



# Open Space Strategy

PLANNING FOR FUTURE GROWTH





### **Acknowledgements**

The City of Melbourne would like to thank the City of Melbourne Parks and Gardens Advisory Committee for their contribution to the *Open Space Strategy*.

The *City of Melbourne Open Space Strategy* has been prepared for the City of Melbourne by **Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd** in collaboration with **Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd** and **Professor Nigel Tapper** who provided the directions on urban heat island effect mitigation. The population forecast information was supplied for this project by **.id Consulting** and Dr Serryn Eagleston of **EDGResearch**.

# Message from the City of Melbourne

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Robert Doyle  
Lord Mayor



Cr Cathy Oke  
Chair, Future Melbourne  
(Eco-city) Committee

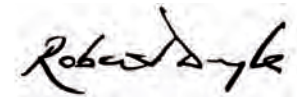
Open spaces define Melbourne. Our parks, gardens and reserves help make this city the world's most liveable. To help us prepare for the future, this plan sets directions for the sustainable care and expansion of our open space to meet the needs of an increasing population.

Melbourne is growing and changing, which presents us with opportunities as well as challenges. We've responded in creative ways – completing major stormwater harvesting projects such as Fitzroy Gardens and Darling Street to keep the city green. We've created new neighbourhood open spaces and we're working closely with the state government to secure new areas of open space in proposed urban renewal areas.

The City of Melbourne's first Open Space Strategy recognises the value of open space in improving community health and wellbeing for our residents, visitors and workers. Significant new open spaces ensure that all residents and workers are within easy walking

distance of a park, garden or reserve. In a commitment to a sustainable city, we will also plan our open spaces to ensure they provide shade in summer and cool our city in a changing climate.

We commend the City of Melbourne's first Open Space Strategy as a guide to sustainable improvements in our city's cherished open spaces.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Doyle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**ROBERT DOYLE**  
Lord Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cathy Oke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**CR CATHY OKE**  
Chair, Future Melbourne  
(Eco-city) Committee





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# Introduction

## **The purpose of the Open Space Strategy**

The *Open Space Strategy* will provide the overarching framework and strategic direction for public open space planning in the City of Melbourne for the next 15 years. The strategy includes consideration of the forecast population change and provides the strategic basis for an open space contributions policy.

Supporting this strategy is the *Open Space Strategy Technical Report*, which contains the technical research, definitions, analysis and recommendations.

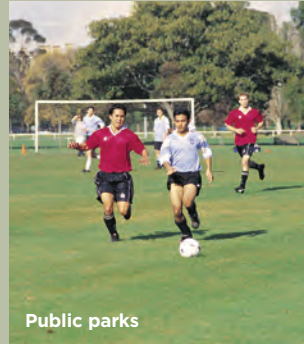


# What is open space?

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Open space is the publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for recreation, nature conservation, passive outdoor enjoyment and public gatherings. This includes public parks, gardens, reserves, waterways, publicly owned forecourts and squares.

Public open space also includes publicly owned major sporting venues and gardens that are managed by or on behalf of the State of Victoria including



Public parks



Public parks



Public gardens



Squares



Reserves



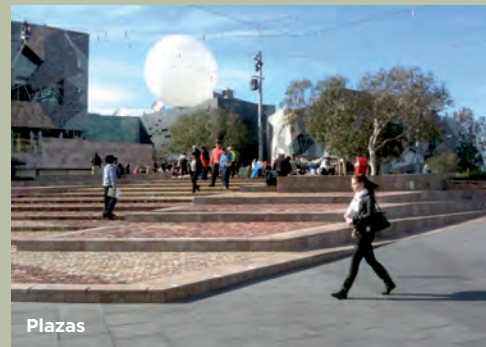
Waterways



Major sporting venues



Publicly owned forecourts



Plazas

the Melbourne Cricket Ground, Melbourne Park, Zoological Gardens and the Royal Botanic Gardens. Other public land including schools, universities and streets complement the open space network and are guided by other strategies and plans. Throughout this strategy public open space is referred to as 'open space'.

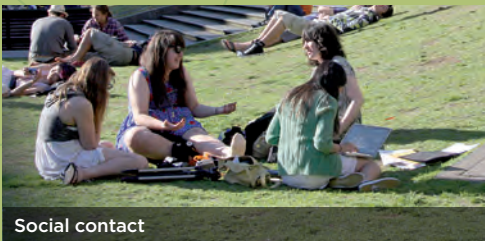
Melbourne's diversity and quality of open space creates a range of different experiences and opportunities across the city.



# Why is open space important?

Melbourne is identified as one of the most liveable cities in the world, and one of the major contributory elements to this liveability is the quality and amount of open space. In a recent household survey undertaken during the research phase of this strategy, many people indicated they live in the municipality because of the open space. Open space is also extensively used by the local community and visitors from across Australia and overseas. Open space is important for numerous reasons, some of which are described here.

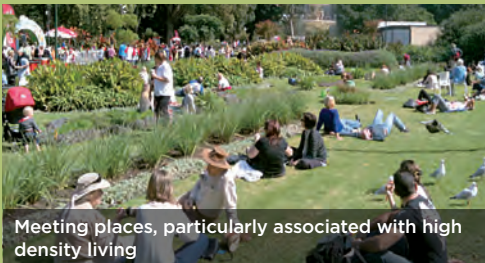
## Social connectedness



Social contact

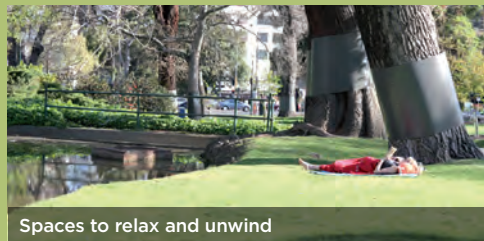


Community events and festivals



Meeting places, particularly associated with high density living

## Mental health and wellbeing



Spaces to relax and unwind



Restorative places



Social development in children

## Physical health and wellbeing



Participating in organised sport



Exercising informally



Contact with nature



Being outside in the fresh air and sunlight

## Mitigation of urban heat



Where the heat can radiate out at night and cool the city following hot weather



Space for large canopy trees to grow and provide shade



Creating cool spaces by irrigating them with sustainable water supply



Permeable surfaces that hold moisture and cool the environment

# Why is open space important?

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## Biodiversity



Habitat for native fauna including birds



Protection of remnant areas of indigenous flora



Selective reintroduction of habitat diversity

## Cultural heritage and character



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage values



World, National and State heritage significance of existing parks and gardens

## Economics and tourism



Visitor destination points



Commemorative events

## Events and Arts



Permanent and temporary installations



Performances

# Melbourne's existing open space

The City of Melbourne is located on the traditional land of the Kulin Nation. For the Wurundjeri, Boonerwung, Taungurong, Djajawurrung, and the Wauthaurong groups who form the Kulin Nation, Melbourne has always been an important meeting place for events of social, educational, sporting and cultural significance.

The major open spaces in Melbourne were set aside at the time of European settlement from 1842 onwards on the outskirts of the central city (Hoddle Grid) as part of Governor La Trobe's vision of a green belt of parks encircling Melbourne. They include Royal Park, Princes Park, Flagstaff Gardens, Royal Botanic Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens, Treasury Gardens, Domain Parklands, Fawkner Park and Carlton Gardens.

These larger original reserves are synonymous with the character of Melbourne, as are some of the more contemporary open spaces including Federation Square, Southbank Promenade and Birrarung Marr. Major festivals and events are held in Melbourne's open space including Moomba and New Years Eve along the Yarra River, the Australian Open at Melbourne Park, cricket and AFL at the MCG and numerous other major sporting events that form part of Melbourne's image and identity and contribute to the City of Melbourne's reputation as one of the world's most liveable cities.

The waterways flowing through Melbourne include the Yarra River, Maribyrnong River and Moonee Ponds Creek. The Yarra River was one of the main reasons for the establishment of Melbourne, influencing the alignment of the Hoddle Grid and Melbourne's layout. Early settlers modified the alignment, shape and natural values to suit land use changes, industrialisation and the growing city's needs.

For many years settlement turned its back on the waterways causing degradation of their natural, cultural and biodiversity values. In the 1980s Melbourne changed its view of its rivers and creeks and development has since turned around to face the waterways and harbours and provide open space along them. Waterways are now used for recreational activities including recreational boating, rowing, jogging, cycling and walking, and are recognised for their biodiversity and habitat corridor values.

The existing open space encourages the community outdoors to participate in organised sport, unstructured recreational activities and informal uses that promote social connectedness and community health and wellbeing. Royal Park, Princes Park, Fawkner Park and JJ Holland Park are some of the key open spaces that support this community use.



# Open space network

## Overview

The 148 sites in Melbourne's public open space network totals approximately 555 hectares and represents almost 15 per cent of the total area of the municipality. Each open space has a unique role within the network depending on its location, size, use and character. In developing this strategy the role and character of each open space was assessed and its distribution mapped. This assessment forms the basis for understanding what open space exists now, any deficiencies to be addressed and consideration of future change.

## Role

**Capital City and State** open spaces are iconic and synonymous with the character and identity of Melbourne and often used to stage activities and events of international, national, state and metropolitan importance. Examples include Federation Square (Capital City), Domain Parklands (Capital City) and Royal Park (State). The size varies to suit the identified purpose and urban context in which they are located.

**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 Princes Park, Fawkner Park and the Maribyrnong River.

**Municipal** open spaces are valued and visited primarily by the City of Melbourne population, providing facilities that include organised and unstructured sport and recreation activities. Examples include JJ Holland Park and North Melbourne Recreation Reserve.

**Neighbourhood** open spaces provide a diversity of character and facilities that appeal to the local community at a neighbourhood level. Examples include Argyle Square and North Melbourne Community Centre.

**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. These two types are differentiated by their size. Examples include Golden Elm Reserve in South Yarra and Chapman Street Reserve in North Melbourne.

## Character

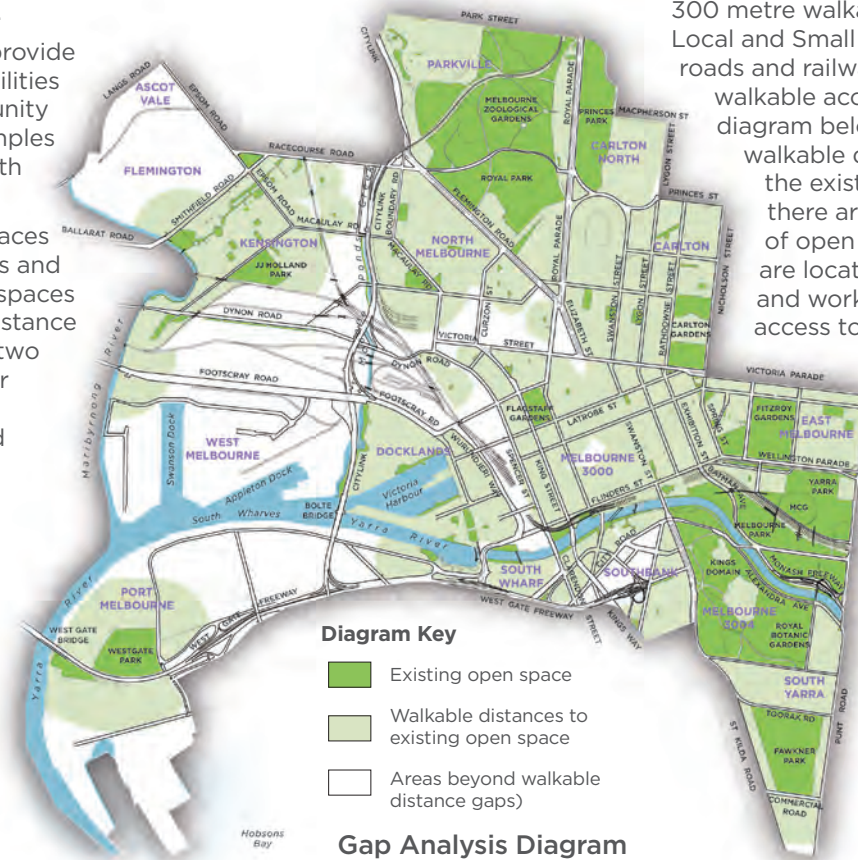
The larger established parks, gardens and reserves across the municipality have a range of characters and purposes. These vary from historical gardens with a predominantly European character to the primarily Australian character of Royal Park. They provide space for organised sporting

use through to informal play and places of contemplation. A range of character types describe the variety of open spaces in the municipality. For more information on the role and character of open space, refer to the *Open Space Strategy Technical Report*.

## Distribution

A key objective in planning the open space network is to provide open space within easy walking distance for the majority of the community. A 500 metre walkable distance is used for State, Capital City, Regional, Municipal and Neighbourhood open space, and a 300 metre walkable distance is used for Local and Small Local open space. Major roads and railways are barriers that limit walkable access. The gap analysis diagram below indicates that when walkable distances are applied to the existing open space network, there are gaps in the distribution of open space. The gap areas are locations where residents and workers lack easy walkable access to open space and

include some areas where significant population growth is anticipated. Additional open space is needed to address current and future gaps in provision of open space within walking distance.



# What will change?

## Forecast population growth

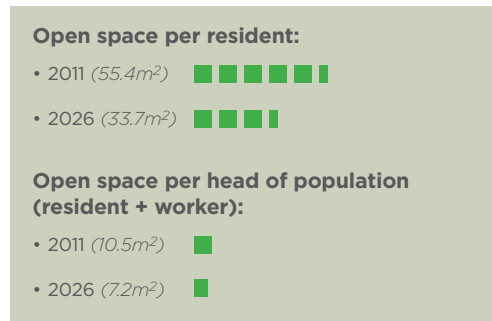
### Overall population change

👤 = 50,000 people



### Open space relative to population density change

■ = 10m<sup>2</sup>



The population growth and forecast development in Melbourne is significant, resulting in greater than two-thirds more people living in the City of Melbourne by 2026 and approximately a third more people working in the municipality. This forecast is based on the Growth Framework Plan included in the *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)*. The growth is projected across the municipality and is concentrated in urban renewal areas in the west and south of the municipality. These are shown spatially on the Overall Direction diagrams in this report. The largest amounts of open space are located in the north and south-east of the city. Forecast population growth is concentrated in the west and the south with some growth in the north, creating the need for more open space in the west and south.

The forecast population growth will mean more people living and working in higher density neighbourhoods. Increasing urban densities will result in more people needing to use open space to maintain their physical and mental health and wellbeing. This will place additional demand on existing open spaces and in some areas create the need to provide additional open space. Population growth is already occurring in areas lacking adequate or any open space. Growth will require improvement to the quantity, diversity, quality and natural features of open space to adequately cater to the increased population.

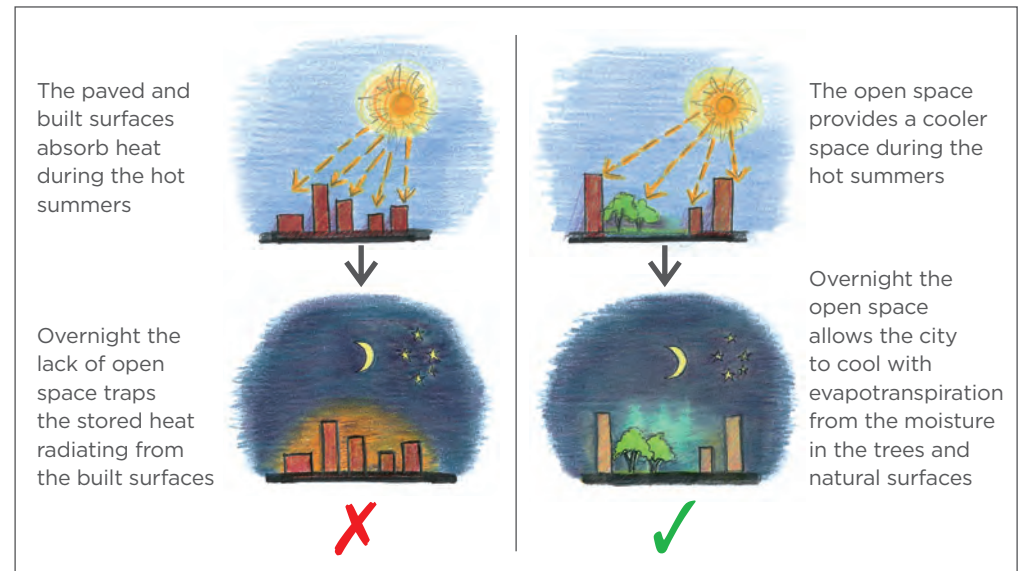
## Climate change

Climate change is predicted to result in more extreme weather patterns. Of relevance to open space are the forecast extended dry periods and more intense rainfall and storms resulting in additional periods of drought and flooding. Open space cannot directly influence climate change, but it can play an important role in mitigating the urban heat island effect and assisting the city adapt to more extreme weather patterns.

Urban heat island effect is the build up of heat in urban areas as explained in the diagram below. During Melbourne's

heat wave in early 2009 the urban heat island effect became a serious problem. Where urban renewal drives an increase in urban densities, the future population will generally be accommodated in multiple-level buildings with a focus on compact urban form to promote mixed use, walkable neighbourhoods. Provision of open space with natural features through these new neighbourhoods will help offset the build up of urban heat. Planting additional large canopy trees in open space and streets (as outlined in the *Draft Urban Forest Strategy*) will also help mitigate urban heat build up.

### Urban Heat Island and open space diagram



# Overall direction

## Maintain and expand a quality open space network

Melbourne enjoys a diverse, high quality and greatly valued open space network. As the city changes and grows, positive actions are required to upgrade existing and provide additional open space to maintain the role open space plays in shaping Melbourne's image and liveability. This will require:

- commitment, involvement and partnerships between key players including the City of Melbourne, the Victorian Government and the development industry to deliver additional well located and designed open space relevant to the new community
- adding open space to the network to provide a diversity of open space for multiple uses, expanding the capital city functions into the new open space in the west and mitigate urban heat build up
- improvements to the design and function of some existing open spaces, achieving the objectives noted above and improvements to their natural features, character and biodiversity.

The diagrams of the proposed major and smaller open spaces illustrate where additional open space is required and these are described further in the precincts.



## Provide distributed open space within easy walking distance

The beneficial effects of open space for communities living in urban areas supports the general planning principle that people including children, young people and those with limited mobility should have easy access to public open space. This means:

- the community is able to easily walk to open space within 300 metres of them, being approximately a 10 minute walk
- no need to cross major barriers to reach the open space including major roads and railways.

A key strategy objective of providing open space within easy walking distance of the majority of residents and workers will be achieved by:

- additional open space is to be established in gap areas, refer to the Gap Analysis Diagram. In some cases the smaller spaces will be achieved by utilising wide road reserves
- additional green open spaces in urban renewal areas across the municipality.

The diagrams of the proposed major and smaller open spaces illustrate where the additional open space is required and these are described further in the precincts.

## Improve community health and wellbeing

Research confirms there are health and wellbeing benefits for the community when open space is readily accessible. This includes:

- participation in organised sport when it is available nearby
- encouraging people outside into open space to participate in informal recreation activities including walking, cycling, jogging, informal games, active unstructured sports
- open spaces with a diversity of facilities that encourage people of all abilities and ages to participate in social and physical activities and events
- children visiting nearby open space independently of adults improving their self-confidence and physical development
- places that are green with natural features to which people can escape and which provide a visual relief from built form with physical benefits from the localised microclimate effects of shade, greenery and cooler spaces
- presence of natural features in open space mitigating urban heat island effect.

# Overall direction

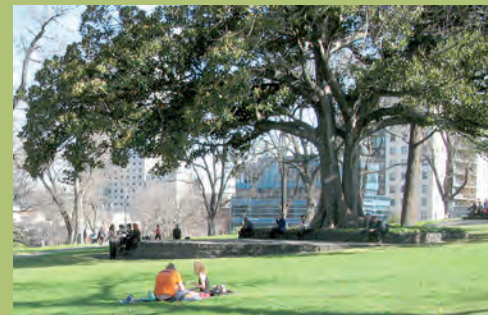
## Additional Capital City open space in urban renewal areas

- Historically in the west of the municipality open space has not been provided due to the predominantly non residential land use.
- With the forecast change to mixed land use and a much larger population of residents and workers, Capital City open space will be required in the west to expand the open space network to a standard that exists in the east and to support new activities such as events and festivals held in Melbourne.
- A key objective is to provide Capital City open space in the western areas of the municipality in the future. Over time these will become iconic spaces synonymous with the character and identity of Melbourne, and the size will vary to suit the future identified purpose and urban context. The locations are illustrated on the proposed additional major open spaces diagram.



## Additional Municipal open space in urban renewal areas

- With extensive growth to be accommodated in the municipality, additional Municipal open space will be needed for organised and unstructured outdoor sport and recreation use.
- The larger spaces required for this use, particularly outdoor sports fields, are best achieved by setting aside parcels of land early in the future planning process for the urban renewal areas.
- Negotiation for larger land parcels with the Victorian Government, as a major land holder during the early planning stages for urban renewal areas, is critical. These locations are illustrated on the proposed additional major open spaces diagram.



## Urban heat island effect mitigation and environmental improvements

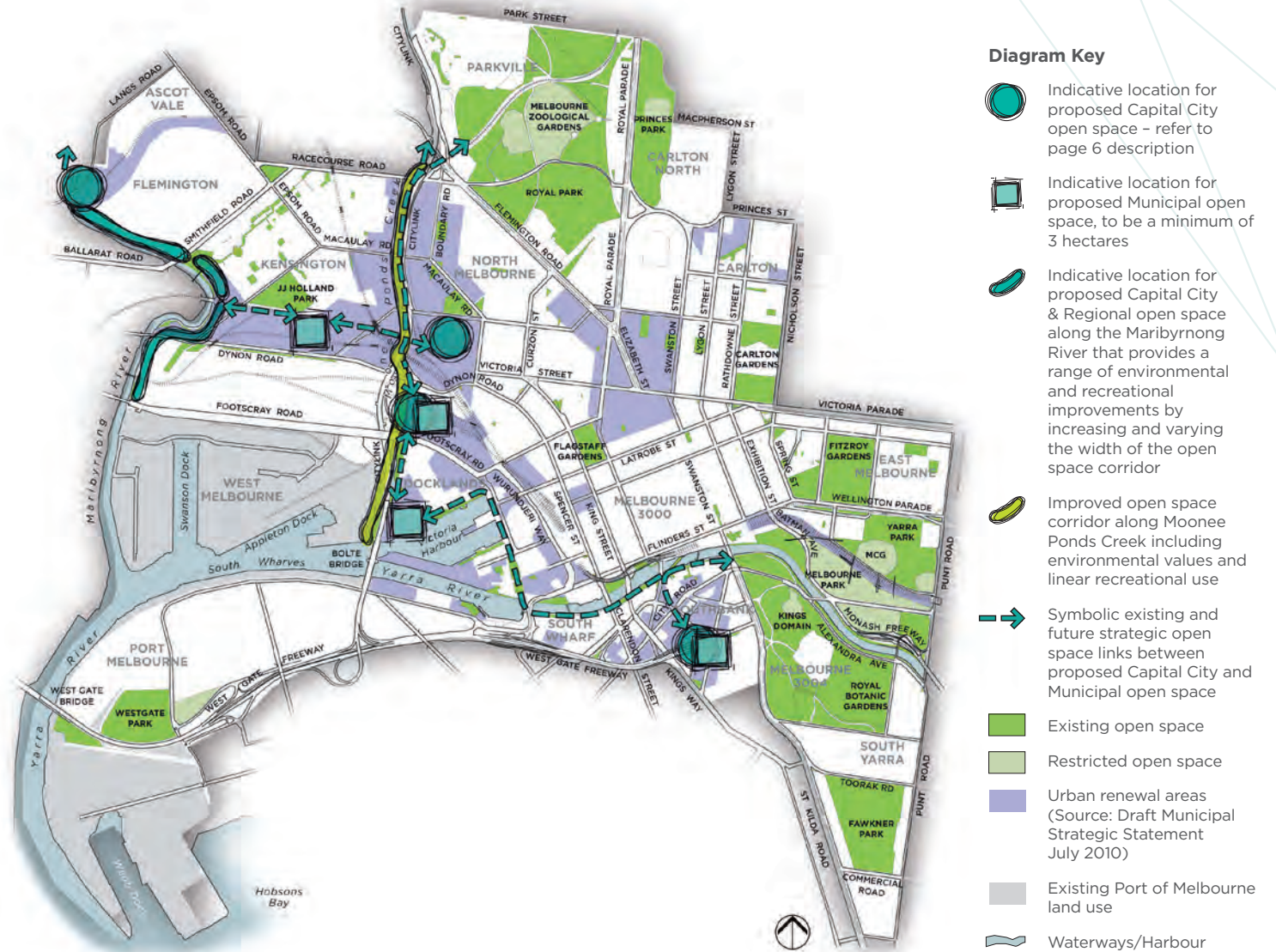
- Open space is proposed to be distributed through urban neighbourhoods with natural features such as large canopy trees and planted surfaces which absorb moisture, to offset some impacts of increased urban heat and promote health and wellbeing.
- These spaces will benefit from irrigation where it is available from sustainable water sources.
- Increased biodiversity will be achieved from a range of environmental improvements including the introduction of water and large canopy trees in open space, and revegetation and habitat improvements along waterways.
- Treatment of urban runoff will improve the quality of receiving waters including Victoria Harbour, the waterways and Port Phillip Bay, consistent with other City of Melbourne strategies and policies.



# Overall direction – proposed additional major open spaces

This diagram illustrates symbolic locations for the proposed additional or expanded major open spaces required to cater for the forecast growth described in the *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)* and summarised in this report. These additional major quality open spaces will have either a Capital City, Regional or Municipal role in the future open space network providing a diversity of active sport, recreation and informal facilities and spaces, as well as supporting festivals and events. They will be linked via a system of existing and proposed on and off-street trails encouraging cycling and walking access to and between them.

The precinct summaries provide more information on the intent and purpose of each proposed open space. The additional open spaces shown here and on the precinct plans are diagrammatic only and 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 strategy implementation and will be influenced by factors such as the rate of population growth, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding land use and urban layout, open space design and community feedback.





# Overall direction – proposed additional smaller open spaces

This diagram illustrates the proposed additional smaller open spaces required to address some existing deficiencies and to cater for the forecast growth described in the *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)* and summarised in this report. These additional smaller quality open spaces will have either a Neighbourhood, Local or Small Local role in the future open space network and provide a diversity of local recreation and informal facilities and spaces. These spaces serve local use and are located within an easy and safe walking distance for the majority of the community.

The precinct summaries provide more information on the intent and purpose of each proposed open space. The additional open spaces shown here and on the precinct plans are diagrammatic only and 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 strategy implementation and will be influenced by factors such as the rate of population growth, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding land use and urban layout, open space design and community feedback.



**NOTE:**  
The actual location of new open space will be subject to further investigation as future development occurs.

- Diagram Key**
- Indicative area in which future Neighbourhood open space is proposed – minimum 1 hectare in size with a 500m walkable catchment
  - Indicative area in which future Local open space is proposed – minimum 0.26 to 0.9 hectare in size with a 300m walkable catchment
  - Indicative area in which future Small Local open space is proposed – minimum 0.03 to 0.25 hectare in size with a 300m walkable catchment
  - Indicative location for proposed Capital City and/or Regional open space – refer to page 10
  - Indicative location for proposed Municipal open space – refer to page 10
  - Improved open space corridor along Moonee Ponds Creek
  - Existing open space
  - Restricted open space
  - Urban renewal areas (Source: Draft Municipal Strategic Statement July 2010)
  - Existing Port of Melbourne land use
  - Waterways/Harbour

# Precincts

## Overview

The open space analysis has been undertaken on a precinct basis to allow more detailed assessment of the existing situation and forecast future change. The precincts are broadly based on the suburb areas, with some suburbs combined where there are commonalities between them. A separate page for each precinct is included, and they have been assembled in alphabetical order.

## Forecast future growth

Throughout all precincts, the urban renewal areas are illustrated on the diagrams. These urban renewal areas are based on the *City of Melbourne Growth Framework Plan* in the *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)*, and in some cases have been refined through the development of structure plans. The forecast population figures included in these precincts are consistent with the forecasts prepared by the City of Melbourne and consistent with the *Growth Framework Plan*. The open space analysis and directions are based on these forecasts.

## Additional open spaces

The additional open spaces are shown symbolically on the precincts plans. The final location, size and configuration of new open space will be determined during strategy implementation and will be influenced by factors such as the rate of population growth, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding land use and

urban layout, and preparation of open space designs 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 be maintained with minor improvements as required to retain the quality of the open space network.

## Existing master plans

Master plans are in place for the major open spaces in Melbourne, and there is a progressive program of implementation works and scheduled reviews arising from these plans. When the master plans are reviewed, the overall directions in this strategy will be taken into consideration and inform the updated master plans.











## Structure Plans

Structure plans guide future development and change in the urban renewal areas. Where structure plans were final and in place for precincts such as Southbank, these are reflected in the precinct recommendations of the strategy. The open space component of future structure plans will be informed by this *Open Space Strategy*.



Precinct location map

## Diagram key for the following pages

-  Existing open space
-  Restricted open space
-  Urban renewal areas
-  Balance of suburb area
-  Existing linear open space links
-  Proposed linear open space links
-  Proposed open space links via the street network
-  Access to adjoining major areas of open space
-  Leader locating actions for existing open space
-  Leader locating actions for proposed new open space

# Carlton | Carlton North

## Forecast in population change

 = 5,000 people

### Carlton | Carlton North

#### Residents:

• 2011 (14,644)



• 2026 (23,773)



#### Workers:

• 2011 (17,823)



• 2026 (24,147)



## Gap Analysis

walking distance access to existing open space (gaps shown in white - Note: there are none in this precinct)



## Precinct summary

The characteristic open spaces in this precinct include Princes Park, Carlton Gardens and Argyle Square. Forecast change is planned to occur in Carlton with the City North urban renewal area encompassing part of Carlton and other major urban renewal associated with the public housing redevelopments. Additional Local open spaces are to be provided in the urban renewal areas and designed to complement the facilities already provided in Lincoln and University Squares. Additional Small Local open spaces are either already set aside or will be provided as part of the public housing redevelopment projects. Carlton Gardens North and South will continue to be managed to protect its World Heritage status, and Carlton Gardens North will also be managed for local use and regional needs. Princes Park will continue to be managed primarily for organised sporting, unstructured recreational activities and informal use.



Update and implement the 10 year plan for Princes Park

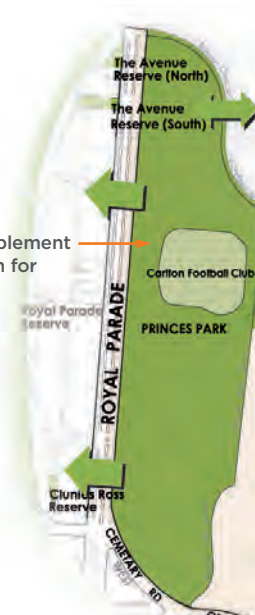



Diagram key (Refer also to page 12)

 Sub-precinct for proposed Local and Small Local open space

Proposed new Small Local open space as part of the Carlton Housing Redevelopment project

New Small Local open space within easy walking distance of the community

Prepare a Landscape Master Plan to guide future design and upgrades with the new Local open space located nearby

New Local open space associated with the proposed Parkville Metro Station and forecast increased urban density. Design to complement the other facilities provided at Lincoln and University Squares

New Small Local open space in the vicinity of the former CUB site and City North urban renewal area

New Small Local open space already agreed to at the Australian Unity site

Upgrade as part of the Carlton Housing Redevelopment project

Minor upgrade

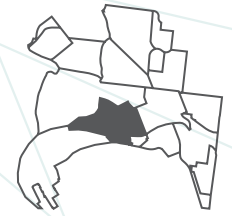
New Small Local open space already provided and to be developed as part of the Elgin/Nicholson Public Housing redevelopment

Continue to implement the Master Plan to provide new facilities for visitors and the Carlton population and manage its World Heritage status and values

Continue to implement the Master Plan and manage for its World Heritage status and values

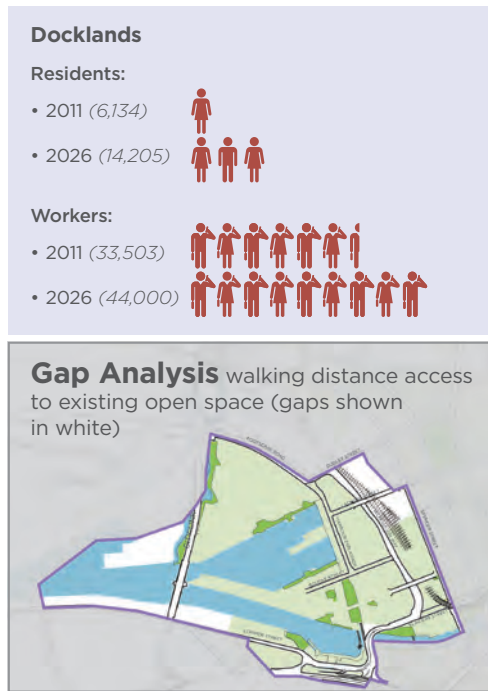


# Docklands



## Forecast in population change

 = 5,000 people



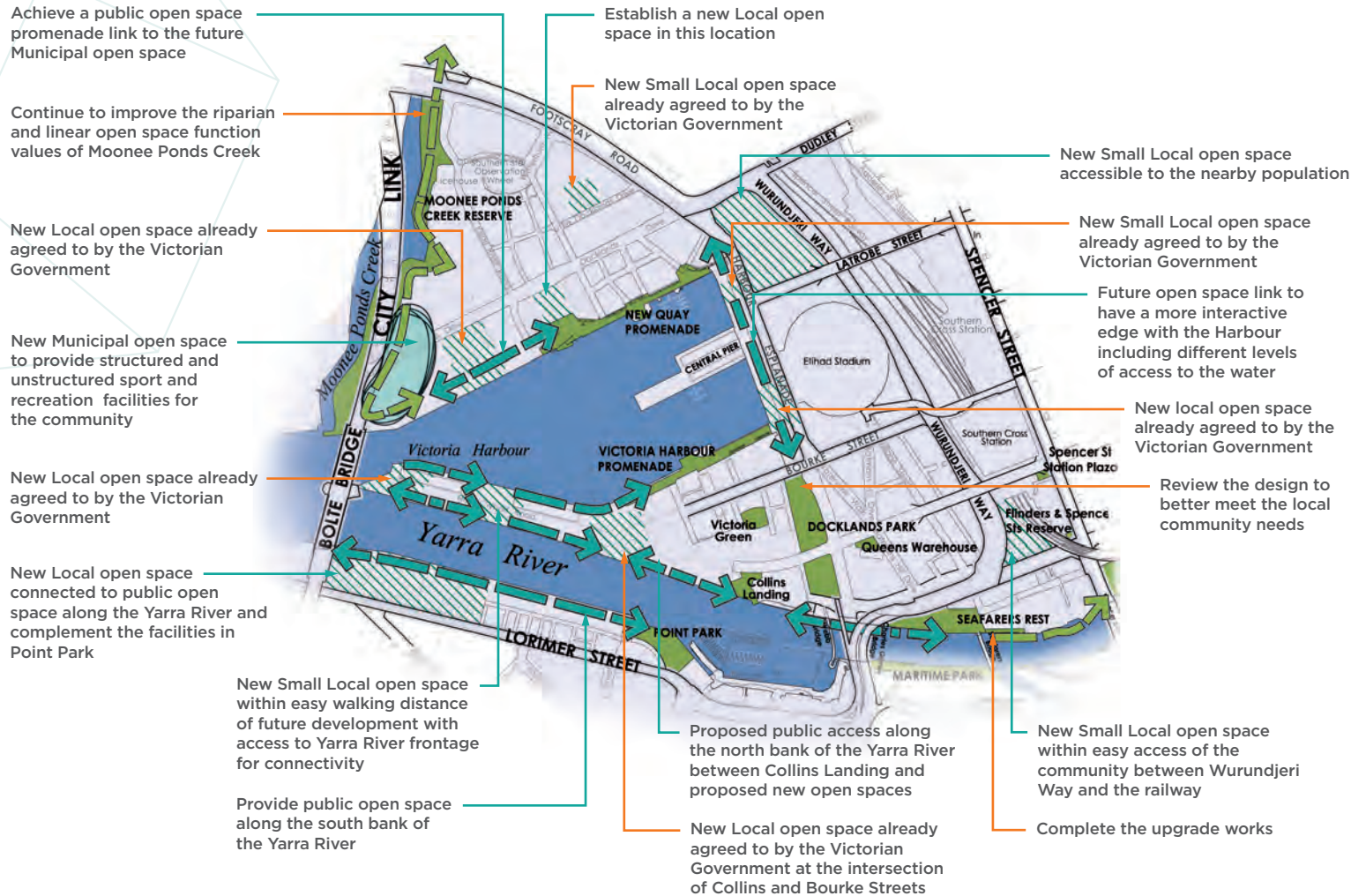
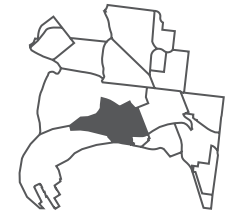
## Precinct summary

Docklands is entering its second decade of development. The vision for the open space system is to increase its diversity including natural features, its connection to the water and harbour, and improve recreational opportunities for the Docklands community. This includes a Municipal open space with active organised and unstructured community sporting facilities, and other Local open spaces with unstructured recreation facilities encouraging physical fitness. A new Local park in the New Quay area is to be developed along with additional Local open spaces in the Yarra's Edge and Victoria Harbour precincts. These spaces are proposed to be connected with a continuous public open space

reserve along the waterfront with access to the water's edge celebrating Victoria Harbour and the Yarra River as key strengths of Docklands. Moonee Ponds Creek linear open space corridor will continue to be improved providing recreational and habitat connectivity to the future Municipal open space, north to E-Gate and Arden Macaulay urban renewal areas and to New Quay Promenade.



# Docklands



# East Melbourne



## Forecast in population change

= 5,000 people

### East Melbourne

#### Residents:

- 2011 (5,162)
- 2026 (5,770)

#### Workers:

- 2011 (21,080)
- 2026 (25,000)

### Jolimont Railway urban renewal area

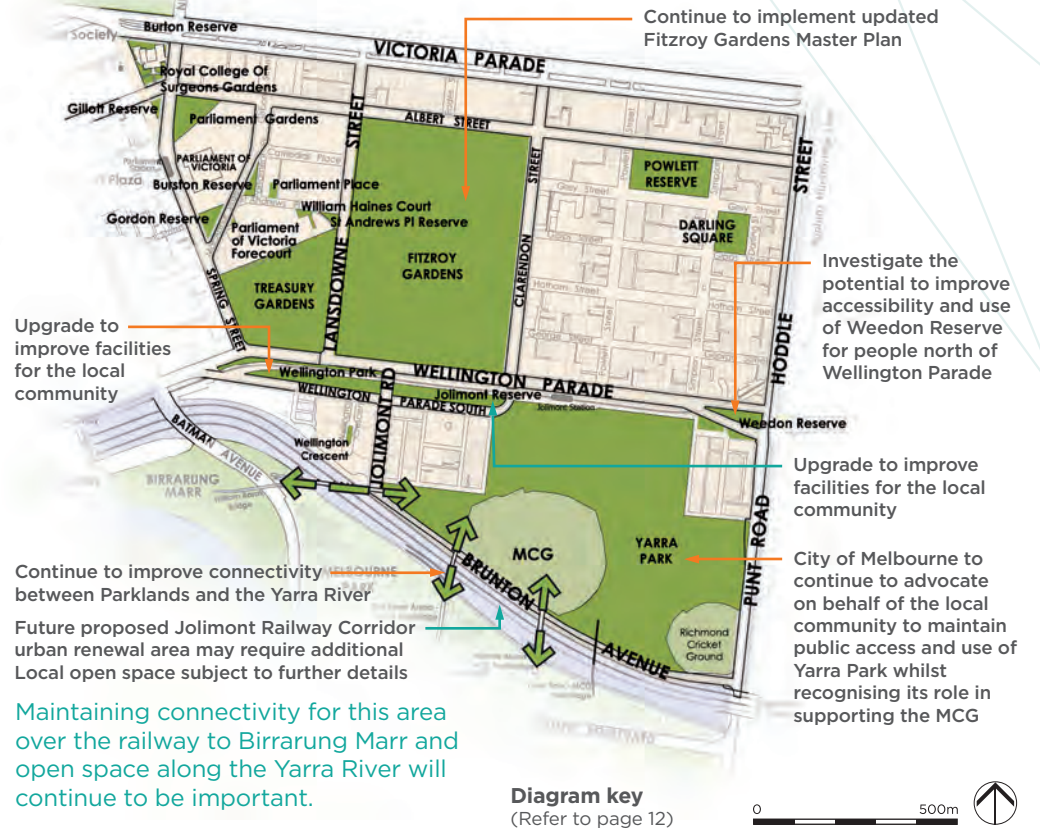
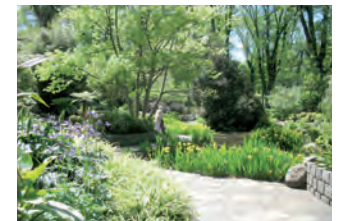
There are no population forecasts available as the timeframe for this development is beyond 2026.

**Gap Analysis** walking distance access to existing open space (there are no gaps in this precinct)



## Precinct summary

East Melbourne is an established area with significant State and Capital City open space including Fitzroy Gardens, Treasury Gardens, Yarra Park and the MCG. Established neighbourhoods are forecast to grow with a larger worker population and a slight increase in the residential community. The precinct is well provided for with a variety of open space types and character and these will continue to be managed and maintained. Demand for unstructured recreation activities and informal use from the forecast additional worker population will continue to be accommodated in the key existing open spaces. Upgrades are proposed to some of the smaller open spaces, and it is recommended that improved access to Weedon Reserve be investigated. Fitzroy Gardens is the most popular open space and continued implementation of the updated Master Plan will be a priority. The Jolimont Railway Corridor urban renewal area is forecast for redevelopment beyond the timeframe of this Strategy. It is likely that additional open space may be required as part of any redevelopment.



Maintaining connectivity for this area over the railway to Birrarung Marr and open space along the Yarra River will continue to be important.

# Flemington | Ascot Vale



## Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,000 people

### Flemington | Ascot Vale

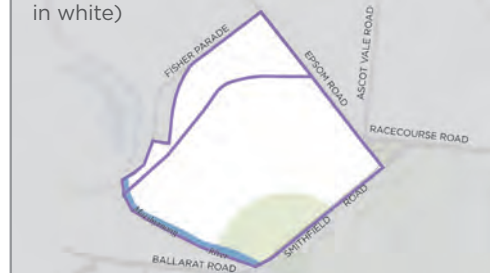
#### Residents:

- 2011 (0)
- 2026 (4,950) 👤 👤 👤

#### Workers:

- 2011 (367) 👤
- 2026 (500)

## Gap Analysis walking distance access to existing open space (gaps shown in white)



## Precinct summary

Melbourne Showgrounds and Flemington Racecourse are the major land uses in this precinct and there is currently no residential community living in these suburbs within the City of Melbourne. The Racecourse Rail Corridor urban renewal area is forecast to accommodate nearly 5,000 residents by 2026 and some additional workers. New open space is proposed including neighbourhood level facilities provided in a proposed Capital City open space adjoining the Maribyrnong River, and two Small Local parks within walking distance of the development area.

### Diagram key

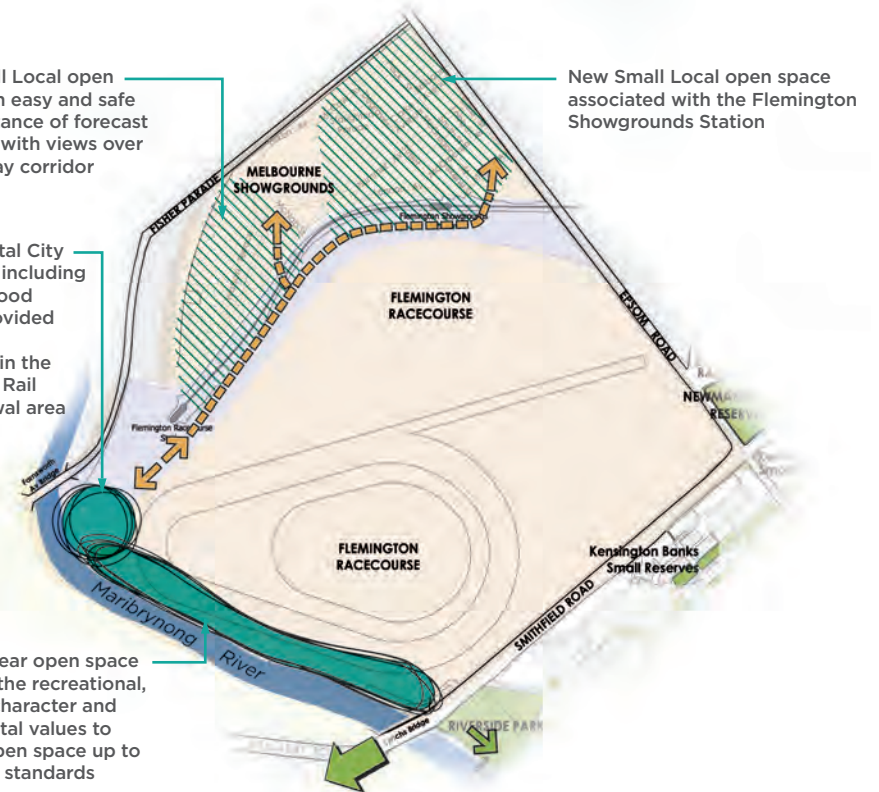
- Sub-precinct for proposed Local and Small Local open space
- Indicative location for proposed Capital City open space
- Refer to diagram key on page 12 for additional information.

Future Small Local open space within easy and safe walking distance of forecast population, with views over the waterway corridor

Future Capital City open space including neighbourhood facilities provided for forecast community in the Racecourse Rail urban renewal area

New Small Local open space associated with the Flemington Showgrounds Station

Upgrade linear open space to improve the recreational, landscape character and environmental values to bring the open space up to Capital City standards



# Kensington



## Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,000 people

### Arden Macaulay urban renewal area

#### Residents:

- 2011 (365)
- 2026 (2,741)



#### Workers:

- 2011 (1,459)
- 2026 (12,000)



### Kensington remainder of suburb

#### Residents:

- 2011 (10,095)
- 2026 (10,488)



#### Workers:

- 2011 (3,808)
- 2026 (8,000)



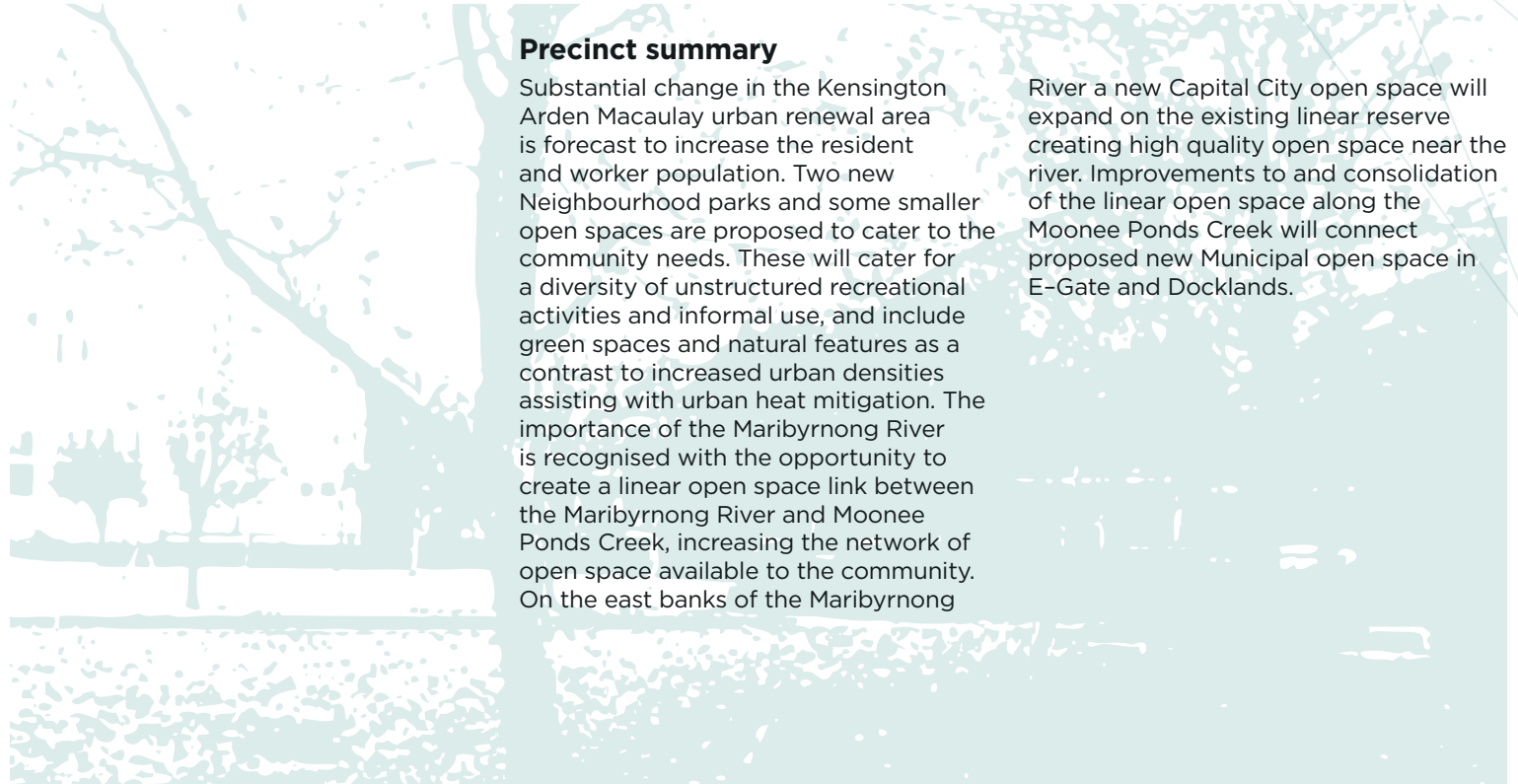
**Gap Analysis** walking distance access to existing open space (gaps shown in white)



## Precinct summary

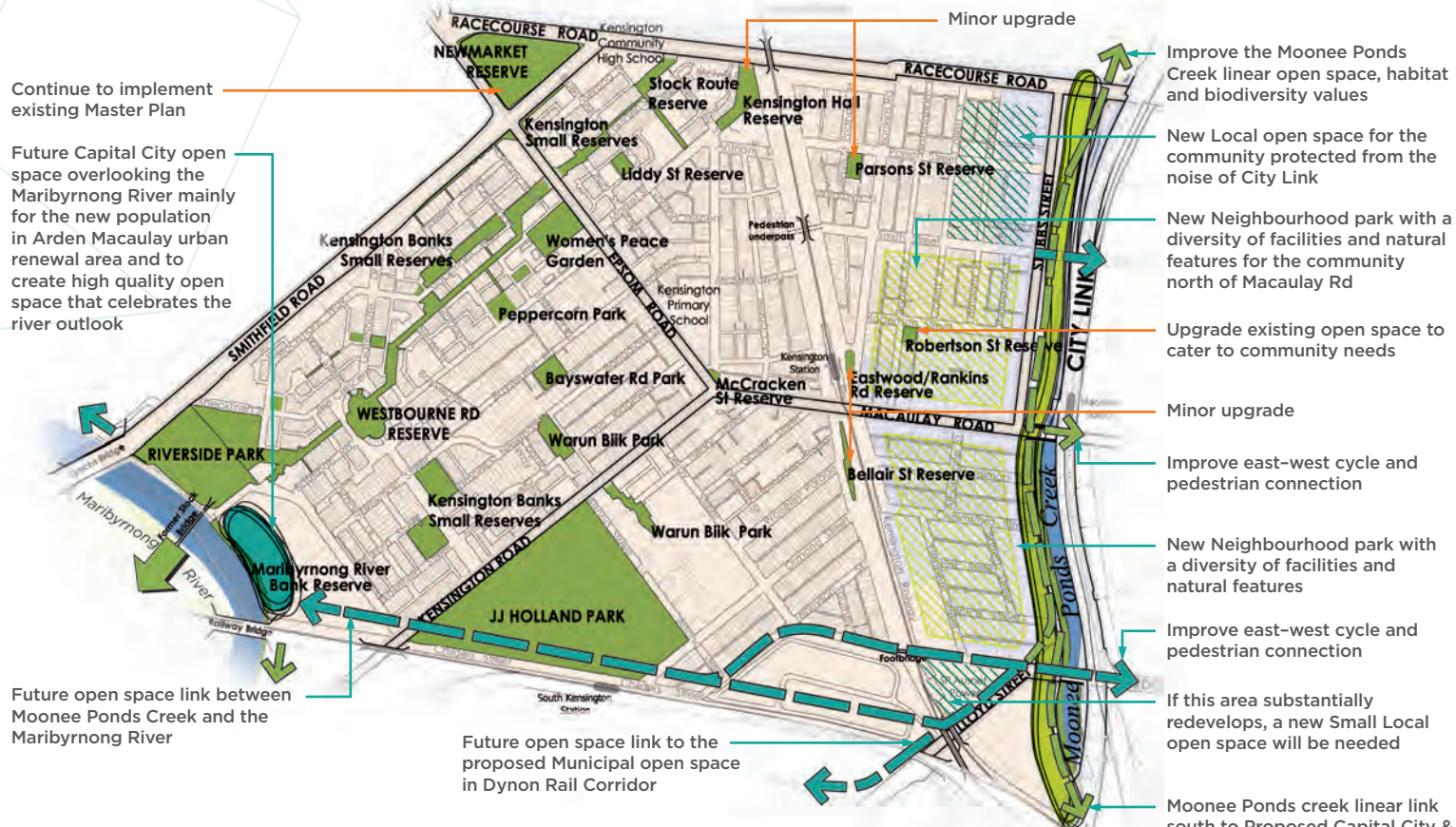
Substantial change in the Kensington Arden Macaulay urban renewal area is forecast to increase the resident and worker population. Two new Neighbourhood parks and some smaller open spaces are proposed to cater to the community needs. These will cater for a diversity of unstructured recreational activities and informal use, and include green spaces and natural features as a contrast to increased urban densities assisting with urban heat mitigation. The importance of the Maribyrnong River is recognised with the opportunity to create a linear open space link between the Maribyrnong River and Moonee Ponds Creek, increasing the network of open space available to the community. On the east banks of the Maribyrnong

River a new Capital City open space will expand on the existing linear reserve creating high quality open space near the river. Improvements to and consolidation of the linear open space along the Moonee Ponds Creek will connect proposed new Municipal open space in E-Gate and Docklands.





# Kensington



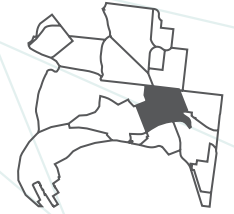
### Diagram key

- Sub-precinct for proposed Local and Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for proposed Neighbourhood open space
- Indicative location for proposed Capital City open space
- Improved open space corridor along Moonee Ponds Creek

Refer to diagram key on page 12 for additional information.

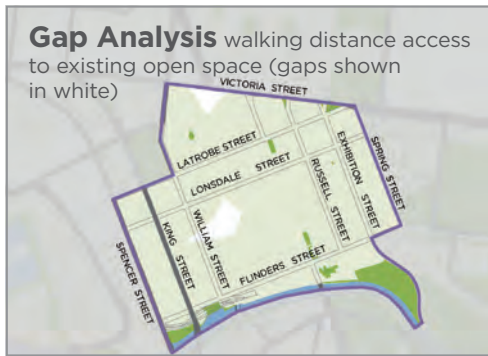
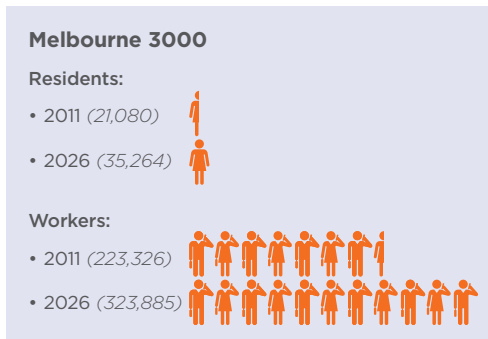


# Melbourne 3000



## Forecast in population change

= 30,000 people



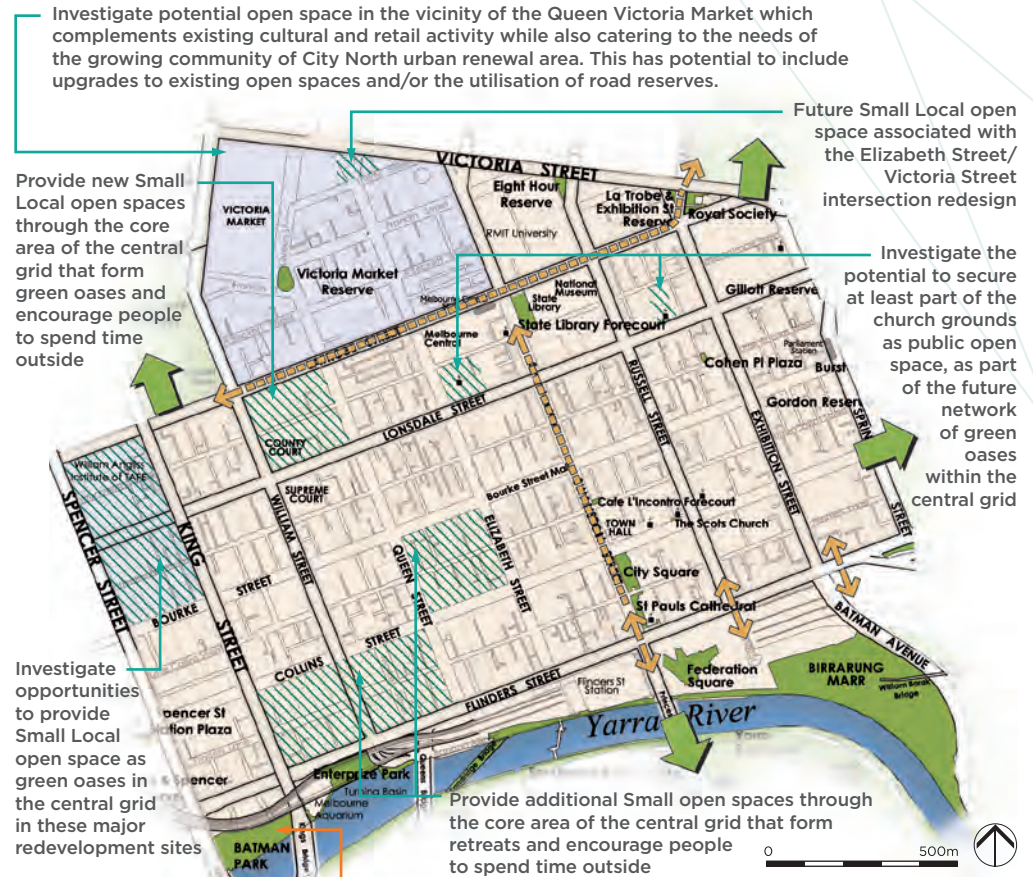
**Diagram key** (Refer also to page 12)

Sub-precinct for proposed Local and Small Local open space



## Precinct summary

The Melbourne 3000 central city area was originally designed with a ring of open space around the central grid rather than within it. The inherent strength of the larger open spaces around the grid will continue to be the main areas of open space for this community into the future. Gardens and forecourts to buildings have formed an integral part of the public realm, and more public open spaces in this form is encouraged through the central city as it continues to intensify. This is to accommodate an expanding community of workers and residents in Melbourne 3000. There will also be an increasing number of small green oases provided as retreat spaces within the central city grid. These spaces will not interrupt the strength and value of the grid but expand on the existing highly valued public open spaces such as the Library Forecourt, City Square and Federation Square. These spaces will encourage people outdoors close to where they live and work and provide places to pause, observe and rest. The green character will be driven by sustainable water harvesting and reuse with the intention to create moist and cool spaces in summer that have a role in urban heat island effect mitigation. Opportunity sites include church grounds and others are to be identified as major sites redevelop across the central city, particularly where they are located with roads to the north and west, minimising overshadowing from adjoining built form.



Continue to maintain some of the informal character to this open space in any future redevelopment, particularly the open grassed areas, and protect the space from further overshadowing to retain sunlight access to the north bank of the Yarra River



# Melbourne 3004 | South Yarra

## Forecast in population change

1 person icon = 5,000 people

### Melbourne 3004

#### Residents:

- 2011 (1,630)
- 2026 (2,064)

#### Workers:

- 2011 (23,411)
- 2026 (28,000)

### South Yarra

#### Residents:

- 2011 (4,702)
- 2026 (4,724)

#### Workers:

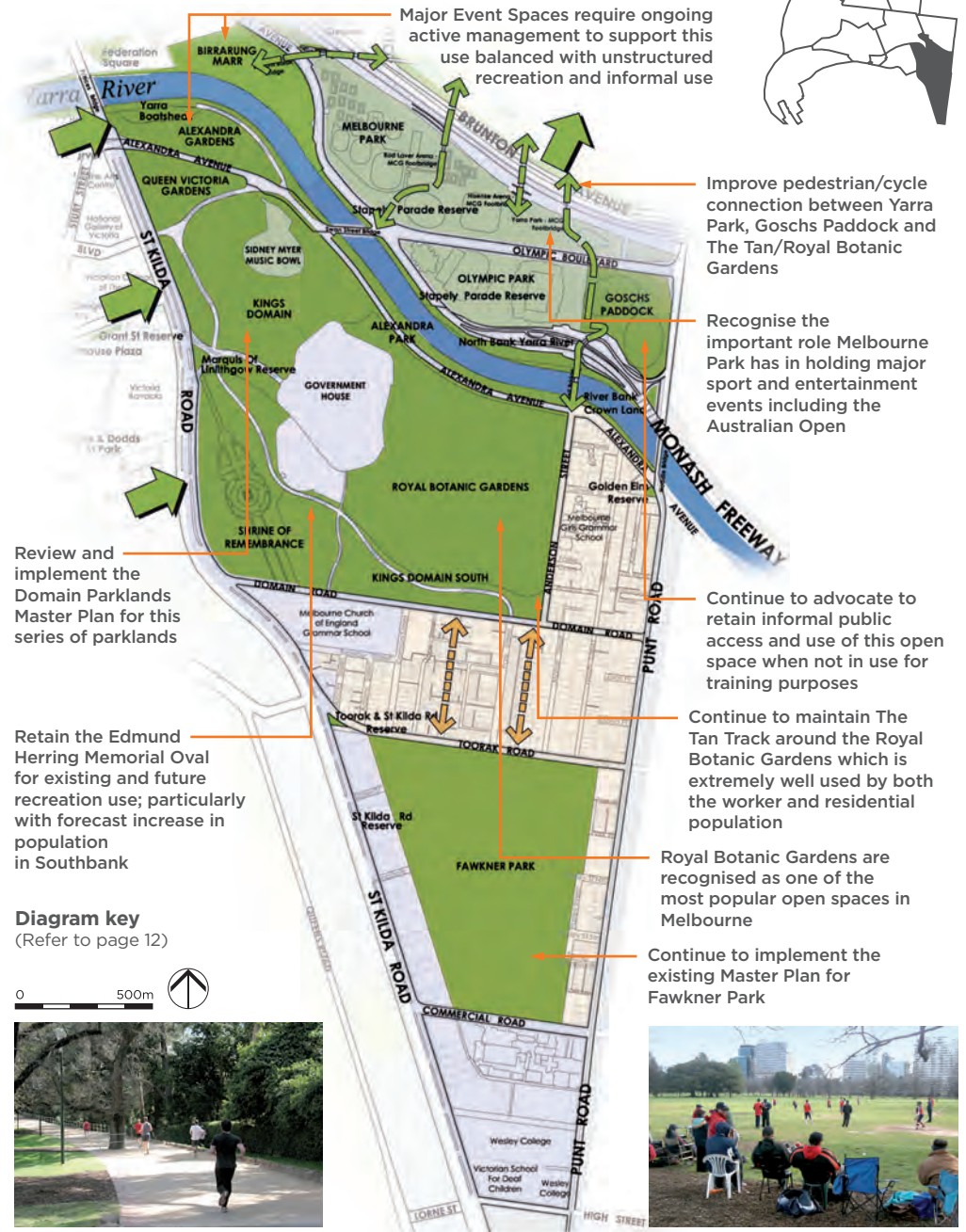
- 2011 (1,488)
- 2026 (2,700)

**Gap Analysis** walking distance access to existing open space (gaps shown in white)

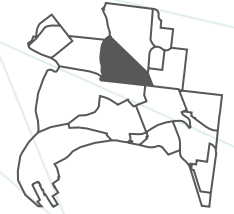


## Precinct summary

This significant system of parklands includes the Alexandra Gardens, Queen Victoria Gardens, Domain Parklands, the Royal Botanic Gardens and Fawcner Park. The Yarra River is a unique and central natural and cultural feature for Melbourne. It is highly valued for sporting and cultural events, habitat corridor values, and the linear reserve along it is popular for cycling/walking, informal recreation, picnics, events and festivals. These significant parklands will continue to be improved and managed for their Capital City and Regional function catering to international, national and Victorian visitors, as well as the local community. Increased visitation is forecast for the central city and this will place increasing demands on these spaces. The population living and working in this precinct is not forecast to change substantially, however increased use will occur from the central city population. Ongoing open space upgrade works and management will focus on providing for visitors balanced with maintaining the character and facilities for the local and central business district population.

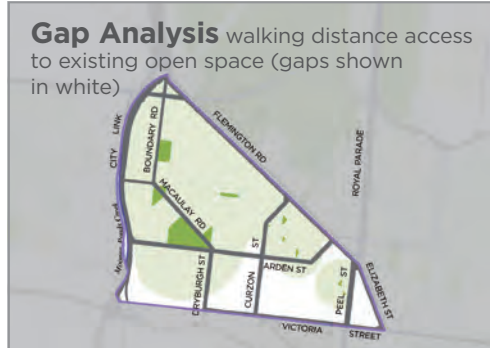
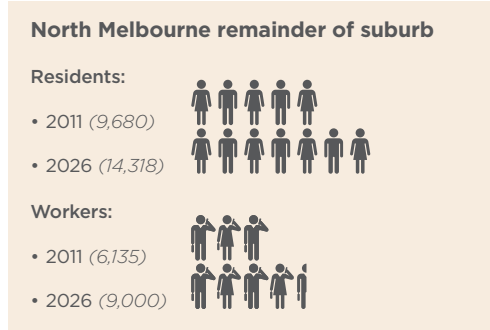
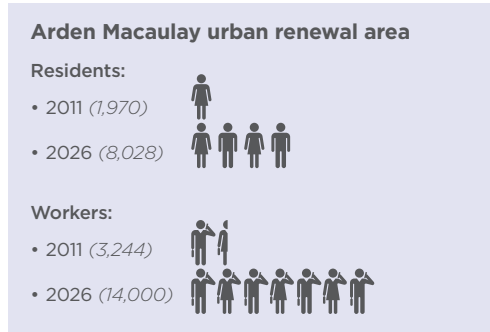


# North Melbourne



## Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,000 people

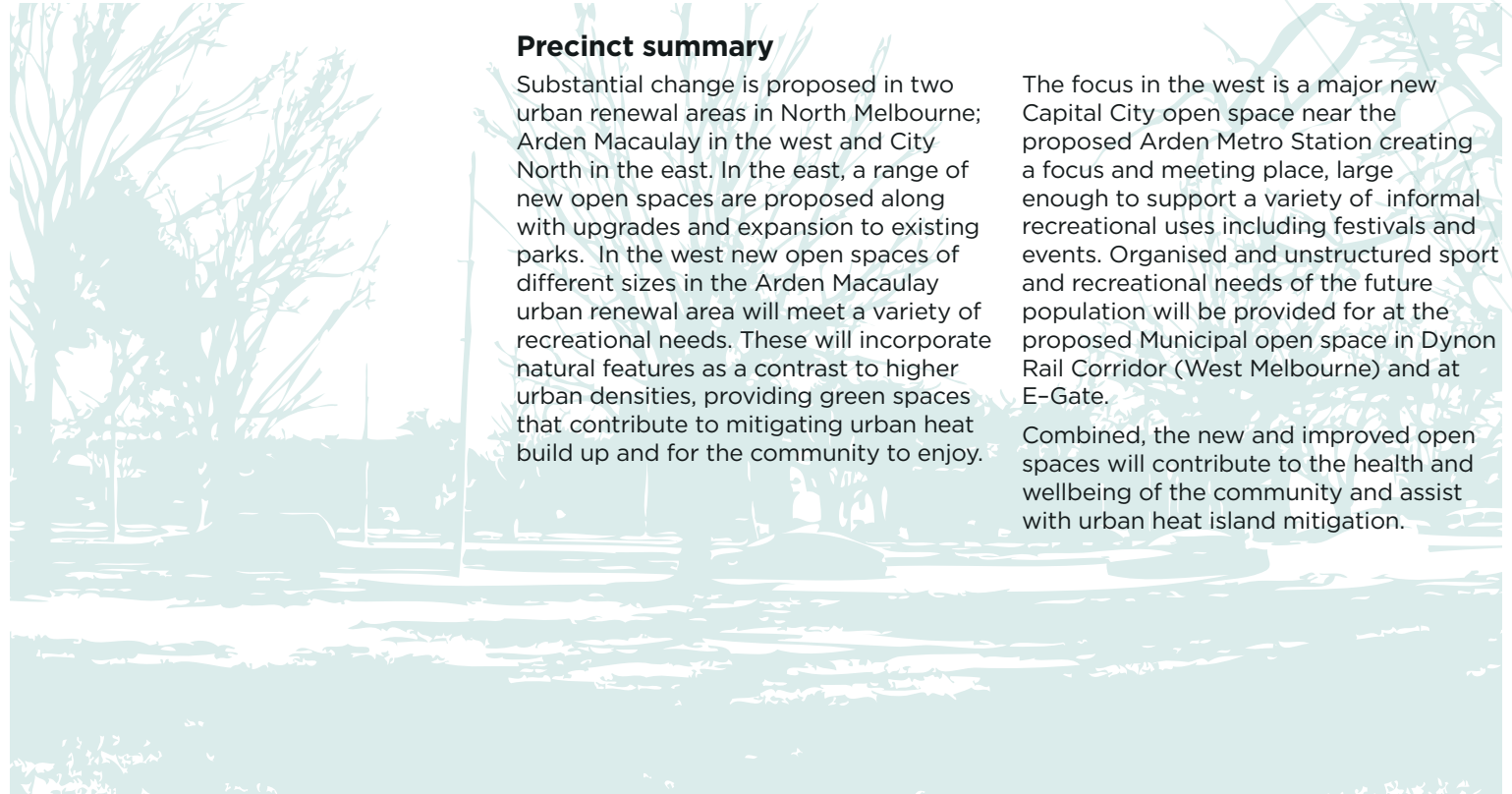


## Precinct summary

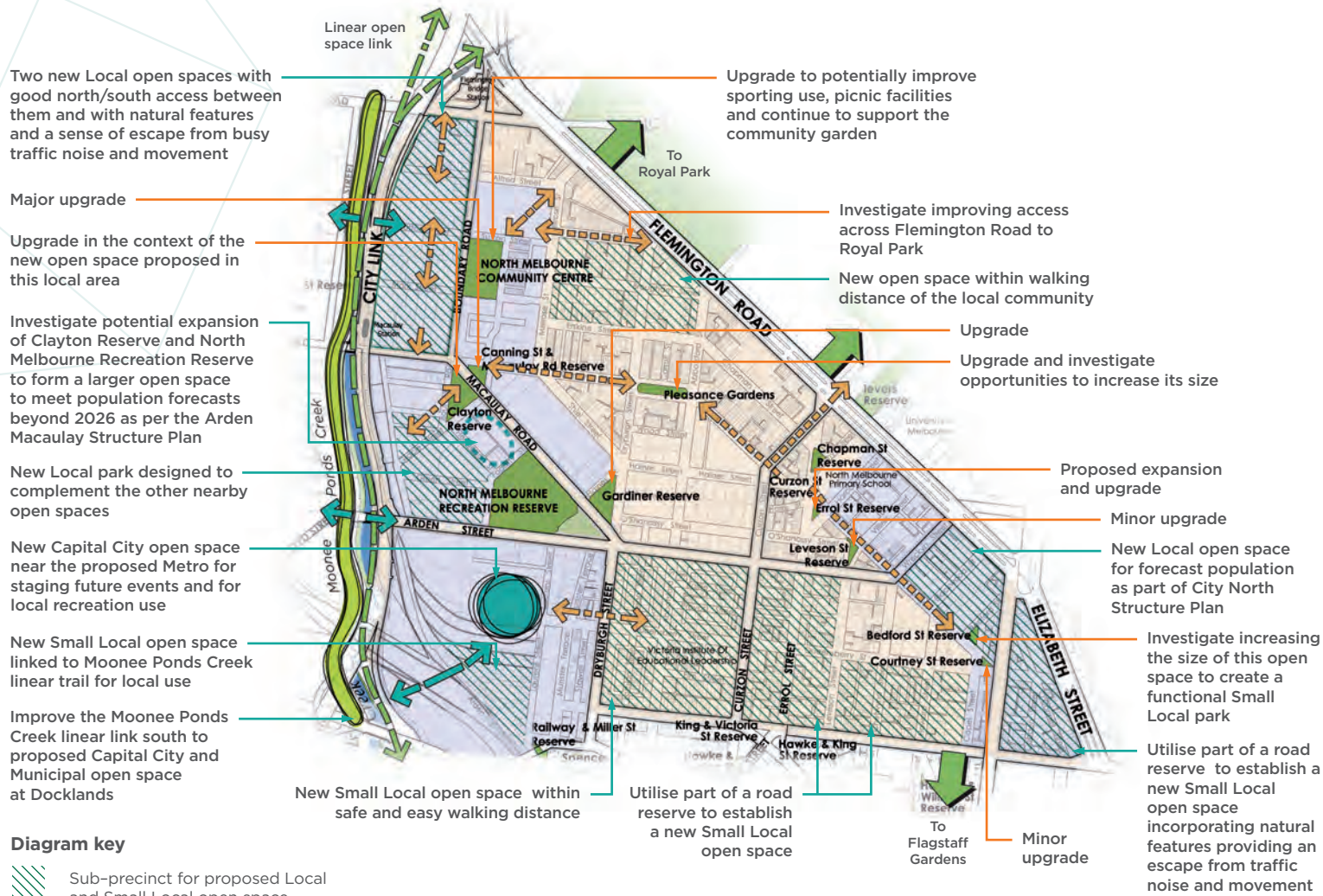
Substantial change is proposed in two urban renewal areas in North Melbourne; Arden Macaulay in the west and City North in the east. In the east, a range of new open spaces are proposed along with upgrades and expansion to existing parks. In the west new open spaces of different sizes in the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area will meet a variety of recreational needs. These will incorporate natural features as a contrast to higher urban densities, providing green spaces that contribute to mitigating urban heat build up and for the community to enjoy.

The focus in the west is a major new Capital City open space near the proposed Arden Metro Station creating a focus and meeting place, large enough to support a variety of informal recreational uses including festivals and events. Organised and unstructured sport and recreational needs of the future population will be provided for at the proposed Municipal open space in Dynon Rail Corridor (West Melbourne) and at E-Gate.

Combined, the new and improved open spaces will contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community and assist with urban heat island mitigation.



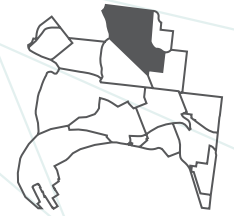
# North Melbourne



Refer to diagram key on page 12 for additional information.

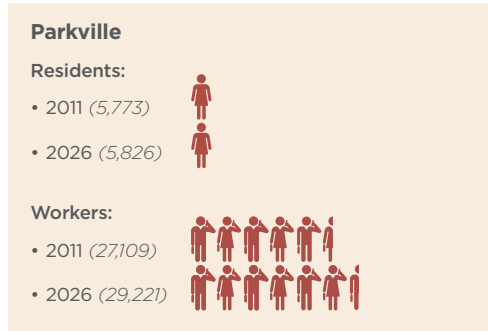
0 500m

# Parkville



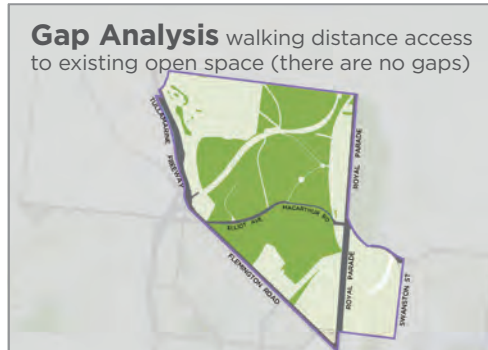
## Forecast in population change

= 5,000 people

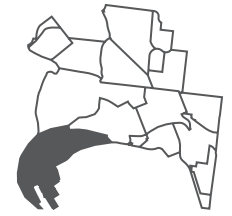


## Precinct summary

Royal Park is the major open space in Parkville and comprises the majority of this precinct. This extensive parkland provides for local community use as well as statewide and international visitors to the Zoological Gardens and the State Netball and Hockey Centre. Ivers Reserve provides an important local open space for the community in the south, and the Galada Avenue Reserve and the system of smaller open spaces provide for the community living and working in the Parkville Gardens area. While the population is not forecast to increase substantially in Parkville, the forecast population growth in the north and west areas of the municipality are likely to result in increased visitors to Royal Park. With the ongoing implementation of the Royal Park Master Plan, improvements that benefit the local community will need to be prioritised in balance with works to the Municipal level facilities.



# Port Melbourne



## Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,000 people

### Port Melbourne

#### Residents:

- 2011 (0)
- 2026 (0)

#### Workers:

- 2011 (15,366)
- 2026 (26,000)



## Future change

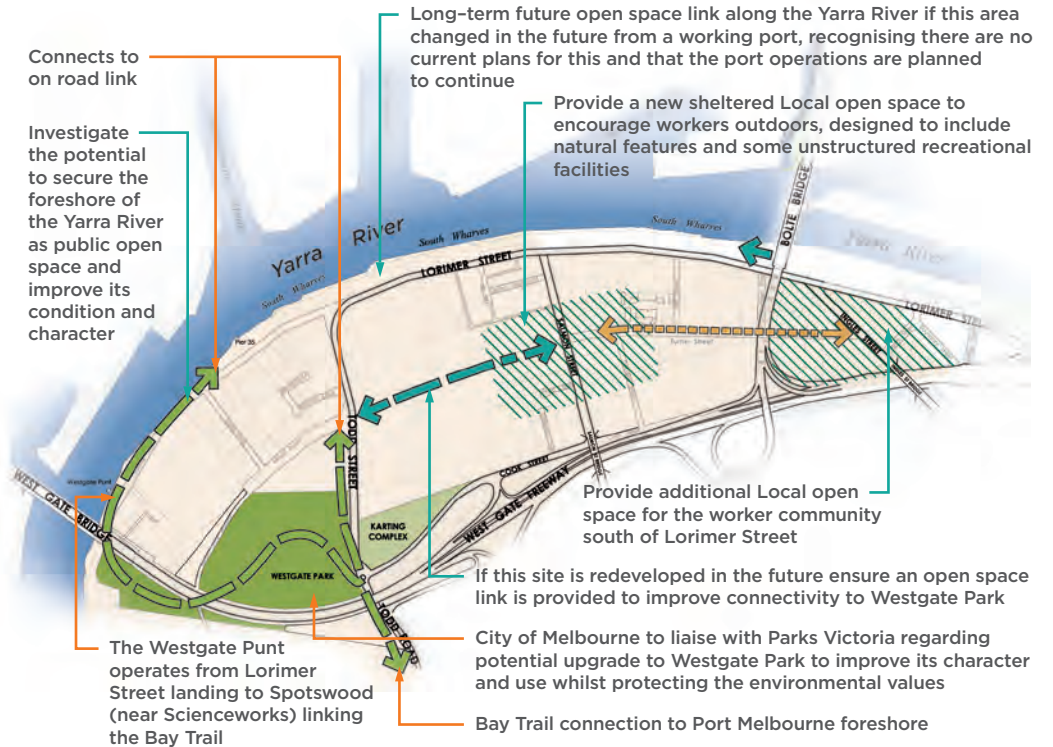
There is no major change forecast in Port Melbourne. If this were to change in the future, additional open space may be required.

**Gap Analysis** walking distance access to existing open space (gaps shown in white)



## Precinct summary

The non-residential land use and worker community is forecast to continue to expand in Port Melbourne. The existing precinct is characterised by wharf and port related activities associated with the Yarra River and Hobsons Bay. If this current land use pattern continues, two additional Local open spaces are proposed in the vicinity of Turner Street. A future open space link is proposed between the proposed new Local open spaces and Westgate Park that includes a combination of off-road and on-road links. Additionally, the Yarra River frontage, which is currently accessible between Pier 35 and Westgate Port, is to be upgraded, along with potential improvements to Westgate Park in consultation with Parks Victoria. In the longer term if the port related activities change at the South Wharves, a future continuous public open space is to be established on the south bank of the Yarra River between Docklands and Westgate Park however, there are no plans for the port operations to change in the future. Additional open space, including consideration of Municipal and



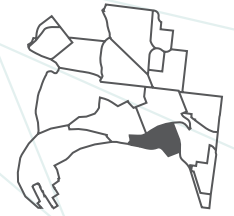
Neighbourhood open space, would need to be considered if there is a land-use change to include residential use in Port Melbourne and increased urban density.

**Diagram key** (Refer also to page 12)

▨ Sub-precinct for proposed Local and Small Local open space

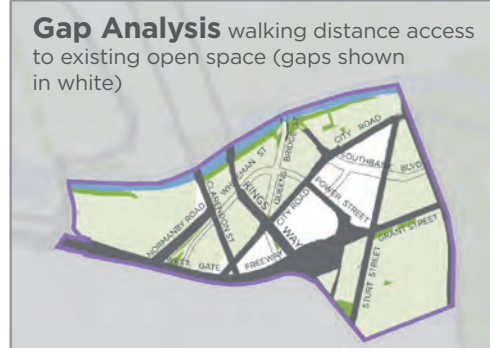
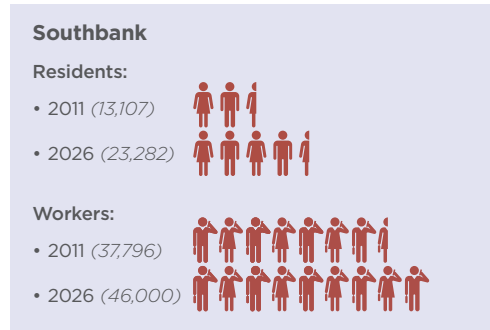


# Southbank | South Wharf



## Forecast in population change

= 5,000 people

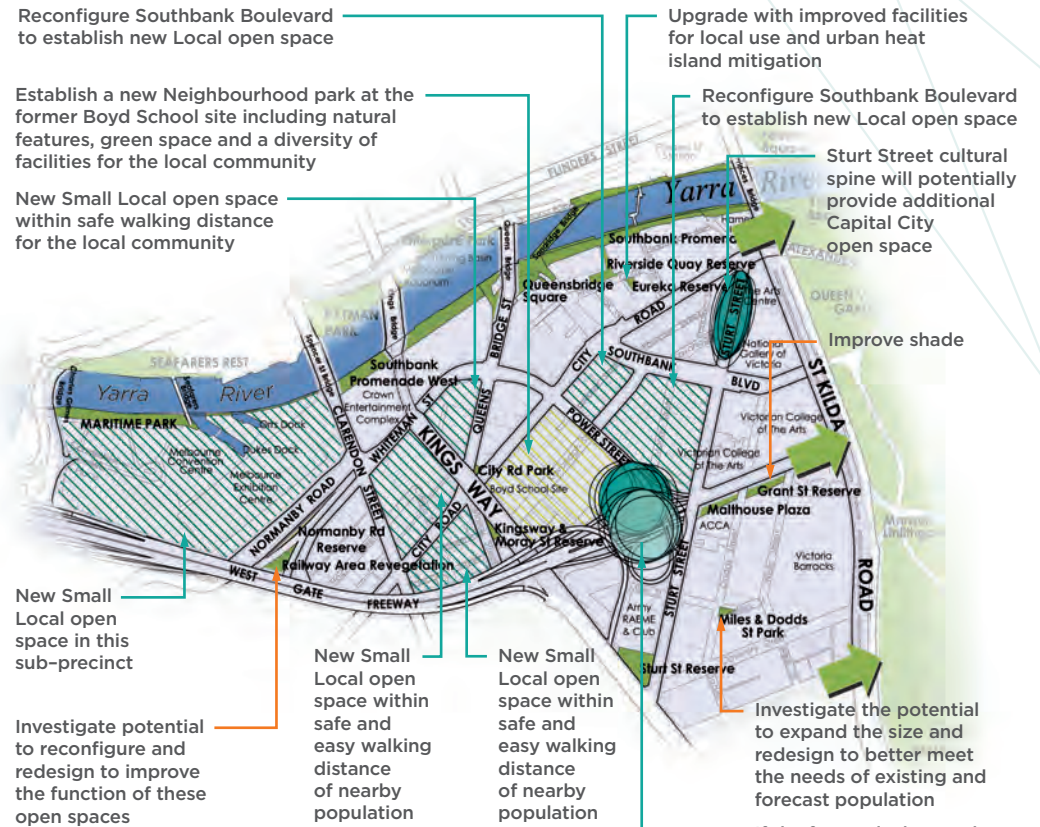


**Diagram key** (Refer also to page 12)

- Sub-precinct for proposed Local and Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for proposed Neighbourhood open space
- Indicative location for proposed Capital City open space
- Indicative location for proposed Municipal open space

## Precinct summary

Southbank is forecast for continued redevelopment, attracting more people to live and work in the precinct. The Southbank Structure Plan 2010 sets a vision for improving the sustainability and liveability of Southbank accommodating this forecast growth. Additional open space located within Southbank will contribute to this vision. Sections of the wide road reserves are proposed to be converted to small open spaces while other new open spaces will be located amongst the high density areas providing quality small green spaces that are protected, creating a respite away from traffic noise and movement. The Structure Plan identified the opportunity to deck over the Burnley tunnel entrance to improve pedestrian connectivity in Southbank. If this occurs, this Strategy recommends a large open space be established as part of the reclaimed area, providing organised and unstructured sport and recreational facilities and a range of other informal facilities to create a community recreation hub in Southbank.







# West Melbourne

## Forecast in population change

👤 = 2,000 people

### Dynon Rail Corridor, E-Gate and City North urban renewal areas

#### Residents:

• 2011 (1,397)



• 2026 (6,877)



#### Workers:

• 2011 (1,397)



• 2026 (3,931)



### West Melbourne balance

#### Residents:

• 2011 (2,423)



• 2026 (2,522)



#### Workers:

• 2011 (14,190)



• 2026 (15,811)



**Gap Analysis** walking distance access to existing open space (gaps shown in white)

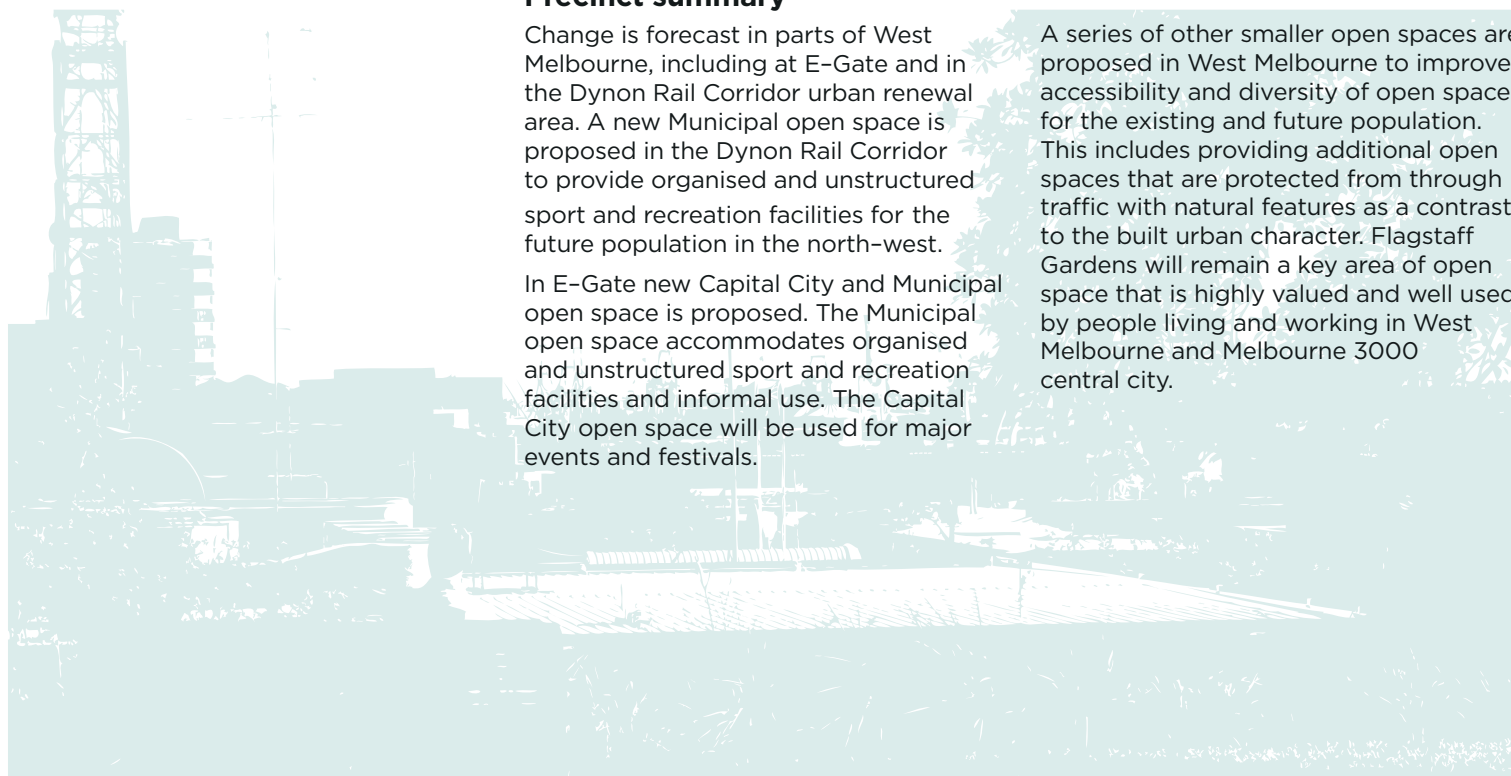


## Precinct summary

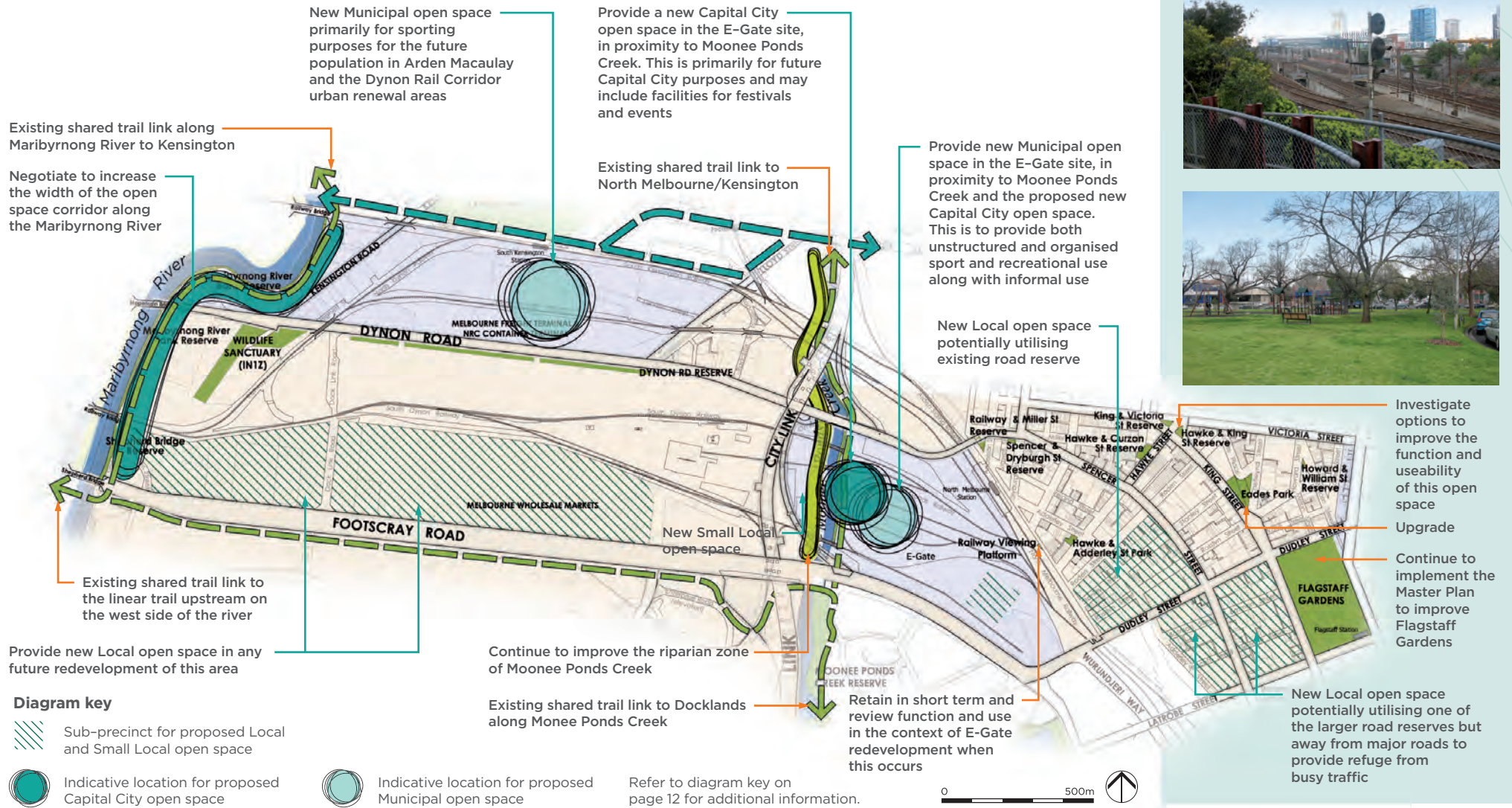
Change is forecast in parts of West Melbourne, including at E-Gate and in the Dynon Rail Corridor urban renewal area. A new Municipal open space is proposed in the Dynon Rail Corridor to provide organised and unstructured sport and recreation facilities for the future population in the north-west.

In E-Gate new Capital City and Municipal open space is proposed. The Municipal open space accommodates organised and unstructured sport and recreation facilities and informal use. The Capital City open space will be used for major events and festivals.

A series of other smaller open spaces are proposed in West Melbourne to improve accessibility and diversity of open space for the existing and future population. This includes providing additional open spaces that are protected from through traffic with natural features as a contrast to the built urban character. Flagstaff Gardens will remain a key area of open space that is highly valued and well used by people living and working in West Melbourne and Melbourne 3000 central city.



# West Melbourne



# Implementation

## Overview

The projects in this strategy will be implemented over a 15 year timeframe. To achieve the major new open spaces the City of Melbourne will work in partnership with the Victorian Government and the development industry. The planning for the major new open spaces needs to occur early in the planning process for urban renewal areas to ensure that adequate land area is set aside. Smaller open spaces will be created through site redevelopment and conversion of government land.

## Responsibilities

The City of Melbourne will take a lead implementation role. Successful implementation will require the following:

- The Victorian Government contributes to the future Capital City and Regional open space network on behalf of the international and statewide visitors.
- The Victorian Government converts state owned land to provide the land area for the additional Municipal open space network.
- The development industry provides open space contributions (cash or land) on behalf of the forecast population towards additional land area and capital works to achieve the strategy outcomes.
- The City of Melbourne provides facilities and open space land area on behalf of the existing community open space needs.

## Funding

Funding for the capital works and land acquisition 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.
- Open space contributions with rates of 8 per cent and 5 per cent to be established in the City of Melbourne Planning Scheme. These contributions will be required as a land and/or a cash contribution at Council's discretion.

## Next steps

- Implement the open space contribution rate/s in the planning scheme.
- Undertake detailed investigations into the provision of additional open spaces identified in the strategy in existing and urban renewal areas.
- Continue to implement master plans for major parks including upgrade works.
- Plan for and upgrade existing open spaces as identified in the precinct recommendations.



### How to contact us

**Online:** [melbourne.vic.gov.au](http://melbourne.vic.gov.au)

**Telephone:** 03 9658 9658  
7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday  
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03 9280 0718 Ελληνικά  
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03 9280 0721 國語  
03 9280 0722 Soomaali  
03 9280 0723 Español  
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03 9280 0725 Việt Ngữ  
03 9280 0726 All other languages

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**CITY OF MELBOURNE**