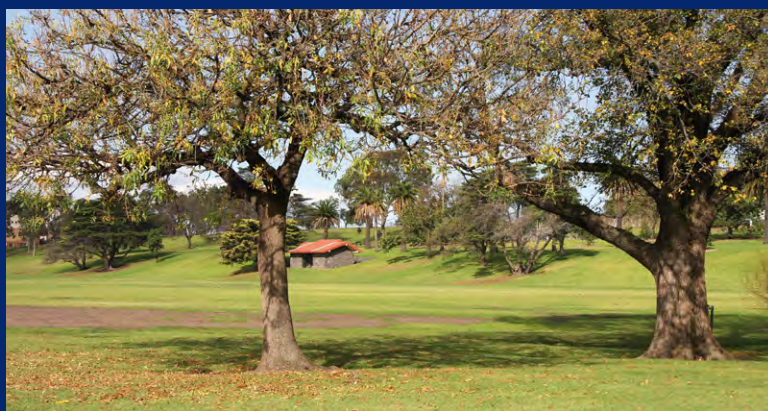


City of Maribyrnong Open Space Strategy



The *City of Maribyrnong Open Space Strategy* has been prepared for Maribyrnong City Council
by **Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd** in association with
Environment & Land Management Pty Ltd.

September 2014

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Executive Summary

Background

A comprehensive consultation program was undertaken in July 2013 as an initial undertaking in the Strategy's preparation. Every household and business across the City was invited to provide feedback on their view of the current state of Maribyrnong's open space network, their favourite elements of the network and areas they felt were in need of improvement. A total of 2,011 responses were received from the community.

The feedback obtained via the consultation period indicated that people appreciate the diversity in the City's open space network and value it for a range of reasons including:

- The trees
- For social gatherings with family and friends
- Playing team sport
- Watching activity as a spectator
- Catching up informally with neighbours
- A place for children to play
- As habitat for native flora and fauna
- To relax and unwind
- To escape traffic noise and movement
- Enjoying the ambience and character
- As a break from built form.

The community identified a range of improvements to open space including:

- To provide a range of additional facilities and features which improve the use and access to open space.
- The need to plant more trees in open space.
- To provide additional open space for the existing population and as urban densities increase.
- Address the variability in the quality and condition of some open spaces.

The second phase of consultation reinforced the feedback received in the open space survey, supporting the key recommendations in this Strategy.

Public open space

Definition

For the purposes of this Strategy, public open space is defined as all the publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for recreation, nature conservation and passive outdoor enjoyment. This includes parks, gardens, reserves, waterway corridors and publicly owned urban plazas. Public open space is generally reserved or zoned for that purpose, distinguishing it from other types of publicly owned land.

The existing open space network

The City of Maribyrnong has just over 150 open spaces, covering 307.9 hectares of land. This equates to 9.9 per cent of the total land area of the municipality. A notable feature of the open space network is the diversity of spaces ranging from the large historical gardens of Footscray Park and Yarraville Gardens to the natural values of the waterway corridors along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek. In addition, there are a number of large, high quality sporting reserves such as McIvor Reserve, Henry Turner Memorial Reserve, Hansen Reserve and Robert Barrett Reserve through the City. Interspersed through the neighbourhoods are smaller parks and spaces including Fels Reserve in Yarraville, Gaudion Reserve in West Footscray and Harris Reserve in Seddon.

Strategy purpose and scope

The purpose of this Open Space Strategy is to provide a strategic direction for the future planning, provision, design and management of open space in the City of Maribyrnong from 2013 to 2031. The Strategy quantifies and describes the existing open space network, including classifying the different types of spaces to assist with the analysis and direction for how it should be managed in the future.

Key issues arising

Some of the key issues arising as a result of the site assessments, consultation outcomes, research, distribution analysis and consideration of forecast change include:

- Gaps in the provision of open space, meaning there are parts of the City where people cannot easily and safely walk to open space.
- Forecast population growth and change is significant in some parts of the City including in Footscray and Maribyrnong. There is a need to proactively plan for this change to ensure open space positively contributes to the sense of place and community health and wellbeing as the City redevelops.
- Gaps in a continuous linear open space system along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek.
- The lack of connectivity between established urban areas and the existing linear paths and open space corridors along the waterways.

- The impact of traffic movement and noise from major roads on the accessibility, quality and useability of open space.
- The variability in the provision of facilities in open space across the City.
- The variability in the design, quality and condition of open space which effects the use and access to open space.
- Impacts of the forecast increased frequency of more extreme weather patterns on open space design and management.



Key recommendations

Overall

The Strategy addresses the open space needs of both the existing and the forecast population as an integrated framework that includes:

- Where additional open space is needed and the type of open space required.
- Improvements to the existing open space reserves.
- Design and management guidelines for both existing and proposed open space.
- The supporting justification for a fair and equitable open space contribution program that Council may use to guide contributions and will be capable of being incorporated, with appropriate policy directions, into the City of Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.

Improving the quality of open space

A range of improvements and upgrades to the existing open space network are proposed as part of this Strategy. This includes improvements to more than 90 of our existing open spaces through to 2031. The improvements are informed by:

- Community feedback via the open space survey (more than 2,000 received).
- Site assessment of the existing open space.
- The extent and intensity of forecast change and growth in the catchment.
- Analysis of the impact of the forecast growth on the existing and future open space network.
- Current best practice research into open space planning including provision and design, particularly in relation to community health and wellbeing and climate change.

Improvements will:

- Diversify the character and provide additional facilities in open space to broaden their appeal and use.
- Increase the presence of large trees for shade.
- Increase accessibility and safety of open space through passive surveillance, visual access and improvements to their condition.
- Within urban centres and higher density precincts, provide quality green spaces so everyone can easily access and enjoy natural features and spaces in otherwise urban environments.
- Improve biodiversity values, particularly along the waterway corridors.

Some existing open spaces do not require any specific upgrade works and these will continue to receive ongoing maintenance and renewal work. The renewal and improvements to open space will be informed by the design and management guidelines included in this Strategy.

Expanding the open space network

As the City of Maribyrnong changes through to 2031 (as described below) with a forecast population growth of more than 32,000, new open space will be added to the network. These new open spaces are for a combination of the existing and forecast population. Where they are primarily for the forecast population, the timing for their delivery will depend on the rate of development. Projects include:

- New Local and Small Local open space in a range of sub-precincts throughout the City to meet the health and wellbeing needs of the community including mitigating urban heat build up in higher density precincts.
- Establish continuous open space corridors along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek. The corridors are to protect and expand habitat and biodiversity values and include compatible and safe recreational use and access, including shared trails.
- Three new Neighbourhood open spaces to meet the unstructured recreation needs of the existing and forecast population in Footscray Central Activities Area, Maidstone and the Maribyrnong Defence Site.
- Two new Municipal open spaces to meet the structured (organised) sport and recreation needs of the forecast population, with one located in the north and one located in the central/west, responding to the different concentrations of population growth across the City.

Planning for forecast change

As noted above, more than 32,000 new residents are forecast to be living the municipality by 2031. Half of this population is forecast to be in Footscray. Other forecast change includes an expanding employment, student and visitor population. The method by which the Strategy plans for this change includes:

- Future open space will meet the criteria for open space included in this Strategy including minimum sizes, sun access, accessibility, natural and heritage values and more.
- Future Structure Plans, Development Plans and Urban Design Frameworks will refer to the Strategy regarding the provision of open space, open space links, future upgrades and open space contributions.

- Council will progressively undertake an analysis of each sub-precinct that requires additional open space in this Strategy, to identify a range of locations suitable for future open space in each of them. This sub-precinct analysis will inform Council's open space discussions and negotiations with the Victorian government and the development industry to implement the Strategy recommendations.
- The Strategy provides a municipal open space contribution rate of 5.7 per cent, based on the projects in this Strategy. This rate will be used to guide individual open space contributions (capped at 5 per cent under the *Subdivision Act 1988*), or the full rate is able to be included in the City of Maribyrnong Planning Scheme where it will be applied to all subdivision. The rate of 5.7 per cent includes both land and cash contributions as set out in Sections 5 and 6 of this Strategy.
- Future development will be asked to contribute towards the open space network in a number of ways. In sub-precincts where larger land area for open space is required as identified in this Strategy, Council may request land and or cash contributions towards new open space. The Strategy will be used as the basis for requesting future contributions, instead of assessing each application on a site by site basis.

Improving sustainability

In line with Council objectives, the planning, provision, design and management of open space are underpinned by principles of sustainability. These include:

- Promote cycling and walking to open space to encourage fitness and decrease private vehicle use.
- Improve biodiversity values in open space along the waterway corridors.
- Continue to incorporate sustainable water reuse in open space design where feasible.
- Protect and where appropriate promote and interpret contemporary and historical cultural significance and values in open space.
- Assist to mitigate urban heat build up in high-density precincts.

Implementation

This Strategy will be implemented over an 18 year timeframe to 2031.

The projects identified in the Strategy have indicative priorities assigned to them for commencement of implementation. Some of the larger projects will take a number of years to implement and are linked to the rate of change and development. Funding for the projects will include council revenue, grants and open space contributions.



Glossary

The abbreviations and terms used in this Strategy are listed in alphabetical order.

Term/Abbreviation	Definition for this Strategy
AAV	Aboriginal Affairs Victoria
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Activity Centre	A physical urban location that provides a mix of land use activities including goods, services and facilities within walkable distances of local communities and accessible public transport modes.
Ancillary open space	Public land that contributes to open space, is often perceived as open space, but is not primarily reserved for recreation and/or nature conservation purposes and is therefore not included in the definition of public open space used in this Strategy. Refer to the Introduction for a further description of this term.
BCC	Brimbank City Council
Biodiversity	Biodiversity (biological diversity) is the variability among living organisms from all sources, including terrestrial, aquatic, marine and other ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part), at all levels of organisation, including genetic diversity, species diversity and ecosystem diversity. <i>Source: Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030.</i>
Climate change	Any long-term significant change in the average weather that a given region, or the Earth as a whole experiences. In recent usage, the term climate change often refers to changes in the contemporary climate due to human activities, primarily the emission of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere (this is sometimes called anthropogenic climate change, or global warming). <i>Source: Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-2030.</i>
CPTED	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a crime prevention strategy that focuses on reducing the incidence and fear of crime in planning and design of cities and neighbourhoods.
Cultural significance	Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups. The term cultural significance is synonymous with cultural heritage significance and cultural heritage value. <i>Source: The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013 edition</i>
Encumbered open space	Land that can be used as open space, but this use is restricted by other values or purposes such as presence of underground services water bodies, flood management etc.
ESD	Ecologically Sustainable Development

Term/Abbreviation	Definition for this Strategy
Food security	Physical and economic access by all people and at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life. <i>Source: Food Security Policy, City of Maribyrnong 2011.</i>
Informal use	This refers to the casual use of open space for non active pursuits including sitting in the open space, picnicking, meeting people, reading a book, enjoying the ambience and relaxation.
MCC	City of Maribyrnong
MSS	Municipal Strategic Statement, which is part of the Planning Scheme's Local Planning Policy Framework, contains strategic planning, land-use and development objectives, strategies and actions for the relevant planning authority.
MW	Melbourne Water
Public realm	Public realm is a term referring to all public open space, along with other publicly owned land between buildings including streets. Refer to Section A3 for a further description of this term.
PV	Parks Victoria
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party as defined by the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006. The Act) recognises Aboriginal people as the primary guardians, keepers and knowledge holders of Aboriginal cultural heritage. At a local level, Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs) are the voice of Aboriginal people in the management and protection of Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria.
Structured sport and recreation	The activity is organised by a club, association, school or community group and participation is by becoming a member of the club or on a fee-paying basis.
Universal Design	Universal Design is defined as the designing of environments for people of all ages and abilities.
Unstructured recreation	The activity is not organised by a club or other group, where participation initiated by individuals.
Urban heat island effect (UHI)	Is the cumulative effect of modifying the natural environment through urbanisation including the covering of the soil surface, causing a rise in temperature of any urban area. This results in a defined, distinct "warm island" among the "cool sea" of lower temperatures of the surrounding nearby natural landscape. The urban surfaces are prone to store and release large quantities of heat.
VEAC	Victorian Environmental Assessment Council
Vic govt	Victorian government - relevant individual departments including those responsible for Crown Land, planning, natural resource management and protection.
VR	VicRoads, or the current Victorian government authority responsible for shared trails.
WSUD	Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) integrates water cycle management into urban planning and design.

1. Introduction

1.1 The value of open space

The community values open space for a range of reasons including for the trees; as a place to relax and unwind; as a place for children to play; to escape traffic noise and movement; for health and wellbeing; and as a break from built form. Open space is also valued for social gatherings with family and friends; playing team sport; as habitat for native flora and fauna; watching activity as a spectator; catching up informally with neighbours and enjoying the ambience and character.

The presence of trees, vegetation, grass and natural character in open space contributes to our mental health and wellbeing. Recent research has documented that access to natural areas of open space is important for public health. As the City of Maribyrnong is forecast to expand and grow significantly, having public open space with large trees and a natural character within easy reach of the community will assist with overall liveability and community wellbeing in our urban environment.

The namesake of the municipality, the Maribyrnong River, is a unique natural feature flowing along the northern and eastern boundaries of it. Within the boundaries of the city, the river starts as an incised valley form in the upstream reaches offering spectacular views over the open space corridor, changing to a broader river and floodplain with wetlands, and a wider river in a backdrop of an urban and industrial landscape. The linked open space system along the waterway is the most popular open space for residents in the city, with opportunities for improving its accessibility, connectivity and biodiversity values in the future as the city grows.

Stony Creek is the second major waterway that flows through the southern part of the municipality. Over the past 30 years, extensive efforts by the community and council have established the popular Cruickshank Park along the central part of this waterway. The habitat and recreational connectivity along Stony Creek corridor is planned to continue to improve and expand in the future, seeking opportunities to achieve an urban interface to the creek that promotes passive surveillance and safety.

Yarraville Gardens and Footscray Park are popular major open spaces offering diversity of character, particularly for their historical character, the barbecue and picnic facilities, the large size and the paths. The system of established major sporting reserves including McIvor Reserve, Hansen Reserve, Henry Turner Memorial Reserve, Braybrook Park and Robert Barrett Reserve all provide for active team and club based sport and recreation use. The smaller local open space network is well used and highly valued for being nearby and can easily reached and enjoyed close to home or workplace.

The City of Maribyrnong recognises the value of the open space network and this Strategy developed recommendations to protect and improve these values through to 2031.

1.2 Strategy scope and methodology

1.2.1 Strategy scope

The purpose of the Open Space Strategy is to provide a strategic direction for the future planning, provision, design and management of open space in the City of Maribyrnong from 2013 to 2031. This includes understanding and addressing existing community open space needs and planning ahead to anticipate and meet the open space needs of the forecast population within the municipality. The Strategy is to be consistent with the broader policy context set out in state planning documents including *Plan Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Strategy (2013)*.

The Open Space Strategy addresses the open space needs of the existing and forecast population within an integrated framework. This framework supports the justification for a fair and equitable open space contribution program that Council may use to guide contributions and will be capable of being incorporated with appropriate policy directions, into the City of Maribyrnong Planning Scheme. In order to achieve this, the Strategy provides a series of actions with broad strategic costings allocated to the actions in order to develop the underlying contribution rate. The Strategy includes an 18-year framework of actions that will be funded from a variety of sources including rates, grants and open space contributions.

Throughout this report the Open Space Strategy is referred to as 'this Strategy' or 'the Strategy', to differentiate it from other strategies referred to throughout the document.

1.2.2 Project methodology

The Strategy has been prepared in consultation with a Council Project Working Group. The key steps in the project methodology were:

- Phase 1 Background research
- Phase 2 Consultation at the research phase
- Phase 3 Analysis and Issues
- Phase 4 Draft Open Space Strategy
- Phase 5 Consultation on the Draft Open Space Strategy
- Phase 6 Final Open Space Strategy

1.3 Definition of public open space for this Strategy

1.3.1 Background

'Open space' is a broad term and there are a range of different meanings including applying it to public and private land. This Strategy addresses public open space, rather than private open space, and deals with public parks, reserves, gardens, waterways and publicly owned urban plazas.

A broader definition of open space that is commonly referred to is public realm. This includes other public land such as streets, car parks and public education institutions. These public spaces are not reserved primarily for public recreation, resort or parklands but for transport and education. There are other strategies, programs and sources of funding in place to support improvements to these other components of the public realm. They are therefore not the focus of this Strategy.

The Strategy includes the calculation of an open space contribution rate for the municipality. This rate will raise the quantum of contributions that Council should collect from developers over the life of the Strategy. These open space contributions will be collected under the *Subdivision Act 1988*. Public open space is defined in this Act as:

'land set aside in a plan or land in a plan zoned or reserved under the planning scheme -

(a) for public recreation or public resort; or

(b) as parklands; or

(c) for a similar purpose'

The Strategy focuses on open space projects for which a contribution from developers can legitimately be required, to assist Council with the costs of implementing the Strategy.

1.3.2 Definition

Public open space for the purposes of this Strategy is defined as:

Publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for outdoor recreation, nature conservation and passive outdoor enjoyment. This includes public parks, reserves, gardens, waterways and publicly owned urban plazas. Public open space is generally reserved or zoned for that purpose, distinguishing it from other types of publicly owned land.

Public open space is referred to as 'open space' throughout this Strategy.

Open space referred to in the Strategy covers the following:

- Open space that is currently zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) and is owned and managed by Council.
- Open space that is zoned PPRZ, is owned by other government agencies and managed by Council.
- Open space that is currently zoned PPRZ and is owned and managed by other government agencies including Parks Victoria.
- Open space that is currently zoned for other public purposes along waterways which is open and accessible to the public and is owned and managed by other agencies such as Melbourne Water.
- Open space that is currently zoned PPRZ and is managed for restricted recreation use on a fee paying or membership basis by clubs or organisations. This includes public golf courses, tennis courts and community gardens. In this Strategy these spaces are referred to as restricted open space.

Any proposals for future public open space will need to meet the definition outlined above, and the assessment criteria for open space included in Table 5-2 of this Strategy. The criteria addresses its location, urban context, minimum size, width, sunlight access, condition and other items as described in Table 5-2.

1.4 Ancillary open space

Open space is a broad term that can be used to describe all land that does not contain buildings or structures including public and private land. The public land is commonly referred to as the public realm, although this term often encompasses what this Strategy defines as public open space.

Therefore other public land that is not included in the definition of public open space is referred to in this Strategy as ancillary open space. Ancillary open space includes the streetscapes, school and university grounds and railway land. Taking the example of streetscapes, these are primarily reserved for transport purposes, and also allow and encourage physical activities of walking and cycling and in some instances as places for people to socialise. While these activities are common to those undertaken in open space, streets are primarily set aside for transport purposes and decisions relating to their form, function and aesthetics is primarily for that purpose rather than as public open space. Streets contribute to the use and value of the open space network by providing links between them, and therefore streets will be recognised in this Strategy as providing this complementary role and referred to as ancillary open space.

The Open Space Strategy recognises that a range of other plans and strategies guide the future provision, use and design of streetscapes including structure plans, urban design frameworks, streetscape design plans and the recently prepared Street Planting Strategy.

The Open Space Strategy acknowledges the contribution of some school grounds to open space, especially where the schools allow informal access to the grounds after hours. However school land is not included in the inventory of current open space as these are not reserved for open space, are not under Council control and the open space areas within schools can be used for other

purposes, for example built over or sold and not always available for the public to use at any time. Schools are referred to as ancillary open space in the Strategy.

Railway corridors and associated land is also referred to as ancillary open space. As with schools, the railway land is reserved for other purposes, but may also have an open space function including as open space, particularly with linear paths links and the vegetation corridors. Where railway land is zoned PPRZ or is established as an open space with facilities and planting, it is included as part of the open space system. While railway land can contribute to the open space values and connectedness, it is retained primarily for railway use and there is potential that the land can be required for additional infrastructure, thereby changing the environmental and recreational values. This is currently occurring with the upgrade of the Regional Rail Link Project.

1.5 Publicly accessible private open space

Privately owned open space can contribute to the landscape character of neighbourhoods and in some cases the public open space and associated natural and habitat values. Given they remain in private rather than public ownership their continued form and contribution to the public open space system and neighbourhood character cannot be guaranteed unless they are acquired for open space purposes. Where the privately owned open space is accessible to the public this will be referred to as publicly accessible private open space in the Strategy.

It is important that this Strategy focuses on ensuring there is adequate provision of public open space and facilities that will be retained for future generations, without the ability for that land to be sold or converted to another use, unless there is clear demonstration that it is no longer required by the community as open space. This is the reason this type of private land is differentiated from public open space in this Strategy.

1.6 Vision and principles

1.6.1 Municipal Vision

A diverse and vibrant city dedicated to community wellbeing through democracy, sustainable growth and opportunity for all.

The wellbeing outcomes council is committed to delivering in the 2013-2017 Council Plan that are relevant to open space include:

- *Well planned city*
Well planned neighbourhoods, city design and development that are attractive and provide safe and accessible public spaces for all.

- **Cultural vibrancy**
A city that respects, celebrates and protects the history and diversity of our heritage, cultural precincts, the arts and community spaces.
- **Equity**
Equitable access to quality resources that support individual and community wellbeing, now and into the future.
- **Community harmony**
A strong sense of community built on diversity of gender, age, culture, ability, lifestyle and faith that supports social inclusion and community decision making.
- **Liveability**
A city that has liveable places and community infrastructure that promotes social connections and improves quality of life for everyone.
- **Environmental sustainability**
A city and organisation that implements environmentally sustainable practices and procedures that protect the environment and promote the use of natural resources.
- **Sustainable transport**
Accessible, affordable and safe transport options for all community members that encourage sustainable and active transport around the municipality.

1.6.2 Principles and aims for the Open Space Strategy

Principles	Aims
Accessible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The community is able to easily reach open space including walking, cycling, by public transport and/or private vehicle. • People of all ages, ability, health, gender and cultural background feel welcomed and can easily use open space.
Aesthetic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designed, managed and maintained so that it encourages and promotes the use of open space by the community. • The inherent social, environmental and urban character is reflected in the public open space.
Biologically diverse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The open space network is designed and managed to protect and strengthen biodiversity.
Connected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space corridors along the waterways strengthen the recreational and habitat connectivity to and within the city including links to on-road cycle paths, encouraging sustainable transport connections.
Cultural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space protects, strengthens and celebrates our diverse Indigenous and non-Indigenous cultural

Principles	Aims
	heritage and contemporary values.
Diverse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open space reflects the diverse natural, built and social character of the municipality.
Equitable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equitably distribute open space across the municipality. • Equitably design, manage and maintain open space across all areas of the municipality. • Equitably fund open space across all parts of our community.
Recreational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the community to keep fit, be outdoors and play sport to improve their health and wellbeing.
Safer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of our community feel comfortable and safe in open space.
Sociable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities for the community to socialise and encourage social connectedness to support the community health and wellbeing.
Sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage sustainable design and management practices and mitigate the impacts of climate change, particularly urban heat island effect.

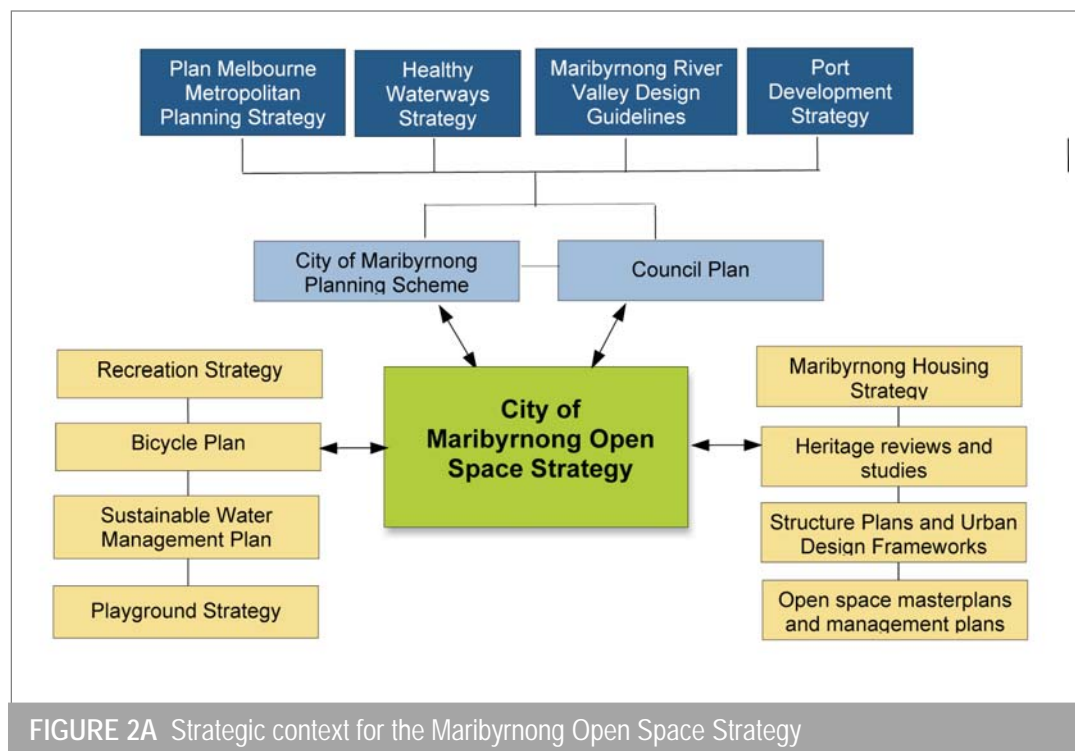
The Strategy takes into account all the principles in the planning for future open space provision, design, establishment and ongoing management. They are of equal level of importance and the open space network as a whole aims to meet these principles.

The quality of the open space system as a whole varies considerably with some spaces making a significant contribution to the network. Others are undeveloped or do not promote, nurture and support sense of place and community health and wellbeing. This Strategy aims to strengthen the open space system as a whole, relying on the network of different open spaces to meet the biological, environmental and community needs so that at each level, the different spaces contribute to the system as a whole.

2. Existing situation analysis

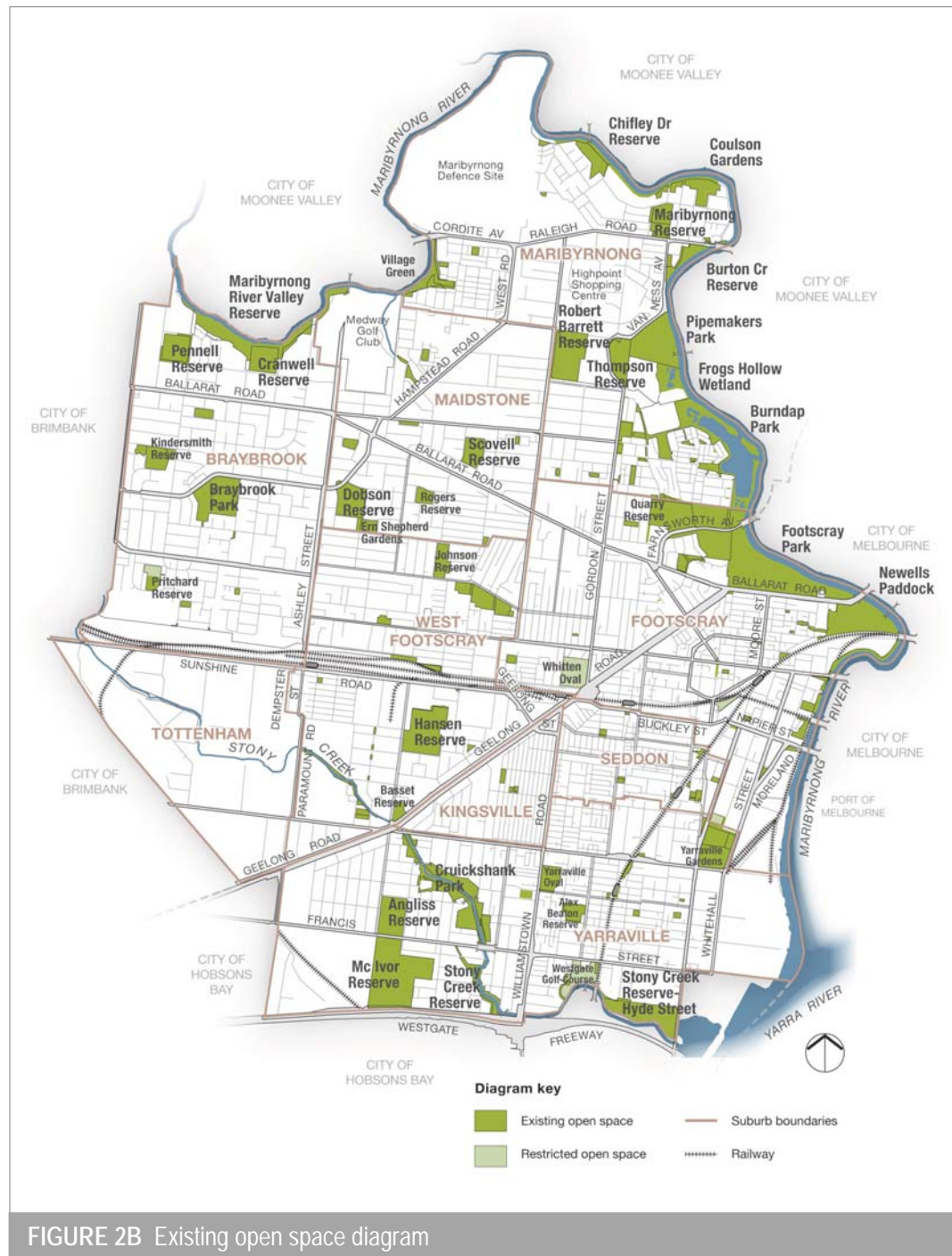
2.1 Strategic context

A range of existing Victorian and local government strategies and policies inform this Strategy. Once adopted, this Strategy will inform future open space related council plans and policies. Figure 2A below diagrammatically illustrates this framework.



2.2 Existing open space network

2.2.1 Overview



The City of Maribyrnong is situated on the Maribyrnong River, four kilometres west of the Melbourne Central Business District, and covers a total land area of 31.2 square kilometres. Its location on the Maribyrnong River with views east to Melbourne is a key landscape feature of the municipality. It includes the suburbs of Braybrook, Footscray, Kingsville, Maidstone, Maribyrnong, Seddon, Tottenham, West Footscray and Yarraville. Adjoining municipalities are the

Cities of Melbourne to the east, Moonee Valley to the north, Brimbank to the west and Hobsons Bay to the south.

The existing open space network comprises 151 open space reserves that are accessible to the public at all times, covering 307.9 hectares of land area, which equates to 9.9 per cent of the municipality. Additionally, two open space reserves provide access on a restricted fee-paying basis, being Westgate Public Golf Course and Yarraville Tennis Club. The total area of open space including the two additional restricted open space reserves is approximately 313.5 hectares or 10 per cent of the municipal area. Parts of some of the larger sporting reserves including Hansen Reserve and Robert Barrett Reserve have facilities where access is restricted, including bowling and tennis clubs. The land area associated with these restricted uses inside the larger open space reserves is not excluded from the total open space area. Only open spaces with restricted access to the entire reserve have been excluded from the overall total.

The Maribyrnong River and its associated open space corridor is a key strength of the open space system in the municipality. Parts of the open space along the Maribyrnong River have recognised heritage values of State and Local significance along with the majority of the municipality's biodiversity values. Other key strengths include the quality sporting reserves and facilities located at Mclvor Reserve, Hansen Reserve, Robert Barrett Reserve and Henry Turner Memorial Reserve.

Stony Creek flows through the southern area of the municipality and while this waterway has been modified from its original form, the linked system of open space along it and the presence of flowing water make Cruickshank Park one of the most popular open spaces for residents in the southern part of the municipality. Many in the community use and value the system of smaller Neighbourhood and Local open spaces that are easily accessed and frequently visited, particularly in the dense urban neighbourhoods.

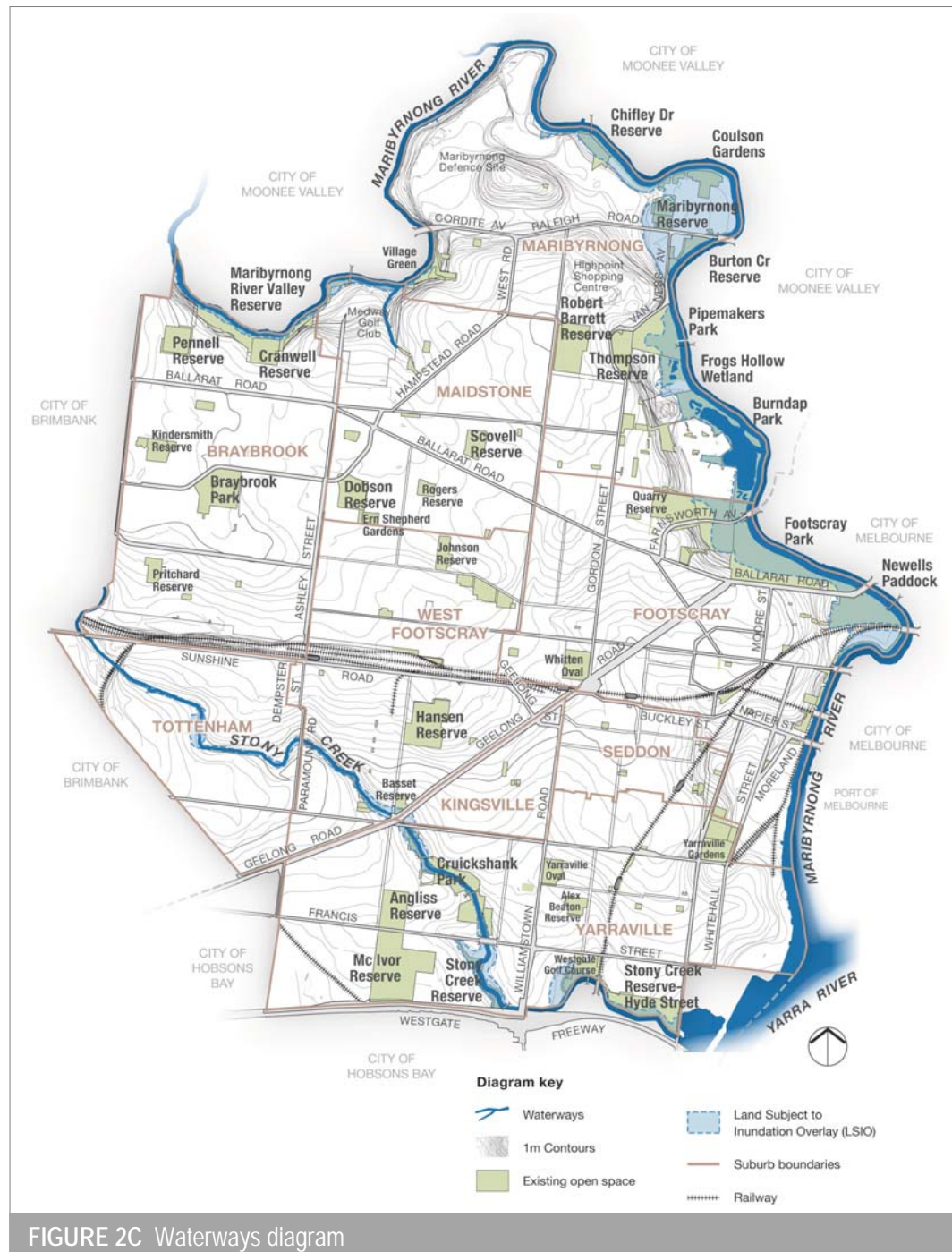
Unique to the open space system in the City of Maribyrnong is the extensive areas of new open space that have been added to the network over the past decade as redevelopment of large former defence sites along the Maribyrnong River occurred. The city is forecast to continue to change with older industrial areas converting to have a greater residential focus. As part of this change, Council is able to review the existing role of open space and proactively seek to upgrade and expand the network to assist with improving the health and wellbeing of the community who live and work here.

Upgrades and expansion to the open space network will aim to encourage people outdoors to use it. The diversity and quality of spaces at all levels, including the smaller open spaces within easy reach of residents need to provide opportunities that encourage social and recreational use. There is room to improve the biodiversity values and overcome gaps in the linear networks to strengthen the habitat corridor and recreational accessibility of open space.

The residential population is forecast to increase substantially, with up to 40 per cent more people living in the city by 2031. Council also faces the significant challenge of climate change impacting on liveability in high-density

neighbourhoods. Open space can have a positive role to play in making our urban environments more liveable and sustainable in the future.

2.2.2 Waterways and topography



2.2.2a Maribyrnong River landscape and recreational values

The Maribyrnong River is the defining natural feature of the City of Maribyrnong. Its presence influenced and defined the early patterns of settlement, the location of industry, and now contributes significantly to the desirability and liveability of parts of the city. A feature that first served as a barrier to access, followed by a means of facilitating industrial land use by using the river as a drain to dispose of all waste and effluent, it has today been transformed to the river that is increasingly valued for its natural character, sustainable transport options and its important role as a place to escape to from busy urban lives.

The river is navigable along its length through the city, used in the lower reaches for the critical port related activities, while upstream the river is used primarily for recreational purposes including pleasure boating, rowing, kayaking and fishing.

While not continuous along its length, the open space network along the Maribyrnong is the most popular open space visited outside the local area. Some gaps in the open space corridor will be overcome in the future as the large area of defence land in Maribyrnong is redeveloped. Additionally future negotiations with private land owners will achieve public open space adjacent to the river along its length. The only section that will not be available for public access is the lower reach within the Port of Melbourne downstream of Lyons Road.

The overall direction for the Port of Melbourne Corporation land is to continue to utilise the Maribyrnong River for port related activities. Refer Figure 2C for the Waterways Diagram, which also illustrates the extent of the land subject to inundation overlay.

For biodiversity values refer to Section 2.2.3.

2.2.2b Stony Creek landscape and recreational values

Stony Creek emerges along the boundary with the City of Brimbank in Braybrook, just upstream of the Braybrook railway line. The creek flows downstream through the Tottenham industrial precinct, the residential areas of West Footscray and Yarraville and to the Yarra River through the Stony Creek backwash located east of the municipality in the City of Hobsons Bay. The creek drains the catchment from further north west in St Albans referred to as Upper Stony Creek.

Historically the creek has been highly modified during development and flows above ground for most of its length either in a modified natural channel or a concrete lined channel. Public access is currently provided along parts of the creek in West Footscray between Paramount and Roberts Roads, however upstream of Paramount Road there is no continuous public open space corridor or recreational access. Between Paramount and Roberts Roads the urban layout of rear boundary fence lines adjoining the linear open space means there is limited visual and physical access to the existing open space corridor.

The most popular section of the creek is through Cruickshank Park where a wider open space reserve has been progressively established and planted with native

and indigenous vegetation over the past 20 years to improve its character and use. At a local level, Cruickshank Park is the most popular open space in Yarraville. Historically, the park was the site of up to 11 bluestone quarries that operated from the late 1800s providing bluestone for some of Melbourne's earliest public buildings including Pentridge prison.

Downstream of Cruickshank Park, Stony Creek flows initially in a concrete lined channel where it has been modified as part of the Westgate Freeway construction and then returns to a more natural stream in the Westgate Golf Course. The public golf course extends over Stony Creek and is managed by Hobsons Bay and is only accessible to golfers. Through Stony Creek Park the creek flows as a more natural stream and the park includes seating and a path that provides a connection from Hyde Street through to Hughes Street.

While Cruickshank Park is one the most popular open space reserves, the consultation outcomes identified relatively low usage levels for the Stony Creek system likely due to its remoteness from residential areas and the industrial setting. For biodiversity values refer to Section 2.2.3.

2.2.2c Topography

The City of Maribyrnong is located at the junction of Melbourne's western volcanic plains and deltaic sediments. The majority of the municipality is gently undulating volcanic plains with the major topographic feature being the deeply incised valley of the Maribyrnong River. In some locations, the open space offers spectacular views over the river corridor towards the north and east.

To the south of the municipality, Stony Creek is an incised stream forming a more gently graded valley form as it flows through the municipality and to the Yarra River. A linked system of open space follows much of the Maribyrnong River valley form including the different topographic features within the valley. These range from escarpments to broad wide floodplains with wetlands. Some of the natural landform has been modified by the extensive bluestone quarrying activity undertaken in the municipality. The variations in topography add interest and diversity to the open space network. Some reserves offer spectacular views along the waterway valley forms and towards the Melbourne city skyline and others over the valley to the north and west.

Refer to Figure 2D for key elevated viewing areas from existing open space.



2.2.3 Natural biodiversity values

The *Natural Heritage Study* prepared in 1999 as part of the *Maribyrnong Heritage Review* identified that all vegetation types have been depleted since settlement and most remnants are now significantly modified from their original state.

The main areas of remnant vegetation in municipality are:

- Along the Maribyrnong River.
- Along the railway reserve corridor - referred to in the *Natural Heritage Study* as the Braybrook Rail Reserve.
- Some isolated remnants along Stony Creek.

Five Ecological Vegetation Classes are present in the municipality including:

- Plains Grassland
- Wetland complex
- Escarpment Shrubland or Woodland
- Riparian Complex
- Saltmarsh Complex.

Open space with native and indigenous revegetation values that contributes to the natural and biodiversity values of the municipality is present mainly along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek.

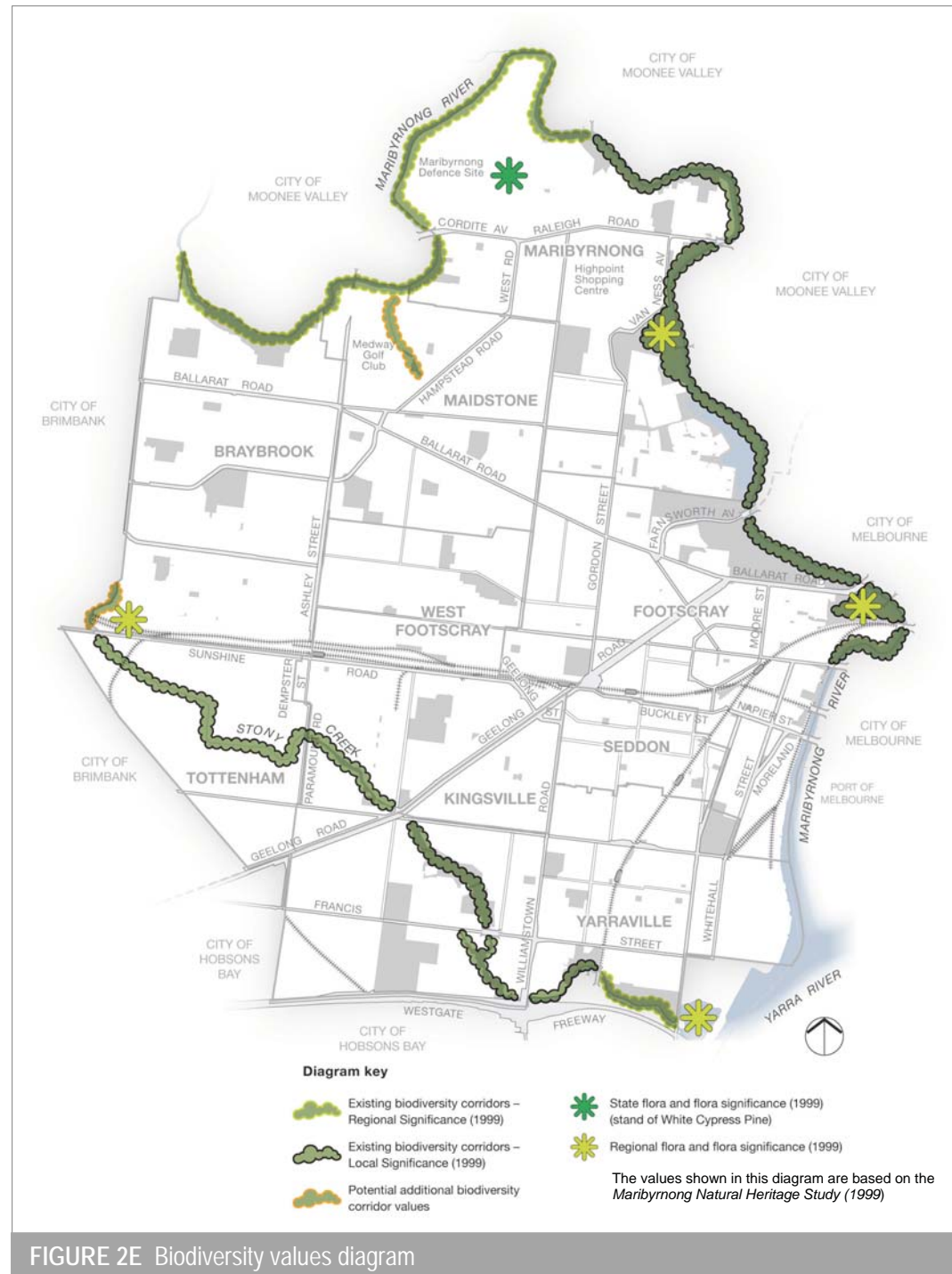


FIGURE 2E Biodiversity values diagram

2.2.3a Maribyrnong River

The *Healthy Waterways Strategy (2013)* prepared by Melbourne Water notes that the Maribyrnong River catchment is extensive with the river contained in deeply incised valleys. Approximately 10 per cent of its catchment retains natural vegetation cover, while 80 per cent has been modified for agricultural use and 10 per cent for urban use. The health of the river in its upper catchment (outside the municipality) is good including forested headwaters and areas of high indigenous cultural significance. However the lower reaches of the river have declined as a result of rural and urban development. In the Lower Maribyrnong System, which flows through the City of Maribyrnong, the urban and industrial development has contributed to poor water quality and waterway condition. The Healthy Waterways Strategy identifies that the focus of Melbourne Water's works in the system will be aimed at improving vegetation along the riparian zone. This will improve the environmental quality, but also the amenity values, by improving the sense of naturalness along the waterway corridor.

The *Natural Heritage Study (1999)* undertaken for the City of Maribyrnong identified that the riparian zone, extending from the municipal boundary in the north to the start of Chifley Drive Reserve, is of regional flora and fauna significance. This section of the riparian zone includes remnant River Red Gums and well-established overstorey trees and vegetation in the riparian zone, and the associated values of the planted native and indigenous vegetation on both sides of the waterway including in Cranwell Reserve, the Medway Golf Course and the Maribyrnong Defence Site. Within the Maribyrnong Defence Site a stand of White Cypress Pine is noted to be of State significance as a component of the former Escarpment Shrubland or Woodland. The more recently completed works along the river banks through Village Green Reserve contribute to overall biodiversity values including planting with indigenous vegetation and a water quality treatment wetland adjoining the waterway corridor in Waterford Green Reserve.

The riparian zone downstream of the Maribyrnong Defence Site through to the Port of Melbourne in the south is identified to be of local flora and fauna significance in the *Natural Heritage Study (1999)*. From the Maribyrnong Defence Site to Raleigh Road, the open space along the waterway is mainly for recreational use. The shared trail affords open space vistas across the waterway through the exotic planted character of Canary Island Date Palms. The adjoining reserves have a variety of planting and landscape character types; some with native and exotic trees while others have a predominantly indigenous planting character. Downstream of Raleigh Road, Burton Crescent Reserve, Pipemakers Park, Frogs Hollow Wetland and Burndap Park all have a predominantly indigenous and native vegetation character.

Pipemakers Park is noted as being of regional flora and fauna significance for the planted Riparian Complex, Box Woodland and Wetlands. The more recently established water quality treatment wetlands in Frogs Hollow Wetland have reintroduced additional biodiversity values to the floodplain since the Natural Heritage Study was prepared. Newells Paddock contains planted and recolonised saltmarsh vegetation including Beaded Glasswort, Tangled Lignum and River Red Gums and is noted to be of regional flora and fauna significance.

Between the railway and Hopkins Street Bridge native vegetation has been planted making a contribution towards the habitat and natural biodiversity values of the corridor. While the local flora and fauna significance extended downstream through the Port of Melbourne land in the 1999 *Natural Heritage Study*, this has not been shown on Figure 2E, as the open space along the waterway corridor is highly modified through this section.

Refer to Figure 2E illustrating the biodiversity values from the *Natural Heritage Study* (1999) relevant to this Strategy.

2.2.3b Stony Creek

The *Healthy Waterways Strategy (HWS)* (2013) prepared by Melbourne Water notes that Stony Creek is a highly modified stream. Although environmental values tend to be low, the creek supports some native frog species and a number of native fish are likely to inhabit the lower estuarine sections. The *HWS* aims to improve water quality by reducing the impacts of industrial processes on the waterway along with improvements to native streamside vegetation.

The *Natural Heritage Study (NHS)* (1999) identifies the length of Stony Creek upstream of the railway as being of local flora and fauna significance. Upstream of Paramount Road through Tottenham, the creek flows through industrial land and is contained in a narrow natural channel, with established native and exotic trees and vegetation. The *A Plan for Stony Creek: Review of the 1999 Stony Creek Future Directions Plan* (2010) notes there is a population of the common Spotted Marsh Frog *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis* in this upstream reach.

Between Roberts Street and Paramount Road the creek flows in a modified natural channel, with a combination of exotic and native vegetation and mostly through a public open space reserve. Recent indigenous revegetation works in this reach will contribute to its biodiversity values. In Cruickshank Park the extensive native and indigenous planting over the past 20 years provides canopy cover and shade to the waterway. At the downstream end of Cruickshank Park the creek is contained in a concrete lined channel to West Gate Golf Course. Through the West Gate Golf Course, the creek returns to a natural channel, however the riparian values are minimal with the golf course extending across the creek and limited overstorey trees or native vegetation along it.

The *Natural Heritage Study* (1999) identifies the lower section of Stony Creek near Hyde Street as being of local to regional flora and fauna significance due to the presence of saltmarsh vegetation. Through the lower downstream section in the vicinity of Hyde Street the creek is colonised by saltmarsh vegetation, and White Mangroves *Avicennia marina* are present and recolonising in the Stony Creek Backwash, immediately downstream of the municipal boundary in Hobsons Bay and where Stony Creek meets the Yarra River.

2.2.3c Native grasslands

Prior to post-contact settlement, much of Melbourne's volcanic plains were almost treeless and covered with native grasslands. Occasional trees would have included Sheoke, Buloke, Wattle and Banksia. Native grasslands would

have comprised a diversity of species with Kangaroo Grass dominating on well-drained fertile soils and Wallaby Grass and Tussock Grass dominating along the drainage lines. Larger wetlands would have been fringed with Tangled Lignum and River Red Gums.

The only site with identified remnant Plains Grassland in the *Natural Heritage Study (1999)* is in the Braybrook Rail Reserve towards Stony Creek. This is nominated as being of regional flora and fauna significance in that report. While it is outside the open space network, it is shown in Figure 2C as there is a future opportunity for this ancillary open space to be utilised as an off-road linear link and connection between Stony Creek, Matthew Hill Reserve and West Footscray. Therefore, if the native grassland remains it may become part of the future open space network.

2.2.4 Cultural heritage values

2.2.4a Indigenous cultural heritage values

When European settlers first occupied land in the Melbourne area, including what was to become the township of Footscray, the City of Maribyrnong was occupied by people of the *Woi wurrung* language group. The *Maribyrnong Aboriginal Heritage Study (1999)* notes that the combination of the Maribyrnong River and the volcanic plains landform would have provided a wealth of resources for the Aboriginal people, including for food and shelter.

In these areas, including the Maribyrnong River Valley, the combination of fertile, organic soils and a large, permanent river would have increased the diversity and abundance of plant and animal life and produced a wealth of flora and fauna resources for Aboriginal food sources. Silcrete, a type of stone available along the river valley, was also an important resource for the Aboriginal people to make tools and several Aboriginal stone quarries still remain today along the Maribyrnong River.

Archaeological studies completed prior to the *Maribyrnong Aboriginal Heritage Study (1999)* identified six Aboriginal archaeological sites consisting of stone artefacts, a quarry and surface scatters of stone artefacts. Surveys conducted as part of the Heritage Study revealed six additional sites consisting of surface scatters. The rapid industrial development of the land that took place in Maribyrnong during the nineteenth century has resulted in these archaeological sites being highly disturbed. These sites are considered to be highly significant as they provide evidence of pre-contact Aboriginal land use in the City of Maribyrnong.

2.2.4b Non-Indigenous heritage values

The earliest recorded non-Indigenous exploration of the land now included in the City of Maribyrnong was by the crew of the schooner Cumberland in 1803 when the crew is reported to have rowed up the Maribyrnong River as far as the rocks that are today known as Solomon's Ford, just upstream of the boundary of the

municipality. Being unimpressed with the stony and almost treeless landscape, the area was not visited again by non-Indigenous settlers until three decades later when John Batman explored the area on foot in the 1830s and declared it was suitable for grazing. Solomon's Ford became the first crossing point over the Maribyrnong for the earliest white settlers in the Port Phillip region. The Maribyrnong River was known as Saltwater River until 1913 and the earliest maps show a thick belt of Sheokes following the west side of the river from Williamstown through to Footscray and extending out onto the western plains.

The land that comprises the City of Maribyrnong was originally surveyed in the 1840s when early village reserves were originally set aside. While there were a number of squatters - one of the most notable being Mr Solomon's Station on the site of the current Medway Golf Club - the area was not extensively settled by squatters despite the fact that Crown Land was offered there as early as 1843. Additional to the pastoral use there was a link with the pastoral industry including meat processing and related trades by siting wool stores strategically close to railways from the Western District.

Industrial land use commenced in the 1840s as well with the first industries located along the river. Quarrying and carting bluestone became an important industry in Footscray between the 1850s and 1870s with the bluestone being used for railways, road building and as bluestone blocks for buildings and bridges. While some of the key open spaces were set aside in the 1800s as recreation reserves, many are former quarry sites. Yarraville Gardens and Whitten Oval were some of the earliest open spaces established in the city, on sites that were former quarries.

Footscray Park was purchased by the state and local governments when the Victoria Racing Club planned to sell the land for subdivision in 1908 after the local community lobbied council to purchase it. Designed in 1911 the park is of State heritage significance as an excellent example of an Edwardian style garden. Many of the other parks and reserves are located in the former quarry sites. Larger parks like Cruikshank Park along Stony Creek is a combination of a number of former quarries.

In Braybrook and Maidstone the Housing Commission of Victoria set aside a number of open spaces when it redesigned these areas in the 1940s and 1950s. Waves of migration through the city influenced the facilities in the open spaces. Unique features include the former racing track in the Maribyrnong Recreation Reserve operating motorbike races on Saturday nights. Trugo was a game that was said to have been developed during the lunch hours at the Newport Railway Workshops in the 1920s and workers continued playing this game after work at the Yarraville Gardens and the Footscray Football Ground (Whitten Oval), and by the 1940s a number of teams were playing - hence the Footscray Trugo Club in Seddon and the Yarraville Trugo Club in Alex Beaton Reserve, Yarraville.

Sites on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR)

Some of the City of Maribyrnong's open space and features located within open space are listed on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) including:

- **Footscray Art Centre** – VHR Ref No H183
Henderson House (now used as the Footscray Community Arts Centre) was built around 1872 as part of an extensive complex, which included a factory for ham and bacon curing, and an associated residence. It is of historical and architectural significance for its association with the development of principal river frontages for industrial use in Victoria in the nineteenth century, in particular for industries such as meatworks.
- **Footscray Park** – VHR Ref No H1220
Footscray Park is of historic, aesthetic, scientific (horticultural) and social significance to the State of Victoria. Designed in 1911 by architect Rodney Alsop, it is an important Edwardian styled garden from the early twentieth century with a significant collection of garden structures, ornamental ponds, formal and informal path layout and a rich collection of rare palms, trees and shrubs. The park is socially important because of its long association with the citizens of Footscray, who successfully campaigned for its creation.
- **Grimes Reserve** – VHR Ref No H1397
This site includes the Saltwater River Crossing site and Footscray Wharves located on the west bank of the Maribyrnong River, running south from Hopkins Street, Footscray. This site is of historical, archaeological and social significance to the State of Victoria, due to its close association with the earliest stages of establishment of the State, and subsequent westward expansion of Melbourne. The Saltwater River Crossing site is archaeologically significant as it provides subsurface and above ground evidence of the establishment of a major punt crossing on the river. The site also has social significance as being the site of the settlement of the Township of Footscray.
- **Railway Reserve** – VHR Ref No H1563
This site forms part of the Footscray Railway Station Complex, which is of aesthetic, architectural, social and historical importance to the State of Victoria. It is an excellent example of a substantial railway complex constructed from 1899 to 1908. The Railway Reserve (formerly the Napier Street station site) is of aesthetic importance due to its Edwardian landscape that includes mainly remnant mature exotic trees such as Canary Island Date Palms and Moreton Bay Figs, and ornamental gardens and rotunda. The reserve was leased by Council to provide gardens to the public. As a note, this site is currently closed to public access due to construction of the Regional Rail Link project.
- **Tannery Reserve** – VHR Ref No H1397
Refer Grimes Reserve above.

- **Pipemakers Park** – VHR Ref No H1503

The Pipe Makers Park Complex, located in what is now Pipemakers Park, was built around 1850 and is important as a memorial to one of Australia's pioneer industrial enterprises – meat canning. The buildings also have national significance as part of the Humes complex, where steel reinforced concrete pipes were manufactured around the First World War. The site is an important part of Melbourne.

- **Jack's Magazine** – VHR Ref No H1154

Jack's Magazine is of historical, architectural and scientific significance to the State of Victoria. The facility was constructed around 1878 and it is an intact example of an extensive nineteenth century gunpowder storage facility. It is the largest gunpowder magazine complex ever constructed in Victoria, which indicates the importance of mining in Victoria's history. The architectural design and high quality bluestone work is also an extraordinary example of the stonemason's craft. The magazine demonstrates the changing approaches to the storage of explosives, from the early heavy masonry design to the later use of earth mound blast walls. While this does not currently form part of the open space network it directly adjoins it and contributes to the character of open space and the site.

Existing controls in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme

Heritage Overlays include a number of the open space reserves or land adjoining reserves as shown in the following table.

Precinct	Open space	No.	Description & relevant controls
Braybrook	Area adjoining Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve	HO109	Solomon's Ford (Canning Street Ford) near Burke Road, Braybrook.
	Area adjoining Kindersmith Reserve	HO5	Munition worker's housing heritage area.
Footscray	Ercildoune Reserve	HO7	Old Footscray Township residential heritage area.
	Footscray Art Centre	HO77	Covers the property title where the Footscray Art Centre is located. The heritage place is the Henderson House. Victorian Heritage Register Ref No H183. Refer to summary description from the Statement of Significance for this site.
	Footscray Park	HO20	Victorian Heritage Register Ref No H1220. Refer to summary description from the Statement of Significance for this site.
	Grimes Reserve	HO50	Saltwater River crossing Site & Footscray Wharves Precinct. Victorian Heritage Register Ref No H1397. Refer to summary description

Precinct	Open space	No.	Description & relevant controls
			from the Statement of Significance for this site.
	Commercial areas adjoining Maddern Square and Nicholson Street Mall	HO3	Footscray commercial heritage precinct.
	Newells Paddock	HO146	Angliss Stock Bridge, stock route and Cypress trees. Tree controls apply to the row of Cypress trees.
	Railway Reserve	HO49	Footscray Railway Station Complex. Victorian Heritage Register Ref No H1563. Refer to summary description from the Statement of Significance for this site.
	Spurling Reserve	HO94	Tree controls apply to the 15 Canary Island Date Palms and three Canary Island Pine trees.
		HO93	Drill Hall located at the corner of Barkly Street and Gordon Street.
	Tannery Reserve	HO50	Saltwater River crossing Site & Footscray Wharves Precinct. Victorian Heritage Register Ref No H1397. Refer to summary description from the Statement of Significance for this site.
Kingsville	Beever Reserve	HO8	Queenville Estate heritage area.
	Bell Reserve	HO8	Queenville Estate heritage area.
Maribyrnong	Chifley Drive	HO110	Section of the river frontage along Chifley Drive, including the western end of Coulson Gardens and the southern end of Burton Crescent Reserve. Tree controls apply to Peppercorn trees, River Red Gums, Yellow Box (<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>) and Canary Island Date Palms in the Maribyrnong River Plantation off Chifley Drive.
	Chifley Drive and Plantation Street Reserve	HO153	Dale Stables and Peppercorn trees Tree controls apply to Peppercorn trees.
	City View Drive Reserve	HO186	Raleigh Mansion (archaeological site) Refer Archaeological Management Plan for controls that apply.
	Maribyrnong Reserve	HO137	Grandstand off Hortense Street.
	Pipemakers Park	HO64	Pipe Makers Park Complex (also known as Former Melbourne Meat Preserving Co. Buildings) Victorian Heritage Register Ref No

Precinct	Open space	No.	Description & relevant controls
			H1503. Refer to summary description from the Statement of Significance for this site.
	Jack's Magazine (potential future open space)	HO45	Formally known as Saltwater River Magazine. Victorian Heritage Register Ref No H1154. Refer to summary description from the Statement of Significance for this site.
Seddon	Harris Reserve	HO9	Seddon residential and commercial heritage area.
	Seddon & Mrs Beyers Reserve	HO9	Seddon residential and commercial heritage area.
West Footscray	Johnson Reserve	HO117	Tree controls apply to the rows of 34 Canary Island Date Palm and one Oak tree.
Yarraville	Bellairs Park	HO9	Seddon residential and commercial heritage area.
	Cuming Reserve	HO139	Tree controls apply to 18 Canary Island Date Palms, one Moreton Bay Fig and one Elm tree.
		HO140	Tree controls apply to the two Canary Island Date Palms and a Moreton Bay Fig in the southern section of Cuming Reserve, off Hyde Street.
	Fels Reserve	HO15	Yarraville residential heritage area.
	Goods Yard	HO14	Yarraville civic and commercial heritage area.
	Hanmer Reserve	HO138	Tree controls apply to specimen trees
	Sanford Grove Reserve	HO154	Tree controls apply to the three Pepper trees and one Sugar Gum in the reserve and three Pepper trees as street trees adjacent to the reserve.
	Yarraville Gardens	HO138	Tree controls apply to specimen trees
	Yarraville Station Plaza	HO14	Yarraville civic and commercial heritage area.

Please note that all the Heritage Overlays are shown spatially on the Future Change Diagrams in Section 6 of this Strategy.

2.2.4c Public art

Council's *Art in Public Spaces Strategy 2011* provides guidance for art in public places to encourage community engagement and activate public spaces in and around Footscray such as the Nicholson Street Mall and Maddern Square. The strategic objectives of the public art policy include:

- Place activation

- Creating a point of difference
- Attracting visitors
- Community engagement
- Intercultural and intergenerational
- Encourage debate
- Build partnerships.

2.2.4d Memorials in open space

Maribyrnong City Council acknowledges that the local community is culturally diverse and complex, and that requests for establishment of memorials and monuments will be ongoing. Council's *Memorials in Public Open Space Policy* provides guidelines for submitting a proposal for establishment of new memorials in open space, and their subsequent maintenance and management. The policy provides a list of criteria to guide how applications are reviewed by Council.

Some of the key criteria relevant to open space include:

- The type of memorials permitted are plaques, memorial objects or a trees.
- All materials must be robust and long lasting and be appropriate for use in open space.
- Memorials must not diminish the existing functionality of open space.
- The proponent of the memorial will be required to ensure that the memorial is kept free of graffiti and rectify any damage as a result of vandalism.
- The memorial will be kept in its initial location for at least five years and can be relocated after this period if required.
- Council may decommission the memorial prior to five years in specific cases.

2.2.5 Linear open space links and connections

The existing key linear open space corridors are located along the two main waterways in the city being the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek. This Strategy supports the intention to establish continuous and linked open space systems along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek within the constraints of existing land use and ownership, as identified in the *Maribyrnong River Valley - A Shared Vision for a Vibrant River (2010)* and *A Plan for Stony Creek: Review of the 1999 Stony Creek Future Directions Plan (2010)*.

Figure 2F illustrates the future open space and off-road shared trail links identified to be addressed in the future, guided by these other strategies and plans.

Additionally, the railway easement between Tottenham and West Footscray Station provides an opportunity for an open space link with the construction of the shared trail through this section. Refer to Section 2.2.6 below for a further description of this link.



2.2.6 Ancillary open space links

There are key areas of ancillary open space, which the community currently rely on to meet existing open space needs. These include:

- Footscray Primary School Oval - the open space survey outcomes identified that the local community uses the grounds regularly, as it is the only larger area of outdoor space in that part of Footscray. Council currently maintains the oval for community use.
- Railway reserve from Tottenham to West Footscray Station - the linear shared path has been built on this railway reserve. This is well used in the open space survey and the precinct analysis has identified it as an important link.

- Braybrook railway reserve - this has the potential to become an important east-west off-road linear shared trail link to Tottenham Station by existing and forecast future residents in Braybrook. This is subject to further design investigation to determine if this is feasible within the context of protecting the remnant Native Grasslands identified to be present in this ancillary open space.

2.3 Community use and value of open space

2.3.1 Summary of the consultation outcomes

Community feedback from the open space survey - residents

- 2,011 open space surveys were received from the community.
- More than 60 per cent of respondents identified the value the following in open space:
 - Trees
 - As a place to relax and unwind.
- Dog walking, walking and playgrounds are the top three reasons why people visit open space close to home. Improvements they would like include more tree planting, improved maintenance and a range of additional facilities.
- Walking followed by dog walking and visiting playground are the top three reasons why people visit open space further than walking distance. Tree planting and improved maintenance, including overall cleanliness and litter are the key suggested improvements
- The Maribyrnong River is the most popular open space further than walking distance, followed by Yarraville Gardens and Footscray Park.
- Cruickshank Park and Yarraville Gardens are the most popular open spaces within walking distance, followed by the Maribyrnong River and Footscray Park.
- Personal safety is the main reason why people choose not to visit open space, followed by open space being uninviting and difficult to access.
- On a daily basis, local streets for exercise followed by Small local parks and Maribyrnong River are the most popular types of open space. On a weekly, monthly and annual basis, large parks and gardens are the most popular type of open space, followed closely by the Maribyrnong River. Sporting reserves, medium sized parks, urban plazas and Stony Creek are not as well used by survey respondents.
- More than half the respondents use walking paths, open grassed areas, seating, cycling paths and seating.
- There is a low level of satisfaction with facility provision in open space. With walking paths being very popular, less than 50 per cent of respondents think they are well provided for. Public toilets, drinking fountains, seats and drinking fountains had between 40 and 47 per cent of people saying these are not well provided for.

- The survey respondents were generally satisfied with levels of maintenance for walking paths, open grassed areas and seats, with higher levels of dissatisfaction noted for public toilets, drinking fountains and cycle paths.
- General comments include the need for additional open space, requests for improved levels of maintenance, particularly in relation to overall cleanliness and litter collection, acknowledgement and appreciation of recent open space improvements and requests to address the safety issues.

Community feedback from the open space survey - workers

- Approximately 15 per cent of respondents who completed the survey nominated they also work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 80 per cent of those who work in the City of Maribyrnong visit open space near their workplace.
- Of those that visit open space near their workplace, 50 per cent visit open space to be outdoors as a break from work, followed by 40 per cent who use it for fitness and exercise. Approximately 26 per cent state they use open space to travel too and from work, and 20 per cent for socialising. Only 6 per cent participate in club-based sport near work.

Community feedback from consultation on the draft strategy

- More than 70 per cent of respondents to the survey supported the key strategy recommendations.
- The most strongly supported recommendations were those with a sustainability focus including incorporating green spaces into high density urban areas of the city to mitigate urban heat and improve community health and wellbeing.
- Many of the comments from survey reinforced the outcomes of the first open space survey.

2.3.2 Structured sport and recreation use

Structured sport and recreation forms a major use of open space and contributes to the fitness, health and social fabric of the community. The *Maribyrnong Sustainable Surfaces Feasibility Study (2012)* has identified that overall participation levels in sports clubs has increased on average 7.6 per cent over the past three five years. The majority of sports clubs have recorded steady or increased participation levels over the past five years and only two clubs recording a decline in participation. In summary the top five club based sports are:

- AFL (24%)
- Soccer (29%)
- Cricket (19%)
- Hockey (12%)
- Tennis (10%)

The top five club based sports for female participation are:

- Hockey (31%)
- Tennis (20%)

- Soccer (11)
- Lacrosse (9%)
- Lawn Bowls (9%)

The 2012 Surfaces Feasibility Study documented the existing sports facilities in the municipality. These include a number of Australian Rules football ovals, cricket grounds, full sized synthetic hockey pitches, soccer pitches, baseball diamond, tennis clubs, lacrosse fields, archery and rugby fields.

Major sporting precincts in the municipality include:

- Henry Turner Memorial Reserve, Footscray
- Hansen Reserve, West Footscray
- Angliss, Mclvor and Hanks Reserves Precinct, Yarraville
- Robert Barrett Reserve, Maribyrnong
- Whitten Oval and the Victoria University Footscray campus facilities. These, in conjunction with the Maribyrnong Secondary College and Robert Barrett Reserve are referred to as the Maribyrnong Sports Academy.

In relation to indoor sport and recreation facilities in public open space, these include:

- Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre in Robert Barrett Reserve
- RecWest Braybrook (indoor sports centre) in Kindersmith Reserve
- RecWest Footscray (YMCA), Barrett Reserve, West Footscray

This study identified that the existing sports fields are already used at capacity with an average usage of 20 hours per week during the winter, which is the time when sports fields receive the most damage. With forecast population growth, the *Sustainable Surfaces Feasibility Study (2012)* identifies there will be a capacity issue in trying to accommodate the likely increased levels of use from the forecast increased population within the existing sports fields. This report recommends the installation of some synthetic surfaces to assist with alleviating the pressure on Councils sports grounds. This includes one full size synthetic soccer field at one of the reserves. Other synthetic surfaces recommended include additional synthetic cricket wickets to allow increased capacity for junior cricket to occur.

The Sustainable Surfaces Feasibility Study identifies there is a need for additional sports grounds and acknowledges that available space to establish new sports fields will be difficult to achieve in the future.

The Municipal Recreation Strategy 2009 promotes recreation for everyone including unstructured and structured activities. It aims to provide for a diverse range of groups needs including the trend of increased causal participation rather than organised club based participation.

Council managed community facilities located in Municipal open space which are not for sport and recreation use include:

- Braybrook Community Centre in Braybrook Park
- Burns Street Maternal Child and Health Centre (MCHC) in Rogers Reserve, Maidstone

- Roberts Street MCHC in Hansen Reserve, West Footscray

2.3.3 Unstructured recreational use

2.3.3a Overview

The open space survey undertaken for this Strategy identified that walking and dog walking are the most popular unstructured activities in open space. Walking paths and open grassed areas are the most frequently used features in open space on a municipality-wide level. The survey responses indicate there are variable levels of participation in unstructured recreational use across the city with higher values placed on fitness in Maribyrnong and Yarraville and lower value placed on fitness in Footscray. The survey outcomes are generally consistent with the Recreation Strategy, which identified there are lower levels of participation in recreational activities in Maribyrnong when compared to other municipalities.

The site assessment work along with a review of existing information and the consultation process has identified that the provision of a range of unstructured recreation facilities varies across the municipality. Recent upgrades in open space to install additional facilities including circuit paths around ovals and reserves, half courts, and some diversity of play areas and equipment address these issues. The community commented in the open space survey that they appreciate the recent improvements to open space. There is potential to provide more facilities including paths, fitness stations, multipurpose courts in a range of open spaces to encourage higher levels of participation in regular outdoor exercise.

2.3.3b Paths and trails

The site assessment work and the consultation has identified that walking and cycling are popular unstructured recreational activities in open space. Participation levels in these activities vary across different parts of the municipality according to where linear and circuit paths are better provided for. This includes along the Maribyrnong River, sections of Stony Creek, and in some of the larger open spaces with paths including Footscray Park, Yarraville Gardens and Burndap Park. In other parts of the city there is a lack of linear paths and limited circuit paths within open space.

2.3.3c Playgrounds and play in open space

Playgrounds and play areas can be categorised both as unstructured recreation and informal facilities. Playgrounds encourage physical activity in children and are important to their physical development. Play also encourages cognitive and social skills and development of children, and in many ways encourages social connectedness of adults and parents. Taking children to the playground is an important contributor to getting adults into open space, meeting their neighbours

in the park and building social networks. It is also important for children to be able to independently go to the park to play when they are old enough to do so.

The open space survey identified that open space as a place for children to play is highly valued, with this rated as the third highest value overall after trees and as a place to relax and unwind. In the survey, there were many requests for improvements to play and play facilities, particularly to increase the diversity of equipment for different age groups.

The existing *Playground Strategy 2008 - 2013* guides the strategic development and management of Council's playgrounds. The playground strategy notes there is a total 45 play spaces in the municipality, 43 of which are playgrounds and with one skate facility at Yarraville Oval and a BMX track at Cruickshank Park. The playground strategy identifies a range of relevant issues that the recent upgrade program has aimed to address.

The *Skate/BMX Facility Strategic Review 2013* reviewed the existing facilities to provide recommendations for their upgrade. The skate facility review assessed 15 potential locations for a new skate facility in West Footscray. It recommended high priorities including:

- Create a precinct level skate/youth plaza at West Footscray train station.
- Extend Johnson Reserve local skate park.
- Undertake repairs to the Yarraville Skate Park at Yarraville Oval to maximise function and safety.
- Construction of skate plaza at Robert Barrett Reserve.

The precinct recommendations in Section 6 and the Design and Management Guidelines in Section 7 of this Strategy are consistent with existing strategies for play in open space.

2.3.3d Dogs and open space

The open space survey outcomes identify that dog walking is popular, with this being one of the top reasons for visiting open space. Exercising dogs encourages people to take them into the open space, which in turn promotes fitness and health in the owner. The feedback included requests for additional dog off-lead areas and dedicated dog parks. In balance, there were also respondents who would like to see better enforcement of dog off-lead areas and improved management of dogs to allow others to enjoy the open space as well. The Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) is in the process of being updated. The DAMP includes all aspects of pet ownership and management and is the appropriate plan to assess and recommend the need for dog off-leash areas in the future.

Currently the City of Maribyrnong has a range parks where dogs are allowed off-leash with time restrictions for this use. Dogs are to be on-leash in all Council reserves and in all public places, except at the areas designated as off-leash.

The 12 locations where dogs off-leash are permitted to be off-leash include (some of these are areas within these reserves, rather than the whole reserve):

- Braybrook Park (selected areas only)
- Chifley Drive Reserve, Maribyrnong
- Cranwell Reserve, Braybrook
- Cruickshank Park (on-lead times apply), Yarraville
- Footscray Park (selected areas only)
- Hansen Reserve (selected areas only), West Footscray
- JL Martin Reserve, West Footscray
- McIvor Reserve (selected areas only), Yarraville
- Scovell Reserve, Maidstone
- Thompson Reserve, Maribyrnong
- Waterford Green (selected areas only – on-lead times apply), Maribyrnong
- Yarraville Gardens (selected areas only, on-lead times apply)

Currently Council state the responsibilities of the dog owner are:

- Carry a lead and ensure their dog is in sight and under control.
- Comply with restrictions, eg. hours when dogs are to be on a lead.
- Not allow dogs within 30 metres of playgrounds in all parks.
- Carry a plastic bag to pick up their dog's droppings.

Conflicts with dogs being exercised in open space can arise including:

- Dog owners not adhering to the agreed off-lead areas and exercising the dogs off-lead in locations not designated for this purpose.
- Dogs off-lead intimidating other park users including the elderly, frail, young children.
- Dogs off-lead impacting on other park users including people cycling and jogging, playing sport and children in playgrounds.
- Dog owners not cleaning up after their dogs and impacts of dog excrement on public health.

Responses to the open space survey question that was asked whether there are enough off-lead areas, was 23 per cent responding yes there are enough and 26 per cent responding no there are not enough. 50 per cent did not complete the question suggesting they don't have an opinion either way. In the general comments section of the survey, respondents requested extension to the hours when dogs are allowed in off-lead areas, and some requested additional fenced off-lead areas.

2.3.3e Personal safety in open space

Concern about personal safety is one of the major reasons people are not visiting open space. This was clearly identified in the open space survey outcomes and was attributed to a range of reasons including feeling unsafe; lack of passive surveillance; inappropriate behaviour and drug use; lack of other people around; and lack of lighting. Some of these issues are broader social factors that cannot be solved in the scope of this Strategy.

From the site assessment work, it is noted that the urban design layout contributes to the issues of safety mainly due to rear boundary fence lines rather than roads adjoining many of the open spaces, limiting visibility into and out of the open space. Industrial land use adjoining open space contributes to safety

concerns, as there are few people present in it after hours and on weekends. Overcoming the safety issues will be a key factor in improving the use of open space for unstructured recreational and informal use.

2.3.4 Informal use

2.3.4a Overview

Open space is valued for a range of non-active uses including as a place to meet family and friends, rest and relaxation, strolling, being outside in the fresh air and access to sunlight. Informal use is facilitated by the provision of facilities for this purpose. These can encourage people who may have limited mobility or fitness to participate in more active pursuits by providing resting points in open space. For example, people are more likely to use the circuit path for walking or running if there are seats or resting points that assist them to undertake the activity.

Comparative analysis of the outcomes of the open space survey from two different parts of the municipality being Yarraville and Braybrook illustrates differences in people's value and use of open space across the municipality. The survey reveals that in Yarraville respondents place a significantly higher value on the social values of open space for meeting people and friends and for watching activity. In Braybrook the respondents place a higher value on playing sport, its green character and the presence of flowers and garden beds.

In Footscray, where a higher proportion of people live in high density dwellings and there is a higher proportion of the young adult population, more people value open space as an escape from traffic noise and movement when compared with Braybrook and Yarraville. Fewer people in Footscray value open space for fitness and as a place for children to play compared with Braybrook and Yarraville. The changes and differences in open space use and values across the municipality need to be reflected in future open space design upgrades and this Strategy recommends upgrades to specific open spaces in Section 6. The consultation results provide a good basis for the facilities and types of improvements needed at these reserves.

2.3.4b Seating

The design and placement of seats affects people's ability to access and use open space. Seats provide resting places for people exercising and walking and also for relaxation and enjoyment of the space. They also assist people with less mobility to visit and walk further in open space, by having convenient resting points along the way. More seats were requested in the open space survey, with 41 per cent of respondents asking for more, while 27 per cent were satisfied with the current level of provision. Refer to Recommendation 5.3R and Section 7.6.1.

2.3.4c Picnic shelters, tables and barbecues

Picnic facilities encourage people to use open space as a social meeting place, and the provision of well-designed spaces with picnic shelters allows them to be used in all weather including providing protection from sun and rain. These facilities are present in some of the existing open spaces, however they are not always well integrated into the open space with some locations where picnic tables are located a long distance from barbecues and other locations where the presence of numerous rubbish bins in and around the barbecues and shelters make them unappealing to use. Approximately 30 per cent of open space survey respondents did not think that these facilities are well provided for, while less than 20 per cent responded that they are well provided for. Refer to Recommendation 5.3V in Section 5.

2.3.4d Public toilets

In open space where facilities are designed to encourage people to stay for a few hours, more public toilets are generally required. They are most appropriately located in the larger open space reserves where a diverse range of facilities including playgrounds, picnic areas and barbecues are located. The open space surveys identified that only 11 per cent of respondents consider they are well provided for with 47 per cent stating they are not. Refer to Recommendation 5.3CC regarding public toilets in open space in Section 5.

2.3.4e Food security and community gardens

Food security is defined as *physical and economic access by all people and at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life*. The Food Security Policy for Maribyrnong was developed in response to the Victorian Population Health Survey in 2008, which indicated that 9.1 per cent of people living in the City of Maribyrnong experience food insecurity compared to the Victorian average of 5.6 per cent. Relevant to open space specifically is the opportunity for productive plantings including community gardens in open space, and providing safe cycling and walking access that links people to a variety of food options while carrying out their daily activities.

Community horticulture has many positive features including encouraging people to grow their own food, socialise and be outdoors. In the future, as people have less private open space available, it is anticipated that the demand for community horticulture including community gardens is likely to increase. Encouraging people to grow their own food locally, reducing food miles, encouraging people to be outdoors and growing healthy food that is affordable are all positive sustainability and social principles in neighbourhood planning.

Some community gardens in Maribyrnong are located in public open space and others are located on ancillary open space or other public land. In total there are four located either wholly or in part in open space, two on community centre/neighbourhood house land and one on church land. A new community garden is planned at McNish Reserve in Yarraville, with no further community gardens proposed in public open space within the municipality at this stage.

Existing community gardens located in public open space are:

- Braybrook Community Garden in Braybrook Park
- Maribyrnong Edible Garden in McDonald Reserve, Maribyrnong, located on the former bowling green.
- Anders Triangle, West Footscray
- Victoria University Urban Green Living and Learning Hub with community gardens on part of Pilgrim Street Reserve.

Located as part of community centre/neighbourhood house:

- Braybrook Maidstone Neighbourhood House Community Garden, Melon Street in Braybrook
- Maidstone garden, Maidstone Community Centre located in Ern Shepherd Gardens.

Located on church land:

- Yarraville Baptist Church garden.

Refer to Recommendation 5.3W in Section 5.

2.3.5 Intangible values of open space

Open space is valued for a range of tangible reasons including:

- places to exercise, improve general health and fitness
- to socialise and meet people
- habitat for native flora and fauna.

Intangible values such as the presence of a green space as a relief from built form, valuing green natural spaces for just knowing they are there or looking out over are important to people as well as the physical use of it. Recent research into the benefits of green space has found that it is beneficial to people's mental and physical health. The research identifies that city living involves a disengagement of humans from the natural environment and this is likely to be detrimental to health and wellbeing, with parks one of the only means of accessing nature for people in urban areas. The results indicate that green parks can reduce crime, contribute to general wellbeing, reduce stress and enhance productivity and promote healing. They also demonstrate that the presence of vegetation can have positive benefits including healing, improved mental capacity and productivity, improved job and life satisfaction, attracting consumers and tourists to shopping centres and aiding community cohesion and identity (*Deakin University, 2008*).

Other research indicates that spaces with trees and grass offer more diverse play opportunities, and in particular higher levels of creative play for children than places without these natural landscape elements. There is also evidence to show that people use their local public spaces more and are more satisfied with them if they include natural elements, which in turn increases the amount of socialisation amongst neighbours (*CABE Space, The Value of Public Spaces, undated*). This research also indicates that well maintained open spaces increase people's use and value of them.

In summary the intangible benefits of natural features in open space include:

- Improved mental health and wellbeing.
- Improved sense of community cohesion and reduced crime.
- Increased social opportunities by encouraging people to regularly use the open space.
- Play opportunities for children, particularly creative play.
- Improved air quality and localised microclimate through reduction in reflective and hard surfaces.
- Visual and physical relief from the built form.

The open space survey has reinforced that people value open space for a range of intangible reasons, and these extend beyond only physically using the space but appreciating it from adjoining areas as well.

2.4 Existing population

The City of Maribyrnong's population is comprised of residents, workers and students. Some of the workers and students also live in the municipality.

2.4.1 Residential population

The residential population (ERP) at the 2011 ABS Census was 75,297. The estimated residential population in 2013, the starting year for this Strategy, was 77,945. The allocation of the local population and private dwelling stock in 2013 at the suburb level is shown in Table 2-1. Note: Tottenham does not have a residential population so it is not included in the table.

Table 2-1 Estimated residential population and dwellings 2013

Suburb	Population 2013	Dwellings 2013
Braybrook	8,752	3,240
Footscray	15,164	6,823
Kingsville	3,730	1,785
Maidstone	8,038	3,242
Maribyrnong	11,907	4,665
Seddon	5,052	2,325
West Footscray	10,940	4,752
Yarraville	14,362	6,233
Total	77,945	33,065

Source: .id forecasts supplied to the project 4 December 2013

The *Council Plan 2013-17* identifies that the City of Maribyrnong is home to people from more than 135 countries with nearly 40 per cent of the residents from non-English speaking backgrounds. Non-English speaking communities include those from Vietnam, India and China. Braybrook includes the largest proportion of people born overseas, followed by Maidstone and Footscray.

Parts of the city are characterised by poverty, unemployment, low education levels and incomes, public housing and low levels of health. Based on the Socio-economic index for areas (SEIFA) index for the Municipality, the most disadvantaged areas are Braybrook, Maidstone and Footscray. Residents in disadvantaged locations are less likely to have private transport and the means to travel distances to open space, for example, the regional open space along the Maribyrnong River. Braybrook also has a high incidence of single parent and lone person households, therefore local open space should be supporting social connectedness and community identity, however the open space survey indicates the open space is not being used in this way. Similar community values should be encouraged in Footscray and Maidstone, where there are gaps in the open space system that are to be addressed.

In contrast, new residents are likely to be wealthier, better educated and earning higher incomes than many of the city's traditional residents. This part of the community may have different expectations of the Council with regard to the open space system.

The established residential areas of the City of Maribyrnong are densely developed compared to more suburban locations. This density will increase in the future through redevelopment of redundant land, around activity centres and where there is good access to transport. An example of the current densities is found in Footscray where some 20 per cent of people live in high density housing. Yarraville has the highest proportion of separate dwellings, many of which are on small lots. The current densities already support the need for well-distributed, designed and maintained open spaces. This is to provide an alternative to private open space for social and recreational activities; to enjoy nature; as a break in the urban form; and to mitigate rising urban temperatures. This need will become more pressing as development intensifies.

2.4.2 Worker population

Employment data collected by the ABS as part of the 2011 Census indicates that there were approximately 30,000 employees in the City of Maribyrnong in the week prior to Census day (ABS Working Population Profile based on place of work, Maribyrnong LGA, Table W01b). The National Economic Indicators published by .id indicate that for the 2011/12 period there were 5,394 businesses and 40,785 employees in the City of Maribyrnong, providing a higher estimate than the ABS.

Maribyrnong supports a strong employment base with identifiable employment clusters. The *Maribyrnong Economic and Industrial Development Strategy Part 1 – Economic Development Strategy* (2011) indicates that manufacturing provides significant economic activity but the nature of manufacturing is changing. The exact nature of future change and the effect on the number and distribution of employees is not clear. There are a number of large employers in Maribyrnong with the largest 1 per cent of businesses accounting for 31 per cent of employment in the municipality. Small businesses make up 85 per cent of all businesses and employ 4 workers or less in each enterprise. The retail sector

remains important to the local economy because interestingly it provides the highest number of jobs with Highpoint the main retail focus. Victoria University's employment in Maribyrnong is estimated to be around 1,200. Other employment sectors include freight and logistics, and health care. Overall, some industrial areas will transition to more contemporary office/warehouse/business park style development and still serve an important employment role.

Detailed data for the Footscray CAD (*Forecast of Retail, Commercial and Housing Activity in Footscray CAD*, October 2012) indicates there were 638,470 square metres of non-residential floor space in 2011 accommodating 7,828 jobs. A diverse range of industries is represented with a focus on education, government and non-profit health and community services and retail businesses. Employment clusters provide an indication of the distribution of the other main employment locations.

The open space survey was also completed by workers, 80 per cent of whom said they use open space near their workplace. Refer to Section 2.3.1 for a discussion of workers' use of open space. As shown by the surveys, it is anticipated that workers will continue to use open space in the municipality.

2.4.3 Student population

The *Council Plan 2013-17* indicates that more than 15,000 students attend Victoria University's two Footscray campuses. Victoria University provides student housing in two main off-campus locations. One is opposite the main campus on Ballarat Road in Footscray and the other located on Hampstead Road in Maidstone. 2011 ABS statistics for non-private housing indicate only a small part of the population live in this type of housing (including student housing) with most residential students living in some type of private dwelling.

Victoria University Footscray Campus participates in the Maribyrnong Sports Academy at Maribyrnong College. This includes sharing facilities at Victoria University for the Sports Academy, creating a sports triangle between the Maribyrnong College, Western Bulldogs facility at Whitten Oval and Victoria University campus. Continuing to strengthen this partnership arrangement and expansion of the Maribyrnong Sports Academy may influence levels of structured sport and recreation use in public open space in the Maribyrnong, Footscray and West Footscray area specifically.

3. Open space framework

3.1 Standards for the provision of open space

3.1.1 Existing standards for the City of Maribyrnong

Clause 21.04-4 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme describes the current objectives and strategies guiding the open space network. In summary this clause notes:

Objective 7

To create a network of open space throughout the municipality

Objective 8

To provide a continuous open space network along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek.

Council's existing Open Space Strategy (2006) provides the basis for direction for Council on the provision of open space in the city. The 2006 strategy has a three tiered classification system based on a catchment, a range of functions and landscape settings. The key principles from the 2006 strategy are reflected in Clause 21.04-4 of the planning scheme.

The planning framework and directions have changed since the time the 2006 Open Space Strategy was developed including:

- Significantly higher forecast population growth.
- Climate change.
- Changes to the land use framework.
- Changing trends in participation in recreation as a result of changes in work patterns and lifestyle.
- Changing patterns of open space use including higher value placed on all types of open space including small areas of open space.
- Publication of *Plan Melbourne* by the Victorian government (draft released October 2013) to replace *Melbourne 2030* and *Melbourne @ 5 Million*.
- Publication of Practice Note⁷⁰ regarding preparation of open space strategies.

Land use has informed the provision of open space in the City of Maribyrnong. The establishment of predominantly industrial and port related uses along the lower reaches of the Maribyrnong River has meant there is no public open space adjoining some sections of the river. Former Department of Defence land has progressively been redeveloped over the past few decades, and with these developments new open space has been set aside for recreational use. The type and amount of open space set aside at different periods of development has varied over time.

Key issues associated with the current provision of open space include:

- The uneven distribution of open space across the municipality, particularly in parts of Footscray, Seddon, Kingsville and Yarraville which effects the distance people need to travel.
- The physical barriers to easy and safe walking distances to reach open space with major roads and railways through the city.
- The lack of a continuous open space system along the waterway corridors.
- The ability of the existing open space to adequately mitigate urban heat island effect in the Footscray area.
- The lack of open space in industrial areas meaning people working in those areas of the city do not have open space nearby to visit as a break from work.
- The capacity of the existing open space system to accommodate the existing and forecast population and increased urban densities.

3.1.2 Existing standards that inform this Strategy

Open Space Strategies Practice Note | 70

The Practice Note identifies there are various ways to decide on an open space classification system that suits the needs of an open space strategy. In relation to catchment it notes:

Open space type	Description
Local	Spaces that are predominantly provided to serve an immediate local catchment.
District	Parks that generally serve a neighbourhood or group of suburbs.
Regional	Areas that serve regional catchments (that is, the whole of or broader than the municipality).

The Practice Note refers the open space classification system needing to include:

- The catchment – who will use the open space.
- Landscape character – what the open space looks like.
- Function – the role of the open space.

Clause 56.05-2 Public open space in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme

There are no specific benchmarks for open space provision in the planning system that would be applicable to the existing urban areas of Maribyrnong. Clause 56.05-2 Public open space provision of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme includes objectives that can be used in planning the future open space network in the municipality:

- *To provide a network of quality, well-distributed, multi-functional and cost-effective public open space that includes local parks, active open space, linear parks and trails, and links to regional open space.*

- *To provide a network of public open space that caters for a broad range of users.*
- *To encourage healthy and active communities.*
- *To provide adequate unencumbered land for public open space and integrate any encumbered land with the open space network.*
- *To ensure land provided for public open space can be managed in an environmentally sustainable way and contributes to the development of sustainable neighbourhoods.*

Clause 56.05-2 also details current standards that appear to have a focus on open space provision in the greenfield growth areas of Melbourne where a new open space system in its entirety is being planned for. Elements of this may be relevant to future redevelopment of the former Maribyrnong Defence Site north of Cordite Avenue. Extracts from this clause that inform the travel distances applied to the open space hierarchy include:

- *Local parks within 400 metres safe walking distance of at least 95 percent of all dwellings.*
- *Additional small local parks or public squares in activity centres and higher density residential areas.*
- *Active open space of at least 8 hectares in area within 1 kilometre of 95 percent of all dwellings.*
- *Linear parks and trails along waterways, vegetation corridors and road reserves within 1 kilometre of 95 percent of all dwellings.*

Open space strategies best practice guidance (2009)

These guidelines were prepared by the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment, UK (CABE) Space and the Mayor of London. These were prepared in recognition of the importance of open space to meeting a range of social, environmental and health benefits as well as making areas more attractive as a vital part of planning our neighbourhoods. The guidelines include the hierarchy for London's open space system, which is a useful reference and is summarised below:

London's public open space hierarchy

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

The State of Victoria has consistently followed international norms in its open space planning. The London CABE guidelines provide a useful international best practice benchmark.

Other relevant recent research about the distribution of open space

Research undertaken for the *Action for Young Australians Report* (2009) by Australian Research Alliance for Children & Young in relation to how far children will confidently travel independently to open space has found that the maximum distance is 300 metres. Children being able to socialise with other children in open space without a parent's supervision is identified as an important aspect of social learning. This concurs with the distances nominated in the different clauses above that small open spaces should be provided less than 400 metres safe walking distance from home or workplace.

Conclusions

Future planning for the provision of open space in the City of Maribyrnong will consider the principles set out in Clause 56.05.2 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme and the standards applicable to existing urban areas from the United Kingdom. These provision standards relate to the use hierarchy and accessibility/walkability standards applied in this Strategy.

3.2 Open space use hierarchy

3.2.1 Overview and purpose

The hierarchy for open space function and catchment is described in Table 3-2 below. This hierarchy is based on the policies and directions guiding the future provision of open space as described in Section 3.1.2. The hierarchy is based on both the intended catchment of users and the relative size of the open space to adequately cater to its intended use. It is a guide for analysing the spatial distribution of open space and a management tool to direct appropriate facility development funding sources and maintenance levels in different types of open space reserves.

3.2.2 Open space hierarchy

Table 3-1 Open space hierarchy, size, walking catchments and purpose

Open space	Size	Travel and/or walking catchment	Purpose of open space
Regional	Unlimited	No specific travel catchment is included as it is provided for the Melbourne-wide population. A 500 metre safe walking catchment is applied where appropriate to recognise its use by the nearby community.	Primarily caters to a broader regional population, including people who live and/or work of City of Maribyrnong and/or protection and enhancement of environmental values in a regional context. Examples include Footscray Park, Pipemakers Park, and Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve.
Municipal	Generally a minimum of 3 hectares*	<p>Located within 1 kilometre of all dwellings (travel catchment includes cycling/public transport and vehicle).</p> <p>A 500 metre safe walking catchment is applied to Municipal open space with the ability to provide for neighbourhood open space needs as well as municipal needs.</p>	<p>Primarily caters to people who live and/or work in the City of Maribyrnong and will also provide facilities that are used by people from other municipalities. Generally these areas of open space provide facilities that appeal to people from across the municipality - for example, they may include sporting facilities, historical gardens or major recreational facilities such as playgrounds or skate facilities that people will travel up to 1 kilometre to reach. Examples include Braybrook Park, McIvor Reserve and Yarraville Gardens.</p> <p>* There is some Municipal open space that is smaller than the min 3 hectares where the reserve contains a specialised facility on a smaller area of land, and fulfills a Municipal function - eg. public tennis courts and public bowling clubs</p>
Neighbourhood	min 1 hectare	A 400 metre safe walking catchment is applied.	Provides for Neighbourhood use within walking distance of home and/or workplace, with a range of facilities on the larger area of land. Examples include Pritchard Reserve, Alex Beaton Reserve and Rogers Reserve.
Local	Less than 1 hectare to 0.26 hectares	A 300 metre safe and easy walking catchment is applied.	Located within easy walking distance of home or workplace and large enough to provide for two to three activities in the one open space reserve to occur - for example, a playground and open grassed area and seating area. Examples include Beevers Reserve, Costello Reserve and Ash Reserve

Open space	Size	Travel and/or walking catchment	Purpose of open space
Small Local	From 0.25 hectares to 0.05 hectares, generally a minimum width of 20 metres	A 200 metre safe and easy walking catchment is applied.	Located within easy safe walking distance of home and generally able to accommodate a single and sometimes two uses, for example seats and small open grassed area or a play area. These spaces also have a potential role in urban heat mitigation where they are capable of supporting shade trees with natural green features interspersed in higher density neighbourhoods. Examples include Madder Square, Suffolk Triangle Park and Bristow Reserve.
Small Local Link	Usually less than 0.05 hectares.	Not applicable, located on an as needs basis.	These areas of open space provide improved connectivity between streets and open space reserves. They are less than 0.03 hectares in size and only provide for the single use of a path connection between streets or open space reserves.

3.2.3 Distribution of each hierarchy type

Open space planning principles in Australia and overseas identify that the community should be able to easily walk to some public open space without the need to cross busy roads or drive to them. This distance varies between 400 to 500 metres to a Neighbourhood park and 150 to 300 metres to a Local park.

This Strategy recognises that neighbourhood level facilities are frequently provided in Municipal and Regional open space. Where these facilities are present or have the potential to be added, walking catchments have been applied to the Regional and Municipal open space.

For this Strategy, the walking catchments are scaled according to the size of open space, with the Neighbourhood facilities in Municipal open space having a 500 metre walking catchment, scaling down to the 200 metre walking catchment to the Small Local open space. These catchments are consistent with the open space planning principles in Australia and overseas, where it is accepted that the larger open spaces can accommodate a broader range of facilities and uses therefore have larger walking catchments, compared with the smaller open spaces with fewer facilities for shorter stays and therefore smaller walking catchments.

The open space distribution analysis is an assessment of the distribution of existing open space across the municipality to identify if there are any locations where open space is not within reasonable reach of the population. In addition to walking access to open space, the Strategy also addresses the issue of whether the existing open space currently meets the social and recreation needs of the community and protects and improves the environmental values.

Regional open space

The Regional open space system is located along the Maribyrnong River. The river and the adjoining open space corridor is recognised as being of significance to a much wider community as well as the City of Maribyrnong. The river is important at a state level for its economic and transport values and at least at a regional level for its biodiversity values. Figure 3A below illustrates the Regional open space in the City of Maribyrnong.

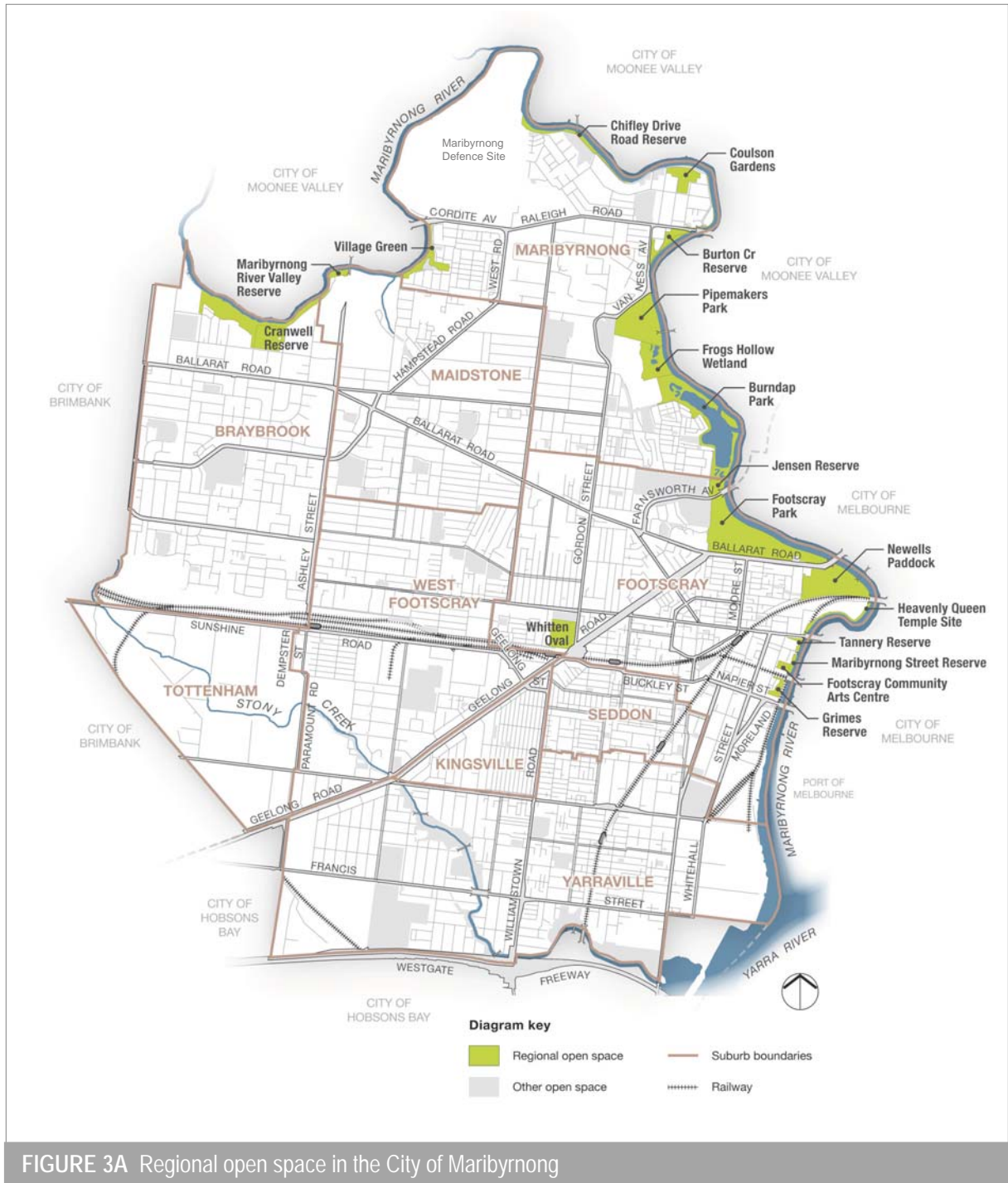


FIGURE 3A Regional open space in the City of Maribyrnong

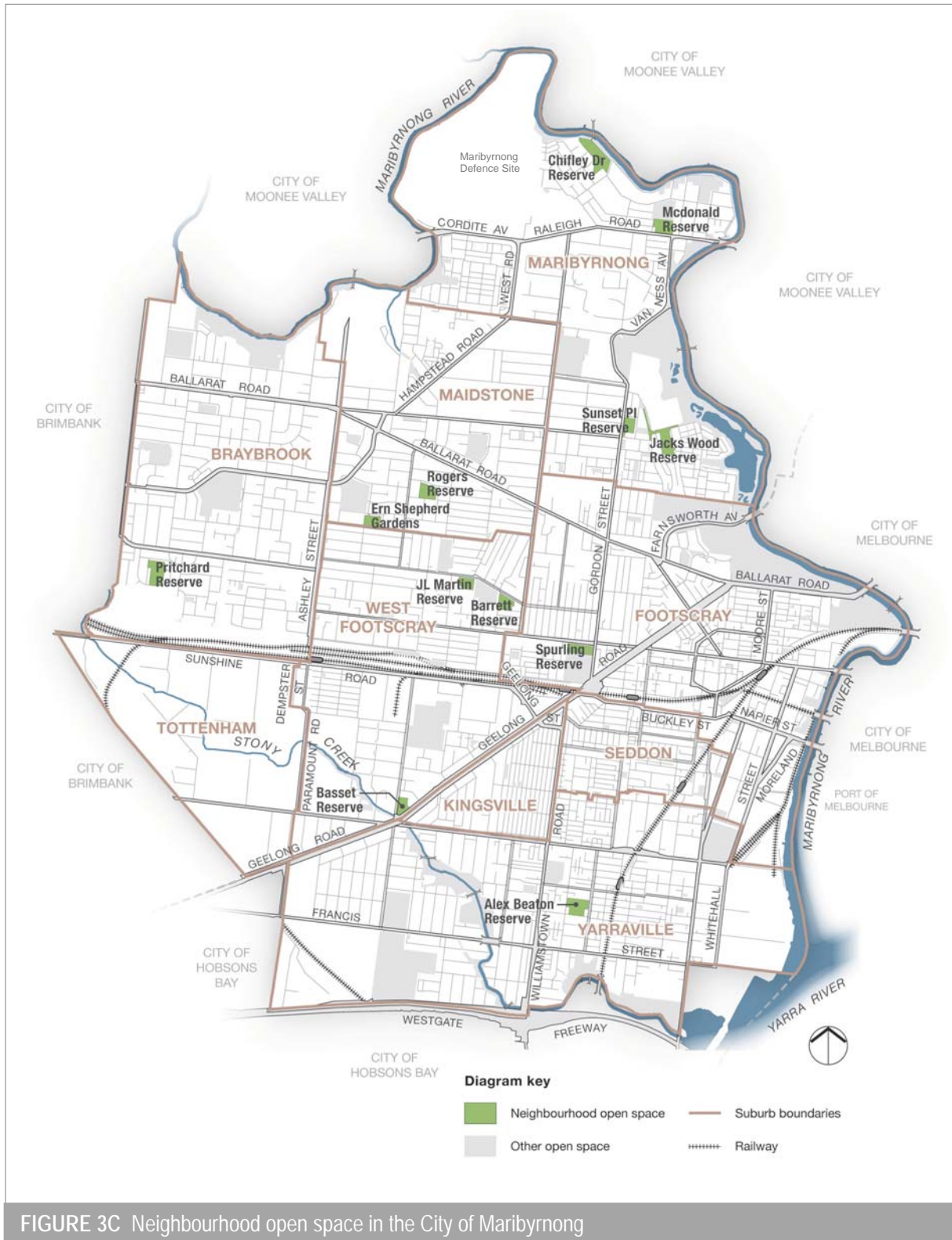
Municipal open space

Figure 3B below illustrates the distribution of the Municipal open space. This includes large sporting reserves that appeal to and provide facilities for exercise in the Municipality beyond the neighbourhood catchment. Overall it is reasonably well distributed through most suburbs with the exception of Tottenham and the central area of Footscray



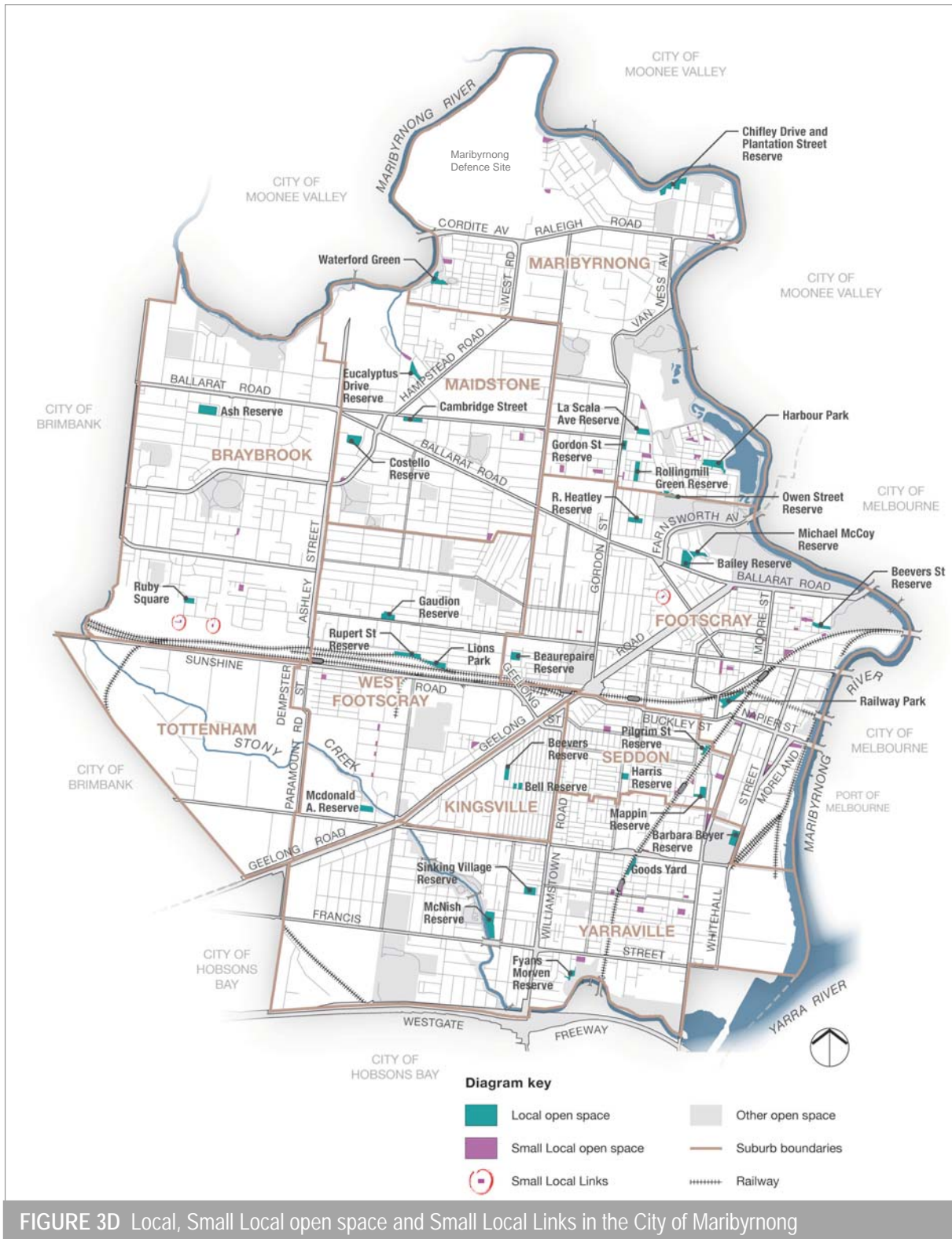
Neighbourhood open space

Neighbourhood open space is not well distributed across the municipality. Maribyrnong and parts of West Footscray and Maidstone are reasonably well provided for. In Kingsville and Footscray there is no Neighbourhood open space and only one in Yarraville and Braybrook. In some locations, neighbourhood level facilities located in Municipal open space can accommodate the need for these facilities.



Local open space, Small Local open space and Small Local Links

The Local and Small Local open space is mainly located in the eastern parts of the Municipality associated with both recent urban development and early development. The west has a dominance of larger Municipal and Neighbourhood open space reserves.



3.3 Open space character classification

3.3.1 Overview and purpose

There are different character types of open space influenced by the inherent natural and physical character of the open space, the facilities in them, the urban context in which the open space is located, the design and the layout of the open space. Open space character in the City of Maribyrnong ranges from formal gardens to linear corridors along waterways and structured sporting reserves. These different characters appeal to different parts of the community including young and old. In other instances the character of open space is defined by the need to protect cultural heritage values and biodiversity values. Diversity in open space character generally assists to maximise accessibility of open space to the community and places for habitat protection.

To assess the different character of open space, a character classification system is applied to all open space. The character classification system for open space assists with the following:

- Assess the diversity of different character types of open space across the municipality and within each precinct. This assessment and the community consultation outcomes at the precinct level identify whether there is a need to increase the diversity of character in a given precinct. Lack of diversity can often occur in a neighbourhood where three or four smaller open spaces all have very similar characters. There is potential to redesign one or two of them to increase diversity of character and facilities available at the local level.
- Assist with future design and management direction for each open space. For example, if the primary classification of an open space is 'Formal', future decisions regarding the planting style will be guided by whether it is consistent with this style.

3.3.2 Open space character classification

The following character classification system reflects the different types of reserves within the municipality. Each open space is assigned a 'primary' classification and some also have one or more 'secondary' classifications to assist define the diverse character of each open space. The 'primary' classification is useful for assessing the suitability of proposals to change or redesign an open space.

The character classifications used by this Strategy are listed in alphabetical order. Refer to Section 6 of the Strategy for the character clarification of each existing open space reserve.

Table 3-2 Open space character classification

Character classification	Description
Botanical	Where there is a significant botanical collection or where there are significant trees with botanical interest. This applies to both indigenous and non-indigenous vegetation.
Community garden/horticulture	Where members of the community are encouraged to participate in horticultural activities such as growing vegetables, flowers, fruit or propagation of indigenous vegetation for use in conservation reserves. This can include community gardens where plots are assigned in public open space for individuals to grow their own plants. The majority of these areas are fenced and available for use by those who have become a member of a community group or been assigned garden plots. Some of these form a restricted open space use.
Cultural	Where monuments, public art, cultural activities, events and festivals influence the use and character of the open space.
Formal	Where the facilities and overall open space layout are set out in a formal style. This style can apply to both native and exotic landscape character types, and these are shown in brackets following the classification where one or the other character type dominates.
Heritage	Where the Indigenous or non-Indigenous history of the site makes a significant contribution to the open space character and use. This classification includes open space that has been identified as having heritage values in existing studies.
Informal	Where the facilities are primarily for informal use including picnics, seating, play, open grassed areas and there is an informal character and layout.
Linear	Where the open space is part of linear network of open spaces or continuous reserve that is used primarily for travelling through or along. These typically include a shared path, seating, resting points and vegetation. These are mainly located along the waterways, service easements and railways.
Linking space	Where the open space provides a local pedestrian/cycle link between streets, individual open spaces or to a key destination like a railway station and is not part of a broader linear network.
Native/bushland	Where the native planting contributes to the overall character of the park and where the conservation values or significance is not the primary intent.

Character classification	Description
Nature conservation	Where the purpose of the open space is protecting and/or improving the biodiversity and habitat values. This may include reserves with existing value or those identified to have the potential to provide for this in the future in existing strategies and plans.
Play	Where the character of the open space is dominated by a play facility and this is its primary purpose.
Public square	Where the facilities and open space respond to and is influenced by the surrounding development layout and character.
Public garden	Where a planned open space is set aside for the display, cultivation and enjoyment of plants and used for unstructured recreation.
Railway easement/siding	Where the railway use significantly influences the open space's future use and design.
Restricted sporting/recreation	Where use is available on a club membership or fee-paying basis only the open space is not formally available for general public use at any time. This includes tennis courts, bowling clubs, golf courses and community gardens (refer Community Garden classification).
Service easement	Where the level of use, design and management is influenced by the presence of services in the reserve.
Significant road reservation	Where the road reserve is of a significant size or width that will permanently contribute to the open space network for nature conservation, visual landscape or recreational use. This classification is for land either reserved as open space within or directly adjoining the major road reservation where vehicle transport has a major influence on the value, use and design of open space.
Sporting	Where the open space primarily provides for organised club based sporting use and the outdoor grounds and facilities are available for general public use when no organised sporting events are in progress.
Undeveloped	Where the open space has not been developed and may appear as 'left over space' without facilities or an identified purpose.
Urban plaza	Where the surrounding urban setting significantly influences the character and function of the space. These spaces are primarily located in civic, commercial or business precincts, and are publicly owned, free and accessible for the public to use at any time. They are of a size that can provide for recreational use including social gatherings. A range of other urban design strategies and planning frameworks can also influence these spaces.
Viewing	Where the character and major use of the open space is for the views and elevation it provides.

Character classification	Description
Waterways	Where the presence of a waterway makes a significant contribution to the character, value and use of the open space including the riparian zone.
Wetland/WSUD	Where the presence of a wetland or other WSUD feature contributes to and influences the character and use of the open space. This can include other WSUD including rain gardens and underground water storage tanks.

4. Key influences on open space planning for the City of Maribyrnong

4.1 Introduction

This section describes the main influences on planning for the future provision, design and management of open space in the City of Maribyrnong from 2013 to 2031. These influences have informed the recommendations made in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of this Strategy and include:

- Forecast land use change and population growth.
- Improving accessibility to open space including the design of open space, and providing open space within safe and easy walking distances of the majority of the existing and forecast population.
- Improving community health and wellbeing through greater use of open space for physical health and fitness, social contact along with relaxation and contemplation.
- Impacts of climate change including likelihood of extended droughts, storm events and urban heat build up.

4.2 Future growth planning

4.2.1 Overview of forecast change

Maribyrnong is experiencing significant redevelopment in some parts of the municipality. Variations in the rate of redevelopment reflect land use patterns, the age and type of housing stock, consumer demand, changes in the local economy, local urban character, and the location of services and amenities.

As summarised in the *Council Plan 2013-17* Maribyrnong is changing from a hub of industry to include a greater residential population. The demographics of the forecast population will change in response to the housing on offer and its close location to the Melbourne CBD. The Council Plan acknowledges the continued presence of land uses that are home to many facilities of regional significance. This includes the developing Footscray MAC (now designated a Metropolitan Activity Centre in Plan Melbourne), Highpoint, Victoria University, Whitten Oval and Western General Hospital. These will continue to make an important contribution to the local and regional economy and employment.

The release of redundant Commonwealth land for urban development, the continued focus on Activity Centre development in the larger centres and the Regional Rail Link are all major influences on metropolitan and municipal level planning for Maribyrnong.

4.2.1a Forecast residential population change

The population of Maribyrnong is estimated as 77,945 persons in 2013 and is forecast to grow to 110,287 persons in 2031, an increase of 32,342 persons or a 41 per cent increase in population during the 18 year time period. The forecast indicates almost 16,000 additional dwellings will be added to the housing stock during this same period. Additional houses are forecast in all locations and there will be changes in the composition of the population and households. The forecast population and dwelling change by suburb is shown in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1 Forecast population and dwelling change 2013-2031

Suburb	Total population 2013	Total population 2031	Change	%	Total dwellings 2013	Total dwellings 2031	Change	%
Braybrook	8,752	10,647	1,895	22%	3,240	4,132	892	28%
Footscray	15,164	30,482	15,318	101%	6,823	14,892	8,069	118%
Kingsville	3,730	3,650	-80	-2%	1,785	1,833	48	3%
Maidstone	8,038	10,493	2,455	31%	3,242	4,307	1,065	33%
Maribyrnong	11,907	19,252	7,345	62%	4,665	7,692	3,027	65%
Seddon	5,052	5,496	444	9%	2,325	2,532	207	9%
West Footscray	10,940	11,982	1,042	10%	4,752	5,394	642	14%
Yarraville	14,362	18,285	3,923	27%	6,233	8,218	1,985	32%
Total	77,945	110,287	32,342	41%	33,065	49,000	15,935	48%

Source: .id forecasts supplied to the project 4 December 2013

A key change indicated by the suburb analysis is that by 2031 the Maribyrnong population is forecast to grow significantly and will become greater than the population in Yarraville. The population of Footscray will more than double during this period.

4.2.1b Forecast worker population change

According to the *Council Plan*, the shift from heavy industry to a more residentially-based city poses challenge, both in maintaining an employment base and local jobs and buffering residential areas from their industrial neighbours, which can put added pressure on existing businesses. The *Council Plan* notes that industry closures, a declining local manufacturing sector and a reduction in land supply for industry means a loss of local jobs. At the same time, the Port of Melbourne is expanding and this has led to the establishment of supporting enterprises within Maribyrnong, with a significant increase in truck traffic. There is also a shift in the business activity moving into Maribyrnong, away from the industrial base.

There will potentially be greater diversity in the economy in the future. The longer term effect of the Regional Rail Link, State government decisions about Port development and national economic trends are still unknown.

In the Footscray CAD, the 2012 analysis indicates that by 2031 there will be an increase in both non-residential floor space and employment. It is predicted that from 2011 to 2031 there will be an additional 101,680 square metres in floor space construction and 3,390 additional employees in this centre.

A change in the demand for open space may occur in the future where changes in non-residential land use occurs. This could be due to an increase in the density of workers on the site and the nature of the work being undertaken. In Tottenham, some of the large scale industrial sites adjoin or extend over Stony Creek. A future open space corridor along Stony Creek through this industrial area is identified as a priority in this Strategy. The provision of an open space corridor and shared trail has the potential to be used by workers to travel to and from work. Additional to this, is the need to provide space for people to take a break from work during the day including for fitness and exercise, to relax and to socialise. For further information on worker use of open space, refer to Section 2.3.1.

The open space surveys undertaken during the research phase of this project identified that more than 80 per cent of the respondents who work in Maribyrnong do use open space near their workplace. The most popular reason is being outdoors as a break from work, followed by fitness and exercise and travelling to and from work.

4.2.1c Forecast student population change

In September 2013, Victoria University and Maribyrnong City Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together to develop Footscray as Australia's first University Town. The intention is to expand the Footscray Park campus across Ballarat Road to bring the major campus into central Footscray. The proposed plans will see an increase in the student population - both day students and potentially residential students - within the town centre and increase demands on what is currently limited open space.

This Strategy assumes that more student accommodation will be encouraged in Footscray with expansion of Victoria University.

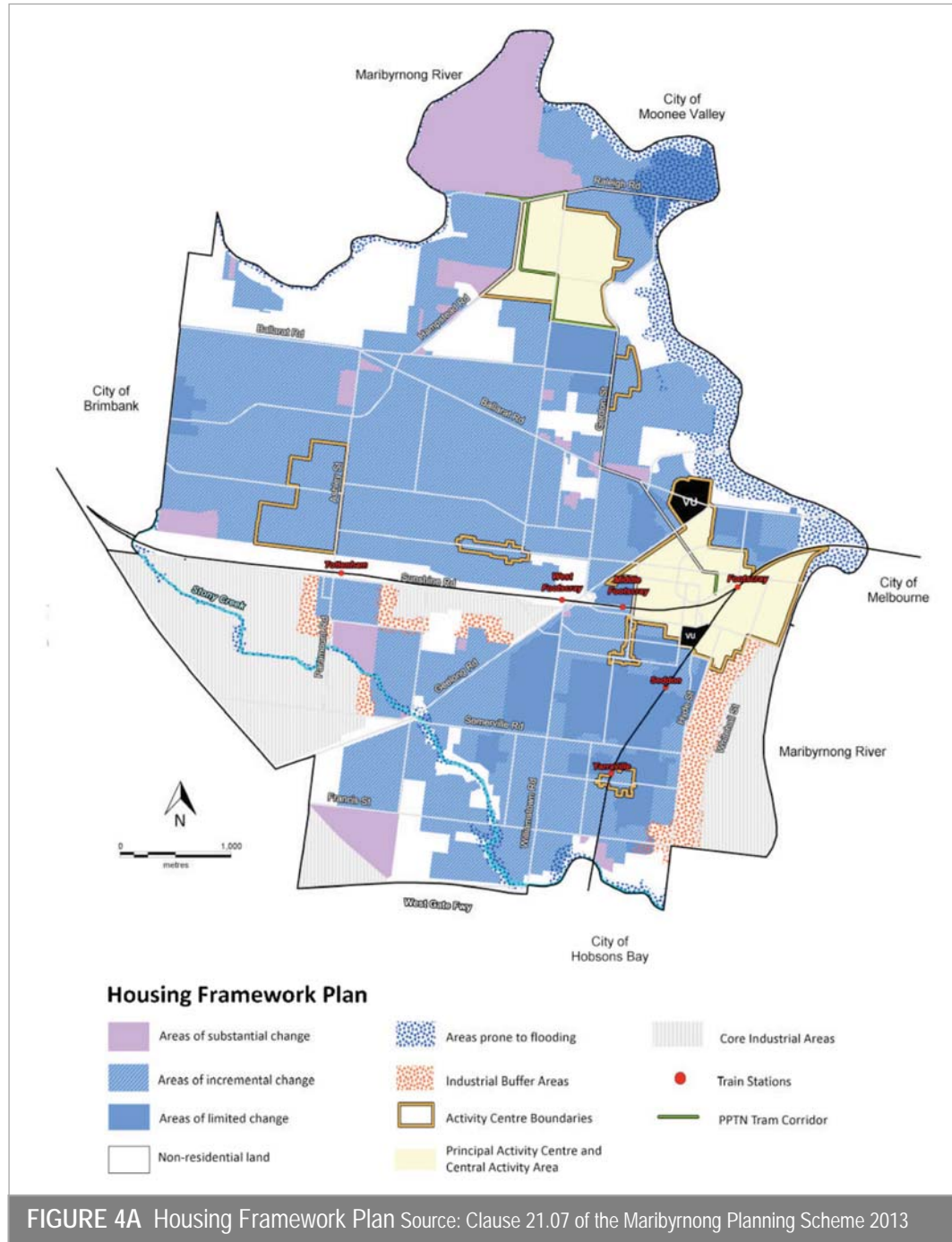
4.2.2 Strategic framework guiding future change

4.2.2a Locations of future change

There are a range of strategic documents and actions guiding where future change in Maribyrnong will occur. These include the new Plan Melbourne metropolitan strategy (draft released in October 2013), adopted structure plans, zoning changes (as they occur), Urban Development Program strategic sites and

so on. There will also be limited change expected in the balance of suburb areas.

The housing growth framework plan in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme outlines the framework of future growth. Refer to Figure 4A on the following page, which is an extract from Clause 21.07-1 Residential capacity and location of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme. It is noted that the housing framework identifies mixed areas that will also include non-residential uses including Victoria University, medical facilities, community services, some industrial land, and retail and service businesses.



As shown in Figure 4A, the areas where most change is expected are the activity centres and the larger, strategic sites and precincts where redevelopment is planned or is likely to occur by 2031.

Plan Melbourne designates Footscray as a Metropolitan Activity Centre, a place of State Significance. Victoria University in Footscray is also designated as a Place of State Significance. The other named activity centres in Maribyrnong are Maribyrnong-Highpoint and Braybrook-Central West. Council will be responsible for identifying Neighbourhood centres. (Note: Plan Melbourne no longer uses Principal and Major Activity Centre designations.)

The Maribyrnong Defence Site is a large redevelopment precinct in the north of the municipality located outside of an existing activity centre.

These locations are described in more detail in the appropriate precinct analysis in Section 6 of this Strategy.

Maribyrnong Defence Site, Cordite Avenue, Maribyrnong

The Department of Defence has provided some updated information on their website regarding the contamination assessment and remediation planning activities for this site, dated 23 August 2013. In summary, the Department has been undertaking contamination investigations since the agreement in 2009 for the Commonwealth Government to sell the site to the State of Victoria for mixed use development. The updated information indicates the different land use options likely for the site, which includes areas of commercial land use, residential land use and open space. The Department of Defence has been working closely with the Victorian Government on its plans for the site throughout the planning activities to date, and this collaboration will continue as details of the sale are progressed and plans are finalised.

The overall land use diagram indicates three areas of open space, however it is likely some open space will not necessarily be public open space as defined in this Strategy. No timeframes are included in the published material, however all three areas of open space are shown in Stage 3 of the project. Population forecasts allocate an estimated population of just over 3,800 by 2031 to this site (.id forecasts).

Balance of suburb areas

The Balance of suburb areas is the residential area outside of the activity centres and other locations identified for more intensive redevelopment. The suburbs where the greatest population change will occur in the balance areas include Maidstone at 16 per cent and Maribyrnong at 12 per cent.

4.3 Quantity of open space

4.3.1 Quantification of existing open space within the municipality

An assessment and analysis of existing open space has been undertaken using the Council supplied database as a starting point. Other public open space identified via the mapping system and site assessment work where it meets the definition of public open space has been added to the database. These areas of open space are shown on Drawing MROSS-01 and included as Figure 4B. Please note that Restricted open space as shown on that plan is not included in the total quantities for open space.

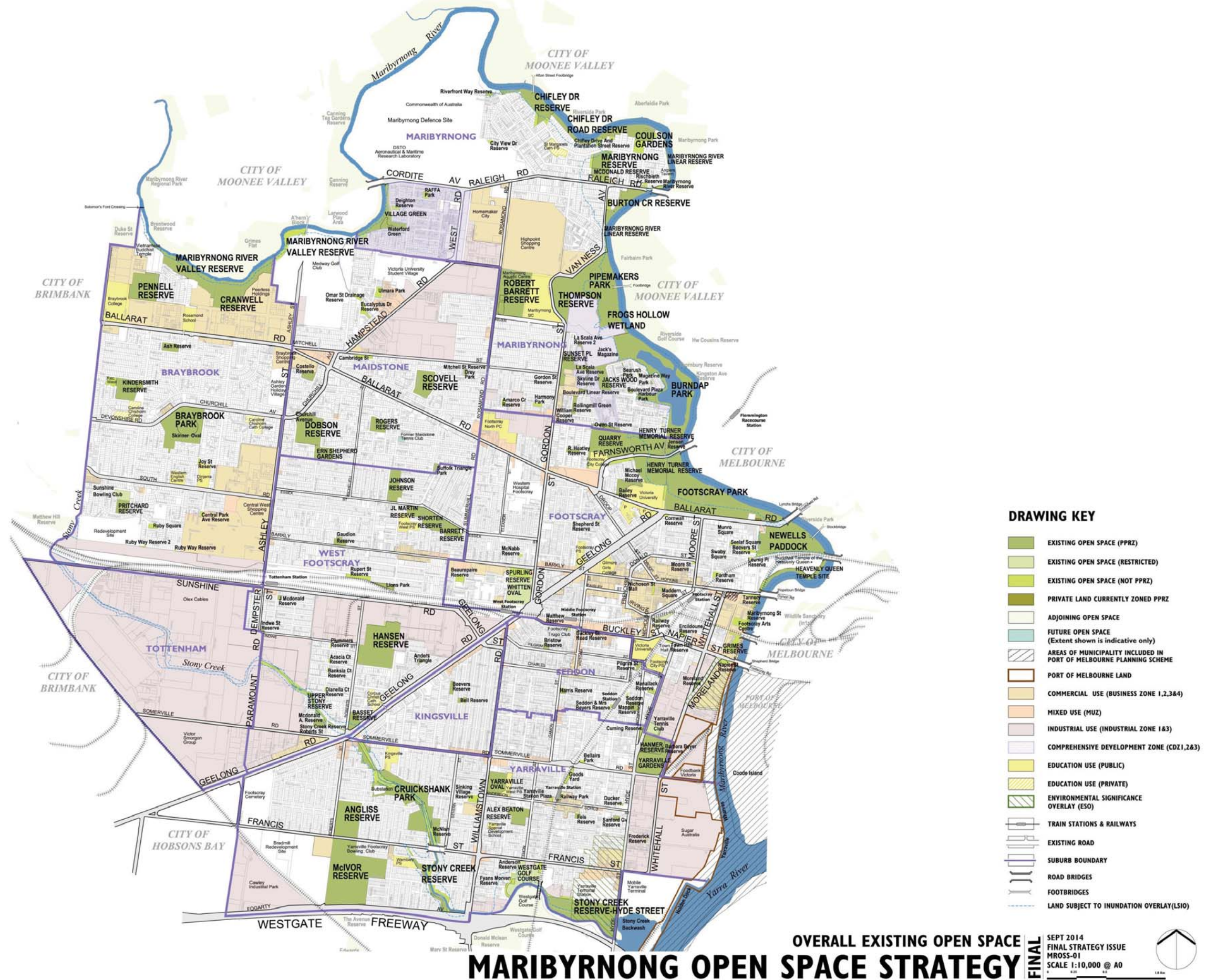
Based on this assessment there is a total of 151 open space reserves, comprising a total area of approximately 307.9 hectares of open space. This equates to 9.9 per cent of the total land area of the municipality. Open space included in these totals either currently meets or has the potential to meet the definition for open space included in this Strategy. It includes all areas of land currently shown in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme as Public Park and Recreation Zone, along with other areas of land that function as public open space but are currently not zoned for this purpose. Open space that has a restricted use and is only available for use on a fee paying or club membership basis has been referred to in the Strategy as Restricted open space.

Provision of open space quantity has been assessed in the following ways:

- Quantity of open space area as a proportion of the total land area of the municipality at both a municipality-wide level and precinct level.
- Quantity of open space area per person, both at a municipality-wide level and precinct level.

The rationale for assessing the quantity in these two ways is to measure how changes in the number of residents can impact on the quantity of people using these reserves.

FIGURE 4B Existing open space in the City of Maribyrnong



4.3.1a Open space as a proportion of land area

Table 4-2 Quantity of open space in the City of Maribyrnong

PRECINCT NAME	No. of open spaces	Total open space Ha	Proportion of o/space of total precinct area
Braybrook	12	34.77	8%
Footscray	35	64.38	13%
Kingsville	2	0.70	1%
Maidstone	14	16.12	5%
Maribyrnong	38	93.76	17%
Seddon	7	1.91	2%
Tottenham	0	0.00	0%
West Footscray	19	25.31	4%
Yarraville	24	70.98	13%
TOTALS	151	307.93	9.9%

There is significant variation in the provision of open space across different precincts in the municipality. In Kingsville only 1 per cent of the total precinct area is open space, in West Footscray the figure is 4 per cent compared with Maribyrnong at 17 per cent. The industrial precinct of Tottenham has no open space. Historical land use and development patterns and the location of the waterways significantly influence the presence of open space in Maribyrnong.

While the overall quantity of open space may appear reasonable, accessibility of it to the community is also a factor in the analysis. Another factor is the provision of open space for environmental and habitat values.

Accessibility to open space and benefit to the community is described in Section 4.4.

4.3.1b Open space relative to population density

The following tables highlight the provision of open space relative to residential population density. Table 4-3 is based on the estimated population in 2013, consistent with that shown in Table 2-1.

Table 4-3 Quantity of open space relative to 2013 estimated residential population

PRECINCT NAME	Total open space Ha	Proportion of o/space of total precinct area	Total residential population estimated 2013	Sqm of open space per person 2013
Braybrook	34.77	8%	8,807	39
Footscray	64.38	13%	15,542	41
Kingsville	0.70	1%	3,787	2
Maidstone	16.12	5%	8,325	19
Maribyrnong	93.76	17%	11,906	79
Seddon	1.91	2%	5,059	4
Tottenham	0.00	0%	n/a	0
West Footscray	25.31	4%	11,019	23
Yarraville	70.98	13%	14,536	49
TOTALS	307.93	9.9%	78,981	39

Kingsville has the lowest proportion of open space per person at 2sqm followed by Seddon at 4sqm. Maribyrnong has the largest amount at 79sqm per person given its proximity to the Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River. With various open space planning models indicating that an overall average open space provision should be somewhere between 20sqm and 25sqm per person, Kingsville, Maidstone, Seddon and West Footscray are the precincts that do not meet this standard. Other precincts meet and exceed this standard.

This table highlights the difference that urban density can make to the overall provision of open space. For example, West Footscray and Maidstone both have a similar proportion of land area as open space, but there is a difference in the quantity of open space relative to population density. It is important to also consider how much of the precinct is within safe and easy walking access of open space, and whether the quality and design of the space means it is accessible and useable for the community.

In addition to the residential population, there is an employment population across all of the precincts. The distribution and density of this population varies, and currently estimates are only available for Footscray and therefore these have not been shown in the tables.

The following tables show the provision of open space relative to population density. Table 4-3 is based on the estimated population in 2013 and Table 4-4 is based on the .id Consulting forecast population in 2031.

Table 4-4 Quantity of open space relative to 2013 estimated residential population and 2031 forecast population

PRECINCT NAME	Total open space Ha	Total residential population estimated 2013	Sqm of open space per person 2013	Forecast residential population 2031	Difference in residential population btwn 2013 & 2031	% change in residential population by 2031	Sqm of open space per person 2031
Braybrook	34.77	8,807	39	10,703	1,896	22%	32
Footscray	64.38	15,542	41	30,861	15,319	99%	21
Kingsville	0.70	3,787	2	3,707	-80	-2%	2
Maidstone	16.12	8,325	19	10,641	2,316	28%	15
Maribyrnong	93.76	11,906	79	19,253	7,347	62%	49
Seddon	1.91	5,059	4	5,503	444	9%	3
Tottenham	0.00	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	0.0%	0
West Footscray	25.31	11,019	23	12,062	1,043	9%	21
Yarraville	70.98	14,536	49	18,461	3,925	27%	38
TOTALS	307.93	78,981	39	111,191	32,210	40.8%	28

The precincts where the largest proportional change in residential population is anticipated in priority order are:

- Footscray
- Maribyrnong
- Maidstone
- Yarraville
- Braybrook

In terms of the most populous precincts, Footscray is forecast to remain the most populous through to 2031, while Maribyrnong is forecast to become the second and Yarraville the third most populous.

Localised areas of intensified levels of use, particularly activity centres and major strategic sites will place increased demands for open space within a walkable catchment. Where the change is more substantial, the intensification can also result in the need for additional Municipal open space, as for Footscray and Maribyrnong. The analysis and recommendations for the impacts of population change on open space provision and design are described in Sections 5 and 6.

Other implications for forecast change on the provision of open space includes:

- Change to the demographic profile of the forecast population and meeting these needs in existing and future open space design.
- Increased urban densities resulting in greater reliance on public open space to meet a broader range of needs, particularly social and informal uses.
- Change in land use from industrial use where little or no open space is provided, to residential use.
- Increased demand for use of open space by the forecast additional worker population in selected areas. This has been quantified for Footscray MAC where forecasts have been provided. Recent changes in business type and mix are likely to continue across other areas of the municipality, resulting in a change to the number and demographics of workers.

Table 4-3 only illustrates the change in residential population as the only employment population forecasts available are for Footscray MAC, as described in Section 4.2.1b.

4.3.2 Quantity of open space compared with adjoining municipalities

Table 4-5 Comparison of Maribyrnong open space quantity with adjoining municipalities

Municipality	Total open space sqm	Total municipal land area sqm	Total population estimated population 2013	Open space sqm per person	% of open space as a proportion of total land area
City of Maribyrnong	3,079,298	31,210,000	78,981	39	9.9%
City of Moonee Valley	5,178,000	43,090,000	115,978	45	12.0%
City of Melbourne	5,690,000	37,700,000	110,075	52	15.1%
City of Hobsons Bay	13,872,000	64,200,000	88,390	157	21.6%
City of Brimbank	18,592,000	123,350,000	193,408	96	15.1%

Table 4-5 is a comparative overview of the provision of open space in the City of Maribyrnong with adjoining municipalities. The quantity of open space data has been sourced from the *VEAC Metropolitan Melbourne Investigation (2011)*. The forecast population figures and total area of the municipalities are sourced from the .id Consulting website. The total quantity of open space shown for the City of Maribyrnong is taken from the database compiled for this project and not from the VEAC Report.

Overall, Maribyrnong has the least amount of open space relative to the total municipal area and relative to the residential population density compared to neighbouring municipalities.

The table illustrates the following:

- The City of Brimbank has the largest quantity of open space when compared with all the adjoining municipalities. There are large Regional open spaces located in Brimbank protecting biodiversity and cultural heritage values. These include Brimbank Park, Derrimut Grasslands, Organ Pipes National Park, Mount Drummond Nature Conservation Reserve and Iramoo Wildflower Grassland Reserve.
- The extensive system of Regional open space in the City of Hobsons Bay, located mainly along the coastline, includes Cheetham Wetlands, Altona Coastal Park, Truganina Coastal Park and Jawbone Flora and Fauna Reserve. Inland from the coast two other major Regional open spaces include Truganina Swamp and Cherry Lake. Relative to population density, Hobsons Bay has the largest amount of open space, however the presence of major industrial precincts within the municipality does influence the lower residential population density on a municipality-wide scale. The coastal reserves in Hobsons Bay are also used by the Maribyrnong community as identified in the open space survey outcomes undertaken for this Strategy.

- The City of Melbourne has more open space relative to the total municipal area and residential population densities compared with the City of Maribyrnong. The City of Melbourne has a significant non-residential population including workers and visitors who use the open space as well and are a major influence on open space availability relative to population density.
- The City of Moonee Valley more closely matches Maribyrnong in terms of its quantity of open space relative to the total municipal area and the population densities and also with the major area of regional open space being located along the Maribyrnong River.

These comparative figures are only a snapshot and do not assess the design and function of open space. These lump sum figures may include restricted open space and regional open space which is not necessarily accessible to all, as in some locations it is set aside primarily for biodiversity protection. Most municipalities have their own policy or strategy to direct the future provision, management and design of open space, and it is anticipated that there will be variations in the totals listed above over the coming years.

4.3.3 Conclusions

The quantity of open space varies across the municipality. At the precinct level analysis Kingsville and Seddon have the lowest amounts of open space both relative to both population density and land area. Maribyrnong has the largest amount of open space relative to both population density and land area.

Even though there may be enough open space when measured at these two levels, the analysis and assessment of quantity also needs to take account of the forecast growth and distribution relative to where the population is located. Both Maribyrnong and Footscray will experience the highest levels of forecast growth and change, with Yarraville, Maidstone and Braybrook also forecast to experience higher levels of change. The precinct analysis looks at this issue in further detail, in conjunction with the distribution and the quality of the existing open space.

4.4 Distribution of open space

4.4.1 Background

The distribution of open space across the municipality is significantly influenced by patterns of historical land use and as briefly described in Section 2.2.4b of this Strategy. This includes the early quarrying of bluestone throughout the municipality, with some quarries later becoming open space including Cruikshank Park and many of the open space reserves along the Maribyrnong River.

The City of Maribyrnong had a key role as the centre of explosives, ordinance and ammunition development and manufacture, which dates back to 1899. Sites dedicated to this use occupied large tracts of land adjacent to the Maribyrnong River through to the early 1990s. From the late 1990s onwards some of these former defence sites have been redeveloped for medium-density housing and open space has been progressively added to the network over the past decade as these sites have been developed. One major defence site that has not yet been redeveloped is the former Maribyrnong Defence Site north of Cordite Avenue, which extends north to the Maribyrnong River. Contamination from the previous land use has been noted by the Department of Defence as the reason for delaying redevelopment of this site.

The industrial land use traditionally did not include provision of open space, and where this land use dominates in areas such as Tottenham and parts of West Footscray, Yarraville and Maidstone, open space is not well distributed. Many of the residential areas were established around the industrial land use and employment areas and these areas had different levels of open space provided as part of their development. These historical discrepancies will be taken into account in this Strategy, however, there is recognition that retrofitting additional open space into existing established urban areas is difficult to achieve. Industrial land use and any contamination from this is a consideration in assessing suitability of land for future open space and is included in the assessment criteria in Table 5-2 in this Strategy.

4.4.2 Open space gap analysis

The distribution of existing open space across the municipality is mapped and assessed relative to walking catchments. This identifies locations where open space is not within reasonable safe walking distance of the population. The analysis is based on the hierarchy and catchments described in Table 3-1 in this Strategy. The relevant walking distance catchments are applied and illustrated on Drawing MROSS-03 and included in this Strategy in Figure 4C referred to as the Gap Analysis.

The catchment for Regional open space is determined at a metropolitan and state level. Therefore gaps in Regional open space provision are not referred to specifically in this overall distribution analysis section. Gaps in the linear open space along Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek are shown in Figure 2F and discussed in Section 2.2.6 of this Strategy.

For Municipal open space, a travel catchment of one kilometre for is applied and mapped separately from the walking catchments. The specialised nature of the sport and recreation facilities in Municipal open space means that people travel further than walking distance to reach them. For this reason, the travel distance is shown separately from the walking distance catchments in Figure 4D.

Figure 4C illustrates the walking catchments applied to all open space (excluding restricted open space):

- 500 metre walking catchment radius as applied to all Regional and Municipal open space
- 400 metre walking catchment radius to all Neighbourhood open space
- 300 metre walking catchment radius to all Local open space
- 200 metre walking catchment radius to all Small Local open space

The 400 to 500 metre catchments represent an approximate 15 to 25 minute walk depending on street layout, actual distance from the open space and level of physical ability. For the elderly, young children or people with limited mobility it is likely to be a 20 to 25 minute walk.

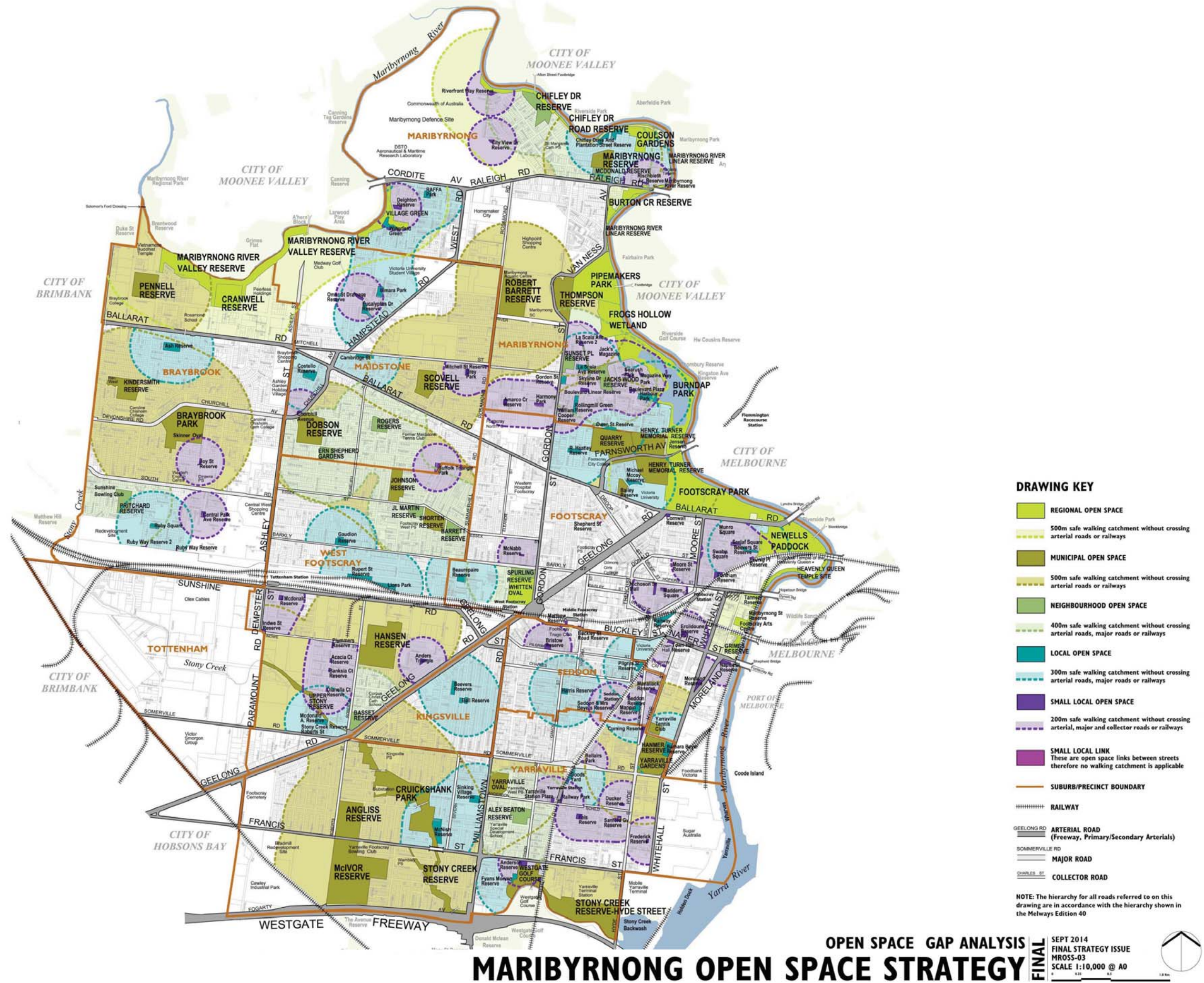
The 200 to 300 metre catchments for the Local and Small Local reflect the expectation that people will spend less time in the smaller reserves which depending on the street layout, distance and ability represents an approximate 10 minute walk.

The actual distance people walk to reach open space within the catchment radius varies depending on where they live or work. In many cases it can be longer than the radius applied where the street network is more circuitous or is made up of courts, as is the case in parts of Braybrook and Maidstone. This is the reason that conservative catchment radii are applied to take account of the differing actual walking distances.

Figure 4C illustrates open space distribution analysis with the walking catchments shown for each hierarchy type.



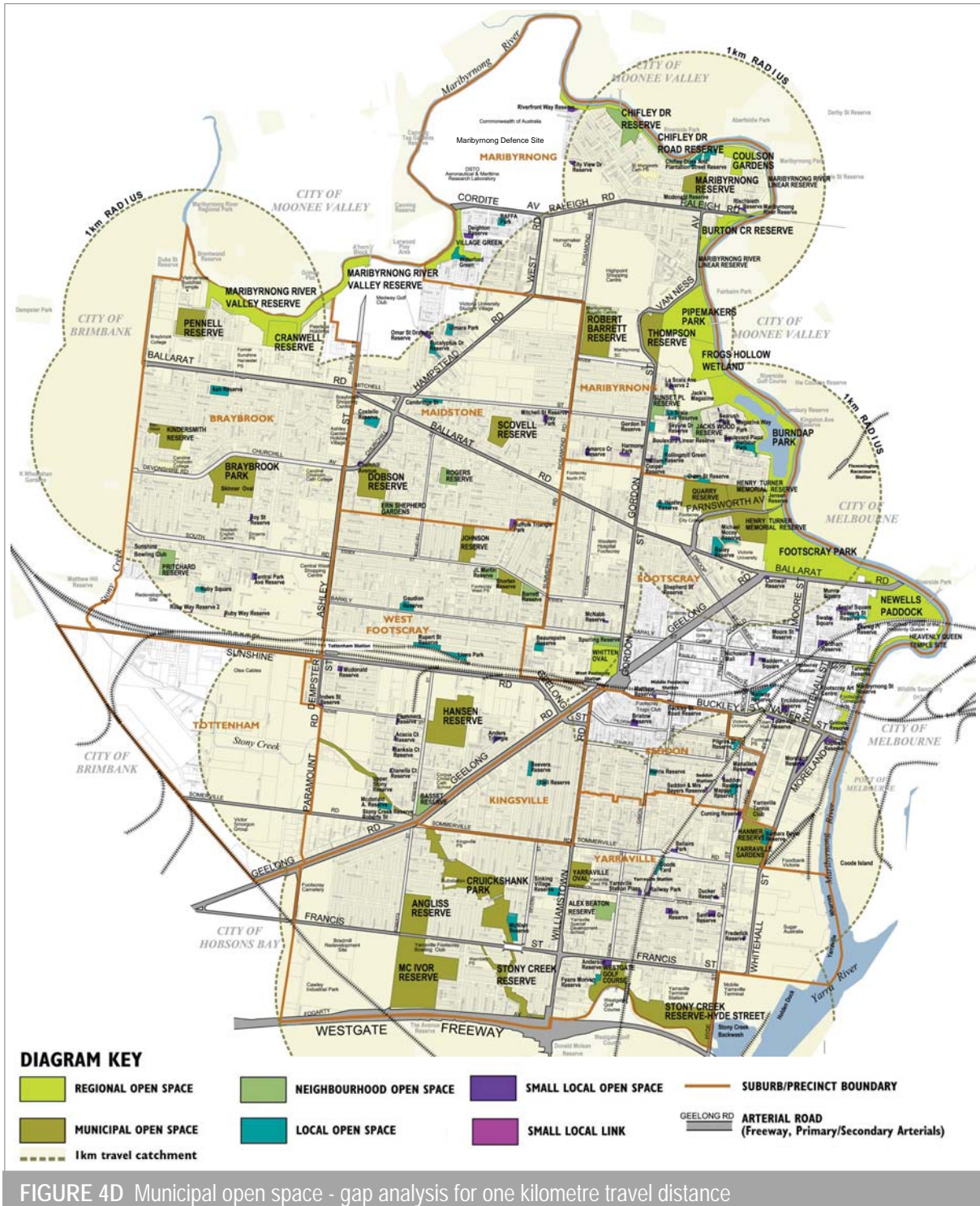
FIGURE 4C Open space distribution analysis in the City of Maribyrnong



4.4.2a Municipal open space

Figure 4D below illustrates the one kilometre travel catchment radius to this type of open space. This is mostly related to structured sports facilities, which are also located in Footscray Park, however as already noted, the other Regional open spaces do not include structured sports facilities. Within the one kilometre radius there are some gaps in the provision of this type of open space including:

- Footscray, central area
- Maribyrnong
- Tottenham.



The gaps in distribution of Municipal open space occur in the precincts where substantial forecast growth is forecast to occur, being the Footscray Central Activity Area and Maribyrnong. The following description explains how these will be addressed.

Footscray Central Activity Area

While it will be difficult to address the existing gap area for Municipal open space in central Footscray, given the existing urban densities and forecast growth, this does highlight the likely increased pressure for additional use of Municipal facilities by the forecast population coming into this area, and the need for these spaces to be designed to accommodate this increased use. Currently the Regional open space is unsuitable for accommodating additional Municipal facilities.

Maribyrnong

The gaps in the provision of Municipal open space in Maribyrnong coincide with the Maribyrnong Defence Site, and future development plans for this site will need to address this gap.

Tottenham

For Tottenham, the gap area falls over the industrial precinct. Currently council's Housing Framework Plan in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme shows this precinct as non-residential land, and it is not an area forecast for housing in the future. Any future change in this precinct will need to consider the gaps in provision of open space, and address this if the change in non-residential land use substantially increases the non-residential and/or residential population in this precinct.

Stony Creek linear open space

Linear open space along Stony Creek is currently classified as Municipal open space. Currently, Stony Creek is used predominantly by people within the local and municipal catchment rather than beyond it as shown in the open space survey outcomes. The *Stony Creek Future Directions Plan (2011)* identifies the need to extend this open space to the north west through parts of West Footscray and Tottenham to overcome the gaps in the continuity of open space and the shared trail. This Strategy supports achieving a continuous open space corridor and providing shared trail connectivity. The feasibility to achieve an off-road shared trail link downstream of Cruickshank Park in some sections is highly challenged, however there is potential to improve connectivity for the majority of its length.

4.4.2b Neighbourhood open space

There are a number of gaps in the provision of Neighbourhood open space across the municipality, however, it is recognised that many of the Municipal open spaces either do or have the potential to perform a neighbourhood function by including neighbourhood facilities in them. Based on this assumption, a spatial analysis has been undertaken to determine if there are any gaps in distribution of Neighbourhood open space (i.e. where Municipal open space is

not within walking distance either). Refer to Table 4-6 for a summary list of these areas by suburb.

Table 4-6 Gaps in distribution of Neighbourhood open space

Suburb	Existing gaps in distribution of Neighbourhood open space
Braybrook	Between Churchill Avenue and Ballarat Road and east of Vine Street*
Footscray	The majority of the central area between Ballarat Road and the southern boundary of the suburb.
Kingsville	The whole suburb
Maidstone	North of Mitchell Street*
Maribyrnong	Between Cordite Avenue/Raleigh Road and Williamson Road.
Seddon	The whole suburb
Tottenham	The whole suburb*
West Footscray	Between Barkly Street and the railway
Yarraville	North of Somerville Road South of Sommerville Road, east of the railway

* Suburbs with gaps in the Local and Small Local open space as well and Neighbourhood open space

4.4.2c Gaps in the provision of any open space

There are gaps in the distribution of existing open space across the municipality, which are referred to as gap areas in this Strategy. In the gap areas, the community needs to travel further than an easy and safe walk to reach any type of existing open space. Figure 4E illustrates the gap areas diagrammatically and numbers are assigned to each gap area. Table 4-7 below briefly describes the analysis and proposed solution to address each of the gap areas. Section 6 of the Strategy contains the detailed analysis and specific actions to address the gaps. As described in Section 4.4.2d, the gap analysis is only one of the factors that informs the recommendations regarding provision of open space in this Strategy.

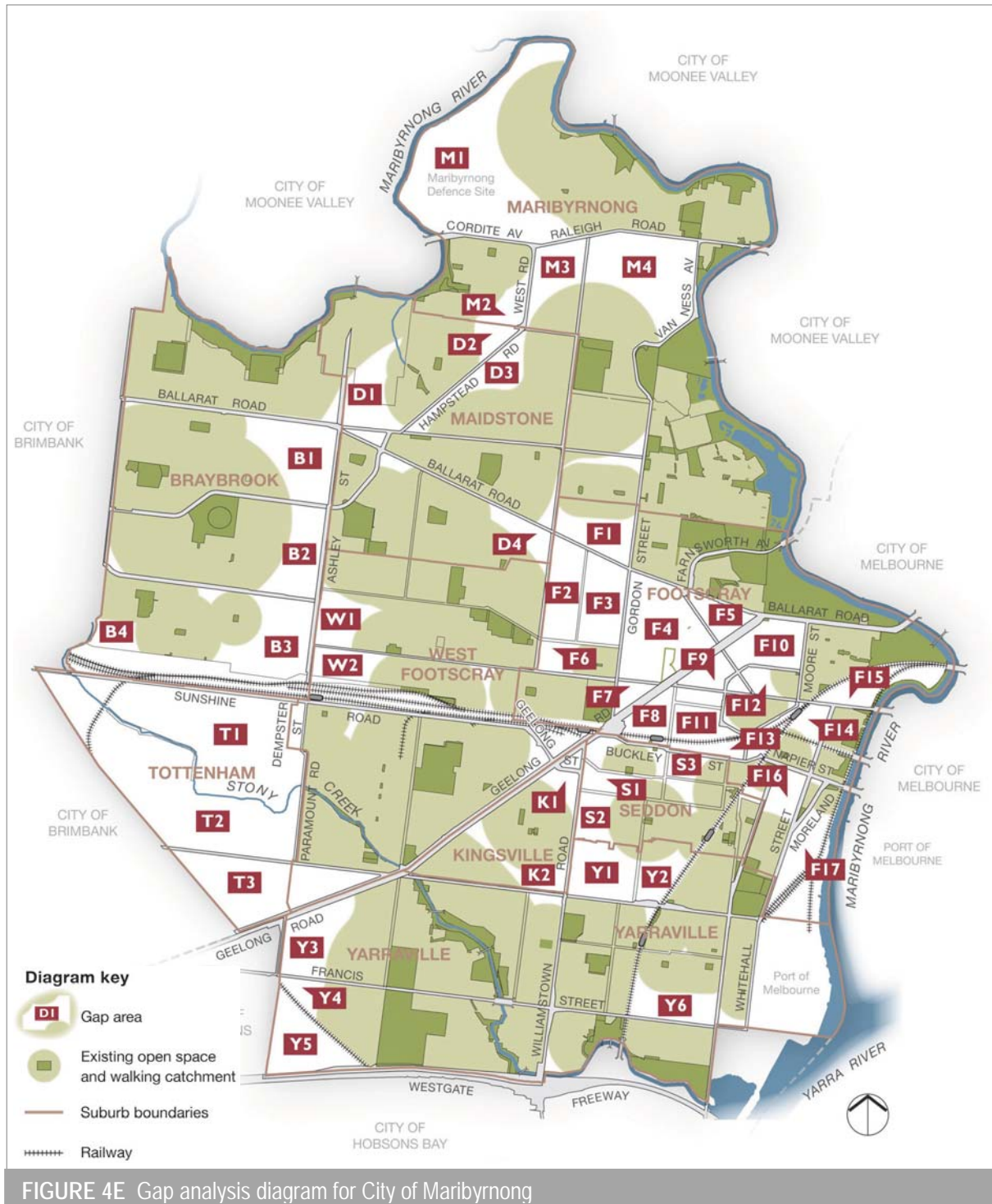
Table 4-7 Gaps in distribution of any open space

Refer to Figure 4E following this table.

Suburb	Overall issues arising from gap analysis
Braybrook	Gap areas B1, B2 and B3 in open space distribution are located towards the east of Braybrook. The residential street network to the west of the gap areas does allow access via the local street network to existing open space beyond the walking catchments indicated. No substantial forecast population change is forecast within the timeframe of this Strategy for the three Gap Areas B1, B2 and B3. Gap area B4 is located in the south west on a former industrial site that is forecast to redevelop. This Gap Area will be addressed in the future with additional open space. Refer to Section 6.2 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.
Maidstone	Maidstone includes the Medway Public Golf Course, which falls into Gap Area D1. This Strategy is prepared on the basis that

Suburb	Overall issues arising from gap analysis
	redevelopment of the golf course to a use that would include population change on the site will not occur. The other gap areas have redevelopment planned within them, meaning some additional open space is recommended to address Gap Areas D2 and D3. Refer to Section 6.5 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.
Footscray	The forecast population growth for Footscray almost doubles the existing resident population and has additional worker population as well. This substantial population increase means that additional open space is proposed in some of the gap areas. This will also benefit the existing population. Refer to Section 6.3 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.
Kingsville	Kingsville is forecast to remain relatively stable with a slight loss of population between 2013 and 2031. The existing Gap Areas K1 and K2 will be addressed with additional open space to meet the needs of the existing community. Refer to Section 6.4 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.
Maribyrnong	The Maribyrnong Defence Site is in a Gap Area M1. When this site redevelops as forecast to include a substantial population, additional open space on this site will be required. The local residential street network provides reasonable access for people living and working in Gap Area M2 to access existing open space to the west. People living and/or working in Gap Areas M3 and M4 have barriers to any open space including Local and Small Local open space. This will be addressed with the provision of additional open space in Maribyrnong and Maidstone. Refer to Section 6.6 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.
Seddon	The gaps in open space provision occur west of the railway in Seddon, and east of the railway open space is reasonably well distributed. Gap Areas S1 and S3 will be addressed through by the appropriate redesign and development of existing open space that is currently closed to public access. Gap Area S2 will be addressed by the provision of additional open space. Refer to Section 6.7 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.
Tottenham	The industrial land use in Tottenham is anticipated to continue with increased intensity and diversity of non-residential use including office, business and warehouse use within the timeframe of this Strategy. The Gap Areas T1, T2 and T3 will in part be addressed in the future with the provision of additional Municipal open space that is mainly required for the forecast population growth in the Footscray area, but will also be available for use within Tottenham. The ongoing objective to establish a linear open space corridor along Stony Creek will also address these gap areas, depending on access arrangements into the open space corridor. Refer to Section 6.8 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.
West Footscray	The two Gap Areas in West Footscray are located towards Ashley Street. Gap Area W1 is to be addressed by improving Gaudion Reserve, which is further than the local walking catchment but can be accessed from the gap are without the need to cross major roads. The local street network in Gap Area W2 does not easily facilitate access, highlighting the importance of the trail link along the West Footscray to Braybrook railway reserve and the need for Council to continue to advocate retaining this in any future railway expansion program. Refer to Section 6.8 for the analysis, conclusions proposed

Suburb	Overall issues arising from gap analysis
	actions.
Yarraville	Gap Areas Y1, Y2, Y3 and Y6 will require additional open space, while Gap Area Y4 is to be addressed by future open space already agreed to be provided on the Bradmills Site. The land use in Gap Area Y5 is forecast to remain as large scale industrial and therefore no open space is proposed in the timeframe of this Strategy. Refer to Section 6.9 for the analysis, conclusions proposed actions.



4.4.2d Conclusions of the open space distribution analysis

All suburbs have some gaps in open space provision, with Tottenham having no existing public open space. The consultation outcomes reinforce these findings with the need for additional open space being the most frequently made comment. In the open space survey outcomes, key reasons the community do not visit open space included the need to cross busy roads making access to open space difficult; and also that it was too far to travel to reach open space.

Recommendations to address each of the gap areas are included in this Strategy. They consider the gaps in the context of other issues including:

- The location and extent of forecast development and population change.
- Existing and forecast changes to the demographics of the population.
- Accessibility, function, size and quality of open space in each precinct.
- Urban layout and the safety and accessibility of the local street network.
- The presence of ancillary open space.

Refer to precinct recommendation in Section 6.

4.5 Quality of open space

4.5.1 Overview

The quality of open space influences whether the open space is well used, appreciated and meets its intended function and use. This directly influences the degree to which the community visits open space to exercise, socialise, play, to relax and unwind, cultural heritage protection and biodiversity values.

There are no standards for the quality and character of open space and each one is influenced and formed by a range of factors including its size, form, use, position, design, management and history. These factors are considered in the context of whether the open space is meeting the community's needs, as identified in the open space survey outcomes and its nature conservation and biodiversity values regarding habitat protection and improvement.

The main methods used to gather data on the quality of open space are the site assessments, background research and consultation. The combined results of this research influences whether changes are required to the design and provision of facilities in open space. Where the quality of open space is considered to be adequate no specific recommendations will be made in the Strategy for its upgrade or change. It will be assumed that there will be an ongoing maintenance and renewal program to replace infrastructure when it is beyond its useable life. Where the quality of open space is inadequate, then the Strategy makes recommendations for upgrading the open space as outlined in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of the Strategy.

Adequate quality open space is that which:

- Caters to its designated use hierarchy
- Caters well to its primary and secondary character classification
- Is maintained to a reasonable standard
- The infrastructure is in at least fair condition
- Adequately meets the needs of the existing and forecast population
- Is accessible visually and physically including providing at least some all-ability access.

Inadequate quality open space is that which has at least two of the following:

- Does not cater to its designated use hierarchy
- Caters poorly or incompletely to its primary and secondary character classification
- Requires greater levels of maintenance
- The infrastructure is in poor condition
- Does not adequately meet the needs of the existing or forecast population
- Is difficult to access physically and visually.

4.5.2 Community use and value of open space

4.5.2a Structured sport and recreation use

A major influence for the Strategy is accommodating structured sport and recreation needs of the forecast population in the existing Municipal, and where appropriate Regional open space. The gap analysis has identified some gaps in the provision of Municipal open space based on the travel catchment analysis. The Strategy recommends the provision of additional Municipal open space as part of the future Maribyrnong Defence Site and any redevelopment in Tottenham, included in Section 5. This is based on the gap analysis along with the identified shortage of space to accommodate existing structured sport and recreation needs, as identified in the *Maribyrnong Sustainable Surfaces Feasibility Study* and summarised in Section 2.3.2 of this Strategy.

The forecast additional population will place increased demand on existing structured sport and recreation facilities. Future expansion of indoor and outdoor sport and recreation, along with non-open space dependent facilities will potentially result in reduced outdoor open space that is valued and needed by the community.

Therefore, in the future Council will need to carefully assess future proposals to expand sport and recreation facilities in open space. They will need to demonstrate best use is made of the large areas of existing open space to optimise its use for structured sport, unstructured recreation and informal use. Municipal reserves are also valued for their sense of space. Increased pressure for use of the larger open spaces for outdoor structured sport and recreation in these larger areas will need to be compatible with their informal use such as dog walking and informal games on the oval.

4.5.2b Unstructured recreational use

Facility diversity

In some of the larger sporting reserves there is a lack of facilities that encourage unstructured recreational use in addition to structured sporting use. Unstructured and structured sport and recreation facilities can cater to people of all ages, genders, cultural backgrounds and abilities. Many of the major existing open space reserves have traditionally focused on providing structured sporting facilities, which are highly valued and well used. There are opportunities to increase the diversity of facilities for unstructured recreation use in these major reserves to appeal to a broader range of the community and encourage fitness and health in the community.

Non-open space related community facilities, such as community centres and neighbourhood houses reduce the amount of open space available for the uses it is reserved for. There is a need to limit any further expansion of existing facilities or provision of additional ones in open space to maximise the space available for outdoor sport and recreation.

Personal safety in open space

The open space survey identified that personal safety concerns are preventing some people using open space. The reasons include:

- Lack of passive surveillance in open space which is caused by:
 - Established urban layout where rear boundary fence lines rather than streets or public spaces adjoin the majority of some areas of open space.
 - Remoteness from populated urban areas.
 - Steep topography.
 - Dense vegetation to the perimeter of open space blocking views from adjoining streets or public space.
- Inappropriate use of open space, particularly drug related uses and presence of syringes in open space.
- Lack of sufficient lighting.
- Lack of cleanliness and maintenance in some areas of open space, making them less appealing to use due to an appearance of neglect.
- Industrial land use resulting in less passive surveillance when the open space is more frequently used after hours and on weekends.
- Conflicts between dogs off-lead and other visitors to open space who are intimidated by dogs, especially near playgrounds.
- Walkers feeling intimidated by cyclists travelling at speed on the shared trails

Other issues include the major road and/or rail infrastructure creating barriers between populated residential areas and the open space, meaning there is a lack of passive surveillance and sense of personal security in open space. This particularly affects the open space corridor along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek. For the Maribyrnong River significant topographic change between the adjoining residential area and the open space along the Maribyrnong River also exacerbates in a sense of remoteness from the adjoining area.

In some instances the safety issues associated with urban layout and land use will be resolved as land use changes over time and redevelopment of some of these older established areas occur. The design and management recommendation Section 5 and 7 of this Strategy include recommendations to address safety concerns. The second phase of consultation reinforced the findings of the first phase with personal safety being a key barrier to using open space.

Paths and trails

Walking paths are the most frequently used facility in open space, with walking, dog walking and cycling being some of the most popular activities. There is potential to greatly improve opportunities for people to use open space by increasing the provision of paths into, around the space and connecting through it. An increase circuit in paths around existing reserves, improved connections into the existing linear trails and addressing gaps in the linear networks will all lead to increased activity in the parks contributing to safety and fitness. The design and management guidelines in Section 7 of this Strategy encourage appropriate designs, and the need for connections and links are included in the recommendations in Sections 5 and 6 of this Strategy.

Playgrounds and play in open space

Playgrounds are frequently used by children and families and the level to which they are used varies across the different precincts. Young people also use playgrounds to informally meet and hang out and planning for this use proactively in open space design in the future is supported. The design, location and the range of activities they provide influences the desirability and use of the open space. The open space survey comments included requests for increased diversity of play facilities and shade to them. Consideration can also be given to providing a diverse range of playground sizes and types in each neighbourhood to provide children with a variety of experiences and challenges within walking distance of home, where feasible. Shade is important for play, however installation of shade sails has led to vandalism and inappropriate use. The current policy seeks to provide natural shade from trees which is more appropriate and is an important criteria in the siting of new play areas. Requests for fencing play areas are made to improve safety in relation to proximity to roads and other open space uses - particularly dogs off-lead. The design guidelines in Section 7 provide direction for these issues.

Dogs and open space

Walking dogs and exercising them in open space encourages people outside into open space. Conflicts between dogs being exercised in open space and other users are identified in the survey. Council has a Domestic Animal Management Plan that sets out the regulatory controls for dogs in public places. In relation to open space, this Strategy acknowledges the importance of achieving a balance of different uses to encourage the community outdoors to use the open space. Establishing the right balance of dog exercise areas in the context of other uses, particularly in areas with limited open space is a challenge that this Strategy

supports to be articulated and resolved through the Domestic Animal Management Plan.

4.5.2c Informal use

Open space is used informally and valued for a range of intangible reasons by the community. The character, aesthetics and the facilities in the open space can increase the contribution open space makes to these values. The open space survey identified that the community value and use seating, picnic tables, shelters, barbecues along with other informal areas such as open grassed areas. The survey also identified that additional facilities for informal use, particularly seats, drinking fountains, public toilets, shelters and barbecues are required in open space. Providing these facilities and improving the character and aesthetics of the open space allows the community to spend time and enjoy it. The Strategy recommends a range of minor and major upgrades to selected open space reserves in the precinct recommendations in Section 6 and design and management guidelines to improve the overall character and accessibility of open in Section 7.

Food security and community gardens

In the context of encouraging community horticulture, it is also important to acknowledge that there will be increased pressure for public open space to meet a range of other recreational, social, climate change adaptation and environmental needs as well, and the future provision of community horticulture in open space may need to be considered in this context.

Community horticulture can be undertaken in a range of public spaces and are not dependent on being located in open space. Community horticulture is often better suited to other public land (including ancillary open space) such as schools, community centres, civic facilities, railway easements, Department of Housing land, service easements and nature strips within appropriate guidelines. Other models for community horticulture exist which do not restrict public access and allows participation by all to grow and harvest the food, however this does generally prevent other uses occurring on the space. The Strategy includes criteria to be used for determining suitable locations for community gardens in open space, with consideration for other uses, and these are included in Section 7.

4.5.2d Intangible values of open space

Open space is valued for a range of intangible reasons by the community including to relax and unwind; retreat to it as a break from the urban form and busy roads; to enjoy the peace and quiet; the large open spaces and the views; for children to play and explore; and the trees. The character and aesthetics contribute to the role each open space has in meeting these more intangible community health and wellbeing needs. Generally, the community needs to rely more on open space in the higher density precincts like Footscray. In these locations, open space with natural features allows people, including children, to more easily be in touch with nature and the health benefits this

provides. The need for open space within easy walking distance of high density living is a key influence in the recommendations for this Strategy. These are described in Sections 6 and 7.

4.5.3 Linear open space along the waterways

4.5.3a Maribyrnong River

The lack of a continuous open space corridor and shared trail on the City of Maribyrnong side of the Maribyrnong River limits accessibility. Breaks in the open space corridor occur around the Port of Melbourne area, the large former defence site in Maribyrnong, and in the privately owned Medway Golf Course. Additionally there are a number of physical barriers making access into the open space corridor difficult, including major roads, former defence land and/or contaminated land and steep topography. The *Maribyrnong River Valley - A Shared Vision for a Vibrant River (2010)* identifies the gaps in the linear open space system and this Strategy supports continued advocacy to achieve a linked open space system to the north, acknowledging that the port related activities preclude the opportunity for this to the south. This linear open space system is for the broader regional population as well as the local population. Opportunities to improve access into the linear open space system from the City of Maribyrnong are described in Section 6 of this Strategy.

4.5.3b Stony Creek

As previously noted, the *Stony Creek Future Directions Plan (2011)* identifies the need to establish a continuous open space corridor along Stony Creek. The Strategy supports this and recognises that a continuous safe off-road shared trail system along Stony Creek is challenged by some major constraints. These include private land ownership, the narrow width of the open space corridor in some sections and the physical constraints of low road crossing culverts. This means that some sections of the trail will be on-road in at least the short to medium term. The existing Masterplan for Stony Creek Reserve in Yarraville is prepared within the context of these constraints, however the proposal for major recreational infrastructure in an open space that is significantly impacted by traffic noise from the Westgate Freeway and overhead transmission lines will be balanced during implementation with prioritising the linear corridor and cycle/walking path connections. Other key impacts on the future open space corridor along Stony Creek is the future Linking Melbourne Authority Western Tunnel Link project on Stony Creek in West Footscray and Tottenham precinct. The need for a linear open space corridor along Stony Creek, and recommendations to achieve this included in Section 5 and 6 of this Strategy.

4.5.4 Climate change

4.5.4a Overview

Open space is influenced by our changing climate and also has a role in mitigating and adapting to its effects. It has become increasingly important to focus on sustainability in all aspects of open space design, management and maintenance. The 13 year drought through the late 1990s to 2009 has seen greater emphasis placed on sustainable water sources to adequately maintain our open space in the future. Additionally, the other impacts of climate change that open space can assist to mitigate is urban heat island effect.

4.5.4b Urban heat island effect mitigation

For open space to maximise its effectiveness in mitigating urban heat it needs to be regularly spaced across compact urban form to counteract heat trapping characteristics. Open space provides breaks in the urban form to allow some radiant passive cooling at night. Appropriately designed to retain moisture in them with large canopy shade trees, garden beds and surfaces that retain moisture can contribute to the passive cooling of urban areas. This is a factor in the recommendations in this Strategy for the future provision of open space in the higher density precincts.

Land availability in the higher density urban precincts is and will be at a premium, and therefore the future designs for these spaces need to maximise their effectiveness in passive cooling. These spaces will include moisture retaining features/green infrastructure including broad canopy shade trees, garden beds, grassing and paved surfaces. The open space will need a sustainable water source, which also potentially increases the land area required to accommodate infrastructure for this if a broader sustainable water source cannot be identified.

Other additional features that can potentially contribute to passive cooling include water features and green walls on adjoining built form. For green walls, the ongoing maintenance costs and technology needed to ensure longevity requires further research to identify if these are a sustainable measure to include.

These spaces will also have an important role in providing safe cool open spaces for the community during hot weather - particularly for people who don't have access to air conditioning and for the frail and vulnerable in the community. To effectively provide for the frail and vulnerable, these spaces need to be within easy walking distance and designed appropriately. Recommendations to address this are included in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of this Strategy.

4.5.4c Sustainable water use in open space

The likely increase in severe weather events including extended droughts mean that open space may be impacted by water restrictions again in the future. The flow on effects of this recently meant there was a significant reduction in capacity of open space to accommodate high levels of use of the ovals and sports fields.

Council is already addressing this including in open space upgrades with the current program to convert playing fields to warm season grasses and utilising native and drought tolerant species in open space design. Other examples include car park upgrade works that incorporate WSUD at Hansen Reserve and Henry Turner Memorial Reserve (South).

There is potential to investigate sustainable water reuse of all aspects of the urban water cycle and achieve multiple benefits in open space design. Some of these projects have the potential to deliver improvements to biodiversity, urban heat island effect mitigation, landscape character diversity and visual interest in open space, along with delivering sustainable water reuse for irrigating and maintaining open space. These opportunities impact on the cost of undertaking open space upgrades and the Strategy includes design and management guidelines that encourage sustainable water use in Section 7.

4.5.4d Sustainable material use

The Strategy recognises that in recommending improvements and upgrade to open space, sustainable materials should be used where feasible. This includes recycled materials, those from sustainable sources and where appropriate with longevity and durability to minimise ongoing maintenance and replacement costs and material use. Future buildings and infrastructure design in open space is to minimise energy use, including consideration of appropriate siting and orientation to maximise passive cooling and heating etc. Refer to Section 7 of this Strategy for recommendations.

4.5.5 Contaminated land

Given the historical land use types in Maribyrnong including industrial and defence industries, it is likely that land for future open space will have levels of contamination. Land identified for open space use will need to demonstrate that the contamination can and will be treated to meet current best practice and relevant EPA Guidelines and legislation prior to confirming its suitability as open space and transfer to the City of Maribyrnong as open space. The assessment criteria for new open space include consideration of contaminated land as described in Section 5.2.1.

4.5.6 Biodiversity values

Historical land development patterns and extensive disturbance from the range of different land uses including quarrying, defence and industrial land use means the majority of the original landscape and remnant vegetation has been modified. The remaining areas of remnant vegetation are mainly located along the two waterway corridors and potentially remnant indigenous grassland values along the Braybrook railway reserve (outside of the existing public open space network). Other remnant vegetation may be located in urban renewal precincts and strategic redevelopment sites. The lack of any recent mapping of remnant

indigenous vegetation in the municipality makes it difficult to quantify these values.

There is potential for biodiversity values to be improved along the waterway corridors with further revegetation and construction of water quality treatment features. Revegetation will need to carefully consider sightlines and passive surveillance, as these open space corridors are a popular recreational resource as well. The lack of passive surveillance in some areas of open space along the waterway corridors is noted as a key reason some people in the community do not use them.

There is potential to improve biodiversity values in the waterway corridors in conjunction with Melbourne Water who is also planning revegetation works in both Stony Creek and Maribyrnong River over the next 5 years. Refer to Sections 5 and 6 for recommendations.

4.5.7 Cultural heritage values

Indigenous cultural heritage

While the Aboriginal archaeological sites in the Municipality are disturbed, they are nonetheless considered to be significant as they provide evidence of pre-contact Aboriginal land use in the City of Maribyrnong. These sites are to be appropriately protected and interpreted and the future open space design process will need to allow for this. Refer to the design and management guidelines in Section 7.

Non-Indigenous historical values

The historical character and value of open space is documented for the two major reserves, being Footscray Park and Yarraville Gardens, however they are not clearly noted for others. The social history associated with some reserves is not protected by heritage overlays, but is part of the character, particularly the industrial and working class history of the area. For example the presence of Trugo in some of the reserves as described in Section 2.24b is not protected and interpreted. The Strategy acknowledges this and requires some protection of these values as described in Sections 5, 6 and 7 of this Strategy.

4.6 Open space contributions

Financial contributions from development for open space provision and capital improvements can be required under both the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and *Subdivision Act 1988*. The City of Maribyrnong currently uses the Subdivision Act to levy contributions. It does not have a rate in the schedule to Clause 52.01 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.

There are two Development Contribution Plans in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme but these do not include funding for open space.

Section 18 of the *Subdivision Act 1988* sets out the requirements for open space contributions. Currently contributions are negotiated with applicants at the time of subdivision or else decided at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) on appeal. This includes a requirement to establish the need for open space as the result of a subdivision.

The monies currently collected through the *Subdivision Act 1988* are held by the City of Maribyrnong in a reserve account for open space contributions. The five year reserve fund transfers for the reserve account for the 2008/2009 to 2012/2013 Financial Years are as follows:

Table 4-8 Open space contributions 2009 FY - 2013 FY

Financial year	Contributions income	Contributions expenditure
2008/09	\$461,938	\$376,000
2009/10	\$584,200	\$851,177
2010/11	\$663,376	\$370,442
2011/12	\$1,219,380	\$58,096
2012/13	\$1,238,569	\$647,500
Total for five years	\$4,167,463	\$2,303,215

Under the current system, each contribution is assessed and levied individually and the contribution amount is subject to appeal at VCAT. This makes it difficult for Council to plan for certain works beyond the levels of historical contributions, and even then there may be a level of uncertainty as to whether the required funds will be contributed. Consequently there is not a systematic means of predicting what the open space contribution may be for a particular development or what will be collected over the next financial year (or years).

The current funding arrangement makes it difficult to proceed in any strategic manner for open space planning. The uncertainty about the level of contributions that will be received reduces Council's ability to adequately plan expenditure in line with contributions and to be confident of implementing an open space strategy, which seeks to respond to the needs of its incoming, new population on whose behalf the contribution is collected. The absence of a scheduled rate also reduces certainty for developers.

Council will use and refer to the sub-precinct analysis to identify potential optional sites where additional open space is feasible. This process described in Section 5.2.2 and is intended to when be referred to when reviewing proposed development plans or assessing planning applications.

There are likely to be situations where additional open space may require a combination of the above methods to achieve a suitable land area for use as open space – refer to Table 5-2. The purchase of developed land is the most expensive and least preferred option to achieve additional open space in the future, but may be the only method available in selected locations.

5. Municipal-wide recommendations

Sections 5 and 6 of this Strategy contain specific recommendations and actions to implement the Strategy. Each recommendation and action has been assigned the key agency or authority responsible to implement the action and a priority. Below is a list of the abbreviations used in the recommendation and action tables throughout Sections 5 and 6 of this Strategy.

Abbreviation	Description
AAV	Aboriginal Affairs Victoria
BCC	Brimbank City Council
MCC	Maribyrnong City Council
MW	Melbourne Water
PV	Parks Victoria
RAP	Registered Aboriginal Party
Vic Govt	Victorian government
VR	VicRoads

Where brackets are used, this indicates a support role rather than a key or lead role.

Priorities have been assigned to all the recommendations and actions in Sections 5 and 6. The priority indicates the timeframe within which each priority is intended to commence. The completion of the action will vary depending on its complexity and the rate of forecast change and growth. The broad priority time periods over the 18 year timeframe are:

Priority	Time period
Very High	Years 1 to 4
High	Years 5 to 9
Medium	Years 10 to 14
Low	Years 15 to 18
Ongoing	As required

5.1 The role and purpose of the different types of open space

5.1.1 Facilities and features for different types of open space

The Strategy identifies where and what type of new open space is required in the City of Maribyrnong. This is described in Section 5.1.2 and the precinct recommendations in Section 6 of this Strategy. Table 5-1 provides a guide for the typical facilities and features that are appropriate for the different types of open space as set out in the open space hierarchy in Section 3 of this Strategy. This table is to guide Council, developers and other agencies when planning future upgrades and designs for existing and new open space.

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

Table 5-1 Guide for appropriate open space facility and feature provision in existing and new open space by use hierarchy

Facilities	Regional	Municipal	N'Hood	Local	Small Local
Barbecues	✓	✓	✓		
Car parking	✓	✓			
Dog off-lead areas (unfenced)	✓	✓	✓		
Drinking taps	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Festivals and events - major	✓	✓			
Festivals and events - minor	✓	✓	✓		
Garden beds - feature/decorative	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Garden beds - to mitigate urban heat	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Large open grassed areas for unstructured recreational use	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Lighting (key linking paths and sports facilities only)	✓	✓	✓		
Paths - shared (cycle and pedestrian)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Paths - pedestrian	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Picnic shelters	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Playground - regional	✓	✓			
Playground - large	✓	✓	✓		

Facilities	Regional	Municipal	N'Hood	Local	Small Local
Playground - medium	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Playground - minor			✓	✓	✓
Public Toilets	✓	✓	✓		
Rubbish bins	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Seating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Skate/BMX facilities	✓	✓			
Structured indoor sport and recreation facilities including sports pavilions	✓	✓			
Structured outdoor sport and recreation facilities	✓	✓			
Trees - large canopy shade	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unstructured sport and recreation facilities (eg. multi-use courts, fitness equipment)	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Water features	✓	✓			
Water quality features and infrastructure, including sustainable water supply	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

5.1.2 Provision of additional types of open space

5.1.2a Additional Regional open space

The *Maribyrnong River Valley - A Shared Vision for a Vibrant River (2010)* identified the need for a continuous open space corridor along both sides of the Maribyrnong River. This Regional open space will be of benefit to metropolitan Melbourne, particularly as Melbourne continues to expand and grow to the west. This open space corridor is required as part of the broader regional network and is to be funded by the Victorian government as it benefits a wider community than the City of Maribyrnong. Therefore the cost for regional facilities in the corridor is not included in the open space contribution program proposed to be levied on development by the City of Maribyrnong as part of this Strategy.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.1A	Maribyrnong River Continue to advocate to the relevant Victorian government agencies for the future provision of Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River as shown in Figure 5A, and as shown in the <i>Maribyrnong River Valley - A Shared Vision for a Vibrant River (2010)</i> . This includes proactively liaising to achieve a new open space corridor adjacent to the	MCC (PV, MW, VR)	Very High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	Maribyrnong Defence Site, and adjacent to the Medway Golf Club. The new open space corridor is to be of an adequate width to provide for both protection and improvement of biodiversity values and recreational access. This includes adequate space to construct the shared trail, resting points with excellent visual and physical access between the existing urban areas, proposed development sites and the open space corridor. Future shared trail designs be consistent with the guidelines in Section 7.5.2 of this Strategy.		

5.1.2b Additional Municipal open space

The *Sustainable Sporting Surfaces Strategy (2013)* identifies the need for additional structured sporting facilities and open space for the forecast population in the City of Maribyrnong. Structured sporting facilities are provided in Municipal open space, which has a one kilometre travel catchment assigned to it. The spatial analysis undertaken for this Strategy identifies gaps in the spatial distribution of Municipal open space in Maribyrnong, Footscray and Tottenham as described in Section 4.3.3b. These gaps in distribution correlate with the two precincts where the highest population growth is forecast being Footscray and Maribyrnong.

Additional to the structured sporting needs of the forecast population, the need for a continuous linear open space along Stony Creek has been identified and described in Section 4.3.3 of this Strategy. The need for this link will increase as the population expands in the catchment of this waterway corridor and was reinforced by the consultation undertaken on the Draft Strategy. This linear open space is defined as Municipal open space in this Strategy rather than Regional, as it predominantly caters to the municipal-wide population and not a broader regional catchment of users. The Strategy includes recommendations for the provision of additional Municipal linear open space for the proposed shared trail and recreational access outside of the drainage reserve along sections of Stony Creek.

For the structured sport and recreation needs, the Strategy recommends two additional Municipal open spaces for this purpose. The land area and the provision of features and facilities for unstructured and informal use by the local community are included in the open space contribution rate calculations undertaken as part of this Strategy. The Strategy and contribution rate does not includes recommendations for the extent and type of structured sport and recreation facilities required in Municipal open space, as this will be determined by the sport and recreation area of Council. Funding for the structured sport and recreation facilities do not form part of the contribution rate in this Strategy. Refer also to Section 6 for the precinct level analysis and Section 7 for design and management guidelines.

The Strategy uses the opportunity to calculate a contribution rate for use in future years based on the land and capital works projects recommended in this Strategy. This will include all development in the municipality for which a contribution can be collected under the statutory provisions. Refer to Section 5.6 of this Strategy for the contribution rate.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.1B	<p>Stony Creek linear open space</p> <p>Require a linear open space reserve to be established along the length of Stony Creek. The linear open space is to be of a suitable width beyond the drainage reserve to achieve the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a shared trail that meets the design guidelines in Section 7.5.1 of this Strategy including widths, sightlines and safety in relation to waterway and floodplain environments. • Provide regular resting points with seating areas along the length of the trail. • Meet the CPTED principles regarding adequate entry and exit points into and out of the reserve. • Encourage passive surveillance and an active interface between the proposed open space corridor and adjoining properties. For larger development sites, the preference is for public roads to directly adjoin the waterway corridor to maximise visual and physical access for public safety and use. <p>Refer to Figure 4A for extent of gaps and the Stony Creek, along with the Future Directions Plan Update and the Stony Creek Masterplan.</p>	MCC Developer (MW, VR)	Very High
5.1C	<p>Municipal open space in the northern area of the municipality</p> <p>There is a need for additional Municipal open space to be provided primarily to meet the structured sporting needs of the forecast population. The location for the future Municipal open space will be identified through future planning processes in partnership with the Victorian government. Refer to Table 5-2 regarding assessment criteria for suitable land as public open space and 5.2.3 for optional methods to achieve the land area required.</p>	MCC, Vic Govt, Developer	High
5.1D	<p>Municipal open space in the central area of the municipality</p> <p>There is a need for additional Municipal open space to be provided primarily to meet the structured sporting needs of the forecast population in the central area of the Municipality. The location for the future Municipal open space will be identified through future planning processes in partnership with the Victorian government. Refer to Table 5-2 regarding assessment criteria for suitable land as public open space and 5.2.3 for optional methods to achieve the land area required.</p>	MCC Vic Govt Developer	Medium

5.1.2c Additional Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space

New Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space will be required in a range of locations throughout the municipality as identified in the precinct actions in Section 6 of this Strategy. These spaces vary in size and in some locations it is acknowledged it will be difficult to provide a single open space at the upper to middle range of the recommended sizes because of the established urban layout and patterns of development. Refer to Section 3 for further information about the role and size of Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space.

In order to identify future opportunity sites for the additional Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space, the City of Maribyrnong is to undertake further assessments of the sub-precincts where recommendations for additional open space of this type are included in this Strategy. Achieving additional open space may require identifying a combination of public and private land early in the planning process to inform developers as to whether the council will request a land or cash open space contribution. The assessments will be prioritised according to both the priorities in the Strategy and the level of development activity occurring.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.1E	For the high priority sub-precincts as described in Section 6 of this Strategy, undertake a detailed open space sub-precinct analysis to identify optional locations of the new Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space as recommended in the precinct Section 6 of this Strategy. The steps for the sub-precinct analysis are described in 5.2.2. Achieving additional areas of open space will require a combination of different methods as described in 5.2.3.	MCC	Very High
5.1F	For the lower priority sub-precincts as described in Section 6 of this Strategy, undertake a detailed open space sub-precinct analysis to identify optional locations of new Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space as recommended in the precinct Section 6 of this Strategy. The steps for the sub-precinct analysis are described in 5.2.2. Achieving additional areas of open space will require a combination of different methods as described in 5.2.3.	MCC	High

5.1.2d Links between existing and new open space

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

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.1G	As part of the open space sub-precinct analysis described in 5.1.2a and 5.1.2b, identify the potential links between the existing and future open spaces as one of the criteria to be considered in the location of future open space.	MCC	Ongoing

5.1.3 Zoning of the open space network

Where the land is currently zoned for Public Park and Recreation purposes (PPRZ) the database has included the total area of land zoned for this purpose. In some locations the zoning extends out into parts of road reserves, some of which are currently used as open space and others that are formed as roads. Other existing areas of open space are not currently zoned for this purpose. It is recommended that Council undertake a review of the extent of the existing PPRZ zones for its open space reserves. Where the open space extends beyond the cadastre boundary into the road reserve, the zone and open space boundary should be reconciled. It is also recommended that all open space reserves shown on the existing open space plan, Drawing MROSS-01, be rezoned in the future to PPRZ, and potentially the Public Conservation and Resource Zone (PCRZ) where this zoning is appropriate.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.1H	<p>Review the extent of the current PPRZ boundaries where they extend into the existing road reserves and by way of an amendment to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme, reconcile the zone boundary with the public open space use of the land.</p> <p>As part of the same process, include in the amendment to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme rezoning of existing open space to PPRZ or potentially PCRZ where appropriate, to be consistent with the open space shown on the Existing Conditions Plan MROSS-01.</p>	MCC	High

5.2 Provision of additional open space

5.2.1 Assessment criteria for suitability of land as public open space

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

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

Table 5-2 Assessment criteria for suitability of land area for public open space

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

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

Criteria	Description
	<p>this purpose. This may include existing council assets or land owned by other authorities. Conversion of public land is preferred where it eliminates the need to purchase land for public open space and this method will likely be used in a range of areas across the municipality as redevelopment progresses.</p> <p>Where land is privately owned, land can be acquired through open space contributions, generally at the time a site is redeveloped. Private land acquisition may be needed in some locations to create a functional open space of the size and configuration required for its intended role.</p>
Recreation	The potential for the site to accommodate a range of structured sport, unstructured recreation and informal uses. These can include field sports, play, walking, jogging, cycling, exercising, informal ball games, socialising, picnicking, sitting and dog walking.
Services/easements	Extent of other services and easements that would affect the development and use of the land as open space including roadways, overhead structures, water supply, power supply, flood mitigation and drainage.
Size	<p>The minimum size for the site to meet its intended purpose, on its own or in combination with adjoining land. Refer to minimum size parcels for each type of open space as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional, unlimited. • Municipal open space, generally a minimum of 3 ha, subject to the proposed municipal recreation facility located in it. For future linear open space along waterways the width of the open space corridor will vary. When measured from top of bank, the width needs to adequately demonstrate it can achieve the intended biodiversity protection and recreational use additional to the waterway and floodplain requirements. • Neighbourhood open space, minimum of 1 ha. • Local open space, minimum 0.26 ha (up to 0.99 ha). • Small Local open space, minimum 0.05 ha (up to 0.25 ha), with a minimum width of 20 m in at least one direction. • Small Local Link space, with a minimum width of 5 m.
Transport	The range of transport options for residents to easily access the site including proximity to public transport, linear shared trails, major roads and the street network, relevant to the size and anticipated catchment for the proposed open space.

Criteria	Description
Visibility	The site's visual prominence to maximise its use and contribution to the broader community. Generally, land is preferred which has at least two access points and local roads to at least two sides and is provided on natural ground.

5.2.2 Sub-precinct analysis for additional open space

This Strategy has identified where additional open space is required over the 18-year lifespan of the Strategy including the type of open space for each sub-precinct. The analysis is based on the extent of forecast land use change described in this Strategy. Some of the additional open space is to be provided primarily for the existing population, and others are proposed to meet both the needs of the forecast population and/or both.

The method therefore to secure additional land area as open space can be a combination of different mechanisms including the contribution of land area by larger redevelopment sites coupled with purchase of undeveloped land and conversion of public land to open space. This is explained further in Section 5.2.3 below.

This Strategy recommends undertaking a series of sub-precinct open space analysis for the sub-precincts where additional open space is required as identified in this Strategy. This analysis will identify potential opportunity locations to secure additional land that meets the recommended hierarchy type and the criteria outlined in Table 5-2 of this Strategy. The actions to undertake these assessments are included in Section 5.1.2, Actions 5.1E and 5.1F.

5.2.3 Methods to acquire/secure additional open space

It is anticipated that additional open space will be acquired via a range of methods including:

- A land contribution as part of future subdivision of land for development in the city.
- Conversion of land owned by the City of Maribyrnong from its existing use to open space, for example a road.
- Conversion of land owned by another government agency to open space.
- Purchase of undeveloped land, particularly where this may be negotiated with a land developer to add to an area of land being contributed on the same development site, or on an adjoining site so that a contiguous open space is created.
- Purchase of developed land if no other opportunities are available.

5.3 Quality of existing and new open space

5.3.1 Overview

The quality of the existing and new open spaces is integral to their value to the community and environment as part of the open space network. This Strategy has identified the need for improvements to nominated existing open spaces either in response to the site assessments and community feedback via the strategy open space survey or for the forecast population.

The recommendations below for new features or facilities in open space should be undertaken with reference to the design and management guidelines contained in Section 7 of this Strategy.

5.3.2 Biodiversity values

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3A	Prepare a Biodiversity Strategy for the City of Maribyrnong to update the 1999 study and guide the future management of these values through to 2031. This study is to include the identification and mapping of remnant vegetation and will assist council in to assess and recommend appropriate areas for future improvement of biodiversity values in the open space network. Specifically it will assist with planning for the provision of additional open space along the waterway corridors as referred to in Actions 5.1A and 5.1B.	MCC	Very High
5.3B	In future open space design and upgrades allow for protection of all identified remnant indigenous vegetation including remnant Native Grasslands, dead and dying trees. Allow for indigenous regeneration of remnant trees in association with the existing remnant vegetation, and additional indigenous revegetation. Request that for any future development sites with mature remnant indigenous trees, that the trees are retained incorporated into the future open space network. When assessing and considering appropriate sustainable water re-use and water quality treatment elements, consider the contribution the treatment options can make towards biodiversity values. This is particularly in relation to a water quality treatment wetland also providing opportunities to increase diversity of habitat environments that would not normally be introduced with some biofiltration systems.	MCC	Ongoing

5.3.3 Waterway corridors

Refer to Actions 5.1A and 5.1B regarding the provision of additional linear open space along the waterway corridors to provide continuous open space corridors. Refer to Actions 5.3A and 5.3B for overall improvements to biodiversity values that are applicable to the waterway corridors.

5.3.3a Maribyrnong River

Figure 2F illustrates the key additional links and connections required along the Maribyrnong River and described in Action 5.1A.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3C	City of Maribyrnong to continue to advocate to the Victorian government for the establishment of the Maribyrnong River Coordinating Committee as described in the <i>Maribyrnong River Valley - A Shared Vision for a Vibrant River, 2010</i> .	MCC (MW, PV, Vic Govt)	Ongoing
5.3D	Continue to advocate to the Victorian government to contribute to the construction of the shared trail along the City of Maribyrnong sections of the Maribyrnong River. This includes in existing open space and for the proposed additional sections in the future. Continue to establish alternative routes to overcome the gaps in the linked trail system in the interim via alternative on-road and/or off road trail links.	MCC	High
5.3E	City of Maribyrnong to liaise regularly with Melbourne Water to identify and prioritise future revegetation and other biodiversity protection and improvement projects along the Maribyrnong River. This will allow both organisations to better align priorities for works in different sections of the waterway.	MCC, MW	Ongoing

5.3.3b Stony Creek

Figure 2F illustrates the key additional links and connections required along the Stony Creek and described in Action 5.1B.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3F	Continue to implement the Stony Creek Masterplan (2011), including the design investigations to construct the shared trail system along Stony Creek in the existing open space corridor within the City of Maribyrnong. This includes constructing the trail within the existing open space corridor where feasible, or via an alternative system utilising the road network where it is not feasible or safe to locate the shared trail in the open space reserve. Where feasible, continue to liaise with existing land owners to encourage improved interface treatment to the Stony Creek linear open space corridor including improved	MCC (MW, BCC)	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	passive surveillance. Continue to improve the natural character and values of the Stony Creek corridor to encourage visitation and use.		
5.3G	Liaise regularly with Melbourne Water to identify and prioritise future revegetation and other biodiversity protection and improvement projects along the Stony Creek. This will allow both organisations to better align priorities for works in different sections of the waterway.	MCC, MW	Ongoing
5.3H	Council to advocate to the Victorian government and Linking Melbourne Authority to ensure that pedestrian and cycle connectivity is provided along Stony Creek as part of any future road crossings of the creek associated with East West Link Project.	MCC Vic Govt	High

5.3.4 Cultural heritage

5.3.4a Indigenous cultural heritage values

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3I	Any future works in open space with archaeological sensitivity that involves ground disturbance is likely to require a Cultural Heritage Management Plan to be prepared and approved by Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (AAV) and the approved Registered Aboriginal Party (RAP) under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006.	MCC (AAV/ RAP)	Ongoing
5.3J	Investigate ways to improve the understanding, protection and appropriate interpretation of Indigenous cultural heritage values of open space in conjunction with Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and/or the approved Registered Aboriginal Party.	MCC (AAV/ RAP)	Ongoing

5.3.4b Non-Indigenous cultural heritage values

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3K	Investigate the need for conservation management plans when required works are identified for all open space reserves with heritage overlays in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme as listed in Section 2.2.4b of this Strategy. Where these reserves require masterplans, ensure the conservation management plan is prepared prior to the masterplan to appropriately inform and guide future design recommendations and works.	MCC	Ongoing
5.3L	Review the need to add Heritage Overlays and/or other appropriate statutory controls to open spaces with identified heritage values to ensure that future works are consistent with these values.	MCC	High
5.3M	When undertaking any works in open space reserves that have not recently been modified, refer to the Maribyrnong	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	Heritage Review to identify whether there is a need to prepare a heritage impact statement. Examples of open space that may have heritage values that require protection additional to those with Heritage Overlays include the Alex Beaton Reserve in Yarraville, Footscray Trugo Club and the Sunshine Bowling Club in Braybrook.		

5.3.5 Community use and values of open space

5.3.5a Structured sport and recreation

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3N	Prior to each upgrade and replacement of facilities, assess the use levels and need for the facility relative to other competing uses. If it is assessed as still being required, then ensure the upgrade meets best practice design principles, and integrates multiple-use objectives for structured and unstructured recreational use where feasible in accordance with design and management guidelines in Section 7 of this Strategy.	MCC	Ongoing
5.3O	Prior to the construction of any new structured sporting facilities, the proposal will need to demonstrate the need for the facility and how it will be integrated with and meet multiple-use objectives of the open space, current trends in sport and recreation participation and will contribute to the use and value of open space. Refer to Sections 7.5, 7.6 and 7.7 of this Strategy.	MCC	Ongoing

5.3.5b Non-open space dependent facilities in open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3P	Any future proposals to upgrade or replace existing non-open space dependent facilities in open space (for example maternal child health centres) will need to demonstrate that options for their location outside of open space have been fully investigated. The larger open space reserves will increasingly be in greater demand for use as urban densities increase. Therefore, minimising any further loss of these larger spaces is an important determiner in future decisions regarding additional built facilities and use in the larger reserves.	MCC	Ongoing
5.3Q	Any future proposals for new non-open space dependent buildings in open space are to be actively discouraged. Any proposal will need to demonstrate that options for their location outside open space have been fully investigated. Where they cannot be located elsewhere, the proposal is to clearly demonstrate the net positive	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	benefits it will provide to the open space prior to approval.		

5.3.5c Unstructured recreation

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3R	Future unstructured recreation facility design in open space is to meet current best management practice in relation to sustainability, universal access and recreational use that is appropriate in the community and urban context of the open space. The overall aim is to increase health and wellbeing of the community by encouraging participation in outdoor activities. The design of open space needs to encourage this as well as provide appropriate resting areas so people can increase fitness levels, for example regular spacing of seats along shared trails so people can take a rest while they walk or jog.	MCC, (Dev)	Ongoing
5.3S	Maximise accessibility into and within open space when preparing design plans for upgrades to existing open space and for new open space. This includes addressing principles of universal access and diversity to encourage a range of activities that appeal to different age groups, gender, cultures and physical abilities in the proposed catchment of the open space.	MCC, (Dev)	Ongoing
5.3T	Prepare open space infrastructure style guide based on the guidelines included in Section 7 of this Strategy. The style guide needs to clearly promote the importance of diversity in open space character and design including responding to contemporary and historical values of open space along with the natural character and sustainability principles.	MCC	High

5.3.5d Informal use

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3U	Informal use of open space is to be integrated in the design and upgrade of existing open space. This includes facilities that encourage people to be physically active along with facilities that encourage people outside and into open space for their mental health and wellbeing including for social interaction, contemplation and relaxation.	MCC (Dev)	Ongoing

5.3.5e Natural features in open space

As urban densities continue to increase in and around the activity centres, particularly Footscray and Highpoint, open space will increasingly be valued for the break to built form that green open space can provide. The feedback in the open space survey identifies that trees are the most highly valued feature of open space, along with other values including escaping traffic noise and as an escape from built form. Other values for natural areas of open space ranked in the top 10 include the habitat values, green character and flowers and garden beds. Large canopy shade trees, open grassed areas and planting in open space provide a point of contact with nature for the community.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3V	In future upgrades to open space in and around high-density precincts, incorporate natural features so people can easily access this in an urban setting. Included in this is the presence of large canopy shade trees to assist with urban heat mitigation and as a respite for people to escape to in hot weather.	MCC (Dev)	Ongoing

5.3.5f Urban horticulture

Urban horticulture is already located in existing open space, ancillary open space and publicly accessible private open space. As described in Section 7, productive plantings have many positive features including encouraging people to grow their own food, socialise and be outdoors. They also create a single use of open space as they are generally fenced and dedicated to this specific use.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3W	Undertake an assessment of potential suitable sites for productive plantings/community gardens in ancillary open space, publicly accessible private open space and where no other options are available, public open space. Refer to the guidelines included in Section 7 to assess suitability particularly in relation to public open space. This will allow Council to identify a set of appropriate sites that can be promoted for use in the future if required. The assessment will include other Council owned sites such as neighbourhood houses, community facilities, railway land, road reserves, schools and church land consistent with guidelines included in Section 7 of this Strategy.	MCC	Very High

5.3.6 Environmental sustainability

5.3.6a Urban heat mitigation

Open space has an important role to play in mitigating urban heat and contributing to the ongoing health and wellbeing of the community. The principles associated with urban heat island mitigation are described in Section 4, with guidelines in Section 7 as well.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3X	All future open space designs are to incorporate the principles of passive cooling. This includes increasing the amount of porous surfaces, planting long-lived broad spreading canopy trees, garden bed planting, sustainable use of turf instead of paved surfaces, stormwater harvesting and reuse features.	MCC Vic Govt (Developer)	Ongoing

5.3.6b Sustainable water use

The recent extended 13 year drought in Victoria heightened the awareness and understanding of how valuable our water resource is. This same drought period also raised awareness of the significant impact urban heat island effect can have on the frail and vulnerable in our society, with increased mortality rates experienced during the extended heat wave conditions in early 2009. Therefore we need to plan for our open spaces to achieve a passive cooling function where feasible without reliance on unsustainable levels of potable water.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3Y	All new open space designs are to include the integration of sustainable water reuse. This includes investigating the feasibility to include opportunities for urban water cycling, harvesting and re-use of rainwater and stormwater. The multiple objectives to be achieved from this are to maximise the passive cooling effect of open space and maintain the natural turfed and grassed areas including planting and trees in open space with a sustainable source of water.	MCC, Vic Govt (Developer)	Ongoing

5.3.6c Water quality treatment wetlands

Water quality treatment wetlands achieve multiple benefits including treating urban stormwater to improve the quality of receiving waters, providing habitat for a range of native fauna, providing a landscape feature which creates an improved setting for people to enjoy. The multiple benefits of these features should be considered when determining future sustainable water reuse projects proposed either by the council directly or by developers in the city.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3Z	Habitat diversity and sustainable water reuse When investigating and assessing the feasibility for the most appropriate sustainable water reuse methods and infrastructure for open space, consider the habitat benefits and landscape character values that water quality treatment wetlands can provide as part of the assessment process. For example a wetland may improve the habitat values whereas a bio-filtration bed may provide a water quality treatment and aesthetic function.	MCC (Vic Govt) (Developer)	Ongoing

5.3.6d Carbon sequestration

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3AA	All future open space design is to maximise the use of long-lived trees for long-term shade and carbon capture. Where new open space can incorporate existing long-lived trees, it is to be designed to retain the trees. Existing mature trees in open space are to be protected and retained where practical unless it is demonstrated that their retention will significantly impact on the viability and useability of the open space.	MCC	Ongoing

5.3.7 Management and maintenance

5.3.7a Personal safety

Concerns about personal safety in open space is one of the key reasons why people nominate they don't use some of the existing open spaces in Maribyrnong. The key personal safety issues are the lack of passive surveillance, perception of undesirable activities occurring in open space and the neglected appearance of some open space reserves. As described in Section 4.5.2b the concerns are likely to be caused by a combination of design and management issues including ageing infrastructure, along with cleanliness and maintenance. Many of the safety issues will be addressed through appropriate design of open space, following CPTED principles. Increasing the use of open space by improving the design, management and maintenance will decrease the issues associated with lack of passive surveillance. Refer also to improvements to management and maintenance of open space in 5.3.7b below.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3BB	All future open space upgrades and new open space to incorporate the CPTED principles into all aspects of facility design - including sports pavilions, car parking, public toilets, shelters and other park infrastructure. An important consideration is future plant selection, placement, design and maintenance.	MCC, Developer MW, PV	Very High & Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3CC	Update the existing Public Toilet Strategy by assessing all existing stand alone public toilet facilities using the CPTED principles to identify changes to the design, management and/or maintenance of public toilet facilities to improve safety, condition and amenity of them. Develop a prioritised works program to implement the changes identified. Use the open space survey outcomes to inform the priorities for works. Future proposals for additional public toilet facilities will be in accordance with the hierarchy of open space outlined in Table 5-1 and to meet the design guidelines in Section 7.	MCC	Very High
5.3DD	Undertake an assessment of existing open space with regard to the CPTED principles to identify priority design, management maintenance issues to be addressed in open space in the interim as a priority to improve safety in open space.	MCC	Very High

5.3.7b Overall maintenance, condition and cleanliness of open space

The open space survey identified that one of the key issues in open space is the lack of regular maintenance and cleaning. In reviewing the comments in more detail, the main facilities that are associated with the comments regarding lack of maintenance include in particular public toilets and drinking fountains.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3EE	Undertake an audit of all existing drinking fountains in the municipality to identify a prioritised program for future upgrade and replacement. Use the consultation outcomes collected for the Open Space Strategy to inform these works that will be undertaken as part of the Asset Renewal Program.	MCC	Very High
5.3FF	Undertake a review of best practice management of litter in open space. This will include all aspects of litter control including the provision of bins in the different park types, bin design, bin placement and proximity to park entries and facilities, household rubbish collection and removal and recycling. This review is to refer to Table 5-1 regarding facility provision in different open space hierarchy and the guidelines in Section 7 of this Strategy.	MCC	Very High

5.3.7c Contaminated land

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3GG	Future proposals for additional open space will be assessed in accordance with criteria listed in Table 5-2 in this Strategy. Proposed open space will need to demonstrate that the land meets current best practice in relation to contamination prior to transfer to City of Maribyrnong as public open space.	MCC, Developer, Vic Govt	Very High

5.3.8 Design of existing and new open space**5.3.8a Design of existing open space**

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3HH	All future 'major upgrades' to existing open space as described in the Actions throughout the precincts, will require the preparation of an appropriate plan to guide the design and extent of the proposed changes. This is to ensure appropriate levels of consultation with stakeholders and the community are undertaken prior to undertaking major works in the open space. Refer to Section 7.11 regarding the appropriate plans and level of consultation for the different types of open space.	MCC (Developer) (Vic Govt)	Very High

5.3.8b Design of new open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.3II	All proposed new open space as described in the Actions throughout the precincts, will require the preparation of an appropriate plan to guide the design of them. This is to ensure appropriate levels of consultation with stakeholders and the community are undertaken prior to works commencing in the open space. Refer to Section 7.11 regarding the appropriate plans and level of consultation for the different types of open space.	MCC Developer Vic Govt	Very High

5.4 Changes to forecast population and development over the Strategy timeframe

5.4.1 Changes to forecast growth

The Strategy recommends projects to improve existing open space and add to the open space network. These are linked to the residential population forecasts and the development projections prepared by .id Consulting (refer to Table 4-1 and the precinct descriptions in Section 6). If there is a substantive change in the location or intensity of new development, then project priorities in proximity to those locations can be upgraded and implementation of these projects can be accelerated, taking into account the timing of the open space contributions that are collected. Alternatively, if change occurs at a slower pace or at a lower intensity than anticipated, then project priorities and implementation timetables may need to be revised.

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

5.4.2 Potential disposal of open space

5.4.2a New open space replacing the need for some areas of existing open space

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

- a) Assess the subject open space within a neighbourhood context. This analysis will need to assess all other existing and proposed open space within the walking catchment of the subject site. This is to clearly articulate the role of each open space, its size and level of existing and potential use (which may include an environmental role as well as community use) to determine the subject site's existing or future role in the local open space network.
- b) Assess the site in relation to the Criteria listed in Table 5-2.
- c) Consult with the community who would potentially be affected by any disposal of the subject open space in accordance with the distances nominated in Table 3(ii).
- d) If after steps (a), (b) and (c) the open space is still considered excess to requirements and the City of Maribyrnong intends to dispose of open space, land is to be 'sold only if the Council has provided for replacement public open space'. Refer to Section 20 of the *Subdivision Act 1988* for details.

5.4.2b Potential overlap in the provision of open space

The consultation and site assessment work completed for the project has identified that the City of Maribyrnong community highly value their open space for a wide range of reasons. The open space survey outcomes included a large number of comments that no further loss of open space should occur to development, that existing open space be retained and that there is a need to provide additional open space in some locations.

Opportunities may arise during the course of the Strategy implementation to acquire/secure a new piece of land that is highly suitable for open space and may potentially make a less accessible piece of open space nearby surplus to requirements. If this was to arise in the future, each case would need to be assessed at a detailed level as described in 5.4.2a, utilising the assessment criteria in Table 5-2, and all other relevant considerations outlined in Section 5.1. All cases would involve consultation with the local community.

5.5 Guidelines for development interface with open space

The amenity and function of open space is influenced by the land use, design, layout, built form and landscaping treatments on adjoining sites. Section 5.2 discusses the criteria for siting new open space. These criteria have been adapted to address development proposals on adjoining sites and they should also be applied as relevant to any site that has potential to influence the function of the open space.

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

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
5.5A	Adjoining development and development that may influence nearby open space Require relevant applicants for development to demonstrate compliance with the Guidelines for development adjoining or nearly open public space.	MCC	High & Ongoing

Guidelines for development adjoining or nearby public open space

(a) Accessibility to open space

- Design and layout of the site development should foster good public access to open space, particularly improved passive surveillance of the open space from adjoining development. Local public access roads to all sides of open space is the preferred delineation between open space and private property. The front of properties are to face the road reserve and the open space to provide passive surveillance and an active interface. This also achieves a physical and visual separation between the public and private space. In circumstances where it is clearly demonstrated that provision of a public road frontage is not feasible because of space constraints or the pattern of the existing road network, a public footpath or shared cycle/pedestrian path along the interface boundary instead of a road will be considered. Where this is proposed, front of properties and low fences are to be provided at the boundary of the public cycle/walkway to achieve an active interface and improve passive surveillance of open space. Refer also to (f).

(b) Amenity and function of the open space

- Design and layout of the site is to provide passive surveillance of open space. Buildings are to face open space and avoid blank walls (especially on lower floors) and high fences at the interface with open space. Passive surveillance

should be effective but not intrusive for park users or occupants of adjoining buildings.

- Design of the built form and site use should maintain and improve the amenity, function and use of the open space. Factors that could degrade open space amenity, function and use include excessive built form, creating a sense of enclosure, noise, light spill, traffic movements, car parking demand, wind effects or shadowing. In addition, the proximity of built form and building design should not allow undue transfer of noise from the open space into the development, thereby limiting the recreational function and uses that can reasonably occur in open space. Applicants may be required to supply studies demonstrating whether there will be positive or adverse effects on open space.
- The open space must receive a minimum of 3 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm during mid-winter and at least 5 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm on September 22. Where this minimum is not currently met, the development must not create additional shadowing of the open space.

(c) Characteristics and values of open space

- Design is to be compatible with and enhance where possible the recreational, ecological, social and cultural values of the open space. This is to include consideration of light and noise impacts from adjoining development on habitat corridor values.
- Built form and landscape treatments should maintain the ecological processes and biodiversity values of the open space and allow for opportunities to enhance these values.
- Built form is to demonstrate it will be sufficiently set back so as not to cause the need for lopping or removal of vegetation in public open space.
- Design of built form and landscape treatments should be compatible with heritage values of the open space.
- Landscape treatments should be compatible with the landscape character of the open space and its contribution to the character and attractiveness of the neighbourhood.
- Where sites adjoin waterway corridors or sites of identified biodiversity values, plant selection on development is to complement and improve these values including avoid use of any species that will lead to ongoing management issues on public land.

(d) Climate change mitigation in open space

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

(e) City of Maribyrnong policies about open space

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

(f) Delineation of open space and private land

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

(g) Ongoing maintenance and management of open space

- Development will not increase the ongoing cost and responsibility for the City of Maribyrnong to maintain and manage the open space.

(h) Open space contribution from development

- Development site adjoining existing or proposed open space is to be assessed for its suitability for an open space land contribution to create or add to the area of open space, or to create formal public linkages.

(i) Services/easements to be provided to an adjoining site

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

(j) Setback from site boundary

- Larger sites should allow for a setback from the boundary, relative to the height of the built form and/or topography so they do not adversely affect the amenity, function and use of the open space.

(k) Transport and car parking arrangements for the development

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

(l) Visibility of open space

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

5.6 Open space contributions

An important component of this Strategy is the review of the open space contributions program. The current program is based on contributions collected under the *Subdivision Act 1988*. A new, municipal rate of 5.7 per cent has been calculated for use in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme. This rate is based on the projects included in the Strategy and linked to population change in the municipality during the Strategy planning period to 2031. The Strategy establishes the need for all eligible subdivisions to contribute to open space.

The recommended rate of 5.7 per cent is based on an analysis of:

- The intensification of the population in Maribyrnong as evidenced by the forecast data, trends and strategic plans.
- The relative population and demographic change that will occur in different parts of the municipality.
- The current and future use of open space by residents and workers.
- The location, standard and size of existing open space.
- Identified gaps in the open space network.
- The facilities offered in open space.
- Recommended improvements for open space reserves and facilities.
- Cost to acquire and develop new open space.

Council will determine whether to use the recommended rate of 5.7 per cent in the schedule to Clause 52.01 Public open space contribution and subdivision of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme, or else use the rate as guidance in the subdivision process (which is capped at 5 per cent under the *Subdivision Act 1988*).

The type (hierarchy) of open space required in each open space sub-precinct, is described in the precinct analysis in Section 6 of this Strategy. Land contributions will be required by some subdivisions to achieve the additional open space identified as being required by this Strategy while others will be cash or in some situations a combination of both. The basis for a land contribution will be specified in the planning scheme should an amendment proceed, for example, through a local planning policy indicating the precincts where a land contribution may be requested (at Council's discretion) and the criteria these contributions should meet.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
5.6A	<p>Open space contribution rate in the Maribyrnong</p> <p>Implement a rate of 5 per cent for all subdivisions where the open space contribution is levied under the <i>Subdivision Act 1988</i>.</p> <p>Implement a rate of 5.7 per cent if the rate is included in Clause 52.01 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.</p>	MCC	Very High
5.6B	<p>Locations where land contributions may be requested</p> <p>Use the precinct recommendations to determine where</p>	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
	<p>Council may request an open space land contribution (at Council's discretion), so that land contributions are consistent with the recommendations for new open space and open space links contained in this Strategy. The locations for new land identified in this Strategy include the following open space planning sub-precincts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Braybrook 4 • Footscray MAC, and Footscray 1, 4, and 5 • Kingsville • Maidstone 1, 2 and 3a • Maribyrnong Highpoint Activity Centre and Maribyrnong 1 and 4 • Seddon 1, 3 and 5 • West Footscray 2, 3 and 6 • Yarraville 1, 2, 5, 9 and 11. <p>Council to request a cash contribution for the other subdivisions in these precincts.</p>		
5.6C	<p>Criteria for land contributions</p> <p>Ensure open space land contributions are able to meet the criteria contained in Table 5-2 Assessment criteria for suitability of land area for public open space.</p> <p>Where the size criteria cannot be initially met, Council to supplement a land area shortfall (for land otherwise meeting the criteria) through request, negotiation or purchase, or conversion of additional adjoining public land.</p> <p>Council will refuse land offers for open space contributions that are not able to meet the criteria contained in Table 5-2 or which do not further implementation of this Strategy. Council will request a cash contribution instead from these subdivisions.</p>	MCC	Ongoing
5.6D	<p>Cash contributions</p> <p>Request a cash contribution across the municipality when a land contribution is not required, or in combination with land to the value of the contribution rate.</p>	MCC	Ongoing

6. Precinct analysis and recommendations

6.1 Overview

The City of Maribyrnong has been divided into eight different precincts for the purposes of the open space analysis and planning. This allows the analysis and recommendations to be made at the more detailed level, and assist the user of the Strategy to refer only to selected precincts as required for more detailed information. The open space precincts are the same as those used for other planning projects in the City of Maribyrnong and for the Community Profile and population forecasting undertaken by .id Consulting for the Council.

The existing physical and social characteristics and forecast future change varies between the precincts. The forecast future change referred to in this Strategy is consistent with Council's direction as described in other planning projects. The forecasts are based on those provided by .id Consulting and published on the Community Profile website, current as at November 2013, along with the apportionment of these suburb level forecasts at a sub-precinct level by .id Consulting.

This Strategy has assessed the open space needs for the existing and forecast population described in each precinct, and made recommendations to address the open space needs of the forecast population if this change occurs.

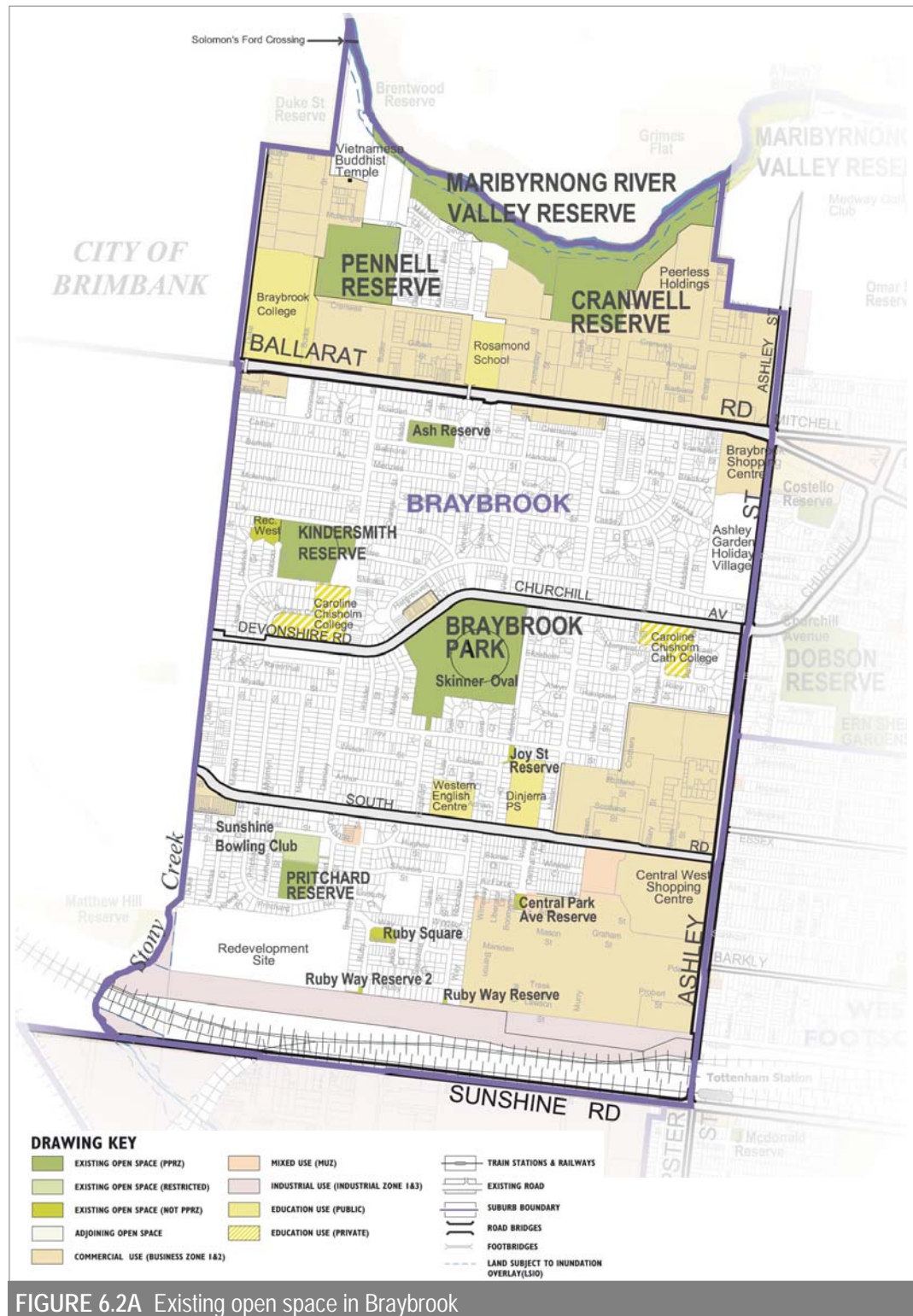
The precincts are listed in alphabetical order, and West Footscray and Tottenham have been discussed in one Section as they are combined in the .id Consulting population forecasts.

For abbreviations used in the action tables in this Section, refer to Section 5.1 of this Strategy. Refer also to Sections 5.3.8 and 7.11 of this Strategy regarding the preparation of appropriate plans to guide the design of new open space and major upgrades to existing open space.

6.2 Braybrook



6.2.1 Existing conditions



6.2.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space Braybrook

The Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve and Cranwell Reserve form the Regional open space in Braybrook. Cranwell Reserve is the key entry point to the Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve, offering expansive views to the north over the river valley and the open space system along with facilities including play and picnic that can be enjoyed in this setting. Further west, the Quang Minh Buddhist Temple and community centre adjoins the Maribyrnong River. There is potential for improved connectivity between the temple site and a continuous public open space reserve to the west linking to the future residential area of Sunshine North in the City of Brimbank. There is a small pocket of recently established residential use east of Pennell Reserve contrasting with the predominantly industrial and education land use north of Ballarat Road.

Within the central part of Braybrook between Ballarat and South Roads, Braybrook Park is the largest Municipal open space reserve surrounded by predominantly residential land use. Braybrook Park is popular for dog walking, relaxation, walking, visiting the playground and sport. The community garden, community centre and the custom designed major playground encourage unstructured and informal use of this reserve additional to the sporting use associated with Skinner Oval. This is the most frequently visited open space in Braybrook and the main suggestion for improvement is its regular maintenance and cleaning.

Kindersmith Reserve primarily caters to sporting needs of the community with an outdoor sports field and a major indoor recreation facility RecWest. The existing masterplan for this reserve guides future upgrades to the unstructured and informal recreational facilities and use. Pennell Reserve is the other Municipal open space in Braybrook that mainly caters to structured sporting needs and includes outdoor sports fields.

Pritchard Reserve and Ruby Square are smaller areas of open space located in the southern part of Braybrook. Ruby Square is a recently established Small Local open space for which people are requesting more trees, shade and barbecues. Pritchard Reserve is an older established Neighbourhood open space and the survey outcomes identify people would like to see a more diverse range of unstructured recreation facilities there. The Sunshine Bowling Club adjoins the northern boundary of Pritchard Reserve.

Just over 20 per cent of survey respondents nominated they do not visit some open space due to concerns for their personal safety. Uninviting and too far to travel are other key reasons people give for not visiting open space in Braybrook. Combined with the requests for improved maintenance and more facilities, the results from the open space survey reinforce the need for improvement to the quality of existing open space in Braybrook.

Ancillary open space

The Braybrook Railway Reserve is located along the southern boundary of the precinct and potentially provides some biodiversity values (Native Grasslands are noted as being present here in the Natural Heritage Study 1999). It also has the potential to become a key off-road shared trail link in the future between Tottenham Station and the redevelopment of the Beachley Street strategic site. This will assist to complete a regional shared trail link between Sunshine and West Footscray.

The Braybrook College sports field is located opposite Pennell Reserve and contributes to the open space character but is fenced from public access. The Rosamond School contributes to the open space character and Dinjerra Primary School provides some informal access after hours.

Land use and character

Braybrook is predominantly residential with a range of non-residential land uses including industrial, commercial, education and railway. The area has been developed over a range of time periods and includes areas of both private and public housing.

Central West Activity Centre is a major business and retail centre in the southeast area of Braybrook. The Central West Activity Centre Structure Plan (2008) guides major changes in land use, built form and public spaces in the centre. The structure plan vision for this centre is a major employment node, supported by complementary uses including shops, commercial and community facilities that meet the needs of local residents and employees. The Braybrook Industrial area on the north side of South Road is to be retained, however heavy industrial uses are encouraged in the central area with commercial use to the perimeter as an interface out to the residential land use.

The dominant architectural form is single storey detached dwellings ranging from the early 1940s dwellings through to predominantly 1950s style with a cul-de-sac layout contributing the residential nature and character of the area.

6.2.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in Braybrook

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for the quantity of open space in Braybrook:

- 34.77 hectares of open space
- 8 per cent of the total suburb area is open space
- 11 per cent of the total open space in the City of Maribyrnong
- 39 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013
- 1.04 hectares of restricted open space (Sunshine Bowling Club) excluded from the total area nominated above.
- Within 400 metres of the precinct, other major areas of open space include Matthew Hill Reserve in the City of Brimbank and Dobson Reserve in Maidstone. The precinct boundary to the west is formed by local streets and a

small section of Stony Creek, while the other boundaries include the railway, major roads and the Maribyrnong River. In the open space survey people nominate they travel to a number of different areas of open space in Sunshine.

6.2.1c Open space hierarchy and character in Braybrook

Table 6.2-1 List of existing open space type and character classification in Braybrook

Open space	Area Sqm (PPRZ)	Area Sam (not PPRZ)	Total Area Sqm	Total Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
ASH RESERVE	9,650	0	9,650	0.97	Local	Informal	
BRAYBROOK PARK	96,337	0	96,337	9.63	Municipal	Sporting	Community horticulture (restricted), Informal, Linking space
CENTRAL PARK AVENUE RESERVE	0	1,815	1,815	0.18	Small Local	Informal	
CRANWELL RESERVE	42,544	0	42,544	4.25	Regional	Informal	Viewing, Waterway
JOY STREET RESERVE	0	878	878	0.09	Small Local	Undeveloped	Linking space
KINDERSMITH RESERVE	33,936	5,934	39,870	3.99	Municipal	Sporting	Restricted sporting/recreation
MARIBYRNONG RIVER VALLEY RESERVE	89,574	0	89,574	8.96	Regional	Waterway	Linear
PENNELL RESERVE	51,505	0	51,505	5.15	Municipal	Sporting	Restricted sporting/recreation
PRITCHARD RESERVE	11,558	0	11,558	1.16	Neighbourhood	Informal	
RUBY SQUARE	0	3,296	3,296	0.33	Local	Informal	
RUBY WAY RESERVE	0	252	252	0.03	Small Local Link	Linking space	
RUBY WAY RESERVE 2	0	420	420	0.04	Small Local Link	Linking space	
Total open space	335,104	12,595	347,699	34.77			

6.2.1d Distribution of open space in Braybrook

Refer to Figure 6.2B on the following page.

Municipal open space is well provided for and distributed within Braybrook. Gaps in the provision of open space within safe and easy walking distance of the population occur in the eastern part of Braybrook as illustrated in Figure 6.2B.

The existing open space reserves in the western part of the precinct are accessible from the gap areas via the local street network, without the need to cross major roads or railways to reach it. While Braybrook Park is well used, other areas of existing open space are not as well used and have the potential to better cater to the needs of the existing and forecast population.

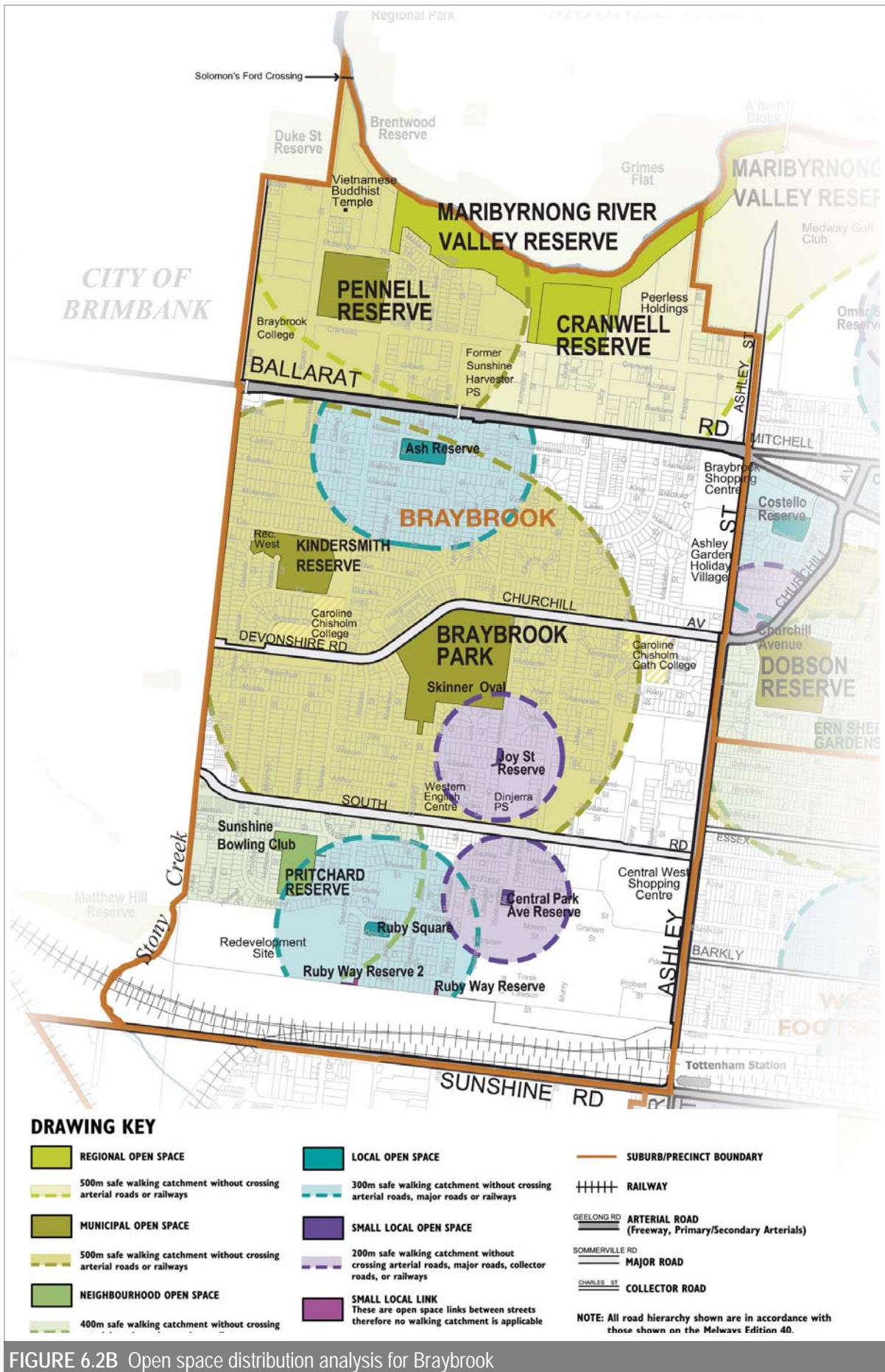


FIGURE 6.2B Open space distribution analysis for Braybrook

6.2.2 Community characteristics for Braybrook

6.2.2a Demographic summary and forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting, accessed November 2013

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 35 to 49 years, followed by 25 to 34 years and the 18 to 24 years. Compared with the municipal-wide average, there is a higher proportion of children under 17 years of age, a lower proportion of people in the 25 to 49 year age range and higher proportion in the 50 plus age range. In summary there is a higher proportion of families and lower proportion of young adults/student population.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- Proportionately there will be a decrease in the population aged 18 to 34 years, and to a lesser extent children under 4 years.
- Proportionately there will be an increase in people in the 50+ age range.

Household type:

Approximately 27 per cent of the households are couples families with children, 22 per cent are one parent families, 21 per cent lone person households and 20 per cent couples without children households. Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there are significantly more single parent households (10 per cent more than the municipal average of 11 per cent), and less lone person households and couples without dependents.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- Single parent families will remain at a similar proportion to the population.
- Couple families with children will decline slightly and lone person households will increase slightly as the population ages.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there are slightly more separate houses, less medium density housing, and significantly less high density housing in Braybrook. Approximately 61 per cent of the population live in separate houses, 37 per cent in medium density and 0.5 per cent in high density dwellings. Between 2006 and 2011, the proportion of separate houses declined slightly and the proportion of medium density housing increased with little change in the proportion of high density housing.

Total population (2013): 8,752*

Forecast population in 2031: 10,647* (Increase of 1,895)

**Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013*

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.2.2c.

6.2.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for Braybrook

A total of 86 open space surveys were received from Braybrook, which represents 4 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is lower than

the proportion of Braybrook residents in the Maribyrnong population, which is 11 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
36%	Braybrook Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Walking • Relaxation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular maintenance and cleaning required • Additional trees required • Additional lighting required
16%	Other open space*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Jogging/ running • Play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public toilets – provide more • Seating – provide more • Dog waste bags/ bins – provide more
13%	Kindersmith Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community hub/ meeting place • Sport - participate • Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQs – more required • Regular maintenance and cleaning required • Open grassed areas – more required
7%	Cranwell Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Relaxation • Being outdoors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQs – more required • Dog off-lead areas – enforcement required • Dog waste bags/ bins – more required
7%	Matthew Hill Reserve (City of Brimbank)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQs • Take children to the park • Close to home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playgrounds – safety fencing required • Regular mowing required • Paths – more required
Open space beyond walking distance			
10%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Diversity of open space • Close to work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Car park – additional required • Dog off-lead areas – enforcement required • Signage – directional required
9%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community hub/ meeting place • Open grassed areas • Large trees 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BBQs – more required • Car park – additional required • Drainage – improvements required
5%	Brimbank Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Café and kiosk facilities • Dog walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rubbish bins – more required • Rubbish bins – to be emptied more frequently

*Other open space is nearby open space where the park name was not nominated.

Types of open space used (top four):

73% Maribyrnong River
70% Local streets for exercise
66% Large parks and gardens
63% Small local parks.

Values (top four):

66% Trees
64% Place for kids to play
62% Place to relax and unwind
49% Health and wellbeing.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

79% Walking paths
62% Open grassed areas
62% Seats
53% Playgrounds.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- Walking paths are the most frequently used facility, followed by open grassed areas and seats.
- 38 per cent of respondents identified there are not enough walking paths and 30 per cent identified there are not enough unstructured outdoor recreation facilities.
- More than 40 per cent of respondents identified that public toilets, barbecues, picnic tables, drinking fountains and seats are not well provided for.
- More than 50 per cent respondents were satisfied with the maintenance of walking paths, however this is 13 per cent lower than the municipal average.
- Only 40 per cent of Braybrook respondents were satisfied with the maintenance of open grassed areas for informal use, compared to the Municipal average of 59 per cent.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 36% of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:
 - 65% Concerned about personal safety
 - 45% Too far to travel
 - 39% Uninviting
 - 29% Lack of time.

General comments:

- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space is required.
- Improve safety in open space.
- Provide additional public toilets.
- Provide more cycle paths and shared paths.
- Provide more informal and unstructured recreation facilities.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 16 per cent of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- Over 90% of those who work in the City of Maribyrnong do visit open space near their work place. The reasons include:
 - 17 Fitness/exercise (informal)
 - 14 Being outdoors as a break from work
 - 05 Cycling/jogging/walking to and from work

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

6.2.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in Braybrook

The implications of the forecast demographic and population change on open space is that future facility and open space design will continue to be relevant to family households, particularly the needs of single parent households with children under the age of 17. The forecast population is more likely to be living in medium density dwellings in the future if current trends continue, and there will be 1,900 additional residents in the precinct.

This Strategy aims to increase the diversity of facilities to encourage people of all ages including family groups out into open space. With an increase in single parent households forecast, safety and adequate maintenance levels in open space will be a focus for improvements along with making sure open space is within safe walking distance of most residents so that older children can independently go to open space without the need to cross major roads. This will specifically respond to the forecast increase in single parent households with children less than 17 years of age.

6.2.3 Future change in Braybrook

6.2.3a Summary of future change

The forecast residential population change in Braybrook represents a 22 per cent increase in the total population with a forecast increase of approximately 1,900 people by 2031. Approximately 1,400 of the forecast additional residents will be located in the strategic site on Beachley Street in the south west area of Braybrook and the remaining approximately 500 additional residents will be located through the precinct. No other strategic sites have been nominated by .id Consulting in the forecast population breakdown for this precinct.

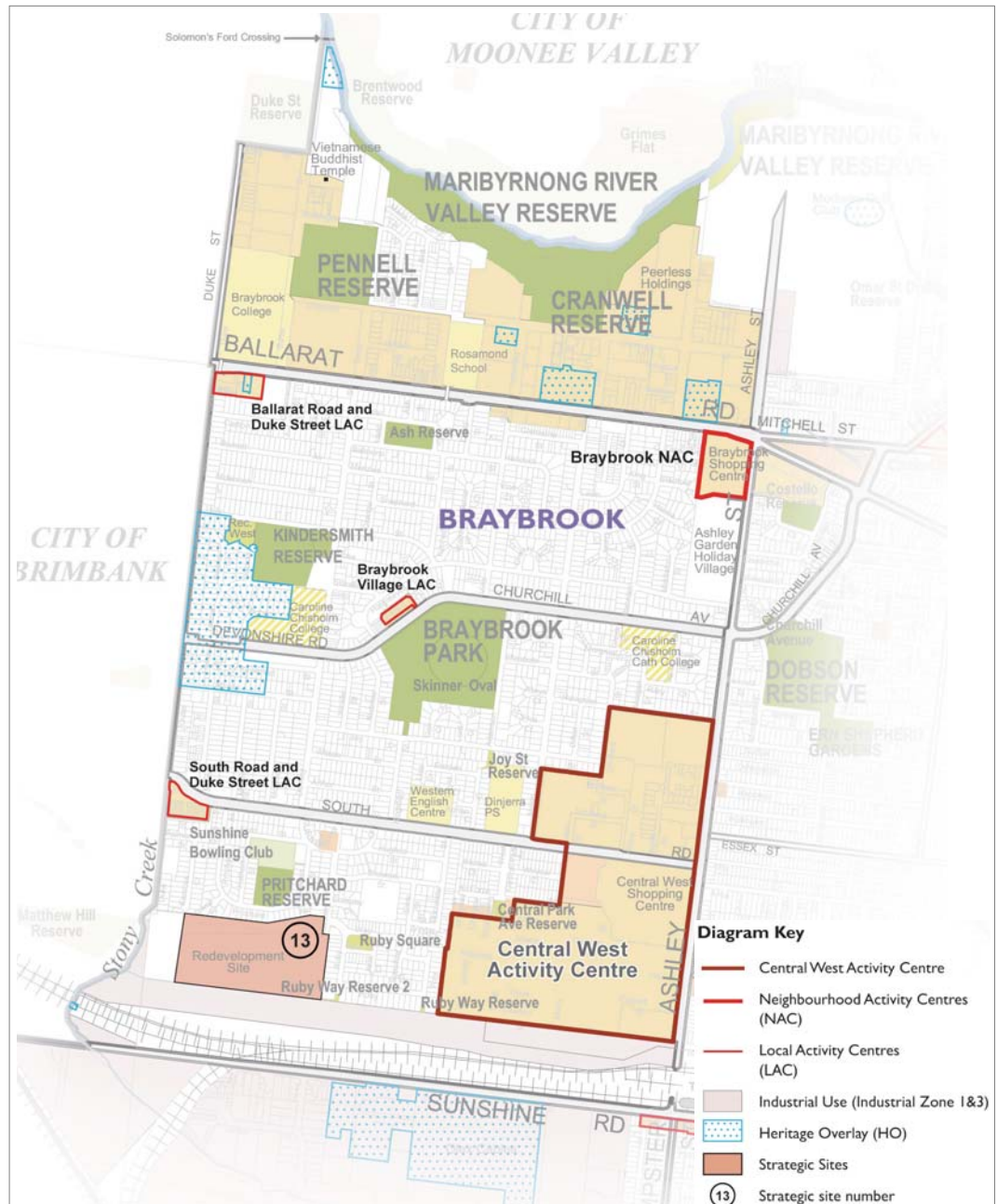


FIGURE 6.2C Future change for Maribyrnong

6.2.3b Implications of future change on open space planning

Activity Centres

Central West Activity Centre

Location and brief description	Existing open space provision
Located in the southwestern area of Braybrook, the Central West Activity Centre is predominantly non-residential land use within the centre and residential use outside the centre boundaries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Central West Business Park has publicly accessible private open space around the buildings and planted treatments to the entry roads and car parking areas, however there is no public open space in the Centre.

Location and brief description	Existing open space provision
The Structure Plan reinforces its key role as an employment node supported by complementary uses including shops, commercial and community facilities. The plan promotes cycling and walking to and within the streetscapes of the centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Central West Retail Plaza has wide median strips around the perimeter of the car park, but no public open space. Braybrook Industrial area to the north has no open space.

Braybrook Neighbourhood Activity Centre

Location and brief description	Existing open space provision
<p>The centre includes privately owned at grade car parking, a supermarket and other large retailers.</p> <p>Immediately to the south of the NAC is the Ashley Gardens Holiday Park, providing cabins and caravan accommodation. This is identified in the <i>Mariybrnong Housing Strategy (2011)</i> as a substantial change area, however this is not identified as a strategic site in the .id Consulting forecasts.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No open space located within the NAC catchment or within walking distance of this activity centre. People working at this NAC are currently not within easy walking distance to any public open space. Visitors and workers in the Ashley Gardens Holiday Park do not have easy access to any existing public open space.

Key strategic sites

Former DAS Site, Beachley Street, Braybrook

This site is located adjacent to the railway line in the south western part of Braybrook in Gap area B4. It is forecast to have a future residential population of approximately 1,400 by 2031. The recently approved development plan includes a new Local open space adjacent to Stony Creek, adjacent to an existing area of public land adjacent to the creek.

6.2.4 Sub-precinct analysis of open space provision including gap areas

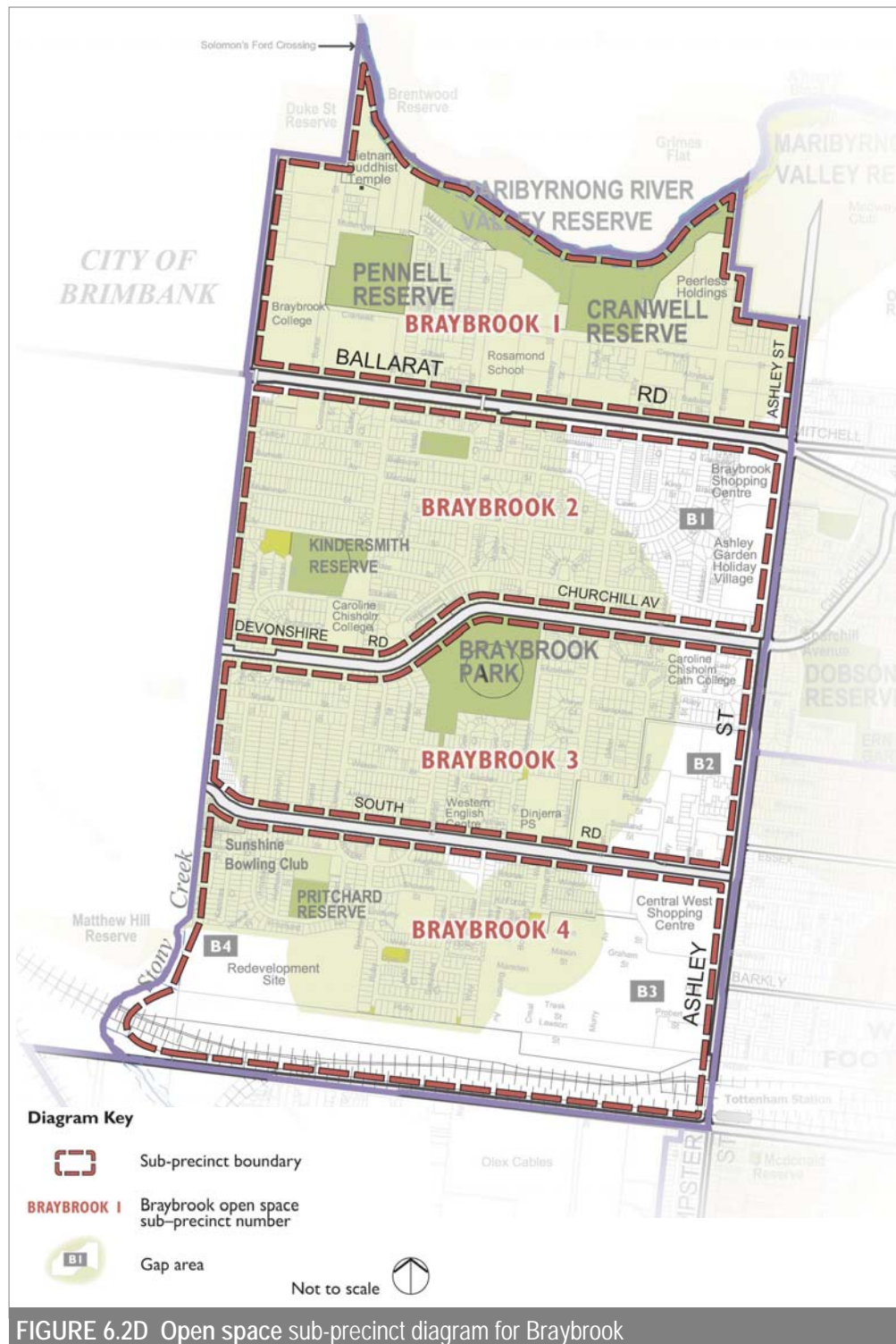


Table 6.2-2 Open space sub-precinct analysis for Braybrook

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
Braybrook 1	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located north of Ballarat Road. • Land use is a combination of industrial, residential, education and open space. • Existing open space includes Pennell Reserve, Cranwell Reserve and the Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve. • The only location identified for forecast residential growth is in the north west of this sub-precinct. • There is major residential development occurring in Sunshine North to the north west in the adjoining City of Brimbank. • There are no gaps in open space distribution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A future Regional open space link along the Maribyrnong River is to be established adjacent to the Temple and upstream of the municipal boundary linking to Sunshine North. There is also an intention to continue the Regional open space downstream through Medway Golf Club, which is described in Maidstone Precinct, Section 6.5. • Continue to implement ongoing improvements to open space by implementing existing masterplans. • As the residential population in Sunshine North (City of Brimbank) grows and the shared trail connection is made along the Maribyrnong River, Cranwell Reserve will provide a key regional entry point to the Maribyrnong River Linear Reserve, and has been classified as such in anticipation of this.
Braybrook 2	B1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Between Ballarat Road and Churchill Avenue. • Existing open space includes Kindersmith and Ash Reserves. • This is a residential area with commercial use in the Braybrook Neighbourhood Activity Centre (refer to previous description in 6.2.3b). • Gap Area B1 is located in the east of the sub-precinct and in the catchment of the Braybrook NAC. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate options to improve access to the existing open space via the local street network to address Gap Area B1. • Improve the quality of existing open space primarily for the existing population. • Implement the existing concept plan for the Kindersmith Reserve.
Braybrook 3	B2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between Churchill Avenue and South Road. • Open space includes Braybrook Park and Joy Street Reserve. • The northern industrial area of the Central West Activity Centre is located in the east of this sub-precinct • Gap Area B2 is located to the east including in the catchment of Central West Activity Centre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While located further than 500 metres from the Gap Area B2, Braybrook Park and Joy Street Reserve can be reached via the local street network. • To address Gap Area B2, upgrade Joy Street Reserve along with ongoing improvements to the streetscape amenity in the local street network to improve the journey to Braybrook Reserve and Joy Street Reserve.

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
Braybrook 4	B3 and B4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between South Road and the railway line. • Includes the Central West Activity Centre with the retail and business component of this centre located in Gap area B3. • West of the Activity Centre is Gap Area B4 and the Beachley Street strategic site where an additional 1,400 residents are forecast to live, as described previously in Section 6.2.3b. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Central West Activity Centre Structure Plan identifies a range of streetscape improvements as part of the plan and improvements to the publicly accessible private open space. • With the development of the Beachley Street Site there is potential for the Braybrook Rail Corridor to form an important regional east west shared trail link between West Footscray and Sunshine. This is ancillary open space. • A new Local open space is proposed on the Beachley Street Strategic Site adjacent to Stony Creek that will address Gap Area B4. • Additional to the Local open space, a future Small Local Link is proposed to the north of Beachley Street development site to provide good connectivity between the established residential area, Pritchard Reserve and the proposed Strategic site. • The additional 1,400 residents at the Beachley Street Site are anticipated to increase demand for neighbourhood level facilities, and therefore an upgrade to Pritchard Reserve is proposed to cater to these needs.

6.2.5 Recommendations for Braybrook

6.2.5a Summary of the overall intent

Provision and distribution of open space

The provision of open space is adequate in the majority of Braybrook, with the exception of the southern area. The three gap areas in the north and central parts of Braybrook will be addressed through improved connectivity and amenity in the local residential street network to existing open spaces.

Additional open space for the forecast population of approximately 1,400 in the major Beachley Street Strategic Site is proposed to address the gap area in the south with a new Local open space adjacent to Stony Creek. Other improvements in the provision of open space include access from the Beachley Street Strategic Site into the Braybrook railway reserve, which is planned to include a shared trail that connects West Footscray to Sunshine in the future. Also recommended is an open space link to the north so that future population in the Beachley Street site has direct access to neighbourhood level open space facilities in Pritchard Reserve.

The remaining forecast residential population of approximately 500 in Braybrook will be located through the remainder of the precinct, and their open space needs will be addressed through upgrades and improvements to the existing open space network.

Quality and design of open space

The excellent provision of structured sporting facilities in the precinct will be complemented with recommended improvements to achieve a diversity of facilities for unstructured and informal use and improve the overall character of open space. Council has already prepared masterplans for key open spaces, including Cranwell Reserve, Pennell Reserve and Kindersmith Reserve, and upgrades to these spaces are planned over the 18 year lifespan of this Strategy.

Other actions include an upgrade to Pritchard Reserve with neighbourhood level facilities to meet the forecast additional population concentrated into the south west part of Braybrook; and upgrades to Joy Street Reserve and Braybrook Park to increase the value and use of these open spaces.

6.2.5b Precinct actions for Braybrook

The priorities in the action tables provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development. For abbreviations in the action tables, please refer to the glossary.

A Additional open space

No additional open space or capital works to develop new open space is required based on the assumption that open space has already been provided for on behalf of the forecast population at the Beachley Street strategic site.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2A-1	Continue to implement the <i>Maribyrnong River Valley Shared Vision for a Vibrant River</i> , including to secure additional Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River to achieve a continuous publicly owned open space corridor between Cranwell Reserve and the municipal boundary with the City of Brimbank. (Note, this Regional open space is not included in the open space contribution rate as it is primarily for regional values and use).	MCC	High
6.2A-2	Provide a new Local open space primarily for the forecast population on the Beachley Street Strategic Site.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.2A-3	Provide a new Small Local Link between the Beachley Street Strategic Site and the established residential area to the north to provide access to the existing Neighbourhood open space, Pritchard Reserve*.	MCC Developer	Very High

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this Section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2B-1	Improve the accessibility and amenity of the streetscapes in Gap Area B1 to establish improved on-street links via the residential street network to Ash and Kindersmith Reserves.	MCC	Medium
6.2B-2	Improve the accessibility and amenity of the streetscapes in Gap Area B2 to establish improved on-street links via the residential street network to Joy Street Reserve and Braybrook Park.	MCC	Medium
6.2B-3	Establish an off-road shared trail connection on the railway land along the southern boundary of Braybrook to improve the regional trail link between West Footscray and Sunshine.	MCC, VicTrack	Very High

6.3.6c Actions for existing individual open spaces in Braybrook

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2C-1	<p>Cranwell Reserve</p> <p>With improved connectivity to the Maribyrnong River Linear Reserve, Cranwell Reserve has the potential to strengthen its role as a destination point on the linear open space system with regional facilities including play, picnic, barbecue and viewing areas taking advantage of the spectacular views.</p> <p>The recently completed upgrades will be better utilised when the linear open space connectivity upstream into Sunshine along the Maribyrnong River is implemented. Continue to progressively undertake minor upgrades to Cranwell Reserve to reinforce its role as a major unstructured recreation and informal social open space, with a focus on a range of facilities for older age groups to complement the play facilities and the structured sporting use at Pennell Reserve.</p>	MCC	Medium
6.2C-2	<p>Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve</p> <p>Continue to implement the existing masterplan for this reserve, which comprises minor upgrades over the lifespan of this Strategy.</p>	MCC	Medium

D Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2D-1	<p>Braybrook Park</p> <p>Continue to implement the existing masterplan for this Park. Minor additional works required include planting additional canopy shade trees, ensuring open view lines are retained into and within the open space.</p>	MCC	High
6.2D-3	<p>Kindersmith Reserve</p> <p>Continue to implement the existing Kindersmith Masterplan, improving the unstructured recreation and informal facilities with a focus on incorporating CPTED principles in future detailed design and implementation.</p>	MCC	High
6.2D-4	<p>Pennell Reserve</p> <p>Continue to encourage structured sport and recreational use at Pennell Reserve, complementing the unstructured recreation and informal uses at Cranwell Reserve in this precinct. Undertake minor improvements to the local facilities and use in this reserve where they are primarily</p>	MCC	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	for the informal use by the local community. Note, upgrades for any structured sporting use required are not included in the open space contribution rate calculated for this Strategy.		

E Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2E-1	Pritchard Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* of Pritchard Reserve to meet the unstructured recreation and informal use needs of the forecast 1,400 population at the Beachley Street Strategic Site.	MCC Developer	High

F Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2F-1	Ash Reserve In the short term continue to maintain, and in the longer term undertake minor upgrades including additional shade trees and seating to improve its character and use.	MCC	Low
6.2F-2	Ruby Square Undertake minor upgrade to improve play area and access to the park and some large canopy shade trees to improve the character of the reserve.	MCC	High

G Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2G-1	Central Park Avenue Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.2G-2	Joy Street Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to convert this road closure into a Small Local open space reserve, expanding its role from providing the pedestrian link to Dinjerra Primary School to include other features such as shade trees, seating and a small play feature.	MCC	High

H Small Local Link

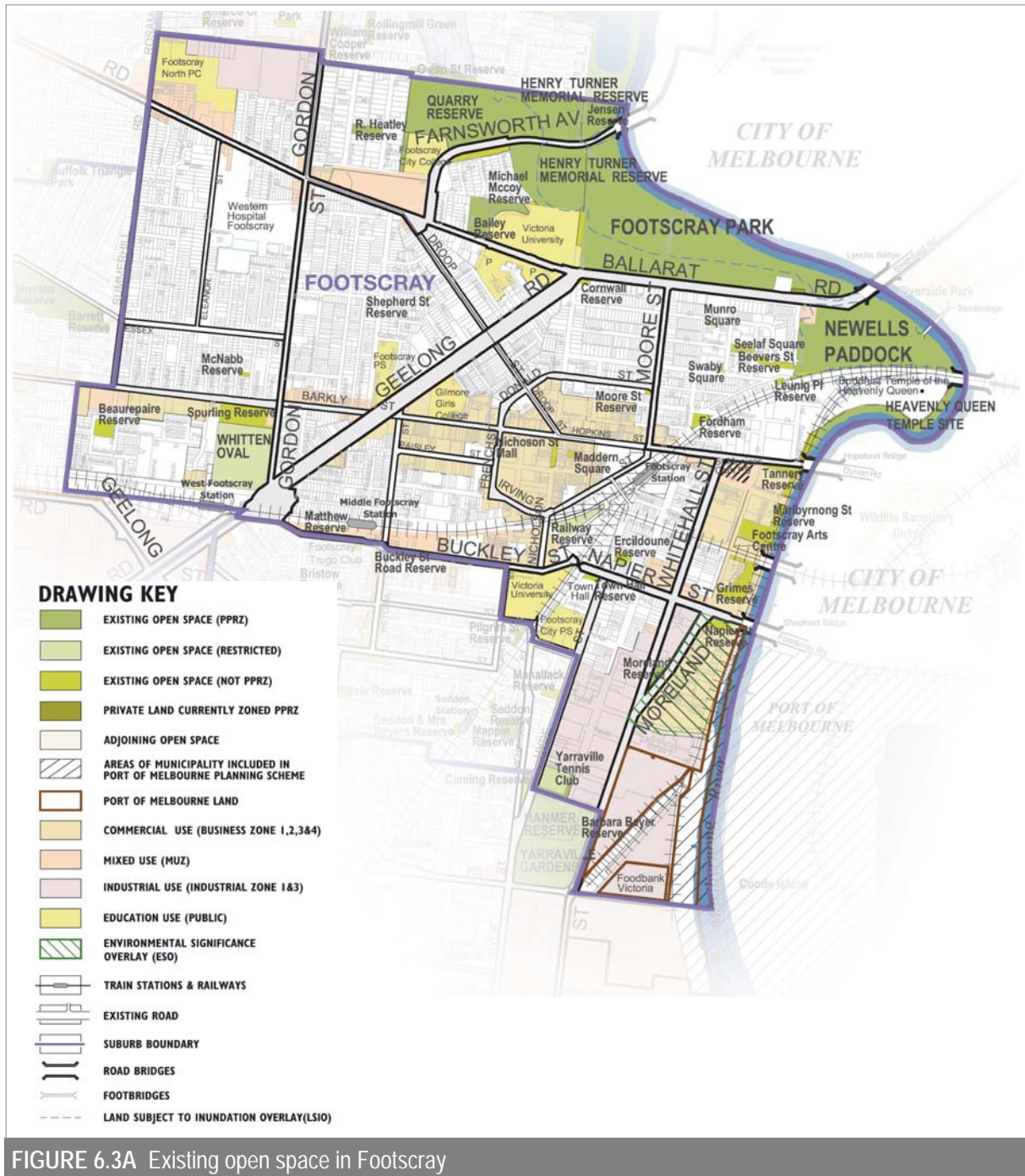
No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.2H-2	Ruby Way Reserve and Ruby Way Reserve 2 These spaces will provide important links into a future east-west linear link along the Braybrook Railway Reserve, if this is constructed in the longer term.	MCC	Ongoing

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

6.3 Footscray



6.3.1 Existing conditions



6.3.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space Footscray

Footscray Park is the most frequently visited open space in the whole municipality and is one of the City of Maribyrnong's signature parks. Located on the Maribyrnong River it combines an historical botanical garden with strolling paths in the more elevated areas of the park with playing fields in the lower areas. Footscray Park is of State heritage significance recognised as a fine example of an Edwardian styled garden, designed in 1911 and many of the original trees and built features are present today. The Maribyrnong River shared trail traverses its northern boundary and the park provides spectacular views towards Melbourne and over Flemington Racecourse.

Henry Turner Memorial Reserve South directly adjoins Footscray Park to its north, primarily providing structured sports facilities including sports fields and tennis courts. North of Farnsworth Road the open space system along the Maribyrnong continues with Jensen Reserve, extending north into Maribyrnong with the more recently established and popular Burndap Park. Henry Turner Memorial Reserve North provides structured sports facilities in contrast to the adjoining Quarry Reserve, which is as its name suggests a former quarry site and offers spectacular views over Footscray and the Maribyrnong River towards the Melbourne Central Business District.

The regional open space system along the Maribyrnong continues south of Footscray Park, changing in character from the formal Edwardian style gardens of Footscray Park to the wetland and natural character of Newells Paddock. The linear open space continues south past the Buddhist Temple of the Heavenly Queen and links to the more constructed historical section of the waterway associated with the Footscray Wharves. Tannery and Grimes Reserves are of historical significance to the State and listed on the Victorian Heritage Register in recognition of their links with the earliest stages of Melbourne's establishment including the Saltwater River crossing site. The Footscray Community Arts Centre is also of State heritage significance and has contemporary cultural significance playing host to festivals and events in conjunction with other open space along the Maribyrnong River. This series of open spaces adjoin the waterway corridor and are well used by workers, visitors and residents alike. While they are distinct spaces, their regional classification and context is attributed to them in recognition of their role along the Maribyrnong River corridor.

Away from the Maribyrnong River, Whitten Oval is the home of the AFL Western Bulldogs and while the oval itself is not available to the general public to use, the VUT Whitten Oval Stadium at the site provides indoor sport and recreation facilities that are available for public and club based use. Indoor sports include basketball, futsal, netball, volleyball and badminton. Spurling Reserve on the northern side of the reserve is available for the public to use.

In the residential areas of Footscray a series of Small Local open spaces complements the larger Regional and Municipal open spaces, however there are gaps in their provision. In the central area the existing open spaces include

Nicholson Street Mall and Maddern Square, both of which receive some negative feedback in the in open space survey. Their urban context, the broader social and economic conditions of central Footscray and design contribute to community concerns expressed in the surveys.

The Footscray Community Arts Centre, located on the Maribyrnong provides a direct contrast in terms of urban and cultural context and this, coupled with the open space and shared trail along the Maribyrnong River provides a vibrant and popular open space precinct for both workers and residents.

Ancillary open space

The Footscray Park campus of Victoria University provides an ancillary open space role for students and the general public. Footscray Primary School is also well used as ancillary open space with the open space survey identifying this as a nearby open space people regularly visit. Council currently contributes to the maintenance of the oval in the school in recognition of the community use of this ancillary open space. Other than a Small Local linking space in Shepherd Street, there is no other existing open space within safe easy walking distance of the community in this sub-precinct.

Land use and character

The vibrancy and character of Footscray is in part created by different land use characteristics. This land use is changing and will continue to change through to 2031. The recently announced concept of Footscray becoming a University Town will shape and influence the land use characteristics in the central business area over this period as well.

The Port of Melbourne will continue as a major land use on the Maribyrnong River. Recent planning approvals and forecast change suggest that multi-level apartments will continue to increase and house the forecast population increase of approximately 15,000 people by 2031.

6.3.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in Footscray

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for quantity of open space in Footscray:

- 64.38 hectares of open space.
- 13 per cent of the total suburb area is open space.
- 21 per cent of the total open space in the municipality.
- 41 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013.
- 7 hectares of restricted open space including Whitten Oval, Footscray Bowling Club and Railway Reserve.
- Within 400 metres of the precinct, other major areas of open space include Burndap Park to the north, Barrett and Shorten Reserve to the west and Yarraville Gardens to the south.

- The majority of open space in this precinct is located along the river and is not easily accessible from the central urban areas of Footscray.

6.3.1c Open space hierarchy and character in Footscray

Table 6.3-1 List of existing open space type and character classification

Open space	Area Sqm (PPRZ0)	Area Sqm (Not PPRZ)	Total Area Sqm	Total Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
BAILEY RESERVE	10,777	415	11,192	1.12	Municipal	Restricted sportin/recreation	
BEAUREPAIRE RESERVE	0	4,584	4,584	0.46	Local	Formal (native)	Wetland/WSUD, Public square, Informal
BEEVERS STREET RESERVE	0	3,224	3,224	0.32	Local	Linear	Heritage
BUCKLEY STREET ROAD RESERVE	0	195	195	0.02	Small Local	Significnat Road Reservation	Undeveloped
CORNWALL RESERVE	0	797	797	0.08	Small Local	Significnat Road Reservation	Cultural
DAVID MATTHEWS PARK	0	590	590	0.06	Small Local	Cultural	Informal
ERCILDOUNE RESERVE	0	2,118	2,118	0.21	Small Local	Urban plaza	Formal (Exotic), Informal
FOOTSCRAY ARTS CENTRE	0	6,790	6,790	0.68	Regional	Heritage	Cultural
FOOTSCRAY PARK	218,853	2,432	221,285	22.13	Regional	Heritage	Waterway, Sporting, Cultural, Botanical
FORDHAM RESERVE	0	2,370	2,370	0.24	Small Local	Informal	Railway easement/siding, Play
GRIMES RESERVE	0	10,040	10,040	1.00	Regional	Heritage	Linear
HEAVENLY QUEEN TEMPLE SITE (Linear open space along the Maribyrnong River)	21,206	1,784	22,990	2.30	Regional	Waterway	Cultural, Linear
HENRY TURNER MEMORIAL RESERVE (SOUTH)	54,800	5,753	60,553	6.06	Municipal	Sporting	Wetland/WSUD
HENRY TURNER MEMORIAL RESERVE (NORTH)	46,781	0	46,781	4.68	Municipal	Sporting	Informal
JENSEN RESERVE	18,789	484	19,273	1.93	Regional	Waterway	Informal
LEUNIG PLACE RESERVE	0	678	678	0.07	Small Local	Undeveloped	Railway easement/siding, Linking space
MADDERN SQUARE	0	1,304	1,304	0.13	Small Local	Urban plaza	
MARIBYRNONG STREET RESERVE	0	5,833	5,833	0.58	Regional	Linear	Waterway
McNABB RESERVE	0	649	649	0.06	Small Local	Informal	Play
MICHAEL MCCOY RESERVE	4,960	0	4,960	0.50	Local	Informal	Viewing, Restricted sporting/recreation
MOORE STREET RESERVE	0	461	461	0.05	Small Local	Significnat Road Reservation	Linking space, Undeveloped
MORELAND RESERVE	2,432	0	2,432	0.24	Small Local	Significnat Road Reservation	
MUNRO SQUARE	0	409	409	0.04	Small Local	Public square	Formal (Native)
NAPIER STREET RESERVE	0	2,257	2,257	0.23	Small Local	Linking space	Significant road reservation
NEWELLS PADDOCK	108,306	1,166	109,472	10.95	Regional	Waterway	Nature conservation, Linear, Informal, Bushland/natural
NICHOLSON STREET MALL	0	2,067	2,067	0.21	Small Local	Urban plaza	Linking space
QUARRY RESERVE	73,526	0	73,526	7.35	Municipal	Informal	Viewing, Bushland/natural,
R. HEATLEY RESERVE	4,206	0	4,206	0.42	Local	Informal	
SEELAF SQUARE	0	2,216	2,216	0.22	Small Local	Informal	Urban plaza

Open space	Area Sqm (PPR20)	Area Sqm (Not PPR2)	Total Area Sqm	Total Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
SHEPHERD STREET RESERVE	0	244	244	0.02	Small Local Link	Linking space	Informal
SPURLING RESERVE	0	14,373	14,373	1.44	Neighbourhood	Heritage	Formal, Restricted sporting/recreation, Cultural
SWABY SQUARE	0	503	503	0.05	Small Local	Public square	
TANNERY RESERVE	0	4,221	4,221	0.42	Regional	Linear	Waterway
TOWN HALL RESERVE	0	1,230	1,230	0.12	Small Local	Heritage	
Total open space	564,636	79,187	643,823	64.38			
	643,823						
Restrcted open sapce							
RAILWAY RESERVE	0	7,943	7,943	0.79	Currently closed to public access	Heritage	Railway easement/siding

6.3.1d Distribution of open space in Footscray

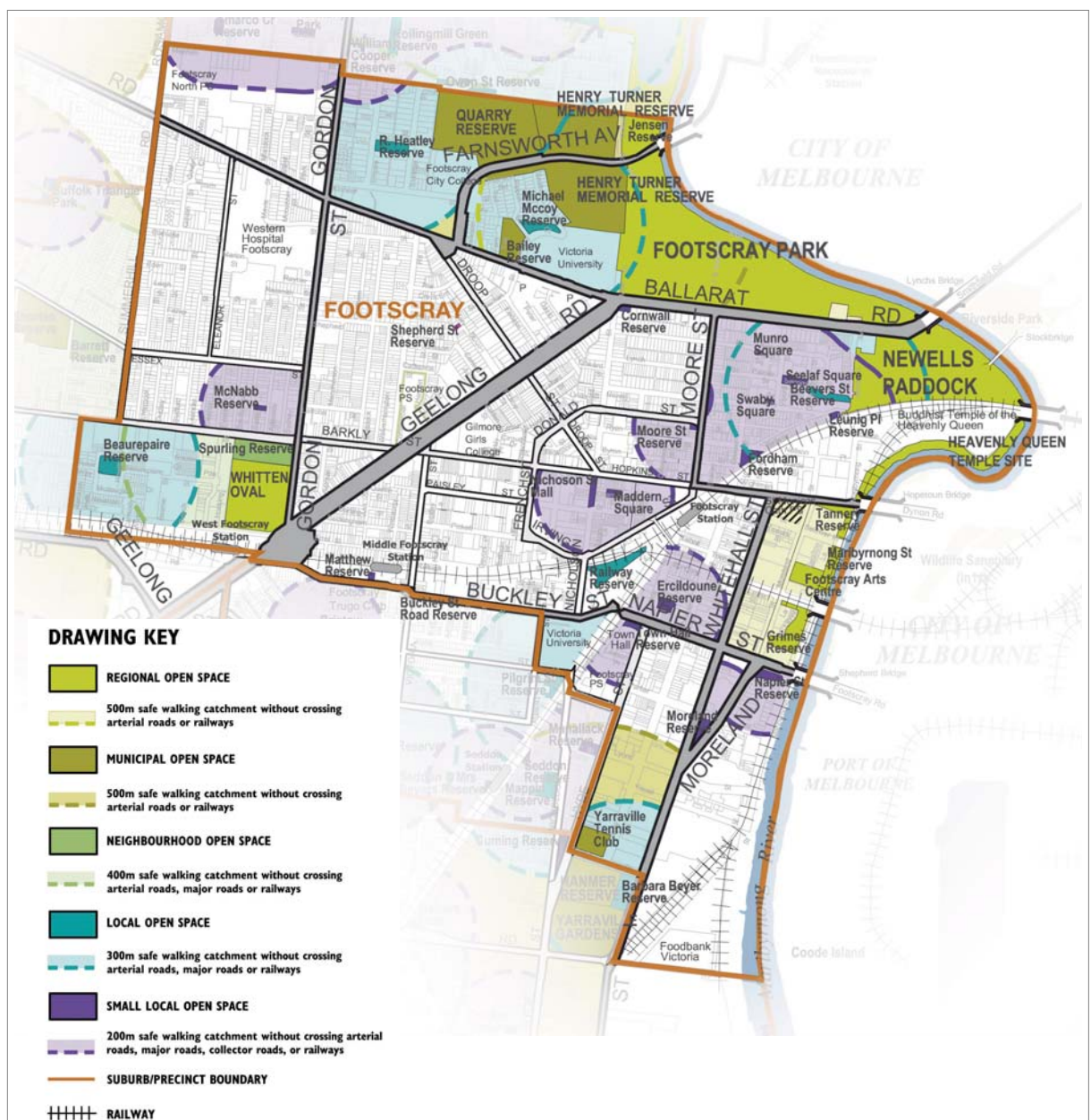


FIGURE 6.3B Open space distribution analysis for Footscray

With the Maribyrnong River flowing along the eastern boundary of Footscray, there is good connectivity between the open space reserves along the waterway. The major east-west and north-south roads along with the railway form major barriers to safe and easy walking access to the open space system along the Maribyrnong River. The largest Regional and Municipal open spaces are located north of Ballarat Road and include Footscray Park, Henry Turner Memorial Reserve North and South, Quarry Reserve and Jensen Reserve. Newells Paddock is the other major Regional open space located south of Ballarat Road, which is easily accessible to the community located to the west between the railway and Ballarat Road.

Through the remaining areas of Footscray, south of Ballarat Road, provision of open space varies and primarily comprises Small Local open space.

Key issues arising from this analysis is the lack of any open space within safe and easy walking distance of existing urban areas in Footscray. Additionally, the existing spaces in some of the established urban areas of Footscray are not well used and identified to have social problems associated with them that discourages greater use of open space.

6.3.2 Community characteristics for Footscray

6.3.2a Demographic summary of existing forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting, accessed November 2013

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 25 to 34 years, followed by 35 to 49 years and the 18 to 24 years. Compared with the municipal-wide average, there is a lower proportion of children under 17 years of age, a higher proportion of people in the 18 to 34 year age range, a lower proportion in the 35 to 49 year age group and a similar proportion in the 50 plus age range. In summary there is a lower proportion of families and a higher proportion of young adults/student population, and a similar proportion of people in the 50 plus age range.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- Proportionately there will be an increase in the population aged 25 to 49 years, and similar proportions for the younger age cohorts.
- Proportionately there will be a slight decline in people in the 50+ age range.

Household type:

Approximately 28 per cent of the households are lone person households, followed by 23 per cent being couples without dependents. Couple families with dependents comprise 19 per cent, while 12 per cent are group households and 11 per cent are one parent families. Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there are significantly less couple families with children and more lone person and group households.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- Lone person households are forecast to increase, with an approximately 9 per cent increase.

- Couples without dependents are forecast to decline (approx 5 per cent decline), and couple families with dependents are also forecast to decline along with one parent families.
- Group households and other families will remain at similar proportions.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there are less separate houses, slightly more medium density housing, and significantly more high density housing in Footscray. Approximately 46 per cent of the population lives in separate houses, 35 per cent in medium density and 19 per cent in high density dwellings. Between 2006 and 2011, the proportion of separate houses and medium density housing declined and the proportion of high density housing increased.

Total population (2013): 15,164*

Forecast population in 2031: 30,482* (Increase of 15,318)

**Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013.*

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.3.2c.

6.3.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for Footscray

A total of 383 open space surveys were received from Footscray, which represents 19 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is slightly higher than the proportion of Footscray residents in the Maribyrnong population, which is 18 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
52%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Dog walking • Relaxation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular maintenance and cleaning required • Provide more public toilets • Maintenance and cleaning of public toilets required
16%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Cycling • Exercising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional lighting required • More rubbish bins required • Additional trees required
13%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Festivals and markets • Playground and equipment • Close to home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More BBQs required • Additional lighting required • More rubbish bins required
7%	Burndap Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Dog walking • Close to home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more public toilets • More rubbish bins required • Improvement to general ambience required
Open space beyond walking distance			
9%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Cycling • Exercising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional trees required • Regular rubbish removal required • Additional lighting required

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
8%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community hub / meeting space Picnics Playground and equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve public toilets Provide more picnic tables Maintenance and cleaning of public toilets required
6%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relaxation Fitness Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve public toilets More rubbish bins required Provide more shelters.

Types of open space used (top four):

94% Maribyrnong River
92% Large parks and gardens
80% Local streets for exercise
73% Small local parks.

Values (top four):

78% Trees
67% Place to relax and unwind
58% Escape from traffic noise and movement
58% Escape from buildings and roads.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

93% Walking paths
78% Open grassed areas
70% Seats
60% Cycle paths.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- Consistent with municipal-wide survey results, 87 per cent of survey respondents indicated they have used walking paths in the last 12 months. Only 41 per cent of respondents consider walking paths are well provided for, suggesting additional paths are required.
- At 78 per cent, open grassed areas are the second most frequently used feature with 58 per cent satisfied with their level of provision.
- Seats are the third most popular, used by 70 per cent and only 30 per cent consider they are adequately provided for.
- The highest level of dissatisfaction with maintenance levels is of public toilets at 39 per cent. This is 7 per cent higher than the municipal-wide average.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 37 per cent of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:
 - 54% Concerned about personal safety
 - 38% Uninviting
 - 32% Other
 - 20% Busy traffic so difficult to access.

General comments:

- Additional open space is required, particularly as urban density increase.
- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space required.
- Additional trees required in open space required.

- Remove litter and rubbish in open space more frequently and provide additional rubbish bins.
- Appreciate the existing open space and previous improvements and maintenance.
- Improve safety in open space via improved surveillance and additional lighting.
- Provide additional public toilets and improve maintenance and cleaning of them.
- Provide additional playgrounds and increase diversity of equipment.
- Remove graffiti in open space.
- Additional cycle paths along with improvements to existing cycle paths and their connections to linear trails from adjoining areas are required.
- Concerns about the impact of development on open space.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 17% of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 80% of those who work in the City of Maribyrnong do visit open space near their work place. The reasons include:
 - 73 Being outdoors as a break from work
 - 46 Fitness/exercise (informal)
 - 41 Cycling/jogging/walking to and from work.

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

6.3.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in Footscray

For open space, this means that the facilities and design needs to be targeted to the 18 plus age range, while still providing some facilities, particularly play facilities for younger people. Overall, while the proportion of people between the ages of 18 and 49 is higher and will continue to grow, there will be more people in the younger and older age groups as well, given the population is forecast to double by 2031.

The increase in lone person households also means that in the future, open space will increasingly play an important role in social contact for people in Footscray. A higher proportion of the population are forecast to be living in high density housing, meaning they will have less private open space available for use, thereby relying on public open space for a large proportion of their open space needs.

6.3.3 Future change in Footscray

The forecast residential population increase in Footscray represents approximately 50 per cent of the total population with a forecast increase of 15,320 residents, and a likely increase in the non-residential population.

6.3.3a Implications of future change on open space planning

Footscray Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC)

The State Government designated central Footscray as a Central Activities District in 2008 and as a Metropolitan Activity District in the Metropolitan Planning Strategy *Plan Melbourne 2013*. Footscray is the only activity centre that is a Place of State Significance in Melbourne's inner west (central subregion). Footscray is the focus for substantial future employment growth, commercial development, housing and public investment. The *Draft Footscray Structure Plan (2013)* provides a cohesive framework for future redevelopment of Footscray based on a range of background reports and plans. Key aspects of this in relation to open space provision include:

- The majority of the forecast population will be living in moderate to higher density residential developments in addition to lower scale areas.
- Approximately 900 commercial businesses were located in Footscray MAC in 2009.
- Victoria University is the largest educational employer with 900 of its 2,500 employees based at two local campuses in the Footscray MAC. The campuses bring over 30,000 students to the MAC and the university has a strategic vision to make Footscray a University Town.
- Footscray station is a major transport hub and has significant development potential.
- Major roads and the railway form barriers to safe and easy pedestrian access to open space within the Footscray MAC area.
- The Structure Plan identifies eight precincts in the centre, with the Footscray Station and Joseph Road Precincts as areas of substantial change.
- Major areas of open space along the Maribyrnong River are recognised in the plan to contribute to recreation and biodiversity values.
- For open space, the plan acknowledges the additional population will place increasing demand on the existing open spaces within the Footscray MAC.

The Structure Plan suggests that retail and residential use will be concentrated in the central core, while offices will be located to the west in the peripheral and railway precincts. Residential land use will dominate in the Joseph Road precinct where higher densities are proposed.

In September 2013, Victoria University and Maribyrnong City Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together to develop Footscray as Australia's first University Town. The intention is to bring key Victoria University activities into central Footscray. Potential concepts include a bookshop and learning space, an arts precinct, student accommodation and visual and performing arts spaces. The University intends to expand the Footscray Park campus across Ballarat Road to bring the major campus closer to Footscray.

Given the substantial change in the Footscray MAC, an analysis of open space provision has been undertaken for this separately and described in Table 6.3-2. The sub-precincts are consistent with the .id Consulting population forecast apportionment undertaken for this Strategy, and the extent of the MAC is consistent with the Structure Plan.

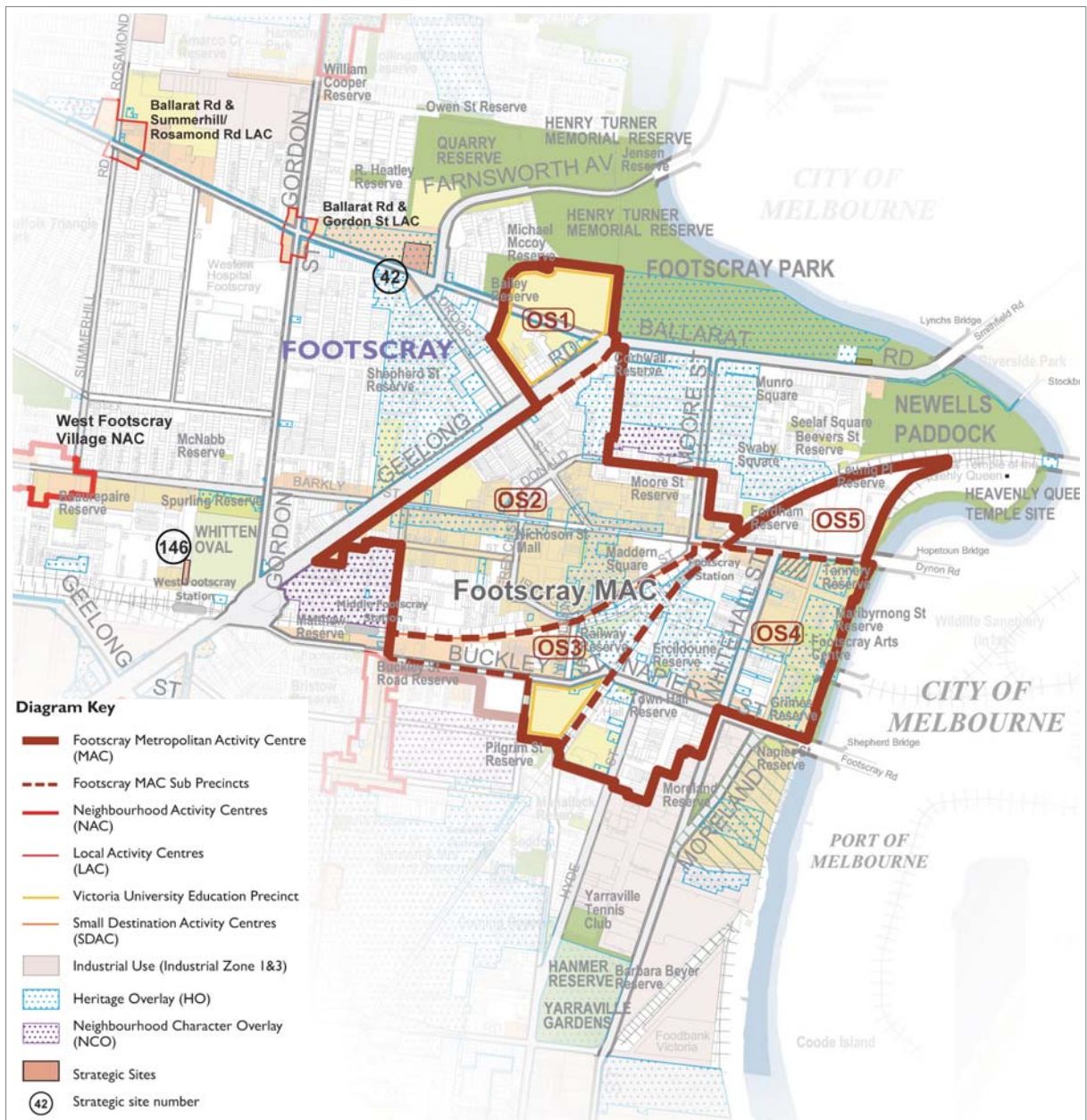


FIGURE 6.3C Future change in Footscray

Table 6.3-2 Open space analysis for Footscray Central Activity Area only

Open space precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
OS1	F5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This includes Victoria University Footscray Park Campus as shown in Figure 6.3C. The University Campus south of Ballarat Road includes large at grade car park. Almost no residential population growth is 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> North of Ballarat Road, Footscray Park and other open space reserves will meet the open space needs of the existing and forecast worker population. Based on the University Town Concept, the employment population at Victoria University may be distributed through the central Footscray town, potentially increasing demand for additional open space in

Open space precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
		apportioned to this area, while approximately 800 additional workers are forecast to be located at Victoria University by 2031.	<p>the remainder of the centre.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South of Ballarat Road, there is no residential population increase forecast. If there were any future redevelopment of these sites, then additional open space would be required, as this is a Gap Area for open space provision (Gap Area F5). At this stage, no additional open space is included in the Strategy.
OS2	F8 F9, F10, F11, F12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This encompasses the majority of the Central Activities Area between the Railway and Geelong Road. Refer to Figure 6.3C. • The current population forecasts apportion an additional 3,330 residents to this part of the MAC and approximately 1,520 workers, resulting in a total additional population of 5,000 by 2031. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South of Hopkins Street, establish a new Neighbourhood open space. This is to primarily meet the needs of the forecast population (Gap Area F11). • Provide a new Small Local open space between Donald Street and Geelong Road primarily to address Gap Areas F9 and F10 and meet the needs of the existing and forecast population. • Provide a new Small Local open space east of Droop Street, between Donald and Hopkins Streets to address Gap Area F12 and meet the needs of the existing and forecast population. • Investigate the potential to establish a new Small Local open space within the catchment of Maddern Square, with excellent visual and physical access to replace Maddern Square. The cost of the land area for the additional open space is not included in the contribution rate as part of this Strategy, given it is a potential replacement for Maddern Square.
OS3	F13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between the two railway lines, refer to Figure 6.3C for extent. • The current forecast population apportions nearly 1,500 residents and just over 750 workers to this sub-precinct, totaling an additional population of approximately 2,245. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an additional Small Local open space north of Buckley Street and west of Nicholson Street, within safe walking distance of and primarily for the forecast additional population of 2,245.
OS4	F14 & F16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between the Maribyrnong River and the railway, refer to Figure 6.3C. • The current population forecast apportions a population increase of 3,312, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The existing open space along the Maribyrnong River is used by visitors, workers and residents. This space is used for major events and festivals as part of the community arts precinct. The forecast population increase of

Open space precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
		with approximately 3,130 residents and approximately 180 workers.	<p>more than 3,000 residents in this sub-precinct along with some additional workers means in the future the local open space needs will be met in additional Local open space to the west of the Maribyrnong River, allowing the existing open space to cater for the expansion to the Regional catchment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an additional Small Local open space between Whitehall Street and the Maribyrnong River to meet the open space needs of the forecast population and allow the regional use and heritage context of Grimes Reserve, Footscray Community Arts Centre and Tannery Reserve to be strengthened. • Improve the quality of the existing open spaces adjacent to the Maribyrnong River including Maribyrnong Street Reserve and Tannery Reserve to meet the open space needs of the existing and forecast population. • West of Whitehall Street and north of Napier Street, a new Local open space is to be provided primarily for the forecast population, within safe easy walking distance and assist with urban heat mitigation. • South of Napier Street and east of Hyde Street, provide a new Small Local open space where currently there is no open space within safe easy walking distance to primarily meet the needs of the forecast population.
OS5	F15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referred to as Joseph Road precinct, nearly 4,000 additional residents are forecast to live in this area by 2031. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide neighbourhood level facilities adjoining the existing Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River primarily for the forecast population. • Provide an additional Local open space within the urban fabric of the precinct for unstructured recreation and informal use, along with mitigating urban heat build up in this proposed high density precinct. This is primarily for the forecast population.

West Footscray Village Neighbourhood Activity Centre (in Footscray)

The forecast population apportioned to the catchment of the West Footscray Village Neighbourhood Activity Centre is minimal with less than 50 people.

Balance of suburb

In the remainder of the suburb outside the Footscray MAC, the West Footscray Village NAC and the two key strategic sites, just over 400 of the forecast population have been apportioned to the balance of the suburb.

6.3.4 Sub-precinct analysis of open space provision including gap areas



FIGURE 6.3D Open space sub-precinct diagram for Footscray

Table 6.3-3 Open space analysis for the remainder of Footscray outside of the MAC

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
Footscray 1	F1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Ballarat Road, west of Gordon Street. Currently no open space. A combination of residential, industrial and commercial land use. Footscray North Primary School is located in this sub-precinct providing some ancillary open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internal connectivity in the sub-precinct via the local street network is poor, with Ballarat Road the only east-west link. The existing population living and working in this precinct have no open space within safe and easy walking distance. However due to the internal street layout, provision of open space that is accessible will only be feasible if the large industrial sites redevelop. These sites are not forecast to redevelop within the timeframe of this Strategy and therefore no specific action is included to provide additional open space in this sub-precinct. If redevelopment does occur, then Council will need to seek opportunities to establish a new Small Local open space in this sub-precinct to address Gap Area F1. This will need to provide safe and accessible east-west connectivity for it to be effectively used and will be for both the existing and forecast population.
Footscray 2	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Ballarat Road between Gordon St and Farnsworth Avenue. Strategic Site 42, located in this sub-precinct, has a forecast 2,890 residential population apportioned to it, which represents a substantial change. R Heatley Reserve and Quarry Reserve are located in this sub-precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To meet the needs of the nearly additional 3,000 residents, a major upgrade is required to Quarry Reserve. This will focus on the provision of Neighbourhood level facilities, improving the entry point from Titch Street and creating an improved on-street link between Strategic Site 42, Quarry Reserve and R Heatley Reserve. In future development proposals for any sites adjoining Quarry Park from Eldridge Street, identify opportunities to improve the interface treatment to open space, particularly passive surveillance, refer to Guidelines in Section 5.5.
Footscray 3	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Ballarat Road and south east of Farnsworth Avenue. Victoria University Footscray Park campus is the major land use, along with some residential use and open space. Existing open space includes Footscray Park, Henry Turner Memorial Reserve, Bailey 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to implement the Footscray Park Masterplan. Investigate the potential to improve the path network through Henry Turner Memorial Reserve to encourage unstructured recreational use. There is potential to link the path network to Footscray Park and Victoria University. Continue to retain Bailey Reserve for sporting use and Michael McCoy Reserve as an informal space with

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
		Reserve and Michael McCoy Reserve.	seating to enjoy the views towards Melbourne.
Footscray 4	F2 & F3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between Ballarat Road and Barkly Street this sub-precinct includes the Western Hospital and predominantly residential land use. McNabb Reserve is the only existing open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A new Local open space is required in this sub-precinct to primarily meet the needs of the existing population in Gap Areas F2 and F3. Alternatively, two Small Local open spaces could be provided - one in Gap Area F2 and one in Gap Area F3.
Footscray 5	F4 & F5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Ballarat and Geelong Roads. Footscray Primary School is the major area of ancillary open space. Other existing open space is Shepherd Street Reserve, a linking space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the short-term Council has entered into a lease with Footscray Primary School, however with forecast population growth it is necessary for permanent open space to be secured over the next 18 years. Provide a new Small Local open space for the existing and forecast population.
Footscray 6	F10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between Ballarat Road and the Railway and east of the Footscray Central Activities Area. East of Moore Street a range of Small Local and Local open spaces along with Newells Paddock as a Regional open space are provided for the existing population. West of Moore and north of Donald Streets there is no existing open space within safe and easy walking distance of the population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a range of upgrades to the existing open space east of Moore Street - refer to Action Tables in Section 6.3.5c. West of Moore Street and north of Donald Street, a new Small Local open space is proposed in the Footscray MAC area (OS2) to meet the open space needs primarily for the new population and address Gap Areas F9. This will be within safe walking distance of the needs of the existing population outside the MAC in Gap Area F10 as well.
Footscray 7	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Barkly Street and the railway west of Gordon Street, this sub-precinct includes Whitten Oval, Spurling Reserve and Beaurepaire Reserve. Strategic Site 146 is located in this sub-precinct with a forecast 100 residents allocated to this site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve access and connectivity to Spurling Reserve from the remainder of the sub-precinct west of Whitten Oval. In any future upgrade of structured sporting use at Spurling Reserve, ensure there is viable and useable open space retained for informal use.
Footscray 8	F7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Geelong Road and Victoria Street in the vicinity of Middle Footscray Station, this sub-precinct has no open space. This area is included in a Neighbourhood Character Overlay and unlikely to receive substantial change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate options to improve the safety of road crossing points over Victoria Street to provide improved access to future open space to be established in the Footscray MAC to the east.

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
Footscray 9	F17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located south east of the Footscray MAC boundary, this area is predominantly port related industries including container storage and handling. • Yarraville Tennis Club and Moreland Reserve are located in this sub-precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional open space is recommended in this sub-precinct, as there is no substantial change to land use or population forecast for this area.

6.3.5 Recommendations for Footscray

6.3.5a Summary of the overall intent

Provision and distribution of open space

Parts of Footscray, including the Footscray Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) have gaps in the provision of open space while areas outside of the centre are well provided for. The residential population is forecast to nearly double in Footscray by 2031 with an additional 15,000 people mainly forecast to reside in the MAC. Additionally the worker population is forecast to expand by nearly 3,400, and with the University Town concept the student and visitor population is also forecast to expand.

To address gaps in the provision of open space for the existing and forecast population in the Footscray MAC, the Strategy proposes an expansion of the Neighbourhood and Local open space network. This will complement the Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River.

The extent of forecast growth will increase the demand for all types of open space including structured sporting use, creating a need for additional Municipal open space. This is to be provided outside of the Footscray precinct where larger land parcels provide greater flexibility to establish new larger Municipal sporting reserves. The forecast population in Footscray will contribute to the provision of new Municipal open space in the north and central areas of the Municipality. Refer to Section 5.1.2b and Actions 5.1C and 5.1D in this Strategy.

Quality and design of open space

To meet the higher levels of use as a result of the forecast change in Footscray over the next 18 years, the Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River will be upgraded with a focus on providing regional level facilities to support and facilitate expansion of the cultural and arts precincts. These highly valued areas of open space along the Maribyrnong need to retain capacity for expansion to regional uses including festivals and events. The local community living and working in Footscray will also continue to use these.

The existing urban open spaces in Footscray will be upgraded and where possible, inherent issues associated with the urban context will be addressed. This includes proactively introducing green elements into these spaces to assist with urban heat mitigation as the urban densities increase.

The new open spaces within central Footscray will be designed in consultation with the community to reflect their diverse cultural and demographic needs and include natural and green features to assist mitigate urban heat build up in the higher density precincts.

6.3.5b Precinct actions for Footscray

The priorities in the action tables provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development.

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3A-1	Provide a new Neighbourhood open space in Gap Area F11 (south of Hopkins Street) within sub-precinct OS2 to primarily meet the needs of the forecast population.	MCC Developer	High
6.3A-2	Provide a new Small Local open space to address Gap Areas F9 and F10 (between Donald Street and Geelong Road) to meet the needs of the existing and forecast population in this gap area. This is located in sub-precinct OS2 and will also meet the needs of the existing population outside the MAC area in sub-precinct Footscray 6.	MCC Developer	Medium
6.3A-3	Provide a new Small Local open space within Gap Area F12 primarily for the needs of the forecast additional population. This is located in sub-precinct OS2.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.3A-4	Investigate the potential to provide a Small Local open space in the vicinity of Irving and Nicholson Streets with good visibility, connectivity and active interface to adjoining land use located in sub-precinct OS2. This is for both the existing and forecast future population and would replace the need for Maddern Square. If this is not feasible, a major upgrade to Maddern Square is required, as described in Action 6.3G-6.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.3A-5	Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area F13 (north of Buckley Street and west of Nicholson Street) to primarily meet the open space needs of the forecast population along with the existing population from this gap area. This is located in sub-precinct OS3.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.3A-6	Provide a new Small Local open space between Whitehall Street and the Maribyrnong River to cater to the local open space needs of the forecast additional population, preferably with views to the east. This is located in sub-precinct OS4.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.3A-7	Provide a new Local open space in Gap Area F14 (west of Whitehall Street and north of Napier Street) to cater to the local open space needs of the forecast additional population. This is located in sub-precinct OS4.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.3A-8	Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area F16 (south of Napier Street) to cater to the local open space needs primarily for the forecast population and also for the existing population. This is located in sub-precinct OS4.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.3A-9	Provide a new Local open space in Gap Area F15, located west of the Maribyrnong River central within the proposed	MCC (Vic Govt)	Very High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	high density precinct. This is located in sub-precinct OS5.	Developer	
6.3A-10	Provide a new Local open space in sub-precinct Footscray 4 to address Gap Areas F2 and F3 for both the existing and forecast population. This includes the potential to convert existing public land at the end of Southampton Street, in part, for new Local open space.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.3A-11	Provide a new Small Local open space in sub-precinct Footscray 5 to address Gap Areas F4 and F5, for both the existing and forecast population.	MCC Developer	Medium

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this S section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3B-1	Continue to investigate opportunities to improve open space connectivity via the local street network in sub-precincts Footscray 1 and 2.	MCC	Very High & Ongoing
6.3B-2	Investigate options to improve access and connectivity to Spurling Reserve from the remainder of the sub-precinct Footscray 7 west of Whitten Oval.	MCC	High
6.3B-3	Investigate options to improve safety of road crossing points over Victoria Street in sub-precinct PF8, to provide improved access between the existing area around Middle Footscray Station and future open space to be provided in the Footscray MAC to the east	MCC	Medium

6.3.5c Actions for existing individual open spaces in Footscray

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3C-1	Footscray Arts Centre Continue to support and encourage this as an event space and focus on community arts and continue to protect the heritage character. Any future works associated with the River Edge Masterplan are to support its community art and cultural heritage character and role.	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3C-2	Footscray Park Implement the existing masterplan, with consideration for integration of additional unstructured recreational use and facilities for adults to cater to the forecast additional population in the future. Any future works associated with the River Edge Masterplan are to be well integrated with the existing Footscray Park Masterplan	MCC	Very High
6.3C-3	Grimes Reserve Continue to maintain, with minor ongoing improvements to protect heritage character and values. Any future works associated with the current River Edge Masterplan are to complement the heritage values and relevant to its regional context and use.	MCC	Medium
6.3C-4	Heavenly Queen Temple Site (the linear open space along the Maribyrnong River only) Undertake a major upgrade* to this precinct including provision of neighbourhood level facilities for the forecast population in the adjoining high density precinct in sub-precinct OS5 (Joseph Road Precinct). The facility provision and open space design is to complement the proposed new Local open space within the high density precinct (refer to Action 6.3A-9). The neighbourhood facilities are primarily for the forecast population, and other improvements to the Regional open space are for the broader population.	MCC	Very High
6.3C-5	Jensen Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3C-6	Maribyrnong Street Reserve Minor upgrades including additional seating. Any future works associated with the River Edge Masterplan are to complement and be relevant to its regional context and use.	MCC	Medium
6.3C-7	Newells Paddock Minor upgrades to improve the visual and physical access to and safety in this open space. Council to liaise with Parks Victoria to confirm management responsibility for this open space.	MCC PV	High and Ongoing

D Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3D-1	Henry Turner Memorial Reserve (North) Undertake a major upgrade* to this reserve. The intent is to continue to manage this reserve primarily for structured sporting use and improve unstructured recreational use and activities. These include pedestrian and cycle access and circulation through the reserve along with review of other informal facilities that can benefit all users including seating, picnic areas and play. Links to Quarry Reserve,	MCC	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	Jensen Reserve and the Burndap Park need to be addressed and resolved to improve accessibility and use.		
6.3D-2	Henry Turner Memorial Reserve (South) Prepare and implement a masterplan for this reserve (in conjunction with Henry Turner Memorial Reserve North), to improve pedestrian and cycle access and circulation within the reserve and connections to Footscray Park and Victoria University.	MCC	Medium
6.3D-3	Quarry Reserve Undertake a review and major upgrade* of Quarry Reserve addressing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of neighbourhood level open space facilities to meet the needs of forecast future population in the strategic sites located west and south of the reserve where forecast population within walking distance is anticipated to increase by in the order of 2,890. Improve connectivity into the reserve from Titch Street and on-street link between R Heatley Reserve and Quarry Reserve. Improve connectivity through Quarry Reserve to connect to Jacks Wood Reserve to the north and Henry Turner Memorial Reserve and the open space along the Maribyrnong River to the east. 	MCC (Developer)	Very High

E Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3E-1	Spurling Reserve Undertake a review and major upgrade* in consultation with the community and the Western Bulldogs. As part of any future use of this site for structured sporting use, protect historical planting character, plant additional trees, retain path connections to Whitten Oval and improve east-west path connectivity.	MCC	Medium

F Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3F-1	Bailey Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3F-2	Beevers Street Reserve Minor upgrade with additional seats.	MCC	Low
6.3F-3	Beaurepaire Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3F-4	Michael McCoy Reserve Continue to maintain and retain informal character and views.	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3F-5	Railway Reserve Continue to maintain, once this reserve is re-opened to public access.	MCC VicTrack	Ongoing
6.3F-6	R. Heatley Reserve Minor upgrade as required to complement the future Neighbourhood open space facilities proposed for Quarry Reserve. The design and facilities to be determined in conjunction with Quarry Reserve and will be primarily for the new population.	MCC (Developer)	Very High
6.3F-7	Tannery Reserve Minor upgrade as part of future shared trail improvements to the Maribyrnong River.	MCC (VR)	High
6.3F-8	Yarraville Tennis Club Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

G Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3G-1	Buckley Street Road Reserve This reserve has minimal value as an existing open space and provides opportunity for tree planting in the future.	MCC	High
6.3G-2	Cornwall Reserve This reserve forms a gateway to Footscray and its value is predominantly for the protection of established mature trees and public art. Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3G-3	Ercildoune Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3G-4	Fordham Reserve Undertake minor upgrade to revise the playground footprint and introduce an open grassed to and improve the diversity of use. Other improvements to include an overall upgrade to character and condition of the reserve.	MCC	High
6.3G-5	Leunig Place Reserve Major upgrade to provide a path link into Newells Paddock from this adjoining residential area. Works to include additional tree planting to complement the mature trees along the railway line, and improve the function and use of the space.	MCC	Medium
6.3G-6	Maddern Square Refer to Action 6.3A-4. If a suitable location for new Small Local open space is not found, then investigate the potential to activate the adjoining commercial and retail properties at ground level to improve safety, visibility and public use of Maddern Square. If this is feasible, undertake a major upgrade* to address the changed interface to adjoining commercial and retail properties to create a valuable open space for the community in this central section of Footscray.	MCC	Refer to Action 6.3A-4

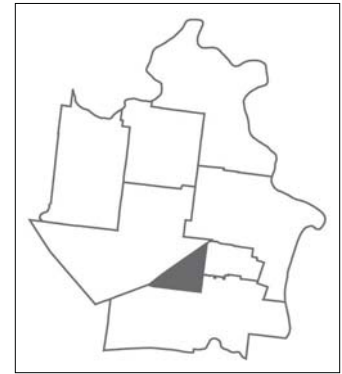
No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3G-7	McNabb Reserve Minor upgrade with seats and additional trees to frame an open grassed area and complement the existing playground.	MCC	Medium
6.3G-8	Moore Street Reserve Prepare a concept plan to guide future works to open up and formalise access from the west through the reserve, and redesign to create a useable space that connects to the local catchment to the south and west of the reserve.	MCC	Medium
6.3G-9	Moreland Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3G-10	Munro Square Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3G-11	Napier Street Reserve Undertake minor improvements to the reserve with additional tree planting and seating.	MCC	Medium
6.3G-12	Nicholson Street Mall This space received a number of negative comments in the open space survey. Investigate options for the future function and design of this space as part of the Urban Design Framework for Footscray.	MCC	Very High
6.3G-13	Seelaf Square Continue to maintain, and consider adding a Barbecue in the eastern section referred to as Seelaf Park to contribute to community use, given higher density living in close proximity to the park.	MCC	Medium
6.3G-14	Swaby Square Continue to maintain recent upgrade works.	MCC	Ongoing
6.3G-15	Town Hall Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

H Small Local Link

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.3H-1	Shepherd Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

6.4 Kingsville



6.4.1 Existing conditions

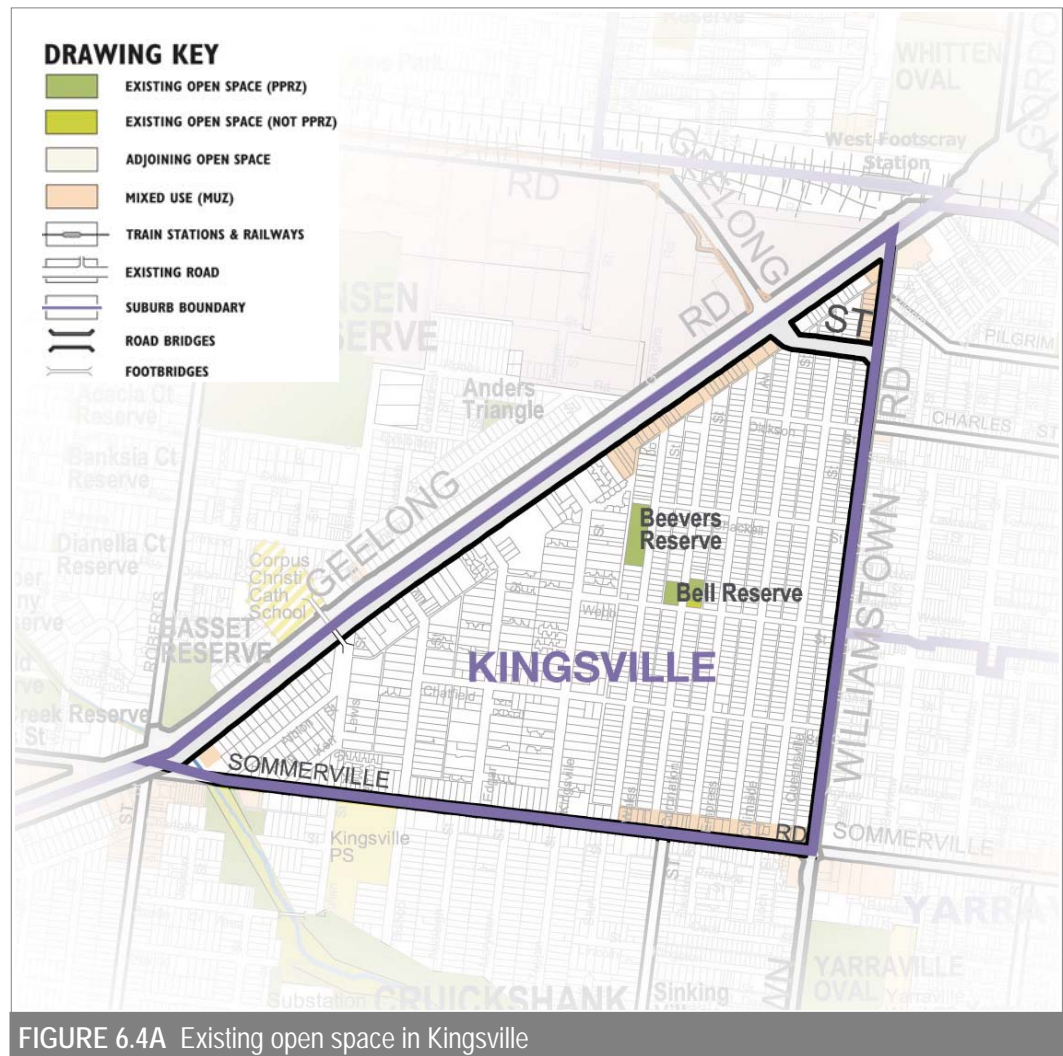


FIGURE 6.4A Existing open space in Kingsville

6.4.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space Kingsville

Beevers Reserve and Bell Reserve are the two existing open space reserves located in Kingsville. Beevers Reserve includes a medium sized play facility and picnic area and complements the more contemplative seating and shade trees at Bell Reserve. Major roads define the boundaries of this precinct meaning there is no other open space that is easily accessible in the adjoining precincts without crossing major roads.

Ancillary open space

The local street network provides good north south connectivity and established street trees.

Land use and character

Kingsville is a predominantly residential area with some non-residential use along Geelong Road. East of Wales Street the precinct is predominantly detached or semi-detached single storey Victorian and Edwardian style dwellings. West of Wales Street the urban character is mixed, with higher density dwellings including a mix of apartments and detached dwellings.

6.4.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in Kingsville

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for quantity of open space in Kingsville:

- 0.70 hectares of open space
- 1 per cent of the total suburb area is open space
- 0.2 per cent of the total open space in the City of Maribyrnong
- 2 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013
- Within 400 metres of the precinct, other major areas of open space include Cruickshank Park, Yarraville Oval and Hansen Reserve, however these involve crossing major roads to reach them.

6.4.1c Open space hierarchy and character in Kingsville

Table 6.4-1 List of existing open space type and character classification

Open space	Area (PPRZ)	Area (Not PPRZ)	Area sqm	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
BEEVERS RESERVE	0	3,901	3,901	0.39	Local	Informal	Play
BELL RESERVE	2,721	332	3,053	0.31	Local	Informal	Undeveloped
Total open space	2,721	4,233	6,954	0.70			

6.4.1d Distribution of open space in Kingsville

As illustrated in Figure 6.4B, the two Local open spaces are located relatively central with a well connected local street network. Two gap areas in the north and south mean that some people are located further than safe easy walking distance from open space. Access to Municipal open space to the south does require crossing a major road to reach it. The adjoining open space to the south is Cruickshank Park, which is one of the most popular open spaces in the municipality, providing access to a linked open network along Stony Creek.

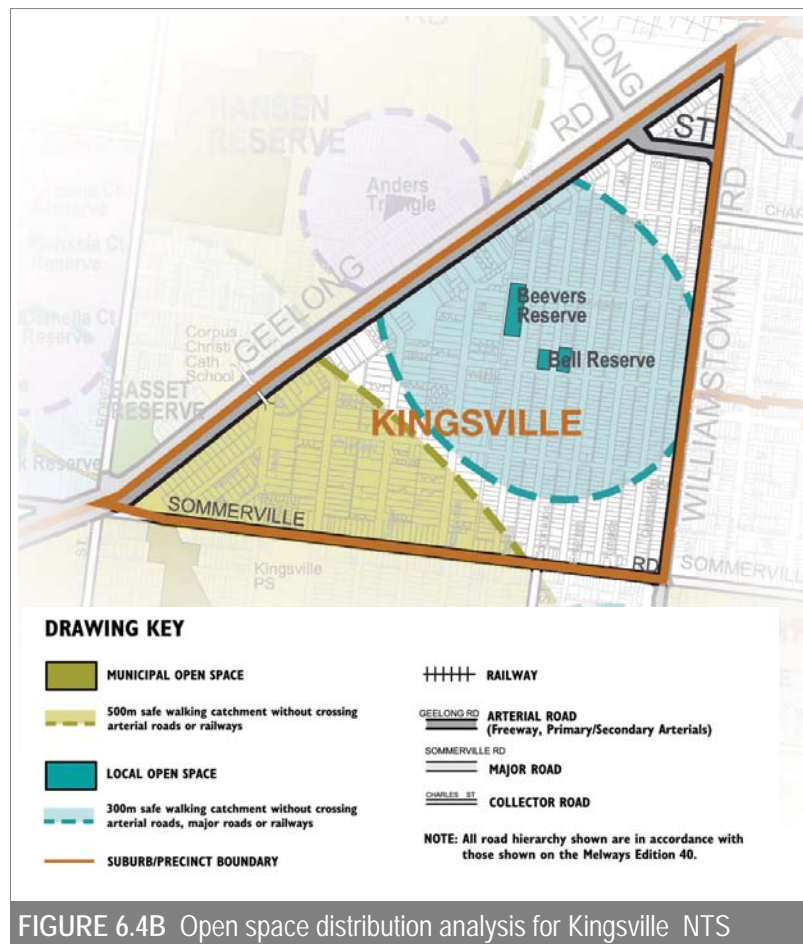


FIGURE 6.4B Open space distribution analysis for Kingsville NTS

6.4.2 Community characteristics for Kingsville

6.4.2a Demographic summary of existing forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting 2013, accessed November 2013.

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 35 to 49 years, followed by 25 to 34 years. Compared with the municipal-wide average, there is a higher proportion of children under 11 years of age, a lower proportion of 12 to 24 year olds and a higher proportion of parents. Correspondingly there is a lower proportion of people in the 50+ age range.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- A decrease proportionally in the 35 to 49 and the 0 to 11 year age ranges suggesting a decline in young families.
- An increase proportionally in the 50 to 84 year age range, however the most populous age group will continue to be the 25 to 49 year age ranges.

Household type:

Approximately 29 per cent of the households are lone person households, followed by 25 per cent as couples with children and 23 per cent couples without children. Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there is a higher proportion of lone person households and couples without children and a lower proportion of couples with children.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- There is forecast to be an increase in lone person households and couple families without dependents.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there are more medium density dwellings and less high density dwellings in Kingsville. Approximately 60 per cent of the population live in separate houses and 36 per cent in medium density while just 3 per cent live in high density dwellings. Since 2006 the trend has been for a slight increase in medium density and decrease in separate houses.

Total population (2013): 3,730*

Forecast population in 2031: 3,650* (decrease of 80)

**Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013*

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.4.2c.

6.4.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for Kingsville

A total of 107 open space surveys were received from Kingsville, which represents 5 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is the same as the proportion of Kingsville residents in the City of Maribyrnong, which is also 5 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
72%	Cruickshank Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking • Dog walking • Exercising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More BBQs required • Provide/increase dog off-lead hours • Additional lighting required
31%	Beever Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground and equipment • Close to home • Play 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more shade • Regular maintenance & cleaning required • Improvements to BBQs required
30%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community hub/meeting place • Playground and equipment • BBQs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more drinking fountains • More fencing required • Reduce distance to parks from home
8%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling • Exercising • Jogging / running 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional lighting required • More BBQs required • Reduce car park fees
Open space beyond walking distance			
20%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground and equipment • Community hub / meeting place • Dog walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase diversity of playground equipment/features • More BBQs required • Regular maintenance of BBQs required
15%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling • Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more entry points to open space

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exercising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement to general ambience required More café/ kiosk required
7%	Williamstown Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambience and beauty Relaxation Walking along foreshore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A

Types of open space used (top four):

93% Large parks and gardens
90% Small local parks
90% Local streets for exercise
83% Urban squares.

Values (top four):

72% Trees
68% Place to relax and unwind
60% Escape traffic noise and movement
58% Place for kids to play.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

93% Walking paths
84% Open grassed areas
79% Seats
59% Cycle paths.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- 93 per cent have used walking paths in the last 12 months, and 63 per cent consider they are well provided for along with a high level of satisfaction with their maintenance at 80 per cent.
- 84 per cent use open grassed areas and 48 per cent are satisfied with their provision. 78 per cent are satisfied with maintenance levels.
- 53 per cent state that public toilets are not well provided for, followed by cycling paths, picnic tables, drinking fountains and seats.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 40 per cent of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:
 - 37% Concerned about personal safety
 - 33% Busy traffic so difficult to access
 - 30% Lack of time
 - 28% Too far to travel.

General comments:

- Additional open space is required.
- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space is required.
- Additional trees required in open space.
- Appreciate and retain the existing open space.
- Enjoy using open space.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 12% of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 62% of those who work in the City of Maribyrnong do visit open space near their work place (30 people). The reasons include:
 - 70% Being outdoors as a break from work (21)
 - 53% Fitness/exercise (16)
 - 43% Cycling/jogging/walking to and from work (13).

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

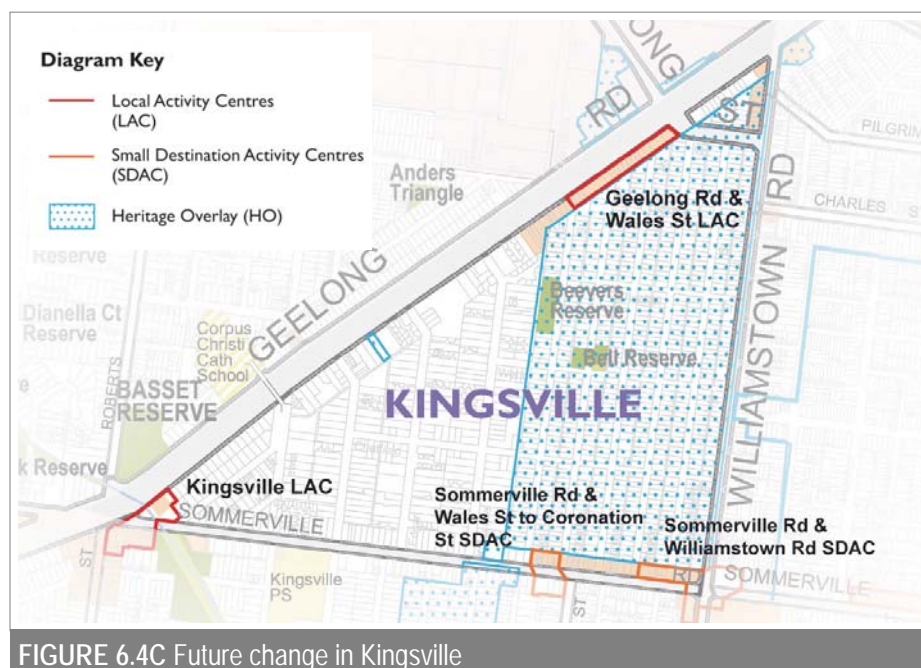
6.4.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in Kingsville

In Kingsville there will continue to be an increase in lone person households and an increase in couple families without children. While facilities for all age groups needs to be provided, open space will need to ensure it appeals to the older age group as well. The consultation results confirm that Bell Reserve is not as well used or valued as Beevers Reserve, and could benefit from improvement to its character and diversity of facilities.

6.4.3 Future change in Kingsville

6.4.3a Summary of the future change

The forecast residential population decrease in Kingsville is likely due to changing household types in the precinct with the trend towards smaller household sizes. Refer to Figure 6.4C below for land use extent of existing Heritage Overlay and Neighbourhood Character Overlay areas within Kingsville. While some redevelopment may occur within these overlay areas, it is anticipated they will receive a lower levels of redevelopment.



6.4.3b Implications of future change on open space planning

Geelong Road and Wales Street Local Activity Centre (LAC)

While the LAC is located in this precinct, along with a Small Destination Activity Centre, no residential population growth is forecast in these centres and overall there is forecast to be a slight decline in the population.

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
NA	K1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Dickson Street and Geelong Street. The community note the lack of open space and request additional open space be provided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relatively small area does not make it feasible to establish an additional open space in the north. Improve pedestrian connectivity to exiting open space from this gap area via streetscape improvements. This includes review of crossing points over Geelong Street and also east across Williamstown Road to Bristow Reserve (in Seddon). Investigate the potential to expand Bell Reserve in size to include Coronation Street and expand the existing open space to match the area currently shown as PPRZ on the drawings. Enhance the design of this space with a focus on creating a social meeting place with seating.
NA	K2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located in the south of Kingsville this gap area is more exaggerated to the west where people need to cross a major road to reach the nearest open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an additional Small Local open space in the south west area of Kingsville. Improve pedestrian amenity and safety for crossing Sommerville Road to reach Cruickshank Park.

6.4.4 Recommendations for Kingsville

6.4.4a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

There is a shortage of open space in Kingsville. To address this shortfall an additional Small Local open space in the south west area of Kingsville is proposed to better cater to the open space needs of the existing population. Council will also investigate the potential to expand the size of Bell Reserve through a potential road closure so that the quality and function of these two smaller spaces can be improved. While the two existing open space reserves are Local in size, there is potential for Beevers Reserve to accommodate some neighbourhood level facilities in the absence of Neighbourhood and Municipal open space.

Quality and design

The objective is to upgrade Beevers Reserve to provide some neighbourhood facilities. The expanded Bell Reserve will be upgraded to complement the character and facilities in Beevers Reserve and the future new Small Local open space in the south. Consultation with the local community will allow these spaces to reflect the local social characteristics so that combined, these three spaces better meet the open space needs of the existing population.

6.4.4b Precinct actions for Kingsville

The priorities in the action tables provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development.

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.4A-1	Provide a new Small Local open space in south western area of Kingsville to provide open space within safe and easy walking distance of the existing community. This will address Gap Area K2.	MCC	High
6.4A-2	Investigate feasibility to expand Bell Reserve to incorporate partial closure of Coronation Street. This would allow greater flexibility for future design of this open space to better meet the needs of the existing community.	MCC	Very High

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this Section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.4B-1	Improve pedestrian amenity to improve connectivity to existing open space from this gap area. This includes review of crossing points over Geelong Street and also east across Williamstown Road to Bristow Reserve in Seddon.	MCC	Very High

6.4.4c Actions for existing individual open spaces in Kingsville

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.4C-1	Beevers Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to this reserve utilising the outcomes of the open space survey as a starting point for future facilities. This includes improved social facilities such as shelter and barbecues, improved levels of maintenance, shade and tree planting. This open space has the potential to encourage fitness and outdoor activities by adults additional to the playground.	MCC	Very High
6.4C-2	Bell Reserve Undertake a review of the feasibility to expand its size to include a partial road closure of Coronation Street. If feasible, undertake a major upgrade* to design facilities that will complement and provide diversity from Beevers Reserve and the new Small Local open space proposed in Action 6.4A-1.	MCC	Medium

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

6.5 Maidstone



6.5.1 Existing conditions

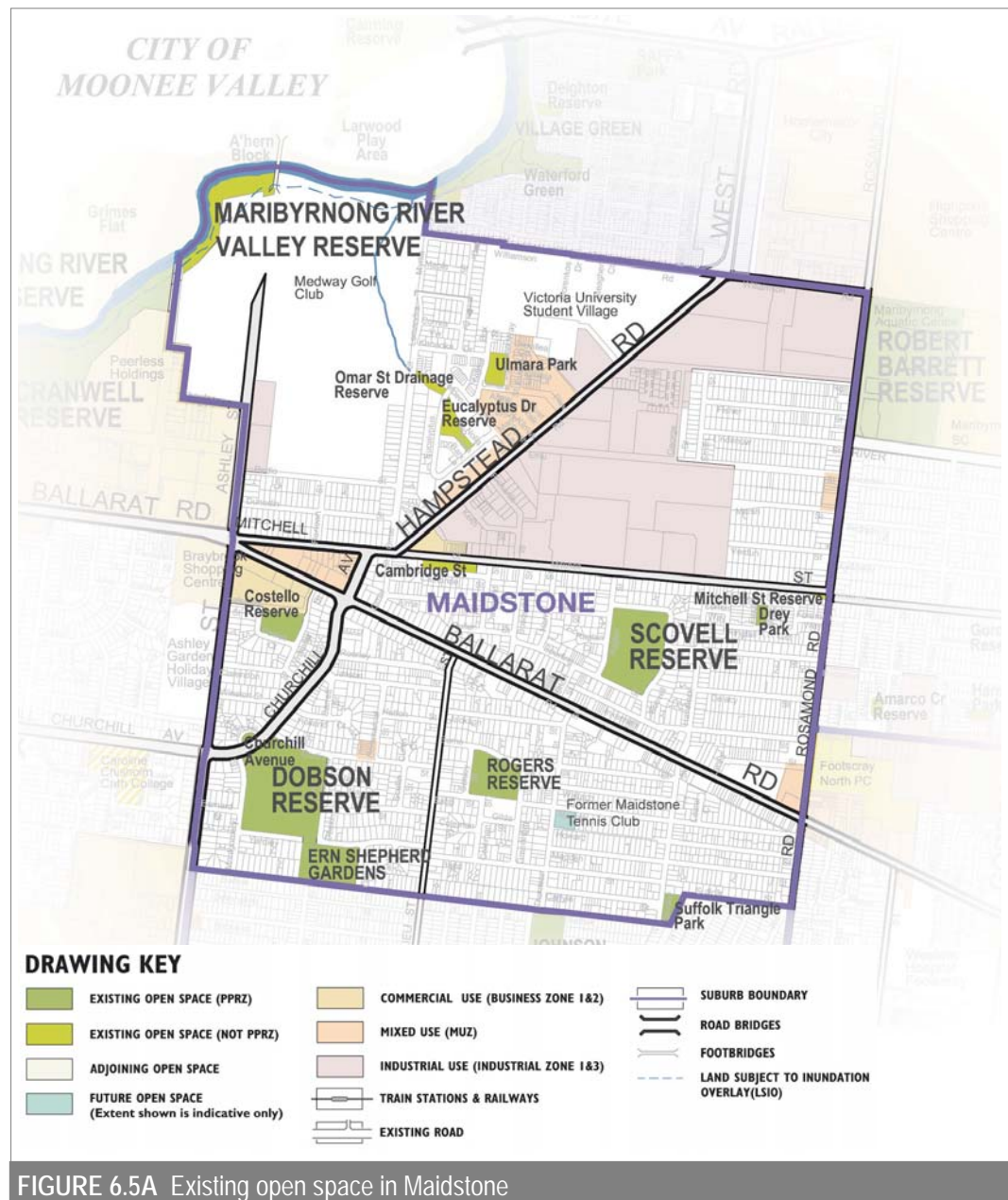


FIGURE 6.5A Existing open space in Maidstone

6.5.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space in Maidstone

Scovell Reserve is the most popular open space in Maidstone, with good visual and physical access. The circuit path and a range of facilities appeals to different age groups including the dog off lead area. Dobson Reserve is the largest open space in Maidstone and contains quality structured sporting facilities and recent upgrades include path and play facilities, however it is not as well used as Scovell Reserve. Adjoining Dobson Reserve is Ern Shepherd Gardens, a Neighbourhood open space with the Maidstone Community Centre located in it. The gardens have a mixed planting character that differentiates it from Dobson Reserve, and while they are not as well used by survey respondents of Maidstone, they receive reasonable levels of use by survey respondents from West Footscray.

As a Neighbourhood open space, Rogers Reserve has the potential to be improved and better utilised. While Costello Reserve is a Local open space size, it has a small oval and cricket pitch that is assumed to be used on an informal basis. This open space does not have local facilities and the open space survey results show it is not well used. To the north of Costello Reserve, the commercial and retail centre on Ballarat Road does not have an active interface to it which may also contribute to lower levels of use. Within the established residential areas other smaller open space includes Suffolk Triangle and Drey Park.

To the north, in the more recently established sections of Maidstone, new open space has been added to the network including Ulmara Park and Eucalyptus Drive Reserve. Access to the Maribyrnong River is provided through Cranwell Reserve in Braybrook. Medway Golf Club owns the land down to the Maribyrnong River to the east of the footbridge, which restricts public access along the river corridor in Maidstone.

Ancillary open space

While privately owned, the Medway Golf Course contributes to the open space and landscape amenity of the northern part of this precinct.

Land use and character

South of Mitchell Street the land use is predominantly residential with some retail and business use along the major roads. North of Mitchell Street the land use includes a combination of residential and industrial use. North west of Hampstead Road the land use includes a combination of the Medway Golf Club land that is privately owned, Victoria University student housing, the Immigration Detention Centre and residential land use.

6.5.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in Maidstone

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for quantity of open space in Maidstone:

- 16.12 hectares of open space
- 5 per cent of the total suburb area is open space
- 5 per cent of the total open space in the City of Maribyrnong
- 19 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013
- Other major areas of open space within 400 metres of Maidstone include Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve, Waterford Green, Robert Barrett Reserve and Johnson Reserve.

6.5.1c Open space hierarchy and character in Maidstone

Table 6.5-1 List of existing open space type and character classification

Open space	Area (PPRZ)	Area (Not PPRZ)	Area sqm	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
CAMBRIDGE STREET	0	3,935	3,935	0.39	Local	Significant road reservation	Informal
CHURCHILL AVENUE	733	0	733	0.07	Small Local	Significant road reservation	
COSTELLO RESERVE	7,772	0	7,772	0.78	Local	Informal	Sporting
DOBSON RESERVE	51,683	704	52,387	5.24	Municipal	Sporting	Informal
DREY PARK	1,753	0	1,753	0.18	Small Local	Formal (Native)	
ERN SHEPHERD GARDENS	16,720	0	16,720	1.67	Neighbourhood	Informal	
EUCALYPTUS DRIVE RESERVE	0	5,010	5,010	0.50	Local	Informal	
MARIBYRNONG RIVER VALLEY RESERVE	0	16,559	16,559	1.66	Regional	Waterway	Nature conservation
MITCHELL STREET RESERVE	0	583	583	0.06	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Gateway
OMAR STREET DRAINAGE RESERVE	0	1,945	1,945	0.19	Small Local	Service easement	Linking space
ROGERS RESERVE	14,817	0	14,817	1.48	Neighbourhood	Informal	
SCOVELL RESERVE	31,943	0	31,943	3.19	Municipal	Sporting	Informal
SUFFOLK TRIANGLE PARK	2,437	0	2,437	0.24	Small Local	Linking space	Significant road reservation
ULMARA PARK	4,625	0	4,625	0.46	Local	Informal	
Total open space	132,483	28,736	161,219	16.12			

6.5.1d Distribution of open space in Maidstone

Open space is reasonably well distributed across Maidstone with a diversity of different types of open space. The major gaps in open space provision occur in the industrial land use areas, many of which are changing to mixed or residential use in the future.

Refer to diagram on the following page.

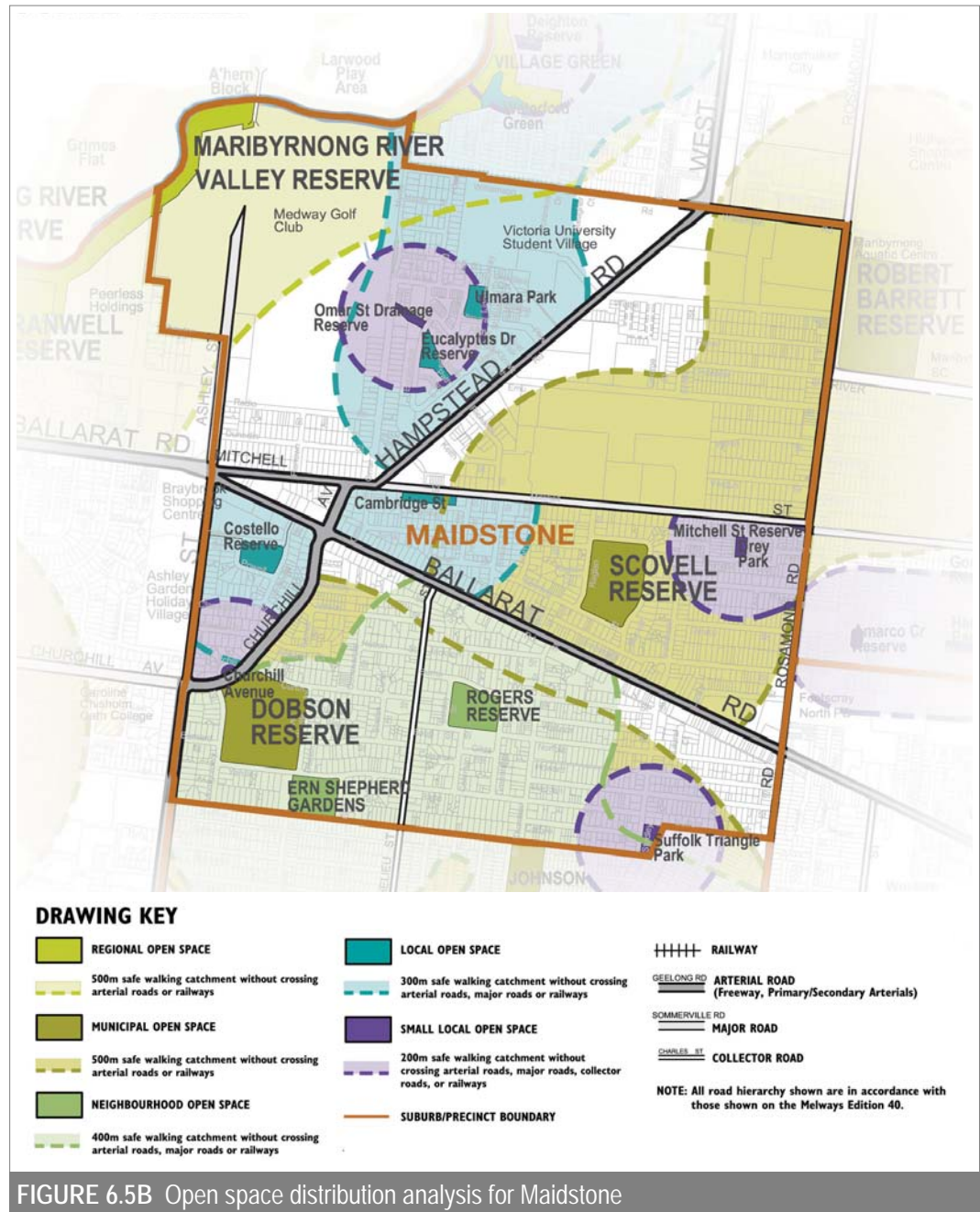


FIGURE 6.5B Open space distribution analysis for Maidstone

6.5.2 Community characteristics for Maidstone

6.5.2a Demographic summary of existing forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting 2013, accessed November 2013

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 25 to 34 years followed by 35 to 49 years. The forecast trend to 2031 is an increase in younger families with more children and people in the 35 to 59 age range. Other age groups will remain relatively stable. Compared with the municipal-wide average, there is a lower proportion of 0 to 4 year olds and 35 to 49 year olds, and a higher proportion of tertiary aged students in the 18 to 24 year age range reflecting the Victoria University student

housing in Maidstone. This student housing complex is forecast to close in the near future.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- An overall increase in the 0 to 11 year age group.
- An increase in the 35 to 59 year age group.
- A decline in the 18 to 34 year age groups.

Household type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there is a slightly higher proportion of couples without children and group households, and a lower proportion of one parent families and lone person households.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- Proportionally a slight increase in the proportion of couples without dependents and lone person households
- Other household types to remain at similar proportions.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there is a similar proportion of separate houses, more medium density housing and less high density housing in Maidstone. Between 2006 and 2011, the trends indicate there was a decline in separate housing and an increase in medium and high density housing.

Total population (2013): 8,038*

Forecast population in 2031: 10,493* (increase of 2,455)

**Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013*

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.5.2c.

6.5.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for Maidstone

A total of 102 open space surveys were received from Maidstone, which represents 5 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is lower than the proportion of Maidstone residents in the City of Maribyrnong population, which is 11 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
21%	Scovell Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to home • Dog walking • Jogging / running 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More BBQs required • Additional trees required • Improvements to public toilets required
17%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling • Jogging / running • Exercising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more drinking fountains • Regular maintenance and cleaning required • Maintenance/ improvements to paths required
13%	Johnson Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Exercising • Fitness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements/ upgrade to tennis facilities required • Additional lighting required

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
11%	Dobson Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking Close to home Dog walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional trees required Improvements to basketball ring/ half court required
Open space beyond walking distance			
17%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jogging/ running Walking Waterway 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional trees required Provide more drinking fountains Additional lighting required
10%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling Large trees Passing through/ shortcut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more public toilets Encourage community involvement in open space
4%	Burndap Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking Cycling Dog walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide separate cycle paths More dog waste bags/ bins required

Types of open space used (top four):

86% Maribyrnong River
75% Small local parks
75% Local streets for exercise
70% Large parks and gardens

Values (top four):

73% Trees
57% Health and wellbeing
56% Place to relax and unwind
54% Place for kids to play.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

81% Walking paths
70% Open grassed areas
68% Seats
51% Picnic tables.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- Facilities in open space have generally been less frequently used by Maidstone respondents compared to the municipal-wide results.
- 81 per cent of respondents regularly use walking paths, with only 44 per cent being satisfied with their level of provision, and 55 per cent satisfied with their maintenance.
- 70 per cent use open grassed areas and only half of them are satisfied with their level of provision and 47 per cent satisfied with their maintenance.
- 60 per cent use seats, with only 22 per cent satisfied with their provision, however 49 per cent are satisfied with their maintenance level.
- More than 40 per cent of respondents are not satisfied with the provision of drinking fountains, seats, picnic tables and public toilets.
- The level of satisfaction with maintenance of open grassed areas and walking paths is lower than the municipal-wide average.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 37 per cent of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:

- 34% Concerned about personal safety
- 29% Busy traffic so difficult to access
- 29% Other
- 24% Lack of time.

General comments:

- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space is required.
- Improvement to safety in open space is required, including improvement of passive surveillance.
- Provide additional open space.
- Provide additional public toilets in open space.
- Appreciate the improvements to the existing open space.
- Additional trees required in open space.
- Additional cycle paths.
- Concerns about the impact of development on open space.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 9 per cent of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- All Maidstone respondents who work in the City of Maribyrnong also visit open space near their work place. The reasons include:
 - 18 Being outdoors as a break from work
 - 17 Fitness/exercise (informal)
 - 09 Cycling/jogging/walking to and from work.

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

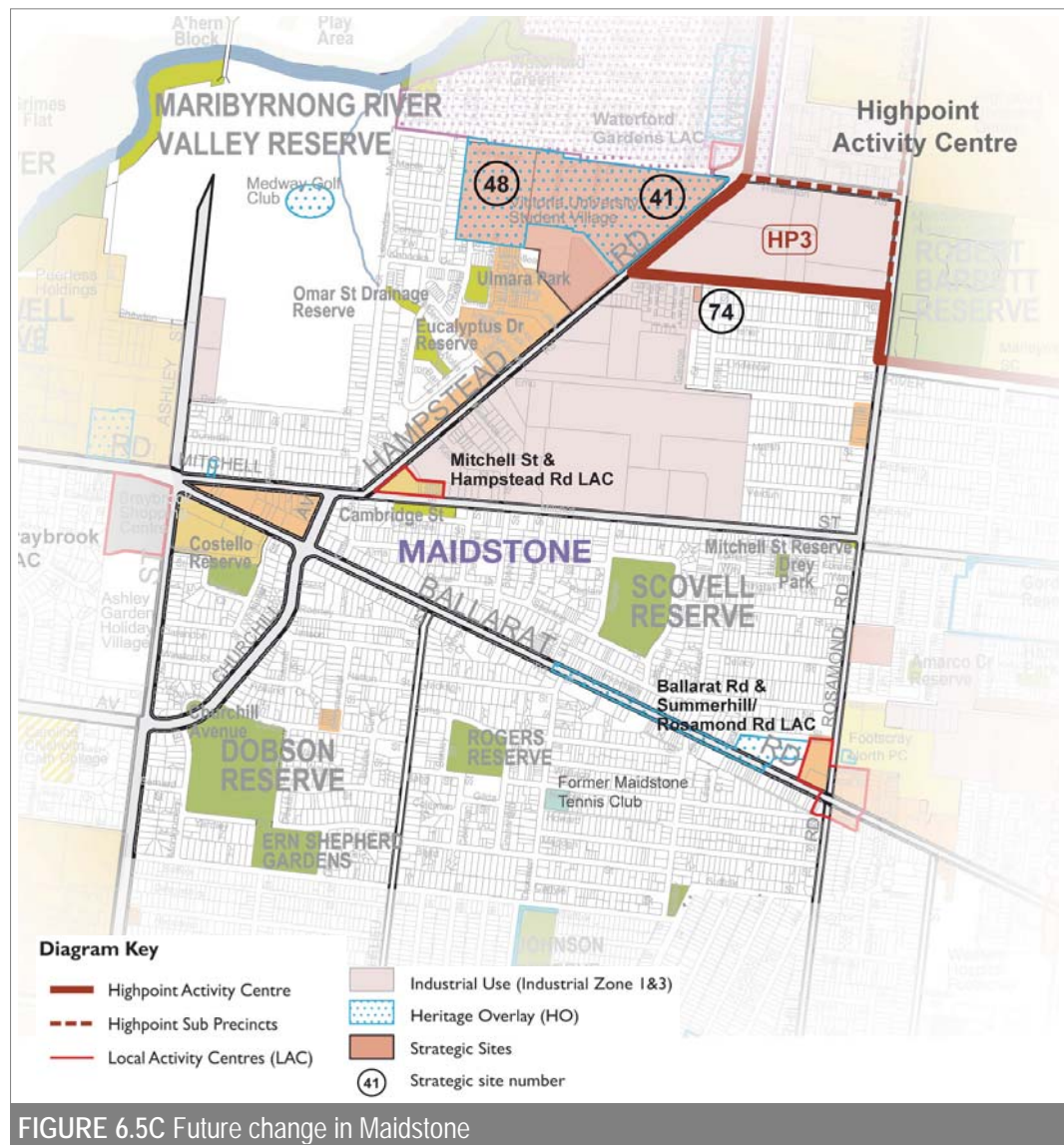
6.5.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in Maidstone

The main change in the forecast population is an overall increase in young children and the family groups. The trend towards higher density housing also means that family groups are likely to have less private open space into the future.

Therefore future open space planning is intended to increase the diversity of facilities for family groups to encourage all ages including adults out into open space to maintain physical and social health and wellbeing. It will be important to maintain a diversity of facilities to meet the needs of all ages, recognising the most populous age group will remain the 25 to 49 year olds.

6.5.3 Future change in Maidstone

6.5.3a Summary of the change



The forecast residential population increase in Maidstone represents approximately 28 per cent change with a forecast increase of 2,318 residents between 2013 and 2031. 536 of the forecast residents are apportioned to the former Victoria University housing site on Hampstead Road. East of Hampstead Road, approximately 540 of the forecast resident population are apportioned to the Highpoint Activity Centre area HP3. Strategic Site (No. 74) on Wattle Road has approximately 50 residents apportioned to it and is located just south of the Highpoint Activity Centre area HP3.

More than 50 per cent of the forecast population increase has been apportioned to the balance of suburb, meaning it will be distributed throughout the precinct, representing just over 1,310 people. This will create additional demand for open space throughout the established residential areas.

Figure 6.5C shows the extent of existing Heritage Overlay and Neighbourhood Character Overlay areas within Maidstone, the extent of the Highpoint Activity Centre boundary and other Local Activity Centres.

6.5.3b Implications of future change on open space planning

Highpoint Activity Centre

The majority of Highpoint Shopping Centre is located in Maribyrnong, and for a description of this refer to Section 6.6.3b. This southern extent of the Highpoint Activity Centre includes a forecast resident population of 540 as part of a mixed use precinct. Therefore it is likely there will also be an increase in the worker population adding to the demand for a local open space within easy walking distance.

Maidstone Hampstead Road East Framework Plan

The Framework Plan has been prepared for industrial land east of Hampstead Road and south of the Highpoint Activity Centre as shown on Figure 6.5D. This area has been used for large scale industrial activities including cold storage and large warehouse storage. The Framework Plan seeks to improve the precinct through the redevelopment of larger underutilised sites with mixed use and some residential development. While this plan has only recently been prepared, the longer term implication for open space in this precinct is to increase the need for open space within safe walking distance of this precinct.

6.5.4 Sub-precinct analysis of open space provision including gap areas



FIGURE 6.5D Open space sub-precinct diagram for Maidstone

Table 6.5-2 Open space sub-precinct analysis for Maidstone

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
Maidstone 1	D1 & D2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north west of Hampstead Road and includes the Medway Golf Club. The land use includes residential, industrial, mixed use and special use. Currently the precinct is undergoing redevelopment with an increased proportion of residential use. The Strategic Site Nos. 41 and 48 have approximately 550 forecast future residents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council will continue to liaise with Medway Golf Club and other agencies as required to secure a continuous public open space corridor along the Maribyrnong River through the golf club. While the Medway Golf Club is forecast to continue as this current land use, in the future if the land use was to change, then the need for any additional open space associated with a change would potentially require additional open space than currently proposed in this Strategy. Improve access to existing open space from Gap Area D1 by constructing a

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
		<p>apportioned to them in the catchment of the Gap Area D2.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existing open space includes the Maribyrnong River Linear Reserve and three smaller areas of open space. 	<p>path along the Omar Street Drainage Reserve that provides an east-west open space link to Eucalyptus Drive Reserve, and avoids the need to walk out onto Hampstead Road. This will adequately address Gap Area D1 assuming no change to the current land use in Medway Golf Club.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap Area D2 is exacerbated by the lack of open space and pedestrian connectivity between the residential areas immediately north of the site. For this reason an additional Small Local open space is required within the Strategic Site numbers 41 and 48 to provide for the local open space needs of the forecast population. Continue to maintain the other open spaces in the sub-precinct, given they are only recently established.
Maidstone 2	D3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Hampstead and Rosamond Roads north of Mitchell Street. This includes the Highpoint Activity Centre sub-precinct HP3, where approximately 540 of the forecast resident population have been apportioned. This includes the land associated with the Hampstead Road East Framework Plan, where forecast change to mixed use will see an intensification of non-residential population along with residential use. It is assumed that a proportion of the balance of suburb resident population will be located in this sub-precinct in the future. No existing open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Given the change in land use and future population, additional open space will be required. For the Highpoint sub-precinct HP3, a new Small Local open space will be required to meet the local open space needs of the additional 540 residents and the future worker population that is anticipated to be located here as part of any future mixed use development. As part of the consolidation of uses in the Hampstead East Road Framework Plan, a new Neighbourhood open space will be required to meet the forecast worker and resident needs for open space in this sub-precinct. Existing residents east of this area will also benefit from the proposed open space and assist to provide good connectivity between the established area the forecast future mixed use area.
Maidstone 3a	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bounded by major roads this sub-precinct does not have any open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve pedestrian amenity and safety crossing Ballarat Road to the south and Churchill Avenue to the east for access to existing open space. If there is a substantial forecast population increase in this sub-precinct, then a Small Local open space will be required. This is not included in the

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
			open space contribution rate, as no change is forecast within the timeframe of this Strategy.
Maidstone 3b	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South of Ballarat Road and west of Churchill Street this is predominantly a residential precinct which is likely to experience some population growth as part of the balance of suburb. • Existing open space includes Costello Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrade Costello Reserve to improve use for existing and forecast population, as the open space surveys identify this reserve is not well used.
Maidstone 4	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between Mitchell Street and Ballarat Road this area is predominantly residential land use. • Existing open space includes Scovell Reserve, Drey Park and Cambridge Street Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scovell Reserve is the most popular open space in Maidstone, with the key reason for visiting being to exercise dogs off-lead. There is potential to improve this reserve to better meet local open space needs.
Maidstone 5	D4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South of Ballarat Road, with the local street network to the south. • Predominantly residential land use. • Existing open space includes Dobson Reserve, Erin Shepherd Gardens, Rogers Reserve and Suffolk Triangle Park. • Currently this sub-precinct is well provided for with open space to the west with Gap Area D4 to the north east. • Anticipate some forecast growth in balance of suburb. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gap Area D4 will be addressed by improvements to the local street network to improve accessibility to the new open space currently proposed for the former Maidstone Tennis Club site. • Upgrade Rogers Reserve and Ern Shepherd Gardens.

6.5.5 Recommendations for Maidstone

6.5.5a Summary of the overall intent

Provision and distribution open space

Provision of open space south of Mitchell Street is adequate, while to the north, there are some gaps in the network. Access to the Maribyrnong River open space corridor is to be improved in the future with Council continuing to liaise with the Medway Golf Club to achieve access along the river through the golf club land to provide a connection between Village Green and Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve.

North of Mitchell Street Maidstone is forecast to continue to experience change with an increase in both the resident and worker population as this area changes from large scale industrial to mixed use and residential use. Additional open space is recommended in this area for the forecast future population.

In the southern areas of the precinct, minor gaps in provision can be overcome with improvements to nearby open space, including a new area of open space currently in the process of being established on the former Maidstone Tennis Courts.

Quality and design of open space

The objective is to improve the diversity of open space character and facilities that encourage participation in both structured and unstructured sport and recreation. This has already commenced with recent works at Dobson Reserve and will inform upgrades to existing open spaces, particularly south of Mitchell Street. The existing Neighbourhood open spaces will be upgraded to primarily provide for unstructured recreation and informal use.

In the higher density mixed use precincts, the new open spaces will be designed to cater to both workers and residents, and include some contemplative spaces. These smaller spaces will be well distributed and designed to assist mitigate urban heat build up.

6.5.5b Precinct actions for Maidstone

The priorities shown in the Action tables are indicative only. The priorities provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development.

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5A-1	Continue to liaise with Medway Golf Course and other state and local government agencies as required to secure an open space corridor along the Maribyrnong River. Once secured, develop a shared trail linking Maribyrnong River Reserve with Cranwell Park. The costs associated with providing this open space are not included in this contribution rate, as the need for this open space is for the regional population within and beyond the City of Maribyrnong.	MCC Medway Golf Club Vic Govt (BCC)	Very High
6.5A-2	Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area D2 within the strategic sites in sub-precinct Maidstone 1 to provide for the local open space needs of the forecast population.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.5A-3	Provide a new Small Local open space in the Highpoint sub-precinct HP3 primarily for the open space needs of the forecast population.	MCC Developer	High
6.5A-4	Provide a new Neighbourhood open space in the vicinity of and preferably slightly north of Emu Road for the forecast population in sub-precinct Maidstone 2. This is to address Gap Area D3 and increased intensification of use in the sub-precinct including HP3 and also sub-precinct HP1 in Maribyrnong.	MCC Developer	Very High

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this Section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5B-1	Improve access to existing open space from sub-precinct Maidstone 3a by improving the pedestrian amenity and safety of crossing points over Ballarat Road and Churchill Avenue to the east.	MCC	High
6.5B-2	Investigate the potential to improve pedestrian accessibility in the local street network to improve accessibility from Gap Area D4 to new open space currently proposed for the former Maidstone Tennis Club site and Suffolk Triangle Park.	MCC	High

6.5.5c Actions for existing individual open spaces in Maidstone

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5C-1	Maribyrnong River Valley Reserve Continue to maintain, including improving biodiversity values while maintaining clear sightlines for safety and access.	MCC DEPI	Medium

D Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5D-1	Dobson Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.5D-2	Scovell Reserve Undertake minor upgrade to provide additional seating and barbecue facilities at the reserve to better meet existing open space needs and also cater to forecast population.	MCC	High

E Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5E-1	Ern Shepherd Gardens Minor upgrade to improve the condition of the garden beds, planting character and additional seating areas, to better meet the needs of the existing community.	MCC	Medium
6.5E-2	Rogers Reserve Major upgrade to provide an additional picnic and seating area to improve the role of this space as a community meeting place. Extend the play facility and reinforce the focus as a play area in this sub-precinct, particularly given the forecast changing demographics as described in 6.5.2a.	MCC	High

F Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5F-1	Cambridge Street Plant additional trees and provide well placed seating to take advantage of shade. Continue to maintain.	MCC	Low
6.5F-2	Costello Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to improve the level of use of this reserve, and also consideration of the forecast population needs as well.	MCC	Medium
6.5F-3	Eucalyptus Drive Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5F-4	Ulmara Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

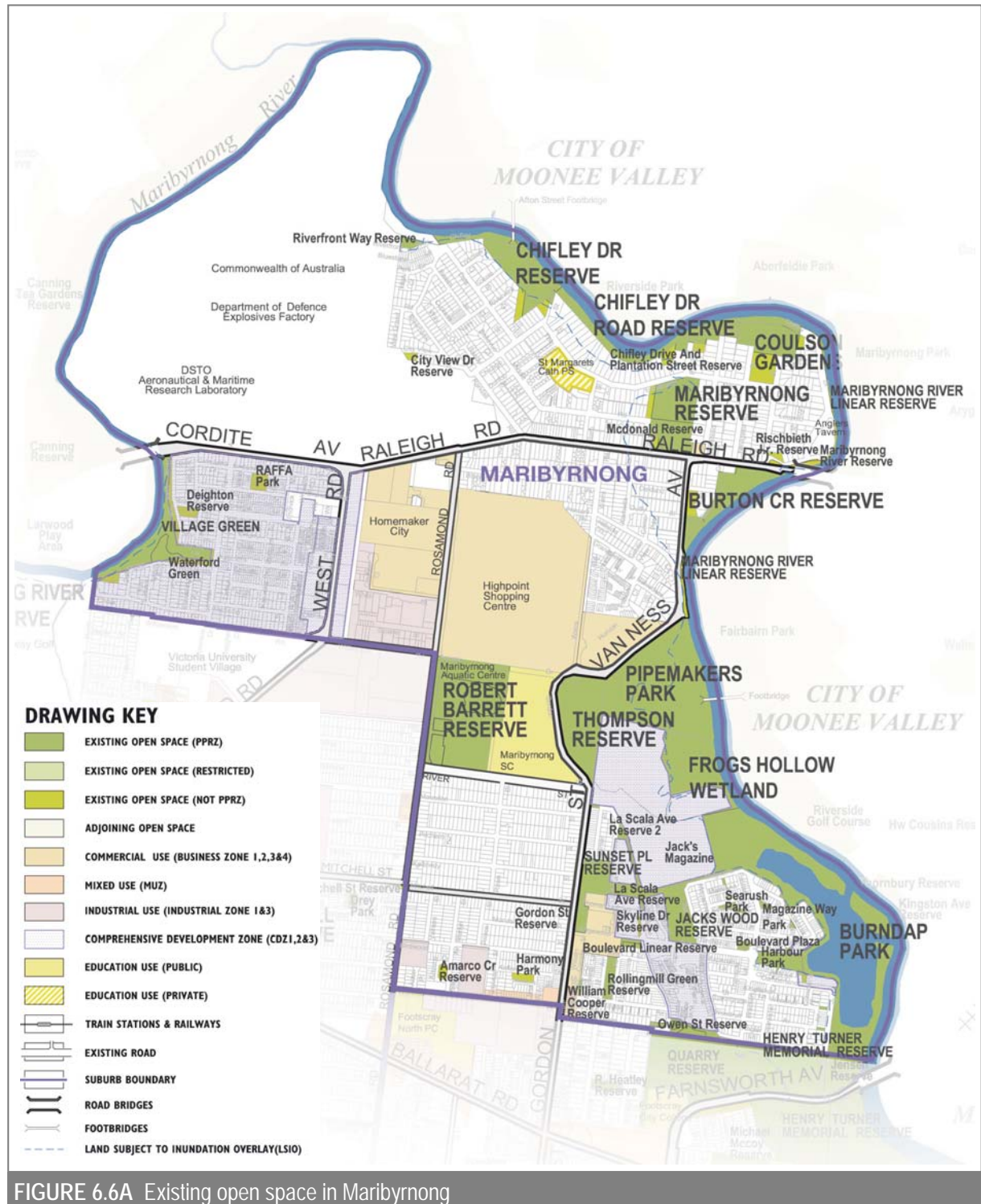
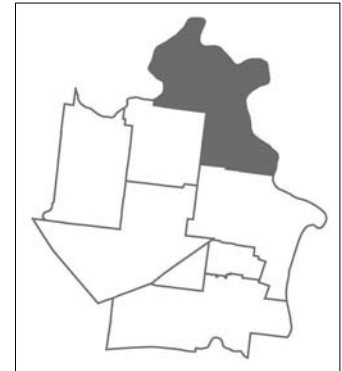
G Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.5G-1	Churchill Avenue Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.5G-2	Drey Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.5G-3	Mitchell Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.5G-4	Omar Street Drainage Reserve Construct a path network to improve pedestrian access from the residential area to the west in Gap Area D1.	MCC	High
6.5G-5	Suffolk Triangle Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

6.6 Maribyrnong

6.6.1 Existing conditions



6.6.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space in Maribyrnong

The key open space feature of this precinct is the Maribyrnong River and the open space corridor along it. Linked with a continuous shared trail between Footscray Park in the south to the start of the Maribyrnong Defence Site in the north, the Maribyrnong River is the most popular open space system in Maribyrnong, offering a diversity of character and facilities along it.

North of Raleigh Road, the established area of Maribyrnong includes a formal boulevard road and shared trail treatment to the Maribyrnong River which is popular for walking and cycling. A diversity of open spaces adjoin the continuous road system through here including the informal native character of Chifley Drive Reserve to a more formal exotic character of Coulson Gardens. The structured sporting facilities north of Raleigh Road are provided at Maribyrnong Reserve.

South of Raleigh Road Highpoint Activity Centre is a major regional shopping precinct. Immediately adjoining Highpoint Shopping Centre is Robert Barrett Reserve with the indoor aquatic facility and outdoor sports fields, bowling and tennis. Directly adjoining Robert Barrett Reserve, the Maribyrnong Secondary College has recently upgraded their sports facilities and have a sports program that is linked to Victoria University and the Western Bulldogs. To the west of Highpoint is the residential area that extends to the open space corridor along the Maribyrnong with Village Green and Waterford Green as key open space reserves for this precinct. The Maribyrnong Defence Site separates this section of open space along the Maribyrnong from the Chifley Road Drive Reserve. In the long term redevelopment of the Maribyrnong Defence Site is anticipated to provide connectivity upstream.

To the south east of Highpoint, an extensive residential development is nearing completion and includes the popular Burndap Park and Frogs Hollow Wetland as part of the Regional open space along the Maribyrnong. Harbour Park is an urban space that adjoins Burndap Park providing a different setting and experience. Jacks Wood and Sunset Reserves are larger Neighbourhood open spaces in this more recent residential area. Jacks Wood Reserve includes established native trees with an informal bushland character, and Sunset Reserve has a more formal open parkland character.

Council has recently assumed management of Pipemakers Park with its unique industrial history. Community facilities located there include the Living Museum of the West. Thompson Reserve is a large Municipal open space overlooking the Maribyrnong River corridor and is a designated dog off lead area, however access into both these reserves is poor.

Land use and character

Maribyrnong has changed significantly over the past few decades from an area dominated by industrial land use, quarrying and defence industries to predominantly residential, commercial and open space. The Maribyrnong

Defence Site north of Cordite Avenue is the last major piece of defence land remaining to be decontaminated and redeveloped. The timeframe for this redevelopment is currently forecast to commence within the timeframe of this Strategy, with nearly 4,000 forecast to be living on the site by 2031.

6.6.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in Maribyrnong

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for quantity of open space in Maribyrnong:

- 93.76 hectares of open space.
- 17 per cent of the total suburb area is open space
- 30 per cent of the total open space in the City of Maribyrnong
- 79 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013.

6.6.1c Open space hierarchy and character in Maribyrnong

Table 6.6-1 List of existing open space type and character classification

Open space	Area (PPRZ)	Area (Not PPRZ)	Area sqm	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
AMARCO CRESENT RESERVE	0	1,709	1,709	0.17	Small Local	Informal	
BOULEVARD LINEAR RESERVE	2,124	0	2,124	0.21	Small Local	Significant road reservation	Linear
BOULEVARD PLAZA	1,589	0	1,589	0.16	Small Local	Urban plaza	
BURNDAP PARK	218,607	0	218,607	21.86	Regional	Waterway	Service easement, Linear, Native landscape
BURTON CRESCENT RESERVE	28,741	3,672	32,413	3.24	Neighbourhood	Informal	Waterway, Linear
CHIFLEY DRIVE ROAD RESERVE	43,660	0	43,660	4.37	Regional	Linear	Waterway
CHIFLEY DRIVE AND PLANTATION STREET RESERVE	5,664	3,561	9,225	0.92	Local	Informal	Waterway
CHIFLEY DRIVE RESERVE	24,859	4,363	29,222	2.92	Neighbourhood	Informal	Waterway
CITY VIEW DRIVE RESERVE	0	1,132	1,132	0.11	Small Local	Linking space	
COULSON GARDENS	23,312	10,110	33,422	3.34	Regional	Public gardens	Informal
DEIGHTON RESERVE	0	2,449	2,449	0.24	Small Local	Viewing	Informal
FROGS HOLLOW WETLAND	38,683	19,511	58,194	5.82	Regional	Wetland/WSUD	Waterway Linear, Nature conservation
GORDON STREET RESERVE	3,473	0	3,473	0.35	Local	Formal (Native)	Cultural, Linking space
HARBOUR PARK	9,417	680	10,097	1.01	Local	Urban plaza	Waterway, Linking space
HARMONY PARK	0	2,197	2,197	0.22	Small Local	Informal	
JACKS WOOD RESERVE	24,528	0	24,528	2.45	Neighbourhood	Informal	Bushland/natural
LA SCALA AVENUE RESERVE	4,351	0	4,351	0.44	Local	Linking space	Viewing
LA SCALA AVENUE RESERVE 2	1,505	0	1,505	0.15	Small Local	Linking space	
MAGAZINE WAY PARK	1,012	0	1,012	0.10	Small Local	Informal	
MARIBYRNONG RESERVE	22,416	2,330	24,746	2.47	Neighbourhood	Sporting	
MARIBYRNONG RIVER LINEAR RESERVE (Pipemakers Park to Burton Crescent)	0	1,892	1,892	0.19	Regional	Linear	Waterway
MARIBYRNONG RIVER LINEAR RESERVE (Raleigh Road to Coulson Gardens)	0	3,366	3,366		Regional	Linear	Waterway
MARIBYRNONG RIVER RESERVE	0	2,988	2,988	0.30	Regional	Waterway	Linear, Heritage
MCDONALD RESERVE	15,710	732	16,442	1.64	Neighbourhood	Cultural	
OWEN STREET RESERVE	8,921	0	8,921	0.89	Local	Linking space	Informal
PIPEMAKERS PARK	110,540	0	110,540	11.05	Regional	Heritage	Waterway, Cultural, Nature conservation, Informal

Table 6.6-1 List of existing open space type and character classification (continued)

Open space	Area (PPRZ)	Area (Not PPRZ)	Area sqm	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
RAFFA PARK	0	3,435	3,435	0.34	Local	Public square	Formal (Exotic)
RISCHBIETH J.R. RESERVE	0	1,055	1,055	0.11	Small Local	Undeveloped	
RIVERFRONT WAY RESERVE	2,385	0	2,385	0.24	Small Local	Waterway	Informal
ROBERT BARRETT RESERVE	94,431	0	94,431	9.44	Municipal	Sporting	Restricted sport/recreation, Informal
ROLLINGMILL GREEN RESERVE	5,237	0	5,237	0.52	Local	Informal	
SEARUSH PARK	2,305	0	2,305	0.23	Small Local	Public square	
SKYLINE DRIVE RESERVE	0	704	704	0.07	Small Local	Significant road reservation	
SUNSET PLACE RESERVE	16,019	0	16,019	1.60	Neighbourhood	Informal	
THOMPSON RESERVE	47,308	69,096	116,404	11.64	Municipal	Viewing	Informal
VILLAGE GREEN	27,460	11,325	38,785	3.88	Regional	Formal (Exotic)	Waterway
WATERFORD GREEN	4,749	1,322	6,071	0.61	Local	Wetland/WSUD	Waterway
WILLIAM COOPER RESERVE	978	0	978	0.10	Small Local	Linking space	
Total open space	789,984	147,629	937,613	93.76			

6.6.1d Distribution of open space in Maribyrnong

Figure 6.6B illustrates the distribution of different types of open space in Maribyrnong. The north has a diversity of open space types including Regional, Municipal, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space. This is in contrast to the south where there is a larger number of Small Local and Local open spaces and less Municipal open space.

Two main gaps in distribution occur around the Highpoint Activity Centre and the Maribyrnong Defence Site. Both these areas are forecast to receive substantial population growth and change in the future and therefore additional open space is recommended in this Strategy to address these gaps.

Refer to Figure 6.6B on the following page.



6.6.2 Community characteristics for Maribyrnong

6.6.2a Demographic summary of existing forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting 2013, accessed November 2013

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 25 to 34 years followed by 35 to 49 years. This is forecast to change by 2031 to the 35 to 49 age range being the most populous and the 25 to 34 year age range being the second most populous. The forecast trend to 2031 is an increase in the 5 to 17 age range, and an increase in the 50+ age range. Overall, this represents an ageing population. Compared with the municipal-wide average, there is a lower proportion of 0 to 4 year olds and 35 to 49 year olds, and a higher proportion of primary schoolers and tertiary aged students.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- An overall increase in the 5 to 17 year age group and decline in 0 to 4.
- An increase in the 35 plus year age groups.

Household type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there is a higher proportion of Couples with and without children and a lower proportion of lone person households.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- Current trends will continue with a slight increase in the Lone person households by 2031.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there is a substantially higher proportion of medium density dwellings with 40 per cent in Maribyrnong and 31 per cent as the Municipal-wide average. Correspondingly single detached dwellings represent 48 per cent of dwellings in Maribyrnong compared 60 per cent as the Municipal-wide average.

Total population (2013): 11,907*

Forecast population in 2031: 19,252* (increase of 7,346)

**Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013*

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.6.2c.

6.6.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for Maribyrnong

A total of 285 open space surveys were received from Maribyrnong, which represents 14 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is the same as the proportion of Maribyrnong residents in the City of Maribyrnong population, which is also 14 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
50%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking Jogging/running Exercising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide additional lighting Additional rubbish bins required Provide additional seating
16%	Burndap Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close to home Take children to the park Exercising 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular maintenance and cleaning required Additional rubbish bins required Regular removal of rubbish required
11%	Pipemakers Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking Dog walking Close to home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular maintenance and cleaning required Additional lighting required Additional dog waste bags/bins required
9%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relaxation Picnics Dog off-lead area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional rubbish bins required Provide more public toilets Provide more seating
Open space beyond walking distance			
9%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking Cycling Community hub/meeting space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflicts between pedestrians and cyclists on shared paths More flowers and colour in vegetation
6%	Open space outside the Municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community hub/meeting space Ambience, beauty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve ambience Additional fencing required
5%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling Layout of the open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more drinking fountains Regular maintenance and cleaning required

Types of open space used (top four):

98% Maribyrnong River
73% Local streets for exercise
71% Large parks and gardens
70% Small local parks

Values (top four):

71% Place to relax and unwind
70% Trees
61% Health and wellbeing
59% Escape from traffic noise and movement.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

97% Walking paths
78% Open grassed areas
73% Seats
53% Cycle paths.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- 97 per cent of Maribyrnong residents have used walking paths in the last twelve months, which is higher than the Municipal average of 88 per cent. While 97 per cent used walking paths 58 per cent were satisfied with their provision, and 68 per cent saying they are satisfied with their maintenance.
- Seats are well used with more than 77 per cent noting they use them, however, only 27 per cent responded that there are enough of them. There is generally a good level of satisfaction with their maintenance.
- 78 per cent of people have used open grassed areas in the last 12 months and 44 per cent were satisfied with their level of provision, while 24 per cent answered no to this question. 68 per cent are satisfied with their maintenance.
- As for many other precincts, more than 40 per cent of respondents were not satisfied with the provision of public toilets, drinking fountains, seats and picnic tables.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 29 per cent of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:
 - 44% Concerned about personal safety
 - 37% Other
 - 36% Uninviting
 - 27% Facilities do not appeal.

General comments:

- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space is required.
- Provide additional lighting.
- Provide additional open space.
- Concerns about the impact of development on open space.
- Appreciate the existing open space.
- Provide additional rubbish bins in open space.
- Improvement to safety in open space is required, including passive surveillance.
- Provide additional public toilets in open space.
- Remove litter in open space and empty rubbish bins more frequently.
- Conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians on shared paths.
- Provide additional cycle paths.
- Additional trees required in open space.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 12 per cent of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 89 per cent of Maribyrnong respondents who work in the City of Maribyrnong also visit open space near their work place. The reasons include:
 - 49 being outdoors as a break from work

- 38 fitness/exercise (informal)
- 25 cycling/jogging/walking to and from work.

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

6.6.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in Maribyrnong

The main change in the forecast population is an increasing representation of the 50 plus age group and a slight decrease in the proportion of young children and young families. The trend towards medium and higher density housing also means that family groups are likely to have less private open space into the future. While there appears to be a good level of satisfaction with open space provision in Maribyrnong, with a forecast resident population increase of more than 7,000 people, additional local open space within safe and easy walking distance will be required in some locations.

Therefore future open space planning is intended to increase the diversity of facilities for older children and adults to encourage all age groups out into open space to maintain physical and social health and wellbeing.

6.6.3 Future change in Maribyrnong

6.6.3a Summary of the future change

The forecast residential population increase in Maribyrnong is substantial, representing a 62 per cent change in the total population with a forecast increase of approximately 7,345 people.

Just over 50 per cent of the forecast residential population will be located in the Maribyrnong Defence Site, with just over 3,800 people, and currently no people reside there. Approximately 25 per cent are to be located in the Highpoint Activity Centre, with just over 1,800 new residents. Two other Strategic sites outside the previously two mentioned locations including Site No. 171 in the south where 26 people are forecast to be located, and the approximately 380 at Strategic Site No. 32, which is just outside the Highpoint Activity Centre, east of Rosamond Road. Approximately 17 per cent or just over 1,230 people are forecast to be distributed through the balance of suburb.

Figure 6.6C also shows the extent of existing Heritage Overlay and Comprehensive Development Zone areas within Maribyrnong. While redevelopment may occur within the heritage areas, it is anticipated they will receive a lower intensity of redevelopment.

6.6.3b Implications of future change on open space planning

Highpoint Activity Centre

Located primarily in Maribyrnong and extending south into Maidstone, the boundary of this centre includes the Highpoint Shopping Centre, the Maribyrnong Secondary College site, the Robert Barrett Reserve, and the land between West Road and Rosamond Road.

Highpoint Shopping Centre is one of the major retail centres in Australia and will continue to be supported as a major centre in the future. Broadly, the Highpoint Activity Centre is forecast to continue to increase a diversity of uses including some residential within the centre boundaries. Council is in the process of preparing a structure plan for this centre, however this information was not sufficiently progressed to inform this Strategy. The .id Consulting population forecasts have provided some indication of the likely intensification of residential land use within the different part of the Highpoint Activity Centre, and these have been relied on to inform the open space analysis.

Included in the boundary of the Highpoint Activity Centre is the Maribyrnong Secondary College and Robert Barrett Reserve. Recent upgrades to the secondary college have included substantial outdoor recreation facilities as part of a sporting precinct in the municipality in conjunction VUT and the Western Bulldogs. Robert Barrett Reserve forms part of the precinct, including the major aquatic facility.

Given the substantial change in the Highpoint Activity Centre, an analysis of open space provision has been undertaken for this separately and described in Table 6.6-2 below. The sub-precincts are consistent with the .id Consulting population forecast apportionment undertaken for this Strategy.

Refer to Figure 6.6C on the following page.

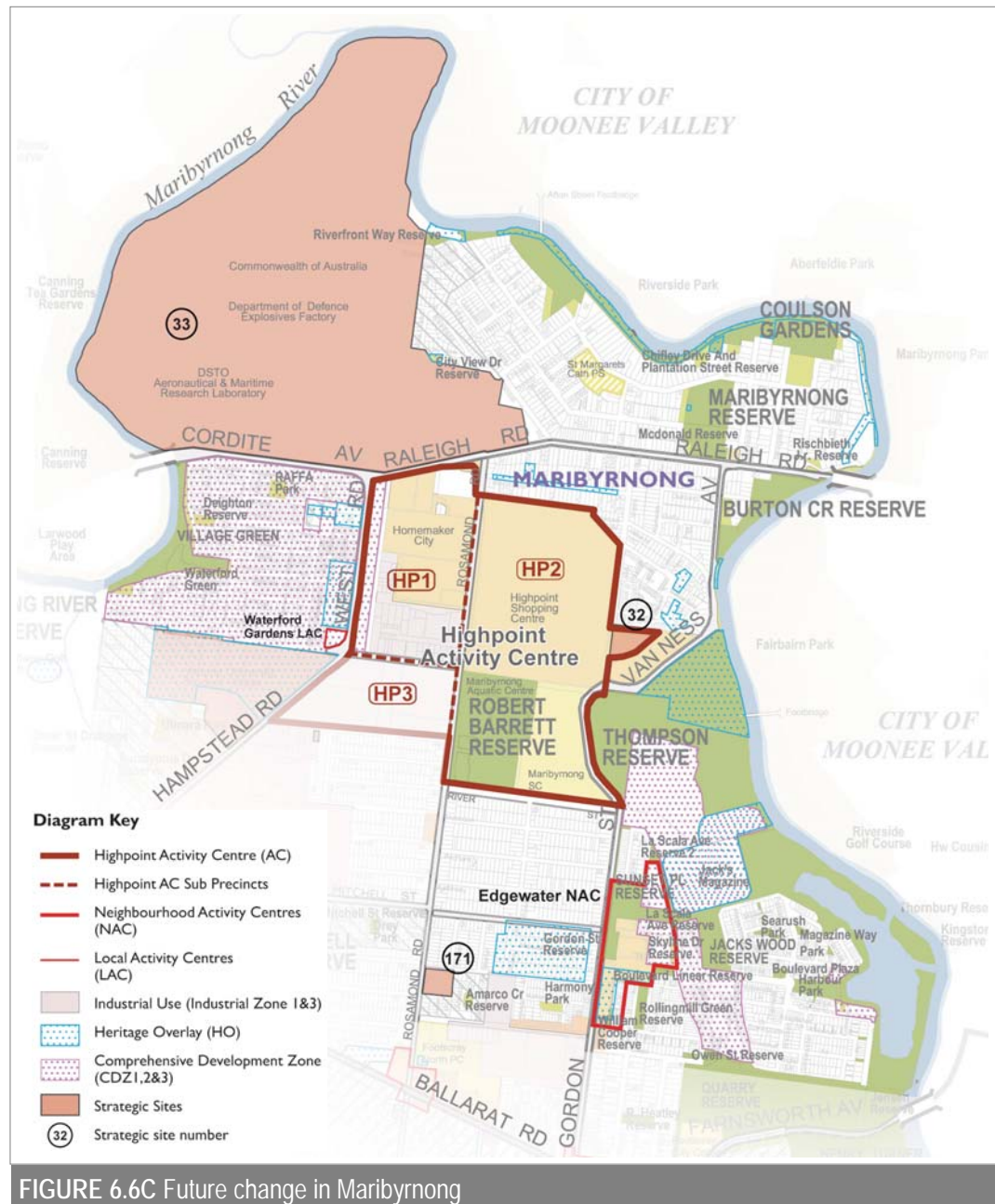


Table 6.6-2 Open space analysis for Highpoint Activity Centre only

Open space precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
HP1	M4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highpoint Activity Centre west of Rosamond Road. No existing open space within safe easy walking distance. The residential population is forecast to substantially increase from 278 to 1,771 or an additional 1,493 people by 2031. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The forecast increase in the resident population is substantial. Additional open space is therefore required to cater to this substantial population change. It is anticipated this community will also utilise the proposed Neighbourhood open space in Maidstone to the south of this sub-precinct. Based on the assumption that the new Neighbourhood open

Open space precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions of the open space analysis
			space in Maidstone will be located in the vicinity and preferably slightly north of Emu Road, then only an additional Local open space is proposed to be provided on this site, with some of the needs being met in the new open space in Maidstone.
HP2	M3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highpoint Activity Centre east of Rosamond Road. • Includes the main shopping centre and car parking for Highpoint along with Maribyrnong Secondary College and Robert Barrett Reserve. • The eastern extent includes recently constructed high density residential land use associated with Horizon Drive. • Forecast population growth in HP2 to 2031 is approximately 375 residents additional to the Strategic Site No. 32. The existing resident population in the centre is 0. • Strategic Site No. 32 is located within the Highpoint Activity Centre boundary and is forecast to have a future residential population of 379. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new Small Local open space will be required to cater to the forecast future population in the Highpoint Activity Centre and the Strategic Site No. 32 (combined forecast resident population of just over 750).
HP3	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to sub-precinct Maidstone 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to sub-precinct Maidstone 2.

Maribyrnong Defence Site, Cordite Avenue, Maribyrnong

The Department of Defence has provided some updated information on their website regarding the contamination assessment and remediation planning activities for this site, dated 23 August 2013. In summary, the Department has been undertaking contamination investigations since the agreement in 2009 for the Commonwealth Government to sell the site to the State of Victoria for mixed use development. The updated information indicates the different land use options likely for the site, which includes areas of commercial land use, residential land use and open space. The Department of Defence has been working closely with the Victorian Government on its plans for the site throughout the planning activities to date, and this collaboration will continue as details of the sale are progressed and plans are finalised.

The overall land use diagram indicates three areas of open space, however it is likely this open space will not necessarily be public open space. One of the open

space areas is proposed to contain the Engineered Facility for storing the contaminated materials onsite. No timeframes are included in the published material, however all three areas of open space are shown in Stage 3 of the project. The extensive frontage to the Maribyrnong River provides a potential future Regional open space corridor in the future.

6.6.4 Sub-precinct analysis of open space provision including gap areas

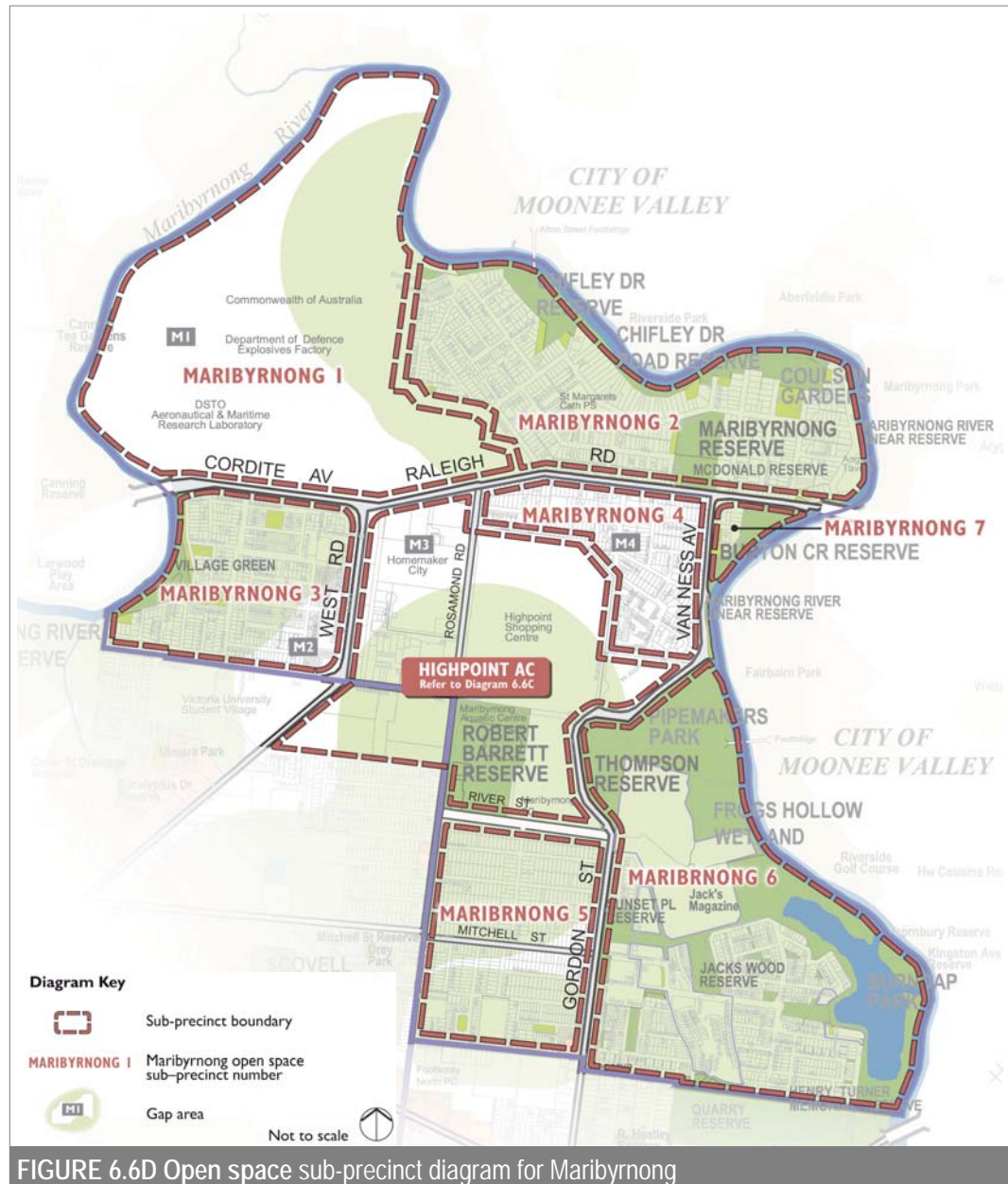


Table 6.6-3 Open space analysis for Maribyrnong outside the Highpoint Activity Centre

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
Maribyrnong 1	M1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Cordite Avenue, this area is referred to as the Maribyrnong Defence Site. It is Strategic Site No. 33 and by 2031 is forecast to have a future resident population in order of 3,800. There is no existing open space however the Maribyrnong River flows around the perimeter of the site and a future linear open space corridor has been identified to be required from this site in the future as it redevelops. This is referred to in Section 5 of this Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As referred to in Section 5, Recommendation 5.1C, additional Municipal open space is required to be provided at this site to primarily cater to the structured sporting needs of the proposed forecast population growth in Maribyrnong and the northern parts of the City including Maidstone. As referred to in Section 5.3.3a and Recommendation 5.3D, additional Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River at this site is required in the future. This is to cater to regional open space needs and is not included in the open space contribution program prepared as part of this Strategy. Additional Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space will be required on this site to provide for the substantial forecast future population on the Defence Site.
Maribyrnong 2	M2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Raleigh Road. Primarily residential land use. Some population growth likely to occur. Extensive open space system includes open space along the Maribyrnong River, Maribyrnong Reserve, Coulson Gardens and Chifley Gardens Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At a local level, some minor upgrades to existing open space will be required to better meet the existing and forecast population needs. No additional open space is required. At a regional level, the Regional open space network along the Maribyrnong River is anticipated to receive a substantial increase in visitor use, particularly in the longer term when the Maribyrnong Defence Site is developed and the open space system connects upstream. Therefore major upgrades to selected Regional open spaces are proposed in the sub-precinct to cater primarily to the additional municipal and regional population growth.
Maribyrnong 3	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently constructed residential area and open space reserves. Do not anticipate population growth in this sub-precinct. Existing open space includes Village Green, Waterford Green, Raffa Park and Deighton Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to maintain these open spaces with minor improvements based on the open space survey outcomes.
Maribyrnong	M4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South of Raleigh Road 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap Area M3 will be addressed in

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
4		<p>between Rosamond Road and Van Ness Avenue. This sub-precinct also extends across Van Ness Avenue to include residential area adjacent to Burton Crescent Reserve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established residential including an area still in construction in the vicinity of Horizon Drive. Existing open space includes Burton Crescent Reserve only. The majority of this sub-precinct does not have open space within safe and easy walking distance - as shown in Gap Area M3. 	<p>combination with the future Small Local open space as recommended for the Strategic Site No. 32, in sub-precinct HP2 (refer Table 6.6-2).</p>
Maribyrnong 5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends between River Street and Mephan Street to the south. Existing open space includes Amarco Crescent Reserve and Harmony Park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While not in a gap area, residents in the north part of this sub-precinct need to cross River Street to reach Robert Barrett Reserve. Investigate options to improve accessibility and safety of crossing Mitchell Street to reach existing open space in the south of this sub-precinct. Both Amarco Crescent Reserve and Harmony Park have recently been constructed
Maribyrnong 6		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This encompasses the area referred to as Edgewater Estate. Existing open space includes Pipemakers Park, Thompson Park, Frogs Hollow Wetland, Burndap Park and a range of recently developed open spaces established as part of the Edgewater Estate development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Strategy has documented the recently contributed open space, however given the status of the development still being in progress, an assessment of open space needs in this sub-precinct has not been undertaken, given agreements are already in place for open space. There is potential to improve the maintenance and provision of facilities in Pipemakers Park. This site has a unique history and is home to the Living Museum of the West. Thompson Reserve offers expansive views of the City, and is a dog off-lead area, however its elevated location adjacent to a major road and lack of connectivity to residential areas means it is not very well used. There is potential to improve use and connectivity of this open space, particularly to the recently established residential area to the south and Highpoint Activity Centre to the west

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis and north.
Maribyrnong 7	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located east of Van Ness Avenue and south of Cordite Avenue. No substantial forecast population change. Existing open space includes Burton Crescent Reserve and Maribyrnong River Linear Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This residential precinct has excellent access to Burton Crescent Reserve. No additional open space is required. Improve the condition and facilities in Burton Crescent Reserve for both the local community and the regional visitors to the Maribyrnong River.

6.6.5 Recommendations for Maribyrnong

6.6.5a Summary of the overall intent

Provision and distribution of open space

While there is adequate provision of Regional open space along the Maribyrnong River they are difficult to reach from parts of the established urban areas. Substantial population growth is forecast for Maribyrnong with more than 7,000 additional residents, primarily located in the Maribyrnong Defence Site and the Highpoint Activity Centre. At the Maribyrnong Defence Site, a linear Regional open space corridor along the Maribyrnong River is proposed, along with Municipal, Neighbourhood, Local and Small Local open space. The Municipal open space is primarily to meet the structured sporting needs of the forecast population in the other northern parts of the municipality.

The open space needs of the forecast population associated with the Highpoint Activity Centre will be addressed with the provision of additional Local and Small Local open space in Maribyrnong and an additional Neighbourhood open space in Maidstone.

Quality and design of open space

There is potential to increase the both the regional and local levels of use in some of the key major areas of open space along the Maribyrnong River in Maribyrnong. A precinct based masterplan is recommended for the different areas of open space in the Chifley Drive Precinct. This will allow the planning for a series of connected spaces that offer different character types, features and facilities that appeal to all levels of use, and to the existing and forecast population. The context of the future development of the Maribyrnong Defence Site will be a key consideration in the role, features and upgrade to this existing system of open space.

An increasing proportion of the population in Maribyrnong is forecast to reside in medium to higher density housing. This includes the areas in the immediate vicinity of Highpoint Activity Centre. Future open space designs will need to cater for a range of local open space needs in the proposed local open space network.

6.6.5b Precinct actions for Maribyrnong

The priorities in the action tables provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development.

A Additional open space

Refer to Action 5.1C in Section 5 of this Strategy regarding the provision of additional Municipal open space at the Maribyrnong Defence Site to meet the structured sport and recreation needs of the forecast population in the northern part of the municipality.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6A-1	Provide a new Neighbourhood open space on the Maribyrnong Defence Site to provide for the forecast population of approximately 3,800 at this site.	MCC Developer	High
6.6A-2	Provide one new Local open space on the Maribyrnong Defence Site to provide for the forecast population of approximately 3,800 at this site.	MCC Developer	High
6.6A-3	Provide two new Small Local open spaces on the Maribyrnong Defence Site to provide for the forecast population of approximately 3,800 at this site.	MCC Developer	High
6.6A-4	Provide a new Local open space in sub-precinct HP1 to cater primarily for the forecast additional residential population of approximately 1,500 in this sub-precinct. This is provided on the basis that the neighbourhood open space needs will be met in the proposed Neighbourhood open space in Maidstone, refer Action No. 6.5A-4.	MCC Developer	High
6.6A-5	Provide a new Small Local open space in sub-precinct HP2, or the adjoining sub-precinct Maribyrnong 4.	MCC Developer	High

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this Section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6B-1	In the Maribyrnong Defence Site ensure the street layout and network provides excellent access to open space. This includes within the site and connecting out to the established urban areas surrounding the site. Future open space on this site is to meet the interface with adjoining development design guidelines in Section 5.5 of this Strategy.	MCC Vic govt Developer	High

6.6.5c Actions for existing individual open spaces in Maribyrnong

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6C-1	Burndap Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6C-2	Burton Crescent Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* for this reserve to identify opportunities to improve local and neighbourhood use that complement its Regional use as part of the linear open space along the Maribyrnong River.	MCC	Medium
6.6C-3	Chifley Drive Road Reserve Future major upgrades* to be guided by a precinct masterplan for the Chifley Drive Precinct of the Maribyrnong River. This will include all open space that adjoins Chifley Drive and the Maribyrnong River between Coulson Gardens and Chifley Drive Reserve. The masterplan will consider opportunities to better connect the open space to the river and vary the width and experience at this interface; and provide for a diversity of experiences for both the local community and the regional visitors. Critical to the future recommendations will be the integration of CPTED principles, particularly passive surveillance and access.	MCC	Medium
6.6C-4	Coulson Gardens Refer to Recommendation 6.6C-3. As part of the masterplan process, review the open space survey comments regarding use and suggested improvements for Coulson Gardens. In the short term, continue to maintain/	Refer 6.6C-3	Refer 6.6C-3
6.6C-5	Frogs Hollow Wetland Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6C-6	Maribyrnong River Linear Reserve (Pipemakers Park to Burton Crescent) Investigate options to close and remove the public toilet facility in the longer term subject to recommendations in the proposed Toilet Strategy, refer Recommendation in Section 5.	MCC	Low
6.6C-7	Maribyrnong River Linear Reserve (Raleigh Road to Coulson Gardens) Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6C-8	Maribyrnong River Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6C-9	Pipemakers Park Undertake a major review and upgrade* of Pipemakers Park to address the comments received in the open space survey, particularly to address safety and maintenance concerns.	MCC (PV)	Very High
6.6C-10	Village Green Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

D Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6D-1	Robert Barrett Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6D-2	Thompson Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to better link this reserve to the adjoining urban areas to the north, west and south of it. Provide a linked path network that connects to the Maribyrnong River shared trail, to Pipemakers Park and the adjoining urban areas.	MCC	Medium

E Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6E-1	Chifley Drive Reserve The future role and design of this open space will be determined as part of the Chifley Drive Precinct – refer to Recommendation 6.6C-3.	Refer 6.6C-3	Refer 6.6C-3
6.6E-2	Jacks Wood Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6E-3	Maribyrnong Reserve Identify opportunities for improved structured sporting use (not included in the contribution rate developed for this Strategy) along with neighbourhood level open space facilities in the context of forecast future growth in the Municipality.	MCC	Medium
6.6E-4	McDonald Reserve Include this open space in the Maribyrnong Reserve Masterplan to determine appropriate future use and upgrades to this open space.	MCC	Medium
6.6E-5	Sunset Place Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

F Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6F-1	Chifley Drive and Plantation Street Reserve The future role and design of this open space will be determined as part of the Chifley Drive Precinct – refer to Recommendation 6.6C-3.	Refer 6.6C-3	Refer 6.6C-3
6.6F-2	Gordon Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6F-3	Harbour Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6F-4	La Scala Avenue Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6F-5	Owen Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6F-6	RAFFA Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6F-7	Rollingmill Green Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6F-8	Waterford Green Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

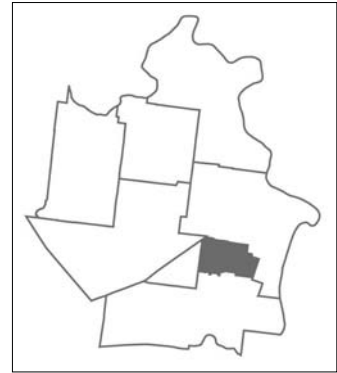
G Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6G-1	Amarco Crescent Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-2	Boulevard Linear Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-3	Boulevard Plaza Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-4	City View Drive Reserve Continue to maintain	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-5	Deighton Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-6	Harmony Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-7	La Scala Avenue Reserve 2 Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-8	Magazine Way Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-9	Rischbieth J.R. Reserve Review the potential future role of this open space in the shared trail network to provide an improved at grade connection into and out of the main shared trail.	MCC	Low

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.6G-10	Riverfront Way Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-11	Searush Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-12	Skyline Drive Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.6G-13	William Cooper Reserve Continue to maintain in the short term. Consider any future use or change during the Quarry Reserve masterplan process.	MCC	Medium

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

6.7 Seddon



6.7.1 Existing conditions

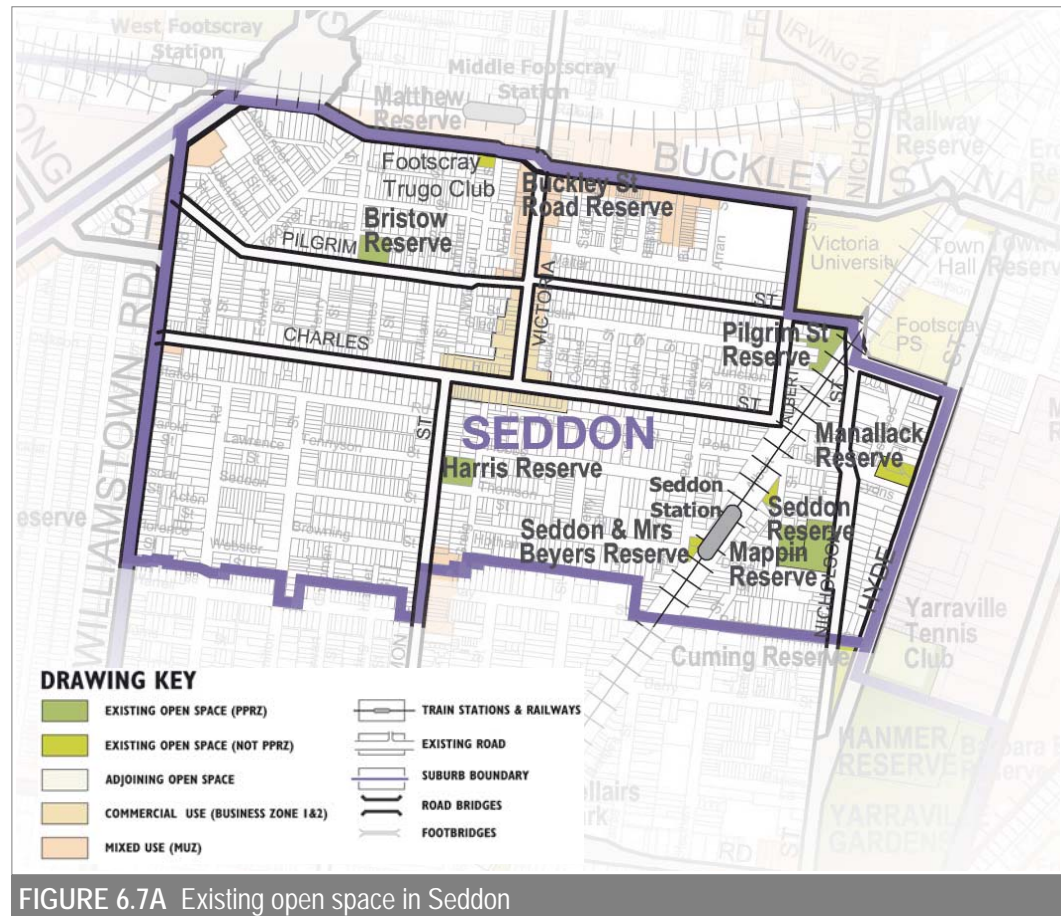


FIGURE 6.7A Existing open space in Seddon

6.7.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space in Seddon

Seddon is a small dense urban area located south of Buckley Street and the Footscray Central Activities Area. The largest open space in Seddon is Mappin Reserve, however its position between the railway and a major road, along with its close proximity to Yarraville Gardens means it is not as well visited as two other key local open spaces being Harris and Bristow Reserves. Harris Reserve is the most popular and is positioned centrally in the residential neighbourhood meaning it has good accessibility and visibility. The facilities are diverse and include a playground, barbecue, picnic facilities, open grassed areas, seating and garden beds. Bristow Reserve is located further north and is on a corner with good visual and physical access as well. It has a more relaxed feel with large

mature shade trees, playground, picnic shelter, seating and an open grassed area in the Small Local open space.

A Small Local open space is located near Seddon Station, the two other Small Local open spaces are located east of the railway. Pilgrim Street Reserve on the west side of the railway near Victoria University and is an undeveloped Local open space. Currently closed to access, the Footscray Trugo Club is the north of Seddon on Buckley Street opposite the railway line.

Ancillary open space

The street layout provides good connectivity via the local street network between existing open spaces.

Land use and character

Predominantly residential, Seddon has some retail and commercial land use along Victoria Street associated with the Seddon Neighbourhood Activity Centre. The other key land use is public transport use with the railway and the bus depot at the corner of Buckley and Pilgrim Streets.

6.7.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in Seddon

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for quantity of open space:

- 1.91 hectares of open space
- 2 per cent of the total suburb area is open space
- 1 per cent of the total open space in the City of Maribyrnong
- 4 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013
- Other major areas of open space within 400 metres of Seddon include Yarraville Gardens and Hanmer Reserve.
- 0.07 hectares of restricted open space (Footscray Trugo Club)

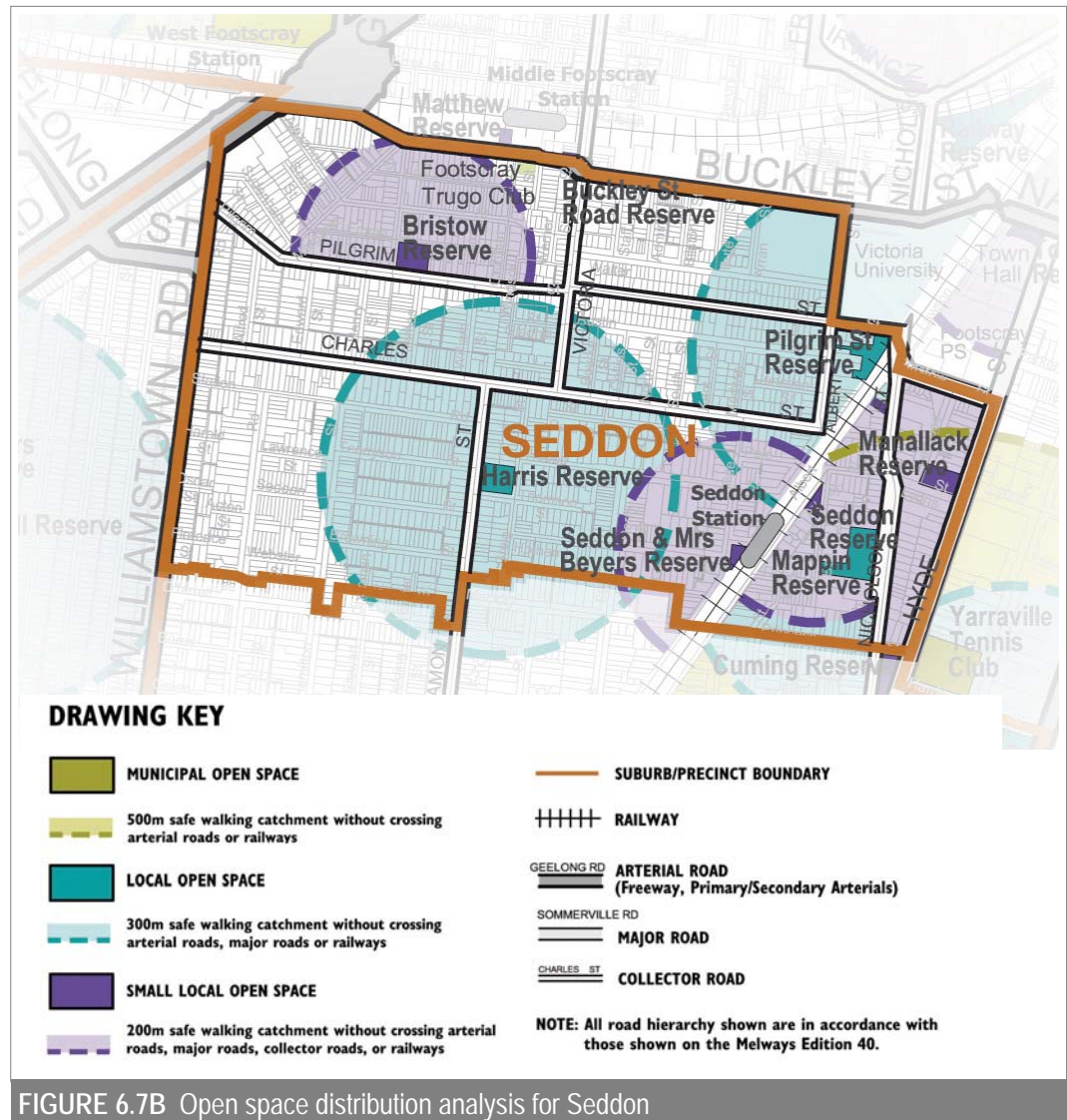
6.7.1c Open space hierarchy and character in Seddon

Table 6.7-1 List of existing open space type and character classification

Open space	Area (PPRZ)	Area (Not PPRZ)	Area sqm	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
BRISTOW RESERVE	2,934	0	2,934	0.29	Small Local	Formal (Exotic)	
HARRIS RESERVE	2,604	0	2,604	0.26	Local	Formal (Exotic)	
MANALLACK RESERVE	0	2,348	2,348	0.23	Small Local	Informal	Undeveloped
MAPPIN RESERVE	7,115	0	7,115	0.71	Local	Formal (Native)	Play
PILGRIM STREET	2,725	0	2,725	0.27	Local	Undeveloped	
SEDDON & MRS BEYERS RESERVE	0	648	648	0.06	Small Local	Linking space	Urban plaza, Railway easement/siding
SEDDON RESERVE	0	750	750	0.08	Small Local	Informal	
Total open space	15,378	3,746	19,124	1.91			
Restricted open space							
FOOTSCRAY TRUGO CLUB	0	715	715	0.07	Small Local	Restricted sporting/recreation	Heritage

6.7.1d Distribution of open space in Seddon

Yarraville Gardens is located south east of Seddon and the walking catchment extends into Seddon. This is the largest and most popular open space used within walking distance as identified in the open space survey. As can be seen below, all the existing open space in Seddon is either Local or Small Local open space. There are a number of reserves located east of the railway, however the majority of residents live west of the railway where there are gaps in the provision of existing open space.



6.7.2 Community characteristics for Seddon

6.7.2a Demographic summary of existing forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting 2013, accessed November 2013

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 35 to 49 years and this is forecast to continue. The age group with the largest proportional increase is people aged in the 50+ age range. Compared with the municipal-wide average, there is a higher proportion of young children and people in the 25 to 49 year age group and less people in the 12 to 24 year age range.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- A decline in the young children and the 25 to 49 year age range (young families)
- An increase people aged 50+ years.

Household type:

Compared with the municipal-wide average, there are a slightly higher proportion of couples without children and group households and less one parent families .

Forecast trends through to 2026 include:

- A decline in couple families with dependents.
- Lone person households will increase.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the municipal-wide average, there are more separate houses and less medium and high density housing in Seddon. Between 2006 and 2011, the greatest growth was in high density housing and a decrease in separate houses.

Total population (2013): 5,052*

Forecast population in 2031: 5,496* (increase of 444)

*Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.7.2c.

6.7.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for Seddon

A total of 208 open space surveys were received from Seddon, which represents 10 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is slightly higher than the proportion of Seddon residents in the City of Maribyrnong population, which is 7 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
54%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Playground and equipment • Dog off-lead area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional trees required • Additional lighting required • Additional café/ kiosk required
30%	Harris Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community hub/ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more gates

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> meeting space Playground and equipment Take children to the park 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase diversity of play equipment in playground Additional lighting required
21%	Bristow Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground and equipment Close to home Community hub/meeting space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more drinking fountains Additional fencing required Additional BBQs required
15%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jogging/running Cycling Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more drinking fountains Provide more public toilets Regular removal of rubbish required
Open space beyond walking distance			
11%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walking Cycling Jogging/running 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to garden beds required Provide additional garden beds
11%	Cruickshank Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking Dog off-lead area Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional trees required Provide more vegetation Additional BBQs required
8%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waterway Cycling Large open space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular maintenance and cleaning required Improvements to access required

Types of open space used (top four):

95% Large parks and gardens
89% Small local parks
88% Maribyrnong River
87% Local streets for exercise.

Values (top four):

75% Trees
67% Place to relax and unwind
55% Place for kids to play
52% Just being outside.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

85% Walking paths
79% Open grassed areas
73% Seats
62% Cycle paths.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- Seddon respondents indicated walking paths (85%) are the most popular facility used in open space with only 35 per cent responding that walking paths are well provided for. More than 60 per cent of Seddon residents are satisfied with the level of maintenance for walking paths, consistent with the municipal average.
- Open grassed areas are used by 79 per cent of the survey respondents with only 38 per cent happy with their provision. Similarly with seats, 73 per cent

use them with only 31 per cent satisfied with the provision of them in open space.

- More than 40 per cent of survey respondents are not satisfied with the level of provision of cycle paths, followed by public toilets, drinking fountains, walking paths and seats.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 40 per cent of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:
 - 37% Concerned about personal safety
 - 36% Uninviting
 - 27% Other
 - 25% Too far to travel
 - 25% Busy traffic so difficult to access.

General comments:

- Additional open space is required.
- Additional trees are required in open space.
- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space is required.
- Appreciate the existing open space and improvements to the open space.
- Make the Yarraville Pop Up Park permanent and provide a similar type of open space.
- Retain existing open space.
- Additional dog off-lead areas are required.
- Concerns about the impact of development on open space.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 18 per cent of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 73 per cent of Maribyrnong respondents who work in the City of Maribyrnong also visit open space near their work place. The reasons include:
 - 37 Being outdoors as a break from work
 - 25 Fitness/exercise (informal)
 - 18 Cycling/jogging/walking to and from work.

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

6.7.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in Seddon

In summary Seddon's population is forecast to age with less young family groups and more people in the 50 plus age range. There will be an increase in lone person households and slightly more people living in high density dwellings. Therefore future open space planning will increase the diversity of facilities for adults, including those that encourage them out into open space to maintain physical and social health and wellbeing. It will be important to maintain a diversity of facilities to meet the needs of all age groups as well. The general comments and survey outcomes reinforce the physical analysis that more open space is required.

6.7.3 Future change in Seddon

6.7.3a Summary of the change

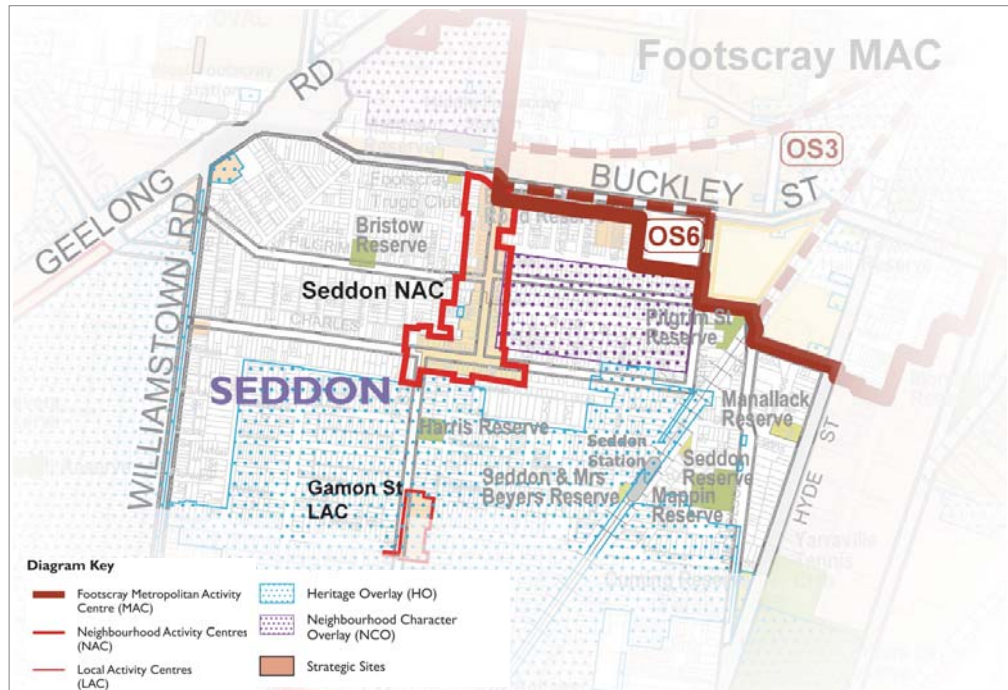


FIGURE 6.7C Future change in Seddon

The forecast residential population increase in Seddon represents 9 per cent of the total population with a forecast increase of approximately 444 people across Seddon.

Approximately 30 per cent of this forecast population, or 136 people are apportioned to the Seddon NAC and the remaining 70 per cent to the balance of suburb. Figure 6.7C illustrates the extent of existing Heritage Overlay and Neighbourhood Character Overlay areas within Seddon. While redevelopment may occur within these areas, it is anticipated they will receive a lower intensity of redevelopment.

A small proportion of the Footscray Central Activities Area is located in Seddon referred to as OS6. No forecast residential population has been apportioned to it specifically. The existing bus depot site along with smaller sized properties along the south side of Buckley Street make up this small sub-precinct OS6 of the Footscray MAC.

6.7.3b Implications of future change on open space planning

The majority of the forecast residential growth for Seddon is likely to occur with the Seddon NAC and outside the heritage overlay area. Additional open space within safe and easy walking distance of the existing and forecast community is required for Seddon.

6.7.4 Sub-precinct analysis of open space provision including gap areas

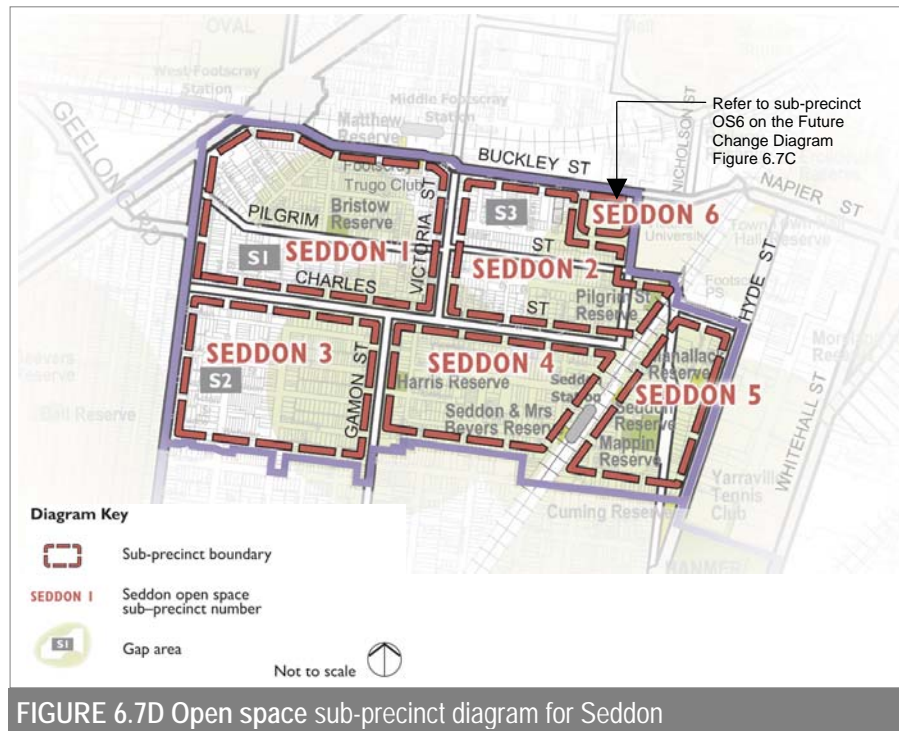


FIGURE 6.7D Open space sub-precinct diagram for Seddon

Table 6.7-2 Open space sub-precinct analysis for Seddon

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
Seddon 1	S1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Charles Street and west of Victoria Street. The residential land use outside the heritage overlays and is likely to receive some population growth. Bristow Reserve is popular with high levels of use noted in the open space survey outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate the feasibility to increase size of the Bristow Reserve. As a minimum undertake minor upgrade to open space. An additional Small Local open space is required if expansion is not feasible. The Footscray Trugo Club is closed. Investigate options to redesign this site as open space. Given its proximity to the busy road and railway to the north, options such as community garden that retains and converts the club building may be a more viable option for future use of this site as open space.
Seddon 2	S3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Charles Street and east of Victoria Street. Seddon NAC located in this sub-precinct and an area along the railway that is outside the heritage overlay so assume some population growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While located to the east of Gap Area S3 Pilgrim Street Reserve could potentially be developed as an open space that is accessible to Gap Area S3. Improving the pedestrian amenity and access over Pilgrim Street to the reserve would also assist overcome this gap area.

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
Seddon 3	S2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located south of Charles Street and west of Victoria Street. • This sub-precinct is primarily included in a Heritage Overlay, reducing the likelihood of population growth in this sub-precinct. • There is no open space in this sub-precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a new Small Local open space in this sub-precinct primarily for the existing population. The future design of the new open space is to complement facilities and character from Harris Reserve.
Seddon 4	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located south of Charles Street and east of Victoria Street. • This sub-precinct includes Harris Reserve and Seddon & Mrs Beyers Reserve at the station. • The majority of the precinct is included in a heritage overlay, decreasing the likelihood of population growth in this sub-precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While the Seddon & Mrs Beyers Reserve is not well used, continue to maintain in the short term. In the medium term, if use levels are still low, redesign the open space in consultation with the community to improve its use.
Seddon 5	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located east of the railway. • This sub-precinct includes Mappin, Seddon and Manallack Reserves. • The majority of sub-precinct is outside heritage overlay areas so some redevelopment and population growth may occur. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seddon Reserve is underutilised due to the limited width of the reserve. Given the lack of existing open space in Seddon, and its close proximity to the railway station this Strategy recommends expanding the size of this reserve so that it becomes a more valued and functional open space.
Seddon 6	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located in the north east, this forms part of the Footscray Central Activities Area. • The extent includes properties along Buckley Street and the existing bus depot site. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If no substantial population change occurs in this area, then no additional open space is required. • If the bus depot site redevelops in the future resulting in a change to the population forecasts, then additional open space may be required at this location, however this is not included in the Strategy Actions.

6.7.5 Recommendations for Seddon

6.7.5a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

There is a shortage of open space in Seddon, with the forecast residential population to increase by around 450, representing a 9 per cent change. The limited amount of open space west of the railway in Seddon is to be addressed in three ways. This includes the provision of an additional Small Local open space; expanding the size of existing open space reserves; and to open up access to two existing open spaces that are underutilised. These are the Footscray Trugo Club and Pilgrim Street Reserve adjacent to the railway.

Quality and design

Given that Seddon has a series of small open spaces, the objective will be to review their use and design so that together the open space system provides a diversity of character and facilities appealing to the different age groups and cultural backgrounds of the community.

6.7.5b Precinct actions for Seddon

The priorities in the action tables provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development.

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.7A-1	Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area S2 to primarily meet the needs of the existing and also the forecast population. This will also address the existing Gap Area Y1 in Yarraville.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.7A-2	Investigate expanding the size of Bristow Reserve. If feasible, prepare a concept plan to design the extension to the open space to achieve a well integrated design. Refer to the open space survey outcomes for comments on the existing use and suggested improvements to this open space. This will be for the existing and forecast population.	MCC	Very High
6.7A-3	Investigate potential road narrowing of Bellairs Avenue to increase the width and size of Seddon Reserve to establish a functional and useable open space.	MCC	High

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this Section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.7B-1	Investigate the potential to improve pedestrian accessibility in the street network to Pilgrim Street Reserve from the Gap Area S3. This includes review of pedestrian crossings over Pilgrim Street.	MCC	High

6.7.5c Actions for existing individual open spaces in Seddon

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.7C-1	Harris Reserve Undertake some minor improvements to this popular open space including review of the path surface and layout, reducing the quantity of infrastructure and increasing the natural qualities when additional Small Local open space and other open space improvements have been undertaken in Seddon.	MCC	Low
6.7C-2	Mappin Reserve Continue to maintain, and review the integration between the different areas of the reserve to improve visual access and passive surveillance.	MCC	Medium
6.7C-3	Pilgrim Street Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* for this open space to establish it as a Local open space in Gap Area S3 that meets the need of the existing and forecast population.	MCC	Very High

C Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.7D-1	Bristow Reserve Continue to maintain. If expansion to the size of this open space is feasible undertake upgrades as per Recommendation 6.7A-2.	MCC	High
6.7D-2	Manallack Reserve The informal character of this reserve complements the more structured and formal character of Mappin Reserve. Minor upgrades are required to improve accessibility to and use of this informal open space.	MCC	Medium

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.7D-3	Seddon and Mrs Beyers Reserve Continue to maintain and monitor levels of use. Undertake minor upgrades to improve its character and use if required.	MCC	Medium
6.7D-4	Seddon Reserve Refer to Recommendation 6.7A-3 regarding expanding the width and size of this reserve. If feasible upgrade to strengthen it as an informal, peaceful social and seating space to complement nearby Mappin Reserve.	MCC	High

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

6.8 West Footscray and Tottenham



6.8.1 Existing conditions

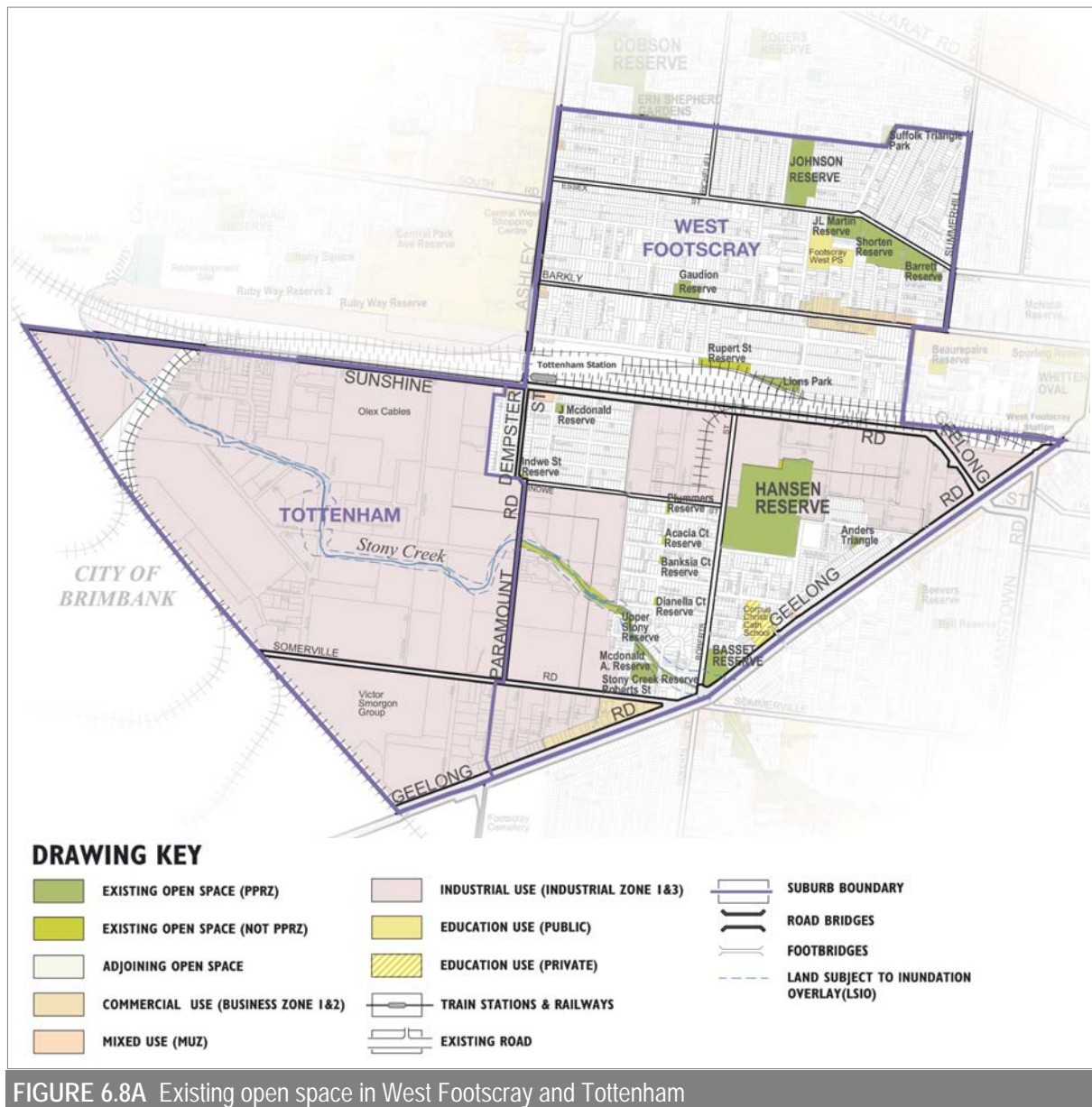


FIGURE 6.8A Existing open space in West Footscray and Tottenham

6.8.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space in West Footscray and Tottenham

West Footscray

The railway and changes in land use create different character areas and precincts within West Footscray. Centrally located in West Footscray, Hansen Reserve is the largest open space in the suburb. While it receives some use in the open space survey outcomes, Shorten Reserve is the most popular, followed by Johnson Reserve and Hansen Reserve as the third most popular within walking distance. All three of these reserves provide both structured sport and unstructured and informal recreational uses in them. Shorten and Johnson Reserves are popular mainly for the play facilities, whereas dog walking is the main reason people visit Hansen Reserve, followed by walking and play.

Stony Creek receives some use, however it is limited given the narrow corridor and the lack of connectivity and condition of the paths. Three neighbourhood open spaces include Basset Reserves located between two major roads. Barrett Reserve is adjacent to the indoor recreation centre in the north east of the precinct, along with JL Martin Reserve, which is a popular fenced dog off-lead park.

A series of Local and Small Local open spaces are located through the precinct, the most popular of which is Gaudion Reserve.

Tottenham

There is no open space in Tottenham. Stony Creek flows through the precinct and there is potential to establish an open space corridor along the creek in the future.

Ancillary open space

The railway line and shared pathway on the southern side of the railway provides east west connectivity through this precinct. Other ancillary open space includes the Footscray West Primary School.

Land use and character

North of the railway, Footscray West is primarily residential with retail and commercial land use associated with the West Footscray Neighbourhood Activity Centre. South of the railway, the land use changes to a combination of residential and industrial use.

In Tottenham the land use is all industrial with no residential land use.

6.8.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in West Footscray and Tottenham

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for quantity of open space in West Footscray (there is no open space in Tottenham)

- 25.31 hectares of open space
- 4 per cent of the total suburb area is open space
- 8 per cent of the total open space in the City of Maribyrnong
- 23 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013
- Other major areas of open space within 400 metres includes Cruickshank Park and Dobson Reserve.

6.8.1c Open space hierarchy and character in West Footscray and Tottenham

Table 6.8-1 List of existing open space type and character classification

Open space	Area (PPRZ)	Area (Not PPRZ)	Area sqm	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
ACACIA COURT RESERVE	0	562	562	0.06	Small Local	Linking space	Undeveloped
ANDERS TRIANGLE	1,857	0	1,857	0.19	Small Local	Community garden/horticulture	
BANKSIA COURT RESERVE	0	490	490	0.05	Small Local	Linking space	
BARRETT RESERVE	14,242	0	14,242	1.42	Neighbourhood	Informal	Restricted sporting
BASSET RESERVE	11,216	0	11,216	1.12	Neighbourhood	Informal	Significant road reservation
DIANELLA COURT RESERVE	0	469	469	0.05	Small Local	Linking space	
GAUDION RESERVE	6,552	0	6,552	0.66	Local	Informal	
HANSEN RESERVE	104,266	1,100	105,366	10.54	Municipal	Sporting	Restricted sporting, Informal
INDWE STREET RESERVE	0	517	517	0.05	Small Local	Undeveloped	Significant road reservation
J L MARTIN RESERVE	11,736	0	11,736	1.17	Neighbourhood	Informal	
J MCDONALD RESERVE	1,396	0	1,396	0.14	Small Local	Informal	Linking space
JOHNSON RESERVE	27,385	0	27,385	2.74	Municipal	Sporting	Informal
LIONS PARK	5,648	0	5,648	0.56	Local	Linear	Undeveloped
MCDONALD A. RESERVE	7,869	133	8,002	0.80	Local	Informal	Undeveloped
PLUMMERS RESERVE	0	790	790	0.08	Small Local	Undeveloped	Linking space
RUPERT STREET RESERVE	0	6,558	6,558	0.66	Municipal	Linear	Railway easement/siding, Informal
SHORTEN RESERVE	26,584	0	26,584	2.66	Municipal	Sporting	Informal
STONY CREEK RESERVE	0	1,846	1,846	0.18	Small Local	Waterway	Linear
ROBERTS STREET	0	1,846	1,846	0.18	Small Local	Waterway	Linear
UPPER STONY RESERVE	2,717	19,140	21,857	2.19	Municipal	Waterway	Linear
Total open space	221,468	31,605	253,073	25.31			

6.8.1d Distribution of open space in West Footscray and Tottenham

The Tottenham railway line creates a barrier to north south access in West Footscray. South of the railway, Hansen Reserve is a Municipal open space and located relatively central in this southern part of the precinct providing good accessibility. Stony Creek provides some linear connectivity. Bassett Reserve is a Neighbourhood open space in this southern area as well, however its location at the intersection of major roads does limit its catchment. The series of Small Local open spaces contribute to the diversity of the network. The only major gap is to the south of Somerville Road.

North of the railway, Johnson and Hansen Reserves provide good accessibility and are complemented by the two neighbourhood reserves and the series of Local open spaces towards the railway. Gaps in open space provision north of the railway are towards Ashley Street.

There is no open space in Tottenham as illustrated in Figure 6.8B.



6.8.2 Community characteristics for West Footscray and Tottenham

6.8.2a Demographic summary of existing forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting 2013, accessed November 2013

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 35 to 49 followed by the 25 to 34 year age group. Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there is a slightly lower proportion of 18 to 24 year olds and higher proportion of 35 to 49 age range.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- A decrease in the 0 to 4 year age group and the 24 to 49 age range.
- An increase in people aged between 50 and 84 years.

Household type:

The most common household type is Lone person households at just over 26 per cent, followed by both couples with and without dependents, being equally represented comprising just over 25 per cent each. Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there is a slightly higher proportion of couple families without children and lone person households, and lower representation of group households.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- Couple families with and without dependents is forecast to decrease
- Lone person households to increase.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there are slightly more separate houses with just over 64 per cent, with a slightly lower proportion of medium density dwellings at 27 per cent. Between 2006 and 2011 there was an increase in high density housing and slight decrease in medium density dwellings.

Total population (2013): 10,940*

Forecast population in 2031: 11,982* (increase of 1,042)

**Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013*

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.682c.

6.8.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for West Footscray and Tottenham

A total of 281 open space surveys were received from West Footscray and Tottenham, which represents 14 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is the same as the proportion of West Footscray residents in the City of Maribyrnong population, which is also 14 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
19%	Shorten Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground and equipment Play (equipment not specifically nominated) Community hub/ meeting space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more public toilets Improve public toilets Additional lighting required
18%	Johnson Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground and equipment Close to home Play (equipment not specifically nominated) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional trees required More BBQs required Provide more public toilets
16%	Hansen Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking Walking Close to home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More rubbish bins required Additional trees required Upgrade/ improve tennis facilities
15%	Cruickshank Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking Walking Fitness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional lighting required Enforce dog off-lead areas Improve public toilets
Open space beyond walking distance			
18%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cycling Walking Jogging/running 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more drinking fountains More connecting paths required
12%	Footscray Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dog walking Cycling Gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional trees required Regular maintenance of BBQs required Improve public toilets
9%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground and equipment Dog off-lead area Ambience and beauty 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More BBQs required More fencing required Improve path surfaces

Types of open space used (top four):

85% Maribyrnong River
84% Local streets for exercise
83% Large parks and gardens
82% Small local parks.

Values (top four):

77% Trees
68% Place to relax and unwind
61% Place for kids to play
53% Habitat for native plants and animals.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

86% Walking paths
78% Open grassed areas
73% Seats
53% Cycle paths.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- While 86 per cent of survey respondents use walking paths only 31 per cent confirmed they were satisfied with their provision. 60 per cent are satisfied with their maintenance.
- For open grassed areas, 78 per cent use them and 34 per cent answered yes to being satisfied with their provision. For seats, 73 per cent use them and only 27 per cent confirmed there are enough of them provided.
- Nearly 50 per cent of respondents said there are not enough public toilets provided, followed by cycle paths, seats and walking paths.
- There is a reasonably good level of satisfaction with the maintenance of the different facilities including with public toilets.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 40 per cent of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:
 - 47% Concerned about personal safety
 - 32% Uninviting
 - 32% Other
 - 23% Lack of time
 - 23% Busy traffic so difficult to access.

General comments:

- Additional open space is required as urban density increases.
- Appreciate the improvements to the open space.
- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space is required.
- Additional trees required in open space.
- More cycle paths required.
- Additional lighting required.
- Improve safety in open space.
- Provide more playgrounds.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 19% of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 78% of West Footscray respondents who work in the City of Maribyrnong also visit open space near their work place. The reasons include:
 - 53 Being outdoors as a break from work
 - 38 Fitness/exercise (informal)
 - 28 Cycling/jogging/walking to and from work.

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

6.8.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in West Footscray and Tottenham

The main change in the forecast population is an increase in people over 50 years of age and a decline in both young children and adults between 25 and 49 years of age. There is forecast to be an increase in lone person households. Therefore future open space planning will increase the diversity of facilities being

provided for older people in open space, including those that encourage them out into open space to maintain physical and social health and wellbeing. It will be important to maintain a diversity of facilities to meet the needs of all age groups, recognising that families will still be the dominant household type.

6.8.3 Future change in West Footscray and Tottenham

6.8.3a Summary of the future change

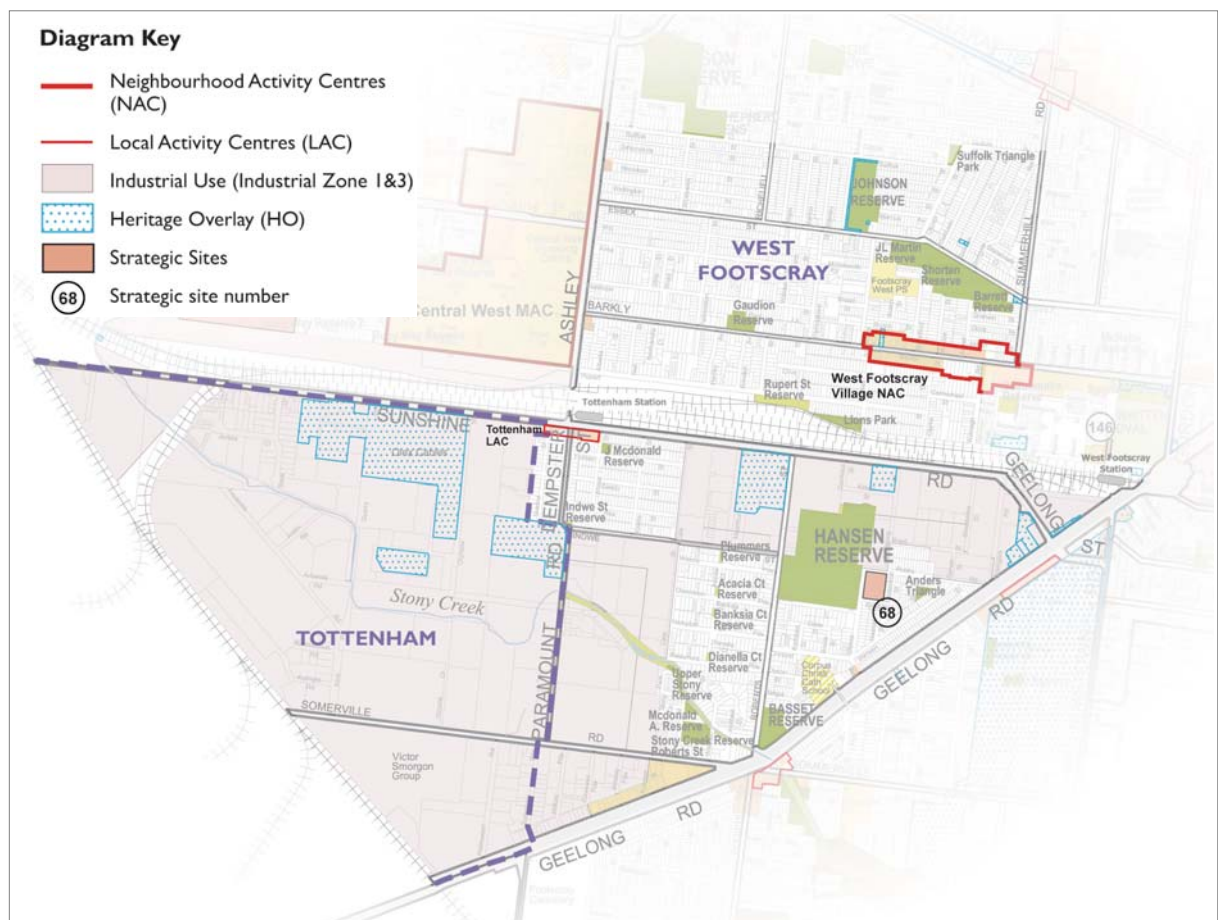


FIGURE 6.8C Future change in West Footscray and Tottenham

The Tottenham & West Footscray Precinct Framework Plans (2013) describes the preferred direction for future land use in this precinct. It notes that Tottenham comprises almost half of all the industrial land in the City of Maribyrnong, and a significant proportion of this is underutilised. In West Footscray the non-residential land use is mainly used for manufacturing and is more intensively used.

The forecast residential population increase in West Footscray represents 10 per cent of the total population with a forecast increase of 1,042. Approximately 12 per cent of the forecast population is anticipated to occur in the West Footscray Neighbourhood Activity Centre, with approximately 8 per cent in the Strategic site

No. 68 near Hansen Reserve, and the remaining 80 per cent in the balance of suburb. Refer to Figure 6.8C for spatial location of these.

Figure 6.8C also shows the extent of existing Heritage Overlays within West Footscray and Tottenham. While redevelopment may occur within these areas, it is anticipated they will receive a lower intensity of redevelopment.

6.8.3b Implications of future change on open space planning

West Footscray

The disbursed nature of the forecast growth through the suburb means there will be increased levels of use in most of the open space and a need to improve the quality of spaces to meet this additional demand. Additional to the forecast residential growth the framework plan suggests an intensification of non-residential land use, which may increase the worker population in the precinct. The future linear open space corridor along Stony Creek will benefit the forecast worker and resident population.

Tottenham

The future intensification of non-residential land use in Tottenham will likely increase the worker population. Prior to consolidation of future land use, this Strategy has identified the need for additional Municipal open space in the central areas of the Municipality, primarily to cater to the structured sporting needs of the forecast population across the precincts and particularly in Footscray. The need for provision of Municipal open space to meet the structured sporting use is driven by the forecast change outside of Tottenham, however it is noted that given this precinct has larger land holdings they potentially provide opportunities to achieve future open space if redevelopment should occur in the future.

As for West Footscray the Strategy will be seeking to establish a linear open space corridor along Stony Creek, which has the potential to become an off-road shared trail link for the forecast worker and residential population.

6.8.4 Sub-precinct analysis of open space provision including gap areas

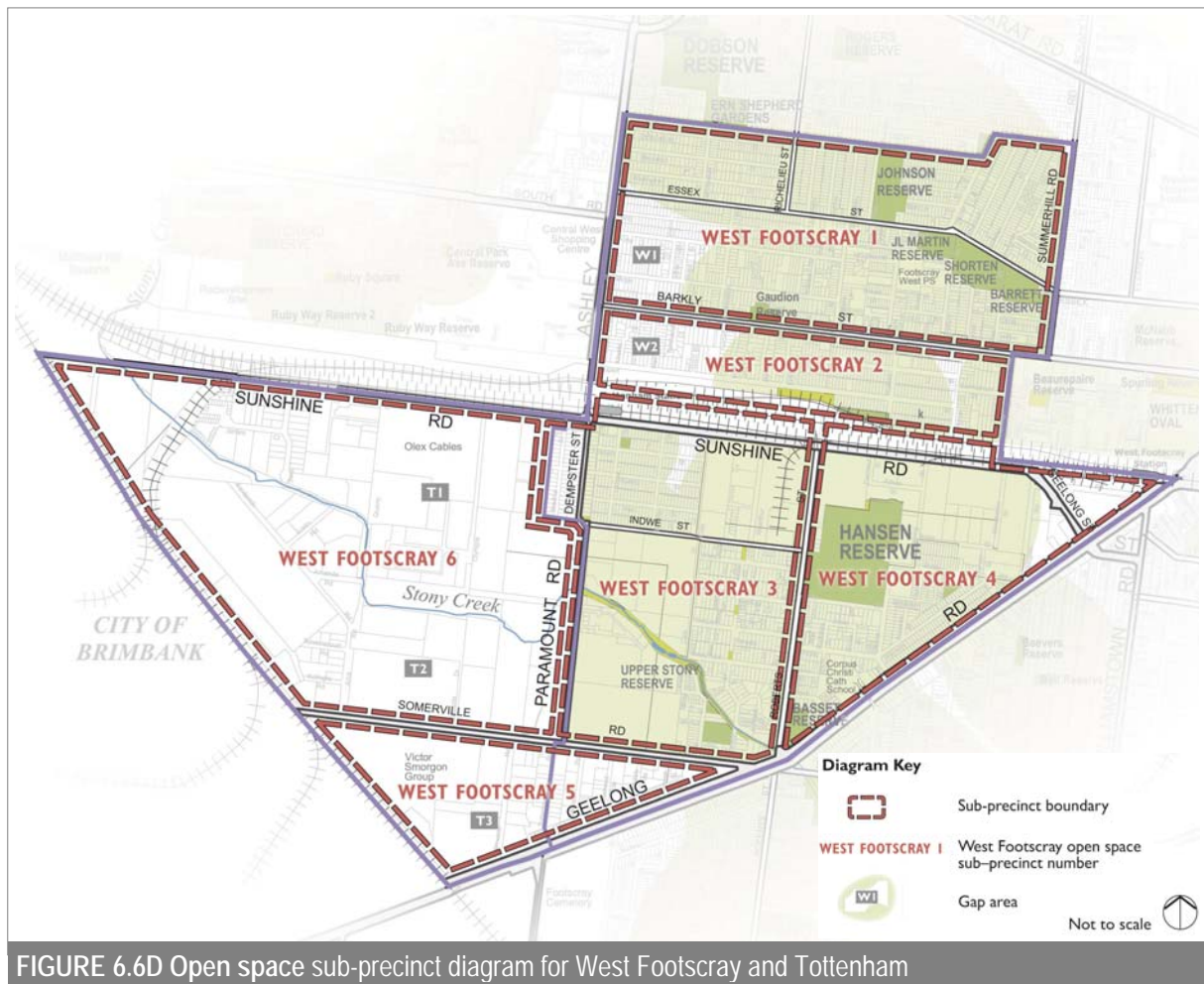


FIGURE 6.6D Open space sub-precinct diagram for West Footscray and Tottenham

Table 6.8-2 Open space sub-precinct analysis for West Footscray and Tottenham

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
West Footscray 1	W1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Barkly Street. Predominantly residential land use, with no heritage overlays so assume some population growth. Additionally, the West Footscray NAC is forecast to have just over 100 more people living there. Existing open space includes Johnson Reserve, Shorten Reserve, Basset Reserve, JL Martin Reserve and Gaudion Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excellent provision of open space in the east of this sub-precinct with a good diversity of character and sizes that are well used including Shorten and Johnson Reserves. Gap Area W1 can be overcome with improved facility use and design of Gaudion Reserve. Minor upgrades to other key areas of open space to meet the needs of the existing community and forecast population.
West Footscray 2	W2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Barkly Street and the railway. Predominantly residential land 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap area W2 is located in the western end of this sub-precinct. Due to the predominance of north

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
		<p>use, with no heritage overlays so assume some population growth from balance of suburb will occur here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additionally, the West Footscray NAC extends to the south of the Barkly Street as well. • Existing open space includes Rupert Street Reserve and Lions Park. • The shared trail link along the rail easement (ancillary open space) provides good east west connectivity. 	<p>south street layout, east-west connectivity via the local street network is only achieved via Rupert Street.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The priority is for Council to advocate to retain the shared trail link along the railway easement and secure Rupert Street Reserve as a public open space, in council ownership and rezoned for that purpose. This is primarily for the existing and forecast population. If this cannot be secured as public open space then Council will need to establish a new Local open space in this precinct.
West Footscray 3	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between Sunshine Road and Somerville Road and west of Roberts Street. • There are no gaps in open space provision. • A combination of industrial and residential land use. • Open space includes Upper Stony Creek Reserve, McDonald A Reserve and number of Small Local open spaces that form a north-south link. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While this sub-precinct has adequate provision of open space there are a number of reserves with the potential for improvement so they make a valuable contribution to the open space network. • Stony Creek may be impacted by the proposed East West Tunnel Link project in the vicinity of Paramount Road. • There is a need to improve the Municipal open space corridor along Stony Creek including to provide a continuous open space corridor of a suitable width to accommodate a shared trail that meets the relevant standards for width and sightlines.
West Footscray 4	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located east of Roberts Street and between Sunshine and Geelong Roads. • A combination of industrial and residential land use. The only strategic site is located in this sub-precinct near Hansen Reserve and is forecast to have an additional population of 80. • Open space includes Hansen Reserve, Basset Reserve and Anders Triangle. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While there are no gaps in the provision of open space, planning for the provision of unstructured and informal recreational facilities and use in Hansen Reserve is a priority to improve its use by the existing and forecast population.
West Footscray 5	T3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between Somerville Road Geelong Road. • This industrial land use is not forecast to change during the timeframe of this Strategy. • There is no open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Gap Area would only be addressed if there were a substantial redevelopment within this sub-precinct creating the need and demand for open space from either residential or non-residential land use.

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
West Footscray 6	T1 & T2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Located between Sunshine and Sommersville Roads. • Stony Creek flows through this sub-precinct. • This industrial land use is forecast to potentially intensify its use for industrial purposes during the timeframe of this Strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The focus for open space in this sub-precinct is to establish a new linked Municipal open space corridor along Stony Creek in the longer term. Stony Creek may be impacted by the future east-west tunnel link project, and the key issue for open space is to advocate for an off-road shared trail link along the Stony Creek corridor to be provided as part of the tunnel link project. • Tottenham is identified as a future location for an additional Municipal open space as discussed in 6.8.3a. This would also cater to the likely increase in the worker population present in Tottenham. Refer to Recommendation 5.1D in Section 5 of this Strategy.

6.8.5 Recommendations for West Footscray and Tottenham

6.8.5a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Open space is reasonably well distributed in West Footscray. Gaps in provision are proposed to be overcome by securing the future tenure of open space along the rail corridor that is currently still in VicTrack ownership, along with improvements to pedestrian amenity in the local street network.

In West Footscray and Tottenham the long-term objective is to establish a linear open space corridor along Stony Creek. Additionally there is a need to provide a new Municipal open space in the central area of the Municipality to meet the structured sporting needs of the forecast population. The forecast growth in these precincts is minor, however Tottenham and parts of West Footscray have larger land holdings compared with other central areas, therefore has the potential to provide a future location for this additional Municipal open space.

Quality and design

Objectives for improvements in the open space will focus on the need to increase the provision of facilities catering to both the needs of the existing community and the forecast additional population. This includes upgrades to the undeveloped areas of existing open space, and introducing unstructured recreational use and facilities into the existing larger Municipal sporting reserves.

6.8.5b Precinct actions for West Footscray and Tottenham

The priorities in the action tables provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development.

A Additional open space

Refer to Action 5.1D in Section 5 of this Strategy regarding the provision of additional Municipal open space to meet the structured sport and recreation needs of the forecast population in the central area of the municipality.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.8A-1	Council to advocate to VicTrack to secure Rupert Street Reserve as a public open space in Council ownership and rezoned for that purpose. If this land cannot be secured in council ownership, then a new Local open space is to be provided for the existing and forecast population in West Footscray 2.	MCC VicTrack	Very High
6.8A-2	Require a linear open space corridor to be established along the length of Stony Creek in accordance with Action 5.1B in this Strategy including through West Footscray (sub-precinct West Footscray 3).	MCC Vic Govt MW	Very High
6.8A-3	Require a linear open space corridor to be established along the length of Stony Creek in accordance with Action 5.1B in this Strategy including through Tottenham (sub-precinct West Footscray 6).	MCC Vic Govt MW (BCC)	Very High

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this Section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.8B-1	Council to advocate to VicTrack to retain the shared trail link along the railway easement between West Footscray and Tottenham Stations.	MCC VicTrack	Ongoing
6.8B-2	As part of any future proposals for the East West Tunnel Link project in the vicinity of Paramount Road, Council to advocate to the Victorian government to provide for a shared trail connection and links into and out of Stony Creek both to achieve good connectivity upstream and downstream of a future creek crossing.	MCC Vic Govt	Ongoing

6.8.5c Actions for existing individual open spaces in West Footscray and Tottenham

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.8C-1	Hansen Reserve Implement the masterplan for this reserve with a focus on integrating improved unstructured and informal recreation use and facilities into the reserve to cater to the existing and forecast population in West Footscray. Features to included in the plan are a circuit walking and fitness circuit path, fitness equipment, seating areas, a picnic and barbecue area and tree planting.	MCC	Very High
6.8C-2	Johnson Reserve Undertake minor upgrade including additional shade trees, improved picnic and barbecue facilities and expanded skate facility.	MCC	Medium
6.8C-3	Shorten Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* of this reserve with a focus on improving informal access and use, particularly path access, seating, picnic and barbecue facilities and public toilets.	MCC	Medium
6.8C-4	Stony Creek Reserve Roberts Street Continue to implement Stony Creek Direction Plan	MCC	High
6.8C-5	Upper Stony Reserve Continue to implement the Stony Creek Directions Plan.	MCC	Medium

D Neighborhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.8D-1	Barrett Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.8D-2	Basset Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* with a focus on improving its visual amenity and function as providing for informal use including walking paths and seating.	MCC	Medium
6.8D-3	J L Martin Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

E Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.8E-1	Gaudion Reserve Undertake a minor upgrade to improve access into and through the reserve from the north and review the need for car parking in the reserve.	MCC	Medium
6.8E-2	Lions Park Council to liaise with VicTrack to undertake a major upgrade* to this popular open space to cater to existing and forecast community needs.	MCC VicTrack	High
6.8E-3	McDonald A. Reserve Continue to implement the Stony Creek Directions Plan, which includes a proposal for this reserve.	MCC	Medium
6.8E-4	Rupert Street Reserve Refer recommendation 6.8A-1. Continue to maintain and then upgrade if this open space is secured as public open space.	MCC	Ongoing

F Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.8F-1	Acacia Court Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to this reserve as part of a system of four Small Local open spaces. The series will each include a linking path connection and then a specific role for each reserve within the series. The other reserves to be planned and designed as part of the series include Plummers, Banksia Court and Dianella Court Reserves.	MCC	High
6.8F-2	Anders Triangle Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.8F-3	Banksia Court Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to this reserve as part of a system of four Small Local open spaces. Refer to Recommendation 6.8F-1. The other reserves to be planned and designed as part of the series include Plummers, Arcadia Court and Dianella Court Reserves.	MCC	High
6.8F-4	Dianella Court Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to this reserve as part of a system of four Small Local open spaces. Refer to Recommendation 6.8F-1. The other reserves to be planned and designed as part of the series include Plummers, Arcadia Court and Banksia Court Reserves.	MCC	High
6.8F-5	Indwe Street Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.8F-6	J McDonald Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.8F-7	Plummers Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to this reserve as part of a system of four Small Local open spaces. Refer to Recommendation 6.8F-1. The other reserves to be planned and designed as part of the series include Dianella Court, Arcadia Court and Banksia Court Reserves.	MCC	High

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

6.9 Yarraville



6.9.1 Existing conditions

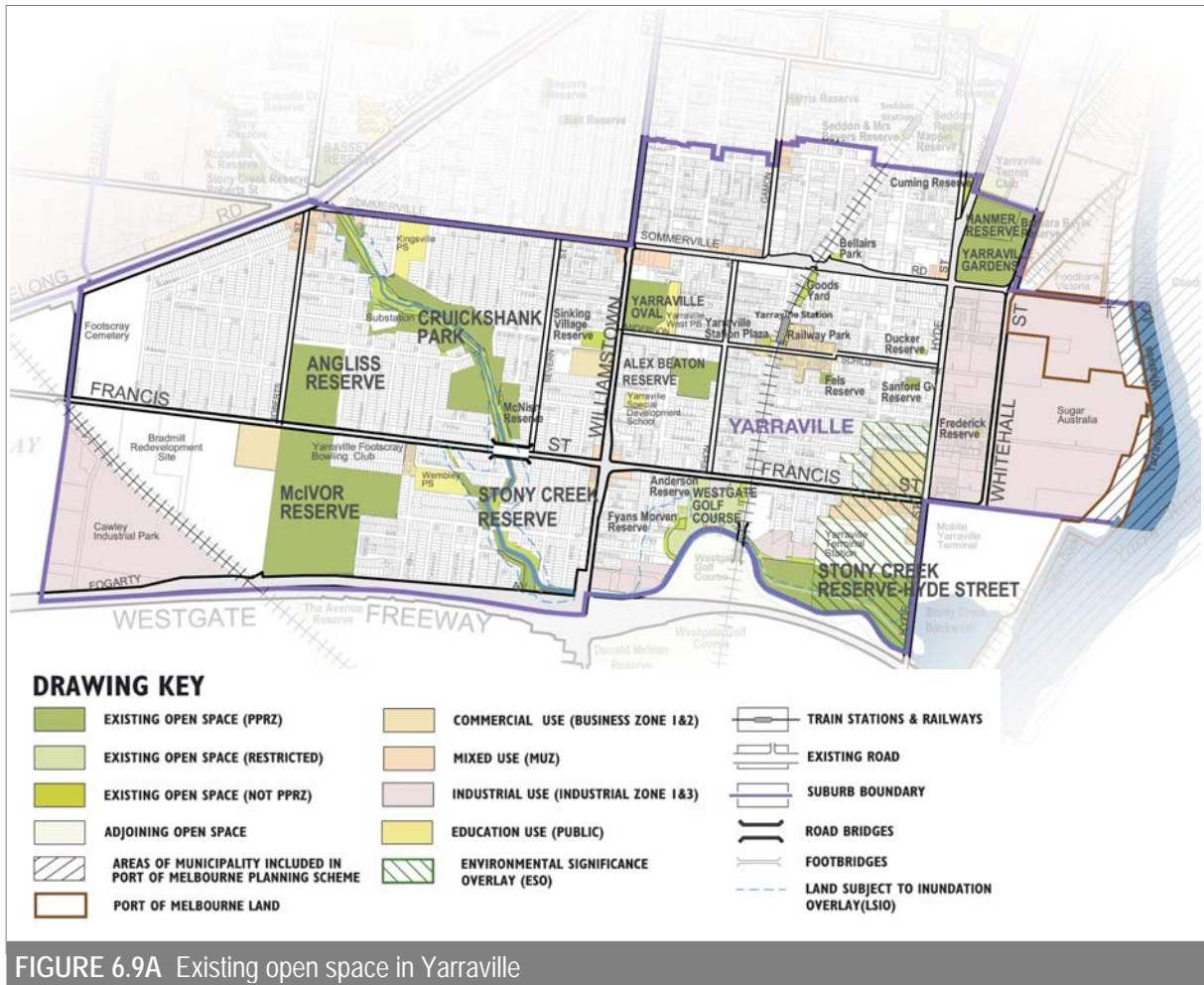


FIGURE 6.9A Existing open space in Yarraville

6.9.1a Overall precinct description

Summary of open space in Yarraville

McIvor Reserve is a major sporting facility located in Yarraville and for the whole municipality with facilities that attract a broader catchment of users, particularly for hockey and also for the series of sporting ovals, softball and bowling. Angliss Reserve, Yarraville Oval and Hanmer Reserve also provide a range of structured sporting facilities that are well used according to the outcomes of Councils *Synthetic Surfaces Feasibility Study (2012)*.

Cruickshank Park and the linear system of open space along Stony Creek is a key natural open space corridor in Yarraville. Cruickshank Park is one of the most popular open space reserves in the City of Maribyrnong. The reasons people visit it include dog walking, walking, jogging and running, fitness, play and being located close to home. Yarraville Gardens is also one of the most popular open spaces in the municipality both within and beyond walking distance. At a broader municipal-wide level, the reasons for visiting the gardens include the playground, for social gatherings and picnics, festivals and markets and to exercise dogs. At a local level, Yarraville Gardens is popular for dog walking, followed by play, walking and fitness/exercise.

Alex Beaton Reserve is the third most popular open space offering a diversity of facilities. Visiting the playground, walking through, socialising and meeting people are the main reasons people visit this reserve. In the south, the Westgate Golf Course extends across Stony Creek to Hobsons Bay providing structured sporting use on a fee-paying basis.

Complementing these major reserves is a system of smaller Local and Small Local open spaces with diverse characters that also have an important role in the open space network. Fels Reserve particularly is the most popular Small Local open space offering a diversity of facilities and spaces within a limited area, and is a good example of the valuable contribution Small Local open space makes to the network.

Ancillary open space

The Footscray Cemetery and the three existing public schools in Yarraville provide the main ancillary open space. The public schools include Kingsville Primary School, Wemberley Primary School and Yarraville West Primary School.

Land use and character

Yarraville is predominantly residential and also has some key industrial precincts including the port related industries along the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers, an industrial precinct adjoining Stony Creek Hyde Street Reserve, and an industrial precinct at the south western end of the precinct. A number of Activity Centres are located in Yarraville, which include a combination of retail, commercial, and business land use.

6.9.1b Quantity and distribution of open space in Yarraville

Following is a brief summary of the key statistics for quantity of open space in Yarraville.

- 79.98 hectares of open space
- 13 per cent of the total suburb area is open space
- 23 per cent of the total open space in the City of Maribyrnong
- 49 sqm of open space per person, based on the estimated population for 2013
- 4.48 hectares of restricted open space - Westgate Golf Course

- There are no other large open spaces located within 400 metres of the precinct boundary. Harris Reserve is a popular Small Local open space within 400 metres in Seddon.

Table 6.9-1 List of existing open space type and character classification in Yarraville

Open space	Area (PPRZ)	Area (Not PPRZ)	Area sqm	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
ALEX BEATON RESERVE	21,795	0	21,795	2.18	Neighbourhood	Informal	
ANDERSON RESERVE	2,762	0	2,762	0.28	Small Local	Linking space	
ANGLISS RESERVE	60,659	0	60,659	6.07	Municipal	Sporting	
BARBARA BEYER RESERVE	7,360	0	7,360	0.74	Local	Informal	
BELLAIRS PARK	0	1,185	1,185	0.12	Small Local	Formal (Exotic)	
CUMING RESERVE	0	2,396	2,396	0.24	Small Local	Significant road reservation	
DUCKER RESERVE	0	754	754	0.08	Small Local	Undeveloped	
FELS RESERVE	2,135	0	2,135	0.21	Small Local	Informal	
FREDERICK RESERVE	0	582	582	0.06	Small Local	Informal	Formal (Native)
FYANS MORVEN RESERVE	1,281	1,563	2,844	0.28	Local	Undeveloped	Linking space
CRUICKSHANK PARK	100,018	41,420	141,438	14.14	Municipal	Waterway	Linear, Bushland/natural
GOODS YARD	0	3,588	3,588	0.36	Local	Informal	Linking space, Railway easement/siding
HANMER RESERVE	26,454	0	26,454	2.65	Neighbourhood	Sporting	Botanical, Formal (Exotic), Heritage
MCIVOR RESERVE	181,103	0	181,103	18.11	Regional	Sporting	Restricted sporting/recreation
MCNISH RESERVE	11,489	1,199	12,688	1.27	Local	Informal	
RAILWAY PARK	0	1,168	1,168	0.12	Small Local	Linking space	Urban plaza, Railway easement/siding
SANFORD GROVE RESERVE	2,445	0	2,445	0.24	Small Local	Botanical	Informal
SINKING VILLAGE RESEVE	0	5,485	5,485	0.55	Local	Informal	
STONY CREEK RESERVE	21,663	20,668	42,331	4.23	Municipal	Waterway	
STONY CREEK RESERVE - HYDE STREET	104,892	4,822	109,714	10.97	Municipal	Waterway	Nature conservation
YARRAVILLE GARDENS	39,397	0	39,397	3.94	Municipal	Heritage	Public garden, Botanical
YARRAVILLE OVAL	29,096	172	29,268	2.93	Municipal	Sporting	
YARRAVILLE STATION PLAZA	0	1,059	1,059	0.11	Small Local	Urban plaza	Railway easement/siding
YARRAVILLE-FOOTSCRAY BOWLING CLUB	11,183	0	11,183	1.12	Municipal	Restricted sporting/recreation	
Total open space	623,732	86,061	709,793	70.98			

6.9.1d Distribution of open space in Yarraville

Overall there is a good diversity of space types and it is reasonably well distributed across Yarraville. The linear open space along Stony Creek provides good connectivity and this will improve in the future as a continuous open space corridor and linked trail system is established.

The gaps in provision are either associated with existing or former industrial land use or within older established areas of the suburb. Refer to Figure 6.9B.

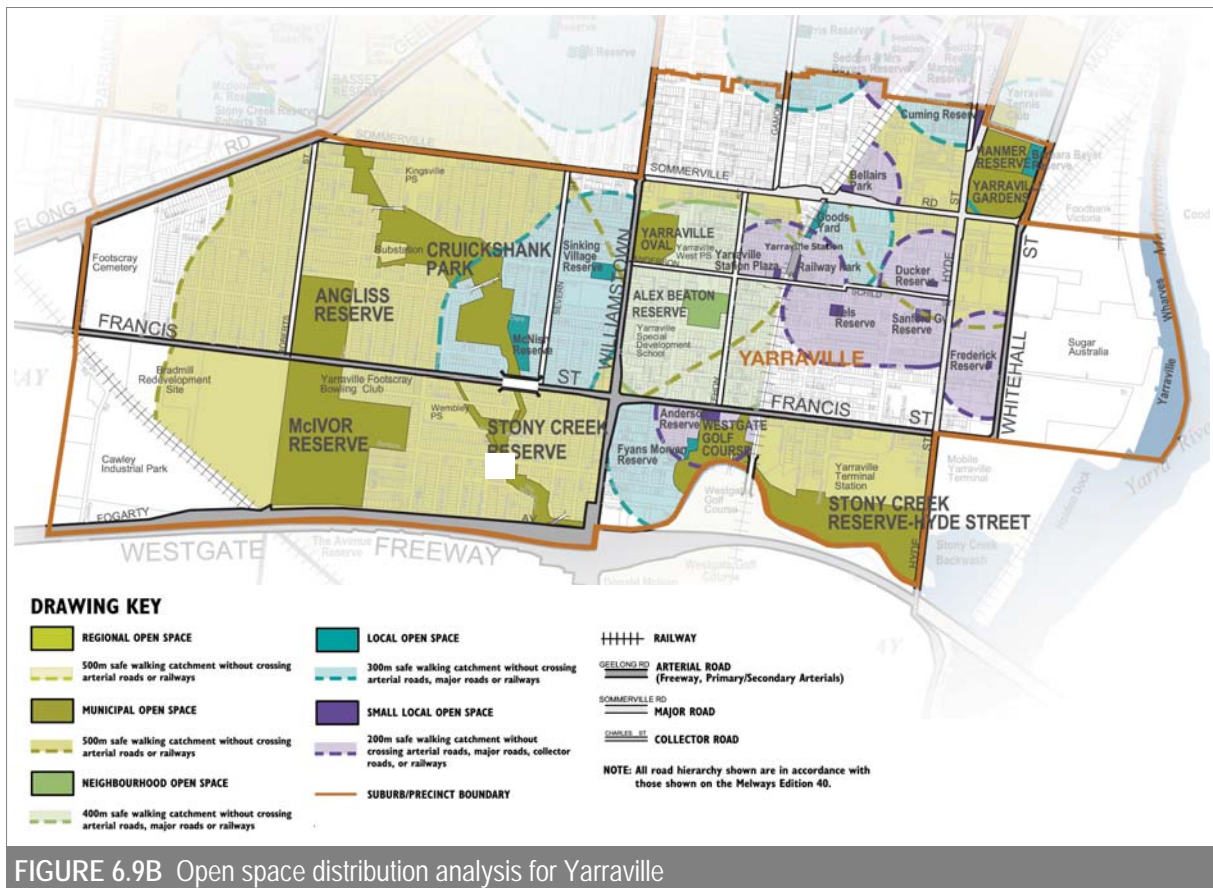


FIGURE 6.9B Open space distribution analysis for Yarraville

6.9.2 Community characteristics for Yarraville

6.9.2a Demographic summary of existing forecast trends

Source: .id Consulting 2013, accessed November 2013

Age structure:

The most populous age group is 35 to 49 years and this is forecast to continue. The second most populous age group is 25 to 34, however this is significantly less than the 35 to 49 age group. Compared with the municipal-wide average, there are a higher proportion of people in the younger age groups 0 - 11 years, a higher proportion of people in the 35 to 49 and a lower proportion of the 18 to 34 age range.

Forecast trends through to 2031 include:

- An overall increase in the 50 to 84 age groups.
- A decrease in the proportion of both the 25 to 34 year and 35 to 49 year age range.
- A decline in young children in the 0 to 4 year age range..

The most populous household types are couples with children, followed by lone person households and couples without children. When compared with the municipal-wide average, there are a higher proportion of couple families with and without children and a lower proportion of group households and one parent

families. Trends through to 2031 forecast a decrease in couples with and without children and an increase in lone person households.

Dwelling type:

Compared with the Municipal-wide average, there are significantly more separate houses and less medium and high density dwellings. Between 2006 and 2011, there was a decline in separate houses and increase in medium and high density dwellings.

Total population (2013): 14,362*

Forecast population in 2031: 18,285* (increase of 3,923)

**Source: .id Consulting, 4 December 2013*

For implications of this on planning for open space, refer to summary in 6.9.2c.

6.9.2b Summary of open space survey outcomes for Yarraville

A total of 508 open space surveys were received from Yarraville, which represents 25 per cent of the total number of surveys received. This is higher than the proportion of Yarraville residents in the City of Maribyrnong population, which is 19 per cent.

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
51%	Cruickshank Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Walking • Close to home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide/ increase dog off-lead hours • Additional lighting required • More BBQs required
40%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Walking • Playground and equipment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional lighting required • More BBQs required • Fenced dog off-lead area required
15%	Alex Beaton Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground and equipment • Take children to the park • Passing through/ shortcut 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more public toilets • Additional trees required • Provide more seating
11%	Mclvor Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog walking • Walking • Dog off-lead area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional trees required • More dog waste bags/bins required • Improve drainage
Open space beyond walking distance			
14%	Yarraville Gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Playground and equipment • Picnics • Community hub/ meeting place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide more picnic tables • More BBQs required • More café/ kiosk required
11%	Maribyrnong River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling • Jogging/ running • Walking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve path surfaces • Provide more drinking fountains • Additional lighting required
9%	Williamstown	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More café/ kiosk required

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
	Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Views and vistas Fresh air 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regular maintenance and cleaning required More rubbish bins required

Types of open space used (top four):

88% Large parks and gardens
83% Local streets for exercise
80% Small local parks
75% Maribyrnong River.

Values (top four):

74% Trees
68% Place to relax and unwind
59% Place for kids to play
53% Health and wellbeing.

Activities and facilities in open space (top four):

90% Walking paths
78% Open grassed areas
76% Seats
59% Drinking fountains.

Facility provision and maintenance:

- 90 per cent of Yarraville respondents indicated walking paths are the most popular facility used in the last twelve months, while less than half at 41 per cent consider there are enough of them. 63 per cent are satisfied with the maintenance of paths.
- Over 70 per cent use open grassed areas and seats. 40 per cent indicated there are enough open grassed areas provided, however only 28 per cent consider there are enough seats.
- More than 40 per cent of respondents are not satisfied with the level of provision of public toilets, drinking fountains and seats.
- Generally there is a good level of satisfaction with the maintenance of facilities in open space.

Reasons for not visiting open space (top four):

- 35 per cent of survey respondents nominated there are open space/s they do not visit but would like to. The reasons include:
 - 30% Concerned about personal safety
 - 30% Lack of time
 - 29% Other
 - 26% Uninviting

General comments:

- Additional open space is required.
- Appreciate existing open space.
- Regular maintenance and cleaning of open space is required.
- Additional trees required in open space.
- Make Yarraville Pop up park a permanent feature or provide similar
- Additional lighting required.
- Retain existing open space and appreciate the improvements to it.

- Community garden required.
- Enforce dog off-lead areas.

Summary of worker use of open space:

- 19% of survey respondents work in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 82% of Yarraville respondents who work in the City of Maribyrnong also visit open space near their work place. The reasons include:
 - 104 Being outdoors as a break from work
 - 71 Fitness/exercise (informal)
 - 52 Cycling/jogging/walking to and from work.

For further details on open space survey outcomes, refer to Appendix A of the Strategy.

6.9.2c Implications of community characteristics on future open space planning in Yarraville

The main demographic changes forecast for Yarraville include an increase in people aged over 50 years of age, a decrease in the 0 to 4 age range and a larger proportion of lone person households. The most populous age group will continue to be the 35 to 49 year olds.

Therefore future open space planning and design will increase the diversity of facilities for adults, including those that encourage them out into open space to maintain physical and social health and wellbeing. The increase in lone person households means that facilities that encourage social interaction will continue to be important. Future open space planning will also maintain a diversity of facilities to meet the needs of all age groups, recognising the most populous age group will remain the 35 to 49 age range.

6.9.3 Future change in Yarraville

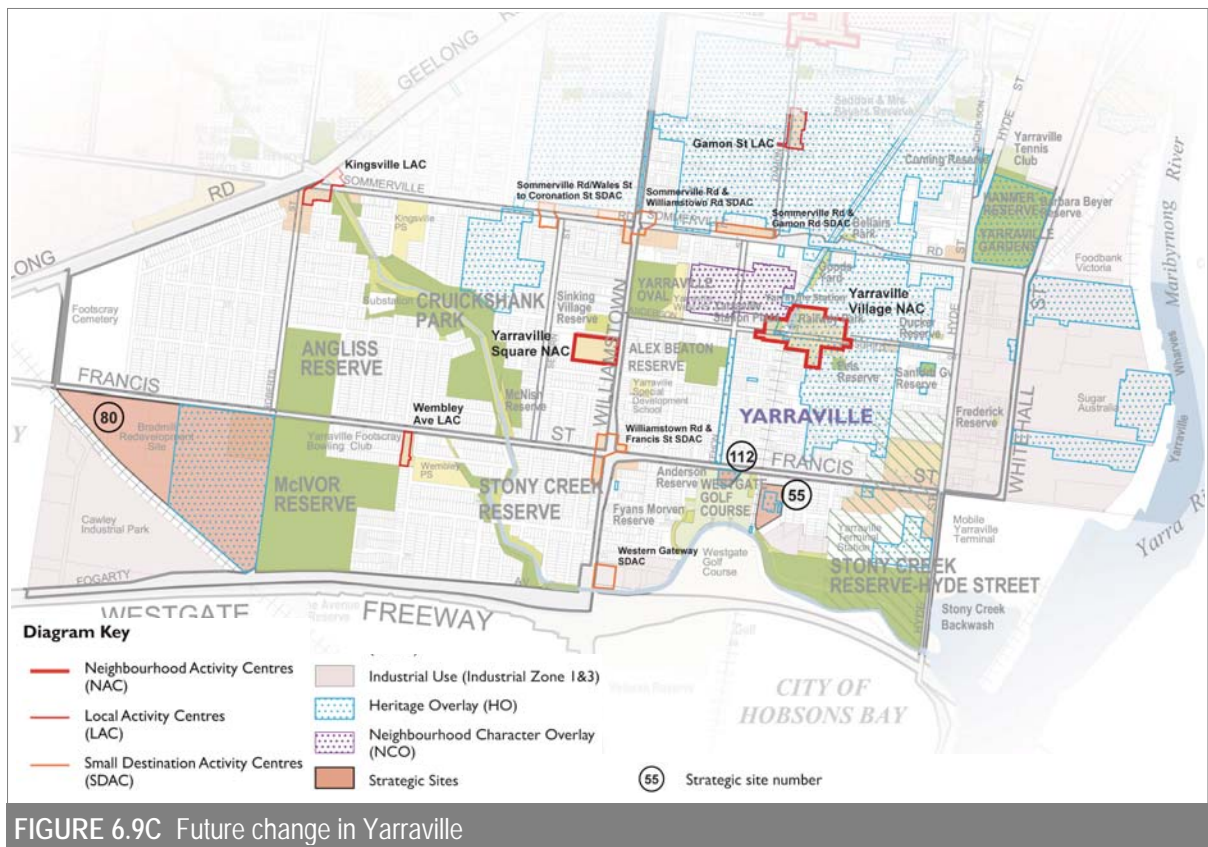
6.9.3a Summary of the future change

The forecast residential population increase in Yarraville represents 27 per cent of the total population with a forecast increase of 3,923 across the precinct.

Approximately 75 per cent of this forecast population is located in the Bradmills Strategic Site No. 80 in the south western part of Yarraville next to McIvor Reserve. In the order of 10 per cent, or approximately 400 are forecast to be located in two Strategic sites near Stony Creek Reserve - Hyde Street. The Yarraville NAC has approximately 3 per cent, or approximately 110 people located in it and the remaining approx 480 people are distributed through the balance of suburb.

The strategic sites and the activity centres are shown on Figure 6.9C. It also shows the extent of existing Heritage Overlay and Neighbourhood Character

Overlay areas in Yarraville. While redevelopment may occur within these overlay areas, it is anticipated they will receive a lower intensity of redevelopment.



6.9.3b Implications of future change on open space planning

Brad mills Strategic Site

The Brad mills Strategic Site will be the main area of forecast population change Yarraville, with nearly 3,000 new residents forecast to live there by 2031. The site will include mainly residential development with a retail/commercial centre as well. The site is located adjacent to McIvor and Angliss Reserves, however the capacity for this site to address all the open space needs of this population is further discussed in the sub-precinct breakdown.

6.9.4 Sub-precinct analysis of open space provision including gap areas for Yarraville

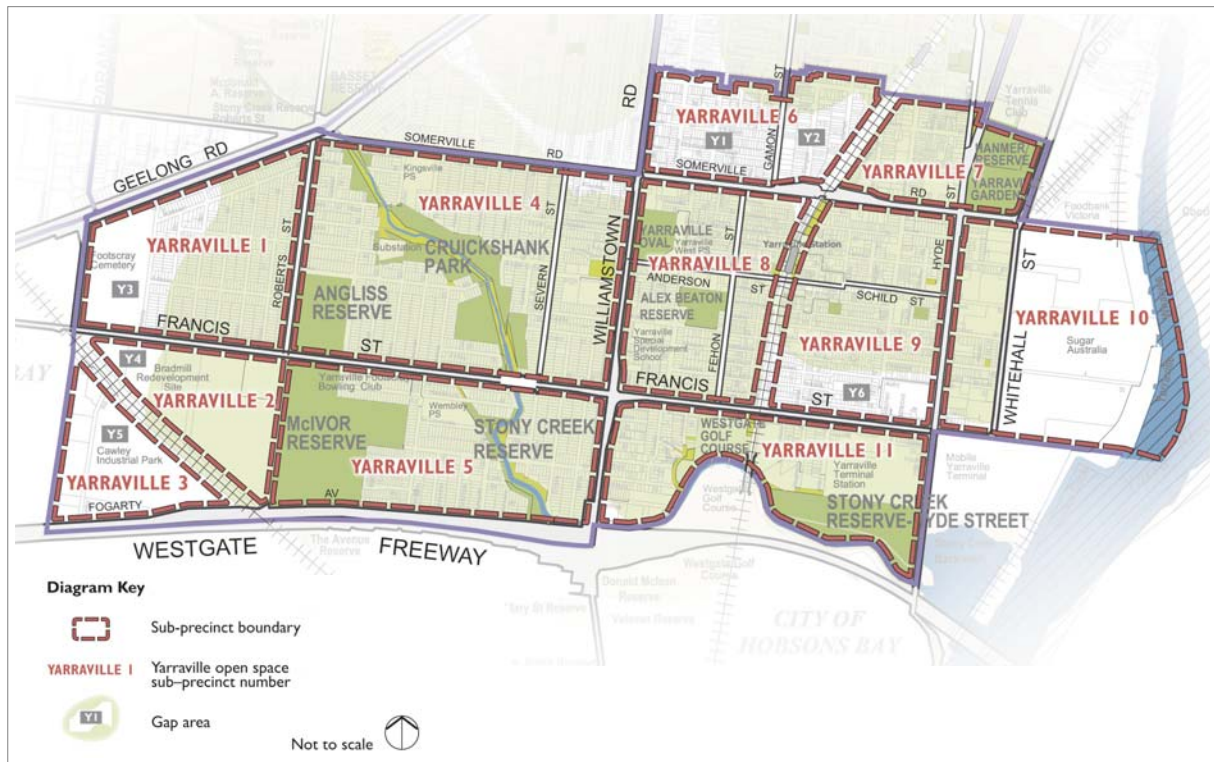


FIGURE 6.9D Open space sub-precinct diagram for Yarraville

Table 6.9-2 Open space sub-precinct analysis for Yarraville

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
Yarraville 1	Y3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Geelong Road and Francis Street, west of Roberts Street. Predominantly residential land use, with no heritage overlays so assume some population growth from the balance of suburb figures. No existing open space, with Angliss Reserve on the east side of Roberts Street. Footscray Cemetery is located in this sub-precinct, however it does not replace the need for open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area Y3 for the existing and forecast population without the need to cross major roads.
Yarraville 2	Y4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between the railway and Francis Street. Currently industrial land use, which is changing to residential land use. Encompasses the Bradmills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The open space needs of the forecast population at the Bradmills Site will include the need for Local and Small Local open space on the site to provide open space within safe walking distance of the future population. Additionally, a major

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
		Strategic Site, with forecast residential population growth of approximately 3,000 by 2031.	upgrade would be required to the neighbourhood facilities in Mclvor Reserve to cater to the unstructured recreational needs of this additional population. The structured sporting needs will also contribute to the need to establish an additional Municipal open space in the central part of the municipality.
Yarraville 3	Y5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located south west of the railway extending to the Westgate Freeway and the municipal boundary. Currently industrial land use, which is forecast to continue. No population growth is forecast in this location. No existing open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No additional open space is proposed unless there is a substantial change to the existing industrial land use in this sub-precinct.
Yarraville 4	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Somerville Road and Francis Street, west of Williamstown Road. Predominantly residential land use, and assume some forecast growth will occur in this area. Existing open space includes Cruickshank Park, Angliss Reserve and McNish Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing improvements to existing open space will include implementation of the Stony Creek Directions Plan, construction of Sinking Village Reserve and minor upgrades to Angliss Reserve.
Yarraville 5	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located south of Francis Street, west of Williamstown Road. Predominantly residential use, and assume some forecast growth will occur in this area. Existing open space includes Stony Creek Reserve and Mclvor Reserve. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing improvements to existing open space including the integration of improved unstructured recreational facilities at Mclvor Reserve. As a minimum improved path connections for access between the established residential area and the forecast new population in the Bradmills Site west of Mclvor Reserve.
Yarraville 6	Y1 & Y2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Sommerville Road and west of the railway. Predominantly residential with the majority of this precinct in a heritage overlay area, therefore residential population growth is assumed to be minimal. No existing open space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed new Small Local open space in Seddon will address Gap Area Y1 (Refer Recommendation 6.7A-1), west of Gamon Street. Gap Area Y2 is located within a Heritage Overlay area, and the north south street network limits the options to establish a new Small Local open space that would be easily accessible for the community. This gap area will be addressed by improving pedestrian amenity in the streetscapes to maximise

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
			accessibility to the existing and proposed open space in Seddon.
Yarraville 7	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located north of Sommerville Road and between the railway and Hyde Street. Predominantly residential with the majority of this precinct in a heritage overlay area, therefore residential population growth is assumed to be minimal. Bellairs Park is located in the south of the precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the design of Bellairs Park and undertake minor upgrades to improve its accessibility and use given it receives low levels of use in the open space survey.
Yarraville 8	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Francis Street and Sommerville Road, west of the railway. Predominantly residential and includes part of the Yarraville Village NAC. Anticipate some forecast population growth will occur. Existing open space includes Alex Beaton Reserve, Yarraville Oval and Yarraville Station Plaza. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This sub-precinct is well provided for with a diversity of existing open space.
Yarraville 9	Y6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Francis Street and Sommerville Road, east of the railway. Predominantly residential with part of the Yarraville Village NAC. Anticipate some forecast population growth will occur. Existing open space includes Fels Reserve, Ducker Reserve, Sanford Grove Reserve, Goods Yard and Railway Park. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gap Area Y6 in the south of this sub-precinct includes non-residential land use. An additional Small Local open space would be required if these areas redevelop, as the larger lot sizes indicate higher density development may be feasible in this area. Continue to upgrade and improve other existing areas of Small Local open space.
Yarraville 10	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Francis Street and Sommerville Road, east of Hyde Street. Predominantly industrial land use with some residential use. Frederick Reserve is located in the residential pocket of this mainly industrial precinct. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on the assumption that the industrial land use will continue, no additional open space is required in this sub-precinct.
Yarraville 11	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Located between Francis Street and Stony Creek and west of Williamstown Road. Land use includes residential, industrial and open space. Two Strategic Sites are located in this sub-precinct with a combined additional population of 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a Small Local open space that is protected from traffic movement and noise east of the railway. Major upgrades to Anderson Reserve and Fyans Morven Reserve to cater primarily to the future population at the Francis

Sub-precinct	Gap Area	Description	Conclusions for open space analysis
		approximately 400.	<p>Street Strategic Site and the existing community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the extent of constructed recreational facilities proposed in the Stony Creek Reserve - Hyde Street given the extensive impacts of traffic noise from the Westgate Bridge on the amenity of this open space.

6.9.5 Recommendations for Yarraville

6.9.5a Summary of overall intent

Provision and distribution

Overall open space is reasonably well distributed in Yarraville with the exception of some key gaps areas in the established residential areas. These gap areas are mainly to be addressed with the provision of additional Local and Small Local open space. A few are to be overcome by improving accessibility to open space via the local street network. The major area of forecast change is at the Bradmills Site where the scale of forecast growth (approximately 3,000 residents by 2031) generates the need for additional Local and Small Local open space on the site. This forecast population will also contribute to upgrading the neighbourhood facilities in McIvor Reserve and the establishment of the new Municipal open space in the central area of the Municipality.

Quality and design

The objectives for quality and design of open space vary across Yarraville. Major upgrades are proposed to existing open spaces that are undeveloped and minor upgrades to open space that is not well used. The new open spaces and future upgrades will include facilities and spaces that encourage all ages including older adults given the demographic change is forecast to see an increase in older age groups.

6.9.5b Precinct actions for Yarraville

The priorities in the action tables provide guidance on the expected sequence and timeframes for the commencement of actions and may change pending the allocation of suitable funding and resources, along with the actual rate and location of forecast future growth and development.

A Additional open space

No.	Action	Respon- sibility	Priority
6.9A-1	Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area Y3 for the existing and forecast population without the need to cross major roads.	MCC Developer	High
6.9A-2	Provide a new Local open space in Gap Area Y4 on the former Bradmills Site (Strategic Site No. 80). This will be to meet for the local needs of forecast population.	MCC Developer	High
6.9A-3	Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area Y4 on the former Bradmills Site (Strategic Site No. 80). This will provide well distributed open space to meet the local open space needs of the forecast population.	MCC Developer	High
6.9A-4	Provide a new Small Local open space in Gap Area Y6 if the non-residential land use converts to residential use. This will primarily be to meet the open space needs of the forecast population.	MCC Developer	Medium
6.9A5	Provide a new Small Local open space that is protected from traffic movement and noise east of the railway and south of Francis Street in sub-precinct PY11 primarily for the forecast population.	MCC Developer	Very High

B Open space links via the street network and ancillary open space

Note: all the projects in this Section B do not form part of the open space contribution rate included in this Strategy, as they are improvements to ancillary open space.

No.	Action	Respon- sibility	Priority
6.9B-1	Investigate the potential to improve pedestrian accessibility in the street network in Gap Area Y2. This is to improve access to the existing open spaces in Seddon to the north including Harris Reserve and Seddon & Mrs Beyers Reserve.	MCC	Very High

6.9.5c Actions for existing individual open spaces in Yarraville

Refer to Appendix A for more detailed information on the suggested improvements to individual open space reserves from the open space survey outcomes. These have informed the actions and will be referred to during the proposed upgrades.

C Regional open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.9C-1	Mclvor Reserve Undertake major upgrades to provide neighbourhood level facilities including unstructured recreational facilities, including a path connection to link the established residential area to the east and the forecast new population in the Bradmills Site west of the reserve.	MCC	Very High

D Municipal open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.9D-1	Angliss Reserve Minor upgrade including provision of paths and upgrade to the playground.	MCC	Medium
6.9D-2	Cruickshank Park Continue to implement the Stony Creek Directions Plan.	MCC	High
6.9D-3	Stony Creek Reserve Continue to implement the Stony Creek Directions Plan.	MCC	Ongoing
6.9D-4	Stony Creek Reserve - Hyde Street Implement the Stony Creek Directions Plan, with a review of the extent of works proposed given the impacts of the traffic noise and movement on this open space.	MCC	High
6.9D-5	Yarraville Gardens Update the current 2004 Masterplan to guide minor upgrades and ongoing management of this major area of open space in the future, recognising its broad appeal and use from across the municipality. Refer to the open space survey outcomes for suggested improvements for the revision of the masterplan.	MCC	High
6.9D-6	Yarraville Oval Undertake minor upgrade to improve the overall character and use of unstructured recreation facilities including an upgrade to the existing skate facility.	MCC	High

E Neighbourhood open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.9E-1	Alex Beaton Reserve Continue to maintain, with recent upgrades to this open space being appreciated and survey outcomes confirming it is well used.	MCC	Ongoing
6.9E-2	Hanmer Reserve Update the current 2004 Masterplan, refer Yarraville Gardens - Recommendation 6.9D-5.	Refer 6.9D-5	Refer 6.9D-5

F Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.9F-1	Barbara Beyer Reserve Refer to the Yarraville Gardens - Recommendation 6.9D-5.	Refer 6.9D-5	Refer 6.9D-5
6.9F-2	Fyans Morven Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* to establish a useable open space (currently undeveloped) in this location to cater to both existing and forecast population needs. Access to this space from the Francis Street Strategic Site will preferably be via Anderson Reserve.	MCC Developer	Very High
6.9F-3	Goods Yard Minor upgrade including seating, additional trees and picnic facilities.	MCC	High
6.9F-4	McNish Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.9F-5	Sinking Village Reserve Continue to implement existing concept plan.	MCC	Very High

G Small Local open space

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
6.9G-1	Anderson Reserve Upgrade this reserve primarily to improve access from Francis Street to Fyans Morven Reserve.	MCC	Very High
6.9G-2	Bellairs Park Review the design of the Bellairs Park and undertake minor upgrade to improve accessibility and use of this open space. In particular review the extent of fencing around the reserve.	MCC	High
6.9G-3	Cuming Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.9G-4	Ducker Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* of this undeveloped area of	MCC	Very High

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
	open space to meet the open space needs of the local community.		
6.9G-5	Fels Reserve Continue to maintain this well used open space.	MCC	Ongoing
6.9G-6	Frederick Reserve Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.9G-7	Sanford Grove Reserve Undertake a major upgrade* including resolving access into the reserve to improve passive surveillance and its role and use by the community. Ensure existing mature Red Gum is protected in future design.	MCC	Very High
6.9G-8	Railway Park Continue to maintain.	MCC	Ongoing
6.9G-9	Yarraville Station Plaza Continue to maintain	MCC	Ongoing

* New open space and major upgrades require the preparation of suitable plans to guide the works and allow appropriate levels of review and consultation prior to commencement of on-ground works. Refer to Actions in Section 5.3.8 and Section 7.11 in this Strategy.

7. Design and management guidelines

7.1 Overview

The guidelines are based on a combination of existing policies that the City of Maribyrnong already has in place and best practice. Some of the existing council policies apply across all areas of council. In these cases, the guidelines included in this Strategy are only those relevant to open space. Council policies are frequently updated, and in these situations, the most up to date version of the policy will be referred to for more detailed issues. Some policy updates may be informed by the guidelines in this Strategy.

These guidelines are to be referred to in relation to the future design and management for all open space in the City of Maribyrnong. This includes:

- Open space that is owned and managed by other agencies located in the municipality.
- Open space that is owned and managed by the City of Maribyrnong.
- Works that other agencies may undertake in open space owned by the City of Maribyrnong.
- Future open space that is to be transferred to the City of Maribyrnong.

For proposed new open space, Council will first assess the suitability of proposed land area against the criteria included in Table 5-2. Once the suitability of the site as open space has been determined, designs for the new open space will be consistent with the guidelines. Council officers will refer to the guidelines when preparing design plans and undertaking proposed upgrades to existing open space. Council officers will also assess proposed designs for new open space by other agencies and developers.

The guidelines are intended to be available so they assist other agencies and developers during the preparation of design plans for open space.

7.2 Sustainable design and management

7.2.1 Sustainable water use in open space

The City of Maribyrnong's *Sustainable Water Management Plan 2006* details actions that will be taken by Council to reduce its water consumption and improve water quality by 2015. Relevant to open space, the management plan includes initiatives to reduce and conserve water use. These include resurfacing sports grounds with warm season grasses and installing water saving devices as part of sports pavilion upgrades. The guidelines below are based on this policy and also on current best practice approach.

Guidelines regarding sustainable water management in open space design:

- a) Incorporate best practice principles for stormwater treatment in open space where feasible. This includes harvesting, treating and reusing stormwater run-off and rainwater from open space and the surrounding local catchment to reuse in the design, management and maintenance of the open space.
- b) For new open space and upgrades to existing open space in higher density precincts, consider the multiple benefits of mitigating urban heat as part of the evaluation of appropriate stormwater quality treatment systems proposed for open space, particularly where a system can introduce some habitat diversity, for example stormwater quality treatment wetlands.
- c) Maximise use of permeable surface treatments to reduce concentrations of stormwater runoff and improve the moisture retaining (and passive cooling) qualities of open space.
- d) Where proposals for water re-use rely on ground water as some or all of the alternative water source, demonstrate that water quality meets all the accepted EPA and industry best practice in relation to ground water contamination.
- e) Upgrades to car parks in open space are to at least treat, and preferably re-use stormwater runoff.
- f) Water features in open space will need to demonstrate the water supply is fully sustainable from non-potable sources and contributes to the landscape character and amenity of the reserve. Preference will be for water features that demonstrate the promote principles of sustainability.
- g) Water tanks/storage devices, where required, are to be preferably located underground. If this is not feasible, the second preference is to co-locate them with other built form and infrastructure in the open space. If they are the only built feature in the reserve, then their siting, size, material selection, colour and design of associated infrastructure is to complement the character of the open space, and is to minimise impact on major view sheds into the open space from entries, adjoining land use and paths/trails.
- h) Continue to audit existing irrigation infrastructure in open space to identify the location, type and lifespan of the infrastructure.

- i) Consider synthetic surfaces at selected locations to reduce pressure and irrigation requirements for the natural turf sports fields.

7.2.2 Sustainable material use in open space infrastructure design

In selecting materials for use in future open space construction adhere where appropriate to the following guidelines:

- a) Encourage sustainable or ecologically preferable materials, which include materials that are durable, sourced locally, recyclable (including recycled plastics, rubber and concrete), made from post consumer materials, refurbished or renewable.
- b) Promote re-use of on-site materials where appropriate, for example established trees for shade, rocks for building retaining walls and topsoil.
- c) Timber used in open space to preferably be from sustainable sources, including plantation, recycled and/or harvested efficiently. Any proposed use of timber is to demonstrate that is inappropriate to use an alternative material such as steel, concrete and other recycled or sustainable alternatives. This is particularly in relation to costs associated with ongoing management and maintenance of timber compared with alternative materials.
- d) Appropriate dimensioning of material to suit the particular use demonstrating the bulk and quantity of material proposed does not result in unnecessary wastage.
- e) Minimise unnecessary material use in infrastructure design for example, the use of suitable kerb barrier or low post and rail/cable fencing to prevent vehicle access into open space in place of bollards, or locating picnic areas in existing shade provided by trees or existing structures in preference to providing additional shade structures.
- f) Alternative power sources for lighting (refer to lighting Guidelines in 7.8.5).
- g) Siting and design of buildings in open space to consider passive solar orientation and minimise the need for and use of heating and cooling systems.
- h) Appropriate siting and design of facilities to minimise additional structures, particularly regarding shade.
- i) Integrate stormwater runoff from sealed surfaces, roofs etc into the open space design where feasible to improve passive cooling and sustainable water use.
- j) Select and specify materials that are durable and demonstrate minimal ongoing management and maintenance requirements.

7.2.3 Reduce reliance on vehicle use to access open space

The *Maribyrnong Strategic Bicycle Plan 2004* identifies Maribyrnong as ideally located for cycling. The close proximity to the City of Melbourne CAD, the presence of off-road shared trail systems that provide direct routes into the CAD such as along Footscray Road, the relatively flat topography and the shared trail system along the Maribyrnong River contribute to making it an ideal location for cyclists.

Recommendations in this Strategy encourage walking and cycling as a means of transport to reach open space. This is specifically encouraged through improved linkages between off-road trails along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek and the continued implementation or review of existing Council strategies such as the *Strategic Bicycle Plan*. Overall, this direction will reduce reliance on vehicles and encourage fitness through walking and cycling. Refer also guidelines in 7.5.

7.3 Biodiversity values and natural character in open space

7.3.1 Vegetation selection and use

Currently open space reserves have a range of different species, including some open spaces with a mix of native and exotic plantings that require various levels of irrigation. Future open space designs should consider selection of species that contribute to the overall sustainability principles, including species that improve the microclimate of the reserve, contribute to habitat values, and provide scale and character to the space.

Areas of remnant vegetation have not been accurately mapped since 1999 and Action 5.3A recommends this be undertaken as part of preparing a Biodiversity Strategy for the city.

In selecting plants for use in public open space reserves, consider the following guidelines:

- a) For open space in higher density urban precincts, planting selection to support passive cooling characteristics. This includes the use of large broad spreading canopy shade trees, turfing where feasible and garden beds that maximise retention of moisture in the landscape.
- b) In reserves with nature conservation values and along the waterway corridors, any future planting is to be locally indigenous and preferably of local provenance to strengthen the identified Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC).
- c) Where the use of native or indigenous species in waterway corridors will conflict with its existing established landscape character, particularly heritage reserves, use of non-indigenous or non-native exotic species will be

encouraged consistent with the heritage character.

- d) Protect and appropriately manage existing established mature trees that provide shade and character to open space. In nature conservation areas this may include dead and dying trees to protect habitat values. Mature non-indigenous vegetation may also be appropriate to retain in the absence of other mature vegetation.
- e) Increase the presence of canopy shade trees in open space where appropriate, recognising the high value the community place on trees. Trees are preferably to be long-lived species, complement the established or desired open space character, and consider winter shade and summer sunlight access. This is to promote carbon capture and to achieve an overall increase in tree canopy in the municipality as urban densities increase.
- f) In open space with identified environmental or native landscape character, future planting is to complement these values.
- g) In open space with recognised heritage values, plants are to be consistent with and complement the heritage character and values.
- h) In open space with exotic planting and cultural heritage values, use of drought tolerant exotic vegetation will be encouraged (where the species are not known weeds in waterway corridors and nature conservation reserves).
- i) Continue to support warm-season grasses to reduce irrigation needs in open space, except near areas with indigenous vegetation where there would be a risk of invasion of warm-season grasses into these areas.

7.3.2 Open space adjoining waterway corridors

Design guidelines to improve habitat and nature conservation values in open space adjoining the waterway corridors:

- a) Siting of future recreation facilities or upgrade of existing facilities in open space that directly adjoins the waterways is to allow for a sustainable width of riparian vegetation and any other consideration of natural process such as erosion and high flow events. Council will seek advice from Melbourne Water to assist with achieving this where required.
- b) Where sports lighting and other open space lighting is required, the proposed light is to minimise upward glare so that it has least impact on native fauna and adjoining residential amenity. Additionally, proposed lighting is to demonstrate energy efficiency.
- c) Future fencing design is to allow for fauna movement where feasible.
- d) Dog off-lead areas in open space adjacent to waterways are to be designed and managed so that dogs do not impact on nature conservation and habitat values of the waterway corridor.
- e) Retain, where possible, mature dead trees for habitat purposes considering risk management issues associated with falling limbs.
- f) Protect and improve where feasible the fauna habitat values of the waterway corridor in proposed works, particularly in relation to any proposed removal of mature indigenous and non-indigenous mature trees and new plantings.

7.3.3 Open space in activity centres and higher density areas

Guidelines for incorporating natural elements into the design of public squares and open space in higher density urban areas:

- a) Maximise the use of moisture retaining surfaces/features/green infrastructure including shade trees, garden beds and grassing to effectively passively cool the open space via evapotranspiration. This is to offset the build up of urban heat in higher density urban precincts.
- b) Demonstrate that adequate space outside the mature tree canopy diameter has been set aside for use. This includes demonstrating that paths and other facilities that require natural shade can be located in the open space without damaging the health of the tree in the longer term.
- c) Incorporate sustainable water use principles as an integral part of the open space siting, size and design, to effectively retain moisture and have a positive role in passive cooling as per guidelines in 7.2.1.
- d) Designs are to demonstrate the open space will be easily accessible and comfortable for the frail and vulnerable to use, especially during hot weather.
- e) Include drinking fountains and a variety of seating opportunities that are in both the shade and the sun to encourage people into open space.
- f) In play area designs, integrate some natural elements and materials into the design including trees for shade, natural mulch and planting to provide children with easy access to natural materials.

7.4 Accessibility to open space

Open space in the City of Maribyrnong is generally well used. Some issues identified in the open space surveys and site assessment work were associated with access to open space, including improving all-ability access, improving the diversity of facilities to cater for a wide diversity of communities, and concerns about personal safety in open space.

7.4.1 All-ability access

Guidelines to improve all-ability access to open space:

- a) Demonstrate an inclusive approach in the design and management of open space that maximises access and use by everyone. This is to meet the principles of accessibility and adaptability.
- b) Aim to meet current standards for all-ability access on grades and widths for paths from at least one entry point into the open space in accordance with the current Australian Standards. Refer to 7.5.3 for paths and connectivity.
- c) Adequate provision of other types of paths to meet the anticipated uses.
- d) Where appropriate, provide connections to public transport, the surrounding shared trails and footpath networks and car parking.

- e) Aim to meet current best practice standards for all-ability access to the major structured sporting, unstructured recreation and informal use facilities in open space.
- f) Demonstrate that clear lines of sight into the open space from all entry points and within it are achieved to provide safe access.
- g) Provide a diversity of seating accessible for people of all-abilities including seats with back rests, seats with armrests and bench seats.
- h) Future designs for play areas to include some all-ability access as an integrated approach to them. Refer to guidelines in 7.5.5 for more about play areas.

7.4.2 Personal safety

Guidelines for consideration of personal safety in future open space design and management:

- a) Incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Principles in all future open space design and management guidelines.
- b) Demonstrate that passive surveillance of open space from adjoining areas is achieved by appropriate design of the surrounding urban context and development interface, maximising visual and physical accessibility to open space.
- c) Demonstrate that clear lines of sight into the open space from all entry points and within it are achieved to provide safe access.
- d) New open space designs and upgrades are to demonstrate ease of cleaning and maintenance, including access for litter collection, for cleaning picnic and barbecue facilities and cleaning public toilets. Demonstrate the materials and surfaces used for the proposed infrastructure are easily cleaned/replaced when damaged or as part of future renewal program.
- e) Lighting of major pedestrian links where they provide convenient access too and from key facilities such as between a train station and residential area. Lighting is to meet guidelines in 7.8.5.
- f) In selected Regional and Municipal open spaces, provide some energy efficient lighting that allows unstructured recreational use of the key facilities in the early morning and evening during the winter. This does not include areas where lighting in the evening may disturb habitat. Lighting is to meet the guidelines in 7.8.5.
- g) Educate and enforce appropriate behavior by dog owners regarding adherence to the on and off leash areas. Refer to 7.6.3.
- h) Reduce conflicts between cyclists and pedestrians. Refer to guidelines in 7.5.2.
- i) Continue regular maintenance inspections and independent audits of all playgrounds to ensure they meet the safety requirements consistent with the current playground standards

7.4.3 Diversity, type and condition of facilities

People will visit open space if there is a reason to go there, and this promotes a healthier community both socially and physically. Increasing the diversity of facilities in regards to their design, character and function will increase the level of appeal to the diverse community. Refer also to guidelines in 7.5.

Guidelines for diversity of facilities in open space:

- Aim for diversity of unstructured recreation facilities including those that encourage physical fitness in people of all ages, abilities and cultural backgrounds - refer also to guidelines in 7.4.1 and 7.5.
- Demonstrate that designs for proposed upgrades to existing open space and new open space respond to local community needs to reflect the diversity of cultural groups and changes in demographics across the municipality in the open space designs.
- Minimise duplication of facilities within a walkable neighbourhood catchment to provide a diversity of recreational activities within a neighbourhood so combined the network offers diversity. For example one Small Local open space could predominantly be for play, while the next provides seating for quiet contemplation.
- Demonstrate that future recreation facility design demonstrates its adaptability and multiple-use so that the facility can change respond to changing needs over time without needing to be replaced.

7.5 Unstructured recreational infrastructure and use

7.5.1 Provision of facilities

Guidelines to promote and increase unstructured recreational use of open space:

- a) Refer to guidelines in 7.4.3.
- b) Location and type of active unstructured recreation facilities complements other identified structured, unstructured and informal uses in the open space and the overall character of the open space.
- c) Include associated facilities that support and encourage participation in exercise including seats of different types, drinking fountains and shade. This is so that people of all levels of ability and fitness are encouraged to exercise and improve their fitness.
- d) Placement and design of these facilities is to demonstrate they minimise visual and noise impacts on adjoining land use, particularly in relation to noise and activity in proximity to adjoining residents.
- e) Address public safety concerns in open space to promote use of and activity in open space. Refer guidelines for safety in 7.4.2.
- f) Refer also to City Design Manual or similar guidelines when prepared.

7.5.2 Shared trails in open space

Shared trails are valued by Council and are supported in open space where feasible, and in line with the *Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy 2012* and the *Maribyrnong Strategic Bicycle Plan 2004*. The following guidelines are intended to assist with the assessment of existing shared trails and to guide the design of new future shared trails in open space.

Guidelines for review and design of shared trails in open space:

- a) Gradients and clearances on existing and proposed paths to meet the standards for access and mobility and relevant standards for shared trails, currently referred to as the Austroad Standards.
- b) Surface of the trail to be appropriate to the character, location and usage levels of the path and the open space.
- c) Sightlines to allow clear visibility along paths, particularly near changes in direction without low overhanging vegetation.
- d) Width of paths to be designed for the anticipated use and level of activity, including whether the trails accommodate both recreational and commuter cycling uses.
- e) Adhere to current best management practice guidelines for trails in relation to waterways and flood management including safety in waterway environments including bridge crossings.
- f) Where dog walkers are permitted, clearly sign the shared paths so that appropriate levels of control are shown and all trail users can adjust their behaviour accordingly.
- g) Education (via signage) for all shared trail users of appropriate behaviour on shared trails including cyclists, pedestrians, dog walkers, pram pushers, inline skaters and skateboarders.
- h) Consistent with the *Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy 2012* and the *Maribyrnong Strategic Bicycle Plan 2004*, or any documents that supersede this, that improves the cycling network for commuter and recreational cyclists.

7.5.3 Paths in open space

Guidelines for review and design of paths in open space:

- a) Aim to provide path access into all open space so they are accessible for all. This includes path connections through open space to facilities including seats and play areas, along with links into existing linear trails where appropriate.
- b) Alignment and surface design to complement and be consistent with the open space location, usage levels and inherent landscape character.
- c) Paths to be a width that accommodates the intended levels of use. This includes consideration of walking for different purposes such as strolling and exercise.
- d) Where possible, meet the current standards or best management practice

for access and mobility including paths between facilities and destination points. Promote and facilitate their use by offering seats at regular points along the trail to assist.

- e) Minimise points where the paths cross vehicle entries.
- f) Kerb ramps and connections to the existing footpath network in at least one location to improve access from adjoining streets into the open space.
- g) Safe crossing points and junctions with adjoining streets.
- h) Demonstrate that surface runoff from paths is effectively drained either into adjacent garden beds/grass areas or discharged into underground drainage systems.

7.5.4 Multi-purpose courts and other minor recreation infrastructure

Guidelines for provision of multi-purpose courts, exercise equipment and other minor unstructured recreation infrastructure in open space:

- a) Generally applicable in Municipal, Neighbourhood and selected Local open space, refer Table 5-1.
- b) Siting and design to minimise impacts on adjoining residential properties, and where possible locate away from roadways, or have adequate design features to prevent risk of balls entering the road.
- c) Siting of facilities is to demonstrate they are easily accessible by all.
- d) Designed for multi-use to maximise use and appeal in the community.
- e) Include other complementary features including seating, shelters/shade and drinking fountains.
- f) Where feasible, locate courts where they receive some natural shade during the middle of the day. The final proximity to trees will need to ensure ongoing health of the tree, and access to some sunlight. This can be either shade from existing trees, or planting suitable tree species to provide shade in the longer term.
- g) Where possible orientate in north south direction in accordance with current sport facility design standards.
- h) Meet best practice design for fencing, surface drainage and surface treatment, etc.
- i) Ensure the facility location and design retains clear views and access into the open space.

7.5.5 Play areas

Playgrounds and play areas can be categorised both as unstructured recreation and informal facilities. Playgrounds do encourage physical activity in the children and are important to their physical development. Play areas can assist development of cognitive and social skills and also encourages the social connectedness of parents/carers as well as children. Taking children to the park to play encourages adults into open space, meeting their neighbours in the park

and build social networks. It is also important for children to independently go to the park to play when they are old enough.

Guidelines for upgrade to existing and provision of new playgrounds:

- a) Demonstrate the play areas are to provide diverse activities and equipment to meet different age groups and skill development including physical, social and cognitive play, scaled to meet the intended size and use level.
- b) Incorporate natural play settings in open space are to be considered in future open space design, allowing for informal and unstructured play to be accessible for most children in open space.
- c) Include access for all principles in play facility design allowing well integrated access to at least part of all play areas.
- d) Fencing to play areas is minimised and, where possible, avoided when it can be demonstrated there is no safety requirement for it. In situations where playgrounds can only be located in close proximity to roads or other features that present a safety concern such as steep cliffs and waterways, alternatives to fencing are to be investigated such as grade separation, seating walls, steps and planting. Only where alternatives cannot demonstrate they adequately meet the identified safety concerns is fencing then considered appropriate.
- e) Play areas are to be located and designed to receive some natural shade during the middle of the day to avoid the need for shade structures. The final proximity of the play area to existing and planted trees will need to demonstrate it allows ongoing health and mature size of the trees and is not in total shade (i.e. receives some sunlight during the day).
- f) Major play areas are to provide diverse play opportunities to reflect the natural, urban, landscape, cultural, heritage and social character of the area. The play area is to demonstrate it complements the landscape setting and provides for all types of play including social and cognitive play. Integrate all-ability access as a cohesive part of the whole space. The play area is to have associated support facilities including seating, drinking fountains, picnic areas and open grassed areas, trees and shade.

7.5.6 Skate and BMX facilities

Guidelines for location of skate and BMX facilities in open space:

- a) Demonstrate the location of these facilities achieve a well-integrated design with other facilities and uses in the open space. This is preferably undertaken as part of an open space masterplan process.
- b) Demonstrate the facility location and design meets best practice management in skate and BMX facility design. This includes the consideration of supporting facilities, public transport access, shared trail links, visibility, passive surveillance and the urban context.
- c) Demonstrate the needs of all young people have been addressed in the open space design in recognition that skate and BMX facilities do not meet the needs of all young people.
- d) Demonstrate the facility design adequately caters to other age groups

including spectators and carers and includes associated facilities such as shade, seating and drinking fountains.

- e) Demonstrate the design meets the CPTED principles.

7.6 Informal use and infrastructure

7.6.1 Seats

Guidelines for review and design of seats in open space:

- a) Include a variety of seat types such as bench seats, seats with back rests and some seats with armrests to improve all-ability access.
- b) Consider inclusion of informal seating arrangements in open space where it can be well integrated with other elements such as retaining walls.
- c) Demonstrates proposed seating faces activity and paths, takes advantage of views or features within the reserve and is provided in variety of settings including some in groups and some alone.
- d) Demonstrate proposed seating includes a variety of locations with some in the shade and others in the sun.
- e) Provide at regular intervals along shared trails as resting points to promote accessibility for all.
- f) Avoid locating seats in permanent shade.
- g) Refer to the City Design Manual or similar guidelines when prepared.

7.6.2 Picnic shelters and barbecue facilities

Site assessment work identified that in many locations, 240 litre bins are located in the picnic shelters directly adjacent to the picnic tables. This impacts on the character and amenity values of the picnic shelters. In other sites, the bins are not fixed and in most circumstances no bin surrounds or enclosures are included.

Guidelines for review and design of picnic and barbecue facilities in open space:

- a) Potentially appropriate in Regional, Municipal, Neighbourhood and selected Local open spaces as per Table 5-2.
- b) Positioned to be within reasonable access of main entry points and in proximity to features (such as views, water features) or facilities including play areas to encourage more people to use open space as a social meeting place promoting a sense of community.
- c) Demonstrate they complement the open space character and are sized to meet the anticipated regular use levels.
- d) Demonstrate sustainability principles are met including material use, water

- collection/runoff, energy efficiency and waste management.
- e) Barbecue design to minimise fire risk or public nuisance.
- f) Designed to allow all-ability access and use of the facility.
- g) Adequate waste management facilities to meet the size and needs of the proposed facility. Integrate recycling and position the bins so they are easily accessible for park users and maintenance, but are not located within the shelters so as not to dominate the character and ambience of the facility.
- h) Refer to the City Design Manual or similar guidelines when prepared.

7.6.3 Management of dogs in open space

The open space survey identified that dog walking is a key reason people visit open space. The survey outcomes also identified that on balance there are people requesting additional dog off-lead areas, and those that request improved enforcement. The following guidelines are intended to inform future proposals for the need for and design dog off-lead areas.

Guidelines for dog off-lead facilities in open space:

- a) Future designation of dog off-lead areas to meet multiple-use principles and avoid exclusive use of open space for this purpose.
- b) Dog off-lead areas are to preferably be provided on sports fields to minimise the need for any additional fencing of areas within open space.
- c) Where sports fields are not available, the dog off-lead areas are preferred in areas that avoid the need for fencing. Other design features such as garden beds, seating walls and grade separation are to be considered as measures to define off-lead areas if this is required in order to minimise fencing of these areas.
- d) Off-lead areas to be regularly monitored and revised or removed if they are found to be reducing accessibility and use of the open space for the community.
- e) The designation and controls for dog on and off lead areas within open space are to be regulated through the DAMP and local laws.
- f) Signage designating dog on-leash and off-leash areas is to be well integrated with other park signage - refer to guidelines in 7.12.

7.6.4 Urban horticulture

The following guidelines may be applied to existing and future proposals for urban horticulture, particularly community gardens in open space and the future assessment for potential sites for urban horticulture.

Guidelines for existing and future proposals for urban horticulture in open space:

- a) Demonstrate the use of land for urban horticulture and/or community garden benefits and is supported by local residents from within the City of Maribyrnong.
- b) The land area is large enough to sustain a viable community garden including areas for plots, compost, sheds and water storage.
- c) Meets the multiple-use and sustainability principles, for example is co-located with a Neighbourhood house to share facilities and resources such as rainwater harvesting, water supply and secure storage.
- d) There is adequate public open space available in the surrounding area or on the remainder of the site to retain adequate access to open space for the broader community into the future.
- e) Compatible with adjoining land use for amenity and health risks associated with growing food, and consideration of environmental values of adjoining open space.
- f) The site is suitable for vegetable growing including adequate sunlight access, water, visible and complements and potentially improves the open space character.
- g) The community gardens are run by an incorporated organisation that meets regularly.
- h) The land does not currently have a recognised public open space use or value that benefits the broader community. The proposed location does not negatively impact on heritage or identified environmental values.
- i) The assessment criteria for allocation of plots to give priority to applicants who do not have access to their own gardens.
- j) Demonstrate adherence to agreed land management practices and access arrangements as stipulated by Council.
- k) Maintain an agreed edge treatment between the community garden and the public open space reserve.
- l) All infrastructure and plants established as part of the community garden be removed if the land is being returned to Council.
- m) If the land is identified to be required for an alternative public open space use, Council have the right to reclaim the land for that purpose.
- n) Apply sustainable management principles and provide educational opportunities to interpret environmental sustainability principles and practices in the open space.
- o) Demonstrate how the site will adequately provide for car parking to service the community garden.

7.7 Structured sport and recreational use of open space

The preparation of masterplans for major reserves is the preferred mechanism for identifying the appropriate use levels, expansion and addition of all facilities in open space for both structured and unstructured sport and recreation use.

There are some non-open space dependent structured leisure and recreation facilities located in open space. Due to increasing demands on open space it is considered appropriate that when an existing facility needs to be replaced or is subject to a major upgrade, it is assessed as to whether it is appropriate to continue to retain this facility in open space.

7.7.1 Upgrade and replacement of existing structured sport and recreation facilities

Council has a program to progressively upgrade existing pavilions, including sports ground flood lighting. As part of ongoing upgrades and replacement of structured recreation facilities, opportunities to improve their design, appeal, accessibility and multi-use function are to be investigated as standard procedure. It is recommended that proposals for future upgrades and replacements be evaluated in line with the following guidelines to maximise the best use of these facilities in open space. These guidelines focus on the scale and location of the facilities and their integration with the open space character and facilities of and are not technical guidelines of the design of the facility itself.

Guidelines to upgrade existing structured sport and recreation facilities, or for their replacement, which need to:

- a) Demonstrate the need for the proposed upgrade/replacement of the facility.
- b) Demonstrate the proposed upgrade/replacement of the facility is best located within open space for its function and viability.
- c) Demonstrate the proposed facility will retain and improve access to and use of the open space.
- d) Meets universal design principles including all-ability access and promotes inclusion and use by diverse age range, cultural background, all genders and levels of ability where possible.
- e) Flexible in design to provide for multiple uses and future adaptability to other uses as needs change over the lifespan of the proposed facility.
- f) Demonstrate that all ESD principles have been addressed in both the design and proposed construction of the facility and it is consistent with current best management practice.
- g) Consistent with the CPTED principles or similar to promote safety in facility and open space design.

7.7.2 New structured sport and recreation facilities

Proposals for new structured sporting facilities (including buildings) in public open space will need to demonstrate how the new facility will integrate with the overall open space and be accessible for a diverse range of users. Proposals will be required to meet the following guidelines:

Guidelines for new structured sport and recreation facilities in open space:

- a) Demonstrate the need for the proposed new facility.
- b) Demonstrate the proposed facility is dependent on its location in open space for its viability and function.
- c) Meets the criteria listed above in *Guidelines to upgrade structured sport and recreation facilities* (c) to (g).
- d) The orientation and design of facility minimises impacts on other structured and unstructured recreational uses, and where possible, adds value to the other activities and informal uses. As a minimum, the proposal will need to demonstrate that it integrates well with them.
- e) Built form including buildings, fencing and other infrastructure to be designed to complement the environmental, landscape and cultural character and values of the open space reserve for its function and viability.
- f) Ensure key view lines into the open space are not blocked or impacted by the facility location.
- g) Where possible, minimise installation of permanent structures that can remain portable to improve adaptability and multiple use of the facility and the open space.
- h) Public transport access is preferably available to support the new facility.
- i) Adequate bicycle parking facilities integrated into the facility design.
- j) Demonstrate how the car parking demands for the proposed facility will be met with minimal impact on the open space and surrounding neighbourhood.
- k) Car park design to meet the criteria listed specifically for car parking in this Strategy.
- l) Demonstrate waste management is adequately provided for including appropriate bin enclosures and recycling initiatives.
- m) Construction activity to minimise environmental impact and disruption to open space.

7.7.3 Synthetic surfaces for sport and recreation use

Council's *Sustainable Surfaces Feasibility Study 2013* investigated potential sites for installation of three types of synthetic surfaces.

In conjunction with Council's ongoing program of upgrading sportsgrounds with warm season grasses, the establishment of synthetic surfaces is identified as a way to increase the capacity of the existing sports facilities. The study identifies

that sports facilities are currently close to capacity, and with the planned forecast future growth, they will not adequately cater for the sporting needs of the future population.

Guidelines to assess proposals for synthetic surfaces in open space:

- a) Demonstrate the synthetic surface is required including a full analysis of the benefits and negative impacts of the proposal.
- b) Demonstrate the effects of replacing natural soil and turf surfaces with constructed synthetic surfaces can be adequately compensated for in relation to the passive cooling role of the open space.
- c) Demonstrate the multiple use and adaptability of the proposed facility.

7.7.4 Advertising signage in open space

The following guidelines are to assist in providing consistent direction for provision of advertising signs that do not require a planning permit in open space, but do require Council permission to erect a sign on Council land.

Guidelines for review of advertising signage in open space:

- d) Any proposed signs are to be temporary only to be removed at the conclusion of the event or season for which they are being proposed.
- e) Signs need to be consistent with the scale and the size of the structure on which it is proposed.
- f) Signs are not to obstruct main view lines into the open space reserve from the main pedestrian and vehicle entry points.
- g) Minimise the visual prominence of the signage when viewed from the areas outside of the event for which the advertising signage associated with the club-based use is proposed. This includes minimising visibility of it from adjoining properties.

7.8 Buildings and infrastructure relevant to all use of open space

7.8.1 Car parking

In reviewing the need for existing and future car parking designs and requirements for open space, assess them in accordance with the following guidelines:

Guidelines for car parking in open space:

- a) In future proposals to formalise and upgrade existing unsealed car parks in open space, review the location and size to demonstrate the proposed car park is appropriate to the scale of demand from open space related uses only, in conjunction with promoting other forms of sustainable transport to the site as per guideline (c) below.
- b) Future car parks are to be of a size that adequately caters to the normal (not event) level of use. Demonstrate how other forms of sustainable transport and access to open space is to be improved including walking and cycling.
- c) Demonstrate how the parking will be accommodated in the area without undue impact on adjoining land use or undue loss of existing open space area during events where applicable.
- d) Demonstrate integration of safe pedestrian access and circulation to, around and through the car park.
- e) Demonstrate the car park design and construction adhere to best management practice and promote sustainability and safety.
- f) Stormwater runoff is to be captured and re-used or treated where feasible.
- g) Incorporate trees into car parks to improve aesthetics, provide shade, manage vehicle speeds and mitigate urban heat build up with consideration of adequate sight lines for safety.
- h) Demonstrate the proposed size, material use and design of car parking complements the desired landscape character of the open space.
- i) Demonstrate that proposed lighting to car parks is provided where the open space facilities are in use outside daylight hours by a large number of park users or where there is insufficient ambient light.
- j) Encourage, where appropriate, multiple use of car parking in open space.
- k) Include priority areas for bicycle parking within car parks or adjacent leisure amenities where applicable.

7.8.2 End of trip bicycle parking

Safe and secure bicycle parking in open space is to encourage the community to cycle to open space. The *Maribyrnong Integrated Transport Strategy 2012* provides actions to improve provision of bicycle parking. Bicycle Victoria has prepared *The bicycle parking handbook* that is a useful guideline for appropriate

design of secure bicycle parking facilities, that would be appropriate only in some Regional and Municipal open space where participation in activities such as sports training means there is a need for secure storage.

The Strategy recognises that end of trip cycling facilities are appropriate outside open space such as at train stations. These guidelines are not intended for other spaces and refer to Council's existing policies, guidelines and strategies, as noted above in terms of provision of bicycle parking for open space specifically.

Guidelines for end of trip bicycle parking in open space:

- a) To be provided in Regional, Municipal and Neighbourhood open space where there are end of trip facilities/destination point for visitors, or sports training facilities.
- b) Siting and design to meet the current relevant standards for location, access, quantity and safety.
- c) Number and location to meet the anticipated use levels of the proposed facility.
- d) Integrated into the existing built form in the open space where possible.
- e) Where the facility is independent of existing built form, ensure the facility does not block views or access into the open space, complements its character, is visible and safe and located close to path/shared trail entry to the open space.
- f) Future upgrades and provision of new structured sport and recreation facilities are to include provision for secure bicycle parking.

7.8.3 Buildings in open space

Upgrades to existing buildings

Guidelines to assess proposals to upgrade existing buildings with open space related uses:

- a) Demonstrate the proposed upgrade to the existing building is appropriate in the context of existing masterplan or similar plans in place for the site. If no existing plans are prepared, demonstrate the upgrade is compatible with existing established uses and improves the use and access to the open space.
- b) Demonstrate the proposed upgrade to the building improves or at least retains all prominent public views to the reserve, improves access to and around the building and improves the function and useability of the surrounding open space. The proposed upgrade will need to demonstrate that it does not result in any loss or reduction in publicly accessible areas of open space, for example by expanding the building footprint.
- c) Complements and improves the character of the open space.
- d) Demonstrate best practice sustainability principles in the siting and design, particularly in relation to water harvesting and reuse and energy efficiency.
- e) Demonstrate waste management is adequately provided for including

appropriate bin enclosures and recycling initiatives.

- f) Retain and preferably improve access and circulation to the facility with a focus on achieving all ability access in accordance with current Australian Standards.

Guidelines to assess proposals to upgrade existing buildings for non-open space related uses:

- g) Review whether the existing building is suitable to be adapted to an open space related use, prior to consideration of continuing the existing non-open space dependent use.
- h) If determined to be required, ensure the future upgrade to the building is compatible with and improves the use of and access to the open space.
- i) Must also meet the guidelines (b) to (f) in 7.8.3 above.

Proposals for new buildings in open space

The community value the open parkland character of open space, expressed in the open space surveys as an escape from built form, urban areas and traffic. While some buildings in open space are necessary to promote and assist the desired use of open space, there are some existing buildings that do not rely on their position in open space. Examples include maternal child and health centres, community centres and pre-school. As the municipality continues to develop, existing areas of open space will increasingly become more highly valued for their open parkland qualities. At the same time there will be increased pressure for new built facilities in open space. The following guidelines have been prepared to assess the provision of new buildings in open space for open space related uses.

Guidelines for new buildings in existing open space for open space related uses:

- a) The proposed facility accommodates open space related uses only. The facility is to promote and complement the open space and be compatible with the existing open space related uses for which the open space is recognised and valued.
- b) The proposed facility increases use, enjoyment and appreciation of outdoor open space.
- c) The proposed facility does not result in any further loss of natural outdoor open space in the reserve.
- d) The construction of the proposed facility will complement any existing environmental and heritage values of the open space and allows continued or new preferred patterns of recreational use (where applicable) of the existing open space.
- e) Demonstrate that all sustainability principles are met in the design and construction.
- f) Public transport access is preferably available to support the new facility.
- g) Adequate bicycle parking facilities integrated into the facility design.

- h) Demonstrate how supporting facilities for the building such as car parking will be met with no net loss of outdoor public open space.
- i) Refer to guidelines (b) to (f) in 7.8.3 above.

7.8.4 Public toilets

Guidelines for review and design of public toilets in open space:

- a) Appropriate to Regional, Municipal and Neighbourhood open space where other facilities that encourage longer stays in open space such as barbecue and picnic facilities and major play areas.
- b) Where possible, integrate with other buildings in the reserve including consideration of how the other building/s may be modified to allow some public access to existing toilet/change facilities, while retaining secure and separate access for the existing clubs and groups already operating in the buildings, i.e. built as part of a cafe.
- c) Designs to meet CPTED principles in public toilet design.
- d) Located near existing services where available.
- e) Located to avoid the need for park visitors to cross roads and car parks where feasible.
- f) Locate within clear sight and walking distance of high use facilities such as barbecues and playgrounds.
- g) Locate in a position to service the whole reserve thereby minimising need for more than one public toilet in an open space.
- h) Use best practice environmentally sustainable principles in siting and design, particularly in relation to water and energy use.
- i) Demonstrate waste management is adequately provided for.
- j) Location should not block prominent public views to the reserve and not create hidden or unusable areas around them.
- k) Located with passive surveillance from surrounding area.
- l) Provide all-ability access in accordance with current Australian Standards.
- m) Adequate lighting including maximising daylight where possible.
- n) Appropriately sized to meet demands and size of the open space.
- o) Complement the character of the open space, including the heritage values of the open space where appropriate.

7.8.5 Lighting in open space

Lighting in open space in Maribyrnong is generally from sports field lighting in many of the Municipal open spaces, and from lights in the streets adjoining open space. The open space survey respondents indicated that one of the main reasons for not visiting open space was due to personal safety concerns.

Guidelines for provision of lighting in open space:

- a) Lighting is only applicable in high use open space and larger reserves including Regional, Municipal and Neighbourhood open space.
- b) In these locations lighting is only applicable for specific use or facilities. These are for:
 - structured sport and recreation use
 - major shared trails and paths for access and use before and after work/school during the winter
 - along key connecting paths to train stations, shops or community hubs where no safe and accessible street network exists for walking/cycling.
- c) Where new lighting is required, it is to be consistent with best practice principles regarding sustainability.
- d) As a minimum select lighting that:
 - minimises upward glare (to reduce impact on adjoining residential amenity and native fauna, where applicable)
 - is energy efficient and scaled to meet the specific need identified
 - is easily maintained
 - the design complements the character of the reserve, including consideration of heritage values where applicable.

7.8.6 Rubbish bins

From the open space survey, many respondents identified litter and overall cleanliness of open space as a reason they do not visit open space. Refer also to recommendations in Section 5.

Guidelines for provision of rubbish bins in open space:

- a) Refer to Table 5-2. In relation to small Local open space these generally have no bins except where they are located in activity centres/shopping centres and in circumstances where barbecues have been installed.
- b) Bins are to be located so they are both accessible for maintenance purposes and convenient for park users, close to picnic and barbecue facilities and the entry and exit points.
- c) Where located near picnic facilities and/or seats, they need to be positioned at a reasonable distance from these facilities to avoid unpleasant odours and unsightly rubbish.
- d) Aim for bins to be secured in sites and where possible to be located within a bin enclosure/surround.
- e) Bins to meet best design management practice and sustainability principles including recycling, in accordance with Council policies.

Guidelines for provision of rubbish bins at sports pavilions:

- f) The number and type of bins at sports pavilions is to be consistent with Councils recycling policy.
- g) Aim to provide bin enclosures at all sports pavilions that are of a size to

adequately accommodate the number of bins appropriate to the existing and proposed use. The enclosures are to be well integrated with existing usage patterns and easily accessed by maintenance vehicles.

7.8.7 Minor park infrastructure

Guidelines for minor open space infrastructure:

- a) Designs to reflect diversity in open space landscape, environmental, cultural and heritage character.
- b) Designs to meet best practice guidelines for universal access, safety, quality and sustainability, where possible.
- c) Adhere to sustainability principles in the selection of materials, design and placement in the reserve including investigation into use of recycled materials where appropriate.
- d) Suitable barriers to prevent unplanned vehicle access into open space is required for open space. Designs are to demonstrate they prevent vehicle access, minimise visual intrusion on the open space and allow excellent pedestrian and cycle access into the reserve.
- e) Discourage fencing (as differentiated from vehicle exclusion barriers) to the perimeter of open space. Exceptions may occur where the proposal demonstrates that alternative measures such as grade separation, planting, seating, vehicle barriers or any combination of these cannot suitably manage safety concerns.
- f) Fencing to sports fields is to include frequent gate openings to ensure they don't form barriers to unstructured and informal access.
- g) Sports field fencing is to minimise visual intrusion.
- h) In locations where mesh fencing is required, for example around public tennis courts, then black coated mesh fencing or similar is to be used to minimise visual impact of this on the open space and adjoining properties.

7.9 Cultural heritage values, public art and memorials

7.9.1 Cultural heritage values

Indigenous cultural heritage values

Refer to recommendations in Section 5.3.3 of the Strategy.

Non-indigenous cultural heritage values

Refer to recommendations in Section 5.3.3 of the Strategy.

7.9.2 Public art

The Strategy supports the continued implementation of the *Art in Public Spaces Strategy 2011* or any subsequent document that guides provision of art in public spaces. The guidelines included in this Strategy refer only to locating public art in open space, and relies on the existing policy for all other aspects of the provision and suitability of public art in open space.

Guidelines for locating public art in open space:

- a) Appropriate in Regional and Municipal open space along with some Neighbourhood, Local and small Local where they are located in highly visible locations or higher density precincts.
- b) Proposals for specific installations are to demonstrate they complement and reflect the intrinsic natural, cultural and community values of the public open space and contribute to the intended use and purpose of the open space in which it is proposed.
- c) Future masterplans for Regional and Municipal open space or highly visible open space such as public squares and gateways to consider the integration of public art as a component of design. The masterplan does not include the design of the artwork, but identifies the potential site and design parameters of a future commission, as per Council's Public Arts Policy.
- d) All proposed permanent installations need to demonstrate they meet all relevant standards regarding public safety and risk, longevity in an outdoor public environment, acceptable levels of maintenance, vandalism, the ongoing relevance, and upgrade works as required within the context of the artist's original values and intent for the work.
- e) Appropriate levels and methods for stakeholder and community consultation are to be conducted for any new public art proposal where it is proposed outside a Masterplan process.

7.9.3 Memorials in open space

Memorials and monuments can contribute to the cultural value of the community and the desire and expectations to commemorate people, events and places of significance. A balance needs to be achieved when considering installation of new or upgrade of existing memorials, with all uses and values of existing open space.

The following guidelines are to assist Council to develop a policy regarding memorials in open and in the interim for reviewing requests for memorials in open space on a case by case basis.

Guidelines for memorials in open space:

- a) The request for a memorial is to be reviewed for consistency with the intended use and character classification for the open space.
- b) The level of contribution the memorial will have on the cultural and community values of the open space and fabric of the City of Maribyrnong.
- c) The management and maintenance requirements of the proposed memorial.
- d) Small memorials will need to demonstrate the positive relationship between the community/person/animal/organisation/event to be commemorated and the open space in which it is proposed.
- e) If a proposal for a memorial is accepted by the City of Maribyrnong, it becomes the property of Council and ongoing maintenance and issues regarding its relocation, removal or decommissioning will be at Council's discretion.
- f) For existing small memorials in open space that need to be removed or relocated due to upgrade works, the following protocols will be applied:
 - Council will undertake reasonable steps to contact the donor to return the memorial to them.
 - If the donor requests to retain the memorial in open space, it will be assessed as to the suitability of it in the context of contemporary guidelines and policies.

7.10 Festivals and events

The City of Maribyrnong's *Festivals Policy and Strategy Plan 2010-2013* identifies Council's vision to be recognised as an iconic festival city. The city has a diversity of communities that are celebrated in numerous festivals and events.

Following is a list of the major festivals and events in Maribyrnong:

- Existing festivals that receive recurrent funding include:
 - Big West Festival
 - East meets West Lunar New Year
 - Quang Minh Lunar New Year

- Seddon Community Festival
- Yarraville Community Festival
- Braybrook Big Day Out
- Carols by Candlelight
- Emerging festivals include:
 - Kingsville Carols by candlelight
 - Melbourne Food and Wine Festival
 - St Jerome's Laneway Festival Melbourne
 - Footscray Festival
 - Diwali Festival

All prospective event organisers are to complete and submit Council's standard event application form for Council's assessment, including supporting documents such as a risk assessment plan, emergency management plan and traffic management plan.

The guidelines included in this Strategy address open space issues only. It is assumed that Council will continue to develop broader policies for festivals and events taking into consideration open space related criteria included in this Strategy.

7.10.1 Community festivals and events open space

Council is supportive of community festivals and events in open space in the Municipality as it encourages a sense of place and community use of open space. Over-use of open space for this purpose can potentially conflict with regular use of these reserves by the local community or the environmental and heritage values of the reserve.

Selecting the most appropriate open space for community festivals and events and family gatherings (i.e. 20 people or more) will minimise conflicts. In addition to Council's current Festival and Events Guidelines, the guidelines below are to inform the selection of appropriate sites in open space and ensuring they are well managed.

Guidelines for assessing appropriateness of community festivals in open space:

- a) Regional and Municipal open space are generally the most appropriate hierarchy of open space for major community festivals and events.
- b) Neighbourhood open space may be suitable for smaller community festivals subject to demonstrating the anticipated size and impact on traffic access, noise levels and neighbourhood amenity can be reasonably managed.
- c) Proposals for community festivals and events are assessed and where necessary, prioritised based on the following:
 - Enhances sense of community and neighbourhood spirit.
 - Increases community appreciation of the recreational, cultural or natural character and values of the City of Maribyrnong.
 - Has relevance to the City of Maribyrnong community and encourages

- their attendance, participation, and where appropriate, fitness.
- Compatible with community expectations regarding appropriate use of public open space.
- Demonstrates how community access and use of public open space will be achieved and managed for the duration of the festival/event.
- d) Applicants are to prepare festival management plans appropriate to the scale of the event including measures to proactively prevent damage to the open space for the duration of the festival/event.
- e) All festivals/events to demonstrate best practice management including being carbon accountable, water efficient and promote community health and wellbeing.
- f) The festival/event complies with Council's liquor consumption guidelines.

7.10.2 Commercial or private events and functions in open space

Guidelines for assessing appropriateness of commercial or private events and functions in open space:

- a) Appropriate in Regional and Municipal open space or selected smaller scale open space where they are located in activity centres.
- b) Demonstrate the event will have a positive contribution to sense of community in the open space for example, encourage the local community to visit the open space.
- c) Demonstrate how local community access and use of open space will be achieved for the duration of the event.
- d) Whether the applicant is based in the City of Maribyrnong.
- e) Demonstrate the event and associated infrastructure will not unduly restrict or impact on the use and enjoyment of the open space by nearby/adjoining residents including issues such as traffic and parking.
- f) Demonstrate that the event and associated infrastructure will not permanently damage the open space grounds, plants or features and any remediation works that will be required.
- g) Demonstrates the impact of noise generated from the event is acceptable and meets with Council's requirements in relation to amplified noise.
- g) The festival/event complies with Council's liquor consumption guidelines.
- h) Refer to 7.10.1 (d) to (f)

7.10.3 Commercial or private use of facilities in open space

Council has existing policies and guidelines for commercial activities in open space, such as personal training. Applications are to be submitted for Council assessment and fees are payable prior to conducting these activities in open space. The key ongoing issue for open space is to achieve a balance between commercial and private use of facilities in open space and accessibility and use these facilities by the general public. Applications to conduct commercial or

private activities in open space need to demonstrate the proposed use meets the guidelines, and considers public access to open space as noted below.

Guidelines for assessing appropriateness of commercial or private use in open space:

- a) That the proposed use or development complements and enhances the broader community use of the open space.
- b) That the visual and physical access to the open space will not be reduced.
- c) There is a demonstrated community need for the proposal.
- d) All proposed activities and use to have a minimal impact on the environment in particular can demonstrate they meet contemporary best management practice regarding sustainability.
- e) That the proposed uses as a minimum do not conflict with community health and wellbeing principles, and where feasible promote these principles.

7.11 Design and management plans for open space

Eight existing plans that guide design and management of open space were reviewed during the preparation of this Strategy and are listed below:

Open space	Date
Beaton Reserve Master Plan	2013
River Parkland (Braybrook North) Draft Master Plan	2013
Footscray Park Master Plan	2011
Kindersmith Reserve Master Plan	2012
Sinking Village Landscape Master Plan	2012
Stony Creek Future Directions Plan	2011
Yarraville Gardens Master Plan	2004
Yarraville Station Plaza	2009

7.11.1 Overview of different plans to guide future works

The design process for open space reserves is scaled to match the size and function of the open space.

If required, masterplans are to be prepared for Regional and Municipal open spaces, and concept plans are to be prepared for Neighbourhood open space. In some instances, concept plans will be prepared for existing Local and some Small Local open spaces. In all instances, masterplans or concept plans will be prepared for new open space. Once the masterplans and concept plans are

completed, they are implemented subject to Council approval and where applicable council funding allocation.

Where these plans include new major infrastructure works, detailed design is undertaken to produce a set of detailed documentation drawings to guide the construction. For all new open space being constructed by parties other than Council, detailed documentation drawings to guide the construction are to be prepared and require Council approval prior to tender/commencement of works.

Where the works to existing open space are minor and straightforward, Council may select to implement the works directly from the concept plan in a staged program pending funding.

7.11.2 Masterplans

Masterplans will guide the future design of major Regional and Municipal open space across the municipality. Where open space has historical values, investigate if a conservation management plan is required. If required, prepare this prior to the masterplan or the conservation management plan may be adequate without the need for a masterplan. The following framework guides the future preparation of these plans:

Framework for preparing masterplans:

- a) Provide an overall design and management direction for the reserve for approximately 10 years.
- b) Consultation is typically undertaken with the groups and clubs who use the site, community stakeholders who may be involved in the site, relevant Agencies who own or manage land within or adjoining the reserve, regular site users and the local community. Consultation is recommended to occur in two stages: at the research phase, and at the draft design phase. The open space strategy survey outcomes (Appendix A to this Strategy) can be referred to during the research phase. This may replace the need to undertake consultation with the local community during the research phase.
- c) If the masterplan is prepared externally for new open space or by other agencies who own and/or manage open space in the municipality comment on the plans is typically be sought from the open space planning area of council and potentially officers from relevant areas which may include park services, environment, engineering, transport and arts and culture.
- d) Outputs of a masterplan typically include:
 - scaled drawing of existing conditions and site analysis
 - scaled drawing of design with explanatory notes, photos, sketches etc.
 - management descriptions where appropriate
 - preliminary estimate of probable cost for all the works
 - staged implementation plan
 - summary masterplan report incorporating all the above.

7.11.3 Concept plans

Concept plans will guide the future design of Neighbourhood, Local and some Small Local open space reserves. These plans are prepared primarily to ensure a coordinated approach to facility provision is achieved. The process to prepare these will vary depending on the level of complexity. All new open space will require concept plans to be prepared.

Framework for preparing landscape concept plans:

- a) Provide an overall design direction for the open space for approximately five years, as works are generally implemented within this timeframe.
- b) The landscape concept plan is to be guided by a working group made up of relevant council officers as required.
- c) Consultation at the research phase will rely on the open space survey outcomes in Appendix A of this Strategy. Consultation on the Draft Design will vary depending on the individual reserve and could include display of the plan on site, through to consultation via a leaflet or meeting with the local community.
- d) Outputs of a landscape concept plan for upgrades to existing open space is to include:
 - scaled drawing of design with explanatory notes regarding design and management
 - preliminary opinion of probable cost for all the works with priorities for implementation where appropriate.
- e) Outputs of a landscape concept plan for new open space is to include:
 - scaled drawing of existing conditions and site analysis
 - scaled design with explanatory notes regarding design features and management recommendations
 - preliminary opinion of probable cost for all the works.

7.11.4 Conservation management plans

For open spaces with potential heritage values as already identified in existing Heritage Studies prepared by Council, a heritage assessment is recommended prior to any works in the open space, or preparation of further design or masterplans. If an open space is identified as having a higher than local level of heritage significance in current or future heritage studies, a conservation management plan is to be prepared for the open space prior to the preparation of any design plans where they are required. If the existing heritage studies have identified an open space as having local heritage significance, the need for a conservation management plan for the open space is to be investigated.

If a design plan (masterplan or landscape concept design plan) already exists for an open space with heritage values, the actions from this would be reviewed once the conservation management plan has been prepared.

7.12 Information and signage about open space

In relation to future implementation of interpretive, information and regulatory signage in open space consider the following guidelines.

Guidelines for signage in open space:

- Scale the size of the sign in accordance with the open space hierarchy and size of the reserve.
- Integrate key regulatory signage with directional signage where applicable, especially along shared trails and main pedestrian/cycling commuter routes along the Maribyrnong River and dog on and off-lead areas.
- Reflect the character of the open space with the signage style for example sporting reserves, heritage gardens and bushland areas.
- Include interpretive information on the natural and cultural values in open space, where appropriate.
- Review clear graphics to effectively communicate regulatory information regarding dogs in open space, including diagrams and maps where regulations change within an individual reserve,

7.13 Open space maintenance

The open space surveys indicate the community is satisfied with the maintenance of walking paths, open grassed areas and seats. The survey results identified that the community is concerned about the overall cleanliness and condition of open space. This includes litter and overall appearance of open space along with concerns regarding drainage, poor condition of unsealed car parks and roads and condition of public toilets, drinking fountains and barbecues.

7.13.1 Vegetation maintenance and management

Trees

Trees are one of the most valued features about open space and therefore increasing their presence in open space has the potential to solve some issues with lack of shade. Additional planting in open space will lead to increased maintenance costs, however there are multiple benefits from planting shade trees which cannot be achieved when constructing shade structures.

Council to consider the following guidelines in future tree management strategy for trees in open space:

- a) Maximise retention of mature indigenous, native and exotic canopy trees in open space, including measures to allow adequate watering from sustainable water sources during dry periods.

Weed control

Council consider the following pest plant management techniques:

- a) Implement best practice management weed control techniques to minimise environmental impacts.
- b) Regularly review weed control methods, their success and investigate alternative techniques.

Native vegetation areas

There are limited areas of remnant native vegetation in open space reserves, with most of these remnant patches located along the Maribyrnong River or Stony Creek and the Braybrook railway corridor (ancillary open space). Council will continue to manage these where they are responsible for them, and potentially expand them where appropriate.

Change to maintenance levels in areas of higher density

Current research into use of open space suggests that well maintained open space with natural features such as plants, grass and trees is more highly used in inner urban locations. With the intended expansion of residential populations in activity centres, there will be a need to provide open space with natural features near these centres. This Strategy encourages presence of garden beds, trees and grass in high use areas to contribute to mitigation of urban heat island effect, and community health and wellbeing. This will increase the frequency of maintenance and needs to be considered in future ongoing maintenance programs.

7.13.2 Public toilets

The open space survey respondents were least satisfied with the maintenance of existing public toilet facilities in open space. Respondents also indicated that public toilets were the least well provided facility in open space and requested that additional facilities be provided. Council is to review the maintenance levels of the existing public toilet facilities as part of the future preparation of an update to the Public Toilet Strategy, recommendation 5.3CC.

7.13.3 Litter

From existing site assessments and the open space survey, litter in open space was raised as a major issue in Maribyrnong. Litter negatively impacts on the appearance of open spaces and the perception that these spaces are not well maintained. There were requests for more frequent rubbish removal and cleaning and additional bins in open space. Bins need to be regularly emptied and rubbish through the open space removed. Council to review the current maintenance procedures for litter removal in the context of changes to the provision of bins in open space as noted in 7.8.6.

7.13.4 Open grassed areas

Open space survey respondents indicated that open grassed areas were the second most well used facility in open space in Maribyrnong. Grassed areas are valued by the community for informal recreational activities but also are moisture absorbing surfaces that assist in minimising urban heat island effect.

Respondents were generally satisfied with the maintenance of open grassed areas in the city and this was not raised as an issue in the open space survey.

7.13.5 Paths

More than half of the respondents of the open space survey indicated that paths are adequately maintained in the city. As walking is one of the most popular activities in open space, continued maintenance of existing walking paths and provision of additional paths where appropriate is required.

7.14 Other agency open space ownership and management

A number of other agencies own and manage some of the open space in the City of Maribyrnong. This mainly occurs along the linear open space corridors and waterways.

Maribyrnong adjoins four other municipalities as follows:

- City of Moonee Valley to the north
- City of Melbourne to the east
- City of Hobsons Bay to the south
- City of Brimbank to the west

Use of linear open space reserves along waterways is the main reason visitors are using open space in adjoining municipalities. Future planning of facilities along these linear reserves should continue to be coordinated between the councils. Residents of the City of Maribyrnong also visit other open spaces in adjoining or nearby municipalities with major ones being Williamstown Beach and the Royal Botanic Gardens along with other smaller open spaces. It is also assumed residents from adjoining municipalities visit open space in the City of Maribyrnong, particularly those located along the Maribyrnong River and Yarraville Gardens.

7.14.1 Victorian government agencies

Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI)

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.14A	Council to continue to liaise with DEPI regarding land management and maintenance for Crown Land adjoining the Maribyrnong River.	MCC, DEPI	Ongoing

Melbourne Water

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.14B	Council to continue to seek opportunities to apply for grant and funding applications to Melbourne Water for future revegetation and water quality improvement projects along the Maribyrnong River and Stony Creek. This is to improve habitat values of the waterway corridors in the municipality.	MCC, MW	Ongoing
7.14C	Regularly liaise with Melbourne Water regarding future works along the waterways to build on opportunities for complementary works to be undertaken by both agencies to improve water quality, instream habitat and riparian habitat values.	MCC, MW	Ongoing

Parks Victoria

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.14D	Council to continue to liaise with Parks Victoria as required regarding recreational boating access and use on the Maribyrnong River.	MCC, PV	Ongoing

VicTrack

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.14E	Council to liaise with VicTrack to negotiate to have the land that is currently used as open space in Yarraville, Seddon, West Footscray and Footscray rezoned as PPRZ and/or PCRZ.	MCC VicTrack	High
7.14F	Council to liaise with VicTrack to secure use of the railway reserves for shared trail construction, particularly the link between Tottenham Station and Stony Creek.	MCC VicTrack	Very High

7.14.5 Port of Melbourne Authority (PoMC)

No.	Action	Responsibility	Priority
7.14G	Council to liaise with Port of Melbourne Authority to seek improved open space connectivity, particularly off-road cycle and pedestrian links along the Maribyrnong River in any future redevelopment proposals on the PoMC land.	MCC, PoMC	High

8. Implementation

8.1 Priorities

The priorities identified in this Strategy provide guidance on the order in which actions are intended to be implemented. They are broadly based on the following:

- Forecast trends in population growth
- Land use changes
- Community consultation outcomes via the open space survey
- Gap areas where people have to travel further than safe walking distance to reach open space
- Other current masterplans and other relevant strategies and plans.

The Strategy has an implementation timeframe of 18 years and will be implemented generally in accordance with the priorities indicated in the Action tables to meet the existing and forecast population open space needs. Many of the Actions are in response to forecast development trends and population growth. Changes associated with forecast trends and growth will require priorities to be adjusted to respond to these changes. Factors that are likely to influence a change to priorities for action over the 18 years include:

- Changes in land use trends including market trends and directions.
- Changes to forecast population growth.
- Allocation of adequate resources, budgets and funding to implement the works program.
- Other unexpected changes that arise and cannot be foreseen at this stage.

Priorities have been assigned to all the recommendations and actions in the Strategy. The priority indicates the timeframe within each priority is intended to commence, and the completion of the action will vary depending on its complexity and the rate of forecast change, growth and funding. Broad priority time periods over the 18 year timeframe are:

Priority	Time period
Very High	Years 1 to 4
High	Years 5 to 9
Medium	Years 10 to 14
Low	Years 15 to 18
Ongoing	As required

8.2 Funding

8.2.1 Capital works

The existing expenditure on capital works projects in open space is based on the implementation of priority works identified in open space masterplans and other projects identified by Council. Over the past 5 financial years, a total of \$7,274,254 or an average of about \$1.45 million per annum has been expended on the open space capital works program. Approximately \$460,000 per annum has been derived from open space contributions and in the order of \$1 million per annum has been allocated from other Council income including rates and grants.

Table 8-1 Capital works program for open space projects for the past 5 financial years

Financial year	Council and other funding (eg. grants)	Open space contributions	Total expenditure
2008/09	\$892,000	\$376,000	\$1,268,000
2009/10	\$1,047,000	\$851,177	\$1,898,177
2010/11	\$701,250	\$370,442	\$1,071,692
2011/12	\$1,277,470	\$58,096	\$1,335,566
2012/13	\$1,053,319	\$647,500	\$1,700,819

8.2.1b Future capital works funding

Future capital works program and expenditure on open space improvement projects will be aligned to the projects and priorities included and described in this Strategy. The annual allocation will be subject to:

- Allocation of adequate resources, budgets and funding to implement the capital works program.
- The rate at which open space contributions are collected.
- Changes to trends and forecast population change and implementation of projects linked to the forecast change.

8.2.2 Land acquisition

This Strategy will guide the future priorities and location for where additional new open space is required. This will be achieved through a range of mechanisms described in Section 5.1, with some areas of open space to be contributed either in part or in their entirety as open space land contributions from development at Council's discretion.

8.2.3 Use of open space contributions to implement the Strategy

Funding of the Strategy projects that are included in the new contribution rate will be allocated between the existing and forecast population. Funding on behalf of the existing population will be represented by rates, grants and user income, and funding for the forecast population will be represented by future open space land and cash contributions.

Open space contributions will continue to be held in a Reserve account to allow expenditure over consecutive years, as there will be varied rates of change in the local precincts. The expenditure of funds on precinct-based projects will be tied to the rate of change in the local area and could require the collection of funds over several years for larger projects.

The contributions funding component of each open space project included in this Strategy should reflect the proportion of identified need or benefit that will accrue to the new population from that project. As projects are implemented over time, there should be an equitable and balanced distribution of contributions expenditure, so that locations with larger numbers of new dwellings (and therefore a larger new population) benefit in line with the level of contributions made during the Strategy implementation period.

No.	Recommendation	Responsibility	Priority
8.2A	<p>Allocation of open space contributions in annual budget expenditure</p> <p>Allocate open space contributions for land acquisition or capital works depending on the purpose for which the monies were collected.</p> <p>The proportion of project funding should be commensurate with the use by the new population on whose behalf the contributions are collected, therefore the budget should maintain the percentages of project costs allocated to open space contributions, especially over the life of the Strategy.</p>	MCC	Very High
8.2B	<p>Use of the Reserve fund to accumulate funds for new open space and upgrades to existing open space</p> <p>Cash contributions toward land acquisition and open space development should be held in the Reserve fund until a suitable site is located and sufficient funds are available to assist Council with purchase or resulting capital works.</p> <p>Funds will continue to be held for upgrades to existing open space where these capital works are to be undertaken in future years.</p>	MCC	Ongoing
8.2C	<p>Monitoring and reporting</p> <p>Monitor and report the open space contributions component of budgets and project funding to ensure commitments to the new population are delivered.</p>	MCC	Ongoing

8.3 Responsibilities and actions

Function	Responsibilities and actions
Open space planning	<p>Implement the overall and precinct recommendations in the Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake open space precinct assessments for the areas identified to require additional open space in this Strategy to identify potential opportunities. • Review the open space component of development applications within the context of the open space precinct assessments, to determine where open space land contributions are to be requested in consultation with strategic planning. • Plan for provision of new open space including preparation of design plans or approving the design plans prepared by the developer for open space. • Prepare bids for the open space capital works program. • Prepare and implement masterplans and concept plans for open space reserves to guide on-ground works. • Project manage the capital works improvements to open space.
Sport and recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for structured sport and recreation facility and activity provision and management in open space. • Review the structured sport and recreation needs component associated with larger development applications in consultation with open space planning and strategic planning.
Strategic planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme and other strategic activities and documents are consistent with this Strategy. • Require the need for new open space to be referenced and included in local plans and policies such as Urban Design Frameworks and Structure Plans. Liaise with and conduct internal referrals with open space planning and sport and recreation. • Rezone land in future when parcels are transferred to Council for public open space or Council land is converted to public open space.
Statutory planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administer and collect open space contributions. • Liaise with developers in the initial development application stage to achieve desired outcomes for open space as set out in this Strategy, and especially where a land contribution will be required. • Require new open space to be included in Development Plans and subdivision plans in accordance with this Strategy. Liaise with and conduct internal referrals with strategic and open space planning.
Parks and gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing maintenance and management of open space. • Responsible for operational and maintenance expenditure in open space.
Engineering and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical advice regarding future proposals for

Function	Responsibilities and actions
infrastructure design	<p>change of use on existing Council owned land, for example conversion of part of a road to open space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide engineering and infrastructure design investigation and advice, particularly for improving on-road pedestrian and bicycle links and road crossings. • Advocate to VicTrack for continued use of railway corridor land for open space links and connections. • Technical support for open space upgrades in consultation with open space planning. • Provide technical advice on wetlands and other water harvesting and reuse infrastructure proposals in open space reserves.
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for allocation of the capital and operational works budgets for open space, consistent with the Strategy priorities. • Continue to maintain an appropriate recording system for open space contributions. • Assist with the annual open space budget allocation. • Development and enforcement of regulations in open space. • Domestic animal management.
Community arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for delivery of public art in open space in partnership with open space planning. • Responsible for festival and event management in open space.

8.4 Monitoring

Implementation and monitoring of the Strategy will aim to:

- Establish an appropriate system of planning, documenting and recording the works completed from the Strategy.
- Regularly monitor the implementation of the Strategy to assess the progress and success of the recommendations and actions.
- Regularly report on the Strategy progress including the open space contributions program (annually).
- Review the Strategy every 5 years for the duration of its operation.
- Integrate the implementation of the Strategy with other existing and future Council plans.

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Drawings

Attached are the Drawings for the City of Maribyrnong Open Space Strategy

Dwg No.	Title
MROSS-01	Existing open space
MROSS-02	Open space hierarchy
MROSS-03	Open space gap analysis
MROSS-04	Future change plan