



# City of Melbourne Open Space Strategy

## Technical Report

# City of Melbourne Open Space Strategy Technical Report

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June 2012

## Explanatory note:

This Open Space Strategy Technical Report provides the supporting technical research, analysis and detailed recommendations for the *City of Melbourne Open Space Strategy (2012)*

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Consultation Report on household survey outcomes completed during the research phase of the strategy

#### Appendix B

Report on the survey outcomes on the Draft Open Space Strategy



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 The value of open space in the City of Melbourne

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, education, 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.

Diversity is a core strength and feature of open space in the City of Melbourne. This diversity ranges from historical gardens to expansive parks, major sporting reserves, local parks, smaller urban spaces, forecourts and unique squares within the municipality. The diversity of open space offers a variety of informal,

unstructured and organised sport and recreation opportunities for residents, workers and visitors alike.

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. Today the Yarra River flows through the central city with linear open space to the both sides. It is highly valued and cherished, particularly the open space along the Yarra River which provides a unique setting and venue for characteristic Melbourne events including Moomba and the New Year's Eve celebrations.

The river is used regularly for rowing and other water-based sports like kayaking and also as a transport corridor for visitors to the city, particularly between the central city and the sports and entertainment precinct. The linear open space connects some of Melbourne's prominent open spaces including the Royal Botanic Gardens, The Tan, Queen Victoria Gardens, Melbourne Park, Olympic Park and the MCG. Facilities include major sport and entertainment venues, high quality community sporting facilities, shared trails, running/walking trail, picnic facilities, seating, playgrounds, informal open grassed areas and seats in the shade for quiet contemplation. The diverse facilities attract thousands of people each day including international visitors, interstate visitors and people from metropolitan Melbourne, regional Victoria and the local resident and worker population.

For many years settlement turned its back on the waterways and harbour causing degradation to 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. Other significant land use located along the Maribyrnong River includes the Flemington Racecourse and The Port of Melbourne. Moonee Ponds Creek provides north south connectivity and includes Port of Melbourne and major road and rail transport use at its interface.

The City of Melbourne has large natural open space areas in close proximity to the central city including Treasury Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens, King's Domain, Alexandra Gardens, Royal Botanical Gardens, Flagstaff Gardens, Carlton Gardens and the banks of the Yarra River. Access to these natural areas close to the city centre is a key feature of Melbourne's open space and an important consideration when developing structure plans for urban renewal areas. Recreational and visual access to the Yarra River, Victoria Harbour and Maribyrnong River are values associated with the open space that adjoins the waterways and there is potential to improve the integration between land and water based activities as water quality improves.

The natural character of open space supports environmental values and benefits. Natural open space provides water storage, reuse and water quality improvement; cleans the air through the presence of trees; cools spaces with shade; reduces the impact of wind with canopy trees and vegetation; and



reduces reflected heat with natural rather than hard paved surfaces. Recent research undertaken by Deakin University has found that natural open space contributes positively to people's health and wellbeing by reducing stress, boosting immunity, enhancing productivity and promoting healing. Open space is highly valued by residents for the respite that open space provides to inner city living, as a place where they can go to relax and unwind, and enjoy the views, shade and natural space as a contrast to the urban form, traffic noise and the pace of urban life.

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.

Over 14 per cent of the total municipal area of the City of Melbourne is open space. This provides a good balance with other land uses, particularly the contrast of open space with the high densities of the surrounding built form and the intensification of the central city. Smaller urban open spaces such as Federation Square are important gathering places that accommodate large numbers of people for a range of different events, which create public meeting places in the centre of Melbourne. There are many smaller areas of open space in the municipality that also function well as gathering and meeting places such as the City Square and the State Library Forecourt, and this contributes to social connectedness and safety in the city.

While overall the municipality has a good diversity of open space, some areas of the City of Melbourne lack adequate open space now. In addition, areas which are forecast to experience significant population growth are likely to need new open space, and this may include locations which are already inadequately provided for with open space.

Refer to Figure 1(a) Existing Open Space in the City of Melbourne on the following page for the location of the open space including parks, gardens, reserves, waterways and squares.



THOMPSON BERRILL LANDSCAPE DESIGN P/L in association with Environment & Land Management P/L



**DRAWING KEY**

- EXISTING OPEN SPACE NOT ZONED AS PPRZ OR PCRZ
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE (PPRZ) INCLUDING OPEN SPACE DATA AS SUPPLIED BY CoM
- EXISTING OPEN SPACE RESTRICTED ZONED PPRZ
- ADJOINING OPEN SPACE
- COMMERCIAL USE (BUSINESS 1 ZONE)
- INDUSTRIAL LAND
- PUBLIC USE ZONE 2 EDUCATION
- SPECIAL USE ZONE 3 (PRIVATE EDUCATION)
- PUBLIC USE ZONE 3 (HEALTH & COMMUNITY)
- EXISTING PORT OF MELBOURNE LAND USE
- FLEMINGTON RACECOURSE
- TRAIN STATIONS & RAILWAYS
- EXISTING ROAD
- OPEN SPACE PRECINCT BOUNDARY
- MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY

**EXISTING OPEN SPACE CITY OF MELBOURNE OPEN SPACE STRATEGY**

JUNE 2012  
MOSS-01 V7  
0 1 2 3 4 5  
1.5km

FIGURE 1(a) Existing open space in the City of Melbourne



## 1.2 Strategy scope and purpose

The Open Space Strategy will provide the overarching framework and strategic direction for open space planning in the City of Melbourne for the next 15 years. The strategy includes consideration of the forecast population change based on the exhibited *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)* and provides the strategic basis for an open space contributions framework.

The strategy will enable us to:

- Provide an accessible open space network where the majority of people live and work within a 10 minute walk of open space.
- Liaise with the Victorian Government so that additional major open spaces can be provided in the centres of future growth for Melbourne, reinforcing and expanding its role as the capital city of the State of Victoria.
- Provide a network of diverse neighbourhood and local open spaces as the population grows so that Melbourne continues to be one of the world's most liveable cities.
- Improve the quality and design of the existing open spaces where needed to cater to the existing and forecast population, biodiversity and urban heat mitigation.
- Provide a set of prioritised actions for open space within the municipal context.
- Provide a strategic basis for an open space contributions framework that delivers additional high quality open space for the forecast future population.

## 1.3 Definition of open space

### 1.3.1 Introduction and background

Open space is a broad term that can be used to describe all land that does not contain buildings and structures. It can include public and private land. Public land is generally referred to as the 'public realm'. This strategy is about public open space and in particular certain types of public open space. These types of open space are a sub-set of the public realm.

The public open space addressed in this strategy includes the parks, gardens, reserves and large public gathering spaces. These are typically set aside for outdoor recreation, nature conservation and passive enjoyment and are open to the sky. Many of the larger parks and gardens were set aside during the early establishment of Melbourne to provide residents and workers with access to open space, as this was considered important during the industrial revolution in the mid-1800s. These large public open spaces today are highly valued and used by the local population and visitors from across Victoria, Australia and overseas. In planning for the future, the City of Melbourne recognises the need to plan for the public open space requirements of the forecast growth in our community.

This strategy supports the successful integration of public open space, the public realm and the private realm. It identifies the need for additional and improvements to the existing public open space including parks, gardens, reserves and larger public gathering space. Many of the existing and future additional public open spaces will benefit from improvements to the adjoining streets including traffic calming, pedestrianisation and healthy street trees. These types of improvements in the adjoining streets are guided by other strategies including the *Draft Urban Forest Strategy* and the *Draft Urban Design Strategy*. Open space improvements and new open space will be designed to integrate with the surrounding streetscapes, laneways and other public spaces around major infrastructure and buildings that together make up the public realm.

This strategy includes an open space contributions framework to support new, expanded or improved open space for the population that will locate in the City of Melbourne over the life of the strategy. The open space contributions framework includes a contribution rate of 8 per cent and 5 per cent, and the relevant rate will be applied to development sites depending on their location. The contribution comprises the percentage of the site's land area to be set aside for public open space or an equivalent cash payment based on the site value of undeveloped land. The rate will be applied to all eligible subdivisions and contributions will be spent in respect of land that is reserved for public open space, recreation and nature conservation. The contribution program is required to deliver public open space acquisition and capital projects that will meet the needs of the forecast new local population. This is one component of the proposed full program of recommendations to implement the outcomes of the Strategy for both the existing and forecast community. The contributions framework also relies on the Victorian Government contributing additional major areas of open space for a range of purposes.

### **1.3.2 Definition of open space for this strategy**

The definition used in this *City of Melbourne Open Space Strategy* is:

*All 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.*

Throughout the strategy public open space is referred to as 'open space'.

### **1.3.3 Ancillary open space**

Ancillary open space refers to other parts of the public realm such as streetscapes and the urban spaces between buildings. The existing and future design and provision of ancillary open space is guided by a range of other documents including structure plans, streetscape designs and other strategies.

School and university grounds are termed ancillary open space for the purposes of this strategy, especially where schools and universities can partner with the

City of Melbourne. School and university grounds can contain facilities that are similar to those found in open space including playgrounds, multipurpose courts, sports fields and outdoor seating areas. However, school and university land is not reserved for open space, and it can be sold for other purposes or converted through building construction. An example is an educational institution that requires additional buildings. The new buildings can be located on open land within the site, thereby changing its open space values.

Other public land that falls into the category of ancillary open space includes the Melbourne General Cemetery in Carlton, Flemington Racecourse and encumbered land associated with major transport corridors including the land under the West Gate Freeway, CityLink Tollway, railways and the encumbered land adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek.

The distinction between public open space and ancillary open space is that non-recreation based uses are the priority for these other areas. In some instances the land may be encumbered by this use for example overshadowed by freeways or subject to frequent flooding, and therefore their design and use as open space is significantly impacted by these other uses or encumbrances. Ancillary open space complements the public open space network, however it should not be considered as a replacement for public open space unless it is unencumbered, and can be formally recognised for this purpose and rezoned as public open space.

It is important that this strategy focuses on ensuring there is adequate provision of open space and facilities that will be retained for future generations, without inherent encumbrances to its use or the ability for that land to be sold or converted to another use without clear demonstration that it is no longer required by the community as open space.

#### **1.3.4 Publicly accessible private open space**

Publicly accessible private open space can complement the public open space system. Examples of publicly accessible private open space are church grounds and private building forecourts. These are not relied on as a replacement for public open space where the City of Melbourne does not have direct control over them. These areas contribute to the quality of the urban landscape, can have some benefits in mitigation of the urban heat island effect associated with climate change, and contribute to the landscape character of an area, however they can be redesigned or replaced at any time at the private land owner's discretion. Public access to these spaces can also be restricted at any time and limitations on public use and behaviour can be imposed by the private owner. Therefore publicly accessible private open space may contribute to the character and amenity of the public realm but is not a replacement for public open space.

## 1.4 Vision and goals

### 1.4.1 Community vision and goals

The Council Plan 2009 - 2013 outlines the following community vision:

*A bold, inspirational and sustainable city*

*Six goals to achieve this vision include:*

- *a city of people*
- *a creative city*
- *a prosperous city*
- *a city of knowledge*
- *an eco-city*
- *a connected city*

Open space has an active role in supporting this vision, and this strategy guides the future provision and design of open space to meet this overall vision and goals.

### 1.4.2 How the open space strategy delivers these goals

#### **A city of people**

- Open space that is easily accessible (within a 10 minute walk) to people of all ages, abilities, health, gender and culture.
- Open space designed to encourage people to exercise, socialise, relax, rest, play, be outside which all contribute to their health and wellbeing.
- Holding events in open space encouraging the community who live and work nearby to socialise and visit these spaces as an integral part of their neighbourhood.

#### **A creative city**

- Creative, innovative and inspirational open spaces in both their design and management that fosters the creative spirit of the City of Melbourne.
- Staging events in open space that support and promote creativity.
- Local open spaces that reflect the creativity of the community who live and work around it.

#### **A prosperous city**

- Continue to provide major sport and event venues that facilitate Melbourne and the State of Victoria attracting major international events like the Australian Open and the Commonwealth Games.
- Continue to provide an adequate amount of high quality open space so that Melbourne continues to be one of the world's most liveable cities, attracting businesses and residents to locate in the municipality.
- Open space that continues to support the vibrancy and role of Melbourne as the capital of the State of Victoria.



- Open space that is flexible and adaptable allowing the City of Melbourne to adapt to changing needs in the future.

#### **A city of knowledge**

- Open space that caters well to the large student population that lives in the knowledge precinct, supporting this long established tradition.
- Open space that serves the workers in the knowledge precinct.
- Innovative solutions to the provision, design and use of open space.

#### **An eco-city**

- Open space that supports and encourages sustainable water use.
- Open space that plays a key role in mitigating urban heat build up.
- Open space that provides space for large trees to assist with carbon sequestration and cooling the spaces in the summer.
- Open space that encourages sustainable forms of transport including walking and cycling.
- Improve the ecological and biodiversity values of open space.

#### **A connected city**

- A linked and accessible open space network that connects to key facilities in the population centres, encouraging people to meet and socialise.
- A linked open space system that strengthens native habitat connectivity and biodiversity.





## 2. Strategic context

### 2.1 The importance of open space to the community

Melbourne is identified as one of the world's most liveable cities. The measurement of liveability takes into account five main areas including stability, health care, culture and environment, education, and infrastructure. Open space contributes to liveability and a vibrant working community in Melbourne.

During the research phase of this strategy, a survey was distributed to all households in the City of Melbourne to gain an understanding of what is important about open space. Just over 1,400 surveys were completed and returned and the results of these has informed the development of this strategy along with other forms of research including site assessments, consultation with City of Melbourne officers and research into current best practice. The results of this survey are compiled in a separate background report to the strategy, dated May 2011 and included in Appendix A. Subsequently, the Draft Open Space Strategy was exhibited for four months and the feedback on the draft confirmed the directions and feedback received in the survey from the research phase.

The local community highly value open space, particularly for the choice and variety of open space, the close proximity of open space to their place of work or residence and the quality of the spaces. Residents nominate open space as one of the key reasons they choose to live in the City of Melbourne. The community is aware of continued development and growth in the municipality, and would like to ensure that all existing open space is retained and additional open space is provided to cater for population growth. The ability to access green, tranquil open space is noted as being of increasing importance as building density and height continues to expand.

Environmental sustainability is a key consideration raised by the community via the strategy household survey, especially sustainable water use including alternative water sources to maintain the trees and gardens in times of drought.

Trees are the most highly valued feature in open space, and watering trees was given the highest priority in relation to overall water use in open space via the 2009 Park Satisfaction Survey.

The intangible qualities of open space were important to more than 70 per cent of the household survey respondents. These qualities include open space as a place that is quiet and peaceful, an escape from the urban environment, a place to be outdoors in the fresh air, and as a place to relax and unwind. These were also supported by the outcomes of council's Park Satisfaction Survey that identified people visit open space so that they can be outdoors and to relax as a break from work. This direction was further supported in the feedback on the draft strategy included in Appendix B.

The most popular open spaces visited by the respondents to the strategy household survey include:

- Royal Botanic Gardens (this may also include visits to The Tan and King's Domain)
- Fitzroy Gardens
- Royal Park
- Carlton Gardens
- Yarra Trail.

The major reasons people visit open space include:

- walking
- exercising
- jogging
- relaxation/ambience
- dog walking
- travelling through on their way to somewhere else.

The City of Melbourne *Children's Plan* identifies that children value spending time in parks and that children particularly like the grass, trees and flowers and they would like to see more of these in the municipality. The *Children's Plan* notes that children like visiting the playgrounds and using the equipment although they would like to ensure there is equipment for younger as well as older children. The plan notes that children value the open space as a place away from traffic, where there are only bicycles and pedestrians and you can take your dog for a walk.

During both phases of consultation, the community expressed the need to ensure there is no further loss of open space to development and that additional open space is required as urban densities increase across the municipality in the future.

## 2.2 Relevant City of Melbourne and Victorian Government policies and strategies

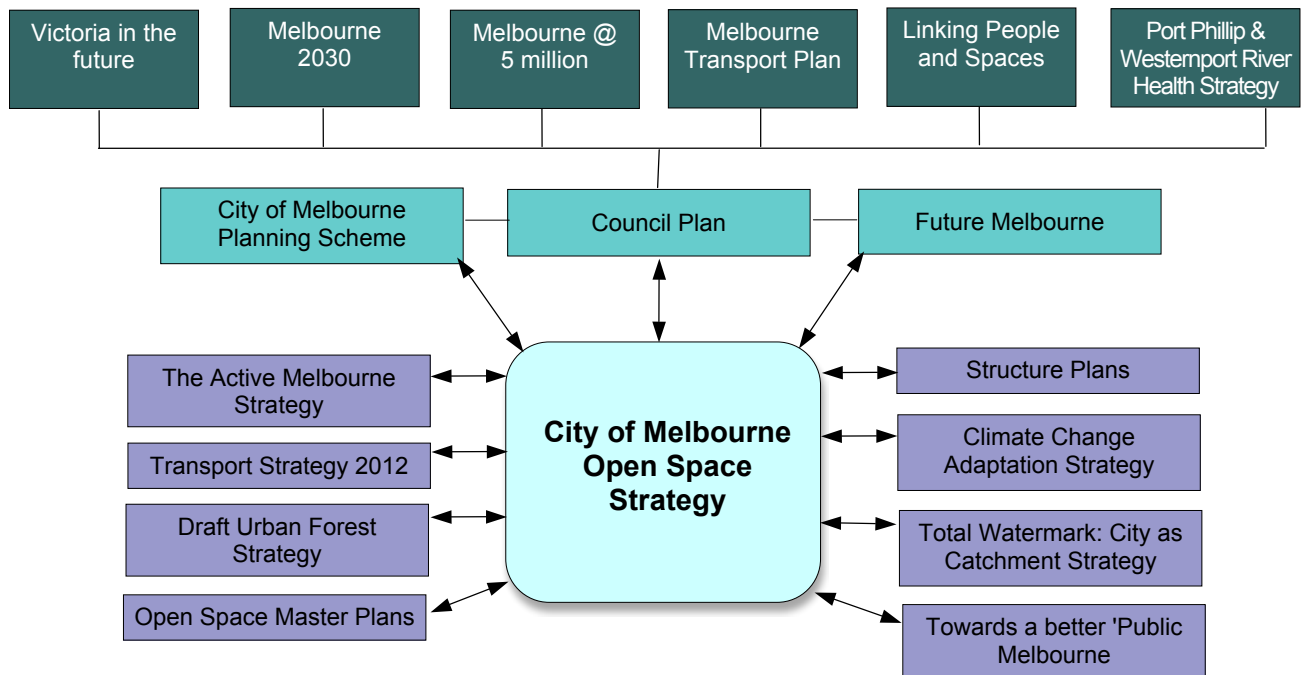
The City of Melbourne has undertaken an extensive planning exercise to re-vision the future of the municipality. The results of this are shown in the *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)* and will transform the central city and the adjoining suburbs to the north and north west of the centre. This direction is consistent with the Victorian Government's forward transport planning including the new metro rail tunnel link that will provide new Metro Stations in the municipality. The long-term aim of the *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)* is to ensure there is a vibrant, mixed-use municipal core surrounded by more stable neighbourhoods and heritage precincts. There will be a substantial increase in both residents and employment along with the renewal of some areas.

In addition to the draft Municipal Strategic Statement, other major policies that underpin the principles and directions in this strategy include:

- The Victorian Government is in the process of preparing a new Metropolitan Planning Strategy. In the interim, *Melbourne 2030*, and *Melbourne @ 5 Million: a planning update to Melbourne 2030* provide guidance at the state level.
- The *City of Melbourne Council Plan* incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan.
- Structure plans for the urban renewal areas.
- The *City of Melbourne Climate Change Adaptation Strategy* (2009), which provides overall direction and support to climate change adaptation measures included in the *Open Space Strategy*.
- The *Total Watermark: City as a catchment* (City of Melbourne, 2009) which supports many of the principles regarding sustainable water use currently being implemented in the parks and gardens, and supported to be continued in this strategy.
- The *Draft Urban Forest Strategy* (City of Melbourne, 2011) which provides the framework and direction for the ongoing management of trees in the public realm, including open space.
- The *Active Melbourne Strategy - A plan for physical activity* (2007) which provides overall direction and support for recreation use of open space.
- The *City of Melbourne Transport Strategy* (2012), which includes direction for managing the road transport network including promoting cycle and pedestrian use of roads.
- The *Towards a better 'Public Melbourne' Draft Urban Design Strategy* (2006) which guides the direction for all public realm in the municipality.
- A range of current master plans for existing major open spaces in the municipality.

Figure 2(a) illustrates diagrammatically key documents that inform this Strategy.

Figure 2(a) Diagram illustrating the key relevant policies and strategies





## 3. Open space framework

### 3.1 Standards for provision of open space

#### 3.1.1 Overview

Open space in the municipality was set aside as early as the 1840s, once Crown Land was able to be reserved for specific purposes after 1842. Royal Park, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens and King's Domain were all set aside prior to 1850. From the 1850s through to the 1870s many of the major parks and gardens in Melbourne were established as part of Governor La Trobe's vision for Melbourne to be ringed by open space. The vision has served the community well over the years as Melbourne has expanded and intensified in the centre and to the east.

The municipality entered an era of substantial redevelopment from the 1980s onwards with urban renewal occurring in Kensington (former Newmarket Saleyards), Docklands (former Port of Melbourne Authority land), Southbank (former industrial land on the south side of the Yarra River) and the Melbourne 3000 central city (encouraging mixed use, particularly residential use back in to the central city). During this time some new open space has been added to the original network including Birrarung Marr, Southbank Boulevard, Riverside Park and Docklands Park.

Over the next 15 years, the municipality will experience further major change with the continued redevelopment of Docklands, Southbank and the Melbourne 3000 central city, and embarking on new urban renewal projects in North Melbourne, Kensington, West Melbourne, Carlton and Flemington. It is recommended that new open space will be added to the network in response to the continued growth of Melbourne.

During the recent decades of growth, Melbourne's major sporting events have continued to expand and there has consequently been some loss of open parkland that is available to the local community to use in order to provide built facilities catering to these major events including at Melbourne Park, Olympic Park, Royal Park and Yarra Park. There has also been a reduction in the number of sporting fields in the municipality to establish other features such as wetlands and revegetation areas.

This strategy provides direction for the provision of additional open space provision over the next 15 years to respond to planned urban redevelopment and for the municipality as a whole in accordance with the forecast population growth and redevelopment. The strategy accounts for the open space needs of both the existing and forecast population and for the role that the City of Melbourne plays as the capital city of the State of Victoria.

### **3.1.2 Various planning frameworks guiding the future provision of open space**

#### **3.1.2a Growth Areas Authority Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines**

The Victorian Growth Areas Authority published *Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines* (2009). These include a section on open space that is designed to guide future open space provision in greenfield developments for the designated growth corridors of metropolitan Melbourne. The principles for open space provision in the greenfield areas can also be considered in relation to the large scale urban renewal areas within existing urban areas as is currently proposed in parts of the City of Melbourne. This is due to the substantial change in land use and population being proposed in areas that were formerly primarily industrial and storage areas. These areas of urban renewal are planned to be converted to high density mixed use areas that include significantly increased residential and non-residential populations.

The provision of open space guidelines, as contained in the GAA *Precinct Structure Planning Guidelines* include, in summary:

- Local parks within 400 metres safe walking distance of 95 per cent of all dwellings.
- Active open space within 1 kilometre of 95 per cent of all dwellings.
- Linear parks and trails within 1 kilometre of 95 per cent of all dwellings.
- 10 per cent of the land area for residential development to be provided as open space, with 6 per cent as active open space.
- In addition to 10 per cent open space, residential precincts should contain indoor recreation facilities.
- In major employment areas, approximately 2 per cent of the net developable area is to be set aside as public open space, usually with a passive recreation function.
- Encumbered land should be used productively for open space. Encumbered land usually includes land retained for drainage, electricity, biodiversity and cultural heritage purposes.



- Active open space should generally require at least 8 hectares.
- Both quality and quantity of open space is important.

When these guidelines are applied to the urban renewal areas in practice, the land areas nominated are not necessarily feasible, however they provide a comparison for reference during the ongoing implementation of the strategy. Refer to section 3.1.2e for further information on how these have informed this strategy.

### 3.1.2b London's open space planning guidelines

Between 1999 and 2011, the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) was the British Government's advisor on architecture, urban design and public space. CABE undertook extensive research into various aspects of public open space, including developing the document *Open Space Strategies Best Practice Guidance 2009* with the Greater London Authority. These guidelines for provision of open space are shown in the following Table 3(i).

**Table 3(i) London's public open space hierarchy**

Open space categorisation	Size guidelines	Distance from home
Regional parks	400 hectares	3.2 to 8 kilometres
Metropolitan parks	60 hectares	3.2 kilometres
District Parks	20 hectares	1.2 kilometres
Local parks and open spaces	2 hectares	400 metres
Small open spaces	Under 2 hectares	Less than 400 metres
Pocket parks	Under 0.4 hectares	Less than 400 metres
Linear open space	Variable	Wherever feasible

The London open space hierarchy system is generally consistent with the former Clause 56 standards in the Melbourne Planning Scheme, as described below. These have informed the development of the open space use hierarchy in this strategy, as described further in section 3.1.2e.

### 3.1.2c Melbourne Planning scheme

The open space standards in Clause 56 of all Victorian planning schemes were modified in line with growth area planning. The previous standards were well accepted and they are applicable in existing established urban areas. These open space standards include:

*Provide a network of well-distributed Regional and Local open space that includes:*

- *Regional public open space where appropriate, including along foreshores, streams and permanent water bodies.*
- *Regional parks of at least 3 hectares, combining passive and active use, within 2 kilometres of all dwellings.*

- *Large local parks of at least 1 hectare for active and passive use, within 500 metres safe walking distance from all dwellings.*
- *Small local parks within 150 metres to 300 metres safe walking distance from all dwellings, where appropriate.*

### **3.1.2d Melbourne 2030**

*Melbourne 2030* (Direction 5) contains principles and directions for open space planning that include

- A Parkland Code that supports community involvement in open space planning; transparent planning processes; security for the future of open space; principles for disposal of open space; and maintenance or enhancement of diversity in the open space system.
- Parks Victoria is responsible for regional parks and trails, and for delivering its metropolitan strategic plan, *Linking People and Spaces*.
- Councils are to plan and manage their municipal open space.
- Open space is to be provided within reasonable walking distance of residents, with links to open space networks.

### **3.1.2e Conclusion**

These different open space planning frameworks have been considered in the relation to the current and future provision of open space in the municipality. This strategy has adopted a combination of elements from the different frameworks described to establish a use hierarchy system and a character classification system that creates a specific open space framework for the City of Melbourne.

The use hierarchy and specified walking distances have been applied to the existing open space system to identify current gaps in the open space network and inform the analysis of the open space that will be required in the future. The character classification system identifies the diversity of open space, and direction on maintaining and improving diversity in the future.

The open space framework for Melbourne described in Section 3.2 responds to both the incremental growth that will occur throughout the municipality, and can be applied to the existing and future urban renewal areas. The analysis and resultant recommendations after applying the principles of this framework are described by precinct in Sections 6, 7 and 8 of this strategy.

## 3.2 Open space use hierarchy for the City of Melbourne

### 3.2.1 Overview

The open space hierarchy and classification for this strategy defines the types of open space in the municipality. It is used to document the character, intended use and distribution of the existing open space, and assess what types of open space are required in the future.

The hierarchy describes the level and use of an open space, and the classification defines the character of the space which is described later in Section 3.3.

The hierarchy has been assigned to all individual open spaces based on the existing use and in some cases its size. The Capital City, State and Regional open space is not necessarily based on size given that these roles can be fulfilled by any size of open space. The other hierarchy types of Municipal, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space are more closely linked to size, as this is about the physical area available to accommodate the different levels of use.

### 3.2.2 Hierarchy

**Table 3(ii) Hierarchy of open space in the City of Melbourne**

Open Space	Size	Distance from the population	Purpose of open space
Capital City	Unlimited	No specific distance, as this open space is defined by its purpose	Iconic open space that is primarily established and managed to stage activities and events of international, national, state and metropolitan importance, catering to a broader public need. These spaces are synonymous with the character of the City of Melbourne and provide facilities that are known by and primarily for international and interstate visitors to Victoria and the City of Melbourne. Examples include Birrarung Marr, Domain Parklands, Federation Square, Royal Botanic Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens and the Yarra River Banks. Some have restricted access and include Melbourne Park, Olympic Park and the MCG.
State	Unlimited	No specific distance, as this open space is provided for a broad catchment of users	Open space that is primarily set aside and managed for the whole of the State of Victoria and are not integrally linked to the image of Melbourne as is the case with Capital City open space. These areas include Royal Park, Yarra Park and Goschs Paddock.

Open Space	Size	Distance from the population	Purpose of open space
Regional	Unlimited	No specific distance, as this open space is provided for a broad regional catchment	Primary purpose caters to a broader Melbourne-wide catchment of visitors, as well the local community. Generally these are easily accessible to people from adjoining municipalities and may be of regional recreational importance and use and/or regional environmental value. For example, linear open space along the waterways (other than those located through the central city adjacent to the Yarra River, which are designated as Capital City open space) with habitat connectivity in the riparian zone, and/or regional trails that extend beyond the City of Melbourne boundaries, or major features that attract people from a broader catchment than Melbourne. Examples include Princes Park, Maribyrnong River, Moonee Ponds Creek, Fawkner Park, Carlton Gardens North and Westgate Park.
Municipal	min 3 hectares*	Located within 2 kilometres of all dwellings	Open space that is valued and visited primarily by the City of Melbourne population, providing facilities that of a broader scale than those of a local or neighbourhood focus. For example this may include sporting facilities, or historical gardens. Examples include JJ Holland Park, North Melbourne Recreation Reserve and Powlett Reserve. * There can be some Municipal open space smaller than the min 3 hectares where the reserve is a specialised facility on a smaller area of land, and fulfills a Municipal function. Example: Powlett Reserve.
Neighbourhood	min 1 hectare	Located within 500 metres safe walking distance from all dwellings	Provides for Neighbourhood use within walking distance of home with a diversity of character and facilities that appeal to the local community at a neighbourhood level. This means a family or groups of people can visit the park for an extended time, with a suitable range of facilities to meet their different needs. Examples include Argyle Square and Docklands Park.
Local	Minimum of 0.26 up to 0.99 hectares.	Located within 300 metres safe walking distance from all dwellings	Located within easy safe walking distance of home and large enough to provide for at least two activities in the one open space reserve - eg. a playground and open grassed area with seats. These are generally more intimate spaces that are not intended for large groups. Examples include Clayton Reserve, Jolimont Reserve, MacArthur Square and Sturt Street Reserve
Small Local	Minimum of 0.03 up to 0.25 hectares	Located within 300 metres safe walking distance from all dwellings	Located within easy safe walking distance of home and generally able to accommodate a single use including rest and relaxation, play, socialising, urban heat mitigation, contact with nature and memorial. Examples include Bellair Street Reserve, Chapman Street Reserve, Peppercorn Park and Golden Elm Reserve.

Open Space	Size	Distance from the population	Purpose of open space
Small Local Link	Usually less than 0.03 hectares	Not applicable	These areas of open space provide improved connectivity between streets and open space reserves. They are less than 0.03 hectares in size and only provide for the single use of a path connection between streets or open space reserves. Examples include Barring Walk and parts of the Stockyard route in Kensington.

### 3.2.3 Analysis of the hierarchy

The hierarchy has been assigned to all existing open space and the nominated walking distances applied where relevant to develop the open space distribution plan – refer to Drawing MOSS-02. Application of the hierarchy is further explained in Section 4 of this strategy.

**Table 3(iii) Summary of open space by hierarchy in City of Melbourne**

OPEN SPACE HIERARCHY	NO. OF RESERVES	AREA (ha)	AREA (m <sup>2</sup> )	PROPORTION OF TOTAL OPEN SPACE
Capital City	29	163.03	1,630,283	29.7%
State	4	194.25	1,942,540	35.3%
Regional	20	134.59	1,345,910	24.5%
Municipal	6	22.11	221,104	4.0%
Neighbourhood	9	13.33	133,335	2.4%
Local	24	16.90	168,998	3.1%
Small Local	44	4.97	49,677	0.9%
Small Local Link	13	0.59	5,898	0.1%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>549.77</b>	<b>5,497,745</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Restricted open space	10	97.73	977,264	15.1%
Total including restricted open space	159	647.50	6,475,009	

Table 3(iii) indicates that the approximately 65 per cent of the total open space land area in the municipality is Capital City and State open space. Adding Regional open space to the Capital City and State open space brings this to nearly 90 per cent of the total land area of open space being provided for others in addition to the local population. A proportion of the open space has restricted access on a fee-paying basis including the MCG, Melbourne Park, Olympic Park, Melbourne Zoological Gardens, Royal Park Golf Course, the State Netball and Hockey Centre along with other sites including the Richmond Football Club and Carlton Football Club grounds. These restricted areas of open space have been excluded from the totals nominated above, given they are not generally available to the public, and are shown at the end of Table 3 (iii). Restricted open space represents 15 per cent of the total open space in the municipality.



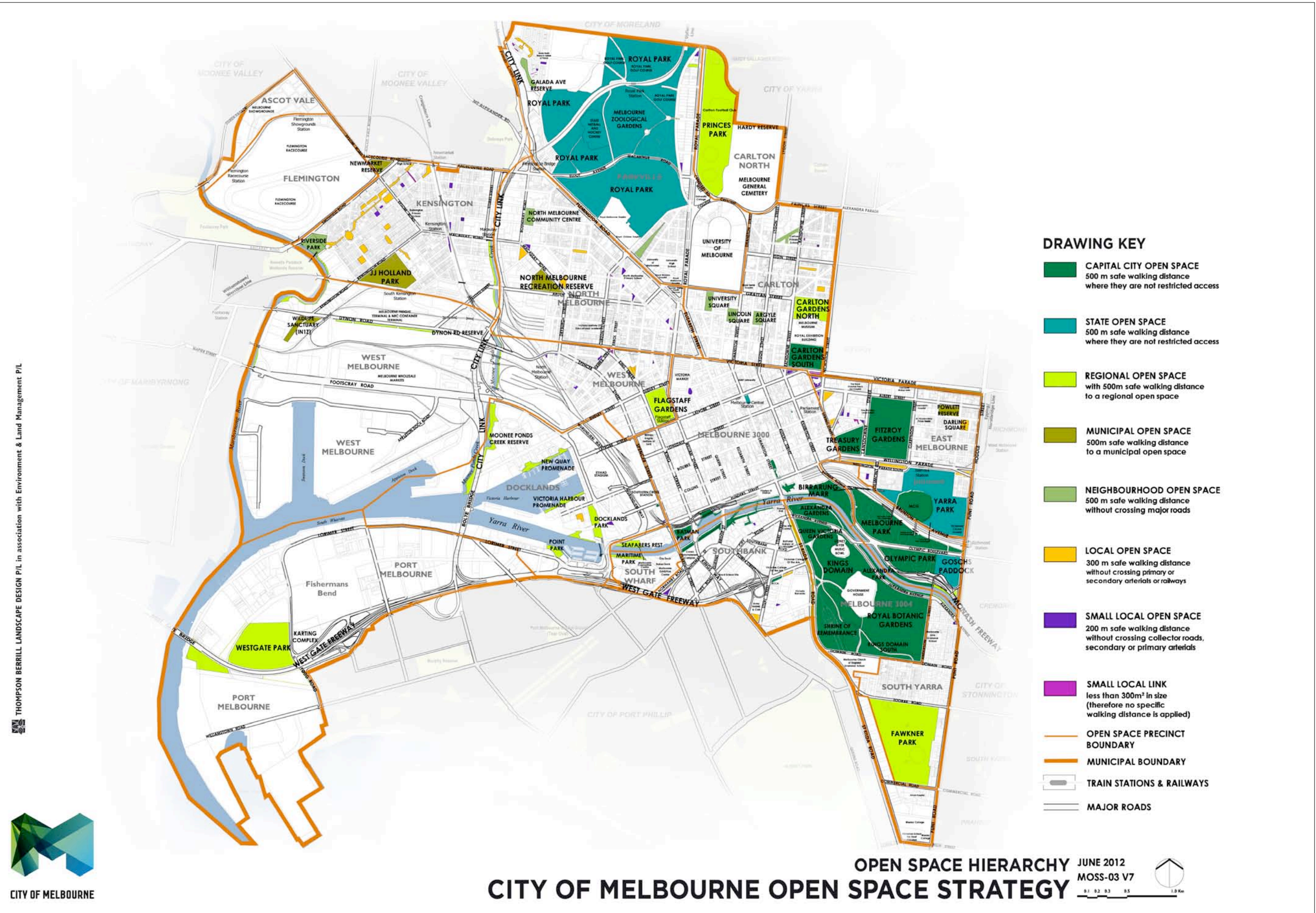


FIGURE 3(a) Open space hierarchy in the City of Melbourne





### 3.2.4 Conclusions

The presence of the Capital City and State open space supports the role of the City of Melbourne as the capital of the State of Victoria. Regional open space also draws visitors from beyond the municipal boundary, and this will continue to be an important consideration in the future. Therefore, this strategy analyses the open space needs of both the local population and the wider visitor group in making recommendations about its future provision and design to ensure adequate open space is provided at both the local and capital city level. The analysis identifies potential areas where different types of open space may be lacking and where additional open space is required to make sure that open space can continue as a strength of the City of Melbourne, attract international and interstate visitors, and ensure that Melbourne remains one of the most liveable cities in the world.

## 3.3 Open space character classification

### 3.3.1 Overview

Open space has different characteristics and this influences the way in which open space is used and valued. Open space character is influenced by a range of factors including its location, level of development and interface with adjoining land use and urban form. The purpose of developing a character classification system is to quantify and assess the different types of open space provided in each precinct and whether there is adequate diversity of character to suit the existing and the forecast future community. The overall quantity of each type of character is not as relevant as their distribution at a precinct level. This will influence future recommendations in the strategy related to upgrading the design and facilities in both existing and future open space. Each open space is assigned a primary classification with one or more secondary classifications where applicable.

The analysis of the character classification at the precinct level informs which character may be required in new open spaces to maintain diversity in the future. It is anticipated that the City of Melbourne will use this as a tool to guide future design directions for open space, once the actual spaces are determined.

### 3.3.2 Character classification

**Table 3(iii) Character classification for open space in the City of Melbourne**

Character Classification	Description
Botanical	Where there is a significant botanical collection or where there is botanical interest. This can apply to indigenous and non-indigenous vegetation.
Civic space	Open space at the entrance to civic buildings and monuments,

Character Classification	Description
	of a size that allows for passive outdoor use such as seating, resting, gathering and viewing.
Events	Where events are regularly scheduled and held contributing to the character, design and function of the space.
Formal	Where the design and layout of the open space is formal in character.
Heritage	Where the presence of Indigenous and non-Indigenous history makes a significant contribution to the open space character and use.
Informal use	Primarily designed for non-active uses such as seating, play, viewing, strolling, picnic areas and social gatherings.
Linear	Linked or continuous reserves that are used primarily for travelling through or along. These reserves are located along waterways, drainage lines, easements and roads.
Linking space	Where open space provides a local link or connection between streets or individual open space reserves and is not part of a linear network.
Nature conservation	Where there is intent to protect and/or improve the biodiversity habitat values. This may include reserves with existing values, or those identified to have potential to provide this in the future.
Play	Where the character of the open space is dominated by a play facility and this is its primary purpose.
Railway easement/siding	Open space (other than linear) where the railway significantly influences the future use and design of the open space.
Recreation	Designed for unstructured recreation use including multipurpose courts, shared trails and paths, fitness equipment, open grassed areas for ball games etc. These are non club-based recreation activities and are available for the general community to use as required free of charge.
Restricted sporting/recreation	Available on a club membership or fee-paying basis only and not available for general public use at any time. This includes golf courses, tennis courts, bowling clubs and may also include facilities such as community gardens in the future
Seating/viewing	Where the character and major use of the open space is for seating and viewing.
Service easement	Open space where the level of use, design and management is influenced by the presence of services.
Significant road reservation	Road reserves of a significant size or width to contribute to the open space network for nature conservation, visual landscape or recreational use. This classification recognises the land's primary use and influence of the transport corridors, which can restrict the type and diversity of use possible in each these reserves.

Character Classification	Description
Sporting	Primarily provides for organised club-based sporting use and where the outdoor grounds and facilities are available for general public use when no organised sporting events are in progress or training.
Square	Where the facilities and open space respond to the surrounding development layout and character.
Undeveloped	Open space that has not been developed and contains little or no constructed facilities.
Urban plaza	The surrounding urban setting significantly influences the character and function of the space. These spaces are primarily located in commercial, or business precincts and are used as public places (eg. without commercial premises tables etc taking up more than 50 per cent of the space). A range of other urban design strategies and planning frameworks can guide these spaces.
Water feature	The presence of a wetland, lake or other water feature that makes a significant contribution to the value, character and use of the open space.
Waterway	The presence of a waterway makes a significant contribution to the character, value and use of the open space.

### 3.3.3 Analysis of future provision of open space character types

Overall, there is a good distribution of different open space character types in the municipality, reinforced by the strategy survey outcomes that identified diversity as a key strength of Melbourne's open space. The strategy supports the inclusion of a diverse range of additional open spaces, as well as ongoing upgrades to existing areas to refine the existing character, particularly in what are currently defined as informal and undeveloped spaces.

### 3.3.4 Conclusions

Some character types within the municipality will be expanded over the life of this strategy and these include (in alphabetical order):

#### Heritage

Opportunities for future provision of open space in areas of extensive urban renewal and within the existing urban fabric of the municipality are likely to partly be focussed around protection of the Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage values. This includes church grounds, heritage buildings, established vegetation or natural features. Retaining a sense of our urban history and layering of these uses in the urban renewal areas can enrich both the historical and contemporary cultural heritage values of open space.

### **Linear**

It is likely additional linear open space will be added to the network to improve the connectivity between existing areas and the urban renewal areas. This will be particularly important in achieving improved links to the north and west including links to North Melbourne and Kensington via the Moonee Ponds Creek, north to Flemington along the Maribyrnong River and east west connections from the Moonee Ponds Creek to the Maribyrnong River.

### **Sporting**

The City of Melbourne Recreation Services Team has identified that additional open space is required for community sport and recreation to meet the needs of the forecast future population. This will include additional land area for the forecast population in Docklands, Southbank, West Melbourne, Arden Macaulay and City North to overcome existing gaps in municipal sporting open space. The size and type of facilities will require further articulation as the strategy is implemented. In Southbank, Arden Macaulay and Docklands additional indoor facilities are identified as potentially required in the ancillary open space under the existing freeways.

### **Restricted sporting/recreation**

The state level restricted sporting/recreation facilities are located in Capital City and State open space. The need for and location of these facilities is frequently beyond the City of Melbourne's direct decision-making and control. The strategy highlights the need for community based organised sport, unstructured recreation and informal use of open space, and loss of open parkland to restricted facilities is not a preferred outcome for this strategy. Additional community based restricted sport and recreation use of open space is also not preferred and will only be considered where there is a clear demonstrated need for this. Refer to further discussion of this issue in Section 5.

### **Water feature**

The presence of water features in open space may potentially increase over the next 15 years. This will be in response to the need for sustainable water use and implementation of the *Total Watermark Cities as a Catchment Strategy*, creating cooler spaces that assist to mitigate the build up of urban heat in urban areas. Creating the cooler spaces may include the installation of water quality treatment wetlands and water features utilising sustainable water sources that also deliver other benefits including increased biodiversity and varied landscape character settings for unstructured and informal use of open space.

### **Waterway**

The majority of open space adjoining the waterways is linear. There are some locations where the width of open space directly adjoining the waterways widens, thereby providing adequate room for a variety of facilities and a more expansive setting adjacent to the waterway. The strategy identifies available opportunities to vary the width of open space adjacent to the waterways, to support a broader range of functions and uses adjacent to the water, particularly along the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers.



## 4. Melbourne's existing open space network

### 4.1 Strengths of the existing open space network

#### 4.1.1 Major parks and gardens

##### 4.1.1a Overview of historical establishment of the major parks and gardens

Robert Hoddle (1794–1881), a senior surveyor with the New South Wales Government arrived in the settlement of Port Phillip in 1837. He prepared the plan for the new town of Melbourne and placed a grid over the landscape on the north side of the Yarra River, irrespective of existing settlement patterns and natural features. The Hoddle Grid was set out in 1837 and provided wide blocks and large road reserves.

Melbourne slowly developed from 1837 onwards. Settlers arriving from Europe, where the industrialisation of cities was occurring, expressed the need to provide public open space as a breathing space for people living in the city. In 1842 it became possible to reserve Crown Land for particular purposes, including open space. Once this arrangement was in place, early reserves were established as part of Governor La Trobe's vision of a green belt of parks encircling Melbourne including:

- Royal Park was originally part of four square miles (1,035 hectares) set aside north of the town in 1845.
- Royal Botanic Gardens was established in 1846.
- Fitzroy Square was the original name for Fitzroy Gardens and was established in 1848
- Domain Park in South Yarra was established in 1848.

- Western Hill was originally set aside as an open square for public recreation (20 hectares) on Batman's Hill, but later removed for railway construction.

Officially proclaimed as a city in 1847, by 1850 Melbourne had a population of 20,000 and was becoming an administrative and commercial centre servicing a sparsely populated hinterland that delivered primary products overseas. By 1850 the earliest suburbs were already established including North Melbourne (originally known as Hotham), Carlton, Fitzroy, Collingwood and Richmond. Victoria was established as a colony in its own right (separate from New South Wales) in 1851. Melbourne's population expanded rapidly after the discovery of gold with Melbourne effectively becoming the financial capital of Australia due to the gold rush.

The period from the mid 1850s through to the 1870s saw many of Melbourne's current parks and gardens established including:

- 1854 - Royal Park
- 1856 - Parliament Gardens
- 1857 - Carlton Gardens
- 1850s - Yarra Park, including fencing of the Melbourne Cricket Ground in 1853 and Richmond Cricket Ground in 1855
- 1862 - Zoological Gardens
- 1862 - Flagstaff Gardens
- 1862 - Fawkner Park
- 1867 - Treasury Gardens
- 1870s - King's Domain

Through the 1860s Royal Park and Yarra Park were modified to include a range of other uses, mostly for public purposes, such as hospitals, roads, tramways, schools and police stations.

The Royal Botanic Gardens was established in 1846 with the first Director being Ferdinand von Mueller, who was instrumental in the original botanical plantings and setting up the Herbarium. In the 1870s, William Guilfoyle became the new Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens and redesigned them based on picturesque garden design elements including the ornamental lake and landscape islands, sloping green lawns, serpentine paths, specimen trees and pavilions strategically placed for views. Guilfoyle also contributed to the design of other public gardens at this time including Parliament and Treasury Gardens and King's Domain.

The construction of the Royal Exhibition Buildings between 1879 and 1880 reinforced Melbourne's image of Marvellous Melbourne – with the International exhibition of 1880 reflecting the confidence and aspirations of the metropolis. The Exhibition Buildings and Carlton Gardens are inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List *'as the main extant survivors of a Palace of Industry and its setting, together reflect the global influence of the international exhibition movement of the early 19th and 20th centuries'* (Lovell Chen, 2011). This is significant for its continuity of use as an exhibition hall and because the Royal Exhibition Buildings became centres of exchange of progressive human values. Carlton Gardens themselves are valued as an example of the Gardenesque style and later use of classical design elements in Australian public garden, incorporating an axial system of paths and ornamental planting in parterre garden beds.

Federation boosted Victoria with the first sitting of Federal Parliament in the Royal Exhibition Buildings in Carlton Gardens in 1901. Federal Parliament was based in Melbourne until 1927 while Canberra and Parliament House was being constructed. During this time the State Government sat in the Royal Exhibition Buildings, while the Federal Parliament sat in the Victorian Parliament buildings.

During this expansive period in Melbourne's development, popular recreational activities of the day included canoeing along the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers. Boat sheds were established on the Yarra River close to Melbourne during the early 1900s, some of which remain today.

The established framework of large parks and gardens in Melbourne was set aside in the early stages of planning for Melbourne, and they are integral to the character of the city today. As Melbourne continues to expand into areas that have traditionally been set aside for industrial and railway uses, the foresight of planning an adequate framework of public open space is to be promoted by the City of Melbourne in partnership with the Victorian Government.

#### **4.1.1b Summary of the existing major parks and gardens currently managed by the City of Melbourne**

The following summary is in alphabetical order:

##### **Carlton Gardens (North and South)**

The Carlton Gardens form the essential and unique setting for the Royal Exhibition Buildings, both of which are included in the World Heritage List. The gardens were originally established in the 1850s and redesigned for the 1880 Melbourne International Exhibition and the 1888 Centennial International Exhibition. They are recognised as one of Australia's most significant heritage gardens. The complete site comprises the Royal Exhibition Building forecourts, Carlton Gardens North and Carlton Gardens South.

Carlton Gardens South was laid out in 1880 for the Melbourne International Exhibition and the features remain largely intact from that era. Management of this area focuses on retaining the original layout. Carlton Gardens North has traditionally been and will continue to be managed for local community use, within the context of also providing an important setting for the Melbourne Museum and visitors to this facility. The Royal Exhibition Building forecourts are key components of the site's World Heritage status, and they are managed to retain these values including some upgrades as outlined in the *Carlton Gardens Master Plan (2005)*.

##### **Domain Parklands**

Located south of the Yarra River and east of St Kilda Road. Domain Parklands includes King's Domain, King's Domain South, the Shrine of Remembrance, The Tan, Alexandra Gardens and Queen Victoria Gardens. Domain Parklands is noted as an important Indigenous meeting and camping place. After settlement and the start of the Gold Rush, early settlers camped temporarily at this site until they found permanent accommodation out in the goldfields. In the late 1850s Von

Mueller prepared a landscape plan for King's Domain and Government House and commenced plantings, and later Guilfoyle took on this role.

During WWI, outdoor concerts in King's Domain became popular, but it was not until the Sidney Myer Music Bowl was constructed in 1957 that the concerts could be effectively managed. The Victorian Government handed over management of King's Domain to the City of Melbourne in 1933 except for the Sidney Myer Music Bowl. Since that time, different aspects of Domain Parklands have developed, including the designation and construction of the Shrine of Remembrance.

### **Fitzroy Gardens**

Fitzroy Gardens is located between central Melbourne's parliamentary precinct and East Melbourne and is one of original gardens set aside in the 1840s. It was established after part the site had been used as a bluestone quarry. The gardens were originally named Fitz Roy Square. The garden layout was based on an original design prepared by Edward Latrobe Bateman, and softened by the curator who implemented the design. The gardens will continue to be managed in accordance with the revised 2010 Master Plan.

### **Fawkner Park**

Located in South Yarra, Fawkner Park was laid out in 1862 as a place for promenading and watching sporting activities. The long tree lined avenues and open lawn layout has remained largely unchanged, and the park continues to provide a setting for a wide range of sporting and recreational activities. The *Fawkner Park Master Plan (2006)* guides the design and management of this park, with the aim of enhancing the landscape character of the park while managing and balancing its wide variety of uses.

### **Flagstaff Gardens**

Located in West Melbourne, Flagstaff Gardens is a key component of inner Melbourne's network of parks, and contains one of the City of Melbourne's most historic sites, Flagstaff Hill. Originally developed as an ornamental garden in the 1860s, the gardens were not formally reserved until 1873, and their management was transferred to the City of Melbourne in 1917. Management and design of the gardens is guided by the *Flagstaff Gardens Master Plan (2000)*.

### **Princes Park**

Located in Carlton North, Princes Park forms part of the original land reserved for Royal Park, and it was reserved as Princes Park in 1873. In 1885 extensive tree planting took place including the Lemon Scented Gums, Gippsland Mahogany and English Elms. An oval was established in the southern section of the park, followed by the Princes Hill Bowling Club and the merged Carlton Football and Cricket Clubs. Other facilities were established including tennis courts and a playground. The *Princes Park 10 Year Plan (1998)* guides the use of the park, seeking to retain a balance of informal use, the sense of retreat that it offers and the efficient use of existing facilities.

### **Royal Park**

In Melbourne's early years, Royal Park was an Aboriginal camping ground with an open woodland character. It was part of a much larger reserve originally set



aside by Governor Charles Latrobe in 1854, when he reserved 700 acres of land that included Royal Park along with the University of Melbourne, the Melbourne General Cemetery and the suburb of Parkville. In 1860 the Burke and Wills expedition camped in Royal Park as they set out across the continent. In 1984 the Royal Park Master Plan provided a vision for the protection and enhancement of the native landscape qualities of the park. The current Royal Park Master Plan (1998) continues to support the 1984 plan, with the aim to overcome the physical separation that the through traffic system in the park creates, and to continue to encourage greater use of the park with a balanced range of recreational activities including organised sport, casual and informal use.

#### **4.1.2 Waterways and harbours**

The waterways that flow through the City of Melbourne are of cultural significance for the Wurundjeri, Boonerwung, Taungurong, Djajawurrung and the Wauthaurong groups who form the Kulin Nation. A key reason for Melbourne's settlement is its location on the Yarra River, on higher ground inland from the saltmarsh along the coast. The Maribyrnong River was navigated before the Yarra River, but noted to be salty, while the Yarra River provided fresh water upstream of Dights Falls. This led to the focus of settlement and placement of the Hoddle Grid on the north side of the Yarra River.

The waterways as the original drivers of settlement have since been modified to suit our settlement patterns and land use needs. Industry originally located along the waterways and in the floodplains because of access to water and discharge points for industrial waste, and ease of development given the land was generally flat. The rivers became polluted and were not seen as desirable places and community awareness of their inherent ecological and open space values was not high during these times.

In the 1980s Melbournians changed their view of the Yarra River and began to turn Melbourne around to face the river, celebrating its aesthetic, recreational and environmental qualities. While the Yarra River has been heavily modified it supports a diverse range of recreational activities such as rowing, boating, fishing and kayaking (but generally not swimming due to poor water quality and safety). The open space adjacent to it provides places where people can escape the built urban form, enjoy long views and open vistas and a cooler microclimate during the heat of summer.

Docklands is located around Victoria Harbour, celebrating the Yarra River and its former port activities close to the city, with new marinas that are increasing in size as the area develops. Recreational access and use of both the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers will increase as this area develops and more focus is placed on the water based recreational opportunities.

The Maribyrnong River offers similar qualities to the Yarra, however industrial land use dominates its foreshores. There is opportunity to improve the interface between this waterway and the suburbs of Flemington, Kensington and West Melbourne, particularly as future growth into the north and west of the

municipality occurs. This includes opportunities to create larger open spaces along the waterway to vary the experiences possible along the river. Currently residents of the City of Melbourne cross the Maribyrnong River into the City of Maribyrnong to use Footscray Park because the open space on the City of Melbourne side is either undeveloped or designed as a linear space and does not offer a diversity of physical settings and recreational opportunities. The river is wide through this reach and does offer some of the similar qualities as those of the Yarra River including water base recreational use, expansive views across the wide water body and cooler spaces during the summer heat.

With the future vision for improved transport links and connectivity to the west, and with Footscray recognised as an important urban centre, the Maribyrnong River provides a unique opportunity for the Victorian Government and City of Melbourne to establish a vision for a diverse open space network along the river, with open space connectivity east to Moonee Ponds Creek and the Yarra River. Development of open space along the Maribyrnong River would provide a significant and valuable natural and open space asset for the north and western part of the municipality that contrasts with and balances the expansive parklands to the east.

Centrally located between the western and eastern extents of the municipality is Moonee Ponds Creek. This highly modified waterway has been concrete lined for part of its length with an elevated portion of the CityLink freeway built over it. Other than linear connectivity, the existing shared trail and open space adjacent to this waterway is significantly compromised by the elevated freeway as it impacts on the recreational, aesthetic, noise and open (to the sky) values that this linear open space corridor can potentially offer. Where the elevated freeway moves away from the creek near the proposed E-Gate site there is potential to improve the open space environmental and recreational values for this area.

The Port of Melbourne related uses and industrial areas of West Melbourne and Port Melbourne extend to the edge of all three waterways in the municipality. Therefore, public access along some sections of the waterways is restricted by these uses. These are illustrated on Figure 4(a). Where public access to the waters edge is possible, it is currently achieved in the form of linear open space, with shared trail access, boat launching ramps and other uses including wider promenades in the urban reaches and some more natural treatments including grass and revegetation. The attached diagram illustrates the different types of open space currently provided along the waterways in the City of Melbourne.

Figure 4(a) over the page illustrates the extent of access along the waterways and a summary of their key values.

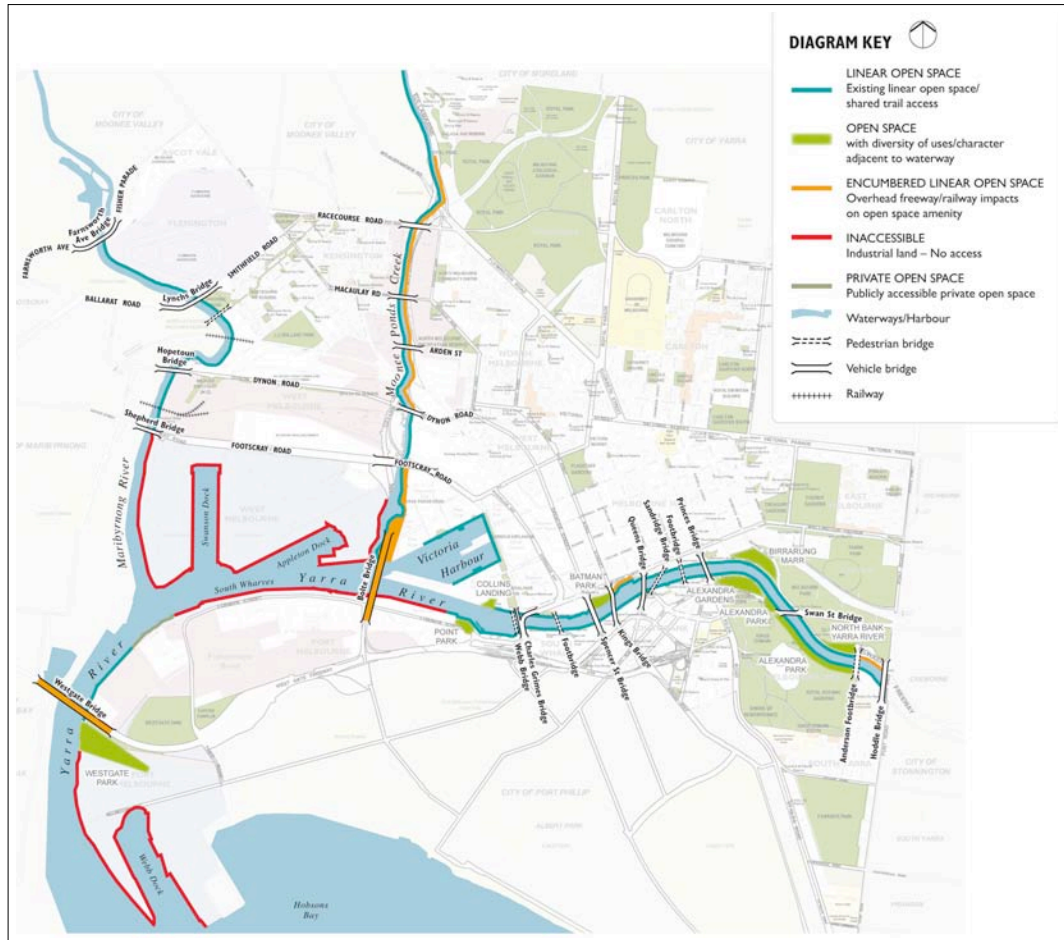


FIGURE 4(a) Existing open space access to waterways in the City of Melbourne

### 4.1.3 Natural biodiversity values

The natural biodiversity values of the municipality have been highly modified over time, although some areas do remain and the City of Melbourne has worked towards actively reintroducing biodiversity values into some of the existing parklands and waterways.

Royal Park demonstrates the restoration of biodiversity since the 1980s where the City of Melbourne has reintroduced the original natural landscape values and qualities back into this parkland. Of particular note is the planting of extensive native woodland in the park along with conversion of ovals to a native grassland character. A large water quality treatment wetland system provides a source of water reuse for irrigation in the municipality and introduces biodiversity into the park system with a wetland ecosystem. Smaller wetland areas are also established near the native grasslands area contributing to biodiversity. Royal Park also positively contributes to placing a high value on the Australian landscape character at an equal level to the European heritage values in many of the other older established parks and gardens in Melbourne.

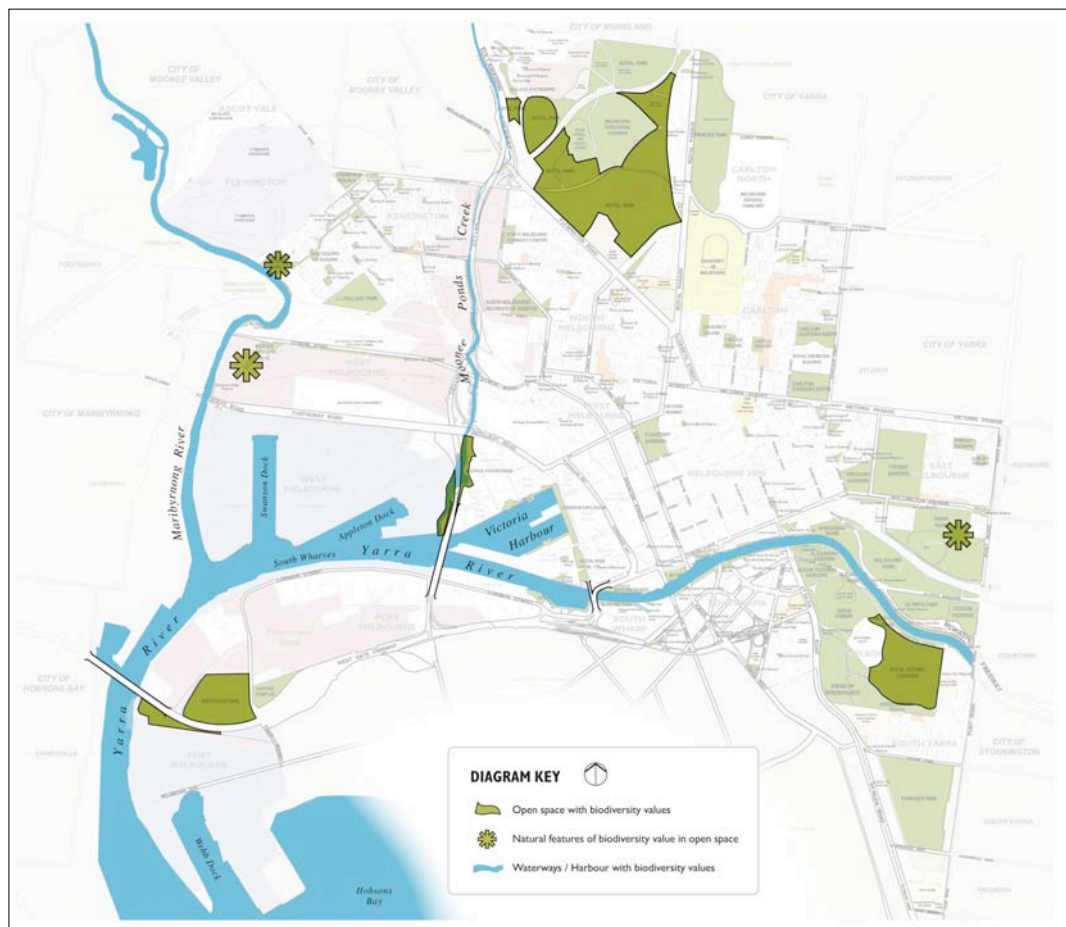
Natural saltmarsh values along the Moonee Ponds Creek provide biological diversity in the Docklands precinct. While the area is constrained by other issues

such as contamination, overhead services, overhead freeway construction, the biological diversity does remain. Similarly, Westgate Park, managed by Parks Victoria establishes some saltmarsh and wetland habitat in a precinct that would originally have had extensive saltmarsh systems at the time of settlement. An area of saltmarsh is also present in the south-west area of Riverside Park in Kensington. The waterways including the Yarra River, Maribyrnong River and Moonee Ponds Creek also offer habitat for native fauna and some native flora as well, and potential for improvement to support these values.

The Royal Botanic Gardens has an extremely important role in the conservation and protection of plants. The Rare and Threatened Bed located in the gardens provides an educative role as well as conserving specimens and seeds from many rare and threatened species of Victorian flora. The gardens themselves also provide habitat for native fauna, including the ornamental lakes that provide habitat for the aquatic fauna.

Yarra Park contains remnant Red Gums including some that are identified of Indigenous cultural significance. Stands of mature native trees provide native fauna habitat values across many of the established parks and gardens through the City of Melbourne. (Note: these are not specifically highlighted on the diagram in Figure 4(b). A Biodiversity Strategy is currently being developed.

Figure 4(b) below illustrates the key areas of existing biodiversity values in the municipality.



**FIGURE 4(b)** Open space with natural biodiversity values in the City of Melbourne

## 4.1.4 Health and wellbeing

### 4.1.4a Structured community sporting use

The City of Melbourne has a well established network of community sport and recreation facilities within the municipality. This strategy recognises the positive health and social benefits from participation in active team sport. This includes a range of social groups, work related groups and teams who meet and participate on an informal basis in team sports, as well as the organised club-based sporting activities. While current trends are towards unstructured recreation pursuits such as walking and cycling, there is also a need to continue to provide for a diversity of team based sports to maximise opportunities for people of all ages to participate in activities in open space.

#### **Sports field use - natural and synthetic turf**

Outdoor sports fields in the municipality are located in Royal Park, Princes Park, Newmarket Reserve, Fawkner Park, Domain Parklands, JJ Holland Park and North Melbourne Recreation Reserve.

The City of Melbourne recreation services team note that the existing sports fields are currently well used by organised sporting groups and informally by the community at other times. The projected forecast increase in the residential and worker population in the municipality will place additional demand on the use of sports field across the municipality. Currently the requests for use of sports fields by seasonal sports clubs exceeds supply and this demand is anticipated to increase with forecast future growth. In Kensington in particular, there has been a significant increase in demand for junior participation in the field sports clubs at JJ Holland Park.

Recently, the City of Melbourne constructed a synthetic surface at JJ Holland Park primarily for training purposes to protect the natural turf grounds for matches. The general community is also encouraged to use the synthetic surface when it is not in use for training in order to reduce the wear and tear on the natural turf grounds. The synthetic surfaces allow clubs to schedule multiple programs for training on this surface without placing pressure on the natural turf areas. The City of Melbourne is investigating installing synthetic surfaces at other key open spaces as a way of meeting the additional demands placed on these facilities.

#### **Tennis facilities**

The City of Melbourne currently manages the following tennis courts for public use in the municipality:

- Carlton Tennis Club in Carlton Gardens, Carlton
- Fawkner Park Tennis Courts, South Yarra
- Flagstaff Gardens Tennis Courts, West Melbourne
- Kensington Banks Tennis Courts, Kensington
- North Park Tennis Club, Parkville
- East Melbourne Tennis Centre, Powlett Reserve, East Melbourne

- Princes Hill Tennis Club, Princes Park, Carlton North
- Royal Park Tennis Club, Royal Park, Parkville

There are currently the following tennis clubs in operation:

- Royal Park Tennis Club
- Parkville Tennis Club
- North Park Tennis Club
- Carlton Gardens Tennis Club
- Princes Hill

Additionally the courts at Melbourne Park are available for hire.

The City of Melbourne recreation services team advise there is adequate provision of tennis courts in the municipality to cater for the demand and booking of courts, especially with the additional capacity at Melbourne Park and Olympic Park. There is therefore no requirement to increase the number of tennis courts at present, however, population growth may generate additional demand for these facilities.

### **Indoor multipurpose recreation facilities**

Indoor sporting facilities located in open space cater to a range of uses such as netball, basketball, futsal (indoor soccer) and fencing. Indoor facilities in the municipality are located at:

- Kensington Recreation Centre in JJ Holland Park
- State Netball and Hockey Centre in Royal Park
- North Melbourne Recreation Centre in North Melbourne Recreation Reserve
- North Melbourne Community Centre

While these indoor multipurpose facilities are constructed in open space this strategy does not promote the construction of new additional indoor multipurpose facilities in open space, given the range of other values that open parkland provides as a contrast to built form in the municipality. Any future indoor multipurpose recreation facilities would need to demonstrate they positively contribute to the value of the open space they are intended to be built in. Encumbered open space such as the land adjoining and under overhead freeways is considered to be more appropriate for additional indoor facilities than unencumbered, quality open space.

### **Sports Pavilions**

Sports pavilions are located in most major areas of open space in the City of Melbourne that have sporting facilities. This includes Royal Park, Princes Park, Fawkner Park North, JJ Holland Park and Newmarket Reserve.

The City of Melbourne has a significant ongoing capital works program in place to undertake major upgrades of the pavilions at Royal Park, Princes Park and Fawkner Park. The pavilion at JJ Holland Park will be rebuilt, with no increase in footprint of the new building. The pavilions at Newmarket Reserve may potentially be reconfigured to rationalise the use of the facilities and optimise the open space available for informal recreational uses.

## Swimming pools

There are currently five public swimming facilities available in the City located at:

- Carlton Baths Community Centre
- North Melbourne Recreation Centre
- Kensington Recreation Centre in JJ Holland Park
- Richmond Football Club at Yarra Park
- The City Baths, Melbourne

Swimming facilities located in adjoining municipalities are:

- Melbourne Sport and Aquatic Centre in Albert Park
- Fitzroy Swimming Pool in Fitzroy
- Brunswick City Baths in Brunswick

City of Melbourne residents also use facilities in neighbouring municipalities. Albert Park located nearby in the City of Port Phillip provides an extensive range of sport and recreation facilities within reach of the population in the City of Melbourne. Melbourne has a high proportion of young adults and they traditionally have higher participation rates in active sport and recreation activities. Some of these sport and recreation facilities are used on an informal basis and others are club-based uses.

### 4.1.4b Unstructured recreational use

Provision of unstructured recreation facilities encourages participation in physical exercise and activities in open space. The unstructured facilities are those that do not require any membership of a club or organisation (or require payment of fees to use them). The open space strategy household survey outcomes identified that the most popular unstructured activity in open space is walking for fitness and enjoyment. This is consistent with the Australian Sports Commission data for Victoria (2010) which notes that walking is the most popular activity with 36.6 per cent of total participation in all organised and non-organised activities being walking, followed by fitness and aerobics at 24.7 per cent.

The main unstructured activities that people currently participate in include walking, exercising, jogging, running, cycling, dog walking and visiting playgrounds. Other types of unstructured recreational activities that people participate in include a wide range of informal ball sports on sports fields or full and half sized multi-purpose courts including cricket, soccer, futsal, football, basketball, netball, tennis hit up walls, kick to kick etc. Other informal activities include skateboarding, BMX bike riding and kite flying. Many of these activities occur on the sports fields when they are not being used for training or match play by community sporting clubs.

In relation to facilities that are well used in open space, 91 per cent of household survey respondents use walking paths, 80 per cent use open grassed areas and 40 per cent use cycle paths. Cycling is popular both for recreational purposes and as a sustainable transport option, and this is anticipated to increase. The Bicycle Plan provides direction about the future provision of on and off road bicycle links, which this strategy supports.

#### 4.1.4c Informal use and values

Open space is valued for a range of informal and more intangible reasons including:

- To socialise and meet people.
- To sit and relax.
- To unwind.
- To be somewhere peaceful and natural and away from busy roads.
- To be social including for picnics.
- To enjoy the natural ambience, beauty and fresh air.
- To enjoy views and vistas over the landscape and/or water.
- To participate in festivals and events.
- To travel through on the way to somewhere else.

Intangible values such as the presence of a green space as a relief from the urban landscape are more difficult to quantify and support as an important reason for providing open space. Parks Victoria and Deakin University have undertaken research into the benefits of green space on people's mental and physical health *Healthy Parks, Healthy People - The health benefits of contact with nature in a park context* (2008). The study identified that city living involves a disengagement of humans from the natural environment, and this is likely to be detrimental to health and wellbeing, with parks one of the only means of accessing nature for people in urban areas. The results indicate that green parks can reduce crime, contribute to general wellbeing, reduce stress, enhance productivity and promote healing. Other studies demonstrate that plants and nearby vegetation can have positive benefits on people such as healing, improved mental capacity and productivity, and improved job and life satisfaction, attract consumers and tourists to precincts and aid community cohesion and identity (Deakin University, 2008).

Open spaces with natural features in them including trees and grass offer more diverse play opportunities, and in particular higher levels of creative play for children, than places without these natural landscape elements. This is particularly valuable for people who have no or limited private open space and cannot easily travel to reach natural places. Natural elements in open space (including grass, plants and trees) contribute positively to improving the local microclimate in built up areas. Studies have revealed that places with a greater number of trees have better carbon-storage capacity, lower level of surface runoff entering drains, and were cooler where vegetation cover was greater than 50 per cent of the space. There is also evidence to show that people use their local public spaces more and are more satisfied with them if they include natural elements, which in turn increases the amount of socialisation amongst neighbours in *The Value of Public Spaces* (CABE Space, undated).

The household surveys undertaken for this strategy identified that more than 50 per cent of respondents valued open space for the following reasons:

- Trees (81%)
- Quiet and peaceful (73%)
- Being outside (72%)
- Place to relax and unwind (71%)
- Spacious (64%)
- Health and wellbeing (63%)



- Accessible (55%)

Of interest, playing sport was the least frequently nominated value with only 13 per cent of respondents selecting this option.

## 4.2 Quantity of open space

### 4.2.1 Municipality-wide

#### 4.2.1a Quantity relative to geographic area of the municipality

There are approximately 149 open spaces that are accessible to the public on a non-fee paying basis at all times. This includes open space that is currently zoned or capable of being zoned public open space, and includes open space managed by agencies other than the City of Melbourne. Additional open space is available for major sporting use or on a paid entry basis where the built sport or recreation facility occupies the entire site such as the MCG and Melbourne Park. The total area available for access on a non-fee paying basis is in the order of 549.7 hectares, which equates to approximately 14.4 per cent of the total municipality area.

Available data comparing public open space provision in the City of Melbourne with other capital cities in Australia and overseas is shown in Table 4(i). It is noted that the data is not easily available and it is not always clear how the data has been assembled. It is interesting to note that compared with the City of Sydney, Melbourne has more physical area of open space, with a very similar proportion of open space to the total municipal land area. The City of London by comparison has a much lower proportion of open space, however, it should be noted that this is the central business area of London only and not greater London, which includes the residential suburbs. Refer to Table 4(i) below for the comparative figures.

**Table 4(i) Comparison with other capital cities**

Municipality	Total open space in Ha.	Total area of municipality in Ha.	Proportion of o/space of total municipal area
Melbourne	549.8	3,815	14.4%
Sydney	377.0	2,615	14.4%
London	23.3	2,580	0.9%

**Table 4(ii) Comparison with adjoining municipalities**

Municipality	Total open space in Ha.	Total area of municipality in Ha.	Proportion of o/space of total municipal area
Melbourne	549.8	3,815	14.4%
Maribyrnong	235.0	3,130	7.5%
Moonee Valley	533.2	4,236	12.6%
Moreland	580.0	5,100	11.4%
Port Phillip	442.0	2,050	21.6%
Stonnington	180.0	2,560	7.0%
Yarra	235.0	1,950	12.1%

Compared to other inner Melbourne municipalities, City of Melbourne has the second highest proportion of open space relative to total land area of the municipality. This comparison should be seen in light of significant differences that affect open space provision and use in the City of Melbourne compared with other municipalities. Many of the large areas of open space in the City of Melbourne primarily cater for international, interstate, intrastate and Melbourne-wide visitors. There is a high number of daily tourists and a significant worker population using the open space. These factors reduce the effectiveness of the comparison with adjoining municipalities.

#### **4.2.1b Quantity relative to population density across the municipality**

The amount of open space relative to population density is an important measure of open space provision. Below are comparative figures that show how the City of Melbourne is placed in relation to neighbouring municipalities with respect to residential population density. The City of Melbourne has an average of 56m<sup>2</sup> of open space per resident, which is the highest proportion compared with all other adjoining municipalities. Moonee Valley is the next highest at 50m<sup>2</sup> per resident. Refer to Table 4(iii) below, however when comparing this data, it is important to note that the other adjoining municipalities do not have the high visitor and worker numbers as does the City of Melbourne. The average daily visitors to Melbourne are in the order of 700,000 people per day, seven times the residential population numbers. Therefore, while the comparison with adjoining municipalities is interesting, there are substantially different issues facing the City of Melbourne regarding the type and level of facilities provided in open space, management of visitor numbers and competing demands for open space use.

**Table 4(iii) Comparison of open space relative to residential population density in adjoining municipalities**

Municipality	Total open space in Ha.	Total residential population estimated	Open space m <sup>2</sup> per resident
Melbourne	549.8	98,163	56
Maribyrnong	235.0	63,142	37
Moonee Valley	533.2	106,946	50
Moreland	580.0	144,015	40
Port Phillip	442.0	90,000	49
Stonnington	180.0	89,883	20
Yarra	235.0	76,402	31

Other capital cities include their estimated daytime populations and Table 4(iv) below indicates these. San Francisco has a higher proportion of open space per daytime population than Melbourne, and Melbourne has a higher proportion than the Cities of Sydney and London. Refer to Table 4(iv) below. When the 771,000 daily population is reviewed in relation to the quantity of open space, the result is approx 7m<sup>2</sup> per person for the City of Melbourne.

**Table 4(iv) Comparison of open space relative to resident and daytime population density in other capital cities**

Municipality	Total open space in Ha.	Total residential population estimated	Open space m <sup>2</sup> per resident	Open space m <sup>2</sup> per daytime population	Total daytime population estimated
Melbourne	549.8	98,163	56	7.1	771,000
Sydney	377.0	177,000	21	3.6	1,045,000
London	23.3	9,000	26	0.6	370,000
San Francisco	2,124.0	798,176	27	21.7	977,720

## 4.2.2 Open space quantity by precinct

### 4.2.2a Quantity relative to geographic area of the precincts

Open space in the City of Melbourne is primarily concentrated in the south-east and north-east areas of the municipality. This includes the large historical open space reserves including Royal Park, The Royal Botanic Gardens, Fawkner Park, Melbourne Park and Yarra Park.

As a contrast, there are areas of the municipality with minimal open space including Southbank, North Melbourne, the Melbourne 3000 central city, West Melbourne and Docklands. In some locations such as North Melbourne, Royal Park is located nearby, but access is restricted as people need to cross a major road to reach it. The precincts noted above also correspond with areas forecast to receive significant population growth, so the issue of the provision of open space for the additional population, as well as any current shortfall, is addressed in this strategy. Refer to Table 4(v) below.

**Table 4(v) Precinct breakdown of open space as a proportion of the total open space in the City of Melbourne excluding restricted open space**

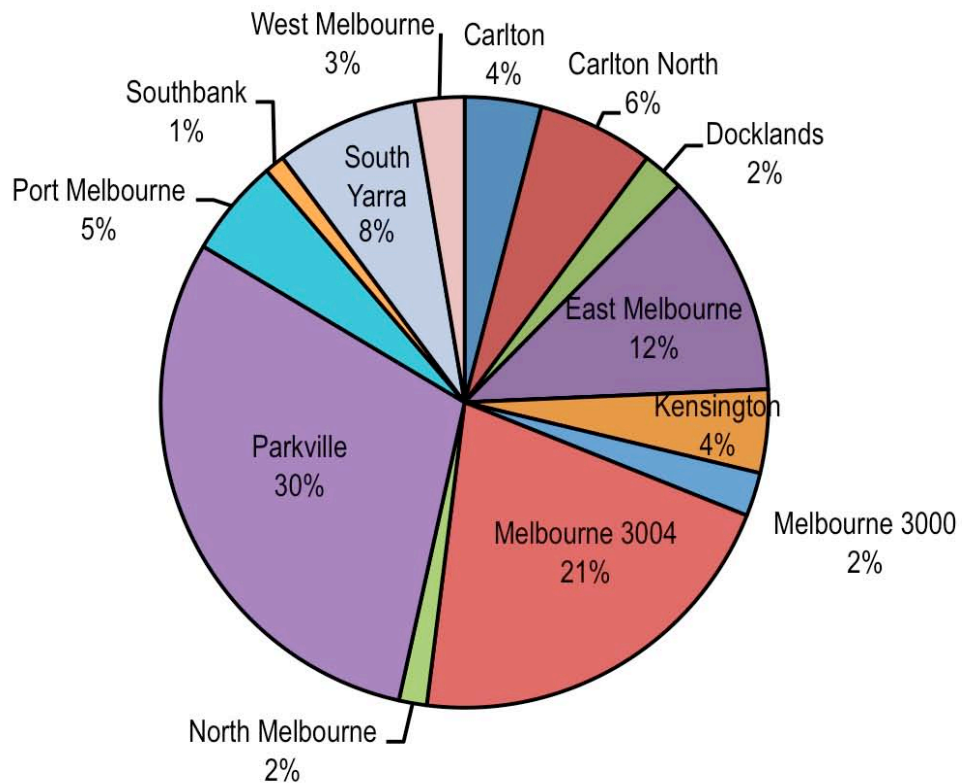
PRECINCT NAME	NO. OF RESERVES	OPEN SPACE AREA (ha)	OPEN SPACE AREA (m <sup>2</sup> )	PROPORTION OF TOTAL OPEN SPACE
Carlton	13	22.4166	224,166	4.1%
Carlton North	2	33.8934	338,934	6.2%
Docklands	11	12.1128	121,128	2.2%
East Melbourne	18	65.2705	652,705	11.9%
Flemington   Ascot Vale	0	0	0	0.0%
Kensington	20	24.2558	242,558	4.4%
Melbourne 3000	14	12.7394	127,394	2.3%
Melbourne 3004	13	115.1505	1,151,505	20.9%
North Melbourne	12	8.1644	81,644	1.5%
Parkville	13	165.2039	1,652,039	30.0%
Port Melbourne	1	28.4800	284,800	5.2%
Southbank	14	5.8850	58,850	1.1%
South Yarra	3	41.6382	416,382	7.6%
West Melbourne	15	14.564	145,640	2.6%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>549.7745</b>	<b>5,497,745</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Note to table:**

The total quantity of open space included in this assessment excludes restricted open space (i.e. open space that is available only on a fee paying or club membership basis)

The total quantity of open space including restricted open space in the City of Melbourne is approximately 648 hectares in 159 open spaces.

The available quantity of open space in each precinct varies with just over half the total quantity of open space located two precincts – Parkville and Melbourne 3004 (St Kilda Road). At the other end of the scale is Southbank with 1 per cent and North Melbourne with 1.5 per cent. Population growth is forecast to be significant in the Southbank and North Melbourne, while there is only limited forecast population growth in Parkville. This is illustrated further in Figure 4(c) and Figure 4(d) on the following page.

**Figure 4(c) Proportion of open space by precinct**

#### 4.2.2b Quantity relative to existing population density of the precincts

Over the past few decades, the residential population in some of parts of the City of Melbourne has increased along with the demand for open space in areas that were previously predominantly industrial or other non-residential land use. This is particularly relevant to Southbank, the Melbourne 3000 central city, Docklands and West Melbourne. The potential to add large areas of open space in precincts with a limited amount is generally highly constrained by the existing urban fabric, land ownership and economic factors. This strategy identifies the need for open space at a precinct and sub-precinct level to provide direction on where additional open space will be required in the future to retain a reasonable proportion of open space relative to increasing population densities.

Some precincts in the municipality are dedicated to industrial or other land uses without a residential population, including Flemington/Ascot Vale (City of Melbourne portion only), Port Melbourne, Coode Island, parts of West Melbourne and Fishermans Bend. The open space needs of workers and the environmental requirements in these precincts have been considered in this strategy, along with any forecast future change.

The following chart in Figure 4(d) and Table 4(vi) illustrates the quantity of open space available per resident in the different precincts. This measure gives an indication of the variations in open space quantity relative to population density. Southbank has the least amount of open space per resident with 4m<sup>2</sup>, compared to 706m<sup>2</sup> in the Melbourne 3004 (St Kilda Road) precinct.

The Melbourne 3004 precinct includes Domain Parklands and Royal Botanic Gardens, which is a large amount of open space relative to its immediate population. Figure 4(b) illustrates there is 21 per cent open space located in this precinct but only 2 per cent of the residential population. The majority of this open space is managed for the broader population of Melbourne. Residents living in Southbank can access the open space in the Melbourne 3004 precinct, however, they do need to cross a major thoroughfare, St Kilda Road, to reach it. The other large area of open space relative to population density is Parkville given the proximity of Royal Park.

**Figure 4(d) Open space relative to residential population density by precinct**

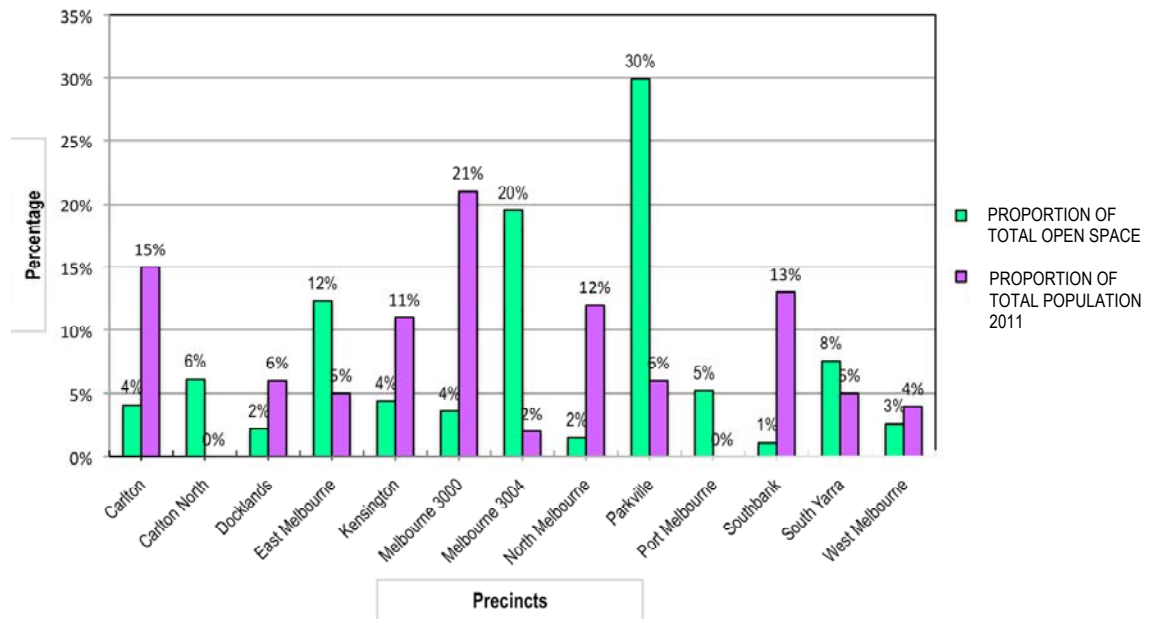


Table (vi) below illustrates the quantity of open space per resident. The areas with the least open space available relative to population density include Southbank with 4.5m<sup>2</sup> per person, Melbourne 3000 central city has 6m<sup>2</sup> per person and North Melbourne has 7m<sup>2</sup> per person. Household survey outcomes identified that residents in these precincts requested additional open space.

**Table 4(vi) Area of open space relative to the existing residential population densities**

PRECINCT NAME	OPEN SPACE AREA (m <sup>2</sup> )	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL POPULATION 2011	OPEN SPACE PER RESIDENT (m <sup>2</sup> ) 2011
Carlton	224,166	14,644	15.3
Carlton North	338,934	incl. in Carlton	incl in Carlton
Docklands	121,128	6,134	19.7
East Melbourne	652,705	5,162	126.4
Flemington   Ascot Vale	0	0	0.0
Kensington	242,558	10,460	23.2
Melbourne 3000	127,394	21,080	6.0
Melbourne 3004	1,151,505	1,630	706.4
North Melbourne	81,644	11,650	7.0
Parkville	1,652,039	5,773	286.2
Port Melbourne	284,800	0	N/A
Southbank	58,850	13,107	4.5
South Yarra	416,382	4,702	88.6
West Melbourne	145,640	3,820	38.1
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,497,745</b>	<b>98,162</b>	<b>56.0</b>

It is important to note that these figures represent the residential population increases only, whereas there is also an anticipated growth in the total population of the City of Melbourne including workers and visitors. Much of this additional non-residential population will be in the Melbourne Central City, Docklands and Southbank and will also place increasing pressures of use on the existing open space.

The employee (or worker) population has an influence on open space provision in the City of Melbourne. Table 4(vii) illustrates the influence of open space per square metre of the combined resident and worker population. The consultation undertaken for this strategy included the worker community and they confirmed they do use and value open space near their workplace for a diversity of reasons.

Table 4(vii) is intended to give an indication only of the change in open space provision when the worker population is considered. Additional to this is the visitor population, for which no accurate information is currently available beyond the combined total of 771,000 visitors per day to the City of Melbourne. Please refer below to Table 4(vii) for comparison of available open space relative to the worker population and a combined total.

**Table 4(vii) Area of open space relative to the existing employee and residential population densities***Yellow = residential, Blue = Worker and Green = combined*

PRECINCT NAME	OPEN SPACE AREA (m <sup>2</sup> )	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL POPULATION 2011	OPEN SPACE PER RESIDENT (m <sup>2</sup> ) 2011	TOTAL WORKER POPULATION 2011	OPEN SPACE PER RESIDENT & WORKER POP'N (m <sup>2</sup> ) 2011
Carlton	224,166	14,644	15.3	17,823	6.9
Carlton North	338,934	incl. in Carlton	incl in Carlton	incl. in Carlton	N/A
Docklands	121,128	6,134	19.7	33,503	3.1
East Melbourne	652,705	5,162	126.4	21,080	24.9
Flemington   Ascot Vale	0	0	0.0	367	0.0
Kensington	242,558	10,460	23.2	5,267	15.4
Melbourne 3000	127,394	21,080	6.0	223,326	0.5
Melbourne 3004	1,151,505	1,630	706.4	23,411	46.0
North Melbourne	81,644	11,650	7.0	9,379	3.9
Parkville	1,652,039	5,773	286.2	27,109	50.2
Port Melbourne	284,800	0	N/A	15,366	18.5
Southbank	58,850	13,107	4.5	37,796	1.2
South Yarra	416,382	4,702	88.6	1,488	67.3
West Melbourne	145,640	3,820	38.1	15,587	7.5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,497,745</b>	<b>98,162</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>431,502</b>	<b>10.4</b>

#### 4.2.2c Quantity relative to future population density of the precincts

Consistent with recent trends, the population of the City of Melbourne is forecast to continue to expand. Planning policies direct this growth into the north and west of the Melbourne 3000 central city, along with substantial growth forecast in Southbank. The additional forecast population will increase intensity of use of existing open space, and in many areas generate the need for provision of additional open space in order to respond to the recreational, leisure and amenity needs of the future as well as to maintain the City of Melbourne's reputation as one of the most liveable cities in the world. Table 4(viii) illustrates the impact that increased residential population densities will have on available existing open space. Table 4(ix) illustrates the impact of increased population densities including the worker component. This strategy addresses this issue in both the municipal-wide and precinct recommendations.

Table 4(viii) shows the forecast change in residential population from 2011 to 2026, the 15 year period this strategy will address in detail, with corresponding change to provision of open space per person as a result of the increased residential population. These figures are intended to be used as a broad guide to gain an understanding of the magnitude of change in the forecast population numbers across the City of Melbourne. They are also useful to understand the changes across the precincts and where the existing open space will experience a higher intensity of use. Table 4(ix) shows forecast residential and worker population change.

Reviewing the information shown in Table 4(viii), the areas with the least amount of open space will experience a decline in open space provision per person if no



additional open space is provided over the next 15 years. West Melbourne and Docklands will experience the highest magnitude of change relative to existing open space based on the residential population change. The other main issue this table illustrates is that the areas with the least amount of open space available per person now will experience increased intensification of use, reducing the available open space per person by nearly half for the Melbourne 3000 central city, Southbank, North Melbourne and West Melbourne.

**Table 4(viii) Area of open space relative to forecast future population densities**

PRECINCT NAME	OPEN SPACE AREA (m <sup>2</sup> )	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL POPULATION 2011	OPEN SPACE PER RESIDENT (m <sup>2</sup> ) 2011	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL POPULATION 2026	OPEN SPACE PER RESIDENT (m <sup>2</sup> )2026
Carlton	224,166	14,644	15.3	23,773	9.4
Carlton North	338,934	incl. in Carlton	incl in Carlton	incl. in Carlton	incl. in Carlton
Docklands	121,128	6,134	19.7	14,205	8.5
East Melbourne	652,705	5,162	126.4	5,770	113.1
Flemington   Ascot Vale	0	0	0.0	4,950	0.0
Kensington	242,558	10,460	23.2	13,229	18.3
Melbourne 3000	127,394	21,080	6.0	35,264	3.6
Melbourne 3004	1,151,505	1,630	706.4	2,064	557.9
North Melbourne	81,644	11,650	7.0	22,346	3.7
Parkville	1,652,039	5,773	286.2	5,826	283.6
Port Melbourne	284,800	0	N/A	0	N/A
Southbank	58,850	13,107	4.5	23,282	2.5
South Yarra	416,382	4,702	88.6	4,724	88.1
West Melbourne	145,640	3,820	38.1	9,400	15.5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,497,745</b>	<b>98,162</b>	<b>56.0</b>	<b>164,833</b>	<b>33.4</b>

In relation to the following Table 4(ix), the growth in the worker population will have a significant influence on the available open space per person. The only precinct where the residential population is forecast to remain higher than the worker population is South Yarra. Flemington will also fall into this category if the forecast residential development occurs in the Racecourse Rail Corridor in the future.

In Carlton it is close to an even split between residents and workers, while the remaining areas of the municipality will have higher numbers of employees compared to residents.

Additional to the residential and worker numbers shown in Table 4(ix) are the visitor numbers, which cannot be quantified accurately and are therefore not included in the tables.

**Table 4(ix) Area of open space relative to the future employee and residential population densities***Orange = residential, Blue = Worker and Mauve = combined*

PRECINCT NAME	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL POPULATION 2026	OPEN SPACE PER RESIDENT (m <sup>2</sup> )2026	TOTAL WORKER POPULATION 2026	OPEN SPACE PER RESIDENT & WORKER POP'N (m <sup>2</sup> ) 2026
Carlton	23,773	9.4	24,147	4.7
Carlton North	incl. in Carlton	incl. in Carlton	incl. in Carlton	N/A
Docklands	14,205	8.5	44,000	2.1
East Melbourne	5,770	113.1	25,000	21.2
Flemington   Ascot Vale	4,950	0.0	500	0.0
Kensington	13,229	18.3	20,000	7.3
Melbourne 3000	35,264	3.6	323,855	0.4
Melbourne 3004	2,064	557.9	28,000	38.3
North Melbourne	22,346	3.7	23,000	1.8
Parkville	5,826	283.6	29,221	47.1
Port Melbourne	0	N/A	17,000	16.8
Southbank	23,282	2.5	46,000	0.8
South Yarra	4,724	88.1	2,700	56.1
West Melbourne	9,400	15.5	19,742	5.0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>164,833</b>	<b>33.4</b>	<b>603,165</b>	<b>7.2</b>

#### 4.2.2d Conclusions

Population density relative to open space provision is a key consideration for this strategy. Over-crowding and over-use of open space in densely populated neighbourhoods will need to be addressed in the future. As demonstrated in Table (ix), if additional open space is not added to the network, gradually the existing areas will become increasingly crowded. While no clear guidelines exist for the optimum amount of open space relative to each person, the Growth Areas Authority work suggests the provision of just over 20m<sup>2</sup> of open space per person (residential) is reasonable. In New York, the figure used is 7m<sup>2</sup> per New Yorker. These figures are a useful guide when considering the amount of open space per head of population in the City of Melbourne. The measure of open space relative to population density in existing urban areas also needs to be balanced with many other factors including available land area for open space, existing urban densities, urban character including heritage values and accessibility to open space. If no additional open space is added to the network over the next 15 years, then seven of the precincts will be well below the figure of 7m<sup>2</sup> of open space per person, and nine will be below the figure of 20m<sup>2</sup> of open space per person.

Accessibility to open space is a key consideration in conjunction with the amount of open space provided relative to population density. The distribution and accessibility of open space is described in the following section. The diversity of needs for open space is another major challenge facing the City of Melbourne. This is discussed in the description of the different qualities and needs for open space in Section 4.1.

## 4.3 Distribution

### 4.3.1 Overview

Open space is mainly distributed across the eastern area of the municipality including through Parkville, Carlton, East Melbourne and South Yarra. The concentration of open space to the north and east is a result of historical settlement patterns and original Crown land reserves set aside in the 1800s. Open space is also distributed through Kensington, parts of North Melbourne and Docklands. There are limited areas of open space in the Melbourne 3000 central city, parts of North Melbourne, West Melbourne, Southbank, Port Melbourne and Flemington.

### 4.3.2 Accessibility

Each of the open spaces has been categorised within an open space hierarchy, including the anticipated distance that people are expected to travel to reach the open space. Use of walking distances allows analysis to determine if there are areas where people live or work where they cannot easily access any open space. The following table describes the walking distances applied to each open space type in the City of Melbourne

**Table 4(x) Open space hierarchy with distances used in the open space distribution analysis**

*Refer to Table 3(ii) for the description of each category in the hierarchy*

Open Space	Travel distances to reach open space
Capital city	No specific distance is included as this is provided for the Melbourne-wide population, and 500 metres applied for the local population, except where it is restricted open space.
State	No specific distance is included as this is provided for the Melbourne-wide population, and 500 metres applied for the local population, except where it is restricted open space.
Regional	No specific distance is included as this is provided for the Melbourne-wide population, and 500 metres applied for the local population, except where it is restricted open space.
Municipal	Municipal open space located within 2 kilometres travel distance of all dwellings, with a 500 metre safe walking distance radius applied for the local population.
Neighbourhood	Neighbourhood open space located within 500 metre walking distance from all dwellings and work places.
Local	Local open space located within 300 metres safe

Open Space	Travel distances to reach open space
	walking distance from all dwellings.
Small Local	Small Local open space located within 300 metres safe walking distance from all dwellings.

A range of factors affect the ease and safety of walking to open space including:

- Traffic volumes, road width and vehicle speed in the street network.
- The amenity of the street including the presence of street trees, the presence and width of cycle paths/lanes, presence and width of footpaths and kerb ramps.
- Presence of freeways, major roads, railway lines, trams and major roads to cross on the journey to open space, referred to as barriers to access.
- Street layout leading to ease of access to any given open space (for example, the actual journey can be longer if the street layout has an imbalance of north-south and east-west orientated streets).
- Accessibility and safety of existing road and railway crossings, overpasses and underpasses.

A gap analysis was undertaken to assess the distribution of existing open space across the municipality, and specifically to identify if there are any locations where open space is not within reasonable walking distance of residents and workers. The analysis applied the two kilometre travel distance (as distinct from walking distance) from Municipal open space, along with the smaller 500m walking distance. The larger two kilometre travel distance takes into account the Municipal level facilities for which people will travel further than 500m to use - for example tennis courts and sports fields, etc. The 500 metre walking distance is to allow for the local facilities located in the Municipal open space that people regularly use, for example playground, dog walking, seating etc.

The local population frequently use Capital City, State, Regional and Municipal open space for local uses such as walking, play, informal games, socialising, exercise and seating. A 500m walking distance radius from the centre point of all Capital city, State, Regional, Municipal and Neighbourhood open space (where it is accessible to the general public) has been applied, to correlate with the accepted walking distances to open space with a range of facilities and generally greater than one hectare in size. The 500m distance represents an approximate 10 to 15 minute walk for active and able people to reach open space, and for the less mobile, elderly or young children, this is likely to be a 20 minute walk.

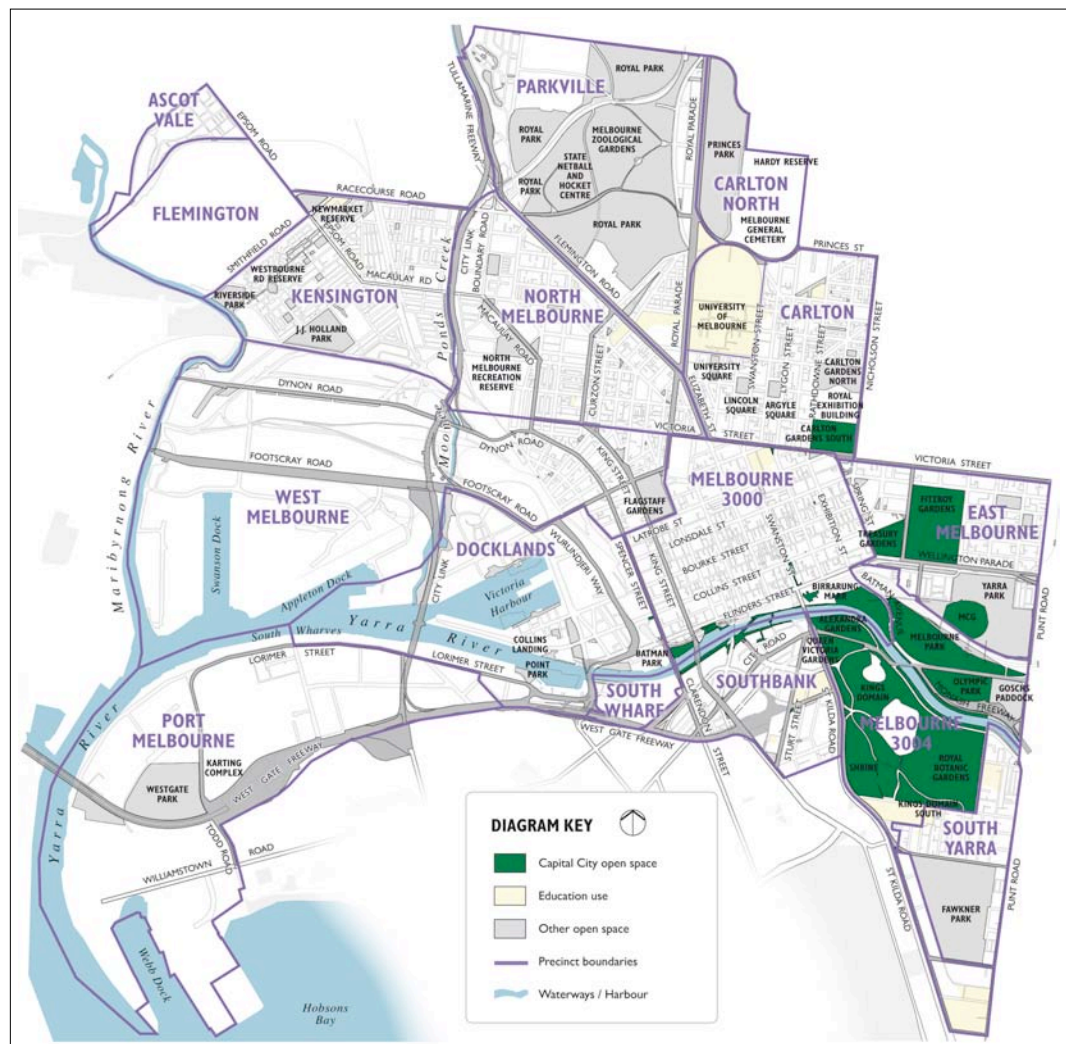
Local and Small Local open space have a smaller radius applied of 300m to match the typically shorter lengths of stay at these two smaller types of open space. This represents a 10 to 15 minute walk for the less mobile in the community. The same distance of 300 metres has been applied to both the Local and Small Local open space in the City of Melbourne in recognition of the higher quality of the open spaces, higher levels of maintenance and generally greater levels of use and longer stays in the existing and future Small Local open spaces. Typically in lower density neighbourhoods, these Small Local open spaces would have a walking distance of between 150 and 200 metres applied to them.

It is important to understand that the gap analysis assessment is only one tool when considering suitability of the provision of open space. The design and character of the open space is also important to ensure that it is meeting other objectives including social, recreation, biodiversity and climate change needs.

### 4.3.3 Analysis of the distribution of different types of open space

#### 4.3.3a Capital city open space distribution

Capital city open space is located along the Yarra River and to the east of the Melbourne 3000 central city. There is no travel distance catchment included for Capital city open space as it is designed to be used by visitors to Melbourne including international and interstate visitors, along with the whole Victorian community. Refer to Figure 4(e) for distribution of Capital City open space. Refer to Section 5.3.4 of this strategy regarding future provision of this type of open space.



**FIGURE 4(e)** Capital city open space distribution in the City of Melbourne

The restricted areas of Capital City open space are included as these are zoned for Public Park and Recreation Use in the City of Melbourne Planning Scheme.

### 4.3.3b State open space distribution

State open space is located primarily in the north and east, and the Victorian Government on behalf of the State of Victoria largely determines its future use and management. The State Library Forecourt located in the Melbourne 3000 central city is also designated as State open space, being integrally linked to the Library.

There is no travel distance catchment included for State open space as it is designed to be used by all Victorians. Refer to Figure 4(f) for distribution of State open space.

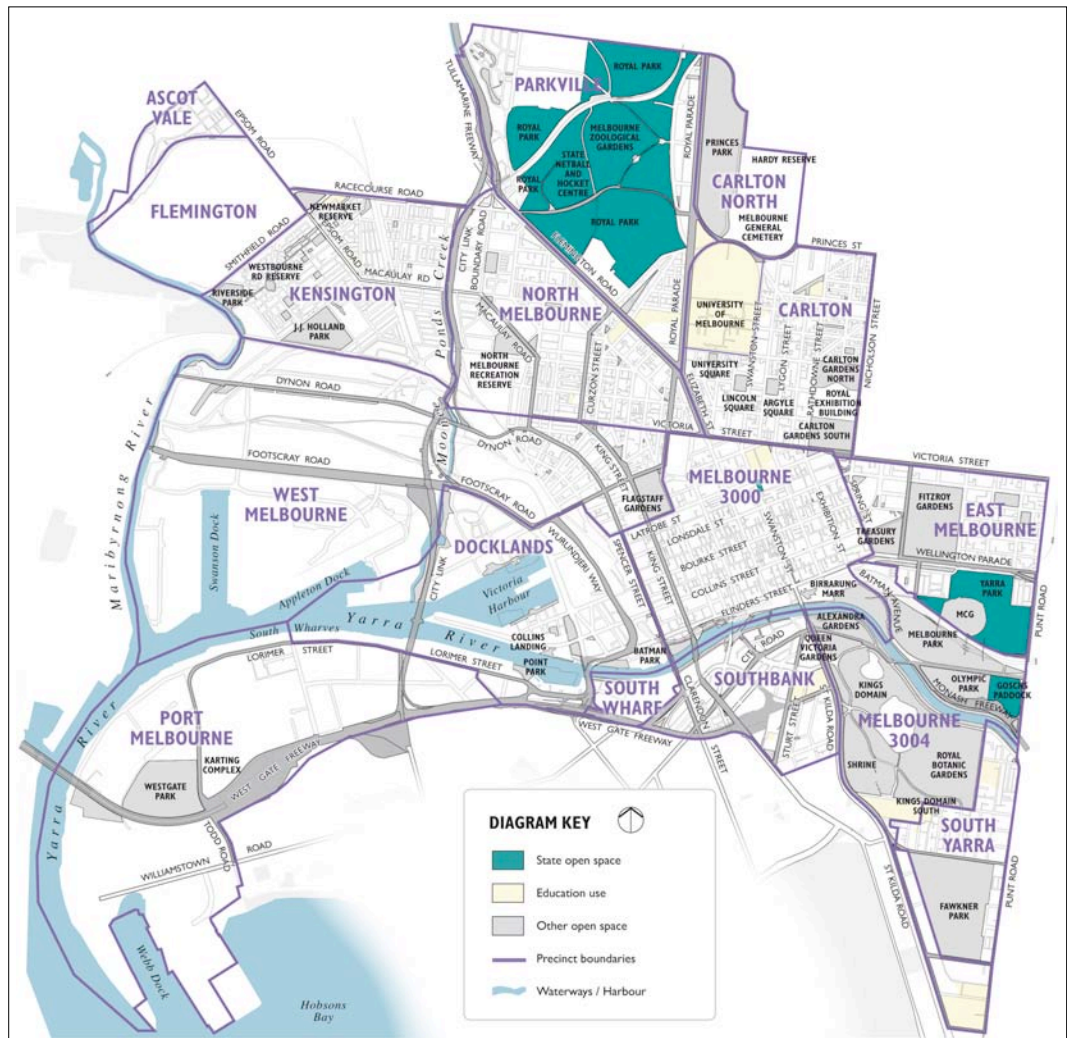


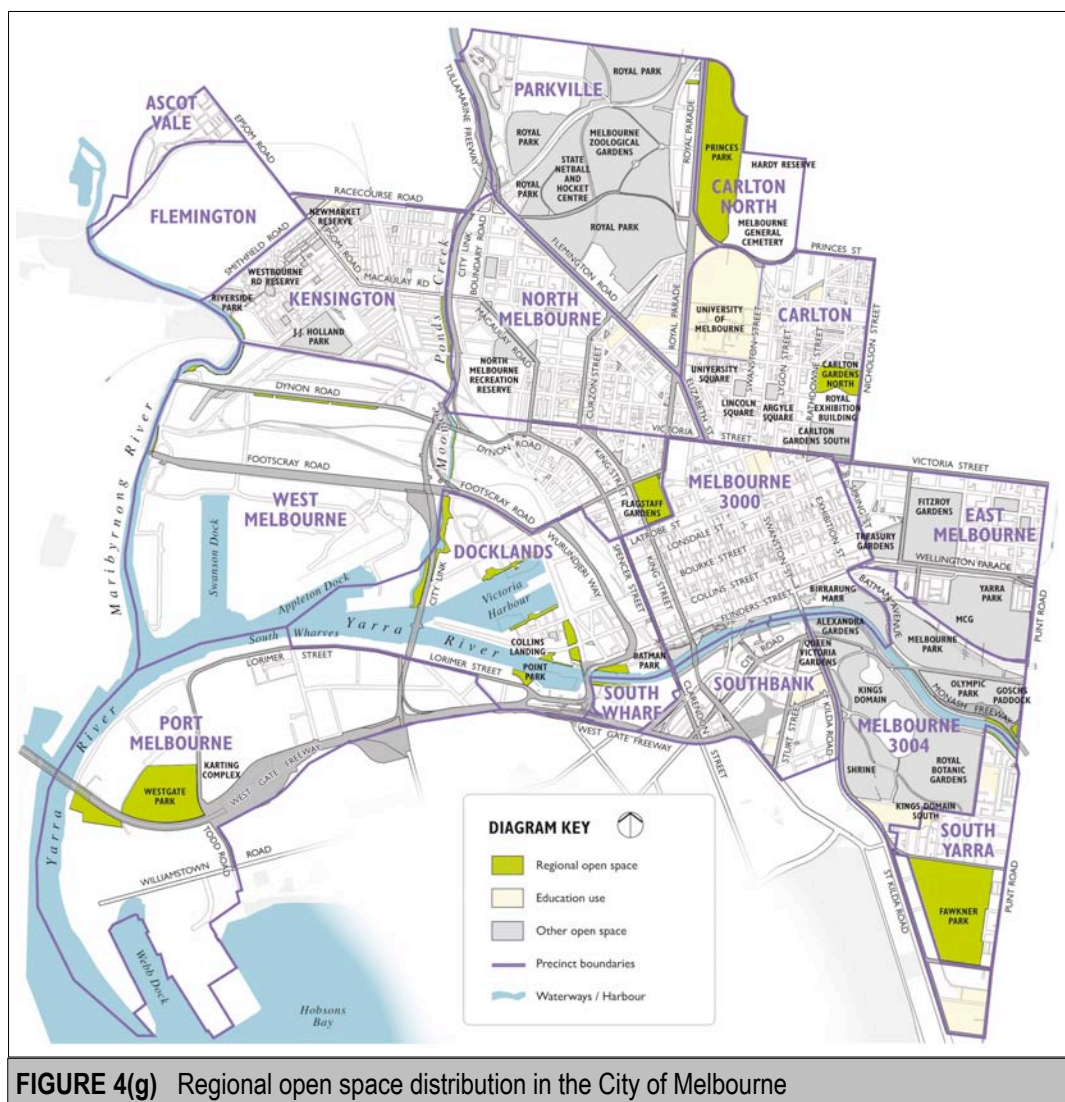
FIGURE 4(f) State open space distribution in the City of Melbourne

### 4.3.3c Regional open space distribution

including Maribyrnong River, Moonee Ponds Creek and the Yarra River west of Spencer Street and east of the Royal Botanic Gardens. Between Spencer Street and the Royal Botanic Gardens the banks of the Yarra River are categorised as Capital City open space as they are integrally linked to the image and function of Melbourne as a Capital City.

Princes Park, Flagstaff Gardens, Carlton Gardens North and Westgate Park are the other major regional open spaces in the municipality.

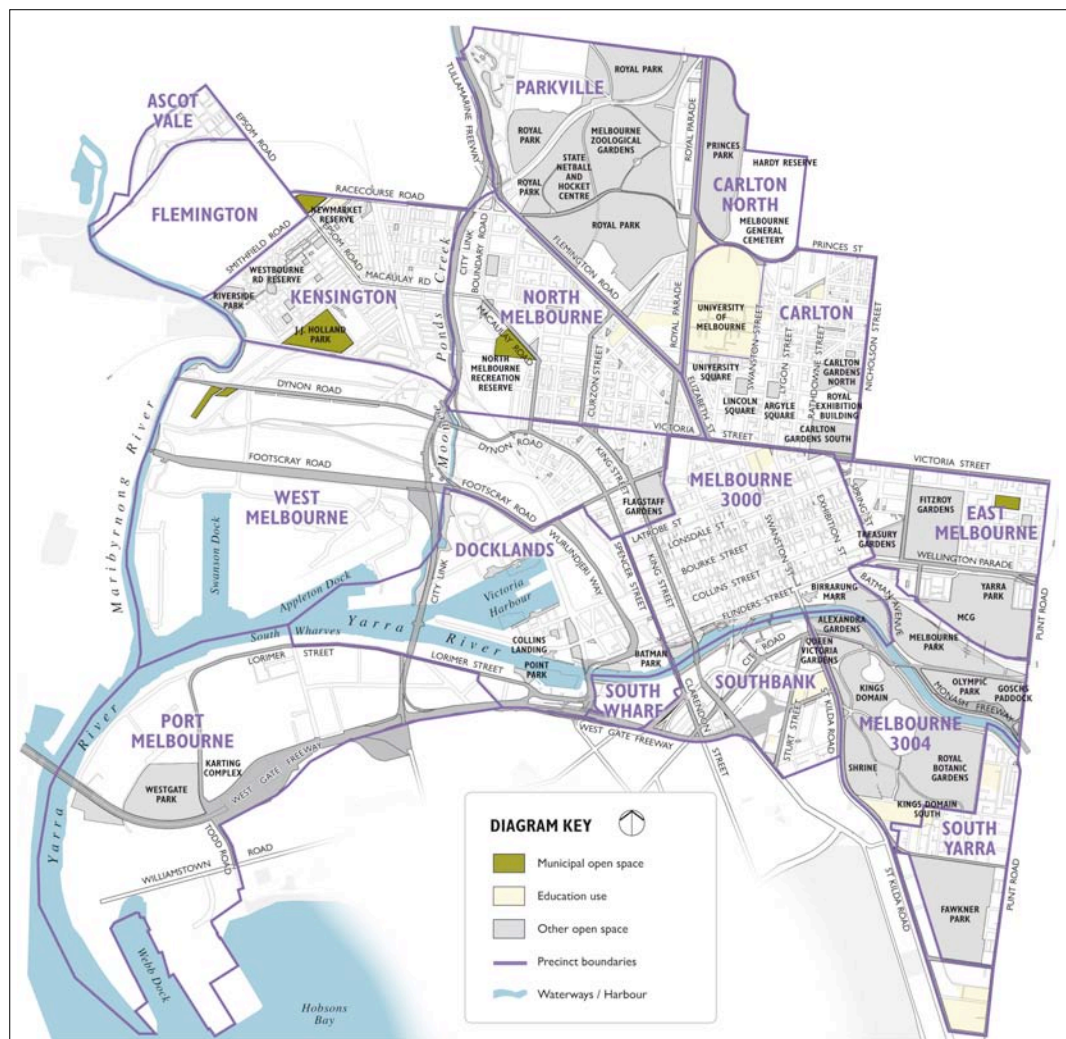
There is no walking distance catchment established for Regional open space as it is provided for the broader Melbourne community as well as City of Melbourne residents and workers. Refer to Figure 4(g) for distribution of Regional open space.



### 4.3.3c Municipal open space distribution

Municipal open space is generally located within a 2km radius of the majority of residents and workers with the exception of the Melbourne 3000 central city, Southbank, Port Melbourne, parts of Carlton and the southern area of Docklands. Royal Park (State open space) has Municipal open space facilities located in it and this will address the gaps in Municipal open space distribution in Carlton. To the south of the municipality in the City of Port Phillip, Albert Park provides diverse sport and recreation facilities for residents of Southbank and South Wharf. Residents of the central city and the southern area of Docklands are beyond a 2km travel distance to Municipal open space and Municipal open space facilities in other types of open space. This gap is to be met in the future in additional open space to be provided in Southbank, Docklands and West Melbourne as part of the redevelopment of areas of urban renewal. Refer to Figure 4(h) for distribution of Municipal open space.

Additional Municipal open space is proposed in West Melbourne to meet the forecast growth in West Melbourne, North Melbourne, Kensington, Melbourne 3000 central city and the southern parts of Carlton. Refer to Section 5.4.3 regarding future provision of Municipal open space.



**FIGURE 4(h)** Municipal open space distribution in the City of Melbourne



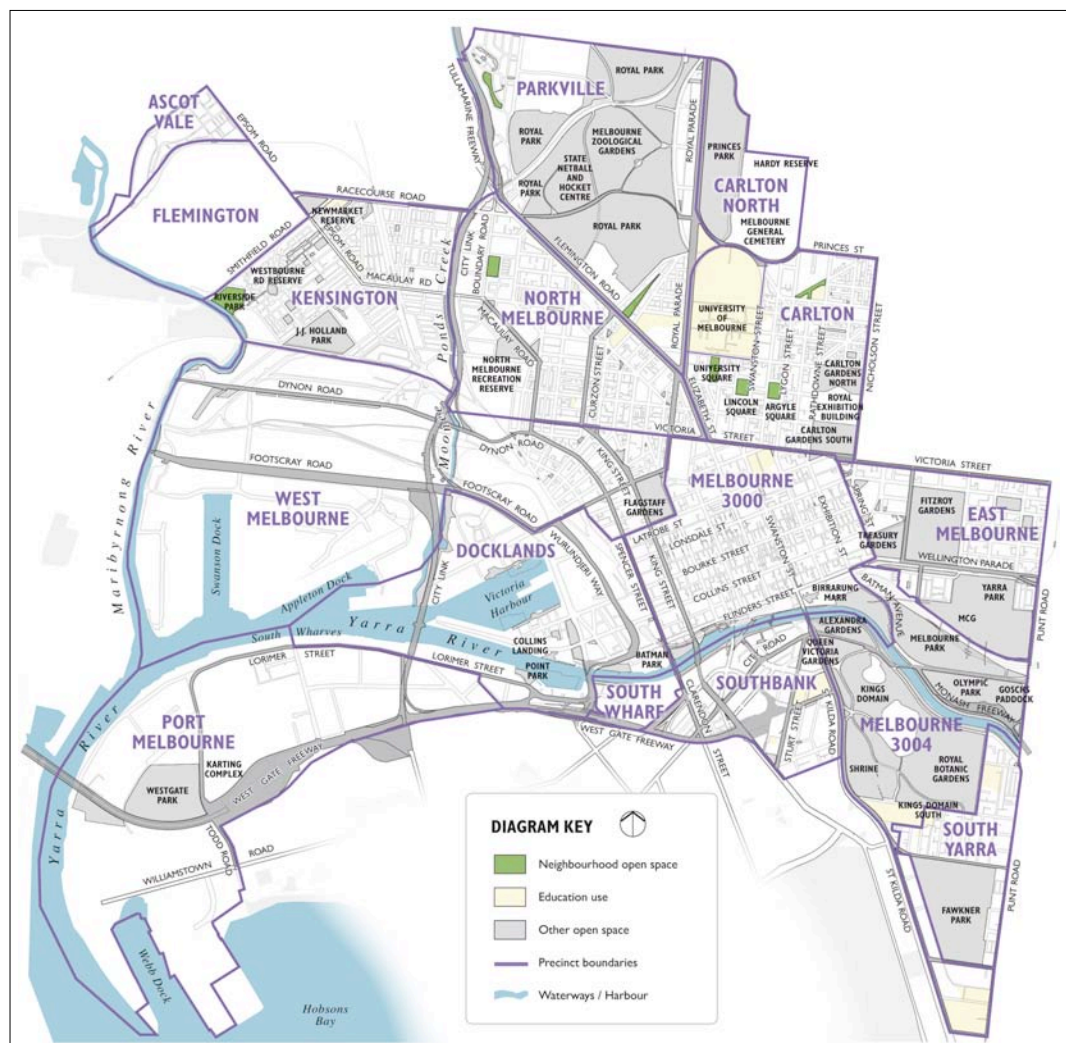
### 4.3.3e Neighbourhood open space distribution

Neighbourhood open space is well distributed in Carlton but the other areas lack this type of open space. Generally, Neighbourhood open space is between one and three hectares in size and provides a variety of unstructured and informal facilities for the local community to use. The size allows a higher diversity of facilities in the one location. University Square, Lincoln Square and Argyle Square are good examples of the Neighbourhood style open space in the municipality.

Areas that currently lack Neighbourhood open space include:

- Southbank
- North Melbourne
- West Melbourne

All of the areas that lack Neighbourhood open space are proposed for extensive redevelopment, potentially providing opportunities for additional Neighbourhood open space. Refer to Figure 4(i) for distribution of Neighbourhood open space and Section 5.4.3 regarding provision of additional open space of this type.



**FIGURE 4(i)** Neighbourhood open space distribution in the City of Melbourne

### 4.3.3f Local open space distribution

The majority of the Local open space is located in Kensington, established when the former Newmarket Saleyards were converted to residential use during the 1980s and 1990s. There is also a reasonable distribution of Local open space in North Melbourne and East Melbourne, while there is none in the Melbourne 3000 central city, South Yarra, Melbourne 3004 (St Kilda Road), Port Melbourne, Flemington, Ascot Vale and Carlton North. There is only one Local open space in both Southbank and West Melbourne.

Additional Local open space is going to be required to meet the needs of both the existing and future populations. This type of open space is generally large enough to provide for at least two different uses within it, and it is more easily established in existing developed areas than is Neighbourhood open space. The larger physical area also provides more sense of protection from the traffic and surrounding streets, when compared to the Small Local open space. Refer to Figure 4(j) for distribution of Local open space. Refer to the precinct recommendations for relevant actions regarding additional Local open space and Section 5.4.3 for a diagram of indicative locations for future open space of this type.

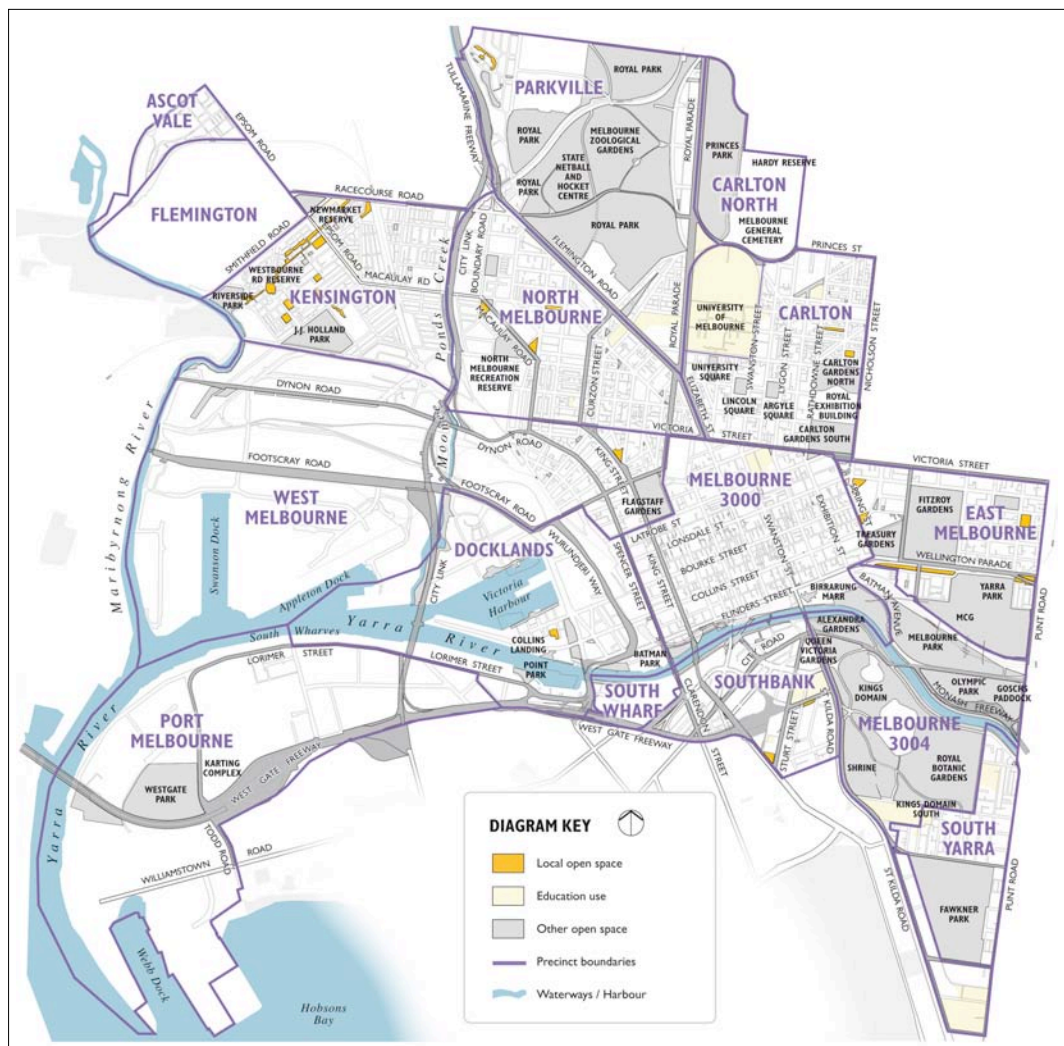


FIGURE 4(j) Local open space distribution in the City of Melbourne

### 4.3.3g Small Local open space distribution

Small Local open space is distributed through most of the precincts with the exception of Port Melbourne, Flemington and Ascot Vale. The majority of these are located in road reservations where open space has been established by changing the traffic priorities.

Additional Small Local open space is going to be required to meet the needs of both the existing and future population. This type of open space is mainly of a size that allows only one type of use or facility within it. The smaller size makes it feasible to establish in existing urban areas, pending the road layout and lot sizes. Refer to Figure 4(k) for distribution of Small Local open space and the precinct recommendations for relevant actions regarding additional Small Local open space and Section 5.4.3 for a diagram of indicative locations for additional open space of this type.

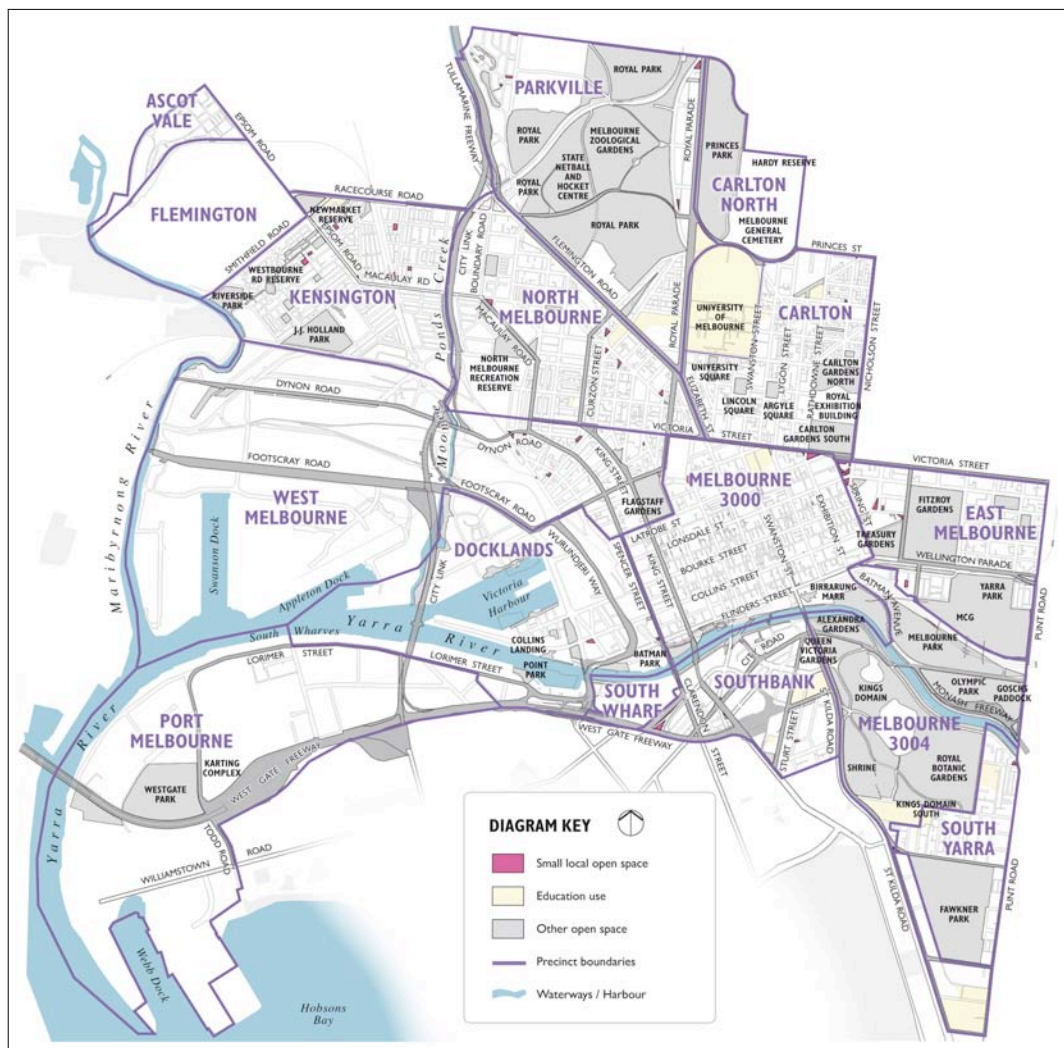
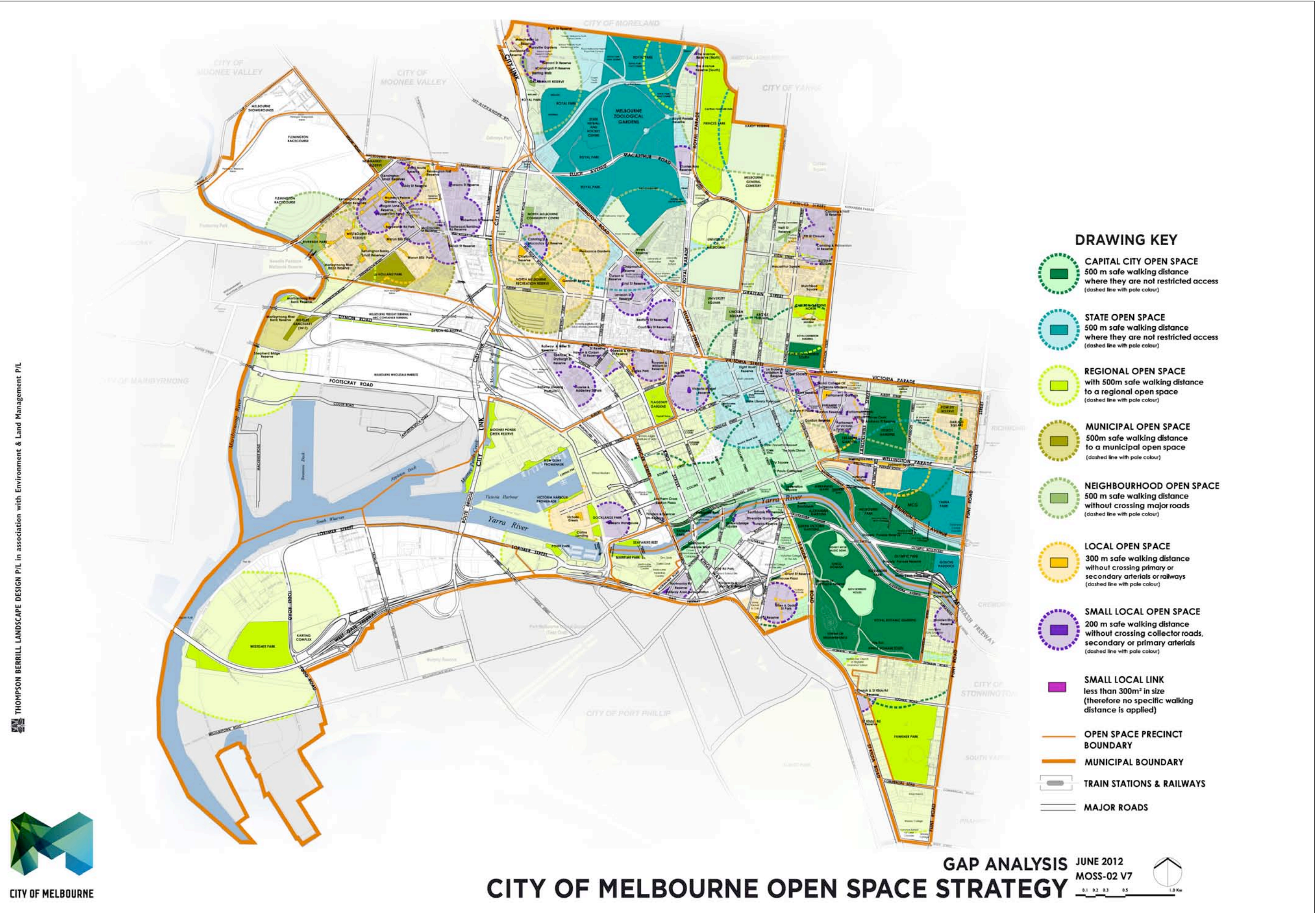


FIGURE 4(k) Small Local open space distribution in the City of Melbourne

### 4.3.3h Small Local Links

Small Local links are generally provided on an as-needs basis, usually to provide connections from the street network into open space, or to improve pedestrian accessibility within the road network. These are illustrated on Drawing MOSS-02, and an extract from this is included in Figure 4(m).





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FIGURE 4(m) Open space gap analysis for the City of Melbourne



#### 4.3.4 Gaps in open space distribution

**Table 4(xi) Gaps in the distribution of open space**

Refer to Drawing MOSS-02 in Figure 4(m) that illustrates the gap areas described in the table below (alphabetically). These descriptions are brief summaries only, and more detailed descriptions and recommendations for how the issues are to be addressed are contained the precinct descriptions in Sections 7 and 8 of this strategy.

Precinct	Existing gaps in distribution of open space
Carlton/Carlton North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No physical gaps in distribution of open space, however the forecast future population density relative to open space means that without additional open space, the existing spaces will become overcrowded. Refer to the precinct description in Section 7.</li> </ul>
Docklands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No physical gaps in distribution of open space, however the community feedback via the open space surveys and the analysis relative to forecast future population density means that without additional open space, the existing spaces will become overcrowded. Refer to the precinct description in Section 7.</li> </ul>
East Melbourne/Jolimont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No physical gaps in distribution of open space. The existing and forecast future population density relative to the quantity of open space is adequately provided for with more than 35m<sup>2</sup> per person available for the existing and forecast population by 2026. The future impact of forecast population on the quality of existing open space will necessitate some capital works upgrades in the open space, however, no additional open space is forecast to be required in this sub-precinct over the next 15 years. The Jolimont Rail Corridor future growth area is forecast to occur post 2026, therefore the open space needs of this future growth are have not been included in this strategy.</li> </ul>
Flemington/Ascot Vale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently there is no public open space provided in this precinct, however the public are able to walk and cycle along the Maribyrnong River for the majority of the time when there are no major events on at Flemington Racecourse.</li> <li>The future growth corridor located along the Racecourse Rail Corridor identified the <i>Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (2010)</i> may increase the population in this precinct. This will create a demand for new open space to be provided in the precinct when this occurs. Refer to the precinct description in Section 8.</li> </ul>

Precinct	Existing gaps in distribution of open space
Kensington	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The majority of Kensington west of the railway has good distribution of open space. East of the railway in the urban renewal area known as Arden Macaulay there is a lack of existing open space, with the need for additional open space as this area redevelops.</li> <li>• The quality and design of open space requires review and upgrade as described in the precinct. Refer to the precinct description in Section 7.</li> </ul>
Melbourne 3000 central city	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently there are physical gaps in the distribution of open space in the central city as shown in Figure 4(m). While historically open space for the central city has been located on its outskirts, the relative increase in the proposed population densities living, working and visiting the central city is placing increased pressure on these spaces. Additional small green open spaces are required in the central city to provide easy access to green spaces for both the existing and future population so they can have some access to and contact with nature. Refer to the precinct description in Section 7.</li> </ul>
Melbourne 3004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no physical gaps in the distribution of open space, with the open space in this precinct providing for the residential, worker and visitor population in the central city as well as St Kilda Road. Relative to population density, the physical area of open space appears to be adequate, however improvements are required to cater to increasing use of these spaces by the forecast population from this and adjoining precincts including Melbourne 3000 and Southbank. Refer to the precinct description in Section 8.</li> </ul>
North Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The eastern area of North Melbourne has physical gaps in existing open space distribution, with additional open space required to meet the needs of both the existing and forecast future population. West of Macaulay Road in the area known as the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area, there are currently no major physical gaps in distribution, however relative to the forecast future population, additional open space will be required. Refer to the precinct description in Section 7.</li> </ul>
Parkville	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parkville is well provided for with open space and no physical gaps in its distribution. When measured against the existing and forecast population densities, there is nearly 85 sqm of open space available per person by 2026. The forecast increased population will place additional demands on facilities in open space and these are described in the precinct description in</li> </ul>



Precinct	Existing gaps in distribution of open space
	Section 8.
Port Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Port Melbourne has one major area of open space in the western end of the precinct, with no other public open space in the remainder. There is a need to provide additional open space to meet the needs of both the existing and forecast future employee population. Refer to the precinct description in Section 8. Note that the Lorimer Street Precinct has not been included in the population forecasts and therefore planning for open space in this strategy. If this was to occur in the future, an assessment of the open space needs for this future population will need to be undertaken in addition to the works proposed in this precinct as part of this strategy.</li> </ul>
Southbank/South Wharf	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southbank has physical gaps in the distribution of open space. Adding to this, the proposed high density urban fabric contributes to the need for additional open space relative to existing and forecast population density. This means that additional open space is required to reduce the intensity of use in some existing open spaces and accommodate the significant increase in residential, employee and visitor population in Southbank. Refer to the precinct descriptions in Section 7.</li> </ul>
South Yarra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South Yarra has no gaps in the distribution of open space. Relative to the population density, open space quantity is adequately provided for now and within the strategy timeframe of 2026, as described in the precinct description in Section 8. Future upgrade to existing open space will be required for the forecast population in South Yarra and also the forecast population from adjoining precincts including Melbourne 3004, Melbourne 3000 and Southbank.</li> </ul>
West Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There are physical gaps in the distribution of open space and relative to existing and forecast future population density, there is a need for additional open space as described in the precinct description in Section 7.</li> </ul>

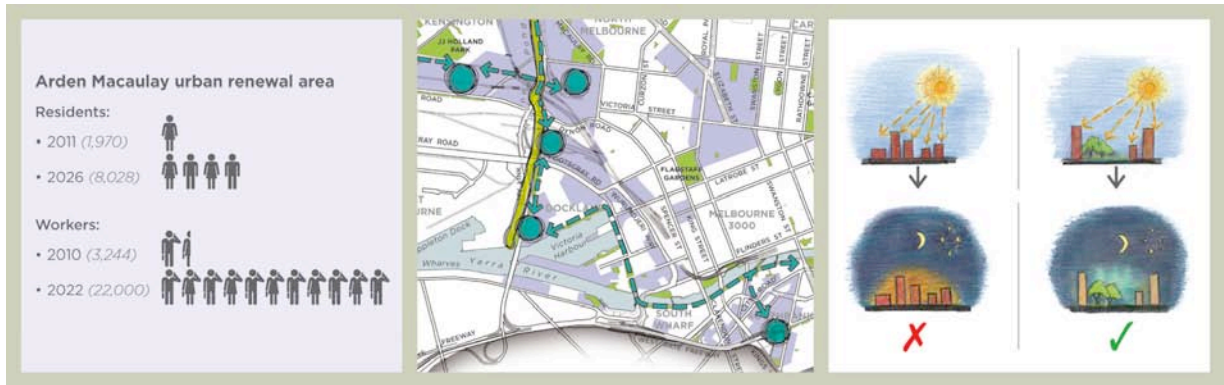
### 4.3.5 Conclusions from the open space gap analysis

Overall South Yarra, Parkville, Melbourne 3004 (St Kilda Road) and East Melbourne have an adequate quantity of open space that is well distributed and adequately caters for the existing and forecast future population within these precincts. All of the other precincts require additional open space to meet the

needs of either the existing population or the forecast population, and in some locations both.

Recommended solutions for addressing the inadequacies in the provision of open space are identified in the precinct recommendations included in Sections 7 and 8 of this strategy. This analysis is informed by the consultation outcomes, site assessments and analysis of the forecast population change.

A more equitable distribution of open space forms the basis of this analysis consistent with the hierarchy and benchmark for open space provision in this strategy. Refer to Section 3 for information regarding the hierarchy and Section 6 for information on the appropriate benchmarks for open space provision.



## 5. Key drivers for open space planning in the future

### 5.1 Introduction

This section of the strategy describes the main influences on planning for the future provision of open space in Melbourne over the next 15 years. This includes major issues such as the significant levels of forecast population growth and infrastructure planning. These will continue to be significant influences on the longer term planning for open space. The City of Melbourne has some unique characteristics that inform the directions for future open space planning in this capital city. These includes:

- The proposed magnitude of change in both the residential and worker population over the 15 year strategy period to 2026, with substantial increases forecast in areas identified for urban renewal in Future Melbourne and the Melbourne Planning Scheme's *Draft Municipal Strategic Statement (July 2010)*. The population forecasts used in this strategy are based on these planning directions.
- The high proportion of the worker population, which comprises a greater proportion of the population than residents in many precincts.
- The need for the open space in the municipality to continue to provide venues for staging major public cultural and sporting events for Victoria.
- The visitor population including international, interstate and Victorian visitors who are attracted to Melbourne for a range of reasons and use open space as part of their visit.
- Supporting the student population in Melbourne in the knowledge precincts.

- High density vertical living with a residential community that has very little private open space and relying on public open space instead to meet the intangible needs of contact with nature, socialise, play, exercise and relax and unwind.

## 5.2 Urban renewal and future change

### 5.2.1 Overview

The City of Melbourne is planning for urban growth in a number of locations across the municipality. The most significant change will occur in designated urban renewal areas like Docklands and Southbank, where conversion of former industrial land has been occurring for some years, the central city, which continues to intensify, and the emerging urban renewal areas of Arden Macaulay, City North, Dynon Rail Corridor, E-Gate and the Racecourse Rail Corridor which will also experience significant change. This change will result in substantial increases in the residential and worker populations.

#### 5.2.1a Different levels of urban change anticipated

Not all parts of the municipality will redevelop at the same rate. The draft revised Municipal Strategic Statement sets out three levels of growth for different parts of the municipality. The description of these growth levels includes:

##### **Urban renewal areas**

Large sites and whole precincts currently underutilised or derelict that will undergo major change in terms of land use and urban design in accordance with adopted structure plans. There will be substantial increases in both the resident and worker populations. The areas which will undergo change by 2026 include:

##### Current

- Carlton Housing Estate
- City North (around Victoria Market and Elizabeth Street)
- Carlton and United Brewery site
- Docklands Second Decade
- Southbank

##### 2015 onwards

- E-Gate (railway land)
- Kensington/North Melbourne (Arden Macaulay)
- Racecourse Rail Corridor

##### 2020 onwards

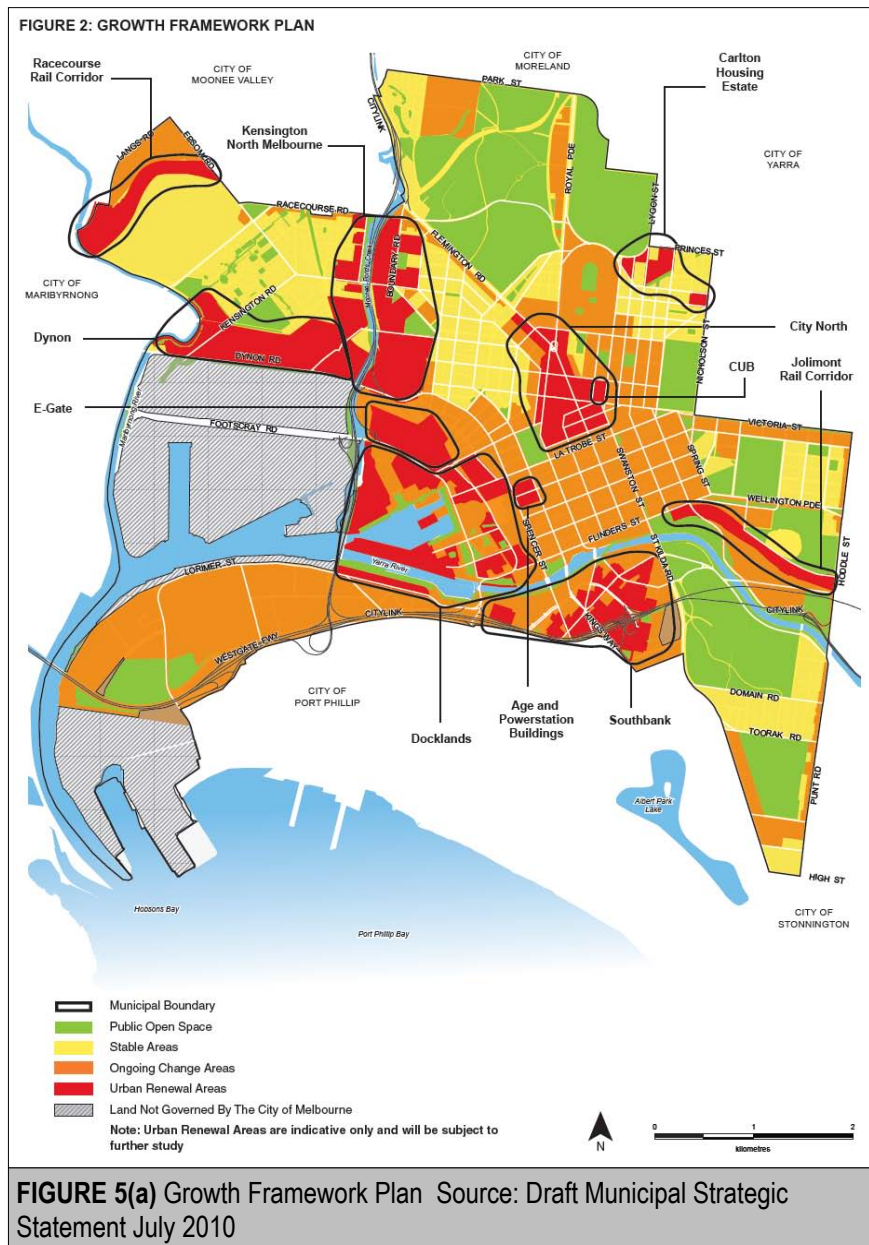
- Dynon Road Site (land on north side)
- Jolimont Rail Corridor (post 2026)

**Ongoing change areas**

Areas where change will continue to occur on a site-by-site basis within the context of current planning controls. This may include changes of use as well as changes to the buildings, or new development.

**Stable areas**

Predominantly residential areas with extensive heritage controls. In-fill development and additions and alterations to existing buildings will continue in line with historic trends. The spatial distribution of these areas is shown in Figure 5(a) below.



Urban renewal areas such as Arden Macaulay, located in Kensington and North Melbourne, and City North are geographically large areas that cross established suburb boundaries. These urban renewal areas adjoin areas of lesser change, however there is likely to be progressive change in some of the mixed use precincts outside of the designated urban renewal areas. It is anticipated that

there will be ongoing evolution in the interactions between an urban renewal area and the adjoining areas.

The differences in the three types of areas account for the variations in population and employment growth as shown in Tables 5(i) and 5(ii) below.

### 5.2.1b Population forecasts

The .id Consulting residential forecasts for the key years of 2011, the start date for preparing the strategy, and 2026, the end year of the strategy's implementation period, are shown in the following table:

**Table 5(i) Forecast residential population growth in the City of Melbourne**

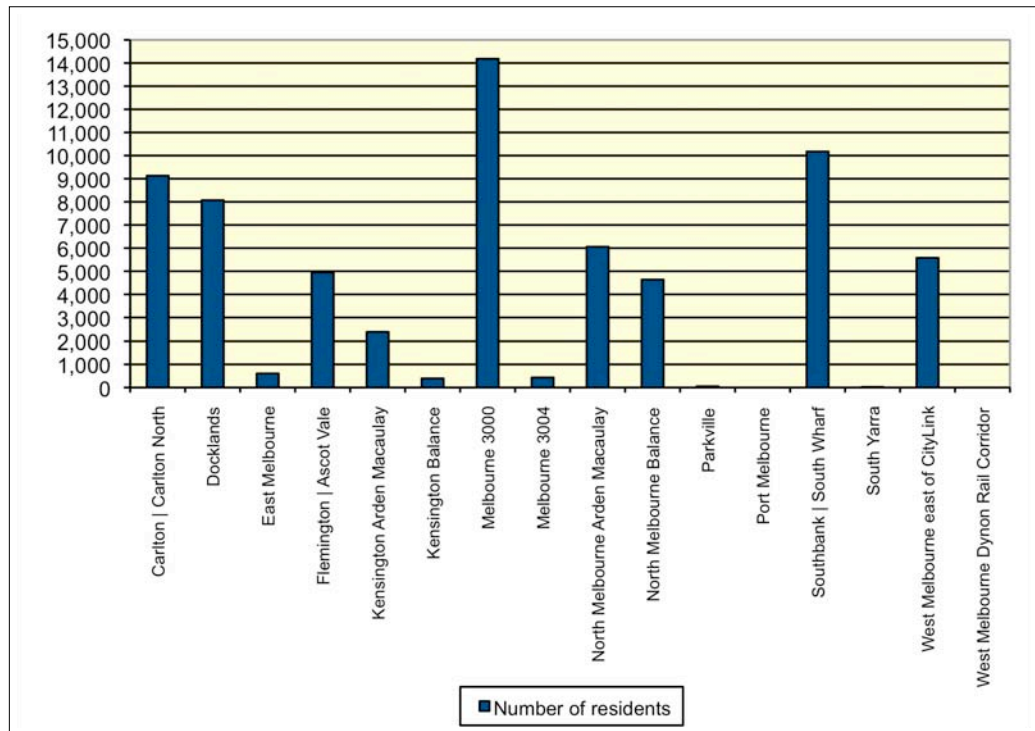
Suburb	2011 est. residential population	2026 est. residential population	Est. no. change 2011-2026	Est. % change 2011-2026
Carlton   Carlton North	14,644	23,773	9,129	62%
Docklands	6,134	14,205	8,071	132%
East Melbourne	5,162	5,770	608	12%
Flemington   Ascot Vale	0	4,950	4,950	N/A
Kensington Arden Macaulay	365	2,741	2,376	651%
Kensington Balance	10,095	10,488	393	4%
Melbourne 3000	21,080	35,264	14,184	67%
Melbourne 3004	1,630	2,064	434	27%
North Melbourne Arden Macaulay	1,970	8,028	6,058	308%
North Melbourne Balance	9,680	14,318	4,638	48%
Parkville	5,773	5,826	53	1%
Port Melbourne	0	0	0	0%
Southbank   South Wharf	13,107	23,282	10,175	78%
South Yarra	4,702	4,724	22	0%
West Melbourne east of CityLink	3,820	9,400	5,580	146%
West Melbourne Dynon	0	0	0	0%
<b>City of Melbourne</b>	<b>98,162</b>	<b>164,833</b>	<b>66,671</b>	<b>68%</b>

Source: Residential figures were supplied by the City of Melbourne. Current at October 2011.

Note: There is no residential population in Port Melbourne and the industrial part of West Melbourne.

In summary, 50 per cent of the additional residential population will be located in the west/north-west, 29 per cent in the south/south-east/north-east and 21 per cent in the Melbourne 3000 city centre.

The overall level of residential change in each suburb area is illustrated in Figure 5(b).



**FIGURE 5(b)** Estimated residential population increase 2011–2026

The City of Melbourne also monitors growth in the non-residential sectors and has prepared estimates around employment numbers to the financial year 2022. Substantial employment is already located in the Melbourne 3000 city centre, Southbank, Docklands, St Kilda Road, Parkville and East Melbourne. Forecast estimates for workers are shown in the following table.

**Table 5(ii) Forecast employment population growth in the City of Melbourne**

Suburb	2011 est. employee population	2026 est. employee population	Est. no. change 2011-2026	Est. % change 2011-2026
Carlton/Carlton North	17,823	24,147	6,324	35%
Docklands	33,503	44,000	10,497	31%
East Melbourne	21,080	25,000	3,920	19%
Flemington   Ascot Vale	367	500	133	36%
Kensington Arden Macaulay	1,459	12,000	10,541	722%
Kensington Balance	3,808	8,000	4,192	110%
Melbourne 3000	223,326	323,855	100,529	45%
Melbourne 3004	23,411	28,000	4,589	20%
North Melbourne Arden Macaulay	3,244	14,000	10,756	332%
North Melbourne Balance	6,135	9,000	2,865	47%
Parkville	27,109	29,221	2,112	8%
Port Melbourne	15,366	17,000	1,634	11%
Southbank   South Wharf	37,796	46,000	8,204	22%
South Yarra	1,488	2,700	1,212	81%
West Melbourne east of CityLink	15,587	18,742	3,155	20%
West Melbourne Dynon Rail Corridor	0	1,000	1,000	1000%
<b>City of Melbourne</b>	<b>431,502</b>	<b>603,165</b>	<b>171,663</b>	<b>40%</b>

Source: Employment figures were supplied by the City of Melbourne and are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011 Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011)

In summary, 24 per cent of the additional employment population will be located in the west and north-west, 18 per cent in the south/southeast/northeast and almost 60 per cent in the Melbourne 3000 city centre.

The overall level of employment change in each suburb area is illustrated in Figure 5(c).

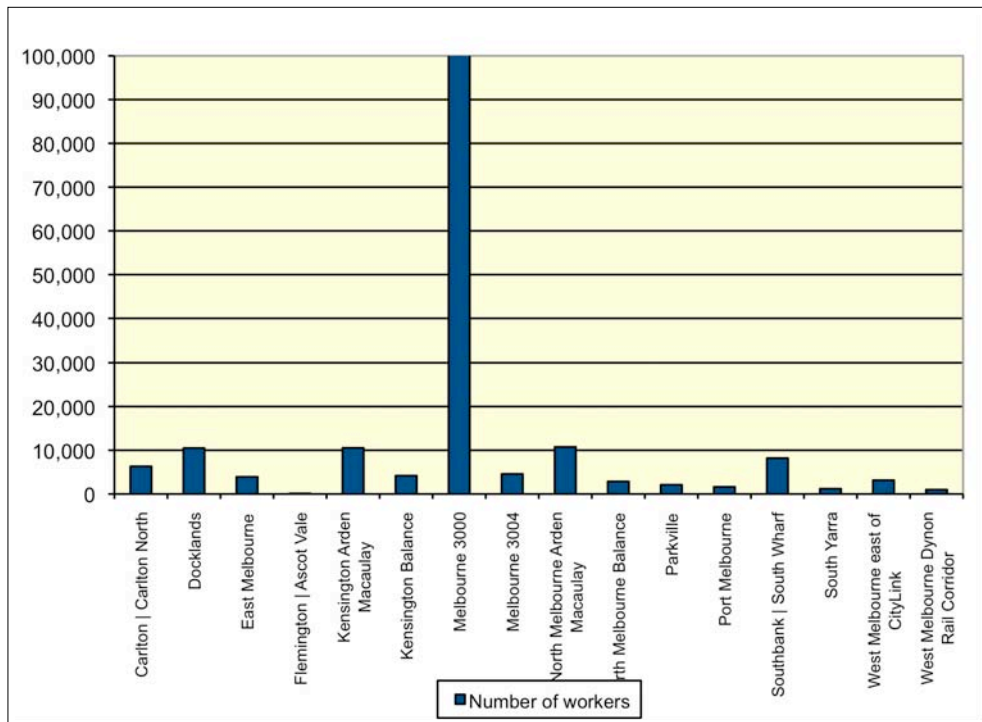


FIGURE 5(c) Estimated worker population increase 2011–2026

## 5.2.2 Key issues

### 5.2.2a Implications for open space planning for growth

The long term growth in the urban renewal areas has been forecast to 2040 and beyond, providing a longer-term benchmark against which to assess open space needs. The level of urban change proposed in parts of the municipality, especially in Docklands, Southbank, and in the west and north west areas of the municipality, is equivalent to the level of growth experienced in the metropolitan urban growth corridors, where generally larger areas of open space are set aside for parkland in the initial planning stages of the development and the urban densities are much lower. The residential population is forecast to almost double in the north-west and west of the municipality, where currently there is a lack of open space. These urban renewal areas will require a range of new open space including larger areas as well as smaller local spaces. Achieving these larger areas of open space will be difficult if they are not set aside early in the planning for the proposed areas of urban renewal.



The 2011–26 growth forecasts for each suburb including the urban renewal areas form the basis of assessing the detailed open space requirements in each of the precincts. Changes in population numbers and characteristics are used to assess open space need, and to then recommend the future open space provision that will be required to meet those needs.

### **5.2.2b Urban Renewal Areas**

Urban renewal areas, with their substantial population growth, will experience increased demand for open space at local level as well as the broader Municipal and Neighbourhood level. Many of these areas currently have small residential populations and limited open space. Employment densities are low in the older industrial areas. Overall, the demographic and number of workers can be expected to change dramatically, resulting from redevelopment opportunities, the aging of the work force and structural changes in the economy.

Establishing new open space for emerging communities will be particularly important where accessible open space will otherwise be in short supply. Adding to the open space network will rely on obtaining some land from larger redevelopment sites in strategic locations, whether this land is currently owned by government or the private sector. The City of Melbourne will need a proactive approach to take advantage of these redevelopment opportunities, particularly through identifying potential sites for land contributions in advance of any discussions that take place about redevelopment proposals.

The need to ensure that well-distributed open space is added to the network is particularly important based on the growing body of research that confirms natural areas of open space have increasingly important positive influences on the community health and wellbeing as described in Section 4.1.4 as well as for urban heat island mitigation along with biodiversity.

### **5.2.2c Ongoing change and stable areas**

For ongoing change and stable areas, population change will be more gradual or limited and will have less of an impact on open space. Opportunities to increase open space will be sought in some locations and will largely be based on a combination of existing and future population needs along with addressing climate change mitigation. This will generally include the provision of additional open space in and around gap areas and review of the design and function of existing open space.

### 5.2.3 Conclusions

The extent of change planned for the City of Melbourne will result in significant impacts on the levels of use of existing open space and creation of the need for additional open space across the municipality. The impacts of the forecast future change has been analysed at a precinct level and recommendations and specific actions to guide appropriate future open space provision and design are included in this strategy.

#### **Additional Capital City open space**

The expansion of the residential and mixed use areas of the city to the west and north means that additional areas of Capital City open space will be required to maintain Melbourne's reputation as the world's most liveable city. As described further in Section 5.3, the Capital City open space is already well utilised and additional spaces will be required to allow the municipality to keep expanding the range of events it can continue to host in the City of Melbourne. Refer to Section 5.3 in this strategy for further discussion.

#### **Additional Municipal open space**

The existing community sport and recreation facilities in the municipality are already at capacity and the substantial forecast increase in the residential and worker community means that more open space area will be required to adequately cater for this expansion. Refer to Section 5.4 in this strategy for further discussion.

#### **Additional Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space**

The forecast increased population across the municipality means that the local open space network also needs to be increased. The growth will focus in urban renewal areas where there is scope to improve the integration of the location and provision of additional Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space within the urban layout, given the substantial change that is forecast to occur in these areas. This includes the potential to establish a more pedestrian and cycle friendly environment. Designing for slower vehicle traffic speeds will greatly improve the viability of Small Local open spaces in these locations, along with increasing their accessibility for young children and older people. In the established areas the opportunities to achieve additional Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space will be more challenging and require careful thought and planning. For further information please refer to Section 6.1.5 in this strategy.

#### **Purpose and intent of proposed new open space**

This strategy articulates the need for additional open space to cater to the forecast population open space needs. Additionally, upgrades are proposed to some existing open spaces to cater to the forecast population needs, particularly in the ongoing and stable areas. Forging the new major growth areas to the west and the north into areas that have historically been set aside primarily for non-residential use and low density use means that additional open spaces will be needed ranging from Capital City open space to Municipal, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space. This new open space is intended to meet the

criteria outlined in Section 6.3 of this strategy and does not include encumbered open space, or ancillary open space.

Both encumbered and ancillary open spaces are intended to be additional to the type and quantity of open space specified in this strategy. Ancillary open space includes open space located around community facilities such as community centres, neighbourhood houses, maternal child and health care, libraries etc. Encumbered open space includes areas subject to regular inundation, service easements and overhead structures where these characteristics will potentially restrict the adaptability of the open space to be utilised for a range of diverse purposes.

### **Function and viability of existing Small Local open space**

Many of the Small Local open spaces in the municipality are significantly impacted by roads. This includes traffic speed, volume, emissions and the barriers they create for access to the open space. This is particularly noticeable in Southbank, and it was reinforced in the household survey outcomes where less people used streets for exercise than in other parts of the municipality. Changes to the adjoining roads including lowering traffic volumes and speed will potentially improve the amenity and use of the Local and Small Local open spaces. This is consistent with creating improved public spaces for people as outlined in the *Places for People 2004 (City of Melbourne and Gehl Architects)*.

## **5.3 Capital city role**

### **5.3.1 Overview**

#### **5.3.1a The reason for Capital City open space**

Melbourne is the capital city for the State of Victoria and declared as such in 1851. Today, Melbourne's open space contributes to the identity, character and liveability of Melbourne. The number of people living, visiting and working in the City of Melbourne on a daily basis is estimated at approximately 771,000 people and includes residents, workers, students and visitors.

The large open spaces to the east of the central city were set aside when Melbourne was originally laid out soon after settlement in the early 1840s. These large parklands today are key features of the municipality and contribute to Melbourne being one of the most liveable cities in the world. As Melbourne turned to face the Yarra River in the 1980s and revitalise the southern banks of the river, the river and the promenades along it have become integrally important to the City of Melbourne's character and synonymous with its identity.

Some of Melbourne's open spaces are well known and form part of the municipality's image and character including its liveability. The Capital City open space falls into three main categories:

- Large parks and gardens for events and predominantly informal use including:
  - Royal Botanic Gardens
  - King's Domain
  - Queen Victoria Gardens
  - Alexandra Gardens
  - Fitzroy and Treasury Gardens
  - Carlton Gardens (South)
  
- Venues for major sporting events including:
  - Melbourne Park
  - Olympic Park
  - Melbourne Cricket Ground
  
- Public gathering spaces and squares focussed around the Hoddle Grid and the Yarra River:
  - Birrarung Marr
  - Yarra River corridor between Spencer Street and Punt road
  - Federation Square
  - City Square
  - Southbank Promenade (Queensbridge Square)
  - Sidney Myer Music Bowl in King's Domain

For the spatial distribution of Capital City open space, please refer to Figure 4(e). Some of these spaces have restricted public access.

### **5.3.1b The difference between Capital City open space and State open space**

There are some open spaces that contribute to the ability for the State of Victoria to stage major events but do not necessarily have the visitor and iconic status of Capital City open space which includes places such as Domain Parklands, Royal Botanic Gardens and Federation Square. State open space currently includes Royal Park, Yarra Park and Gosch's Paddock. These spaces include venues within them that either stage major events or assist with the staging of these and are important for the State of Victoria, but are not part of the iconic status of other spaces that interstate and overseas visitors would recognise as being synonymous with the image of Melbourne. In the future some of the additional Capital City open space identified in the strategy may by design become State rather than Capital City open space, and this distinction will be made if required, once the open space is established.

For both Capital City and State open space, the intention is that the facilities are designed to facilitate staging of events and attracting visitors at an international and national level.

## 5.3.2 Key issues

### 5.3.2a Forecast population growth and impact on the carrying capacity and values of the existing Capital City open space

The forecast growth for the municipality will increase the total population of the municipality, including residents, visitors, workers and students, in the order of approximately 300,000, from 700,000 to 1,000,000 per day. This forecast increase in population will place additional pressure on the existing open space, particularly if expansion of the restricted facilities continues over time, effectively reducing the amount of open parkland available for people to visit on an informal basis. In open space owned and managed by the City of Melbourne, it is feasible for future built facilities to be refused or limited to reduce the incremental loss of open parkland. On Crown land however, as is the case for all of the existing Capital City open space, decisions regarding built facilities in open space are not made by the City of Melbourne, therefore there can be no certainty over the future loss of open parkland over time.

This strategy is one of the key tools with which the City of Melbourne in conjunction with the Victorian Government can effectively plan for the future management of open space in the municipality and proactively retain the character for which it is well known. This strategy recommends adding new Capital City open space to the network to expand the area of parkland set aside for these purposes, thereby protecting the core values of the existing Capital City open space.

In addition to establishing new Capital City open space there is also a need to effectively plan for the local open space needs of the community within a safe and easy walking distance of these new Capital City open spaces. The purpose of the Capital City open space is to primarily cater to international, national and Victorian visitors needs, therefore local worker and resident community open space needs should primarily be catered for in other open spaces located nearby. Where this is not feasible, facilities suitable for local use will be incorporated into Capital City open space.

### 5.3.2b Loss of open parkland to built facilities

The City of Melbourne is in the unusual situation whereby the majority of existing open space is Crown Land, with the Victorian Government as the land owner. The City of Melbourne is appointed by the government as the Committee of Management for the majority of this land, however, responsibilities can change as has recently been demonstrated with the transfer of Yarra Park from City of Melbourne management to the Melbourne Cricket Ground Trust.

The main issue that arises is the potential loss of open parkland to large buildings. Two recent examples are:

- The expansion of the Royal Children's Hospital in Royal Park.
- Construction of a new indoor stadium in Olympic Park.

The issues arising from these two examples are different, with the first example being the construction of a building that is not related to sport and recreation uses. The second example is the construction of a building that is used primarily as a sport and recreation venue but is generally not available for unrestricted public access or informal public use. The sites on which both these buildings are constructed previously were either available for informal recreational use, or had the potential to be converted to this use in the case of the car park at Olympic Park. In the case of the second example, the building and its use fit within the purpose of the zoning of the land even though it does not allow informal use of it and the perception of open parkland is lost, whereas the purpose and use of the building in the first example does not, and this is the reason for the excision of this land from Royal Park and its public purpose zoning.

In both cases the City of Melbourne does not have direct control over these decisions and there are likely to be future examples of building expansion in open space. The conclusions regarding loss of open parkland are described in Section 5.3.3d.

### **5.3.2c The impact of major sport, entertainment and events on the local population**

The major sport and event facilities in the City of Melbourne are primarily situated in and around Melbourne Park, Yarra Park, MCG, Olympic Park and the Yarra River. To continue to attract major events to Melbourne, these facilities undergo regular renovation and expansion. Over the years this has significantly changed the character and function of the open space, mainly through the expansion of built facilities to reasonably accommodate the changing needs and capacity at the different venues. Local community use of these open spaces has been affected by the expansion of constructed facilities and the increased number and size of events held in these open spaces. Issues include:

- Competing interests between local community amenity and staging major events in Capital City open space.
- Reduction in access to open parkland areas after the expansion of permanent built facilities or construction of temporary buildings for events in open space.
- Loss of public access to the parkland for the duration of the event. As the population in the municipality grows, particularly in the central city, this will result in increasing pressure for local use of Capital City, State and Regional open space unless additional types of open space are added to the network.
- Built facilities provided as part of staging these events including fencing, grand stands, vehicles and site traffic, toilets, temporary and permanent built form decreases the amount of public open parkland available either on a temporary or permanent basis for the local population.
- Long hours of use for events including the set up and removal of temporary equipment and structures for the event, and the continual bookings for each event space throughout the day.
- While the event is on, loss of intangible values the community identifies as important about open space including peace and quiet, openness, naturalness and as a place to unwind.

- Ongoing incremental damage to vegetation including turf, garden beds and trees during events, affecting maintenance, use and enjoyment of the open space by others outside of the events.
- Recovery and reinstatement time post major events being held, particularly during the height of the event season during spring, summer and autumn.
- Loss of informal community use of open space during the staging of major events.

#### **5.3.2d Loss of open parkland to car parking associated with major venues**

In more recent years, the City of Melbourne has promoted the use of alternative forms of transport to reach major event venues, particularly the sporting precinct of the MCG, Melbourne Park and Olympic Park. Open space is still used for car parking and this does restrict and limit the use of the space at other times. This is most notable in Yarra Park where large portions of the park are used for car parking when major events are staged at the MCG and adjoining venues.

In the future planning for Capital City open space, its location near to mass public transport is critical to encourage access via public rather than private transport. Where car parking is required, then provision of underground/undercroft parking to ensure it is not taking up valuable accessible open space at ground level is an important principle to encourage.

#### **5.3.2e Lack of open space provided specifically for local community use**

Part of the identity, character and liveability of Melbourne is attributed to open space and it continues to be an extremely important natural asset for Melbourne. While the Capital City, State and Regional open space is a unique and valuable feature of Melbourne, there is a relatively small quantity currently provided and managed primarily for the local community's use and needs. Security of tenure and access to open space is important in relation to both adaptation for climate change and within the context of proposed increased urban densities.

### **5.3.3 Conclusions**

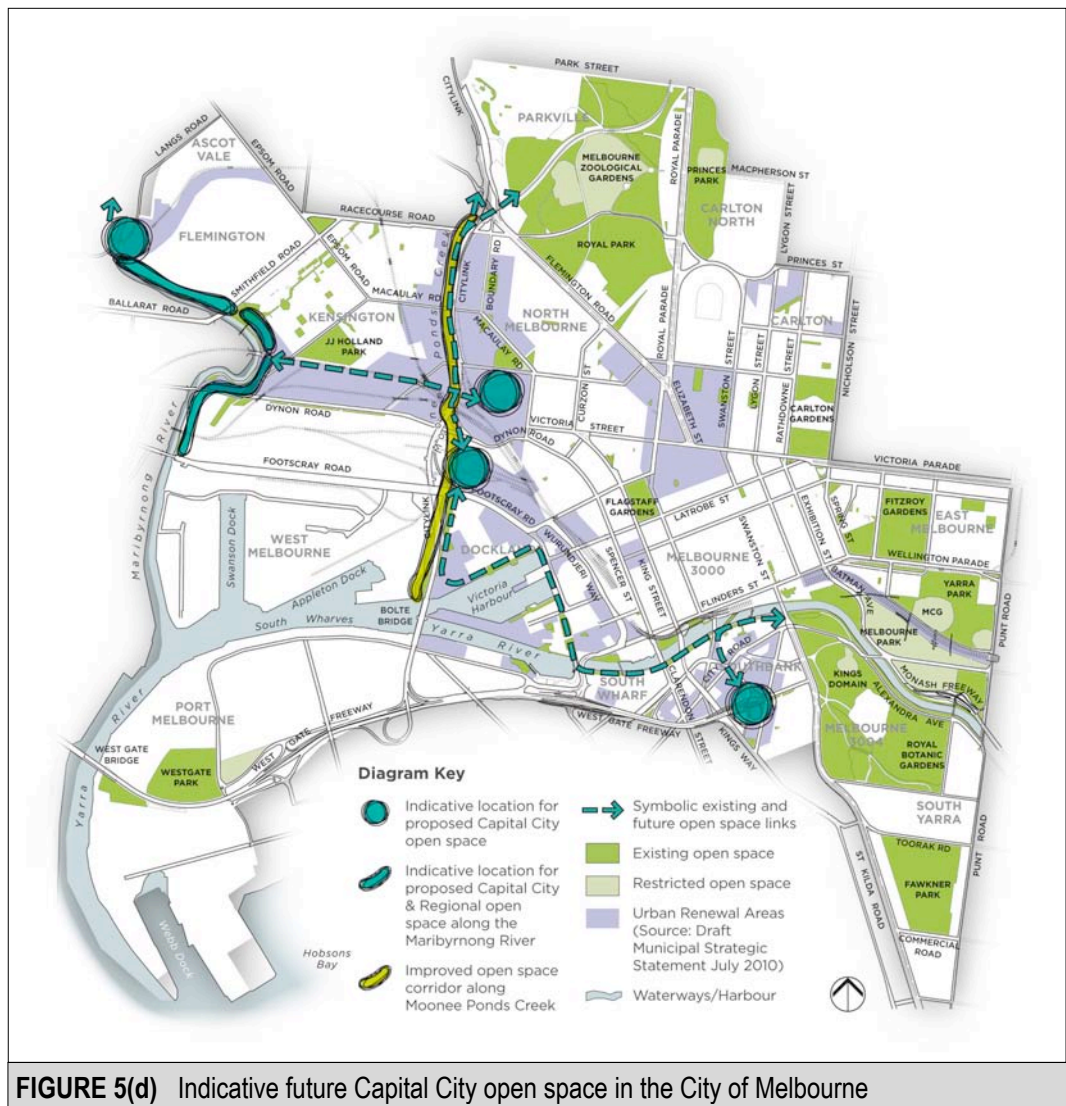
#### **5.3.3a Additional Local open space**

In some locations it is necessary to provide additional Local or Small Local open space near existing Capital City open space, to better provide for local community needs outside of the Capital City open space. Flexibility is required to allow for changes to infrastructure and design of Capital City open space to ensure that Melbourne continues to attract and host major events in its open space. This strategy directs the City of Melbourne to focus on providing other open spaces for the local population to use nearby to the Capital City open space while events are held, as this will better provide for the open space needs of the local population. Refer to precinct recommendations for specific actions.

### 5.3.3b Additional Capital City open space in the western areas of the municipality

The forecast population growth is greatest in the Melbourne 3000 city centre, Docklands, Southbank and north west of the central city. With the Victorian Government being a major landholder in the western urban renewal areas of Arden Macaulay, Dynon Road, Racecourse Rail Corridor and E-Gate, and the extent of redevelopment anticipated, there is an opportunity for the City of Melbourne and the government to work together to establish a robust and inspirational open space framework for future populations to enjoy and celebrate. This will build on Melbourne's reputation as one of Australia's pre-eminent capital cities and a desirable place to visit, work and live.

With the continued expansion of the residential and worker population in the north and west of the municipality, there is a need to identify opportunities to provide additional Capital City open space in the west. Future locations have been identified on Victorian Government owned land so that adequate sized and located open space can be considered. These are illustrated in Figure 5(d).



**FIGURE 5(d)** Indicative future Capital City open space in the City of Melbourne



There are also opportunities to convert some areas to Capital City open space over time, including at Docklands where there is potential for the waterfront to have this role in the future as Docklands expands. For the waterfront to be a public open space that all Victorians can enjoy, it would preferably be continuous, designed to provide general public access to Victoria Harbour and be of a sufficient size so that a diverse range of activities and public events can occur in the space to encourage its use.

The urban renewal areas of Arden Macaulay, E-Gate and Dynon Road have historically had no need for Capital City open space and none has been provided. Moonee Ponds Creek provides a regional link and connectivity through these precincts, however, the diversity of uses and character of the creek will always be limited by the presence of the elevated freeway and Upfield rail line over the majority of the creek through the municipality. At E-Gate the overhead freeway diverts away from the creek, opening up a potential opportunity for larger open space to be established adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek without being directed overshadowed by it, however noise is likely to still be an encumbrance. Review of its viability in the context of freeway off-ramps will require further investigation and analysis. A broader opportunity is to establish larger areas of open space along the Maribyrnong River for people to enjoy the recreational values along with the size and expanse of the waterway in these reaches of the river.

The focus for urban renewal areas will be to continue to expand the strengths of the existing open space network into these areas so that they are identifiably part of the City of Melbourne. Extending the existing network of Capital City open space to the western parts of the municipality is an important component of the future open space network.

### **5.3.3c Design and management of Capital City open space**

Many of the issues associated with events in Capital City open space can be overcome with effective management of events and planning for adequate provision of open space to cater to local needs as well as the capital city needs. One of the major issues will be that as Melbourne's population grows, particularly near the central city, the ability to stage events in some open space may be limited by the pressure for use by the increasing numbers of residents and visitors. In the precinct analysis in this strategy, this has been considered. There are proactive recommendations contained in Sections 7 and 8 to provide additional Local and Small Local open space to cater to the local population needs, retaining adequate open space for Capital City needs.

In some locations there is a need to review the design and management of the Capital City open space to provide for local resident and worker population needs within the Capital City open space, while allowing the space to continue to perform its primary Capital City role.

The Capital City open space is of benefit to the State of Victoria and the Victorian Government has a joint role with the City of Melbourne in promoting, designing and managing the Capital City open space. This partnership role is to be encouraged, particularly in relation to achieving additional Capital City open

space in the urban renewal areas, including in Docklands, E-Gate, Arden-Macaulay, Southbank, Dynon and Racecourse Railway Corridor.

Refer to Section 6 of this strategy for overall recommendations regarding the quality of open space.

### **5.3.3d Loss of open parkland**

This strategy recognises that in some instances, there is a need to construct open space related facilities to support the City of Melbourne and the Victorian Government in continuing to promote and hold major events. Alternative locations for construction of additional built facilities should always be investigated prior to proposing that they be constructed on open parkland. This strategy supports retaining existing open parkland where possible, and it promotes the inclusion of natural elements in future design of existing and new open space including grassed areas, garden beds and large trees to off-set the increased urban densities and built form that will continue to occur as the population expands.

This strategy proposes new areas of Capital City open space and additional Municipal, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space to assist with achieving fair and equal access to a reasonable level of open space.

## **5.4 Health and wellbeing**

### **5.4.1 Overview**

Open space significantly influences the health and wellbeing of the community, as described in Section 4. The existing population via the strategy household surveys has identified the need for additional open space in the municipality particularly in the Melbourne 3000 city centre, Docklands, Southbank and North Melbourne. Overall, nearly 70 per cent of the new population will be located in the west, north-west and the city centre. The remaining 30 per cent will be located primarily in the south, east and north-east. This increased intensification will need to carefully balance existing and future population open space needs.

The planned future population increase will place additional demands on existing open space and create demand for new open space. A large proportion of the forecast population is likely to be living and working in West Melbourne, the Melbourne 3000 city centre, Docklands, Southbank/South Wharf, and parts of North Melbourne, Kensington and Carlton. In some locations this coincides with precincts where there is an identified lack of open space for the existing population, and growth will impact directly on both the structured, unstructured and informal recreation needs of the community.

## 5.4.2 Key issues

### 5.4.2a Increased population densities in urban renewal areas

Current directions in planning for the City of Melbourne support a substantial increase in the residential and commercial/retail use in areas that traditionally have been dominated by industrial uses or warehousing. There is very little or no open space in many of the urban renewal areas, as originally open space was not provided in most of the industrial precincts.

### 5.4.2b Increased high density/vertical living

The forecast dwellings will result in dwelling types with limited areas of private open space available, increasing the need for the population to have outside open spaces that are large enough to provide contact with nature and places to exercise. Future open space design in the urban renewal areas will be important in contributing to the future community's health and wellbeing.

Recent research into children in vertical living - *Vertical Living Kids (2009)*, undertaken by the University of Melbourne for the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation, found that children living in high-rise housing within a 300 metre radius of local green space were more likely to access those spaces independently than children who had to travel further. While this research is available on children's use and access to open space, it is likely that vertical living for adults results in at least the same and potentially a greater reliance on public open space.

### 5.4.2c Urban heat island effect

In the urban renewal areas, the future population is likely to be accommodated in multiple level buildings, with a focus on compact urban form to promote walkable neighbourhoods. The combination of increased building height and increased hard surfaces creates a warmer microclimate within these areas, potentially affecting human health. Open space can potentially off-set some of the impacts of this increased urban heat as well as promote community health and wellbeing. The open space will be most effective if it is well distributed and contains a range of natural features including planted surfaces with space for broad-leafed canopy trees. This will minimise further solar heat absorption and provide other health benefits associated with trees. Refer to discussion in the Climate Change Section 5.5.

### 5.4.2d Structured community sport and recreation facilities

The City of Melbourne recreation services team has confirmed that the current community sporting facilities in the municipality are at capacity and there is already some undersupply of sporting fields to meet existing demands. In addition to the high demand for use of sports fields by community sports clubs for training purposes and competitions, they are also heavily used for casual sport

and recreation use, including an increase in corporate sports competitions with activities such as touch soccer, touch football and 20/20 cricket. The City of Melbourne has methods to address the current undersupply with construction of the synthetic pitches for training and informal use to reduce demands on the natural turf sporting fields to improve capacity. They are also encouraging clubs to conduct matches outside of the traditional weekend competitions, by promoting scheduling of these on Thursday and Friday nights to alleviate the pressure and intense use on the weekends. These measures are just able to cater to current demands but will not be able to cater to the forecast population growth.

The recreation services team has advised that the scale of the forecast population growth does result in the need for additional Municipal open space to provide additional sport and recreation facilities including additional sports fields.

#### **5.4.2e Unstructured recreation facilities and infrastructure design**

##### **Cycling and walking**

The strategy household survey outcomes and site assessments have identified there are conflicts between commuter/high speed cyclists using shared trails and people walking and using these same trails for a more relaxed outing. The conflicts arise from design issues including poor sightlines due to overhanging vegetation, or inherent trail alignment issues due to topographic or space constraints. Other issues relate to cycling and pedestrian behaviour on shared paths, including pedestrians feeling intimidated by the speed and volume of cyclists, and cyclists being concerned about deviating and needing to avoid large volumes of pedestrians or unexpected diversions such as dogs on and off leads running out in the way of cyclists. In Melbourne, some of the existing major gardens exclude cycling access to encourage walking and strolling in these contemplative spaces. The community via the surveys identified this as a key issue, with comments that the gardens should be made accessible for cyclists in the future. This strategy supports unstructured recreational use, however resolving the issue of cycling access in the major historical gardens needs to be considered at the master plan level to ensure all issue are carefully considered.

##### **Other unstructured recreational use of open space**

There are a variety of unstructured recreational activities that the community participate in including walking, running, jogging, cycling, walking, exercise, informal ball games such as kick to kick and futsal, playgrounds, BMX bike riding, skate boarding, and informal half court basketball. These unstructured activities are undertaken individually and in informal groups, without any structure associated with them such as a club or organisation, and not on a fee paying basis. Encouraging people to participate in physical activities to keep fit is important, and many of these activities require medium and large sized spaces to undertake them effectively. The strategy supports providing facilities in open space to encourage this unstructured use along with the structured or organised sporting activities. Facilities include level open grassed areas, hard court areas that are open and accessible, tennis hit up walls, skate facilities etc. Some of

these facilities have also been identified to be located into encumbered open space where unencumbered open space is limited.

### **Informal use and enjoyment of open space**

Design and provision of open space that is accessible and enjoyable to use will encourage people outside to relax and unwind. This is very important for people's mental health and wellbeing. The design and location of these spaces influences the ability of people to be able to relax and unwind. Facilities and designs that encourage this includes seating in a variety of locations and styles suitable for the levels of use anticipated in the different spaces, picnic and barbecue facilities, strolling paths, trees, shade, drinking fountains, playgrounds, open grassed areas with a variety of settings including areas in the sun and shade. Conflicts arise between different people in open space if their activities are incompatible. There is a need to ensure that compatible uses are considered in the design of future open space, while ensuring there is a diversity of activities and designs that encourage people out into the space.

### **Indoor multi-purpose facilities**

Additional indoor courts are required to cater for existing demand, however, the provision of additional multi-purpose indoor facilities should be investigated for areas of encumbered land to maximise retention of quality open parkland. These facilities should be provided in addition to the recommended establishment of unencumbered open space such as the new Municipal, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space. Examples of encumbered land include the area under the Westgate Freeway in Southbank and the area along Moonee Ponds Creek under CityLink. Other potential facilities to promote on this encumbered land to expand participation in these activities include facilities for futsal and rock climbing.

There is also potential to locate facilities like BMX tracks and skate park facilities on the freeway land, given that overshadowing of this space precludes successful establishment of natural turf and planting. This land is located under the freeway in Southbank, adjacent to where a high number of young people now live and next to Moonee Ponds Creek where forecast future growth will occur through Docklands, West Melbourne, North Melbourne and Kensington.

### **Pavilions**

The City of Melbourne does not encourage the expansion of sports pavilions, and there is a strong focus on promoting multiple use of pavilions in recognition that there are constraints on the amount of open parkland area available within the municipality. This approach will need to be strengthened within the context of forecast population growth.

### **Lighting**

Provision of lighting in open space was requested frequently in the strategy household surveys. Additional lighting was requested in many of the major parks and gardens and the reasons are generally to improve their use in the winter and after hours particularly along paths, and also in some cases to improve the sense

of safety in the spaces. Additional lighting was also requested along the Yarra Trail. There are cost and environment implications of providing additional lighting in open space, and the detail of these would generally be considered during a Master Plan update process. Overall, the requests across the different open spaces suggests that people are using open space later in the evenings, particularly in winter, and the lack of lighting along paths is restricting this use. The environmental implications associated with increasing lighting in open space include increased energy use and impact on the native wildlife. These factors need to be balanced with the potential to improve accessibility to and extending the use of open space by the existing and forecast community.

#### **5.4.2f Demographic change**

The following assumptions are summarised from the updated population forecasts prepared for the City of Melbourne (.id Consulting) in November 2010. They indicate that overall there will be a gain of young adults throughout all areas of the municipality, with a loss of young families from a number of areas. This generally relates to the opportunities available in the housing market, as the predicted future dwellings in the City of Melbourne are mainly apartments. The Melbourne 3004 (St Kilda Road) area is the only location attracting an increase in retirees while Docklands is forecast to have an increase in 35 to 59 year olds. These assumptions will influence the type of facilities provided in open space in the future. As the City of Melbourne progressively upgrades open space, facilities will be adapted where required to suit any major changes to the demographic make up to improve accessibility to, relevance of and use of open space by the local community.

#### **5.4.2g Student and knowledge precinct population**

Students are largely residing in student accommodation, which can range from the residential rooms on campus at Melbourne University, to apartments and group houses. The presence of RMIT and Melbourne Universities – referred to as the knowledge precinct – will continue to attract students to the municipality along with those employed at the universities. Planning for student and worker open space needs will be important in these precincts, particularly at the local precinct level.

#### **5.4.2h Contaminated land**

Given the urban renewal areas are predominantly located on existing or former industrial land, some of the future open spaces identified in this strategy are likely to be contaminated. Land identified for open space use will need to demonstrate that the contamination can and will be treated to meet current best practice prior to confirming the suitability of an area for open space and prior to its transfer to the City of Melbourne as public open space.

#### **5.4.2i Community gardens**

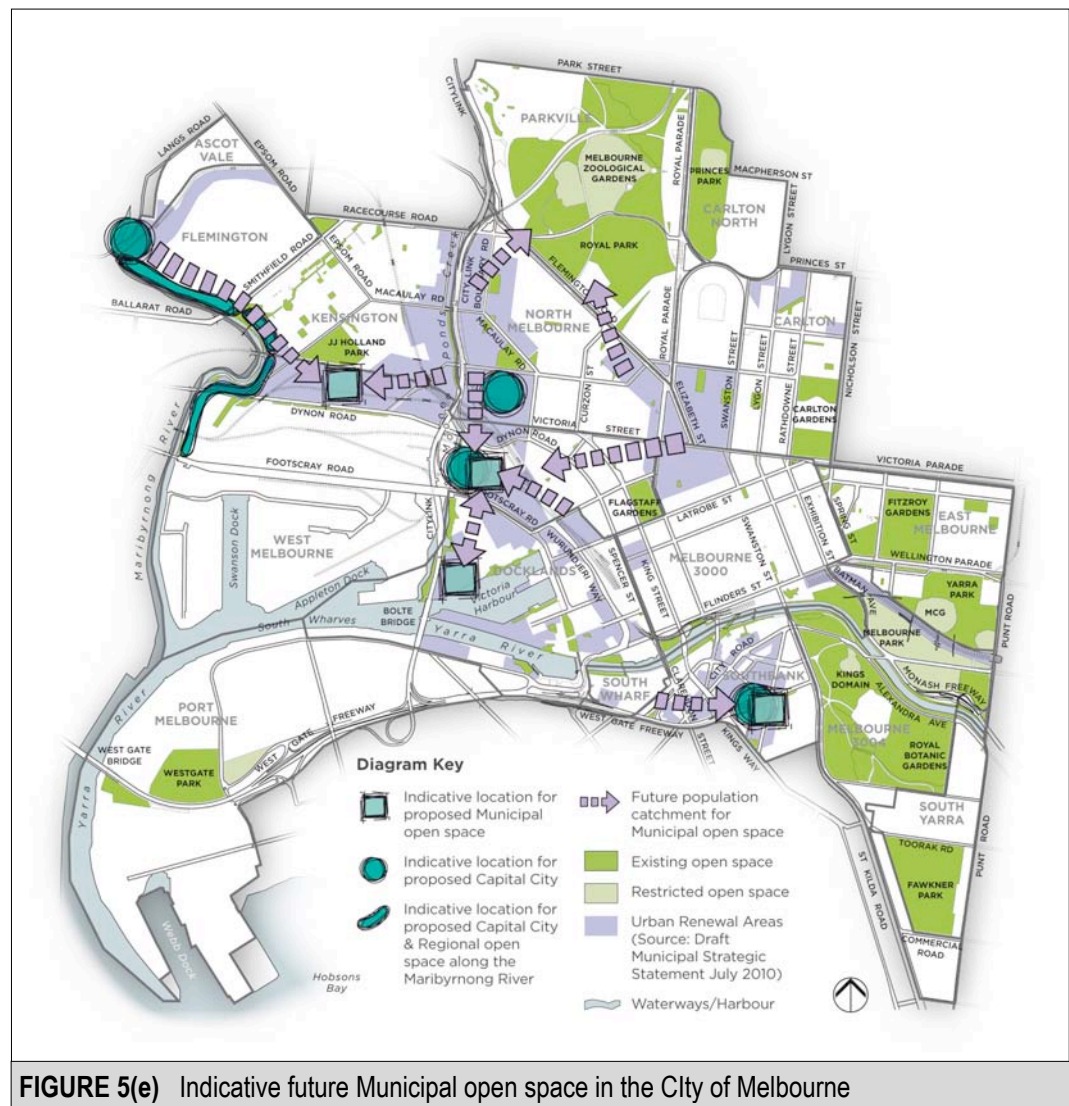
The City of Melbourne's Draft Council Policy for Community Gardening describes the different types of community gardens. The policy includes guidelines for individuals and groups wishing to set up a community garden in public open space. While there are well established benefits of community gardening

including social, environmental and health benefits, they can result in restricting access to and use of some parts of public open space, which can become an issue in areas where public open space is limited. A policy or guideline is required to inform future decisions regarding establishment of new community gardens in public open space and their ongoing management.

### 5.4.3 Conclusions

#### 5.4.3a Additional Municipal open space

An adequate quantity of new Municipal open space needs to be provided to achieve sufficient space to meet the structured, unstructured and informal recreational needs of the local population. These are shown in Figure 5(e). The future Municipal open space will also include environmental improvements such as mitigating urban heat build up and increasing biodiversity values where feasible.



5.4.3b Additional Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space

Access to a system of local open spaces is required to support a healthy and active community. These spaces are in addition to the larger Municipal, Capital City and Regional open spaces. Where feasible, they are located within easy walking distance of the majority of the existing and forecast population. They will be developed as high quality spaces that improve the physical mental health and wellbeing of those living and working in the City of Melbourne in the future, assist mitigate urban heat build up and provide some natural spaces within the medium to high density urban precincts. These are shown in Figure 5(f).

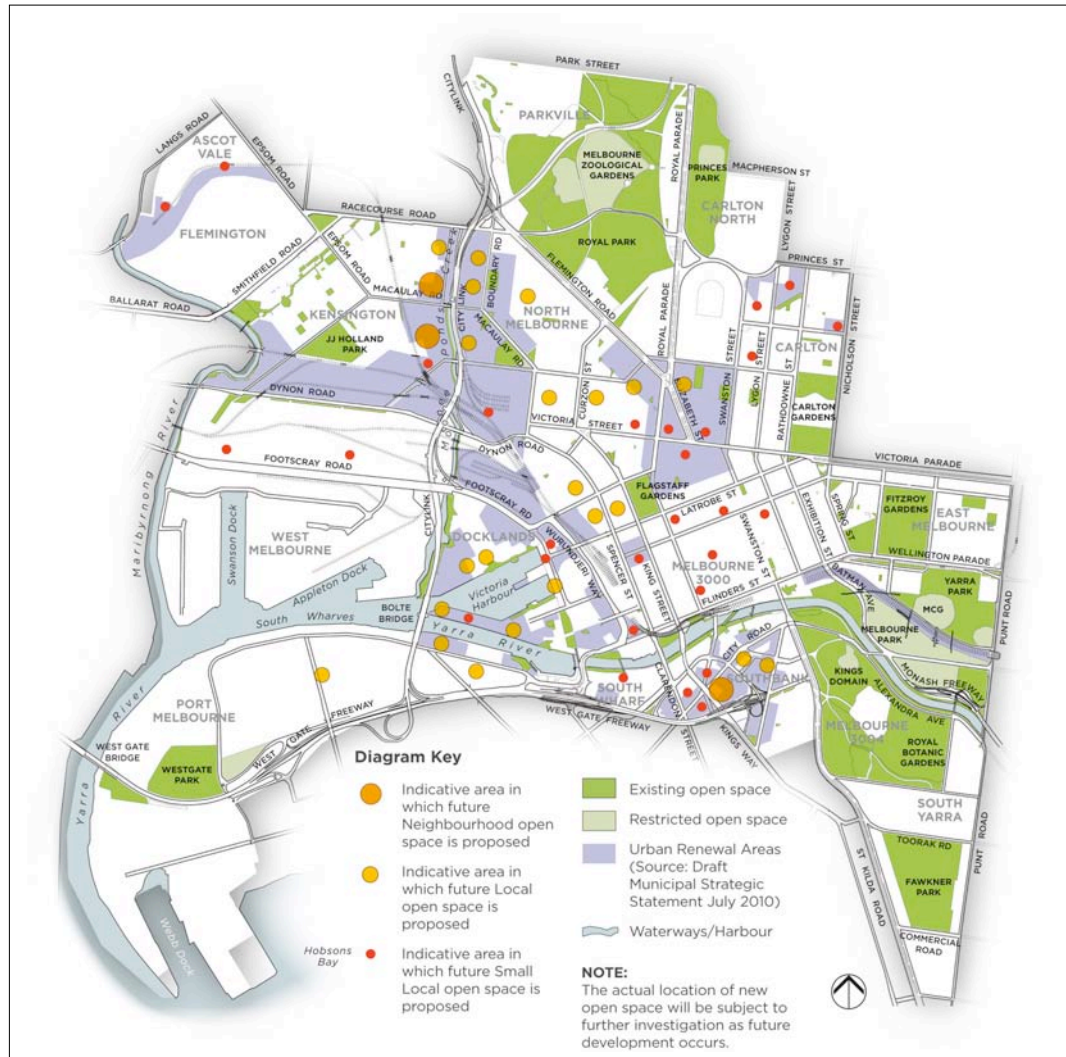


FIGURE 5(f) Indicative future Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space



## 5.5 Climate change

### 5.5.1 Overview

Climate change mitigation and adaptation are environmental services that open space can provide, and open space will have an ongoing and increasingly critical role in the future. This is an emerging role for open space in addition to the other important roles it has in our urban environment including its recreational, aesthetic, social, heritage and ecological role.

The City of Melbourne is a local government leader in climate change mitigation research and strategies. The information in this section is based on review of the City of Melbourne's existing programs and is supported by the empirical research currently being undertaken at Monash University. The *Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (Maunsell, 2009)* identifies strategic directions and goals for the City of Melbourne in addressing climate change, including stormwater harvesting and increasing passive cooling efficiency in the municipality to reduce the urban heat island effect. The City of Melbourne has developed a comprehensive water management plan titled, *Total Watermark City as a Catchment*. This document refocuses reliance on the single centralised and reticulated water supply provided by Melbourne Water to consideration of the municipality as a catchment and a new source of water for different end uses. This is referred to as the 'water sensitive city' approach. Consistent with this approach, the *Water Management Plan (2009-2013) Parks, Gardens and Open Spaces, 2009* investigates suitable alternative management strategies and sustainable water supplies for open space.

The City of Melbourne has adopted a cohesive direction to address climate change and to create the water sensitive city. These approaches are integral to future planning, and open space has an important role to play in the successful implementation of these directions, along with the broader public realm as described in the *Draft Urban Forest Strategy (2011)*.

### 5.5.2 Key issues

#### 5.5.2a Urban heat island effect

The typical urban heat island effect for Melbourne raises the temperature by up to four degrees, which impacts on human health and the natural environment. These warmer conditions are exacerbated during the warm summer months and particularly in heat wave conditions as experienced during late January and early February 2009. During this time an excess of 400 deaths (beyond that normally expected) were experienced in Melbourne, targeting the most vulnerable including the frail, vulnerable and elderly.

The basalt plains to the north-west of the City of Melbourne is the hottest region in Victoria during the daytime and contributes to Melbourne's increase in temperature, particularly with the dominance of hot north-westerly winds during

summer. The increased temperatures have the greatest health impacts at night, especially when the evening temperature does not fall below 24 degrees. It is generally the most vulnerable in our community who are subject to the health impacts, including the elderly, frail and those who cannot afford artificial cooling such as air conditioners. The presence of open space, shade trees and moisture in the landscape are all elements that contribute to passive cooling of urban areas.

Compact urban form exacerbates the City's heat trapping characteristics, minimising the radiant cooling in the evening when it is most required. Open space is able to off-set the impacts of high density urban development by providing the contrasting open areas that allow radiant passive cooling at night. Regularly spaced open areas across a dense urban form are thought to be an effective means of promoting passive cooling and Dr Nigel Tapper and the School of Geography and Environmental Science at Monash University are currently researching this aspect further.

The benefits of passive cooling need to be acknowledged in future urban layout and design, especially where opportunities will be created through urban renewal.

#### **5.5.2c Shade and moisture in the landscape**

The presence of broad-leaved canopy trees promotes evapotranspiration, which in turn improves localised cooling. Many of broad-leaved canopy trees are exotic in character, which is consistent with the current character of many of the parks, gardens and streets in the City of Melbourne. Trees provide the benefit of shading in the summer to create a more liveable microclimate in open space and in the urban environment. Trees planted along the main walking paths in open space, with open grassed areas in between these trees, is an ideal layout for open space from a passive cooling perspective. This allows shading of the main walking routes during the day, keeping the majority of people cooler in the open space. It also retains open areas that will efficiently cool during the evening as they are exposed to long wave radiation. Tree canopies can reduce efficiency of cooling at night by trapping heat under their canopies, and the open areas allow heat to escape by moving outward from under the canopies.

Adequate moisture in the landscape contributes to passive cooling and regulating impacts of the urban heat island effect. This is the reverse of the stormwater drainage system, which efficiently transports water away from the urban landscape to the major waterways and drainage systems. To mitigate impacts of the urban heat island effect, options to retain the stormwater in the urban landscape and soil profile, where feasible, will need to be sought to maximise the moisture and resultant evapotranspiration from the landscape.

Options for utilising sustainable water sources and supply and retaining moisture in the landscape via various measures that will assist with passive cooling include:

- Adequate levels of tree watering with sustainable water supply.
- Irrigation of turf areas to increase overall moisture levels in the soil and improve passive cooling.

- Storage of captured stormwater for re-use during periods of demand in wetlands, which contribute to passive cooling and habitat biodiversity.
- Storage of captured stormwater for re-use in below-ground water tanks where space is limited.
- Other above-ground decorative water features such as fountains, ponds etc that are driven by sustainable water supply where feasible.
- Stormwater catchment, treatment and storage below ground for re-use in open space.
- Maximising permeable surfaces to allow rainfall to penetrate into the soil and increase the soil moisture in open space.
- WSUD treatments that encourage stormwater penetration and treatment within the soil profile of open space.

### **5.5.2a Water use in open space**

Due to the recent extended drought in Victoria, the City of Melbourne has focussed on researching and progressing alternative sustainable water supplies to irrigate and maintain its recreational and horticultural assets. The *Water Management Plan (2009 - 2013) Parks, Gardens and Open Spaces, 2009* outlines a number of feasible sustainable water supplies including:

- stormwater harvesting
- rainwater harvesting
- sewer mining.

Some projects demonstrating feasible sustainable water supplies have been undertaken, and while feasible, there are still issues that need to be considered in continuing to implement this program including:

- Space required to treat and store water in open space can potentially lead to loss of available area for other uses including sport and recreation use.
- Below ground tanks that limit what can be planted above, potentially restricting other uses.
- Financial costs associated with retrofitting these features into existing open spaces.
- Presence of contaminated fill in existing and proposed open space making the alternative water source either unviable or expensive to install.
- Implications of both the additional infrastructure and the works to install the facilities for the heritage values of open space.
- Implications for the existing character and use patterns of open space.

### **5.5.2d Water use in historic gardens**

The issue of water use and water security is complex for open space in the City of Melbourne, particularly given the number of historic gardens, with mature exotic trees and water features. When the major historic gardens were laid out initially, water supply was a scarce resource, and it was not until the irrigation infrastructure was installed into the gardens during the 1920s that garden design was changed in response to the security of water supply.

Today, the issue of sustainable water supply is coupled with related issues including the health of many of the mature trees that are in the order of 120 years

old and the heritage layout of the gardens restricting potential opportunities for stormwater harvesting and reuse infrastructure. While the benefits of sustainable water use are high, this needs to be measured against the consequence of changing the heritage character in order to introduce new infrastructure associated with sustainable water supply.

Historic gardens are integral to Melbourne's identity and character and are highly valued by the community. During the process of investigating and proposing measures to address drought and water use, there is potential to lose sight of the integral character and value of these historic gardens. These historic garden landscapes do provide an important respite. The relative benefits of continuing to irrigate these sites with potable water, where no alternative sustainable sources are available, versus the health impacts as a result of decline and eventual loss of the established trees needs to be considered in the context of their contribution to their heritage character and urban heat island effect mitigation. The *Draft Urban Forest Strategy (2011)* addresses the tree management issues.

### **5.5.2e Trees in open space**

Trees in open space are a highly valued community and environmental asset. The strategy household survey results identify trees as the most highly valued aspect of open space. The survey also identified that one of the most frequently requested improvements to open space is planting additional trees.

Trees contribute to the City of Melbourne by:

- Contribution to the open space character and value.
- Providing shade and moderation of the microclimate around them.
- The filtering capacity of them to clean the air.
- The native fauna habitat they provide.
- The human scale and natural form they contribute to the urban landscape.
- The diversity of texture and colour.

Additional trees are required in open space and the urban environment to mitigate climate change and other complementary benefits noted in the list above. Recent research suggests that trees are extremely effective in assisting to moderate and reduce the impacts of the urban heat island effect. Space to retain and plant large, broad leaved long-lived trees needs to be adequately provided to assist with these objectives, especially where they are not plentiful, such as in the urban renewal areas.

The *Draft Urban Forest Strategy (2011)* will focus on the future management of trees in both open space and streets, and it provides management direction on suitable replacement species, implementation priorities and maintenance and management requirements for trees under City of Melbourne management.

### **5.5.2f Green roofs as open space**

Green roofs, especially in medium to high-rise areas, are not highly effective for passive cooling at ground level where the majority of people are located. The main influence of cooling that a green roof has is at roof level.

Green roofs have many positive features and are supported as private open space, and where no other alternatives exist, they may be considered for potential public open space, subject to overcoming the recognised limitations identified below. There are a number of inherent issues associated with green roofs as public open space on multi-level buildings including:

- Inherent difficulty of public access from street level to the roof garden, including being dependent on lifts, and the security arrangements for providing separate public access.
- Passive surveillance and safety of the open space.
- Equity of access.
- Inability to grow large trees.
- Physical discomfort from the elements such as wind and sunlight.
- Lack of connectivity to other open spaces.
- Public ownership and longevity and security of the public ownership and open space on the top of a building that may be demolished or reconfigured for alternative uses.
- Lack of intangible benefits of open space including the visual relief to built form at ground level

Legitimising green roofs as public open space is likely to result in less open space being provided at ground level, as it is easier to incorporate a roof garden into a development than set aside viable land area for open space. Roof gardens do not achieve the multiple benefits that open space at ground level can, and should be considered encumbered by the range of issues identified. In the longer term, if roof gardens are accepted as public open space, this may lead to a reduction in the provision of sustainable open space in the high density urban areas of Melbourne.

This strategy supports the provision of green roofs as private open space and as a positive contribution to overall greening in the city.

#### **5.5.2g Green walls in open space**

Green walls can potentially have some benefit in mitigating the urban heat island effect by reducing the heat-absorbing surfaces. They can also contribute positively to the local microclimate by increasing moisture and evapotranspiration opportunities. Issues associated with green walls include:

- The cost of installation and ongoing maintenance.
- Skills required for ongoing maintenance.
- Maintenance and management responsibilities if they are provided on private walls adjoining public open space.
- The technology required and longevity of them in the public space.
- The water use required to maintain them and relative environmental benefits.

### 5.5.3 Conclusions

Adequate distribution of open space through the high density precincts is required to achieve the positive influences of climate change mitigation including passive cooling. Particular attention will be needed in locations where the urban form will become denser and more people will live and work in the precinct. Integral to this is the integration of stormwater harvesting and reuse to create sustainable water supplies and increase the moisture retention in the landscape to promote passive cooling.

This strategy supports the principles of the *Draft Urban Forest Strategy (2011)* and the strategic approach to managing the trees throughout the public realm including in public open space. Additional trees in open space and the multiple benefits that derive from these is an integral part of the climate change mitigation role of open space in the municipality.

This strategy incorporates these principles including:

- In all future open space including the future Small Local open spaces, allow adequate space for large canopy trees to be included along with some open grassed areas to be incorporated into future open space design.
- The criteria for the provision of open space includes consideration of the passive cooling benefits that open space will provide in addition to recreational and other social and environmental needs.
- Suitable open space design guidelines are to be developed by the City of Melbourne to promote the use of green infrastructure and sustainable water use in open space design to promote passive cooling.

## 5.6 Open space partnerships with the Victorian Government

### 5.6.1 Overview

#### 5.6.1a Crown land as open space

The City of Melbourne is highly dependent on Reserved Crown Land for its open space. About 93 per cent of the open space within the municipality is Reserved Crown Land. The City of Melbourne manages some of the reserves on behalf of the Victorian Government. Other reserves are managed by other government agencies or by legislated Trusts. The majority of these reserves are zoned for public open space.

The Crown Land reserves managed by the City of Melbourne include (listed in alphabetical order):

*Larger reserves*

- Alexandra Gardens
- Birrarung Marr

*Smaller reserves*

- Argyle Square
- Batman Park

- Carlton Gardens North and South
- Fawkner Park
- Fitzroy Gardens
- Flagstaff Gardens
- King's Domain
- Princes Park
- Queen Victoria Gardens
- Royal Park
- Treasury Garden
- Darling Square
- Docklands Park
- Enterprise Park
- Lincoln Square
- Newmarket Reserve
- Point Park
- Powlett Reserve
- Queensbridge and parts of Southbank
- University Square

The Crown Land reserves, or major facilities in these managed by other agencies or Trusts include (listed in alphabetical order):

- Goschs Paddock
- Karting Complex
- Malthouse Plaza
- Maritime Park
- Melbourne Cricket Ground
- Melbourne Park
- Olympic Park
- Royal Botanic Gardens
- State Hockey and Netball Centre, Royal Park
- Seafarers Rest
- The Shrine of Remembrance
- Westgate Park
- Yarra Park

### 5.6.1b Other public land

#### Ancillary open space

Sites such as Flemington Racecourse, the Melbourne General Cemetery, Melbourne Museum and Exhibition Reserve, churches and school grounds are defined as ancillary open space. These areas provide relief from intensive urban development and may provide areas with natural qualities including grass, trees and garden beds that contribute to the open space character and environmental benefits of the municipality.

#### Other public land not currently used as open space

Significant areas of public land are currently dedicated to other uses including Port-related activities, transport and special purposes. Some of these sites, or parts of them, are becoming redundant in terms of their existing function.

The draft revised Municipal Strategic Statement identifies some of these land areas for future urban renewal where significant land use change and growth is forecast. These areas of Victorian Government owned public land including E-Gate, Dynon corridor including the railway land, Jolimont Railway corridor, Flemington Racecourse corridor and areas in Southbank. These sites are in public ownership and when these areas come up for redevelopment, this strategy has identified some of these as locations for new Capital City and Municipal open space.

### 5.6.1c Role of the Minister for Planning

Clause 61.01 of the Melbourne Planning Scheme confers on the Minister for Planning approval authority over nominated locations in the City. The Minister, with advice from the City of Melbourne and Department staff, decides on individual planning permits for use and development. This power is fairly extensive and includes locations such as:

- Crown Casino
- Docklands
- Flemington Racecourse
- Royal Melbourne Showgrounds
- Melbourne Convention Centre
- Parts of Southbank
- Hamer Hall precinct
- Melbourne Park and nearby parklands
- Commonwealth Games Village
- Parkville Gardens
- Spencer Street Station precinct
- Melbourne University owned land
- Parkville hospital precinct
- Carlton housing precincts
- Land in Jolimont
- Developments with a gross floor area exceeding 25,000 square metres
- Development and use of land for or on behalf of a Minister of the Crown

## 5.6.2 Key issues

### 5.6.2a Ownership and management of open space

The City of Melbourne is currently appointed as Committee of Management under the Crown Land Reserves Act for the majority of the open space that is Crown land in the municipality. The responsible Minister can, however revoke an appointment of a Committee of Management at any time or remove any person appointed as a member of the committee. This generates some uncertainty for the City of Melbourne regarding planning for the management of the majority of the open space in the municipality.

Yarra Park is an example of a reserve where the City of Melbourne's management responsibility recently changed. Responsibility for Yarra Park was transferred to the MCG Trust in 2010, and it is being managed as an integral part of the MCG Precinct, with emphasis on the ongoing viability of the MCG. While this is important for the MCG, nearby residents depend on Yarra Park as their local open space, and their needs are not necessarily going to receive the same recognition as they did under the City of Melbourne's management. However, it is acknowledged that there is unlikely to be any further change to the City of Melbourne's Committee of Management responsibilities in the immediate future.

Where appointed as Committee of Management, the City of Melbourne manages the Crown Land reserves on behalf of the Victorian Government for the local population including residents, workers and visitors as well.



## Other land managers

Another 17 per cent of the open space within the municipality is managed under specialised arrangements, and this creates a different set of issues. Conflict can arise between a local community and the Victorian Government, particularly when public use of a park becomes more restricted. This can occur through construction of special purpose facilities, expanded car parking and scheduling of major events. Examples include the ongoing development of sport and recreation precincts of Melbourne Park, Olympic Park, Yarra Park and Royal Park.

Tension exists between creating increased benefits for Melbourne and Victoria by facilitating and holding major events and a perceived loss of benefits by the local community. In terms of open space, there is a temporary loss of open parkland that is available to the community on a non-fee-paying and unrestricted basis. The change may include restricting access to certain groups or on a fee-paying basis, and conversion of open parkland to built facilities, car parking and other infrastructure. The management focus is on capitalising on the opportunities presented by the reserve, not on more localised sensitivities and open space needs.

### 5.6.2b Ancillary open space

#### Flemington Racecourse

The Flemington Racecourse comprises approximately 142 hectares of Crown land in Flemington, located to the north west of Kensington. The *Victoria Amateur Turf Club (Incorporating the Melbourne Racing Club) Act 1963* establishes the Turf Club as the trustee of the racecourse. Informal access to racecourse land along the Maribyrnong River is permitted at most times.

The club currently manages the racecourse primarily for racing and the club is permitted to erect any buildings necessary for its operations. Therefore, while the racecourse currently contributes to the sense of openness in this area of the municipality, it can potentially accommodate more buildings and structures, changing its contribution to the unbuilt character of this area. Public access informally along the river could potentially be restricted.

The draft revised Municipal Strategic Statement highlights the northern boundary of the racecourse site along the railway as an urban renewal area from 2020 onwards, referred to as the Racecourse Rail Corridor. Intensification of use to the north of the racecourse will create the demand for new, secured public open space, and this newest area will not be able to rely solely on the racecourse as it is ancillary open space.

#### Melbourne Showgrounds

The Melbourne Showgrounds comprises about 27 hectares in the north-west of Flemington Racecourse and is owned and managed by the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria. The Royal Melbourne Agricultural Show is held annually at the site including the Royal Melbourne Wine Show, Australian International Beer

Awards, the Royal Melbourne Fine Food Awards and the Rural Ambassador Awards, along with a range of other events during the year including corporate functions and outdoor music events.

The showgrounds is freehold land, and while the site stages public events, it is not generally available to the public and therefore it is not classified as ancillary open space in this strategy. Located on the boundary of the urban renewal area, there is potential this site may be redeveloped in the longer term for other uses. If population moves into this site, there will be a need to review the provision of open space in this location.

### **Educational institutions**

Typically school and university grounds can make a contribution as ancillary open space. This can include the lower intensity of built form creating a more open landscape that may contribute to neighbourhood character, facilities located in the school grounds being available for public use out of school hours, and in some cases, shared facilities between councils and schools. The University of Melbourne grounds do fulfil an ancillary open space function and are open and accessible for informal use. However, Melbourne University oval is generally not accessible for informal use, and typically students from the university use Princes Park for informal ball sports instead.

The community has raised the issue of improved access to the University of Melbourne's grounds and particularly community use of the oval. While this may be possible at an informal level, the University will need to maintain flexibility to use the grounds as required for educational purposes, and in the longer term access to this open space cannot be relied on.

## **5.6.2c Minister for Planning and other government agencies**

If the City of Melbourne is to realise its strategic open space objectives and achieve additional open space, it will need a shared vision and strong partnership with the Victorian Government.

Strategic planning for urban renewal areas is largely controlled by the Victorian Government as are the decisions about where and how to supply public open space within these areas. This strategy should inform open space decisions including the location, size and function of new open spaces.

In urban renewal areas such as E-Gate and Dynon Road, which are still in Victorian Government ownership, this will involve determining which land will be made available for private development and which will be retained for public ownership, including open space. The Minister responsible for Crown land will have a role in these deliberations. The Minister for Planning, the Department of Planning and Community Development and Places Victoria also have roles in advising and determining the future land use of these areas and the zoning that will be applied.

In terms of the existing areas that are experiencing strong growth and will need additional open space, the Minister for Planning has responsibility for approving

planning applications in specified circumstances. This is likely to include larger redevelopment sites. Where land for new open space is needed from developers of these sites, the department will need to negotiate on behalf of the City of Melbourne to realise the additional local open spaces that will be required. There are both formal and informal processes for input from the City of Melbourne to these decisions which are ultimately made by the Minister.

To deliver new open space, the City of Melbourne and the Victorian Government will need to make a long term commitment to:

- Ensure that sufficient, appropriately located state government-owned land is set aside for new open space in redevelopment planning to create Capital City open space as well for the municipal and local open space needs of emerging neighbourhoods.
- Determine the development sites from which a land contribution will be needed and the location and characteristics of that new open space on the site, and negotiate its transfer as part of the planning and subsequent subdivision approval process.

### **5.6.3 Conclusions**

#### **5.6.3a Advocacy role with the Victorian Government**

For the City of Melbourne to expand to the north and west and still retain its positive image and reputation for liveability, additional Capital City and Municipal open space is required in the western part of the municipality so that there is equitable distribution of this open space across it. This can only be achieved in partnership with the Victorian Government as this type of open space is above and beyond what is typically provided at a neighbourhood level, and it will require the strength of vision that was evident during the early days of settlement in Melbourne.

#### **5.6.3b Ancillary open space**

The strategy provides direction on the need for new open space to be provided in the vicinity of the Racecourse Rail Corridor urban renewal area, and not rely on Flemington Racecourse for all the open space needs of the future population in this area. This will include securing open space along the Maribyrnong River, and larger areas of open space additional to linear access to provide for a wider range of activities and uses adjacent to the river.

## 5.7 Open space contributions

### 5.7.1 Overview

The City of Melbourne charges developers an open space contribution for subdivisions approved under the *Subdivision Act 1988*. The City of Melbourne partly funds its open space program with these contributions as envisaged by the Act.

The open space contribution is based on undeveloped land value and currently ranges from 0 per cent to 5 per cent as set out in the Subdivision Act. A higher percentage rate can be established in the Melbourne Planning Scheme but a rate has not yet been included in the scheme.

Most subdivisions require a cash payment as the open space contribution from the developer, but where there is an identified need for land, a land contribution can be required. The decision about whether to request land or cash belongs to the approving authority. Land contributions must be set aside for public open space and zoned accordingly. Cash contributions are reserved for expenditure on open space land acquisition and the open space capital works program.

### 5.7.2 Key issues - open space contributions framework

#### 5.7.2a Overview of the framework

As part of the preparation of this strategy, the practical implementation of land acquisition and open space capital improvement projects has been considered with respect to open space contributions. A framework for delivering the strategy precinct recommendations relies on a number of approaches including:

- Capital City open space: Land contributions by the Victorian Government to create new Capital City open space to protect and enhance Melbourne's liveability as the population grows.
- Municipal open space: New Municipal open space for emerging communities to be funded by the Victorian Government, City of Melbourne and developers. Setting aside of land for new Municipal open space is proposed in areas of future redevelopment on public land owned by the state government. This strategy proposes that public land is converted to open space by the Victorian Government as part of strategic redevelopment plans. (If the land is not converted to open space as part of these plans, then the City of Melbourne will need an alternative strategy to acquire it for new Municipal open space.)
- Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space: Open space contributions by developers to provide for the demand in Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space created by forecast residents and workers. This includes land contributions from developers to create new open space, and cash contributions for land purchase, open space establishment and upgrades.

- Ongoing open space improvements: Allocations by the City of Melbourne, including land conversion or purchase to expand the open space network and annual budget expenditure for open space establishment and upgrades.

#### **5.7.2b Subdivision Act 1988 assessment**

The assessment criteria included in Section 18(1A) of the *Subdivision Act 1988* are used to determine whether an open space contribution should be charged:

- (1A) *The Council may only make a public open space requirement if it considers that, as a result of the subdivision, there will be a need for more open space, having regard to-*
- (a) the existing and proposed use or development of the land;*
  - (b) any likelihood that existing open space will be more intensively used after than before the subdivision;*
  - (c) any existing or likely population density in the area of the subdivision and the effect of the subdivision on this;*
  - (d) whether there are existing places of public resort or recreation in the neighbourhood of the subdivision, and the adequacy of these;*
  - (e) how much of the land in the subdivision is likely to be used for places of resort and recreation for lot owners;*
  - (f) any policies of the Council concerning the provision of places of public resort and recreation.*

This strategy has considered these criteria in analysing the open space needs of the City of Melbourne, especially with respect to the anticipated development and subdivision in the different parts of the municipality. Population growth has been identified as likely to lead to more intensive use of existing open space. New residential population growth will generally be in denser housing than currently exists, with less private open space for passive recreation, and this is also likely to increase pressures on existing open space. Workers in the City of Melbourne appear to use open space more intensively than in outer suburban locations as evidenced by site visits and the park satisfaction surveys. Mixed neighbourhoods with both residents and workers are the forecast trend in the future. The strategy clearly identifies that there is a need for new open space.

For each precinct, this intensification of use has been evaluated holistically in terms of the existing open space (places of public resort or recreation), which exist in the neighbourhood and the future demand and benefit that will derive to the occupants of new subdivisions in that precinct. Most subdivisions will be expected to pay a cash contribution toward the acquisition and establishment of new open space on behalf of their residents and workers, or else to upgrade existing open space that will be used by them. A limited number of subdivisions will be asked to contribute land.

#### **5.7.2c Land versus cash contributions**

The City of Melbourne will continue to collect an open space contribution at the time of subdivision. In those limited cases where a land contribution is required, then a decision is needed prior to subdivision, at the point that a planning permit for development is approved, in order to show the open space on an approved

plan. It is likely that a land contribution will involve the Victorian Government at times as previously described. Land contributions are linked to the strategy recommendations for additional open space. Cash contributions are for open space land acquisition and capital works projects. Overall the contributions will be used to provide benefit to the future populations that live and work in the City of Melbourne.

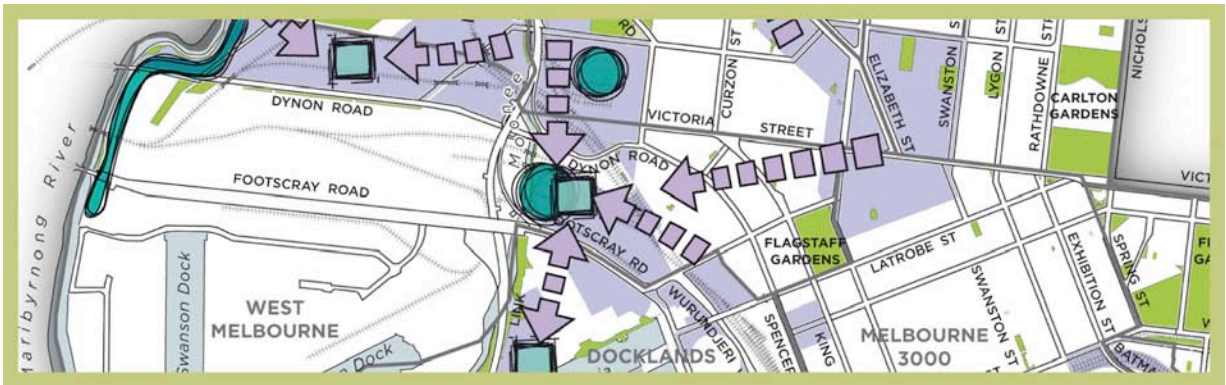
#### **5.7.2d Setting an open space contribution rate**

Clause 52.01 of the Melbourne Planning Scheme provides the opportunity to include a schedule of open space contribution rates that will apply to future subdivisions. The benefit of including a rate in the planning scheme is that the percentage rate will be known in advance by developers and give the City of Melbourne greater certainty about how it will fund the new open space including capital works improvements that will be needed by the forecast population.

The proposed percentage rate of 8 per cent and 5 per cent is based on the projects identified in this strategy, that is, land acquisition for open space, and open space establishment and upgrades. Some of the open space precincts will experience significant redevelopment and population growth. There will be an increasing demand for open space in these precincts as the population grows, and substantial resources will be required to meet this demand. Other open space precincts will experience less change, remaining stable or experiencing a level of infill development. In these precincts, the emphasis will be on delivering quality improvements in open space to maintain and enhance the existing network. In setting a percentage rate for open space contributions, the City of Melbourne has considered it appropriate to adopt multiple rates that reflect the relative changes in open space to be provided in different parts of the municipality.

### **5.7.3 Conclusions**

The open space contributions framework, as described in Section 5.7.2, is closely linked to the strategy analysis and recommendations. It provides a critical component for delivering the strategy over the 15-year planning period. As open space contributions will be used, the open space strategic analysis and recommendations at the precinct level are appropriately guided by the matters raised by Section 18(1A) of the *Subdivision Act 1988*. Recommendations for implementing the contributions framework as part of the planning and subdivision approval processes are included in Section 9.3.



## 6. Municipal-wide recommendations

### 6.1 The role and purpose of different types of new open space

#### 6.1.1 Overview

This strategy identifies where and what type of new open space is required as shown in the precinct recommendations in Sections 7 and 8. The following table illustrates the typical facilities and features that are appropriate for the different types of new open space and is not a prescriptive list but suggests the types of facilities to be considered for each. The role and function of these spaces is to be consistent with the hierarchy described in Section 3 in this resource document.

**Table 6(i) Guide for appropriate facility and feature provision in new open space**

Facilities and features are listed in alphabetical order. This is a guide only for what is appropriate for different types of open space, however not all open spaces will have all the features and facilities listed here within them. The actual facilities and features provided in new open space will vary depending on its location, design, character, recreation needs, community input and environmental values.

Facilities	Capital City	State	Regional	Municipal	Neighbour-Hood	Local	Small Local
Barbecues	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Community structured sport and recreation facilities	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Dog off-lead areas			✓	✓	✓		
Drinking taps	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Major sport venues and associated facilities	✓	✓					
Events - major	✓	✓	✓				
Events - medium	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Garden beds - feature	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Garden beds - planting for mitigating urban heat build up	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Large open grassed areas for structured and unstructured sporting use	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Lighting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paths - pedestrians/informal	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paths - shared	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Playground - regional	✓	✓	✓				
Playground - large			✓	✓			
Playground - medium				✓	✓	✓	
Playground - minor					✓	✓	✓
Rubbish bins	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Seating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Shelters	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Skate/BMX facilities - major	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Skate/BMX facilities - minor					✓	✓	
Toilets	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Trees - large canopy shade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unstructured recreation facilities eg. tennis wall, multipurpose courts etc.			✓	✓	✓	✓	
Water features/wetlands	✓	✓	✓	✓			
WSUD infrastructure and sustainable water supply	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



## 6.1.2 Additional Capital City open space

This strategy has identified that there are some existing spaces that are essential to the role of Melbourne as the capital city of the State of Victoria. The strategy recognises this and also acknowledges that Capital City open space does not always cater well to the local community. In the strategy, some of the future Capital City open space is located where additional Municipal open space is also required. The role of these two types of open space is different and one does not replace the need for the other.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.1.2-A	<p><b>New Capital City open space</b> The City of Melbourne is to advocate to the Victorian Government to set aside land area for future Capital City open space at the time the state owned land is being considered for redevelopment. The purpose of the Capital City open space is to support facilities that promote the State of Victoria to international, national and Victorian visitor population and retain Melbourne's reputation as one of the most liveable cities in the world.</p>	CoM Vic Govt	Very High & Ongoing
6.1.2-B	<p><b>Use analysis for new Capital City open space</b> The City of Melbourne is to undertake research into the potential use for each of the new Capital City open spaces identified in the strategy particularly in regard to future event spaces. This will then be used to inform future negotiations with the Victorian Government to assist in refining the size and design of the proposed new Capital City open space when future development on government owned land occurs.</p>	CoM	Very High & Ongoing

## 6.1.3 Additional Municipal open space

The sport and recreation needs of the forecast population will necessitate provision of additional Municipal open space. The City of Melbourne Recreation Services team advised that many sports facilities at the City of Melbourne are already at capacity and will be unable to accommodate the sport and recreation needs of the forecast new population. The strategy identifies areas where future Municipal open space is required, all located on Victorian Government owned land. They are co-located in some instances with Capital City open space, however the role of Capital City open space is different from that of the Municipal open space. Municipal open space is primarily for community sport and recreation facilities. The average size of the proposed Municipal open space is 4.5 hectares, however, the actual final size is to be determined once there is more information available about the type of facilities required.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.1.3-A	<p><b>Community sport and recreation analysis for the forecast population</b></p> <p>The City of Melbourne is to undertake research into the structured and unstructured community sport and recreation facilities for the proposed new system of Municipal open space outlined in this strategy. The City of Melbourne Recreation Services team to undertake the necessary research into the forecast demographics and recreation trends to inform this work, and liaise with the Urban Landscapes team regarding unstructured recreational use to be provided for in this open space. Refer to Section 6.3.1 regarding assessment criteria for suitability of land as public open space.</p>	CoM (Vic Govt)	Very High & Ongoing
6.1.3-B	<p><b>New Municipal open space</b></p> <p>The City of Melbourne is to advocate to the Victorian Government to set aside land area for future Municipal open space at the time the state owned land is being planned for redevelopment. The purpose of the Municipal open space is to primarily provide community sport and recreation facilities that support the future population on both the Victorian Government redevelopment sites and in the broader catchment. The preferred size and purpose for each of the new Municipal open spaces will be defined by the City of Melbourne and refined in consultation with the Victorian Government. Refer to Section 6.3.1 regarding assessment criteria for suitability of land as public open space.</p>	CoM Vic Govt	Very High & Ongoing

#### 6.1.4 Additional Neighbourhood open space

New Neighbourhood open space is required in some of the urban renewal areas as described in Sections 7 and 8 of this strategy. These spaces are a minimum of 1 hectare in size, to allow adequate space for a range of activities and uses to occur within the space. Refer to Section 3 for further information about the role and size of Neighbourhood open space. Due to the larger physical land area required for these spaces it will be necessary to plan ahead to identify locations where these spaces can be achieved.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.1.4-A	<p><b>Sub-precinct analysis for options to achieve the planned location of new Neighbourhood open space</b></p> <p>The City of Melbourne is to undertake a more detailed analysis within the open space sub-</p>	CoM	Very High

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
	precincts that require additional Neighbourhood open space as identified in this strategy. Refer to 6.3.2 for a description of the purpose of this sub-precinct analysis. There may be a combination of different methods required to achieve the 1 hectare land size. Refer to Table 6 (ii) regarding assessment criteria for suitability of land as public open space and 6.3.3 for optional methods to achieve the land area required. Refer to Action 6.1.6-A regarding consideration of open space links and connectivity during this sub-precinct analysis.		

### 6.1.5 Additional Local and Small Local open space

New Local and Small Local open space will be required in a range of locations throughout the municipality as identified in the Sections 7 and 8 of this strategy. These spaces vary in size and in some locations, are identified as potential expansions to existing open spaces. Refer to Section 3 for further information the role and size of Local and Small Local open space. The City of Melbourne is to undertake assessments of the actual location of additional Local and Small Local open spaces in the sub-precincts already identified in Sections 7 and 8. These may require a combination of public and private land early in the process to inform developers as to whether the city will be requesting a land or cash open space contribution.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.1.5-A	<p><b>Sub-precinct analysis for options to achieve the planned location of new Small Local open space in Melbourne 3000 central city</b></p> <p>The City of Melbourne is to undertake a more detailed analysis within the open space sub-precincts in the Melbourne central city that require additional Small Local open space as identified in this strategy. Refer to 6.3.2 for a description of the purpose of this sub-precinct analysis. There may be a combination of different methods required to achieve a reasonable land area for these open spaces. Refer to Table 6 (ii) regarding assessment criteria for suitability of land as public open space and 6.3.3 for optional methods to achieve the land area required.</p>	CoM	Very High
6.1.5-B	<p><b>Sub-precinct analysis for options to achieve the planned location of new Local and Small Local open space in locations outside the Melbourne 3000 central city</b></p> <p>The City of Melbourne is to undertake a more detailed analysis within the open space sub-</p>	CoM	Very High

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
	precincts that require additional Small Local open space as identified in this strategy. Refer to 6.3.2 for a description of the purpose of this sub-precinct analysis. There may be a combination of different methods required to achieve a reasonable land area for these open spaces. Refer to Table 6 (ii) regarding assessment criteria for suitability of land as public open space and 6.3.3 for optional methods to achieve the land area required. Refer to Action 6.1.6-A regarding consideration of open space links and connectivity during this sub-precinct analysis.		

## 6.1.6 Links between existing and new open space

Connectivity between open space is an important criteria to consider in the location of future open space. Many of the improved connections will be via the street network and linear open space links. In the future open space sub-precinct analysis (refer 6.1.4 and 6.1.5), include an assessment of existing and potential open space links as part of this analysis.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.1.6-A	<p><b>Improve links between existing and new open space</b></p> <p>As the sub-precinct analysis described in 6.1.4-A and 6.1.5-B occurs, identify the potential links between the existing and future open spaces as one of the criteria to be considered in location of future open space.</p>	CoM	Very High

## 6.2 Quality of existing and new open space

### 6.2.1 Overview

The quality of the existing and new open spaces is integral to their value to the community and environment as part of the open space network. This strategy has identified the need for improvements to some existing open spaces either in response to the site assessments and community feedback via the strategy household survey or for the forecast population. This strategy has also identified a program of delivering new open spaces as part of the future planned growth of the municipality. Some of these open spaces may be designed and built by agencies other than the City of Melbourne.

## 6.2.2 Health and wellbeing

### 6.2.2a Community sport and recreation

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.2a(i)	<b>Upgrades and replacement of existing facilities</b> Prior to each upgrade and replacement of facilities, assess the use levels and need for the facility relative to other competing uses. If it is assessed as still being required, then ensure the upgrade meets best practice design principles, and integrates multiple-use objectives for structured and unstructured recreational use where feasible.	CoM	Ongoing
6.2.2a(ii)	<b>New structured sport and recreation facilities</b> Prior to the construction of any new facilities, the proposal will be required to demonstrate the need for the facility and how it will be integrated with and meet multiple-use objectives of the open space, current trends in sport and recreation participation and will contribute to the use and value of open space.	CoM	Ongoing
6.2.2a(iii)	<b>Non open space dependent recreation and leisure built facilities located in open space</b> Proposals for upgrading existing or proposing new non-open space dependent recreation facilities will be discouraged. Applications for these will need to clearly demonstrate the net positive benefits of the proposal to the purpose, use and enjoyment of the open space.	CoM	High & Ongoing
6.2.2a(iv)	<b>New non open space dependent buildings in open space</b> Any future proposals for new non open space dependent buildings in open space are to be discouraged, and any proposal is to clearly demonstrate the net positive benefits it will provide to the purpose, use and enjoyment of the open space in order to be considered.	CoM	High & Ongoing

### 6.2.2b Unstructured recreation

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.2b(i)	<b>Accessibility and diversity of facilities</b> Future open space upgrades and new open space design is to maximise accessibility. This is to include all-ability access, and a diversity of facilities that encourage a range of activities which appeal to different age groups, genders, cultures and physical abilities in the proposed catchment of the open	CoM Developer Govt Agencies	Ongoing

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
	space. When designs for individual open spaces are considered, include a regional context diagram to describe the context of this space within the catchment of other open spaces to ensure the role and design complements the network.		
6.2.2b(ii)	<b>Unstructured recreation facility design</b> Future facility design in open space is to meet current best management practice in relation to sustainability, accessibility and recreational use that it is appropriate in the community and urban context of the open space.	CoM Developer Govt Agencies	Ongoing

### 6.2.2c Informal use

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.2c(i)	<b>Informal use</b> Informal use of open space is to be catered for in new open space and in upgrades to existing spaces. This includes achieving a balance between facilities that encourage physical activity and those that allow for social interaction, contemplation and relaxation in open space.	CoM Developer Govt Agencies	Ongoing
6.2.2c(ii)	<b>Information about open space and facilities</b> Develop an information strategy to encourage greater awareness of the different open space opportunities available to the working and residential communities throughout the City of Melbourne. Methods to provide this information are to be consistent with other communication strategies and mechanisms the City of Melbourne has in place, including via existing community based groups and organisations involved in open space.	CoM	High and Ongoing

### 6.2.2d Natural features in open space

As urban densities continue to increase in the City of Melbourne, open space will increasingly be valued for the break this provides to urban form. The feedback on the Draft Strategy identified that both workers and residents value the natural character and sense of space, being outside and contact with nature. Large canopy shade trees, open grassed areas and planting in open space provide a point of contact with nature in the city for residents and workers.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.2d(i)	<b>Natural features in open space</b> In future master plan and design plans for open	CoM	Very High &

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
	space, provide natural features in open space where feasible, particularly in the high density neighbourhoods. This is to provide the community with ready and easy access to open space with natural features as a contrast to increasing urban density.		Ongoing

### 6.2.2e Events

Events are a significant feature of the City of Melbourne and contribute to its image as a hub of major sporting and cultural events. The open space hosts the majority of these events and therefore plays a major role in events continuing to be successfully held in the City of Melbourne.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.2e(i)	<b>Events and their impact on open space</b> Prepare an Event Spaces Strategy to provide direction on the most appropriate locations for different event types held across the municipality.	CoM Event organisers Govt Agencies	High
6.2.2e(ii)	<b>Major festivals and events in Capital City, State and Regional open space</b> Events are a major component of the role of the City of Melbourne as a capital city. The continued sustainable scheduling of major events into this hierarchy of open space, both existing and proposed is to be encouraged.	CoM Event organisers Govt Agencies	Ongoing
6.2.2e(iii)	<b>Smaller events and community festivals in Municipal and Neighbourhood open space</b> Smaller events and community festivals that include community participation and meet health and wellbeing objectives are to be encouraged. These are appropriate in Municipal and Neighbourhood open spaces where they can readily accommodate the event size and meet best practice principles including sustainable transport options.	CoM Event organisers	Ongoing

### 6.2.2f Major sport and major event venues

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.2f(i)	<b>Loss of open parkland to built form in the Capital City and State open space</b> The City of Melbourne is to advocate to the Victorian Government to minimise further loss of open parkland to built form in existing Capital City and	CoM Vic Govt	Ongoing

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
	State open space. This includes careful analysis of the need for additional built facilities, options regarding their location outside of open space and options for modifications to existing built form to increase capacity without expansion of building footprint in open space.		
6.2.2f(ii)	<p><b>Loss of open parkland to car parking</b></p> <p>The City of Melbourne is to continue to advocate for improvements to public transport as the primary form of transport to reach major events. Where car parking is proposed for the major event venues, minimise its provision at ground level in public open space.</p>	CoM Vic Govt	Ongoing

## 6.2.3 Climate change

### 6.2.3a Urban heat mitigation

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.3a(i)	<p><b>Passive cooling</b></p> <p>All future open space designs are to incorporate the principles of passive cooling into them where feasible. This includes increasing the amount of porous surfaces, planting long-lived broad spreading canopy trees, turf, incorporating stormwater harvesting and WSUD features and achieving a combination of canopy trees and open areas for long-wave radiant cooling overnight.</p>	CoM Developer Govt Agencies	Very High & Ongoing

### 6.2.3b Sustainable water use

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.3b(i)	<p><b>Sustainable water use in open space</b></p> <p>The City of Melbourne is to continue to implement water saving measures in open space design and management where appropriate. All new open space designs by others are to demonstrate they are designed with water sensitive measures including opportunities for urban water cycling, harvesting and re-use of rainwater, stormwater, greywater and blackwater.</p>	CoM Developer Govt Agencies	Very High & Ongoing



### 6.2.3c Carbon sequestration

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.3c(i)	<p><b>Vegetation selection</b></p> <p>All future open space design is to maximise the use of long-lived trees for long-term shade and carbon capture. Where new open space can incorporate existing long-lived trees these should be incorporated, and the new open space designed to retain the trees.</p>	CoM Developer Govt Agencies	Very High & Ongoing

### 6.2.3d Sea level rise and severe storm events

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.3d(i)	<p><b>Future open space provision</b></p> <p>Where new open space is proposed along waterways, drainage reserves and low lying areas, mapping of the 1:100 and 1:10 year flood levels is to be included, based on the current best practice management in relation to sea level rise and storm events. Analysis of the impact of areas to be inundated on recreational use are to be described by a relevant qualified professional to allow the City of Melbourne to determine the proportion of open space to be identified as unencumbered open space.</p>	CoM	Very High & Ongoing

## 6.2.4 Biodiversity

### 6.2.4a Waterway corridors

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.4a(i)	<p><b>Moonee Ponds Creek</b></p> <p>Proposed open space along the Moonee Ponds Creek is to be designed to improve the biodiversity and habitat values of the creek corridor where appropriate. Liaise with Melbourne Water and other relevant agencies including VicTrack and CityLink as required regarding future proposals for open space. Future open space needs to clearly identify areas that are encumbered as described in Recommendation 6.3.2d(i) and other considerations including noise levels and overshadowing.</p>	CoM MW AAV/RAP Govt Agencies	Ongoing
6.2.4a(ii)	<p><b>Maribyrnong River</b></p> <p>Proposed expansion to the open space corridor and ongoing improvements are to be designed to improve biodiversity and habitat values along the</p>	CoM MW AAV/RAP	Ongoing

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
	river corridor where appropriate. Liaise with Melbourne Water and other relevant agencies including Flemington Racecourse and adjoining municipalities as required regarding future proposals for the open space adjoining the river. Future proposals for the additional open space are to clearly identify areas that are encumbered as described in Recommendation 6.3.2d(i).	Govt Agencies Adjoining councils	
6.2.4a(iii)	<b>Yarra River</b> In future open space upgrades along the Yarra River, investigate opportunities to improve the biodiversity values, and where appropriate improve the existing cultural heritage and historical character of the waterway.	CoM MW AAV/RAP Govt Agencies	Ongoing

### 6.2.4b Wetlands

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.4b(i)	<b>Habitat diversity and sustainable water reuse</b> In future open space design consider the benefits to habitat values and diversity that water quality treatment wetlands can provide when assessing the most appropriate sustainable water reuse methods and infrastructure for open space.	CoM Developer Govt Agencies	Ongoing

## 6.2.5 Cultural heritage

### 6.2.5a Indigenous cultural heritage values

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.5a(i)	<b>Protecting Indigenous cultural heritage values</b> Future open space upgrades and provision of new open space will continue to respect, protect and where appropriate interpret the Indigenous cultural heritage values of open space.	CoM AAV/RAP Developer Govt. Agencies	Ongoing

### 6.2.5b Non-Indigenous historical values

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.2.5b(i)	<b>Protecting non-Indigenous historical values</b> Future open space upgrades and provision of new open space will continue to respect, protect and interpret the historical values of the open space.	CoM Developer Govt. Agencies	Ongoing

## 6.3 Provision of additional open space

### 6.3.1 Assessment criteria for suitability of land as public open space

All land area proposed for new open space will first be assessed against a list of criteria to confirm if it is suitable for that purpose. This will ensure that the future land areas of new open space meet best practice. It will be at the responsible authority's discretion as to whether an area of land offered by a developer as open space is accepted and adequately meets the criteria included in this strategy. The City of Melbourne will apply these criteria to any future land that they convert or acquire for open space.

The assessment criteria in this table is to be used to determine the suitability of any future land proposed as new open space and can also be used to assess existing open spaces where review of their status and condition is required.

**Table 6(ii) Assessment criteria for suitability of land area for public open space**

Criteria	Description
<b>Accessibility</b>	Physical access into the site including the inherent topography, at ground level and capable of supporting large mature canopy trees (not an elevated part of a building) and the ability to make the site safe and accessible to people with limited mobility or with a disability (Note - refer also to Transport, Visibility, Condition and Location in this list of criteria for other access related issues).
<b>Adjoining land use</b>	The influence of adjoining land use on the recreational, ecological, social and cultural value of the open space. This includes consideration of existing and future planned land use and associated urban densities, noise, built form and height.
<b>Amenity</b>	Visual and passive amenity values relates to the influence open space has on the liveability of neighbourhoods, providing visual relief from built form, the break open space provides from noise levels associated with traffic and other urban land use activities and adequate levels of sunlight (a minimum of 3 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm during mid-winter and at least 5 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm on September 22).
<b>Climate change mitigation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability for the site to have long-lived broad spreading canopy trees planted and space to become fully established without encroachment into their canopy.</li> <li>• Ability for the site to incorporate sustainable water supply and reuse and maximise moisture retention to allow passive cooling of the local microclimate including areas for long-wave radiant cooling at</li> </ul>

Criteria	Description
	<p>night.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability for the site to remain as useable and functional open space in the context of sea level rise and larger storm events which are likely to increase in the future.</li> </ul>
<b>City of Melbourne policies</b>	The land is subject to other planning processes and policies that may be consistent or inconsistent with all or part of the site becoming public open space.
<b>Condition</b>	The existing physical condition of the land is to be suitable for use as public open space including that there are no inherent issues such as contamination and significant financial or safety implications for the City of Melbourne if the land becomes public open space.
<b>Ecological</b>	Includes the site's existing biodiversity values and the potential to contribute to the protection and enhancement of these values along with a site's contribution to existing or future ecological diversity.
<b>Equity</b>	The City of Melbourne community including residents and workers should have reasonable access to public open space.
<b>Financial</b>	The costs to the City of Melbourne in obtaining and improving the land as open space, along with the costs associated with the ongoing maintenance and management of it.
<b>Heritage character</b>	Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural heritage and historical values that could be enhanced and protected in the open space. These values will influence the future use and design and management of the open space.
<b>Landscape character</b>	Its contribution to the character and attractiveness of the neighbourhood.
<b>Location/linkages</b>	The site's contribution to the wider open space network including forming open space corridor links. This includes consideration of the other strategic planning projects in the municipality including linear open space corridors, and links and connections to improve accessibility into existing or proposed future open space.
<b>Ongoing maintenance and management</b>	The ability for the City of Melbourne to re-zone the land for open space purposes, and to effectively maintain and manage the land as open space.
<b>Ownership</b>	Where the land is already in public ownership, potential for conversion to open space should be considered, where it can successfully be rezoned for this purpose. This may include City of Melbourne assets or land owned by other authorities. Conversion of public land is preferred where it eliminates the need to purchase

Criteria	Description
	<p>land for public open space and this method will likely be used in a range of areas across the municipality as redevelopment progresses.</p> <p>Where land is privately owned, land can be acquired through open space contributions, generally at the time a site is redeveloped. Private land acquisition may be needed in some locations to create a functional open space of the size and configuration required for its intended role.</p>
<b>Recreation</b>	<p>The potential for the site to accommodate a range of organised, unstructured and informal recreational uses. These can include field sports, play, walking, jogging, cycling, exercising, informal ball games, socialising, picnicking, sitting and dog walking.</p>
<b>Services/ easements</b>	<p>Extent of other services and easements that would affect the development and use of the land as open space including roadways, overhead structures, water supply, power supply, flood mitigation and drainage.</p>
<b>Size</b>	<p>The minimum size for the site to meet its intended purpose, on its own or in combination with adjoining land. Refer to minimum size parcels for each type of open space as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital City of open space, unlimited</li> <li>• State open space, unlimited</li> <li>• Regional open space, unlimited</li> <li>• Municipal open space, generally a minimum of 3 hectares, subject to the proposed municipal recreation facility located in it, however for new open space a minimum size of 4.5 hectares is preferred.</li> <li>• Neighbourhood open space, minimum of 1 hectare.</li> <li>• Local open space, minimum 0.26 and up to 0.99 hectares.</li> <li>• Small Local open space, minimum 0.03 and up to 0.25 hectares, with a minimum width of 20 metres in at least one direction.</li> <li>• Small Local Link space, with a minimum width of 5 metres.</li> </ul>
<b>Transport</b>	<p>The range of transport options for residents to easily access the site including proximity to public transport, linear shared trails, major roads and the street network, relevant to the size and anticipated catchment for the proposed open space.</p>
<b>Visibility</b>	<p>The site's visual prominence to maximise its use and contribution to the broader community. Generally, land is preferred which has at least two access points and local roads to at least two sides and is provided at natural surface level.</p>

### **6.3.2 Sub-precinct analysis for additional open space**

This strategy has identified in each precinct where additional open space is required over the 15-year lifespan of the strategy. Some of the additional open space is to be provided primarily for the existing population, with the majority proposed to meet the needs of the forecast population. The method to secure additional land area as open space can be a combination of different mechanisms including contribution of land area by larger redevelopment sites coupled with purchase of undeveloped land and conversion of public land. This is explained further in Section 6.3.3.

This strategy recommends undertaking sub-precinct open space analysis in the locations where additional open space is planned as identified in this strategy, to identify potential opportunities to secure additional land that meets the criteria outlined in Table 6(ii). Refer to the recommendations noted in Section 6.3.1.

### **6.3.3 Methods to acquire/secure additional open space**

It is anticipated that the City of Melbourne will acquire additional open space via a range of methods including:

- As a land contribution as part of future subdivision of land for development in the city.
- Conversion of land owned by the City of Melbourne from its existing use to open space (eg. a road)
- Conversion of land owned by another government agency to open space.
- Purchase of undeveloped land, particularly where this may be negotiated with a land developer to add to an area of land being contributed on the same development site.
- Purchase of undeveloped land, particularly where this may be negotiated with a land developer to add to an area of land being contributed on the same development site, or on an adjoining site so that a contiguous open space is created.

There are likely to be situations where an additional open space may require a combination of the above methods to achieve a suitable land area for use as open space – refer to Table 6(ii).

## **6.4 Changes to forecast population and development over the strategy timeframe**

### **6.4.1 Changes to forecast growth**

The strategy recommends projects to improve existing open space and add to the open space network. These are linked to the residential and employee population forecasts and the development projections prepared for the City of Melbourne. If there is a substantive change in the location or intensity of new

development, then project priorities in proximity to those locations can be upgraded and implementation of these projects can be accelerated, taking into account the timing of the open space contributions that are collected. Alternatively, if change occurs at a slower pace or at a lower intensity than anticipated, then project priorities and implementation timetables may need to be revised.

If there is a substantial change to the population forecasts and location of where additional growth is proposed in the precincts that have not been forecast to receive substantial growth, then additional open space may be required beyond that outlined and included in the strategy. If this occurs, an analysis of the forecast population change, the demographics and the existing open space will be required to assess if any new open space is required and the type of additional open space.

## **6.4.2 Potential disposal of open space**

### **6.4.2a New open space replacing the need for some areas of existing open space**

Although not identified as being required in any locations in the municipality, if the City of Melbourne identifies any existing open space for potential disposal, the following process would be followed as a minimum:

- a) Assess the subject open space within a neighbourhood context. This analysis will need to assess all other existing and proposed open space within the walking catchment of the subject site to clearly understand each open space size and level of existing and potential use (which may include an environmental role as well as community use) to determine the subject site's existing or future role in the local open space network.
- b) Assess the site in relation to the Criteria listed in Table 6(ii).
- c) Consult with the community who would potentially be affected by any disposal of the subject open space in accordance with the distances nominated in Table 3(ii).
- d) If after steps (a), (b) and (c) the open space is still considered excess to requirements and the City of Melbourne intends to proceed with disposal of open space, ensure the funds from the disposal of open space is spent on open space projects only, as required by the *Subdivision Act 1988*. Refer to Section 20 of the Act for limitations. *Melbourne 2030* (Parklands Code) states that any change in land use or nature of occupancy should be compensated by replacement with open space of equal or greater size and quality.

### **6.4.3b Potential overlap in the provision of open space**

The consultation and site assessment work completed for the project has identified that residents in the City of Melbourne highly value their open space. The strategy household survey outcomes included a large number of comments that no further loss of open space should occur to development and that there is a need to provide additional open space.

Opportunities may arise during the course of the strategy implementation to acquire/secure a new piece of land that is highly suitable for open space and may potentially make a less accessible piece of open space nearby surplus to requirements. If this was to arise in the future, all of these cases, each would need to be assessed at a detailed level, utilising the assessment criteria in Table 6(ii), and all other relevant considerations outlined in *Section 6.1*. All cases would involve consultation with the local community.

## 6.5 Development interface with open space

The amenity and function of open space is influenced by the land use, design, layout, built form and landscaping treatments on adjoining sites. Section 6.3 discusses the criteria for siting new open space. These criteria have been adapted to address development proposals on adjoining sites and they should also be applied as relevant to any site that has potential to influence the function of the open space.

Development should positively contribute to open space by providing a degree of passive surveillance without interfering with the enjoyment, function and use of the open space. Development should not create adverse conditions in open space such as undue shadowing, increased wind effects, intrusion of unwanted light and noise, use of car parking or traffic access for private uses, interference with vegetation and dispersal of weeds, and loss of visibility.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
6.5-A	<p><b>Adjoining development and development that may influence nearby open space</b></p> <p>City of Melbourne and other approving authorities to require applicants for development to demonstrate compliance with the guidelines below.</p>	CoM Vic Govt	High & Ongoing

### 6.5.1 Guidelines for development adjoining or nearby open space

#### Accessibility to open space

- Design and layout of the site development should foster good public access to open space. Barriers to access should be avoided.

#### Amenity and function of the open space

- Design and layout of the site is to provide passive surveillance of open space. Buildings are to face open space and avoid blank walls (especially on lower floors) and high fences at the interface with open space. Passive surveillance should be effective but not intrusive for park users or occupants of adjoining buildings.
- Design of the built form and site use should at a minimum maintain the amenity, function and use of the open space. Factors that could degrade open space amenity, function and use include excessive noise, light spill,



traffic movements, car parking demand, wind effects or shadowing, and proximity of built form and building design that allows undue transfer of noise from the open space into the development limiting the recreational function and uses that can reasonably occur in open space. The applicant may be required to supply studies demonstrating whether there will be positive or adverse effects on open space.

- The open space must receive a minimum of 3 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm during mid-winter and at least 5 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm on September 22. Where this minimum is not currently met, the development must not create additional shadowing of the open space.

#### **Characteristics and values of open space**

- Design is to be compatible with and enhance where possible the recreational, ecological, social and cultural values of the open space.
- Built form and landscape treatments should maintain the ecological processes and biodiversity values of the open space and allow for opportunities to enhance these values.
- Design of built form and landscape treatments should be compatible with heritage values of the open space.
- Landscape treatments should be compatible with the landscape character of the open space and its contribution to the character and attractiveness of the neighbourhood.

#### **Climate change mitigation in open space**

- Built form and landscape treatments should be planned to allow for the growth and maturity of vegetation in open space, especially long-lived broad spreading canopy trees.
- Where feasible, proximity of built form to the open space to encourage sufficient long-wave radiant cooling to occur from the open space overnight.
- The development should allow for the use of sustainable water supply and reuse in the open space.

#### **City of Melbourne policies about open space**

- The development meets any planning policies pertaining to amenity and open space.

#### **Delineation of open space and private land**

- Design and layout of adjoining sites, including location of buildings, structures and furniture, are to provide clear physical and visual separation between public open space and private land to reduce appropriation of and encroachment on public space.

#### **Ongoing maintenance and management of open space**

- Development will not increase the ongoing cost and responsibility for the City of Melbourne (or other authority) to maintain and manage the open space.

#### **Open space contribution from development**

- Development site is to be assessed for its suitability for an open space land contribution to create or add to existing open space, or to create formal public linkages. Note: Eligible sites will be charged an equivalent cash contribution where land is not required.

**Services/easements to be provided to an adjoining site**

- Access and easements for water and power supply, other utilities and drainage should be provided on the development site so that they do not interfere with use or management of the open space.

**Setback from site boundary**

- Larger sites should allow for a setback from the boundary, relative to the height of the built form, where height will adversely affect the amenity, function and use of the open space.

**Transport and car parking arrangements for the development**

- Traffic access, traffic patterns and car parking demand should not decrease the accessibility, use and amenity of the open space.

**Visibility of open space**

- Public view lines are to be maintained to and from the open space.



## 7. Recommendations for precincts with urban renewal areas

### 7.1 Introduction

City of Melbourne comprises fourteen different precincts and the analysis and planning for open space has been undertaken at the precinct level. For the purposes of this strategy the precincts are generally aligned to suburb boundaries, with a few precincts being a combination of suburbs where they are small including Southbank with South Wharf and Ascot Vale with Flemington. Within the precincts there are some sub-precincts where further differentiation is required to undertake effective analysis of future open space need.

Some of these contain urban renewal areas with extensive land use and population change forecast. The precincts in this section and are in alphabetical order and include:

- 7.2 Carlton | Carlton North (City North)
- 7.3 Docklands
- 7.4 Flemington | Ascot Vale (Racecourse Rail Corridor)
- 7.5 Kensington (Arden Macaulay)
- 7.6 Melbourne 3000 (City North)
- 7.7 North Melbourne (Arden Macaulay)
- 7.8 Southbank
- 7.9 West Melbourne (City North, E-Gate, Arden Macaulay, Dynon)



## 7.2 Carlton | Carlton North

### 7.2.1 Overview

Carlton is an inner suburb of Melbourne immediately north of the Melbourne 3000 central city area. Carlton North is located immediately north of Carlton and includes the Melbourne General Cemetery, Princes Park and Hardy Reserve within the municipality. Carlton/Carlton North is characterised by the Victorian era architecture, wide formal street layouts, formal squares, Princes Park and Carlton Gardens.

Carlton was settled at the start of the gold rush in 1851 as Melbourne expanded rapidly with the influx of thousands of gold miners. The suburb was laid out in 1852 by Robert Hoddle in an orderly grid with Carlton Gardens, Argyle Square and Lincoln Square all reserved in the original layout. The suburb grew rapidly from 1850s to the late 1800s incorporating the key areas of open space and other key landmark sites including the Melbourne General Cemetery, University of Melbourne, the Trades Hall, Carlton and United Breweries and a series of churches. Also during this period eight hectares of land was set aside in the Carlton Gardens to build Royal Exhibition Buildings to house the Melbourne International Exhibition held in 1880/1. These buildings were then used for the inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia at Federation in 1901 and today the buildings and the gardens are included on the World Heritage List.

By the turn of the century many of the wealthier property owners from the gold rush moved out of Carlton and it changed to become home to mostly artisans, workmen and small industries. Emigrants found employment and affordable housing in Carlton between the world wars when an influx of migrants moved into Carlton including the Italians who have a strong presence and have influenced the Lygon Street precinct, including the more recent Piazza Italia in Argyle Square.

The presence of the University of Melbourne and Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology has resulted in Carlton accommodating a large student population, with people aged between 20 and 24 the most populous age group in the suburb. The University grounds do provide sport and recreation facilities on site, however

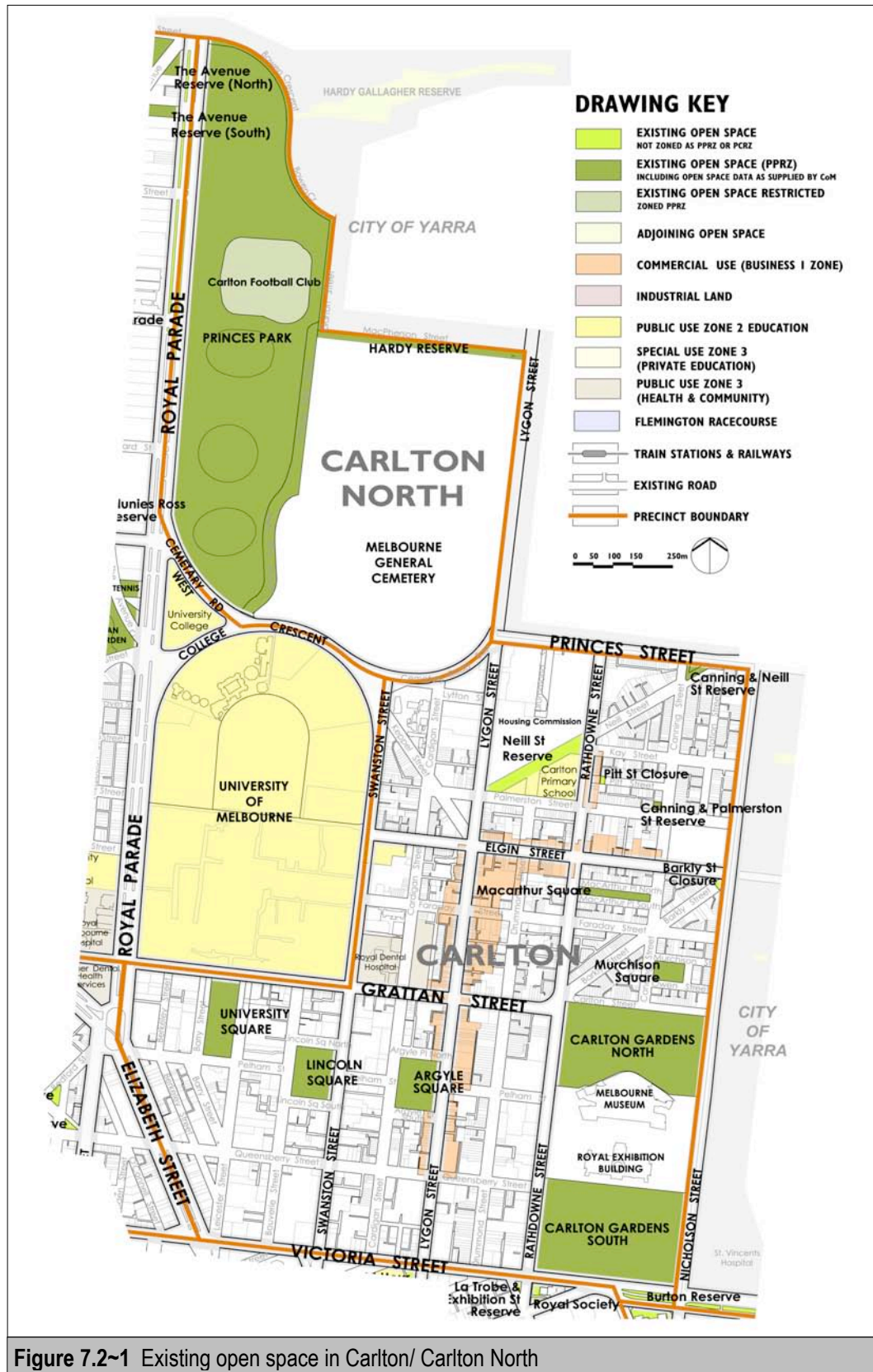
the demographics influence the function and use of the public open space network as well.

As with many inner suburbs the government targeted parts of Carlton for slum reclamation in the 1960s with high-rise estates replacing Victorian terrace houses. Today these same sites are currently the subject of a major public housing redevelopment project expanding the number of people living in these areas. The Office of Housing describes this as the largest public and private housing redevelopment in Victoria's history with the aim of delivering the most environmentally sustainable public housing in Melbourne. This will include removal of 192 old walk up housing flats and replacement with 246 new public and social housing apartments and 600 new private apartments

Carlton is recognised for its heritage character and the older established areas are identified as a stable area in the revised draft Municipal Strategic Statement. The City North urban renewal area proposes some intensification of development in the south-east areas of Carlton. This is largely associated with the future construction of the proposed metro system and Parkville Metro station located near the corner of Grattan Street and Royal Parade. The focus of this change is proposed to support and expand the research and educational facilities in Carlton, Parkville and Central Business District, referred to as the Knowledge Precinct.

The Carlton Housing Redevelopment project and the City North urban renewal area will bring substantial additional population to Carlton including visitors, residents and workers and is described in more detail in this chapter.

### 7.2.2 Existing open space



### 7.2.2a Open space quantity, hierarchy and character

There are 13 existing open spaces in Carlton comprising 22.42 hectares and two in Carlton North comprising 32.86 hectares. Combined they total 56.31 hectares.

In Carlton open space represents 12.3 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and 3.9 per cent of the total open space in the City of Melbourne. In Carlton North open space represents 36.6 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and the 5.8 per cent of the total open space in the City of Melbourne.

**Table 7.2(i) Number, size and type of open space for Carlton/Carlton North**

No	Hierarchy of open space	Area (ha)	%
1	Capital City	8.81	16%
3	Regional	39.98	71%
5	Neighbourhood	6.30	11%
2	Local	0.74	1%
2	Small Local	0.23	0.4%
3	Small Local Link	0.26	0.5%
<b>15</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>56.31</b>	<b>100%</b>
1	<i>Restricted open space</i>	4.36	

The majority of open space in Carlton is provided in Carlton Gardens and the three larger squares being Argyle Square, Lincoln Square and University Square. All these open spaces are located south of Grattan Street. Carlton Gardens is unique and inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List *'The Royal Exhibition Building and its surrounding Carlton Gardens, as the main extant survivors of the a Palace of Industry and its setting, together reflect the global influence of the international exhibition movement of the 19th and early 20th centuries. The movement showcased technological innovation and change, which helped promote a rapid increase in industrialisation and international trade through the exchange of knowledge and ideas'*.

The formal layout of the southern Carlton Gardens extends from the forecourt to the building and includes classically inspired features such as the Hochgurtel fountain, main axial tree lined paths, the formal garden beds (parterres) and the French fountain in the forecourt. To the north of the Melbourne Museum the Carlton Gardens consist of broad tree lined avenues and lawns. These two distinctly different characters of the Carlton Gardens have been classified differently with Carlton Gardens South given a Capital City role and Carlton Gardens North given a Regional role reflecting the more regional and local use of this part of the gardens.

The squares in Carlton are unique in character and each has a distinct design and relationship to the adjoining land use. Argyle Square, located on Lygon Street includes the recent Piazza Italia in the north and the formal public garden layout to the south with mature Elm trees reflecting its original design layout from the late 1800s. Lincoln Square includes the Bali Memorial from 2002, whilst

University Square retains the formal Elm avenues to the south with a more recent design to the north incorporating underground car parking for the University of Melbourne. Macarthur and Murchison Squares are also formal in character, smaller and located north of Carlton Gardens.

The majority of open space in Carlton North is located in Princes Park, established as part of the original Royal Park Reserve. Early tree planting to its perimeter included Lemon Scented Gums, Mahogany Gums and English Elms many of which are still present today. Soon after the plantings occurred, the Carlton Football Club located to Princes Park in 1897 and has been based there continuously since this time. The perimeter walking path is also extremely popular for jogging, walking and cycling, with the ovals used for informal games and dog walking as well.

In summary Carlton and Carlton North combined have a well established and diverse open space system.

**Table 7.2(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification Carlton**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification	AREA (m <sup>2</sup> )
ARGYLE SQUARE	Neighbourhood	Square	Events	13,298
BARKLY ST CLOSURE	Small Local Link	Linking Space		433
BURTON RESERVE	Small Local Link	Significant road reservation	Linking space	1,881
CANNING & NEILL STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal use		1,897
CANNING & PALMERSTON STEET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal use		403
CARLTON GARDENS NORTH	Regional	Heritage	Informal use, Sporting	71,160
CARLTON GARDENS SOUTH	Capital City	Heritage	Botanical, Events	88,121
LINCOLN SQUARE	Neighbourhood	Square	Recreation	13,263
MACARTHUR SQUARE	Local	Square	Formal	3,590
MURCHISON SQUARE	Local	Square	Formal	3,767
NEILL STREET RESERVE	Neighbourhood	Linking space	Informal use	10,300
PITT ST CLOSURE	Small Local Link	Linking Space		243
UNIVERSITY SQUARE	Neighbourhood	Square	Formal, Heritage	15,810



**Table 7.2(iib) Existing open space, hierarchy & character classification Carlton North**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
HARDY RESERVE	Neighbourhood	Linear	Heritage	10,290
PRINCES PARK	Regional	Sporting	Heritage, Restricted sport/recreation, Recreation, Informal use, Events	328,644

**Table 7.2(iic) Existing restricted open space in Carlton North**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
OPTUS OVAL	Regional	Restricted sporting/recreation		43,756
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED</b>				43,756

### 7.2.2b Distribution

The open space in Carlton is generally well located with no physical gaps in its distribution as illustrated in Figure 7.2~2 on the following page. The southern area of the precinct lacks diversity of smaller open spaces and at the fine grain level, accessibility to open space requires review.

### 7.2.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

The Melbourne General Cemetery is located in Carlton North directly adjoining Princes Park. The Cemetery was established in 1850 and set out in accordance with latest concepts of landscape design and plantings at that time. The government botanist Baron Ferdinand von Mueller was responsible for the exotic and native plantings at the Cemetery.

Some of the wider streetscapes in Carlton contribute to the landscape character and pedestrian amenity, particularly those with wide grassed central medians and mature canopy shade trees.

The Melbourne University Campus has number of courtyards and external spaces which can be accessed and used informally by the public as well as being available to students. The formal sporting facilities including the oval and athletics track are not currently available for informal public use. It is noted that the campus grounds accommodates thousands of students on a daily basis with in a large number living on site. This population is additional to the existing and forecast population growth nominated in this Strategy.

Adjoining Carlton/Carlton North to the west is Royal Park, which can be accessed via a pedestrian underpass connection to Royal Park from Princes Park, or by crossing Royal Parade, however the survey outcomes confirm there is a lower

level of use of Royal Park. Hardy Gallagher and Park Street Reserve in the City of Yarra provide a continuous linear open space connection east to Merri Creek along part of the former inner circle railway reserve.

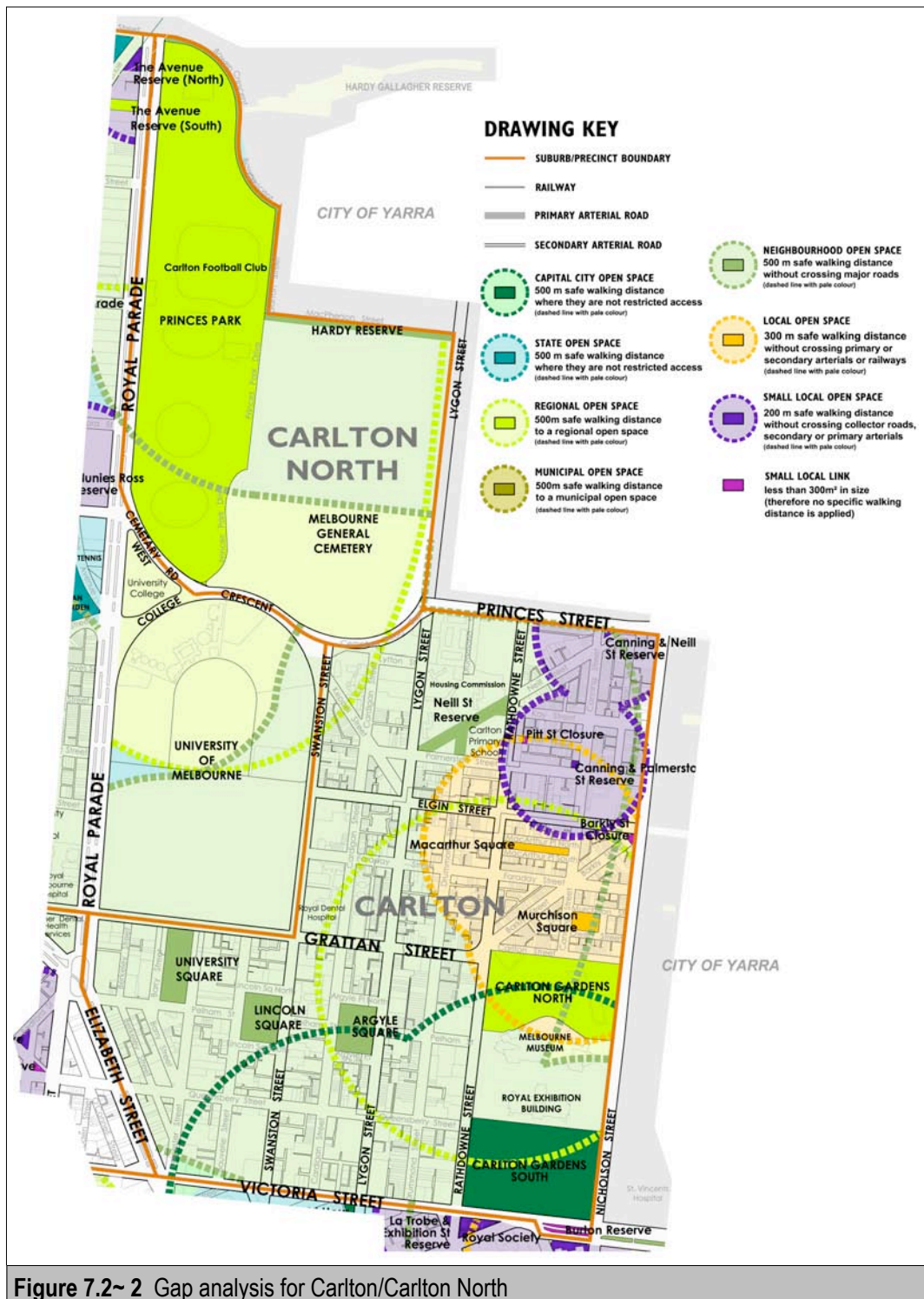


Figure 7.2~ 2 Gap analysis for Carlton/Carlton North

## 7.2.3 Existing Carlton/Carlton North community

### 7.2.3a Who lives and works in Carlton/Carlton North?

The current population of Carlton comprises a large student population along with resident and worker populations associated with the University as well as in other sectors. The on campus student population is not included in the population figures below. Students living on Melbourne University grounds and are part of the Parkville population forecasts.

#### Quantity

- Existing residential population 2011: 14,644 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts, 2011*)
- Existing worker population 2011: 17,823 (*Source: Census of Land Use and Employment, 2010*)

Currently, there are more workers than residents in Carlton, with an additional visitor population to the cultural, education and entertainment facilities associated with the Royal Exhibition Buildings, Melbourne Museum, Lygon Street and the education precinct.

#### Demographics

The demographics are only available for the existing residential population and not the worker population. The most populous age group in 2006 was the 20 to 24 year olds followed by the 25 to 29 year olds. Overall there is a higher proportion of people aged between 20 and 34 years when compared to the City of Melbourne average. The 0 to 14 year olds and the 34+ age ranges are proportionally lower in Carlton when compared with the averages across the whole City. This reflects the location in the education precinct.

### 7.2.3b How existing residents currently use open space?

#### Carlton

A total of 158 household surveys were received from residents of Carlton that represents 9 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is notably less than the proportion of Carlton residents in the City of Melbourne population, which is 16 per cent.

**Table 7.2(iii) Most frequently visited open space reserves**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within the local area</b>			
112(71%)	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (29)</li> <li>• Exercising (19)</li> <li>• Relaxing (14)</li> <li>• Recreation (13)</li> <li>• Travel through (11)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (10)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allow cycles</li> <li>• Additional BBQs</li> <li>• More dog off-lead areas</li> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• More picnic tables and seats</li> </ul>
44 (28%)	Princes Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (12)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (12)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• More drinking fountains</li> </ul>

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking (12)</li> <li>Dog walking (6)</li> <li>Recreation (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve paths</li> <li>More dog off-lead areas</li> <li>Additional toilets</li> </ul>
38 (24%)	Argyle Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel through (12)</li> <li>Dog walking (4)</li> <li>Café/kiosk facilities (3)</li> <li>Entertainment &amp; events (3)</li> <li>Relaxation(3)</li> <li>Walking (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Personal safety concerns</li> <li>More entertainment</li> <li>More shade required</li> </ul>
24 (15%)	Lincoln square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel through (10)</li> <li>Close to home (4)</li> <li>Picnics (2)</li> <li>Walking (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional BBQs</li> <li>More shelters required</li> </ul>
19 (12%)	Royal Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walking (7)</li> <li>Cycling (4)</li> <li>Exercising (3)</li> <li>Fresh air (2)</li> <li>Jogging/running (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve general maintenance of park</li> <li>Additional lighting</li> <li>Additional dog off-leads areas</li> <li>Additional shelters, tables and seating</li> </ul>
13 (8%)	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relaxation (3)</li> <li>Travel through (3)</li> <li>Walking (3)</li> <li>Jogging/running (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policing of rules on pathways</li> <li>General maintenance of grassed area</li> <li>Maintenance of water fountain</li> </ul>
11 (7%)	University Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Travel through(5)</li> <li>Ambience, beauty (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General grounds maintenance</li> <li>Additional seating</li> <li>More BBQs</li> </ul>
<b>Open space outside the local area</b>			
35 (22%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Picnics (7)</li> <li>Recreation (6)</li> <li>Walking (6)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional seating</li> <li>Improve toilet maintenance and cleaning</li> </ul>
23 (15%)	Other – Outside City of Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Play with children</li> <li>Recreation</li> <li>Relaxation</li> </ul>	
17 (11%)	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peaceful (4)</li> <li>Walking (4)</li> <li>Exercising (2)</li> <li>Recreation (2)</li> <li>Travel through (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional seats</li> <li>Vegetation to be well maintained</li> </ul>

### Types of open space used (top four)

97% Major gardens  
 89% Local streets for exercise  
 85% Royal Botanic Gardens  
 82% Urban Squares or Plazas

### Activities and facilities in open space (top four)

91% Walking paths  
 78% Open grassed areas  
 59% Seats

44% Drinking fountains

#### Values (top four)

85% Trees

77% Just being outside

70% Quiet and peaceful

65% Place to relax and unwind

#### Facilities (top four)

91% Walking paths

78% Open grassed areas

59% Seats

44% Drinking fountains

41% Public toilets

#### General comments/improvements

- Open space is highly valued as a key feature of the municipality including for its diversity, garden character and as a contrast to the urban character.
- Resolve conflicts between the cyclists and pedestrians on shared paths.
- Additional open space is required; ensure no further loss of open space to development.
- More community gardens required.
- Additional trees and native vegetation.
- Additional connecting cycle paths required.

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A of the Strategy (separate volume).

#### Carlton North

A total of 93 household surveys were received from residents nominating they live in Carlton North that represents 5 per cent of the total number of surveys received. Whilst people nominated they live in Carlton North, it is likely they live in Carlton, as there are almost no residential properties in Carlton North in the City of Melbourne. The results from these residents are likely to be in the northern area of Carlton.

**Table 7.2(iv) Most frequently visited open space reserves**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within Local area</b>			
64 (69%)	Princes Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (21)</li> <li>• Exercising (19)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (17)</li> <li>• Dog Walking (11)</li> <li>• Cycling (8)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Lighting</li> <li>• More dog waste bin/bags</li> <li>• Improve paths</li> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• More trees</li> </ul>
36 (39%)	Other – outside City of Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking (2)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (2)</li> <li>• Recreation (2)</li> </ul>	

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
24 (26%)	Edinburgh Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (8)</li> <li>• Dog walking (6)</li> <li>• Picnics (4)</li> <li>• Exercising (3)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment(3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional dog off-lead areas</li> </ul>
20 (22%)	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (5)</li> <li>• Museum (4)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (4)</li> <li>• Travel through (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More facilities for cycling</li> <li>• Additional lighting</li> </ul>
18 (19%)	Royal Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (7)</li> <li>• Dog walking (4)</li> <li>• Cycling (2)</li> <li>• Golf (2)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (2)</li> <li>• Walking (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drinking fountain maintenance</li> </ul>
<b>Open space outside local area</b>			
26 (28%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking(8)</li> <li>• Picnics (7)</li> <li>• Ambience, beauty (6)</li> <li>• Gardens</li> <li>• Trees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional carparking</li> </ul>
16 (17%)	Other – Outside City of Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• BBQs</li> <li>• Café &amp; kiosk facilities</li> <li>• Family friendly/child friendly</li> </ul>	
12 (13%)	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel through (4)</li> <li>• Exercising</li> <li>• Museum</li> <li>• Relaxation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• More cycling facilities</li> <li>• Additional lighting</li> </ul>

#### Types of open space used (top four)

- 92% Major gardens
- 90% Regional Parks
- 89% Small Local Parks
- 88% Local streets for exercise

#### Activities and facilities in open space (top four)

- 91% Walking paths
- 85% Open grassed areas
- 49% Cycle paths
- 48% Playgrounds

#### Values (top four)

- 83% Trees
- 76% Just being outside
- 76% Quiet and peaceful
- 70% Place to relax and unwind

#### Facilities (top four)

- 91% Walking paths
- 85% Open grassed areas
- 49% Cycle paths

48% Playgrounds

#### General comments

- Open space is highly valued as a key feature of the municipality, including for its diversity and garden character.
- The existing character of open space is highly valued.
- Open space is appreciated for the benefits it provides.
- Stormwater harvesting and sustainable water use in public gardens.
- Ensure no further loss of open space to development.
- Additional trees and native vegetation.
- More community gardens.

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A, a separate volume of this strategy.

## 7.2.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

### 7.2.4a Forecast future population

#### Who will live and work there in the future?

##### Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. Residential population growth figures are sourced from .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031 and the worker population growth figures are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011).

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040*
<b>Residential</b>	14,644	19,320	21,956	23,773	N/A
Years	2011	2016	2026	N/A	2040*
<b>Worker</b>	17,823	N/A	24,147	N/A	N/A

The forecast future population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population forecast between 2011 and 2026 of 62 per cent, with an additional 9,129 residents between 2011 and 2026. The worker population is forecast to increase approximately one third again over the existing population with an additional 6,324 additional workers between 2011 and 2026.

##### Demographics

An increase in age range diversity is forecast for Carlton with a greater proportion of people in the 30 to 44 year age range and an increase in the 0 to 9 year age group. There will continue to be a predominance of 20 to 24 year age range to reflect the education precinct, with a slight decline in the 50 to 74 year age range.

### **7.2.4b Population change impacts on open space**

The additional quantity of people living and working in Carlton will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction.

The forecast change in demographics will affect the type and design of open space in Carlton. Young children are typically less mobile, with a more comfortable access range being within 200 to 300 metres of where they live, and without needing to cross major roads and arterials. This will likely create an increased demand and use of Local and Small Local open space and play facilities in these and the larger open spaces. The increased younger population will likely increase the demand for both open grassed areas and unstructured recreation facilities.

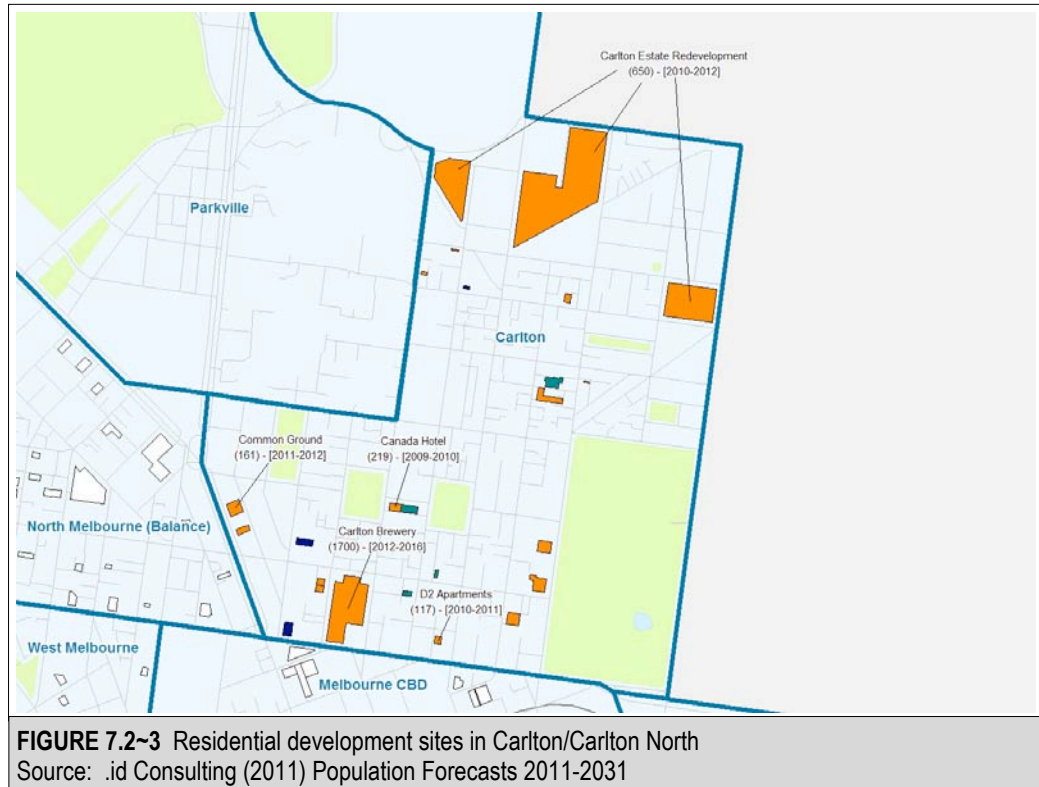
### **7.2.4c Where change will occur**

A large proportion of the forecast population increase in Carlton will be concentrated into a few key larger development sites shown in Figure 7.2~3. A large concentration of additional people into specific sites will place localised increased demand on open space located nearby. If there is no open space nearby or within safe walking distance, then this creates the need to provide additional open space for the new population. The large sites are located in the north, east and south of the precinct.

The forecast increased population will place additional demand on existing open spaces within the catchment and generate the demand for new open space at the local level in some specific locations. The existing population will also use the new open space and this has been considered in the recommendations and actions.

The larger development sites are shown spatially by .id Consulting as the basis for their residential population forecasting, and this is included in Figure 7.2~3.





#### 7.2.4d Open space distribution and future need in Carlton/Carlton North

Within Carlton/Carlton North the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. Future open space provision and needs in Carlton have been analysed on the basis of the following:

- Safe and easy walking access to open space.
- Review the volume and demographic change of the forecast additional population in relation to the location, the existing amount, the design and accessibility of open space.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years as outlined in the existing development sites identified by .id consulting and the broader growth directions included in the *City North Structure Plan (Draft, 2011)*.
- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.

To assess this, Carlton has been divided into a series of open space sub-precincts based on walkability to open space. These are illustrated on Figure 7.2~4.



FIGURE 7.2-4 Open space sub-precincts for Carlton | Carlton North

**Table 7.2 (iv) City North urban renewal area open space sub-precincts**

Note, for City North urban renewal precincts in North Melbourne, Parkville and the Central Business District please refer to the relevant precinct chapters in this Strategy.

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
<b>CN3</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located near the proposed new Parkville Metro station south of Grattan Street opposite the University of Melbourne. The sub-precinct extends south to Queensberry Street, west to Elizabeth Street and east to Swanston Street.</p> <p>Existing open spaces</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lincoln Square</li> <li>• University Square</li> </ul> <p>Both these Squares were set-aside in the original plan for Carlton in 1852. They are both popular open spaces dedicated to informal use, along with the Bali Memorial in Lincoln Square. Only a few development sites have been shown in this sub-precinct, however the more recent City North Structure Plan locates the future Parkville Metro Station near this sub-precinct and it is anticipated there will be significant increase in activity with increased impacts on the existing open space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to provide additional Local open space in the western area of this sub-precinct to cater to the likely longer term increased densities and intensification of use near the proposed Parkville Metro Station. Already, both squares receive a high level of use and this is anticipated to increase.</li> <li>• Design review and prepare landscape master plans for both squares, with consideration of the different characters and complementary uses that these two spaces can provide within the context of an additional Local open space as well.</li> </ul>
<b>CN4</b>	<p>This sub-precinct contains the Carlton &amp; United Brewery site along with smaller sites to the west. Queensbury Street forms the northern extent, Elizabeth Street the west, Victoria Street to the south and Swanston Street to the east.</p> <p>Currently there is no open space within safe walking distance of the existing community.</p> <p>The major change forecast for this sub-precinct is the CUB site and potential redevelopment along Elizabeth Street as shown in the <i>City North Structure Plan (Draft, 2011)</i>.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a Small Local open space in the vicinity of the CUB site to provide accessible open space for this and other development sites space in this sub-precinct.</li> </ul>

**Table 7.2 (v) Carlton open space sub-precincts**

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
<b>C1</b>	<p>The Keppel and Cardigan Street Precinct of the Carlton Housing Redevelopment project is located in this sub-precinct. The sub-precinct extends from College Crescent in the north to Elgin Street in the south and is between Swanston and Lygon Streets. Currently there is no open space within this sub-precinct, however there are wide road reserves with generous grassed central medians that contribute to the landscape character.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a Small Local open space within easy and safe walking distance of existing and forecast future population in the Carlton Housing Redevelopment project. An accessible space for both existing and future population is important that is clearly public and available for everyone to visit and enjoy, and may include utilising some part of the existing wide road reserves to achieve this.</li> </ul>
<b>C2</b>	<p>The Lygon and Rathdowne Precinct of the Carlton Housing Redevelopment project is, located in this sub-precinct and is in the first stages of redevelopment. The sub-precinct extends from Princes Street in the north to Elgin Street in the south, and between Lygon and Rathdowne Streets.</p> <p>Neill Street Reserve is the existing open space in this sub-precinct and is located immediately south of the housing redevelopment project site. Some additional public open space is going to be provided as part of this redevelopment at the Australian Unity site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade Neill Street Reserve to increase the diversity of character and facilities to strengthen this existing Neighbourhood open space.</li> <li>• Future design of additional Small Local open space that is being contributed as part of the Carlton Housing Redevelopment Project is to provide a different and complementary character from Neill Street Reserve.</li> </ul>
<b>C3</b>	<p>The Elgin and Nicholson Street Precinct of the Carlton Housing Redevelopment Project is located in the south-east corner of this sub-precinct. The sub-precinct extends from Princes Street in the north to Elgin Street in the south, and between Rathdowne and Nicholson Streets. The existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canning and Neill Street Reserve</li> <li>• Pitt Street Closure</li> <li>• Canning and Palmerston Street</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the provision of the additional Small Local open space in this sub-precinct as part of the Elgin/Nicholson Public Housing Redevelopment project.</li> <li>• Continue to improve the design of Canning and Neill Street Reserve to continue to improve the use of this open space.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<p>Reserve</p> <p>Canning and Neill Street Reserve is the largest of all three and provides an informal character, with the other two areas providing primarily a linking space function.</p>	
<b>C4</b>	<p>Extending from Elgin Street in the north to Grattan Street in the south and between Swanston and Lygon Streets, this sub-precinct includes the former Royal Womens Hospital site and the western side of the Lygon Street commercial precinct. There is currently no open space in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a Small Local open space within easy and safe walking distance of the existing and forecast additional population in this site.</li> </ul>
<b>C5</b>	<p>Located to the east of sub-precinct C4, this incorporates the east side of the Lygon Street commercial precinct, and extends to Rathdowne Street. Currently there is no open space in this sub-precinct, however Carlton Gardens North is directly adjacent to the east of Rathdowne Street and Drummond Street has a large central median with mature street trees that contributes to its character. This precinct is referred to as a minimal change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to improve Carlton Gardens North through implementation of the existing Master Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>C6</b>	<p>Located directly north of Carlton Gardens, this sub-precinct includes Macarthur Square and Murchison Square and retains its heritage character from the Victorian era. The large central medians of Faraday Street and Barkly Street also contribute to the landscape character of the precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to manage the existing open spaces to protect the Victorian character and values, balanced with contemporary values and use of open space.</li> </ul>
<b>C7</b>	<p>Argyle Square is located in this sub-precinct, with the associated commercial precinct on the west side of Lygon Street. The sub-precinct is located between Lygon and Swanston Streets with Grattan Street to the north and Queensberry Street to the south. Pelham Street provides on-street links from this sub-precinct east to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• While there will be increased urban density and population in this sub-precinct, the future population will be within easy walking distance of Argyle Square.</li> <li>• Therefore continue to manage Argyle Square for ongoing increased intensity of use, with upgrades to the facilities and condition as required.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	Carlton Gardens and west to Lincoln Square.	
<b>C8</b>	<p>Located directly adjoining Carlton Gardens, this sub-precinct is positioned between Lygon and Rathdowne Streets and south of Grattan Street. Lygon Street commercial area is located in this precinct, along with a range of other mixed uses and there is no existing open space.</p> <p>Drummond Street's wide central median does contribute to the overall landscape character of the precinct. Two smaller development sites are identified in this sub-precinct opposite Carlton Gardens.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carlton Gardens South and North are both in close proximity to this sub-precinct with signalled intersections from major roads to improve safety and accessibility of crossing Rathdowne Street. Continue to manage Carlton Gardens in accordance with the approved Master Plan including retaining Carlton Gardens North primarily for local neighbourhood use with Carlton Gardens South the location for major events. This will ensure the community have good access to the open space. If in the future the use of Carlton Gardens North changes, then an alternative neighbourhood open space would be required for the local community in this sub-precinct and in sub-precincts C5, C9 and C10.</li> <li>• Argyle Square is located within reasonable walking distance to the west of this sub-precinct, with a pedestrian crossing at Pelham Street.</li> </ul>
<b>C9</b>	<p>Located between of Queensberry Street and Victoria Street, this sub-precinct is within 500 metres of Carlton Gardens South, with direct access along Queensberry Street to reach it. There is no open space located within this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to rely on access to Carlton Gardens South for open space and recreational needs of the local population in this sub-precinct.</li> </ul>
<b>C10</b>	As for sub-precinct C9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As for sub-precinct C9.</li> </ul>

## 7.2.5 Carlton/Carlton North Actions

### 7.2.5a Summary of overall intent

#### **Provision and distribution**

The historical framework of open space in Carlton and Carlton North is integral to the suburbs character and values. The forecast substantial additional population growth throughout the municipality and more specifically in Carlton, will place increased levels of use on these important open spaces. Additional open space at the local level is identified to provide a supportive framework so that it allows the major reserves to retain their character and value, without becoming overused or accommodating too many uses and functions in the future.

This additional space is required for a range of reasons including recreational use, people's mental health and wellbeing, climate change mitigation and protecting and improving environmental values (eg water quality treatment). The proposed additional open space provides a supportive neighbourhood and local open space network that is primarily for the Southbank/South Wharf population rather than the broader visitors to the precinct.

#### **Quality and design**

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in some of the existing open space in Carlton. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to urban heat island effect mitigation and environmental quality.

A summary of the Actions is illustrated in Figure 7.2~5 on the following page.



FIGURE 7.2~5 Summary of strategy recommendation for Carlton | Carlton North\*

\* Refer also to page 13 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.2~5 and photos.



### 7.2.5b Precinct Actions for Carlton/Carlton North

#### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2A-1	Provide additional Local open space in sub-precinct CN3 to cater to the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.2A-2	Provide an additional Small Local open space in sub-precinct CN4 the vicinity of the CUB site primarily for the forecast substantial additional population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.2A-3	Provide Small Local open space in sub-precinct C1 for both the existing and forecast future population as part of the Carlton Estate Redevelopment.	CoM, Developer	Medium
7.2A-4	Provide an additional Small Local open space in sub-precinct C3 for both the existing and forecast additional population in the Carlton Housing Redevelopment Project.	CoM, Developer	High
7.2A-5	Provide a Small Local open space in sub-precinct C4 for both the existing and forecast future population. This sub-precinct currently has no open space.	CoM, Developer	High

#### B Additional open space links

Not applicable

#### C Capital City open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2D-2	<b>Carlton Gardens South</b> Continue to implement Carlton Gardens Master Plan providing facilities for the local population as well as the broader regional needs within the context of the World Heritage values of the gardens.	CoM	Ongoing

#### D Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2D-1	<b>Carlton Gardens North</b> Continue to implement Carlton Gardens Master Plan providing facilities for the local population as well as the broader regional needs within the context of the World Heritage values of the gardens.	CoM	Ongoing
7.2D-3	<b>Princes Park</b> Continue to implement the Princes Park Master Plan and accommodate and manage existing and future	CoM	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	structured sporting needs of the existing and forecast additional population in the future.		

## E Municipal open space

Not applicable

## F Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2F-1	<b>Argyle Square</b> Continue to maintain with minor upgrades as required to accommodate the increased use from the forecast local population in the City North urban renewal precincts (CN3 and CN4).	CoM	Ongoing
7.2F-2	<b>Lincoln Square</b> Prepare a landscape master plan for this open space in conjunction with a master plan for University Square and the proposed Local open space in sub-precinct CN3. Preparing all three together will allow for assessment and provision of a diversity open space facilities and types that will meet the needs of the existing and forecast substantial additional population.	CoM	High
7.2F-3	<b>University Square</b> Prepare a landscape master plan for this open space in conjunction with a master plan for Lincoln Square and the proposed Local open space in sub-precinct CN3. Preparing all three together will allow for assessment and provision of a diversity open space facilities and types that will meet the needs of the existing and forecast substantial additional population.	CoM	High
7.2F-4	<b>Neill Street Reserve</b> Continue to implement the upgrades to this open space in the context of the Carlton Housing Redevelopment, with an emphasis on improving accessibility and diversity.	CoM, DOHA	Very High
7.2F-5	<b>Hardy Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing

**G Local open space**

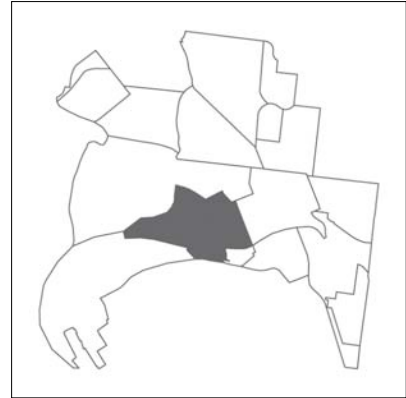
No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2G-1	<b>Macarthur Square</b> Continue to maintain and manage the heritage values balanced with contemporary recreational needs and values.	CoM	Ongoing
7.2G-2	<b>Murchison Square</b> Continue to maintain and manage the heritage values balanced with contemporary recreational needs and values.	CoM	Ongoing

**H Small Local open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2H-1	<b>Canning &amp; Palmerston Street Reserve</b> Investigate future minor upgrade including playground within the context of other facilities provided in new open space in sub-precinct C3.	CoM	Ongoing
7.2H-2	<b>Canning &amp; Neill Street Reserve</b> Minor upgrade to improve function and use within the context of other facilities provided in new open space in sub-precinct C3.	CoM	Medium

**J Small Local Link**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.2J-1	<b>Burton Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.2J-2	<b>Pitt Street Closure</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.2J-3	<b>Barkly Street Closure</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing



## 7.3 Docklands

### 7.3.1 Overview

Docklands is located around Victoria Harbour and the Yarra River extending from Spencer Street west to just beyond the Bolte Bridge. The precinct includes some of the Port of Melbourne land to the west of Moonee Ponds Creek and Bolte Bridge that is set aside for port related activities, and public access is restricted for security reasons. Docklands extends to Lorimer Street in the south and Footscray Road in the north. The precinct also includes the north bank of the Yarra River west of Spencer Street, Flinders Wharf and the Seafarers Bridge.

Docklands sits on the site of the former large extensive West Melbourne Swamp at the mouth of Moonee Ponds Creek that was once an open hunting ground and meeting place for several Aboriginal communities – the Wurundjeri, the Boonerwung, the Taungurong, the Djadja Wurrung and the Wathaurong people. During the early years of Melbourne, the Yarra River was too shallow for ships to navigate. Ships therefore docked at nearby ports Hobsons Bay and transferred cargo to smaller vessels that could navigate the river upstream to Queens Street. The boats originally docked alongside the banks of the Yarra River downstream of the former falls at Queens Street, which separated the fresh water from salt water in the river. The presence of fresh water upstream of the falls was the reason Melbourne was originally established in this location.

As Melbourne grew during the gold rush from the 1850s onwards, the need for a port facility close to the city increased. A British engineer Sir John Goode proposed major changes to the Yarra River including channel straightening, widening and deepening from Flinders Street to the Maribyrnong, removing the falls at Queen Street, and construction of Victoria Harbour and dock facilities on the site of the former West Melbourne Swamp. These works were all undertaken and Victoria Dock opened in 1893,

Victoria Dock expanded during its history however, as ships increased in size the port facilities moved downstream with the construction of Appleton Dock and then finally Webb Dock at the mouth of the Yarra River. During the 1980s successive Victorian governments had the vision of expanding the central business district

west into the dockland areas. The construction of the Bolte Bridge in the late 1990s restricted the ability for large ships to enter Victoria Dock.

From the late 1990s onwards Docklands has been under redevelopment as a major urban renewal project managed by the Victorian government in partnership with private developers. The intention is for Docklands to become a modern residential, business, commercial and entertainment precinct. The Docklands precinct presents some inherent challenges in establishing new open space given its natural and industrial history. This includes potential contamination from former activities and difficulty in establishing trees due to the soil types and strong winds.

Two key documents currently guide the continued redevelopment of Docklands and these are:

- *Docklands First Decade, 2010*
- *Docklands Second Decade (in preparation)*

## 7.3.2 Existing open space

### 7.3.2a Open space, quantity, hierarchy and character

Docklands currently has 12 existing open spaces with a total area of 15.2 hectares. This represents approximately 3.9 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and 2.1 per cent of the total open space in the City of Melbourne.

**Table 7.3(i) Number, size and type of open space in Docklands**

No	Hierarchy of open space	Area (ha)	%
1	Capital City	0.09	1%
8	Regional	14.60	96%
1	Local	0.34	2%
2	Small Local	0.19	1%
<b>12</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>15.22</b>	<b>100%</b>

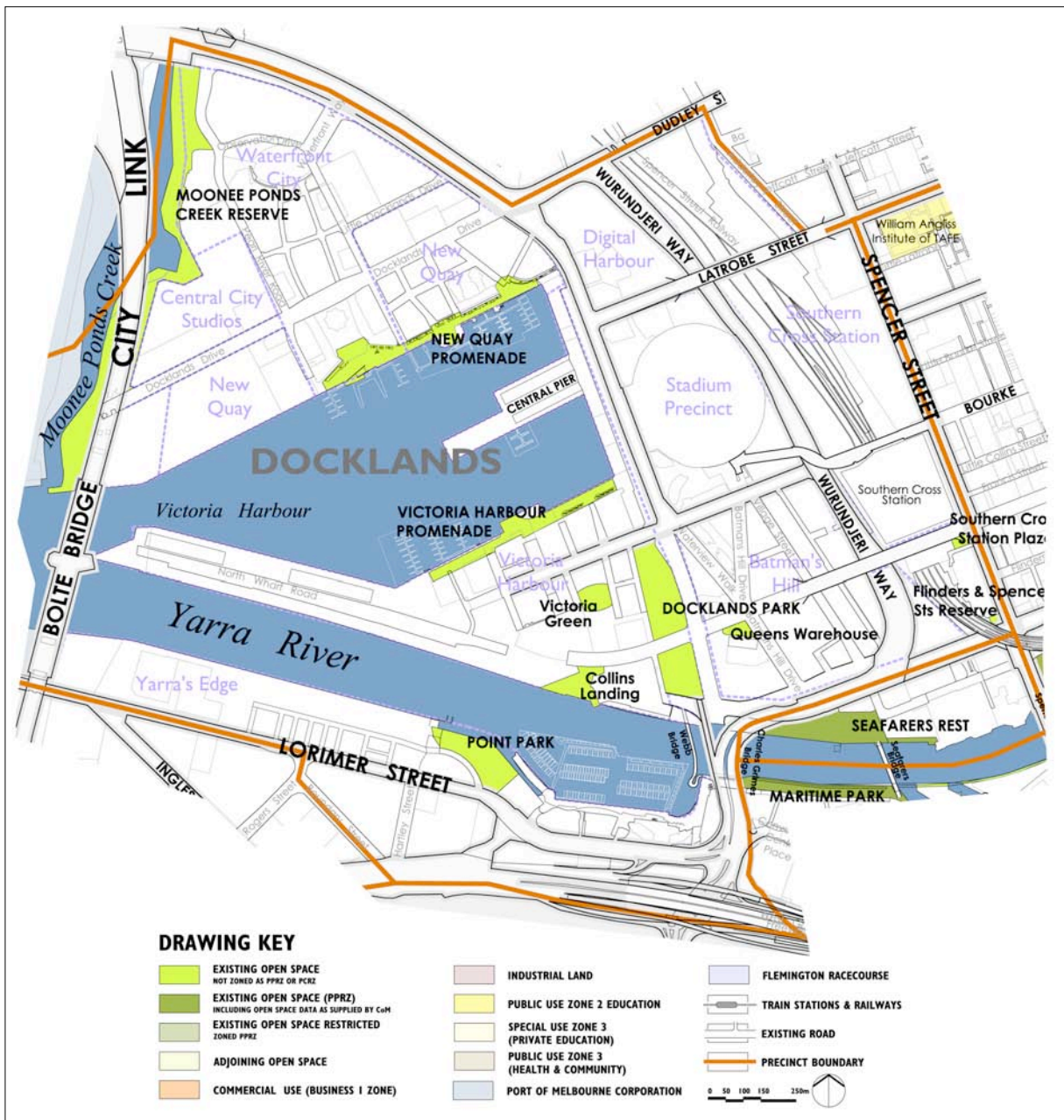


Figure 7.3~1 Existing open space in Docklands

The majority of open space in the Docklands is located around the Yarra River, Victoria Harbour and Moonee Ponds Creek and is provided for the wider population who are attracted to the entertainment and commercial precinct in Docklands. While this open space has a regional context, it is likely that some of it may change its function and use to Capital City open space, however currently it serves mainly a regional function.

With the exception of Docklands Park, the open spaces around Victoria Harbour are predominantly linear in nature and provide for informal activities such as walking, cycling, seating and participating in cultural activities including busking and performances. Due to existing and forecast future high visitor levels to the majority of these spaces, they are largely paved surfaces with trees without many open grassed and planted areas. The strategy household survey outcomes have

identified that people are seeking greener spaces in Docklands. Identifying opportunities to introduce some natural surfaces and green areas into future open space in Docklands has formed part of the analysis for this precinct.

The *Docklands Second Decade Plan* seeks to continue to strengthen the focus of activity around Victoria Harbour and the Yarra River including active engagement with the water. The harbour edge therefore is going to continue to attract increasingly higher levels of use, making the need to establish a more interactive edge to the water along and providing some green spaces and shade even more important.

Docklands Park is designed as a Regional open space that is used by the local population as well. This is a green space with trees, grassed areas, playground, water features, barbecues and picnic facilities. Some of the Local and Small Local open space in Victoria Harbour include more sheltered and protected spaces including Victoria Green and Collins Landing. The other smaller open spaces in Batmans Hill and Southern Cross Station precincts are mostly located on major roads restricting the potential beneficial uses and values of these open spaces for residents living and working in this high-density urban setting. Weather conditions, particularly the cool winds in winter, make the provision of some more sheltered spaces for the local community an important consideration in future open space for Docklands.

The lack of open space with structured and unstructured sport and recreation facilities is noticeable in Docklands and this strategy recommends the need for future provision of some of these facilities in additional open space.

**Table 7.3(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
COLLINS LANDING	Regional	Waterfront/harbour	Urban plaza	5,188
DOCKLANDS PARK	Regional	Informal	Water feature, Linear	22,291
FLINDERS & SPENCER STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Linking space		463
MOONEE PONDS CREEK RESERVE	Regional	Waterway	Nature conservation, Significant road reservation	42,279
NEW QUAY PROMENADE	Regional	Waterfront/harbour	Linking space	17,612
POINT PARK	Regional	Waterfront/harbour	Informal	10,689
QUEENS WAREHOUSE	Small Local	Undeveloped		1,454
SEAFARERS REST	Regional	Waterway	Heritage	5,256
SOUTHERN CROSS STATION PLAZA	Capital City	Forecourt	Seating/Viewing	884
VICTORIA GREEN	Local	Informal		3,357
VICTORIA HARBOUR PROMENADE	Regional	Waterfront/harbour	Linking space	11,655

### 7.3.2b Distribution

The existing open space is mainly located around Victoria Harbour, along the Yarra River and Moonee Ponds Creek. The Victoria Harbour precinct contains the greatest diversity of open space with Local open space as well as the linear spaces. As can be seen graphically in Figure 7.3~2, the majority of open space is adjacent to the Harbour, Yarra River and Moonee Ponds Creek.

The *Docklands Second Decade* identified one of the key issues with Docklands is to improve diversity of facilities to appeal to different age groups including children. Introducing diversity of open space including with some informality and naturalness will be beneficial for the community's mental health and wellbeing.

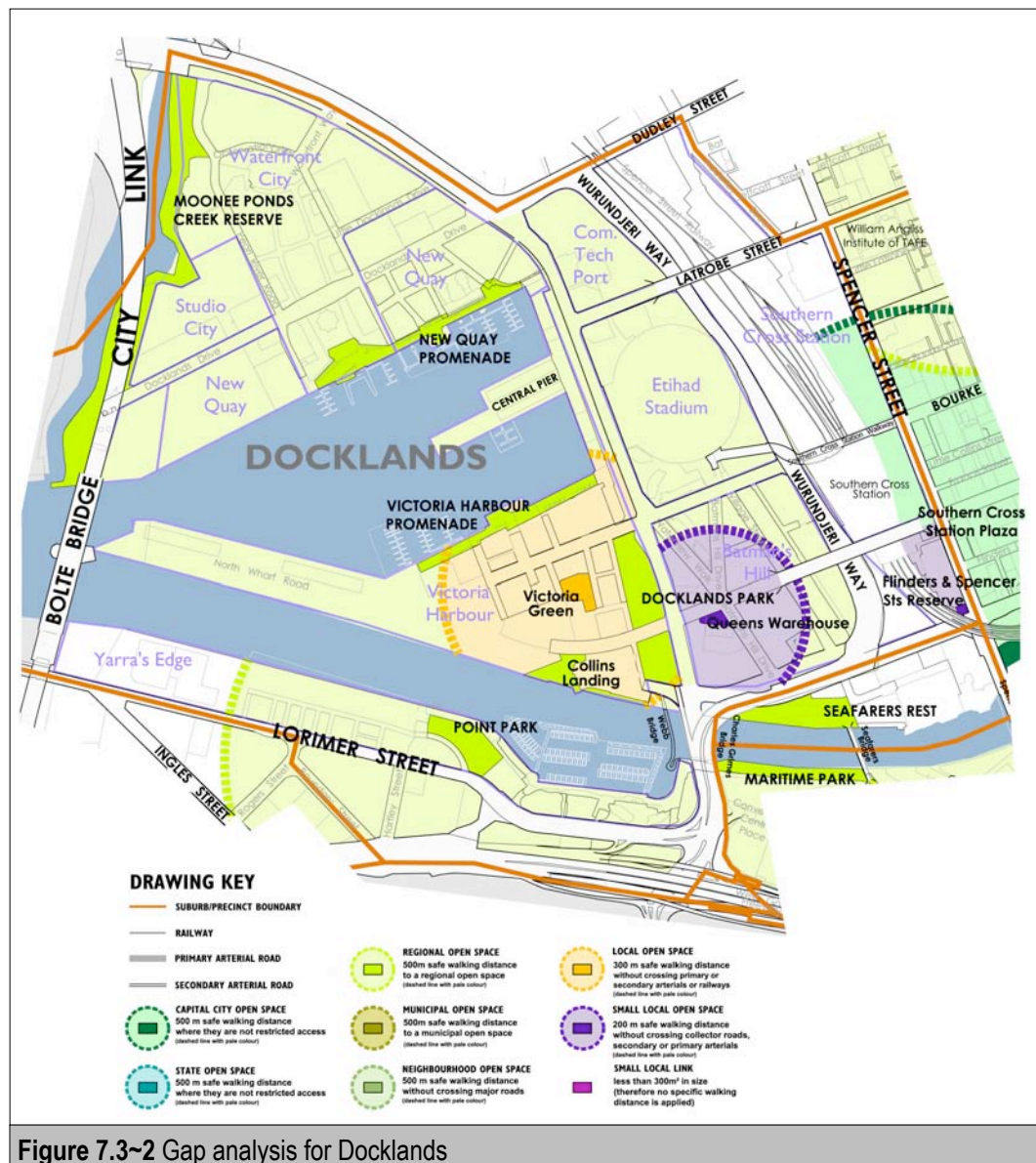


Figure 7.3~2 Gap analysis for Docklands

### 7.3.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

The Yarra River provides open space connectivity to a network of open space along the Yarra River in Southbank, Melbourne Central City and the St Kilda Road precinct. The Strategy household surveys identify that residents of



Docklands already visit other open along the Yarra including Southbank and Flagstaff Gardens to the north.

The Moonee Ponds Creek has been included as Regional open space in the quantities with its regional values including its floodplain, waterway and nature conservation and linear shared trail connectivity. This open space is significantly influenced by the presence of the overhead freeway limiting natural sunlight, sense of openness and impact of traffic noise on the recreational use. The Moonee Ponds shared trail is nominated as the least visited open space in the strategy household survey.

### 7.3.3 Existing Docklands community

#### 7.3.3a Who lives and works in Docklands?

The current residential population of Docklands is predominantly professional singles or couples and also younger in age than the Australian average. This is consistent with the inner city location and the main dwelling type available, which are one and two bedroom high-rise apartments. The much larger proportion of the existing population is the worker population, mainly employed in finance, insurance, media and IT professions with 85 per cent of the floor area given over to office use and 13 per cent retail. The number of people in Docklands is bolstered by a regular flow of visitors to the sporting, retail and restaurant precincts (Docklands First Decade, 2010).

##### Quantity

- Existing residential population 2011: 6,134 (*Source: .id Consulting Population Forecasts, 2011*)
- Existing worker population 2011: 33,503 (*Source: Census of Land Use and Employment, 2010*)

Currently, there are more than five times as many workers as there are residents in Docklands, with an additional visitor population, particularly to the sporting, retail and restaurant precincts.

##### Demographics

The demographics are only available for the existing residential population and not the worker population. The most populous age group in 2011 is forecast to be the 25 to 29 year olds, followed by the 30 to 34 year olds reflecting the young professional population. Combined the 20 to 44 age group represents just over 50 per cent of the total population. When compared to the City of Melbourne population the average, there are a higher proportion of young children under the age of 10 in Docklands, and less young people aged between 10 and 24, and substantially less people in the 70+ age range. This generally means the main difference is that fewer students are living in Docklands, with more 25 to 45 year olds with and without young children.

### 7.3.3b How existing residents currently use open space

A total of 54 household surveys were received from residents of Docklands that represents 3 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is slightly less than the proportion of Docklands residents in the City of Melbourne population, which is 5 per cent.

**Table 7.3(iii) Most frequently visited open space reserves**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within the local area</b>			
28 (52%)	Docklands Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (5)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (5)</li> <li>• Walking (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambience/aesthetics needs improving</li> <li>• Cyclist/pedestrian conflict on shared paths</li> <li>• Playground &amp; equipment for age range is required</li> <li>• Additional seats</li> </ul>
12 (22%)	Docklands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Close to home</li> <li>• Exercising</li> <li>• Views</li> <li>• Work – close to home</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More trees and vegetation</li> <li>• Improved access</li> <li>• Ambience/aesthetics needs improving</li> <li>• Keep present open space free from development</li> <li>• Tennis facilities</li> </ul>
8 (15%)	Point Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking (4)</li> <li>• Exercising (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Additional facilities for dogs</li> <li>• More seats and shade</li> </ul>
8 (15%)	South Bank Promenade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (5)</li> <li>• Café and kiosk (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyclist/pedestrian conflict on shared paths</li> </ul>
8 (15%)	Victoria Green (proposed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel through (4)</li> </ul>	
<b>Open space outside the local area</b>			
18 (33%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambience, beauty (4)</li> <li>• Walking (4)</li> <li>• Relaxation (9)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional shelters with tables and seats</li> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• More entertainment</li> </ul>
6 (11%)	Bayside Beaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• Exercise</li> <li>• Relaxation</li> <li>• Dog walking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More BBQs</li> <li>• Additional toilets &amp; shelters</li> <li>• More trees</li> </ul>
27 (50%)	Other-outside City of Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog off lead</li> <li>• Ambience, beauty</li> </ul>	

#### Types of open space used (top four)

91% Open space along Yarra River

83% Royal Botanic Gardens

83% Medium sized parks

72% Major Gardens

#### Activities and facilities in open space (top four)

72% Walking paths

57% Picnic tables

50% Barbeques  
50% Public Toilets

#### Values (top four)

69% Just being outside  
69% Place to relax and unwind, and being outside  
69% Trees  
59% Quiet and peaceful

#### General comments

- Additional open space is required in Docklands area.
- No further loss to development.
- More trees and native planting.
- Litter in open space is an issue.

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A, a separate volume of this strategy.

## 7.3.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

### 7.3.4a Forecast future population

#### Who will live and work there in the future?

##### Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. Residential population growth figures are sourced from .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031 and the worker population growth figures are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011).

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040*
<b>Residential</b>	6,134	9,596	12,521	14,205	17,000
Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Worker</b>	33,503	N/A	N/A	44,000	N/A

\* Source: Docklands First Decade, 2010 (2040 date is not nominated specifically, this is given as a total capacity.)

The forecast future population growth is significant with an overall change in the residential population between 2011 and 2026 of more than double, with an additional 8,070 residents between 2011 and 2026. The worker population and currently are forecast to increase by approximately one third, with an additional approximate 10,500 workers between 2011 and 2026. In summary there is forecast to be a higher growth rate in the residential population compared with the worker population over the next 10 years. Currently there are nearly five times more workers than residents in Docklands, and by 2026 the balance will even out slightly with three times more workers than residents by 2026.

### Demographics

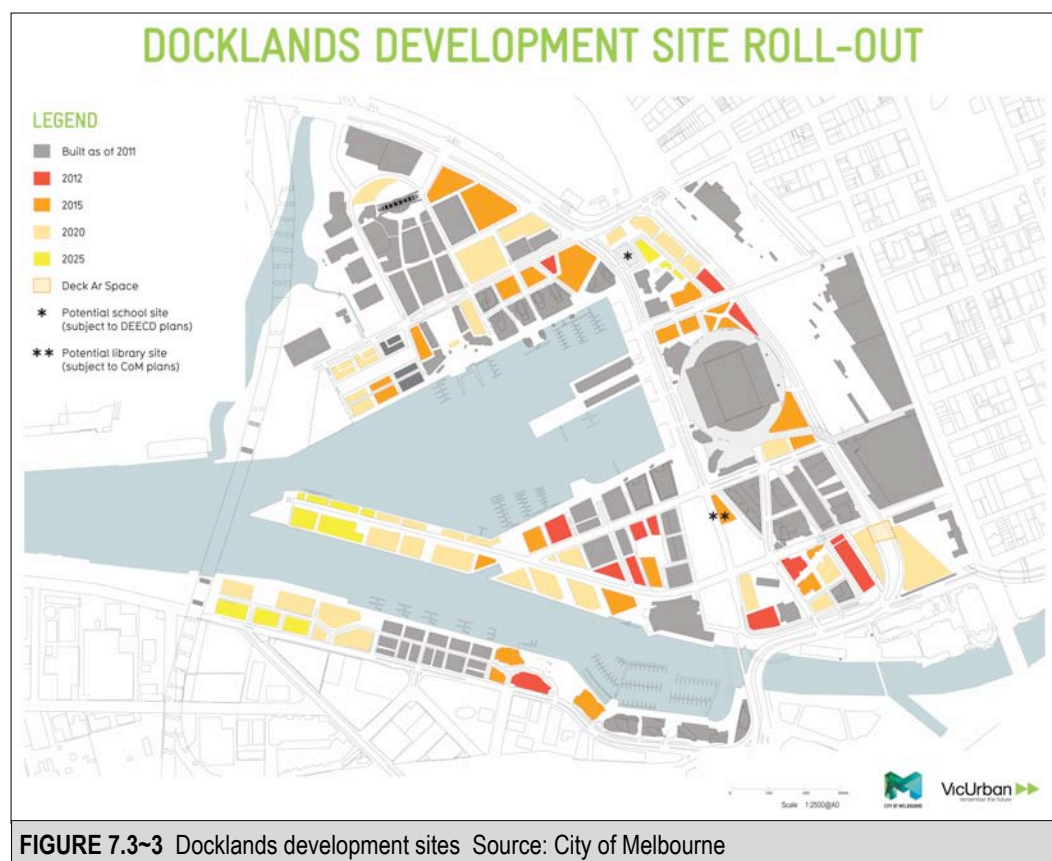
An increase in age range diversity is forecast for Docklands with the *Docklands Second Decade (in preparation)* developing a vision around attracting families to live in Docklands and providing the necessary support services including schools and open space.

#### 7.3.4b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity and changing demographics of people living and working in Docklands will place increased pressure and demands on the existing open space. The pressure will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space and lack of access to existing facilities.

The forecast change in demographics will affect the type and design of open space in Docklands. Currently 24 to 44 year olds are the dominant age group and do not place high demands on a diversity of facilities, generally utilising the informal facilities for walking, jogging, exercise and cycling. Young children, families and older people will place more demands on access to a range of open spaces being within 200 to 300 metres of where they live without needing to cross major roads and arterials. This will likely create an increased demand and use of Municipal, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space through the precinct in addition to the linear open space already established around the harbour and along the waterways.

#### 7.3.4c Where change will occur



The forecast population increase in Docklands will be located in the areas that are yet to be developed. These are shown spatially in the following figure prepared by the City of Melbourne and Places Victoria.

The forecast increased population will place additional demand on existing open spaces along with generating the demand for new open space. The existing population will also use the new open space, and this has been considered in the recommendations and actions.

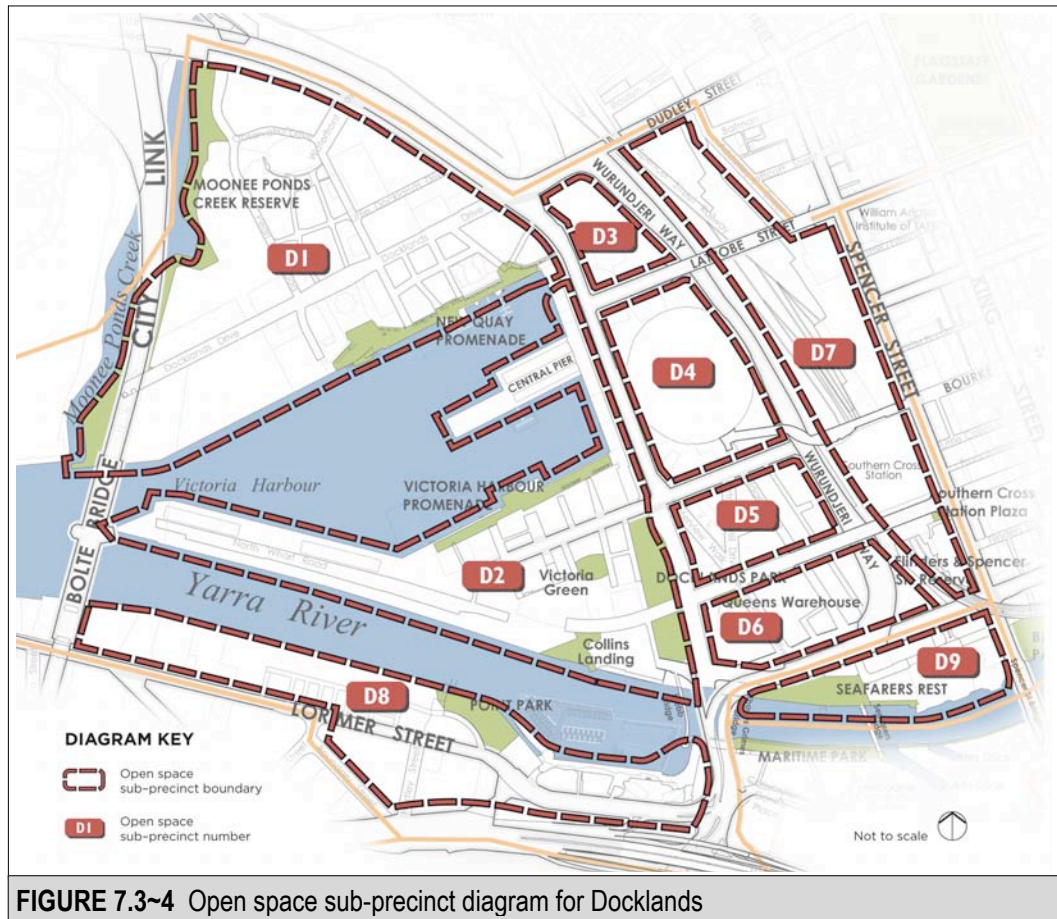
#### **7.3.4d Open space distribution and future need in Docklands**

Within the Harbour precincts of Docklands the major roads have been minimised with main traffic diverted onto Wurundjeri Way and Footscray Road. The east-west roads including Collins Street, Latrobe Street and Dudley Street will become busier as Docklands develops, and have therefore been treated as barriers to safe and local access to open space, particularly for young children and people who are less mobile. Future open space provision and needs in Docklands have been analysed on the basis of the following:

- Safe and easy walking access to open space.
- Review of the volume and demographic change forecast for the additional population, both in relation to the existing quantity of open space and its design.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years as outlined in the roll out plan.
- Identify opportunities to increase the diversity of open space provided, given the existing lack of diversity of open space character.

To assess this, Docklands has been divided into a series of open space sub-precincts based on walkability. These are illustrated on Figure 7.3~4.

These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in Docklands to easily reach open space. A summary of open space provision in the open space sub-precincts is described in Table 7.3(iv)



**FIGURE 7.3~4** Open space sub-precinct diagram for Docklands

**Table 7.3 (iv) Docklands open space sub-precincts**

The following analysis and conclusions are based on a realistic amount of open space that can be provided within the existing and future urban context. This includes the statement in *Docklands the First Decade (2010)* that 98 per cent of the land is already committed to development in accordance with previously agreed directions.

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
D1	<p>New Quay, Studio City and Waterfront City are all located on the north side of Victoria Harbour and in this sub-precinct. Existing open spaces in this precinct includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Quay Promenade</li> <li>• Moonee Ponds Creek linear open space</li> </ul> <p>Both these open spaces are linear, with New Quay Promenade offering a built urban character and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a large Local or small Neighbourhood open space in this sub-precinct, in a location with a northern aspect which provides shelter from the predominant winds, and space to include a range of unstructured recreational and informal facilities.</li> <li>• Provide a Municipal open space with a focus on structured sport recreational uses in the location already highlighted for potential future open space near Moonee Ponds</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	harbour views, and Moonee Ponds Creek offering a more natural character. The overhead freeway along Moonee Ponds Creek significantly compromises the recreational value of this open space.	Creek. Future designs will need to address the overhead freeway regarding sunlight access and noise. This is an ideal location for activities that generate noise which can be difficult to locate in close proximity to high-density use.
<b>D2</b>	<p>This sub-precinct includes the area known as Victoria Harbour, and the following open space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria Green</li> <li>• Docklands Park</li> <li>• Collins Landing</li> </ul> <p>This sub-precinct contains the greatest diversity of open space types and character. Victoria Green provides a sheltered smaller green area of open space, while Collins Landing provides an urban style space adjacent to the Yarra. Docklands Park provides a diversity of facilities and has been targeted in its design to a regional use, including by its linear form, scale and design.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a new Small Local open space in the vicinity of Corporation Road. This open space is to extend south to the Yarra River to provide another public access point to the River in addition to Collins Landing. The space should offer a more active range of facilities that complement the other open spaces in this sub-precinct.</li> <li>• Provide an additional Local open space to the western end of this sub-precinct to primarily cater to the forecast new population in this precinct, providing both water access and a diversity of recreation facilities and uses.</li> </ul>
<b>D3</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located in the Com Tech Port precinct, defined to the north by Dudley Street, the south by Latrobe Street, the west by Harbour Esplanade and the east by Wurundjeri Way. Currently there is no open space in this sub-precinct. Recent plans identify a future school site in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need for a Small Local open space in this sub-precinct to provide safe and easy access to open space for the future population. The future open space is to be sited away from major roads and is to offer good sunlight access and shelter from the wind. This space will also have a role in urban heat island effect mitigation, and include large canopy shade trees and maximise porous surfaces.</li> </ul>
<b>D4</b>	<p>Defined by the Etihad Sports Stadium this sub-precinct is well connected to Southern Cross Station via pedestrian bridge and faces Victoria Harbour.</p> <p>There is no public open space located in this sub-precinct, however Docklands Park adjoins the precinct to the south-west.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The configuration and layout of this sub-precinct does make it feasible to provide a local open space that is easily accessible and visible within it.</li> <li>• Docklands Park will continue to provide for the open space needs of the existing and future population in this sub-precinct. This will place increasing demands on the use of facilities in Docklands Park, and some future upgrade may be required to ensure the local community open</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
		space needs are adequately provided for in the future.
<b>D5</b>	<p>Located between Bourke Street and Collins Street, this sub-precinct is almost fully developed with a potential future library site located on the Harbour Esplanade frontage.</p> <p>There is no open space in the sub-precinct, however Docklands Park is located to the west.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The existing and future population will continue to rely on and use Docklands Park, recognising they will need to cross Harbour Esplanade to reach it. Ensure any future works improve the cycle and pedestrian links between this sub-precinct and Docklands Park. Refer also the discussion regarding Docklands Park in sub-precinct D4.</li> </ul>
<b>D6</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located to the south of Collins Street and is defined by Wurundjeri Way to the south and east, Collins Street to the north and Harbour Esplanade to the west. Queens Warehouse is the only existing open space and is currently undeveloped. This sub-precinct extends east of Wurundjeri Way to include a future development site in the south east corner of this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide an additional Small Local open space in the south-east area of the sub-precinct. The future open space is to be located away from major roads as a contrast to other available open space nearby, and is primarily for the future population in this area.</li> <li>Queens Warehouse open space is to be designed to cater to the open space needs of the local population in the main area of this sub-precinct.</li> </ul>
<b>D7</b>	<p>Southern Cross Station sub-precinct includes the Station and the railway yards extending from Dudley Street in the north to Flinders Street in the south. There are two open spaces including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spencer Street Station Plaza</li> <li>Flinders &amp; King Street Reserve</li> </ul> <p>Both spaces are small in size, with the Flinders &amp; King Street Reserve primarily providing visual relief in urban form, while the Spencer Street Station Plaza is a pedestrian space opposite the iconic Southern Cross Station.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No additional open space is required in this precinct due to railway function and use.</li> <li>Continue to retain and improve pedestrian amenity in and around Southern Cross Station and connections west to Docklands.</li> </ul>
<b>D8</b>	<p>On the south side of the Yarra River, this sub-precinct is referred to as Yarras Edge. It extends from the Yarra River south to the West Gate Freeway and Boundary Street, and from the Bolte Bridge to Grimes Charles Bridge. Point Park is the existing open space, designed for regional use with</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An additional Local open space is proposed towards the western end of this sub-precinct and central enough to ensure it is not in the shadow of Bolte Bridge. This Local open space is to be connected to a public open space along Yarra River so that public access is feasible in the future. The design is to complement the facilities</li> </ul>



Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<p>grassed mounds, large gravel areas and tree planting.</p> <p>Publicly accessible private open space is located between Webb Bridge and Point Park</p>	<p>already provided in Point Park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a linear open space along the southern edge of the Yarra River.</li> <li>• Review the design of Point Park in the future to ensure it continues to adequately meet the open space needs of the expanding population in this area.</li> </ul>
<b>D9</b>	<p>This sub-precinct includes the Northbank Promenade Redevelopment project, which provides a trail connection along the north bank of the Yarra River between Spencer Street and Collins Landing in Docklands. Existing open space includes Seafarers Rest and there is good connectivity south over the Yarra River via Seafarers Bridge.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the current Northbank Promenade Redevelopment project from Seafarers Rest west under Wurundjeri Way to Collins Landing.</li> </ul>

## 7.3.5 Docklands Actions

### 7.3.5a Summary of overall intent

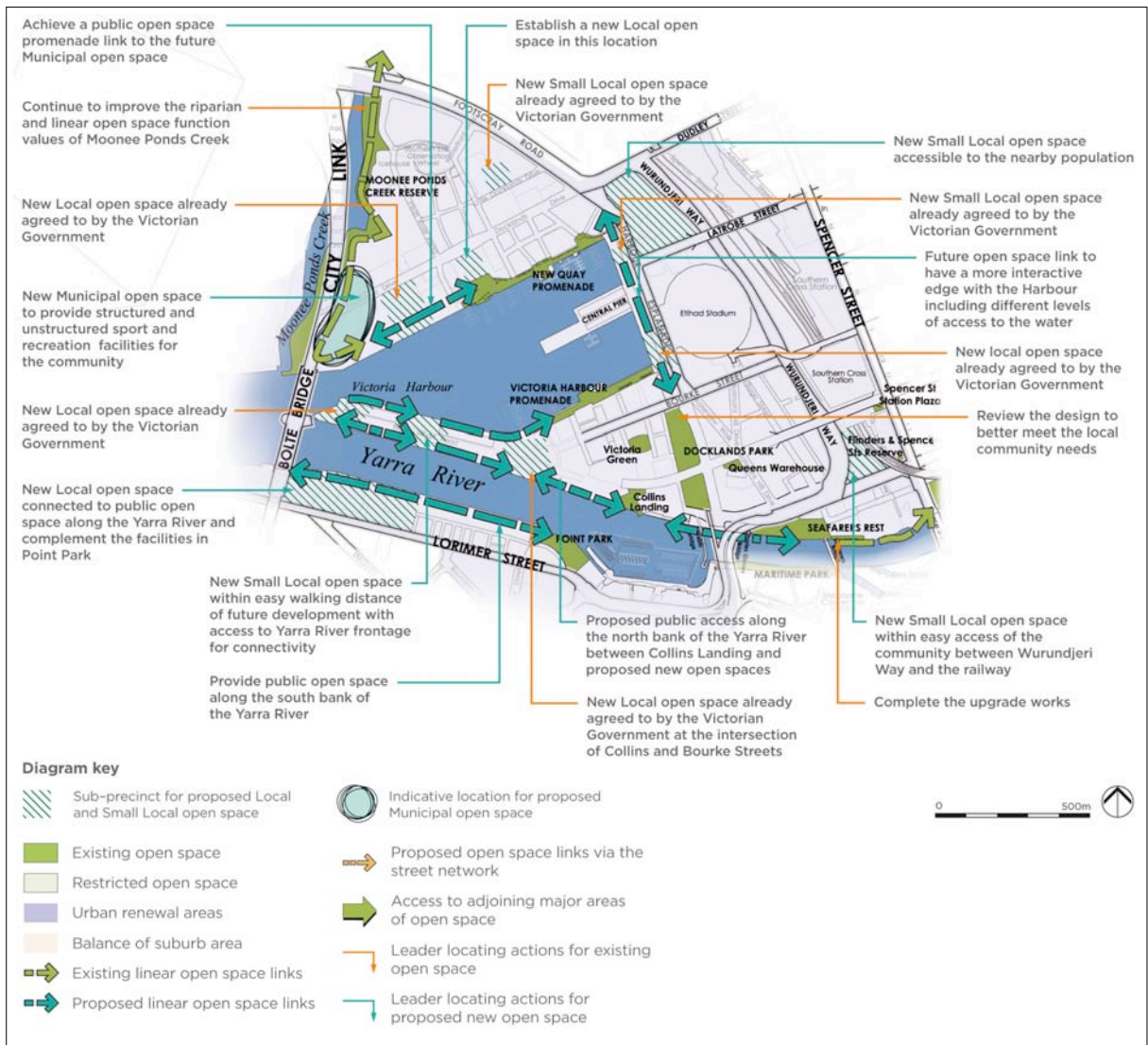
#### Provision and distribution

Complete the open space links and connections to establish a connected system of open space along around Victoria Harbour, the Yarra River frontage and Moonee Ponds Creek. Increase the diversity in the provision of open space within Docklands to provide for a range of activities, particularly to meet the future vision of attracting families and older people into live here.

This diversity includes a range of open space sizes to accommodate different activities, as well as locations that provide protected spaces to shelter from the wind when the foreshore areas along the harbour and river are exposed. The additional open space is required to better meet the open space needs of the existing population, the future forecast population, improve the amenity and introduce some green spaces that assist with urban heat island mitigation/climate change adaptation in areas away from the Harbour. The proposed additional open space provides a supportive neighbourhood and local open space network for the Docklands community in addition to the regional open spaces already provided for the broader population.

#### Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in some of the existing open space in Docklands. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to recreational and environmental quality.



**Figure 7.3~5 Summary of strategy recommendations for Docklands\***

\* Refer also to page 15 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.3~5 and photos.

**7.3.5b Precinct Actions for Docklands**

**A Additional open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3A-1	Develop a new Local open space in the plaza area associated with the New Quay Area and previously the site of the exhibition tent in sub-precinct D1. The land has already been committed, and new open space to include natural elements including grass and trees to provide some green open space in this area of Docklands.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	Very High
7.3A-2	Provide a Municipal open space with a focus on structured sport and recreation facilities near Moonee Ponds Creek in sub-precinct D1. This is for	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	Very High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	the existing and future population.		
7.3A-3	Provide an additional Local open space already agreed to by the Victorian government in sub-precinct D1 with access to the Yarra River. This is primarily to cater to the future population.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	Medium
7.3A-4	Provide an additional Small Local open space already agreed to by the Victorian government in the north east of sub-precinct D1.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	Medium
7.3A-5	Provide an additional Local open space already agreed to by the Victorian government in sub-precinct D2 with access to the Yarra River. This is primarily to cater for the future population.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	Medium
7.3A-6	Provide an additional two Small Local open spaces on the waterfront adjacent to Harbour Esplanade as already agreed to by the Victorian government. This is to cater to existing and future population. One is located north of Central Pier and the other is south of Central Pier.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	High
7.3A-7	Provide an additional Local open space on the western end of sub-precinct D2 near Bolte Bridge as already agreed to by the Victorian government.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	High
7.3A-8	Provide an additional Small Local open space central sub-precinct D2 within easy walking distance of future development and with access to the Yarra River frontage for good connectivity.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	High
7.3A-9	Provide an additional Small Local open space central sub-precinct D3 to cater for the existing and future population.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	High
7.3A-10	Provide additional Small Local open space in the south-east area of open space sub-precinct D6. This is for the future population.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	High
7.3A-11	Provide an additional Local open space towards the western end of open space sub-precinct D8. Ensure it is central to this area and not in shadow or affected by the Bolte Bridge and the design complements the other existing open space nearby - Point Park.	Places Vic, CoM, Developer	High

## B Additional open space links

Not applicable

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3B-1	<b>Southern Cross Station</b> Continue to retain and improve pedestrian amenity in and around Spencer Street Station including the connections to Docklands to encourage access. No	CoM	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	costs associated with this Strategy.		
7.3B-2	Achieve a public promenade along Victoria Harbour to connect New Quay Promenade to the Moonee Ponds Creek and proposed Municipal open space, sub-precinct D1. Capital City open space not costed in this Strategy.	Places Vic, (CoM)	Very High, Ongoing
7.3B-3	Achieve a public promenade along Victoria Harbour connecting the two proposed Small Local open spaces adjacent to harbor Esplanade in sub-precinct D2. Public realm, not costed in this Strategy	Places Vic, (CoM)	Ongoing
7.3B-4	Achieve a public promenade along Victoria Harbour connecting the two proposed Small Local open spaces adjacent to Harbour Esplanade in sub-precinct D2. Capital City open space not costed in this Strategy	Places Vic, (CoM)	Ongoing
7.3B-5	Achieve a public promenade along Victoria Harbour and Yarra River connecting the Victoria Harbour Promenade around to Collins Landing in sub-precinct D2. Capital City open space not costed in this Strategy	Places Vic, (CoM)	Ongoing
7.3B-6	Achieve a public promenade along the south side of the Yarra River connecting Point Park to the proposed the Bolte Bridge sub-precinct D8. Capital City open space not costed in this Strategy	Places Vic, (CoM)	Ongoing
7.3B-7	<b>Northbank Promenade Redevelopment project</b> Complete the Northbank Promenade Redevelopment project between Seafarers Rest and Collins Landing under Wurundjeri Way. Funding is already secured for this project.	DPCD CoM	Very High

### C Capital City open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3C-1	<b>Southern Cross Station Plaza</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing

### D Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3D-1	<b>Collins Landing</b> Investigate the potential to connect this to any future public open space along the Yarra River.	CoM	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3D-2	<b>Docklands Park</b> Prepare a Landscape Master Plan for Docklands Park in consultation with the community to update add facilities that meet the recreational needs of the local community in the open space. This is particularly important for the population in open space sub-precincts D4 and D5 who have no other open space located nearby.	CoM, Places Vic	Medium
7.3D-3	<b>Moonee Ponds Creek</b> Continue to maintain and strengthen riparian values where feasible - Regional works that are not costed in this Strategy.	CoM	Ongoing
7.3D-5	<b>New Quay Promenade</b> Continue to maintain and ensure future extension to the west to connect to the future Municipal open space.	CoM Places Vic Developer	Very High
7.3D-6	<b>Point Park</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	High
7.3D-7	<b>Seafarers Rest</b> Complete proposed upgrade including the Northbank Promenade Project as noted in 7.3B-7.	CoM	Ongoing
7.3D-8	<b>Victoria Harbour Promenade</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing

**E Municipal open space**  
Not applicable

**F Neighbourhood open space**  
Not applicable

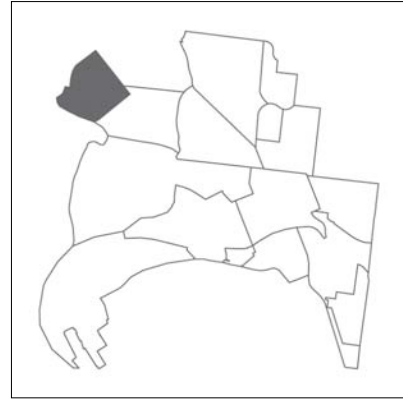
**G Local open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3G-1	<b>Victoria Green</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing

**H Small Local open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.3H-1	<b>Flinders &amp; Spencer Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.3H-2	<b>Queens Warehouse</b> Implement existing design plans for this open space and continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing

**J Small Local Link**  
Not applicable



## 7.4 Flemington | Ascot Vale

### 7.4.1 Overview

Flemington/Ascot Vale is located north-west of Kensington adjoining the Maribyrnong River. Within the City of Melbourne, this includes Flemington Racecourse and Melbourne Showgrounds.

Established in the 1882 the Melbourne Showgrounds is approximately 27 hectares in size and home to the Royal Melbourne Show. The original land grant of 30 acres was progressively increased by purchase of freehold properties to 67 acres (27 hectares). The site is managed by the not-for-profit organisation the Royal Agricultural Society of Victoria as a major indoor and outdoor event venue. Major agricultural events held at the showgrounds annually include the Australian International Beer Awards, Royal Melbourne Horse Show and the Royal Melbourne Wine Show. A major redevelopment of the site in 2005 resulted in two hectares being surplus to requirements.

Flemington Racecourse comprises 142 hectares of Crown land with the Victorian Racing Club being the trustees of the site. Racing has been held every year at the site since 1840 and in 1848, 352 acres of Crown Land was reserved as a public racecourse. The site is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR2220), and is nominated to be of aesthetic, architectural, historical and social significance to the State of Victoria. This includes for the collection of structures relating to racing in Victoria since the nineteenth century, as the oldest racecourse in Victoria operating continuously since 1840 and as the site of the running of the Melbourne Cup since its inception in 1861. Other features noted of to be of aesthetic significance include the expansive landscape setting with views of the central city, significant works of art including murals and sculptures and the gardens particularly the rose displays which are cultivated to be at their most spectacular during the Spring Racing Carnival when the Melbourne Cup is run.

Flemington Racecourse extends down to the Maribyrnong River and while it is not formally reserved as open space, the public can use the path adjacent to the river for the majority of the time.

Open space flanks the western banks of the Maribyrnong River in the City of Maribyrnong, and the Stockbridge footbridge just south of this precinct near Riverside Reserve provides connectivity over the river.

### 7.4.2 Existing open space

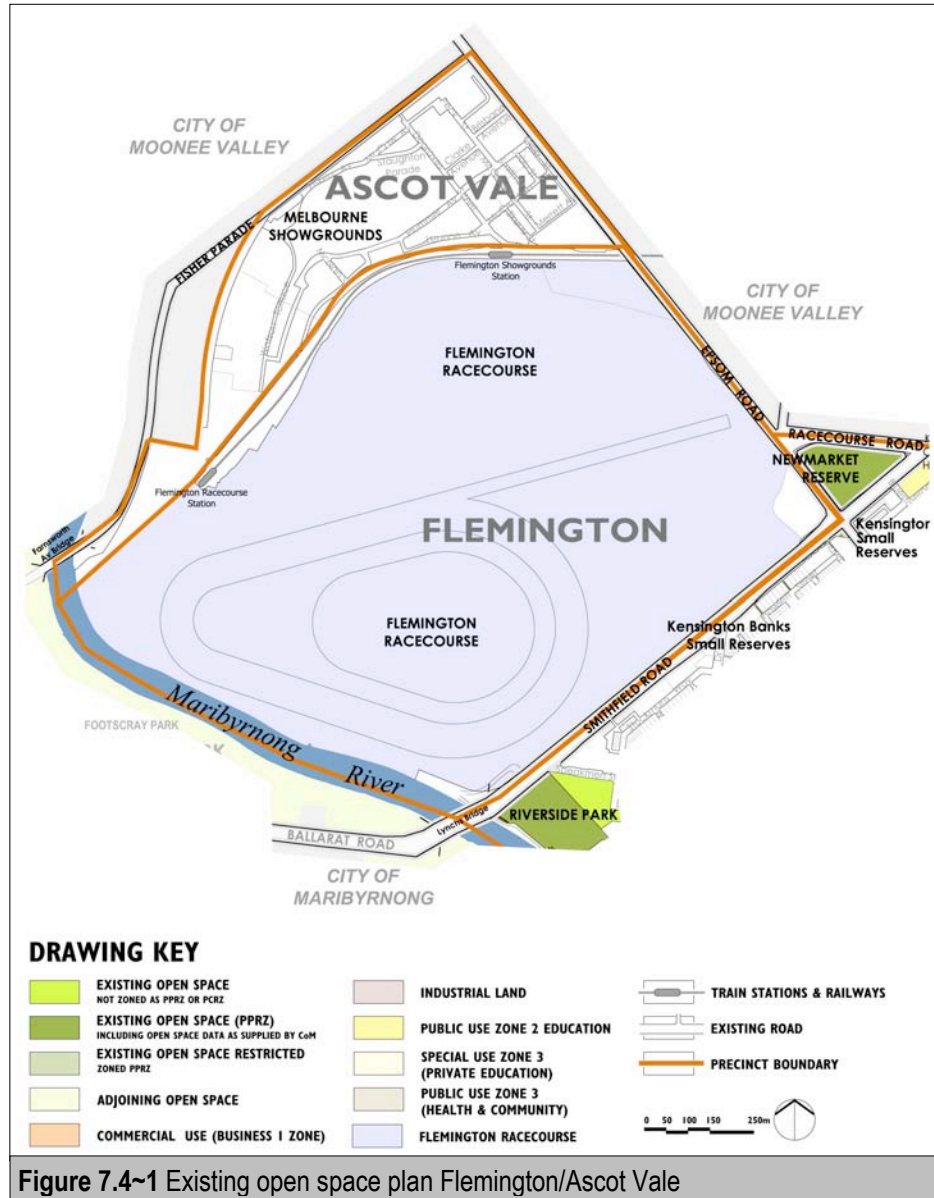


Figure 7.4~1 Existing open space plan Flemington/Ascot Vale

Currently there is no existing public open space in Flemington | Ascot Vale precinct within the City of Melbourne. Flemington Racecourse adjacent provides ancillary open space, with informal access permitted in parts of the site and along the Maribyrnong River when racing is not in progress.

#### 7.4.2a Open space quantity, hierarchy and character

There is no existing open space in Flemington/Ascot Vale.



7.4.2b Distribution

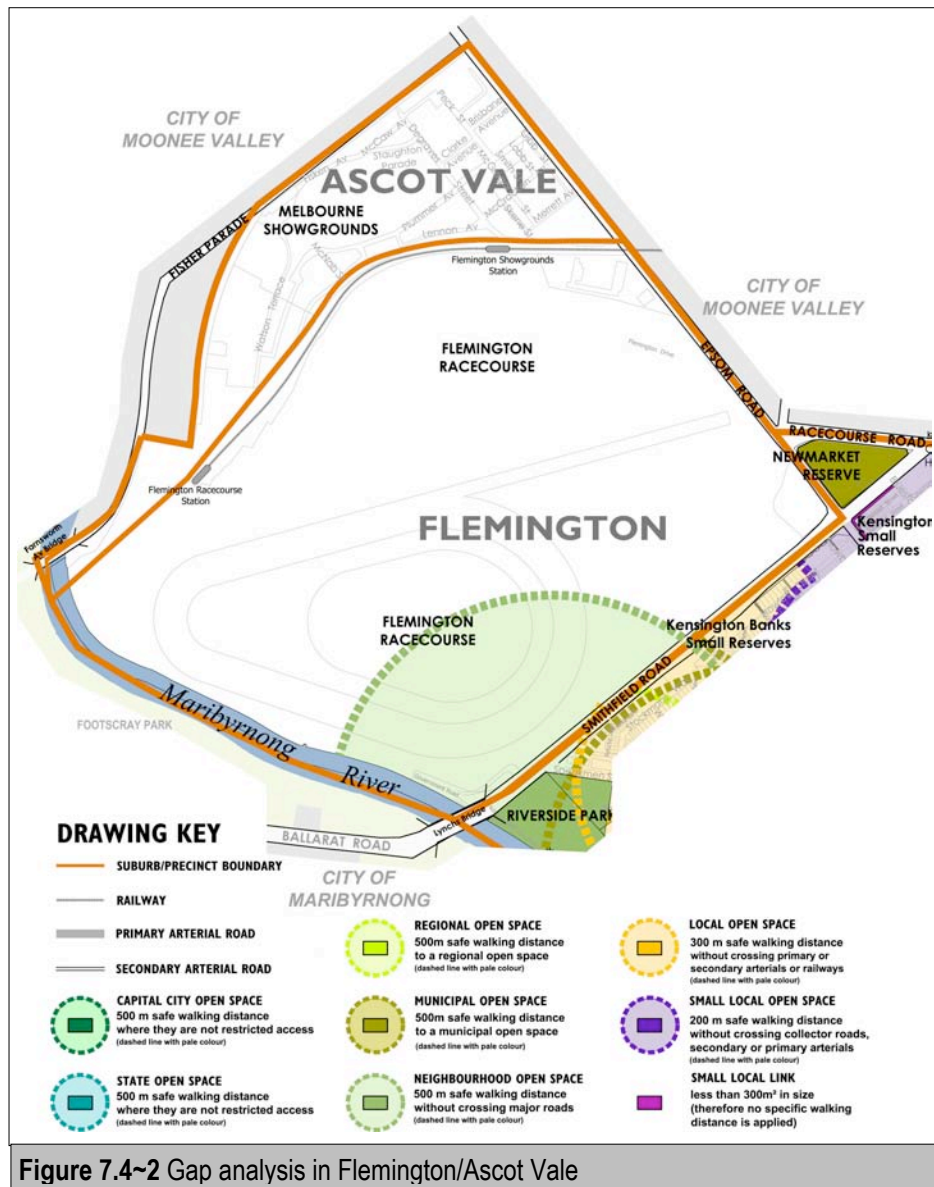


Figure 7.4~2 Gap analysis in Flemington/Ascot Vale

7.4.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

Flemington Racecourse is ancillary open space allowing informal access along the Maribyrnong River and around the wetland within the racecourse when it is not in use. Access along the river provides connectivity between along the north-east bank of the Maribyrnong to Fisher Parade, which forms the municipal boundary. North of Fisher Parade, there is no continuous public open space connection along, however the City of Moonee Valley have included this as a long term link in the Moonee Valley Open Space Strategy.

The Flemington Racecourse railway line provides good public access to both land uses in the precinct, however this currently does not function as ancillary open space.

### 7.4.3 Existing Flemington/Ascot Vale community

#### 7.4.3a Who lives and works in Flemington/Ascot Vale

There is currently no residential population in this precinct, however there is a small worker population.

### 7.4.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

#### 7.4.4a Forecast future population

##### Who will live and work there in the future?

##### Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. Residential population growth figures are sourced from City of Melbourne (2011) internal communications and the worker population growth figures are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011).

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Residential</b>	0	N/A	N/A	4,950	0
Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Worker</b>	367	N/A	N/A	500	N/A

The forecast future residential population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population between 2011 and 2026 from 0 to 4,950. The worker population is forecast to increase by approximately 36 per cent, with an additional 133 workers between 2011 and 2026.

##### Demographics

No information available.

#### 7.4.4b Population change impacts on open space

The additional quantity of people forecast to live in Flemington | Ascot Vale will create a demand for new open space. It will also increase the use and need for the linear open space link along the Maribyrnong River on the Flemington side.

No information is available on the forecast demographics.

#### 7.4.4c Where change will occur

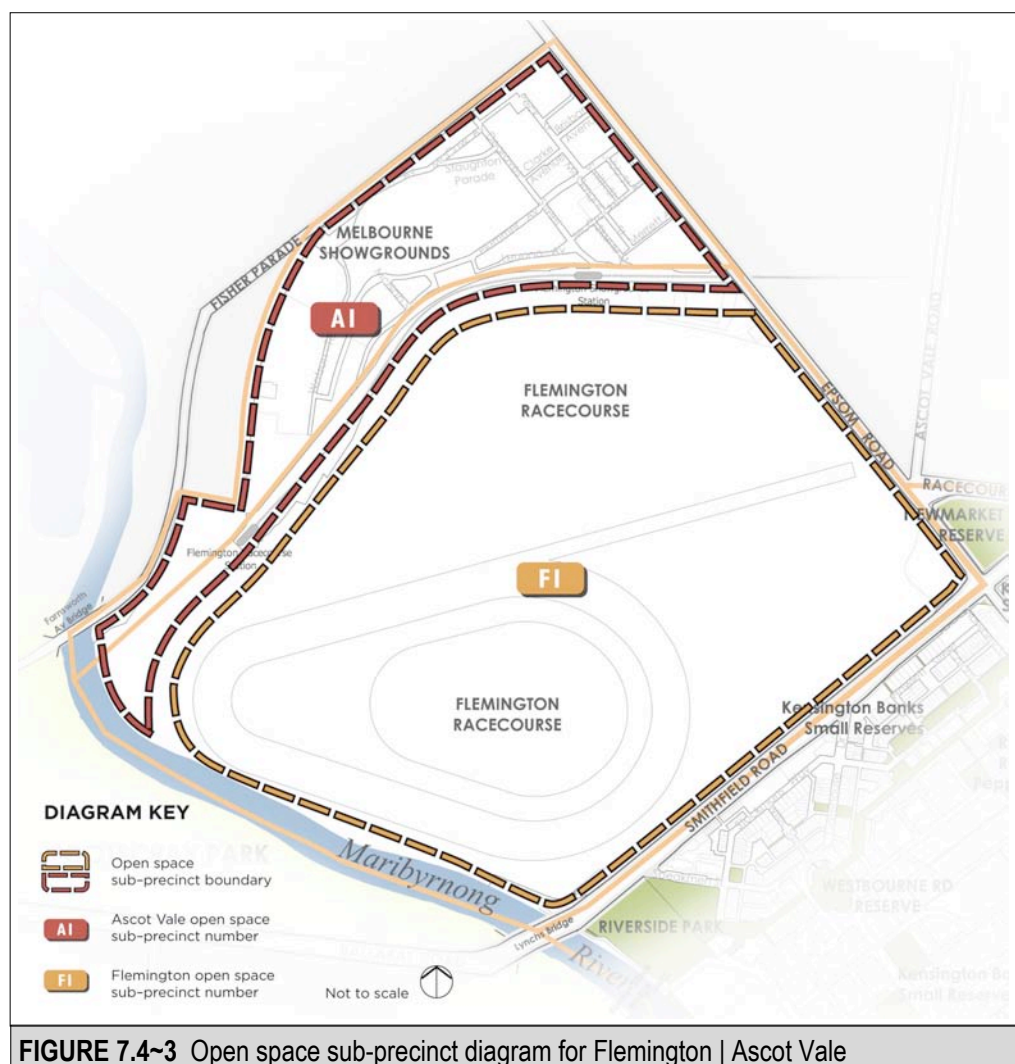
The forecast population will be located in the Racecourse Rail corridor area as shown on the revised draft Municipal Strategic Statement. Essentially this is located along the boundary between Ascot Vale and Flemington and includes the railway land.

#### 7.4.4d Open space distribution and future need in Flemington | Ascot Vale

Future open space provision and needs in Flemington | Ascot Vale have been analysed on the basis of the following:

- Safe and easy walking access to open space.
- Review the volume and demographic change of the forecast additional population in relation to the existing amount and design of open space.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years.
- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.

To assess this, the precinct has been divided into two of sub-precincts based on walkability to open space. These are illustrated on Figure 7.4~3.



#### **Table 7.4 (iv) Flemington | Ascot Vale open space sub-precincts**

The following preliminary analysis is based on development of a mixed use zone in the Racecourse Rail corridor and on part of the Melbourne Showgrounds site.

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
RC1	<p>This sub-precinct is the Racecourse Rail Corridor urban renewal area as highlighted in Future Melbourne. This includes primarily the railway land and some additional in the south between Fisher Parade and the railway.</p> <p>No information is available on the intention for this urban renewal area, but it is assumed that development will increase the residential and worker population in this area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a Regional open space adjacent to the Maribyrnong River south of Fisher Parade. This is to include liaison with the Victorian Racing Club and the Victorian government in order to achieve the provision of open space to cater to primarily to forecast future population in the Racecourse Rail Corridor urban renewal area and the broader community regarding access to the Maribyrnong River.</li> <li>• Provide open space connectivity between the future Regional open space and the urban renewal area along the railway corridor.</li> </ul>
AV1	<p>This sub-precinct includes the majority of the Melbourne Showgrounds site, excluding the area within the urban renewal area. There is no existing open space. The site is currently primarily used as an event space with the more recently developed retail use fronting Epsom Road.</p> <p>The sub-precinct is well serviced by public transport with the railway line including two stations including Flemington Showgrounds Station and Flemington Racecourse Station.</p> <p>The land use is predominantly set aside for event management.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At this stage there is no anticipated need for additional public open space in this sub-precinct as the existing site development is relatively open.</li> <li>• If the intensity of development and population on the site grows there is likely to be a need for open space at least Local open space to cater to the forecast future population.</li> </ul>
F1	<p>This sub-precinct encompasses Flemington Racecourse and the small area of land in currently providing holiday accommodation. Currently there is no open space within the sub-precinct, however parts of the racecourse are used informally as ancillary open space. The Maribyrnong River is included in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liaise with the Victorian Racing Club to provide a linear open space connection along the Maribyrnong River that allows ongoing function and use of the Racecourse, and offers some security of public access at most times. This will then require upgrade and improvement including the connectivity to the south and Riverside Park.</li> <li>• Continue to liaise with the Victorian Racing Club to continue to maintain informal access and use of the</li> </ul>

## 7.4.5 Flemington/Ascot Vale Actions

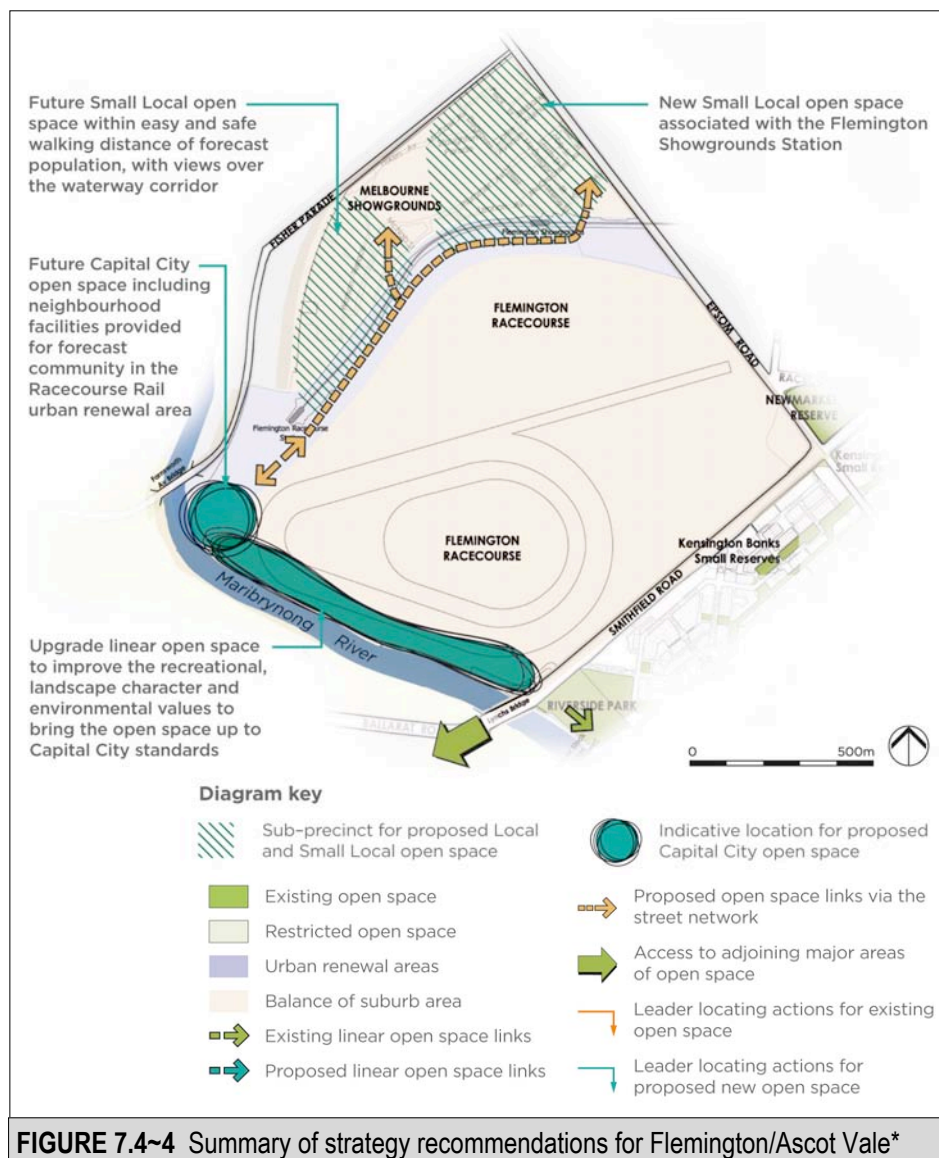
### 7.4.5a Summary of overall intent

#### Provision and distribution

To strengthen the focus of this precinct on open space along the Maribyrnong River in the future in consultation with the Victorian Racing Club and the Victorian government, as planning occurs for the Racecourse Rail Corridor urban renewal area. In the interim, continue to achieve improvements to the linear open space connection on the north side of the Maribyrnong River between Fisher Parade and Riverside Park.

#### Quality and design

There is potential to for the additional open space to contribute to the environmental and recreational quality of open space along the Maribyrnong.



\* Refer also to page 17 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.4~4 and photos.

### 7.4.5b Precinct Actions for Flemington | Ascot Vale

#### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.4A-1	Provide future Capital City and Neighbourhood open space for the forecast community in the Racecourse Rail Urban Renewal Area adjacent to the Maribyrnong River, downstream of Fisher Street. The proposed site is located in the vicinity of the existing car park area adjacent to the River.	CoM, DSE, VRC, Developer	Very High
7.4A-2	Provide linear open space along the Maribyrnong River adjacent to the Flemington Racecourse to connect Kensington with Flemington and Ascot Vale. Liaise with the Victorian Racing Club to achieve a linear public open space reserve along the Maribyrnong River without impacting on the operations and viability of Flemington Racecourse. Undertake improvements to the environmental and recreational quality and design of this linear open space.	CoM, DSE, MW, Victorian Racing Club	Medium
7.4A-3	Provide new Small Local open space within easy walking distance of the forecast corridor in the southern part of the Racecourse Rail corridor urban renewal area.	CoM, Developer	High
7.4A-4	Provide new Small Local open space within easy walking distance of the forecast corridor in the area around Flemington Showgrounds Station as part of the Racecourse Rail corridor urban renewal area.	CoM, Developer	High

#### B Open space links

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.4B-1	Provide a shared trail link generally along the railway line from Epsom Road to the Maribyrnong River, connecting to the shared trail along the railway east of Epsom Road, linking to Royal Park.	CoM, VicTrack	Ongoing



## 7.5 Kensington

### 7.5.1 Overview

Kensington is located approximately four kilometres north-west of the Melbourne 3000 central city. A large part of the west of Kensington was originally the Newmarket Saleyards and Abattoir, established in 1858 and which operated for more than 130 years to 1987. The land was originally a Crown land grant to the City of Melbourne in 1856, and the Saleyards were established soon after.

The remainder of Kensington developed as a working class suburb around the Saleyards and these residential buildings remain today with a combination of Victorian era buildings including a timber and brick terraces and some semi-detached dwellings.

Kensington Railway runs through the precinct with the main commercial precinct located around the Kensington Station and Macaulay Road. The area to the east of the railway includes the proposed Arden Macaulay urban renewal area. The renewal area is currently predominantly industrial land use, with some residential use south of Macaulay Road. The Kensington component of this urban renewal area extends east to Moonee Ponds Creek and the North Melbourne component of the urban renewal area extends west of Moonee Ponds Creek.

The City of Melbourne is preparing a Structure Plan to guide the future direction of change for the urban renewal area, with the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan, May 2011* informing this resource document. The draft structure plan sets out a framework for change that increases in the population in the entire Arden Macaulay urban renewal area from approximately 3,000 residents and 3,300 workers to up to 25,000 residents and 30,000 workers by 2040. The larger proportion of this change will occur in the North Melbourne part of Arden Macaulay, however there is forecast to also be a substantial increased population in the Kensington part as well. The reason for encouraging future growth in this area is its proximity to the central city and strategic link to Footscray in the west, facilitated by the construction of a new Metro rail link currently being proposed by the Victorian government.

The Victorian Department of Transport is planning to develop the Melbourne

Metro Rail Tunnel, which is a proposed new rail tunnel between Dynon in the west and St Kilda Road near The Domain. The underground link has the potential to benefit the entire metropolitan rail network by creating more rail capacity in the inner-city. One of the stations is to be located in North Melbourne in the southern part of the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area, referred to as Arden Central in the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan*. This station will be connected to Melbourne Central and Flinders Street, and will increase the viability of the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area as a desirable and connected place to live and work.

The draft revised Municipal Strategic Statement identifies the Dynon urban renewal area along the southern boundary of Kensington. This includes the industrial land adjoining the Maribyrnong River and an industrial site east of the JJ Holland Park. The majority of the Dynon urban renewal area incorporates the industrial land south of Kensington in West Melbourne between the Werribee Railway Line and Dynon Road. Refer to West Melbourne Precinct description, in Section 7.9 for further information.

## 7.5.2 Existing open space

### 7.5.2a Open space, quantity, hierarchy and character

There are 20 existing open spaces in Kensington with a combined total area of 24.80ha. This represents approximately 11.6 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and 4.5 per cent of the total open space in the City of Melbourne.

**Table 7.5(i) Number, type and size of open space in Kensington**

No	Hierarchy of open space	Area (ha)	%
1	Regional	0.88	4%
2	Municipal	12.01	48%
1	Neighbourhood	2.91	12%
7	Local	7.87	32%
9	Small Local	1.13	5%
0	Small Local Link	0	0%
<b>20</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>24.80</b>	<b>100%</b>



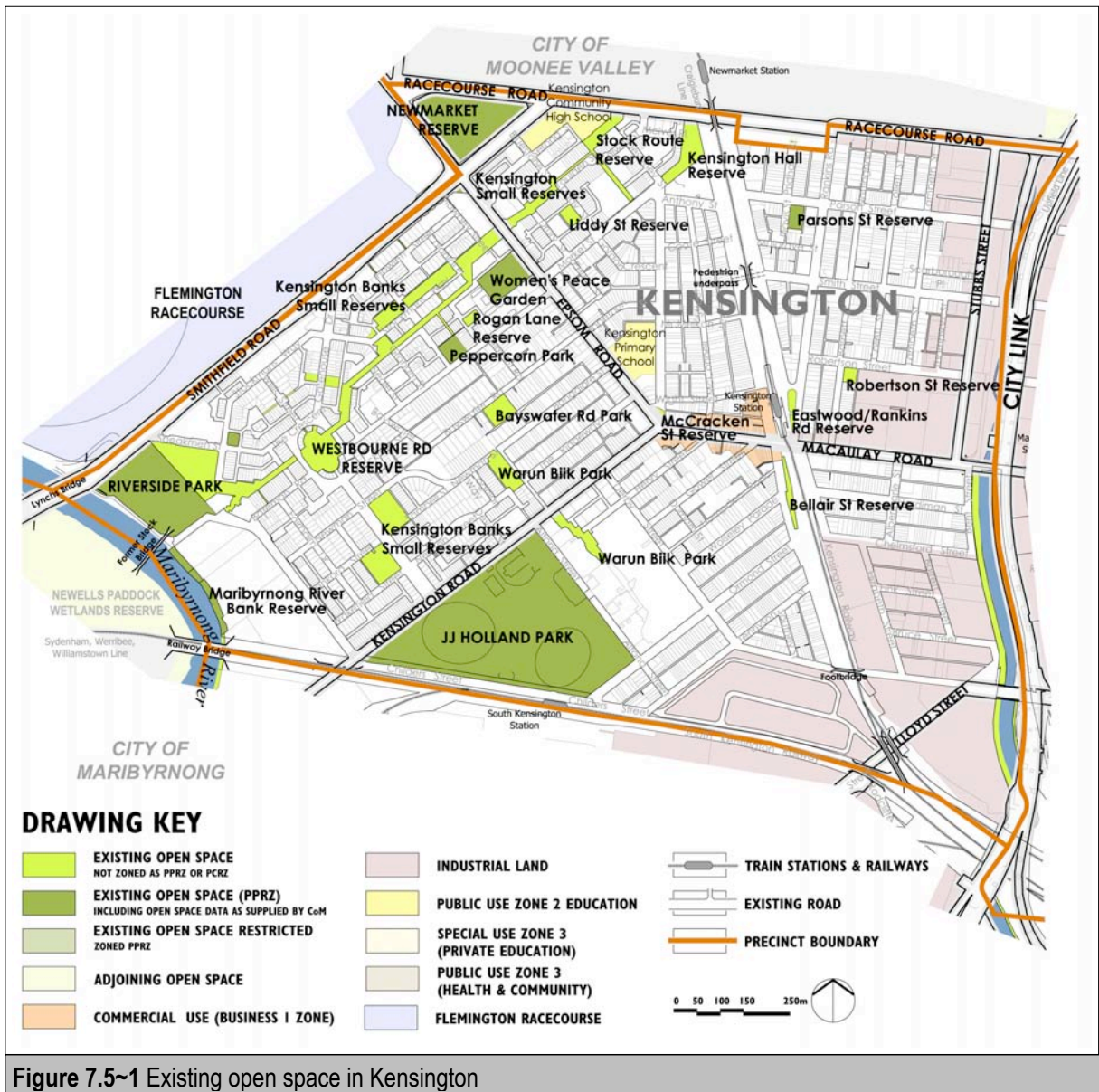


Figure 7.5~1 Existing open space in Kensington

JJ Holland Park is the largest open space in Kensington followed by Riverside Park and Newmarket Reserve. According to the strategy household survey JJ Holland Park is the most popular open space with nearly 50 per cent of respondents from Kensington nominating they visit it for a diverse range of reasons including walking, visiting the playground, dog walking, exercising and travelling through. The Maribyrnong River is the next most popular open space for walking, cycling, jogging and dog walking.

While Riverside Park is large and located next to the Maribyrnong River, a levee bank constructed between the river and the open space visually and physically separates it from the river and which may contribute to its limited appeal and use. Facilities include paths, seats, tennis courts open grassed areas and a saltmarsh that is regenerating in the southern area of the park. Newmarket Reserve includes a sports field and bowling club, and the main roads to all boundaries, makes it less accessible for informal use by the community.

The majority of open space in Kensington is located in the former Newmarket Saleyard and includes the Kensington Banks Reserves, connected via the Stock Route Reserve. This connectivity of open space is unique to this area, and also reflects the history and former character of the stockyards. Within the area that was formerly the Newmarket Saleyards, more distinctive open spaces include the Womens Peace Garden, Westbourne Road Reserve and Peppercorn Park.

East of the railway includes Parsons Street, Robertston Street and Eastwood/Rankings Reserves. Bellair Street Reserve is located adjacent or within the railway land.

**Table 7.5(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification**

Open space	Hierarchy	Primary character classification	Secondary character classification	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
BAYSWATER ROAD PARK	Local	Informal	Linking space	2,695
BELLAIR STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal	Linear	1,523
EASTWOOD STREET & RANKIN ROAD RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Seating/viewing	968
J J HOLLAND PARK	Municipal	Sporting	Informal	102,682
KENSINGTON BANKS SMALL RESERVES	Local	Linear	Heritage, Significant road reservation	37,080
KENSINGTON HALL RESERVE	Local	Informal	Linking space	4,926
KENSINGTON SMALL RESERVES (7)	Local	Linear	Heritage	1,855
LIDDY STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal	Play	1,228
MARIBYRNONG RIVER BANK RESERVE	Regional	Waterway	Linear	3,366
MCCRACKEN STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Significantr road reservation		375
NEWMARKET RESERVE	Municipal	Sporting	Heritage	17,420
PARSONS STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal	Heritage	1,551
PEPPERCORN PARK	Small Local	Heritage	Linking space	2,245
RIVERSIDE PARK	Neighbourhood	Sporting	Service Easement, Water feature	29,073
ROBERTSON STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal		900
ROGAN LANE RESERVE	Small Local	Linking space		696
STOCK ROUTE RESERVE	Local	Heritage	Linear	6,944
WARUN BIIK PARK (NORTH AND SOUTH)	Local	Linear		2,952
WESTBOURNE ROAD RESERVE	Local	Linear	Formal	17,480
WOMENS PEACE GARDEN	Local	Formal	Seating/viewing	6,599

7.5.2b Distribution

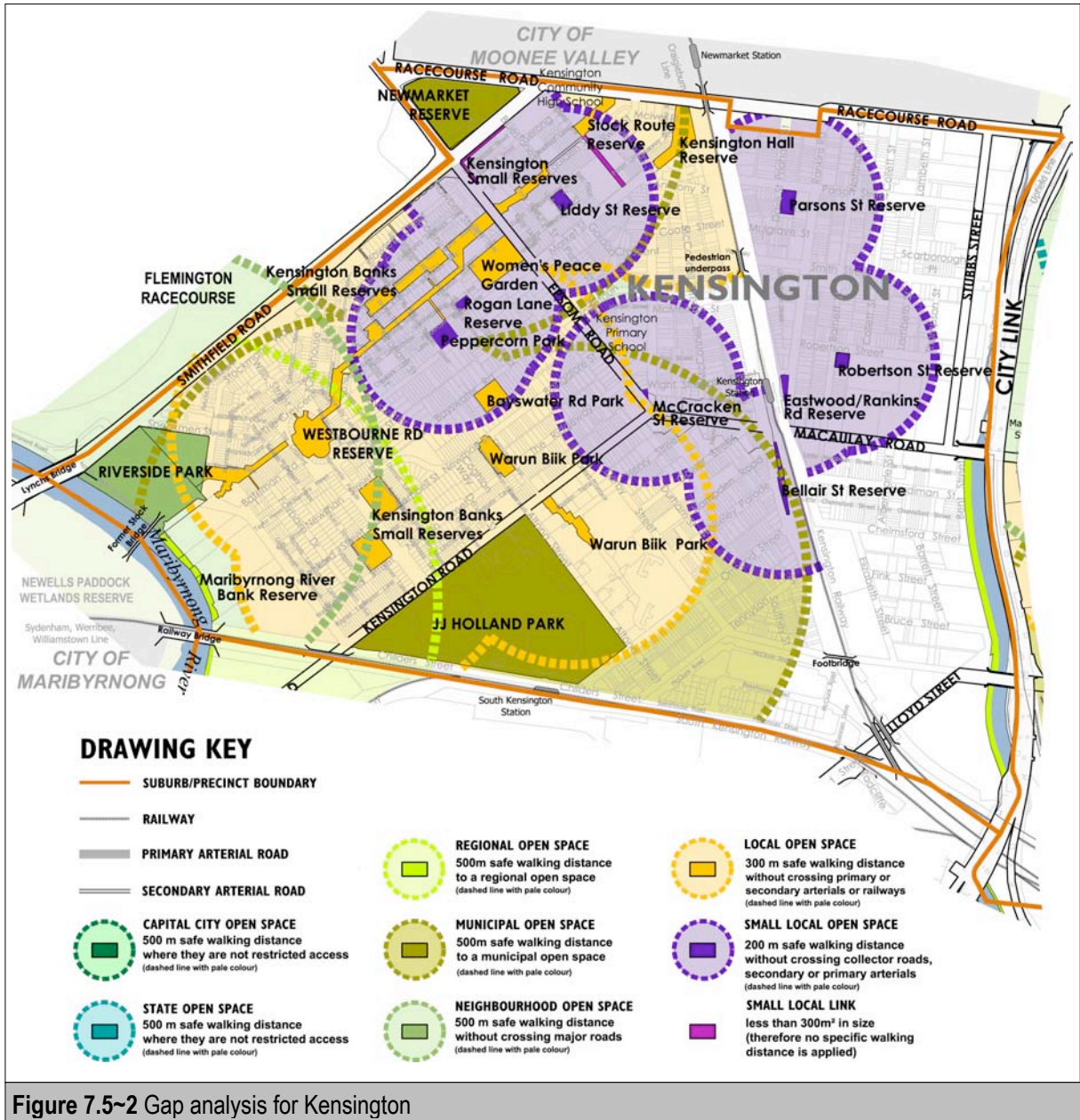


Figure 7.5~2 Gap analysis for Kensington

Open space is located mainly in the western area, with gaps in open space towards the centre and east of the precinct. The lack of open space to the east, particularly in and around the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area will be exacerbated by future population growth if no additional open space is provided with this growth.

The open space along the Maribyrnong River is narrow and only provides for linear trail access. Currently there is no open space that provides a diversity of uses adjacent to the waterway. The land use adjoining the river comprises mainly industrial and business uses, and if these sites redevelop there is potential to increase the width and diversity of open space in this area.

### 7.5.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

The railway reserve generally north of Chelmsford Street provides ancillary open space. Paths along both sides and trees and grass extend from Racecourse Road in the north, south to Chelmsford Street, where the reserve then narrows with no space for planting or paths to continue. The other ancillary open space is Kensington Community High School and Kensington Primary School.

The *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan May 2011* identifies the undercroft areas of CityLink along Moonee Ponds Creek as having potential to accommodate some recreation facilities in the future. While some facilities may be appropriate this land is considered to be encumbered open space, which is roofed, with limited sunlight and high levels of traffic noise and is therefore not suitable to be considered as public open space within the meaning and context of this Strategy. This area is also subject to flooding from Moonee Ponds Creek.

Footscray Park and other linear open space adjoins the Maribyrnong River on the west side and this is accessible via the stockyard bridge near Riverside Park. The river frontage adjacent to Flemington Racecourse in Flemington is also accessible for public use.

## 7.5.3 Existing Kensington community

### 7.5.3a Who lives and works in Kensington?

The existing population of Kensington combines a range of household types including families, young professionals and employees in the retail, business, port and industrial sectors. The number of visitors to Kensington is not quantified as they are for other precincts, due to the limited major visitor attractions within Kensington.

#### Quantity

- Existing residential population 2011: 10,460 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts 2011*)
- Existing worker population 2011: 5,267 (*Source: Census of Land Use and Employment, 2010*)

#### Demographics

The demographics are only available for the existing residential population and not the worker population. While there will be an increased number of all age groups in the population due to the substantial forecast growth, the proportion of young families will decline, while older families and young adults will increase. In terms of the most numerous, the 20 to 39 years will represent nearly 50 per cent of the total population. Overall there is forecast to be an increase in lone person household types in Kensington, however when compared to the City of Melbourne average, Kensington is forecast to have a higher proportion of children and families, with a lower proportion of young adults.

### 7.5.3b How existing residents currently use open space

A total of 260 household surveys were received from residents of Kensington that represents 15 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is slightly more than the proportion of Kensington residents in the City of Melbourne population, which is 11 per cent.

**Table 5.4(ii) Most frequently visited open spaces**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within the local area</b>			
127 (49%)	JJ Holland Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking (26)</li> <li>• Playground (24)</li> <li>• Walking (23)</li> <li>• Exercising (21)</li> <li>• Travel through (15)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Completion of existing works</li> <li>• Recent improvements appreciated</li> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• More trees and shade areas</li> <li>• Picnic areas including BBQ</li> </ul>
82 (32%)	Maribyrnong River Bank Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (35)</li> <li>• Exercising (20)</li> <li>• Cycling (18)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (16)</li> <li>• Dog walking (14)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Clean river/creek regularly</li> <li>• Improve paths</li> <li>• Regular removal of rubbish</li> <li>• Maintain drinking fountain</li> </ul>
45	Kensington Banks Small Reserves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground (8)</li> <li>• Walking (8)</li> <li>• Dog walking (7)</li> <li>• Cycling (4)</li> <li>• Exercise (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More BBQs</li> <li>• Enforce dogs on-lead areas</li> <li>• Maintain drinking fountains</li> <li>• Maintain garden beds and grass area</li> <li>• Additional lighting and seating</li> </ul>
33	Other – Outside City of Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking (4)</li> <li>• Exercising including walking and jogging</li> <li>• Relaxation</li> </ul>	
28	Bayswater Road Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground and equipment(19)</li> <li>• Playing with children (3)</li> <li>• Picnics and social interaction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Toilets</li> <li>• More BBQs</li> <li>• More shade areas</li> <li>• Additional trees</li> <li>• Better playground facilities</li> </ul>
27	Stock Route Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (11)</li> <li>• Walking (11)</li> <li>• Travel through (6)</li> <li>• Cycling (4)</li> <li>• Dog walking (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Regular maintenance and cleaning</li> <li>• Personal safety concerns</li> </ul>
26	Royal Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (8)</li> <li>• Cycling (5)</li> <li>• Exercising (4)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (4)</li> <li>• Recreation (4)</li> <li>• Travel through</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Additional playground facilities</li> <li>• Path maintenance</li> <li>• Additional cycling paths to alleviate conflicts with</li> </ul>

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
			pedestrians
<b>Open space outside the local area</b>			
72	Royal Botanic Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (19)</li> <li>• Picnics (16)</li> <li>• Ambience, beauty (12)</li> <li>• Relaxation (12)</li> <li>• Recreation (9)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional carpark</li> <li>• Additional picnic tables &amp; seats</li> <li>• Improve toilet maintenance and cleaning</li> </ul>
38	Other – Outside City of Melbourne	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground and equipment (4)</li> <li>• Dog walking (2)</li> <li>• General exercising</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• Improved toilet maintenance</li> </ul>
34	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground and equipment (9)</li> <li>• Walking (7)</li> <li>• Ambience, beauty (4)</li> <li>• Large open space (4)</li> <li>• Picnics (4)</li> <li>• Relaxation (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More cycling paths for safety</li> <li>• Additional toilets</li> </ul>

#### Types of open space used (top four)

- 91% Small Local Parks
- 90% Open space along Maribyrnong River
- 89% Local streets for exercise
- 86% Royal Botanic Gardens

#### Activities and facilities in open space (top four)

- 90% Walking paths
- 85% Open grassed areas
- 61% Seats
- 54% Cycling paths

#### Values (top four)

- 78% Trees
- 75% Just being outside
- 68% Quiet and peaceful
- 67% Health and fitness

#### General comments

- Open space is highly valued as a key feature of the City
- Open space is appreciated for the benefits it provides
- Shade areas over children's playground
- Additional trees and native vegetation
- Value the high level of maintenance of open space

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A of this strategy (separate volume).

## 7.5.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

### 7.5.4a Forecast future population

#### Who will live and work there in the future?

##### Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. Residential population growth figures are sourced from .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031 and the worker population growth figures are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011). 2040 capacity figures are available for the urban renewal areas only, therefore have not been included in this overall table for Kensington.

**Table 7.5(iv) Kensington (including Arden Macaulay)**

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Residential</b>	10,460	10,924	12,079	13,229	N/A
Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Worker</b>	5,267	N/A	N/A	20,000	N/A

**Table 7.5(v) Arden Macaulay urban renewal area only**

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Residential</b>	365	516	1,608	2,741	25,000*
Years	2011	2016	2026	N/A	2040
<b>Worker</b>	1,459	N/A	12,000	N/A	30,000*

\* Source: Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan May 2011 and includes the North Melbourne component of Arden Macaulay urban renewal area

The forecast future population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population between 2011 and 2026 of more than 7 times, with an additional 2,376 residents between 2011 and 2026. The worker population is forecast to increase by nearly 10 times with an additional 12,000 additional workers between 2011 and 2026.

#### **Demographics**

The forecast increase in young adults from 15 to 24 age range, indicates a forecast increase in students, a slight decline in young families, and an increase in the 45+ age range.

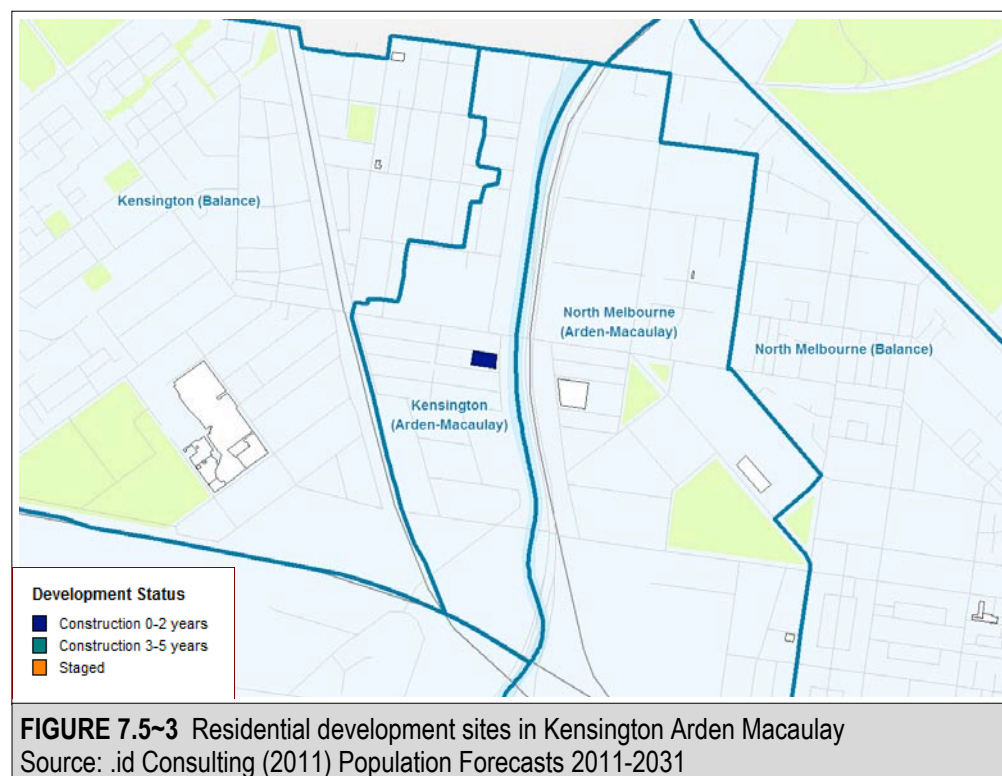
### 7.5.4b Population change impacts on open space

The substantial increase in the quantity of people living and working in Arden Macaulay urban renewal area of Kensington will place increased pressure and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to

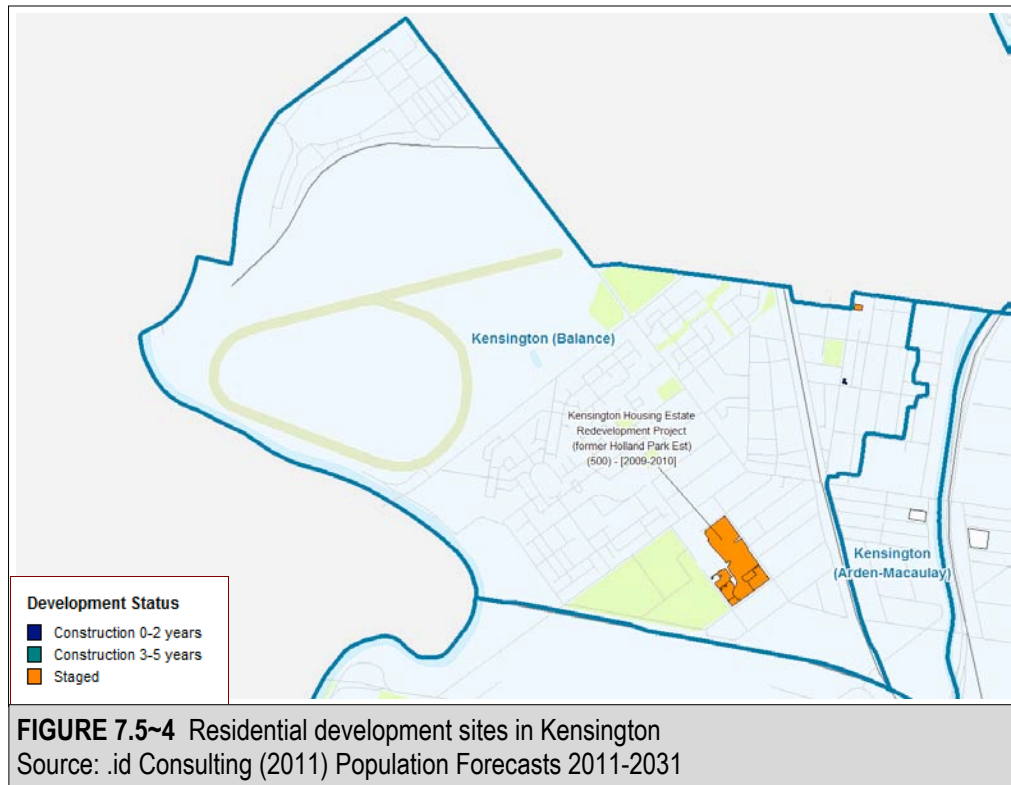
overcrowding, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction.

The forecast change in demographics will have some effect on type and design of open space in Kensington, however overall there are increases in all age groups with the exception of the 80+ age group. The proportional increase in young adults and those over 40 years of age in this precinct will place higher demands on informal facilities for walking, jogging, exercise, cycling and open grassed areas for ball games. The forecast increase in apartments will change the household type to less families with children however, the presence of the existing semi-detached and detached housing will continue and families will remain part of the demographic mix. Typically the young and old are less mobile, and open space should preferably be located within 200 to 300 metres of where they live, without needing to cross major roads and arterials. Forecast growth will create an increased demand and use of Local and Small Local open space, interspersed throughout the precinct, in addition to the existing linear open space along the Moonee Ponds Creek and other larger open spaces.

#### 7.5.4c Where change will occur







The forecast population increase in Kensington will be primarily be located in the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area between Kensington Railway and Moonee Ponds Creek. It is also anticipated there will be a change immediately to the south of the railway in West Melbourne which may increase the use of the open space in Kensington, particularly JJ Holland Park and along the Maribyrnong River. Much of the remaining areas of Kensington have either recently been redeveloped as part of the former Newmarket Saleyards redevelopment or is protected by heritage overlays or public housing. The sites shown below in Figures 7.5~3 and 7.5~4 are those that .id consulting refer to as the basis for the City of Melbourne residential population forecasting used in this strategy.

The forecast increased population will place additional demand on existing open space within the catchment along with generating the demand for new open space. The existing population will also use the new open space, and this has been considered in the recommendations and actions.

#### 7.5.4c Open space distribution and future need in Kensington

Some major roads and railways form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. Future open space provision in Kensington has been analysed on the basis of the following:

- Safe and easy walking access to open space including consideration of road crossings.
- Analysis of the demographic change forecast increase in population in relation to the existing quantity, distribution and design of open space.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years as outlined

in the existing *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan* and the development sites identified by .id consulting.

- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.

To assess this, Kensington has been divided into a series of sub-precincts based on walkability to open space. These are illustrated on Figure 7.5~5.

These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in Kensington to easily reach open space. A summary of the open space sub-precincts is described in Table 7.5(vi).

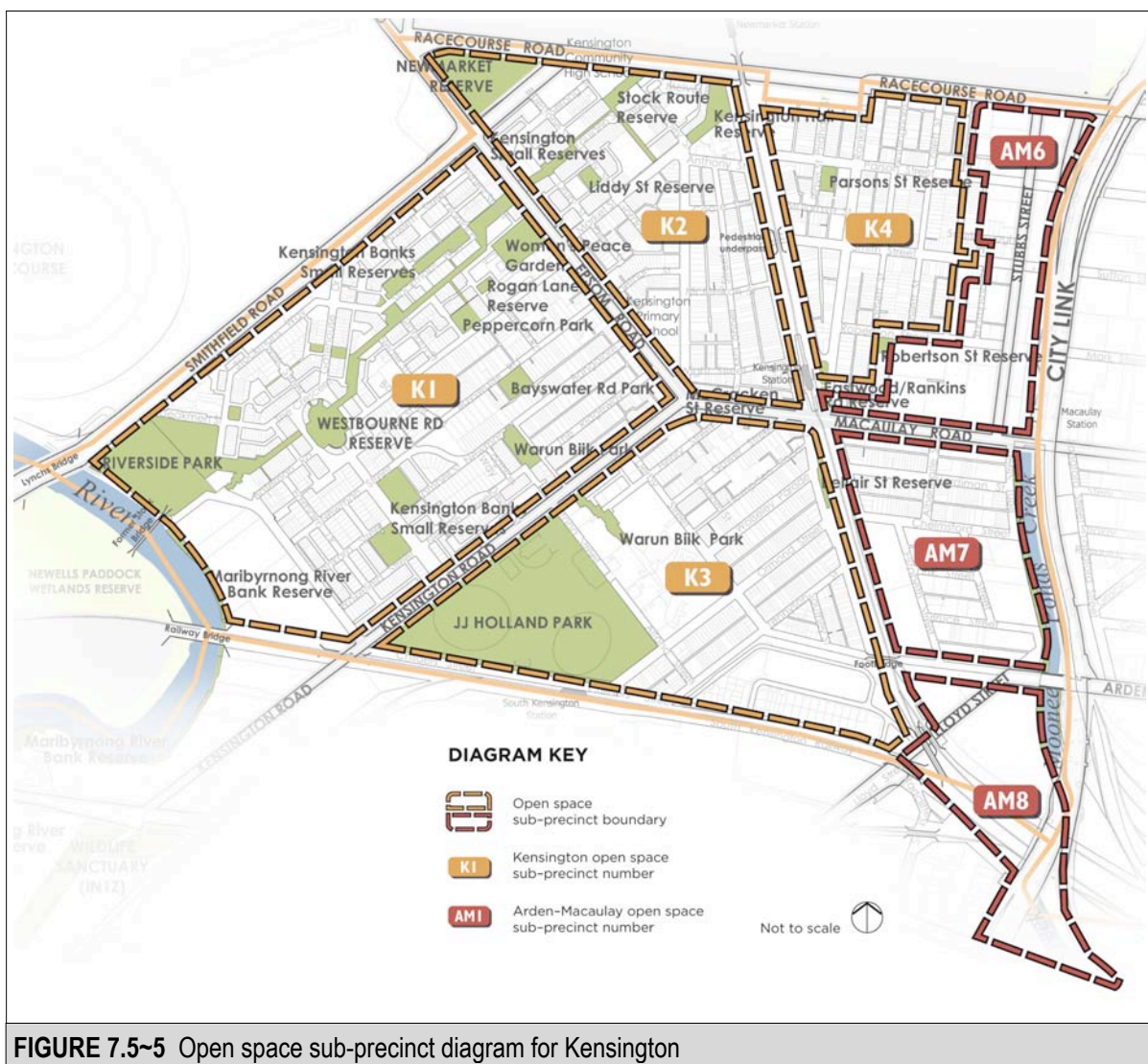


FIGURE 7.5~5 Open space sub-precinct diagram for Kensington

**Table 7.5(vi) Kensington Arden Macaulay open space sub-precincts**

The following analysis and conclusions are based on a realistic amount of open space that can be provided within the existing and future urban context. For Kensington the Municipal open space is already at capacity and it is anticipated the forecast population will utilise the proposed open space in the Dynon urban renewal area (refer to West Melbourne). The strategy household survey outcomes confirm that people use the JJ Holland Park but they are not accessing Royal Park on a regular basis. Open space within safe and easy walking distance of existing and future residents east of the railway in the urban renewal area is where deficiencies currently occur.

The analysis and provision has also assessed the desired objectives and outcomes of the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan*.

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
<b>AM6</b>	<p>Defined to the north by Racecourse Road, east by Moonee Ponds Creek, the west by the urban renewal area boundary (current industrial land use zone) and to the south by Macaulay Road.</p> <p>The land use is predominantly non-residential in this sub-precinct.</p> <p>Stubbs Street is a major north-south road that restricts east-west pedestrian access.</p> <p>Currently access to the shared trail along Moonee Ponds Creek is only via Racecourse and Macaulay Roads.</p> <p>No existing open space is located in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to provide a new Local open space in the north of this precinct, west of Stubbs Street, to cater primarily for the forecast population.</li> <li>• In the southern area of the AM6, there is a need to establish a new Neighbourhood open space to cater for the new population and also for the existing population to the west in Sub-precinct K4.</li> <li>• Increase the width of open space along Moonee Ponds Creek to include a walking and cycling trail and links to the main shared trail to the east at Racecourse Road and Macaulay Road bridges. This will also improve access to the existing rail network.</li> <li>• These spaces are primarily for the local community use and designed to include WSUD and reuse within the site to assist with urban heat island mitigation.</li> <li>• The population in this sub-precinct is anticipated to also use the Robertson Street Reserve that will place additional demand and therefore an upgrade to the open space will be required.</li> </ul>
<b>AM7</b>	<p>Defined to the north by Macaulay Road, east by Moonee Ponds Creek, south by Arden Street and west by</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a new Neighbourhood open space to primarily cater to the forecast future population along with</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	<p>the Kensington railway.</p> <p>Existing land use in predominantly industrial with a pocket of residential use between Hardiman and Chelmsford Streets.</p> <p>Currently there is no formal open space, with ancillary open space along the railway, and a narrow riparian edge along Moonee Ponds Creek.</p>	<p>the existing population south of Chelmsford Street and north of Arden Street.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the width of the open space corridor along Moonee Ponds Creek to allowing walking and cycle access along the west side and safe connections east to the main shared trail via Macaulay Road and Arden Street bridges.</li> </ul>
<b>AM8</b>	<p>Defined to the north by Arden Street, east by Moonee Ponds Creek, the south by Dynon Street and west by the railway.</p> <p>Existing land use is industrial, and the Draft Structure Plan appears to indicate the majority of this area will remain in industrial use south east of Lloyd Street.</p> <p>The proposed building heights indicate 30m height limits in this precinct including over the SP Ausnet Power site, indicating there is likely to be increased use at this site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Small Local open space north west of Lloyd Street and south of Arden Street may be required, pending final hierarchy and status of Arden Street in the future.</li> <li>• Additional Small Local open space to be provided south-east of Lloyd Street if this land redevelops.</li> <li>• Increase the width of the open space corridor along Moonee Ponds Creek to allowing walking and cycle access along the west side and safe connections east to the main shared trail via Arden Street bridge, and potentially via an additional crossing to the south in the vicinity of the railway/Dynon Road.</li> <li>• Investigate linear open space connection west to JJ Holland Park, the Maribyrnong River and proposed Municipal open space in the Dynon urban renewal area providing the broader east-west link with Moonee Ponds Creek.</li> </ul>

**Table 7.5(vii) Kensington balance of suburb open space sub-precincts**

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
<b>K1</b>	<p>Bounded to the north by Epsom Road, the west by Smithfield Road, the east by Kensington Road and the south by the Maribyrnong River.</p> <p>The area is characterised by a combination of the former Newmarket Saleyard redevelopment with linked open space reserves.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When the industrial/business land adjacent to the Maribyrnong redevelops, seek to widen the open space corridor to extend the Capital City open space network to the west as discussed in Section 5.3 of this strategy.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	<p>There is some older style row terrace residential use, which is well integrated with the newer housing areas and with good access to the open space system.</p> <p>There is one area of industrial/business use in the south adjacent to the Maribyrnong River which is likely to redevelop in the future as part of the Dynon urban renewal area. Currently the presence of this land use limits visual and physical access to the Maribyrnong River from this sub-precinct.</p> <p>The area is well provided for with existing open space.</p>	
<b>K2</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is bordered to the north by Racecourse Road, the west by Epsom and Smithfield Roads, the east by the Kensington railway and the south by Macaulay Road.</p> <p>This sub-precinct is dominated by residential land use with retail and commercial use associated with the Kensington shopping centre on Macaulay Road in the south of the precinct.</p> <p>Newmarket Reserve is the largest open space, along with a range of open spaces provided in the Newmarket Saleyards redevelopment. The older established residential area of this precinct does not have any open space.</p> <p>The railway provides some ancillary open space along the eastern boundary of the sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assume that this area will not be subject to a significant increase in population due the lack of key redevelopment sites identified in the .id consulting forecast mapping, and the presence of well-established residential housing.</li> <li>• There are no significant gaps in open space provision in this sub-precinct however, upgrades to the design and management of some open spaces is required to better meet the needs of the existing population.</li> </ul>
<b>K3</b>	<p>Bounded to the north by Macaulay Road, the west by Kensington Road, the east by Kensington Railway and the south by Footscray railway line.</p> <p>Existing land use is a combination of established residential use (late 1800s and early 1900s), public housing, which has recently been redeveloped, and industrial use in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generally this precinct has adequate provision of open space, with the only gap area being located south east of Tennyson Street. This area is currently industrial use, and any future change that may occur will result in the need for additional Small Local or Local open space, pending the scale of population change.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	<p>the south east.</p> <p>The southern area of this sub-precinct may be influenced by the Dynon urban renewal area.</p> <p>The largest and most popular open space in Kensington is located in this precinct being JJ Holland Park. JJ Holland Park provides structured and unstructured sport and recreation facilities that are well used by the community. Warun Bilik Park is a linear open space providing connectivity to the west. Bellair Street Reserve is located along the railway easement and provides local open space for people living in the vicinity of the Macaulay Road retail precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Municipal open space is required to meet the needs of the forecast population. This is proposed to be located south of this sub-precinct in the Dynon urban renewal area.</li> <li>• Additional linear open space will be sought through the southern boundary of this sub-precinct to provide good east-west connectivity between the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area and the Maribyrnong River. Refer to Section 5.3 of this Strategy for further information.</li> </ul>
K4	<p>Bounded to the north by Racecourse Road/Municipal boundary, the west by Kensington Railway, the east by the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area boundary and the south by Macaulay Road.</p> <p>Existing land use is predominantly residential established in the late 1800s and early 1900s.</p> <p>This area is not forecast to receive substantial change due to the presence of established residential land use.</p> <p>There are only three existing Small Local open spaces and this sub-precinct lacks reasonable access to any larger areas of open space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The additional open space proposed in sub-precinct AM6 will also cater to the open space needs of this existing population. There are limited opportunities within sub-precinct K4 to provide additional open space due to existing patterns of development.</li> </ul>

## 7.5.5 Kensington Actions

### 7.5.5a Summary of overall intent

#### Provision and distribution

The existing open space network in the western part of Kensington adequately meets the needs of the existing population, however the design of some of these spaces requires review to better cater to their needs. The eastern part of Kensington lacks open space within easy and safe walking distance of the existing population. There is an opportunity to address this with the substantial change proposed as part of the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area, by

integrating new open space, including Neighbourhood sized open space into these future areas to cater for existing and future population needs. A network of smaller additional open spaces is also recommended to provide for the recreational needs of the population and assist with urban heat island mitigation/climate change adaptation. These recommendations have been prepared within the context the future change outlined in the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan* and the population forecasts for the Dynon Road urban renewal area.

**Quality and design**

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in some of the existing open space in Kensington. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to health and wellbeing, biodiversity and urban heat island effect mitigation and environmental quality.



**Figure 7.5~6 Summary of strategy recommendations for Kensington\***

\* Refer also to pages 18 and 19 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.5~6 and photos.

## 7.5.5a Precinct Actions for Kensington

### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5A-1	Provide an additional Local open space in the northern area of sub-precinct AM6 primarily for the forecast future population.	CoM, Developer	High
7.5A-2	Provide a new Neighbourhood open space in the southern area of sub-precinct AM6 for the existing population in sub-precinct K4 and forecast future population.	CoM, Developer	High
7.5A-3	Provide a new Neighbourhood open space in sub-precinct AM7 primarily for the forecast future population and the existing population south of Chelmsford Street.	CoM, Developer	High
7.5A-4	An additional Small Local open space in sub-precinct AM8 located west of Lloyd Street and south of Arden Street may be required, if Arden Street is upgraded to a major road through this sub-precinct. If this does not occur, then the additional open space will not be required.	CoM, Developer	Medium
7.5A-5	Negotiate to achieve a Capital City open space on the Maribyrnong River providing connectivity to the river for the substantial forecast future population in the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area. Refer to Section 5.3 of this Strategy for further information.	CoM, Developer, DSE	High

### B Additional open space links

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5B-1	<b>Linear open space along Moonee Ponds Creek</b> The City of Melbourne is to facilitate the process to liaise with Melbourne Water and DSE to provide increased linear open space along Moonee Ponds Creek to improve the regional trail connection through this section, along with biodiversity values in an area that has been neglected by government agencies due to historical land use decisions adjoining the creek. This open space is encumbered open space given this overshadowing and noise from CityLink.	DSE, CoM, MW	Ongoing
7.5B-2	<b>Linear open space link between Moonee Ponds Creek and Maribyrnong River via JJ Holland Park</b> Investigate the potential to establish a linear open space link to future Capital City open space along the Maribyrnong River connecting the future	CoM, DSE/ DPCD	Medium



No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	population to the River. Refer to Section 5.3 of this Strategy.		

### 7.5.5b Individual open space actions for Kensington

#### C Capital City open space

Not currently applicable. Refer to Actions 7.5A-6 regarding new Capital City open space

#### D Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5D-1	<b>Maribyrnong River Bank Reserve</b> Continue to maintain and seek expansion to this open space reserve in the longer term. Refer to Action 7.5A-5.	CoM, DSE, MW, PV	Ongoing
7.5D-2	<b>Moonee Ponds Creek linear open space</b> Continue to maintain and improve the quality of the existing open space reserve including improvement to the natural environmental qualities where appropriate. Refer to Action 7.5B-1 regarding expansion to this open space reserve.	CoM, DSE, MW,	Ongoing

#### E Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5E-1	<b>JJ Holland Park</b> Continue to maintain. In the longer term upgrade the facilities for informal use as demand for use increases with redevelopment occurs in the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area.increases with redevelopment occurs in the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area.	CoM	Medium
7.5E-2	<b>Newmarket Reserve</b> Implement current Master Plan. In the longer term, review the facilities to ensure it is meeting the needs of the additional population.	CoM	High

#### F Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5F-1	<b>Riverside Park</b> Investigate the potential to upgrade this open space	CoM	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	to provide additional organised sports facilities if required in the future.		

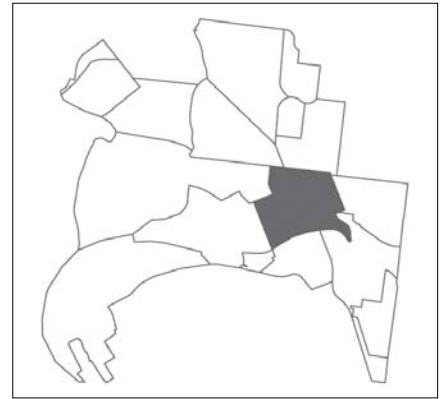
## G Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5G-1	<b>Bayswater Road Park</b> Prepare a design plan to guide the future design and upgrade of this open space to cater to both the existing and future population.	CoM	Medium
7.5G-2	<b>Kensington Banks Reserves</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.5G-3	<b>Kensington Hall Reserve</b> Prepare design to guide future minor upgrade works including tree planting and playground.	CoM	High
7.5G-4	<b>Kensington Small Reserves</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.5G-5	<b>Stock Route Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.5G-6	<b>Warun Biik Park</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.5G-7	<b>Westbourne Road Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.5G-8	<b>Womens Peace Garden</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing

## H Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5H-1	<b>Bellair Street Reserve</b> Minor upgrade works to improve the function and use of the reserve, including improved access.	CoM (VicTrack)	High
7.5H-2	<b>Eastwood Street &amp; Rankin Road Reserve</b> Minor upgrade including additional seating to improve use and character.	CoM	Medium
7.5H-3	<b>Liddy Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.5H-4	<b>McCracken Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.5H-5	<b>Parsons Street Reserve</b> Undertake minor upgrades to improve seating and planting.	CoM	High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.5H-6	<b>Peppercorn Park</b> Continue to maintain in the short-term, review design layout in the longer term with appropriate protection of heritage values.	CoM	Low
7.5H-7	<b>Robertson Reserve</b> Prepare a design plan to guide the future upgrade of this open space to cater to the increased population in the sub-precinct AM6.	CoM	High
7.5H-8	<b>Rogan Lane Reserve</b> Minor upgrade including improved seating area.	CoM	Low



## 7.6 Melbourne 3000 (Hoddle Grid)

### 7.6.1 Overview

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

After initial settlement of Melbourne in 1835, Robert Hoddle, a senior surveyor with the New South Wales government arrived in Port Phillip in 1837. He prepared a plan for the new town of Melbourne and placed a grid over the landscape on the north side of the Yarra River. The grid's alignment responded to the original course of the Yarra River rather than a magnetic north alignment, and today the Yarra River is a key environmental feature of Melbourne and provides the central spine of connected open space. The Hoddle Grid was set out in 1837 and included wide blocks and large road reserves. Melbourne initially developed slowly with early settlers arriving from Europe, where industrialisation of cities was occurring, expressing the need to provide public open space as breathing spaces for people living in the city. Governor La Trobe had a vision of a green belt of parks encircling Melbourne and these were set aside as Crown Land reserves from 1842 onwards around the Hoddle Grid. Today, some of these original reserves remain and are the major contributory landscapes to the character, vibrancy and life of Melbourne as the world's most liveable city.

In the future we are now facing a range of issues that have occurred as a result of the successful urbanisation of Melbourne including a substantial increase in its population; the effects of urban heat build up as part of more extreme weather patterns resulting from climate change; and the need for the existing and future populations to easily access green and natural spaces in the city to improve community health and wellbeing as urban densities increase across the municipality.

Open space has the potential to have a key role in meeting some of these challenges including mitigating the effects of urban heat build up by providing cooler green spaces with natural features that allows the urban areas to cool during the evening. These same spaces can also contribute positively to people's health and wellbeing, encouraging people outdoors to exercise, relax and in summer, find cooler spaces to retreat to in urban areas. Other benefits of

additional small open spaces in the central city includes providing social meeting places for the community to improve a sense of place and social responsibility within the central city.

There are numerous plans guiding the future growth and direction in Melbourne 3000, with the documents relevant to open space referred to in preparing this strategy include:

- *City North Structure Plan Draft* (City of Melbourne, 2011)
- *Revised draft Municipal Strategic Statement* (City of Melbourne, 2010)

### 7.6.2 Existing open space

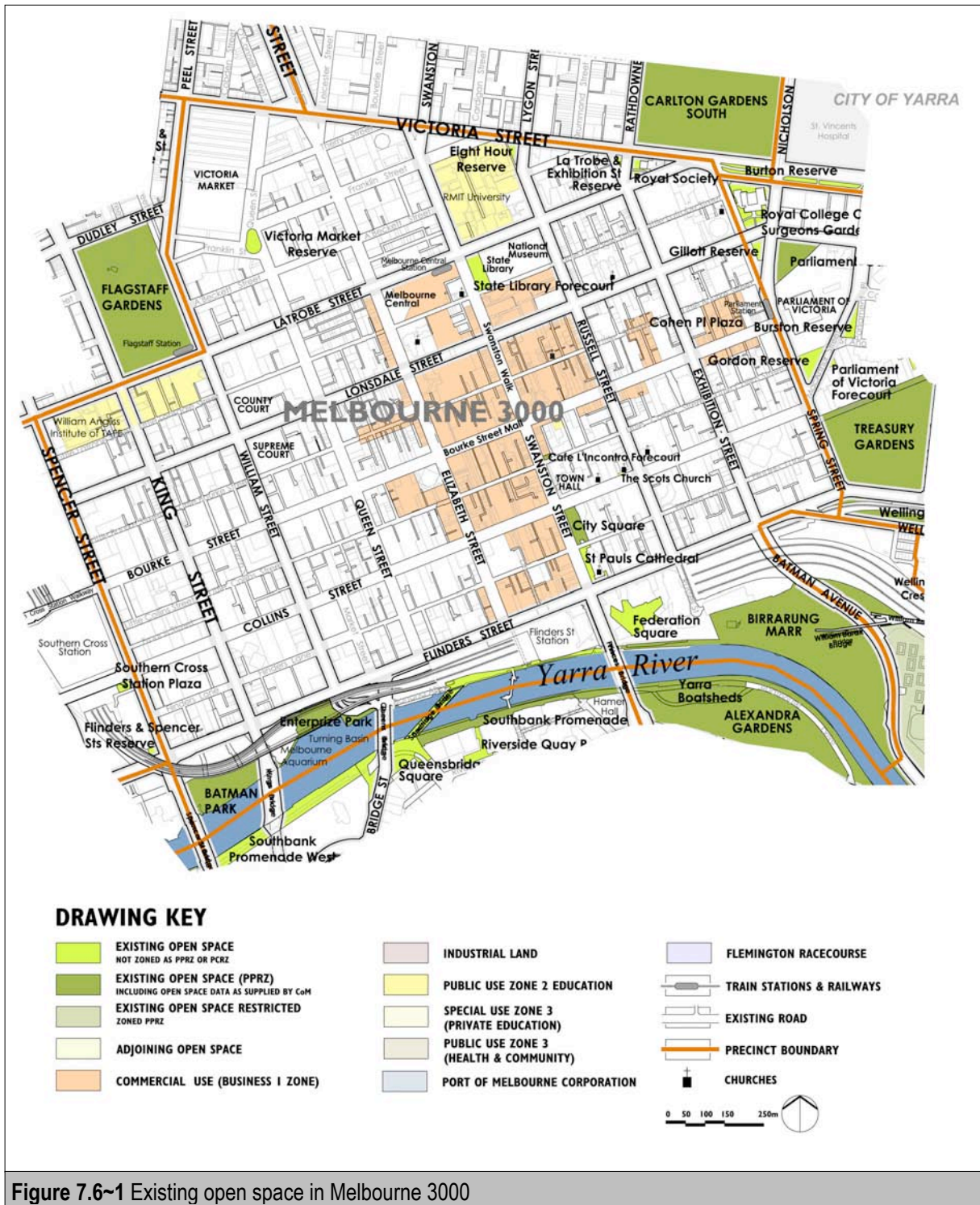


Figure 7.6~1 Existing open space in Melbourne 3000

### 7.6.2a Open space quantity, hierarchy and character

There are 14 existing open spaces in Melbourne 3000 with a total area of 12.74 hectares. This represents approximately 4.7 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and 2.2 per cent of the total open space in the City of Melbourne.

**Table 7.6(i) Number, size and type of open space**

No	Hierarchy of open space	Area (ha)	%
9	Capital City	11.96	94%
1	State	0.33	3%
4	Small Local	0.45	3%
<b>14</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>12.74</b>	<b>100%</b>

The Yarra River has shaped the city and significantly contributes to the character of the open space located along it. The presence of the waterway provides open vistas along it from the open space, water-based recreational uses, an environmental corridor and a natural and dynamic feature in the heart of the city.

The majority of open space in the Melbourne 3000 is located along the Yarra River and is provided for the wider population who are attracted to the major event spaces of Federation Square, Birrarung Marr and the Yarra River. Additional to Birrarung Marr, open spaces along the River include the North Bank of the Yarra, Enterprize Park and Batman Park. The larger open spaces have quite different and distinct characters from each other and from Southbank, with Batman Park having an informal and open grass character which contrasts with the more built form of Enterprize Park. Birrarung Marr is designed primarily as an event space with the casual users mainly using the seating near the trees along the river bank or the grassed embankments when there are no events in progress. The linear connectedness encourages activities such as walking, cycling and running through all these spaces additional to the informal uses such as seating, visiting the playground (in Birrarung Marr) and relaxing.

The north bank of the Yarra overshadowed in the winter the railway, making the linear open space on the north bank less popular than the south side of the river. The footbridges between the north and south provide excellent connectivity and access between Melbourne 3000 and Southbank.

Federation Square is a popular gathering space and is used by visitors and the local community. The State Library Forecourt is also a popular meeting and seating place that is slightly elevated providing good views down over Swanston Street, and a comfortable aspect located on the south east side of the intersection meaning it catches the sun at all times of the year. This appears to be well used by visitors to the city. The City Square receives casual use either associated with the adjoining cafes or people resting in the space and at other times participating in events. Its location on the east and south side of the intersection means that it has good natural light without being unduly overshadowed by buildings.

**Table 7.6(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification**

Open space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
BATMAN PARK	Capital City	Waterway	Informal use, Linear	14,260
BIRRARUNG MARR	Capital City	Events	Waterway, Linear, Informal use	82,900
CITY SQUARE	Capital City	Events	Urban plaza, Linking space	2,888
COHEN PLACE PLAZA	Capital City	Urban plaza	Linking space	229
EIGHT HOUR RESERVE	Capital City	Civic space	Heritage, Significant road reservation	900
ENTERPRIZE PARK	Capital City	Waterway,	Civic space, Linking space	7,129
FEDERATION SQUARE	Capital City	Urban plaza	Civic space, Linking space	6,600
LATROBE & EXHIBITION STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Water feature	Significant road reservation	270
NORTH BANK YARRA (BANANA ALLEY TO BIRRARUNG MARR)	Capital City	Waterway	Linear	3,340
ROYAL SOCIETY	Small Local	Civic space	Heritage	2,247
SCOTS CHURCH	Small Local	Water feature		44
ST PAULS CATHEDRAL	Capital City	Civic space	Seating/viewing	1,331
STATE LIBRARY FORECOURT	State	Civic space	Heritage, Seating/viewing	3,340
VICTORIA MARKET RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation		1,916

### 7.6.2b Distribution

The distribution of open space is largely located along the Yarra River or south Flinders Street and to the eastern side of Swanston Walk. While not located in the Hoddle Grid area, Flagstaff Gardens, Carlton Gardens and Treasury Gardens adjoin the west, north and east boundaries of the Grid along with a series of other smaller open spaces to the east. While there is a need to cross major streets, all the intersections have traffic lights with pedestrian signals, so the walking distances extend from these to within the Hoddle Grid. Therefore there is only one small area in the Melbourne 3000 precinct where people are located further than reasonable walking distance to open space in the area around the Queen and Bourke Street intersection. Refer to Figure 7.6~2.

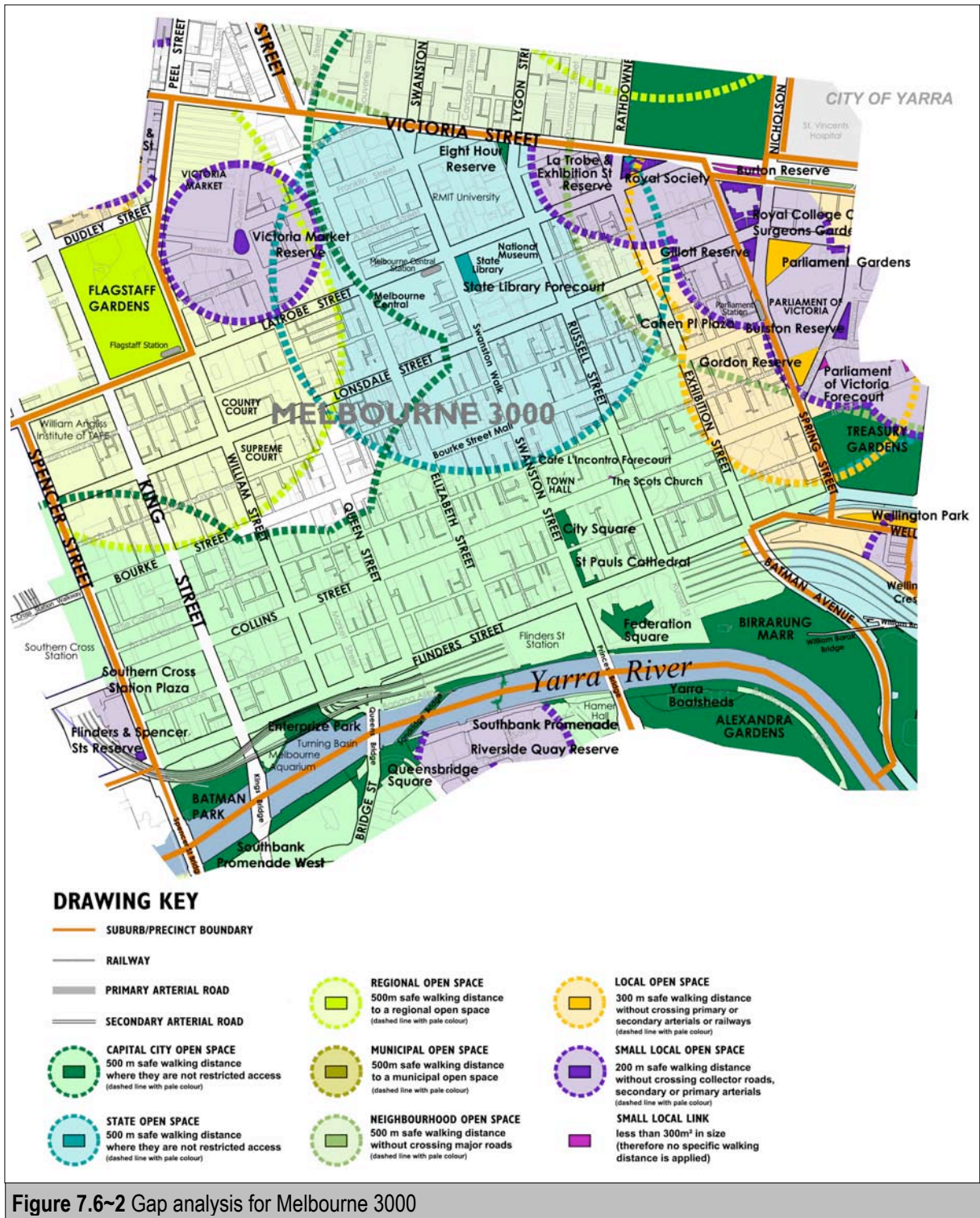


Figure 7.6~2 Gap analysis for Melbourne 3000

### 7.6.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

The road reserves in Melbourne 3000 are a generous width and generally the smaller laneways and streets are comfortable for walking. In the household survey outcomes 85 per cent of respondents note they walk in the streets for exercise. Some church grounds provide ancillary open space, additional to those already included as open space.



The major areas of adjoining open space provide the main spaces that people visit and use and while not located in the Melbourne 3000 precinct, they are synonymous with the original layout and purpose of the early planning for Melbourne. The strategy household survey outcomes confirm the regular use of these major gardens by residents of the central city.

### 7.6.3 Existing Melbourne 3000 community

#### 7.6.3a Who lives and works in Melbourne 3000?

The working community in Melbourne 3000 is approximately 10 times the size of the residential community. The estimated daytime population in Melbourne including visitors to the city along with workers and residents is in the order of 770,000. The residential component of the population is small by comparison at just over 20,000, however these trends are changing and there is a steady growth in people living and working in the central city.

##### Quantity

- Existing residential population 2011: 21,080 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecast, 2011*).
- Existing worker population 2009/10: 224,947 (*Source: Census of Land Use and Employment (CLUE), 2010*).

##### Demographics

The demographics are only available for the existing residential population and not the worker population. The most populous age group in 2006 was the 20 to 24 year olds with a small proportion of people under 15 years of age and the 40+ age range. This correlates to the available housing type, which has a high proportion of apartments rather than single detached housing and semi-detached housing. The dominant household type is lone person that is almost 40 per cent followed by couples without children.

#### 7.6.3b How existing residents currently use open space

A total of 220 household surveys were received from residents of Melbourne 3000 that represents 12 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is significantly less than the proportion of Melbourne 3000 residents in the City of Melbourne population, which is 19 per cent.

**Table 7.6(iii) Most frequently visited open space reserves**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within the local area</b>			
66 (30%)	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (15)</li> <li>• Exercising (14)</li> <li>• Recreation (10)</li> <li>• Relaxation (8)</li> <li>• Ambience, beauty (7)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Improve Cafes/kiosks</li> <li>• No cyclists</li> <li>• More Dog off-lead areas</li> <li>• Additional drinking</li> </ul>

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
		• Travel through (7)	fountains
66 (30%)	Flagstaff Gardens	• Walking (13) • Exercising (9) • Travel through (9) • Recreation (7)	• More BBQ's • Additional trees
57 (26%)	Carlton Gardens	• Recreation (10) • Walking (9) • Exercising (8) • Relaxing (6) • Trees (6)	• Additional lighting (6) • Allow cycling • Remove flower & garden show • Concerns for personal safety
48 (22%)	Treasury Gardens	• Walking (11) • Exercising (9) • Relaxation (8) • Recreation (6) • Dog walking (5)	• Additional lighting • More BBQs • Drinking fountains maintained
43 (20%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	• Exercising (11) • Walking (10) • Jogging/running (7) • Relaxation (6) • Recreation (5)	• Maintenance of drinking fountains • Unsuitable paths for mobility • Improve cafes/kiosks • More seats
37 (17%)	Birrarung Marr	• Walking (10) • Recreation (5) • Exercising (4) • Jogging/running (4) • Playground and equipment (4)	• More drinking fountains • Improve and upgrade paths
37 (17%)	Federation Square	• Entertainment & events (19) • Café and kiosk facilities (5) • Meeting people/friends (5) • Travel through (5)	• More trees
<b>Open space outside the local area</b>			
37 (17%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	• Ambience, beauty (8) • Walking (8) • Relaxation (7) • Recreation (6) • Jogging/running (4)	
32 (15%)	Other – Outside City of Melbourne	• Activities • Beach, sea air • Natural environment • Cycling • Café and kiosk facilities	• Additional toilets • Improved access
20 (9%)	Bayside Beaches	• Walking (7) • Café and kiosk facilities (3) • Fresh air (3) • Recreation (3) • Swimming (3)	• More cycling paths for safety • Additional toilets • Maintenance and rubbish removal

**Types of open space used (top four)**

91% Open space along Yarra River  
 91% Major Gardens  
 90% Royal Botanic Gardens  
 88% Local streets for exercise

**Activities and facilities in open space (top four)**

92% Walking paths  
 72% Open grassed areas  
 59% Seats  
 52% Café/kiosk

**Values (top four)**

79% Trees  
 71% Just being outside  
 71% Quiet and peaceful  
 65% Place to relax and unwind

**General comments**

- Open space is highly valued as a key feature of the central city.
- Open space is appreciated for the benefits it provides.
- More open space required in central city including green open space.
- Incorporate roof garden/vertical garden into all new developments.
- Additional trees and native vegetation.
- Value the high level of maintenance of open space.
- Appreciate the improvements that are occurring.

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A, a separate volume of this strategy.

**7.6.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs****7.6.4a Forecast future population****Who will live and work there in the future?**Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. These forecast residential population forecasts are taken from the .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031 and the worker population forecasts are sourced from the Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011).

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
Residential	21,080	N/A	N/A	35,264	N/A
Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040*
Worker	223,326	N/A	N/A	323,855	N/A

The forecast future population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population between 2011 and 2026 of 67 per cent, with an additional 14,184 residents between 2011 and 2026. The worker population is forecast to increase by approximately 45 per cent, with a substantial increase of 100,529 additional workers between 2011 and 2026.

#### Demographics

An increase in diversity of ages is forecast for the residential population with an increase in the less than 15 year age range and also the 65+ age group. The implications of this change is that additional open space will need to provide an increased range of facilities and with nearly 115,000 additional workers and residents in the city over this time.

### **7.6.4b Population change impacts on open space**

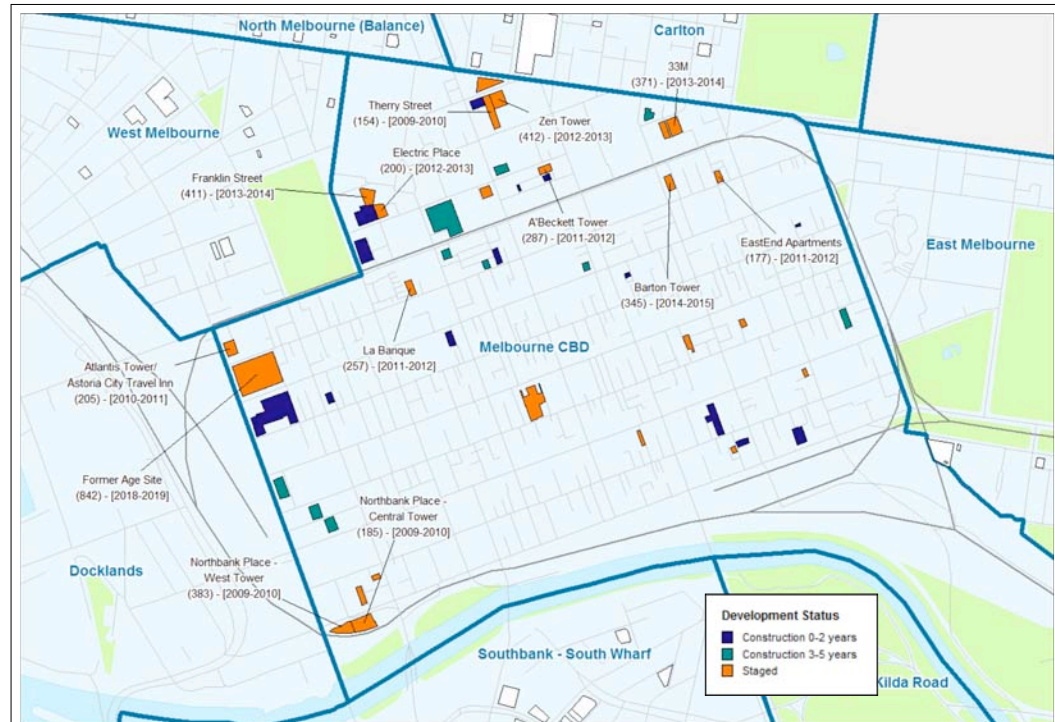
The additional quantity of people living and working in Melbourne 3000 will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction. The population already relies on travelling outside the immediate Hoddle Grid area for most of their open space needs and this is likely to continue.

The forecast change in demographics will affect the proximity of open space to the population and the design of open space. Currently the younger population dominated by 20 to 24 year olds do not place high demands on a diversity of facilities and playgrounds and are generally utilising the informal facilities for walking, jogging, exercise and cycling. Young children and older adults are typically less mobile, with a more comfortable access range being within 200 to 300 metres of where they live, and without needing to cross major roads and arterials. This will likely create an increased demand and use of Local and Small Local open space, interspersed through the precinct, in addition to the existing linear open space along the Yarra River and the larger gardens already located around the Hoddle Grid.

The other impact of this change is the increased urban density that is likely to occur in accommodating the just under 115,000 additional people. This in turn will potentially further exacerbate the build up of urban heat in the precinct, and therefore providing additional spaces that assist with creating cooler microclimates to mitigate the urban heat build up is also a key driver for the provision of additional open space.

### 7.6.4c Where change will occur

The forecast population increase in Melbourne 3000 is shown in the diagram as occurring in the north, west and south east of the precinct. These are shown spatially by .id consulting on their diagram in Figure 7.6~3 and this data was used as the basis for the forecasts supplied to this project by the City of Melbourne, current October 2011. This illustrates the residential redevelopment projects and not the business use projects.



**FIGURE 7.6~3** Residential development sites in Melbourne, 3000  
Source: .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031

The forecast increased population will place additional demand on existing open spaces within the catchment along with generating the demand for new open space. The existing population will also use the new open space, and this has been considered in the recommendations and actions.

### 7.6.4d Open space distribution and future need in Melbourne3000

Future open space provision in Melbourne 3000 needs to be well integrated with its inherent character and value, and not interrupt the Hoddle Grid or the ongoing improvements to the active streetscapes and public places that has been achieved in implementing the directions in *Places for People* (City of Melbourne and Gehl Architects). The vision is to create new small green spaces that are inviting for people to use as a break from work or home, a place to pause and relax. These spaces will be close to where people are living and working so they are convenient to visit and within a few minutes walk. The spaces will spread the use of open space across more spaces, whereas currently the major gardens are experiencing increasing levels of use that are difficult to manage. The will also provide:

- Safe and easy walking access to open space.

- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.
- Provide local spaces that encourage people to meet informally and provide a stronger connection and contribution to their local neighbourhood.
- Provide spaces that are always accessible, even when major events are being held in the Capital City open spaces.
- Create opportunities to increase the diversity of open space design in the city centre.

A description of the likely change and potential opportunities to introduce these green spaces in to the city centre are described by open space precinct.

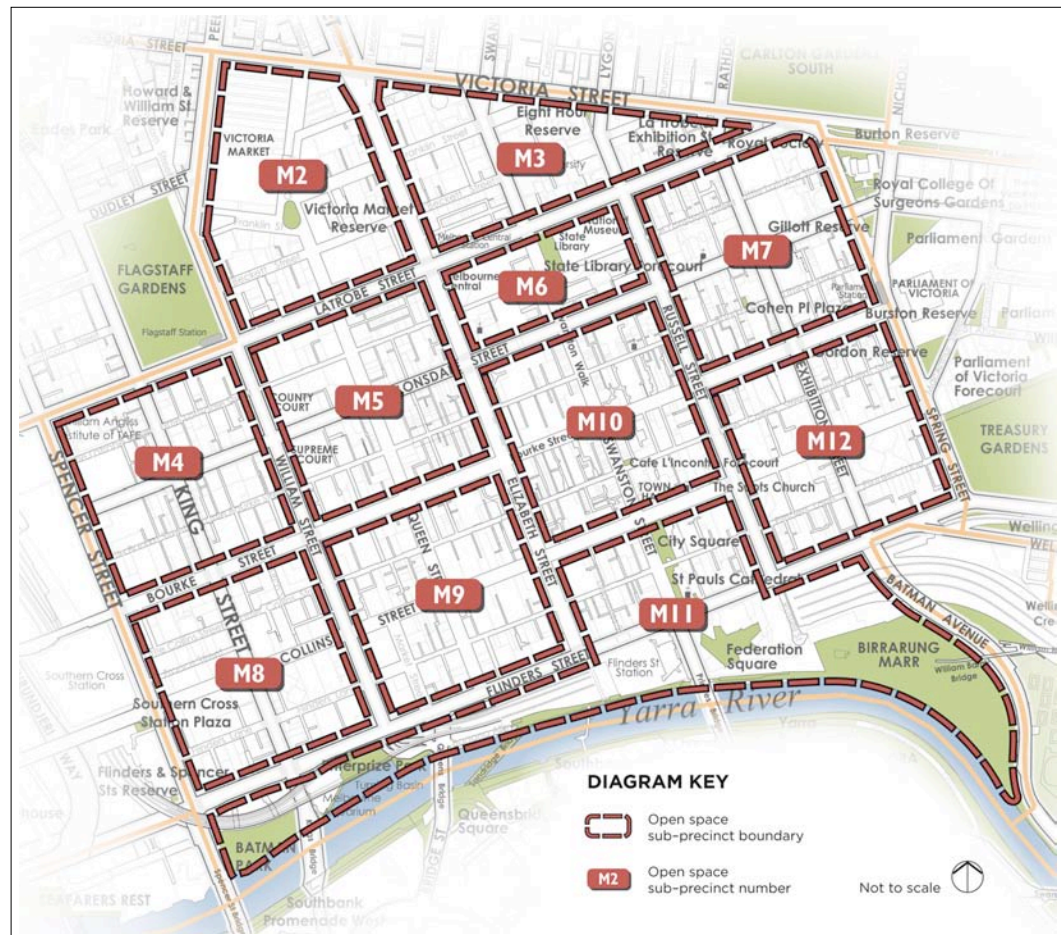


FIGURE 7.6~4 Open space sub-precinct diagram for Melbourne 3000

Table 7.6 (iv) Melbourne 3000 open space sub-precincts

The following analysis and conclusions are based on meeting the objectives described in 7.6.4d. Please note that sub-precinct M1 is illustrated in Figure 8.3~4 and described in Table 8.3 (iv).

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
M2	This sub-precinct includes the Queen Victoria Market and surrounding mixed use area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need for additional open space in this sub-precinct and the location of this is to be investigated</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<p>including a range of recent developments with increasing residential use. The sub-precinct extends from William Street east to Elizabeth Street and from Victoria Street south to Latrobe Street and is included in the City North Structure Plan area. Existing open space includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victoria Market Reserve</li> </ul> <p>This reserve is a large roundabout that is mainly a visual feature with sculptural installation and trees. Flagstaff Gardens directly adjoins this sub-precinct to the west and the public spaces around the Victoria Market do provide ancillary open space.</p> <p>The land use includes retail, business and residential use. Six residential redevelopment sites are shown in this sub-precinct.</p>	<p>in the vicinity of the Queen Victoria Market, where it complements the existing cultural and retail activity while also catering to the open space needs of the growing community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the potential to create an additional Small Local open space in conjunction with the Elizabeth Street and Victoria Street intersection redesign.</li> </ul>
M3	<p>This sub-precinct incorporates the education precinct of RMIT, the City Baths and a range of other land uses. Part of this sub-precinct north of A'Beckett Street and west of Swanston Street falls within the City North Structure Plan. Victoria Street is the boundary to the north extending south to La Trobe Street. Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eight Hour Reserve</li> <li>• La Trobe &amp; Exhibition Street Reserve</li> <li>• Royal Society</li> </ul> <p>All the open spaces in this sub-precinct are located to the north near Victoria Street at the intersections and change direction from the Hoddle Grid to magnetic north. They all are impacted by traffic movement and noise of major traffic flow. Eight Hour Reserve contains a monument to the Eight Hours' day movement and is located opposite the Victorian Trades Hall Council, and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The additional 12 residential redevelopment sites located in this sub-precinct will increase the pressure and use of existing open space and the existing spaces have limited scope for expansion to their facilities.</li> <li>• As with sub-precinct M2, investigate the potential to create an additional Small Local open space in conjunction with the Elizabeth and Victoria Streets intersection redesign. This redesign will need to achieve a significant reduction in traffic movement and noise to add a valuable area of open space for this population. If this is not achievable, investigate other options to achieve a new Small Local open space that offers a sense of protection and relief from traffic movement and noise within the sub-precinct.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<p>Royal Society is the grounds around the Royal Society Hall, established in 1854, while the La Trobe and Exhibition Street Reserve has a small water feature. All offer seating and a place to be outside. Ancillary open space includes the grounds at RMIT, and adjoining open space includes Carlton Gardens to the north-east end of the sub-precinct and the State Library Forecourt to the south.</p> <p>There are 12 residential redevelopment sites shown in this sub-precinct with more than 1,000 new dwellings proposed.</p>	
M4	<p>This sub-precinct is located between Spencer and William Streets with Latrobe Street to the north and Bourke Street to the south. Currently there is no open space within the precinct, however Flagstaff Gardens adjoins the precinct to the north. The sub-precinct has 4 major residential redevelopment sites nominated in it identified to deliver more than 1,000 dwellings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the potential to establish a new Small Local open space in this sub-precinct to provide a green oasis within the heart of the sub-precinct to provide an additional small and more intimate space along with Flagstaff Gardens. The additional population in this sub-precinct will create demand on facilities and space already provided in Flagstaff Gardens.</li> </ul>
M5	<p>Located between William and Elizabeth Streets and Latrobe and Bourke Streets, this sub-precinct has no existing open space located within it. Flagstaff Gardens is located to the north and east of this sub-precinct, however it is a reasonable distance to walk from parts of it. This sub-precinct incorporates the only gap area identified in the central city near the intersection of Queen and Bourke Streets. One redevelopment site is located within the sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate provision of two additional Small Local open spaces within this sub-precinct, with one to be located towards the southern area of it to address the existing gap area in the vicinity of Queen and Bourke Streets.</li> </ul>
M6	<p>This sub-precinct is located between Elizabeth and Russel Streets, and between La Trobe and Lonsdale Street and incorporates a range of land uses including</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the potential to secure at least part of the St Francis Catholic Church grounds as public open space as part of the future network of green oases within the central</li> </ul>



Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<p>major retail and business uses. Existing open space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State Library Forecourt</li> </ul> <p>This open space is well used, as described in 7.6.2a. Ancillary open spaces include the St Francis Catholic Church.</p>	<p>city.</p>
M7	<p>Located between Russel and Spring Streets, and extending from La Trobe to Bourke Streets, this sub-precinct includes a range of business and residential uses. Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cohen Plaza</li> </ul> <p>Open space directly adjoins the eastern end of this sub-precinct including Parliament Gardens and a range of other smaller spaces, and Carlton Gardens South adjoins it to the north. Cohen Plaza provides a central meeting place in Little Bourke Street. Ancillary open space includes the Wesley Uniting Church. Three redevelopment sites are identified in this sub-precinct, with approximately 500 new dwellings.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the potential to secure at least part of the Wesley Uniting Church grounds as public open space as part of the future network of green oases within the central city.</li> <li>• Upgrade some of the existing public open spaces in East Melbourne to provide for the additional future population in this sub-precinct.</li> </ul>
M8	<p>Located in the south-west area of the central city, this sub-precinct is located between Spencer and William Streets, south of Bourke Street to Flinders Street. There is no open space in the sub-precinct, however there are two small spaces on the western side of Spencer Street and both Enterprize Park and Batman Park are located to the south of the precinct along the Yarra River.</p> <p>The land use is predominantly office use, with the entertainment precinct along King Street and some visitor accommodation. Five redevelopment sites are located in this precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the provision of an additional Small Local open space in this sub-precinct east of King Street.</li> <li>• The forecast additional population in this sub-precinct will continue to use adjoining open space, particularly Batman Park and the open space along the Yarra River. The future population is to continue to contribute to the upgrade of these adjoining open spaces.</li> </ul>
M9	<p>Located between Queen and Elizabeth Street and south of Bourke Street to Flinders Street,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate provision of a Small Local open space in this sub-precinct for both the existing and</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<p>this sub-precinct has no open space, and Flinders Street station provides a physical barrier to easily access open space along the Yarra from within it. Land use includes office with other mixed use including residential use. Ancillary open space includes the grounds of the Immigration Museum. The northern part of this sub-precinct is located in a gap area.</p> <p>One redevelopment site is located in this sub-precinct.</p>	<p>forecast future population, particularly given the lack of open space adjoining this sub-precinct.</p>
M10	<p>Located in the heart of the main retail precinct, this sub-precinct extends from Queen Street to Russel Street and from Lonsdale Street south to Collins Street. Bourke Street Mall and Swanston Street provide ancillary open space in this sub precinct. Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cafe L'Incontro Forecourt</li> <li>• The Scotts Church</li> </ul> <p>These spaces provide some seating with the Scotts Church space centred on a small water feature, and the Cafe L'Incontro Forecourt is centred on the cafe and sculpture. To the south is the City Square and to the north is the State Library Forecourt. There are three redevelopment sites in the sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The presence of the ancillary open space of Swanston Street connecting the main north south link to open space adjoining the sub-precinct, including City Square, Federation Square and Birrarung Marr means that no additional open space is identified to be provided in this sub-precinct.</li> </ul>
M11	<p>This sub-precinct incorporates the open space along the north side of the Yarra River and key spine of open space centred around Swanston Street. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Birrarung Marr</li> <li>• Federation Square</li> <li>• City Square</li> <li>• St Pauls Cathedral</li> <li>• Batman Park</li> <li>• Enterprize Park</li> <li>• Yarra River North Bank</li> </ul> <p>Five redevelopment sites are</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residents, workers and visitors to the central city use the open space. It is recognised as significantly contributing to the character and liveability of the city and is highly valued.</li> <li>• The existing spaces are to continue to be maintained, with the any future upgrade of Batman Park to ensure it retain an informal character that provides a contrast to the other spaces along the Yarra River in the central city area.</li> <li>• In any future redevelopment of land</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	located in this precinct.	within this sub-precinct options to improve visual and physical access to the Yarra River from the Flinders Street are to be investigated. Redevelopment will also need to demonstrate that it is not resulting in further overshadowing of the existing open space in this sub-precinct.
M12	<p>This sub-precinct includes the south-east corner of the central city, extending from Russel to Spring Streets and from Bourke to Flinders Street. No open space is located within the sub-precinct, however Treasury Gardens and other smaller open spaces in East Melbourne directly adjoin the east, and the open space along the Yarra River is accessible.</p> <p>This sub-precinct includes predominantly office use with a number of large hotels and some residential use. Four redevelopment sites are identified in Figure 7.6~3.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The existing and future population in this sub-precinct is recognised to continue to use Treasury Gardens and other open space to the east of the sub-precinct. The pedestrian connectivity to the east and over Spring Street is to continue to be maintained and improved where feasible in recognition of this use.</li> <li>• Similarly, investigate future opportunities to improve pedestrian connectivity between open space along the Yarra River and any future redevelopment associated with Jolimont Railway.</li> </ul>

## 7.6.5 Melbourne 3000 Actions

### 7.6.5a Summary of overall intent

#### Provision and distribution

The centre of Melbourne was originally designed to have a ring of open space around the central Hoddle Grid rather than within it. The inherent strength of the larger open spaces around the Grid will continue to be 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 additional small green public open spaces in the Hoddle Grid are to be added as the population intensifies in the future. These green spaces are intended to be small green oases providing retreat spaces within the Grid, and not interrupt the strength and value of the Grid but expand on the existing highly valued open spaces such as the State Library Forecourt. Opportunity sites include church grounds and sites on the south-east side of intersections where sunlight access is likely to be more consistent.

#### Quality and design

The future small green spaces will be designed to encourage people outdoors close to where they live and work, providing places to pause, observe and rest. The green character will be driven by sustainable water harvesting and reuse

with the intention to create cool spaces in summer that have a positive role in urban heat mitigation.



\* Refer also to page 20 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.6-5 and photos.

## 7.6.5b Precinct Actions for Melbourne 3000

### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6A-1	Provide additional Small Local open space associated with the Elizabeth and Victoria Streets intersection redesign.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.6A-2	Investigate the potential to provide Small Local open space in the vicinity of the Queen Victoria Market that complements existing cultural and retail activity, while also catering to the needs of the growing community of City North urban renewal area. This has the potential to include upgrades to existing open spaces and/or utilisation of road reserves.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.6A-3	Provide new Small Local open space in the sub-precinct M5 to establish a green space that encourages people to spend time outside.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.6A-4	Provide new Small Local open space in the sub-precinct M6 to establish a green space that encourages people to spend time outside.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.6A-5	Provide new Small Local open space in the sub-precinct M9 to establish a green space that encourages people to spend time outside.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.6A-6	Provide new Small Local open space in the sub-precinct M10 to establish a green space that encourages people to spend time outside.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.6A-7	Investigate the potential to secure at least part of the Church grounds on the corner of Elizabeth and Lonsdale Streets as public open space as part to form the network of future green oases within the central city.	CoM, Developer, Church	Very High
7.6A-8	Investigate the potential to secure at least part of the Welsh Church grounds on Little Bourke Street, between Swanston and Russell Streets as public open space as part to form the network of future green oases within the central city.	CoM, Developer, Church	Very High

### B Additional open space links

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6B-1	In future redevelopment sites south of Flinders Street, investigate opportunities to improve pedestrian access and connectivity from the Hoddle Grid to the Yarra River. This includes Flinders Street Station and any future redevelopment of any railway land including Jolimont Railway. Any future	CoM & Developer	Very High & Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	redevelopment is to not cause any further overshadowing of the existing public open space along the Yarra River.		
7.6B-2	Continue to investigate improvements to pedestrian connectivity over Spring Street between Treasury Gardens and the south east area of the central city.	CoM	Ongoing

### C Capital City open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6C-1	<b>Batman Park</b> Prepare a design plan to guide future upgrade to this space, considering the existing and future population needs and keeping elements of informality to this space as a contrast to the more formal spaces. This space will need to function for neighbourhood use as well as Capital City space. Costs included in this Strategy are only for the neighbourhood use component of the works.	CoM, MW, PV	High
7.6C-2	<b>Birrarung Marr</b> Continue to maintain and potentially improve to better manage events in this space and also increased informal use.	CoM	Ongoing
7.6C-3	<b>City Square</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.6C-4	<b>Cohen Place Plaza</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.6C-5	<b>Eight Hour Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.6C-6	<b>Enterprize Park</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.6C-7	<b>Federation Square</b> Continue to advocate on behalf of the community for use and access to this important public place.	FS CoM	Ongoing
7.6C-8	<b>North Bank Yarra (Banana Alley to Birrarung Marr)</b> Continue to maintain and improve connectivity to this if feasible in future redevelopment, refer to Action 7.6B-1	CoM	Ongoing
7.6C-9	<b>St Paul's Cathedral</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing

### D Regional open space

Not applicable

**E Municipal open space**

Not applicable

**F Neighbourhood open space**

Not applicable

**G Local open space**

Not applicable

**H Small Local open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6H-1	<b>Latrobe &amp; Exhibition Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.6H-2	<b>Royal Society</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.6H-3	<b>Scots Church</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM, Church	Ongoing
7.6H-4	<b>Victoria Market Reserve</b> Investigate the potential to expand the area of this open space to create a useable and functional open space for the increasing residential population in close proximity to this open space.	CoM, Developer	Ongoing

**J Small Local Link**

Not applicable

**K State open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.6K-1	<b>State Library Forecourt</b> The City of Melbourne is to continue to advocate retaining this important forecourt space as a public open space in any future proposals for change.	State Library, CoM	Ongoing



## 7.7 North Melbourne

### 7.7.1 Overview

North Melbourne is located approximately two kilometres north-west of the Melbourne central city. Formerly known as Hotham, North Melbourne was settled during the gold rush era, with the Post Office constructed in 1860. The area was settled as a predominantly working class suburb and by 1861 the population of North Melbourne was 7,000. By the 1930s North Melbourne was considered overcrowded and classed as slums, hence the focus of government housing redevelopment in the suburb. North Melbourne includes distinctive residential precincts and then mixed use areas with a range of older industrial style buildings, some of which are still used for warehousing, storage and manufacturing today and others that have been more recently converted to business or residential use.

Generally the residential areas are centrally located in the suburb, north of Arden Street and extend west to Dryburgh Street and Melrose Street, and east to Murphy Street. West of Dryburgh Street the land use changes to mixed use including storage, offices, warehouses and workshops, and west of Macaulay Road the land use is dominated by light industrial, railway and storage without any residential use. This industrial land west of Macaulay Road is the area that is forecast to change substantially over the next 30 years to a mixed-use precinct with higher density development and is referred to as the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area. Additionally the south-eastern area of North Melbourne is also highlighted for significant change with increased densities and is referred to as part of the City North urban renewal area.

The urban character of North Melbourne varies from Victorian era row terraces, to converted turn of the Century industrial buildings and warehouses, along with a range of higher-density public housing developments. These vary from five to fifteen storey buildings and from the late 1940s through to contemporary times.

For the suburb as a whole, the residential population of North Melbourne is expected to nearly double over the next 15 years from 11,650 in 2011 to 22,346 in 2026. The worker population is forecast to increase more than three times its size from 9,379 in 2011 to around 31,000 in 2022.

The City of Melbourne is preparing Structure Plans to guide the future direction of



change in this precinct. The *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan, May 2011* sets out a framework for change to increase in the local population in the western area of this precinct from approximately 3,000 residents and 3,300 workers to 25,000 residents and 30,000 workers by 2040. The reason for encouraging future growth in this area is its proximity to the central city and strategic link to Footscray in the west, facilitated by the construction of a new Metro rail link proposed by the Victorian government. While part of this forecast population will be located in Kensington, a large proportion will be in the North Melbourne part of the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area.

The Victorian Department of Transport is planning to develop the Melbourne Metro Rail Tunnel, a new rail tunnel between Dynon in the west and St Kilda Road near Domain. The underground link has the potential to benefit the entire metropolitan rail network by creating more rail capacity in the inner-city. One of the stations is to be located in North Melbourne in the southern part of the Arden Macaulay Urban Renewal Area, referred to as Arden Central in the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan*. This station will be connected to Melbourne Central and Flinders Street, and will increase the viability of the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area as a desirable and connected place to live and work. The Victorian Government has \$40 million in development funding from the Federal Government to prepare the planning study for the project, and the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan* estimates the Arden Metro Station will be operational by 2020.

The *Draft City North Structure Plan, May 2011* is an urban renewal area that extends across five precincts including North Melbourne, West Melbourne, Melbourne 3000 central city, Carlton and Parkville. The directions of this Structure Plan are described in the Carlton Precinct, Chapter 7.2.

## 7.7.2 Existing open space

### 7.2.1a Open space quantity, hierarchy and character

There are 12 existing open spaces in North Melbourne with a combined total area of 8.16 ha. This represents approximately 3 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and 1.47 per cent of the total open space in the City of Melbourne.

**Table 1.2(i) Number, type and size of open space in North Melbourne**

No	Hierarchy of open space	Area (ha)	%
1	Municipal	4.52	55%
1	Neighbourhood	1.43	18%
3	Local	1.55	19%
5	Small Local	0.59	7%
2	Small Local Link	0.07	1%
<b>12</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>8.16</b>	<b>100%</b>

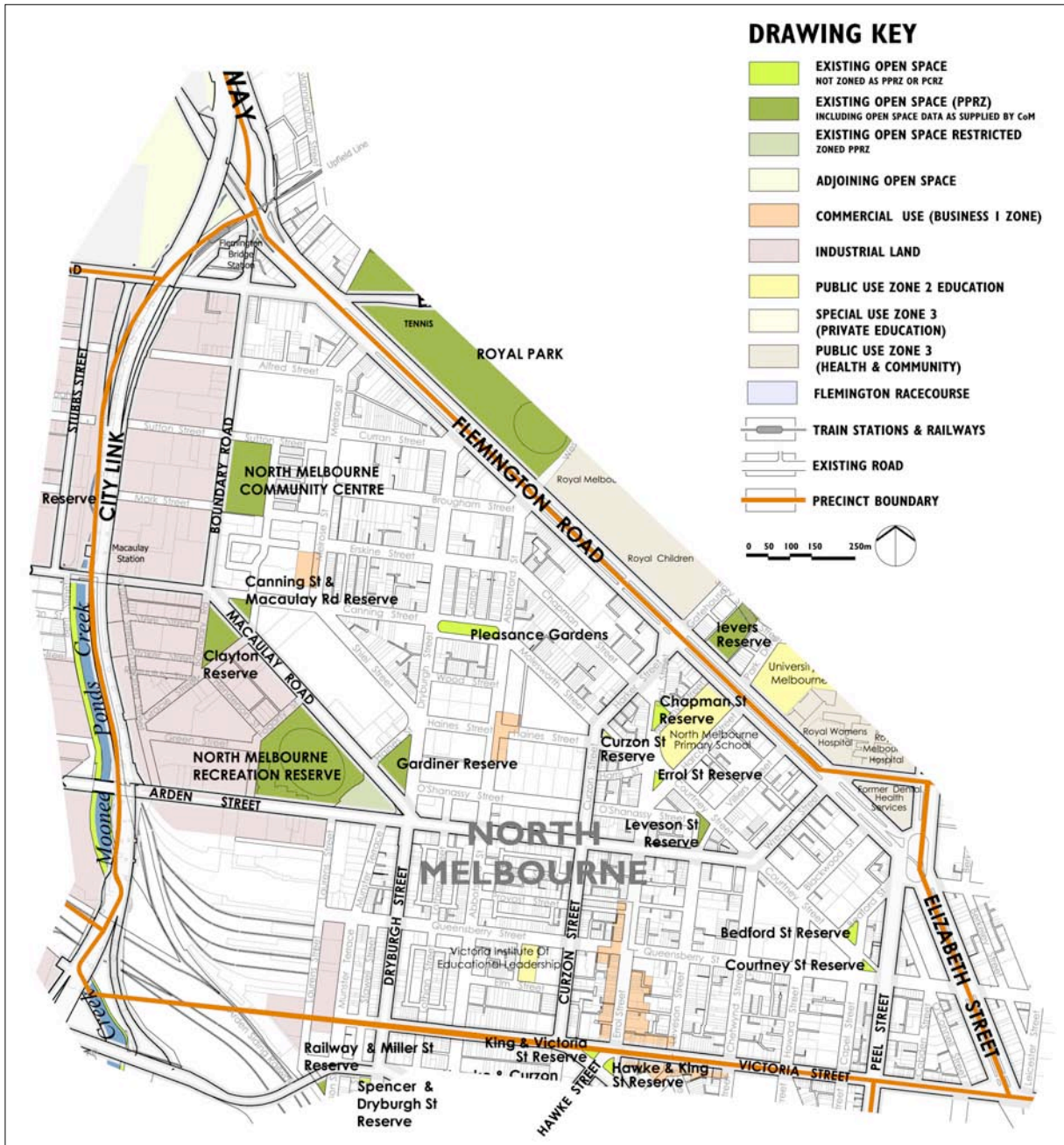


Figure 7.7~1 Existing open space in North Melbourne

Royal Park is a 180 hectare open space directly adjoining this precinct to the north and is the most frequently visited open space for existing residents in North Melbourne according to the strategy household survey. Originally established in 1854, the shape and form of Royal Park has changed over time. Royal Park is the largest open space in the City of Melbourne and is unique given its celebration of the original Australian landscape. The southern area of Royal Park is within one kilometre of the northern parts of North Melbourne, however, Flemington Road is a major barrier to easy and safe access to this open space.

Within the North Melbourne precinct the larger areas of open space are located in the west and to the east existing open space is made up of small spaces within the road reserves. The strategy household survey outcomes identify that

residents are concerned about the lack of open space within the precinct and about future development.

North Melbourne Recreation Reserve is the home ground for the AFL North Melbourne football team and recent upgrades to the training facility provides an active sporting facility, part of which is available to the general public. The oval is available for casual use when the Club does not require it for training. The North Melbourne Football club has been located at Arden Street Oval since 1882 and is an integral part of the identity and character of North Melbourne. The North Melbourne outdoor heated pool is located in the eastern part of this reserve, and is available for use by the general public on a fee-paying basis and is therefore noted as restricted open space.

North Melbourne Community Centre Reserve is the other large open space in North Melbourne, and is surrounded by high-density housing. The reserve includes open grassed playing field, playground, community centre and forecourt integrating community art and a community garden. Other nearby smaller open spaces include Clayton Reserve, Gardiner Reserve and Pleasance Gardens, all providing informal and unstructured recreational access and facilities including paths, seats, shade trees and playgrounds.

The six Small Local open spaces in the eastern area of North Melbourne are all located at street intersections, and this restricts their diversity, character and use to primarily being part of the larger streetscape. The City of Melbourne is currently investigating ways to enlarge some of these spaces and this is supported by the strategy.

The wide road reserves are a unique feature of North Melbourne and these have facilitated the establishment of significant street trees that contribute to the natural landscape character of the precinct. The other ancillary open space is North Melbourne Primary School.

**Table 7.7(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classifications	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
BEDFORD STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Seating/viewing	1,013
CANNING STREET & MACAULAY ROAD RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation		1,762
CHAPMAN STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Linking space	1,480
CLAYTON RESERVE	Local	Informal use		6,531
COURTNEY STREET RESERVE	Small Local Link	Significant road reservation		456
CURZON STREET RESERVE	Small Local Link	Linking space	Significant road reservation	265
ERROL STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation		529
GARDINER RESERVE	Local	Informal use	Play	5,285
LEVESON STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Linking space	1,079

**Table 7.7(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification cont'd**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classifications	Area (m <sup>2</sup> )
NORTH MELBOURNE COMMUNITY CENTRE	Neighbourhood	Recreation	Informal use, Restricted sport and recreation, Community garden	14,311
NORTH MELBOURNE RECREATION RESERVE	Municipal	Sporting	Restricted sport and recreation, Informal use	45,221
PLEASANCE GARDENS	Local	Public garden	Informal use	3,712

The most popular open spaces for residents of North Melbourne are located outside the precinct including Royal Park to the north and Flagstaff Gardens to the south. The open spaces located within the precinct are visited as well. The household survey results confirm that residents are travelling outside North Melbourne to visit open space, mainly for the more active pursuits of walking, jogging, exercising and cycling.

### 7.7.2b Distribution

Open space is located mainly in the western area of the precinct along major roads including Macaulay and Boundary Roads. There are gaps in the distribution of open space east of Dryburgh and south of Arden Street. In the east, the gaps in open space distribution will be exacerbated by the planned future population growth as part of the City North urban renewal area, with increased building density in areas without good access to open space. Refer to Figure 7.7~2 on the following page.

### 7.7.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

The wide road reserves in North Melbourne are well used for exercise as indicated in the household survey outcomes. This is likely due to the width of the road reserves and presence of existing mature street tree plantings providing good pedestrian amenity and interest. This provides good connectivity across the precinct and between open space including open space outside the precinct boundaries including Royal Park and Flagstaff Gardens.

The *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan May 2011* identifies the undercroft areas of CityLink and the Moonee Ponds Creek as having potential to being redesigned to accommodate some recreation facilities in the future. While constructed sport and recreation facilities may be viable in this area in the future, this is considered to be encumbered open space, which is roofed, with limited sunlight and high levels of traffic noise and is therefore not suitable to be considered as public open space within the meaning and context of this Strategy. This area is also subject to flooding from Moonee Ponds Creek.

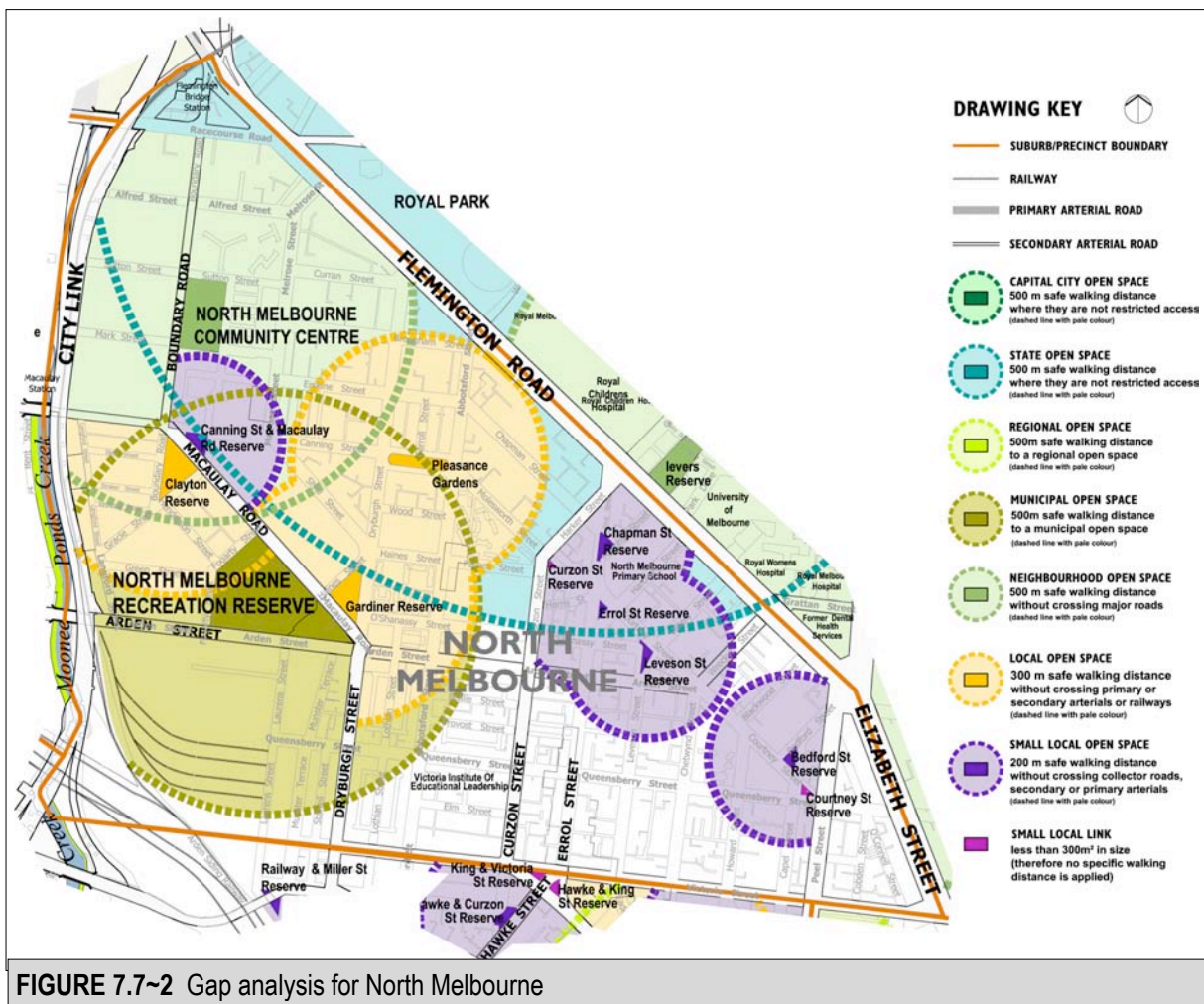


FIGURE 7.7~2 Gap analysis for North Melbourne

### 7.7.3 Existing North Melbourne community

#### 7.7.3a Who lives and works in North Melbourne?

The current population of North Melbourne combines a range of household types including families, young professionals and student resident population, with workers in the retail, business and manufacturing sectors. The number of visitors to North Melbourne is not quantified as they are for other precincts, due to the limited major visitor attractions within North Melbourne.

#### Quantity

- Existing residential population 2011: 11,650 (Source: .id Consulting population forecasts 2011)
- Existing worker population 2011: 9,379 (Source: Census of Land Use and Employment, 2010)

#### Demographics

The demographics are only available for the existing residential population and not the worker population. The most populous age group in 2011 was the 20 to 29 year olds and overall there are a higher proportion of people aged between 20 and 34 years representing approximately 43 per cent of the total population for North Melbourne. When compared to the City of Melbourne average, North

Melbourne has a higher proportion of children less than 14 years of age and 35 years and over. This is likely due to the higher proportion of family households in North Melbourne. This correlates to the available housing type, which has a higher proportion of single detached housing and semi-detached housing when compared with some other areas of Melbourne such as Southbank and the Melbourne 3000 central city.

### 7.7.3b How existing residents currently use open space

A total of 186 household surveys were received from residents of North Melbourne that represents 10 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is slightly less than the proportion of North Melbourne residents in the City of Melbourne population, which is 13 per cent.

**Table 7.7(i) Most frequently visited open space reserves**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within the local area</b>			
115 (62%)	Royal Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (39)</li> <li>• Exercising (30)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (22)</li> <li>• Dog walking (14)</li> <li>• Cycling (10)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional trees</li> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• More native planting</li> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• Additional dog off-lead areas</li> </ul>
66 (35%)	Flagstaff Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel through (15)</li> <li>• Walking (15)</li> <li>• Exercising (9)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (9)</li> <li>• Travel through (7)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Concerns about safety, fearful of using open space</li> <li>• More opportunities for bicycles</li> <li>• Increase facilities for refreshments</li> </ul>
33 (18%)	Princes Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jogging/running (14)</li> <li>• Walking (12)</li> <li>• Exercising (9)</li> <li>• Recreation (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Additional facilities for refreshments</li> <li>• Additional facilities for dogs</li> </ul>
25 (13%)	Gardiner Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground and equipment (8)</li> <li>• Close to home (5)</li> <li>• Dog walking (4)</li> <li>• BBQs (3)</li> <li>• Picnics (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• Playgrounds for an age range</li> <li>• More shade required</li> </ul>
24 (13%)	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel through (6)</li> <li>• Walking (5)</li> <li>• Travel through (4)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Cafes/kiosks</li> <li>• More opportunities for cycling</li> <li>• Off-lead area for dogs</li> </ul>
20 (11%)	North Melbourne Recreation Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking (7)</li> <li>• Exercising (5)</li> <li>• Walking (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional toilets</li> <li>• More trees required</li> <li>• More indigenous vegetation</li> </ul>
<b>Open space outside local area</b>			
63 (34%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambience, beauty (14)</li> <li>• Walking (12)</li> <li>• Picnics (10)</li> <li>• Relaxation (9)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved access</li> <li>• Personal safety concerns</li> <li>• Improve general maintenance</li> </ul>

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (8)</li> <li>• Meeting friends (5)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More sporting facilities including cycling paths</li> </ul>
35 (19%)	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Museum (8)</li> <li>• Travel through (5)</li> <li>• Ambience, beauty (4)</li> <li>• Playground (4)</li> <li>• Gardens (3)</li> <li>• Walking (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More paths for cyclists, including connections and safer routes</li> <li>• Policing of path use rules</li> </ul>
27 (15%)	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambience, beauty (3)</li> <li>• Exercising (3)</li> <li>• Peaceful (3)</li> <li>• Picnics (3)</li> <li>• Relaxation (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional seating</li> <li>• More cycling facilities including paths and lock up facilities</li> <li>• Additional lighting</li> </ul>

#### Types of open space used (top four)

91% Local streets for exercise

90% Royal Botanic Gardens (although more than 50% was on a yearly basis only)

87% Major gardens and Regional Parks

74% Small Local Parks (highest proportion of daily use)

#### Activities and facilities in open space (top four)

90% Walking paths

76% Open grassed areas

56% Seats

49% Drinking fountains

#### Values (top four)

83% Trees

74% Quiet and peaceful

72% Place to relax and unwind, and being outside

67% Spacious

#### General comments

- Additional open space is required in the North Melbourne area.
- Open space is highly valued as a key feature of the municipality.
- Open space is important in an urban setting, including as densities increase.
- Improved cycling facilities both on road and off road required.
- Additional trees required.
- Value the high level of maintenance of open space.

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A, a separate volume of this strategy.

## 7.7.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

### 7.7.4a Forecast future population

#### Who will live and work there in the future?

##### Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. Residential population growth figures are sourced from .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031 and the worker population growth figures are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011). 2040 capacity figures are available for the urban renewal areas only, therefore have not been included in this overall table for North Melbourne.

**Table 7.7(ii) North Melbourne (including Arden Macaulay)**

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Residential</b>	11,650	13,811	17,892	22,346	N/A
Years	2011	2015/16	2021	N/A	2040
<b>Worker</b>	9,379	N/A	N/A	23,000	N/A

**Table 7.7(iii) Arden Macaulay urban renewal area only**

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Residential</b>	1,970	2,366	5,151	8,028	25,000*
Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Worker</b>	3,244	N/A	N/A	14,000	30,000*

\* Source: Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan May 2011

The forecast future population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population between 2011 and 2026 of 92 per cent, with an additional 10,697 residents between 2011 and 2026. The worker population is forecast to increase by more than 145 per cent with an additional 21,621 workers between 2011 and 2026.

##### Demographics

An increase in young adults in the 20 to 29 age range, including students is forecast to live in North Melbourne, with decline in young families.

#### **Population change impacts on open space**

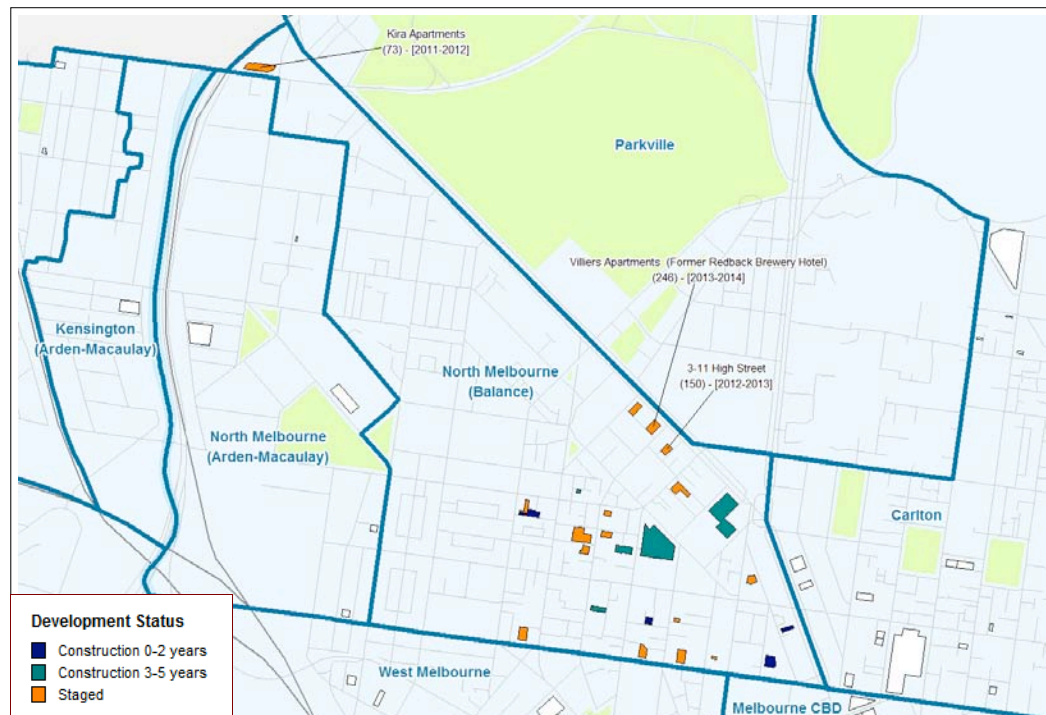
The substantial increase in the quantity of people living and working in North Melbourne will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding, lack of access to existing facilities



and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction.

The forecast change in demographics will have some effect on type and design of open space in North Melbourne, however overall there are substantial increases in all age groups with the exception of the 80+ age group. The proportional increase in young adults in this precinct will place higher demands on informal facilities for walking, jogging, exercise, cycling and open grassed areas for ball games. In the future the increase in apartments will change the forecast household type to less families with children, however, the presence of the existing semi-detached and detached housing in the precinct will continue and families will remain in the precinct. Typically the young and old are less mobile, with a the access range to open space being within 200 to 300 metres of where they live, without needing to cross major roads and arterials. This will likely create an increased demand and use of Local and Small Local open space, interspersed throughout the precinct, in addition to the existing linear open space along the Moonee Ponds Creek and other larger open spaces.

#### 7.7.4b Where change will occur



**FIGURE 7.7~3** Development sites in North Melbourne  
Source: .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031

The forecast population increase in North Melbourne will be primarily be located in the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area and towards the east of the precinct in the area associated with the City North urban renewal area. Most of the remaining areas of North Melbourne are either public housing or existing private housing that is currently protected by heritage overlays. The sites shown in Figure 7.7~3 are those that .id consulting refer to as the basis for the City of Melbourne residential population forecasting used in this strategy.

The forecast increased population will place additional demand on existing open spaces within the catchment along with generating the demand for new open

space. The existing population will also use the new open space, and this has been considered in the recommendations and actions.

Some major roads in North Melbourne form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. Future open space provision and needs in North Melbourne have been analysed on the basis of the following:

- Safe and easy walking access to open space including consideration of road crossings.
- Analysis of the demographic change forecast increase in population in relation to the existing quantity, distribution and design of open space.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years as outlined in the existing *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan* and *Draft City North Structure Plan* and the development sites identified by .id consulting.
- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.

To assess this, North Melbourne has been divided into a series of sub-precincts based on walkability to open space. These are illustrated on Figure 7.7~4.

These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in the North Melbourne to easily reach open space. A summary of open space provision in the open space sub-precincts is described in Table 7.7(iv)

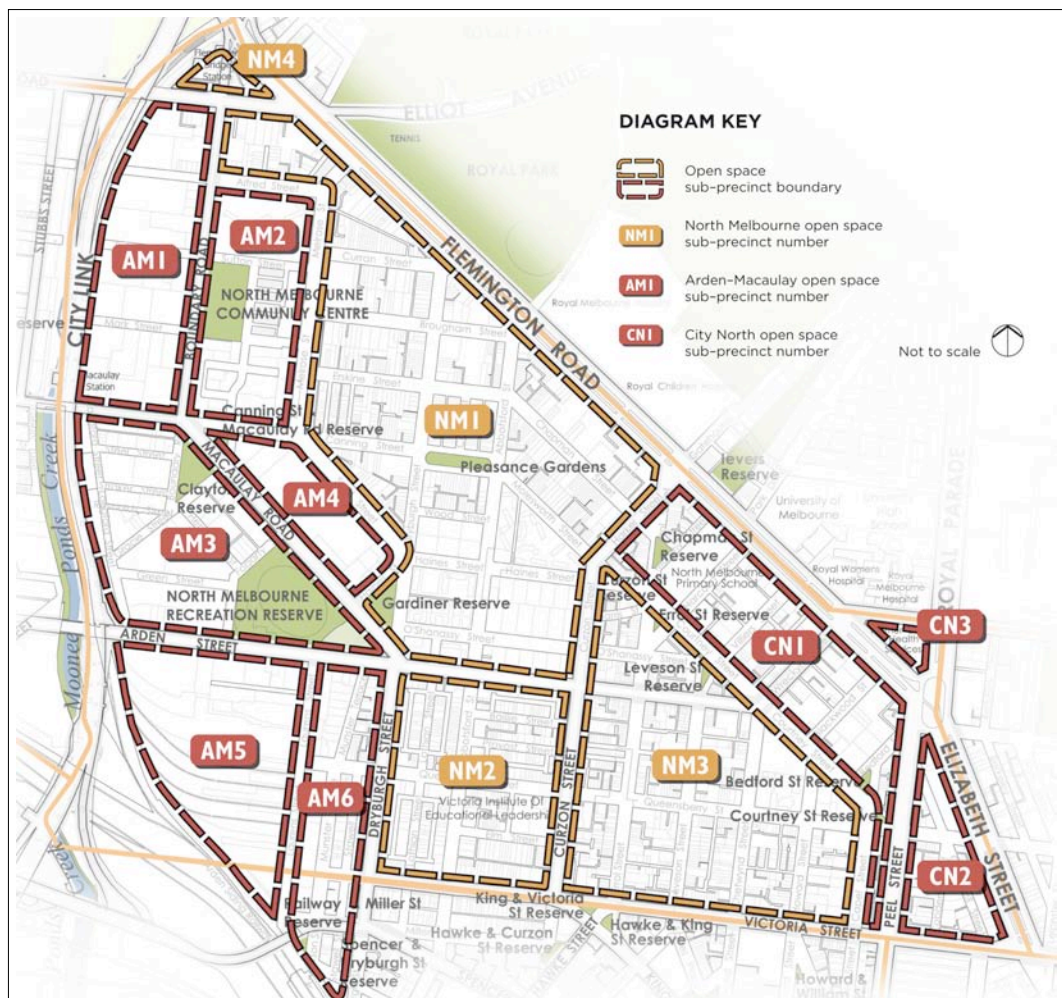


FIGURE 7.7~4 Open space sub-precinct diagram for North Melbourne

**Table 7.7(iv) North Melbourne Arden Macaulay open space sub-precincts**

The following analysis and conclusions are based on a realistic amount of open space that can be provided within the existing and future urban context. For North Melbourne large State and Regional open spaces are located within one kilometre of the North Melbourne. The household survey outcomes confirm that people use these open spaces now. Open space within safe and easy walking distance of existing and future residents is where current deficiencies are. Additionally the Municipal open space is at capacity and the forecast population structured sporting needs are to be met in the proposed additional Municipal open spaces in E-Gate and Dynon urban renewal area.

If the open space planning principles similar to those of the Growth Areas Authority were applied to the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area, it would result in a larger amount of open space identified to be required and would impact the other desired objectives and outcomes of the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan*. Therefore the analysis has been undertaken to provide additional open space within 300 metres of the majority of existing and proposed population.

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
<b>AM1</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located between the railway and Boundary Road. Racecourse Road defines the north and Macaulay Road the south. Existing land use is predominantly warehouses, light industrial, storage and vacant sites. Currently there is no residential land use in this sub-precinct.</p> <p>The existing footbridge over Boundary Road at Mark Street provides pedestrian access between the residential area east of Boundary Road.</p> <p>Dominance of east-west road layout without north south connectivity, except via Boundary Road.</p> <p>No open space is located in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to provide two new Local open spaces in the north and south of this precinct, with excellent north-south connectivity to improve circulation and access within this precinct.</li> <li>• Future open spaces to be located central within the precinct with some sense of place and escape from traffic noise and movement.</li> <li>• These spaces are primarily for the local community use and designed to include WSUD and reuse within the site to assist mitigate urban heat build up.</li> <li>• The population in this sub-precinct is anticipated to also use the North Melbourne Community Centre open space including the larger informal grassed area, the synthetic turf multiuse area and the community garden. This will place additional demand and therefore an upgrade to the open space will be required.</li> </ul>
<b>AM2</b>	<p>Centered around the North Melbourne Community Centre, this sub-precinct is located between Boundary Road and Melrose Street, with Alfred Street to the north and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Draft Structure Plan suggests that some of the public housing may be redeveloped in this precinct, however, it is assumed that no significant change to residential</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	<p>Canning Street to the south.</p> <p>Existing land use is predominantly residential with high-density apartments varying from two and three storey row townhouses up to 15 storey apartment buildings. The majority of this precinct is public housing. Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Melbourne Community Centre open space includes sports field, synthetic turf areas for basketball/netball and soccer, community garden and a playground/ seating area.</li> </ul>	<p>density will occur.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Melbourne Community Centre will require upgrade to cater to the increased use of this open space by the additional population in sub-precinct AM1.</li> </ul>
<b>AM3</b>	<p>This sub-precinct includes Clayton Reserve and North Melbourne Recreation Reserve and is bounded to the north by Macaulay Road, west by railway/CityLink, south by Arden Street and east by Macaulay Road.</p> <p>Existing land use is mixed use including some residential, business and storage.</p> <p>The Draft Structure plan identifies major redevelopment in this precinct including the extension of Macaulay Road. Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Melbourne Recreation Reserve has been recently upgraded and includes the indoor recreation facility and the pool.</li> <li>• Clayton Reserve has a framework of established mature canopy trees, seats and open grass and is a popular dog off-lead area, with potential for it to be upgraded in the future.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional Local open space to be provided to the south-west area of this sub-precinct to provide for the future intensification of this sub-precinct. The new open space design and facilities are to complement the existing use and future upgrade to Clayton Reserve.</li> <li>• North Melbourne Recreation Reserve has recently been upgraded to accommodate increased public use of the sports facilities in this site. This includes the sports field, half court and indoor recreation centre. Whilst this is a valuable feature for the broader North Melbourne precinct, this does not cater to other social and informal uses of open space.</li> <li>• Future changes in this sub-precinct will result in increased demand for open space from the residential and non-residential community and therefore Clayton Reserve will require upgrade.</li> <li>• The new open space and upgrade to Clayton Reserve will include WSUD and reuse within the site, assisting with urban heat island mitigation.</li> </ul>
<b>AM4</b>	<p>Bounded to the north by Canning Street, the west by Macaulay Road, east by Shiel Street and south by Haines Street, this sub-precinct is almost entirely state owned land and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No additional open space is anticipated to be required in this sub-precinct.</li> <li>• Major upgrade will be required to Canning Street and Macaulay Road</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	<p>the site of the former Government Printer.</p> <p>The existing land use is a combination of residential, business and storage use, and the built form on the site appears to be recently constructed.</p> <p>The <i>Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan</i> identifies a height limit of 30 metres on this site, and if this site redevelops it is assumed it would be in the longer term, rather than with the 15 year timeframe of this Strategy. The Plan does identify the potential for Macaulay Road to become a major retail strip.</p> <p>Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canning Street/Macaulay Road Reserve is located in the north of this precinct and has established mature canopy trees in mown grass with a path.</li> <li>• Gardiner Reserve directly adjoins this sub-precinct to the south, and is a popular open space with mature exotic trees, play facility, picnic and BBQ area and open grassed areas.</li> </ul>	<p>Reserve to address the future redevelopment of the retail strip. Future upgrade to integrate WSUD and reuse within the site.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade Gardiner Reserve south of this precinct. This includes improving the interface to residential land use on the Haines Street frontage, and investigate enlarging it through additional road closure in the no through road extension of Dryburgh Street. Future upgrade to integrate WSUD and reuse within the site, assisting with mitigating urban heat build up.</li> </ul>
<b>AM5</b>	<p>Referred to as Arden Central in the <i>Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan May 2011</i>, this sub-precinct extends south of Arden Street, to Miller Street, just south of the North Melbourne suburb boundary. It extends from the railway in the west to Laurens Street in the east.</p> <p>The majority of this precinct is railway land and there is no open space. The <i>Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan</i> identifies Arden Central as a major extension of the central city as a high-density mixed use area focused nearby the proposed Arden Metro Station.</p> <p>Currently there is no open space in this precinct, and a large area of this land is included in a Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. The Structure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• With the proposed high-density mixed use redevelopment in this precinct associated with the future Arden Central Metro, a new Capital City open space of at least a Neighbourhood open space size would be required. This would ideally located around or within easy walking distance of the Metro Station, and on the north side of the station to capture a northern aspect and good sunlight access. This is primarily for the new population.</li> <li>• Establish an additional Small Local open space within this precinct to the south of the Metro Station to provide accessible open space for the local population and to assist mitigate urban heat build up. This is for the new population.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	Plan acknowledges that a Masterplan for this area is required to address the flood management implications of this site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish open space connectivity between the new Capital City open space and the existing Moonee Ponds Creek Linear path (Capital City Trail). This can be via a well designed on-road trail network and does not necessarily require additional land as open space.</li> </ul>
AM6	<p>Referred to as the Laurens Street precinct, this sub-precinct encompasses the existing mixed-use area between Laurens and Dryburgh Streets extending from Arden Street south to Railway Place, just beyond the North Melbourne suburb boundary in West Melbourne.</p> <p>The existing land use is a mix of light industrial, warehouse, storage, business, retail and some residential use and the existing open space is within the West Melbourne part of this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a new Local open space, or two Small Local open spaces north of Dynon Road in this sub-precinct to cater to both existing and proposed future population.</li> </ul>

**Table 1.4-2 City North - North Melbourne open space sub-precincts**

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
CN1	<p>Between Flemington Road and Courtney Street, this mixed use precinct is identified in the Draft City North Structure Plan to have the potential to redevelop into predominantly residential use with commercial or business use at street level. The sub-precinct extends along the frontage to Peel Street south of Flemington Road extending one block back to Capel Street as well.</p> <p>Existing land use is mixed including some residential, business, warehouses, medical, retail, education and commercial.</p> <p>Future population change in this precinct is anticipated to be significant, particularly in the eastern area of it. The .id consulting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A new Local open space is required in this sub-precinct for the existing and primarily the new population. The existing development pattern means that it may be difficult to achieve the size of a Local open space and therefore likely that expansion of an existing Small Local open spaces may be required via a land contribution with allocation of part of the road reserve and combined achieves a larger area of open space. The larger size will allow more flexibility with the space and improve its role in urban heat island mitigation and water quality management and re-use.</li> <li>Upgrade the existing open spaces to cater to increased use, along with review of and contribution to the landscape character of the area.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	<p>population forecast mapping identifies a number of larger redevelopment sites through this precinct.</p> <p>There is a series of existing Small Local open spaces in the road reserves through the north of this sub-precinct due to the presence of large road reserves. To the south of this sub-precinct is a gap area in open space provision. The existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bedford Street Reserve, with canopy trees, open grassed area and seats.</li> <li>• Chapman Street Reserve, which comprises grassed area with mature canopy trees and path.</li> <li>• Courtney Reserve, which is a linking space with recently planted trees and no other infrastructure.</li> </ul>	
<b>CN2</b>	<p>This triangular sub-precinct is located between Peel Street and Elizabeth Street, extending from Haymarket roundabout south to Victoria Street, and is included in the Draft City North Structure Plan area. This Structure Plan notes this area is an opportunity for increased density with building heights up to 24 metres along Victoria Street and provide for greater residential population, and some commercial and retailing use. Currently there is no open space in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide a Small Local open space in the heart of this sub-precinct as a small community space for local use as a contrast to the proposed Victoria Square that is likely to have a Capital City focus.</li> </ul>
<b>CN3</b>	<p>Major roads surround this small triangular sub-precinct including Elizabeth Street, Royal Parade, Flemington Road and Gratton Street. There is currently no open space and the site is being redeveloped.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The forecast population at this site will utilise future open space included in CN4 - refer to Carlton precinct, Section 7.2 of this strategy.</li> </ul>

**Table 1.4-3 North Melbourne balance of suburb open space sub-precincts**

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
<p><b>NM1</b></p>	<p>Bounded to the north by Flemington Road, the west by Melrose Street (boundary of Arden Macaulay Urban Renewal Area), the east by Curzon Street and the south by Arden Street</p> <p>The area is characterised by predominantly residential land use with a combination of in tact Victorian row-terrace housing, interspersed with residential redevelopment or office and or medical use fronting Flemington Road. Residential redevelopment includes a number of Office of Housing redevelopments, which vary in density from two to five stories.</p> <p>This area is largely covered by Heritage overlays and it is assumed there will only be minor increases in population. This assumption is reinforced by the .id consulting forecast mapping, which does not locate any major redevelopment sites identified within it.</p> <p>Pleasance Gardens and Gardiner Reserve are two existing Local open spaces within the precinct. Royal Park is within 500 metres walking distance, however, Flemington Road poses a significant barrier to safe access.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upgrade the two Local open spaces in this sub-precinct, including investigating opportunities to increase them in size. This will need to carefully consider urban character, health of existing trees and vehicle circulation prior to confirming the feasibility of this.</li> <li>• Provide an additional Small Local open space in the north west area of this precinct, to provide some open space within walking distance of the existing population.</li> </ul>
<p><b>NM2</b></p>	<p>Located immediately south of NM1, this sub-precinct is bordered to the north by Arden Street, the west by Dryburgh Street, the east by Curzon Street and the south by Victoria Street.</p> <p>This sub-precinct is dominated by residential land use but does have other mixed use interspersed throughout including business, office, retail and warehouses.</p> <p>There is no existing open space in this precinct, creating a gap area. No large road reserves or central medians are present, and there are</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assume that this area will not be subject to a significant increase in residential population due to presence of Heritage Overlays and lack of key redevelopment sites identified in the .id consulting forecast mapping.</li> <li>• The lack of existing open space within the precinct needs to be addressed with the provision of an additional Local open space as a minimum. While there are no large redevelopment sites, the City of Melbourne will investigate conversion of part of a road reserve for this</li> </ul>



Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusion
	large established trees in some but not all streets.	purpose. This is primarily for the existing population.
<b>NM3</b>	<p>Bounded to the north by Courtney Street, the west by Curzon Street, the east by Cecil Street and the south by Victoria Street. Existing land use is mixed including residential, business, warehouse, medical, retail, education and commercial.</p> <p>Future population change in this precinct is anticipated to be significant, particularly in the eastern area of it. The .id consulting population forecast mapping identifies a number of larger redevelopment sites through this precinct.</p> <p>There is a series of existing Small Local open spaces in the road reserves through the north of this sub-precinct due to the presence of large road reserves. To the south of this sub-precinct is a gap area in open space provision. The existing open spaces include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Errol Street Reserve, with large mature native and exotic trees and the entire area mulched.</li> <li>• Leveson Street Reserve, open grass with scattered native trees used as a cut through but with no path or other infrastructure provided.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two additional Local open spaces are required. This may include expanding on the existing Small Local open spaces to achieve a larger area, or new areas. Spatially they are to be located to the north-west and the south-east to provide easy access.</li> <li>• Upgrade existing open spaces to investigate increasing their accessibility and use.</li> </ul>
<b>NM4</b>	<p>Located north Racecourse Road this small sub-precinct is surrounded by major roads including Flemington Road and the City Link freeway. The land use is a combination of business use and residential and there is no existing open space. The railway land associated with Flemington Bridge station provides some ancillary open space. There is good connectivity to the Moonee Ponds Creek trail and the shared trail link to the north into Royal Park.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The small size of this sub-precinct means that the existing and future population will continue to use the shared trail connections to Moonee Ponds Creek and Royal Park.</li> </ul>

## 7.7.5 North Melbourne Actions

### 7.7.5a Summary of overall intent

#### **Provision and distribution**

The existing areas of open space in the western part of North Melbourne generally meet the needs of the existing population, however the design of some of these spaces requires review to potentially better cater to their need. In the eastern part of North Melbourne there is currently a lack of open space within easy and safe walking distance of parts of the precinct. Within the proposed urban renewal areas, the substantial change presents and opportunity to integrate open space into these future areas to have a meaningful role in the contributing to the health and wellbeing of the future population. This will include additional open spaces and the redesign of existing spaces to better meet peoples needs, along with meeting other objectives including improved biodiversity, habitat connectivity and assist mitigate urban heat build up. These recommendations have been prepared within the context the future change outlined in the *Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan, May 2011* and *Draft City North Structure Plan, May 2011*.

#### **Quality and design**

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in some of the existing open space in North Melbourne. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to health and wellbeing, biodiversity and urban heat island effect mitigation and environmental quality.

Refer to Figure 7.7~5 of the strategy recommendations on the following page.



Figure 7.7~5 Summary of strategy recommendations for North Melbourne \*

\* Refer also to pages 22 and 23 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.7~5 and photos.

### 7.7.5b Precinct Actions for North Melbourne

#### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7A-1	Provide an additional Local open space in the northern area of sub-precinct AM1 with excellent north south connectivity to a new Local open space in the south of this sub-precinct AM1. Ensure the future design of these spaces provides a respite from traffic noise and includes the principles of UHI mitigation. This open space is primarily for the new population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.7A-2	Provide an additional Local open space in the southern area of sub-precinct AM1 with excellent	CoM, Developer	Very High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	north south connectivity to the new Local open space in the north of this sub precinct AM1. Ensure the future design of these spaces provides a respite from traffic noise and includes the principles of UHI mitigation. This open space is primarily for the new population.		
7.7A-3	Provide an additional Local open space in the south-west area of the sub-precinct AM3 to provide primarily for the new population due to intensification of use. The new open space facilities and design are to complement those provided in Clayton Reserve as part of its proposed upgrade and include WSUD.	CoM, Developer	High
7.7A-4	Provide an additional Capital City open space or larger near the future Arden Metro Station in Arden Central, sub-precinct AM5. This will be provided wholly for the new population and redevelopment of the Victorian Government owned land. The new Metro Station is scheduled to be opened around 2020, therefore this action is given a lower priority. The negotiation to achieve this land area will require a Very High priority.	DSE, CoM	Very High & Low
7.7A-5	Provide an additional Small Local open space in Arden Central, sub-precinct AM5, located south of the Metro Station to be accessible to the Moonee Ponds Creek shared trail.	CoM, Developer	Low
7.7A-6	Provide a new Local open space in the Laurens Street area, sub-precinct AM6. This will cater to both the existing and future population in the URA..	CoM, Developer	High
7.7A-7	Provide a new Local open space in sub-precinct CN1 in the area near Flemington Road and Peel Street. This is to primarily provide for the forecast future change outlined in the Draft City North Structure Plan, and the existing population.	CoM, Developer	Medium
7.7A-8	Provide an additional Small Local open space in the heart of this triangular sub-precinct CN2 between Peel and Elizabeth Streets. This is likely to utilise part of a road reserve to establish the open space.	CoM, Developer	High
7.7A-9	Provide an additional Small Local open space in the north-west area of this sub-precinct NM1 to address an existing gap area and primarily for the existing population.	CoM, Developer	High
7.7A-10	Provide an additional Local open space in sub-precinct NM2 to address an existing gap area for the existing population. This is likely to be conversion of part of a road reserve due to the presence of heritage overlays limiting the likely redevelopment of sites within this sub-precinct.	CoM, Developer	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7A-11	Provide two additional Local open spaces in sub-precinct NM3 to address both the existing and future population needs in this area. It is anticipated there will be substantial growth in this sub-precinct.	CoM, Developer	Very High

## B Additional open space links

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7B-1	Improve on-street links along Molesworth Street between Pleasance Gardens and Curzon Reserve.	CoM	Medium
7.7B-2	Improve on-street links along Courtney Street between Errol Street Reserve and Bedford Street Reserve.	CoM	Medium
7.7B-3	Improve east-west connectivity between the proposed Capital City open space near the proposed Arden Metro on Queensberry Street, including crossing over Dryburgh Street.	CoM	Medium
7.7B-4	<b>Linear open space along Moonee Ponds Creek</b> The City of Melbourne is to facilitate the process to liaise with MW and DSE to provide increased linear open space along Moonee Ponds Creek to improve the regional trail connection through this section, along with biodiversity values in an area that has been neglected by government agencies due to historical land use decisions adjoining the creek. This open space is encumbered open space given the overshadowing and noise from CityLink.	DSE, CoM, MW	Ongoing
7.7B-5	<b>Links between future open space in Arden Macaulay URA and the Capital City Trail</b> In future urban design provide clear and safe pedestrian cycle connections via the future street network from the existing and proposed open space in North Melbourne and the Capital City Trail along Moonee Ponds Creek	CoM, Developer	High
7.7B-6	Sub-precinct AM1 ensure that internal north-south pedestrian links area designed into future developments to provide an alternative north-south pedestrian access route to Boundary Road.	CoM, Developer	High
7.7B-7	Investigate the potential to provide safe cycle/pedestrian north-south link along railway reserve through Arden Macaulay precinct, north to Royal Park and south to future Capital City open space in West Melbourne.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.7B-8	Improve open space links between Clayton Reserve and new Small Local open space to be provided in sub-precinct AM3	CoM, Developer	Very High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7B-9	Improve pedestrian connectivity between sub-precinct AM4 and Gardiner Reserve to the south.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.7B-10	Establish safe on-road cycle and pedestrian links to the existing Capital City Trail in sub-precinct AM5	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.7B-11	Investigate improving pedestrian access across Flemington Road to Royal Park to improve open space accessibility for the North Melbourne population.	CoM, VicRoads	High

### 7.7.5c Individual open space actions for North Melbourne

**C Capital City open space**  
None provided in North Melbourne

#### D Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7D-1	<b>Moonee Ponds Creek Linear open space</b> Continue to maintain and improve the quality of the existing open space reserve including improvement to the natural environmental qualities where appropriate. Refer to Action 2.5B-1 regarding expansion to this open space reserve.	CoM, DSE, MW	Ongoing

#### E Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7E-1	<b>North Melbourne Recreation Reserve</b> Continue to maintain this open space.	CoM	Ongoing

#### F Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7F-1	<b>North Melbourne Community Centre</b> Prepare a design plan to guide the future design and upgrade of this open space to cater to both the existing and new population needs in the sub-precinct AM1, located immediately west of this open space.	CoM, Developer, DOH	High

**G Local open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7G-1	<b>Clayton Reserve</b> Prepare and implement a Master Plan for this Local Open Space to better provide for the existing and future population in sub-precinct AM3.	CoM, Developer	Medium
7.7G-2	<b>Gardiner Reserve</b> Prepare a design plan to guide the future design and upgrade of this open space to cater to both the existing and new population needs in the sub-precinct AM4. This includes investigating increasing the size of this open space by extension into Dryburgh Street road reserve.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.7G-3	<b>Pleasance Gardens</b> Investigate the potential to increase the size of Pleasance Gardens to improve its viability and use as open space. Prepare and implement a Concept Plan for this Local open space, protecting heritage values, improving its character, complementing the nearby Gardiner Reserve, and investigation options to increase its size.	CoM, Developer	Medium

**H Small Local open space**

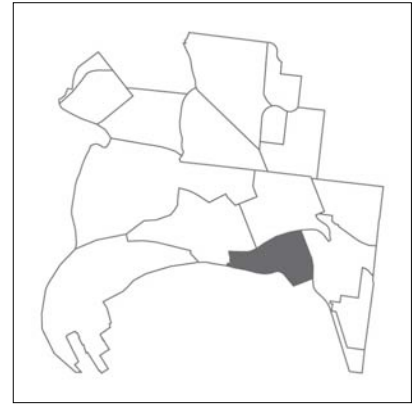
No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7H-1	<b>Bedford Street Reserve</b> Prepare a design plan to guide the upgrade to this open space to provide some facilities to cater to the existing and future population. Investigate the potential to expand the size of this reserve during the design plan process.	CoM	High
7.7H-2	<b>Canning St and Macaulay Rd Reserve</b> Prepare a design plan to guide major upgrade to this open space to address the future redevelopment of Canning Street and Macaulay Road to a retail strip as described in the Draft Arden Macaulay Structure Plan.	CoM, Developer	Low
7.7H-3	<b>Chapman Street Reserve</b> Prepare a design plan to guide the future upgrade of this open space to improve its use for the existing population in sub-precinct NM3. Consider its proximity to the school as part of the design process.	CoM	Very High
7.7H-4	<b>Errol Street Reserve</b> Implement the existing Landscape Concept Plan for this Small Local open space including increasing its size as per the current plans, in sub-precinct NM3.	CoM	High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7H-5	<b>Leveson Street Reserve</b> Prepare a design plan to guide the future upgrade of this open space including path access, seating and other uses where required to cater to the increased population in the surrounding precinct.	CoM	Very High

## J Small Local Link

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.7J-1	<b>Courtney Street Reserve</b> Undertake a minor upgrade to this reserve to improve its function and character as a linking space including path and seating.	CoM	Medium
7.7J-2	<b>Curzon Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain the mature canopy trees in the open space.	CoM	High





## 7.8 Southbank | South Wharf

### 7.8.1 Overview

Southbank is located on the southern side of the Yarra River, with St Kilda Road as eastern boundary, Dorcas Street to the south-east and Montague Street and West Gate Freeway to the west and south-west.

Southbank began as a large government reserve on the floodplain separating the original Hoddle grid from Emerald Hill (South Melbourne). The area remained largely undeveloped until well into the 1870s. Following reclamation of marshy land, Southbank developed rapidly into an industrial precinct with some government uses including the Victoria Barracks. Around 1900 the Yarra River was widened and St Kilda Road approach to Princes Bridge was straightened defining an open space area known as Snowden Gardens along the river bank in Southbank. Alexandra Gardens and Snowden Gardens formed a pair of open spaces either side of St Kilda Road and the land south of Snowden Gardens was used as a fairground. In 1954 the Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works promoted redevelopment of this site into an arts precinct with the National Gallery of Victoria (opened in 1968) and the Victorian Arts Centre (1969 to 1984). The urban renewal of Southbank was initiated by the Victorian Government in the late 1980s changing it from an industrial precinct to the mixed use precinct it is today. Southbank promenade was one of the first projects constructed in the late 1980s and Southgate opened in 1991. A number of cultural institutions moved into the precinct with the Victorian College of the Arts occupying most of the former police complex and more recently the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art and the Malthouse Theatre. Southbank now has some distinctive precincts within it including the Arts precinct, the Southbank promenade including the Melbourne Casino, the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre and the recently completed South Wharf area. Other areas of Southbank have changed rapidly with a combination of high density residential and business uses, some of which lack open space and are dominated by major roads.

Two key documents currently guide the continued redevelopment of Southbank and these are:

- *The Southbank Structure Plan 2010* (City of Melbourne, 2010) - Implementation led by the City of Melbourne in partnership with DPCD
- *Southbank Plan* (DSE, 2006) - Implementation led by DPCD in partnership with the City of Melbourne

### 7.8.2 Existing open space

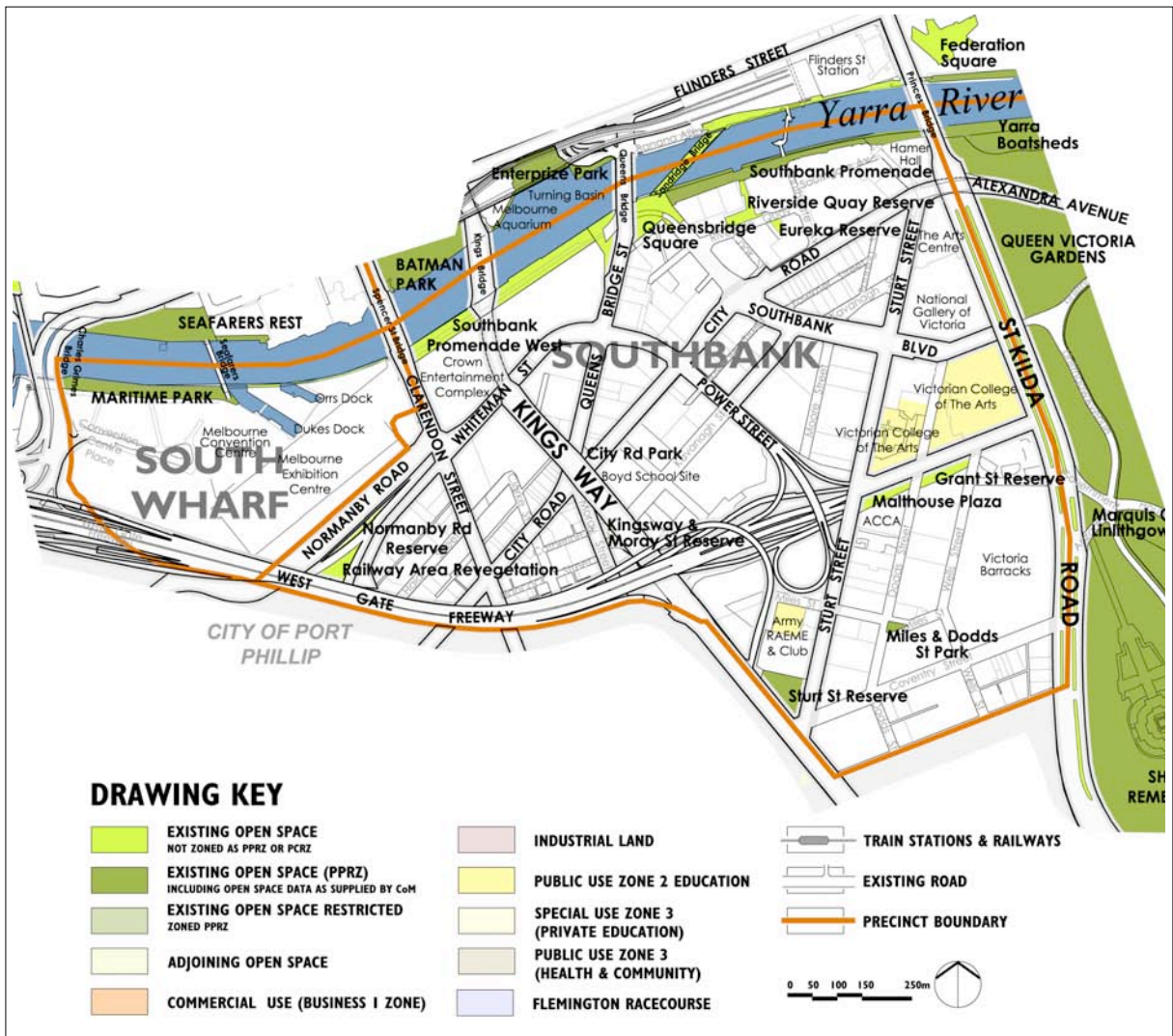


Figure 7.8~1 Existing open space in Southbank | South Wharf

There are 14 existing open spaces in Southbank and South Wharf that combined total 5.89 hectares in area. This represents approximately 3.8 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and 1.0 per cent of the total open space in the City of Melbourne.

Table 7.8(i) Number, size and type of open space

No	Hierarchy of open space	Area (ha)	%
4	Capital City	2.10	36%
2	Regional	1.42	24%
1	Municipal	1.25	21%
2	Local	0.73	12%
3	Small Local	0.34	6%
2	Small Local Link	0.04	1%
<b>14</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>5.89</b>	<b>100%</b>

The majority of open space in the Southbank is located along the Yarra River and is provided for the wider population who are attracted to the major cultural and leisure precincts in Southbank and categorised as Capital City open space. The open spaces along the River include the Southbank Promenade, Queensbridge Square, Riverside Quay and Maritime Park. These open spaces are predominantly linear in nature and provide for informal activities such as walking, cycling, seating, informal play and participating in cultural activities such as busking and performances. Due to the high visitor levels to the majority of these spaces, they are largely paved surfaces with trees, but without many open grassed and planted areas, which create cooler localised microclimates within them. Identifying opportunities to introduce some natural surfaces and green areas into future open space in Southbank has formed part of the analysis for this precinct. The Southbank Structure Plan 2010 continues to strengthen the Capital City role that Southbank will continue to have in relation to the Arts and entertainment precincts, and the open space associated with this will continue to receive high levels of use, which are not always consistent with the local population open space needs.

The only Municipal open space is the linear reserve along Normanby Road, which provides a walking and cycling link into the City used by local residents and people from adjoining areas however this does not provide any active sporting facilities. The lack of Neighbourhood open space is noticeable in Southbank and there is a need to provide this type of open space in the precinct in the future. The Local and Small Local open spaces are also poorly provided; with many people needing to cross major roads to reach Local and Small Local open space. These smaller spaces are also mainly located on major traffic routes, restricting the potential beneficial uses and values for residents living and working in a dense urban setting.

**Table 7.8(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification	Area (m2)
CITY ROAD PARK	Small Local Link	Significant road reservation	Linking space	275
EUREKA RESERVE	Small Local	Urban Plaza		455
GRANT STREET RESERVE	Local	Informal use	Linking space	2,540
KINGSWAY & MORAY STREET RESERVE	Small Local Link	Significant road reservation	Undeveloped	110
MALTHOUSE PLAZA	Capital City	Civic space	Urban plaza, Events	2,514
MARITIME PARK	Regional	Waterway	Heritage	11,670
MILES & DODDS STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal use	Significant road reservation	588
NORMANBY ROAD RESERVE	Municipal	Linear	Significant road reservation	12,513
QUEENSBRIDGE SQUARE	Capital City	Waterway	Civic, Urban plaza, Events	9,113
RAILWAY REVEGETATION AREA	Small Local	Railway easement	Undeveloped	2,354

**Table 7.8(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification cont'd**

Open Space	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification	Area (m2)
RIVERSIDE QUAY RESERVE	Capital City	Urban plaza	Linking space	2,990
SOUTH BANK PROMENADE	Capital City	Linear	Waterway, Events, Informal use	7,630
SOUTH BANK PROMENADE WEST	Capital City	Linear	Waterway, Water feature, Events, Informal use	1,290
STURT STREET RESERVE	Local	Informal use	Significant road reservation	4,808

Linear open space along the Yarra River characterises the majority of open space in Southbank. While this is extremely popular and well used, this does not provide a wide diversity of informal and organised recreation activities for the residential and worker population given the constrained space, the need for the design of these spaces to continue to support high levels of use. The smaller open spaces are generally provided in the road reserves and dominated by traffic movement and noise. These smaller spaces do not appear to be well used as identified in the strategy household survey outcomes (refer to 1.3.2 for further information on this). Providing areas of open space that have some protection from the traffic movement and noise and allow for more casual use will be a key outcome of this Open Space Strategy for Southbank.

### 7.8.2b Distribution

The distribution of open space is largely either located along the Yarra River or to the eastern area of Southbank. While not located in the precinct, Domain Parklands is located to the east of Southbank across St Kilda Road and within 400 metres of Southbank east of Sturt Street. Therefore residents west of Sturt Street have less easily accessible open space as they are generally beyond 400 metres of the existing larger open spaces east of St Kilda Road.

The Southbank Plan (DSE, 2006) identified one of the key issues with Southbank is the focus of the quality urban design and built form outcomes in the areas directly adjoining the Yarra River and St Kilda Road with the remainder of the precinct of a lower standard. This is also true for the open space provision and design in this precinct.

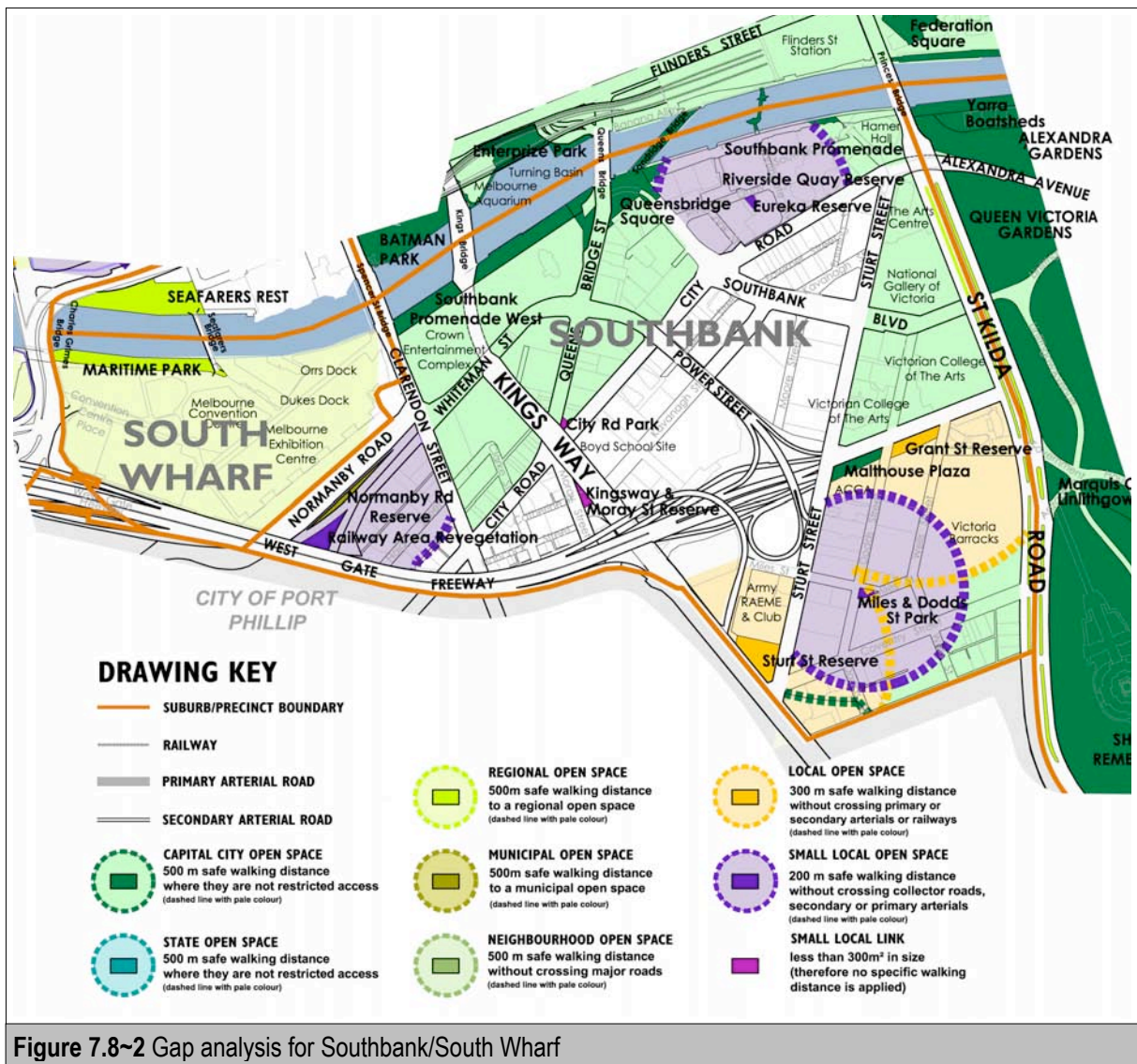


Figure 7.8~2 Gap analysis for Southbank/South Wharf

### 7.8.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

The road reserves do provide some ancillary open space, however the household surveys identified that these are not well used by residents of Southbank when compared with some other precincts in the City of Melbourne. This is likely due to the high levels of traffic in the majority of streets, and lack of pedestrian amenity and interest.

The *Southbank Structure Plan 2010* identifies the undercroft areas to the West Gate Freeway as having potential to being redesigned to provide some ancillary open space accommodate some recreation facilities in the future. While indoor and/or constructed sport and recreation facilities may be viable to construct in this area in the future, this is considered to be encumbered open space, which is roofed, with limited sunlight and high levels of traffic noise and is therefore not suitable to be considered as public open space within the meaning and context of this Strategy.

### 7.8.3 Existing Southbank community

#### 7.8.3a Who lives and works in Southbank?

The current population of Southbank combines a young professional and student resident population with workers in the cultural and recreation sectors. The number of people in Southbank is bolstered by a regular flow of international, Victorian and interstate visitors (up to 5,500 a day) to the precinct including to the National Gallery of Victoria, the Victorian Arts Centre, the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, the Malthouse Theatre, Southbank retail and restaurant precinct, Crown Entertainment Complex and the Melbourne Exhibition Centre (DSE, 2006).

##### Quantity

- Existing residential population 2011: 13,107 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts 2011*)
- Existing worker population 2010: 37,796 (*Source: Census of Land Use and Employment, 2010*)

Currently, there are almost three times as many workers as there are residents in Southbank, with an additional visitor population, particularly to the entertainment and cultural facilities in the precinct.

##### Demographics

The demographics are available for the existing residential population and worker population to 2026. The most populous age group in 2006 was the 20 to 24 year olds and overall there is a higher proportion of people aged between 20 and 34 years when compared to the City of Melbourne average. The 0 to 14 year olds and the 65+ age ranges are proportionally lower in Southbank when compared with the averages across the whole City. This correlates to the available housing type, which has a high proportion of apartments rather than single detached housing and semi-detached housing.

#### 7.8.3b How existing residents currently use open space

A total of 83 household surveys were received from residents of Southbank/South Wharf that represents 4.5 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is less than the proportion of Southbank/South Wharf residents in the City of Melbourne population, which is 12.3 per cent. This is likely to be due to the high number of residential apartment buildings, and the lack of ability to distribute copies of the surveys directly to individual apartments.

**Table 7.8(iii) Most frequently visited open space reserves**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within the local area</b>			
47 (57%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (20)</li> <li>• Recreation (9)</li> <li>• Walking (9)</li> <li>• Ambience (7)</li> <li>• Peaceful (7)</li> <li>• Relaxation (7)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• More drinking fountains</li> <li>• Additional shelters</li> <li>• Improved seating</li> </ul>
20 (24%)	Yarra River open space/trail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (6)</li> <li>• Events (2)</li> <li>• Recreation (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• Conflicts between cyclists &amp; pedestrians</li> </ul>
18 (22%)	Southbank Promenade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (3)</li> <li>• Close to home (2)</li> <li>• Relaxation (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Playground required</li> <li>• More open space</li> <li>• Conflicts between cyclists &amp; pedestrians</li> </ul>
11 (13%)	Birrarung Marr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (3)</li> <li>• Playground (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional seats</li> </ul>
11 (13%)	Federation Square	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Events (4)</li> <li>• Activities (2)</li> <li>• Cafes (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycle access/conflicts with pedestrians</li> </ul>
10 (12%)	King's Domain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large open space (2)</li> <li>• Ambience/beauty (2)</li> <li>• Recreation (2)</li> </ul>	
9 (11%)	The Tan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (5)</li> <li>• Jogging/running (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Path surface needs improvement</li> <li>• Additional lighting</li> </ul>
8 (10%)	Alexandra Gardens	Walking (2)	
<b>Open space outside the local area</b>			
8 (10%)	Bayside beaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercising (4)</li> <li>• Walking (2)</li> </ul>	
7 (8%)	Other outside the City of Melb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking, recreation, skateboarding, travel through (1)</li> </ul>	
6 (7%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	Dog walking, exercising, trees, gardens, picnics (1)	

**Types of open space used (top four)**

93% Open space along Yarra River

88% Royal Botanic Gardens

78% Urban squares and plazas

75% Major gardens and Local streets for exercise

**Activities and facilities in open space (top four)**

89% Walking paths

62% Open grassed areas

54% Cafe/Kiosk

43% Seats

**Values (top four)**

79% Trees

73% Quiet and peaceful

69% Place to relax and unwind  
58% Being outside

#### General comments

- Additional open space is required.
- Conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians to be addressed.
- Incorporate roof gardens in all new developments.
- Additional safe cycling paths required to encourage people to cycle instead of driving cars.

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A, a separate volume of this strategy.

## 7.8.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

### 7.8.4a Forecast future population

#### Who will live and work there in the future?

##### Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. Residential population growth figures are sourced from .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031 and the worker population growth figures are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011). The 2040 figures only are taken from the capacity figures included in the Southbank Structure Plan 2010.

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040*
<b>Residential</b>	13,107	19,025	21,085	23,282	74,000
Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040*
<b>Worker</b>	37,796	N/A	N/A	46,000	56,000

\* Source: Southbank Structure Plan, 2010

The forecast future population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population between 2011 and 2026 of 78 per cent, with an additional 10,175 residents between 2011 and 2026. The worker population is forecast to increase by approximately 22 per cent, with an additional 8,204 additional workers between 2011 and 2026.

##### Demographics

An increase in age range diversity is forecast for Southbank/South Wharf, changing from the predominance of 20 - 24 year age range to an increase in the 0 - 14 and 65+ age ranges.



### 7.8.4b Population change impacts on open space

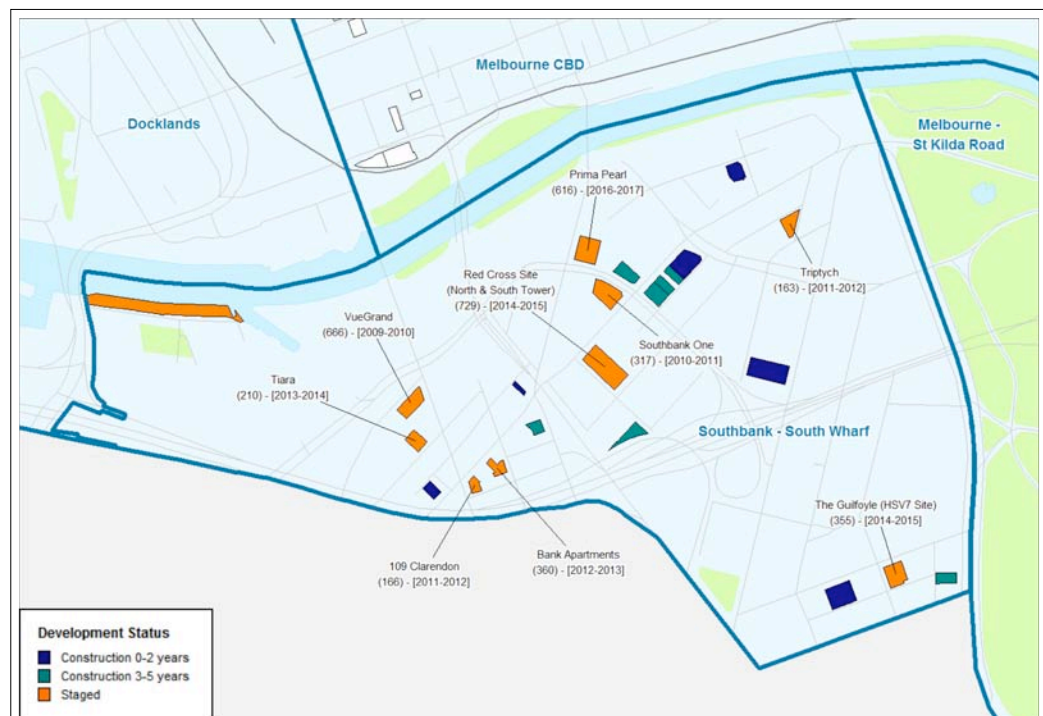
The additional quantity of people living and working in Southbank will place increased pressures and demands on the existing open space. The pressures will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction.

The forecast change in demographics will affect the type and design of open space in Southbank. Currently the younger population dominated by 20 to 24 year olds do not place high demands on a diversity of facilities and playgrounds and are generally utilising the informal facilities for walking, jogging, exercise and cycling. Young children and older adults are typically less mobile, with a more comfortable access range being within 200 to 300 metres of where they live, and without needing to cross major roads and arterials. This will likely create an increased demand and use of Local and Small Local open space, interspersed throughout the precinct, in addition to the existing linear open space along the Yarra River.

Additionally the demand for participation in structured sport and recreation is anticipated to increase with an increase in young families and place demand on need for additional Municipal open space.

### 7.8.4c Where change will occur

The forecast population increase in Southbank will be distributed over much of the area in large and small development sites. These are shown spatially by .id consulting as the basis for their residential population forecasting, and this is included in Figure 7.8~3.



**FIGURE 7.8~3** Residential development sites in Southbank | South Wharf  
Source: .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031

The forecast increased population will place additional demand on existing open spaces within the catchment along with generating the demand for new open space. The existing population will also use the new open space, and this has been considered in the recommendations and actions.

#### 7.8.4d Open space distribution and future need in Southbank

Within the Southbank/South Wharf the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. Future open space provision and needs in Southbank have been analysed on the basis of the following:

- Safe and easy walking access to open space.
- Review the volume and demographic change of the forecast additional population in relation to the existing amount and design of open space.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years as outlined in the existing Structure Plan and the development sites identified by .id consulting.
- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.

To assess this, Southbank has been divided into a series of sub-precincts based on walkability to open space. These are illustrated in Figure 7.8~4.

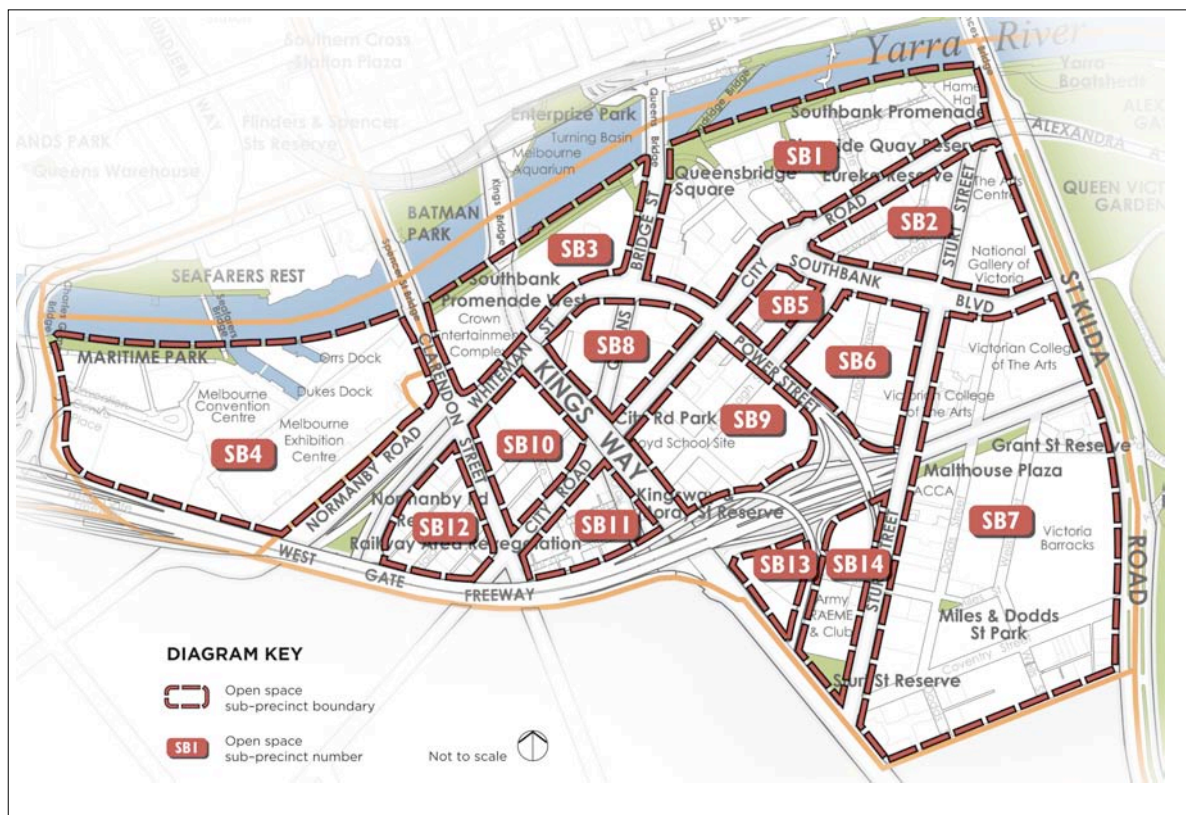


FIGURE 7.8~4 Open space sub-precinct diagram for Southbank | South Wharf

These sub-precincts are based on the ability of people working or living in the Southbank/South Wharf to easily reach open space. The household survey results confirm that residents are travelling outside Southbank to visit open space, and other than Southbank Boulevard, existing open spaces within Southbank are not well used. The key values people have for open space are the trees and a place to unwind and relax. The majority of open spaces in Southbank do not provide this due to either the high levels of use or the small size, dominance of vehicle movement and noise. A summary of open space provision in the open space sub-precincts is described in Table 7.8(iii)

**Table 7.8 (iv) Southbank/South Wharf open space sub-precincts**

The following analysis and conclusions are based on a realistic amount of open space that can be provided within the existing and future urban context. Ideally, if the open space planning principles similar to those of the Growth Areas Authority were applied to Southbank, it would result in a larger amount of open space identified to be required and would impact the other desired objectives and outcomes of the *Southbank Structure Plan 2010*.

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
SB1	<p>This sub-precinct includes the river frontage in the vicinity of Southgate. Refer Fig 7.8~4 for extent. Open space located in this sub-precinct includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Southbank Promenade</li> <li>• Queensbridge Square</li> <li>• Riverside Quay Reserve</li> <li>• Eureka Reserve</li> </ul> <p>Three of the four open spaces are Capital City open space and are available for local community use, but predominantly designed for a high level of regional and international visitor use.</p> <p>Additionally, Alexandra Gardens is located immediately east of this sub-precinct, with some of it within the 400-metre catchment, accessed via the open space along the Yarra River under St Kilda Road.</p> <p>The land use includes cultural and entertainment precincts including Southgate and the Hamer Hall, along with other uses including business and residential.</p> <p>Three major redevelopment sites are located in this sub-precinct, as</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need to provide a Small Local open space in the western end of the precinct in the vicinity of major development sites and beyond the 400-metre catchment to Alexandra Gardens. The design of this future open space is to include some green and natural features as a contrast to the urban spaces that are already provided in this precinct, and address urban heat island effect mitigation. The new Small Local open space is to be designed to meet the open space needs of both the existing and future population.</li> <li>• Design review of Eureka Reserve to introduce elements that cater to local use and mitigate urban heat.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	shown on Figure 7.8~4.	
<b>SB2</b>	<p>The Sturt Street cultural spine is located central to this precinct, with the Arts Centre and National Gallery of Victoria to the east and a range of mixed use to the west of Sturt Street. Currently there is no open space.</p> <p>One land major redevelopment site is located in the sub-precinct, as shown on Figure 7.8~4.</p> <p>As noted in the <i>Southbank Structure Plan 2010</i>, the Sturt Street Cultural spine including the closure of Sturt Street is included in the plan.</p> <p>This sub-precinct is within a 400 metre walking catchment of Domain Parklands.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Sturt Street Cultural spine open space project as shown in the Southbank Structure Plan (2010) is anticipated to occur and will be future Capital City open space that promotes the cultural precinct. The local population will use this future open space, however the design will be primarily for the high levels of use by a broader population.</li> </ul>
<b>SB3</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is the Crown Entertainment Complex and Hotel. Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southbank Promenade West that extends along the Yarra River frontage with water features, tree planting seating and paved shared cycle and pedestrian access.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The existing open space is well used and will continue to provide access along the Yarra River for the local and broader community. No additional open space is proposed in this sub-precinct given that no key development sites are located here, and the area is wholly utilised as a hotel and entertainment facility.</li> </ul>
<b>SB4</b>	<p>South Wharf is a separate area within Southbank. The sub-precinct includes the Melbourne Exhibition Centre, Melbourne Convention Centre, Hotels and other retail and residential uses. The existing open space is located along the Yarra River with the final extent of this subject to confirmation.</p> <p>One major development site is identified in this precinct, and this is located in Maritime Park.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is a need for a Small Local open space in this sub-precinct, additional to Maritime Park and linear open space along the River, which is predominantly for regional users rather than providing facilities for the local community.</li> </ul>
<b>SB5</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is defined on all boundaries by major roads and the existing population has no safe and easy access to open space Two major redevelopment sites are located in it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide additional Local open space on the north side of this sub-precinct by reconfiguring Southbank Boulevard. The preference is to investigate locating traffic lanes on the north side of the central median to allow the central median to be</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
		<p>connected back to the footpath on the south side and provide a wider and more useable open space for the existing and future population.</p>
<b>SB6</b>	<p>As for SB5, the existing population has no safe and easy access to open space, and one large redevelopment site is located in it.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As for sub-precinct SB5, provide additional Local open space on the north side of this sub-precinct by reconfiguring Southbank Boulevard. The preference is to investigate locating traffic lanes on the north side of the central median to allow the central median to be connected back to the footpath on the south side and provide a wider and more useable open space for the existing and future population.</li> </ul>
<b>SB7</b>	<p>This sub-precinct includes the Victorian College of the Arts and Victoria Barracks. There are three existing open spaces including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Malthouse Plaza</li> <li>Miles &amp; Dodds Street Park</li> <li>Grant Street Reserve</li> </ul> <p>Malthouse Plaza is the forecourt to the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art, and is also associated with the Malthouse Theatre to the south, and is therefore categorised as a Capital City open space. The other two open spaces are designed primarily for the local population, however, they do not appear to be well used.</p> <p>Three redevelopment sites are located in the south of this precinct on Dorcas Street.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the design of Grant Street Reserve in the future to introduce additional shade and diversity of facilities to meet the changing demographics.</li> <li>Investigate the potential to expand the size of Miles and Dodds Street Park to a Local open space size to improve its design and value to better cater to local recreational use and contribution to urban heat island effect mitigation. Alternatively establish a new Local open space in the south of this sub-precinct to cater for both the existing and new population, if this existing open space cannot be expanded.</li> <li>The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) and Victoria Barracks are two large sites with the potential to redevelop in the future, and present the opportunity to achieve a Neighbourhood sized open space to meet the needs of both the future and existing population in Southbank. Neither of these sites are identified as major redevelopment sites within the timeframe of this Strategy, however the should the opportunity arise that both or either are redeveloped, then a Neighbourhood sized open space land parcel is to be negotiated as part of the redevelopment.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
<b>SB8</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located south of Whiteman Street, with a combination of mixed land use including a major Hotel located west of Queens Bridge Street and a combination of business and residential uses to the east between Queens Bridge Street and City Road.</p> <p>The sub-precinct lacks any open space and there is one major redevelopment site identified east of Queens Bridge Street.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Small Local open space is required in this sub-precinct, preferably east of Queens Bridge Street to provide a green space for the existing and future population.</li> </ul>
<b>SB9</b>	<p>Located south east of City Road this sub-precinct extends to the West Gate Freeway/CityLink tunnel entry. The mixed land use includes business and residential, with the former Boyd School site located in this precinct. This school site is to be redeveloped by the City of Melbourne. Two other major development sites are identified in this sub-precinct.</p> <p>Currently there is no open space in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The former school site, referred to as the Boyd School site offers an opportunity to develop a Neighbourhood open space if this site is combined with part of the adjoining road reserves. This open space will cater to the existing and future population, who currently have no safe access to any open space and are more than 500 metres from the Yarra River and the Domain Parklands open space.</li> <li>There is also potential in the longer term that the population in sub-precinct SB8 could also access this Neighbourhood open space relatively easily if the improvements for City Road as described in the <i>Southbank Structure Plan 2010</i> are implemented.</li> </ul>
<b>SB10</b>	<p>This mixed-use precinct is located between Kings Way and Clarendon Street includes predominantly residential and business uses. The closest open space for people in this sub-precinct is Southbank Promenade, however they need to cross Whiteman Street to access it.</p> <p>One major development site is located in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An additional Small Local open space is required to provide some open space within safe and easy access for the existing and future population.</li> </ul>
<b>SB11</b>	<p>Located between City Road and the Westgate Freeway this small sub-precinct has three major redevelopment sites. Existing open space includes:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An additional Small Local open space is required, located away from major roads and overpasses, to provide an inviting green open space with good sunlight access as a contrast to the</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kingsway &amp; Moray Street Reserve</li> </ul> <p>The existing open space is located under Kings Way and is not a useable area of open space.</p>	<p>urban form and character. This is required for both the existing and future population and to assist mitigate urban heat.</p>
<b>SB12</b>	<p>Directly adjoining South Wharf, Normanby Road defines the northern boundary and this road and light rail reserve provides the only open space in the sub-precinct. There are three major redevelopment sites proposed in the sub-precinct and two existing open spaces as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normanby Road Reserve</li> <li>• Railway Revegetation Area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the configuration and design of the existing open space to increase its recreational use and value, along with mitigation of urban heat island. This is consistent with recommendations in the <i>Southbank Plan (2006)</i>, which identified this as a key open space improvement project. Improving the function and use of this open space is required for both the existing and future population in this precinct. The linear connectivity function this open space currently provides will be retained in any future design</li> </ul>
<b>SB13</b>	<p>Located between the Westgate Freeway and the off-ramp, the land use is predominantly retail with no open space and no key redevelopment sites. The <i>Southbank Structure Plan 2010</i> identifies the potential future deck over the CityLink tunnel entrance and redevelopment of this sub-precinct, however this is not forecast to occur within the timeframe of this Open Space Strategy. Any future increase in population will change the open space needs in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No significant increase in population is likely to occur in this sub-precinct between 2011 and 2026 based on the exiting forecasts. The existing population from this precinct will continue to access Sturt Street Reserve immediately south of the off-ramp.</li> <li>• In the longer term, if the feasibility study of the proposed decking of the CityLink tunnel entrance occurs and increased development in this sub-precinct occurs, then additional Municipal open space will be required to cater to the existing proposed new population.</li> </ul>
<b>SB14</b>	<p>Located between the Kings Way Westgate Freeway off-ramp and Sturt Street, this sub-precinct has no key redevelopment sites proposed. Sturt Street Reserve is located adjacent to Kings Way, which has been recently redesigned and upgraded. The <i>Southbank Structure Plan 2010</i> identifies the potential future deck over the CityLink tunnel entrance and redevelopment of this</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The existing population in this sub-precinct will continue to use Sturt Street Reserve.</li> <li>• Any major redevelopment within this sub-precinct will increase demand and use of open space, and create need for additional open space to be provided towards the north of the sub-precinct and located away from major roads. This open space is not included in this strategy as it is anticipated to occur beyond 2026.</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	sub-precinct, however this is not forecast to occur within the timeframe of this Open Space Strategy. Any future increase in population will change the open space needs in this sub-precinct.	

## 7.8.5 Southbank/South Wharf Actions

### 7.8.5a Summary of overall intent

#### Provision and distribution

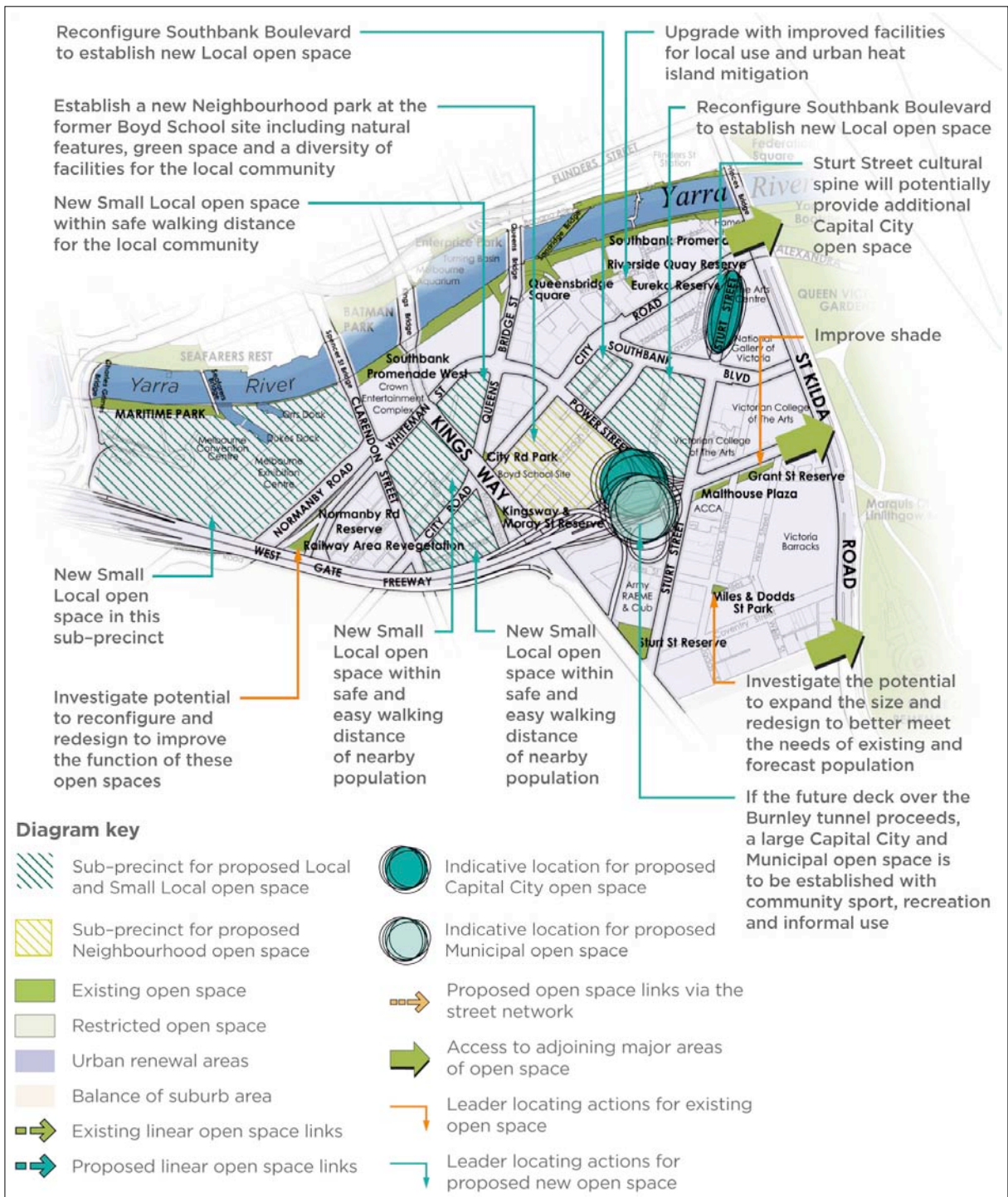
There is a connected system of open space along the Yarra River frontage that is well established and used, however the broader area of Southbank behind both the River and St Kilda Road lacks open space. Southbank/South Wharf will continue to develop over the 15-year timeframe of this Strategy and therefore additional open space is required to better meet the open space needs of the existing population, the future forecast population, amenity relief provided by green spaces and assist mitigate urban heat. The proposed additional open space provides a supportive network of open space for this expanding community with additional Municipal, Neighbourhood and Local open spaces that are primarily for the Southbank/South Wharf population rather than visitors to the precinct. These recommendations have been prepared within the context of the Capital City open space network expansion identified in the *Southbank Structure Plan 2010* and *Southbank Plan 2006*.

#### Quality and design

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in some of the existing open space in Southbank. The additional open space can be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to urban heat island effect mitigation and environmental quality.

Refer to Figure 7.8~5 for illustrated recommendations on the following page.





**Figure 7.8~5 Summary of strategy recommendations for Southbank | South Wharf \***

\* Refer also to page 26 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.8~5 and photos.

**7.8.5b Precinct Actions for Southbank | South Wharf**

**A Additional open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8A-1	Provide an additional Small Local Open space in the western end of sub-precinct SB1 primarily for the	CoM, Developer	Very High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	existing and also for the future population.		
7.8A-2	Support the development of the Sturt Street Cultural Spine open space as recommended in the Southbank Structure Plan 2010.	DPCD, CoM	High
7.8A-3	Provide an additional Small Local open space in sub-precinct SB4 for both the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-4	Provide an additional Local open space on the north side of sub-precinct SB5 by reconfiguring Southbank Boulevard to provide for both the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-5	Provide additional Local open space on the north side of sub-precinct SB6 by reconfiguring Southbank Boulevard to provide for both the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-6	Investigate the potential to expand the size of Miles and Dodds Street Park to increase it to a Local open space size and undertake a major upgrade to better cater to the recreational needs of sub-precinct SB7.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-7	Long-term opportunity to seek a Neighbourhood open space in either the VCA or Victoria Barracks sites if these redevelop within the Strategy timeframe. Note: the costs for this project have not been included in this strategy, as it is not forecast to occur within the current timeframe.	DPCD, CoM	Ongoing
7.8A-8	Provide additional Small Local open space in sub-precinct SB8, preferably east of Queens Bridge Street for the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-9	Establish a Neighbourhood open space at the former Boyd School Site in sub-precinct SB9 for both the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-10	Provide an additional Small Local open space in sub-precinct SB10 for both the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-11	Provide an additional Small Local open space in sub-precinct SB11 for both the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	Very High
7.8A-12	In the long-term, if proposed decking of the CityLink tunnel occurs, review the need for open space in sub-precincts SB13 and SB14.	CoM	Long-term
7.8A-13	In the long-term, if proposed decking of the CityLink tunnel occurs, provide Capital City open space, which can potentially share the same space as the proposed Municipal open space described in 7.8A-14.	CoM, DSE, Developer	Low

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8A-14	In the long-term, if proposed decking of the CityLink tunnel occurs, provide Municipal open space, which can potentially share the same space as the proposed Capital City open space described in 7.8A-13. This is to provide organised sport and informal recreation facilities for the existing and future population of Southbank.	CoM, DSE, Developer	Low

**B Additional open space links**  
Not applicable

**C Capital City open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8C-1	<b>Malthouse Plaza</b> Continue to maintain this open space as the forecourt to the Australian Centre for Contemporary Art.	CoM	Ongoing
7.8C-2	<b>Queensbridge Square</b> Continue to maintain for Capital City purposes.	CoM	Ongoing
7.8C-3	<b>Riverside Quay Reserve</b> Undertake minor upgrade including investigation into opportunities to improve community use and increase greening of this open space.	CoM	High
7.8C-4	<b>Southbank Promenade</b> Continue to maintain for Capital City purposes, with minor upgrade of facilities for local community use where appropriate, once alternative commuter cycling routes have been established along City Road as per the Southbank Structure Plan 2010 recommendations.	CoM	Medium
7.8C-5	<b>Southbank Promenade West</b> Continue to maintain for Capital City purposes.	CoM	Ongoing

**D Regional open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8D-1	<b>Maritime Park</b> Continue to retain access along the Yarra River through this open space. Additional recommendations may be required subject to further site visits.	CoM	Ongoing

**E Municipal open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8E-1	<p><b>Normanby Road Reserve</b></p> <p>Investigate the potential to redesign Normanby Road and Whiteman Road reserves to establish an improved configuration of useable open space to provide a diversity of recreational facilities and improved urban heat island effect mitigation. This is consistent with the open space project outlined in the Southbank Plan (DSE, 2006), and is for both the existing and future population. This includes the Railway Revegetation Area open space.</p>	CoM	Medium

**F Neighbourhood open space**

Not applicable

**G Local open space**

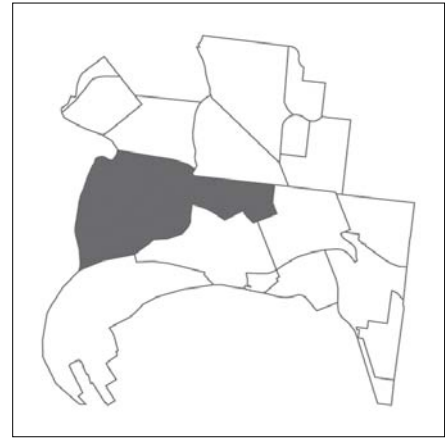
No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8G-1	<p><b>Grant Street Reserve</b></p> <p>Review the design to introduce additional shade and diversity of facilities to meet the changing demographics.</p>	CoM	Medium
7.8G-2	<p><b>Sturt Street Reserve</b></p> <p>Continue to maintain and upgrade facilities as the population increases to meet increased levels of use.</p>	CoM	Low

**H Small Local open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8H-1	<p><b>Eureka Reserve</b></p> <p>Review design to include facilities for local community use and urban heat island effect mitigation.</p>	CoM	High
7.8H-2	<p><b>Miles and Dodds Street Reserve</b></p> <p>Refer to Action 7.8A-6 regarding expansion of this existing open space to make it more useable.</p>	Refer 7.8A-6	Refer 7.8A-6
7.8H-3	<p><b>Railway Revegetation Area</b></p> <p>Refer to Action 7.8E-1 regarding reconfiguration of open space in the vicinity of Whiteman Street and Normanby Road.</p>	Refer 7.8E-1	Refer 7.8E-1

**J Small Local Link**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.8J-1	<b>City Road Park</b> Continue to maintain and upgrade as part of the City Road streetscape upgrade works when these occur, as outlined in the Southbank Structure Plan 2010.	CoM	Medium
7.8J-2	<b>Kingsway &amp; Moray Street Reserve</b> Review the need for this open space when a new Small Local open space is established in sub-precinct SB11 (refer Action 7.8A-11).	CoM	Ongoing



## 7.9 West Melbourne

### 7.9.1 Overview

West Melbourne extends from the western end of the Melbourne 3000 central city to the Maribyrnong River and south to the northern bank of the Yarra River. A large proportion of this area is dedicated to port and railway related activities, with large areas not accessible to the public, particularly Coode Island located south of Footscray Road, currently owned and operated by the Port of Melbourne Authority with Appleton and Swanston Docks.

West Melbourne was originally low lying swamps with the Yarra River flowing into the Maribyrnong north of its current alignment. During the 1880s a channel was dug to shorten and deepen the Yarra River with its original alignment to the north (through the current West Melbourne) filled in over the subsequent years. This allowed a more direct shipping route that was more easily navigated along the Yarra River. The land known as Coode Island was used for a range of uses over its history including as an animal quarantine station, as an aircraft supply factory and aerodrome until after WWII. In 1960 petrochemicals began being stored at the site along with the expansion of port related activities. Coode Island will not be assessed for provision of open space given the current land use and management outside the responsibilities of the City of Melbourne.

To the north of Coode Island, between Footscray Road and Dynon Road, the land uses are port related with container terminal and storage, along with other major industrial and warehouse uses including the site of the Footscray Market. Further north between Dynon Road and the Werribee Railway Line industrial land use continues including the frontage to the Maribyrnong River. This area is included in the Dynon urban renewal area, as shown in the draft revised Municipal Strategic Statement.

East of CityLink, West Melbourne is a combination of railway land use and an established urban area with a diverse mix of residential and other land uses. A number of former warehouses are undergoing conversions to residential and business uses. This area is within 1 kilometre of the Hoddle grid and has good access and transport connections to it.

The railway land extending west of North Melbourne railway station to Moonee Ponds Creek is a major urban renewal area referred to as E-Gate. This is

Victorian government owned land, and is currently the subject of proposals for mixed use redevelopment.

The City of Melbourne draft revised Municipal Strategic Statement outlines the vision for future growth in West Melbourne and includes the Dynon urban renewal area and E-Gate.

### 7.9.2 Existing open space

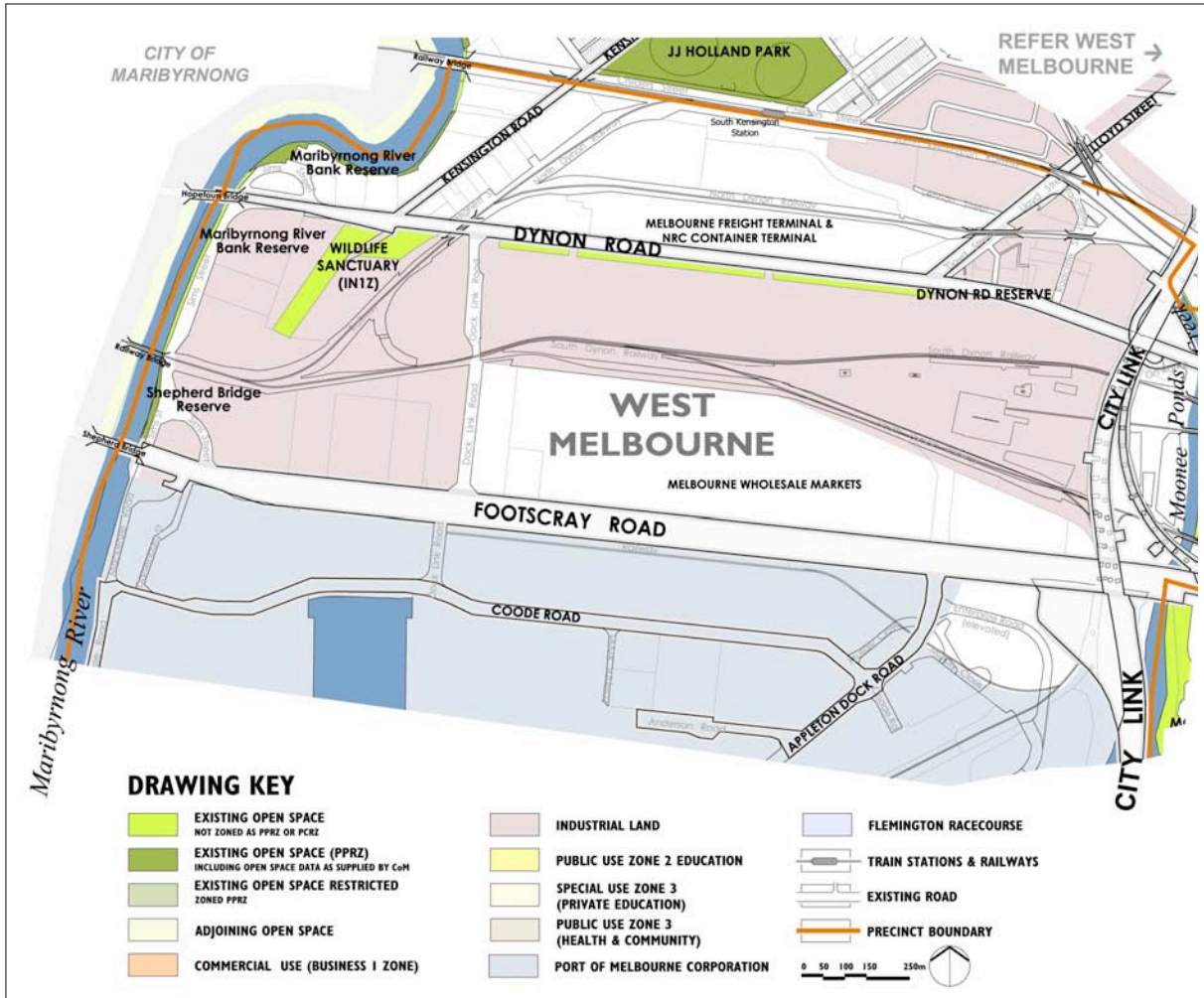


Figure 7.9~1a Existing open space in West Melbourne (west of CityLink)

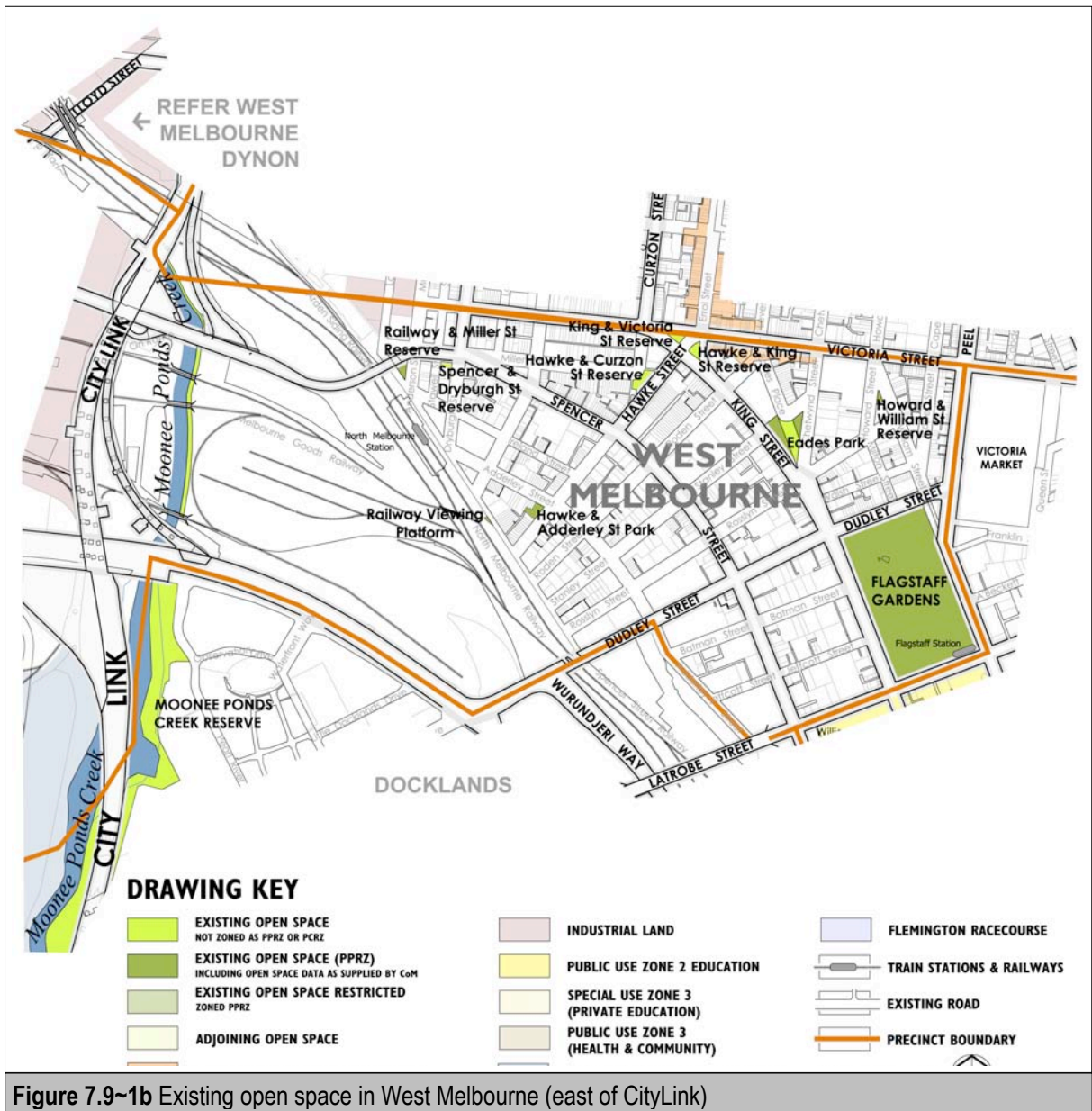


Figure 7.9~1b Existing open space in West Melbourne (east of CityLink)

**7.9.2a Open space quantity, hierarchy and character**

There are 15 existing open spaces in West Melbourne that combined total 14.5ha in area. This represents approximately 2.3 per cent of the total land area of the precinct, and 2.6 per cent of the total open space in the municipality.

**Table 7.9(i) Number, size and type of open space**

No	Hierarchy of open space	Area (ha)	%
4	Regional	10.79	74%
2	Municipal	2.76	19%
1	Local	0.51	4%
8	Small Local	0.51	3%
<b>54</b>	<b>Totals</b>	<b>14.56</b>	<b>100%</b>



Open space in West Melbourne is located around the existing mixed use area east of the North Melbourne railway station with Flagstaff Gardens being the major area of open space and a system of other Local and Small Local open spaces. Flagstaff Gardens is one of the earliest gardens established in Melbourne and contains a diversity of facilities appealing to regional visitors and the local community. Hawke and Adderley Street Park is the most popular smaller park primarily for dog walking, playground and meeting people. Whilst physically smaller than Eades Park, it is located away from major roads and provides a more relaxing ambience protected from traffic noise. Nearly half of the respondents to the strategy household survey identified there is a need for additional open space in West Melbourne.

The other main areas of open space are located in the west of the precinct adjacent to the Maribyrnong River and the regional linear trail link along Dynon Road. Additionally, a site called the Wildlife Sanctuary is located west the west of the depot/transfer station on Dynon Road and is a series of wetlands with established native vegetation that is primarily for environmental conservation purposes. The linear open space along the Maribyrnong River is popular for walking, cycling and fishing and is likely to be mainly used by the worker population and residents in Kensington, as the survey outcomes from West Melbourne do not identify the Maribyrnong River as a well used open space. The Maribyrnong River Bank Reserve extends south to Footscray Road and does not continue south into the Port of Melbourne land.

While the open space reserve along the Maribyrnong River is narrow in width, it does provide views across the river and connectivity to footbridges to the west making the open space on the west side of the river accessible. The river is a major landscape and recreational feature that has the potential to have an increased recreational focus in the future.

**Table 7.9(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification**

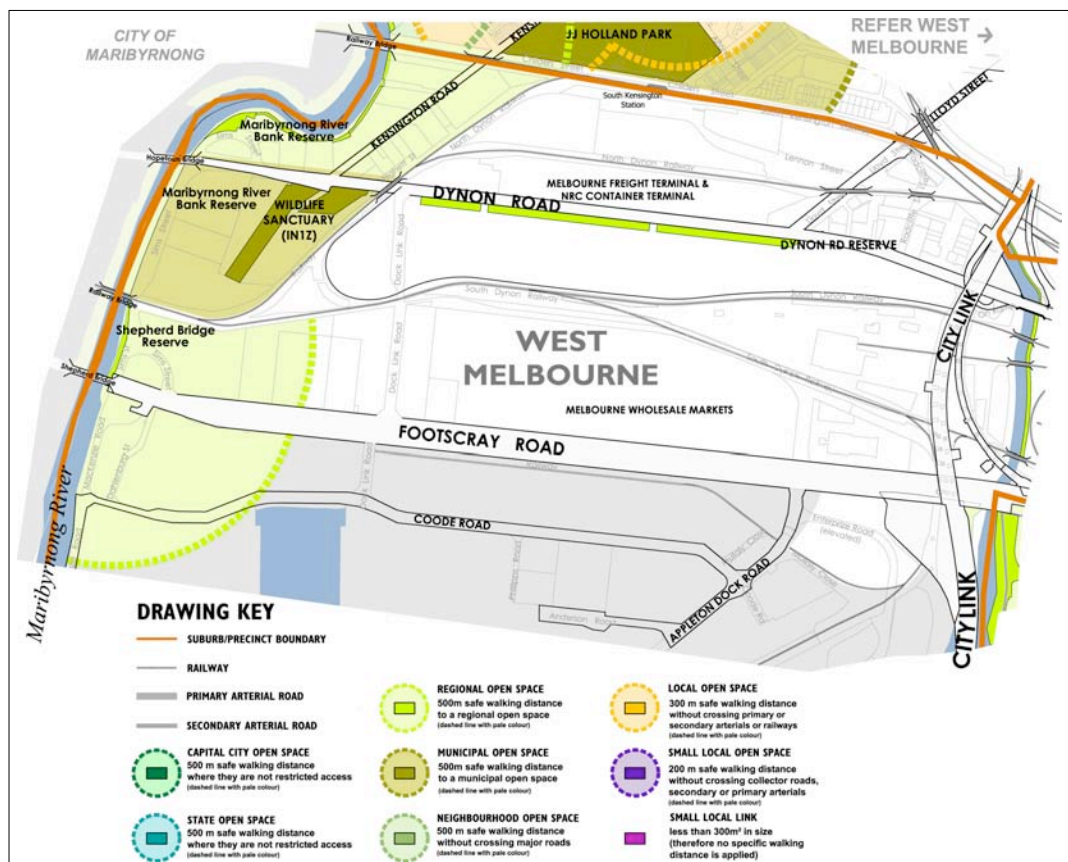
Open space	Hierarchy	Primary character classification	Secondary character classification	AREA (m2)
DYNON ROAD RESERVE	Regional	Significant road reservation	Linear	20,817
EADES PARK	Local	Informal use	Linking space, Significant road reservation	5,127
FLAGSTAFF GARDENS	Regional	Heritage	Recreation, Restricted sport and recreation, Informal use, Events	73,350
HAWKE & ADDERLEY STREET PARK	Small Local	Informal use		812
HAWKE & CURZON STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Informal use	Significant road reservation	1,408
HAWKE & KING STREET RESERVE	Small Local Link	Significant road reservation	Linking space, Informal use	596
HOWARD AND WILLIAMS STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Linking space	253
KING & VICTORIA STREET RESERVE	Small Local Link	Significant road reservation		507
MARIBYRNONG RIVER BANK RESERVE	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Nature conservation	10,993
MOONEE PONDS CREEK	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Significant road reservation, Service easement	4,789

**Table 7.9(ii) Existing open space, hierarchy and character classification cont'd.**

Open space	Hierarchy	Primary character classification	Secondary character classification	AREA (m2)
RAILWAY & MILLER STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Significant road reservation		1,110
RAILWAY VIEWING PLATFORM	Small Local Link	Seating/viewing		110
SHEPHERD BRIDGE RESERVE	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Significant road reservation	2,705
SPENCER & DRYBURGH STREET RESERVE	Small Local	Service easement	Linking space	273
WILDLIFE SANCTUARY (DEPOT)	Municipal	Nature conservation	Service easement	22,790

**7.9.2b Distribution**

The distribution of open space is largely either located along the Maribyrnong River or to the eastern area of West Melbourne. There is no residential population west of the railway and therefore the open space in the west is being used primarily by regional visitors, workers and residents from Kensington. The major roads in the eastern part of the precinct make safe and easy access to existing open space difficult and is likely to correlate with the strategy household survey outcome in which a number of respondents requested additional open space.



**Figure 7.9~2a Gap analysis for West Melbourne (west of CityLink)**

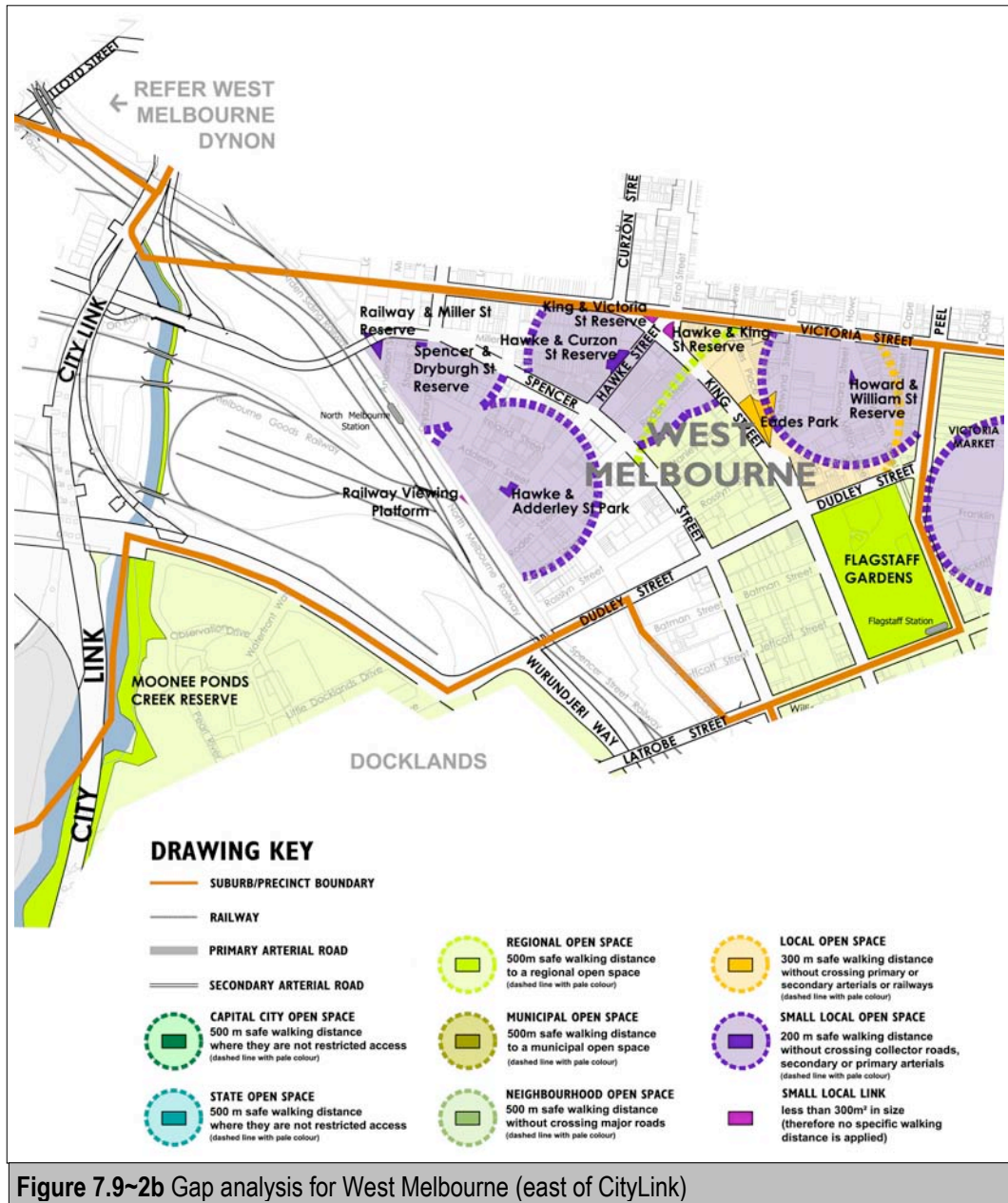


Figure 7.9~2b Gap analysis for West Melbourne (east of CityLink)

### 7.9.2c Ancillary and adjoining open space

West Melbourne east of the North Melbourne railway station has some wider road reserves that do provide some ancillary open space function, particularly for walking and these are noted in the strategy household survey outcomes, in Section 7.9.3. The grade change along the railways, coupled with the industrial nature of the western area of the precinct make these currently unsuitable for use as ancillary open space.

### 7.9.3 Existing West Melbourne community

#### 7.9.3a Who lives and works in West Melbourne?

West Melbourne has a variety of land uses with mixed use east of the North Melbourne railway line and mainly port related industrial land use to the west. The residential population in the east is dominated by young adults, which currently includes people in the 25 to 29 year age category.

##### Quantity

- Existing residential population 2011: 3,820 (*Source: .id Consulting population forecasts 2011*)
- Existing worker population 2011: 15,587 (*Source: Census of Land Use and Employment, 2010*)

Currently, there are approximately four times as many workers as there are residents in West Melbourne.

##### Demographics

The demographics are only available for the existing residential population and not the worker population. The most numerous age group for West Melbourne is young adults, particularly 20 to 29 years of age, with a dominance of household types being couples without dependents, followed by lone person households and group households, with a lower proportion of family household types.

#### 7.9.3b How existing residents currently use open space

A total of 42 household surveys were received from residents of West Melbourne that represents 2 percent of the total number of surveys received. This is less than the proportion of West Melbourne residents in the City of Melbourne population, which is 4 percent. During the second phase of consultation on the Draft Strategy the most requests for additional open space of all precincts came from West Melbourne.

**Table 7.9(iii) Most frequently visited open space reserves**

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
<b>Open space within the local area</b>			
28 (67%)	Flagstaff Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel through (8)</li> <li>• Close to home (4)</li> <li>• Exercising (4)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (4)</li> <li>• Walking (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional lighting</li> <li>• More seats</li> <li>• No bicycles</li> </ul>
9 (22%)	Hawke & Adderley Street Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking (4)</li> <li>• Playing with children (3)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More dog drinking facilities</li> </ul>
8 (19%)	Docklands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (4)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More open space</li> </ul>

USE	OPEN SPACE	REASONS TO VISIT	SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS
7 (17%)	Eades Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking</li> <li>• Family friendly/child friendly</li> <li>• Playground and equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal safety concern</li> <li>• More sporting facilities</li> <li>• Additional seats</li> </ul>
7 (17%)	Hawke & Curzon Street Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Travel through (3)</li> <li>• Dog walking (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More basketball rings and playgrounds</li> <li>• More native vegetation</li> </ul>
7 (17%)	Royal Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walking (3)</li> <li>• Exercising (3)</li> <li>• Walking (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional dog off-lead areas</li> <li>• Improve grass areas</li> <li>• No further loss to development</li> </ul>
<b>Open space outside the local area</b>			
12 (29%)	Royal Botanic Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gardens (3)</li> <li>• Large open space (3)</li> <li>• Ambience, beauty (2)</li> <li>• Picnics (2)</li> <li>• Recreation (2)</li> <li>• Trees (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More cafés/kiosks</li> <li>• Additional carparks</li> <li>• Connecting cycle paths</li> </ul>
6 (14%)	Fitzroy Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambience, beauty (2)</li> <li>• Playground and equipment (2)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional carparking</li> <li>• Homeless people a concern</li> </ul>
4 (10%)	Carlton Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking (2)</li> </ul>	

### Types of open space used (top four)

88% Open space along Yarra River

88% Major gardens

88% Local streets for exercise

86% Royal Botanic Gardens

### Activities and facilities in open space (top four)

93% Walking paths

71% Open grassed areas

50% Drinking fountains

48% Seats

### Values (top four)

83% Trees

67% Quiet and peaceful

64% Place to relax and unwind

62% Just being outside

### General comments

- Additional open space is required in the West Melbourne area.
- Open space is important as densities increase.
- Value the high level of maintenance of parks.
- Storm water harvesting for public gardens.
- Reduce vehicle congestion.

For further details on household survey outcomes refer to Appendix A, a separate volume of this strategy.

## 7.9.4 Analysis of future change and open space needs

### 7.9.4a Forecast future population

#### Who will live and work there in the future?

##### Quantity

The table below includes the forecast population growth for the residential and worker populations. Residential population growth figures are sourced from .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031 and the worker population growth figures are from Deloitte Access Economics (2011, Q3) and SGS Economics and Planning (2011).

Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Residential</b>	3,820	4,200	6,012	9,400	N/A
Years	2011	2016	2021	2026	2040
<b>Worker</b>	15,587	N/A	N/A	19,742	N/A

The forecast future population growth is significant with an overall change in residential population between 2011 and 2026 of 146 per cent over the existing population, with an additional 5,579 residents between 2011 and 2026. The worker population is forecast to increase by 4,155 between 2011 and 2026 representing a 27% change.

##### Demographics

An increase in young people from 15 to 24 years is forecast for West Melbourne, with a corresponding increase in lone person households, and a slight decline in the middle age groups from 30 to 64. It is important to consider, however, that while there will be an overall increase in population across all age groups given the substantial nature of the change.

### 7.9.4b Population change impacts on open space

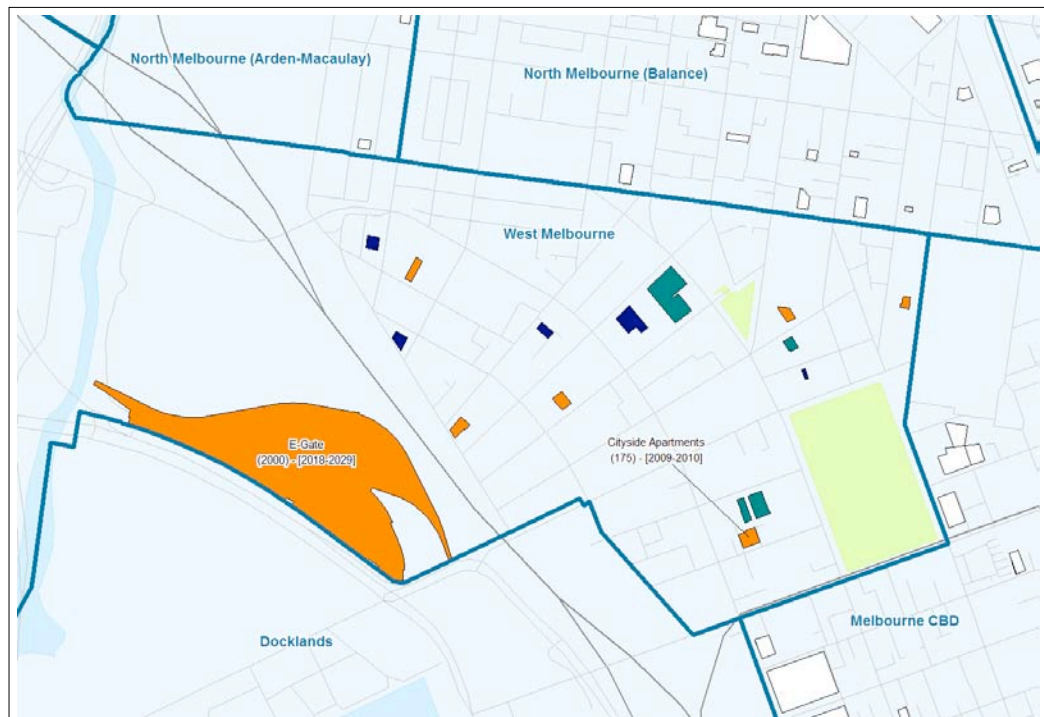
The additional quantity of people living and working in West Melbourne will place increased pressure and demand on the existing open space. The pressure will include increased volumes of people in the open space utilising the facilities, leading to overcrowding in open space, lack of access to existing facilities and deterioration in the quality of natural features such as grass areas due to compaction.

The forecast change in demographics will have an influence on the type and design of open space in West Melbourne. The increase in young adults living in lone household dwellings suggests that they will have less private open space,

and will increasingly rely on open space as a means of social contact and participation in sport and informal recreation. This will likely create an increased demand and use of open space interspersed throughout the precinct, and linear connections to provide for activities such as jogging, walking and cycling.

#### 7.9.4c Where change will occur

The forecast residential population increase in West Melbourne will be located east of Moonee Ponds Creek in E-Gate and the distributed through the existing mixed use area. These are shown spatially by .id consulting as the basis for the City of Melbourne residential population forecasting, and this is included in Figure 7.9~4 below.



**FIGURE 7.9~4** Residential development sites in West Melbourne  
Source: .id Consulting (2011) Population Forecasts 2011-2031

Other than the open space along the Maribyrnong River, the existing open space in West Melbourne (Dynon) is not designed for the local population to use this for a diverse range of uses. Future open space will need to be considered and provided in this the west area of West Melbourne to better cater for the existing and future worker population.

The forecast increased population in the east part of West Melbourne will place additional demand on existing open spaces within the catchment along with generating the demand for new open space. The existing population will also use the new open space, and this has been considered in the recommendations and actions.

### 7.9.4c Open space distribution and future need in West Melbourne

Within the West Melbourne the major roads form barriers to safe and easy access to open space. Future open space provision and needs in West Melbourne have been analysed differently for the east and west on the following basis:

#### **West Melbourne (existing mixed use precinct)**

- Safe and easy walking access to open space.
- Review the volume and demographic change of the forecast additional population in relation to the existing amount and design of open space.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years as outlined in the development sites identified by .id consulting.
- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation, particularly in the major redevelopment site of E-Gate.

#### **West Melbourne (future Dynon urban renewal area)**

- Reasonable access to open space (within 500 metres) of workplace.
- Provide municipal open space for the increase in population in the Arden Macaulay urban renewal area and the City North urban renewal area.
- Identify opportunities for additional open space within the context of the anticipated locations for future development over the next 15 years to guide future structure plans for the Dynon urban renewal area.
- Increase the amount of green spaces that incorporate water capture, storage and reuse within the space thereby contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.

To assess this, West Melbourne has been divided into two major precincts, with further sub-precincts based on accessibility to open space. These are illustrated on Figures 7.9~5 and 7.9~6.





**FIGURE 7.9-4** Open space sub-precinct diagram for West Melbourne

**Table 7.9 (iv) E-Gate open space sub-precinct**

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
EG1	<p>This sub-precinct is known as the E-Gate site and extends from the CityLink in the west, to Dynon Road in the north, Footscray Road in the south and North Melbourne railway in the east. Existing open space is located along the Moonee Ponds Creek, accessible via an existing shared trail on the east side of the creek. In this sub-precinct CityLink is located up to 50 metres west of Moonee Ponds Creek, reducing the overshadowing impacts of the elevated freeway at this location. Both banks of Moonee Ponds Creek are open to the sky with potential to support indigenous vegetation.</p> <p>The remaining land is dedicated to railway and tramway use with a significant change in grade from the existing urban area east of the North Melbourne railway.</p> <p>This site is an urban renewal area with an eventual 2,000 dwellings proposed for the site up to 2029. This will equate to an approximate future residential population of over 4,000 people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is potential for a significant open space to be established at this site to benefit both the local and broader population in the western area of the municipality. It is recommended that a Capital City open space be established adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek, of a size and design capable of holding major events and contributing to the future core character and values of the urban renewal areas in the north west. This Capital City open space can be connected to the north and south via Moonee Ponds Creek shared trail along with other key on-road cycle and pedestrian connections from Harbour Esplanade in Docklands north along Footscray Road to the site.</li> <li>• New Municipal open space is to be established in this site to cater to the future population at E-Gate and also in the Melbourne 3000 central city, Docklands and solve demand from Arden Macaulay urban renewal area.</li> <li>• Linear graded linking space from North Melbourne station to the future Capital City open space, preferably achieved as open space, or with dedicated pedestrian and cycle access via a wide boulevard treatment.</li> <li>• Two Small Local open spaces located centrally in the development and towards the south, accessible via residential street network, but not located on any major roads, so they provide respite from traffic noise and activity.</li> </ul>

**Table 7.9 (v) West Melbourne open space sub-precincts**

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
<b>WM1</b>	<p>This sub-precinct adjoins the North Melbourne railway and future E-Gate site (EG1). It is defined to the north-east by Spencer Street, the west by North Melbourne railway and the south by Dudley Street. The northern part is included in a heritage overlay and it is therefore anticipated future change will be in the southern area of this sub-precinct. All existing open space is Small Local open space formed from street closures and include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hawke &amp; Adderley St Park</li> <li>• Spencer and Dryburgh St Reserve</li> <li>• Railway &amp; Miller Reserve</li> </ul> <p>Two of the three reserves are dominated by busy traffic and provide some visual contribution but are not very useable. Hawke &amp; Adderley Street Park is the only open space in this sub-precinct that is designed for use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide an additional Local open space to the south of the precinct to cater to the existing and future population. This could potentially utilise part of one of the larger road reserves to create the Local open space. The location will need to be away from major roads to provide for sense of protection and refuge away from traffic flow.</li> </ul>
<b>WM2</b>	<p>This small sub-precinct south of Victoria Street and included in a heritage overlay and is not anticipated to experience significant future change.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review the design of Hawke &amp; Curzon Street Reserve including investigation into increasing its size, along with upgrade to diversify its function and use.</li> </ul>
<b>WM3</b>	<p>This small sub-precinct is located between Spencer and King Streets. The road layout does not encourage internal access away from major roads.</p> <p>Currently there is no open space in this sub-precinct, however, it is located close to Flagstaff Gardens, and opposite Eades Park.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to improve the existing open spaces in the surrounding sub-precincts to provide for the existing and future population in this sub-precinct.</li> </ul>
<b>WM4</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located south of Victoria Street extending from Hawke Street in the west to William Street. The sub-precinct is included in a heritage overlay and therefore future change is assumed to be minimal. The existing open spaces include:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the design of Eades Park, investigating options to address traffic noise to improve its function and use for existing residents and the forecast future population, particularly from sub-precinct WM3.</li> <li>• Investigate increasing the size of Howard &amp; William Street Reserve by</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eades Park</li> <li>• Hawke &amp; King Street Reserve</li> <li>• Howard &amp; William Street Reserve</li> </ul> <p>Eades Park and Hawke &amp; King Street Reserve are both located on major arterial roads, and while they have an important role in the character of the precinct, the traffic noise and impact reduces their function for informal use.</p>	<p>reconfiguring the road reserve to increase function and use. This reserve is in a smaller street and is not as impacted by traffic noise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to maintain Hawke &amp; King Street Reserve as predominantly a visual green space.</li> </ul>
<b>WM5</b>	<p>Located south of Dudley Street and Spencer Street this sub-precinct is bordered by major roads including Latrobe Street to the south, Spencer Street to the east, Dudley Street to the north and Adderley Street in the west. The sub-precinct includes the Remand Centre and other business uses. There is currently no open space.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the potential to establish a Small Local open space utilising part of the large road reserve such as Batman Street to create an open space primarily for the worker population. Any future open space should not directly face the major roads, to provide some sense of protection from traffic flow and noise. This future open space has the potential to integrate water quality treatment and re-use including contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.</li> </ul>
<b>WM6</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located opposite Flagstaff Gardens and is bordered by major roads including King Street that separates the precinct from Flagstaff Gardens. This area is already intensively developed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate the potential to establish a Small Local open space utilising part of the large road reserve in Batman Street to create an open space. This future open space has the potential to integrate water quality treatment and re-use including contributing to urban heat island effect mitigation.</li> </ul>

**Table 7.9 (v) Dynon urban renewal area open space sub-precincts**

Refer also to Kensington for recommendations regarding the Dudley urban renewal area north of the South Kensington Station and Werribee Railway line.

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
<b>WD1</b>	<p>Directly adjoining the Maribyrnong River, this sub-precinct extends east to Kensington Road and south of Dynon Road. The land use is industrial and existing open space includes the Maribyrnong River Bank Reserve that is a narrow linear open space providing trail</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In future redevelopment of these sites, achieve additional width of open space to provide more space to increase the riparian zone and the diversity of recreational opportunities.</li> <li>• Future development to face the waterway providing passive</li> </ul>

Sub-precinct	Description	Conclusions
	<p>access along the river. Existing open space includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maribyrnong River Bank Reserve</li> <li>• Shepherd Bridge Reserve</li> <li>• Wildlife Sanctuary (Depot)</li> </ul> <p>The first two open spaces directly adjoin the Maribyrnong River and provide linear trail access to the north along the waterway. The Wildlife Sanctuary (Depot) is located east of the River and is currently a system of wetlands that are associated with the Depot/Transfer station.</p>	<p>surveillance and improved interface to the waterway corridor.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retain the Wildlife Sanctuary (Depot) site, and if there is substantial increase in worker population in this precinct, consider integrating improved public access into this reserve. In the interim, manage this open space primarily for its environmental values.</li> </ul>
<b>WD2</b>	<p>This sub-precinct is located north of Dynon Road to the Werribee railway line and includes the Melbourne Freight Terminal. There is no open space located in this sub-precinct.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future redevelopment as part of the Dynon urban renewal, land is to be set aside land to establish a new Municipal open space to provide the structured and unstructured sport and recreational needs of the forecast population in Arden Macaulay and City North urban renewal areas along with the Dynon urban renewal area.</li> <li>• Pending future size of urban redevelopment of Dynon, consider provision of at least a Local open space for the future population in this area.</li> </ul>

## 7.9.5 West Melbourne Actions

### 7.9.5a Summary of overall intent

#### Provision and distribution

West Melbourne will continue to develop over the 15-year timeframe of this strategy. Flagstaff Gardens will continue to be a major open space destination for the existing and future population of West Melbourne. The proposed Capital City open space in the E-Gate area will become a destination in the future. The proposed municipal open space in E-Gate and Dynon urban renewal areas will provide for the structured and unstructured sport and recreational needs of the forecast populations in these areas and also in the Arden Macaulay and City North urban renewal areas. The supporting local open space network is to be improved and expanded to provide accessible open space without the need to cross major roads to reach it. This local open space network will also assist with urban heat island mitigation/climate change adaptation.

In the Dynon urban renewal area the focus will be on providing some accessible green spaces for workers to utilise during breaks and before and after work. The linear open space corridor along the Maribyrnong River is to be strengthened by increasing the width of this corridor to provide for a greater diversity of uses and improve the interface to the adjoining land use including passive surveillance of the open space.

**Quality and design**

There is potential to improve the recreational quality and diversity of facilities in some of the existing Local and Small Local open spaces in West Melbourne, while continuing to upgrade and protect Flagstaff Gardens to meet its regional role as well as supporting neighbourhood uses as well. The additional open space is to be designed to provide a diversity of facilities for the existing and future population and contribute positively to urban heat island effect mitigation and environmental quality. The open space along Moonee Ponds Creek and the Maribyrnong River both lend themselves well to improved environmental and natural values and qualities.

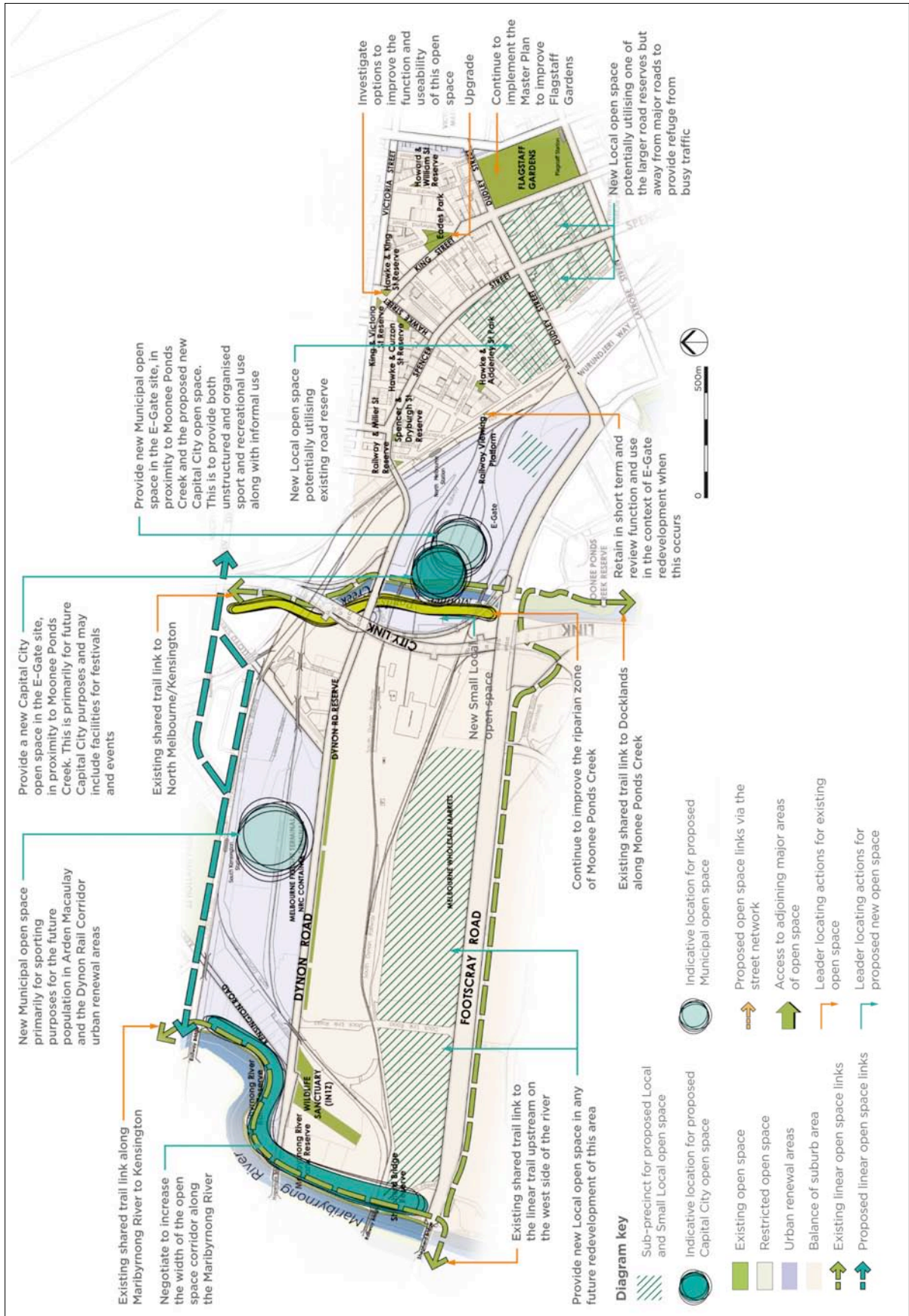


Figure 7.9-5 Summary of strategy recommendations for West Melbourne \*

\* Refer also to pages 27 and 28 of the Open Space Strategy for a larger version of Figure 7.9-5 and photos.

## 7.9.5b Precinct Actions for West Melbourne

### A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9A-1	Establish a Capital City open space adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek in the E-Gate site capable of holding major events and designed to contribute the core character and values of the urban renewal areas in the north-west Melbourne. Refer to conclusions in sub-precinct EG1.	CoM, DSE, DPCD	Very High
7.9A-2	Establish a new Municipal open space adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek in the E-Gate site capable of providing organised sports facilities including sports fields to cater to E-Gate, Docklands and Arden-Macaulay.	CoM, DSE, DPCD	Very High
7.9A-3	Establish a new Municipal open space in the Dynon urban renewal area capable of providing organised sports facilities including sports fields to cater primarily to the new population in Arden-Macaulay, and any future population in the Dynon Rail corridor.	Council, DSE, DPCD	Very High
7.9A-4	Establish an additional Small Local open space towards the south of the E-Gate site, accessible via the residential street network to provide for the forecast future local population in addition to the Capital City and Municipal open space in EG1.	CoM, DSE	High
7.9A-5	Provide an additional Local open space in the south of sub-precinct WM1 to provide for the existing and future population.	CoM, Developer	High
7.9A-6	Investigate increasing the size of Howard & William Street Reserve by reconfiguring the road reserve to provide primarily for the existing population and the forecast future population in sub-precinct WM4. Refer also to Action 7.9H-7.	CoM, Developer	Medium
7.9A-7	Negotiate in future redevelopment of the sites adjacent to the Maribyrnong River in sub-precinct DY1 to achieve additional width of open space to improve environmental and recreational values of this corridor. Interface to the corridor to be improve access and passive surveillance, consistent with the Maribyrnong River Valley Design Guidelines 2010 or any similar guidelines that replace these.	CoM, Developer, DSE	Medium
7.9A-9	Establish two Local open spaces as a minimum in sub-precinct WM1 and WM2 to provide for future worker population in the future redevelopment of this precinct as part of the Dynon urban renewal area.	CoM, Developer	Medium
7.9A-10	Negotiate in future redevelopment of the sites adjacent to the Maribyrnong River in sub-precinct WMI to achieve additional width of open space to	CoM, Developer, DSE	Low



No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	improve environmental and recreational values of this corridor. Interface to the corridor to be improve access and passive surveillance, consistent with the Maribyrnong River Valley Design Guidelines 2010 or any similar guidelines that replace these.		
7.9A-11	Establish a new Small Local open space utilising part of Batman Street or similar to provide for the existing and future population and to assist with urban heat island effect mitigation in sub-precinct WM5.	CoM, Developer	Medium
7.9A-12	Establish a new Small Local open space utilising part of Batman Street or similar to provide for the existing and future population and to assist with urban heat island effect mitigation in sub-precinct WM6.	CoM, Developer	Medium

## B Additional open space links

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9B-1	Continue to improve the Dynon Road linear open space corridor link including future safe connections into redeveloped industrial sites to encourage cycling access for workers to the Dynon urban renewal area.	CoM, DSE	Medium

## C Capital City open space

Not applicable

## D Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9D-1	<b>Dynon Road Reserve</b> Continue to maintain as a regional linear trail connection through West Melbourne to the Maribyrnong River shared trail.	CoM	Ongoing
7.9D-2	<b>Flagstaff Gardens</b> Continue to implement existing Master Plan prepared for the Gardens.	CoM	Ongoing
7.9D-3	<b>Maribyrnong River Bank Reserve</b> Investigate increasing the width of this open space corridor as per Action 7.9A-7.	CoM	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9D-4	<b>Moonee Ponds Creek</b> Continue to improve the riparian zone where appropriate, and maintain the shared trail. Refer to Action 7.9A-1 regarding additional Capital City open space adjoining Moonee Ponds Creek in West Melbourne.	CoM, (MW)	Ongoing
7.9D-5	<b>Shepherd Bridge Reserve</b> Continue to maintain the trail and improve the landscape character consistent with the Maribyrnong River Design Guidelines 2010 or similar.	CoM	Ongoing

## E Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9E-1	<b>Wildlife Sanctuary (Depot)</b> Continue to maintain and manage for nature conservation and environmental improvement values.	CoM,	Low

## F Neighbourhood open space

Not applicable

## G Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9G-1	<b>Eades Park</b> Upgrade this open space to improve the design and use of this reserve to better cater to the needs of the local population, including options to reduce the impact on traffic movement and noise from King Street on the open space.	CoM	Medium

## H Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9H-1	<b>Hawke &amp; Adderley Street Park</b> Investigate road closure to expand this park to improve its function, design and use.	CoM	Very High
7.9H-2	<b>Hawke &amp; Curzon Street Reserve</b> Investigate options to increase the useability and function of this open space while retaining the urban character of the adjoining area.	CoM	High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9H-3	<b>Howard &amp; Williams Street Reserve</b> Prepare a Landscape Design Plan for this open space, investigating the potential to expand the size of this reserve utilising the existing road reserve providing some informal open space facilities in this sub-precinct. Refer also to Action 7.9A-6 regarding increasing the size of this open space.	CoM	Medium
7.9H-4	<b>Railway &amp; Miller Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.9H-5	<b>Spencer &amp; Dryburgh Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain, with minor improvements including additional tree planting and seating if required.	CoM	Medium

## J Small Local Link

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.9J-1	<b>Hawke &amp; King Street Reserve</b> Investigate options to improve the function and useability of this open space reserve.	CoM	Medium
7.9J-2	<b>King &amp; Victoria Street Reserve</b> Continue to maintain.	CoM	Ongoing
7.9J-3	<b>Railway Viewing Platform</b> Continue to maintain in the short term. Review function and design within the context of the future E-Gate redevelopment in sub-precinct WM1.	CoM	Medium

