

Draft Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurrundjeri as the Traditional Owners of this country, pays tribute to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Yarra and gives respect to Elders past and present.

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019 has been prepared for the City of Yarra by Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd. in association with Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd. and with guidance from the Council Project Working Group led by the Open Space Planning Team, City Strategy.

Index

	Page No.
Introduction	1
What is open space?	2
Why is open space important?	3
Yarra's existing open space	5
The open space framework	6
What will change?	7
Overall directions	8
Precincts	11
Abbotsford	12
Carlton North - Princes Hill	14
Central Richmond	15

	Page No.
Clifton Hill	17
Collingwood	18
Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley	20
Fairfield - Alphington	22
Fitzroy	24
Fitzroy North	26
North Richmond	28
Implementation	30

Introduction

Purpose of the Strategy

The Yarra Open Space Strategy 2019 provides an overarching vision and direction for the future provision, planning, design and management of open space in Yarra to 2031. It considers the current challenges and pressures of and expanding population and inner city life and how these can be addressed with an expanded and improved public open space network that contributes to a more liveable and sustainable Yarra in the future.

Achievements of the Yarra Open Space Strategy 2006

Since the adoption of the 2006 Strategy, the following key actions have been completed:

- Set a mandatory 4.5 per cent open space contribution rate in the Yarra Planning Scheme for all eligible subdivisions.
- Six new open spaces have been delivered to expand the Yarra open space network in Abbotsford, Collingwood and Richmond.
- Increased the size of the two existing open space reserves in Fitzroy and Richmond South.
- Land contributions on large development sites have been successfully negotiated for the AMCOR redevelopment site in Alphington; a redevelopment site in Reid Street Fitzroy North; and the Gasworks Site on Queens Parade in Fitzroy North.
- Victoria Park was opened to the public.
- Upgrade a range of existing open space reserves which has increased the diversity of facilities and character. This improves the appeal and capacity of the open space network to cater to more people using it as the resident and worker community expands.



Strategy process



What is open space?

Public open space includes all the publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for outdoor recreation, passive outdoor enjoyment and nature conservation and is open to the sky. It includes public parks, gardens, reserves, waterways and squares. Access may be restricted at certain times or at all times on a fee paying basis. It is generally zoned for public park, recreation or conservation purposes when held in public ownership.

Public open space in this Strategy includes areas which are managed by State Government agencies or their delegates located in the City of Yarra. This includes Yarra Bend Park and the Collingwood Childrens Farm. Restricted open space is land that is only available for use on a membership or fee paying basis and examples include Burnley Golf Course and Richmond Union Bowls Club. Other public land including schools and streets complement the public open space network, however other strategies and plans provide direction and guidance for these.



Waterways



Public gardens



Public parks



Public parks



Public squares



Sporting reserves

Why is open space important?

Overview

Since the existing Yarra Open Space Strategy was prepared in 2006 there has been substantial population and employment growth and change in Yarra. This has included a trend towards more people living in some areas where historically no or very little public open space was provided.

This is combined with better research into the positive influence that open space can have on not only our physical health but also on our mental health and wellbeing. We are being encouraged to exercise more and be outdoors in the fresh air and natural sunlight to balance our indoor lifestyles and increasing reliance on electronic devices. With increased urban densities, more people are living in apartments and alone. Public open space provides a great opportunity to socialise and meet informally outdoors. This also applies to workers in high density settings where it is important they have access to open space as a break from work during the day. Public open space also provides space for large trees, keeps our city cooler and provides habitat for native flora and fauna.

Physical health, fitness and wellbeing



Mental health and wellbeing



Social connectedness



Why is open space important?

Urban heat island effect mitigation



Biodiversity



Cultural heritage and character



Events and arts



Yarra's existing open space

Covering an area of approximately 20 square kilometres, 13.5 per cent of the total area of the City is public open space, including areas of significant biodiversity and bushland. Core to the open space system, character and sense of place is the Yarra River. While this has been modified, the river including the confluence with the Merri Creek today provides a tangible connection to the Wurrundjeri people's cultural and spiritual connection to the land.

A linked system of open space along the Yarra River extends upstream along the tributaries of Merri Creek and Darebin Creek. Yarra Bend Park is the largest natural bushland within five kilometres of the Melbourne Central Business District. Managed by Parks Victoria, this parkland spans both sides of the Yarra River and has a significant range of sporting facilities and habitat for native flora and fauna.

This is complemented by Council's extensive network of open space reserves along the Yarra River and Merri Creek. They include a diverse range of informal and structured sporting facilities including the athletics facility at George Knott Reserve, the sports fields at Ramsden Street Reserve, Quarry Park, Kevin Bartlett Reserve and Burnley Park along with the Burnley Public Golf Course. The main Yarra

Trail crosses the river a few times as it weaves its way north and connects to both the Merri Creek Trail and the Darebin Creek Trail.

Edinburgh Gardens is the most popular open space in the City and was set out as an integral part of Fitzroy North.



Diagram A Existing Open Space

With major exotic remnant plantings from the mid 1800s, these gardens have a unique blend of sporting and informal recreation facilities appealing to the different sport and recreation needs of our diverse community. Darling Gardens and Curtain Square are two other signature historical gardens in the northern part of Yarra, both with characteristic mature trees and facilities that encourage walking, dog walking, play, picnics and relaxing outdoors. Central to the civic heart of Richmond is Citizens Park, where the central grassed oval is used extensively for both structured sport and informal uses. Barkly Garden combined with Alan Bain Reserve contributes to the historical character and greening of South Richmond.

Complementing these major areas of open space is a network of smaller Neighbourhood and Local open space reserves that are highly valued and well used in the high density precincts through Fitzroy, Collingwood, Cremorne and Central Richmond.

As urban densities increase in the future this Strategy has identified opportunities to increase the local open space network to support and sustainably meet the open space needs of the existing and future community.

The open space framework

Overview

Each open space has a unique role in the open space network based on its location, size, use, character and urban context. In developing the Strategy, the role, character and distribution of each open space has been assessed and mapped. This assessment forms the basis of understanding the existing network, assessing deficiencies in the network and identifying what needs to change in the future.

Role

Regional open spaces are valued and visited by a broader catchment of people as well as the local community. Generally these are easily accessible to people from adjoining municipalities. Examples include Yarra Bend Park and Collingwood Children's Farm.

City-wide open spaces are visited primarily by the City of Yarra population, providing facilities that include organised sport and recreation activities. Examples include Edinburgh Gardens and Citizens Park.

Neighbourhood open spaces provide a diverse range of facilities that encourage people to spend time in and appeal to the local neighbourhood. Examples include Gahn Reserve and Curtain Square.

Small Neighbourhood open spaces are smaller than Neighbourhood open space with some diversity of facilities for the local community within a 300m catchment.

Examples include Smith Reserve and Golden Square.

Local and Small Local open spaces complement the larger reserves and provide smaller more intimate spaces within safe and easy walking distance of the local community.

Distribution

Walking catchments to open space

A key objective in planning the open space network is to provide open space within easy walking distance for the majority of the community. To assess this a 500 metre walking catchment is applied to the Regional and City-wide open spaces while a 400 metre catchment is applied to Neighbourhood open space. A 300 metre walkable catchment is applied to Small Neighbourhood open space, and the smaller 200 metre catchment for Local and 150 metre catchment for Small Local open space as illustrated on Diagram B.

Gap areas

The gap areas are locations where the community lack easy walkable access to any open space. Additional open space is required to address the gaps in the provision and diversity of open space with priorities given to gap areas where urban densities are forecast to increase. These mainly occur south of Alexandra Parade.

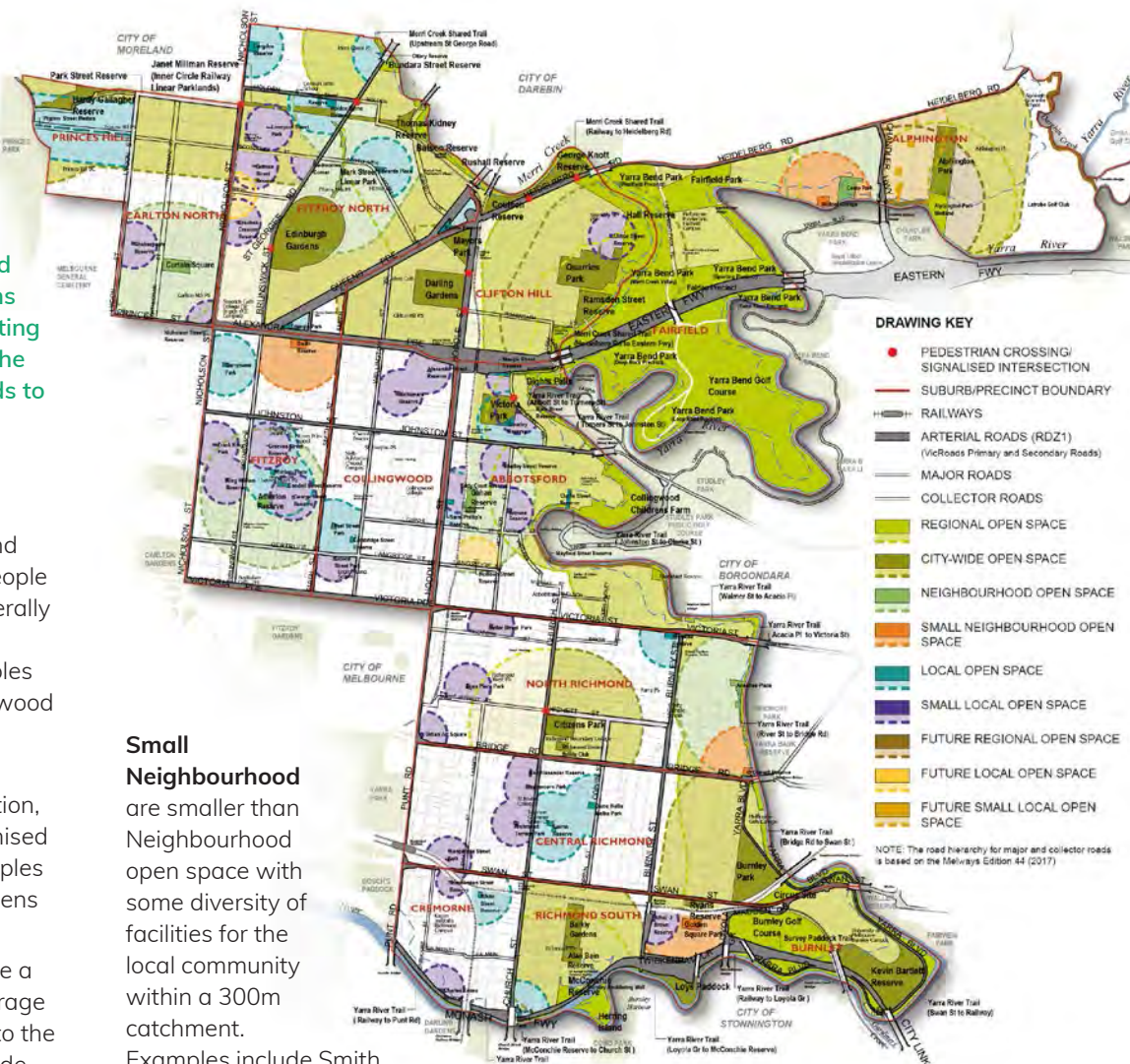


Diagram B Gap Analysis

What will change?

Character and function

The larger established parks, gardens and reserves across the municipality have a range of characters and purposes. These vary from historical gardens with a predominantly European character to the primarily Australian native character of Yarra Bend Park to the smaller local parks for informal use. Sporting reserves provide space for organised sporting use through to informal play and places of contemplation. A range of character types describe the variety of open spaces in the municipality and the Strategy aims to provide a diversity of character types in each precinct where feasible.



Forecast population growth

Fast facts

Population change

👤 = 20,000

Residents:

- 2016 (93,353)
- 2031 (131,864)

Workers:

- 2016 (83,000)
- 2031 (121,805)

Open space relative to the population

Open space per resident:

- 2016: 30 sqm per resident
- 2031: 20 sqm per resident

Open space per person (resident and workers)

- 2016: 15 sqm per resident
- 2031: 10 sqm per resident

sqm = square metres

Summary of population growth

The forecast development over the next 15 years is significant with a 40 per cent increase in the resident population and a 47 per cent increase in the worker

population. This means there will be more people visiting and using open space, thereby increasing demand on the existing space and facilities. The extent of forecast growth changes across different parts of the City. Less than 10 per cent growth is forecast in Princes Hill-Carlton North, compared to 106 percent in Cremorne-Richmond South-Burnley and 214 per cent in Fairfield-Alphington. The locations for where forecast residential growth will occur is based on the *Yarra Housing Strategy 2018* and the population forecasts supplied to the project by .id Consulting. The forecast employment growth and change is based on the *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy 2018*.

Increased urban densities

Less private open space

85 per cent of Yarra's population live in medium and high density dwellings compared to 33 per cent in Greater Melbourne. This means that residents have less private open space available to them which increases their reliance on public open space. Typically this adds to the amount of people using public open space and increases the diversity of reasons why they use it. For example, people may sit outdoors in their own garden to enjoy the ambience, however if they don't have one they will use public open space for these

informal and incidental uses. When people celebrate occasions with a large gathering of family or friends traditionally this would be in private back gardens but without these they will celebrate them in the park.

Change in land use

Many of the areas in the City that are forecast to change are the former industrial and manufacturing areas. These areas are being redeveloped to mixed use precincts with a combination of residential, commercial and business use. Historically, the industrial areas did not have public open space. With the proposed changes, these areas are being redeveloped with increased building heights and a change to a predominantly office-based professional workforce. The surveys undertaken for this Strategy found that more than 80 per cent of workers visit public open space during the day. With increased numbers of people working and living in the former industrial precincts there is a need to provide new areas of public open space.

Loss of winter sunlight access to open space

With the forecast increase in the presence of taller buildings means there is greater potential for overshadowing of public open space, particularly during winter. Public open space that is overshadowed in winter is less inviting to use and more difficult to maintain healthy vegetation.

Overall directions

Climate change

Extreme weather events

Climate change is predicted to result in more extreme weather events. Forecast extended dry periods combined with more severe storms and intense rainfall events and high winds will make managing vegetation more difficult. The Strategy plans ahead to address these issues by promoting sustainable water harvesting and passive irrigation. Protecting the mature tree canopy cover is a priority in open space due to the numerous beneficial effects of trees on the urban environment.

Mitigating urban heat island effect

Urban heat island effect is the build-up of heat in urban areas. This build up is exacerbated by an increase to urban densities and building heights that trap heat overnight, particularly during periods of extended dry and heat. In planning ahead for the future increase in urban densities, provision of public open space with natural features and retained urban moisture will assist to offset the build-up of urban heat. The retained moisture needs to be sourced sustainably and the use of large, broad spreading trees combined with natural turf and garden beds will create cooler spaces for people to use.

Improve the quality of existing open spaces

There is potential to improve the quality of selected existing open spaces in the City. By quality we mean the type of facilities and its overall condition and management.



This includes undertaking improvements including:

- Increasing the diversity of facilities to appeal to everyone in the community. This includes a greater diversity of age groups and promotes and encourages everyone to exercise, socialise and improve their fitness and health.
- Improving the horticultural quality and maintenance, for example open grassed areas that remain useable all year for informal use, improved care and maintenance of mature canopy trees,
- Identifying opportunities to create multi-use spaces that are shared and

adaptable, minimising the provision of single-use facilities. For example, natural turf sports fields that can be used for training and match play and also available for dog off-leash exercise and the other informal uses.

- Activate open spaces that are currently underutilised.
- Strengthen the biodiversity and habitat values of open space.

Provide open space within easy walking distance of everyone

As an established inner urban municipality, the City of Yarra is experiencing significant change and growth. The analysis of the distribution of public open space has identified there are areas of the City where the community does not have any open space within easy walking distance of where they live or work. The Strategy has identified and prioritised a series of new open spaces, with priority given to locations where higher levels of growth is forecast to occur. The need for the proposed additional open spaces is based on a range of factors including:

- Areas where the existing open space is experiencing high levels of use or over-use. This includes providing new open space to take the pressure off existing spaces to meet everyone's needs.

- Where there is a gap in the provision of any open space.
- Medium and high density precincts where the substantial change is forecast and the new community will create a need for additional open space.
- In medium and high density precincts where the provision of well distributed green public open space will assist to mitigate urban heat island effect.



The location of the areas of proposed additional open space is illustrated in Diagram C. The precinct recommendations provide more information about each location.

Overall directions

Assist to mitigate urban heat island effect

- Where feasible, open space will be well distributed through high density precincts and contain natural features such as large canopy trees and planted surfaces which absorb moisture. This will offset some impacts of increased urban heat, which is exacerbated by higher density development, particularly multi-level buildings.
- Future open spaces within high density precincts will aim to be irrigated from sustainable water sources, for example stormwater harvesting and reuse.
- The existing and future open spaces will be large enough to sustainably grow large broad spreading canopy trees that are effective at evapotranspiration which assists urban cooling.
- Create adaptable open spaces that allow sunlight and warmth during the winter months and excellent shade and cooling in the summer. The cool spaces will provide comfortable, free outdoor spaces for the community to retreat to during periods of extended heat.

Improve community health and wellbeing



Research confirms that a linked and accessible open space network, which people can easily walk to, improves community health and wellbeing. The community is more likely to visit open space if it is nearby and this offers a range of benefits including:

- Physical fitness by participating in informal recreation activities including walking, cycling, jogging, informal ball sports and using fitness equipment.
- Physical fitness by participating in organised sport.
- Places to exercise dogs on and off-leash.
- Social connectedness and sense of belonging to the community by meeting people in the nearby open space . This can include meeting neighbours informally in the open space or catching up with family and friends.

- Children are more likely to visit and play in open space independently of their parents if it is located within 150 to 300 metres of where they live. This improves their self-confidence and physical development.
- Relax and unwind in green open space. Research demonstrates that natural features like trees, natural turf and garden beds contributes to our ability to relax.

Increase urban greening

Links between green space and health have been recognised throughout history and the driving force behind the urban parks movement of the 19th Century. More recently, green spaces in an urban context has the potential to help address social and environmental problems in a preventative way. The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11.7 aims to achieve the following: *'By 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible green and public spaces, in particular for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities.'* The Strategy aims to achieve this through:

- Identify gap areas in which new public open space is needed so that everyone can easily reach open space.
- Include design guidelines that encourage natural features in the design of existing

and new open space, particularly in medium and high density precincts.

- Include recommendations to achieving good winter sunlight access to public open space.
- Includes design guidelines that promote universal access, diversity and inclusion in the design of upgrades to existing open space and new open space.
- Strengthen the natural biodiversity values of open space including the use of native and indigenous vegetation where it is appropriate to the local context and cultural heritage values.
- Aims to irrigate open space using sustainable water sources to support natural turf, garden beds and mature and new large, broad spreading canopy trees for effective evapotranspiration, shade and habitat purposes.



Overall directions

Proposed additional open space

Summary of population growth

This diagram illustrates the distribution of the areas in which the Strategy recommends additional Neighbourhood, Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces across the City. This is to cater to the forecast growth and also address some existing deficiencies in the provision and distribution of existing open space.

These proposed new open spaces will have a role in increasing the diversity of local recreational and informal facilities for the existing and forecast community.

The additional open spaces shown in Diagram C are indicative of the general location and relative, not actual size. The final location, size and configuration of new open space will be determined during the implementation of the Strategy. It will be influenced by factors such as the rate of population growth and development, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding urban context and available funds.

The precinct recommendations provide more information on the intent and purpose of each proposed additional open space.



Diagram key

-  **NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum size 1 hectare with a 400m walking catchment
-  **SMALL NEIGHBOURHOOD OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum 0.5 to 0.99 hectares in size with a 300m walking catchment
-  **LOCAL OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum 0.26 to 0.49 hectares in size with a 200m walking catchment
-  **SMALL LOCAL OPEN SPACE**
Indicative area in which a future open space is proposed, minimum 0.03 to 0.25 hectares in size with a 150m walking catchment
-  **REPURPOSE RESTRICTED OPEN SPACE**
Investigate options to repurpose to increase the diversity of golfing and other sporting uses at the site
-  **LONG TERM OPPORTUNITY***
For a future Neighbourhood open space, minimum 1 hectare in size with a 400m walking catchment
-  **LONG TERM OPPORTUNITY***
For a future Local open space, minimum 0.26 to 0.49 hectares in size with a 200m walking catchment
-  **FUTURE REGIONAL OPEN SPACE**
Area included in an existing Public Acquisition Overlay in the Yarra Planning Scheme

* Long term = beyond the 15 year timeframe of this Strategy

Diagram C Proposed areas for additional open space

Precincts

Overview

The open space needs assessment has been undertaken on a precinct basis to take account of the changes in the existing situation and forecast future change across each of them. The precincts are broadly based on the suburbs with some combined and are consistent with those shown in the City of Yarra Community Profile and on the Diagram D Precinct locations map on this page. They are assembled in alphabetical order.

Forecast future growth

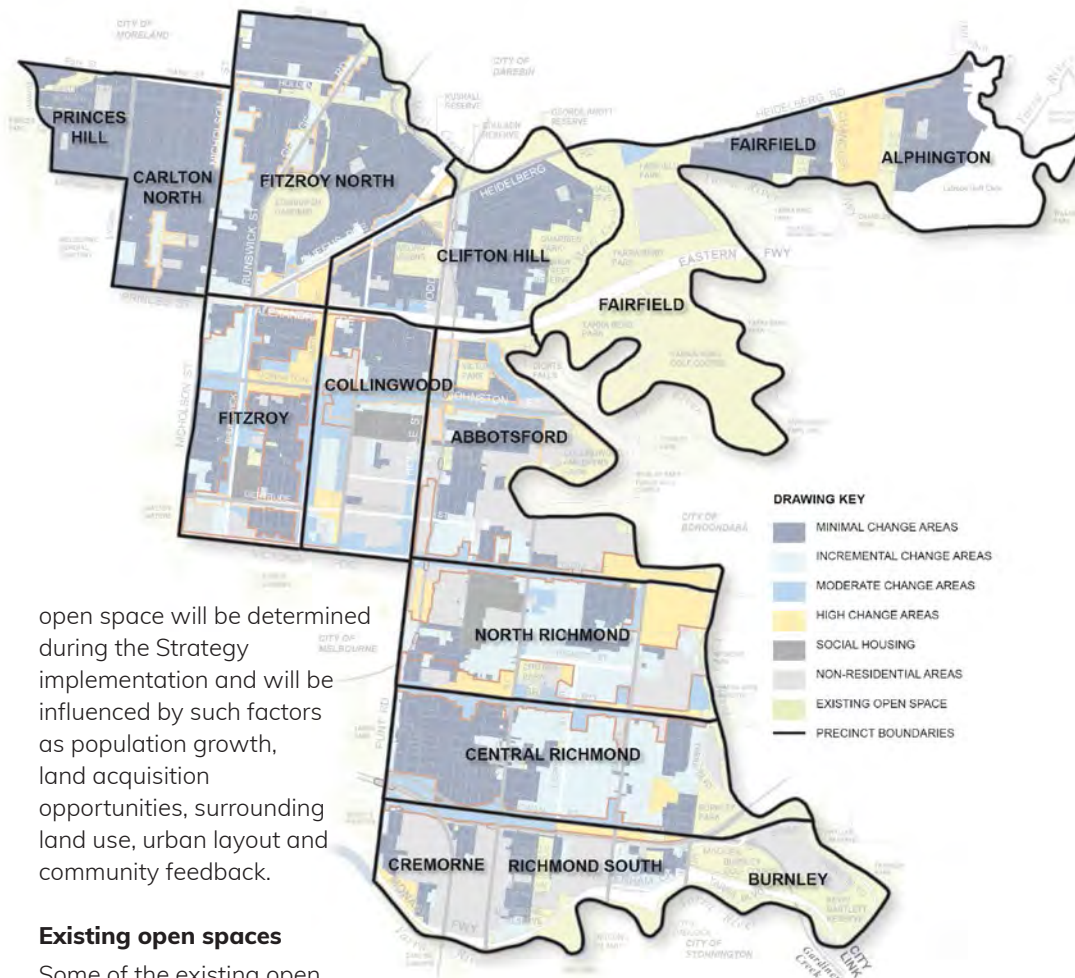
Throughout each of the precincts, the forecast growth is based on the following:

- Residential forecasts, prepared by .id the population experts, August 2018 and accessed 10 September 2017.
- *Yarra Housing Strategy*, adopted 4 September 2018.
- *Yarra Spatial Economic and Employment Strategy*, adopted 4 September 2018.

The open space needs assessment and directions are based on these forecasts. The Strategic Housing Framework Plan shown in Diagram D is from the Yarra Housing Strategy.

Additional open space

The additional open spaces are shown symbolically on the precinct plans. the final location, size and configuration of new



open space will be determined during the Strategy implementation and will be influenced by such factors as population growth, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding land use, urban layout and community feedback.

Existing open spaces

Some of the existing open

spaces are recommended for upgrade as shown on the precinct diagrams. the open spaces not recommended for upgrade will continue to maintained with minor improvements where required maintain their quality and facilities in working order.

Existing master plans

Masterplans are in place for some of the major open spaces in Yarra and there is a progressive program of implementation works and scheduled reviews arising from these plans. When the masterplans are reviewed, the overall directions in this Strategy will be taken into consideration and inform updated masterplans in the future.

Structure plans

Structure plans provide a clear framework for managing the future growth and change in the major activity centres in Yarra. Where structure plans were final and in place these are reflected in the precinct recommendations. The open space component of future structure plans will be informed by this Open Space Strategy.

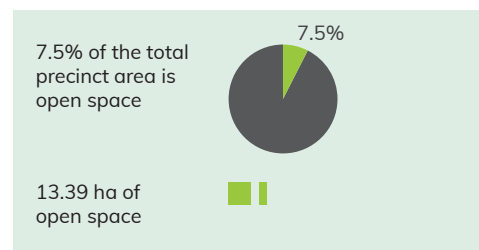
Diagram D Strategic Housing Framework Plan and Precinct location map



Abbotsford

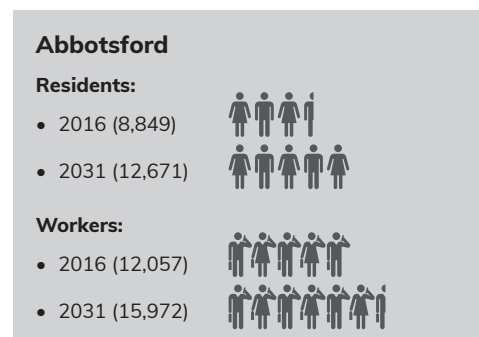
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

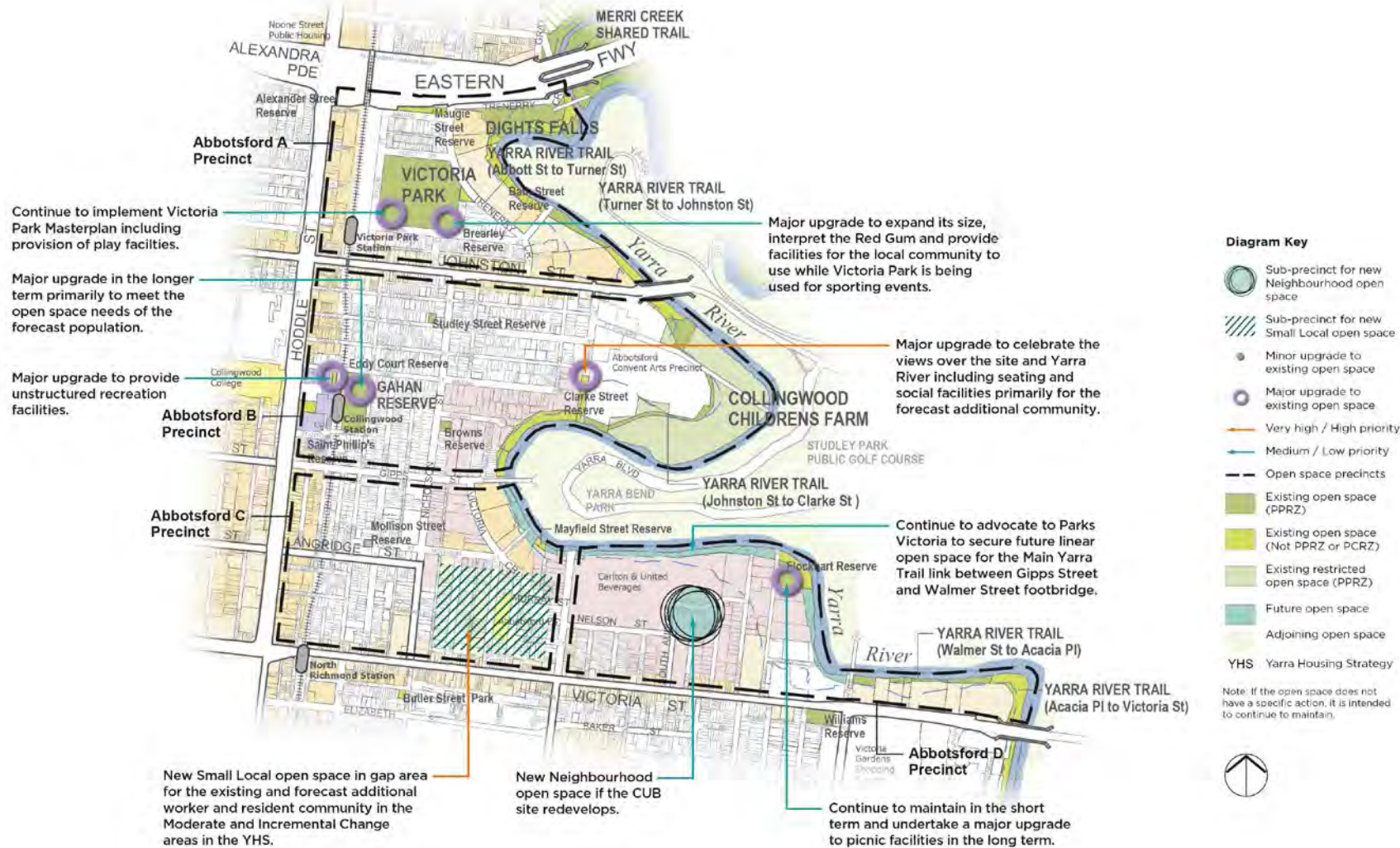
Victoria Park, Gahan Reserve and the system of open space along the Yarra River including Collingwood Children's Farm and Dights Falls significantly contribute to the open space character of Abbotsford. North of Gipps Street, open space is well distributed in the precinct, however south of Gipps Street there is a lack of open space combined with a forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population. Key recommendations include to continue to investigate securing a linear open space reserve along the Yarra River between Clarke Street Reserve and Walmer Street Bridge, the provision of a new Neighbourhood Park in the southern part of the precinct where larger land parcels provide the potential for future provision of open space. Combined with this is the recommendation to provide two new Small Local open spaces for the existing and forecast community in the south west part of Abbotsford.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the diversity of facilities and character in selected Local and Small Local open spaces in Abbotsford north Gipps Street. The new Neighbourhood Park will be designed to include a range of unstructured recreation facilities to encourage the community in the southern part of the precinct to be outdoors. The open space design will also focus on improved greening, particularly in the higher density areas to contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect.



Abbotsford

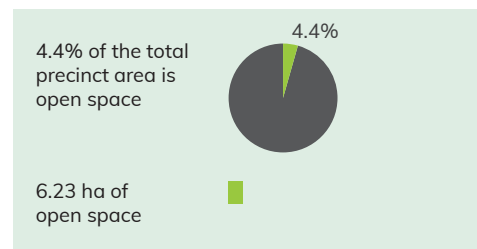




Carlton North - Princes Hill

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♀ = 2,500

Carlton North / Princes Hill

Residents:

- 2016 (9,010)
- 2031 (8,843)



Workers:

- 2016 (0)
- 2031 (0)

Precinct summary

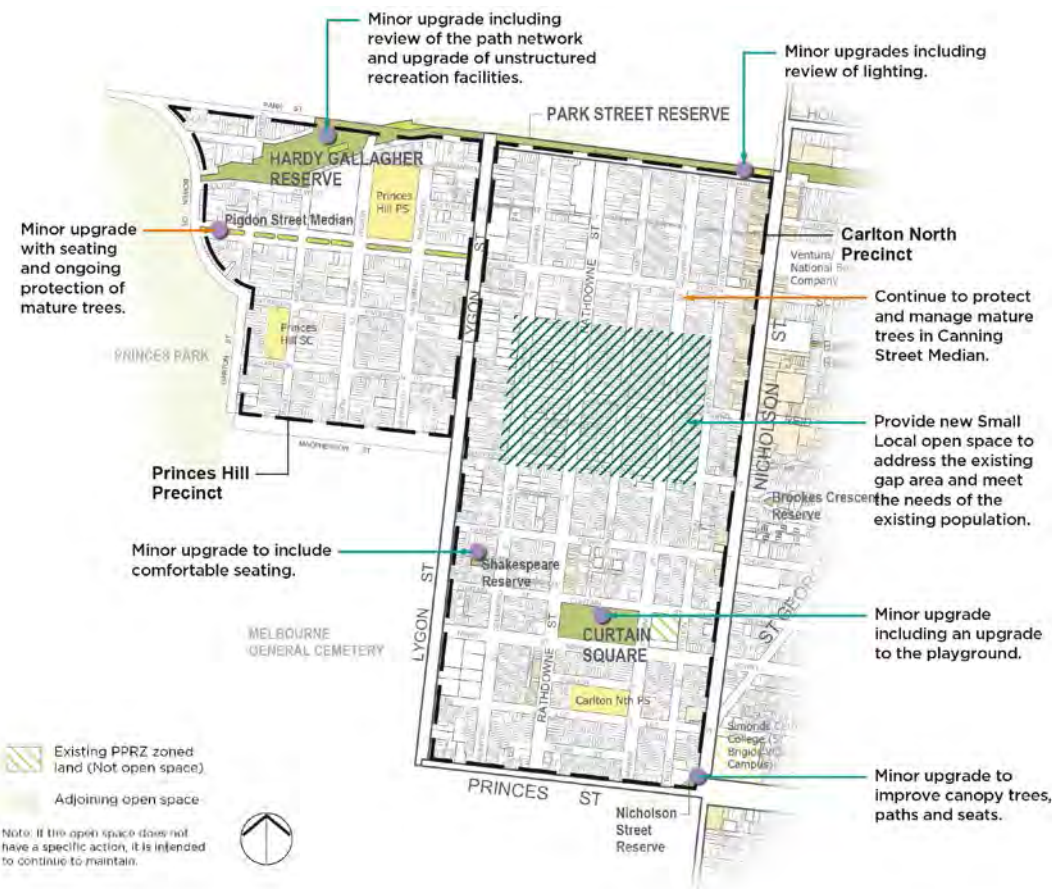
Provision and distribution

The east-west linear open space provides excellent off-road shared trail connectivity to open space outside the precinct. Curtain Square and Hardy Gallagher Reserve provide Neighbourhood open space for each sub-precinct and are supplemented by some Local and Small Local open spaces. The one gap in the open space network is proposed to be addressed with the provision of an additional Small Local open space.

Quality and design

There is potential to undertake some minor improvements to the quality of facilities in the existing open space network.

Diagram Key

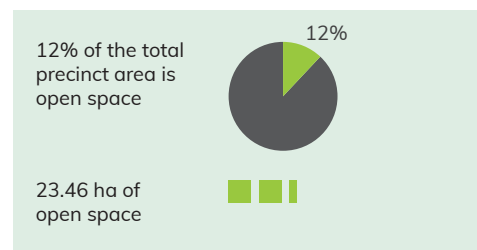




Central Richmond

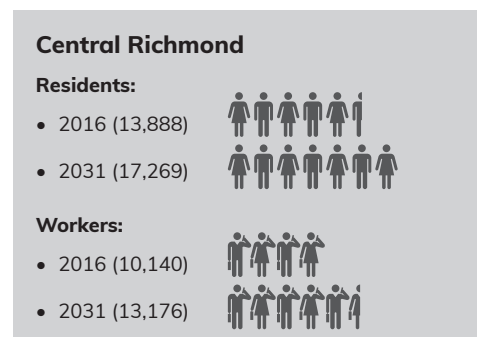
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Burnley Park, the Circus Site and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute significantly to the open space character of Central Richmond, however these are all located in the east of the precinct. Forecast is for more than 6,000 additional people to be living and working in the precinct, particularly to the western end of the precinct. There is a need to provide new Local and Small Local open spaces to cater primarily to the forecast population and better meet the open space needs of the existing population. The new open space will assist to diversify the active unstructured recreational activities in the west and assist to mitigate urban heat, provide increased urban greening and open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers as urban densities continue to increase in the future.

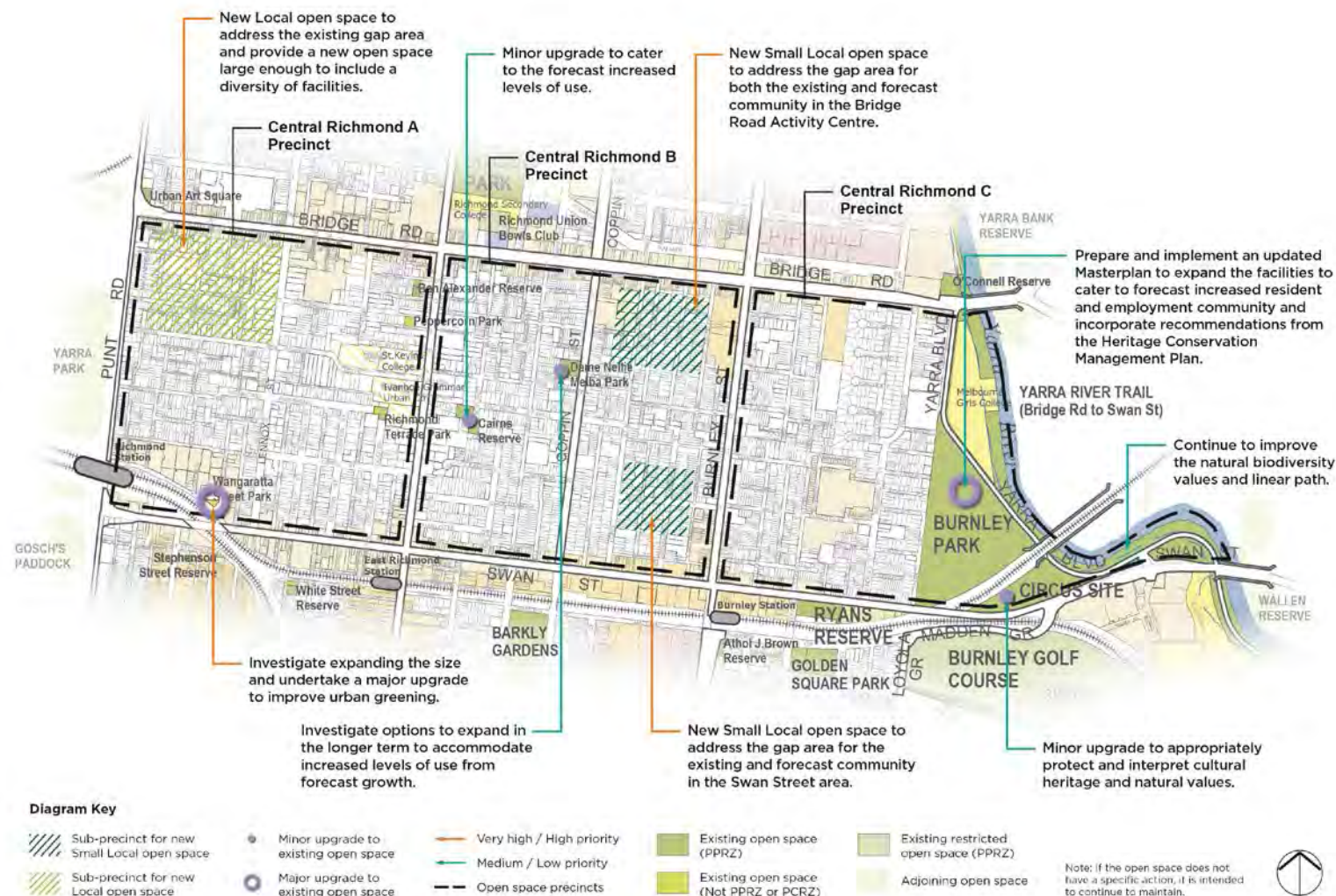
Quality and design

There is potential to diversify the recreational facilities in the western part of Central Richmond. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect.





Central Richmond

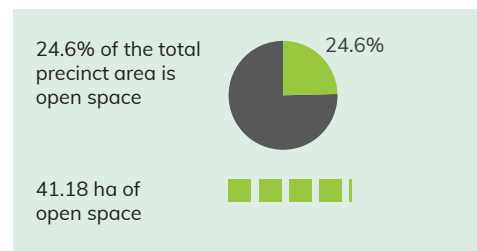


Clifton Hill



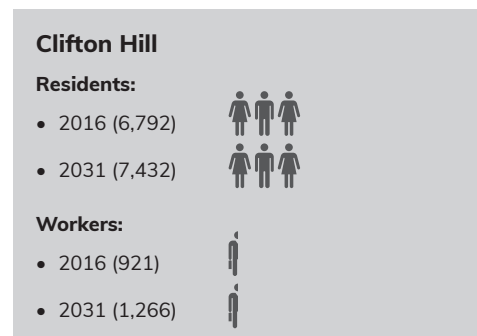
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

♀ = 2,500



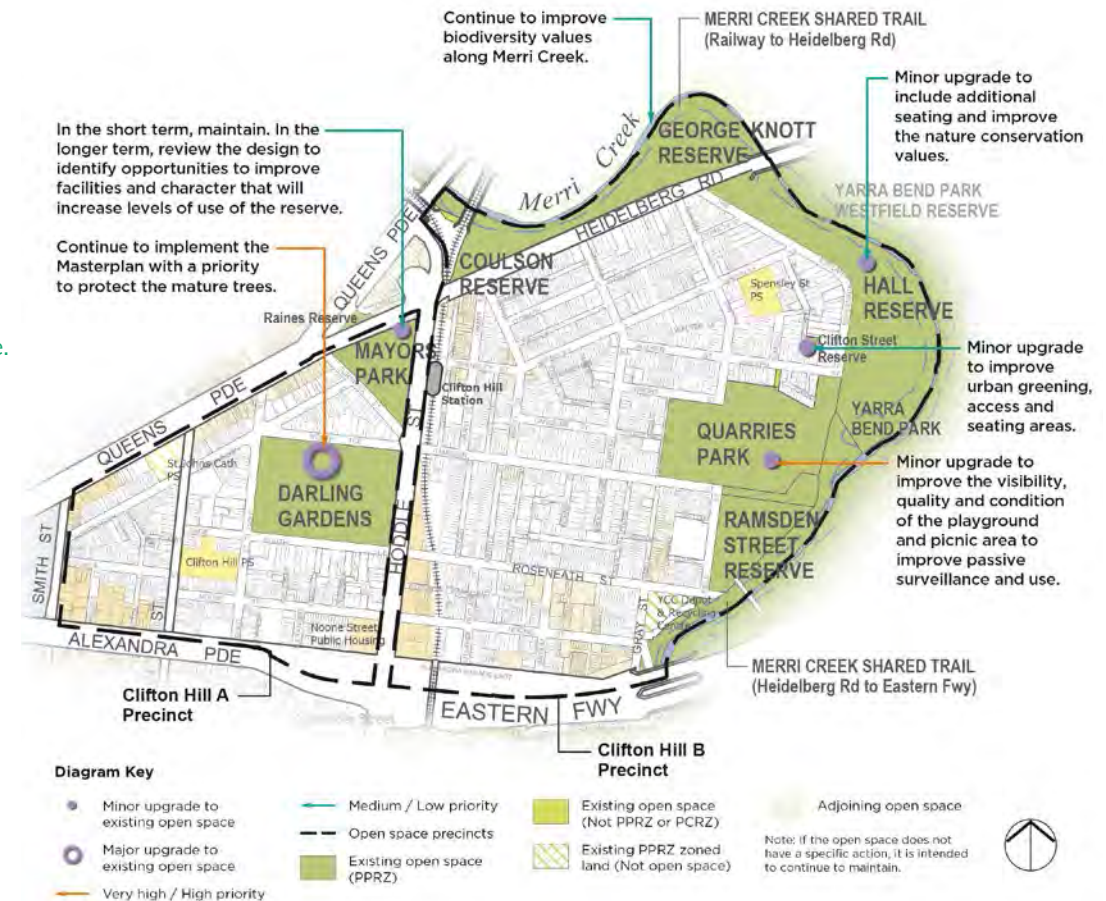
Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Clifton Hill is well provided for with open space, with only one small gap area between Hoddle Street and the railway. An additional Small Local open space would only be required in the long term if the employment population in the gap area is estimated to substantially increase.

Quality and design

There is a need to improve the diversity of facilities that appeal to a range of age groups, particularly the older age groups who are forecast to grow over the planning period. Additionally, the open space designs need to encourage social activity in open space with the forecast increase in lone person households.

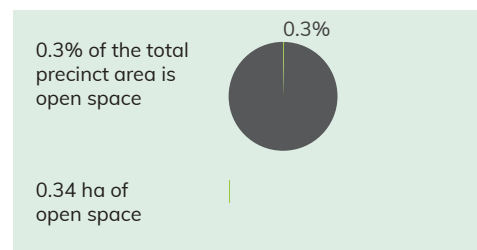




Collingwood

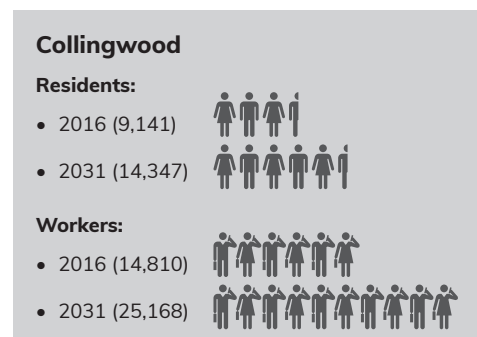
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

The majority of the Small Local open spaces in Collingwood are experiencing high levels of use. With the forecast substantial population increase of approximately 15,000 people by 2031, there is a need to provide additional open space in Collingwood, including new Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces. The recommendations include expanding the size of selected existing Small Local open spaces to allow inclusion of a greater diversity of facilities. The additional distributed open spaces will also assist to mitigate urban heat, provide increased urban greening and open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers as urban densities continue to increase in the future. This will positively contribute to the health and wellbeing of residents and workers.

Quality and design

There is a need to increase and improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the Small Local open spaces in Collingwood. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect.





Collingwood

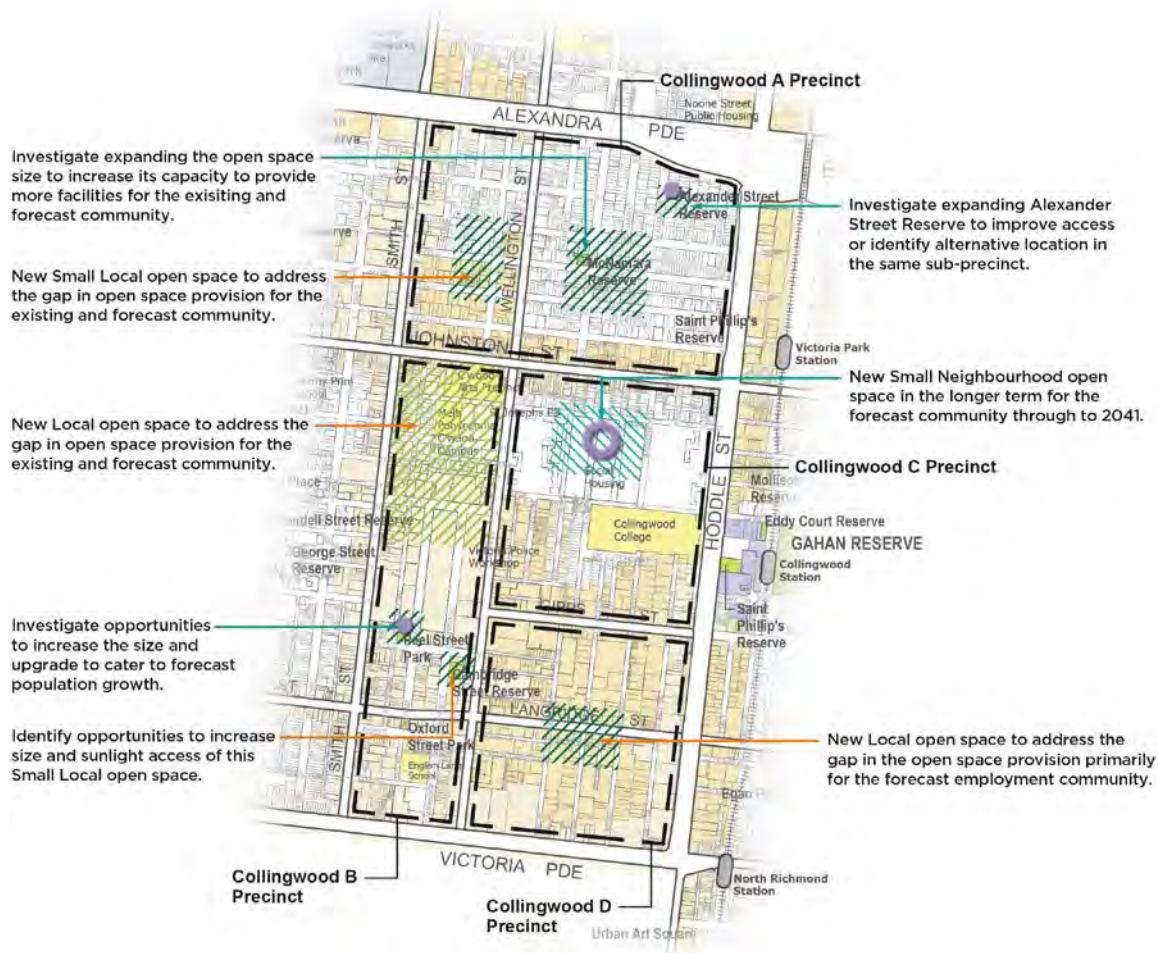


Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Small Neighbourhood open space
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low priority
- Open space precincts
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Adjoining open space

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is intended to continue to maintain

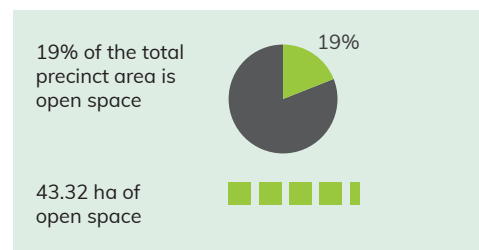




Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500

Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

Residents:

• 2016 (4,622)



• 2031 (9,539)



Workers:

• 2016 (16,704)



• 2031 (25,865)



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Barkly Gardens and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute to the open space character of this precinct. With the forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population, a key recommendation is to provide new Small Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space reserves in Cremorne to cater to the forecast nearly 10,000 additional workers and residents in Cremorne. With the forecast significant increase in urban densities along Swan Street and across the southern part of the Municipality, there is also a longer term opportunity to introduce more diverse golfing options and other sporting uses at Burnley Public Golf Course. Strengthening the natural biodiversity values along the Yarra River corridor will contribute to the character and resilience of Richmond South and Burnley.

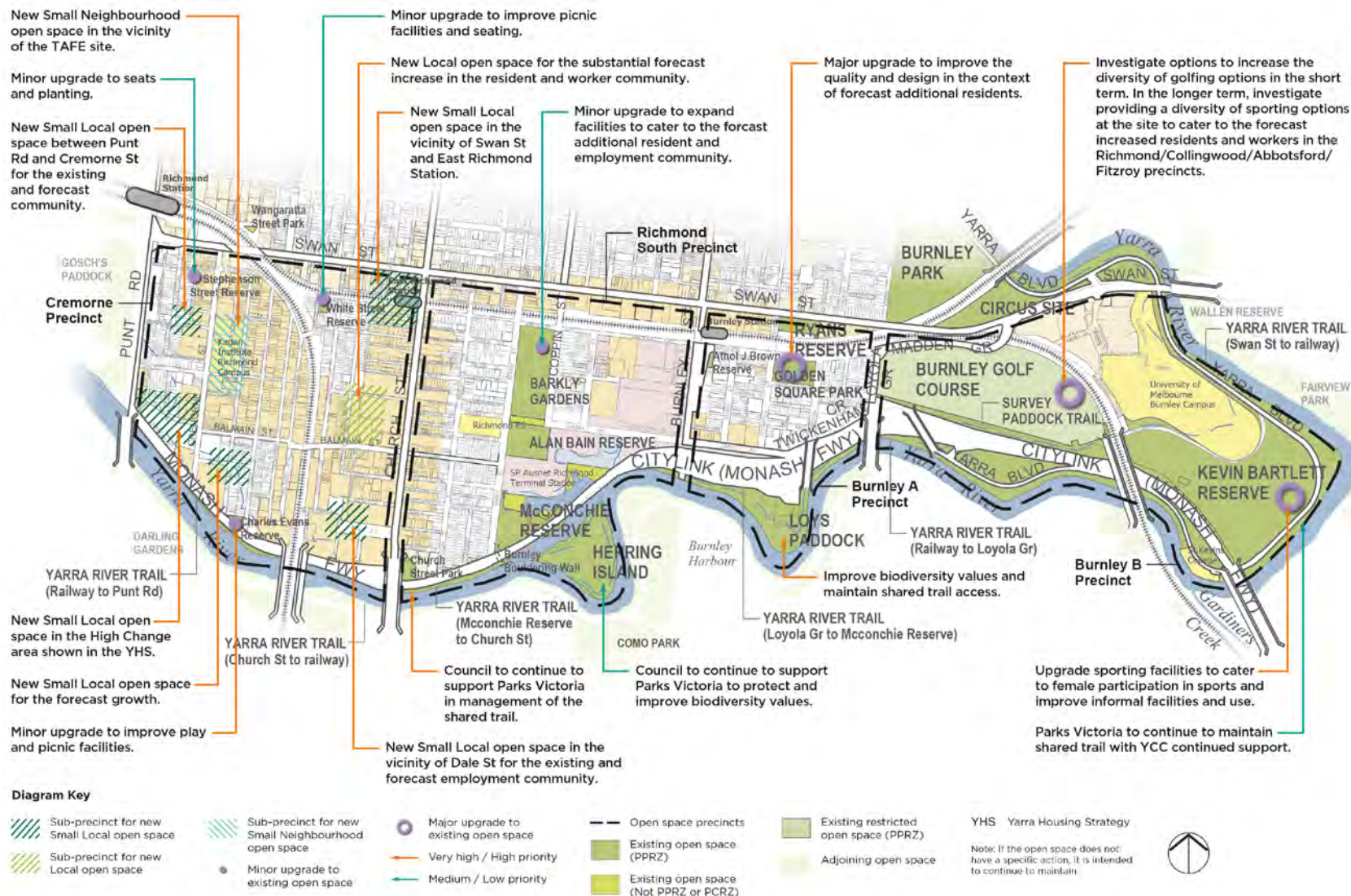
Quality and design

There is potential to improve the quality and diversity of facilities in the existing open spaces in this precinct. The additional open space in Cremorne will be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect.





Cremorne, Richmond South and Burnley

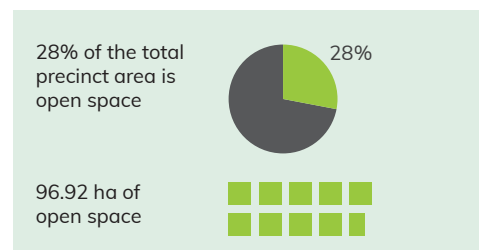




Fairfield - Alphington

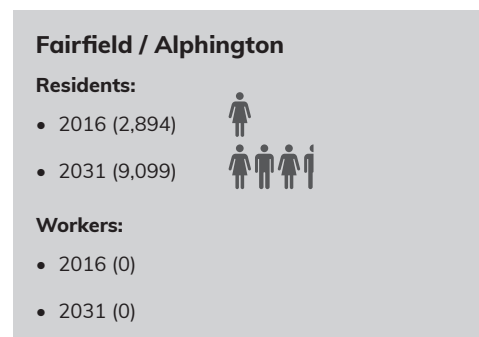
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500



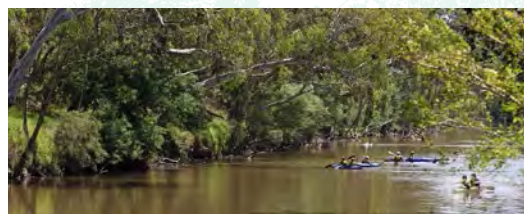
Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Open space is well provided for and significantly contributes to the landscape character of these areas. With the significant levels of forecast growth in Alphington one new Small Local and three new Local open spaces are to be provided on the Alphington Paper Mills Development site as part of the approved Development Plan.

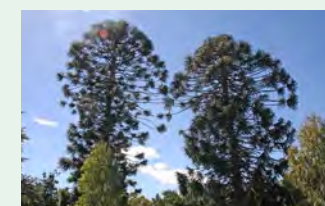
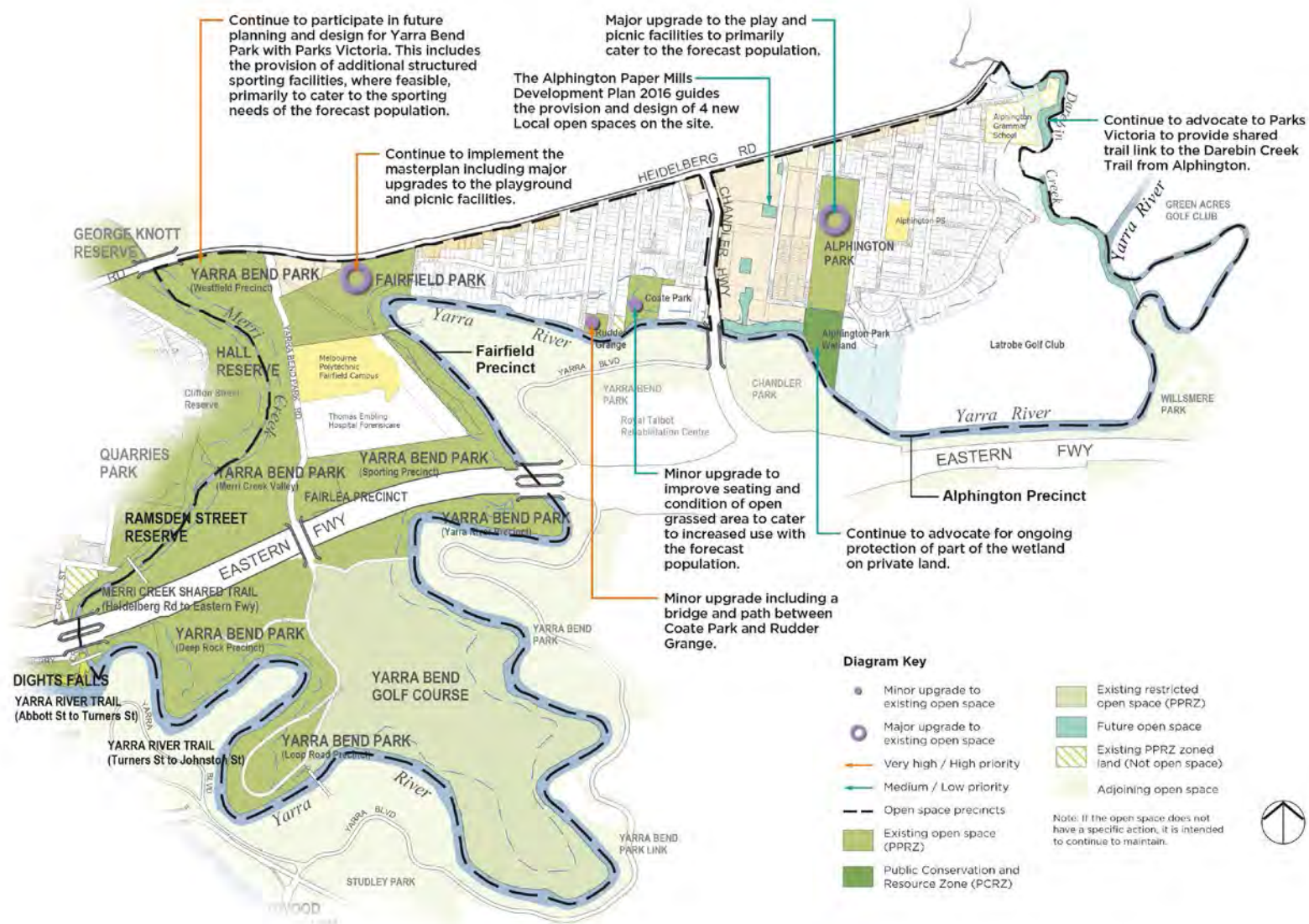
Quality and design

There is potential to expand the play and picnic facilities in Alphington Park to cater to the substantial increase in population, combined with ongoing upgrades to and implementation of the Fairfield Park Masterplan. The new open space designs are recommended to be reviewed in the context of ensuring there are facilities that provide for some active unstructured recreation and that they include greening and passive cooling given the high urban densities so they also contribute to mitigating urban heat island effect.





Fairfield - Alphington

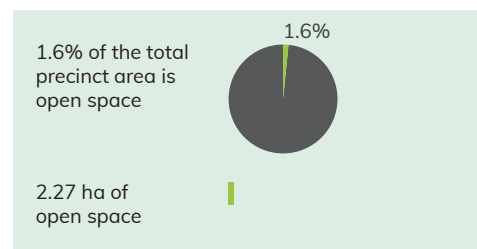




Fitzroy

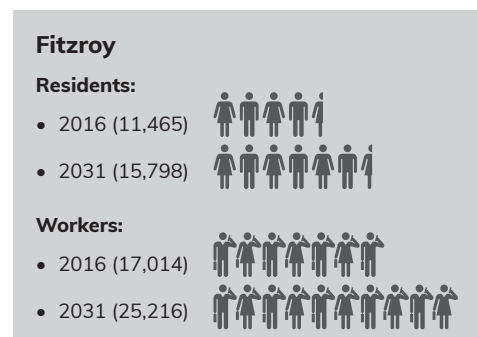
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

1 icon = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Atherton Reserve is the largest open space in Fitzroy and will continue to be improved by strengthening its role for informal ball and sports and large open space. It will be complemented by a major upgrade to Condell Street Reserve to create a community park with updated and expanded play and picnic facilities along with improvements to the trees, and garden beds and greened areas. Combined with Whitlam Place which has a distinctly different character, it will create a quality hub of open space around the civic heart of Fitzroy Library and Town Hall. A series of new open spaces are proposed to address existing gaps in the open space network and to meet the significant forecast population growth, along with the expansion to selected existing Small Local open space. Given the framework of the existing open space and the fine grain of development a

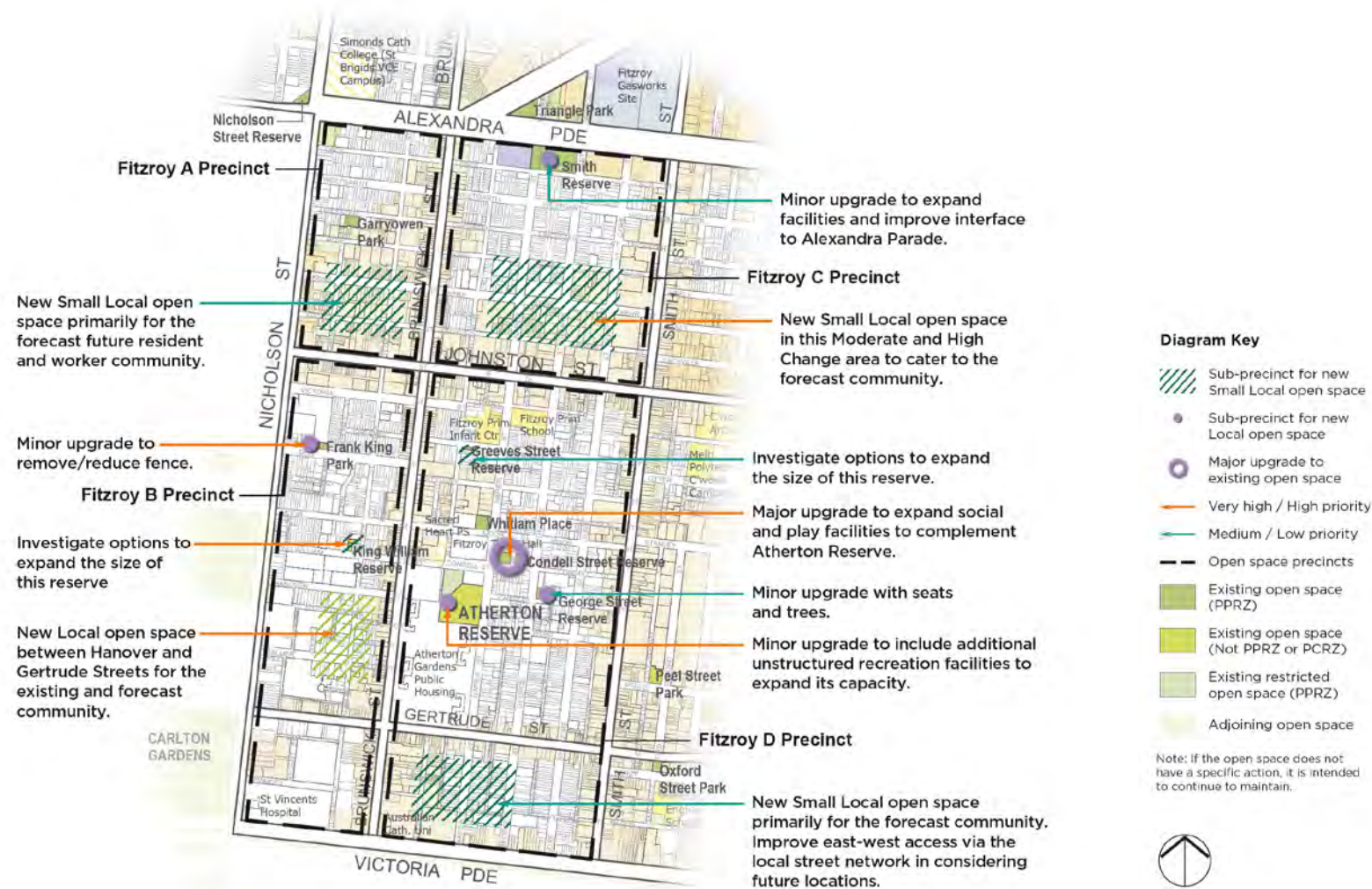
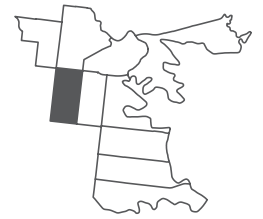
series of new Small Local open spaces are proposed so that the existing and forecast community live and work within a safe and easy walk of green open space.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the existing and proposed open space network. Given the urban densities, increasing the quality of these green spaces including maximising moisture absorbing surfaces will assist to mitigate urban heat island effect the future. The additional open spaces will be designed to complement the existing network that combined will provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population.



Fitzroy

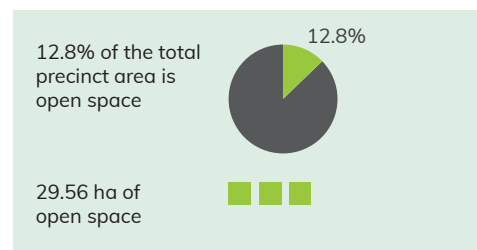




Fitzroy North

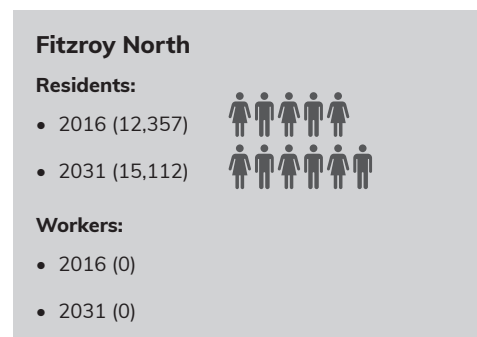
Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

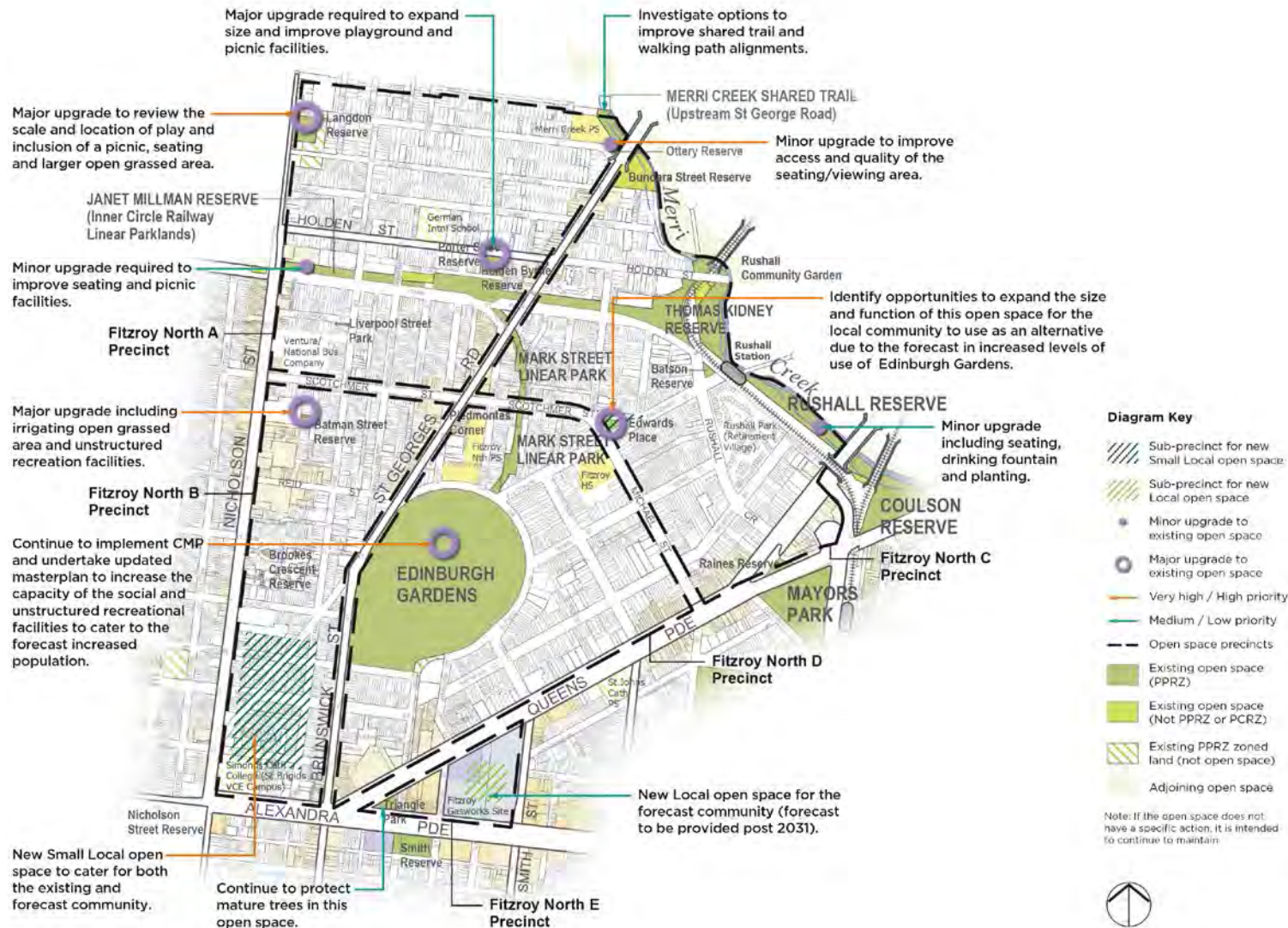
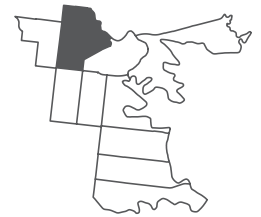
With Edinburgh Gardens, Merri Creek and the Inner Circle Railway Linear Parklands Fitzroy North has a diverse and connected open space network. The network will be strengthened with the additional of one Small Local open space so that everyone living in Fitzroy North can easily walk to open space nearby in the future. This includes expanding Edwards Place Reserve near Edinburgh Gardens so that the local community can use it when the gardens are busy given they are the most popular open space in the City.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the Small Local open spaces in Fitzroy North so that they appeal to all age groups. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population.



Fitzroy North

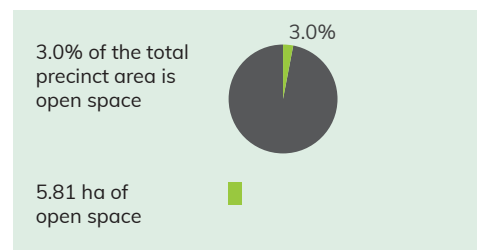




North Richmond

Fast facts

Quantity of open space



Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,500



Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Citizens Park and the system of open space along the Yarra River contribute significantly to the open space character of North Richmond. With the forecast substantial increase in the resident and worker population in North Richmond, a key recommendation is to provide a new Neighbourhood Park to cater primarily to the forecast population and better meet the open space needs of the existing population. Combined with this is the recommendation to provide three new Small Local open spaces to support the existing local open space network across North Richmond. This will assist to mitigate urban heat, provide increased urban greening and open space within a safe and easy walk of residents and workers as urban densities continue to increase in the future.

Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in the Small Local open spaces in North Richmond. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to mitigating urban heat island effect.



North Richmond

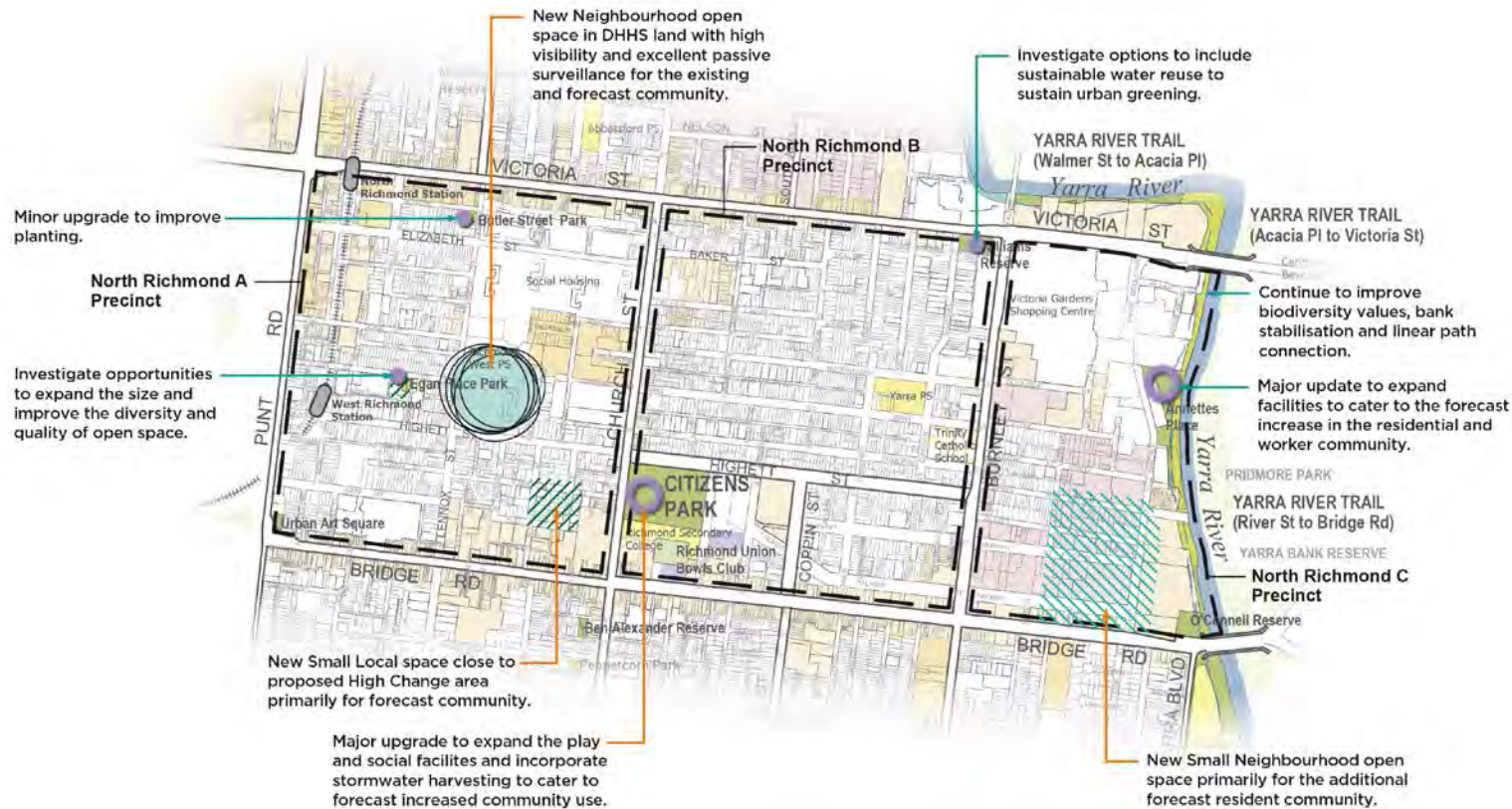


Diagram Key



Implementation

Overview

The projects in this Strategy will be implemented over a 15 year timeframe. The planning for the proposed new public open spaces will occur early in the timeframe to ensure opportunities are sought to achieve these through the planning process. These projects will be achieved through a combination of securing land area on large redevelopment sites, conversion of government owned land and land acquisition where required. Upgrades to existing open space will be achieved through the capital works budget process.



Responsibilities

The Open Space Planning Team at the City of Yarra will take the lead implementation role. Successful implementation will require coordination with the following areas of Council

- Open space capital works team to design and deliver improvements.
- Strategic and statutory planning to ensure the Yarra Planning Scheme and other strategic documents are consistent with this Strategy
- Financial services regarding appropriate allocation of public open space contributions to the open space project budgets in accordance with this Strategy.
- Recreation and leisure to determine the appropriate sport and recreation facilities.
- Traffic and civil engineering to improve pedestrian and bicycle links via the road network.
- Urban design to integrate open space provision in future structure plans.
- Open space maintenance team and Local laws regarding the ongoing management and maintenance.

Funding

Funding the land acquisition and capital works required for the projects identified in this Strategy will be sourced from a combination of:

- Council revenue.
- External grants from other State and Federal government agencies.
- The open space contribution rate will be updated in Clause 53.01 of the Yarra Planning Scheme to change from 4.5 per cent to a rate that will be in the order of up to 10 per cent pending finalisation following consultation on the Draft Strategy. These contributions will be required as a land and/or cash contribution at Council's discretion.



Next steps

- Implement the updated open space contribution rate/s in the planning scheme.
- Undertake detailed investigations into the provision of additional open spaces identified in the Strategy.
- Continue to implement Masterplans for major parks.
- Plan for and upgrade existing open spaces identified in the precinct recommendations.



