

NICHOLLS WARD UPDATE

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Transforming Linear Parklands

Brunswick Street
Oval update

Improvements to
local reserves



NICHOLLS WARD UPDATE | Fitzroy North

There's plenty of exciting things happening in Nicholls Ward at the moment, especially when it comes to enhancing our open spaces. The Linear Parklands consultation has recently concluded, and I'm looking forward to seeing the draft plans when they are formed, guided by the community's input.

On the Capital City Trail, there's been upgrades to the intersection at St Georges Road, allowing a better experience for pedestrians and cyclists to cross over safely. The trail is such a great connection for our active transport users to get around the municipality and it's important we make it as easy and attractive to use as possible.

Work will also ramp up on the Brunswick Street Oval redevelopment in the coming months, and it'll be fantastic to deliver great new amenities for our local sporting clubs and visitors to Edinburgh Gardens.

Finally, it was heartening to see a blind, elderly dog rescued in our ward recently after it fell down a drain. Our customer service and drainage staff teamed up with local firefighters to bring the dog to safety, with our team members Francesco and Hayden jumping in to complete the rescue. Well done everybody!

Cr Kenneth Gomez | Nicholls Ward

Feedback on Draft Linear Parklands Masterplan

We are busy reviewing your feedback from our public consultation period on the Draft Linear Parklands Masterplan.

The masterplan is our 20-year vision for this major public space asset and outlines its future upgrades and investment. The parklands span 3.5km and are the longest continuous stretch of open parklands in Yarra, taking in parts of suburbs including Princes Hill, Carlton North and Fitzroy North. It also contains part of the Capital City Trail, which is the busiest active transport corridor in Victoria.

We've identified five key areas for the masterplan. The first project will be upgrading the Sports and Play Precinct at Park Reserve, which could include a new playground, multi-use courts, a bouldering sculpture and table

tennis facilities. The designs will also integrate Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung elements, biodiverse plantings, and other amenities. The Federal Government has committed \$3.75m to support Council on this project.

Along with gathering online feedback, we held three in-person pop-up consultations in the parklands precinct in late June and July. This feedback will now be presented alongside the Draft Masterplan for endorsement by Council at a meeting later this year.



For the latest updates and more information, visit yoursayyarra.com.au/linearparklands

Our LGBTIQ+ Memorial

We have commissioned local artist Andrew Atchinson to create our LGBTIQ+ community memorial at Collingwood Town Hall Park.

The memorial, which will be built for \$320,000, will create a sanctuary for friends and family to remember loved ones who were part of the Yarra LGBTIQ+ community and died by suicide.

Atchinson's proposed design Flower Pavilion will contain seating underneath a canopy of

transparent coloured acrylic flowers. The stems will be bound together at the centre by a strong bronze ring.

Atchinson said the bouquet design was a shared symbol of this community and represented the members who had been affected by suicide.

The mural is set to be installed in June 2026.

Older adults love Move For Life!

The Move For Life program at our Yarra Leisure venues continues to grow with more than 40 classes scheduled every week.

The program focuses on strength training exercises for adults aged 55 and over. Its popularity has been proven with 18,000 participants recorded in 12 months.

This success is a testament to Council's unwavering commitment to providing safe, supportive and fun spaces for older adults to take part in physical activity.



Working for You

Local projects in your area

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Brunswick Street Oval redevelopment update

Our four local sporting clubs in Edinburgh Gardens are getting ready for new facilities. A key focus of the project is to support the growth in women and girls playing cricket, tennis and football. We've begun removing trees that are impacting the project works, with no more than 39 to be removed along with three English Elms on a path near the tennis courts. These removals are following a tree management plan, a tree removal plan and an arborist's report to safeguard significant trees and preserve green areas.

From October, we'll plant up to 40 new trees around the project site. This includes five new native gums near the basketball courts, and a collection of trees alongside the oval and tennis courts as the project progresses. We'll be using local native species wherever possible to support birds, habitat and retain the area's leafy character.



St Georges Road and Capital City Trail improvements

We've completed some significant upgrades to a key intersection on the popular Capital City Trail, making it even better for pedestrians, cyclists and other active transport users. At the trail's intersection on St Georges Road, we widened the pram crossing, resurfaced the footpath and improved the existing drainage. In addition, separate works were completed to update the traffic signals for pedestrians and other forms of traffic. The result is a smoother, well-marked intersection, which allows for a comfortable and safer experience for all users.



Free pads and tampons at Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library

A dispenser offering free hygiene products has been installed on level two of the Bargoonga Nganjin, North Fitzroy Library on St Georges Road. It is part of the Victorian Government's \$23 million program offering pads and tampons in key public places across the state.



Ottery Reserve ramp rebuilt

The ageing timber ramp at Ottery Reserve in Fitzroy has been rebuilt. Works commenced in early June and took about two months to complete. The new ramp will provide all users with a more comfortable link and better access to the nearby Merri Creek Trail.



New shade sails at Holden Byrne Reserve

As part of our 2024/25 capital works program, we renewed parts of our playground infrastructure across the city. This included replacing the shade sail over the playground at Holden Byrne Reserve, Fitzroy North, giving it a facelift and ensuring users can continue to play and be protected from the elements.



Scan the QR code to find out what's happening across Yarra with our online Capital Works Map at yarracity.vic.gov.au/capitalworks