WHITEHORSE
CITY COUNCIL

Draft for Consultation

Whitehorse Open Space Strategy 2024



Acknowledgements

Acknowledgement of Country

Whitehorse City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land. We pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

The Whitehorse Open Space Strategy 2024 has been prepared for the City of Whitehorse by Thompson Berrill Landscape Design in association with Environment & Land Management and EdgResearch along with guidance from the Council Project Working Group.

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Introduction

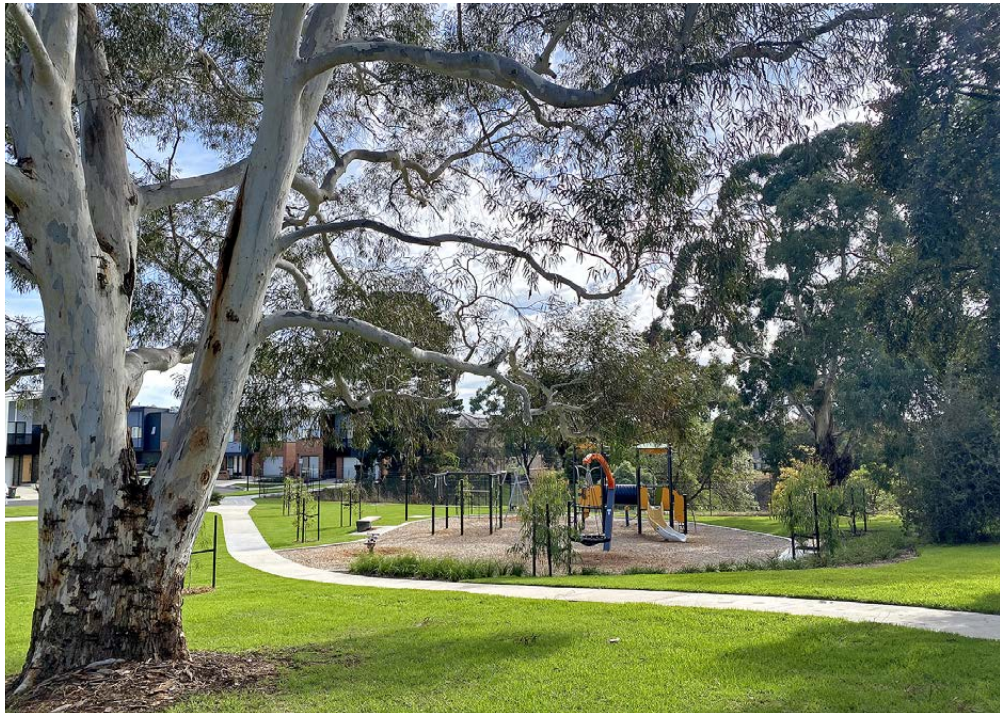
Purpose of the Strategy

The Open Space Strategy 2024 will provide an overall framework and strategic direction for the future provision, planning, design and management of the public open space network in the City of Whitehorse for the next 15 years. The Strategy considers both the existing situation and forecast change and population growth, along with the strategic basis for the open space contributions policy

Achievements of the 2007 Strategy

Council has implemented the 2007 Open Space Strategy, resulting the provision of new open spaces and guided major upgrades and improvements to the existing open space network.

The 2007 Strategy provided the strategic basis for setting the mandatory 4 per cent minimum open space contribution rate in the Whitehorse Planning Scheme for all eligible subdivisions. Land contributions in large development sites have been negotiated using the 2007 Strategy including at the Burwood Brickworks Site and the Daniel Robertson Brickworks Site. Once approved and adopted by Council, the 2024 Strategy will replace the 2007 Strategy.



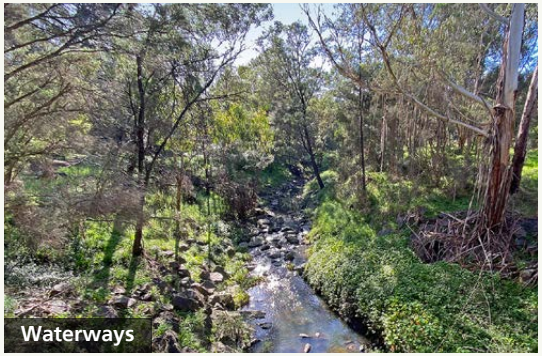
Strategy process



What is open space?

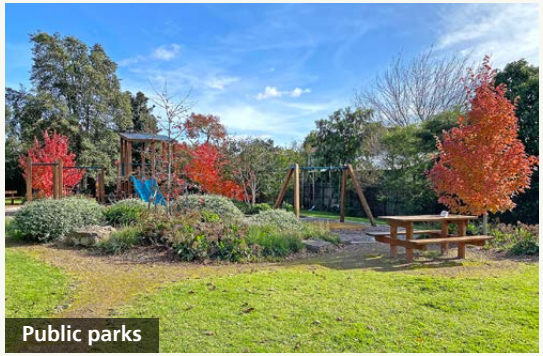
Public open space is all the publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for outdoor recreation, passive outdoor enjoyment and nature conservation and is open to the sky. It includes public parks, gardens, reserves, waterways and civic plazas/squares. It is generally zoned for public park, recreation or conservation purposes when held in public ownership. Public open space includes open space that is managed by or on behalf of the State of Victoria including Dandenong Valley Parklands, Wattle Park, Melbourne Water retarding basins and the future Healesville Freeway Reserve Linear Park.

Access may be restricted at certain times on a fee-paying basis or club membership basis. It is generally zoned for public park, recreation or conservation purposes.


Waterways


Public gardens


Public reserves


Public parks


Public squares


Sporting reserves

Why is open space important?

Overview

The community highly value the open space network for its natural qualities as well as the recreational values. The most commonly cited value of open space is a place to relax and unwind, followed by trees, connecting with nature, walking and cycling, just being outside and the native birds and wildlife. Open space significantly contributes to community health and wellbeing, the character and liveability of Whitehorse.

Open space also importantly supports and contributes to the biodiversity values with remnant indigenous and native vegetation being the dominant landscape character of the open space network. This is combined with high quality sporting facilities, an extensive network of waterway corridors and an extensive system of open spaces that provide informal recreational facilities and places to relax and enjoy the outdoors.

Open space is important for numerous reasons, some of which are described here:

Physical health, fitness and wellbeing







Biodiversity







Mental heath and wellbeing







Why is open space important?

Social connectedness







Urban heat island effect mitigation







Cultural heritage and character







Events and arts







Existing open space network

Located approximately 15 kilometres east of the Melbourne CBD, just over the 11 per cent of the municipality is open space, with 722 hectares of open space. This has increased from 690 hectares in 2007. The waterway corridors define and significantly contribute to the sense of place and character of the Whitehorse. Dandenong Creek flows along the eastern edge of the city with the large broad floodplain and wetlands associated with the Dandenong Valley Parklands providing excellent connectivity into adjoining municipalities to the east and the south. This contrasts with the steeply undulating Mullum Mullum Creek corridor in Mitcham, which flows along the north eastern boundary into the Yarra River catchment to the north. Yarran Dheran Reserve along with Schwerkolts Cottage provide a unique linear open space network in the north.

Blackburn Lake Sanctuary is a major destination open space in the headwaters of KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek that flows south through Blackburn, Box Hill South and Burwood. Blackburn Creek Parklands is a linked open space system that is one of the most popular in Whitehorse. Koonung Creek flows in an easterly direction towards the Yarra River along the northern boundary from Nunawading through Blackburn North, Box Hill, Mont Albert North and Balwyn North. Bushy Creek has a linked network of open space along its valley extending from Springfield Park through to Elgar Park. The shared path link through Box Hill North and Mont Albert North is very popular.

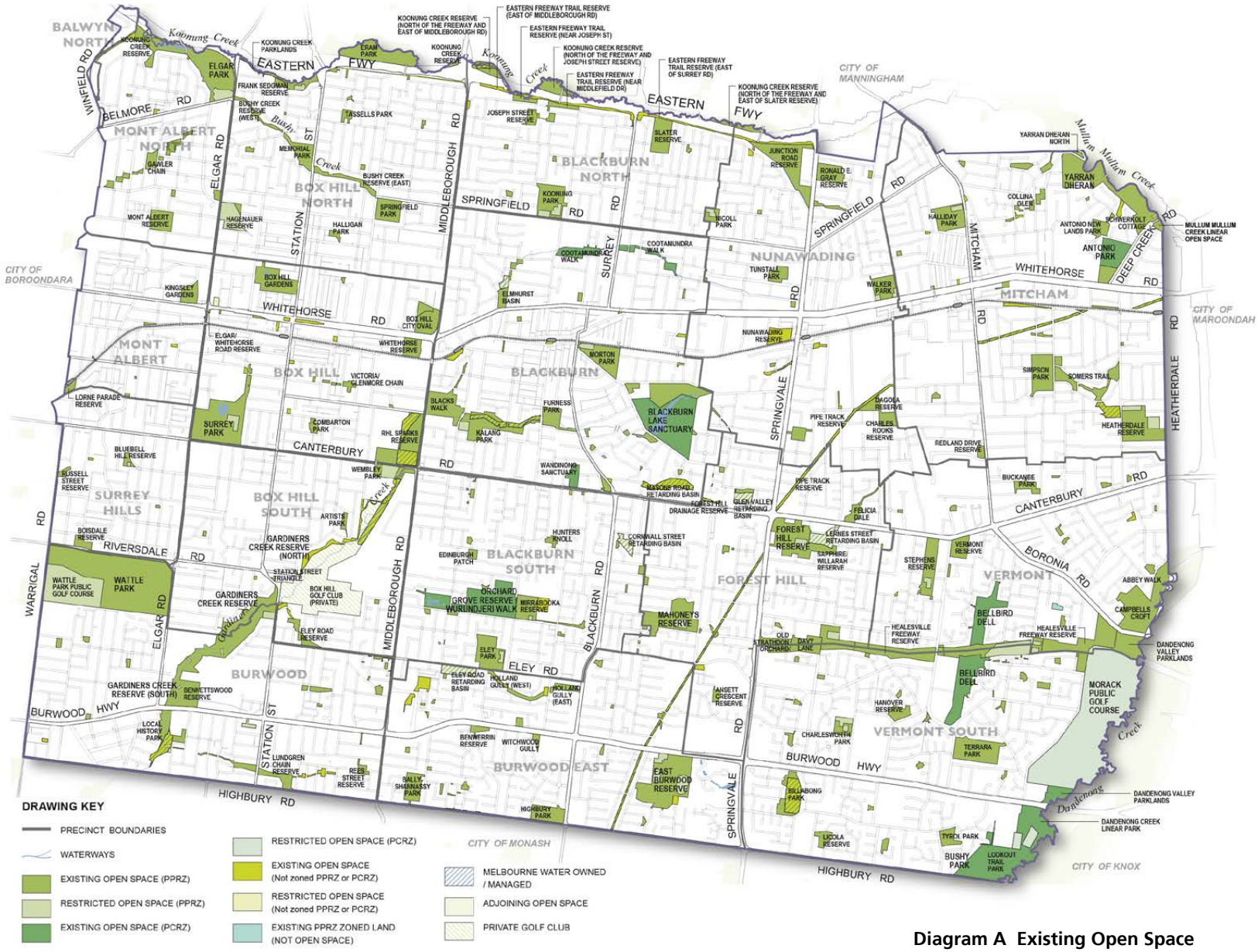


Diagram A Existing Open Space

Existing open space network

Other key linked networks of open space include Heatherdale Parklands in Mitcham, Bellbird Dell in Vermont, Lundgren Chain in Burwood, Cootamundra Walk in Blackburn, Holland Gully in Burwood East and Gawler Chain in Mont Albert North.

In addition to the linear networks of open space along the waterway corridors there are other notable open space for informal recreational activities including Halliday Park in Mitcham and Box Hill Gardens. Whitehorse is well known for its high quality structured sporting facilities ranging from elite level facilities through to community sport including Box Hill City Oval, Burwood East Reserve, Wembley Park, Forest Hill Reserve, Mahoneys Reserve, Surrey Park, Moreton Reserve, RHL Sparks Reserve and Heatherdale Reserve. Many of the sporting fields are also used informally by the community for walking, dog walking, jogging and socialising.

Complementing the network of large open spaces is a series of smaller Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces that are highly valued and well used by the community. The community survey outcomes identified that large parks and gardens (non-sporting), followed by small local parks are the most popular types of open space reserves. Local streets for exercise are of equal top priority and this highlights the importance of the local street network for health and wellbeing benefits, and providing connectivity to and between open spaces.

On a not frequently visited basis, small local parks are more popular than large reserves highlighting the importance of the small local parks in the overall open space network. In relation to what people value most about the open space network in Whitehorse, as a place to relax and unwind was the highest value followed by trees, connecting with nature, walking and cycling, and just being outside. Interestingly, dog walking was eleventh out of sixteenth as the preferred activities.

As the population grows, the Strategy has identified opportunities to expand the open space network and improve its quality to better meet the open space needs of the existing and future community.



The open space framework

Overview

In developing the Strategy, the role, character and distribution of existing open space has been assessed and mapped. The assessment forms the basis of understanding the existing network, assessing deficiencies and identifying what needs to change in the future.

Role

Each open space is assigned its role in the network as explained briefly below:

Regional open space is visited by a broader catchment of people beyond Whitehorse as well as the local community and can provide a regional biodiversity function. Examples include Dandenong Creek Parklands, Blackburn Lake Sanctuary and Wattle Park.

Municipal open space is primarily for the Whitehorse community providing facilities that the community will travel to including organised sport and recreation activities. Examples include Burwood East Reserve, Elgar Park and Box Hill Gardens.

Neighbourhood open space provide a diverse range of informal recreation facilities that appeal to a suburb. Examples include Lundgren Chain Reserve in Burwood, Tunstall Park in Nunawading and Memorial Park in Box Hill North.

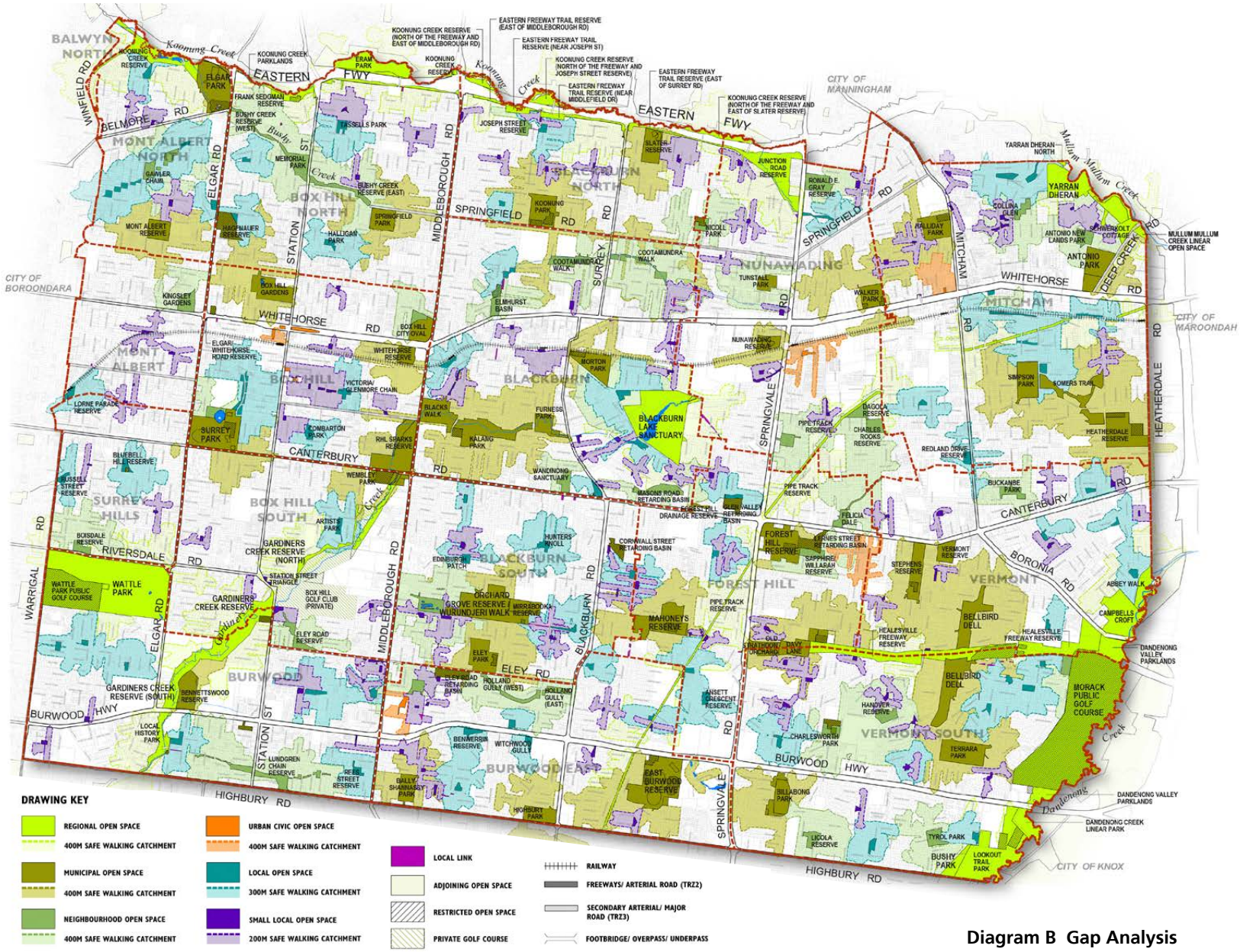


Diagram B Gap Analysis

What will change?

Urban civic open space is an iconic open space that provides character and identity to the activity centres. Examples include Box Hill Mall and Britannia Mall in Mitcham.

Local and Small Local open space caters to the community within an easy and safe walk and complement the larger reserves. Examples include Bluebell Hill Reserve in Surrey Hills and Rowland Street Park in Mont Albert.

Local Link provides connectivity between streets and open space for improved walkability.

Character

The Strategy aims to provide a diversity of character types to appeal to the different parts of the community. Each open space is assigned a primary and secondary character type and this assists to plan ahead for a diversity of character types in each precinct where possible.

Distribution

Each open space type is assigned a walking catchment, which is applied to all the open spaces. One of the key objectives in open space planning is to ensure equity of access and therefore aim to provide open space within a safe and easy walk of everyone. By mapping the walking catchments, it identifies areas where there is no open space. These are referred to as 'gap areas' and they appear as white areas on the open space distribution diagram.

Forecast population growth

Fast facts

Population change

= 20,000

Residents:

- 2021 (171,161)
- 2036 (208,037)

Jobs:

- 2021 (72,416)

Forecast population growth

A 22 per cent increase in the residential population is forecast across the municipality over the next 15 years. While there are no specific employment forecasts available, the economic activity in Whitehorse is anticipated to expand, particularly in the activity centres and the industrial precincts. This means there will be more people using open space, which will increase the demand on existing open space and facilities. Box Hill is forecast to experience a 68 per cent increase (with nearly 10,000 new residents) and Burwood East is forecast to have a 56 per cent increase (with just over 6,000 new residents, excluding growth associated with the future Suburban Rail Loop project).

Major Victoria Government infrastructure projects in Whitehorse

The Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) is a major Victorian infrastructure project involving a 90km rail line, with the first stage extending from Cheltenham to Box Hill. It includes two new stations in Whitehorse at Box Hill and Burwood and both stations will directly impact on existing open space while the project is in construction. They are also expected to generate significant economic activity and growth associated with them that will lead to additional growth beyond that already forecast. The projects are expected to be constructed between 2022 and 2035. The North East Link/Eastern Freeway Upgrade project is completing a missing link between an upgraded Eastern Freeway and the M80 Ring Road. Council is currently advocating to the Victorian Government to minimise direct impacts on existing open spaces along Koonung Creek and the Eastern Freeway during the construction phase.

Increased urban densities

Increased urban densities are proposed to accommodate the additional residential and employment population across the activity centres. With the community living and working in high density settings, they generally have lower amounts of private open space and this increases the need for public open space. In areas where increased urban densities are forecast, particularly high density, the Strategy has identified actions to accommodate higher levels of use of existing and new open space.

Change in land use

In selected locations, land use is changing from manufacturing or industrial uses to mixed use which includes residential. This means that people are working indoors in offices and this generally places a higher demand on open space to provide social and active recreational outdoor spaces as a break from work. Historically, these manufacturing and industrial areas typically had little or no open space, so there is a need to provide new open space as the land use changes.

Climate change

Extreme weather events

Climate change is predicted to result in more extreme weather events including extended dry periods combined with more severe storms, intense rainfall events and high winds which make vegetation management more difficult.

Urban heat island effect

Urban Heat island effect is the build-up of heat in urban areas, which is exacerbated by increased urban densities and building heights. The taller buildings trap heat overnight, particularly during periods of extended heat. With increased urban densities planned, the provision of open space with natural features and retained moisture will assist to off-set the build-up of urban heat.

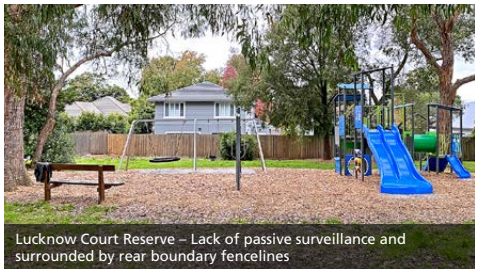
Overall directions

Improve the quality of existing open space

There is potential to improve the quality of existing open spaces to increase their appeal and accessibility to everyone and better cater for increased numbers of people visiting them. Quality includes the surrounding urban context, the facilities, the character and overall condition of the open space. One of the key issues in Whitehorse is the lack of public road frontages to many of the existing open spaces, meaning they are not highly visible, making them less desirable to visit. Selected open spaces have been identified to be expanded to include additional or wider entry points into the open space so it makes it more visible and accessible. Refer to Diagram C that illustrates where these are located.

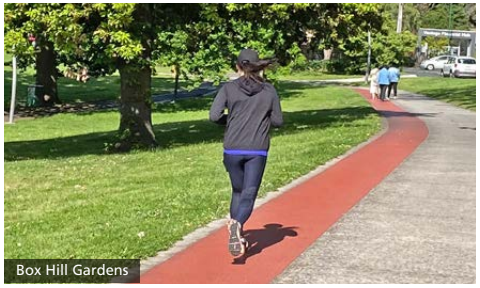


Lucknow Court Reserve – Narrow entry point


Lucknow Court Reserve – Lack of passive surveillance and surrounded by rear boundary fencelines

Increase the diversity of facilities in open space


Box Hill Gardens


Box Hill Gardens

The diversity of facilities will be increased so they appeal to different age groups and provide a wide range of structured sport and unstructured recreation facilities along with informal social facilities and spaces. This includes spaces that are natural in character to allow the community to relax and unwind. Recommendations have identified open space that requires either minor or major upgrades. As part of these upgrades, new facilities will be selected for their appropriateness to the local community, their adaptability to maximise shared use, their demonstrated sustainability and their scale and design to complement the inherent character and values of the open space. The intent is to encourage broader participation in unstructured recreation activities and socialising in open space while balancing this with the ability to relax and enjoy the natural values in open space.


Halliday Park

Provide open space within a safe and easy walk of everyone

This will be achieved by a number of actions including providing additional open spaces in the gap areas and expanding existing open spaces with new entry points into them to increase their visibility and accessibility. Other actions include improving the footpath condition and street tree planting in the local street network to improve the amenity to encourage people to walk the extra distance to reach open space. The Strategy also identifies opportunities to add Local Links to increase pedestrian permeability in the existing urban area, along with expanding


Kingsley Gardens


High density development creates need for more open space

Overall directions

two of the linear open space links. Other recommendations include improving the interface treatment between future development and existing open space. This includes requiring public road frontages to open space so it is accessible and encourages development to face open space to improve passive surveillance and safety. Refer to Diagram C for an overall snapshot of the spatial distribution of new and expanded open spaces. For more information about each of them refer to the relevant precinct in which they are located.

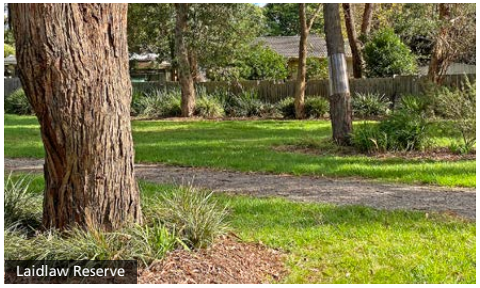


Good passive surveillance of open space

Protect and strengthen biodiversity values



Jean Street Reserve



Laidlaw Reserve

The presence of remnant or mature indigenous trees and vegetation in the open space network is a key feature that is to be protected and strengthened. This includes planting additional indigenous vegetation to introduce mid-storey and ground layer species where they increase diversity and do not impact on open and safe views into and within the open space. The Strategy supports the continued nature conservation work in the open space network by Council and the community to protect and strengthen these values.

Assist to mitigate urban heat island effect



Protect mature trees in future open space design



Burwood Brickworks

Continue to provide well distributed green open spaces across the municipality with a focus on the medium and high density precincts. This includes maximising permeable surfaces that will absorb moisture in combination with large broad spreading canopy trees that are effective at evapotranspiration and assists with urban cooling, along with incorporating sustainable water sources to support natural turf, garden beds and trees. The focus will also be on designs that allow winter sunlight and warmth and excellent shade and cooling in summer.

Overall directions

Proposed new open space and expansion to existing open space

This diagram spatially illustrates the areas in which new open space is proposed and highlights those existing open spaces that are proposed to be expanded.

The new open spaces are proposed in locations where there are either significant gaps in the existing open space network, or where there is forecast to be moderate to significant change.

The expansion to existing open spaces will address existing gaps in the open space network by establishing additional entry points into them will improve permeability from the surrounding street network and broaden out their walking catchments, making them accessible to more people.

The proposed new open spaces shown are diagrammatic and do not illustrate the actual size or specific location. The final location, size and configuration of proposed new and expanded open space will be determined during the Strategy implementation. It will be influenced by factors such as the rate of population growth and development, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding urban context and available funds.

For more information about the new and expanded open space refer to the precinct recommendations in this Strategy.

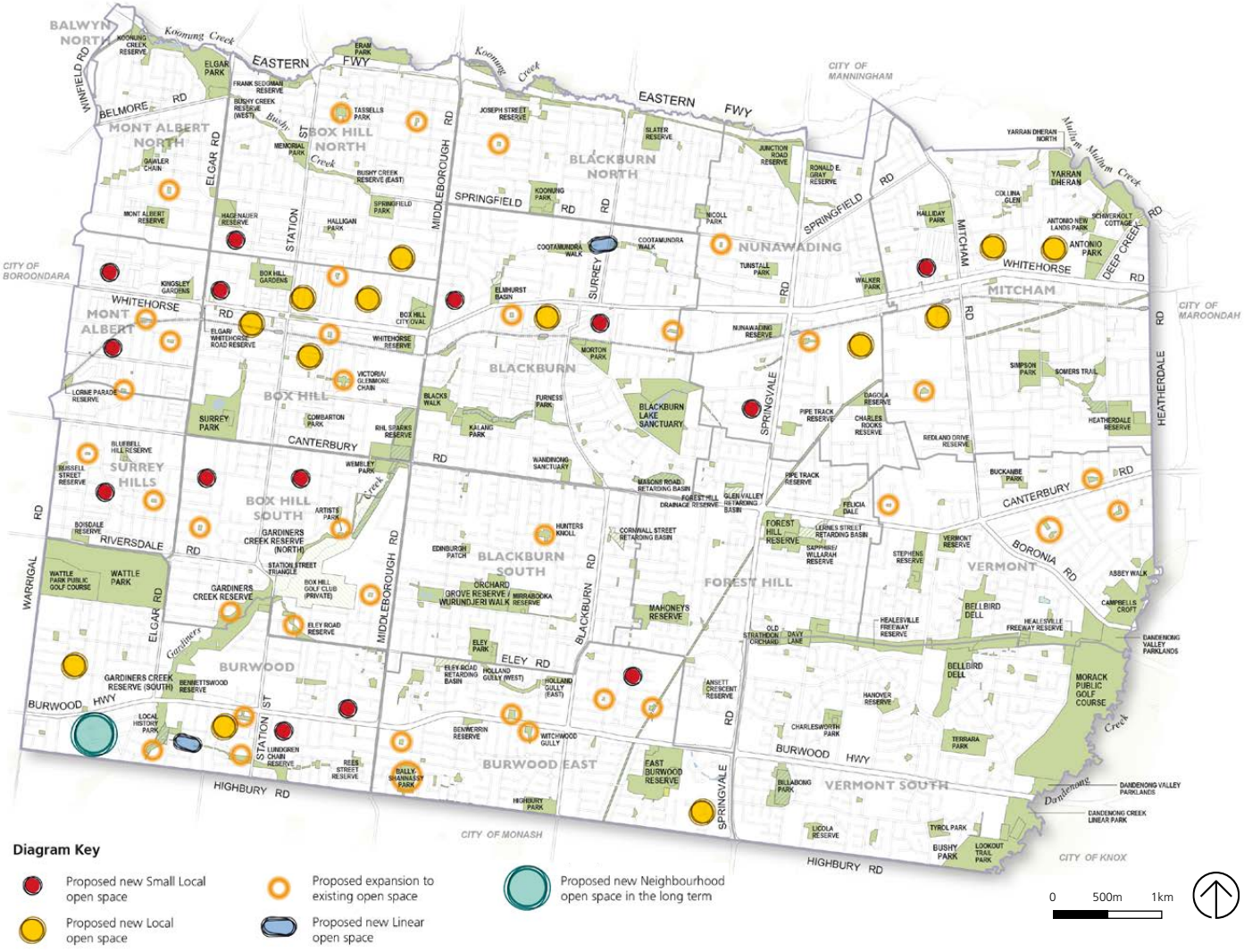


Diagram C Proposed areas for additional open space and expansion of existing open space

Overall directions

Proposed major upgrades to existing open space

This diagram spatially illustrates the proposed major upgrades across the existing open space network. The reason for the major upgrades are guided by the overall directions in the Strategy including to increase the diversity of unstructured recreation facilities and informal facilities that increase the role of open space as a social meeting place for the local community.

There are 14 priority major projects to be implemented over the 15 years, combined with a further 51 major upgrades across the network.

The upgrades are influenced by a range of factors including the condition of the existing open space, the existing urban context and the forecast change and growth. The implementation will be influenced by factors such as the rate of population growth and development, feedback from the community and available funds.

For more information about the intent and purpose of each of the major upgrades, please refer to the precincts in the next section of this Strategy.

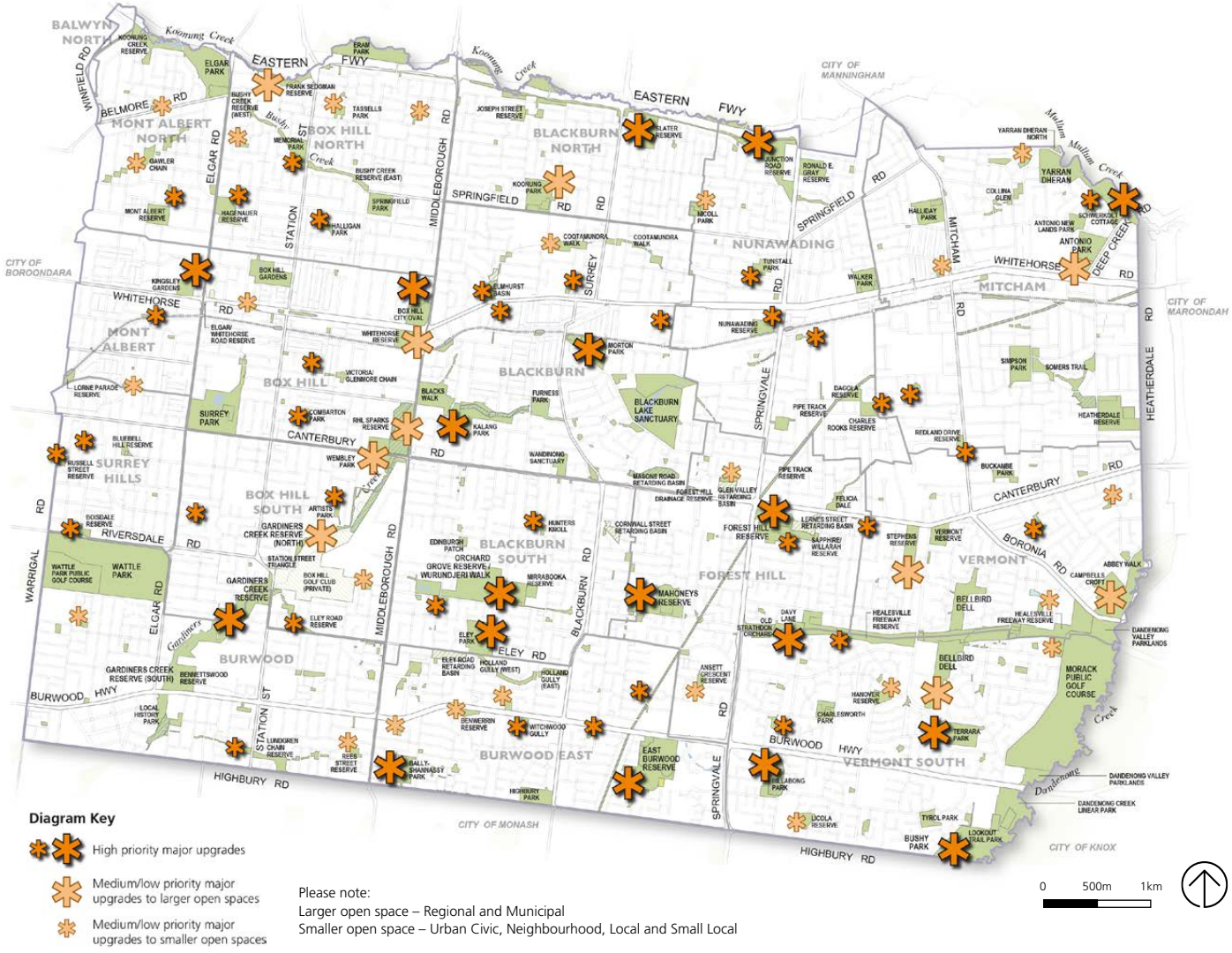


Diagram D Proposed areas for major upgrades to existing open space

Precinct recommendations

Overview

The open space needs assessment has been undertaken on a precinct basis to take into account the changes in the existing conditions and forecast change across each precinct. The precincts are generally consistent with the suburb boundaries and some are combined to directly correlate with the precincts used for the Whitehorse Community Profile. This allows the Strategy to be consistent with population forecasts and other strategic planning.

Forecast future change

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

- Residential forecasts prepared by .id Consulting for the City of Whitehorse and published as the Whitehorse Community Profile on their website, accessed May 2023.
- Whitehorse Housing Strategy 2014
- Whitehorse Planning Scheme, including the land use zoning that is summarised in Diagram E on the following page

The open space needs assessment and directions are based on these forecasts and directions.

Structure plans

Structure plans provide a framework for managing future growth and change activity centres in Whitehorse. The open space component of future structure plans will be informed by this Strategy. Where the open space recommendations in existing adopted structure plans differ from those in the Strategy, the recommendations in the adopted structure plan will take precedence until this Strategy is adopted.

Additional and expanded open space

The additional and expanded open spaces are shown symbolically on the precinct plans within a broader sub-precinct in which they are required. The final location, size and confirmation of new open space will be determined during the implementation of the Strategy. It will be influenced by a range of factors such as population growth, land acquisition opportunities, surrounding land use, urban layout and community feedback.

Existing open space improvements

Some of the existing open spaces are recommended for future upgrade as shown on the precinct diagrams. The open space not recommended for upgrade will continue to be maintained with ongoing asset renewal and maintenance as per existing program.

Existing masterplans

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

Future masterplans and design plans

Landscape masterplans will be prepared to guide the future upgrades to Regional and Municipal open spaces. Landscape Concept Plans will be prepared to guide future upgrades to the Urban Civic, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space.

Precinct recommendations

Land use and precincts

`The existing land use plan has been used to inform where changes in urban density are likely to occur outside of the major activity centres. In summary the pale pink areas on the plan illustrate residential areas that are likely to experience limited change according to the current zonings in the Whitehorse Planning Scheme. The darker pink areas indicate residential areas that will experience natural and substantial change, as referred to the Whitehorse Housing Strategy 2014. The land use plan also indicates the commercial, industrial and education land uses, all of which have informed the recommendations in the Strategy.

There are 16 precincts and they are assembled in alphabetical order in the Strategy.

If an open space does not have a specific action, it is intended to continue to maintain.

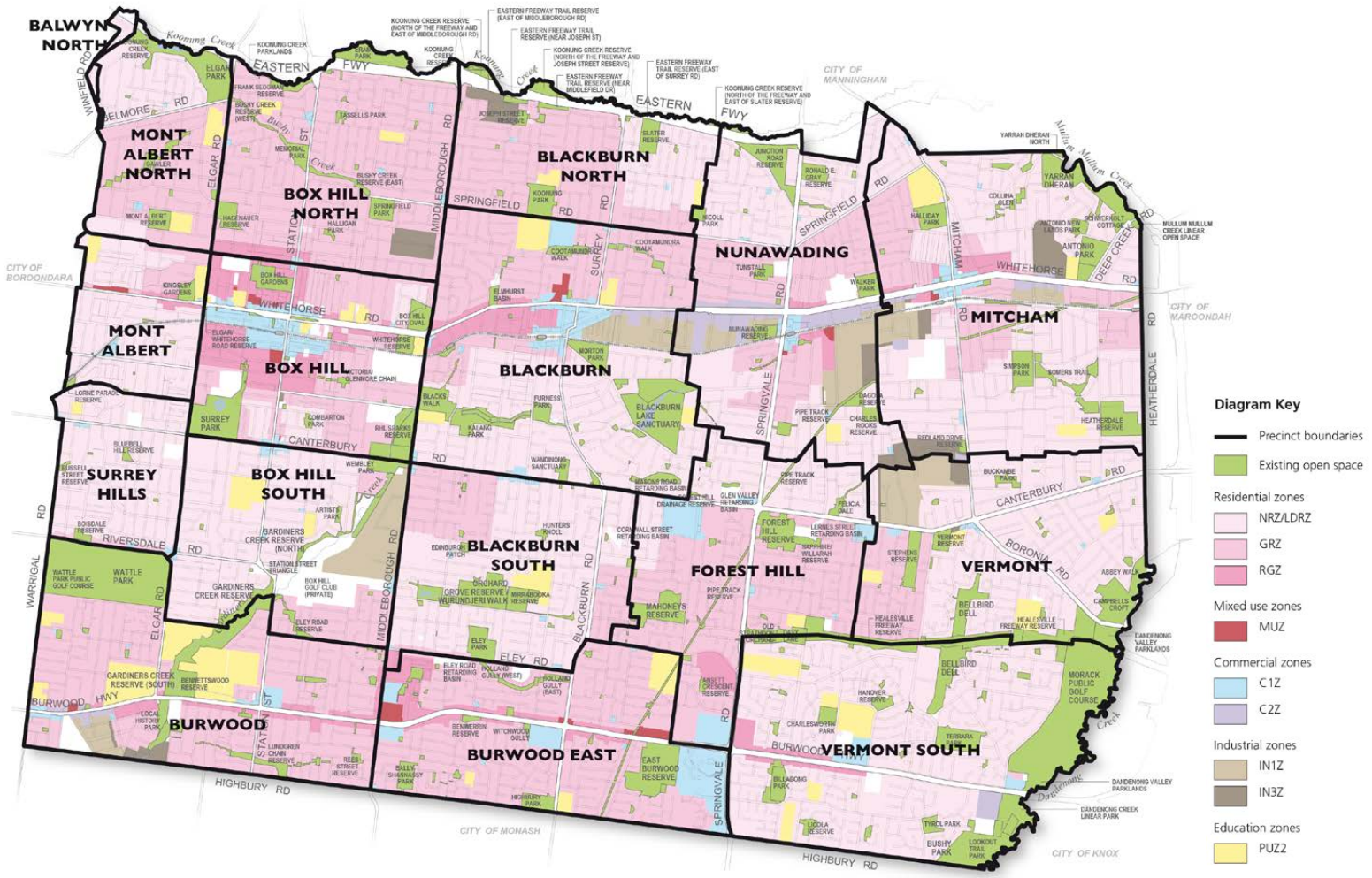
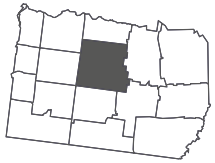


Diagram E Existing Land Use and Precinct Location

Blackburn



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

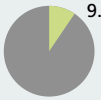
Total area

56.84 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Blackburn



Whitehorse

Relative to population density



39 per resident

Blackburn



36 per resident

Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (14,636)



2036 (18,497)



26%↑
Blackburn

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Blackburn will continue to change over the next 15 years with 3,831 additional residents forecast to be living in Blackburn by 2036, representing a 26 per cent increase. Blackburn Lake Sanctuary and Blackburn Creeklands are the most popular open spaces in Blackburn and provide a linked network of open space through the southern part of the precinct. North of Whitehorse Road, Cootamundra Walk is a connected system of open spaces along the valley of a tributary to KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek. Further west of Cootamundra Walk is a linked network of open spaces that connect to Elmhurst Basin.

While there is excellent provision of open space in many parts of Blackburn, there are gaps in the provision of open space between Whitehorse Road and the railway where medium and high density development will continue in the future. An additional gap area is located north of Whitehorse Road near Middleborough Road in an area where growth is also forecast to continue. New open spaces are proposed primarily to meet the open space needs of the new population and assist to mitigate urban heat in these higher density settings. Additionally, two existing Small Local open spaces are proposed to be expanded in size. North of Whitehorse Road, Pope Square can be increased in size by potentially relocating the community facility out of the park to create more space and cater to forecast increased urban densities along Whitehorse Road. Other changes include investigating options to provide a future open space link along the waterway to provide an off road link between Cootamundra Walk and Surrey Road. Additionally, investigate improving pedestrian connectivity between Laburnum Lot and the Blackburn Creeklands.

Quality and design

The Strategy recommends continuing to protect and strengthen the nature conservation and biodiversity values in the existing open space network, while introducing a broader range of unstructured recreation and informal facilities to appeal to a greater diversity of age groups. The new open spaces provide an opportunity to introduce diversity of character in the network with a focus on informal recreational use and social spaces with a more exotic character. Major upgrades are proposed to the unstructured recreational facilities at Morton Park to primarily cater to the forecast new population. Other major upgrades focus on improving the existing network including Elmhurst Basin, Kalang Park and Cootamundra Walk.

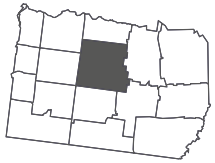

Elmhurst Basin


Cootamundra Walk


Morton Park


Blackburn Lake Sanctuary

Blackburn



Major upgrade to provide picnic facilities and improve interface to adjoining Blackburn North Shopping Centre.

Major upgrade including relocating pre-school out of the open space and redesign to primarily meet the needs of forecast community in high density development.

New Local open space in gap area BL4 to cater to the existing and forecast population. Aim to achieve improved east-west connectivity in the street network with new open space.

Investigate options to acquire future open space to provide an off road open space link between Cootamundra Crescent and Surrey Road.

Continue to advocate for signalised pedestrian crossing.

Minor upgrade to improve planting to the perimeter of the reserve to complement recent playground.

Minor upgrade to provide additional facilities to complement the playground including informal facilities.

Continue to maintain and plant additional canopy trees.

Minor upgrade to provide additional facilities to complement the playground area to create a social gathering space.

Major upgrade to increase the diversity of recreation and informal facilities for the existing and forecast community.

Continue to maintain and protect mature canopy trees.

Minor upgrade to provide path link and a seat.

New Small Local open space in gap area BL2 within easy walking distance of Whitehorse Road primarily for the forecast population.

Major upgrade to encourage use of this reserve for workers during breaks from work. Investigate options to enlarge this open space to increase its function and role in the open space network.

Undertake a major upgrade protecting and celebrating the mature trees on the site. Investigate expansion to the open space to increase its size and function in the context of forecast growth.

New Small Local open space in gap area BL5 for the forecast population to provide a high quality green space close to the high density precinct for informal use and contribute to urban greening and cooling.

Continue to maintain

Continue to maintain. Investigate options to improve access into Laburnum Lot and connectivity to Blackburn Creeklands.

Major upgrade for unstructured recreation and informal use primarily for the forecast population to the north.

Minor upgrade to upgrade picnic area and improve all ability access to the reserve.

Minor upgrade to Blacks Walk to provide picnic facilities and additional unstructured recreation facilities with recently installed playgroud.

Minor upgrade to provide local open space facilities.

Minor upgrade to extend the path link through the reserve.

Major upgrade to identify suitable location for a key destination facility in the Blackburn Creeklands system as part of an overall Landscape Masterplan.

In future advocate to achieve a designated development setback for a pedestrian link between Forest Road and Masons Road Retarding Basin.

Minor upgrade to include a greater diversity of unstructured recreation facilities, picnic facilities near the playground and path access.

Minor upgrade to provide path access and revegetation to strengthen the nature conservation values.

Minor upgrade to provide path access to the open space and playground.

Minor additional tree planting and seating.

Minor upgrade to create a viewing space.

Continue to maintain and protect overstorey tree canopy.

Continue to protect the native vegetation with weed control and revegetation.

Refer to Box Hill North

Refer to Blackburn North

Refer to Nunawading

Refer to Box Hill

Refer to Box Hill South

Refer to Blackburn South

Refer to Forest Hill



Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.

Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Future linear link along waterway
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Future pedestrian links / Improvements to existing links
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (PCRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Residential Growth/Mixed Use/ General Residential Zones
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Industrial Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Suburb boundary



Lithgow Avenue Reserve



Morton Park

Blackburn North



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

Total area

25.96 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area

Blackburn North	Whitehorse
9.6%	9.5%

Relative to population density

Blackburn North	Whitehorse
34 per resident	36 per resident

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (7,724)

2036 (8,156)

Blackburn North	Whitehorse
6%↑	22%↑

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Blackburn North is forecast to continue to experience moderate forecast change over the next 15 years with 432 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036 representing a 6 per cent increase. Koonung Park and Slater Reserve are the two major existing open spaces in Blackburn North, with the Koonung Creek Trail along the Eastern Freeway Reserve providing east-west connectivity along the northern boundary. The open space network includes a diversity of Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open spaces. There are a few gaps in the open space provision, with recommendations to expand Primula Park to improve connectivity or else seek an additional new Small Local open space to the west of Primula Park. In the longer term, both are likely to be required to fully address the open space gap area. Other gaps can be overcome with improved facility provision in the existing open space network as they are accessible via the local access street network without the need to cross major roads.

Quality and design

Middlefield Park is a good example of a Local open space that contains a diverse range of facilities that appeal to different age groups in the community. Both Koonung Park and Slater Reserve are proposed to receive major upgrades to improve the diversity of Neighbourhood level facilities, expanding the opportunities for the community to exercise and socialise. Nicoll Park, located in Nunawading, is proposed to be upgraded to meet the local open space needs of the community living in the south-east part of Blackburn North, along with the community in Nunawading. The predominantly native character of the existing open space network will be strengthened with additional planting.

Remnant indigenous vegetation along the Koonung Creek corridor adjacent to the Eastern Freeway and in Joseph Street Reserve will continue to be protected and improved with ongoing weed management and revegetation where appropriate. Council will continue to advocate to the Victorian Government to protect the natural and recreational values of the Koonung Creek corridor during the North East Link/Eastern Freeway upgrade project.


Koonung Creek – Eastern Freeway Reserve

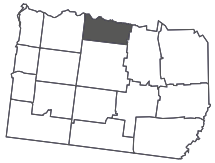

Koonung Park




Joseph Street Reserve


Slater Reserve

Blackburn North



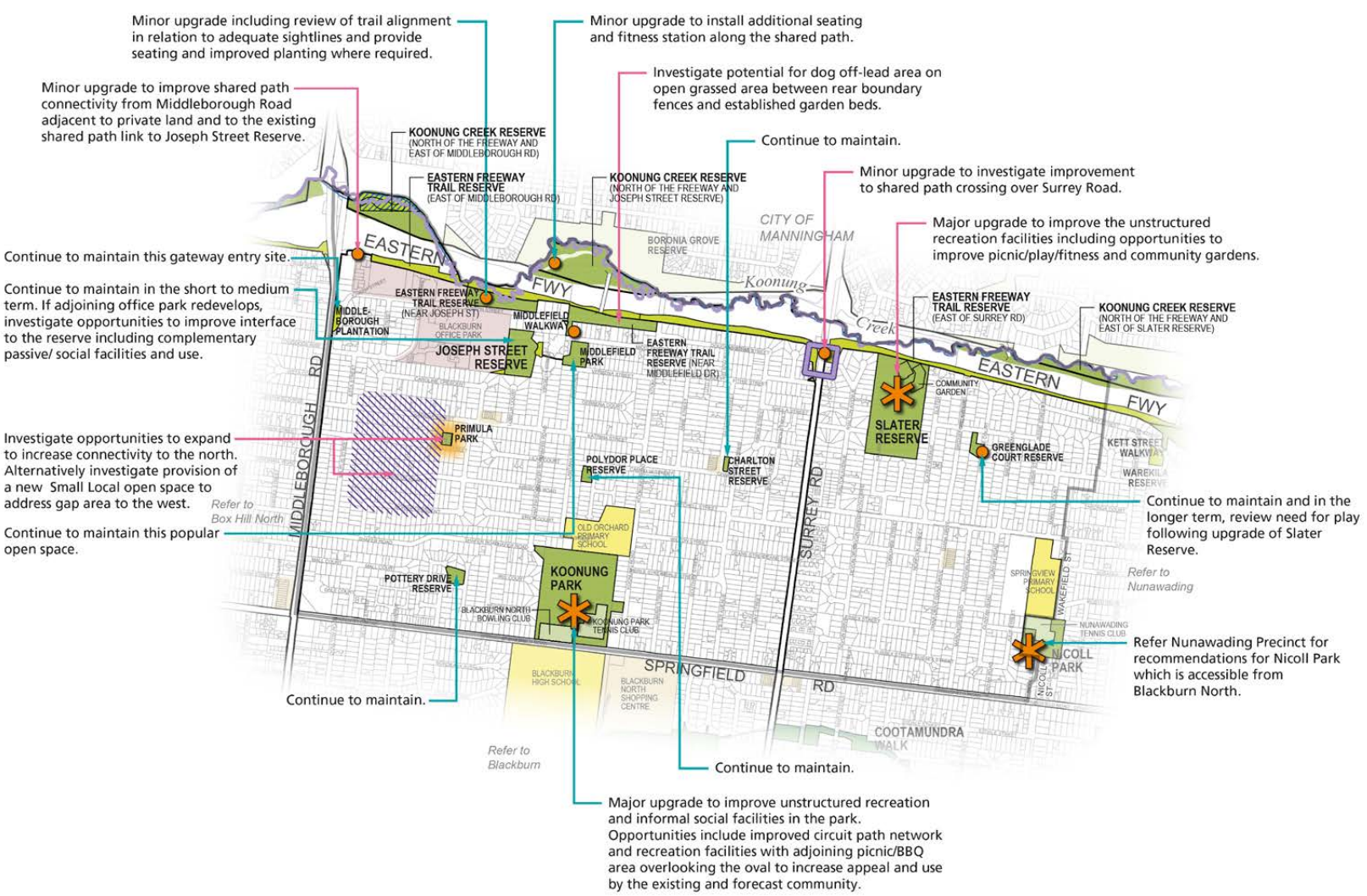


Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Industrial Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary


Middlefield Park

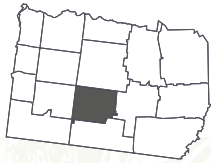

Slater Reserve and Community Gardens


Eastern Freeway Reserve

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.

Blackburn South



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

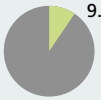
Total area

30.14 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Blackburn South



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

27 per resident
Blackburn South

36 per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (11,022)

2036 (11,957)

8%↑
Blackburn South

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Blackburn South is forecast to change over the next 15 years with 935 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036, representing an 8 per cent increase. Orchard Grove Reserve / Wurundjeri Walk, Mirrabooka Reserve and Eley Park are the major existing open spaces in Blackburn South, located in the southern part of the precinct and close to where there has been recent substantial growth in the population in neighbouring Burwood at the Burwood Brickworks site. In the northern section of the precinct, the series of local open spaces provides reasonable access to open space, however there are gaps in the existing network. The gaps in open space provision will be addressed by improving the quality of the existing open spaces and improving the condition of the footpaths in the local street network and through the open spaces themselves to encourage walking between open spaces. Hunters Knoll will be upgraded to improve the diversity of facilities to appeal to a broader age group, along with investigating enlarging the entries to this reserve so it is easier to see and safer to use.

Quality and design

Key priority actions for this precinct include preparation of a Landscape Masterplan to guide the future upgrades to the structured sport and unstructured recreation facilities in the Mirrabooka Reserve and Orchard Grove Reserve / Wurundjeri Walk. This includes integration of unstructured recreational use and access that complements structured sporting uses including a circuit path that can be lit from the existing sports field lighting and connecting into the broader path network through Wurundjeri Walk. The other key priority is to prepare a Landscape Masterplan to guide a major upgrade to the structured sport and unstructured recreation and informal facilities at Eley Park. This includes integrating the recent installation of the multi-purpose court facility into the broader park context, path network and facilities. A major upgrade is proposed to the Fulton Road East Reserve to diversify facilities in this catchment to encourage exercise and outdoor enjoyment for all age groups. Other works include a major upgrade to Hunters Knoll to address the existing gap areas.


Mirrabooka Reserve


Wurundjeri Walk

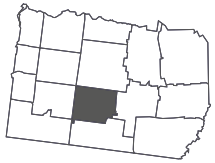

Eley Park






Edinburgh Patch

Blackburn South



Major upgrade to improve diversity and quality of facilities and character to increase appeal of reserve, including potential to enlarge entry points into the reserve to improve passive surveillance and safety.

Continue to maintain.

Continue to maintain and minor improvements with planting.

Provide a footpath link.

Provide a footpath link.

Minor upgrade to provide path access to existing play area and increase diversity of unstructured recreation facilities.

Minor upgrade with sealed path and formalised entry point into the adjoining retirement village.

Continue to maintain with minor improvements to provide a sealed path link through the reserve.

Prepare and implement a Landscape Masterplan in combination with Mirrabooka Reserve and include upgrade to improve the picnic/BBQ facilities/public toilet facilities adjacent to the playground and other works including ongoing revegetation of the waterway through the reserve.

Continue to maintain.

Continue to maintain with progressive improvements to environmental character with additional indigenous mid-storey planting to perimeter fencelines.

Undertake major upgrade to provide social and exercise/ fitness facilities for a more diverse age range, primarily for the forecast population. This will complement the nearby play facilities in Wurundjeri Wetlands.

Review the need for this open space including whether a pedestrian link into Cornwall Street Retarding Basin is required in the future.

Continue to maintain.

Minor upgrade including path link through the reserve including to Raleigh Reserve in Nunawading and planting to improve character.

Minor upgrade to provide seats and picnic tables for use by nearby commercial precinct.

Minor upgrade to include seating area with elevated views and review need for the play facility.

Continue to maintain.

Investigate opportunities to improve the pedestrian and cycle access along Finch Place and Forest Glen Avenue to provide improved east-west connectivity between Wurundjeri Walk and Mahoneys Reserve in Forest Hill as part of the broader east-west connection between KooyongKoot/ Gardiners and Dandenong Creeks.

Investigate option to install a signalised pedestrian crossing over Blackburn Road in the vicinity of Finch Place/Forest Glen Avenue. This is to provide the broader east-west shared path link between KooyongKoot/ Gardiners and Dandenong Creeks.

Continue to maintain.

Continue to maintain.

Prepare and implement a Landscape Masterplan to identify and resolve successful integration of the range of community and structured sporting uses with unstructured recreation facilities and access. This design is to celebrate elevated views to the north and use of space and character. This is for the existing and forecast community.

Prepare and implement a Landscape Masterplan in combination with Orchard Grove Reserve/ Wurrundjeri Walk, to plan for the structured sporting facilities along with a diverse range of unstructured recreation facilites that complement the structured sporting use including consideration of a circuit path network that links to Wurrundjeri Walk.

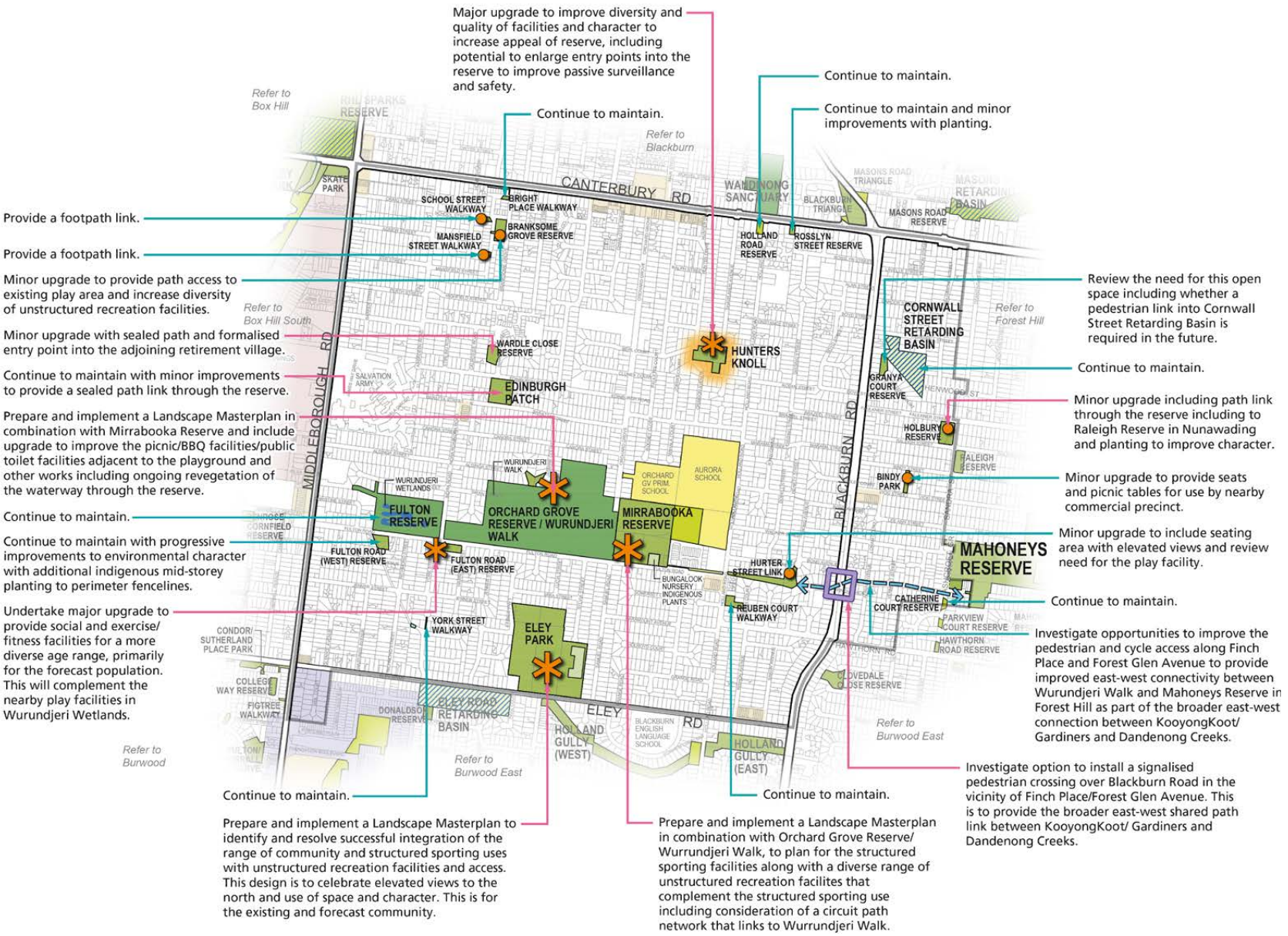


Diagram Key

- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Future pedestrian links/ Improvements to existing links
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (PCRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Suburb boundary

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.

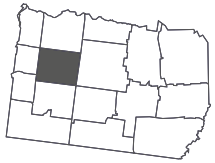


Holbury Reserve – view to Raleigh Reserve



Hunters Knoll

Box Hill



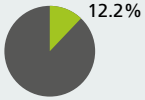
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

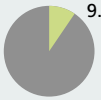
Total area

42.86 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Box Hill



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

29 per resident
Box Hill

36 per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (14,603)

2036 (24,499)

68%↑
Box Hill

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Substantial change is forecast in Box Hill over the next 15 years, with approximately 9,900 new residents living in the precinct representing a 67 increase by 2036, along with an expanded worker community. There is a need for more open space in the precinct. North of Whitehorse Road the larger open spaces are Box Hill Gardens, Box Hill City Oval and Bolton Park and Graham Place Reserve being a smaller local park. This Strategy has identified there is a need for a series of three new open spaces to be provided north of Whitehorse Road to add to the network and address the recent significant forecast growth. Additional open space is also needed to compensate for the loss of approximately one third of Box Hill Gardens while the Suburban Rail Loop Project is in construction over the next 15 years. The new open spaces will improve east-west connectivity in the local street network east of Station Street.

Between Whitehorse Road and the railway, significant change is forecast and upgrades are proposed to the existing open spaces, including expanding the size of Linsley Park to cater to the increased numbers of people living and working in this location. West of Station Street a new Local open space is proposed associated with the redevelopment of Box Hill Central. A new Local open space is proposed in the gap area east of Station Street within the core commercial area, along with expansion to the existing open space in the Victoria / Glenmore Chain.

Quality and design

Box Hill Gardens and Surrey Park significantly contribute to the open space character in Box Hill, with Box Hill Gardens and its predominantly exotic character with large deciduous trees, and the predominantly native and informal character of Surrey Park to the south. The diverse range of recreational facilities in both of these parks appeal to different age groups and contributes to their nominations as the most popular open spaces in Box Hill. Structured sport facilities are proposed to be upgraded in Box Hill City Oval, Whitehorse Reserve and RHL Sparks Reserve, along with the improved unstructured recreation and social facilities. Protecting existing and planting additional large canopy trees is a key aim for the existing and future open spaces given the increased urban densities Box Hill.


Surrey Park

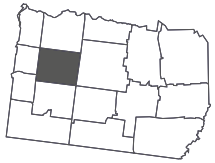

Whitehorse Road Reserve


Box Hill Gardens




Box Hill Mall

Box Hill



Continue to protect the established mature trees and character including its contribution to the sense of place, urban greening and mitigating urban heat.

Council to continue to advocate for minimal impact on the eastern part of Box Hill Gardens and return for community use as early as possible, as part of the Suburban Rail Loop project by the Victorian Government.

New Local open space in gap area BH2 primarily for the forecast workers and residents and to compensate for the loss of use of the eastern extent of Box Hill Gardens to the Suburban Rail Loop project.

New Local Link in gap area BH2 to establish a new east-west link between Court Street and Kangerong Road to improve access to the proposed new Small Local open space.

Major upgrade to primarily cater to the forecast resident and worker community in the civic precinct. Investigate options to expand the size of Linsley Park as part of a major upgrade.

Continue to maintain. In the longer term investigate options to expand this reserve to increase the diversity of facilities and uses.

New Local open space in gap area BH3 within a one-kilometre catchment as part of the replacement open space for the Suburban Rail Loop project. This will be provided by the Victorian Government and will improve east-west connectivity.

Two new local links in gap area BH3 to establish east-west pedestrian access to open space between Clota Ave and Pendle St.

Major upgrade to increase the diversity of unstructured recreation facilities and access to the park predominantly for the forecast population.

Prepare and implement a Masterplan for this precinct to guide future upgrades to structured sporting use, including consideration of unstructured recreation needs for the adjoining Bolton Park.

Major upgrade of unstructured recreation facilities to complement the structured sporting use.

New Local open space in gap area BH7 on the existing Council owned Harrow and Ellingworth / Pippard Street car park.

Continue to maintain in the short and medium term. In the longer term minor upgrade to the facilities and potential expansion to the size.

Continue to maintain.

Undertake major upgrade to improve unstructured recreation facilities in this reserve.

New Small Local open space – refer to Box Hill North

Undertake a minor upgrade addressing lighting, additional fitness equipment, additional seating and trees.

Continue to maintain and undertake a major upgrade as part of the establishment of a new large Local open space on the Box Hill Central site.

New Small Local open space in gap area BH1 primarily for the forecast community.

New large Local open space in gap areas BH4, BH5 and BH6 on the Box Hill Central site as part of its future redevelopment to primarily cater to the forecast future worker and resident community.

Undertake minor upgrades to cater primarily to the forecast community needs, including to review and confirm whether a play facility is required given close proximity to Surrey Park.

Continue to maintain.

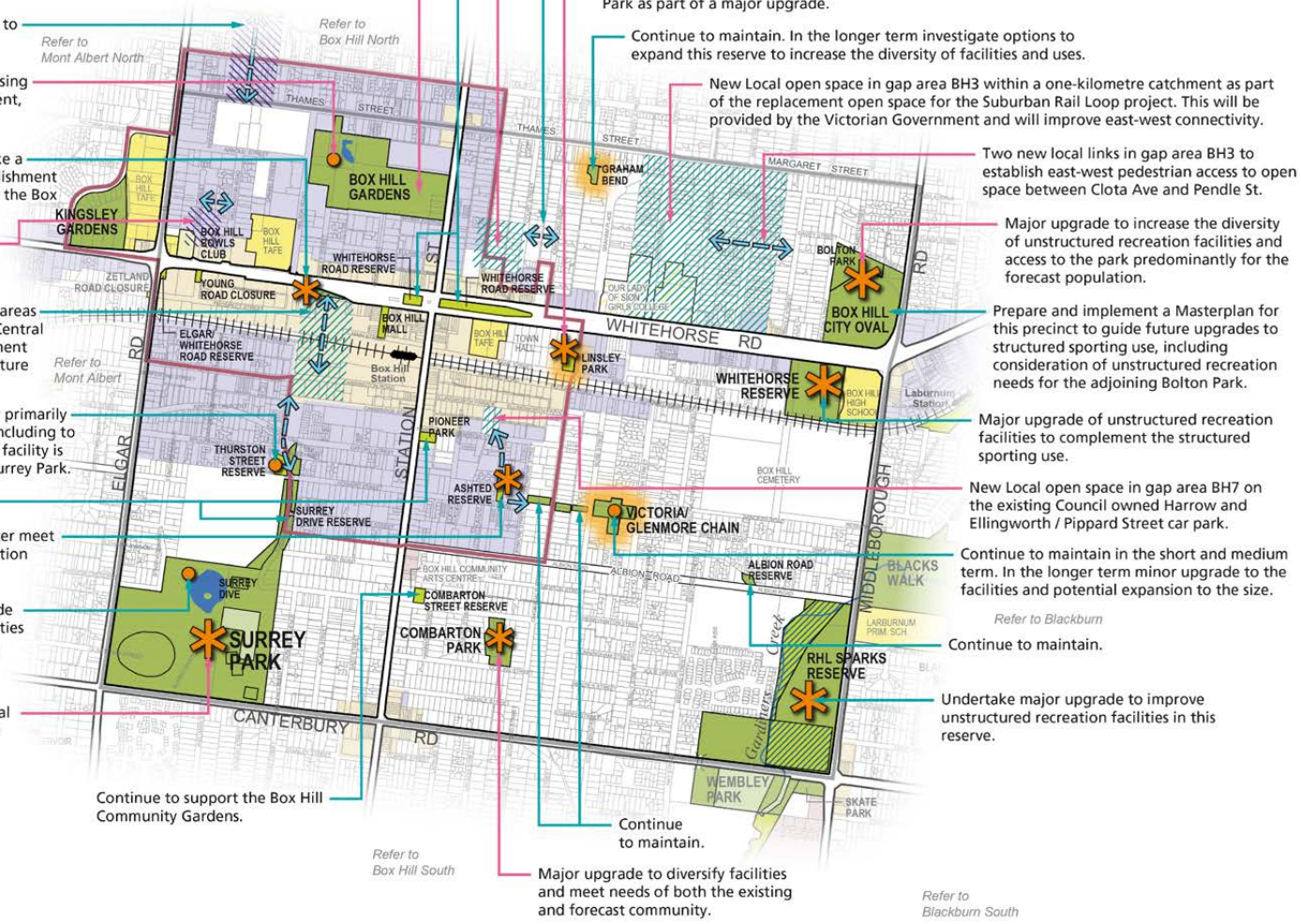
Undertake a major upgrade to better meet existing and forecast future population open space needs.

Undertake minor upgrade to provide additional social and informal facilities to cater to the forecast community.

Major upgrade to provide additional unstructured recreation facilities to cater to the forecast community.

Continue to support the Box Hill Community Gardens.

Major upgrade to diversify facilities and meet needs of both the existing and forecast community.



Continue to maintain.

Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Future pedestrian links/ Improvements to existing links
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Residential Growth/Mixed Use/General Residential Zones
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Suburb boundary
- Metropolitan Activity Centre boundary



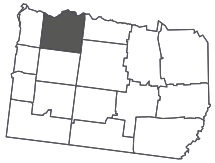
Box Hill community gardens



Victoria Rose Reserve / Glenmore Chain

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Box Hill North



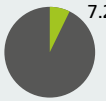
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

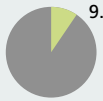
Total area

28.45 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Box Hill North



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **23** per resident
Box Hill North

m² **36** per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (12,467)

2036 (14,053)

13%↑
Box Hill North

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Box Hill North is forecast to continue to experience significant change over the next 15 years with 1,586 new residents forecast to be living in the precinct by 2036, representing a 13 per cent change. Bushy Creek Reserve provides a central linear spine of open space extending from Springfield Park in the east to Elgar Park in the west, located across the precinct boundary in Mont Albert North. With Koonung Creek and the Eastern Freeway forming the northern boundary to the precinct, this provides a second east-west linear open space link for the community. Between these two networks there is a series of Local and Small Local open spaces that meet local open space needs. There are some gaps in open space provision, with the key gap area being in the south-eastern part of the precinct, which directly adjoins a gap area to the south in Box Hill. This Strategy recommends providing a new Local open space to address the gap area and improve north-south pedestrian connectivity, and a new Small Local open space in the south-western area of the precinct. Other smaller gap areas are proposed to be addressed with proposed expansions to three existing open spaces to increase their role in the network.

Quality and design

Memorial Park, located on the popular Bushy Creek linear trail, is to become a major destination park for the precinct with a diverse range of unstructured recreational facilities, picnic and barbecue facilities, and strengthening of the landscape character of the reserve. Another major upgrade is proposed for Willow Street Park and the adjoining Hagenauer Reserve, with a proposed reconfiguration of these two reserves by changing the fence alignment to increase the areas that are available to be used by everyone. Following expansion to Tassels Park a major upgrade will increase the diversity of facilities and improve access.

A series of other upgrades are proposed to improve the diversity of facilities and character of the open space network. Given the substantial increase in the population in Box Hill, the open spaces in the southern area of Box Hill North will be upgraded including Springfield Park and Halligan Park. Council will continue to advocate to the Victorian Government to protect the natural and recreational values of the Koonung Creek corridor during the North East Link/Eastern Freeway upgrade project.

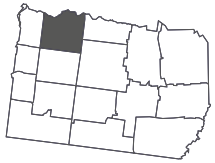

Bushy Creek Reserve East


Memorial Park


Tassells Park


Eram Park

Box Hill North



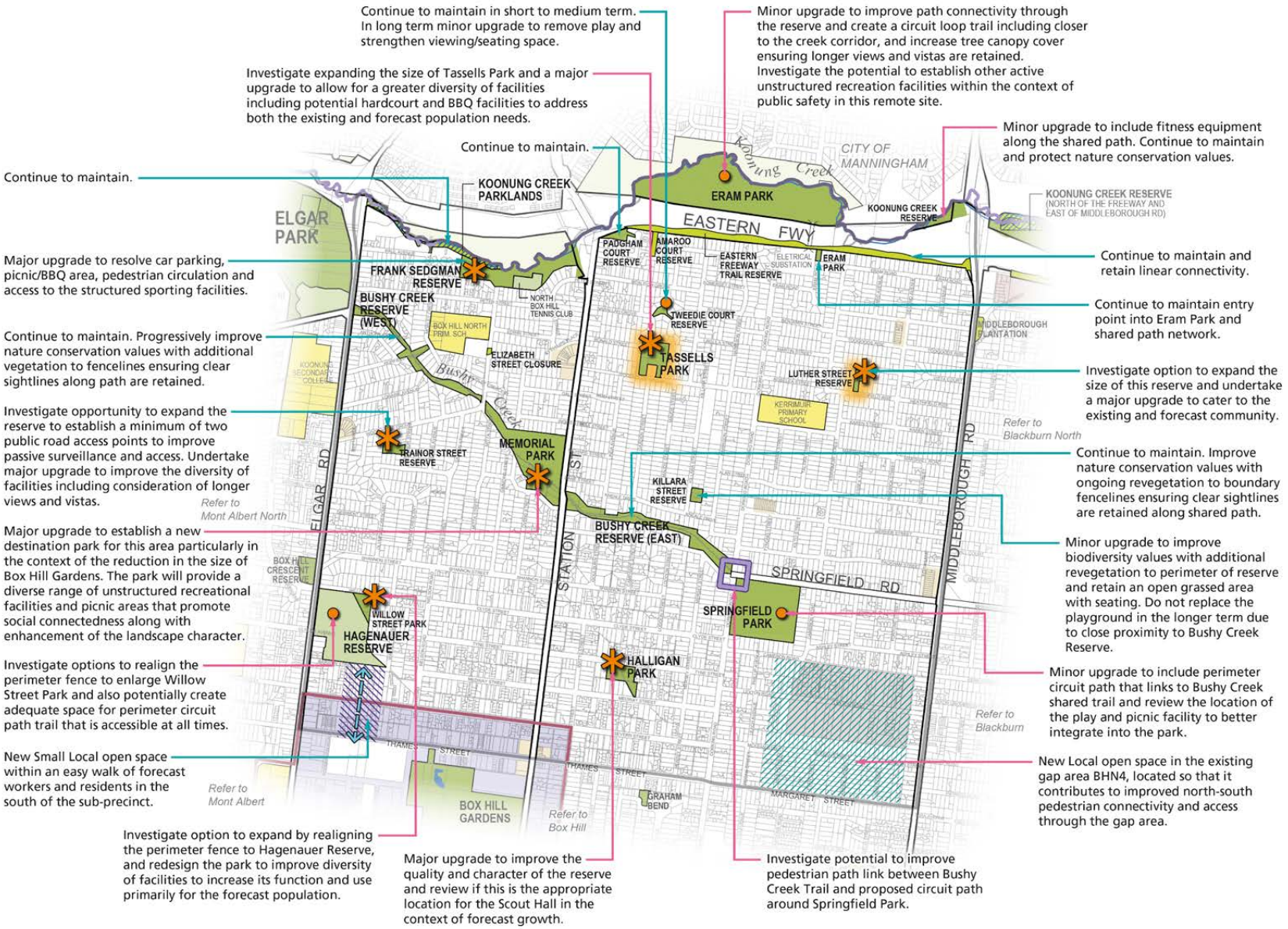
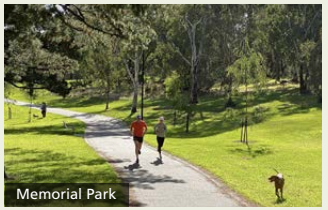


Diagram Key

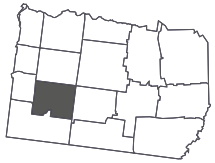
- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Future pedestrian links/ Improvements to existing links
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.


Memorial Park


Frank Sedgman Reserve

Box Hill South



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

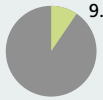
Total area

17.59 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Box Hill South



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **20** per resident

Box Hill South

m² **36** per resident

Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (8,629)

2036 (9,323)

8%↑
Box Hill South

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Box Hill South is forecast to experience moderate change with an additional 694 residents living in the precinct by 2036, representing an 8 per cent increase. The majority of this change is forecast to be in the north, in the vicinity of Hay Street and Canterbury Road, along with a level of distributed change across the area south of Box Hill Private Golf Course. Gardiners Creek Reserve is the key regional open space in Box Hill South and is popular for walking and cycling, providing good north-south connectivity. Eley Road Reserve is a linked network of open space that connects to Gardiners Creek Reserve in the south-eastern area of the precinct. Other key open spaces include Artists Park and Wembley Park in the north. There are significant gap areas in open space provision in Box Hill South including in the north-west and east. A new Small Local open space is recommended in the north-west gap area along with an expansion to Chaucer Street Park. To the east, improving access along the Gardiners Creek trail as part of any future redevelopment in the industrial precinct, and major upgrades and expansion to Eley Road Reserve and Penrose Cornfield Reserve, will improve accessibility, character and use, particularly in the context of forecast change. The private Box Hill Golf Club is located across a large section of KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek north-east of Station Street. While this contributes an unbuilt natural character to the area, the Strategy recommends that if this land use changes in the future, there is an opportunity to secure a linked public open space corridor along KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek as part of that change.

Quality and design

KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek significantly contributes to the landscape character and nature conservation values of Box Hill South. Artists Park celebrates the Heidelberg School of artists who painted the native bushland character of Australia and the Strategy recommends improving the connection to KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek to strengthen these values. Major upgrades are proposed along KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek with a focus on increasing the diversity and quality of local facilities within the reserves in the south. In the north, the priority is to resolve and improve the shared path and local linkages into the KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek corridor. Major upgrades and expansions are proposed to Eley Road Reserve and the Penrose Cornfield Reserve. In the north-west, an expansion to the Chaucer Street Park will include a more diverse range of facilities to complement the recently established play facility. The elevated views from this reserve provide a point of difference from the other open spaces in Box Hill South, along with the more exotic landscape character away from the KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek catchment.


Gardiners Creek Reserve (South)

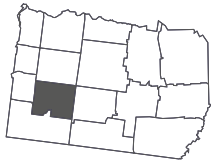

Eley Road Reserve


Box Hill Skate Park


Artists Park


Gardiners Creek Reserve (North)

Box Hill South



Provide a new Small Local open space in gap area BHS2 to primarily meet the needs of the existing community.

Undertake a major upgrade of the unstructured recreational facilities. Adjoining future development site to provide a public road and future open space land contribution along the southern boundary to expand the reserve and achieve passive surveillance and connectivity to the KooyongKoot/Gardiners Creek Corridor.

Provide a new Small Local open space in gap area BHS1 to primarily meet the needs of the existing community.

Investigate options to expand the size of this open space to allow for a greater diversity of activities, including larger grassed area.

Major upgrade to improve the path links and increase connections and sightlines into and along the path, and protect and improve the nature conservation values.

Remove the PPRZ zoning from this site as it is a community facility (Lions Club) and it is not preferred as open space due to the proximity to major arterial roads.

Continue to maintain playground and improve seating area overlooking play area. Rezone as public open space.

Major upgrade to the Neighbourhood level facilities including investigating options to expand existing entry points or provide additional ones to address gap area BHS4 and improve passive surveillance and the contribution of this reserve to the landscape character and greening of the area.

Continue to protect the mature tree.

Continue to maintain and improve signage to highlight linear link between Eley Road Reserve, Boardman Close Reserve and Gardiners Creek Reserve.

Investigate potential to install a pedestrian crossing for improved access from gap area BU5 in Burwood to the south.

Undertake major upgrade to cater primarily for forecast growth in Burwood and Box Hill South. Increase the diversity of facilities, identify opportunities to expand to include additional entry points into the reserve to the north east to address gap area BHS5 and improve the nature conservation values.

Continue to maintain.

As part of the future redevelopment of this site, ensure an activated interface is achieved between the development and KooyongKoot/Gardiners Creek to provide excellent passive surveillance and public access directly adjoining the existing open space corridor.

Major upgrade including to investigate opportunities to widen the southern entry and improve connectivity to the Gardiners Creek Trail and also improve access to it from the western boundary, improve accessibility and use of the reserve.

In future redevelopment of industrial land provide a continuous open space corridor on the east side of Kooyong-Koot/Gardiners Creek and achieve public road frontage to Gardiners Creek to improve passive surveillance and access. Improve accessibility between industrial sites and the Trail.

Major upgrade to improve character and diversity of facilities and investigate options to expand its size to address gap area BHS5.

If there is any change of land use associated with Box Hill Golf Club, undertake an open space needs assessment to identify if new open space is required.

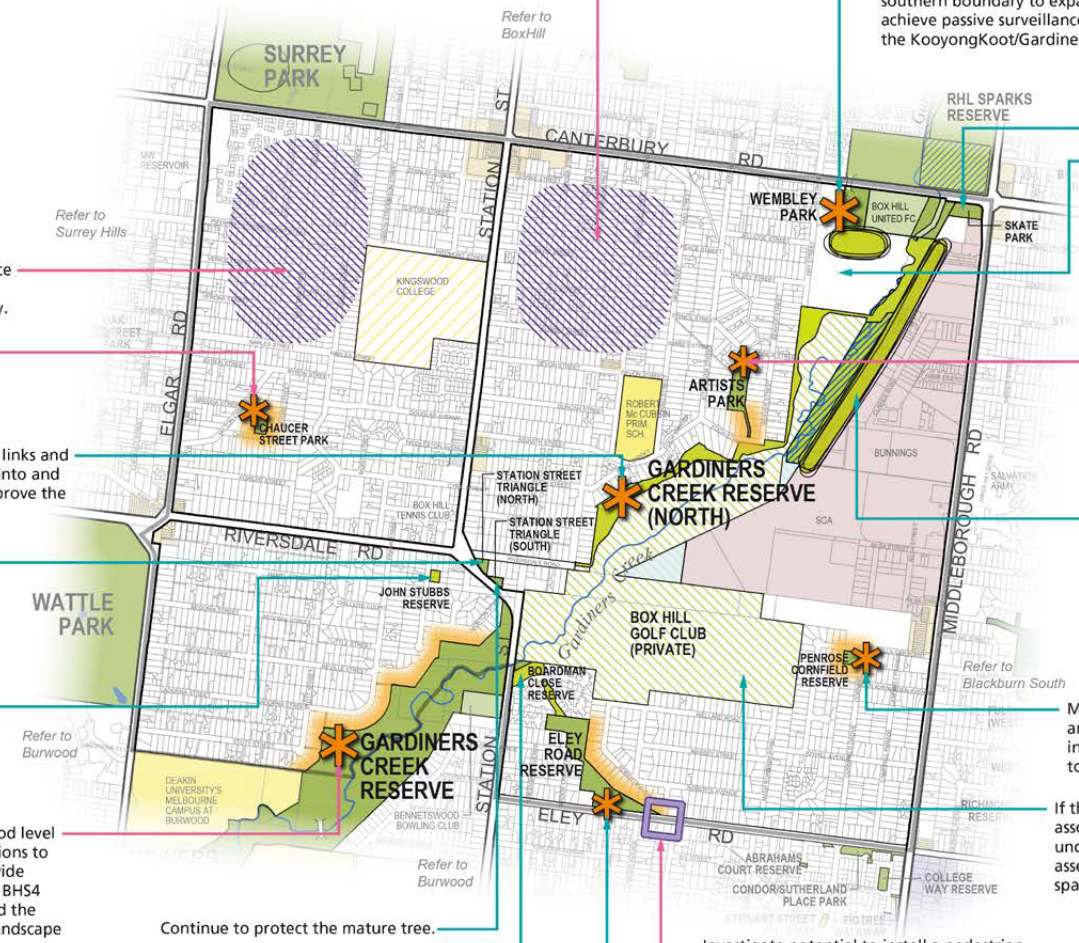


Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Improve public access to existing open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Industrial Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Suburb boundary

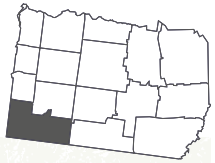
Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.


Chaucer Street Park


Penrose Cornfield Reserve

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Burwood



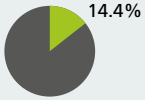
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

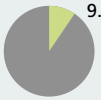
Total area

72.89 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Burwood



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

58 per resident
Burwood

36 per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (12,543)

2036 (14,863)

18%↑
Burwood

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Wattle Park, KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek, Bennettswood Reserve and Lundgren Chain Reserve are key areas of open space in Burwood. Burwood Highway runs east-west through the precinct and creates a distinct barrier to open space access. An additional 2,320 residents are forecast to be living in Burwood by 2036, which represents an 18 percent increase. The forecast change is mainly anticipated along the north and south sides of Burwood Highway and along Middleborough Road, where high density development is anticipated to continue. The Victorian Government recently confirmed the location of the future Suburban Rail Loop station in Burwood on the east side of KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek, on the Alinta National Power Service site and Sinnott Street Reserve. The population forecasts noted above do not factor in the new station which is forecast to open by 2035. With the forecast change the existing gaps in open space in Burwood will be exacerbated, particularly between the Burwood Cemetery and KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek, south of Burwood Highway. This Strategy has identified the need for new Local and Small Local open spaces over the next 15 years, and in the longer term, a new Neighbourhood open space may be required. The closed Bennetswood Tennis Club site and Roslyn Street Reserve are two existing open spaces in Burwood that are identified to be investigated for alternative configuration and use.

Quality and design

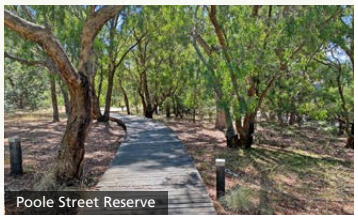
Gardiners Creek Reserve, Wattle Park and Lundgen Chain Reserve all significantly contribute to the predominantly native and natural open space character of Burwood. Major upgrades are proposed to the facilities in Gardiners Creek Reserve, Lundgren Chain Reserve and the smaller Rees Street Reserve and Murray Drive Reserve to better cater for forecast growth. The new open space reserves will provide an opportunity to introduce some diversity in character and facilities to primarily meet the open space needs of the forecast population living and working in higher density environments with less private open space.


Lundgren Chain Reserve

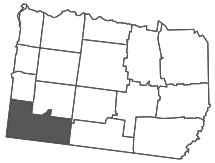

Gardiners Creek Reserve


Apex Park


Rees Street Reserve


Poole Street Reserve

Burwood



Council to continue to advocate for local community access and use of Wattle Park including the upgraded regional play facility and informal recreational use of the oval.

Implement the outcomes of existing Masterplan being prepared with all agencies and traditional owners.

Bennettswood Reserve
Prepare masterplan to guide improvements in partnership with Deakin. Priority Very High

Investigate improvements to public realm associated with retail precinct to improve greening and create a meeting place given lack of public open space and to address gap area BU4.

Investigate two options for this reserve. One is to expand its size and increase physical and visual access from the south and west. Option two is alternatively to dispose of this open space and provide a new Local open space in a more accessible location within the same walking catchment.

Continue to maintain.

Major upgrade to remove play and develop as a park that appeals to diverse age groups including a focus on fitness for adults, given the nearby Banksia Waratah Reserve has play facilities.

As part of any future redevelopment of sites south of Wattle Park in the gap area BU2, identify opportunities to provide access points into Wattle Park.

Investigate potential to install signalised pedestrian crossing on Eley Road to assist addressing gap area BU5.

Provide new Small Local open space in gap area BU6 including investigating reconfiguring road reserves at intersection of Greenwood/Tennyson Streets.

Continue to maintain.

Minor upgrade to improve function of open grassed area.

Minor upgrade to add picnic facilities to complement the play space.

Continue to maintain recently upgraded play area and add seating to enjoy the views.

Continue to maintain.

New Local open space to address the gap area BU3 and potentially replace Roslyn Street Reserve, which has limited value and role in the open space network due to impact of Burwood Highway traffic noise and movement/ safety.

Continue to maintain in the short term. In the medium term, minor upgrade to include picnic facilities and other features that encourage fitness and exercise for a broader age range.

Minor upgrade to provide path link and do not replace playground in the longer term, once upgrade of Rees Street Reserve is complete.

Continue to maintain.

In the longer term, new Neighbourhood open space primarily to address the forecast higher density development associated with the proposed new Burwood Station as part of the Suburban Rail Loop project.

Review and update the existing Masterplan to address future change brought about by the proposed new Burwood station, incl. the use of urban agriculture.

New Small Local open space in gap area BU8 for the existing and forecast population in higher density development along Burwood Highway.

In the longer term if adjoining land redevelops, investigate opportunities to expand linear open space down to Highbury Road on the east side of KooyongKoot/Gardiners Creek.

Investigate options to establish a new linear open space reserve link to KooyongKoot/ Gardiners Creek.

Minor upgrade to increase the diversity of facilities including picnic area adjacent to play facilities.

Major upgrade to provide a range of facilities in the open space including review of the Scout Hall.

DOTP has advised this is the location of the proposed Burwood Station as part of the Suburban Rail Loop Project. Sinnott Street Reserve has been acquired by the Victorian Government and Council is to continue to advocate for a new Local open space to be provided as a replacement.

Investigate options to expand the open space to the north to increase visual and physical access into the reserve. Improve the quality of open space with major upgrade to improve sense of place and character and review need for the Guides in the reserve.

Continue to maintain. In the longer term review the need for play facility given the proposed upgrade to play facility at Rees Street Reserve.

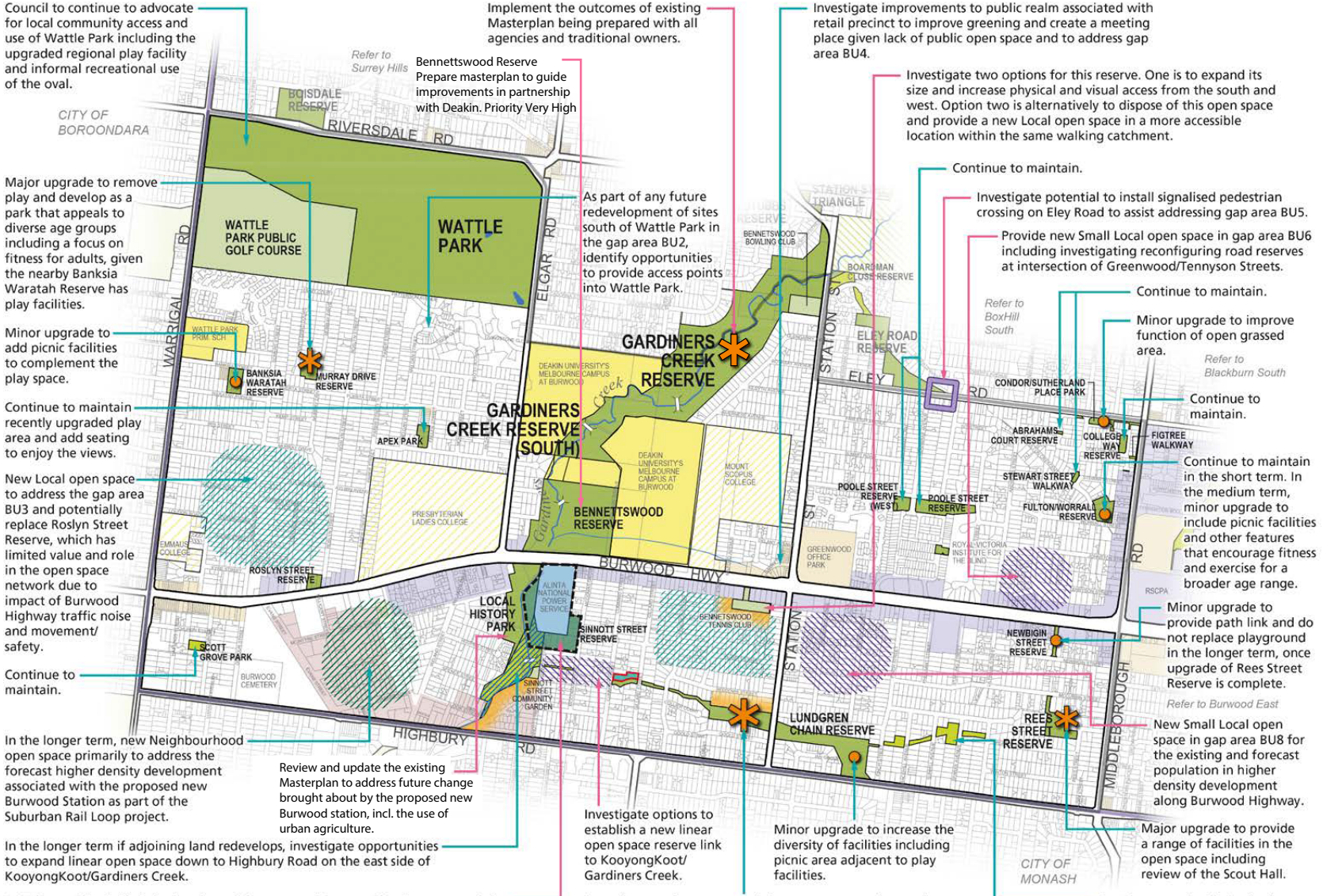


Diagram Key

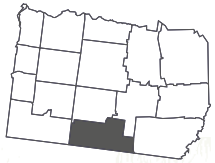
- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Neighbourhood open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Temporary future open space (DOTP)
- Adjoining open space
- Residential Growth/Mixed Use/General Residential Zones
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Industrial Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.


Sinnott Street community gardens

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Burwood East



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

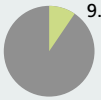
Total area

36.58 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Burwood East



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **34** per resident
Burwood East

m² **36** per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (10,778)

2036 (16,835)

56%↑
Burwood East

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

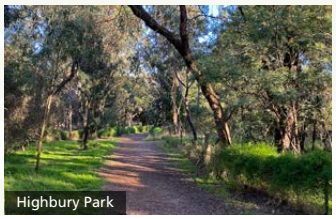
Burwood East is forecast to experience substantial change over the next 15 years with 6,047 new residents forecast to be living in the precinct by 2036, which represents a 56 per cent increase. The majority of this forecast change will primarily occur in the Burwood Brickworks site and along both sides of Burwood Highway. South of Burwood Highway, East Burwood Reserve is the largest existing open space and a major sporting reserve for Whitehorse. Highbury Park combines remnant indigenous vegetation with both sporting and unstructured informal recreational facilities, while Ballyshannassy Park is a sporting reserve that is also a popular dog off-lead reserve. North of Burwood Highway, Holland Gully provides a linear path link with a recently installed play space, and there are recently constructed new open spaces within the Burwood Brickworks site.

With higher density development forecast to continue on both the north and south sides of Burwood Highway, there is a need to undertake major upgrades to existing open spaces within the walking catchment of increasing densities. This includes investigating opportunities to improve public access into the reserves and activated interfaces as adjoining sites redevelop. Five existing open spaces are identified to be expanded in size with the longer term provision of a new Small Local open space in the gap area north of Burwood Highway and one new Local open space in the south-eastern area of the precinct.

Quality and design

Overall the existing open space network has a predominantly native and indigenous character, and this is to be strengthened and improved. The focus is to improve access to existing open space by increasing the diversity of facilities to broaden their appeal and contribution to the sense of place and community. Key priorities include implementing the recently completed Landscape Masterplan for Burwood East Reserve and upgrading the structured sport and unstructured recreation facilities at Ballyshannassy Park including investigating expanding the reserve to increase passive surveillance and entry points. Reconstructing the shared path along the Pipe Track will reinstate north-south linear connectivity through the eastern extent of the precinct and extending north to Forest Hill and south through the City of Monash. Major upgrades are proposed for the Witchwood Gully, Benwerrin Reserve and Travers Track Reserve, to respond to increasing urban densities and future community needs. The recommendations identify the opportunity for Council to advocate for activated interfaces and excellent passive surveillance with adjoining development sites.


Burwood East Reserve

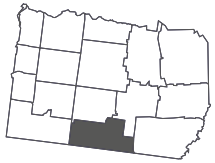

Highbury Park

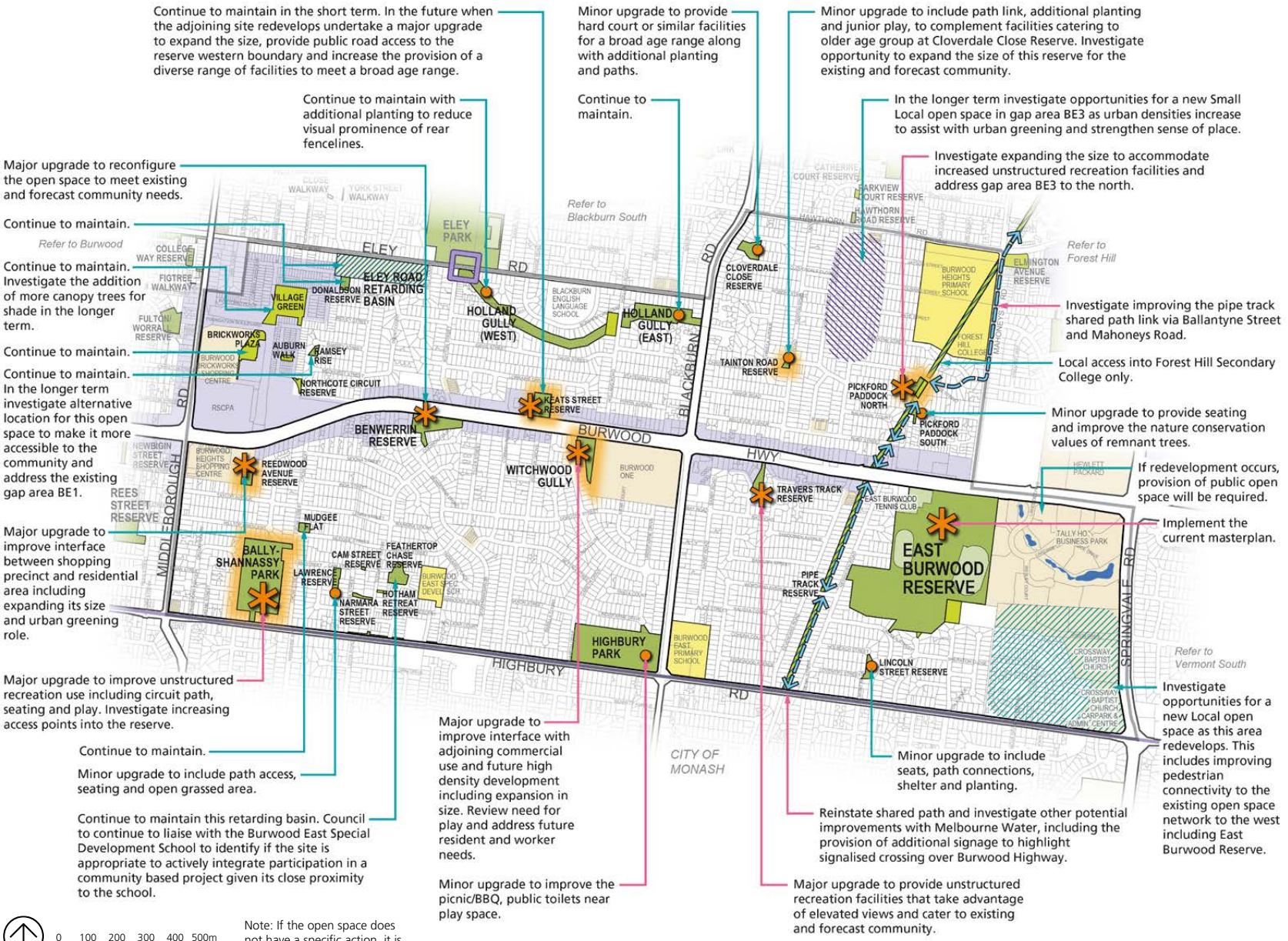

Donaldson Reserve


Burwood Brickworks Plaza


Ballyshannassy Park

Burwood East



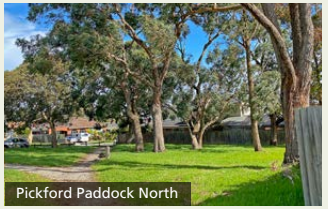


Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.

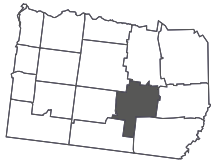
Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Future pedestrian links/ Improvements to existing links
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Residential Growth/Mixed Use/General Residential Zones
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary


Holland Gully (West)


Pickford Paddock North

Forest Hill



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

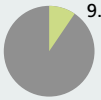
Total area

37.62 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Forest Hill



Whitehorse

Relative to population density



35 per resident

Forest Hill



36 per resident

Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (10,866)

2036 (12,397)



14%↑

Forest Hill

22%↑

Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

In Forest Hill there is forecast to be an additional 1,531 residents to be living in the precinct by 2036, representing a 14 per cent increase from the existing population. The majority of this change will occur south of Canterbury Road including in the Forest Ridge Development site (former Global Film Studio) where medium to high density development is proposed. In response to this, Ansett Court Reserve will be upgraded to improve the interface between the development site and the park. Unstructured recreation facilities will be provided as part of a major upgrade at Mahoneys Reserve to address the increased urban densities in this area. East of Springvale Road the major change is to provide new sporting fields at Davy Lane Reserve along with a linked path network and local unstructured recreational facilities as part of its integration into the newly created Healesville Freeway Linear Reserve. A priority project is to create a new Neighbourhood park at Sapphire/Willarah Reserve, with a broad range of unstructured recreation and social facilities to create a community focus for this part of Forest Hill.

The only gap area in the provision of open space in Forest Hill is in the north-west around the Forest Hill Shopping centre. If the shopping centre substantially redevelops and increases the employment and/or residential population on the site, then provision of new public open space as part of that redevelopment may be required.

Quality and design

Felicia Dale, Forest Hill Reserve and Sapphire/ Willarah Reserve are all located along a tributary to KooyongKoot / Gardiners Creek which contributes to their nature conservation values. These, combined with large mature Eucalypts more elevated areas of open space across Forest Hill contribute to the native forest character of Forest Hill. The future upgrades will protect and strengthen this Forest Hill character, while increasing the diversity of facilities including for older age groups. The exotic and heritage character of Old Strathdon Orchard is unique in the precinct, and the future redevelopment of Davy Lane will strengthen this character with excellent path links to the site to increase its use and value as part of the open space network.


Old Strathdon Orchard



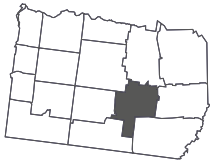

Davy Lane


Brentford Square


Forest Hill Reserve


Ironbarks in Heathcote Drive Reserve

Forest Hill



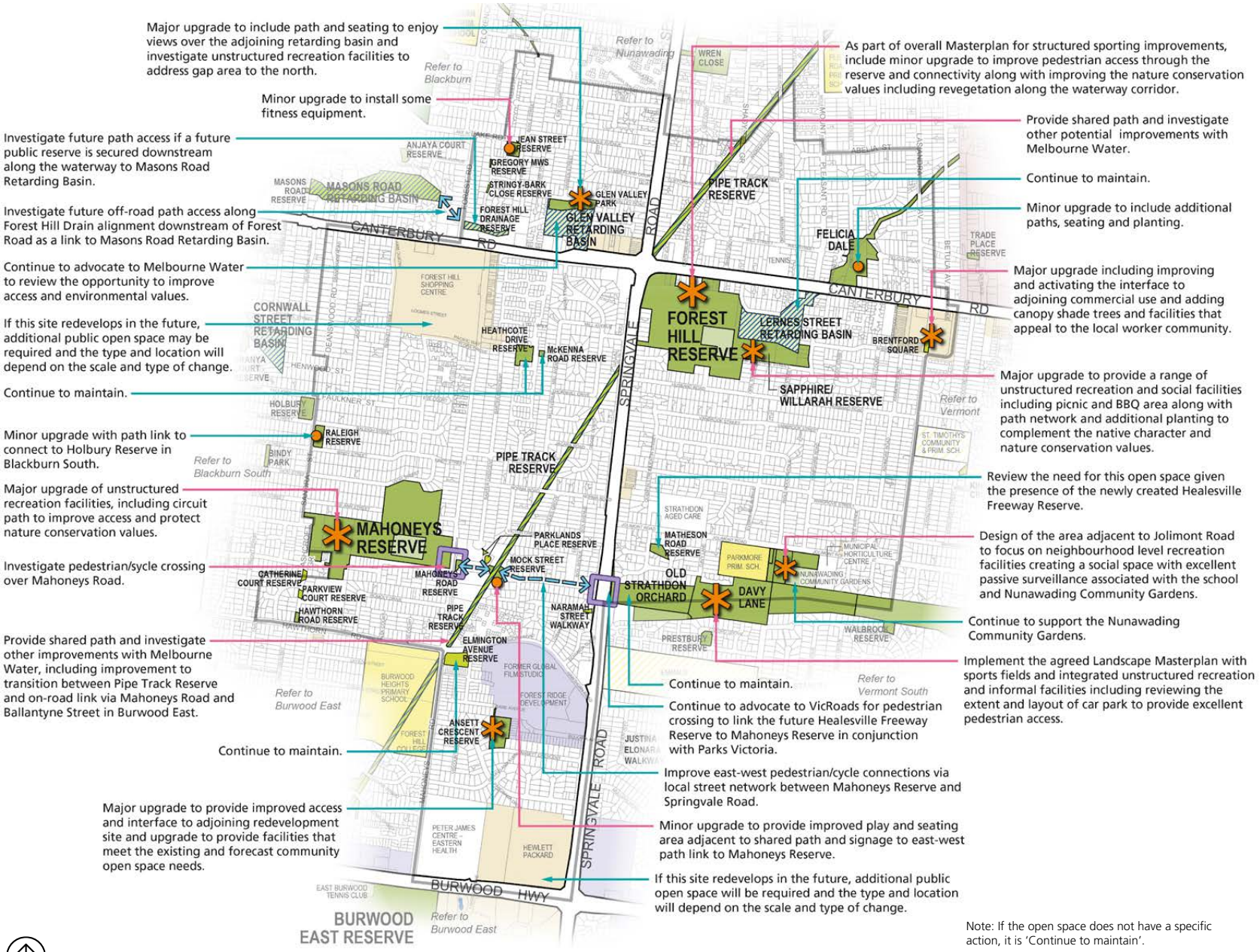


Diagram Key

- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Future pedestrian links / Improvements to existing links
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Future pedestrian crossing
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Future open space
- Residential Growth/Mixed Use/ General Residential Zones
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Suburb boundary

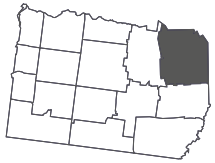

Jean Street Reserve


Ansett Crescent Reserve


Felicia Dale

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.

Mitcham



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

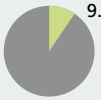
Total area

61.61 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Mitcham



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **36** per resident

Mitcham

m² **36** per resident

Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (16,935)

2036 (19,263)

14%↑
Mitcham

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Mitcham is forecast to experience change over the next 15 years with 2,321 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036 which represents a 14 per cent increase. The forecast change is mainly anticipated in the Mitcham Activity Centre that extends along Whitehorse Road and includes the Mitcham Station precinct. Within the core area where most change will occur, there is a lack of existing open space with Britannia Mall and Peel Street Reserve being the only two existing open spaces. There is a need to provide new green Small Local open space west of Mitcham Road and a new Local open space to the east in the higher density mixed use area. Further east in the Cook Road Industrial Precinct a new Local open space is proposed for the existing and forecast employment community. South of Whitehorse Road and west of the Mitcham Road a new Local open space is proposed for the recent and forecast community.

Outside of the gap areas, Halliday Park is one of the City's major destination parks for unstructured and informal recreational use. Yarran Dheran Reserve and Schwerkolt Cottage are major regional destination open spaces adjacent to Mullum Mullum Creek with heritage and nature conservation values. Heatherdale Parklands is a major linked network of open space along the valley line of Heatherdale Creek. The community survey identified this system of open space as being the most popular in Mitcham. It provides a diversity of spaces ranging from sporting facilities, dog off-lead areas, remnant bushland, play spaces, picnic facilities and shared trail network. As a contrast, the area south-west of the railway lacks a diversity of open space with Lucknow Court Reserve being difficult to access and Redland Drive Reserve being located fronting a main road.

Quality and design

With Mullum Mullum Creek defining the northern boundary of this precinct and Heatherdale Creek Parklands, waterways and natural bushland character significantly contribute to Mitcham's inherent character and sense of place. As a contrast, Halliday Park has a more formal public parkland character with a combination of exotic and native vegetation, which offers diversity of character for the community. Upgrades to Halliday Park along with Heatherdale Creek Parklands focus on increasing the diversity of recreation and social facilities.

For the proposed new open spaces, the focus will be on diversity, ranging from quiet spaces for people to relax and enjoy nature to encouraging exercise and fitness. Throughout the precinct mature trees are a key feature in open space and protecting these and increasing canopy cover is a key outcome as urban densities increase.


Somers Trail


Schwerkolt Cottage

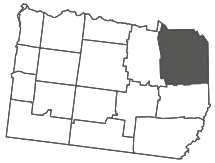

Halliday Park


Yarran Dheran


Britannia Mall

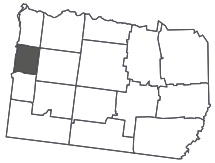

Heatherdale Reserve

Mitcham



Provide new Local open space in gap area MI3 to meet existing and forecast community recreation and open space needs.
Minor upgrade to include path, seating and other unstructured recreation facilities eg fitness station.
Minor upgrade to the quality of picnic area infrastructure and provide additional unstructured recreational facilities for adults.
Continue to maintain to protect the mature trees and strengthen planting if required. Given the close proximity to Halliday Park it is not necessary to provide recreational infrastructure.
Minor upgrade to include park seating and add additional planting.
Major upgrade to increase the urban cooling/ greening role of this open space and identify opportunities to improve activation of the eastern boundary.
Provide new Small Local open space in gap area MI2 away from the commercial precinct and include unstructured recreation facilities and urban greening.
Provide a new Local open space in the Mitcham Station Precinct for the recent and forecast population in high density precincts and address gap area MI5.
Minor upgrade to protect the environmental character and improve access. This includes new unstructured recreation and informal facilities to make the open space more accessible and appealing for the existing and forecast community to use.
Investigate opportunities to expand existing open space to improve access and passive surveillance. Once expansion/additional entry points are confirmed undertake a major upgrade to include a range of unstructured recreation facilities.
Continue to maintain and in the longer term, minor upgrade to install fitness station to improve activities for the forecast community.
Council to require new north-south pedestrian links through future redevelopment sites to improve pedestrian permeability and access into existing open space near gap area MI6.
Major upgrade to improve character and design to increase its appeal to both the employment and resident community.
Continue to maintain and undertake weed control works.
Minor upgrade to paths and improve environmental values with weed management and revegetation, retaining open sightlines from paths and entries.
Major upgrade to reset play space and seating area to overlook the open space.
Provide shared path and investigate other potential improvements with Melbourne Water. Review the need for the play facility in the longer term.
Provide a new Local open space in gap area MI4 to encourage workers outdoors to socialise and participate in physical activity and assist with urban cooling.
Continue to maintain including vegetation management and installation of seat.
Major upgrade to include unstructured recreation and social facilities for the local community and improved landscape character.
Major upgrade to improve visitor facilities. Investigate option to include community gardens in the orchard area of this site as an appropriate adaptive reuse of this heritage site as part of the Masterplan process.
Continue to maintain.
Continue to protect nature conservation values in the north. In the south undertake a major upgrade to improve play, picnic, and provide additional facilities.
Continue to maintain.
Investigate if this open space to the west of Reserve Avenue is required in the future.
Continue to maintain with additional planting, seating and path.
Continue to protect remnant vegetation and strengthen biodiversity values.
Continue to maintain including sporting use of the retarding basin for cricket.
Minor upgrade to include a circuit path and upgrade existing path surfaces to improve accessibility.
Refer to Burwood precinct for diagram key
Refer to Nunawading
Refer to Nunawading
Refer to Vermont
CITY OF MANNINGHAM
CITY OF KNOX
FWY
EASTERN
MITCHAM RD
SPRINGFIELD RD
WHITEHORSE RD
DEEP CREEK RD
HEATHERDALE RD
CHIPPEWA AV
COBHAM CORNER
LEMON GROVE RESERVE
MULLAUNA COLLEGE
MITCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL
COCHRANE CLOSE
MITCHAM BOWLS CLUB
HALLIDAY PARK
ORMOND AVENUE RESERVE
WIRILDA PARK
WALKER PARK
PEEL STREET RESERVE
BRITANNIA MALL
ESPLANADE RESERVE
Mitcham Station
QUEEN ST
BRUNSWICK RESERVE
TENNYSON RESERVE
PIPE TRACK RESERVE
Heatherdale Station
BERRY AVENUE RESERVE
MITCHAM UNITING TENNIS CLUB
MW MITCHAM RESERVOIR
ROOKS RD
DAGOLA RESERVE
CHARLES ROOKS RESERVE
LUCKNOW COURT RESERVE
ALWYN ST
REDLAND DRIVE RESERVE
PREMIER AV
MORESBY DALE
CASELLA HOLLOW
COLLINA GLEN
YARRAN DHERAN NORTH
YARRAN DHERAN
MULLUM MULLUM CREEK
MULLUM MULLUM CREEK TRAIL
TRENHAM COURT RESERVE
WATTLE VALLEY PARK
WATTLE VALLEY TRIANGLE
ANTONIO NEW LANDS PARK
SCHWERKOLT COTTAGE
MULLUM MULLUM CREEK LINEAR OPEN SPACE
ANTONIO PARK
ANTONIO PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
HEATHERDALE HILL
AVON RESERVE
SIMPSON PARK
SOMERS TRAIL
HEATHERDALE RETARDING BASIN
HEATHERDALE TENNIS CLUB
HEATHERDALE RECREATIONAL BOWLS CLUB
HEATHERDALE RESERVE
RANGEVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL
HAYSPREE
GLENBURNIE RD
SCOTT ST
PURCHES ST
DENIS ST
SCOTT STREET RESERVE
EASTMONT RESERVE
LAIDLAW RESERVE
BUCKANBE PARK
0 100 200 300 400 500m

Mont Albert



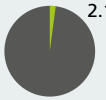
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

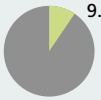
Total area

3.51 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Mont Albert



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **7** per resident
Mont Albert

m² **36** per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (4,879)

2036 (5,692)

17%↑
Mont Albert

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

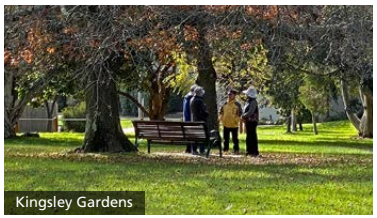
Provision and distribution

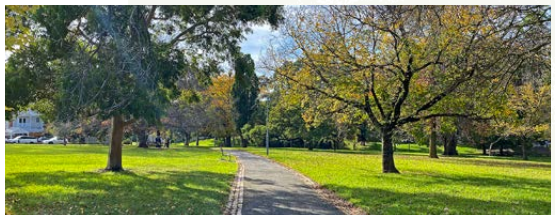
Mont Albert is forecast to experience some change over the next 15 years with 831 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036 which represents a 17 per cent increase. Kingsley Gardens is the key existing open space located north of Whitehorse Road next to the Box Hill TAFE. The forecast change is mainly anticipated along Whitehorse Road and in the vicinity of the Mont Albert commercial centre. While the streetscapes provide good connectivity between open spaces and have avenue street tree planting, overall there is a low amount public open space and there are gap areas that require new open space, particularly close to higher-density development. This includes provision of a new Small Local open space in the north-west area of the precinct, centrally located with the Mont Albert shopping precinct and expansion to existing open spaces. Kingsley Gardens to the east provides a diversity of facilities so the new open space will focus on urban greening. South of Whitehorse Road, Beatty Street Reserve will be upgraded to address the forecast growth, while a new Small Local open space is proposed in the heart of the retail area as a social space for workers and residents. South of Mont Albert Road the upgraded Lorne Parade Reserve, combined with an enlarged Windsor/St George Reserve will meet the open space needs of the existing and forecast population.

Quality and design

There is potential to strengthen and improve the predominantly exotic landscape character of the open space in Mont Albert. Major upgrades are proposed to Kingsley Gardens to increase the diversity of facilities and overall quality and character of the reserve. This will increase its prominence and role in the context of the significant growth forecast in the adjoining Box Hill Metropolitan Activity Centre. Major upgrades are also proposed to the Beatty Street Reserve primarily for active unstructured recreation to provide a clear point of difference to Rowland Street Park, which is for younger play and picnics and seating. A major upgrade to Windsor/St George Reserve to incorporate increased facilities will complement the St Johns Avenue Park, where tree protection and urban greening is the key value of this park.

For the proposed new open space reserves, the focus will be on providing a diversity of spaces that have combined roles of urban greening and unstructured recreational use, particularly being located in proximity to higher-density development in Box Hill. Throughout the precinct mature exotic trees are a key feature in open space and protecting these and increasing canopy cover is a key outcome being sought in this precinct as urban densities increase.


Kingsley Gardens

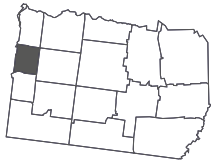



Beatty Street Reserve


Windsor/St George Reserve


Rowland Street Park

Mont Albert



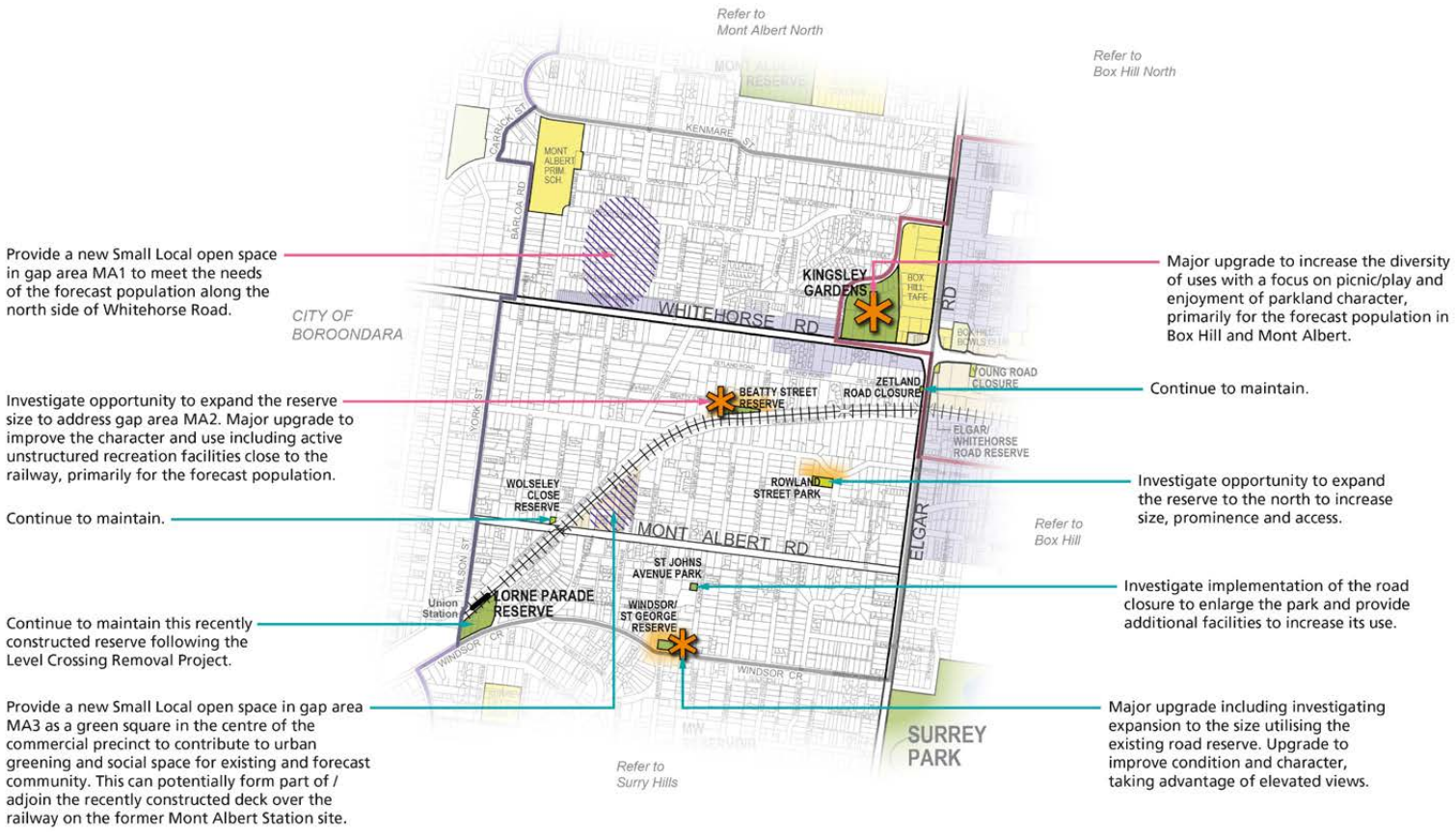


Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Residential Growth/Mixed Use/General Residential Zones
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary
- Metropolitan Activity Centre boundary

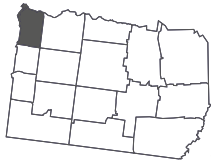
Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.


St Johns Avenue Park


Windsor/St George Reserve

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Mont Albert North | Balwyn North



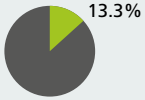
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

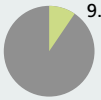
Total area

29.70 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Mont Albert North



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

51 per resident
Mont Albert North

36 per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (5,805)

2036 (6,074)

5%↑
Mont Albert North

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

In Mont Albert North | Balwyn North there is forecast to be minimal change with an additional 269 residents living here by 2036, representing a 5 per cent increase from the existing population. The forecast change is mainly anticipated to be distributed through the residential area south of Belmore Road. Koonung Creek and Bushy Creek in the north provide excellent linear open space connectivity, with entry points into the network at Winfield Reserve, Jackson Avenue Reserve and Elgar Park. This, combined with two smaller open spaces, provided reasonable access to open space. South of Belmore Road, Gawler Chain provides excellent east west connectivity through the heart of the precinct, and further south is Mont Albert Reserve. The community survey outcomes identify that Gawler Chain is the most popular open space in this precinct, most likely due to its connectivity, diversity and central location. Box Hill Crescent Reserve is identified as not being well used with poor amenity located adjacent to an arterial road. While there are small gaps in accessibility, these can generally be addressed via improving pedestrian amenity in the local street network to improve access to the existing open spaces.

Quality and design

The Koonung and Bushy Creeks contribute to the nature conservation values and character of the open space in the northern area of this precinct, with Elgar Park located directly adjoining both waterways. Future upgrades to the unstructured facilities in Elgar Park will protect and complement the nature conservation character. Council will continue to advocate to the Victorian Government to protect the natural and recreational values of the Koonung Creek corridor during the North East Link/Eastern Freeway upgrade project. Gawler Chain is located along the valley of a former waterway and has a predominantly native character, which will be strengthened in the future with a major upgrade to the largest section of Gawler Chain to increase the diversity of play and unstructured recreation facilities in this core part of the reserve. Ashmole Crescent Reserve is located in the heart of an area experiencing some higher density development and is identified to be expanded to increase its size to cater to the growing community in the immediate vicinity of it. By contrast the nearby Box Hill Crescent Reserve is not well used due to its proximity to Elgar Road and may be more suitable to accommodate indoor recreation or community facilities potentially relocated out of the Gawler Chain. Mont Albert Reserve to the south provides excellent facilities and elevated views to the east, with additional shade trees proposed to the multipurpose court area.


Elgar Park


Winfield Reserve

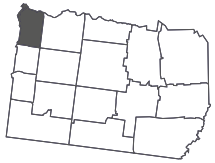

Mont Albert Reserve


Valda Avenue Wetlands


Gawler Chain



Mont Albert North | Balwyn North



Minor upgrade to expand the pedestrian path network, provide seating and other facilities to improve the recreational use, along with protecting and improving the environmental values.

Continue to maintain.

Minor upgrade to improve path surface and establish and install seating to enjoy the views.

Continue to maintain.

Continue to maintain and review need for replacing play space in the longer term.

Major upgrade and review character, use and the need for a play space in the longer term in consultation with the community.

Continue to maintain.

Minor upgrade to improve the landscape character and play space.

Continue to maintain.

Continue to maintain.

Major upgrade including investigating option to enlarge the open space to provide increased urban greening and expand diversity of uses for the higher density housing in the immediate catchment of this open space.

Minor upgrade to the unstructured recreation facilities, including a circuit path network and upgrade to the picnic and play facilities.

Major upgrade to expand and increase the diversity of play facilities for a broad age range along with picnic facilities and an integrated path network. Investigate opportunity to consolidate scout groups into a single multi purpose facility located here or in an alternative site.

Minor upgrade to improve path alignment, seating and planting.

Continue to maintain with ongoing improvement to planting perimeter of park.

Investigate future use and role of this open space in the network including consideration of consolidating the local scout facilities in this location, relocated out of Gawler Chain.

Continue to maintain with ongoing planting of additional canopy trees to shade hard court area.

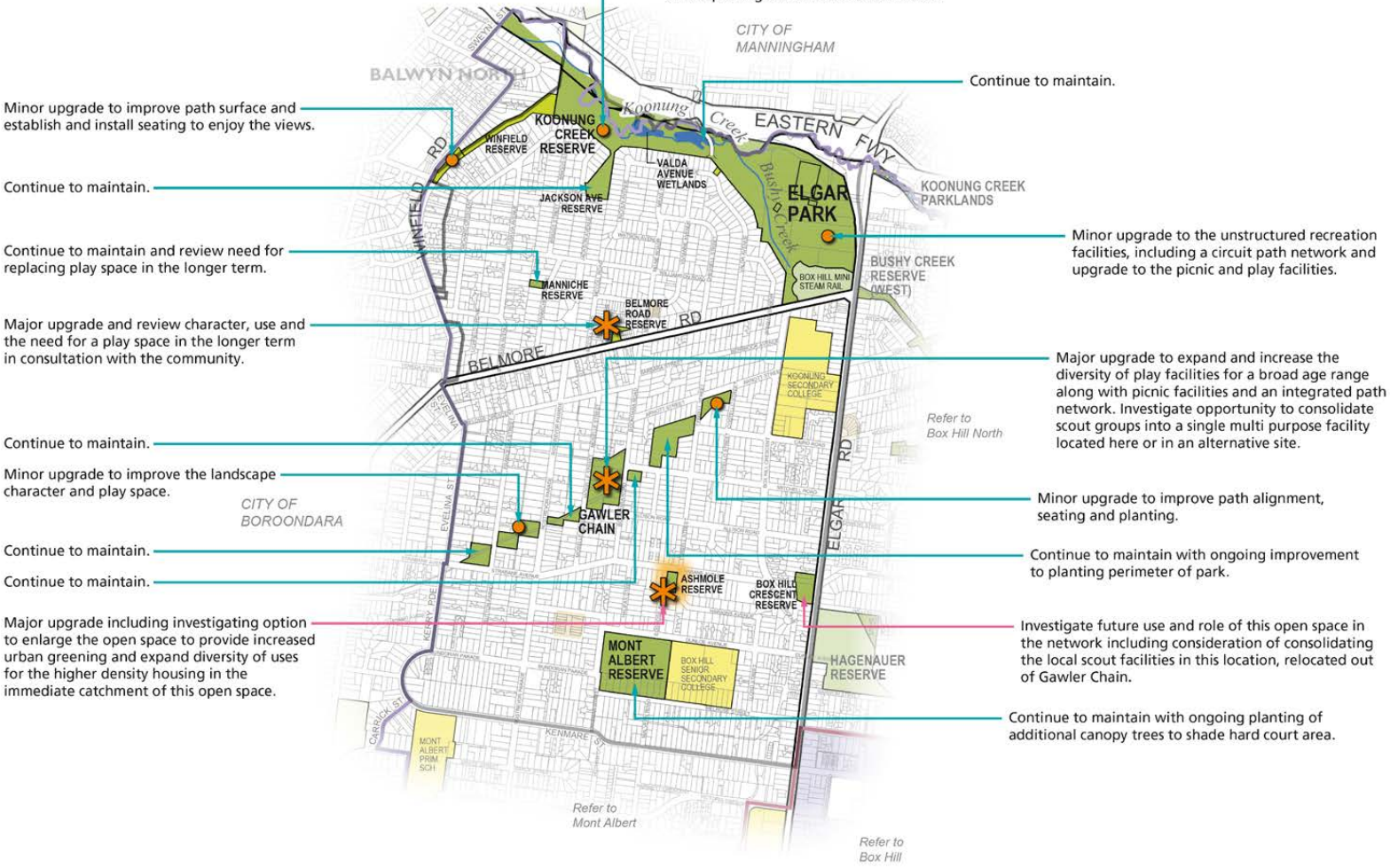


Diagram Key

- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Adjoining open space
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary

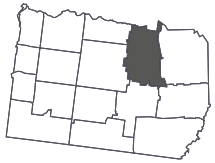
Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.


Ashmole Reserve


Box Hill Mini Steam Rail

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Nunawading



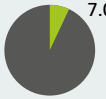
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

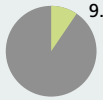
Total area

34.91 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Nunawading



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **29** per resident
Nunawading

m² **36** per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (12,203)

2036 (15,074)

24%↑
Nunawading

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Nunawading is forecast to experience substantial change over the next 15 years with 2,871 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036 which represents a 24 per cent increase. The forecast change is mainly anticipated in the Nunawading Megamile Activity Centre that extends along Whitehorse Road and includes Nunawading Station and the former Daniel Robertson Brickworks site. South of Whitehorse Road, Nunawading Reserve also referred to as Silver Grove, provides a key opportunity to develop a vibrant, green open space at the heart of this activity centre. Improving east-west pedestrian connectivity to the west of the reserve will address the existing open space gap area.

South of the railway, Wood Park is the only existing open space in the core part of the activity centre east of Springvale Road, and this is recommended to be expanded and upgraded. A future open space is proposed on the Daniel Robertson Brickworks site and further east in the Rooks Road industrial precinct, a new Local open space is proposed primarily for the worker community. West of Springvale Road, a new Small Local open space will address the gap area. The provision and distribution of open space north of Whitehorse Road is adequate, and upgrades are proposed to improve the capacity of the open space network to accommodate the forecast population change.

Quality and design

There is a strong native and nature conservation character to the open space network in Nunawading. Recommendations to improve these values are combined with the need to also improve the range of recreational facilities to address the diverse demographics and growing population. North of Whitehorse Road, Junction Road Reserve is identified to receive a major upgrade with investigation to include structured sport fields and unstructured recreation facilities. Council will continue to advocate to the Victorian Government to protect the natural and recreational values of the Koonung Creek corridor during the North East Link/Eastern Freeway upgrade project. Walker Park is also identified to be upgraded to better meet the unstructured recreation and informal open space needs of the existing and forecast community. West of Springvale Road, the recent Nunawading Hub adjoining Tunstall Park has provided a new focus and a major upgrade will respond to this change. The urban context will be reset around Feiglin Park to improve connectivity and passive surveillance. North of Springfield Road, Nichol Park, Junction Road Reserve and Ronald Gray Reserve provide a diverse open space network and minor upgrades are proposed to better cater to community needs and strengthen biodiversity values.

South of Whitehorse Road, Charles Rooks Reserve will be upgraded to include unstructured recreation and picnic facilities along with improvements to the nature conservation values. Other upgrades include improving connectivity with new shared paths along the Pipe Track easement and through the linking spaces that lead to Blackburn Lake Sanctuary.


Nunawading Reserve (Silver Grove)

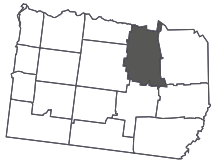

Tunstall Park and Nunawading Community Hub


Nicoll Park


Walker Park


Charles Rooks Reserve

Nunawading



Undertake a major upgrade to improve the role and function of this open space including investigating potential for an outdoor structured sporting field, a designated dog off lead area, unstructured recreation facilities for all ages and a major picnic destination if the noise attenuation is undertaken by Department of Transport and Planning.

Continue to maintain.

Continue to maintain and improve nature conservation values.

Continue to maintain.

Major upgrade to improve the quality and character of the park including the interface to the Tennis Club.

Investigate opportunities to increase the size of this reserve to increase its function and use.

Major upgrade to provide additional unstructured recreation facilities such as hard court areas and picnic/BBQ facilities.

Continue to maintain. In the longer term review the need for this open space due to its close proximity to Cootamundra Walk (East).

Investigate opportunities to establish a public roadway/path interface to at least three boundaries to improve safety. In the longer term, upgrade once access and passive surveillance are improved.

Council to require east-west pedestrian links as part of future redevelopments to improve pedestrian permeability in gap area N1.

Subject to Strategic Property Program investigation, repurpose the former Silver Grove site to provide a public open space primarily for the forecast community. This site is an excellent opportunity to provide a green heart to the future redevelopment of this area, primarily providing unstructured recreation and social facilities.

Extend footpath link into Blackburn Lake Reserve.

Investigate removal of fencing and install path link.

Provide a new Small Local open space in this gap area N3 for both the existing and forecast population. Also investigate opportunities for improved north-south pedestrian connectivity in gap area N3 as part of future development applications.

Continue to maintain.

Provide shared path and investigate other potential improvements with Melbourne Water.

Minor upgrade to increase the diversity of unstructured recreation facilities and upgrade picnic/BBQ facilities.

Continue to maintain.

Minor upgrade to improve path entry point and path surface and overall condition of the reserve, including review of the continued use of the reserve by the Bill Waters Rover Scouts.

Minor upgrade to improve pedestrian connectivity between the Civic Centre and Walker Park, establish a circuit path around the reserve, and provide additional seating overlooking the oval.

Although not currently anticipated, if large sites redevelop to high density use, new public open space may be required.

Future open space (indicative) to be provided to Council as part of development of the former Daniel Robertson Brickworks Site.

Provide new Local open space in gap area N4 in the future that improves east-west connectivity and addresses the existing gap area.

Major upgrade to cater to the changing open space needs of the existing and forecast community in high density development.

Continue to maintain and if well used, add seats that overlook the open grassed area.

Minor upgrade to improve path connection and bushland revegetation works.

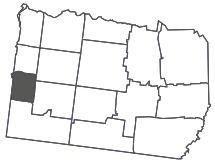
Major upgrade to provide combined facilities including play, picnic/BBQ, public toilet, unstructured recreation facilities and paths connecting into Dagola Reserve nature conservation area and the Pipe Track Reserve.

Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Sub-precinct for new Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Residential Growth/Mixed Use/General Residential Zones
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Industrial Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.

Surrey Hills



Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

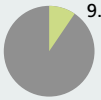
Total area

2.69 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Surrey Hills



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **5** per resident

Surrey Hills

m² **36** per resident

Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (5,415)

2036 (5,574)

3%↑
Surrey Hills

22%↑
Whitehorse

Precinct summary

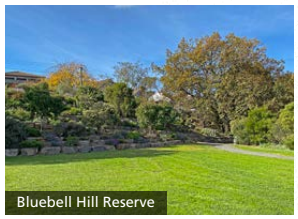
Provision and distribution

Surrey Hills is forecast to experience minimal change over the next 15 years with 159 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036 which represents a 3 per cent increase. The forecast change is mainly anticipated along Canterbury Road and Riversdale Road. The most popular open space is Bluebell Hill Reserve, which is centrally located in Surrey Hills with an excellent diversity of facilities and features. While there is not a large amount of open space in Surrey Hills it is a distributed across the area and connected via the local street network without major barriers to access. An additional Small Local open space is proposed to address the gaps in open space provision south of Canterbury Road primarily for the existing population. Expansion to the size of existing open spaces and a series of major upgrades that focus on increasing access and a diversity of facilities and features will improve accessibility and useability of open space network for the community. The proposed expansion of both Florence Reserve and Windsor/St George Reserve (in Mont Albert) will assist to increase the capacity of that reserve to cater to increased levels of use for the community north of Canterbury Road. Wattle Park adjoins the southern boundary of Surrey Hills and while Riversdale Road forms a barrier to safe walking access, it does contribute to the open space character.

Quality and design

The undulating topography of Surrey Hills significantly contributes to the character of the existing open space network. Expansive views from within Bluebell Hill Reserve add to the sense of space and character. Similarly the expansive views over Boisdale Reserve to Wattle Park provide an excellent setting and context for the future major upgrade to this neighbourhood park. The major upgrades will focus on the significantly improving the diversity of facilities and improvement to the quality of spaces for the local community.


Russell Street Reserve


Bluebell Hill Reserve

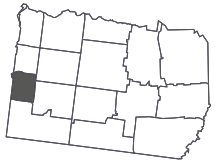


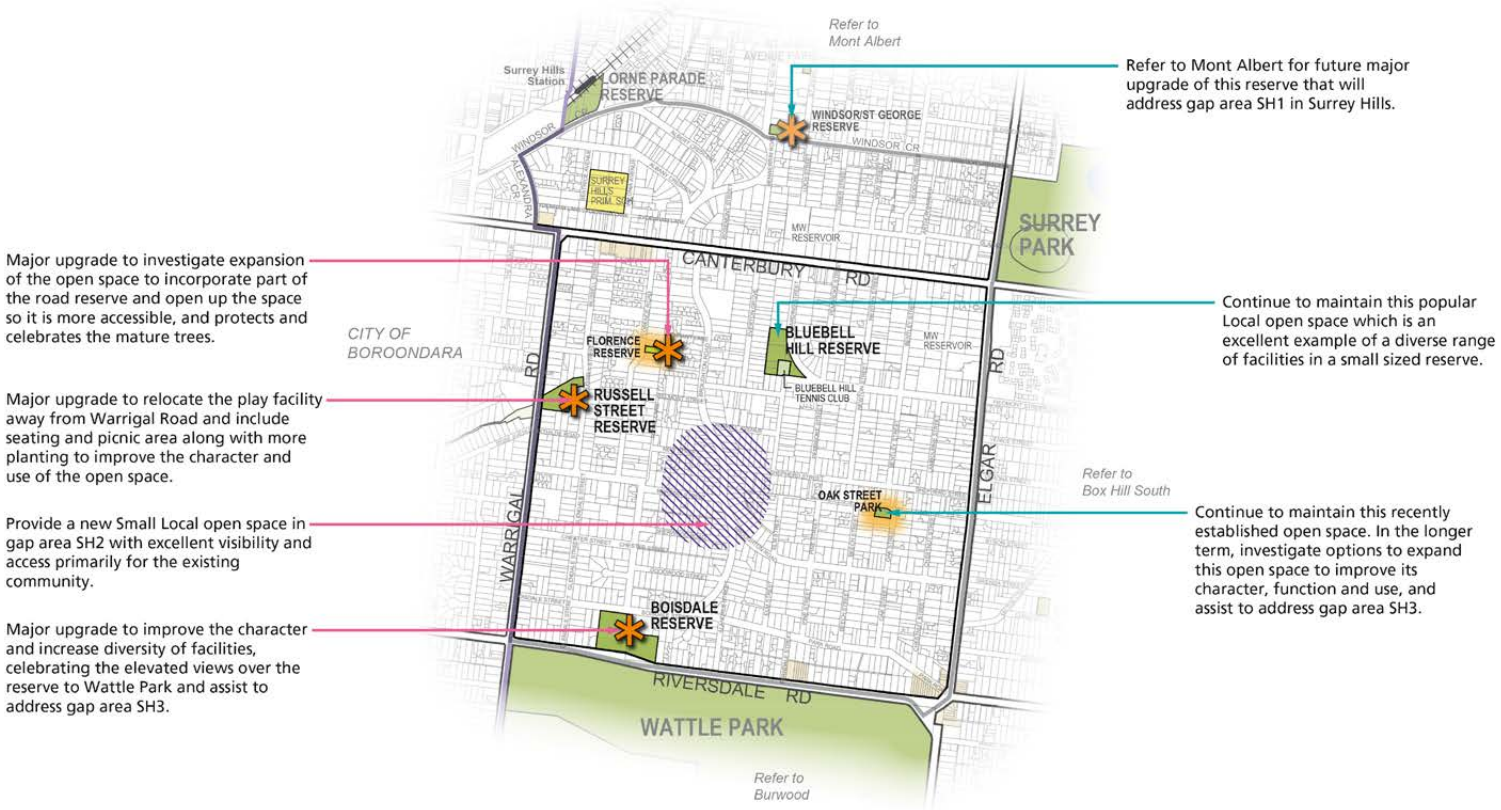



Oak Steert Reserve


Boisdale Reserve

Surrey Hills





Refer to Mont Albert for future major upgrade of this reserve that will address gap area SH1 in Surrey Hills.

Major upgrade to investigate expansion of the open space to incorporate part of the road reserve and open up the space so it is more accessible, and protects and celebrates the mature trees.

Continue to maintain this popular Local open space which is an excellent example of a diverse range of facilities in a small sized reserve.

Major upgrade to relocate the play facility away from Warrigal Road and include seating and picnic area along with more planting to improve the character and use of the open space.

Provide a new Small Local open space in gap area SH2 with excellent visibility and access primarily for the existing community.

Continue to maintain this recently established open space. In the longer term, investigate options to expand this open space to improve its character, function and use, and assist to address gap area SH3.

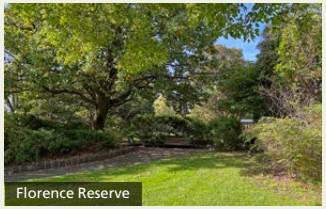
Major upgrade to improve the character and increase diversity of facilities, celebrating the elevated views over the reserve to Wattle Park and assist to address gap area SH3.

Diagram Key

- Sub-precinct for new Small Local open space
- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Melbourne Water land
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary

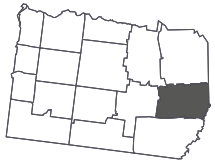
Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.


Florence Reserve


Florence Reserve

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Vermont



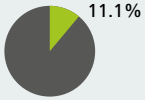
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

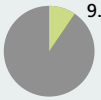
Total area

48.58 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Vermont



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **46** per resident

Vermont

m² **36** per resident

Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (10,618)

2036 (11,484)



8%↑

Vermont

22%↑

Whitehorse

Precinct summary

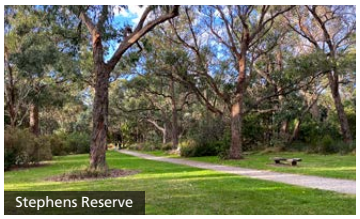
Provision and distribution

Vermont is forecast to experience minimal to moderate change over the next 15 years with 866 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036 which represents an 8 per cent increase. The forecast change is anticipated to be distributed mainly in the area west of Terrara Road in the vicinity of Stephens Reserve and Vermont Reserve. Bellbird Dell is the most popular open space according to the community survey outcomes followed Vermont Reserve, Abbey Walk, Stephens Reserve and Campbells Croft. Other than Vermont Reserve, the other spaces are located along waterway corridors with linear open space connectivity that is popular for walking and running. The distributed network of Neighbourhood and Local open spaces are nominated as being well used and include Buckanbe Park, Eastmont Reserve, Thatcher Reserve and Terrara Park. Gaps in the distribution of open space are mainly north of Canterbury Road and west of Mitcham Road where there is an industrial precinct and the urban layout is quite disjointed. Improved connectivity via the local street network is recommended as further redevelopment occurs in this area, along with a proposed expansion to Trade Place Reserve. Other gaps south east of the Canterbury Road will be addressed by expanding the existing open spaces to create larger reserves.

The future Healesville Freeway Reserve linear park will strengthen the diversity and overall provision of open space in Vermont and Vermont South.

Quality and design

With Dandenong Creek defining the eastern boundary of this precinct and the tributary flowing through Bellbird Dell, waterways and natural bushland character significantly contribute to Vermont's inherent character and sense of place. This is reinforced with other remnant indigenous trees and bushland in other open spaces including Stephens Reserve, Buckanbe Park and Vermont Reserve. Campbells Croft has unique parkland qualities and is proposed to be upgraded to establish a major destination park in this precinct. A major upgrade of neighbourhood facilities in Stephens Reserve is proposed near the tennis club area to provide a diversity of facilities for both the existing and forecast population. Key changes to the quality and design of open space in Vermont is to focus on expanding some selected open spaces to improve visual and physical access into them, particularly where they are almost completely surrounded by rear boundary fences. The proposed upgrades also focus on increasing the diversity of facilities to encourage more people to exercise and socialise in open space, while protecting and improving the canopy tree cover and nature conservation values.


Stephens Reserve

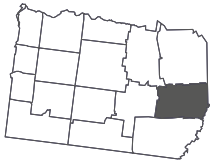

Campbells Croft


Buckanbe Park


Bellbird Dell


Vermont Reserve

Vermont



Investigate opportunity to combine these two reserves so they form a linking space and undertake a major upgrade to create a highly valued local open space to assist to address gap area V2.

Continue to maintain. In medium term investigate if this open space is required in context of expanding nearby Eastmont Reserve .

Investigate option to expand the size of this reserve to the west and increase accessibility to it and passive surveillance. Minor upgrade to increase diversity of facilities when expansion occurs.

Continue to maintain.

Minor upgrade to improve the character of the open space including path link, seating and perimeter planting.

Continue to maintain and progressively improve nature conservation values with additional revegetation along fencelines.

Minor upgrade in short term to provide path and seating. In longer term investigate option to expand the reserve and improve activated interface with adjoining properties to assist to address gap area V1.

Minor upgrade to include path and seating to enjoy the views .

Undertake minor upgrade of the unstructured recreation facilities in conjunction with the Masterplan which guides structured sporting facilities upgrades.

Major upgrade including investigate options to expand the reserve to improve access and passive surveillance.

Major upgrade to provide social recreation facilities including dog park and a new picnic/barbecue facility with expanded play facility near the tennis club for existing and forecast community.

Minor upgrade to expand path network and create a direct link to Abby Walk.

Minor upgrade to improve path network including link to Thatcher Reserve and Campbells Croft.

Continue to maintain with minor improvements to planting.

Major upgrade to establish a key destination park with visitor facilities for both the local and regional community.

Continue to maintain nature conservation values.

Liaise with Parks Victoria regarding future use of this part of Dandenong Valley Parklands in the context of the new Healesville Freeway Reserve Linear Park. This could include additional structured sporting fields.

Refer to recommendations in Vermont South.

Minor upgrade including weed control, path link and seating as an entry to the future Healesville Freeway Reserve Linear Open Space.

Continue to maintain.

Major upgrade to improve path layout, seating, and unstructured recreation facilities, interface to the adjoining school and protect the nature conservation values.

Refer to recommendations in Vermont South.

Council to continue to liaise with Parks Victoria regarding ongoing implementation of the former Healesville Freeway Reserve.

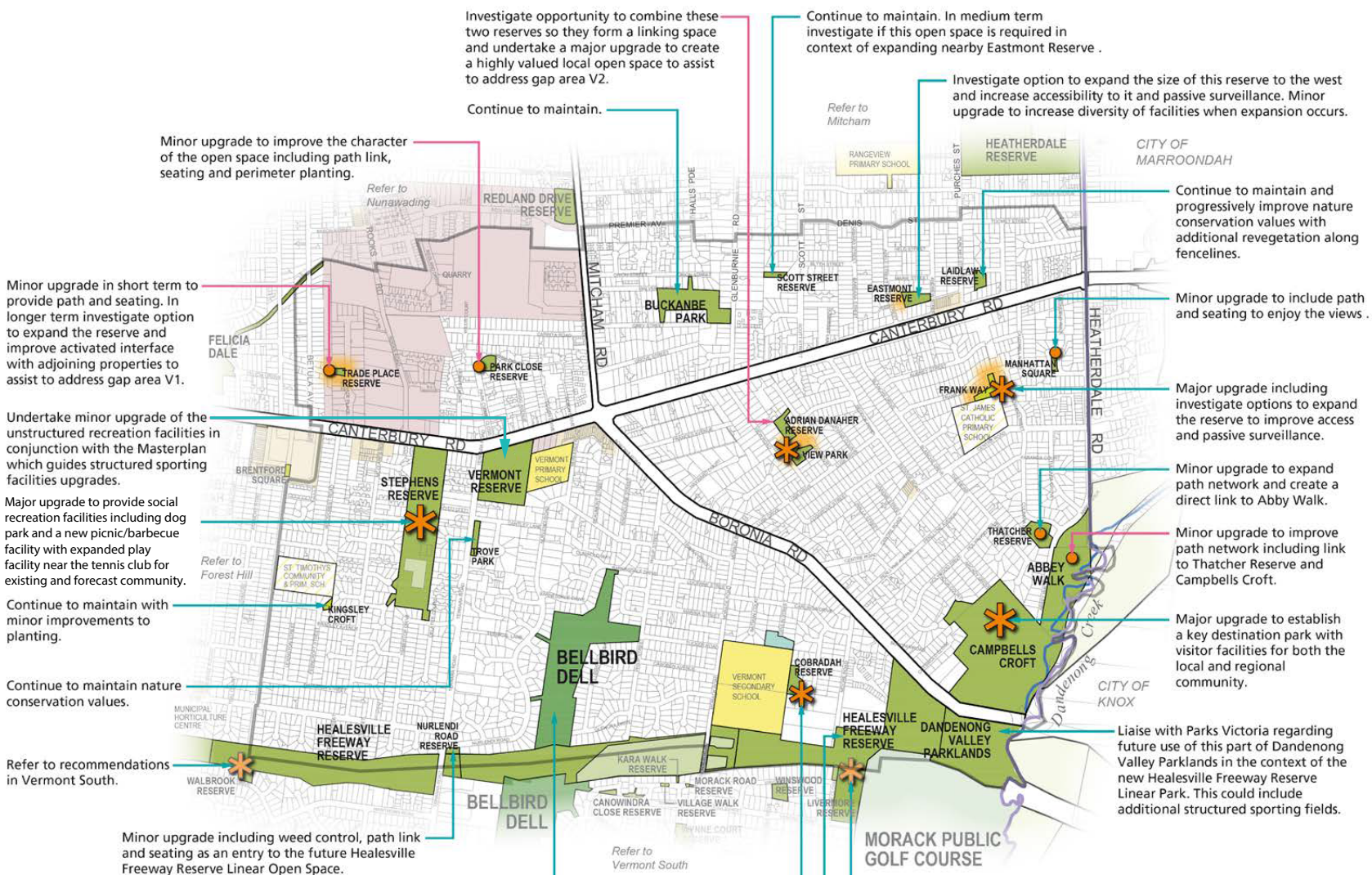
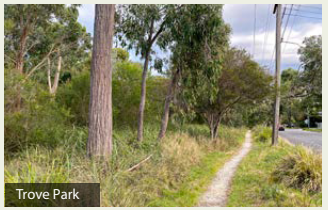


Diagram Key

- Potential for expansion of existing open space
- Minor upgrade to existing open space
- Major upgrade to existing open space
- Very high / High priority
- Medium / Low / Ongoing priority
- Existing open space (PPRZ)
- Existing open space (PCRZ)
- Existing open space (Not PPRZ or PCRZ)
- Existing restricted open space (PPRZ)
- Adjoining open space
- Commercial 1 Zone
- Industrial Zone
- Municipal boundary
- Suburb boundary

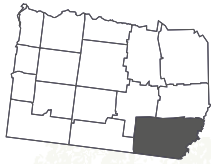
Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.


Laidlaw Reserve


Trove Park

0 100 200 300 400 500m

Vermont South



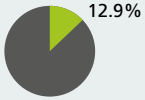
Fast facts

Quantity of open space:

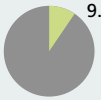
Total area

80.00 Ha
(excluding restricted open space)

Proportion of land area



Vermont South



Whitehorse

Relative to population density

m² **66** per resident
Vermont South

m² **36** per resident
Whitehorse

Forecast population change:

= 2,000

Residents:

2021 (12,044)

2036 (14,296)

19%↑
Vermont South

22%↑
Whitehorse

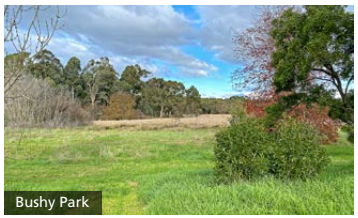
Precinct summary

Provision and distribution

Vermont South is forecast to experience moderate change over the next 15 years with 2,252 new residents forecast to be living here by 2036 which represents a 16 per cent increase. The forecast change is mainly anticipated to be distributed along both sides of Burwood Highway. Terrara Park and Bellbird Dell are the most popular open spaces. Tyrol Park and Charlesworth Park are also nominated as being well used in the community survey. The Dandenong Valley Parklands and open space along Dandenong Creek was not well used, which reflects the lack of access and this Strategy recommends improvements to this. Open space is generally well distributed across the precinct with some overlap in the provision in the north-east area and a review of this in the longer term is recommended once the former Healesville Freeway Reserve is developed by Parks Victoria.

Quality and design

With the former Healesville Freeway Reserve defining the northern boundary, combined with the Dandenong Creek along the eastern boundary, the natural bushland character significantly contributes to Vermont South's landscape character. This is reinforced with other remnant bushland areas including Bellbird Dell, Hanover Park, Terrara Park, Tyrol Park and Licola Reserve. Priority projects include a major upgrade to Terrara Park to increase the diversity of unstructured and informal recreation facilities given it is a popular destination and has recent upgrades to the sporting pavilion. Other key priorities include a major upgrade to Bushy Park, Lookout Trail Park and the Dandenong Creek Linear Park as a major regional and neighbourhood destination open space corridor in consultation with Parks Victoria. Dalroy Bend Reserve, Hartland Park and Billabong Park are also identified for future major upgrades in response to their close proximity to forecast change along Burwood Highway. Livermore Reserve has excellent potential to become a key open space for this local neighbourhood as it benefits from expansive views over Morack Public Golf Course. In the longer term, once Livermore Reserve is upgraded, there an opportunity to potentially reduce the overlap in provision of open space in this part of the precinct. Other changes include a major upgrade to Hanover Reserve which offers expansive elevated views and is located close to Livingstone Primary School.


Bushy Park

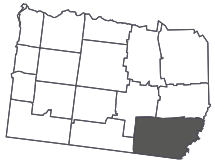

Livermore Reserve

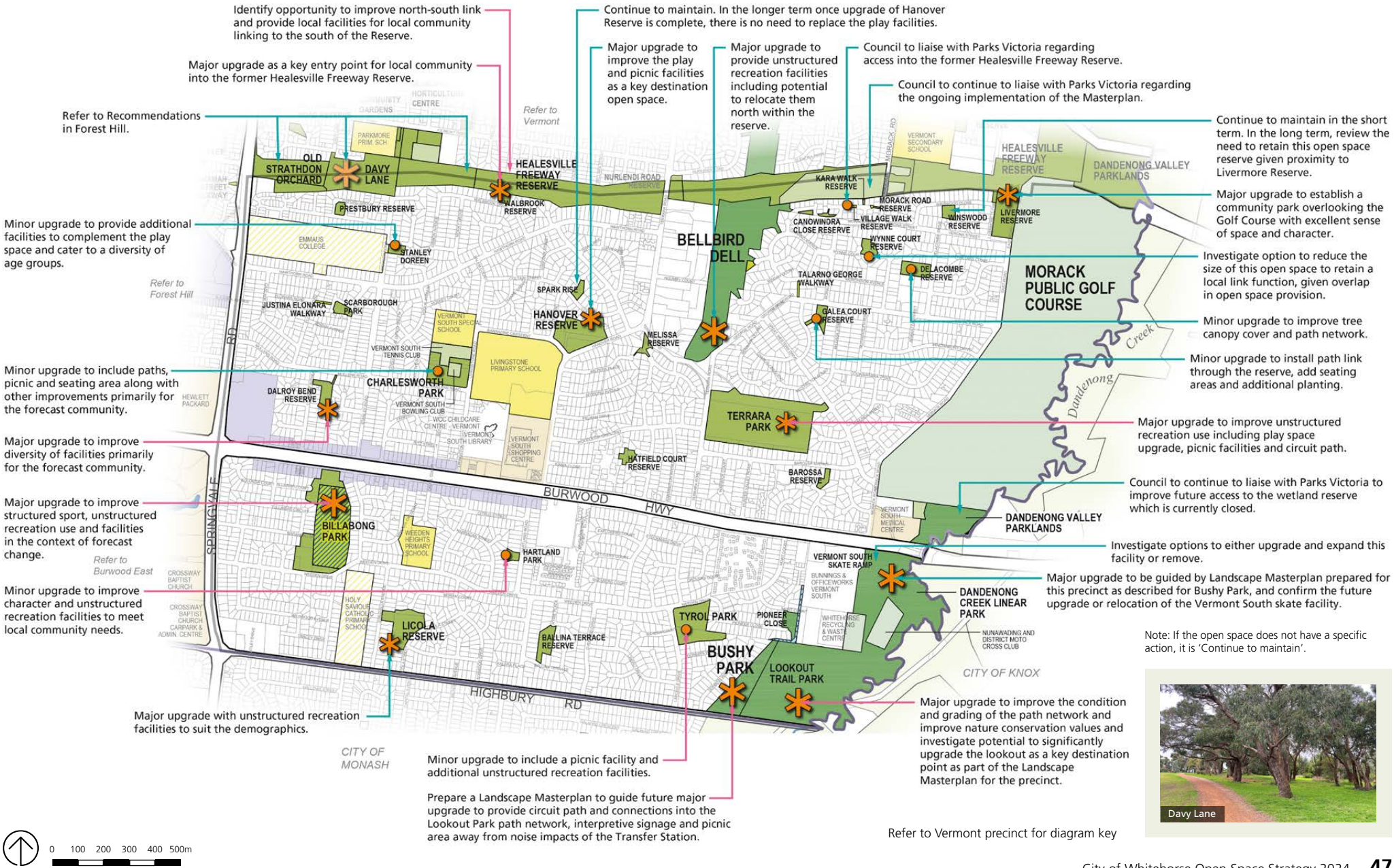

Terrara Park


Tyroll Park


Bellbird Dell

Vermont South





Refer to Vermont precinct for diagram key

Note: If the open space does not have a specific action, it is 'Continue to maintain'.

Davy Lane

Implementation

Overview

The projects in this Strategy will be implemented over a 15 year timeframe. The planning for the expansion to existing open space and proposed new public open spaces will occur early in the timeframe to ensure opportunities to secure new land area are assessed and identified as early as possible, along with the most suitable process for acquiring the additional land area needed.

The new open space projects will be achieved through a combination of securing land area on large redevelopment sites, conversion of government owned land and land acquisition where required.

Upgrades to existing open space will be implemented through the capital works budget process with the Strategy providing the strategic basis for the rationale and priorities.

Responsibilities

Successful implementation of the Strategy will require coordination across all parts of Council and the priority will be to establish a governance framework around this. Functional areas of Council that will play a key role in implementation include:

- Open space, leisure and recreation planning
- Strategic city planning and statutory approvals
- Property
- Parks and natural environment management
- Delivery of major capital projects and asset management
- Financial and corporate management
- Community safety
- Engagement with communities
- Arts and culture planning and events.

Funding

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

- Council revenue
- External grants from other State and Federal government agencies
- Public open space contributions.

The public open space contribution rate will be amended in Clause 53.03 of the Whitehorse Planning Scheme to change from the minimum 4 per cent to a rate commensurate with the level of forecast population growth and changing development patterns. An averaged municipal rate in the order of 7 per cent and a high density precinct rate in the order of 10 per cent will be confirmed once the Strategy is adopted. These contributions will be required as a land and/or cash contribution at Council's discretion.

Next steps

- Implement the updated open space contribution rate/s in the planning scheme
- Undertake detailed precinct based assessment to identify suitable opportunities to implement the expansion of existing open space and the provision of new open spaces identified in this Strategy
- Continue to implement existing masterplans and prepare new ones for major parks
- Plan for and upgrade existing open spaces identified in the precinct recommendations in this Strategy.


Campbells Croft


Box Hill Gardens


Whitehorse Road Blackburn in 2007


Whitehorse Road Blackburn in 2023 illustrating the extent of development and change


Davy Lane

