

NICHOLLS WARD UPDATE

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A bold future for the Linear Parklands

Upgrades to
Scotchmer Street

Bin baskets added to
Edinburgh Gardens



NICHOLLS WARD UPDATE | Fitzroy North

I hope you've had a great summer and a fantastic start to 2026.

Council adopted the Linear Parklands Masterplan as the long-term vision to improve these open spaces to support our growing population.

We've also upgraded the pedestrian and bike ramp at Ottery Reserve behind the Merri Creek Primary School to make it easier to access the Merri Creek Trail.

We expect to commence construction works on the Brunswick Street Oval Redevelopment Project early in the new year. Council has received the Heritage Victoria permit for the final design. We have made one amendment to it, and we will be sending it to the State Government for approval. Heritage Victoria did not approve a prior design that would have minimised the impact on three nearby elm trees.

The State Government funding is provided to the sporting clubs directly to expand the sporting facilities in the Edinburgh Gardens Sporting Precinct. Relocation of the tennis courts is not feasible.

There are over 850 trees in Edinburgh Gardens. By completion of this project, 35 young/semi-mature Oaks, Kurrajongs and Jacarandas will be added to replace the trees lost in the project and to complement the 19 young Spotted Gums that were added in 2025.

Council has supported (with conditions) planning permits for over 1,100 new apartments in Queens Parade, Rae Street, Dummett Crescent and the former Gasworks site.

The Gasworks development is significant with over 1,200 apartments when completed and 20% will be allocated to low income and social housing. All this new housing will be right next to the new senior school (Wurun) and multi-level indoor sports and recreation facilities (Bundha).

Cr Kenneth Gomez | Nicholls Ward

Advocacy priorities for Nicholls Ward

We updated our Advocacy Roadmap to call on the Federal and Victorian governments to work with cohealth to reverse its decision to axe its Collingwood clinic and reduce services in Fitzroy, which will affect the communities that need them most.

Thank you to the many local residents who supported us by coming to the public meeting at the Fitzroy Town Hall in October last year.

Read more on pages 4 and 5.

Linear Parklands Masterplan approved

We have approved the final masterplan for the Linear Parklands, which details a 20-year vision for this much-loved green corridor which runs through Fitzroy North.

The masterplan's adoption follows an extensive round of community consultation in mid-2025. The entire Linear Parklands stretch 3.5km and contains four valuable open spaces within Nicholls Ward including Janet Millman Reserve, Holden Byrne Reserve, Park Street Reserve and Thomas Kidney Reserve. It also includes part of the Capital City Trail, which is Victoria's busiest active transport corridor.

Find out more and view the final masterplan at yoursayyarra.com.au/linearparklands



Our new bin baskets are here!

We've made it easier for you to recycle on the go and have attached 20 baskets to key outdoor bins across Yarra. In Nicholls Ward, you can find them attached to the bins in Edinburgh Gardens.

The baskets are designed to keep recyclables out of landfill and support Victoria's container deposit scheme. You can place cans, bottles and cartons in the baskets and give other people the chance to earn 10 cents for each item they return to a collection point.

For the full list of locations, scan the QR code to find your nearest park or search 'Baskets' at yarracity.vic.gov.au



Working for You

Local projects in your area

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Scotchmer Street renewal

We've completed extensive works improving Scotchmer Street in Fitzroy North, from Bennett Street to Kneen Street. The \$190,000 project contained a full suite of works including replacing the footpath, reconstructing bluestone kerb and channel, treatment to the laneway entrance, extending and modifying the stormwater pipes and pits. We also resurfaced the road with new line markings and improved the tree squares in the street.



Drainage works on McKean Street

In December, we spent two weeks upgrading drainage on McKean Street in Fitzroy North, between Michael Street and Rushall Crescent. We constructed and installed new stormwater pipes and pits and carried out associated civil works. This follows footpath, kerb and drainage improvements completed at the northern end of the street earlier in the year.



Falconer Street roundabout

We've made improvements to the roundabout on Falconer Street in Fitzroy North. In early December we conducted some overnight works to resurface the road pavement along with new line marking, giving motorists a smoother user experience.



Ottery Reserve ramp

Our new \$130,000 access ramp linking Ottery Reserve and the Merri Creek in Fitzroy North opened late last year. The new ramp has been constructed using recycled materials to reduce the risk of the ramp rotting again and contribute to the circular economy. Using these materials saved the equivalent of 30,982 plastic milk bottles from landfill.



Sewer repairs at Fitzroy Bowls Club

We've carried out sewer repairs at the Fitzroy Bowls Club on Brunswick Street. The \$13,000 project saw workers remove tree roots, repair cracks in the earthenware outlet drain, reshape the falls and reline the sewer pipe.



Wildlife corridor on Michael Street

Our native pollinating insects and birds have been enjoying the planting work completed on Michael Street in North Fitzroy.

We've planted over 17,500 native ground covers and small shrub tube stock from 28 different species in the Michael Street median strips.



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

