(INNER CIRCLE) LINEAR PARKLANDS

DRAFT MASTERPLAN





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 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.

The (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands is located on Wurundjeri Country. It lies between the Merri Merri Yaluk and Moonee Moonee Yaluk. The (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Masterplan is made in partnership with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung traditional owners.









Project Client: Yarra City Council

Project Name: Inner Circle Parklands Masterplan

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Studio:MelbourneReport Contact:Thomas FluggeConsultants:Capire Consulting

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The (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Story

A confluence of past, present and future

The (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands is the busiest active transport corridor in Victoria, with thousands of commuters and visitors travelling through the parklands each day, and functioning as a backyard for locals with moments of rest, reprieve and gathering. Over thousands of years the land has changed, but the continuing thread has always been journey and songlines.

For 40,000+ years, the Wurundjeri people travelled across the parklands, following songlines to neighbouring Wadawurrung peoples and Dja Dja Wurrung peoples, trading knowledge, possum skin cloaks and other valuable goods. Wurundjeri people camped on Country between the great waterways of the Merri Merri Creek and Moonee Moonee Creek, holding deep knowledge of the land and its resources, creating, and caring for Country.

Following colonisation, the Inner Circle Rail line was opened in 1888, traveling the east-west parklands corridor we still see today. Almost 100 years later, the rail was de-commissioned, and the impassioned activism of the local community prevented the development of industrial land and ultimately transformed the corridor into the parklands we know today. The activism showed valuable foresight to the importance of open space for the continually urbanising, and densifying Melbourne.

Today, the footsteps of a diverse multi-cultural community inhabiting contemporary Naarm-Melbourne trace the well-worn rail corridor and ancient pathways and songlines of the Wurundjeri people.

The (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands journey becomes a bridge, linking history to the present, as footsteps become a symbol of continuity reminding us that Country can be a source of unity for people.

This confluence of diverse histories and contemporary life are informing future decisions at the parklands, guiding a culturally sensitive approach to community stewardship and development, acknowledging our shared responsibility in caring for Country and building a better future.

As we look forward, we recognise the need to adapt and create a contemporary parkland that embraces, celebrates and caters to our diverse, multicultural, intergenerational community.



Site photo: Under the Peppercorn Trees

1.Introduction

Introduction

This Masterplan presents a strategic vision for the Inner Circle Linear Parklands over the next 20 years, focusing on enhancing this essential green space through facility improvement and vegetation management. Classified as City-wide open space within the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2020, the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands straddle the northern boundary of Yarra City Council and the southern boundary of Merri-Bek City Council. This provides a significant opportunity for collaboration between councils. By aligning our resources and expertise, we can implement sustainable practices that benefit both communities, enhance ecological health, improve recreational amenities, and strengthen connections to the natural environment.

Why is this masterplan happening?

As a city that is ever changing, under the pressures of climate change and with increasing demand on all public space (including transport) from residents and visitors, Yarra City Council and Merri-Bek City Council are ensuring that the linear parklands continues to be attractive, vibrant and supportive to all members of the diverse community.

McGregor Coxall has been engaged alongside Capire Consulting to undertake a 10-year vision masterplan for the (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Masterplan, which includes its parklands, Capital City Trail Shared User Path (SUP) and community precincts.

The individual reserves that form the Linear Parklands are important local open spaces that facilitate a range of community uses such as transport, play, picnicking, informal sports, passive relaxation, recreational walking and cycling and community gardening. They are spaces of deep history and railway remnants.

The parklands also provide a habitat corridor between Royal Park and the Merri Merri Creek for insects, birds and small mammals; contributing to biodiversity, urban cooling, and improved air quality, via large canopy trees and native plantings.

The City of Yarra's Yana Ngargna (continuing connection) Plan outlines councils intent to acknowledge the area's rich First Nations history and increasing the opportunities to recognise Yarra's First Peoples. Yarra City Council are committed to increasing the visibility of Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, culture, issues and achievements. The masterplan presents a unique opportunity to be a project of reconciliation and ensure all future projects are underpinned by the principles outlined in the Yana Ngargna (continuing connection)

This masterplan presents an opportunity to truly make the Linear Parklands a much-loved community open space asset, balancing the needs of the diverse community and creating a culturally, environmentally, socially rich parklands that showcases its rail history and Wurundjeri Culture.

The Council Plan 2021-25 sets the priorities for the Inner Circle Linear Parklands Masterplan process providing opportunities and benefits for community. It outlines strategies and initiatives to achieve the community's vision for Yarra, and incorporates our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Six Strategic Objectives describe Council's Strategic Direction;

- Climate and environment,
- Social equity and health,
- Local economy,
- Place and nature,
- Transport and movement,
- Democracy and governance.

Where is this happening?

The (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Masterplan focuses on Park Street and its adjacent green corridor within the Yarra City Council and Merribek City Council, spanning the suburbs of Carlton North, Princes Hill, Brunswick East and Fitzroy North. The site is located on Wurundjeri Country within an urban green corridor that functions as a multifaceted environment providing the local community with large areas of passive open-space, varying ecologies, and landscape characters. It is an important transport corridor connecting people across the surrounding

The Inner Circle Linear Park is a chain of open space reserves that form an important east-west link between Princes Park in Princes Hill, and Rushall Station in Fitzroy North, and also connects southward to Edinburgh Gardens. From a regional positioning, the Capital City Trail running through the park is a Shared User Path which circles the city centre and some inner eastern and northern suburbs. It is 29km in length and is collection of independent trails such as the Merri Creek Trail, Main Yarra Trail, Moonee Ponds Creek Trail and Inner Circle Rail Trail. It is also a designated Strategic Cycling Corridor and links to several other important off and on-road bicycle routes.

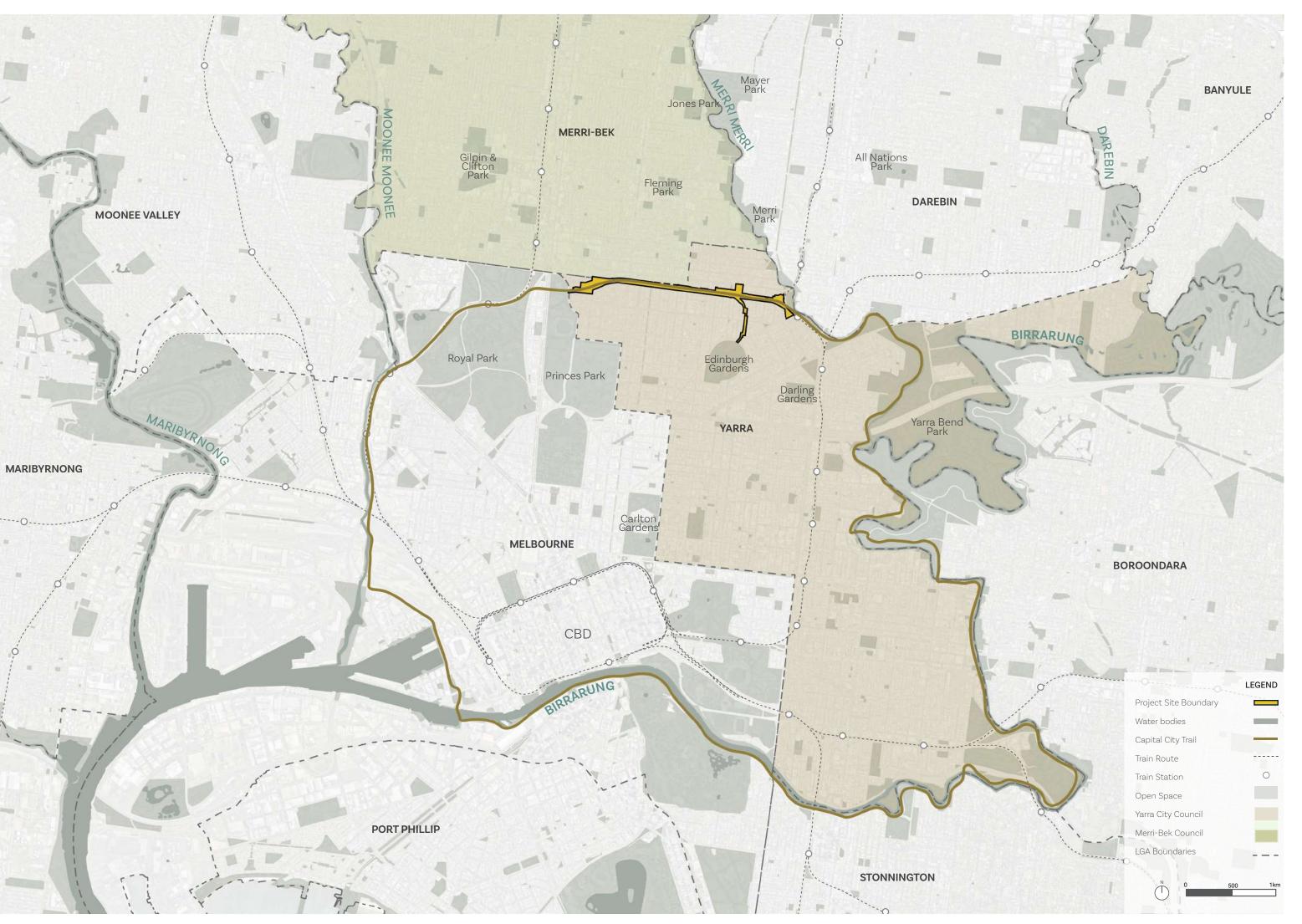
The Project Process

To create a holistic, cohesive plan, this masterplan incorporates information from the Yarra City Council and Merri-Bek City Council documents, stakeholder information, community feedback, Wurundjeri Traditional Owner engagement, local authorities and government

There is power in design and co-authoring projects closely with community and stakeholders, this will ensure the project can explore new and exciting opportunities. As the project progresses over the next 20 years, continual engagement with community and stakeholders will be vital.







Prior Community Engagement

Community engagement was undertaken by Council and Chatterbox projects in 2022. Activities where people could provide feedback included:

- Survey (available in hard copy and online via Council's Your Say Yarra engagement platform) - see Appendix 1 Consultation Survey
- Online mapping tool
- Place-based pop-ups x 3
- Written submissions
- Online key stakeholder workshop x 1
- Student workshop x 1

Four key themes emerged following the analysis of the community

- Green open spaces, trees and the natural environment
- Facilities and spaces for the community to enjoy, come together and connect
- The shared path, its linkages and connectivity and the need to increase safety for all users
- The history of the area including railway heritage, Indigenous and cultural history

Feedback from this consultation process has informed the content of the draft masterplan.

Stage 1: Analysis

This stage included the review of existing consultation documentation, Council and government strategies, site inspections, and the establishment of the Issues, Opportunities and Vision.

Stage 2: Consultation on Issues, Opportunities and Vision

- Engagement with internal and external stakeholders.
- Engagement with Wurundjeri Traditional Owners.

Stage 3: Draft Parklands Masterplan

Development of Parkland Requirements and Area Plans to bring the vision to life.

Engagement with Wurundjeri Traditional Owners.

Stage 4: Consultation on Draft Masterplan [current stage]

- Engagement with internal and external stakeholders.
- Engagement with community.

Stage 5: Final Parklands Masterplan

Finalisation of masterplan incorporating feedback.

- Engagement with internal and external stakeholders.
- Engagement with Wurundjeri Traditional Owners.

What is the history of the Parklands?

Before European colonisation, the area that we now call Victoria was home to an estimated population of 60,000 or more people. The Naarm (Melbourne) area served as a central location for social and ceremonial gatherings, trade, and the exchange of traditional knowledge.

The northern suburbs of Melbourne were originally inhabited by the Wurundjeri-willam, a clan composed of several extended families. Their name derives from the Aboriginal term wurrun, meaning 'white gum tree'.

The Wurundjeri-willam lived on Country and gathered food and resources from their surroundings. To do this, they needed to have a deep knowledge of the land and its resources, including plants and animals. They hunted, fished and gathered bush foods in season, but were careful to not take more than the land could provide. They understood the connection between the health of the land and their own well-being.

Today, the Inner Circle Linear Parklands is now 3.5 kilometres of passive

open space, amenities and a shared used path established on the former railway corridor of the Inner Circle Line and the Fitzroy Branch Line. The corridor began at the Coburg Line (now Upfield) in Royal Park and passed under Royal Parade in a cutting, surfacing in Princes Park and then crossing Bowen Crescent into North Carlton. It then ran north-east and east through stations at North Carlton and Fitzroy North, to connect to the Whittlesea Line (now Mernda) where it crossed the Merri Creek. At St Georges Road, a branch line swung south through the Edinburgh Gardens to terminate at a short-lived station just north of Queens Parade, where a goods yard would continue to operate until 1981.

Today, much of the corridor has been retained as public open space, with the Capital City Trail, a major off-street bicycling route and shared use path, following the corridor. Some parts of the corridor were repurposed for other uses while remaining in public ownership. The physical evidence of the former railway corridor is often fragmentary. In the development of the parklands, the original rails, ties and ballast were removed, but rails were retained at most of the road crossings where they extended outside of the boundaries of the park development project.

The rail sidings at the former storage silos east of Brunswick Street N were left in place, and a series of original stanchions and vertical supporting piers for the overhead lines were retained throughout much of the corridor and reused as stanchions carrying an active power connection between the current Upfield and Mernda lines. Other fragments of railway features exist in the corridor, including concrete footings, remnant timber palisade fences and gates at former pedestrian crossings.

Other buildings and open spaces also reflect the former shape and history of the Inner Circle Railway, such as the former Metropolitan Fire Brigade building at St Georges Road and parts of the Janet Millman Reserve and an undeveloped Director of Housing property.

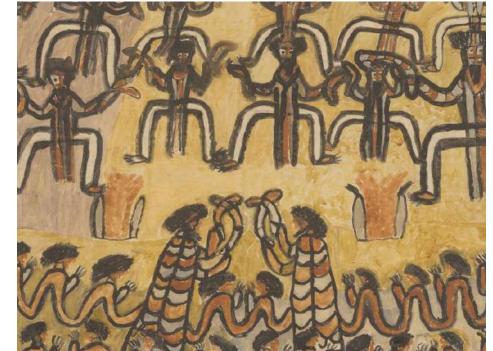
Sustainable passenger numbers were never realised along the line, and all passenger services to Fitzroy were withdrawn in May 1892 with the line continuing only as a goods line.

In the 1960s, the railway lands became a battleground between Victorian Railways, developers and residents opposed to new private construction.

There were significant community activism efforts led by the Carlton Association in Carlton North, and later in Fitzroy North, led by Janet and Geoff Millman to preserve open spaces along this former railway corridor. The campaign began in response to proposed industrial development near the former North Carlton Station. Their activism involved lobbying councillors and parliamentarians and even led to physical conflict with developers, resulting in arrests. The movement was one of the earliest instances of open space activism in Melbourne.

In 1970, the Railway Land Action Group formed to lobby councillors and parliamentarians to prevent renewed industrial use of a public reserve. In 1984, the Central Area Access Study and Melbourne Bike Plan identified the railway lands as an off-street path alignment to link other bicycle paths and routes. In 1995, the Inner Circle parklands were gazetted as a reserve for public recreation purposes, and the shared use path received formal designation as part of the Capital City Trail.

In Carlton North, the community campaign led to creation of the Hardy Gallagher Reserve. In Fitzroy North, Janet Millman's passing led to creation of a Janet Millman Reserve in her honour. The Conservation Management Plan (2022) developed by Lovell Chen and Yarra City Council outlines the broader ongoing community efforts to preserve green spaces and oppose further development in this region of



'Ceremony' (1898) William Barak. NGV Online Collection



Historical Painting - Charles Troedel, Charles Troedel, Merri Creek (Plenty Ranges), 1864



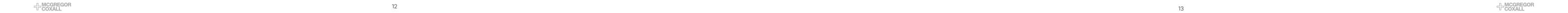
Historical Site Image: Grain bins of Fergie Street, North Fitzroy, c. 1970s Source: Public Records Office Victoria



Site Image: Decommissioned Fitzroy North Station, 1969



Historical Site Image: 1970s working party of North Carlton residents cleaning up the parklands. Source: courtesy Jeff Atkinson



Current Parklands Character



1) Hardy Gallagher Reserve



2) North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House



3) Linear Park Reserve - Park

There is a kids playground and community centre. The large open lawn

areas are dotted with small mounds and extensive native revegetation

to the perimeters. The area connects into Princes Park and is adjacent

to Carlton, Princes Hill and Brunswick South.







6 Amess Street crossing

playground. This area of the parklands

interfaces with social housing and

Brunswick South Primary school.



7 Nicholson Street/Park /Street



Remnant platform of Fitzroy

Holden Street reserve provides a play space

with a significant shade structure.



9 Small gathering area outside



Janet Millman / Holden Street Reserve Planting



Park Street Reserve

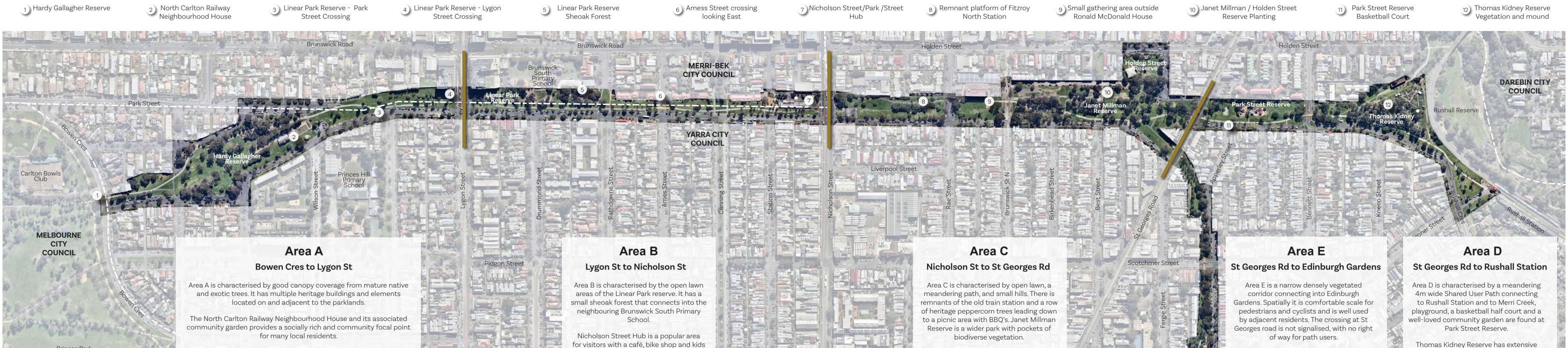


12) Thomas Kidney Reserve Vegetation and mound

native vegetation with mature trees,

the top of a hill.

grasses and a meandering gravel track to



Key Project Drivers

Wurundjeri Country

The Inner Circle Linear Parklands are on the unceded lands of the Wurundjeri People. The Linear Parkland Corridor represents an important opportunity to embed Traditional Owner Values and stories within its design and delivery, enabling visitors to strengthen their relationship and be connected to Country. The parklands have a rich history and an important future in facilitating awareness, education and cultural engagement within a diverse community.

The team is committed to illustrating and delivering outcomes that are aligned with the Principles of Connection to Country and Caring for Country. We must work with Wurundjeri in an ongoing capacity to enable cultural expression and ensure cultural safety within the parklands, using this project as another opportunity to reconcile and move toward equity through the acknowledgement of our collective history in the landscape. This can be achieved through promoting Wurundjeri stories and interpretation, allowing the landscape to act as a pedagogical experience, and promoting exploration by the user to gain a greater understanding of a living culture.

The realised climate and biodiversity emergency has embodied the demand on natural systems and green space within the dense urban context. It is critical to provide accessible, natural, and green space within the urban framework to protect and nurture biodiversity, ecology, as well as physical and mental health. Principles of Caring for Country underpin landscape and environmental strategies for attaining this balance and overall resiliency.

The 8 key hallmarks being developed to manage the Birrarung and its parklands as a 'living and integrated natural entity' under the Yarra River Protection (Wilip-gin Birrarung murron) Act 2017 should be adopted to enable co-management with traditional custodians of lands of Birrarung tributaries, including habitat corridors connecting across management boundaries. i.e. Merri Merri Linear Parklands. Hallmarks include:

- 1. The Birrarung and its lands (tributaries and connecting habitat corridors) are managed as a connected natural system, working beyond and across boundaries.
- 2. Collaborative governance and management prioritises resourcing and early engagement of Traditional Custodians.
- 3. The health and healing of the Birrarung, its tributaries and lands of are at the centre of decision-making.
- 4. Traditional Owners knowledge and values are embedded in planning and management decisions.

- 5. Each water and land custodian can clearly articulate their relationship with the Birrarung, its tributaries and land and their responsibility to its care
- 6. Bring communities on the journey so that they understand their connection to the Birrarung, its tributaries and lands and have the opportunity to contribute to its care.
- 7. Place-based needs are assessed against whole-of-river outcomes.
- 8. The 'rights' of the Birrarung, its tributaries and lands (as a living entity) are recognised.

An Equitable Public Realm for a Diverse Community

The community of users of the parklands is highly diverse, representing a range of cultures, ages, abilities, and preferences. The parklands must act as a key contributor to the richness of the parklands, and mitigate the issue of inequity, actively mitigating bias which is associated with landscape and recreation design and ensuring a safe environment. The design will forefront uses for those who are often not catered to, including teen women and the elderly, whilst continuing to support the development of children and promote engagement between different user groups.

The Yarra City Council is that of a strong diverse community. With an estimated population of 91,543 inhabitants, ancestry is spread with the highest ancestry groups being English: 33.9% Italian: 6.6% Chinese: 6.1% German 4.2% Greek: 3.8% and Vietnamese: 3.4%. There are 50,057 dwellings across the Yarra City Council LGA with 85.5% of those being privately owned.

Safety in public space is a major concern for women and gender-diverse people across this continent, with big impacts on health and well-being. According to The Australia Institute, 87% of women have experienced at least one form of verbal or physical street harassment. Exercising in public space can lead to stress and anxiety, which can prevent many from developing social connections and a sense of belonging. The masterplan is focused on how issues of safety and belonging can be addressed in the linear parklands so it is an inclusive space.

Conversations with multicultural groups, community consultation and research such as the YourGround Victoria report (a report focusing on Women and gender-diverse people in public space) have been be utilised.

Transport and Movement

Transport is the primary historical and current function of the Inner Circle Linear Parklands. The Conservation Management Plan (2022) developed by Lovell Chen and Yarra City Council outlines the history of the parklands as a rail corridor and the importance in preserving its transportation heritage.

Well connected to its surrounds and a key commuter link, the Inner Circle Parklands is a strategic transport corridor and services a wide catchment, with thousands of users passing through the site per week.

Key user groups are pedestrians, cyclists, and increasingly those on micromobility devices. The major commuter and recreational Capital City Trail SUP connect Princes Park, Merri Creek, Edinburgh Gardens with multiple connection points. There is significant pressure of the trail for different user groups and feelings of safety. The comfort and safety of the trail is critical to ensure it continues to support all users.

To create an equitable public realm for a diverse community, it's important to prioritise inclusivity and accessibility. This means designing spaces that are safe and welcoming for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds. It also means taking into account the various uses of the trail, and ensuring that the overall design outcome is safe, comfortable and accessible. By doing so, we can create a public realm that truly serves the needs of the entire community.

Furthermore, it's important to consider the various uses of the space and who they cater to. For example, Yarra City Council have highlighted the need to consider how different people use the Trail and the park, such as dog walkers with long leads or multiple dogs, or young children who move in a non-linear way across the trail. By understanding the needs and preferences of these different groups, we can design a public realm that accommodates everyone's needs and promotes equitable access.

To achieve this, we may need to explicitly provide for prioritized groups, such as those with mobility impairments or visual or hearing impairments, by creating places and infrastructure that can be used by people of all ages and abilities, for example safe bike lanes. By doing so, we can create a public realm that is truly equitable and provides equal opportunities for all members of the community to access and enjoy it.

90,114

Usual Resident Population in City of Yarra

91,521

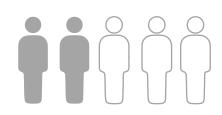
Estimated Resident Population

89,061

Enumerated Population

Average household size

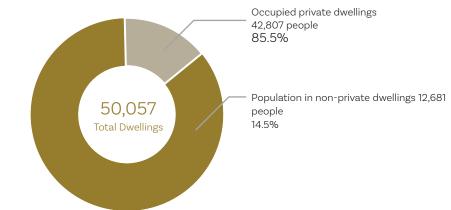
City of Yarra





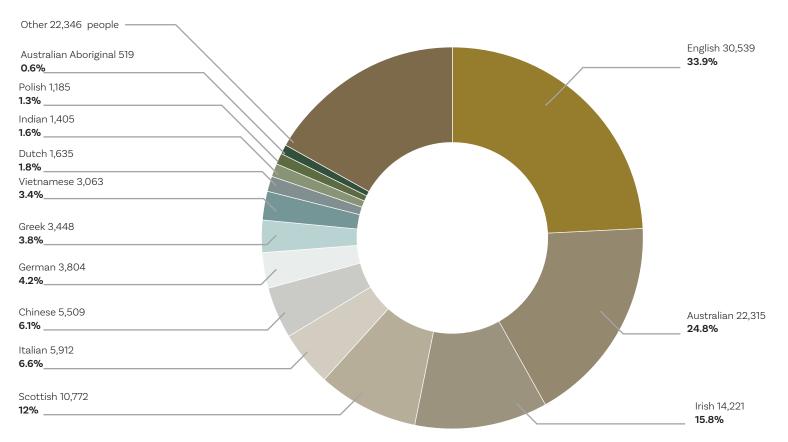
Population Group

City of Yarra



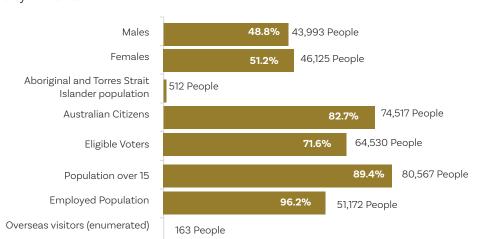
Ancestry

City of Yarra



Population Group

City of Yarra



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

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2. Observations, Issues and Opportunities

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Overview

How to read this chapter;

The following chapter will identify and locate key issues and site observations whilst, communicating what we heard from the community

This section will identify and list key comments from the Yarra City engagement and council. These will be mapped across the parklands in the following themes;











Each theme will contain the following;

What we heard from community

Council Stage 1 Engagement Community Consultation Findings Report. Careful and thoughtful consideration will be given to what we have heard from community so far.

Yarra City Council's Aspiration

Yarra City Council have key policy documents that the masterplan will seek to align with and meet the objectives of each where possible.

Observations

Observations are based on analysis by the design team. They are a general statement of the way things are. Observations will need to be considered when developing the opportunities. Observations can be defined as a condition that is considered when planning or identifying an opportunity.

Issues

An issue in this context can be seen as a current problem or site condition that is identified by the community, council or the design team. An issue might need priority attention in the masterplan process to achieve a solution or opportunity that will seek to mitigate or solve the issue.

Opportunities

Once the design team has listened and interpreted the needs of community, stakeholders, Wurundjeri Traditional Owners and client, the issues, considerations and observations established will lead to holistic cohesive opportunities for the masterplan.

Observation Maps

The maps will locate and identify key observations and issues spatially across the parklands to assist in communicating future key opportunities.

Observations, Issues and Opportunities



Site Image: Mark Street Reserve



Site Image: Inner Circle-Janet Millman Reserve Seating Area



What we heard from Wurundjeri Elders

- Important for Wurundjeri culture to be visible across the parklands.
- Create yarning circles throughout the parklands and educate people on the power of having a yarn.
- Utilise locally sourced natural materials in built form and landscape.
- Incorporate signage with educational Wurundjeri history.
- Utilise artwork to bring joy and tell stories.
- Explore opportunities to share stories of Wurundjeri people travelling across Country between Merri Merri, Moonee Ponds and the Birrarung waterways. The interaction with the land and history of camps.
- Incorporate Woi Wurrung language across parklands.
- Bring native plants into the parklands. The Manna Gum and Golden Wattle are important.
- Important to make the parklands comfortable for all abilities, with moments to rest under trees.
- Good to showcase traditional games such as Marngrook that kids can engage with.

What we heard from community

- Acknowledgement and understanding of the Indigenous/Wurundjeri history.
- Planning that recognises the Indigenous heritage.
- More Aboriginal place making, signage or plaques about Aboriginal history, and First Nations cultural and environmental references.

Yarra City Council Aspirations

Key aspirations outlined in the brief

- Protect, enhance, and interpret the natural and cultural history of the site and incorporate these elements in visible and meaningful ways.
- Yarra City Council have identified Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Aboriginal Corporation as a key stakeholder and potential co-author of the Inner Circle Parklands Masterplan.

Yarra City Council Yana Ngargna* Plan 2020-2023

*Yana Ngargna means 'continuing connection' in Woi Wurrung

The Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung are the Traditional Owners of the land and waterways now known as the Yarra City Council, and their connection to country extends back more than 60,000 years to the dreaming when their creator spirit Bunjil created the land, the people and all living things.

Yarra City Council's relationships with local Aboriginal organisations and services are an important of their future story. Yarra's Aboriginal Advisory Group was established 21 years ago, and the Yana Ngargna Plan was renamed in 2019, the International Year of Indigenous Languages.

Council's work with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community will be guided by four high-level priority areas:

- Relationships
- A Visible Culture
- Community Health and Wellbeing
- Organisational Development.

These priority areas are underpinned by commitments and actions, which will be written into annual action plans. All priorities, commitments, contexts and actions are cognisant of the community consultation conducted from mid-late 2018, community feedback received during the public display period in 2019, and ongoing Council projects, commitments and relationships with the community.

The Inner Circle Parklands Masterplan will embed the commitments of these priority areas into opportunities for the parklands.

Observations

- Aboriginal flag artwork on wall at Mark Street
- Significant areas of native planting across parklands
- Traditional foods such as pig face and quandong are present in areas of native planting
- Merri Merri Creek is registered and identified as a significant First Nations waterway

Issues

Lack of Wurundjeri or First Nations representation across parklands

Opportunities

- Co-develop contemporary Wurundjeri Storyline across parklands that communicates and connects users to the notion of journeying across Country throughout the seasons change
- Make Wurundjeri history, stories, culture visible in parklands landscape and built form
- Build opportunities for procurement of Wurundjeri services into the Masterplan



Site Photo - Aboriginal Flag painted on an adjacent wall at Mark Street



Image: Wurundjeri Welcome to Country



Observations, Issues and Opportunities

Image: Featuring local basalt boulders - Sunshine Skills Hub, McGregor Coxall



Precedent: New Quay Central Park



Precedent: Birrarung Wilam (Common Ground) by Couzens, Vicki; Darroch Lee; Hamm Treahna.



Precedent Image: Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk. 'Maya' Fish Trap Sculpture by Uncle Ken Murray, Darren Wighton and Andom Rendell.

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Access, Active Transport and Inclusion

What we heard

The Capital City Trail is the busiest cycling route in Victoria. The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) identifies the trail as a Strategic Cycling Corridor, and it is on the Yarra City Council's New Deal for Cycling Network.

The Capital City Trail provides a valuable east-west off-road connection through the north of the inner city, stitches together numerous northsouth cycling corridors, and connects schools, parks, train stations, shops and other destinations.

The path is well loved and very popular, and individuals and groups to run, walk and ride for commuting, exercise, recreation and a diverse variety of other trip purposes. The path is busy because it provides both a high-quality transport connection with few nearby alternatives, and an amenable recreational trail through open space where people walk dogs, meet, relax and play. Over time the path will continue to get busier, owing

Yarra City Council Transport Strategy 2022-2023 to the lack of alternative corridors, Melbourne's growing population, increasing high density development in the area, the growing popularity of e-scooters and e-bikes, and increases in traffic, petrol prices and demand for scarce parking.

While the trail is well loved and well utilised, there is room for improvement, and the community raised a number of issues during the consultation process.

- Safe bike/walking path connections, crossings, and signals: Connections to other paths beyond the Linear Parklands and more cyclist/pedestrian right of way signals at busy intersections
- The need for better, safer, directional wayfinding and signage
- Increased safety through lighting and Surveillance

- Greater access to public toilets, drinking fountains and water (big
- Make the parklands more accessible to students at nearby schools and their siblings. Collaborate with Brunswick South Primary School (BSPS), they have developed a masterplan.
- Make green space nearby or adjacent to Brunswick South Primary School available during school hours and for school activities

Yarra City Council Aspirations

Key aspirations outlined in the brief

- Improving the functionality, accessibility, and safety of the Capital City Trail (possibly including changes to the function or design of adjacent streets and/or crossing points at intersecting streets, where this would benefit park users)
- Delivering a low stress cycling environment for all ages consistent with the Capital City Trail's status as a Strategic Cycling Corridor and the infrastructure design guidance provided by the Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-28.
- Achieving a very low stress cycling environment consistent with the corridor' status as part of the Yarra City Council's New Deal for Cycling Network.

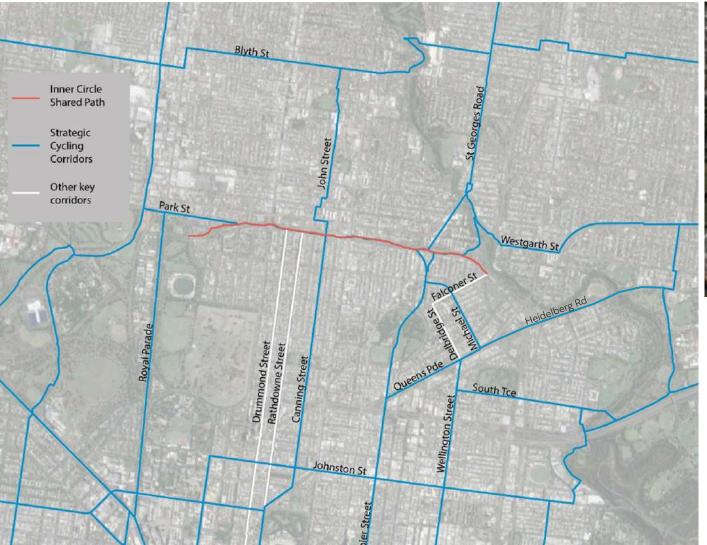
- Policy 1: Prioritise walking, cycling and using public transport over car
- All project and policy decisions are to be based on the Yarra City Council's transport mode hierarchy, which elevates the priority of active modes (walking, cycling, scooters). There are actions outlined in the policy document which will be drawn upon in the masterplan.
- "Mode shift away from cars is required. More space needs to be provided for people travelling by active transport modes".
- Policy 4: Implement a New Deal for Cycling make the network usable for bike riders and scooter users of all ages and abilities.
- The New Deal for Cycling is a key commitment to provide appropriate bicycle infrastructure on Yarra's street and path network. It commits to providing safe and comfortable places to ride on key routes, by delivering infrastructure tailored to the volume and speed of traffic present.

Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-28

- Aims to increase the number, frequency and diversity of Victorians cycling for transport by;
- Investing in a safer, lower-stress, better-connected network, prioritising strategic cycling corridors
- Making cycling a more inclusive experience

Observations

- The shared trail in its current form, particularly during peak travel times, is not suitable to keep pedestrians comfortable and safe while using the shared path. Due to its popularity and access to other key cycling routes, the Inner Circle Shared Path caters to more cyclists than pedestrians. For example, on 10 March 2022, 3,047 cyclists crossed Nicholson Street using the shared path compared to 1,222
- The Inner Circle Shared path carries vast amounts of cyclists from the northern suburbs of Melbourne and distributes these cyclists down the main cycling trunk routes into Melbourne CBD.
- Key connections from the adjacent municipalities of Merri-bek and Darebin include St Georges Road, John Street, Heidelberg Road and the Upfield bike path.
- Key corridors though the Yarra City Council towards the Melbourne CBD include Canning Street, Rathdowne Street, Royal Parade, Drummond Street, Napier Street and Wellington Street (via Falconer Street and Delbridge Street).
- The Capital City Trail connects all of the key cycling corridors and generates high volumes of bike traffic across its entire length, particularly between Rathdowne Street and St Georges Road.
- Historical data from Bicycle Network's Super Tuesday counts indicate that bicycle traffic on the corridor is consistently growing, At the junction of Canning Street and the Inner Circle Shared Path, peak period cyclists volumes have increased from 1363 to 1811 between 2017 and 2020:
- 2020 1811 cyclists counted between 7:00AM and 8:45AM
- 2019 1677 cyclists counted between 7:00AM and 8:45AM 2018 - 1654 cyclists counted between 7:00AM and 8:45AM
- 2017 1363 cyclists counted between 7:00AM and 8:45AM
- Even with bike lanes along the streets that run parallel to the Inner Circle Shared path, including Park Street, many cyclists still prefer to use the shared path, particularly for the crossing safety it provides over St Georges Road, Nicholson and Lygon Streets. This is consistent with the Yarra City Council's Transport Strategy that recognises the very high levels of comfort associated with cycling on off-street
- Brunswick South Primary School has also been identified as a contributor to congestion and conflict on the shared trail at school pick-up and drop-off times.
- Volumes vary significantly along the length of the corridor and many riders are on the Inner Circle Linear Trail for a short period of time to get between other routes. There is a lack of any other safe/direct

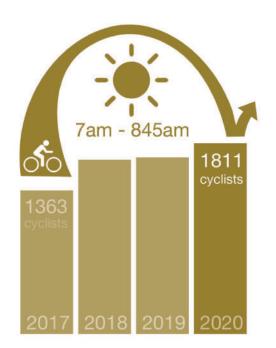


Map - Strategic Cycling Corridor and other key cycling corridors



Observations, Issues and Opportunities

Map: Linear Park - Weekday Bicycle Volume Flow



Infographic - Bicycle Network's Super Tuesday counts

connections between the connecting routes. MCGREGOF



Access, Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

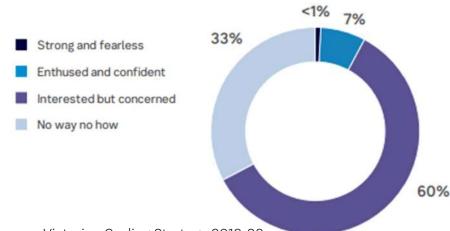
Shared User Path (SUP) Design Standards

Best Practice Documents

- Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-28
- Austroads Guide to Road Design Part 6A
- Victorian Traffic Engineering Manual Volume 3 Design Guidance for Strategically Important Cycling Corridors
- NSW's Cycleway Design Toolbox
- WA's Shared and Separated Paths guidelines
- Yarra City Council Transport Strategy

Designing for the 'interested but concerned'

- Enticing people to ride largely depends on the level of comfort and safety provided by cycling infrastructure.
- The Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-28 identifies that the 'interested but concerned' cohort is the largest segment of the community, and would choose to ride if they had access to a safe, comfortable and connected route.



Source: Victorian Cycling Strategy 2018-28

MCGREGOF

- The Victorian Cycling Strategy recognises that off-street paths, like the Inner Circle route, impart the least traffic stress on riders - less than buffered on-street bike lanes on low-speed streets.
- High levels of bike and pedestrian interactions are however a stressor to both pedestrians and riders.

Shared path or separated pedestrian and cycling paths

Victorian Traffic Engineering Manual Volume 3 - Design Guidance for Strategically Important Cycling Corridors recommends exclusive separated bike paths where there are high cyclist volumes, high pedestrian numbers, and high cyclist speeds.

Where separate pedestrian and cyclists paths are provided, the guide recommends the following widths;

Table 5: Separated paths - two-way path

	Path Width (m)		
	Bicycle path	Footpath	Physical separator between bicycle path and footpath
Desirable width (minimum)	2.5	1.5	1.0
Minimum width	2.0	1.2	0.5

Elsewhere, the guide recommends a minimum of 3.0m for major bicycle paths;

Table 3: Exclusive bicycle path (two way) widths

	Path Width (m)		
	Local access path	Major path	
Desirable width (minimum)	2.5	3.0	
Minimum width - typical maximum	2.5 ⁽¹⁾ -3.0 ⁽²⁾	2.5(1)-4.5(2)	

- 1. A lesser width should only be adopted where cyclist volumes and operational speeds will remain
- 2. A greater width may be required where the number of cyclists is very high (refer to Section

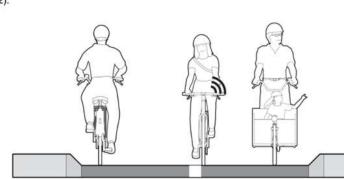


Figure 7: A desirable minimum width of 3.0 m allows passing movements to be comfortable undertaken (two-way path)2

Where shared paths are required, the guide recommends minimum widths of 3.5m for busy recreational paths;

Table 4: Shared path widths

	Path Width (m)			
	Local Access path	Commuter path	Recreational path	
Desirable width (minimum)	2.5	3.0	3.5	
Minimum width – typical maximum	2.5 ⁽¹⁾ -3.0 ⁽²⁾	2.5 ⁽¹⁾ -4.5 ⁽²⁾	3.0 ⁽¹⁾ -4.0 ⁽²⁾	

Source: Vic Roads Traffic Engineering Manual Vol. 3, 2016

Best practice guidelines are recommending wider shared path in recognition of the need to provide comfortable spaces to walk and

Both NSW's Cycleway Design Toolbox and WA's Shared and Separated Paths guidelines suggest minimum shared path widths of 4.0m for major routes.

Operating width of Cyclists

- The typical operating width for cyclists is 1m, however, with newer mobility devices like cargo bikes and wheelchair friendly tricycles becoming more widespread, wider operating widths should be
- Shared path width should consider adequate clearance to obstructions and plantings.

Path Design Recommendations

The desired minimum width of a shared path is 4.0m, allowing for safe overtaking and pedestrian interactions. Wider shared paths should be considered in environments where:

- Space allows
- Higher number of people walking or cycling are expected
- Higher cycling speed is expected
- Higher amounts of cross shared path movements exist
- Limited sight lines are prevalent

If dedicated walking and cycling paths are to be provided, a minimum of 3.0m should be provided for cyclists, and a minimum 1.0m separator provided between pedestrian and cycle paths. While 1.5m is minimum required for the pedestrian path, a wider path is recommended (e.g. at least 2.0m) given the amount of pedestrian traffic.

Shared User Path (SUP) Case Studies

St Georges Road

Upgraded sections of St Georges Road shared path are 4.5m wide.



Ismay Reserve, Homebush

Ismay Reserve, Homebush NSW, is an example of a shared path with 4m width that travels through a linear type park similar the Inner Circle Linear park. It provides a connection for people underneath the freeway and links up to transport nodes at Homebush and North Strathfield along with providing links to other active transport corridors.



Upfield bike path (Moreland Station)

Upfield bike path uses a 2.5m wide bike path alongside a 1.2-1.5m pedestrian path



Mernda bike path uses a 3.0m wide bike path alongside a 1.8m pedestrian path

Observations, Issues and Opportunities



Bicentennial Path, Brisbane

The Bicentennial Path in Brisbane is an example of a separated path where there is a clearly delineated bike lane (in green) and pedestrian path. Although it is not classified as a shared path, it has no physical separator and can be considered as one path. The width of the overall path is 6m. It has a bi-directional bike lane width of 3.5m and a pedestrian path width of 2.5m.



Mernda bike path (Bell Station)

Generally, the current path uses a 3.0m wide Shared User Path. There are some parts of the Shared User Path that are 4.0m.









Access, Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

Issues

User Conflict

- Path is crowded and congested, particularly at peak hour. There are multiple users (bikes, motorised, scooters, e-cycles, pedestrians) and this can generate conflict and a feeling that it is unsafe.
- Park Street and Princes Park Intersection: 1390 avg daily volume of cyclists in 2023 (DPT)
- St Georges Rd: 1163 avg volume of cyclists per day in 2023 (DPT)



1390 cyclists per day



- The current path is already experiencing issues relating to its capacity to safely cater to existing usage, and the number of people walking and riding on the trail will continue to increase and exacerbate these existing crowding issues.
- The constrained path environment causes pedestrians and cyclists to pass in very close proximity, and the speed and weight differential between people walking and riding (which is exacerbated by the growing usage of e-bike and e-scooters) is intimidating and uncomfortable for all users, but particularly those with mobility issues, low vision, young children and older people.
- Confusion around right of way, some intersections and road crossings are inconsistent, and this creates a hazard for shared cycling/ pedestrian path users.
- Narrow path makes negotiation of space for passing difficult for people wheeling prams or mobility devices, as well as larger recumbent bikes, cargo bikes and tricycles.
- Conflict between cyclists and pedestrians sharing the same path.
- Conflict between high-speed and slow-speed users.
- The crossing of Nicholson Street is of particular concern for safety and the western approach to this crossing has extremely poor visibility.

- Significant queuing of path users at traffic signals results in difficulty crossing major roads
- Off-street parking reduces usable open space for the parkland and constrains alternative path alignments at road crossings.

Path Design

- Path is not designed to accommodate users in a safe/comfortable manner at peak times.
- Inconsistent path quality, path width, and finishes.
- Key constrictions occur at the crossing points over major roads such as St Georges Terrace, Nicholson and Lygon Streets.
- Landscaping and street clutter reduces effective width of path further in some locations.
- Compounding this safety issue is the splitting and re-joining of separated pedestrian and cycling crossings.

Feelings of Safety

- Inconsistent path lighting coverage across Capital City Trail and the Park Street generally.
- Sections of the path are very dark, and lighting is needed, particularly at night and early morning.

Opportunities

Safety and Comfort

- Develop Park Street as a safe, alternative bike route for people who
- Increasing the safety of the shared path for cyclists and pedestrians at road crossings
- Separate/widen the Shared User Path (SUP) to increase safety
- Adding appropriate lighting to problem areas to improve safety
- Improving cyclist, pedestrian, family, and dog walking interaction along the SUP by finding opportunities to separate users.
- Improving the alignment of the path to reduce conflicts at intersections and queuing areas.
- Realigning paths to create better view lines along shared user paths for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Creating a consistent approach to road crossing in terms of right of way and line marking to increase clarity and reduce confusion.

- Improving crossings and queuing spaces at signalised intersections (e.g. Nicholson Street).
- Providing safe and direct on-road bicycle facilities on the New Deal for Cycling Network for people on bikes to use if they choose to do so as alternatives to the Trail.
- Adding path safety features such as tactile treatments, that tie into the surrounding landscape and work as a traffic calming measure

Connectivity and Accessibility

- Improving connections to the adjacent major cycling routes and better signage and visual cues will increase the comfort levels for all that use this shared path. It will also reduce conflict points and increase the safety for all users.
- Increasing ease and legibility of connections to adjacent community centres and public transport.
- Engaging with nearby trip generators (e.g. schools, local businesses) to improve active transport access and choice from the Trail/ Parklands
- Improving connections between the trail and Merri Creek at Rushall Station, particularly the constrained underpass beneath the rail line.

Usage and Engagement

- The trail is popular and well utilised and further improvements have the ability to encourage more people to walk and ride for daily transport needs, as well as recreation.
- Supporting increased usage across the day can improve casual surveillance, natural observation and community cohesion.
- Provide rest points and bicycle facilities along paths to encourage wider use.

Design and Infrastructure

- Install bike repair stations
- Providing alternative pedestrian paths though the corridor to separate cyclist and pedestrian traffic.
- Reducing or repurposing off street car parking in the park land to create more open space to off-set widening of the shared path or the provision of separated pedestrian and cycling paths.

Observations, Issues and Opportunities







Site Image - Lygon Street



Site Image - Ames Street Crossing



Site Image - Nicholson Hub Blind Spor



Image: Capital Trail Royal Park Safety Lighting



page: Shaded comfortable SLIP

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Access, Active Transport and Inclusion Observations, Issues and Opportunities Map **NIGHT SAFETY** ST GEORGES ROAD APPERLEY STREET SUP CONNECTIONS **RUSHALL STATION** NICHOLSON HUB BRUNSWICK STREET CROSSING CROSSING STRATEGIC CYCLING Entrance onto Capital City Signalised crossing at Lygon St is busy SUP Priority Crossing. Busy crossing Area along Lang street i Encroaching vegetatio Brunswick Stree<mark>t</mark> crossing has a right of Areas around trees SUP connections to Merri Creek Major pedestrian/cycle point CORRIDOR between Birkenhead Recent fatality/serious injury Trail from Park Street is narrow. at peak periods and bottlenecks into concerns about the shared path in of conflict. Shop entrance are not loved by community. Paths are narrow around during the morning peak hours. Mainly very dark at night and is creates a blind spot riority SUP crossing way for SUP. This crossing is busy and does and Best street are crashes in this location and recent a perceived safety issue There is only a small amount of the kerb. Community have expressed Cyclists move very fast down station and are hazardous Explore opportunities for vith yellow give way not prioritise pedestrian and cyclist. There dominated by cyclists and runners due is in close proximity to dark and feel unsafe part-time 40km/h speed limit room to give way to Cyclists on safety concerns about crossing. The hill to Koondalat Bridge. There to pedestrians. Cyclist are to its proximity to the Tan Track. There improving sight lines. : SUP creating a blind spot. is a general lack of consistency in who has lights are too slow and crossings are reduction. Safety issues caused by is also poor visibility between expected to dismount. are concerns from community on overall: Linemarking is confusing. vehicles on St Georges Road Holden Street and SUP. safety of the crossing. Brunswick Road Carlton Bowls Club Princes Hill Primary School **INCLUSIVE** SPATIAL QUALITY Balance between clear sight lines and intimate experience. This part of the parklands feels like a shared backyard. Pidgon Street SCOTCHMER ST CROSSING SUP priority crossing. Princes Park Community have expressed safety oncerns. It is not clear Tram Route ---who has right of way Tram Stop and there have been a few near misses Counci Bus Routes ---are currently upgrading Bus Stop • Safety Issue Signal Crossing Capital City Trail Pedestrian/Cycle Crossing -- Off Road Cycle Networ **CANNING STREET** ALFRED CRESCENT CROSSING I ST GEORGES ROAD BENNETT ST 4M SHARED USER PATH OFF TRACK UNSAFE BSPS SCHOOL DROP OFF NICHOLSON ST CROSSING RAE STREET CROSSING Contra-flow bike lane _____ CROSSINGS CROSSING Widest point of SUP (4m) Off-track cyclist path Parents currently drop children off on park Canning St is a highly used Cars currently have right of way and Community have expressed safety concerns. Shared User Path Rest Stops It is not clear who has right of way and there Intersection to be upgraded SUP priority crossing. Common thoroughfare for Street. Children cross the Capital City Trail concerns about crossing. The lights community have expressed that this cycleway for north-south Train Station at peak times to get to school. are too slow and crossings are intersection is dangerous. Crossing types have been a few near misses. - building creates visual riders coming from the east. are inconsistent across the parklands. Distance: 700m 💍 Cycle: 3mins 🤺 Walk: 9mins Distance: 700m 6 Cycle: 3mins Walk: 9mins Distance: 600m of Cycle: 2 mins Walk: 8 mins Distance: 650m Ocycle: 3mins Walk: 9mins



Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

What we heard from community in 2022-23

Shade, Amenity and Maintenance

- New and improved facilities and spaces was by far the most popular response. This included the facilities that people thought needed improving including public toilets, drinking fountains and seating
- Communal BBQ areas, seating, and shade: More BBQ facilities, additional seating, and shaded areas to create more of a picnic feel
- More seating such as recliner seats to relax on and read and bench seats for resting, particularly for older persons
- Water play, dog facilities, bike repair stations, lighting and historical information and display
- A community garden and opportunities for community members to grow and consume (lemons, olives, and herbs).
- A community kitchen garden in collaboration with Brunswick South
 Primary School to complement the busy Rushall Community Garden
- Open and/or green space: Green, lush, grassed areas for picnics More low-lying garden beds with softer landscaping to provide attractive spaces for all to enjoy
- More space and amenities for dogs and dog owners
- More regular maintenance of open space areas
- More shade from shelters and trees

Sports and Recreation Facilities

- New sport facilities such as outdoor gym equipment, ping pong tables
- Increase play options for older children (e.g.: basketball courts, volleyball courts, soccer nets),
- Exercise and recreational facilities: Gyms, courses, courts, adult obstacle course or outdoor gym equipment that is safe and accessible to community members of all abilities and fitness levels.
- Play options for older kids such as a half basketball court, volleyball court, soccer nets or a climbing course and disk-golf amenities as an inclusive option for intergenerational play
- Tracks and/or trails: More recreational bike and jogging paths, surrounded by green plants and trees for those who seek respite and a connection with nature. Consider a Pump track

Play

- Nature-based play: Designated nature obstacles and play areas for children. Activate the space in natural ways such as by leaving large logs from nearby trees for seating and play
- Playgrounds and child-friendly spaces: Playgrounds, child-friendly spaces, and options. Spaces which include elements such as water features or a water park, cubby house, and in-ground trampoline
- More play areas

Yarra City Council's Aspiration

Key aspirations outlined in the brief;

- Proposing cost-effective upgrades to existing park facilities and the addition of new facilities and furniture to improve user experience
- Optimizing the location, size and variety of passive and active recreation nodes including playgrounds, picnic areas and small-scale sport facilities (boccie, basketball, etc.) across the parklands

Yarra City Council Open Space strategy 2020 declares the importance of open space offering providing benefits in;

- Physical health,
- Fitness and wellbeing,
- Mental heath and wellbeing
- Social connectedness,
- Urban heat island effect
- Biodiversity Events and arts
- Mitigation
- Cultural heritage and character

Overall directions from the policy are;

- Improve the quality of existing open spaces
- Provide open space within easy walking distance of everyone
- Assist to mitigate urban heat island effect
- Improve community health and wellbeing
- Increase urban greening

There are also directions to upgrade playground and picnic facilities in the eastern portion of the parklands.

Observations

- Playgrounds are dated and need repairs and minor upgrades
- Generally, the open space offering is quite open and exposed to the both the SUP and Park Street.
- There is a lack in variety of sport facilities across the parklands.

Issues

- There is not enough access to public toilets. There is a need for more public toilets that are accessible, well-maintained, and open extended hours. Toilets at Railway House and near Carlton North Community Centre are often locked out of hours. Suggested locations for new public toilets: near all playgrounds, Holden Street Reserve, Park Street Reserve, between Lygon and Nicholson Streets, between Rushall Station and Princes Park, between St Georges Road and Lygon Street, near St Georges Road, and near Nicholson Street
- There is a lack of seating, gathering/picnic areas and rest stops across the parklands.
- There is not enough shade across the parklands
- There is a lack of public amenity and facilities
- There aren't enough facilities for dog owners and it isn't clear where the off leash zones are. Safety is a concern for parents with dogs around their children.
- Competing Demands on open space. There is limited space to provide the full range of facilities and infrastructure that would realise the suggestions from all stakeholders in the community.



Site Photo - Heritage Birch Trees and Open Lawn



Site Photo - Existing amenity, BBQS and picnic tables



Observations, Issues and Opportunities

Image - Edinburgh Gardens



Site Photo - Inner Circle Rail Trail Playground



Image: Activated edge as an invitation, Pimelea Park, McGregor Coxall



Image: Informal timber seats

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Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

Opportunities

Amenities and Facilities

- Increase quantity and quality of amenity and facilities, shelters, BBQs, shared areas, water and nature play, toilets, cycling amenities.
- Cluster amenities to provide clear destinations for different scales of groups, including individuals, and different needs
- Identify demand for any other additional amenities
- Diversify the offering of sports facilities such as outdoor fitness stations
- Identify opportunities to upgrade park facilities to increase their recreational offering
- Investigate the co-location of amenity with adjacencies such as local primary schools

Vegetation and Landscaping

- Increase understory vegetation throughout open space offering to delineate spaces and provide a visual buffer between the SUP and park street
- Increase tree canopy cover
- Assess the current garden spaces and improve their size and accessibility
- Enhance the aesthetics of the garden spaces to make them more appealing to the community
- Improve the visual appeal of bushland spaces through better garden design
- Add more horticultural aspects to the parklands, not just bushland garden bed
- Adopt the 'Bring Nature Back' (BNB) (rather than re-wilding) program
- Restoring and enhancing ecological function of the endangered Plains Grassy Woodland Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC).
- Creating local indigenous seed orchards to provide opportunities for collection of seed of known provenance to facilitate future BNB projects in Yarra and across boundaries.
- Conserve locally rare or threatened flora through investment in flora seed conservation through seed orchards plantings.
- Increase habitat connectivity by creating stepping-stone links between larger vegetated areas to enable fauna movement, particularly small woodland birds (Merri Merri to Royal Park)

- Restoring ecosystems will help to mitigate the impacts of climate change.
- Planting of Victorian evergreen trees e.g. Yellow Box, Yellow Gum and Red Ironbark can assist in mitigating urban heat island effect as well as climate adaptive species

Dog-Friendly Spaces

- Provide enclosed and secluded spaces and facilities for dogs to address community concerns
- Consider the preferences of community members who are uncomfortable with dogs when designating areas for dogs off-lead

Sustainability

- Apply circular economy principles and sustainable procurement practices in the construction and maintenance of the parklands
- Ensure that the community sees themselves reflected in the parklands through their design and environmental sustainability
- Explore the possibility of incorporating underground water storage in the parklands to improve water conservation and management
- Communal food plots for locals to enjoy
- Planting of edible native foods (note all food species to be grown above ground due to led content in ground)

Accessibility

- Identify areas for public toilets to ensure appropriate walking distances for users
- Improve access to the Rushall community garden to increase engagement with it
- Make the Rushall Community Garden more visible to encourage community participation
- Create congregation points or shelters throughout the parklands to break up the space and provide areas for people to gather
- Ensure that these spaces are flexible and varied in architectural design, not just limited to BBQ shelters

Observations, Issues and Opportunities



Image: Nature play elements and furniture_Lizard Log, McGregor Coxall



Image: Nature play elements and furniture_Lizard Log, McGregor Coxall



Image: Shelter w/ BBQ facilities_Lizard Log, McGregor Coxall



Image- Community Infrastructure, Camperdown Commons Pavilion



Image - Trail infrastructure Laurence S Rockefeller Preserve



Image: Kwinana Outdoor Youth Space, Perth

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Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation Observations, Issues and Opportunities Map MERRI CREEK NICHOLSON HUB JANET MILLMAN PARK HOLDEN ST RESERVE PARK STREET RESERVE THOMAS KIDNEY RESERVE Significantly large lawn open space. There is a feeling of Public toilet in the Carlton This is a busy activated area with n informal bike park is The hub offers cafe seating as well Centralised Dog Park with Offers a large playground, This area affords two large No significant open space but the reserve Significantly Important for created with jumps as well as Existing playground is dated but in North Neighbourhood house. a significant amount of foot traffic as a playground. There is dated dense mixed native panting picnic facilities and a olaygrounds as well as a offers small trails, exploration and shade. the Wurundjeri First Nations coming from Lygon street. The dirt tracks being established pavilion for shelter. Holden Toilet is only open to the public exposure to Park street as there equipment within the playground with a variation of grasses sandpit, basketball court and when the Neighbourhood is no physical nor visual barrier. lack of amenities demonstrate but still proves to be extremely and trees. No fencing offered street playground proves centralised pavilion. There is lack of shade over playgrounds why it is more of a thoroughfare. but still has a successful house is open. popular due to it being easily Sand in the sand of the sand o Pidgon Street Scotchmer Street Princes Park -- Site Boundary Roads Meeting Area w/ Seating 🔝 Capital City Trail Cycle Network Community Hub IIIIIIIIIII Train Route **RUSHALL GARDEN** MARK ST RESERVE CARLTON NORTH NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE HARDY GALLAGHER RESERVE GENERAL MAINTENANCE FITZROY NORTH STATION StreetsWICK SOUTH ADJACENT OPEN SPACE Dog Park 🙀 Rushall Garden is part of the North Small pockets of open Train Station Community Hub with adjacent community garden. Well Open space with a scattered tree The community have stated PRIMARY SCHOOL Open space offering on adjacent Drummond St and Large open space with picnic facilities Fitzroy Community Gardens Group space line along the bike loved and maintained community gardens. Visible from planting. Not as popular and open as Urban Agriculture ---- 1m Contours including benches and barbecues. All the area needs more regular Open Space Interface with (NFCGG). It is a garden with both path down Mark Street. Park Street and SUP. The buildings and grounds are a the neighbouring Princes Park Edinburgh Gardens maintenance of lawns and rubbish. facilities are not accessible friendly. individual allotments and space for Brunswick South Primary Rathdowne St central median The reserve feels more like great example of what can be done with the wonderful communal gardening projects. a thoroughfare rather than a reserve



Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

What we heard

- Increase in native vegetation and wildlife
- Prioritise native trees, shrubs, and plants to provide shelter and habitat for wildlife
- Creating a native corridor with a focus on native species and vegetation, with a focus on bee-friendly flowers, a bee apiary, bare soil for native stingless bees to burrow and bee-hive classes and a composting hub or worm farm
- Continue to develop parklands as a nature corridor a heatwave buffer in a time of climate change. Suggested location: Space linking Royal Park to the creek, and towards Yarra bend

Yarra City Council's Aspiration

The parklands are an important open space asset for a range of reasons including:

- Providing a habitat corridor between Royal Park and the Merri Creek for insects, birds and small mammals;
- Contributing to biodiversity, urban cooling, and improved air quality. via large canopy trees and native plantings

Yarra Climate Emergency Plan 2020-2024

Yarra City Council recognizes the climate emergency as an unprecedented challenge. It requires large-scale action across all levels of The Gippsland Plain Bioregion: associated with sedimentary, layered government, businesses and the community to reduce carbon emissions and adapt to living on a hotter planet. This transition needs to occur in a fair and socially equitable way, with the most vulnerable people having the least capacity to respond.

Objectives

- Achieve zero-net emissions across the entire Yarra community by 2030, and accelerate the removal of excess carbon emissions
- Enable our community to take effective climate action pushing for urgent change and changing the way we live and work
- Ensure our community is safe, healthy and resilient especially those most vulnerable to severe climate impacts
- Create a city that continues to adapt to a changing climate and is ecologically healthy for all species
- Collaborate and advocate with others in the climate emergency movement to increase our impact

Yarra City Council Nature Strategy 2020-2024

"The land within the Yarra City Council supports a natural environment that is diverse, connected and resilient. Its custodians, the Wurundjeri/ Woi wurrung people, continue to care for Country as is their traditional lore. Yarra's residents and visitors appreciate and enhance the natural and cultural values of the land and water, contributing to benefits for all."

- Goal 1: A more diverse, connected and resilient natural environment
- Goal 2: People appreciate and seek to enhance the natural values of the Yarra landscape
- Goal 3: Nature is considered core council business
- Goal 4: Innovation, communication and collaboration are the cornerstones of nature-focused programs

The landscape of Yarra has been shaped by its geology. It sits at the junction of two distinctly different geological regions that in this case also geographically align with two bioregions. These bioregions are generally separated by the Yarra River:

The Victorian Volcanic Plain, characterised by its basaltic rock and clay soils, formed by volcanic eruptions to the west of Melbourne covering the majority of the municipality; and

geology of Silurian silt stones, Tertiary aged sandstones and Quaternary aged basalt. Each of these layers is much older than the western plains basalt and is derived from times when Victoria sat within a deep ocean

Observations

- Site mostly grades from west to east, with a low point observed between Rae Street and Brunswick Street N
- Grated pit observed adjacent to Park Street, assumed to be a stormwater pit to collect stormwater flows.
- Landscape appears to be mostly turfed with interspersed trees.
- Linear Park traverses a broader catchment and appears to only receive stormwater flows from its local catchment.

Issues

- Low biodiversity value in parts of the parklands
- There is areas prone to flooding across the parklands. A flood modelling analysis will drive locations of WSUD and flood mitigation
- Throughout the reserve there are several poorly positioned tree planting adjacent to HV power-lines that present little value due to the intensive pruning needed to maintain safe distances



Site Photo - Sheoak Forest



Site Photo - Native vegetation and canopy cover



Observations, Issues and Opportunities

Site Photo - Grasslands



Precedent Image - Pimelia Parklands, McGregor Coxall





Eastern Banjo Frog



Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

Opportunities

Climate Resilient Infrastructure and Integrated Water Management

- Water harvesting and treatment scheme Pump water from Merri Creek through a constructed urban wetland in the eastern corner of the Linear Park. This system would operate as a recirculation system, harvesting from Merri Creek can be treated and stored for irrigation of the parklands, eventually returning to Merri Creek as cleaner water.
- Ambitious proposal: creating a constructed water feature through the linear park. This could be an ephemeral waterway or constant flow stream of water harvested from Merri Creek.
- Passively irrigated street trees along Solly Ave and Park Street.
 These systems can be retrofitted immediately upstream of existing stormwater gully pits or using kerb cut-outs.
- Incorporating water sensitive urban design along the Inner Circle Rail Trail. Such interventions could include swales, bioswales, passively watered trees and bioretention pods.
- Passively irrigated street trees in parking lots along Park Street and at the termination of no through roads along the linear park
- Maximising porous surfaces. If the intention is to increase the hardscape, we recommend include porous surfaces (pavers, concrete, gravels, etc.) to ensure the window to groundwater and soil moisture recharge is not broken.
- The opportunity to leverage off existing infrastructure to collect and harvest rainwater, generate power through solar power opportunities and cool the landscape through shade structures.
- Solar powered new infrastructure.
- Flood detention zones in areas of low recreational and biodiversity value.
- Cool the landscape with shaded tree's. This will not only make a significant different now but with future heat events predicted as well as managing flood events, it will mitigate the damage caused.
- Community composting
- Edible produce/communal garden schemes

Biodiversity Health

- Include habitat features: Nesting boxes, Scrub, shrubs and groundcovers, and Boulders and rocky outcrops, insect hotels.
- Maximising native / endemic planting (trees, shrubs and groundcovers). Native species would be well adapted to the existing climatic conditions and soils.
- Ecological connection. Connecting patches of native vegetation along the reserve towards Merri Creek. The objective is to extend the ecological corridor into the linear park. It is critical to ensure that we are provide complex habitats of vegetation with varying heights. We aim to provide small animals area for refuge to hide from cats, dogs and humans.
- Create animal connection across roads potential to include animal ladders / bridges spanning across the road. This would allow possums and other arboreal animals to navigate across the linear corridor safely.
- Inclusion of ephemeral waterways and water bodies within the parklands.

EVC (Ecological Vegetation Class) Plantings

EVC plantings involve the restoration or creation of specific plant communities that are representative of particular ecological conditions and landscapes. This practice aims to re-establish native flora and enhance habitat quality for local wildlife, thereby improving biodiversity and ecological health. EVC plantings are guided by ecological mapping and classifications, ensuring that the selected species are well-suited to the local environment, including soil types, hydrology, and climate conditions. These plantings play a crucial role in conservation efforts and are used in land management practices to restore degraded areas and enhance ecosystem services.

 Include a pallet of historic endemic EVC planting to the area. These plantings will be of the Plains Grassy Woodland EVC:55 as pre 1750 habitat suggests.

Climate Adaptive Planting

Climate adaptive planting refers to the strategic selection and placement of plant species that are resilient to changing climate conditions, such as temperature fluctuations, altered precipitation patterns, and increased frequency of extreme weather events.

This approach focuses on enhancing ecosystem resilience and ensuring sustainable horticultural practices by choosing plants that can thrive under anticipated future climates. It often involves utilising native species or genetically diverse cultivars that are better suited to withstand stressors, thus promoting biodiversity, soil health, and carbon sequestration while mitigating the impacts of climate change.

- Include biodiverse and climate adaptive plantings with a provenance combination approach. Seed for a local species is sourced from varying climates to build resilience by using 70% local seed, 20% from hotter and drier climates (preferably 10% from a 2050 analogue location and 10% from a 2070/90 analogue location), and 10% from a wetter, cooler climate.
- Increase the visual amenity of the space utilising climate adaptive (including non-endemic) herbaceous perennial plantings to diversify plant stock and create a more visually spectacular landscape.



Image - Community composting



Image - Fruit Trees



Observations, Issues and Opportunities

rey-headed flying to



Precedent Image: Formalised water treatment pond, MONASH Peninsula

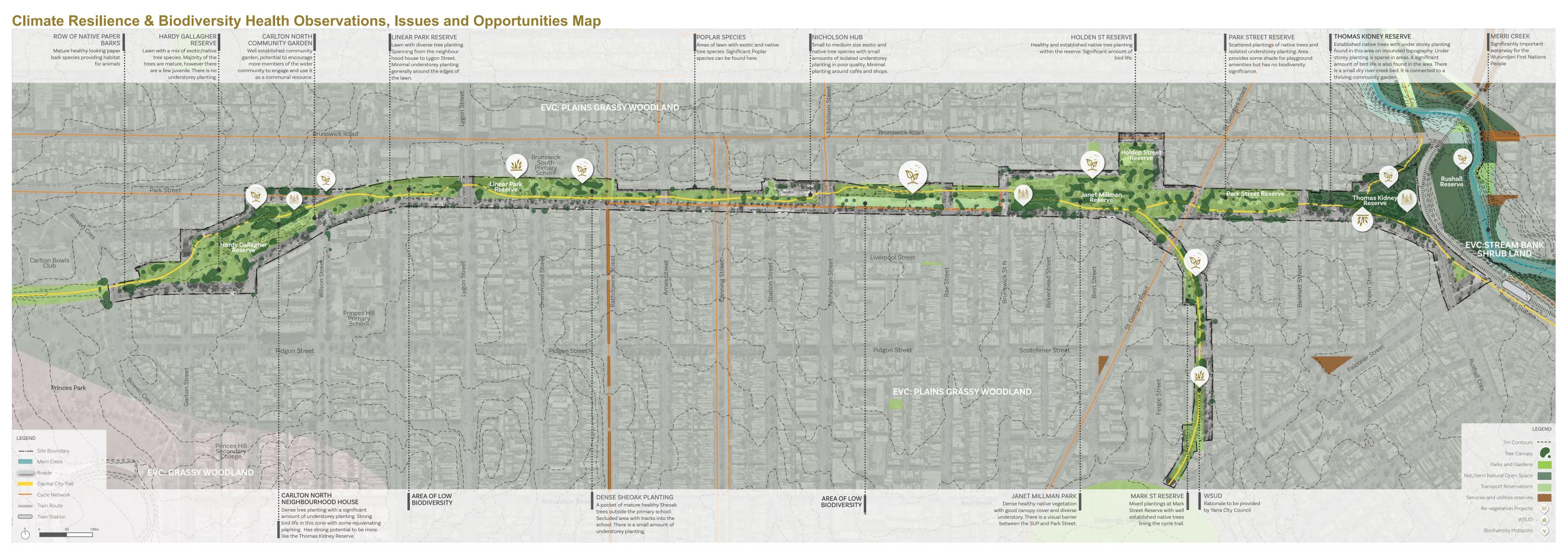


Precedent Image: Wetland for water treatment and detention



Image: Harvesting roof water for reuse

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Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

What we heard

Railway History

 Recognition of the railway history: Signage, information, plaques, or artwork referencing the railway history, railway tracks, inner circle, linear trains, tram and station

Signage and Wayfinding

- Recognition of the cultural and natural history: Signage, plaques or artwork referencing significant history, industrial, post settlement and European heritage.
- Information and signage about heritage buildings and significant trees and plants

Cultural Offering

- Outdoor cinema and pop-up events: Re-establish or continue the open-air movie nights in the summer evenings. More pop-up events run by locals for the benefit of the broader community
- Markets and stalls: Opportunities for local community groups to have stalls and buy/sell fresh produce, crafts, vintage clothes, and books.
 This would create a fun community vibe and would generate revenue or exposure for local participating businesses
- Music and festivals: Create a dedicated space (such as an amphitheatre) to host music events. Regular performance opportunities for local musicians and artists
- Food vans, pop-up cafés and bars: Re-establish or continue the food vans in Summer and warm weather for a fun and temporary way to activate the space on weekends or evenings. Encourage some small 'pop' up cafés to attract more people

Yarra City Council's Aspiration

Key aspirations outlined in the brief;

- Interpret the natural and cultural history of the site and incorporate these elements in visible and meaningful ways.
- Exploring opportunities to implement the recommendations of the Conservation Management Plan within broader parkland upgrades

Observations

 Cluttered and non-coordinated use of materials, furniture, signage across the different municipalities, create disconnected experience of corridor and lack of identity.

Issues

- Lack of cultural representation of the diverse communities surrounding the parklands
- Lack of interpretation, engagement and education opportunities
- Lack of Public art
- Lack of Signage and wayfinding
- Heritage elements that need to be preserved and potentially compromise safety or become visual clutter in the landscape are not read as significant heritage items.

Opportunities

Community Engagement and Education

- Ensure community see themselves in the built form and program of the parklands.
- Increasing community awareness through educational programs.
- Establish environmental and cultural educational programs for the broader community and school groups.
- Provide ways for the community to better engage with and learn about the history of the parklands and its neighbouring communities.

Heritage and Art

- Utilise walls as opportunity for art.
- Celebrate and frame specific heritage items that are otherwise lost or forgotten in the parklands.
- Make stories of the Merri Merri creek legible and accessible.

Flexible Community Spaces and Ownership

- Investigate the need for community garden space or other types of edible garden programs to engage a broader range of community.
- Create flexible spaces that can accommodate different user groups.
- Further enhance community ownership of the parklands, creek and its active transport corridor.

Signage and Wayfinding

Improve signage and wayfinding through cohesive holistic strategy.

Observations, Issues and Opportunities







Site Photo - North Carlton railway Neighbourhood House



Site Photo - Remnant of heritage Train Station



Image: Revegetation and community engagement

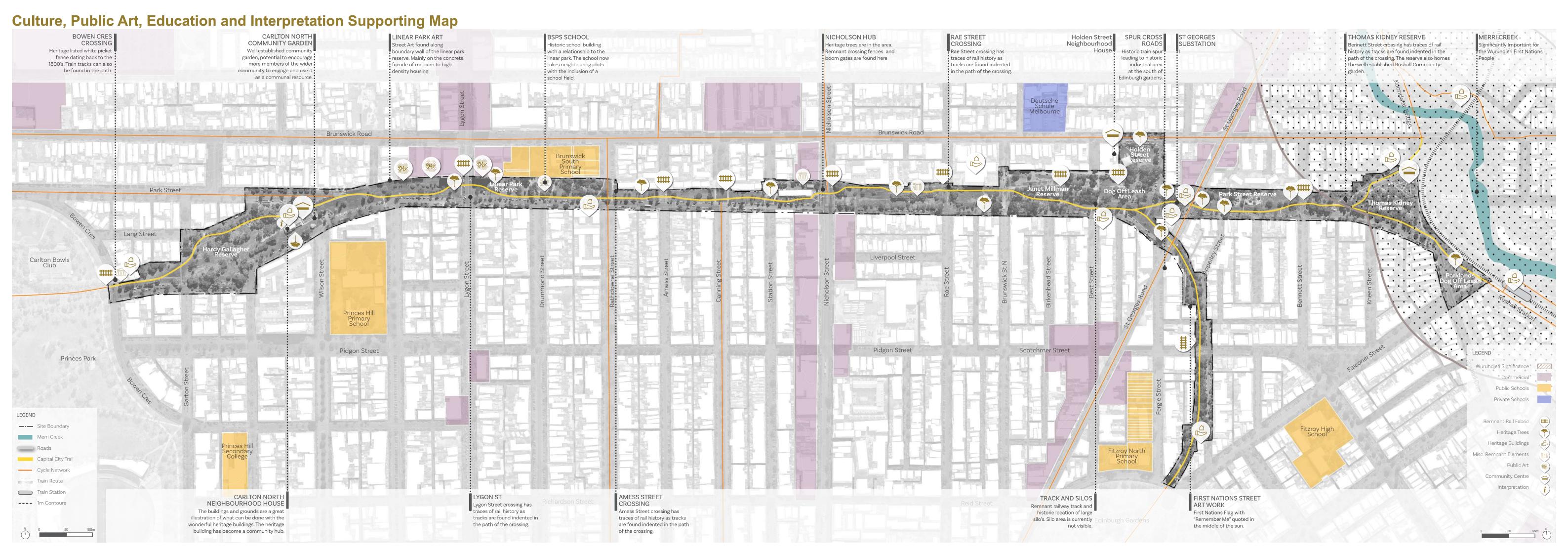


Image: Pedagogical signage and art (Birrarung Marr)



Image: Wurundjeri tree scarring, Kooroong Project

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3. Vision and Design Requirements

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Overview

How to read this chapter;

The following chapter has outlined overarching parklands objectives and key moves have been developed in response to the issues and opportunities report findings. What we heard from community, Yarra City Councils Aspiration, our teams observations, the identified issues and opportunities have informed these overarching strategies for the parklands and the key moves will assist Council and future consultants decision making. They are outlined in the following themes;





Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

Culture, Art, Education, and Interpretation

Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

Vision and Principles

Vision

The Inner Circle Linear Parklands will be a safe, equitable, parklands on Wurundjeri Country, supporting the health and sense of belonging for its diverse community. Offering a variety of experiences through a meaningful engagement with its animals, plants, culture, histories, and people.

Principles

- An inclusive, safe, equitable parkland for a diverse community
- Enhance the safety and comfort of a state-significant strategic cycling corridor
- Reconcile, and strengthen relationships with Wurundjeri Country
- Celebrate the parklands railway history and community activism
- Regenerate and connect ecologies and habitat to support biodiversity



3D Visualisation - Amenity Node with Wurundjeri Interpretation

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Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country

Objective 1: Establish ongoing relationship of reciprocity with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung **Aboriginal Corporation**

Key Move 1.1

Collaborate with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Aboriginal Corporation and other First Nations stakeholders to co-develop future projects and opportunities, as set out by Yarra City Council's Yana Ngargna Plan.

- Co-develop an interpretation strategy for the parklands.
- Understand where Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung have existing training, educational programs, workshops or tours and explore how they could be supported through the parklands future programming.
- Explore employment opportunities for local Aboriginals that may arise from the management and maintenance of the Reserve and activities within it.

Key Move 1.2

Build opportunities for procurement of materials and services from local First Nations businesses and artists, facilitating and strengthening economic development.

- Actively seek out local Aboriginal businesses and artists for partnerships in the procurement of construction materials, landscaping supplies, and contractor services.
- Include criteria in project procurement processes that prioritises local First Nations businesses and artists.

Key Move 1.3

Ensure all future projects are guided the by the Australian Indigenous Design Charter and are culturally appropriate and timeless.

- Embed Australian Indigenous Design charter criteria into future project briefs.

Objective 2: Create Cultural Visibility and Recognition in the Identity of the parklands

Key Move 2.1

Develop cohesive interpretation and wayfinding strategy that is codeveloped with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung

- Install bilingual signage that includes Woi Wurrung translations alongside English and other languages, providing information about features of interest and cultural markers.
- Incorporate Woi Wurrung language across the parklands through signage, artwork, and educational materials, promoting language continuation and education.

Key Move 2.2

Make Wurundjeri history, stories, and culture visible in parklands landscape and built form.

- Commission and install sculptures or artwork that depict significant elements of the areas Wurundjeri history, stories, and culture throughout the parklands. This could include ephemeral art, history, future narratives and planting themes.
- Incorporate Wurundjeri cultural motifs and symbols in the design of park structures, such as shelters, seating areas, and signage.
- Integrate overall narrative elements across the parklands, landforms, architecture, audio recordings, landforms, plantings and features to engage visitors and share the cultural significance of Wurundjeri people traveling across Country between Merri Merri, Moonee Ponds, and the Birrarung waterways.

Objective 3: Strengthen Community Engagement and Education

Key Move 3.1

Identify appropriate areas to create yarning circles providing spaces for community members to gather and share stories, fostering cultural exchange and understanding.

- Designate appropriate and specific areas for yarning circles, featuring seating arrangements that facilitate conversations and storytelling.
- Ensure yarning circles are contemporary and utilise natural locally sourced materials.
- Develop outdoor 'bush' classrooms for all ages and cultures to share knowledge of Country, environment, history, aboriginal dreaming, spirituality, and botany.
- Showcasing native food production and Wurundjeri cultural practices where possible.







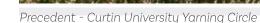


Precedent - Birrarung Wilam (Common Ground) by Couzens, Vicki; Darroch Lee; Hamm Treahna.



Parklands Design Requirements

Image - Scar Tree Birrarung Marr Birrarung Wilam (Common Ground) by Couzens, Vicki; Darroch Lee; Hamm Treahna.





Access, Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

Objective 1: Reduce pressure on the shared user path to provide an active transport corridor that caters for all abilities, is accessible, safe and is well-connected.

Key Move 1.1

Upgrade and improve adjacent Park Street cycling corridor to provide safe and comfortable off-road cycling and active transport route for commuters.

- The Capital City Trail is very busy and congested. There is limited space to upgrade the existing path, which we know will get busier over time. To accommodate current and future demand for the path, the adjacent corridor on Park Street presents a key opportunity to encourage the use of on-road facilities by people using bicycles and micromobility devices.
- The existing off-road path through the Linear Parklands would not be downgraded or removed, but Park Street developed as a safe and comfortable cycling route to encourage more bicycle and micromobility traffic to use an on-road facility, particularly for those travelling for trips where speed and directness are important (e.g. commuting). This would require significant change to Park Street to upgrade it to a safe and compliant standard, which is identified in the Yarra Transport Strategy.
- Given the projected land use changes, population growth, mode shift
 to sustainable transport, and other factors, these upgrades would
 need to be completed before the end of this decade to cater for
 expected demand. Any changes to discourage high-speed cycling or
 other interventions would not take place until the Park Street facility
 is completed.

Key Move 1.2

Enable the provision for a meandering alternative pedestrian path that provides a relaxed form of travel through the Linear Park.

- A meandering pedestrian only path can decrease the pressure on the SUP and provide further levels of safety and comfort for all users.
- The design should deter cyclists from using the path with an in-direct route and path surface not suitable for riding.

Objective 2: Provide an active transport corridor that is integrated appropriately with the parklands.

Key Move 2.1

Retain existing vegetation where possible that provides shading opportunities for existing path and increase shading opportunities along the SUP.

Key Move 2.2

Provide visual and tactile cues and include distinctive design elements at intersections and high pedestrian activity zones.

Key Move 2.3

Provide high levels of CPTED that create a safe environment for all who use the Inner Circle SUP and surrounding park, creating well-lit areas that make the parklands safe at all times of day.

Key Move 2.4

Prioritise DDA accessible parking in close proximity to activity nodes and destinations.

Objective 3: Ensure safety and clarity for active transport users at intersections.

Kev Move 3.1

Upgrade all existing non-signalised crossings to yellow priority crossings. Provide consistent and clear crossing points that ensure pedestrian and cyclist right of way wherever the SUP crosses any streets at non-signalised crossings.

Key Move 3.2

Upgrade all existing signalised crossings. Identify and establish signalised intersection improvement projects to improve active transport efficiency, safety, and clarity when crossing busy roads.

Key Move 3.3

Improve minor intersections to/from other active transport routes.

Key Move 3.4

Ensure adequate sight lines, signage, and pavement treatments to highlight approaching crossings, intersections, and activity nodes/destinations along the SUP.

Key Move 3.5

Undertake a detailed study of all connections from Park Street and North-Connections onto the SUP and future Park Street Cycling Corridor to determine requirements for upgrades in detailed design. Considerations should include: scale, sight lines, legibility and materiality when addressing the issue of pedestrian and cyclist safety. Planned upgrades or alterations to the current Park Street configuration will impact detailed design requirements.

Objective 4: Ensure accessibility and inclusivity in DDA (Disability Discrimination Act) compliant furniture, walkways, and car parks for individuals with diverse abilities.

Key Move 3.1

Integrate universal design principles into the planning and implementation process, ensuring that infrastructure enhancements cater to the widest range of abilities possible, thus promoting inclusivity without the need for separate accommodations.

Key Move 3.2

Engage Stakeholders, community and DDA consultants where possible to provide informed decision making and ensure future designs meet standards.

Key Move 3.3

Develop or utilise existing educational initiatives targeted at the community, businesses, and relevant stakeholders to foster a culture of accessibility, increase understanding of the importance of DDA compliance, and encourage proactive participation in creating accessible environments.



Image - Enabling and encouraging active transport

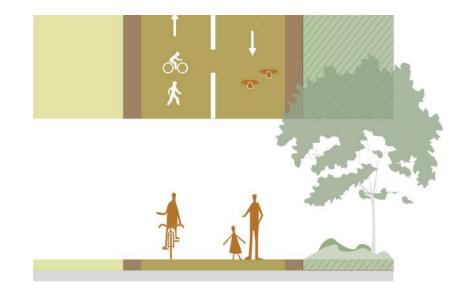


Image - Bike repair station, Saris Bike Stand, Auckland

Parklands Design Requirements



Precedent - Shared Path, St Georges Road, Thornbury



Shared User Path
0.5m
4.0m
Keep 0.5m clear fror infrastructure and planting on either

side of SUP

Diagram - Typical Shared User Path

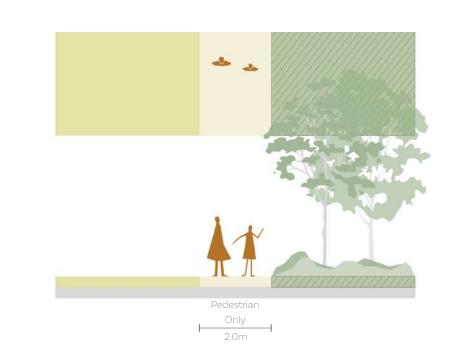


Image - Typical Pedestrian Only Path



Precedent - Sowerby Sports Village, UK

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Lighting Guidelines

General Lighting

A lighting strategy should be developed along the corridor's length to maintain a consistent approach, addressing both Council and community requirements. The lighting design should draw inspiration from and align with the Urban Design Guidelines for Victoria, as outlined in the Inner Circle Linear Park Shared Path CPTED Report prepared by Urban Initiatives.

Environmental considerations should always underpin lighting decisions. A darkness strategy ought to be implemented through most of the corridor, minimising light pollution for the benefit of the environment, ecology, and the overall user experience.

Within the corridor, a range of energy-efficient LED lights, organised in a hierarchical fashion, should be selectively placed. This stratification of lighting serves to enhance community engagement in open spaces, bolster safety, ensure accessibility, and contribute to the corridor's unique character, all while mitigating potential impacts on biodiversity.

Capital City Trail/ Inner Circle Rail Trail

The Capital City Trail should feature pole-mounted LED lights, guiding users along the path and emphasising its status as the primary trail within the corridor. Lighting should also be strategically placed at path intersections and main crossroads to ensure user visibility. The development of lighting solutions should encompass the entire corridor, with collaboration between adjacent councils to maintain a consistent design language as users move between council areas along the trail.

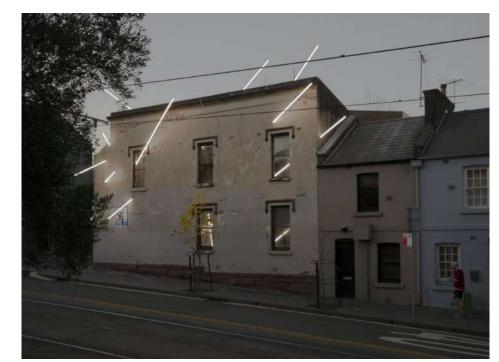
Motion sensitive or in-ground path edging lights should be used to create a safe user path.

Precincts and Key Moments

At designated destination points along the corridor, where evening activities are encouraged, sufficient lighting should be provided to ensure the safe use of these spaces. In cases where car parks are located near precincts or key moments, lighting should be applied as needed to enhance safety and visibility.

Feature Lighting

Feature lighting should be incorporated, aimed at showcasing art and interpretation, such as the Janet Millman Land Art Park.



Precedent - Ian Strange Intersections II



Image - Led Light Street pole, UK, Urbidermis santa and Cole



In-ground path lighting, JoBe Lighting



Precedent - Amenity Lighting, EWO

Parklands Design Requirements



3D Visualisation - Typical amenity node with rail heritage Interpretation and improved lighting

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Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

Objective 1: Establish the parklands as a comfortable and accessible destination.

Key Move 1.1

Establish and cluster designated areas for passive and active recreation nodes.

- Designate specific areas within the parklands for playgrounds, picnic spots, and small-scale sport facilities, co-locating facilities for user comfort
- Provide toilet facilities with high amenity nodes and picnic/barbecue facilities.

Key Move 1.2

Increase the frequency, quality, and accessibility of facilities.

- Provide toilet facilities at approximately 500m intervals.
- Install additional seating throughout the parklands. Seating every
 60m minimum with space for wheelchairs, prams, bicycles etc.
- Install communal BBQ facilities, water taps, picnic tables and shade structures
- Repair and upgrade existing facilities, playground equipment, picnic areas, and sport facilities. Determine if existing facilities are in the right locations.

Key Move 1.3

Incorporate sustainable practices in management of urban heat island mitigation.

- Increase tree canopy cover to improve shade and create a healthier environment for visitors in all seasons.
- Plant a diverse range of tree species to increase tree canopy cover across open space offering.
- Create shade associated with seating, picnic areas and paths.
- Establish new ornamental plantings in front of the former stations, substations and other key public landmarks. Planting to be consistent with the character of historical specimens but addressing contemporary needs and expectations, outlined in the Conservation Management Plan (2022) prepared by Lovell Chen and Yarra City Council.

Key Move 1.4

Create dog-friendly spaces and facilities.

- Designate specific areas within the parklands as dog-friendly spaces.
- Implement guidelines and informative signage for dog owners to ensure safety and comfort for all park visitors.

Objective 2: Diversify passive sporting facilities and play spaces across the linear parklands for varying interests, ages, and abilities.

Key Move 2.1

Install and upgrade suitable equipment to cater to various age groups and recreational preferences.

- Deliver small-scale sporting facilities for casual use by individuals and small groups such as boccie, table tennis, chess, half basketball/ volleyball courts, bouldering walls.
- Co-locate most existing sports facility nodes to consolidate built facilities to minimise the unnecessary duplication of assets and facilities.
- Install fitness stations or exercise equipment along the paths.

Key Move 2.2

Designate nature-based play areas with engaging obstacles and natural elements, incorporating large logs as seating and play structures.

- Identify suitable areas within the parklands to create nature-based play zones to promote imaginative and engaging play.
- Incorporate engaging objects and natural elements and materials into the play areas.
- Use large logs as seating and play structures.
- Incorporate water play and engagement with environmental systems.

Objective 3: Strengthen opportunities to engage with landscape and environmental systems.

Key Move 3.1

Create tracks and trails that offer moments of respite and connection with the environment and encourage physical activity.

- Develop and construct appropriate walking trails and meandering paths that offer respite from the busy Shared User Path.
- Continue to develop and embed communal food growing spaces and education on sustainable practices and growing your own food.
- Increase access to existing community gardens
- Provide safe community composting initiates

Key Move 3.2

Investigate integration of open space interfaces with adjacent properties such as Brunswick South Primary School and the Ronald McDonald house.

- Replace fences with softer boundaries such as vegetation, hedges, trees, or boulders.
- Improve open space offering next to key adjacent properties and schools.
- Improve open space offering next to "The Front Yards"

Key Move 3.3

Create features of interest and increase under-story vegetation to delineate spaces, provide visual buffers between the Shared User Path and open space, and enhance the aesthetics.

- Plant native shrubs, grasses, and low growing ground cover vegetation to create natural boundaries and visual buffers.
- Incorporate features of interest such as sculptures, art installations, or water features.
- Create ecologically based plant communities in areas with no tree canopy that create rich and climate resilient plantings

Objective 4: Ensure the parklands are a safe environment for all users.

Kev Move 4.

Develop a smart, effective and cohesive lighting strategy that address' key issues identified by community and stakeholders

Key Move 4.2

Ensure all future projects are guided by CPTED Principles

Precedent - Nature play elements and furniture, Lizard Log, McGregor Coxall



Precedent -Mpavilion cultural and event space

Parklands Design Requirements



Precedent - Shelter w/ BBQ facilities, Lizard Log, McGregor Coxall



Image - Parklands Bench



Precedent - Shared ports facilities at Box Hill Gardens



Precedent - Lizard Loa Nature Plauaround, McGreaor Coxall

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Materials, Structures and Furniture Guidelines

Material

Select a refined range of sustainable materials in earthy tones that compliment with the surrounding environment rather than compete with it. Prioritise durable, local, reusable materials.

Structures and Furniture

Develop a collection of furniture and structures throughout the parklands. These should exemplify high-quality, versatile infrastructure that seamlessly integrates physical, natural, and cultural elements into a cohesive whole.

Guidelines

- Aim for sustainability outcomes and sustainable building methodologies that surpass industry standards.
- Whenever feasible, use recycled materials, especially those found on-site. Materials such as rock and felled trees for furniture, play elements and habitat.
- Consider building materials life cycle and embodied energy, with a focus on natural, recyclable, eco-friendly materials.
- Follow the Yarra City Council Design standards as a reference, and incorporate items such as bins and drinking fountains from their standard furniture selection when possible.
- Collaborate with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung community to safeguard and ensure respect towards cultural values and protocols, interpreting and celebrating them appropriately.
- Where suitable, design for inclusivity to accommodate individuals of all abilities.
- Take into account the long-term maintenance, repair, and replacement costs of assets within the context of the Yarra City Council.
- Ensure that all buildings and associated structures meet the highest environmental standards as outlined by the Green Star Rating system
- Design infrastructure to harmonise with the landscape and cultural surroundings.



Image - Gan Eden, Hillside Memorial Park



Precedent - Ballast Point Shelter, Ballast Point Park, McGregor Coxall



Image - Timber bench, Activity Landscape Kastrup



Precedent - Ballast Point Park. McGregor Coxall



Precedent - Pimelea Park, McGregor Coxall



Image - Crushed stone aggregate



3D Visualisation - Typical amenity node with bicycle repair station and universally designed inclusive seating

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Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

Objective 1: Enhance ecological health of the corridor

The 'Wildlife habitat connectivity across the City of Merri-bek' by Hahs and Mata (2024) identifies the Linear Parkland as an important ecological corridor by providing habitats for several focal species, which are strong fliers (black-shouldered kite); or insect pollinators (blue-banded bee and Australian painted lady).



Key Move 1.1

Integrate IWM interventions into open spaces to make water features visible and enjoyable, which creates opportunities to inform and educate communities about IWM benefits and their responsibilities to maintain a sustainable landscape.

Key Move 1.2

Provide passive cooling effect with IWM interventions through increasing tree canopy to create improved micro-climates through evaporation and evapotranspiration.

Key Move 1.3

Connect patches of native vegetation along the reserve towards Merri Creek through maximising native/endemic planting to extend the ecological corridor into the linear park.

Key Move 1.4

Provide complex habitats of vegetation with varying heights including refuge for small animals from cats, dogs, and humans.

Key Move 1.4

Utilise succession planting strategy for new tree planting to ensure staggered end-of-life.

Key Move 1.6

Enhance habitat features - potential to increase the native planting species including a pallet of historic endemic EVC planting to the area, especially areas with low biodiversity. These plantings will be of the Plains Grassy Woodland EVC:55 as pre 1750 habitat suggests; include boulders, logs, nesting boxes, insect hotels, animal ladders, which would allow a diversity of native animal species using and navigating the habitat, like VBA species of grey-headed flying foxes, possums, and other arboreal animals.

Key move 1.7

Increase the visual amenity of the space utilising climate resilient (including non-endemic) herbaceous perennial plantings to diversify plant stock and create a more visually spectacular landscape

Key Move 1.8

Include biodiverse and climate adaptive plantings with a provenance combination approach. Seed for a local species is sourced from varying climates to build resilience by using 70% local seed, 20% from hotter and drier climates (preferably 10% from a 2050 analogue location and 10% from a 2070/90 analogue location), and 10% from a wetter, cooler

Biodiversity Biodiversity

Biodiversity Cover of Total Landscape

Utilise locally sourced natural materials in built form and landscape, such as timber, stone, and plants from local supplier.

Key Move 2.2

Incorporate these locally sourced materials in the design and

Introduce solar panels to help power sustainable systems within the parklands, helping run everything from water pumps to lighting.

Key Move 2.4

Consider circular economy principles in the design of site and structures to reduce impacts on the climate change and ecological environment, such as eliminating construction waste and pollution, promote utilising low embodied energy, recycled and recyclable materials, and create a closed loop system for water reuse and power generation.

Key Move 2.5

(2022) into the design of the parklands landscape areas and amenity. Incorporate rail infrastructure into the design of the parklands future

Objective 2: Utilise locally sourced materials and adopt sustainable design principles

Key Move 2.1

construction of park structures, pathways, and seating areas.

Key Move 2.3

Apply the recommendations from the Conservation Management Plan character.

Parklands Design Requirements



Precedent - Little creek, Harleston Park



Site Photo - Trail



Image - Raingarden, Sacramento State Campus Library

Image - Animal Ladder



Precedent - Elsternwick Nature Reserve, McGregor Coxall



Precedent - Insect Hotel. Vallmora Park. Spain



Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

Parklands Design Requirements

Objective 3: Water quantity: Reduce localised flooding through IWM interventions

Key Move 3.1

Design and implement raingardens at the localised flooding hotspots across the parklands to reduce runoff and release stress of stormwater pits and pipes during major events.

Key Move 3.2

Design and implement rainwater tanks with suitable volumes to harvest runoff from the existing building rooftops for irrigation and toilet flushing.

Key Move 3.3

Design and implement passive irrigated tree pits in the existing parking lots and plaza to reduce runoff from concrete hardscape and provide a cooling environment.

Objective 4: Water quality: Improve waterway health of Merri Creek

Key Move 4.1

Harvest and treat stormwater to improve the quality of water-flows through the IWM interventions of rain gardens, vegetated swales, and tree pits before discharging into Merri Creek.

Key Move 4.2

Recirculate water from Merri Creek for treatment and reuse for irrigation of the parklands, as well as returning treated water back into Merri Creek.

Objective 5: Water reuse: Reduce potable water consumption

Key Move 5.1

Harvest stormwater from rooftop rainwater harvesting tanks to be reused for toilet flushing and communal garden irrigation.

Key Move 5.2

Maximize harvesting surface stormwater runoff with underground storage tanks and underground drainage to reuse for landscape irrigation across the parkland.

Toolkit of WSUD options within the parklands

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VEGETATED SWALES

Swales aim to convey surface water flows across the site. These systems are important for ensuring the site remains well drained. Vegetated swales contribute to stormwater treatment by trapping coarse sediments, debris and litter.

Vegetated swales are proposed along part of the Inner Circle Rail Trail to reorganize the stormwater flows across the parklands on surface and function as the complementary drainage to the existing underground one. They are a simple but effective way to retain water in the landscape and convey stormwater entering the creek corridor.



Raingardens are used as filtration

RAINGARDENS

systems through filter media, hydraulic loading and biological uptake to treat stormwater. The filter media is specifically designed to meet stormwater quality objectives. Taking a decentralised approach, raingarden minimises the required treatment area of the catchment, and allows stormwater treatment to be well integrated into the landscape. Each system is designed with extended detention, providing some flood detention capacity throughout the site. Treated flows are either discharged into the receiving environment or harvested for subsequent reuse.

Raingardens are proposed at the localised flooding hotspots across the parklands to reduce runoff and release stress of stormwater pits and pipes during minor and frequent storm events. Runoff from heavy storms should bypass the raingarden into the drainage system.



RAINWATER TANKS

Rainwater tanks harvest stormwater runoff from impermeable surfaces like roofs, reducing the amount that enters waterways. They can help minimise the potable water usage when reusing the captured runoff for toilet, laundry or garden.

For parklands, rainwater tanks with suitable volumes are proposed to harvest runoff from the existing building rooftops which aim to supplement non-potable water reuse, such as toilet flushing, communal gardens and park irrigation.

PASSIVELY IRRIGATED TREES



Passively irrigated tree systems aim to promote vibrant growth through the provision of healthy soil volumes and water. These systems provide an array of benefits including passive cooling through evapotranspiration and shading, stormwater treatment and habitat creation.

Passive irrigated trees are proposed in the existing parking lots and plaza within the parklands to reduce runoff from concrete hardscape and provide cooling environment. Bioretention pods and swales may be vegetated with these trees, when they are designed with suitable drainage and soil volumes.

COMPOSTING TOILETS



A worm composting toilet is an "ecosystem in a tank" which mimics nature and treats the wastewater without needing costly large mechanical aerators to run, repair or replace.

It is essentially an advanced trickling filter process with worms added to enhance the reduction of solids in the filter. It treats waste water to a level that is suitable for land disposal via irrigation of gardens, lawns and bush.

One system could provide 100m2 to 200m2 of sustainable irrigation from treated waste water.



Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

Objective 1 - Preserve, connect, and celebrate the railway history and cultural heritage of the parklands.

Key Move 1.1

Create an interpretation strategy of the railway history. Significant research and recommendations for railway history is outlined in the Conservation Management Plan(2022) prepared by Lovell Chen and Yarra City Council. This should be co-developed with the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Interpretation strategy to ensure a cohesive strategy that unifies the stories of the parklands.

 Install informative signage or plaques near heritage buildings and landmarks, remnant railway tracks or stations, significant trees, and plants, providing historical context and preservation efforts.

Key Move 1.2

Enhance and celebrate railway heritage items through supporting landscape and/or architectural form.

Objective 2 - Enhance the cultural offering and social opportunities within the parklands.

Key Move 2.1

Designate specific areas within the parklands for local community groups to host regular markets and stalls, featuring fresh produce, crafts, vintage clothes, and books.

Key Move 2.2

Designate an events space to enable regular events such as outdoor cinema, local musicians and artistic performance.

 Potential for an amphitheatre, stage, three-phase power, toilets, and seating.

Key Move 2.3

Designate cultural nodes for cafés pop-up cafés, and bars.

Key Move 2.4

Develop educational programs that offer guided tours for school groups and the broader community, covering both the environmental and cultural aspects of the parklands.

Key Move 2.5

Install interactive installations and sculptures that tell the stories of the Merri Merri Creek, engaging visitors and making the history accessible and meaningful.

Objective 3 - Improve signage, wayfinding, and interpretation to create a cohesive and engaging experience for visitors ensuring integration with active transport signage.

Key Move 3.1

Develop a signage, interpretation and wayfinding strategy for the parklands, this should be integrated with Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung strategies.

- Enhance interpretive signage with detailed narratives and images, providing historical and cultural information about heritage sites, public art, and amenities.
- Transform walls and strategic locations into opportunities for art installations, incorporating cultural and historical themes, making the parklands visually engaging and culturally significant.
- Incorporate diverse cultural elements into the parklands' architecture and design, such as sculptures, murals, or architectural motifs, representing the surrounding communities.
- Signage and wayfinding is co-developed with both Yarra City Council and Merri-bek City Council to ensure consistent language.

Parklands Design Requirements







Precedent - Chemin des Carrières (Railway interpretation)



Image -Storm King Sculpture park



Precedent - Platypus Sub-base Historical interpretation into play



Image - Events - Cinema night



Image - digital wayfinding , Yalinguth First Nations Augmented Reality App,

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Wayfinding and Interpretation Guidelines

Wayfinding & Signage

A wayfinding, art and interpretation strategy should be developed and deployed across the parklands corridor, signifying entries, routes, destinations within the corridor and key surrounding destinations outside of the corridor, including the Capital City Trail. The wayfinding will also help to define a sense of place and identity for the park, drawing from the rich history & stories. Wayfinding and directional signage should be kept at a minimum and consolidated where possible to ensure minimal clutter in the corridor.

The interpretation strategy will need to be co-developed with Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Cultural Heritage Corporation to ensure the story and history of the parklands on Wurundjeri Country is told in meaningful and respectful ways. There is a unique opportunity for a contemporary Wurundjeri songline to be developed and integrated across the length of the parklands between the Merri Merri and Moonee Ponds Creeks.

The interpretation strategy will also need to engage with the values and recommendations outlined in the Conservation Management Plan (2022) prepared by Lovell Chen and Yarra City Council. This significant body of work documents the rich railway history and community activism of the parklands and provides detailed recommendations on how to engage the public creatively with its past.

Interpretation should be more than just signs and integrated more holistically into the story, design and documentation of each precinct and key moment.

Wayfinding and signage should be considered throughout the whole corridor, working with adjacent councils to ensure a consistent design language is used when moving between council areas. Below are two signage categories.

General Parkland Wayfinding Signage

Wayfinding signage assists users in navigating through the parklands. Consideration in the strategy will need to be given to the following;

- Gateway entrance Showing that people are entering or leaving the Inner Circle Linear Parklands.
- Park Identification Located at park entries, which includes maps.
- Map directional signage Located at key nodes and decision making points. Map signage could also provide information such as suggested walking itineraries, route notes, distances and average walking times between key destinations. Utilise simple walking icon with time and bike icon with time to destinations.

- Trail directional signage Located at intersection of paths
- Trail markings To distinguish different trail typologies
- Wayfinding for high-speed users needs to be legible for users when:
- Travelling at high speeds
- Needing to make quick directional decisions

An interpretation signage assists in telling the stories of the site,

- signage can be used as tools for education, and should appeal to a wide range of ages and interests.
- Small Interpretation signage Located along paths providing information on the not-so-obvious attractions of the corridor.

Interpretation integrated within built form, as creative elements within the landscape.

- Destination directional signage Located where necessary to direct to key nodes and destinations such as pavilions and train stations.
- Viewing from a distance

Interpretation Strategy and Signage

including Wurundjeri stories, history, cultural and natural values:

- Large Interpretation signage Located at attractions. Interpretive

Parklands Design Requirements



Precedent - Granite Island Causeway





Precedent - Ballast Point, NSW, McGregor Coxall



Image - Signage for North Malecón for the city of Babahoy, Ecuador





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4.Area Plans

Overview

How to read this chapter;

This chapter is divided into 5 area plans which collectively make up the Inner Circle Linear Parklands. Precincts and secondary key moments have been identified within the areas, establishing focal points along the length of the parkland that respond to their existing character and adjacencies.

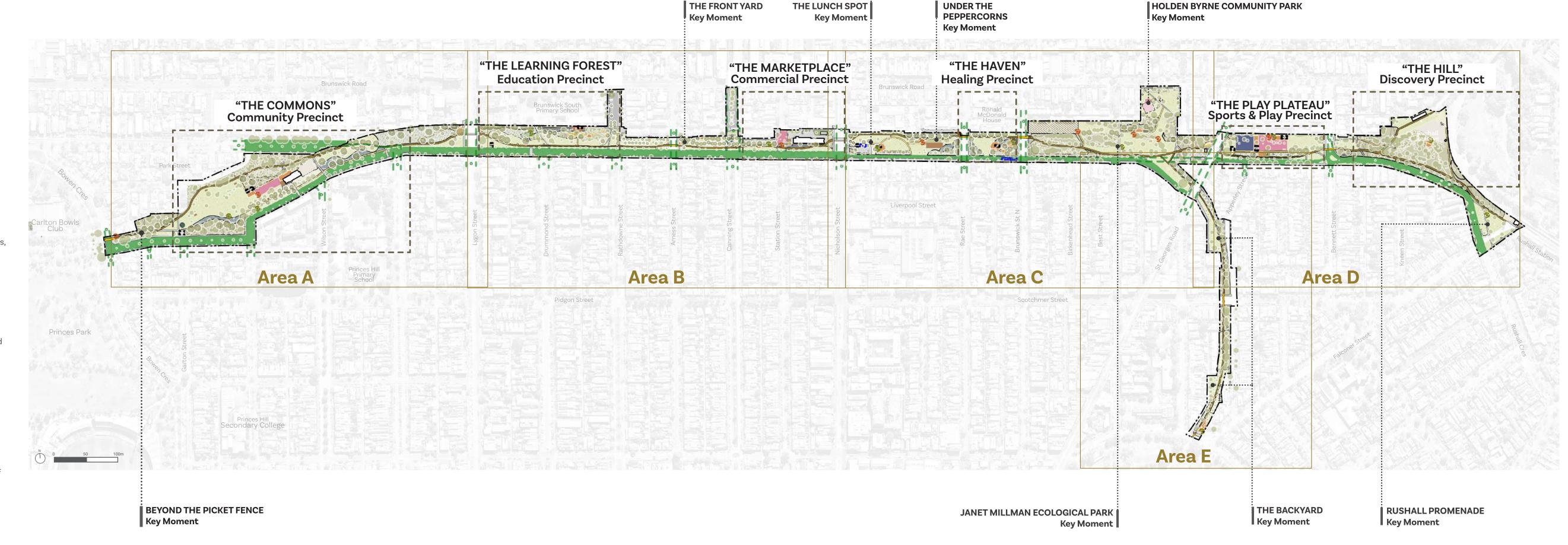
The decision-making process for identifying precincts in this chapter was comprehensive, involving various factors and inputs. It involved considering and balancing:

- Community engagement and feedback,
- Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Corporation engagement
- Stakeholder engagement
- Inner Circle Linear Parklands background reports
- Parklands design requirements
- Aligning with Yarra City Council's objectives and strategic documents,
- Analysing observations from the design team and council project working groups
- Addressing identified issues
- Important interfaces and connections.

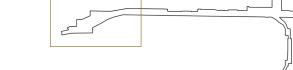
The project team has listened to the feedback received from the community and key stakeholders. Their voices and perspectives were heard and incorporated into the following identification of precincts and secondary key moments.

Precincts are concentrations of amenity and infrastructure investment that leverage off the existing character and strengths of the parklands destinations. By leveraging off the precincts' existing qualities, the masterplan will aim to enhance the offerings through an editing of the conditions and incorporating amenities/programs that respond to the key themes co-developed with the community and stakeholders.

The spaces in between are quieter experiences where biodiversity, movement, and pause points are prioritised for individuals and small groups. By preserving its unique character and involving the community in the future development process, the parklands can cater to people of all ages and abilities.



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Area A - (Bowen Crescent to Lygon Street)

The Area's Future

Precincts

"The Commons" Community Precinct

Key Moments

"Beyond the picket fence"

"The Commons" Community Precinct

Place Character and User Experience

Nestled amidst native vegetation and centred around the historic North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House, "The Commons" Community Precinct is a popular spot for locals. It has a strong inclusive atmosphere and is a popular destination for workshops, events, and social gatherings.

Here the community experience and notion of the commons is enhanced through the celebration of Wurundjeri culture, the Railway history and additional Neighbourhood House landscape offerings including expanded communal produce, highlighting local bush foods, and programme initiatives such as communal composting that bring locals to this destination on a regular basis.

Adjacent to the Neighbourhood house, greater connectivity to an enhanced playground extends the precinct, and amenity, shade and seating cater to diverse community needs and ensure everyone can fully enjoy the local precinct's offerings.

Amenities and Program

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung

- Native foods productive garden.
- Interpretation and education elements celebrating Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung culture.

Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

- 24-hour public toilet facility with solar panels.
- Lawn for picnicking and passive recreation
- Expanded community garden to the east.
- Community composting initiatives.
- Upgraded playground to include elements of nature play, railway history, and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung culture.
- Orchard with fruit-bearing trees.
- Picnic shelters with solar panels.
- Additional gathering areas in front of the North Carlton Railway house amidst the native vegetation.

*Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

- Railway interpretation elements throughout the precinct.
- A small amphitheatre space for community events.
- Space for community art programs.
- Education programs on productive foods.

గీంగ్ Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

- Pavement material changes when approaching "The Commons" to enhance cycling and pedestrian awareness.
- Meandering pedestrian-only path from the orchards in the east, running south below the Neighbourhood House and connecting to Princes Park.
- Disabled parking bays are in close proximity to precinct.
- Bicycle parking

Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and **Biodiversity Health**

- Climate adaptive plantings and low bushland conservations zones across the entire precinct, connecting it to the education precinct
- Water harvesting tree pit depressions to improve water management.
- Above-ground water tank at the North Carlton Railway Neighbourhood House. Investigate the potential for use in toilet flushing of existing toilets in the Neighbourhood House.
- Swales for improved water drainage.
- Solar panels on the roof of the Neighbourhood house.

"Beyond the picket fence"

The entrance to the (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands from Princes Park offers an opportunity for a welcoming change of experience. There is opportunity to celebrate Wurundjeri Country and the significant rail history presented in the white picket fence. This could be an opportunity for an artist to create a work that communicates the (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands story!



Site Image: North Carlton Neighbourhood House



Parklands Masterplan

Precedent - Ceres Community Environment Park



Image - Urban Orchards



Image - Toilet Ballast Point Park, McGregor Coxall, Chrofi

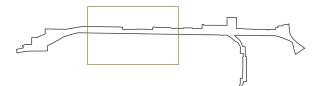


Precedent - DelAire Park, Fruit Park

Area A - (Bowen Crescent to Lygon Street) CYCLING CORRIDOR MAINTAIN EXISTING ADAPTIVE CONNECTION OPEN LAWN "THE COMMONS" PLAY AREA PLANTING Connection to Park St is Upgrade and expand existing maintained and improved 1574 m² NORTH CARLTON playground and surrounding with Park St Upgrade Commercial amenity. Incorporate Rail history NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE into playground design with linear Improve access to North Carlton design expressions. Neighbourhood House. Upgrade existing amenity and construct ---- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary platform interfacing with ---- Local Government Area Boundary playground and open space to SHELTER LOW BUSHLAND — — Existing Contour (1m) Install a new shelter with picnic, CONSERVATION ZONE Overhead Powerlines BBQ, and amenity. PLATFORMS IN THE HILLS Existing Concrete Path MERRI-BEK CITY COUNCIL Construct a series of small addition Existing Compacted Aggregate hills and picnic platforms to enhance Existing Primary Shared User Path YARRA CITY COUNCIL the vast character of the open space Proposed Compacted Aggregate Park Street and encourage users to stay: LOW BUSHLAND CONSERVATION Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Upgrade Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Connection Upgrac Proposed DDA Car Space CYCLING CORRIDOR CONNECTION Landscape Areas Connection to Wilson St i Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area Residential Residential maintained and improved Proposed Active Sports Area Residential with Park St Upgrade Proposed Platform Area LYGON ST PARK STREET CYCLING Proposed Seating and Amenity Node INTERSECTION **AMENITY NODE** CORRIDOR Proposed Fitness Station UPGRADE Improve cycling infrastructure Containing seats, WSUD RAIN GARDEN Engage with Yarra Trams along Park Street to drinking fountain, Architecture and Site Structures and the Department of Construct a raingarden to mitigate potential encourage high speed wayfinding and Existing Building

S Proposed Shelter

T Proposed Toilet Transport and Planning to commuters off the SUP. oding, clean water, and provide habitat. bicycle repair station OPPORTUNITY FOR create a super tram stop. FITNESS STATION Ensure safe, practical and PLACEMENT integrated solution to all PARK ST Lang Street arterial road crossings at CYCLING CORRIDOR : CONNECTIVITY Lygon St, Nicholson St and CONNECTION Facilitate safe and accessible Proposed Raingarden Brunswick Road. Connection to Park Street and cycling connection from Mcilwrath St is maintained LOW BUSHLAND Park St to Park St across the and improved with Park St CONSERVATION Furniture + Fittings Upgrade Retain Existing Seating Retain Existing Bins Retain Existing Drinking Fountains ORCHARD Retain Existing Bicycle Rack Orchard to be an extension Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location of the existing communal **EXISTING YELLOW** Proposed Seating Location garden with climate adaptive DDA PARKING PRIORITY CROSSING Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank plantings to front of building Proposed Above Ground Rainwater Tank Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location CYCLING CORRIDOR Proposed Wayfinding Point CONNECTION Proposed Composting and Sustainability Centre **CLIMATE ADAPTIVE** Connection to Wilson St is PLANTINGS maintained and improved with Park St Upgrade Existing Open Lawn Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting Existing Communal Garden PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones CROSSING Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings Princes Park Holtom Street West "THE COMMONS" Proposed Native Tree WSUD RAIN GARDEN 24 HOUR Existing Tree to be retained LOW BUSHLAND **COMMUNITY PRECINCT** PUBLIC TOILET Construct a raingarden to mitigate "BEYOND THE PICKET FENCE" CONSERVATION (OPTION A) potential flooding, clean water, and provide habitat.



Area B - (Lygon Street to Nicholson Street)

The Area's Future

Precincts

- "The Learning Forest" Education Precinct
- "The Marketplace" Commercial Precinct

Key Moments

- "The Front Yard"

"The Learning Forest" Education Precinct

Place Character and User Experience

The "Learning Forest" education precinct is focused on providing education to young and old with a strong connection to Brunswick South Primary School.

The parklands feel like an extension of the school yard. The nature-play focus, community meeting point, pre and post school waiting space will be enhanced with further amenity to cater to student and carer needs.

Planting and landscape will be driven by existing features such as the Sheoak forest, native vegetation and swale.

Amenities and program

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung

- Outdoor Country-focused classrooms for community education.
- Pedagogical cultural trails.
- Interpretation and education elements celebrating Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung culture.

Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

- A shared treatment and landscape with the southern school boundary and entrance to the school.
- Focused lawn areas frequently maintained for passive recreation such as Frisbee.
- Informal pump track.
- Nature play
- Small sports elements such as table tennis tables/ hopscotch and chess tables
- Amenities such as picnic seating, toilets, drinking fountains.

Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

- Interactive education elements
- Small spill out events space for school markets initiatives to spill out into parklands.
- Highlight heritage railway items.

ీనం Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

- Designated gathering areas for school drop off and pick up with material changes to mitigate safety issues from Shared User Path.
- Meandering pedestrian path
- Implement school zone pavement material changes when approaching "The Learning Grove" to enhance cycling and pedestrian
- Upgraded active transport links and facilities into and for the school to encourage active travel of students, parents and staff.
- Ensure Disabled parking bays are in close proximity to precinct

Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and

- Educational sustainability and circular economy initiatives
- Climate adaptive plantings connecting east and west and into
- Expand swale into rain-garden collection point
- WSUD Raingardens
- Enhance the Sheoak Grove.







Image - weaving vegetation



Precedent - Moubray Street Community Park, Port Phillip

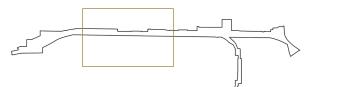




Image - Nature School Primary



Precedent - Sturt Street Children's Centre Vic



Area B - (Lygon Street to Nicholson Street)

"The Marketplace" Commercial Precinct

Place Character and User Experience

The "Linear Marketplace" commercial precinct is an open and welcoming extension of the Nicholson Street shops into the parklands. It is an active, bustling precinct focused on providing visitors with a place to have breakfast with friends or grab a quick coffee on their commute or visit the bike shop for a repair.

It feels like a small social plaza with appropriate all weather paved areas and adequate amenity, such as shelters and a toilet in close proximity. There is a nature playground next to the shops for parents and kids. The heritage listed exotic birch trees assist in the framing of the kids play area and plaza.

Amenities and program

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung

- Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Interpretation elements
- Indigenous foods in the biodiverse planting areas

Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

- Focused areas of lawn in low pedestrian traffic areas
- Permanent and temporary seating options
- 24-hour toilet (YCC Toilet Strategy)
- Adequate bicycle amenity
- Consolidation of car park on eastern side of Nicholson Street for improved community use - prioritise DDA Spaces

Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

- Interactive signage elements for heritage trees
- Enhance feeling of plaza through designated hardscape zones
- Designated areas for temporary markets, events and pop up bars/ cafés.

Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

- Pavement material changes when approaching "The Linear Marketplace" to enhance cycling and pedestrian awareness
- Remove blind spot corner next to shops
- Ensure Disabled parking bays are in close proximity to precinct

Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and **Biodiversity Health**

- Introduce climate adaptive plantings
- Incorporate biodiverse planting into Nature play area
- Native tree WSUD Depressions

"The Front Yard" Key Moment

Open lawn, heritage trees and a welcoming community is present at "The Front Yard". The front yards of adjacent properties open onto the parklands creating an experience of a collective front yard. To enhance the character of this place, upgraded amenity and additional trees to the outer boundaries of the lawn areas will increase shade whilst allowing people to still kick the footy and fly a kite in between the canopies.









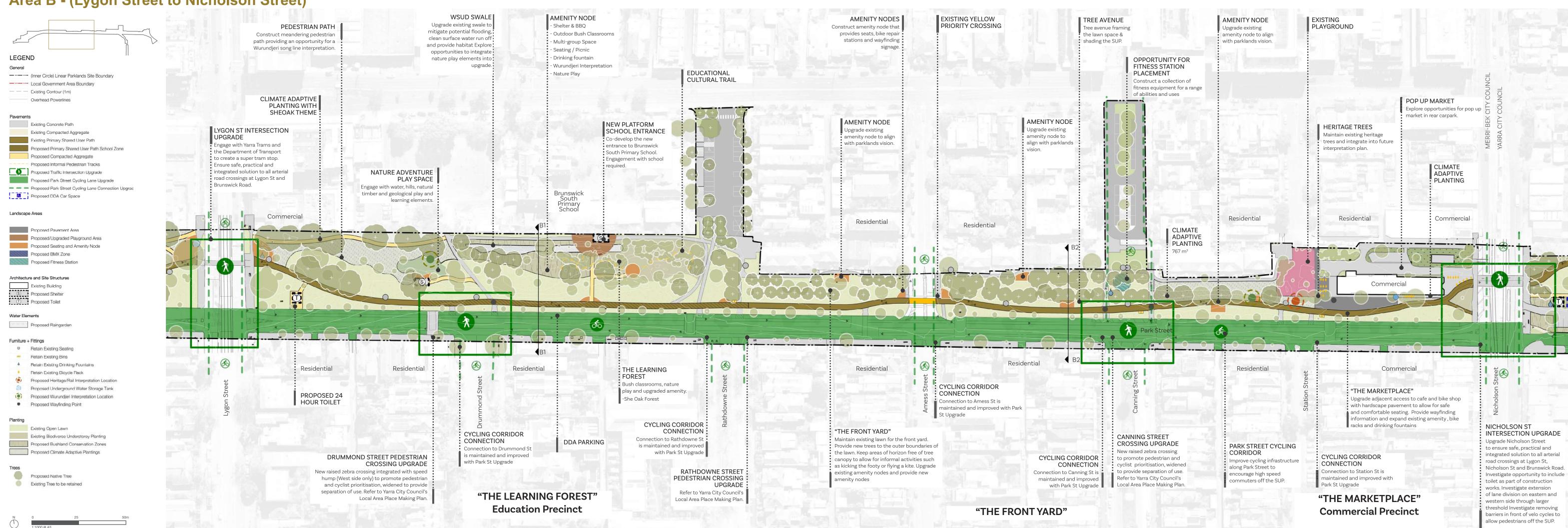


Site photo - Park Street Cafe

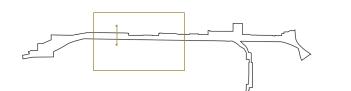


Precedent - Toilet Block, Beare Park

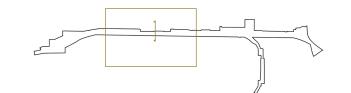
Area B - (Lygon Street to Nicholson Street)

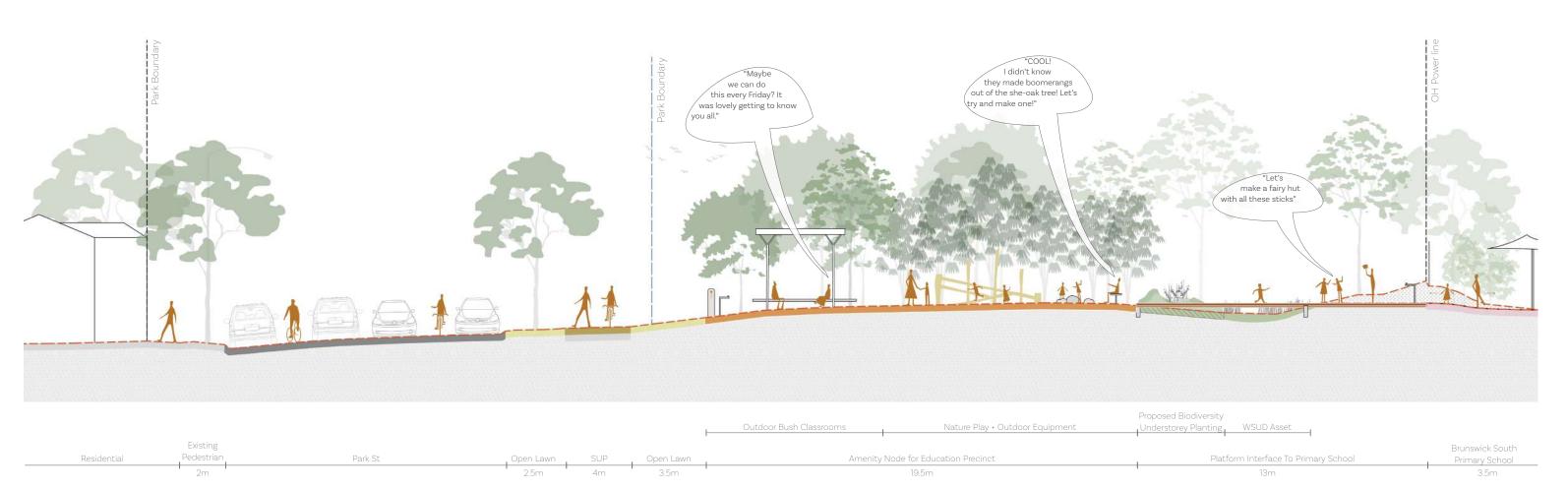


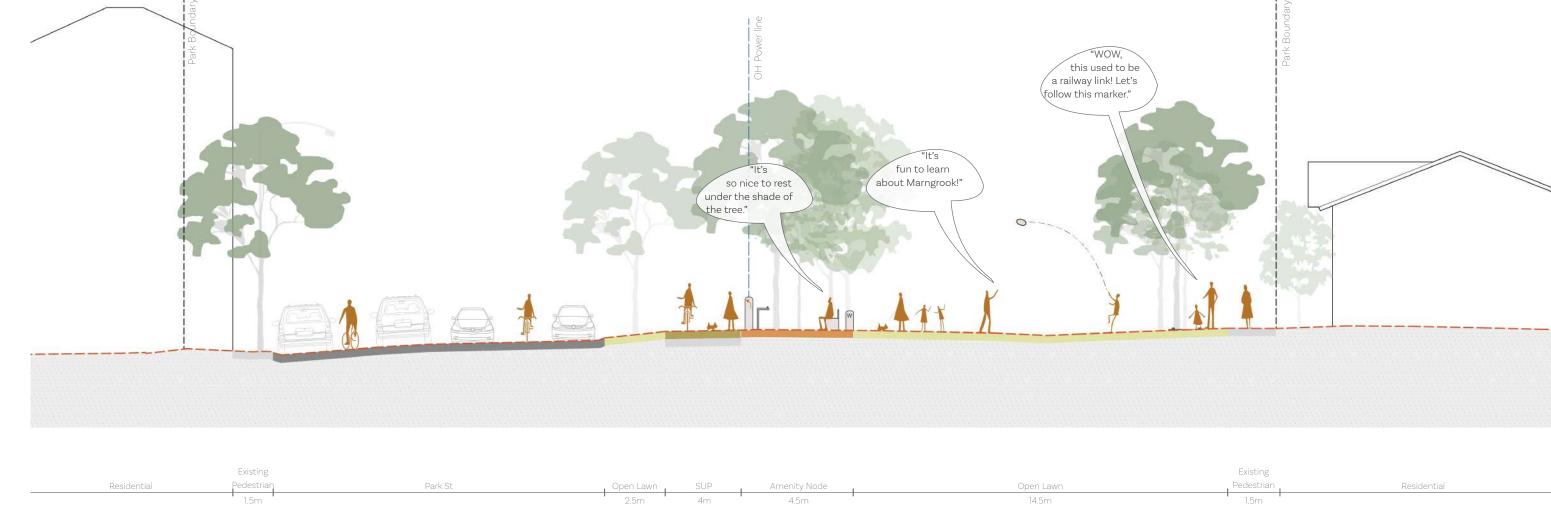
Section B1 "The Learning Grove"

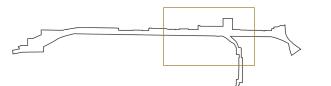


Section B2 "The Front Yard"









Area C - (Nicholson Street to St Georges Road)

The Area's Future

Precincts

"The Haven" Healing Precinct

Key Moments

- "The Lunch Spot"
- "Under the Peppercorns"
- Janet Millman Ecological Park
- Holden Byrne Community Park

"The Haven" Healing Precinct

Place Character and User Experience

"The Haven," is a serene Health and Wellbeing precinct focused on healing, reflection and renewal. Located in front of the historic North Fitzroy electric railway substation building, now the Ronald McDonald House, it provides a comforting space for unwell children and their families and the local community alike. With an upgraded circular gathering area, shelter and mature trees, it offers a peaceful sanctuary for reflection and healing.

This precinct provides a focused connection to Country. Distinguished areas of healing gardens and open space create a picturesque views and experiences for quiet time and reflection. There is a subtle water feature and moments of discovery through animal footprints in the ground and through the garden.

"The Haven" invites visitors to embrace its simplicity and find renewal in its serene surroundings.

Amenities and program



Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung healing garden.

- Ensure proposed gathering areas draw on design principles associated with yarning and social cohesion.
- Interpretation elements in the ground for discovery

Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

- Upgraded connectivity to Ronald McDonald House
- Define gathering areas with different zones for multiple families to spend time together at the same time
- Define areas of focused lawn for passive recreation, picnics and BBQ's.
- Distinct landscape forms that facilitate private gathering areas
- Provide seating.
- Provide BBQ's.
- Provide shelter over gathering area.
- Ephemeral/natural water feature

Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

- Art installations and community events.
- Enhance connection and interpretation of existing rail tracks.
- Improve signage and way-finding.

ాంగ్ Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

 Implement pavement material changes when approaching "The Haven" to enhance cycling and pedestrian awareness and mitigate safety issues.

Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

- Native tree WSUD Depressions.
- Climate adaptive plantings and expanded bush conservation zones
- Introduce biodiverse planting and linkages.
- Raingarden

"The Lunch Spot" Key Moment

In close proximity to the Nicholson Street shops and Marketplace precinct. The lunch spot offers an multifunctional lawn area that locals and workers can have lunch in the parklands. It can also host events such as cinema nights, concerts and markets. A 24 hour toilet and DDA car parks make this place accessible and easy to hang around it, encouraging people to spend more time here.

"Under the Peppercorns" Key Moment

The significant heritage peppercorn trees and remnant train station platform are complimented by a subtle raised community platform referencing the rail history. The platform is equipped with existing and upgraded amenity. There are exciting interpretative elements that showcase Wurundjeri history and the rail heritage. The platform overlooks a small wetland affording visitors an engagement with animals, plants and water.

"Janet Millman Ecological Park" Key Moment

A living monument to Janet Millman and others who advocated for open space and social housing. The Janet Millman Ecological Park is a haven for animals, plants and people. Maintaining the much loved open lawn areas defined by the healthy biodiverse planting, there is a meandering land art trail for visitors to engage with projects that celebrate the parks unique Wurundjeri history, its railway history and community activism.

"Holden Byrne Community Park" Key Moment

Holden Street Reserve is connected to the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands. It is a great destination for gatherings because of its expansive and shaded lawns, playground, BBQ/picnic area and right next to the Holden Street Neighbourhood House. The Holden Street Reserve has upgrade amenity and access including DDA car spaces within close proximity. There is an opportunity to expand on the existing food growing spaces into Porter Street Reserve.



Precedent - Banks of Rochetaillee



Image - sensory flowers



Precedent - Heide Museum, Vic



Precedent - Heide Museum Healing garden, Vic



Precedent - Limelight Park, UK



Precedent - Disappearing Walkway, Norway

Area C - (Nicholson Street to St Georges Road) WSUD WETLAND MAINTAIN EXISTING EXPAND BUSHLAND EXPAND BUSHLAND INTERSECTION HOMES VICTORIA LAND THE HAVEN **COMMUNITY GARDEN** PLAYGROUND AND CONSERVATION ZONES CONSERVATION ZONES UPGRADE Construct wetland Investigate opportunity to "The Haven", is a serene Health and **OPPORTUNITY** SHELTER Ensure safe, practical to reduce pollutant ouild social/affordable homes Wellbeing precinct focused on healing, Opportunity for to expand on Holden loads entering main that are integrated with the and integrated solution reflection and renewal. Located in front St Neighbourhood House food stormwater drain and values of the parklands vision to all intersections. of Ronald McDonald House, it provides gorwing space into a communal provide habitat and and story. Explore interim a comforting space for unwell children garden in Porter Street Reserve environmental amenity opportunities for a fenced dog UPGRADED ACCESS INTO and their families. With an upgraded for visitors. off leash activity park. circular gathering area, shelter and Holden Street mature trees, it offers a peaceful ---- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary sanctuary for reflection and healing. ----- Local Government Area Boundary — — Existing Contour (1m) Overhead Powerlines COMMUNITY EVENT PLACE PLATFORM UNDER THE PRIORITY YELLOW **EXISTING PRIORITY AMENITY NODE** RAILWAY RETAIN EXISTING **PEPPERCORNS** CROSSING YELLOW CROSSING INTERPRETATION **BIODIVERSE** Park entry amen gathering open lawn with Construct platform referencing Priority yellow crossing to be PLANTING node with seatin Railway interpretation Existing Concrete Path DDA accessible path. Provide the old train station platform and of remnant rails and Existing Compacted Aggregate amenity and shelter to support increase amenity, including seating additional amenity with events such as film nights or Existing Primary Shared User Path and BBQ. Incorporate rail history. festivals. Incorporate Wurundjeri interpretation on Marngrook and Proposed Compacted Aggregate maintain existing lawn for passive Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade **CLIMATE ADAPTIVE** and active uses. Community event **PLANTING** ADAPTIVE Residential Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Upgrade place to include 3-phase power, PLANTING BBQs and a drinking fountain. - Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Connection Upgrac ■ Proposed DDA Car Space Railway Street Ronald McDonald Mixed Use Zone Residential Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area Proposed Active Sports Area Proposed Platform Area _.._.. Proposed Seating and Amenity Node Architecture and Site Structures Existing Shelter Existing Building

S Proposed Shelter

(T) Proposed Toilet Proposed Raingarden Retain Existing Seating Retain Existing Bins Commercial WSUD Retain Existing Drinking Fountains RAINGARDEN Retain Existing Pionic Tables and Seats Residential Residential Residential Mixed Use Zone Residential Construct raingarden Retain Existing BBQ to reduce pollutant Retain Existing Heritage Element EXPAND CYCLING CORRIDOR loads entering main BUSHLAND Retain Existing Bicycle Rack CONNECTION stormwater drain and REMNANT **DDA & TOILET WITH** CONSERVATION Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location **CLIMATE ADAPTIVE** provide habitat and Connection to Rae St is RAILWAY STATION **ACCESS PATHS TO** ZONES Proposed Land Art Location PLANTING nvironmental amenity naintained and improved PLATFORM WALL **AMENITY NODE** LAND ART RAIL with Park St Upgrade Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank TRAIL Proposed Above Ground Rainwater Tank A series of engaging Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location land art sculpture CYCLING CORRIDOR CLIMATE ADAPTIVE PLANTING celebrating the activism Proposed Wayfinding Point CONNECTION of Janet Millman and PARK STREET CYCLING others, enriching the Existing Open Lawn maintained and improved ecological value of the Existing Biodiverse Understorev Planting with Park St Upgrade Improve cycling infrastructure Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones along Park Street to Mixed Use Zone Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings encourage high speed commuters off the SUP. CLIMATE ADAPTIVE AND

SENSORY PLANTINGS

"JANET MILLMAN ECOLOGICAL

UPGRADE CROSSING

Create safe, signalised

intersections.

"THE HAVEN"

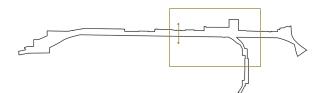
Healing Precinct

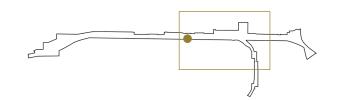
"THE LUNCH SPOT"

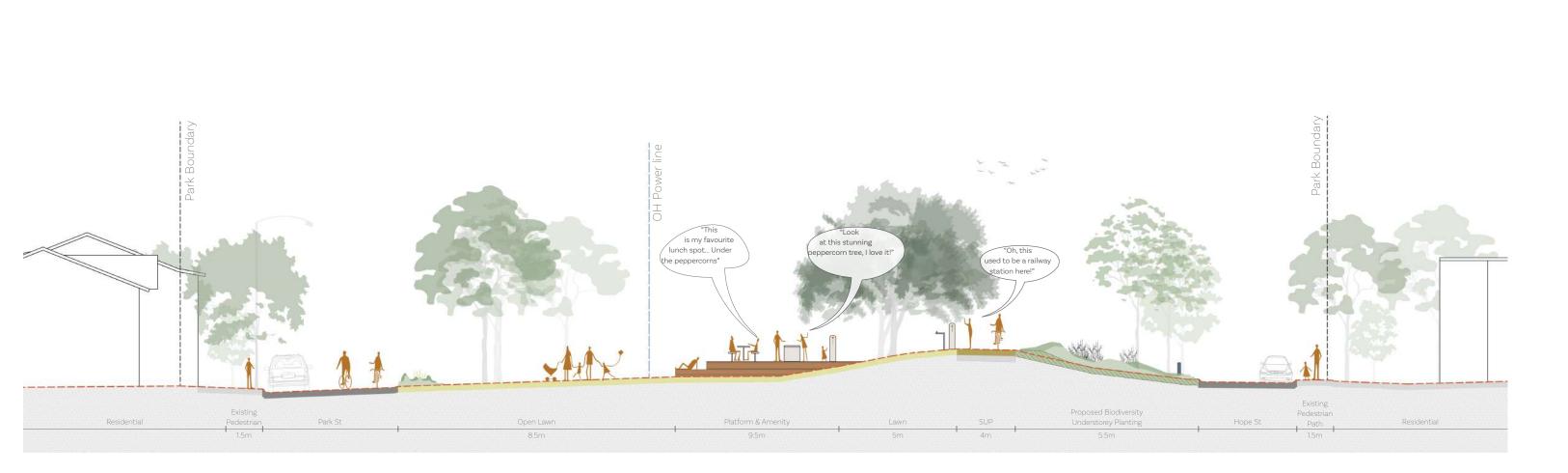
Proposed Native Tree

Existing Tree to be retained

"UNDER THE PEPPERCORNS"

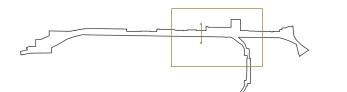




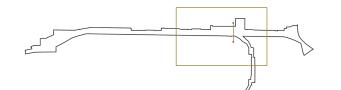




Section C2 "The Haven" Healing Precinct



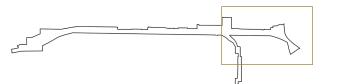
Section C3 "Janet Millman Ecological Land Art Park"







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Area D - (Between St Georges Road and Rushall Station)

The Area's Future

Precincts

- "The Play Plateau" Sports and Play Precinct
- "The Hill "Discovery Precinct"

Key Moments

Rushall Promenade

"The Play Plateau" Sports and Play Precinct

Place Character and User Experience

The "Play Plateau" is a large vast revitalised space that harmoniously combines nature, culture, play and recreation. A renowned local artist has creatively re purposed existing materials, breathing new life into the play elements.

Beyond the playground is vast open spaces and focused lawns for activity.

Community can engage in active sports on upgraded basketball and volleyball courts. There is also more passive activity options such as table tennis and chess tables, or they can enjoy a game of boccie. For the adventurous, a bouldering sculpture awaits.

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung elements are seamlessly integrated into the play area, fostering an appreciation and respect for Country.

Biodiverse plantings and raingardens create pockets of ecological diversity, supporting local wildlife.

The "Play Plateau" starts with Country to converge nature, culture, play, and recreation and offer a vibrant and inclusive space for all.

Amenities and program

- Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung
- Incorporate Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung into children's play elements.
- Increase awareness of nearby Merri Merri Creek.
- Incorporate Traditional games such as Margrook into the design of the supergraphic on the court

Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

- Toilet and amenities.
- Upgrade existing play facilities with nature and water play themes, perhaps the existing playground can be redesigned by an artist to reuse the existing materials found on site.
- All abilities play elements

- Enhance the active sports offering with upgrades to existing half basketball/volleyball and additional, Table tennis tables, Chess Tables, Boccie, Bouldering sculpture.
- Picnic shelters.

Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

 Grassed amphitheatre or events space for outdoor cinema and family oriented music events.

† ★ Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

 Implement pavement material changes when approaching "The Play Plateau" to enhance cycling and pedestrian awareness and mitigate safety issues.

Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

- Raingardens.
- Integrate water and nature play.
- Native tree WSUD Depressions.
- Climate adaptive plantings and low bushland conservations zones



Precedent - Adelaide Zoo Play Space Nature



Precedent - Re-purposed timber, Champoeg State Park Nature Play



Image - people playing Kubb in park

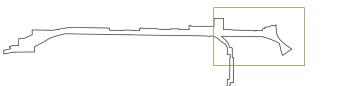


Precedent - Lizard Log Park, NSW, McGregor Co.



Precedent - Rock on Wheels, Southbank

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Area D - (Between St Georges Road and Rushall Station)

"The Hill" Discovery Precinct

Place Character / User Experience

"The Hill" is the immersive discovery precinct that invites visitors on a journey. It provides visitors a dense biodiverse bushland with meandering paths and views of the Merri Merri creek. It engages users in conservation education and expresses the importance of biodiversity within our urban environments.

Visitors will experience a sense of adventure and discovery and engagement with plants and animals. Sweeping native grasslands and boulder features in the Thomas Kidney Reserve will guide visitors to the tucked-away Rushall Community Garden.

Amenities/ program

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung

- Sharing history of the area and Merri Merri Creek.
- Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung interpretation and signage.
- Enhance visitor connection to Merri Merri Creek and Birrarung.

Open Space, Passive and Active Recreation

- Adventure and discovery trails.
- Seats for rest and reflection.
- Shelter and general amenity at the bottom and top of the hill.

†☆ Active Transport, Safety and Inclusion

- Meandering gravel paths, bridges and crossings connecting amenity nodes and activity areas
- Seek opportunities to increase accessibility to community garden.
- Formalise adjacent railway path connection to Rushall Station

Culture, Public Art, Education and Interpretation

- Improve access to rushall community garden.
- Art and Sculpture.

Climate Resilience, Integrated Water Management and Biodiversity Health

- Constructed Wetland with adjacent recreational amenity and creek within precinct to clean Water from Merri Merri Creek creek.
- Low bushland conservations zones
- Communal compositing initiatives.

Rushall Promenade - Key Moment

The Rushall Promenade is a welcoming open lawn lined with heritage listed Canary Island Date Palms. This entrance to the Inner Circle Linear Parklands is equipped with upgraded amenity, visible signage, interpretation and wayfinding.



Precedent - Arnold's Creek Community Hub, Vic



Precedent - Para Wirra Nature Play-scape, SA



Image - wetland



Tayyay from Mouth



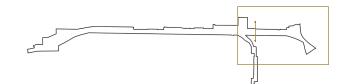
Image - Park Bench, Mount Beerwah, NSW

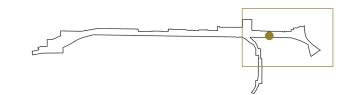


lmage - grassy trail

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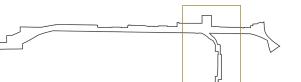
Area D - (Between St Georges Road and Rushall Station) ST GEORGES RD INTERSECTION UPGRADE FITNESS STATION ACTIVE SPORTS AREA MAINTAIN EXISTING OPEN RETAIN EXISTING **UPGRADED AND EXPAND BUSHLAND** EXISTING YELLOW WITH TOILET & SHELTER EXPANDED PLAYGROUND **BIODIVERSE PLANTING CONSERVATION ZONES** PRIORITY CORSSING Upgrade signalised crossing fitness equipment for a Upgrade and expand on existing Existing playground to be COMMUNITY GARDEN as per design requirements. basketball ring. Provide Table range of abilities and uses upgraded and integrated **EXPANSION** Tennis Tables, a multi-court and with Wurundjeri songline and Seek opportunities to bouldering sculpture or adult rail interpretation. Explore expand the community opportunities for nature play, ardens to accommodate sensory play and motor play. dditional plots. ---- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary ----- Local Government Area Boundary — — Existing Contour (1m) Overhead Powerlines Rushall Reserve Existing Concrete Path Existing Compacted Aggregate E = = = = Existing Pedestrian Bridge Existing Primary Shared User Path Proposed Primary Shared User Path School Zone PEDESTRIAN PATH Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade Formalise rushall station Proposed Compacted Aggregate Thomas Kidney Reserve connection to community Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Upgrade gardenwayfinding - Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Connection Upgrac Proposed DDA Car Space CYCLING CORRIDOR CONNECTION Connection to Falconer St is Landscape Areas maintained and improved with Proposed Pavement Area Park St Upgrade Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area LOW BUSHLAND CONSERVATION ZONES Proposed Active Sports Area AMENITY NODE AND MAINTAIN EXISTING CLIMATE ADAPTIVE Proposed Seating and Amenity Node PEDESTRIAN PATH OPEN LAWN PLANTINGS Provide amenity node threshold to Play Precinct with seats, Architecture and Site Structures water fountains, bike repair : PEDESTRIAN PATH Existing Building station and wayfinding. Additional pedestrian path to Pedestrian only path to mitigate mitigate traffic and safety issues for traffic on Shared User Path and increase safety for families **AMENITY NODE** Furniture + Fittings rovide amenity node with CYCLING CORRIDOR PARK STREET CYCLING WURUNDJERI (MERRI MERRI Retain Existing Seating seats, drinking fountain, bike CONNECTION CORRIDOR CREEK) INTERPRETATION Retain Existing Bins repair station and wayfinding Connection to Apperley St Improve cycling infrastructure Key location to introduce Wurundjeri Retain Existing Drinking Fountains is maintained and improved along Park Street to Songline of the Merri Merri Yaluck to Retain Existing Bicycle Rack with Park St Upgrade encourage high speed visitors. Expand and upgrade existing ommuters off the SUP. Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location amenity to create a destination for Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank visitors to learn and reflect. Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location Proposed Wayfinding Point Existing Open Lawn Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting Existing Communal Garden Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings REFLECTION BENCH Provide a series of singular benches for visitors to have Proposed Native Tree moments of reflection and Existing Tree to be retained reprieve in the discovery ST GEORGES ROAD INTERSECTION UPGRADE "THE HILL" "THE PLAY PLATEAU" **RUSHALL PROMENADE** Construct signalised crossing to **Sports and Play Precinct Discovery Precinct** increase safety for users on the Share User Path.











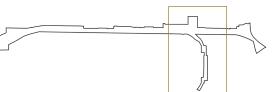
Area E - (Between St Georges Road and Edinburgh Gardens)

The Area's Future

Key Moments "The Backyard"

"The Backyard"Key Moment

An intimate and welcoming place, "The Backyard" offers a collection of small lawn spaces for locals to have picnics and dinner parties. Amidst healthy biodiverse planting, an upgraded amenity node with Wurundjeri and Railway history interpretation sits adjacent to the vast Edinburgh Gardens. Additional communal garden plots are available for the local community in the north, contributing to the experience of a collective









Site Image - Mark St Reserve

Site Image - Scotchmer St Pedestrian Crossing









Image - Community Garden, Port Phillip Eco Centre

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Area E - (Between St Georges Road and Edinburgh Gardens) CYCLING CORRIDOR CONNECTION Connection to Apperley St is MARK STREET HALL ORCHARD CLIMATE ADAPTIVE **BACKYARD** surround planter boxes Opportunity to expand open ----- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary space into the back of Mark ----- Local Government Area Boundary — — Existing Contour (1m) (O) CLIMATE ADAPTIVE RETAIN EXISTING MAINTAIN EXISTING RETAIN EXISTING AMENITY NODE Overhead Powerlines **PLANTINGS BIODIVERSE PLANTING** LITTER TRAP BIODIVERSE PLANTING Upgrade existing amenity node. Provide drinking fountains, wayfinding, Wurundjeri Existing Concrete Path Interpretation and Rail Existing Compacted Aggregate Existing Primary Shared User Path Proposed Primary Shared User Path School Zone Proposed Compacted Aggregate Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Upgrade - - Proposed Park Street Cycling Lane Connection Upgrad B Proposed DDA Car Space Landscape Areas Proposed Pavement Area Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area Proposed Active Sports Area Proposed Platform Area Residential Proposed Seating and Amenity Node Architecture and Site Structures Existing Shelter YELLOW PRIORITY CROSSING Existing yellow priority crossing with proning in the area leading up to the crossing to be done on a regular basis. Lighting at the Proposed Raingarden MAINTAIN EXISTING Priority Crossing needs to be OPEN LAWN Furniture + Fittings Retain Existing Seating Retain Existing Bins Fergie Street Retain Existing Drinking Fountains Retain Existing Picnic Tables and Seats Retain Existing BBQ Retain Existing Heritage Element COMMUNAL GARDEN Retain Existing Bicycle Rack Community here are engaging Mixed Use Zone Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location with food through raised Commercial MAINTAIN EXISTING Proposed Land Art Location YELLOW PRIORITY **COMMUNAL GARDEN OPEN LAWN AND TREES** Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank Community here are Maintain and celebrate lawn Proposed Above Ground Rainwater Tank engaging with food through Upgrade all existing nonalong Apperley Street and Mark signalised crossings to aised planters. Explore the Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location Street. It is used for dinner opportunity to formalise the yellow priority crossings. parties and other activities. Proposed Wayfinding Point community garden. Existing Open Lawn Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings Proposed Native Tree ST GEORGES ROAD INTERSECTION UPGRADE Existing Tree to be retained Construct signalised crossing to increase safety for users on the Share User Path.

Implementation Plan

Draft

The implementation plan for the parklands is a strategic roadmap that prioritises projects based on their impact on the entire parklands, specific precincts within the park, and key moments in their development. This plan will ensure that council resources are allocated efficiently to maximise the overall benefit of the parklands. Council can strategically time and sequence projects to create a cohesive transformation of the parklands into the future.

Project	Reserve	Details/Notes	Priority	Year/s	Indicative Cost	Funding	Project lead	Delivery lead
Wayfinding, Art and Interpretation Strategy	All	- Development of a parkwide strategy - Implement a staged delivery approach to integrate with other projects with costs staged over the 20 year programme	Ongoing	2025 - 2045	\$1,900,000		Open Space Planning and Design	Strategic Projects Delivery Arts and Culture
Shared User Path lighting upgrades	All	- Development of a parkwide strategy - Implement a staged delivery of lighting to improve the safety of the parklands identified as a key issue with the community	High Ongoing	2026 - 2036	\$3,500,000	State Gov.	Open Space Planning and Design	Strategic Projects Delivery
Develop a typical precinct materials, furnitures and structures suite	All	- Development of a parkwide strategy	High	2025 - 2026	In house		Open Space Planning and Design	Open Space Planning and Design
AREA C: Public Toilet	Linear Park Reserve	- Composting public toilet - Installation delivery by Building Projects team	High	2026 - 2027	\$ 400,000		Building Projects	Building Projects
AREA D: "The Play Plateau" Sports and Play Precinct	Park Street Reserve	- Play space upgrade identified as medium priority in draft Play Space Strategy - Enhance the active sport offerings	Medium	2027 - 2030	\$3,800,000	State Gov.	Open Space Planning and Design	Strategic Projects Delivery
AREA A: "The Commons" Community Precinct" between Bowen Crescent And Lygon Street	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	- WSUD feature - Upgrades identified as medium priority in Yarra Open Space Strategy	Medium	2028- 2030	\$ 2,500,000	State Gov.	Open Space Planning and Design Merri Bek	Strategic Projects Delivery
AREA A: Public Toilet	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	- Composting public toilet - Installation delivery by Building Projects team	High	2029 - 2030	\$400,000		Building Projects	Building Projects
AREA C: Fenced dog off leash area			High	2029 - 2030	\$ 600,000	State Gov.	Open Space Planning and Design	Strategic Projects Delivery

Project	Reserve	Details/Notes	Priority	Year/s	Indicative Cost	Funding	Project lead	Delivery lead
AREA C: "Under the peppercorns" located between Nicholson Street and Brunswick Street		- WSUD feature - Former platform remediation and upgrade	Medium	2030 - 2034	\$1,500,000	State Gov.	Open Space Planning and Design	Strategic Projects Delivery Roads Stormwater and drainage
AREA C: Play space upgrade	Holden Byrne Reserve	 Play space upgrade and expansion Major upgrades identified as medium priority in Yarra Open Space Strategy 	Medium	2033 - 2035	\$800,000		Open Space Planning and Design	Strategic Projects Delivery
AREA A: Playspace upgrade	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	- Play space upgrade identified as medium priority in draft Play Space Strategy.	Medium	2032 - 2034	\$800,000		Open Space Planning and Design	Strategic Projects Delivery
AREA C: "Janet Millman Ecological Park" located between Brunswick Street North to St Georges Road	Janet Millman Reserve and Holden Byrne Reserve	 Several small to medium scale projects funded through minor capital works and delivered by different teams across Yarra Major upgrades identified as medium priority in Yarra Open Space Strategy 	Ongoing	2025- 2045	\$850,000		Open Space Planning and Design	Biodiversity Strategic Projects Delivery Urban Agriculture
AREA A: "The Commons" Community Precinct" between Bowen Crescent And Lygon Street	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	 Several small to medium scale projects will be funded through minor capital renewal works and delivered by different teams across Yarra Portion of this space is also on Merri Bek land Upgrades identified as medium priority in Yarra Open Space Strategy 	Ongoing	2025- 2045	\$700,000		Open Space Planning and Design Merri Bek	Biodiversity Strategic Projects Delivery Urban Agriculture
AREA A: "Beyond the Picket Fence" Community Precinct" between Bowen Crescent And Lygon Street	Hardy Gallagher Reserve	- Several small to medium scale projects will be funded through minor capital works and delivered by different teams across Yarra - Upgrades identified as medium priority in Yarra Open Space Strategy	Ongoing	2025- 2045	\$500,000		Open Space Planning and Design	Biodiversity Strategic Projects Delivery
AREA D: "The Hill" Discovery Precinct located between Bennett Street and Rushall Station	Thomas Kidney Reserve	- Several small scale projects funded through minor capital works and delivered by different teams across Yarra	Ongoing	2025 - 2045	\$450,000		Open Space Planning and Design	Biodiversity Strategic Projects Delivery Urban Agriculture

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Project	Reserve	Details/Notes	Priority	Year/s	Indicative Cost	Funding	Project lead	Delivery lead
Park Street cycling corridor and road intersection upgrades		- A Strategic Transport project requiring feasibility, design and consultation and is - Not costed as part of the Linear Parklands Masterplan.	High	2025 - 2045	TBC	State Gov.	Strategic Transport	Strategic Transport
Priority Crossings - Upgrade all existing non-signalised crossings to priority crossings		As above	High	2025 - 2045	TBC	State Gov.	Strategic Transport	Strategic Transport
Signalised Intersections - Upgrade all existing signalised crossings		As above	High	2025 - 2035	TBC	State Gov.		
"AREA B: ""The Learning Forest"" Education Precinct Design and Construction Located Between Lygon Street and Rathdowne Street"	Linear Park Reserve	- The majority of this site is located on City of Merri Bek land - Timing and budget to be confirming following community consultation	Medium	TBC	TBC			Merri Bek
AREA B: "The Front Yard" and "The Marketplace" located between Rathdowne Street and Nicholson Street	Linear Park Reserve	- The majority of this site is located on City of Merri Bek land - Timing and budget to be confirming following community consultation	Medium	TBC	TBC			Merri Bek

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