# Wellington Street and Mater Street Park

## Concept Design Package



Respite



Texturally Diverse



Street-scale nostalgia

# Site Context & Existing Conditions




The project site is a compact urban pocket located at the intersection of Mater Street and Wellington Street, Collingwood, within a fine-grained inner-city street network characteristic of the suburb. The surrounding context comprises a mix of low- to medium-density residential development and local commercial uses, reflecting Collingwood's established working-class urban fabric and ongoing mixed-use character.

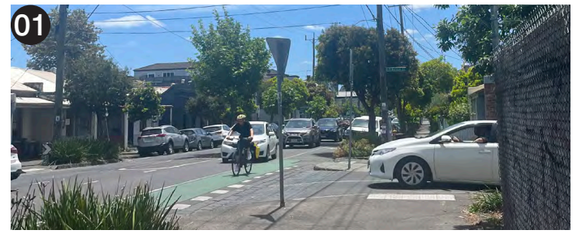
The site occupies a highly visible and accessible location within a walkable urban environment, with strong pedestrian movement along Wellington Street and connecting local streets. Its position at the convergence of movement routes contributes to regular local activity and provides a high degree of exposure to the public realm.

Existing site conditions include the Mater Street roadway, comprising asphalt pavement, kerbs and associated road infrastructure, along with scattered street trees and informal vegetation. The space currently lacks defined recreational infrastructure, seating or programmed use, and provides limited ecological and social amenity.

Surface levels are generally flat, supporting accessibility and adaptability for future public use; however, localised drainage and minor flooding issues have been observed and will require consideration in the design response. The site's openness and visibility present opportunities to enhance passive surveillance, safety and community engagement, supporting its potential transformation into a small but meaningful public space within the neighborhood.

The surrounding streetscape is defined by a mix of heritage listed terrace housing, adapted industrial buildings and active commercial frontages, contributing to a layered cultural and architectural context typical of Collingwood. This setting presents opportunities for the pocket park to respond sensitively to established heritage cues—including scale, materiality and street rhythm—while delivering a functional, welcoming and socially engaging public space that supports contemporary neighborhood use.

## Site Photos


















# Existing Trees




***Detailed Map***

| Tree | Botanical_Name | Common_Name | Height m | Width m | DBH cm | TPZ m | SRZ m | Health | Structure |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 4 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 2 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 5 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 3 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 7 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 4 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 7 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 5 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 7 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 6 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 7 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 7 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 5 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 8 | Elaeocarpus reticulatus | Blueberry Ash | 4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Fair |
| 9 | Ligustrum lucidum | Broad-leaved privet | 7 | 4 | 30 | 3.6 | 2.3 | Good | Poor |
| 10 | Laurus nobilis | Bay Tree | 6 | 4 | 30 | 3.6 | 2.5 | Good | Poor |
| 11 | Ficus carica | Fig | 5 | 5 | 32 | 3.8 | 2.5 | Good | Poor |
| 12 | Prunus persica | Peach | 5 | 6 | 19 | 2.3 | 1.8 | Fair | Fair |
| 13 | Pyrus calleryana | Callery Pear | 5 | 2 | 13 | 2 | 1.7 | Fair | Fair |
| 14 | Pyrus calleryana | Callery Pear | 6 | 3 | 13 | 2 | 1.8 | Fair | Fair |
| 15 | Acer buergerianum | Trident Maple | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Good |
| 16 | Eucalyptus leucoxylon | Yellow Gum | 11 | 8 | 47 | 5.6 | 2.6 | Fair | Poor |
| 17 | Callistemon viminalis | Weeping Bottlebrush | 7 | 5 | 30 | 3.6 | 2.4 | Good | Fair |
| 18 | Callistemon viminalis | Weeping Bottlebrush | 7 | 5 | 35 | 4.2 | 2.4 | Good | Fair |
| 19 | Malus sargentii | Sargents Crab Apple | 6 | 5 | 22 | 2.6 | 2 | Fair | Good |
| 20 | Syzygium smithii | Common Lilly Pilly | 7 | 4 | 23 | 2.8 | 2.3 | Fair | Good |
| 21 | Tristaniopsis laurina | Water Gum | 3 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 1.5 | Good | Fair |

A total of 21 trees across 12 genera were surveyed. The tree stock is generally in good condition, with 71% in good health and 57% having a useful life expectancy of 25–50 years. No trees are listed as significant under the City of Yarra Significant Tree List. Existing canopy cover is approximately 225 $m^2$ (20% of the site), with trees primarily located within the streetscape or adjoining properties and some TPZs extending into the site. One Eucalyptus leucoxylon with poor structure and decay is recommended for removal.

No planning permits are required for tree removal or pruning, as Clause 52.17 does not apply, and there are no relevant vegetation or landscape overlays. While the site is within a Heritage Overlay, no tree controls apply, and no protected flora were identified.

Fourteen trees across six species are listed on the Advisory List of Environmental Weeds in Victoria (2022). Although potentially invasive, these species are not subject to mandatory removal and should be managed in the context of park amenity and long-term landscape outcomes.

Recommendations include targeted low- to medium-priority pruning, consideration of weed species management through design and maintenance, and compliance with AS4970–2025 tree protection measures during construction.

# Functional Arrangement Considerations

1. **Respect and respond to heritage**
   facades by providing appropriate setbacks and spatial transitions, ensuring new interventions acknowledge and complement the existing streetscape character. ipsum

2. **Consider restricted sightlines**
   at the corner of the dwelling in design response

3. **Soft, passive respite area**
   (e.g., grassed surfaces) providing informal relaxation and rest opportunities. ipsum

4. **Provide landscape buffer**
   to Wellington Street

5. **Accommodate and encourage**
   passive cyclist movement through the pocket park, ensuring safe and unobtrusive integration with pedestrian activity.

6. **Provide a pedestrian**
   and/or visual cross-connection through the site to enhance permeability and connectivity.

7. **Reinforce and extend**
   the existing streetscape character by introducing design elements such as a continuous avenue of trees, materials, and spatial rhythms that complement the surrounding context.

8. **Position the primary active use**
   area set back from Wellington Street to provide a quieter, more sheltered space for respite away from traffic.

9. **Opportunity for a passive WSUD**
   feature at the Mater Street termination to capture and treat runoff from the road and proposed pocket park, while creating a green landscaped buffer to the street.

- Hard Recreation Space
- Soft Recreation Space
- Green Space
- Activation Space



WELLINGTON ST

MATER ST

L2D

The Salvation Army Young

Peoples Halls & Youth Centre

## LEGEND

### SOFT LANDSCAPE

- Existing Tree To Be Retained & Protected
- Existing Tree To Be Removed
- Proposed Trees (mixed evergreen & deciduous)
- Proposed Organic Mulched Passively Irrigated Garden Bed
- Proposed Instant Turf

### LANDSCAPE SURFACES

- Proposed Exposed Aggregate Concrete Paving
- Proposed Patterned Concrete Pavement (with recycled brick edging)
- Proposed Acrylic Surface (indicative pattern)
- Proposed Pedestrian Grade Compacted Gravel Pavement (for tree pits)

### LANDSCAPE FURNITURE & FIXTURES

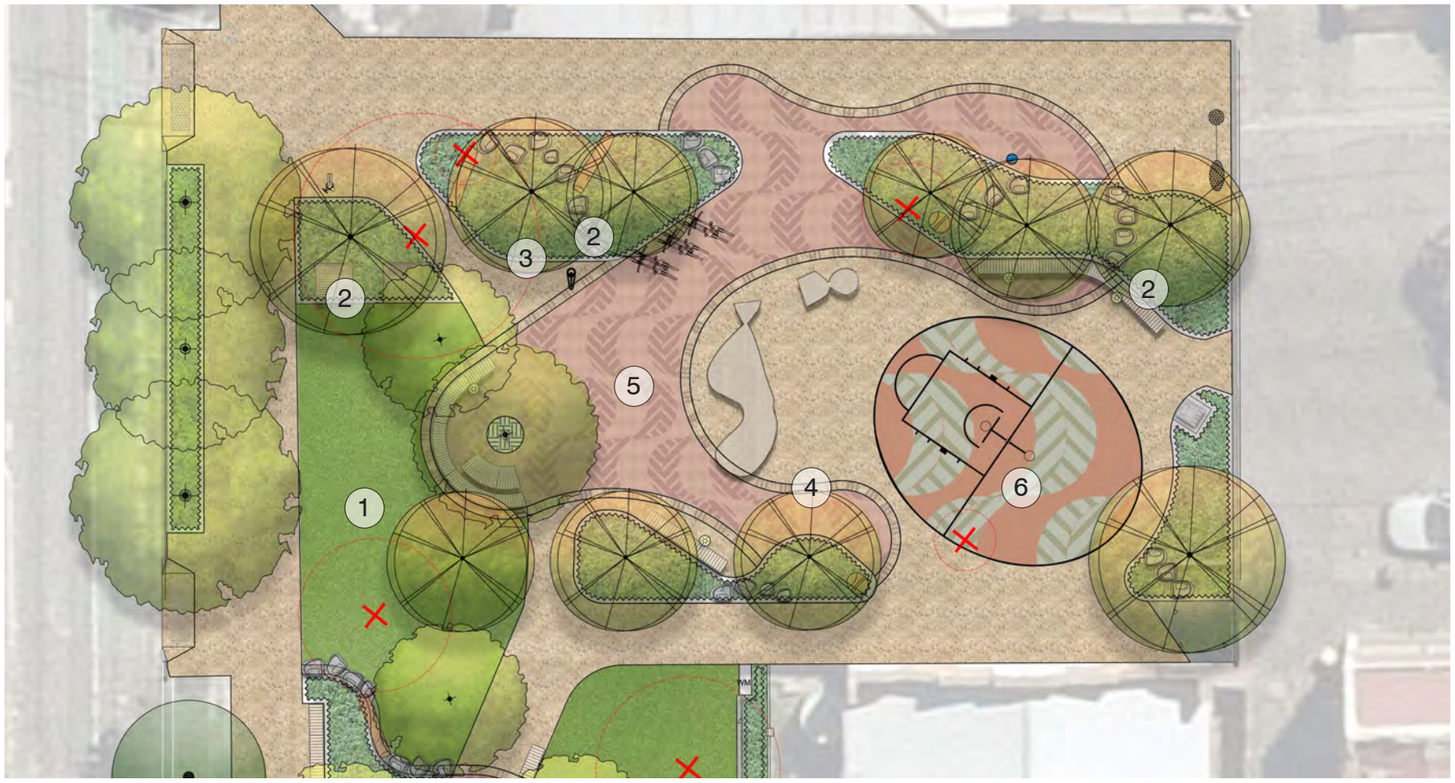
- Proposed Dual BBQ Unit
- Proposed Bin Enclosure
- Proposed Drinking Fountain
- Proposed Bicycle Racks
- Proposed Bicycle Repair Station
- Proposed Sun Recliner
- Proposed DDA Accessible Banquet Style Picnic Settings
- Proposed Seats (mixed backed seats, bench seats & arm-rests)
- Multi-Use Court (MUC)
- Proposed DDA Parking Bay
- Proposed Pod Tables
- Proposed Dynamic / Sculptural Seat
- Proposed Street Library Book Swap
- Proposed Carved Habitat and stepping Boulders
- Proposed Timber fence
- L2D — Salvation Army Reserved Parking Bay - L2D Program
- Proposed Stepping Stones
- Retained existing Light Pole
- Proposed BBQ Shelter
- Proposed DDA Pram Ramp
- Proposed Log
- WM — Water Meter
- Informal Bike Route
- Path Connections

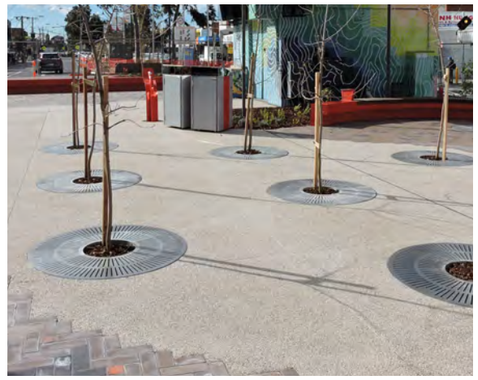


0 1 2 3 4 5m
Scale: 1:100 @ A1 / 1:200 @ A3

N

# Landscape Plan



4 **Exposed aggregate paving**
used as the primary surface, creating a cohesive and unifying ground plane throughout the reserve.



5 **Acid-etched patterned concrete ‘picnic rug’ pavements**
layered into the primary ground plane, creating playful moments of interest and use. Patterning to be developed in future stages, referencing the park’s key themes and offering opportunities for artist collaboration.



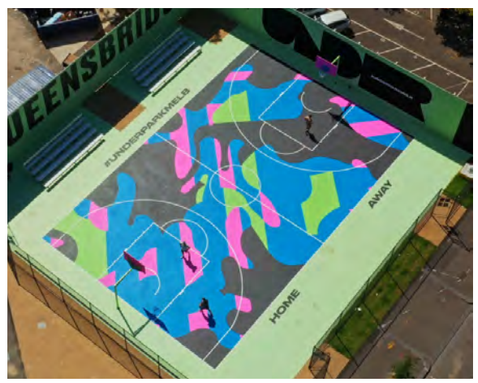
1 **Grassed areas**
that create comfortable spaces for passive respite, informal play and casual gathering.



2 **Proposed garden beds**
passively irrigated via runoff from adjacent hardstand and road pavements.

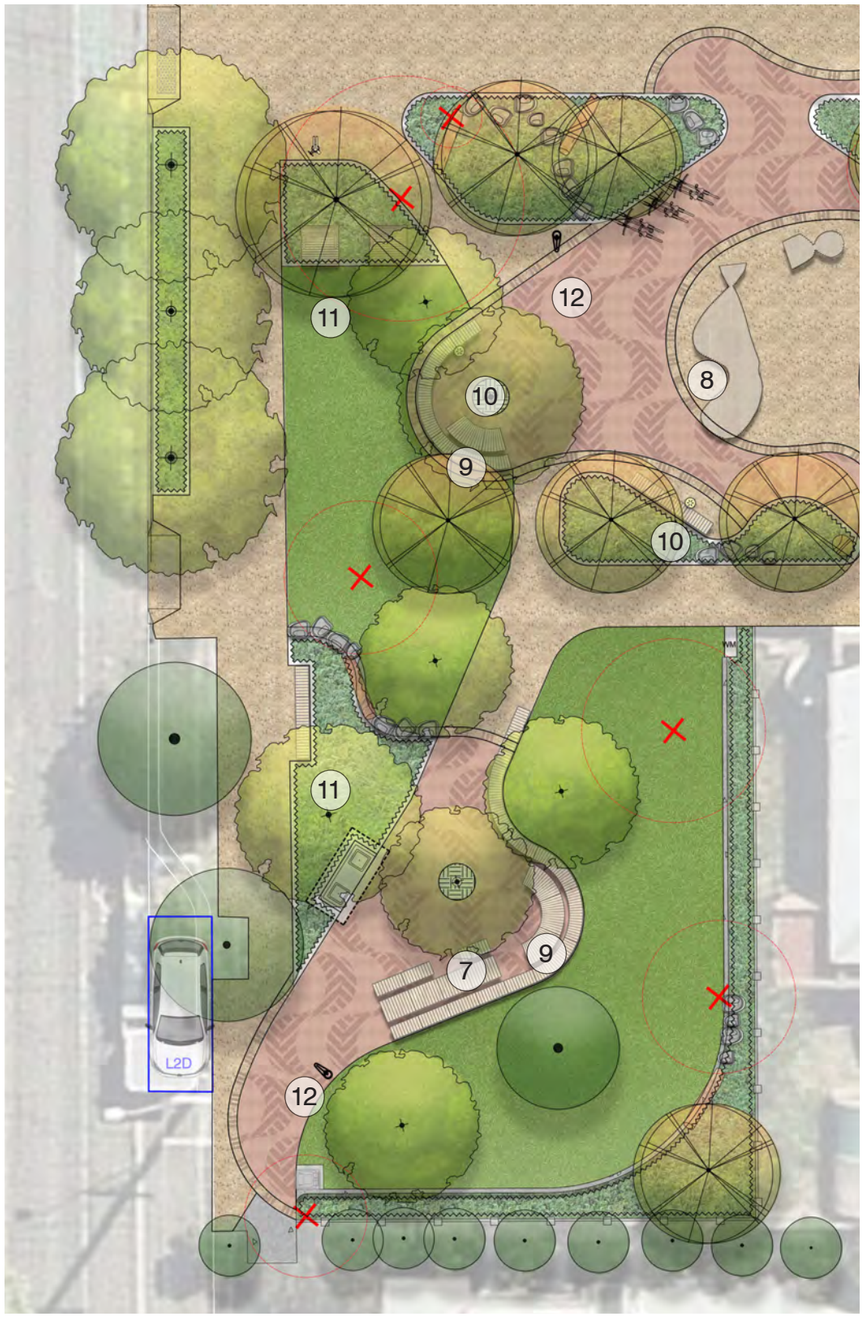


3 **A mix of evergreen and deciduous trees**
providing layered, seasonal shade across the reserve. Clear-trunked forms are used to maintain open sightlines, with planting along Mater Street echoing the rhythm and structure of the existing street tree alignment.




6 **Proposed patterned acrylic surface**
for an active play area, such as a mini basketball/ netball half-court or table tennis. The pattern may be artist-designed, with potential collaboration from an Aboriginal artist (see reference image by Reko Rennie).

# Landscape Plan





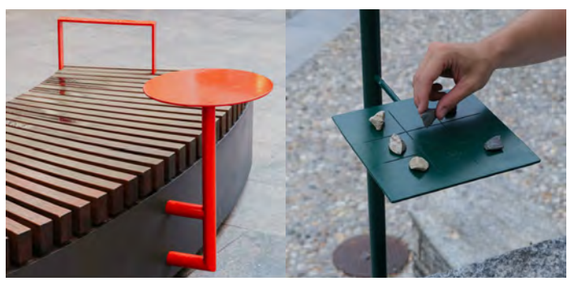

7 Picnic area
offering large banquet-style tables and a dual BBQ, thoughtfully arranged to encourage social interaction and accommodate several groups at once.



8 Dynamic sculptural furniture
forming a central focal point within the development, encouraging playful engagement and offering opportunities for rest, balance, climbing, sliding, and informal respite.



9 A range of seating options
offers spaces for individuals and groups, promoting passive engagement, conversation, and relaxation. Seating types vary from unbacked benches to backed seats with armrests, creating a flexible and welcoming environment.



10 Integrated pod tables
offer spaces for small personal items while encouraging incidental play via embedded board game markings, including noughts and crosses.

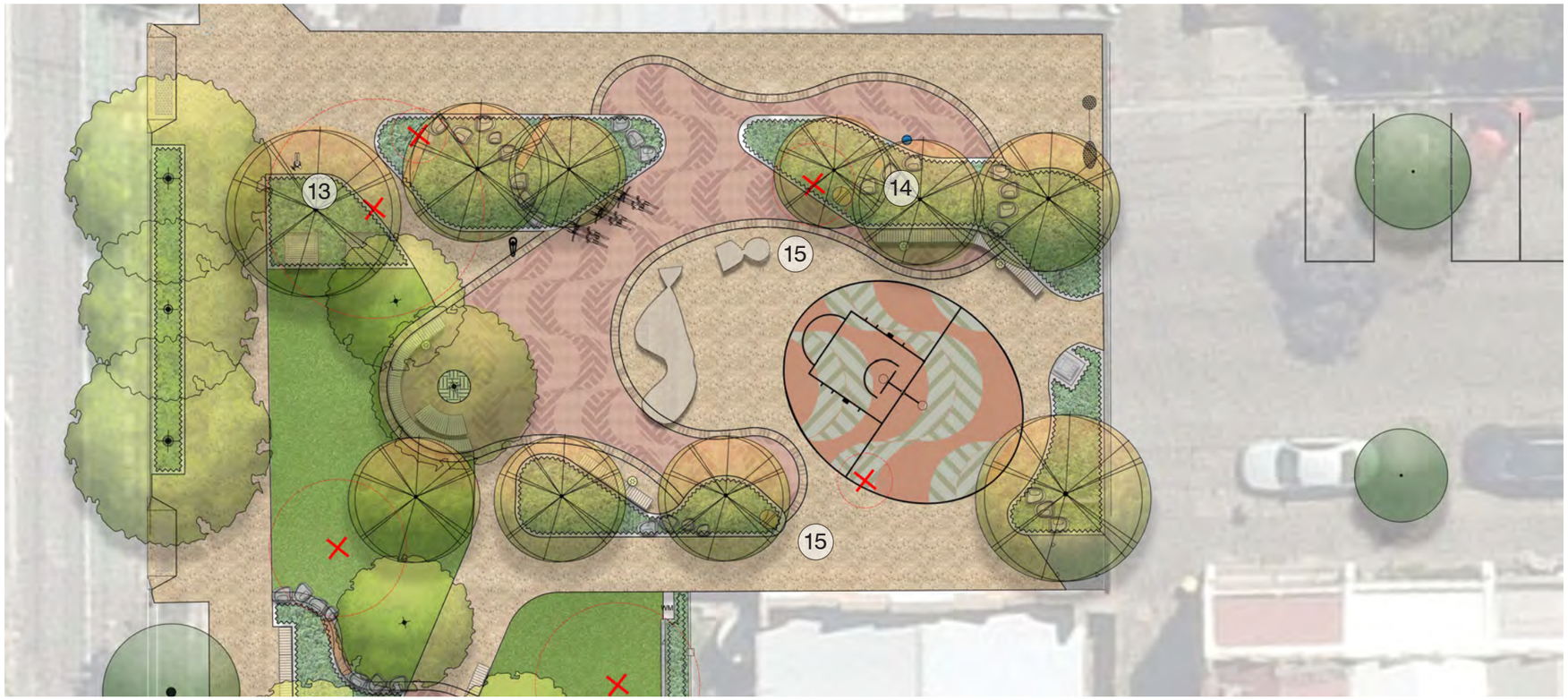


11 Integrated sun lounges
provide a comfortable alternative seating opportunity within the development.




12 Strategically located DDA-accessible drinking fountains
with dog bowls (excluding BBQ areas) provide hydration for people and pets at main activity areas, including BBQ zones, bicycle connections, and active play spaces.

# Landscape Plan






13 **Strategically located bicycle racks and repair station**
along the primary cycle route, enhancing cycling accessibility and encouraging active transport.




14 **Street library**
offering opportunities to borrow and swap books, encouraging reading and strengthening community engagement in the park.



15 **Carved stone features**
creating small water collection pools, providing habitat and hydration opportunities for local fauna.

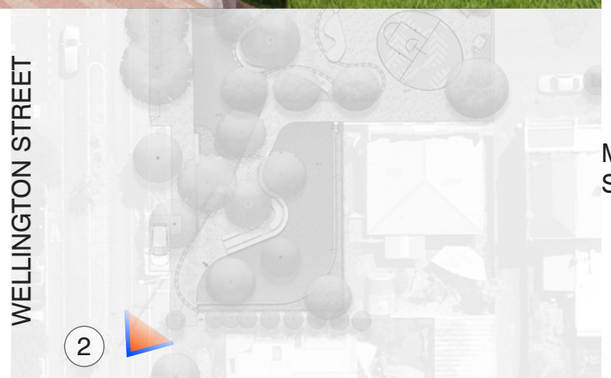
# Artists Impression #1 - View looking west from Mater Street





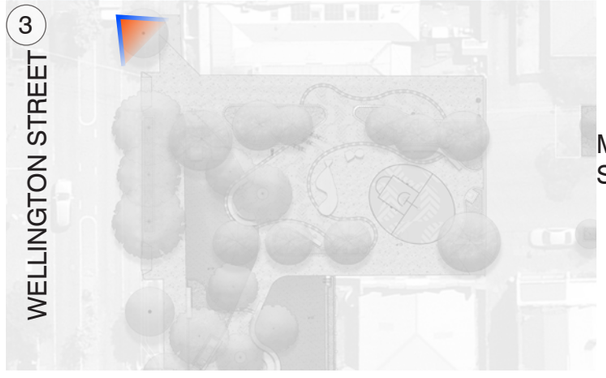

# Artists Impression #2 - View looking north west from Wellington Street





# Artists Impression #3 - View looking south east from Wellington Street





# Plant Palette

The tree selection reinforces inner-north streetscape character using accepted native and non-invasive exotics that provide canopy, shade and identity without the allergen, maintenance or weed concerns.

Understorey planting builds a layered, sensory landscape, with fragrance (notably Jasmine), texture, seasonal colour and movement supporting the site's role as a respite point between transport corridors. Indigenous species strengthen biodiversity outcomes, while familiar garden plants reflect the lived character of surrounding streets such as Charlotte Street.

Overall, the palette is heritage-respectful, ecologically responsible and publicly legible, suitable for Council review and long-term management.

**Primary Street & Canopy Trees**

*(Suitable for reinforcing streetscape character without weed or allergen risk)*

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Height (m) | Spread (m) | Streetscape & Design Rationale |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Ulmus parvifolia** | Chinese Elm | 12–15 | 10–15 | Non-invasive cultivar stock widely used in Melbourne; strong urban tolerance, fine canopy, seasonal change without allergen intensity of planes. |
| **Eucalyptus sideroxylon** (small–medium form) | Red Ironbark | 8–12 | 6–8 | Indigenous, durable street tree increasingly used in Yarra; strong identity and habitat value. |
| **Angophora costata** | Smooth-barked Apple | 8–12 | 6–8 | Highly valued Melbourne streetscape tree; sculptural trunk, dappled shade, civic presence. |
| **Corymbia maculata** | Spotted Gum | 10–15 | 6–8 | Tall, elegant native; common in Yarra streets and medians; good canopy without dense shade. |
| **Tristaniopsis laurina** 'Luscious' | Water Gum | 6–8 | 4–6 | Reliable, compact canopy, glossy foliage; excellent for tighter verges and park interiors. |

**Note:** Where formal street continuity is desired, *Ulmus parvifolia* remains acceptable and widely retained by Councils; where a more contemporary or ecological character is sought, native canopy species are preferred.

**Secondary / Accent Trees (Pocket Park Scale)**

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Height (m) | Spread (m) | Role |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Melaleuca linariifolia** | Snow-in-Summer | 6–9 | 4–6 | Softens space, summer flowering, movement and sound. |
| **Melaleuca armillaris** | Bracelet Honey-myrtle | 5–8 | 4–6 | Hardy, tolerant of pollution; strong nectar source. |
| **Callistemon viminalis** (compact forms) | Weeping Bottlebrush | 6–8 | 4–6 | Familiar inner-city native; seasonal colour and bird activity. |
| **Allocasuarina verticillata** | Drooping Sheoak | 6–10 | 4–6 | Fine texture, wind movement, acoustic softening; indigenous. |
| **Banksia marginata** | Silver Banksia | 6–10 | 4–6 | Indigenous, strong habitat value, sculptural seed cones. |

**Shrubs – Sensory, Structure & Urban Toughness (Expanded)**

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Height (m) | Spread (m) | Sensory / Functional Benefit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Jasminum officinale** | Common Jasmine | 3–6 (trained) | 2–4 | Key fragrance species; climbing or free-form along walls/fences. |
| **Trachelospermum jasminoides** | Star Jasmine | 1–2 | 2–3 | Evergreen fragrance; lower allergen impact than planes. |
| **Bursaria spinosa** (compact) | Sweet Bursaria | 2–3 | 2–3 | Native, fragrant summer flowering; ecological keystone species. |
| **Correa alba** | White Correa | 1–1.5 | 1.5–2 | Soft foliage, winter flowers, bird habitat. |
| **Correa reflexa** | Native Fuchsia | 1–2 | 1.5–2 | Shade tolerant; sensory colour and texture. |
| **Westringia fruticosa** | Coastal Rosemary | 1–1.5 | 1–1.5 | Structured form; resilient in urban streets. |
| **Melaleuca wilsonii** | Wilson's Honey-myrtle | 1.5–2.5 | 2–3 | Fine foliage, pink flowers, pollinator friendly. |

# Plant Palette

**Grasses & Strappy Plants – Movement & Sound**

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Height (m) | Spread (m) | Role |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Poa labillardierei** | Tussock Grass | 0.6–1.2 | 0.6–1.0 | Soft movement; indigenous; absorbs traffic noise. |
| **Themeda triandra** | Kangaroo Grass | 0.5–1.0 | 0.5–1.0 | Seasonal colour, sense of place. |
| **Lomandra longifolia** | Mat-rush | 0.6–1.0 | 0.6–1.0 | Durable, tactile, low maintenance. |
| **Carex appressa** | Tall Sedge | 0.6–1.0 | 0.6–1.0 | Shaded / damp zones; soft texture. |
| **Dianella revoluta** | Flax-lily | 0.5–1.0 | 0.6–1.0 | Blue flowers and berries; bird attraction. |

**Groundcovers – Fragrance & Softness**

| Scientific Name | Common Name | Height (m) | Spread (m) | Benefit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Trachelospermum asiaticum** | Asiatic Jasmine | 0.2–0.3 | 2–4 | Fragrance at ground level; links to Charlotte St character. |
| **Myoporum parvifolium** | Creeping Boobialla | 0.1–0.3 | 2–3 | Tough, evergreen groundcover. |
| **Dichondra repens** | Kidney Weed | 0.05–0.1 | 1–2 | Soft appearance; shade tolerant. |
| **Viola hederacea** | Native Violet | 0.1–0.2 | 0.5–1.0 | Delicate flowers; cool microclimate. |
| **Rosmarinus officinalis ‘Prostratus’** | Creeping Rosemary | 0.2–0.4 | 1–1.5 | Strong aroma; drought tolerant. |