment as exhibited, subject to minor changes, is appropriate, and that an interim contribution rate (lower than that proposed) be set through a separate Planning Scheme Amendment, is the most appropriate way forward because it will generate at least some of the required revenue while further work is being undertaken. In recommending this path, the Panel notes that Mr Gobbo suggested that an option available to the Panel was to set an interim rate and recommend the Council do more work to justify a higher rate. Further, Council countenanced this possibility in its closing submission.

In Chapter 4.3, the Panel concluded that a peer review of the apportionment of costs between existing and future populations should be undertaken before a final open space contribution rate can be calculated and approved as part of this Amendment.

For these reasons, the Panel considers this to be an interim report on exhibited Amendment C286yara pending the completion of that extra work. A final report will be prepared after that work has been undertaken.

This Chapter sets out the rationale for an interim open space contribution rate proposed by the Panel, the process to be followed from here and the broad parameters for a peer review of the open space contribution rate calculation.

8.1 Process for setting an interim contribution rate

The Panel understands that an interim open space contribution rate can be introduced into the Yarra Planning Scheme, through a separate planning scheme amendment for which Ministerial approval can be sought under section 20 of the PE Act. This would be based on the interim rate recommended below and the Panel's conclusions that the YOSS and the large majority of the work undertaken in preparing it are sound.

After a peer review of the apportionment of open space project costs between existing and future populations, the Hearing for this Amendment will reconvene and finalise Amendment C286, with a recommended final open space contribution rate. This rate will be based on conclusions in this interim report and a recalculated contribution rate based on the reviewed apportionment of costs.

The Panel acknowledges that Council has the option of adopting the recommended interim open space contribution rate as the final rate without undertaking the peer review and ask the Panel to close the Hearing. In those circumstances the Panel would produce a brief final report acknowledging this.

8.2 Interim contribution rate

In previous Chapters, the Panel has considered factors which may have an impact on the quantum of the open space levy to be applied through the Schedule to Clause 53.01. Based on submissions and evidence, the Panel has identified only two factors which it considers should be varied significantly from that exhibited. Set out below are the Panel's conclusions on each of these as they input into the Panel's consideration of an interim open space contribution rate.

(i) Value of land to be developed for open space projects

As indicated in Chapter 4.1, the Panel does not accept that the allowance added to the average CIV in each precinct proposed by Council to cover the cost to it of acquiring land for new open space is justified. The Panel considers a 10 per cent allowance to be a fair amount to compensate Council.

Using a 10 per cent allowance, the total project cost across the municipality falls from \$566,079,822 to \$491,111,053.¹⁰² In recalculating these costs, the Panel has not taken into account its recommendation in Chapter 3.3 that Action 7.5B-4 in Fairfield be deleted. This is because the deletion of this project is not likely to significantly impact the calculations and because the Panel regards these calculations as indicative only, in drawing a conclusion on the interim contribution rate.

(ii) Apportionment between new and existing populations

In Chapter 4.3, the Panel concludes that there is some indication that there may have been a higher than justifiable apportionment to new populations but is unable to conclusively determine that this was the case or what the level of over apportionment to new populations might be. It also concludes that it is not confident that apportionments might not be in the next lower apportionment category from that proposed, that is a 90/10 apportionment might be justified as an 80/20 apportionment for example. The Panel uses this as the basis to reduce the apportionment of costs to the new population for an interim open space contribution rate by 10 per cent.

In the revised POPC calculation tabled at the Hearing (Document 61), the overall apportionment to the new population was calculated at 67.1 per cent (\$379,973,479 divided by a total cost of \$566,079,822). The Panel reduces the apportionment to the new population by 10 per cent to 57.1 per cent.

The Panel acknowledges that there is no science behind this approach and that it is based purely on a pragmatic judgment by it to arrive at what it considers to be a fair and reasonable interim rate. The Panel leaves open that it may be convinced that a higher rate than the interim rate is a fair and reasonable final open space contribution rate. In coming to an apportionment of 57.1 per cent to new populations, the Panel has not attempted to reduce the apportionment on a project-by-project basis. To do so would risk attributing a higher level of science to this outcome than is

¹⁰² See Document 117, Scenario 2 summary table on p. 17.

intended by the Panel. In saying this, the Panel acknowledges that it feels obliged to explain the basis of the interim rate it is proposing.

If 57.1 per cent of the reduced total project cost of \$491,111,053 is applied to the total value of the property that is to be developed for open space of \$3,789,238,620 (that is \$329,653,383 / \$3,789,238,620), an interim open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent is generated.

8.3 Peer review

The Panel does not consider its role is to tightly specify the terms of a peer review of the apportionment exercise undertaken by Ms Thompson but does consider it appropriate to indicate some of the parameters of that review so that its expectations are met when the outcome of that review (if undertaken) is considered by the Panel.

The suggested parameters for the peer review are:

- The review should be undertaken by at least one suitably qualified person with open space planning experience.
- The review should be restricted to the apportionment of project-by-project costs between existing and new populations. Population forecasts and project costs should not be the subject of review.
- The qualitative methodology used in the apportionment of costs is acceptable and should not be the subject of review.
- The Panel concludes that the eight factors influencing the apportionment of costs listed in paragraphs 3.3.3 and 3.3.4 of Ms Thompson's expert witness statement (Document 25) and reproduced in Chapter 4.3 are acceptable and should not be the subject of review, although commentary on them and their relative importance could be considered.
- The extensive field work undertaken by Ms Thompson need not be repeated provided relevant records can be provided to the reviewer.
- Where the reviewer finds that the apportionment of costs is different to that proposed by Ms Thompson, the reviewer's recommended apportionment should be provided together with a clear rationale for the recommended change.

8.4 Conclusions

The Panel concludes:

- Council should prepare a new Planning Scheme Amendment which adopts the exhibited Amendment C286yara except for:
 - the application of an interim open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent
 - the minor changes as set out in Appendices D and E
- Council should use an appropriate mechanism to submit this new Planning Scheme Amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval
- if the Council wishes to achieve a higher final contribution rate, Council should commission a peer review of the apportionment of costs between existing and new populations and subsequently request the Panel to reconvene the Hearing for Amendment C286 to allow the Amendment to be finalised.
- Council should use an appropriate mechanism to submit this interim position as a separate planning scheme amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval

- if the Council wishes to achieve a higher final contribution rate, Council should commission a peer review of the apportionment of costs between existing and new populations and subsequently request the Panel to reconvene the Hearing for Amendment C286 to allow the Amendment to be finalised.

8.5 Recommendations

The Panel recommends to:

Prepare and seek Ministerial approval under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* for a new Planning Scheme Amendment which:

- a) includes an open space contribution rate of 7.4 per cent in the Schedule to Clause 53.01.**
- b) includes exemptions in the Schedule to Clause 53.01 as set out in the version of the Schedule at Appendix D.**

Commission a peer review of the apportionment of open space Action costs between existing and new resident and worker users of open space for the purpose of justifying a higher contribution rate than the interim rate recommended by the Panel.

Appendix A Submitters to the Amendment

No.	Submitter	No.	Submitter
1	Alison Clarke	30	Streets Alive Yarra Inc
2	Nicole Eckersley	31	Lendlease Apartments Pty Ltd as trustee for the Lendlease RL Richmond No. 2 Trust
3	Roisin Murphy	32	Milieu Property Pty Ltd
4	James Hanlon	33	UDIA
5	Angeline Sparks	34	Fortis
6	Candyce Presland	35	Glenville Developments
7	Amy Henson	36	Astrodome
8	Sam York	37	Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd
9	Beth Anderson	38	Paul Cusmano
10	Aimee Mensink	39	Outline JV Smith Pty Ltd
11	Liam Skoblar	40	Nijon Nominees Pty Ltd
12	David Jorm	41	Dare Property Group Pty Ltd
13	Joel Wells	42	Caydon Property Group Pty Ltd
14	Leneen Forde	42(a)	Caydon Property supplementary submission
15	Sam Bailey	43	UEM Sunrise (Collingwood Development) Pty Ltd
16	Emmanuel Murphy	44	Porta Investments Pty Ltd (
17	Katerina Nemcova	45	Beulah International Holdings Pty Ltd
18	Dr Malachy Feeney	46	Salta Properties Pty Ltd
19	Xavier O'Shannessy	47	Zero Nine
20	Oliver Ramsay	48	Goldfields Richmond Pty Ltd
21	Daniel Inchincoli	49	288 Johnston Street Abbotsford Pty Ltd
22	Shawn Ashkanasy	50	Gurner TM
23	City of Darebin	51	Vicinity
24	Duke Ventures Pty Ltd	52	LPC 10 Nominee Pty Ltd
25	Alison Wirtz	53	Fenwick 84 Pty Ltd
26	Jane Brownrigg	54	JCL Prime Development Pty Ltd
27	Meredith Kefford	55	JCL Prime Development Pty Ltd
28	DPG Management P/L, Delpar Development Investments P/L	56	Aheron Investments Pty Ltd
29	DJC Property Group	57	Salta Properties

58	Development Victoria	65	Consulting Surveyors Victoria
59	Eva Fabian	66	David Balding
60	Alycia Ashcroft	67	DCF Developing Group Pty Ltd
61	Mary Keyser	68	U-Home Oceania Pty Ltd
62	ACC Smith Street Pty Ltd	69	The Marble House
63	Housing Industry Association Inc	70	Time and Place
64	Piccolo Investment Group Pty Ltd	71	Riverlee

Appendix B Parties to the Panel Hearing

Submitter	Represented by
Yarra City Council	Susan Brennan SC and Jordan Wright of Counsel instructed by Briana Eastaugh, solicitor of Maddocks Lawyers who called expert evidence on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Open space planning from Joanna Thompson of Thompson Berrill Landscape Design - Public open space contribution framework from Esther Kay of Environment and Land Management Pty Ltd - Residential and non-residential development data from Dr Serryn Eagleson of EdgResearch - Development feasibility from Luke Mackintosh of EY Australia
Urban Development Institute of Australia	David Vorchheimer of HWL Ebsworth
Association of Consulting Surveyors	Gerry Shone
Housing Industry Association	Roger Cooper
David Balding	
Salta Properties Pty Ltd, Gurner, Milieu Property Pty Ltd, Goldfields (Richmond) Pty Ltd, Nijon Nominees Pty Ltd, UEM Sunrise (Collingwood Development) Pty Ltd, Napier Street Developments Pty Ltd, Aheron Investments Ltd, ACC Smith Street Pty Ltd, Piccolo Investment Group Pty Ltd, Riverlee, Outline JV Smith, DPG Hawthorn Pty Ltd	Jeremy Gobbo QC and Emma Pepler of Counsel instructed by Mark Naughton of Planning and Property Partners who called expert evidence on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Town planning from Rob Milner and /or Alison Milner of Kinetica - Urban economics from Paul Shipp of Urban Enterprise
Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd	Andrew Walker of Counsel instructed by Tamara Brezzi, solicitor of Norton Rose Fulbright who called expert evidence on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Town planning from Jason Black of Insight Planning Consultants
Porta Investments Pty Ltd	Ian Pitt QC instructed by Rhodie Anderson of Rigby Cooke

Appendix C Document list

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
1	27 October 2021	Letter – Notice of Directions Hearing	Planning Panels Victoria
2	5 November 2021	Email - from Council to Panel with late submissions	Mr Kyle Everett
3	11 November 2021	Directions and Timetable	Planning Panels Victoria
4	11 November 2021	Directions Version 2	Planning Panels Victoria
5	17 November 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel responding to Directions 3 and 7.	Council
6	17 November 2021	Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Strategy Preliminary Opinion of Probable Cost (POPC)	Council
7	17 November 2021	Additional information regarding the Strategy POPC	Council
8	17 November 2021	Data for Residential and Non-residential Development to assist calculation of the Public Open Space Contribution Rate (Appendix B of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020)	Council
9	17 November 2021	Email – from Rigby Cooke Lawyers to Panel – confirmation that will not call expert witness (Direction 11)	Ms Donna Bilke, for Porta Investments Pty Ltd
10	19 November 2021	Letter – from Planning Property Partners to Panel (Direction 10)	Mr Tyrone Rath, for PPP Group of Clients
11	22 November 2021	Email – from Best Hoopers Lawyers to Panel (Direction 10)	Ms Eliza Minney, for Best Hooper Group of Clients
12	23 November 2021	Letter and Version 3 Distribution List and Version 2 Timetable	Planning Panels Victoria
13	23 November 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel responding to Direction 4 and Direction 5	Council
14	23 November 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel regarding revised Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report	Council
15	23 November 2021	Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report revised mapping issues	Council
16	23 November 2021	Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report Appendix A	Council
17	23 November 2021	Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report Appendices B and C	Council

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
18	24 November 2021	Email – from Norton Rose Fulbright to Panel requesting update to contacts on the distribution list.	Mr Sebastian Withers, for Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd
19	26 November 2021	Letter – from Norton Rose Fulbright to Panel confirming expert witness.	Ms Tamara Brezzi, for Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd
20	29 November 2021	Map of submitters in accordance with Direction 28	Council
21	29 November 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel – Council Part A submission (Direction 9)	Council
22	29 November 2021	Council Part A submission	Council
23	1 December 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel – Expert Evidence	Council
24	1 December 2021	Expert Witness Statement - Esther Kay	Council
25	1 December 2021	Expert Witness Statement – Joanna Thompson	Council
26	1 December 2021	Expert Witness Statement – Dr Serryn Eagleson	Council
27	1 December 2021	Material referred to in Councils Part A Submission and Evidence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 00 Index 01 Clause 11.01-1S (Settlement) 02 Clause 12 (Environment and Landscape Values) 03 Clause 12.05-2S (Landscapes) 04 Clause 15.01-3S (Subdivision Design) 05 Clause 15.01-4S (Healthy Neighbourhoods) 06 Clause 19.02-6S (Open Space) 07 Clause 19.02-6R (Open Space – Metropolitan Melbourne) 08 Clause 21.02 (Municipal Profile) 09 Clause 21.04 (Land Use) 10 Clause 22.12 (Public Open Space Contribution) 11 Clause 53.01 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision and the Schedule to Clause 53.01 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision 12 Clause 72.08 Background Documents and the Schedule to Clause 72.08 Background Documents 13 Ministerial Direction No 9 Melbourne Planning Strategy 14 Ministerial Direction No 11 Strategic Assessment of Amendments 	Council

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
15		Planning Practice Note 13 Incorporated and Background Documents	
16		Planning Practice Note 70 Open Space Strategies	
17		Yarra Open Space Strategy 2006-2016	
18		19 December 2006 Council meeting agenda and minutes	
19		19 June 2007 Council meeting agenda and minutes	
20		18 September 2007 Council meeting agenda and minutes	
21		Yarra Housing Strategy Adopted 4 September 2018	
22		Yarra Economic Development Strategy 2020-2025 Background Report	
23		The Emerging Inner East, Melbourne’s Creative heart and its office market transformation	
24		Infrastructure Australian, Infrastructure beyond COVID-19, December 2020	
25		Open Space Strategy for Metropolitan Melbourne 2021, Victorian Government	
26		Melbourne Water presentation to Parliamentary Inquiry into Environmental Infrastructure, June 2021	
27		Parks Victoria submission to Parliamentary Inquiry into Environmental Infrastructure, November 2020	
28		Melbourne Planning Scheme Amendment C209 Panel Report, August 2014	
29		Eddie Barron Constructions Pty Ltd v Pakenham SC & Minister for Planning & Urban Growth [1990]	
30		Schedule 5 to the Development Plan Overlay (Yarra Planning Scheme)	
31		22 Bendigo Street, Richmond, Development Plan May 2012	
32		22 Bendigo Street, Richmond, Central and South Precinct Development Plan Rev A, August 2018	
33		Planning Permit SP13/0017, Yarra City Council	
34		Planning Permit SP18/0057, Yarra City Council	
35		Schedule 11 to the Development Plan Overlay (Yarra Planning Scheme)	
36		Alphington Paper Mill Development Plan, 2016	
37		Section 173 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, 333 Bridge Road, Richmond, Alphington Developments Pty Ltd	
38		Schedule 16 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay, Yarra City Council	
39		Schedule 15 to Clause 43.04 Development Plan Overlay, Yarra City Council	
28	1 December 2021	Expert Witness Statement – Paul Shipp	Ms Hannah Wilson, for PPP Group of Clients

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
29	1 December 2021	Expert Witness Statement – Rob Milner	Ms Hannah Wilson
30	1 December 2021	Expert Witness Statement – Luke Mackintosh	Council
31	2 December 2021	Expert Witness Statement – Jason Black	Mr Sebastian Withers
32	2 December 2021	Letter and Version 4 Distribution List and Version 3 Timetable	Planning Panels Victoria
33	3 December 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel – Council Part B Submission (Direction 18)	Council
34	3 December 2021	Council Part B Submission	Council
35	3 December 2021	Council Part B Supporting Material	Council
36	3 December 2021	Cremorne Corporation Pty Ltd v Yarra CC [2008] VCAT 1202	Ms Rhodie Anderson, for Porta Investments Pty Ltd
37	3 December 2021	Fairfield Park Master Plan 2010	Ms Rhodie Anderson
38	3 December 2021	Fairfield Park Masterplan Summary Report 2010	Ms Rhodie Anderson
39	3 December 2021	Gesher Pty Ltd v Yarra CC [2015] VCAT 506	Ms Rhodie Anderson
40	3 December 2021	Yarra Development Contributions Plan 2017 - April 2019	Ms Rhodie Anderson
41	3 December 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel – Additional documents referred to in Shipp evidence	Council
42	3 December 2021	2018 Average CIV, average site value	Council
43	3 December 2021	City of Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019, Average Park Establishment and Upgrade, Neighbourhood Open Space	Council
44	6 December 2021	Dr Serryn Eagleson, Expert Witness Statement PowerPoint presentation	Council
45	6 December 2021	Exhibited Clause 22.12 Track Changes for Part B Submission	Council
46	6 December 2021	Architectural renders from Salta’s Church Street development	Ms Hannah Wilson
47	7 December 2021	Letter – from Norton Rose Fulbright to Panel regarding Lend Lease no longer wishing to appear before the Panel	Mr Sebastian Withers

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
48	8 December 2021	Email – from Council to Panel and Excel Spread Sheet on Median site values per square metre data Part 1	Council
49	8 December 2021	Letter – from Norton Rose Fulbright to Panel requesting documents from Council	Mr Sebastian Withers
50	8 December 2021	Letter – from Housing Industry Association to Panel - submission	Mr Roger Cooper, Housing Industry Association
51	8 December 2021	Consulting Surveyors Victoria Submission	Mr Gerry Shone, for Consulting Surveyors Victoria
52	8 December 2021	David Balding Submission	David Balding
53	8 December 2021	UDIA Submission	Grace Bramwell, for UDIA
54	8 December 2021	Excel Spread Sheet on Median site values per square metre data Part 2	Council
55	8 December 2021	City of Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019 Average park establishment and upgrade POPC Draft V1 15 Nov 18	Council
56	8 December 2021	City of Melbourne Open Space Strategy Open Space Contributions Framework, 2012	Mr Sebastian Withers
57	9 December 2021	Luke Mackintosh Track Change Expert Evidence	Council
58	9 December 2021	Luke Mackintosh Final Expert Evidence	Council
59	9 December 2021	Letter – from Council to Panel on amended Clause 53.01 Schedule 1	Council
60	9 December 2021	Clause 53.01 Schedule 1 Post Exhibition	Council
61	9 December 2021	Yarra Open Space strategy 2020 POPC Updated 8 December 2021	Council
62	9 December 2021	Revised POPC Rate 9 December 2021	Council
63	9 December 2021	Melbourne Planning Scheme Figure 1 from Clause 21.04 and Figure from Schedule to Clause 53.01	Council
64	9 December 2021	Memorandum from Council dated 8 December 2021	Council
65	9 December 2021	Attachment to Council Memorandum (Advice to Council on Sales Ratios for 2018)	Council
66	9 December 2021	Glen Eira Amendment C218 – <i>Update of the Public Open Space Contributions Program (2 November 2020)</i>	Council

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
67	13 December 2021	Clause 02.03	Council
68	13 December 2021	Clause 02.04	Council
69	13 December 2021	Design and Development Overlay Schedule 16	Council
70	13 December 2021	Design and Development Overlay Schedule 18	Council
71	13 December 2021	Design and Development Overlay Schedule 23	Council
72	13 December 2021	Design and Development Overlay Schedule 36	Council
73	13 December 2021	Clause 21.04 from the Melbourne Planning Scheme	Council
74	13 December 2021	Schedule to Clause 53.01 from the Melbourne Planning Scheme	Council
75	13 December 2021	Email – from Best Hooper to Panel regarding the Amcor Papermill Site	Ms Eliza Minney
76	13 December 2021	Council Part B Supplementary submission?	Council
77	13 December 2021	Map Strategic Framework Plan and proposed additional Open Space with Clause 02.04	Council
78	13 December 2021	Map Strategic Framework Plan and proposed additional Open Space with Housing Strategy	Council
79	13 December 2021	Precinct Ranking Table	Council
80	13 December 2021	A memorandum prepared by Joanna Thompson, 10 December 2021 about Average Park Costings POPC and open space design projects	Council
81	13 December 2021	A memorandum prepared by Council, 13 December 2021 regarding the 30% contingency for the Average Park Costings POPC and open space design projects	Council
82	13 December 2021	Table containing POS collection since FY2011	Council
83	13 December 2021	Development Plan Overlay Schedule 15	Council
84	13 December 2021	Panel Report Yarra Planning Scheme Amendment C223yara	Council

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
85	13 December 2021	Email – from Arnold Bloch Leibler to Panel regarding the Amcor Papermill Site	Mr Andrew Low for U-Home Oceania Pty Ltd
86	13 December 2021	Email – from PPV to Ms Eliza Minney, for Best Hooper Group of Clients, regarding no need for submitters to be heard regarding Amcor Papermill Site	PPV
87	14 December 2021	Email – from PPV to Mr Andrew Low, U-Home Oceania Pty Ltd, regarding no need to be heard regarding Amcor Papermill Site	PPV
88	14 December 2021	PPP group of clients Submission	Ms Hannah Wilson
89	14 December 2021	Appendix A – Summary of submitter sites	Ms Hannah Wilson
90	14 December 2021	Appendix B – Nicholson Street	Ms Hannah Wilson
91	14 December 2021	Appendix C – Workings behind the 30% allowance	Ms Hannah Wilson
92	14 December 2021	Appendix D – HO map of Yarra	Ms Hannah Wilson
93	14 December 2021	Appendix E – Harry the Hirer	Ms Hannah Wilson
94	14 December 2021	Appendix F – 26-52 Queens Parade, Fitzroy North Landscape Plan	Ms Hannah Wilson
95	14 December 2021	VPA Metropolitan Open Space Network	Council
96	15 December 2021	Memorandum prepared by Ms Thompson dated 14 December 2021	Council
97	15 December 2021	Revised precinct rankings referred to in Document 79	Council
98	15 December 2021	The workings of average and median sale figures from Document 65	Council
99	15 December 2021	Table of population breakdowns	Ms Hannah Wilson
100	16 December 2021	Email – from HIA to Panel, supplementary comment for Panel consideration	Mr Roger Cooper
101	17 December 2021	Sensitivity Calculations	Ms Hannah Wilson
102	20 December 2021	Letter – Further Directions	Planning Panels Victoria

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
103	21 December 2021	Letter – from PPP to the Panel regarding Further Directions	Ms Hannah Wilson
104	22 December 2021	Letter – from Rigby Cooke Lawyers to Panel regarding further directions	Ms Alisa Gattini, Rigby Cooke Lawyers, for Porta Investments Pty Ltd.
105	22 December 2021	Email – from Panel Panels Victoria to Rigby Cooke Lawyers regarding further directions.	Planning Panels Victoria
106	22 December 2021	Letter – From Panel to PPP regarding further directions.	Planning Panels Victoria
107	23 December 2021	Letter – from Norton Rose Fulbright to Panel regarding further directions	Mr Sebastian Withers
108	23 December 2021	Email – from Panel Panels Victoria to Norton Rose Fulbright regarding further directions.	Planning Panels Victoria
109	23 December 2021	Letter – from Council to Planning Panels Victoria regarding further directions.	Council
110	23 December 2021	Email – from Panel Panels Victoria to Council regarding further directions.	Planning Panels Victoria
111	6 January 2022	Letter – further Directions 6 January 2022	Planning Panels Victoria
112	14 January 2022	Email - from Council to Planning Panels Victoria seeking clarification on further directions issued on 6 January 2022	Council
113	14 January 2022	Email – from Planning Panels Victoria to Council clarifying further directions issued on 6 January 2022	Planning Panels Victoria
114	25 January 2022	Email – from Council to Planning Panels Victoria requesting an extension to the further directions’ timeframes	Council
115	25 January 2022	Email – from Planning Panels Victoria to Council granting extension until 31 January 2022.	Planning Panels Victoria
116	27 January 2022	Letter – from Council to Planning Panels Victoria responding to further directions 27 January 2022	Council
117	27 January 2022	Memorandum prepared by Joanna Thompson dated 18 January 2022 regarding further information requested by the Panel	Council
118	27 January 2022	Memorandum prepared by Esther Kay dated 24 January 2022 regarding further information requested by the Panel	Council
119	27 January 2022	Sale selection letter to Maddocks 27 January 2022	Council
120	31 December 2022	Letter – from Council to Planning Panels Victoria responding to further directions 31 January 2022	Council

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
121	31 December 2022	Apportionment memorandum prepared by Joanna Thompson 31 January 2022	Council
122	31 December 2022	Map with YOSS and Strategy POPC actions identified	Council
123	3 February 2022	Email – from Best Hooper Lawyers to Planning Panels Victoria regarding no longer requiring to be heard on 8 February 2022	Ms Eliza Minney
124	4 February 2022	Email – from PPV to parties advising that the Hearing will conclude at lunchtime on 8 February 2022	Planning Panels Victoria
125	4 February 2022	Letter – from Council to Planning Panels Victoria responding to item 2 in Document 49	Council
126	4 February 2022	Memo Draft Strategy POPC Joanna Thompson 3 February 2022	Council
127	7 February 2022	Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd Submission 7 February 2022	Mr Sebastian Withers
128	7 February 2022	Piedimonte Properties Pty Ltd Attachments to Submission 7 February 2022	Mr Sebastian Withers
129	8 February 2022	Porta Investments Pty Ltd Submission 8 February 2022	Ms Donna Bilke
130	8 February 2022	Porta Investments Pty Ltd Submission Attachment Household Data 8 February 2022	Ms Donna Bilke
131	16 February 2022	Letter – from Norton Rose Fulbright to Panel responding to the Panel 20 December 2021 further directions	Mr Sebastian Withers
132	16 February 2022	Rigby Cooke Lawyers response to Document 121	Ms Donna Bilke
133	16 February 2022	PPP response to additional material filed by the Council	Ms Hannah Wilson
134	17 February 2022	Letter – from Panel to all parties 17 February 2022 regarding reconvening the Hearing on 23 February 2022	Planning Panels Victoria
135	22 February 2022	Council closing submission 22 February 2022	Council
136	22 February 2022	Appendix A – List of open space strategies reviewed, referred to in closing submission	Council
137	22 February 2022	Appendix B - Summary of Apportionment of Strategy POPC Actions	Council
138	22 February 2022	Additional material for closing submission: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clause 19_02-6R-001 b. Arden Development Contributions Plan August 2021: VPA Part A 	Council

No.	Date	Description	Presented by
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">c. Arden Precinct Expert Evidence Statement by Chris DeSilva Development, Mesh, January 2022d. Urban heat island effect documents referred to in closing submission<ul style="list-style-type: none">i. Clause 02.03 Municipal Planning Strategy, Strategic direction preferred version Part Cii. Clause 15.02-1L preferred version Part Ciii. Current Clause 15.02-1Siv. Current Clause 22.17v. Current Clause 58.03vi. Urban Forest Strategy, City of Yarrae. VCAT Amended Plans – P760-2021 Amended plans prepared by Hayballf. Applicant VCAT Ref P760-2021 Development Summary	
139	5 April 2022	Further updated version of the Schedule to Clause 53.01	Maddocks

Appendix D Panel recommended version of the Schedule to Clause 53.01

30/07/2018
VC148

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 53.01 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CONTRIBUTION AND SUBDIVISION

1.0 Subdivision and public open space contribution

Proposed
C286yarr

Type or location of subdivision	Amount of contribution for public open space
Land in DPO5 (Channel Nine Site, Bendigo Street, East Richmond)	4.5%, comprising land and/or cash contribution in accordance with an approved development plan, planning permit SP13/007 issued on 12 June 2013 and planning permit SP18/0057 issued on 21 January 2019, as amended from time to time.
Land in DPO11 (Amarc Site, Heidelberg Road, Alphington)	4.58%, for the whole of the land in DPO11, comprising land in accordance with the development plan approved under DPO11, as amended from time to time, but excluding the 30 metre setback from the Yarra River required by Instrument AN278889H (agreement under section 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> registered 15 November 2016)
Land in DPO16 (111 Queens Parade and 433 Smith Street, Fitzroy North (Former Fitzroy Gasworks))	A minimum of 8%, comprising land and/or cash contribution in accordance with an approved development plan, as amended from time to time.
All other land	7.4%

Appendix E Panel recommended version of Clause 22.12

22.12 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CONTRIBUTION

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Proposed
C286yara

This policy applies to all applications for development or subdivision of land.

22.12-1 Policy Basis

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Proposed
C286yara

As an established inner urban municipality, the City of Yarra is experiencing significant change and growth. The analysis of the distribution of public open space in the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 has identified there are areas of the City where the community does not have any adequate open space within easy walking distance of where they live or work. The Strategy has identified and prioritised a series of new open spaces, with priority given to gaps in the network and locations where higher levels of growth is forecast to occur. The need for the proposed additional open spaces is based on a range of factors including:

- . Areas where the public existing open space is experiencing high levels of use or over- use. This includes providing new open space to take the pressure off existing spaces to meet everyone's needs.
- . Where there is a gap in the provision of any public open space.
- . Medium and high density precincts where the substantial change is forecast and the new community will create a need for additional public open space.
- . In medium and high density precincts where the provision of well distributed green public open space will assist to mitigate urban heat island effect.

The forecast development over the next 15 years is significant with a 41 per cent increase in the resident population and a 47 per cent increase in the worker population. This means there will be more people visiting and using open space, thereby increasing demand on the existing space and facilities. The extent of forecast growth changes across different parts of the City. Minimal growth is forecast in Princes Hill-Carlton North and Clifton Hill, compared to high Levels in North Richmond, Collingwood, Fitzroy and Cremorne. The [residential population growth figures are based on .id Consulting forecasts of August 2018 while](#) locations for where forecast residential growth will occur is based on the *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018*. The forecast employment growth and change is based on the *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018*.

A total of 85 per cent of Yarra's population live in medium and high density dwellings compared to 33 per cent in Greater Melbourne. This means that residents have less private open space available to them which increases their reliance on public open space. Typically, this adds to the amount of people using public open space and increases the diversity of reasons why they use it.

Many of the areas in the City that are forecast to change are [the activity centres and](#) former industrial and manufacturing areas. These areas are being redeveloped to mixed use precincts with a combination of residential, commercial and business use. Historically, the industrial areas did not have public open space. With the proposed changes, these areas are being redeveloped with increased building heights and a change to a predominantly office-based professional workforce. The Strategy found that more than 80 per cent of workers visit public open space during the day. With increased numbers of people working and living in the former industrial precincts there is a need to provide new areas of public open space.

As urban densities increase in the future this Strategy has identified opportunities to increase the local open space network to support and sustainably meet the open space needs of the existing and future community.

Public open space contributions from developers are one of a number of potential sources of funding towards the acquisition of land for public open space and improvement of existing facilities. Because public open space contributions can only be imposed at the subdivision stage,

it is important for developers to ascertain at the site analysis stage of the design process whether any part of the site might be required for public open space purposes where the site:

- is in an area where a land contribution may be required under Strategies in clause 22.12-3 or on Map 1.
- fits the selection criteria for public open space in clause 22.12-4.

This will ensure that public open space requirements are identified and allowed for at the earliest possible time.

22.12-2 Objectives

Proposed
C286yara

- To fund a fair proportion of the open space projects contained in the Strategy that will meet the needs of the forecast residential commercial and business population.
- To contribute to improvements to existing public open space and provide new public open space on behalf of the forecast population.
- To expand the public open space network to accommodate the growth in population predominantly in medium to high density urban development located across the municipality.

22.12-3 Policy

Proposed
C286yara

22.12-4 Policy Guidelines

Proposed
C286yara

Consider as relevant:

- The suitability of land to be contributed as public open space at the time of the subdivision of the land or building, should be consistent with the requirements of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 including the following selection criteria:
 - Land to be contributed:
 - Should be of a shape and size that will be adequate for the proposed [use and its position in the public open space hierarchy](#) having regard to the nature of [the public open space](#) ~~in an inner city environment~~ or be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land with these attributes.
 - Should be free of structures and protrusions, such as balconies or other building projections that may encroach into the public open space reserve, except for historic buildings or structures relating to the designated public open space use.
 - Should be located or be capable of being designed to provide a high degree of casual surveillance.
 - Should be physically suitable for use as public open space including that there are no inherent issues such as contamination and significant financial or safety implications, including the land being open to the sky.
 - Should contribute to the connectivity and accessibility of the open space network. This includes consideration of the other strategic planning projects including linear open space corridors, and local links to improve accessibility within the local street network and links and connections to improve accessibility into existing or proposed future open space.
 - Should be free of services and easements that affects or encumbers the development and use of the land as public open space. This includes roadways, overhead structures, underground structures (e.g. underground car parking), water supply, power supply, gas supply, telecommunications, flood mitigation and drainage.
 - Must be accessible to people of all abilities.

- Should be visible from adjacent thoroughfares with at least two access points, local access streets to at least two sides and be provided on natural ground (not elevated or roofed structures).
 - Must have no additional overshadowing beyond any 9 metre built form height between 10am and 3pm on June 21.
 - Should be located away from major or secondary arterial roads.
 - [Should make a positive contribution to the urban context, character and attractiveness of the precinct.](#)
 - [Should contribute to the cultural values of the community, protect biodiversity values and contribute to urban cooling and greening.](#)
 - [Must be capable of being transferred to the City of Yarra and rezoned for public open space.](#)
- Whether any building on land adjacent to public open space set aside under this clause has been designed to accommodate public open space in a manner that meets the majority of the above selection criteria.

Open Space Contribution Plan (Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 sub-precincts)



Policy references

Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd

Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd

Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Public Open Space Contributions, Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd

22.12-5 Strategies

Proposed
C286yara

Many of the areas in the City that are forecast to change are the activity centres and former industrial and manufacturing areas. These areas are being redeveloped to mixed use precincts with a combination of residential, commercial and business use. Historically, the industrial areas did not have public open space. With the proposed changes, these areas are being redeveloped with increased building heights and a change to a predominantly office-based professional workforce.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 has identified the need for new public open space and land contributions for public open space ~~will~~ [may](#) be preferred over cash contributions in the following areas shown in the City of Yarra Open Space Sub-precincts plan to this clause.

- . Alphington
- . Abbotsford C and D
- . [Carlton North](#)
- . Central Richmond A and B
- . Collingwood A, B, C and D
- . Cremorne
- . Fitzroy A, B, C and D
- . Fitzroy North B and E
- . Richmond North A and C

In all other areas of the municipality, a cash contribution equal to the amount specified in Clause 53.01 is required.

In locations where a preference for a land contribution has been identified, set aside land for public open space early in the planning of a development or subdivision.

Design buildings adjacent to any public open space set aside under this clause and any existing open space to facilitate high quality and accessible public open space.

Amendment C286yara and C306yara

Key dates and steps

Date	Key steps
1 September 2020	Council adopts Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020.
15 September 2020	Council considers request to seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to exhibit Amendment C286yara.
17 December 2020	Advised by Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) the amendment required further review.
24 February 2021	Further information request from DTP.
9 April 2021	Response provided to DTP.
18 June 2021	Authorisation to exhibit the amendment received (subject to conditions).
20 July 2021	Council endorses (amongst other things) the notification process for the amendment and updated policy at Clause 22.12 (following receipt of conditional authorisation).
7 September - 5 October 2021	Exhibition of Amendment C286yara.
19 October 2021	Council considers submissions and resolves to refer the amendment and submissions to an independent planning panel.
10 November and 7 December 2021	Directions Hearing held.
December 2021 – February 2022 (11 hearing days)	Amendment and submissions are considered by an independent planning panel.
14 April 2022	Interim Panel Report received. (Noting a corrections report was received on 16 May 2022.)
31 May 2022	Council considers report on next steps following the interim panel report. (Key recommendations were to: Undertake a peer review, request the Minister apply a rate of 7.4 per cent as recommended by the Panel and apply a 10 per cent margin above Capital Improved Value.)
2 June 2022	Amendment C306yara (a request for a Ministerial amendment to apply a rate of 7.4 per cent) lodged.
October 2022	Officers commission a 'peer review' of the apportionment of costs (recommendation of the Interim Panel Report).
2 August 2023	Final peer review received.
15 August 2023	Council notes the 'peer review' and that it will receive a report with a recommended position in September 2023.

Date	Key steps
12 September 2023	Council resolves to request Planning Panels Victoria reconvene the Amendment C286yara Planning Panel hearing and refer the peer review to the Panel for consideration.
11 October 2023	Council requests the Panel hearing be reconvened.
27 November 2023	Council receives decision from the Minister that Amendment C306yara has been refused.
7 December 2023	Reconvened Directions Hearing held.
18 December 2023	Council resolves to request reasons for the refusal of Amendment C306yara from the Minister for Planning (amongst others).
5-9 February 2024 (3 hearing days)	Reconvened planning panel for Amendment C286yara held.
28 February 2024	Reasons for refusal of Amendment C306yara received.
4 March 2024	Final Panel Report received by Council.
19 March 2024	Final Panel Report publicly released.

[Proposed C286yara](#)

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 53.01 PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CONTRIBUTION AND SUBDIVISION

1.0 Subdivision and public open space contribution

[Proposed C286yara](#)

Type or location of subdivision	Amount of contribution for public open space
Land in DPO5 (Channel Nine Site, Bendigo Street, East Richmond)	4.5%, comprising land and/or cash in accordance with an approved development plan, planning permit SP13/007 issued on 12 June 2013 and planning permit SP18/0057 issued on 21 January 2019, as amended from time to time.
Land in DPO11 (Amcor Site, Heidelberg Road, Alphington)	4.58%, for the whole of the land in DPO11, comprising land in accordance with the development plan approved under DPO11, as amended from time to time, but excluding the 30 metre setback from the Yarra River required by Instrument AN278889H (agreement under section 173 of the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> registered 15 November 2016)
Land in DPO16 (111 Queens Parade and 433 Smith Street, Fitzroy North (Former Fitzroy Gasworks))	A minimum of 8%, comprising land and/or cash contribution in accordance with an approved development plan, as amended from time to time.
All other land	40.4% -8.65%

19.02-6L
21/12/2023
C269yara

Open space

Objective

To protect and enhance existing public open space, increase the quantity and quality of open space and provide a linked network that meets existing and future community needs.

Strategies

- Promote improvements to the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces, particularly in areas of the city where there are deficits in open space.
- Support a range of functions in open spaces, including leisure and recreation, and where appropriate, community gardens and urban agriculture.

19.02-6L-
01

Proposed C286yara

Public open space contribution

Policy application

This policy applies to [all](#) applications for development or subdivision of land ~~that includes residential use.~~

Objectives

~~To identify when and where land contributions for public open space are preferred over cash contributions.~~

~~To set aside land suitable for public open space as part of the design of a development so that it can be transferred to or vested in council, in satisfaction of the public open space contribution requirement specified in the schedule to clause 53.01.~~

~~To fund a fair proportion of the open space projects contained in the Strategy that will meet the needs of the forecast residential commercial and business population.~~

~~To contribute to improvements to existing public open space and provide new public open space on behalf of the forecast population.~~

~~To expand the public open space network to accommodate the growth in population predominantly in medium to high density urban development located across the municipality.~~

Strategies

Land contributions for public open space ~~are may be~~ preferred over cash contributions in the following areas shown in the [City of Yarra](#) Open Space Contributions [Sub-Precincts](#) Plan to this clause.

- [Abbotsford C and D](#)
- [Alphington](#)
- [Carlton North](#)
- [Central Richmond A and B](#)
- [Collingwood A, B, C and D](#)
- [Cremorne](#)
- [Fitzroy A, B, C and D](#)
- [Fitzroy North B and E](#)
- [North Richmond North A and C](#)
- ~~[Central Richmond](#)~~
- ~~[Cremorne/Richmond South](#)~~

In all other areas of the municipality, a cash contribution equal to the amount specified in clause 53.01 is required.

In locations where a preference for a land contribution has been identified, set aside land for public open space early in the planning of a development or subdivision.

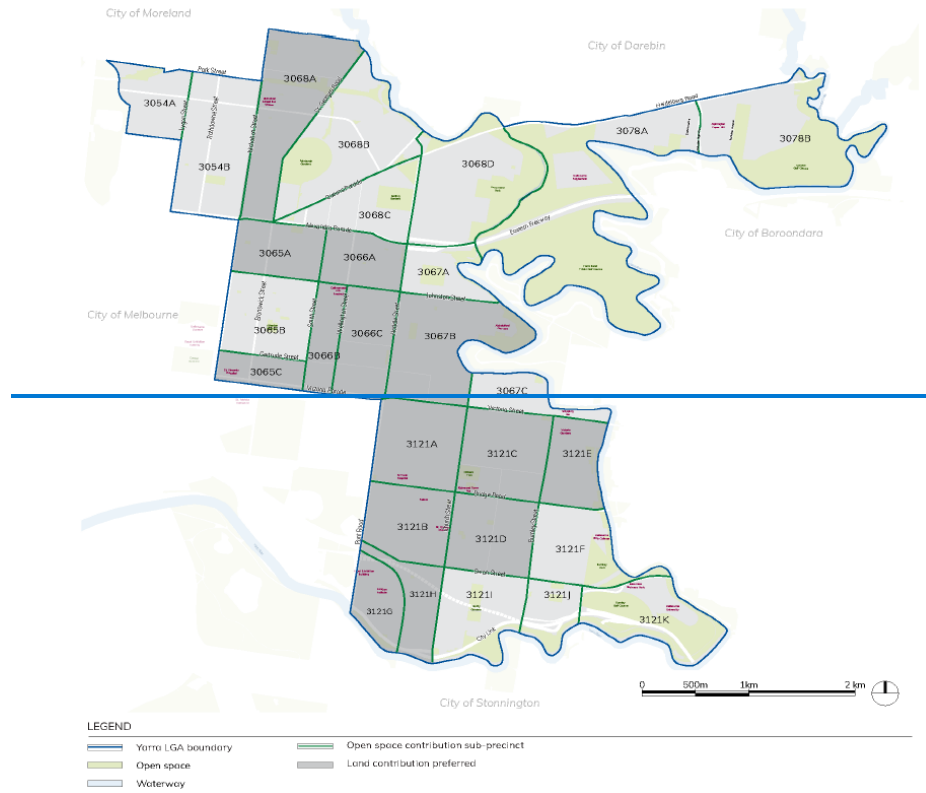
Design buildings adjacent to any public open space set aside under this clause to facilitate high quality and accessible public open space.

Policy guidelines

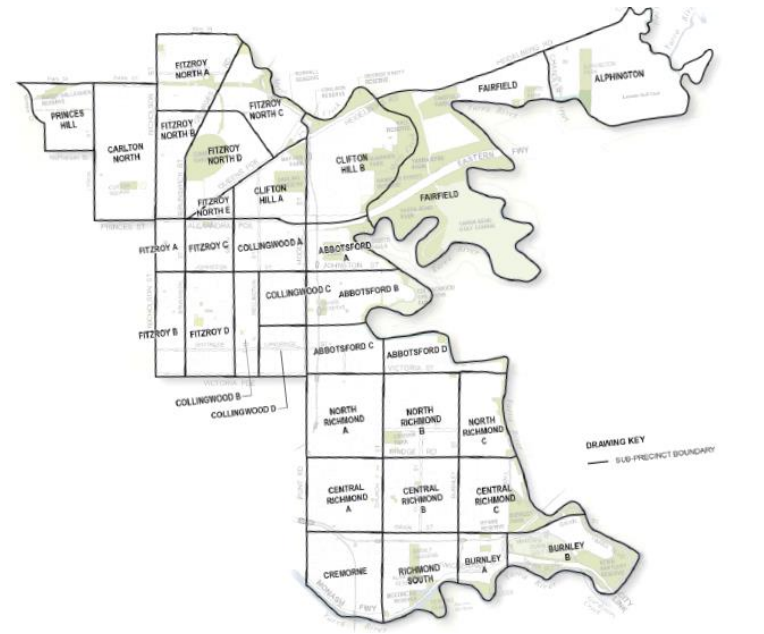
Consider as relevant:

- The suitability of land to be contributed as public open space at the time of the subdivision of the land or building, should be consistent with the requirements of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 including will meet the following selection criteria:
 - Land to be contributed:
 - ~~▪ Should have an area of 300 square metres and a minimum width of 10 metres or be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land of these dimensions or larger.~~
 - Should be of a shape and size that will be adequate for the proposed use and its position in the public open space hierarchy, having regard to the nature of the public open space in an inner-city environment, or be able to meaningfully contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land with these attributes.
 - Should be free of structures and protrusions, such as balconies or other building projections that may encroach into the public open space reserve, except for historic buildings or structures relating to the designated public open space use.
 - Should be located or be capable of being designed to provide a high degree of casual surveillance.
 - Should be physically suitable for use as public open space including that there are no inherent issues such as contamination and significant financial or safety implications, including the land being open to the sky.
 - Should contribute to the connectivity and accessibility of the open space network. This includes consideration of the other strategic planning projects including linear open space corridors, and local links to improve accessibility within the local street network and links and connections to improve accessibility into existing or proposed future open space.
 - Should be free of services and easements that affects or encumbers the development and use of the land as public open space. This includes roadways, overhead structures, underground structures (e.g. underground car parking), water supply, power supply, gas supply, telecommunications, flood mitigation and drainage.
 - Must be accessible to people of all abilities.
 - Should be visible from adjacent thoroughfares with at least two access points, local access streets to at least two sides and be provided on natural ground (not elevated or roofed structures).
 - ~~▪ Must have no additional overshadowing beyond any 9 metre built form height between 10am and 3pm on 22 June. Should receive reasonable sunlight between 9am and 2pm on September 22.~~
 - Should be located away from major or secondary arterial roads.
 - ~~▪ Should have an entry from a local street or be capable of being provided with such entry.~~
 - Should make a positive contribution to the urban context, character and attractiveness of the precinct.
 - Should contribute to the cultural values of the community, protect biodiversity values and contribute to urban cooling and greening.
 - Must be capable of being transferred to the City of Yarra and rezoned for public open space.
 - Whether any building on land adjacent to public open space set aside under this clause has been designed to accommodate public open space in a manner that meets the majority of the above selection criteria.

Open Space Contribution Plan



Open Space Contribution Plan (Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 sub-precincts)



YARRA PLANNING SCHEME

21/12/2023
C269yara

SCHEDULE TO CLAUSE 72.08 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

1.0

Proposed C286yara

Background documents

Name of background document	Amendment number - clause reference
<i>Activity Centres Roles and Boundaries</i> (City of Yarra, April 2022)	C269yara Clause 11.03-1L
<i>Built Environment Sustainability Scorecard 'BESS'</i> (Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment 'CASBE')	C269yara Clause 15.02-1L
<i>Building for Diversity – Social and Affordable Housing Strategy</i> (City of Yarra, November 2019)	C269yara Clause 16.01-4L
<i>Burra Charter The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance</i> (Australia ICOMOS, 2013)	VC155yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Collingwood Mixed Use Pocket, Heritage Analysis & Recommendations</i> (GJM Heritage, 2018)	C245yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Community Infrastructure Plan</i> (City of Yarra, April 2018)	C269yara Clause 19.03-2L
<i>Council Plan 2021-2025</i> (City of Yarra, 2021)	C269yara Clause 02.02 Clause 02.03
<i>Fitzroy Urban Conservation Study Review</i> (Allom Lovell and Associates, November 1992)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Green Star</i> (Green Building Council of Australia)	C133yara Clause 15.02-1L
<i>Guidelines - Managing noise impacts in urban development</i> (City of Yarra, March 2022)	C269yara Clause 13.07-1L
<i>Heritage Citation 112-124 Trenerry Crescent, Abbotsford</i> (GJM Heritage, July 2016)	C219yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Citation 20-60 Trenerry Crescent, Abbotsford</i> (GJM Heritage, July 2016)	C218yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Citation: 18-22 Derby Street, Collingwood</i> (Anthemion Consultancies, June 2018)	C245yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Citation: 33-45 Derby Street, Collingwood</i> (GJM Heritage, 2018)	C245yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Citation: Queens Parade, Fitzroy North Street Trees</i> (John Patrick Landscape Architects, 2018)	C245yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Conservation Study, Carlton, North Carlton and Princes Hill</i> (Nigel Lewis and Associates, July 1984)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Conservation Study, Collingwood</i> (Andrew Ward and Associates, April 1989)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Conservation Study Review, Collingwood</i> (Andrew Ward and Associates, May 1995)	C269yara Clause 15.03-1L

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

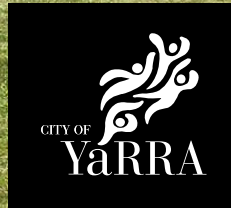
<i>Heritage Conservation Study, Northcote</i> (Graeme Butler Architect, February 1982)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Conservation Study, North Fitzroy</i> (Jacob Lewis Vines Architects, July 1978)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Conservation Study, Richmond</i> (J & T O'Connor and Coleman and Wright Architects, January 1985)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Conservation Study, South Fitzroy</i> (Jacob Lewis Vines Architects, March 1979)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gaps: An Overview</i> (Graeme Butler & Associates, 2004, updated March 2013)	C157yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gaps Review One</i> (City of Yarra/Graeme Butler, 2013)	C157yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gap Review One; Incorporated Plan, Methodology Report</i> (Lovell Chen, 2014)	C178yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gap Review Two Methodology Report</i> (Lovell Chen, 2012)	C157yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gap Study Review of 17 Precincts Stage 2 Report</i> (Context, August 2014, Revised 16 October 2016)	C173yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gap Study Review of Central Richmond, Stage 2 Final Report</i> (Context, November 2014)	C183yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gap Study Review of Johnston Street East</i> (Context, April 2016)	C237yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gap Study Stage 1</i> (Graeme Butler and Associates, 2008)	C149yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gap Study Stage 2</i> (Graeme Butler and Associates, 2009)	C149yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gaps Study – Smith Street South</i> (Anthemion Consultancies, July 2014)	C173yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Gaps Study 233-251 Victoria Street, Abbotsford</i> (Anthemion Consultancies, October 2012)	C163yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Overlay Areas, Review of, Appendix 7</i> (Graeme Butler and Associates, 2007, Updated 2013)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Policy – Residential</i> (Context, October 2019)	C269yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Policy - Industrial</i> (GJM Heritage, October 2019)	C269yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Review</i> (Allom Lovell & Associates, July 1998)	C085yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Heritage Review of Predefined Areas in Abbotsford & Collingwood Stage 2 Report</i> (Context, July 2015)	C198yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Inner Melbourne Action Plan 2016-2026</i> (August 2016)	C084yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Johnston Street Local Area Plan</i> (City of Yarra, 2015)	C220yara Clause 11.03-2L Schedule 15 to Clause 43.02
<i>Licensed Premises Policy - Background Document</i> (Public Place & 10 Consulting Group, December 2015)	C209yara Clause 13.07-1

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

<i>Lower Yarra River Corridor Study - Recommendations Report</i> (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2016)	VC197 Schedule 1 to Clause 42.03 Schedule 1 to Clause 43.02
<i>Model for Urban Stormwater Improvement Conceptualisation 'MUSIC'</i> (Melbourne Water)	C117yara Clause 15.01-2L
<i>Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme 'NatHERS'</i> (Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency)	C133yara Clause 15.01-2L
<i>Noise and vibration considerations - Discussion report</i> (City of Yarra, March 2022)	C269yara Clause 13.07-1L
<i>State Environment Protection Policy (Waters)</i> (Environment Protection Authority, 2018)	C117yara Clause 15.02.1L
<i>Stormwater Treatment Objective - Relative Measure 'STORM'</i> (Melbourne Water)	C133yara Clause 15.02.1L
<i>Sustainable Design Assessment in the Planning Process</i> (IMAP, 2015).	C269yara Clause 15.02.1L
<i>Swan Street Built Form Study, Heritage Assessment and Analysis</i> (GJM Heritage, October 2017)	C191yara Clause 11.03-2L Schedule 17 to 43.02
<i>The Middle Yarra Concept Plan – Dights Falls to Burke Road</i> (Melbourne Parks and Waterways, 1990)	VC197 Schedule 1 to Clause 42.03
<i>The Lower Yarra Concept Plan – Dights Falls to Punt Road</i> (Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works, 1986)	VC197 Schedule 1 to Clause 42.03
<i>Urban Stormwater Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines</i> , (CSIRO, 1999)	C117yara Clause 15.02-1L Clause 19.03-3L
<i>Victoria Street East Precinct, Richmond - Urban Design Framework</i> (MGS Architects and Jones & Whitehead, November 2005)	C075yara Clause 11.03-6L
<i>WSUD Engineering Procedures: Stormwater</i> (Melbourne Water, June 2005)	C117yara Clause 19.03-3L
<i>World Heritage Environs Area Strategy Plan - Royal Exhibition Building & Carlton Gardens</i> (Lovell Chen, October 2009)	C118yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Yarra City Council Gaming Policy Framework</i> (Coomes Consulting Group, November 2008)	C109yara Schedule to Clause 52.28
<i>Yarra Housing Strategy</i> (City of Yarra, September 2018)	C269yara Clause 16.01-1L Clause 16.01-2L
<i>Yarra High Streets (Swan Street) Statement of Significance: Reference Document</i> (GJM Heritage, December 2020)	C191yara Clause 15.03-1L
<i>Yarra High Streets (Victoria Street and Bridge Road) Statements of Significance: Reference Document</i> (May 2020)	C245yara Clause 15.03-1L
<u>Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020</u> (Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd)	<u>C286yara</u> <u>Clause 19.02-6L</u> <u>Schedule to Clause 53.01</u>
<u>Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 Technical Report</u> (Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd)	<u>C286yara</u> <u>Clause 19.02-6L</u> <u>Schedule to Clause 53.01</u>

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

Yarra Open Space Strategy- Open Space Contributions Program (Environment & Land Management in association with Thompson Berrill Landscape Design, October 2005)	C087yara Clause 49.02-6L
Yarra Open Space Strategy (Thompson Berrill Landscape Design, December 2006)	C087yara Clause 49.02-6L
Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy (SGS Economics and Planning, August 2018)	C269yara Clause 17.01-1L Clause 17.02-1L Clause 17.03-1L Clause 17.04-1L
Yarra Bend Park Strategy Plan (Parks Victoria, 1999)	VC197 Schedule 1 to Clause 42.03



Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders. We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have survived European invasion and never ceded sovereignty. We also acknowledge the significant contribution made by the many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra.

We acknowledge that Fitzroy and Collingwood are areas of special significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—as the cradle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs in Victoria, the birthplace of important Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, the centre of political activism and a meeting place for Aboriginal and Torres

Strait Islander people to link in with family, community and services. We acknowledge the role played by past federal and state government policies in the social and cultural dispossession of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people—and the dispossession of land—which has caused the current disadvantages faced by many Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. And we believe that having an awareness of, and taking steps towards, mending this disadvantage is the shared responsibility of all residents in the City of Yarra.

Council pays its respects to all in the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and Elders from all nations here today—and to their Elders past, present and future.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 has been prepared for the City of Yarra by Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd. in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd. and with guidance from the Council Project Working Group led by the Open Space Planning Team, City Strategy.

The Strategy was adopted by Council at its meeting on 1 September 2020.

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Introduction

Purpose of the Strategy

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 provides an overarching vision and direction for the future provision, planning, design and management of open space in Yarra to 2031. It considers the current challenges and pressures of an expanding population and inner city life and how these can be addressed with an expanded and improved public open space network that contributes to a more liveable and sustainable Yarra in the future.

Achievements of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2006

Since the adoption of the 2006 Strategy, the following key actions have been completed:

- Set a mandatory 4.5 per cent open space contribution rate in the Yarra Planning Scheme for all eligible subdivisions.
- Six new open spaces have been delivered to expand the Yarra open space network in Abbotsford, Collingwood and Richmond.
- Increased the size of the two existing open space reserves in Fitzroy and Richmond South.
- Land contributions on large development sites have been successfully negotiated for the AMCOR redevelopment site in Alphington; a redevelopment site in Reid Street Fitzroy North; and on the former Gasworks Site in Fitzroy North.
- Victoria Park was opened to the public.
- Upgrade a range of existing open space reserves which has increased the diversity of facilities and character. This improves the appeal and capacity of the open space network to cater to more people using it as the resident and worker community expands.



Strategy process



What is open space?

Public open space includes all publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for outdoor recreation, passive outdoor enjoyment and nature conservation and is open to the sky. It includes public parks, gardens, reserves, waterways and squares. Access may be restricted at certain times or at all times on a fee paying basis. It is generally zoned for public park, recreation or conservation purposes when held in public ownership.

Public open space in this Strategy includes areas which are managed by State Government agencies or their delegates located in the City of Yarra. This includes Yarra Bend Park and the Collingwood Childrens Farm. Restricted open space is land that is only available for use on a membership or fee paying basis and examples include Burnley Golf Course and Richmond Union Bowls Club. Other public land including schools and streets complement the public open space network, however other strategies and plans provide direction and guidance for these.



Why is open space important?

Overview

Since the existing Yarra Open Space Strategy was prepared in 2006 there has been substantial population and employment growth and change in Yarra. This has included a trend towards more people living in some areas where historically no or very little public open space was provided.

This is combined with better research into the positive influence that open space can have on not only our physical health but also on our mental health and wellbeing. We are being encouraged to exercise more and be outdoors in the fresh air and natural sunlight to balance our indoor lifestyles and increasing reliance on electronic devices. With increased urban densities, more people are living in apartments and alone. Public open space provides a great opportunity to socialise and meet informally outdoors. This also applies to workers in high density settings where it is important they have access to open space as a break from work during the day. Public open space also provides space for large trees, keeps our city cooler and provides habitat for native flora and fauna.

Physical health, fitness and wellbeing



Mental health and wellbeing

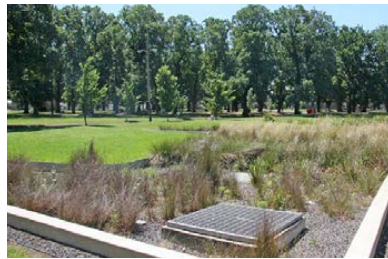


Social connectedness



Why is open space important?

Urban heat island effect mitigation



Biodiversity



Cultural heritage and character



Events and arts



Yarra's existing open space

Covering an area of approximately 20 square kilometres, 13.5 per cent of the total area of the City is public open space, including areas of significant biodiversity and bushland. Core to the open space system, character and sense of place is the Yarra River. While this has been modified, the river including the confluence with the Merri Creek today provides a tangible connection to the Wurrundjeri people's cultural and spiritual connection to the land.

A linked system of open space along the Yarra River extends upstream along the tributaries of Merri Creek and Darebin Creek. Yarra Bend Park is the largest natural bushland within five kilometres of the Melbourne Central Business District. Managed by Parks Victoria, this parkland spans both sides of the Yarra River and has a significant range of sporting facilities and habitat for native flora and fauna.

This is complemented by Council's extensive network of open space reserves along the Yarra River and Merri Creek. They include a diverse range of informal and structured sporting facilities including the athletics facility at George Knott Reserve, the sports fields at Ramsden Street Reserve, Quarry Park, Kevin Bartlett Reserve and Burnley Park along with the Burnley Public Golf Course. The main Yarra Trail crosses the river a few times as it weaves its way north and connects to both the Merri Creek Trail and the Darebin Creek Trail.



Diagram A Existing Open Space

Edinburgh Gardens is the most popular open space in the City and was set out as an integral part of Fitzroy North. With major exotic remnant plantings from the mid 1800s, these gardens have a unique blend of sporting and informal recreation facilities appealing to the different sport and recreation needs of our diverse community. Darling Gardens and Curtain Square are two other signature historical gardens in the northern part of Yarra, both with characteristic mature trees and facilities that encourage walking, dog walking, play, picnics and relaxing outdoors. Central to the civic heart of Richmond is Citizens Park, where the central grassed oval is used extensively for both structured sport and informal uses. Barkly Garden combined with Alan Bain Reserve contributes to the historical character and greening of South Richmond.

Complementing these major areas of open space is a network of smaller Neighbourhood and Local open space reserves that are highly valued and well used in the high density precincts through Fitzroy, Collingwood, Cremorne and Central Richmond.

As urban densities increase in the future this Strategy has identified opportunities to increase the local open space network to support and sustainably meet the open space needs of the existing and future community.

The open space framework

Overview

Each open space has a unique role in the open space network based on its location, size, use, character and urban context. In developing the Strategy, the role, character and distribution of each open space has been assessed and mapped. This assessment forms the basis of understanding the existing network, assessing deficiencies in the network and identifying what needs to change in the future.

Role

Regional open spaces are valued and visited by a broader catchment of people as well as the local community. Generally these are easily accessible to people from adjoining municipalities. Examples include Yarra Bend Park and Collingwood Children's Farm.

City-wide open spaces are visited primarily by the City of Yarra population, providing facilities that include organised sport and recreation activities. Examples include Edinburgh Gardens and Citizens Park.

Neighbourhood open spaces provide a diverse range of facilities that encourage people to spend time in and appeal to the local neighbourhood. Examples include Gahn Reserve and Curtain Square.

Small Neighbourhood are smaller than Neighbourhood open space with some diversity of facilities for the local community within a 300m catchment. Examples include Smith Reserve and Golden Square.

Local and Small Local open spaces complement the larger reserves and provide smaller more intimate spaces within safe and easy walking distance of the local community.

Distribution

Walking catchments to open space
A key objective in planning the open space network is to provide open space within easy walking distance for the majority of the community. To assess this a 500 metre walking catchment is applied to the Regional and City-wide open spaces while a 400 metre catchment is applied to Neighbourhood open space. A 300 metre walkable catchment is applied to Small Neighbourhood open space, and the smaller 200 metre catchment for Local and 150 metre catchment for Small Local open space as illustrated on Diagram B.

Gap areas
The gap areas are locations where the community lack easy walkable access to any open space. Additional open space is required to address the gaps in the provision and diversity of open space with priorities given to gap areas where urban densities are forecast to increase. These mainly occur south of Alexandra Parade.

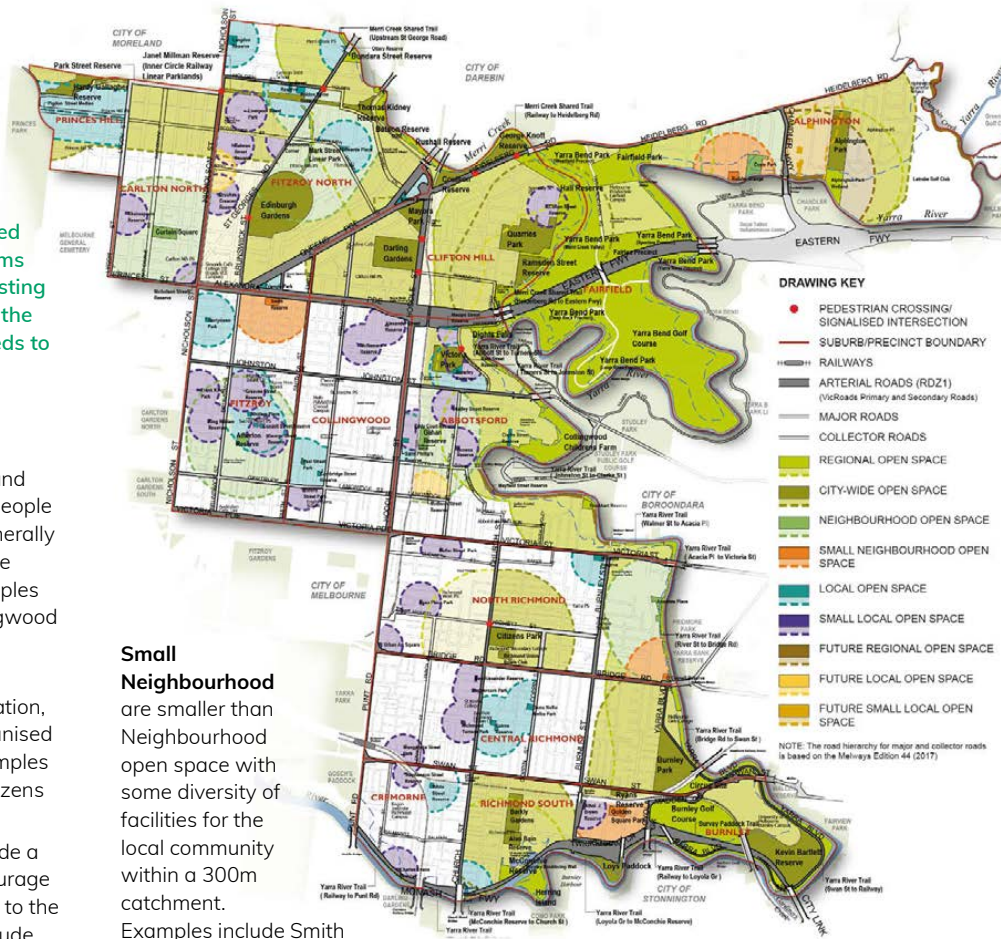


Diagram B Gap Analysis

What will change?

Character and function

The larger established parks, gardens and reserves across the municipality have a range of characters and purposes. These vary from historical gardens with a predominantly European character to the primarily Australian native character of Yarra Bend Park to the smaller local parks for informal use. Sporting reserves provide space for organised sporting use through to informal play and places of contemplation. A range of character types describe the variety of open spaces in the municipality and the Strategy aims to provide a diversity of character types in each precinct where feasible.



Forecast population growth

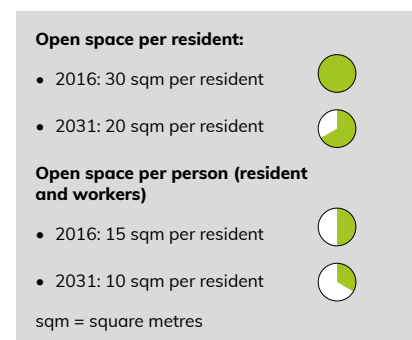
Fast facts

Population change

👤 = 20,000



Open space relative to the population



Summary of population growth

The forecast development over the next 15 years is significant with a 40 per cent increase in the resident population and a 47 per cent increase in the worker

population. This means there will be more people visiting and using open space, thereby increasing demand on the existing space and facilities. The extent of forecast growth changes across different parts of the City. Less than 10 per cent growth is forecast in Princes Hill-Carlton North, compared to 106 percent in Cremorne-Richmond South-Burnley and 214 per cent in Fairfield-Alphington. The locations for where forecast residential growth will occur is based on the *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018* and the population forecasts supplied to the project by .id Consulting. The forecast employment growth and change is based on the *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018*.

Increased urban densities

Less private open space

85 per cent of Yarra's population live in medium and high density dwellings compared to 33 per cent in Greater Melbourne. This means that residents have less private open space available to them which increases their reliance on public open space. Typically this adds to the amount of people using public open space and increases the diversity of reasons why they use it. For example, people may sit outdoors in their own garden to enjoy the ambience, however if they don't have one they will use public open space for these

informal and incidental uses. When people celebrate occasions with a large gathering of family or friends traditionally this would be in private back gardens but without these they will celebrate them in the park.

Change in land use

Many of the areas in the City that are forecast to change are the former industrial and manufacturing areas. These areas are being redeveloped to mixed use precincts with a combination of residential, commercial and business use. Historically, the industrial areas did not have public open space. With the proposed changes, these areas are being redeveloped with increased building heights and a change to a predominantly office-based professional workforce. The surveys undertaken for this Strategy found that more than 80 per cent of workers visit public open space during the day. With increased numbers of people working and living in the former industrial precincts there is a need to provide new areas of public open space.

Loss of winter sunlight access to open space

With the forecast increase in the presence of taller buildings means there is greater potential for overshadowing of public open space, particularly during winter. Public open space that is overshadowed in winter is less inviting to use and more difficult to maintain healthy vegetation.

Overall directions

Climate emergency

Extreme weather events

The climate emergency is predicted to result in more extreme weather events. Forecast extended dry periods combined with more severe storms and intense rainfall events and high winds will make managing vegetation more difficult. The Strategy plans ahead to address these issues by promoting sustainable water harvesting and passive irrigation. Protecting the mature tree canopy cover is a priority in open space due to the numerous beneficial effects of trees on the urban environment.

Mitigating urban heat island effect

Urban heat island effect is the build-up of heat in urban areas. This build up is exacerbated by an increase to urban densities and building heights that trap heat overnight, particularly during periods of extended dry and heat. In planning ahead for the future increase in urban densities, provision of public open space with natural features and retained urban moisture will assist to offset the build-up of urban heat. The retained moisture needs to be sourced sustainably and the use of large, broad spreading trees combined with natural turf and garden beds will create cooler spaces for people to use.

Improve the quality of existing open spaces

There is potential to improve the quality of selected existing open spaces in the City. By quality we mean the type of facilities and its overall condition, character and management.



This includes undertaking improvements including:

- Increasing the diversity of facilities to appeal to everyone in the community while maintaining a balance of natural areas to relax and unwind. This includes a greater diversity of age groups and promotes and encourages everyone to exercise, socialise and improve their fitness and health.
- Improving the horticultural quality and maintenance, for example open grassed areas that remain useable all year for informal use, improved care and maintenance of mature canopy trees,

- Identifying opportunities to create multi-use spaces that are shared and adaptable, minimising the provision of single-use facilities. For example, natural turf sports fields that can be used for training and match play and also available for dog off-leash exercise and the other informal uses.
- Activate open spaces that are currently underutilised.
- Strengthen the biodiversity and habitat values of open space.

Provide open space within easy walking distance of everyone

As an established inner urban municipality, the City of Yarra is experiencing significant change and growth. The analysis of the distribution of public open space has identified there are areas of the City where the community does not have any open space within easy walking distance of where they live or work. The Strategy has identified and prioritised a series of new open spaces, with priority given to locations where higher levels of growth is forecast to occur. The need for the proposed additional open spaces is based on a range of factors including:

- Areas where the existing open space is experiencing high levels of use or over-

use. This includes providing new open space to take the pressure off existing spaces to meet everyone's needs.

- Where there is a gap in the provision of any open space.
- Medium and high density precincts where the substantial change is forecast and the new community will create a need for additional open space.
- In medium and high density precincts where the provision of well distributed green public open space will assist to mitigate urban heat island effect.



The location of the areas of proposed additional open space is illustrated in Diagram C. The precinct recommendations provide more information about each location.

Overall directions

Assist to mitigate urban heat island effect

- Where feasible, open space will be well distributed through high density precincts and contain natural features such as large canopy trees and planted surfaces which absorb moisture. This will offset some impacts of increased urban heat, which is exacerbated by higher density development, particularly multi-level buildings.
- Future open spaces within high density precincts will aim to be irrigated from sustainable water sources, for example stormwater harvesting and reuse.
- The existing and future open spaces will be large enough to sustainably grow large broad spreading canopy trees that are effective at evapotranspiration which assists urban cooling.
- Create adaptable open spaces that allow sunlight and warmth during the winter months and excellent shade and cooling in the summer. The cool spaces will provide comfortable, free outdoor spaces for the community to retreat to during periods of extended heat.

Improve community health and wellbeing



Research confirms that a linked and accessible open space network, which people can easily walk to, improves community health and wellbeing. The community is more likely to visit open space if it is nearby and this offers a range of benefits including:

- Physical fitness by participating in informal recreation activities including walking, cycling, jogging, informal ball sports and using fitness equipment.
- Physical fitness by participating in organised sport.
- Places to exercise dogs on and off-leash.
- Social connectedness and sense of belonging to the community by meeting people in the nearby open space . This can include meeting neighbours informally in the open space or catching up with family and friends.

- Children are more likely to visit and play in open space independently of their parents if it is located within 150 to 300 metres of where they live. This improves their self-confidence and physical development.
- Relax and unwind in green open space. Research demonstrates that natural features like trees, natural turf and garden beds contributes to our ability to relax.

Increase urban greening

Links between green space and health have been recognised throughout history and the driving force behind the urban parks movement of the 19th Century. More recently, green spaces in an urban context has the potential to help address social and environmental problems in a preventative way. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11.7 aims to achieve the following: *'By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.'*

- The Strategy aims to achieve this through:
- Identify gap areas in which new public open space is needed so that everyone can easily reach open space.
 - Include design guidelines that encourage natural features in the design of existing

and new open space, particularly in medium and high density precincts.

- Include recommendations to achieving good winter sunlight access to public open space.
- Includes design guidelines that promote universal access, diversity and inclusion in the design of upgrades to existing open space and new open space.
- Strengthen the natural biodiversity values of open space including the use of native and indigenous vegetation where it is appropriate to the local context and cultural heritage values.
- Aims to irrigate open space using sustainable water sources to support natural turf, garden beds and mature and new large, broad spreading canopy trees for effective evapotranspiration, shade and habitat purposes.



Overall directions

Proposed additional open space

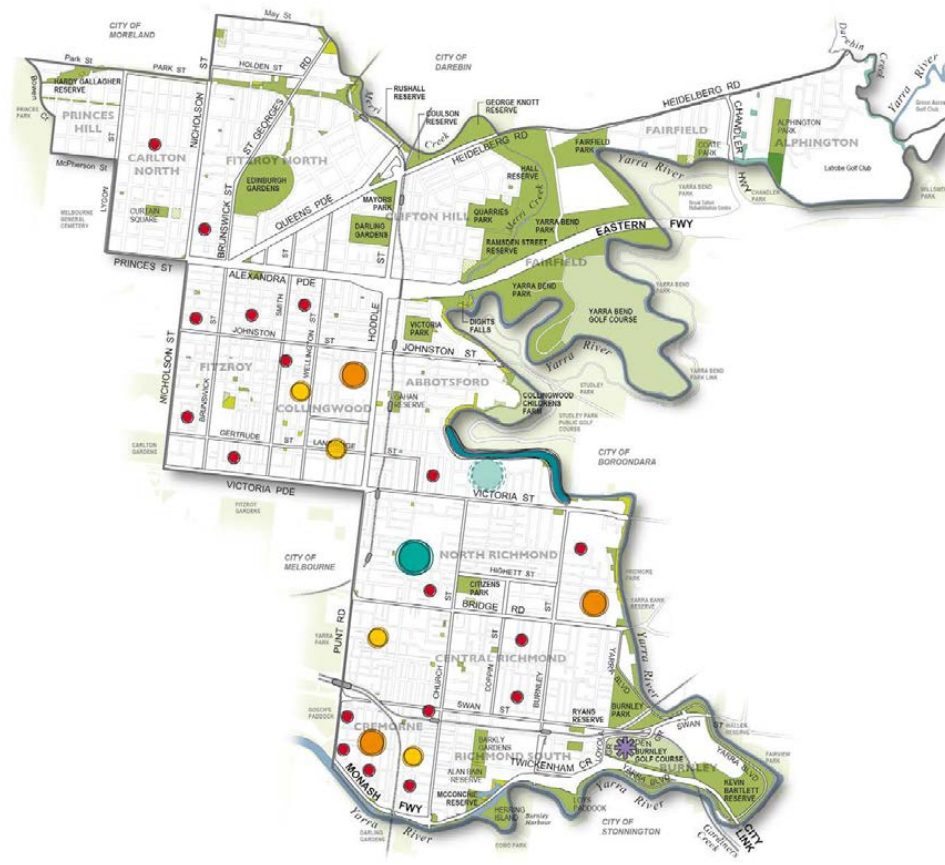
Summary of population growth

This diagram illustrates the distribution of the areas in which the Strategy recommends additional Neighbourhood, Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces across the City. This is to cater to the forecast growth and also address some existing deficiencies in the provision and distribution of existing open space.

These proposed new open spaces will have a role in increasing the diversity of local recreational and informal facilities for the existing and forecast community.

The additional open spaces shown in Diagram C are indicative of the general location and relative, not actual size. The final location, size and configuration of new open space will be determined during the implementation of the Strategy. It will be influenced by factors such as the rate of population growth and development, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding urban context and available funds.

The precinct recommendations provide more information on the intent and purpose of each proposed additional open space.



- Diagram key**
- **NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum size 1 hectare with a 400m walking catchment
 - **SMALL NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum 0.5 to 0.99 hectares in size with a 300m walking catchment
 - **LOCAL OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum 0.26 to 0.49 hectares in size with a 200m walking catchment
 - **SMALL LOCAL OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum 0.03 to 0.25 hectares in size with a 150m walking catchment
 - ✳ **REPURPOSE RESTRICTED OPEN SPACE**
Investigate options to repurpose to increase the diversity of golfing and other sporting uses at the site
 - **FUTURE OPPORTUNITY**
Proposed new Neighbourhood open space subject to development timing. Minimum 1 hectare in size with a 400m walking catchment.
 - **FUTURE REGIONAL OPEN SPACE**
Area included in an existing Public Acquisition Overlay in the Yarra Planning Scheme

Diagram C Proposed areas for additional open space

Precincts

Overview

The open space needs assessment has been undertaken on a precinct basis to take account of the changes in the existing situation and forecast future change across each of them. The precincts are broadly based on the suburbs with some combined and are consistent with those shown in the City of Yarra Community Profile and on the Diagram D Precinct locations map on this page. They are assembled in alphabetical order.

Forecast future growth

Throughout each of the precincts, the forecast growth is based on the following:

- Residential forecasts, prepared by .id the population experts, August 2018 and accessed 10 September 2017.
- *Yarra Housing Strategy*, adopted 4 September 2018.
- *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy*, adopted 4 September 2018.

The open space needs assessment and directions are based on these forecasts. The Strategic Housing Framework Plan shown in Diagram D is from the Yarra Housing Strategy.

Additional open space

The additional open spaces are shown symbolically on the precinct plans. The final location, size and configuration of new open space will be determined during the Strategy implementation and will be influenced by such factors as population growth, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding land use, urban layout and community feedback.

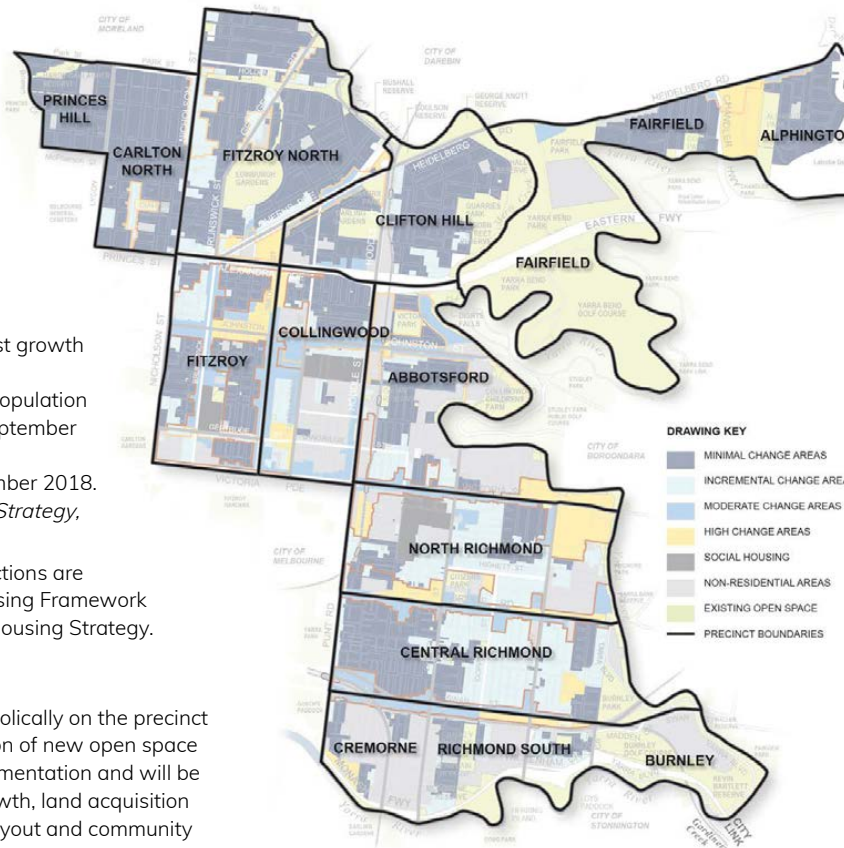


Diagram D Strategic Housing Framework Plan and Precinct location map

Existing open spaces

Some of the existing open spaces are recommended for upgrade as shown on the precinct diagrams. The open spaces not recommended for upgrade will continue to be maintained with minor improvements where required to maintain their quality and facilities in working order.

Existing master plans

Masterplans are in place for some of the major open spaces in Yarra and there is a progressive program of implementation works and scheduled reviews arising from these plans. When the masterplans are reviewed, the overall directions in this Strategy will be taken into consideration and inform updated masterplans in the future.

Structure plans

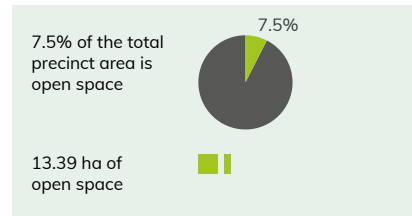
Structure plans provide a clear framework for managing the future growth and change in the major activity centres in Yarra. Where structure plans were final and in place these are reflected in the precinct recommendations. The open space component of future structure plans will be informed by this Open Space Strategy.



Abbotsford

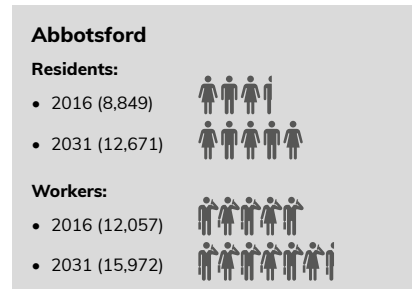
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

↑ = 2,500



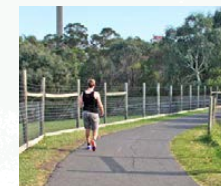
Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Victoria Park, Gahan Reserve and the system of open space along the Yarra River including Collingwood Childrens Farm and Dights Falls significantly contribute to the open space character of Abbotsford. North of Gipps Street, open space is well distributed in the precinct, however south of Gipps Street there is a lack of open space combined with a forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population. Key recommendations include to continue to investigate securing a linear open space reserve along the Yarra River between Clarke Street Reserve and Walmer Street Bridge; and the provision of a new Neighbourhood Park in the long term in the southern part of the precinct where larger land parcels provide the potential for future provision of open space. Combined with this is the recommendation to provide two new Small Local open spaces for the existing and forecast community in the south west part of Abbotsford.

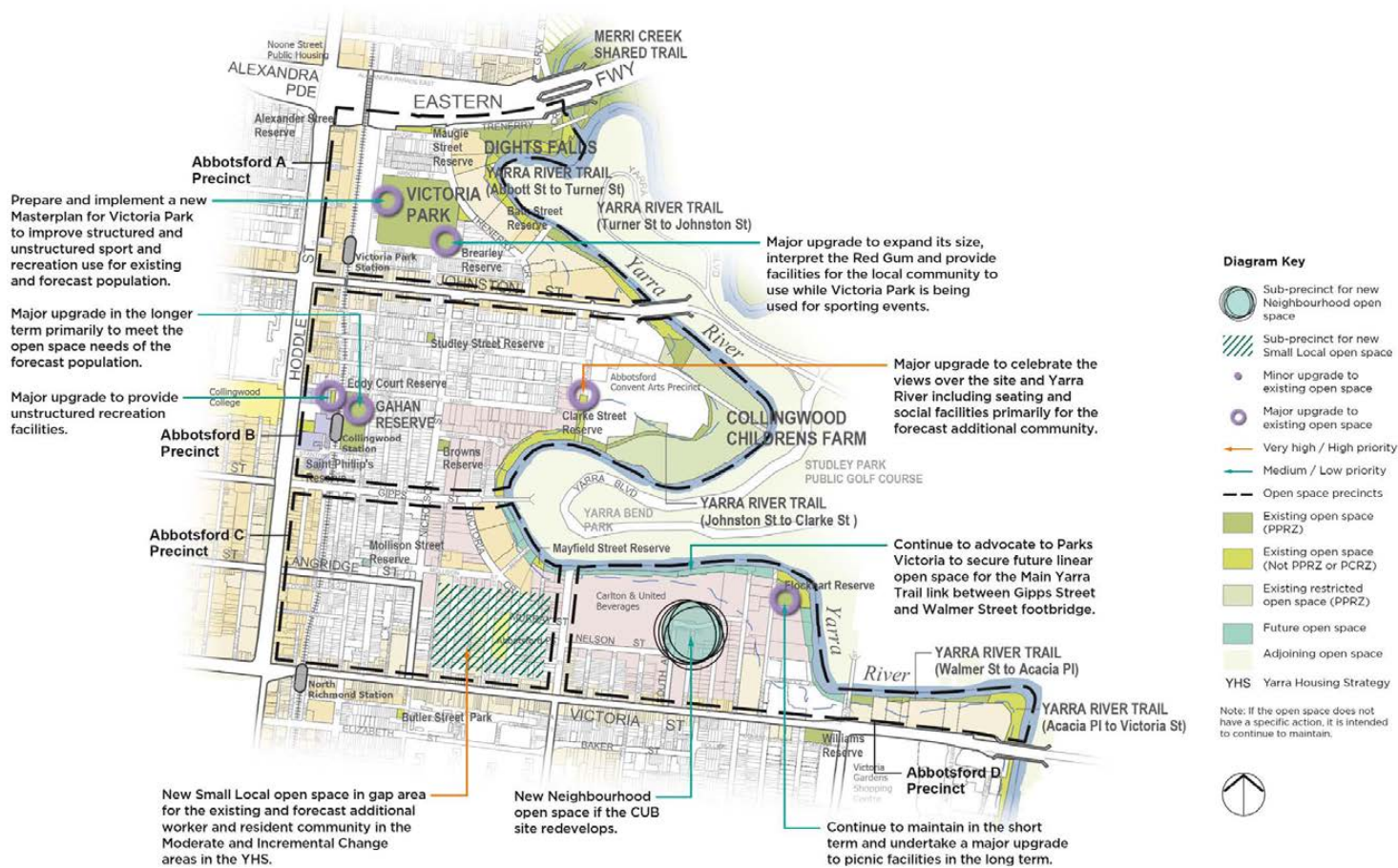
Quality and design

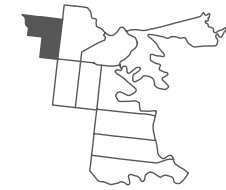
There is potential to improve the diversity of facilities and character in selected Local and Small Local open spaces in Abbotsford north of Gipps Street. The new Victoria Park Masterplan will improve the structured and unstructured sport and recreation use. The open space designs will also focus on improved greening, particularly in the higher density areas to contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect. If the CUB site redevelops, the future Neighbourhood open space will focus on providing unstructured recreation facilities for the forecast community.





Abbotsford

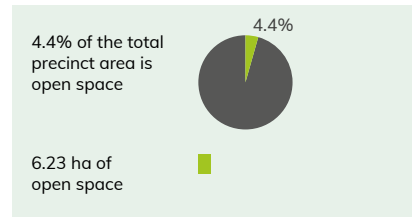




Carlton North – Princes Hill

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

↑ = 2,500

Carlton North / Princes Hill	
Residents:	
• 2016 (9,010)	
• 2031 (8,843)	
Workers:	
• 2016	No data available
• 2031	No data available

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

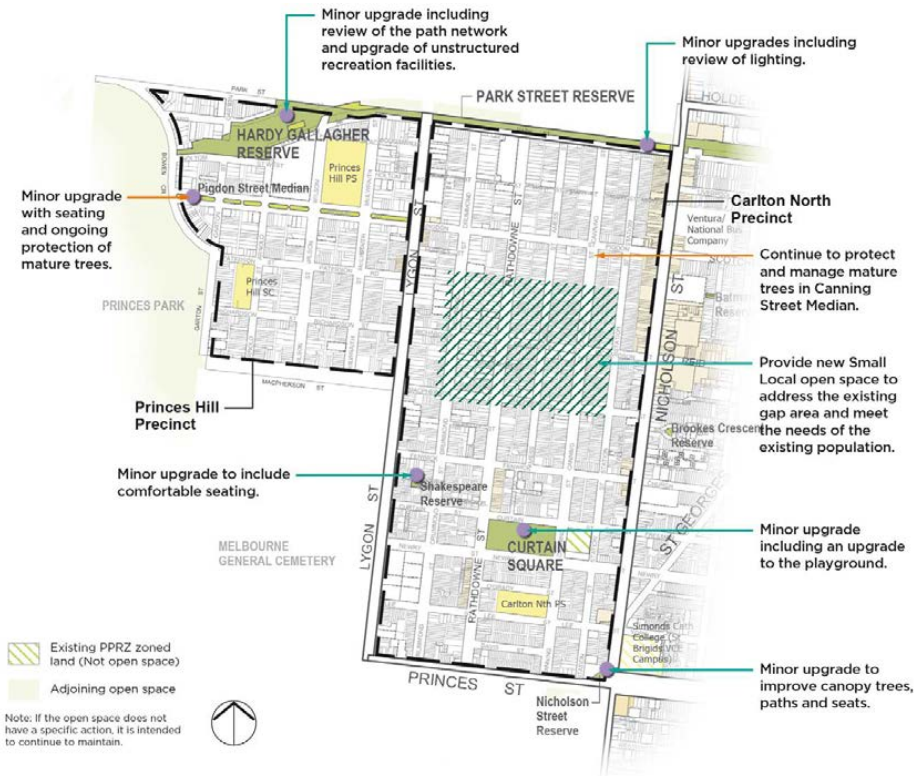
The east-west linear open space provides excellent off-road shared trail connectivity to open space outside the precinct. Curtain Square and Hardy Gallagher Reserve provide neighbourhood level facilities for each sub-precinct and are supplemented by some Local and Small Local open spaces. The one gap in the open space network is proposed to be addressed with the provision of an additional Small Local open space.

Quality and design

There is potential to undertake some minor improvements to the quality of facilities in the existing open space network.

Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
 - Open space precincts
 - Minor upgrade to existing open space
 - Major upgrade to existing open space
 - Very high / High priority
 - Medium / Low priority
 - Existing open space (PPRZ)
 - Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
 - Adjoining open space
 - Existing PPRZ zoned land (Not open space)
- Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is intended to continue to maintain.

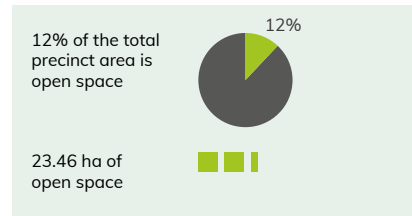




Central Richmond

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500

Central Richmond	
Residents:	
• 2016 (13,888)	👤👤👤👤👤
• 2031 (17,269)	👤👤👤👤👤👤
Workers:	
• 2016 (10,140)	👤👤👤👤👤
• 2031 (13,176)	👤👤👤👤👤👤

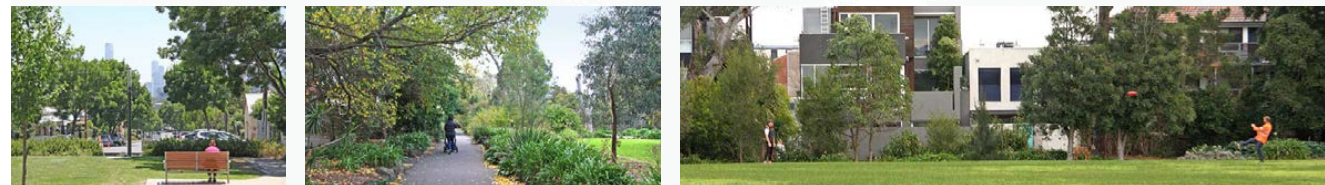
Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Burnley Park, the Circus Site and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute significantly to the open space character of Central Richmond, however these are all located in the east of the precinct. More than 6,000 additional people are forecast to be living and working in the precinct, particularly to the western end of the precinct by 2031. There is a need to provide new Local and Small Local open spaces to cater primarily to the forecast population and better meet the open space needs of the existing population. The new open space will assist to diversify the active unstructured recreational activities in the west and assist to mitigate urban heat, provide increased urban greening and open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers as urban densities continue to increase in the future.

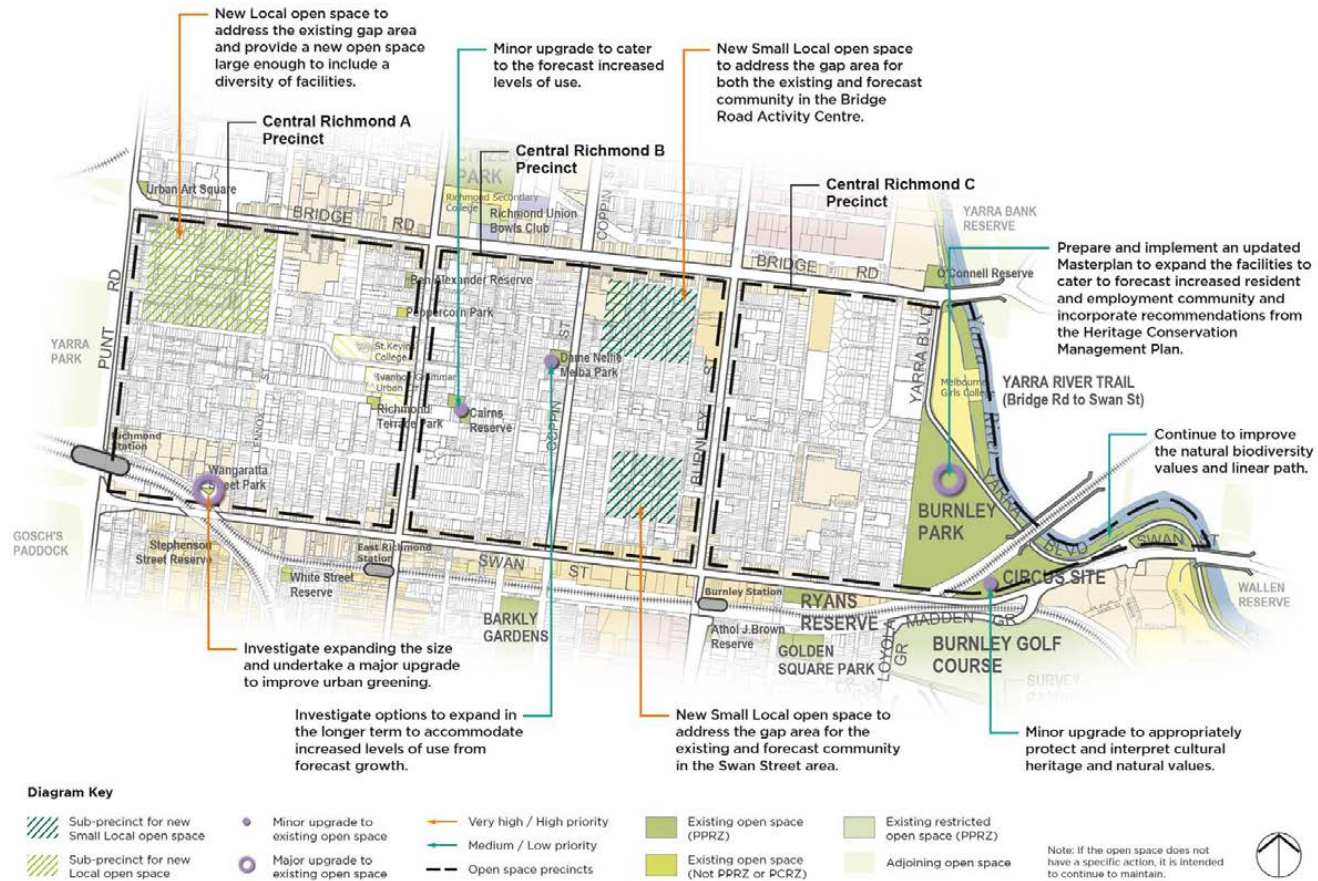
Quality and design

There is potential to diversify the recreational facilities in the western part of Central 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.





Central Richmond

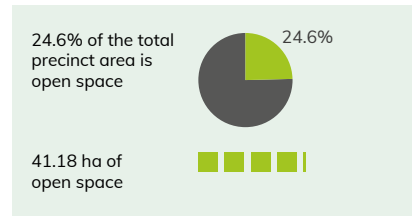




Clifton Hill

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♀ = 2,500



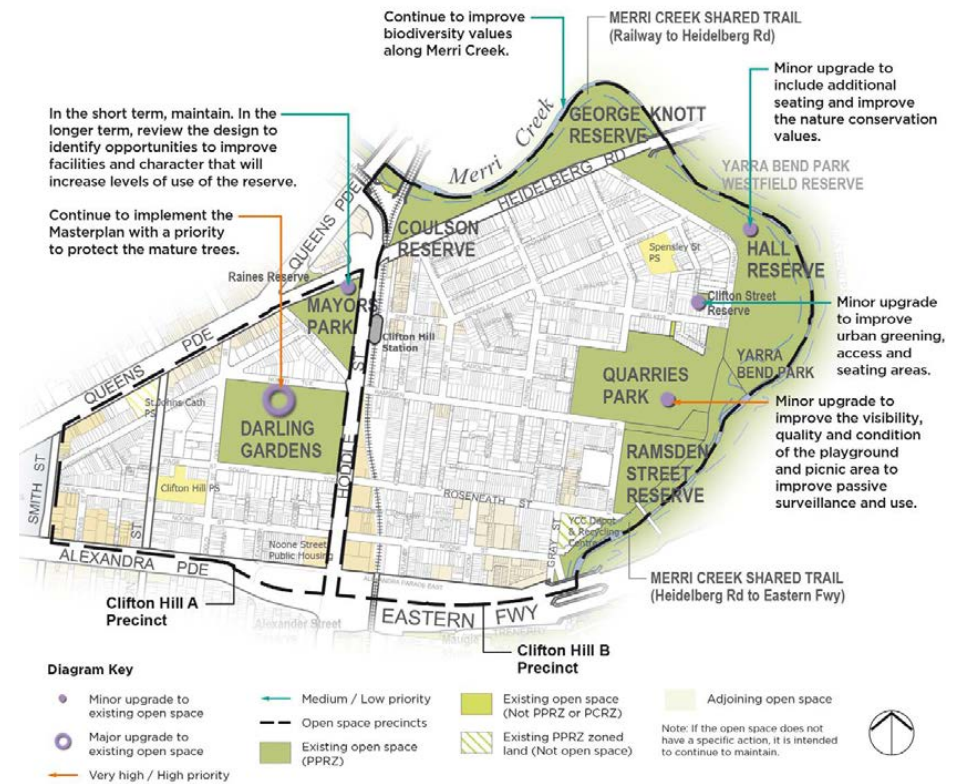
Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Clifton Hill is well provided for with open space, with only one small gap area between Hoddle Street and the railway. Additional open space may only be required if the population in non residential areas were to substantially increase in the future.

Quality and design

There is a need to improve the diversity of facilities that appeal to a range of age groups, particularly the older age groups who are forecast to increase over the planning period. Additionally, the open space designs need to encourage social activity in open space with the forecast increase in lone person households.

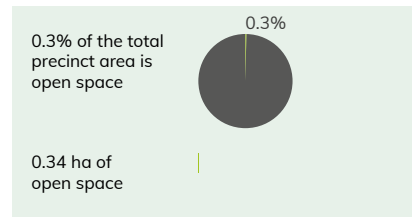




Collingwood

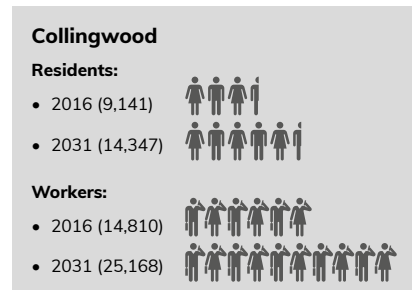
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♻ = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

The majority of the Small Local open spaces in Collingwood are experiencing high levels of use. With the forecast substantial population increase of approximately 15,000 people by 2031, there is a need to provide additional open space in Collingwood, including new Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces. The recommendations include expanding the size of selected existing Small Local open spaces to allow inclusion of a greater diversity of facilities. The additional distributed open spaces will also assist to mitigate urban heat, provide increased urban greening and open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers as urban densities continue to increase in the future. This will positively contribute to the health and wellbeing of residents and workers. A priority for new open space is to ensure it receives excellent winter sunlight to address concerns expressed by

the community regarding the more recent overshadowing of existing open space as a result of the increased height of built form in this precinct.

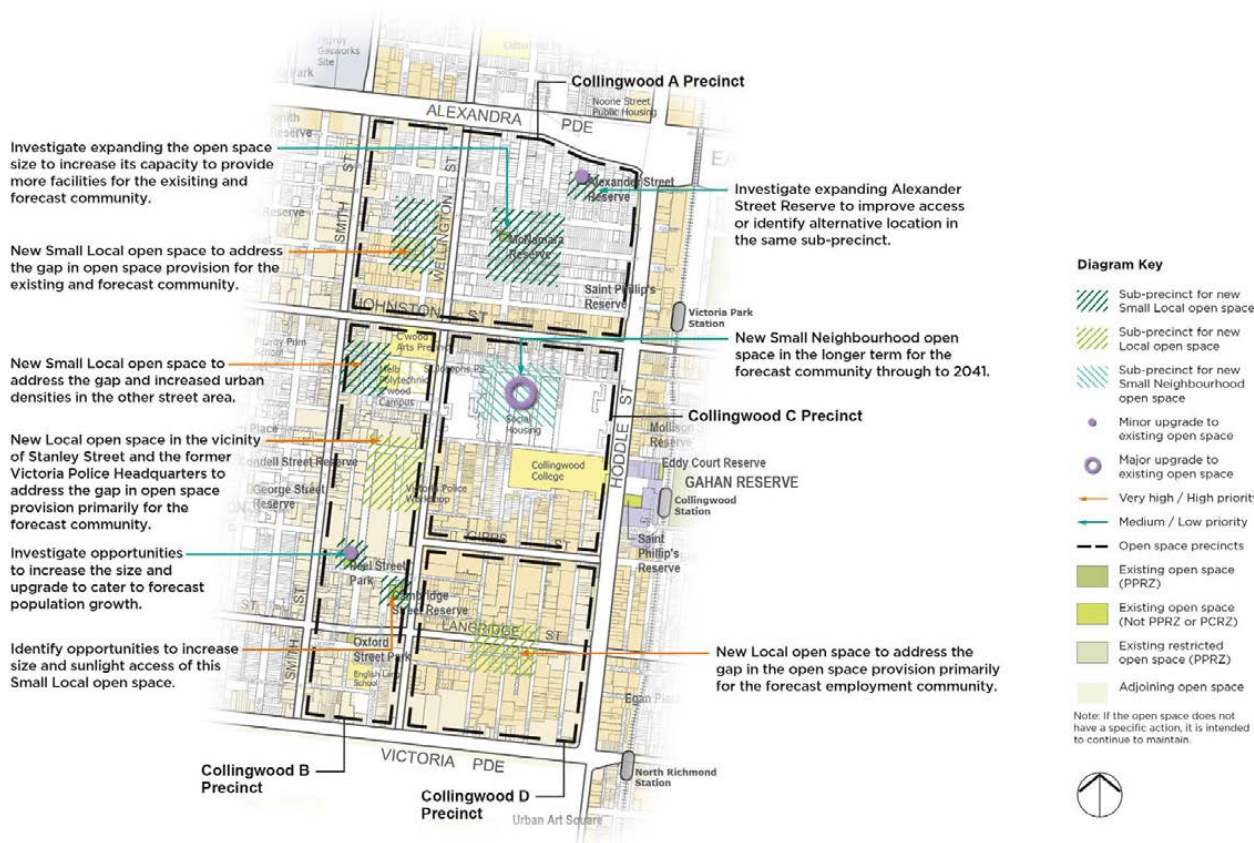
Quality and design

There is a need to increase and improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the Small Local open spaces in Collingwood. 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.





Collingwood

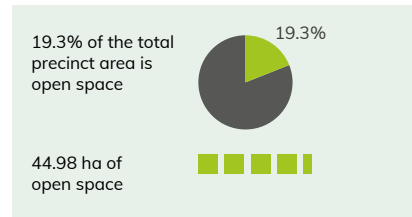




Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

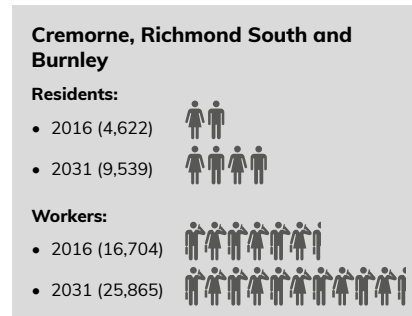
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♠ = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Barkly Gardens and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute to the open space character of this precinct. With the forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population in Cremorne, and lack of open space west of Church Street, a key recommendation is to provide new Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space reserves in Cremorne to cater to the nearly 10,000 additional workers and residents. With the forecast significant increase in urban densities along Swan Street and across the southern part of the Municipality, there is also a longer term opportunity to introduce more diverse golfing options and other sporting uses at Burnley Public Golf Course. Strengthening the natural biodiversity values along the Yarra River corridor will contribute to the character and resilience of Richmond South and Burnley.

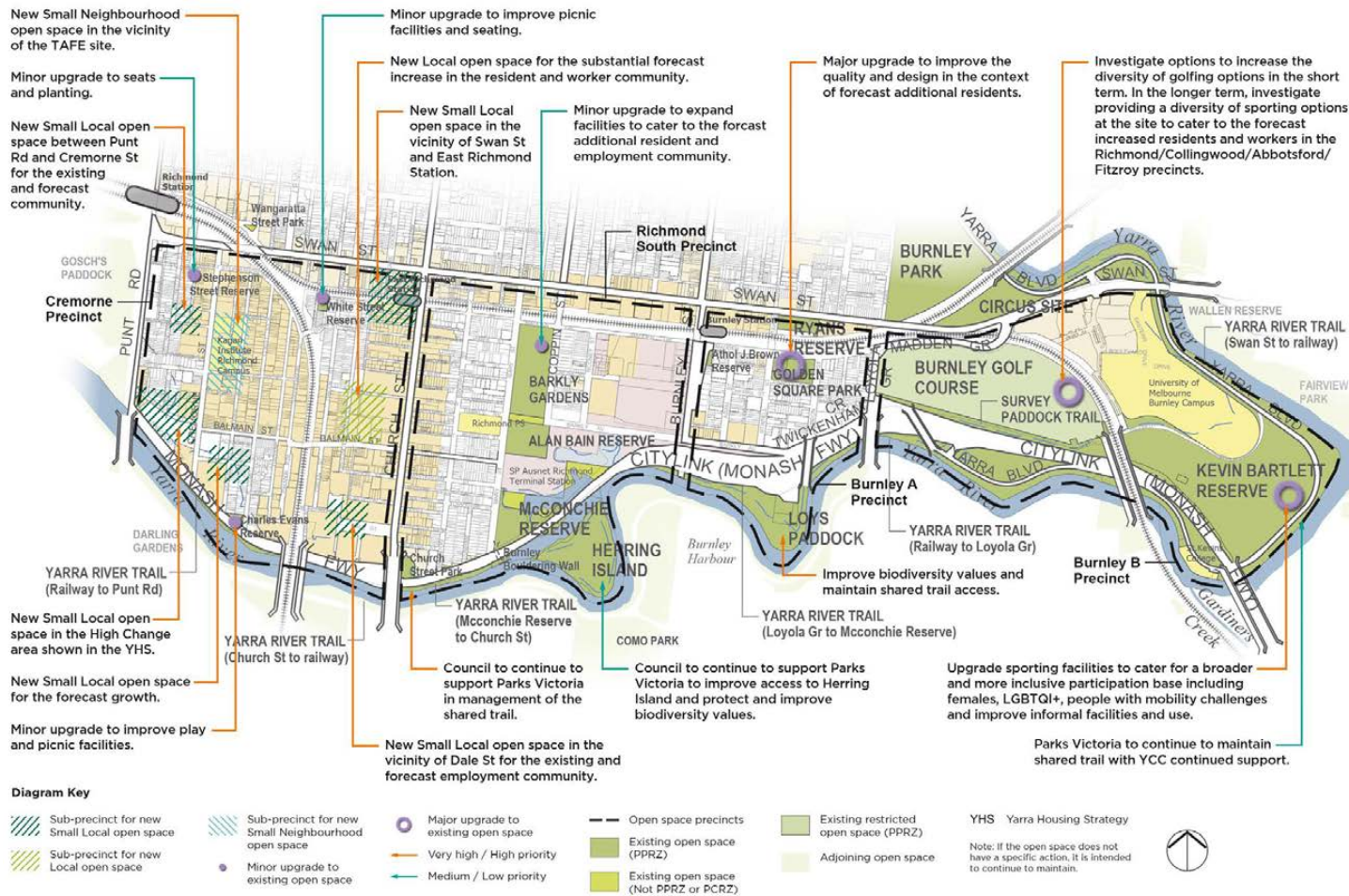
Quality and design

There is potential to improve the quality and diversity of facilities in the existing open spaces in this precinct. The additional open space in Cremorne will be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect.





Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

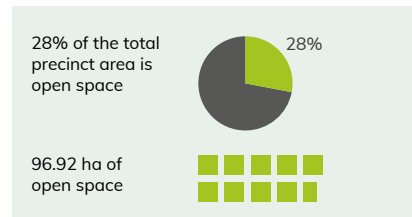




Fairfield – Alphington

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500

Fairfield / Alphington	
Residents:	
• 2016 (2,894)	
• 2031 (9,099)	
Workers:	
• 2016	No data available
• 2031	No data available

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Open space is well provided for and significantly contributes to the landscape character of these areas. With the significant levels of forecast growth in Alphington one new Small Local and three new Local open spaces are to be provided on the Alphington Paper Mills Development site as part of the approved Development Plan. In Fairfield, secure a formal public pedestrian path link between Coate Park and Rudder Grange along the Yarra River.

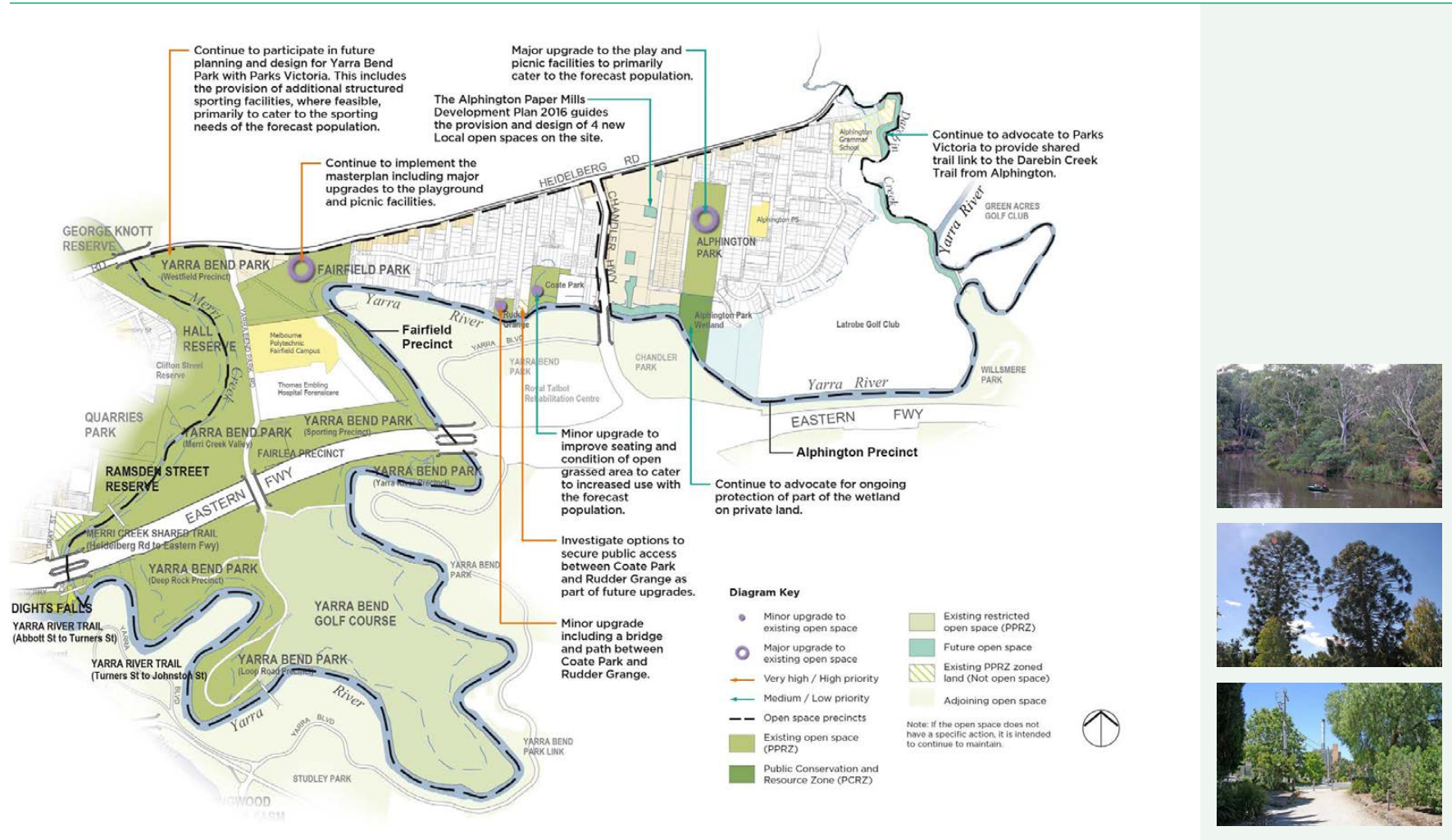
Quality and design

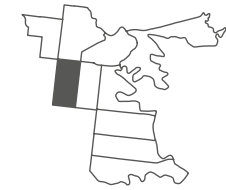
There is potential to expand the play and picnic facilities in Alphington Park to cater to the substantial increase in population, combined with ongoing upgrades to and implementation of the Fairfield Park Masterplan. The new open space designs are recommended to be reviewed in the context of ensuring there are facilities that provide for some active unstructured recreation and that they include greening and passive cooling given the high urban densities so they also contribute to mitigating urban heat island effect.





Fairfield - Alphington

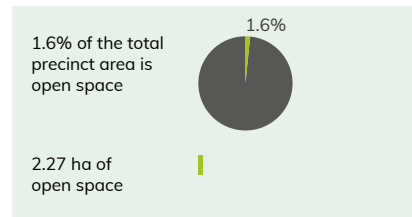




Fitzroy

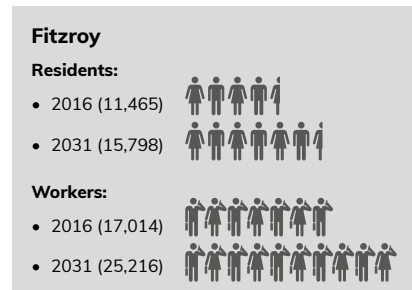
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♠ = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

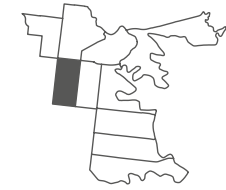
Atherton Reserve is the largest open space in Fitzroy and will continue to be improved by strengthening its role for informal ball and sports and large open space. It will be complemented by a major upgrade to Condell Street Reserve to create a community park with updated and expanded play and picnic facilities along with improvements to the trees, and garden beds and grassed areas. Combined with Whitlam Place which has a distinctly different character, it will create a quality hub of open space around the civic heart of the Fitzroy Library and Town Hall. A series of new open spaces are proposed to address existing gaps in the open space network and to meet the significant forecast population growth, along with the expansion to selected existing Small Local open space. Given the framework of the existing open space and the fine grain of development a series

of new Small Local open spaces are proposed so that the existing and forecast community live and work within a safe and easy walk of green open space.

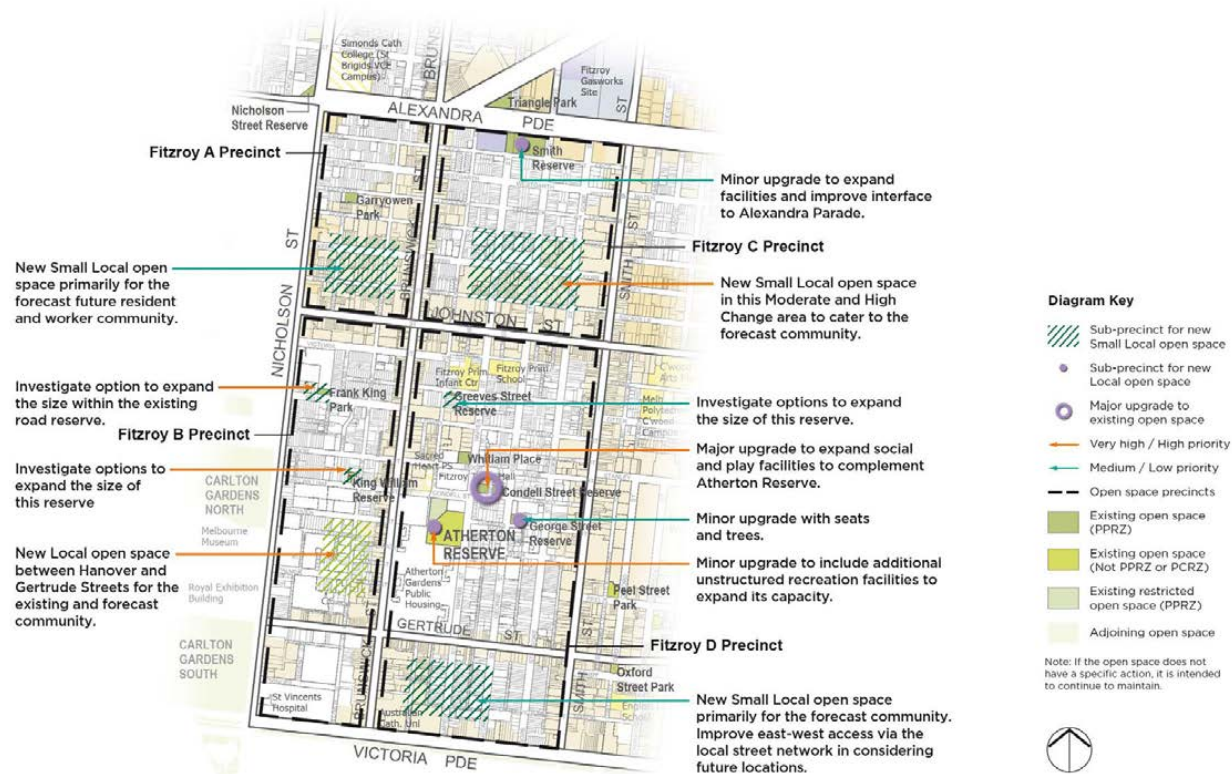
Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the existing and proposed open space network. Given the urban densities, increasing the quality of these green spaces including maximising moisture absorbing surfaces will assist to mitigate urban heat island effect the future. The additional open spaces will be designed to complement the existing network that combined will provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population.





Fitzroy

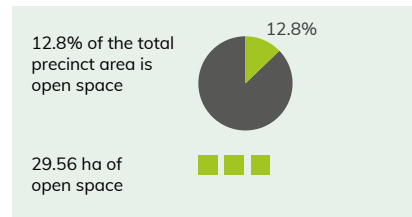




Fitzroy North

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♀ = 2,500

Fitzroy North	
Residents:	
• 2016 (12,357)	
• 2031 (15,112)	
Workers:	
• 2016	No data available
• 2031	No data available

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

With Edinburgh Gardens, Merri Creek and the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands Fitzroy North has a diverse and connected open space network. The network will be strengthened with the addition of one Small Local open space so that the community living and working in Fitzroy North B can easily walk to open space nearby in the future without crossing major roads. For Fitzroy North C and D, Edwards Place Reserve near Edinburgh Gardens is recommended to be expanded in size so that the local community can use it when the gardens are busy given they are the most popular open space in the City. The 2031-2041 resident forecasts indicate a substantial further increase in the resident population and additional public open space will be required to meet the open space needs of the additional population when the time comes.

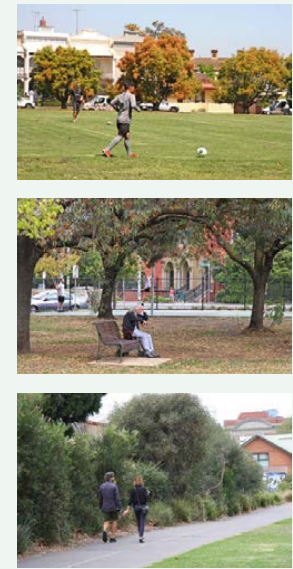
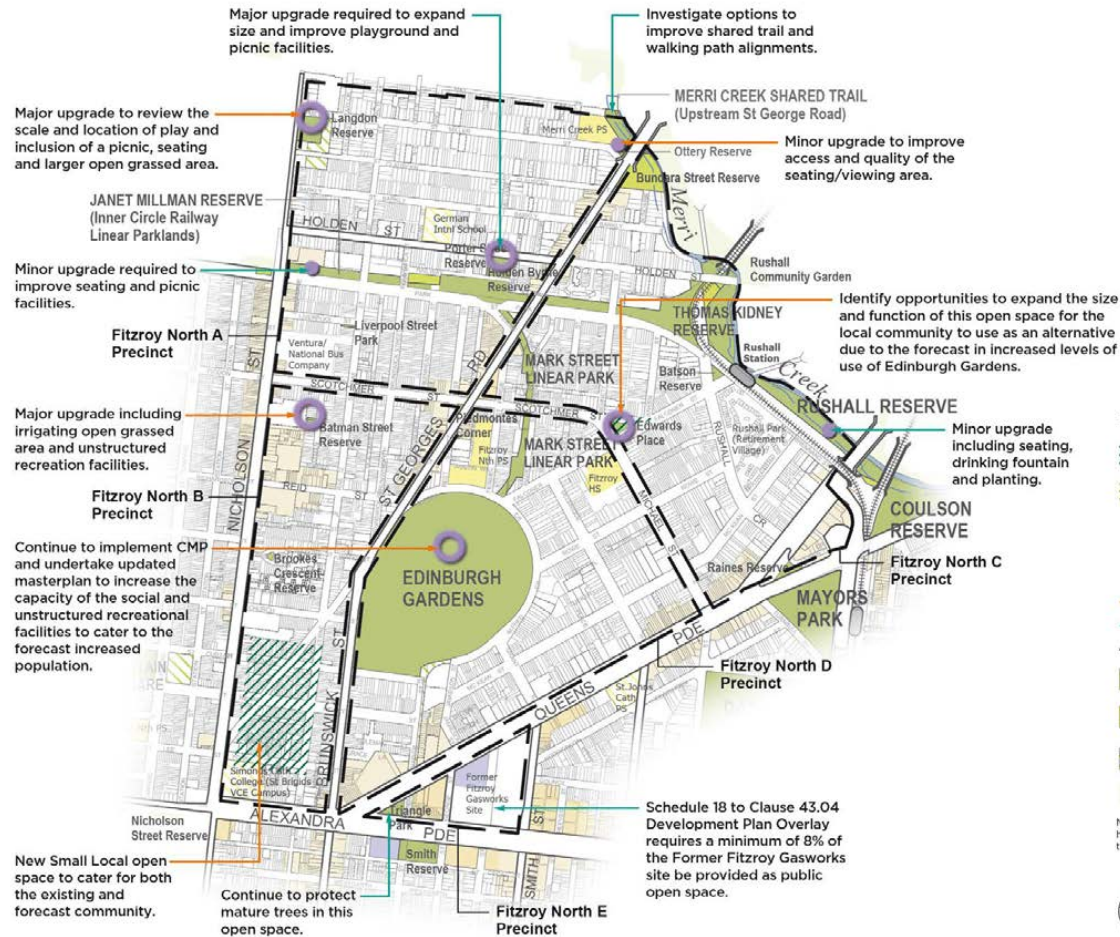
Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the Small Local open spaces in Fitzroy North so that they appeal to the broader community including all age groups. Upgrades to these, combined with the new and expanded areas of open space will aim to cater to the local open space needs as suitable alternatives to Edinburgh Gardens, given the high levels of use and activity at the Gardens.





Fitzroy North

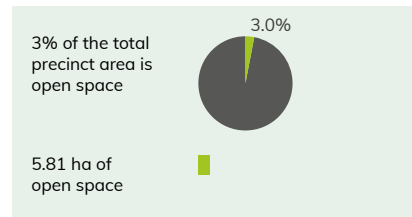




North Richmond

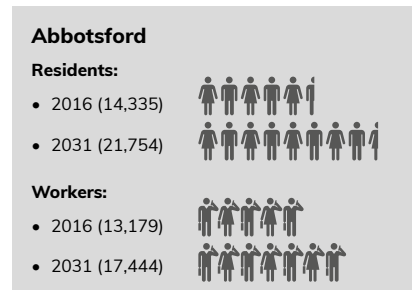
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♠ = 2,500



Precinct summary

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.

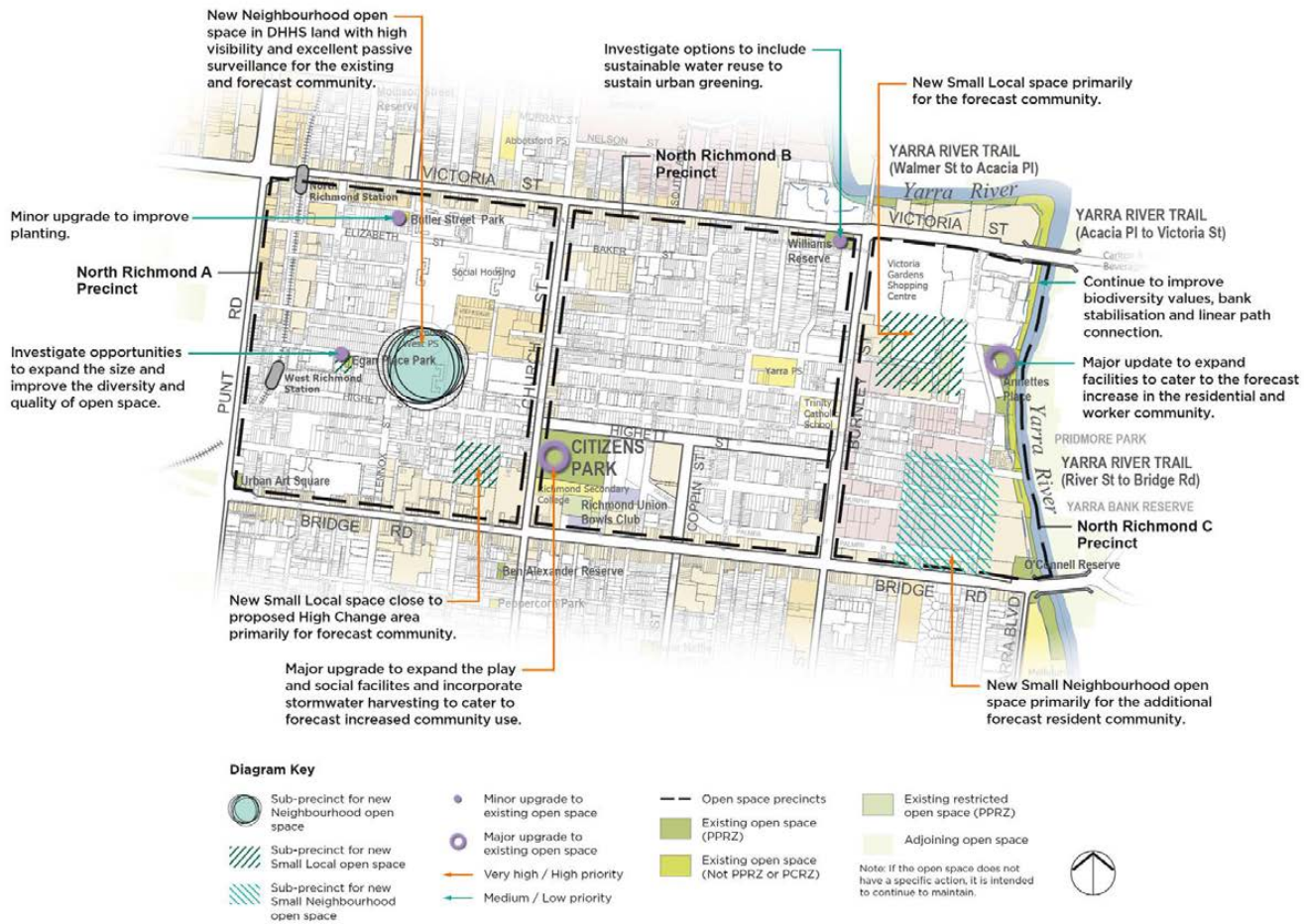
Quality and design

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.





North Richmond



Implementation

Overview

The projects in this Strategy will be implemented over a 15 year timeframe. The planning for the proposed new public open spaces will occur early in the timeframe to ensure opportunities are sought to achieve these through the planning process. These projects will be achieved through a combination of securing land area on large redevelopment sites, conversion of government owned land and land acquisition where required. Upgrades to existing open space will be achieved through the capital works budget process.



30 City of Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020

Responsibilities

The Open Space Planning Team at the City of Yarra will take the lead implementation role. Successful implementation will require coordination with the following areas of Council

- Open space capital works team to design and deliver improvements to existing and new open space.
- Strategic and statutory planning to ensure the Yarra Planning Scheme and other strategic documents are consistent with this Strategy
- Strategic planning to integrate open space provision in future structure plans.
- Financial services regarding appropriate allocation of public open space contributions to the open space project budgets in accordance with this Strategy.
- Recreation and leisure to determine the appropriate sport and recreation facilities.
- Traffic and civil engineering to improve pedestrian and bicycle links via the road network.
- Urban design to prepare Urban Design Frameworks for activity centres.
- Open space maintenance team and Local laws regarding the ongoing management and maintenance.

Funding

Funding the land acquisition and capital works required for the projects identified in this Strategy will be sourced from a combination of:

- Council revenue.
- External grants from other State and Federal government agencies.
- The open space contribution rate will be updated in Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme to change from 4.5 per cent to a rate that will be in the order of 10 per cent. These contributions will be required as a land and/or cash contribution at Council's discretion.



Next steps

- Implement the updated open space contribution rate/s in the planning scheme.
- Undertake detailed investigations into the provision of additional open spaces identified in the Strategy.
- Continue to implement Masterplans for major parks.
- Plan for and upgrade existing open spaces identified in the precinct recommendations.







Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020

Technical Report

Prepared by

Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd
and
Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd

July 2020

NOTE FROM YARRA CITY COUNCIL (9 APRIL 2024)

Following consideration of the Final Panel Report on Amendment C286yara which implements the public open space contribution rate, Action 7.5B-4 - Fairfield Park has been retained as an action/project for Fairfield on Page 295 of this document but has not been included in the calculation of the final public open space contribution rate.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders. We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have survived European invasion and never ceded sovereignty. We also acknowledge the significant contribution made by the many other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra.

We acknowledge that Fitzroy and Collingwood are areas of special significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – as the cradle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs in Victoria, the birthplace of important Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, the centre of political activism and a meeting place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to link in with family, community and services. We acknowledge the role played by past federal and state government policies in the social and cultural dispossession of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people – and the dispossession of land – which has caused the current disadvantages faced by many Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. And we believe that having an awareness of, and taking steps towards, mending this disadvantage is the shared responsibility of all residents in the City of Yarra.

Council pays its respects to all in the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community and Elders from all nations here today – and to their Elders past, present and future.

Project team

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 and the Yarra Open Space Strategy Technical Report have been prepared for the City of Yarra by Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd and with guidance from the Council Project Working Group led by the Open Space Planning Team, City Strategy.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project scope and purpose

1.1.1 Project scope

The project brief prepared by the City of Yarra identified that the Open Space Strategy will be:

The overarching, long term strategic document on public open space in the City. It will set the vision and direction to guide future provision, planning, design and management of open space in Yarra. It will consider the current challenges and pressures inner city municipalities such as Yarra face in achieving a cohesive, linked and well managed open space network to meet the full range of current and future needs for residents, workers and visitors to the City.

This Strategy will replace the existing Yarra Open Space Strategy 2006. The primary objective of this Strategy is to address the inequity in open space distribution and to increase the amount of public open space in areas with the least access. It also reviews the current 4.5 per cent Public Open Space Contribution rate in the context of what is required to provide an adequate level of funding to service new populations through the open space program.

1.1.1a Key issues addressed in the Strategy

The following is a brief summary of the key issues arising from the research, consultation and analysis in preparing the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 compared with existing conditions and the 2006 Open Space Strategy. These include:

- **Climate emergency** including the impacts of extreme weather events including more frequent and extreme hot days and heatwaves, storm events, floods and droughts.
- **Urban heat island effect**, particularly in the context of the climate emergency.
- **Substantial population growth**, particularly over the past six years and the impacts this has had on open space.
- **Substantial forecast future population growth through to 2031** including the resident and employment population.
- **Increased urban densities** including impacts of increased levels of use and overshadowing from adjoining built form.
- **Changing patterns of community use of open space** including visiting open space for a greater variety of reasons. Key changes include:
 - Dog walking is more common
 - Walking is lower as a reason to visit open space
 - Social reasons to visit open space are higher including meeting friends and socialising
 - Relaxing is more frequently given as a reason to visit open space.
- **Changing community values of open space** with people valuing the trees more highly now than in 2006. They also place a higher value on open space being a place for them to relax and unwind compared with 2006.
- **The high cost and difficulties associated with providing new areas of open space.** This includes difficulties negotiating land area contributions during the development application process and adequate funds being available to acquire land on the open market when suitable sites are identified.
- **The existing 4.5% open space contribution rate is inadequate** to provide sufficient funds for purchasing sites for new public open space, and/or to provide open space improvements to serve the new population. Currently the rate does not apply to non-residential uses which is an increasing development type in Yarra.

1.1.1b The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as custodians of the land now known as the City of Yarra

The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people are the cultural custodians of the land now known as the City of Yarra. They cared for the land for many thousands of years before being displaced by European settlers from the 1830s. Council acknowledges the profound impacts of these changes and today celebrates the rich and enduring culture of Yarra's Traditional Owners. Council Plan 2017-2021.

1.1.2 Strategy purpose

The purpose of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 is to provide strategic direction for the future planning, provision, design and management of open space in the City of Yarra through to 2031. This includes understanding and addressing the open space needs of the existing population and planning ahead to address the open space needs of the forecast community. This includes both the residential and employment community.

The Strategy is consistent with the broader policy context set out in the State planning documents including *Plan Melbourne 2017–2050* and *Planning Practice Note | 70 – Open Space Strategies*.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 addresses the open space needs of both the existing and forecast community within an integrated framework that supports the justification for a fair and equitable open space contribution program that Council can then incorporate with appropriate policy directions in the Yarra Planning Scheme. In order to achieve this the Strategy provides Action Tables for which broad opinions of cost have been allocated to each action where an open space contribution is anticipated for project budgeting. For reference, projects that are not eligible for a contribution are those where the forecast new population is not creating a need for the project. The Strategy will commit Council to a 15-year framework of actions that will be funded from a variety of Council revenue sources including rates, grants, fees and open space contributions.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 is referred to as 'the Strategy' throughout the report to differentiate it from other government strategies referred to.

The Strategy comprises the following documents:

- **Technical Report** which provides the detailed analysis, conclusions and recommendations including the Action Tables for each of the 10 precincts.
- **Summary Report** which provides a summary of the key issues and recommendations from the Strategy and is the main document that community and Council officers outside of the open space planning will refer to.

1.2 Definition of public open space

1.2.1 Open space

Public open space includes all publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for outdoor recreation, passive outdoor enjoyment and nature conservation and is open to the sky. It includes public parks, gardens, reserves, waterways and squares. Access may be restricted at certain times or at all times on a fee paying basis. It is generally zoned for public park, recreation or conservation purposes when held in public ownership.

Public open space referred to in the Strategy includes:

- Public land that is owned and managed by Council.
- Crown Land that is managed by Council, for example Edinburgh Gardens, Darling Gardens, Mayors Park, Citizens Park, Barkly Gardens, Burnley Park and the majority of the open space along the Yarra River.
- Crown Land that is managed by other government agencies and their delegates as public open space, for example Yarra Bend Park which is managed by Parks Victoria and Collingwood Children's Farm which is managed by the Collingwood Children's Farm Committee of Management.
- Public land owned and managed by Melbourne Water which is reserved for drainage and flood management purposes and also has a recreational function and use.
- Restricted open space is land that is zoned for public park and recreation purposes but only available on a membership or fee paying basis. Examples include Burnley Golf Course and Richmond Union Bowls Club.

Throughout the Strategy, public open space is referred to as 'open space'.

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.

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.

1.3 Objectives and principles

1.3.1 Council Plan Objectives

The Council Plan 2017-2021 includes seven objectives based on the community engagement process that identified what the community love about Yarra and what they regarded as the top issues that need to be addressed.

1. A HEALTHY YARRA

Community health, safety and wellbeing are a focus in everything we do.

2. AN INCLUSIVE YARRA

Inclusion, diversity and uniqueness are welcomed, respected and celebrated.

3. A SUSTAINABLE YARRA

Council leads on sustainability and protects and enhances its natural environment.

4. A LIVEABLE YARRA

Development and growth are managed to maintain and enhance the character and heritage of the city.

5. A PROSPEROUS YARRA

Local businesses prosper and creative and knowledge industries thrive.

6. A CONNECTED YARRA

Connectivity and travel options are environmentally sustainable, integrated and well-designed.

7. A LEADING YARRA

Transparency, performance and community participation drive the way we operate.

The following table describes how the Strategy aims to meet the Council Plan Objective:

Council Plan Objective	How the Strategy will meet the objective
A healthy Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade the existing open spaces to encourage the community outdoors to exercise and socialise in them. • Provide additional public open space so that everyone lives and works within a safe and easy walk of open space. • Encourage greening of open space so it contributes to urban cooling. • Protect and improve habitat and biodiversity values of open space including along the waterway corridors and across the network where appropriate.

Council Plan Objective	How the Strategy will meet the objective
An inclusive Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space is for everyone in Yarra's diverse community, including all ages, abilities, genders and cultures. • Open space is accessible to everyone and requires no membership of an organisation or payment to use it. • Universal design will be achieved in all new open space design and upgrades to existing open spaces. • Everyone lives and works within a safe and easy walk of open space.
A sustainable Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of sustainable materials in open space. • Maximise urban greening. • Protect and improve habitat and biodiversity values of open space including along the waterway corridors and across the network where appropriate.
A liveable Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the need for and areas where new open space is required in response to the <i>Yarra Housing Strategy 2018</i> and the <i>Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018</i>. • The design guidelines require the inclusion of sustainable water re-use and urban greening including additional large canopy trees to promote the role of open space in mitigating urban heat island effect.
A prosperous Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Actions in the Strategy are costed and form the basis of the open space contribution rate that is included in the Strategy. • The Strategy provides certainty for Council, the community and developers regarding the location and type of new open space that is required over the 15 year timeframe to 2031. • Yarra's upgraded and expanded open space network will contribute to a more vibrant and attractive place to live, visit and work.
A connected Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the linear connections and sustainable transport options. • Strengthen biodiversity values and connectivity through increased canopy cover and revegetation.
A leading Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strategy is based on best practice provision of open space and facilities for established areas and high density precincts.

1.3.2 Open Space Strategy Principles

The following principles are taken from the 2006 Strategy and updated to address some of the contemporary issues including climate change and urban heat island effect, the importance of green open space to community health and wellbeing and increased urban densities and population growth. These principles are of equal priority and are listed in alphabetical order.

Principle	Aim
Accessible	Provide open space that is easily accessible and appeals to people of all ages and abilities and is well serviced by a range of sustainable transport options.
Adaptable	Design and manage open space to accommodate changing community needs and other influences including climate change.
Cultural	Recognise, protect and support diverse Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage and historical values, including contemporary cultural values, in existing and new open space.
Diverse	Reflect the natural, social, urban and cultural diversity of Yarra and meet the diverse range of organised and informal recreational needs in open space.
Ecological	Enhance and link ecologically viable remnants and established urban bushland to improve biodiversity values.
Equitable	Ensure the public open space network is inclusive and freely open and accessible to everyone.
Sustainable	Design and manage open space to support sustainable water use; contribute to urban greening; mitigate urban heat island effect; support large canopy trees; promote sustainable transport options; and contribute to the liveability of higher density precincts in the city.

The following three principles guide Council's method of implementing the Strategy.

Principles	Description
Inclusive	Involve the community and stakeholders in the decision making process for the design of existing and new open space.
Advocate	Protect and expand Yarra's open space network by advocating to all levels of government and the broader community.
Demonstrate	Demonstrate best practice management approach to meet the principles in the Strategy.

1.4 Importance of open space

Since the preparation of the existing Yarra Open Space Strategy in 2006, there has been extensive additional local and international research into the positive influence of open space and natural features on community health and wellbeing and liveability. Open space is recognised as having a range of benefits that extend beyond recreation, and the research has identified there are measurable improvements to both people's physical and mental health if they live near green open space. Open space is an essential part of creating sustainable urban communities.

Research from the following key documents has been reviewed:

- *The Victorian Parliamentary Legislative Council Inquiry into Environmental Design and Public Health in 2012*
- *Urban Green Spaces and Health, A review of evidence, by the World Health Organization (WHO), 2016*
- *Beyond Blue to Green, The benefits of contact with nature for mental health and well-being* by Deakin University, 2010

The purpose of the *Inquiry into Environmental Design and Public Health* was to inform the Victorian Government's preparation of *Plan Melbourne*. The Inquiry found there is compelling evidence linking the rise in the rates of serious chronic diseases with the key risk factors being physical inactivity and the planning and design of the urban environments. The evidence links the improvement to the provision, design and accessibility of open space with increased participation in physical activity. Green open spaces provide opportunities for physical activity which also benefits mental health and leads to multiple positive physical, mental and social health benefits to living close to green open space.

The WHO Report, *Urban Green Spaces and Health A Review of Evidence*, concludes that there is evidence to support that green open space makes a contribution to people's mental health and wellbeing if they live within 300 metres of it and if the open space is at least 0.5 hectares in size or closer to smaller areas of open space.

The *Beyond Blue to Green* study links people's access to green open space to their mental health and wellbeing including having a positive influence of people healing and recovering from illness.

Based on the wide range of published research and the consultation undertaken for this Strategy, public open space contributes to community health and wellbeing, the natural and the urban character of the city. The community health and wellbeing benefits include:

- A place to relax and unwind
- Physical fitness and exercise
- Access to natural sunlight and fresh air, particularly during the winter to retain adequate levels of Vitamin D
- Social connection to the local community, friends and family
- Children's play including their physical, social and cognitive development
- Restorative influence of being in a natural space as a contrast to built form

- Mitigation of urban heat island effect, particularly in high density precincts where heat exhaustion can be particularly serious for the vulnerable including the frail and the elderly.

The contribution of open space to the natural and urban character of the City includes:

- Improve biodiversity values, particularly along the waterway corridors and across the network via linear links
- Distinctive neighbourhood character changes across the city and a unique sense of place that people identify with
- The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage values and historical values in both a contemporary and historical context
- Provides a break in the built form and character
- Opportunity for urban greening with natural features that contrast to built form
- Space for large broad spreading canopy trees that contributes to mitigating urban heat island effect
- Provide green and natural public open spaces with trees, garden beds and grass close to where people living in high density precincts
- A sense of space with long vistas and views to and from open space as a contrast to the built form.

The recent research has found there are measurable health benefits to the community if they live near and access public open space compared to those who do not. The World Health Organisation's report concluded that the preference is for people to live 300 metres to quality green open space of a minimum of 0.5 hectares in size and closer to smaller areas of open space. In the City of Yarra people living and working in the central and southern parts of the City currently do not have this level of access to green open space. Sections 2.4 and 5.3 of the Strategy has further discussion regarding this issue.

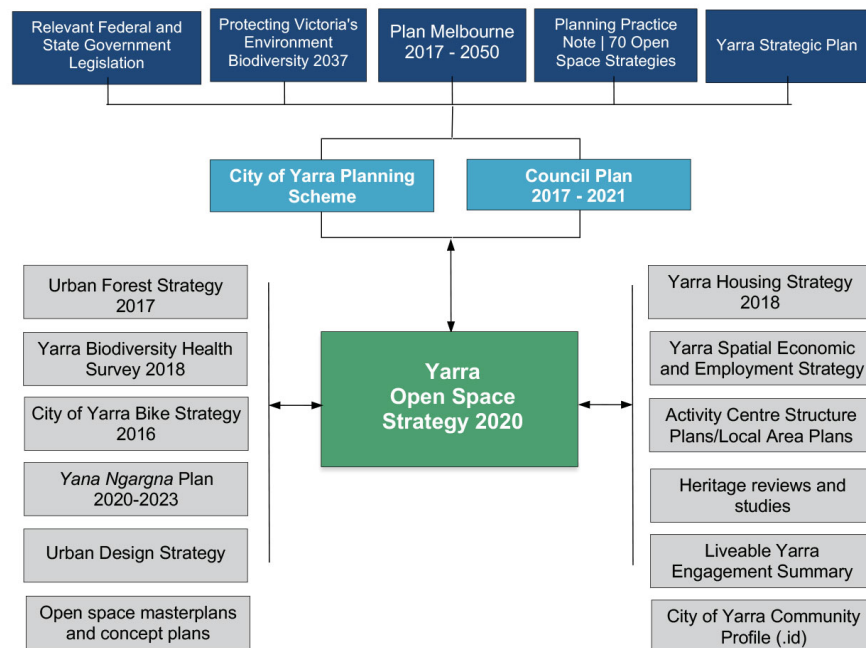
The City of Yarra has experienced significant population growth and urban development over the past twelve years, particularly over the past six years. These significant levels of growth are forecast to continue over the next 25 years, which means there is a need to plan ahead to ensure the City improves accessibility to a diversity of green open spaces as the population grows and the municipality redevelops and intensifies to accommodate this growth. The community consultation undertaken on the Draft Strategy supports the importance of green open space to community health and wellbeing, with the recommendation to maximise opportunities for having large trees and natural green features in open space receiving the highest level of support in the survey. Refer to Appendix C for further information.

In the established urban context it is difficult to provide new land area as open space, particularly larger areas of open space. In the City of Yarra some of the larger former industrial sites are yet to be redeveloped and these provide opportunities to potentially seek future larger land areas as public open space including Local and Neighbourhood open space up to 1 hectare in size, along with the conversion of public land including roads. These opportunities have been identified in Section 7 and will be investigated and delivered through the implementation of this Strategy.

2. Policy context

2.1 Strategic context

2.1.1 Relevant Victorian government strategies and directions



2.1.1a **Plan Melbourne 2017 – 2050**

Plan Melbourne 2017–2050 (referred to as Plan Melbourne in report) is ‘a metropolitan planning strategy that defines the future shape of the city and state over the next 35 years. Integrating long-term land use, infrastructure and transport planning, Plan Melbourne sets out the strategy for supporting jobs and growth, while building on Melbourne’s legacy of distinctiveness, liveability and sustainability.’ (Plan Melbourne web pages). There are 9 principles with 32 policy directions. The relevant directions and policies have been considered in preparing this Strategy and this Strategy in turn will support the achievement of Plan Melbourne within the Yarra municipality.

Housing and employment

Plan Melbourne supports locating housing close to jobs and services, which can easily be achieved in Yarra. For Melbourne overall, the plan seeks to locate at least 65 per cent of new housing in established areas of Melbourne and no more than 35 per cent in growth areas. The inner region, of which Yarra is a part (with Melbourne and Port Phillip), will add an estimated 215,000 new dwellings between 2015 and 2051. This pattern is already evident in Yarra today and in the population forecasts. There is continuing focus on the 20-minute walkable neighbourhood, including access to public open space, to ensure good amenity, liveability and local access to community and other services.

The inner region will be a driver of industry and employment with a focus on the following key industries: professional scientific and technical services; finance and insurance services; healthcare and social assistance; public administration and safety. Up to 233,000 new jobs are anticipated in the inner region.

There is a health and education precinct identified that is centred on St Vincent’s Hospital and Australian Catholic University Precinct, partly in Fitzroy. The Amcor Paper Mill site in Alphington is identified as a significant urban renewal site for Yarra, planned as a mixed use precinct including open space, with local jobs and up to 2,500 homes for around 5,000 residents.

Plan Melbourne designates five Major Activity Centres in Yarra: Brunswick Street and Smith Street in Fitzroy and Victoria Street, Bridge Road and Swan Street in Richmond.

The combination of the major activity centres and the health and education precincts will contribute significant change during the life of the Strategy with important residential and employment population increases. This Strategy responds to population growth and change by recommending new public open space and upgrades to existing open space reserves to respond to local need.

Open space

In addition to identifying new housing and employment opportunities, Plan Melbourne promotes public open space. *Plan Melbourne defines this as follows:*

Includes land reserved for natural landscape, parklands, recreation and active sports, as well as waterways and bays.

Direction 5.4 reinforces the need for public open space:

- to green the city
- provide urban amenities including recreation and leisure

- support habitat conservation.

This direction includes the need for 'a network of accessible, high-quality, local open spaces' at policy 5.4.1.

There is also emphasis on greening the city to mitigate the urban heat island effect and ensuring resilience to natural hazards and risks, and a changing climate. The overall urban heat island profile diagram from *Plan Melbourne* illustrates the scale of this liveability and health and wellbeing issue for the City of Yarra in the context of the CBD and other parts of Melbourne.

Sustainable energy, water and waste practices including the use of water sensitive urban design to protect waterways and bays, and protection from air pollution and excessive noise are all key policy directions.

In Direction 6.4, two policy statements in relation to open space include:

- Policy 6.4.1
Support a cooler Melbourne by greening urban areas, buildings, transport corridors and open spaces to create an urban forest.
- Policy 6.4.2
Strengthen the integrated metropolitan open space network. The description in this notes that better planning, design and use of new and existing public open space is critical. It also advocates for developing innovative approaches to access and make use of other types of public land such as waterways, school ground and utility easements. Open space is to be accessible to people of all ages, gender, ability and location.

To assist achievement of the *Plan Melbourne* aims, a metropolitan open space strategy is in preparation. This strategy is expected to provide future direction on Regional open space in the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek corridors.

2.1.1b Open Space Strategies Planning Practice Note | 70, 2015

The Department of Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) prepared this practice note to guide councils when preparing an Open Space Strategy. It includes the reasons for preparing an Open Space Strategy, the methodology or process to undertake it and the inputs and outputs that can be considered in the process. In summary the document covers the topics of; documenting the existing open space assets, data collection and consultation at the early stages of the process, confirming an agreed open space classification, determining the future open space needs and recommendations to address the need. It is noted that the process and outputs of this Strategy are consistent with the Practice Note.

2.1.1c Protecting Victoria's Environment – Biodiversity 2037

The Strategy sets a Vision that:

Victoria's biodiversity is healthy, valued and actively cared for.

The Strategy recognises that our natural environment is fundamental to the health and wellbeing of every Victorian. It also identifies the importance of the natural environment and biodiversity values to Victoria's economy in many ways including for tourism; assisting the community to stay healthy thereby reducing medical costs; water purification; flood protection; coastal protection; and carbon sequestration. The Strategy acknowledges that Victoria's biodiversity is not as healthy and diverse as it once was and the Strategy aims to stop the decline of species diversity in Victoria.

2.1.1d Lower Yarra River Corridor Study, 2016

The Victorian Government is committed to protecting the Yarra River from inappropriate development and safeguarding public access. The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) commissioned this study (that was completed in 2016) to better understand and assess the need for new amended planning controls and design guidelines for land between Richmond and Bulleen.

The objective was to achieve consistent development outcomes along the Lower Yarra River corridor to ensure further development does not encroach on the river's landscape, environmental, aesthetic, cultural and recreational values. The study's focus was on managing the interface between the public and private land along the corridor. The outcomes of this study have informed the current controls in the planning scheme for the Yarra River, including DDO1 and SLO1. The extent of these overlays are shown in Figures 3B and 3C in the Strategy.

2.1.1e Yarra River Action Plan, 2017

The Victorian Government prepared the Yarra River Action Plan in 2017. The plan states that the Yarra is fundamental to Melbourne's sustainability, liveability and prosperity. The plan states it will guard the river from inappropriate development and promote the rivers health and amenity. A central part is the introduction of the Yarra River Protection Bill to enshrine the protections and commitments in legislation. The plan included the Traditional Owners on the working group so they were integrally involved in the Action Plan including the objectives for the river. The objectives are:

- A healthy river
- The great Yarra Parklands
- A culturally diverse riverscape
- Securing the Yarra footprint
- Modern governance

This Plan supports the level of importance the Yarra River and the open space corridor that adjoins it to the City of Yarra. This Regional open space caters to the broader metropolitan Melbourne population.

2.1.1f **Yarra River Protection (Willip-gin Birrarung Murrong) 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.

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 tradition 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.

2.1.1h Flood Management Strategy – Port Phillip and Westernport

Prepared by Melbourne Water in 2016, this Strategy aims to improve how we manage and reduce flood risks across Port Phillip and Westernport. Its alignment with the *Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy* emergency management arrangements and planning policy. Climate scientists project that the intensity of heavy rainfall events will increase and that sea level will continue to rise increasing the severity and regularity of flood events. Climate change increases the challenges faced in managing flood risk in the future. This is included in the context of the Yarra River and the adjoining open space corridor being a key feature of the Yarra's open space system.

2.1.1i **Active Victoria – A strategic framework for sport and recreation in Victoria 2017 – 2021**

Prepared by the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services *Active Victoria* is a plan to strengthen the sport and recreation sector, boost participation and ensure every Victorian has a chance to be involved. The Plan highlights the benefits of sport and active recreation including a healthier community, economic growth and jobs, community cohesion and liveability.

The Vision:

An increased proportion of Victorians participate in sport and active recreation

The plan also acknowledges there are key changes and challenges to adequately provide for this in the future including some that are specifically relevant to Yarra:

- Population growth
- Ageing population
- Changing lifestyles and expectations
- Increasing female participation in sport
- Land availability for facilities

The strategic directions in this Plan are consistent with some of the issues raised during the consultation phase of the project including:

Meet the demand, including:

- Increase the capacity of sport and active recreation infrastructure
- Create flexible and innovative participation options
- Find new sources of investment
- Invest in a network of international, metropolitan, regional and local infrastructure.

Broader and more inclusive participation, including:

- Providing affordable participation options
- Address racism, discrimination and harassment
- Continue investment in female participation
- Support increased participation of Aboriginal Victorians
- Provide support and flexible participation options for other under-represented communities including people with disability, LGBTQI+ people and disengaged youth.

Additional focus on active recreation, including:

- Invest in infrastructure that enables active recreation.

2.1.1j **IMAP Regional sport & recreation Strategy**

Prepared by SGS Economics and Planning for the Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) in 2019, this Strategy is a departure from traditional sport and recreation strategies. It recognises that historic approaches will not be enough to meet current and future demand for sport and recreation needs due to the high cost of land and quantum of forecast growth for the region. The Cities of Maribyrnong, Melbourne, Port Phillip Yarra and Stonnington have participated in this Strategy. The Strategy states that between 2016 and 2036 the employment and resident population of the IMAP region is expected to grow by 50 per cent and this will place increased pressure on sport and recreation

facilities that are already stretched to capacity. The region needs to provide sport and recreation facilities to cope with this growth.

The Strategy notes that it *sets out an innovative and progressive regional approach to provide clear strategic direction to assist IMAP Councils.*

The principles are:

- *Sharing the challenge: regional solutions to sports planning*
- *Pro-active Council led management of facilities*
- *Equitable use of facilities*
- *Opportunities for the local community to participate*
- *Sharing of assets*
- *Well located facilities*
- *Resilient facilities*

The Strategy identifies a list of projects for each of the participating councils.

2.1.2 Relevant Council strategies

2.1.2a Council Plan 2017-2021

Council Plan community consultation (referred to as Liveable Yarra) identified what the community love about Yarra:

1. Social connectedness
2. Open space
3. Sustainable transport
4. Recreation and leisure
5. Vibrant activity centres
6. Diverse/inclusive

Council Plan community consultation (referred to as Liveable Yarra) identified the following top issues:

1. Sustainable transport
2. Drugs, alcohol/community safety
3. Open space
4. Growth and change
5. Social connectedness

The *Council Plan* has seven objectives which open space has a role in contributing towards, including:

1. A healthy Yarra
Community health, safety and wellbeing are a focus in everything we do.
2. An inclusive Yarra
Inclusion, diversity and uniqueness are welcomed, respected and celebrated.
3. A sustainable Yarra
Council leads on sustainability and protects and enhances its natural environment.
4. A liveable Yarra
Development and growth are managed to maintain and enhance the character and heritage of the city.
5. A prosperous Yarra
Local businesses prosper and creative and knowledge industries thrive.
6. A connected Yarra
Connectivity and travel options are environmentally sustainable, integrated and well-designed.
7. A leading Yarra
Transparency, performance and community participation drive the way we operate.

2.1.2b Yarra Housing Strategy 2018

The *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018* addresses housing trends in Yarra, changes in demographic characteristics and population numbers, future housing needs, a capacity analysis and a future growth strategy. It addresses the challenges that Yarra faces as development preferences move to a greater number of high density projects and there are significant population increases and concentrations of people.

An understanding of where the population is housed now and into the future has informed the precinct recommendations in the Strategy.

2.1.2c Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018

The *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy* provides a detailed assessment of six retail (mixed use) and seven commercial/industrial precincts in terms of future land uses, floor space demand and the like. It also contains recommendations for transitional precincts. The traditional role of some areas is changing but Yarra recognises that it is important to maintain an economic base and that some of its commercial/industrial areas should be protected from competition from housing development.

The *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* has used the non-residential floor area estimates to inform the estimated changes in worker numbers across the different employment precincts. This has informed the precinct recommendations regarding the provision and design of open space. A discussion of how the SEES informs the Strategy is included in Section 4.2.

2.1.2d Urban Forest Strategy 2017

The *Urban Forest Strategy 2017* provides a clear direction for the future care and management of trees in the city. As part of the research, Aerial thermal imaging was prepared for the City of Yarra identifying thermal hot spots along with an image of the tree canopy cover from 2014. The priorities for future tree management have been framed around the addressing the thermal hotspots. The *Urban Forest Strategy 2017* provides evidence that the public open space system accommodates a large proportion of the tree canopy cover in the City of Yarra and is a cooling influence on the city. Currently the City of Yarra has a 17 per cent tree canopy cover with an aim to increase to 21.25 per cent by 2040, which represents a 25 per cent increase. Combined the private realm and streetscapes have 13 per cent canopy cover while the parks and public spaces have 34 per cent canopy cover.

The *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* identifies the location for new public open space to be provided, with many of these being in areas of either existing or forecast high density precincts including in some of the thermal hot spots identified in the *Urban Forest Strategy 2020*. The *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* recommends the need to improve urban greening in public open space with a focus on planting broad spreading canopy shade trees and increasing the presence moisture absorbing surfaces. This will assist with achieving the target of increased canopy cover the *Urban Forest Strategy 2017*.

2.1.2e City of Yarra Biodiversity Health Survey, Discussion Paper, 2018

Prepared by Practical Ecology for the City of Yarra, the paper summarises the *City of Yarra Biodiversity Health Survey* (BHS). This BHS establishes baseline data on biodiversity values of open space areas within the municipality that are managed by the City of Yarra. A total of 30 open space reserves were assessed with an area greater than 0.5 hectares in size, along with an additional 10 pocket parks and 12 streetscapes that are located adjacent to the linear open space corridors.

The assessment included parklands that are not typically assessed for their biodiversity values including European style parks. In an urban context, these parks provide important refuge habitat for common indigenous fauna and links between areas of higher quality habitat. The recommendations in the Discussion Paper include adding bushland areas into a number of existing areas of open space, and planting additional street trees.

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.

2.2 Summary of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2006

2.2.1 Overview

The existing *Yarra Open Space Strategy (2006)* has guided the open space planning, design and works program over the past 12 years. More than 82 per cent of the actions from the 2006 Strategy are either complete or partially complete.

A total of six new open space reserves have been established in the following locations:

- Peel Street Park in Collingwood
- Oxford Street Park in Collingwood
- Butler Street Park in North Richmond
- Richmond Terrace Park in Central Richmond
- Church Street Reserve in Richmond
- Mollison Street in Abbotsford

One new open space reserve are currently in the process of being designed and implemented including:

- New Small Local open space on Reid Street, Fitzroy North

Two existing open space reserves have been expanded in size including:

- Condell Street Reserve in Fitzroy, converting the western part of the reserve from a car park to open space.
- Barkly Gardens in South Richmond via the closure of Barkly Street between Coppin and Mary Streets.

The Strategy has also been used to inform and guide the contribution of new Small Local, Local and Regional open space on the Alphington Paper Mill site in Alphington.

After reviewing where open space contributions have been collected, the following priorities for implementation of the remaining actions are:

- Two new open spaces in Fitzroy
- Three new open spaces in Collingwood
- One new open space in Abbotsford.
- Four new open spaces in Richmond.

The existing 2006 Strategy noted that a major review was recommended after 10 years. Given the actual population growth has been well in excess of what was forecast at the time the Strategy was prepared and it is 14 years since the Strategy was adopted, it is appropriate that a new Strategy is prepared to guide the open space planning, design and management over the next 10 to 12 years.

2.3 Open space and the planning scheme

2.3.1 Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS)

The Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) contains the key local planning directions for the City of Yarra and it has been updated since the 2006 open space strategy was prepared. Council will be reformatting the MSS with Amendment C269 to the Yarra Planning Scheme. The Municipal Planning Strategy and local policies will be placed within the new Planning Policy Framework in response to the DELWP Smart Planning initiative and Amendment VC 148. No change is proposed to the open space planning policy as part of the rewrite.

Due to these changes, the drafting of the following information may change. However, the planning principles and requirements are not expected to change even where they may be expressed differently in the future. Key policy directions of importance to the new open space strategy include:

- Clause 21.04 Land Use contains a section on parks, gardens and public open space. The objectives are for a linked open space system to meet current and future community needs. This clause supports improved public access to the banks of the Yarra River, the use of the public open space contribution rate, no loss of open space and regulating development adjoining open space.
- Clause 21.05 Built Form encourages creation of new open space in developments, provision of public access through large development sites adjoining parklands and waterways, and sensitive built form adjoining open space.
- Clause 21.06 Transport encourages safe and convenient pedestrian and bicycle networks with reduced reliance on the private motor car and lessening the impacts of traffic.
- Clause 21.07 Environmental Sustainability encourages protection and enhancement of biodiversity and habitat. It recognises the importance of the Yarra River, Darebin Creek and Merri Creek corridors, their ecological and environmental values, recreational potential, and water quality and flow characteristics.
- Clause 21.08 Neighbourhoods sets out directions for these parts of the municipality:
 - Abbotsford
 - Burnley - Cremorne– South Richmond
 - North Carlton - Princes Hill
 - Clifton Hill
 - Collingwood
 - Fairfield – Alphington
 - Fitzroy
 - North Fitzroy
 - North Richmond (north of Bridge Road)
 - Central Richmond (between Swan Street and Bridge Road)

2.3.2 Zones and overlays

The zones and overlays have an important role in governing land use redevelopment to different parts of Yarra. For example, Yarra uses three residential zones and six zone schedules to differentiate the land uses and intensity of development permitted in each residential area. There are two commercial and two industrial zones across the city. Specific sites or areas are zoned with the Special Use Zone (six schedules), the Comprehensive Development Zone (three schedules) and the Priority Development Zone (one schedule).

There are three public zones including the Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) and the Public Conservation Zone (PCRZ) which apply to public open space and public land with high environmental values.

The overlays may be of relevance to open space where they govern building heights, and built form envelopes, provision of open space, etc. as this may affect existing or proposed future open space. The environmental, landscape and heritage overlays identify special features in Yarra and can trigger specific permit requirements to enable protection of these features. Some of these features will be on public land.

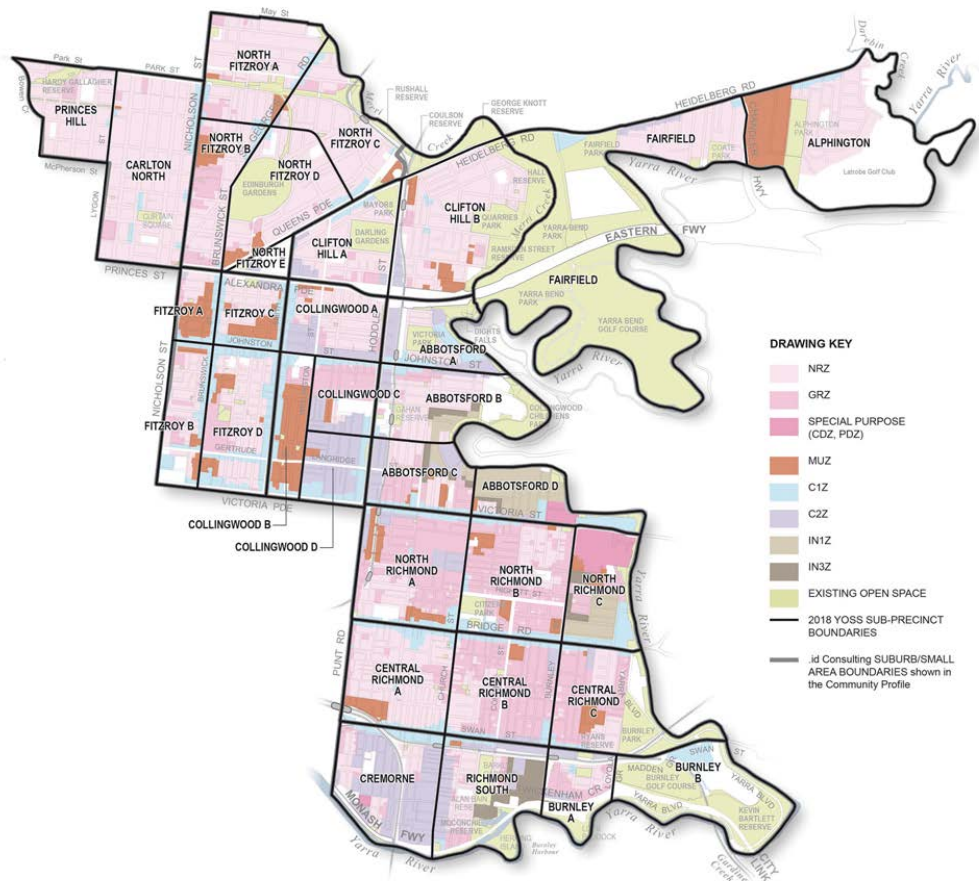


Figure 2A Existing Land Use and Open Space Sub-precinct Boundaries
Extract from Drawing YOSS-04 in Appendix A

2.3.3 Specific overlays for open space expansion and protection of waterways

Public Acquisition Overlay 2 (PAO2) identifies land along sections of the Yarra River Corridor and Darebin Creek for purchase as public open space. The purpose of the overlay is to create a continuous linear park/trail system adjacent to the waterways. The commitment to purchase the land is made by the Minister responsible for administering Part 2 of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978.

The Environmental Significance Overlay is used on private land along Merri Creek (ESO2) and Darebin Creek (ESO3). The overlay is used to recognise ecological, waterway, recreational, landscape, cultural heritage and other local values.

The Significant Landscape Overlay is used along the Yarra (Birraring) River and was recently updated in accordance with the work undertaken by the Victorian government to acknowledge the significance and protection of the river corridor. There is a strong focus on the contribution that the Yarra River system makes to the landscape, cultural and environmental values of metropolitan Melbourne.

These overlays introduce additional permit requirements, with the aim of ensuring development is sensitive to the identified values.

Environmental and landscape overlays for the Yarra River corridor are supplemented with a Design and Development Overlay (DDO1) that mandates built form setbacks and heights, and regulates materials, colours and overshadowing of the river corridor. The setback line is mapped for several locations in Yarra.

Refer to Figures 3B and 3C in Section 3 for the overlays along the waterway corridors.

2.3.4 Open space provision

The planning scheme includes VPP standards for open space provision which were developed to guide Precinct Structure Plans in growth areas, primarily in Melbourne.

Included in the planning scheme at Clause 56.05, the policy objectives are relevant and the proposed standards for new open space can be used as a comparative guideline to what can be accomplished in high density urban areas such as Yarra.

The policy objectives encourage development of a network of quality, well-distributed, multi-functional and cost-effective public open space that includes local parks, active open space, linear parks and trails, and links to regional open space. This is to cater for a broad range of uses, encourage healthy and active communities, integrate with encumbered open space, and contribute to environmental sustainability and sustainable neighbourhoods.

The standards for open space provision are included in Table 2-1 in Section 2.5.

2.4 Research into the health and wellbeing benefits of open space

2.4.1 Overview

Over the past 10 years there has been a growing body of research undertaken into the health and wellbeing benefits of open space, and specifically green open space. The issue of green open space has become more prominent in recent times given the substantial increase in urban densities in Melbourne with a reduction in overall greening on both public and private land. The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment, referred to as CABI in the United Kingdom has undertaken a number of research papers and studies into this from 2004 onwards.

Included below are some of the more recent documents that summarise the key findings from the ongoing research in both Australia and overseas.

2.4.2 Victorian Parliamentary Legislative Council Inquiry into Environmental Design and Public Health in Victoria

Final Report, May 2012

The inquiry was undertaken by the Environment and Planning Reference Committee established under the Standing Orders of the Legislative Council in late 2010. The report explores compelling evidence linking public health challenges with the rising rates of chronic diseases including heart disease, type 2 diabetes, mental illness and respiratory illnesses, to the planning and design of urban environments.

The report emphasises the importance of considering health in the design of our communities. The report was prepared as background material for *Plan Melbourne*, and a key aim was for it to provide specific direction in developing a healthier built environment. The report emphasised two particular elements of the built environment that promote healthy lifestyle choices – parks and other public open spaces and active transport modes, i.e. walking, cycling and public transport. A key finding of this inquiry is that one of the most important aspects of the built environment that impacts positively on health is provision of parks and other public spaces. Extensive research links multiple positive physical, mental and social health benefits of living near green and open public areas. Green public spaces encourage a range of physical activities, provide opportunities for social interaction and aids in mitigating urban heat island effect.

Implications for this Open Space Strategy

The importance of green open space is emphasised in the Strategy and informs the design and management guidelines in Section 6.

2.4.3 Urban green spaces and health – A review of evidence

World Health Organization European Environment and Health Process, 2016

There is recent interest in the importance of green open space to support healthy living in urban areas. Links between green space and health have been recognised throughout history and one of the driving forces behind the urban parks movement of the 19th Century in Europe and North America. Recent research has identified that green spaces in an urban context has the potential to help address social and environmental problems in a preventative way.

At the fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Health in Parma, Italy in 2010, the Member states of the WHO European Region made a commitment '*...to provide each child by 2020 with access to healthy and safe environments and settings of daily life in which they can walk and cycle to kindergartens and schools and to green spaces in which to play and undertake physical activity.*'

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11.7 aims to achieve the following: '*By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.*'

The report concludes there is existing evidence that there are many public health benefits through the provision of urban green spaces. These include:

- psychological relaxation and stress reduction
- enhanced physical activity
- mitigation of exposure to air pollution, excessive heat and noise.

The report evaluated and compared previously developed indicators of green space availability and key ones include:

- Measuring the proportion of city population living within 300 metres of a green open space with a defined minimum size.
- Accessibility of green spaces of defined minimum sizes suitable for physical activity as well as mental relaxation.
- There is a need for small, local green spaces to be very close to where people live as well as large green spaces offering formal provisions such as playing fields, and opportunities to experience nature and relative solitude.

The report's final summary conclusion is:

'A city of well-connected, attractive green spaces that offer safe opportunities for urban residents for active mobility and sports as well as for stress recovery, recreation and social contact is likely to be more resilient to extreme environmental events, such as heat waves and extreme rainfall. Such a city is also likely to have healthier citizens, reducing demands on health services and contributing to a stronger economy.'

Implications for this Open Space Strategy

This report's findings support the importance of an accessible and well connected green open space network for community health and wellbeing. The report emphasises the importance of providing accessible green open space for everyone including the young, elderly, those with limited mobility to undertake a range of activities and to relax and unwind along with environmental benefits including mitigating urban heat. As such the Strategy has identified the need for additional open space to be added to the network which is summarised in Section 5.2 and described in detail in Section 7.

2.4.4 Social Cities Grattan Institute Report No. 2012-4

This report identifies the importance of designing our cities so they help connect us with other people. The study identifies the importance of different types of social connections that humans form including intimate personal and family relationships, links with a broader network of friends, relatives and colleagues and the broader connection to our local community which involves incidental interactions with people. Providing spaces where people can socialise in our cities is important to encouraging this and leading to a sense of belonging and connection and a socially well-adjusted community. Open space plays an important role in the sense of belonging to the broader community and also in many instances to the wider group of friends, as we often like to meet in the park where it is large enough to accommodate a larger group of people. The sense of belonging and connection leads to more positive social interaction and to health and wellbeing of our community.

Implications for this Open Space Strategy

This study supports the role that public open space plays in the social connectedness of the community, and this is not replaced by providing on-site private open space within developments. The Strategy recommends the expansion of social facilities in selected areas of open space throughout the Precinct Recommendation in Section 7.

2.4.5 Beyond Blue to Green: The benefits of contact with nature for mental health and well-being

Deakin University Australia, Townsend, M and Weerasuriya, R prepared for Beyond Blue Limited, 2010

This report was commissioned by Beyondblue: the national depression initiative and provides a review of existing Australian and international literature on the links between mental health and wellbeing and contact with nature, especially through green spaces. The specific focus of this report was on the links between parks and other green open spaces and mental health, in particular depression and anxiety.

A link between closeness to urban green spaces, frequency of visits and duration of stay regardless of sex, age and socio-economic status has been demonstrated (Grahn and Stigsdotter, 2003). The study showed the persistent obstacles to accessing and using green open spaces was time and distance, therefore people are more likely to visit green open space if it is nearby and easy to get to. Similarly, a Danish survey was conducted to examine the impact green areas have on human health and wellbeing (Nielsen and Hansen 2007) demonstrated there was less stress in people who visited green areas more frequently. The final analysis revealed being overweight and higher levels of stress are connected with greater distance from publicly accessible green space, as well as less access to private or shared gardens.

Implications for this Open Space Strategy

This study supports the positive effects of public green open space on people's mental health and wellbeing and that being in close proximity to it means people will use it more and are healthier and less stressed as a result. The Design and Management Guidelines in Section 6 of the Strategy highlight the importance of natural features and green infrastructure in open space.

2.4.6 Summary of implications from the research on this Open Space Strategy

This research has informed the analysis and recommendations for this Strategy including:

- Provision of public open space within an easy and safe walk of everyone living and working in the City of Yarra is a core principle that this Strategy aims to achieve to address the under provision of open space in some of the most populated neighbourhoods including Fitzroy, Collingwood, Cremorne and Richmond. This means that everyone including those with reduced mobility, the young and elderly will have the opportunity to visit open space.
- Maximise greening of public open space given the important link between people's mental health and wellbeing and access to and contact with nature. The research identifies that contact with nature is important for everyone including those living in the City of Yarra. Additionally, the green spaces will provide cool spaces for everyone to use during the summer, including the more vulnerable who do not have access to air conditioning in their homes or workplaces and others who choose not to have or use air conditioning.

2.5 Policy framework for the provision of open space

2.5.1 Plan Melbourne 2017–2050

Plan Melbourne has brief overall policy directions for open space that have some relevance to public open space in established areas, including:

- Urban redevelopment projects provide the opportunity to plan new local open space in some areas (Policy 5.4.1)
- Support community gardens (Policy 5.4.2)
- Establish and maintain canopy trees and greening in public open space utilising sustainable water sources (Policy 6.4.1)
- Better planning, design and use of new and existing public open space (Policy 6.4.2).
- Access and make use of other types of public land including schools, waterways and utility easements (Policy 6.4.2)
- Fair and equitable access for all members of the community regardless of age, gender, ability or location (Policy 5.4.1 and 6.4.2)
- Create a network of green spaces that support biodiversity conservation (Policy 6.5.1)
- Protect and enhance the health of urban waterways (Policy 6.5.2).

2.5.2 Yarra planning scheme

All planning schemes specify open space provision. The focus of these standards are on neighbourhood level open space as follows:

Table 2-1 Public open space standards (Clause 56.05 of planning schemes)

Open space type	Size	Locational distribution
Active open space	Minimum 8 hectares	Within 1 kilometre of 95 percent of dwellings
Local parks and open spaces	1 hectare plus included active open space	Within 400 metres safe walking distance of 95 percent of dwellings
Small parks and public squares	Not specified	Activity centres and higher density precincts
Linear parks and trails	Not specified	Within 1 kilometre of 95 percent of dwellings

2.5.3 International examples of open space frameworks

The following examples have been included as examples of the cities with established higher density urban neighbourhoods.

2.5.3a Open Space Strategies Best Practice Guidance

CABE Space, Mayor of London, 2009, which is also referred to in the 2015 City of London Open Space Strategy

Table 2-2 *London public open space hierarchy*

Open space type	Size	Distance from home/work
Regional parks	400 hectares	3.2 to 8 kilometres
Metropolitan parks	60 hectares	3.2 kilometres
District Parks	20 hectares	1.2 kilometres
Local parks and open spaces	2 hectares	400 metres
Small open spaces	Under 2 hectares	Less than 400 metres
Pocket parks	Under 0.4 hectares	Less than 400 metres
Linear open space	Variable	Wherever feasible

2.5.3b Urban green spaces and health – A review of evidence

World Health Organization Europe, 2016

The World Health Organisation reviewed the evidence behind the importance of green space in supporting healthy living in urban areas. The report concludes that the evidence suggests that open space is effective for having positive effects on mental relaxation if it is at least 0.5 hectares in size and people live within 300 metres of it. Open space has a positive effect on our physical health and wellbeing if it is a minimum of 1.0 hectares. There is also available evidence to support that there is also a need for small, local green spaces very close to where people live and spend their day, as well as large green spaces with sports fields and opportunities to experience contact with nature and relative solitude.

Table 2-3 *WHO aims for the provision of urban green space*

Open Space type	Size	Distance from home/work
For physical activity	1.0 hectare minimum	300 metres
For mental relaxation	0.5 hectare minimum	300 metres
Additional small local green open spaces	Not specified	Very close to home (no distance specified, but less than 300 metres)

2.5.3c City Environmental Quality Review Technical Manual

New York City Mayor's office of Environmental Coordination, March 2014

The following goals for open space provision are based on the Recreation, Park and Open Space Standards and Guidelines, which have been converted into hectares and meters for comparative purposes.

Table 2-4 New York City goals for open space provision

Open Space type	Size	Distance from home/work
Passive open space	0.6 hectares per 1,000 workers	400 metres (work)
Neighbourhood Parks (min 0.75 hectare for 1,000 people or 7.5 sqm per person)	0.5 to 1.0 hectares	800 metres (home)
Community Parks (2.2 to 3.2 hectares for 1,000 people or 26 sqm per person)	2.2 to 3.2 hectares	1,600 to 3,200 metres
Regional Parks (2.2 to 4.4 hectares for 1,000 people or 30 sqm per person)	2.2 to 4.4 hectares	One hours drive

Interestingly, Chapter 7 of this document concludes that it is a combination of the qualitative and quantitative values of open space that needs to be considered in assessing the future open space needs associated with high density precincts. The Manual classifies areas as underserved or well-served with open space. The definition of underserved versus well-served is:

- Underserved areas are those with high population density in the City that are generally the greatest distance from parkland where the amount of open space per 1,000 residents is less than 1.01 hectares - or less than 10.1 sqm per person.
- Well-served areas have:
 - an open space ratio of 1.01 hectares per 1,000 residents
 - located within a 400 metre (approximate 10 minute walk) of open space.

The threshold as to whether an open space assessment is required for a proposed development are:

- If a project is located in an underserved area and the development would generate more than 50 residents or 125 workers.
- If a project is located in a well-served area and the development would generate more than 350 residents or 750 workers.
- If a project is new and is not located in either an underserved or well-served area, an assessment should be conducted if the project would generate more than 200 residents and 500 employees.

By default, this threshold recognises that an additional 350 residents or 750 workers in a precinct creates the demand for additional open space and/or significant improvements to existing open space. The proportion of 10.1 sqm of open space per person is considered to be a reasonable planning goal for the provision of open space in New York City. Ideally

this would comprise 80 per cent as sporting use and 20 per cent as unstructured recreation and informal use.

2.5.4 Summary of implications of the policy framework on this Open Space Strategy

This research has informed the analysis and recommendations for this Strategy including:

- Where more than an additional 350 residents and workers are forecast to be living and working in the future, recommendations to undertake expansion of existing facilities or provide additional open space are made.
- Retain the existing walking catchments for different types of open space as per the 2006 Open Space Strategy, given this is supported by the international research.
- Included the additional open space hierarchy of Small Neighbourhood to provide a more nuanced calibration in the size of open spaces that are less than 1 hectare in area.

3. Existing open space network

3.1 Existing open space values in Yarra

3.1.1 Overview

The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung are the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways now known as the City of Yarra. Their connection to country extends back more than 60,000 years to the Dreamtime when their creator spirit Bunjil created the land, the people and all living things. Woi Wurrung is the original language of this country, although other languages were also spoken when, for example, neighbouring tribes visited for ceremony, trade and other business.

The City of Yarra covers an area of approximately 20 square kilometres and has a diverse 260 hectare open space system is made up of just over 110 individual spaces. Open space comprises approximately 13.5 per cent of the total area of the City of Yarra.

Central to the City's character and open space system is the Yarra River which is significant to greater Melbourne and the Yarra community. While there have been extensive changes to the River post colonisation some of the original river morphology and naturalness remains providing a direct connection to its history. Similarly, Merri Creek also contains some of its original natural features in the downstream section where it flows through Yarra Bend Park to the confluence with the Yarra River at Dights Falls. Yarra Bend Park forms the largest natural bushland closest to Melbourne, being less than 5 kilometres from the Central Business District. It spans both sides of the Yarra River and includes significant natural flora and fauna values along with sport and recreation facilities. Managed by Parks Victoria, Yarra Bend Park presents some significant opportunities for improvement including the potential to better meet the future structured sporting needs of the City of Yarra community.

Edinburgh Gardens, originally set aside in the early 1860s as a cricket ground with a creek running through it when North Fitzroy was first established, is nominated as Yarra's

most popular open space in the community survey. Major plantings from the late 1800s including the avenues of the Oaks and Elms contribute to its character and garden setting providing excellent summer shade and sun access in the winter. This contributes to its popularity and high levels of visitation. Other key public gardens in the City of Yarra include Darling Gardens in Clifton Hill, Alphington Park, Barkly Gardens in Richmond South and Curtain Square in the Carlton North. These complement the native bushland and natural qualities of Yarra Bend Park, Hall Reserve and the linear open space corridors along Yarra River, Merri Creek and to a lesser extent along Darebin Creek.

Complementing these major areas of open space is a network of Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces. Given the historical lack of provision of open space in Fitzroy, Collingwood and parts of Richmond, the smaller network of spaces is highly valued and well used in the high density areas. As urban densities continue to increase in these areas, these smaller spaces will become increasingly important to the resident and worker community living and working there, and the Strategy has identified opportunities to increase this network to better meet the existing and particularly forecast community open space needs.

3.1.2 Topography and geology

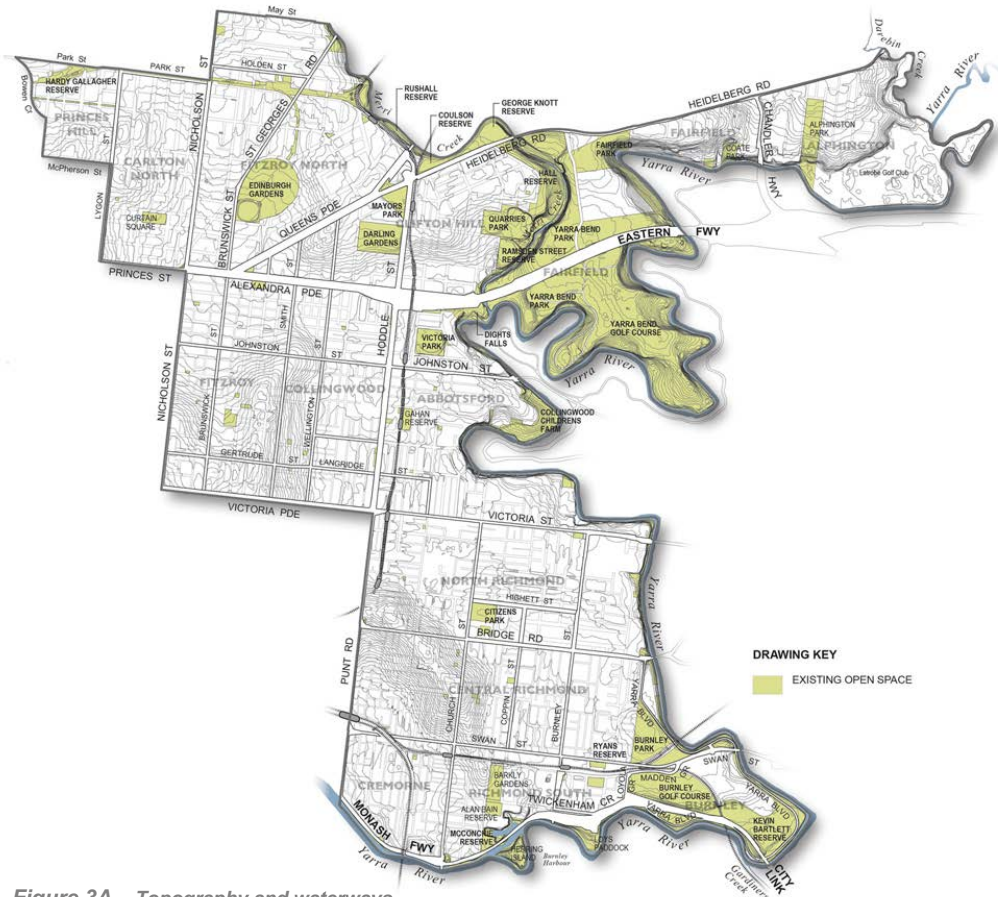


Figure 3A Topography and waterways
Extract from Drawing YOSS-2b in Appendix A

The City of Yarra is located at the junction of two Bioregions, being the Victorian Volcanic Plain and the Gippsland Plain. The majority of Yarra is located within the Victorian Volcanic Plain which characterises the undulating basalt plains and the heavy basalt-derived soils that extend further into western Victoria. The Gippsland Plain Bioregion is a more extensive system extending to the south-east of the City. There are outcrops of this Silurian based geology in the north-west and south-eastern parts of Yarra. (Biosis, 2001).

There are sites of geological and geomorphological significance along Merri Creek and the Yarra River through the City of Yarra including one site of State significance and four sites of regional significance. These are further described in Section 3.1.3c.

The waterway corridors provide the most significant change in topography in Yarra. The deeply incised nature of the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek emphasises the elevated views from the surrounding area. Development along the waterway corridors has in many locations blocked the views into it, however crossing points including footbridges and road bridges over the waterways offer spectacular views along the waterway corridors.

Other subtle changes to the City's topography include Richmond Hill, where the elevation affords good views to the Dandenongs and the City. The landform in Princes Hill and Carlton North is slightly elevated with views towards the City down the key north south streets. The central area of Fitzroy near Gore Street and George Street is also slightly elevated with views in an easterly direction over Collingwood to the Dandenongs. Fairfield and Alphington afford views over the Yarra River valley. The majority of Yarra's topography is gently undulating, characteristic of the western basaltic plains.

Topography has influenced the provision of existing open space in the City of Yarra. The low lying floodplain areas of the Yarra River contain the largest areas of public and private open space within the City boundaries including La Trobe Golf Club, Yarra Bend Public Golf Course, parts of Yarra Bend Park and Kevin Bartlett Reserve. These areas of open space are subject to flooding and with the forecast increase in the severity and intensity of storm events in the future, will increasingly play an important role in flood protection. This may, however, further encumber these areas of open space in the future.

3.1.3 Natural landscape character

Yarra Bend Park is the largest area of natural bushland near the heart of Melbourne and is home to the famous bat colony. While the park includes sport and recreation facilities it also has extensive natural features including steep escarpments and open woodlands. The other main remnant natural features are along the waterway corridors including the Yarra River, Merri Creek and the Darebin Creek. Historically, much of the City of Yarra would have been covered with Plains Grassy Woodland which is typical of the western basalt plains including Red Gum, Yellow Box and Yellow gum. There are small remnants of this vegetation community remaining at Coate Park in Alphington, along the railway line between Burnley Park and the Circus Site in Richmond.

Along the waterways riparian vegetation would have been dominated by River Red Gum and Silver Wattle. The large floodplains would have included seasonal wetlands and floodplain woodland with a scattered overstorey of River Red Gums. On the steep escarpments on both the Merri Creek and Yarra River, the Escarpment shrubland

included native shrubs and grasses. While the majority of the City is developed and urban, the waterway corridors provide links to the previous natural landscape character of the City with remnant areas.

3.1.3a Flora

The largest area of indigenous vegetation is in the Yarra Bend Park adjacent to the golf course in the City of Yarra Natural Heritage Study (Biosis, 2002). The more recent City of Yarra Biodiversity Health Survey (Practical Ecology, 2018) notes that six Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVC) were recorded across the open space reserves managed by the City of Yarra, excluding Yarra Bend Park. Hall Reserve in Clifton Hill on the Merri Creek supported the largest extent of indigenous vegetation that is managed by the City of Yarra, followed by Alphington Park Wetlands and Lloyds Paddock. Lloyds Paddock supports the most diverse vegetation communities with four different EVCs. This is followed by Kevin Bartlett Reserve, Burnley Park and McConchie Reserve, each of which supports three different EVCs. Other reserves supporting remnant indigenous vegetation include Burnley Park, Rushall Recreation Reserve, Park Street Linear Reserve, Coulson Reserve and George Knott Reserve.

Prior to European colonisation, Plains Grassy Woodland would have been the most wide-ranging EVC across the much of the municipality with the Floodplain Riparian Woodland and Riparian Woodland along the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creeks, with Escarpment Shrubland on the steep escarpments along the waterway corridors. Additionally, small areas of Aquatic Hermland and Tall Marsh are located in Alphington Wetland and McConchie Reserve.

In the City of Yarra there are some excellent examples of restoration of ecosystems through revegetation with some notable ones being Alphington Park, Rudder Grange, Rushall Recreation Reserve, Hall Reserve, Dights Falls Park, Burnley Park, Kevin Bartlett Reserve, Lloyds Paddock and the restored wetland at McConchie Reserve. (Practical Ecology, 2018).

3.1.3b Fauna

The recent survey of fauna undertaken in the City of Yarra managed open spaces (Practical Ecology, 2018) notes the majority of records were bird and mammal species with smaller numbers of reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates and fish. 92 per cent of the fauna sightings were birds. There is a diverse bird community in the City of Yarra although the majority is frequented by common bird species including Australian Magpie, Noisy Miner, Red Wattlebird, Rainbow Lorikeet, Silver Gull, Magpie-lark and Galah. There are more specialised species, for example waterbirds restricted to the riparian corridors and wetlands. Recent research has identified the Yarra River, Merri and Darebin Creek corridors as critical foraging areas for the threatened Powerful Owl.

The greatest diversity of birds was observed at Dights Falls Park, Bundara Street Reserve, Hall Reserve, McConchie Reserve and Kevin Bartlett Reserve. While not observed, the Practical Ecology report notes that there are other significant fauna species that are likely to make use of the habitat within the City of Yarra, particularly along the waterways and adjoining bushland. This includes the Vulnerable Grey-headed Flying

Fox colony, which is located in Yarra Bend Park, the Critically Endangered Swift Parrot which is likely to forage on the stands of Yellow Gum, Yellow Box and Ironbark within the City of Yarra and Yarra Bend Parklands. The Nankeen Nigh Heron is resident at a number of locations along the Yarra River such as McConchie Reserve and Lloyds Paddock.

3.1.3c Sites of geological and geomorphological significance

There are sites of geological and geomorphological significance along the Merri Creek and Yarra River including one site of State significance and four sites of Regional significance.

The site of State significance is an exposed cliff on the southern bank of the Yarra River of clearly exposed sandstones interbedded with mudstones of the Melbourne Formation at Dights Falls.

The other four sites of Regional significance are:

- A basalt escarpment that shows a complex fracture system at Yarra Bend Park on Merri Creek, opposite Quarries Park.
- A natural cliff that displays lava flows with contrasting orientations and vertical jointing on Merri Creek, upstream of Heidelberg Road on the north western bank.
- A vertical cliff face with elongated gas bubble holes, which represents the cooling process on the southern bank, along with a small lava cave to the east opposite Ross Street.
- Vertical overhanging cliffs 8 to 10 metres high on the southern bank of Merri Creek at Rushall Station.

These features are visible from the Merri Creek trail and require ongoing protection.

3.1.4 Waterways

3.1.4a Yarra River

The Yarra River is central to the identity and character of the City of Yarra. Its natural character and bushland provides an important contrast from the unique and highly valued urban character of Yarra. The community survey outcomes identified that the Yarra River corridor is popular and well visited along with the large parks and reserves.

The presence of large natural bushland reserves adjoining the River significantly contribute to its character. This includes Yarra Bend Park, Studley Park and Willsmere Park. Further downstream through Collingwood, Richmond and Burnley the linear open space along the Main Yarra Trail has extensive stands of large remnant trees and bushland that forms an important habitat corridor.

At the confluence with the Darebin Creek, the Yarra River has some established remnant and regenerating stands of River Red Gums and other riparian vegetation along the edge of the Latrobe Golf Club and on the opposite bank through Willsmere Park (in the City of

Boroondara). The regenerating and remnant riparian values are strengthened downstream where the River flows through the extensive Yarra Bend Park to the confluence with Merri Creek at Dights Falls. The presence of some remnant vegetation including large remnant River Red Gums, Yellow Box and Yellow Gum provide a framework for habitat enhancement. The connectivity of the Yarra River to both its upstream and downstream catchments supports the native wildlife and habitat values and significantly contributes to the biodiversity values of the City of Yarra.

Upstream of Dights Falls, at the confluence with Merri Creek, the Yarra River is a freshwater stream, and downstream of Dights Falls the River is subject to tidal influence. Historically, the river channel downstream of Dights Falls has been highly modified to suit urban development in the catchment. Upstream of Dights Falls the channel has been modified, however the extensive system of parkland associated with the Yarra River Floodplain on both sides of the River has minimised the extent of modification and contributes to the natural and environmental character of the River. In a broader context there is extensive work to improve water quality of the Yarra River throughout its catchment, which in the longer term will aim to improve the water quality in the lower reaches of the Yarra River.

Management responsibilities

The City of Yarra and Parks Victoria are predominantly responsible for the linear open space reserves along the Yarra River, with the exception of the Collingwood Childrens Farm which is Crown land managed by the Committee of Management.

Melbourne Water is responsible for:

- flooding and regional drainage management
- stream form, system and stability
- facilitation of water quality improvement
- facilitation of stream vegetation and natural resource management to the bed and banks of the waterway.

Melbourne Water is currently preparing the 50 Year Yarra Community Vision for the *Yarra Strategic Plan* that will provide the basis for future planning and management of the Yarra River corridor.

Parks Victoria is responsible for recreational boating and use of the waterway of the Yarra River from Port Phillip Bay to Dights Falls. They are also responsible for the ongoing management of Herring Island including visitor access to the island.

3.1.4b Merri Creek

Merri Creek has an extensive rural and urban catchment and is on the main tributaries to the lower reaches of the Yarra River. Through the City of Yarra the Merri Creek is a deeply incised stream flowing through a steeply sided valley. Upstream of Heidelberg Road the open space corridor is relatively narrow and broadens to a wider corridor downstream of Heidelberg Road including through Hall Reserve, Quarries Park and Yarra Bend Park. With this more extensive parkland system adjoining the waterway, the natural landscape values of the corridor are higher downstream of Heidelberg Road.

The incised nature of the Merri Creek is its natural form and the bed and banks of the creek are in relatively natural condition. The incised banks are steep basalt escarpments, a number of which are noted as being of geological and geomorphological significance. Much of the original indigenous vegetation has been modified along the Merri Creek corridor, with some small remnants occurring on the escarpments near Rushall Station. There has been ongoing revegetation and improvement of the riparian corridor values of Merri Creek along with improvements to the shared trail connectivity as well.

Given Merri Creek has a highly urbanised catchment it has relatively poor water quality. The stream form is relatively natural downstream of Rushall Station with natural rock riffles and no identified barriers to fish migration. With the ongoing improvement to water quality across the catchment it is anticipated that water quality and instream values may improve in the longer term.

Management responsibilities

The public land along the stream is owned and managed by a combination of the City of Yarra and Melbourne Water. Works in the open space reserves is the responsibility of the City of Yarra and are coordinated with the Merri Creek Management Committee (MCMC). This Committee is an incorporated association that is primarily funded by the Councils along the Merri Creek. MCMC act as an advisory body to its member organisations and the *Merri Creek and Environs Strategy 2009–2014* is the key planning document that guides the MCMC priorities and direction for the Merri Creek.

Melbourne Water is responsible for the bed and banks of Merri Creek including revegetation, weed control, water quality monitoring along with the broader floodplain management responsibilities.

3.1.4c Darebin Creek

Darebin Creek flows along the eastern boundary of the City of Yarra for a relatively short section which includes the confluence of the Darebin Creek with the Yarra River in Alphington. The creek flows through a modified environment associated with Alphington Grammar School and Latrobe Golf Club. Revegetation along the creek including the revegetation in the adjoining Napier Waller Reserve contributes to the natural values of the waterway corridor. At the confluence with the Yarra River there are some remnant stands of River Red Gums and indigenous mid-storey vegetation.

The construction of a fish ladder at the end of Farm Road by Melbourne Water over 10 years ago improved access for migratory instream fauna between Darebin Creek and the Yarra River. While the Darebin Creek catchment is highly urbanised, ongoing improvements to the quality of urban stormwater runoff aims to progressively improve the quality in the creek.

Management responsibilities

Melbourne Water is responsible for flooding and regional drainage management; stream form, system and stability; facilitation of water quality improvement; and facilitation of stream vegetation and natural resource management of the bed and banks of the waterway.

The Darebin Creek Management Committee Inc (DCMC) is an incorporated association which is funded by the Councils including the City of Yarra. They work towards improving the Darebin Creek and the adjoining open space corridor.

The majority of land is freehold and there is a Public Acquisition Overlay over the corridor in favour of The Minister responsible for administering Part 2 of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 for the purposes of the creation of a continuous linear park / trail system adjacent to the waterways.

3.1.5 Community use of open space

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.

3.1.5b Recreational values along the waterway corridors

Shared trails

Council and other management agencies and their delegates have continued to improve the indigenous riparian vegetation values along the three waterways in the City of Yarra. The shared trail links and connections have been improved since the 2006 Strategy, with key changes including:

- The Darebin Creek Shared Trail link has been constructed between Sparks Reserve (Heidelberg Road) in Alphington and the Main Yarra Trail in East Kew.
- The Main Yarra Trail has been upgraded to improve accessibility with graded ramp access into the trail, improved surfacing and widening in selected locations.
- The Main Yarra Trail has been upgraded and constructed along the north bank of the River between Punt Road and Lloys Paddock.
- Improvements to the Merri Creek Shared Trail.

There are other key links and connections that are to be addressed in the future including:

- The Main Yarra Trail and linear open space corridor link between Gipps Street Steps (Collins Bridge) and Walmer Street footbridge in Abbotsford.
- Shared trail access from Alphington onto the Lower Darebin Creek Shared Trail in Alphington.
- Improvements to the Merri Creek Shared Trail upstream of St Georges Road.

Water-based recreational use

There is a range of water-based recreational uses including rowing, kayaking and recreational boating on the Yarra River. Parks Victoria regulates the water-based

recreational use with the key guide being the *Lower Yarra River Future Directions Plan and Recreational Guidelines* (Parks Victoria, 2001). The plan assigns different zones to the Lower Yarra River and for the City of Yarra, the River downstream of Herring Island is within the Active Recreation Tourism Zone and between Herring Island and Dights Falls the Yarra River is zoned as a Passive Recreation Zone.

The Active Recreation Tourism Zone extends from Princes Bridge to Herring Island. It is noted as the main venue for sport and entertainment events attracting many spectators along its banks. It is also a rowing activity centre providing training and competition areas, storage and club facilities. Many of its buildings have heritage and cultural value. Herring Island is listed as one of the major destinations in this zone. The guidelines within this zone are to:

- *Retain its use as a training and competition venue for rowing and other sporting activities.*
- *Provide appropriate infrastructure for commercial ferry operations at key destinations.*
- *Maintain appropriate infrastructure for rowing at key destinations.*
- *Limit access for commercial craft by time-zoning to provide priority use by rowers and other non-powered sporting activities at peak training and programmed competition times.*
- *Provide access for a limited number of events and regattas.*
- *Develop or improve pick-up and drop-off points for commercial ferry vessels to provide access at key destinations, such as Herring Island and Como Park.*
- *Maintain access to berthing facilities for private recreational craft at Herring Island.*
- *Assess the feasibility (impact and risk assessment) of the use of Burnley ramp to provide launching facilities for low numbers of private craft for access upstream.*
- *Maintain adequate channel depth and width to ensure safe and navigable waterway.*
- *Provide berthing for recreational craft upstream of Swan Street.*

For the Passive Recreation Zone that extends from Herring Island to Dights Falls, the guidelines include:

- *Encourage its use as a recreational waterway for private powered and non-powered boating activity.*
- *Retain existing permanent mooring and berthing facilities for powered craft, however, access downstream of Swan Street will be limited to transit purposes only.*
- *Retain limited commercial boat operations.*
- *Maintain adequate channel depth and width to Clarke Street, Abbotsford to ensure a safe and navigable waterway.*

As part of the ongoing management, implementation of future landings and facilities for rowing will be supported upstream of Herring Island. Canoe and kayaks will continue to gain access to the river at Dights Falls, Clarke Street and Riverside Walk.

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 match sessions.

Council has participated in the preparation of the Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) *Regional sport and recreation strategy* (SGS Economics and Planning, 2019). The Vision statement in the strategy that informs the current and future regional sport and recreation planning is:

Sustainable and innovative regional planning for sport and recreation facilities that breaks from traditional approaches and shares the challenge to equitably balance everyone's needs.

The key principles that are intended to be applied to all decision making regarding sport and recreation now and in the future are:

- *Sharing the challenge: regional solutions to sports planning.*
- *Pro-active Council led management of facilities.*
- *Equitable use of facilities.*
- *Opportunities for the local community to participate.*
- *Sharing of assets.*
- *Well located facilities.*
- *Resilient facilities.*

The Strategy includes a series of recommendations for each of the participating councils including the City of Yarra for individual reserves. The City of Yarra intends to use the IMAP Strategy as the key guide for future provision of structured sport and recreation facilities in the municipality.

3.1.6 Cultural heritage values

3.1.6a Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community 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 community 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*)

3.1.6b Historical values

The Yarra River was a major source of fresh water and is the key reason Melbourne was settled. As noted above, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people have strong spiritual connections in Yarra including to the Yarra River and the confluence of the Yarra River and Merri Creek which extends back thousands of years to the Dreamtime.

The Yarra River significantly influenced settlement patterns and use from the early 1800s. European settlement patterns influenced the amount and style of open space across the City. Large parts of Richmond, Cremorne, Collinwood and Fitzroy were settled as working-class suburbs located nearby to industrial uses and places of employment. The dominant housing style was row terraces, varying between brick and timber construction depending on affordability. Within the working class neighbourhoods were the traders and merchants place of residence particularly in Fitzroy where larger double story row terraces were constructed. Open space reserves were not integral to the layout of some suburbs and is provided in areas that were constrained at the time for other reasons including flooding, quarries and former tips and have since been developed as open spaces. (Ian Wright et al, 2003)

In contrast Princes Hill, North Carlton, Fitzroy North, Clifton Hill, Fairfield and Alphington were settled primarily as residential suburbs. The layout of these suburbs incorporated open space as part of their planning. Of note, the original reservation of Darling Gardens was in response to the working community of Collingwood's "Slopes" lobbying for access to open space (Ian Wright et al, 2003). Edinburgh Gardens, Darling Gardens, Curtain Square and Alphington Park were all established at the same time as the housing, and their planting, layout and character is complementary to the urban character of the neighbourhood.

Clifton Hill has some industrial pockets, some of which have been converted to residential use, and the former quarries along Merri Creek have now been converted to open space. The heritage character of the open space along the Merri Creek relates to its natural and industrial history.

Some of the key reserves included in the *City of Yarra Heritage Review Landscape Citations* (Patrick, 1997) include:

- **Yarra Bend Park**
Regionally significant for both its historical and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung cultural heritage including the natural and cultural elements that reflect the sites ongoing post-European contact. The park demonstrates the relationship between the natural environment and the sequential history of its use. This includes the remnant indigenous vegetation; the public boating and swimming; the remnant exotic trees through the golf course from its early use as an ornamental garden; the golf course which was constructed during the 1930s with sustenance workers; and the history associated with the Asylum on the site. This park is managed by Parks Victoria and is the only public park nominated as being regionally significant in the City of Yarra. (Burnley Gardens in the Burnley Horticultural College is also nominated as regionally significant but is not a public park).
- **Edinburgh Gardens**
Locally significant as a major early recreational facility within the Fitzroy area. The site is intrinsically linked to a number of sporting groups and the Fitzroy community. Originally reserved in 1862, the reserve was initially used for cricket followed by the bowling club which established in 1877. A creek running through the park was converted to an underground drain and paths laid out along the pedestrian wear lines. Major plantings of avenues of Elms and Oaks occurred in the late 1800s and the park is fringed with an unusual row of Kurrajong trees. The North Fitzroy rail line was constructed through the park in 1886 which bisected the park and significantly influenced its use. The railway was removed in 1981.
- **Darling Gardens**
Locally significant as an important recreational facility for the Collingwood and Clifton Hill areas with strong associations with the local community. The reserve was set aside in the 1860s and in the *City of Yarra Review of Heritage Precincts 2001*, (Wright, 2003), it is noted that the residents in Collingwood lobbied for an open space to be set aside for them given the poor conditions in Collingwood at the time. The gardens were formally laid out and planted in the 1890s with seeds and plants from von Mueller, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens. The gardens had some sporting use early on, however, the community planting day in 1907 saw an end to the active sporting use.
- **Fairfield Park**
Locally significant as representative of early diverse recreational facilities and uses along the Yarra River, with extensive plantings and landscaping typical of the Edwardian period.

Other reserves noted as of being of local interest include:

- **Curtain Square** - for its formal layout and remaining early plantings and features including the Elms, Oaks, Moreton Bay Figs and monument.
- **Citizens Park** - reclaimed tip, the park was a major meeting place for people during the Great Depression. The Elms are remnant early plantings.
- **Coate Park** - layout and plantings typical of the 1930s era including the formal avenue of English Oak and garden bed plantings.

Reserves not listed in the Heritage Review Landscape Citations but potentially having some historical value include:

- **Alphington Park** - including the monument and early large trees including Bunya Bunya Pine and what appears to be a remnant Red Gum.
- **Gahan Reserve** - including formal layout and early plantings of Canary Island Date Palms and Planes.
- **Barkly Gardens** - including its formal layout and setting in the neighbourhood and mature exotic plantings.
- **Victoria Park** - cultural significance as the base of the Collingwood Football Club,

In summary there are historical and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community cultural values present in many open space reserves in Yarra that require ongoing consideration and protection as part of the future use and management of these reserves.

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.

3.2 Key changes to the open space network since 2006

3.2.1 Waterways

The waterways provide natural environmental corridors and linear open space which is highly valued by the community. The undulating topography associated with the waterway corridors affords elevated long views which are restful and provide a sense of space which the community has nominated as one of the top three values of open space in the recent community survey. The natural character of the waterway corridors in the City of Yarra have been further protected since the 2006 Open Space Strategy with a combination of additional planning controls and securing additional open space along the waterway corridors.

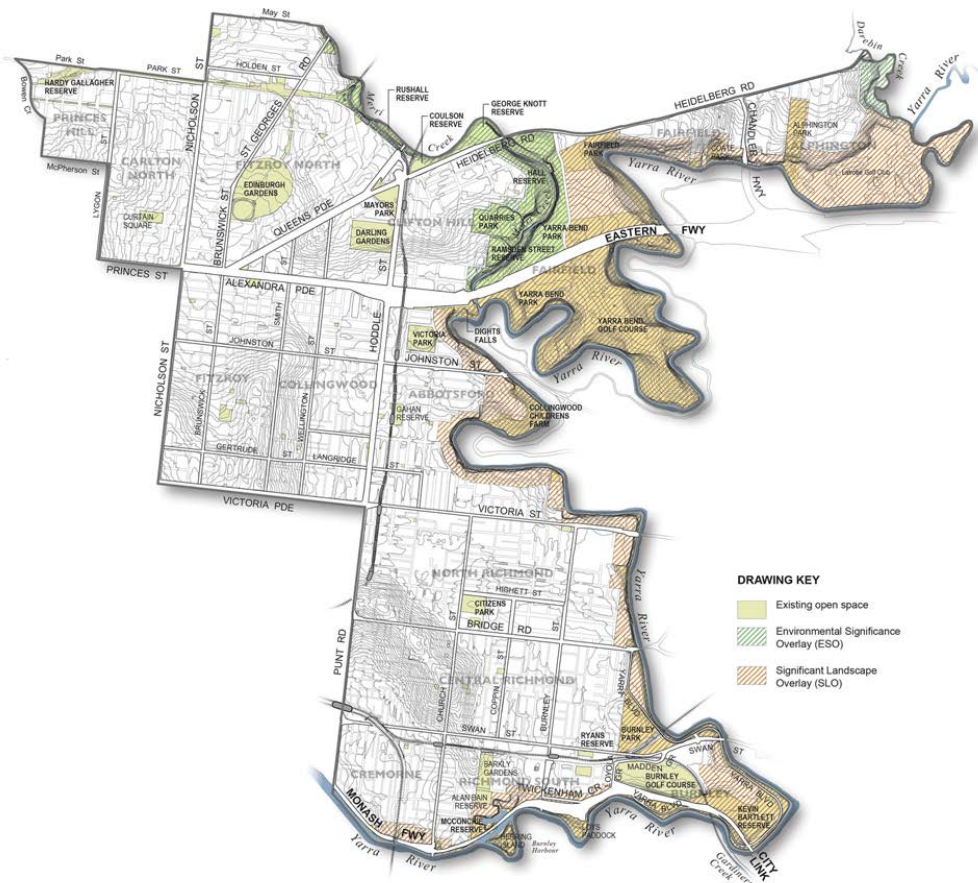


Figure 3B Environmental Significance and Significant Landscape Overlays along the waterways
Extract from Drawing YOSS-02c in Appendix A

Since 2006, a new shared trail has been constructed along the Darebin Creek. While not yet included in the Planning Scheme as public open space, there will be a future public open space corridor associated with the shared trail. At this stage there is no access point into the new Darebin Creek Shared Trail from within the City of Yarra, however it can be accessed via Sparks Reserve in the City of Banyule.

Since the preparation of the 2006 Strategy there has been a review of the planning controls along the Yarra River corridor to address setbacks and development interface between the open space corridor and the river. This was in response to the increasing number of multi-level developments occurring along the Yarra River Corridor impacting on the community amenity and recreation use of the corridor. The Minister for Planning introduced consistent planning controls to protect the Yarra River Corridor including the Schedule 1 to the Significant Landscape Overlay and Schedule 1 to the Design and Development Overlay for properties adjoining the Yarra River corridor (extent shown in Figures 3B and 3C).

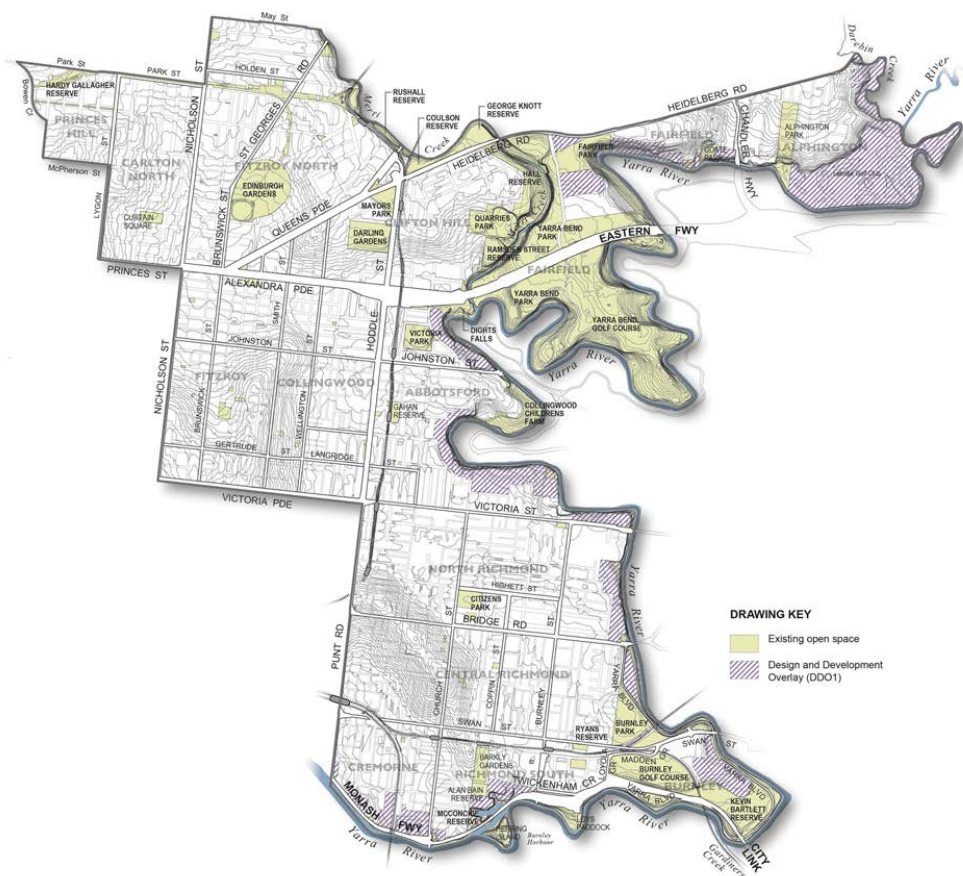


Figure 3C Design and Development Overlays along the waterways
Extract from Drawing YOSS-02d in Appendix A

3.2.2 Additional open space

Since the previous strategy was prepared, six new Small Local open spaces have been added to the network, and two more additional Small Local open space are in currently in the process of being designed. Two out of the six are located in Collingwood, which has the least amount of open space when compared to other parts of the city. In addition, two open space reserves have been increased in size through road/car park closures.



Figure 3D Existing open space, highlighting the new open space added to the network since the 2006 Open Space Strategy

3.3 Hierarchy and classification of open space including walkability

3.3.1 Overview

The 2006 Yarra Open Space Strategy used the following hierarchy:

- Regional
- City-wide
- Neighbourhood
- Local
- Small Local

This hierarchy is well established in the organisation and has been used effectively during its implementation. As part of the 2020 Strategy, a review of the open space hierarchy identified that the size of Local open space size (1,000 sqm to 9,999 sqm) was found to be too broad in its implementation going forward and has now been separated into two types, with the smaller being Local and the larger being Small Neighbourhood.

Local open space has been scaled back to 1,000 sqm to 4,999 sqm in size and can comfortably accommodate two different uses within it. Small Neighbourhood open space has been created as a new hierarchy type and is 5,000 sqm to 9,999 sqm in size which is adequate to comfortably accommodate three different uses within it. The walking catchment has been calibrated according to the size with a 200 metre catchment for Local open space and a 300 metre catchment for Small Neighbourhood open space. This is consistent with the principle that people will travel further to a destination open space that has a wider variety of activities they can participate in.

3.3.2 Hierarchy and walking/travel catchments

The hierarchy for the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020 is shown in **Table 3-1** and is based on the existing framework and refined to also meet current best practice. This hierarchy is based on both the intended catchment of users and the relative size of the reserve to adequately cater to its catchment. It is a guide for analysing the spatial distribution of open space and is a useful management tool to direct appropriate facility development and maintenance levels in different types of open space reserves.

Please refer to Section 3.4 for a description of the Gap Analysis based on applying the open space hierarchy and walking catchments shown in Table 3-1 on the following page.

Table 3-1 Open space hierarchy, size and walking/travel catchments for the City of Yarra

Size	Walking/travel catchment	Purpose of the open space
Regional open space		
Unlimited	No specific distance is included as this open space is provided for the Melbourne-wide population. For the Yarra population, a distance of 500 metres has been applied where the open space is accessible for local community use.	Primarily caters to a regional population, including residents of Yarra, and/or protection and enhancement of environmental values in a regional context. For example linear open space along the waterways with habitat connectivity in the riparian zone, and/or regional trails that extend beyond Council boundaries are classified as Regional open space. Examples include Merri Creek Shared Trail, Yarra River Shared Trail and Yarra Bend Park.
City-wide open space		
Generally a preferred size of 7 hectares with a minimum of 3 hectares*	<p>Located within 1 kilometre of up to 95% of dwellings and workplaces.</p> <p>As these areas of open space have existing or the potential to offer facilities for nearby residents in addition to their City-wide function, a 500 metre walking catchment has been applied to those reserves with the ability to cater to neighbourhood needs as well as City-wide needs.</p>	<p>Primarily caters to residents and workers of the City of Yarra and will also provide facilities that are used by residents and workers from other municipalities. Generally these areas of open space provide facilities that appeal to residents across the municipality - for example, they may include sporting facilities, historical gardens or major recreational facilities such as playgrounds or skate facilities that people will travel up to 1 kilometre to reach. City-wide open space may also have a nature conservation role including protecting biodiversity values. Examples include Edinburgh Gardens in North Fitzroy, Darling Gardens in Clifton Hill and Burnley Park.</p> <p>* There is some City-wide open space that is smaller than the min 3 hectares where the reserve contains a specialised facility on a smaller area of land and fulfils a City-wide function, for example Ryans Reserve in Burnley.</p>
Neighbourhood open space		
Minimum 1 hectare	Located within 400 metres safe and easy walking catchment of dwellings and workplaces.	Provides for Neighbourhood use within walking distance of home or workplace with a multiple range of facilities. Examples include Gahan Reserve in Abbotsford, Hardy Gallagher Reserve in Princes Hill and Coate Park in Fairfield.

Size	Walking/travel catchment	Purpose of the open space
Small Neighbourhood open space		
0.50 to 0.99 hectares in size	Located within 300 metres safe and easy walking catchment of dwellings and workplaces.	Located within easy safe walking distance of home or workplace and large enough to provide at least three activities in the open space - for example, a multi-use half court, medium to large play area and a picnic facility. Examples include Smith Reserve in Fitzroy, Golden Square Park in Burnley, Rudder Grange in Fairfield.
Local open space		
0.10 to 0.49 hectares in size	Located within 200 metres safe and easy walking catchment of dwellings and workplaces.	Located within easy safe walking distance of home or workplace and large enough to provide for two activities in the open space - for example, a medium play area and open grassed area with seats. Examples include Dame Nellie Melba Park in Central Richmond, Holden Byrne Reserve in North Fitzroy, Condell Street Reserve in Fitzroy.
Small Local open space		
From 0.10 to 0.03 hectares, generally a minimum width of 20 metres	Located within 150 metres safe and easy walking catchment of dwellings and workplaces	Located within easy safe walking distance of home and generally able to accommodate a single use, for example seats in a small park or garden or an open grassed area for informal use. Examples include Shakespeare Reserve in Carlton North, Browns Reserve in Abbotsford, Urban Art Square in North Richmond.

The hierarchy has been applied to open space across the City of Yarra as shown in Figure 3E, on the following page. This is an extract from Drawing YOSS 3a in Appendix A

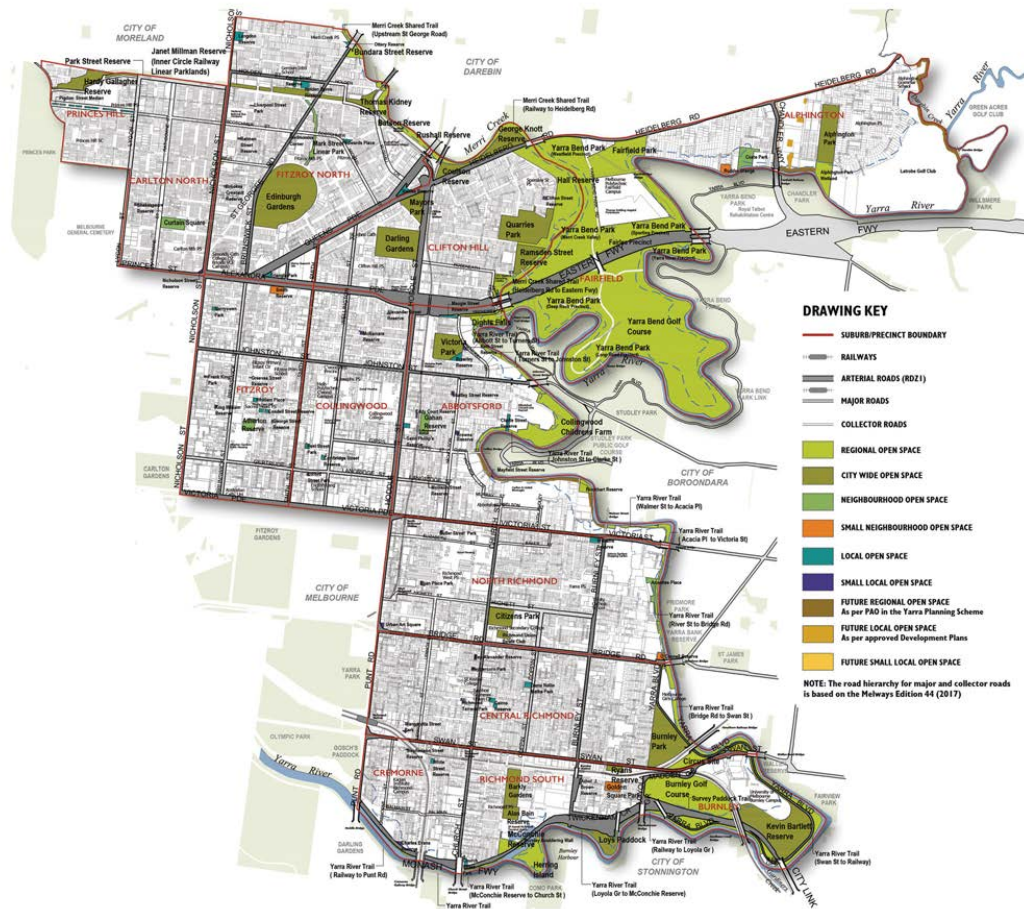


Figure 3E Open Space Hierarchy in the City of Yarra
Extract from Drawing YOSS-03a in Appendix A

Regional open space is located along the waterways, with the majority along the Yarra River and some along Merri Creek. A future Regional open space is proposed along the Darebin Creek to facilitate the construction of a shared trail link between the Darebin Creek and the Main Yarra Trail. The extent of the reserve is defined in the PAO2 in the Yarra Planning Scheme and is shown in Figure 3E.

Yarra Bend Park is the largest of the Regional open spaces in the City of Yarra, and is noted as being the largest area of natural bushland close to the Melbourne CBD. While this open space is located within the City of Yarra, it is Crown Land managed by Parks Victoria for the Melbourne-wide population. The Regional open space provides important biodiversity and habitat corridor values as well as a range of unstructured and structured recreational uses, including fields sports and fly fishing.

The majority of the 14 City-wide open space reserves have structured sporting uses with the exception of Barkly Gardens in Richmond South and Darling Gardens in Clifton Hill.

Those open spaces are defined as Public gardens and are well used for a range unstructured and informal uses.

The Neighbourhood open space caters primarily to unstructured recreation and informal needs and are mainly located north of Victoria Street, while south the only Neighbourhood open space is Annette's Place adjacent to the Yarra River near the Victoria Gardens development.

The majority of open space types in Yarra are open spaces that are distributed across all the precincts. For further discussion on the distribution analysis of open space, please refer to Section 3.4, Gap Analysis.

3.3.3 Character classification of open space

3.3.3a Overview

Within the open space hierarchy, there are different character types of open space influenced by the inherent natural and physical character of the open space, the facilities in them, the urban context in which they are located and the design and layout of the open space. Open space character in Yarra is diverse, ranging from natural bushland along the waterway corridors, formal gardens, large sporting reserves and small urban parks.

These different characters appeal to different parts of the community including young and old. Diversity in character generally assists in meeting diverse needs that maximises the accessibility of the open space network to the community. They are also important in identifying, protecting and improving biodiversity and environmental values of open space.

Character classification of open space assists with identifying the overall management direction and intent for each open space. For example, if the open space has 'Nature conservation' as its primary classification, future decisions regarding the expansion of recreational use and facilities will be guided by whether that is consistent with its primary purpose of nature conservation.

3.3.3b Character Classification

The following character classification has been proposed to assess the provision and distribution of different types of reserves within the municipality. These are listed in alphabetical order.

Table 3-2 Character classification for open space in the City of Yarra

Character classification	Description
Botanical	Where there are significant trees with botanical interest or are of a significant size and age, including both indigenous and non-indigenous vegetation.
Community garden (refer to Restricted recreation)	Where members of the community participate in horticultural activities such as growing vegetables, flowers, and/or fruit, where they are assigned 'garden' plots on public open space to grow their own plants. These areas are fenced and available for use by those who have been assigned garden plots, and in these instances form a restricted open space use.
Cultural	Where monuments, public art, cultural activities, events and festivals influence the use and character of the open space.
Events	Where events are regularly scheduled and held contributing to the character, design and function of the space.
Formal	Where the facilities and overall open space layout are set out in a formal style.
Heritage	Where the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community cultural heritage values and/or historical values makes a significant contribution to the open space character and use. This classification includes open space that has been identified as having some heritage value in existing studies, but is not limited to reserves that have or in the future will have formal heritage status.
Informal	Where the facilities and overall open space layout is not highly structured or formal.
Linear	Where the open space is part of a linear network of open spaces or continuous reserve that is used primarily for travelling through or along. These typically include shared paths, seating, resting points and vegetation. These are mainly located along waterways.
Linking space	Where open space provides a local link or connection between streets, individual open spaces or to a key destination like a railway station and is not part of a broader linear network.

Character classification	Description
Nature conservation	Where the intent of the open space is protecting and/or improving the biodiversity and habitat values. This may include reserves with existing value or those identified to have potential to provide for this in the future.
Passive	Primarily designed for a range of non-active uses such as strolling, seating, picnic, social gatherings and play.
Play	Where the character of the open space is dominated by a play facility and is the primary purpose for the reserve.
Public garden	A planned open space set aside for the display, cultivation and enjoyment of plants and used for recreation.
Railway easement/siding	Open space (other than linear) where the railway use significantly influences the open space's ongoing use and design.
Restricted sporting/recreation	Available on a club membership or fee paying basis only and is not available for general public use at any time. This includes public golf course, tennis courts, bowling clubs and community gardens (refer Community Garden classification).
Seating	Where the character and major use of the open space is seating so people can relax and enjoy the outdoors and natural character or ambience.
Viewing	Where the character and major use of the open space is for enjoying the views and may include seating or viewing points.
Service easement	Open space where the level of use, design and management is influenced by the presence of services in the reserve.
Significant road reservation	Road reserves of a significant size or width to contribute to the open space network for nature conservation, visual landscape or recreational use. This classification is for land either reserved as open space or with the potential for this, whilst recognising vehicle transport has a major influence on the open space.
Sporting	Primarily provides for organised club based sporting use and the outdoor grounds and facilities are available for general public use when no organised sporting events are in progress.
Urban heat mitigation	The location and design of the open space plays a role in mitigating urban heat island effect within medium and high density precincts.
Undeveloped	Open space which has not been developed and contains few or no facilities.

Character classification	Description
Urban plaza	The surrounding urban setting significantly influences the character and function of the space. These spaces are primarily located in commercial or business precincts and are publicly owned. They are of a size that can provide for recreational use including social gatherings and events and are freely available for the public to use. A range of other urban design strategies and planning frameworks can also influence these spaces.
Waterway	The presence of a waterway makes a significant contribution to the character, value and use of the open space including the riparian zone.
Wetland/WSUD	The presence of a wetland or other WSUD feature contributes and influences the character and use of the open space.

A primary character classification has been assigned to all open space along with one or more secondary character classifications where they apply. The character classification will assist with both the ongoing management of the open space, particularly where there are competing uses and also identify where there are gaps in the provision of different character types of open space. This analysis identifies opportunities to change or improve existing open space character types to better meet the community needs.

3.4 Quantity and provision of open space

An assessment and analysis of existing open space has been undertaken using the Council supplied data base and updating this including the names and whether they are currently zoned as public open space or not. The public open space for the Strategy includes open space that is owned and managed by other public agencies. The main example is Yarra Bend Park which is Crown Land managed by Parks Victoria.

Based on the research, there are a total of 107 open space reserves, with a total area of 263.40 hectares of open space, which equates to 13.5 per cent of the total land area of the municipality, excluding the restricted open space.

If the restricted open space is included, there are a total of 113 open space reserves, with a total of 348.66 hectares of open space, which equates to 17.8 per cent of the land area of the municipality.

For the purposes of the Strategy, restricted open space is defined as public open space that is only available to the public on a fee paying/club membership basis. The five restricted open spaces noted above are entire reserves, and include:

- Burnley Golf Course, Burnley
- Collingwood Childrens Farm, Abbotsford
- George Knott Reserve, Clifton Hill
- Richmond Union Bowling Club, North Richmond
- Yarra Bend Golf Course, Fairfield.

Where there is a restricted use within an open space reserve, the fenced/restricted area is included in the total area of open space. For example the Fitzroy Tennis Club in the Edinburgh Gardens is included in the total quantity of open space.

3.4.1 Quantity of open space by precinct

Provision of open space quantity has been assessed in the following ways:

- Quantity of open space area as a proportion of the total land area of the city at both a city-wide level and a precinct level.
- Quantity of open space area per resident, both at the city-wide level and the precinct level.

The rationale for assessing the quantity in these two ways is to measure how changes in the number of residents can impact on the quantity of people using the open space. In addition to considering the quantity of open space, the design and distribution of open space is also assessed to determine whether there is an adequate provision of open space. For the purposes of this comparison, we have removed the restricted public open space from the calculation.

3.4.2 Quantity of open space as a proportion of land area

Table 3-3 highlights the variation in quantity of open space across the different precincts.

Table 3-3 *Quantity of open space as a proportion of land area in the City of Yarra, excluding restricted open space*

PRECINCT NAME	No. of open spaces	Total open space 2016 Ha	Total suburb area Ha	Proportion of o/space of total precinct area
Abbotsford	18	13.39	179	7.5%
Carlton North - Princes Hill	6	6.23	141	4.4%
Central Richmond	9	23.46	196	12.0%
Clifton Hill	9	41.18	168	24.6%
Collingwood	5	0.34	129	0.3%
Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley	20	44.98	233	19.3%
Fairfield - Alphington	6	96.92	346	28.0%
Fitzroy	9	2.27	140	1.6%
Fitzroy North	19	29.56	231	12.8%
North Richmond	8	5.81	192	3.0%
TOTALS	109	264.12	1,955	13.5%

Collingwood has the least amount of open space as a proportion of precinct area with 0.3 per cent of the total precinct as open space. Three other precincts have less than 5 per cent open space being Fitzroy with 1.6 per cent, North Richmond with 3 per cent and Carlton North - Princes Hill with 4.4 per cent. Fairfield - Alphington has the highest proportion of open space relative to land area with 28 per cent, mainly due to the presence of Yarra Bend Park. Similarly, Clifton Hill as 24.6 per cent of the total precinct as open space mainly due to the extensive open space system along Merri Creek including Quarries Park, Ramsden Street Reserve and Hall Reserve.

Accessibility to open space is a key influence on its use and benefit to the community that surround it, so this measure of open space needs to be set in the context of other assessments as well as including the gap analysis, the quality of the open space and availability of open space relative to population density.

3.4.3 Quantity of open space relative to population density

Table 3-4 illustrates the provision of open space relative to residential population density. Total population numbers shown are sourced from the .id Community Profile using the Usual Resident Population. This allows us to show the comparison between 2006 (the year of the existing YOSS) and 2016. Please note that Usual Resident Population figures have been used for this table as the comparative data is available for 2006 and 2016. These figures differ slightly from the Estimated Resident Population figures that are used in other parts of the Strategy.

Table 3-4 Quantity of open space relative to 2006 and 2016 residential population in the City of Yarra, excluding restricted open space

PRECINCT NAME	No. of open spaces	Total open space 2016 Ha	Total population (URP) 2006 (YOSS 2006)	Sqm of open space per person 2006 (YOSS 2006)	Total population (URP) 2016	Sqm of open space per person 2016
Abbotsford	18	13.39	4,323	31	8,184	16
Carlton North - Princes Hill	6	6.23	8,184	8	8,433	7
Central Richmond	9	23.46	10,764	22	12,965	18
Clifton Hill	9	41.18	5,382	77	6,342	65
Collingwood	5	0.34	5,499	0.6	8,511	0.4
Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley	20	44.98	3,590	125	4,747	95
Fairfield - Alphington	6	96.92	2,275	426	2,701	359
Fitzroy	9	2.27	8,825	3	10,445	2.2
Fitzroy North	19	29.56	10,266	29	11,535	26
North Richmond	8	5.81	10,243	6	13,299	4.4
TOTALS	109	264.12	69,351	38	87,162	30

The accepted standards in the United Kingdom and Australia for the provision of open space relative to the new population in greenfield sites is between 20 and 24 square metres per person. On a municipal-wide basis, the City of Yarra had approximately 30 square metres per person in 2016, which has reduced from 38 square metres per person in 2006. There are significant variations across the different precincts, with highest proportion being in the Fairfield - Alphington precinct with 359 sqm per person compared with 0.4 sqm in Collingwood.

Looking at the change between 2006 and 2016, the most significant change has been in Abbotsford, where the population has almost doubled and correspondingly the quantity of open space per person has also nearly halved. One additional Small Local open space has been added to the network in this precinct over the corresponding period. For Collingwood, the quantity of open space has more than doubled with two new open spaces, increasing the open space from 0.12 hectares to 0.34 hectares.

In Carlton North - Princes Hill there has also been a reduction in the open space. This is due to previous designation of the central median strips in Canning and Drummond Streets as public open space. In this Strategy they are not included as they are less than 10 metres in width. Pigdon Street Median remains given it is greater than 10 metres in width.

It is noted that there was no information for the worker population in 2006, and therefore it is not possible to provide the same comparison for employees relative to open space. Employees are sharing open space with residents, so a separate comparison would not in any case provide a true picture of how much open space is available for each group of users.

Refer to Section 4 for the forecast population growth and impacts on open space.

3.5 Gap analysis

3.5.1 Gaps in the open space network



Figure 3F Open Space Gap Analysis Extract from Drawing YOSS-03b in Appendix A Refer to Table 3-1 and Table 3-5 for an explanation of the walking catchments

The gap analysis is an assessment of the spatial distribution of existing open space across the City of Yarra. It identifies if there are any locations where open space is not within safe and easy walking distance of the population living and working in the city. Figure 3F above illustrates the walking catchments that are applicable to the open space. In addition to walking catchments, there are travel catchments to the Regional and City-wide open space given the facilities provided in them are for a catchment of users beyond walking distance. The travel catchments for City-wide open space are up to 1 kilometre. When these are applied to the City-wide open space, it confirms there are gaps in the provision of City-wide open space in the Fitzroy/Collingwood areas. Given the

established nature of the city, there is no opportunity to provide additional City-wide open space.

The majority of the Regional and City-wide spaces, are used for unstructured and informal uses such as walking dogs, playing informal games on the ovals, visiting the playground and meeting friends. Therefore, a 500 metre walking catchment has been applied to all Regional and City-wide open space in recognition of the local levels of use these open spaces receive. The walking catchment extends over arterial roads where there are signalised intersections or pedestrian crossings, however railways and freeways are considered to be barriers to safe walking access. Where the catchment extends over arterial roads, the catchment is shown in a paler colour in recognition that some of the community cannot easily cross arterial roads to reach open space, for example young children, the elderly and people with limited mobility. This means that for these people, the arterial road may still present a physical barrier to safe and easy access to open space.

A 400 metre walking catchment has been applied to all the Neighbourhood open space, which represents an approximate 10 to 15 minute walk for the relatively fit, and an approximate 20 minute walk for the elderly and young children. This catchment extends over major roads in addition to the arterial roads and railways where a signalised intersection is provided directly adjacent to the open space.

A 300 metre safe walking catchment is applied to the Small Neighbourhood open space which represents an approximate 10 minute walk. For Local open space the catchment reduces to 200 metres and for Small Local open space it is 150 metres. This change in catchments is calibrated in size to reflect the different expectations in terms of length of stay at the different types of open space. These catchments do not extend over collector roads in addition to the major roads, arterials and railways. This is in response to the need for people with limited mobility along with the elderly and the young to easily reach some open space within walking distance, even if the open space is relatively small in size. This is consistent with the latest research into the importance of open space to community health and wellbeing as summarised in Section 2.4 of this Strategy.

The areas without any colour shown in them are locations in the City of Yarra where the existing population do not have any open space within a safe and easy walk from their home or workplace. These are referred to as 'gap areas' in the Strategy. Given that one of the project's key objectives is to provide at least some open space within safe and easy walking distance of everyone living and working the City, then the gap areas are a priority to address in relation to the location of future open space. Gap areas can be addressed by a range of options including providing additional open space, improving pedestrian access via the local street network or linear open space to open space adjoining the gap areas. Additionally, short term solutions in the interim such as arranging for access to school land or publicly accessible private open space can also be an appropriate measure to address existing gap areas.

There are some areas of the City where there are gaps in the distribution of any open space. In other precincts, such as Collingwood, Cremorne and parts of Richmond, there is a lack of larger areas of open space with only Small Local or Local open space being provided. While the smaller open spaces are valuable, there can be a lack of diversity of the range of facilities and the sense of space that can be achieved because of their smaller size. Areas without any open space are referred to as Gap Areas.

The precinct based analysis in the Strategy has taken the gap areas into consideration in the recommendations. The opportunities to address gap areas include the provision of additional open space, improved access to ancillary open space and streetscape improvements to increase safety of access to existing open space. Given the forecast increase in population density, new open space will be sought in many of these gap areas to meet best practice approach of providing green open space within an easy and safe walk of everyone who lives and works in the City of Yarra.

The travel and walking catchments to the different types of open space are summarised in the Table 3-5 below.

Table 3-5 Open space hierarchy and travel and walking catchments used in the gap analysis

Hierarchy	Travel and walking catchments to open space
Regional	No specific travel catchment is included as this is provided for the Melbourne-wide population. This open space has a 500 metre walking catchment applied in recognition of the local informal, and/or incidental use of these reserves by the local community. Where there is an at-grade signalised crossing directly opposite the open space, then the walking catchment will extend across the arterial road to reach it. This extended catchment is illustrated with a paler hatch to indicate that it requires crossing a major or arterial road to reach it.
City-wide	City-wide open space located within 1 kilometre travel catchment of dwellings and workplaces. Additionally, a 500 metre safe walking catchment applied to all City-wide open space in recognition they also provide for local and neighbourhood open space needs without crossing railways and arterial roads. Where there is an at-grade signalised crossing directly opposite the open space, then the walking catchment will extend across the arterial road to reach it. This extended catchment is illustrated with a paler hatch to indicate that it requires crossing a major or arterial road to reach it.
Neighbourhood	Neighbourhood open space within 400 metre safe walking catchment of dwellings and workplaces without crossing railways, major and arterial roads. Where there is an at-grade signalised crossing directly opposite the open space, then the walking catchment will extend across the arterial or major road to reach it. This extended catchment is illustrated with a paler hatch to indicate that it requires crossing a major or arterial road to reach it.

Hierarchy	Travel and walking catchments to open space
Small Neighbourhood	Small Neighbourhood open space within 300 metre safe walking catchment of dwellings and workplaces without crossing railways, major and arterial roads. Where there is an at-grade signalised crossing directly opposite the open space, then the walking catchment will extend across the arterial or major road to reach it. This extended catchment is illustrated with a paler hatch to illustrate that it requires crossing a major or arterial road to reach it.
Local	Local open space located within 200 metres safe walking distance from dwellings and workplaces, without crossing railways, collector roads, major roads and arterial roads.
Small Local	Small Local open space located within 150 metres safe walking distance from dwellings and workplaces, without crossing railways, collector roads, major roads and arterial roads.

The spatial distribution is one of the factors that influences the precinct based open space needs analysis and the potential need for additional open space. Other factors include the diversity of size and quality of open space; existing and proposed urban densities and population growth; and the level of community satisfaction with the existing open space network. In some locations, additional open space may also be proposed outside the gap areas in response to adequately catering to increased urban densities.

Refer to Section 7 of the Strategy for the precinct analysis and recommendations.

3.5.2 Gaps in linear links/trails

3.5.2a Yarra River

The Main Yarra Trail has been expanded and upgraded since the 2006 Yarra Open Space Strategy. The main gaps in the linear trail are:

- Between Gipps Street and the Walmer Street Footbridge, where there is a Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO2) in favour of The Minister responsible for administering Part 2 of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 for the creation of a continuous linear park / trail system adjacent waterways.
- All ability access onto the Main Yarra Trail on the City of Yarra side of the Yarra River at the Gipps Street entry point.
- In Fairfield and Alphington, there is no continuous public open space or path link along the north side of the Yarra River. The *Draft Yarra Strategic Plan* does not identify the need for a regional path link on the north side of the Yarra River. For the local catchment and context, there is a need to secure public access between Rudder Grange and Coate Park, which is currently provided via an informal link.

3.5.2b Merri Creek

The shared trail and path network along Merri Creek has been extended and improved in the recent years. There is still, however a gap in the shared trail the shared trail at Rushall Reserve.

3.5.2c Darebin Creek

The Darebin Creek Trail link has recently been completed between Heidelberg Road and the Main Yarra Trail. There is no access point into the shared trail directly from Alphington, with the only access point into it being via Sparks Reserve in City of Banyule.

The land however appears to have not yet been acquired as the Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO2) is still in place over the land along Darebin Creek in the Yarra Planning Scheme. This reserve has been shown as Future Open Space on the diagrams in this Strategy.

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.

4. Forecast change and implications on open space planning

4.1 Residential growth and change

4.1.1 Existing residential population

4.1.1a Quantity

The estimated resident population in 2016 is 92,894, which is over 20,000 more residents living in the City since the 2006 Strategy was adopted. This represents an approximately 28 per cent increase in population since then (Source: .id Community Profile, accessed 16/10/18).

The rate of population growth between 2011 and 2016 increased at more than twice the rate of the previous five years, with an increase of 6,095 residents between 2006 and 2011, compared with an increase of 13,991 residents between 2011 and 2016.

The rate of residential population growth has been substantially higher than the rate of growth forecast at the time the 2006 Yarra Open Space Strategy was prepared. At that time the total forecast growth to 2016 was estimated to result in a resident population of 78,100, which is approximately 15,300 less than actual growth.

4.1.1b Demographics

Compared to Greater Melbourne, there are significantly fewer children of school age in the City of Yarra. There is also more than double the number of 25 to 34 year olds and a lower proportion of people in the 60+ age range.

In relation to household types, there is a higher number of lone person and group households and a lower proportion of couples with children households compared to

Greater Melbourne. This influences the design and management of open space in Yarra compared to other municipalities. With the proportionally higher number of lone person households and a lower proportion of couple with children households, the design of public open space needs to be relevant to the adult population. This includes strengthening the facilities and attractiveness of the reserves that encourage people outdoors to socialise in open space. Similarly, a diverse of facilities and characters that appeal to the young workforce. While play spaces will still be needed, they are not required in every open space as typically provided in Greater Melbourne.

Occupations of residents are changing with a decline in the manufacturing and wholesale industries and an increase in the professional, scientific and technical services and health and education sectors when compared to the 2006 data. This means that people are typically working indoors and potentially more likely to need and use open space during breaks from work and also before and after work. Nearly half the population in Yarra has a Bachelor or higher degree in education, which is up by 10 per cent compared to the 2006 census data, and the nearly double that of the Greater Melbourne average. Interestingly, there has been a decline in the proportion of tertiary students living in Yarra.

50 per cent of the population rent their accommodation, with 9.5 per cent in social housing which is significantly higher than the Greater Melbourne average of 29 per cent 2.6 per cent respectively. By comparison when the previous Open Space Strategy was prepared in 2006, 48 per cent of the population rented their accommodation with 11.5 per cent in social housing.

Approximately 60 per cent of residents in Yarra were born in Australia with nearly 30 per cent born overseas. 19 per cent of those born overseas were born in a non-English speaking country, which is similar to the Greater Melbourne average. There are more people born in Vietnam when compared with the Greater Melbourne average. This is reinforced with the most common language spoken at home apart from English being Vietnamese followed by Greek and Mandarin.

A key difference between the Greater Melbourne and Yarra is the dwelling type. In Yarra, 85 per cent of people live in medium and high-density dwellings compared to 33 per cent in Greater Melbourne. This means that residents typically have much less private open space available to them which increases their reliance on public open space.

4.1.1c Summary of key demographic changes between 2006 and 2016

Age range:

There has been a slight decline in the proportion of children and tertiary students, an increase in the young workforce population and a slight increase in the 60+ age range.

Dwelling type:

A more than 12 per cent increase in people living in high density dwellings with a decline in both separate houses and medium density dwellings reinforcing this. This trend results in less private open space and an increased reliance on public open space.

Household type:

There is a slight increase in the number of couples without children and other family types, with a slight decline in one parent families and group households. This reinforces

the need for open space design to be diverse and adaptable to appeal to a range of users, with a reduced emphasis on dedicated play facilities for young children.

4.1.2 Overview of forecast change

Yarra continues to experience significant redevelopment resulting in increased urban densities and population growth that places pressure on the open space network. This includes intensification of use, reduced ability to find land for new open space and the increased building heights overshadowing open space.

The Strategy responds to the changing population and built form based on the *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018* and the .id Consulting population forecasts that have been provided for each open space precinct. This, combined with a review of structure plans and urban design frameworks along with the *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy (SGS, 2018)* has informed the forecast change for this Strategy and underpins the open space analysis and recommendations.

4.1.3 Residential population forecasts

Council relies on .id population and forecasting for data on its residential population. The forecasts updated in August 2018 are in Table 4-1, below, for each small area and the municipal total. The table shows 2016 as the starting point for population forecasting as this is the last ABS Census year and includes both 2031 and 2041 data to provide the medium to longer term view of population growth and its distribution. The Strategy has a planning horizon of 2016 to 2031 and also considers the forecast growth through to 2041 for context.

Table 4-1 Forecast residential population change 2016 - 2041

Location	2016 resident pop'n	2031 resident pop'n	Change resident pop'n 2016-2031	2041 resident pop'n	Change resident pop'n 2016-2041
Abbotsford	8,848	12,671	+3,823	16,426	+7,578
Carlton North - Princes Hill	9,010	8,843	-167	9,030	+20
Central Richmond	13,888	17,269	+3,381	19,941	+6,053
Clifton Hill	6,792	7,432	+640	7,734	+942
Collingwood	9,141	14,347	+5,206	18,653	+9,512
Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley	4,622	9,539	+4,917	12,088	+7,466
Fairfield - Alphington	2,894	9,099	+6,205	9,843	+6,949
Fitzroy	11,464	15,798	+4,334	20,782	+9,318
Fitzroy North	12,358	15,112	+2,754	18,307	+5,949
North Richmond	14,335	21,754	+7,419	24,802	+10,467
City of Yarra	93,353	131,864	+38,511	157,607	+64,254

Source: *Population and household forecasts, 2016 to 2041, prepared by .id the population experts, August 2018. Accessed 10 September 2018 (Council version)*

Highlights of the residential population forecasts include:

- Overall, Yarra's residential population will grow by about 40 per cent between 2016 and 2031 and by about 70 per cent between 2016 and 2041.
- North Richmond is forecast to experience the greatest increase in residential population numbers between 2016 and 2041 at 10,467 people. Because there is a high residential population there now, this is a forecast growth of 73 per cent.
- Abbotsford is forecast to experience 43 per cent residential population growth between 2016 and 2031 and will also be experiencing employment growth. Suburb residential growth to 2041 is forecast at 86 per cent. Between 2006 and 2016 the residential population in Abbotsford doubled and this growth is forecast to continue.
- Collingwood will experience 57 per cent residential growth with 35 per cent growth in the Collingwood Structure Plan area along with additional employees. Suburb residential growth to 2041 is forecast at 104 per cent. This precinct currently has the lowest amount of open space as a proportion of land area and relative to population density. Given this, opportunities for the provision of new open space as part of redevelopment will be a priority. This precinct will also have significant employment population growth, refer to Section 4.2.3. There are existing gaps in open space provision in this precinct as shown in Figure 3F.
- Central Richmond is forecast to grow its residential population by 24 per cent with a 29 per cent increase in the Central Richmond Structure Plan area, and the area will also have employment gains. Suburb residential growth to 2041 is forecast at 44 per cent.
- Other high percentage residential growth forecasts for the period 2016 to 2031 are in the suburbs of Cremorne and Burnley - Richmond South at 106 percent and Fairfield - Alphington at 214 per cent. The impacts for open space are not as significant in the northern precinct given its proximity to the Yarra River and significant areas of existing open space. The majority of this forecast population will live in the Alphington Paper Mills Development Site, and Council has already negotiated the new local open space network within that site for the forecast population.
- In contrast, the suburb of Carlton North - Princes Hill will lose a small amount of residential population by 2031 and stabilise by 2041. Clifton Hill will grow by 9 per cent between 2016 and 2031, which would normally be considered a substantial amount of growth.

The Victorian government residential population forecasts (VIF) are based on LGA boundaries. The VIF 2016 forecast growth for Yarra between 2016 and 2036 is 29,412 additional people, which is significantly less than the .id forecast for a shorter time period (i.e. 2016-2031). It is noted that the .id forecasts are more recent, having been published in August 2018.

4.1.4 Where the forecast population will live

The Adopted *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018* and the Strategic Housing Framework Plan have informed the development of the open space sub-precincts that have been used for the sub-precinct open space analysis in the Strategy. This is shown in Figure 4A.

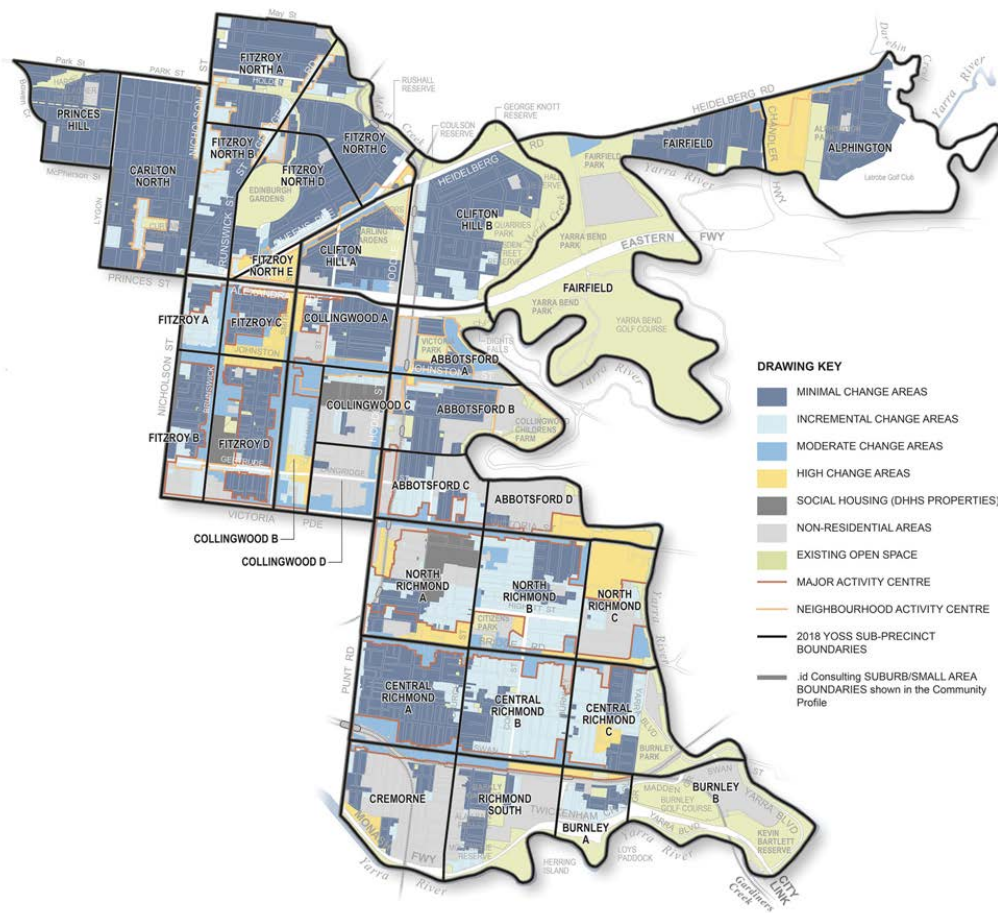


Figure 4A Adopted Strategic Housing Framework and Open Space Sub-precincts
 Source: *Yarra Housing Strategy, 2018*
 Extract from Drawing YOSS-05 in Appendix A

The dark blue colour represents minimal change areas across the City contrasting with the yellow areas which represent high change areas. The high change areas fall mainly within the activity centres, with the exception being the high change area in Alphington on the former Alphington Paper Mills Site. From an open space perspective, Council has already negotiated the provision of new open space as part of that development, so the Strategy does not make any recommendations regarding that site.

The grey non-residential areas define the employment precincts and correlate with the existing land that excludes residential use. Council's *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy (SEES)* supports retaining employment precincts to maintain this important aspect of Yarra's identity and economy. Increasing pressure for residential use will mean this is an ongoing issue that Council will need to proactively manage.

4.2 Employment growth and change

4.2.1 Existing employment population

The retail and employment precincts in Yarra supported a total of 83,000 employees in 2016 as noted in the *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS 2018 (SEES)*. A summary of this report is included in Section 2.1. The retail precincts covered by the SEES include five major activity centres comprising non-residential land uses and emerging housing opportunities. These are Brunswick Street, Smith Street, Bridge Road, Swan Street and Victoria Street. Additionally, Johnston Street East was also included as an activity centre in the report. This accounted for just under 45 per cent of employee numbers in their report. The remaining employee numbers are based in the seven employment precincts including Victoria Parade, Gipps Street, Cremorne, Abbotsford, Church Street South, Burnley Office Precinct and Hoddle Street.

Given Council's support of the mixed use and employment precincts in Yarra, part of the research for this Strategy included determining whether workers use open space during the time they are at work. Surveys were conducted of the worker population in four of the employment precincts and the results have confirmed that the majority of workers visit open space near their workplace, with only 12 per cent stating they never visit it, while 60 per cent nominated they visit open space near their workplace at least once a week.

77 per cent of worker respondents noted they visited open space to be outdoors as a break from work, while 46 per cent noted they visit open space to socialise / meet colleagues / friends. A much lower number, being only 16 per cent use, open space for fitness/exercise. 34 per cent of respondents requested more open space and green spaces when asked to make any suggestions or comments on open space in general - i.e. this was not a prompted comment (*2018 Open Space Worker Survey, Metropolis*).

The workshop outcomes from consultation with the business community in Cremorne and Collingwood undertaken for the Yarra SEES in January 2018 identified that the top idea in both workshops was for more green space and small parks. This was combined with other comments including additional trees and mitigating impacts of urban heat island effect.

The SEES estimates of the employment population growth to 2031 combined with the worker open space survey results have informed the open space needs analysis and the Strategy recommendations for new and upgraded open space for the employment population.

4.2.2 Overview of forecast change

The SEES provides information about non-residential investment and employment growth in Yarra. The SEES notes that the City of Yarra plays a vital role in the economy of Metropolitan Melbourne and sustains a diverse range of businesses. Yarra has a mix of retail and entertainment precincts, mixed employment precincts, and health and education facilities that are vital to Melbourne's brand as a creative urban economy. In recent years, Yarra has become increasingly a knowledge and services oriented economy changing from a manufacturing and industrial economy.

The SEES defines future retail and employment precincts which are defined as activity centres in *Plan Melbourne*. The employment precincts are defined by the existing land use zone for industrial and commercial purposes whereas the retail precincts in the activity centres are mixed use and will include employment and residential uses.

4.2.3 Employment population forecasts

Floor space data is contained in Tables 5 and 6 of the SEES for the years 2016, 2021, 2026 and 2031. Job to floor space ratios are provided in Table 4 of the SEES. These tables have been used to produce Table 4-2.

Table 4-2 Forecast employment population change 2016 – 2031

Location	2016 employment population	2031 employment population	Change employment population 2016-2031	% change
Retail precincts				
Smith Street	9,660	14,150	4,490	46%
Victoria Street	8,170	11,560	3,390	42%
Bridge Road	13,680	17,245	3,565	26%
Brunswick Street	6,650	9,720	3,070	46%
Swan Street	4,560	6,520	1,960	43%
Johnston Street East	3,740	5,060	1,320	35%
Employment precincts				
Victoria Parade	11,730	17,690	5,960	51%
Gipps Street	4,170	9,390	5,220	124%
Cremorne	4,860	8,160	3,300	68%
Abbotsford	3,200	3,910	710	22%
Church Street South	6,540	9,740	3,200	49%
Burnley Office Precinct	3,070	4,770	1,700	55%
Hoddle Street	2,970	3,890	920	31%
City of Yarra total	83,000	121,805	38,805	47%

Source: SEES 2018, Tables 4, 5 and 6

Highlights of the employment population forecasts include:

- Overall, Yarra’s employment population will grow by about 47 per cent between 2016 and 2031.
- In the retail precincts, the highest percentage of employment growth is forecast to occur in Smith Street and Brunswick Street at 46 per cent, each. Similar employment increases are forecast for the Swan Street (43 per cent) and Victoria Street (41 per cent) precincts. The Johnston Street East precinct forecast is 35 per cent growth and it is 24 per cent for the Bridge Road precinct.
- In the employment precincts, the highest percentage of employment growth is forecast to occur in the Gipps Street precinct at 124 per cent followed by the Cremorne precinct at 68 per cent. The Abbotsford precinct is forecast to grow its employment numbers by 22 per cent, and the rest of the precincts are forecast to increase by between 31 and 51 per cent.

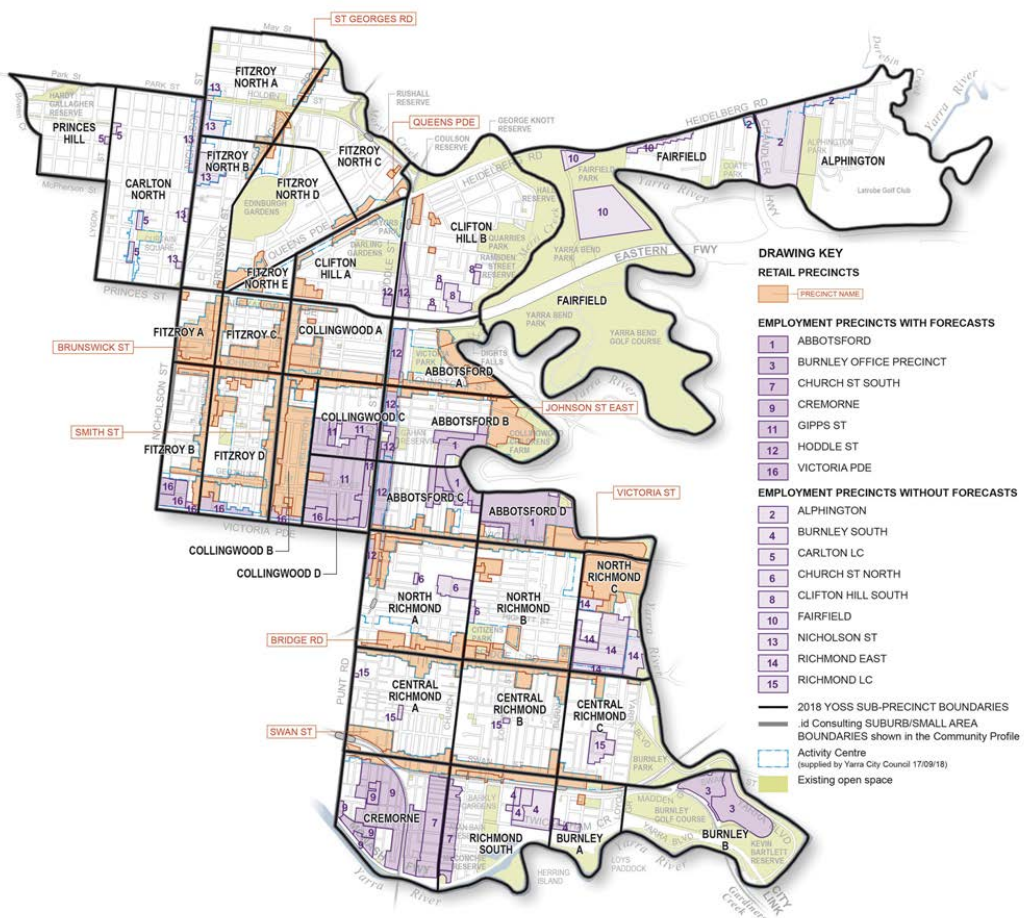


Figure 4B Employment and Retail Precincts
 Source: Final Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, 2018 and Adopted Yarra Housing Strategy, 2018 Extract from Drawing YOSS-06 in Appendix A

Figure 4B has been prepared based on the SEES to illustrate the extent of the Retail and Employment Precincts in the context of the open space sub-precincts and the Activity Centre Boundaries as shown in the *Yarra Housing Strategy*. The Retail precincts are shown in an orange colour in Figure 4B while the Employment precincts are shown in the purple colour. Forecasts for the estimated employment population in the Retail precincts have been prepared based on SEES data and included in Table 4-2. A further breakdown of the forecasts has been undertaken for each open space sub-precinct. This has been done by apportioning the employment population spatially across the different sub-precincts based on the proportion of the total land area in each.

The employment precincts are shown in two different shades of purple in Figure 4B. The darker shade of purple indicates the employment precincts for which employment forecasts have been prepared in the SEES and shown in Table 4-2. The lighter shade of purple indicates employment precincts without worker population forecasts. As for the Retail precincts, the total forecast employment population in each has been apportioned into each open space sub-precinct.

The precinct open space analysis and recommendations in Section 7 of this Strategy has taken into account the estimated employment population in each sub-precinct.

4.2.5 Structure Plans for Activity Centres

As part of the sub-precinct open space analysis existing Structure Plans will be reviewed and inform the analysis where appropriate, along with other relevant documents relating to these.

The boundaries of the existing Activity Centres are shown with a blue outline on Figure 4B.

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.

4.3 Urban densities and open space

4.3.1 Overview

As discussed in Section 2.4, best practice research into open space provision for high density precincts has identified that there is not an accepted international standard. What is common amongst the different research studies and reports is that everyone should be within a safe and easy walking distance of open space so that people of all abilities, ages and gender can visit and use open space. The studies also recognise the link between people's health and wellbeing and access to public open space, particularly green open space.

Therefore, a key criteria for determining where and what type of new public open space is required is meeting the minimum requirement of at least some public open space within an safe and easy walk of everyone. The definition of safe and easy walk is the travel catchment to open space described in Table 3-1.

4.3.2 Forecast population growth and open space

Further to Section 3.3 regarding the quantity and provision of open space, the tables below illustrate the impact of the forecast population increase relative to the amount of existing open space in the City of Yarra.

Table 4-3 *Quantity of open space relative to 2016 and 2031 forecast residential population density in Yarra*

The following table illustrates the provision of open space relative to residential population density showing the comparison between 2016 and 2031.

PRECINCT NAME	Total open space 2016 Ha	Total population (URP) 2016	Sqm of open space per person 2016	Forecast population 2031	Sqm of open space per person 2031
Abbotsford	13.39	8,184	16	12,671	11
Carlton North - Princes Hill	6.23	8,433	7	8,843	7
Central Richmond	23.46	12,965	18	17,269	14
Clifton Hill	41.18	6,342	65	7,432	55
Collingwood	0.34	8,511	0.4	14,347	0.24
Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley	44.98	4,747	95	9,539	47
Fairfield - Alphington	96.92	2,701	359	9,099	107
Fitzroy	2.27	10,445	2.2	15,798	1.4
Fitzroy North	29.56	11,535	26	15,112	20
North Richmond	5.81	13,299	4.4	21,754	2.7
TOTALS	264.12	87,162	30	131,864	20

At a municipality-wide scale the total open space relative to population will reduce from 30 to 20 sqm per person if no open space was added to the network during that same period. While the Strategy timeframe extends to 2031, population forecasts are also available to 2041, and these have been shown in Table 4-4.

The 2041 forecasts are useful in the context of understanding longer term direction for the different precincts. In Carlton North - Princes Hill, the population is forecast to remain relatively stable through to 2041. In Fairfield - Alphington there is significant forecast growth planned in the 2016 to 2031, with the population forecast to expand to nearly four times its size. This is mainly due the development of the large former Amcor site. In the 2031 to 2041 planning period the forecast growth reduces back to a much lower 8 per cent rate.

For Abbotsford, the population is forecast to grow in size between 2016 and 2031 and then continue growing in the next planning period of 2031 and 2041. Given there are only a limited number of large redevelopment sites where a larger open space land contribution can be provided, the need for new open space beyond 2031 in Abbotsford has been identified in this Strategy for the CUB site. Refer to Section 7 for the precinct analysis and recommendations.

Table 4-4 Quantity of open space relative to the 2031 and 2041 forecast residential population density in Yarra

PRECINCT NAME	Total open space 2016 Ha	Forecast population 2031	Sqm of open space per person 2031	Forecast population 2041	Sqm of open space per person 2041
Abbotsford	13.39	12,671	11	16,426	8
Carlton North - Princes Hill	6.23	8,843	7	9,030	7
Central Richmond	23.46	17,269	14	19,941	12
Clifton Hill	41.18	7,432	55	7,734	53
Collingwood	0.34	14,347	0.24	18,653	0.18
Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley	44.98	9,539	47	12,088	37
Fairfield - Alphington	96.92	9,099	107	9,843	98
Fitzroy	2.27	15,798	1.4	20,782	1.1
Fitzroy North	29.56	15,112	20	18,307	16
North Richmond	5.81	21,754	2.7	24,802	2.3
TOTALS	264.12	131,864	20	157,606	17

Refer also to Section 4.2.6 regarding unanticipated population growth during the implementation of this Strategy.

4.3.3 High density and overshadowing open space

The forecast increase in the number of people who will live and work in high density environments with little or no private open space will place greater demand on public open space to meet the majority of their open space needs. The increased densities and taller buildings will also increase the potential for these buildings to overshadow existing and proposed new open space.

Sunlight access to open space contributes to its attractiveness, health and useability. Natural sunlight is essential for the healthy growth of trees, shrubs and grass. Over the past 10 years results from research has linked the importance of sunlight to maintaining healthy Vitamin D levels and also other factors such as mental alertness and having a role in preventing depression. The results of this research recommend that people need between 25 minutes and up to 1.5 hours of sunlight on their skin during winter to maintain healthy levels of Vitamin D. People with light coloured skin need less time in direct sunlight (i.e. 25 mins) compared to people with darker coloured skin (i.e. up to 1.5 hours).

Direct sunlight to open space contributes to its attractiveness, particularly during winter, when spending time outdoors is more comfortable if it is warmer and there is an opportunity to exercise or sit in the sun. If the open space is more appealing to use in the winter, it encourages people outdoors to be in the fresh air, the natural sunlight and to exercise and keep fit which supports a healthier community.

With the change towards higher density living, Council will need to introduce more specific controls to prevent undue overshadowing of public open space particularly during winter to support and promote sustainable high density living.

Refer to Section 5.4.2 for more detailed information regarding the health and wellbeing benefits of sunlight.

4.4 Climate emergency

4.4.1 Overview

Open space is influenced by the changing climate and has a role in mitigating and adapting to its effects. It has become increasingly important to focus on sustainability in all aspects of open space design, management and maintenance. More frequent and extreme droughts have seen greater emphasis placed on sustainable water sources to adequately maintain open space in the future. At the same time, the role of open space in mitigating urban heat island effect in the higher density precincts has been measured and is better understood.

4.4.2 Mitigating urban heat island effect

Dr. Nigel Tapper of Monash University provided advice as part of the City of Melbourne Open Space Strategy in relation to optimising opportunities to mitigate urban heat build-up in the future. This included the provision of regularly distributed green open spaces across built up areas that are designed with appropriate green infrastructure and permeable surfaces to hold moisture which then allows effective evapotranspiration to cool the local microclimate. This is particularly important during extended periods of heat. Deciduous trees with a larger leaf surface area are more effective at evapotranspiration. In the Melbourne climate, they also have the benefit of allowing winter sunlight to penetrate and deliver warmth to the open space during the colder months while providing much needed shade during summer.

Designing greener and cooler open space with sustainable water sources has the added benefit of providing cooler public places for the community to use during hot weather. This is particularly important for the vulnerable in our community including the frail, the elderly, the homeless and those without cooling in their homes, or those who choose not to use air conditioning for other reasons.

In higher density urban areas, open space provides a visual and physical break in the built form to allow some radiant passive cooling at night. Designing these open spaces with a combination of large canopy shade trees, garden beds and surfaces that retain moisture (such as grass rather than large paved surfaces) is essential for passive cooling. For open space to effectively contribute to mitigating urban heat in higher density urban areas it needs to be regularly spaced across the compact urban form to counteract the heat trapping characteristics of sealed built surfaces.

Sustainable water sources will need to be integrated into the future design of open space in higher density precincts. This is to sustain broad canopy shade trees, garden beds and grassing and will increase the capital costs of providing the open space.

Additional features that contribute to passive cooling in open space include water features and green walls on adjoining built form. For green walls, the ongoing maintenance costs and technology required to ensure longevity requires further research to identify if these are feasible and cost effective in open space.

4.4.3 Sustainable water use and management of open space in the context of the climate emergency

The forecast increase in severe weather events including extended droughts and storms impacts on open space. Extended droughts mean that open space may be impacted by water restrictions again in future. Severe storm events may result in a greater number of flood events, winds, damage to mature vegetation and impact on the viability of new plantings to establish.

Severe weather events impact on the viability and use of open space. The impact of extended droughts can include a significant reduction in capacity of open space to accommodate high levels of use, particularly sports fields. While it is important that Council investigates options to better drought proof reserves, it is important to maximise opportunities to retain moisture in open space to be effective in mitigating urban heat and proactively plan for this in the future.

It is a priority to investigate sustainable water reuse of all aspects of the urban water cycle and achieve multiple benefits in open space design. Some of these projects have the potential to deliver improvements to biodiversity, urban heat island effect mitigation, landscape character diversity and visual interest in open space, along with delivering sustainable water reuse for irrigating and maintaining open space. These opportunities will potentially increase the capital works costs of providing open space in the future, and has been considered in the preparation of the Strategy Costings that form the basis for calculating the open space contribution rate.

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*.

4.4.5 Sustainable material use

The Strategy recognises that in recommending improvements and upgrades to open space, the Strategy should maximise opportunities to utilise appropriate materials. This includes recycled materials, those from sustainable sources and materials with longevity and durability to minimise ongoing maintenance and replacement costs as well as material use.

Future building and infrastructure design in open space is to minimise energy use, including consideration of appropriate siting and orientation to maximise passive cooling and heating.

Refer to Section 6 of the Strategy for the Design and Management Guidelines.

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.

5. Open space framework recommendations

5.1 Role and purpose of different types of open space

5.1.1 Open space hierarchy

The open space hierarchy is shown in Section 3.2, Table 3-1. This hierarchy is based on both the existing or intended catchment of users and the relative size of the open space to adequately cater to its intended use. The purpose of the hierarchy is to provide the following:

- Guide the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space in the City of Yarra. The Hierarchy has been applied to all open space in the municipality to allow this assessment to occur as part of the analysis for this Strategy, and is illustrated in Figure 3E and Drawing YOSS-03a.
- Directs appropriate facility development and maintenance levels in different types of open space. For example if a new tennis club and courts are being considered, by preference they will be located in City-wide open space as the level of other facilities will usually support this type of facility including adequate car parking, lighting and the surrounding residential neighbourhood is already used to the higher levels of activity associated with structured recreation facilities. The hierarchy provides a transparent and clear process for the community and Council regarding appropriate levels of development in the different types of open space.
- Provides guidance for appropriate levels of funding to open space, including external funding. For example, Regional open space is defined as being for a broader catchment than the City of Yarra, both in relation to biodiversity values and catchment of users. It is therefore reasonable that upgrades and improvements to areas of Regional open space are funded at least in part from regional funding sources.

5.1.2 Facility provision

The following Table 5-1 provides a guide for the typical facilities and features that are appropriate for the different types of open space as set out in the open space hierarchy, Table 3-1. It is to guide design decisions by Council and developers when undertaking future upgrades for existing open space and the establishment of new open space.

The facilities and features are listed in alphabetical order. The table is to be used as a guide only for what is appropriate for different types of open space. The actual facilities and features in existing and new open space will vary depending on its location, design, character, recreation needs, community input, environmental values and urban context. Not every facility listed as appropriate will necessarily be provided in each open space of that type.

Table 5-1 Guide for appropriate facility and feature provision of existing and new open space by hierarchy

✓ = Appropriate facility/feature for the hierarchy of open space

Facility and feature	Regional	City-wide	N'Hood	Small N'Hood	Local	Small Local
Barbecue	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Car parking	✓	✓				
Drinking fountains	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Exercise/fitness facility (eg. small scale fitness equipment, half court, outdoor table tennis facility etc)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Festivals and events - major	✓	✓				
Festivals and events - minor	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Garden bed - feature/decorative	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garden bed - to mitigate urban heat	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Large open grassed areas for unstructured recreational use	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lighting (key linking paths, picnic shelters and sports facilities only)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path - shared	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Path - pedestrian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Playground - major	✓	✓				
Playground - large	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Playground - medium		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Playground - minor				✓	✓	✓
Public Toilets	✓	✓	✓			
Rubbish bins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Seating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Facility and feature	Regional	City-wide	N'Hood	Small N'Hood	Local	Small Local
Shelter - picnic/shade/rain	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Skate/BMX facilities	✓	✓				
Structured indoor sport and recreation facilities	✓	✓				
Structured outdoor sport and recreation facilities	✓	✓	✓			
Trees - large canopy shade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unstructured sport and recreation facility (eg. multi-use courts, cricket nets etc)	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Water feature	✓	✓				
WSUD feature and infrastructure, including sustainable water supply	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

5.1.3 Character classification

Different types of open space are influenced by the inherent natural and physical character of the open space, the facilities in it, the urban context in which it is located and the design and layout of the open space. Open space character in the City of Yarra ranges from structured sporting reserves to heritage parks and gardens, urban squares, nature conservation reserves along the waterway corridors and informal spaces. These different characters appeal to different parts of the community and a diversity in character generally assists in meeting diverse needs by maximising the accessibility of open space to the community and places for habitat protection or improvement.

The character classification system for open space is shown in Table 3-2. Character classification assists with the following:

- Assessing the diversity of open space character types across the City and within each precinct. This will identify if there are gaps in the open space character types or an oversupply of the same type. The Strategy identifies if there is a need to increase the diversity in the precinct recommendations.
- Assisting with the future design and management direction for each open space. For example, if the open space has 'Heritage' as its primary classification, future decisions regarding the planting style will be guided by whether that is consistent with the heritage character and style

The character classification has been used to assess the provision and distribution of different types of open space across the City of Yarra. Each open space is assigned a 'primary' classification and many also have 'secondary' classifications as well to assist defining the diverse character of open space.

5.2 Criteria to assess suitability of land as open space

All sites being considered as new open space will first be assessed against a list of criteria as shown in Table 5-2 to confirm if it is suitable. This will assist Council in assessing and prioritising sites that may be suitable for open space, particularly where Council is considering conversion of public land to open space or acquisition of sites for open space. It is also intended to guide Council's assessment of future land contributions that are proposed on large development sites or other public land that may be suitable as future open space.

It will be at the responsible authority's discretion as to whether an area of land offered by a developer as open space is accepted and adequately meets the criteria in the Strategy. The City of Yarra will apply these criteria to any future land that they convert or acquire for open space. The assessment criteria in this table can also be used to assess existing open spaces where review of their status and condition is required.

Table 5-2 *Criteria to assess suitability of land as open space*

Note, the criteria in this table is listed in alphabetical and not priority order.

Criteria	Description
Accessibility	Physical access into the site including the inherent topography, location on natural ground (not an elevated part of a building) and ability to make the site safe and accessible for people of all abilities (Note - refer also to Transport, Visibility, Condition and Location in this list of Criteria for other access related issues).
Adjoining land use	The influence of adjoining land use on the recreational, ecological, social and cultural value of the open space. This includes consideration of existing and future planned land use, community facilities, urban context, personal safety (passive surveillance), built form and height.
Amenity	Visual and passive amenity values relates to the influence open space has on the liveability of the neighbourhood by providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visual relief from built form • A break from noise levels associated with traffic and other urban land use activities • At least some long distance views and vistas from within the open space so it is not entirely built out or overwhelmed by built form • Adequate levels of winter sunlight to meet the health and wellbeing needs of the community. Refer to Sunlight access for details.

Criteria	Description
Climate change mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability for the site to have long-lived broad spreading canopy trees planted, and space for the trees to fully establish without encroachment into their canopy. Ability for the site to incorporate sustainable water supply and reuse and maximise moisture retention to allow passive cooling of the local microclimate including areas for long-wave radiant cooling at night. Located within existing or future medium to high density precincts where it will be effective in mitigating urban heat island effect. Ability for the site to remain as useable and functional open space in the context of major storm events and sea level rise.
Condition	The existing physical condition of the land is suitable for use as public open space including that there are no inherent issues such as contamination and significant financial or safety implications for Council if the land becomes public open space. This includes the land being open to the sky.
Ecological	Includes the site's existing biodiversity values and the potential to contribute to the protection and enhancement of these values along with a site's contribution to existing or future ecological diversity.
Equity	The local community including residents and workers should have reasonable access to public open space. This includes physical access, visual access and economic equity of access.
Financial	The costs to the Council in obtaining and improving the land as open space, along with the costs associated with the ongoing maintenance and management of it.
Heritage values	Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community cultural heritage values and/or historical values to be enhanced, protected and interpreted in the open space. These values will influence the future use and design and management of the open space.
Hierarchy	That the site is capable of meeting the intended hierarchy as described in Table 3-1 of this Strategy.
Landscape character	Its positive contribution to the urban context, character and attractiveness of the precinct.
Location/linkages	The site's contribution to the connectivity and accessibility of the open space network. This includes consideration of the other strategic planning projects including linear open space corridors, and local links to improve accessibility within the local street network and links and connections to improve accessibility into existing or proposed future open space.
Ongoing maintenance and management	The ability for the City of Yarra to rezone the land for open space purposes, and to effectively maintain and manage the land as public open space.

Criteria	Description
Ownership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where the land is already in public ownership, potential for conversion to open space should be considered, where it can successfully be rezoned for this purpose. This may include existing Council assets or land owned by other authorities. Where the land is privately owned, land can be acquired through open space contributions, generally at the time a site is redeveloped. Private land acquisition may be needed in some locations to create a functional open space of the size and configuration required for its intended role.
Recreation	The potential for the site to accommodate a range of structured sport, unstructured recreation and informal uses consistent with the intended hierarchy. This needs to include adequate space to meet best practice standards for the proposed uses to be undertaken safely in relation to risk management. These can include field sports, play, walking, jogging, cycling, exercising, informal ball games, socialising, picnicking, sitting and dog walking.
Safety	Urban context and layout is to maximise passive surveillance and access to open space in order to minimise risk to users of the open space.
Services/easements/encumbrances	Extent of other services and easements that affects the development and use of the land as open space. This includes roadways, overhead structures, underground structures (e.g. underground car parking), water supply, power supply, flood mitigation and drainage.
Size	<p>The minimum size for the site to meet its intended purpose, on its own or in combination with adjoining land. Refer to minimum size parcels for each type of open space as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional, unlimited. Municipal open space, generally a minimum of 3 ha is preferred, subject to the proposed municipal recreation facility located in it. Neighbourhood open space, minimum of 1 ha. Small Neighbourhood, minimum 0.5 ha (up to 0.99 ha). Local open space, minimum 0.1 ha (up to 0.5 ha). Small Local open space, minimum 0.03 ha (up to 0.1 ha), with a minimum width of 20 m in at least one direction.
State and local government policies	The land is not subject to other planning processes and policies that may be consistent or inconsistent with all or part of the site becoming public open space.
Sunlight access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The site must have excellent sunlight access in winter for community health and wellbeing. The site will have no additional overshadowing beyond the 9 metre built form height between 10am and 3pm on 21 June.

Criteria	Description
Transport	There are a range of transport options for residents and workers to easily access the site. This includes proximity to public transport, linear shared trails, major roads and the street network, relevant to the size and anticipated catchment for the proposed open space.
Visibility	The site's visual prominence is to maximise its use, safety and contribution to the broader community. Land is preferred which has at least two access points, local access streets to at least two sides and is provided on natural ground (not elevated or roofed structures).

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.

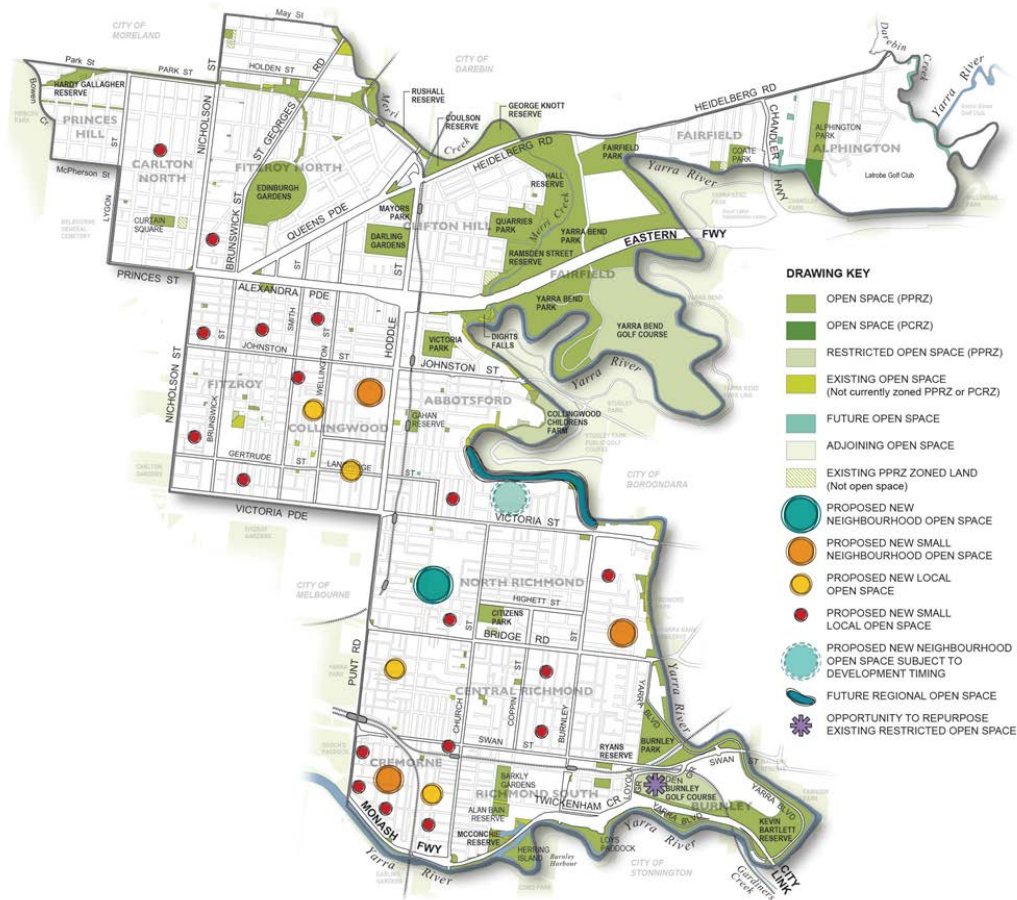


Figure 5A Schematic plan illustrating the type and location of proposed new open space

5.3.2 Step 1 – open space sub-precinct assessments

The Strategy has identified the need for 26 new open spaces to be provided within the Strategy timeframe to 2031 and an additional 3 open spaces that will be required in the longer term. The precinct recommendations diagrams for each of the 10 precincts defines 31 sub-precincts and type of new open space required in each in Section 7 of the Strategy. Figure 5A indicatively illustrates the approximate locations at a city-wide level.

As part of implementing the Strategy, Council will identify a range of suitable sites for future open space in each of the sub-precincts based on applying the criteria in Table 5-2 and the design guidelines included in the Strategy. Council will assess a range of sites including Council owned land, public land owned by other agencies, future development sites and individual privately owned sites that could potentially be suitable as future open space.

For future development sites, Council is to assess and identify what part of the site would be most appropriate as open space, assessing the land parcels against the criteria included in Table 5-2 of the Strategy.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.3-1	Council to undertake a sub-precinct open space analysis for all the 16 sub-precincts that have the 26 proposed new open spaces in them in priority order identified in Section 7 of the Strategy. This will identify potential opportunities to secure additional land that meets the criteria outlined in Table 5-2 and allow Council to negotiate appropriately with landholders and other agencies where required to acquire/secure the new open spaces.	YCC	Very High

5.3.3 Step 2 – Methods to acquire/secure additional open space

It is anticipated that the additional open space in the City of Yarra will be acquired via a range of methods including:

- As a land contribution as part of future subdivision of land for large development sites. It is acknowledged that the number of these sites are limited, however it is important that this is considered, particularly coupled with the opportunity to purchase or convert land directly adjoining it to create viable and useable open space.
- Conversion of land owned by the City of Yarra from its existing use to open space (for example a road, car park or community facility).
- Conversion of land owned by another government agency to open space.
- Purchase of undeveloped land, particularly where this may be negotiated with a land developer to add to an area of land being contributed on the same development site, or on an adjoining site so that a contiguous open space is created.
- Purchase of developed sites where no other opportunities are available.

There are likely to be situations where an additional open space may require a combination of the above methods to achieve a suitable land area for use as open space, as described in the open space hierarchy Table 3-1 and Criteria Table 5-2.

5.3.4 Step 3 – Design and delivery of new open space

The design of the new open space is to address any specific issues noted in the Strategy Precinct Recommendations and refer to the Design Guidelines in Section 6 of the Strategy.

New open space may be designed and delivered directly by the City of Yarra as a capital works project. Alternatively, the developer may be responsible for design and delivery in accordance with the recommendations in the Strategy, relevant design and management guidelines and approved plans through the subdivision permit approval process.

5.3.5 Repurposing existing restricted open space

While the scope of the Strategy does not assess the forecast future trends and needs for organised structured sport and recreation, it does consider the open space land area required to accommodate these facilities. In response to the potential future need for additional structured sport and recreation facilities to meet the needs of the forecast population, the Strategy has identified the opportunity for Council to review the future use of the restricted open space reserves in the city, with the key focus being the change of sporting use of Burnley Golf Course. Continuing to maintain this large area of public open space for a single purpose sporting use on a fee paying basis does not align well with the objectives and principles of the Strategy.

The benefits of changing Burnley Golf Course from a restricted sporting use to a reserve that provides a range of structured sporting uses includes:

- It is located in the southern part of the city in proximity to where the forecast population growth is greatest.
- The site is easily accessed by a range of sustainable transport options and the major road network.
- It is located outside of a residential precinct, meaning that the potential increased level of activity and noise associated with structured sporting use including evening training and match play would not impact on a residential community.
- Located next to Kevin Bartlett Reserve which is an established and well used sporting reserve.
- There is potential to relocate existing structured sport and recreation facilities out of precincts which are forecast to receive substantial growth, including Bridge Road and Swan Street Major Activity Centres, and allow the conversion of existing restricted open space to unstructured open space.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.3-2	Council to undertake a review of the structured sport and recreation needs of the forecast population to 2031 and consider the repurposing of Burnley Golf Course to provide additional structured sport and recreation facilities primarily for the forecast new population.	YCC	Very High

5.3.6 Changes to the forecast population growth over the Strategy timeframe

The Strategy recommendations and priorities for new open space and upgrades to existing open space are based on the existing growth framework for the City of Yarra shown in the *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018* and the *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018*.

If there is a substantive increase in the intensity of new development over the 15 year implementation timeframe of the Strategy, then projects in proximity to those locations can be implemented as a higher priority taking into consideration the timing of the open space contributions that are collected. Alternatively, if change occurs at a slower pace or at a lower intensity than anticipated, then project priorities and implementation timetables may need to be revised.

If additional change and development occurs in a location where it was not anticipated at the time this Strategy was prepared, or at an increased density, then additional open space may be required beyond that outlined and included in this Strategy. This has already been noted in Section 4.2.6. If this occurs, an analysis of the impacts of the forecast population change and development in that location will need to be assessed and confirmation of whether additional open space or upgrades to open space is required as a result of the change.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.3-3	Additional change and development that was not forecast in the Strategy timeframe Where additional development is either proposed outside of the areas that are forecast to change and develop in this Strategy or at an increased density, an open space needs analysis will be required. This will determine whether additional open space or upgrades to existing open space is required as a result of the proposed new development. This analysis is to be undertaken consistent with the method used in the open space needs assessments for each precinct in Section 7 of the Strategy.	YCC Developer	Ongoing

5.3.7 Potential disposal of open space in established areas

New open space replacing the need for some areas of existing open space

Although not identified as being required in any locations in the City of Yarra, some individual open spaces may change their purpose and role in the network based on future major infrastructure projects. If in the future the City of Yarra identifies any existing open space for potential disposal, the following process would be followed as a minimum:

- a) Assess the subject open space within a precinct context. This analysis will need to assess all other existing and proposed open space within the walking catchment of the subject site to clearly understand each open space size and level of existing and proposed use (which may include an environmental role as well as community use) to determine the subject site's existing or future role in the local open space network.
- b) Assess the site in relation to the Criteria listed in Table 5-2
- c) Consult with the community who would potentially be affected by any disposal of the subject open space in accordance with the walking and travel catchments nominated in Table 3-1
- d) If after steps (a), (b) and (c) the open space is still considered excess to requirements and the City of Yarra intends to dispose of open space, land is to be *'sold only if the Council has provided for replacement public open space'*. Refer to Section 20 of the *Subdivision Act 1988* for details.

5.4 Overall recommendations

5.4.1 Guidelines for development adjoining open space

The amenity and function of open space is influenced by the land use, design, layout, built form and landscaping treatments on adjoining sites. Guidelines included in this section describe the preferred interface treatments for existing open space and siting of new open space. These criteria are relevant for development proposals on sites adjoining open space and they should also be applied as relevant to any site that has potential to influence the function of the open space.

Development adjoining and nearby open space should positively contribute to open space by providing a degree of passive surveillance without interfering with the enjoyment, function and use of the open space. Adjoining development should not create adverse conditions in open space such as undue shadowing, increased wind effects, intrusion of unwanted light and noise, use of car parking or traffic access for private uses, interference with vegetation and dispersal of weeds, loss of natural light and loss of open viewsheds to and from within the open space and of the open sky.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.4-1	<p>Adjoining development and development that may influence nearby open space</p> <p>Require relevant applicants for development to demonstrate compliance with the Guidelines for development adjoining or nearby open public space in Section 5.4.1.1</p>	YCC	Ongoing

5.4.1.1 Guidelines for development adjoining or nearby public open space

The following guidelines are prepared to assist Council when reviewing applications for development that directly adjoins open space.

(a) Accessibility to open space

- Design and layout of the site development should foster good public access to open space, and particularly improve passive surveillance of the open space from adjoining development. Direct private access gates and paths from private development into open space should be avoided unless they clearly demonstrate they improve the broader public cycle and pedestrian circulation network. Refer also to (f).

(b) Amenity and function of the open space

- Design and layout of the site is to provide passive surveillance of open space. Buildings are to face open space and avoid blank walls (especially on lower floors) and high fences at the interface with open space. Passive surveillance should be effective but not intrusive for park users or occupants of adjoining buildings.
- Design of the built form and site use should maintain and improve the amenity, function and use of the open space. Factors that could degrade open space amenity, function and use include excessive built form, overshadowing, creating a sense of enclosure, noise, light spill, traffic movements, car parking demand or wind effects. In addition, the proximity of built form and building design should not allow undue transfer of noise from the open space into the development, thereby limiting the recreational function and uses that can reasonably occur in open space. Applicants may be required to supply studies demonstrating whether there will be positive or adverse effects on open space.
- The open space must receive excellent sunlight access including during the winter to maximise community health and wellbeing. Refer to Section 5.4.2 regarding sunlight access.

(c) Characteristics and values of open space

- Design is to be compatible with and enhance where possible the recreational, ecological, social and cultural values of the open space. This is to include consideration of light and noise impacts from adjoining development on habitat corridor values.
- Built form and landscape treatments should maintain the ecological processes and biodiversity values of the open space and allow for opportunities to enhance these values.
- Built form is to demonstrate it will be sufficiently set back so as not to cause the need for lopping or removal of vegetation in public open space.
- Design of built form and landscape treatments should be compatible with heritage values of the open space.
- Landscape treatments should be compatible with the landscape character of the open space and its contribution to the preferred landscape character and amenity of the precinct.
- Where sites adjoin waterway corridors or sites of identified biodiversity values, plant selection on development is to complement and improve these values including avoiding the use of any species that will lead to ongoing management issues on public land.

(d) Climate change mitigation in open space in medium to high density precincts and activity centres

- Built form and landscape treatments should be planned to allow for the growth and maturity of vegetation in open space, especially long-lived broad spreading canopy trees.
- Consider the proximity of built form to the open space to encourage sufficient long-wave radiant cooling to occur from the open space overnight.
- The development should allow for the use of sustainable water supply and reuse in the open space.

(e) State or Local government policies about open space

- The development must meet State and local planning policies pertaining to amenity and open space.

(f) Delineation of open space and private land

- Design and layout of adjoining sites, including location of buildings, structures and furniture, are to provide clear physical and visual separation between public open space and private land to preclude appropriation of, and encroachment on public space. This includes balconies from adjoining buildings not overhanging / encroaching into the open space reserve.

(g) Ongoing maintenance and management of open space

- Development will not increase the ongoing cost and responsibility for the management or maintenance of open space, including offsite costs such as on adjacent roads

(h) Open space contribution from development

- A development site adjoining existing or proposed open space is to be assessed for its suitability for an open space land contribution to create or add to the area of open space, or to create formal public linkages. This will be at the discretion of the Council.

(i) Services/easements to be provided to an adjoining site

- Access and easements for water and power supply, other utilities and drainage should be provided on the development site so that they do not encumber the use or management of the existing or proposed open space.

(j) Setback from site boundary

- Larger sites should allow for a setback from the boundary, relative to the height of the built form and/or topography so they do not adversely affect the amenity, function and use of the open space.

(k) Transport and car parking arrangements for the development

- Traffic access, traffic patterns and car parking demand should not decrease the accessibility, use and amenity of the open space.

(l) Visibility of and views from open space

- Public view lines are to be maintained and enhanced to and from the open space.

5.4.2 Sunlight access to open space

Sunlight access to public open space in winter is important for community health and wellbeing. It is also a key factor in the health and longevity of the soft landscape works including trees, grassing and garden beds. Over the past 10 years more research has emerged linking the importance of sunlight access in public open space to community health and wellbeing. This has combined with increasing population growth across the City of Yarra meaning that more people are living in higher density housing with less access to private open space and greening. A key aspect of health and wellbeing is access to sunlight particularly during Winter when research has shown that people can suffer from Vitamin D deficiency. During Winter people need to spend longer in sunlight to absorb adequate levels of Vitamin D. This means that the open space needs to be warm enough to encourage people to stay outdoors during Winter and absorb adequate levels of Vitamin D. Open space that has good sunlight access during Winter and in Autumn and Spring makes it more attractive to visit.

More recent research finds that sunlight elevates our moods and mental alertness. In recent times more people spend the majority of their working hours indoors and away from bright light including sunlight and this is now thought to be contributing to the rise in depression. So the benefits of people visiting open space in the daylight, including sunlight and exercising, contributes to both their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

It is also important to design open space to have shade during the summer months when open space needs to provide a cool space so that people can comfortably exercise and relax in it. Deciduous trees in open space allow Winter sunlight access and provide the much needed shade during the Summer.

Sunlight is also essential to plant health and growth, and while they adapt to lower levels of light during Winter, the loss of any direct sunlight is likely to make the open space more vulnerable to damage - for example grassed areas may not be as easily sustained and will be slower to start growing again as the days get longer without direct sunlight.

Public open space is free and accessible to everyone and therefore makes it an equitable space in which to guarantee acceptable levels of sunlight access, particularly in higher density urban environments.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.4-2	Sunlight access to existing and future open space Council to protect existing and new open space from additional overshadowing between 10am and 3pm on 21 June beyond that generated by the standard 9 metre built form height. Council is to implement effective controls for sunlight protection through the planning scheme .	YCC	Very High and Ongoing

5.4.3 Linear open space

5.4.3.1 Yarra River

Recognise and continue to strengthen the environmental, cultural and recreational values of the open space corridor adjoining the Yarra River.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.4-3	<p>Gap in the open space corridor between Gipps Street Steps and Walmer Street Bridge</p> <p>Council to continue to advocate to the Victorian Government regarding acquisition of land in the existing PAO2, design and construction of the Main Yarra Trail between Gipps Street Steps and Walmer Street Bridge in Abbotsford.</p>	<p>YCC Vic Govt (PV) (MW)</p>	Ongoing
5.4-4	<p>All-ability access to the Main Yarra Trail at the Gipps Street entry point</p> <p>Council to continue to advocate to Parks Victoria to provide all-ability access to the Main Yarra Trail from the Gipps Street entry point to improve access for everyone to the trail.</p>	<p>YCC PV</p>	Very High
5.4-5	<p>Biodiversity values</p> <p>Continue to support the ongoing revegetation of the Yarra River corridor in consultation with Parks Victoria and Melbourne Water to improve the biodiversity values and qualities of the linear open space corridor along the Yarra River. The future revegetation works and vegetation management to allow adequate sightlines on trails and at entry points to meet the relevant standards for off-road shared trails.</p>	<p>YCC PV MW</p>	Ongoing
5.4-6	<p>Education</p> <p>Support ongoing consultation with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community about creative ways to acknowledge the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung as the Traditional Owners, which may take the form of public art, interpretive signage or landscape treatment focussing on the river consistent with the <i>Yarra Strategic Plan</i>.</p>	<p>YCC</p>	Ongoing

5.4.3.2 Merri Creek

Recognise and continue to strengthen the environmental, cultural and recreational values of the open space corridor adjoining the Merri Creek.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.4-7	<p>Upgrade the Merri Creek Trail upstream of St Georges Road</p> <p>Council to liaise with Parks Victoria and Melbourne Water regarding improvements to the Merri Creek Trail consistent with current off-road shared trail standards.</p>	YCC PV (MW)	Medium
5.4-8	<p>Biodiversity values</p> <p>Continue to support the ongoing revegetation of the Merri Creek corridor in consultation with Melbourne Water to improve the biodiversity values and qualities of the linear open space corridor along Merri Creek. The future revegetation works and vegetation management to allow adequate sightlines on trails and at entry points to meet the relevant standards for off-road shared trails.</p>	YCC PV MW MCMC	Ongoing

5.4.3.3 Darebin Creek

Recognise and continue to strengthen the environmental, cultural and recreational values of the open space corridor adjoining the Merri Creek.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.4-9	<p>Link into the Darebin Creek Shared Trail from Alphington</p> <p>Council to continue to advocate to the Victorian Government to provide an access point onto the Lower Darebin Creek Shared Trail from Alphington.</p>	YCC Vic Govt (PV) (MW)	High
5.4-10	<p>Biodiversity values</p> <p>Continue to support the ongoing revegetation of the Darebin Creek corridor in consultation with Melbourne Water to improve the biodiversity values and qualities of the linear open space corridor along Darebin Creek. The future revegetation works and vegetation management to allow adequate sightlines on trails and at entry points to meet the relevant standards for off-road shared trails</p>	Vic Govt MW DCMC	Ongoing

5.4.3.4 Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands

The Inner Circle Linear Parklands is a well-used linear open space reserve that forms an important east west link between Merri Creek in Fitzroy North and Princes Park in Princes Hill. At a broader regional context level, this reserve also contributes to an overall habitat link between Royal Park and the Merri Creek corridor. In addition to the linear connectivity, the individual reserves that form the parklands are important neighbourhood and local open spaces with facilities appropriate to community use including play, seating, picnic facilities, open grassed areas and future community gardens.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.4-11	<p>Updated Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands Masterplan</p> <p>Prepare an updated Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands Masterplan that includes guidelines for the appropriate levels of use and facilities in each of the open spaces along with vegetation management. Given the importance of the site as an east-west open space corridor, the vegetation management will need to address and improve the biodiversity and habitat values while retaining and strengthening the historical values, the shared trail design requirements and community values.</p>	YCC	High

6. Open space design and management guidelines

6.1 Overview

These guidelines aim to support the core guiding principles and directions for open space as set out in this Strategy. They are informed by existing Council policies and best practice standards. Many of the topics dealt with in the guidelines apply more broadly across Council, for example, the guidelines contained in this Strategy provide guidance for festivals and events in relation to open space design and management only. In some instances the existing Council policies may have a different emphasis from the guidelines given these are focussed on open space. Council policies are frequently updated, and some policy updates may be informed by these guidelines.

The guidelines are to be referred to in relation to the future design and management for all open space in the City of Yarra. This includes:

- Open space that is owned and managed by other agencies located in the municipality.
- Open space that is owned and managed by the City of Yarra.
- Works that other agencies may undertake in open space owned by the City of Yarra.
- Future open space that is to be transferred to the City of Yarra.

For proposed new open space, Council will first assess the suitability of proposed land areas against the criteria included in Table 5-2. Once the suitability of the site as open space has been determined, designs for the new open space will be consistent with the guidelines outlined here. Council officers will refer to the guidelines when preparing design plans and undertaking proposed upgrades to existing open space. They will also assess proposed designs for new open space by other agencies and developers with reference to these guidelines where appropriate.

The Section include the following:

- 6.1 Overview
- 6.2 Climate change/urban greening
- 6.3 Biodiversity values and natural character in open space
- 6.4 Sustainable design and management
- 6.5 Accessibility to open space

- 6.6 Unstructured recreation and informal use and infrastructure
- 6.7 Structured sport and recreation use and infrastructure
- 6.8 Cultural heritage values and public art
- 6.9 Festivals and events
- 6.10 Design and management plans for open space
- 6.11 Open space maintenance
- 6.12 Other agency open space ownership and management

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.

6.2.1 Protecting mature canopy trees

Guidelines for protecting mature canopy trees in future open space designs

- a) In future masterplans, concept plans or proposed upgrades to open space, maximise the retention of existing mature large long-lived trees.
- b) As part of future design plans for open space incorporate measures to improve the health and appreciation of the existing large mature trees. This includes demonstrating that the proposed works do not negatively impact on the trees and allow sufficient space for them to grow and mature.
- c) Consideration to be given to the soil profile, available root space, water retention measures and treatment under the tree canopy including alternatives to lawn where appropriate which may include mulch and/or planting.
- d) In the assessment of new land area for open space include land that incorporates existing large mature canopy trees as one of the key selection criteria.

6.2.2 Open space design in medium to high density precincts

Guidelines for incorporating natural elements into the design of open space in medium to high density precincts :

- a) Maximise the use of moisture retaining surfaces/features/green infrastructure including shade trees, garden beds, grassing and permeable paving to effectively passively cool the open space via evapotranspiration. This is to offset the build-up of urban heat in higher density precincts.
- b) Demonstrate that adequate space is provided outside existing and proposed large canopy trees for ongoing tree health. This includes demonstrating that paths and other facilities which require natural shade can be located in the open space without damaging the health of the tree in the longer term or public safety.
- c) Incorporate sustainable water use principles as an integral part of the open space siting, size and design, to effectively retain moisture and have a positive role in passive cooling as per guidelines in 6.4.1.
- d) Designs are to demonstrate the open space will be easily accessible and comfortable for everyone to use.
- e) Include drinking fountains and a variety of seating opportunities that are in both the shade and the sun to encourage people into open space.
- f) In play area designs, include natural elements and materials into the design, for example trees for shade, natural mulch and planting to provide children with easy access to natural materials.
- g) Consider sustainable design principles including the use of recycled materials and products that store carbon - refer to Section 6.4.2 for further detail.

6.2.3 Vegetation selection

Currently open space reserves have a range of different vegetation types, some of which are dominated by mature exotic trees and others with indigenous and native vegetation. The most extensive areas of indigenous vegetation including remnant vegetation occurs along the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek. The large mature native, indigenous and exotic trees contribute significantly to the character and liveability of Yarra. As the city redevelops and intensifies over the next 15 years, the large mature canopy trees will become even more important, particularly in the higher density precincts associated with the activity centres.

Future open space designs need to prioritise the retention of mature canopy trees and planting additional large long-lived canopy trees to increase species diversity and the age range of the canopy trees in Yarra. This is consistent with the *City of Yarra Urban Forest Strategy 2017* which aims to increase the canopy cover in the Yarra.

Selection of trees and vegetation for open space needs to consider a range of factors including:

- Improvement to the microclimate of the open space in all seasons including winter
- Contributes to habitat and biodiversity values
- Increases species diversity and sustainability of the urban forest

- Contribution to the scale and landscape character
- The surrounding urban context
- Cultural heritage values
- Provide the community the opportunity to connect with nature.

In selecting plants for use in public open space consider the following:

- a) For open space in higher density precincts, planting selection to support passive cooling characteristics. This includes the use of large broad spreading canopy shade trees, turfing where feasible and garden beds that maximise retention of moisture in the landscape in conjunction with hardscape surfaces. The species selection, location and planting method needs to consider the proximity to existing infrastructure assets and likely protection and preparation measures that may be required to maximise the opportunities for planting.
- b) In reserves with identified nature conservation values and along the waterway corridors, any future planting is to be locally indigenous and of local provenance to strengthen the identified Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC). This includes mid-storey and ground layer vegetation with consideration of suitable sight lines at entry points and along shared trails for safety.
- c) Protect and appropriately manage both existing established mature trees and younger trees that provide shade and character to open space. This may include dead and dying trees to protect habitat values along with arboricultural works to increase their habitat value for example cabling and other stability works. Non-indigenous vegetation may also be appropriate to retain in the absence of other mature vegetation.
- d) Increase the presence of canopy shade trees in open space, which retain open sightlines into open space while providing shade. Trees are preferably to be long-lived species, complement the established or desired open space character, and consider winter shade and summer sunlight access. This is to achieve an overall increase in tree canopy in the municipality while improving the urban greening, shade and character of the open space which will make it more attractive to use.
- e) Plants at the entries to open space are to be selected to retain clear sightlines from the entry paths and other public areas such as adjoining roads at maturity. This is applicable in all open space that does not have Nature conservation as its primary character classification.
- f) In open space with identified environmental or native landscape character, future planting is to complement these values, and also meet the principles of open sightlines.
- g) In open space with recognised Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community cultural heritage values and historical values, plants are to be consistent with and complement the cultural heritage and historical character and values.
- h) Garden beds and detailed horticultural plantings are to demonstrate they support the desired function, character and use of the open space. Species selection and garden bed area/size are to demonstrate ease of maintenance consistent with Council's ongoing operational budgets.
- i) Continue to support warm-season grasses to reduce irrigation needs in open space except near areas with indigenous vegetation.

6.3 Biodiversity values

Refer to Section 3.1 for an overview of the biodiversity values in the existing open space in the municipality. In summary the City of Yarra contains significant habitat and biodiversity along the waterway corridors and is aiming to improve the biodiversity values throughout the municipality. This includes the extensive Yarra Bend Park, when combined with its extent of the east side of the Yarra in the City of Boroondara and Studley Park creates significant large areas of remnant indigenous vegetation within 5 kilometres of the Melbourne CBD.

There are also broader strategic habitat corridor links along the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands to Princes Park and the Royal Park. Open space is recognised as a key opportunity for improving biodiversity values including expanding the presence of indigenous vegetation.

6.3.1 Open space with nature conservation values

As noted in Section 3.2, all existing open space has been assigned a primary along with secondary character classifications. Nature conservation is one of the character classifications and the following guidelines apply to all open space with this as either a primary or secondary character classification.

Design guidelines to improve habitat and nature conservation values in open space:

- a) Siting of future recreation facilities or upgrade of existing facilities in open space that directly adjoins the waterways is to allow adequate space for a sustainable width of riparian vegetation and any other consideration of natural process such as erosion and high flow events. Council will seek advice from Melbourne Water to assist with achieving suitable and sustainable setbacks where required.
- b) Protect and improve biodiversity and fauna habitat values including retaining and protecting remnant vegetation by ensuring that future paths and other facilities are located appropriately to avoid the need to remove or regularly modify and trim remnant vegetation.
- c) Where significant and mature remnant trees are present in open space, recreational facilities including paths, seats etc are to be located well outside the mature tree canopy and the tree protection zone.
- d) Where sports lighting and other open space illumination is required, the proposed light is to minimise upward glare so that it has the least impact on native fauna and adjoining residential amenity. Additionally, proposed lighting is to demonstrate energy efficiency and may include smart lighting technology where appropriate. Measures like planting large evergreen trees to minimise light pollution will also be considered.
- e) Future fencing design within open space including vehicle exclusions fences, are to allow for fauna movement where feasible.
- f) Retain, where possible, mature dead trees for habitat purposes considering risk management issues associated with falling limbs.

Design guidelines to improve habitat and nature conservation values in open space:

- g) Dog off-lead areas in open space adjacent to waterways and wetlands are to be designed and managed so that dogs do not impact on the nature conservation and fauna habitat values of the waterway corridor.
- h) In reserves with identified nature conservation values and along the waterway corridors, any future planting is to be locally indigenous and of local provenance to strengthen the identified Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC). This includes mid-storey and ground layer vegetation with consideration of suitable sight lines at entry points and along shared trails for safety.

6.3.2 Biodiversity values in other areas of open space

There is a range of other open spaces in the City of Yarra where biodiversity values have not yet been identified. *The Biodiversity Heath Survey* (Practical Ecology, 2018) identified a variety of habitat niches across the City. Beyond the waterway corridors and native bushland areas several other sites contribute to improving the native flora and fauna in the City of Yarra. The following guidelines describe the process for improving biodiversity values in the context of the open space also retaining other identified values and character classifications identified in the Strategy.

Design guidelines to change and improve the habitat and nature conservation values in open space:

- a) Maximise retention of the mature canopy trees in the open space.
- b) Integrate additional native and indigenous vegetation including canopy trees into the open space, demonstrating that it is consistent or complements the character and values of the open space.
- c) The design and location of additional planting areas is to retain excellent passive surveillance of the open space.
- d) Existing lighting to be reviewed to reduce its impact on the native fauna values.

6.4 Sustainable design and management

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 in 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:

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Where car parking is provided the stormwater runoff is to be reused within the open space.
- e) 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.

Guidelines regarding sustainable water use in open space:

- f) 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.
- g) 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	<p>Irrigation guidelines</p> <p>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.</p>	YCC	Very High

6.4.2 Sustainable material use in open space infrastructure design

In selecting materials for use in future open space construction adhere where appropriate to the following guidelines:

- a) Encourage sustainable or ecologically preferable materials, which include materials that are durable, sourced locally, recyclable (including recycled plastics, rubber, glass and concrete), made from post-consumer materials, refurbished or renewable including consideration of whole-of-life costing.
- b) Promote re-use of on-site materials and features where appropriate.
- c) Timber used in open space is required to be from sustainable sources, including plantation, recycled and/or harvested efficiently. Species selection and quality is to demonstrate it is appropriate for external use.
- d) Appropriate dimensioning of material to suit the particular use demonstrating the bulk and quantity of material proposed does not result in unnecessary wastage.
- e) Minimise unnecessary material use in infrastructure design for example, the use of suitable kerb barrier or low post and rail/cable fencing to prevent vehicle access into open space in place of bollards.
- f) Alternative power sources for lighting (refer to lighting Guidelines in 6.6.5).
- g) Siting and design of buildings in open space to consider passive solar orientation and minimise the need for and use of heating and cooling systems.

In selecting materials for use in future open space construction adhere where appropriate to the following guidelines:

- h) Appropriate siting and design of facilities to minimise additional structures, particularly regarding shade.
- i) Integrate stormwater runoff from sealed surfaces, roofs etc into the open space design where feasible to improve passive cooling and sustainable water use.
- j) Select and specify materials that are durable and demonstrate minimal ongoing management and maintenance requirements.

6.4.3 Reduce reliance on vehicle use to access open space

Recommendations in this Strategy encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport to reach open space. Similarly the principles of providing open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers is to encourage people outdoors to visit open space. It is acknowledged that people will need to travel further than an easy walk to reach different types of open space particularly to those with more specialised facilities for longer stays.

Yarra has some key existing linear open spaces and path links that provide good connectivity between open space. Additionally, there is a focus on improving the attractiveness of the streets in Yarra for walking and cycling. Adherence to the design guidelines in this Strategy aims to reduce reliance on vehicles and encourage fitness through walking and cycling this includes the provision of additional facilities that extend the time spent in open space including seating, drinking fountains, shelters and shade trees. Refer to the guidelines in Section 6.5.

6.4.4 Smart technology

Yarra Council has a new Smart City Office (Yarra CityLab) that is exploring the potential of emerging and future technologies. A range of Internet of Things (IoT) devices and sensors are currently being trialled including smart screens, public waste bin sensors and water quality sensors. While this is a new area, Council has identified that these smart solutions will help to deliver efficiencies of logistics and service delivery, reduce carbon footprint and improved amenity. This Strategy supports the trial and use of technology-smart solutions where it can achieve improved sustainability and design objectives in open space.

6.5 Accessibility to open space

The community survey identified that 22 per cent of respondents have difficulty accessing open space. The main reasons being that it is too far to travel to the reach open space, the busy traffic, too many dogs, lack of time and that they are uninviting.

The main issue of the open space being too far to travel is addressed in by the recommendations for the provision of new open space and upgrades to existing open space to make them more inviting to use.

6.5.1 Universal access

Guidelines to improve universal access to open space:

- a) Demonstrate an inclusive approach in the design and management of open space that maximises access and use by everyone. This is to promote inclusive design that encourages everyone to use open space. For example, providing a path to an existing seat in open space will make the seat more accessible and useable by people who may have limited mobility and are unable to walk on uneven surfaces to reach the seat.
- b) When designing or upgrading existing facilities investigate opportunities to improve their adaptability to a range of uses. For example, when replacing an existing basketball half court and ring, review whether with a different design solution it may also be feasible to include a netball ring or expand and change the court surface so it is also available for use for other activities such as futsal and/or hand ball.
- c) Aim to meet current standards for universal access on grades and widths for paths from at least one entry point into the open space in accordance with the current Australian Standards. Refer to 6.5.3 for paths and connectivity.
- d) Adequate provision of other types of paths to meet the anticipated uses, including for strolling, cycling and exercise.
- e) Provide connections to public transport, the surrounding shared trails, footpath networks and car parking.
- f) Aim to meet current best practice standards for universal access to the major structured sporting, unstructured recreation and informal use facilities in open space.
- g) Demonstrate that clear lines of sight into the open space from all entry points and within it are achieved to maintain safe access.
- h) Provide a diversity of seating that meet the principles of universal access including seats with back rests, some seats with armrests and bench seats.
- i) Consider homeless access to open space for sleeping including seats without armrests and placement of them in difficult situations.
- j) Future designs for play areas to include some universal access as an integrated approach to them. Refer to guidelines in 6.6.2 for more about play areas.
- k) Raised planter beds for improved accessibility for food growing/community gardens in open space.

6.5.2 Personal safety

Guidelines for consideration of personal safety in future open space design and management:

- a) Incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Principles in all future open space design and management guidelines.
- b) Demonstrate that passive surveillance of open space from adjoining areas is achieved by appropriate design of the surrounding urban context and development interface, maximising visual and physical accessibility to open space.
- c) Demonstrate that clear lines of sight into the open space from all entry points and within it are achieved to provide safe access.
- d) New open space designs and upgrades are to demonstrate ease of cleaning and maintenance, including access for litter collection, for cleaning picnic and barbecue facilities and cleaning public toilets. Demonstrate the materials and surfaces used for the proposed infrastructure are easily cleaned/replaced when damaged or as part of the future renewal program.
- e) Lighting of major pedestrian links where they provide convenient access to and from key facilities such as between a train station and residential area. Lighting is to meet guidelines in 6.6.5.
- f) In selected Regional and City-wide open spaces, provide energy efficient lighting that allows unstructured recreational use of the key facilities in the early morning and evening during the winter for example, sporting fields and linked circuit paths. This does not include areas where lighting in the evening may disturb habitat. Lighting is to meet the guidelines in 6.6.6.
- g) Educate and enforce appropriate behaviour by dog owners regarding adherence to the on and off-lead areas. Refer to 6.6.1.
- h) Continue regular maintenance inspections and independent audits of all playgrounds to ensure they meet the safety requirements consistent with the current playground standards.

6.5.3 Diversity, type and condition of facilities

This Strategy aims to promote a healthier community both socially and physically by encouraging increased levels of use in open space. If the design and facilities appeal to and are accessible to the community, they are much more likely to visit open space. Increasing the diversity and improving the quality of facilities is one aspect of increasing the level of use of open space. Refer also to guidelines in 6.5.

Guidelines for diversity of facilities in open space:

- a) Aim for a diversity of unstructured recreation facilities including those that encourage physical fitness in people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds - refer also to guidelines in 6.6. Designs are to demonstrate that they include complementary facilities that encourage use such as seats and drinking fountains so people can rest during exercise.

Guidelines for diversity of facilities in open space:

- b) Demonstrate that designs for proposed upgrades to existing open space and new open space respond to local community needs, reflecting the diversity of the community (including cultures, age, gender and abilities) and changes in demographics.
- c) Minimise the duplication of facilities within a walkable neighbourhood catchment to provide a variety of recreational activities so that combined, the network offers diversity.
- d) Demonstrate that future recreation facility design incorporates principles of its adaptability and multiple-use so that the facility can respond to changing needs over time without needing to be replaced.
- e) Incorporate gender equity principles in the design and function of open space.

6.6 Unstructured recreation and informal use and infrastructure

One of the key aims of this Strategy is to encourage people outdoors and into open space. This is based on extensive research that links improved community health and wellbeing and access to open space for people living in urban centres. This includes the more tangible physical benefits of being outdoors and participating in exercise on an informal basis, combined with the more intangible benefits from being in fresh air, in contact with the natural environment, social contact and connectedness of meeting neighbours, friends and work colleagues in open space. In some parts of the municipality, open space is already very well used and there are identified conflicts between different users of open space.

Inherent principles that guide the future design and management of open space is the shared use of open space and the adaptability of spaces to accommodate different uses.

6.6.1 Management of dogs in open space

The consultation undertaken for this Strategy identified walking/exercising dogs is one of the main reasons people visit open space. This Strategy recognises that dogs provide the reason for getting their owners out into open space and offer important companionship for people, particularly those who live alone. With more people living in Yarra, the quantity of people exercising and walking their dogs in open space is likely to continue to increase over time. While dog walking and exercise is one of the most popular activities, it also raises concerns for other park users, particularly when they are exercised off-lead. The concerns include personal safety particularly for young children and the elderly; dogs digging holes in the sports ovals and open grassed areas; impacts on native fauna; and dog excrement in the park. People who own dogs express concern about the lack of spaces for them to exercise their dogs off-lead, particularly the lack of fenced dog off-lead areas and the lack of dog agility parks.

The *Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP)* is the appropriate document to guide the management of dogs in all public areas including in open space. The current DAMP does not provide much direction about dog off-lead and on-lead areas in open space and refers to the controls listed on Council's website which are summarised in Table 6-1.

Given the high and increasing levels of dog ownership, dog walking and exercising occurring in open space, this Strategy recommends that a major review of the DAMP is undertaken to provide more guidance on this issue.

Table 6-1 Dog friendly open spaces in the City of Yarra

The information in this table is summarised from the City of Yarra website. The 31 open spaces are listed in alphabetical order.

Open space	Dog on-leash and off-leash controls
Alphington Park	Dog off-leash before 9am and after 5pm and on-leash at other times of the day.
Alphington Park Wetland	Dogs are prohibited from the wetland
Annette's Place	Dog off-leash
Atherton Reserve	Dog off-lead on the unfenced sports field only when it is not in use for approved sporting events including training. Dogs must be on a leash within 10 metres of sports fields when they are in use
Barkly Gardens	Dog off-leash area in the north and dog on-leash in the south
Browns Reserve	Dog on-leash
Burnley Park	Dog off-leash area
Cambridge Street Reserve	Dog on-leash
Citizens Park	Allows dogs off-leash in the fenced sports ground only when the grounds are not in use for approved sporting events including training
Coate Park	Includes a dog off-leash area in the northern section of the park
Coulson Park	Allows dogs off-leash in unfenced sports grounds only when they are not in use for approved sporting events including training
Curtain Square	Includes a fenced dog off-leash run
Dame Nellie Melba Memorial Park	Includes dog off-leash times before 9am and after 5pm
Darling Gardens	Includes a dog off-leash zone in the north east area of the gardens
Edinburgh Gardens	Allows dogs off-leash in the unfenced sports ground only when the grounds are not in use for approved sporting events including training.
Fairfield Park	Allows dogs off-leash in the unfenced sports ground only when the grounds are not in use for approved sporting events including training
Flockhart Reserve	A dog off-leash park
Gahan Reserve	Includes a dog off-leash zone in the south of the gardens
Golden Square	Allows dogs off-leash except they must be on a leash within 10 metres of the playground, barbecue and picnic areas.
Hall Reserve	Allows dogs off-leash except they must be on a leash within 10 metres of the playground
Hardy Gallagher Reserve	Allows dogs off-leash except they must be on a leash within 10 metres of the playground and Council officer comment is that this also applies to the community growing space, which is not currently on the Council website.
Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands	Is dog on-leash on the shared trail and within 5 metres either side of the trail

Open space	Dog on-leash and off-leash controls
Janet Millman Reserve	Allows dogs off-leash except they must be on a leash on the shared path and within 5 metres either side of the path
Kevin Bartlett Reserve	Allows dogs off-leash in the unfenced sports ground only when the grounds are not in use for approved sporting events including training. It also has designated dog off-leash zones outside the sporting fields
Langdon Reserve	Is a dog off-leash park except dogs are prohibited in the playground
Quarries Park	Allows dogs off-leash in the unfenced sports ground only when the grounds are not in use for approved sporting events including training
Ramsden Street Reserve	Allows dogs off-lead in the unfenced sports ground only when the grounds are not in use for approved sporting events including training.
Rushall Reserve	Allows dogs off-leash
Smith Reserve	Is dog off-leash except they are not allowed in the fenced playgrounds and must be on a leash within 10 metres of the barbecue picnic area.
Victoria Park	Is dog off-leash and are only allowed on the oval when it is not used for an organised sporting event including training
Yarra Bend Park	Includes designated dog off-leash areas

Spatially, there is a reasonable distribution of dog friendly open spaces across the municipality with the main gaps being in Cremorne, Central Richmond (west of Church Street) and Collingwood (north of Johnson Street). In relation to dog off-leash areas, the main gaps are Cremorne and Collingwood. It is also worth noting that many of the dog off-leash areas are time limited.

In the future update to the DAMP, consideration of additional dog off-leash areas is recommended to be reviewed in the context of reviewing the times of the day they are available and also whether it may be feasible to include fenced ovals as part of the dog off-leash areas in order to more clearly define the dog on-leash and off-leash areas.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.6-1	Update the Domestic Animal Management Plan Council to undertake a major review of the DAMP with the required officers involved in all aspects of domestic animal management. The aim of this recommendation is to develop consistent guidelines for the appropriate management of dogs in open space in the context of all domestic animals in public spaces.	YCC	Very High

6.6.2 Play areas

Play areas can be categorised both as unstructured recreation and informal facilities. Play areas encourage physical activity in children and are important to their physical development. They also assist the development of cognitive and social skills. Taking children to a play area is a common reason people visit open space. Play areas encourage social connectedness of parents, carers and children. Taking children to the

park to play encourages adults into open space, to meet their neighbours in the park and build social networks. It is also important for children to independently go to the park to play when they are old enough, and key to this is ensuring open space is within safe walking distance of the majority of the community so children can safely access open space for play without the need to cross major roads.

The guidelines included in this Strategy provide an overview of the integration between the play area and open space design. They do not replace the need for a Play Strategy which is recommended to be prepared by Council in the future.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.5-1	<p>Play Strategy Prepare a Play Strategy to guide the future provision, upgrade, design and management play in open space across the City of Yarra. The Play Strategy is to reference the open space hierarchy in this Strategy, Refer also the Recommendation 6.6-1 regarding the review of the Skate and BMX facilities.</p>	YCC	High

Guidelines for upgrade and integration of existing play areas to open space

- a) Demonstrate the play areas provide a diverse range of activities to meet different age groups and skill development including physical, social and cognitive play, scaled to meet the intended size and use level applicable to the open space catchment in which it is proposed.
- b) Integrate the proposed play facility into the open space design to complement and expand the diversity of play opportunities. This could include open grassed areas for informal ball games and other unstructured recreation facilities.
- c) Integrate comfortable seating and picnic areas nearby the play facility to encourage social interaction and comfort for adults supervising play. This is important so that the parents will stay outdoors with their children in the park for longer lengths of time.
- d) Include access for all principles in play facility design demonstrating that universal access is cohesively integrated into at least part of all play areas.
- e) Design the play area so it can be used by everyone including young people who will informally use the area to meet and socialise as well.
- f) Minimise the use of fencing to play areas when it can be demonstrated there is no safety or accessibility requirement for it. Alternative treatments to fencing are to be investigated such as grade separation, seating walls, steps and planting, and only where they cannot demonstrate they adequately meet the identified safety concerns is fencing then considered appropriate. This is to meet the accessibility, adaptability, sustainability and safety principles of open space design by encouraging everyone to share, access and use the open space and the play area.
- g) Where possible, locate play areas so they receive some natural shade during the middle of the day to avoid the need for shade structures. The final proximity of the play area to existing and planted trees will need to demonstrate it allows ongoing

Guidelines for upgrade and integration of existing play areas to open space

health and mature size of the trees and is not in total shade (i.e. receives some sunlight during the day).

- h) Where feasible, major play areas are to reflect the natural, urban, landscape, cultural, heritage and social character of the open space. The play area is to have associated support facilities including seating, drinking fountains, picnic areas and open grassed areas, trees and shade.
- i) Provide consistent signage regarding no dogs off-lead within 10 metres of all play areas.

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.

6.6.3.1 Shared trails in open space

Shared trails are supported in open space where feasible particularly in encouraging people outdoors to exercise including walking, running, cycling and pram pushing. The following guidelines are intended to assist with the assessment of existing shared trails and to guide the design of new future shared trails in open space. The *City of Yarra Bicycle Strategy* provides guidelines for on-road and off-road bicycle paths.

Guidelines for review and design of shared trails in open space:

- a) The shared trail network is to be safe, legible, accessible, direct, linked and attractive.
- b) Where possible, gradients and clearances on existing and proposed paths to meet the standards for access and mobility and relevant standards for shared trails, currently referred to as the Austroad Standards, *Cycling Aspects of Austroad Guides (2011)* and *Guide to Road Design Part 6A: Pedestrian and Cycle Paths (2009)*
- c) Surface of the trail to be appropriate to the character, location and usage levels of the path and the open space.
- d) Sightlines to allow clear visibility along paths, particularly near changes in direction without low overhanging vegetation.
- e) Width of paths to be designed for the anticipated use and level of activity, including whether the trails accommodate both recreational and commuter cycling uses. Refer to the current best management practice guidelines for trails regarding the widths once the use level and activity on path has been determined.
- f) Adhere to current best management practice guidelines for trails in relation to waterways and flood management including safety in waterway environments and bridge crossings. Currently these include the Melbourne Water *Shared Pathway Guidelines (2009)*.
- g) Where dog walkers are permitted, clearly sign the shared paths so that appropriate levels of control are shown and all trail users can adjust their behaviour accordingly.
- h) Education (via signage) for all shared trail users of appropriate behaviour on shared trails including cyclists, pedestrians, dog walkers, pram pushers, inline skaters and skateboarders.
- i) Minimise lighting of shared trails along waterway corridors. Where lighting is identified to be required investigate the use of smart lighting, including those that minimise upward glare and impacts on native fauna and adjoining residential properties.

6.6.3.2 Paths in open space

Guidelines for review and design of paths in open space:

- a) Aim to provide path access into all open space so they are accessible for everyone. This includes path connections through open space to facilities including seats and play areas, along with links into existing linear trails.
- b) Alignment and surface design to complement and be consistent with the open space location, usage levels and inherent landscape character.
- c) Paths to be a width that accommodates the intended levels of use. This includes consideration of walking for different purposes such as strolling and exercise.
- d) Where possible, meet the current standards or best management practice for access and mobility including paths between facilities and destination points. Promote and facilitate their use by offering seats at regular points along the trail to assist.
- e) Minimise points where paths cross vehicle entries and access roads within the open space.
- f) The path network within the open space is to clearly connect to the footpath network in the adjoining streets to promote and encourage people to walk to open space rather than drive.
- g) Demonstrate that surface runoff from paths is effectively drained either into adjacent garden beds/grass areas or discharged into underground drainage systems.
- h) In locations where significant conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists are identified on paths (not shared trails), investigate design, management and education options that reduce the conflicts while remaining inclusive of both cyclists and pedestrians in open space.

6.6.3.3 End of trip bicycle parking

Safe and secure bicycle parking in open space is to encourage the community to cycle to open space. Bicycle Victoria has prepared *The bicycle parking handbook* that is a useful guideline for appropriate design of secure bicycle parking facilities, that would be appropriate only in some Regional and City-wide open space where participation in activities such as sports training means there is a need for secure storage. The Strategy recognises that end of trip cycling facilities are appropriate outside open space such as at train stations. These guidelines are not intended for other spaces and refer to Council's existing policies, guidelines and strategies, as noted above in terms of provision of bicycle parking for open space specifically.

Guidelines for end of trip bicycle parking in open space:

- a) To be provided in Regional, City-wide and Neighbourhood open space where there are end of trip facilities/destination point for visitors, or sports training facilities.
- b) Siting and design to meet the current relevant standards for location, access, quantity and safety.

Guidelines for end of trip bicycle parking in open space:

- c) Number and location to meet the anticipated use levels of the proposed facility.
- d) Integrated into the existing built form in the open space where possible.
- e) Where the facility is independent of existing built form, ensure the facility does not block views or access into the open space, complements its character, is visible and safe and located close to path/shared trail entry to the open space.
- f) Future upgrades and provision of new structured sport and recreation facilities are to include provision for secure bicycle parking.

6.6.3.4 Multi-purpose courts and other minor recreation infrastructure

Guidelines for provision of multi-purpose courts, fitness equipment and other minor unstructured recreation infrastructure in open space:

- a) Generally applicable in Regional, City-wide, Neighbourhood and Small Neighbourhood open space, refer Table 5-1.
- b) Siting and design of multi-purpose courts to minimise impacts on adjoining residential properties, and where possible locate away from roadways, or have adequate design features to prevent the risk of balls entering the road.
- c) Siting of facilities including fitness equipment is to demonstrate they are easily accessible by all and inclusive.
- d) Designed to maximise use their appeal to everyone including all genders, age ranges, physical abilities and cultural backgrounds.
- e) Include other complementary facilities such as seating, shelters, shade, drinking fountains and picnic facilities/barbecues where appropriate.
- f) Where feasible, locate facilities including fitness equipment where they receive some natural shade during the middle of the day. The final proximity to trees will need to ensure ongoing health of the tree, and access to some sunlight and in accordance with AS4970, Protection of trees on development sites. This can be either shade from existing trees, or planting suitable tree species to provide shade in the longer term.
- g) Where possible orientate multi-use courts in north south direction in accordance with current sport facility design standards.
- h) Meet best practice design for fencing, surface drainage and surface treatment, etc for multi-use courts.
- i) Ensure the facility location and design retains clear views and access into the open space.
- j) Meet the current best practice guidelines for installation of appropriate undersurfacing and siting of fitness equipment.
- k) Ensure the placement and design of the facility demonstrates a corresponding improvement to the natural qualities and greening of the reserve. This may include additional planting including large canopy shade tree where space permits.

6.6.3.5 Skate and BMX facilities

Guidelines for location of skate and BMX facilities in open space:

- a) Demonstrate the location of these facilities achieve a well-integrated design with other facilities and uses in the open space. This is preferably undertaken as part of an open space masterplan or concept design process.
- b) Demonstrate the facility location and design meets best practice management in skate and BMX facility design. This includes the consideration of supporting facilities, public transport access, shared trail links, visibility, passive surveillance from adjoining streets and buildings and the surrounding urban context.
- c) Demonstrate the needs of all young people have been addressed in the open space design in recognition that skate and BMX facilities do not meet the needs of all young people.
- d) Demonstrate the facility design adequately caters to other age groups including spectators and carers and includes associated facilities such as shade, seating and drinking fountains.
- e) Demonstrate the design meets the CPTED principles.
- f) Installation of no smoking signage in proximity to all outdoor skate parks and BMX facilities.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.6-1	<p>Skate/BMX facility review</p> <p>Undertake a review of the provision and management of skate and BMX facilities in the City of Yarra. This includes consideration of the need, safety, design and provision of these in the context of the Play Strategy. Refer to Recommendation 6.5-1 regarding the Play Strategy.</p>	YCC	High

6.6.4 Buildings in open space

6.6.4.1 Upgrades to existing buildings

Guidelines to assess proposals to upgrade existing buildings with open space related uses:

- a) Demonstrate the proposed upgrade to the existing building is appropriate in the context of the existing master plan or concept plan in place for the site. If no existing plans are prepared, demonstrate the upgrade is compatible with existing established uses and improves the use and access to the open space.
- b) Demonstrate the proposed upgrade to the building improves or at least retains all prominent public views to the reserve, improves access to and around the building and improves the function and useability of the surrounding open space. The proposed upgrade will need to demonstrate that it does not result in a loss or reduction in publicly accessible areas of open space, for example by expanding the building footprint then a reduction in another paved or built facility will be required.

Guidelines to assess proposals to upgrade existing buildings with open space related uses:

- c) Complements and improves the character of the open space.
- d) Demonstrate best practice sustainability principles in the siting and design, particularly in relation to water harvesting and reuse and energy efficiency.
- e) Demonstrate waste management is adequately provided for including appropriate bin enclosures and recycling initiatives.
- f) Retain and preferably improve access and circulation to the facility with a focus on achieving universal access in accordance with current Australian Standards.

Guidelines to assess proposals to upgrade existing buildings for non-open space related uses:

- g) Review whether the existing building is suitable to be adapted to an open space related use, prior to consideration of continuing the existing non-open space dependent use.
- h) If determined to be required, ensure the future upgrade to the building is compatible with and as a minimum, improves the use of and access to open space.
- i) Must also meet the guidelines (b) to (f) in 6.6.4.1 above.

6.6.4.2 Proposals for new buildings in existing open space

With the forecast increase in urban densities across many parts of the City of Yarra, existing areas of open space will increasingly be valued for their natural, open parkland and unbuilt qualities. At the same time there will be requests to expand and build additional facilities in open space to cater to the increased demand for use. The following guidelines have been prepared to assess the provision of new buildings in open space for open space related uses.

Guidelines for new buildings in existing open space for open space related uses:

- a) The proposed facility accommodates open space related uses only. The facility is to promote and complement the open space and be compatible with the existing open space related uses for which the open space is recognised and valued.
- b) The proposed facility increases use, enjoyment and appreciation of outdoor open space.
- c) The proposed facility does not result in any further loss of natural outdoor open space in the reserve.
- d) The construction of the proposed facility will complement any existing environmental and heritage values of the open space and allows continued or new preferred patterns of recreational use (where applicable) of the existing open space.
- e) Demonstrate that all sustainability principles are met in the design and construction.
- f) Public transport access is preferably available to support the new facility.
- g) Adequate bicycle parking facilities integrated into the facility design.

Guidelines for new buildings in existing open space for open space related uses:

- h) Demonstrate how supporting facilities for the building such as car parking will be met with no net loss of outdoor public open space.
- i) Refer to guidelines (b) to (f) in 6.6.4.1 above.

6.6.4.3 Public toilets

The *City of Yarra Public Toilet Strategy 2017-2027* provides the vision, strategic basis and a 10 year forward program to meet the needs of the growing businesses and pedestrian activities in the municipality. The City of Yarra is committed to the provision of local amenities and protecting, improving and developing the city's infrastructure and assets to enhance social activities within the municipality. This Strategy recognises that the *Public Toilet Strategy 2017-2027* addresses the provision of public toilets across the whole municipality and will guide the future provision and upgrade program to public toilets in public open space. The following diagrams are issues specifically regarding the provision of public toilets in public open space.

Guidelines for review and design of public toilets in open space:

- a) Appropriate to Regional, City-wide, Neighbourhood and Local open space where other facilities encourage longer stays in open space such as barbecue, picnic facilities and major play areas.
- b) Where possible, integrate with other buildings in the reserve including consideration of how the other building/s may be modified to allow some public access to existing toilet/change facilities, while retaining secure and separate access for the existing clubs and groups already operating in the buildings, i.e. built as part of a cafe or sports pavilion. Where the open space is in a commercial precinct, investigate options to provide public access to private toilet facilities consistent with the *City of Yarra Public Toilet Strategy 2017-2027*, prior to confirming they are required in the public open space.
- c) Designs to meet CPTED principles in public toilet design.
- d) Located near existing services where available.
- e) Located to avoid the need for park visitors to cross roads and car parks to reach them where feasible.
- f) Locate within clear sight and walking distance of high use facilities such as barbecues and play areas.
- g) Locate in a position to service the whole reserve thereby minimising need for more than one public toilet in an open space.
- h) Use best practice environmentally sustainable principles in siting and design, particularly in relation to water and energy use.
- i) Demonstrate waste management is adequately provided for.
- j) Location should not block prominent public views to the reserve and not create hidden or unusable areas around them.
- k) Located with passive surveillance from surrounding area.
- l) Provide universal access in accordance with current Australian Standards.
- m) Adequate lighting including maximising daylight where possible.

Guidelines for review and design of public toilets in open space:

- n) Appropriately sized to meet demands and size of the open space.
- o) Complement the character of the open space, including the heritage values of the open space where appropriate.
- p) A design that is suitable for cleaning and maintenance.

6.6.5 Lighting in open space

Illumination in open space is generally from sports field lighting in many of the City-wide open spaces, and from lights in the streets adjoining open space. Lighting can also facilitate and expand the hours in which an open space can be used during winter to encourage people outdoors. Lighting in open space can also present issues including:

- Impact on native fauna
- Impact on adjoining resident amenity including light spill and where after hours park use is encouraged
- Energy use
- Encouraging people to use open space at night when it is not inherently safe, leading to personal safety issues.

Guidelines for provision of lighting in open space:

- a) Lighting is only applicable in high use open space and larger reserves including Regional, City-wide and Neighbourhood open space.
- b) In these locations lighting is only applicable for specific use or facilities. These are for:
 - structured sport and recreation use
 - circuit paths for access and use before and after work/school during the winter
 - along key connecting paths to train stations, shops or community hubs where no safe and accessible street network exists for walking/cycling.
- c) Where new lighting is required, it is to be consistent with best practice principles regarding sustainability.
- d) As a minimum select lighting that:
 - minimises upward glare (to reduce impact on adjoining residential amenity and native fauna, where applicable)
 - is energy efficient and scaled to meet the specific need identified
 - is easily maintained
 - the design complements the character of the reserve, including consideration of heritage values where applicable.
- e) To minimise impact on native flora and fauna:
 - Protect dark areas in the open space for nocturnal fauna activity
 - Investigate use of LED red spectrum that attracts less invertebrates
 - Consider the use of reflective 'cat eye' lighting for shared trails as an alternative to overhead lighting.
- f) To minimise energy use:
 - Apply Yarra's smart lighting technology to park lighting projects.
 - Use timers on lights.
 - Reduce the lux levels between 10pm and 6am.
 - Use solar technology and light emitting diodes.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.6-2	Lighting Policy for open space Council to prepare a lighting policy for open space with reference to the guidelines included in this Strategy in Section 6.6.5.	YCC	Very High

6.6.6 Minor park infrastructure

6.6.6.1 Seats

Guidelines for review and design of seats in open space:

- a) Include a variety of seat types such as bench seats, seats with back rests and some seats with armrests to improve universal access.
- b) Consider inclusion of informal seating arrangements in open space where it can be well integrated with other elements such as retaining walls.
- c) Demonstrate proposed seating faces activity and paths, takes advantage of views or features within the reserve and is provided in a variety of settings including some in groups and some alone.
- d) Demonstrate proposed seating will be provided in a variety of locations with some in the shade and others in the sun.
- e) Provide at regular intervals along shared trails as resting points to promote universal access.
- f) Avoid locating seats in permanent shade.
- g) Provide some seating in quiet areas of the open space that are potentially suitable for contemplation and the homeless for sleeping.

6.6.6.2 Picnic shelters and barbecue facilities

Guidelines for design of picnic and barbecue facilities in open space:

- a) Potentially appropriate in Regional, City-wide, Neighbourhood, Small Neighbourhood, Local and selected Small Local open spaces as per Table 5-1.
- b) Positioned within reasonable access from main entry points and with consideration of the views from the shelter/picnic facilities. For example, longer vistas and views, views of adjoining facilities such as play areas for features such as water features or areas of activities. This is intended to encourage more people to use open space as a social meeting place promoting a sense of community.
- c) Demonstrate the facilities complement the open space character and are sized to meet the anticipated regular use levels.
- d) Demonstrate sustainability principles are met including material use, water collection/runoff/reuse, energy efficiency and waste management.
- e) Barbecue design to minimise fire risk or public nuisance.
- f) Designed to allow universal access and use of the facility.

Guidelines for design of picnic and barbecue facilities in open space:

- g) Adequate waste management facilities to meet the size and needs of the proposed facility consistent with the hierarchy of open space as described in Table 3-1 in this Strategy. Position waste infrastructure so they are easily accessible for park users and maintenance, but are not located within the shelters so as not to dominate the character and ambience of the facility. Where feasible consider integrating recycling.

6.6.6.3 Drinking fountains

Guidelines for provision of drinking fountains in open space:

- a) Appropriate in all hierarchy types of open space.
- b) Drinking fountains to include bottle refill taps to encourage the community to re-use their drink water bottles. In dog on-lead and off-lead areas, drinking fountains to include a dog water bowl/tap.
- c) Locate drinking fountains at regular intervals on the linear trail network.
- d) Where feasible, standardise the types to improve effective ongoing maintenance.

6.6.6.4 Waste infrastructure

Guidelines for provision of waste infrastructure in open space:

- a) Refer to Table 5-1. In relation to Small Local open space these have waste infrastructure where higher levels of use are anticipated, however in locations with lower densities, they may not be required.
- b) Waste infrastructure is to be located so it is both accessible for maintenance purposes and convenient for park users, close to picnic and barbecue facilities and the entry and exit points.
- c) Where located near picnic facilities and/or seats, they need to be positioned at a reasonable distance from these facilities to avoid unpleasant odours, unsightly rubbish and health issues of rubbish in proximity to where people are preparing and eating food.
- d) Waste infrastructure is to be secured on site and where possible, located within a bin enclosure/surround to reduce the incidents of waste infrastructure being moved and damaged.
- e) Waste infrastructure to meet best design management practice and sustainability principles including recycling, in accordance with Council policies.

Guidelines for provision of waste infrastructure at sports pavilions:

- a) The number and type of waste infrastructure at sports pavilions is to be consistent with Council's *Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery Strategy 2018 - 2022* or other relevant Council policies and guidelines.
- b) Aim to provide bin enclosures at all sports pavilions that are of a size to adequately accommodate the number of waste infrastructure items appropriate to

Guidelines for provision of waste infrastructure at sports pavilions:

the existing and proposed use. The enclosures are to be well integrated with existing usage patterns, preferably with the built form and easily accessed by maintenance vehicles.

6.6.6.5 Fencing and vehicle barriers in open space

Guidelines for fencing and vehicle barriers in infrastructure:

- a) As a principle, fencing to public open space facilities within open space is discouraged. Fencing is only to be accepted where it facilitates and improves the function and diversity of uses that can be undertaken in the open space and/or for the function and design of the recreation facility.
- b) Where low fencing to the perimeter of sports fields is provided, include frequent gate openings to ensure they do not form barriers to unstructured and informal access outside of scheduled structured sports training or match play.
- c) Sports field fencing style is to minimise visual intrusion and complement the open space character including historical character where appropriate.
- d) In locations where mesh fencing is required, for example around public tennis courts, baseball diamonds etc, black coated mesh fencing or similar is to be used to minimise visual impact of this on the open space and adjoining properties.
- e) Where open space contains sports fields and facilities that are available for the public to use outside of sports training and match play, cyclone mesh fencing to the perimeter of the public open space is not permitted. Restricted uses within open space, including where the restricted use applies to the whole open space will be permitted to have cyclone mesh fencing where it is demonstrated it is required - consistent with point (d) above.
- f) Suitable barriers to prevent unplanned vehicle access into open space is required. Designs are to demonstrate they prevent vehicle access, minimise visual intrusion on the open space and allow excellent pedestrian and cycle access into the reserve.
- g) Minor infrastructure such as bollards, fencing, vehicle control barriers etc are to reflect diversity in the landscape, environmental, cultural and heritage character and values of the open space.
- h) All fencing and minor infrastructure is to meet best practice guidelines for universal access, safety, quality and sustainability.
- i) Adhere to sustainability principles in the selection of materials, design and placement in the reserve including investigation into the use of recycled materials where appropriate.
- j) Discourage fencing (as differentiated from vehicle exclusion barriers) to facilities and spaces within open space, for example play spaces, skate facilities and multi-use courts and surfaces. Exceptions may occur where the proposal demonstrates that alternative measures such as grade separation, planting, seating, vehicle barriers or any combination of these cannot suitably manage safety concerns.
- k) Encourage the use of planting as an alternative to fencing where this is appropriate. Clear and open sightlines into open space and the facility must be

Guidelines for fencing and vehicle barriers in infrastructure:

retained, for example if it is to provide some physical separation between a play area and the rest of the open space. The planting will need to meet the CPTED principles.

6.6.7 Urban agriculture/community gardens

The *Urban Agriculture Policy* guides the provision of community gardens and urban agriculture in the City of Yarra. It notes that community interest has grown over the past 30 years in urban agriculture from the establishment of the Collingwood Childrens Farm in 1979 to the creation of community gardens in North Fitzroy, Collingwood and Richmond as well as community gardens in the public housing estates which are now managed by Cultivating Community in Richmond, Fitzroy and Collingwood. In 2011, the City of Yarra employed an Urban Agriculture facilitator to work with the community providing advice on urban agriculture initiatives. This includes the promotion of growing food in the private and public realm including schools, nature-strips, community facilities and open space and supporting the farmers markets that are held across the municipality.

The highly urbanised and dense built environment in some parts of Yarra means there is limited access to private open space to grow food for many. In response to this, Council has actively sought to support community members and organisations to access land for food growing on both private and public land (where appropriate). Urban agriculture has many benefits and while Council supports their establishment, they are best established on public land that is unsuitable for recreational use.

Three types of urban agriculture are proposed, including:

- Community gardens; new and expansion of existing ones
- Small communal growing areas
- Fruit trees.

The Strategy supports the principle that Council first considers establishing urban agriculture on other areas of public land prior to proposing it in public open space. Currently, some of the most successful community gardens are located on the public housing estate land, in schools and on disused railway land and streetscapes. Public open space in the City of Yarra is in high demand, the urban agriculture can occur in spaces such as streetscapes that recreational activities cannot.

Proposals for growing spaces in public open space are to be made to Council in accordance with the processes outlined in the *Yarra Urban Agriculture Guidelines* and also meet the guidelines included in this Strategy.

The following guidelines are applicable for assessing either the expansion of existing community gardens or proposals for new community gardens in public open space. These will only be considered where it is demonstrated that other public land in the catchment of the open space have already been investigated and are unsuitable."

Guidelines for existing and future proposals for community gardens in public open space:

- a) Demonstrate the use of land for a community garden benefits and is supported by local residents in the local catchment of the proposed garden.
- b) The land area is large enough to sustain a viable community garden including areas for plots, compost, sheds and water storage.
- c) Meets the multiple-use and sustainability principles, for example is co-located with an existing built facility to share facilities and resources such as rainwater harvesting, water supply and secure storage.
- d) Preferably co-located with other facilities.
- e) There is adequate public open space available in the surrounding area or on the remainder of the site to retain adequate access to open space for recreation use.
- f) The site is suitable for growing food produce such as vegetables, fruit and herbs that typically require adequate sunlight access and water.
- g) The community gardens are run by an incorporated organisation that meets regularly or have a formal auspice agreement with a relevant organisation.
- h) The proposed location does not negatively impact on heritage or identified environmental values of the open space or immediate surrounds.
- i) The assessment criteria for allocation of plots to give priority to applicants without private open space.
- j) Demonstrate adherence to agreed land management practices and access arrangements as stipulated by Council.
- k) Maintain an agreed edge treatment between the community garden and the public open space reserve.
- l) Support communal gardening and organic gardening principles.

Guidelines for the inclusion of small communal growing areas and fruit trees in existing open space

- a) Demonstrate there is support from local residents in the catchment of the open space that is proposed to be used for the communal growing area and/or fruit trees.
- b) The size of the growing area or location of the fruit trees does not reduce the opportunity for informal and unstructured recreation to occur in the public open space.
- c) The site is suitable for growing food produce such as vegetables, fruit and herbs that typically require adequate sunlight access and water. The site should be visible and complement and potentially improve the open space character.
- d) The small communal growing areas and fruit trees are well maintained and managed. Demonstrate adherence to agreed land management practices and access arrangements as stipulated by Council
- e) The proposed location does not negatively impact on heritage or identified environmental values of the open space or immediate surrounds.

6.7 Structured sport and recreation use and infrastructure

6.7.1 Overview of issues

- Competing uses between structured sport, passive recreation and also between community and elite sporting uses. This specifically relates to the informal use of sports fields and damage to turf from the informal use.
- Service authority assets located under sports fields leading to uncertainty of the asset upgrade with the threat of service authorities undertaking major upgrades to their assets.
- As an overall approach, the City of Yarra minimise the fencing of sports fields.
- Damage to sports fields from unstructured recreational use - particularly dog off leads including holes and dog excrement.
- Female participation in sport is growing and the existing sports pavilions are inadequate.
- Existing sports facilities need to be updated and adapted to be more inclusive of everyone including people of all ages, abilities, genders and cultural backgrounds.
- Increased levels of participation in sport overall means there is a need to increase the capacity of change rooms to accommodate the increased volume of players.
- Pavilion upgrade program needs to consider the broader issues beyond the physical condition including forecast population growth and broader community benefit.
- Waste management infrastructure is consistent with the *Waste Minimisation Strategy*.
- Electronic scoreboards – increased numbers of applications for these and currently Council have no guidelines in place regarding their location, who pays to maintain them and guidelines around content.
- Advertising signage associated with sporting use requires guidelines.
- Car parking is an issue including all-ability access and the issue of taking up open space with off-street car parking.

The process of preparing Masterplans for City-wide open space is the recommended so there is an opportunity to address the site specific design response to address issues and guidelines for the site. The Masterplans clarify the appropriate use levels, expansion and addition of all facilities in open space for both structured and unstructured sport and recreation use.

There are some non-open space dependent structured leisure and recreation facilities located in open space, for example maternal child and health and child care facilities. Due to increasing demands on open space it is considered appropriate that when an existing facility needs to be replaced or is subject to a major upgrade, it is assessed as to whether it is appropriate to continue to retain this facility in open space.

6.7.2 Upgrade and replacement of existing structured sport and recreation facilities

Council is currently in the process of determining the future program of upgrade works for the structured sports facilities including a program to progressively upgrade existing facilities. As part of ongoing upgrades and replacement of structured recreation facilities, opportunities to improve their design, appeal, accessibility and multi-use function are to be investigated as standard procedure.

This Strategy recommends that proposals for future upgrades and replacements be evaluated with the following guidelines to maximise the best use of these facilities in open space. These guidelines focus on the scale and location of the facilities and their integration with the open space character and other facilities and are not technical guidelines for the design of the facility itself.

Guidelines to upgrade existing structured sport and recreation facilities, or for their replacement:

- a) Demonstrate the need and resultant community benefit associated with the proposed upgrade/replacement of the facility.
- b) Demonstrate the proposed upgrade/replacement of the facility is best located within open space for its function and viability.
- c) Demonstrate the proposed facility will increase the range of uses or user groups that will be catered for as a result of the upgrade/replacement.
- d) Facilitates a diversity of uses including unstructured recreation and informal access and use.
- e) Meets universal design principles including universal access and promotes inclusion for all irrespective of age, gender, cultural background and ability.
- f) Consideration of active design/healthy active by design guidelines.
- g) Flexible in design to provide for multiple uses and future adaptability to other uses as needs change over the lifespan of the proposed facility.
- h) Demonstrate that all ESD principles have been addressed in both the design and proposed construction of the facility and it is consistent with current best management practice.
- i) Demonstrate how waste collection and management is catered for including meeting relevant ESD principles regarding re-use and recycling.
- j) Consistent with the CPTED principles or similar to promote safety in facility and open space design.
- k) Integrate appropriate signage so that the sports clubs can list the dates and times the facility is available for unstructured and informal use. For example, the dates and times the sports field is available for informal access outside of match play and training times.

6.7.3 New structured sport and recreation facilities in existing open space

Proposals for new structured sporting facilities (including buildings) in existing public open space will need to demonstrate how the new facility will integrate with the open space and be accessible for a diverse range of users.

Guidelines for new structured sport and recreation facilities in existing open space:

- a) Demonstrate the need for the proposed new facility.
- b) Demonstrate the proposed facility is dependent on its location in open space for its viability and function.
- c) Meets the criteria listed above in *Guidelines to upgrade and replacement structured sport and recreation facilities* (c) to (g).
- d) The orientation and design of the facility minimises impacts on other structured and unstructured recreational uses, and expands the range or time periods in which unstructured recreation use can be undertaken. As a minimum, the proposal will need to demonstrate that it integrates well.
- e) Built form including buildings, fencing and other infrastructure to be designed to complement the environmental, landscape and cultural character and values of the open space reserve for its function and viability.
- f) Ensure key view lines into the open space are not blocked or impacted by the facility location.
- g) Where possible, minimise installation of permanent structures that can remain portable to improve adaptability and multiple use of the facility and the open space.
- h) Public transport access is preferably available to support the new facility.
- i) Adequate bicycle parking facilities integrated into the facility design to encourage cycling access in preference to vehicle access and use.
- j) Demonstrate how the car parking demands for the proposed facility will be addressed with minimal impact on the open space and the surrounding neighbourhood.
- k) Car park design to meet the criteria listed specifically for car parking in this Strategy, see Section 6.7.4.
- l) Demonstrate waste management is adequately provided for consistent with the *Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery Strategy* and the waste receptacles are appropriately designed for to integrate with other built form in the site.
- m) Construction activity to minimise environmental impact and disruption to open space.

6.7.4 Car parking

In reviewing the need for existing and future car parking designs and requirements for open space, assess them in accordance with the following guidelines:

Guidelines for car parking in open space:

- a) Minimise car parking in open space. Recognise that for Regional and City-wide open spaces some car parking may be appropriate, particularly to provide access for those with limited mobility.
- b) Actively support the provision of sustainable transport options and encouraging fitness and health by improving cycle and pedestrian access to and within open space.
- c) In Regional and City-wide open space, any proposals for new or formalisation of existing car parking are to clearly demonstrate that the car park is required. If it is determined to be required, the car park is to:
 - be sized to meet the minimum requirements
 - minimise impacts on the amenity of the neighbourhood
 - be provided around the open space rather than in the open space
 - minimise the length of road required to access the car park
 - demonstrate that cycle and pedestrian access and circulation has priority
 - that it meets the design criteria listed in (e) to (m).
- d) In proposals to upgrade existing open space, any proposals to change existing car parks will need to demonstrate they meet the criteria listed in (c).
- e) Future car parks are to be of a size that adequately caters to the normal (not event) level of use. Demonstrate how other forms of sustainable transport and access to open space is to be improved including walking and cycling along with public transport for Regional and City-wide open space.
- f) Demonstrate how the parking will be accommodated in the area without undue impact on adjoining land use or undue loss of existing open space area during events where applicable.
- g) Demonstrate integration of safe pedestrian access and circulation to, around and through the car park.
- h) Demonstrate the car park design and construction adhere to best management practice and promote sustainability and safety.
- i) Stormwater runoff is to be captured and re-used or treated where feasible.
- j) Incorporate trees into car parks to improve aesthetics, provide shade, manage vehicle speeds and mitigate urban heat build-up with consideration of adequate sight lines for safety.
- k) Demonstrate the proposed size, material use (including surface finish, vehicle control barriers etc) and the overall design of car parking complements the desired landscape character of the open space.
- l) Demonstrate that proposed lighting to the car park is provided where the open space facilities are in use outside daylight hours by a large number of park users or where there is insufficient ambient light.
- m) Encourage, where appropriate, multiple use of car parking in open space, for example that the surface area is also line marked with basketball/netball towers installed, or available for futsal/handball/tennis hit up wall use.

Guidelines for car parking in open space:

- n) Include priority areas for bicycle parking within car parks or adjacent leisure amenities where applicable.

6.7.5 Natural turf sports fields

The community survey outcomes, site visits and consultation with stakeholders has identified that natural turf sports fields are highly valued and used by the community for structured sport, unstructured recreation and informal use. Some of the natural turf sports fields in Yarra are also designated dog off-leash areas when they are not being used by the sports clubs for match play or training.

The majority are unfenced and are used informally for exercise including jogging, running and walking along with informal ball games and informal uses such sitting on the grass reading. With forecast population growth the demand for both structured sport and unstructured recreation use of these spaces is going to increase.

Guidelines to guide the future upgrade and use of natural turf sports fields in open space:

- a) The sports fields are primarily for structured sporting use and secondarily for the unstructured and informal use.
- b) Optimise the turf species mix to minimise water use and maintain a suitable standard of turf cover for winter and summer season use.
- c) Investigate options to utilise water from sustainable sources (e.g. recycled water, stormwater) for irrigation of the sports turf
- d) Investigate options to include some fencing of the sports fields, particularly where this can demonstrate the ability to optimise unstructured recreation and informal use of the sports fields. For example, fencing to part or all of the sports field, with frequent gate openings to ensure accessibility, may improve the ability to utilising the open space more efficiently. Specifically, this may improve management of dog off-leash use with open spaces.

6.7.6 Synthetic surfaces for sport and recreation use

Council currently has no confirmed position regarding the installation of synthetic surfaces for sport and recreation use.

In conjunction with Council's ongoing program of upgrading sportsgrounds with warm season grasses, the establishment of synthetic surfaces is identified as a potential way to increase the capacity of the existing sports facilities. This Strategy has not assessed the need for synthetic surfaces. If in the future they were confirmed to be required, then the following guidelines would apply to the assessment of their suitability in existing open space. Refer also to Recommendation 6.7-1 regarding developing suitable criteria to assess the suitability of synthetic sports surfaces in open space.

Guidelines to assess proposals for synthetic surfaces in open space:

- a) Demonstrate the synthetic surface is required including a full analysis of the benefits and negative impacts of the proposal.
- b) Demonstrate the effects of replacing natural soil and turf surfaces with constructed synthetic surfaces can be adequately compensated for in relation to the passive cooling role of the open space.
- c) Demonstrate the multiple use and adaptability of the proposed facility, particularly in the context that synthetic sports field surfaces are unsuitable for dog walking/dog off-leash.
- d) Demonstrate that the increased intensity of use and programming of the facility will be appropriate to the scale of the open space.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.7-1	<p>Assessment criteria for location of synthetic sports surfaces in open space</p> <p>Develop the assessment criteria to guide the location of synthetic sports surfaces in public open space in Yarra. A range of implications need to be considered including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impact on environmental values • The change to the character and the types of sport and recreation uses along with the more informal and unstructured uses of the reserve • The impact of increased levels of visitation and associated infrastructure that supports the facility • Access to the reserve. 	YCC	High

6.7.7 Advertising signage in open space

The following guidelines are to assist in providing consistent direction for the provision of advertising signs by the sports clubs, which do not require a planning permit in open space, but do require Council permission to erect a sign on Council land.

Guidelines for review of advertising signage in open space:

- a) Any proposed signs are to be temporary only and are to be removed at the conclusion of the event or season for which they are being proposed.
- b) Signs need to be consistent with the scale and the size of the structure on which it is proposed.
- c) Signs are not to obstruct main view lines into the open space reserve from all pedestrian and vehicle entry points.
- d) Minimise the visual prominence of the signage when viewed from the areas outside of the event for which the advertising signage associated with the club-based use is proposed. This includes no visibility of the signage from adjoining and nearby properties.

6.7.8 Electronic scoreboards

The following guidelines are to assist in providing consistent direction for the provision of electronic scoreboards that do not require a planning permit in open space, but do require Council permission to install on Council land.

Guidelines for review of electronic scoreboards in open space:

- a) Demonstrate the scoreboard matches the scale of the facility and events.
- b) Demonstrate the scoreboard is consistent with the scale and the size of the structure, facility and level use for which it is proposed.
- c) The scoreboard is not to obstruct main view lines into the open space reserve from all pedestrian and vehicle entry points.
- d) Minimise the visual prominence of the electronic scoreboard when viewed from the areas outside of the sports event/field/facility for which the scoreboard is provided. This includes minimising visibility of it from the adjoining and nearby properties.
- e) Demonstrate the scoreboard will only be used during the course of scheduled match play/events.
- f) Advertising is not permitted on electronic scoreboards.

6.7.9 Minor sports related infrastructure

Guidelines for provision of minor sports related infrastructure in open space:

- a) Minor infrastructure including player boxes and equipment storage facilities are to be temporary items where feasible to maximise the adaptability of the use of sports fields.
- b) Storage for minor infrastructure is to be within other existing approved built form on the site, or stored off site.

6.8 Cultural heritage values and public art

6.8.1 Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community cultural heritage values

Whether a place is of Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community cultural heritage significance is determined by Aboriginal Victoria. The following information is summarised from the websites of Aboriginal Victoria and Aboriginal Heritage Council.

Aboriginal Victoria broadly works on:

- Aboriginal policy reform, with a focus on self-determination and treaty
- Community strengthening and engagement
- Cultural heritage management and protection.

In relation to Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, Aboriginal Victoria administer the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, which establishes programs and initiatives to ensure the protection and management of Victoria's Aboriginal cultural heritage. Main responsibilities include:

- Maintaining Victoria's Aboriginal cultural heritage management system
- Evaluating cultural heritage management plans and cultural heritage permits
- Keeping a register of Aboriginal places and objects in Victoria
- Supporting Traditional Owners in community led agreement-making through the 'Right People for Country Program'
- Supporting Registered Aboriginal Parties through funding and Cultural Heritage training programs.
- Compliance and enforcement investigations.

Aboriginal Victoria provides secretariat support for the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council to achieve its functions under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. The Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Council works with key partners to shape policy and to build a better understanding and appreciation of Victoria's rich Aboriginal Heritage.

For the City of Yarra, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation is the appointed Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) for the northern part of the municipality. There is currently no appointed RAP for the southern parts of the municipality.

The *Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023* acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the traditional custodians of the land within the City of Yarra. Council deeply values the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community cultural heritage of the municipality; a heritage that reaches far back to ancient times and continues to this day. The spiritual connections to places within Yarra's municipal boundaries like the Yarra River and the confluence of the Yarra River and Merri Creek extend back thousands of years to the dreamtime. Since the early 1900s, Victoria's Aboriginal community has flocked to Yarra, in particular to Gertrude Street Fitzroy, to find that sense of community that is the strength of Aboriginal people. The *Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023* includes a range of actions that strengthen the partnerships with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island community. With the waterways and open spaces across the city having important spiritual connections,

particularly around Fitzroy and Collingwood, this plan promotes the 'continuing connection' with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community regarding the future management and interpretation of these important spaces in the city. *Yana Ngargna* is 'continuing connection' in Woi Wurrung language.

6.8.2 Historical values

Whether a place is of historical significance is determined by Heritage Victoria. The following information is summarised from the websites of Heritage Victoria and the Heritage Council of Victoria.

Heritage Victoria is the Victorian State Government's principal cultural (non-Aboriginal) heritage Agency. Heritage Victoria identify, protect and interpret Victoria's most significant cultural heritage resources and give advice about heritage matters to private owners, local and state government, industry and the general community. Heritage Victoria administer the *Heritage Act 2017*, maintain the Victorian Heritage Register, recommend places and objects to be included on the Victorian Heritage Register and issue permits to make changes to heritage places and objects, protect Victoria's archaeological heritage and help conserve significant objects and collections.

The Heritage Council of Victoria is an independent statutory authority and Victoria's main decision-making authority on historical values and issues. They provide advice to Heritage Victoria. The Heritage Council Victoria notes that 'Respect for our cultural heritage involves protecting places and objects that have importance to us as a community. Identifying and registering places and objects of cultural significance helps us to protect and conserve them. Heritage places and objects in Victoria are considered to be either of:

- State significance; or
- Local significance

Heritage places or objects of State significance are listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and must meet the Heritage Council of Victoria's assessment criteria. Places that are of State-level cultural heritage significance are managed in accordance with the *Heritage Act 2017*. Anyone can nominate heritage places and objects for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register. Registered heritage places are legally protected and cannot be altered without a permit or permit exception from Heritage Victoria.

Places of Local significance are recorded by local councils and are listed on a schedule to the Heritage Overlay in the local Council's planning scheme. Local government manages the identification and protection of places under the planning scheme. Councils are responsible for issuing planning permits for use and development of heritage places under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

The National Trust is a community organisation that works towards preserving and protecting heritage places. Classification by the National Trust does not entail legal recognition.

In the City of Yarra the following open spaces have been identified to have local heritage significance and have existing Heritage Overlays acknowledging this in the Yarra Planning Scheme.

Table 6-2 Open spaces with existing heritage significance or included in an existing heritage overlay in the Yarra Planning Scheme

Open space	Heritage controls
Alexander Street Reserve	Included in the Gold Street Precinct Heritage Overlay HO321
Atherton Reserve	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Barkly Gardens	Included in the Barkly Gardens Precinct Heritage Overlay HO308
Bath Street Reserve	Included in Victoria Park Precinct Heritage Overlay HO337
Batman Street Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Batson Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Ben Alexander Reserve	Included in Richmond Hill Precinct Heritage Overlay HO332
Browns Reserve	Included in the Charles Street Precinct Heritage Overlay HO313
Bundara Street Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Burnley Park	Included in Heritage Overlay HO299 and HO298 Corroboree Tree
Cairns Reserve	Included in Elm Grove Precinct Heritage Overlay HO319
Circus Site Burnley	Included in Heritage Overlay HO299
Collingwood Childrens Farm	Included in the Abbotsford Convent Precinct and Heritage Overlay HO9
Condell Street Reserve	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Curtain Square	Included in the North Carlton Precinct Heritage Overlay HO326. - but no specific overlay - but has a Statement of Significance.
Darling Gardens	Heritage Overlay HO94
Dights Falls	Part is included in Heritage Overlay HO48
Edinburgh Gardens	Heritage Overlay HO213 and HO215
Edwards Place	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Fairfield Park	Heritage Overlay HO147 and HO146 on the Fairfield Park Boathouse
Frank King Park	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Gahan Reserve	Included in the Charles Street Precinct Heritage Overlay HO313
Garryowen Park	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
George Street Reserve	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Golden Square	Included in the Golden Square Precinct Heritage Overlay HO322

Open space	Heritage controls
Greeves Street Reserve	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Hardy Gallagher Reserve	Included in the Princes Hill Precinct Heritage Overlay HO329 - but no specific overlay - but has a Statement of Significance.
Holden Byrne Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Inner Circle Railway Reserve Parklands	Included in the North Carlton Precinct Heritage Overlay HO326 and North Fitzroy Precinct HO327.
Kevin Bartlett Reserve	Included in Heritage Overlay HO299
King William Reserve	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Langdon Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Mark Street Linear Park	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
McNamara Reserve	Included in the Gold Street Precinct Heritage Overlay HO321
Merri Creek Shared Trail (Upstream St Georges Rd)	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
O'Connell Reserve	Included in Heritage Overlay HO228
Ottery Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Peel Street Park	Included in Collingwood Slope Precinct Heritage Overlay HO318
Peppercorn Park	Included in Richmond Hill Precinct Heritage Overlay HO332
Piedmontes Corner	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Porter Street Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Raines Reserve	Included in the Queens Parade Precinct Heritage Overlay HO330
Richmond Terrace Park	Included in Richmond Hill Precinct Heritage Overlay HO332
Smith Reserve	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Studley Street Reserve	Included in the Charles Street Precinct Heritage Overlay HO313
Thomas Kidney Reserve	Included in the North Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO327
Victoria Park	Heritage Overlay HO352
Wangaratta Street Park	Included in Richmond Hill Precinct Heritage Overlay HO332
White Street Reserve	Included in the Green Street Precinct Heritage Overlay HO323
Whitlam Place	Included in the South Fitzroy Precinct Heritage Overlay HO334
Yarra Bend Park	Heritage Overlay HO300, HO301, HO302, HO307, HO305 (Kanes Bridge) and HO304

Open space	Heritage controls
Yarra River Linear Trail Swan St to Loyala Gv)	Included in HO299
Yarra River Trail (Abbot St to Turner St)	Part is included in Victoria Park Precinct Heritage Overlay HO337
Yarra River Trail (Bridge Rd to Swan St)	Part is included in Heritage Overlay HO299
Yarra River Trail (Johnston St to Clarke St)	Included in Heritage Overlay HO9

From the above list of 55 open spaces that either have Heritage Overlays that specifically apply to them, or are located within a Heritage Overlay Precinct, 4 open spaces have features that are listed on the Victorian Heritage Register and are therefore of State Significance. Heritage Places which are included on the Victorian Heritage Register are subject to the requirements of the *Heritage Act 2017*. These are listed in Table 6-3.

Table 6-3 Open spaces identified as Heritage Places on the Victorian Heritage Register

Open space	VHR Number	Heritage place
Dights Falls	H1522	Dights Mill Site is one of the earliest industrial archaeological sites in the state. HO48 in the Yarra Planning Scheme
Victoria Park	H75	Victoria Park is the former Collingwood Football Ground and the social focus of Collingwood and Abbotsford since the late 1800s and is a national sporting landmark. HO352 in the Yarra Planning Scheme
Yarra Bend Park	H1552	Fairlea Womens Prison, Yarra Bend Asylum (includes gate pillar and remnant trees) HO301 in the Yarra Planning Scheme
Edinburgh Gardens	H751	Fitzroy Cricket Club complex: Grandstand, Timber Gatehouse, Entrance Gateway, Brick Gatehouse HO215 in the Yarra Planning Scheme

6.8.3 Public art

The Strategy supports the role public art has in strengthening and reflecting the local community, cultural heritage, contemporary culture and the inherent landscape character in open space. Public art and cultural activities contribute to the sense of place and community ownership of open space. The guidelines included in this Strategy refer only to the context of public art in open space. The Strategy relies on other council guidelines and policies regarding the appropriate method for commissioning public art. This includes

the *City of Yarra Public Art Policy 2015-2020* and the *City of Yarra Graffiti Management Framework 2015-2020*.

Guidelines for locating public art in open space:

- a) Appropriate in Regional, City-wide and Neighbourhood open space. It may also be appropriate in Local and Small Local where the open space is highly visible (such as public squares and gateways) and/or located within urban centres and high density precincts.
- b) Proposals for specific installations are to demonstrate they complement and reflect the intrinsic natural, cultural and community values of the existing or future open space and contribute to the intended use and role of the open space in which it is proposed.
- c) Future Masterplans for Regional, City-wide and Neighbourhood open space or highly visible open space such as public squares and gateways are to consider the integration of public art as a component of design. The Masterplan does not need to include the design of the artwork, but identify the potential site and design parameters of a future commission.
- d) Permanent installations need to demonstrate they meet relevant standards in relation to design in an outdoor public environment. This includes public safety and risk; longevity; acceptable levels of maintenance and vandalism.
- e) Propose an acceptable process for undertaking any future modifications to the artwork if any significant changes are required to meet updated regulatory design standards.
- f) Appropriate levels and methods for stakeholder and community consultation are to be conducted for any new public art proposal where it is proposed outside a design planning process.

6.8.4 Memorials in open space

Memorials and monuments can contribute to the cultural value of the community and the desire and expectations to commemorate people, events and places of significance. A balance needs to be achieved when considering installation of new or upgrade of existing memorials, with all uses and values of existing open space.

The following guidelines are to assist Council in developing a policy regarding memorials in open space and in the interim for reviewing requests for memorials in open space on a case-by-case basis.

Guidelines for assessing the appropriateness for proposals for new or retention of existing memorials in open space:

- a) The request for a memorial is to be reviewed for consistency with the use and character classification for the open space.
- b) The level of contribution the memorial will have on the cultural and community values of the open space in the municipality. This includes assessment of the artistic merit of the proposal consistent with the directions outlined in the *City of Yarra Public Art Policy*.
- c) The management and maintenance requirements of the proposed memorial.

Guidelines for assessing the appropriateness for proposals for new or retention of existing memorials in open space:

- d) Small memorials would need to demonstrate the positive relationship between the community, the person, the organisation or the event to be commemorated and the open space in which it is proposed.
- e) If Council accepts a proposal for a memorial, it becomes the property of the City of Yarra and ongoing maintenance and issues regarding its relocation, removal or decommissioning will be at Council's discretion.
- f) For existing minor memorials in open space that need to be removed or relocated due to upgrade works, the following protocols will be applied:
 - Council will undertake reasonable steps to contact the donor to return the memorial to them.
 - If the donor requests to retain the memorial in open space, it will be assessed as to the suitability of it in the context of contemporary guidelines and policies.

6.9 Festivals and events

The City of Yarra Arts and Culture Strategy 2016-2020 recognises that the community is made up of people from all walks of life, from many different cultures with a diversity of needs and experiences. Council takes the role of leader and custodian of Yarra's creative community seriously and recognises the value of the creative identity as a key feature of what defines the City of Yarra.

The Arts and Culture Strategy encourages and supports community festivals and events in the public realm including streetscape and public open space. It notes that more 20 cultural festivals and events are held every year along with many local, grassroots and community celebrations.

Existing public open spaces that are available on Council's website for booking facilities in to hold events include:

- **Circus Site**, Burnley with Expressions of Interest required for events of more than 100 people
- **Barkley Gardens** including four defined areas within the Gardens, two of which are suitable for small to medium sized events and two are suitable for large events.
- **Darling Gardens** including seven defined areas within the Gardens including the rotunda which is bookable.
- **Edinburgh Gardens** including four defined areas, two of which are the rotundas and two are open grassed areas defined by paths and trees.
- **Fairfield Park** including two defined area, one of which is the Fairfield Park Amphitheatre which accommodates up to 350 people.

All prospective event organisers need to complete and submit an application through the Yarra City Arts website.

The guidelines included in this Strategy address open space issues only. It is assumed that Council will continue to implement broader policies for festivals and events taking into consideration open space related criteria included in this Strategy.

6.9.1 Community festivals and events open space

Selecting the most appropriate open space for community festivals and events and family gatherings (i.e. 20 people or more) requires consideration in the future. While Council supports and encourages these in open space, Council officers did raise issues associated with the impacts of events and festivals in open space. This is mainly on the health and quality of vegetation with concerns regarding impact on mature trees, particularly compaction of their root zones and also damage to the trees with inappropriate use during events.

The following guidelines are specific only to the selection of appropriate open spaces and locations within them for holding festivals and events. They also provide guidance regarding management of the events in relation to the ongoing community use and enjoyment of outdoor public open space.

Guidelines for assessing appropriateness of community festivals in open space:

- a) Regional and City-wide open space are generally the most appropriate hierarchy of open space for major community festivals and events.
- b) Neighbourhood open space may be suitable for smaller community events subject to demonstrating the anticipated size and impact on traffic access, noise levels and neighbourhood amenity can be reasonably managed.
- c) Proposals for community festivals and events are assessed and where necessary, prioritised based on the following:
 - Enhances sense of community and neighbourhood spirit.
 - Increases community appreciation of the recreational, cultural or natural character and values of the municipality.
 - Has relevance to the community and encourages their attendance, participation, and where appropriate, fitness.
 - Compatible with community expectations regarding appropriate use of public open space.
 - Demonstrates how community access and use of public open space will be achieved and managed for the duration of the festival/event.
- d) Applicants are to prepare event management plans appropriate to the scale of the event including measures to proactively prevent damage to the open space for the duration of the festival/event.
- e) The on-line applications and guidelines are to be updated to define more specific requirements for the protection of existing trees in open space, particularly the older established trees to prevent damage.
- f) All festivals/events to demonstrate best practice management including promoting community health and wellbeing and sustainability.
- g) Provision of waste management plan outlining sufficient waste infrastructure arrangements in accordance with waste minimisation principles and the *Waste Minimisation Strategy*.

6.9.2 Commercial or private events and functions in open space

Guidelines for assessing appropriateness of commercial or private events and functions in open space:

- a) Appropriate in Regional and City-wide open space or selected smaller scale open space where they are located in activity centres.
- b) Demonstrate the event will have a positive contribution to the community and cultural diversity of Yarra.
- c) Demonstrate how local community access and use of open space will be achieved for the duration of the event.
- d) Whether the applicant is based in the City of Yarra.
- e) Demonstrate the event and associated infrastructure will not unduly restrict or impact on the use and enjoyment of the open space by nearby/adjoining residents and workers.

Guidelines for assessing appropriateness of commercial or private events and functions in open space:

- a) Demonstrate that the event and associated infrastructure will not permanently damage mature trees, open grassed areas, plants, natural or built features. Any remediation works will be required to be undertaken either by the event organisers or at their cost at Council's discretion.
- b) Demonstrates the impact of noise, anticipated participants, temporary facilities/infrastructure, site set up and clean up etc are effectively addressed as part of the application process.
- c) Provision of waste management plan outlining sufficient waste infrastructure arrangements in accordance with waste minimisation principles and the *Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery Strategy*.

6.9.3 Commercial use of facilities in open space

A diverse range of commercial use of facilities in open space can occur ranging from personal trainers, product launches and photo shoots. Applications for commercial use of open space are to be submitted for Council assessment and fees are to be payable prior to conducting these activities in open space. The key ongoing issue for open space is to achieve a balance between commercial use of facilities and accessibility and use of these facilities by the general public. Applications to conduct commercial activities in open space need to demonstrate the proposed use meets the guidelines, and considers public access to open space as noted below.

Guidelines for assessing appropriateness of commercial or private use in open space:

- a) That the proposed use or development complements and enhances the broader community use of the open space.
- b) That the visual and physical access to the open space will not be unduly impacted or reduced.
- c) There is a demonstrated community benefit from the proposal.
- d) All proposed activities and use to have a minimal impact on the environment and in particular can demonstrate they meet contemporary best management practice regarding sustainability.
- e) That the proposed uses as a minimum do not conflict with community health and wellbeing principles, and where feasible promote these principles.

6.10 Design and management plans for open space

6.10.1 Overview

Council has a range of existing plans that guide design and management of existing open space. The Strategy identifies the need for Council to prepare additional plans for selected open spaces to guide future upgrades. Preparation of the plans allows for comment and input to the design from relevant Council officers and the community.

The design process for open space reserves is scaled to match the size and function of the open space. Regional, City-wide and Neighbourhood open space have a broader catchment of users and frequently a range of community stakeholder groups such as community organisations and sporting clubs. Masterplans are recommended to be prepared when major works are required for these open space reserves. The consultation process is designed to consult with the broader catchment of users and stakeholders. Additional to the Masterplan, there can be a need to prepare management plans for some of these types of open space, particularly where they have environmental and/or cultural heritage values.

Local and Small Local open space have a smaller catchment of users, and these are mainly the local resident and worker community within walking distance of them. Major upgrades or new open space typically requires a Landscape Concept Plan, with a consultation process focussed on the local community within the walking catchment. Where the upgrades are minor, then preparation of a formal plan is not generally required.

6.10.2 Masterplans

Masterplans will guide the future design of Regional and City-wide open space across the municipality. Where open space has heritage values, investigate if a conservation management plan is required. If required, prepare the conservation management plan prior to the Masterplan.

The following is a list of existing Masterplans for open space reserves, listed in alphabetical order.

Existing Masterplans	Year
Barkly Gardens and Alan Bain Reserve, Richmond South	2006
Burnley Park, Central Richmond	2003
Coate Park, Fairfield	2002
Curtain Square Management Plan, Carlton North	2011
Darling Gardens, Clifton Hill	2015
Fairfield Park, Fairfield	2008
Inner Circle Railway Linear Park Reserve	2006

Existing Masterplans	Year
Mayors Park, Clifton Hill	2013
Merri Parklands Masterplan, Clifton Hill	2001
Trig Point Precinct Masterplan (Parks Victoria), adjoins Fairfield	2012
Victoria Park, Abbotsford	2009
Yarra Bend Park Trails Strategy Masterplan (Parks Victoria), Fairfield	2001

This Strategy recommends the preparation of new Masterplans for the following open spaces, listed in alphabetical order:

Open space	Priority
Burnley Park, Central Richmond	Medium
Citizens Park, Central Richmond	Very High
Edinburgh Gardens, Fitzroy North	High
Mayors Park, Clifton Hill	Low
Smith Reserve, Fitzroy	Medium
Victoria Park, Abbotsford	Medium

The following framework guides the future preparation of the Masterplan:

Framework for preparing Masterplans

- a) Provide an overall design and management direction for the open space for approximately 10 years.
- b) Consultation is typically undertaken with the groups and clubs who use the site, community stakeholders who may be involved in the site, relevant Agencies who own or manage land within or adjoining the reserve, regular site users and the local community. Consultation is recommended to occur in two stages: at the research phase, and at the draft design phase. The Open Space Strategy Survey outcomes (Appendix A to this Strategy) can be referred to during the research phase. This may replace the need to undertake consultation with the local community during the research phase, pending the quantity of surveys received in the relevant precinct. .
- c) Outputs of a Masterplan typically include:
 - scaled drawing of existing conditions and site analysis
 - scaled drawing of design with explanatory notes, photos, sketches etc.
 - management descriptions where appropriate
 - preliminary estimate of probable cost for all the works
 - staged implementation plan
 - summary masterplan report incorporating all the above.

6.10.3 Landscape Concept Plans

Landscape Concept Plans will guide the future design of Neighbourhood, Local and some Small Local open space reserves. These plans are prepared primarily to ensure a coordinated approach to facility provision is achieved and to obtain community input to the future open space design. The process to prepare these will vary depending on the level of complexity. All new open space will require concept plans to be prepared.

Framework for preparing Landscape Concept Plans:

- a) Provide an overall design direction for the open space for approximately five years, as works are generally implemented within this timeframe.
- b) The Landscape Concept Plan is to be guided by a working group made up of relevant Council officers as required.
- c) Consultation at the research phase can either rely on the Open Space Survey outcomes in Appendix A of this Strategy, or be undertaken with the community living within the walking catchment of the open space. Consultation at the research phase will vary depending on the individual reserve. Consultation on the Draft Design will normally include at least the display of the plan on site with a description of how to comment.
- d) Outputs of a Landscape Concept Plan for upgrades to **existing** open space is to include:
 - scaled drawing of design with explanatory notes regarding design and management
 - preliminary opinion of probable cost for all the works with priorities for implementation where appropriate.
- e) Outputs of a Landscape Concept Plan for new open space is to include:
 - scaled drawing of existing conditions and site analysis including scaled tree protection zones for all existing mature trees
 - scaled design with explanatory notes regarding design features and management recommendations
 - preliminary opinion of probable cost for all the works.
- f) Review of relevant Council strategies and demonstrate compatibility and where feasible multiple benefits to assist implementation of other strategies.
- g) Consideration of existing drainage requirements on site to ensure the new design allows for existing overland flows. As constructed drawings to be supplied once the new infrastructure is built.

6.10.4 Heritage and nature conservation values

6.10.4.1 Conservation Management Plans

Conservation Management Plans (CMP) are prepared for open space identified to be of heritage significance in the existing heritage studies or included on the Victorian Heritage Register and Database. The following table identifies the status of the existing CMPs or similar. The open space is listed in alphabetical order.

Open space	Existing guidelines and plans	Additional plans
Alphington Park	Heritage Assessment completed, 2007	Update the Masterplan
Barkly Gardens	Landscape Masterplan, 2006 prepared by John Patrick with consideration of the heritage values	Update the Masterplan
Burnley Park	Conservation Management Plan 2007 and Landscape Masterplan prepared 2003 before the CMP	Review the Landscape Masterplan in the context of the CMP.
Curtain Square	Conservation Analysis, 2001 and Curtain Square Site Management Plan 2011 to address tree health and possum grazing	None
Darling Gardens	Darling Gardens Cultural Significance and Conservation Policies, 1993 and Darling Gardens: A timeline 1852-1922 and the Darling Gardens Masterplan, 2015	None
Edinburgh Gardens	Conservation Management Plan, 2004 (Landscape Masterplan Northern Precinct Plan was adopted by Council in 2018.)	Update the Landscape Masterplan
Fairfield Park Masterplan	Draft Conservation Management Plan 2009 and Landscape Masterplan, 2010	None
Inner Circle Railway Linear Parkland	Conservation Management Plan 2005 and Landscape Masterplan, 2006	Update the Masterplan

The Strategy recommends that prior to major works being undertaken in open space listed in Table 6-2 in this Strategy that a preliminary assessment of heritage values and character is prepared. The preliminary assessment will be undertaken by referring to the existing heritage studies and on site assessment. If an open space is identified as requiring a more detailed heritage assessment, then this is to be prepared for the open space prior to the preparation of any design plans or major works.

6.10.4.2 Nature conservation values

If the open space has any identified nature conservation values, then the appropriate investigation into these values and appropriate protection measures for them is to be undertaken prior to the preparation of any design plans or major works. This includes

reference to the Biodiversity Health Survey (Practical Ecology 2018) and any subsequent strategies and plans that provide further direction and guidance regarding these values.

6.10.5 Detailed design and construction

For all types of open space, once the Masterplans and Landscape Concept Plans are completed and approved by Council, they will be implemented subject to available funding and priorities.

Where the plans include major upgrades for the entire reserve, or significant changes to existing facilities and infrastructure, detailed design would be undertaken to produce a set of detailed documentation drawings to guide the construction. Feedback from internal stakeholders will be sought during the detailed design phase as required for the specific project and may include urban design, streetscapes, natural values, drainage, maintenance etc.

For all new open space being constructed by parties other than Council, detailed documentation drawings are to be prepared and submitted to Council for approval prior to tender and commencement of works.

Where the works to existing open space are minor and straightforward, Council may select to implement the works directly from the Landscape Concept Plan or Masterplan in a staged program pending funding.

6.11 Open space maintenance

The open space surveys indicate that the community is generally satisfied with the maintenance of open space. Public toilets and drinking fountains are the facilities that received greater the highest level of dissatisfaction. In the same survey the community identified that more are required and they are the sixth and fourth most used facility in open space. *The City of Yarra Public Toilet Strategy 2017-2027* provides direction for their provision, design, maintenance and the provision of drinking fountains are currently assessed as park upgrades occur.

From the site assessment work, consultation with Council officers and research, the key issues associated with maintenance is vegetation and the diversity of new infrastructure in open space and the longer term ongoing maintenance costs associated with the increased amount of infrastructure.

New open space designs and upgrades are to demonstrate ease of cleaning and maintenance, including access for litter collection, for cleaning picnic and barbecue facilities and cleaning public toilets. Demonstrate the materials and surfaces used for the proposed infrastructure are easily cleaned/replaced when damaged or as part of the future renewal program.

6.11.1 Vegetation maintenance and management

Trees

Trees are the most valued features within open space and they make a significant contribution 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. It highlights the multiple benefits of trees including the health and wellbeing benefits, environmental benefits and the economic benefits.

Council to consider the following guidelines in future management of trees in open space:

- a) Maximise retention of mature indigenous, native and exotic canopy trees in open space, including measures to allow adequate watering from sustainable water sources during dry periods.
- b) In future open space design, maximise opportunities for planting large, long-lived broad spreading canopy trees and locate recreational infrastructure to benefit from the trees but demonstrate they will not compromise their health.
- c) Increase the diversity of tree species in future plantings to build resilience in the tree population.
- d) In higher density precincts ensure that future open spaces are large enough to allow planting of large canopy trees in addition to providing adequate space for recreational use.
- e) When recreational infrastructure that is located under large remnant trees requires upgrade or replacement, relocate them away from under the canopy of large trees in preference to pruning and modifying the tree.

Remnant native vegetation

Council to continue to protect and maintain the remnant indigenous vegetation and buffer zones around them in open space in accordance with site specific management plans and best practice.

Change to maintenance levels in open space in activity centres

Current research into the use of open space suggests that well maintained open space with natural features such as plants, grass and trees is more highly used in inner urban locations. Research also indicates that green open space with moisture absorbing surfaces including large trees, garden beds and grassed areas assist with urban cooling in high density precinct. With the forecast increased urban densities in Yarra, there will be an increase in the number of open spaces with natural features that require ongoing maintenance. Council will need to plan ahead to consider how this will be resourced in the future.

Open grassed areas

Open space survey respondents indicated that open grassed areas were the second most well used facility in open space in the City of Yarra following walking paths. Grassed areas are valued by the community for structured sport, unstructured recreational activities and for sitting/relaxing on. Open grassed areas are also moisture absorbing surfaces that assist in urban cooling and mitigating urban heat island effect.

Council officers identified there is a potential need to consider irrigating selected open grassed areas in open space so they can be more intensively used by the community for a range of activities including dog walking and informal ball sports. If this occurs then adequate resourcing of ongoing maintenance of these areas will need to be addressed.

Management of compaction and poor soil health

Natural open space areas are suffering from heavy compaction, depleted nutrients, minerals and biological activity due to age and heavy use. Maintenance needs to consider soil health and suitable de-compaction measures as part of the ongoing works.

6.11.2 Public toilets

The open space survey respondents were least satisfied with the maintenance of existing public toilet facilities in open space. Respondents also requested additional public toilets be provided in open space. The provision, design and maintenance of public toilets is provided in the *City of Yarra Public Toilet Strategy 2017-2027*.

6.11.3 Paths

There is a high level of satisfaction with the maintenance of paths in the open space survey. As walking, dog walking and cycling are the most popular activities in open space, continued maintenance of existing walking paths and provision of additional paths where appropriate is required.

6.12 Other agency open space ownership and management

A number of other agencies own and manage some of the open space in the City of Yarra. This mainly occurs along the linear open space corridors and waterways.

The City of Yarra adjoins six other municipalities as follows:

- Cities of Darebin and Moreland to the north
- City of Melbourne to the west
- Cities of Boroondara and Banyule to the east
- City of Stonnington to the south

Use of linear open space reserves along waterways is the main reason visitors are using open space in adjoining municipalities. Future planning of facilities along these linear reserves is recommended to continue to be coordinated between the various councils. Residents and workers in the City of Yarra also visit other open spaces in adjoining or nearby municipalities with some of the key open spaces being Princes Park, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Fitzroy Gardens and Carlton Gardens.

6.12.1 Adjoining councils

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-1	Liaise with the City of Melbourne Regularly liaise with the City of Melbourne regarding the design and connectivity between open space in adjoining the boundary, including Princes Park, Gosch's Paddock, Yarra Park, Carlton Gardens and the Fitzroy Gardens	YCC City of Melbourne	Ongoing
6.12-2	Liaise with the City of Darebin Regularly liaise with the City of Darebin regarding the design and connectivity between the linear open space system along the Merri Creek and Darebin Creek.	YCC City of Darebin	Ongoing
6.12-3	Liaise with the City of Moreland Regularly liaise with the City of Moreland regarding the design and connectivity of open space along the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands. This includes consideration of overshadowing of the open space from private land to the north of the reserve.	YCC City of Moreland	Ongoing
6.12-4	Liaise with the City of Stonnington Regularly liaise with the City of Stonnington regarding the design and connectivity of open space along the Yarra River corridor.	YCC City of Stonnington	Ongoing

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-5	<p>Liaise with the City of Boroondara</p> <p>Regularly liaise with the City of Boroondara regarding the design and connectivity of open space along the Yarra River corridor. This includes pedestrian and cycle bridge crossings over the Yarra River given the lack of a continuous open space system on the City of Yarra side of the River. This includes fauna protection programs such as recent research with sugar gliders, pedestrian and cycle bridge crossings.</p>	YCC City of Boroondara	Ongoing
6.12-6	<p>City of Banyule</p> <p>Regularly liaise with the City of Banyule regarding the design and connectivity of the shared trail along the Darebin Creek. Refer also to Action 6.12-9.</p>	YCC City of Banyule	Ongoing

6.12.2 Victorian government agencies and committees

6.12.2a Parks Victoria

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-7	<p>Liaise with the Parks Victoria regarding future structured sporting facilities at Yarra Bend Park</p> <p>Liaise with Parks Victoria regarding the potential increased role that City of Yarra can have in the ongoing design, management and maintenance of the structured sporting facilities at Yarra Bend Park. This is to better meet the existing and forecast structured sporting needs of the City of Yarra population in the future.</p>	YCC PV	Very High
6.12-8	<p>Liaise with Parks Victoria regarding the future provision of the Main Yarra Trail in Abbotsford</p> <p>Continue to liaise with Parks Victoria to identify opportunities to achieve a continuous off-road Main Yarra Trail link along the western side of the Yarra River. This includes advocating for the purchase of the linear open space corridor for the land included in the Public Acquisition Overlay 2 (PAO2) along the Yarra River corridor through Abbotsford between Gipps Street and the Walmer Street Footbridge. The PAO2 is in favour of the Minister responsible for administering Part 2 of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 for the creation of a continuous linear park/trail system adjacent to the waterway.</p>	YCC PV	Very High

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-9	<p>Liaise with Parks Victoria regarding the future management of the Darebin Creek Trail in Alphington</p> <p>Liaise with Parks Victoria to confirm ongoing responsibility and status of land purchase for the Darebin Creek Trail between Sparks Reserve (in the City of Banyule) and the Main Yarra Trail (in City of Boroondara).</p>	<p>YCC</p> <p>PV</p> <p>City of Banyule</p> <p>City of Boroondara</p>	Very High

6.12.2b Melbourne Water

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-10	<p>Liaise with Melbourne Water regarding the Main Yarra Trail located on their land</p> <p>Liaise with Melbourne Water to confirm the current status of all facilities located on their land to confirm that agreements are in place to retain and maintain these facilities on their land.</p>	<p>YCC</p> <p>MW</p>	Medium
6.12-11	<p>Funding applications</p> <p>Continue to apply for future grants to Melbourne Water for future revegetation and water quality improvement projects along the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek.</p>	<p>YCC</p> <p>(MW)</p>	Ongoing
6.12-12	<p>Regular liaison regarding future works</p> <p>Regularly liaise with Melbourne Water regarding future works along the waterways to build on opportunities for complementary works to be undertaken by both agencies to improve water quality, instream habitat and riparian habitat values.</p>	<p>YCC</p> <p>MW</p>	Ongoing

6.12.2c VicTrack

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-13	<p>Liaise with VicTrack regarding open space on their land</p> <p>Council to liaise with VicTrack as required regarding for future opportunities to expand the open space and or linear path network on VicTrack owned land.</p>	<p>YCC</p> <p>VicTrack</p>	Ongoing

6.12.2d Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-14	<p>Liaise regarding potential conversion of selected public housing land to open space Council to liaise with DHHS regarding the potential for conversion of part of the public housing land in North Richmond to public open space, as identified in Action 7.10A-1.</p>	YCC DHHS	Ongoing

6.12.2e Department of Education and Training (DET)

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-15	<p>Liaise regarding shared use of school grounds Council to regularly liaise with DET regarding the potential for shared access to school sport and recreation facilities including access to school grounds after school hours.</p>	YCC DET	Ongoing

6.12.2f Merri Creek Management Committee (MCMC)

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-16	<p>Liaise regarding ongoing works and funding Council to regularly liaise with MCMC regarding plans and projects along the Merri Creek. Additionally, explore opportunities to seek funding for projects on Merri Creek with MCMC.</p>	YCC MCMC	Ongoing

6.12.2g Darebin Creek Management Committee (DCMC)

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.12-16	<p>Liaise regarding ongoing works and funding Council to regularly liaise with DCMC regarding plans and projects along the Darebin Creek.</p>	YCC DCMC	Ongoing

7. Precinct analysis and recommendations

The City of Yarra comprises the ten different precincts and the analysis and planning for open space has been undertaken at the precinct level. These precincts are defined by the City of Yarra in the Community Profile, and shown in Figure 7A below.

For the purposes of the Strategy the ten precincts have a series of open space sub-precincts within them which are defined by barriers to safe and easy walking access to open space being major roads, railways and waterways. These are illustrated in Figure 7B on the following page.



Figure 7A City of Yarra Precincts
Source: .Yarra Community Profile, .id Consulting <https://profile.id.com.au/yarra>

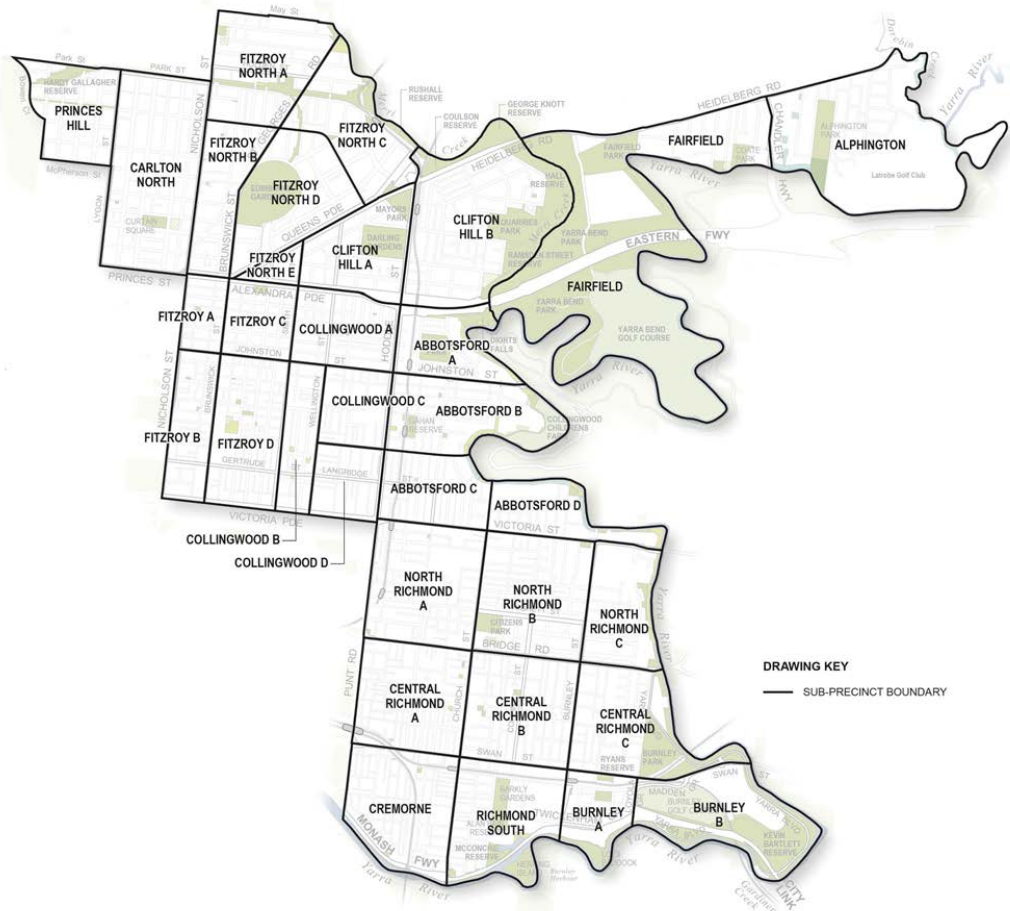


Figure 7B City of Yarra Open Space Sub-precincts

The precincts are assembled in alphabetical order in the chapter and the recommendations are based on applying the open space framework described in Sections 1 to 5 of this Strategy. Each precinct includes a diagram that illustrates the Precinct Recommendations including the sub-precincts in which proposed new open space is located.



7.1 Abbotsford

7.1.1 Introduction

With the Yarra River along the boundary of this precinct, residents in Abbotsford value the diversity of spaces, the natural bushland qualities, and identify the need for additional space as urban density increases. Other key character open spaces in Abbotsford include Victoria Park which is the former home of the Collingwood Football Club, Gahan Reserve, Dights Falls and Collingwood Children's Farm on the Yarra River.

The land use of Abbotsford is mixed with a combination of residential areas ranging from predominantly single and double storey worker cottages and terraces to medium and high density residential apartments along the Yarra River. The higher density residential along with business and commercial land use, is located in Trenerry Crescent north of Johnston Street and Victoria Crescent south of Gipps Street.

Abbotsford also has some core industrial precincts with the largest being the Carlton and United Brewery along with a range of smaller industrial uses north of Gipps Street, which also directly adjoin the Yara River corridor.

Victoria Street is a key retail precinct in the City and the *Victoria Street Structure Plan*, adopted by Council in April 2010, provides the key direction for the future expansion and change within it. Hoddle Street is also a key employment precinct in Abbotsford which extends to the railway corridor and includes the Collingwood Town Hall.

The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* provides direction on the future level of change for residential use within the precinct.

The mixed land use means there is a significant worker population in Abbotsford which is about 36 per cent more than the resident population, as follows:

- Existing residential population 2016: 8,849 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: 12,057 (*Source: SEES, SGS 2018*)

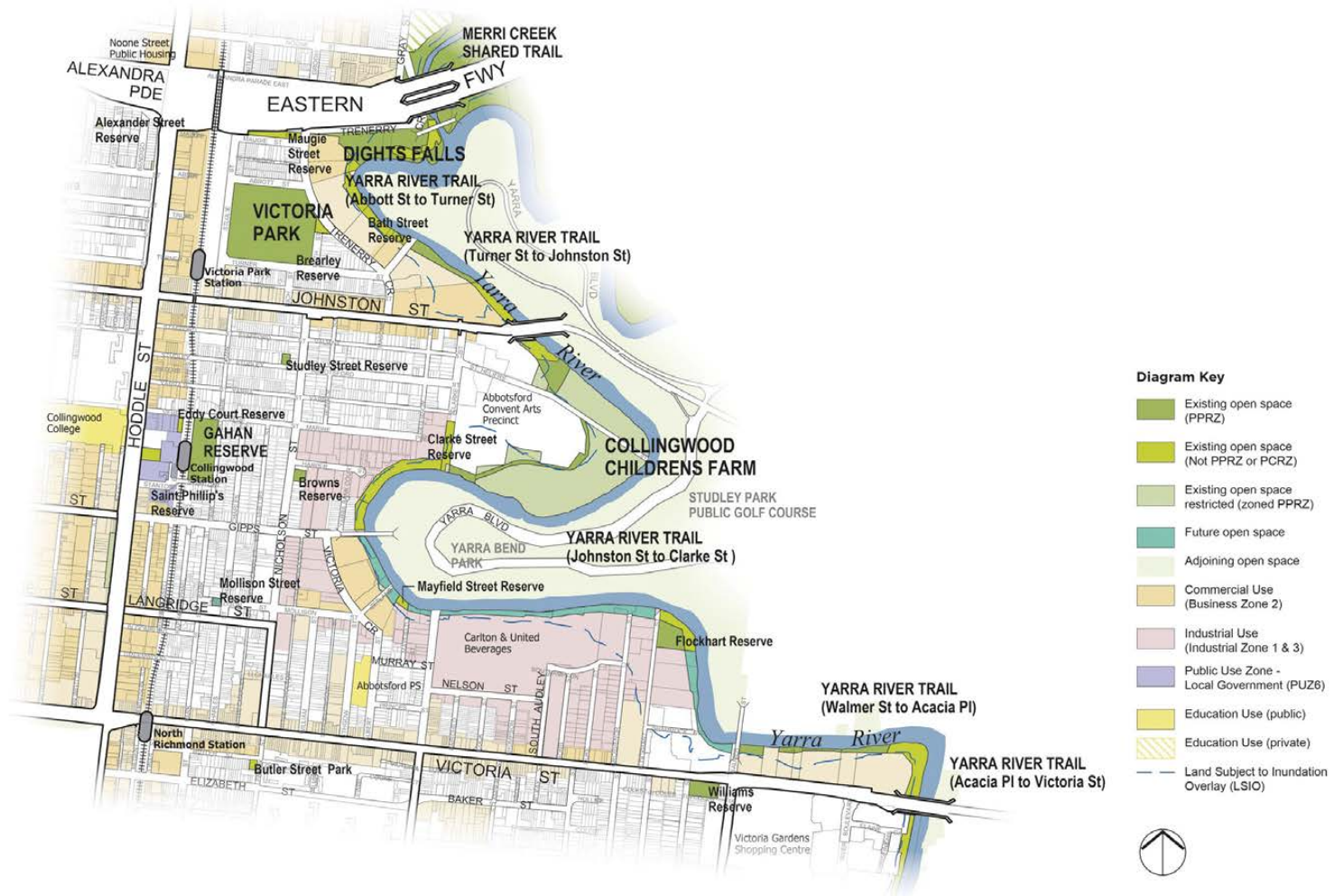


Figure 7.1A Existing open space in Abbotsford

7.1.2 Existing open space

7.1.2a Description

Johnston and Gipps Streets are major east-west roads and along with the Church Street define the four open space sub-precincts, Abbotsford A, B, C and D.



Figure 7.1B Open space sub-precincts for Abbotsford

Abbotsford A

- Open space sub-precinct Abbotsford A is located between the Eastern Freeway and Johnston Street and from Hoddle Street in the west across to the Yarra River to the east.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Bath Street Reserve
 - Brearley Reserve
 - Dights Falls
 - Maugie Street Reserve
 - Victoria Park
 - Yarra River Trail (Abbot St to Turner St)
 - Yarra River Trail (Turner St to Johnston St)
- Open space in this sub-precinct is well provided for. Dights Falls and the two sections of the Yarra River Trail are the key areas of Regional open space along the Yarra River. Victoria Park provides City-wide open space, with Brearley Reserve designated as a Local open space separate from Victoria Park so that it is primarily designed for the local community and can be available for community use when

Victoria Park is being used for structured sport. Bath Street Reserve is a linking space with seating that caters to casual use whereas Maugie Street Reserve provides greening and a buffer between the Eastern Freeway and residential dwellings to the south.

- The land use is predominantly residential and open space east of the railway and non-residential west of the railway.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* identifies a high change area near the corner of Hoddle Street and Johnston Street and a moderate change area along Johnston Street and around Trenerry Crescent. The balance areas directly adjoining Victoria Park are designated as minimal change areas.
- The *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy (2018)* identifies that non-residential use is supported in the Hoddle Street Employment Precinct on the north side of Johnston Street, east of Walmer Street footbridge. This is to support the diversity of businesses and employment opportunities in the precinct.

Abbotsford B

- Open space sub-precinct Abbotsford B is located between Johnston and Gipps Streets and bounded by Hoddle Street to the west and the Yarra River to the east.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Browns Reserve
 - Clarke Street Reserve
 - Collingwood Children's Farm
 - Eddy Court Reserve
 - Gahan Reserve
 - Saint Philip's Reserve
 - Yarra River Trail (Johnston St to Clarke St)
- The Yarra River Trail is well used Regional open space and while the Collingwood Children's Farm is restricted open space and available on a fee paying basis only, views across the farm are enjoyed from the Main Yarra Trail directly adjoining it.
- Gahan Reserve is the key Neighbourhood open space for this sub-precinct and is located near the Collingwood Railway Station.
- Browns Reserve is a well-developed Small Local open space and Studley Street Reserve provides a play facility located in the heart of the local residential area.
- Accessed via the Main Yarra Trail, Clarke Street Reserve has the potential to be improved providing seating/viewing/picnic areas with excellent views over the Yarra River corridor and the Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct. For this reason, this reserve is nominated as a Local open space.
- The land use includes the Collingwood Town Hall, the non-residential use along Hoddle Street and large areas of residential use comprising mainly original single storey terraces. Adjacent to the Yarra River there is a non-residential area between Clarke and Gipps Streets.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* includes a high change area on Johnston Street near the railway, with moderate change along Johnston Street and minimal change in the majority of the precinct and smaller incremental change areas.
- The *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy (2018)* identifies that non-residential use is supported in the Hoddle Street Employment Precinct and adjacent to the Yarra River between Clarke Street and Gipps Street. This is to support the

diversity of businesses and employment opportunities in the precinct.

Abbotsford C

- Open space sub-precinct Abbotsford C is located between Gipps Street and Victoria Street, and bounded by Hoddle Street on the west and Church Street to the east.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Mollison Street Reserve
 - Mayfield Street Reserve
- Mollison Street Reserve is a recently established new Small Local open space providing seating and a small open grassed area.
- Mayfield Street Reserve is an area of open space along the Yarra River which is currently not accessible due to private land on either side of it. This open space reserve will become accessible in the future when the Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) along the Yarra River is acquired (refer to next dot point).
- There is an existing PAO along the Yarra River in favour of the Minister responsible for administering Part 2 of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* for the creation of a continuous linear park / trail system adjacent to the waterway.
- The *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy (2018)* identifies that non-residential use is supported in the Hoddle Street Employment Precinct and adjacent to the Yarra River between Clarke Street and Gipps Street. This is to support the diversity of businesses and employment opportunities in the precinct.

Abbotsford D

- Open space sub-precinct Abbotsford D is located east of Church Street and bounded to the north and east by the Yarra River and to the south by Victoria Street.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Flockhart Reserve
 - Yarra River Trail (Acacia Pl to Victoria St)
 - Yarra River Trail (Walmer St to Acacia Pl)
- Flockhart Reserve directly adjoins the Yarra River and provides a bushland setting and open grassed area with picnic facilities in the adjoining Drainage Reserve.
- The Yarra River Trail is linear open space.

7.1.2b Quantity of open space in Abbotsford

The 18 existing open spaces in Abbotsford have a combined total area of 13.39 hectares. This represents approximately 7.5 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. Additionally there are two existing restricted open spaces being, Collingwood Children's Farm and Mayfield Street Reserve. Combined, these two restricted spaces are 8.79 hectares in size. Adding the restricted open space to the other 18 open spaces results in a total of 22.18 hectares and represents 12.4 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 16 sqm of open space per person relative to residential population in 2016 (excluding restricted open space).

Table 7.1-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
7	Regional	7.19	54%
1	City wide	3.79	28%
1	Neighbourhood	1.03	8%
0	Small Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
4	Local	1.04	8%
5	Small Local	0.34	3%
18	TOTAL	13.39	100%

7.1.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

The linear open space along the Yarra River is an important habitat and recreational corridor for wider Melbourne. It is therefore designated as a Regional open space and is managed to protect and improve the habitat and recreational values. Access to the Yarra River itself, the bushland and natural qualities of this linear corridor are key reasons people visit this open space. Dights Falls and Collingwood Children's Farm are key destinations on the Yarra River in this precinct. Notably, from Gipps Street to Walmer Street Footbridge there is no linear public open space along the City of Yarra side of the Yarra River. This is a key gap in the linear open space system identified in Section 3.5.2 of the Strategy, and as noted earlier, currently has a PAO over this land in favour of the Minister responsible for administering Part 2 of the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978* for the creation of a continuous linear park / trail system adjacent to the waterway.

The sporting facilities at Victoria Park provide the context for the City-wide hierarchy and its sporting character classification. While the main oval is used for elite level structured sport, it also receives high levels of unstructured recreation and informal uses, including exercising dogs, informal ball sports and jogging around the oval. Victoria Park is the former home of the Collingwood Football Club and the oval is used by the Collingwood Football Club for VFL matches, training and also by the AFLW. The reserve is listed as being of state significance on the Victorian Heritage Database as the former the home for the Collingwood Football Club from 1892 until 2005. There is potential to upgrade Victoria Park to a Regional classification given the heritage values and the standard of the facilities.

Gahan Reserve is the only Neighbourhood open space in the precinct, and the community surveys identified this as the most visited open space in Abbotsford. There is potential for improvement to the design and facilities in the open space to better meet the diverse community who live and work nearby.

The network of Local and Small Local open spaces have different characters and south of Gipps Street form the only open space reserves other than the Regional open space on the Yarra River. With the increased urban densities in this precinct, the Local and Small Local open spaces have the potential to have a greater role in urban greening and cooling.

Table 7.1-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Bath Street Reserve	0.08	Small Local	Informal	
Brearley Reserve	0.34	Local	Informal	Nature conservation
Browns Reserve	0.09	Small Local	Informal	
Clarke Street Reserve	0.28	Local	Linking space	Seating/viewing, Waterway
Dights Falls	2.37	Regional	Waterway	Nature conservation, Heritage
Eddy Court Reserve	0.05	Small Local	Linking space	
Flockhart Reserve	0.75	Regional	Waterway	Nature conservation, Informal, Linking space
Gahan Reserve	1.04	Neighbourhood	Public garden	Heritage, Linking space
Maugie Street Reserve	0.26	Local	Significant road reservation	Urban heat mitigation
Mollison Street Reserve	0.05	Small Local	Formal	Urban heat mitigation
Saint Phillip's Reserve	0.16	Local	Formal	
Studley Street Reserve	0.06	Small Local	Informal	Play
Victoria Park	3.79	City-wide	Sporting	Heritage, Formal, Urban plaza
Yarra River Trail – Acacia Pl to Victoria St	0.69	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Nature conservation
Yarra River Trail – Johnston St to Clarke St	1.13	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Heritage
Yarra River Trail – Turner St to Johnston St	0.54	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Nature conservation
Yarra River Trail – Walmer St to Acacia Pl	1.10	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Nature conservation
Yarra River Trail– Abbot St to Turner St (Trail but land is not zoned PPRZ)	0.61	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Nature conservation
Total	13.39			
Restricted open space				
Collingwood Childrens Farm	8.73	Regional		
Mayfield Street Reserve	0.06	Regional	Waterway	
Total Restricted open space	8.79			

7.1.2d Distribution of open space in Abbotsford

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate open space hierarchy as shown in Table 7.1-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.1C on the next page. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in Abbotsford is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

For Abbotsford, the major gaps in the existing open space network occur south of Gipps Street along with the gap in the Regional linear open space along the Yarra River between Clarke Street Reserve and Walmer Street footbridge. These are shown in Figure 7.1C.

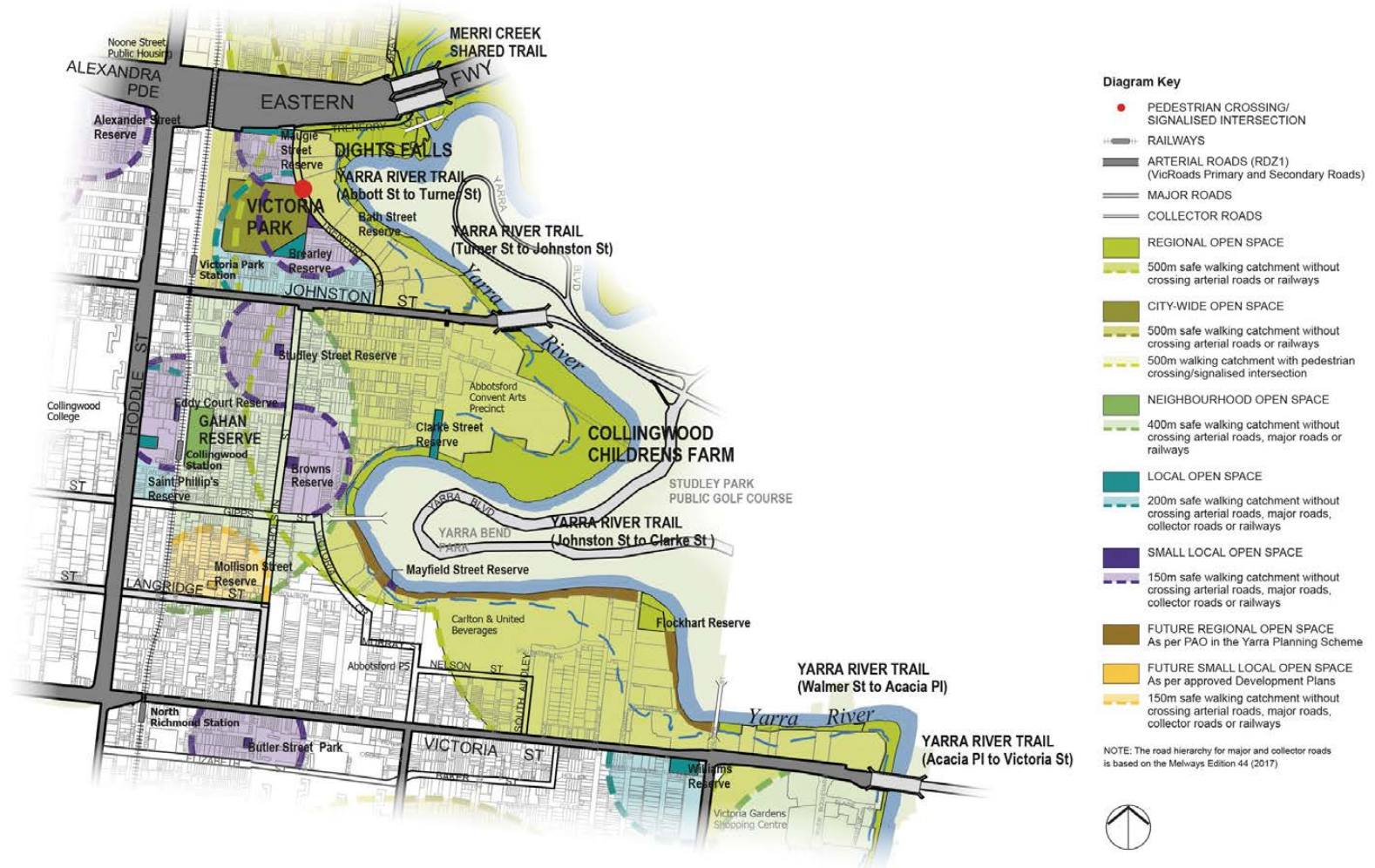


Figure 7.1C Gap analysis for Abbotsford

7.1.3 How residents use open space

A total of 104 resident surveys were received from Abbotsford. A summary of the results of the worker survey is included in the next section 7.1.4. The .id Community Profile identifies that 9 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives in Abbotsford.

Table 7.1-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
45	Gahan Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playing with children (11) Playground (7) Relaxing (6) Walking (6) Dog walking (5) Close to home (4) Informal ball games / sport (4) Socialising with friends / family (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (8) Additional toilets (6) Upgrade the playgrounds (3) Additional car parking required (2) Prohibit dogs off leash (2) Additional exercise equipment required (2)
30	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking (12) Jogging / running (6) Exercising (5) Playing with children (4) Playground (4) Relaxing (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (6) Upgrade the playgrounds (2) Add access ramp at Collins Bridge (2) Additional bins required (2)
29	Victoria Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (7) Playing with children (6) Close to home (5) Exercising (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional playgrounds required (7) No improvements required (5) Shared space – scheduling information required (4)
22	Yarra River Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking (7) Exercising (5) Cycling (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (5) Add link between market and open space (1)
Open space beyond walking distance			
10	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialising with family / friends (4) Picnics (3) Cycling (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional toilets required (2)
6	Citizens Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Markets (5) Dog friendly (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (2) Additional picnic facilities required (2)
5	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beautiful open space (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (1)
5	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking (2) Walking with a pram (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat launch required (1) Add access ramp at Collins Bridge (1)

Values of open space (top five)

- 63% The feeling of space
- 62% Trees
- 61% A place to relax and unwind
- 56% An escape from the built environment
- 56% Health and wellbeing

Types of open space used (top five)

- 89% Open space along Yarra River
- 83% Large parks and gardens
- 81% Medium sized parks
- 80% Local streets for exercise
- 79% Large sporting reserves

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 90% Walking paths
- 77% Seats
- 71% Open grassed areas for informal use
- 69% Cycle paths
- 59% Drinking fountains

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Additional open space is required (8)
- Open space is valued (5)
- Additional public toilets are required (5)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.1.4 How existing workers use open space

While there were no specific surveys undertaken in the employment precincts in Abbotsford, the combined results of the surveys from the other employment precincts in Richmond, Cremorne, Fitzroy and Collingwood confirms that workers do visit open space near their workplace, as summarised below:

Frequency of use of open space near the workplace

- 88% of those surveyed visit open space near their workplace with 60% of them visiting open space at least once a week and 18% at least every few months.

Reasons to visit open space near the workplace

The five top reasons workers visit open space near their place are:

- 77% to be outdoors as a break from work
- 46% to socialise / meet colleagues / friends
- 32% to eat lunch
- 16% to exercise for fitness
- 14% to meet family.

Suggestions for improvements to the open space network

The following list is are suggested improvements by more than 10% of the respondents:

- 33% More open space / green spaces / retain spaces
- 12% More seating and tables
- 11% Cleaning and maintenance
- 11% More greenery and trees

7.1.5 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.1.5a Forecast future population

Quantity

The table below shows the forecast population growth for the residential and employment populations in Abbotsford. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the four open space sub-precincts within Abbotsford have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018 (SEES, 2018)*.

The resident population growth forecast is significant with an overall change in residential population of 43 per cent or an additional 3,822 residents between 2016 and 2031. The worker population is forecast to increase by approximately 32 per cent, with an additional 3,916 additional workers between 2016 and 2031.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 illustrate that there is still additional capacity for growth beyond 2031 in Abbotsford. While this Strategy is primarily

addressing the open space needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe.

Table 7.1-4 Resident population forecasts for Abbotsford open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Abbotsford A	1,518	2,352	834
% change Abbotsford A			55%
Abbotsford B	2,063	2,634	571
% change Abbotsford B			28%
Abbotsford C	1,986	2,571	585
% change Abbotsford C			29%
Abbotsford D	3,282	5,114	1,832
% change Abbotsford D			56%
Total Abbotsford	8,849	12,671	3,822
Total % Change			43%

Table 7.1-5 Worker population estimates for Abbotsford open space sub-precincts

EMPLOYMENT/ RETAIL PRECINCT	2016	2031	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Abbotsford A				
Johnston Street East Retail Precinct	1,907	2,581	673	35%
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	594	778	184	31%
Total estimated working population Abbotsford A	2,501	3,359	857	34%
Abbotsford B				
Johnston Street East Retail Precinct	1,833	2,479	647	35%
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	802	1,050	248	31%
Abbotsford Employment Precinct	576	704	128	22%
Total estimated working population Abbotsford B	3,211	4,234	1,023	32%
Abbotsford C				
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	861	1,128	267	31%
Victoria Street Retail Precinct	980	1,387	407	41%
Abbotsford Employment Precinct	832	1,017	185	22%
Total estimated working population Abbotsford C	2,674	3,532	858	32%
Abbotsford D				
Victoria Street Retail Precinct	1,879	2,659	780	41%
Abbotsford Employment Precinct	1,792	2,190	398	22%
Total estimated working population Abbotsford D	3,671	4,848	1,177	32%
Retail and employment precinct totals				
Johnston Street East Retail Precinct	3,740	5,060	1,320	35%
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	2,257	2,956	699	31%
Victoria Street Retail Precinct	2,860	4,046	1,187	41%
Abbotsford Employment Precinct	3,200	3,910	710	22%
Total estimated working population Abbotsford	12,057	15,972	3,916	32%

7.1.5b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in Abbotsford will place increased pressure and demand on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction from increased use.

The forecast change in demographics with a slight decrease in the number of families and young children and an increase in young adults and older people living on their own means that there will be a likely increase in the demand for facilities that encourage socialising in open space including seating areas and picnic facilities. There will also be a need to promote fitness and exercise by increasing the diversity of facilities that encourage this.

7.1.5c Where change will occur

The forecast resident population increase in Abbotsford will be concentrated in the sub-precincts with the high and moderate change areas in Abbotsford A and D open space sub-precincts. The employment population growth is around 32 per cent across all the sub-precincts, however the greater number of additional works is estimated for Abbotsford B and D. Refer to Figures 7.1D and 7.1E below.

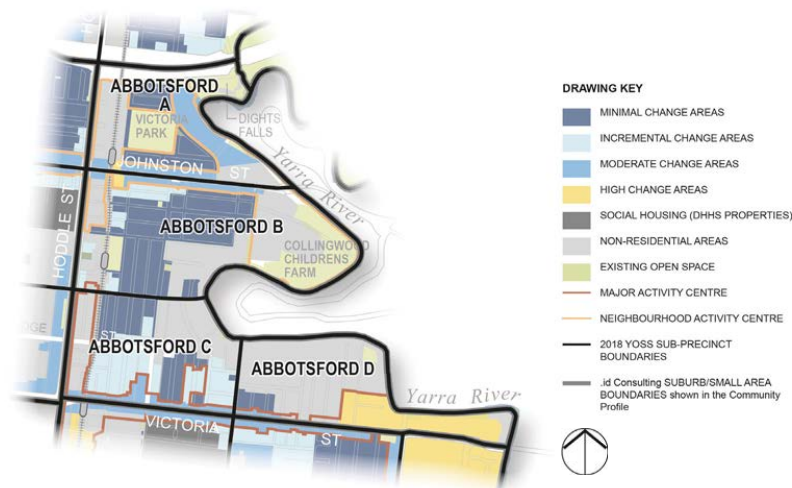


Figure 7.1D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

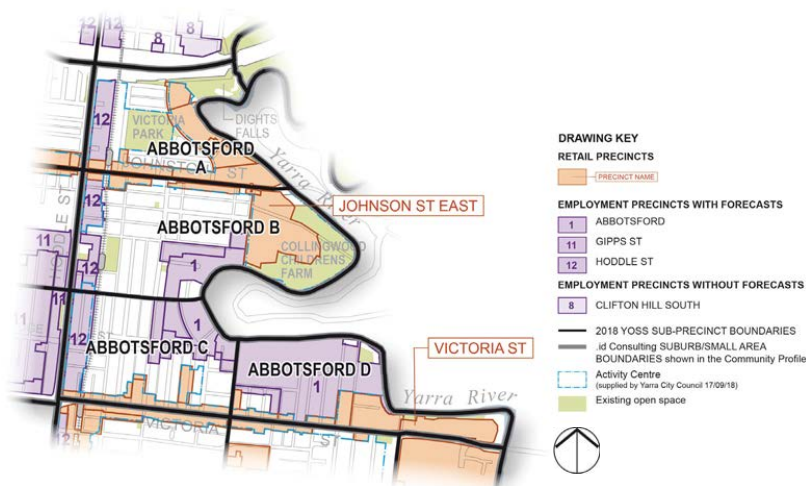


Figure 7.1E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.1.5d Open space distribution and future need in Abbotsford

Within Abbotsford the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in Abbotsford to easily reach open space. The open space survey results confirm that residents travel outside Abbotsford to visit open space, primarily for the beauty and diversity of character in the large public gardens including the Royal Botanic Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens and Edinburgh Gardens. The high value placed on the need to relax and unwind in the open space surveys supports the need to ensure that adequate areas of green open space with natural features are provided in Abbotsford.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Abbotsford A</p> <p>Open space sub-precinct Abbotsford A is located north of Johnston Street. Refer to Section 7.1.2a for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 55 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 834 residents by 2031. Notably however, the forecasts to 2041 indicate a substantial increase post 2031 with an additional 3,087 additional residents forecast by 2041. • A 34 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 860 workers by 2031. • The existing open space network provides diversity of character and facilities and offers a range of recreational uses. • Recommend that Brearsley Reserve remains separate from Victoria Park and is upgraded in the longer term to focus on providing a separate Local open space that appeals to the nearby community and is useable when Victoria Park is unavailable due to organised sporting events. • Continue to maintain the existing open space reserves.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Abbotsford B</p> <p>Open space sub-precinct Abbotsford B is located between Johnston and Gipps Streets. Refer to Section 7.1.2a for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 28 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 571 residents by 2031. • A 32% increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 1,000 workers by 2031. • Continue to advocate for the provision of additional Regional open space along the Yarra River between Gipps Street Steps and Walmer Street Footbridge. It is noted that that there is an existing Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO2) over the future linear open space in the Yarra Planning Scheme. Additionally Council to continue to advocate to provide graded ramp access at the Gipps Street Steps. • While there are no gaps in the provision of open space (other than the identified gap in the linear open space corridor along of the Yarra River), there is a need to upgrade the facilities in existing open space to cater to the increased levels of use of open space. • Undertake a major upgrade to Gahan Reserve including a review of the non-open space dependent community facilities in the reserve to identify options for relocation where required. • Undertake a minor upgrade to Clarke Street Reserve to create a destination Local open space that celebrates the views, proximity to the Abbotsford Convent and its access and use by the existing and forecast population. • Upgrade Eddy Court Reserve to improve its role in the network including consideration of unstructured recreation facilities. • Continue to maintain Browns Reserve and Studley Street Reserve.
<p>Abbotsford C</p> <p>This sub-precinct is bounded by Gipps Street to the north, Victoria Street to south, Hoddle Street to the west and Church Street to the east. Refer to Section 7.1.2a for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 29 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 585 residents by 2031. • A 32% increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 890 workers by 2031. • Continue to advocate for the provision of additional Regional open space along the Yarra River between the Gipps Street and Walmer Street. It is noted that that there is an existing Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO2) over the future linear open space in the Yarra Planning Scheme. • With gaps in the provision of existing open space in this sub-precinct, it is recommended that an additional Small Local open space is proposed in the south east part of the sub-precinct for both the existing and forecast population. This will provide new open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers including those in the forecast moderate and incremental change areas. • Please refer to Figure 7.1F.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Abbotsford D</p> <p>This sub-precinct is bounded to the north and east by the Yarra River, the south by Victoria Street and the west by Church Street. Refer to Section 7.1.2a for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant 56% increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 1,832 residents by 2031. • A 32% increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 1,200 workers by 2031. • Continue to advocate for the provision of additional Regional open space along the Yarra River between the Gipps Street and Walmer Street. It is noted that there is an existing Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO2) over the future linear open space in the Yarra Planning Scheme. • With the scale of forecast change and approximately 3,000 additional people living and working in the sub-precinct by 2031, there is a need for more open space. Therefore, recommend the provision of a new Neighbourhood open space if the Carlton and United Brewery site is redeveloped in the future. This will allow for a diverse range of recreational uses and a key community park established as part of the future change. • Please refer to Figure 7.1F

7.1.6 Abbotsford Recommendations

7.1.6a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Victoria Park, Gahan Reserve and the system of open space along the Yarra River including Collingwood Children's Farm and Dights Falls significantly contribute to the open space character of Abbotsford. North of Gipps Street, open space is well distributed in the precinct, however south of Gipps Street there is a lack of open space combined with a forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population. Key recommendations include to continue to investigate securing a linear open space reserve along the Yarra River between Clarke Street Reserve and Walmer Street Bridge, the provision of a new Neighbourhood Park in the southern part of the precinct where larger land parcels provide the potential for future provision of open space. Combined with this is the recommendation to provide two new Small Local open spaces for the existing and forecast community in the south west part of Abbotsford.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the diversity of facilities and character in selected Local and Small Local open spaces in Abbotsford north of Gipps Street. The new Victoria Park Masterplan will improve the structured and unstructured sport and recreation use. The open space designs will focus on improved urban greening, particularly in the higher density areas to contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect. If the CUB site redevelops, the future Neighbourhood open space will focus on providing unstructured recreation facilities for the forecast community.

Refer to Figure 7.1F for the spatial location of recommendations for Abbotsford.

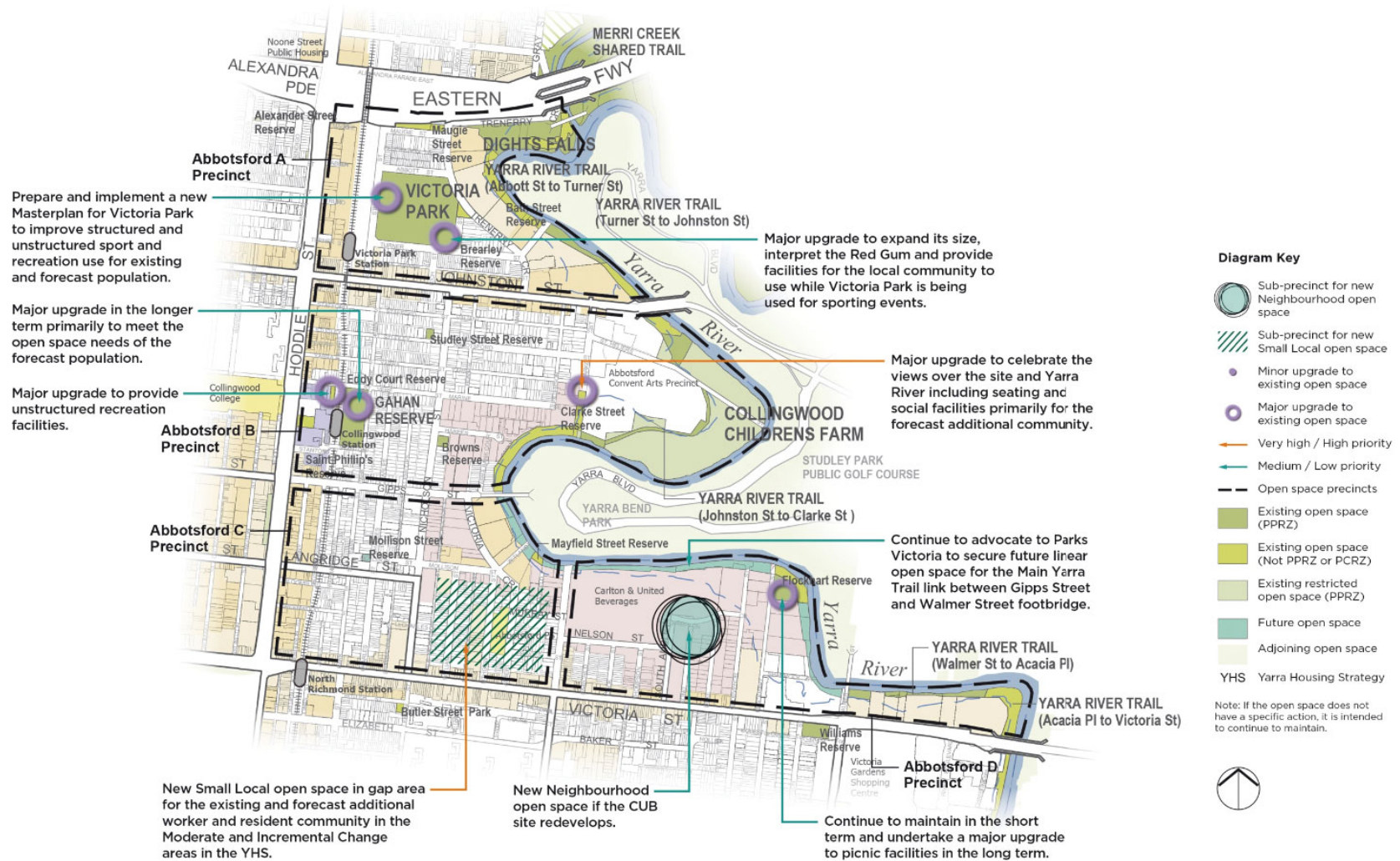


Figure 7.1F Recommendations for Abbotsford

7.1.6b Precinct Actions for Abbotsford

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.1A-1	Provide an additional Small Local open space in the south west part of open space sub-precinct Abbotsford C for both the existing and forecast population. The new open space is to be located south of Langridge Street between the railway and Nicholson Street.	YCC	High
7.1A-2	Provide an additional Neighbourhood open space if the large scale industrial uses are redeveloped. This would primarily be for the forecast population.	YCC	Subject to development timing

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.1B-1	Bath Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.1B-2	Brearley Reserve Undertake a major upgrade to protect and interpret the existing Red Gum including expanding the size of the reserve utilising part of the road reserve to create more space around the Red Gum. Future design to provide facilities for the local community to use this reserve when major sporting events are held at Victoria Park. This is for both the existing and forecast population.	YCC	Low
7.1B-3	Browns Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.1B-4	Clarke Street Reserve Undertake a major upgrade to this open space to provide seating and picnic area with views over the Yarra River and the Abbotsford Convent site and indigenous revegetation to improve the biodiversity values and potentially include interpretive signage regarding the natural and cultural values of the site.	YCC	High
7.1B-5	Collingwood Childrens Farm Continue to maintain.	CCFCoM	Ongoing
7.1B-6	Dights Falls Continue to maintain.	YCC PV MW	Ongoing
7.1B-7	Eddy Court Reserve Undertake a major upgrade to this linking space including investigating providing addition active unstructured recreation facilities to encourage greater use of this open space adjacent to the railway reserve.	YCC PTV	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.1B-8	Flockhart Reserve Continue to maintain in the short term. In the medium term when there is additional residential use and improved passive surveillance, then undertake major a major upgrade to improve the visitor and picnic facilities at Flockhart Reserve.	YCC MW	Medium
7.1B-9	Gahan Reserve Undertake major upgrades to this open space in the longer term primarily to meet the needs of the forecast population. This is to include investigating appropriate uses for the Maternal Child and Health facility that will complement the open space.	YCC	Low
7.1B-10	Maugie Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.1B-11	Saint Phillip's Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.1B12	Studley Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.1B-13	Victoria Park Prepare and implement a new Masterplan to improve the structured and unstructured sport and recreation use in the context of forecast growth and change.	YCC	Medium
7.1B-14	Yarra River Trail– Abbot St to Turner St (Land is not zoned PPRZ) Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.1B-15	Yarra River Trail – Acacia PI to Victoria St Continue to maintain.	YCC, PV MW	Ongoing
7.1B-16	Yarra River Trail – Johnston St to Clarke St Continue to maintain.	YCC, PV, MW	Ongoing
7.1B-17	Yarra River Trail – Turner St to Johnston St Continue to maintain.	YCC, PV, MW	Ongoing
7.1B-18	Yarra River Trail – Walmer St to Acacia PI Continue to maintain.	YCC, PV, MW	Ongoing



7.2 Carlton North - Princes Hill

7.2.1 Introduction

Princes Park adjoins the western boundary and Nicholson Street defines the eastern boundary, with Park Street Reserve to the north and Princes Street to the south. Located in the City of Melbourne, Princes Park and the Melbourne General Cemetery are both accessible from this precinct and the mature overstorey trees and non-residential nature of these areas assist to define this precinct's character.

The urban layout and consistent Victorian row terraces assist to define the areas unique character including the strong grid layout with wide streetscapes and central medians combined with the large mature street trees and the historic terrace single and double storey dwellings. The majority of the precinct is residential with some distinct pockets of commercial and retail precincts along Nicholson, Rathdowne and Lygon Streets. Other non-residential land use includes the Princes Hill Primary and Secondary Schools and the Carlton North Primary School. Curtain Square is located in Carlton North and is Victorian era garden that complements the Victorian style architecture of the neighbourhood around it.

By comparison, Hardy Gallagher Reserve is the key open space in Princes Hill with an informal character that combines some original plantings from the former Inner Circle Railway reserve with native trees. While not located in the City of Yarra, Princes Park directly adjoins Princes Hill and significantly contributes to the open space and landscape character.

- Existing residential population 2016: 9,010 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: No data is available (*Source: SEES, SGS 2018*)



Figure 7.2A Existing open space in Carlton North - Princes Hill

7.2.2 Existing open space

7.2.2a Description

The major roads define the boundaries of the two suburbs of Carlton North and Princes Hill and these have been used as the open space sub-precincts, as shown in Figure 7.2B below.



Figure 7.2B Open space sub-precincts for Carlton North and Princes Hill

Carlton North

- Open space sub-precinct Carlton North is located between Lygon and Nicholson Streets, from Park Street Reserve/Municipal boundary in the north to Princes Street in the South.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Curtin Square
 - Nicholson Street Reserve
 - Park Street Reserve
 - Shakespeare Reserve
- Curtin Square is the largest and most visited open space in the precinct. The mature established trees significantly contribute to its character and its size means people visit it for a variety of reasons including the playground, the open grassed areas and the fenced dog off-leash area.
- Park Street Reserve forms part of the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands and provides off-road east west connectivity to Merri Creek Corridor and Hardy Gallagher Reserve and on to Princes Park in the City of Melbourne.
- Shakespeare Reserve is a Small Local open space with some mature native trees, grassed and seats.
- Nicholson Street Reserve is located on the corner of Alexandra Parade and Nicholson Street and is significantly encumbered by the arterial road noise and movement. The

Canary Island Date Palm is the key feature of the reserve and it appears to be regularly used as a pedestrian cut through.

- While Canning Street is a popular north/south cycle link and the central median has mature existing trees, the median is less than 10 metres wide and is the reason it is not included as public open space in the Strategy.
- The land use is predominantly residential with the retail and business/commercial use along Rathdowne Street in the vicinity of Curtain Square and along Nicholson Street.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies two incremental change areas. One is in located around Curtain Square on Rathdowne Street and the other is along Nicholson Street.

Princes Hill

- Open space sub-precinct Princes Hill is located between Princes Park (Bowen Crescent) and Lygon Street, with Park Street to the north and McPherson Street to the south.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Hardy Gallagher Reserve
 - Pigdon Street Central Median
- Hardy Gallagher Reserve forms part of the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parkland and includes the former Carlton North Railway Station which is protected on the site today. The reserve includes the shared trail, open grassed area with scattered trees, playground and the Princes Hill Bocce Club.
- Pigdon Street Central Median is included as part of the open space system given the median is greater than 10 metres wide, contains mature established trees and has the potential to be used as public open space with seating.
- Princes Park is a key adjoining open space that is easily accessible for the community in Princes Hill and Carlton North. Located in the City of Melbourne, this open space is accessible via the local street network and the linear open space system via Hardy Gallagher Reserve.
- The land use is predominantly residential combined with education use with Princes Hill Primary School and Secondary College.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies the entire area of Princes Hill as Minimal Change.

7.2.2b Quantity of open space in Carlton North - Princes Hill

The 6 existing open spaces in Carlton North - Princes Hill have a combined total of 6.23 hectares. This represents approximately 4.4 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 7 sqm of open space per person relative to residential population in 2016.

Table 7.2-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
0	Regional	0.00	0%
2	City wide	4.18	67%
1	Neighbourhood	1.46	23%
0	Small Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
1	Local	0.46	8%
2	Small Local	0.13	2%
6	TOTAL	6.23	100%

7.2.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

The Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands define the northern extent of this precinct and are classified as City-wide open space given the linear connectivity they provide between the Merri Creek open space corridor and Princes Park in the City of Melbourne. Hardy Gallagher Reserve has space for the potential to include more neighbourhood level facilities including the current proposal for an urban agriculture facility. Currently, the North Carlton Neighbourhood House is located in the historic station building and the Princes Hill Pentaque Club is also located in the reserve.

Curtain Square is the other Neighbourhood open space and provides for a diversity of needs and is classified as a public garden in recognition of this. Pigdon Street Central Median is a Local open space due to its size, however its use is limited by the width and it can only be used primarily for seating. It is classified as Significant Road Reservation in recognition of its role in the network. Shakespeare Reserve is the only Small Local open space and is classified as Seating/viewing.

Table 7.2-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Curtain Square	1.46	Neighbourhood	Heritage	Public garden, Botanical, Play
Hardy Gallagher Reserve	3.28	City-wide	Linear	Heritage, Linking space, Service easement
Nicholson Street Reserve	0.08	Small Local	Significant Road Reserve	
Park Street Reserve	0.90	City-wide	Linear	Linking Space, Service easement
Pigdon Street Median	0.46	Local	Significant road reservation	Heritage
Shakespeare Reserve	0.05	Small Local	Informal	Native bushland, Urban heat mitigation
Total	6.23			

7.2.2d Distribution of open space in Carlton North - Princes Hill

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate hierarchy as shown in Table 7.2-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.2C on the next page. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in Carlton North - Princes Hill is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

There are no gaps in the provision of open space in Princes Hill, with excellent access to the Princes Park in the City of Melbourne and also to Hardy Gallagher Reserve.

In Carlton North the existing open spaces are located in the north and south of the precinct meaning that people living centrally in the precinct do not have an existing open space within a safe and easy walk as shown in Figure 7.2C on the following page.

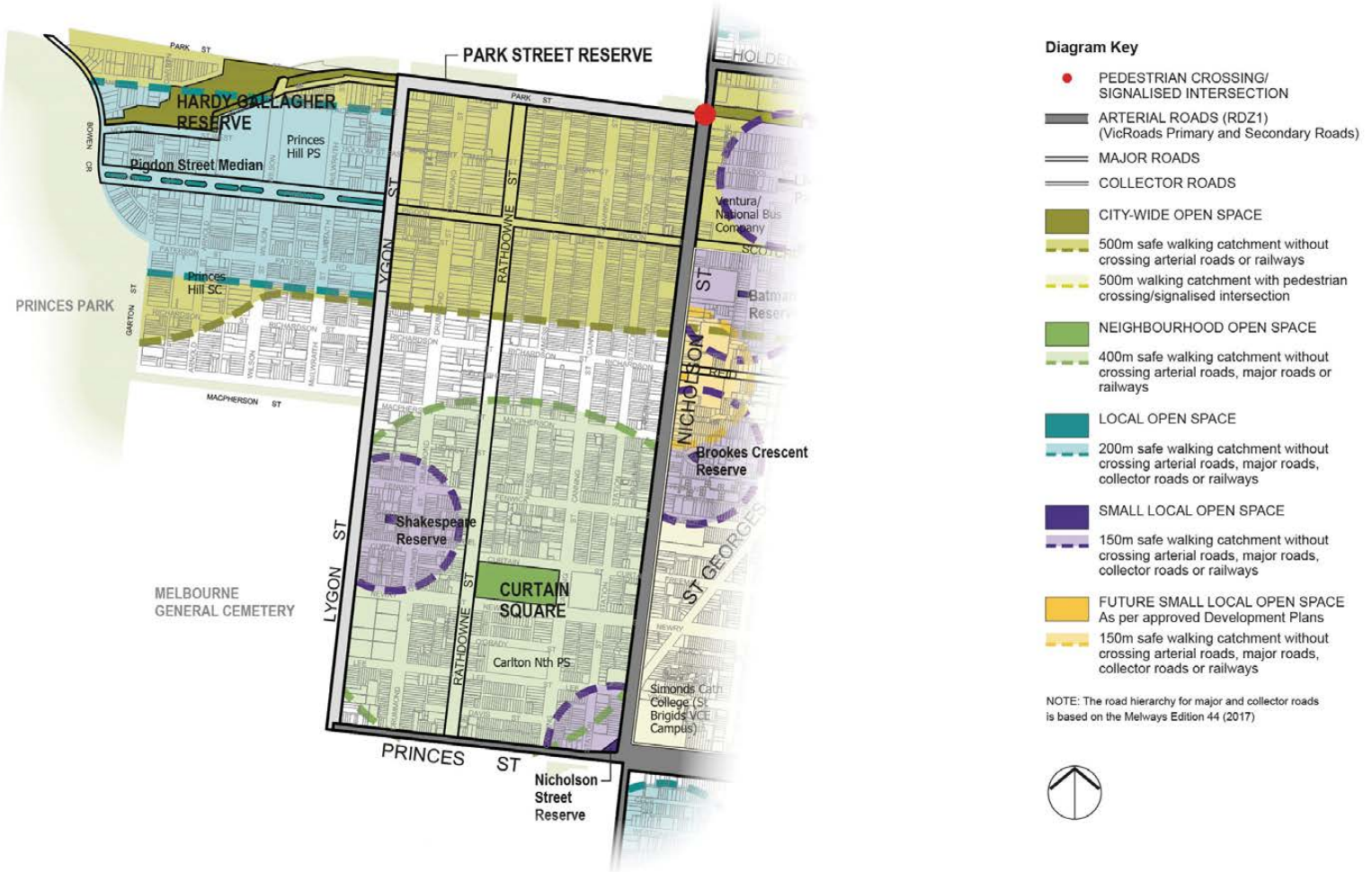


Figure 7.2C Gap analysis for Carlton North - Princes Hill

7.2.3 How residents use open space

A total of 81 resident surveys were received from Carlton North – Princes Hill, which represents 6 per cent of the total surveys received. The .id Community Profile identifies that 10 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives in this precinct.

Table 7.2.3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
44	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relaxing (8) Walking (7) Socialising with friends / family (6) Dog walking (5) Exercising dogs (4) Dog friendly (4) Exercising dogs (4) Playing with children (4) Playground (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (5) Additional toilets required (5) Upgrade required (3) More bins required (2)
35	Curtain Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground (8) Playing with children (7) Relaxing (5) Close to home (4) Socialising with friends / family (4) Walking (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More grass required in dog of leash areas (3) No improvements required (3) Upgrade toilets (3)
24	Princes Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (7) Walking (6) Exercising (5) Playground (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional exercise equipment required (3) No improvements required (2) Additional trees required (2)
13	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to school (3) Playground (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade playground (4) Change bocce court into community gardens (3) Redevelop bocce court (3)
Open space beyond walking distance			
6	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relaxing (2) Socialising with friends / family (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (3)
6	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beautiful open space (3) Walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (3)
6	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog agility park required (1) Dog drinking facilities required (1)
4	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog friendly (1) Health and well-being (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More basketball courts required (1) Shade needed over playground equipment (1)

Values of open space (top five)

- 88% Trees
- 74% Place to relax and unwind
- 73% The feeling of space
- 73% An escape from the built environment
- 61% just being outside

Types of open space used (top five)

- 96% Large parks and gardens
- 88% Medium sized parks
- 83% Open space along the Yarra River
- 83% Small local parks
- 78% Urban Squares

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 86% Walking paths
- 81% Open grassed areas
- 77% Cycle paths
- 72% Drinking fountains
- 72% Seats

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Additional open space is required (5)
- No improvements required (4)
- Additional open space is required as a density increases (4)
- Open space is valued (4)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.2.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.2.4a Forecast future population

Quantity

The table below shows the forecast residential population in Carlton North - Princes Hill. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the two open space sub-precincts of Carlton North and Princes Hill have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018). There is no worker population estimate available for this precinct.

The resident population is forecast to decline by 2 per cent with 167 less residents between 2016 and 2031. While this Strategy is primarily addressing the open space

needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe. The forecasts to 2041 show a 2 per cent increase.

Table 7.2-4 Resident population forecasts for Carlton North - Princes Hill open space sub-precincts

SUBPRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Princes Hill	2,250	2,177	-73
% change Princes Hill			-3%
Carlton North	6,760	6,666	-94
% change Carlton North			-1%
Total Carlton North and Princes Hill	9,010	8,843	-167
Total % Change			-2%

7.2.4b Population change impacts on open space

The minor reduction in the quantity of people living and working in Carlton North - Princes Hill is not anticipated to have a noticeable impact on open space.

The forecast change in demographics is proportionally a slight increase in the percentage of lone person households and a slight decline in the proportion of couple families with dependents.

7.2.4c Where change will occur

The majority of Carlton North - Princes Hill is defined as Minimal Change in the *Yarra Housing Strategy, 2018* (YHS, 2018), with small areas of incremental change along Nicholson Street and Rathdowne Street. Refer to Figures 7.2D and 7.2E below.

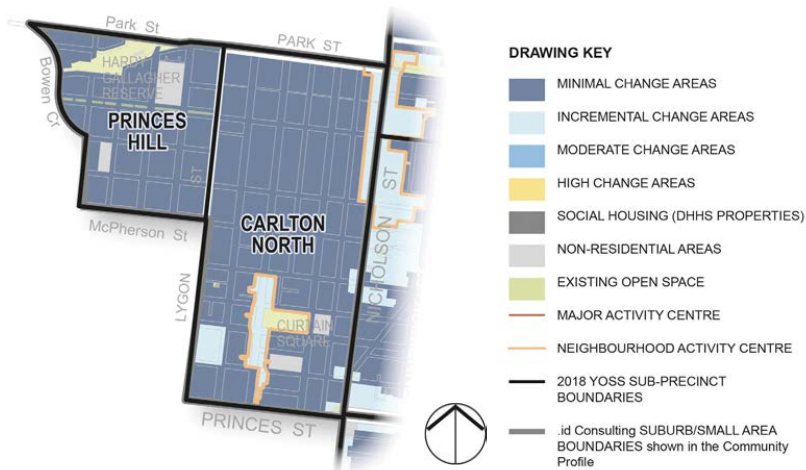


Figure 7.2D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

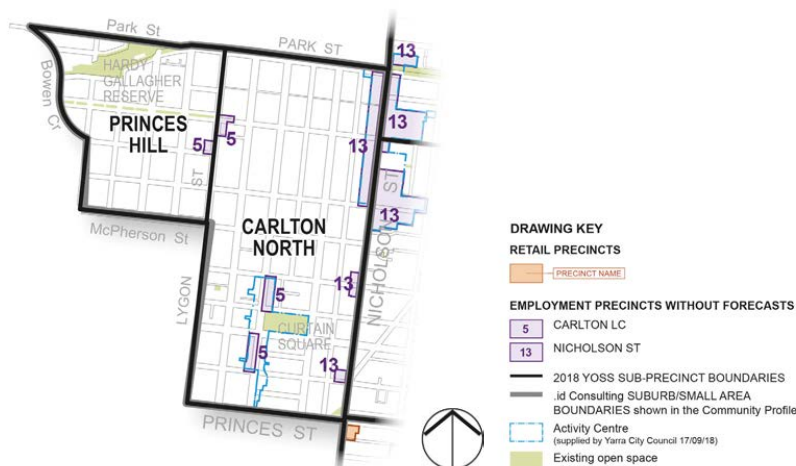


Figure 7.2E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.2.4d Open space distribution and future need in Carlton North - Princes Hill

Within Carlton North - Princes Hill the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. The sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in Carlton North - Princes Hill to easily reach open space. The open space survey results confirm that residents travel outside Carlton North - Princes Hill to visit open space, primarily to Edinburgh Gardens and Princes Park, mainly for walking, dog walking, exercise and relaxing. While this is the case, people are also visiting Curtain Square and to a lesser extent Hardy Gallagher Reserve, both of which are used for play and enjoying the space and because it is close to home. The high value placed on trees and the need to relax and unwind in the open space surveys supports the need to ensure that adequate areas of green open space with natural features are provided in Carlton North - Princes Hill.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Carlton North Refer to Section 7.2.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 1 per cent decline in the resident population is forecast with a loss of 94 residents by 2031. • The existing open space network is diverse with potential for minor improvements and provision of an additional Small Local open space to address the existing gap area shown in Figure 7.2C. • Recommend a new Small Local open space central to the sub-precinct, as shown in Figure 7.2G. This is to provide an accessible and visible green open space, most likely achieved as part of a future road closure. • Undertake minor upgrades to Curtain Square to review the resolve the dog off-lead area. • Minor upgrades to Shakespeare Reserve to improve seating.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Princes Hill</p> <p>Refer to Section 7.2.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 3 per cent decline of 73 residents by 2031. • There are no gaps in the provision of open space in Princes Hill. • Upgrade Hardy Gallagher Reserve including the playground and picnic/social facilities.

7.2.5 Carlton North - Princes Hill Recommendations

7.2.5a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

The east-west linear open space provides excellent off-road shared trail connectivity to open space outside the precinct. Curtain Square and Hardy Gallagher Reserve provide neighbourhood level facilities for each sub-precinct and are supplemented by some Local and Small Local open spaces. The one gap in the open space network is proposed to be addressed with the provision of an additional Small Local open space.

Quality and design

There is potential to undertake some minor improvements to the quality of facilities in the existing open space network.

Refer to Figure 7.2F for the spatial location of recommendations for Carlton North - Princes Hill on the following page.

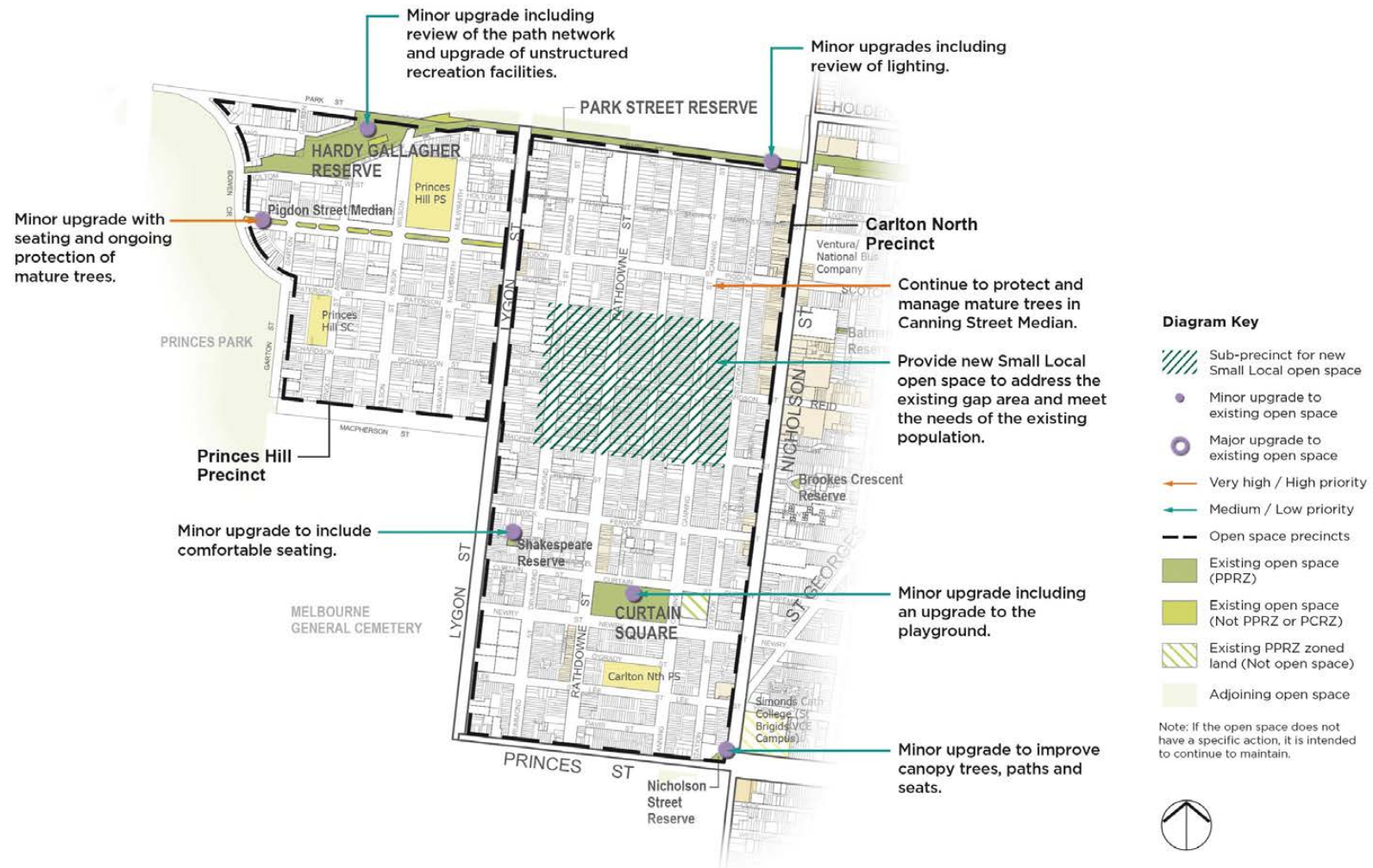


Figure 7.2F Recommendations for Carlton North - Princes Hill

7.2.5b Precinct Actions for Carlton North - Princes Hill

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2A-1	Provide a new Small Local open space in Carlton North to address the gap area for the existing population.	YCC	Medium

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2B-1	Canning Street Median Continue to protect and manage the mature trees	YCC	Ongoing
7.2B-2	Curtain Square Minor upgrade to Curtain Square including an upgrade to the existing playground.	YCC	High
7.2B-3	Hardy Gallagher Reserve Undertake a minor upgrade to the reserve including review of the existing path network, upgrade of unstructured recreation facilities and signage regarding the proposed new urban agricultural facility at the Neighbourhood house.	YCC	Medium
7.2B-4	Nicholson Street Reserve Minor upgrade to improve the overstorey canopy trees, path and seats.	YCC DHHS	Medium
7.2B-5	Park Street Reserve (Inner Circle Railway Parklands) Review the Linear Park Masterplan and function of this site within the network and undertake minor upgrades including review of lighting.	YCC	Low
7.2B-6	Pigdon Street Median Continue to protect and manage the mature trees and upgrade to include seating and associated park infrastructure including drinking fountain.	YCC	High and Ongoing
7.2B-7	Shakespeare Reserve Undertake a minor upgrade to improve the seating opportunities in this reserve.	YCC	Medium



7.3 Central Richmond

7.3.1 Introduction

Central Richmond is bounded to the north by Bridge Road, to the south by Swan Street, the west by Punt Road and the east by the Yarra River (Birrarung). The ridgeline of Richmond Hill runs to the west of Church Street with the land falling away from the ridgeline to the south west and to the east towards the Yarra River.

The land use of Central Richmond is mixed with a combination of residential, business, commercial, retail, industrial use and open space. Bridge Road and Swan Street are major retail, commercial and business precincts in Central Richmond. The *Swan Street Structure Plan*, prepared in 2014, provides the direction for the future built form, building heights and public realm improvements. The study area includes the properties directly adjoining north side and south side of Swan Street and the Tanner Street Precinct as well. The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* provides direction on the future level of change for residential use within the precinct. The *Bridge Road Streetscape Masterplan*, adopted by Council in 2017 identifies streetscape improvement projects including identifying potential future public spaces along its spine. The *Swan Street Structure Plan (2014)* guides the future land use change and development within the study area which included Cremorne, South Richmond and Burnley as well.

The mixed land use means there is a significant worker population in Central Richmond which is about 20 per cent less than the resident population, as follows:

- Existing residential population 2016: 13,888 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: 9,820 (*Source: SEES, SGS 2018*)

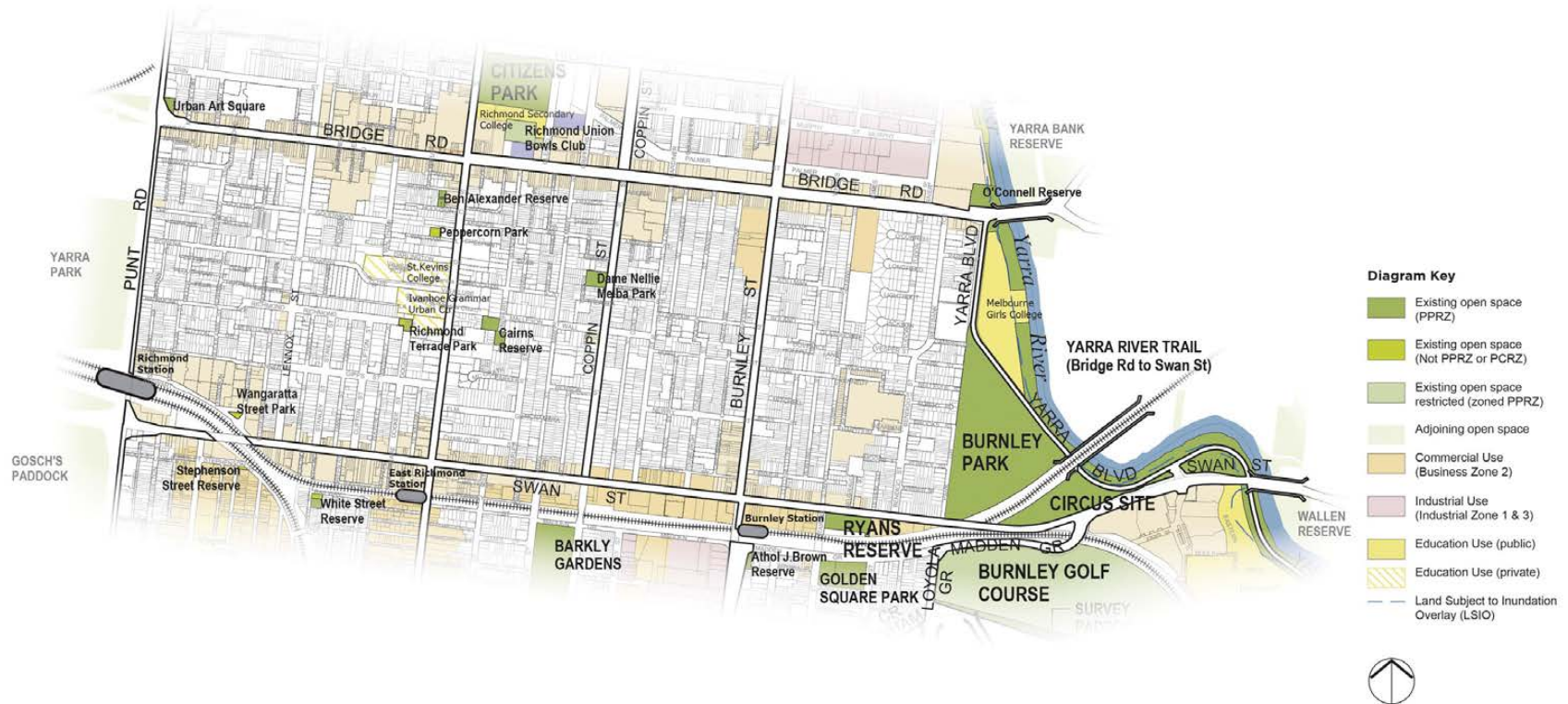


Figure 7.3A Existing open space in Central Richmond

7.3.2 Existing open space

7.3.2a Description

Church and Burnley Streets are major north south roads in Central Richmond and define three open space sub-precincts, Central Richmond A, B and C.

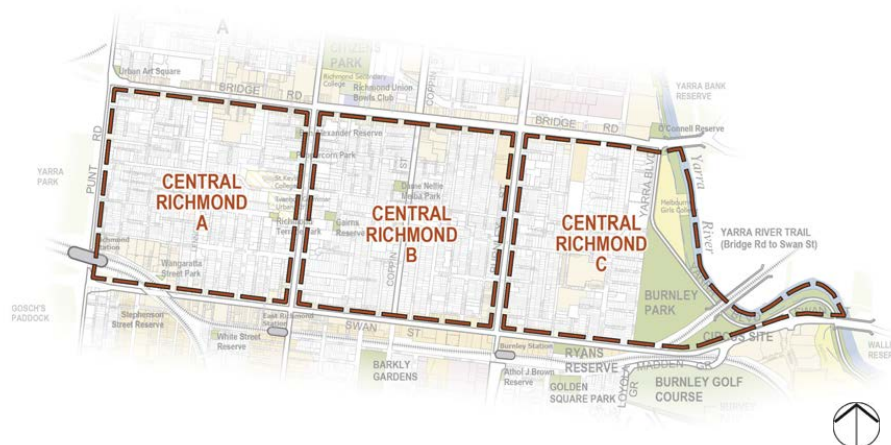


Figure 7.3B Open space sub-precincts for Central Richmond

Central Richmond A

- Open space sub-precinct Central Richmond A is located between Punt Road and Church Street, from Bridge Road in the north to Swan Street in the south.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Ben Alexander Reserve
 - Peppercorn Park
 - Richmond Terrace Park
 - Wangeratta Street Park
- Three of the four Small Local open spaces are located towards Church Street in the east, with Wangeratta Street Park located in the south west as part of the Tanner Street area. Therefore there are gaps in open space provision in this sub-precinct.
- Richmond Terrace Park is characterised as a public square with views, seating, barbecue and picnic facilities, Ben Alexander Reserve is predominantly for play, Peppercorn Park is botanical and seating and Wangeratta Street Park is characterised as a public square.
- Yarra Park adjoins Central Richmond A, located across Punt Road in the City of Melbourne. The open space survey outcomes identify that the worker community visit this open space. Yarra Park has a key role in the providing car parking for the MCG and other key sporting facilities in the precinct.
- The land use includes the major employment precinct associated with Swan Street near Richmond Station in the south west, business and retail in the north along Bridge Road and with the church and catholic school on the hill adjoining Church Street. The remainder is predominantly residential.

- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies two moderate change areas associated with the Bridge Road, Swan Street and Tanner Street precincts. Incremental change is identified along Punt Road and the Church Street, and the remainder is minimal change.

Central Richmond B

- Open space sub-precinct North Richmond B is located between Church and Burnley Streets, north of Swan Street.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Cairns Reserve
 - Dame Nellie Melba Park
- Cairns Reserve is located on the eastern slope of Richmond Hill and affords great views to the north east and the Dandenong Ranges. The park has large open grassed terraces with space for informal ball games, seating and a medium sized playground. People use it as a local park for relaxing and enjoying the green space and ambience and to walk dogs.
- Dame Nellie Melba Park is characterised as Public garden and is used mainly for dog walking and enjoying the open space and garden character.
- The land use is predominantly residential with a combination of original Victorian and Edwardian dwellings combined with contemporary apartments of three levels and more. The commercial and business uses along Bridge Road, Swan Street and Burnley Streets means there is also an employment population in the precinct.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies the majority of the sub-precinct as Incremental Change with Moderate Change areas along Bridge Road, Swan Street and Burnley Street. The area on Richmond Hill in the south west part of the precinct is identified as a Minimal Change area, which is characterised by the larger original period dwellings.

Central Richmond C

- Open space sub-precinct Central Richmond C is located between Burnley Street and the Yarra River, north of Swan Street .
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Burnley Park
 - Circus Site
 - Yarra River Trail (Bridge Rd to Swan St)
- Burnley Park is a Municipal open space and is characterised as heritage and sporting reserve with a range of unstructured recreational and informal uses. This includes a multi-purpose court, playground, picnic area and walking paths. The park was set aside as part of the larger Richmond Park and has Local Heritage Significance for both the Indigenous cultural heritage and non-Indigenous historical values of the park. heritage character, along with the significant trees the park contribute to its character and value.
- Located between the railway and the Swan Street, the Circus Site was part of the original larger Richmond Park land parcel set aside in the early 1800s by Hoddle. The site today is a Regional open space and classified and recognised for its cultural and natural heritage values including as an event space for the circus.

- The Yarra River Trail Place is a Regional open space that is characterised as linear and provides both the shared trail access, water based recreational access including rowing and kayaking and an important riparian biodiversity link along the Yarra River.
- Land use is in the process of changing to predominantly residential use with the conversion of some key non-residential sites including the former Channel 9 Studios. A combination of business and commercial use extends into the precinct form Swan and Bridge Roads.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes a high change area associated with the development of the former Channel 9 Studios site, moderate change areas along Bridge Road and Swan Street, two minimal change areas and the remainder being incremental change.

7.3.2b Quantity of open space in Central Richmond

The nine existing open spaces in Central Richmond have a combined total of 23.46 hectares. This represents approximately 12 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 18 sqm of open space per person relative to residential population in 2016.

Table 7.3-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
2	Regional	6.87	29%
1	City wide	15.70	67%
0	Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
0	Small Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
2	Local	0.62	3%
4	Small Local	0.26	1%
9	TOTAL	23.46	100%

7.3.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

The linear open space along the Yarra River is an important habitat and recreational corridor for wider Melbourne. This includes non-motorised water based recreation, cycling, walking, dog walking, exercising and relaxing. It is therefore designated as a Regional open space and is managed to protect and improve the habitat and recreational values. Access to the Yarra River itself, the bushland and natural qualities of this linear corridor are key reasons people visit this open space.

The heritage values, sporting facilities and unstructured recreation facilities at Burnley Park provide the context for the City-wide hierarchy and its heritage and sporting character classification. The reasons people visit this open space are diverse and this is reflected in the reasons people visit it. The Circus site, which is separated from Burnley Park by the railway, has multiple values including cultural heritage values, nature conservation and public parkland as a space that hosts the circus when it is in town. Without a Neighbourhood open space, Burnley Park and Citizens Park currently meet this need. The higher levels of use of the two Local open spaces within the precinct being Dame Nellie Melba Park and Cairns Reserve, combined with the forecast change

supports the reasons these two Local open spaces have the potential to be upgraded to include a more diverse range of facilities in them given their larger size when compared to the Small Local open spaces.

The four Small Local open spaces have different characters and form a highly valued part of the open space system of Central Richmond, particularly in sub-precinct A. The incremental change in urban densities in this precinct means these local open spaces also have the potential to play a greater role in urban greening and cooling.

Table 7.3-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Ben Alexander Reserve	0.08	Small Local	Play	Linking space, Seating/viewing
Burnley Park	15.70	City wide	Heritage	Sporting, Botanical, Public Garden
Cairns Reserve	0.40	Local	Seating/viewing	Play
Circus Site	3.00	Regional	Heritage	Nature conservation, Public parkland
Dame Nellie Melba Memorial Park	0.22	Local	Public garden	Formal, Urban heat mitigation, Botanical
Peppercom Park	0.06	Small Local	Botanical	Seating/viewing
Richmond Terrace Park	0.07	Small Local	Public square	Seating/viewing, Linking space
Wangaratta Street Park	0.05	Small Local	Public square	
Yarra River Trail – Bridge Rd to Swan St	3.87	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Total	23.46			

7.3.2d Distribution of open space in Central Richmond

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate open space hierarchy as shown in Table 7.3-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.3C on the next page. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in Central Richmond is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

For Central Richmond, the major gaps in the existing open space network occur between Punt Road and Lennox Street and between Coppin and Burnley Streets.

7.3 CENTRAL RICHMOND

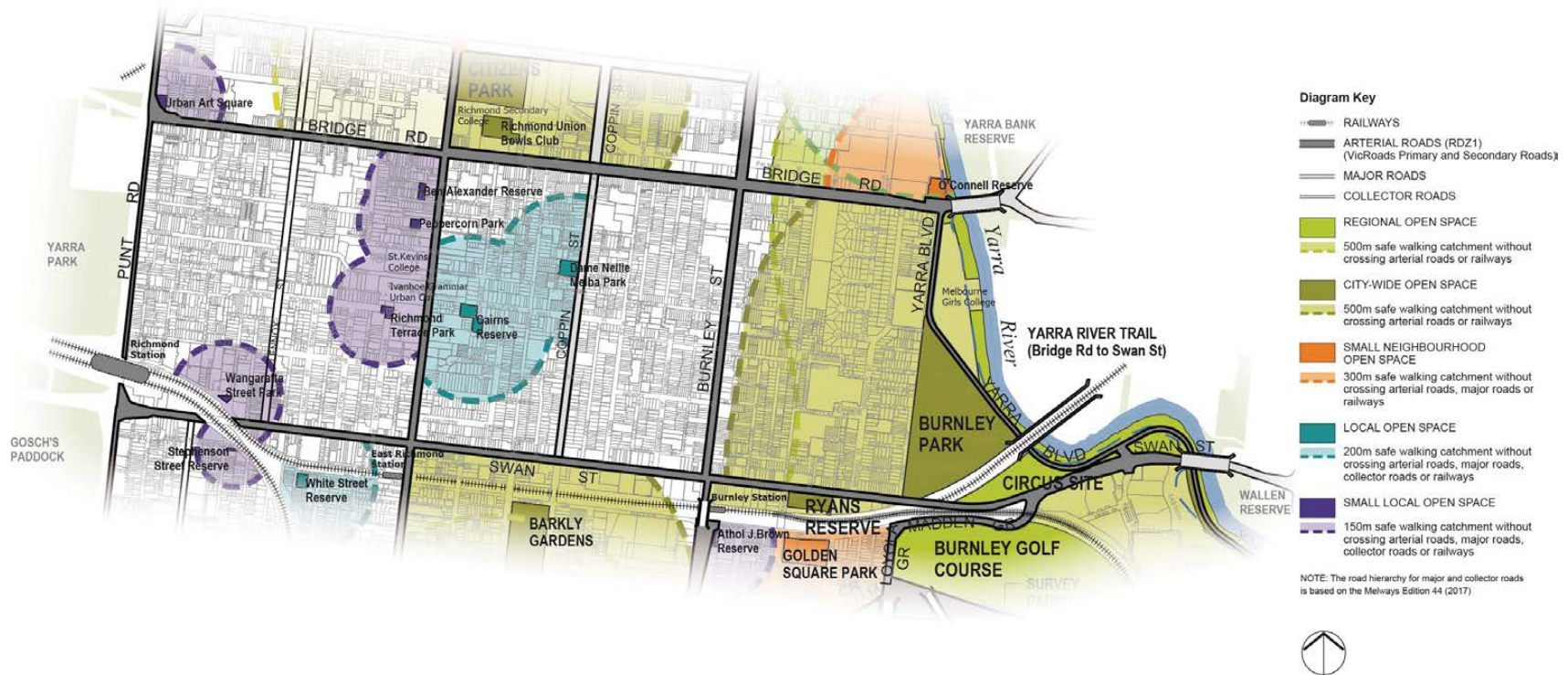


Figure 7.3C Gap analysis for Central Richmond

7.3.3 How residents use open space

A total of 172 resident surveys were received from the Central Richmond. Please note that in addition to these, 113 surveys were also completed by workers in Richmond, near the Epworth Hospital and Bridge Road. A summary of the results of the worker survey is included in the next section 7.3.4.

The 172 resident surveys completed for Central Richmond represents 14 per cent of the total surveys received. The .id Community Profile indicates that 15 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives in Central Richmond.

Table 7.3-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
110	Citizens Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (17) • Playgrounds (16) • Play (15) • Sport – organised junior football incl. Auskick (12) • Exercising (11) • Walking (11) • Gleadell Street Market (10) • Social - meeting friends (8) • Close to home (7) • Relaxing (7) • Sport - structured/organised (7) • Sport - spectating (6) • Sport - football (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubrooms require upgrade (15) • Sports facilities for girls required (12) • Regular cleaning of dog off-leash areas required (10) • No improvements required (10) • Upgrade the playground (10)
42	Barkly Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playgrounds (9) • Dog walking (8) • Social - meetings friends (6) • Close to home (4) • Exercising (4) • Play - children (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public toilets require upgrade(4) • Public toilets require cleaning (4) • Additional public toilets required (3) • No improvements (3)
28	Burnley Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (9) • Playground (4) • Walking (4) • Basketball court (3) • Picnics including BBQs (3) • Relaxing (3) • Social – meeting friends (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the caretakers cottage (3) • More exercise equipment (2) • More seating (2) • More basketball courts (2)
22	Yarra River Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking (9) • Exercising (6) • Cycling (3) • Dog walking (3) • Natural character (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More drinking fountains (3) • Widen the paths (2) • More seating (2) • Access ramp required at Collins Bridge (2)

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space beyond walking distance			
23	Royal Botanical Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gardens (6) Picnics (4) Relaxing (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (4)
15	Barkly Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground (7) Social – meeting friends (3) Walking (c) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (3) Shade for picnic facilities (3) Upgrade public toilets (3)
14	Burnley Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (5) Exercising (3) Social - meeting friends (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (4)
14	Citizens Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social - meeting friends (2) Sport - girls organised sport (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve sporting facilities for girls (2)
13	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport - football (3) Exercising (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clubrooms require upgrade (2) Sporting facilities require upgrade (2)

Values of open space (top five)

- 67% Trees
- 63% A place to relax and unwind
- 57% The feeling of space
- 56% Just being outside
- 53% An escape from the built environment

Types of open space used (top five)

- 92% Open space along Yarra River
- 85% Small local parks
- 83% Large parks and gardens and 83% Local streets for exercise
- 81% Large sporting reserves
- 54% Urban squares

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 83% Open grassed areas
- 82% Walking paths
- 76% Drinking fountains
- 73% Seats
- 64% Cycle paths

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Additional open space is required particularly as densities increase and the less private open space (17)
- Prioritise sport for children's health (8)
- Additional open space is required for junior sport (5)
- Open space – retain what we have (4)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.3.4 How existing workers use open space

113 workers were surveyed in the Epworth Hospital and Bridge Road area about open space.

Frequency of use of open space near the workplace

- 88 per cent of those surveyed visit open space near their workplace with 53 per cent of them nominated they visit open space frequently.

Reasons to visit open space near the workplace

The three top reasons workers visit open space near their place are:

- 66% to be outdoors as a break from work
- 42% to socialise / meet colleagues / friends
- 19% to eat lunch

Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name
15	Fitzroy Gardens
13	Royal Botanic Gardens
11	Parks
10	Citizens Park
8	Barkly Gardens
8	Yarra Park

Suggestions for improvements to the open space network

The following list is the comments made by 4 or more people:

- Additional open space required (15)
- No improvements required to open space (9)
- Additional car parking required (5)
- Public toilets - additional required (4)

7.3.5 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.3.5a Forecast future population

Quantity

The table below shows the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations in Central Richmond. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the three open space sub-precincts within Central Richmond have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy*, SGS, 2018 (SEES, 2018).

The resident population growth is moderate with an overall change in residential population of 24 per cent or an additional 3,381 residents between 2016 and 2031. The worker population is estimated to increase by approximately 30 per cent, with an additional 3,036 additional workers between 2016 and 2031.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 illustrate that there is still additional capacity for growth beyond 2031 in Central Richmond. While this Strategy is primarily addressing the open space needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe.

Table 7.3-4 Resident population forecasts for Central Richmond open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Central Richmond A	4,722	5,935	1,213
% change Central Richmond A			26%
Central Richmond B	5,581	6,561	980
% change Central Richmond B			18%
Central Richmond C	3,585	4,773	1,188
% change Central Richmond C			33%
Total Central Richmond	13,888	17,269	3,381
Total % Change			24%

Table 7.3-5 Worker population estimates for Central Richmond open space sub-precincts

The worker population growth is moderate with an overall change in worker population of 30 per cent or an additional 3,036 workers between 2016 and 2031. The change is greatest in sub-precincts Central Richmond A and B.

EMPLOYMENT/ RETAIL PRECINCT	2016	2031	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Central Richmond A				
Bridge Road Retail Precinct	3,907	4,925	1,018	26%
Swan Street Retail Precinct	1,302	1,862	560	43%
<i>Total estimated working population Central Richmond A</i>	5,209	6,787	1,578	30%
Central Richmond B				
Bridge Road Retail Precinct	3,907	4,925	1,018	26%
Swan Street Retail Precinct	767	1,097	330	43%
<i>Total estimated working population Central Richmond B</i>	4,674	6,022	1,348	29%
Central Richmond C				
Bridge Road Retail Precinct	0	0	0	0%
Swan Street Retail Precinct	256	366	110	43%
<i>Total estimated working population Central Richmond C</i>	256	366	110	43%
Retail and employment precinct totals				
Bridge Road Retail Precinct	7,814	9,850	2,036	26%
Swan Street Retail Precinct	2,326	3,325	1,000	43%
Total estimated working population Central Richmond	10,140	13,176	3,036	30%

7.3.5b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in Central Richmond will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding, lack of access to the facilities due to increased numbers of people using them and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction from increased use.

7.3.5c Where change will occur

The forecast resident and worker population increase in Central Richmond will be concentrated in the Bridge Road and Victoria Street Retail Precincts in Central Richmond A and B, and the former Channel 9 Studios in Central Richmond C. Refer to Figures 7.3D and 7.3E below.

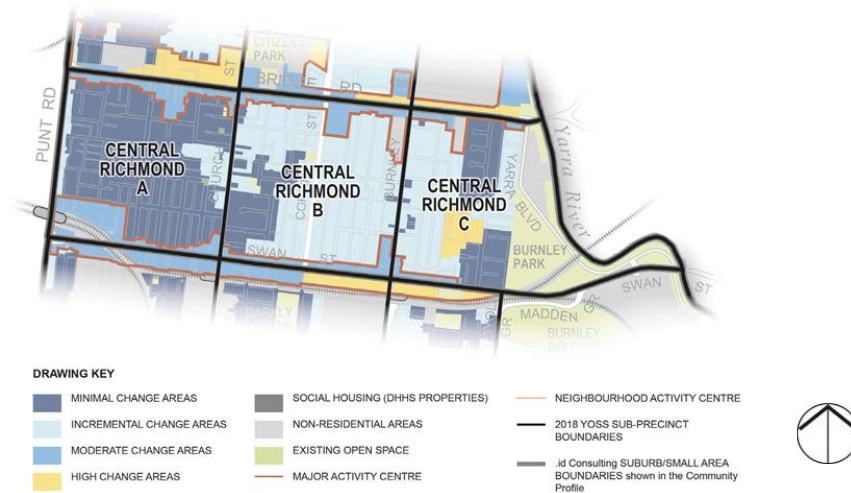


Figure 7.3D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

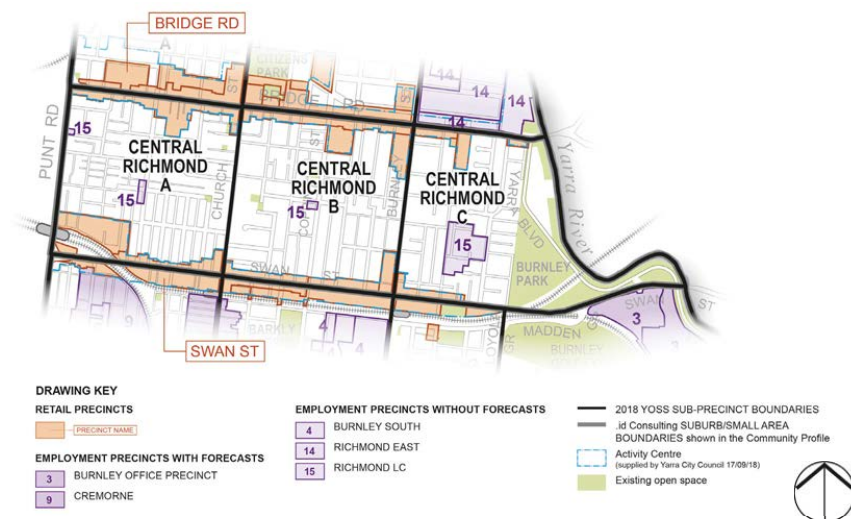


Figure 7.3E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.3.5d Open space distribution and future need in Central Richmond

Within Central Richmond the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in Central Richmond to easily reach open space. The open space survey results confirm that residents travel outside Central Richmond to visit open space, primarily for sport and the beauty and diversity of character in the large public gardens. The key open spaces include Citizens Park, the Royal Botanic Gardens and Kevin Bartlett Reserve. The high value placed on the need to relax and unwind in the open space surveys supports the need to ensure that adequate areas of green open space with natural features are provided in Central Richmond.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Central Richmond A Located between Punt Road and Church Street, from Bridge Road in the north to Swan Street in the South. Refer to Section 7.3.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 26 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 1,213 residents by 2031. • A 30 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 1,578 workers by 2031. • Combined, this represents an additional 2,791 people living and working in the precinct by 2031, compared to a combined estimated existing population of 9,752 in 2016, representing a 29 per cent increase. • The existing open space network includes a series of Small Local open spaces with a diversity of character and facilities. Given they are all small spaces, none currently provide facilities for unstructured recreation. • There is potential to improve and expand Wangaratta Street Park. • There is a gap in open space provision in the western part of Central Richmond A and a gap in the provision of a larger open space that offers an opportunity for active unstructured recreational facilities. • Recommend a new Local open space located in the north-west of the sub-precinct, as shown in Figure 7.3F to address the existing gap area. The new open space will be large enough to provide some unstructured active recreational activities, for example fitness stations and/or multi-use courts/spaces that encourage physical activity for a diverse range of ages. • Upgrade and expand the size of Wangaratta Street Park and redesign to include significant urban greening and moisture absorbing surfaces to contribute to urban cooling and assist mitigate urban heat island effect.
<p>Central Richmond B Located between Church and Burnley Streets, between Bridge Road and Swan Street. Refer to Section 7.3.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 18 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 980 residents by 2031. • A 29 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 1,348 workers by 2031. • Combined this represents an additional 2,328 people living and working in the precinct by 2031, compared to a combined estimated existing population of 10,150 in 2016, representing a 23 per cent increase.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are gaps in the provision of open space east of Burnley Street. Therefore it is recommended that two additional Small Local open spaces or one larger Local open space is provided in the north and south of this sub-precinct. This will provide new open space for the existing and estimated future worker and resident population in close proximity to the Bridge Road Activity Centre and the Swan Street retail strip. • Continue to undertake minor upgrades to Cairns Reserve and Dame Nellie Melba Park. to adapt and cater to the increase in forecast population.
<p>Central Richmond C Located between Burnley Street and the Yarra River and Bridge Road and Swan Street. Refer to Section 7.3.2 for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 33 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 1,188 residents by 2031. • A 43 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 110 workers by 2031. • Combined, this represents an additional 1,298 people living and working in the precinct by 2031, compared to a combined estimated existing population of 3,806 in 2016, representing a 34 per cent increase. • While there are no gaps in the provision of open space there will be an increase particularly in the resident population in the sub-precinct, particularly around the former Channel 9 Studios site. • Therefore it is recommended that Burnley Park receives continued levels of improvement and maintenance levels to cater to the expanded population in the park.

7.3.6 Central Richmond Recommendations

7.3.6a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Burnley Park, the Circus Site and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute significantly to the open space character of Central Richmond, however these are all located in the east of the precinct. More than 6,000 additional people are forecast to be living and working in the precinct, particularly to the western end of the precinct by 2031. There is a need to provide new Local and Small Local open spaces to cater primarily to the forecast population and better meet the open space needs of the existing population. The new open space will assist to diversify the active unstructured recreational activities in the west and assist to mitigate urban heat, provide increased urban greening and open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers as urban densities continue to increase in the future.

Quality and design

There is potential to diversify the recreational facilities in the western part of Central 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 7.3F for the spatial location of recommendations for Central Richmond.

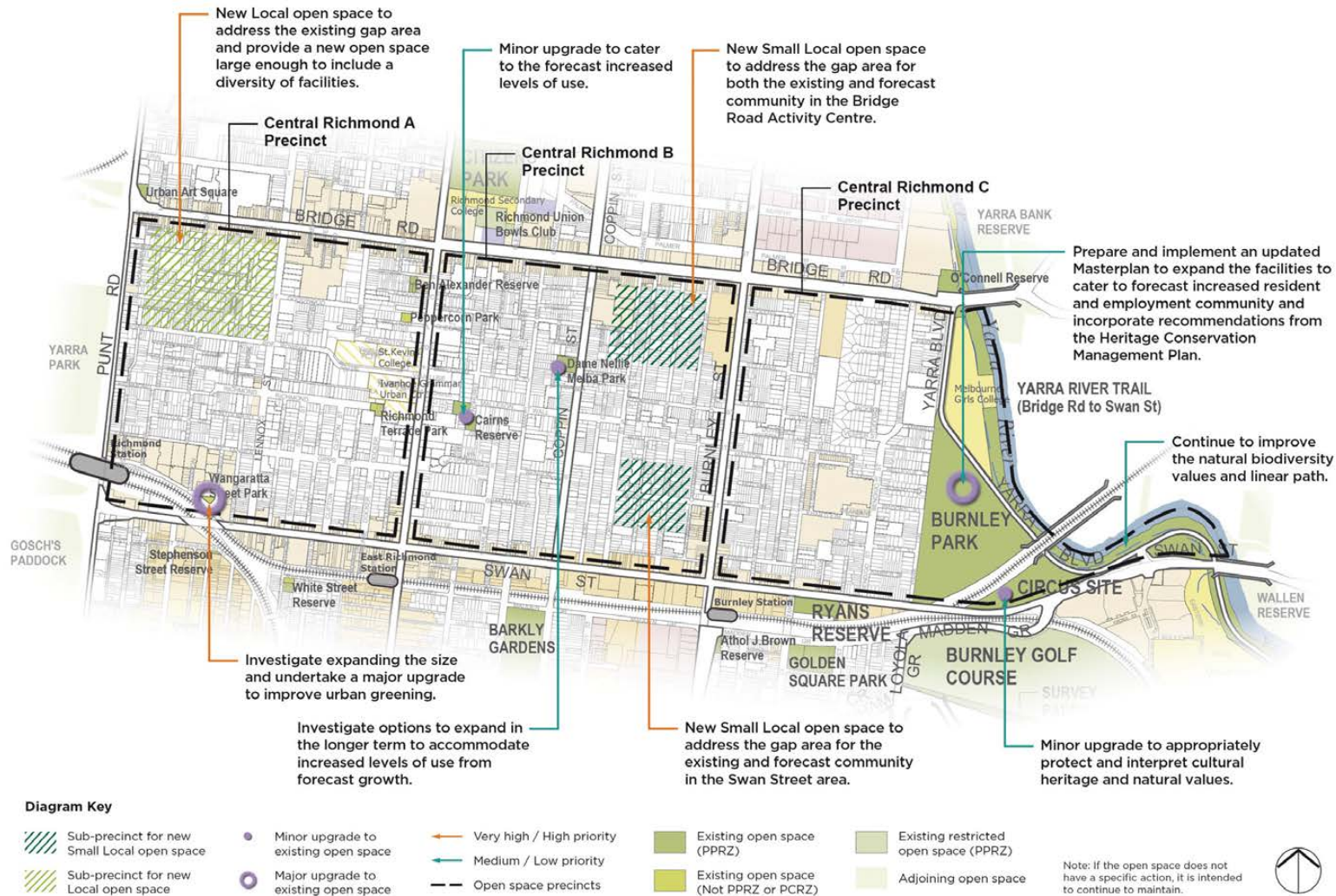


Figure 7.3F Recommendations for Central Richmond

7.3.6b Precinct Actions for Central Richmond

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3A-1	Provide a new Local open space in the north west of Central Richmond A as shown in Figure 7.3F for both the existing and forecast new population. The new Local open space will need to include the provision of space and facilities for unstructured active recreational uses given these are not currently well provided for in Central Richmond.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.3A-2	Provide a new Small Local open space in the north east part of Central Richmond B as shown in Figure 7.3F for both the existing and future population. The location is to be accessible via the local street network and preferably improve east-west connectivity.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.3A-3	Provide a new Small Local open space in the north east part of Central Richmond B as shown in Figure 7.3F for both the existing and future population.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.3A-4	Investigate options to expand the size of Dame Nellie Melba Park in the longer term to increase the capacity of the open space to accommodate increased levels of use as a result of forecast growth.	YCC Developer	Low

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3B-1	Ben Alexander Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.3B-2	Burnley Park Prepare a revised Landscape Masterplan that incorporates the recommendations from the 2007 CMP, investigates viable future uses of the cottage and responds to the heritage and historical values of the park. The design will need to cater to the forecast new population needs including increasing the capacity of the facilities to the accommodate the increased levels of use. This is primarily for the forecast new population.	YCC	Medium
7.3B-3	Cairns Reserve Undertake minor upgrades to adapt and cater to increased levels of use from the forecast population. This includes investigating the provision of a barbecue and picnic facility along facilities that encourage active unstructured recreation.	YCC	Medium
7.3B-4	Circus Site Undertake minor improvements to protect and appropriately interpret the cultural heritage and natural values of the site. Continue to manage this reserve for hosting major events with improved management guidelines to adequately protect the site from damage.	YCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3B-5	<p>Dame Nellie Melba Park</p> <p>Undertake minor upgrades to adapt and cater to increase levels of use from the forecast population. Facilities to promote informal use of this reserve including barbecue and picnic facilities to complement the facilities provided in Cairns Reserve, which is nearby. Refer to the Action 7.3A-5 regarding the longer term aim to investigate opportunities to expand the size of the open space to improve its function and use primarily for the forecast population.</p>	YCC	Low
7.3B-6	<p>Peppercorn Park</p> <p>Continue to maintain.</p>	YCC	Ongoing
7.3B-7	<p>Richmond Terrace Park</p> <p>Continue to maintain.</p>	YCC	Ongoing
7.3B-8	<p>Wangaratta Street Park</p> <p>Prepare a Concept Plan to guide the future expansion and upgrade of Wangaratta Street Park. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigating additional road closure to expand the size of the open space. • Increase the urban greening and cooling character of this open space including additional moisture absorbing surfaces, garden beds, trees and turf. 	YCC	High
7.3B-9	<p>Yarra River Trail – Bridge Rd to Swan St</p> <p>Continue to undertake improvements as required to the natural biodiversity values and linear path consistent with the cultural and natural values of the river corridor.</p>	YCC	Ongoing



7.4 Clifton Hill

7.4.1 Introduction

Merri Creek defines the eastern extent of Clifton Hill, with Queens Parade to the north west and the Alexandra Parade to the south. The land form is relatively flat and grades down towards Merri Creek.

The land use has historically been primarily residential, with non-residential use located along Hoddle Street, Queens Parade and Alexandra Parade/Eastern Freeway. A range of large strategic sites have progressively been redeveloped over recent years to medium density mixed use. A core area of non-residential use is to be retained between the railway and Hoddle Street south of Clifton Hill Station along with some near the corner of Smith Street and Alexandra Parade. The other types of land use include the Clifton Hill and Spensley Street Primary Schools and open space. The existing open space network significantly contributes to the precinct character, with Darling Gardens and Mayors Park west of Hoddle Street and the Merri Creek open space corridor on the eastern boundary of the precinct.

With the predominantly residential land use in the precinct the resident population is greater than the worker population in Clifton Hill, as follows:

- Existing residential population 2016: 6,792 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: 920 (*Source: SEES, SGS 2018*)

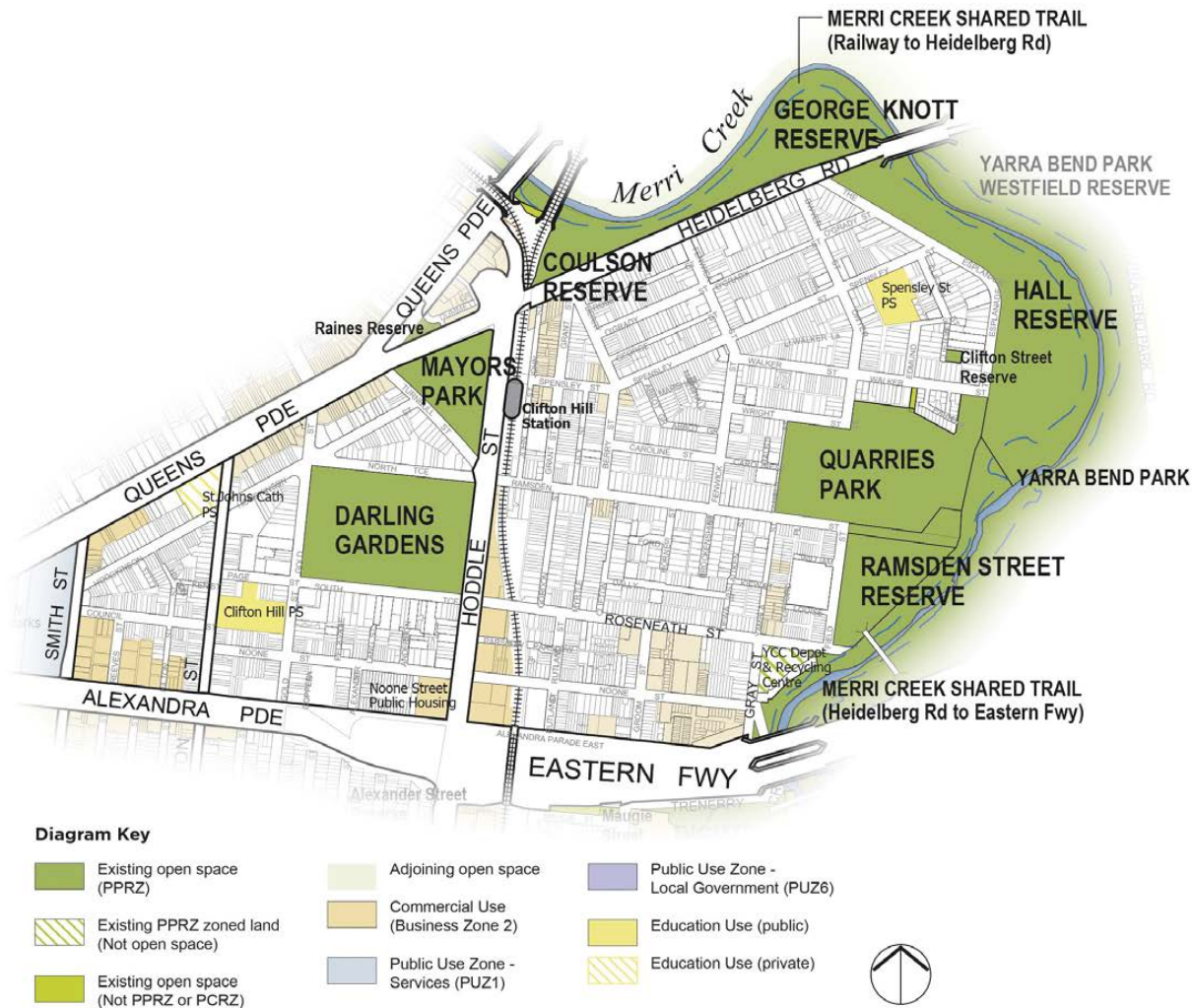


Figure 7.4A Existing open space in Clifton Hill

7.4.2 Existing open space

7.4.2a Open space precinct description

Hoddle Street forms a major physical barrier to easy and safe access to open space in Clifton Hill, and defines the two open space sub-precincts, Clifton Hill A and B, as shown in Figure 7.4B below.



Figure 7.4B Open space sub-precincts for Clifton Hill

Clifton Hill A

- Open space sub-precinct Clifton Hill A is located between Smith Street, Hoddle Street, Queens Parade in the north and Alexandra Parade in the south.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Darling Gardens
 - Mayors Park
- Darling Gardens is one of Melbourne's signature Victorian Gardens and is identified as locally significant as an early and important recreation facility within Clifton Hill and Collingwood. Of note are the mature deciduous trees including two recorded by the National Trust of Victoria. The Darling Gardens Masterplan (2015) guides the future upgrades to the gardens.
- Mayors Park located north of Darling Gardens complements it by providing structured sport and recreation facilities including the Collingwood Leisure Centre and the Mayors Park tennis and netball courts. Other facilities include a playground, open grassed area, paths and planting.
- Other major land use in this precinct includes the Clifton Hill Primary School and the non-residential uses to the south along Alexandra Parade.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies two Moderate Change areas. One is in the south-east adjoining Alexandra Parade between Wellington and Hoddle Streets. The second is the land adjoining Queens Parade. The balance of the precinct is identified as minimal change and non-residential use as shown in Figure 7.4D.

Clifton Hill B

- Open space sub-precinct Clifton Hill B is located between Hoddle Street and the Merri Creek with the Eastern Freeway to the south.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Clifton Street Reserve
 - Coulson Reserve
 - Hall Reserve
 - Quarries Park
 - Ramsden Street Reserve
 - Merri Creek Shared Trail (Heidelberg Road to the Eastern Freeway)
 - Merri Creek Shared Trail (Railway to Heidelberg Road)
- The majority of the open space reserves are located along Merri Creek and adjoin each other. The only open space located away from the continuous open space corridor along the creek is Clifton Street Reserve.
- Coulson Reserve and George Knott Reserve are primarily for structured sporting purposes with the Merri Creek Shared Trail located through and adjoining them. Located north of Heidelberg Road, they are not easily accessible from within the precinct and can only be accessed via the Merri Creek Trail shared trail crossing at Heidelberg Road.
- Hall Reserve is primarily for unstructured recreational use with two playgrounds and path connections down to the Merri Creek Trail, which directly adjoins the reserve. It has a natural bushland character.
- Quarries Park contains both structured sporting facilities and large regional play space, while Ramsden Street Reserve is primarily for structured sport.
- Merri Creek Shared Trail is continuous along this reserve adjacent to the creek and joins the Main Yarra Trail at Dights Falls at the confluence of the waterways in Abbotsford.
- The land use is predominantly standard and medium density residential with the area of non-residential use between the railway and Hoddle Street. Other land use includes the Spensley Street Primary School and open space.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes a few Incremental Change areas but is predominantly Minimal Change, as shown in Figure 7.4D.

7.4.2b Quantity of open space in Clifton Hill

The 9 existing open spaces in Clifton Hill have a combined total area of 41.18 hectares. This represents approximately 24.6 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. Additionally there is one existing restricted open space, being George Knott Reserve, which is 2.35 hectares in size. Adding the restricted open space to the other 9 open spaces results in a total of 43.53 hectares and represents 26 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 65 sqm of open space per person relative to residential population in 2016 (excluding restricted open space).

Table 7.4-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
3	Regional	18.74	46%
5	City wide	22.37	54%
0	Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
0	Small Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
0	Local	0.00	0%
1	Small Local	0.07	0%
9	TOTAL	41.18	100%

7.4.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

The linear open space along Merri Creek is an important habitat and recreational corridor for wider Melbourne. Downstream of Heidelberg Road it feels more spacious given the extensive Yarra Bend Park adjoins the eastern side of Merri Creek. For this reason, Hall Reserve adjoining the Merri Creek Trail reserves has been identified as Regional open space. Quarries Park has a natural bushland character towards the creek and the major play space including picnic and skate facility, along with the sports field for soccer including the pavilion in the western part of the park. The southern end of Hall Reserve also has a second soccer pitch. Quarries Park is classified as a City-wide open space. Similarly, Ramsden Street Reserve with the outdoor sports fields including a full sized AFL oval that is used for cricket and football.

In contrast to the natural bushland character and setting for the open space reserves along the Merri Creek Darling Gardens provides an established Victorian exotic public garden character. It is the most popular open space in the resident open space survey with more than 60 per cent of respondents indicating that they visit it. Mayors Park on the other hand is identified as being not well used in the open space survey. This may in part be due to its smaller size and close proximity to Darling Gardens.

As a point of different from other precincts in the City of Yarra, there are no Local open spaces and only one Small Local open space being Clifton Street Reserve located in the heart of the residential area between Walker and Spensley Streets. It is not specifically nominated in the resident open space survey and provides a green open grassed area with trees and a couple of picnic tables.

Table 7.4-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Clifton Street Reserve	0.07	Small Local	Informal	Urban heat mitigation
Coulson Reserve	1.03	City-wide	Sporting	Waterway, Botanical
Darling Gardens	7.24	City-wide	Heritage	Public garden, Botanical
Hall Reserve	11.02	Regional	Linear	Sporting, Heritage, Native bushland, Nature conservation, Play
Mayors Park	2.46	City-wide	Sporting	Restricted sport and recreation, Public garden
Quamies Park	8.33	City-wide	Sporting	Linear, Play, Native bushland, Nature conservation, Seating/viewing
Ramsden Street Reserve	3.32	City-wide	Sporting	Waterway, Nature conservation
Merri Creek Shared Trail (Heidelberg Rd to Eastern Freeway)	3.98	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Merri Creek Shared Trail (Railway to Heidelberg Road)	3.73	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Total	41.18			
Restricted open space				
George Knott Reserve	2.35	City-wide	Restricted sport and recreation	Waterway
Total including restricted open space	43.5286			

7.4.2d Distribution of open space in Clifton Hill

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate hierarchy as shown in Table 7.4-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.4C on the next page. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in Clifton Hill is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

Clifton Hill has no major gaps in the existing open space network, the only gap being the area between the railway and Hoddle Street. Given that people working in this precinct can access open space via the local street network, this is not identified as a high priority to address. While no major redevelopment is planned, if the urban densities were to increase in the future between the railway and Hoddle Street, additional Small Local open space may be required to be provided.



Figure 7.4C Gap analysis for Clifton Hill

7.4.3 How residents use open space

A total of 68 resident surveys were received from Clifton Hill, which represents approximately 5 per cent of the total resident surveys received. The .id Community Profile identifies that 7 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives in Clifton Hill.

Clifton Hill is well provided for with open space and this is reflected in the responses to the survey in this precinct. There is an appreciation of the bushland qualities of open space given the proximity to Merri Creek and while it is appreciated the most frequently visited open space is Darling Gardens, primarily for play, dog walking and meeting people. In relation to facility provision in open space, respondents have requested additional facilities including shelters and seats. Overall the use of open grassed areas, walking paths and seats is higher than the Municipal average and they value the trees and request more in the streetscapes and open space. Dogs and children are integral to the respondents lives as is enjoying a picnic, playing sport and exercising outdoors.

Table 7.2-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
43	Darling Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground (14) • Dog walking (9) • Socialising with friends / family (6) • Convenient / on the way (5) • Picnics (5) • Close to home (4) • Trees (4) • Walking (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (5) • Fence the playgrounds (3) • Additional lighting required (3) • Improvements are appreciated (2)
22	Quarries Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (9) • Playground (78) • Exercising (5) • BBQ facilities (2) • Walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More BBQs required (3) • More bins required (2) • Dog drinking facilities required (2) • Additional lighting required (2)
19	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (17) • Exercising (4) • Picnics (4) • Socialising with friends / family (4) • Relaxing (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (3) • More bins required (1)
7	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (3) • Exercising (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional dog poo bags and bins required (3) • Cyclists to go slower through the park (1)
Open space beyond walking distance			
10	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Picnics (4) • Socialising with friends / family (3) • Diverse activities (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (1)

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
5	Fairfield Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialising with friends/family (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport clubrooms need upgrading (2) Open space needs to be upgraded (1)
4	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entertainment for adults and children (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional exercise equipment required (1)
4	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural character of the open space (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional playgrounds required (1)

Values of open space (top five)

- 79% Trees
- 78% Place to relax and unwind
- 68% An escape from the built environment
- 66% The feeling of space
- 53% Just being outside

Types of open space used (top five)

- 97% Open space along Yarra River, 97% Large parks and gardens
- 93% Open space along the Merri Creek
- 82% Large sporting reserves
- 81% Small local parks, 81% Local streets for exercise
- 54% medium sized parks

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 90% Open grassed areas
- 87% Walking paths
- 77% Seats
- 74% Drinking fountains
- 62% Cycle paths

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Open space is valued (6)
- Additional open space is required particularly as densities increases (4)
- Council is doing a good job with the overall strategy (5)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.4.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.4.4a Forecast future population

Quantity

The table below shows the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations in Clifton Hill. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the three open space sub-precincts within Clifton Hill have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018* (SEES, 2018).

The resident population growth is minor with an overall change in residential population of 9 per cent comprising an additional 640 residents between 2016 and 2031. The worker population is forecast to increase by approximately 37 per cent, with an additional 345 workers between 2016 and 2031.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 illustrate that there is still additional capacity for growth beyond 2031 in Clifton Hill. While this Strategy is primarily addressing the open space needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe.

Table 7.4-4 Resident population forecasts for Clifton Hill open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Clifton Hill A	1,675	1,987	312
% change Clifton Hill A			19%
Clifton Hill B	5,117	5,445	328
% change Clifton Hill B			6%
Total Clifton Hill	6,792	7,432	640
Total % Change			9%

Table 7.4-5 Worker population estimates for Clifton Hill open space sub-precincts

EMPLOYMENT/RETAIL PRECINCT	2016	2031	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Clifton Hill A				
Smith Street Retail Precinct	386	566	180	46%
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	119	156	37	31%
<i>Total estimated worker population Clifton Hill</i>	<i>505</i>	<i>722</i>	<i>216</i>	<i>43%</i>
Clifton Hill B				
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	416	545	129	31%
<i>Total estimated worker population Clifton Hill</i>	<i>416</i>	<i>545</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>31%</i>
Retail and employment precinct totals				
Smith Street Retail Precinct	386	566	180	46%
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	535	700	166	31%
<i>Total estimated worker population Clifton Hill</i>	<i>921</i>	<i>1,266</i>	<i>345</i>	<i>37%</i>

7.4.4b Population change impacts on open space

The additional numbers of people living and working in Clifton Hill are anticipated to be accommodated within the existing open space network. This is due the lower numbers of people compared with the quantity and distribution of open space, combined with the location of anticipated forecast change.

The most populous age range is the 25 to 49 age range followed by 60 to 69 age range. In the future, there is forecast to be a slight decline in the 25 to 49 age range and increases in the 70+ age range and the 12 to 24 age range as well. The suggests a reduction in young families and an increase in the ageing population. Lone person households are the most numerous and this is forecast to increase through to 2031. These forecast changes mean there needs to be an emphasis on catering to all age groups in open space design with a focus on social facilities given the high proportion of people living in lone person households.

7.4.5c Where change will occur

The forecast resident population increase in Clifton Hill will be concentrated west of Hoddle Street in open space precinct Clifton Hill A in areas along Queens Parade and Alexandra Parade. The employment population is forecast to be located in the Hoddle Street and Queens Parade and across open space precincts Clifton Hill A and B. Refer Figures 7.4D and 7.4E below for the spatial distribution of forecast change.

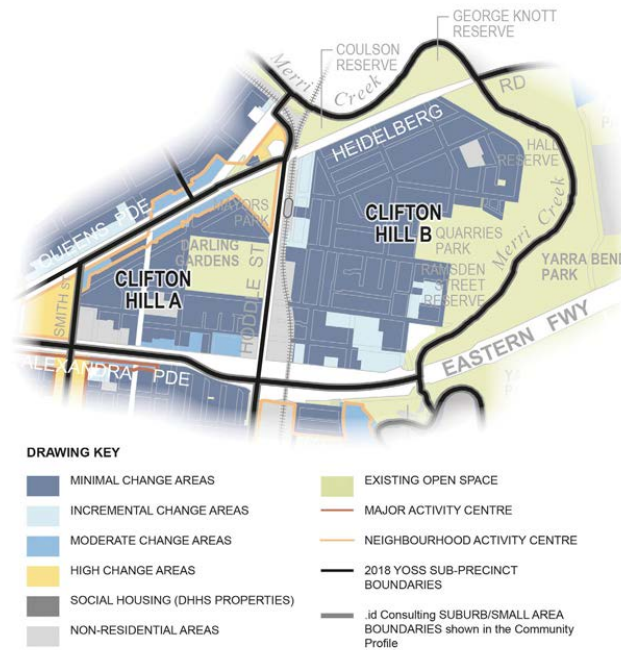


Figure 7.4D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

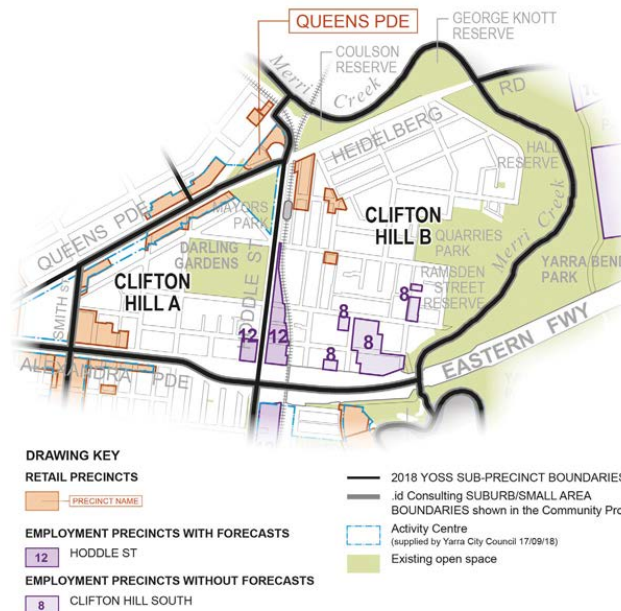


Figure 7.4E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.4.5d Open space distribution and future need in Clifton Hill

In Clifton Hill Hoddle Street and the railway form the main north south barriers to safe and easy walking access to open space. Therefore Clifton Hill has been divided into two main open space precincts, Clifton Hill A and B.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Clifton Hill A</p> <p>Refer to Section 7.4.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 19 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 312 residents by 2031. • A 43 per cent increase in the worker population is forecast with an additional 216 workers by 2031. • The existing open space network is diverse in character and has capacity to accommodate increased levels of use within it, particularly with the proposed improvements in the Darling Gardens Masterplan. • Recommend continued implementation of the Darling Gardens Masterplan as a priority to meet the increased levels of use from the forecast worker and resident population in this sub-precinct. • In the longer term, review the future opportunities to improve facilities and character in Mayors Park, given the relatively low levels of use. Improvements to the character and facilities will primarily be for the forecast resident and worker population.
<p>Clifton Hill B</p> <p>Refer to Section 7.4.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 6 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 328 residents by 2031. • A 31% increase in the worker population is forecast with an additional 129 workers by 2031. • With the relatively low levels of forecast worker population increase in this precinct, it is not necessary at this stage to provide additional open space for the worker population between Hoddle Street and the railway. However, change in this location will need to be monitored, and if more than 300 additional workers or residents are proposed in the gap area, then an additional Small Local open space would be required. • Undertake minor upgrades to Quarries Park to improve passive surveillance and the natural conservation values. In the medium term improve the condition of the play space and picnic facilities. • Undertake minor upgrades to Hall Reserve to improve the social facilities in it including seating and picnic and barbecue facilities to accommodate increased levels of use. • Continue to maintain the other open space reserves.

7.4.6 Clifton Hill Recommendations

7.4.6a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Clifton Hill is well provided for with open space, with only one small gap area between Hoddle Street and the railway. Additional open space would only be required if the population in the non-residential areas was to substantially increase in the future.

Quality and design

There is a need to improve the diversity of facilities that appeal to a range of age groups, particularly the older age groups who are forecast to grow over the planning period. Additionally, the open space designs need to encourage social activity in open space with the forecast increase in lone person households.

Refer to Figure 7.4F for the spatial location of recommendations for Clifton Hill.

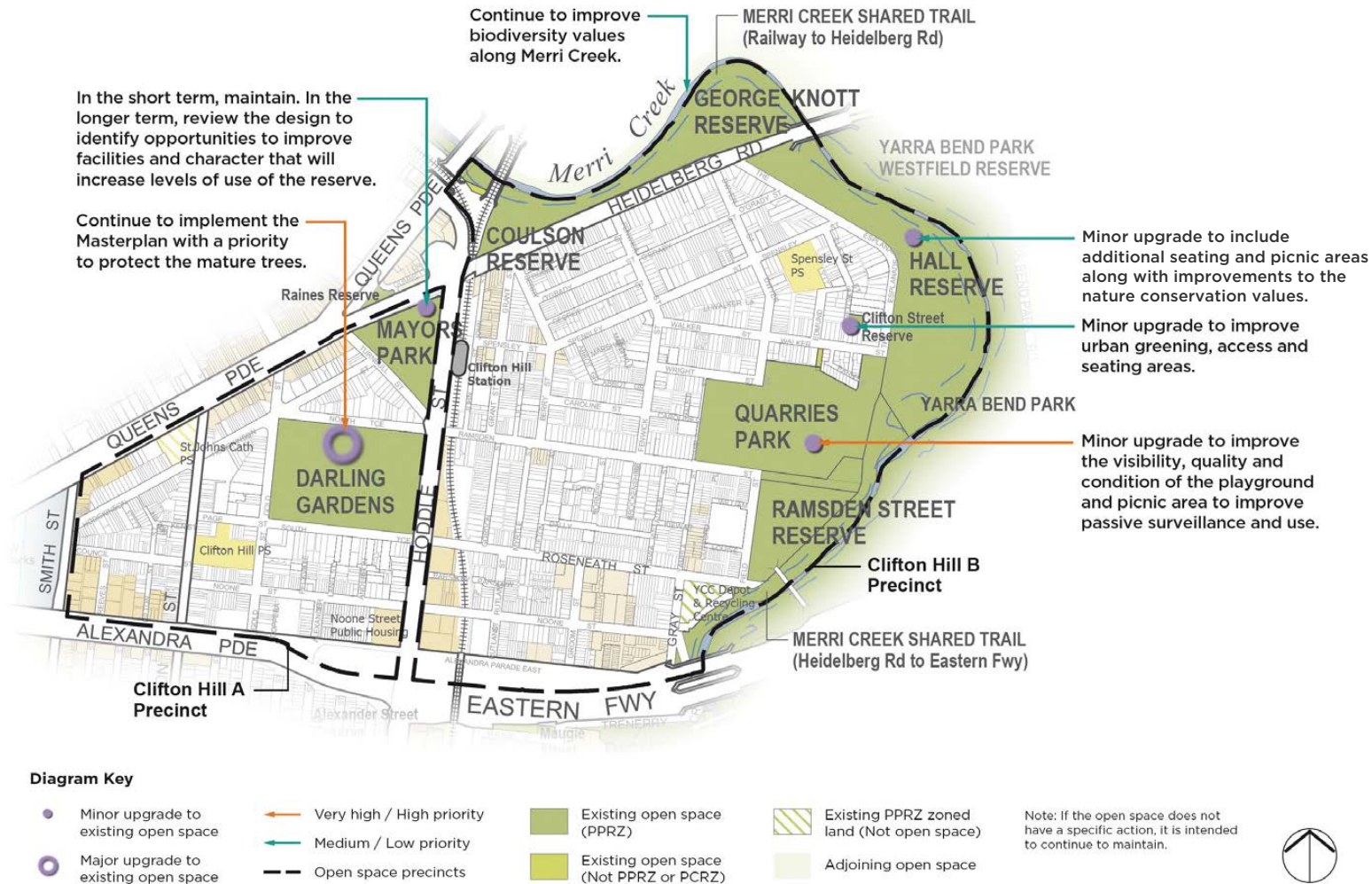


Figure 7.4F Recommendations for Clifton Hill

7.4.6b Precinct Actions for Clifton Hill

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.4A-1	If substantial change occurs in the future between Hoddle Street and the Railway there is potential that a new Small Local open space may be required subject to an open space needs assessment. This would only be required if there is a change to the forecast growth and is not included in the contribution rate calculation and is not included on Figure 7.4F.	YCC	N/A

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.4B-1	Clifton Street Reserve Undertake a minor upgrade to improve the design of this space including paths, social meeting areas and improved greening. This is primarily for the existing population.	YCC	Low
7.4B-2	Coulson Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.4B-3	Darling Gardens Continue to implement the Darling Gardens Masterplan, with priority given to the protection and care of the mature canopy trees, improving the quality and condition of the open grassed areas.	YCC	High
7.4B-4	George Knott Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.4B-5	Hall Reserve Undertake minor upgrade to Hall Reserve to provide additional seating and picnic areas within the reserve given its size. This includes retaining the sports training facilities and areas already established in the reserve. The upgrades will cater to both the forecast increased workers and residents and the existing population.	YCC	Medium
7.4B-6	Mayors Park In the short term continue to maintain. In the longer term review the design of this open space to identify opportunities to improve its level of use and complement the facilities and character of the nearby Darling Gardens. This will cater to both the forecast and existing population.	YCC	Low
7.4B-7	Merri Creek Shared Trail (Railway to Heidelberg Rd) Continue to improve the biodiversity values.	PV	Ongoing
7.4B-8	Merri Creek Shared Trail (Heidelberg Road to Eastern Freeway) Continue to improve the biodiversity values.	PV	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.4B-9	Quarries Park Undertake minor upgrades to improve the passive surveillance along with the condition of the playground and picnic area. This will cater to both the forecast and existing population.	YCC	High
7.4B-10	Ramsden Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing



7.5 Collingwood

7.5.1 Introduction

The urban context of Collingwood is changing from the industrial context to a high density mixed use character with residential, business, retail and commercial uses in renovated former industrial buildings. It is characterised by a lack of open spaces due to its industrial past when they did not set aside public open space in the original layout. A series of Small Local open spaces have been retrofitted into Collingwood in more recent times with the increased awareness of the value of open space to community health and wellbeing. The worker and resident survey respondents have identified they highly value the Small Local open spaces and they are expressing high level of use, and in some cases experiencing signs of overuse and over development. As expected, people travel outside of Collingwood to larger areas of open space, with the most common being Fitzroy Gardens.

Historically the land use in Collingwood has been a relatively unplanned mix of housing, retail and industry and a range of land parcel sizes. The historical records identify that the original industries in Collingwood included brewing and boot-makers. This changed to include textile clothing and footwear industries along with other service industries including the automotive repair and service industries. Since the 1990s there has been a change to business uses along with higher density housing in renovated heritage listed industrial buildings. More recently an arts precinct has emerged focussed around the former Collingwood TAFE site in a spine that extends down to the Abbotsford Convent and smaller galleries that have established themselves.

The *Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023* identifies that Collingwood and Fitzroy are areas of special significance to many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the cradle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs in Victoria. They are the birthplace of important Aboriginal organisations, the centre of political activism and a meeting place for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to link-in with family, community and services. There is concern about the strain that rising property values and cost of living is having on the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community presence and connection to Yarra.

Smith Street is a vibrant Major Activity Centre with a business, retail and commercial core centred around Smith Street, extending into the Collingwood Employment precinct.

The *Smith Street Structure Plan* provides overall strategic direction for the future Major Activity Centre. It reinforces it *'.....as a mixed use area where businesses and residential apartment exist side by side and as an area where light industry and associated uses continue to contribute to the local Yarra economy.'* (*Smith Street Structure Plan*, p. 11)

The *Johnston Street Local Area Plan*, adopted by Council December 2015, provides the key direction for the future change in the Johnston Street Neighbourhood activity centre. The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* provides direction on the future level of change for residential use within the precinct. The *Gipps Street Precinct Local Area Plan*, adopted by Council February 2010 was the basis for the rezoning a former Industrial Area to a Commercial 2 Zone (C2Z) to reflect and support the contemporary businesses moving into the area. The C2Z does not allow residential use to encourage and supported the mixed use character of Collingwood.

With the mixed land use, there is a significant worker population in Collingwood which is about 40 per cent greater than the resident population, as follows:

- Existing residential population 2016: 9,141 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: 14,810 (*Source: SEES, SGS 2018*)

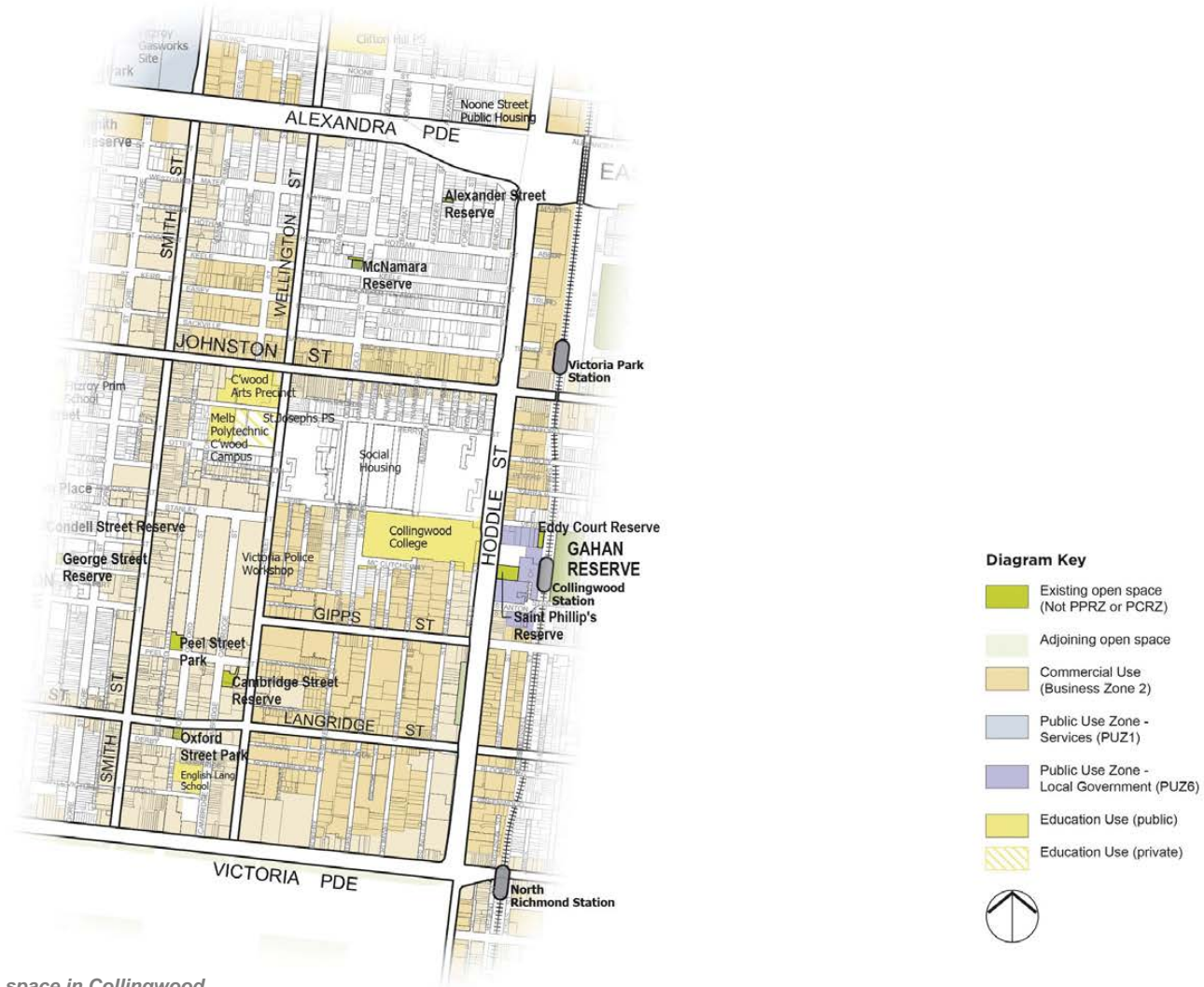


Figure 7.5A Existing open space in Collingwood

7.5.2 Existing open space

7.5.2a Description

Church and Burnley Streets are major north south roads in Collingwood and define three open space sub-precincts, Collingwood A, B and C.



Figure 7.5B Open space sub-precincts for Collingwood

Collingwood A

- Open space sub-precinct Collingwood A is located between Alexandra Avenue and Johnston Street, from Smith Street in the west to Hoddle Street in the east.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Alexandra Street Reserve
 - McNamara Reserve
- McNamara Reserve is located on a prominent and accessible corner and is highly visible and accessible. The playground dominates the open space however there is potential to consider a more integrated design.
- Alexandra Street Reserve is located in a local access street and is not easily visible and accessible to the local community. It has a BBQ, seating and trees.
- The land use in this sub-precinct is predominantly residential combined with commercial use to the south west and some smaller area of mixed use in the north.

- The Smith Street Major Activity Centre guides the commercial activity to the west of the sub-precinct.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies a high change areas area in the north west of the sub-precinct within the Smith Street Major activity centre. An area of moderate change is identified along Johnston Street and falls within the direction of the *Johnston Street Local Area Plan*. An area of non-residential land is identified in the in the south west within area currently zoned as C2Z and the balance is identified as minimal change. Refer to Figure 7.5D

Collingwood B

- Open space sub-precinct Collingwood B is located between Johnston Street in the north and Victoria Street in the south and between Smith Street to the west and Wellington Street to the east.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Cambridge Street Park
 - Oxford Street Park
 - Peel Street Park
- Cambridge Street Park has been fully redeveloped since the 2006 Strategy. At that time, this was the only open space in the whole of this sub-precinct. The upgrade includes a range of facilities including a play area, picnic and barbecue facility and the public art that is integrated into the playground. It is an example of slight over-development of this open space relative to its size and the height of built form surrounding the site.
- Peel Street Park has been developed as a passive open space and well suited to the nearby worker community with seating, grassed areas and informal uses. This open space has been implemented as an action from the 2006 Strategy and has been well received by the community. It is nominated as the most visited open space in Collingwood in the worker and resident surveys.
- Oxford Street Park has been developed more recently, as an action from the 2006 Strategy. The open space provides seating and greening in a highly urban precinct. It does not appear to be well used in the opens space surveys.
- The land use includes the Melbourne Polytechnic Collingwood Campus and the Collingwood Arts Precinct along with remainder of the precinct being mixed use and commercial use.
- The majority of the mixed use area comprises medium and high density development.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies a high change area in the vicinity of Langridge Street with the majority of the precinct identified to be moderate change with some smaller pockets of incremental change.

Collingwood C

- Open space sub-precinct Collingwood C is bounded by Johnston Street to the north, Gipps Street to the south, Wellington Street to the west and Hoddle Street to the east.
- There is no public open space located in this sub-precinct.
- Land use includes social housing, Collingwood College, residential use and commercial/business use.

- The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* Identifies areas of moderate change along Johnston Street and the southern part of Hoddle Street with the remaining identified as non-residential use.

Collingwood D

- Open space sub-precinct Collingwood D is bounded by Gipps Street to the north, Victoria Street to the south, Wellington Street to the west and Hoddle Street to the east.
- There is no public open space located in this sub-precinct.
- Land use is predominately commercial/business with some education and pockets of residential.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* Identifies areas of moderate change along Victoria Street and Hoddle Street with the remaining being identified as non-residential use.

7.5.2b Quantity of open space in Collingwood

The 5 existing open spaces in Collingwood have a combined total of 0.34 hectares. This represents approximately 0.3 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. Additionally there are two existing encumbered open spaces that are 0.24 hectares in size. Adding the restricted open space to the 5 open spaces results in a total of 0.58 hectares and represents 0.5 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 0.4 sqm of open space per person relative to the residential population in 2016.

Table 7.5-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
0	Regional	0.00	0%
0	City wide	0.00	0%
0	Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
0	Small Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
2	Local	0.22	65%
3	Small Local	0.12	35%
5	TOTAL	0.34	100%

7.5.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

In Collingwood there are 2 Local and 3 Small Local open spaces, with the two additional encumbered open spaces which function as tree reserves for the major arterial roads including Hoddle Street Alexandra Parade.

Cambridge Street Reserve and Peel Street Park are the two Local open spaces. Peel Street Park is the most visited open space in the precinct, followed by Cambridge Street Reserve. Peel Street Park caters to both the worker and resident community with the provision of seating and an open grassed area which is popular for dog walking/exercise, however there is potential to improve the character and greening of this space with additional trees and consideration of improving the layout to improve the quality of grass

and create a useable area for unstructured recreation. Cambridge Street Park provides play and picnic facilities which primarily appeals to residents rather than workers. The scale of development relative to the size of this open space means that it overwhelms the open space and this is reflected in the community survey outcomes.

Oxford Street Park, located close to Cambridge Street Reserve and Peel Street Park, is characterised as a public square the provides seating and some greening. It is the second most visited open space in Collingwood for people to relax, have lunch, enjoy the sunlight and green space. McNamara Reserve is characterised as informal and is located north the Johnston Street. The community survey respondents did not visit the open space, similarly they did not visit Alexander Street Reserve either. There is a need to review the design of McNamara Reserve given its low levels of use. Similarly, Alexander Street Reserve is not well used and this is likely due to its small size and location.

Hoddle Street Reserve and Alexandra Pde/Bendigo Street Reserve are both encumbered by traffic noise and movement and provide some greening adjacent to these major arterial roads. They are long and narrow in size making them difficult to use and are therefore not counted as part of the open space network.

Table 7.5-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Alexander Street Reserve	0.02	Small Local	Informal	
Cambridge Street Reserve	0.11	Local	Play	Urban plaza
McNamara Reserve	0.05	Small Local	Informal	Play, Seating/viewing
Oxford Street Park	0.05	Small Local	Public square	
Peel Street Park	0.11	Local	Urban plaza	
Total	0.34			
Encumbered open space				
Hoddle Street Reserve (btwn Langridge and Gipps Sts)	0.22	Small Local		Cnr Langridge & Hoddle Sts
Alexandra Pde/Bendigo St Reserve	0.02	Small Local		Cnr Bendigo Street & Alexandra Parade
Total encumbered open space	0.2423			

7.5.2d Distribution of open space in Collingwood

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate open space hierarchy as shown in Table 7.5-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.5C on the next page. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in Collingwood is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

For Collingwood, the major gaps in the existing open space network occur between Smith Street and Wellington Street, north of Johnston Street, and between Wellington Street and Hoddle Street south of Johnston Street. These are shown in Figure 7.5C



Figure 7.5C Gap analysis for Collingwood

7.5.3 How residents use open space

A total of 99 resident surveys were received from the Collingwood precinct. A summary of the results of the worker survey is included in the next section 7.5.4.

Table 7.5-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
35	Peel Street Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to home (7) • Dog walking (5) • Being outside (5) • Dog friendly (4) • Green open space (4) • Convenient/on the way (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve seating design (6) • More shade required (5) • Improve open space layout and design (4) • Dog owners to clean up after their dogs (3)
22	Oxford Street Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To have lunch (6) • Relaxing (4) • Close to home (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog owners to clean up after their dogs (2) • Graffiti to be removed (2) • More shade required (2)
20	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercising (5) • Green open space (4) • Close to home (3) • Dog walking (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (2) • Café / kiosk facilities needed (1)
13	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (4) • Close to home (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of drinking fountains (2) • No improvements required (2)
10	Darling Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal ball games / sport (3) • Convenient / on the way (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (2) • Additional toilets required (2)
Open space beyond walking distance			
15	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialising with family / friends (5) • Picnics (4) • Dog walking (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (2) • Café / kiosk facilities needed (1)
7	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jogging/running (2) • Walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage shared trail use between cyclists and pedestrians (1) • Reduce speed that cyclists can ride through this park (1)
6	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beauty and ambience of open space (2) • Peacefulness of open space (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More dog of leash areas required (1) • More dog poo bags and bins required (1)
6	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking (2) • Café / kiosk facilities (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (1) • Additional botanical gardens required (1)

Values of open space (top five)

- 77% Trees
- 74% A place to relax and unwind
- 71% An escape from the built environment
- 55% The feeling of space
- 53% Just being outside

Types of open space used (top five)

- 90% Small local parks
- 88% Large parks and gardens
- 87% Open space along the Yarra River
- 77% Large sporting reserve, 77% Urban Squares, 77% Local streets for exercise
- 68% Medium sporting reserves

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 81% Open grassed areas
- 79% Seats
- 78% Walking paths
- 66% Drinking fountains
- 61% Cycle paths

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Additional open space is required (11)
- Additional open space is required particularly as densities increase and the less private open space (8)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.5.4 How existing workers use open space

113 workers were surveyed in the Epworth Hospital and Bridge Road area about open space.

Frequency of use of open space near the workplace

- 88 per cent of those surveyed visit open space near their workplace with 53 per cent of them nominated they visit open space frequently.

Reasons to visit open space near the workplace

The three top reasons workers visit open space near their place are:

- 66% to be outdoors as a break from work
- 42% to socialise / meet colleagues / friends
- 19% to eat lunch

Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name
15	Fitzroy Gardens
13	Royal Botanic Gardens
11	Parks (names were not specified)
10	Citizens Park
8	Barkly Gardens
8	Yarra Park

Suggestions for improvements to the open space network

The following list is the comments made by 4 or more people:

- Additional open space required (15)
- No improvements required to open space (9)
- Additional car parking required (5)
- Public toilets - additional required (4)

7.5.5 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.5.5a Forecast future population

Quantity

Tables 7.5-4 and 7.5-5 below shows the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations in Collingwood. A substantial change is forecast with an additional estimated 15,000 people living and working in Collingwood by 2031. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the four open space sub-precincts within Collingwood have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur. There is significant variation in the forecast change between the different sub-precincts as shown.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018* (SEES, 2018).

The resident population growth is significant with an overall change of 57 per cent or an additional 5,206 residents between 2016 and 2031. The worker population is estimated to increase by approximately 70 per cent, with an additional 10,358 additional workers between 2016 and 2031. The community expressed concern at the recent increased urban densities and the impact this has on the quality of the existing open space network. They also placed a high level of importance on the need for additional open space and urban greening in the context of increased urban densities and the height of built form. Refer to Appendix C for further information regarding community feedback on the Draft Strategy.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 illustrate that there is additional capacity for growth beyond 2031 in Collingwood, however the rate of growth is slower than forecast for the 2016 to 2031 period. While this Strategy is primarily addressing the

open space needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe.

Table 7.5-4 Resident population forecasts for Collingwood open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Collingwood A	2,381	3,846	1,465
% change Collingwood A			62%
Collingwood B	3,075	6,065	2,990
% change Collingwood B			97%
North Collingwood C	2,551	2,798	247
% change Collingwood C			10%
North Collingwood D	1,134	1,638	504
% change Collingwood D			44%
Total Collingwood	9,141	14,347	5,206
Total % Change			57%

Table 7.5-5 Worker population estimates for Collingwood open space sub-precincts

EMPLOYMENT/ RETAIL PRECINCT	2016	2031	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Collingwood A				
Smith Street Retail Precinct	2,029	2,972	943	46%
Total estimated worker population Collingwood A	2,029	2,972	943	46%
Collingwood B				
Smith Street Retail Precinct	3,767	5,519	1,751	46%
Victoria Parade Employment Precinct	1,290	1,946	656	51%
Total estimated worker population Collingwood B	5,058	7,464	2,407	48%
Collingwood C				
Smith Street Retail Precinct	290	425	135	46%
Gipps Street Employment Precinct	1,585	3,568	1,984	125%
Total estimated worker population Collingwood C	1,874	3,993	2,118	113%
Collingwood D				
Smith Street Retail Precinct	97	142	45	46%
Victoria Parade Employment Precinct	3,167	4,776	1,609	51%
Gipps Street Employment Precinct	2,585	5,822	3,236	125%
Total estimated worker population Collingwood D	5,849	10,740	4,891	84%
Precinct Total				
Smith Street Retail Precinct	6,182	9,056	2,874	46%
Victoria Parade Employment Precinct	4,457	6,722	2,265	51%
Gipps Street Employment Precinct	4,170	9,390	5,220	125%
Total estimated worker population Collingwood	14,810	25,168	10,358	70%

7.5.5b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in Collingwood will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction from increased use. Due to the limited amount of open space in Collingwood, Peel Street Park already shows signs of over-use with difficulty in maintaining the grassed areas and the poor condition of garden beds. The community expressed concern about the impacts of recent development on the quality and availability of open space. They highlighted the need for additional open space as urban densities increase. Refer to Appendix C for further details regarding community feedback on open space in Collingwood.

The forecast change in demographics between 2011 and 2016 shows a proportional increase in the 18 to 34 age ranges and a decline in younger people and those in the older age range as well. This means that open space design needs to appeal to the 18 to 34 age range as well as providing for all age groups. Given there has also been an increase in lone person households and couples without children, open space will need to focus on providing facilities that encourage socialising in open space including seating areas and picnic facilities. There will also be a need to promote fitness and exercise by increasing the diversity of facilities that encourage this.

7.5.5c Where change will occur

The forecast resident population increase in Collingwood will be concentrated in sub-precincts Collingwood A and B. The worker population increase is estimated to occur across Collingwood B, C and D, particularly in the Gipps Street and Smith Street employment precincts. Refer to Figures 7.5D and 7.5E.

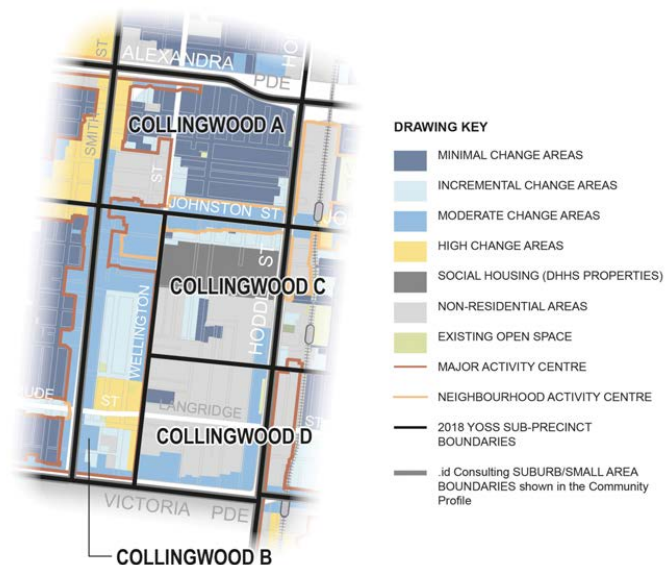


Figure 7.5D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)



Figure 7.5E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.5.5d Open space distribution and future need in Collingwood

Within Collingwood the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in Collingwood to easily reach open space. The open space survey results confirm that residents travel outside Collingwood to visit large areas of open space with the most popular being Fitzroy Gardens and Edinburgh Gardens, mainly for exercising and dog walking. The high value placed on trees, the need to relax and unwind and an escape from the built environment in the open space surveys supports the need to provide more open space in Collingwood, and ensure that it includes natural features and trees. The survey results confirmed that people visit small local open spaces as well, particularly when they are nearby.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Collingwood A</p> <p>Open space sub-precinct Collingwood A. Refer to Section 7.5.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 62 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 1,465 residents by 2031. • A 46 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 943 workers by 2031. • The existing open space network lacks diversity of character and facilities with both existing Small Local open spaces offering play facilities when the demographics indicate a higher proportion of people in the 18 to 34 year age range. The open spaces provide limited unstructured recreation opportunities.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommend a new Small Local open space between Smith and Wellington Streets to cater to both the existing and forecast population as shown in Figure 7.5E. The location will need to be accessible and visible and preferably located on a corner site with both east-west and north south access via the local street network. This small local open space will provide for the needs of the 18 to 34 demographic. • Identify opportunities to increase the size of McNamara Reserve to provide a Local open space. The larger size will allow for a greater diversity of facilities to be provided to appeal to a diversity of age groups. • Undertake a major upgrade to McNamara Reserve. • Investigate the opportunity to either expand the size Alexander Street Reserve - preferably including east-west access to it or expanding the public street frontage. If this is not viable, then seek an alternative location for a new Small Local open space towards the south of Collingwood A close to the moderate change area and replace Alexander Street Reserve. The new Small Local open space is to be accessible via the local street network and with public roads/laneways to at least two sides.
<p>Collingwood B Open space sub-precinct Collingwood B. Refer to Section 7.5.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 97 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 2,990 residents by 2031. Review of the population forecasts to 2041 indicates that population growth will slow to 27 per cent. • A 48 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 2,407 workers by 2031. • While two new Small Local open spaces have been established in the southern part of the precinct since the 2006 Strategy along with an upgrade to Cambridge Street Reserve, these open spaces are already experiencing over-development and over use. • Provide a new Local open space in the vicinity of the former Victoria Police Workshop on Stanley Street to primarily cater to the forecast new population. • Provide a new Small Local open space in the north part of Collingwood B precinct to primarily cater to the forecast worker and resident population in the moderate change area identified in the <i>Yarra Housing Strategy</i>. • Investigate options to increase the size of Peel Street Park, Cambridge Street Reserve and the Oxford Street Park given they are located in the forecast high change area in the <i>Yarra Housing Strategy</i>. Alternatively, seek provision of two additional Small Local open spaces, one north of Langridge Street and the other south of Langridge Street.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Collingwood C Open space sub-precinct Collingwood C. Refer to Section 7.5.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 10 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 247 residents by 2031. Between 2031 and 2041 a 27 per cent increase is forecast with an additional 1,636 residents. This increased rate of growth forecast beyond 2031 means that it will be important to consider future open space opportunities on any of the larger redevelopment sites within this planning period, particularly if this relates to the redevelopment of social housing in the precinct. • A significant 113 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated for this precinct, with an additional 2,118 workers by 2031. • Currently there is no public open space in this precinct, with the social housing area and Collingwood College providing ancillary open space. • Provide a new Small Neighbourhood open space Collingwood C to cater to both the existing and forecast population. In the future (i.e. 2031 to 2041) this open space will need to be increased in size to provide a new Local open space and it is recommended that this be considered in the siting of this new Small Neighbourhood open space.
<p>Collingwood D Open space sub-precinct Collingwood D. Refer to Section 7.5.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 44 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 504 residents by 2031. • A significant 84 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated for this precinct, with an additional 4,891 workers by 2031. • Currently there is no public open space in this precinct and the majority of the precinct will continue to be for non-residential use. • Therefore it is recommended that a new Local open space is provided in the vicinity of Langridge Street in an accessible location and relatively central as illustrated in Figure 7.5F. Given there is currently no open space in this precinct, this new open space will also benefit the existing population. • Improve access to the proposed new Small Local open space proposed to be provided in sub-precinct Collingwood C. This includes safe crossing points over Langridge Street.

7.5.6 Collingwood Recommendations

7.5.6a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

The majority of the Small Local open spaces in Collingwood are experiencing high levels of use. With the forecast substantial population increase of approximately 15,000 people by 2031, there is a need to provide additional open space in Collingwood, including new Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces. The recommendations include expanding the size of selected existing Small Local open spaces to allow inclusion of a greater diversity of facilities. The additional distributed open spaces will also assist to mitigate urban heat, provide increased urban greening and open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers as urban densities continue to increase in the future. This will positively contribute to the health and wellbeing of residents and workers. A priority for new open space is to ensure it receives excellent winter sunlight to address concerns expressed by the community regarding the more recent overshadowing of existing open space as a result of the increased height of built form in this precinct.

Quality and design

There is a need to increase and improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the Small Local open spaces in Collingwood. 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 7.5F for the spatial location of recommendations for Collingwood.

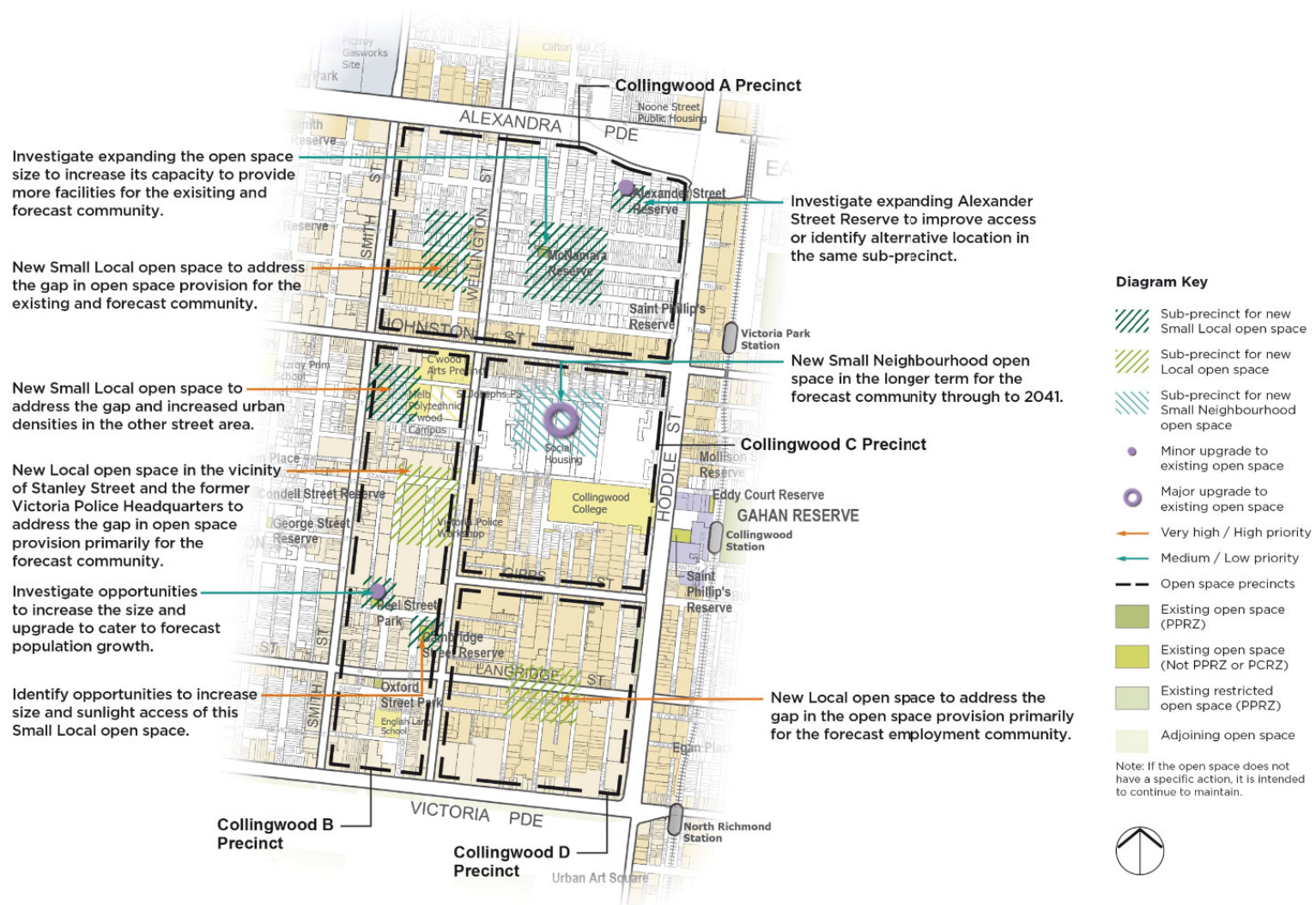


Figure 7.5F Recommendations for Collingwood

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 <i>Yarra Housing Strategy 2018</i> . This is primarily for the forecast population	YCC Developer	Very High

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5B-1	<p>Alexander Street Reserve</p> <p>Refer to Action 7.5A-3 regarding investigating the potential option to expand the size and suitable alternative more accessible locations for a new open space. Once the size, location and whether the existing open space is to be retained, undertake capital works improvements to establish a new open space or upgrade the existing.</p>	YCC	Medium
7.5B-2	<p>Cambridge Street Reserve</p> <p>Investigate opportunities to increase the size of Cambridge Street Reserve including options of utilising part of the adjoining road reserve. This will increase the area and also sunlight access, particularly in winter.</p>	YCC	High
7.5B-3	<p>McNamara Reserve</p> <p>In the short to medium term continue to maintain. As part of the future expansion to the reserve in the long term, undertake a major upgrade to include facilities appropriate to the existing and forecast new community. Refer to Action 7.5A-2 regarding the increase of its size.</p>	YCC	Low
7.5B-4	<p>Oxford Street Park</p> <p>Continue to maintain.</p>	YCC	Ongoing
7.5B-5	<p>Peel Street Park</p> <p>In the short term, undertake a minor upgrade to this open space to provide additional trees, shade, improve seating and improve the layout and condition of the open grassed area primarily for the new population due to increased levels of use. In the longer term, undertake a major upgrade to incorporate the expanded area of open space. Refer to Action 7.5A-5.</p>	YCC	Medium



7.6 Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

7.6.1 Introduction

Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley is a combined precinct bounded to the north by Swan Street, to the South and east by the Yarra River (Birrarung) and the west by Punt Road. The topography is relatively flat and falls gradually to the river.

Cremorne is identified as a Major Employment Precinct in Yarra and the remaining land with the Commercial 2 zoning defines the extent of the employment precinct. The area has made a gradual transition from predominantly industrial use to a wider mix of activities including commercial offices and creative industries. The precinct is characterised by a variety of lot sizes, building stock and condition. The physical diversity has been an important factor in attracting a diversity of economic activities. The *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy (SEES)* supports the protection of the major employment precinct Cremorne. It forecasts continued growth in the non-residential use, evidenced by the recent spike in office developments in the precinct. The SEES forecasts an approximate 20 per cent increase in floor area between 2016 and 2031. There are also pockets of residential use amongst the predominantly commercial use.

Richmond South is predominantly residential with retail and commercial use along Church and Swan Streets, and industrial use to the south east associated with the major power terminal station located there. Burnley, between Burnley Street and Loyala Grove is predominantly residential with some business and commercial use adjoining Twickenham Crescent in the south and along Swan Street. East of Loyala Grove the land use is predominantly open space combined with business/commercial use and education with the University of Melbourne Burnley Campus.

Swan Street and Church Streets are major retail, commercial and business precincts in North Richmond. The *Victoria Street Structure Plan*, adopted by Council in April 2010, 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. The *Swan Street Structure Plan* prepared in 2014 provides direction on streetscape, built form and public realm improvements for Swan Street, Church Street and Cremorne.

With the mixed land use, there is a significant worker population in this precinct which is estimated to be more than four times the size of the resident population, as follows:

- Residential population 2016: 4,622 (Source: *.id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Estimated worker population 2016: 17,024 (Source: *SEES, SGS 2018*)

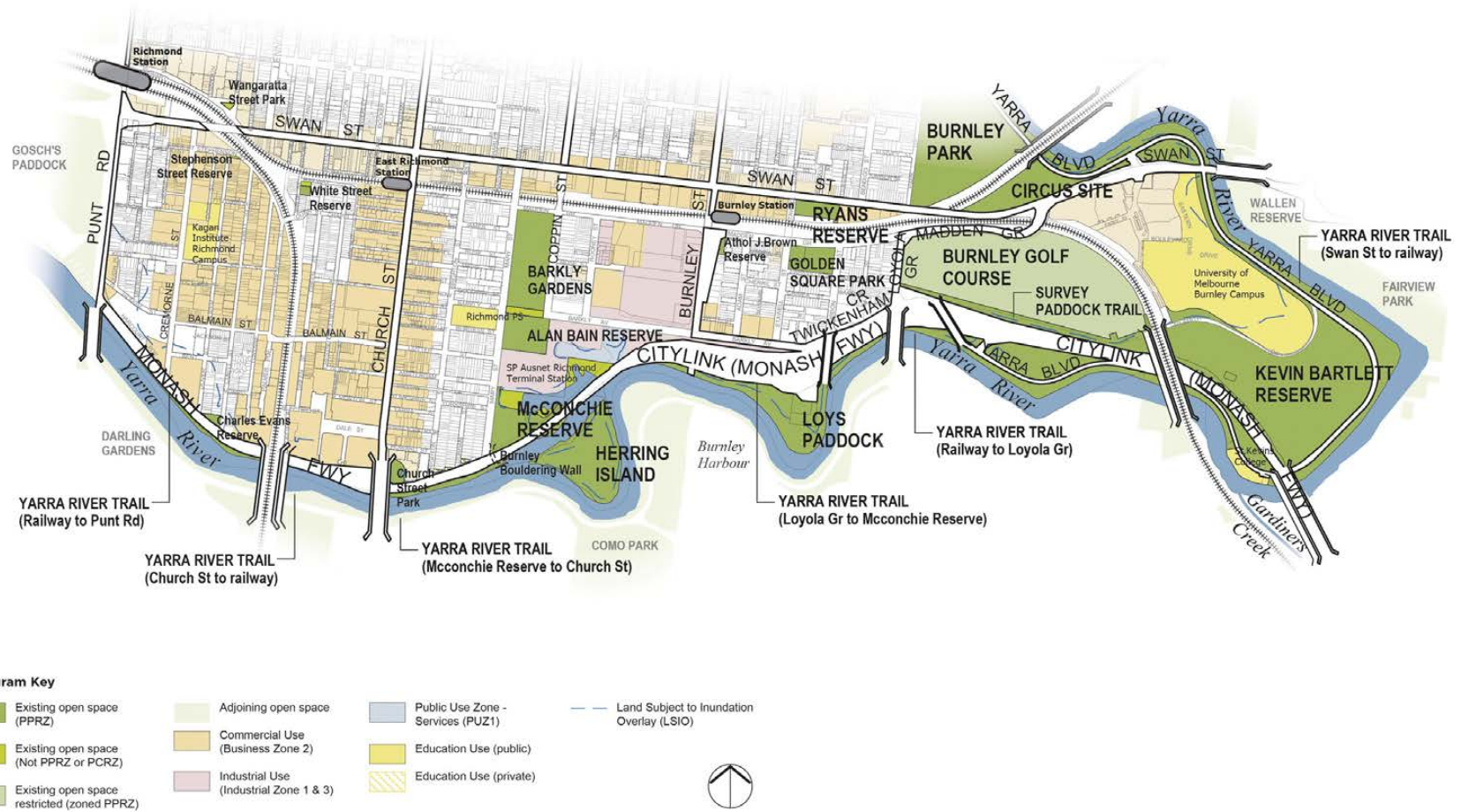


Figure 7.6A Existing open space in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

7.6.2 Existing open space

7.6.2a Sub-precinct Description

Punt Road, Church Street, Burnley Street and Loyala Grove are major north south roads in this precinct and define four open space sub-precincts being Cremorne, Richmond South, Burnley A and Burnley B. These are illustrated in Figure 7.6B

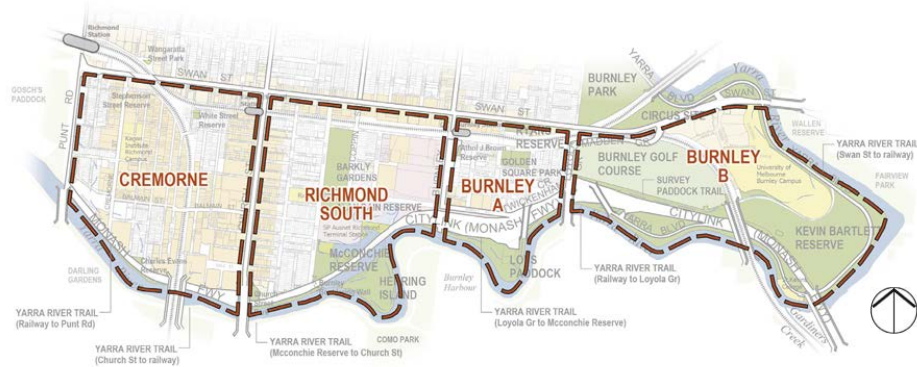


Figure 7.6B Open space sub-precincts for Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Cremorne

- Located between Punt Road and Church Street, from Swan Street in the north to The Yarra River in the South.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Charles Evans Reserve
 - Stephenson Street Reserve
 - White Street Reserve
 - Yarra River Trail (Church Street to Railway)
 - Yarra River Trail (Railway to Punt Road)
- The three Small Local open spaces are located in different parts of Cremorne however there are gaps in open space provision. Stephenson Street Reserve is narrow with seating and a mature tree, while Charles Evans and White Street Reserves are larger and have playgrounds, paths and seats. Charles Evans Reserve is located between the freeway sound walls and apartments with limited natural sunlight access to the reserve and is difficult to access. White Street Reserve on the other hand is set in the heart of a residential precinct and the path is frequently used as a cut through for people accessing the underpass that crosses under the railway line to Swan Street.
- While the Yarra River Trail traverses the southern boundary of Cremorne, it is separated from the precinct by the Monash Freeway. Access into the trail on the north side of the River is via Punt Road and McConchie Reserve in South Richmond. Access to the Main Yarra Trail on the south side of the Yarra River is provided at Church Street.
- Gosch's Paddock adjoins Cremorne on the western side of Punt Road in the City of Melbourne. Given Punt Road is a major arterial road it makes safe and easy access to this open space difficult.

- The predominantly non-residential land use in Cremorne means there is a significant worker population who use open space and are requesting additional open space be provided.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies two high change areas. One is in the south west and Moderate Change along Punt Road and Swan Street. The existing residential precincts are identified as minimal change area. The balance of the precinct is non-residential, which is forecast to continue to redevelop and intensify as described in the SEES (SGS, 2018).

Richmond South

- Richmond South is located between Church and Swan Street and the Yarra River.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes (in alphabetical order):
 - Alan Bain Reserve
 - Barkly Gardens
 - Church Street Park
 - Herring Island
 - McConchie Reserve
 - Yarra River Trail (McConchie Reserve to Church Street)
- Barkly Gardens is a well-used Municipal open space that is characterised as a Public Garden with heritage values. Directly adjoining it, Alan Bain Reserve provides structured sporting use via the sports field complementing the unstructured recreational use of Barkly Gardens.
- McConchie Reserve is uniquely different Regional open space that directly adjoins the Yarra River with the Monash Freeway separating the reserve from the River. The bouldering walls under the freeway combined with the deeply incised wetland located in the base of a former quarry adds to its character.
- Herring Island is located in the Yarra River and is only accessible via boat from the river, with a public landing located on the southern bank in Como Park in the City of Stonnington. Herring Island is managed by Parks Victoria.
- The Yarra River Trail provides major east-west connectivity along the north bank of the Yarra River and is accessible from McConchie Reserve via an underpass under the Monash Freeway.
- Church Street Park has been created on what was a former entry ramp to the Monash Freeway. The park includes an open grassed area, seating, picnic, play and outdoor table tennis.
- Other land use apart from the residential and open space includes a major electrical terminal station, Burnley Tunnel emissions tower, the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, Richmond Primary School and the Yarra Primary School as shown in Figure 7.6B.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies High and Moderate Change Areas between Swan Street and the railway, while the majority of the existing residential areas are shown as Minimal Change Areas. The balance of the precinct is non-residential, and the area adjoining Church Street is forecast to continue to redevelop and intensify as described in the SEES (SGS, 2018).

Burnley A

- Burnley A is located between Burnley Street and Loyala Grove and between Swan Street and the Yarra River.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Athol J. Brown Reserve
 - Golden Square
 - Loys Paddock
 - Ryans Reserve
 - Yarra River Trail (Loyala Gr to McConchie Reserve)
- Golden Square, located in the heart of the residential precinct is a Small Neighbourhood open space with mature native and exotic trees, a playground and open grassed area.
- Loys Paddock is a Regional open space that directly adjoins the Main Yarra Trail. The reserve is impacted by the traffic noise from the on-ramp to the Monash Freeway from Twickenham Crescent and also by the transmission towers and easement. The Yarra River Trail traverses through the reserve and it has natural biodiversity values.
- Ryans Reserve, located between Swan Street and the railway has been recently upgraded as a netball facility. The courts available for use free of charge to the public outside of training and match play.
- Adjacent to Burnley Street, Athol J. Brown Reserve is a long narrow reserve with mature trees and its character is as a tree reserve rather than for recreational use.
- Land use is a combination of industrial, business, commercial and residential use.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes a High Change Area between Swan Street and the railway. There is a combination of Incremental Change and Minimal Change for the remaining residential areas within the precinct.

Burnley B

- Burnley B is the area east of Loyala Grove and south Swan Street and comprises large open space reserves adjacent to the Yarra River.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Burnley Golf Course
 - Kevin Bartlett Reserve
 - Survey Paddock Trail
 - Yarra River Trail (Swan Street to Railway) and (Railway to Loyala Gr)
- Managed by the City of Yarra, Burnley Golf Course is an 8 hole public golf course.
- Kevin Bartlett Reserve is a major sporting reserve for the City of Yarra and includes 4 soccer fields, an oval, sports pavilions, car parking and playground.
- The Main Yarra Trail continues adjacent to the Yarra River includes stands of mature remnant River Red Gums. The Gardiners Creek Trail joins to the Main Yarra Trail in this sub-precinct.
- The Capital City Trail that is located south of Burnley Golf Course in a reserve that is known as the Survey Paddock Trail, after the original land subdivision in the early 1800s.
- Land use is a combination of open space, business and education, with Burnley Business Park and the University of Melbourne Burnley Campus located adjoining the open space.
- The Burnley Business Park is forecast to continue to expand in the *SEES* (SGS, 2018).

7.6.2b Quantity of open space in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

The 19 existing open spaces in this precinct have a combined total area of 44.32 hectares. This represents approximately 19 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. Additionally there is one restricted open space being Burnley Golf Course, which is 13.37 hectares in size. Adding the restricted open space to the other 20 open spaces results in a total of 58.35 hectares and represents 25.1 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 95 sqm of open space per person relative to the residential population in 2016.

Table 7.6-1 Number, size and type of open space (excluding restricted open space)

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
10	Regional	39.59	58%
4	City wide	17.38	39%
1	Small Neighbourhood	0.83	2%
0	Neighbourhood	0.00	0%
2	Local	0.38	1%
3	Small Local	0.17	0%
20	TOTAL	44.98	100%

7.6.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

The open space corridor along the Yarra River is an important habitat and recreational corridor for wider Melbourne. It is therefore designated as a Regional open space and is managed to protect and improve the habitat and recreational values. Access to the Yarra River itself, the bushland and natural qualities of this linear corridor are key reasons people visit this open space. Burnley Golf Course is also defined as Regional open space in recognition of the regional sporting use and also the intention of council to improve its role in the biodiversity values.

Kevin Bartlett Reserve and Alan Bain Reserve have the City-wide hierarchy due to their sporting character classification, providing facilities primarily for people living and working in Yarra. While these reserves are designed primarily for structured sport, people also use them for unstructured recreation and informal uses, including exercising dogs, informal ball sports, walking and jogging. Barkly Gardens has a unique heritage and public garden character is recognised to be of significance to the City of Yarra and has therefore been given a City-wide hierarchy.

The Small Neighbourhood open space, Golden Square Park has an informal character with open grass, scattered trees and a playground and is in need of an upgrade. Church Street Park was established in the last few years and is located in a high density precinct, on a major road and has a more formal layout and context with a diversity of spaces and is characterised as an Urban plaza. The Small Local open spaces in Cremorne are all within a changing urban context, with two of them characterised as play due to the dominance of the play facilities in the open space and Stephenson's Reserve is characterised as seating/viewing. Athol J Brown Reserve is informal in character given it contains some scattered trees and grass.

Table 7.6-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	City of Yarra Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Alan Bain Reserve	1.17	City-wide	Sporting	
Athol J Brown Reserve	0.06	Small Local	Informal	
Barkly Gardens	2.67	City-wide	Heritage	Play, Public garden
Charles Evans Reserve	0.10	Small Local	Play	
Church Street Park	0.27	Local	Urban plaza	
Golden Square Park	0.83	Small Neighbourhood	Informal	
Herring Island	3.19	Regional	Waterway	Nature conservation, Public art
Kevin Bartlett Reserve	12.88	City-wide	Sporting	
Loys Paddock	3.48	City-wide	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
McConchie Reserve	2.43	Regional	Seating/Viewing	Water feature, Waterway, Service easement, Linking space, Nature conservation, Play
Ryans Reserve	0.66	City-wide	Sporting	
Stephenson Street Reserve	0.02	Small Local	Seating/Viewing	
Survey Paddock Trail	0.96	Regional	Linear	Linking space
White Street Reserve	0.11	Local	Informal	Play
Yarra River Trail – Church St to Railway	0.16	Regional	Linear	Waterway
Yarra River Trail – Loyala Gr to McConchie Reserve	3.35	Regional	Linear	Waterway
Yarra River Trail – McConchie Reserve to Church St	0.39	Regional	Linear	Waterway
Yarra River Trail – Railway to Loyala Gr	1.80	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Yarra River Trail – Railway to Punt Rd	0.90	Regional	Linear	Waterway
Yarra River Trail – Swan St to Railway	9.57	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Total	44.98			
Restricted open space				
Burnley Golf Course	13.37	Regional	Restricted sporting	Nature conservation
Total Restricted open space	13.37			

7.6.2d Distribution of open space in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate open space hierarchy as shown in Table 7.6-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.6C on the next page. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in this precinct is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

For this precinct, the major gaps in the existing open space network occur in Cremorne, with the other sub-precincts being well provided for.

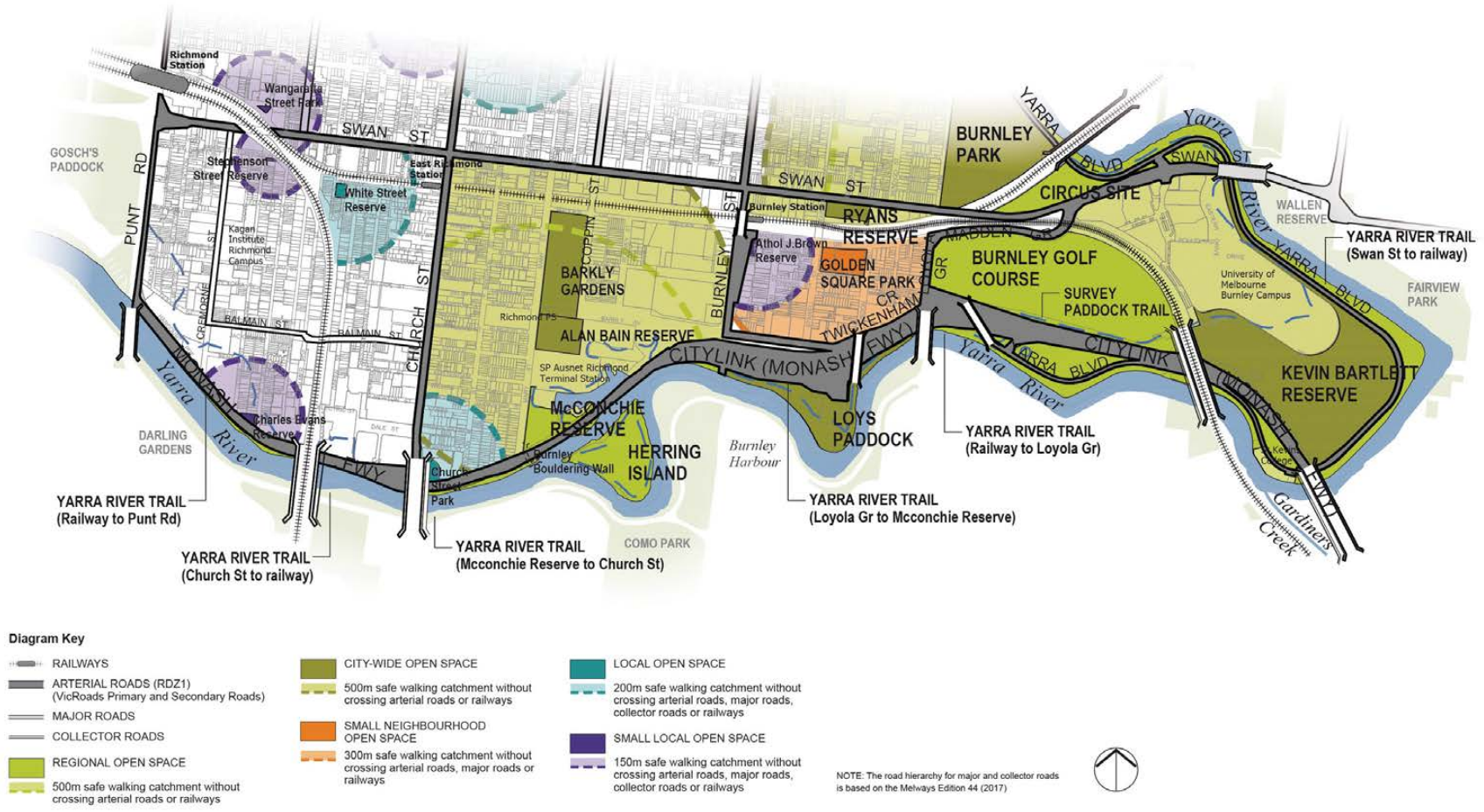


Figure 7.6C Gap analysis for Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

7.6.3 How residents use open space

A total of 94 resident surveys were received from the Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley. Please note that in addition to these, 117 surveys were also completed by workers in the precinct in Swan and Church Streets precinct. A summary of the results of the worker survey is included in the next section 7.6.4.

The 94 resident surveys completed for this precinct represents 7 per cent of the total surveys received. The .id Community Profile identifies that 6 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives in this precinct.

Table 7.6-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
43	Barkly Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground (11) Picnic facilities – BBQS (8) Close to home (6) Socialising with friends/family (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Toilets require maintenance (5) Picnic facilities – shade required (4) Playground – shade required (3) No improvements required (3)
29	Citizens Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport – junior football including Auskick (8) Sport – children (5) Dog walking (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting facilities require upgrade – clubrooms (7) Dog owners need to clean up dog waste (6) Sporting facilities – clubrooms need to cater to girls (5)
18	Burnley Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (4) Walking (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the Caretaker's cottage (3) Additional exercise equipment required (3)
11	White Street Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport - informal ball games (2) Being outdoors in the natural environment (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade playground(2)
9	Charles Evans Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialising with friends/family (3) Dog friendly (2) Close to home (2) Picnics (2) Play (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grassed area requires improvement (4) Additional open space required(2) Picnic facilities – BBQ required (2)
8	Golden Square Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to home (3) Playground (3) Dog walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public toilets – additional required (4) Playground – shade required (3) Picnic facilities – additional BBQs required (2)
Open space beyond walking distance			
9	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport (6) Sport – junior football (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sporting facilities – clubrooms require facilities for girls (2) Additional bins (2)
8	Citizens Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sport (3) 	

Values of open space (top five)

- 77% Place to relax and unwind
- 73% Trees
- 66% The feeling of space
- 64% Place for children to play
- 62% An escape from the built environment

Types of open space used (top five)

- 89% Open space along Yarra River
- 88% Large parks and gardens
- 86% Local streets for exercise
- 84% Small local parks
- 82% Large sporting reserves

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 78% Drinking fountains
- 77% Open grassed areas
- 71% Walking paths
- 69% Cycle paths
- 67% Public toilets and 67% Seats

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by three or more people:

- Additional open space is required particularly as densities increase and the less private open space (19)
- Open space contributes to liveability (3)
- Open space – provide additional multi-use spaces (3)
- Conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians on shared paths (3)
- Additional sporting facilities are required for girls (3)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.6.4 How existing workers use open space

117 workers were surveyed in the Swan Street and Church Street precincts about open space.

Frequency of use of open space near the workplace

- 90 per cent of those surveyed visit open space near their workplace.

Reasons to visit open space near the workplace

The four top reasons workers visit open space near their place are:

- 74% to be outdoors as a break from work
- 38% to socialise / meet colleagues / friends
- 30% to eat lunch

- 17% to meet family

Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name
27	Church Street*
22	Parks
15	Barkly Gardens
9	Gardens
4	Dale Street
4	Flagstaff Gardens
4	Yarra Park

*It is unclear from the survey outcome if Church Street includes the park or the streetscape only.

Suggestions for improvements to the open space network

The following list is the comments made by 4 or more people:

- Additional open space required (16)
- Additional seating required (12)
- Additional greening (4)
- Additional trees (4)

7.6.5 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.6.5a Forecast future population

Quantity

The table below shows the forecast population growth for the resident and worker populations in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley. A further breakdown of the residential forecasts in each of the four open space sub-precincts have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis.

Resident population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018* (SEES, 2018).

The resident population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population of 106 per cent or an additional 4,917 residents between 2016 and 2031. The worker population is estimated to increase by approximately 55 per cent, with an additional 9,160 workers between 2016 and 2031.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 indicate that the resident population is forecast to continue to grow in Cremorne, Richmond South by approximately 38 and 40 per cent respectively, and only 3 per cent in Burnley A.

Table 7.6-4 Resident population forecasts for North Richmond open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Cremerne	2,195	6,034	3,839
% change Cremerne			175%
Richmond South	1,546	1,939	393
% change Richmond South			25%
Burnley A	881	1,566	685
% change Burnley A			78%
Burnley B	0	0	0
% change Burnley B		0%	0%
Total Cremerne, Richmond South and Burnley	4,622	9,539	4,917
Total % Change			106%

Table 7.6-5 Worker population estimates for Cremerne, Richmond South and Burnley open space sub-precincts

EMPLOYMENT/ RETAIL PRECINCT	2016	2031	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Cremerne				
Swan Street Retail Precinct	737	1,054	317	43%
Employment Precinct 9	4,860	8,160	3,300	68%
Employment Precinct 7	4,643	6,915	2,272	49%
<i>Total estimated worker population Cremerne</i>	<i>10,241</i>	<i>16,130</i>	<i>5,889</i>	<i>58%</i>
Richmond South				
Swan Street Retail Precinct	1,050	1,502	451	43%
Employment Precinct 7	1,897	2,825	928	49%
<i>Total estimated worker population Richmond South</i>	<i>2,947</i>	<i>4,326</i>	<i>1,379</i>	<i>47%</i>
Burnley A				
Swan Street Retail Precinct	447	639	192	0%
<i>Total estimated worker population Burnley A</i>	<i>447</i>	<i>639</i>	<i>192</i>	<i>43%</i>
Burnley B				
Employment Precinct 3	3,070	4,770	1,700	0%
<i>Total estimated worker population Burnley B</i>	<i>3,070</i>	<i>4,770</i>	<i>1,700</i>	<i>55%</i>
Retail and employment precinct totals				
Swan Street Retail Precinct	2,234	3,195	960	43%
Employment Precinct 9	4,860	8,160	3,300	68%
Employment Precinct 7	6,540	9,740	3,200	49%
Employment Precinct 3	3,070	4,770	1,700	55%
Total Cremerne, Richmond South and Burnley	16,704	25,865	9,160	55%

7.6.5b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in the precinct will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. In Richmond South and Burnley where there are larger open space reserves the additional demands on open space will be less noticeable than in Cremorne. In Cremorne the existing open spaces are small in size and currently comprise just under 2 per cent of the total precinct area. The increased population use of open space will lead to overcrowding, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction from increased use.

The forecast change in demographics with a slight decrease in the number of families and young children and an increase in young adults and older people living on their own means that there will be a likely increase in the demand for facilities that encourage socialising in open space including seating areas and picnic facilities. There will also be a need to promote fitness and exercise by increasing the diversity of facilities that encourage this.

7.6.5c Where change will occur

The forecast resident and worker population increase will be concentrated in Cremorne, Richmond South. The Swan Street spine is forecast to receive high levels of residential change, and it appears the additional worker population will occur in the retail and employment precincts shown in Figures 7.6D and 7.6E.

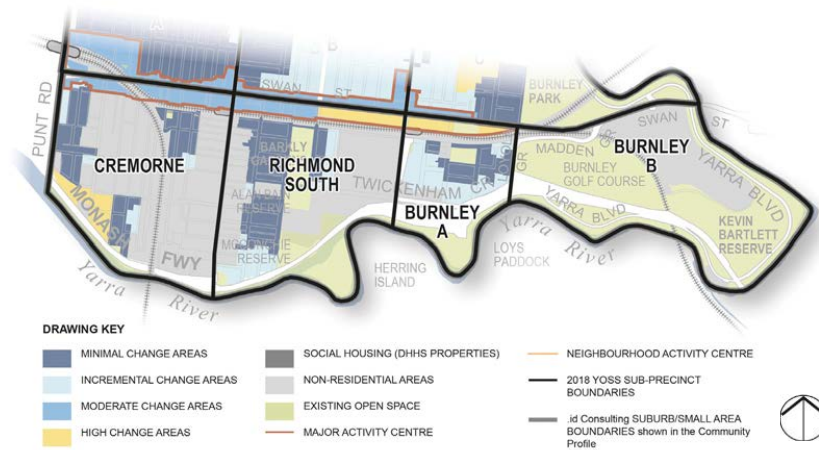


Figure 7.6D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

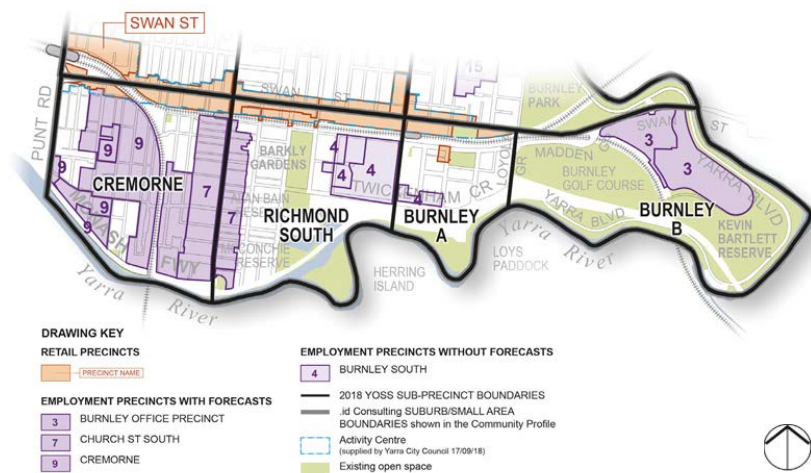


Figure 7.6E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.6.5d Open space distribution and future need in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Within this precinct the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. The open space sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in this precinct to easily reach open space. The open space survey results confirm that residents travel outside the precinct to visit open space, however this is mainly due to the lack of open space in parts of the precinct.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Cremorne Cremorne is located between Punt Road and Church Street, with Swan Street to the north and the Yara River to the south. Refer to Section 7.6.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 175 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 3,839 residents by 2031. • A 58 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 5,889 workers by 2031. • The existing open space network is limited with only two Small Local and one Local open spaces that offer a limited range of recreational uses due to their small size. • Recommend a new Small Local open space between Punt Road and Cremorne Street and north of Kelso Street as shown in Figure 7.6F. This is to provide an open space within a safe and easy walk via the local street network. • Recommend a new Small Neighbourhood open space in the vicinity of the TAFE site between Cremorne Street and the railway and the north of Balmain Street. Currently, the suggested location is on the TAFE site as this is central to this precinct with excellent access. It is large enough to provide a range of unstructured recreational facilities combined with additional greening. Importantly, this open space will be accessible via the local street network to the areas of major growth and change. Recommend a new Small Local open space or expand the existing Charles Evans Reserve south of Balmain Street between Cremorne Street and the railway. This is to address both the forecast worker population and the High Change Area identified in the Housing Strategy. • A new Local open space is required in the precinct between the railway and Church Street, north of Balmain Street. This is to cater primarily for the forecast new worker and resident population, along with providing a greater diversity of facilities for the existing population. • A new Small Local open space is required in the non-residential precinct south of Balmain Street, between the railway and Church Street. There are opportunities to convert some existing privately owned open space including converting part of the Dale Street or the car parking area on Electric Street to open space for the existing and forecast worker community. • Upgrade White Street Reserve to include exercise equipment and picnic facilities to improve the character and diversity of age groups that can use the reserve. • Continue to maintain Charles Evans Reserve with minor improvements to the picnic area and playground.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Richmond South Located between Church and Burnley Streets, south of Swan Street. Refer to Section 7.6.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 25 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 393 residents by 2031. • A 47 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 1,379 workers by 2031. • Given this sub-precinct includes a diversity of open space, no additional opens space is required. • Continue to undertake minor upgrades to Barkly Gardens to cater to the forecast increased levels of use. • Continue to maintain Alan Bain and McConchie Reserves.
<p>Burnley A Located between Burnley Street and Loyala Grove with Swan Street to the north and the Yarra River to the south. Refer to Section 7.6.2 for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant 78 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 685 residents by 2031. The majority are anticipated to be located in the Swan Street area, consistent with the <i>Yarra Housing Strategy 2018</i>. • A 43 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 192 workers by 2031 in the Swan Street area. • Given the majority of the forecast population is going to live and work between Swan Street and the Railway, the Strategy recommends that the informal facilities at Ryans Reserve are improved to better cater to casual use outside of training and match play. • Undertake a major upgrade of Golden Square Park to increase the diversity of the facilities, its interface to the retail/commercial use to the west of the park and the overall character. • Review the future use and design of Athol J Brown Reserve as part of the future major upgrade of Golden Square Park to complement the character and facilities in the upgraded Golden Square Park.
<p>Burnley B Located between Loyala Grove and the Yarra River. Refer to Section 7.6.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 55 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 1,700 workers by 2031. • Currently there is no existing resident population and no future resident population is forecast for this precinct. • Given this sub-precinct is predominantly open space, no additional opens space is required. • Review the provision of suitable sports facilities at Kevin Bartlett Reserve for female participation. • Undertake a review of Burnley Golf Course to confirm whether there is a need to continue the golfing use or whether there is a greater demand for other structured community sporting uses in the future. • Continue to protect and improve the biodiversity values of the Yarra River corridor.

7.6.6 Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley Recommendations

7.6.6a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Barkly Gardens and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute to the open space character of this precinct. With the forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population in Cremorne, and lack of open space west of Church Street, a key recommendation is to provide new Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space reserves in Cremorne to cater to the nearly 10,000 additional workers and residents. With the forecast significant increase in urban densities along Swan Street and across the southern part of the Municipality, there is also a longer term opportunity to introduce more diverse golfing options and other sporting uses at Burnley Public Golf Course. Strengthening the natural biodiversity values along the Yarra River corridor will contribute to the character and resilience of Richmond South and Burnley.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the quality and diversity of facilities in the existing open spaces in this precinct. The additional open space in Cremorne will 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 7.6F for the spatial location of recommendations for this precinct.

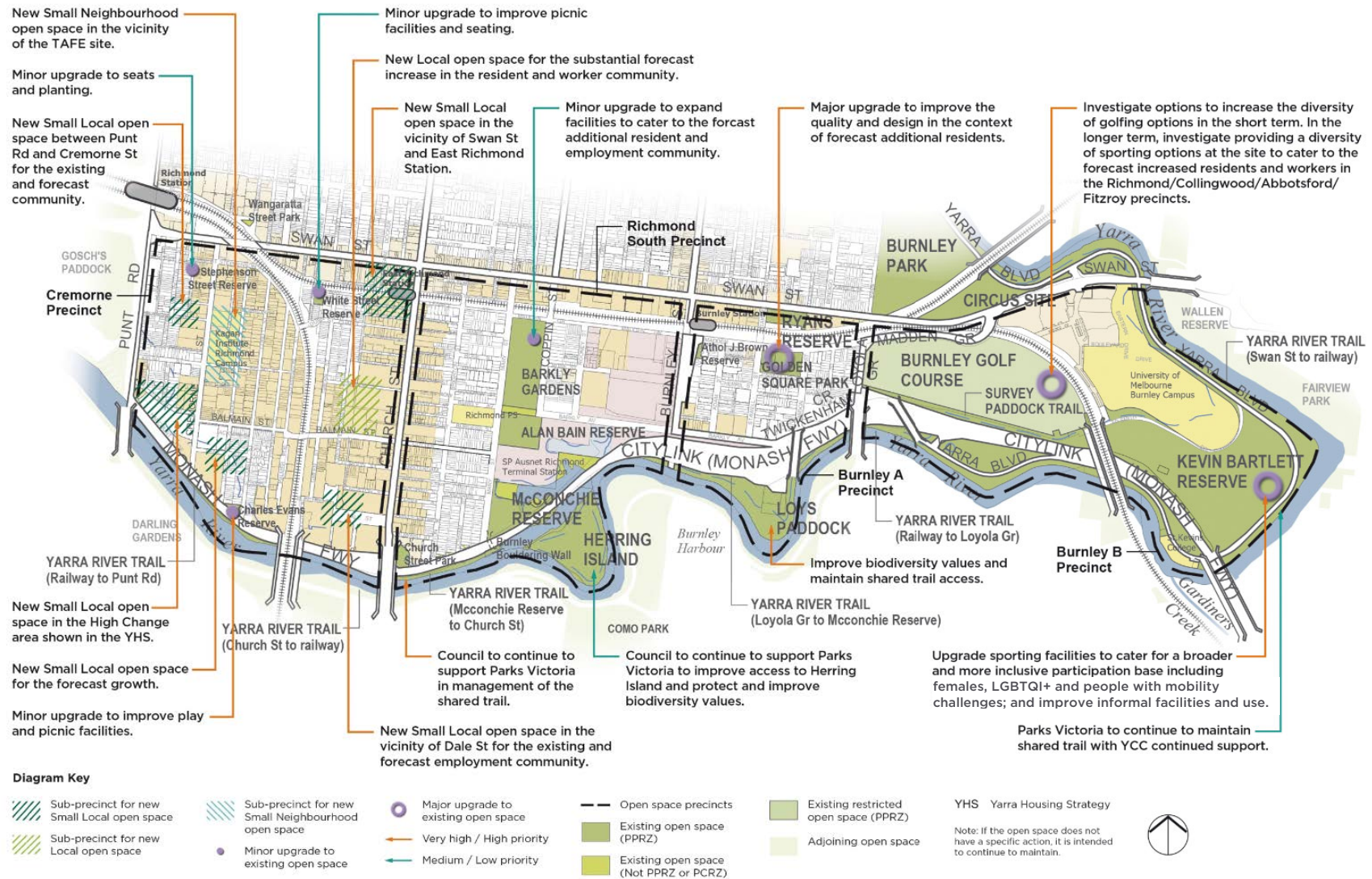


Figure 7.6F Recommendations for Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

7.6.5b Precinct Actions for Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6A-1	Provide a new Small Neighbourhood open space in Cremorne in the vicinity of the Kangan TAFE site. There is potential to investigate locating this on the car park and improving east-west connectivity as well. This new open space is primarily for the new population and also for the existing population.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.6A-2	Provide a new Small Local open space in the north-west area of Cremorne between Punt Road and Cremorne Street as shown in Figure 7.6F. This is to cater for both the forecast new and the existing population north of Kelso Street.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.6A-3	Provide a new Small Local open space in the south-west part of Cremorne in close proximity to the High Change Area shown in the <i>Yarra Housing Strategy 2018</i> . This is primarily to cater to the forecast new resident and worker population.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.6A-4	Provide a new Small Local open space between Cremorne Street and the railway, south of Balmain Street, as shown in Figure 7.6F. This will primarily be for the forecast new population.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.6A-5	Provide a new Local open space between the railway and Church Street and north of Balmain Street. This will complement the existing White Street Reserve, which is already well used, and cater to the forecast substantial increase in the worker and resident population. Options for future open space include the car park near East Richmond Station and the on the Bryant and May Site. The future open space will preferably be large enough to provide for unstructured active recreation including multi-use court, half courts, exercise equipment combined with urban greening and picnic and barbecue facilities.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.6A-6	Provide a new Small Local open space in the employment precinct south of Balmain Street and between the railway and Church Street. There is an opportunity to investigate changing the configuration of Dale Street to create a public open space and/or the configuration of the square on Electric Street. This will cater to both the existing and forecast worker population.	YCC Developer	Very High
7.6A-7	Provide a new small local open space in the north or south of East Richmond Station primarily for the forecast population in the Swan Street precinct.	YCC Developer	Very High

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6B-1	Alan Bain Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.6B-2	Athol J Brown Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.6B-3	Barkly Gardens Undertake minor upgrades to the playground and other unstructured recreation facilities to cater to increased levels of use for forecast population.	YCC	Medium
7.6B-4	Burnley Golf Course Undertake a major review of the future use of this public open space to investigate options to increase the diversity of golfing options at the Burnley Golf Course in the short to medium term. In the longer term, investigate the feasibility to provide a diversity of sporting options offered at this site. This is investigation only, and the space is intended to continue to be primarily used for structured sporting uses.	YCC	Very High
7.6B-5	Charles Evans Reserve Undertake minor upgrades including investigating improving the picnic and play facilities.	YCC	High
7.6B-6	Church Street Park Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.6B-7	Golden Square Park Undertake a major upgrade to better cater to the needs of the existing and forecast population including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the quality and design of the open grassed area. • Increase the variety of unstructured recreation facilities in the open space to appeal to a more diverse age group. • Activate the interface between the park and the adjoining commercial use to the west of the reserve. 	YCC	High
7.6B-8	Herring Island Support investigating options to improve access to Herring Island and its contribution to the biodiversity values of the Yarra River Corridor, consistent with the <i>Yarra Strategic Plan</i> .	PV	Ongoing
7.6B-9	Kevin Bartlett Reserve Investigate options to upgrade the sporting facilities to better cater to a broader and more inclusive participation base including females, LGBTQI+ and people with mobility challenges. As part of the future upgrade improve the passive and informal facilities provided at the reserve primarily for the forecast population as part of the future increased levels of use.	YCC	High
7.6B-10	Loys Paddock Continue to improve the natural biodiversity values with appropriate indigenous revegetation while maintaining appropriate access for the Main Yarra Trail.	YCC	Ongoing
7.6B-11	McConchie Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6B-12	Ryans Reserve Undertake minor upgrade to the informal facilities to complement the recent major upgrade to the netball facilities. This is to improve the casual use of the reserve outside of sports training and match play.	YCC	High
7.6B-13	Stephenson Street Reserve Undertake minor upgrade to improve seating opportunities and landscape character with additional planting.	YCC	Ongoing
7.6B-14	Survey Paddock Trail PV to continue to maintain.	PV	Ongoing
7.6B-15	White Street Reserve Undertake a minor upgrade including provision of improved picnic facilities and review of the play facility and options to improve the seating and other uses. If opportunities arise in the future, investigate expanding the size of this open space to improve its function and use.	YCC	Medium
7.6B-16	Yarra River Trail – Church St to Railway Continue to maintain.	PV (YCC)	Ongoing
7.6B-17	Yarra River Trail – Loyala Gv to McConchie Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.6B-18	Yarra River Trail – McConchie Reserve to Church St PV to continue to maintain and YCC continues to support the importance of accessibility through this section of trail.	PV (YCC)	Ongoing
7.6B-19	Yarra River Trail – Railway to Loyala Gr Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.6B-20	Yarra River Trail – Railway to Punt Rd PV to continue to maintain.	PV (YCC)	Ongoing
7.6B-21	Yarra River Trail – Swan St to Railway PV to continue to maintain and YCC continues to support the importance of accessibility through this section of trail.	PV (YCC)	Ongoing



7.7 Fairfield - Alphington

7.7.1 Introduction

Fairfield and Alphington are located between the Merri Creek and Darebin Creek with the Yarra River defining its southern boundary and Heidelberg Road its north.

The waterways and open space define the character of these precincts. Yarra Bend Park, Yarra Bend Public Golf Course and Fairfield Park make up more than half of Fairfield. Within Yarra Bend Park is the Melbourne Polytechnic Fairfield Campus and some business/commercial and use to the north along Heidelberg Road, while the majority of the rest of Fairfield is residential. East of Chandler Highway Alphington is a predominantly residential area with the privately owned and run Latrobe Golf Club on the Yarra River, Alphington Park and Wetlands and the proposed future linear open space along Darebin Creek. The area is experiencing significant change with the redevelopment of the former Alphington Paper Mills site into a new residential community with approximately 2,500 dwellings. As part of the planning process, the provision of new public open space has been shown in the Development Plan and is illustrated on Figure 7.7A as future open space. The *Alphington Paper Mill Development Plan, Alpha Partners and Glenvill 2016*, is the approved plan for the site. The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* provides direction on the future level of change for residential use within the precinct.

In Fairfield there are two public open space reserves adjacent to the north bank of the Yarra River being Rudder Grange and Coate Park. Currently, there is informal pedestrian access between them over privately owned land and there is a need to formalise this in the future to provide a secure formal pedestrian path link between the two public open spaces.

With the mixed land use, there is a significant worker population in Fairfield and Alphington which is about 20 per cent less than the resident population, as follows:

- Existing residential population 2016: 2,894 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: Not available.



Figure 7.7A Existing open space in Fairfield - Alphington

7.7.2 Existing open space

7.7.2a Description

The two suburbs of Alphington and Fairfield are separated by Chandler Highway and have clear defined boundaries formed by the Heidelberg Road to the north, the Yarra River to the south and Merri Creek and Darebin Creek to the east and west. The extent of the two suburbs are shown in Figure 7.7B.

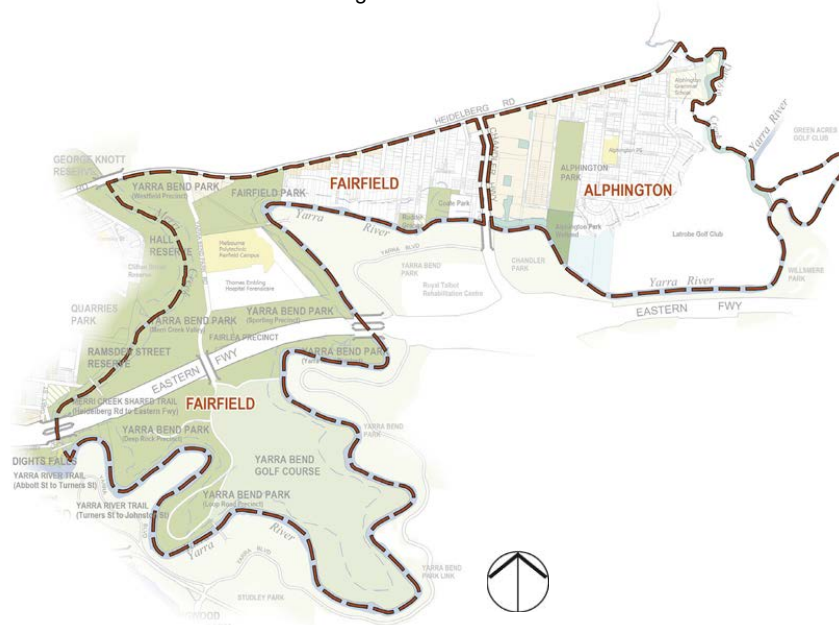


Figure 7.7B Open space sub-precincts for Fairfield | Alphington

Fairfield

- Open space located in this suburb includes
 - Coate Park
 - Fairfield Park
 - Rudder Grange
 - Yarra Bend Park
- Yarra Bend Park is a major regional open space that is Crown Land managed by Parks Victoria. The Parks Victoria Visitor Guide notes that it is the largest area of natural bushland near the heart of Melbourne and is home to the city's famous Flying-fox colony, has steep river escarpments, open woodlands, playing fields and golf courses.
- Fairfield Park directly adjoins Yarra Bend Park and is managed by the City of Yarra. It provides a diversity of facilities and provides access to the Yarra River for the boating including kayak and canoe launch facilities along with the boat hire associated with the Fairfield Boathouse and Tea Gardens. The Ivanhoe Northcote Canoe Club is based at the park and the Fairfield Amphitheatre is located in the park and

- accommodates up to 350 people at an event and is available for bookings. Fairfield Park Oval provides two soccer fields and a cricket ground along with cricket nets and a sports pavilion. The masterplan prepared in 2010 guides future works in the Park.
- Coate Park and Rudder Grange directly adjoin the Yarra River to the east of the precinct and an informal walking track along the Yarra River connects them both. Coate Park has mature exotic plantings and open grassed area with seats and picnic facilities. The existing masterplan prepared in 2002 guides future works.
 - The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies two Moderate Change areas, with one at the corner of Chandler Highway and Heidelberg Road and the other to the north of Fairfield Park. The remainder of the residential area is noted as Minimal Change.
 - The non-residential land use forms part of the Fairfield Employment Precinct, however there are no employment forecasts for this area.

Alphington

- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Alphington Park
 - Alphington Park Wetlands
- Alphington Park provides for the sport and recreation needs of the existing residents and includes a sports field, bowling club, playground, picnic facilities and walking paths.
- Alphington Park Wetlands directly adjoin the Yarra River and are a peaceful location for walking and primarily for protection and improvement of the biodiversity values of the Yarra River corridor.
- Latrobe Golf Club is privately owned and provides a natural unbuilt character even though this area is not open and accessible to the public.
- A future linear open space corridor is proposed along the Darebin Creek as part of the Lower Darebin Creek Shared Trail link to the Main Yarra Trail. People living in Alphington can access the shared trail via Sparks Reserve, which is located in the City of Banyule via Heidelberg Road. Currently there is no direct access onto the trail from Alphington.
- Future open space is proposed within the Alphington Paper Mills development site and the layout shown in the 2016 Development Plan is shown in Figure 7.7A. This is a system of future Small Local and Local open space primarily for the new approximately 2,500 dwellings. The 30 metre wide reserve along the Yarra River will be accessible and will provide an open space link to Alphington Park Wetlands in the future. The land use is a combination of residential use, mixed use (Alphington Paper Mills site), special use for the Latrobe Golf Club, education for the Alphington Primary School and some commercial use along Heidelberg Road.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes one High Change area which is the Alphington Paper Mills Site. The area of commercial use on Heidelberg Road is designated as a Moderate Change area, with the remainder of the residential area being Minimal Change.

7.7.2b Quantity of open space in Fairfield - Alphington

The 6 existing open spaces in Fairfield and Alphington have a combined total area of 96.92 hectares. This represents approximately 28 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. Additionally there is 1 existing restricted open space that is 59.63 hectares in size. Adding the restricted open space to the other 6 open spaces results in a total of 156.55 hectares and represents 45.2 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 359 sqm of open space per person relative to the residential population in 2016.

Table 7.7-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
3	Regional	89.29	92%
1	City wide	5.50	6%
1	Neighbourhood	1.58	2%
1	Small Neighbourhood	0.54	1%
0	Local	0.00	0%
0	Small Local	0.00	0%
6	TOTAL	96.92	100%

7.7.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

Yarra Bend Park is noted to be the largest natural bushland area to the Melbourne CBD, being located approximately 6 kilometres from it. It also provides a significant sport and recreation precinct for the residential and worker community, particularly those living nearby including in Fairfield.

Fairfield Park including the oval is a Regional open space that is managed by the City of Yarra directly and provides a combination of facilities that meet local and regional open space needs. Alphington Park, on the other hand, is a City-wide reserve with a predominantly sporting character and caters primarily to the sport and recreation needs of Alphington.

Alphington Park Wetland is the only area of open space that is zoned Public Conservation and Resource Zone and has a Regional hierarchy in recognition of its contribution to the habitat values of the broader Yarra River corridor.

Coate Park is the only Neighbourhood Park due to its size and the range of facilities located in it, while Rudder Grange is a Small Neighbourhood open space with a walking path and seating that currently does not connect to Coate Park as a continuous path. There is a need to formalise and secure public access between these two reserves along the north bank of the Yarra River in the future.

A walking catchment has not been included for the future open space along the Darebin Creek given that it is fenced though Latrobe Golf Course at the end of Farm Road restricting access to the open space and Darebin Creek Trail for people living and working in Alphington.

Table 7.7-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Alphington Park	5.50	City-wide	Sporting	Heritage, Public garden
Alphington Park Wetland	2.49	Regional	Nature conservation	Waterway, Informal
Coate Park	1.59	Neighbourhood	Public garden	Waterway, Heritage
Fairfield Park	7.97	Regional	Heritage	Public garden, Sporting, Waterway, Nature conservation, Botanical
Rudder Grange	0.54	Small Neighbourhood	Waterway	Linking space, Nature conservation, Seating/viewing
Yarra Bend Park (Deep Rock Precinct)	19.95	Regional	Sporting	Waterway, Nature conservation
Yarra Bend Park (Fairlea Precinct)	8.87	Regional	Sporting	Public parkland
Yarra Bend Park (Loop Road Precinct)	8.72	Regional	Public parkland	Sporting, Heritage, Waterway
Yarra Bend Park (Merri Creek Valley)	18.31	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Native bushland, Nature conservation, Seating/viewing
Yarra Bend Park (Westfield Precinct)	8.90	Regional	Public parkland	Waterway, Nature conservation
Yarra Bend Park (Yarra River Precinct)	14.09	Regional	Waterway	Nature conservation, Linear
Total	96.92			
Restricted open space				
Yarra Bend Public Golf Course	59.63	Regional	Restricted sporting	
Total including restricted open space	156.55			

7.7.2d Distribution of open space in Fairfield - Alphington

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate hierarchy as shown in Table 7.7-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.7C on the next page. The only gap area for this precinct is shown on the Latrobe Golf Club land and given this is private open space it is not applicable.



Figure 7.7C Gap analysis for Fairfield - Alphington

7.7.3 How residents use open space

A total of 55 resident surveys were received from the Fairfield - Alphington precinct, which represents 4 per cent of the total surveys received. The .id Community Profile identifies that 3 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives there.

It is interesting to note that despite the close proximity of Yarra Bend Park there are relatively low levels of use of the park.

Table 7.7-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
24	Alphington Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (10) • Close to home (4) • Beautiful open space (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade the playgrounds (3) • No improvements required (2) • Netball court required (2) • More watering of the open space (2)
13	Fairfield Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (4) • Walking (4) • Exercising (3) • Playing with children (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (3) • Additional bushland required (2)
12	Coate Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (5) • Close to home (3) • Exercising (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More drinking fountains (2) • Dog waste bags/bins, additional required (1)
9	Darebin Parklands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (4) • Exercising (4) • Walking (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer crossing points at major roads for cyclists (1) • Dedicated facilities for womens sport(2)
9	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beautiful open space (3) • Dog walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog drinking facilities required (1) • Prohibit dogs (1)
7	Alphington Park Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (1) • Wayfinding and educational signage required (1)
Open space beyond walking distance			
10	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking (2) • Beautiful (2) • Relaxing (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (3)
3	Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialising with friends/family (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (3) • Regular maintenance and cleaning required (2)
93	Quarries Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercising (1) • Children playing (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade playgrounds (1)

Values of open space (top five)

- 84% A place to relax and unwind
- 82% Trees
- 78% Habitat for native animals and plants
- 71% An escape from the built environment
- 64% Health and wellbeing, 64% Natural bushland character

Types of open space used (top five)

- 80% Local streets for exercise
- 78% Open space along the Yarra River
- 64% Small local parks
- 55% Large parks and gardens
- 45% Open space along the Merri Creek

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 85% Walking paths
- 82% Open grassed areas
- 69% Seats
- 58% Cycle paths
- 45% Dog off-leash areas

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Open space is valued (6)
- Retain the open space that is already there (4)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.7.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.7.4a Forecast future population

Quantity

Table 7.7-4 shows the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations in Fairfield and Alphington. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the each sub-precinct within Fairfield and Alphington have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with the analysis of where forecast change will occur.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018* (SEES, 2018). There are no worker population estimates available for this precinct.

The resident population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population of 214 per cent or an additional 6,205 residents between 2016 and 2031. In reviewing the forecast breakdown, the majority of the change is forecast to occur in Alphington on the Alphington Paper Mills Development site. The resident population forecasts through to 2041 illustrate that there will be an approximately 28 per cent change in Fairfield, while Alphington will reduce to a 4 per cent increase. While this Strategy is primarily addressing the open space needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe.

Table 7.7-4 Resident population forecasts for Fairfield and Alphington open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Alphington	1,245	7,393	6,148
% change Alphington			494%
Fairfield	1,649	1,706	57
% change Fairfield			3%
Total Fairfield and Alphington	2,894	9,099	6,205
Total % Change			214%

7.7.4b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in Fairfield and Alphington will place increased pressure and demand on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities particularly in the City-wide, Neighbourhood and Local open space. The Alphington Paper Mills Development Plan includes the provision of one new Small Local open space, three new Local open spaces and the 30 metre wide Yarra River corridor. This will assist to reduce the pressure on the existing open space network in Alphington.

The forecast change in demographics results in an increase in young families with children in the pre and primary school age. There is forecast to be a decline in the 12 to 17 year and 50 to 69 age range. With an increase in the number of young children, the future open space designs will need to maximise the diversity of facilities including play areas for young children.

7.7.4c Where change will occur

The forecast resident and worker population increase in Fairfield and Alphington will be concentrated in Alphington on the former Alphington Paper Mill development site along with the areas of Moderate Change as identified in the *Yarra Housing Strategy, 2018* (YHS, 2018). Refer to Figure 7.7D on the next page.

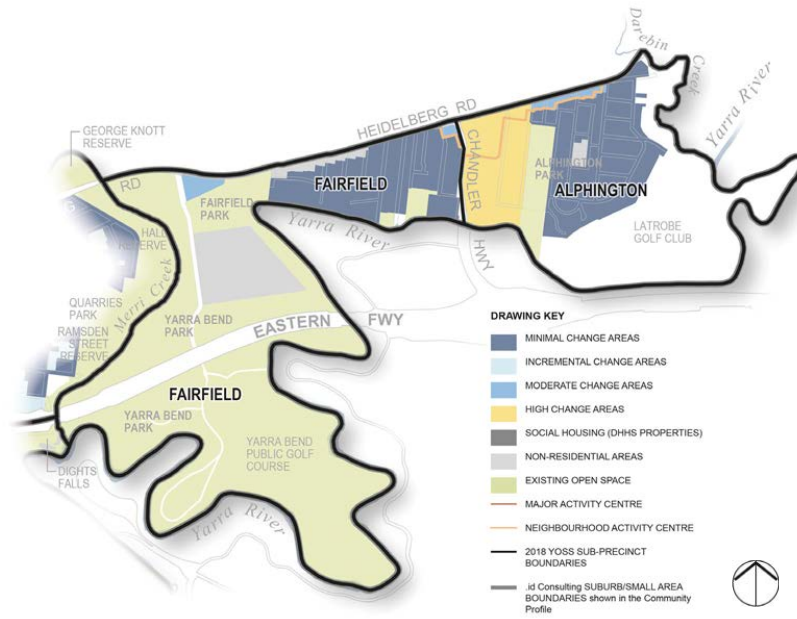


Figure 7.7D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

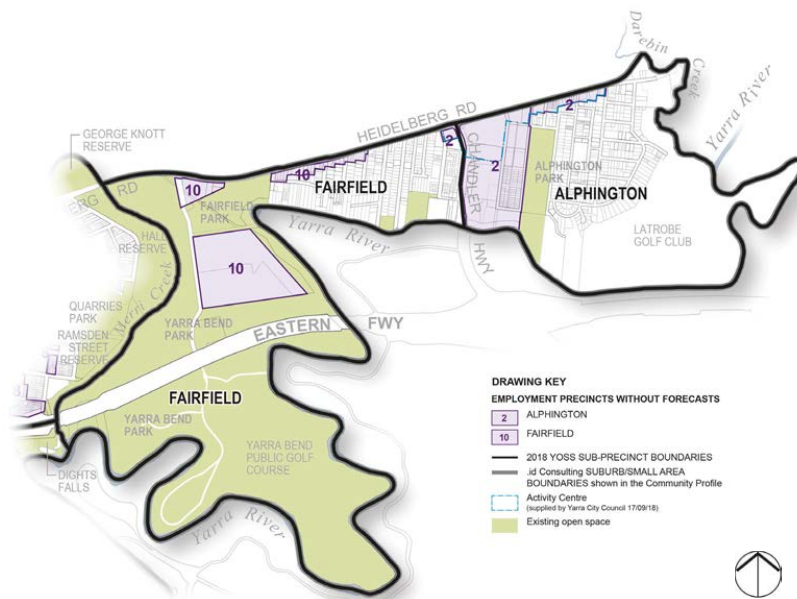


Figure 7.7E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.7.4d Open space distribution and future need in Fairfield - Alphington

The suburbs of Fairfield and Alphington are distinct and clearly defined by major roads and waterways.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Fairfield Refer to Section 7.7.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 3 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 57 residents by 2031. • Looking forward to 2041 a 28 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 48 residents by 2041. • There is adequate open space provided for the existing and forecast population. • Minor upgrades to Coate Park and Rudder Grange to provide a bridge or formalised path, additional seating and improve the condition of the open grassed area in Coate Park. • Continue to implement the existing masterplan for Fairfield Park.
<p>Alphington Refer to Section 7.7.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 494 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 6,148 residents by 2031. • Looking forward to 2041 the forecast increase slows significantly to 4 per cent. • As part of the approved Alphington Paper Mills Development Plan 2016 additional open space will be provided on the site. This includes 1 Small Local and 3 Local open spaces, with a connection to the standard 30 metre wide reserve adjacent to the Yarra River. • Undertake a major upgrade to the play and picnic facilities in Alphington Park to cater to increased levels of use from the additional population.

7.7.5 Fairfield - Alphington Recommendations

7.7.5a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Open space is well provided for and significantly contributes to the landscape character of these areas. With the significant levels of forecast growth in Alphington one new Small Local and three new Local open spaces are to be provided on the Alphington Paper Mills Development site as part of the approved Development Plan. In Fairfield, secure a formal public pedestrian path link between Coate Park and Rudder Grange along the Yarra River.

Quality and design

There is potential to expand the play and picnic facilities in Alphington Park to cater to the substantial increase in population, combined with ongoing upgrades to and implementation of the Fairfield Park Masterplan. The new open space designs are recommended to be reviewed in the context of ensuring there are facilities that provide for some active unstructured recreation and that they include greening and passive cooling given the high urban densities so they also contribute to mitigating urban heat island effect.

Refer to Figure 7.7F for the spatial location of recommendations for Fairfield - Alphington.

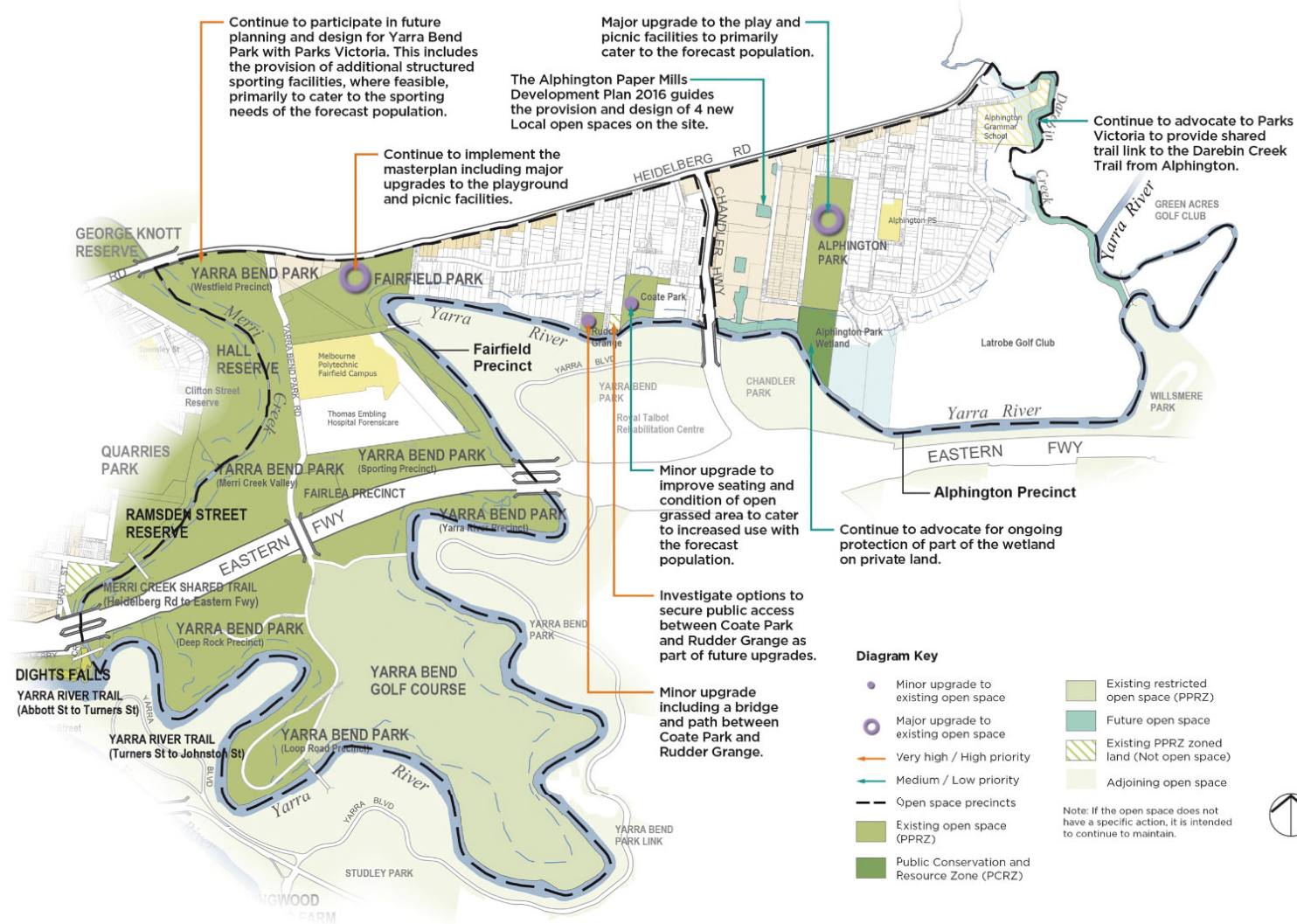


Figure 7.7F Recommendations for Fairfield - Alphington

7.7.5b Precinct Actions for Fairfield - Alphington

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5A-1	The Alphington Paper Mills Development Plan 2016 has identified the provision of 1 new Small Local open space in the north of the precinct.	Developer	High
7.5A-2	The Alphington Paper Mills Development Plan 2016 has identified the provision of 3 new Local open spaces on the site including the linking space to the 30 metre wide reserve along the Yarra River corridor.	Developer	High
7.5A-3	Continue to advocate to Parks Victoria to provide a shared trail link to the Darebin Creek Shared Trail from Alphington. Note that no costs have been included for this project as it is the responsibility of the Victorian government to provide access onto the trail.	PV (YCC)	High
7.5A-4	Continue to investigate options to secure public access along the Yarra River between Coate Park and Rudder Grange.	YCC (MW) (Adjoining Land Holders)	Ongoing

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5B-1	Alphington Park Undertake a major upgrade of the playground and picnic facilities in Alphington Park to primarily cater to the forecast population.	YCC	High
7.5B-2	Alphington Park Wetland Continue to maintain and recognise the biodiversity values of the wetland. This includes advocating for ongoing protection for part of the wetland located on adjoining private land.	YCC (Adjoining land holder)	Ongoing
7.5B-3	Coate Park Undertake minor upgrade with additional seating, improve the condition of the open grassed areas and continue to improve the biodiversity values of the reserve consistent with the existing masterplan.	YCC	High
7.5B-4	Fairfield Park Continue to implement the masterplan including a major upgrade to the playground and picnic facilities at the park. Future upgrades are for both the existing and forecast population.	YCC	High

No.	Action	Respons- ibility	Priority
7.5B-5	Rudder Grange Undertake a minor upgrade including a bridge or formalised safe path link between Coate Park and Rudder Grange, along with additional seats and continue to improve the biodiversity values.	YCC	Medium
7.5B-6	Yarra Bend Park (all precincts) Continue to participate in the future planning and design for Yarra Bend Park to advocate for provision of additional structured sporting facilities where feasible and required in the context of limited additional space being available to cater to the sporting needs of the forecast population in the City of Yarra.	PV (YCC)	High and Ongoing



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 7.8A Existing open space in Fitzroy

7.8.2 Existing open space

7.8.2d Description

Nicholson, Brunswick and Smith Streets are major north south roads in Fitzroy and Alexandra Parade, Johnston Street and Victoria Parade define four open space sub-precincts, Fitzroy A, B, C and D. These are shown in Figure 7.8B.



Figure 7.8B Open space sub-precincts for Fitzroy

Fitzroy A

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy A is located between Alexandra Parade and Johnston Street, and between Nicholson and Brunswick Streets.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Garryowen Park
- This Local open space is located centrally in the sub-precinct and includes seating and play facilities. There are no gaps in open space distribution in this precinct due to its relatively central location.
- The land use includes a combination of mainly residential use to the north and mixed use to the south.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies this precinct to be a combination of minimal change in the north and incremental change in the south.

Fitzroy B

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy B is located between Johnston Street and Victoria Parade and between Nicholson and Brunswick Streets.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Frank King Park
 - King William Reserve
- Frank King Park is Small Local open space which has a public garden character with seats and planting and appears as a private open space given it is fenced.
- King William Reserve by contrast contains a range of unstructured recreation facilities including a half court and playground along with a seating area.
- On the west side of Nicholson Street is Carlton Gardens and the World Heritage listed Royal Exhibition Buildings in the City of Melbourne. They contribute to the character of the area and can be accessed across an arterial road.
- The land use is predominantly residential with retail/commercial and higher density residential along Brunswick and Johnston Streets. South of Gertrude Street the land use is predominantly residential area with St Vincents Hospital.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* includes two moderate change areas with the remainder identified as minimal and incremental change.

Fitzroy C

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy C is located between Alexandra Parade and Johnston Street and between Brunswick and Smith Streets.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Smith Reserve
- Smith Reserve is a Small Neighbourhood open space located on Alexandra Parade adjacent to the Fitzroy Pool. The open space is informal in character and includes an open grassed area for informal games and dog off-lead exercise, a picnic and barbecue facility and fenced playground.
- Land use is a combination of residential, mainly to the north and then mixed use with higher density residential to the south closer to Johnston Street.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy (2018)* identifies the mixed use area to the south and east as a high change area. Areas of moderate change are shown along Brunswick Street and also in the south, with the balance shown as minimal change.

Fitzroy D

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy D is located between Johnston Street and Victoria Parade and between Brunswick and Smith Streets.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Atherton Reserve
 - Condell Street Reserve
 - George Street Reserve
 - Greeves Street Reserve
 - Whitlam Place
- Atherton Reserve is a Neighbourhood open space and is popular for informal ball sports with the soccer ground and also for dog walking/exercise and play.

- Condell Street Reserve is a Local open space with some mature shade trees, open grassed areas, path link and a small play facility.
- George Street Reserve is a Small Local open space with mature trees, path and seat and is mainly used as linking space.
- Greeves Street Reserve includes seats with some planting.
- Whitlam Place, located opposite the Fitzroy Town Hall and Library, functions as a linking space and a space for relaxing and sitting. Facilities and features include shade trees, seating, paths and a monument.
- Land use is predominantly residential with commercial and business use along the major roads bordering the precinct and also along Gertrude Street in the south. Fitzroy Town Hall and Library provides a civic hub along with Fitzroy Primary School and the Sacred Heart Primary School.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) identifies a high change area along Johnston Street in the north and moderate change along Brunswick and Smith Streets. The majority of the remainder of the precinct is identified as minimal change. Pockets of non-residential use include the Australian Catholic University site on Victoria Parade in the south.

7.8.2a Quantity of open space in Fitzroy

The 9 existing open spaces in Fitzroy have a combined total area of 2.27 hectares. This represents approximately 1.6 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 2.2 sqm of open space per person relative to the residential population in 2016.

Table 7.8-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
0	Regional	0.00	0%
0	City wide	0.00	0%
1	Neighbourhood	1.14	50%
1	Small Neighbourhood	0.58	29%
3	Local	0.43	19%
4	Small Local	0.12	5%
9	TOTAL	2.27	100%

7.8.2b Open space hierarchy, character and quality

Atherton Reserve is the Neighbourhood open space for Fitzroy and while it appears to be well used, the open space survey identified it is slightly less popular than Condell Street Reserve. The soccer field is used as a sports ground for informal and structured sport and is available for other activities including ball sports, jogging and exercising dogs. Other facilities include the cricket nets, a path and two seating areas with picnic tables. Atherton Reserve adjoins the Cubbies Adventure Playground which is a supervised play area. While the reserve is positioned centrally there is a lack of passive surveillance in it which may contribute to the lower levels of informal use. Condell Street is nearby and provides a complementary character with mature exotic trees and a public play facility,

however it is poorly located in the open space and there is potential to expand and improve it along with the layout and facilities in the reserve. Whitlam Place is the other Local open space which is located nearby to Condell Street Reserve and has a distinctly different character and functions well without a play facility.

The two Small Local open spaces are limited in size and there is potential to improve the character of George Street Reserve with additional planting and seating.

The proximity and views to Carlton Gardens and the Royal Exhibition Buildings contribute to the open space character and historical context of Fitzroy.

Table 7.8-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Atherton Reserve	1.14	Neighbourhood	Informal	Linking space
Condell Street Reserve	0.20	Local	Informal	Play
Frank King Park	0.05	Small Local	Public garden	Formal
Garryowen Park	0.11	Local	Informal	Play
George Street Reserve	0.03	Small Local	Linking space	Seating/viewing
Greeves Street Reserve	0.01	Small Local	Seating/viewing	
King William Reserve	0.02	Small Local	Urban plaza	Play
Smith Reserve	0.58	Small Neighbourhood	Informal	Play
Whitlam Place	0.11	Local	Public square	
Total	2.27			

7.8.2c Distribution of open space in Fitzroy

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate open space hierarchy as shown in Table 7.8-2 and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Table 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.8C. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in Fitzroy is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

For Fitzroy, the major gaps in the existing open space network occur south of Gertrude Street and between Rose and Johnston Streets, between Brunswick Street and Smith Street. These are shown in Figure 7.8C.



Figure 7.8C Gap analysis for Fitzroy

7.8.3 How residents use open space

A total of 121 resident surveys were received from the Fitzroy precinct. A summary of the results of the worker survey is included in the next section 7.8.4.

Table 7.8-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
67	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (13) • Socialising with friends / family (13) • Relaxing (11) • Walking (10) • Large open space (8) • Dog friendly (7) • Picnics (7) • Playground (7) • Close to home (5) • Playing with children (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (7) • Dog fenced off areas required (3) • Dog drinking facilities required (2) • More exercise equipment needed (2) • More shade required for playgrounds (2)
47	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convenient / on the way (8) • Relaxing (7) • Close to home (6) • Dog walking (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (6) • Dog off leash areas required (3) • Separate paths for cyclists and pedestrians (2)
24	Smith Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to home (8) • Playground (8) • Dog walking (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More fencing required (3) • More seating required (3) • Traffic noise management (3)
16	Condell Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground (6) • Close to home (5) • Playing with children (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Empty bins frequently (5) • Shade required for playground (3) • Additional playgrounds required (2)
14	Atherton Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (3) • Close to home (2) • Exercise dogs (2) • Playing with children (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade playgrounds (2) • Additional fenced dog off leash areas required (2) • Prohibit dog off leash (1)
14	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking (6) • Convenient / on the way (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements needed (1)
Open space beyond walking distance			
13	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialising with friends / family (4) • BBQ facilities (2) • Dog friendly (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More toilets required (2) • More bins required (1) • Bins to be emptied more frequently (1)
7	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peaceful open space (3) • Relaxing (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (1)
6	Darling Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playgrounds (3) • Picnics (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (2)
6	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling (4) • Dog walking (2) • Socialising with friends / family (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog agility park required (1) • Maintain paths (1)

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional playgrounds required (1)
5	Merri Creek Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling (1) • Dog walking (1) • Exercising (1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More access to the river for canoeing (1)
5	Yarra River Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional boat sheds required to hire (1)

Values of open space (top five)

- 76% Place to relax and unwind
- 76% Trees
- 54% It's accessible
- 53% Just being outside, 53% The feeling of space
- 52% A place for children to play, 52% Health and well being

Types of open space used (top five)

- 69% Local streets for exercise
- 65% Small local parks
- 64% Large parks and gardens
- 29% medium sized parks
- 27% Urban squares

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 88% Walking paths
- 69% Open grassed areas
- 67% Drinking fountains
- 59% Public toilets, 59% Seats
- 53% Cycle paths

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Additional open space required (6)
- Additional open space is required particularly as densities increase and the less private open space (5)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.8.4 How existing workers use open space

144 workers were surveyed in Fitzroy in Brunswick Street including near Victoria Parade.

Frequency of use of open space near the workplace

- 90 per cent of those surveyed visit open space near their workplace with only 10 per cent nominating they did not visit open space.

Reasons to visit open space near the workplace

The three top reasons workers visit open space near their place are:

- 66% to be outdoors as a break from work
- 46% to socialise / meet colleagues / friends
- 28% to eat lunch
- 21% to exercise for fitness
- 19% to meet family
- 12% to travel to and from work

Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name
28	Parks (names not provided)
25	Edinburgh Gardens
20	Carlton Gardens
20	Fitzroy Gardens
7	Small local park
6	Smith Reserve

Suggestions for improvements to the open space network

- Additional open space required (25)
- More greening/green open space (12)
- No improvements required to open space (11)
- Additional seats (8)
- More trees (7)

7.8.5 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.8.5a Forecast future population

Quantity

Tables 7.8-4 and 7.8-5 show the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations in Fitzroy. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the four open space sub-precincts within Fitzroy have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018 (SEES, 2018)*.

The resident population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population of 38 per cent or an additional 4,333 residents between 2016 and 2031. The worker population is estimated to increase by approximately 48 per cent, with an additional 8,202 additional workers between 2016 and 2031.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 illustrate that there is still additional capacity for growth beyond 2031 in Fitzroy and it is forecast to continue to grow at a similar rate with an additional nearly 5,000 residents by 2041. While this Strategy is primarily addressing the open space needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe and to consider this in relation to the securing new open space.

Table 7.8-4 Resident population forecasts for Fitzroy open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Fitzroy A	1,326	2,059	733
% change Fitzroy A			55%
Fitzroy B	2,536	3,033	497
% change Fitzroy B			20%
Fitzroy C	2,376	3,648	1,272
% change Fitzroy C			54%
Fitzroy D	5,227	7,058	1,831
% change Fitzroy D			35%
Total Fitzroy	11,465	15,798	4,333
Total % Change			38%

Table 7.8-5 Worker population estimates for Fitzroy open space sub-precincts

EMPLOYMENT/ RETAIL PRECINCT	2016	2031	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
Fitzroy A				
Brunswick Street Retail Precinct	2,195	3,208	1,013	46%
Total estimated worker populaton Fitzroy A	2,195	3,208	1,013	46%
Fitzroy B				
Brunswick Street Retail Precinct	1,596	2,333	737	46%
Victoria Parade Employment Precinct	4,575	6,899	2,324	51%
Total estimated worker population Fitzroy B	6,171	9,232	3,061	50%
Fitzroy C				
Brunswick Street Retail Precinct	1,197	1,750	553	46%
Smith Street Retail Precinct	1,449	2,123	674	46%
Total estimated worker population Fitzroy C	2,646	3,872	1,226	46%
Fitzroy D				
Brunswick Street Retail Precinct	1,663	2,430	768	46%
Victoria Parade Employment Precinct	2,698	4,069	1,371	51%
Smith Street Retail Precinct	1,642	2,406	763	46%
Total estimated worker population Fitzroy D	6,003	8,904	2,902	48%
Retail and employment precinct totals				
Brunswick Street Retail Precinct	6,650	9,720	3,070	46%
Victoria Parade Employment Precinct	7,273	10,968	3,695	51%
Smith Street Retail Precinct	3,091	4,528	1,437	46%
Total estimated worker population Fitzroy	17,014	25,216	8,202	48%

7.8.5b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in Fitzroy will place increased pressures and demands on existing open space and also for new open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grassed areas due to compaction from increased use.

The demographic trends continue to have the young workforce (25 to 34 age range) as the dominant age group with a slight decline in the 18 to 24 age range and slight increase in the 50+ age groups. There is a similar number of children in the 0 to 17 age groups indicating that young families will continue to be a key part of the community make up. This means that there will be a need to continue to provide a diversity of opens space facilities that appeal to a diverse community.

7.8.5c Where change will occur

The forecast resident and worker population increase in Fitzroy will be concentrated in some of the key gap areas including north of Johnston Street and Victoria Parade south of Gertrude Street. The areas of future change are illustrated in Figures 7.8D and 7.8E below.

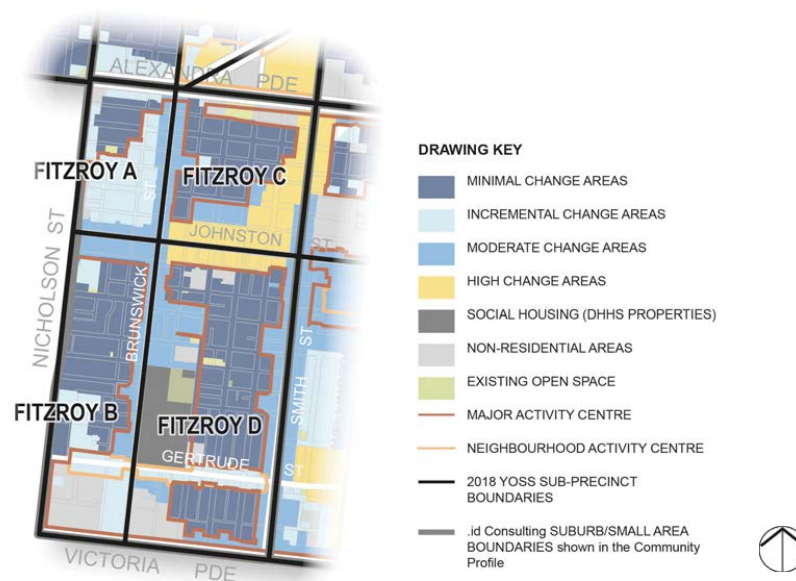


Figure 7.8D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

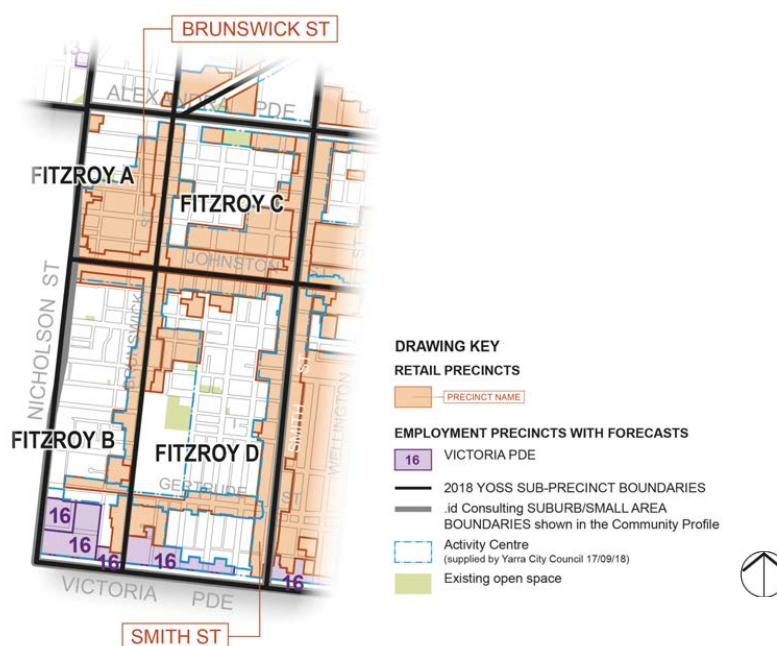


Figure 7.8E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.8.5d Future open space needs in Fitzroy

Within Fitzroy the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space, and therefore the analysis has been undertaken on a sub-precinct basis. The open space sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in Fitzroy to easily reach open space. The open space survey results confirm that residents travel outside Fitzroy to visit open space, primarily for the beauty and diversity of character in the large public gardens including Carlton Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens and Edinburgh Gardens. The high value placed on the need to relax and unwind in the open space surveys supports the need to ensure that adequate areas of green open space with natural features are provided in all parts of Fitzroy.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Fitzroy A</p> <p>Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy A. Refer to Section 7.8.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 55 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 733 residents by 2031. We note that in this precinct, the population is forecast to continue to increase with an additional 1,113 living there by 2041, taking it from 1,326 residents in 2016 to 3,172 in 2041. • A 46 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional 1,013 workers by 2031. • Garryowen Park is the only existing open space and caters primarily for the resident population. • Recommend a new Small Local open space in the southern part of the sub-precinct in proximity to the moderate and incremental change areas. Given the forecast population will be living and working in a higher density context, the new open space will contribute to mitigating urban heat island

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
	<p>effect and focus on facilities that complement those in Garryowen Park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to maintain Garryowen Park to substantially meet the needs of the existing population living and working in the northern parts of the sub-precinct, along with the increased levels of use from the forecast population in that area.
<p>Fitzroy B Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy B. Refer to Section 7.8.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 20 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 497 residents by 2031. • A 50 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with approximately 3,061 additional workers by 2031. Two thirds of these are forecast to be in the Victoria Parade employment precinct in the gap area. • Frank King Park and King William Reserve provide a diversity of facilities for the existing community. However given their small size, the addition of more than 3,500 forecast people living and working in this sub-precinct will impact on these open spaces. • Investigate options to expand the size of Frank King Park utilising part of the existing road reserve to increase its capacity to accommodate forecast growth. • Provide a new Local open space north of Gertrude Street towards Brunswick Street close to the area of moderate change identified in the Yarra Housing Strategy. • Recognise that Carlton Gardens in the adjoining City of Melbourne is valued and forms part of the open space network that is used by the community.
<p>Fitzroy C Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy C. Refer to Section 7.8.2 for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 54 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 1,272 residents by 2031. • A 46 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with an additional approximately 1,226 additional workers by 2031. • Smith Reserve is the most visited open space in Fitzroy with many survey respondents noting the impact of traffic noise, movement and air pollution on the open space. A major upgrade is required to this reserve for both the existing and forecast population. • The forecast growth is identified to occur in the south and east parts of this sub-precinct, which corresponds with an existing gap area in open space provision. • Therefore a new Small Local open space is recommended to provide open space within safe walking distance of existing and future residents and workers in the moderate and high change areas. • Please refer to Figure 7.8F.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Fitzroy D Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy D. Refer to Section 7.8.2 for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 35 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 1,831 residents by 2031. • A 48 per cent increase in the worker population is estimated with approximately 2,902 additional workers by 2031. • Atherton Reserve is important for people to exercise and enjoy a larger sense of space. There is potential to undertake a major upgrade of the nearby Condell Street Reserve to improve and expand the play facility, include picnic facilities, paths and the open grassed areas with excellent passive surveillance nearby to Atherton Reserve. • George Street Reserve has the potential to be improved with additional greening and seating to strengthen the open space character and cater to more people using it for seating. • Whitlam Place and Greeves Street Reserve function well as part of the existing open space network and will continue to be maintained. • The forecast employment growth particularly is identified to occur in the Victoria Parade employment precinct associated with the Australian Catholic University and the non-residential land along Victoria Parade. This area lacks any nearby open space that is within safe and easy walking distance. • Therefore a new Small Local open space is recommended south of Gertrude Street in sub-precinct Fitzroy D. The open space will be for both the existing and forecast community and will assist mitigate urban heat island effect. • Please refer to Figure 7.8F

7.8.6 Fitzroy recommendations

7.8.6a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Atherton Reserve is the largest open space in Fitzroy and will continue to be improved by strengthening its role for modified structured sport (i.e. programs for juniors, all abilities and seniors), informal sport and recreation that can be undertaken in this larger open space. It will be complemented by a major upgrade to Condell Street Reserve to create a community park with updated and expanded play and picnic facilities along with improvements to the trees, garden beds and grassed areas. Combined with Whitlam Place which has a distinctly different character, it will create a quality hub of open space around the civic heart of Fitzroy Library and Town Hall.

A series of new open spaces are proposed to address existing gaps in the open space network and to meet the significant forecast population growth, along with the expansion to selected existing Small Local open space. Given the framework of the existing open space and the fine grain of development, a series of new Small Local open spaces are proposed so that the existing and forecast community live and work within a safe and easy walk of green open space.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the existing and proposed open space network. Given the urban densities, increasing the quality of these green spaces including maximising moisture absorbing surfaces will assist to mitigate urban heat island effect in the future. The additional open spaces will be designed to complement the existing network that combined will provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population.

Refer to Figure 7.8F for the spatial location of recommendations for Fitzroy.

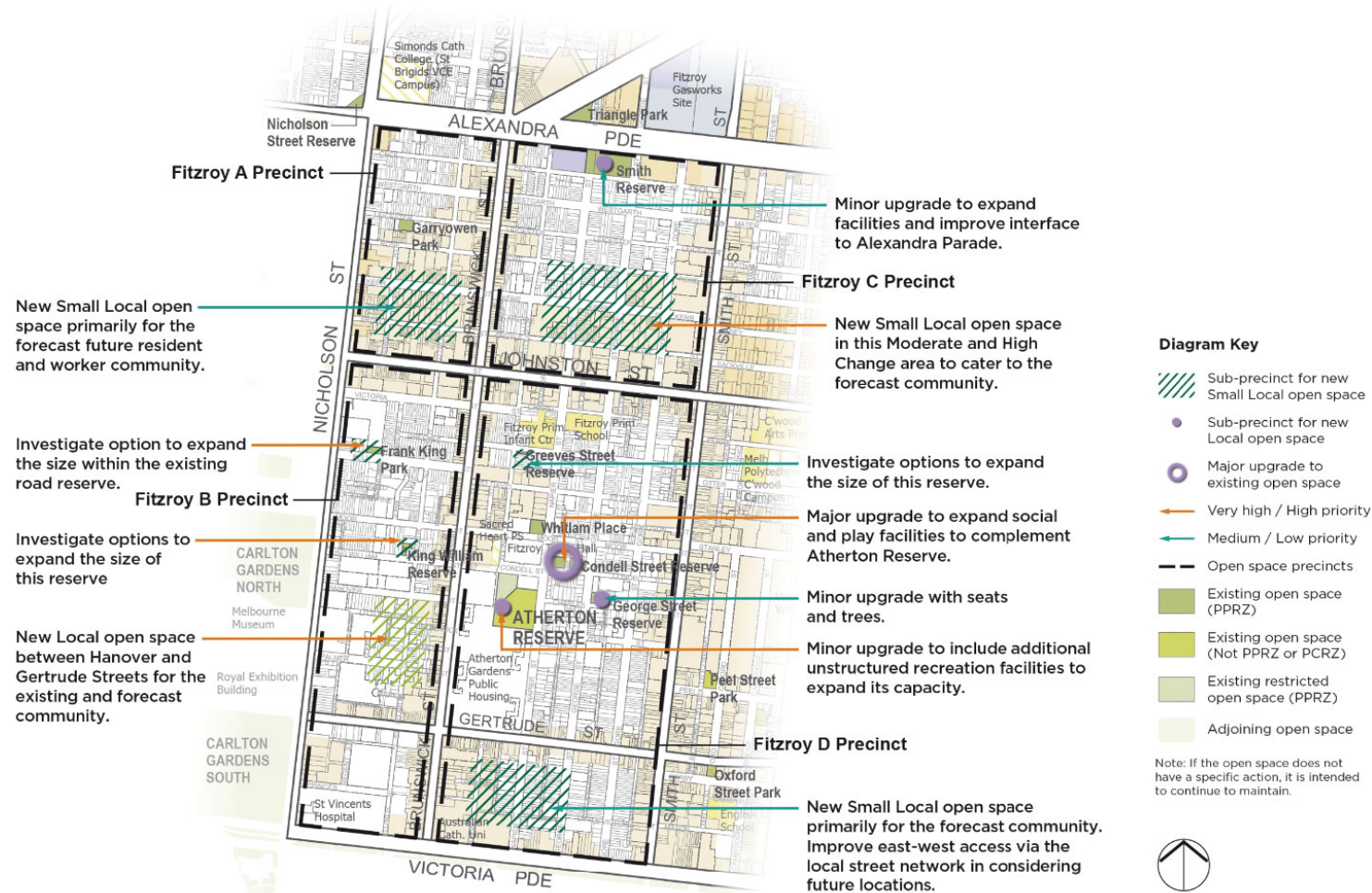


Figure 7.8F Recommendations for Fitzroy

7.8.6b Precinct Actions for Fitzroy

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8A-1	Provide a new Small Local open space in the southern part of open space sub-precinct Fitzroy A. This open space will primarily provide for the forecast future population that will be living and working the southern part of the precinct. The open space will have a role in mitigating urban heat island effect and provide facilities that meet the needs of the forecast future residents and workers and complement those provided in Garryowen Park.	YCC Developers	Medium
7.8A-2	Provide a new Local open space between Hanover and Gertrude Streets in open space sub-precinct Fitzroy B. This open space will be for both the existing and forecast population given the limited size of King William Reserve further north. This open space design will complement King William Reserve and assist to mitigate urban heat island effect as the urban density increases in this area.	YCC Developer	High
7.8A-3	Investigate options to increase the size of King William Reserve to increase the capacity of this existing open space to cater to the forecast population.	YCC Developer	Medium
7.8A-4	Provide a new Small Local open space in the southern part of open space sub-precinct Fitzroy C primarily for the forecast resident and worker population and also for the existing population.	YCC Developer	High
7.8A-5	Provide a new Small Local open space south of Gertrude Street in sub-precinct Fitzroy D. This is for both the existing and forecast population and to mitigate urban heat island effect.	YCC Developer	Medium
7.8A-6	Investigate options to expand the size of Greeves Street Reserve in sub-precinct Fitzroy D. This is primarily for the forecast population and to improve its role in mitigating urban heat island effect.	YCC Developer	Medium

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8B-1	Atherton Reserve Undertake a minor upgrade to install fitness equipment/outdated table tennis or other facilities adjacent to the path to increase the diversity of recreation facilities that encourage fitness and use of this open space. This will be for the both the existing and forecast population given the scale of forecast growth.	YCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8B-2	<p>Condell Street Reserve</p> <p>Undertake a major upgrade to significantly expand the unstructured recreation and social facilities including the playground, picnic and barbecue facilities, paths and open grassed area. This will be for the both the existing and forecast population given the scale of forecast growth and complement the facilities at Atherton Reserve.</p>	YCC	High
7.8B-3	<p>Frank King Park</p> <p>Investigate options to increase the size of the park by expanding it into the existing road reserve, primarily to cater to the forecast community.</p>	YCC	High
7.8B-4	<p>Garryowen Park</p> <p>Continue to maintain.</p>	YCC	Ongoing
7.8B-5	<p>George Street Reserve</p> <p>Undertake a minor upgrade to increase planting and seating to improve the function and use of this reserve.</p>	YCC DHHS	Medium
7.8B-6	<p>Greeves Street Reserve</p> <p>Investigate options to expand the size of this open space to increase its function and use in the context of forecast population growth. Refer to Action 7.8A-6.</p>	YCC	Medium
7.8B-7	<p>King William Reserve</p> <p>Continue to maintain.</p>	YCC	Ongoing
7.8B-8	<p>Smith Reserve</p> <p>Prepare and implement a masterplan for this reserve to improve the interface to Alexandra Parade, upgrade the play and picnic facility to cater to the increased levels of use anticipated in the future along with potential expansion of the overall size. This will be for the both the existing and forecast population.</p>	YCC	Medium
7.8B-9	<p>Whitlam Place</p> <p>Continue to maintain.</p>	YCC	Ongoing



7.9 Fitzroy North

7.9.1 Introduction

Merri Creek defines the eastern extent of Clifton Hill, with Queens Parade to the north west and the Alexandra Parade to the south. The land form is relatively flat and grades down towards Merri Creek.

The land use is predominantly residential, with non-residential use located along the major arterials including Queens Parade, Brunswick Street, Nicholson Street and Alexandra Parade. The former inner circle railway has been converted to open space which provides connectivity between the major areas of open space. Edinburgh Gardens is located in the heart of Fitzroy North and is a Victorian era garden that complements the Victorian architecture of the residential neighbourhood around it. Wide streetscapes in the residential area between Queens Parade and St Georges Road contribute to the overall landscape character and greening of Fitzroy North.

A range of large strategic sites have progressively been redeveloped over recent years to medium density mixed use from non-residential uses, which has increased the density of the neighbourhood. Social housing is located through the precinct, along with Rushall Park, the Victorian era retirement village located on Rushall Crescent near the railway.

A number of schools are located in the Fitzroy North including the Merri Creek Primary School, Fitzroy High School and Fitzroy Primary School. On the south side of Queens Parade the former Fitzroy Gasworks Site has recently been rezoned by the Minister for Planning as part of Amendment C243 to Mixed Use and Public Use Zone 2. Development Victoria has commenced planning for a new school, sports facility and residential development on this site. The school on the site is currently known as Fitzroy Gasworks (Senior Campus) and is intended to be the new senior campus for Collingwood College and Fitzroy High School. The remainder of the site is identified to have a sports facility, affordable housing and high density housing. The open space provision for this site has already been determined by Development Victoria and is not included in this Open Space Strategy.

With the predominantly residential land use in the precinct the resident population is greater than the worker population in Clifton Hill, as follows:

- Existing residential population 2016: 12,357 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: No data is available (*Source: SEES, SGS 2018*)

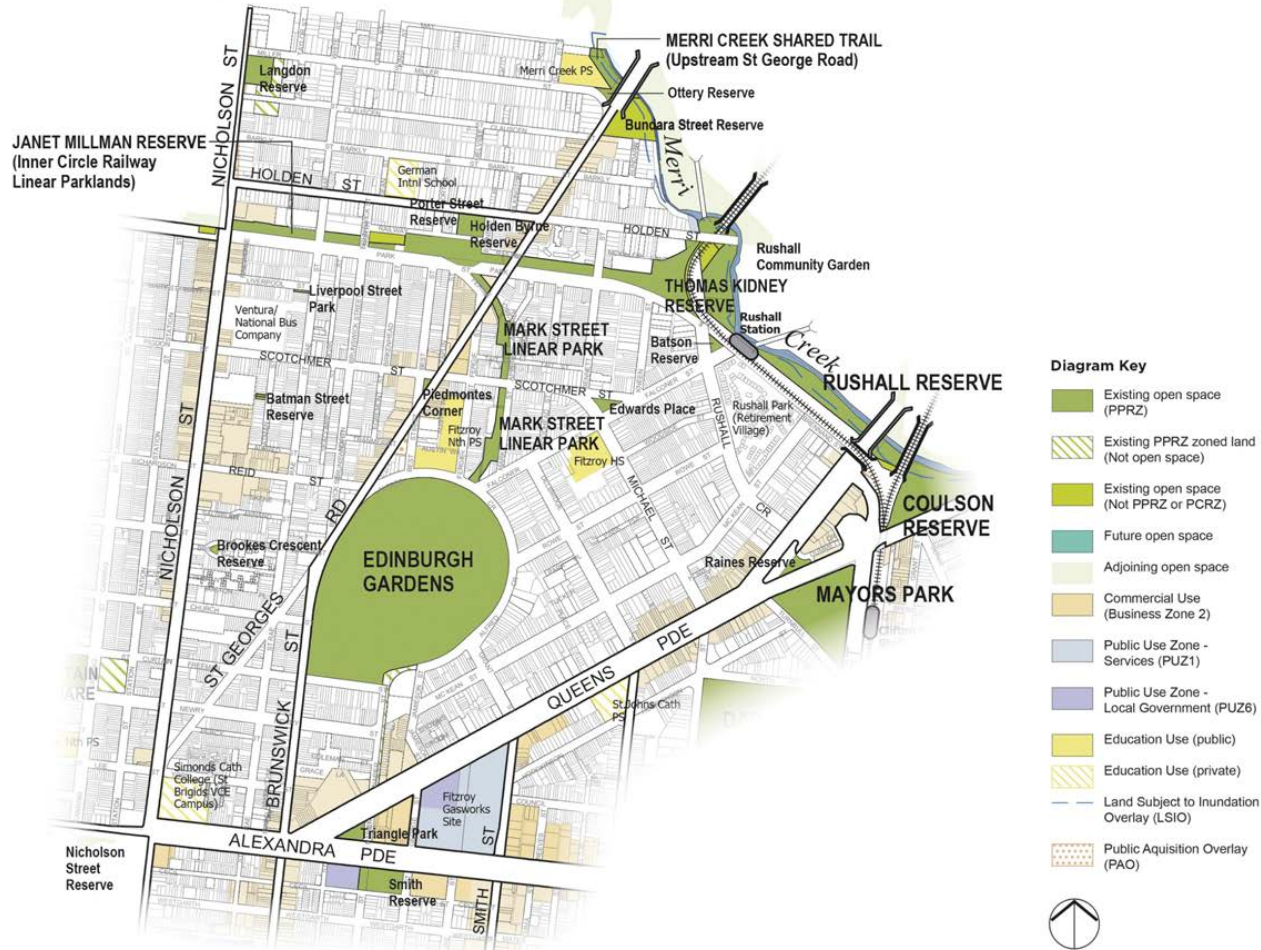


Figure 7.9A Existing open space in Fitzroy North

7.9.2 Existing open space

7.9.2a Open space precinct description

The major roads define a series of five open space sub-precincts being Fitzroy North A, B, C, D and E as shown in Figure 7.9B below. The arterial and major roads in Fitzroy North form a barrier to easy and safe access to open space. Additionally, due to the size of Fitzroy North, A and B and C and D have been defined along Scotchmer/Michael Streets, which are collector roads. This was to understand the changes in forecast change within each of them, however for the analysis we have not considered Scotchmer and Michael Streets as barriers to access to open space.



Figure 7.9B Open space sub-precincts for Fitzroy North

Fitzroy North A

- Open space in sub-precinct Fitzroy North A is located between Nicholson Street and St Georges Road and between May and Scotchmer Streets.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Holden Byrne Reserve
 - Janet Millman Reserve (Part of the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands)
 - Langdon Reserve
 - Merri Creek Shared Trail (Upstream St Georges Road)
 - Porter Street Reserve
 - Liverpool Street Park
- The Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands provides excellent east-west access through this sub-precinct which at a broader scale links Merri Creek Shared Trail corridor and Princes Park located in the City of Melbourne. Additional to the linear open space there are Local open spaces that directly adjoin it, including Porter Street Reserve and Holden Byrne Reserve.

- Langdon Reserve in the north of the sub-precinct is well used and includes a playground, open grassed area, basketball half court and seating.
- Liverpool Street Park is a Small Local open space to the south providing seating and planting directly adjoining the road reserve.
- Merri Creek Shared Trail is located to the north east directly adjoining Merri Creek Primary School and provides good linear connectivity to the north.
- The land use is predominantly residential with some non-residential use along Nicholson Street and the St Georges Road along with the Merri Creek Primary School and the German International School on Holden Street.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) designated the majority of the precinct as Minimal Change, with pockets of Incremental Change along St Georges Road and Nicholson Street. There are no employment estimates available for the St Georges Road and Queens Parade Retail Precincts.

Fitzroy North B

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy North B is located between Nicholson and Brunswick Street, south of Scotchmer Street.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Batman Street Reserve
 - Brookes Crescent Reserve
 - Piedmontes Corner
- The three Small Local open spaces have quite different characters with Piedmontes Corner being an urban square, Batman Street Reserve providing play and seating and the Brookes Crescent Reserve being a seating space with trees.
- The land use is predominantly residential with the Simonds Catholic College St Brigid's VCE Campus adjoining Alexandra Parade and some mixed use along Nicholson Street and Scotchmer Street.
- There is a proposed new Small Local open space being contributed as part of a major development site on the corner of Reid and Nicholson Streets.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes a larger area of Incremental Change associated with the mixed used and General Residential Zones along Nicholson Street, Alexandra Parade and St Georges Road. The balance of the precinct is Minimal Change.

Fitzroy North C

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy North C is located between St Georges Road and Queens Parade, defined to the north by Merri Creek and the south west by Michael Street.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Batson Reserve
 - Bundara Street Reserve
 - Edwards Place
 - Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands
 - Mark Street Linear Park
 - Raines Reserve
 - Rushall Reserve
 - Thomas Kidney Reserve

- Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands and Mark Street Linear Park provide excellent east west and north south connectivity through the precinct. They link key parklands including the Merri Creek Shared Trail and Edinburgh Gardens, outside the sub-precinct.
- Open space along the Merri Creek corridor includes Bundara Street Reserve and Rushall Reserve. Batson Reserve adjoins the Merri Creek Corridor at the entry to Rushall Station and Thomas Kidney Reserve is at the junction of the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands and Merri Creek corridor. Two footbridges provide connectivity across Merri Creek to the open space corridor on the north east side of the creek in the City of Darebin.
- A series of smaller Local and Small Local open spaces includes Raines Reserve and Edwards Place.
- Land use is predominantly residential with the large heritage listed retirement village, Rushall Park located between Rushall Crescent and the railway. There is also a recently constructed aged care facility between Queens Parade and Hoddle Street.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes a High Change area in the land between the Queens Parade and Hoddle Street/Heidelberg Road. A Moderate Change area adjoins Queens Parade, while the majority of the balance of the area is Minimal Change with small pockets of Incremental Change.

Fitzroy North D

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy North D is located between Brunswick Street and Queens Parade and extending north east to Michael Street.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Edinburgh Gardens
 - Mark Street Linear Park
- Edinburgh Gardens is the most popular open space reserve in the City of Yarra. Originally reserved in 1862 the sports field now WT Peterson Oval and also known as the Brunswick Street Oval is used by the Fitzroy Football Club and Edinburgh Cricket Club. The Fitzroy Bowling Club was established on the site in 1872 and the Fitzroy Tennis Club, originally established in 1894 is also located there. The park also includes extensive areas for unstructured recreation with tree lined paths, informal open grassed areas, dog off-leash areas, table tennis and a playground.
- Mark Street Linear Park provides north south connectivity to the main east-west Former Inner Circle Railway Linear Park.
- The sub-precinct is predominantly residential with some non-residential land use along Queens Parade, including along the former spur railway alignment between Queens Parade and the Edinburgh Gardens. To the north of the gardens is the Fitzroy Primary School and the Fitzroy High School.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes a High Change area in the south west adjoining Queens Parade, along with two Moderate Change Areas and Incremental Change.

Fitzroy North E

- Open space sub-precinct Fitzroy North E is a triangular precinct defined by Queens Parade and Alexandra Parade with Smith Street to the east.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes:
 - Triangle Park

- Triangle Park includes mature exotic trees to the perimeter with low mounds and an open grassed area.
- The sub-precinct includes some residential use in the original Victorian era terraces combined with non-residential business/commercial uses west of George Street. East of George street is the former Fitzroy Gasworks Site, which has recently been rezoned for future education and residential use. The future provision of open space at the former Fitzroy Gasworks Site has already been agreed to and does not form part of the recommendations in this Strategy.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) highlights the former Fitzroy Gasworks Site as a High Change area.

7.9.2b Quantity of open space in Fitzroy North

The 19 existing open spaces in Fitzroy North have a combined total area of 29.56 hectares. This represents approximately 12.8 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 26 sqm of open space per person relative to the residential population in 2016.

Table 7.9-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
3	Regional	4.87	16%
4	City wide	21.89	74%
1	Neighbourhood	1.0	3%
0	Small Neighbourhood	0.0	0%
7	Local	1.67	6%
4	Small Local	0.13	0%
19	TOTAL	29.56	100%

7.9.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

The linear open space corridor along Merri Creek is identified as Regional open space being recognised for the broader recreational and biodiversity values that are present along the creek corridor. The Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands extend east-west through Fitzroy North from Merri Creek and linking through Carlton North, Princes Hill and to Princes Park. There are off-road shared paths that provide excellent access along these linear open space reserves for walking and cycling. They also connect to larger open space systems along the Merri Creek and west through the City of Melbourne to Royal Park and Moonee Ponds Creek.

The most popular open space in the City of Yarra is Edinburgh Gardens which is designated as a City-wide open space with extensive facilities that cater to both structured and unstructured recreation along with social facilities. The heritage values are currently stated as being of Local significance, with specific listings in the Victorian Heritage Database for the Brunswick Street Oval Grandstand and the Classical Revival Rotunda, built in 1925.

The Local and Small Local open space network provides a diversity of spaces that form an important part of the open space network, particularly west of Brunswick Street/St Georges Road.

Table 7.9-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Batman Street Reserve	0.04	Small Local	Informal	Play
Batson Reserve	0.07	City-wide	Linking space	Heritage, Linear
Brookes Crescent Reserve	0.04	Small Local	Seating/viewing	Informal
Bundara Street Reserve	0.91	Regional	Linking space	Waterway, Seating/viewing
Edinburgh Gardens	17.37	City-wide	Heritage	Public garden, Structured sporting
Edwards Place	0.13	Local	Informal	Native bushland, Linking space
Holden Byrne Reserve	0.33	Local	Formal	Heritage, Linking space, Play, Botanical
Janet Millman Reserve (Part of Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands)	2.71	City-wide	Linear	Informal, Native bushland, Linking space, Service easement, Heritage
Langdon Reserve	0.43	Local	Informal	Play
Liverpool Street Park	0.02	Small Local	Seating/viewing	
Mark Street Linear Park	1.00	Neighbourhood	Linear	
Merri Creek Shared Trail – Upstream St Georges Road	0.39	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Ottery Reserve	0.11	Local	Seating/viewing	Waterway, Nature conservation
Piedmontes Comer	0.04	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Public square
Porter Street Reserve	0.10	Local	Linking space	Formal
Raines Reserve	0.41	Local	Significant road reservation	
Rushall Reserve	3.57	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Thomas Kidney Reserve	1.73	City-wide	Linking space	Community garden, Linear, Native bushland, Service easement, Heritage
Triangle Park	0.16	Local	Significant road reservation	Seating/viewing
Total	29.56			

7.9.2d Distribution of open space in Fitzroy North

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate open space hierarchy as shown in Table 7.9-2 above and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Tables 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.9C on the next page. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in Fitzroy North is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network. For Fitzroy North, the gaps in the existing open space network occur between Nicholson Street and Brunswick Street, and also in the triangle of land in the south between Queens Parade and the Alexandra Parade.

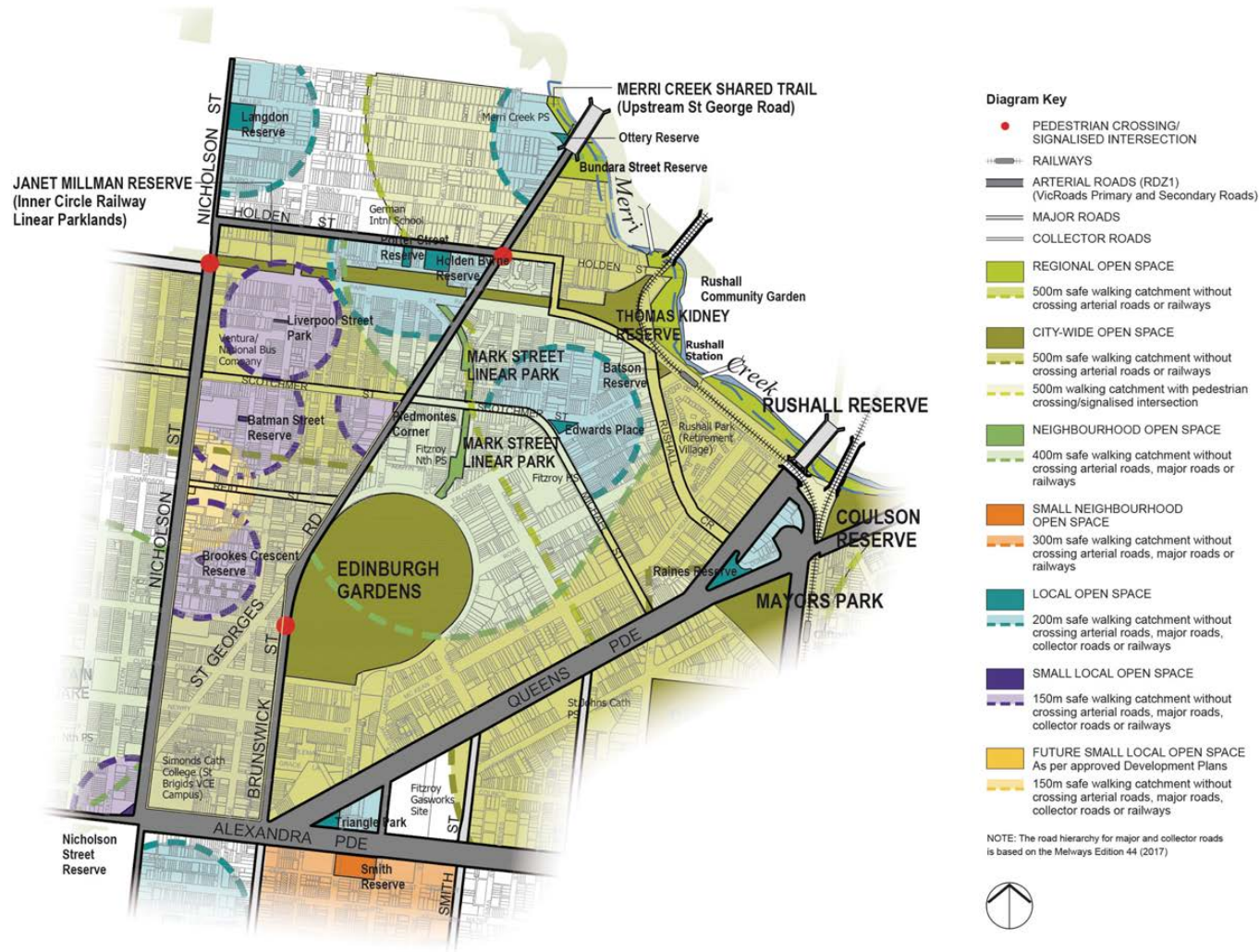


Figure 7.9C Gap analysis for Fitzroy North

7.9.3 How residents use open space

A total of 170 resident surveys were received from the Fitzroy North precinct which represents 13 per cent of the total surveys. The .id Community Profile identifies that 13 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives in Fitzroy North.

Fitzroy North includes Edinburgh Gardens which is the most popular open space. The survey respondents greatly appreciate it for dog walking, exercise, play and meeting friends. There is concern about increasing density of development and the negative impacts on open space, including that more open space needs to be provided to meet the growing community's needs. While Edinburgh Gardens is appreciated there are concerns about the level of use, inappropriate behaviour in the gardens and the ongoing maintenance to manage the high levels of use. Clear designation of dog off-leash areas with fencing were suggested and the need to separate children and dogs from speeding cyclists. Open space being uninviting was one of the top reasons respondents of Fitzroy North did not visit open space with personal safety in third place which was explained in part by comments in the other category as being related to the conflicts between dogs and other park users.

Table 7.9-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
157	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (48) • Relaxing (26) • Walking (25) • Socialising with friends / family (24) • Exercising (23) • Picnics (20) • Playing with children (15) • Close to home (12) • Playground (12) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More toilets required (13) • No improvements required (9) • Dog fenced off leash areas required (7) • Dog drinking facilities required (6) • Additional exercise equipment needed (6)
18	Darling Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (7) • Walking (4) • Peaceful (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (2) • Prohibit cyclists from the area (1) • Dog fenced off leash areas required (1) • Prohibit dogs (1)
17	Curtain Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground (5) • Dog walking (4) • Picnics (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional trees required (2) • Maintenance of dog-off leash areas required (2) • Improve usability for dogs (1)
17	Park Street Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking (5) • Cycling (4) • Walking (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More bins required (3) • Additional drinking fountains required (3) • No improvements required (2)

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
16	Merri Creek Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking (5) Dog walking (4) Natural character of open space (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular maintenance and cleaning required (2) Maintenance of paths required (2) Maintenance of path vegetation required (2) Improve weed control (2)
10	Princes Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercising (6) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional lighting required for morning runs (2)
Open space beyond walking distance			
24	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (8) Natural character of open space (8) Exercising (3) Picnics (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (5) Improve paths (2) Additional toilets required (2)
10	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (3) Picnics (3) Exercising (2) Large open space (2) Playing with children (2) Socialising with friends / family (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More dog drinking facilities required (1) Dog owners to have control of their dogs (1) Cycle paths needed through park (1)
9	Yarra River Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural character of the open space (4) On the way cycling (2) Walking (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage pedestrian and cyclists use of shared path (1) Limit development (1) Connecting paths required (1) Path vegetation needs more maintenance (1) Wayfinding and education signage required (1)
8	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gardens (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (2)
7	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking (3) Convenient / on the way (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Improvements required (1) Allow cyclists to use the gardens (1)
7	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Café and kiosk facilities (2) Peaceful open space (20) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No improvements required (2)
7	Merri Creek Precinct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (3) Open space (3) Exercising (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular rubbish removal required (1) More bins required (1)
	Princes Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking (3) Paths (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More fenced dog off-leash areas required (2) More bins required (1)

Values of open space (top five)

- 90% Trees
- 82% Place to relax and unwind
- 72% The feeling of space
- 71% An escape from the built environment
- 69% Just being outside

Types of open space used (top five)

- 87% Large parks and gardens
- 76% Local streets for exercise
- 54% Open space along the Merri Creek
- 50% Small local parks
- 26% Urban squares

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 92% Walking paths
- 87% Open grassed areas
- 79% Cycle paths
- 77% Drinking fountains
- 75% Seats

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Open space valued (18)
- Additional open space is required particularly as densities increase and the less private open space (7)
- Open space contributes to liveability (5)
- Open space keep/retain what there is (4)
- Maintenance and management valued (5)
- Enforce dog regulations (4)
- Dog fenced off-leash areas required (4)
- Improve dog regulation signage (4)
- Appreciate the opportunity to complete the survey (4)
- Council is doing a good job regarding open space (4)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.9.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.9.4a Forecast future population

Quantity

Table 7.9-5 shows the forecast population growth for the residential population in Fitzroy North. Currently, there are no estimates for the worker population in Fitzroy North as the forecast floor area change was not provided in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018*.

A further breakdown of the residential population forecasts for the five open space sub-precincts within Fitzroy North have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur.

The resident population growth is reasonably high with an overall change in residential population of 22 per cent or an additional 2,755 residents between 2016 and 2031.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 indicate that there is substantial growth forecast in Fitzroy North E sub-precinct which includes the former Fitzroy Gasworks Site with an additional approximately 1,700 people forecast to live there by 2041 compared to the 42 who are forecast to live there by 2031.

The other key precinct with forecast change through to 2041 is Fitzroy North A, where an additional approximately 900 people are forecast to live there by 2041. For Fitzroy B, C and the forecast population change between 2031 and 2041 reduces to approximately 200 people in each.

Table 7.9-5 Resident population forecasts for Fitzroy North open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
Fitzroy North A	3,271	3,608	337
% change Fitzroy North A			10%
Fitzroy North B	3,387	4,063	676
% change Fitzroy North B			20%
Fitzroy North C	2,874	3,826	952
% change Fitzroy North C			33%
Fitzroy North D	2,784	3,573	789
% change Fitzroy North D			28%
Fitzroy North E	41	42	1
% change Fitzroy North E			2%
Total Fitzroy North	12,357	15,112	2,755
Total % Change			22%

7.9.4b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in Fitzroy North will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. In sub-precincts Fitzroy A, C and E the additional demands are likely to be met within the existing open space network. In Fitzroy B and D the pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities and may lead to overcrowding due to the lack of existing open space to accommodate the use.

The forecast change in demographics is only minor with a slight increase in the 60+ age range and decrease in the young families. However, 25 to 34 year olds remain the most populous age group, followed by the 35 to 49 and then the 50 to 59 year olds. There is forecast to be an increase in lone person households and a decrease in couple families with dependents. As a result of this change, there will be a need to provide a diversity of recreational facilities, including social facilities given a higher proportion of people will be living alone.

7.9.4c Where change will occur

The forecast resident population increase in Fitzroy North is distributed across the precinct, but with the High and Moderate Change areas identified in the *Yarra Housing Strategy* (YHS) on the north and south sides of Queens Parade. Additionally, the YHS identifies Incremental Change in other parts of the precinct. Refer to Figure 7.9D for the spatial location of these. While no employment population data is available for Fitzroy North there are retail and employment precincts identified in the *SGS Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy* (SGS, 2018) and these are shown in Figure 7.9E.

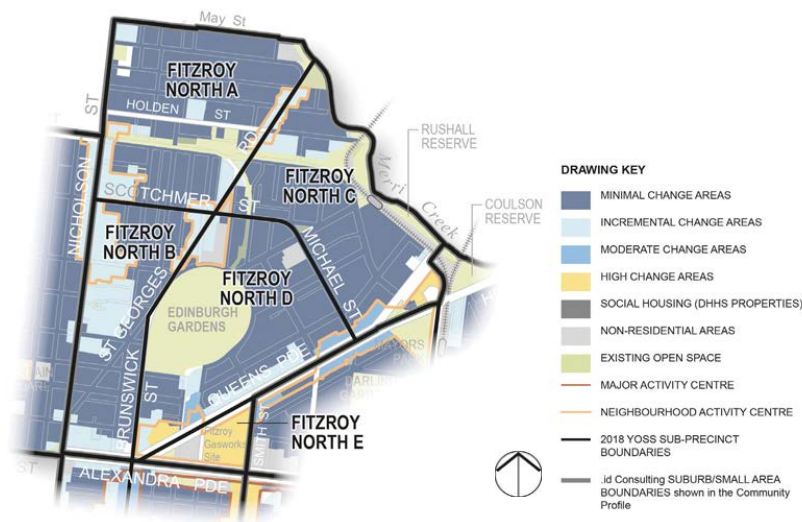


Figure 7.9D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

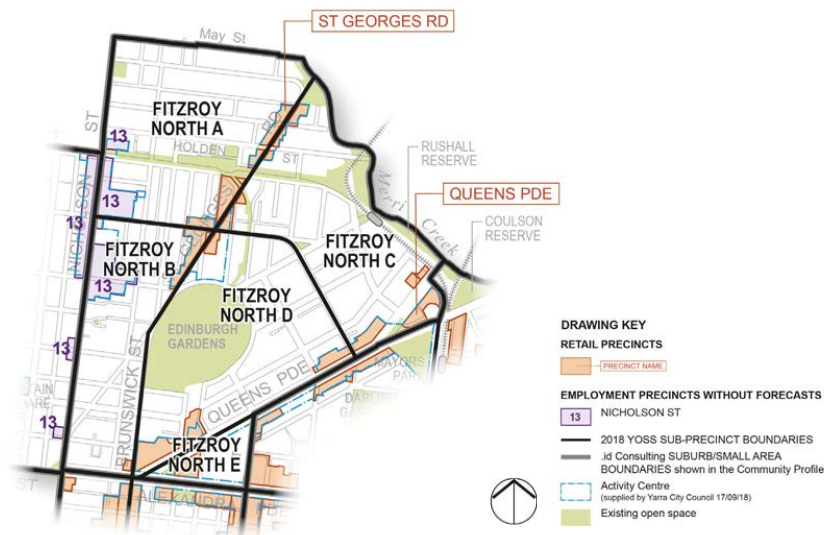


Figure 7.9E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.9.5d Open space distribution and future need in Fitzroy North

Within Fitzroy North, open space is well distributed in the north and east parts of the precinct. However there are some issues arising regarding perceived over-use of Edinburgh Gardens with respondents to the community survey complaining of inappropriate behaviour, overcrowding and that the levels of maintenance are not adequate to address the high levels of use, particularly rubbish in the park. From the survey outcomes Edinburgh Gardens is the most visited open space and with forecast population growth across the City it is anticipated that the levels of use will continue to increase. So, while there may not be physical gaps in the open space network there is potentially a need to add to the open space network in Fitzroy North to provide alternative smaller Local open spaces that the community can also use if Edinburgh Gardens is too crowded.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Fitzroy North A Refer to Section 7.9.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 10 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 337 residents by 2031. However a 25 per cent increase in the population is forecast to 2041, with an additional 889 people to forecast to be living there by then. • No worker population forecasts are available for Fitzroy North. • There is a gap in the provision of open space north of Holden Street. Recommend improving the quality of the streetscapes in the local street network to improve accessibility to existing open space. • Undertake a major upgrade to Langdon Reserve to meet the needs of the existing and forecast population. This includes reviewing the location, size and design of the play facility with the potential to create a larger open grassed area and picnic facilities to appeal to a greater diversity of the community. • Undertake minor upgrades to the Holden Byrne Reserve and Janet Millman Reserve to increase the capacity of the picnic and seating areas within the open space to cater to forecast growth. Additionally, a minor upgrade is also proposed to Ottery Reserve.
<p>Fitzroy North B Refer to Section 7.9.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 20 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 676 residents by 2031. • No worker population forecasts are available for Fitzroy North. • There are gaps in the existing open space network and a new Small Local open space is recommended to address this for both the existing and forecast population in the southern part of the sub-precinct.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>Fitzroy North C Refer to Section 7.9.2 for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 33 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 952 residents by 2031. • No increase in the worker population is forecast. • While there are no gaps in the provision of open space in this sub-precinct, the majority of existing and forecast residents will use Edinburgh Gardens in sub-precinct Fitzroy North D. Given the popularity of Edinburgh Gardens across the City, it is proposed to expand Edwards Place by narrowing the road pavement. This will allow a major upgrade to this open space to provide an alternative open space within walking distance of the existing and forecast community as an alternative to Edinburgh Gardens, particularly when the Gardens are busy during events or on weekends. • Please refer to Figure 7.9F.
<p>Fitzroy North D Refer to Section 7.9.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 28 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 789 residents by 2031. • No worker population forecasts are available for Fitzroy North. • Please refer to the explanation regarding the high levels of use of Edinburgh Gardens and the expansion of Edwards Place in Fitzroy North C sub-precinct conclusions. • Undertake upgrades to the Edinburgh Gardens to increase the capacity of the unstructured sporting and informal social facilities where feasible, consistent with the Masterplan and Conservation Management Plan.
<p>Fitzroy North E Refer to Section 7.9.2 for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 2 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast changing it from 41 to 42 residents by 2031. Within the timeframe of this Strategy, no additional open space or works will be required. • However, a major increase in the resident population is forecast between 2031 and 2041, with an additional 1,680 residents forecast to be living there by 2041. We assume the majority of this forecast population is for the former Fitzroy Gasworks Site. • No worker population forecasts are available for Fitzroy North. • The quantity of new open space for the former Fitzroy Gasworks Site has already been determined prior to this Strategy as part of the Development Plan Overlay. This Strategy does not make any recommendations regarding the quantity and provision of new open space for the site. • Please refer to Figure 7.9F.

7.9.5 Fitzroy North Recommendations

7.9.5a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

With Edinburgh Gardens, Merri Creek and the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands Fitzroy North has a diverse and connected open space network. The network will be strengthened with the addition of one Small Local open space so that the community living and working in Fitzroy North B can easily walk to open space nearby in the future without crossing major roads. For Fitzroy North C and D, Edwards Place Reserve near Edinburgh Gardens is recommended to be expanded in size so that the local community can use it when the gardens are busy given they are the most popular open space in the City. The 2031-2041 resident forecasts indicate a substantial further increase in the resident population and additional public open space will be required to meet the open space needs of the additional population when the time comes.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the Small Local open spaces in Fitzroy North so that they appeal to the broader community including all age groups. Upgrades to these, combined with the new and expanded areas of open space will aim to cater to the local open space needs as suitable alternatives to Edinburgh Gardens, given the high levels of use and activity at the Gardens.

Refer to Figure 7.9F for the spatial location of recommendations for Fitzroy North.

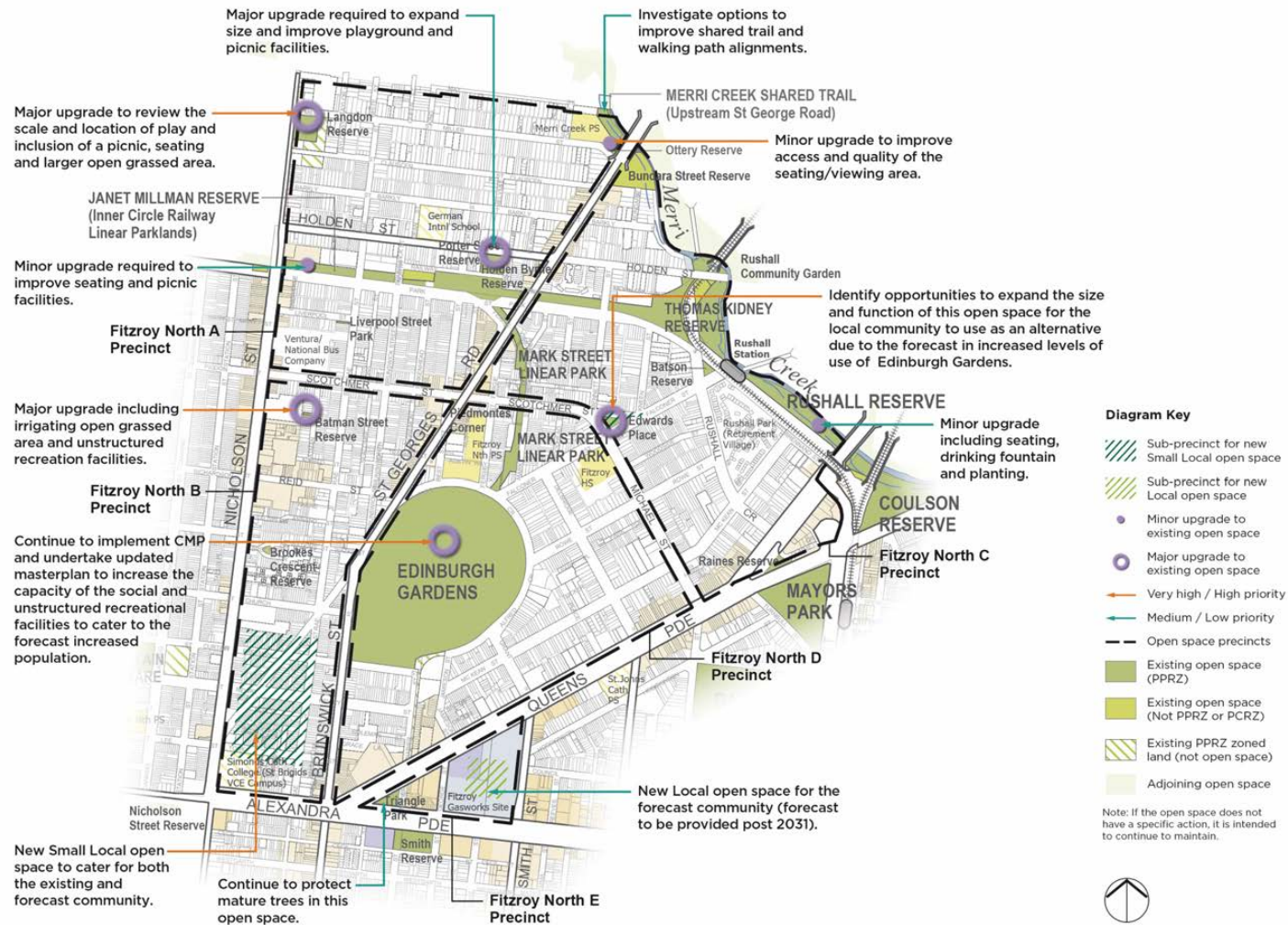


Figure 7.9F Recommendations for Fitzroy North

7.9.5b Precinct Actions for Fitzroy North

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9A-1	Provide a new Small Local open space in sub-precinct North Fitzroy B to provide a new open space to address the gap in open space provision in the southern part of the sub-precinct for both the existing and forecast population.	YCC	Medium
7.9A-2	Investigate options to expand the size of Edwards Place by converting some of the existing road reserves to open space if feasible. Refer also to Action 7.9B-6.	YCC	Medium

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9B-1	Batman Street Reserve Undertake a major upgrade to this reserve including investigating options to irrigate the open grassed area and include unstructured recreation facilities appropriate to the needs of the existing and forecast community.	YCC	High
7.9B-2	Batson Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-3	Brookes Crescent Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-4	Bundara Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-5	Edinburgh Gardens Continue to implement the recommendations of the CMP for the northern precinct. Undertake and implement an updated Masterplan, particularly in the context of anticipated increased levels of use from the substantial forecast population in the City of Yarra.	YCC	High
7.9B-6	Edwards Place Identify opportunities to increase the size of this open space converting existing road reserves to increase the function and use of this open space for the community when Edinburgh Gardens is being used for major events. This includes a major upgrade to expand the facilities. Refer also to Action 7.9A-2 regarding expanding the size of the reserve.	YCC	Medium
7.9B-7	Holden Byrne Reserve Undertake a major upgrade to expand the size and improve the quality of the playground and picnic facilities to increase the capacity of the reserve in the context of forecast growth.	YCC	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9B-8	Janet Millman Reserve (Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands) Undertake a minor upgrade to improve seating and picnic facilities.	YCC	Medium
7.9B-9	Langdon Reserve Undertake a major upgrade including review of the scale and location of the playground and inclusion of picnic facility, additional seating and larger open grassed area.	YCC	Low
7.9B-10	Liverpool Street Park Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-11	Mark Street Linear Park Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-12	Merri Creek Shared Trail – Upstream St Georges Road Investigate options to improve condition and definition of the shared trail and the secondary walking trails in this location.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-13	Ottery Reserve Minor upgrade to improve access and upgrade seating to take advantage of the views down over the Merri Creek corridor.	YCC	High
7.9B-14	Piedmontes Corner Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-15	Porter Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-16	Raines Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-17	Rushall Reserve Minor upgrade including for additional seating, drinking fountain and planting to make it more accessible for the local community.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-18	Thomas Kidney Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.9B-19	Triangle Park Continue to maintain this open space including protecting the existing mature trees in this space which is encumbered by traffic movement and noise.	YCC	Ongoing



7.10 North Richmond

7.10.1 Introduction

North Richmond is bounded to the north by Victoria Street, to the South by Bridge Road, the west by Punt Road and the east by the Yarra River (Birrarung). The land falls away to the river from north west where the prominent hill is known as Richmond Hill or Dockers Hill.

The land use of North Richmond is mixed with a combination of residential, business, commercial, retail, industrial use and open space. Victoria Street and Bridge Road are major retail, commercial and business precincts in North Richmond. The *Victoria Street Structure Plan*, adopted by Council in April 2010, 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. The *Bridge Road Streetscape Masterplan*, adopted by Council in 2017 identifies streetscape improvement projects including identifying potential future public spaces along its spine.

With the mixed land use, there is a significant worker population in North Richmond which is about 20 per cent less than the resident population, as follows:

- Existing residential population 2016: 13,260 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2018*)
- Existing estimated worker population 2016: 10,910 (*Source: SEES, SGS 2018*)

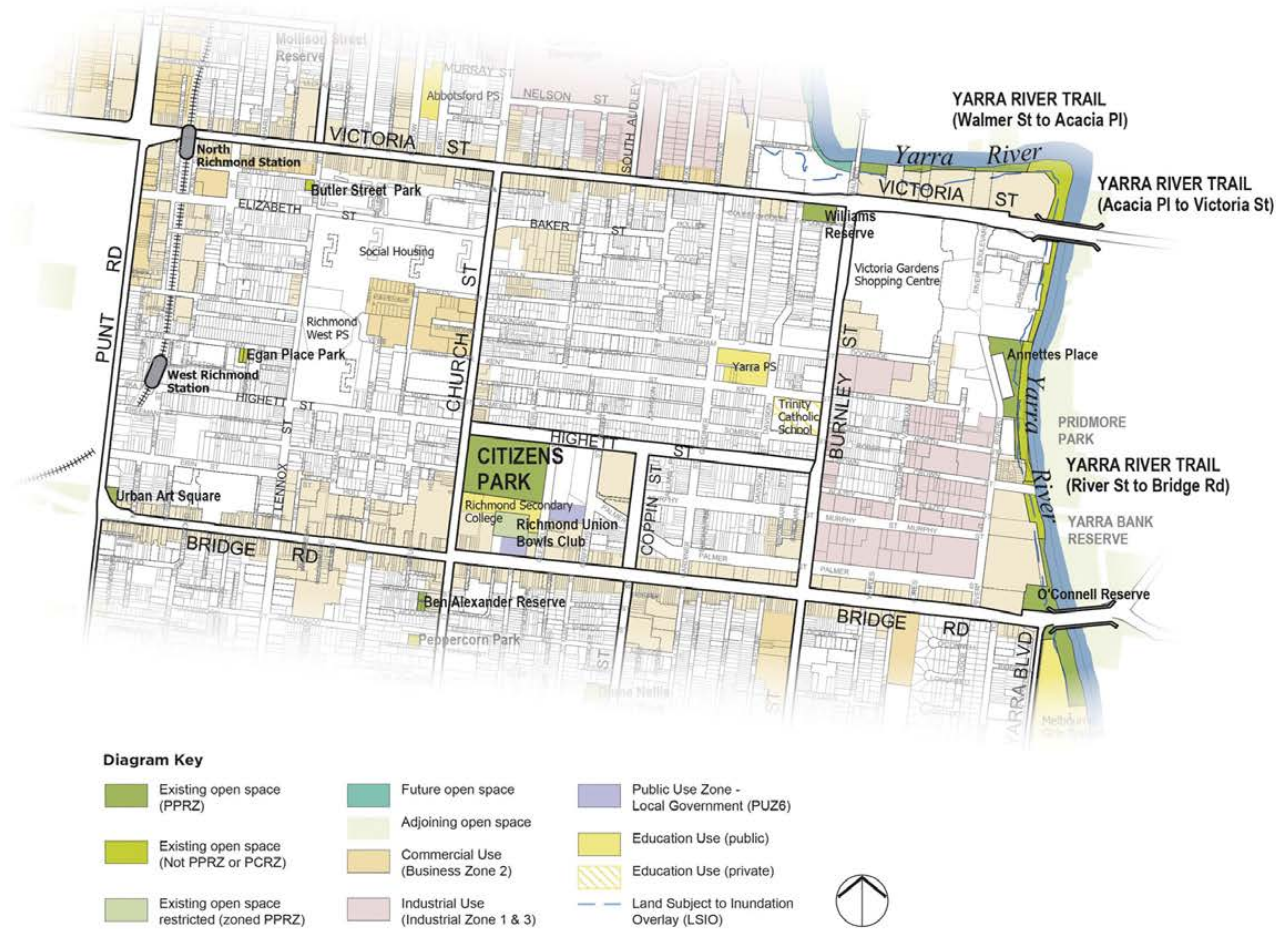


Figure 7.10A Existing open space in North Richmond

7.10.2 Existing open space

7.10.2a Description

Punt Road, Church and Burnley Streets are major north south roads in North Richmond and define three open space sub-precincts, North Richmond A, B and C.

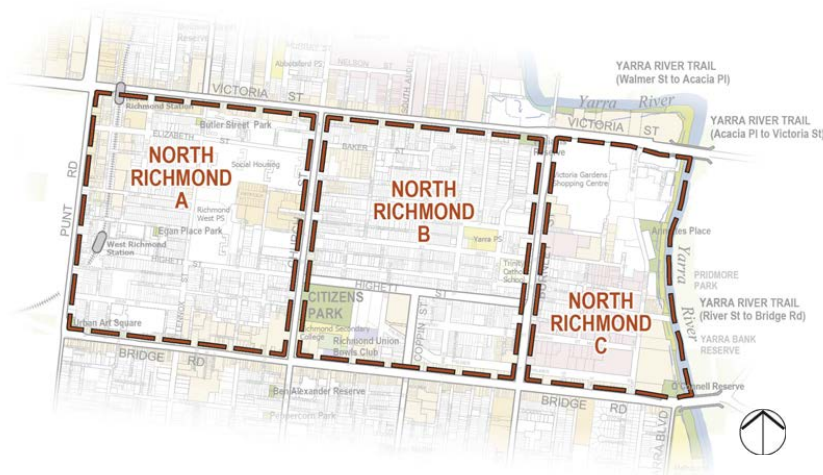


Figure 7.10B Open space sub-precincts for Richmond North

North Richmond A

- Open space sub-precinct North Richmond A is located between Punt Road and Church Street, from Victoria Street in the north to Bridge Road in the South.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Butler Street Park
 - Egan Place Park
 - Urban Art Square
- These three Small Local open spaces are distributed across the sub-precinct however, there are gaps in open space provision in this area. Urban Art Square and Butler Street Park are characterised as urban plazas, while Eagan Street Park is characterised as play.
- The land use includes the major employment precinct associated with the Epworth Hospital in the south, Bridge Road retail, Victoria Street, and mixed use employment precincts adjoining Church Street in the east and between Punt Road the railway in the north west.
- To the north and south of Elizabeth Street central to the sub-precinct with high density housing. Other land use includes the Richmond West Primary School in the vicinity of the public housing estates.
- The Yarra Housing Strategy (2018) identifies two high change areas. One is in the north-west around the North Richmond railway station which forms part of the Victoria Street Activity Centre and Retail Precinct. The other is in the south east within the Bridge Road Activity Centre and Retail Precinct.

- Public housing occupies a large proportion of the residential land use in the sub-precinct, with the balance being predominantly identified as incremental change areas, as shown in Figure 7.10D.

North Richmond B

- Open space sub-precinct North Richmond B is located between Church and Burnley Streets, north of Bridge Road.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Citizens Park
 - Williams Reserve
 - Richmond Union Bowls Club
- Citizens Park is an extremely well-used Municipal open space that is characterised as a sporting reserve. It caters to the structured sporting and unstructured recreational needs of people from all parts of Richmond and Cremorne. Given the size of the open space and its central and highly visible location, it appeals to a diversity of people and accommodates a wide range of uses. Given the high levels of use there are also key conflicts identified between different users particularly between structured sporting use and people exercising their dogs.
- Williams Reserve has been recently upgraded and is characterised as an urban plaza. The Victoria Street frontage is paved with seating and picnic facilities along with open grassed areas, playground and mature trees.
- The Richmond Union Bowls Club is a restricted open space and provides for structured sporting use only.
- The land use includes the Richmond Town Hall and City of Yarra municipal offices, the Richmond Secondary College, the Yarra Primary School, and commercial and business uses along Bridge Road and Victoria Street as shown in Figure 7.10A.
- Council has a Joint Use Agreement (JUA) with Yarra Primary School meaning that the school grounds are available for the community to use out of school hours.
- The majority of the precinct comprises terraces including original timber worker cottages, combined with some more recent medium and high density housing.
- The *Yarra Housing Strategy* (2018) includes two high change areas. One is located east of Citizens Park and the other is along Bridge Road within the Activity Centre. The balance of the sub-precinct is predominantly shown as incremental change with some minimal change areas in the north east.

North Richmond C

- Open space sub-precinct North Richmond C is located between Burnley Street and the Yarra River, north of Bridge Road.
- Open space located in this sub-precinct includes
 - Annette's Place
 - O'Connell Reserve
 - Yarra River Trail (River St to Bridge Rd)
- Annette's Place is a Neighbourhood open space near the Yarra River and is characterised as seating/viewing. It was established as part of the Victoria Gardens redevelopment in the 1990s, with residential development directly adjoining it which limits visual and physical access to it. O'Connell Reserve is a Small Neighbourhood open space that directly adjoins the Yarra River and is characterised as seating/viewing as well. The Yarra River Trail is a Regional open space that is

characterised as linear and provides both the shared trail access and the important riparian biodiversity link along the Yarra River.

- Land use is a combination of industrial, business, commercial and residential use. This includes high density residential near the Yarra River and along Bridge Road.
- The Yarra Housing Strategy (2018) includes two high change areas. One is shown in the north over the Victoria Gardens site which forms part of the Victoria Street Activity Centre. The other is located on the north side of Bridge Road within the Activity Centre. In the south east, the Strategy shows a moderate change area adjacent to the Yarra River with the balance being shown as incremental change.

7.10.2b Quantity of open space in North Richmond

The eight existing open spaces in North Richmond have a combined total area of 5.81 hectares. This represents approximately 3 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. Additionally there is one existing restricted open space that is 4.61 hectares in size. Adding the restricted open space to the other eight open spaces results in a total of 62.67 hectares and represents 3.3 per cent of the total land area of the precinct. There is 4.4 sqm of open space per person relative to the residential population in 2016.

Table 7.10-1 Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy	Area (ha)	%
1	Regional	0.82	14%
1	City wide	2.47	43%
1	Neighbourhood	1.35	23%
1	Small Neighbourhood	0.65	11%
1	Local	0.30	5%
3	Small Local	0.21	4%
8	TOTAL	5.81	100%

7.10.2c Open space hierarchy, character and quality

The linear open space along the Yarra River is an important habitat and recreational corridor for wider Melbourne. It is therefore designated as a Regional open space and is managed to protect and improve the habitat and recreational values. Access to the Yarra River itself, the bushland and natural qualities of this linear corridor are key reasons people visit this open space.

The sporting facilities at Citizens Park provide the context for the City-wide hierarchy and its sporting character classification. While the main oval is used for structured sport, it also receives high levels of unstructured recreation and informal uses, including exercising dogs, informal ball sports, jogging around the oval, lying on the oval and reading books and socialising. Annette's Place is the only Neighbourhood open space in the precinct, catering primarily to the people living and working in the Victoria Gardens development, but also benefits from being located adjacent to the Yarra River corridor. There is some scope to improve the character and facilities in this open space, however the close proximity of adjoining housing opening directly onto the reserve will impact on its future design and limits visual and physical access to it.

The Small Neighbourhood and Local open spaces have different characters, with O'Connell Reserve providing seating and viewing over the Yarra River corridor and Williams Reserve being a local park with an urban plaza context on Victoria Street. Two of the three Small Local open spaces also are characterised as urban plazas, with Egan Place Park primarily designed for play. With the increased urban densities in this precinct, these local open spaces have the potential to have a greater role in urban greening and cooling.

Table 7.10-2 Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification

Name	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Annettes Place	1.35	Neighbourhood	Seating/Viewing	Play, Nature conservation, Waterway, Linking space
Butler Street Park	0.05	Small Local	Urban Plaza	
Citizens Park	2.47	City-wide	Sporting	Play
Egan Place Park	0.06	Small Local	Play	
O'Connell Reserve	0.65	Small Neighbourhood	Seating/Viewing	Waterway
Urban Art Square	0.10	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Urban Plaza
Williams Reserve	0.30	Local	Urban Plaza	Play, Public garden
Yarra River Trail – River St to Bridge Rd	0.82	Regional	Linear	Waterway, Nature conservation
Total	5.81			
Restricted open space				
Richmond Union Bowling Club	0.46	City-wide	Restricted sporting	
Total Restricted open space	0.46			

7.10.2d Distribution of open space in North Richmond

The existing open space has been allocated an appropriate open space hierarchy as shown in Table 7.10-2 and a corresponding walking catchment appropriate to it, as described in Tables 3-1 and 3-5 of this report. The areas of the precinct that are located outside the walking catchments of the different open space reserves are referred to as 'gap areas' and are shown in white in Figure 7.10C. The assessment of the adequacy of the existing open space network in North Richmond is informed by the analysis of the spatial distribution of open space. As one of the key aims of this Strategy is for everyone to live and work within a safe and easy walk of open space, the recommendations will focus on addressing the gaps in the existing open space network.

For North Richmond, the major gaps in the existing open space network occur between Punt Road and Church Street, along with some gaps in the precinct between Church Street and Burnley Streets. To assist with the open space analysis, North Richmond has been divided into three open space sub-precinct. These are shown in Figure 7.10C.

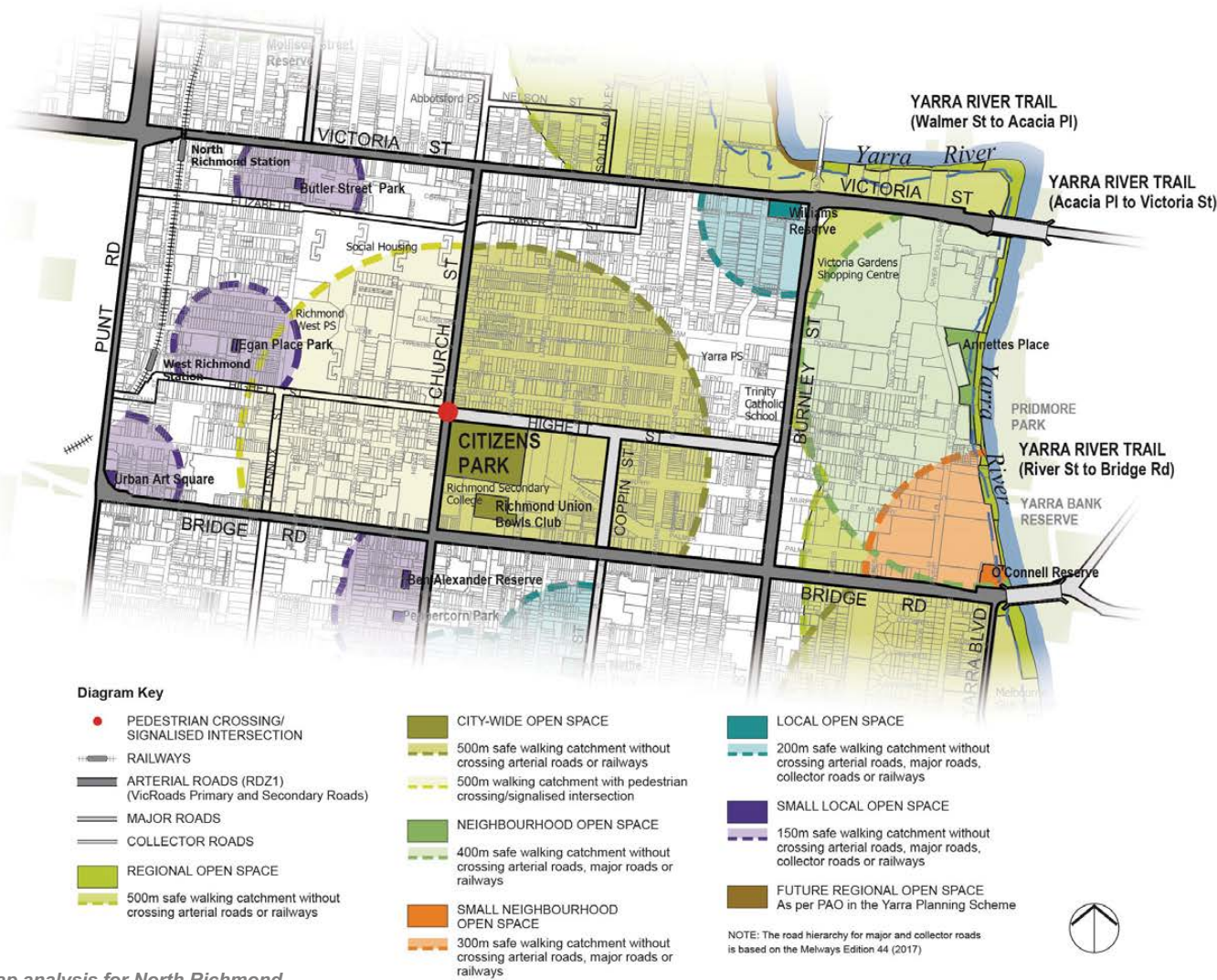


Figure 7.10C Gap analysis for North Richmond

7.10.3 How residents use open space

A total of 158 resident surveys were received from North Richmond. Please note that in addition to these, 113 surveys were also completed by workers in Richmond, near the Epworth Hospital and Bridge Road. A summary of the results of the worker survey is included in the next section 7.10.4.

The 158 resident surveys completed for North Richmond represents 13 per cent of the total surveys received. The .id Community Profile identifies that 15 per cent of the City of Yarra's population lives in North Richmond.

Table 7.10-3 Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
110	Citizens Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access (16) • Walking (16) • Exercising (15) • Dog walking (9) • Playground (8) • Exercising dogs (6) • Socialising with friends / family (6) • Convenient/on the way (5) • Dog friendly (5) • Informal ball games (5) • Relaxing (5) • Sport (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (35) • Dog waste requires cleaning (8) • Upgrade required (4) • Upgrade the playground (4)
25	Yarra River Corridor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking (9) • Cycling (7) • Natural character (4) • Peaceful (4) • Respite from busy roads and traffic (3) • Escape from the built environment (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (3) • Limit developments (2) • Additional seating (2)
22	Williams Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relaxing (3) • Socialising with friends / family (3) • Close to home (3) • Playground (3) • Playing with children (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (5) • Dog waste bags/bins, additional required (2)
13	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking (4) • Large space / size (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (5) • Additional lighting (2)
Open space beyond walking distance			
10	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking (2) • Beautiful (2) • Relaxing (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (3)
9	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialising with friends/family (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (3) • Regular maintenance and cleaning required (2)
9	Yarra Bend Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River setting (4) • Large space / size (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (5)

No.	Name	Reasons to visit	Suggested improvements
7	Barkly Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground (3) • Large space / size (2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No improvements required (2)
7	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport (5) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sport clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance (2)
5	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socialising with friends/family (4) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

Values of open space used (top five)

- 54% Place to relax and unwind
- 58% Trees
- 48% The feeling of space
- 46% Just being outside
- 44% An escape from the built environment

Types of open space used (top five)

- 84% Open space along Yarra River
- 82% Small local parks
- 79% Large parks and gardens
- 74% Local streets for exercise
- 64% Large sporting reserves

Activities and facilities in open space (top five)

- 80% Walking paths
- 66% Open grassed areas
- 63% Seats
- 50% Cycle paths
- 50% Drinking fountains

General comments

This was an open ended section of the survey where respondents could write any additional comments. The following list are comments made by four or more people:

- Additional open space is required particularly as densities increase and the less private open space (6)
- Appreciate the opportunity to complete the survey (4)
- Council is doing a good job regarding open space (4)

For further details on resident survey outcomes refer to the Report on Consultation Outcomes in Appendix B.

7.10.4 How existing workers use open space

113 workers were surveyed in the Epworth Hospital and Bridge Road area about open space.

Frequency of use of open space near the workplace

- 88 per cent of those surveyed visit open space near their workplace with 53 per cent of them nominated they visit open space frequently.

Reasons to visit open space near the workplace

The three top reasons workers visit open space near their place are:

- 66% to be outdoors as a break from work
- 42% to socialise / meet colleagues / friends
- 19% to eat lunch

Most frequently visited open space

No.	Name
15	Fitzroy Gardens
13	Royal Botanic Gardens
11	Parks
10	Citizens Park
8	Barkly Gardens
8	Yarra Park

Suggestions for improvements to the open space network

The following list is the comments made by 4 or more people:

- Additional open space required (15)
- No improvements required to open space (9)
- Additional car parking required (5)
- Public toilets - additional required (4)

7.10.5 Analysis of future change and open space needs

7.10.5a Forecast future population

Quantity

The table below shows the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations in North Richmond. A further breakdown of the forecasts for the three open space sub-precincts within North Richmond have been prepared by .id Consulting to assist with analysis of where forecast change will occur.

Residential population forecasts are sourced from .id Consulting (2018) and the worker population estimates are calculated from the floor area growth forecasts in the *Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy, SGS, 2018* (SEES, 2018).

The resident population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population of 52 per cent or an additional 7,419 residents between 2016 and 2031. The worker population is forecast to increase by approximately 32 per cent, with an additional 4,264 additional workers between 2016 and 2031.

The resident population forecasts through to 2041 illustrate that there is still additional capacity for growth beyond 2031 in North Richmond. While this Strategy is primarily addressing the open space needs of the existing and forecast population through to 2031, it is useful to understand the context of the magnitude of change beyond the Strategy timeframe.

Table 7.10-4 Resident population forecasts for North Richmond open space sub-precincts

SUB-PRECINCT	2016	2031	Difference 2016-2031
North Richmond A	7,129	9,358	2,229
% change North Richmond A			31%
North Richmond B	5,675	7,265	1,590
% change North Richmond B			28%
North Richmond C	1,531	5,131	3,600
% change North Richmond C			235%
Total North Richmond	14,335	21,754	7,419
Total % Change			52%

Table 7.10-5 Worker population estimates for North Richmond open space sub-precincts

EMPLOYMENT/ RETAIL PRECINCT	2016	2031	DIFFERENCE	% CHANGE
North Richmond A				
Victoria Street Retail Precinct	1,487	2,104	617	41%
Bridge Road Retail Precinct	3,907	4,925	1,018	26%
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	208	272	64	31%
<i>Total estimated worker population North Richmond A</i>	<i>5,602</i>	<i>7,301</i>	<i>1,700</i>	<i>30%</i>
North Richmond B				
Victoria Street Retail Precinct	850	1,202	353	41%
Bridge Road Retail Precinct	3,754	4,732	978	26%
<i>Total estimated worker population North Richmond B</i>	<i>4,603</i>	<i>5,934</i>	<i>1,331</i>	<i>29%</i>
North Richmond C				
Victoria Street Retail Precinct	2,974	4,208	1,234	41%
<i>Total estimated worker population North Richmond C</i>	<i>2,974</i>	<i>4,208</i>	<i>1,234</i>	<i>41%</i>
Retail and employment precinct totals				
Victoria Street Retail Precinct	5,311	7,514	2,204	41%
Bridge Road Retail Precinct	7,661	9,657	1,996	26%
Hoddle Street Employment Precinct	208	272	64	31%
Total estimated worker population North Richmond	13,179	17,444	4,264	32%

7.10.5b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people living and working in North Richmond will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction from increased use.

The forecast change in demographics with a slight decrease in the number of families and young children and an increase in young adults and older people living on their own means that there will be a likely increase in the demand for facilities that encourage socialising in open space including seating areas and picnic facilities. There will also be a need to promote fitness and exercise by increasing the diversity of facilities that encourage this.

7.10.5c Where change will occur

The forecast resident and worker population increase in North Richmond will be concentrated in the Bridge Road and Victoria Street Retail Precincts, combined with the areas of major change identified in the *Yarra Housing Strategy, 2018* (YHS, 2018). Refer to Figures 7.10D and 7.10E below.

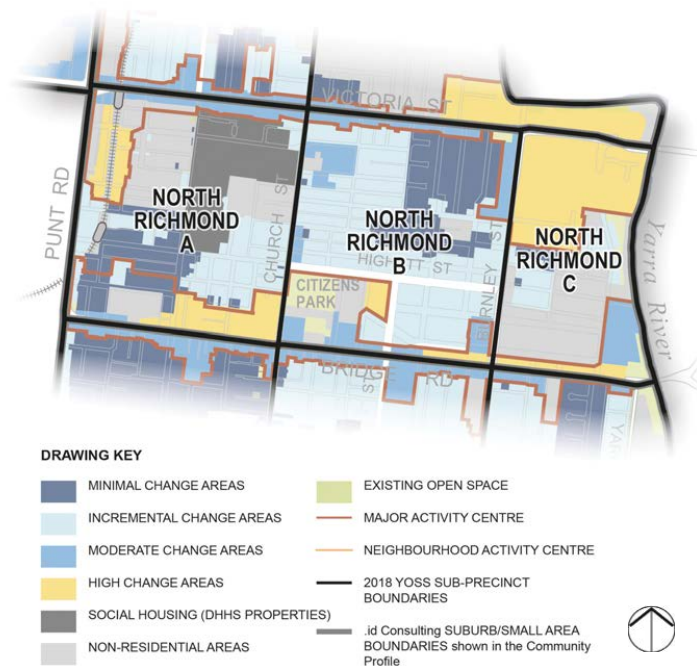


Figure 7.10D Open space sub-precincts and the Strategic Housing Framework (YHS, 2018)

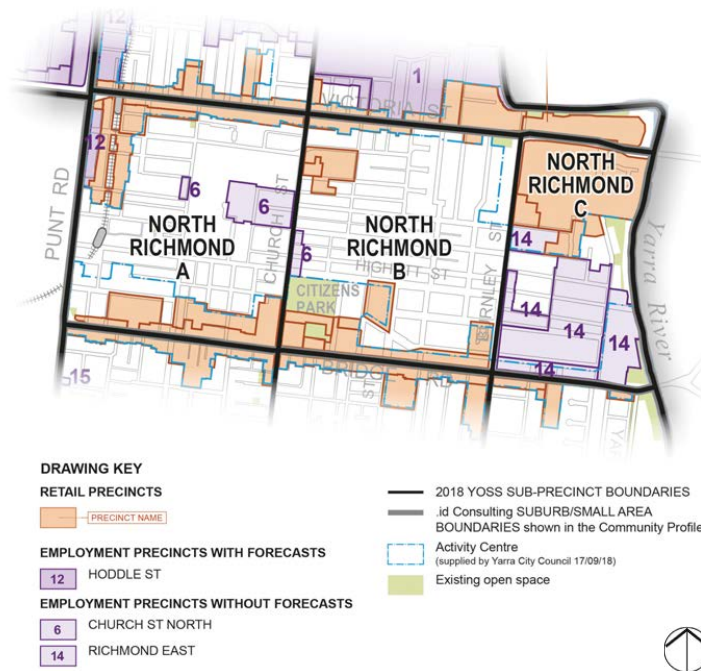


Figure 7.710E Open space sub-precincts and the Employment and Retail Precincts (SEES, 2018)

7.10.5d Open space distribution and future need in North Richmond

Within North Richmond the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. However, where traffic signals are located adjacent to Regional, City-wide and Neighbourhood open space, then the walking catchment extends across the major road, but in a lighter colour. This recognises that for many fit and healthy people, the major road may not present a physical or psychological barrier to visiting the open space, while for some people, particularly those with less mobility, the young and elderly, easy and safe access may not be applicable to them.

These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in North Richmond to easily reach open space. The open space survey results confirm that residents travel outside North Richmond to visit open space, primarily for the beauty and diversity of character in the large public gardens including the Royal Botanic Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens and Edinburgh Gardens. The high value placed on the need to relax and unwind in the open space surveys supports the need to ensure that adequate areas of green open space with natural features are provided in North Richmond.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>North Richmond A Open space sub-precinct North Richmond A is located between Punt Road and Church Street, from Victoria Street in the north to Bridge Road in the South. Refer to Section 7.10.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 31 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 2,229 residents by 2031. • A 30 per cent increase in the worker population is forecast with an additional 1,700 workers by 2031. • The existing open space network lacks diversity of character and facilities to offer a range of recreational uses, and are all of the similar small size being less than 1,000 sqm, and provide limited unstructured recreation opportunities. • Recommend a new Neighbourhood open space central to the sub-precinct, as shown in Figure 7.10F. The suggested location is on existing DHHS State government land which is central to the precinct and has excellent visual and physical access. It is large enough to provide a diverse range of unstructured recreational facilities combined with social spaces and additional greening. Importantly, this open space will be accessible via the local street network to the areas of major growth and change. • A new Small Local open space is proposed In the south-east area of the precinct, close to the forecast high change area. This is to provide open space within a safe and easy walk of existing and forecast residents and workers associated with the Bridge Road Activity Centre between Bridge Road and Highett Street. Refer to location shown on Figure 7.10F. • Upgrade Egan Place Park including investigating the potential to expand the size of this open space.
<p>North Richmond B Open space sub-precinct North Richmond B is located between Church and Burnley Streets, north of Bridge Road. Refer to Section 7.10.2 for the description of existing open space and character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 28 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 1,590 residents by 2031. • A 20 per cent increase in the worker population is forecast with an additional 1,331 workers by 2031. • While there are no gaps in the provision of open space there will be a significant increase in the number of people using Citizens Park in the future from all parts of Richmond. Therefore it is recommended that an additional Small Neighbourhood open space is provided in the south east part of the sub-precinct North Richmond C (refer below). This will provide new open space primarily for the forecast worker and resident population in close proximity to the Bridge Road Activity Centre and the high change precinct identified in the YHS as shown in Figure 7.10D. • Continue to undertake minor upgrades to Citizens Park as required to ensure it is meeting the communities needs and levels of use. • Continue to maintain Williams Reserve in the short term and review the opportunities to improve its role in mitigating urban heat with sustainable water reuse in the future.

Sub-precinct	Conclusions
<p>North Richmond C</p> <p>This sub-precinct is located between Burnley Street and the Yarra River, north of Bridge Road. Refer to Section 7.10.2 for the description of existing open space and character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A significant 235 per cent increase in the resident population is forecast with an additional 3,600 residents by 2031. • A 41 per cent increase in the worker population is forecast with an additional 1,234 workers by 2031. • While there are no gaps in the provision of open space there will be a significant increase in the resident population in both the north east and south east parts of the sub-precinct. • Therefore it is recommended that an additional Small Neighbourhood open space is provided in the south east area of the sub-precinct as part of the future redevelopment of the larger land parcels in the precinct. This will focus on providing a green space to assist with mitigating urban heat and provide recreational facilities that complement the seating/viewing character of the other two existing open spaces. It is also recommended that improved north south pedestrian connectivity within the precinct is achieved as part of the redevelopment process. This in part will also address the future open space needs of forecast residents and workers in North Richmond B. • Provide an additional Small Local open space the north west to cater to the recent and forecast high density development. • Undertake a major upgrade to Annettes Place to provide a greater diversity of spaces and facilities to better cater to the forecast population as part of the major redevelopment in proximity to this open space. • Please refer to Figure 7.10F.

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.

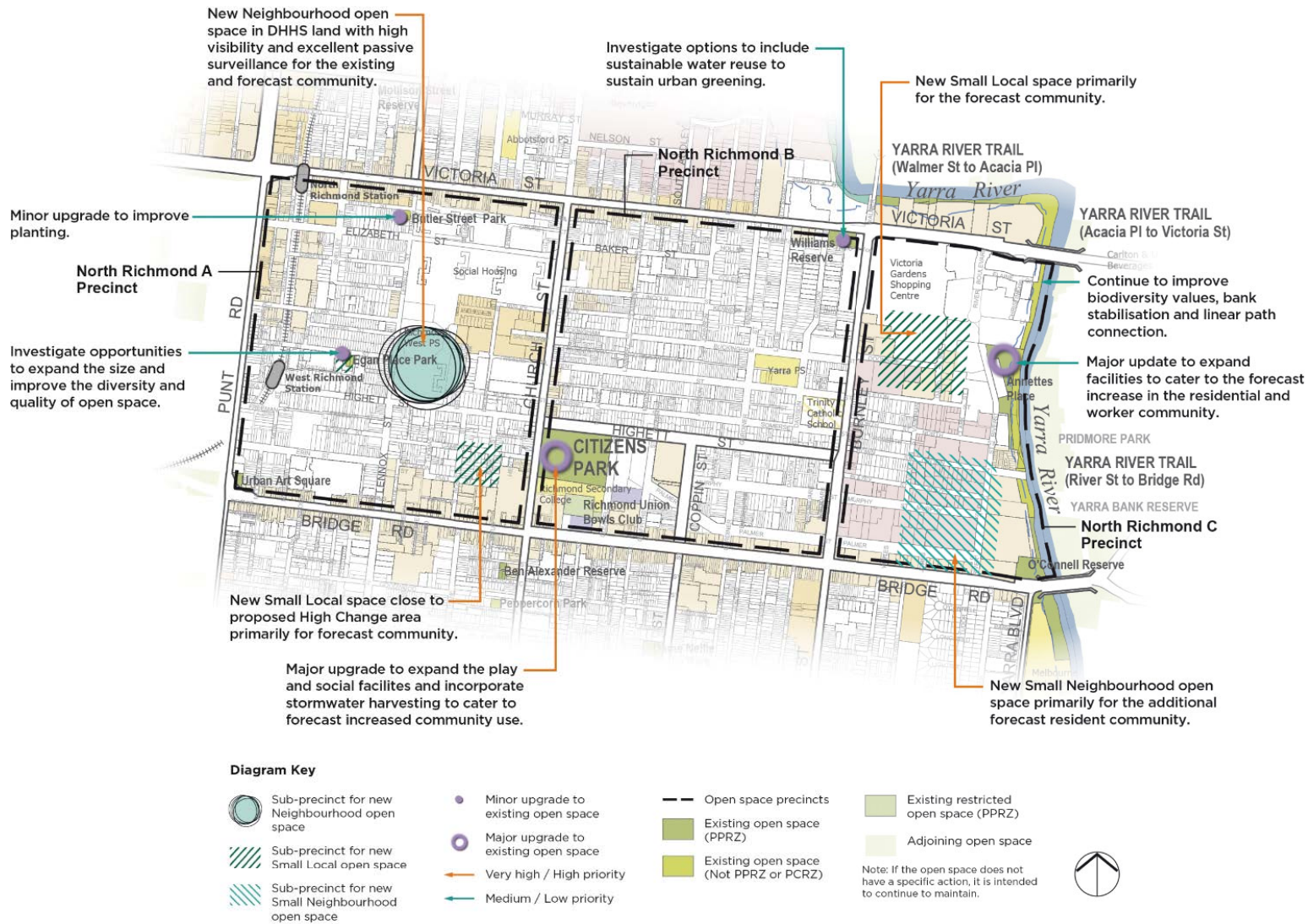


Figure 7.10F Recommendations for North Richmond

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

B Existing open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.10B-1	Annette's Place Continue to maintain in the short term. In the longer term, undertake a major upgrade to substantially improve the useability and character of this open space to better cater to a diversity of users given the forecast increase in the resident population in the immediate catchment of this reserve.	YCC	Low
7.10B-2	Butler Street Park Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.10B-3	Citizens Park Undertake major upgrades including to the playground and other unstructured recreation facilities, incorporate stormwater harvesting project to improve the sustainable water re-use and management of this reserve to cater to the increased levels of use that this park will receive in the future and assist to mitigate urban heat island effect.	YCC	Medium
7.10B-4	Egan Place Park Investigate opportunities to expand the size of this open space primarily to cater to the forecast future population. Review and revise the open space design, maximising opportunities to integrate sustainable water re-use to increase the greening and the urban cooling role of this open space.	YCC	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.10B-5	O'Connell Reserve Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.10B-6	Urban Art Square Continue to maintain.	YCC	Ongoing
7.10B-7	Williams Reserve Continue to maintain. In the medium term review the options to increase sustainable water re-use in the reserve.	YCC	Low
7.10B-8	Yarra River Trail – River St to Bridge Rd Continue to undertake improvements where required to the natural biodiversity values and linear path connection.	YCC	Ongoing

8. Funding and open space contributions

8.1 Open space contribution principles

Developer contributions for public open space have been required in Victoria over many decades and are linked to the subdivision of land.

There are long-standing legislative principles with respect to these contributions. Both the 2006 Yarra Open Space Strategy and this Strategy are based on these principles. For example, both strategies:

- Provide a strategic assessment of open space needs for the future population of Yarra and recommendations for expenditure of contribution funds to meet the needs of the population on whose behalf the contributions are collected.
- Support a contribution rate that is strategically justified based on the value of open space projects.
- Ensure that contributions are used for land acquisition and capital works (not maintenance).
- Are based on the premise that contributions should not be used to make up historical deficiencies in open space provision.
- Expect contribution funding in established urban areas will generally need to be co-funded at some level with income from grants, rates or fees.

With regard to Yarra:

- The Yarra Planning Scheme currently establishes a contribution rate, and this satisfies requirements of Section 18 of the Subdivision Act 1988 governing the assessment of open space contributions that are required to be paid.
- The Strategy recommendations and cost allocations provided to Council support the expenditure of contributions for the new open space and recreational facilities that will benefit new populations.
- The upgrading or renewal of open space and recreational facilities are prioritised in locations that will be more intensively used as a result of future redevelopment and subdivision (e.g. population increase, demographic change).

8.2 Review of existing open space contributions program and rate

8.2.1 Overview of the current contributions program

Council's open space contributions program brings in an average of over \$4 million annually to provide open space for new residents. The program is supported by a mandatory contribution rate and policy in the Yarra Planning Scheme as described in Sections 8.2.2 and 8.2.3.

The current contribution program has been successful in lifting the value of contributions when compared to the contributions that were collected before the mandatory rate was introduced in the planning scheme. The contributions help Council fund its open space program for new residents and the implementation of the 2006 Strategy.

8.2.2 Contribution rate set in the Yarra Planning Scheme

Council has set a mandatory contribution rate of 4.5 per cent for the municipality through the schedule to Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme as shown below. The contribution is mandatory for all eligible subdivisions.

Figure 8A Schedule to Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme

Subdivision and public open space contribution

Type or location of subdivision	Amount of contribution for public open space
Land or buildings intended to be used for residential purposes.	4.5%

The contribution rate applies to the total land value of the site when more than two lots (titles) are created. The levy can be for land, equivalent cash value or a combination of the two. There are many VCAT precedents that support the principle that the type of contribution to be made is solely up to the Council. This gives the City of Yarra considerable scope to require land contributions and specify where on the subdivision the new open space is to be located, having regard to the precinct locations and criteria for new open space set out in the Strategy.

8.2.3 Clause 22.12 Public Open Space Contribution

The Council's planning scheme policy at Clause 22.12 Public Open Space Contribution incorporates the relevant findings and recommendations of the 2006 Strategy. The policy sets out the basis for the mandatory open space contribution and specifies the sub-precincts where a land contribution may be required. The criteria for land contributions is listed. There is also a caution that the design of developments will need to account for any land contribution that may be required when subdivision occurs.

8.2.4 Finance – Allocation of Moneys Received via the Public Open Space Requirement Policy, 2016

To guide implementation of the 2006 Strategy, Council adopted a policy statement on 28 June 2016 to clarify its approach to expenditure of the open space contributions collected. The Council resolution also called for an increase in the existing 4.5 per cent contribution rate in the Yarra Planning Scheme.

The policy requires funds to be separately accounted for and allocated for *'land acquisition for new reserves, undertaking open space capital works or improving existing open space.'* This is consistent with the requirements of the *Subdivision Act 1988*.

The policy also states that funds are to be allocated in line with the adopted Strategy *'for the benefit of the population on whose behalf the funds are collected.'* There should be an equitable allocation of funds in line with where dwelling growth is greater.

The policy is consistent with the legislative principles referred to in Section 8.1 and Council's planning policy governing land and cash contributions.

8.3 Proposed open space contributions program

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.

The Strategy city-wide and precinct recommendations in Sections 5 and 7 indicate how Council should implement its open space contribution program. The Strategy indicates when land acquisition (e.g. contributions or purchase) are required and how cash contributions should be spent to meet the needs of the population on whose behalf they are collected. There are minimum criteria for land acquisition and priorities for implementation of projects. The 2006 Strategy requirements are included in the current Clause 22.12 of the Yarra Planning Scheme. The policy will need to be updated (as noted in Section 9.1) when this Strategy is adopted.

8.3.2 Comparison of the proposed rate with adjoining municipalities

Many inner Melbourne councils have a scheduled open space contribution rate in their planning schemes. The councils that border the City of Yarra use the schedule to Clause 53.01 as shown in Table 8-1. Recently established rates are based on strategic open space studies that can be supported through the planning scheme amendment and Planning Panel process. The trend is to match higher rates (above 5 per cent) to higher growth locations. The Yarra schedule is the only one that confines the contribution schedule to residential development.

Table 8-1 Open space contribution rates for adjoining municipalities

Municipality	Clause 53.01 type or location of subdivision	Rate
Yarra	<i>Land or buildings intended to be used for residential purposes.</i>	4.5%
Banyule	A subdivision that creates more than one additional separately disposable parcel of land.	5%
Boroondara	None specified. [defaults to individual subdivision levies]	None
Darebin	Sliding scale 2 to 5+ lots	2% - 5%
Melbourne	Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal Area	8%
	High growth areas shown on maps	7.06%
	Moderate and low growth areas shown on maps	5%
Moreland	12 suburb locations shown on a map	2.5% - 6.8%
Stonnington	Suburbs of Glen Iris, Malvern, Malvern East, Toorak and Kooyong	5%
	Suburbs of Armadale, Prahran, Windsor and South Yarra	8%
	One site with a specific rate in Armadale	8%

8.3.3 Open space sub-precincts where a land contribution may be required

The Strategy identifies locations where new open space will be required. In some cases, it will be appropriate for Council to require a land contribution for all or part of the contribution assessment to create a new open space reserve. The land contribution may be part of a larger parcel of land that Council is assembling. The recommendations for where land acquisition is required for new open space for the forecast population are based on Council's existing growth framework as described in this Strategy. The recommendations are included in Section 7 of this Strategy.

8.3.4 Yarra Development Contributions Plan 2017

Council is introducing a Development Contributions Plan (DCP) in the Yarra Planning Scheme (Amendment C238) to fund over 700 social and physical infrastructure projects throughout the municipality. The purposes of this DCP are clear and the Plan states at page 24 that, *"It should be noted that the projects shown in this DCP do not overlap with Council's Open Space Levy."*

8.4 Capital works and land acquisition

8.4.1 Capital works

Council's capital works program for open space in the City of Yarra is informed by the list of actions in the existing Open Space Strategy 2006. The program is funded by a combination of different Council revenue sources including open space contributions, rates and external grants.

Approximately 70 per cent of the actions from the 2006 Strategy have been implemented via the capital works program, including the capital works to construct the six new open spaces that have been delivered since the Strategy was prepared.

The Strategy has prepared a new strategic program of works to be implemented over a 15-year timeframe. Where an action is either wholly or partly attributable to the forecast population it has been included in the Strategy Preliminary Opinion of Probable Cost (POPC).

The Strategy POPC apportions the cost for each Action between the existing and forecast population based on the benefit derived from the works. This Strategy POPC will form the basis of the revised open space contribution rate calculation. The priorities in the Strategy POPC are based on the open space needs analysis undertaken for each precinct.

8.4.2 Land acquisition

The six new public open space reserves that have been delivered since the preparation of the 2006 Open Space Strategy have been established on existing public land. Council has recently negotiated and secured a new Small Local open space in North Fitzroy on a redevelopment site and will also receive a series of new open space reserves as part of the Approved Development Plan for the Alphington Paper Mills Site.

A key issue for Council in implementing the 2006 Strategy has been the difficulty in securing new land area as open space. The majority of the development sites are too small to contribute a viable area of land for public open space. In response to this, the Strategy assumes that Council will need to purchase land for new open space rather than solely rely on land contributions or conversion of Council owned land from another use. The cost of land purchase will be included in a new open space contribution rate.

Additionally, the Strategy has identified small sub-precincts and the type of new open space required in each sub-precinct. This now provides a clear framework for Council to undertake a more detailed assessment of individual sites within each for the defined sub-precincts to identify suitable locations for new open space. This is described in more detail in Section 5.3 of the Strategy.

9. Implementation

9.1 Responsibilities and actions

Implementation of this Open Space Strategy will primarily be the responsibility of the Open Space Planning Team within the Planning and Placemaking Division of Council.

A number of areas of Council will also be responsible for implementing key actions and recommendations.

Area of Council	Responsibilities
Open space planning and design team	<p>Responsible for coordinating the implementation of the Strategy. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undertake open space sub-precinct assessments for the 31 sub-precincts identified as requiring additional open space in the Strategy. Proactively flag public and private land opportunities for potential future acquisition of land for new open space consistent with the Strategy recommendations.• Review the open space component of development applications, including within the context of the open space precinct assessments, to determine where open space land contributions are to be requested in consultation with Strategic and Statutory Planning.• Ensure open space needs are adequately recognised and provide input to the open space component of Structure Plans, local area plans and other planning documents.• Prepare and implement concept and landscape design plans for open space reserves in accordance with the Design and Management Guidelines in this Strategy.• Implement the capital works program in open space and prioritise the works in the renewal program to complement the capital works program.

Area of Council	Responsibilities
<p>Open space maintenance team including Arboriculture, Streetscapes, Natural Values and Urban Agriculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing maintenance and management of open space. • Annual budget for operational and maintenance expenditure in open space. • Providing advice from relevant areas of expertise. • Responsible for gaining input from Open Space Planning and Design Team in relation to proposed works in open space.
<p>Strategic and statutory planning</p>	<p>Ensure the Yarra Planning Scheme and other strategic documents guiding future development are consistent with the Strategy including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the planning scheme to implement key strategic elements of public open space, especially Council's open space objectives and strategies and its public open space program as contained in this Strategy. • Review the current Local Planning Policy for open space contributions and update consistent with this Strategy, e.g. precincts where land may be requested as a contribution, criteria for new open space. • Introduce new local policy with respect to guidelines at 5.4.1 for development adjoining public open space and guidelines at 5.4.2 for sunlight access to public open space. • Include requirements for new open space in Structure Plan and local area plan documents and related planning scheme amendments consistent with the Strategy recommendations. Include detailed direction on built form and sunlight access for medium and high density precincts (e.g. Design and Development Overlay provisions). • Continue to administer the public open space contributions program and make budget allocations in accordance with Strategy costings. • Liaise with developers in the initial development application stage to achieve desired outcomes for open space as set out in this Strategy. • Consider if use of the Public Acquisition Overlay is warranted in specific circumstances. • Coordinate activities and conduct referrals and coordination of outcomes between the Open Space Planning Team, Strategy Planning and Statutory Planning. • Ensure that existing reserves and land added to the public open space network is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone or Public Conservation and Resource Zone.
<p>Urban design</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for gaining input from the Open Space Planning Team in relation to open space provision in future structure plans, streetscape plans, urban design frameworks and local area plans.

Area of Council	Responsibilities
Recreation and leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the structured sport and recreation facility provision in open space in the context of the recommendations in the Strategy. Responsible for structured sport and recreation facility provision and management in open space including the annual sports facility and ground allocations. • Responsible for the provision and ongoing management of the leisure facilities in open space.
Community Cultural Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for scheduling and managing festivals and events in open space in consultation with Parks and Open Space. • Responsible for delivery of public art in open space in partnership with Parks and Open Space.
Traffic, Sustainable Transport and civil engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide engineering and infrastructure design investigation and advice, particularly for improving on-road pedestrian and bicycle links and road crossings and car parks. • Prepare and implement Local Area Placemaking Plans including seeking input from the Open Space Planning Team regarding opportunities for future road closures that provide new or expand existing open space. • Provide technical advice and assistance regarding sustainable water use in open space.
Financial services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to achievement of the Strategy through the annual budget process. • Allocate public open space contributions as a percentage of open space project budgets in accordance with Strategy costings. • Maintain an effective recording system for public open space contributions to assist appropriate recording of contributions and spending of funds.
Local laws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic animal management. • Development and enforcement of regulations in and adjoining open space.
Communications and Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To guide the community consultation methods to be implemented for any open space improvement or development works.
Aboriginal Partnerships Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To inform the implementation of open space improvement and development works in sites of cultural significance and other relevant sites to the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

9.2 Priorities

The priorities identified in the Strategy provide some guidance on the order of how the actions are intended to be implemented. They are broadly based on the following:

- Trends in forecast resident and worker population growth
- Land use trends
- Gap areas
- Community consultation outcomes
- Other relevant strategies and plans.

The Strategy has an implementation timeframe of 15 years and is intended to be implemented generally in accordance with the priorities in the Action tables. Loosely the time period correlates to the following:

Very High	Years 1 to 4
High	Years 5 to 8
Medium	Years 7 to 12
Low	Years 13 to 15

It is noted however, that changes to the forecast trends can occur and priorities may need to be adjusted to respond to these changes, particularly the allocation of adequate resources, budgets and funding to implement the works program.

A more detailed implementation program will be developed progressively as the Strategy is implemented. This program will allow a more detailed breakdown of responsibilities for each action and track its progress.

9.3 Monitoring

Implementation and monitoring of the Strategy will aim to:

- Establish a committee to oversee the implementation of the Strategy to ensure ongoing commitment and awareness of the Strategy at all levels of Council.
- Establish an appropriate system of planning, documenting and recording the works completed from the Strategy.
- Regularly monitor the implementation of the Strategy to assess the progress and success of the recommendations. This is particularly important for the provision of new open space.
- Regularly report internally on the Strategy progress including the open space contributions program.
- Review the Strategy at the 5 year and 10 year points to monitor its implementation.
- Integrate the implementation of the Strategy with other existing and future Council plans and strategies.

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- City of Yarra (2020) **Yana Ngargna Plan 2020-2023** A partnership with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

Appendix A

Drawings

The following set of drawings are to be printed at A3 size from the separate file provided Volume 2 of 3.

Drawing No.	Drawing Title
YOSS-01a	Existing Open Space
YOSS-01b	Existing Open Space and Education Use
YOSS-01c	Existing Open Space Detail Plan
YOSS-02a	Existing Open Space and Heritage Overlays
YOSS-02b	Topography and Waterways
YOSS-02c	Waterways and Relevant Overlays
YOSS-02d	Waterways and Design and Development Overlay
YOSS-03a	Open Space Hierarchy
YOSS-03b	Gap Analysis
YOSS-04	Existing Land Use and Open Space Sub-precincts
YOSS-05	Adopted Strategic Housing Framework and Open Space Sub-precincts
YOSS-06	Employment and Retail Precincts and Open Space Sub-precincts

- David Lock Associates (2014) **Swan Street Structure Plan**, Prepared for the City of Yarra
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- DRAWING KEY**
- OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
 - OPEN SPACE (PCRZ)
 - RESTRICTED OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
 - EXISTING OPEN SPACE (Not currently zoned PPRZ or PCRZ)
 - FUTURE OPEN SPACE
 - ADJOINING OPEN SPACE
 - EXISTING PPRZ ZONED LAND (Not open space)

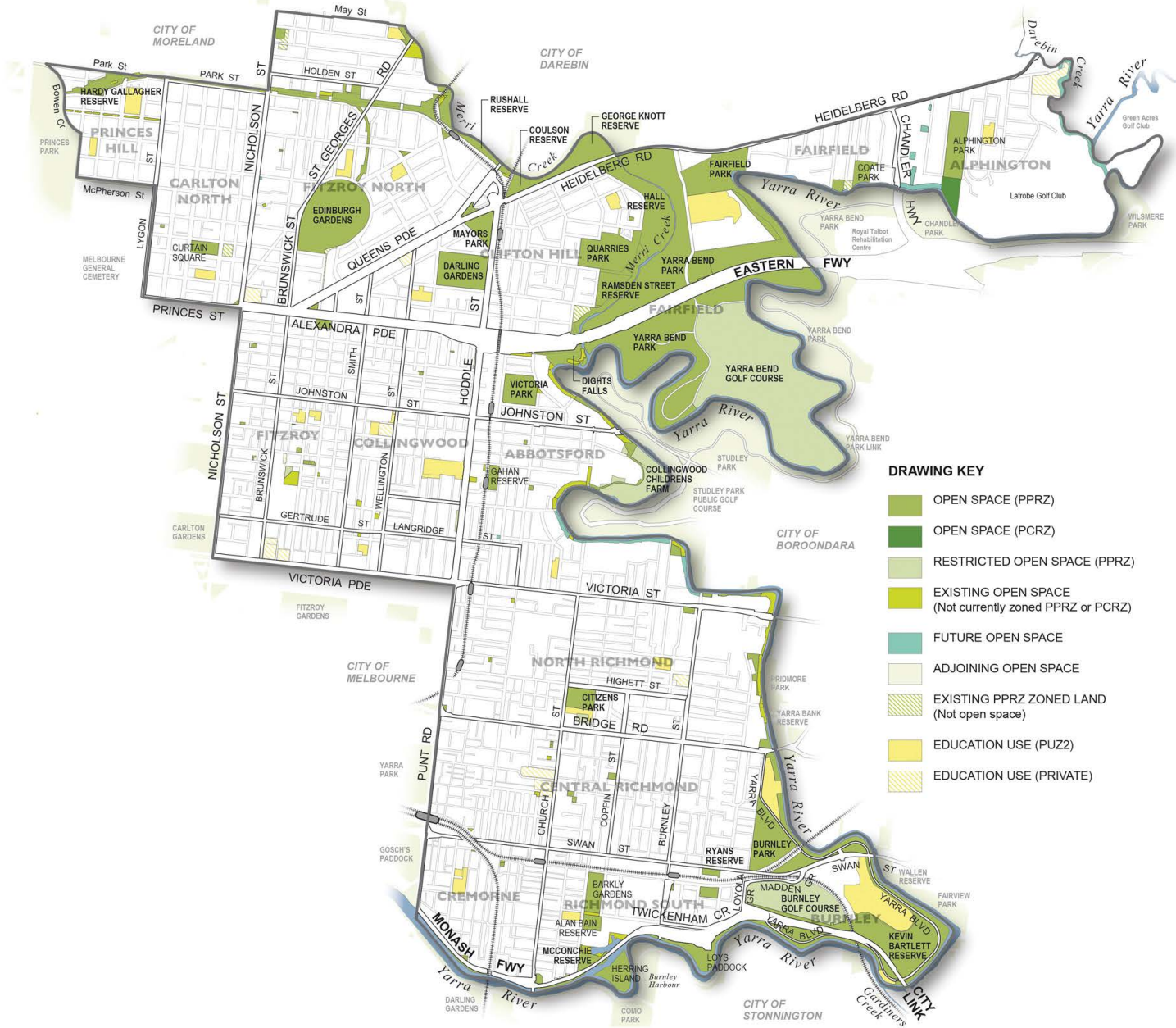
THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Existing Open Space
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL JULY 2020
DWG No. Y055-01a
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
0 250m 500m 750m 1km





DRAWING KEY

- OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
- OPEN SPACE (PCRZ)
- RESTRICTED OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE (Not currently zoned PPRZ or PCRZ)
- FUTURE OPEN SPACE
- ADJOINING OPEN SPACE
- EXISTING PPRZ ZONED LAND (Not open space)
- EDUCATION USE (PUZ2)
- EDUCATION USE (PRIVATE)

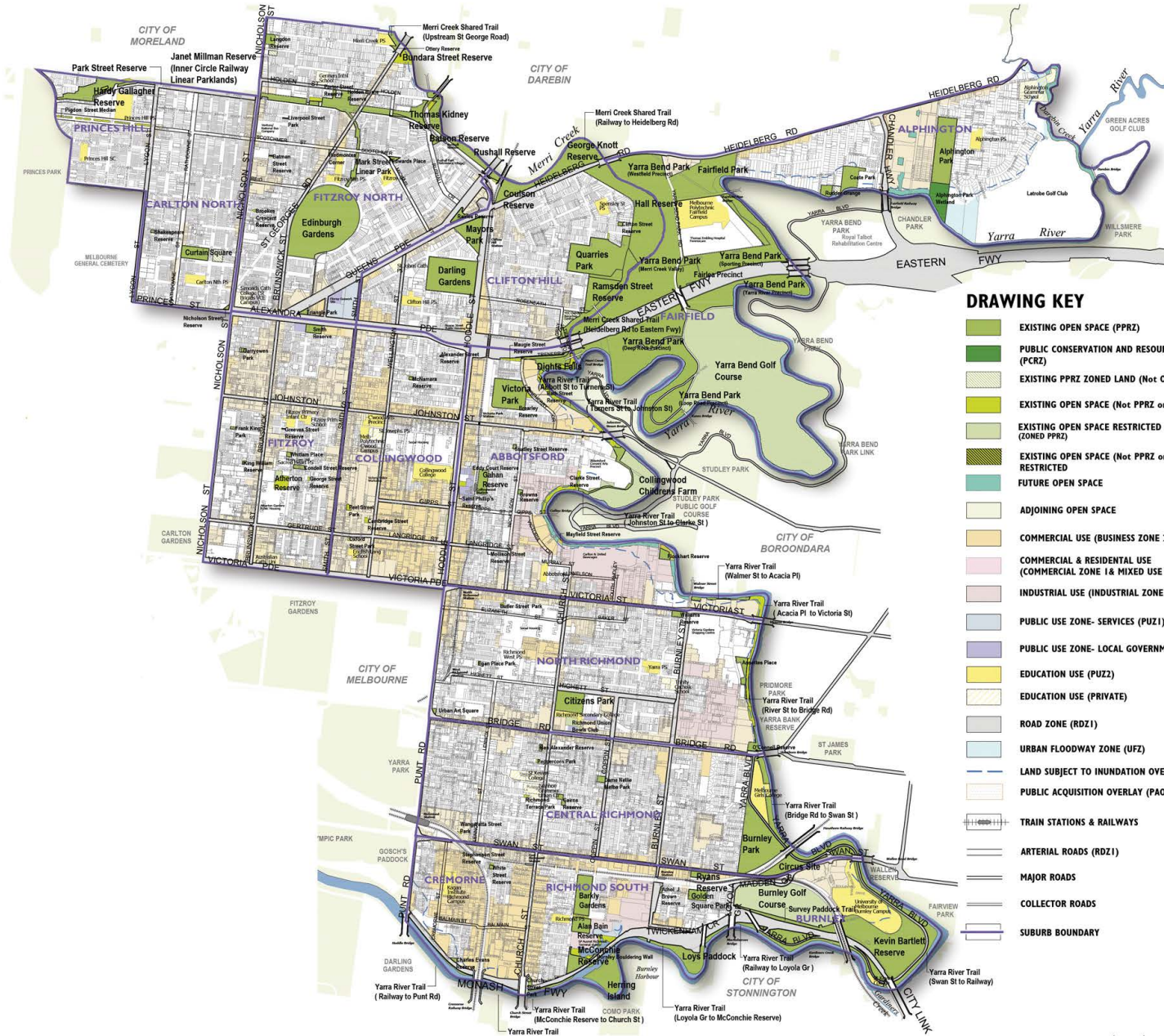
THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Existing Open Space and Education Use
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL JULY 2020
DWG No. Y055-01b
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
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DRAWING KEY

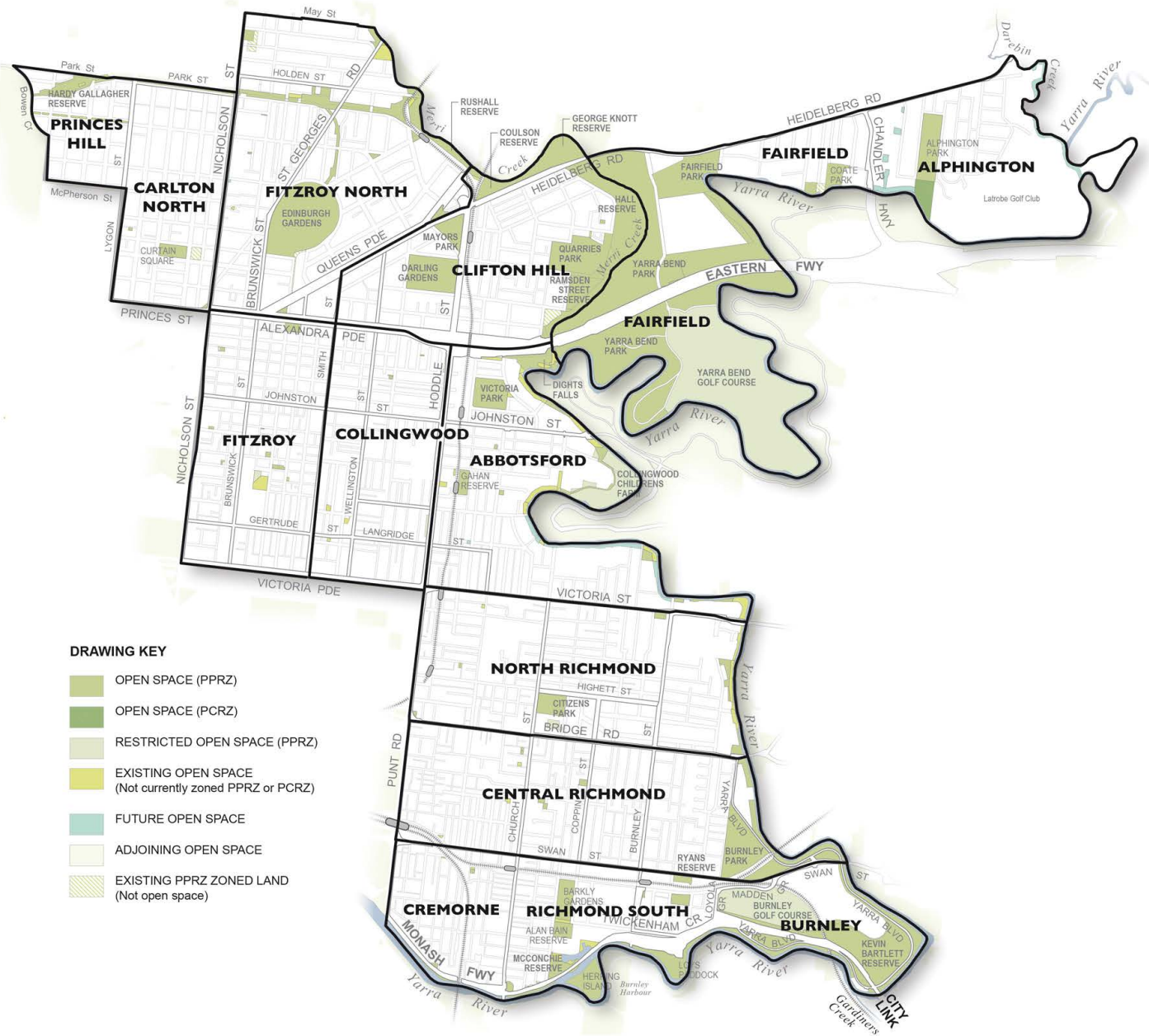
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
- PUBLIC CONSERVATION AND RESOURCE ZONE (PCRZ)
- EXISTING PPRZ ZONED LAND (Not Open Space)
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE RESTRICTED (ZONED PPRZ)
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE (Not PPRZ or PCRZ) RESTRICTED
- FUTURE OPEN SPACE
- ADJOINING OPEN SPACE
- COMMERCIAL USE (BUSINESS ZONE 2)
- COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL USE (COMMERCIAL ZONE 1 & MIXED USE ZONE)
- INDUSTRIAL USE (INDUSTRIAL ZONE 1&3)
- PUBLIC USE ZONE- SERVICES (PUZ1)
- PUBLIC USE ZONE- LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PUZ6)
- EDUCATION USE (PUZ2)
- EDUCATION USE (PRIVATE)
- ROAD ZONE (RDZ1)
- URBAN FLOODWAY ZONE (UFZ)
- LAND SUBJECT TO INUNDATION OVERLAY (LSIO)
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION OVERLAY (PAO)
- TRAIN STATIONS & RAILWAYS
- ARTERIAL ROADS (RDZ1)
- MAJOR ROADS
- COLLECTOR ROADS
- SUBURB BOUNDARY

THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Existing Open Space Detail Plan
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL JULY 2020
DWG No. Y055-01c
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
0 250m 500m 750m 1km



- DRAWING KEY**
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 - OPEN SPACE (PCRZ)
 - RESTRICTED OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
 - EXISTING OPEN SPACE
(Not currently zoned PPRZ or PCRZ)
 - FUTURE OPEN SPACE
 - ADJOINING OPEN SPACE
 - EXISTING PPRZ ZONED LAND
(Not open space)

THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN





DRAWING KEY

- OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
- OPEN SPACE (PCRZ)
- RESTRICTED OPEN SPACE (PPRZ)
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE
(Not currently zoned PPRZ or PCRZ)
- FUTURE OPEN SPACE
- ADJOINING OPEN SPACE
- EXISTING PPRZ ZONED LAND
(Not open space)
- HERITAGE OVERLAY

THOMPSON BERRILL
 LANDSCAPE DESIGN

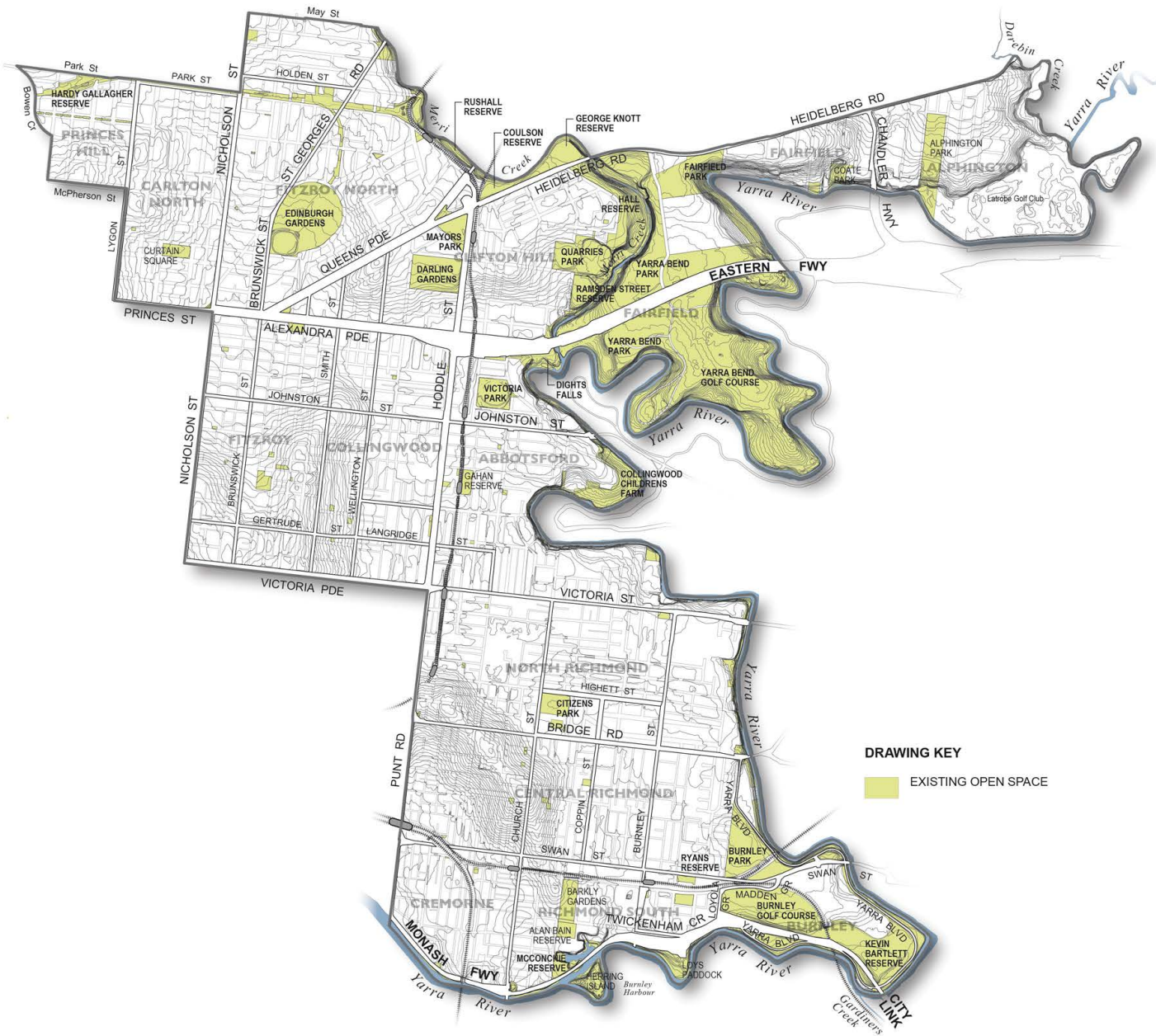


Existing Open Space and Heritage Overlay
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL

AUGUST 2019
 DWG No. Y055-02a
 SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
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DRAWING KEY
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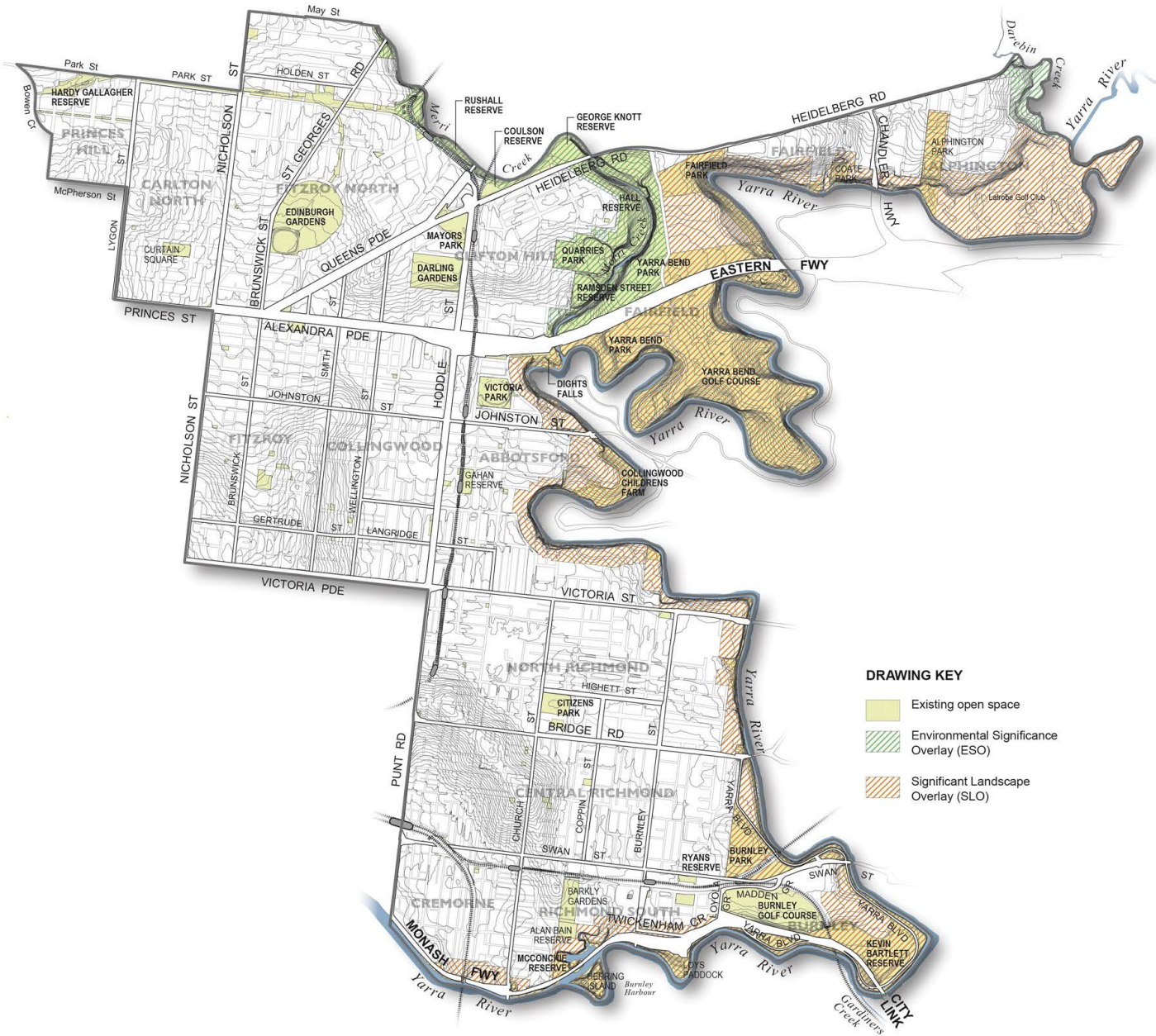
THOMPSON BERRILL
 LANDSCAPE DESIGN





Topography and Waterways
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL AUGUST 2019
 DWG No. Y055-02b
 SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
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DRAWING KEY

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	Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO)

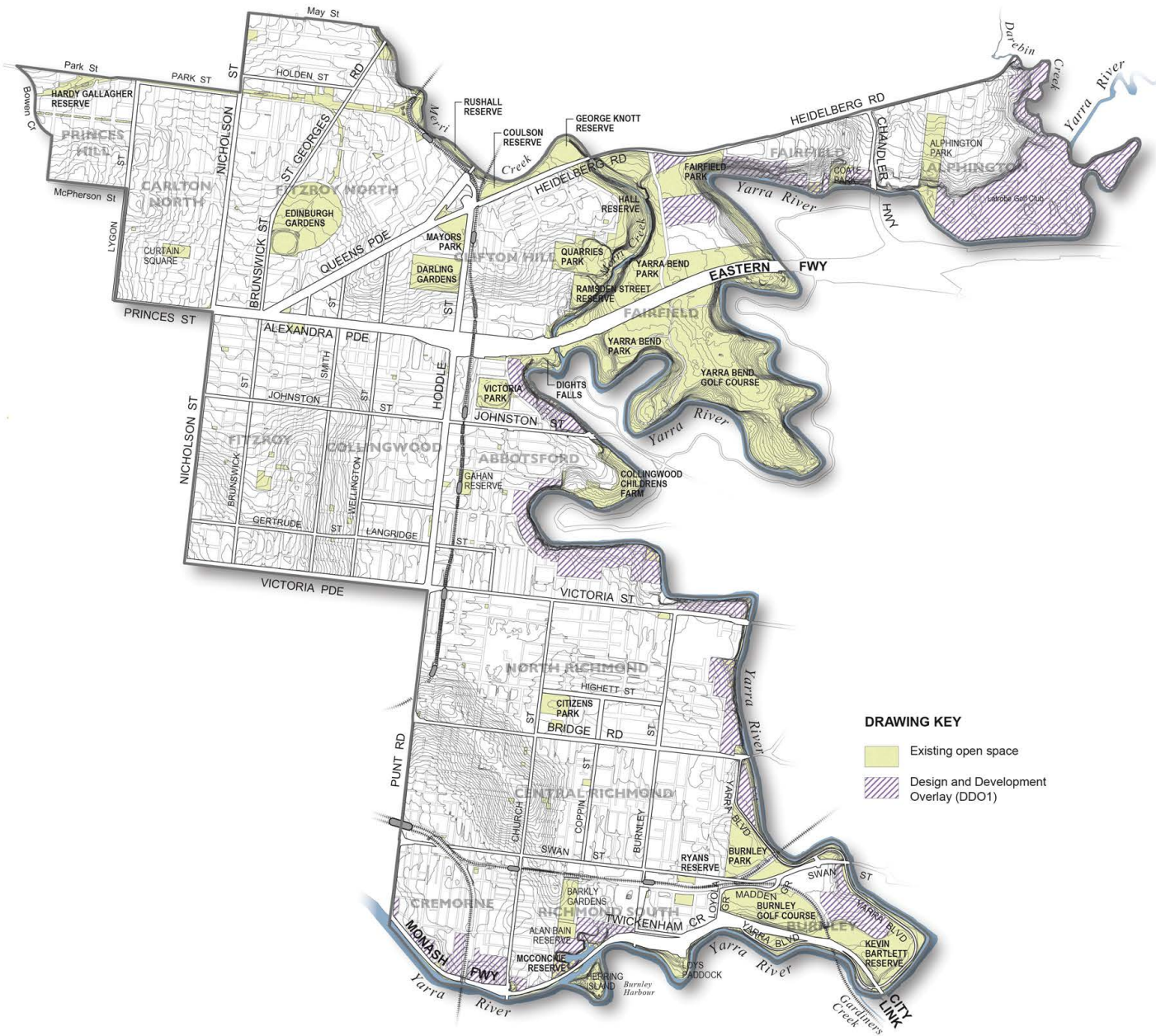
THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Waterways and Relevant Overlays
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL AUGUST 2019
DWG No. Y055-02c
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
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DRAWING KEY

- Existing open space
- Design and Development Overlay (DDO1)

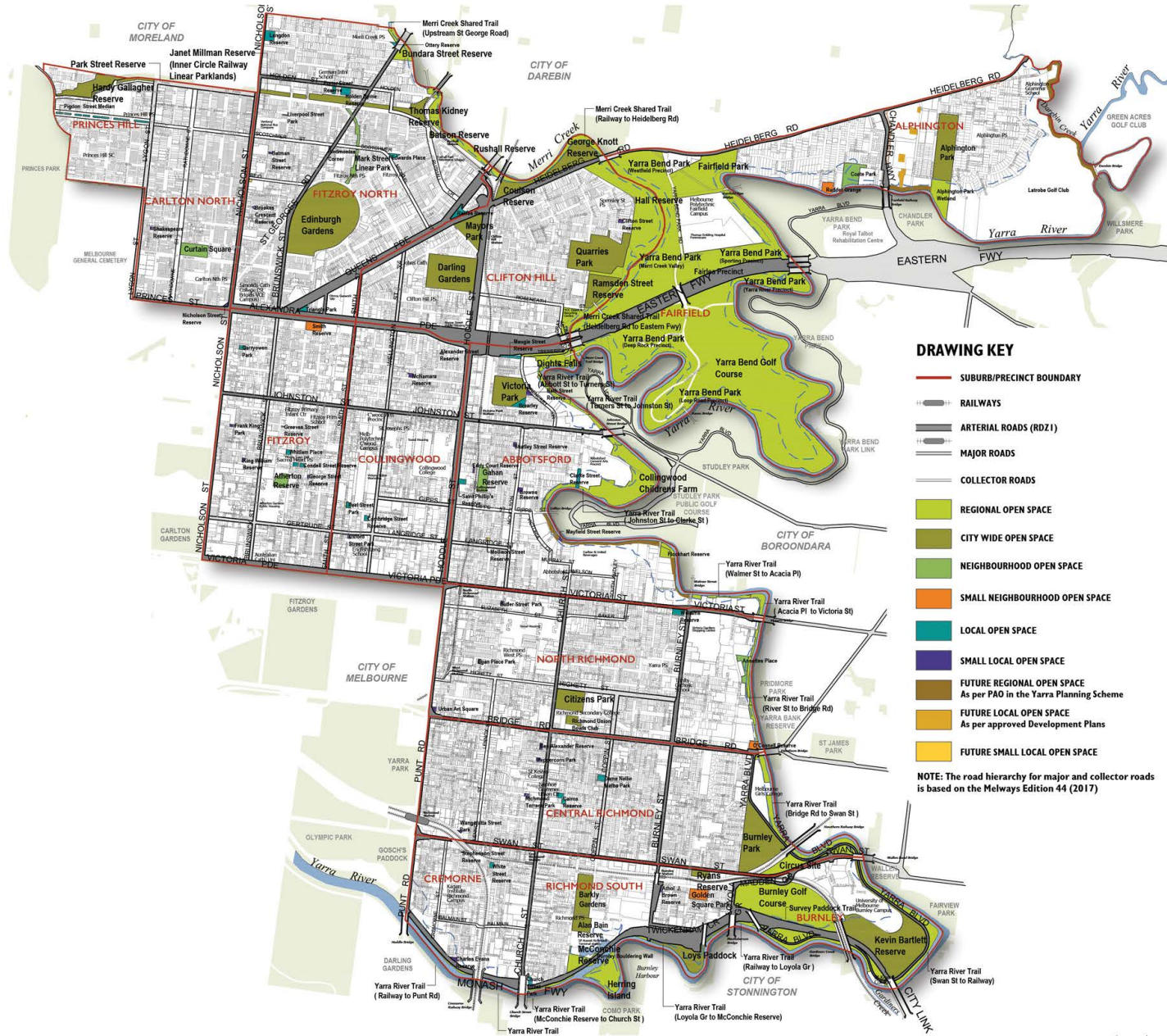
THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Waterways and Design and Development Overlay
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL AUGUST 2019
DWG No. Y055-02d
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
0 250m 500m 750m 1km





DRAWING KEY

- SUBURB/PRECINCT BOUNDARY
- RAILWAYS
- ARTERIAL ROADS (RDZ1)
- MAJOR ROADS
- COLLECTOR ROADS
- REGIONAL OPEN SPACE
- CITY WIDE OPEN SPACE
- NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE
- SMALL NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE
- LOCAL OPEN SPACE
- SMALL LOCAL OPEN SPACE
- FUTURE REGIONAL OPEN SPACE
As per PAO in the Yarra Planning Scheme
- FUTURE LOCAL OPEN SPACE
As per approved Development Plans
- FUTURE SMALL LOCAL OPEN SPACE

NOTE: The road hierarchy for major and collector roads is based on the Melways Edition 44 (2017)

THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Open Space Hierarchy
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL JULY 2020
DWG No. Y055-03a
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
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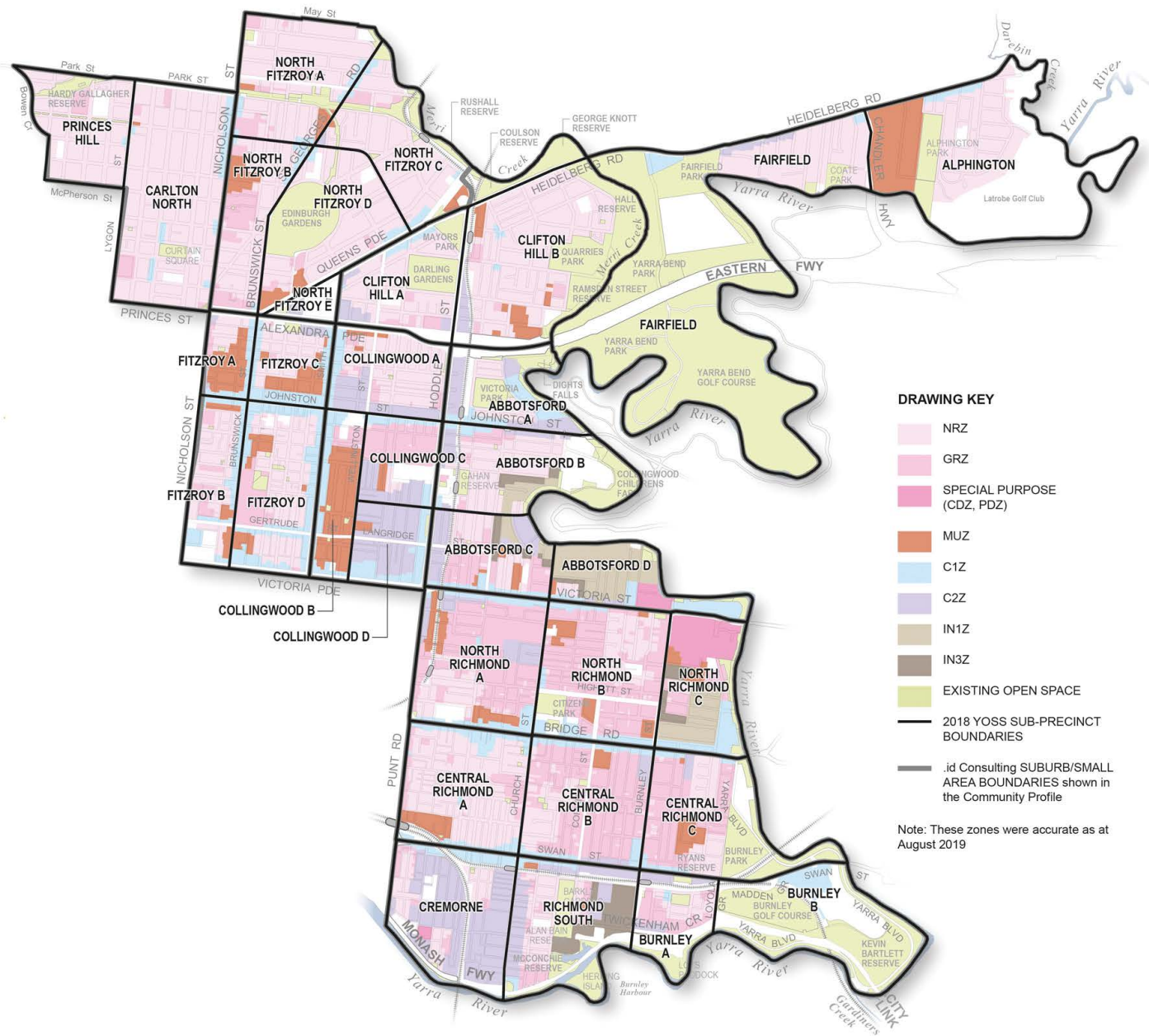


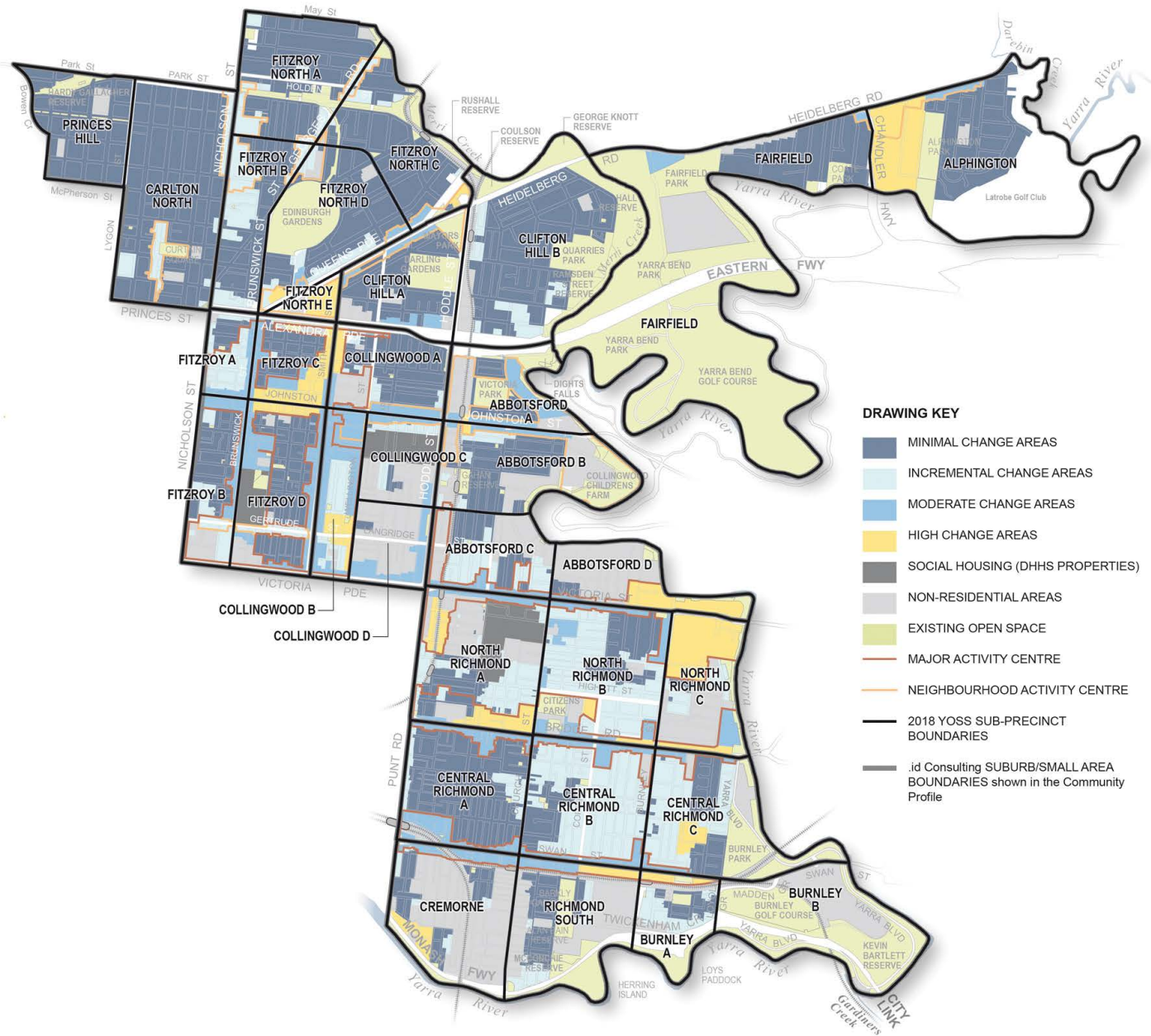


- ### DRAWING KEY
- PEDESTRIAN CROSSING/ SIGNALISED INTERSECTION
 - SUBURB/PRECINCT BOUNDARY
 - RAILWAYS
 - ARTERIAL ROADS (RDZ) (VicRoads Primary and Secondary Roads)
 - MAJOR ROADS
 - COLLECTOR ROADS
 - REGIONAL OPEN SPACE
 - 500m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads or railways
 - CITY-WIDE OPEN SPACE
 - 500m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads or railways
 - 500m walking catchment with pedestrian crossing/signalised intersection
 - NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE
 - 400m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads, major roads or railways
 - SMALL NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE
 - 300m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads, major roads or railways
 - LOCAL OPEN SPACE
 - 200m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads, major roads, collector roads or railways
 - SMALL LOCAL OPEN SPACE
 - 150m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads, collector roads or railways
 - FUTURE REGIONAL OPEN SPACE As per PAO in the Yarra Planning Scheme
 - 500m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads or railways
 - FUTURE LOCAL OPEN SPACE As per approved Development Plans
 - 200m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads, major roads, collector roads or railways
 - FUTURE SMALL LOCAL OPEN SPACE As per approved Development Plans
 - 150m safe walking catchment without crossing arterial roads, major roads, collector roads or railways
- NOTE: The road hierarchy for major and collector roads is based on the Melways Edition 44 (2017)

THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN







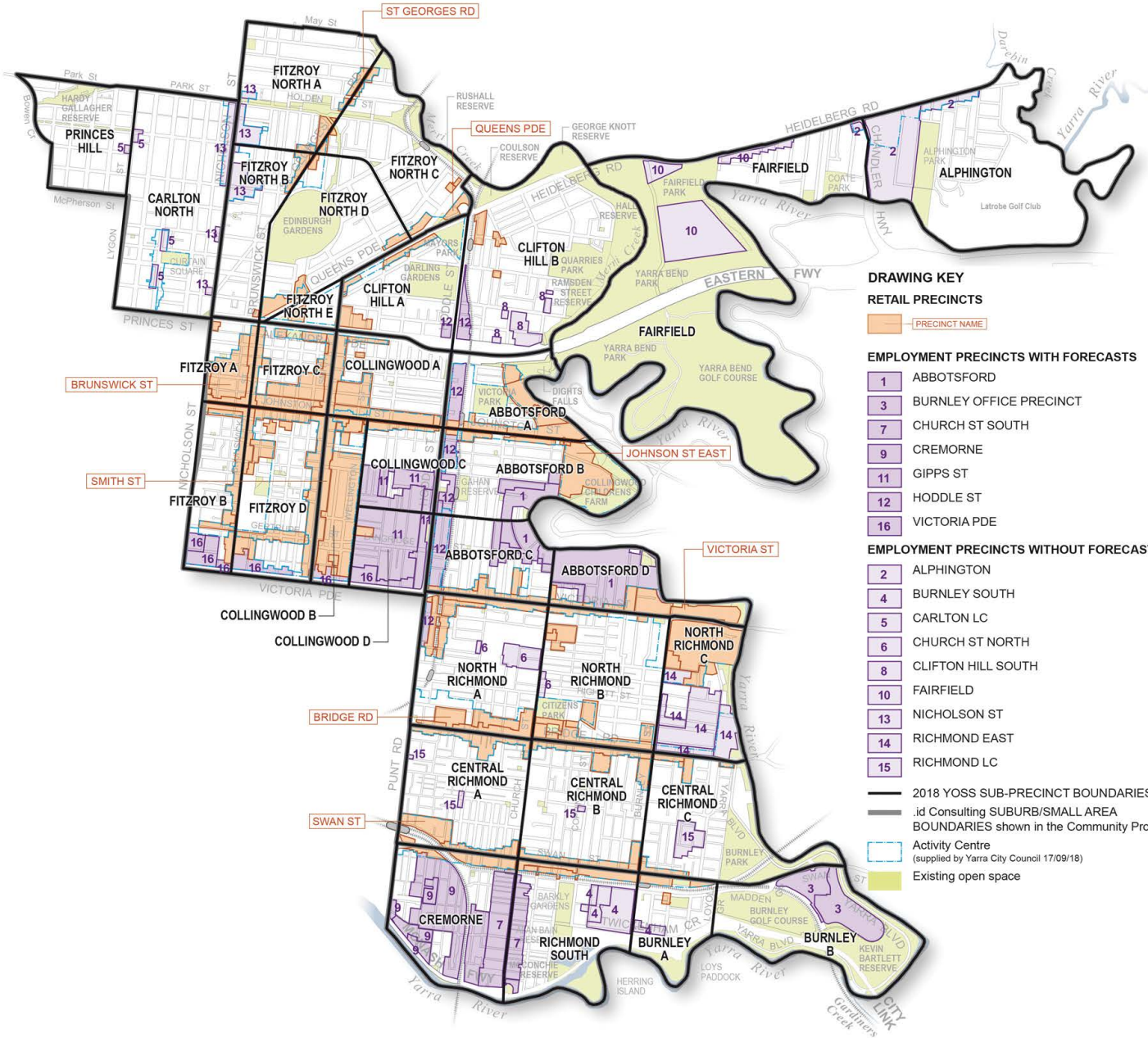
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- MINIMAL CHANGE AREAS
 - INCREMENTAL CHANGE AREAS
 - MODERATE CHANGE AREAS
 - HIGH CHANGE AREAS
 - SOCIAL HOUSING (DHHS PROPERTIES)
 - NON-RESIDENTIAL AREAS
 - EXISTING OPEN SPACE
 - MAJOR ACTIVITY CENTRE
 - NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTIVITY CENTRE
 - 2018 YOSS SUB-PRECINCT BOUNDARIES
 - id Consulting SUBURB/SMALL AREA BOUNDARIES shown in the Community Profile

THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Adopted Strategic Housing Framework and Open Space Sub-precinct Boundaries
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL AUGUST 2019
 DWG No. Y055-05
 SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
 0 250m 500m 750m 1km



- DRAWING KEY**
- RETAIL PRECINCTS**
- PRECINCT NAME
- EMPLOYMENT PRECINCTS WITH FORECASTS**
- 1 ABBOTSFORD
 - 3 BURNLEY OFFICE PRECINCT
 - 7 CHURCH ST SOUTH
 - 9 CREMORNE
 - 11 GIPPS ST
 - 12 HODDLE ST
 - 16 VICTORIA PDE
- EMPLOYMENT PRECINCTS WITHOUT FORECASTS**
- 2 ALPHINGTON
 - 4 BURNLEY SOUTH
 - 5 CARLTON LC
 - 6 CHURCH ST NORTH
 - 8 CLIFTON HILL SOUTH
 - 10 FAIRFIELD
 - 13 NICHOLSON ST
 - 14 RICHMOND EAST
 - 15 RICHMOND LC
- 2018 YOSS SUB-PRECINCT BOUNDARIES
- id Consulting SUBURB/SMALL AREA BOUNDARIES shown in the Community Profile
- Activity Centre (supplied by Yarra City Council 17/09/18)
- Existing open space

THOMPSON BERRILL
LANDSCAPE DESIGN



Employment and Retail Precincts
YARRA OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020

FINAL AUGUST 2019
DWG No. Y055-06
SCALE 1:25,000 @ A3
0 250m 500m 750m 1km

Appendix B

**Report on the community open space survey
outcomes for the**

Yarra Open Space Strategy Project

Report on the community open space survey outcomes

Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019

Prepared by

Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd
for the City of Yarra

November 2018

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Appendix 1

- 1.1 Resident Open Space Survey
- 1.2 Worker Open Space Survey
- 1.3 Marginalised/homeless Open Space Survey
- 1.4 Youth Open Space Survey

Appendix 2

Assumptions made during the data entry process for the resident survey

1. Introduction

1.1 Scope and purpose of the community engagement process

The main purpose of the community engagement process was to gain an understanding of what people value about open space, existing patterns of use and key issues they would like addressed in open space as part of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019 project. This is one of the key pieces of research that is used as the basis for determining the open space needs of the existing community. Additional research is also undertaken to determine the open space needs including site visits, review of the existing reports, strategies and plans and consultation with council officers.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019 will document the open space needs of the existing community and develop a series of actions address the needs. This will differentiate the actions required to meet the open space needs of the existing population as distinct from the forecast future population through to 2031.

1.2 Summary of the community engagement process

TBLD designed the open space surveys and the City of Yarra designed and implemented the community engagement process. This included this following:

- Your Say Yarra (YSY) Project Page with project information, an online survey and a mapping tool for the community to provide feedback.
<https://www.yoursayyarra.com.au/openspace>
- Feature article in Yarra News directing users to the YSY project page.
- Regular social media posts promoting the project and the online survey.
- Articles to promote the consultation in Yarra newsletters including:
 - Yarra Life
 - Business Newsletter
 - Recreation Newsletter
 - School Newsletters
 - Monday Musings (internal staff newsletter).
- Electronic banners advertising the consultation at Access Yarra counters.
- Email to electronic database, child care groups and resident advocacy groups such as friends of organisations inviting participation in the consultation.
- Distribution of postcards promoting the consultation at Child Care Centres, Neighbourhood Houses, Schools, Libraries, Access Yarra counters, and Pop Up sessions.
- Provision of hard copy surveys at Access Yarra Counters, Neighbourhood Houses, Libraries and to community members when requested.
- Email to Yarra's 15 Advisory Groups promoting the online survey and attendance at meetings when invited including:
 - Aboriginal Advisory Group
 - Active Ageing Advisory Group
 - Disability Advisory Committee
 - Early Years Reference Group

- Urban Agriculture Advisory Committee
- Housing and homelessness network meeting
- 3 Pop Up Sessions held, one in each Ward, to promote the project and receive survey responses. Around 100 responses were received at each session. They were held at:
 - Peel Street Park
 - Edinburgh Gardens
 - Citizens Park
- Intercept worker survey, with worker survey questions designed by TBLD and the City of Yarra engaged Metropolis to capture the worker population in Yarra's key employment precincts, that included:
 - Church Street, Cremorne
 - Bridge Road, Richmond
 - Collingwood
 - Fitzroy
- Attained 498 responses which are summarised in two reports - an overall report prepared by Metropolis, and a summary of results by the four employment precincts prepared by TBLD based on the raw data supplied by Metropolis.
- Random household survey run by Metropolis to capture minimum 600 responses across the municipality.
- Engagement with early years cohort:
 - Interactive consultation led by Richmond Kinder
- Engagement with youth cohort through:
 - Meeting with Youth Advisors to modify the survey
 - Attendance at Block Party at the Youth Centre to promote the survey and 72 responses were completed and have been summarised in this report.
- Engagement with the homeless/marginalised cohort:
 - peer review through 'Council to Homeless Persons' to design survey and consultation methodology
 - attendance at St Mary's House of Welcome to promote the survey (21 responses)
 - offer to attend session at St Mark's, were asked to provide surveys instead (no responses)
 - offer to attend session at soup van to gather feedback (no response after initial contact)
 - provision of hardcopy surveys at local services such as health centres (no responses).
- Engagement with the CALD community:
 - attendance at Harvest Festival, Collingwood to promote the consultation and receive hardcopy surveys (12 responses).
- Invited community members to send email responses or call in to provide feedback if that was their preferred method of engagement (14 submissions).

1.3 Open space survey design and distribution

1.3.1 Survey purpose

The survey was prepared as the main method of seeking residents input during the background research and analysis phase of the City of Yarra Open Space Strategy. The intent of the survey is to gain an understanding of what people value about open space,

existing patterns of use and key issues that the community would like addressed in open space.

1.3.2 Survey design

The survey included a combination of multiple choice and long hand questions that can be completed within 5 to 10 minutes. A copy of the survey is attached to this report as Appendix A.

1.3.3 Survey distribution

The survey was distributed and available as both a hard copy and online survey. They were promoted through the community engagement process as summarised in Section 1.1 of the report.

A total of 1,877 of surveys were completed during the consultation period including:

- A combined total of 1,274 completed resident surveys were received, with some returned as hard copy surveys that were entered manually into the on-line survey database, others were completed on-line and 200 were completed as targeted telephone surveys in precincts where lower numbers of surveys had been completed. The survey results were all entered into the same database from which the summary has been prepared and included in Part A of this report.
- A combined total of 498 worker surveys were completed via intercept surveys in four different employment precincts in the City of Yarra. The report forms Part B of this report.
- 21 marginalised/homeless people completed the abridged version of the survey at the St Mary's House of Welcome session. The summary of the surveys are included as Part C of this report.
- 72 responses from the young people age cohort and the results have been summarised and included as Part D of this report.
- 12 responses from the CALD community and the summary of this survey are included in Part E of this report.
- 11 more detailed written submissions were received from groups and individuals which have been summarised in Part F of this report.

1.3.4 Returned resident surveys by precinct

No. of surveys returned	% of total surveys	% of total population in the precinct	Precinct	Suburb
104	8%	9%	Abbotsford	Abbotsford
81	6%	10%	Carlton North/ Princes Hill	Carlton North, Princes Hill
172	14%	15%	Central Richmond	Central Richmond
68	5%	7%	Clifton Hill	Clifton Hill
99	8%	10%	Collingwood	Collingwood
94	7%	6%	Cremorne, Burnley, Richmond South	Cremorne, Burnley, Richmond South

No. of surveys returned	% of total surveys	% of total population in the precinct	Precinct	Suburb
55	4%	3%	Fairfield, Alphington	Fairfield, Alphington
121	10%	12%	Fitzroy	Fitzroy
170	13%	13%	Fitzroy North	Fitzroy North
158	12%	15%	North Richmond	North Richmond
83	7%	n/a	Other	Included in the municipal-wide summary only
57	5%	n/a	Unspecified	Included in the municipal-wide summary only
9	1%	n/a	Blanks	Included in the municipal-wide summary only

Surveys were received from all areas of the City of Yarra and these have been assessed collectively in the Municipal Wide section of this report. The percentage of returned surveys from Cremorne, Burnley and Richmond South and Fairfield and Alphington were slightly over represented when compared to the percentage of the total population of City of Yarra living in these precincts. The percentage of returned surveys from Abbotsford, Carlton North and Princes Hill, Central Richmond, Clifton Hill, Collingwood, Fitzroy and North Richmond were slightly under represented as a proportion of the total population. All precincts have also been assessed individually to inform the strategy at the precinct level. Refer to Section 3 of this report.

PART A

Resident open space survey

A1 Municipal-wide survey outcomes

A1.1 Overall summary of the resident open space survey outcomes

A1.1.1 Overview

The top three values for open space are:

- Trees (73%)
- A place to relax and unwind (70%)
- The feeling of space (61%)

The three most popular open spaces visited within walking distance are:

- Edinburgh Gardens (23%)
- Citizens Park (20%)
- Barkley Gardens (7%)

Further than walking distance, the most popular open spaces are:

- Edinburgh Gardens (6%)
- Yarra Bend Park (4%)
- Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne (4%)

Top three reasons for visiting open space within walking distance:

- Dog walking (8%)
- Relaxing (4%)
- Playgrounds (4%)

Top three reasons for visiting open space beyond walking distance:

- Social - meeting people/friends (2%)
- Dog walking (1%)
- Picnics (1%)

For open space nearby, suggested improvements include:

- Improvements - none required (6%)
- Toilets - additional required (2%)
- Sporting facilities - clubrooms require an upgrade (1%)

On a daily basis, local streets for exercise are the most frequently used open space, this is followed by small local parks and large parks and gardens. The Yarra River being a key feature of the Municipality is also highly used throughout the course of the year.

The most frequently used facilities include:

- Walking paths (80%)
- Open grassed areas for informal use (75%)
- Seating (68%)
- Drinking fountains (64%)

A1.1.2 Summary of the resident survey

The following is a summary prepared by the person who read all the surveys and entered the data into the database. It therefore reflects an overall understanding of the intent of the surveys having read them all, rather than being statistically accurate. The statistically accurate information is contained in the A1.1 and the other parts of Section A. Each precinct is given an overview as well, so this reflective chapter is considering the key issues.

Open space

In general, respondents highly valued open space and the choice and variety in the City of Yarra. Being outside was seen as key to health and wellbeing and, after the importance of trees, most values centred on the belief that open spaces are places to relax and unwind, escape the city and the traffic, and enjoy the feeling of space. Respondents liked walking, whether it be with or without dogs, playing with their children, cycling, exercising and informal/formal sport, having picnics and connecting with friends and family. In their general comments they were most concerned about having additional open spaces nearby or to meet the demands of a growing population.

Large parks and gardens were highly appreciated, and respondents are travelling distances to be in beautiful open spaces. They love the designed gardens such as Edinburgh Gardens and Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, as well as the natural characteristics provided along the banks of the Yarra River, and Yarra Bend Park.

One of the main concerns was the impact of the increasing density on open space. They hoped Council would strive to maintain what open space there was as well as find additional space to accommodate users. For instance, in Collingwood, Peel Street Park, a relatively small park, is used by 4 per cent of the population. It is visited by residents and those people working in the area. The over use by dogs however is making the space uninviting, amongst that the park itself lacks shade, and the grass is being worn away from high traffic. Cremorne is lacking open space in general, so much so that people from other suburbs have requested additional space in that area.

It was also felt that high density or large developments should somehow be contributing to open space, be it by funds or creating spaces for public use.

Facilities and Maintenance

A number of respondents felt the open space was important for children who lacked private gardens at home; playgrounds, recreation for teenagers and organised sport was significant to their lives. Respondents often cite open spaces outside of the Municipality for their exciting and diverse playgrounds. Adventure play, water play, risk taking were all seen as important for childhood development.

Play was almost as important as sport, with respondents requesting for Council to prioritise sport, especially for children and females, for health and social purposes. Supporting sporting facilities, especially in Citizens Park, and Kevin Bartlett Reserve, is important to those surrounding areas, and it was regularly stated that the clubrooms needed an upgrade and were lacking facilities for females.

Maintenance was highly valued and everyone was mostly happy with the efforts made by council and the improvements previously made. However, the condition and availability of toilets were identified as an issue, with some respondents commenting that not enough public toilets exist within open space and many are unclean.

Trees and shade were highly important for respondents as well, not just for open space but also in the streets. Open spaces were noted as cool spaces and respondents were aware that trees and vegetation are required to help reduce the heat island effect. Other ways of helping the environment was to clean litter from open spaces and rivers, avoid the use of chemical herbicides, and encourage rooftop gardens, community gardening and urban agriculture. Cycling is valued and practiced by respondents, and safe connected routes could help encourage cycling as a mode of transport and make cycling more accessible for children.

Conflicting behaviours by users

Edinburgh Gardens, cited as one of the popular open spaces to visit for catching up with friends, having a picnic, walking the dog, doing sport or playing with the children. Its size, beauty and diversity were prized by most people enjoying the popularity of the spot. That said, respondents criticised others for leaving litter post-picnics, and dog owners came into conflict with other visitors over off-leash regulations. Clear signage was recommended, along with enforcement of regulations through fines. It is also noted that cyclists tend to speed through the park travelling not only past off-leash areas but also where children are playing. Speeding cyclists in spaces along the Yarra River precinct conflicted with off-leash dogs and pedestrians. It was felt that paths separating cyclists and pedestrians would be ideal, or at least signage at blind corners or other dangerous spots to slow riders down. Better navigational signage regarding paths in the Yarra River precinct and interpretive signage relating back to indigenous histories would also be appreciated.

Off-leash areas are popular with dog owners, and it was highly requested that they be fenced in order to keep dogs separated from busy roads, larger dogs, playgrounds or picnic areas. In shared spaces for dog owners and sporting events, respondents criticised dog owners for leaving dog waste behind. Respondents requested that waste be managed by Council between use and that more waste bags and bins for dogs be available to help owners in their responsibilities. Dog owners and local residents also felt that terms and times of use for shared use spaces needed to be clearly stated somewhere in order to plan their visits.

A1.2 Number of respondents

1,274 respondents completed the survey. 1,125 indicated that they live in the City of Yarra, 83 of respondents chose the option "other", 57 did not specify and 9 left their entries completely blank of all answers.

A1.3 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open space in their municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of responses, 1,274. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

Open space in the City of Yarra is most valued by respondents for trees, closely followed by a place to relax and unwind, and the feeling of space. Between 50 and 60 per cent of residents consider open space important for escaping the built environment, just being outside, and health and wellbeing.

Value	%
Trees	73%
A place to relax and unwind	70%
The feeling of space	61%
An escape from the built environment	59%
Just being outside	57%
Health and well being	50%
Habitat for native plants and animals	48%
A place for children to play	47%
Meeting people/friends	44%
Green character	41%
It's accessible	41%
Exercising dogs	40%
Fitness	40%
Flowers/garden beds	38%
Natural bushland character	36%
The quiet	35%
Knowing that it's there	26%
The diversity of open space	26%
Cultural heritage values/significance	23%
Playing casual ball games/activity	22%
Historical character	22%
Cultural activities and events	20%
Playing team/club based sport	19%
Watching activity	16%
Other	7%

The Other category included a range of comments such as walking through open space on their way to school/work/shopping, public spaces that are available to everyone, urban agriculture, long views/vistas and areas that provide an escape from urban heat.

A1.4 Open space within walking distance

In the following tables, the percentage column is calculated based on 1,274 surveys, and they are listed in priority order.

A1.4.1 Most frequently visited open spaces

The following tables lists the top ten open spaces visited within walking distance of home. All open spaces visited are included in the more detailed precinct analysis.

%	Open space within walking distance
23%	Edinburgh Gardens
20%	Citizens Park
7%	Barkly Gardens
5%	Darling Gardens
4%	Curtain Square
4%	Carlton Gardens
4%	Burnley Park
4%	Gahan Reserve
3%	Peel Street Park
2%	Yarra Bend Park

A1.4.2 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by residents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part One – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

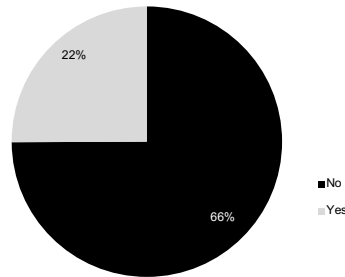
Part Two – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part One are a proportion of the total of 1,274 surveys.

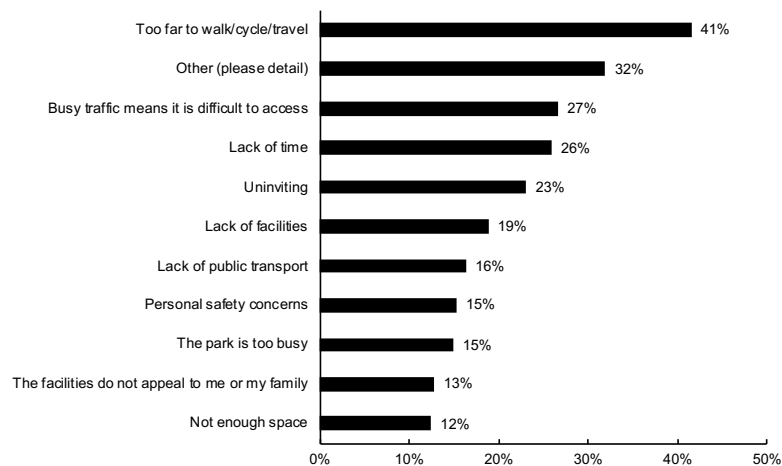
The percentages nominated in Part Two are a percentage of respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question (282).

Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

The following pie chart illustrates that 68 per cent of respondents answered no to this question and 22 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to.



The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was distance at 41 per cent. This was followed by other reasons at 32 per cent. Some of the highest reasons were that there were too many dogs, there wasn't fencing for off-leash areas particularly around spaces with busy roads, lack of car parking especially for those with limited mobility, they were unaware of the space, along with dangerous cyclist behaviour and unsafe access. The Other category is discussed in detail in individual precincts where "other" was within the top three reasons for not visiting open space. Other reasons were closely followed by busy traffic making the space difficult to access and lacking time.

A1.4.3 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table highlights the various types of open space used by the residents of City of Yarra and their frequency of use.

The percentage columns are calculated based on 1,274 surveys. The total percentage column on the left hand side is calculated on the basis of the number of respondents who use the open space as a proportion of the total number of returned surveys excluding Never and Not Completed responses.

The percentages in the Table A below have been highlighted using shades of grey to identify the most frequent responses.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used in priority order

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
84%	Large parks and gardens	14%	17%	20%	21%	13%	7%	9%
84%	Open space along the Yarra River	9%	14%	18%	22%	20%	8%	8%
80%	Small local parks	16%	19%	19%	16%	10%	9%	10%
76%	Local streets for exercise	36%	18%	13%	6%	4%	13%	11%
71%	Large sporting reserves	5%	11%	15%	18%	22%	19%	10%
63%	Open space along the Merri Creek	5%	8%	11%	17%	22%	25%	11%
61%	Medium sized parks	5%	8%	11%	17%	21%	25%	14%
54%	Urban squares	5%	8%	12%	14%	16%	29%	17%

Large parks and gardens and open space along the Yarra River are the most visited types of open space by respondents. Looking at the patterns of use, both these types of open space have higher levels of use on a less frequent basis - i.e. monthly and once or twice a year. Small local parks are the third most visited type of open space ahead of local streets and large sporting reserves and this includes higher levels of use on a frequent basis including daily, 2-3 times per week, weekly and monthly basis.

Overall, urban squares are the least visited, with 29 per cent of respondents stating they never visit them. Open space along Merri Creek and Medium sized parks receive lower levels of use as well with 25 per cent of respondents stating they never visit them.

Respondents were not asked to explain the reasons for their frequency of use so based on the responses to other questions the likely reasons for lower levels of use of the Large sporting reserves, medium sized parks, open space along Merri Creek and urban squares include the distance to travel to reach them, the difficulty to access them and the lack of knowledge about them.

Below, Table B lists the most frequently visited open space in priority order, which is different from the most visited list in Table A.

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
67%	Local streets for exercise	36%	18%	13%
54%	Small local parks	16%	19%	19%
50%	Large parks and gardens	14%	17%	20%
42%	Open space along the Yarra River	9%	14%	18%
31%	Large sporting reserves	5%	11%	15%
25%	Urban squares	5%	8%	12%
24%	Open space along the Merri Creek	5%	8%	11%
23%	Medium sized parks	5%	8%	11%

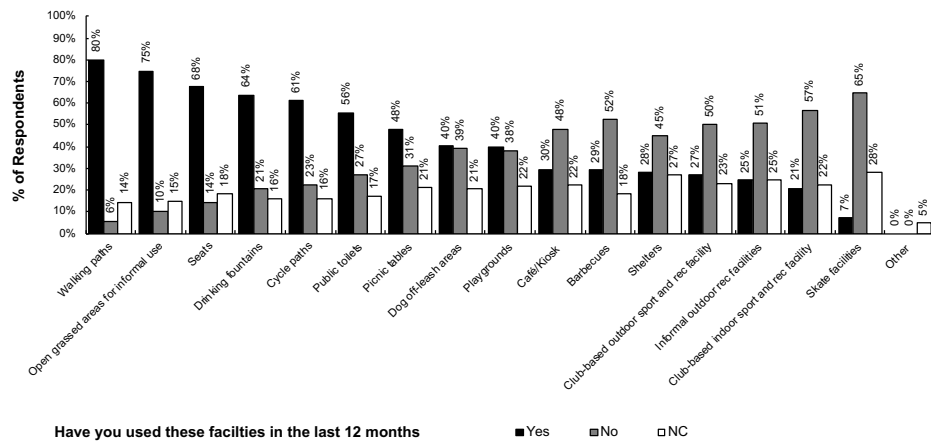
In terms of the most frequently used open space, local streets for exercise are the most popular followed by small local parks and the third being large parks and gardens. Open space along the Merri Creek and Medium sized parks are the most infrequently used.

A1.5 Facilities and features in open space

A1.5.1 Use of facilities in open space

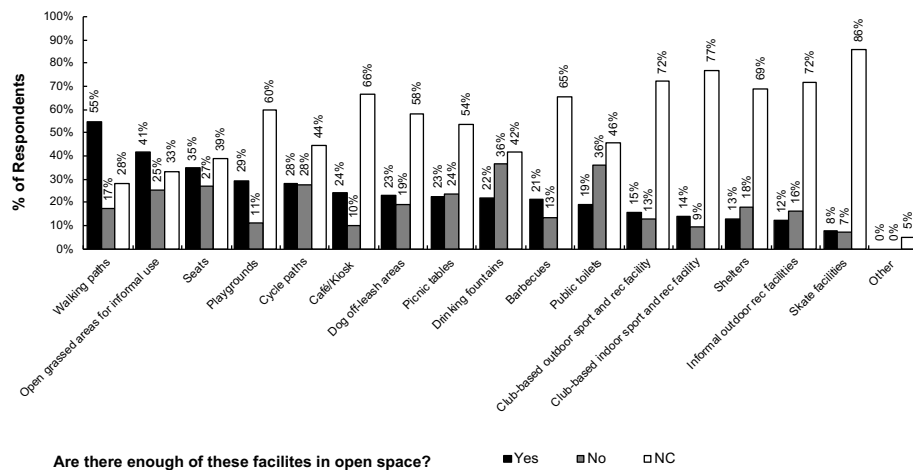
The following graph highlights various types of facilities used in open space by residents of the City of Yarra in the last twelve months. 80 per cent of respondents used walking paths in the last twelve months. This is followed by 75 per cent using open grassed areas for informal use, 68 per cent seating, 64 per cent drinking fountains, and 61 per cent cycle paths. The results reinforce the popularity of walking and the unstructured use of open space including the informal open grassed areas and seating. Drinking fountains are high as a facility perhaps pertaining to the shift of discernment against single use plastics and bottled water. Informal outdoor recreation facilities have low levels of use along with, club-based sport facilities and the skate facilities. These facilities are typically used by children and young adults and this group is not well represented in the survey.

A. Resident open space survey
A1 Municipal-wide summary



A1.5.2 Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of residents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for, and the analysis follows the graph.



Overall, the results of this question indicate there is a medium level of satisfaction with the provision of facilities in open space. While the previous graph highlights the high levels of use of walking paths, only 55 per cent of respondents consider these are well provided for, and walking paths are the most frequently used facility in the Municipality. 41 per cent state there are enough informal grassed areas and 35 per cent say there are enough seats. For public toilets and drinking fountains respectively, 36 per cent of respondents felt there were not enough.

Interpretation of these results indicates that there is scope to improve facility provision in open space to better meet the needs of the residents. This includes the following facilities in priority order where 20 per cent or more responded they are not well provided for:

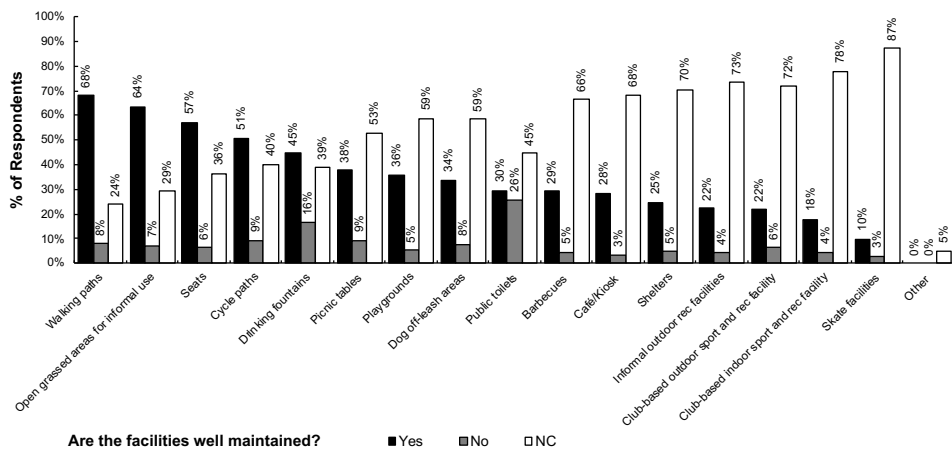
- Drinking fountains
- Public toilets
- Cycle paths
- Seats
- Open grassed areas for informal use
- Picnic tables

By comparison, playgrounds appear to be well provided for.

It is interesting to also review the not completed results, indicating which facilities are not relevant to the respondents. Many of these facilities are typically of relevance to young people (under 18 years of age) and they are not well-represented in the survey.

A1.5.3 Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities over the last 12 months. The percentages are calculated on the total 1,274 surveys.



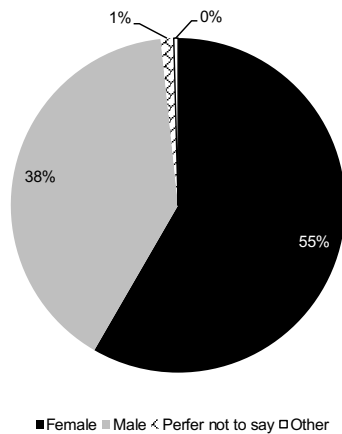
68 per cent of City of Yarra respondents are satisfied with the level of maintenance for walking paths, and 64 per cent are satisfied with open grassed areas for informal use, and 57 per cent seats, consistent with the higher level of use of these facilities. Overall, when assessing the results of the three questions relating to facilities in open space, the lack of them is more of an issue than their maintenance.

A1.6 Who completed the survey

1,274 respondents used the survey. 1,125 indicated that they live in the City of Yarra and 83 respondents chose other as an answer while 66 did not indicate their residence at all.

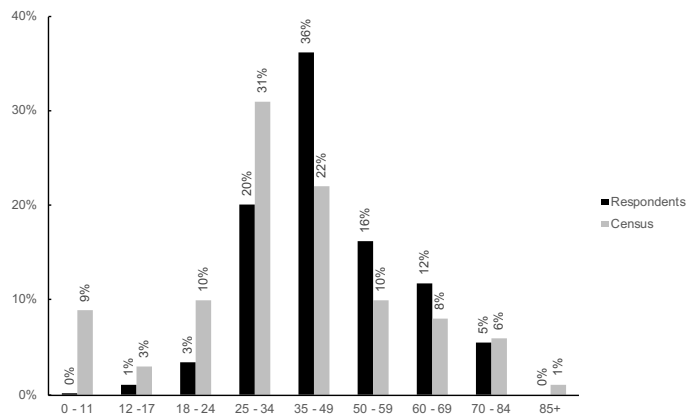
A1.6.1 Gender

Approximately 55 per cent of respondents were female and 38 per cent male, while 1 per cent preferred not to say, and less than 1 per cent identified as non-binary. The 2016 Census data for the City of Yarra indicates 51.5 per cent of residents were female and 48.5 per cent male.



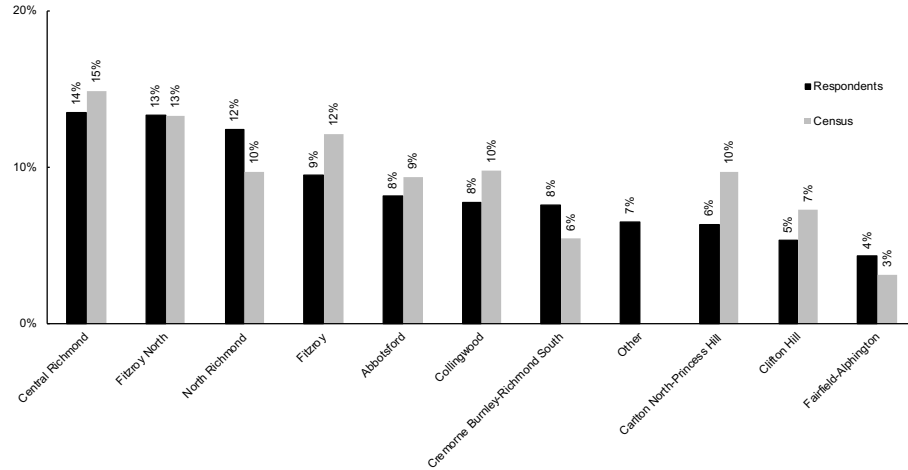
A1.6.2 Age Range

As expected, a lower number of children and young adults complete them, however refer to Part D which contains the results of the youth survey. There is a slight over-representation of the 35-49 age range and under-representation of the 25-34 age range however, overall these groups are well represented in the survey.



A1.6.3 Precincts

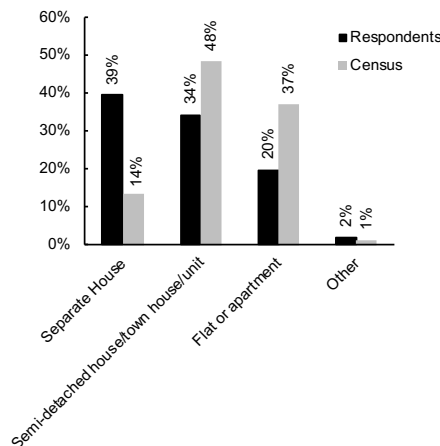
Surveys were received from all parts of the municipality providing a good representation from each relative to the population distribution. The following graph illustrates the survey responses relative to the population distribution across the City of Yarra.



A1.6.4 Dwelling type

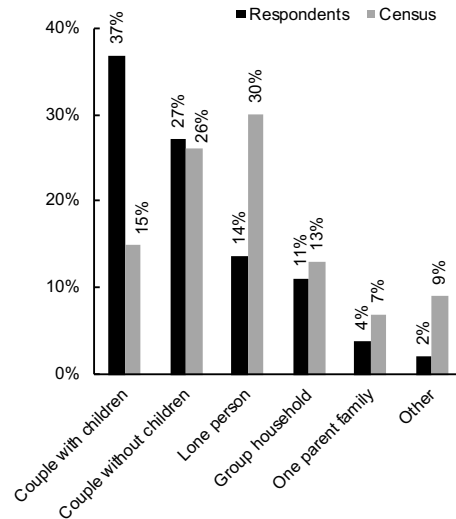
The quantity of private open space available to residents can influence their use of open space. Generally, detached dwellings have more private open space available than semi-detached dwellings or apartments, and changes in this can influence the usage patterns and level of demand for public open space.

39 per cent of respondents live in detached houses, followed by semi or row (34%), with 20 per cent of respondents living in a flat/apartment or other type of housing. There is an over-representation of people living in separate houses and under-representation of those living in apartments, meaning that it is likely that there is a higher need for public open space than is represented in the resident survey results, and that they are conservative in terms of needs.



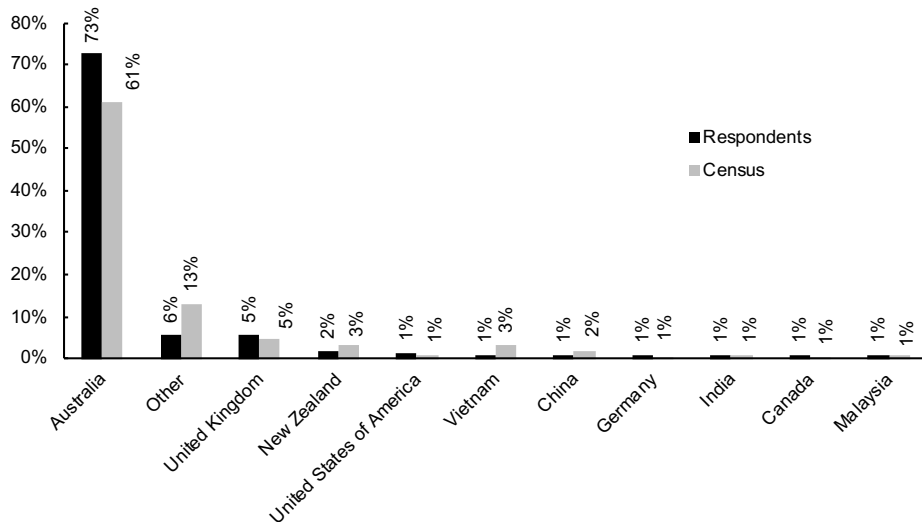
A1.6.5 Household type

Each of the different household types are represented in the survey, however when compared with the census results there is an over-representation of Couples with children and under-representation of lone person households. This may also correspond with the dwelling type in relation to the higher proportion of respondents living in separate houses and lower proportion living of flats and apartments when compared to the census data.



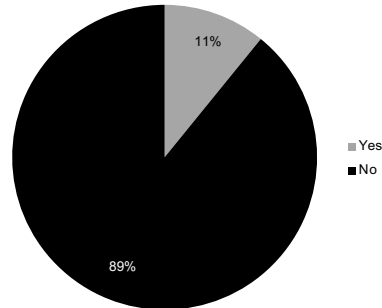
A1.6.6 Country of birth

The responses are generally consistent with the 2016 Census data with a slight over representation of respondents born in Australia.



A1.6.7 Language spoken at home

89 per cent of respondents speak English only at home and this is 20 per cent higher in proportion of the population when compared to the Census data.



A2 Individual precinct summary

A2.1 Overview

The outcomes of the completed surveys have been summarised by precinct. The precincts names and areas are consistent with the precincts from the City of Yarra Community Profile. The Open Space Strategy makes recommendations for the future provision, design and management of open space on behalf of both the existing and forecast population. The precinct summaries inform the precinct analysis and recommendations contained in the City of Yarra Open Space Strategy. The precincts are listed in alphabetical order, which correlates to the order in which they are presented in the Strategy.

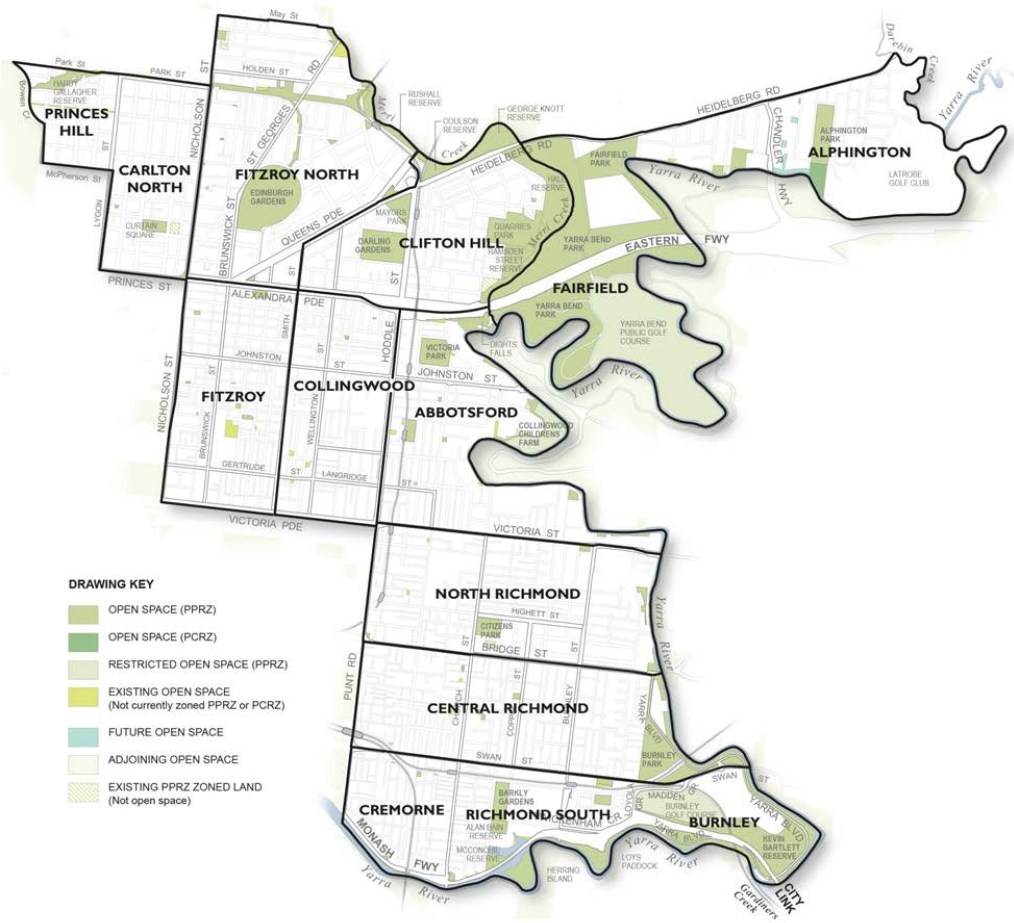


Figure A-1 City of Yarra Open Space Strategy Precincts

A2.2 Abbotsford

Summary of the survey outcomes for Abbotsford

104 respondents indicated they live in Abbotsford. This represents 8 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 9 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Abbotsford.

With the Yarra River along the boundary of this precinct, residents in Abbotsford value the diversity of spaces, the natural bushland qualities and identify the need for additional space as urban density increases.

Gahan Reserve is the most visited open space in Abbotsford. Public toilets and extra trees would allow visitors to spend more of their day at the reserve. Some respondents suggested that Victoria Park could benefit from the addition of a playground and there is some confusion over when the space is available for exercising dogs. In the open space along the Yarra River conflicts with speeding cyclists on shared paths was a key issue. The numbers of dogs in open spaces and waste left by owners was cited as a common issue across open spaces and bins become full quickly during peak periods. Respondents would like to see bins emptied more frequently and for rubbish to be removed from open spaces and the river. Access could be improved for cyclists, people with limited mobility and prams if an access ramp was provided at Collins Bridge.

A2.2.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Abbotsford, 104. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

The top six values are very similar to the municipal-wide results. The main difference from the municipal-wide results is the higher value placed on Fitness (seventh compared thirteenth in the municipal-wide results) and on the natural bushland character being ninth compared to fifteenth overall. This is likely due the close proximity to Abbotsford and the Yarra River.

Value	%
The feeling of space	63%
Trees	62%
A place to relax and unwind	61%
An escape from the built environment	56%
Health and well being	56%
Just being outside	52%
Habitat for native plants and animals	47%
Fitness	44%

Value	%
Natural bushland character	44%
A place for children to play	42%
It's accessible	39%
Meeting people/friends	38%
Flowers/garden beds	35%
Green character	35%
The quiet	35%
Exercising dogs	32%
The diversity of open space	25%
Playing casual ball games/activity	23%
Knowing that it's there	20%
Cultural activities and events	18%
Historical character	18%
Cultural heritage values/significance	17%
Watching activity	17%
Playing team/club based sport	11%
Other	3%

A2.2.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 104 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.2.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
45	Gahan Reserve	43%
30	Yarra Bend Park	29%
29	Victoria Park	28%
22	Yarra River Corridor	21%
11	Citizens Park	11%
9	Dights Falls	9%
5	Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct	5%
5	Studley Park	5%
3	Collingwood Childrens Farm	3%
2	Clarke Street Reserve	2%
2	Darling Gardens	2%
2	Quarries Park	2%
2	Yarra River Trail (Johnston Street to Clarke Street)	2%
1	Burnley Park	1%
1	Cambridge Street Reserve	1%
1	Dame Nellie Melba Park	1%
1	Edinburgh Gardens	1%
1	Elsterwick Park	1%
1	Fitzroy Gardens	1%
1	Peel Street Park	1%
1	Royal Melbourne Botanical Gardens	1%
1	Williams Reserve	1%

A2.2.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Abbotsford

The following table lists the reasons why Abbotsford respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Results indicate that Gahan Reserve functions well as a neighbourhood park as it is used for a diversity of social orientated recreational activities. By contrast Yarra Bend Park caters more for informal exercise with walking being the main reason people visit it, along with jogging.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Gahan Reserve 45	11	Play - children	8	Improvements - none required
	7	Playground	6	Toilets - additional required
	6	Relaxing	5	Playgrounds - upgrade
	6	Walking	3	Open space - additional required
	5	Dog walking	2	Carpark - additional required
	4	Access - close to home	2	Dogs - prohibit dogs off-leash
	4	Informal ball games/sport	2	Exercise equipment - additional required
	4	Picnic facilities - BBQs	2	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	4	Social - meeting people/friends/parties	2	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	3	Informal recreation facilities - basketball court	1	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads
	3	Open space - fresh air	1	Community garden - required
	3	Play - toddlers	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	2	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - over use
	2	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Fencing - additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Garden beds - additional required
	2	Recreation	1	Homelessness - action required
	1	Cycling - children	1	Informal recreational facilities - additional required
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Informal recreational facilities - resurface basketball court
	1	Health and well-being	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Lunch	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Open space - green place	1	Open space - improve maintenance
	1	People watching	1	Open space - valued
	1	Picnics	1	Pest control - improve
1	Play	1	Picnic facilities - shade over BBQs required	
1	Safe - for children	1	Picnic facilities - shelter required	
1	Walking - travel through	1	Playgrounds - additional required	
			1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
			1	Trees - plant additional exotic/deciduous trees
			1	Trees - additional required
			1	Seating - additional required
			1	Vegetation - avoid using chemical herbicides
			1	Water feature - additional required
Yarra Bend Park 30	12	Walking	6	Improvements - none required
	6	Jogging/running	3	Playgrounds - upgrade
	5	Exercising	2	Access - ramp required at Collins Bridge
	4	Play - children	2	Bins - additional required
	4	Playground	2	Lighting - additional required
4	Relaxing	2	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required	

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2 Individual precinct summary
A2.2 Abbotsford

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	3	Cycling	2	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	3	Outdoors/being outside	1	Access - additional entry points to open space at Clark Street
	2	Dog walking	1	Access - restrict motor vehicle access
	2	Health and well-being	1	Community groups - create group to maintain open space
	2	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Cycle paths - connecting paths required between Main Yarra Trail and Yarra Boulevard
	2	Open space - large space	1	Cyclists - slow through park
	2	Open space - natural character	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	2	River setting	1	Exercise equipment - upgrade
	2	Trees	1	Paths - surface needs improvements
	1	Dog friendly	1	Paths - upgrade walking trails
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Public art - required with Indigenous heritage focus
	1	Entertainment/events - children's parties	1	River - stabilise the embankments
	1	Open space	1	River - to be cleaned
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrians
	1	Picnics	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Play	1	Signage - required about Indigenous heritage
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Sport - golf	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Studying		
	1	Taking visitors to the park		
	1	Walking - with pram		
	1	Wildlife watching		
Victoria Park 29	7	Dog walking	7	Playgrounds - additional required
	6	Play - children	5	Improvements - none required
	5	Access - close to home	4	Access - additional information required about scheduled use
	4	Exercising	2	Dogs - over use
	3	Access - convenient (on the way)	2	Access - extend resident use by decreasing sporting events
	3	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, extend hours
	3	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Fencing - improve gates
	2	Cycling - children	1	Informal sporting facilities - half court required
	2	Dogs - exercising	1	Open space - additional required
	2	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space
	2	Open space - large space	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Access - close to public transport	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Shade sails - additional required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Dogs - watching	1	Trees - additional shade trees required
	1	Informal ball games/sport		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space		
	1	Picnic facilities		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Recreation - with family		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Sports oval		
	7	Walking	4	Improvements - none required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2 Individual precinct summary
A2.2 Abbotsford

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Yarra River Corridor 22	5	Exercising	3	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
	3	Cycling	3	Cyclists - slow through park/blind corners
	3	Dog walking	2	Access - ramp required at Collins Bridge
	2	Jogging/running	1	Access - link shared paths between Abbotsford and Richmond
	2	River setting	1	Lighting - additional required
	2	Walking - with pram	1	Open space - valued
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Paths - maintenance/cleaning required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Gardening - Collingwood Childrens Farm	1	Security - additional required
	1	Health and well-being	1	Signage - danger signs at blind corners required
	1	Open space - away from busy roads and traffic	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Trees - prune before winter
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Vegetation - maintenance required
	1	Play - children		
	1	Playground		
	Citizens Park 11	3	Walking	5
2		Dogs - exercising	2	Trees - additional required
2		Dogs - watching	1	Access - link market to open space
2		Market	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs
2		Play - children	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
1		Dog friendly	1	Seating - additional required
1		Exercising	1	Shade - additional required
1		Sport - children's		
Dights Falls 9	3	Walking	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	3	Waterfall	1	Lighting - additional required on pedestrian underpass
	2	Access - close to home	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Cycling	1	Open grassed areas - additional required by river
	2	Exercising	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Jogging/running	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - fresh air		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	River setting		
Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct 5	3	Market		
	2	Café and kiosk facilities		
	2	Open space		
	1	Gardens		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - historical character		
	1	Open space - large space		

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2 Individual precinct summary
A2.2 Abbotsford

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
Studley Park 5	3	Walking	1	Access - restrict motor vehicle access
	2	Cycling	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Rubbish - regular removal of litter required
	1	Canoeing/rowing/kayaking	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Exercising		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Open space - historical character		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	River setting		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Collingwood Childrens Farm 3	2	Walking	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Open space - valued
	1	Farm animals		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
Clarke Street Reserve 2	1	Access - close to home	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Trees - additional street trees required
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
Darling Gardens 2	2	Playground		
Quarries Park 2	1	Exercising	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Play - children		
Yarra River Trail (Johnston Street to Clarke Street) 2	1	Dog walking	1	Access - additional entry points to open space required
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrians
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Burnley Park 1	1	Walking		
	1	Vegetation - diverse		
Cambridge Street Reserve 1	1	Access - close to home		
	1	Lunch		
Dame Nellie Melba Park 1	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Seating - additional required
Edinburgh Gardens 1	1	Cycling	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Picnics	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Elsternwick Park 1	1	Exercising	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	People watching		
Fitzroy Gardens 1	1	Walking - travel through		

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Peel Street Park 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Lunch		
Royal Melbourne Botanical Gardens 1	1	Exercising		
	1	Open space - green place		
Williams Reserve 1	1	Play - children		

A2.2.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 104 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.2.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
10	Edinburgh Gardens	10%
6	Citizens Park	6%
5	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	5%
5	Yarra Bend Park	5%
3	Fitzroy Gardens	3%
3	Quarries Park	3%
2	Dights Falls	2%
2	Fairfield Park	2%
2	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	2%
2	Princes Park	2%
2	Studley Park	2%
2	Victoria Park	2%
2	Yarra River Corridor	2%
1	Barkly Gardens	1%
1	Booran Reserve	1%
1	Browns Reserve	1%
1	Darebin Parklands	1%
1	Flagstaff Gardens	1%
1	George Knott Reserve	1%
1	Hays Paddock	1%
1	Kokoda Track Memorial Walk	1%
1	Local Mountains	1%
1	Melbourne Polytechnic Fairfield Campus	1%
1	Peel Street Park	1%
1	Powlett Reserve	1%
1	Willsmere-Chandler Park	1%
1	Yarra Park	1%

A2.2.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Abbotsford respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that Edinburgh Gardens is popular for social activities and Citizens Park is visited for the nearby markets, sports and children's play. Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne is a popular destination for its beauty.

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 10	4	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Toilets - additional required
	3	Picnics	1	Dogs - move off-leash areas from cycle paths
	2	Cycling	1	Entertainment/events - allow for this park
	2	Open space - beautiful	1	Entertainment/events - relax prohibitions on holidays
	1	Alcohol - remove the prohibition	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Cycling - through	1	Paths - surface needs improvements
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Dog walking	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - green place	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Open space - layout		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Playground		
Citizens Park 6	2	Markets	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Picnic facilities - additional required
	1	Sport - football	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Picnics		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Playground		
	1	Sitting		
	1	Sport - participate		
1	Walking			
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 5	2	Open space - beautiful	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - clean		
	1	Open space - inspiring		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Relaxing		
Yarra Bend Park 5	2	Walking	1	Access - boat launch required
	2	Walking - with pram	1	Access - ramp required at Collins Bridge
	1	Canoeing/rowing/kayaking	1	Carpark - reduce
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
	1	Exercising	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Health and well-being	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Paths - connecting path/s required
	1	Picnics	1	Signage - boating signage required
			1	Toilets - additional required
Fitzroy Gardens 3	1	Gardens	1	Carpark - reduce fees/extend times
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - peaceful		

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2 Individual precinct summary
A2.2 Abbotsford

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
Quarries Park 3	1	Exercising	1	Dogs - over use
	1	Play	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Play - children	1	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	1	Relaxing	1	Playground - upgrade required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Trees - additional required
Dights Falls 2	1	Dog walking	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Walking		
Fairfield Park 2	1	Access - convenient (on the way)		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Paths		
	1	Recreation		
	1	Walking		
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 2	1	Sport - children	1	Toilets - sanitary bins and soap required
	1	Sport - cricket	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Sport - football		
Princes Park 2	1	Exercising	1	Cycle paths - additional required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Sport	1	Vegetation - additional required
Studley Park 2	2	Open space - natural character		
	1	Café and kiosk facilities		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - large space		
Victoria Park 2	1	Open space - layout	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Sport - Collingwood Victorian Football League	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs
			1	Fencing - additional required
Yarra River Corridor 2	1	Cycling	1	Information - additional information required about open space and facilities available
	1	Cycling - with children	1	Paths - connecting path/s required
	1	Exercising	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Jogging/running		
Barkly Gardens 1	1	Playground		
Booran Reserve 1	1	Community hub		
	1	Playground		
Browns Reserve 1	1	Play - toddler	1	Homelessness - action required
			1	Fencing - required
Darebin Parklands 1				
Flagstaff Gardens 1	1	Access - close to work		
George Knott Reserve 1	1	Exercising		
Hays Paddock 1	1	Playground	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	1	Playground - fenced		
	1	Safe		

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Kokoda Track Memorial Walk 1	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
Local Mountains 1	1	Hiking		
Melbourne Polytechnic Fairfield Campus 1	1	Open space - historical character	2	Open space - improve maintenance of AIDS memorial garden
	1	Open space - memory/association		
Peel Street Park 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Lunch	1	Seating - additional required
			1	Shade - additional required
Powlett Reserve 1	1	Playground	1	Open space - valued
Willsmere-Chandler Park 1	1	Birdlife watching	1	Playgrounds - nature play required
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Wildlife watching		
Yarra Park 1	1	Entertainment/events	1	Improvements - none required

A2.2.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

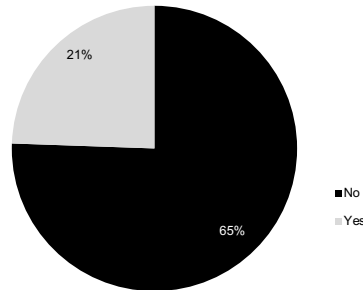
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 104 surveys received.

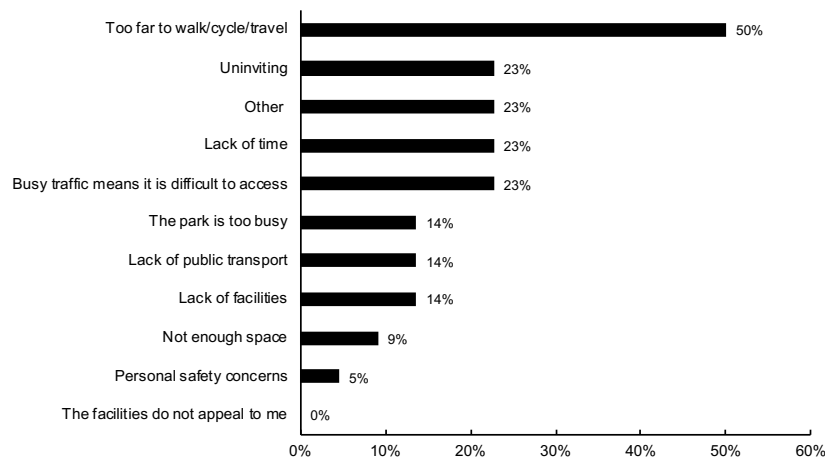
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 22 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

21 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is consistent with the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



50 per cent of the respondents found the reason for not visiting open space was due to the distance and followed by 23 per cent equally not visiting open space because the open spaces are uninviting, difficult to access due to traffic, a lack of time, and a number of other issues which ranged from being unaware of the open spaces available, to safety concerns such as lack of lighting, having a small dog around large dogs and not feeling comfortable in the routes to get there on foot or by bike. Compared to the Municipal average, 9 per cent more respondents in Abbotsford considered travel distance to open space as an issue. While reasons of open space being uninviting, difficult to access due to traffic, respondents lacking time and other reasons are similar to the Municipal responses.

A2.2.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Abbotsford. The percentages are calculated based on the 104 completed surveys. The

total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use.

Open space along the Yarra River is most visited open space at 89 per cent, followed by large parks and gardens, medium sized parks, and local streets for exercise, which all sit above 80 per cent.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
69%	Open space along the Merri Creek	1%	9%	19%	21%	19%	24%	7%
89%	Open space along the Yarra River	22%	32%	21%	12%	3%	8%	3%
83%	Large parks and gardens	2%	5%	23%	35%	18%	15%	2%
79%	Large sporting reserves	13%	14%	24%	14%	13%	18%	3%
81%	Medium sized parks	16%	17%	18%	18%	11%	13%	6%
75%	Small local parks	9%	12%	28%	20%	7%	20%	5%
54%	Urban Squares	5%	10%	13%	14%	13%	37%	10%
80%	Local streets for exercise	38%	20%	13%	7%	2%	15%	5%

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

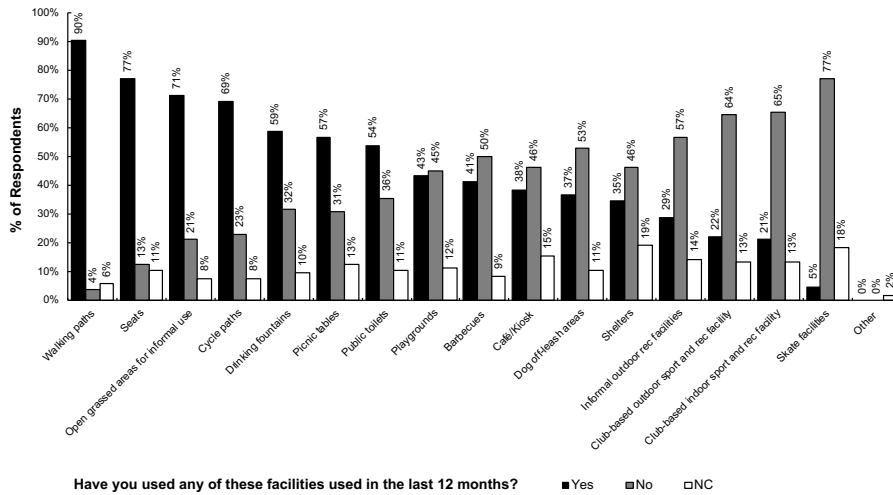
On a daily basis, local streets for exercise is most popular followed by the open space along the Yarra River which is the most used through the week. Use of medium sized parks and large sporting reserves are the next most frequently used, reflecting the types of open space in Abbotsford including Gahan Reserve (medium sized park) and Victoria Park (large sporting reserve).

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
75%	Open space along the Yarra River	22%	32%	21%
71%	Local streets for exercise	38%	20%	13%
52%	Medium sized parks	16%	17%	18%
51%	Large sporting reserves	13%	14%	24%
48%	Small local parks	9%	12%	28%
30%	Large parks and gardens	2%	5%	23%
29%	Open space along the Merri Creek	1%	9%	19%
27%	Urban Squares	5%	10%	13%

A2.2.6 Facilities and features in open space

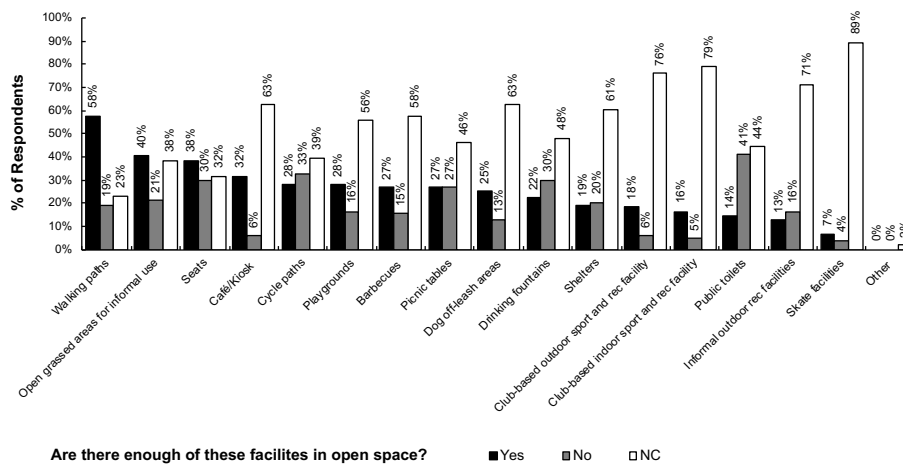
A2.2.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Abbotsford, 104. Respondents indicated that walking paths, seats and open grassed areas were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months, walking paths being 10 per cent more popular than the Municipal use, seats being 11 per cent higher.



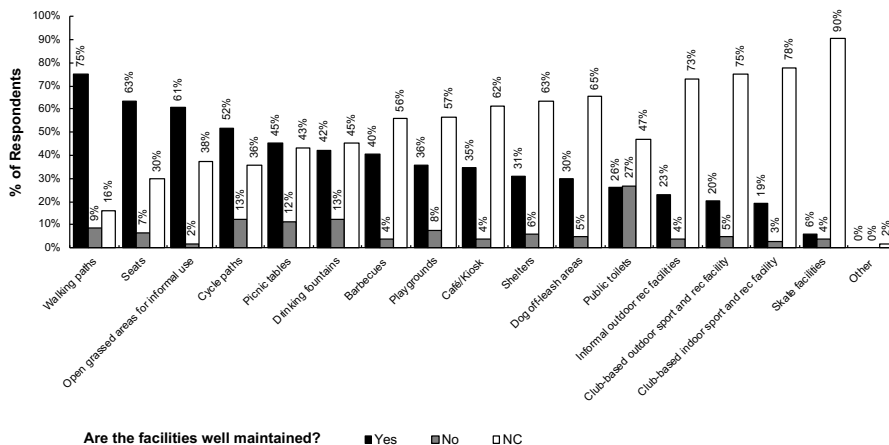
A2.2.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Abbotsford surveys received, 104.



A2.2.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Abbotsford surveys returned, 104.



A2.2.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Abbotsford respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

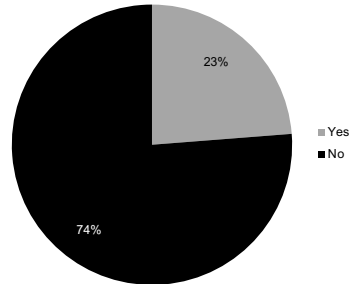
No.	General Comments List
26	Open Space
5	Open space - valued
8	Open space - additional required
3	Open space - contributes to liveability
2	Open space - appreciate the choice and variety
2	Open space - value natural character
1	Open space - develop with community organisations
1	Open space - don't over design
1	Open space - facilitate space for Bush Kinder
1	Open space - improve design and layout
1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
1	Open space - value the diversity of activities
19	Maintenance and Management
3	Bins - emptied more frequently on weekends
2	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
2	Rubbish - remove litter from open spaces
2	Toilets - improve maintenance
1	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields
1	Dogs - provide more dog free open spaces
1	Maintenance and management - encourage residents to care for open space
1	Open space - ensure they are well maintained
1	Open space - improve maintenance of street gardens
1	Streetscape - clean

No.	General Comments List
1	River - efforts to converse the river are valued
1	Security - provide more
1	Toilets - provide soap and sanitary bins
1	Weeds - do not use chemical herbicides
11	Other
3	Streetscape - more green/plants
2	Overall strategy - appreciate the opportunity to comment
1	Community involvement - residents to care for plants on nature strip
1	Developments - limit large developments
1	Improvements - none required
1	Indigenous heritage - acknowledge/recognise within open spaces
1	Overall strategy - Council is doing a good job
1	Overall strategy - prioritise children's sporting activities
9	Park Infrastructure
5	Toilets - additional required
2	Bins - additional required
1	Safety - improve
1	Signage - on street garden plants
4	Trees and Vegetation
1	Trees - valued
1	Urban agriculture - additional required
1	Vegetation - increase native vegetation
1	Vegetation - medium height plants required in streets to decrease heat island effect
2	Access
1	Links - between Gipps Street and Flockhart Street
1	Links - green corridors between open space, public housing and transport required
2	Recreation Facilities
1	Playgrounds - do not replace equipment unnecessarily
1	Playgrounds - water play required

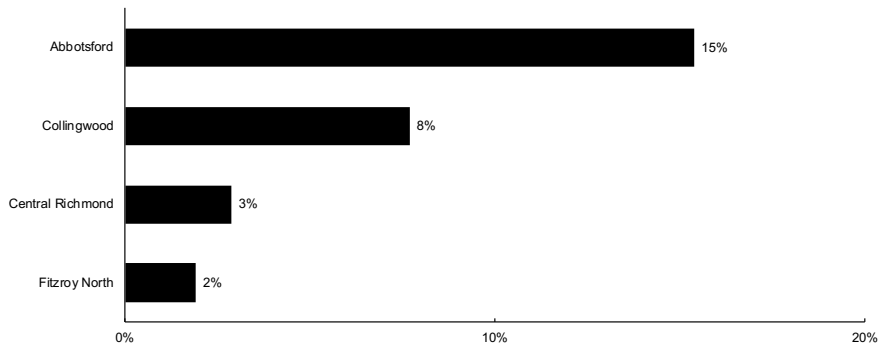
A2.2.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following charts the percentage is calculated on the total 104 surveys received.

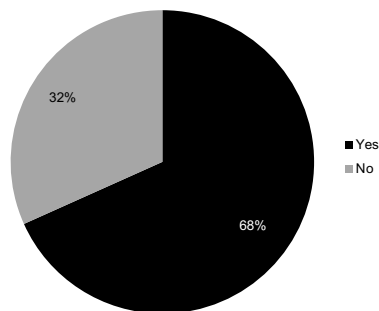
A2.2.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



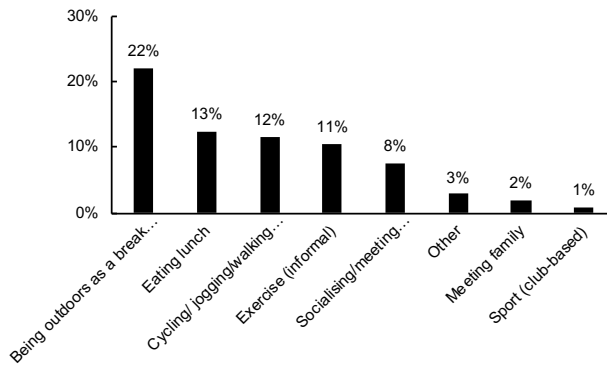
A2.2.8b Where respondents work



A2.2.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



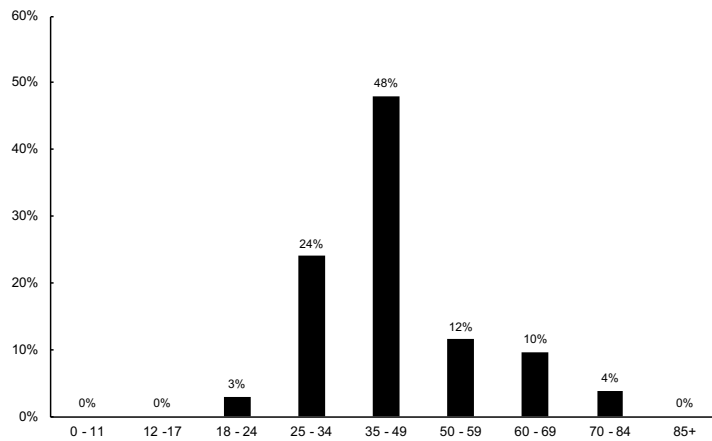
A2.2.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



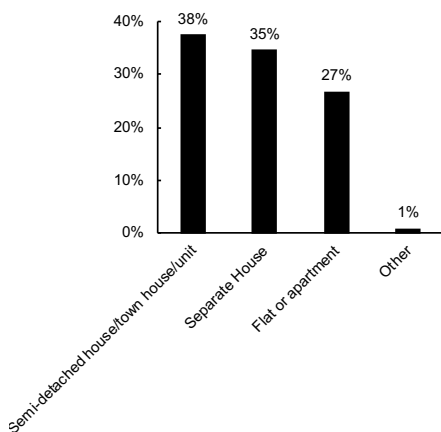
A2.2.9 Information about respondents

In the following charts the percentage is calculated on the total 104 surveys received.

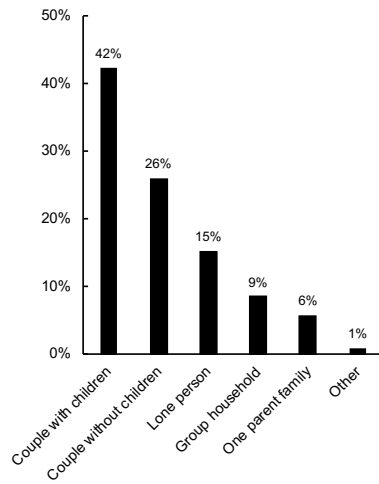
A2.2.9a Age range



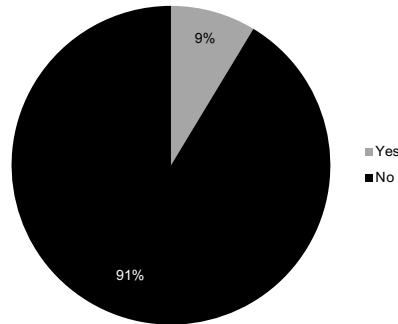
A.2.9b Dwelling type



A2.2.9c Household type



A2.2.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.3 Carlton North - Princes Hill

Summary of the survey outcomes for Carlton North - Princes Hill

81 respondents indicated they live in Carlton North - Princes Hill. This represents 6 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 10 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in this precinct

Respondents from Carlton North - Princes Hill highly value the trees in open space. They visit the larger areas of open space nearby including Edinburgh Gardens, in the City of Yarra and Princes Park in the City of Melbourne. Curtain Square functions as well as the Neighbourhood open space, visited mainly for plan and social activities, while Princes Park provides the space for exercise and fitness. Overall there is a reasonably high level of satisfaction with facilities and respondents would like to see more open space provided, along with more trees in the streets and open spaces. They value and use the cycle paths with a level of use greater than the municipal-wide average.

A2.3.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Carlton North - Princes Hill, 81. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-four values in priority order.

88 per cent of respondents consider trees the most valued feature of open space, which is 15 per cent higher than the Municipal average even though trees are also ranked first in items of frequency of response. The only other slight difference in the ranking of values from the municipal average is a slightly higher rating of historical character, and cultural heritage values, and a slightly lower ranking of fitness and knowing that its there.

Value	%
Trees	88%
A place to relax and unwind	74%
The feeling of space	73%
An escape from the built environment	73%
Just being outside	67%
Habitat for native plants and animals	57%
Health and well being	52%
A place for children to play	52%
Green character	49%
Meeting people/friends	46%
It's accessible	43%
Exercising dogs	42%
Flowers/garden beds	42%

Value	%
Natural bushland character	42%
The quiet	40%
Fitness	40%
The diversity of open space	31%
Historical character	26%
Cultural heritage values/significance	26%
Knowing that it's there	25%
Playing casual ball games/activity	19%
Cultural activities and events	17%
Playing team/club based sport	14%
Watching activity	12%
Other	11%

The other category included a range of comments such as open space replacing the lack of backyard, community gardening, places to walk and cycle, distant views for eye health, design and maintenance, dog socialisation and human interaction, and for climate adaption reducing the urban heat island effect.

A2.3.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 81 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.3.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
44	Edinburgh Gardens	54%
35	Curtain Square	43%
24	Princes Park	30%
13	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	16%
7	Park Street Reserve	9%
5	Yarra River Corridor	6%
4	Carlton Gardens	5%
4	Yarra Bend Park	5%
2	Canning Street Median	2%
2	Fitzroy Gardens	2%
2	Merri Creek Shared Trail	2%
2	Rushall Reserve	2%
1	Bumley Golf Course	1%
1	Darebin Parklands	1%
1	Darling Gardens	1%
1	Mayors Park	1%
1	McNamara Reserve	1%
1	Peel Street Park	1%
1	Royal Park	1%
1	Shakespeare Reserve	1%
1	Smith Reserve	1%
1	Temple Park	1%

A2.3.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Carlton North - Princes Hill

The following table lists the reasons why Carlton North - Princes Hill respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that respondents use the three major open spaces, most popular being Edinburgh Gardens, then Curtain Square and Princes Park. While Edinburgh Gardens is also visited for a range of activities the key reason is to relax. By contrast Princes Park is visited mainly to undertake activities and Curtain Square is predominantly used for the playground and off-leash area.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 44	8	Relaxing	5	Improvements - none required
	7	Walking	5	Toilets - additional required
	6	Social - meeting people/friends	3	Playgrounds - upgrade
	5	Dog walking	2	Bins - additional required
	4	Dogs - exercising	2	Drinking fountains - additional required
	4	Dog friendly	2	Graffiti - removal required
	4	Play - children	2	Open space - valued
	4	Playground	2	Toilets - upgrade existing
	3	Open space - large space	1	Bins - improve
	3	Picnics	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	2	Access - close to home	1	Community garden - required
	2	Exercising	1	Developments - prohibit within park
	2	Open space - green place	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	2	Social - sense of community	1	Dogs - off-leash, personal safety concerns
	1	Access - close to the library	1	Dogs - off-leash areas require shade
	1	Access - close to work	1	Dogs - over use
	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Dogs - reduce off-leash areas
	1	Access - travel through	1	Events/entertainment - provide appropriate measures to handle event
	1	Cycling - through	1	Events/entertainment - remove alcohol prohibition on New Year's Eve
	1	Open space	1	Garden beds - native garden required for wildlife
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Improvements - improve overlooked open spaces
	1	Open space - away from busy roads and traffic	1	Informal recreational facilities - upgrade skate park
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Open space - design and layout valued
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Open space - maintain watering
	1	Open space - memory/association	1	Open space - maximise potential for community/culture/fitness/leisure
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Picnic facilities - additional required
	1	Open space - valued	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required in the shade
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Playgrounds - garden play required
	1	Reading	1	Proposed management plan - appreciated
	1	Recreation	1	Public Art - change "Middle Row" by Robbie Rowlands for something more park related
1	Shade	1	Seating - additional required	
1	Sitting	1	Shared paths - promote shared path curtesy	
1	Social - consuming alcohol with friends	1	Signage - improve dog regulation signs	

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.3 Carlton North - Princes Hill

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Sport - AusKick	1	Toilets - provide soap
	1	Sport - Tennis	1	Toilets - regular cleaning/maintenance required
	1	Trees - shade	1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
			1	Trees - replace elms with Morton Bay Figs/silky oaks
			1	Vegetation - additional smaller plants/native grasses required
Curtain Square 35	8	Playground	3	Improvements - none required
	7	Play - children	3	Open grassed areas - additional required in dog off-leash areas
	5	Relaxing	3	Toilets - upgrade existing
	4	Access - close to home	2	Drainage - improve dog off-leash areas
	4	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Drinking fountains - additional required
	4	Walking	2	Open grassed areas - improve
	3	Dogs - enclosed off-leash areas	2	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	3	Dog friendly	2	Playgrounds - upgrade
	3	Dog walking	2	Seating - additional required
	3	Picnics	1	Dogs - agility equipment required
	2	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	2	Open space	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	2	Open space - green place	1	Dogs - off-leash impacts on wildlife
	2	Trees	1	Dogs - over use
	1	Birdlife feeding	1	Garden beds - additional required at North and South entry points
	1	Birdlife watching	1	Graffiti - removal required
	1	Dogs - watching	1	Improvements - none required, improvements appreciated
	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball courts	1	Informal recreational facilities - additional skate park required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Informal recreational facilities required for older children
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Management plan - required
	1	Open space - heritage character	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space into Canning Street
	1	Open space - popular	1	Open space - ensure it is well maintained
	1	Picnic facilities	1	Open space - valued
	1	Playground - swings	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Reading	1	Playgrounds - locate toddler's playground next to children's playground
	1	Recreation	1	Playgrounds - shade required over swings
	1	Shade	1	Seating - additional near playground
	1	Sitting	1	Shelters - additional required
	1	Sport - basketball	1	Toilets - disability toilet required
	1	Sunshine/Vitamin D	1	Toilets - provide soap
1	Trees - fig	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required to attract wildlife	
Princes Park 24	7	Dog walking	3	Exercise equipment - additional required
	6	Walking	2	Improvements - none required
	5	Exercising	2	Trees - additional required
	4	Access - close to home	1	Developments - prohibit in this area
	4	Playground	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, appreciated
	3	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	3	Jogging/running	1	Garden beds - additional required
	2	Relaxing	1	Improvements - none mentioned as it is not in the City of Yarra
2	Sport	1	Open space - valued	

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	2	Trees	1	Running Path - levelling/drainage required on the east side
	2	Water feature	1	Sporting facilities - no more required
	1	Cycling	1	Sporting facilities - wheel chair accessible running track required
	1	Exercise equipment	1	Surfaces - smooth out rough asphalt
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Vegetation - additional flowering plants required
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Open space - provides cool areas		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Sitting		
	1	Views		
Hardy Gallagher Reserve 13	3	Access - close to school	4	Playground - upgrade
	3	Playground	3	Informal recreational facilities - change bocce court into community gardens
	2	Cycling	3	Informal recreational facilities - redevelop bocce court
	2	Walking	1	Cyclists - slow through park
	1	Access - close to shops/cafes	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, move from cycle paths
	1	Access - close to work	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Community Garden	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Cycling - through	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Dog walking	1	Informal recreation facilities - additional required for older children
	1	Exercising	1	Informal recreational facilities - table tennis required
	1	Open space	1	Maintenance - regular cleaning/maintenance required
	1	Sitting	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
			1	Rubbish - remove litter from open space
		1	Toilets - additional required	
		1	Vegetation - improve weed control	
Park Street Reserve 7	4	Walking	2	Drinking fountains - additional required
	2	Dog walking	2	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Access - provide cyclist/pedestrian crossing at Park Street and Canning Street
	1	Access - travel through	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Birdlife watching	1	Community garden - required
	1	Cycling	1	Community gardens - fruit orchard required
	1	Cycling - with children	1	Cyclists - slow through park
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Open space - leave as is
	1	Open space - uncrowded	1	Signage - stating shared path curtesy
Yarra River Corridor 5	1	Playground	1	Trees - plant fruit trees
	2	Cycling	2	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Access - provides links to school	1	Access - replace stairs for ramps
	1	Access - travel through	1	Shared paths - promote shared path curtesy

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.3 Carlton North - Princes Hill

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Exercising	1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths for children cycling safety
	1	Open space - green place	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Playground	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Recreation		
	1	Walking		
Carlton Gardens 4	2	Relaxing	1	Community garden - herb garden required
	1	Access - close to museum	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - travel through	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Gardens - maintained	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Open space - private garden is too small		
	1	Open space - valued		
	1	Playground		
1	Walking			
Yarra Bend Park 4	1	Birdlife watching	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrians
	1	Exercising	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required to attract wildlife
	1	Exercising - children		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Running		
Canning Street Median 2	1	Access - close to home	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Birdlife watching	1	Garden beds - additional flowering gardens required
	1	Dog friendly		
	1	Open grassed areas - well maintained		
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Reading		
Fitzroy Gardens 2	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Events - improve advertising of music events in open spaces
	1	Open space - diversity of types		
	1	Open space - green place		
Merri Creek Shared Trail 2	1	Dogs - swimming	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Walking		
Rushall Reserve 2	1	Access - Merri Creek	1	Cycle path - do not proceed with proposed path
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - safe	1	Vegetation - improve weed control
Burnley Golf Course 1	1	Exercising		
	1	Sport - golf		
Darebin Parklands 1	1	Dogs - off-leash area		
	1	Dogs - swimming		
Darling Gardens 1	1	Picnics	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Mayors Park	1	Access - close to pool	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
1	1	Playground		
McNamara Reserve 1	1	Lunch	1	Trees - additional required
Peel Street Park 1	1	Lunch		
Royal Park 1	1	Dogs - off-leash area		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Relaxing		
Shakespeare Reserve 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Open space - private garden is too small	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Play - children	1	Rubbish - remove litter from open space
Smith Reserve 1	1	Dog friendly	1	Fencing - additional required
Temple Park 1	1	Open space		
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs		

A2.3.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 81 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.3.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
6	Carlton Gardens	7%
6	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	7%
6	Yarra Bend Park	7%
4	Edinburgh Gardens	5%
3	Darling Gardens	4%
2	Curtain Square	2%
2	Flagstaff Gardens	2%
2	Gardiners Creek Trail	2%
2	Merri Creek Precinct	2%
2	Park Street Reserve	2%
2	Princes Park	2%
2	Quarries Park	2%
2	Royal Park	2%
2	Studley Park	2%
2	Yarra Banks Public Golf Course	2%
1	CBD parks	1%
1	CERES Community Environment Park	1%
1	Coburg Lake Reserve	1%
1	Fitzroy Gardens	1%
1	Great Otway National Park	1%
1	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	1%

No.	Open space visited	%
1	Holden Byrne Reserve	1%
1	Jumping Creek Reserve	1%
1	Local cricket clubs	1%
1	Local netball facilities	1%
1	Mayors Park	1%
1	PA Burns Reserve	1%
1	Royal Park Nature Playground	1%
1	Yarra River Corridor	1%

A2.3.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Carlton North - Princes Hill respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Open spaces visited beyond walking distance tend to be larger open spaces, for social events and, their beauty.

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Carlton Gardens 6	2	Relaxing	3	Improvements - none required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Dogs - improve usability for dogs
	1	Access - close to museum	1	Open space - maintain watering
	1	Open space - large space	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Picnics	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Play - children	1	Rubbish - remove broken glass
	1	Trees		
	1	Walking		
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 6	3	Open space - beautiful	3	Improvements - none required
	2	Walking	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - make more family friendly
	1	Entertainment/events	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - design and layout		
	1	Open space - diversity of types		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Relaxing		
1	Vegetation - diversity			
Yarra Bend Park 6	2	Dog walking	1	Dogs - agility park required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	1	Entertainment/events	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	1	Exercising	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Dogs - off-leash, personal safety concerns
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Dogs - over use
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Safety - improve at night
	1	River setting	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Walking	1	Shared use paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
1	Walking			
Edinburgh Gardens	1	Dog friendly	1	Informal recreational facilities - additional basketball courts required

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.3 Carlton North - Princes Hill

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
4	1	Health and well-being	1	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	1	Informal recreational facilities - basketball court	1	Trees - plant fruit trees
	1	Paths - good quality	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Vegetation - hedge needed around basketball courts
	1	Picnics		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Playground		
	1	Recreation		
Darling Gardens 3	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Birdlife watching	1	Trees - replace exotic trees with native trees
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Walking		
Curtain Square 2	1	Access - close to home	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
Flagstaff Gardens 2	1	Relaxing		
Gardiners Creek Trail 2	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Walking		
Merri Creek Precinct 2	1	Dog walking	1	Cyclists - slow through park
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Safety - improve for women
	1	Relaxing		
Park Street Reserve 2	1	Access - travel through	1	Paths - connecting path/s required from Yarra River Trail
	1	Cycling	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Open space - away from busy roads and traffic	1	Vegetation - additional smaller plants/native grasses required for wildlife
Princes Park 2	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Jogging/running		
Quarries Park 2	2	Playground	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Open space - valued
			1	Shelters - additional required
			1	Toilets - additional required
Royal Park 2	1	Cycling	1	Open space - valued
	1	Recreation		
	1	Zoo		
Studley Park 2	1	Jogging/running	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Toilets - regular cleaning/maintenance required
	1	Open space - large space		
Yarra Banks Public Golf Course 2	2	Sport - golf	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
			1	Graffiti - removal required
CBD parks 1	1	Exercising	1	Access - improve tram stops with disability access stops at Nicholson Street
	1	Recreation		

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
CERES Community Environment Park 1	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Open space - diversity of types		
	1	Social - sense of community		
	1	Vegetation - Indigenous		
Coburg Lake Reserve 1	1	Jogging/running	1	Open space - valued
	1	Walking		
Fitzroy Gardens 1	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
Great Otway National Park 1	1	Beaches		
	1	Views		
Hardy Gallagher Reserve 1	1	Access - close to school	1	Informal recreational facilities - redevelop bocce court
Holden Byrne Reserve 1	1	Cycling	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Playground		
Jumping Creek Reserve 1	1	Dog walking	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	River setting		
Local cricket clubs 1	1	Open space - valued	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Sport - spectating cricket		
Local netball facilities 1	1	Sport - netball		
Mayors Park 1	1	Exercising		
PA Burns Reserve 1	1	Dogs - swimming		
Royal Park Nature Playground 1	1	Cycling - with children	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Playground		
Yarra River Corridor 1	1	Cycling	1	Developments - prohibit in this area

A2.3.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

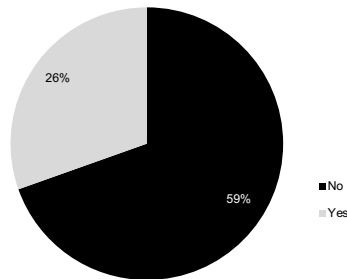
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 81 surveys received.

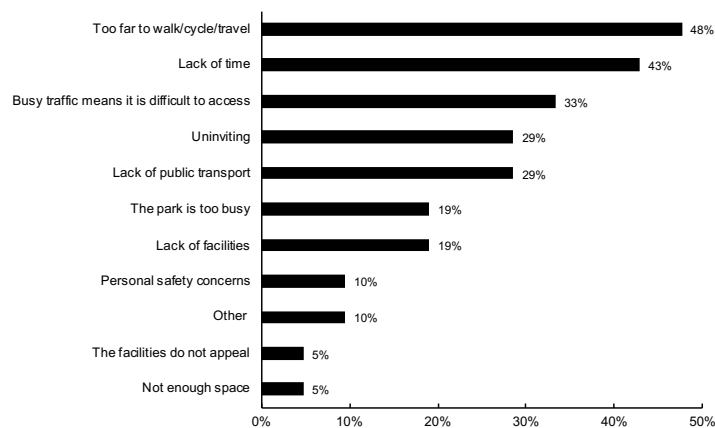
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 21 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

26 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is slightly higher than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was due to distance, followed by a lack of time and difficult traffic. Compared to the Municipal average, 17 per cent more respondents indicated they lacked the time to visit open space and 6 per cent more respondents indicated that constraints from busy traffic was a reason they didn't visit open space.

A2.3.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Carlton North - Princes Hill. The percentages are calculated based on the 81 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use

Large parks and gardens were the most frequently used type of open space followed by medium sized parks and small local parks/open space along the Yarra River.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
75%	Open space along the Merri Creek	5%	5%	20%	20%	26%	20%	5%
83%	Open space along the Yarra River	0%	6%	19%	25%	33%	11%	6%
96%	Large parks and gardens	21%	17%	30%	26%	2%	0%	4%
68%	Large sporting reserves	2%	2%	9%	21%	33%	25%	7%
88%	Medium sized parks	15%	15%	31%	17%	10%	5%	7%
83%	Small local parks	14%	16%	26%	21%	6%	5%	12%
78%	Urban Squares	5%	22%	17%	17%	16%	19%	4%
73%	Local streets for exercise	37%	19%	15%	2%	0%	15%	12%

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

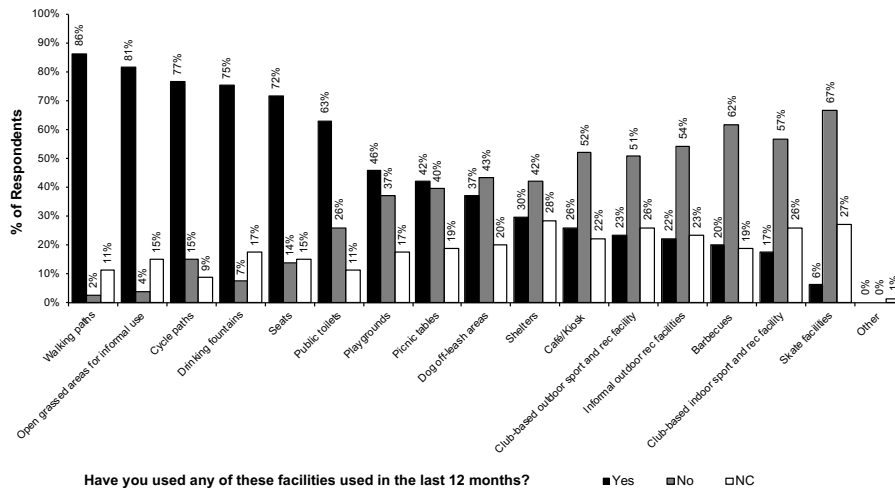
On a daily basis, local streets for exercise are the most popular followed by large parks and gardens and medium sized parks. This generally reflects the open space network in the precinct Edinburgh Gardens and Princes park, with Curtain Square in between.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
70%	Local streets for exercise	37%	19%	15%
68%	Large parks and gardens	21%	17%	30%
60%	Medium sized parks	15%	15%	31%
56%	Small local parks	14%	16%	26%
44%	Urban Squares	5%	22%	17%
30%	Open space along the Merri Creek	5%	5%	20%
25%	Open space along the Yarra River	0%	6%	19%
14%	Large sporting reserves	2%	2%	9%

A2.3.6 Facilities and features in open space

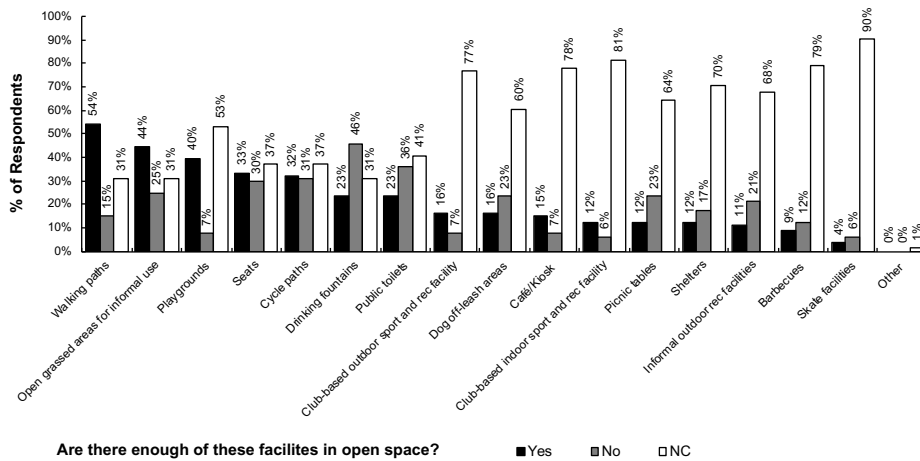
A2.3.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Carlton North - Princes Hill, 81. Respondents indicated that walking paths, open grassed areas and cycling paths were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months, with the use of cycling paths being significantly higher (15 per cent) than the municipal average.



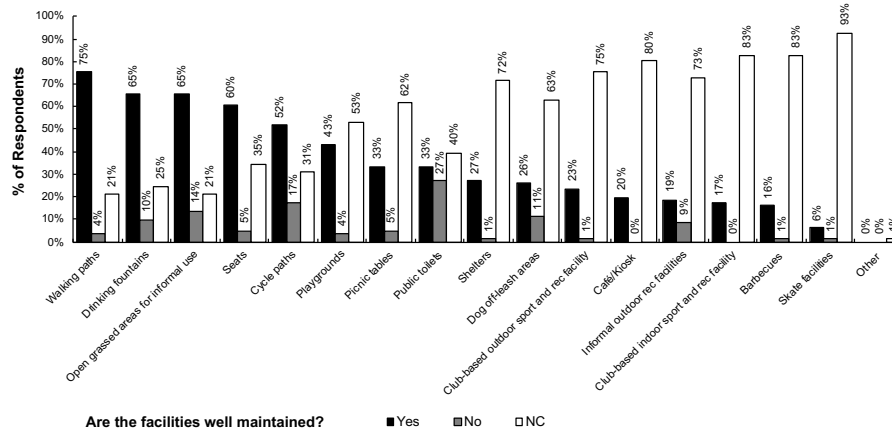
3.3.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Carlton North - Princes Hill surveys received, 81.



A2.3.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Carlton North - Princes Hill surveys returned, 81.



A2.3.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Carlton North - Princes Hill respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

No.	General Comments List
36	Open Space
5	Open space - additional required
4	Improvements - none required
4	Open space - additional required as density increases
4	Open space - valued
2	Open space - contributes to liveability
2	Open space - important to combat global warming
2	Open space - utilise dead space as green space
1	Developments - adjoining open space maintain height restrictions
1	Developments - concerns about impact on open space
1	Open space - appreciate the choice and variety
1	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing
1	Open space - design to reflect the culture of City of Yarra
1	Open space - important as private gardens become smaller
1	Open space - important for air quality
1	Open space - important for children
1	Open space - important for relaxing
1	Open space - improve design for use and utility
1	Open space - to be within walking distance
1	Streetscape - more green/plants
1	Streetscape - more green/plants on Drummond Street and Macpherson Street

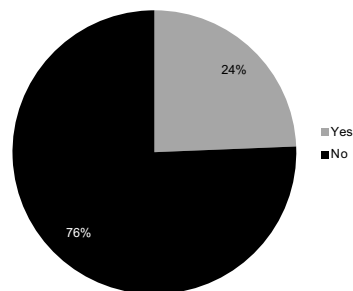
No.	General Comments List
17	Maintenance and Management
2	Graffiti - removal required regularly
2	Maintenance - regularly required to prevent civil disorder
1	Dogs - enclosed off-leash areas required
1	Dogs - enforce regulations
1	Dogs - off-leash areas valued
1	Dogs - open space for dogs appreciated
1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for controlling their dogs
1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
1	Graffiti - anti-graffiti program required
1	Information - advertise more information about organised sport/activities
1	Maintenance - regular cleaning/maintenance required to handle over crowding
1	Rubbish - encourage community collection of litter
1	Rubbish - fine companies for products found in rivers
1	Streets - do not close Station Street at Princes Street
1	Streets - keep clean
11	Trees and Vegetation
2	Community gardens - additional required
1	Garden beds - additional required
1	Open grassed areas - value grassed areas
1	Trees - additional required
1	Trees - plant additional exotic trees for shade
1	Trees - plant additional shade trees to prevent heat island effect
1	Trees - plant additional street trees
1	Trees - value street trees
1	Vegetation - increase vegetation for wildlife habitation
1	Vegetation - plant additional native plants for ecological sustainability
10	Park Infrastructure
2	Lighting - additional required for safety
1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - more required
1	Park infrastructure - reduce infrastructure to avoid maintenance costs
1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs with shelters required in local parks
1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
1	Seating - additional required
1	Signage - dog waste regulation signs required
1	Toilets - additional required
1	Toilets - improve accessibility
9	Paths
2	Cycle paths - additional required
1	Footpaths - ensure businesses keep a clear thoroughfare when over capacity
1	Footpaths - improve cobblestone paths for wheelchair access
1	Footpaths - make pavement more comfortable
1	Paths - avoid sharp materials in paths for foot/paw safety
1	Paths - maintenance required along river paths
1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
5	Recreation Facilities
1	Exercise equipment - additional required in underutilised spaces
1	Playgrounds - increase diversity of equipment for a range of age groups
1	Playgrounds - initiatives for teenagers to design playgrounds required
1	Playgrounds - more adventure playgrounds required
1	Sporting facilities - basketball stadium required
7	Other
1	Developments - limit large developments

No.	General Comments List
1	Overall strategy - maintain a relaxed attitude
1	Overall strategy - prioritise ecological sustainability
1	Public art - provide more
1	Seating - additional street seating required
1	Streets - improve safety for pedestrians
1	Survey - ensure spelling of precincts is correct
3	Sustainability
1	Streets - recover and reuse bitumen
1	Urban agriculture - promote for sustainability purposes
1	Water - Council to support water sensitive urban design

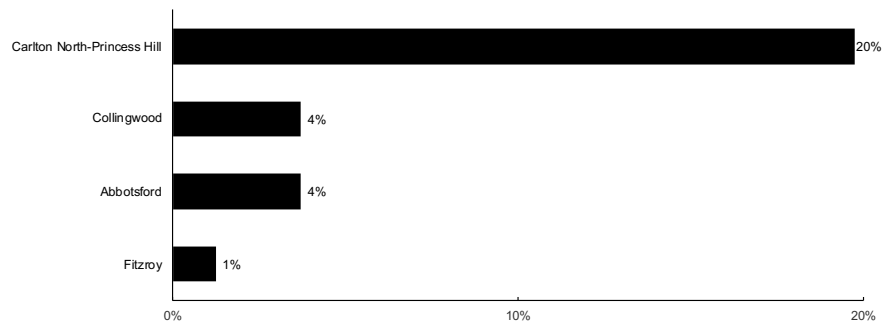
A2.3.8 Work in City of Yarra

The following charts are is calculated on the total 81 surveys received. Princes Hill - Carlton North

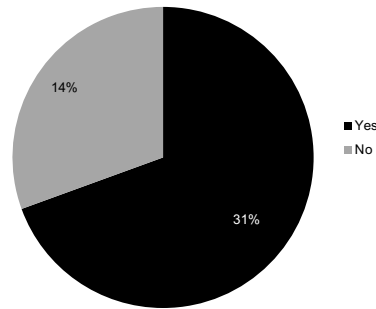
A2.3.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



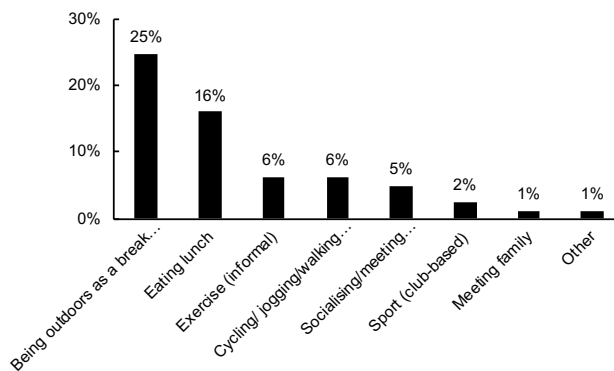
A2.3.8b Where respondents work



A2.3.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



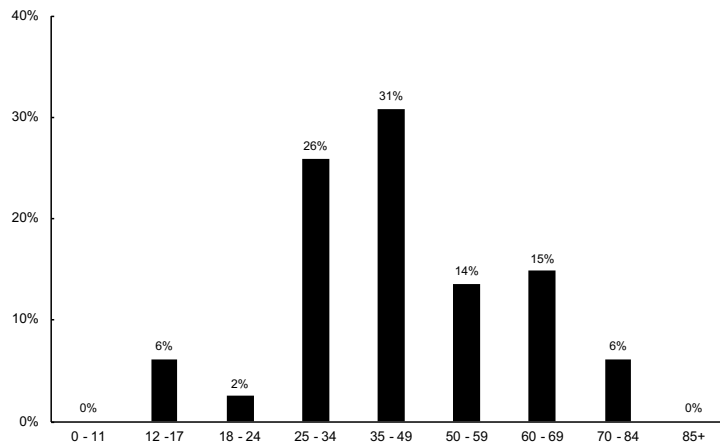
A2.3.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



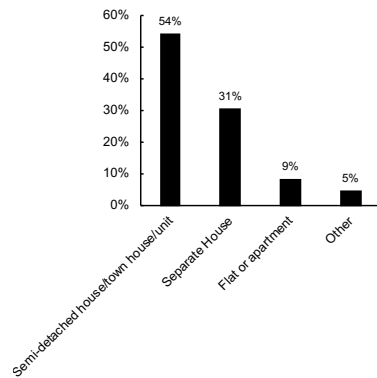
A2.3.9 Information about respondents

The following charts are is calculated on the total 81 surveys received.

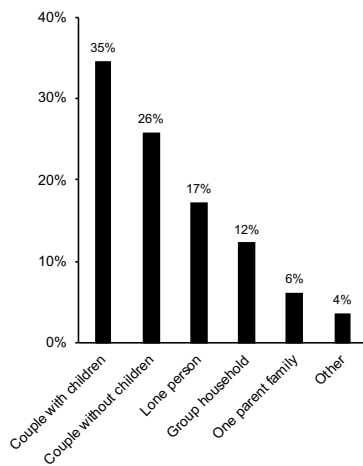
A2.3.9a Age range



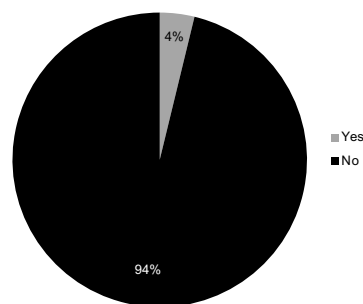
A2.3.9b Dwelling type



A2.3.9c Household type



A2.3.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.4 Central Richmond

Summary of the survey outcomes for Central Richmond

172 respondents indicated they live in Central Richmond. This represents 14 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 15 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Central Richmond.

The key point of difference in Central Richmond from the municipal results is the higher level of respondents participating in sport, particularly children's sports events. Additional open space and sporting facilities, particularly the inclusion of female facilities in the clubrooms are frequently requested. Citizens Park is overwhelmingly the most visited open space for a diverse range of reasons including structured sport, dog walking and the market. Barkly Gardens and Burnley Park are the other two reasons that are well used.

There is also a focus on making Richmond more pedestrian and cycle friendly to cope with the increasing volumes of traffic. There were suggestions to make Gleadell Street pedestrian priority focused given the facilities and the market located there. Conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists on shared paths along the Yarra River is frequently mentioned, along with dog waste on sporting grounds. Respondents wish to resolve the dog waste issue by having Council clean the turf between shared use times. Litter in general is noted and specifically a concern regarding discarded syringes and the related drug abuse.

A2.4.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Central Richmond, 172. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

The top eight values are consistent with the municipal-wide results with the trees as the most valued feature of open space followed by appreciating it as a place to relax and unwind, and the feeling of space. The main difference is that more respondents value playing club-based sport, casual ball games and fitness. A lower number of respondents value the habitat values, historical character and greening when compared to the municipal average.

Value	%
Trees	67%
A place to relax and unwind	63%
The feeling of space	57%
Just being outside	56%
An escape from the built environment	53%
A place for children to play	51%

Value	%
Meeting people/friends	48%
Health and well being	46%
Fitness	41%
Exercising dogs	40%
Habitat for native plants and animals	37%
It's accessible	37%
Green character	35%
Flowers/garden beds	32%
Natural bushland character	28%
Playing team/club based sport	27%
Playing casual ball games/activity	24%
The quiet	24%
Knowing that it's there	22%
The diversity of open space	22%
Cultural heritage values/significance	18%
Cultural activities and events	15%
Watching activity	13%
Historical character	13%
Other	2%

The other category included a range of comments including the design and lighting of the open space, to picnic, and for cycling.

A2.4.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 172 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.4.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
110	Citizens Park	64%
42	Barkly Gardens	24%
28	Burnley Park	16%
22	Yarra River Corridor	13%
10	Yarra Park	6%
9	Cairns Reserve	5%
9	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	5%
7	Dame Nellie Melba Park	4%
6	Fitzroy Gardens	3%
5	Richmond Terrace Park	3%
4	Ben Alexander Reserve	2%
4	Yarra Bend Park	2%
4	Yarra Primary School	2%
3	Annettes Place	2%
3	Department of Housing Richmond Place	2%
3	Golden Square Park	2%

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
3	McConchie Reserve	2%
3	Yarra River Trail (Walmer St to Acacia Pl)	2%
2	Edinburgh Gardens	1%
2	Egan Reserve	1%
2	O'Connell Reserve	1%
2	Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne	1%
2	Williams Reserve	1%
1	Alan Bain Reserve	1%
1	Burnley Bouldering Wall	1%
1	Darling Gardens	1%
1	Fordham Gardens	1%
1	Gahan Reserve	1%
1	GTV9 Studios	1%
1	Merri Creek Shared Trail	1%
1	Outer Circle Rail Trail	1%
1	Oxford Street Park	1%
1	Ryans Reserve	1%
1	St James Park	1%
1	Swan Street	1%
1	The Vauclose	1%
1	Victoria Park	1%
1	Yarra River Trail (Abbott St to Turners St)	1%

A2.4.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Central Richmond

The following table lists the reasons why Central Richmond respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Results indicate Citizens Park is popular for dog walking, childrens play and fitness/sport, while Barkley Gardens for the playground, dog walking and social events. For this precinct respondents include the schools and some streetscapes as open space as well.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Citizens Park 110	17	Dog walking	15	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade
	16	Playgrounds	12	Sporting facilities - facilities for girls required
	12	Play - children	10	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of off-leash areas required
	12	Sport - organised junior football	10	Improvements - none required
	11	Exercising	10	Playgrounds - upgrade
	11	Walking	5	Sporting facilities - upgrade required
	10	Market	4	Access - additional information about scheduled use required
	8	Social - meeting people/friends/parties	4	Open space - additional required
	7	Access - close to home	4	Open space - upgrade
	7	Relaxing	4	Picnic facilities - additional required
	7	Sport - children's organised	3	Dogs - enforce regulations
	7	Sport - spectating	3	Dogs - prohibit
	5	Sport - football	3	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	4	Dogs - exercising	3	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	4	Social - sense of community	3	Open space - valued
	4	Sport - club based	3	Seating - additional required in shaded areas
	4	Sport - cricket	2	Access - extend resident use by decreasing sporting events
	4	Sport - junior organised cricket	2	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	4	Sport - organised	2	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	3	Dogs - watching	2	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields/ovals
	3	Informal ball games/sport	2	Drinking fountains - additional required
	3	Jogging/running	2	Informal play facilities - required for older children
	3	People watching	2	Open space - overcrowded
	3	Picnic Facilities - BBQs	2	Sports field/oval - improve turf
	3	Sitting	2	Trees - additional required
	3	Sport	2	Trees - plant additional street trees on Gleadell Street
	2	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Café/kiosk - additional required
	2	Access - travel through	1	Cultural events - additional required
	2	Cycling - children	1	Dogs - increase/improve usability for dogs
	2	Dog friendly	1	Dogs - limit access
	2	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas	1	Dogs - over use
	2	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Dogs - prohibit off-leash
	2	Dogs - socialising	1	Dogs - provide recycled waste bags
	2	Informal sporting facilities - oval	1	Drinking fountains - improve drainage
	2	Open space - well maintained	1	Drug abuse - at toilets, action required
	2	Outdoors/being outside	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	2	Play	1	Garden beds - additional required
	1	Access - easy to access	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Exercise equipment	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Open space	1	Picnic facilities - design for safety
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Picnic facilities - improve seating
	1	Picnics	1	Picnic facilities - improve water facilities
	1	Reading	1	Picnic facilities - upgrade tables
	1	Recreation	1	Playgrounds - additional required near clubrooms
			1	Playgrounds - additional swings required
			1	Playgrounds - re-locate away from intersection
			1	Playgrounds - regular cleaning required
			1	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
			1	Seating - appropriate for the disabled required
			1	Shared use space - improve between dogs and sports
			1	Sport facilities - additional basketball court required
			1	Sporting facilities - lockers
			1	Sporting facilities - reduce children's sport in the evening
			1	Sporting facilities - running track, improve surface
			1	Sporting facilities - upgrade boxing facilities
			1	Traffic - noise intrusive
			1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
Barkly Gardens 42	9	Playgrounds	4	Toilets - regular cleaning required
	8	Dog walking	4	Toilets - upgrade existing
	6	Social - meeting people/friends/parties	3	Improvements - none required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	4	Access - close to home	3	Toilets - additional required
	4	Exercising	2	Bins - additional required
	4	Play - children	2	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	3	Open space - green place	2	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	3	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Bins - empty frequently
	2	Access - close to school	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Access - travel through	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	2	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, irrigate
	2	Open space - beautiful	1	Dogs - prohibit from picnic facilities
	2	Open space - well maintained	1	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields/ovals
	2	Reading	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	2	Relaxing	1	Fencing - additional required
	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Fencing - additional required next to busy roads
	1	Cycling	1	Fencing - gates required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Informal play facilities - facilities for older children
	1	Dogs - socialising	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball hoops required
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space - away from busy roads and traffic	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Open space - design and layout	1	Picnic facilities - additional required
	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Picnic facilities - shelter required over BBQs
	1	Open space - identity	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - large space	1	Security - improve surveillance
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Shelters - additional required
	1	Open space - shade	1	Signage - improve dog regulation signs
	1	Picnics	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Play	1	Sporting facilities - indoor facilities required
	1	Recreation	1	Toilets - install blue lights
	1	Recreation - with children	1	Vegetation - additional low indigenous plantings required to protect birdlife
	1	Sitting	1	Water fountain - upgrade
	1	Sport (Alain Bain Reserve)		
	1	Sport - children's organised (Alain Bain Reserve)		
	1	Walking		
Burnley Park 28	9	Dog walking	3	Caretakers Cottage - improve
	4	Playgrounds	2	Exercise equipment - additional required
	4	Walking	2	Open space - valued
	3	Informal recreational facilities - basketball court	2	Seating - additional required
	3	Picnic facilities - BBQs	2	Sporting facilities - provide basketball courts
	3	Relaxing	1	Access - pedestrian bridge connecting Burnley Park and Circus Site
	3	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Bins - empty frequently
	2	Open space - large space	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	2	Play	1	Caretakers Cottage - replace with Gazebo
	2	Play - children	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	1	Access - travel through	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Cycling - through	1	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of off-leash areas required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Dogs - regular waste removal
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Drainage - improvement needed
	1	Dog friendly	1	Facilities - improve
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Garden beds - regular maintenance required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Improvements - appreciated
	1	Open space	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Informal sporting facilities - goal posts required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Recreation - with children	1	Open grassed areas - improvements required
	1	Sport - children	1	Open grassed areas - irrigate
	1	Sport - cricket	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Sport - football	1	Open space - value natural character
	1	Sports field/oval	1	Picnic facilities - additional required
	1	Walking -through	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
			1	Picnic facilities - shade required
			1	Playgrounds - upgrade
			1	Seating - additional required facing oval
			1	Security - additional required
			1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
		1	Trees - maintain Scarred Trees	
Yarra River Corridor 22	9	Walking	3	Drinking fountains - additional required
	6	Exercising	2	Paths - widen
	3	Cycling	2	Seating - additional required
	3	Dog walking	2	Access - ramp required at Collins Bridge
	3	Open space - natural character	1	Access - stairs required at pedestrian bridge between Burnley Gardens and Heyington Station
	2	Jogging/running	1	Access - widen Walmer Street Bridge
	2	Open space - fresh air	1	Cyclists - slow through park
	2	Open space - peaceful	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	2	Relaxing	1	Improvements - none required
	2	River setting	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Access - close to shops/cafes	1	Natural resource management - improve
	1	Access - travel through	1	Open space - regular maintenance required
	1	Birdlife - watching	1	Open space - valued
	1	Cycling - through	1	Paths - connecting path/s required between Flockhart Street and Gipps Street
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	River - stabilise embankments
	1	Health and well-being	1	River - to be cleaned
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Rubbish - remove litter
			1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
			1	Shared paths - widen Yarra River Trail between Walmer Street Bridge and Victoria Bridge
			1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
		1	Vegetation - improve weed control	
Yarra Park 10	3	Dog walking	1	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads
	3	Exercising	1	Access - restrict motor vehicles to this area
	2	Access - travel through	1	Carpark - reduce

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	2	Dog friendly	1	Carpark - remove
	1	Access - close to home	1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
	1	Cycling	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	1	Play - children	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Sport - spectating football	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Trees	1	Improvements - none required
				1
			1	Playgrounds - remove rolling barrel equipment
Cairns Reserve 9	3	Access - close to home	2	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	2	Dog walking	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Open space - green place	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	2	Open space - peaceful	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	2	Playgrounds	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs in small parks
	1	Access - travel through	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Exercising	1	Maintenance - valued
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Play - children	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Recreation - with children	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Relaxing	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Trees		
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 9	2	Exercising	3	Sporting facilities - facilities for girls required
	2	Sport - children's football	2	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade
	2	Sport - cricket	1	Carpark - additional required
	2	Sport - football	1	Carpark - upgrade
	2	Sport - organised	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	2	Sport - Richmond Junior Football Club	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Play	1	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of off-leash areas required
	1	Play - children	1	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of oval required
	1	Sport - children	1	Dogs - regular waste removal
			1	Sports field/oval - improve turf replacement program
Dame Nellie Melba Park 7	4	Dog walking	2	Fencing - additional required around garden beds
	2	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	2	Relaxing	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Improvements - none required, improvements appreciated
	1	Gardens	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - layout	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Recreation		
	1	Social - sense of community		
	1	Trees		
Fitzroy Gardens 6	2	Relaxing	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - travel through		
	1	Access - convenient (on the way)		
	1	Exercising		

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Open space - historical character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Vegetation - beautiful		
	1	Walking		
	1	Walking -through		
Richmond Terrace Park 5	1	Access - close to home	2	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Garden beds - additional required
	1	Open space - green place	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - provision	1	Open grassed areas - improvements required
	1	People watching	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Reading		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Sitting		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Social - parties		
1	Social - sense of community			
Ben Alexander Reserve 4	2	Play - children	1	Fencing - gates required at Berry Street
	1	Access - close to home	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Playgrounds	1	Playgrounds - rubber softfall to replace bark for safety
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
Yarra Bend Park 4	2	River setting	1	Access - improvements required
	2	Walking	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	1	Cycling	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
1	Paths - good quality			
Yarra Primary School 4	2	Access - close to school	2	Toilets - open after hours
	2	Informal sporting facilities - basketball	1	Bins - empty frequently
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Open space - value the availability of after-hours public use
	1	Playgrounds		
	1	Sport - netball		
1	Sport - soccer			
Annettes Place 3	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Exercising	1	Picnic facilities - additional shade for tables required
	1	Picnics	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Play - toddler	1	Trees - additional shade trees required
	1	Playgrounds		
Department of Housing Richmond Place	1	Cycling	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Open grassed areas - water regularly
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
3	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Playgrounds		
	1	Relaxing		
Golden Square Park 3	2	Playgrounds	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Access	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Picnic Facilities - BBQs	1	Open space - valued
	1	Picnics	1	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	1	Play	1	Playgrounds - upgrade
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Rotunda		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
McConchie Reserve 3	1	Dog friendly	2	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Dog walking	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Informal sporting facilities - soccer goal	1	Informal sporting facilities - net required behind basketball hoop
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Informal sporting facilities - net required behind soccer goal
	1	Play - children	1	Sporting facilities - provide space for both soccer and basketball
	1	Walking		
Yarra River Trail (Walmer St to Acacia Pl) 3	2	Exercising	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Relaxing		
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	River setting		
Edinburgh Gardens 2	1	Dog friendly	1	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	1	Picnics	1	Toilets - maintenance required
	1	Playgrounds		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Egan Reserve 2	1	Walking - through		
O'Connell Reserve 2	2	Access - travel through	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Relaxing	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Sitting	1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees over Pyrus
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne 2	1	Exercising	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - historical character	1	Weddings - prohibit weddings vehicles in park
	1	Walking		
Williams Reserve 2	2	Relaxing	1	Cyclists - tire pump required
	1	Exercising	1	Garden beds - flower gardens required
	1	Recreation		
Alan Bain Reserve 1	1	Dog walking	1	Cycle paths - remove from school crossing
	1	Walking		
Burnley Bouldering Wall 1	1	Jogging/running	1	Furniture
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Public art - additional street art required
			1	Vegetation - additional required
Darling Gardens 1	1	Walking		
Fordham Gardens 1	1	Open space		
	1	Walking		

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Gahan Reserve 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
GTV9 Studios 1	1	Dog walking	1	Bins - empty frequently
	1	Exercising		
Merri Creek Shared Trail 1	1	Cycling		
Outer Circle Rail Trail 1	1	Cycling	1	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads
	1	Walking		
Oxford Street Park 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Lunch		
	1	Sunshine/Vitamin D		
Ryans Reserve 1	1	Sport - netball	1	Open space - valued
			1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade
			1	Sporting facilities - courts require levelling
St James Park 1	1	Picnic facilities		
	1	Playgrounds		
Swan Street 1	1	Dinner	1	Open space - valued
	1	Social - consuming alcohol with friends	1	Restaurants - additional required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
The Vaucluse 1	1	Walking	1	Access - make into a no through road
			1	Open space - green corridor required
Victoria Park 1	1	Walking		
Yarra River Trail (Abbott Street to Turners Street) 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Safe	1	Playgrounds - upgrade
			1	Toilets - additional required

A2.4.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 172 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.4.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
23	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	13%
15	Barkly Gardens	9%
14	Burnley Park	8%
14	Citizens Park	8%
13	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	8%
7	Fitzroy Gardens	4%
7	Yarra River Corridor	4%
3	Yarra Bend Park	2%
2	Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct	1%
2	Carlton Gardens	1%
2	Edinburgh Gardens	1%
2	Hays Paddock	1%
2	Studley Park	1%
2	Yarra Park	1%
1	Banksia Park	1%
1	Ben Alexander Reserve	1%
1	Bridge Road	1%
1	Central Gardens	1%
1	Collingwood children's Farm	1%
1	Darling Gardens	1%
1	Local playgrounds	1%
1	Loys Paddock	1%
1	Macleay Park	1%
1	Merri Creek Shared Trail	1%
1	Phillip Island	1%
1	Port Melbourne Beach	1%
1	Powlett Reserve	1%
1	Princes Park	1%
1	Quarries Park	1%
1	Sandown Street Beach	1%
1	Sir William Angliss Reserve	1%
1	St James Park	1%
1	St Kilda Beach	1%
1	University of Melbourne Burnley Campus	1%
1	Wattle Park	1%
1	Yarra Flats	1%
1	Yarra Primary School	1%

A2.4.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Central Richmond respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in

priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that Royal Botanical Gardens is mainly used as a destination garden for its beauty and character while Barkley Gardens is used for the playgrounds and social/family events.

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 23	6	Gardens	4	Improvements - none required
	4	Picnics	1	Open space - additional required
	4	Relaxing		
	3	Open space - beautiful		
	2	Open space - fresh air		
	2	Open space - peaceful		
	2	Vegetation - flowers		
	2	Walking		
	1	Access - close to work		
	1	Birdlife watching		
	1	Exercising		
	1	Gardens - diversity		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Open space - historical character		
	1	Open space - provides cool areas		
	1	Pond setting		
	1	Taking visitors to the park		
	1	Trees		
	1	Vegetation - diversity		
1	Views			
1	Volunteering			
Barkly Gardens 15	7	Playgrounds	3	Improvements - none required
	3	Social - meeting people/friends/	3	Picnic facilities - shade required
	3	Walking	3	Toilets - upgrade existing
	2	Play - children	1	Café/kiosk - additional required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Facilities - valued
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Facilities	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Overall strategy - council is doing a good job
	1	Open space - valued	1	Toilets - maintenance required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs		
	1	Social - children's parties		
1	Social - parties			
Burnley Park 14	5	Dog walking	4	Improvements - none required
	3	Exercising	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	3	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Carpark - additional required
	2	Open space - natural character	1	Community centre - required
	2	Picnics	1	Developments - do not develop a restaurant/events centre
	2	Playgrounds	1	Shelters - additional required
	2	Walking	1	Sports field/oval - improve
	1	Diverse range of activities		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - historical character		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - layout		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Open space - uncrowded		
	1	River setting		
	1	Sport - children		
	1	Sport - spectating		
	1	Trees - beautiful		
	1	Trees - indigenous		
	1	Trees - native		
Citizens Park 14	2	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Sporting facilities - facilities for girls required
	2	Sport - girl's organised football	1	Carpark - additional required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Access - close to pool	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs
	1	Dog walking	1	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of waste required
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of off-leash areas required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Facilities - improve for children
	1	Play - children	1	Open space - allow school access
	1	Playgrounds	1	Shelters - additional required
	1	Sport	1	Sports fields/ovals - improve turf replacement program
	1	Sport - children's football organised	1	Sports fields/ovals - replace turf
	1	Sport - children's organised	1	Toilets - remove
1	Sport - club based	1	Trees - additional required	
1	Sport - football organised			
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 13	4	Sport - junior organised football	2	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade
	3	Sport - football	2	Sporting facilities - upgrade
	2	Exercising	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Sport - children's organised	1	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of waste required
	1	Playgrounds	1	Facilities - upgrade
	1	Sport	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Sport - club	1	Security - additional required
	1	Sport - cricket	1	Shelters - additional required
	1	Sport - junior organised soccer	1	Sporting facilities - indoor sporting facilities required
	1	Sport - organised	1	Sports fields/ovals - upgrade
1	Walking	1	Toilets - upgrade existing	
Fitzroy Gardens 7	3	Open space - beautiful	1	Safety - improve
	1	Access - travel through	1	Shelters - additional required
	1	Gardens - beautiful	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - identity	1	Vegetation - plant additional flowering plants
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Walking		
Yarra River Corridor 7	3	Exercising	2	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
	3	Relaxing	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	2	Walking	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Access - travel through	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	River setting		
	1	Wildlife watching		
Yarra Bend Park 3	1	Cycling		
	1	Exercising		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct 2	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Carpark - additional required
	1	Cycling	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Lunch	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Play - children		
Carlton Gardens 2	1	Cycling - through	1	Shared paths - separate cyclists from pedestrian paths
	1	Picnics		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Edinburgh Gardens 2	1	Entertainment/events	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Picnics	1	Open space - valued
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Hays Paddock 2	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Café/kiosk - coffee van required
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Play - children		
Studley Park 2	2	River setting	1	Cycle paths - additional required
	1	Open space - green place		
Yarra Park 1	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, appreciated
	1	Open space - large space	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Sport - spectating		
Banksia Park 1	1	Open space - natural character		
Ben Alexander Reserve 1	1	Playgrounds	1	Improvements - none required
Bridge Road 1			1	Open space - improve atmosphere
Central Gardens 1	1	Exploring	1	Improvements - none required
Collingwood children's Farm 1	1	Exercising	1	Cycle paths - improve connection of paths
	1	Open space - natural character		
Darling Gardens 1	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Trees - additional required

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Local Playgrounds 1	1	Play - children		
Loys Paddock 1	1	Jogging/running	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
Macleay Park 1	1	Sport - children	1	Paths - surface needs improvement north of St Georges Road
Merri Creek Shared Trail 1	1	Access - travel through		
Phillip Island 1	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Relaxing		
Port Melbourne Beach 1	1	Dogs - off-leash area		
Powlett Reserve 1	1	Sport - tennis		
Princes Park 1	1	Dog friendly		
Quarries Park 1	1	Exercising	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	1	Play - children		
Sandown Street Beach 1	1	Dog friendly	1	Open space - improve design and layout
Sir William Angliss Reserve 1	1	Playgrounds		
St James Park 1	1	Carparks	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Gardens		
	1	Paths - walking		
St Kilda Beach 1	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
University of Melbourne Burnley Campus 1	1	Picnics	1	Open space - advertise
Wattle Park 1	1	Markets		
Yarra Flats 1	1	Cycling		
	1	Hiking		
Yarra Primary School 1	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Bins - empty frequently

A2.4.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

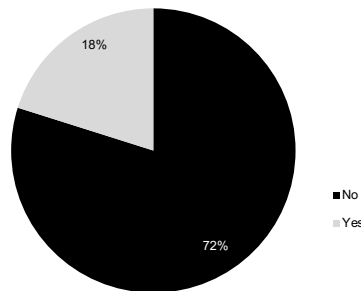
The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

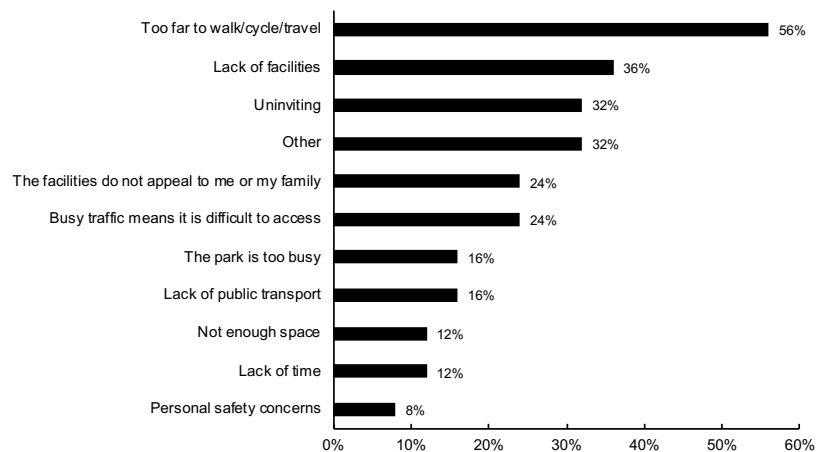
The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 172 surveys received.
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 31 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

18 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is slightly lower than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was due to distance at 56 per cent, followed by the lack of facilities and that they were uninviting. The other category included parks being difficult to access, particularly for people with limited mobility, dog related issues and syringes were also noted as an issue. Compared to the Municipal average, 15 per cent more respondents in Central Richmond considered travel distance to open space as an issue and 17 per cent more indicated the lack of facilities as a reason for not visiting open space.

A2.4.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Central Richmond. The percentages are calculated based on the 172 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use.

Open space along the Yarra is the most popular type of open space, followed by small local parks. Large parks and gardens and local streets for exercise were tied for the third most used type of open space.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
47%	Open space along the Merri Creek	3%	5%	5%	12%	23%	41%	10%
92%	Open space along the Yarra River	11%	19%	23%	21%	19%	4%	4%
83%	Large parks and gardens	7%	16%	21%	24%	15%	10%	5%
81%	Large sporting reserves	10%	16%	19%	15%	21%	14%	5%
52%	Medium sized parks	3%	6%	6%	16%	20%	36%	11%
85%	Small local parks	17%	20%	20%	18%	10%	9%	9%
54%	Urban Squares	6%	4%	13%	16%	15%	30%	16%
83%	Local streets for exercise	40%	20%	14%	7%	2%	11%	3%

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

On a daily/weekly basis, local streets for exercise are the most popular followed by small local parks and then the open space along the Yarra.

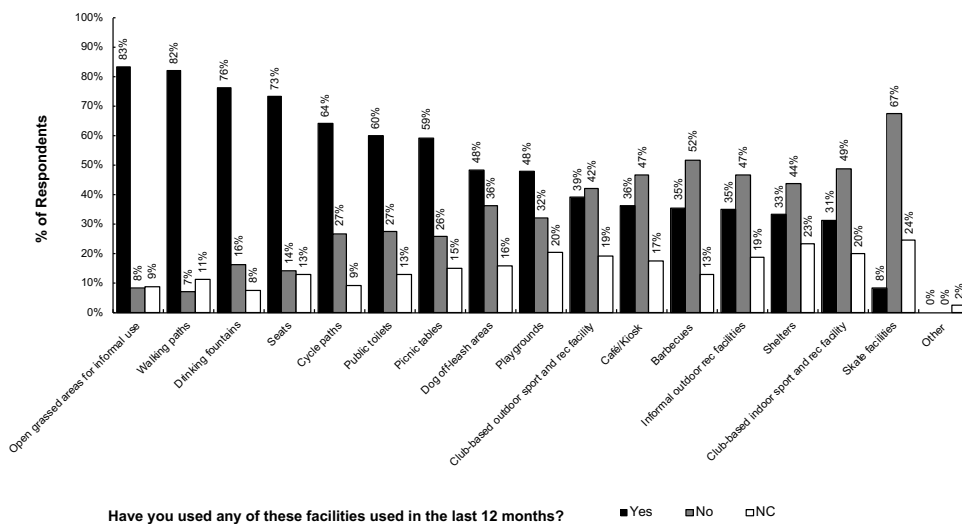
Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
74%	Local streets for exercise	40%	20%	14%
56%	Small local parks	17%	20%	20%
53%	Open space along the Yarra River	11%	19%	23%

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
45%	Large sporting reserves	10%	16%	19%
44%	Large parks and gardens	7%	16%	21%
23%	Urban Squares	6%	4%	13%
16%	Medium sized parks	3%	6%	6%
12%	Open space along the Merri Creek	3%	5%	5%

A2.4.6 Facilities and features in open space

A2.4.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

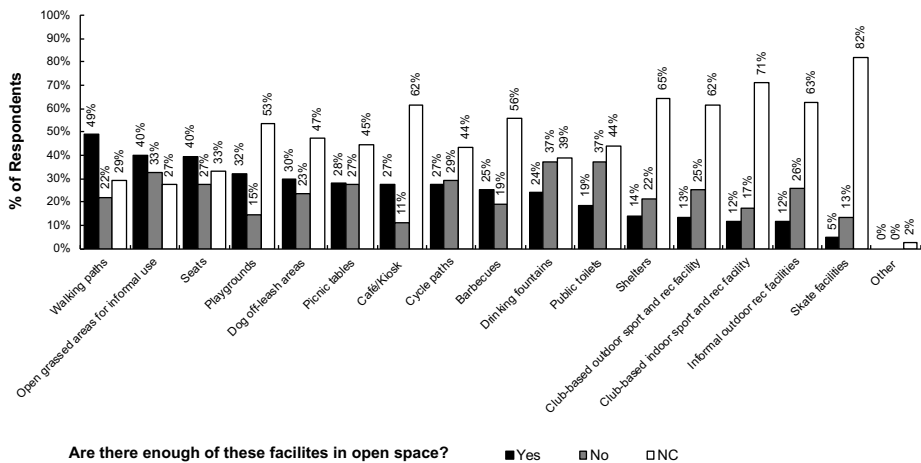
The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Central Richmond, 172. Open grassed areas had the highest level of use which was 8 per cent higher than the municipal average, reflecting the greater participation in ball sports. Walking paths, drinking fountains and seats were popular facilities consistent with the municipal-wide average.



A2.4.6b Provision of facilities in open space

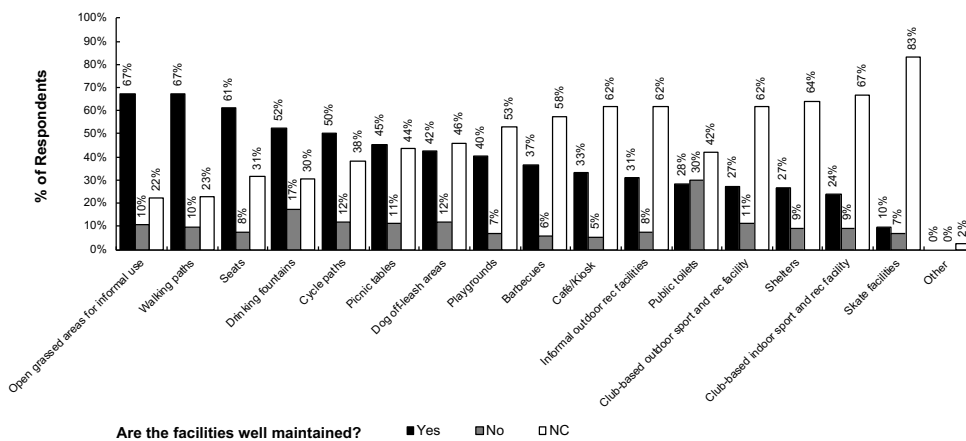
The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Central Richmond surveys received, 172. There is a higher proportion of people stating there are not enough open grassed areas and also more people requesting walking paths compared to the municipal-wide average.

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.4 Central Richmond



A2.4.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Central Richmond surveys returned, 172.



A2.4.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Central Richmond respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

No.	General Comments List
51	Open Space
6	Open space - additional required
6	Open space - additional required as density increases

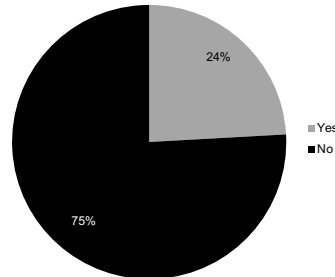
No.	General Comments List
5	Open space - additional required as private gardens are smaller
5	Open space - additional required for children's sport
4	Open space - keep/retain what there is
3	Open space - ensure they are well maintained
3	Open space - valued
2	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing
2	Open space - contributes to liveability
2	Open space - proceed with Gleadell Street to be an open space
1	Improvements - appreciated
1	Open space - additional green corridors required
1	Open space - additional required in Cremorne
1	Open space - additional small parks required
1	Open space - adequate amount of open space provided
1	Open space - ensure they are safe
1	Open space - keep open feel and uncluttered
1	Open space - keep space green
1	Open space - proceed with the Underpark proposal
1	Open space - utilise dead space as green space
1	Open space - valued for walking
1	Plaza - redevelop the plaza at Church Street and Bridge Road
1	River - valued
23	Other
8	Overall strategy - prioritise sport for children's health
3	Overall strategy - council is doing a good job
2	Heritage streetscapes - develop a strategy to retain significant streetscapes, Swan Street/Bridge Road
1	Developments - to contribute to open spaces
1	Developments - to provide open green spaces
1	High Density Developments - require street courtyards to contribute to the streetscape
1	Overall strategy - appreciate focus on climate change
1	Overall strategy - appreciate the focus on multiculturalism
1	Overall strategy - appreciate the opportunity to comment
1	Overall strategy - encourage walking/cycling as traffic is heavy
1	Overall strategy - prioritise open space over café/kiosk business
1	Public Art - encourage street art on Gleadell Street
1	Survey - provide further opportunity to be specific about facilities
16	Maintenance and Management
3	Maintenance - valued
2	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
2	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance required on sports fields/ovals
2	Rubbish - syringes an issue
2	Shared use space - separate dogs from sporting fields
1	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste at Yarra River Trail (Acacia Place to Victoria Street)
1	Drug abuse - action required
1	Drug abuse - action required on Victoria Street
1	Management - enforce regulations before creating new regulations
1	Rubbish - remove litter from open space
15	Recreation Facilities
2	Sporting facilities - additional required
2	Sporting facilities - basketball courts required
1	Informal recreation facilities - required for older children
1	Informal recreation facilities - skate park required

No.	General Comments List
1	Playgrounds - adventure park required
1	Playgrounds - water play features required
1	Sporting facilities - additional required
1	Sporting facilities - basketball courts, indoors, required
1	Sporting facilities - basketball stadiums required
1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require facilities for girls
1	Sporting facilities - heat pool in Richmond
1	Sporting facilities - maintain
1	Sporting facilities - tennis courts required
11	Park Infrastructure
2	Drinking fountains - additional required
1	Bike racks - additional required
1	Carpark - additional required
1	Carpark - reduce
1	Dogs - waste bag/bins, additional required at Yarra River Trail (Acacia Place to Victoria Street)
1	Fencing - more required
1	Open space - encourage use by providing more facilities
1	Toilets - additional required
9	Trees and Vegetation
2	Streetscape - more green/plants
2	Trees - plant more street trees
1	Rooftop garden - provide more
1	Streetscape - more green/plants at Bridge Road/Gleadell Street
1	Trees - additional required
1	Vegetation - plant to seclude park form streets
1	Vegetation - weed out the White Moth Vine
6	Paths
1	Cycle paths - connecting paths required
1	Cycle paths - improvements required on Church Street
1	Cycle paths - regular maintenance required
1	Cycle paths - upgrade as density increases for commuters
1	Paths - appreciated
1	Paths - connect open spaces with shared use paths
5	Access
2	Access - pedestrian crossing required on Gleadell Street and Bridge Road
1	Access - ensure accessibility for all abilities
1	Access - restrict motor vehicle access for the MCG
1	Access - upgrade Bridge Road to be pedestrian focused

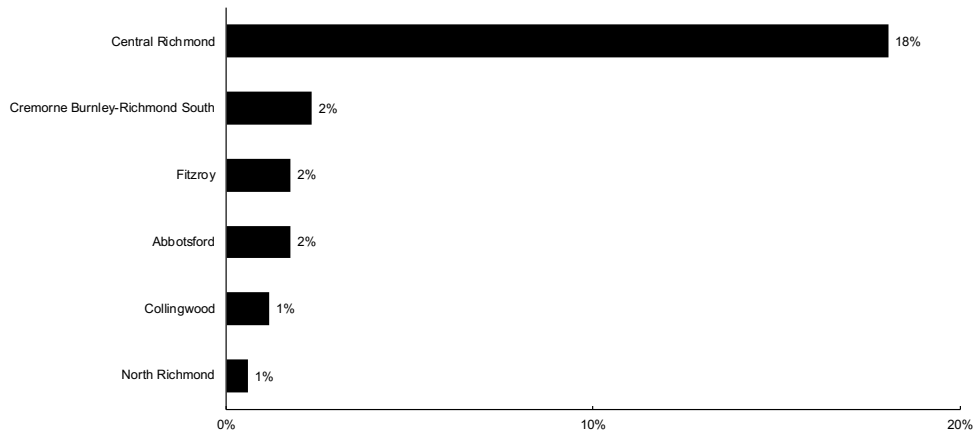
A2.4.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 172 surveys received.

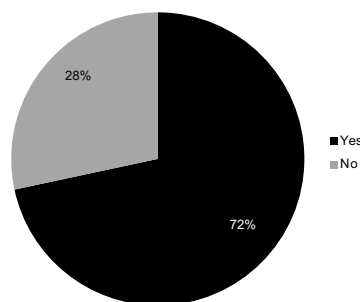
A2.4.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



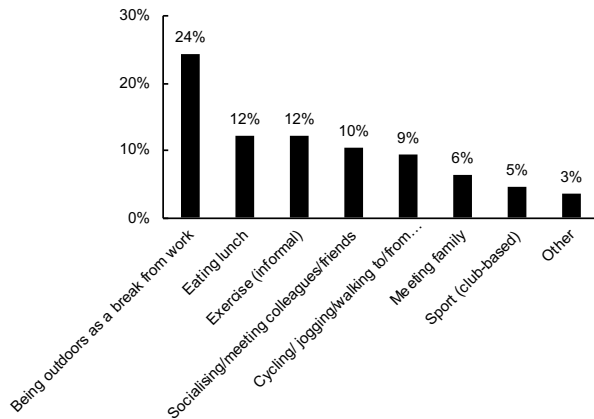
A2.4.8b Where respondents work



A2.4.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



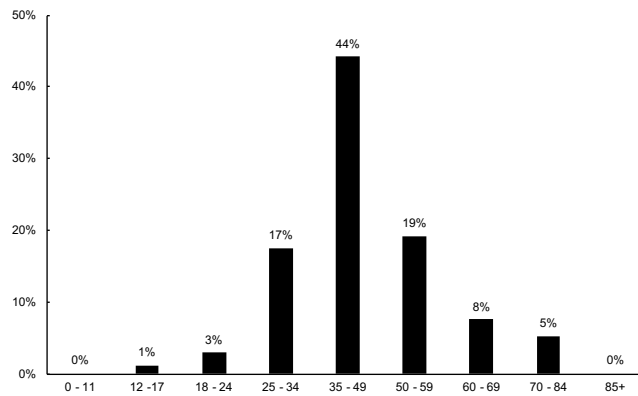
A2.4.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



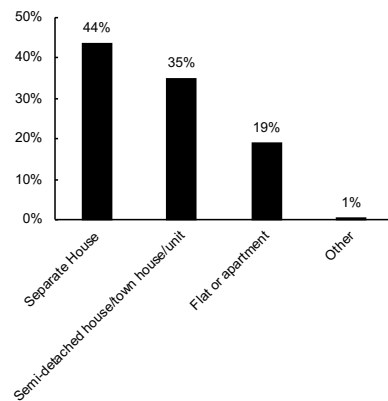
A2.4.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 172 surveys received.

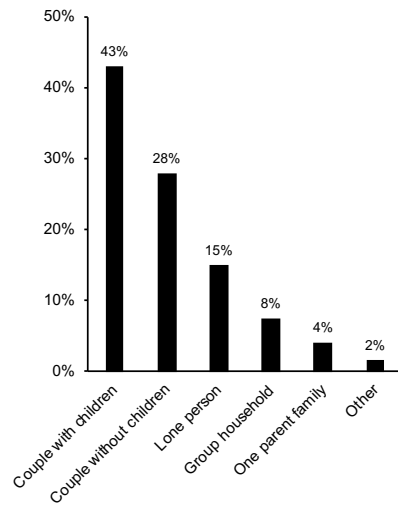
A2.4.9a Age range



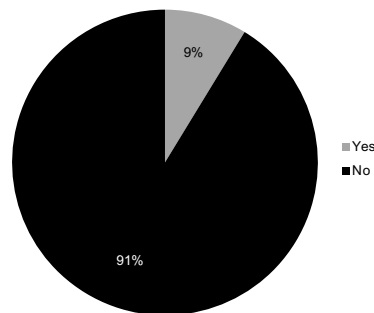
A2.4.9b Dwelling type



A2.4.9c Household type



A2.4.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.5 Clifton Hill

Summary of the survey outcomes for Clifton Hill

68 respondents indicated they live in Clifton Hill. This represents 5 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 7 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Clifton Hill.

Clifton Hill is well provided for with open space and this is reflected in the responses to the survey in this precinct. There is an appreciation of the bushland qualities of open space given the proximity to Merri Creek and while it is appreciated the most frequently valued open space is Darling gardens, primarily for play, dog walking and meeting people. In relation to facility provision in open space, respondents have requested additional facilities including shelters and seats. Overall the use of open grassed areas, walking paths and seats is higher than the Municipal average and they value the trees and request more in the streetscapes and open space. Dogs and children are integral to the respondents lives as is enjoying a picnic, playing sport and exercising outdoors.

A2.5.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Clifton Hill, 68. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

79 per cent of respondents consider the trees as the most valued feature of open space closely followed by a place to relax and unwind and an escape from the built environment which is consistent with the municipal average. Natural bushland and the quiet were ranked higher than the municipal average, while the green character, knowing it is there and cultural heritage values were ranked lower than the municipal average.

Value	%
Trees	79%
A place to relax and unwind	78%
An escape from the built environment	68%
The feeling of space	66%
Just being outside	53%
Habitat for native plants and animals	53%
A place for children to play	47%
Health and well being	46%
It's accessible	40%
Natural bushland character	40%
The quiet	38%
Meeting people/friends	38%
Exercising dogs	38%
Green character	37%

Value	%
Fitness	34%
Flowers/garden beds	32%
The diversity of open space	31%
Playing casual ball games/activity	25%
Historical character	25%
Knowing that it's there	24%
Playing team/club based sport	19%
Cultural heritage values/significance	19%
Cultural activities and events	18%
Watching activity	12%
Other	1%

A2.5.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 68 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.5.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
43	Darling Gardens	63%
22	Quarries Park	32%
19	Edinburgh Gardens	28%
7	Yarra Bend Park	10%
6	Merri Creek Precinct	9%
5	Ramsden Street Reserve	7%
4	Hall Reserve	6%
4	Yarra River Corridor	6%
3	Dights Falls	4%
3	Fairfield Park	4%
2	Coulson Reserve	3%
2	Rushall Reserve	3%
1	Barkly Gardens	1%
1	Carlton gardens	1%
1	Citizens Park	1%
1	Holden Byrne Reserve	1%
1	Redleap Reserve	1%
1	Studley Park	1%

A2.5.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Clifton Hill

The following table lists the reasons why Clifton Hill respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that dog walking is

a popular activity of the respondents in all the open space, with Darling Gardens and Quarries Park also favoured for their playgrounds.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements	
Darling Gardens 43	14	Playground	5	Improvements - none required	
	9	Dog walking	4	Lighting - additional required	
	6	Social - meeting people/friends	4	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required	
	5	Access - convenient (on the way)	3	Playgrounds - fence	
	5	Picnics	3	Toilets - additional required	
	5	Trees	2	Garden Beds - additional flower bed required	
	4	Access - close to home	2	Improvements - appreciated	
	4	Walking	2	Open space - keep/retain what there is	
	3	Play - children	2	Open space - valued	
	2	Jogging/running	1	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads	
	2	Open space - green place	1	Bins - additional required	
	2	Relaxing	1	Bins - empty frequently	
	1	Access - close to public transport	1	Cyclists - prohibit in that area	
	1	Access - close to shops/cafes	1	Developments - limit	
	1	Access - easy to access	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required	
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Dogs - enforce regulations	
	1	Exercising	1	Drinking fountains - additional required	
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Events/entertainment - improve management of events	
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Facilities - childcare centre required	
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Facilities - hall for club activities	
	1	Open space - large space	1	Open space - ensure space is well maintained	
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Open space - improvements required	
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Open space - protect space	
	1	Open space - well maintained	1	Paths - additional required	
	1	Paths	1	Paths - additional required along southern boundary	
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Paths - maintenance required	
	1	Play - toddlers	1	Playground - shade required over swings	
	1	Recreation	1	Playgrounds - valued	
	1	Sitting	1	Playgrounds - water play feature required	
	1	Social - sense of community	1	Rotunda - appreciated	
	1	Walking - with pram	1	Seating - additional required	
				1	Signage - cyclist regulation signs required
				1	Signage - historical data
				1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
				1	Trees - additional required to block views of the road
				1	Trees - maintenance required
				1	Trees - replant after removal
				1	Trees - water
	Quarries Park 22	9	Dog walking	3	Picnic facilities - additional BBQ's required
		8	Playground	2	Bins - additional required
		5	Exercising	2	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
		2	Picnic facilities - BBQs	2	Lighting - additional required
		2	Walking	2	Trees - additional required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.5 Clifton Hill

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Access - close to home	1	Bins - recycling bins to be installed
	1	Cycle paths	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, move away from playground
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - fenced off-lead areas required
	1	Dogs - off-lead area	1	Dogs - waste bag/bins, more required
	1	Events/entertainment	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Open space	1	Drinking fountains - maintenance required
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Gazebos - additional required
	1	Open space - popular	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Social - children's parties	1	Open space - additional required as density increases
	1	Sporting facilities - cricket nets	1	Open space - keep uncluttered
	1	Sports field/oval	1	Pavilions - additional required
	1	Trees	1	River - monitor water quality
				1
			1	Trees - maintenance required
			1	Trees - plant along paths
Edinburgh Gardens 19	7	Dog walking	3	Improvements - none required
	4	Exercising	1	Bins - additional required
	4	Picnics	1	Dogs - fenced off-lead areas required
	4	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	3	Relaxing	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	2	Access - close to home	1	Garden Beds - additional required
	2	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Informal recreational facilities - enlarge skate park
	1	Access - close to the library	1	Open space - ensure it is well maintained
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Rubbish - remove litter from open space
	1	Informal recreation facilities - skate park	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Open space	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs		
	1	Playground		
1	Playground - fenced			
1	Social - club meetings			
Yarra Bend Park 7	3	Dog walking	3	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Cyclists - slow through park
	1	Jogging/running	1	Open space - keep/retain what the natural character
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Recreation		
	1	Walking		
Merri Creek Precinct 6	3	Access - close to home	1	Cyclists - slow through park
	3	Open space - natural character	1	Rubbish - remove litter from open space
	2	Walking		
	1	Access - travel through		
	1	Birdlife watching		
	1	Cycling		
	1	Open space - historical character		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	2	Walking	1	Paths - additional required around oval

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Ramsden Street Reserve 5	1	Access - close to home	1	Paths - improve near Roseneath Street Bridge
	1	Access - easy to access	1	Seating - improve design
	1	Sport - cricket	1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require shade
Hall Reserve 4	3	Access - close to home	1	Bins - recycling bins to be installed
	2	Health and well-being	1	Birdlife - Indian Mynah overtaking native species
	2	Access - easy to access	1	Drinking fountains - additional required at skate park
	1	Access - travel through	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Birdlife watching	1	Informal recreational facilities - add netball boundaries to basketball court
	1	Cycling - through	1	Informal recreational facilities - skate park requires shade
	1	Dog walking	1	Paths - surfaces require improvements
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Vegetation - continue weed eradication and native planting
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Vegetation - plant indigenous vegetation to attract birdlife
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Trees		
Yarra River Corridor 4	3	Walking	1	Developments - do not allow on the Yarra
	1	Dog friendly	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	1	Dog walking	1	River - improve water quality
	1	Jogging/running	1	River - maintain integrity
	1	Playground		
Dights Falls 3	3	Cycling	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Paths - additional required
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Walking		
Fairfield Park 3	2	Cycling - through	2	Sporting facilities - clubrooms at Ivanhoe Northcote Canoe Club require upgrade/maintenance
	1	Canoeing/rowing/kayaking		
	1	Health and well-being		
	1	Paths - unpaved		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Walking		
Coulson Reserve 2	2	Exercising	2	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Bins - recycling bins to be installed
			1	Dogs - off-lead areas, additional required
			1	Dogs - waste bag/bins, more required
			1	Drinking fountains - maintenance required
			1	Exercise equipment - additional required
			1	Improvements - appreciated
			1	Open space - additional required as density increases
			1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQ's required
Rushall Reserve 2	1	Dog walking	1	Community group - required for weed removal
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Cycle path - do not add
	1	Open space - small space	1	Vegetation - avoid using chemical herbicides
	1	Vegetation - Indigenous		
	1	Playground	1	Toilets - upgrade existing

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Barkly Gardens 1				
Carlton gardens 1	1	Jogging/running	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
Citizens Park 1	1	Sport - Richmond Junior Football Club	1	Facilities - maintenance required
			1	Sporting facilities - facilities for girls required
Holden Byrne Reserve 1	1	Lunch	1	Improvements - appreciated
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Walking		
Redleap Reserve 1	1	Birdlife watching		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Trees		
	1	Wildlife watching		
Studley Park 1	1	Open Space	1	Signage - required along the river regarding indigenous history/practice
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	River setting		
	1	Trees		

A2.5.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 68 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.5.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
10	Edinburgh Gardens	15%
5	Fairfield Park	7%
4	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	6%
4	Yarra Bend Park	6%
2	All Nations Park	3%
2	Princes Park	3%
1	Barkly Gardens	1%
1	Bellbird Picnic Area	1%
1	Burnley Bouldering Wall	1%
1	CERES Community Environment Park	1%
1	Citizens Park	1%
1	Darebin Parklands	1%
1	Dights Falls	1%
1	Fitzroy Gardens	1%
1	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	1%
1	Linear Park - Inner Circle Railway Linear Park	1%

No.	Open space visited	%
1	Royal Park Nature Play Playground	1%
1	Sherbrooke Falls Walk	1%
1	Yarra River Corridor	1%

A2.5.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Clifton Hill respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that Edinburgh Gardens and Fairfield Park are visited mainly for social activities, whereas Royal Botanic Gardens is enjoyed for its entertainment/events.

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 10	4	Picnics	1	Improvements - none required
	4	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Rubbish - regular removal required
	2	Diverse range of activities	1	Trees - water
	1	Cycling		
	1	Exercising		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Playground		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Shade		
	1	Sporting facilities - cricket oval		
	1	Trees		
1	Walking			
Fairfield Park 5	2	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require an upgrade
	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Canoeing/rowing/kayaking	1	Open space - needs upgrading
	1	Dog walking	1	Sporting facilities - improve facilities for the Ivanhoe Northcote Canoe Club
	1	Lunch		
	1	River setting		
	1	Views		
1	Walking			
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 4	1	Entertainment/events - children	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Entertainment/events - moonlight cinema		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Paths - walking		
	1	Picnics		
Yarra Bend Park 4	1	Open space - natural character	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	1	Picnics		
	1	Recreation		
	1	Walking		
All Nations Park 2	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Informal recreation facilities - skate park		
Princes Park 1	2	Jogging/running	1	Improvements - none required

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No	Suggested Improvements
Barkly Gardens 1	1	Access - close to work		
	1	Facilities		
Bellbird Picnic Area 1	1	Wildlife watching - bats	1	Improvements - none required
			1	Open space - valued
Burnley Bouldering Wall 1	1	Playground	1	Improvements - none required
CERES Community Environment Park 1	1	Markets		
Citizens Park 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Vegetation - additional colour is needed
	1	Walking		
Darebin Parklands 1	1	Dog walking	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Open space		
Dights Falls 1	1	Open space - natural character	1	Bins - additional required
Fitzroy Gardens 1	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - natural character		
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 1	1	Sport - Richmond Junior Football Club	2	Sporting facilities - facilities required for girls
			1	Dogs - regular cleaning/maintenance of waste
			1	Sports field/oval - improve turf replacement management
Linear Park - Inner Circle Railway Linear Park 1	1	Cycling	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Cycling - through		
Royal Park Nature Play Playground 1	1	Play - children	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Playground		
Sherbrooke Falls Walk 1	1	Access - travel through	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
Yarra River Corridor 1	1	Cycling	1	River - improve banks
	1	Jogging/running		

A2.5.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

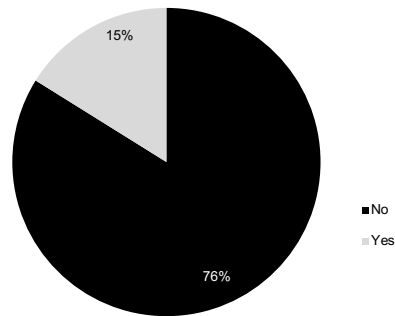
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 68 surveys received.

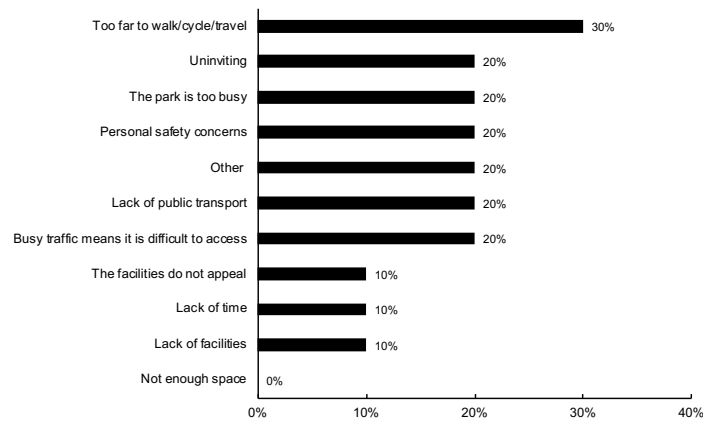
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 10 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there an open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

15 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is lower than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was due to the distance, however compared to the Municipal average, 11 per cent less respondents in Clifton Hill considered travel distance to open space as an issue. Lack of public transport, open space being too busy and personal safety concerns were all around 5 per cent higher, while the traffic and other reasons lower than the Municipal responses.

A2.5.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Clifton Hill. The percentages are calculated based on the 68 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use.

Open space along the Yarra River and large parks and gardens are equally the most utilised open spaces followed by the Merri Creek. This reflects the proximity of Clifton Hill to the Merri Creek/Yarra River and large areas of open space.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
93%	Open space along the Merri Creek	21%	28%	22%	12%	10%	6%	3%
97%	Open space along the Yarra River	15%	22%	21%	24%	16%	3%	1%
97%	Large parks and gardens	21%	24%	24%	16%	13%	0%	4%
82%	Large sporting reserves	13%	19%	22%	9%	19%	13%	6%
54%	Medium sized parks	3%	4%	7%	18%	22%	31%	16%
81%	Small local parks	15%	12%	21%	19%	15%	10%	10%
50%	Urban Squares	1%	3%	10%	18%	18%	34%	18%
81%	Local streets for exercise	35%	29%	9%	4%	3%	15%	6%

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

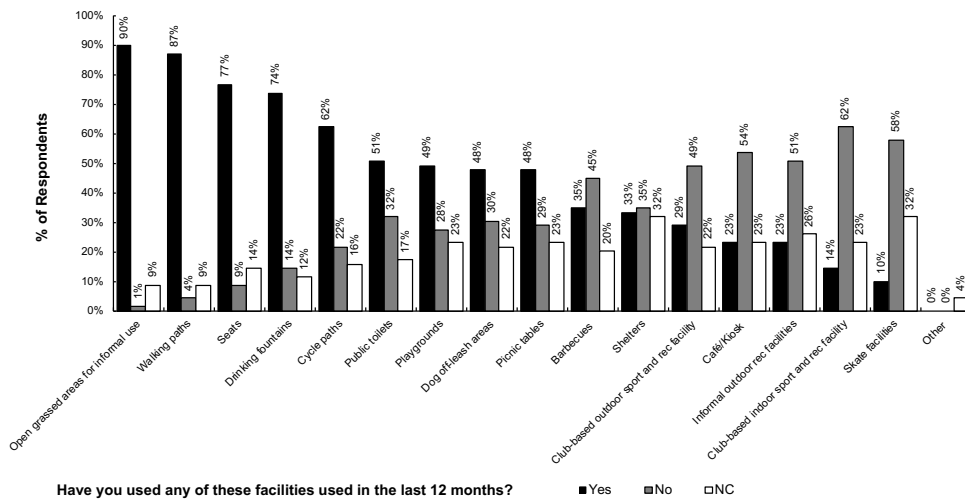
On a daily/weekly basis, local streets for exercise are the most popular followed by open space along the Merri Creek and large parks and gardens. This generally reflects the proximity of Merri Creek and the number of large parks in Clifton Hill.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
74%	Local streets for exercise	35%	29%	9%
71%	Open space along the Merri Creek	21%	28%	22%
68%	Large parks and gardens	21%	24%	24%
57%	Open space along the Yarra River	15%	22%	21%
54%	Large sporting reserves	13%	19%	22%
47%	Small local parks	15%	12%	21%
15%	Medium sized parks	3%	4%	7%
15%	Urban Squares	1%	3%	10%

A2.5.6 Facilities and features in open space

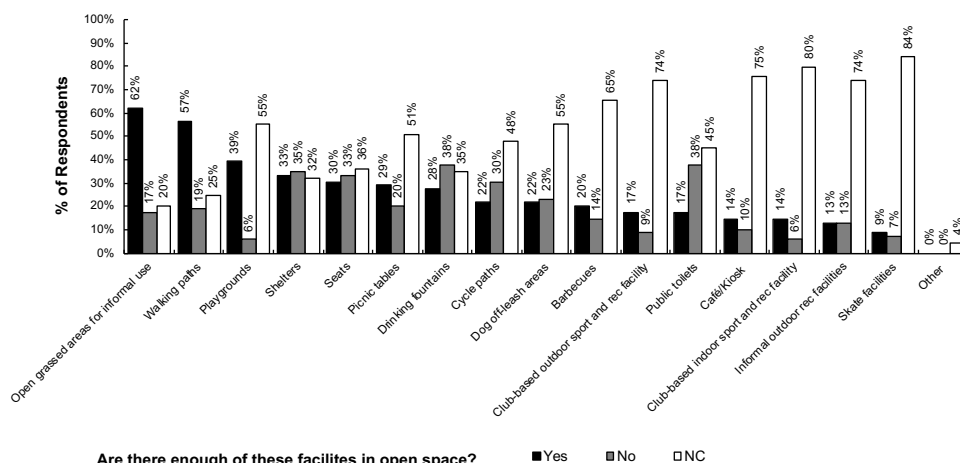
A2.5.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Clifton Hill, 68. Respondents indicated that open grassed areas, walking paths and seats were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months, approximately 15 to 7 per cent higher than the Municipal average.



A2.5.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Clifton Hill surveys received, 68.

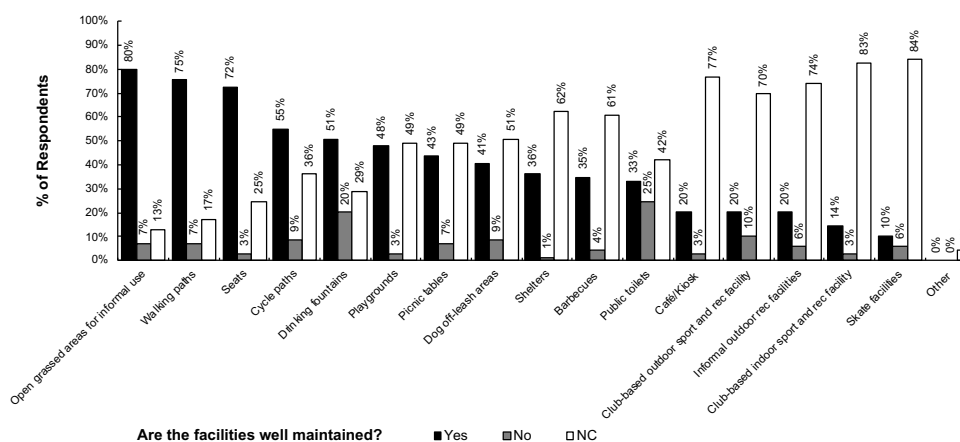


Are there enough of these facilities in open space? ■ Yes ■ No □ NC

Compared to the municipal average there is a higher level of satisfaction with the provision of open grassed areas and playgrounds, however a much higher level of dissatisfaction with provision of shelters and a higher level of dissatisfaction with provision of seats and dog off lead areas.

A2.5.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Clifton Hill surveys returned, 68 and the results are very similar to the municipal results.



Are the facilities well maintained? ■ Yes ■ No □ NC

A2.5.7 General comments on open space

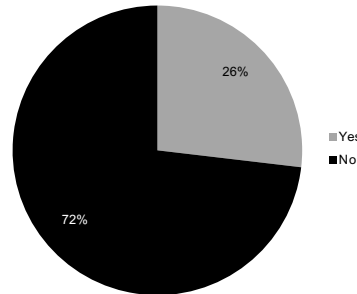
Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Clifton Hill respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

No.	General Comments List
21	Open Space
6	Open space - valued
4	Open space - additional required as density increases
3	Open space - contributes to liveability
2	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing
1	Open space - additional small open spaces required
1	Open space - diversity of types valued
1	Open space - important for lack of private gardens
1	Open space - natural character valued
1	Open space - not enough provided in Collingwood
1	Open space - Roseneath Street Reserve needs improvement
9	Maintenance and Management
2	The Westfield Restoration Project - improve management
1	Bins - empty more frequently
1	Council - to follow up with community on maintenance requests
1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
1	Drones - designate a flying space
1	Maintenance - valued
1	Open space - ensure they are well maintained
1	Sporting clubs - additional support required
9	Other
5	Overall strategy - Council is doing a good job
1	Cyclist traffic lights - install to allow head start for safer commutes at Wellington Street and Alexander Parade
1	Open space - promote Merri Creek and Yarra Bend Parks in a bushwalking guide
1	Overall strategy - keep promoting cycling
1	Public art - appreciated
8	Recreation Facilities
2	Sporting facilities - make sporting fields multi use
1	Informal recreation facilities - upgrade skate parks for differing abilities
1	Playground - water play required
1	Recreational facilities - indoor facilities with storage for regular community meetings/events required
1	Sporting facilities - appreciate the running track upgrade at Collingwood Athletics
1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require an upgrade at Mayors Park
1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance
5	Park Infrastructure
1	Lighting - follow guidelines by the International Dark Sky Association
1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required near playgrounds
1	Seating - additional required
1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required on trails
1	Signage - interpretive retelling local histories required
4	Trees and Vegetation
1	Trees - create a register of trees children can climb
1	Trees - large trees valued
1	Trees - protect all trees
1	Trees - street tree planting slows traffic
1	Access
1	Access - improve access to the river for rowing purposes
1	Paths
1	Shared paths - regulations needed for cyclists

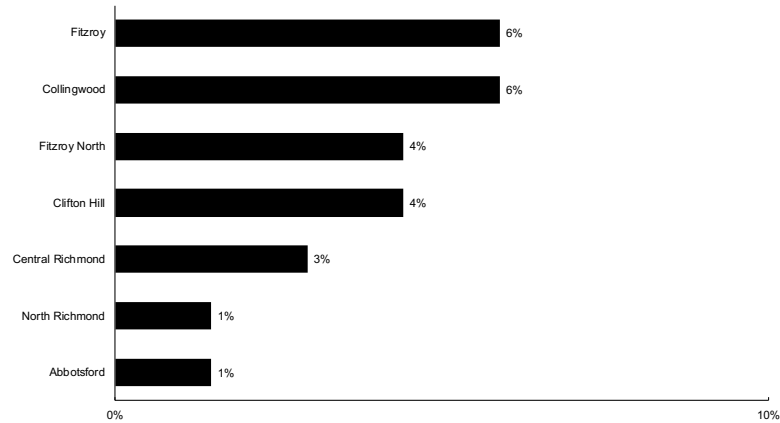
A2.5.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 68 surveys received.

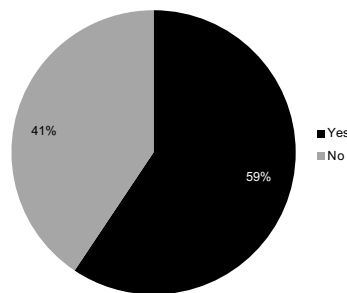
A2.5.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



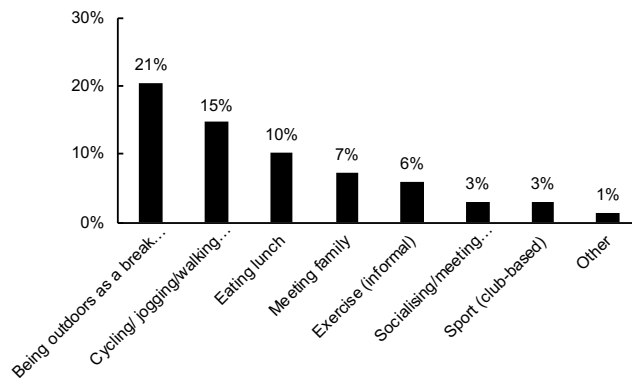
A2.5.8b Where respondents work



A2.5.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



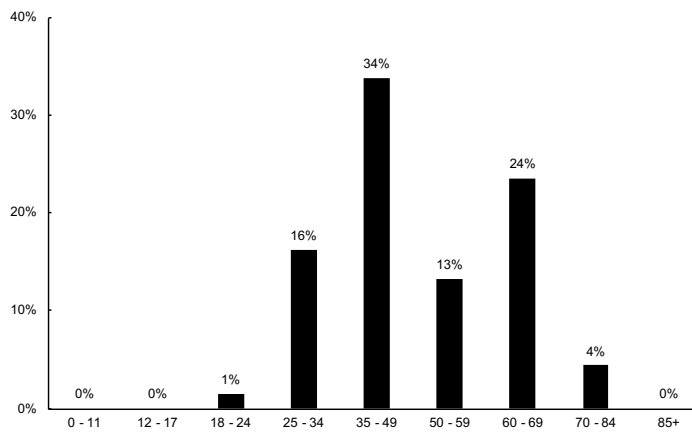
A2.5.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



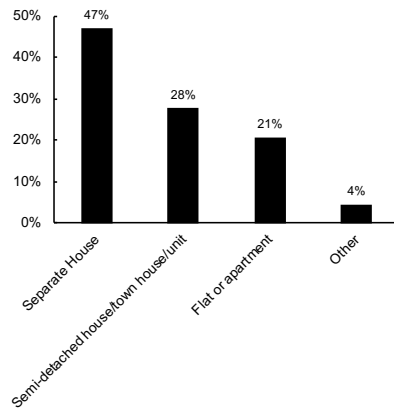
A2.5.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 68 surveys received.

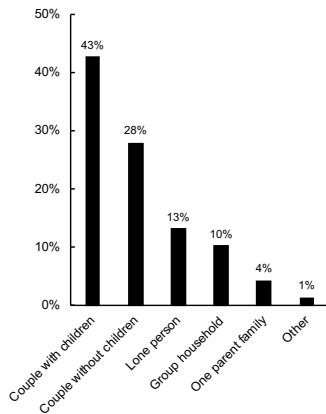
A2.5.9a Age range



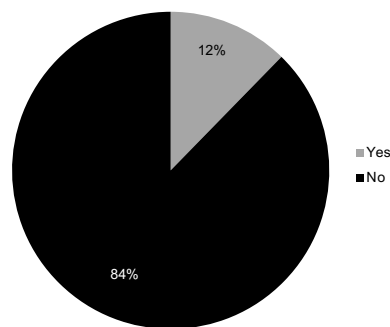
A2.5.9b Dwelling type



A2.5.9c Household type



A2.5.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.6 Collingwood

Summary of the survey outcomes for Collingwood

99 respondents indicated they live in Collingwood. This represents 8 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 10 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Collingwood.

The urban context of Collingwood is changing from the industrial context to a high density mixed use character with residential, business, retail and commercial uses in renovated former industrial buildings. It is characterised by a lack of large green open spaces due to its industrial past. The survey respondents visit and highly value the small local open space and also travel further into adjoining areas to exercise and use larger areas of open space the most common being Fitzroy Gardens. Small parks are well utilised for short breaks but in the case of Peel Street Park the design and over use make the park uninviting for some residents.

Residents appreciate and would like to have additional open space in any form as well as more street trees, community gardens and playgrounds. Dogs are popular, the need for dog owners to be responsible for waste was identified as a key issue. Compared with other precincts, there is a lower level of participation in exercise due to the lack of opportunities to do this in Collingwood.

A2.6.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Collingwood, 99. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

77 per cent of respondents consider trees as the most valued feature of open space, followed by as a place to relax and escape the built environment, 12 per cent higher than the overall response. The green character, flowers and garden beds the quiet and historical character are all ranked higher than the municipal-wide results. Being a place for children to play, health and wellbeing and fitness are all ranked lower, reflecting the lack of provision of larger areas of open space that are of a size to exercise in.

Value	%
Trees	77%
A place to relax and unwind	74%
An escape from the built environment	71%
The feeling of space	55%
Just being outside	53%
Habitat for native plants and animals	49%
Green character	44%
Flowers/garden beds	41%
Exercising dogs	30%

Value	%
A place for children to play	35%
Health and well being	35%
The quiet	32%
It's accessible	31%
Natural bushland character	28%
The diversity of open space	28%
Historical character	25%
Cultural activities and events	24%
Fitness	24%
Cultural heritage values/significance	23%
Knowing that it's there	20%
Playing casual ball games/activity	15%
Watching activity	15%
Playing team/club based sport	10%
Other	3%

The other category included a range of comments including having a spiritual connection with nature, duck watching, using picnic facilities, having urban agriculture, being able to have dogs off-leash, use bins, and having the playgrounds fenced.

A2.6.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 99 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.6.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
35	Peel Street Park	35%
22	Oxford Street Park	22%
20	Fitzroy Gardens	20%
13	Edinburgh Gardens	13%
10	Darling Gardens	10%
8	Carlton Gardens	8%
8	Yarra Bend Park	8%
7	Cambridge Street Reserve	7%
7	Gahan Reserve	7%
6	McNamara Reserve	6%
5	Victoria Park	5%
4	Powlett Reserve	4%
3	Citizens Park	3%
3	Dights Falls	3%
3	Yarra River Corridor	3%
2	Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct	2%
2	Condell Street Reserve	2%
2	Curtain Square	2%
2	Department of Housing Harmsworth Street	2%
2	Local Oval	2%
2	Local Park	2%
2	Quarries Park	2%

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
2	Yarra Park	2%
1	Albert Park	1%
1	Alexander Street Reserve	1%
1	Atherton Reserve	1%
1	Department of Housing Perry Street	1%
1	Department of Housing Richmond Place	1%
1	Fitzroy Primary School	1%
1	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	1%
1	Saint Phillips Reserve	1%
1	Saint Joseph Primary School	1%
1	Studley Park	1%
1	Tatterson Park	1%

A2.6.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Collingwood

The following table lists the reasons why Collingwood respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. The results indicate that Peel Street Park and Oxford Street Park are the most popular, particularly because they are nearby in order to take a break from the indoors, or to bring the dog for a short walk, while Fitzroy Gardens is utilised for exercising and other qualities of a larger area of open space.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Peel Street Park 35	7	Access - close to home	6	Seating - improve design
	5	Dog walking	5	Shade - additional required
	5	Outdoors/being outside	4	Open space - improve design and layout
	4	Dogs friendly	3	Dogs - owners responsible for the removal of waste
	4	Open space - green place	3	Fencing - additional required
	4	Access - travel through	3	Paths - connecting path/s required
	3	Lunch	3	Paths - improvements required around wheelchair access ramp
	3	Reading	3	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	3	Relaxing	2	Dogs - over use
	2	Apartment living	2	Lighting - additional required
	2	Open space	2	Lighting - upgrade
	2	Open space - provision	2	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Paths - additional direct paths required
	1	Access - easy to access	2	Playgrounds - additional required
	1	Open space - additional required	2	Seating - additional required
	1	People watching	2	Security - additional required
	1	Picnics	2	Trees - additional required
	1	Social - phone calls	2	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Sunshine/Vitamin D	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Walking	1	Dogs - improve usability for dogs
			1	Drainage - improvement needed
			1	Entertainment/events - prohibit
			1	Fencing - remove fencing
			1	Graffiti - removal required
			1	Homelessness - action required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.6 Collingwood

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
			1	Improvements - none required
			1	Improvements - required
			1	Nature strip - required from Wellington Street to Peel Street Park
			1	Open grassed areas - improvements required
			1	Open grassed areas - raised area to protect grass
			1	Open space - additional required
			1	Pergola required for shade
			1	Playgrounds - additional required with creative/diverse character
			1	Rotunda - required for entertainment/events
			1	Seating - change colour
			1	Security - prohibit alcohol consumption
			1	Security - prohibit late night alcohol consumption
			1	Shelter - additional required
			1	Vegetation - resilient plants required
Oxford Street Park 22	7	Relaxing	3	Trees - additional required
	6	Lunch	2	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	3	Access - close to home	2	Graffiti - removal required
	2	Access - close to work	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Access - travel through	2	Shade - additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Bins - empty frequently
	2	Open space - fresh air	1	Cyclists - prohibit
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Dogs - over use
	2	Sunshine/Vitamin D	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	2	Walking	1	Garden beds - improvements required
	1	Dog walking	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Open grassed areas - maintenance required
	1	Open space - green place	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Reading	1	Paths - dangerous, east side of the park
	1	Trees - shade	1	Security - additional required
			1	Security - improve surveillance
			1	Shelters - additional required
			1	Smoking - prohibit in open space
			1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
			1	Vandalism - an issue
Fitzroy Gardens 20	5	Exercising	2	Improvements - none required
	4	Open space - green place	1	Café/kiosk facilities - additional required
	3	Access - close to home	1	Community garden - required
	3	Dog walking	1	Developments - avoid over developing
	3	Open Space - ambience, beauty	1	Developments - to donate money for open spaces
	3	Open space - peaceful	1	Dog - drinking facilities, additional required
	3	Relaxing	1	Improvements - none required, value trees and water
	3	Trees	1	Lighting - upgrade required
	2	Open space	1	Playgrounds - additional creative/diverse character
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Trees - additional required to clean air

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.6 Collingwood

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	2	Walking	1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
	1	Access - travel through	1	Vegetation - additional flowers required
	1	Café and kiosk facilities		
	1	Entertainment/events - children		
	1	Open space - fresh air		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
1	Sunshine/ Vitamin D			
Edinburgh Gardens 13	4	Dog walking	2	Drinking fountains - maintenance required
	2	Access - close to home	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Exercising	2	Toilets - additional required
	2	Informal ball games/sport	1	Informal sporting facilities - improve basketball court surface
	2	Open space - large space	1	Community garden - required
	2	Picnics	1	Dog - waste bags/bins, additional required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for holes
	2	Trees - beautiful	1	Irrigation - pipes leaking north of skate park
	1	Access - cycle through	1	Signage - improve for dogs on-leash/off-leash areas
	1	Cycling	1	Social - value the social aspect
	1	Diverse range of activities		
	1	Dogs friendly		
	1	Historical character		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
1	Open space - peaceful			
1	Outdoors/being outside			
1	Play			
Darling Gardens 10	3	Informal ball games/sport	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Access - convenient (on the way)	2	Toilets - additional required
	2	Dog walking	1	Community garden - required
	2	Picnics	1	Open space - additional required
	2	Play - children	1	Seating - additional required
	2	Playground	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Access - close to home		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - fresh air		
	1	Park facilities		
	1	Paths - cycling		
	1	Playground - basket swing		
	1	Relaxing		
1	Social - meeting people/friends			
Carlton Gardens 8	3	Jogging/running	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	2	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Community garden - required
	2	Picnics	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	2	Trees - large	1	Garden beds - additional required
	1	Access - close to museum	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Cycling	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Exercising		

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.6 Collingwood

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Playground		
	1	Relaxing		
Yarra Bend Park 8	2	Dogs - off-leash area	3	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	2	Jogging/running	2	Paths - surface needs improvements
	2	Picnics	1	Access - improve access to the Yarra for cyclists and people with disabilities
	2	Relaxing	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	2	Walking	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Dogs friendly	1	Drinking fountains -required near playground
	1	Drawing	1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	1	Exercising	1	Shelters - additional required near playgrounds
	1	Natural character - bushland character/feel		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	River trail		
	1	Working - outdoors		
Cambridge Street Reserve 7	2	Access - close to home	1	Development - concerns about impact on open space
	2	Playground	1	Dogs - over use
	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - required
	1	Lunch	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQ's	1	Open space - additional required as density increases
	1	Play - children	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space
	1	Sitting	1	Open space - keep/retain what is there
	1	Trees - shade		
Gahan Reserve 7	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Dogs - fenced off-lead areas required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Fencing - additional required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space
	1	Open Space - ambience, beauty	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - fresh air	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Play	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Play - children	1	Vegetation - additional flowers required
	1	Sport - volleyball		
	1	Walking		
	1	Working - outdoors		
McNamara Reserve 6	2	Play - children	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Playground	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Bins - empty frequently
	1	Access - close to home	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.6 Collingwood

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Park facilities	1	Open space - grassed area required
	1	Play	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Playground - fenced		
	1	Shade		
Victoria Park 5	2	Dog walking	1	Dogs - conflict with use of sporting ovals
	2	Informal ball games/sport	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Information - additional information required about open space and facilities available
	1	Picnics	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Play - children	1	Signage - improve clarity for dog on-leash/off-leash areas
	1	Relaxing		
Powlett Reserve 4	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQ's	1	Fencing - around playground for safety
	1	Dog walking	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Lunch	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - provision	1	Sporting facilities - additional tennis facilities required
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Play		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Sport - tennis		
	1	Trees		
Citizens Park 3	2	Open Space - ambience, beauty	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Sporting facilities - multi use court
	1	Open space - large space	1	Toilets - value upgrade
	1	Safe		
	1	Walking		
Dights Falls 3	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Access - improve crossing at Turo Street and Hoddle Street
	1	Dog walking	1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Natural character - bushland character/feel	1	Vegetation - improve weed control
	1	Paths		
	1	Walking		
Yarra River Corridor 3	1	Access - close to home	2	Signage - about local history/ indigenous culture
	1	Cycling	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Natural character - bushland character/feel	1	Vegetation - improve weed control
	1	Open space - green place	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Walking		
Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct 2	1	Café and kiosk facilities	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Trees		
	1	Yoga		
Condell Street Reserve 2	1	Access - close to home	1	Playgrounds - provide shade
	1	Play - children	1	Playgrounds - upgrade required
	1	Playground	1	Toilets - additional required

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.6 Collingwood

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Curtain Square 2	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Open grassed areas - additional required
	1	Dogs friendly	1	Open grassed areas - improve
			1	Toilets - upgrade existing
Department of Housing Harmsworth Street 2	1	Open space - fresh air	1	Vegetation - additional flowers required
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Local ovals 2	1	Dog walking		
	1	Exercising		
Local parks 2	1	Access - close to home	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Play - children	1	Seating - additional required
Quarries Park 2	2	Playground	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	1	Informal recreation facilities - skate park	1	Playgrounds - water play required
	1	Picnic facilities	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	River setting		
Yarra Park 2	1	Dog walking	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Exercising		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Trees - heritage		
	1	Trees - shade		
Albert Park 1	1	Exercising		
	1	Relaxing		
Alexander Street Reserve 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
			1	Gates - removal appreciated
			1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
Atherton Reserve 1	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Trees - additional required
	1	People watching		
	1	Relaxing		
Department of Housing Perry Street 1	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables
Department of Housing Richmond Place 1	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Fitzroy Primary School 1	1	Informal ball games/sport		
	1	Play - children		
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 1	1	Exercising		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Walking		
Saint Phillips Reserve 1	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Historical character		
	1	Relaxing		
Saint Joseph Primary School 1	1	Informal ball games/sport		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Studley Park 1	1	Dogs friendly	1	Trees - additional required
Tatterson Park 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Paths - additional required
	1	Leisure centre	1	Trees - additional required

A2.6.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 99 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.6.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
15	Edinburgh Gardens	15%
7	Yarra Bend Park	7%
6	Fitzroy Garden	6%
6	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	6%
4	Yarra River Corridor	4%
3	Carlton Gardens	3%
3	Citizens Park	3%
3	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne "The Tan"	3%
2	Darebin Parklands	2%
2	Gahan Reserve	2%
2	Peel Street Park	2%
2	Quarries Park	2%
2	Studley Park	2%
1	Atherton Reserve	1%
1	Caulfield Park	1%
1	Ceres Community Environment Park	1%
1	Department of Housing Harmsworth Street	1%
1	Dights Falls	1%
1	East Melbourne Park	1%
1	Federation Square	1%
1	Gilpin Park	1%
1	Jells Park	1%
1	Kokoda Track Memorial Park	1%
1	Lysterfield Park	1%
1	Merri Creek Shared Trail	1%
1	Nature Play at Royal Park	1%
1	Neill Street Reserve	1%
1	Yarra Bank Reserve	1%
1	Yarra Park	1%

A2.6.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Collingwood respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. The overall results indicate that Edinburgh Gardens is generally utilised as a social space for picnics and dog walking while Yarra Bend Park is used for informal exercise.

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.6 Collingwood

Open Space	No.	Reasons for Visiting	No.	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 15	5	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Improvements - none required
	4	Picnics	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	3	Dog walking	1	Drones - allow
	3	Open space - large space	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Fencing - additional required in off-leash areas
	2	Open Space - ambience, beauty	1	Playgrounds - shade required over equipment
	2	Informal recreational facilities - skate park	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Access - close to home		
	1	Cycling - through		
	1	Dogs - off-leash area		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Playground		
	1	Sport - soccer lessons		
	1	Walking		
	Yarra Bend Park 7	2	Jogging/running	3
2		Walking	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
1		Cycling	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
1		Dogs - exercising	1	Pedestrian crossing - improve at Turo Street
1		Exercising	1	Trees - maintenance required
1		Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Vegetation - maintenance required
1		Open space - natural character		
1		Relaxing		
1		River setting		
1		Social - meeting people/friends		
Fitzroy Garden 6	2	Open Space - ambience, beauty	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	2	Open space - peaceful	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Dogs - on-leash area	1	Garden beds - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Exercising	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Health and well-being	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Trees - beautiful		
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 6	2	Walking	1	Access - extend in children's garden
	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Open space - additional botanical gardens required
	1	Health and well-being	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Toilets - maintenance required
	1	Open space		
	1	Open Space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - diversity of types		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Playground - water play		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Yarra River Corridor 4	2	Cycling	3	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
	2	Jogging/running	1	Bins - additional required

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.6 Collingwood

Open Space	No.	Reasons for Visiting	No.	Suggested Improvements
	2	Walking	1	Paths - valued
	1	Birdlife watching		
	1	Cycling - with children		
	1	Wildlife watching		
Carlton Gardens 3	1	Exercising	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Walking		
Citizens Park 3	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - additional fenced off-leash areas in Collingwood required
	1	Dogs friendly	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Exercising		
	1	Studying		
	1	Walking		
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne "The Tan" 3	3	Jogging/running	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
Darebin Parklands 2	1	Dogs friendly	1	Dogs - fence off-leash areas
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Improvements - none required
Gahan Reserve 2	1	Access - close to home	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - close to the library	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Reading		
Peel Street Park 2	1	Apartment living	1	Dogs - over use
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Open grassed areas- increase area
	1	Relaxing	1	Vegetation - additional required
Quarries Park 2	2	Playground	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - large	1	Playgrounds - upgrade
Studley Park 2	1	Exercising	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - identity	1	Picnic facilities - additional required tables near the playground
	1	Open space - natural character		
Atherton Reserve 1	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Caulfield Park 1	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Ceres Community Environment Park 1	1	Community hub	1	Open space - additional community environmental parks required
	1	River setting		
Department of Housing Harmsworth Street 1	1	Community garden	1	Security - additional required
	1	Safe - locked garden		
Dights Falls 1	1	Exercising	3	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Natural character - bushland character/feel		
	1	Paths - exercising		
East Melbourne Park 1	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs		
	1	Sport - tennis		
Federation Square 1	1	Entertainment/events		

Open Space	No.	Reasons for Visiting	No.	Suggested Improvements
Gilpin Park 1	1	Exercising	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Jogging/running		
Jells Park 1	1	Paths - good quality	1	Trees - additional required
Kokoda Track Memorial Park 1	1	Exercising	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - natural character		
Lysterfield Park 1	1	Car park - plenty		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Safe - jogging		
Merri Creek Shared Trail 1	1	Walking	2	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
Nature Play at Royal Park 1	1	Hill		
	1	Playground		
	1	Water park		
Neill Street Reserve 1	1	Sporting facilities - multi use court	1	Improvements - none required
Yarra Bank Reserve 1	1	Drawing		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
Yarra Park 1	1	Exercising	1	Toilets - additional required

A2.6.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or additional broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

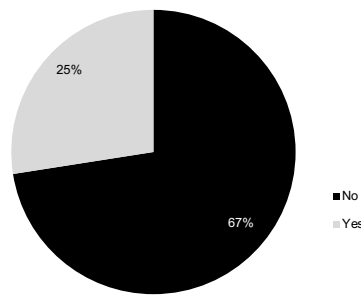
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 99 surveys received.

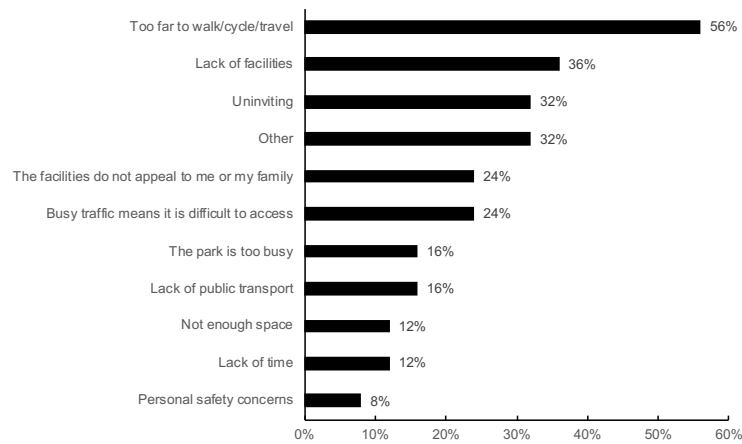
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 25 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

25 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is slightly higher than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was due to distance followed by the lack of facilities. Equally open spaces were said to feel uninviting and there were a number of other reasons such as dogs were not allowed to be off-leash, they feared vandals and skateboarders or felt they were unwelcome, or unaware of the space. Compared to the Municipal average, 15 per cent more respondents in Collingwood considered travel distance to open space as an issue. While other reasons were consistent with the Municipal response, open space being uninviting is 11 per cent higher.

A2.6.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Collingwood. The percentages are calculated based on the 99 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
68%	Open space along the Merri Creek	4%	5%	11%	23%	24%	21%	11%
87%	Open space along the Yarra River	6%	10%	20%	31%	19%	6%	7%
88%	Large parks and gardens	5%	16%	24%	29%	13%	3%	9%
77%	Large sporting reserves	1%	12%	13%	20%	30%	12%	11%
68%	Medium sized parks	1%	6%	15%	23%	22%	17%	15%
90%	Small local parks	26%	25%	18%	11%	9%	4%	6%
77%	Urban Squares	21%	12%	19%	12%	12%	9%	14%
77%	Local streets for exercise	42%	10%	11%	10%	3%	13%	10%

Small local parks are the most frequently used open spaces, followed by large parks and gardens and open space along the Yarra River, which is consistent with the open space network available in Collingwood.

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

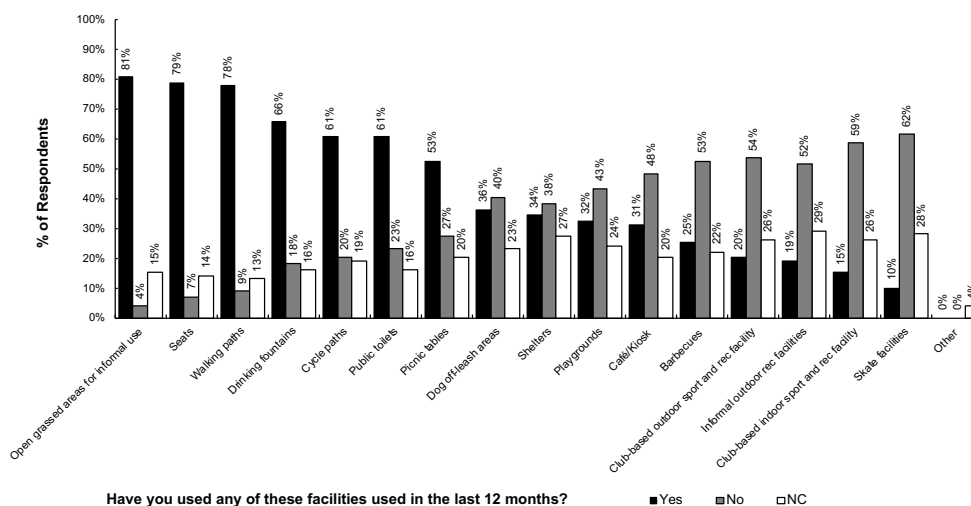
Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
90%	Small local parks	26%	25%	18%
88%	Large parks and gardens	5%	16%	24%
87%	Open space along the Yarra River	6%	10%	20%
77%	Large sporting reserves	1%	12%	13%
77%	Urban Squares	21%	12%	19%
77%	Local streets for exercise	42%	10%	11%
68%	Open space along the Merri Creek	4%	5%	11%
68%	Medium sized parks	1%	6%	15%

On a daily/weekly basis, small local parks are the most popular followed by large parks and gardens and open space along the Yarra River. On a daily basis local streets for exercise is the most frequently used, followed by small local parks. People in Collingwood are using local parks nearby and travelling outside their suburb to access large open space and open space along the Yarra River.

A2.6.6 Facilities and features in open space

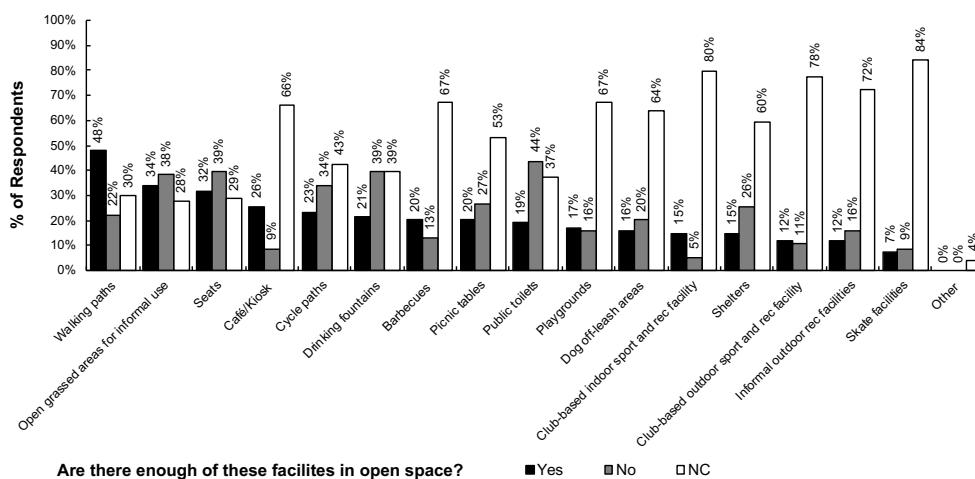
A2.6.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Collingwood, 99. Respondents indicated that open grassed areas, seats and walking paths were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months, seats being used 11 per cent more than the Municipal response.



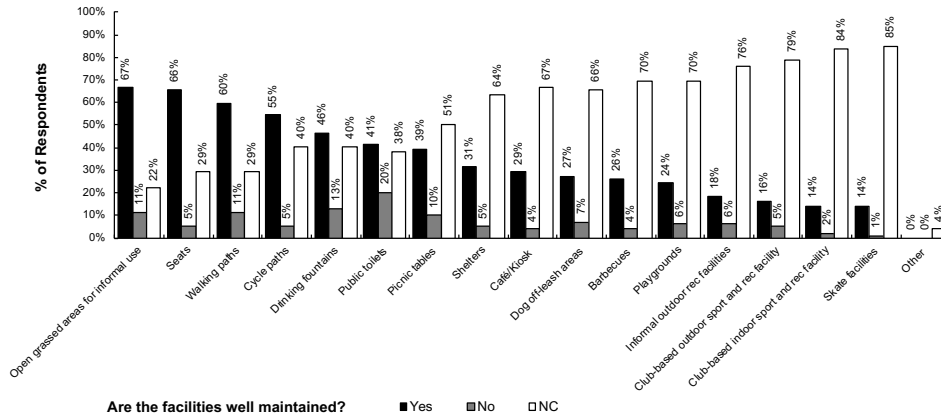
A2.6.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Collingwood surveys received, 99, the biggest difference between the municipal results and Collingwood is the need for additional open grassed areas for informal use (26% more respondents requested this). Seats and public toilets are also identified as not being well provided for in Collingwood.



A2.6.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Collingwood surveys returned, 99.



A2.6.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Collingwood respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

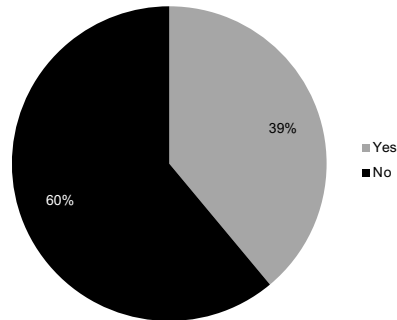
No.	General Comments List
40	Open Space
11	Open space - additional required
8	Open space - additional required as density increases
3	Streetscape - additional green plants
2	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing
1	Access - maximize use of school grounds for open space
1	Open space - additional required with natural character for play
1	Open space - grass nature strips required to link parks
1	Open space - important for relaxing
1	Open space - important for socialization
1	Open space - improve maintenance
1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
1	Open space - larger open space required
1	Open space - utilise dead space as green space
1	Open space - value design and layout
1	Open space - value informal open spaces
1	Open space - value maintenance
1	Open space - value the choice and variety
1	Open space - value the Yarra River
1	Open space - valued
11	Trees and Vegetation
3	Community gardens - additional required

No.	General Comments List
2	Trees - plant additional street trees
1	Fernery - required
1	Garden beds - additional required
1	Garden beds - additional required permeable bed on streets for dog urination
1	Trees - important for shade
1	Trees - plant additional street trees on Alexander Parade
1	Trees - protect exotic/heritage trees
10	Maintenance and Management
2	Bins - to be emptied additional frequently
2	Dogs - fenced in off-leash areas required
2	Graffiti - maintenance required
1	Car Parks - reduce fees and extend times around open spaces
1	Cyclists - conflict with pedestrians on shared paths
1	Dogs - urination becoming a problem on Cambridge Street
1	Maintenance - valued
10	Park Infrastructure
1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
1	Bins - additional required
1	Café/kiosk - additional required
1	Dog - drinking facilities, additional required at off-leash areas
1	Rotunda - required for events/entertainment
1	Seating - additional required
1	Seating - additional required for elderly with shade
1	Shade - additional required
1	Toilets - additional required
1	Toilets - additional required at off-leash areas
8	Recreation Facilities
1	Exercise equipment - additional required
1	Playgrounds - additional required
1	Playgrounds - additional required with creative/diverse character
1	Playgrounds - important for child development
1	Playgrounds - maintenance required at public housing developments
1	Playgrounds - prohibit exercising on children's equipment
1	Playgrounds - water play park required
1	Sporting facilities - additional indoor basketball courts required
6	Other
3	Council - to appoint an open space officer
2	Value the review of existing spaces when creating new open spaces
1	High density developments - limit developments
1	High density developments - to contribute funds for open space
1	Survey - should include section on urban agriculture
2	Access
2	Access - value walking through large open spaces
2	Paths
1	Shared paths - need separate paths for cyclists and pedestrians
1	Paths - desire lines should be made into paths

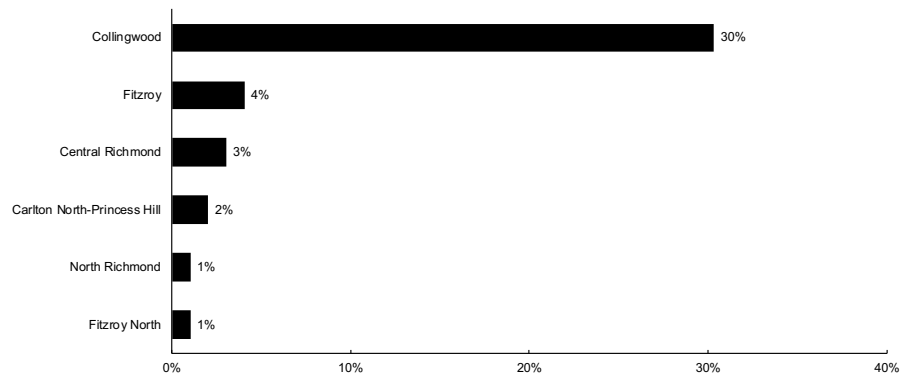
A2.6.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 99 surveys received.

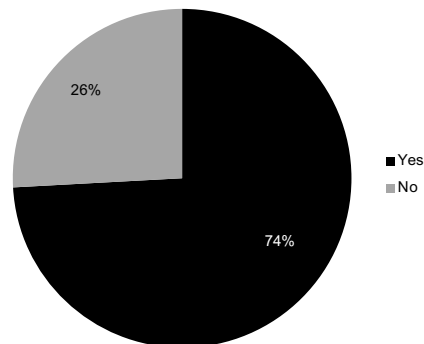
A2.6.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



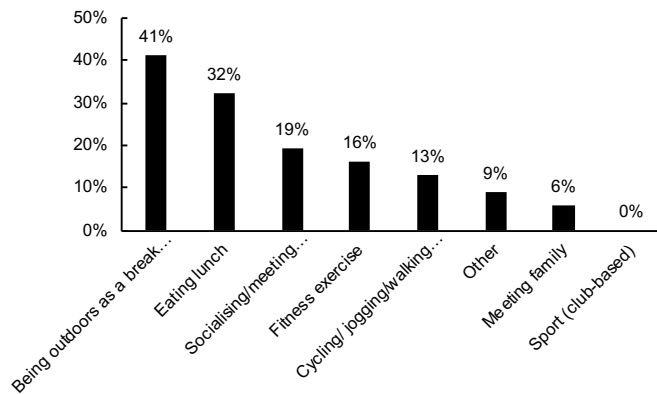
A2.6.8b Where respondents work



A2.6.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



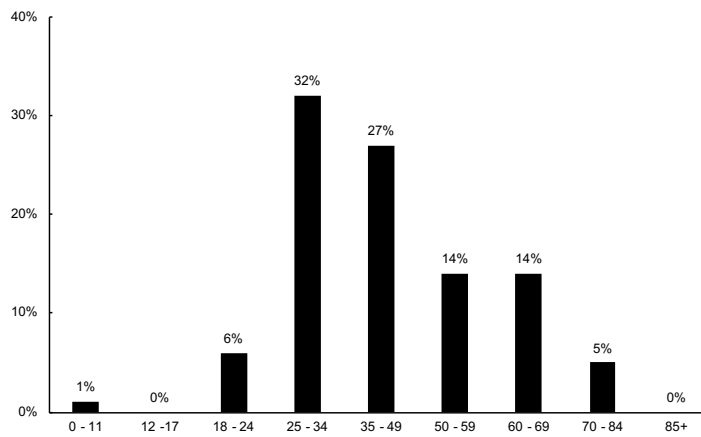
A2.6.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



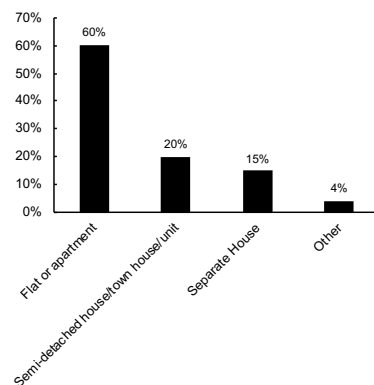
A2.6.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 99 surveys received.

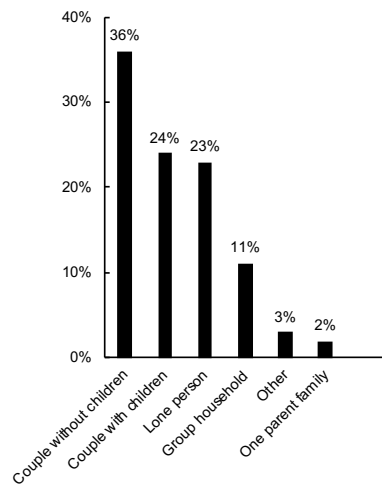
A2.6.9a Age range



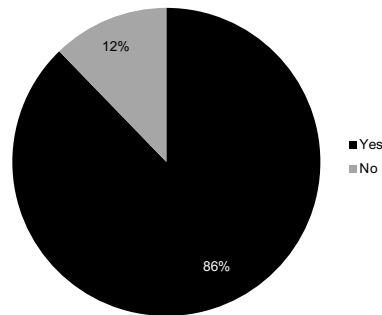
A2.6.9b Dwelling type



A2.6.9c Household type



A2.6.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.7 Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Summary of the survey outcomes for Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

94 respondents indicated they live in Cremorne, Burnley or Richmond South. This represents 7 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 6 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley.

Cremorne, Burnley and South Richmond residents appreciate and utilise their open space for social contact and events, playing sport and walking their dogs. Barkley Gardens is the most popular open space valued for play, picnics, meeting friends and exercise. Citizens Park, Barkley Gardens and Whites Street Reserve are other popular reserves. Key issues identified in the responses include the lack of open space, particularly in Cremorne and difficulty in accessing open space available due to a lack of/poor quality of footpaths and/or cycle paths and busy traffic.

Conflicts between dog owners and children using sporting grounds was a common conflict, with dog waste being a reoccurring issue at Citizens Park and Kevin Bartlett Reserve. Those parks also require clubroom upgrades and facilities for females. Trees were highly valued in parks for their character and shade and requested as a priority in the streetscapes as well.

A2.7.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley, 94. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

The highest ranking for open space values is as a place to relax and unwind, followed by trees and the feeling of space. These top three are consistent with the municipal wide results however the top ranking in the municipal average is trees. The key differences from the municipal average is a higher priority given to a place for children to play, the quiet, fitness and playing team based and casual ball sports. Habitat values, walking dogs and green character were all given a lower ranking.

Value	%
A place to relax and unwind	77%
Trees	73%
The feeling of space	66%
Place for children to play	64%
An escape from the built environment	62%

Value	%
Just being outside	55%
Health and wellbeing	55%
Fitness	51%
Meeting people/friends	49%
Habitat for native plants and animals	49%
It is accessible	41%
The quiet	39%
Flowers/garden beds	39%
Natural bushland character	39%
Exercising dogs	38%
Playing casual ball games	33%
Playing team/club based sport	33%
The diversity of open space	28%
Knowing that it is there	22%
Historical character	19%
Cultural heritage values	18%
Cultural activities and events	15%
Green character	14%
Watching activity	9%
Other	1%

A2.7.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 94 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.7.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space beyond Cremorne	%
43	Barkly Gardens	46%
29	Citizens Park	31%
18	Burnley Park	19%
11	White Street Reserve	12%
9	Charles Evans Reserve	10%
8	Golden Square Park	9%
8	Gosch's Paddock	9%
7	Yarra Park	7%
7	Yarra River Corridor	7%
6	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	6%
6	McConchie Reserve	6%
6	Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne	6%
3	Yarra River Trail (Railway to Punt Rd)	3%
2	Alan Bain Reserve	2%
2	Dame Nellie Melba Park	2%
2	Kagan Institute Richmond Campus	2%
2	Loys Paddock	2%
2	Ryans Reserve	2%
1	Fitzroy Gardens	1%

No.	Open space beyond Cremorne	%
1	Local Open Space	1%
1	Richmond Terrace Park	1%
1	Treasury Gardens	1%
1	Wangaratta Street Park	1%
1	Williams Reserve	1%
1	Yarra River Trail (Bridge Rd to Swan St)	1%
1	Yarra River Trail (McConchie Reserve to Church St)	1%
1	Yarra River Trail (Johnston St to Clark St)	1%

A2.7.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

The following table lists the reasons why Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Barkly Gardens is predominately used for informal play, social events and exercise, whereas Citizens Park is mainly used for sport and dog walking/exercise.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Barkly Gardens 43	11	Playground	5	Toilets - maintenance required
	8	Picnic facilities - BBQs	4	Picnic facilities - shade required
	6	Access - close to home	3	Improvements - none required
	6	Social - meeting people/friends	3	Playground - shade required
	5	Exercising	2	Improvements - none required - improvements appreciated
	4	Dog walking	2	Picnic facilities - shelter required
	4	Open space - large space	2	Toilets - additional required
	4	Play - children	2	Toilets - deterrents for drug users
	4	Walking	2	Toilets - upgrade required
	3	Diverse range of activities	2	Trees - maintenance required
	3	Dog friendly	1	Bins - additional required
	3	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	3	Events - children	1	Cycle paths - improve
	3	Picnics	1	Cycling - improve amenity/safety in streets to access open space
	2	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Dogs - enforce on-leash regulations
	2	Informal ball games/sports	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Play	1	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields
	2	Relaxing	1	Footpaths - improve amenity in streets to access open space
	1	Access - easy to access	1	Garden beds - maintenance required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Informal sport facilities - install goal posts
1	Open space	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball court requires shade	
1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Informal sports facilities - install layer soccer nets next to power terminals	
1	Open space - away from busy roads and traffic	1	Lighting - additional required	
1	Open space - fresh air	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required	
1	Open space - green	1	Maintenance - valued	
1	Open space - layout	1	Paths - surface upgrades	
1	Open space - peaceful	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs additional required	

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.7 Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - well maintained	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs regular maintenance required
	1	Social - children's parties	1	Picnic facilities - upgrade
	1	Social - sense of community	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Sport - children's cricket	1	Security - prohibit consumption of alcohol at night
	1	Sports oval	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Trees - shade	1	Traffic - close Mary St during school hours
			1	Trees - additional required
Citizens Park 29	8	Sport - junior football	7	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade
	5	Dog walking	6	Dogs - dog owners responsible for dog waste
	5	Sport - children	5	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require facilities for girls
	2	Exercising	3	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	2	Playgrounds	2	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields
	2	Sport	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Sport - junior cricket	2	Sports oval - improve turf
	2	Sport - football	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Access - easy to access	1	Drainage - improvement required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Dogs - exercise	1	Gates - improve
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Information - additional information required about open space and facilities available
	1	Jogging/running	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space	1	Paths - connecting path/s required to Bridge Road
	1	Open space - being outside	1	Paths - running track required
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Pavilion - improve
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Play	1	Shelters - provide additional
	1	Play - children	1	Sporting facilities - additional facilities for girls required
1	Play - young toddler	1	Toilets - maintenance required	
1	Relaxing	1	Toilets - upgrade required	
1	Social - meeting people/friends			
1	Sport - community organised			
1	Sports oval			
Burnley Park 18	4	Dog walking	3	Caretaker's cottage - improve
	3	Walking	3	Exercise equipment - additional required
	2	Access - close to home	2	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	2	Exercising	2	Garden beds - improvement required
	2	Open space - being outside	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Open space - large space	1	Bins - empty frequently
	2	Play - children	1	Dogs - owners to effectively control their dogs
	2	Playground	1	Dogs - prohibit on sporting field
	1	Access - cycling through	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Access - travel through	1	Garden Beds - additional native/indigenous planting required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.7 Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Birdlife watching	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball facilities -appreciated
	1	Sport - basketball	1	Informal sports facilities- facilities for older children
			1	Playgrounds - increase diversity of equipment for a range of ages
			1	Toilets - open outside of business hours
White Street Reserve 11	2	Sport - informal ball games	2	Playgrounds - upgrade required
	1	Cycle paths - good quality	1	Informal sporting facilities - climbing wall required
	1	Dogs - exercise	1	Lighting - required for evening play
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Open space - enlarge/extend the open space
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Playgrounds - fence to prevent dogs
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Toilets - upgrade required
	1	Picnics	1	Trees - maintenance required
	1	Play - young toddler		
	1	Reading		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Sport - children's		
	1	Trees - large		
1	Trees - native			
Charles Evans Reserve 9	3	Social - meeting people/friends	4	Grassing - improvements required
	2	Dog friendly	2	Open space - additional required
	2	Access - close to home	2	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	2	Picnics	1	Garden beds - maintenance required
	2	Play - children		
	1	Access - easy to access		
	1	Informal ball games/sports		
	1	Open space - additional required		
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Open space - green		
	1	Open space - additional required		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Open space - provision		
	1	Playground		
1	Relaxing			
Golden Square Park 8	3	Access - close to home	4	Toilets - additional required
	3	Playground	3	Playgrounds - shade required
	2	Dog walking	2	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Café and kiosk facilities	1	Dogs - prohibit near playgrounds
	1	Dog friendly	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Family friendly	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Informal ball games/sports	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - being outside		
	1	Open space - clean		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - well maintained		
1	Play - children			
Gosch's Paddock	4	Dog walking	3	Open space - additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Access - provide an overpass

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
8	2	Walking	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Cycling - improve amenity in the streets to access open space
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	1	Informal ball games/sports	1	Footpaths - improve amenity in the streets to access open space
	2	Open space - additional required	1	Garden beds - additional required
	1	Open space - clean	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Traffic - noise intrusive
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Open space - sense of space		
Yarra Park 7	1	Sport - spectating		
	2	Dog walking	2	Open space - additional required
	2	Jogging/running	1	Access - provide an overpass at Sean St
	1	Access - close to home	1	Carpark - remove, retain as parkland
	1	Cycling	1	Drinking fountains - provide additional
	1	Exercising	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Playgrounds - increase diversity of equipment for a range of age groups
	1	Open space - green		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Playground		
Yarra River Corridor 7	1	Walking		
	3	Exercising	1	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
	2	Open space - peaceful	1	Drinking fountains - provide additional
	2	Running	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - cycling through	1	Lighting - additional required on trail
	1	Access - easy to access	1	Rubbish - additional traps required on river
	1	Cycling	1	Shared paths - separate paths for cyclists and pedestrians required
	1	Cycling - travel through	1	Shared paths - widen paths
	1	Open Space - ambience, beauty	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Open space - being outside	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - fresh air		
	1	Views		
McConchie Reserve 6	1	Walking		
	2	Access - close to home	2	Seating - additional required
	2	Dog walking	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Bins - emptied additional frequently
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Biodiversity - improve habitat for Rakali
	1	Exercising	1	Interpretation Signage - about indigenous culture
	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball half court	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Public art - provide additional indigenous
	1	Open space - green		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Playground		
1	River setting			
2	Open space - peaceful	1	Improvements - none required	

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.7 Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne 6	1	Exercising	1	Improvements - none required, improvements appreciated
	1	Flora and Fauna		
	1	Gardens		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open Space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - green		
	1	Open space - none within walking distance		
	1	Walking		
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 3	1	Picnics	1	Lighting - additional required on East Side
	1	Sport - children	1	Sporting facilities - additional netball facilities required
	1	Sport - children's football	1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require greater access for children
	1	Sport - football	1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade
			1	Toilets - upgrade required
Yarra River Trail (Railway to Punt Rd) 3	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Carpark - remove, retain as parkland
	1	Open space - additional required	1	Open space - additional required (Nylex)
	1	River setting	1	Open space - enlarge/extend the open space
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Walking		
Dame Nellie Melba Park 2	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, no restricted hours
	1	Dog walking	1	Seating - upgrade surface
	1	Play - young toddler		
	1	Shade		
Kagan Institute Richmond Campus 2	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Community garden - required
	1	Sport - basketball	1	Informal recreational facilities - provide additional
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Sport - children	1	Picnic facilities - additional required
	1	Sport - volleyball	1	Trees - additional required
Loys Paddock 2	2	Exercising	1	Garden beds - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - peaceful		
Ryans Reserve 2	1	Reading	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Walking		
	1	Sport - netball		
Alan Bain Reserve 1	1	Open space	2	Trees - additional required
	1	Sport - cricket	1	Cycle paths - improve
	1	Sport - football	1	Open space - improve
			1	Paths - perimeter path required
			1	Shade - provide additional
Fitzroy Gardens 1	1	Cycling	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - green		
	1	Walking		
Richmond Terrace Park 1	1	Reading	1	Community garden - required
	1	Relaxing	1	Vegetation - provide additional
	1	Social		

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Treasury Gardens 1	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Walking		
Wangaratta Street Park 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Open space - uninviting
Williams Reserve 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Improvements - none required, improvements appreciated
	1	Café and kiosk facilities		
	1	Playground		
Yarra River Trail (Bridge Rd to Swan St) 1	1	Access - travel through		
	1	Exercising		
Yarra River Trail (McConchie Reserve to Church St) 1	1	Exercising	1	Paths - cyclist/pedestrian bridge required at MacRobertson Bridge or Church Street Park
	1	Open space - green		
	1	River setting		
Yarra River Trail (Johnston St to Clark St) 1	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		

A2.7.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 94 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.7.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space beyond walking distance	%
9	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	10%
8	Citizens Park	9%
5	Outside of Municipality	5%
4	Barkly Gardens	4%
4	Edinburgh Gardens	4%
4	Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne	4%
4	Yarra Bend Park	4%
4	Yarra River Corridor	4%
3	Burnley Park	3%
3	Gosch's Paddock	3%
2	Collingwood Children's Farm	2%
2	Fawkner Park	2%
2	Studley Park	2%
1	Albert Park	1%
1	Darebin Parklands	1%
1	Fairfield Park	1%
1	Golden Square Park	1%

No.	Open space beyond walking distance	%
1	Local Open Space	1%
1	Local Ovals	1%
1	Port Melbourne Beach	1%
1	Princes Park Carlton	1%
1	Richmond Terrace Park	1%
1	Sandridge Beach	1%
1	Yarra Park	1%
1	Yarra River Trail (River St to Bridge Rd)	1%

A2.7.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. Overall the results indicate that Kevin Bartlett Reserve is mainly used for structured sporting use, while Citizens park is used for a combination of sport and unstructured recreation use. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space.

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvement
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 9	3	Sport - junior football	2	Bins - additional required
	1	Dog walking	2	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require facilities for girls
	1	Jogging/running	1	Dogs - owners responsible for waste
	1	Sport	1	Drainage - improvement required
	1	Sport - children	1	Seating - provide additional
	1	Sport - girl's football	1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade
	1	Sport - children's cricket	1	Sporting facilities - upgrade
	1	Sport - community	1	Sports oval - improve turf
	1	Sport - participation		
Citizens Park 8	1	Access - central location	1	Picnic facilities - BBQ's additional required
	1	Access - close to pool	1	Cycling - improve amenity/safety in streets to access open space
	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Dogs - dog owners responsible for dog waste
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Footpaths - improve amenity in streets to access open space
	1	Dogs - exercise	1	Grassing - fill in holes
	1	Exercise equipment	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance and cleaning required
	1	Fences	1	Playground - additional equipment required
	1	Playground	1	Security - additional required
	1	Sport - Auskick	1	Trees - additional required around sports oval
	1	Sport - Richmond Union Cricket Club		
	1	Sporting facilities		
1	Sporting oval			
Outside of municipality 5	1	Playgrounds	1	Open space - additional required in Cremorne
	1	Beach	1	Playgrounds - additional creative/diverse character
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Playgrounds - water park required in Cremorne

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvement
	1	Facilities		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - identity		
	1	Playground - diversity of equipment for a range of age groups		
	1	Walking		
	1	Water park		
Barkly Gardens 4	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Playground - improvements appreciated
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Toilets - upgrade
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Playground		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Edinburgh Gardens 4	2	Relaxing	1	Sporting facilities - increase football use
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Park infrastructure - provide additional facilities
	1	Cycle paths	1	Paths - separate cyclist and pedestrian paths
	1	Festivals		
	1	Open space - beauty		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Picnics		
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne 4	1	Free	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Relaxing		
Yarra Bend Park 4	2	Open space - natural character	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Walking	1	Improvements - none required, improvements appreciated
	1	Exercising	1	Paths - maintenance required on dirt tracks
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - large space		
Burnley Park 3	1	Picnic facilities - BBQ's	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Children's parties	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Gardens		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Walking		
Gosch's Paddock 3	2	Dog walking	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	2	Walking	1	Dogs - prohibited areas
Collingwood Children's Farm 2	1	Cafe/kiosks	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Farm - animals	1	Open space - additional required in Cremorne
	1	Gardens		
	1	Open space - historic character		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	River setting		
Fawcner Park 2	1	Cycling	1	Cycling Paths - connect Fawcner Park to the Yarra River Trail
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Open space - additional required

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvement
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Open space - value natural character
	1	Picnics		
	1	Sport - tennis		
Studley Park 2	1	Dog friendly	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs additional required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Playground - upgrade
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Shelters - provide additional
	1	Walking	1	Toilets - additional required
Albert Park 1	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - fresh air		
Darebin Parklands 1	1	Information - flora and fauna		
	1	Information - heritage		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - natural character		
Fairfield Park 1	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - provides cool areas		
	1	River setting		
Golden Square Park 1	1	Fairy Tree	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQ's		
	1	Playground		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Local concreted open space 1	1	Sport - Roller derby	1	Sporting facilities - provide additional hard surfaced multi use courts
	1	Sport - Roller hockey		
Local Ovals 1	1	Sport - children's football		
Port Melbourne Beach 1	1	Beach		
Princes Park Carlton 1	1	Jogging/running		
Richmond Terrace Park 1	1	Walking - rest stop	1	Improvements - none required
Sandridge Beach 1	1	Dog friendly		
Yarra Park 1	1	Dogs - none	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Informal sport facilities - goal posts		
Yarra River Trail (River St to Bridge Rd) 1	1	Open space - natural character	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Trees		

A2.7.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or additional broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

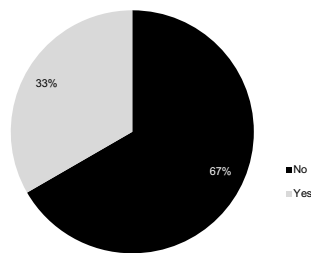
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 94 surveys received.

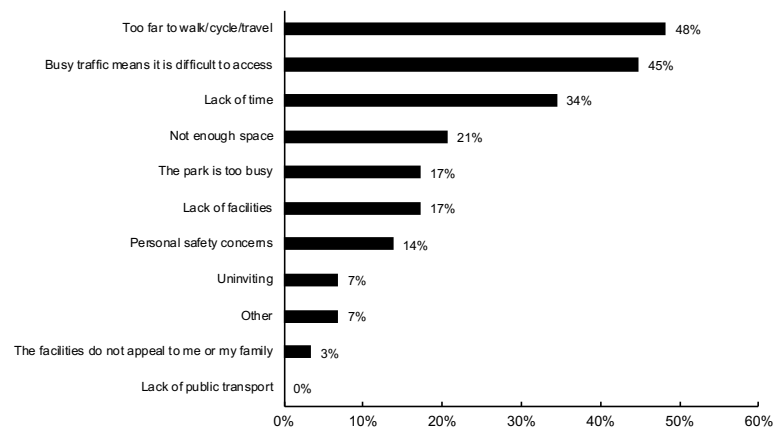
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 29 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

33 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is 11 per cent higher than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was due to the distance followed by a lack of access due to major roads. Compared to the Municipal average, 7 per cent more respondents in this precinct noted travel distance to open space as an issue. The traffic as a reason for not visiting open space is 18 per cent higher than the Municipal

average. Time constraints were also higher than the Municipal average of 26 per cent by 8 per cent.

A2.7.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley. The percentages are calculated based on the 94 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use.

Open space along the Yarra River is the most visited open space, followed closely by large parks and gardens, local streets for exercise and small local parks

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
88%	Large parks and gardens	21%	24%	19%	16%	7%	10%	2%
82%	Large sporting reserves	7%	21%	23%	15%	15%	13%	5%
86%	Local streets for exercise	49%	18%	12%	4%	3%	6%	7%
51%	Medium sized parks	2%	4%	6%	16%	22%	38%	11%
49%	Open space along the Merri Creek	1%	2%	1%	6%	38%	34%	17%
89%	Open space along the Yarra River	19%	30%	22%	13%	5%	4%	6%
84%	Small local parks	13%	30%	12%	21%	9%	9%	7%
52%	Urban Squares	0%	9%	9%	11%	24%	29%	19%

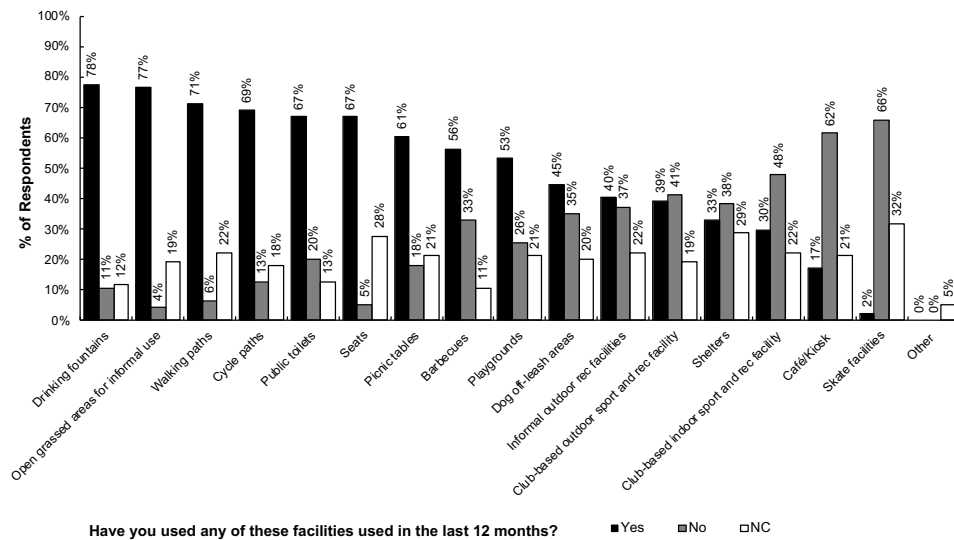
Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

On a daily/weekly basis, local streets for exercise are the most popular followed by open space along the Yarra River, and large parks and gardens. This generally reflects the lack of small local parks in Cremorne and the proximity to the Yarra River and Barkley Gardens.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
79%	Local streets for exercise	49%	18%	12%
71%	Open space along the Yarra River	19%	30%	22%
65%	Large parks and gardens	21%	24%	19%
54%	Small local parks	13%	30%	12%
52%	Large sporting reserves	7%	21%	23%
17%	Urban Squares	0%	9%	9%
13%	Medium sized parks	2%	4%	6%
4%	Open space along the Merri Creek	1%	2%	1%

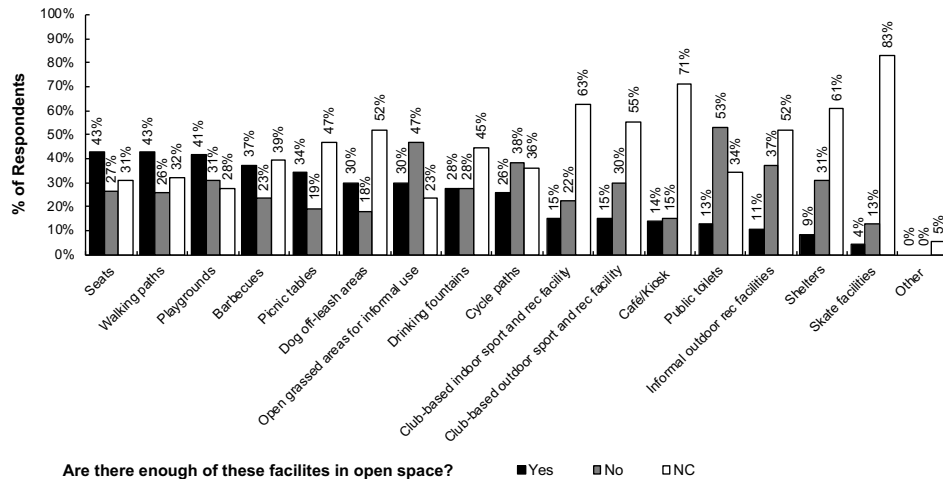
A2.7.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Cremorne, Burnley and South Richmond, 94. Respondents indicated that drinking fountains, open grassed areas and walking paths were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months. Overall, compared to the municipal average, the level of use of many of the facilities is higher in this precinct.



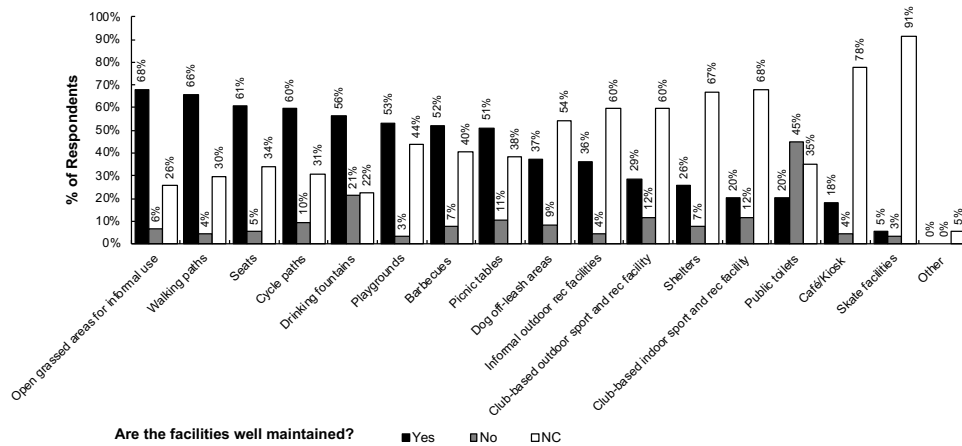
A2.7.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley surveys received, 94. Compared with the municipal results, there is a greater demand for more facilities and features in open space, particularly open grassed areas, public toilets and informal outdoor recreation facilities.



A2.7.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley surveys returned, 94.



A2.7.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

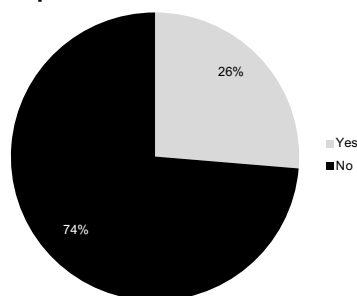
No.	General Comments List
35	Open Space
19	Open space - additional required as density increases
3	Open space - contributes to livability
3	Open space - provide additional multi use spaces
2	Open space - prioritise open space development
1	Open space - appreciate previous improvements
1	Open space - appreciate the choice and variety
1	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing
1	Open space - important for birds and wildlife
1	Open space - inappropriate use after hours a concern
1	Open space - additional open spaces with trees required
1	Open space - additional open spaces required for a variety of reasons
1	Open space - additional small open spaces required
13	Maintenance and Management
3	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
2	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
1	Bins - empty frequently
1	Dog - off-leash areas, additional required
1	Dog - off-leash personal safety concerns
1	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields
1	Paths - enforce walking on paths dedicated to pedestrians
1	Rubbish - remove rubbish from open space
1	Shopping trolleys - remove from streets and open space
1	Smoking - prohibit at 64 Balmain Street
10	Recreation Facilities
3	Sporting facilities - provide additional for girls
2	Sporting facilities - provide additional for children
1	Playgrounds - shelter required
1	Sports field - required
1	Sporting facilities - provide additional hard surfaced multi use courts
1	Sporting facilities - provide additional indoor multi use courts
1	Sports facilities - valued
10	Trees and Vegetation
2	Trees - additional street trees required
1	Garden beds - additional required
1	Streetscape - additional green/plants
1	Streetscape - additional green/plants on southern Canterbury Street
1	Trees - do not remove
1	Trees - fruit trees for community engagement
1	Trees - plant additional fruit trees
1	Vegetation - improve maintenance
1	Vertical garden - additional required
9	Park Infrastructure

No.	General Comments List
1	Bins - additional required
1	Drinking Fountains - additional required
1	Interpretation signage - about indigenous culture
1	Interpretation signage - about native vegetation
1	Lighting - additional required
1	Picnic facilities - additional required
1	Picnic facilities - shelters required
1	Signage - instructional and navigational signage for paths required on Yarra Trail
1	Toilets - additional required
9	Other
1	Appreciate the opportunity to comment
1	Council to acquire Ryan's Reserve for protection
1	Footpaths - infrastructure to accommodate growing density on Southern Canterbury St
1	High density developments - should contribute funds for open space developments in immediate vicinity
1	High density developments - to include incidental green into design
1	Improvements - none required, appreciate the opportunity to comment
1	Streets - widen on southern Canterbury Street
1	Traffic - congested
1	Traffic - speeds need to be reduced access and residential streets
6	Access
2	Footpaths - improve amenity in streets to access open space
1	Cycling - improve amenity in streets to access open space
1	Footpaths - provide additional paths connecting to the Royal Botanical Gardens "Tan" and Melbourne Cricket Ground
1	Links - green cyclist and pedestrian link between Richmond Highschool and Primary
1	Links - improve links so open space is on route
6	Paths
1	Cycle paths - connecting paths required, Coppin Street
1	Cycle paths - additional required on road
1	Cycle paths - need separate paths for cyclists and pedestrians
1	Paths - maintenance required post construction
1	Paths - safer routes required

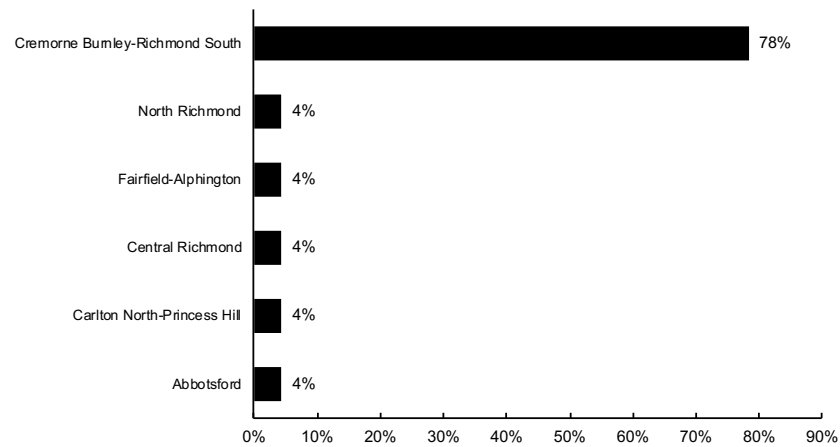
A2.7.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 94 surveys received.

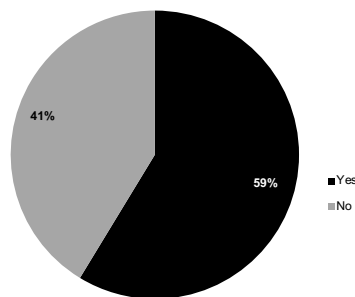
A2.7.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



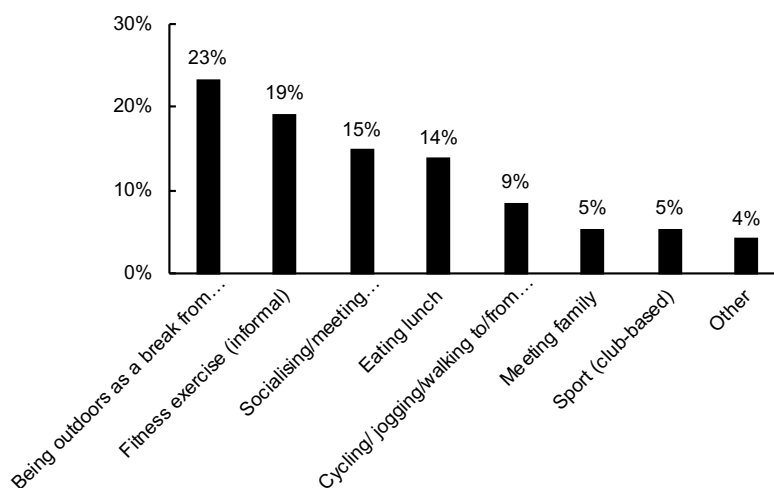
A2.7.8b Where respondents work



A2.7.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



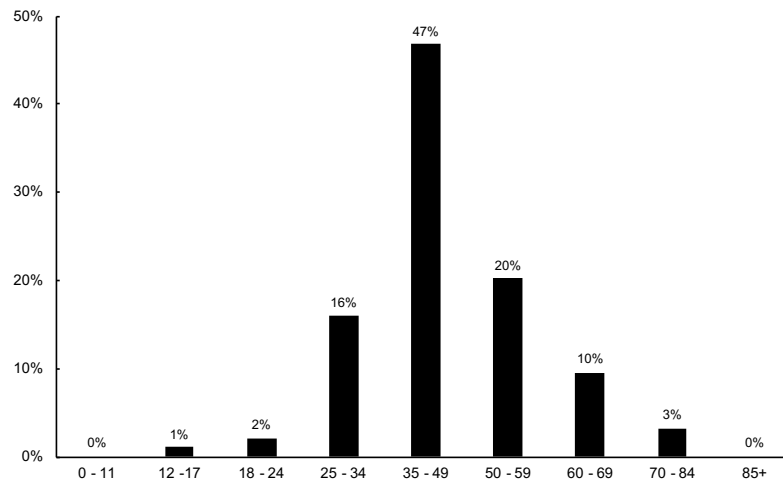
A2.7.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



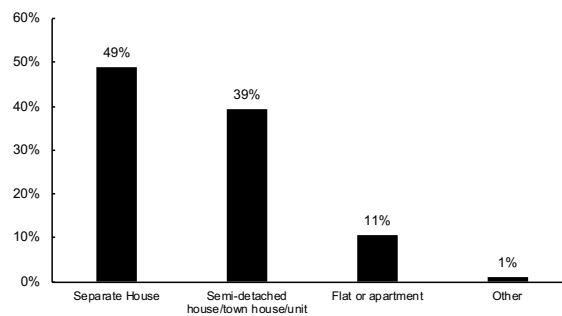
A2.7.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 94 surveys received.

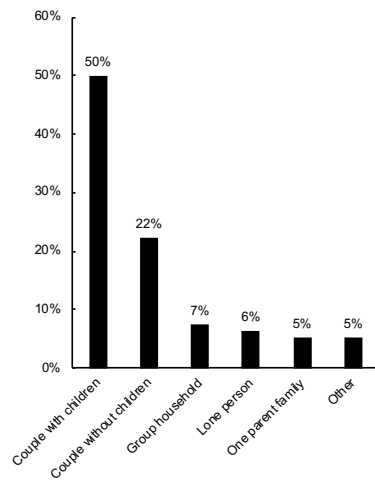
A2.7.9a Age range



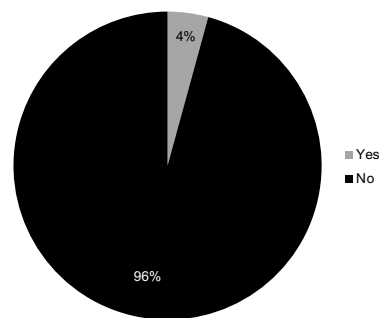
A2.7.9b Dwelling type



3.7.9c Household type



3.7.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.8 Fairfield and Alphington

Summary of the survey outcomes for Fairfield and Alphington

55 respondents indicated they live in Fairfield and Alphington. This represents 4 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 3 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Fairfield and Alphington.

Alphington Park is most popular, mainly for dog walking, play and its beauty. Fairfield Park and Coate Park are also popular mainly for dog walking and exercise. Being close to the Yarra River concerns regarding the health of the river is a key issue for them. Informal sporting facilities, particularly with a focus on women's sports and netball are repeatedly cited, as is the desire for more drinking fountains, and for new and diverse playgrounds.

A2.8.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Fairfield and Alphington, 55. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

84 per cent of respondents value open space a place to relax and unwind, followed by trees and habitat for native plants and animals. The higher valuing of habitat values and also its natural bushland character reflects the proximity of this precinct to the Yarra River. The other significant difference is the value of open space for meeting people and and friends is much lower than the municipal average. This is likely due to the higher amount of private open space that residents have access to in this precinct.

Value	%
A place to relax and unwind	84%
Trees	82%
Habitat for native plants and animals	78%
An escape from the built environment	71%
Health and well being	64%
Natural bushland character	64%
A place for children to play	62%
The feeling of space	62%
Just being outside	58%
Exercising dogs	56%
Flowers/garden beds	49%
The quiet	49%
Green character	47%
Fitness	45%

Value	%
It's accessible	42%
Cultural heritage values/significance	38%
Historical character	38%
Meeting people/friends	38%
Knowing that it's there	35%
The diversity of open space	31%
Cultural activities and events	29%
Playing casual ball games/activity	25%
Playing team/club based sport	24%
Watching activity	15%
Other	4%

The other category included risk and adventure play for children and collecting edible weeds.

A2.8.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 55 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.8.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
24	Alphington Park	44%
13	Fairfield Park	24%
12	Coate Park	22%
9	Darebin Parklands	16%
9	Yarra Bend Park	16%
7	Alphington Park Wetland	13%
5	Rudder Grange	9%
5	Sparks Reserve	9%
4	Yarra River Corridor	7%
2	Edinburgh Gardens	4%
1	Atherton Reserve	2%
1	Bellbird Picnic Area	2%
1	Darebin Yarra Trail Link	2%
1	Johnson Park	2%
1	Local cycle paths	2%
1	Local golf clubs	2%
1	Merri Creek Shared Trail	2%
1	Oxford Street Park	2%
1	Peel Street Park	2%
1	Raines Reserve	2%

A2.8.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Fairfield and Alphington

The following table lists the reasons why Fairfield and Alphington respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall dog walking is the main reason people visit open space, along with watching children play and exercising.

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Alphington Park 24	10	Dog walking	3	Playgrounds - upgrade
	5	Access - close to home	2	Improvements - none required
	4	Play - children	2	Informal recreational facilities - netball court required
	3	Open space - beautiful	2	Open space - regular watering required
	3	Relaxing	1	Access - to the river required
	3	Walking	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs
	2	Exercising	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs off-leash
	2	Recreation - family	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	1	Access - to the river	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Informal recreational facilities - skate park required
	1	Informal sporting facilities - cricket nets	1	Paths - limit the number of paths
	1	Jogging/running	1	Playgrounds - nature play playground required
	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Playgrounds - water play playgrounds required
	1	Open space - fresh air	1	Sporting facilities - facilities dedicated to women's sport required
	Fairfield Park 13	4	Dog walking	3
4		Walking	2	Open space - additional bushland required
3		Exercising	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
3		Play - children	1	Fairfield Boathouse - extend opening hours to include dinner in summer
2		Access - travel through	1	Landscape design - maintain historic character
2		Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Revegetation - review impact on vistas/views
2		Play - augmented reality games	1	Streetscape - additional plantings required
1		Access - close to home	1	Trees - retain exotic/deciduous trees
1		Café/kiosk facilities		
1		Canoeing/rowing/kayaking		
1		Dogs - exercising		
1		Open space - historical character		
1		Open space - memory/association		
1		Outdoors/being outside		
1		Relaxing		
1	Sport - children's cricket			
Coate Park 12	5	Dog walking	2	Drinking fountains - additional required
	3	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.8 Fairfield and Alphington

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	2	Exercising	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
	2	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Informal recreation facilities - skate park required
	1	Access - travel to school	1	Open grassed areas- improvements required
	1	Birdlife watching - ducks	1	Open space - maintenance required
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Paths - improve paths under the Fairfield Railway Bridge
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Paths - improve river paths
	1	Open space - valued	1	Paths - maintenance needed due to tunnel erosion
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Residential run-off - filter through wetland
	1	Play - augmented reality games	1	Rubbish - remove from river
	1	Play - children	1	Vegetation - avoid using chemical herbicides
	1	River setting	1	Vegetation - replant and restore river corridor
	1	Walking		
Darebin Parklands 9	4	Dog walking	1	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads for cycle path
	4	Exercising	1	Access - required to path from Alphington
	4	Walking	1	Cycle paths - finish
	1	Jogging/running	1	Sporting facilities - facilities dedicated to women's sport required
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - valued		
Yarra Bend Park 9	3	Open space - beautiful	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	2	Dog walking	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs
	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs off-leash
	1	Access - travel through	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Cycle paths	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Dogs - off-lead area		
	1	Exercising		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Open space - uncrowded		
	1	Picnics		
	1	River setting		
	1	Sport - golf		
	1	Vegetation - Indigenous		
	1	Walking		
Alphington Park Wetland 7	5	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Exercising	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - fresh air		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Walking		
Rudder Grange 5	2	Dog walking	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	2	Walking	1	Open space - retain natural character
	1	Dog friendly	1	Walk through - reopen

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - historical character		
	1	Open space - memory/association		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - small space		
	1	Play - augmented reality games		
	1	River setting		
Sparks Reserve 5	2	Access - close to home	2	Open space - protect the natural character
	2	Walking paths		
Yarra River Corridor 4	2	Walking	1	Paths - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Restoration - continue
	1	Recreation - family		
	1	Relaxing		
Edinburgh Gardens 2	1	Dog walking	1	Playgrounds - upgrade
	1	Open space - popular	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Playgrounds		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Atherton Reserve 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Playgrounds - nature play playground required
			1	Playgrounds - water play playgrounds required
Bellbird Picnic Area 1	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Wildlife watching - bats		
Darebin Yarra Trail Link 1	1	Cycling		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Walking paths		
Johnson Park 1	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
Local cycle paths 1	1	Cycling		
Local golf clubs 1				
Merri Creek Shared Trail 1	1	Cycling	1	River - to be cleaned
	1	Walking		
Oxford Street Park 1	1	Lunch	1	Garden beds - additional required
	1	Relaxing	1	Open grassed areas - improvements required
Peel Street Park 1	1	Lunch	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
Raines Reserve 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Garden beds - additional required with historical context
			1	Trees - plant more shade trees to reduce heat islands
			1	Vegetation - avoid plants that block views

A2.8.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 55 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.8.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
10	Edinburgh Gardens	18%
3	Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct	5%
3	Quarries Park	5%
3	Studley Park	5%
3	Yarra Bend Park	5%
2	Fairfield Park	4%
2	Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne	4%
2	Sparks Reserve	4%
1	Alphington Park	2%
1	Bellbird Picnic Area	2%
1	Carlton Gardens	2%
1	Darebin Creek Precinct	2%
1	Darebin Parklands	2%
1	Melbourne Central Shopping Centre	2%
1	Oxford Street Park	2%
1	Ramsden Street Reserve	2%
1	Wilson Reserve	2%
1	Yarra River Corridor	2%

A2.8.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Fairfield and Alphington respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Edinburgh Gardens is the most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance, for dog walking and also for social events and sport.

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 10	3	Dog walking	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Playground	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs off-leash
	2	Sport - children's cricket	1	Informal recreational facilities - additional basketball court required
	1	Facilities		
	1	Informal recreation facilities - basketball court		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Play - children		
1	Trees - beautiful			
Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct 3	1	Markets	1	Improvements - none required
			1	Landscape design - retain historical character
Quarries Park 3	1	Exercising	1	Playgrounds - adventure play required
	1	Play - children	1	Playgrounds - upgrade

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.8 Fairfield and Alphington

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Playground	1	Playgrounds - water play required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Studley Park 3	2	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Boathouse		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Walking paths		
Yarra Bend Park 3	1	Cycling	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Sport		
	1	Walking		
	1	Walking paths		
Fairfield Park 2	1	Canoeing/rowing/kayaking	1	Access - improve wheelchair access
	1	Dog friendly	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Walking	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne 2	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs		
	1	River setting		
	1	Walking		
Sparks Reserve 2	2	Access - close to home		
	2	Walking		
Alphington Park 1				
Bellbird Picnic Area 1	1	Wildlife watching - flying foxes	1	Improvements - none required
Carlton Gardens 1	1	Relaxing		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Darebin Creek Precinct 1	1	Dog walking	1	Access - additional bridge required at southern end
	1	Exercising		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
Darebin Parklands 1	1	Dog walking		
Melbourne Central Shopping Centre 1	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Oxford Street Park 1	1	Lunch	1	Landscape design - improvement/upgrade needed
Ramsden Street Reserve 1			1	Informal recreational facilities - cricket nets require maintenance
Wilson Reserve 1	1	Dog walking		
	1	Exercising		
Yarra River Corridor 1	1	Exercising	1	Improvements - none required

A2.8.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

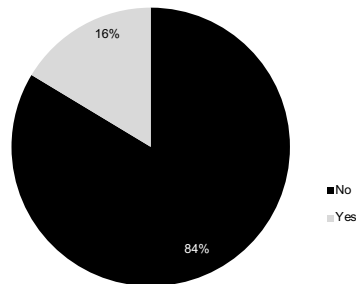
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 55 surveys received.

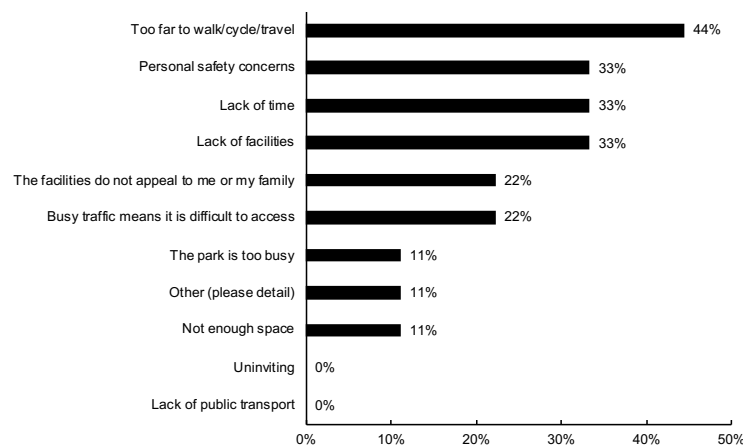
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 9 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

16 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is lower than the Municipal response, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was due distance, followed equally by personal safety concerns, a lack of time and lack of facilities. Compared to the

Municipal average, 3 per cent more respondents in Fairfield and Alphington considered travel distance to open space as an issue. Personal safety scored 18 per cent higher, followed by lack of facilities at 14 per cent, with lack of time being only 7 per cent more than the Municipal response.

A2.8.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Fairfield and Alphington. The percentages are calculated based on the 55 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use

Overwhelmingly the open space along the Yarra River is most visited, followed by small local parks, while the large park and gardens are equally used as local streets for exercise.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
84%	Open space along the Merri Creek	15%	18%	13%	29%	9%	16%	0%
98%	Open space along the Yarra River	25%	31%	22%	15%	5%	2%	0%
89%	Large parks and gardens	16%	18%	20%	24%	11%	11%	0%
84%	Large sporting reserves	5%	15%	18%	29%	16%	16%	0%
56%	Medium sized parks	4%	4%	13%	11%	25%	40%	4%
93%	Small local parks	18%	22%	24%	20%	9%	7%	0%
31%	Urban Squares	0%	2%	4%	13%	13%	67%	2%
89%	Local streets for exercise	35%	25%	20%	5%	4%	9%	2%

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

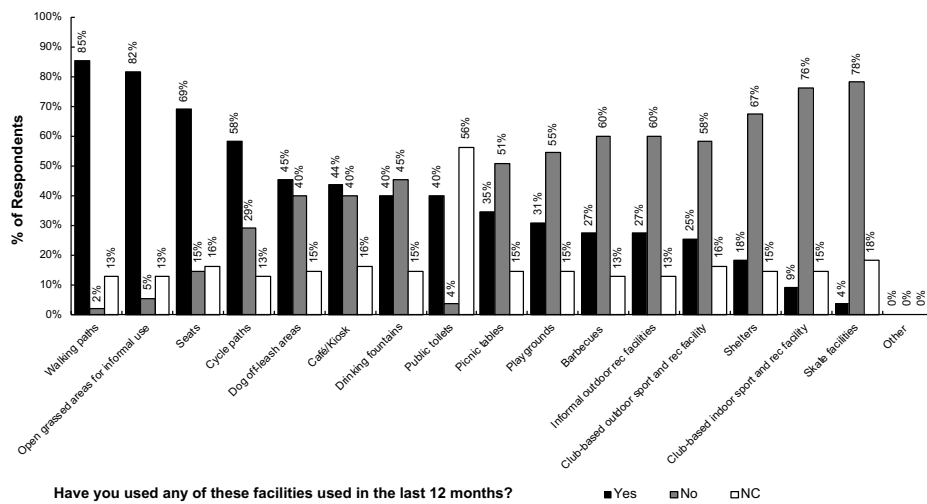
On a daily basis, local streets for exercise are the most popular followed by the open space along the Yarra River. This generally reflects the easy access to the Yarra River in Fairfield and Alphington.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
80%	Local streets for exercise	35%	25%	20%
78%	Open space along the Yarra River	25%	31%	22%
64%	Small local parks	18%	22%	24%
55%	Large parks and gardens	16%	18%	20%
45%	Open space along the Merri Creek	15%	18%	13%
38%	Large sporting reserves	5%	15%	18%
20%	Medium sized parks	4%	4%	13%
5%	Urban Squares	0%	2%	4%

A2.8.6 Facilities and features in open space

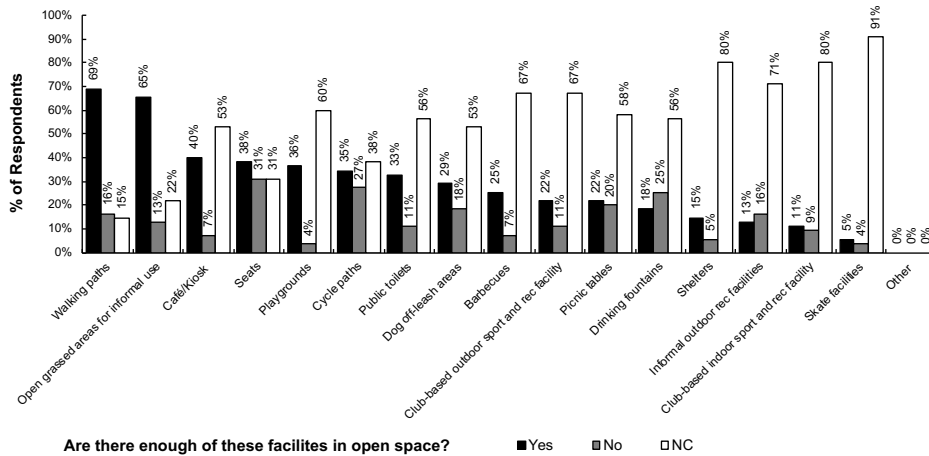
A2.8.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Fairfield and Alphington, 55. Respondents indicated that walking paths, open grassed areas and seats were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months, all slightly higher than the Municipal average.



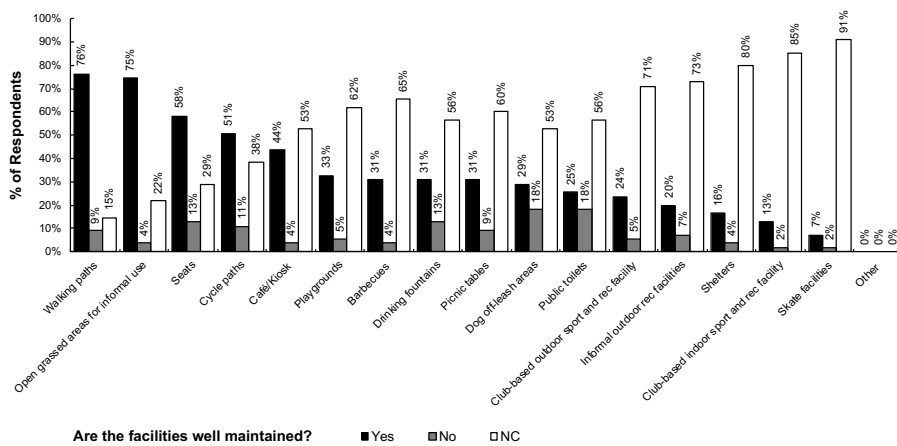
A2.8.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Fairfield and Alphington surveys received, 55. Coupled with the municipal average, respondents are more satisfied with the provision of facilities except for seats, where there is a higher number of people identifying there aren't enough seats.



A2.8.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Fairfield and Alphington surveys returned, 55.



A2.8.7 General comments on open space

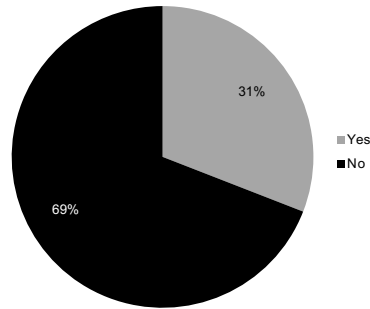
Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Fairfield and Alphington respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

No.	General Comments List
23	Open Space
6	Open space - valued
4	Open space - keep/retain what there is
2	Improvements - improvements made in Studley Park and Fairfield Park have made areas inaccessible
2	Open space - additional required
1	Improvements - none required
1	Open space - additional required as density increases
1	Open space - additional required as private gardens are smaller
1	Open space - additional smaller spaces required as density increases
1	Open space - contributes to liveability
1	Open space - important to combat global warming
1	River - maintain a green riparian zone
1	River - preserve banks from erosion
1	Urban ecosystem - required
8	Recreation Facilities
2	Exercise equipment - additional required
2	Playgrounds - additional nature play parks required
2	Sporting facilities - netball courts required
1	Informal recreation facilities - skate park required
1	Sporting facilities - netball courts with lights required
1	Sporting facilities - provide more for females
7	Other
1	Developments - concerns about impact on suburb's quality
1	Developments - do not allow over three stories in height
1	Glenvill development - keep proposed development back from the river
1	Overall strategy - Council is doing a good job
1	Papermill - poorly planned
1	Street lighting - additional required in Como Street
1	Street lighting - maintenance required
6	Maintenance and Management
1	Community group - create group for community clean up
1	Dogs - fenced in off-leash areas required
1	Drones - flying space required
1	Graffiti - removal required
1	Maintenance - valued
1	Rubbish - remove litter in open space
2	Paths
1	Cycle paths - connecting paths required on Queens Parade in Clifton Hill
1	Streets - safety an issue
1	Park Infrastructure
1	Carpark - additional required at local school

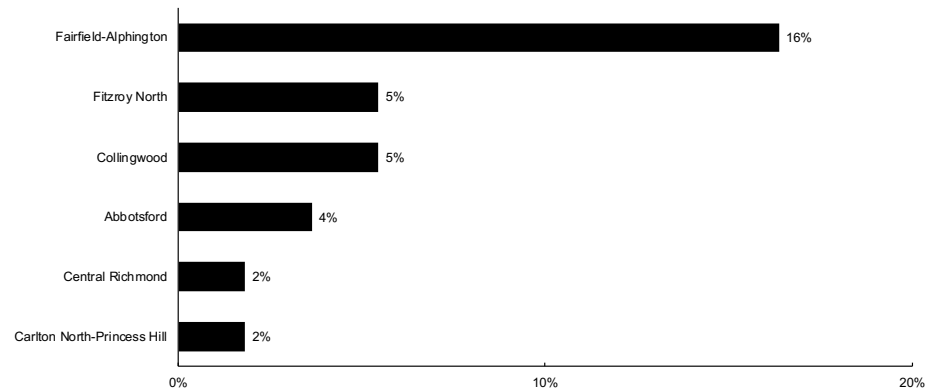
A2.8.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 55 surveys received.

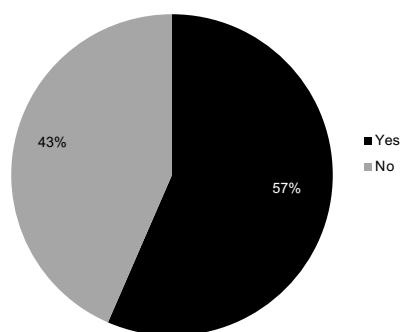
A2.8.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



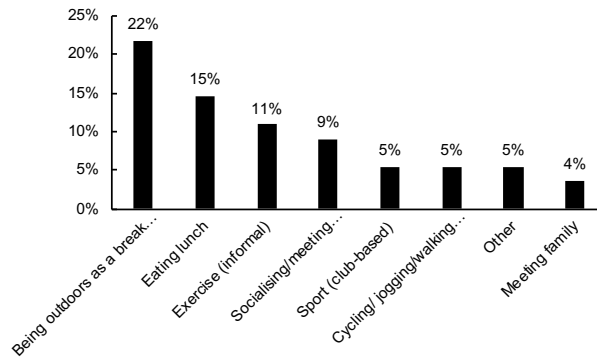
A2.8.8b Where respondents work



A2.8.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



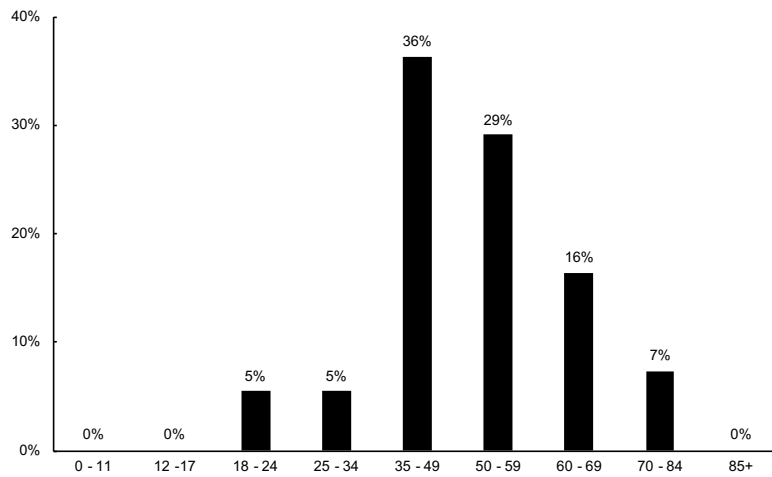
A2.8.85 Reason for visiting open space near work



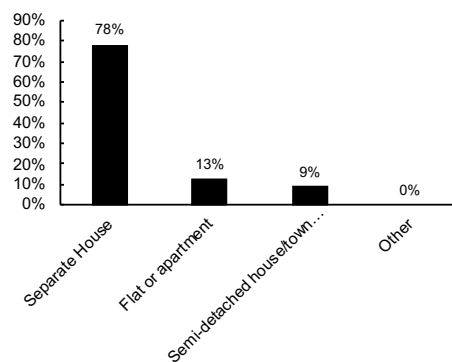
A2.8.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 55 surveys received.

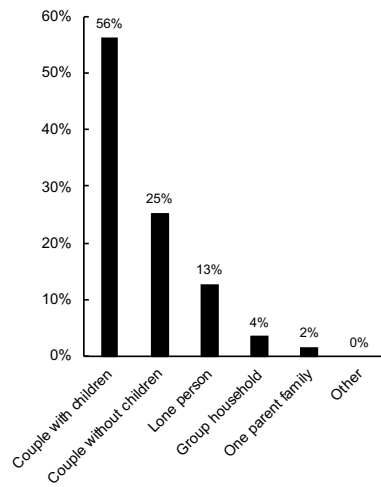
A2.8.9a Age range



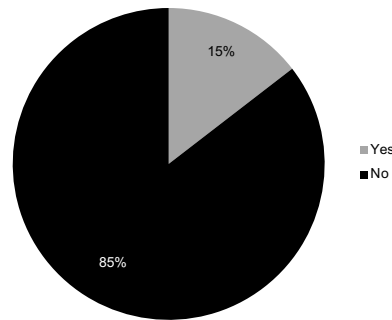
A2.8.9b Dwelling type



A2.8.9c Household type



A2.8.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.9 Fitzroy

Summary of the survey outcomes for Fitzroy

121 respondents indicated they live in Fitzroy. This represents 10 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 12 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Fitzroy.

Respondents in Fitzroy value the access they have to the small and large open space reserves within and adjoining their precinct. Edinburgh Gardens is the most popular open space for dog walking, meeting friends, walking and relaxing followed by Carlton Gardens mainly for travelling through and relaxing. Trees were often mentioned in their role in climate health with street trees as a focus. There were requests for additional open space as the density in Fitzroy increases. Organised sport was not a focus of responses with most exercise taking place in the form of jogging and cycling, and there were many requests for fenced off-leash areas for dogs.

A2.9.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Fitzroy, 121. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

76 per cent of respondents consider the opportunity to relax and unwind followed by trees and that it is accessible as the top three most valued features of open space. Valuing the accessibility of open space is much higher for Fitzroy than the municipal average, along with flowers and garden beds and the quiet.

Value	%
A place to relax and unwind	76%
Trees	76%
It's accessible	54%
Just being outside	53%
The feeling of space	53%
A place for children to play	52%
Health and well being	52%
An escape from the built environment	51%
Flowers/garden beds	50%
Meeting people/friends	47%
Green character	46%
The quiet	45%
Exercising dogs	43%
Habitat for native plants and animals	43%
Fitness	41%
Knowing that it's there	32%
Natural bushland character	29%

Value	%
Cultural heritage values/significance	26%
The diversity of open space	24%
Historical character	21%
Cultural activities and events	18%
Watching activity	15%
Playing casual ball games/activity	12%
Playing team/club based sport	9%
Other	2%

The other category included the grassed areas as well as that open spaces are there for everyone.

A2.9.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 121 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.9.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
67	Edinburgh Gardens	55%
47	Carlton Gardens	39%
24	Smith Reserve	20%
16	Condell Street Reserve	13%
14	Atherton Reserve	12%
14	Fitzroy Gardens	12%
6	Garryowen Park	5%
5	King William Reserve	4%
3	Princes Park	2%
3	Whitlam Place	2%
3	Yarra Bend Park	2%
2	Frank King Park	2%
2	Murchinson Square	2%
2	Oxford Street Park	2%
2	Peel Street Park	2%
2	Treasury Gardens	2%
1	All Nations Park	1%
1	Capital City Trail	1%
1	Curtain Square	1%
1	Darling Gardens	1%
1	Merri Creek Trail	1%
1	Nature Play at Royal Park	1%
1	None within walking distance	1%
1	Park Street Reserve	1%
1	Royal Melbourne Botanical Gardens	1%
1	Victoria Park	1%
1	Yarra River Corridor	1%

A2.9.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Fitzroy

The following table lists the reasons why Fitzroy respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that Edinburgh Gardens is the most popular open space for dog walking and meeting people, along with a diversity of other uses. Carlton Gardens, though also used for recreational purposes, is used primarily to travel through on route to other places. In contrast, Smith Reserve and Condell Street Reserve are used mainly because they are nearby and for play.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 67	13	Dog walking	7	Improvements - none required
	13	Social - meeting people/friends	3	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	11	Relaxing	2	Dogs - drinking facilities required
	10	Walking	2	Exercise equipment - additional required
	8	Open space - large space	2	Open space - valued
	7	Dog friendly	2	Playgrounds - shade required
	7	Picnics	2	Seating - additional required
	7	Playground	1	Bike racks - additional required
	5	Access - close to home	1	Bins - additional required
	5	Play - children	1	Dogs - agility area required
	4	Exercising	1	Drinking fountains - upgrade
	4	Open space - green place	1	Fencing - additional required along bike lane
	3	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Heritage - acknowledgement of LGBTQ history
	3	Jogging/running	1	Music - reduce noise
	3	Open space - popular	1	Open auditorium - required
	3	Open space - provides cool areas	1	Open space - additional required as density increases
	3	Trees	1	Open space - overcrowded
	2	Cycling - through	1	Paths - additional unsealed paths required
	2	Diverse range of activities	1	Paths - running track's surface needs improvements
	2	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Public art - additional required
	2	Informal ball games/sport	1	Security - additional required near grand stands
	2	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Security - decrease hours on alcohol ban
	2	Social - consuming alcohol	1	Security - prohibit alcohol
	2	Social - sense of community	1	Shelters - additional required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Signage - improve dog regulation signs
	1	Facilities	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space	1	Toilets - maintenance required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Water - additional fountains required
1	Open space - layout	1	Water - council to support water sensitive urban design	
1	Open space - peaceful			
1	Open space - shade			
1	Outdoors/being outside			
1	Paths			

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.9 Fitzroy

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Reading		
	1	Recreation		
	1	Sitting		
	1	Sport - children		
	1	Trees - large		
Carlton Gardens 47	8	Access - travel through	6	Improvements - none required
	7	Relaxing	3	Dogs - off-leash areas required
	6	Access - close to home	2	Cycle paths - improve
	5	Dog walking	2	Shared paths - separate cyclists and pedestrian paths
	4	Jogging/running	1	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads
	4	Walking	1	Cultural events - additional required
	3	Exercising	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	3	Open space - green place	1	Dogs - off-leash areas required beside tennis courts
	3	Play - children	1	Lighting - additional required
	3	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	2	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Seating - additional required
	2	Access - easy to access	1	Seating - benches that face grassed areas
	2	Informal ball games/sport	1	Shelters - additional required
	2	Outdoors/being outside	1	Signage - museum sign too bright
	1	Access - close to museum	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Birdlife watching - ducks	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Vegetation - more native/indigenous planting required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Walking paths - remove cyclist ban
	1	Health and well-being		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - fresh air		
1	Open space - peaceful			
1	Open space - well maintained			
1	Playgrounds			
1	Recreation			
1	Social - sense of community			
1	Trees			
1	Wildlife watching - possums			
Smith Reserve 24	8	Access - close to home	3	Fencing - additional required
	8	Playground	3	Open grassed areas - improvements/maintenance required
	5	Dog walking	3	Seating - additional required
	3	Social - meeting people/friends	3	Traffic - noise intrusive
	2	Access - close to pool	3	Trees - additional required
	2	Dogs - exercising	2	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Social - sense of community	2	Lighting - additional required
	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	2	Playground - upgrade/expand
	1	Access - easy to access	2	Playgrounds - shade required
	1	Access - travel through	2	Shade - additional required

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Dog friendly	1	Air - improve quality
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Bins - empty frequently
	1	Open space	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Open space - green place	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
			1	Exercise equipment - additional required
			1	Improvements - none required
			1	Open space - additional required
			1	Open space - improve design and layout
			1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
			1	Playground - regular maintenance and cleaning required
			1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required including enforcement
			1	Security - improve surveillance
			1	Vegetation - hedge required
Condell Street Reserve 16	6	Playground	5	Playground - upgrade
	5	Access - close to home	3	Bins - empty frequently
	5	Play - children	3	Playground - shade required
	2	Outdoors/being outside	2	Seating - additional required
	2	Picnics	2	Shade - additional required
	2	Seating	2	Trees - additional required
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Bins - recycling bins to be installed
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Fencing - additional required
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Reading	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Sitting		
1	Trees - beautiful			
Atherton Reserve 14	3	Dog walking	3	Playgrounds - additional required
	2	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	2	Play - children	1	Dogs - prohibit off-leash
	1	Access - close to work	1	Dogs - prohibit on sporting field
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - green place	1	Seating - move near bins
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Paths - safe for children		
	1	Playground		
	1	Reading		
1	Relaxing			
Fitzroy Gardens 14	6	Walking	1	Improvements - none required
	3	Access - travel through	1	Open space - valued
	1	Access - easy to access	1	Paths - additional required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Playgrounds - additional required

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.9 Fitzroy

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Exercising	1	Playgrounds - maintenance required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Seating - shelter required
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Picnics		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Trees - beautiful		
	1	Trees - large		
	1	Trees - shade		
Garryowen Park 6	2	Access - close to home	1	Drinking fountains - maintenance required
	2	Play - children	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Play - children	1	Lighting - additional required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Open space	1	Open grassed area - maintenance required
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Open space - green place	1	Rubbish - regular removal required
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Security - prohibit alcohol
	1	Playground		
King William Reserve 5	4	Playground	2	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	2	Play - children	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
			1	Drinking fountains - maintenance required
			1	Homelessness - action required
			1	Improvements - none required
			1	Rubbish - regular removal required
			1	Shade - additional required
			1	Trees - additional required
Princes Park 3	2	Jogging/running	1	Paths - improve running track's surface
	1	Exercising		
Whitlam Place 3	2	Relaxing	2	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Lunch	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Reading	1	Seating - additional required
		1	Shade - additional required	
Yarra Bend Park 3	2	Dog walking	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Dog friendly		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Walking		
Frank King Park 2	2	Access - close to home	2	Dogs - prohibit
Murchinson Square 2	1	Dog walking	2	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Exercising		

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Oxford Street Park 2	1	Access - close to home	2	Shade - additional required
	1	Lunch		
	1	Vegetation - diversity		
Peel Street Park 2	1	Lunch	1	Paths - improve
	1	Relaxing	1	Public art - additional required
			1	Trees - additional required
Treasury Gardens 2	1	Access - travel through		
	1	Walking		
All Nations Park 1	1	Dog walking	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
Capital City Trail 1	1	Access - travel through	1	Lighting - additional required
Curtain Square 1	1	Dog walking		
Darling Gardens 1	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	High density developments - limit developments
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Walking		
Merri Creek Shared Trail 1	1	Cycling	1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Vegetation - re-vegetation required
Nature Play at Royal Park 1	1	Play - children	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
			1	Shelters - additional required
None within walking distance 1			1	Open space - additional required near Kerr Street
Park Street Reserve 1	1	Cycling		
	1	Dog friendly		
Royal Melbourne Botanical Gardens 1	1	Exercising		
	1	Gardens		
	1	Walking		
Victoria Park 1	1	Exercising	1	Bike racks - additional required
Yarra River Corridor 1	1	Exercising	1	High density developments - limit developments
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		

A2.9.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 121 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.9.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
13	Edinburgh Gardens	11%
7	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	6%
6	Darling Gardens	5%
6	Yarra Bend Park	5%
5	Merri Creek Precinct	4%
5	Yarra River Corridor	4%
4	Abbotsford Convent Art Centre	3%
4	Princes Park	3%
3	Carlton Gardens	2%
2	Curtain Square	2%
2	Fitzroy Gardens	2%
2	Frank King Park	2%
2	Victoria Park	2%
1	Atherton Reserve	1%
1	Barkly Gardens	1%
1	Bass Coast Parks	1%
1	Bellarine Peninsula	1%
1	Bells Beach	1%
1	Collingwood Childrens Farm	1%
1	Collingwood Leisure Centre	1%
1	Darebin Parklands	1%
1	Dights Falls	1%
1	Flagstaff Gardens	1%
1	Great Ocean Road	1%
1	Outside the Study Area	1%
1	Park Street Reserve	1%
1	Quarries Park	1%
1	Royal Park	1%
1	Smith Reserve	1%
1	South Melbourne/Middle Park Beach	1%
1	St. Kilda Adventure Playground	1%
1	State Library of Victoria	1%

A2.9.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Fitzroy respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. The reasons for visiting Edinburgh Gardens are predominantly for social events, and the Royal Botanic Gardens for their ambiance and beauty.

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 13	4	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Toilets - additional required
	2	Picnic facilities - BBQ's	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Dog friendly	1	Bins - empty frequently
	2	Playgrounds	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - travel through	1	Informal recreational facilities - improve skate park
	1	Cycling	1	Shade - additional required along central path
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area		

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A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.9 Fitzroy

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Events/Entertainment		
	1	Exercising		
	1	Informal recreation facilities - skate park		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - large		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Play		
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 7	3	Open space - peaceful	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Relaxing		
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Entertainment/events		
	1	Gardens		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Paths - jogging/running		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Trees		
Darling Gardens 6	3	Playgrounds	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Picnics	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Informal ball games/sports	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Security - prohibit alcohol
	1	Open space - layout		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Yarra Bend Park 6	4	Cycling	1	Dogs - agility park required
	2	Dog walking	1	Paths - maintenance required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Trees		
	1	Walking		
Merri Creek Precinct 5	1	Cycling	1	Access - increase access to the river for canoeing
	1	Dog walking	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Exercising	1	Rubbish - regular removal required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Rubbish - remove from river
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Walking		
Yarra River Corridor 5	2	Dog walking	1	Boat sheds - additional required for hire
	1	Access - close to work	1	Facilities - additional required
	1	Canoeing	1	Open space - value natural character

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	River setting		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Walking		
Abbotsford Convent Art Centre 4	2	Eating	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Market	1	Open space - value natural character
	1	Culture	1	Open space - valued
	1	Exhibitions		
	1	Farm		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Walking		
Princes Park 3	2	Jogging/running	1	Dogs - increase usability for dogs
	1	Dog friendly		
	1	Paths - jogging/running		
Carlton Gardens 3	1	Architecture - beautiful	1	Bike racks - additional required
	1	Diverse range of activities	1	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	1	Open space - grassed area		
	1	Open space - layout		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Trees - beautiful		
Curtain Square 2	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash area	1	Dogs - additional fenced off-leash areas required
	1	Dog walking		
Fitzroy Gardens 2	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Dogs - increase usability for dogs
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Trees - additional tall trees required
	1	Relaxing	1	Vegetation - more native/indigenous planting required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Frank King Park 2	1	Open space - fresh air		
	1	Relaxing		
Victoria Park 2	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash area		
	1	Recreation		
Atherton Reserve 1	1	Open space - heritage	1	Sporting oval - improve
	1	Open space - peaceful		
Barkly Gardens 1	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Bins - empty frequently
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	1	Social - sense of community		
Bass Coast Parks 1	1	Recreation		
Bellarine Peninsula 1	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
Bells Beach 1	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Water - clean		
Collingwood Childrens Farm 1	1	Cycling	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Education - children		
	1	Open space - green space		
	1	Open space - natural character		
Collingwood Leisure Centre 1	1	Swimming - lessons		
	1	Sport - tennis		
	1	Dog walking		

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Darebin Parklands 1	1	Open space - natural character		
Dights Falls 1	1	Open space - natural character	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Walking		
Flagstaff Gardens 1	1	Access - close to work		
Great Ocean Road 1	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Access - improvements required
Outside the Municipality 1	1	Open space - views		
Park Street Reserve 1	1	Exercising		
	1	People watching		
Quarries Park 1	1	Play - children	1	Improvements - none required
Royal Park 1	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
			1	Open space - value diversity
Smith Reserve 1	1	Access - close to pool	1	Vegetation - hedge required
	1	Exercising		
South Melbourne/Middle Park Beach 1	1	Diverse range of activities		
St. Kilda Adventure Playground 1	1	Playgrounds		
State Library of Victoria 1	1	Protests	1	Shade - additional required

A2.9.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

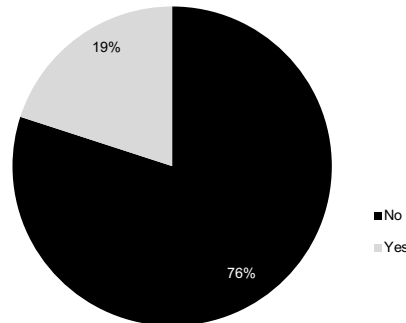
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 121 surveys received.

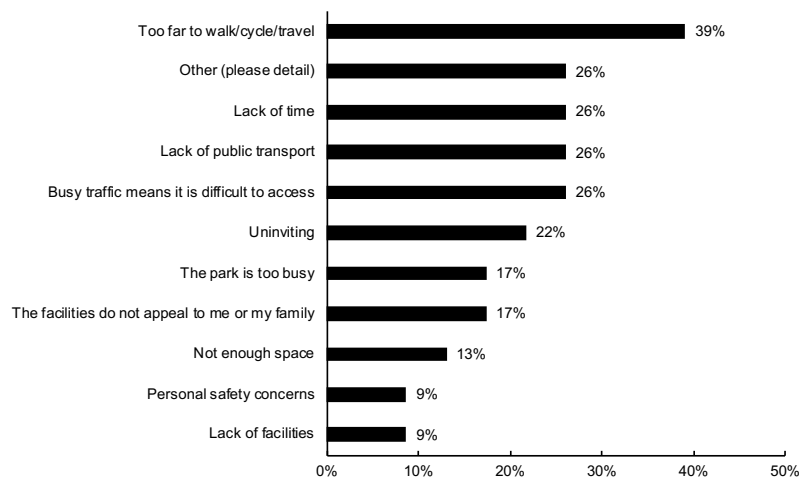
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 23 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

19 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is slightly lower than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was due to distance, followed equally by lack of time, lack of transport, busy traffic and a variety of other reasons such as they found it an unpleasant space, unwelcoming for dogs, difficult to find access points (in the case of the Yarra River) or lacking exercise equipment.

A2.9.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Fitzroy. The percentages are calculated based on the 121 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used.

Large parks and gardens were the most visited open space, followed by small local parks, open space along the Yarra River and medium sized parks.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
70%	Open space along the Merri Creek	1%	2%	4%	27%	36%	27%	2%
83%	Open space along the Yarra River	2%	2%	12%	26%	41%	16%	2%
98%	Large parks and gardens	18%	26%	20%	26%	7%	1%	2%
75%	Large sporting reserves	4%	5%	12%	21%	32%	22%	2%
82%	Medium sized parks	7%	12%	11%	28%	25%	17%	2%
92%	Small local parks	23%	22%	20%	18%	8%	5%	3%
54%	Urban Squares	5%	12%	11%	17%	10%	42%	4%
74%	Local streets for exercise	37%	21%	12%	2%	2%	22%	3%

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

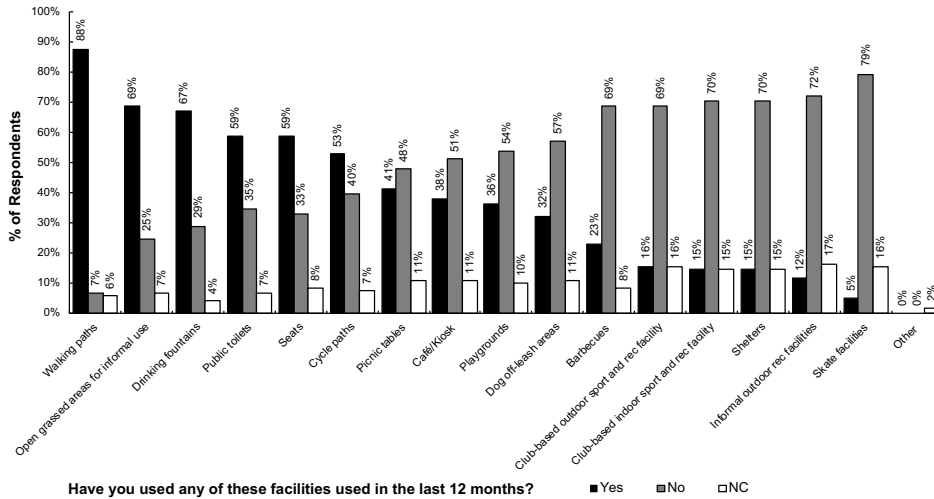
On a frequent basis, local streets for exercise are the most popular followed by small local parks and the third being large parks and gardens. This reflects the open space network given that the small parks and large gardens are the most easily accessible, whereas it is further to travel to reach the Yarra River and Merri Creek.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
69%	Local streets for exercise	37%	21%	12%
65%	Small local parks	23%	22%	20%
64%	Large parks and gardens	18%	26%	20%
29%	Medium sized parks	7%	12%	11%
27%	Urban Squares	5%	12%	11%
21%	Large sporting reserves	4%	5%	12%
16%	Open space along the Yarra River	2%	2%	12%
7%	Open space along the Merri Creek	1%	2%	4%

A2.9.6 Facilities and features in open space

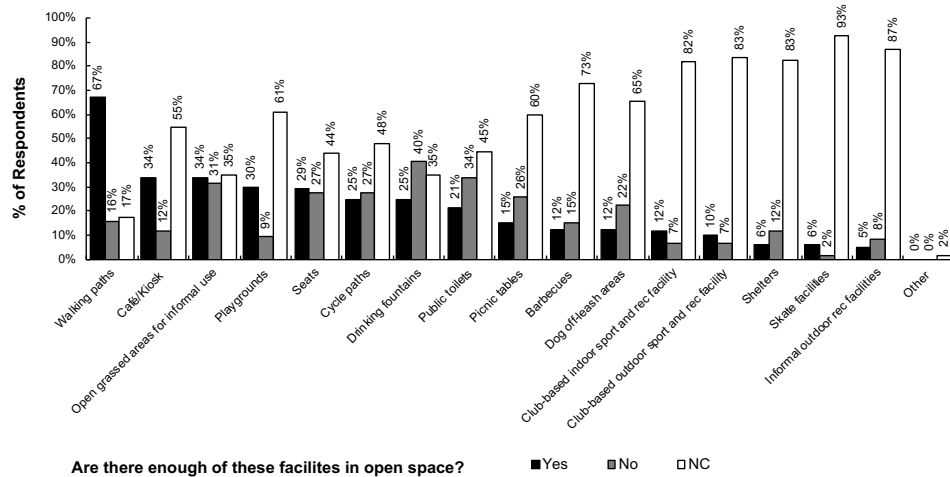
3.9.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Fitzroy, 121. Respondents indicated that walking paths, open grassed areas and drinking fountains were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months. Open grassed areas being 6 per cent lower than the Municipal average, and walking paths slightly higher.



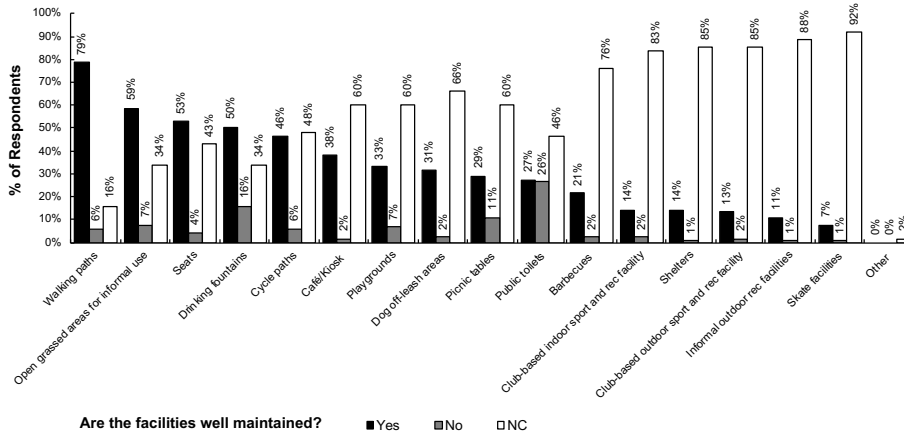
3.9.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Fitzroy surveys received, 121. Compared to the municipal average, more people identify there are not enough open grassed areas and drinking fountains.



A2.9.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Fitzroy surveys returned, 121.



A2.9.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Fitzroy respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

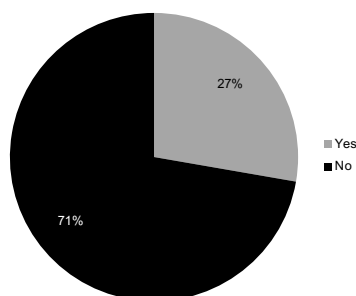
No.	General Comments List
22	Open Space
6	Open space - additional required
5	Open space - additional required as density increases
2	Open space - ensure they are well maintained
2	Open space - important for relaxation
1	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing
1	Open space - important to combat global warming
1	Open space - improve design and layout to include more trees
1	Open space - improve maintenance
1	Open space - valued
1	Shade - additional required
1	Traffic - noise intrusive
10	Maintenance and Management
2	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
2	Rubbish - remove litter in open space
1	Alcohol - remove prohibitions
1	Bins - empty frequently
1	Dogs - enforce regulations
1	Graffiti - removal required
1	Rubbish - enforce fines for littering
1	Weeds - do not use chemical herbicides
10	Trees and Vegetation

No.	General Comments List
2	Trees - plant more street trees
1	Rooftop gardens - encourage/advise residents/businesses to create green roofs
1	Streetscape - more green/plants
1	Trees - additional required to combat climate change
1	Trees - important for shade
1	Trees - important for wildlife
1	Trees - value on streets
1	Vegetation - encourage/advise residents/businesses on greenscaping to reduce heat island effects
1	Vegetation - increase diversity
8	Other
1	Bins - remove business bins from streets
1	Events - organise more community events
1	Festivals - more required
1	Public art - encourage participatory public art works
1	Shopping strips - improve design
1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required for bicycle crossing points
1	Survey - improve
1	Traffic - slow traffic on back streets
5	Park Infrastructure
1	Bike racks - additional required
1	Bins - additional required
1	Playgrounds - additional required
1	Signage - on LGBTQ histories
1	Toilets - improve maintenance
3	Recreation Facilities
2	Playgrounds - increase diversity of equipment for a range of age groups
1	Playgrounds - shade required
1	Paths
1	Paths - improve surfaces for running
1	Sustainability
1	Climate change - plan for climate change

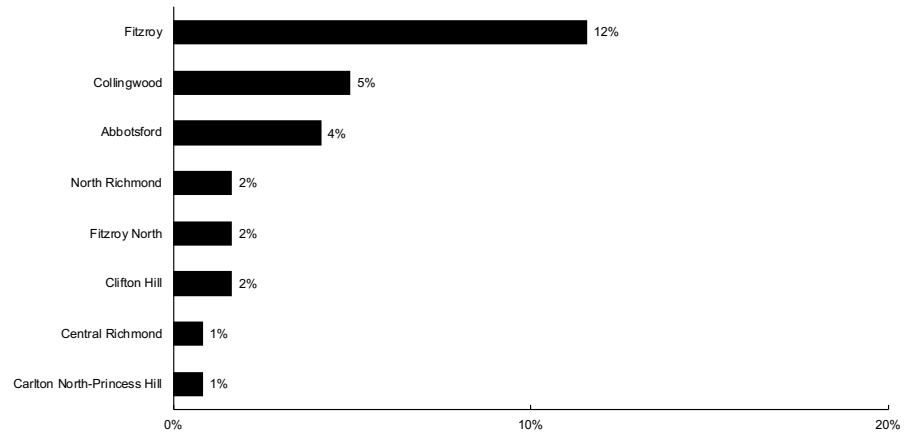
A2.9.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 121 surveys received.

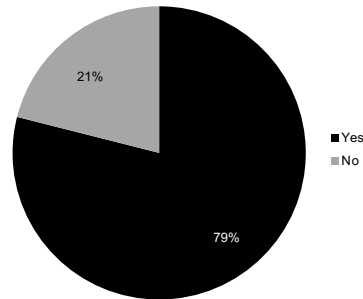
A2.9.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



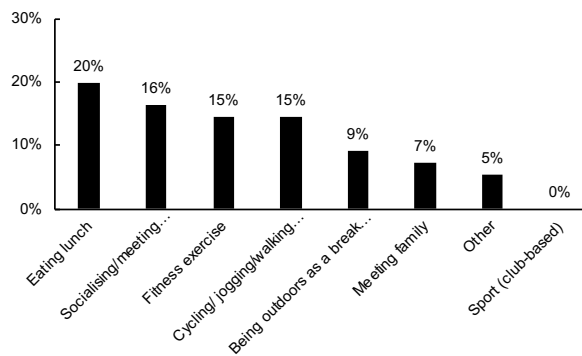
A2.9.8b Where respondents work



A2.9.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



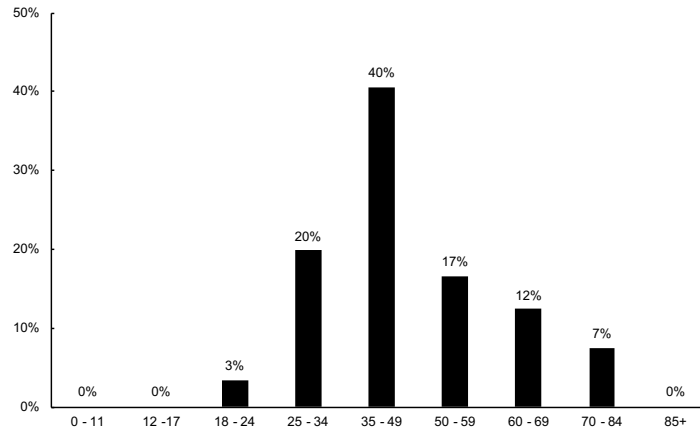
A2.9.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



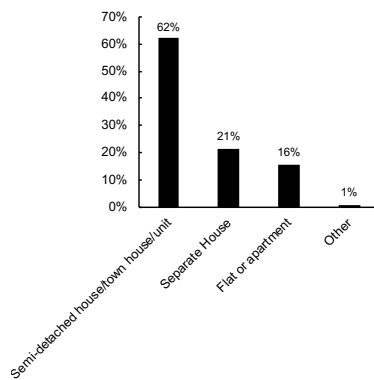
A2.9.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 121 surveys received.

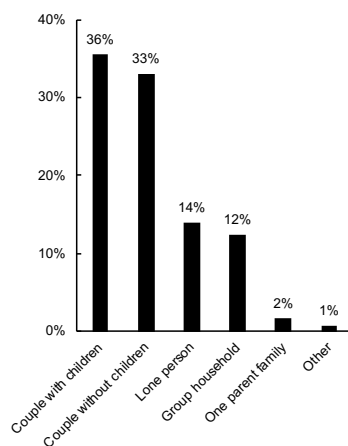
A2.9.9a Age range



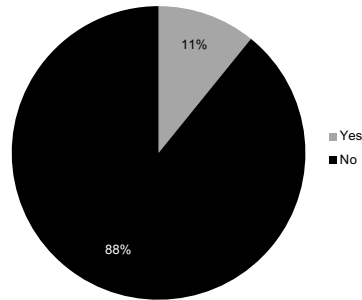
A2.9.9b Dwelling type



A2.9.9c Household type



A2.9.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.10 Fitzroy North

Summary of the survey outcomes for Fitzroy North

170 respondents indicated they live in Fitzroy North. This represents 13 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 13 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in Fitzroy North.

Fitzroy North includes Edinburgh Gardens, which is the most popular open space in the City of Yarra. The respondents of Fitzroy North greatly appreciate open space and overwhelmingly visit it primarily for dog walking, exercise, play and meeting friends. There is concern about increasing density of development and the negative impacts on open space, and that more open space needs to be provided to meet the populations needs. While they appreciated Edinburgh Gardens there are many concerns about the level of use, inappropriate behaviour in the gardens and the ongoing maintenance to manage the high levels of use. This includes the need for more responsibility to be taken by dog owners. Clear designation of dog off-leash areas with fencing were suggested, also the need to separate children and dogs from speeding cyclists. Open space being uninviting was one of the top reasons respondents of Fitzroy North did not visit open space with personal safety in third place which was explained in part by comments in the other category as being related to the conflicts between dogs and other park users.

A2.10.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-four values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for Fitzroy North, 170. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-five values in priority order.

The ranking of the top three values trees, a place to relax and unwind and the feeling of space are the same as the municipal average. Residents in Fitzroy North have valued meeting people and friends and exercising dogs higher than the municipal average.

Value	%
Trees	90%
A place to relax and unwind	82%
The feeling of space	77%
An escape from the built environment	71%
Just being outside	69%
Meeting people/friends	60%
Exercising dogs	56%
Habitat for native plants and animals	56%
Health and well being	56%
It's accessible	51%
A place for children to play	48%

Value	%
Green character	48%
Flowers/garden beds	44%
Fitness	44%
The quiet	42%
Natural bushland character	41%
The diversity of open space	36%
Cultural heritage values/significance	34%
Historical character	33%
Knowing that it's there	31%
Cultural activities and events	26%
Playing casual ball games/activity	25%
Watching activity	24%
Playing team/club based sport	23%
Other	8%

The other category included the reduction of the heat island effect, safety, freedom from cyclists, cycling, places to look into the distance for eye sight health, the cleanliness and facilities provided, as well as the diversity of people, sense of community and the chance to socially drink alcohol with friends outside.

A2.10.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 170 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.10.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
157	Edinburgh Gardens	92%
18	Darling Gardens	11%
17	Curtain Square	10%
17	Park Street Reserve	10%
16	Merri Creek Precinct	9%
10	Princes Park	6%
9	Holden Byrne Reserve	5%
9	Rushall Reserve	5%
8	Mark Street Linear Park	5%
8	Merri Creek Shared Trail	5%
5	Yarra Bend Park	3%
4	Peel Street Park	2%
4	Thomas Kidney Reserve	2%
3	Fairfield Park	2%
2	Cambridge Street Reserve	1%
2	Community Gardens	1%
2	Janet Millman Reserve	1%
2	Smith Reserve	1%
1	Campbell Reserve	1%

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
1	Capital City Trail	1%
1	Carlton Gardens	1%
1	Collingwood College	1%
1	Department of Housing Harmsworth Street	1%
1	Dights Falls	1%
1	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	1%
1	Langdon Reserve	1%
1	Local cycle paths	1%
1	Local dog park	1%
1	None within walking distance	1%
1	Ottery Reserve	1%
1	Peel Street Park	1%
1	Phillips Reserve	1%
1	Quarries Park	1%
1	Triangle Park	1%

A2.10.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in Fitzroy North

The following table lists the reasons why Fitzroy North respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that Edinburgh Gardens is the most popular open space primarily for dog related activities as well as social events, exercise, informal and formal sport, and children's play. Along with the addition of extra toilets, exercise equipment and bins there are numerous requests for dog control in the park particularly near the cycling paths. Rubbish was also cited as an issue, where regular cleaning and maintenance is required.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Edinburgh Gardens 157	48	Dog walking	13	Toilets - additional required
	26	Relaxing	9	Improvements - none required
	25	Walking	7	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	24	Social - meeting people/friends	6	Dogs - drinking facilities, additional required
	23	Exercising	6	Exercise equipment - additional required
	20	Picnics	5	Cultural activities - additional required
	15	Play - children	5	Drinking fountains - additional required
	12	Access - close to home	4	Bins - additional required
	12	Playground	4	Cyclists - slow through park
	9	Open space - large space	4	Dogs - off-leash areas, enforcement required
	9	Sport - tennis	4	Open space - valued
	8	Jogging/running	4	Signage - improve dog regulation signs
	7	Diverse range of activities	4	Skate Park - upgrade/extend
	6	Cycling - through	3	Cafe/kiosk facilities - additional required
	6	Dogs - exercising	3	Cycle paths - separate cycle paths from dog off-leash areas
	5	Informal ball games/sport	3	Dogs - reduce off-leash areas
	6	Open space - ambience, beauty	3	Emely Baker Centre - replace with trees/gardens
6	Open space - beautiful	3	Improvements - valued	
6	Open space - valued	3	Shared paths - separate cyclist and pedestrian paths	

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	5	Open space - green place	3	Trees - maintain/protect mature trees including elm trees
	5	Open space - peaceful	2	Cyclists - prohibit in the gardens
	5	Open space - popular	2	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	4	Dog friendly	2	Entertainment/Events - additional required
	4	Open space - fresh air	2	Improvements - none required
	3	Access - travel through	2	Informal sporting facilities - additional multi use courts required
	3	Health and well-being	2	Lighting - additional required
	3	Open space - diversity of types	2	Picnic facilities - remove from dog off-leash areas
	3	Open space - escape from the built environment	2	Playgrounds - upgrade northern playground
	3	Picnic facilities - BBQ's	2	Public art - additional required with Indigenous focus
	3	Reading	2	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	3	Shade	2	Security - allow alcohol consumption
	3	Social - sense of community	2	Security - enforce littering fines
	3	Sport	2	Sporting facilities - additional courts required
	3	Trees	2	Sporting facilities - upgrade
	2	Dogs - off-leash area	2	Sporting facilities - upgrade tennis club
	2	Open space - identity	2	Trees - additional required
	2	Open space - none at home	2	Trees - additional required in dog off-leash areas
	2	Outdoors/being outside	2	Trees - maintenance required
	2	Play - toddlers	2	Vegetation - additional flowering plants required
	2	Safe	2	Vegetation - more native/indigenous planting required
	2	Social - parties	1	Access - improve access for cycling children
	2	Sport - Fitzroy Tennis Club	1	Access - prioritise pedestrians and cyclists at crossings
	2	Sport - spectating	1	Bins - empty frequently
	2	Sport - spectating football	1	Bins - recycling bins to be installed
	2	Trees - beautiful	1	Birdlife - leave dead trees for parrots
	2	Yoga	1	Car access - prohibit at sporting oval
	1	Access - close to school	1	Community garden - required
	1	Access - close to shops/cafes	1	Cyclists - prohibit on all paths except central path
	1	Access - Inner Circle Rail Trail	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, appreciated
	1	Breakfast	1	Dogs - over use
	1	Dogs - socializing	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Entertainment/events	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs on sporting fields
	1	Gardens - beautiful	1	Dogs - sandpit required
	1	Open grassed areas	1	Emely Baker - renovate into cafe/restaurant
	1	Open space	1	Emely Baker Centre - remove/repurpose
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Entertainment/events - festivals additional required
	1	Open space - layout	1	Entertainment/events - prohibit in this area
	1	Open space - provides cool areas	1	Entertainment/events - value outdoor cinema
	1	People watching	1	Facilities - additional required
	1	Public art	1	Green waste - place to recycle green waste required
	1	Recreation	1	Informal recreation facilities - upgrade skate park
	1	Recreation - family	1	Lighting - additional required for morning jogging

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.10 Fitzroy North

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Sport - basketball	1	Lighting - required in dog off-leash area
	1	Sport - children's cricket	1	Lighting - upgrade
	1	Sport - children's football	1	Maintenance - valued
	1	Sport - community organised	1	Music - allow respectful levels till 11 p.m.
	1	Sport - Edinburgh Cricket Club	1	Open grassed area - improve
	1	Sport - Fitzroy Junior Football Club	1	Open space - additional required as density increases
	1	Sport - football	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Sport - skateboarding	1	Open space - value diversity
	1	Sport - slacklining	1	Open space - value proposed changes
	1	Sunshine/Vitamin D	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQ's required
	1	Walking - family	1	Picnic facilities - additional picnic tables required
			1	Picnic facilities - shelter required
			1	Playgrounds - shade required
			1	Playgrounds - upgrade/maintenance required
			1	Public art - additional required
			1	Rubbish - people to take responsibility of their waste
			1	Seating - additional required in shaded areas
			1	Security - enforce noise regulations
			1	Shade - additional required
			1	Shelters - additional required
			1	Slacklining - allow
			1	Sporting facilities - additional required
			1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance
			1	Sporting facilities - improve fencing in cricket grounds for lost balls
			1	Sporting facilities - paddle tennis court required
			1	Toilets - additional required on southern end
			1	Toilets - extend hours of use
			1	Toilets - maintenance required
			1	Toilets - upgrade existing
			1	Trees - plant additional fruit trees
			1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
			1	Trees - replace dying trees
			1	Vegetation - plant additional vegetation that attract bees
			1	Water features - additional required
			1	Wildlife - plant additional native/indigenous vegetation to attract wildlife
Darling Gardens 18	7	Dog walking	2	Improvements - none required
	4	Walking	1	Access - opening hours to be extended
	3	Open space - peaceful	1	Cyclists - prohibit in that area
	2	Relaxing	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Dogs - prohibit
	1	Access - close to public transport	1	Facilities - more required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Open grassed areas - improvements required
	1	Exercising	1	Open space - valued
	1	Jogging/running	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Shared paths - separate cyclist and pedestrian paths

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Slacklining - allow
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Sporting facilities - disc golf course required
	1	Open space - fresh air	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - green place	1	Traffic - noise intrusive
	1	Open space - large space	1	Trees - remove dead and dangerous ones from open space
	1	Picnics	1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
	1	Play - children	1	Vegetation - hedge required
	1	Playground - swings		
	1	Sport - disc golf		
	1	Sport - slacklining		
Curtain Square 17	5	Playground	2	Trees - additional required
	4	Dog walking	2	Dogs - off-leash areas, maintenance required
	4	Picnics	1	Dogs - improve usability for dogs
	3	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Open grassed area - improve
	2	Access - close to shops/cafes/library	1	Open grassed area - water through summer
	2	Access - convenient (on the way)	1	Plumbing - improve
	2	Dogs - exercising	1	Signage - improve dog regulation signs
	2	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Trees - communicate about replacements
	2	Relaxing	1	Trees - replace trees that are dying
	1	Access - close to home	1	Vegetation - more native/indigenous planting required
	1	Exercising		
	1	Hills		
	1	Informal ball games/sport		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Open space - small space		
	1	Play		
1	Play - toddler			
1	Reading			
1	Sitting			
Park Street Reserve 17	5	Dog walking	3	Bins - additional required
	4	Cycling	3	Drinking fountains - additional required
	4	Walking	2	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads
	3	Access - convenient (on the way)	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Jogging/running	2	Lighting - additional required
	2	Play - children	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Relaxing	1	Paths - separate cyclist and pedestrian paths
	1	Café/Kiosks	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Cycling - through	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Trees - additional required for shade
	1	Paths - good quality	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Vegetation - avoid using chemical herbicides
	1	Playground	1	Vegetation - increase native vegetation
Merri Creek Corridor 16	5	Walking	2	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	4	Dog walking	2	Paths - maintenance required
	4	Open space - natural character	2	Paths - vegetation maintenance required

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	3	Cycling	2	Vegetation - improve weed control
	3	Exercising	2	Water - water sensitive urban design to improve water quality
	3	Open space - peaceful	1	Cyclists - overcrowding an issue
	2	Access - travel through	1	Cyclists - prohibit in that area
	2	Relaxing	1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	River setting	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	1	Access - provides links to other open spaces	1	Dogs - off-leash, personal safety concerns
	1	Birdlife - watching	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, more required
	1	Dog friendly	1	High density developments - limit developments
	1	CERES Environmental Community Park	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space
	1	Health and well-being	1	Paths - City of Moreland to maintain trail
	1	Open space - large space	1	Paths - improve shared paths west of St Georges Road
	1	Open space - valued	1	Paths - surface needs improvements
	1	Paths	1	Paths - widen
	1	Picnics	1	Rubbish - remove from river
	Princes Park 10			1
			1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
			1	Vegetation - plant additional flowering plants to attract bees
			1	Wildlife - plant additional native/indigenous vegetation to attract wildlife
6		Exercising	2	Lighting - additional required for morning runs
2		Dogs - exercising	1	Cycle paths - additional shade along paths to open space required
2		Jogging/running	1	Improvements - none required
2		Open space	1	Informal sporting facilities - additional skate park required
2		Social - meeting people/friends	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs additional required
2		Walking	1	Signage - identifying plants/trees
1		Access - close to home	1	Toilets - maintenance required
1		Dog friendly	1	Vegetation - plant additional flowering plants
1		Open space - fresh air		
1		Open space - large space		
1		Paths - running track		
1		Picnics		
1	Play - children			
1	Relaxing			
1	Sport - tennis			
Holden Byrne Reserve 9	4	Access - close to home	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Dog walking	1	Drinking fountains - maintenance required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Play - children	1	Maintenance - improve
	2	Walking	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Cycling - prohibit	1	Picnic facilities - additional picnic tables required
	1	Dog friendly	1	Playgrounds - fence
	1	Exercising	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Playground	1	Vegetation - increase native vegetation
1	Open space - uncrowded	1	Vegetation - re-vegetation required	

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Shade		
	1	Trees		
Rushall Reserve 9	4	Dog walking	8	Cycle paths - do not create proposed cycle path
	2	Open space - natural character	1	Access - additional required entry points to path
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Open grassed area - improvements required
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Access - close to home	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Relaxing	1	Vegetation - improve weed control
	1	Safe - from traffic		
	1	Walking		
Mark Street Linear Park 8	3	Walking	2	Access - give cyclists and pedestrians priority at crossings
	2	Cycling - through	2	Trees - additional required
	2	Dog walking	1	Access - provide safer paths for cycling children
	2	Play	1	Garden beds - additional required
	2	Play - children	1	Open grassed area - improvements required
	2	Relaxing		
	1	Cycling		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Playground		
Merri Creek Shared Trail 8	5	Walking	2	River - clean
	2	Cycling	1	Improvements - continue woody weed removal along Merri Creek
	2	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Exercising	1	Open space - valued
	2	Jogging/running	1	Paths - vegetation maintenance required
	1	Dogs - exercising		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Shade		
Peel Street Park 5	3	Access - close to work	3	Seating - improve design
	3	Lunch	3	Shade - additional required
	2	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Open space - improve design and layout
	1	Dog walking	1	Open space - over-crowded
	1	Health and well-being	1	Public art - additional required
	1	Public art - murals	1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	1	Relaxing		
Yarra Bend Park 5	2	Open space - natural character	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Paths - maintenance required
	1	Cycling	1	Vegetation - maintenance required
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Exercising		
	1	Informal ball games/sport		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Relaxing		
1	Vegetation - Indigenous			

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Walking		
Thomas Kidney Reserve 4	3	Cycling	1	Cyclists - prohibit
	1	Dog walking	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Walking		
Fairfield Park 3	3	Sport - soccer	1	Carpark - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Informal ball games/sport		
Cambridge Street Reserve 2	1	Lunch	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
Community Gardens 2	1	Gardening	1	Community gardens - additional required on streets
	1	Gardening - learning to grow plants		
	1	Vegetation - diversity		
Janet Millman Reserve 2	1	Dog walking	1	Dogs - move dog amenities into off-leash area
	1	Open space - natural character	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Vegetation - additional required between bike path and Railway Street
	1	Walking		
Smith Reserve 2	2	Playground	1	Improvements - none required
			1	Playgrounds - increase diversity of equipment for a range of age groups
Campbell Reserve 2	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
Capital City Trail 1	1	Walking	1	Shared paths - separate cyclist and pedestrian paths
Carlton Gardens 1	1	Health and well-being	1	Cyclists - continue prohibition of cyclists
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Trees		
Collingwood College 1	1	Children's school	1	Carpark - additional required
			1	Open space - improve design and layout
			1	Sporting oval - improve turf
			1	Traffic - pollution intrusive
Department of Housing Harmsworth Street 1	1	Playground	1	Open space - improve design and layout
			1	Playgrounds - upgrade
Dights Falls 1	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Paths - walking paths		
	1	Relaxing		
Hardy Gallagher Reserve 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Informal sporting facilities - upgrade bocce courts
			1	North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House - upgrade
Langdon Reserve 1	1	Play - children	1	Dogs - prohibit
Local cycle paths 1	1	Cycling	1	Underpass - maintenance required at Rushall
	1	Jogging/running		

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Walking		
Local dog park 1	1	Dog friendly	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space
None within walking distance 1				
Ottery Reserve 1	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - improve usability for dogs
Phillips Reserve 1	1	Sport - disc golf	1	Sporting facilities - disc golf course required
Quarries Park 1	1	Sport - skateboarding	1	Shelters - additional required
Triangle Park 1	1	Open space	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Sitting		

A2.10.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 170 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.10.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
24	Yarra Bend Park	14%
10	Edinburgh Gardens	6%
9	Yarra River Corridor	5%
8	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	5%
7	Carlton Gardens	4%
7	Fitzroy Gardens	4%
7	Merri Creek Precinct	4%
7	Princes Park	4%
5	Merri Creek Shared Trail	3%
5	Quarries Park	3%
4	Collingwood Childrens Farm	2%
4	Fairfield Park	2%
3	Park Street Reserve	2%
3	Rushall Reserve	2%
2	Curtain Square	1%
2	Deep Rock Precinct	1%
2	Dights Falls	1%
2	Port Melbourne Beach	1%
1	Abrahams Reserve	1%
1	All Nations Park	1%
1	Alphington Park	1%
1	Balfe Park	1%
1	CERES Environmental Community Park	1%
1	Darling Gardens	1%

No.	Open space visited	%
1	Edwardes Lake Park	1%
1	George Knott Reserve	1%
1	Local Cycle Paths	1%
1	Local farms	1%
1	Mayors Park	1%
1	McNamara Reserve	1%
1	Mornington Peninsula	1%
1	Oxford Street Park	1%
1	Royal Park	1%
1	Royal Park Nature Playground	1%
1	Studley Park	1%
1	Victoria Park	1%

A2.10.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why Fitzroy North respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. The main area of open space valued by residents is Yarra Bend Park for its natural qualities and character, along with dog walking, exercise and social events. Dog walking is the main reason people visit open space.

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Yarra Bend Park 24	8	Dog walking	5	Improvements - none required
	8	Open space - natural character	2	Paths - improve
	3	Exercising	2	Toilets - additional required
	3	Picnics	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Cycling	1	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
	2	Dogs - exercising	1	Dogs - enforce regulations
	2	Recreation	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, more required
	2	Walking	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Cycle paths	1	Open space - value natural character
	1	Cycling - through	1	Paths - connecting path/s required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Rubbish - regular litter removal required
	1	Music	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Security - improve surveillance of rubbish dumping
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
	1	Open space - large space	1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Wildlife - native wildlife needs protection
1	Relaxing			
1	River setting			
1	Social - meeting people/friends			
1	Sport - women's football			
1	Wildlife watching - Tawny Frogmouths			
Edinburgh Gardens 10	3	Dog walking	1	Dogs - drinking facilities, more required
	3	Picnics	1	Dogs - owners to control dogs

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.10 Fitzroy North

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	2	Exercising	1	Cycle paths - required through park
	2	Open space - large space	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Play - children	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball courts required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Informal sporting facilities - disc golf course required
	1	Freedom	1	Interpretative signage - on rain garden
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - fresh air	1	Sporting facilities - improve fencing in cricket grounds for lost balls
	1	Skate park	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Sport	1	Toilets - maintenance required
	1	Trees	1	Trees - plant fruit trees
	1	Vegetation - diversity	1	Vegetation - more native/indigenous planting required
	1	Walking		
	Yarra River Corridor 9	4	Open space - natural character	1
2		Cycling - through	1	Development - limit
2		Walking	1	Paths - connecting path/s required
1		Cycling	1	Paths - maintenance of vegetation required
1		Open space - large space	1	Signage - informative, instructional and navigational signage required
1		Outdoors/being outside		
1		Paths		
1		Relaxing		
1		Vegetation - Indigenous		
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 8	2	Gardens	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Jogging/running	1	Carpark - additional required
	1	Events/entertainment - outdoor cinema	1	Entertainment/events - less required
	1	Facilities	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - diversity of types		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Social		
	1	Vegetation - diversity		
Carlton Gardens 7	3	Walking	1	Cyclists - remove prohibition
	2	Access - travel through	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - close to museum	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - beautiful		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Open space - popular		
	1	Open space - well maintained		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Play - children		
	1	Shade		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Fitzroy Gardens	2	Café and kiosk facilities	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Open space - peaceful	1	Cycle paths - required through park

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.10 Fitzroy North

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
7	1	Entertainment/events	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Gardens		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - well maintained		
	1	Social - parties		
	1	Walking		
Merri Creek Corridor 7	3	Dog walking	2	Rubbish - regular removal required
	3	Open space	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, require enforcement
	2	Open space - natural character	1	Rubbish - remove from river
	2	Walking	1	Vegetation - more native/indigenous planting required
	1	Cycling		
	1	Dog friendly		
	1	Health and well-being		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Recreation - family		
	1	Relaxing		
1	Wildlife watching			
Princes Park 7	3	Dog walking	2	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
	2	Paths	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Access - close to school	1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Seating - additional required in shaded areas
	1	Dogs - socialising	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Exercise equipment		
	1	Jogging/running		
	1	Playground		
	1	Pond setting		
Merri Creek Shared Trail 5	2	Cycling	3	Paths - widen
	2	Walking	1	Paths - improve surface
	1	Cycle paths - good quality	1	Rubbish - regular removal required
	1	Cycling - with children	1	Safety - improve
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	River setting		
Quarries Park 5	2	Playground	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Cycling	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Lunch	1	Playgrounds - shade required
	1	Open space - large space	1	Public art - maintain
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Picnics		
	1	Playground - challenging		
1	Walking			
Collingwood Childrens Farm 4	3	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
Fairfield Park 4	2	River setting	1	Access - improve access to river for canoeing/kayaking
	1	Access - to river	1	Dogs - waste bags/bins, more required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.10 Fitzroy North

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Diverse range of activities		
	1	Entertainment/events - free		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Walking		
Park Street Reserve 3	1	Access - travel through	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Open space	1	Vegetation - additional required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Trees		
Rushall Reserve 3	1	Birdlife watching - ducks	1	Improvements - continue woody weed removal on the Merri Creek
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Cycle paths - additional required
	1	Open space - large space	1	Vegetation - more native/indigenous planting required
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Trees - beautiful		
	1	Walking		
Curtain Square 2	2	Access - close to the library	1	Open space - value diversity
	1	Playground		
Deep Rock Precinct 2	1	Dog friendly	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Picnics		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Walking		
Dights Falls 2	1	Cycling	1	High density developments - prohibit on river
	1	Exercising		
	1	Picnics		
Port Melbourne Beach 2	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Exercising		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Swimming		
	1	Walking		
Abrahams Reserve 1	1	Cycling		
	1	Play - children		
All Nations Park 1	1	Dog walking		
Alphington Park 1	1	Sport - football		
	1	Walking		
Balfe Park 1	1	Sport		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
CERES Environmental Community Park 1	1	Vegetation - diversity	1	Improvements - none required
Dandenong Ranges Botanic Garden 1	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Access - opening hours to be extended
	1	Views		
	1	Dog walking	1	Facilities - more required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.10 Fitzroy North

Open Space	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Darling Gardens 1	1	Relaxing		
Edwardes Lake Park 1	1	Lake setting	1	Birdlife - plant more indigenous/native plants to encourage water birds
	1	Open space - large space	1	Cultural activities - additional required
			1	Drinking fountains - additional required
			1	Sporting facilities - canoe hire required
George Knott Reserve 1	1	Sport - children	1	Wildlife - plant more native/indigenous vegetation to attract wildlife
				Access - pedestrian path linking from Queens Parade
Local Cycle Paths 1	1	Cycling		
Local farms 1	1	Horse - riding		
Mayors Park 1	1	Playground	1	Improvements - none required
McNamara Reserve 1	1	Playground		
Morningside Peninsula 1	1	Beach		
	1	Walking		
Oxford Street Park 1	1	Access - close to work	1	Open grassed area - improvements required
			1	Paths - improve
			1	Trees - plant mature trees
Royal Park 1	1	Open space - green place		
Royal Park Nature Playground 1	1	Play - children	1	Shade - additional required
Studley Park 1	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	River setting		
Victoria Park 1	1	Sport - football	1	Dogs - over use
			1	Signage - improve dog regulation signs

A2.10.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

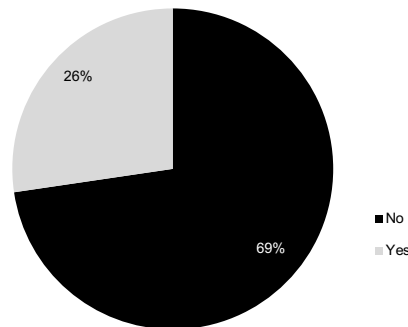
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 170 surveys received.

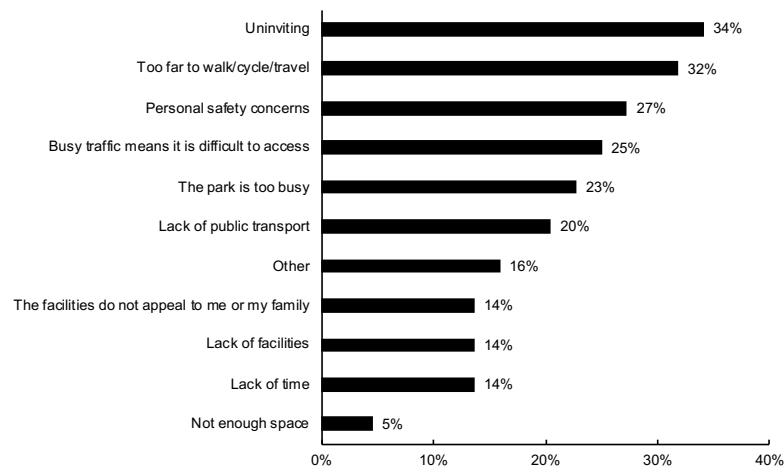
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 44 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

26 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is slightly higher than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was that they found the space to be uninviting, this was closely followed by the distance then personal safety concerns. Compared to the Municipal average, 11 per cent more respondents in Fitzroy North considered open space being uninviting as an issue. 9 per cent less Fitzroy North respondents indicated distance as a reason for not visiting open space. Personal safety concerns were higher, by 27 per cent of respondents, which is 12 per cent above the Municipal average.

A2.10.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in Fitzroy North. The percentages are calculated based on the 170 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used and frequency of use.

Large parks and gardens are the most visited open spaces, which reflects the location of Edinburgh Gardens within this precinct. This is followed by open space along the Merri Creek and using local streets for exercise. Fitzroy North has some wide streets with well-established trees which are likely to contribute to the high levels of use of the local streets.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
91%	Open space along the Merri Creek	11%	20%	22%	21%	16%	9%	1%
84%	Open space along the Yarra River	2%	9%	14%	27%	32%	12%	5%
97%	Large parks and gardens	42%	27%	18%	8%	2%	3%	0%
72%	Large sporting reserves	1%	4%	12%	21%	34%	21%	7%
74%	Medium sized parks	1%	6%	12%	22%	32%	16%	10%
82%	Small local parks	14%	20%	16%	15%	18%	10%	8%
62%	Urban Squares	4%	8%	14%	19%	17%	19%	19%
86%	Local streets for exercise	45%	18%	14%	4%	5%	8%	6%

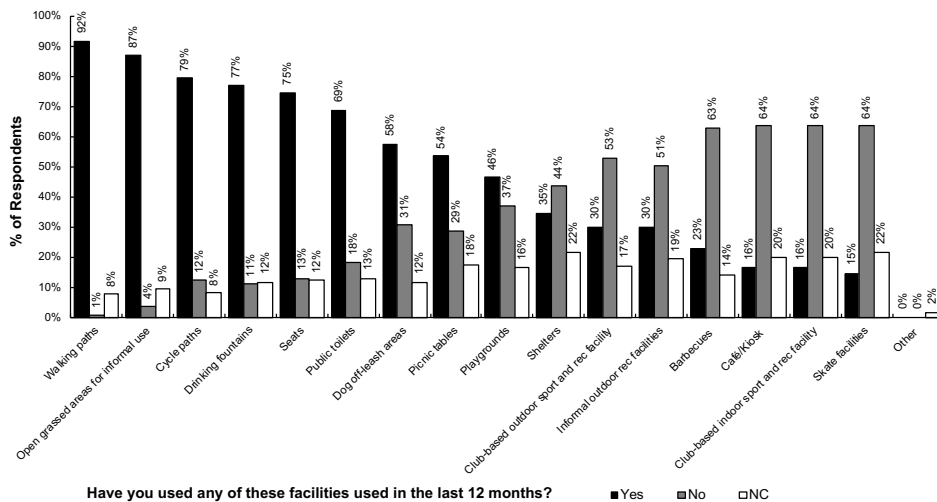
Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

In terms of the most frequently used open space, large parks and gardens are the most popular followed by local streets for exercise before the Merri Creek This generally reflects that the popularity of Edinburgh Gardens and attractiveness of the streetscape near the Gardens.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
87%	Large parks and gardens	42%	27%	18%
76%	Local streets for exercise	45%	18%	14%
54%	Open space along the Merri Creek	11%	20%	22%
50%	Small local parks	14%	20%	16%
26%	Urban Squares	4%	8%	14%
25%	Open space along the Yarra River	2%	9%	14%
19%	Medium sized parks	1%	6%	12%
16%	Large sporting reserves	1%	4%	12%

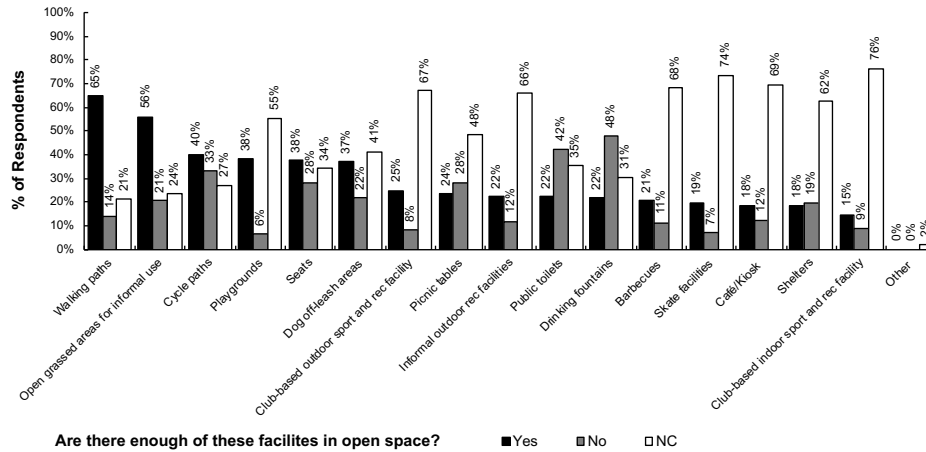
A2.10.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from Fitzroy North, 170. Respondents indicated that walking paths, open grassed areas and cycle paths were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months, all higher than the Municipal average.



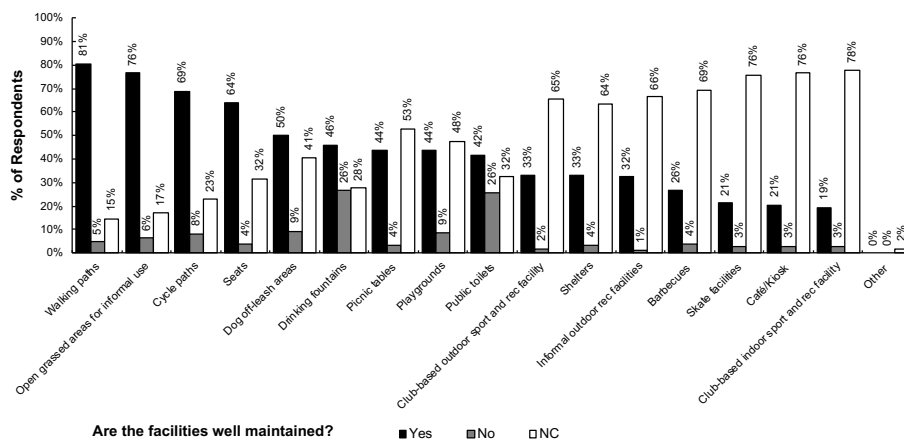
A2.10.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of Fitzroy North surveys received, 170. Compared to the municipal average, more people identify that there are not enough cycle paths, drinking fountains and public toilets.



A2.10.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of Fitzroy North surveys returned, 170.



A2.10.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is

a summary of these comments from returned surveys from Fitzroy North respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

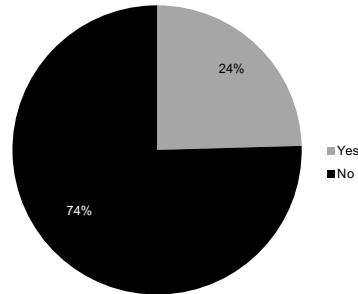
No.	General Comments List
49	Open Space
18	Open space - valued
10	Open space - additional required as density increases
5	Open space - contributes to liveability
4	Open space - keep/retain what there is
2	Open space - beneficial to health and wellbeing
2	Open space - keep/retain as community/social spaces
2	Open space - value the choice and variety
1	Open space - additional green corridors required
1	Open space - additional required between Dean Street and Barkly Street
1	Open space - additional required south of Alexandra Parade
1	Open space - council to purchase abandoned dwellings for open space
1	Open space - value informal open spaces
1	Open space - value natural character
39	Maintenance and Management
5	Maintenance and management - valued
4	Dogs - enforce regulations
3	Alcohol - consumers to be responsible for waste
3	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
3	Cyclists - slow through parks
3	Dogs - off-leash areas valued
2	Rubbish - remove litter in open space
1	Alcohol - allow consumption for special events
1	Alcohol - over consumption in open space
1	Dogs - increase fines for leaving waste
1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for controlling their dogs
1	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
1	Dogs - waste bag/bins, additional required
1	Events/entertainment - prohibit festivals in open spaces
1	Graffiti - removal required
1	Open space - ensure they are well maintained
1	Open space - maintenance required for small local parks
1	Picnic facilities - encourage people to be responsible for waste
1	Ranger - provide for larger/less used open spaces
1	Security - enforce regulations for littering
1	Slacklining - allow in public spaces
1	Toilets - improve maintenance
16	Other
3	High density developments - to contribute to open space
3	Overall strategy - council is doing a good job
1	Activities - additional required for refugees
1	Developments - encourage innovation in vacant shops
1	Developments - limit large developments
1	High density developments - limit developments
1	High density developments - limit developments around open space
1	Overall strategy - increase taxation on high income earners for open space funding
1	Overall strategy - invest funding into open space in lower socio-economic areas
1	Survey - additional space required for further comments
1	Survey - include questions on community gardens
1	Traffic - reduce near parks

No.	General Comments List
15	Park Infrastructure
4	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
4	Signage - improve dog regulation signs
2	Seating - additional required
1	Bins - additional required
1	Drinking fountains - additional required
1	Facilities - more required for elderly
1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required within dog off-leash areas
1	Shade - additional required
14	Recreation Facilities
2	Exercise equipment - additional required
2	Informal recreation facilities - table tennis required
2	Informal sport facilities - additional multi use courts required
1	Informal sport facilities - additional netball courts required
1	Informal sport facilities - disc golf course required
1	Little Free Libraries - additional required
1	Playgrounds - shade required
1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance
1	Sporting facilities - paddle tennis court required
1	Sporting facilities - provide tennis facilities free of cost
1	Sporting facilities - upgrade tennis club
11	Paths
2	Cycle paths - need to separate cyclists from dog off-leash areas
2	Shared paths - separate cyclists and pedestrian paths
2	Shared Paths - widen
1	Cycle paths - maintenance required
1	Cycle paths - safer routes for cyclists required
1	Cycle paths - valued
1	Cycle paths - widen/upgrade paths in streets
1	Shared paths - mandate right of way rules for cyclists
5	Trees and Vegetation
2	Community gardens - additional required
1	Trees - additional required for shade
1	Trees - plant more fruit trees
1	Trees - plant more street trees
1	Sustainability
1	Green waste - place to recycle required

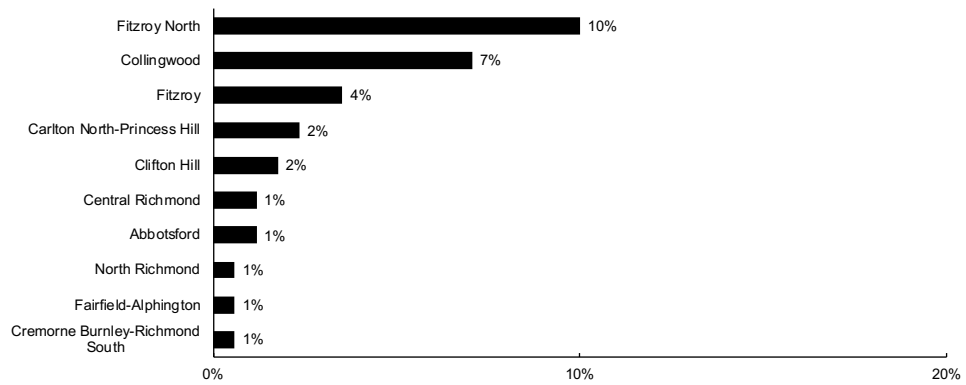
A2.10.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 170 surveys received.

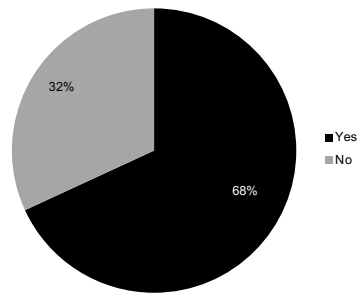
A2.10.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



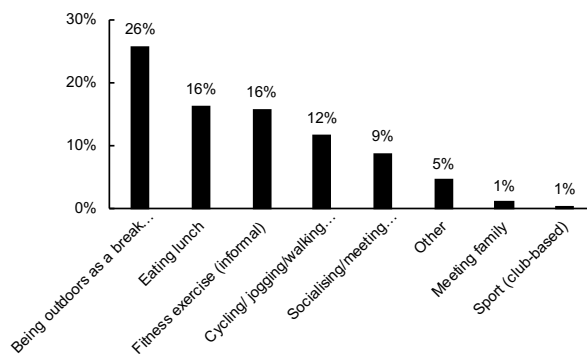
A2.10.8b Where respondents work



A2.10.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



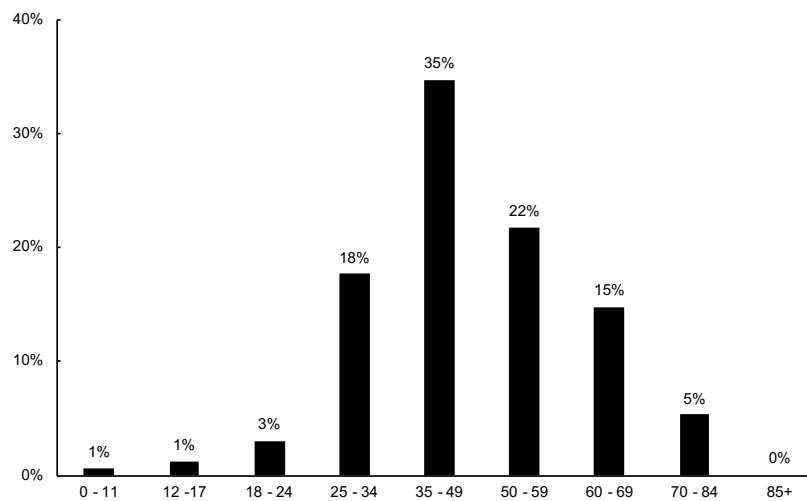
A2.10.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



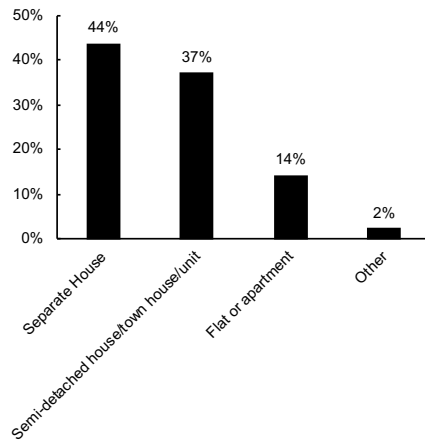
A2.10.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 170 surveys received

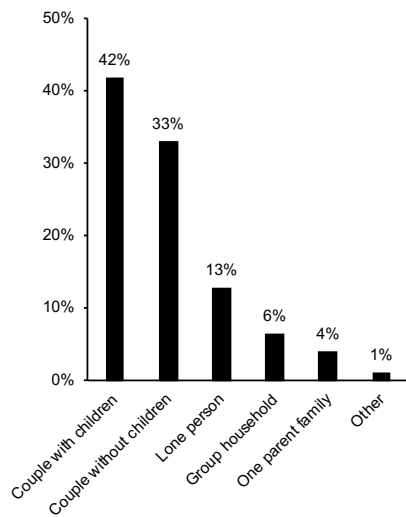
A2.10.9a Age range



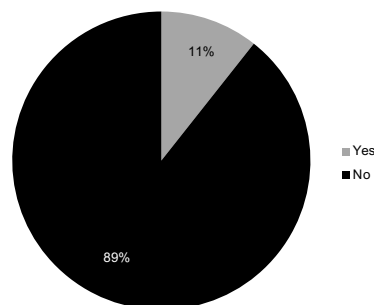
A2.10.9b Dwelling type



A2.10.9c Household type



A2.10.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



A2.11 North Richmond

Summary of the survey outcomes for North Richmond

158 respondents indicated they live in North Richmond. This represents 13 per cent of total surveys received. The Community Profile figures indicate that 15 per cent of the City of Yarra population lives in North Richmond.

With both the Yarra River corridor and Citizens Park located in North Richmond, the respondents appreciate the existing open space and also the opportunity to comment via the survey. Citizens Park overwhelmingly receives the highest levels of use because it is close by, for walking, exercise, dog walking and play. This is followed by the Yarra River corridor for walking and cycling. Respondents nominate they use small local parks on a frequent basis, most likely due to their close proximity. There is a focus on the importance of open space for fitness and support for children's participation in sport including female participation. Additional open space is frequently requested, particularly as density increases. Additional trees in parks and gardens and the streets are also requested.

A2.11.1 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about the open spaces in their Municipality and were invited to select any of the twenty-five values listed, with an option to add additional values under the 'other' category.

Percentages are calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys for North Richmond, 158. The table below illustrates the information, listing the twenty-four values in priority order.

The top three values are consistent with the municipal results with open space being a place to relax and unwind, trees and the feeling of space. The key difference is the higher ranking of fitness, watching activity, playing team-based sport and flowers and garden beds.

Value	%
A place to relax and unwind	54%
Trees	51%
The feeling of space	48%
Just being outside	46%
An escape from the built environment	44%
Fitness	41%
Health and well being	40%
A place for children to play	38%
Habitat for native plants and animals	35%
It's accessible	34%
Meeting people/friends	34%
Exercising dogs	32%
Green character	30%

Value	%
Natural bushland character	27%
Knowing that it's there	25%
The quiet	25%
Flowers/garden beds	23%
Playing casual ball games/activity	22%
Watching activity	22%
Playing team/club based sport	19%
Cultural activities and events	17%
The diversity of open space	17%
Cultural heritage values/significance	13%
Historical character	13%
Other	3%

The other category included a range of comments including water amenities, cleanliness, order and safety, cat walking, fenced off-leash areas, and space to walk through.

A2.11.2 Open space within walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 158 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.11.2a Most frequently visited open spaces

The following table lists the open spaces visited within walking distance of home.

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
110	Citizens Park	70%
25	Yarra River Corridor	16%
22	Williams Reserve	14%
13	Fitzroy Gardens	8%
10	Yarra Bend Park	6%
9	Barkly Gardens	6%
6	Yarra Primary School	4%
5	Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct	3%
5	Burnley Park	3%
5	Department of Housing Richmond Place	3%
5	Yarra Park	3%
4	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	3%
3	Local gardens	2%
3	Local Parks	2%
2	Annettes Place	1%
2	Edinburgh Gardens	1%
2	None with n walking distance	1%
2	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	1%
2	Studley Park	1%
1	Butler Street Park	1%
1	Chestnut Street Reserve	1%
1	Darling Gardens	1%
1	Fairfield Park	1%
1	Flockhart Reserve	1%

No.	Open space within walking distance	%
1	Gahan Reserve	1%
1	Gosch's Paddock	1%
1	Local Dog Park	1%
1	Local Football Fields	1%
1	Peppercorn Park	1%
1	Powlett Reserve	1%
1	Richmond Terrace Park	1%

A2.11.2b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements to open space within walking distance in North Richmond

The following table lists the reasons why North Richmond respondents visit open space within walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. Overall the results indicate that Citizens Park is heavily used for both recreation, dogs exercise and sport, while the Yarra River Corridor is used to enjoy the natural space and travel through by foot or bicycle.

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Citizens Park 110	16	Access - close to home	35	Improvements - none required
	16	Walking	8	Dogs - owners to be responsible for waste
	15	Exercising	4	Open space - upgrade
	9	Dog walking	4	Playgrounds - upgrade
	8	Playground	3	Picnic facilities - additional BBQ's required
	6	Dogs - exercising	3	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance
	6	Social - meeting people/friends	3	Trees - additional required
	5	Access - convenient (on the way)	3	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
	5	Dog - friendly	2	Dogs - prohibit
	5	Informal ball games/sport	2	Lighting - additional required
	5	Relaxing	2	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	5	Sport	2	Open space - valued
	4	Play - children	2	Seating - additional required
	4	Sports oval	1	Access - additional information about scheduled use required
	3	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Access - improvements required
	3	Dogs - watching	1	Birds - plant additional native/indigenous vegetation to attract birdlife
	3	Jogging/running	1	Birds - prohibit pigeon feeding
	3	Markets	1	Carpark - remove parking permits
	3	Open space	1	Development - concerns about impact on open space
	3	People watching	1	Dogs - improve usability for dogs
3	Walking - through	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required	
2	Diverse range of activities	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, extend hours of use	
2	Sport - football	1	Dogs - off-leash, personal safety concerns	
1	Access - close to gym	1	Dogs - over use	
1	Access - travel through	1	Dogs - owners to be in control of their dogs	
1	Cycling - children	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs on sporting fields time	
1	Dogs - socialising	1	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields	

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.11 North Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - adult space	1	Drainage - improvement needed
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Drainage - improvement needed near swimming pool
	1	Open space - fresh air	1	Drug abuse - action required
	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Fencing - additional required
	1	Open space - green place	1	Improvements - none required, improvements appreciated
	1	Open space - large space	1	Lighting - use floodlighting
	1	Open space - provision	1	Maintenance - valued
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Picnics	1	Paths - improve surface for jogging
	1	Recreation	1	Pavilion - required
	1	Sitting	1	Picnic facilities - additional tables required
	1	Sport - Auskick	1	Picnic facilities - improve drainage around tables
	1	Sport - children's organised junior football	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	1	Sport - children's organised sport	1	Playgrounds - increase diversity of equipment for a range of age groups
	1	Sport - cricket	1	Playgrounds - shade required
	1	Sport - Milo Cricket	1	Playgrounds - water play required
	1	Sport - organised	1	Rubbish - remove litter
	1	Sport - Richmond Junior Football Club	1	Seating - additional near playground
	1	Sport - spectating	1	Security - improve surveillance
	1	Sport - spectating football	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Sunshine/Vitamin D	1	Shared space - keep/retain as both dogs and sports area
	1	Walking - with children	1	Sport field/oval - improve turf
			1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms requires facilities for girls
			1	Sporting facilities - improve cricket turf
			1	Sporting facilities - upgrade spectators seating
			1	Toilets - upgrade existing
			1	Trees - maintenance required
			1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
Yarra River Corridor 25	9	Walking	3	Improvements - none required
	7	Cycling	2	Developments - limit developments
	4	Open space - natural character	2	Seating - additional required
	4	Open space - peaceful	1	Access - ramp required at Gipps Street
	3	Open space - away from busy roads and traffic	1	Access - underpass at Swan Street Bridge needs widening
	3	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Bins - additional required
	2	Exercising	1	Birds - plant additional native/indigenous vegetation to attract honeyeaters
	1	Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct	1	Cyclists - conflicts with pedestrians on shared paths
	1	Access - travel through	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Lighting - solar lights required for path at night
	1	Collingwood Childrens Farm	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Dog walking	1	Open space - protect
	1	Jogging/running	1	Paths - dangerous, improvements needed
	1	Open space	1	Paths - widen
	1	Open space - fresh air	1	River - prevent erosion
	1	Recreation	1	Rubbish - remove litter

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.11 North Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Relaxing	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	River setting	1	Trees - plant additional indigenous trees
Williams Reserve 22	3	Relaxing	5	Improvements - none required
	3	Social - meeting people/friends	2	Dogs - waste bags/bins, additional required
	3	Access - close to home	1	Access - retain ease of access
	3	Playground	1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
	3	Play - children	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs
	2	Picnics	1	Fencing - additional required
	2	Dog walking	1	Picnic facilities - fence
	1	Access - close to shops/cafes	1	Picnic facilities - shade required over BBQs
	1	Access - travel through	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Café/kiosk	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Exercising	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Open space	1	Vegetation - increase high to mid-level plantings on the east of the park
	1	Open space - grassed areas		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Playground		
1	Relaxing			
1	Sitting			
1	Social - meeting people/friends			
Fitzroy Gardens 13	4	Walking	5	Improvements - none required
	2	Open space - large space	2	Lighting - additional required
	2	Open space - ambience, beauty	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Exploring	1	Entertainment/events - additional required
	1	Health and well-being	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Jogging/running	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - green place	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Open space - peaceful	1	Safety - improve
	1	Picnics	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Relaxing	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Social - consuming alcohol with friends		
1	Trees			
1	Walking - through			
Yarra Bend Park 10	2	Exercising	3	Improvements - none required
	2	Open space - peaceful	1	High Density Developments - limit developments
	2	Walking	1	Picnic facilities - improve security
	1	Access - close to home	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Access - close to work	1	Security - enforce fines for littering
	1	Cycling	1	Security - improve surveillance
	1	Dog - friendly		
	1	Dog walking		
	1	Open space - diversity of types		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
	1	Open space - large space		
1	Play - children			
1	Relaxing			
Barkly Gardens	2	Access - close to school	4	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Dogs - improve usability for dogs

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.11 North Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
9	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball hoop required
	1	Dog walking	1	Open space - valued
	1	Picnic facilities - BBQs	1	Paths - improvements needed
	1	Play - children	1	Toilets - upgrade existing
	1	Playground		
	1	Recreation		
	1	Walking		
Yarra Primary School 6	3	Playground	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Access - close to home	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required, improvements appreciated
	1	Informal ball games/sport	1	Informal recreation facilities - table tennis required
	1	Informal sporting facilities - basketball hoops	1	Informal recreation facilities - tennis courts required
	1	Play - children	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Play - safe for children	1	Vegetation - additional native/indigenous planting required
	1	Studying		
Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct 5	2	Social - meeting people/friends	3	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - to Yarra	2	Open space - valued
	1	Café/kiosk	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Dog walking	1	Bins - recycling bins required
	1	Exercising	1	Shared paths - improvement required
	1	Markets		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - heritage character		
	1	Outdoors/being outside		
	1	Walking		
Burnley Park 5	1	Dog walking		
	1	Facilities		
	1	Open space - diversity of types		
	1	Sport - children's organised junior cricket		
	1	Sport - children's organised junior football		
	1	Sport - organised		
Department of Housing Richmond Place 5	1	Access - convenient (on the way)	2	Drug abuse - action required
	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment	1	Bins - empty frequently
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Bins - recycling bins required
	1	Playground	1	Education campaign - against dumping waste
	1	Relaxing	1	Improvements - required
	1	Sitting	1	Informal sporting facilities - upgrade
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Open space - bare/uninviting/neglected, improvements required
Yarra Park 5	1	Social - sense of community	1	Playgrounds - additional required
	3	Walking	4	Improvements - none required
	2	Dog walking	1	Cyclists - slow through park
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 4	1	Dogs -- fewer dogs present		
	1	Sport - children's organised sport	1	Rubbish - remove litter
	1	Sport - organised	1	Sport field - improve turf management
1	Sport - Richmond Junior Football Club	1	Sporting facilities - facilities required for girls	

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.11 North Richmond

Open Spaces	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Sport - soccer	1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance
			1	Sporting facilities - improve facilities for girls and boys
Local gardens 3	1	Access - close to home	3	Improvements - none required
	1	Access - easy to access		
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
Local parks 3	2	Open space - grassed areas	1	Improvements - none required
	2	Sitting		
	1	Relaxing		
Annettes Place 2	1	Open space - uncrowded	1	Playgrounds - upgrade
	1	Play - children	1	Security - additional required
Edinburgh Gardens 2	1	Picnics	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Sunshine/Vitamin D		
None within walking distance 2				
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 2	1	Exploring	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Walking		
Studley Park 2	2	Open space - natural character	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Cyclists - no cyclists present	1	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Open space		
Butler Street Park 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Drug abuse - action required
Chestnut Street Reserve 1	1	Café/kiosk	1	Open space - restrict motor vehicle access
Darling Gardens 1	1	Playground	1	Improvements - none required
Fairfield Park 1	1	Cycling	1	Improvements - none required
Flockhart Reserve 1	1	Access - close to home	1	Security - enforce fines for littering
			1	Security - improve surveillance
Gahan Reserve 1	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Playgrounds - maintenance required for wooden structure
Gosch's Paddock 1	1	Jogging/running	1	Open space - valued
Local dog park 1	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Grassings - improvements required
	1	Relaxing		
	1	Walking - through		
Local football fields 1	1	Open space - large space		
Peppercorn Park 1	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Rubbish - remove litter
	1	Walking		
Richmond Terrace Park 1	1	Open space - grassed areas	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Outdoors/being outside	1	Open space - valued
	1	Sitting		

A2.11.3 Open space beyond walking distance

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 158 surveys received. The number is the total number of survey responses for each specific open space, and they are listed in priority order.

A2.11.3a Most frequently visited open space beyond walking distance

The following table lists the open spaces visited beyond walking distance of home.

No.	Open space visited	%
10	Fitzroy Gardens	6%
9	Edinburgh Gardens	6%
9	Yarra Bend Park	6%
7	Barkly Gardens	4%
7	Kevin Bartlett Reserve	4%
5	Carlton Gardens	3%
4	Burnley Park	3%
4	Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne	3%
3	Citizens Park	2%
3	Local national parks	2%
3	St Kilda Beach	2%
2	Ramsden Reserve	1%
2	Williams Reserve	1%
2	Yarra River Corridor	1%
1	Birrarung Marr	1%
1	Darling Gardens	1%
1	Elwood Beach	1%
1	Flagstaff Gardens	1%
1	Lilydale to Warburton Rail trail	1%
1	Maribymong River	1%
1	Wallen Reserve	1%

A2.11.3b Reasons for visiting and suggested improvements

The following table lists the reasons why North Richmond respondents visit open space beyond walking distance along with any suggested improvements, and are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific open space. While respondents in North Richmond use Fitzroy Gardens for travelling through and its beauty, they are travelling to Edinburgh Gardens for social occasions.

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
Fitzroy Gardens 10	2	Open space - beautiful	3	Improvements - none required
	2	Relaxing	1	Dogs - prohibit
	2	Walking	1	Facilities - additional required for children
	2	Access - convenient (on the way)		
	1	Dogs - fewer present		
	1	Lunch		
	1	Open space		

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.11 North Richmond

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Photography		
	1	Recreation - with family		
Edinburgh Gardens 9	5	Social - meeting people/friends	3	Improvements - none required
	1	Entertainment/events	2	Maintenance - regular maintenance & cleaning required
	1	Open space - diversity of types	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Open space - memory/association	1	Open space - valued
	1	Open space - safe	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Relaxing		
Yarra Bend Park 9	4	River setting	5	Improvements - none required
	2	Open space - large space	1	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Access - close to home	1	Open grassed area - maintenance required
	1	Cycling	1	Picnic facilities - additional BBQs required
	1	Dogs - off-leash area	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Exploring	1	Toilets - additional required
	1	Fishing		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Playground		
Barkly Gardens 7	3	Playground	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Dog walking	1	Sports oval - allow Richmond Primary School students to utilise
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - green place		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Playground - diversity of challenges		
	1	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Social - children's parties		
	1	Walking		
Kevin Bartlett Reserve 7	1	Exercising	2	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance
	1	Open space	1	Access - provide safer places to cross major roads
	1	Sport	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Sport - football	1	Open grassed area - improvements required
	1	Sport - girl's Richmond Junior Football Club	1	Security - additional required
	1	Sport - organised	1	Sporting facilities - facilities for girls required
	1	Sport - soccer		
	1	Walking		
Carlton Gardens 5	4	Social - meeting people/friends		
	1	Garden beds		
	1	Open space		
	1	Open space - design and layout		
	1	Open space - large space		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Relaxing		
Burnley Park	1	Trees - beautiful		
	1	Open space	1	Playgrounds - nature play required

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

A2. Individual precinct summary
A2.11 North Richmond

Open space visited	No.	Reason to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvements
4	1	Open space - natural character	1	Playgrounds - water play required
	1	Open space - peaceful		
	1	Playground		
	1	Social - parties		
Royal Botanical Gardens Melbourne 4	1	Gardens	1	Gardens - additional children's gardens required
	1	Open space - beautiful	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - large space	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Play - children		
	1	Gardens - waterplay		
	1	Trees		
Citizens Park 3	2	Walking	1	Dogs - prohibit dogs off-leash
	1	Play - children	1	Open space - enlarge/extend this open space
	1	Sitting	1	Playgrounds - upgrade
	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Shade - additional required
Local national parks 3	1	Camping	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Hiking		
	1	Open space - escape from the built environment		
St Kilda Beach 3	1	Bay	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Beach		
	1	Dog - friendly		
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - memory/association		
Ramsden Reserve 2	1	Dogs - exercising	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Dog walking		
Williams Reserve 2	1	Open space	1	Open space - additional required
			1	Trees - additional shade trees required
Yarra River Corridor 2	2	Open space - peaceful	1	Open space - keep/retain what there is
	1	Open space - ambience, beauty		
	1	Open space - natural character		
	1	Relaxing		
Birrarung Marr 1	1	Dog - friendly		
	1	Play - children		
Darling Gardens 1	1	Social - meeting people/friends	1	Improvements - none required
Elwood Beach 1	1	Access - close to work		
	1	Beach		
	1	Views		
Flagstaff Gardens 1	1	Walking	1	Improvements - none required
Lilydale to Warburton Rail trail 1	1	Cycling		
	1	Walking		
Maribyrnong River 1	1	Cycling		
Wallen Reserve 1	1	Dog walking	1	Improvements - none required

A2.11.4 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space by respondents. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in general.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:

Part 1 – whether there is open space they would like to visit but are unable to.

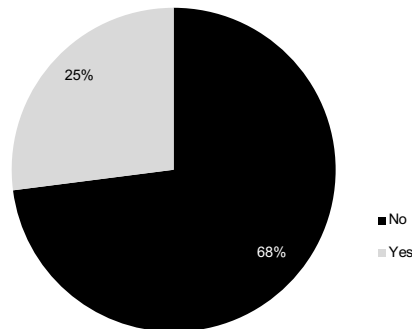
Part 2 – the reasons they are unable to visit open space.

The percentages nominated in Part 1 are a proportion of the total 158 surveys received.

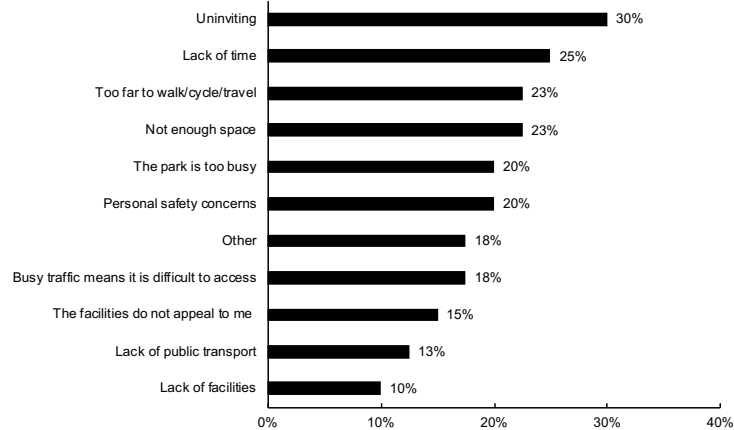
The percentages nominated in Part 2 are a percentage of the 40 respondents who answered yes to the first part of the question.

Part 1 Is there open space you would like to visit but are unable to?

25 per cent of respondents indicated that they would like to visit open space but are unable to. This is slightly higher than the Municipal average, 22 per cent.



Part 2 The reasons why you are unable to visit open space:



The most frequent reason for not visiting open space was because the open spaces were uninviting, followed by the lack of time distance and lack of space. Compared to the

Municipal average, 7 per cent more respondents in North Richmond considered open spaces to be uninviting.

A2.11.5 Types of open space visited and frequency of use

The following table shows the frequency of use of different types of open space in North Richmond. The percentages are calculated based on the 158 completed surveys. The total percentage column shown on the left hand side of the table is the sum of total use and does not include never and not completed responses. The percentages on the right hand side indicate frequency of use. The percentages in Table A below have been highlighted using shades of colour to assist with interpretation of the results.

	0% to 9%
	10% to 19%
	20% to 29%
	30% to 39%
	40% and over

Table A Types of open spaces used in priority order.

Open space along the Yarra is the most visited type of open space followed by small local parks and large parks and gardens. This is slightly inconsistent with the open space network in North Richmond given the high number of people nominating they use Citizens Park.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly	Monthly	1-2 times a year	Never	NC
46%	Open space along the Merri Creek	2%	3%	4%	16%	22%	47%	7%
84%	Open space along the Yarra River	6%	9%	27%	28%	14%	11%	4%
79%	Large parks and gardens	3%	7%	16%	26%	28%	17%	4%
64%	Large sporting reserves	4%	9%	14%	20%	17%	32%	4%
47%	Medium sized parks	4%	6%	9%	14%	15%	42%	11%
82%	Small local parks	16%	18%	27%	15%	6%	14%	4%
55%	Urban Squares	4%	7%	12%	13%	20%	36%	9%
74%	Local streets for exercise	28%	16%	15%	8%	8%	22%	4%

Table B Frequently visited types of open spaces in priority order

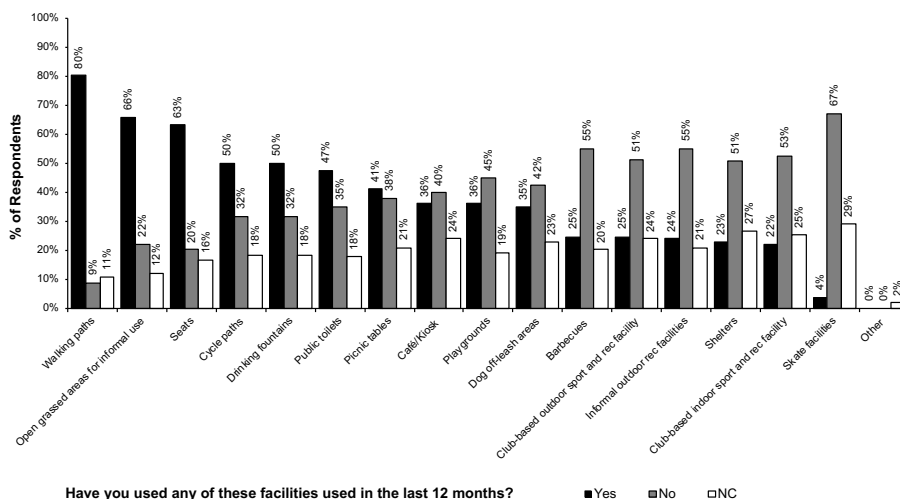
On a frequent basis small local parks are the most popular, followed by the local streets when used for exercise, and then the Yarra River.

Total	Open Space	Daily	2-3 times a week	Weekly
61%	Small local parks	16%	18%	27%
59%	Local streets for exercise	28%	16%	15%
42%	Open space along the Yarra River	6%	9%	27%
27%	Large parks and gardens	3%	9%	16%
27%	Large sporting reserves	4%	9%	14%
23%	Urban Squares	4%	7%	12%
19%	Medium sized parks	4%	6%	9%
9%	Open space along the Merri Creek	2%	3%	4%

A2.11.6 Facilities and features in open space

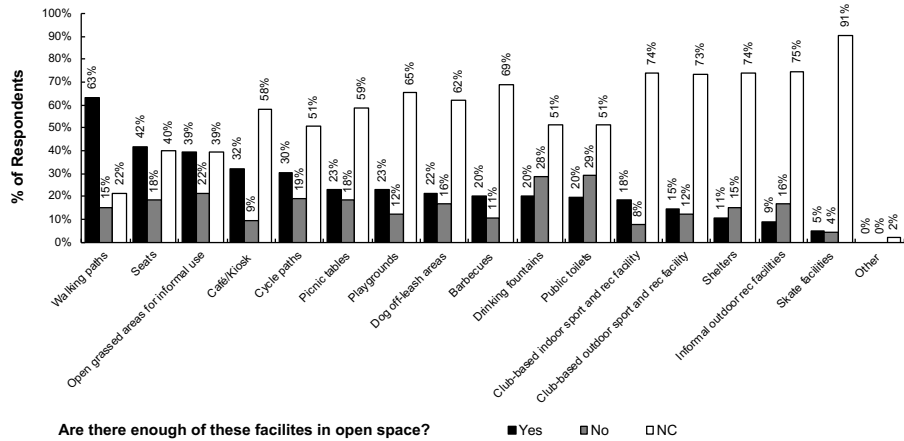
A2.11.6a Use of facilities and features in open space

The following table indicates use of facilities in open space over the last twelve months. The percentages are calculated on the number of returned surveys from North Richmond, 158. Respondents indicated that walking paths, open grassed areas and seats were the most popular facilities used in the last 12 months, with open grassed areas approximately 10 per cent lower than the Municipal average.



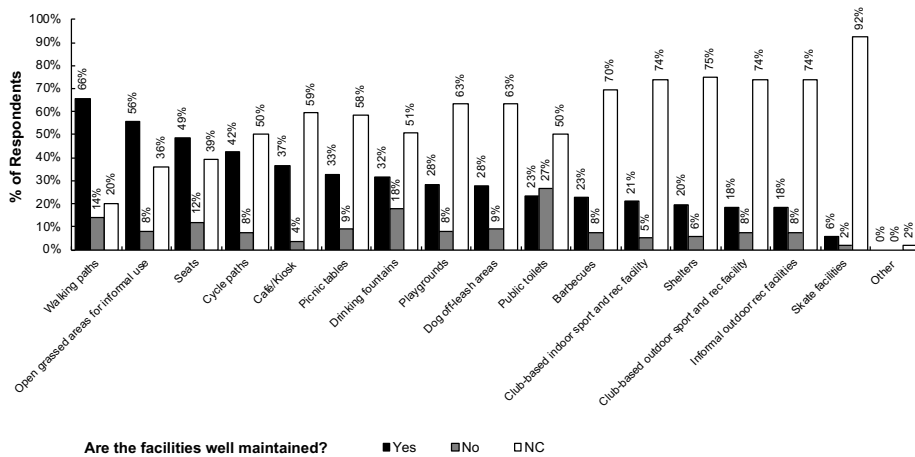
A2.11.6b Provision of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the percentage of respondents that consider the various facilities within open space either are or are not adequately provided for. Percentages are calculated on the total number of North Richmond surveys received, 158. Overall there is a higher level of satisfaction with the provision of facilities in open space when compared to the municipal results.



A2.11.6c Maintenance of facilities in open space

The following graph illustrates the level of satisfaction with the maintenance of open space facilities. The percentages are calculated on the total number of North Richmond surveys returned, 158.



A2.11.7 General comments on open space

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write any additional comments on the open space within the Municipality and their local area. The following is a summary of these comments from returned surveys from North Richmond respondents which have been grouped together into topics and assembled in priority order.

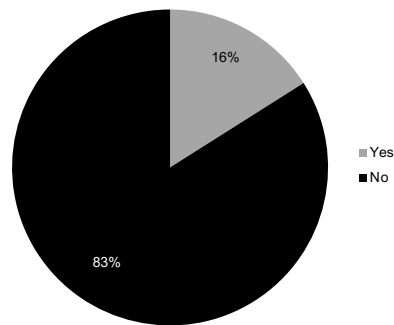
No.	General Comments List
15	Recreation Facilities
3	Sport - prioritise sport for children's health
2	Sporting facilities - additional basketball courts required
2	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require upgrade/maintenance
1	Exercise equipment - additional required
1	Playgrounds - additional required
1	Sporting facilities - clubrooms require facilities for girls
1	Sporting facilities - improve
1	Sporting facilities - provide indoor basketball courts
1	Sports fields/ovals - improve turf
1	Sports fields/ovals - improve drainage
13	Open Space
6	Open space - additional required as density increases/less private open space
2	Open space - valued
1	Open space - develop unused/dead space into green space
1	Open space - ensure they are well maintained
1	Open space - add greening to urban squares required
1	Open space - important
1	Open space - increase diversity
13	Other
4	Overall strategy - appreciate the opportunity to comment
4	Overall strategy - Council is doing a good job
1	Community behaviour - improve
1	Developments - adjoining open space maintain height restrictions
1	Developments - limit large developments
1	Developments - limit large developments along the Yarra
1	Overall strategy - prioritise natural/native flora/fauna
12	Maintenance and Management
2	Dogs - prohibit on sporting fields
2	Rubbish - remove litter in open space
1	Bins - empty more frequently
1	Dogs - enforce regulations
1	Dogs - off-leash areas, additional required
1	Dogs - regular removal of waste required
1	Maintenance - valued
1	Shared space - conflicts between cricket players and dog owners
1	Shared space - separate spaces for dogs and humans required
1	Trolleys - dumping an issue
8	Park Infrastructure
1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas required
1	Dogs - agility equipment required
1	Fencing - additional required
1	Lighting - improve in open spaces
1	Picnic facilities - additional required
1	Picnic facilities - shade required for tables
1	Picnic facilities - design for child safety

No.	General Comments List
1	Toilets - upgrade toilets at Richmond Primary School
7	Trees and Vegetation
2	Trees - additional required
1	Community gardens - additional required in streetscape
1	Trees - plant indigenous trees to support wildlife
1	Trees - plant more street trees
1	Streetscape - more green/plants
1	Vegetation - prioritise increasing vegetation in open spaces
1	Access
1	Footpaths - remove pedestrian walkway on Regent Street
1	Paths
1	Cycle paths - improve drainage along the river

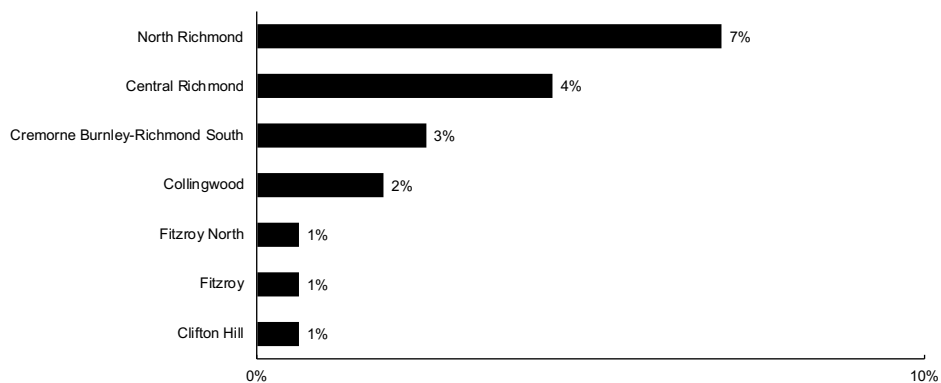
A2.11.8 Work in City of Yarra

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 158 surveys received.

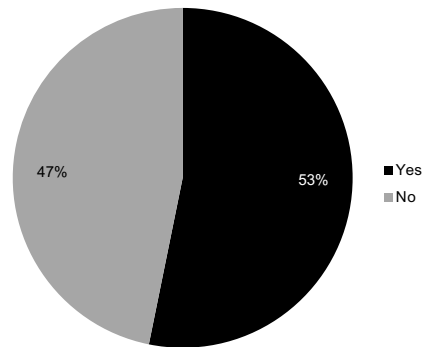
A2.11.8a Respondents that work in the City of Yarra



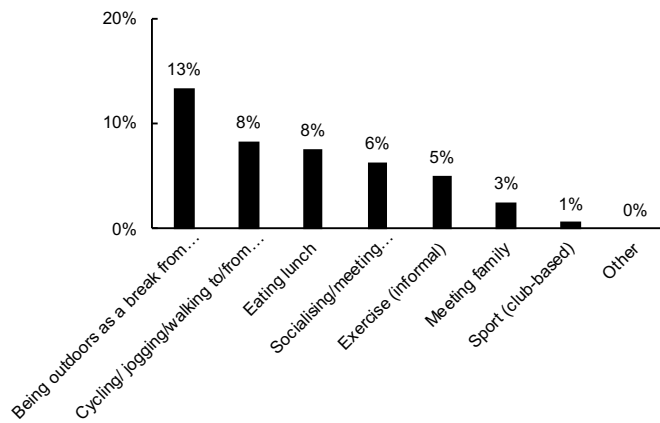
A2.11.8b Where respondents work



A2.11.8c Respondents that visit the open space near their workplace



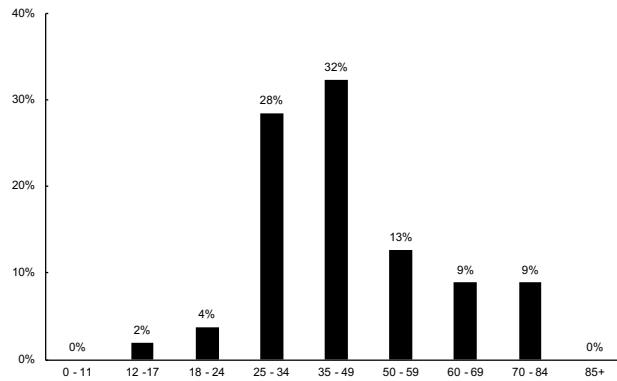
A2.11.8d Reason for visiting open space near work



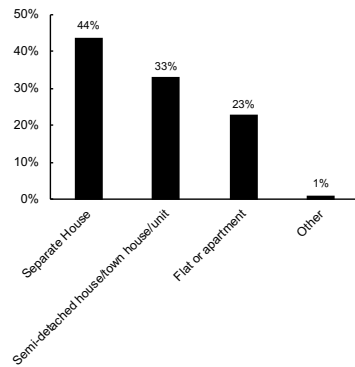
A2.11.9 Information about respondents

In the following table, the percentage is calculated on the total 158 surveys received.

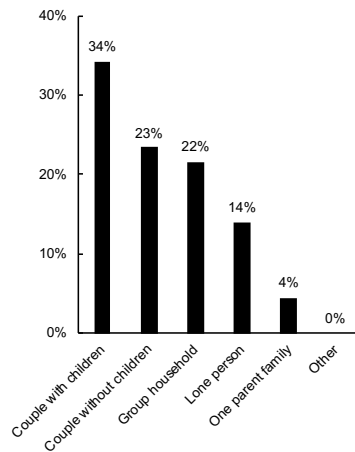
A2.11.9a Age range



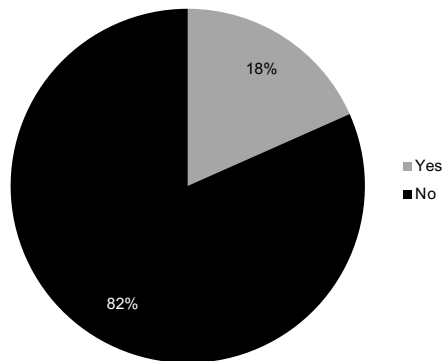
A2.11.9b Dwelling type



A2.11.9c Household type



A2.11.9d Respondents who speak English as a second language



PART B

Worker open space survey

B1 Introduction

B1.1 Summary of the worker open space survey

Workers were surveyed in four employment precincts in the City of Yarra including Collingwood, Cremorne, Fitzroy and Richmond. The Worker Survey was conducted by Metropolis Research as an intercept survey based on questions supplied by TBLD. Some questions were modified and additional questions added by Metropolis Research. Metropolis Research were commissioned to prepare a report on the survey outcomes, which is attached to this report as Appendix A.

TBLD has analysed the results of the four questions from the survey for each individual employment precinct using the raw data supplied by Metropolis Research. The four questions analysed on a precinct basis are:

- How often do you typically visit open space near your workplace?
- What open spaces near your workplace do you visit most often?
- What are all the reasons why you visit these open spaces near your workplace?
- Do you have any suggested improvements to the open space network near your workplace?

B1.2 Overall summary of the worker survey outcomes

The total number of workers surveyed was 498, and below is the breakdown of the number of surveys for each employment precinct:

- Collingwood – 124 respondents
- Cremorne – 117 respondents
- Fitzroy – 144 respondents
- Richmond – 113 respondents

For the overall survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A which includes the report on the survey outcomes prepared by Metropolis Research.

Metropolis advised that the surveys were conducted in the following locations in each of the employment precincts:

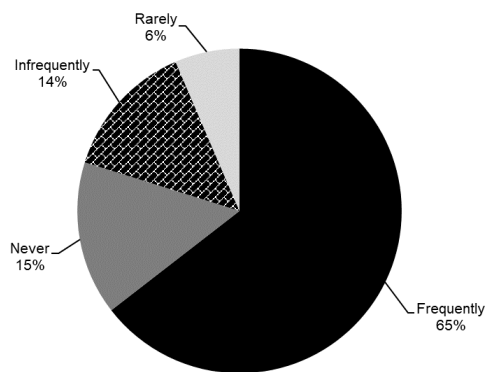
- Collingwood – Smith Street
- Cremorne – Church Street and Swan Street
- Fitzroy – St Vincents Hospital and Brunswick Street area
- Richmond – Epworth Hospital and Bridge Road.

B2 Worker survey employment precinct summaries

B2.1 Collingwood

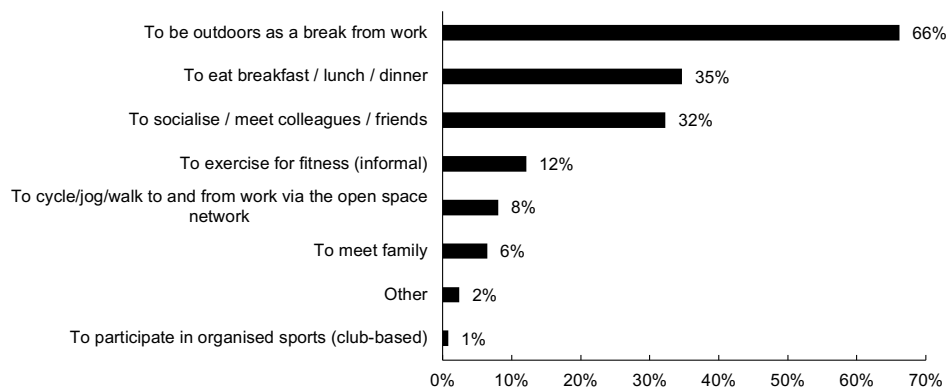
B2.1.1 How often you visit open space near your workplace

85% of the 124 respondents visit open space near the workspace, with 65% visiting it frequently.



B2.1.2 Reasons to visit open space near workplace

The majority (66%) of workers in Collingwood visit open space to be outdoors as a break from work, followed by eating meals and the socialising with friends/colleagues.



B2.1.3 Which open space do you visit near your near workplace

Fitzroy Gardens and Peel Street Park are the most visited areas of open space.

No.	Open space visited
28	Fitzroy Gardens
24	Peel Street Park
15	Edinburgh Gardens
14	Carlton Gardens
5	Gertrude Street
5	Smith Street
4	Small parks
4	Parks/reserves
4	Webb Street
3	Botanical Gardens
3	CBD parks and gardens
3	George Street
3	Oxford Street
3	Whitlam Place
2	Exhibition Gardens
2	Fitzroy Pool
1	Open space around the Department of Housing flats
1	Atherton Reserve
1	Burnley Gardens
1	Clifton Hill
1	Condell Place
1	Council house gardens
1	Fairfield Gardens
1	Fitzroy Town Hall
1	Gipps Street Park
1	Lincoln Square
1	Museum in Carlton Gardens
1	Parliament Gardens
1	Playground
1	Playground in Kew
1	Stanley Street
1	Streets
1	Treasury Gardens
1	Victoria Park
1	Yarra River

B2.1.4 Suggested improvements/changes to open space visited near the workplace

Respondents were given the opportunity to provide any suggestions for improvement to the open space or to highlight any issues they have with the open space.

Open space visited	No.	Suggested improvement for/issue width
Open space in general 43	14	Open space – additional required
	4	Green spaces – additional required in the city
	3	Greening - more trees/plants/grass in open space
	2	Picnic tables for having lunch - additional required
	2	Public toilets - additional required
	2	Quieter places to relax and unwind - additional required
	2	Shade - additional required

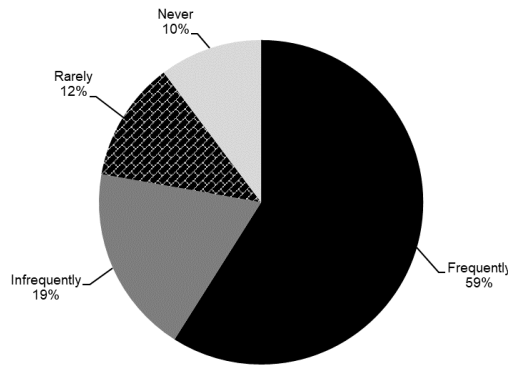
Open space visited	No.	Suggested improvement for/issue width	
	2	Safety - feel unsafe	
	1	Better value for the rates	
	1	Bicycle parking - additional required	
	1	Car parking - additional required to improve access to open space	
	1	Maintenance - additional required	
	1	Maintenance - cleaning graffiti required	
	1	Maintenance - well maintained	
	1	Pedestrian access - improve safety	
	1	Pets - more pet free areas required	
	1	Rubbish collection - increase frequency	
	1	Seating- uncomfortable	
	1	Trees - additional required	
	Fitzroy Gardens 28	4	Open space – additional required
		3	Green open space - additional required
3		Open space - need more like Fitzroy Gardens in City of Yarra	
2		Drinking fountains - additional required	
2		Public toilets - additional required	
2		Seating - additional required	
2		Seating - improvement required	
1		Barbecue areas - additional required	
1		Car parking - more required to access open space	
1		Enjoy as is - no improvement required	
1		Jogging paths - additional required	
1		Maintenance - additional required	
1		Public toilets - more cleaning required	
1		Shade - additional required	
Peel Street Park 24	4	Seating - additional required	
	4	Enjoy as is - no improvement required	
	3	Shade - additional required	
	2	Open space - additional required	
	1	Drinking fountains - additional required	
	1	Garden bed/grassed areas - more required	
	1	Garden maintenance - cleaning more frequently	
	1	Open space - more awareness required	
	1	Picnic tables and seats - additional required	
	1	Seating - more comfortable seating required	
	1	Trees - more large trees for shade	
	1	Trees and vegetation - additional required	
	Edinburgh Gardens 15	2	Enjoy as is - no changes required
		1	Basketball court - additional required
1		Bicycle infrastructure - required	
1		Open space - don't sell to developers	
1		Open space - need additional large parks	
1		Opens space - more required	
1		Playgrounds - additional required	
Carlton Gardens 14		2	Trees - more native species in open space required
	1	Garden beds - additional required	
	1	Good - no changes required	
	1	Open space - more areas to relax required	
	1	Seating - additional required	
Smith Street 5	1	Drinking fountains - additional required	
	1	Seating - additional required	
	1	Shade - additional required	

Open space visited	No.	Suggested improvement for/issue width
Webb Street 4	1	Maintenance - more cleaning required
	1	Maintenance - well maintained
	1	Public drinking - policing required
Botanical Gardens 3	1	Open space good - no changes required
Oxford Street Park 3	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Peel Street Park - gets very busy
	1	Seating - additional required
Parks 3	1	Trees - more required
	1	Green open space - additional required
	1	Public toilets - additional required
Exhibition Gardens 2	1	Drinking fountain - additional required
	1	Rubbish bins additional required
Burnley Gardens 1	1	Footpaths - maintenance required
	1	Safety - more lighting required
Gardens in the CBD 2	1	Open space - more required near my workplace
	1	Seating - additional required
Fairfield Park 1	1	Disability parking - additional required
Gipps Street Park 1	1	Family areas - additional required
Whitlam Park 3	1	Dogs bowls and poo bags - required
	1	Open space - more required
	1	Seating - additional required
Lincoln Square 1	1	Rubbish bins - additional required
Local Open space 4	2	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Garden beds and trees - need more in streetscapes
Museum in Carlton Gardens 1	1	Open space - more required in City of Yarra
Parliament Gardens 1	1	Open space good - no changes required
Fitzroy Pool 2	1	Public pools - more required
Open space 1	1	Open space - additional required
Stanley Street 1	1	Open space - need more large parks
Treasury Gardens 1	1	Public toilets - more cleaning required
Victoria Park 1	1	Greening - additional required
Yarra River 1	1	Green open space - additional required

B2.2 Cremorne

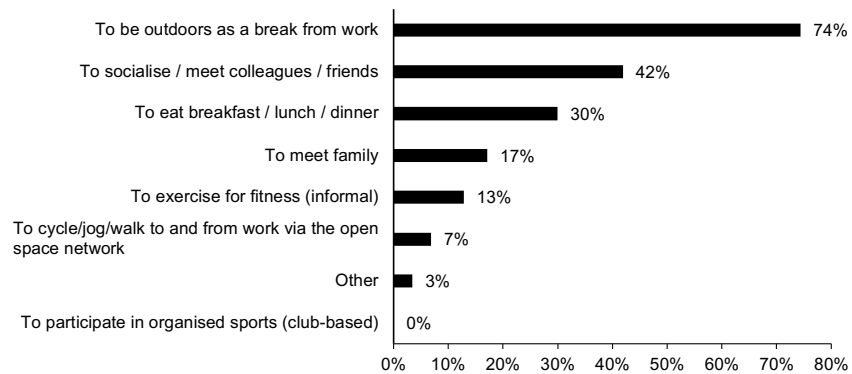
B2.2.1 How often you visit open space near your workplace

90% of respondents visit open space near the workspace, with 59% visiting it frequently. This reinforces the importance of open space to workers and is slightly higher than Collingwood.



B2.2.2 Reasons to visit open space near workplace

The majority (74%) of workers in Cremorne visit open space to be outdoors as a break from work, followed by 42% to socialise and meet with friends/colleagues. There is a low level of participation in exercise and organised sport.



B2.2.3 Which open space do you visit near your near workplace

Church Street and Parks in general are the most visited open spaces in Cremorne. It is unclear from the survey results whether people are referring to Church Street in general or Church Street Park. From the survey results below it appears that the intercept surveys for Cremorne were conducted in Church Street, which explains the high number of responses specifically mentioning this area of open space.

No.	Open space visited
27	Church Street
22	Parks (no location/name provided)
15	Barkley Gardens
9	Gardens (no location/name provided)
4	Dale Street
4	Flagstaff Gardens
4	Yarra Park
3	Citizens Park
3	Church Street Park
3	McConchie Reserve
3	Open space outside the City of Yarra and City of Melbourne
2	Burnley Gardens
2	Carlton Gardens
2	Garden near work
2	Olympic Park
2	Richmond Park
2	Small local park
2	White Street Reserve
1	Cafe
1	Richmond Terrace Park
1	Goschs Paddock
1	Kings Domain
1	Near bridge shore gardens
1	Near this street
1	Olympic Park
1	Outdoor cafes
1	Palmer Parade Park
1	Richmond Station
1	Yarra River

B2.2.4 Suggested improvements/changes to open space visited near the workplace

Respondents were asked to provide any suggestions for improvement to the open space or to highlight any issues they have with open space in general.

Open space visited	No.	Suggestions/issues with open space
Church Street 27	5	Seating - additional required
	3	Maintenance - improvement required
	2	Designated smoking areas - additional required
	2	Drinking water - to be provided
	2	Open space - additional required
	1	Provide bins with butt out facility
	1	Rubbish bins - additional required
Parks 22	5	Improvement - none required
	2	Car parking - additional required

Open space visited	No.	Suggestions/issues with open space
	2	Green spaces - additional required
	2	Maintenance - additional required
	2	Open space - more required
	2	Seating - additional required
	1	Barbeque facilities - additional required
	1	Better night lighting - additional required
	1	Café/food/drink - services required
	1	Fitness equipment - additional required
	1	Improvement - none required, they are great
	1	Picnic shelters - additional required
	1	Picnic tables/chairs - additional required
	1	Shaded seating - additional required
	1	Trees - additional required
Barkley Gardens 15	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Maintenance - additional required
	2	Open space - more required
	1	Car parking - more required
	1	Dogs - owners to clean up after dogs
	1	Improvements - beautification required
	1	Improvements - none required, beautiful
	1	Maintenance - retain good condition
	1	Public toilets - improvement required
	1	Relaxing - ensure quiet and relaxing
	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Seating - additional required
	Gardens 9	4
2		Improvement - none required
1		Car parking - better parking required near open space
1		Free car parking near open space - required
1		Green open space - additional required
1		Noise - reduce noise levels in open space
1		Seating - more required
1		Variety of shade trees - additional required
Dale Street 4	2	Traffic management - improvement required
	1	Dedicated pedestrian footpath - required
	1	Grass - improvement required
	1	Rubbish bins - additional required
Flagstaff Gardens 4	1	Seating - additional required
	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Swings are facing the sun - realignment required
Yarra Park 3	2	Greening - adjacent to the river required
	2	Maintenance - cleaning required
	1	Boats - along the Yarra required
	1	Seating - additional required
Fitzroy Gardens 3	1	Rubbish bins - emptied more frequently to reduce presence of vermin
McConchie Reserve 3	1	WiFi - connectivity required
Burnley Gardens 2	2	Improvements - none required
	1	Greening - additional required
	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Maintenance - additional required
Church Street Reserve 2	1	Commercial in these areas
	1	Cycling paths - required
	1	Food trucks - more frequent

Attachment 5 Attachment 5 - C286yara - Background documents (Schedule to Clause 72.08, YOSS 2020 & Technical Report)

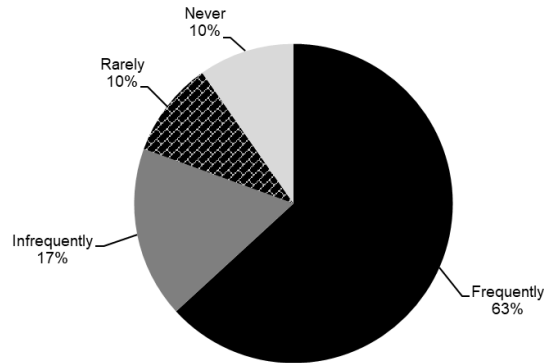
B2. Individual worker precincts
B2.2 Cremorne

Open space visited	No.	Suggestions/issues with open space
	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Rubbish bins - additional required
Citizens Park	1	Dogs - review standard on-lead controls
2	1	Seating additional required
City Link Off Ramp	2	Maintenance - cleaning required
2	1	Barbecue area - required
	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Trees - additional required
	1	Trees - maintenance required
Olympic Park 2	1	Open space - additional required
Small Local Park	1	Greening - additional required
2	1	Open space - additional required
Richmond Terrace Park 1	1	Maintenance - cleaning required

B2.3 Fitzroy

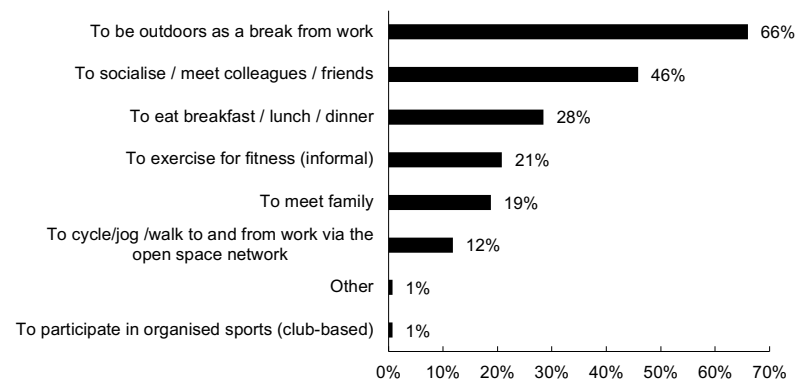
B2.3.1 How often you visit open space near workplace

90% of respondents visit open space near the workspace, with 63% visiting it frequently. This reinforces the importance of open space to workers and is similar to Cremorne and slightly higher than Collingwood.



B2.3.2 Reasons to visit open space near workplace

The main reason (66%) workers in Fitzroy visit open space is to be outdoors as a break from work, followed by 46% to socialise and meet with friends/colleagues, with 21% visiting it to exercise, which is higher than for Cremorne and Collingwood. This is likely due to workers in Fitzroy having easier access to larger open spaces.



B2.3.3 Which open space near your near workplace most visited

Parks (not named specifically) and Edinburgh Gardens are the most visited open spaces in Fitzroy, followed by Carlton Gardens and Fitzroy Gardens. As noted above in B2.3.2, access to the larger sized parks is likely to be the reason why more workers visit open space to exercise than for Collingwood and Cremorne.

No.	Open space within City of Yarra
28	Parks
25	Edinburgh Gardens
20	Carlton Gardens
20	Fitzroy Gardens
7	Small Local Parks
6	Smith Reserve
5	Brunswick Street
5	Open space outside City of Yarra & City of Melbourne
3	Atherton Gardens
3	Whitlam Place
2	Condell Street Reserve
2	Fitzroy Library Park
2	Garryowen Park
1	Argyle Square
1	Café
1	Counter Street
1	Gardens
1	Greeves Street Park
1	King William Reserve
1	Lincoln Square
1	McNamara Reserve
1	Melbourne University
1	Merri Creek
1	Royal Park
1	School
1	Treasury Gardens
1	University Square

B2.3.4 Suggested improvements/changes to open space visited near the workplace

Respondents were asked to provide any suggestions for improvement to the open space or to highlight any issues they have with open space in general. Requests for additional open space, and improving the quality and greening of the existing open space are the most common suggestions from respondents Fitzroy.

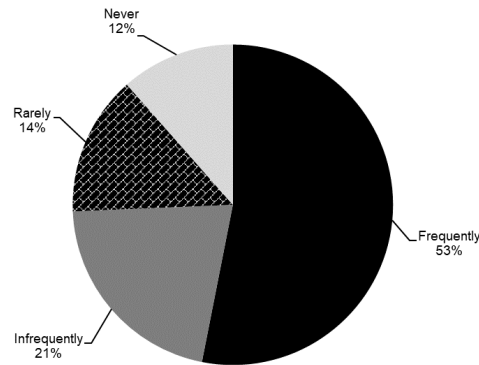
Open space visited	No	Suggestions for/issues with open space
Parks 28	11	Open space - additional required
	3	Greening - additional required
	2	Aesthetics - improve/beautify
	2	Seating - additional required
	2	Trees - additional required
	1	Aesthetic - attractive
	1	Development - concern about building heights
	1	Development - concern about over-development
	1	Maintenance - clean up after dogs

Open space visited	No	Suggestions for/issues with open space
	1	Open space - rarely visit
	1	Open space - rarely visit due to lack of time
	1	Open space - required as density increases
	1	Play areas - additional required
	1	Recreation - more activities required
	1	Recreation - rock climbing and activities required
	1	Seating - improve quality
	1	Streetscapes - adjoining require improvement
Edinburgh Gardens 25	2	Open space - more required in busy area
	1	Council - doing well with the park
	1	Green open space - more required
	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Alcohol - allow consumption in open space
Carlton Gardens 20	1	Beautiful
	1	Cycling - enforce the no cycling rule
	1	Maintenance - more required
	1	Open space - additional required
Fitzroy Gardens 20	7	Improvements - none required
	4	Open space - additional required
	2	Trees - additional required
	1	Garden beds - additional required
	1	Green open space - additional required
	1	Greening - additional required
	1	Maintenance - clean up after dogs
	1	Maintenance - regular cleaning
	1	Open space - should be available all of the time
	1	Open space - very important in high density areas
	1	Pets - effective control required
	1	Public toilets - improve cleaning
	1	Seats - additional required
	1	Seats and picnic tables - additional required
Small Local Park 7	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Greening - more required in parks
	1	Development - stop to improve/increase open space
	1	Maintenance - cleaning required to remove rubbish
	1	Maintenance - improve cleanliness
	1	Maintenance - more cleaning required
	1	Open space - more required
Smith Reserve 6	1	Open space - additional required
Atherton Gardens 3	1	Bathrooms - more required
Whitlam Place 3	1	Community - support surveys
	1	Events - available for people to hire
	1	Events - encourage more people in open space
Condell Street Reserve 2	1	Greening - additional plants in the park
	1	Improvements - improve interface to streets
	1	Recreation - more facilities required
Fitzroy Library Park 2	1	Open space - more required
	1	Recreation - more activities
	1	Shade - additional required
	1	Trees - additional required
Garryowen Park 2	1	Bins - additional required
	1	Bins - recycling bins required
	1	Dogs - improve areas/facilities for them
	1	Seats - additional required

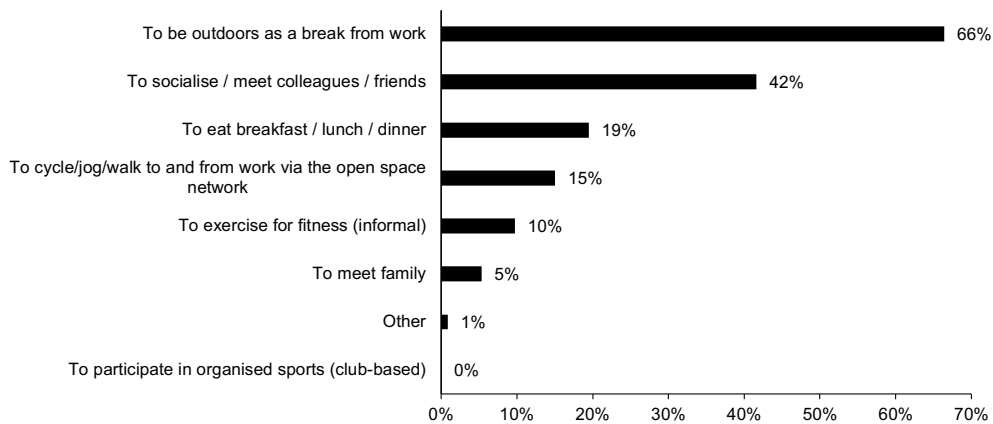
Open space visited	No	Suggestions for/issues with open space
Counter Street 1	1	Aesthetics - improve/beautify
	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Shade - additional required
Gardens 1	1	Trees - additional required
Greeves Street Park 1	1	Recreation - more facilities for games etc required
King William Reserve 1	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space - important to protect
	1	Trees - protect
Lincoln Square 1	1	Greenery - maintain existing
McNamara Reserve 1	1	Seats and tables - additional required
Melbourne University 1	1	Seats - additional required
	1	Shade - additional required
Royal Park 1	1	Tables - additional required
School 1	1	Improvements - non required
Treasury Gardens 1	1	Seats - additional required
University Square 1	1	Maintenance - improvement required
	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space - more to be developed

B2.4 Workers survey outcomes - Richmond

B2.4.1 How often you visit open space near workplace Richmond



B2.4.2 Reasons to visit open space near workplace Richmond



B2.4.3 Which open space near your near workplace most visited Richmond

No.	Open space visited
15	Fitzroy Gardens
13	Botanical Gardens
11	Parks
10	Citizens Park
8	Barkley Gardens
8	Yarra Park

No.	Open space visited
6	Edinburgh Gardens
5	Football Ground
5	Yarra River
4	Carlton Gardens
4	Erin Street
4	Richmond Park
3	Epworth
3	Reserves
2	Beach
2	City Gardens
2	Parks and gardens
2	Richmond Station
2	Treasury Gardens
1	Batman Park
1	Burnley Gardens
1	Collingwood Town Hall
1	Coppin Street
1	Factory yard
1	Federation Square
1	Gardens
1	Jolimont Street
1	Melbourne University
1	Open cafe
1	Parliament Gardens
1	Peppercorn Park
1	St Vincent's Place
1	Victoria Park
1	Williams Street

B2.4.4 What suggestions for or issues with do you have for the open space you visit near your workplace Richmond

The answers to this question have been presented in two different ways. The first table lists the answers by topic and the second table lists the comments by individual reserve.

Open Space	No.	Suggestions for/issues with open space
Fitzroy Gardens 15	1	Beautification - additional required
	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Maintenance - well maintained
	1	Open space - additional required in Richmond
	1	Seating - additional required
Botanical Gardens 13	1	Car parking - additional required
	1	Car parking - issue
	1	Greening - additional required
	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - additional required in City of Yarra
	1	Parking - make it free
	1	Public toilets - additional required
1	Seating - improvements required	
Parks 11	1	Car parking - turn open space into car parking
	1	Cycle paths - less required
	1	Improvements - none required

Open Space	No.	Suggestions for/issues with open space
	1	Improvements requires especially in Epworth Hospital area
	1	Open spaces - additional required
	1	Running tracks - additional required
Citizens Park 10	3	Car parking - additional required
	2	Improvements - none required
	2	Open space - additional required in Richmond
	1	Green open space - additional required
	1	Greening - additional required
	1	Maintenance - additional cleaning required
	1	Relaxing - in the evening
Barkley Gardens 8	1	Car parking - additional free parking required
	1	Open space - additional required in Richmond
Yarra Park 8	1	Open space - additional required
Edinburgh Gardens 6	1	Open space - additional required
Citizens Park 5	2	Picnic tables and seats - additional required
	1	Bicycle parking - additional secure parking required
	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Open space - additional required
	1	Open space - with good sunlight access
	1	Public toilets - additional required
Carlton Gardens 4	1	Car parking - free parking near open space
	1	Maintenance - City of Melbourne space well maintained, City of Yarra needs to improve
Erin Street 4	1	Car parking - more time required
	1	Open space - additional required in City of Yarra
	1	Public toilets - more required
Epworth 3	1	Car parking - additional required at train station
	1	Car parking - free parking required
	1	Improvement - none required
	1	Open space - additional required in Richmond
Reserves 3	1	Access - improvements required
	1	Car parking - additional required
Parks and gardens 3	1	Improvements - non required
Batman Park 1	1	Open spaces - additional require in City of Yarra and City of Melbourne
Burnley Gardens 1	1	Development - stop approving high rise developments
	1	Green open space - additional required
Gardens 1	1	Open space - improve balance of open space and developments
	1	Trees - increased number of trees in open space
Jolimont Street 1	1	Open space - additional required
Melbourne University 1	1	Improvements - none required
	1	Maintenance - improvement required
Peppercorn Park 1	2	Dogs - owners to clean up after their dogs
Richmond Station 1	1	Dogs - additional poo bag stations required
St Vincent's Place 1	1	Public toilets - additional required
	1	Trees - additional required along streets
Victoria Park 1	1	Events - additional required in the parks
	1	Seating - additional required

PART C

Homeless and marginalised open space survey

C. Homeless and marginalised community survey outcomes

C1 Summary of the homeless and marginalised community open space survey

Five surveys were designed for City of Yarra. These were the CALD survey, the Community survey, Homeless survey, worker and Youth survey. This report is for the Homeless and Marginalised survey only. The survey consisted of eight questions about open space including the final question being an open-ended question seeking comments regarding what changes and where would the respondents make/suggest for open space in the City of Yarra

C2 Overall summary of the homeless and marginalised community outcomes

A total of 21 responses were received. Not all respondents completed all questions. Some key overall outcomes from the survey include:

- Carlton Gardens was nominated as the most used open space, with frequency of use varying from daily to once every few months. The most typical use for this open space is physical activity, and just being in nature.
- Whilst the name/location of open spaces not used by respondents didn't highlight any one particular area not used more than another, the reasons why the open spaces weren't used were almost all related to safety and security.
- 95% of respondents completed their surveys at St Marks, and 5% submitted their response by mail.
- Nearly 80% of respondents are aged over 50 years of age, 53% aged between 50 – 59 years of age.

C3 Open space used in the City of Yarra

Name/location of open space	When do you use	Why do you use
Carlton Gardens 7	Daily	Exercise
	Once per week (2)	I like formal gardens
	Once every few months	Natural state
		Places to sit
No parks 3		Trees and fresh air
		Walk (2)
		Lives with own little area to sit
		No dogs
Edinburgh Gardens 2	Everyday	To find a good lady
	Once in a while	Garden beds
Fitzroy Gardens 2	Daily (2)	Community
		General exercise
		Walk
Rushall Reserve 2		Historical site
		Signing of Batman Treaty

Name/location of open space	When do you use	Why do you use
		Shortcut home
Treasury Gardens 2	Daily	Fresh air
	Once per week	Natural state
		Trees
		Walk
Whitlam Park 2	Day/Night	Eat lunch
	Varies	Relax
		Socialise
		To read
Abbotsford Convent Area 1	As often as I like	Away from city noise
		Away from traffic
		Green
		Peace and quiet
Batman Park 1	Night	To sleep
Coburg Lakes 1		Shade
Collingwood Football Club Ground 1	Night (when no events)	BBQs
		Open
		Pleasant
		Trees
Condell Park 1	Day/Night	Accessible
		Location
Dights Falls 1	As often as I like	Away from city noise
		Away from traffic
		Green
		Peace and quiet
Flagstaff Park 1	Night	To sleep
Gahans Reserve 1		Like Peel Street better but wish we could do it cheaper
Local Park 1	Not often	Walk
Near Gertrude Street 1	Once every 2 months	Freedom
		Fresh air
		Lovely park
Next to Fitzroy Library 1	Everyday	Free WiFi
Parks off Gertrude Street 1	In spare time	Play equipment
Peel Street Park 1	Daily	Play guitar

C4 Open space not used in the City of Yarra

Name of open space	Reasons not used
Botanical gardens 1	
Fitzroy/Yarra 1	Not enough time, too busy
Many 1	I do not live in Yarra

Name of open space	Reasons not used
Open space along freeway & Hoddle St 1	Traffic
Park along Nicholson Street 1	Looks creepy
Recreation area around Fitzroy flats 1	At night I am hesitant. I have clearly seen how the African youths congregate in intimidating numbers
River park 1	Too many dogs and drug dealers
Seated area on Smith Street & Gore Street 1	People who "own" the area are not inclusive
Southern Cross Station 1	Security guards are racist towards the homeless
General comments	Need facilities in parks, BBQ's and toilets Places too far away

C5 What to change about open space and where

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write what they would change about open space in the City of Yarra and where.

Name/location of open space	What would you change
Nearby Freeway footbridge off Trener Crescent	Good place to meet up to get trains Make it more inviting
Open space near King William Street and Primary School	Make it into a pop up park for and the local users
Rushall Crescent	No trees - plant more and put bike path in
All parks and walkways	More visible security especially during the night time
Not sure	More space needed near Easey Street, Collingwood
Area on loop off Studley Road	Nothing there to sit etc
General comments	Connect people in community with community gardens Melbourne Dreaming Book More celebration of Indigenous leaders, historical and current Worried about getting kicked out of parks Council watchman Hammocks in trees Have more open space If something breaks, notice it's slow to get fixed in East Brunswick Keep it more clean Like Playground and BBQ area Maintain trees better Memorials and plaques of local Aboriginal history

Name/location of open space	What would you change
	More bins
	More comfortable park benches
	More covers over BBQ's
	More drinking fountains in all parks
	Need BBQ's
	Open space improves areas
	Oxford Street Park More community involvement in the making to save costs
	Public toilets
	There's not enough open space

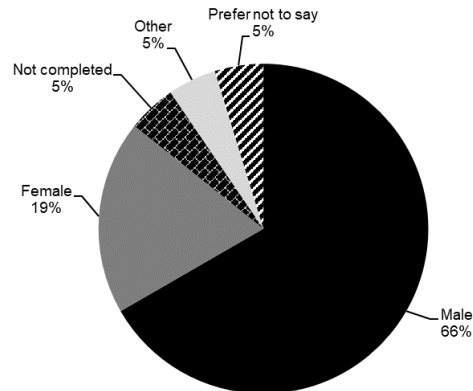
C6 Information about who completed the survey

C6.1 Where did you completed the survey?

20 respondents completed the survey at St Marks. One response was mailed in from surveys distributed at Co-Health, Collingwood.

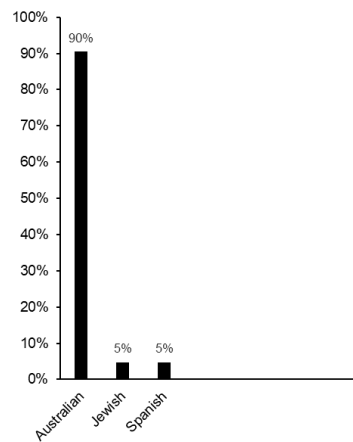
C6.2 Gender

A total of 21 surveys were completed. 66% of these were recorded as male, compared to 19% as female, with 15% nominating, not completed, other or prefer not to say.



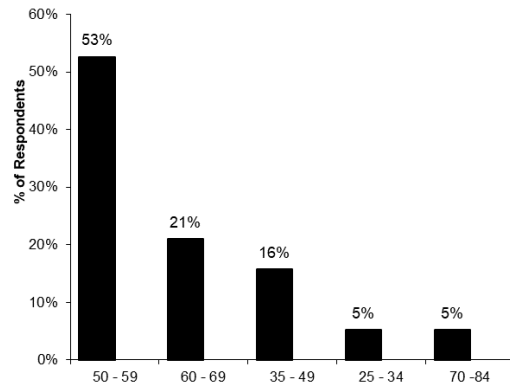
C6.3 Nationality

Nationality of those surveyed was overwhelmingly Australian (90%) with only two other nationalities nominated Jewish and Spanish at 5% each



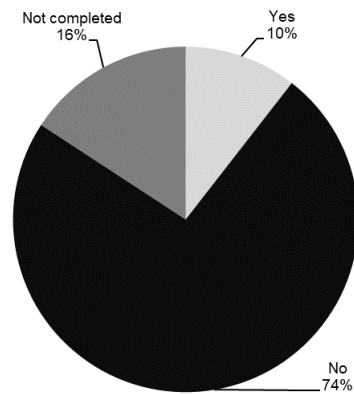
C6.4 Age range

The largest group of survey respondents (53%) is from the 50 – 59 year age range.



C6.5 Aboriginal or Torres Straits Islander

10% of respondents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Straits Islander.



PART D

Youth open space survey

D. Youth survey outcomes

D1 Summary of the youth open space survey

Five surveys were designed for City of Yarra. These were the CALD survey, the Community survey, Homeless survey, worker and Youth survey. This report is for the Youth survey only. The survey consisted of ten questions about open space including the final question being an open-ended question seeking comments regarding what changes would the respondents make/suggest for open space in the City of Yarra

D2 Overall summary of the youth survey outcomes

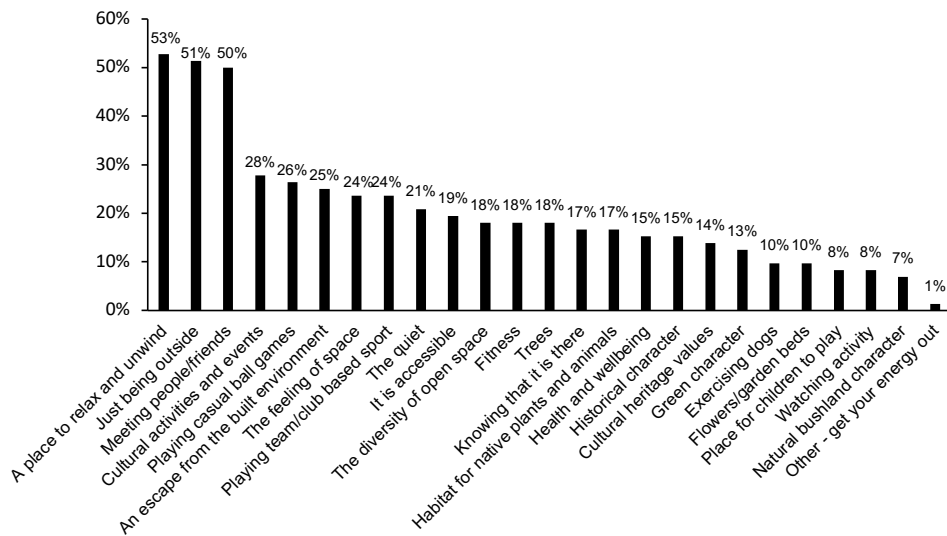
A total of 72 responses were received. Not all respondents completed all questions. Some key overall outcomes from the survey include:

- Atherton Reserve was nominated as the most used open space. Reasons for this included participation in structured sport and exercise, in particular soccer.
- The Basketball court was shown as the second most used open space, although the respondents did not provide the name of the space where the basketball courts were.
- 45% of respondents were from the Fitzroy area, with Collingwood and North Richmond each showing 11% of respondents as the suburb where they live.
- A high proportion of 12 to 17 year olds completed the survey (58%). This may be as a result of where the surveys were completed.
- A place to relax and unwind, just being outside and meeting people/friends were the top three values of open space.

D3 Values of open space

Respondents were asked to indicate what they valued most about open space. The following table is a list of these values in priority order.

The percentage column is calculated on the basis of the total number of returned surveys of 72.



The following table list the values in priority order

Value	%
A place to relax and unwind	53%
Just being outside	51%
Meeting people/friends	50%
Cultural activities and events	28%
Playing casual ball games	26%
An escape from the built environment	25%
The feeling of space	24%
Playing team/club based sport	24%
The quiet	21%
It is accessible	19%
The diversity of open space	18%
Fitness	18%
Trees	18%
Knowing that it is there	17%
Habitat for native plants and animals	17%
Health and wellbeing	15%
Historical character	15%
Cultural heritage values	14%
Green character	13%
Exercising dogs	10%
Flowers/garden beds	10%
Place for children to play	8%
Watching activity	8%
Natural bushland character	7%
Other - get your energy out	1%

D4 Open space in City of Yarra

D4.1 What open space used in the City of Yarra

No	Open space within Local Area
16	Atherton Reserve
7	Basketball court
7	Fitzroy
5	Library
5	Soccer field
5	Yarra Youth Centre
4	Citizens Park
3	Edinburgh Gardens
3	Parks
3	Richmond Recreation Centre
3	Yarra Bend
2	Fitzroy oval
1	Barkley Gardens
1	Burnley Park and oval
1	Carlton
1	Condell Park
1	Fitzroy Gardens
1	Richmond
1	Richmond High School
1	Yarra Park (City of Melbourne)

D5 Open space used in the City of Yarra

The following table lists the reasons why people visit the specific open spaces within City of Yarra and suggested improvements to them. The open spaces are listed in priority order. The numbers underneath the park names are the total number of respondents who reported visiting that specific park.

D5.1 Why do you use the open space in the City of Yarra and what improvements or changes

Open Space	No.	Reasons to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvement
Atherton Reserve 16	7	Play soccer	2	Separate dog park
	5	Play with friends/play/fun	1	Attract more people
	3	Relax	1	Basketball court
	2	Meet up with people	1	Improve basketball equipment
	1	Play Sport	1	Improve soccer equipment
	1	Soccer lesson	1	Lighting - night
			1	Make park home ground for a club
			1	More soccer activities
			1	Owners to clean up after their dogs
			1	Skate park
Basketball court 7	4	To play basketball	1	More diverse sports
Fitzroy 7	2	Play sport	2	Owners to clean up after their dogs
	1	Fun	1	More open space
	1	I use everywhere	1	More female based activities
	1	Place to hang out		
	1	Relax		
Library 5	3	Reading	1	A park
	1	Quiet	1	More space for study/furniture
	1	Relax		
	1	Study		
Soccer field 5	4	Soccer/soccer practice	4	Lighting - night
			3	Improve soccer equipment
Yarra Youth Centre 5	2	Meet people	1	Community giving activities
	2	Textiles activities		
	1	Because its there		
	1	Meet friends		
	1	Music		
	1	Open support		
	1	Work there		
Citizens Park 4	1	Big open space	2	Owners to clean up after their dogs
	1	Footy/ball games	1	Indoor courts
	1	Recreation		
	1	Workout areas		
Edinburgh Gardens 3	2	Events	1	Amphitheatre
	1	Meet friends	1	Increase police presence at night
	1	Picnic	1	More live performances
	1	Relax		
	1	Fun		
Parks 3	1	Fun	1	Owners to clean up after their dogs
	1	Lie in		
	1	Picnics		
	1	Smoke		
	1	Walks		

Open Space	No.	Reasons to Visit	No.	Suggested Improvement
Richmond Recreation Centre 3	2	Swimming/pool	1	Diving boards
	1	Basketball courts	1	Indoor courts
Yarra Bend 3	1	Escape	1	Lighting - night/early morning
	1	Natural	1	Separate cyclists and people
	2	Ride/run/recreation		
Fitzroy oval 2	2	Play soccer		
Barkley Gardens 1	1	Big enough to go running		
Burnley Park and oval 1	1	On the way to and from school		
Carlton 1	1	Close to where I live		
	1	Green space		
Condell Park 1	1	Convenient for work breaks		
Fitzroy Gardens 1	1	Meditation		
	1	Reading		
Richmond 1	1	Hang out with friends	1	More open space
Yarra Park (City of Melbourne) 1	1	Recreation/outdoor activities		

D6 Open space not visited

This question was asked to find out what issues currently limit the use of existing open space. The question included some of the common reasons why people may not use open space. The reasons can apply either to a specific open space or more broadly to open space in City of Yarra.

The question has been analysed below in 2 parts:
Part One – whether there is open space that they don't visit.
Part Two – the reasons they don't visit open space.

D6.1 Which open spaces in City of Yarra you don't visit:

No.	Name/location of open space you don't visit
2	Dog parks
2	Fitzroy Adventure Playground
1	All of them
1	Any that are far from my house
1	Atherton Reserve
1	Carlton
1	Citizens Park
1	Fitzroy
1	Jonas Street
1	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
1	Most of them :(
1	Not sure
1	Park
1	Parks with limited surveillance
1	Richmond housing (public)

1	Sporting reserves/urban plazas
1	Yarra Youth Centre

D6.2 Reasons why you don't visit open space:

Open Space don't visit	No.	Reasons don't visit
Dog parks	1	Because I'm scared
2	1	Dogs chase me away
	1	Owners don't clean up after their dogs
Fitzroy Adventure Playground	1	Because it is childish
2	1	Too old
All of them		
1		
Any that are far from my house		
1		
Atherton Reserve	1	More interested in basketball
1		
Carlton		
1		
Citizens Park	1	Not well maintained
1	1	Owners don't clean up after their dogs
	1	Too much time not able to use park
Fitzroy	1	Busy
1		
Jonas Street	1	It is un-useful
1		
Kevin Bartlett Reserve	1	Poor walking connections to residential areas
1		
Most of them	1	Don't know where they are
1		
Not sure	1	Not sure
1		
Park		
1		
Parks with limited surveillance		
1		
Richmond housing (public)	1	No amenities or activities
1		
Sporting reserves/urban plazas	1	Don't know they existed
1		
Yarra Youth Centre	1	Can't smoke
1		

D7 What to change about open space and where

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write what they would change about open space in the City of Yarra and where. The following is a summary of these comments which have been grouped together into six topics and assembled in priority order. The total number of people making a comment on a topic is included as the bolded number in each topic heading.

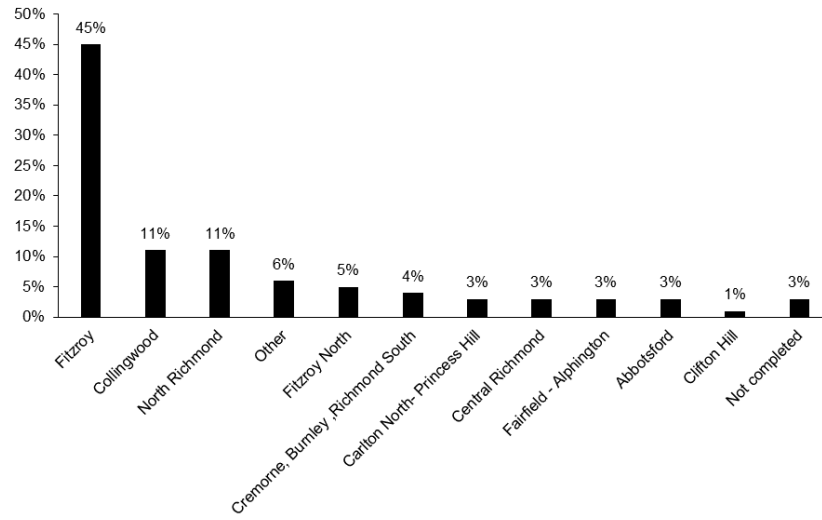
The majority of comments related to the need to improve the quality of facilities and access to open space including additional paths.

The general comments have been grouped into a series of categories to make them easier to review.

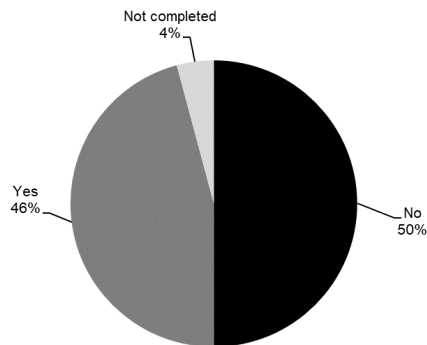
No.	General Comments
14	Recreation use
2	A fitness park area
2	Basketball - to hang out and talk
2	Soccer - nets on goals
1	Basketball - upgrade court
1	Interactive spaces
1	Playground equipment - improve
1	Soccer - A club that represents Fitzroy
1	Soccer - Indoor soccer court
1	Soccer - lights on pitch
1	Soccer - more fields
1	Swimming Pool
11	Other
9	Nothing
1	More people
1	Open to children under 12
6	Infrastructure
2	Bins - provide more, recycling and composting
2	Lighting - More spaces well-lit at night/early morning
1	Amphitheatres
1	Tennis tables -provide more
6	Provision of open space
5	Open space - more required
1	Information - more about the range
3	Dogs
1	Dog areas - provide more
1	Owners - clean up after dogs
1	Dog owners - stricter rules
1	Trees and vegetation
1	More greenery around the edges, on busy roads

D8 Information about who completed the survey

D8.1 Which suburb do you live in?

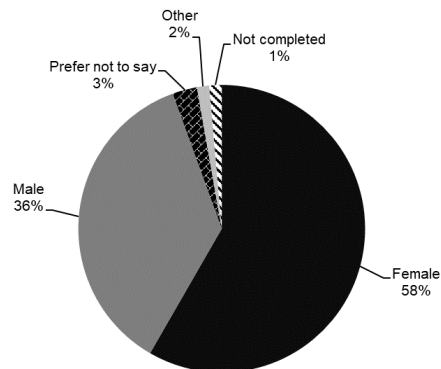


D8.2 Do you work or study in the City of Yarra?



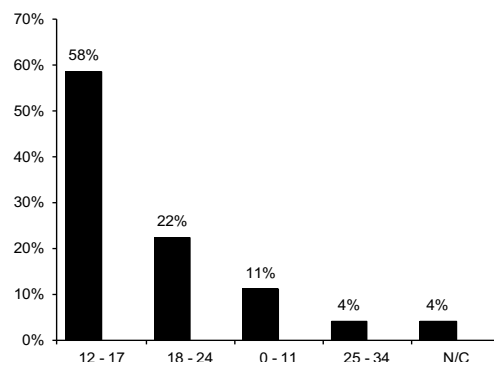
D8.3 Gender

A total of 72 surveys were completed on-line. 58% of these were recorded as female, compared to 36% as male.



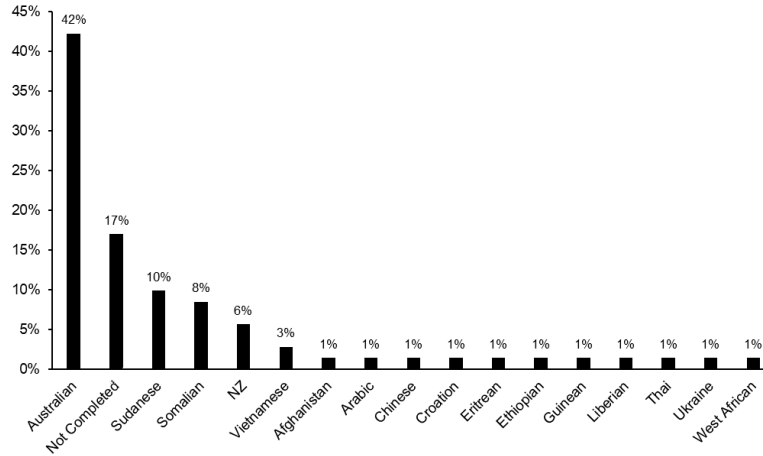
D8.4 Age range

The largest group of survey respondents is from the 12 - 17 year age range.



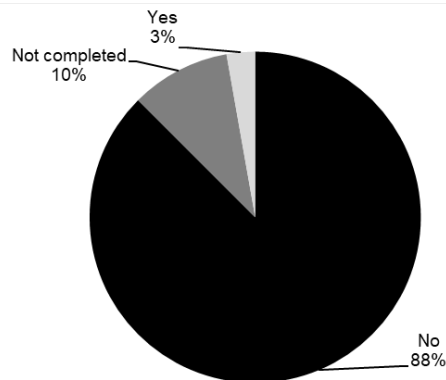
D8.5 Nationality

Nationality of those surveyed was predominantly Australian (45%) with the next largest group of people did not complete this question – 17%. Fifteen other nationalities were identified in the survey.



D8.6 Aboriginal or Torres Straits Islander

3% of respondents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Straits Islander.



PART E

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) open space survey

E. Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) community survey outcomes

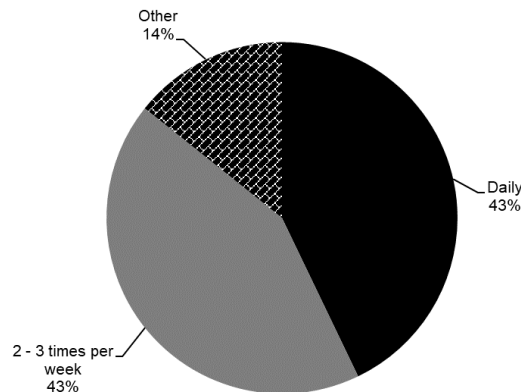
E1 Summary of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse community open space survey

Five surveys were designed for City of Yarra. These were the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse survey, the Community survey, Homeless survey, worker and Youth survey. This section is for the CALD survey only. The survey consisted of eight questions about open space including the final question being an open-ended question seeking comments regarding what changes and where would the respondents make/suggest for open space in the City of Yarra.

E2 Overall summary of the CALD community outcomes

A total of 12 responses were received, 5 of which were from children aged under 12 years of age. Not all respondents completed all questions.

E3 How often do you visit open space in your area



E4 Open space used in the City of Yarra

Open Space	No.	Reasons to Visit
Harmsworth Street Reserve 6	3	Recreation - use playground
	2	Exercise - run around
	1	Recreation - basketball court
	1	Recreation - ride bike
	1	Socialise
Fitzroy Gardens 2	1	Exercise
	1	Facilities - BBQ
All of the parks 1		
Boat Park 1		

Carlton Gardens		
1		
Richmond	1	Exercise - walk
1	1	Recreation - sport
Murry Park (Heidleberg)		
1		

E5 Open space not used in the City of Yarra

Open Space	No.	Reasons to Visit
Richmond	1	Drug users
2	1	Too far - no MYKI
Harmsworth Street Reserve	1	Not safe - too much drinking
1		
Reservoir Park	1	Too far - no time
1		

E6 What to change about open space and where

Respondents were provided a section where they were able to write what they would change about open space in the City of Yarra and where.

Open Space	No.	Suggested improvements
Richmond	1	Open space - additional required
1		
Cnr Johnston St and Hoddle St	1	Bus stop area - improvement needed
1		
General area	1	Exercise equipment - additional required
Harmsworth Street Reserve	1	Basketball equipment/facilities - additional required
1	1	Soccer facilities - additional required
	1	Maintenance - additional cleaning required
	1	Play equipment - additional required
	3	Playgrounds - additional required
	2	Drinking fountains - additional required
	1	Seating - additional required

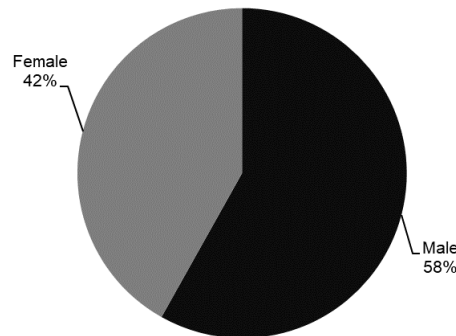
E7 Information about who completed the survey

E7.1 Where did you completed the survey?

12 respondents completed the survey at the Harvest Festival, Collingwood. The festival is held at the Harmsworth Street Reserve. The reserve form part of the grounds of the public housing towers.

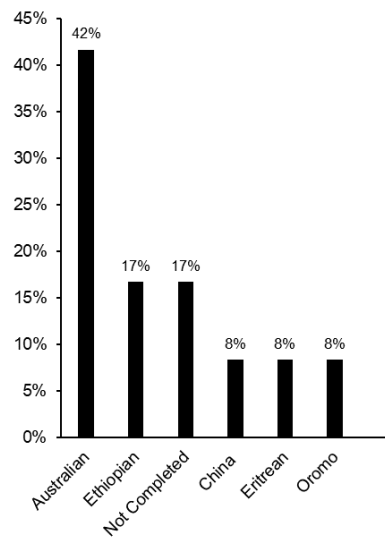
E7.2 Gender

A total of 12 surveys were completed. 58% of these were recorded as male, compared to 42% as female.



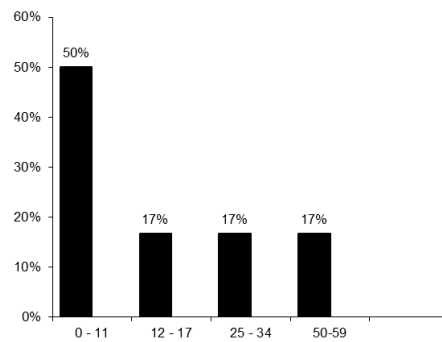
E7.3 Nationality

Nationality of those surveyed was approximately half Australian (42%) and the other half either Ethiopian, Chines, Eritrean, or Oromo, with 17% not providing an answer.



E7.4 Age range

Half of the respondents were aged between 12 and 59 years of age.



E7.5 Aboriginal or Torres Straits Islander

None of the of respondents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Straits Islander.

- 5 responded no.
- 7 did not answer the question.

PART F

Written Submissions

F. Written Submissions

F1 Overview

A total of 11 more detailed written submissions were received, comprising 6 from individual residents and 5 from organisations. For privacy reasons, the names of individual residents are not listed in this summary, but are referred to as Resident 1, 2 etc.

F2 Organisations

F2.1 Message Consultants - Tim Biles, Collingwood

- Streets have become places for cars and parked cars rather than social spaces and conduits for pedestrians.
- Ongoing road maintenance and upgrades have taken a lot of public funds at the expense of being available for other works.
- The authorities also have been allowed to make money from kerb side parking.
- Why do we render so much public space to cars when open space is a scarce resource in Yarra?
- Most of the spaces we provide for pedestrians and cyclists is unfriendly, cluttered and always challenged by the motor vehicle.
- Apartment living means we have less private space including for children being raised in apartments not homes.
- How do we make a difference?
 - Adopt the Barcelona model.
 - Place cars under the streets and use the space above the street as public realm with moving vehicles but not parked vehicles.
- "Our Streets are Not Garages" motto for managing car parking and public open space.
- Link the traffic and car parking department with the open space department.
- Engage with the state and form a political and financial partnership.
- Identify a street to be the first model for this.
- Introduce a broader development contribution for the area with higher density.
- They have given the model to stage the works example used in Cambridge and Oxford Streets.

F2.2 Streets Alive Yarra - Jeremy Lawrence, Cremorne

- Community group who advocate for shopping streets that attract regular business from local residents.
- Return of safe streets for cyclists and pedestrians freeing up space on streets for those who prefer to drive.
- The City of Yarra has taken creative and clever steps to convert existing street space to urban park space.
- Create streets as shared zones - encourage children to play in them.
- Philosophy of streets are for the people, accommodating cars. Therefore, priority for the strategy is to recommend all quiet residential street are shared zones where pedestrians and cyclists have priority over cars.
- Convert Geadell Street to a shared zone with reduced off-street parking.
- Improve pedestrian and cycle amenity in local streets so that people walk/cycle to open spaces, so we don't need carparking in open spaces.
- Support the Plan Melbourne Principle of 20-minute neighbourhoods by ensuring every resident can walk to a park within 20 minutes.

F2.3 Melbourne Bike Polo - Damon Rao

- Highlights the need for informal active recreational spaces in urban areas as land use intensity increases into the future.
- Apply concepts around semi and informal less organised recreational opportunities to the development of the public space in the City of Yarra and provides examples.
- Suggests that single purpose courts are already used more broadly than originally intended and that the demand for variety is growing, therefore, need to redesign to accommodate multi-purpose principles.
- Used the example of the redevelopment of Neill Street Reserve in Carlton, Albert Park Futsal Courts, Grandview Park and Coopers Skate Park in Vancouver, Canada.
- Previous sites used for Bike Polo include Victoria Gardens Shopping Centre car park and Princes Hill Secondary College. However, centre management risk concerns and resident complaints at the school site have limited use.
- Flagstaff Gardens is used on a fee-paying basis but would like to see opportunities explored at Curtain Square and Melbourne Museum as well as other school sites.

F2.4 Fitzroy Residents' Association - Margaret Portelli, Secretary, Fitzroy

- Suggest that the open space strategy needs a 3-year review period given the increase development and population.
- Consider greening initiatives for streets and laneways for relief in hot weather and to socialise and references the City of Melbourne's Green Your Laneway pilot and use of pop up parks.
- Legislate to increase open space contribution in proportion to the residential developments as requested in 2016.
- Suggest that open space contribution rate should be set at 8% in the future development contribution overlay to the Yarra Planning Scheme. Reason given is that other councils have set the rate at 8%.
- Provide public transparency on open space contributions from developers within their budgets and itemised receipts and expenditures.
- Preserve existing public space by using developer's contributions primarily for the acquisition of private land for public amenity.
- Consider ways to encourage developments to not automatically be given approval for 100% of requested land including lobbying the minister for change at State level.
- Suggests that the costs of purchasing pocket parks has been inflated by the lack of height controls leading to land speculation.

F2.5 Richmond Kindergarten School Project - Justeen Fitzgibbon

Collated feedback from children included:

- Visits parks for sports, to ride bikes, parties, and fun.
- Prefer parks that are sport focused, have space to ride bikes, are adventure parks, contain sandpits, are natural bush land with animals and secret places, and have music events.
- It's important that parks have shade, places to stay dry in the rain, and room.
- Would like to see parks with slides that go underground or as big as the trees, with fun things to touch and smell (like a pool with pretend spaghetti), bridges to climb over and swim around, play structures such as ships and objects to build with.

F3 Residents

F3.1 Resident 1, Central Richmond

- We need more parks and open space for wildlife, not just people.
- Use indigenous plants and trees to encourage wildlife, including birds, insects, possums, lizards, etc. and include ponds for frogs.
- Establish dog free areas.

- Use Aboriginal names for open spaces.

F3.2 Resident 2, Collingwood

- Support the recent implementation of the Oxford Street Park and Peel Street Parks.
- Collingwood is desperately short of open space.
- Prepare an extension to Cambridge Street Park due to conflicts between different user groups in the park.
- Recent developments have overshadowed the park reducing its attractiveness of use.
- Propose a partial road closure of Cambridge Street just south of Peel Street to expand the Cambridge Street Reserve to the north-west.

F3.3 Resident 3, Cremorne

- Lived in Cremorne for over 30 years and have seen it change from a depressed industrial precinct to a design precinct with increased worker and resident population.
- Concerned that no additional open space has been provided in the precinct despite substantial growth and change.
- Has identified a range of opportunities for open space and highlighted where they have already been considered in existing strategies and plans and queried why some of these have not been implemented?

F3.4 Resident 4, Fitzroy North

- Requests additional seating in Edinburgh Gardens, particularly near the northern area near the State School, for the elderly and due to the popular nature of the park.

F3.6 Resident 5, Clifton Hill

- Requests outdoor adult exercise equipment in Clifton Hill Park.

F3.7 Resident 6, Abbotsford

- Develop a community pocket park on the corner of Hoddle and Johnston Streets, as it is neglected.
- Would love to contribute or suggest the involvement with local community health centre like Cultivating Community's partnership in developing planter box gardens on the corner of Sackville and Hoddle.
- Create a children's playground in Victoria Park for the increasing number of children, who may be intimidated by the number of dogs using the oval. Suggest near the Turner Street side of the oval close to the BBQ area.
- Establish a half basketball court in Victoria Park similar to the one in Gahan's Reserve.
- Commend council for their initiatives around open space and welcome further development.

Appendix 1

- 1.1 Resident Open Space Survey**
- 1.2 Worker Open Space Survey**
- 1.3 Marginalised/Homeless Opens Space Survey**
- 1.4 Youth Open Space Survey**

YOUR SAY
YARRA



Open Space Survey : February 2018

We want to know which open spaces and facilities you love and why. Telling us how you use your open spaces will help us create a better strategy that works for everybody. We want to find out how you use our open spaces now, how you would like to use them in the future, where you think the gaps are and where you think improvements could be made. Open space includes parks, playgrounds, gardens, waterways, nature trails, sporting reserves and urban plazas. **Please return this survey or complete it online by Sunday 18 March 2018.**

Q1 Thinking about all the different types of open space, what do you value most about them? (Please tick the appropriate box(es) below)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A place to relax and unwind | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural activities and events | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The feeling of space | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting people/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Flowers/garden beds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The quiet | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat for native plants & animals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Just being outside | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and wellbeing | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural bushland character |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knowing that it is there | <input type="checkbox"/> Playing team/club based sport | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical character |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The diversity of open space | <input type="checkbox"/> Playing casual ball games/activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural heritage values/significance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> An escape from the built environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Place for children to play | <input type="checkbox"/> Green character |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It is accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> Watching activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercising dogs | |

Q2 Please nominate up to two open spaces that you visit regularly within walking distance of home and why you visit them? If you don't know their names just give us a location (for example a street name).

Name or location of open space	Reason(s) for visiting	Do you have any suggested improvements?
1.		
2.		

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، يُرجى الإتصال هاتفياً بالرقم 9280 1930 والإشارة إلى رقم المرجع المذكور أدناه. |

REF 17316



Q3 Which main open space do you visit beyond walking distance of home, and why do you visit this space? If you don't know their names just give us a location (for example a street name)..

Name or location of open space	Reason(s) for visiting	Do you have any suggested improvements?
1.		

Q4 Is there open space in the City of Yarra that you don't visit but would like to?

- Yes (Please tell us why below) No (Go to Q5)

Reasons why you don't visit open space

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Too far to walk/cycle/travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Not enough space | <input type="checkbox"/> Busy traffic means it is difficult to access |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of time | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of facilities | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of public transport |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Uninviting | <input type="checkbox"/> The facilities do not appeal to me or my family | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal safety concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The park is too busy | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) |

Q5 Yarra has a range of facilities within its open space. Please tell us if you have used any of the facilities in the last 12 months, whether they are adequately maintained and were there enough?

(Please place a tick in the appropriate columns below ~ They are listed in alphabetical order).

Facilities	Used in the last 12 months?		Was it adequately maintained?		Are there enough?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Barbecues						
Cafe/kiosk						
Club-based indoor sport and recreation facility						
Club-based outdoor sport and recreation facility						
Cycle paths						
Dog off-leash areas						
Drinking fountains						
Informal outdoor recreation facilities (for example half courts, fitness equipment, cricket nets)						
Open grassed areas for informal use						
Playgrounds						
Picnic tables						
Public toilets						
Seats						
Shelters						
Skate facilities						
Walking paths						
If other, please specify:						





Q6 Please indicate how frequently you use each type of open space listed below?
(Please place a tick in the appropriate location below).

Type of open space	Frequency of use					
	Daily	Two to three times per week	Weekly	Monthly	Once or twice a year	Never
Open space along the Merri Creek						
Open space along the Yarra River						
Large parks and gardens (primarily non-sporting) for example Edinburgh Gardens, Fairfield Park, Barkly Gardens and Park Street Reserve/Hardy Gallagher Reserve						
Large sporting reserves, for example Quarries Park, Yarra Bend Park, Kevin Bartlett Reserve, Victoria Park and Burnley Park						
Medium sized parks, for example Gahan Reserve (Abbotsford) and Curtain Square (Carlton North)						
Small local parks						
Urban squares						
Local streets for exercise						

Q7 Where do you live? (Please tick one box)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abbotsford | <input type="checkbox"/> Collingwood | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitzroy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlton North - Princes Hill | <input type="checkbox"/> Cremorne and Burnley - Richmond South | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitzroy North |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Richmond | <input type="checkbox"/> Fairfield - Alphington | <input type="checkbox"/> North Richmond |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clifton Hill | | |

Q12 Which of these apply to your household?
(Please tick one box)

- Speak only English at home
- Speak a language other than English at home
If so, which other language do you speak at home?
.....

Q8 Your gender?
(Please tick appropriate box)

- Male Female Other Prefer not to say

Q13 What type of household do you live in?
(Please tick appropriate box)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple with children | <input type="checkbox"/> Lone person |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple without children | <input type="checkbox"/> Group household |
| <input type="checkbox"/> One parent family | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Q9 Your 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+ |

Q14 Do you work in the City of Yarra?

- Yes (Go to question 15) No (Go to question 19)

Q10 The type of dwelling you live in? (Please tick one box)

- Flat or apartment Separate house
- Semi-detached house/ townhouse/unit Other

Q15 Where do you work? (Please tick one box)

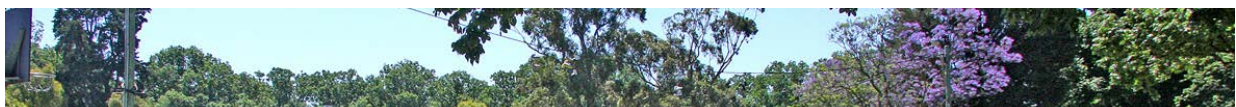
- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abbotsford | <input type="checkbox"/> Collingwood | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitzroy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlton North - Princes Hill | <input type="checkbox"/> Cremorne and Burnley - Richmond South | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitzroy North |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Richmond | <input type="checkbox"/> Fairfield - Alphington | <input type="checkbox"/> North Richmond |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clifton Hill | | |

Q11 What is your country of birth?

.....

Q16 If you work in the City of Yarra, do you visit open space near your workplace?

- Yes No





Q17 Why do you visit the open space near your workplace?

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Being outdoors as a break from work | <input type="checkbox"/> Sport (club-based) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socialising/meeting colleagues/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Eating lunch | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting family | <input type="checkbox"/> Cycling/jogging/walking to/from work via the open space network (rather than roads) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness/exercise (informal) | | |

Q18 If you are speaking on behalf of a community organisation or group, what is its name?

.....

Q19 Any further comments on open space in the City of Yarra?

.....



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

Name:

Address: Postcode:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. 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 18 March 2018.

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.

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PO Box 168
RICHMOND VIC 3121



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City of Yarra
Reply Paid 168
RICHMOND VIC 3121



Yarra City Council

2018 Open Space Workers Survey

March 2018

Prepared for:

Yarra City Council

Prepared by:

Metropolis Research
ACN 083 090 993

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Introduction

Metropolis Research was commissioned by the Yarra City Council to conduct primary research of workers at four locations across the municipality to explore a range of issues around the use of open space.

The research aimed to assist the development of the *Yarra City Council – Open Space Strategy*. The survey was not designed by Metropolis Research, and Metropolis Research makes no warranty as to the validity and utility of the questions.

Specifically, the survey aimed to explore the following:

- Frequency of visiting open spaces near work
- The open spaces most commonly visited
- Reasons for visiting open space near work
- Suggestions / issues with open space near work
- Respondent profile including age, gender, and industry of employment.

Methodology

The survey was conducted as a face-to-face intercept survey of approximately five minutes duration.

Individuals were randomly approached on the street at the variety of times of the day. A screening question was asked if the individual was working in the local area on that day, and if so they were invited to participate.

Individual that were not working in the local area were provided a postcard with details as to the *Open Space Strategy*, including reference to the *Open Space Strategy Survey* currently being conducted by Council via the website. Only a limited supply of these postcards was provided to Metropolis Research.

Location and timing of surveys

Surveys were conducted over a period of approximately two weeks from the 7th to the 19th of March 2018. Surveys were conducted at a variety of times, predominately in two shifts from 11am till 2pm and from 4pm till 7pm weekdays.

The following table outlines the total number of surveys completed in each of the four locations. The locations to be surveyed were advised to Metropolis Research by officers of the Yarra City Council.



Survey location
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Location	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Cremorne	117	23.5%
Collingwood	124	24.9%
Fitzroy	144	28.9%
Richmond	113	22.7%
Total	498	100%

Open Space near workplace

Frequency of visiting open space

Respondents were asked:

“How often do you typically visit open space near your workplace?”

A little less than two-thirds (60.2%) of respondents visit open space near their workplace at least once a week.

Only a relatively small (11.6%) proportion of respondents reported that they never visit open space near work.

Frequency of visiting open space near workplace
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Frequency	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Frequently (<i>at least once a week</i>)	300	60.2%
Infrequently (<i>at least every few months</i>)	88	17.7%
Rarely (<i>once or twice a year at most</i>)	52	10.4%
Never	58	11.6%
Not stated	0	
Total	498	100%



Open space visited most often

Respondents that visited open space near their work were asked:

“What open spaces near your workplace do you visit most often?”

The respondents that visited open spaces near their work were asked to identify the two open spaces that they visit most often.

The 440 respondents that they visit open space near their work provided a total of 556 responses, at an average of approximately 1.3 open spaces per respondent.

The open spaces most commonly identified include Fitzroy Gardens (14.1%), Edinburgh Gardens (9.6%), Carlton Gardens (8.0%), open spaces around Church Street (5.6%), Barkley Gardens (4.4%), Botanical Gardens (4.2%), and open spaces around Peel Street (4.2%).

Metropolis Research notes that a little less than one-fifth (19.1%) of respondents identified open spaces in such a manner as to be undefined, such as “parks and gardens”. Some of these responses refer to the fact that the respondent does not visit specific open spaces, but visits a variety depending on a range of factors. Other undefined responses include those where the respondent was not fully aware of the details of the open space.

Attention is also drawn to the fact that respondents identified a significant number of open spaces, most located within the City of Yarra but also including some located outside the municipality. A total of ninety-two separate responses are categorised in the following tables. Given the difficulty of identifying some open spaces, there may be a small degree of overlap in these results.

There was significant variation in the open spaces most often visited observed between respondents from the four locations across the municipality, with attention drawn to the following:

- **Cremorne** – the three most often visited open spaces were Church Street (23.1%), Barkley Gardens (12.0%), and Yarra Park (4.3%).
- **Collingwood** – the four most often visited open spaces were Fitzroy Gardens (22.6%), Peel Street (16.9%), Edinburgh Gardens (12.1%), and Carlton Gardens (11.3%).
- **Fitzroy** – the three most often visited open spaces were Edinburgh Gardens (18.8%), Fitzroy Gardens (16.7%), and Carlton Gardens (14.6%).
- **Richmond** – the three most often visited open spaces were Fitzroy Gardens (13.3%), Botanical Gardens (11.5%), and Citizens Park (8.8%).



Open spaces visited most often
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Open space	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Fitzroy Gardens	70	14.1%
Edinburgh Gardens	48	9.6%
Carlton Garden	40	8.0%
Church Street	28	5.6%
Barkley Gardens	22	4.4%
Botanical Gardens	21	4.2%
Peel Street	21	4.2%
Yarra Park	13	2.6%
Near this street	11	2.2%
Citizens Park	10	2.0%
Near the library	7	1.4%
Richmond Park	7	1.4%
Cafe	6	1.2%
Football Ground	6	1.2%
Yarra River	6	1.2%
Brunswick Street	5	1.0%
Gertrude Street	5	1.0%
Smith Street	5	1.0%
Atherton Reserve	4	0.8%
Burnley Gardens	4	0.8%
Dale Street	4	0.8%
Epworth	4	0.8%
Erin Street	4	0.8%
Flagstaff gardens	4	0.8%
Near the pool	4	0.8%
Smith Reserve	4	0.8%
Treasury Gardens	4	0.8%
Webb Street	4	0.8%
Behind Coles	3	0.6%
City Gardens	3	0.6%
George Street	3	0.6%
Lincoln Square	3	0.6%
McConchie Reserve	3	0.6%
Oxford Street	3	0.6%
Richmond Station	3	0.6%
Other open spaces <i>(57 separately identified)</i>	68	13.7%
Undefined	96	19.3%

Total responses

556



Open spaces visited most often - Cremorne
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Open space	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Church Street	27	23.1%
Barkley Gardens	14	12.0%
Yarra Park	5	4.3%
Botanical Gardens	4	3.4%
Dale Street	4	3.4%
Flagstaff gardens	4	3.4%
Fitzroy Gardens	3	2.6%
McConchie Reserve	3	2.6%
Near this street	3	2.6%
Burnley Gardens	2	1.7%
Cafe	2	1.7%
Howard Street	2	1.7%
Olympic Park	2	1.7%
Richmond Park	2	1.7%
White Street	2	1.7%
Brand new park behind St Stephens church	1	0.9%
Carlton Garden	1	0.9%
Domain Gardens	1	0.9%
Football Ground	1	0.9%
Forrest Hill	1	0.9%
Marry Street	1	0.9%
Milton Parade	1	0.9%
Museum gardens	1	0.9%
Near bridge shore gardens	1	0.9%
Olympic Gardens	1	0.9%
Palmer Parade park	1	0.9%
Regharries Park	1	0.9%
Richmond Station	1	0.9%
Undefined	34	29.1%
Total responses	126	



Open spaces visited most often - Collingwood
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Open space	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Fitzroy Gardens	28	22.6%
Peel Street	21	16.9%
Edinburgh Gardens	15	12.1%
Carlton Garden	14	11.3%
Gertrude Street	5	4.0%
Smith Street	5	4.0%
Near this street	4	3.2%
Webb Street	4	3.2%
Botanical Gardens	3	2.4%
George Street	3	2.4%
Near the library	3	2.4%
Behind Coles	3	2.4%
Oxford Street	3	2.4%
Atherton Reserve	1	0.8%
Burnley Gardens	1	0.8%
City Gardens	1	0.8%
Clifton Hill	1	0.8%
Condell Place	1	0.8%
Council house gardens	1	0.8%
Exhibition Gardens	1	0.8%
Fairfield Gardens	1	0.8%
Fitzroy Pool	1	0.8%
Fitzroy Town Hall	1	0.8%
Gipps Street Park	1	0.8%
Lincoln Square	1	0.8%
Near CBC parks	1	0.8%
One Museum	1	0.8%
Parliament Gardens	1	0.8%
Playground	1	0.8%
Playground in kew	1	0.8%
Near the pool	1	0.8%
Stanley Street	1	0.8%
Treasury Gardens	1	0.8%
Victoria Park	1	0.8%
Yarra River	1	0.8%
Undefined	7	5.6%
Total responses	140	



Yarra City Council – 2018 Open Space Workers Survey

Open spaces visited most often - Fitzroy
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Open space	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Edinburgh Gardens	27	18.8%
Fitzroy Gardens	24	16.7%
Carlton Garden	21	14.6%
Brunswick Street	5	3.5%
Near this street	4	2.8%
Smith Reserve	4	2.8%
Near the library	4	2.8%
Atherton Reserve	3	2.1%
Cafe	3	2.1%
Near the pool	3	2.1%
Townhall Park	2	1.4%
Whitlam Park	2	1.4%
Lincoln Square	2	1.4%
Albert Park	1	0.7%
Argyle Square	1	0.7%
Botanical Gardens	1	0.7%
Braybrook Park	1	0.7%
Church Street	1	0.7%
Collingwood Gardens	1	0.7%
Counter Street	1	0.7%
Epworth	1	0.7%
Exhibition Gardens	1	0.7%
Fleming Park	1	0.7%
Garryowen Garden	1	0.7%
Greeves Street	1	0.7%
Heide park	1	0.7%
King Park	1	0.7%
Language Street	1	0.7%
Leicester Street	1	0.7%
McNamara Reserve	1	0.7%
Melbourne University	1	0.7%
Merri Creek	1	0.7%
Museum gardens	1	0.7%
Richmond Park	1	0.7%
Royal Park	1	0.7%
Shelley Park	1	0.7%
Treasury Gardens	1	0.7%
Undefined	38	26.4%
Total responses	166	



Open spaces visited most often - Richmond
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Open space	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Fitzroy Gardens	15	13.3%
Botanical Gardens	13	11.5%
Citizens Park	10	8.8%
Barkley Gardens	8	7.1%
Yarra Park	8	7.1%
Edinburgh Gardens	6	5.3%
Football Ground	5	4.4%
Yarra River	5	4.4%
Carlton Garden	4	3.5%
Erin Street	4	3.5%
Richmond Park	4	3.5%
Epworth	3	2.7%
Beach	2	1.8%
City Gardens	2	1.8%
Richmond Station	2	1.8%
Treasury Gardens	2	1.8%
Batman Park	1	0.9%
Burnley Gardens	1	0.9%
Cafe	1	0.9%
Collingwood Town Hall	1	0.9%
Coppin Street	1	0.9%
Factory yard	1	0.9%
Federation Square	1	0.9%
Jolimont Street	1	0.9%
Melbourne University	1	0.9%
Parliament Gardens	1	0.9%
Peppercorn Park	1	0.9%
St Vincent's Place	1	0.9%
Victoria Park	1	0.9%
Williams Street	1	0.9%
Undefined	17	15.0%
Total responses	124	



Reasons for visiting open space

Respondents visiting open space near their work were asked:

“What are all the reasons why you visit these open spaces near your workplace?”

Almost all (96.8%) of respondents visiting open space near their work identified at least one reason for visiting. Respondents were provided a pre-coded list of seven reasons (including “other” reasons), and on average these respondents identified two reasons each.

The three most common reasons for visiting open space near work were to be outdoors as a break from work (77.0%), to socialise / meet colleagues / friends (46.1%), and to eat breakfast / lunch / dinner (32.0%).

Clearly these results highlight the fact that open space near work is used primarily as a relaxation and social space.

A small number of respondents also visited open space near work for exercise (16.1%), to meet family (13.9%), and to cycle / jog / walk to and from work (11.8%).

There were only a small number of other reasons identified by respondents, with walking the dog, and to smoke being separately categorised from the “other” responses.

Reasons for visiting open space near work
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of total respondents)

Reason	Workers	
	Number	Percent
To be outdoors as a break from work	339	77.0%
To socialise / meet colleagues / friends	203	46.1%
To eat breakfast / lunch / dinner	141	32.0%
To exercise for fitness (informal)	71	16.1%
To meet family	61	13.9%
To cycle / jog / walk to and from work	52	11.8%
To walk the dog	4	0.9%
To participate in organised sports (club-based)	2	0.5%
To smoke	2	0.5%
Other reasons	3	0.7%
Total responses	878	
<i>Respondents identifying at least one reason for visiting open space near work</i>	<i>426</i>	<i>(96.8%)</i>



Suggestions for or issues with open space

Respondents were asked:

“Do you have any suggestions for or issues with open spaces near your workplace?”

A little more than two-thirds (69.5%) of respondents identified at least one suggestion for or issues with open space near their workplace, at an average of 1.6 responses each.

Far and away the most common issue / suggestion for open space is to retain existing open spaces and to create new green spaces as much as possible, with one-third (33.9%) of respondents identifying this issue.

The three other most common issues or suggestions relate to more seating and tables (12.0%), more and better cleaning and maintenance (11.4%), and more greenery and trees (11.4%).

A small number of respondents identified each of a wide range of other issues including car parking, shade, public toilets, water fountains, safety / policing, beautification and many other issues.



Yarra City Council – 2018 Open Space Workers Survey

Suggestions for or issues with open spaces near work

Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey

(number and percent of total respondents)

Suggestion / issue	Workers	
	Number	Percent
More open spaces / green spaces / retain spaces	169	33.9%
More seating and tables	60	12.0%
Cleaning and maintenance	57	11.4%
More greenery and trees	57	11.4%
Car parking	32	6.4%
More shade	21	4.2%
Public toilets	20	4.0%
More bins / bin collection	12	2.4%
Water fountains	10	2.0%
Planning and development (e.g. overdevelopment)	9	1.8%
Beautification	8	1.6%
Safety / policing	7	1.4%
Play parks / kids area	6	1.2%
Animals / pets	6	1.2%
Proper walking / running tracks	5	1.0%
More events / activities in parks	5	1.0%
More bike parking / infrastructure	4	0.8%
Dogs on leash / dog friendly	4	0.8%
Traffic management	4	0.8%
Alcohol and drug issues	3	0.6%
Dog waste bags	3	0.6%
BBQ facility	3	0.6%
More info / public awareness	3	0.6%
Food trucks / stall	2	0.4%
Cafes	2	0.4%
Public shower facility	2	0.4%
Exercise equipment	2	0.4%
More / better lighting	2	0.4%
Enforcement of regulations	1	0.2%
Disability parking	1	0.2%
Fence	1	0.2%
Streetscape	1	0.2%
Less noise pollution	1	0.2%
Family area	1	0.2%
Other	22	4.4%
Total responses	546	
<i>Respondents identifying at least one suggestion for or issue with open near work</i>	<i>346</i>	<i>(69.5%)</i>



Respondent profile

The following questions outline the profile of respondents to the survey.

Age structure

Consistent with the fact that respondents were employed, most respondents were aged between 20 and 59 years.

Age structure
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Age	Workers	
	Number	Percent
15 to 19 years	6	1.2%
20 to 34 years	247	49.6%
35 to 44 years	145	29.1%
45 to 59 years	80	16.1%
60 to 74 years	19	3.8%
75 years and over	1	0.2%
Not stated	0	
Total	498	100%

Gender

The survey obtained a near perfect fifty / fifty split between male and female respondents.

Gender
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey
(number and percent of respondents providing a response)

Gender	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Male	248	49.9%
Female	249	50.1%
Other	0	0.0%
Prefer not to say	1	
Total	498	100%



Industry

The majority of respondents were employed in four industries; healthcare and social assistance (21.8%), retail trade (15.6%), accommodation and food services (11.9%), and professional, scientific and technical services (10.9%). These were categorised into the 2011 ANZSIC codes.

Metropolis Research notes that these industry results are similar to the 2016 *Census* results for residents of the City of Yarra, which found the top four industries to be hospitals, cafes and restaurants, higher education, and computer system design and related services. These are based on the new 2016 ANZSIC classification system.

Frequency of visiting open space near workplace
Yarra City Council - 2018 Open Space Workers Survey

(number and percent of total respondents)

Frequency	Workers	
	Number	Percent
Health Care and Social Assistance	108	21.8%
Retail Trade	77	15.6%
Accommodation and Food Services	59	11.9%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	54	10.9%
Information Media and Telecommunications	39	7.9%
Construction	29	5.9%
Public Administration and Safety	23	4.6%
Financial and Insurance Services	19	3.8%
Education and Training	14	2.8%
Arts and Recreation Services	14	2.8%
Manufacturing	9	1.8%
Electricity, Gas, Water and Waste Services	8	1.6%
Rental, Hiring and Real Estate Services	6	1.2%
Administrative and Support Services	6	1.2%
Transport, Postal and Warehousing	4	0.8%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	2	0.4%
Mining	1	0.2%
Wholesale Trade	1	0.2%
Other Services	4	0.8%
Inadequately described	18	3.6%
Not stated	3	
Total	498	100%



Appendix One: Survey form



Yarra - 2018 Open Space Workers Intercept Survey

(untitled)

1. Staff member

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Aryan | <input type="radio"/> Geethu |
| <input type="radio"/> Mohit | <input type="radio"/> Stephane |
| <input type="radio"/> Jeremy | <input type="radio"/> Mathew |
| <input type="radio"/> Michael | <input type="radio"/> Ziheng |
| <input type="radio"/> Frances | <input type="radio"/> Sohan |
| <input type="radio"/> Ashish | <input type="radio"/> Ashish |
| <input type="radio"/> Lisa | |

2. Location

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Cremorne | <input type="radio"/> Fitzroy |
| <input type="radio"/> Collingwood | <input type="radio"/> Richmond |

(untitled)

3. In what industry do you work?

4. How often do you typically visit open space near your workplace?

- Frequently (at least once a week)
- Rarely (once or twice a year at most)
- Infrequently (at least one every few months)
- Never

5. What open spaces near your workplace do you visit most often?

One

Two

6. What are all the reasons why you visit these open spaces near your workplace?

- To be outdoors as a break from work
- To participate in organised sports (club-based)
- To socialise / meet colleagues / friends
- To eat breakfast / lunch / dinner
- To meet family
- To cycle / jog / walk to and from work via the open space network (rather than roads)
- To exercise for fitness (informal)
- Other - Write In

7. Do you have any suggestions for or issues with open spaces near your workplace?

One

Two

Three

Four

8. Which of the following best describes you?

15 to 19 years

60 to 74 years

20 to 34 years

75 years and over

35 to 44 years

Prefer not to say

45 to 59 years

9. With which gender do you most identify

Male

Other

Female

Prefer not to say



Open Space Survey : February/March 2018



Open space includes parks, playgrounds, gardens, waterways, nature trails, sporting reserves and urban plazas. Telling us how you use your open spaces will help us create a better strategy that works for everybody. We want to find out how you use our open spaces now, how you would like to use them in the future and where you think the gaps are.

Q1 Location of where you are completing this survey:

Q2 What gender do you identify as?
(Please tick appropriate box)

Male Female Other Prefer not to say

Q4 Nationality (Please tick appropriate box)

Australian
 Other, please describe

Q3 Age range (Please tick appropriate box)

12-17 25-34 50-59 70-84
 18-24 35-49 60-69 85+

Q5 Aboriginal/Torres Straits Islander
(Please tick appropriate box)

Yes No

Q6 What open space in the City of Yarra do you use, when and why?

Name/location of open space	When do you use it?	Why do you use it?
1.		
2.		

Q7 What open space in the City of Yarra don't you use and why?

Name/location of open space	Why <u>don't</u> you use it?
1.	
2.	

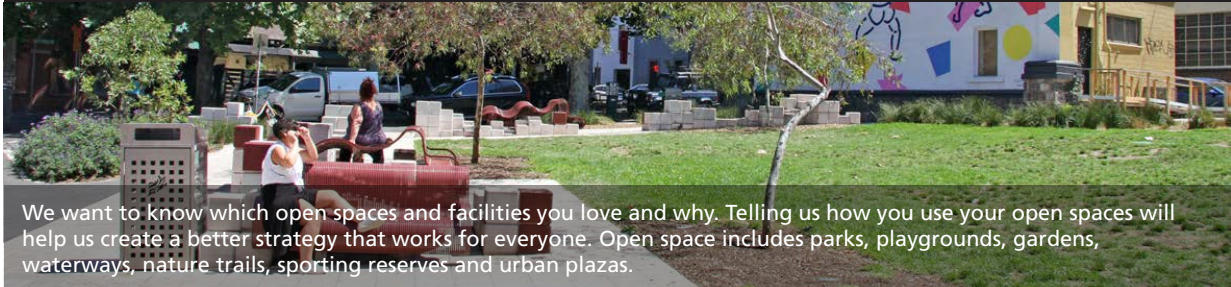
Q8 What would you change in the open spaces of Yarra and where?

Where? (Name/location of open space)	What would you change?
1.	
2.	

REF 18016



Open Space Survey : February/March 2018



We want to know which open spaces and facilities you love and why. Telling us how you use your open spaces will help us create a better strategy that works for everyone. Open space includes parks, playgrounds, gardens, waterways, nature trails, sporting reserves and urban plazas.

Q1 Which suburb do you live in? (Please tick one box)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abbotsford | <input type="checkbox"/> Collingwood | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitzroy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlton North - Princes Hill | <input type="checkbox"/> Cremorne and Burnley - Richmond South | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitzroy North |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Central Richmond | <input type="checkbox"/> Fairfield - Alphington | <input type="checkbox"/> North Richmond |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clifton Hill | | |

Q3 Your gender? (Please tick appropriate box)

- Male Female Other Prefer not to say

Q4 Your age range (Please tick appropriate box)

- 0-11 12-17 18-24

Q5 Nationality (Please tick appropriate box)

- Australian Other (Please list)

Q2 Do you work or study in the City of Yarra?

- Yes (Please name the suburb) No (Go to question 3)

Q6 Aboriginal/Torres Straits Islander

- Yes No

Q7 What do you value most about open space? (Please tick the appropriate box(es) below)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A place to relax and unwind | <input type="checkbox"/> An escape from the built environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Playing team/club based sport | <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat for native plants and animals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The feeling of space | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural activities and events | <input type="checkbox"/> Place for children to play | <input type="checkbox"/> Natural bushland character |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The quiet | <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting people/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Watching activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical character |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Just being outside | <input type="checkbox"/> Fitness | <input type="checkbox"/> Exercising dogs | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural heritage values |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Knowing that it is there | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and wellbeing | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees | <input type="checkbox"/> Green character |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The diversity of open space | <input type="checkbox"/> Playing casual ball games | <input type="checkbox"/> Flowers/garden beds | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> It is accessible | | | |

Q8 What open space in the City of Yarra do you use and why?

Name/location of open space	Why do you use it?	Suggested improvements/changes
1.		
2.		

Q9 What open space in the City of Yarra don't you use and why?

Name/location of open space	Why don't you use it?
1.	

Q10 What would you change about open space in Yarra and where?

REF 18027

Appendix 2

Assumptions made during the data entry process

The responses to the survey are summarised on both a municipality-wide basis and precinct basis in this report. This information in this report forms part of the primary research for the City of Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019.

The following is a summary of some of the assumptions made in entering the data from the surveys into the database.

- Some respondents did not provide the name of the open space they visited, instead listing the name of surrounding streets or buildings/landmarks that were used to help identify the park or reserve they were referring to. If this occurred, the following method was used:
 - If the open space could be identified using the street names or buildings/landmarks provided and was located within the municipality, the response were attributed to the appropriate open space.
 - If the open space visited was unable to be identified and outside of the municipality, it was placed in the category of 'Outside the Municipality' and information about its use was documented accordingly.
 - Streets, local school grounds, adjoining properties and other types of space not covered in the strategy were named and information about its use and suggested improvements were documented accordingly.
- When respondents included comments in relation to a specific open space in the 'General Comments' section, this information was entered into the specific open space in the question regarding the open space, rather than in the General Comments Section.
- When respondents used question marks in the Facilities Section of the questionnaire, they were not recorded and were counted as not completed. All other forms of marking boxes were recorded.
- When respondents provided suggested improvements as a response to the question 'reasons why you visit [open space]', these were entered as suggested improvements and not as reasons for visiting.
- When respondents mentioned either playing sports using casual language and/or in an open space that did not have formal sporting facilities it was recorded as informal ball games/sports. When sports played were named directly and in an open space that supported that sport, it was put under the category of "Sport - ", naming the sport directly. If a specific club or team was named, it was recorded under the category of "Sport" accordingly.
- When respondents included "Dogs" as a reason for visiting an open space it was recorded under "Dogs - friendly"
- Double entries and test entries were recorded as regular entries
- In types of open space visited and frequency of use if the question was responded to twice, the first answer was used as the correct response

Appendix C

Report on the community engagement for the Draft Yarra Open Space Strategy

Summary Report

Community engagement Draft Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019

Prepared by:

Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd

July 2020

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Attachments

A	Proposed changes and additional text for the final version of the Yarra Open Space Strategy Technical Report
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

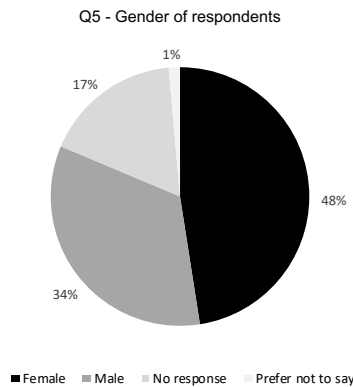
A total of **284** surveys were completed, with 36 of these completed online. The survey included a list of key recommendations from the Draft Strategy that respondents were asked to rate in terms of level of importance to them. The four categories of importance were:

- Very important
- Important
- Some importance
- Not important

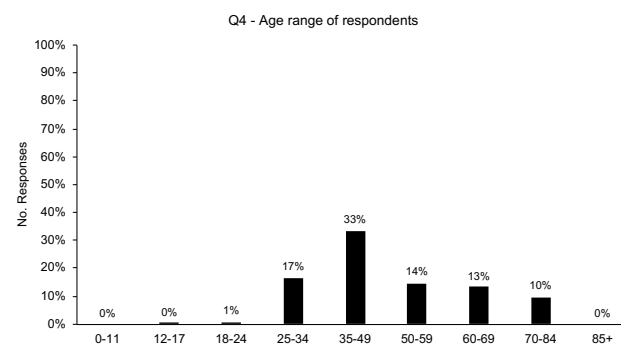
Next to each recommendation, respondents were invited to make any comments on their answer. There was also space for people to make general comments on the Draft Strategy. The other simple multiple choice questions included were to gain an understanding of who completed the survey to confirm whether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

2.2.2 Who completed the survey

2.2.2a Gender

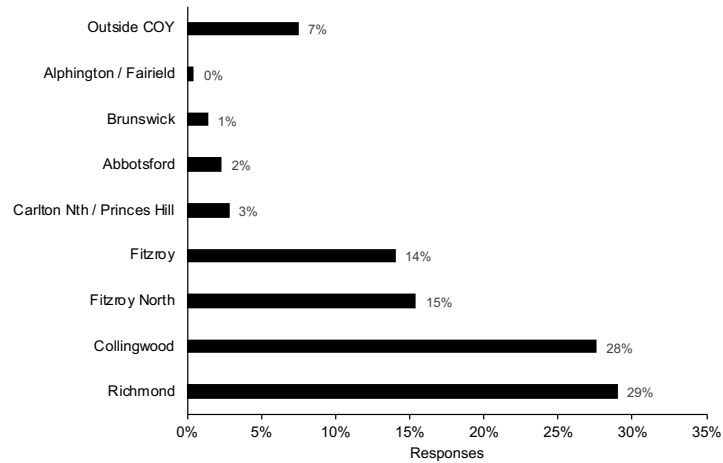


2.2.2b Age range



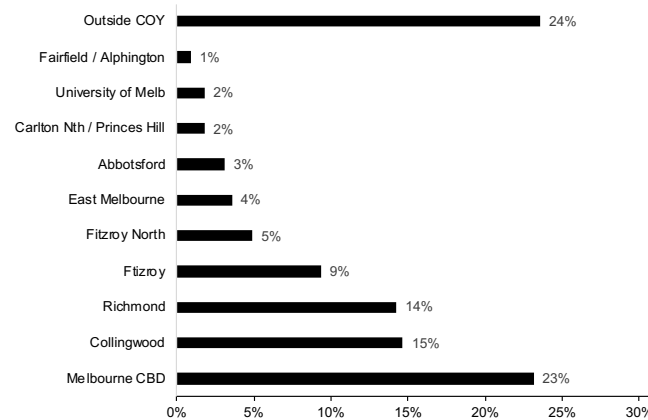
Typically these household surveys do not attract a high response rate from people under the age of 25 and there is a reasonable representation of other age groups between 25 and 84.

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.

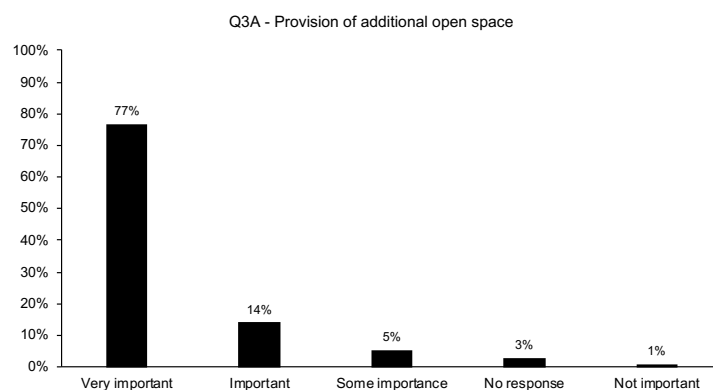
2.3 Results of each question

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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None

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
123	Importance of open space
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
88	Importance of green open space
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
74	Additional open space required
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
20	Open space within easy walking distance is important
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

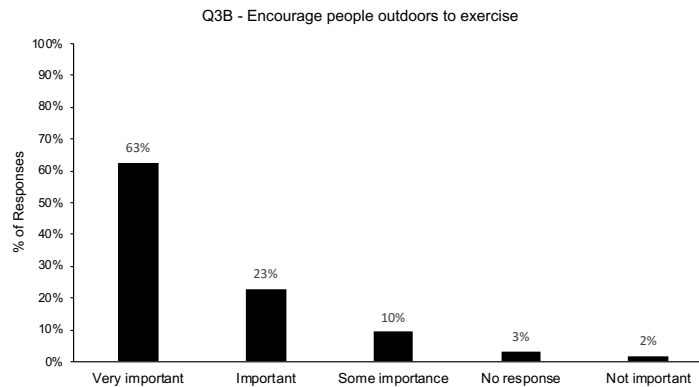
No.	Comments regarding provision of additional open space
1	Open space - access to the sky important
1	Open space - access within 300 metres of all residents a good aim
1	Access - access close to home is appreciated as I cannot walk far
1	Access - encourages use of open space
1	Open space - nearby important for wellbeing
19	Improve utilisation and quality of existing open space rather than provide additional
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
7	Streets
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
5	Dogs
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
3	Impacts of additional open space on traffic and roads
1	Open space - additional would compromise traffic flow
1	Open space - need to consider traffic flow and parking.
1	Open space - retain car parking
2	Trees
1	Additional street trees to mitigate urban heat island effect required
1	Additional trees in open space to reduce carbon footprint
1	Unstructured recreation facilities
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <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>

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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None

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
126	Support a diversity of facilities
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.
28	Open space and natural character
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
12	Unstructured recreation
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

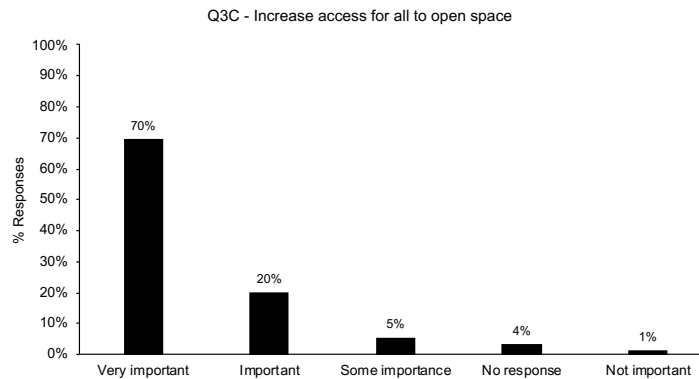
No.	Comments regarding provision of a diversity of facilities in open space
1	Unstructured recreation - important for children to access parks nearby to run and play
1	Unstructured recreation - important to keep people active
1	Unstructured recreation - personal trainers use open space
9	Health
9	Health - encouraging people to exercise reduces stress on public health system
7	Disagree with a diversity of facilities
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
6	Paths
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
6	Structured sport
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
5	Informal use
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
3	Indoor recreation facilities
2	Indoor recreation facilities - expensive and many cannot afford them
1	Indoor recreation facilities - important for diversity
2	Physical activity
1	Paths - walking and cycling paths are important to encourage people outdoors to exercise
1	Physical activity - improves quality of life
1	Other comments
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
1	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
		<p>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. .
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to 2.3.2.1.

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	Recognise and support increasing access for all
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

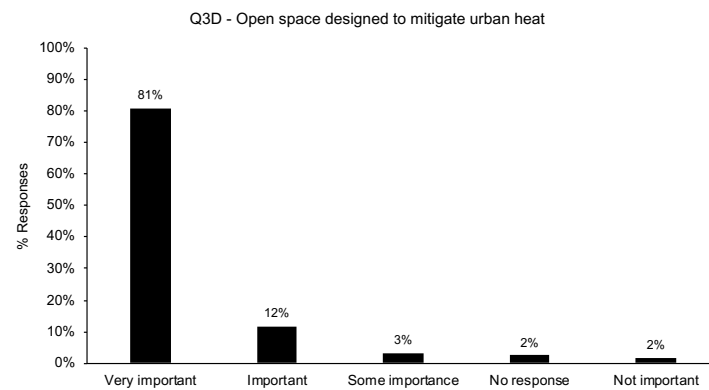
No.	Comments regarding diversity of facilities in open space
1	Access - all ability access to paths and trails important
1	Access - cobblestones in laneways difficult for people in with limited ability
1	Access - consider adjoining residents in relation to placement of facilities so it minimises noise 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
8	Open space
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
6	No increase in access required
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
4	Dogs
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
1	Paths
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)	Noted, and this is consistent with the Strategy. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <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>

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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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, Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
66	Support greening of open space to assist to mitigate urban heat island effect
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
39	Trees
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

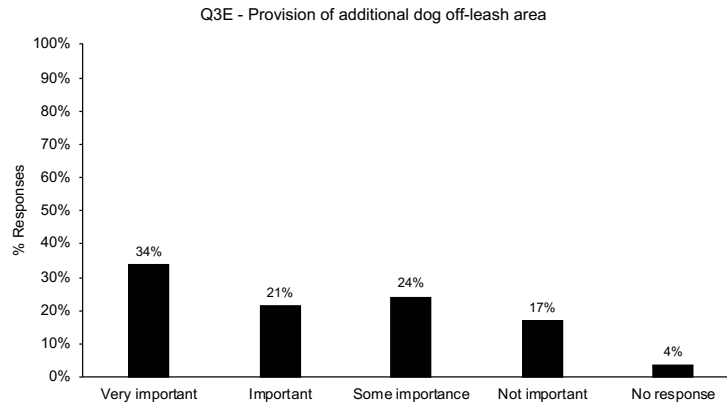
No.	Comments – open space designed to assist mitigating urban heat island effect
1	Trees - introduce mandatory protection on private land
1	Trees - need careful selection to avoid damage to infrastructure
1	Trees - plant more large canopy shade trees important to retain liveability with climate change especially in Collingwood
1	Trees - require minimum of 1 large canopy tree in front gardens
1	Trees - shade is important in high density areas.
19	Open space
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
5	Water use
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
18	Streetscapes
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
9	Health and wellbeing
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
4	Biodiversity
2	Biodiversity - additional natural features improve biodiversity
2	Biodiversity - additional natural features will benefit wildlife including bees
3	Health
3	Health - additional shade will provide protect the community from the sun in summer
3	Urban agriculture
3	Urban agriculture - including edible fruit trees, vegetables and herbs
1	Dogs
1	Dogs - owners to clean up after dogs so natural spaces are useable by all
1	Sport
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None</i>
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None</i>
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>Proposed change to the Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None</i>
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>Proposed change to the Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None</i>
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>Proposed change to the Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>None.</i>

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
80	Concerns regarding dog off-leash areas
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
73	Support the provision of additional dog off-leash areas
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
40	Citizens Park dog off-leash issues
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
25	Dog waste
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
14	Sporting grounds and dogs
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
8	Enforce dog regulations
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
6	Open space
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

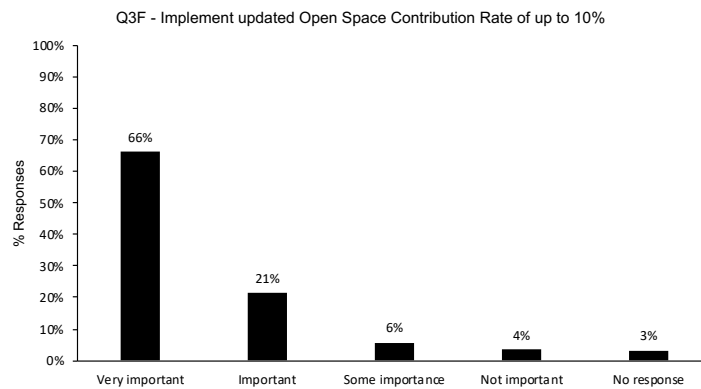
No	Comments regarding provision of additional dog off-leash areas
4	Fenced dog areas
1	Dogs - additional fenced dog parks required for training dogs
1	Dogs - additional fenced off-leash areas established by removing on-street parking adjacent to open space
1	Dogs - fenced off-leash areas away from waterways due to risk of snakes
1	Dogs -fenced off-leash areas required
3	Benefits of dog ownership
2	Dogs - ownership provides range of benefits to owners
1	Dogs - increased ownership provides range of benefits to owners
1	Playgrounds
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. Proposed change to the Strategy: • None

No.	Comment	Response
2.3.6.2	Contribution rate - 10 per cent too low given high density development (12)	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
2.3.6.3	Open space - additional green open space required as density increases (11)	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
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
109	Support the proposed contribution rate
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
29	Open space
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
27	Development
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

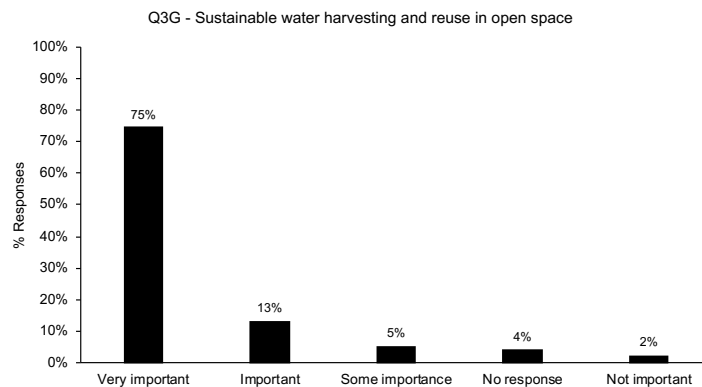
No.	Comments regarding the open space contribution rate
11	Lack of understanding about the contribution rate
7	Contribution rate - don't understand
2	Contribution rate - how is the figure calculated
1	Contribution rate - as a ratepayer cannot afford to pay more
1	Contribution rate - existing residents should not have to pay this
3	Contributions and allocation to projects
2	Contribution rate - concern about where the funds have been spent
1	Contribution rate - concern about where the funds been spent in Collingwood
3	Do not agree with the contribution rate
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
1	Parking
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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	Support sustainable water harvesting and reuse
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

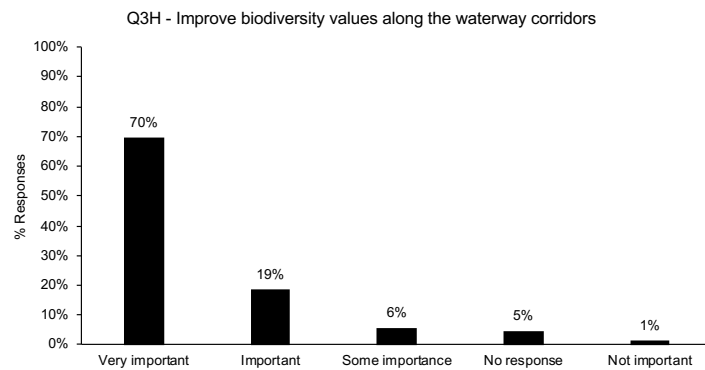
No.	Comments regarding sustainable water harvesting and reuse
2	Sustainable water use - concern at loss of open space to infrastructure associated with water harvesting
1	Sustainable water use - could be implemented on a larger scale
1	Sustainable water use - community education required
1	Sustainable 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
4	Not supportive of increasing sustainable water reuse
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
1	High density
1	High density - stop over populating City of Yarra
1	Open space
1	Open space - need green open space
1	Trees
1	Trees - benefit from additional watering
1	Vegetation
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
		<p>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
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> <p>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
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> <p>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
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> <p>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None
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> <p>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None

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
57	Waterways
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
30	Biodiversity
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

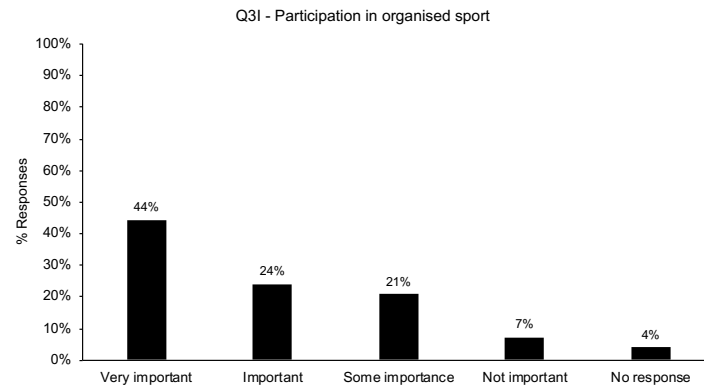
No.	Comments regarding improving biodiversity values along waterway corridors
1	Biodiversity - not important in Collingwood - increasing open space is a higher priority
1	Biodiversity - protect and promote native flora and fauna
1	Biodiversity - recognise we live in an urban environment so opportunities to improve are limited
1	Biodiversity - support expansion of native flora
1	Biodiversity - under threat, important to protect and improve
13	Natural environment
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
3	Connectivity
2	Connectivity - need to improve connectivity for native fauna
1	Connectivity - along waterways important to strengthen habitat
3	Vegetation
2	Vegetation - indigenous revegetation important
1	Vegetation - weed control important
1	Urban agriculture
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> None.

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
101	Support increased participation in organised sport
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
18	Adequate facilities for structured sport already
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
17	Health and wellbeing
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
9	Sporting grounds
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
3	Informal recreation
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
3	Open space
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
2	Dogs
2	Dogs - prohibit off-leash on sporting fields
2	Inclusive for everyone
1	Inclusive for everyone - does not necessarily mean competitive sports
1	Inclusive for everyone - includes older women
1	Access
1	Access - concerned about impact of vehicles when organised sport facilities are used by people outside the local area
1	Art and culture
1	Art and culture - additional facilities and access required
1	Indoor recreation facilities
1	Indoor recreation facilities - water play park and an indoor water facility are much needed
1	Strategy
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 to 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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No change</i>
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <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>

No.	Comment	Response
		<p>including streetscapes and densities accessibility to open space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional information added to the definition of Ancillary open space, refer to Section 1.2.3.
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change

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	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
3.2.2.2	Ancillary open space should be addressed as part of the public open space.	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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.	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
3.2.2.4	Include laneways as public open space.	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to response to 3.2.1.2 in this consultation report.

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.	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional open space is proposed in Collingwood. Refer to response to 2.3.1.3 in this consultation report for further information.

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.	Refer to response 3.2.3.1 Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to response 3.2.3.1.

3.2.5 Submission 5

No.	Comment	Response
3.2.5.1	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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collingwood be given highest priority for new open space. The Victorian Government owned Police Workshops be a priority for new open space. 	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to response to 2.3.1.3 in this report regarding provision of an additional Small Local open space in Collingwood B. Action 7.5A in the Technical Report has been updated to reference the Police Workshops and Stanley Street specifically.
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.	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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.	Noted. The quantity of open space relative to residential density will be added to each precinct rather than only referenced in Section 3. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Section 7 to include reference to the quantity of open space relative to residential population

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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change

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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.

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 Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refer to Response to 3.2.1.1.
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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update Section 7.8 Fitzroy to reference the adjoining Carlton Gardens and Exhibition Buildings.

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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change

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 Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change.
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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
3.2.9.3	Encourage planter boxes in the streets.	Refer to 3.2.9.2 Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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"> They are not as visible and accessible to the general public as public open space at ground level

No.	Comment	Response
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public open space contributes to the neighbourhood character and urban greening, whereas roof gardens are not as visible and the greening benefits are limited. 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 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. <p>Proposed change to the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
3.2.9.5	Streets to be included as public open space.	Refer to response 3.2.1.1. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
3.2.9.6	Winter sunlight access to open space.	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change

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.	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. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change
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.	Refer to response to 3.2.10.1. Proposed change to the Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change

Attachment A

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

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.

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

2.1.1f **Yarra River Protection (Willip-gin Birrarung Murrong) 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.

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.

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.
-

3. Existing open space network

Extract of key changes

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.

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.**

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 relationships 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*)

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.

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.

4. Forecast change and implications on open space planning

Extract of key changes

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.

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*.

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.

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.

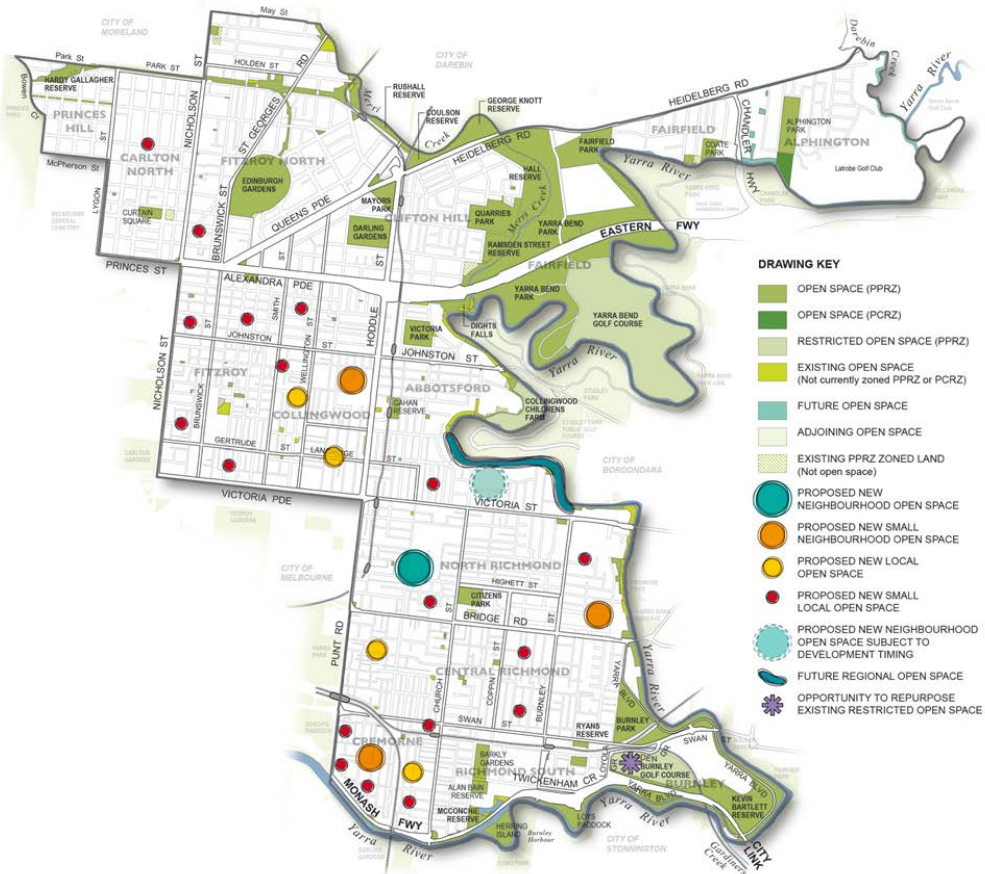


Figure 5A Schematic plan illustrating the type and location of proposed new open space

6. Open space design and management recommendations

Extract of key changes

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.

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:

- a) 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.
- b) 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Where car parking is provided the stormwater runoff is to be reused within the open space.
- e) 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.
- f) 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.
- g) 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	<p>Irrigation guidelines</p> <p>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.</p>	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

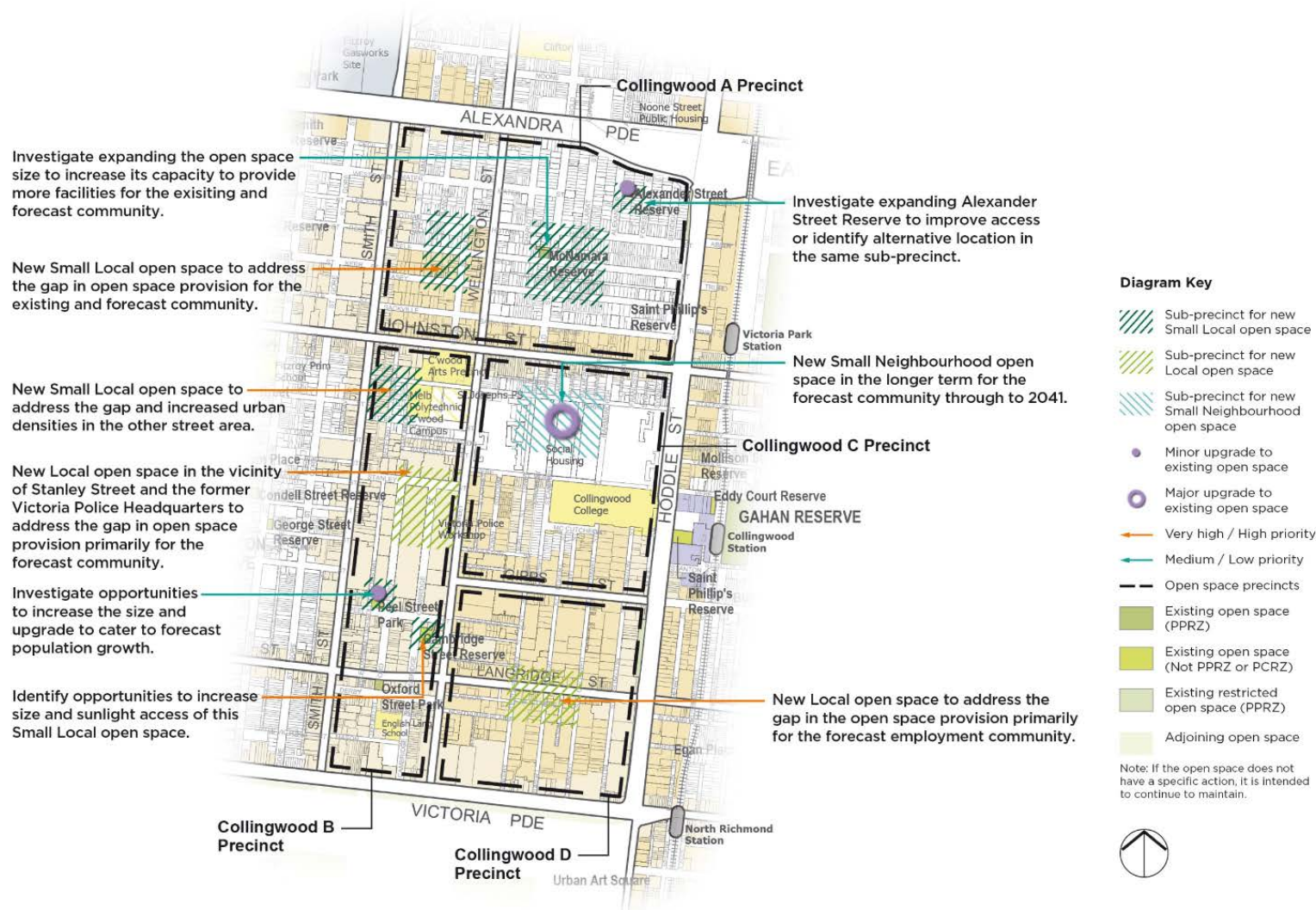


Figure 7.5F Recommendations for Collingwood

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*)

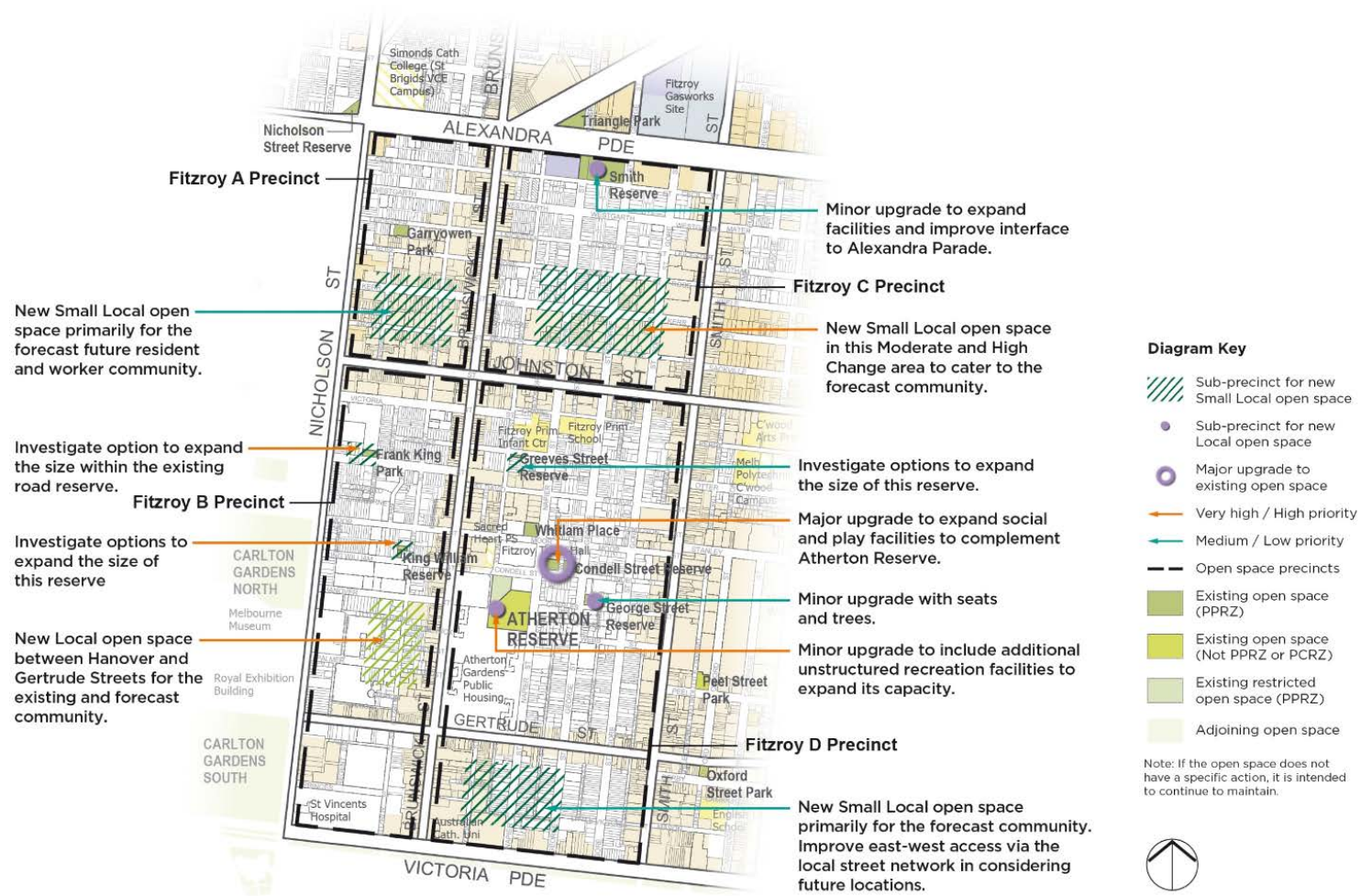


Figure 7.8F Recommendations for Fitzroy

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.

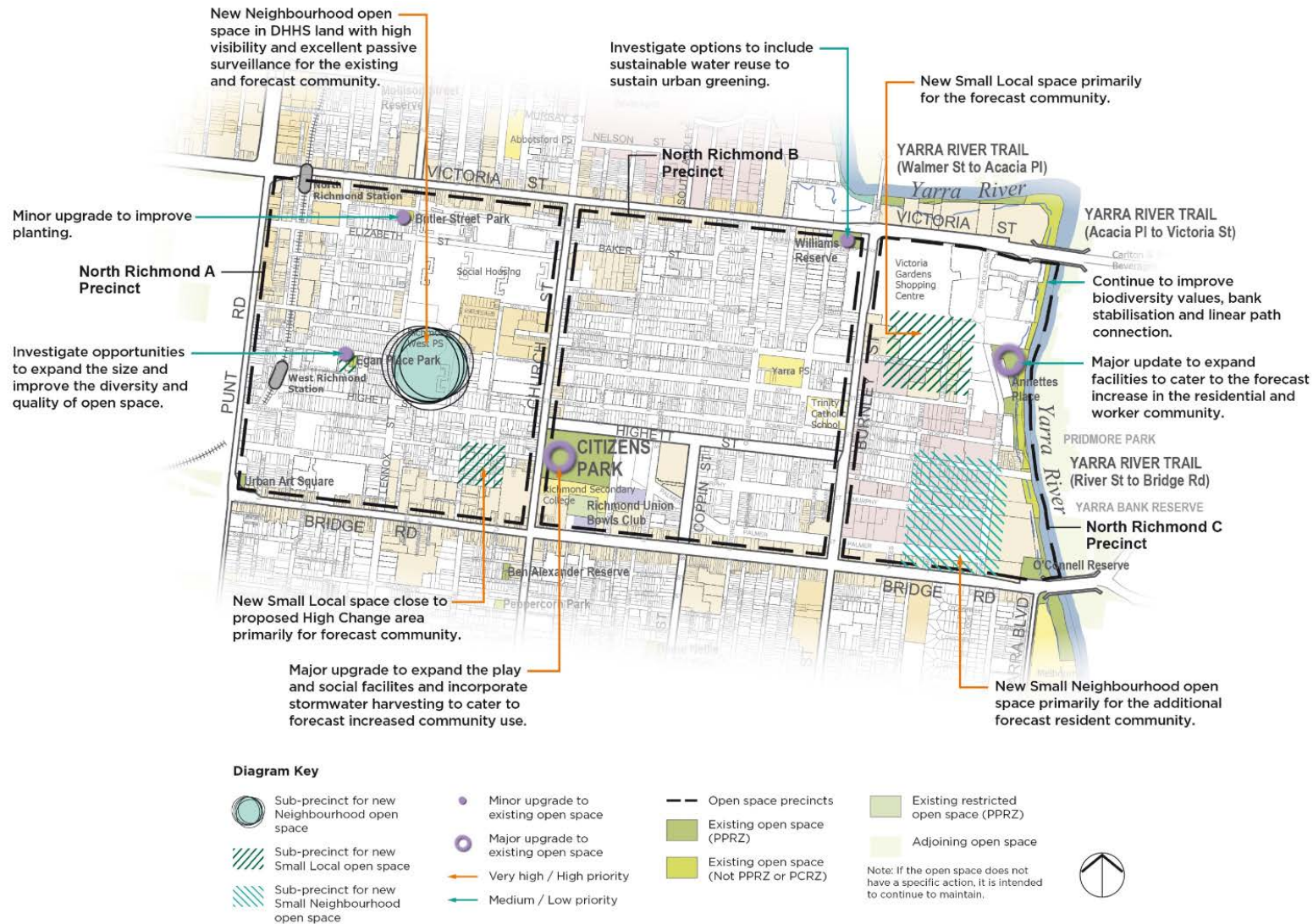


Figure 7.10F Recommendations for North Richmond

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

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:

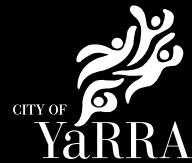
- The existing open space reserves, their function, location and qualities, and the improvements to open space that the City of Yarra has undertaken since the adoption of the 2006 Strategy.
- The significant population growth, demographic change and land use change that has occurred in Yarra since the 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.

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.

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
A 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 Encourage people to be outdoors and to exercise and keep fit by providing a diverse range of facilities in open space.					
C Increase opportunities for people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds to access, participate and enjoy open space.					
D 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.					
E Investigate the provision of additional dog off-leash areas as part of the future review of the Domestic Animal Management Plan.					
F 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.					
G Continue to deliver sustainable water harvesting and reuse, contributing to increased urban greening in open space, particularly in higher density areas.					
H Improve biodiversity values along waterway corridors, including the Yarra River, Merri Creek and Darebin Creek with appropriate revegetation.					
I Encourage participation in organised sport by providing adequate open space and upgrading facilities to be more inclusive for everyone.					

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Yarra Planning Scheme

Amendment C286

Explanatory Report

Overview

This amendment implements the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* by increasing the public open space contribution rate from 4.5 per cent for residential subdivisions to 8.65 per cent for all subdivisions across the Yarra municipality, applying updated planning policy at Clause 19.02-6L Open Space to guide public open space contributions in Yarra and inserting the *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* and Technical Report as background documents in the planning scheme.

Where you may inspect this amendment

The amendment can be inspected free of charge at the Yarra City Council website at [C286yara Amendment Webpage](#)

And

The Amendment is available for public inspection, free of charge, during office hours at the following place:

- the office of the planning authority, City of Yarra Richmond Town Hall, Town Planning Counter, 333 Bridge Road, Richmond.

The amendment can also be inspected free of charge at the Department of Transport and Planning website at <http://www.planning.vic.gov.au/public-inspection> or by contacting the office on 1800 789 386 to arrange a time to view the amendment documentation.

Details of the amendment

Who is the planning authority?

This amendment has been prepared by Yarra City Council, which is the planning authority for this amendment.

The amendment has been made at the request of Yarra City Council.

Land affected by the amendment

The amendment applies to the whole municipality.

What the amendment does

The amendment seeks to implement the recommendations of the *Yarra Open Space Strategy (2020)* and update the public open space contribution rate for all subdivisions.

Specifically, the amendment proposes the following changes:

- Amends the Schedule to Clause 53.01 (Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision) to require that all subdivision provides a public open space contribution at a rate of 8.65%.
- Replaces Clause 19.02-6L (Open Space) with an updated Clause 19.02-6L.
- Amends the Schedule to Clause 72.08 (Background Documents) to insert the following documents into the table:
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd
 - *Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020* Technical Report Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd

Strategic assessment of the amendment

Why is the amendment required?

The forecast development over the next 15 years is significant with a 40 per cent increase in the resident population and a 47 per cent increase in the worker population visiting and using open space, thereby increasing demand on the existing space and facilities. The extent of forecast growth changes across different parts of the City. Less than 10 per cent growth is forecast in Princes Hill-Carlton North, compared to 106 per cent in Cremorne-Richmond South-Burnley and 214 per cent in Fairfield-Alphington.

Over 85 per cent of Yarra's population live in medium and high density dwellings compared to 33 per cent in Greater Melbourne. This means that residents have less private open space available to them which increases their reliance on public open space. Typically, this adds to the amount of people using public open space and increases the diversity of reasons why they use it.

In calculating an appropriate contribution rate, several factors were 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 application of the rate to all eligible subdivisions in the City of Yarra irrespective of land use type.

Many of the areas in the city that are forecast to change are the former industrial and manufacturing areas. These areas are being redeveloped to mixed use precincts with a combination of residential, commercial and business use. Historically, the industrial areas did not have public open space.

With the proposed changes, these areas are being redeveloped with increased building heights and a change to a predominantly office-based professional workforce. Surveys undertaken as part of the Development of the *Yarra Open Space Strategy* found that more than 80 per cent of workers visit public open space during the day. With increased numbers of people working and living in the former industrial precincts there is a need to provide new areas of public open space.

The amendment is required to better meet the public open space needs within the City of Yarra of a growing population. The City of Yarra's Open Space Strategy (YOSS) was adopted in September 2020. The YOSS identifies the public open space needs of existing and future residents of Yarra, gaps in the provision of public open space and opportunities to address those gaps. Currently the amount, quality

and accessibility of open space varies considerably across the suburbs of Yarra.

The YOSS uses the Preliminary Opinion of Probable Cost (POPC) as the basis for costing for the individual open space projects included in the Strategy (i.e. the Strategy implementation plan) for the purposes of calculating the open space contribution rate. It does not represent the total cost of providing all open space in the City of Yarra. The method used for the Strategy POPC follows the same method used to develop the 4.5 per cent open space contribution rate that is currently in Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme.

The Strategy POPC only includes projects that would be fully or partially funded by an open space contribution under Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme. These include the provision and establishment or upgrade of neighbourhood, small neighbourhood, local and small local open space. The Strategy POPC also includes the costs of providing facilities for the local community in higher order open space including the regional and city-wide open space.

The YOSS addresses all levels of open space provision, design and management, however only the local provision is to be funded by open space contributions using Clause 53.01. Provision of open space and facilities to meet the open space needs of the broader regional catchment of visitors and the structured sport facilities would be funded by other mechanisms such as rate revenue and grants.

The Strategy POPC does not include any costs associated with the ongoing maintenance of open space or the open space asset renewal program.

A contribution rate of 8.65 per cent has been determined as necessary to deliver a reasonable standard of open space provision across the whole of Yarra and reflects the need to ensure that all residents in the future have contributed to providing an appropriate level of public open space and facilities.

How does the amendment implement the objectives of planning in Victoria?

The amendment implements the objectives in Section 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, in particular:

- a) *To provide for the fair, orderly, economic, and sustainable use, and development of land.*
- c) *To secure a pleasant, efficient, and safe working, living and recreational environment.*
- d) *To conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value.*
- g) *To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.*

The amendment provides:

- An equitable method to collect contributions for public open space based on the need created by the new development.
- Certainty and consistency as to the required public open space contributions.
- Public open space to meet the needs of the future population.

How does the amendment address any environmental, social and economic effects?

Environmental Effects

The amendment provides the opportunity for new public open space and the ability to upgrade existing open space. Open space is aesthetically pleasing, it can minimise the impacts of climate change and increase opportunities for active travel. Open space can also include areas of high value vegetation that can be conserved and provide new open space links to improve habitat corridors.

Social Effects

The amendment will provide a strong benefit for the community through the provision of new public open space and the upgrade of existing open space. Open space provides for a range of social and community benefits by increasing social interaction, improving physical and mental health and providing for sporting pursuits and recreation.

Economic Effects

The amendment will result in more accurate financial resources to fund public open space projects. It will also provide certainty to developers allowing improved cost planning and a more equitable means of distributing costs.

Does the amendment address relevant bushfire risk?

The amendment does not affect any areas of identified bushfire risks and has no implications.

Does the amendment comply with the requirements of any other Minister's Direction applicable to the amendment?

The amendment complies with Ministerial Direction No. 9 in addressing and responding to the Metropolitan Planning Strategy, *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050*.

The amendment is consistent with the following Directions contained in *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050*:

- *4.1 Create more great public places across Melbourne*
- *5.1 Create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods*
- *5.2 Create neighbourhoods that support safe communities and healthy lifestyles*

- *5.4 Deliver local parks and green neighbourhoods in collaboration with communities*
- *6.4 Make Melbourne cooler and greener*
- *6.5 Protect and restore natural habitats*

Plan Melbourne 2017-2050 identifies public open space as a distinguishing characteristic of Melbourne. The amendment will ensure that open space continues to be an important part of the 'Melbourne experience'. Open space contributes to ecological resilience and sustainability, strong and healthy communities, social and economic participation, and infrastructure investment to support growing populations, all principles of Plan Melbourne. Expanding the distribution of open space will help deliver 20-minute neighbourhoods.

The amendment also:

- Provides a greater understanding of public open space needs for the City of Yarra.
- Increases the availability, usability and access to public open space.
- Provides opportunities for social interaction.
- Greens the urban environment.

The amendment complies with the requirements of *Ministerial Direction - Form and Content of Planning Schemes*.

How does the amendment support or implement the Planning Policy Framework and any adopted State policy?

The amendment supports the Planning Policy Framework, in particular the following:

- Clause 12: Environmental and Landscape Values, in particular the objective in *Clause 12.05-2S Landscapes* which is '*to protect and enhance significant landscapes and open spaces that contribute to character, identity and sustainable environments.*'

The amendment supports this objective by ensuring natural features are protected and enhanced. Open space design and management will be sustainable, protect and enhance ecological communities and cultural assets and provide urban cooling.

- Clause 15: Built Environment, in particular the objective in *Clause 15.01-3S Subdivision Design*, which aims to '*ensure the design of subdivisions achieves attractive, safe, accessible, diverse and sustainable neighbourhoods*' and *Clause 15.01-04S for Healthy Neighbourhoods*, which aims to '*achieve neighbourhoods that foster healthy and active living and community wellbeing*'.

Clause 15.01R – Urban Design – Metropolitan Melbourne also seeks '*To create a distinctive and liveable city with quality design and amenity.*'

The amendment supports these objectives by promoting a diversity of public open space to support future subdivision development that foster a healthy lifestyle and achieve community benefit from well-designed neighbourhoods.

- Clause 19: Community Infrastructure, in particular the objective in *Clause 19.02-6S Open Space*, which aims to *'establish, manage and improve a diverse and integrated network of public open space that meets the needs of the community.'*

Clause 19.02-6L Open Space seeks to *'To protect and enhance existing public open space, increase the quantity and quality of open space and provide a linked network that meets existing and future community needs.'*

Existing policy at Clause 19.02-6L-01 Public Open Space Contribution (to be updated by this amendment) which currently applies to subdivisions that include a residential use includes to:

- *To identify when and where land contributions for public open space are preferred over cash contributions.*
- *To set aside land suitable for public open space as part of the design of a development so that it can be transferred to or vested in council, in satisfaction of the public open space contribution requirement specified in the schedule to clause 53.01.*

The amendment supports these objectives by addressing current and future gaps in the provision of public open space to support the needs of new residents and workers.

It also seeks to ensure adequate public open space is provided for development, including sites that seek higher residential densities. Open space is to be provided within safe walking distance of residents and workers and designed to improve the diversity, functionality and inclusiveness of public open space facilities and landscape settings to meet the needs of the community.

The Council will achieve these objectives through creation of new open spaces, master planning and upgrade works, and the use of contributions funding.

How does the amendment support or implement the Municipal Planning Strategy?

The amendment supports the Vision (Clause 02.02) for Yarra by ensuring that future subdivisions will make an adequate financial contribution to enable Council to *'provide new public and open spaces, and improved connections for walking and cycling'* in response to the increased demand generated by future population growth.

The amendment implements the strategic directions for built environment and

heritage (Clause 02.03-4) by enabling Council to *'maintain and enhance the unique character [...] of the city [by maintaining] The Yarra River, Darebin and Merri Creeks and adjacent open spaces [and] parks and gardens'*.

The amendment implements the strategic directions for Open Space (Clause 02.03-9) by recognising the value of open spaces in Yarra; providing *'passive and active recreation, [contributing] to the city's tree canopy and [possessing] cultural values in places of post-contact and indigenous heritage'*. The increased contribution rate will enable Council to *'provide the community with access to high quality open space'* and to *'improve and extend Yarra's open space network.'* Due to the increase in land value over recent years, the proposed (higher) contribution rate is required to ensure Yarra is able to acquire land to create new public open space, particularly in those areas that have an undersupply.

Does the amendment make proper use of the Victoria Planning Provisions?

The Schedule to Clause 53.01 is specifically provided in the Victorian Planning Provisions to allow Councils to establish open space contribution rates appropriate for their local circumstances. It is the most appropriate tool to guide decision making in determining where land and financial contributions should be sought.

How does the amendment address the views of any relevant agency?

The views of relevant agencies were sought during exhibition of the amendment.

Does the amendment address relevant requirements of the Transport Integration Act 2010?

This amendment does not have any significant impacts on the objectives and decision making principles set out in the *Transport Integration Act 2010*.

Resource and administrative costs

What impact will the new planning provisions have on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority?

The amendment will not have a significant impact on the resource and administrative costs of the responsible authority as there is already a process in place to gather public open space contributions under Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme.

Planning and Environment Act 1987

Yarra Planning Scheme

Amendment C286

Instruction sheet

The planning authority for this amendment is the Yarra City Council.

The Yarra Planning Scheme is amended as follows:

Planning Scheme Ordinance

The Planning Scheme Ordinance is amended as follows:

1. In **Planning Policy Framework**- insert a new Clause 19.02-6L in the form of the attached document.
2. In **Particular Provisions** – Clause 53.01, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.
3. In **Operational Provisions** – Clause 72.08, replace the Schedule with a new Schedule in the form of the attached document.

End of document

Community and stakeholder engagement

Exhibition of the amendment

Amendment C286yara was placed on public exhibition on 7 September 2021 to 5 October 2021.

Section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act* requires Council to give notice to (among others) owners and occupiers of land it believes may be materially affected by the amendment.

The Act also requires Council to publish notice of the amendment in a newspaper circulating in the area (The Age) and in the Government Gazette.

Where the affected number of owners and occupiers makes it impractical to notify all of them individually, Sections 19 (1A) and (1B) of the Act allow a Planning Authority to: *take reasonable steps to ensure that public notice of the amendment is given in the area affected by the amendment.*

For this amendment, it was impractical to notify all 52,000 ratepayers plus occupiers across the entire municipality. Instead of individual notification, officers prepared a community engagement strategy that formed the basis of the statutory consultation.

The objectives of the engagement was to:

- Assist a diverse range of stakeholders understand what the planning scheme is and how it works
- Explain the changes proposed to the planning scheme and the planning scheme process
- Help people make informed submissions that address their areas of interest
- Include deliberate outreach and promotion to communities who may be affected but might be underrepresented and/ or not usually engaged
- Use plain English descriptions and messaging that assists understanding of what the planning scheme is, how it works and proposed changes
- Present lengthy and complex information in an easily accessible format
- Clearly communicate the statutory requirements of the submission process.

The engagement process took all reasonable steps *to ensure that public notice of the amendment is given in the area affected by the amendment.*

Notice of the amendment appeared in the:

- The Age on 7 September 2021
- Government Gazette on 9 September 2021

Notices were also sent to Prescribed Ministers.

It also included notification in:

- Yarra News which is distributed to every household in Yarra
- Yarra Life fortnightly eNews which reaches 13,000 recipients
- Economic Development Teams Business eBulletin which has some 11,000 subscribers
- eBulletins / newsletters sent from other teams across Council and Social media platforms.

In addition, direct emails were sent to:

- Council's Advisory Committees
- community groups
- organisations
- current applicants for planning a permit
- consultants with regular involvement in permit applications
- peak development and property organisations in Victoria.

A purpose-built webpage provided material in an easily understood format.

7.6 Arts and Culture Annual Grants

Reference	D24/96511
Author	Brona Keenan - Coordinator Arts and Culture
Authoriser	General Manager Community Strengthening
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. This report seeks Council endorsement of the recommendations from the Yarra Arts Advisory Committee for the Round 2 Arts and Culture 2024 Annual Grants, part of Council's Community Grants Program.

Critical analysis

History and background

2. Yarra City Council's Community Grants Program is a significant investment in the community. It is one of Victoria's leading local government grant programs, through which Yarra has established a reputation for its strong support for the community.
3. The Community Grants Program aims to:
 - (a) develop partnerships between Council and community groups to achieve Council's strategic directions;
 - (b) direct resources to both the emerging and specific needs of disadvantaged groups;
 - (c) develop a positive approach to the resolution of local social issues;
 - (d) support local groups, activities and community connectedness; and
 - (e) support community organisations to develop skills and increase community participation.
4. On 18 April 2023, Council endorsed the Annual Grants 2024 objectives, guidelines, assessment process and budget in the Community Grants Initiation Report.
5. In the 2024 cycle, a second round of the Arts and Culture Annual Grants program was initiated. This change was in response to stakeholder feedback to promote responsiveness, making it easier for community organisations to plan their projects.
6. The second round has required additional resourcing across Arts and Culture, Festivals and Events and Event Permits and Community Grants teams through administration of the round, particularly outside the regular annual cycle. The resourcing impacts of the additional annual round will be reviewed.
7. A total of 57 applications were received. Eighteen applications have been recommended for \$205,000 in funding. Applicant's requests for this round totalled \$674,949.
8. The first round of Arts and Culture Annual Grants already endorsed by Council, recommended 22 of the 61 applications for \$258,000. Applicant requests for this round totalled over \$1 million.
9. Consultation and engagement activities were undertaken to support access to the grants program. Applicants were advised to contact Council officers before submitting their application to discuss project ideas and gain assistance with the application process, including understanding program objectives, criteria, and eligibility requirements.

Discussion

10. The panel recognised the competitive nature of the grant round and high quality of applications. There was recognition that two-thirds of applications would not receive support. This reflects the demand of previous Arts and Culture grant rounds with requests for funding outweighing the available funding pool.
11. For Council's \$205,000 investment, the recommended projects will deliver \$717,460 of investment for the creative sector and community.

Options

12. There are no options detailed in this report.

Community and stakeholder engagement

13. The Annual Grants are a competitive grant round and follow the Yarra Grants Administration Guide and assessment processes including:
 - (a) Stage 1: Eligibility check conducted by Council officers to confirm applicant and project eligibility. Ineligible applications are not advanced;
 - (b) Stage 2: Application review by Council officers to assess applications against the advertised criteria. This also includes evaluating the capacity of the applicant to deliver project outcomes, the clarity of project aims, the completeness and realism of the budget, and alignment with Council funding priorities;
 - (c) Stage 3: Assessment and recommendation by community panels, consisting of external assessors and some Council officers with relevant expertise. The panels review all eligible applications and determine the final recommendations for funding. Deliberations are documented, including panel members' names and relevant experience; and
 - (d) Stage 4: Decision-making and Council endorsement, where Council officers record the outcomes of panel assessments within the grants administration system and prepare a report for Council's approval of the recommended applications.
14. Council officers from Arts and Culture are closely involved in the grant assessment process. Officers assist with reviewing the grant criteria and support the Yarra Arts Advisory Committee, which is responsible for making grant recommendations.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

15. The Yarra 2036 Community Vision and the 2021 - 2025 Council Plan shape the objectives of the Community Grants Program. The grants are designed to support the delivery of the Council Plan and Community Vision and how those objectives can be achieved in partnership with the community.
 - (a) The community participate in the deciding of the grants through the community panel making the recommendations.
16. The Arts and Culture Strategy 2022-2026 is a key strategic plan, which informs the Arts and Culture Annual Grant program, specifically aligning with Council's strategy priorities.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

17. All grant applicants were advised that Council will give preference to those who consider incorporating activities that improve the environmental impacts of their projects. The application form requires applicants to consider ways of reducing and reusing resources.

Community and social implications

18. Yarra's Annual Grants program aims to address numerous social needs across a range of areas, with the Arts and Culture stream seeking to build community through the following social objectives:

- (a) cultural activities - community celebrations, cultural festivals and events;
- (b) recognition of diversity - projects that strengthen Yarra's diverse community or celebrate and recognise diversity;
- (c) social cohesion - projects which bring people together and support the development of communities with shared aims and aspirations; and
- (d) the promotion of community health and wellbeing through social engagement and skills development.

Economic development implications

- 19. The Annual Grants program strengthens the community sector through providing a flexible and responsive funding to community-based not-for-profit organisations. Funding is used to support projects that deliver outcomes outlined within the Council Plan and target the areas of highest need within the community. The aim is to improve the long-term outlook for families and businesses and strengthen the capacity of the local not-for-profit sector and generate economic activity.
- 20. The festivals and events bring economic benefits and assist with branding Yarra as a destination city. These events draw people into the municipality and create economic uplift through increase spend and contribute to Yarra's cultural capital.

Human rights and gender equality implications

- 21. The Annual Grants Guidelines aligned with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 and actively support people to participate and contribute to their community.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

- 22. A total of \$205,000 has been recommended for 18 applications supporting creative and cultural projects and initiatives in Yarra in Round 2 of the program.
- 23. Applicants were asked to specify the total cost of their project, as well as the amount requested from Council. Council's investment of \$205,000 will leverage \$717,460 of activity locally.
- 24. Of these recommendations, seven are individual artists and eleven are groups/organisations, who will be delivering a range of outcomes including festivals, exhibition programs, performances, publications, cinema screenings, panel discussions, talks, an album launch and podcasts.

Legal Implications

- 25. There are no legal implications regarding this report.

Conclusion

- 26. Council's Annual Grants Program demonstrates Yarra Council's commitment to supporting the community and highlights the diversity of community-initiated projects, events and activities that take place across the municipality, and which make Yarra such a vibrant place to live.
- 27. The recommendations for Round 2 Arts and Culture 2024 Annual Grants program are outlined in Attachment One.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
 - (a) endorses the Round 2 Arts and Culture 2024 Annual Grants program community panel's recommendations, as listed in Attachment 1 to award 18 grants totalling \$205,000; and
 - (b) acknowledges and thanks the members of the Yarra Arts Advisory Committee for their time, deliberation and commitment to Yarra's Community Grants Program.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Attachment 1 - FINAL Round Two Arts and Culture 2024 Annual Grants Recommended
- 2 Attachment 2 - CONFIDENTIAL - FINAL Round Two Arts and Culture 2024 Annual Grants Not Recommended - *Confidential*

Round 2 Arts and Culture 2024 Annual Grants - Recommended

ACG2-005: **Ms Isabella Brown (Auspiced by Belgium Avenue Neighbourhood House Inc)**

Resident Frequency Projects

Project Description: Projects to take place at Resident Frequency Recording Studio that was built by residents of the Collingwood Housing Estate on the grounds of CNH. rov

1. Resident Frequency Album- I want to record a compilation of songs by locals on the estate from diverse cultural backgrounds, these songs will form an album that will be launched on the estate as a concert/ community event.

2. Three Towers Podcast- It has been requested by long term residents that we record a podcast of local history about life in Collingwood and the estate. The product will play on 3CR radio. The community podcast builds on the successful 'Wander the Wood' podcast which was a similar concept that I helped to produce for Rising festival 2020

This will result in combined launch events for songs and podcast in conjunction with other CNH events. The role I will play in this is as a workshop facilitator and producer. I hope to have the studio open Tuesdays, Wednesdays between 9.30am-2.30pm. Residents can book times or just drop in. I will also make myself available to work with resident artists in times that suit them by appointment. I will be working with Live Wires between 3pm-5pm Wednesdays.

Total Project Cost: \$31580.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: A worthwhile initiative with community benefit. The project has confirmed funding from Homes Victoria and with evidence of substantial volunteer support. Panel commended the project for enabling funding partners engaging with the City of Yarra.

ACG2-008: **Aboriginal Housing Victoria**

NAIDOC Family Day at the Farm

Project Description: For more than two decades, AHV's NAIDOC Family Day at the Farm has brought thousands of people together to celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and community connectedness in the heart of the City of Yarra.

The annual event is held at the Collingwood Children's Farm and is a culturally appropriate, informative, safe, welcoming and inclusive space for families living in Yarra and beyond. Not only does the event support broader community awareness of Aboriginal people and knowledges, it fosters local pride in Aboriginal history, culture, languages and achievements.

In 2023, the event was attended by more than 2000 people and was featured at the top of The Age's list of events to attend during NAIDOC Week.

Our event program is full of exciting activities and performances for all ages, including Aboriginal contemporary and traditional dance, an exhibit of our Aboriginal renters' artworks, performances by Aboriginal entertainers and a range of cultural craft and physical activities. These include boomerang painting, face painting, emu feather jewellery making, beading, colouring in, etching, a Weaving Workshop and an Australian Rules football clinic. A traditional Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony starts the day, and in the past we have featured incredible Victorian Aboriginal performers including Indigenous Outreach Projects hip hop, Kutcha Edwards, Maylene Yinarr and Uncle Herb

Patten.

Our renters and their families often face challenges accessing cultural or recreational activities. This even is for them and the broader community, regardless of background or race, to come together in the spirit of celebration.

Total Project Cost: \$70415.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$15000.00

Recommendation: \$15,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application for a long-standing event (over twenty years) that is well aligned with the Arts & Culture strategy - with demonstrated benefit for the community, particularly the Aboriginal community that engages many Aboriginal artists and organisations.

ACG2-014: **Kewl Studio**

On Gore Street

Project Description: 'On Gore Street' gathers the stories of the residents of Gore Street, in Fitzroy, Melbourne's oldest suburb. Interviews with residents are threaded together, painting a picture of the street and a history of Fitzroy as it's moved through the process of gentrification. These stories are diverse, and precious, with new generations of residents moving into the area all the time. This short documentary will be created by Zoe Coldham, who grew up on Gore Street through the 90s to now and who has witnessed a community that has transformed over the years. This insight will provide an exploration into the effects of gentrification and an opportunity to promote connection to heritage as a way of increasing social health within the City of Yarra. Confirmed interviewee involvement from a number of prominent residents includes:

Edward Rush; first gay mayor of Fitzroy, resident since 1970

Sister Shakina; The Sisters of Mercy, established 1962

Angela Theodorou; Greek immigrant, resident since 1965

Rose Chong; owner of iconic Rose Chong Costumes, resident since 1985

The production will send a letter to current residents of Gore street to gather archival imagery and to select three additional stories. For our final story, we have engaged First Nations storyteller's, Yalinguth, to collect stories from the Woi Worung tribe, who are the initial owners of the land prior to first settlement, ensuring we are representing a comprehensive history of the land. On Gore Street will be screened at Collingwood Yards with a Q and A with key contributors following the screening. As mentioned in the Yarra Heritage Strategy, 'promoting a greater understanding of heritage within the community' is a key priority for the council, and this project contributes by capturing the stories of Yarra residents that may otherwise be lost in time.

Total Project Cost: \$17987.50

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8350.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: Strong initiative with evidence of community support. The project provided confidence in the panel for successful delivery with confirmed interviewees are ready to tell their stories. Artist had a strong working history in film and is collaborating with a reputable studio in Yarra provided the panel with confidence for capacity to deliver.

ACG2-034: **Mr Mert Berdilek**

Tersine Göç ('Reverse Migration' in Turkish)

Project Description: During September-November 2023, Mert Berdilek traversed by road and 95 rolls of medium-format film, 8000+ kilometers across Turkey exploring his roots. These 6 weeks, coincided with the preparations of the 100th anniversary of the Turkish Republic, and the final frame from his images was shot on the eve of the centenary celebrations. The project is named Tersine Göç ('Reverse Migration' in Turkish), as Mert believes at one point, anybody living in diaspora will gravitate back to their roots, searching for a

sense of self.

The project will be an exhibition of already shot portrait photography, at Sol Gallery in Fitzroy. The exhibition will run for 2-weeks, and the audience will be the; extensive migrant communities living in diaspora, Melbourne's large Turkish & Kurdish communities, artists, photographers, filmmakers etc. The exhibition will contain 20-30 large-print portraits, to be curated from the archive of more than 350 120mm 6X7 medium-format film photos, already lab developed and to-be scanned via industry standard Imacon Flextight. On opening night, there will be a large and exhaustive invitation to all the various audience communities mentioned, with a Q&A, and detailed walkthrough for all the photos exhibited. The exhibition hopes to inspire, encourage and also allow introspective exploration for those attending.

However, one of the tenets for this exhibition, is that it aims to solve something in my youth that was not accessible to me which is: Middle-Eastern artists producing important work in Australia. I hope to solve this, by inspiring the next generation of artists, to go out and discover their heritage, reclaim their roots, and harmoniously work in a symbiotic nature with the culture of their ancestors, and the multicultural home we have today.

Total Project Cost: \$12053.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$7000.00

Recommendation: \$7,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong proposal that engaged the panel in the artist's vision and rationale for undertaking the projects. The project enables an important story within Yarra through high quality photography and exhibition.

ACG2-038: Ms Michaela Coventry (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Projects Inc)

Rage of Sites

Project Description: Rage of Sites brings together the three choreographers represented by Sage Arts with guests to create a remarkable weekend of contemporary performance for roving audiences as part of Melbourne Fringe 2024.

Under the artistic direction and curation of Jo Lloyd, this event involves the work of four of Melbourne's most fascinating and celebrated choreographers/ performers, who have each been commissioned to make new works with the body as the site within the context of the Convent's remarkable range of sites.

Rebecca Jensen, Harrison Ritchie-Jones, Lee Serle and Jo Lloyd herself, are all known for engaging the body at the core of their works. Each of the four dance artists will make and then perform a solo or duet work as part of the program and select a site, specifically suited to their work within the Convent, with the audience moving from one work to the next across the two evenings.

The performances will occur in specific locations mapped out across the Convent buildings and grounds, allowing the audience to navigate and move between the different rooms and locations of the convent. Audiences will be given a clear map indicating the time and location for each work.

Cam's will provide a centralised hub within the grounds, as a meeting place for those attending, to enjoy music by DJ Shio Otani and refreshments as the evening commences and to gather after experiencing the four works, encouraging valuable dialogue and interactions at the event.

Rage of Sites will expand the experience of performance as a social encounter, allowing viewers to encounter works which involve the body in live performance across sites at the Convent. This event will encourage viewers to witness live performance, linger at the centralised hub and appreciate the atmosphere of Yarra's Abbotsford Convent whilst traversing the wonderful grounds and buildings.

Total Project Cost: \$52112.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$10000.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application, with a strong financial resource plan and confirmed support from both Fringe and Australian Cultural Fund confirming their cash support. The panel's confidence was evidenced in the applicants strong artistic and capacity to delivery.

ACG2-041: **no more poetry**

nmp.2024 July – December Publishing Roster.

Project Description: With publications planned through the end of 2024, nmp seeks your support for the publication of the houses roster for the second half of 2024. Including four single author titles and six monthly newsletters, supporting upward of 12 writers and artists, while promoting their work within City of Yarra and abroad.

Run by two queer people, the house curates with a focus on Lesbian, Gay and Transgender literature. So far nmp's publications have explored approaches such as bi-lingual writing, somatic poetry techniques, time-based writing rituals, hybrid forms of screenplay and poetry, song, visual and concrete poetry, tanka, erasure poetry, found text poetry and autofiction, among others. nmp will release four single authors collections in the second half of 2024, including three poetry collections and one fine art title.

four single author publications
including one art book & three poetry publications.

nmp.23: Hana Pera Aoake

nmp.24: Jack Mannix

nmp.25: Samuel Acres

nmp.26: Amrita Hepi

public launches

for each title, which are always free to attend

nmp.23 – Saturday, 26 July 2024

nmp.24 – Saturday, 30 August 2024

nmp.25 – Saturday, 4 October 2024

nmp.26 – Saturday, 8 November 2024

all to be held at Russian House in Collingwood.

six news letters

a monthly newsletter by nmp, consisting of one double side a4 page, featuring a book review by Tim Coster, film review by Brenna O, perhaps a poem from an existing or forthcoming publication, an artwork, scribble or sketch from the editors, and poetry, music and art event listings for the forthcoming month. anyone can submit an event listing to be featured in a forthcoming issue, nmp will include as many event listings as space allows. listing is free.

Total Project Cost: \$51050.00

Amount Requested: \$8557.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$8,557.00

Panel Comments: A strong application supporting local writers and delivering publications that engage readers and new audiences. Project supports a diversity of artists with a proven track record of promoting and creating work in Yarra.

ACG2-043: **Ms Susan Giles**

Land of the Lost

Project Description: Land of the Lost invites audiences of very young children and their adults to explore a strange and beautiful world of lost things. In a sensory installation that keeps shifting and moving, children will encounter strange, wondrous and funny stories that are attached to objects that have been lost or discarded. If you are lost, how can you find your way?

Land of the Lost is about understanding belonging: to the world, to each other, to place. The work also

explores parent and child connection at this very early stage of relationship: how does the parent support its child to wander or roam in uncertainty? What can the adult learn from child explorers?

The goal of the work is building trust in the child's process of exploring an unknown area - a magical, strange and unusual place that offers the audience connections that are new. It draws on the natural curiosity and eagerness of the young child to touch, follow and be involved – seeing how the very young flow with change and uncertainty, unimpeded by adult structures and meaning. It deals with rising levels of social and existential (climate) anxiety present in today's world, especially around the path of the young, and how they navigate the unexpected.

The project will involve a two week stage of development as well as a presentation:
One week to develop the drama of the play with children including the Early Learning Centre on Hellier St in Abbotsford,
One week to build and create the installation
One week for performance with participating audiences.

Dates: September/October 2024 - to coincide with the Melbourne Fringe. The project began as a supported concept development process through the Valuing a Young Audience training course developed in partnership between the Convent and Melbourne Fringe and Sue Giles AM.

Total Project Cost: \$26720.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application centred around children and families. The panel spoke favourably to the concept of this work and the intergenerational dynamic between one of the country's most experienced makers of theatre for families and an emerging artist.

ACG2-048: Conners Conners Gallery

Encounters: Emerging and Established Artists in Conversation:

Project Description: ENCOUNTERS: EMERGING AND ESTABLISHED ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION is a series of exhibitions that pairs established and emerging artists in an open dialogue to explore methodologies, ideas and conceptually-driven visual arts practice by way of comparison and contrast. The project acknowledges that ideas and ways of making are explored in diverse ways, that art is not created in a vacuum but rather, by shared concerns, exploration and interests, and that practice is not defined by generation or period but instead is fluid, with ideas developing, intersecting and manifesting over time.

The project builds on four years of programming by Conners Conners, which has provided a platform for artists to experiment, take risks and be in conversation with each other and audiences. It is underpinned by a coherent strategy focused on experimental and conceptual practice and dialogue. Artists are paired based on shared elements in their work, including conceptual, methodological and aesthetic, enabling audiences to engage on multiple levels: as independent exhibitions and as a broader investigation of ideas and practice. The project facilitates relationships, conversations – including directly with our volunteers – and in some cases mentoring between the paired artists. Moreover, it aims to pay artists fees, acknowledging their central importance to the sector.

Post covid the importance of your digital presence has been elevated. The project seeks to develop our website a shared repository of exhibition content, which shares knowledge, acts as an additional site of interaction and enables ongoing conversation. This aspect further expands the reach of this program while cementing the aim of open and ongoing dialogue with a broad audience.

The project consists of five exhibition cycles, dedicated website content, and artist talks. Three exhibitions are confirmed to date:

Tarquin Charlesworth - Tamsen Hopkinson

Camille Cargill - Ruth Hoflich

Francis Carmody - Raafat Ishak

Total Project Cost: \$92860.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$11000.00

Recommendation: \$15,000.00

Panel Comments: A worthwhile initiative supporting independent artist based in Fitzroy. The project will enable a range of exhibitions to diverse audiences within the Fitzroy precinct. Adds value and compliments Yarra's visual arts landscape.

ACG2-050: Seventh Gallery

Seventh Cinema - Season 2, Community Learning Program and Banner Project

Project Description: In the second half of 2024, our mission is to elevate Richmond's cultural vibrancy and strengthen community bonds through three key initiatives:

Seventh Cinema-Season 2:

Following foundational support from City of Yarra and Suburban Development Victoria in 2023, we are seeking support to launch the second season of Seventh Cinema, our outdoor film program. With existing infrastructure in place, this streamlined initiative will run from October- December 2024, featuring curated film programs and activities in collaboration with a guest artist. Our goal is to host a minimum of 6 screenings with 2 films per screening, creating an accessible space for artistic and social discourse in Citizens Park, enriching Richmond's cultural fabric.

Community Learning Program:

In response to insights gathered from community consultations in 2023, Seventh aims to initiate a pilot Community Learning Program. Complementing our upcoming Community Library and Reading Room, this program will consist of eight half-day workshops led by artists within our network. By engaging the broader Richmond community in practical and participatory learning, we aim to provide a unique platform for artists and community members to connect beyond traditional exhibition and event formats.

Banner Project:

Building on the success of "Divine Intervention" in 2023, featuring public artworks created in collaboration with local activist Robbie Thorpe, we propose a series of three exhibitions featuring banners fixed to our gallery's exterior. Through an open call, selected artists will collaborate on the development and printing of their artworks onto banners. This project not only provides exposure for artists through public exhibitions in Citizens Park but also transforms the gallery's surroundings into a vibrant and dynamic space, actively engaging and welcoming the local community, reinforcing Seventh as an accessible public art space.

Together, these initiatives contribute to the enrichment of Richmond's cultural tapestry, fostering interaction, learning, and creativity within our community.

Total Project Cost: \$40688.80

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$15000.00

Recommendation: \$20,000.00

Panel Comments: A strong application that builds on existing programs to expand their reach further and establish a cinema series as part of their regular gallery program. This project builds on the first Seventh Cinema in the first part of 2024, demonstrating ability to achieve outcomes with already established community engagement.

ACG2-051: 3MBS Melbourne 103.5FM

Classically Kids 2024

Project Description: Classically Kids (CK) is part of the 3MBS Youth Music Program that introduces live classical music performance to children 5-12yrs and their families through interactive and narrative-centred productions and will be presented by youth music educators, the Inventi Ensemble (Yarra-based ensemble) and Arcadia Winds.

3MBS is seeking funding to support the four remaining music-storytelling events during the 2024 Victorian school holiday periods in July and September/October at Collingwood Children's Farm. This project will feature newly commissioned productions by 3MBS based on familiar classical music favourites and newly composed music by Melbourne composers arranged for musical ensemble.

Audiences will be able to experience the following new productions:

Inventi Ensemble.

-'One Thousand and One Nights' (incorporating music from Rimsky-Korsakov's Scheherazade and new music by Melbourne composers Tristan Coehlo, Caerwen Martin and Andrea Keller).

-'Cinderella' (based on Prokofiev's musical score).

Arcadia Winds.

-Peer Gynt (based on Edvard Grieg's two suites).

-Saint-Saëns' 'Carnival of the Animals'.

The objective of Classically Kids is to:

-Introduce and build greater awareness of classical music to children from an early age in fun and creative ways that incorporates audio-visual stimulus and hands-on participation.

-Fill an significant absence of curated children's classical music programs that locally available/accessible.

-Provide paid performance contracts to local musicians.

-Develop new relationships with Yarra schools and early learning centres.

-Engage with/build a new local youth audience, including CALD families, that will encourage a lasting positive connection to classical music.

-Produce increased content for recording and future youth music podcasting.

These ticketed events will encourage new space activation at Collingwood Children's Farm and compliment its existing children's activities during school holiday periods, as well as promote 3MBS as an essential service for local artists by providing scope to create new works, provide performance and recording opportunities, and to support their audience building and branding.

Total Project Cost: \$18804.64

Amount Requested: \$8000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$6000.00

Recommendation: \$8,000.00

Panel Comments: Classically Kids is an established program run by Yarra-based radio station 3MBS. The focus on children's programming and substantial community support has been favourably evaluated by the panel. This project builds on an existing program of event, often selling out. Strongly recommended.

ACG2-056: Future Tense Pty Ltd

Blak Pearl 2024 Public Artistic Activations and Community Engagement Program

Project Description: We are seeking funding to support Blak Pearl Studio's public artistic engagement program for 2024. Blak Pearl provides a safe environment for Aboriginal peoples in the City of Yarra experiencing significant hardship and socio-economic disadvantage to pursue creative and cultural endeavours.

Although the community hold some of Yarra's lesser known and undocumented histories and knowledge of its expression through various mediums and manners of communication, most cannot access mainstream spaces, and do not have a space of their own to pursue cultural artistic activities. Public activations and displays of work produced by Blak Pearl Studio Artists increase the visibility of the Studio, the artists we represent, and engagement with their work, which holds both artistic and cultural value significant for the local Aboriginal community and the broader creative industry.

Specifically we are seeking funding to:

- Assist with the development and production of two exhibition opportunities
 - An exhibition with Seventh Gallery in August 2024
 - Gertrude St projection festival partnership with Centre for Projection Art x Charcoal Lane x Blak Pearl in July/August 2024.

If we are successful in securing the funding we will:

Assist key Blak Pearl artists to develop their work for one or all of the two public activation opportunities.

Development and production of Gertrude St Festival event hosted at Charcoal Lane.

Development and production of Seventh Gallery exhibition

Total Project Cost: \$35400.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$12500.00

Recommendation: \$16,441.00

Panel Comments: Strong application building on the work of Black Pearl over the last few years. This project seeks to expand its scope to include Yarra based artists organisations such as SEVENTH and the Gertrude Street Projection Festival which was favourably endorsed unanimously by the panel.

ACG2-058: MAV (Multicultural Arts Victoria)

I Know My Place presented by MAV and Alter State

Project Description: 'I Know My Place' is an intentional return to Yarra to centre ourselves on land and in history, as part of MAV's 50th Anniversary program RETROSPECTION.

Designed specifically to deepen ties between Deaf and/or Disabled as well as culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and/or as communities of Colour (PoC), 'I Know My Place' defiantly carves out space for Disability-led arts leadership, artmaking and networking.

MAV will partner with Arts Centre Melbourne and award-winning Disability arts initiative Alter State on 'I Know My Place', engaging trail-blazing CALD/POC artists who may not identify as Disabled, but may be Neurodivergent, Deaf or Chronically Ill, increasing visibility and opportunities.

MAV and Alter State are aligned in creative interventions that bring significant cultural equity and structural change in our contexts, while RETROSPECTION aims to celebrate spaces that have supported artists to reframe the margins through history.

The I Know My Place collaboration in Yarra will include;

A high calibre Disability/POC arts-leadership networking event and panel centred around authentic artmaking as a tool of connection. Wednesday 25 September, Reading Room FTH;

A community justice pop-up celebration led by creative practitioners who strive for land-based justice, during Alter State 2 - 13 October, Artist Private Studio TBA

Development of original works by four multi-disciplinary artists who also identify as People of Colour (PoC) to be presented at the above and other venues.

MAV evolved alongside First Nations, LGBTQIA+, Aboriginal, Disabled, Deaf and other significant 'movements of the people' aimed at dismantling existing inequitable systems of power and privilege. Spanning fifty years, MAV's own grassroots movement to improve livelihood, visibility and participation for culturally diverse, refugee and migrant communities began with an inaugural event in Yarra in 1974.

Through the lens of 2024, we ask - just whose voices were missing that day at Fitzroy Town Hall?

Total Project Cost: \$58044.00

Amount Requested: \$20000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$14000.00

Recommendation: \$14,000.00

Panel Comments: This project marks a significant milestone in a key cultural Melbourne based organisation. The project seeks to return to MAV's site of its first meeting in Fitzroy 50 years ago. This project, part of MAV's 50-year celebrations, is a strong idea and an excellent opportunity for engaging the local arts community.

ACG2-059: Ms Melanie Cobham Sapriza

body / building

Project Description: I am seeking support for the completion and publication of my first photo book. The project, titled 'body / building' is a photographic account of my migratory experience, and is currently in its development stage, having completed approximately one third of the projected work. Once printed, I expect to present this publication at Meridian Sculpture, also located within the City of Yarra.

'Body/Building' is a playful yet tender survey of the city from the perspective of an outsider. It documents an untimely migration, immediately followed by a two-year confinement period that exposed the fault lines between the physical and psychological dimensions of our lived realities.

Combining black and white and colour photography, the book considers how deeply our surroundings contribute to welcoming, transforming, alienating, and overall informing the cadence of our lives.

The photographic series shot primarily across the City of Yarra and the broader Melbourne serves as an archive that, at times, highlights the daunting absence of bodies over the portrait of the body itself. The title is a play on words - a nod to the body as a sculpture in transformation.

Between the flaneur and the domestic, the photographs invite us into the regenerative process of becoming, of finding solace in the foreign, and a place in the in-between spaces.

Total Project Cost: \$19632.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: The panel expressed a keen interest to support a local emerging artist. The work is strong, the community support is strong, and has the potential to elevate the artist into their next career stage.

ACG2-063: Rubiks Collective

Rorqual

Project Description: Contemporary classical ensemble Rubiks, jazz singer Gian Slater and composer Wally Gunn will present the avant-premiere of Rorqual, a new song cycle inspired by the true story of the 52Hz whale – often referred to as "the world's loneliest whale".

This real-life, modern mythological creature has roamed the seas alone for decades. First detected on recordings by scientists in the late 1980s and continuing to sing to the present day, the whale has never been sighted and cannot be identified; though its migration patterns resemble those of the rorqual whale family (blue and fin whales specifically), its 52Hz call is 30-40Hz higher than typical for these species. The whale continues to travel the seas alone, without pod or mate, earning it the name "the world's loneliest whale". The fascinating story of this elusive creature serves as the departure point for a cross-genre song cycle interrogating themes of loneliness, solitude, independence and connection.

Rorqual will premiere in 2025 as a multimedia song cycle, featuring electronic interludes and film vignettes. Ahead of developing the work's multimedia elements, Rubiks are seeking support to stage a more intimate avant-premiere/preview of the song cycle material for City of Yarra residents. This event will include a concert and afternoon tea, encouraging attendees to engage and connect with other audience members and the artists.

Rubiks will spend a week at Bakehouse Studios (Richmond) for final workshops of the song cycle, ahead of

the concert and afternoon tea event at 75 Reid (Fitzroy North). This event will be offered free of charge for Yarra residents to address isolation in the wake of Covid and cost of living pressures, and as a low-fee event for non-Yarra residents. Rubiks will particularly target isolated community members through Yarra's youth centres, homework clubs and organisations working to foster social inclusion.

Total Project Cost: \$32022.00

Amount Requested: \$10522.00 **Minimum Required:** \$

Recommendation: \$10,522.00

Panel Comments: A strong proposal centred on Yarra's local music production sector, delivered and centred around a significant music institution – Bakehouse. The project reflects how music is made and shared with audiences.

ACG2-064: West Space

West Space Community Engagement Programs: July-December 2024

Project Description: With the support of the City of Yarra, West Space will enliven our program with a suite of differently scaled community engagement programs. Bringing people together around contemporary art and ideas, and connecting artists with new audiences, this suite of programs will fulfil our 2020-2024 strategic goals of engaging with 3 target communities: under-represented artists, local Yarra communities, and students.

We are seeking funds to remunerate 30 artists/arts practitioners, commission 5 new artworks, 3 performances, and offer audiences 8 distinct public programs.

The heart of our July-December program is the 'Stranger than fiction' Symposium, Saturday 24 August, 11am-4pm at Music Market, Collingwood Yards. Building on the success of 2023's 'Unison' Symposium, this program will present talks, discussions and performances that expand on the ideas within the exhibition. The Symposium will centre hospitality, generating a sense of care for our community with experimental and playful programming that provides multiple access points to ideas for our broad audiences, and by serving home-cooked lunch.

West Space will work with artists Akil Ahamat (ACT) and Gabi Briggs (Vic) to present discussions that expand on the ideas within their exhibitions. Creating opportunities to engage with conceptually rigorous artwork in a number of ways is vital to the strength, development and well-being of Yarra's thriving artistic community.

Running alongside these programs will be a suite of presentations in the West Space Window. An accessible entry point to contemporary art, the Window is a public-facing micro-gallery on the exterior of our space, visible during all Collingwood Yards open hours. From July-December, West Space seeks to commission 5 artists to create new work and develop a small-scale talk, discussion, reading or workshop. Workshops will be artist-led and playful, with participants learning the artists' process in working with their medium of choice while discussing the concepts underpinning their practices.

Total Project Cost: \$90668.00

Amount Requested: \$18680.00 **Minimum Required:** \$12580.00

Recommendation: \$18,680.00

Panel Comments: A significant cultural organisation in Yarra proposing a high level of artist and community engagement. Strongly recommended.

ACG2-074: Mr Alex Clayton

Playback Jul-Nov 2024

Project Description: Playback needs funding to continue throughout 2024. We would focus on 4 main areas:

1. Continue to employ industry experts as hosts
2. Increase marketing spend
3. Upgrade website

4. Cover operational costs

Playback connects professional and emerging artists in a welcoming and low-barrier environment to foster valuable development opportunities. Playback seeks to continue programming industry experts to maintain the provided level of value. These experts bring specialised knowledge and real-world experience to emerging artists who have submitted music.

Playback ensures events are as accessible as possible with open-door and 'pay-as-you-feel' policies. All donations are reinvested into the project; however, the current income is not sufficient to sustain the cost of paying hosts. We are requesting funds to continue programming these industry experts throughout 2024.

We are also looking to increase our overall awareness and diversity of submissions through a digital marketing campaign, as well as bolstering existing cross-promotional partnerships with MESS, The Gasometer, and Music Victoria. Through paid Instagram and Facebook campaigns, we seek to encourage a wider array of identities to submit tracks and attend events.

We plan to upgrade our website to improve communication, engagement, and accessibility. This includes a dynamic and automated events system with submission guides and deadlines and an embedded submission form. Our goal is to make participating as easy and seamless as possible.

Funds will also go towards producing merchandise to grow brand awareness and give participants a visible sense of pride in their involvement in the initiative.

Currently Playback is completely volunteer-led. We seek funds to sustainably continue the initiative while fairly compensating ourselves for our time and skills as well as safeguarding against burnout.

Additional operational costs include fees for domain hosting, Google Workspace, and Airtable; as well as formalising our organisation as a general partnership.

Total Project Cost: \$12016.00

Amount Requested: \$6800.00 **Minimum Required:** \$2820.00

Recommendation: \$6,800.00

Panel Comments: Good initiative to support electronic music scene and emerging artists. Proposal included a range letters of support from venue, participant and music industry peers. Strongly recommended.

ACG2-079: Miss Kate Hutton

Awarness for the Rebellious - One Eighty Collective's solo art exhibition

Project Description: One Eighty Collective (Kate Hutton), proudly presents her solo exhibition, "Awareness for the Rebellious." This exhibition delves into Kate's personal journey of triumph over adversity and her lifelong battle with mental health challenges. Functioning as a comprehensive 5-step program, the exhibition guides visitors through overcoming depressive struggles. Drawing from Kate's knowledge from over a decades work with psychiatrists, psychologists, life coaches, mentors, and holistic well-being practices, the exhibition features 15+ artworks and murals organized into themed "steps." Each step serves as a beacon, sharing stories and tools to empower individuals in navigating their way out of depression and unlocking a realm of healing and self-discovery.

Opening Night Highlights:

The opening night promises to be a memorable affair, offering an immersive experience filled with art, music, and charitable endeavors. Highlights of the evening include:

Live music performances to set the mood and uplift your spirits

Mesmerising live projections that create an enchanting ambiance

Striking murals that serve as a backdrop for the exhibition

Live auctions and silent auctions, providing an opportunity to acquire unique artworks while donating to

mental health awareness

A raffle hamper, offering an assortment of prizes to raise funds for mental health initiatives

Day Two and Three Activities:

The second day of the event continues to offer enriching experiences aimed at promoting well-being and mindfulness. Highlights include:

Breath-work, meditation, and sound healing classes that provide an opportunity for deep relaxation and self-reflection

Public access to the exhibition, allowing visitors to explore the artworks at their own pace

Substance Abuse Recovery workshop

Painting classes held in the evening,

Artistic workshops run by industry lead artists (TBC)

Performance and skill building workshops (TBC)

Total Project Cost: \$43406.89

Amount Requested: \$5000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$3500.00

Recommendation: \$5,000.00

Panel Comments: The panel supported the proposal which has a focus on artistic practice that explores a journey to overcome adversity. The panel found the application to be rigorous in its planning and articulation of mental health themes.

ACG2-090: **Ms Katie Sfetkidis**

We the People: "Yarra"

Project Description: "We the People x Yarra", is an ongoing arts research project that delves into the concept of legacy within activism and examines the enduring importance of public demonstrations. This Yarra iteration will investigate the rich histories of political struggles across various communities in Yarra, including LGBTQ+, environmental, housing, and First Nations activists.

Research activities will include:

Community Engagement: Conducting one-on-one interviews and group conversations

with local activists from different backgrounds, fostering cross-generational dialogues. All participants in these activities will be paid their involvement.

Historical Research: Tracing the history of demonstrations and political action within the Yarra area, exploring collections at the State Library Victoria, Yarra Heritage Collection, Women's Art Register (Richmond Library) and Gay and Lesbian Archives.

Site Visits and Mapping Exercises: Retracing the steps of previous protests and visiting historically significant sites to gather visual and audio materials, such as photographs, drawings, sound recordings, and videos

Studio Experiments and Drawing Practice: Utilizing the social and historical research to inform and inspire my ongoing drawing practice, leading to the creation of new protest posters and drawings centered celebrating political history of Yarra.

The culmination of this research take the form of a day long event (possible sites include Collingwood Town Hall). The event will bring together historical research & community connections, creating an open & inclusive space that encourages the local community to think politically; remember past actions; and imagine better futures. Throughout the day the artist will host a series of talks by local community who she has met through the research & invite audience members & participants to add their own memories & ephemera to the research already collected. These documents will be collated into artist book which will be gifted to the Mayor of Yarra at the conclusion of the event.

Total Project Cost: \$12000.00

Amount Requested: \$10000.00 **Minimum Required:** \$8000.00

Recommendation: \$10,000.00

Panel Comments: This proposal is a significant theme relevant to Yarra. The panel recognised the solid frameworks in place for a successful execution and the strong connections to the local community.

7.7 Yarra Community Awards

Reference	D24/108573
Author	Cristina Del Frate - Senior Coordinator Equity and Inclusion
Authoriser	General Manager Community Strengthening
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. To seek Council's endorsement of the proposed changes for Yarra's community awards program for 2024 and beyond.

Critical analysis

History and background

2. The community awards program recognises and celebrates outstanding contributions of individuals and local community groups to life in the City of Yarra. The nomination and assessment period is a six to eight month process, which culminates in an award ceremony, where the Yarra community is recognised and celebrated.
3. The awards ceremony promotes community connection and is a special night for nominees, winners and their families. As one 2023 nominee noted: *'It was an amazing event to see the initiatives being conducted in the Yarra community. The talent, energy and enthusiasm are an indication of the collaboration, engagement and connections across the Yarra community.'*
4. The community awards have been held annually since 2018, except for 2020 due to COVID, superseding the previously held 'Australia Day Awards', after the 2017 Council decision regarding 26 January.
5. Following the awards in 2023, officers identified the lessons learned during the nomination and assessment process and undertook a short review to seek future improvements.
6. The methodologies used for the review included:
 - (a) analysis of the promotional and marketing activities for the 2023 awards;
 - (b) analysis of trends in nomination numbers (both overall and in each category) over the past six years; and
 - (c) a comparative desktop review to benchmark against other awards processes at 20 other councils (detailed in the discussion below).

Discussion

Current process

7. The current assessment process for the community awards is that nominations are initially assessed and shortlisted by officers. The review found that there was a need for a more objective scoring system. Currently, a summary of the shortlisted nominations is provided to the Community Awards Committee, which comprises three Councillors and the winners for each category are recommended by this committee. In 2023, it became apparent that there was room for improvement to clarify the role of officers and the committee.
8. The review identified the following improvements for consideration:

- (a) Opportunity to improve transparency in the process of shortlisting, as this is undertaken by officers and relies on interpretation of the judging criteria instead of an objective scoring system; and
 - (b) Clearer decision making and governance of process, including the role of officers and the panel.
9. Additionally, feedback received from previous award recipients and community is that they feel a great deal of pride in the awards and would value the opportunity to contribute to the awards process.
10. Officers undertook comparative benchmarking with other councils to identify areas for improvement, learn about alternative awards processes and identify best practice.

Benchmarking

- 11. Benchmarking was conducted with 20 councils to assess the protocols regarding community awards and community acknowledgment in a broader context.
- 12. In addition to the M9 group of councils, officers reviewed award-making and community recognition practices at: Banyule, Bayside, Boroondara, Brimbank, Cardinia, Casey, Greater Dandenong, Frankston, Glen Eira, Knox, Monash, and Yarra Ranges.
- 13. Key areas of review comprised the delineation of award categories, eligibility requirements, award incentives, nomination criteria, and the judging processes including the composition of judging panels, the selection of panellists, and decision-making.
- 14. Broadly, the majority of councils feature categories such as Citizen and Young Citizen of the Year, with some councils extending their categorisation to include areas such as sustainability, literary arts, sports, urban design, and small business.
- 15. The allocation of monetary prizes varied among councils, with some opting to offer cash incentives while others do not.
- 16. Some councils leverage these award ceremonies as an opportunity to coincide with volunteer appreciation events or other significant dates, such as 26 January and citizenship ceremonies.
- 17. The award criteria demonstrated a substantial degree of uniformity across surveyed councils, with most requiring the nominees to be residing in the municipality, and recognition of outstanding contribution to the community.
- 18. The management of nomination assessment processes highlighted considerable diversity, ranging from panels comprised of councillors and community representatives, to community panels with no officer or councillor involvement. Panels also include past award recipients as the community representatives.
- 19. While a range of variations on assessment processes are used across municipalities, the model that was assessed to best promote transparency and community involvement is where an awards program makes use of a selection panel comprised of community members and past award recipients. This model provides clear line of sight between the community and the final decision, minimising risks around perceived inequities and conflict of interest.
- 20. Community involvement in the selection panel also ensures that the awards reflect the values and priorities of the community as a whole.
- 21. A review of nomination criteria across other councils also assisted officers to identify the need for clearer and simpler language and more comprehensive information to be available to everyone involved in the awards process. To this end, draft nomination guidelines have been prepared together with a frequently asked question section.
- 22. A draft additional assessment criterion has been developed for consideration of the nominee's contribution to community connectedness, encouraging connections between and across diverse communities.

23. Reviewing nomination categories across municipalities provided a basis for reviewing Council's existing award categories.
24. Finally, the number and types of promotional activities and engagement with media posts were analysed, to extend communications to communities that are hard to reach, or who have not previously engaged in the awards process.

Proposed changes

25. Based on the benchmarking and additional considerations outlined above, officers are proposing the following changes to promote transparency and community engagement, and to manage risks regarding conflicts of interest.
 - (a) Draft revised nomination guidelines (see **Attachment One**), including the eligibility criteria and terms and conditions. These have been revised to promote clarity, transparency, and accessibility. The proposed guidelines are in accessible language, including a frequently asked questions section and an awards webpage;
 - (b) The establishment of a community awards selection panel, comprised of community representatives to conduct assessments, replacing councillors and council officers, who have traditionally assessed the nominations. This, along with the introduction of a clearer assessment process using a scoring matrix, will promote efficiency and transparency and assist in managing risks regarding conflict of interest;
 - (c) The proposed selection panel would comprise five Yarra community members, representative of a diverse range of backgrounds, with strong links to Yarra and relevant experience and knowledge of the Yarra community. Previous award winners could be encouraged to join the panel. Panel tenure would be for two years with the option to renominate;
 - (d) It is proposed that the Mayor be the chair of the selection panel meeting, at which the winners for each category are decided;
 - (e) The panel's recommendations would be presented to the CEO for consideration and final approval;
 - (f) An expression of interest process would be undertaken to appoint selection panel members. The proposed terms of reference for the panel (see **Attachment Two**) have been reviewed by Council's Governance and Integrity unit;
 - (g) In previous years, only the winners of each category received a certificate of appreciation. From 2024, it is proposed all individuals and community groups shortlisted for an award will be recognised for their contributions with a certificate;
 - (h) It is proposed to continue the practice of awarding a cash prize to each category winner. Consistent with previous years, \$500 would be awarded to each winner in the categories of Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, and Community Initiative of the Year, while \$250 would be awarded to the winners in each of the other categories;
 - (i) The following awards categories are proposed, which includes one proposed change from the current categories, namely the merging of the current categories of 'Arts' and 'Heritage' into one category, called 'Contribution to Arts and Culture', due to the low number of nominations received in the two separate categories previously:
 - (i) Citizen of the Year;
 - (ii) Young Citizen of the Year;
 - (iii) Community Initiative of the Year;
 - (iv) Contributions to Sustainability;
 - (v) Contributions to Sport;
 - (vi) Contributions to Arts and Culture (new merged category as noted above); and

(vii) Contributions to Diversity and Inclusion;

- (j) Relevant officers were consulted on how the awards could contribute to more inclusive community connectedness. As a result, it is proposed to include an additional assessment criterion to demonstrate how the nominee has made a positive impact to the lives of others through their demonstration of community values, including community connection with diverse communities;
- (k) The selection panel would be required to assess each nomination using a scoring matrix to address the following selection criteria:
 - (i) Nominee has made an outstanding contribution to the Yarra community over the past year;
 - (ii) Nominee shows leadership and is a positive role model for others; and,
 - (iii) Nominee supports Council's values to make a positive impact to the lives of others in the Yarra community.

26. Further, the selection panel is expected to give consideration as to how the nominee and their efforts have addressed intersectionality, that is an understanding how different parts of someone's identity overlap, impact and compound life experiences, in evaluating how they have supported Yarra's values of promoting diversity and inclusion for our diverse community. This includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, LGBTIQ+ individuals, people from various cultural and linguistic backgrounds, people with disabilities, and people of all genders and ages.
27. For this year, the proposed project timeframe has been scheduled taking account of the upcoming council election, with nominations proposed to open on 20 May 2024 and close 30 June 2024, and the assessments concluding in mid-August. The awards event will occur post Council elections.

Options

28. There are no options to consider with this report.

Community and stakeholder engagement

29. External consultation has been undertaken with neighbouring M9 councils to gain insight into community awards processes and benchmark best practice awards programs.
30. Internal consultation was undertaken to consider the award categories, community reach and best practice. Relevant work areas across Council contributing to this process included Sustainability, Governance, Communications, Aboriginal Partnerships, LGBTIQ+ Partnerships, Arts and Culture, and Sports and Recreation.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

31. The community awards is strongly aligned with the Council Plan (2021–25), including in relation to the strategic objective of:
- (a) Under Strategic Objective Two, Social Equity and Health, in the Council Plan, initiatives are included to:
 - (i) deliver campaigns and strategies that remove barriers and promote access and inclusion;
 - (ii) support and provide opportunities to celebrate culturally significant days and events, bringing together diverse cultures, and increasing intercultural understanding; and to
 - (iii) build and leverage partnerships with stakeholders to create inclusive and welcoming places for the whole community and support the promotion of positive social connections in the community (MPHWP).

32. Yarra's Community Vision celebrates and embraces diversity, focusing on respect and working with the community, which are central to the community awards.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

33. The awards align with Council's Climate Emergency Plan and related initiatives by recognising and celebrating champions in the Yarra community who advocate for, work towards and volunteer their time to climate action and sustainability initiatives.
34. In 2023, a Sustainability category was added to the awards. This category recognises contributions made by a group or an individual initiating a project, program or activity that delivers genuine and measurable action in direct response to the climate emergency or an environmental issue relevant to Yarra.
35. The criteria for this category encourage an engaged and inclusive community that participates in sustainability projects such as community education and awareness, community gardens and urban agriculture delivers positive sustainability outcomes for the municipality.

Community and social implications

36. Volunteer involvement contributes to civil society and active participation in building strong, inclusive, and resilient communities. The community awards is Council's key event to recognise the significant contributions volunteers make to people's lives in our community.
37. The awards play an important role in development of the community through building relationships, developing skills, and increasing awareness and resilience within the community.
38. Inclusiveness, diversity, equity and community connectedness are significant aspects embedded into the selection criteria questions for nominators. This ensures that groups experiencing marginalisation in the community are considered and prioritised in the nomination process.

Economic development implications

39. The economic value of volunteering in the City of Yarra is estimated at \$54.9 million, according to the last census report in 2016.
40. The community awards celebrate and recognise individuals who are primarily volunteers, and initiatives which are predominantly volunteer-led, and contribute economically to the Yarra community.

Human rights and gender equality implications

41. The community awards recognises and aligns with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 by actively supporting and celebrating our diverse community and promoting community cohesion and participation.
42. The proposed changes outlined in this report would strengthen inclusion and equity throughout the awards process.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

43. There are no other financial impacts beyond the existing allocated budget for the community awards.

Legal Implications

44. There are no legal implications.

Conclusion

45. Creating a community-based selection panel for the Yarra Community Awards will encourage community involvement at all levels of the awards process, promote transparency, and manage risk regarding perceived inequity and conflicts of interest. It would also strengthen the connection with community values and priorities and provide opportunities for participation and collaboration between community members.
46. The combining of the Arts and Heritage categories into a single Arts and Culture category responds to the low numbers of nominations received throughout the past six years.
47. The proposed nomination guidelines provide clearer information and transparency with all aspects of the awards nomination and assessment processes.
48. The introduction of an objective scoring matrix will assist with consistency in the application of the assessment criteria. The inclusion of additional assessment factors to consider community connectedness and the requirement to consider intersectionality will advance Yarra's commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion.
49. Upon Council endorsement of the recommended approach, officers will commence the process for the 2024 Community Awards.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council endorses the proposed changes to Yarra's Community Awards Program as outlined in this report for 2024 and beyond.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Attachment 1 - Draft - Yarra Council Community Awards Nomination Guidelines - March 2024
- 2 [↓](#) Attachment 2 - Terms of Reference - Community Awards Selection Panel - DRAFT

Yarra Council Community Awards

2024 Nomination Guidelines



DRAFT

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra. We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra. We pay our respects to Elders from all nations and to their Elders past, present and future.

DRAFT

<insert relevant National Relay Service info>

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Overview

The Yarra Council Community Awards serve as a platform to honour the unsung heroes who make Yarra such a wonderful place to live, work and visit.

At the December Awards Ceremony, we gather to recognise and celebrate the outstanding individuals and community groups whose contributions enrich our community's fabric, highlighting their invaluable impact and achievements.

Nominating an individual or group for an award is easy. You can do it online, and if you need any help, our team is here to assist you.

Information and support

Phone: (03) 9205 5437

Email: volunteer@yarracity.vic.gov.au

Website: www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/awards

Key stages and dates

- Nominations open: Monday 20 May 2024
- Nominations close: Sunday 30 June 2024
- Awards ceremony: Thursday 12 December 2024

Purpose

These guidelines contain information about the 2024 Community Awards for the City of Yarra, and how to nominate.

The terms and conditions are be found [below](#). Please read the guidelines and ensure that you understand and agree to the terms and conditions prior to participating in the Awards.

Categories and Recognition

The awards program has seven categories, with cash prizes for each winner. All individuals and community groups shortlisted for an award will be recognised for their contributions with a certificate.

Categories

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Initiative of the Year
- Contributions to Sustainability
- Contributions to Sport
- Contributions to Arts and Culture
- Contributions to Diversity and Inclusion

Prizes

A monetary prize of \$500 will be awarded to each winner of:

- Citizen of the Year, and
- Young Citizen of the Year.

A monetary prize of \$250 will be awarded to the winners in each of the remaining categories:

- Contributions to Sustainability,
- Contributions to Sport,
- Contributions to Arts & Culture, and
- Contributions to Diversity and Inclusion.

Nomination Process

How to nominate

Nominations must be submitted online via the link found on the awards webpage: www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/awards

If you cannot complete the nomination online, contact the Community Development Officer at volunteer@yarracity.vic.gov.au or on (03) 9205 5437.

Nominating requirements

To nominate an individual or group, you will be asked to provide:

- contact details for yourself,
- contact details for the nominee, and
- a referee who's familiar with the achievements of the nominee.

You will also need to:

- agree to the [terms and conditions](#) for the Awards ,
- confirm the nominee has agreed to be nominated, and
- answer the selection criteria.

Note: you must complete a separate form for multiple nominations.

Eligibility

Citizen of the Year:

- Must be a current Yarra resident.
- Aged 26 years or older (at 1 July 2024)

Young Citizen of the Year:

- Must be a current Yarra resident.

- Aged between 12 and 25 years (at 1 July 2024)

Community Initiative of the Year:

- Individuals are not eligible for this category, the focus must be on an initiative by a group, event, campaign or movement.

All other award categories:

- An individual or group do not have live in Yarra, however they must have made a significant contribution to creating better outcomes for the community over the past year.

Selection criteria questions

- How has the nominee made an outstanding contribution to the Yarra community over the past year?
- How does the nominee show leadership and / or be a positive role model for others? (Note: this question only applies to nominations for the Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year categories).
- Demonstrate how the nominee has made a positive impact to the lives of others in relation to the following community values:
 - Cultural harmony
 - Equality and equity
 - Improving community health and wellbeing
 - Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Assessment Process

Eligibility

Council officers check all applications to make sure each nominee is eligible. If a nomination doesn't meet the eligibility criteria, it won't move forward in the process.

Review

Council officers review nomination forms against the assessment criteria and this commentary is collated and provided to assessors, along with the original applications.

Assessment

A diverse panel of five community members from Yarra (known as the panel) assesses the nominations. They carefully consider each nominee and decide on the winners for

each category. The community panel's combined knowledge and experience ensure the process is fair and transparent.

Nominations are evaluated on the criteria. The panel is also expected to give consideration as to how the nominee and their efforts have addressed intersectionality (i.e., understanding how different parts of someone's identity overlap and affect their life experiences) in evaluating how they have supported Yarra's values of promoting diversity and inclusion for our diverse community, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, LGBTIQ+ individuals, people from various cultural and linguistic backgrounds, people with disabilities, and people of all genders and ages.

The Mayor of Yarra City Council chairs the panel meeting but does not take part in the assessment process. The community deliberations are documented by Council officers, including the names of any panel members and relevant experience.

Decision-making

Council officers record the outcomes of the panel assessment and prepare a report listing the nominees and recording winners for each category which is presented to the Chief Executive Officer of the Yarra City Council for consideration and final approval.

Terms and conditions

1. Entries for the 2024 Yarra Community Awards are open from Monday 20 May 2024 to Sunday 30 June 2024. Entries must be received on or before the closing time.
2. The awards will be announced on Thursday 12 December 2024 at a special Awards Ceremony.
3. Individuals and community groups cannot be awarded in the same category more than once; for instance, a person cannot receive the Citizen of the Year award multiple times, nor can a group win the Community Initiative of the Year award again.
4. Previous award recipients are eligible for recognition in different categories, allowing for a wide-ranging acknowledgment of their varied contributions to the community.
5. Previous unsuccessful individuals and groups that have been nominated previously can be nominated again, provided that the nomination is updated.
6. Yarra City Council staff and Councillors are unable to nominate or be nominated.
7. The Community Awards Selection Panel members are unable to nominate or be nominated.
8. An individual is unable to nominate themselves.
9. Other than the Community Initiative of the Year category, an official representative of a group, for example the manager, is unable to nominate their own group. However, someone outside the group or a participant, for example student or parent of a group can nominate the group.
10. Nominees can only be nominated for one category.
11. A separate form must be completed for multiple nominations.
12. All entries must be submitted on the official nomination form online. However, if you need assistance with completing the form, please contact the Community Development Officer at volunteer@yarracity.vic.gov.au or on (03) 9205 5437.
13. Official nomination forms must be completed in full, and all required details provided by 11.59pm on Sunday 30 June 2024 to be considered a valid nomination.
14. Winners will be decided by the Community Awards Selection Panel. Judging is based on a scoring matrix against the selection criteria for the selected Award category. Nominations with the highest combined scores will be selected as the winner for each category.
15. Nominees, nominators or referees may be contacted for further information by Yarra City Council staff.
16. The Selection Panel may consider a nomination to go into a different category other than the one they were nominated for by the nominee, if deemed more appropriate. This may happen at the eligibility checking phase and/or the judging phase.

17. All enquiries and submitted information in regard to the awards will remain confidential (with the exception of winners) unless permission is obtained by Yarra City Council.
18. Photos, videos, and audio recordings taken at the Awards Ceremony will be used by Yarra City Council for promotional purposes unless otherwise advised by an attendee.
19. All judges' decisions are final, and no correspondence will be entered into relating to the decision.
20. Eligible nominees who are not selected for an Award will receive a certificate of appreciation.
21. All eligible nominees plus a guest, and all nominators will be invited to attend the Awards ceremony where winners for each category will be announced, and prizes/ certificate of recognition will be presented.
22. Yarra City Council complies with the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Health Records Act 2001 where required to do so, in respect of the collection, management and disclosure of personal information. For more information, including our Privacy Policy visit www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/privacy.

Full Description of Categories

Citizen of the Year

The Citizen of the Year is an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to improving the quality of life for members of the Yarra community, demonstrated exceptional leadership that inspired others as a role model, possess special skills, talents and attributes to stand out.

Judging criteria:

- Aged 26 years or older (at 1 July 2023).
- Must be a current Yarra resident.
- Has made a significant contribution to the Yarra community over the past year.
- Shows leadership and is a positive role model for others.
- Supports community values, including:
 - Cultural harmony
 - Equality and equity
 - Improve community health and wellbeing
 - Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Young Citizen of the Year

The Young Citizen of the Year is an individual under 25, who has made an exceptional contribution to improving the quality of life for members of the Yarra community, demonstrated exceptional leadership that inspired others as a role model, possess special skills, talents and attributes to stand out.

Judging criteria:

- Aged between 12 and 25 years (at 1 July 2023)
- Must be a current Yarra resident.
- Has made a significant contribution to the Yarra community over the past year.
- Shows leadership and is a positive role model for others.
- Supports community values, including:
 - Cultural harmony
 - Equality and equity
 - Improve community health and wellbeing

- Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Community Initiative of the Year

An initiative undertaken by a group of people, event, campaign or movement that has had a significant positive and meaningful impact on the Yarra community over the past year. This may include a group that was formed specifically to deliver a project, or campaign.

Judging criteria:

- Can be presented to a group, event, campaign or movement (not an individual).
- Initiative has had a significant contribution to the Yarra community over the past year.
- Supports community values, including:
 - Cultural harmony
 - Equality and equity
 - Improve community health and wellbeing
 - Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Contribution to Arts & Culture

This category recognises contributions to the thriving and evolving creative experience in Yarra.

This category also recognises contributions to the protection and enhancement of Yarra's history. Yarra has a rich history and is home to several historical buildings and sites that are of interest and value to the community.

Heritage can relate to tangible features such as buildings, precincts, landscapes, streetscapes, archaeological sites, objects, collections and records, or to intangible elements such as cultural practices, stories, traditions, folklore and other knowledge that is inherited over generations.

Judging criteria:

- Can be presented to an individual or group
- Recipient has made a significant contribution to the areas of creative arts, culture, or heritage in the Yarra community over the past year.
- Supports community values, including:

- Cultural harmony
- Equality and equity
- Improve community health and wellbeing
- Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Contribution to Sport

This category recognises contributions to organised sport and encouraging physical activity in Yarra. We encourage physical activity as a part of everyday life for people of all ages and abilities.

Judging criteria:

- Can be presented to an individual or group
- Recipient has made a significant contribution to sports and physical activity in the Yarra community over the past year.
- Supports community values, including:
 - Cultural harmony
 - Equality and equity
 - Improve community health and wellbeing
 - Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Contribution to Sustainability

This category recognises contributions made by a group or an individual initiating a project, program or activity that delivers genuine and measurable action in direct response to the climate emergency or an environmental issue relevant to Yarra.

This might include advocacy for climate action, reducing carbon emissions, supporting circular economy, valuing biodiversity, supporting local food systems, building social connections and influencing the community to take sustainable climate action.

Judging criteria:

- Can be presented to an individual or group
- Recipient has made a significant contribution to the areas of environmental sustainability in the Yarra community over the past year.
- Supports community values, including:

- Cultural harmony
- Equality and equity
- Improve community health and wellbeing
- Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Contribution to Diversity & Inclusion

This category recognises contributions to making sure that all people can participate in community life in Yarra. We value our diversity, where people of all ages, genders, sexualities, abilities, incomes, educations, languages, cultures and backgrounds feel welcome and connected.

Judging criteria:

- Can be presented to an individual or group
- Recipient has made a significant contribution to the areas of diversity and inclusion in the Yarra community over the past year.
- Supports community values, including:
 - Cultural harmony
 - Equality and equity
 - Improve community health and wellbeing
 - Community connectedness: How the nominee connects with diverse communities such as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTIQ+, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people, People with a Disability, gender, young people and older people.

Frequently asked questions

When are nominations due?

Nominations must be submitted by Sunday 30 June 2024.

Is there an entry fee?

No, there is no fee for submitting a nomination.

Can I nominate myself?

No, individuals cannot nominate themselves.

A member of a community organisation may nominate their own organisation; however, the nominator and the organisation's primary contact cannot be the same person.

Can I nominate an individual or group outside of the City of Yarra?

Other than the Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year categories, the nominee does not have to be a resident of Yarra, but they must have made a significant positive contribution to the Yarra community in the past year.

Do I have to complete the nomination in one sitting?

No. Once you have started an online nomination, you will be able to save your progress and complete it at a later date if required. However, incomplete entries will not be assessed once nominations have closed.

How many nominations can I submit?

You can submit as many nominations for individuals or group as you like. However, you can only submit one entry per nominee.

Do I have to make a nomination online?

If you are unable to complete a nomination online, there is an option for the nomination to be done using a PDF form. This can be provided by email, or if further assistance is required you can contact the Community Development Officer at volunteer@yarracity.vic.gov.au or phone (03) 9205 5437.

Do I have to tell the person or group that I am nominating them?

Yes, by submitting a nomination you confirm that the person or group has agreed to be nominated.

How do I know if my nomination form has been submitted properly?

You will receive an automatic confirmation email to say we have your nomination form. Don't forget to check your "junk" mail in case it went there. If you did not get this email, please check that you hit the "save & submit" button on the last page of the nomination form.

How are nominations assessed and Award winners selected?

Each nomination is reviewed by Council Officers to confirm it is eligible.

A judging panel (Community Awards Selection Panel) will consider all eligible nominations and rate each against the description for the selected Award category. The winner of each category will be the nominee with the highest combined scores.

When will the Awards be announced and presented?

Awards will be presented at an official ceremony in December 2024 at the Richmond Town Hall. Full details will be shared with nominators and recipients.

What are some tips on writing a quality nomination submission?

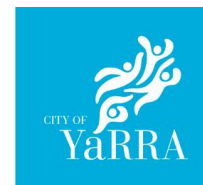
Your responses to the section criteria questions are all about quality over quantity! When providing information about your nominee, it is important to highlight their outstanding contributions, therefore add examples with as much detail as possible including:

- relevant dates of their major achievements;
- how long the nominee has been involved in the activity they are being nominated for and the degree of their contribution;
- explain how the nominee been an inspiration, role model, shown leadership or overcome challenges; and/or
- note if they have won other awards or been acknowledged in other ways.

Consider including supporting documentation such as photos, articles, personal references and other relevant information. These can be attached as files or weblinks.

Community Awards Selection Panel

TERMS OF REFERENCE



Type	Selection Panel
Objectives	The key role of the Selection Panel is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assess all nominations; and • decide on a winner for each award category.
Membership	Five (5) members of the community. The total voting number required is three (3) per Selection Panel to reach a quorum.
Chair	The deliberation day meeting shall be chaired by the Mayor. The Mayor will not formally participate in the decision making.
Selection Criteria	Members are selected on the basis of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a strong link to the City of Yarra: people who live, work, volunteer, study or have another connection to Yarra; • a reasonable representation to reflect the diverse community: consideration to factors such as gender, cultural background and age are given when appointing members; • relevant experience, and knowledge of the Yarra community; • a balance of continuing and new members, where possible; • previous community award winners and previous or current members of Council's advisory committees and/or community grants panel are eligible for this role. <p>The CEO will approve the membership of the panel.</p>
Tenure	Members will be appointed for a term of two (2) years and are eligible for re-appointment. A member may resign through advising Council in writing.
Meeting arrangements and structure	One meeting will be held per year. The meeting will be chaired by the Mayor.
Assessment structure	The Awards assessment process will comprise of the following stages: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council Officers process all nominations, including vetting for eligibility. 2. Selection Panel independently assess all nominations (online) using selection criteria and scoring matrix. 3. Selection Panel will meet to decide on winners of each category. 4. The recommendations of the Selection Panel will be forwarded to the CEO for approval.

	Selection Panel members are invited as a guest to attend the ceremonial awards event.
Commitment	The commitment requirements of panel member role includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessing (up to 100) nomination forms over a period of 3 weeks; and • attending a deliberation meeting for approximately 2–3 hours.
Support to Selection Committee members	Council Officers will provide administrative support to the Panel throughout the duration of the assessment process, including an induction and training on assessing nominations using an online platform.
Conflict of Interest	New Selection Panel members will be inducted on Council’s Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct requirements. Selection Panel members are required to declare any potential or perceived conflict of interests and complete the Conflict-of-Interest section of each Nomination Assessment form prior to assessing any nomination application. During the deliberation meeting, Panel members will be required to exit the room where there is a conflict of interest. Panel members will not advocate for the needs of any one organisation or individual through the assessment process.
Confidentiality	Selection Panel members are required to treat all information through the scoring process with sensitivity and maintain confidentiality. Agreement of confidentiality is required including detailed in Nomination Assessment form prior to assessing any nomination applications.
Special requirements	The Community Awards Selection Panel members are unable to nominate or be nominated for an award whilst holding position in this role.
Review	The Terms of Reference will be reviewed every 2 years and updated as required.

Key Dates for 2024 Community Awards Selection Panel process*

*timeframe subject to change

Monday 20 May	Expressions of Interest to join Selection Panel open.
Sunday 30 June	Deadline for Expressions of interest to join Selection Panel.
From 8 July	Onboarding, overview of role and training in online assessment.
15 July – 4 August	Assessment period for Selection Panel to score nominations (3 weeks in own time).
Mid-August	Selection Panel meet to select award winners (deliberation day) approx. 2–3hrs.
Thursday 12 December	Awards will be presented at ceremonial event.

DRAFT

7.8 Maintenance of Department of Transport and Planning assets

Reference	D24/103347
Author	Sam Hewett - General Manager Infrastructure and Environment
Authoriser	General Manager Infrastructure and Environment
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. When considering significant cost-shifting from the State Government to Yarra, Council recently resolved to re-negotiate the Municipal Maintenance Agreement (MMA) with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) for Council's maintenance of State Government-owned roads.
2. The MMA articulates maintenance obligations of Council for these roads which includes activities such as street sweeping, tree and weed management, grass cutting and litter management.
3. Council's resolution in November 2023 called for a fairer financial agreement for Yarra's ratepayers.
4. For the past 5 months officers have been attempting to negotiate a better deal with DTP but with modest success. DTP has advised on several occasions that there will be no additional funding available for Yarra's service delivery.
5. This report outlines the progress of the negotiations and recommends aligning maintenance efforts to the reimbursement Council receives for the services provided.

Critical analysis

History and background

6. Council has been maintaining State Government-owned roads at a cost of over \$1m and is being reimbursed by the State to approximately \$90,000 annually. The net cost of this service is being borne by Yarra ratepayers.
7. The DTP roads that Council maintains are listed below. Various service levels are delivered (daily/weekly/monthly) depending on the road and the service required.

Road	Road
Alexandra Pde	Johnston St
Burnley St	Nicholson St
Bridge Rd	Punt Rd
Barkly St	Princes St
Brunswick St	Queens Pde
Chandler Hwy	Swan St
Church St	St Georges Rd
George St	Victoria St
Hoddle St	Victoria Rd
Heidelberg Rd	Yarra Blvd

8. At its meeting of 14 November 2023, Council resolved:
- That Council:*
- (a) *reiterates its concern with cost shifting arrangements that unfairly transfers the responsibility and cost for maintaining the State Government's assets to the Yarra community;*
 - (b) *endorses the proposed renegotiation of arrangements for the ongoing maintenance of the Department of Transport and Planning's assets throughout the City of Yarra; and*
 - (c) *receives an update from officers once a new agreement with the Department of Transport and Planning has been negotiated and executed.*
9. In the November 2023 report, Council considered the financial implications of maintaining assets that it does not own.
10. It noted that its recently adopted Financial Sustainability Strategy (FSS) included 7 strategic levers which, when implemented, will help to assure Council's long term financial viability. A feature of the FSS is to arrest the cost shifting from other levels of government as stated:
- *"Cost shifting occurs where local government provides a service to the community on behalf of the State and Federal Government. Over time the funds received by local government do not increase in line with the real cost increases."*
11. It also noted its recently adopted advocacy action plan which also references the cost shifting from other levels of government.

Negotiations

12. Council has had many discussions with counterparts at DTP in an attempt to strike a more favourable arrangement for the maintenance efforts carried out on DTP roads.
13. In December 2023, DTP stated that Council should simply provide services in line with the MMA. Officers advised DTP that the annual reimbursement of approximately \$90,000 doesn't nearly cover the cost of the services expected by the MMA. As a result, and to allow negotiations to continue, officers agreed to:
- (a) Street sweeping monthly from January – June 2024 (the MMA calls for street sweeping as required); and
 - (b) Open space management (grass cutting, weed, litter and tree management) 3 times between January – June 2024 (the MMA calls for open space maintenance 6 times annually).
14. In February 2024, DTP wrote to Council and advised that from July 2024:
- (a) Council should sweep roads just twice a year (it will respond to service demands beyond 2 services per year);
 - (b) Council should cease any pit and drainage cleaning (DTP will assume this service);
 - (c) Hazard response work should cease (DTP will assume this service); and
 - (d) Frequency of open space maintenance (grass cutting, weed, litter and tree management) could be reviewed.
15. Officers priced up bi-annual street sweeping and open space maintenance 6 times per year. These costs are included at **Confidential Attachment A**. Councillors are advised that the prices are included in a confidential attachment as Council is currently tendering its own open space management contract and to alert tenderers to competitor pricing would be inappropriate. Negotiations are also still underway with the street sweeping contractor about the cost for servicing for DTP assets.

16. But to summarise:
- (a) DTP will not increase the annual funding for Council to undertake the maintenance of its roads;
 - (b) Open space maintenance will remain unfunded.
17. Officers have advised DTP of this outcome. DTP has advised that should Council stop open space maintenance efforts, it will deliver this service itself, offer a reduced maintenance service and “*will focus on ensuring hazard identification and rectification will occur across the arterial roads to ensure the network remains safe for the community*”.

Discussion

18. Council has undertaken the work on DTP roads through an MoU for many years now and over time the cost to Council has significantly increased with no significant increase in the sum reimbursed to Council.
19. Officers have proposed a series of options to DTP for its consideration:
- (a) A significant increase in the funding available to maintain DTP’s roads:
DTP has repeatedly rejected this option. No further funding will be provided;
 - (b) Reducing the services delivered to match the sum paid (i.e. approximately \$90k):
DTP has suggested this is the most viable option;
 - (c) Ceasing the open space maintenance component of the MMA (grass cutting, weed management, tree management, litter pick up etc) or ceasing the street sweeping component of the MMA:
DTP has indicated biannual street sweeping would be acceptable and suggested open space maintenance could be reviewed but offered no additional funding;
 - (d) Terminating the MMA altogether and agreeing that DTP will engage its own contractors to deliver the services:
DTP has indicated it will assume open space maintenance as required; and
 - (e) Terminating the MMA altogether and DTP engages Council’s existing contractors directly (at its cost) to provide the services:
DTP has rejected this option.
20. Officers are aware of many other Councils looking to renegotiate their MMAs or cease maintenance efforts on DTP roads altogether. These Councils argue that in a rate capped environment, maintaining assets not belonging to local communities is unsustainable. Councils continue to work together as required to advocate to other levels of government on mutually beneficial topics.
21. Some Councils believe that reducing or cancelling service provision is the only way to encourage the State Government to review funding arrangements in MMAs.

Options

22. Council has a number of options available to it including:
- Option 1 – Recommended**
- (a) Council delivers a biannual street sweeping service on DTP roads and which would be delivered on a cost neutral basis and (almost) reimbursed fully by the MMA;
 - (b) Council ceases open space maintenance, hazard response and drainage maintenance on DTP assets – these will be delivered by the assets’ owners, DTP;
 - (c) Council develops a communications program which ensures Yarra’s residents, businesses and visitors are aware of the obligations on DTP to maintain its assets and which provides advice on how people can report service requests for these assets from DTP; and

- (d) Council continues its advocacy efforts with DTP and the relevant State Government Minister to seek increased direct service provision by DTP on its assets within Yarra's municipal boundary.

Option 2 – Not recommended

23. Council delivers a biannual street sweeping service and 6 open space maintenance services annually. This would come at significant cost to ratepayers and ignores Council's previous decisions to arrest cost shifting from other levels of government. It also makes Council's pathway towards financial sustainability more difficult.

Community and stakeholder engagement

24. The Minister for Roads & Road Safety wrote to Council in late 2023 in relation to this matter and said "I encourage an ongoing, collaborative relationship between Yarra City Council, DTP and myself. It is my hope that the City of Yarra will seek to work in true partnership with the Victorian Government on this matter and all others going forward".
25. In January 2024, the Chief Executive Officer wrote to the Minister to express commitment to working with the State. In March 2024, Council Officers advised the Minister's Office that negotiations with her Department have not resulted in a fairer financial arrangement for Yarra's ratepayers and that Council would consider future options at its meeting in April including cessation of open space maintenance, hazard response and drainage maintenance on DTP assets.
26. Subject to Council's decision on this matter, the transition of service provision will occur after 1 July 2024. Officers will ensure residents are aware that open space maintenance on DTP land is entirely an obligation of DTP. Officers have developed effective internal processes to be able to respond promptly to customer requests for service on DTP assets.
27. Should the State Government allocate additional funding in the future towards maintenance of DTP's roads officers will report this to Councillors.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

28. Council Plan 3.4 - Council actively maintains, educates, and implements infrastructure to ensure our streets and public spaces are free of hazards.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

29. There are no known climate emergency and sustainability implications within the report.

Community and social implications

30. A shift in reporting maintenance issues on DTP assets will be required by the Yarra community. This may create resistance from some members of the community and will need to be strongly supported by Council officers to advise our community of those assets that Council is responsible for maintaining and those that are not Council's responsibility.

Economic development implications

31. Delivering outcomes for the community requires an agile and responsive organisation. We are proud of our strong advocacy on issues of community importance. We are committed to good governance, financial stewardship, authentic community engagement and enhancing our culture of continuous improvement.

Human rights and gender equality implications

32. Residents, visitors, and traders are entitled to a clean and pleasant amenity and obligations for ongoing maintenance of the public realm is critical to healthy living. Council will continue to prioritise maintenance efforts on its assets.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

33. There are currently significant costs associated with maintaining DTP owned assets. Up until December 2023, Council was spending in excess of \$1m annually to undertake maintenance activities on State Government roads and being reimbursed \$85,540 (ex GST) in 2023/24. The net cost is being borne by ratepayers.

Legal Implications

34. Council's MoU with DTP makes provision for terminating the agreement – by mutual consent immediately or by absolute discretion with six months' notice. DTP has indicated that cancelling or re-writing the MMA will not be a barrier.
35. DTP has indicated that it will manage risks on assets it owns. Officers remain willing to work with DTP should urgent and emergency maintenance be required.

Conclusion

36. Councillors are asked to note the significant cost to Council for maintaining DTP assets. Officers have spent considerable time attempting to renegotiate the MMA to strike a more favourable deal for Yarra's ratepayers. DTP has indicated that it cannot provide additional funding for Council's efforts.
37. Officers believe that reducing and/or ceasing service provision on State Government-owned roads is the only effective option available to encourage the State Government to seriously review its MMA with Yarra.
38. Officers recommend that services provided by Council on State Government-owned roads match the funding provided by the State for these efforts.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
- (a) advises the Department of Transport and Planning that from 1 July 2024 it will agree to the Department's request to deliver a biannual street sweeping service of State Government-owned roads in Yarra;
 - (b) ceases open space maintenance, drain cleaning and hazard response service delivery on State Government-owned roads from 1 July 2024 and notes that these services will be provided directly by the Department of Transport and Planning itself;
 - (c) develops a communications program which ensures Yarra's residents, businesses and visitors are aware of the obligations of the Department of Transport and Planning to maintain its assets and which provides advice on how people can report service requests for these assets to the Department of Transport and Planning;
 - (d) continues its advocacy efforts to encourage the State Government to increase funding for direct service provision for maintenance on assets it owns within Yarra's municipal boundary; and
 - (e) receives an update from officers should the above advocacy efforts prove successful.

Attachments

- 1 Confidential Attachment A - Maintenance of DTP roads - *Confidential*

7.9 Street Garden Guidelines

Reference	D24/98697
Author	Susan Stanes - Senior Coordinator Design and Place Making
Authoriser	General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to:
 - (a) provide an update on the Street Garden Guidelines project, focusing on the community consultation carried out in late 2023 resulting in subsequent changes to the draft Street Garden Guidelines document;
 - (b) present a summary of the engagement results in relation to the draft Street Garden Guidelines; and
 - (c) seek endorsement of the final Street Garden Guidelines and associated documents, which have been amended in response to community feedback.

Critical analysis

History and background

2. This project was initiated through a General Business Motion at the Council meeting on 14 February 2023. At this meeting, Council resolved:

“That officers bring forward a report to the May cycle of Council on the process for developing Street Garden Guidelines for Community members who wish to contribute to gardening with non-edible plants in public places.”
3. The purpose of the Street Garden Guidelines is:
 - (a) to provide guidance on how the community can plan, plant and maintain the gardens within Yarra’s streetscapes.
4. The guidelines are intended to educate community regarding the various considerations for gardening in streetscapes across Yarra. The guidelines include safety, accessibility and tree protection requirements and makes recommendations around preferred species selections to increase biodiversity.
5. The draft Street Garden Guidelines were prepared and presented at the Council meeting on 14 November 2023, seeking endorsement to carry out community consultation on the draft document.
6. Following this meeting, the consultation on the draft Street Garden Guidelines was launched on Council’s Your Say Yarra page, seeking feedback on the draft Guidelines. The consultation ran between 20 November and 18 December 2023, and 63 responses were received from the community.
7. Officers have reviewed the consultation responses and have prepared an Engagement Report summarising the feedback received (refer *Attachment 1: Street Garden Guidelines – Engagement Report*).
8. The final Street Garden Guidelines have been prepared in response to the feedback received. The Guidelines are divided into three components:

- (a) A pamphlet summarising the key requirements and considerations for people wishing to carry out gardening in streets (refer *Attachment 2: Street Garden Guidelines - Pamphlet*);
- (b) A pamphlet showing a list of 'recommended' and 'do not plant' species (refer *Attachment 3: Street Garden Guidelines – Planting Lists – Pamphlet*); and
- (c) An online questionnaire providing a step-by-step process for interested community members to follow to understand Council's requirements. The online questionnaire will be published on Council's webpage once the final Guidelines have been endorsed.

Community and stakeholder engagement

9. The consultation ran from 20 November to 18 December 2023 and the following activities were carried out:
 - (a) Council's Your Say Yarra page was set up with information about the project, FAQs and with a link to an online survey;
 - (b) Social media posts were scheduled throughout the consultation period;
 - (c) Information was published in Your Say Yarra and Yarra Life email newsletters and as a news item on Council's website;
 - (d) Postcards were delivered at key Council venues including libraries and customer service centres; and
 - (e) Information was displayed on the digital screens within our customer service centres.
 10. The consultation received 63 online copies of the survey from the community, providing useful feedback on the draft Guidelines.
 11. The following questions were asked and received mostly positive feedback:
 - (a) The draft Guidelines clearly explain the steps required to begin planning a street garden; 22% of respondents strongly agreed and 51% agreed;
 - (b) The draft Guidelines clearly explain what cannot be included in your street garden; 30% of respondents strongly agreed and 51% agreed;
 - (c) The draft Guidelines clearly explain your role as a community member and the role of Council in the upkeep of street gardens; 25% of respondents strongly agreed and 52% agreed;
 - (d) The draft Guidelines clearly explain why some plants are prohibited; 30% of respondents strongly agreed and 33% agreed; and
 - (e) The draft Guidelines clearly explain how to prevent street gardens from becoming hazardous and causing accessibility issues; 30% of respondents strongly agreed and 41% agreed.
 12. 59% of respondents answered, 'yes' when asked 'Is there any information that is missing to guide you on installing a garden?' and provided feedback to the following open ended questions:
 - (a) Please outline the information you think is missing; and
 - (b) Are there any other considerations that should be included in these draft Guidelines for planting community street gardens?
 13. The survey respondents were highly engaged and informed members of the community who have a genuine interest in street gardens. Most responses provided detailed and in-depth suggestions on how the guidelines could be improved.
 14. These responses were analysed and broken down into the following key themes:
 - (a) Need for Guidelines; discouraging of community input and enthusiasm;
 - (b) Document Structure; too detailed, process unclear;
-

- (c) Existing street gardens; concerned about garden removal and lack of notification;
 - (d) Maintenance; request for further detail around expectations;
 - (e) Neighbourhood consent and ownership; request for further detail of requirements and the level of Council support queried;
 - (f) Council support; general level of advice and financial or material incentives queried;
 - (g) Additional resources; request for the inclusion of additional interactive links as well as graphic examples of Council supported street gardens;
 - (h) Street garden locations; request for further clarification; and
 - (i) Biodiversity; differing opinions on plant species selection suitability and garden typologies.
15. Some of the themes raised by respondents were already addressed in the draft Guidelines. During community engagement the 'Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire' was not made available. It was raised by respondents that a step-by-step process to seek support for a street garden had not been clearly outlined. This issue will be resolved when the online questionnaire available, which will happen after the Guidelines are endorsed.

Potential issues and considerations

16. The following matters are worth noting for consideration:
- (a) Risk and Safety:
 - (i) The development of the Street Garden Guidelines has been informed by a risk-based approach with the health and safety of our community and the protection of our community assets at the forefront of our decision making; and
 - (ii) This risk-based approach provides assurance that plausible risks have been identified and that controls have been put in place to mitigate against these risks materialising and aligns with Council's Risk Management Framework;
 - (b) Legacy gardens:
 - (i) There are many thousands of existing examples of valued, biodiverse and beautiful street gardens across Yarra. Some of these street gardens may not be fully compliant with the new guidelines. The intent of these guidelines is not to remove existing non-compliant gardens but rather to educate community on the various issues that need to be considered when planting in streetscapes; and
 - (ii) Council is sometimes requested to investigate existing street gardens where a safety, accessibility or tree health concern has been raised. In these instances, Council may be required to modify or remove gardens;
 - (c) Maintenance:
 - (i) When a new street garden is established, the following could occur:
 - It is not well maintained; street amenity, safety, accessibility and tree protection measures may become compromised;
 - The resident responsible for the street garden moves out and the garden is left unmaintained;
 - It becomes a dumping ground for waste, litter and dog poo;
 - (d) Council support:
 - (i) Residents' expectations of the level of Council input (i.e. material and or financial) and support (i.e. community mediation and or customer service queries) could be misguided; and

- (ii) The Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire directs survey users to ‘speak to Council before proceeding’, in instances where there are extra considerations to be taken into account. It is worth noting that this could increase community engagement time with a project appointed Council Officer.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

- 17. The aspirations of the Street Garden Guidelines directly align with the Community Vision. This includes creating high quality places that people feel safe and comfortable in and enabling people to make connections with their community and their local area.
- 18. The principles and practices of the Street Garden Guidelines document align with the Council Plan 2021-25. This includes:
 - (a) Promoting tree planting, greenery and improved water management in streets (Strategic Objective one: Climate and Environment);
 - (b) Providing information on community led ideas for streets to enable people to contribute to and make connections with their community (Strategic Objective two: Social equity and Health);
 - (c) Setting out principles for well designed, safe and welcoming streets that contribute to a sense of place (Strategic Objective four: Place and Nature); and
 - (d) Providing principles for well-designed streets to encourage sustainable transport and prioritise more vulnerable road users such as people walking, wheeling and cycling, people with a disability, children, and older people (Strategic Objective five: Transport and Movement).

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

- 19. The Street Garden Guidelines document encourages community to contribute to the planting and maintenance of vegetation that cools streetscapes, increases urban biodiversity, and improves amenity and safety to encourage people to travel by more sustainable modes of transport.

Community and social implications

- 20. The Guidelines will set out how the community can contribute to improved planting outcomes in Yarra’s streetscapes.
- 21. The Guidelines will encourage people to spend more time in Yarra’s streetscapes and make connections with their community.

Economic development implications

- 22. The principles set out in this document promote high amenity street environments. This will encourage people to spend more time in their neighbourhood and use their local shops and businesses, supporting the local economy.

Human rights and gender equality implications

- 23. A person with a disability has a right to have access to places including public footpaths. The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA) makes it unlawful for public places to be inaccessible to people with a disability. Street gardens can sometimes inadvertently impact the accessibility of streetscapes and footpaths. The Street Garden Guidelines provide guidance on how streets can remain accessible to users of all abilities.
- 24. The document promotes safe, welcoming and inclusive local streetscapes. These principles also seek to make local streets feel safer for more vulnerable members of the community, by ensuring that streetscapes remain accessible environments that encourage more people to use them and result in more passive surveillance.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

25. In order to minimise ongoing financial costs to Council, a formal permit process has not been adopted, with a guideline approach preferred. This is in line with the approach taken by other M9 (inner Melbourne) Councils.
26. There is a cost associated with the removal and rectification of street gardens that are neglected, are impacting tree health or present a safety risk to the public. Encouraging community to undertake street gardening will likely increase this cost over time and will need to be monitored.

Legal Implications

27. There are no legal implications that have been identified following enquiries and advice through Council's insurer.

Conclusion

28. The Street Garden Guidelines provide guidance on how the community can plan, plant and maintain the gardens within Yarra's streetscapes. The guidelines are intended to educate community regarding the various considerations for gardening in streetscapes across the municipality. The guidelines include safety, accessibility and tree protection requirements and makes recommendations around preferred species selections to increase biodiversity.
29. Consultation on the draft Street Garden Guidelines occurred in November - December 2023 and received 63 responses.
30. The final Street Garden Guidelines have been prepared in response to community feedback.

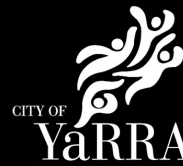
RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
 - (a) endorses the final Street Garden Guidelines;
 - (b) notes that the online questionnaire will be published on Council's webpage following endorsement of the Street Garden Guidelines; and
 - (c) thanks the community for their involvement in the engagement process.

Attachments

- 1 [↓](#) Attachment 1 - Street Garden Guidelines - Engagement Report
- 2 [↓](#) Attachment 2 - Street Garden Guidelines - Pamphlet
- 3 [↓](#) Attachment 3 - Street Garden Guidelines - Planting Lists - Pamphlet

STREET GARDEN GUIDELINES Community Engagement Report



This report details the specifics of the Street Garden Guidelines community engagement and evaluates the participation. The consultation opened on Monday 20 November and was live until Monday 18 December 2023.

Why we ran this consultation?

Yarra City Council is developing Street Garden Guidelines to provide guidance on how the community can plan, plant and maintain gardens within Yarra's streetscapes.

The Guidelines are intended to inform and educate the community about the various considerations for gardening in streetscapes across the municipality. The Guidelines will include safety, accessibility and tree protection requirements; and will recommend preferred species selections to increase biodiversity. The proposed Guidelines need to be finalised and then taken to Council to be endorsed. This project was initiated via a Councillor motion.

Objectives of this engagement

1. To inform community about the Street Garden Guidelines.
2. To seek community feedback on whether there is any information missing in the draft Street Garden Guidelines and whether there are other considerations that should be included in the draft Guidelines when planning community street gardens.

Level of Community influence

Negotiables

The community can influence:

1. Detailed information required to guide community members to install a street garden.
2. Other considerations that we have missed in the Street Garden Guidelines.

Non-negotiables

The community cannot influence:

1. Tree protection measures.
2. Plant heights / Plant offsets.
3. Introducing structures, raised edges and other materials listed in the Guidelines.
4. Amendment of the 'Do Not Plant' list.
5. Removal of gardens that present a safety or accessibility risk or when works are required by Council or service authorities.

What did we ask?

Participants were asked:

1. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about the draft Street Garden Guidelines. Rate from 'Strongly disagree' to 'Strongly agree'.
 - The draft Guidelines clearly explain the steps required to begin planning a street garden,
 - The draft Guidelines clearly explain what cannot be included in your street garden,
 - The draft Guidelines clearly explain your role as a community member and the role of Council in the upkeep of street gardens,
 - The draft Guidelines clearly explain why some plants are prohibited, and

- The draft Guidelines clearly explain how to prevent street gardens from becoming hazardous and causing accessibility issues.
2. Is there any information that is missing to guide you on installing a street garden?
 3. Are there any other considerations that should be included in these draft Guidelines for planting community street gardens?

Methods :

- Online survey on Your Say Yarra webpage

Who did we hear from?

Demographic data was collected via the 63 online copies of the survey.

- Most people who completed this survey (93.65%) live in Yarra. 49.21% indicated that they own a property or mortgage in Yarra and 28.57% work in Yarra.
- More women (63.49%) than men (14.29%) completed this survey, with the remaining people self-described or preferring not to answer this question.
- The most common age range for people who completed this survey was 50-59 (30.16%) followed by 35-49 (19.05%).
- Participants from most suburbs were represented. Most of the people who completed this survey (19.05%) live in Fitzroy North, closely followed by Fitzroy (15.87%), Clifton Hill and Richmond (14.29%).
- We had a good proportion of underrepresented community members taking part, with three out of four of our key target groups completing the survey:
 - Person who speaks a language other than English – 7.94%
 - Person with a disability – 6.35%
 - Member of the LGBTIQ+ community – 11.11%

What's your connection to Yarra?	Numbers	Percentage
I live in Yarra	59	93.65%
I work in Yarra	18	28.57%
I visit Yarra	3	4.76%
I study in Yarra	2	3.17%
I own a property or mortgage in Yarra	31	49.21%
I rent in Yarra	2	3.17%
I own a business in Yarra	7	11.11%
What gender do you identify as?	Numbers	Percentage
Man	9	14.29%
Woman	40	63.49%
Self-described	1	1.59%
I prefer not to say	13	20.63%

What is your age range?	Numbers	Percentage
Under 11	0	0%
12 to 17	0	0%
18 to 24	1	1.59%
25 to 34	6	9.52%
35 to 49	12	19.05%
50 to 59	19	30.16%
60 to 69	11	17.46%
70 to 84	11	17.46%
85 and older	0	0%
I prefer not to say	3	4.76%
What suburb do you live in	Numbers	Percentage
Abbotsford	4	6.35%
Alphington	4	6.35%
Burnley	0	0%
Carlton North	7	11.11%
Clifton Hill	9	14.29%
Collingwood	5	7.94%
Cremorne	0	0%
Fairfield	0	0%
Fitzroy	10	15.87%
Fitzroy North	12	19.05%
Princes Hill	1	1.59%
Richmond	9	14.29%

I live outside of Yarra	2	3.17%
Select all that apply. I am.....	Numbers	Percentage
Someone who speaks a language other than English at home.	5	7.94%
A person living with a disability.	4	6.35%
A member of the LGBTIQA+ community.	7	11.11%
Someone of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent.	0	0%
None of the above.	35	55.56%
I prefer not to say.	13	20.63%

Engagement Reach

Engagement and Communications Activity
Your Say Yarra page containing key information about the project including FAQs and online survey.
Social media posts
Council's email newsletters, included in: Yarra Life, Your Say Yarra EDM and Libraries EDM.
News item (corporate website).
Postcards at key Council venues including Libraries and Customer Service Centres.
Digital Screens within our customer service centres.

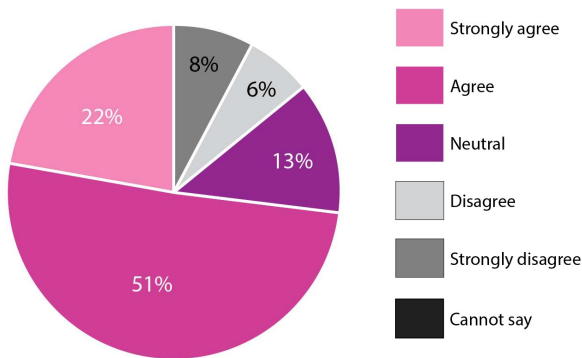
What did we hear?

The online survey contained a mix of agreement matrix, single response and open ended questions.

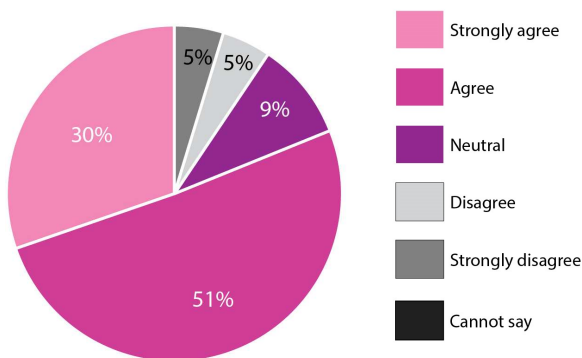
The first question asked the community to rate their level of agreement with 5 statements about the draft Guidelines on a scale from 'strongly disagree' to 'strongly agree'. The results are listed below:

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements about the draft Street Garden Guidelines. Rate from 'Strongly disagree' to 'Strongly agree'.

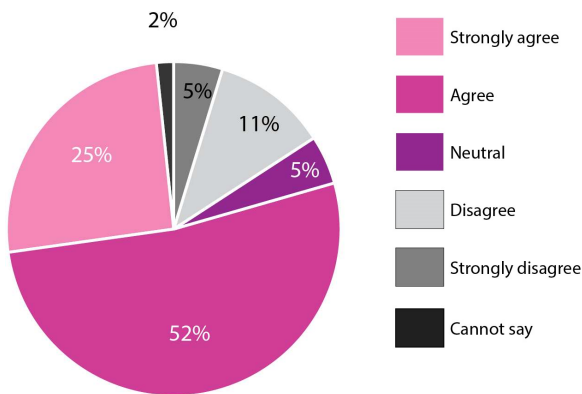
The draft Guidelines clearly explain the steps required to begin planning a street garden.



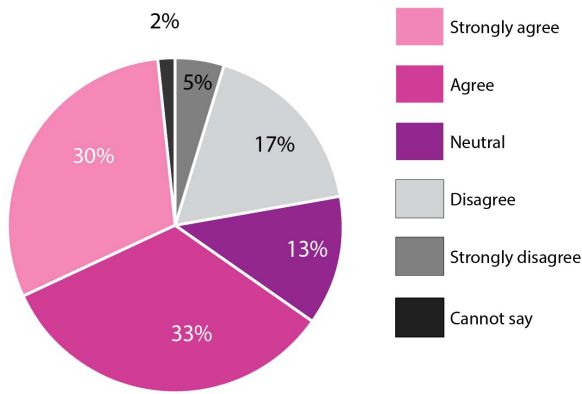
The draft Guidelines clearly explain what cannot be included in your street garden.



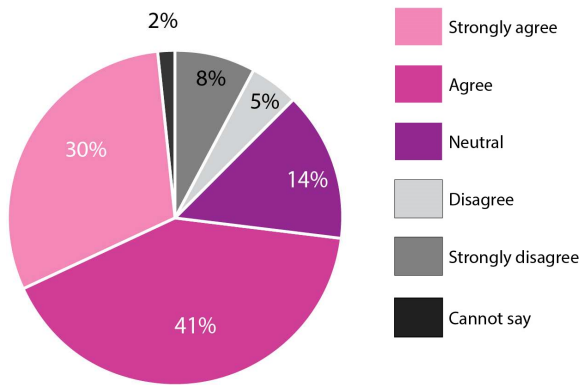
The draft Guidelines clearly explain your role as a community member and the role of Council in the upkeep of street gardens.



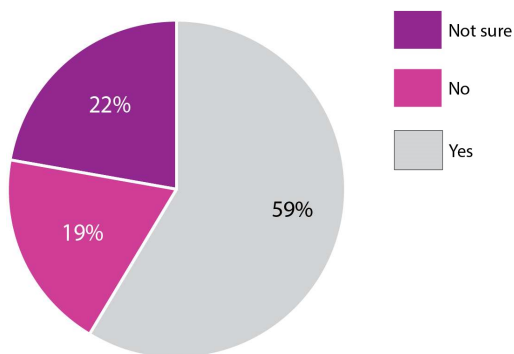
The draft Guidelines clearly explain why some plants are prohibited.



The draft Guidelines clearly explain how to prevent street gardens from becoming hazardous and causing accessibility issues.



The next question asked if there was any missing information.
Is there any information that is missing to guide you on installing a garden?



The final two questions were open ended.

Please outline the information you think is missing (if they answered yes to the previous question).

Are there any other considerations that should be included in these draft Guidelines for planting community street gardens?

The text from these responses was analysed and broken down into the key themes below. Text responses have been combined due to recurring cross over between the two questions.

Feedback Theme 1 – Need for Guidelines	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The question of why the Guidelines were necessary was raised by some, querying the need for more regulation which was felt to discourage community input and enthusiasm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reasons behind the draft Guidelines have been stated on the Your Say Yarra webpage. 'We're supportive of these community street gardens, however there are several issues that need to be considered when planting a street garden to ensure that our streetscapes remain safe, accessible and that plantings do not damage other assets including our street trees'. Council is not intending to discourage future community input and enthusiasm or diminish the value of these beautiful, biodiverse street gardens.
Feedback Theme 2 – Document structure	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft Guidelines are over complicated/too detailed and lacking positivity, making them difficult to understand and discouraging. A step-by-step process to seek support for a street garden has not been clearly outlined. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council officers will take on board feedback in relation to the document structure, we will simplify content where possible whilst making sure that the guideline objectives are preserved. An 'Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire' will be available further to the Guidelines being finalised, which will guide residents through the process step-by-step.
Feedback Theme 3 – Existing street gardens	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns were shared in relation to existing street garden removal and the importance of Council notifying/holding a discussion with residents prior to this action. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft Guidelines included a section on legacy gardens. It was stated, 'there are many existing valued, biodiverse and beautiful street gardens in Yarra. There is no expectation that these gardens be removed, even if they do not fully comply with the guidelines'.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council may need to modify or remove an existing garden if a specific concern is raised regarding safety, accessibility, or tree health. Council reserves the right to do so without consultation or compensation.
Feedback Theme 4 - Maintenance	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A request for further detail covering the maintenance expectations of residents, including but not limited to litter and dog poo controls. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft Guidelines make note of maintenance expectations. The 'Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire' adds to this further. It is expected that the garden is kept tidy, litter and dog poo should be collected and binned as required.
Feedback Theme 5 – Neighbourhood consent and ownership	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A request for further clarification/details on consent requirements from neighbours. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will Council officers offer support with neighbourhood mediation if required and or manage an up-to-date register/contact list? Place additional emphasis on community ownership; still public space, not privately owned 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 'Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire' will inform residents of these requirements. If consent is required from a neighbour and/or any other affected property owner or tenant and is not granted, you are not able to proceed with your street garden. Council will have a log of all submitted questionnaires containing contact details. These details will be recorded for the purposes of the submission only. A street garden is considered to be available and accessible to the local neighbourhood.
Feedback Theme 6 – Council support	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How will Council further support this initiative? Will Council provide any of the following; gardening advice/materials/tools, vehicular protection of garden area/safeguards for pedestrians, signage, financial reimbursement and or improve existing conditions for plants? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street gardens are a community lead initiative and Council provides limited support. As outlined in the draft Guidelines there are certain expectations for residents to work within existing site conditions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council's recycling drop-off centre, located in Clifton Hill, provides a stockpile of mulch for residents to utilise.
Feedback Theme 7 – Additional resources	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A request to include interactive links to relevant resources such as; 'Recommended' and 'Do not plant' species lists, local environmental weeds list, Gardens for Wildlife, Indigenous nurseries (Victorian Indigenous Nurseries Co-Operative VINC and Nangak Tamboree Wildlife Sanctuary Indigenous Nursery), and tool borrowing libraries (Brunswick Tool Library). Provide graphic plans/photographic examples of planting options and 'Recommended' species selections that meet guideline standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As part of the community engagement, Council provided a link to Yarra's 'Recommended' and 'Do Not Plant' Street Garden Species Lists on the Your Say Yarra web page alongside the draft Guidelines. These links will also be made available on Council's website alongside the final Guidelines. Council is also happy to provide the following interactive links as a part of the final Guidelines; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yarra's Gardens for Wildlife booklet Removing Weeds in Yarra and Planting Indigenous Alternatives document Victorian Indigenous Nurseries Co-Operative; VINC Brunswick Tool Library; Brunswick Tool Library. Council encourages residents to get creative with planting design within the restrictions of the Guidelines.
Feedback Theme 8 – Street garden locations	
What did we hear	Our response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clarification on acceptable street garden locations; for example – can residents plant in Council gardens lacking vegetation, parks, laneways, roadside tree squares and median strips. Are there alternative options for people who live in streets that cannot support street gardens due to physical constraints. Can a resident 'adopt' a street garden in a neighbouring street or suburb? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New street garden locations will only be approved if located within an existing lawn nature strip or existing tree square located within the footpath or road. All other locations fall outside of the project scope and are not supported by Council. Negotiations between residents can take place in relation to organising a street garden outside another resident's property or in a neighbouring street. Council advises the consent from the property owner and or tenant of the affected property, prior to filling out the 'Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire' or going ahead with any site works.
Feedback Theme 9 - Biodiversity	
What did we hear	Our response

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differing opinions on plant species suitability. Responses ranged from Indigenous only, to a mix of native and non-native species. • Some additional plant species were suggested for adding to the 'Do not plant' species list. • To further support biodiversity measures it was suggested that an allowance for the placement of natural features such as rocks, logs and water within the street garden area should be permitted. • Place further emphasis on the differences between Street Garden and Urban Agricultural initiatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council encourages Indigenous and Native plant species within the draft Guidelines to help enhance biodiversity in Yarra. However non-native/non-invasive species can also be selected for planting. • Additional weed species suggested for inclusion in the 'Do Not Plant' Street Garden Species List will be considered for inclusion in the updated document. • The Guidelines state the following; 'do not introduce raised structures such as raised edges, planters, pots, rocks or star pickets as these can become trip hazards or impact accessibility for prams, wheelchairs and people who might need assistance with mobility'. This requirement has been included for safety and accessibility reasons. • As part of the engagement, Council provided a link to Yarra's Urban Agricultural Guidelines document on the Your Say Yarra web page for residents interested in planting edible plants. Council does not permit the planting of edible plant species within street gardens.
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There were also other comments/questions in the open-ended questions that were not limited to the project scope of works. These included:

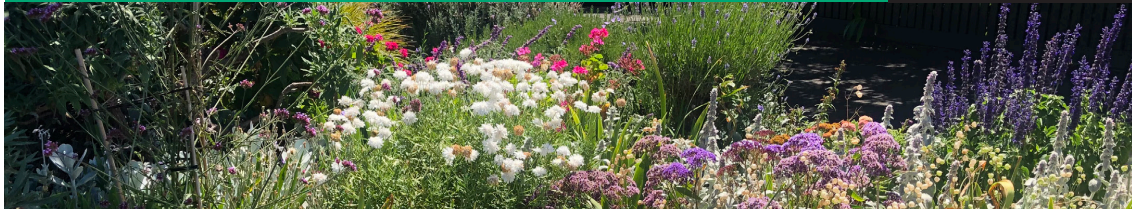
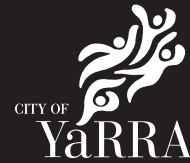
- Council garden beds are not being maintained to a satisfactory level. It was felt unfair as to why there could be one policy/set of rules for residents and seemingly an alternative policy/set of rules for Council.
 - This feedback has been heard and will be passed onto Yarra's Open Space Services team to consider in conjunction with the landscape maintenance contractor.
- Why non-native/non-Indigenous plant species selections were being installed throughout Yarra's existing and new garden bed areas.
 - This feedback has been heard and will be passed onto Yarra's Open Space Services, Biodiversity and Horticultural teams.
- Will Council support requests for new nature strips/permeable garden areas and or consult prior to footpath re-sheeting works to allow for community requests for additional softscape permeable areas?
 - This feedback has been heard and will be passed onto Yarra's Open Space Services and Civil Engineering teams to consider.
- One response received was location specific which will be followed up with an individual email.

Evaluating the engagement

Objective	Evaluation
<p>To inform community about the Street Garden Guidelines</p>	<p>We received 63 responses to the online survey on Your Say Yarra.</p> <p>This is a great outcome, given that the subject matter is quite niche and will only be of interest to a minority of Yarra residents.</p> <p>We used a wide variety of communications methods to reach the Yarra community and inform them about the Guidelines and how to participate in this consultation.</p>
<p>To seek community feedback on whether there is any information missing in the draft Street Garden Guidelines and whether there are other considerations that should be included in the draft Guidelines when planning community street gardens</p>	<p>Most responses provided detailed and in-depth suggestions on how the guidelines could be improved.</p> <p>Survey respondents were highly engaged and informed members of the community who have a genuine interest in street gardens.</p>

Street Garden Guidelines

February 2024



This document provides guidance on the various considerations for community gardening within Yarra's streetscapes.

What is a Street Garden?

A street garden is any non-edible community lead planting initiative in Council managed streetscapes. These gardens are supported by Council and cared for by the community. Planting options include planting within your lawn nature strip or planting within an existing tree square located within the footpath or road. Council does not permit any planting in Council managed street garden beds.

Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire

The [Online Yarra Street Garden Questionnaire](#) can tell you if Council recommends planting your street garden. It will also help you understand the Street Garden Guidelines, taking you through them step-by-step.

Consultation

Your street garden is a communal, public space - you need consent from your neighbours, and/or any other affected property owner or tenants before you start gardening.

Utilities and Services

There could be important underground utilities beneath your street garden. Contact [Before You Dig Australia](#) for free information about relevant underground services.

Utility companies may need to access their infrastructure for upgrades or repairs at any time which may result in damage to or removal of your street garden without consultation or compensation.

More information

If you would like to know more about this project, contact us on **9205 5555** or info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

Gardener Safety

Remember to always consider your safety and the safety of others when gardening, particularly when gardening near roads. Consider wearing hi-vis clothing when gardening near roadways.

Soil contamination is common across the City of Yarra. Consider testing your soil for contamination and following the [EPA's top tips for gardening safely](#).

Street Garden Maintenance

Plant material must be maintained in your street garden and not become weedy, overgrown or neglected.

Council reserves the right to remove street gardens, without consultation or compensation, that are not maintained or present a risk to Council assets, to public safety or to public accessibility.

Legacy Gardens

There are many existing valued, biodiverse and beautiful street gardens in Yarra. There is no expectation that these gardens be removed, even if they do not fully comply with the guidelines. However, if a specific concern is raised regarding safety, accessibility or tree health, Council may be required to modify or remove gardens to ensure public safety.

Edible Planting

Council does not permit the planting of edible plant species within street gardens. If you are planting edible plants, please refer to [Yarra's Urban Agriculture Guidelines](#) for general information and to determine if your street is suitable for a Street-side food garden.

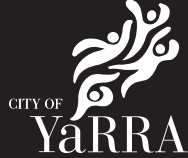
National Relay Service

TTY 133 677 then (03) 9205 5555

Languages	Italiano	9280 1931
العربية	Español	9280 1935
中文	Tiếng Việt	9280 1939
Ελληνικά	Other	9280 1940

Street Garden Guidelines

February 2024



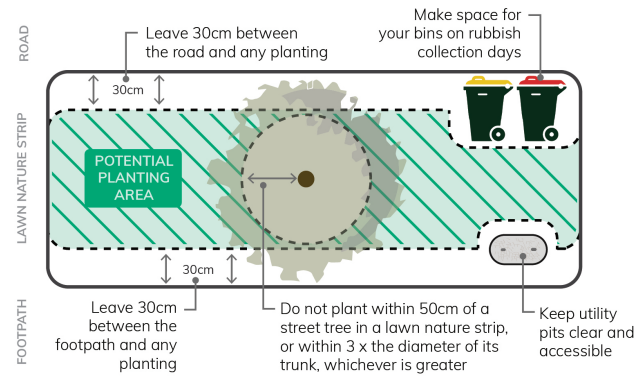
Gardening Guidelines

- Do not plant within 30cm of the road or footpath when planting in a lawn nature strip.
- Plants must not reduce the path of travel along footpaths to below 1.5m wide.
- Street garden plants are subject to a 1m height restriction. A 50cm height restriction applies to plants in tree square or plants within 10m of intersections or pedestrian crossings.
- Only plants, soil and mulch are permitted in your street garden. You are not permitted to introduce any other materials or objects into your street garden (e.g. synthetic turf, paving, decorative gravel, furniture or art).
- Do not introduce raised structures such as raised edges, planters, pots, rocks or star pickets as these can become trip hazards or impact accessibility for prams, wheelchairs and people who might need assistance with mobility.
- Space must be allocated for bin collection services.
- Access to disability parking bays and loading zones must be maintained.
- Keep utility pits clear and accessible.
- You cannot install irrigation.
- The species you select could impact biodiversity. Please refer to Yarra's '[Do Not Plant](#)' and '[Recommended](#)' Street Garden Species Lists. This is particularly important if your street garden is within 100m of a waterway.
- Contact Council if your street garden is close to a busy commercial area or activity centre as it is particularly important that accessibility and viewlines are not impacted in these busy streets.

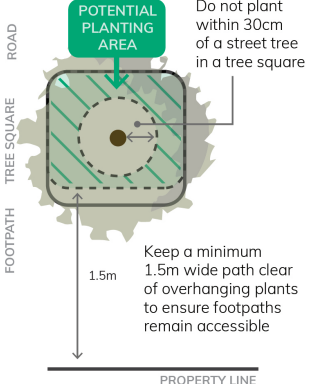
Gardening Near Street Trees

- You are not permitted to plant any new trees on public land. Please reach out to Council if you would like to place a request for a new tree to be planted.
- Only use small hand tools and take care to not damage any roots when digging within the vicinity of street trees. If you uncover tree roots, do not cut, scrape or damage them. Any roots that are uncovered during the process should be reburied to keep them healthy.
- Keep the soil and mulch at existing levels below the tree canopy, extensive digging or any mounding of soil can damage tree roots. Do not mound soil, mulch or grass clippings against the tree trunk as this can cause disease. Residents can get free mulch from the Clifton Hill recycling drop-off centre.
- When planting in a tree square do not plant within 30cm of the tree trunk and keep plant heights below 50cm. Do not plant within a Greenwell (plastic ring surrounding the root ball).
- When planting around a tree in a lawn nature strip, do not plant within 50cm or 3 times the trunk diameter (whichever is greater).
- Do not water a new tree (under 2 years old) as these trees are watered as part of their establishment maintenance.
- If the health of an existing street tree is being affected by your street garden, or if the tree needs to be removed or replanted, your street garden may be removed without consultation.

LAWN NATURE STRIPS



TREE SQUARES



Recommended Street Garden Species List

February 2024



The following is a list of plant species that Yarra Council recommends for street gardens. These species are hardy, drought tolerant natives that are appropriate for tough streetscape environments and will help to enhance biodiversity in Yarra.

If selecting plants outside of this list, please consider using native species, or species Indigenous to Yarra.

For further guidance on species that are locally native to the City of Yarra please refer to [Yarra's Gardens for Wildlife booklet](#) or make a visit to the [Victorian Indigenous Nurseries Co-Op](#) located in Fairfield.

If selecting non-native/non-Indigenous plant species, please do not plant species on [Yarra's 'Do Not Plant' Street Garden Species List](#) or other invasive species.

Scientific Name	Common Name
Groundcover Species (under 30cm height)	
<i>Callistemon pearsonii</i> 'Rocky Rambler'	Bottlebrush
<i>Carpobrotus modestus</i>	Inland Pigface
<i>Dampiera diversifolia</i>	Dampiera
<i>Enchylaena tomentosa</i>	Ruby Saltbush
<i>Eremophila glabra</i> (prostrate form)	Emu Plant
<i>Hibbertia scandens</i>	Snake Vine
<i>Myoporum parvifolium</i>	Creeping Boobialla
Small Flowering Species (under 50cm height)	
<i>Brachyscome multifida</i>	Cut Leaf Daisy
<i>Calocephalus citreus</i>	Lemon Beauty-heads
<i>Chrysocephalum apiculatum</i>	Common Everlasting
<i>Grevillea lanigera</i> 'Mt Tamboritha'	Grevillea Mt Tamboritha
<i>Stellaria pungens</i>	Prickly Starwort
<i>Wahlenbergia stricta</i>	Tall Bluebell
Mid-Height Flowering Species (under 1m height)	
<i>Dianella revoluta</i>	Blue Flax Lily
<i>Hardenbergia violacea</i>	Coral Pea
<i>Pelargonium australe</i>	Austral Stork's Bill
<i>Plectranthus argentatus</i>	Silver spurflower
<i>Pycnosorus globosus</i>	Billy Buttons
<i>Xerochrysum viscosum</i>	Paper Daisy
Mid-Height Grasses (under 1m height)	
<i>Austrostipa stipoides</i>	Prickly Speargrass
<i>Lomandra confertifolia</i>	Mat Rush
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny-headed Mat Rush
<i>Poa morrisii</i>	Velvet Tussock-grass
<i>Themeda triandra</i>	Kangaroo Grass

More information

If you would like to know more about this project, contact us on **9205 5555** or info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

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Do Not Plant Street Garden Species List

February 2024



The following list of plant species are known environmental weeds and negatively impact local biodiversity. These species can be detrimental to nearby biodiversity corridors and waterways.

Council avoids these plants and actively removes them whenever possible. We encourage residents to help by not planting them or any species that are spikey or toxic.

This list is shortlisted for street gardens and is not a complete list of all local environmental weeds. For further detail on weeds in Yarra, please refer to [Yarra's Gardens for Wildlife booklet](#) as well as the [Removing Weeds in Yarra and Planting Indigenous Alternatives](#) document.

Name	Image	Name	Image
Agapanthus <i>Agapanthus</i> spp.		Paterson's Curse <i>Echium plantagineum</i>	
Madeira Vine <i>Anredera cordifolia</i>		English Ivy <i>Hedera helix</i>	
Moth Plant <i>Araujia sericifera</i>		Morning Glory <i>Ipomoea indica</i>	
Bridal Creeper <i>Asparagus asparagoides</i>		Wandering Trad <i>Tradescantia</i> spp.	
Mother of Millions <i>Bryophyllum</i> spp		Blue Periwinkle <i>Vinca major</i>	
Fountain Grass <i>Cenchrus setaceus</i>		Arum lily <i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	

More information

If you would like to know more about this project, contact us on **9205 5555** or info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

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7.10 Facility name for the new Collingwood kindergarten

Reference	D24/108428
Author	Malcolm Foard - Manager Youth, Family and Children's Services
Authoriser	General Manager Community Strengthening
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. To seek Council's endorsement to use the Woi -Wurrung name for Collingwood, 'Yallabirrang', in the naming of the Collingwood Kindergarten, located on the site of Collingwood College.

Critical analysis

History and background

2. Yarra City Council delivers kindergarten services in Yarra, including through direct service delivery of four sessional kindergarten programs and three integrated kindergarten programs within the long day care programs.
3. The Victorian Government has committed significant funding to support its reform policy to deliver increased universal kindergarten across the state. This year, free kinder has been made available for all Victorian three- and four-year-old children at participating services in both standalone (sessional) services and long day care (childcare) settings. Over the next decade, four-year-old kindergarten will transition to 'Pre-Prep' – increasing to a universal 30-hour a week program.
4. Council has been heavily involved in preparing for these changes, including through leading the development of our Kindergarten Infrastructure and Service Plan (KISP) with the Department of Education. This plan is currently under review and aims to document kindergarten supply and demand in the City of Yarra and by providing a 'roadmap' for positioning Council and other providers to secure funding for kindergarten expansion and redevelopment.
5. Based on the outcomes of Council's inaugural KISP, Council applied to the State Government Building Blocks Grant program in 2021 for funding for a new 66 place kindergarten to be built on the grounds of Collingwood College. The application was successful, and a funding agreement was signed in February 2022.
6. The building project was delivered in partnership with the Victorian School Building Authority and Collingwood College. Works to deliver the building commenced in 2023 and the service was opened for use in February 2024.
7. In October 2023, officers engaged with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to seek permission to name the Collingwood Kindergarten Yallabirrang Kindergarten. Permission was granted on 5 February 2024 (**Attachment One**).
8. The building does not sit under the Council's Place Naming Policy, as kindergartens do not fall under the definition as outlined in the Geographic Place Names Act 1998. Therefore, no formal procedure is required for this renaming process.

Discussion

9. In acknowledgement of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung as the Traditional Owners of the land and Council's commitments under the Yana Ngargna Plan, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation has approved the Woi Wurrung name for Collingwood - *Yallabirrang* Kindergarten.
10. The name Yallabirrang was ascertained by Deakin University following a research project with Melbourne Museum. This research uncovered several local place names, including for Collingwood, found in notes which '*appear to be records of conversations Howitt had with ngurungaeta (leader) of the Wurundjeri William Barak, and his fellow Kulin countryman, Dick Richards, sometime between 1897 and 1901*'.

Community and stakeholder engagement

11. Officers engaged with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation through the Corporation's established naming protocols. Approval for the name has been provided by the assigned Wurundjeri elder. Approval was sought for the name Yallabirrang Kindergarten and also for room names Biik, meaning land/country and Wiin, meaning fire (See **Attachments Two and Three**).
12. Representatives of the building owner, Department of Education and Collingwood College, have been consulted through the project control group. The stakeholder group has agreed with the proposed name and rationale for the name.
13. Kindergarten aged children and their families at the Keele Street Children's Centre and Gold Street Children's Centre in Collingwood were further engaged in a child-friendly consultation regarding the kindergarten name and room names.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

14. Naming the new kindergarten with connection to the language and place names of the Traditional Owners of the land aligns to the community vision of inclusive environment, embracing diversity and connections to each other and the land.
15. This aligns with Strategic Objective two: Social Equity and Health by celebrating, respecting, and embracing Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung heritage and with Strategic Objective four: Place and Nature through encouraging children and families to connect with Yarra's natural and cultural heritage.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

16. Through the room names, encouraging children to connect to the land diversity of their local environment, particularly the natural feature observed by the children during their bush kindergarten adventures at Dights Falls.

Community and social implications

17. Increased usage of Woi Wurrung language in the early years supports educators to embed respect for and understanding of First Nations culture and connectedness to place and environment.
18. Woi Wurrung language strengthens the existing commitment of the Collingwood College school community in acknowledging the traditional custodians of the land on which the kindergarten is situated, as evidenced by the Yallabirrang learning story fence, situated along the Hoddle Street fence line of the school.

Economic development implications

19. No economic development implications were identified for this report.

Human rights and gender equality implications

20. The restoration of First Nations place names respects and acknowledges the true custodians of this land, namely the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

21. The cost for the ongoing use of the Woi Wurrung name for the kindergarten is \$3,500 and \$550 for the room naming translation.

Legal Implications

22. No legal implications were identified for this report.

Conclusion

23. This report seeks endorsement from Council to adopt the Woi -Wurrung name for Collingwood, 'Yallabirrang', in the naming of the Collingwood Kindergarten.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council:
- (a) notes that officers have consulted and engaged with the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to seek permission to use Woi-Wurrung language in the naming of the new kindergarten at Collingwood College;
 - (b) notes that permission has been provided to Council by the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation to use Woi-Wurrung language in the naming of the new kindergarten at Collingwood College;
 - (c) endorses the Woi -Wurrung name of Collingwood, 'Yallabirrang', in the naming of the Collingwood Kindergarten; and
 - (d) notes that officers, in consultation with Collingwood College representatives, will update its signage and service material to reflect the naming of the Yallabirrang Kindergarten.

Attachments

- [1](#) Attachment 1 - Collingwood Kindergarten Language Certificate- Yallabirrang
- [2](#) Attachment 2 - Collingwood Kindergarten Language Certificate-biik
- [3](#) Attachment 3 - Collingwood Kindergarten Language Certificate-wiin



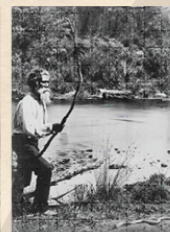
Wurundjeri
Woi-wurrung

Cultural Heritage
Aboriginal Corporation

This is to Certify that the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Aboriginal Corporation
has endorsed the use of the following Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language:

Translation in Woi-wurrung Language

Yallabirrang Kindergarten meaning Collingwood Kindergarten



Expiry date for use of language: ongoing

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
Providence Building, Abbotsford Convent, 1 St Heliers Street Abbotsford VIC 3067
P: 9416 2905 | E: reception@wurundjeri.com.au | W: www.wurundjeri.com.au



Wurundjeri
Woi-wurrung

Cultural Heritage
Aboriginal Corporation

This is to Certify that the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Aboriginal Corporation
has endorsed the use of the following Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language:

Translation in Woi-wurrung Language

biik
meaning
land/country



Expiry date for use of language: ongoing

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
Providence Building, Abbotsford Convent, 1 St Heliers Street Abbotsford VIC 3067
P: 9416 2905 | E: reception@wurundjeri.com.au | W: www.wurundjeri.com.au



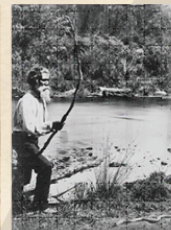
Wurundjeri
Woi-wurrung

Cultural Heritage
Aboriginal Corporation

This is to Certify that the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Aboriginal Corporation
has endorsed the use of the following Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung language:

Translation in Woi-wurrung Language

wiin
meaning
fire



Expiry date for use of language: ongoing

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation
Providence Building, Abbotsford Convent, 1 St Heliers Street Abbotsford VIC 3067
P: 9416 2905 | E: reception@wurundjeri.com.au | W: www.wurundjeri.com.au

7.11 Governance report - April 2024

Reference	D24/75020
Author	Rhys Thomas - Senior Governance Advisor
Authoriser	General Manager Governance, Communications and Customer Experience
Disclosure	The authoriser, having made enquiries with members of staff involved in the preparation of this report, asserts that they are not aware of any general or material conflicts of interest in relation to the matters presented.

Purpose

1. The Governance Report is prepared as a periodic report to Council which provides a single reporting platform for a range of statutory compliance, transparency and governance related matters.

Critical analysis

History and background

2. To ensure compliance with the Local Government Act 2020 and in accordance with best practice and good governance principles, transparency and accountability, this standing report consolidates a range of governance and administrative matters.
3. Matters covered in this report are:
 - (a) Upcoming Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal determination;
 - (b) Biannual Personal Interests Returns; and
 - (c) Councillor attendance at ALGA National General Assembly.

Discussion

Upcoming Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal determination

4. On 27 March 2024, the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal published notice of its intention to make a Determination providing for an annual adjustment to the values of allowances payable to Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors, and called for submissions from interested persons or bodies.
5. The current annual allowances for Yarra's Councillors are \$39,390 (Councillors), \$65,195 (Deputy Mayor) and \$130,390 (Mayor).
6. The Tribunal proposes to make the Determination in June 2024, ahead of an effective date of 1 July 2024.
7. In accordance with section 24(1) of the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019, the Tribunal makes a determination annually, and provides an opportunity for interested parties to be heard before making a decision.
8. It has not been practice for Council itself to make a submission in this annual process, but Councillors and members of the public are alerted to this opportunity to make a contribution.
9. Those wishing to make an oral submission must advise the Tribunal Secretariat by 5pm on Friday 12 April 2024, and written submissions can be sent to the Tribunal Secretariat by 5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2024.
10. Details of how to participate in the process can be found at <https://www.vic.gov.au/allowances-mayors-deputy-mayors-and-councillors-annual-adjustment>

Biannual Personal Interests Returns

11. Part 6, Division 30 of the Local Government Act 2020 sets out requirements for the lodgement of biannual personal interests returns by:
 - (a) Councillors;
 - (b) Members of delegated committees (who are not Councillors);
 - (c) The Chief Executive Officer; and
 - (d) Nominated Council staff (specified persons).
12. In summary, all of the persons in the four categories above are required to submit a Biannual Interests Return in March and September of each year.
13. The status of biannual returns required in March 2024 is shown in the table below.

	Persons eligible	Timely returns	Late returns	Missing returns
Councillors	9	8	-	1
Committee Members	-	-	-	-
CEO	1	1	-	-
Nominated staff	23	22	-	1*

* One member of staff was on leave at the deadline for submission of returns (2 April 2024). The outstanding return will be submitted upon their return.

14. In accordance with section 135(3) of the Local Government Act 2020, a summary of the content of all submitted returns can be found on Council’s website at <https://www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/about-us/governance/public-transparency>.

Councillor attendance at the ALGA National General Assembly

15. The Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly is being held this year in Canberra from 2 to 4 July 2024 and all Councillors across Australia are invited to attend. Council has, in recent years, sent a delegation of Councillors to represent the City of Yarra at the assembly.
16. At the Council meeting on 12 March 2024, Council endorsed the following three motions for submission to the National General Assembly:
 - (a) “National anti-vilification laws”;
 - (b) “Material product and packaging standards”; and
 - (c) “CHAMP for Climate Action”.
17. Council’s Councillor Support Policy provides that: *“subject to the availability of funds, Council shall meet the cost of registration fees, accommodation, travelling expenses, meals and other incidental expenses associated with authorised attendance at conferences and seminars” and that “events interstate or overseas may be attended following approval by the Council. Councillors are encouraged to nominate themselves as early as possible to enable the preparation of a report to a subsequent Council meeting. Where approval is granted, Council shall meet associated expenses, subject to any conditions or limitations determined by the Council.”*
18. The costs associated with Councillor attendance are estimated at \$2,500 per Councillor, made up of \$950 for the conference fee, \$800 for flights and \$750 for accommodation. The final actual costs are publicly reported in the Quarterly Councillor Expense Report.

Options

19. There are no options presented in this report.

Community and stakeholder engagement

20. No community or stakeholder engagement has been undertaken in the development of this report, save the engagement with internal stakeholders necessary to compile the report content.

Policy analysis

Alignment to Community Vision and Council Plan

21. In its Yarra 2036 Community Vision, Council articulated an objective for a community that is *“informed and empowered to contribute to the shared governance of Yarra, (where) decision-making is through access, inclusion, consultations and advocacy.”*
22. City of Yarra Council Plan 2021-2025 includes Strategic Objective six: ‘Democracy and governance’, which states that good governance is at the heart of our processes and decision-making. The plan commits Council to *“practice good governance, transparency and accountable planning and decision-making.”*
23. The presentation of a Governance Report provides an opportunity to provide updates on key organisational matters both to the Council and the community.

Climate emergency and sustainability implications

24. There are no climate emergency or sustainability implications considered in this report.

Community and social implications

25. There are no community or social implications considered in this report.

Economic development implications

26. There are no economic development implications considered in this report.

Human rights and gender equality implications

27. There are no human rights or gender equality implications considered in this report.

Operational analysis

Financial and resource impacts

28. The financial impact of approving Councillor attendance at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly is set out above. There are no other no financial or resource impacts considered in this report.

Legal Implications

29. There are no legal implications considered in this report.

Conclusion

30. This report presents an officer recommendation on:
- (a) Biannual Personal Interests Returns;
 - (b) Upcoming Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal determination; and
 - (c) Councillor attendance at ALGA National General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council note the report on:
 - (a) Upcoming Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal determination; and
 - (b) Biannual Personal Interests Returns.
2. That in order to facilitate Yarra's representation at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly in Canberra from 2 to 4 July 2024, Council authorise the attendance of the following Councillor(s) in accordance with the Councillor Support Policy:
 - (a) Cr Edward Crossland, Mayor; and
 - (b) Cr Anab Mohamud, Deputy Mayor.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

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