

(INNER CIRCLE) LINEAR PARKLANDS

MASTERPLAN - SUMMARY OF VISION,
PRINCIPLES AND AREA PLANS

November 2025



Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country

(Inner Circle) Linear Parklands

Bunurong Boon Wurrung Country



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 Linear Parklands Masterplan
Project Number: 1025MEL

Revision:	Status:	Date:	Checked:
B	Summary of key pages	19/11/2025	TF/CB

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Disclaimer

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Contents

	The (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Story	7
1	Vision and Principles	9
2	Area Plans	19

This document only includes key pages from the Linear Parklands Masterplan. For a full copy of the masterplan, please visit yarracity.vic.gov.au.



Site photo: Thomas Kidney Reserve

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: Remnant railway heritage in Jane Millman Reserve

Vision and Principles

Overview

How to read this chapter:

The masterplan outlines a vision for the parklands and five key principles which respond to community feedback, Council aspirations, observations and identified issues and opportunities. The vision and principles are supported by a series of objectives and key moves to guide future decision making. These are outlined under the following themes:

 **Wurundjeri Country**

 **Access, Active Transport, Safety, and Inclusion**

 **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 and equitable parklands for people to relax, play and move through, and will support the health and sense of belonging for its diverse community. The open space corridor on Wurundjeri Country will offer 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 the Capital City Trail for all users
- Reconcile, and strengthen relationships with Wurundjeri Country
- Celebrate the parklands railway history and community activism
- Enhance this open space and biodiversity corridor by conserving green space, restoring natural systems and strengthening ecological and habitat connections.



3D Visualisation - Amenity node with Wurundjeri interpretation



Site photo: The Hill

Area Plans

Overview

How to read this chapter:

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

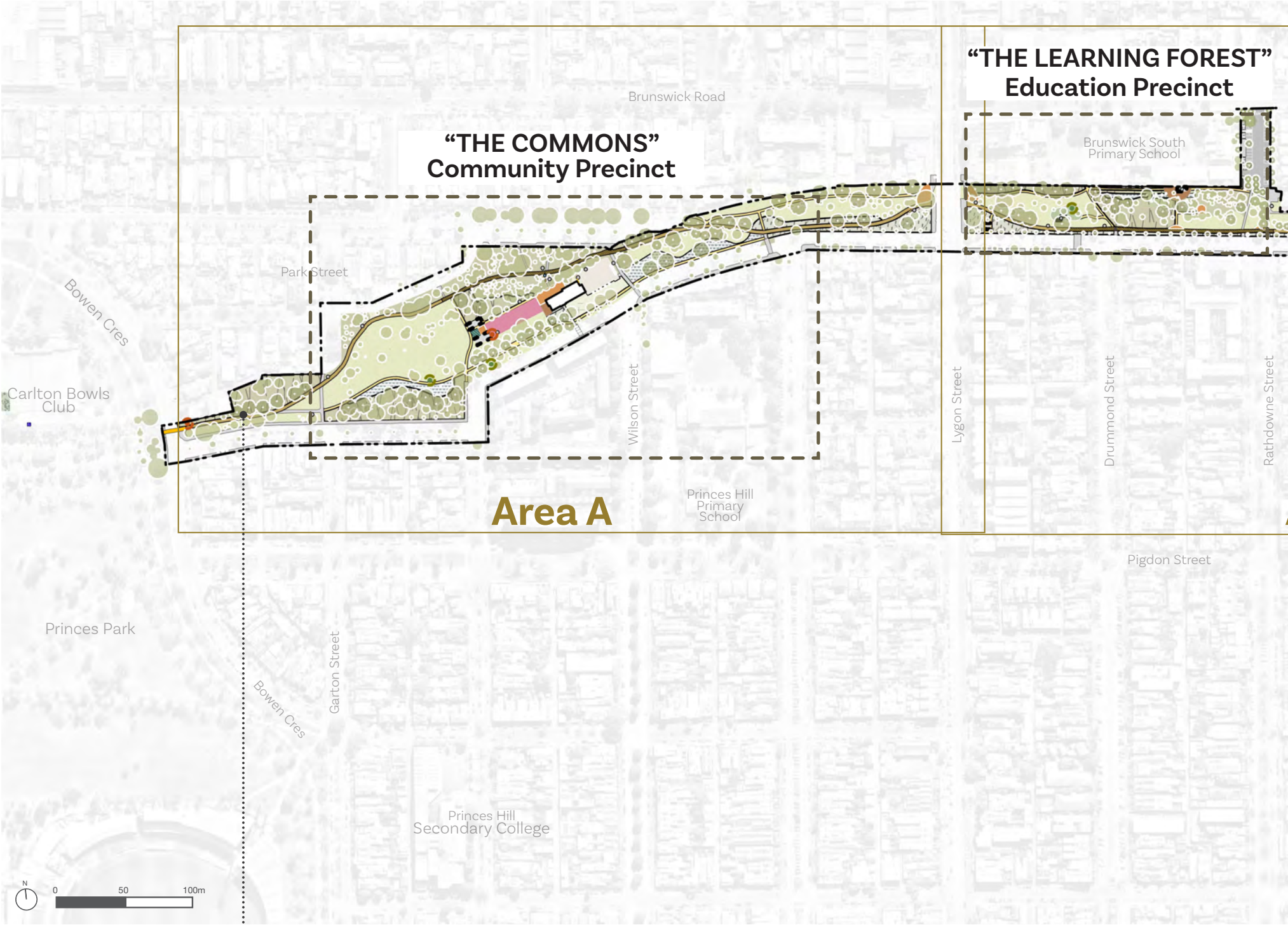
The decision-making process for identifying precincts in this chapter was comprehensive, involving various factors and inputs. It involved considering and balancing:

- Community engagement and feedback
- Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal 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

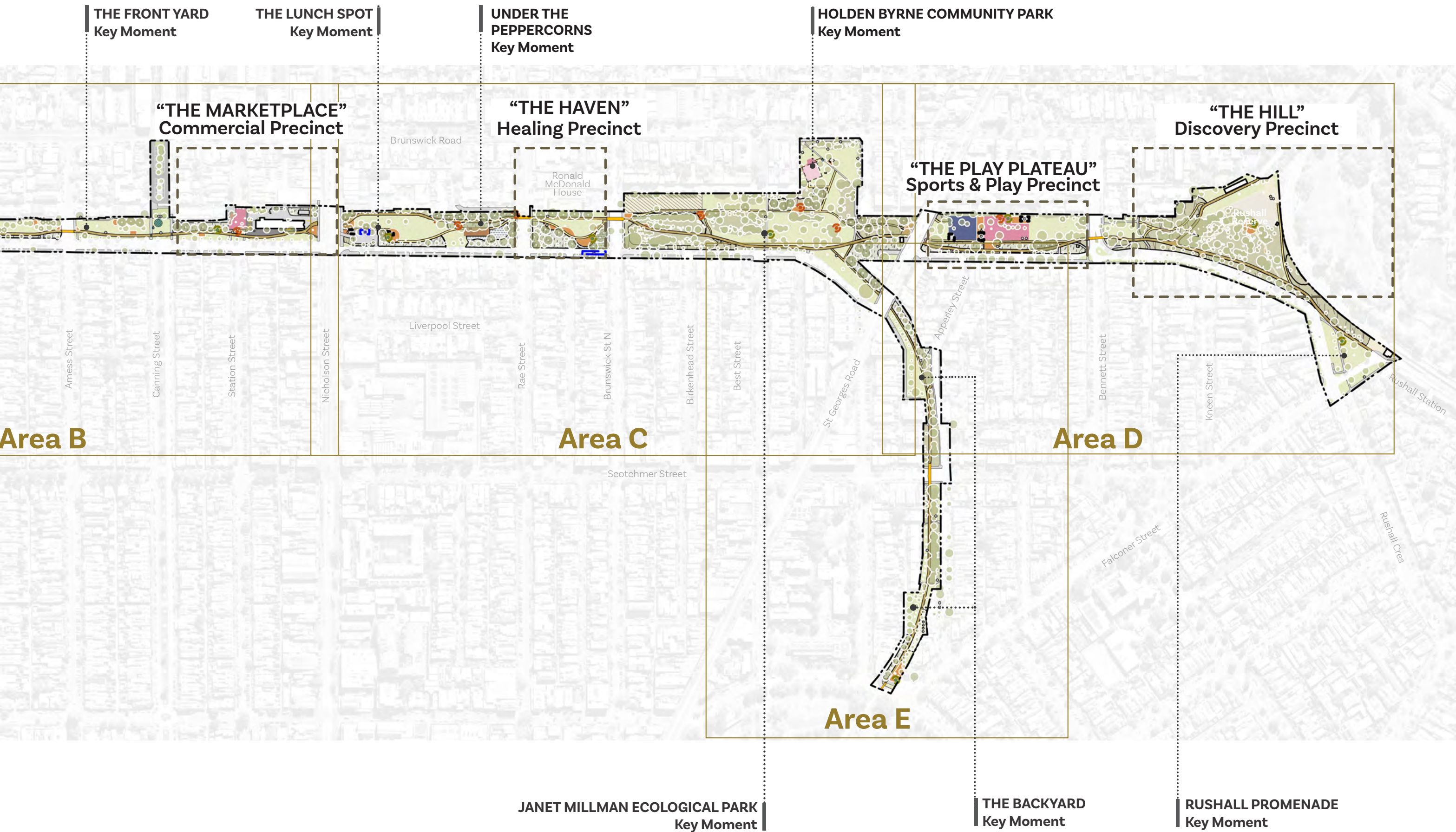
The project team has listened to the feedback received from the community and key stakeholders. Their voices and perspectives were heard and incorporated into the following identification of precincts and secondary key moments.

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.

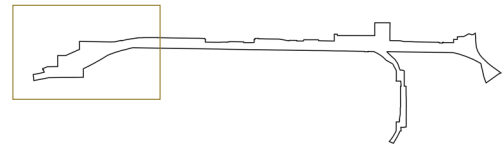
The spaces in between are quieter experiences where biodiversity, movement, and pause points are prioritised for individuals and small groups. By preserving its unique character and involving the community in the future development process, the parklands can cater to people of all ages and abilities.



BEYOND THE PICKET FENCE
Key Moment



Area A - (Bowen Crescent to Lygon Street)



LEGEND

General

- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary
- Local Government Area Boundary
- Existing Contour (1m)
- Overhead Powerlines

Pavements

- Existing Concrete Path
- Existing Compacted Aggregate
- Existing Primary Shared User Path
- Proposed Secondary Pedestrian Only Path
- Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade
- Improve Pedestrian and Cycling Crossing Points
- Proposed Cycle Connection Upgrade
- Proposed DDA Car Space

Landscape Areas

- Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area
- Proposed Active Sports Area
- Proposed Platform Area
- Proposed Seating and Amenity Node
- Proposed Fitness Station

Architecture and Site Structures

- Existing Building
- Proposed Shelter
- Proposed Toilet

Water Elements

- Proposed Raingarden

Furniture + Fittings

- Retain Existing Seating
- Retain Existing Bins
- Retain Existing Drinking Fountains
- Retain Existing Bicycle Rack
- Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location
- Proposed Seating Location
- Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank
- Proposed Above Ground Rainwater Tank
- Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location
- Proposed Wayfinding Point
- Proposed Composting and Sustainability Centre

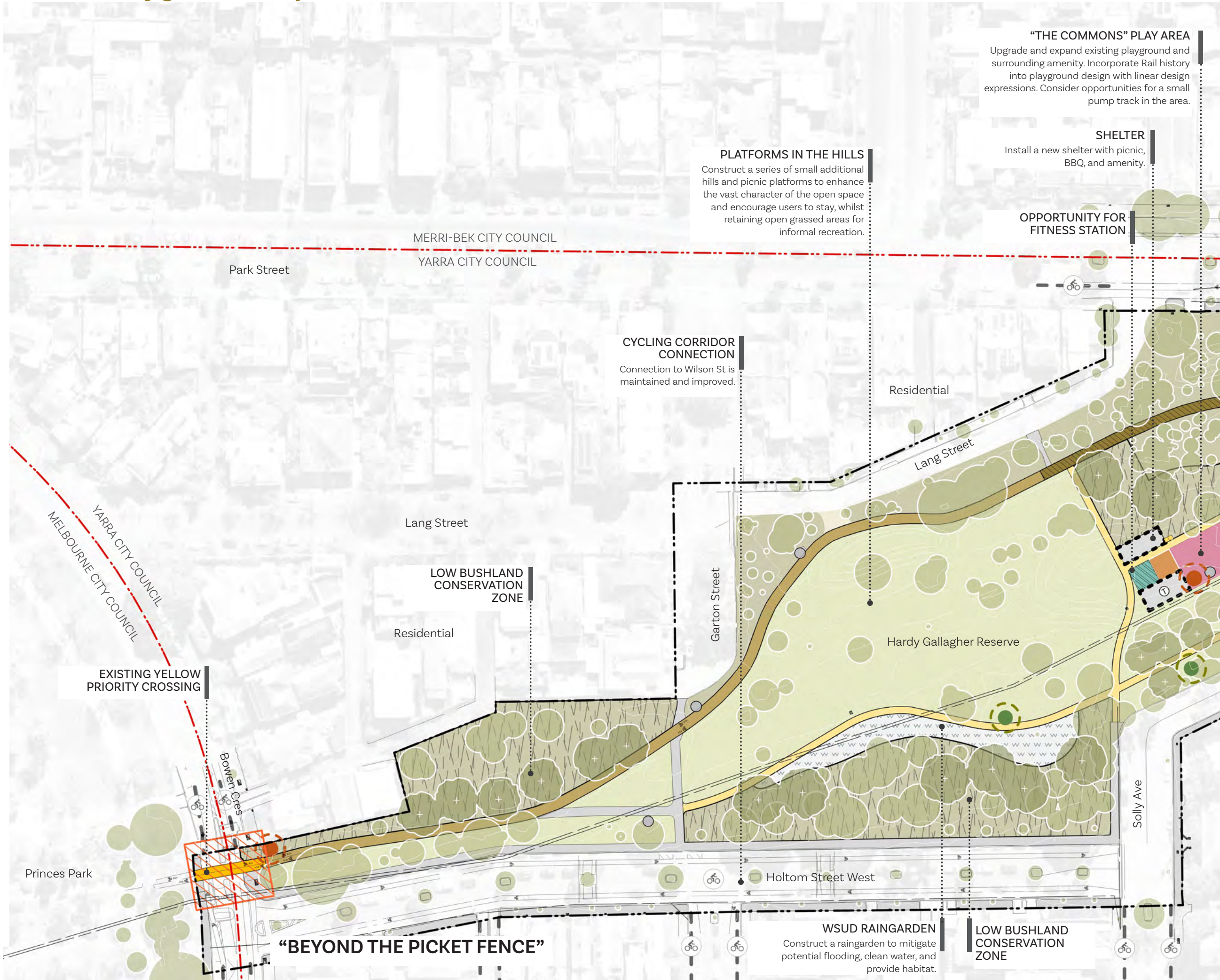
Planting

- Existing Open Lawn
- Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting
- Existing Communal Garden
- Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones
- Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings
- Proposed Orchard

Trees

- Proposed Native Tree
- Existing Tree to be retained

NOTE: Location of proposed features (e.g. path alignment, amenity nodes) are indicative and subject to further design and feasibility work.



LOW BUSHLAND
CONSERVATION
ZONE

**NORTH CARLTON RAILWAY
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE**
Improve access to North Carlton
Railway Neighbourhood House.
Upgrade existing amenity and
construct platform interfacing
with playground and open
space to the west. Consider
opportunities for a bike repair
station near the Neighbourhood
House, with convenient access
from the Shared User Path.

**PARK STREET
IMPROVEMENTS**
Opportunity to improve
greening, pedestrian and
cycle connections and
local flooding conditions
along Park Street (north of
the parklands).

LOW BUSHLAND
CONSERVATION
ZONE

**CYCLING CORRIDOR
CONNECTION**
Connection to Park St is
maintained and improved.

**MAINTAIN EXISTING
OPEN LAWN**

**CLIMATE
ADAPTIVE
PLANTING**

Commercial

Dog off-leash
area

Park Street

Residential

Residential

**LYGON ST
INTERSECTION
UPGRADE**
Engage with Yarra Trams
and the Department of
Transport and Planning to
create a super tram stop.
Ensure safe, practical and
integrated solution to all
arterial road crossings at
Lygon St, Nicholson St and
Brunswick Road.

AMENITY NODE
Containing seats,
drinking fountain,
wayfinding and
bicycle repair station.

PARK STREET CYCLING CORRIDOR
Improve cycling infrastructure along Park
Street as a complementary cycling corridor
to the Shared User Path.

**CYCLING CORRIDOR
CONNECTION**
Connection to Park Street and
McIlwraith St is maintained
and improved.

WSUD RAINGARDEN
Construct a raingarden to mitigate potential
flooding, clean water, and provide habitat.

**PARK ST
CONNECTIVITY**
Facilitate safe and accessible
cycling connection from
Park St to Park St across the
parkland.

DDA PARKING
Provide accessible
car parking

WSUD RAINGARDEN
Construct a raingarden to mitigate
potential flooding, clean water, and
provide habitat. Opportunity for
existing car park to be removed to
provide a larger raingarden area.

Princes Hill
Primary
School

**CONNECTION TO
SCHOOL**
Support a safe connection
through the parklands
towards Princes Hill
Primary School.

ORCHARD
Orchard to be an extension
of the existing communal
garden with climate
adaptive plantings to front
of building.

**PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN
CROSSING**

Wilson Street

**CYCLING CORRIDOR
CONNECTION**
Connection to Wilson St is
maintained and improved.

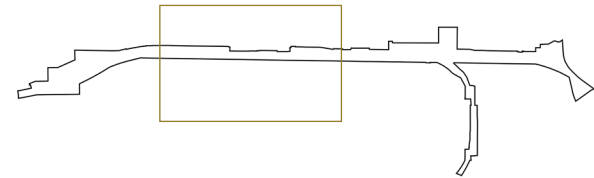
McIlwraith Street

Keeley Lane

Lygon Street

**“THE COMMONS”
COMMUNITY PRECINCT**

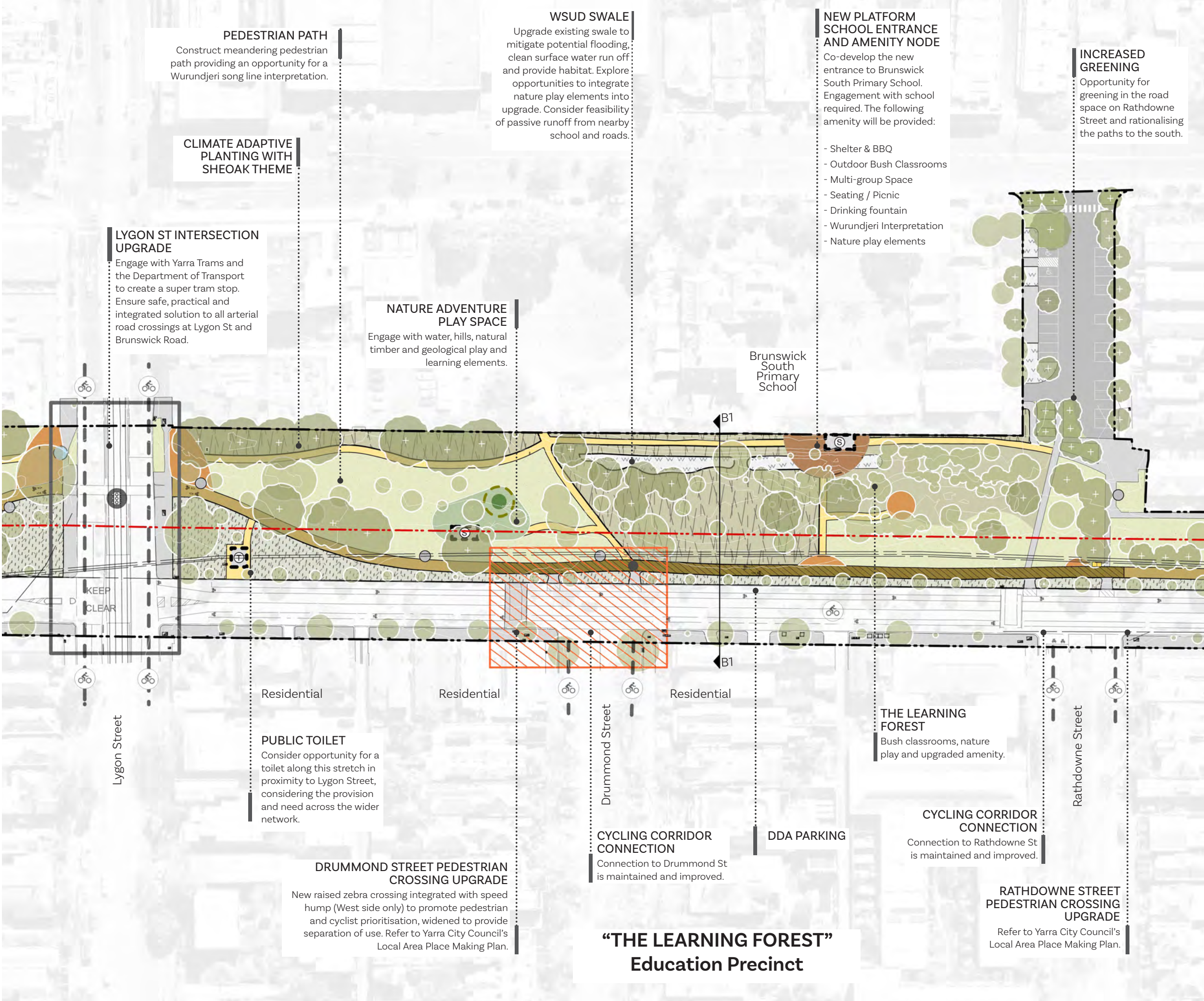
Area B - (Lygon Street to Nicholson Street)

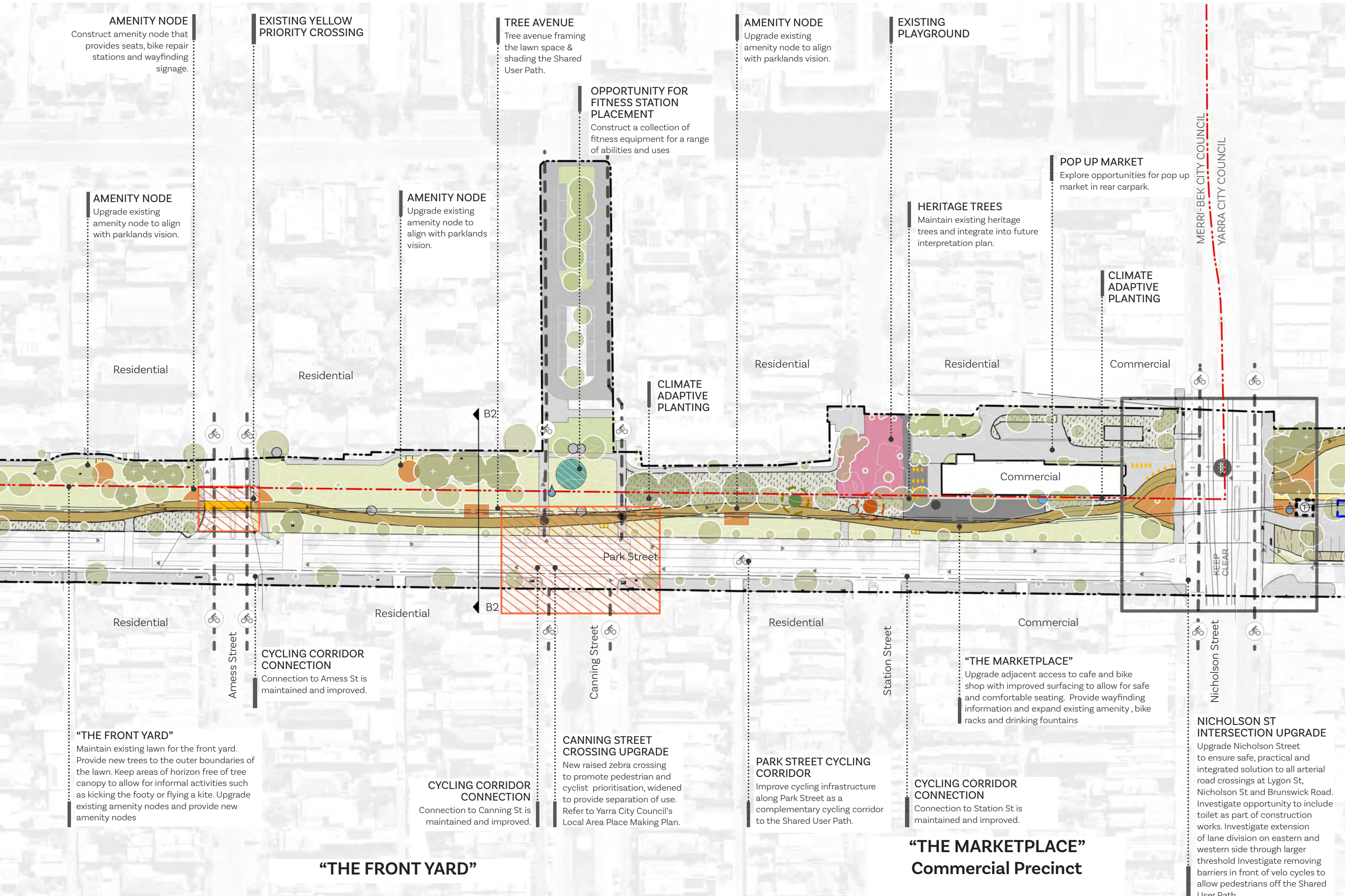


LEGEND

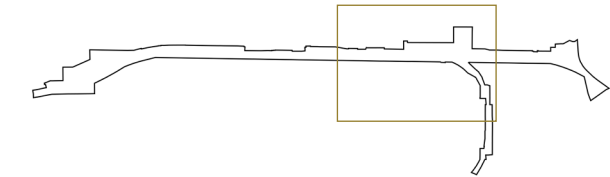
- General**
 - (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary
 - Local Government Area Boundary
 - Existing Contour (1m)
 - Overhead Powerlines
- Pavements**
 - Existing Concrete Path
 - Existing Compacted Aggregate
 - Existing Primary Shared User Path
 - Proposed Primary Shared User Path School Zone
 - Proposed Secondary Pedestrian Only Path
 - Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade
 - Improve Pedestrian and Cycling Crossing Points
 - Proposed Cycle Connection Upgrade
 - Proposed DDA Car Space
- Landscape Areas**
 - Improved Surface Treatment
 - Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area
 - Proposed Seating and Amenity Node
 - Proposed BMX Zone
 - Proposed Fitness Station
- Architecture and Site Structures**
 - Existing Building
 - Proposed Shelter
 - Proposed Toilet
- Water Elements**
 - Proposed Raingarden
- Furniture + Fittings**
 - Retain Existing Seating
 - Retain Existing Bins
 - Retain Existing Drinking Fountains
 - Retain Existing Bicycle Rack
 - Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location
 - Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank
 - Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location
 - Proposed Wayfinding Point
- Planting**
 - Existing Open Lawn
 - Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting
 - Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones
 - Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings
- Trees**
 - Proposed Native Tree
 - Existing Tree to be retained

NOTE: Location of proposed features (e.g. path alignment, amenity nodes) are indicative and subject to further design and feasibility work.





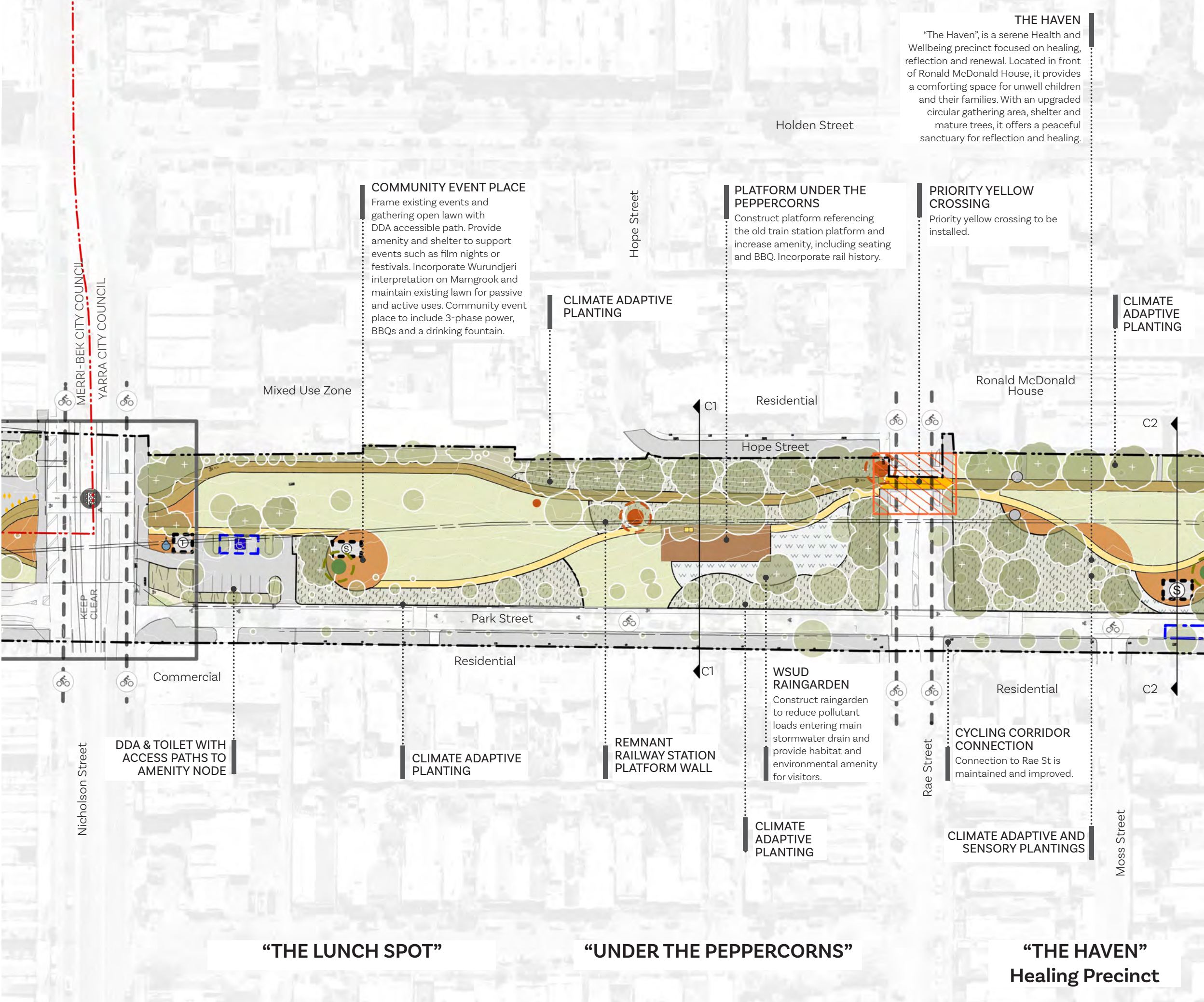
Area C - (Nicholson Street to St Georges Road)



LEGEND

- General**
- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary
 - Local Government Area Boundary
 - Existing Contour (1m)
 - Overhead Powerlines
- Pavements**
- Existing Concrete Path
 - Existing Compacted Aggregate
 - Existing Primary Shared User Path
 - Proposed Primary Shared User Path School Zone
 - Proposed Secondary Pedestrian Only Path
 - Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade
 - Improve Pedestrian and Cycling Crossing Points
 - Proposed Cycle Connection Upgrade
 - Proposed DDA Car Space
- Landscape Areas**
- Improved Surface Treatment
 - Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area
 - Proposed Active Sports Area
 - Proposed Platform Area
 - Proposed Seating and Amenity Node
- Architecture and Site Structures**
- Existing Shelter
 - Existing Building
 - Proposed Shelter
 - Proposed Toilet
- Water Elements**
- Proposed Raingarden
- Furniture + Fittings**
- Retain Existing Seating
 - Retain Existing Bins
 - Retain Existing Drinking Fountains
 - Retain Existing Picnic Tables and Seats
 - Retain Existing BBQ
 - Retain Existing Heritage Element
 - Retain Existing Bicycle Rack
 - Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location
 - Proposed Land Art Location
 - Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank
 - Proposed Above Ground Rainwater Tank
 - Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location
 - Proposed Wayfinding Point
- Planting**
- Existing Open Lawn
 - Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting
 - Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones
 - Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings
- Trees**
- Proposed Native Tree
 - Existing Tree to be retained

NOTE: Location of proposed features (e.g. path alignment, amenity nodes) are indicative and subject to further design and feasibility work.



THE HAVEN

"The Haven", is a serene Health and Wellbeing precinct focused on healing, reflection and renewal. Located in front of Ronald McDonald House, it provides a comforting space for unwell children and their families. With an upgraded circular gathering area, shelter and mature trees, it offers a peaceful sanctuary for reflection and healing.

COMMUNITY EVENT PLACE

Frame existing events and gathering open lawn with DDA accessible path. Provide amenity and shelter to support events such as film nights or festivals. Incorporate Wurundjeri interpretation on Marngrook and maintain existing lawn for passive and active uses. Community event place to include 3-phase power, BBQs and a drinking fountain.

PLATFORM UNDER THE PEPPERCORNS

Construct platform referencing the old train station platform and increase amenity, including seating and BBQ. Incorporate rail history.

PRIORITY YELLOW CROSSING

Priority yellow crossing to be installed.

CLIMATE ADAPTIVE PLANTING

CLIMATE ADAPTIVE PLANTING

WSUD RAINGARDEN

Construct raingarden to reduce pollutant loads entering main stormwater drain and provide habitat and environmental amenity for visitors.

CYCLING CORRIDOR CONNECTION

Connection to Rae St is maintained and improved.

CLIMATE ADAPTIVE AND SENSORY PLANTINGS

REMNANT RAILWAY STATION PLATFORM WALL

CLIMATE ADAPTIVE PLANTING

DDA & TOILET WITH ACCESS PATHS TO AMENITY NODE

"THE LUNCH SPOT"

"UNDER THE PEPPERCORNS"

"THE HAVEN"
Healing Precinct

Construct wetland to reduce pollutant loads entering main stormwater drain and provide habitat and environmental amenity for visitors.

Investigate opportunity to build social/affordable homes that are integrated with the values of the parklands vision and story. Explore interim opportunities for a fenced dog off leash activity park.

Opportunity for to expand on Holden St Neighbourhood House food growing space into a communal garden in Porter Street Reserve

UPGRADED ACCESS INTO PARKLANDS

...

...

Ensure safe, practical and integrated solution to all intersections.

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 284: 2689-2695.

- Railway interpretation of remnant rails and weigh bridge, and additional amenity with seating.

Reserve

Park entry amenity
node with seating :

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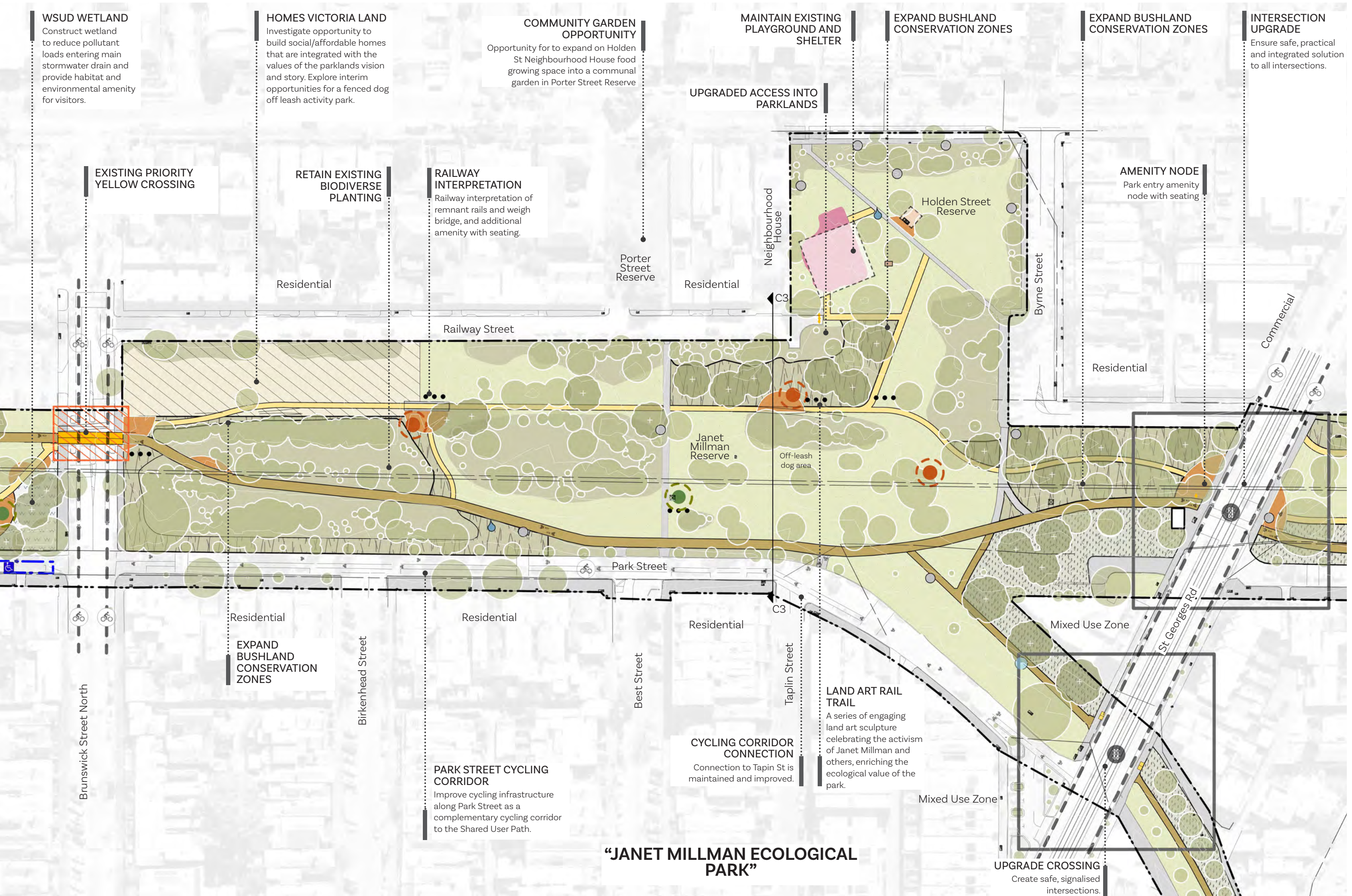
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A series of engaging land art sculpture celebrating the activism of Janet Millman and others, enriching the ecological value of the park.

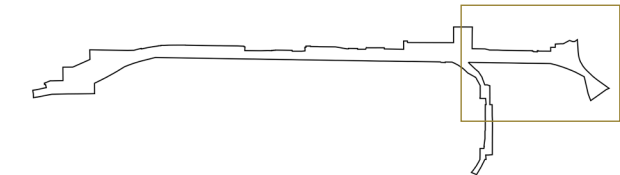
Connection to Tapin St is maintained and improved.

Improve cycling infrastructure along Park Street as a complementary cycling corridor to the Shared User Path.

Create safe, signalised intersections.

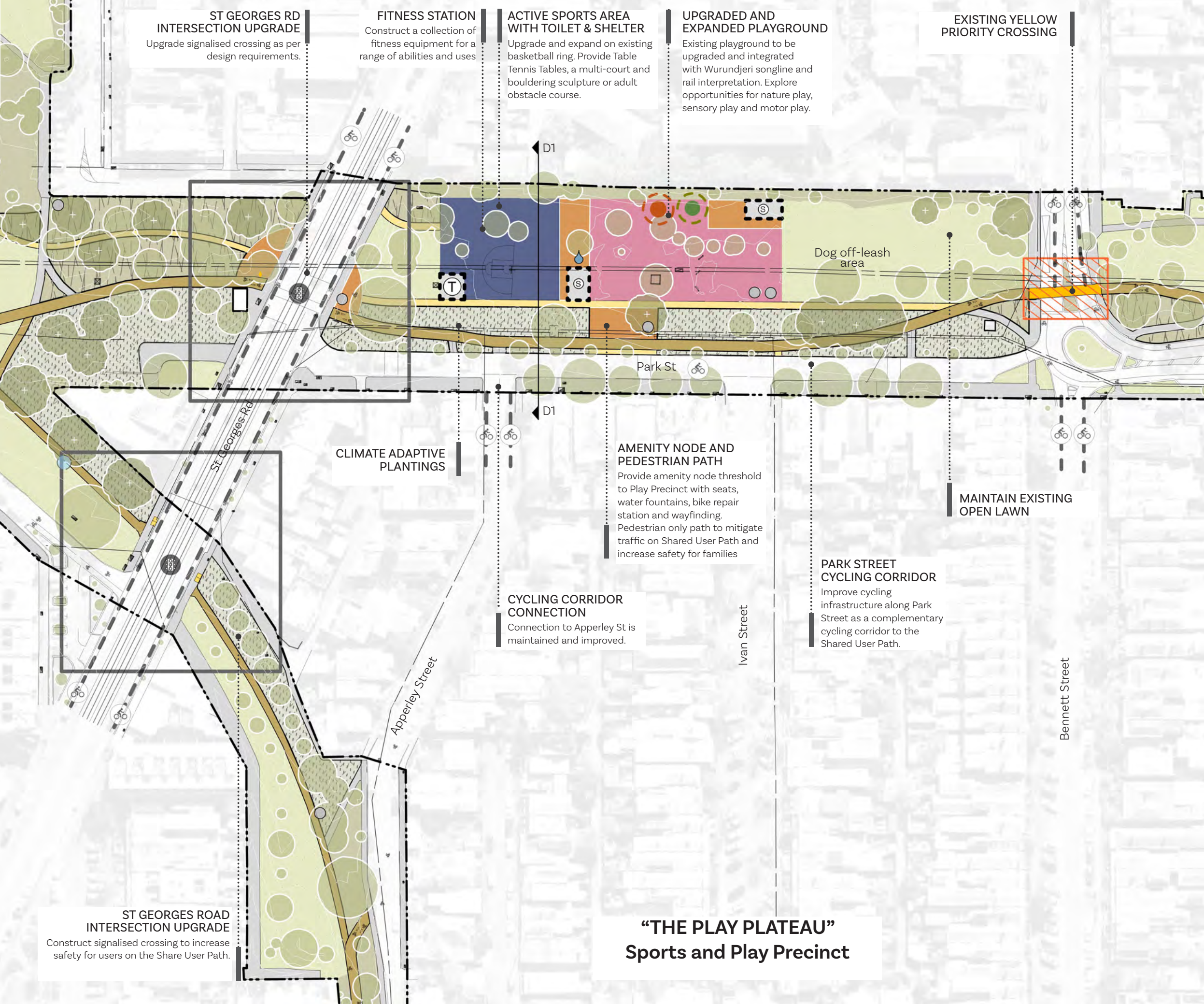


Area D - (Between St Georges Road and Rushall Station)



LEGEND

- General**
- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary
 - Local Government Area Boundary
 - Existing Contour (1m)
 - Overhead Powerlines
- Pavements**
- Existing Concrete Path
 - Existing Compacted Aggregate
 - Existing Pedestrian Bridge
 - Existing Primary Shared User Path
 - Proposed Primary Shared User Path School Zone
 - Proposed Secondary Pedestrian Only Path
 - Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade
 - Improve Pedestrian and Cycling Crossing Points
 - Proposed Cycle Connection Upgrade
 - Proposed DDA Car Space
- Landscape Areas**
- Improved Surface Treatment
 - Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area
 - Proposed Active Sports Area
 - Proposed Seating and Amenity Node
- Architecture and Site Structures**
- Existing Building
 - Proposed Shelter
 - Proposed Toilet
- Furniture + Fittings**
- Retain Existing Seating
 - Retain Existing Bins
 - Retain Existing Drinking Fountains
 - Retain Existing Bicycle Rack
 - Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location
 - Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank
 - Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location
 - Proposed Wayfinding Point
- Planting**
- Existing Open Lawn
 - Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting
 - Existing Communal Garden
 - Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones
 - Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings
- Trees**
- Proposed Native Tree
 - Existing Tree to be retained
- NOTE: Location of proposed features (e.g. path alignment, amenity nodes) are indicative and subject to further design and feasibility work.





MAINTAIN EXISTING OPEN LAWN

RETAIN EXISTING BIODIVERSE PLANTING

COMMUNITY GARDEN EXPANSION
Seek opportunities to expand the community gardens to accommodate additional plots.

EXPAND BUSHLAND CONSERVATION ZONES

PEDESTRIAN PATH
Formalise rushall station connection to community garden wayfinding

CYCLING CORRIDOR CONNECTION
Connection to Falconer St is maintained and improved.

LOW BUSHLAND CONSERVATION ZONES

PEDESTRIAN PATH
Additional pedestrian path to mitigate traffic and safety issues for pedestrians. Alignment of path in this section to consider topography and desire lines.

WURUNDJERI (MERRI MERRI CREEK) INTERPRETATION
Key location to introduce Wurundjeri Songline of the Merri Merri Yaluck to visitors. Expand and upgrade existing amenity to create a destination for visitors to learn and reflect.

REFLECTION BENCH
Provide a series of singular benches for visitors to have moments of reflection and reprieve in the discovery precinct.

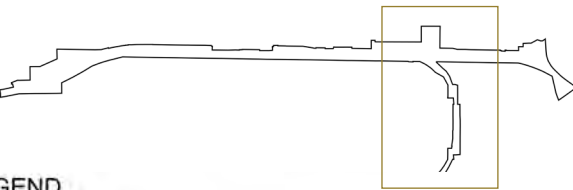
AMENITY NODE
Provide amenity node with seats, drinking fountain, bike repair station and wayfinding.

CONNECTION TO OTHER ROUTES
Provide wayfinding to other routes and coordinate design with any future potential improvements around Rushall Station.

**“THE HILL”
Discovery Precinct**

RUSHALL PROMENADE

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



LEGEND

General

- (Inner Circle) Linear Parklands Site Boundary
- Local Government Area Boundary
- Existing Contour (1m)
- Overhead Powerlines

Pavements

- Existing Concrete Path
- Existing Compacted Aggregate
- Existing Primary Shared User Path
- Proposed Primary Shared User Path School Zone
- Proposed Secondary Pedestrian Only Path
- Proposed Traffic Intersection Upgrade
- Improve Pedestrian and Cycling Crossing Points
- Proposed Cycle Connection Upgrade
- Proposed DDA Car Space

Landscape Areas

- Improved Surface Treatment
- Proposed/Upgraded Playground Area
- Proposed Active Sports Area
- Proposed Platform Area
- Proposed Seating and Amenity Node

Architecture and Site Structures

- Existing Shelter
- Existing Building
- Proposed Shelter
- Proposed Toilet

Water Elements

- Proposed Raingarden

Furniture + Fittings

- Retain Existing Seating
- Retain Existing Bins
- Retain Existing Drinking Fountains
- Retain Existing Picnic Tables and Seats
- Retain Existing BBQ
- Retain Existing Heritage Element
- Retain Existing Bicycle Rack
- Proposed Heritage/Rail Interpretation Location
- Proposed Land Art Location
- Proposed Underground Water Storage Tank
- Proposed Above Ground Rainwater Tank
- Proposed Wurundjeri Interpretation Location
- Proposed Wayfinding Point

Planting

- Existing Open Lawn
- Existing Biodiverse Understorey Planting
- Proposed Bushland Conservation Zones
- Proposed Climate Adaptive Plantings

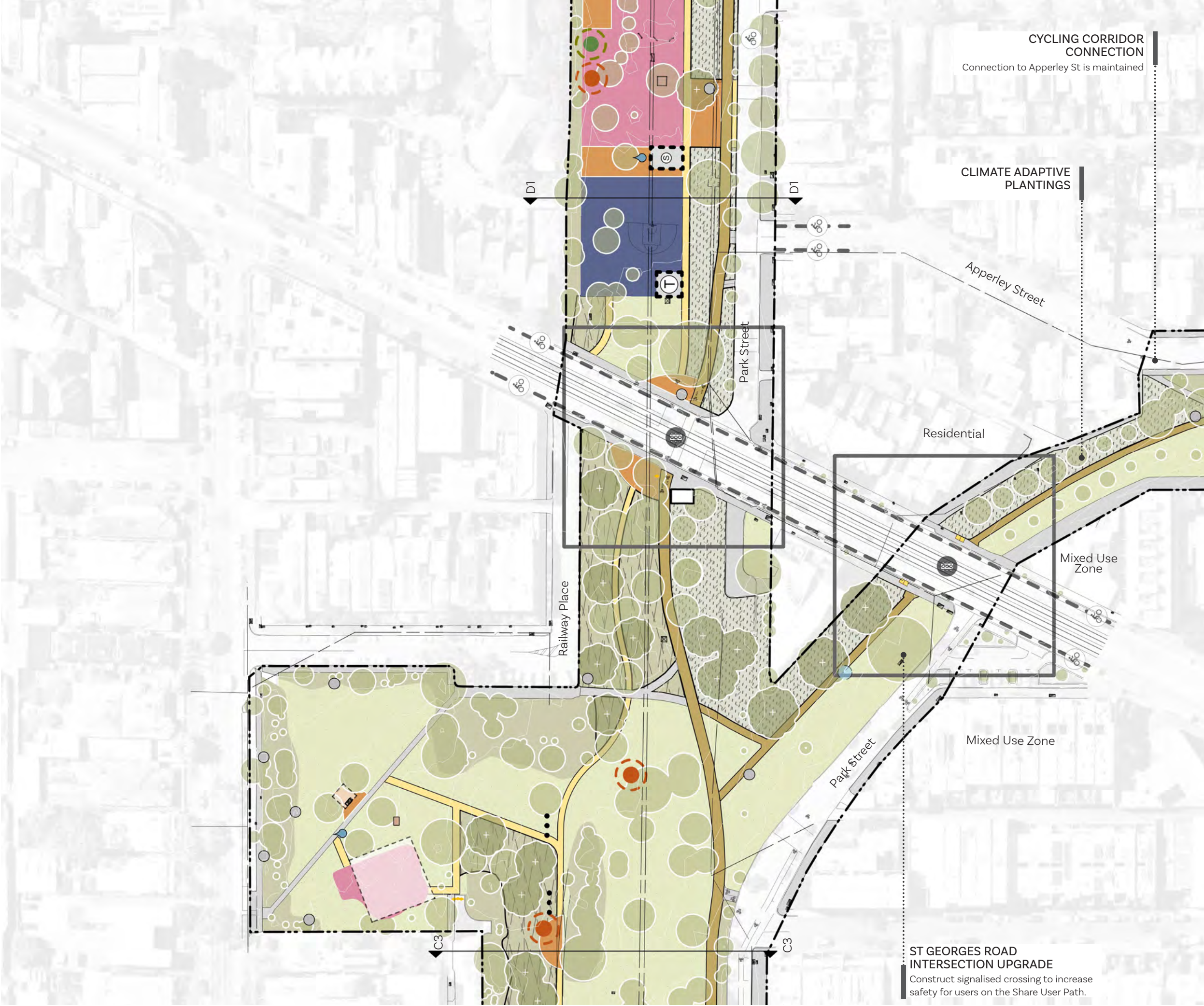
Trees

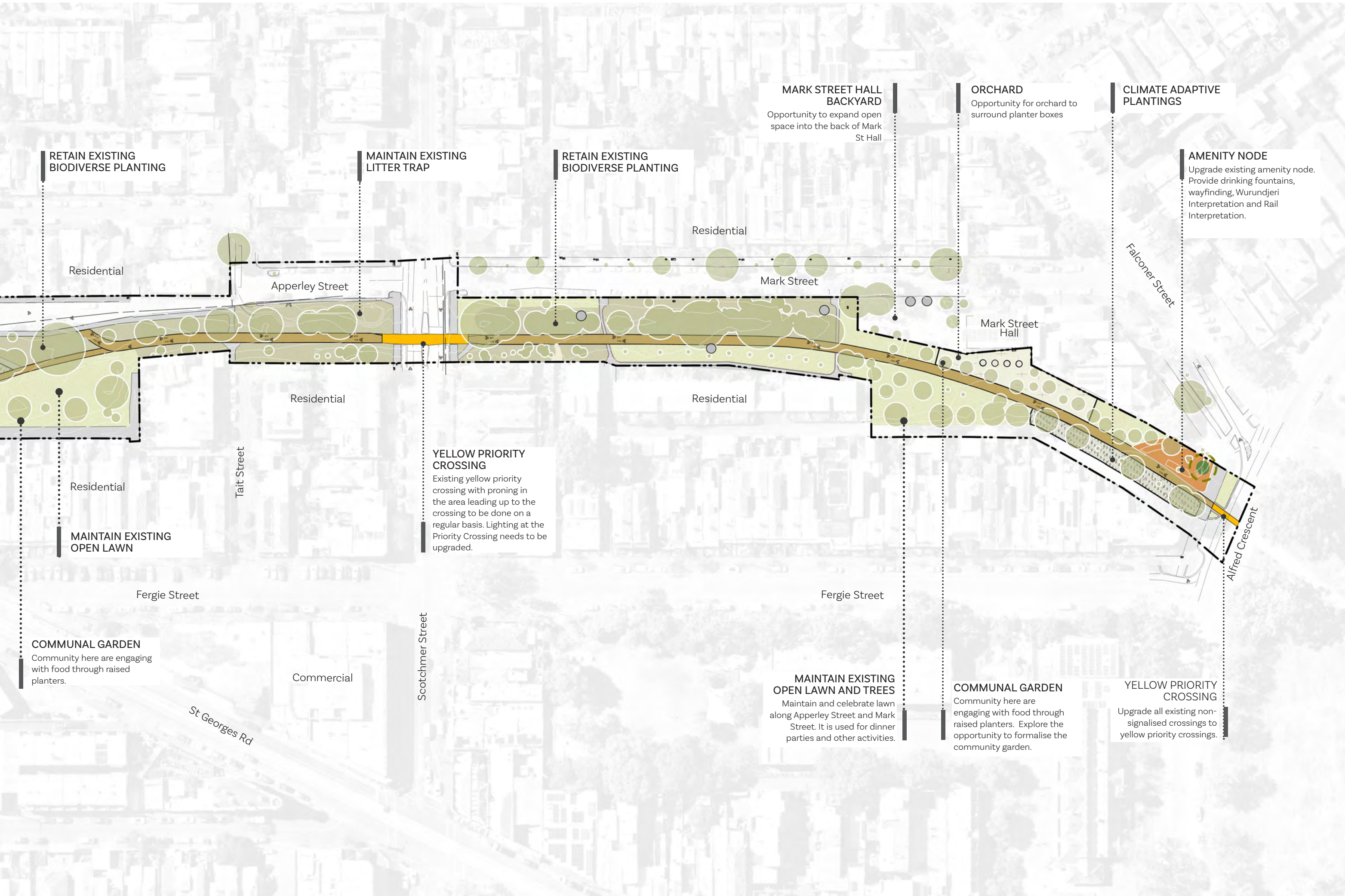
- Proposed Native Tree
- Existing Tree to be retained

NOTE: Location of proposed features (e.g. path alignment, amenity nodes) are indicative and subject to further design and feasibility work.



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RETAIN EXISTING BIODIVERSE PLANTING

MAINTAIN EXISTING LITTER TRAP

RETAIN EXISTING BIODIVERSE PLANTING

MARK STREET HALL BACKYARD
Opportunity to expand open space into the back of Mark St Hall

ORCHARD
Opportunity for orchard to surround planter boxes

CLIMATE ADAPTIVE PLANTINGS

AMENITY NODE
Upgrade existing amenity node. Provide drinking fountains, wayfinding, Wurundjeri Interpretation and Rail Interpretation.

YELLOW PRIORITY CROSSING
Existing yellow priority crossing with pruning in the area leading up to the crossing to be done on a regular basis. Lighting at the Priority Crossing needs to be upgraded.

MAINTAIN EXISTING OPEN LAWN AND TREES
Maintain and celebrate lawn along Apperley Street and Mark Street. It is used for dinner parties and other activities.

COMMUNAL GARDEN
Community here are engaging with food through raised planters. Explore the opportunity to formalise the community garden.

YELLOW PRIORITY CROSSING
Upgrade all existing non-signalised crossings to yellow priority crossings.

COMMUNAL GARDEN
Community here are engaging with food through raised planters.

MAINTAIN EXISTING OPEN LAWN

