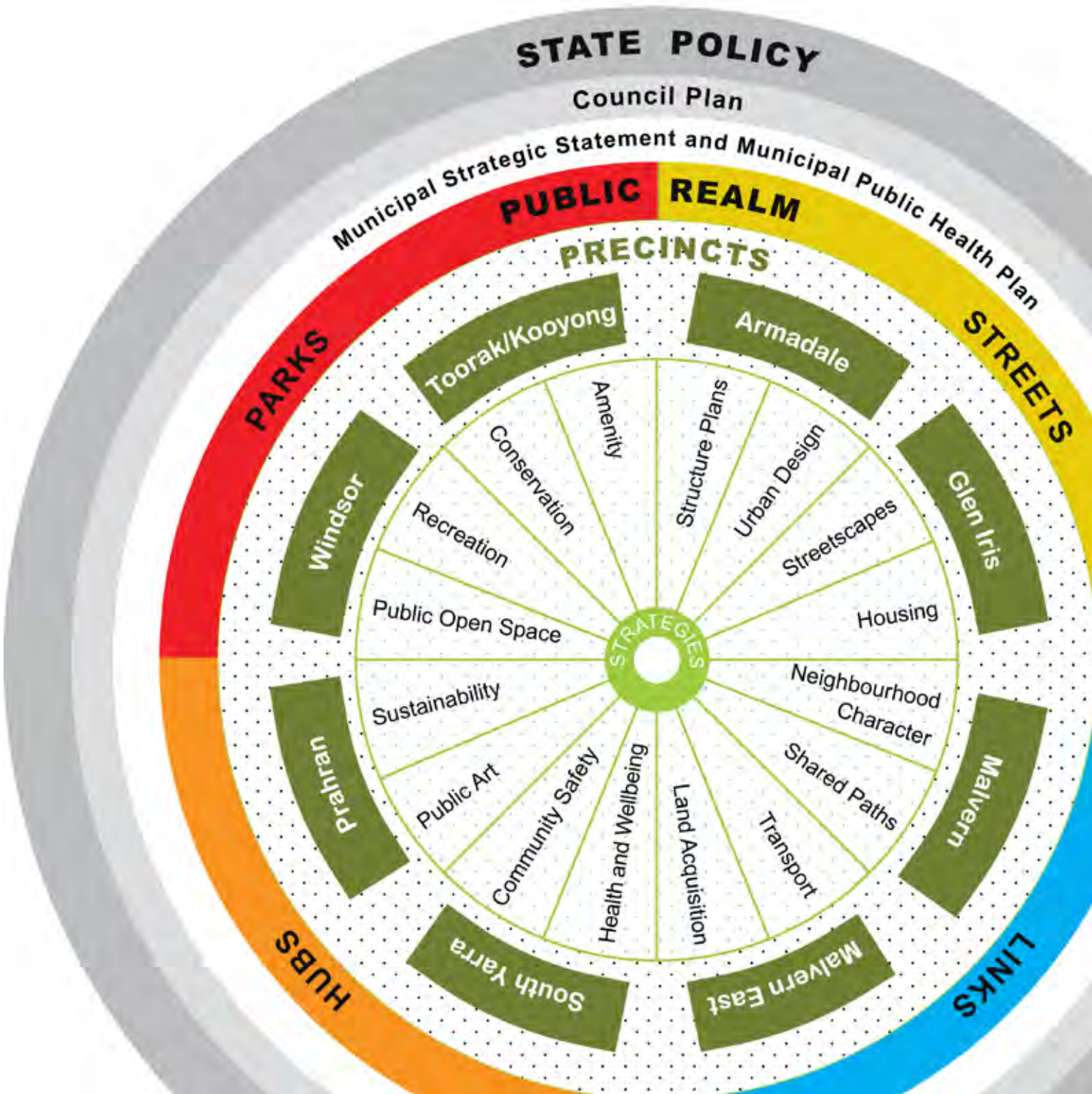
City of Stonnington

Public Realm Strategy

October 2010



Prepared by the City of Stonnington and ASPECT Studios

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Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that we are situated on the traditional land of the Boonwurrung and Wurundjeri people and offer our respects to their elders past and present. We recognise and respect the cultural heritage of this land.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

The City of Stonnington Public Realm Strategy replaces and extends the previous Open Space Strategy produced 10 years ago which has fulfilled its objectives and reached its intended expiry date.

The new Public Realm Strategy emphasises a broader understanding of open space to include the public realm, where 'green spaces' include not just parks and gardens but all external spaces available for public use. Such external spaces include streets, forecourts, squares, bicycle and pedestrian links, waterways, and public spaces in activity centres.

What is the Public Realm Strategy?

The Public Realm Strategy is a holistic, Council-wide strategy intended as a guide to view the public realm. It supports high level Council coordination that in turn allows the effective and efficient delivery of a high-quality public realm.

The Public Realm Strategy provides vision and direction for Stonnington's public realm. It guides the planning, design and management of the public realm and aims to develop a sense of place, community wellbeing, and access for all people to Stonnington's public spaces.

Part A of the Public Realm Strategy provides a strategic overview, and includes methodology, an overview of public space types, benchmarks for the provision of quality public realm, the public realm vision, and municipal-wide principles and recommendations for action.

Part B focuses on site-specific recommendations by suburb ('precinct'), with these recommendations based on the strategic principles discussed in Part A.

Part C lists in table form all the municipal-wide and precinct-specific opportunities that will form the basis for ongoing actions.

How will the Public Realm Strategy be used?

The Public Realm Strategy will be used across Council to assist with the planning, design and management of all public spaces, and when considering the yearly budgets for capital works.

The Public Realm Strategy records and maps all Stonnington's public spaces, together with all current strategies that impact on those public spaces, and integrates current and planned recommendations and actions.

The Public Realm Strategy is intended to be a 'living' document which will require regular updates and revision every 3-5 years to ensure it remains relevant and useful.

Consultation

The Public Realm Strategy incorporates feedback from the community and internal consultation that includes a broad range of Stonnington staff from Social Development, Corporate Services, Planning and Development, Sustainable Future, City Works, and Councillors.

Implementation

Integral to the Public Realm Strategy is its implementation. The opportunities and prioritising actions listed in Part C are to be undertaken by Council at both municipal-wide and precinct levels. Feedback obtained from the public and Council staff will further inform the list of priorities for action by Council in the coming years.

Key issues addressed in developing the Public Realm Strategy

In developing the Public Realm Strategy, particular attention has been given to:

- The review of existing public spaces
- Emerging trends in public spaces
- Climate change and sustainability
- Environmental health and biodiversity
- Social capital, health and wellbeing
- Demographic shifts and changing lifestyles
- The availability and affordability of public open space

Key opportunities for action

Significant positive change in the quality of Stonnington's public realm can be achieved by taking advantageous action on five key opportunities.

1. Strategic context

The Public Realm Strategy provides a strategic basis for the planning of, and decision making on, the design and management of public spaces. The strategy:

- Will be incorporated as a reference document in the Planning Scheme
- Provides strategic context for consideration in Council decision making
- Provides opportunities for the development of the public realm

2. Community links

Pedestrian and shared pathway links within inner urban Melbourne are well used and increasingly demanded by the community. Such links provide cost effective and healthy transport alternatives to vehicular travel, while at the same time encouraging walking and recreational activities for residents of all ages.

The City has a number of infrastructure elements that cross the municipality, including three railway lines, two main watercourses and the Monash Freeway. While these currently act as barriers to cross-movement, they also represent a significant opportunity to provide quality continuous linear links and improved cross linking throughout Stonnington.

Instrumental in achieving these links is fruitful negotiation with State Government agencies and landowners, as many of the proposed links are not managed by the City of Stonnington.

3. Targeted public realm upgrades

The equitable distribution of public open space, both in quality and quantity, is an important aim of the Public Realm Strategy. To that end, the Public Realm Strategy identifies areas where the quality of the spaces could be significantly improved.

For example, parts of Prahran and Windsor sit well below average in their provision of good quality open space in sufficient quantities. While it is difficult in these very densely populated and built-up areas to acquire substantial additional open space, it is possible to improve the quality of the existing spaces.

To take another example, East Malvern has an adequate amount of green open space but many of its spaces are lower in quality than surrounding areas. It is recommended that these be improved to provide better recreational, ecological and aesthetic qualities for the community.

4. Sustainability

It is very important that the City of Stonnington and its residents address climate change. The Public Realm Strategy recommends strategies and actions that can be undertaken to improve the ecological sustainability of Stonnington and the health and wellbeing of its residents.

The term 'sustainability' is often over-used but poorly defined. In this context, 'sustainability' is identified as the planning, design and maintenance of public spaces in ways that minimise long-term detrimental effects on the environment.

The Public Realm Strategy aims to encourage active use of, and socialising in, public space to improve residents' health and wellbeing.

5. An acquisitions strategy

Increased residential growth in the City of Stonnington is being driven in general by State Government policy and in particular by Stonnington being a desirable place to reside, most notably in South Yarra, Prahran and Windsor.

Areas lacking in 'green' open spaces are already under pressure to accommodate growth, and increased growth will only exacerbate these deficiencies.

The Public Realm Strategy recommends that a policy and strategy be developed to guide the identification and acquisition of properties to increase public open space in areas under-provided in 'green' space and in areas predicted to come under such pressure.

Finally, and importantly, to create better opportunities to determine developer contributions, the Public Realm Strategy recommends the integration of Stonnington's structure plans with the Public Realm Strategy.

The integration of Structure Plans and this Strategy is critical in the identification of and leveraging for both appropriate developer contributions and potential land acquisition actions.

City of Stonnington

Public Realm Strategy

Part A – Strategic Overview

2010

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 THE NEXT GENERATION STRATEGY

This Public Realm Strategy embraces and advocates for all types of external public spaces, from parks and streetscapes to environmental areas and civic plazas. It is the next generation of Stonnington's Open Space Strategy that was first developed in 2000.

The physical public realm significantly shapes the exercise of democracy in our cities. A high-quality and integrated public realm is critical to ensure social, environmental, economic and cultural wellbeing, both now and in the future.

We live in an expanding and changing society. The public realm of a suburb must respond to these changes, as well as protect the values embedded in the existing public realm. This Strategy looks to the future and the changing needs of the Stonnington community.

Traditionally, the public realm of a municipality is controlled by a series of strategies and policies, exemplified by a conventional division between urban civic spaces, streetscapes, public open spaces, and conservation and recreation areas, with these divisions reflected in the various Council departments. The Public Realm Strategy provides an opportunity for Council to adopt a holistic and Council-wide approach to Stonnington's public realm.

1.2 THE FUTURE: A SHIFT IN THINKING

This Strategy extends the typical open space strategy, which includes 'green spaces' such as gardens and parks, to the broader understanding of the public realm, which includes all external space that is available for public use.

This Strategy identifies not only green spaces as fundamental to the character and significance of Stonnington, but also additional areas that contribute significantly to the quality of the spaces within the public realm. Such areas include pedestrian links, conservation reserves and commercial and residential streetscapes.

A strategic approach that encompasses issues that affect the public realm – for instance increased housing density, cultural diversity, sustainability and availability of funding – needs to be adopted.

A significant tool to shift thinking is the use of terminology which can have a profound effect on how elements within the public realm are perceived and understood. Traditionally, public open space (POS) has suffered under the limited definition and perception of simply being green parkland. Broadening people's definition of POS can allow the public and Council to engage with the urban public landscape in more diverse ways. This is particularly relevant for Stonnington, an inner city municipality where opportunities to extend parkland are not only extremely limited but also not always appropriate for urban residents. In such a dense urban area, commercial zones, hardscapes, plazas and the 'borrowed landscape' are important public space opportunities to consider as part of the public space palette.

Using terminology that frames POS as part of a broader public realm allows other opportunities for defining, creating and improving public space; for example, 'adopt a tree' maintenance of a street tree by an adjacent trader or resident formed community ownership.

Inner urban areas are being influenced more and more by the 'borrowed landscape'. The borrowed landscape consists of private outdoor spaces that contribute to the character and function of the adjacent public realm. For example private gardens, landscape setbacks to buildings, and green walls all add value to the public realm. These elements should be viewed as part of the public realm and the objectives of this Strategy.

Chapter 1
Introduction

Figures 1 and 2 illustrate the difference in breadth between the Open Space Strategy (2000) and this Public Realm Strategy (2010).

Figure 1 – Past: Stonnington's public open spaces (2000)

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line
- Existing public realm
  - Zoned public open space
- Adjacent zoned public open spaces
  - Outside of City of Stonnington

Figure 2 – Redefined: Stonnington's public open spaces

1.3 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Strategy the following terminology is used.

1.3.1 Public realm

Public realm refers to the external public spaces accessible to the public, as well as those private spaces that contribute physically or visually to the public realm, such as vegetation within private residences seen by those in public spaces. It also includes Council, government and private spaces that contribute to the public realm, such as parks, squares, footpaths, railway easements, community building forecourts, streets, creeks and car parks.

The public realm consists of places and spaces that give consideration to:

- Social activities
- Play
- Relaxation
- Recreation (passive and active)
- Nature appreciation
- Biodiversity
- Decreasing the heat island effect
- Offsetting carbon emissions
- Amenity
- Civic pride
- Community events
- Commercial activities (cafes etc)
- Personal training
- Education
- Public art
- Nature conservation
- Environmental protection

1.3.2 Green space

Green space refers to those public spaces that are parks, reserves and gardens.

1.3.3 Public open space

Public open space refers to those public spaces that are zoned or counted as ‘public open space’ in Stonnington’s Local Planning Scheme. The strict definition of POS is land that is set aside for public recreation, public resort, parklands or similar.

1.4 THE PUBLIC REALM STRATEGY

1.4.1 What is a public realm strategy?

A broader public realm strategy, at the very least, is a mechanism through which to view the public realm framework and examine the level of coordination required to deliver a high-quality public realm holistically and effectively.

The public realm is a fluid entity and as such does not comfortably sit within one Council area of governance. Consequently, a public realm strategy provides the opportunity for all areas within Council to work together to ensure the public realm is an enriched, active and healthy environment.

The Public Realm Strategy will provide a key strategic basis for consideration of:

- Development, design and management of the public realm
- High level approaches to promoting a sense of community
- Vision and direction for Stonnington’s public realm
- Interface between development and Public Open Space including issues such as setbacks, overshadowing and access.

The Public Realm Strategy is a living document that will change and adapt to new issues, direction and integration and provide for:

- Strategic planning
- Capital funding
- Maintenance
- Land acquisition
- Recreation and leisure services
- Master planning and design

The Strategy strives to deliver a diverse, well-used, and top quality public realm that supports the broader strategic goals of both Council and the community.

The vision is for Stonnington’s public realm to continue to provide a vital foundation for the municipality, to engender a sense of place, to encourage regular and diverse use, and to manage increases in population density. This Strategy also aims to protect and enhance the existing public realm to ensure no net loss of physical public open space.

1.4.2 Why do we need a public realm strategy?

A public realm strategy is needed to:

- Deliver a contemporary and long-term vision for the public realm of Stonnington
- Deliver the broader strategic goals of both Council and the community
- Deliver high-quality public spaces
- Ensure the physical public realm remains the most symbolic and spatial example of democracy in our city
- Ensure public space responds to an increasing population, denser suburbs, changing demographic and changing lifestyles
- Link strategic issues, funding and maintenance to ensure the quality that is desired across the public realm is achievable
- Guide different types of activities in public spaces

1.4.3 Synergy

The public realm encompasses many elements that require a level of integration in order to improve the quality of Stonnington’s public spaces. The Strategy provides the necessary framework for Council to integrate and coordinate various departments and disciplines.

It is anticipated that the Public Realm Strategy will be a pivotal document that will assist in the identification of relevant Council strategies, policies and plans and in the delivery and maintenance of public realm components.

An integrated approach will assist related entities (State and local authorities and private organisations) to promote improved resource management, sustainability and efficiency for the following development projects and services:

Planning and Development

- Transport and Parking, Building Control, Planning Services and Major Projects and Property Improvements

Sustainable Future

- City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning and Economic and Cultural Development

Social Development

- Leisure and Libraries; Aged, Diversity and Health; Children and Family Services and Community Amenity

City Works

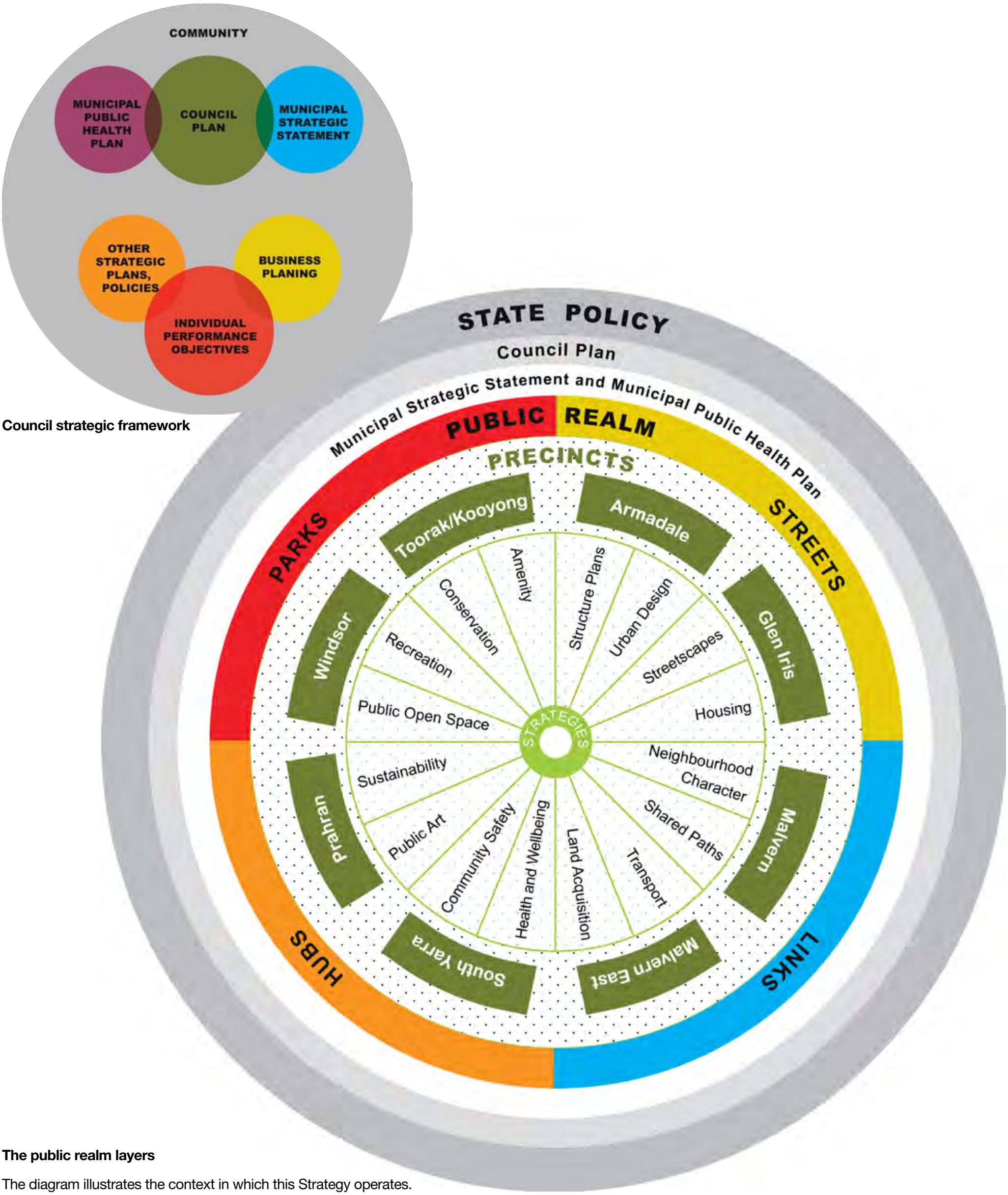
- Physical Works and Services, Infrastructure Services and Environment and Public Spaces

Corporate Services

- Finance, Information Technology, Governance and Corporate Support, Chapel Off Chapel, Human Resources and Organisational Development

Marketing and Communications

- Communications, Public Relations, Marketing, Web Development and Intranet



Council strategic framework

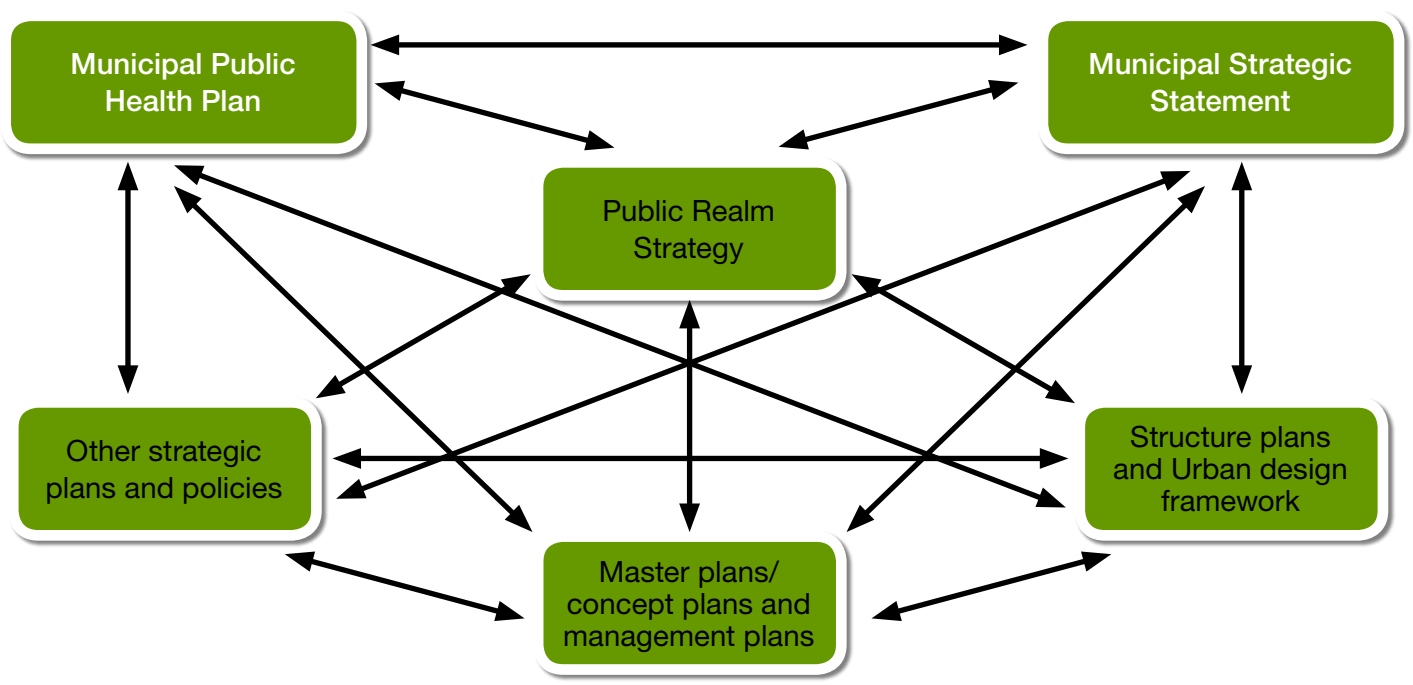
The public realm layers

The diagram illustrates the context in which this Strategy operates. The outer layer identifies the broader State policies (e.g. Melbourne 2030) that govern public space policy in Victoria. The next layer identifies the Council Plan as Stonnington's key strategic document. The next layer shows both the Municipal Public Health Plan and the Municipal Strategic Statement. The Public Realm follows, and includes streets, parks, hubs and links. Stonnington's public realm is further divided into suburbs and the many elements from across Council that form the core of the Public Realm Strategy.

1.4.4 What is the scope of the Public Realm Strategy?

This strategy looks at the public realm over three levels, from largest to smallest:

- The municipal level – providing a vision and strategy for the future, and which operates across the municipality
- The suburb – providing an overview of each suburb and making recommendations
- The spaces of the public realm – recording the status of each public space and recommending future actions



Strategic context diagram

1.5 METHODOLOGY

1.5.1 Project stages

Stage 1: Analysis

- Analysis of works and strategies undertaken since the Open Space Strategy 2000
- A GIS mapping of all public spaces and the focus areas of current strategies and plans
- Site visits to most public spaces
- Collation of relevant Council strategies and plans
- Consultation with Council

Stage 2: Review

- Determination of appropriate types of public space and emerging future types and opportunities
- Review of current public realm types, quality and quantity
- Review of all Council strategies associated with the public realm and their relevance and impact on the public realm
- Review of demographics and demographic trends to inform public realm planning
- Review of existing public realm spaces in the municipality and current typologies
- Consultation with Council

Stage 3: Recommendations

- Vision of the future form of the public realm
- Recommendations for strategic planning
- Recommendations for precincts and specific sites
- Consultation with Council

Limits of the Strategy

The Public Realm Strategy provides a broad overview of Stonnington's public realm. It does not provide detailed management and maintenance directions for all public spaces.

Statistical methodology

The figures used throughout this report are based on figures supplied by Council and available data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
The Open Space Strategy 2000 defined its statistical boundaries through 'villages'. The Public Real Strategy has realigned the precincts so that they follow the suburb boundaries, ABS data, and postcodes, thus creating opportunities for more direct comparison of data.

While this report has sought to match up old and new data sets, complete accuracy has not always been possible. Often figures (such as population) vary between sources. Council has chosen to source the most accurate figure for each category. Discrepancies between data sets have been inevitable.

This is particularly the case for forecasted figures. Stonnington has been divided into zones for ease of communication, comparison and recommendations, but all recommendations are based on a holistic assessment of Stonnington, rather than its individual zones.

1.6 POLICY CONTEXT

1.6.1 Melbourne @ 5 Million (2009)

Melbourne @ 5 million provides policy initiatives that are complementary to the directions of Melbourne 2030 and the two documents should be considered together. Victorian Government policy focuses on:

- The creation of a multi-centre city through six new Central Activities Districts in Box Hill, Broadmeadows, Dandenong, Footscray, Frankston and Ringwood
- Employment corridors that support the Central Activities Districts by linking activity centres, universities, research and technology precincts, medical precincts, and areas with high employment. Three employment corridors will be given priority for attention by the government: Avalon Airport to Werribee, Melton, Melbourne Airport and Donnybrook (Hume-Mitchell); Caulfield to Dandenong; and Monash University/Chadstone to Box Hill, Austin Hospital and Bell Street
- The expansion of the Melbourne Urban Growth Boundary to accommodate 284,000 new dwellings

1.6.2 Melbourne 2030 (2002), and Planning for All (2008)

Melbourne 2030 was introduced by the State Government in 2002. The main focus of this strategy is to continue to protect the 'live-ability' of established areas and to increasingly concentrate major change in strategic redevelopment sites. The strategy gives priority to developing open space networks in areas where open space is limited and demand is growing. Melbourne 2030 also aims to develop neighbourhoods as integrated and interconnected communities.

Direction 5 of the strategy consists of several key policies that relate to the improvement in the quality of the public realm:

- Policy 5.3: Improve community safety and encourage neighbourhood design that makes people feel safe
- Policy 5.4: Protect heritage places and values
- Policy 5.5: Promote excellent neighbourhood design to create attractive, walkable and diverse communities
- Policy 5.6: Improve the quality and distribution of local open space and ensure long-term protection of public open space
- Policy 5.7: Rectify gaps in the network of metropolitan open space by creating new parks and ensure major open space corridors are protected and enhanced

The Government has released Planning for All. This report marks the completion of the Audit of Melbourne 2030.

1.6.3 Council Plan 2009-2013

The Council Plan is the City of Stonnington's four-year vision and the plan for achieving that vision. The plan outlines how the Council will meet the most important local needs, and outlines broad strategies to deliver and fund quality outcomes for the community.

Council's vision:
Stonnington will be a place of community, individuality and business where an environment is created that fosters the hopes, wellbeing and aspirations of all people.

The Council Plan is based around the four pillars of environment, community, liveability and prosperity, which research shows are the qualities most important to the Stonnington community.

1.6.4 The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2009-2013

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (MPHP) sets the broad mission, goals and priorities to promote municipal health and wellbeing in Stonnington, and these inform the strategic and operational processes of Council and local health providers.

Council's role in developing the MPHP is to provide leadership, advocacy and facilitation; to bring together stakeholders around key health focus areas and to assist them to develop local health planning priorities.

1.6.5 Stonnington Planning Scheme: Municipal Strategic Statement

The Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) is a concise statement of the key strategic planning, land use and development objectives for the municipality and the strategies and actions for achieving those objectives.

Clause 21.02 Settlement and the Environment

The MSS includes: the Vision for the City of Stonnington; Settlement and Environment; Housing; Economic Development; Infrastructure; and Reference Documents. Clause 21.02 Settlement and Environment is most relevant to this Public Realm Strategy, as it includes the following strategies:

- 21.02-01 Natural Environment and Open Space
- 21.02-2 Urban Environment and Character
- 21.02-3 Heritage

Local planning policies

There are several relevant policies included within the MSS. The following policies identify a comprehensive range of the elements that make up the public realm:

- Clause 22.01 Open Space Policy
- Clause 22.02 Urban Design Policy
- Clause 22.04 Heritage Policy
- Clause 22.06 Residential Character, Amenity and Interface Policy
- Clause 22.09 Retail Centres Policy
- Clause 22.10 Licensed Premises Policy
- Clause 22.11 Chadstone Commercial Centre Policy
- Clause 22.12 Traffic Policy
- Clause 22.14 Community Services Policy

1.7 REVIEW OF COUNCIL STRATEGIES

Stonnington has a vast range of policies, strategies and frameworks that refer to the public realm. This Strategy seeks to include all recommendations that affect the public realm, including strategic, precinct (suburbs) and site-specific recommendations, with the aim of providing Council with a holistic overview of available information to utilise for future planning and design of the public realm.

The following Council strategies have been reviewed because they contain wide ranging recommendations for the public realm. Strategies with site-specific recommendations have been incorporated into the individual suburb recommendations (see Part B).

1.7.1 Council Plan 2009-2013

Public realm-related objectives

Environment

Stonnington will be a responsible environment manager through innovation, leadership, quality delivery and accountability.

Strategies

- Strengthen the community's focus on the environmental agenda by building upon innovative and leading practices through education and communication for all ages
- Support Council and the community to move towards sustainable energy options by leadership and the adoption of environmental design practices
- Manage and strengthen the local biodiversity and protect and increase the flora and fauna of the natural and riparian environment
- Use water conservation and drought management best practice principles to manage Council's natural assets in the public realm
- Reinforce innovative waste management practices to continue to minimise municipal waste
- Encourage the Council and community to use sustainable transport options

Community
Stonnington will be a city where all people can be happy, healthy and safe and have the opportunity to feel part of and contribute to the community.

Strategies:
- Enhance the health of the community through identification of key health issues and coordinate responses through services and partnerships
- Identify and action community safety initiatives that address real and perceived safety issues
- Continue to plan, deliver and improve the quality, accessibility and relevance of community services to ensure that they meet the current and future needs of all demographic groups through all of their stages of life
- Develop strategic alliances to provide coordinated responses to community needs
- Maintain the quality and enhance the use of our facilities, amenities and open space to encourage community participation and cater for the interests and needs of the whole community

Liveability
Stonnington will be the most desirable place to live, work and visit in Melbourne.

Strategies:
- Maintain and enhance the public realm to provide safe, accessible, usable, clean and attractive spaces and streetscapes
- Encourage awareness of the public realm as both a desirable destination and a gathering space for community participation and enjoyment
- Maintain and upgrade the infrastructure and services necessary for the seamless day to day operations of the City
- Recognise and enhance Stonnington's diverse culture and Indigenous heritage through programs and events that support the arts, traditions and heritage
- Understand the uniqueness of Stonnington's shopping strips to promote their attraction to a diverse community
- Celebrate the municipality's heritage and diverse buildings by balancing its existing character with complementary and sustainable developments
- Continue to work with key partners to find a balance between sustainable transport options and the lifestyle preferences of the community
- Balance recreation and sporting use with sustainable environmental principles

Prosperity
Stonnington will be a prosperous community and a premier tourist and retail destination with thriving local businesses and an entrepreneurial spirit.

Strategies:
- Promote Stonnington as a premier retail and tourism destination with its unique attractions and shopping strips
- Improve the quality of Stonnington's retail precincts to match the aspirations of being a premier retail and tourism destination

1.7.2 The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2009-2013
Public realm-related objectives

Healthy lifestyles
Strategies:
- Design infrastructure to enhance opportunities for healthy, active lifestyle choices
- Support a range of affordable and accessible, healthy activities
- Develop partnerships with organisations which provide health and wellbeing activities
- Promote and encourage physical activity
- Support mental health and wellbeing initiatives
- Encourage and provide for sustainable transport, particularly active modes like walking and cycling

Connected communities
Strategies:
- Encourage 'one stop' multi-use community/commercial hubs
- Promote a diverse range of innovative community events and activities
- Support mentoring and volunteering
- Promote opportunities to increase community connectedness and reduce social isolation

Positive ageing
Strategies:
- Encourage and provide opportunities for lifelong physical, social and cultural activity among older people to increase health and wellbeing and community connections
- Provide and advocate for accessibility and the inclusion of older people
- Recognise and utilise the skills and knowledge of older people
- Support links between different age groups

Community safety
Strategies:
- Design the built and 'green' environment to improve community safety
- Provide education and intervention to encourage positive, safe behaviour
- Foster community participation to deliver a clean, tidy city and strengthen community pride
- Protect the community from public health risks
- Identify areas of crime, anti-social behaviour and binge drinking and work to deliver safer outcomes
- Promote and advocate for safer transport options and road safety

1.7.3 Municipal Strategic Statement

Clause 21.02-01 Natural Environment and Open Space
Public realm-related objectives
- Maximise the availability and use of public open space through equitable access, providing additional spaces in areas of greatest need, improving the range of opportunities available, and linking pedestrian and bicycle paths to open space
- Encourage the maintenance and improvement of open space owned by other authorities
- Facilitate the use of crown land for public open space where and when it is no longer needed for restricted activities
- Encourage innovative solutions to increase the amount of public open space available in Stonnington
- Promote the concept of sustainability and develop benchmarks to measure progress
- Ensure that land use, transport planning and infrastructure provision contribute to improved air quality

Clause 21.02-2 Urban Environment and Character
Public realm-related objectives
- Maintain a high standard of physical and visual amenity in the public realm in relation to streetscape improvements, and the design and location of fixtures
- Encourage high quality and energy efficient design that contributes positively to the character of the City as a whole and enhances its landscapes, public spaces, buildings, shopping centres, main thoroughfares, streetscapes and gateway localities
- Encourage use and development that:
  - Respects the valued built form and character of the local precinct
  - Provides an attractive entry and exit to the City

  - Respects Stonnington's green and garden-like setting
  - Respects the predominant one- and two-storey character of residential areas and most commercial areas
  - Is consistent with valued design features of nearby development
- Encourage advertising signs that are compatible with the locality and the building, and which preserve existing vistas and views

Clause 21.02-3 Heritage
Public realm-related objectives
- Identify, assess and protect places with architectural, cultural or historical significance
- Ensure that any additions and alterations and replacement buildings are sympathetic to the heritage place and its setting
- Retain, recycle, restore and renovate protected heritage places
- Protect significant streetscapes, trees and gardens
- Develop a register of significant trees and gardens and encourage their retention

1.7.4 Municipal Early Years Plan
Public realm-related objectives
- Improve the quality of facilities and increase the number of co-located services. Maximise opportunities for co-location of services as part of the review of facilities
- Maintain the network of playgroups, neighbourhood houses and other parent groups to provide social experiences for parents and children. For example, recreation centres and playgrounds provide space for passive recreation
- Provide high-quality playgrounds and open space for children and families
- Maintain existing playgrounds in line with regulations
- Replace old or faulty equipment in playgrounds
- Explore opportunities to acquire land in those areas where open space is limited
- Where possible, replicate best-practice playgrounds that are highly utilised by families, e.g. McArthur Street, Malvern
- Seek funding for new playground equipment that complements existing play experiences. Playgrounds scheduled for replacement to be strategically upgraded to become fully accessible playgrounds

1.7.5 Reconciliation Action Plan 2007
Public realm-related objectives
- Integrate Indigenous cultural elements into Stonnington open spaces
- Consider the development of a historical marker in consultation with the Boonwurrong and Wurundjeri people to acknowledge significant sites in Stonnington as appropriate
- Identify significant sites
- Explore opportunities for native planting and cultural elements in Stonnington parks
- Explore opportunities to integrate Indigenous cultural elements into park developments

All public realm works must comply with the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2006 and its regulations.

1.7.6 Stonnington Sustainable Environment Plan 2005
Public realm-related objectives
- Implement the Stonnington Bicycle Strategy
- Develop a walking strategy
- Work with Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria to restore vegetation along waterways in Stonnington
- Strengthen the emphasis on biodiversity during the revision of the Open Space Strategy
- Develop a municipal biodiversity strategy
- Establish an Indigenous cultural garden
- Implement the Stormwater Environmental Management Plan
- Implement the Sustainable Water Management Strategy
- Implement the Gardiners Creek Management Plan

1.7.7 Stonnington Sustainable Transport Policy 2008
The City of Stonnington will be serviced by an integrated, sustainable, safe, convenient, and accessible transport network that responds to the municipality's unique style and character, minimises impact on the environment and overall amenity, enhances liveability, promotes wellbeing, vitality and prosperity and benefits all users.

Policy principles
- Deliver priority principles (walking, cycling, public transport, commercial vehicles serving local businesses and institutions, multiple-occupancy vehicles, single-occupancy vehicles)
- Moderate the impact of cars
- Increase connections
- Improve safety
- Raise profile
- Foster community involvement
- Advocate on behalf of the community
- Build relationships
- Provide leadership
- Monitor progress

1.7.8 Bicycle Strategy 2005
Public realm-related objectives
- Advisory/directional signage strategy required for bike paths
- Provide detailed precinct recommendations

1.7.9 Older Persons Strategy 2008–2012
The Older Persons Strategy aims to provide a broad policy framework for Council and community-based aged care service providers in Stonnington.

In 2006, residents aged 55 and over comprised 26 per cent of Stonnington's population, marginally higher than Victoria as a whole at 23.3 per cent.

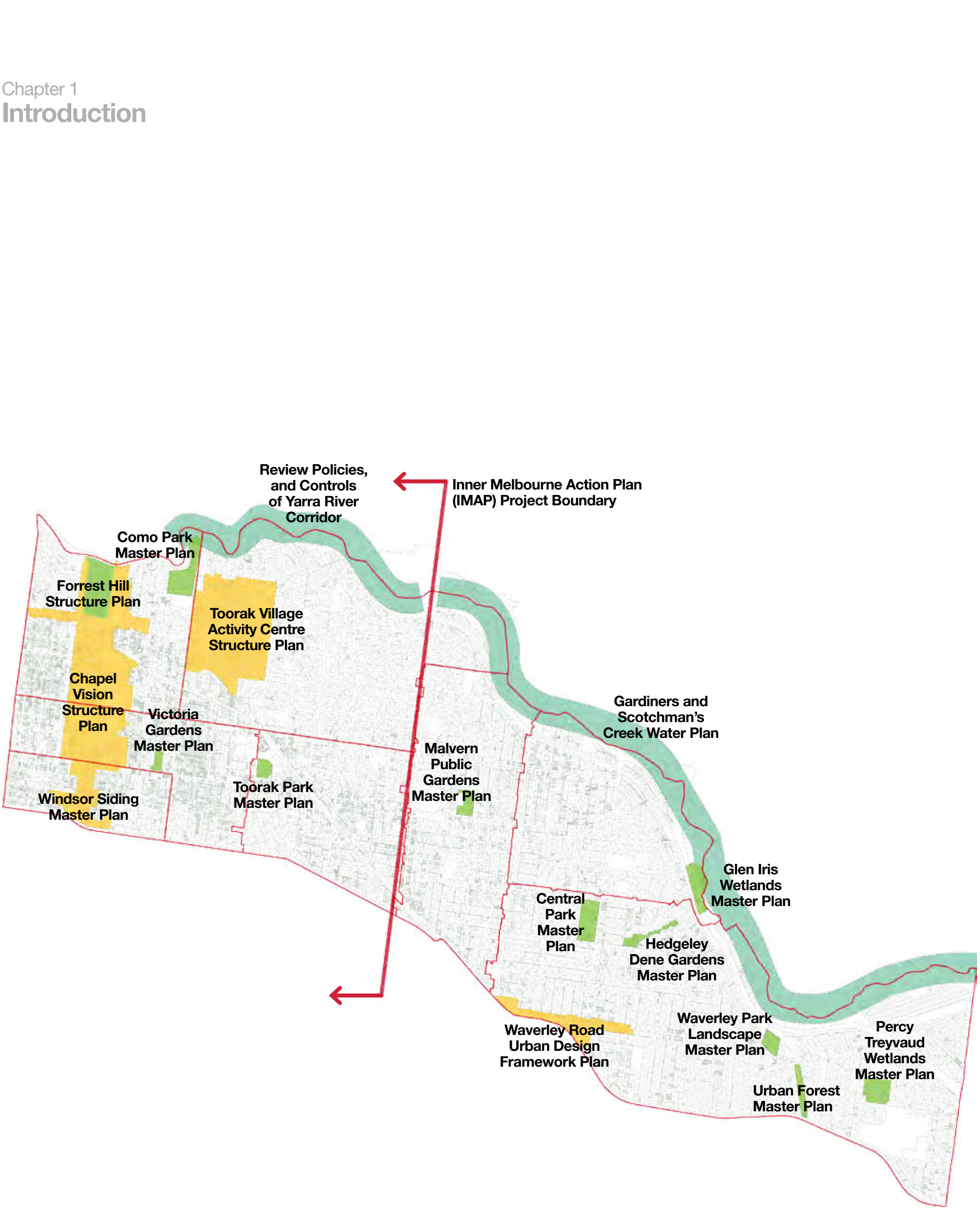
Public realm-related objectives
- Foster a sense of community for older people based on social connectedness, community participation and intergenerational opportunities. Do this by enhancing the natural and built environment to cater for the needs of older people
- Ensure older people have access to safe roads and footpaths, and safe, affordable, efficient and user-friendly transport

Public realm-related activities for older people
- Community recreation centres
- Walking for Pleasure
- Events (Opera in the Park, Symphony in the Park, Jazz in the Park etc)
- Bowls club

1.7.10 Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) (2005)
The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) sets out 11 regional strategies and 57 actions to address one simple objective: to make the inner Melbourne region more liveable. It concentrates primarily on actions that can be completed within 5–10 years.
Issues include:
- Public environment and urban structure
- Strengthening business clusters
- The visitor domain: retail, entertainment and tourism
- Transport: road space allocation and public transport connections
- Open space, waterways and Port Phillip Bay
- Strengthening inner Melbourne communities

Specific public realm-related strategies for Stonnington include:
- Improve the quality and design of Alexandra Avenue and Punt Road
- Work with Yarra Trams to improve the quality and design of Queens Road and Dandenong Road and their urban spaces, especially at their intersection with Chapel Street

Chapter 1
Introduction



Current key strategies / plans

Master plans
- Existing and in progress

- Improved tram program (Think Tram) along key routes, including Chapel Street and Dandenong Road
- Improved modal interchanges at South Yarra
- Providing and sharing community facilities or 'hubs' in activity centres and a range of recreational and cultural activities
- Improve the public environment of activity centres focusing on pedestrian amenity and safety, and including well-designed urban spaces with active frontages
- Establish common greenhouse emissions, water and waste targets and programs for the inner Melbourne region
- Develop a regional approach and strategy to achieve water sensitive design
- Work collaboratively to reduce water use in the inner Melbourne region's parklands and with water retailers to establish water recycling facilities for use by parklands
- Map the regional open space and trail network, identifying ownership, management responsibility, agreed function and gaps in open space and trails, and develop an implementation program for the development and extension of the network
- To complete the Capital City Trail
- Identify and secure access (where possible) to protect land along the Yarra River and its tributaries to ensure continuous public access without compromising the ecological sustainability of remnant vegetation or habitat
- Develop a coordinated planning and management mechanism for Docklands, including the Yarra and Maribyrnong Rivers and creeks and tributaries

1.7.11 Main Roads Built Form Study (Draft 2009)

The purpose of this study is to identify preferred built form along main roads.

Public realm-related recommendations

- Improve streetscape treatments along main roads
- Improve access to developments along main roads

1.8 LIST OF REVIEWED STRATEGIES

The following strategies were reviewed and their relevant recommendations incorporated into this Public Realm Strategy.

Municipal Wide Strategies

- Council Plan (2009-2013)
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2009-2013)
- Municipal Strategic Statement

Community/Cultural

- Municipal Early Years Plan (2004–2009)
- Reconciliation Action Plan (2007–2010)
- Stonnington Integrated Art and Design Strategy (2001)
- Older Persons Strategy (2008–2012)
- Stonnington Sustainable Transport Policy (September 2008)

Strategic Planning

- Sustainable Transport Strategy (2008)
- Stonnington Local Housing Strategy (Draft 2006 – not released)
- Stonnington Neighbourhood Character Study (2006)
- Chapel Vision Structure Plan (December 2007)
- Toorak Village Activity Centre Structure Plan (2007)
- Place Management Stonnington Model – A Discussion Paper (2004)
- IMAP – The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (2005)
- Forrest Hill Structure Plan (December 2005)
- Waverley Road Urban Design Framework Plan (2008)
- Urban Design Strategy (Stonnington City Council, 1998)
- Entertainment/Retail Premises Review for Chapel Street, Toorak Road and Environs (Henshall Hansen Associates, 1997)
- Hedgeley Dene Precinct – Urban Character and Landscape Study (RG Harvey and J Lee, 1998)
- Review of Policies and Controls for the Yarra River Corridor – Punt Road to Burke Road (Consultant Report, June 2005)
- Heritage Overlay Citations (Stonnington City Council, various dates)
- Main Roads Built Form Study (Draft 2009)

Public Open Space / Recreation

- Open Space Strategy (Thompson Berrill Landscape Design Pty Ltd, 2000)
- Street Tree Strategy (2005)
- Urban Forest Masterplan (2001)
- Glen Iris Wetlands Master Plan (2000)
- Percy Treyvaud Wetlands Master Plan (2009)
- Yarra Shared Path Upgrade Master Plan (2006)
- Waverley Park Landscape Plan (2008)
- Victoria Gardens Master Plan (1989)
- Toorak Park / Victory Square Master Plan (current 2009/10)
- Malvern Public Gardens Master Plan (2006)
- Central Park Master Plan (1988)
- Hedgeley Dene Gardens Master Plan (2001)
- Sports Grounds and Pavilions Allocations and Charging Policy (1996)
- Activities in Parks Policy (2003)
- Sports Development Strategy (1996)
- User Satisfaction Surveys (2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007)
- Parks and Gardens Lighting Strategy (May 2001)
- Como Park Master Plan (draft 2008)
- Forrest Hill Precinct, Streetscape and Public Realm Master Plan (2008)
- Yarra River Biodiversity Master Plan (draft 2010)

Streetscapes

- Bicycle Strategy (2005)
- Commercial Precincts Style Guide and Improvement Program (2005)
- Commercial Strategy (Stonnington City Council, 1999)

Conservation and Heritage

- Stonnington Sustainability Environment Plan (2005)
- Biodiversity Strategy (Draft 2010)
- Gardiners and Scotchman's Creeks Water Plan (2006)
- Sustainable Water Management Strategy (2005)
- Waste Management Strategy (Draft 2010)
- Warm Season Grasses Planting Program (2008)
- Water Harvesting Program - Northbrook, Prahran Aquatic Centre, Waverley Park, Argo Reserve (2007)
- Heritage Overlay Citations (Stonnington City Council, various dates)
- Drought Response Plan
- Tree Irrigation Plan
- Stormwater Environmental Management Plan
- Sub Surface Irrigation Program (2006)

Chapter 2
Stonnington's public realm

Malvern
(Source: Google Earth, 2008)

Prahran
(Source: Google Earth, 2008)

Phoenix Park, East Malvern
(Source: Google Earth, 2008)

Public space category: Hubs
Images displaying the main community hubs.

2.0 STONNINGTON'S PUBLIC REALM: AN OVERVIEW OF ITS PUBLIC SPACE TYPES

This chapter presents an overview of the many types of public spaces in the municipality of Stonnington. Stonnington has a vast array of different public space types, from playgrounds and pocket parks, to street gardens, civic plazas, pedestrian walkways, sports ovals and many more. To help focus the Strategy's recommendations, four key categories of public space types have been identified as the building blocks of Stonnington's public realm. They are:

- Hubs
- Streets
- Green spaces
- Links

2.1 HUBS

Figure 4: Public space category: Hubs

Hubs are defined as commercial, retail, community and residential areas with high population densities. In hubs, there is generally a higher concentration of public spaces in a smaller area than in typical residential areas.

The elements of these spaces work together to create a public realm fabric. For example, a visit to the main commercial hub may entail a walk along a street, a passage through a small link between main street and car park, and a stop at an urban square. These spaces all contribute to the identity and quality of the hub.

Multiple types of public spaces are found within these hubs, including:

- Commercial streetscapes
- Urban squares and plazas
- Landscape settings around community facilities (e.g. Town Halls)
- Shared-use spaces along roads
- Small pedestrian links

2.1.1 Types of hubs

Activity hubs

The main commercial and housing density hubs are based on the activity centres outlined in Stonnington's Strategic Framework Plan.

Principal activity centres

- Chapel Street, South Yarra and Prahran
- Chadstone, East Malvern

Major activity centres

- Glenferrie Road, Malvern and High Street, Armadale

Neighbourhood activity centres

- West Toorak Road, South Yarra (large)
- Toorak Village, Toorak (large)
- Malvern Road, Hawksburn (large)
- Chapel Street, Windsor (large)
- Waverley Road, East Malvern (small)

Community and municipal hubs

These hubs are defined as areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal, school and public spaces. For example, they may be a combination of the following land uses:

- Civic centre
- Library
- Child services
- Community centre
- Council services
- Schools
- Parks and sports grounds
- Transport

The main community hubs include:

- Prahran – Prahran Town Hall, Princes Gardens, Grattan Gardens and Chapel Street
- Malvern – Town Hall, Library, Malvern Square, Malvern Cricket Ground, Glenferrie Road and High Street
- Malvern East - Phoenix Park/Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park, community centre, skate park, playground, library

2.1.2 Key existing strategies specific to hubs

- Local Housing Strategy (Draft 2006 – not released)
- Municipal Early Years Plan (2004–2009)
- Stonnington Neighbourhood Character Study (2006)
- Chapel Vision Structure Plan (2007)
- Toorak Village Activity Centre Structure Plan (2007)
- Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP) (2005)
- Forrest Hill Structure Plan (2007)

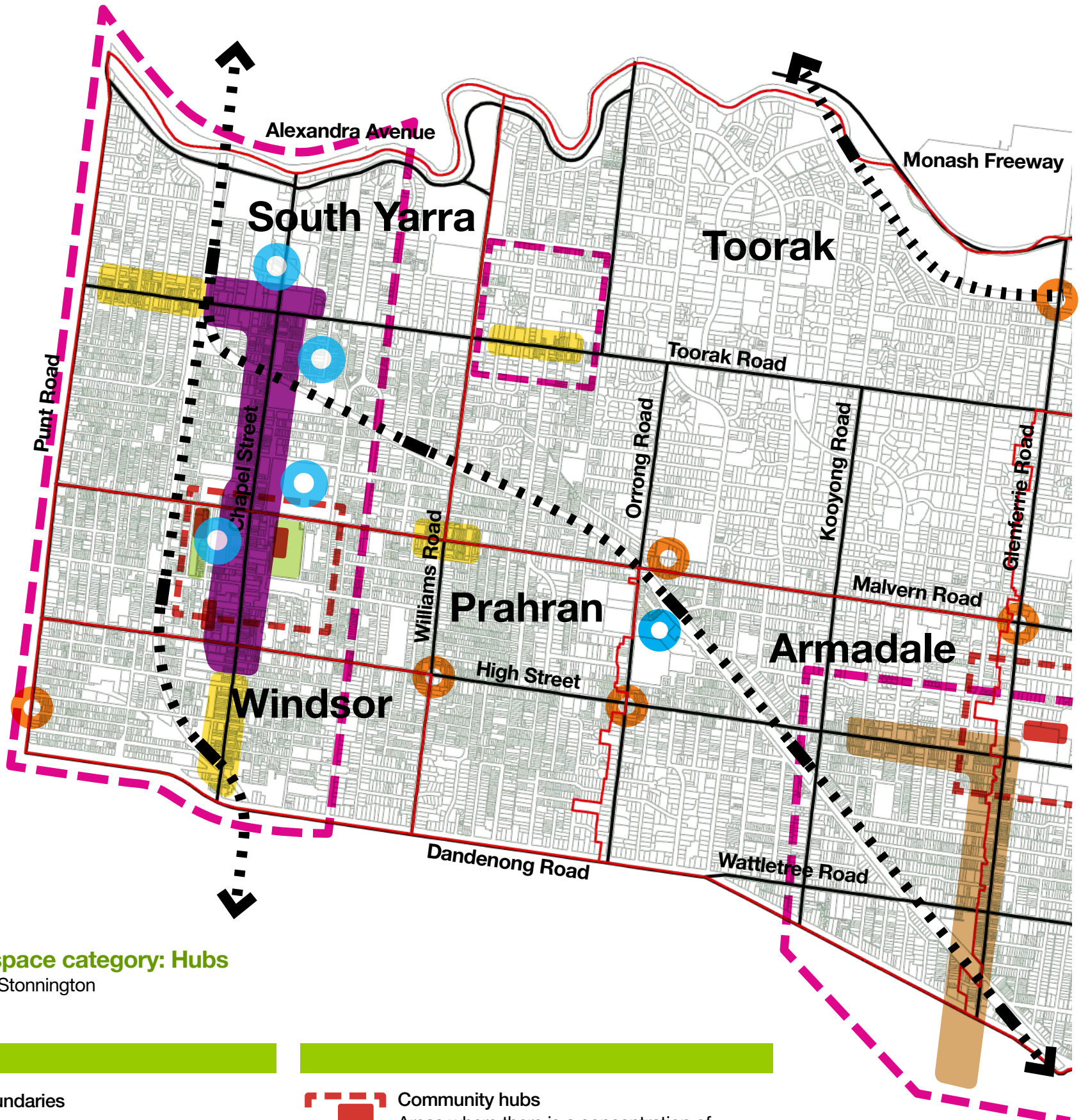


Figure 4 – Public space category: Hubs
Mapping of hubs within Stonnington

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Railway line/station

Activity hubs
- The main commercial and housing density hubs (existing and future)

Principal activity centre
- South Yarra and Prahran (Chapel Street)
- Chadstone

Major activity centre
- Glenferrie Road, Malvern, and High Street, Armadale

Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- West Toorak Road, South Yarra
- Toorak Village, Toorak
- Malvern Road, Toorak
- Chapel Street, Windsor

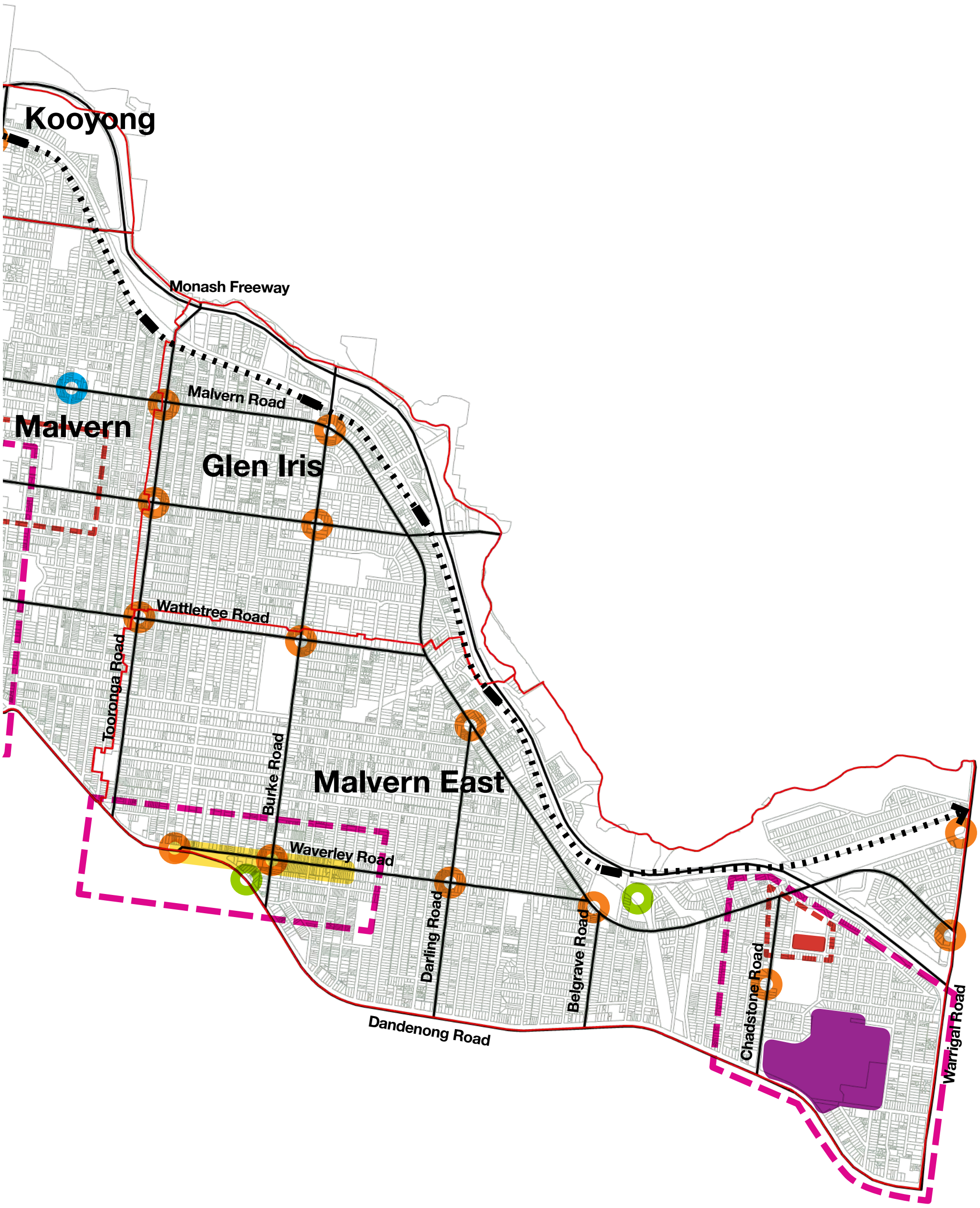
Neighbourhood activity centre (small)

Key redevelopment sites

State government proposed development sites

Community hubs
Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public spaces:
- Prahran (Prahran Town Hall, Chapel Street, Grattan Gardens and Princes Gardens)
- Malvern (Town Hall, library, Malvern Square, Malvern Cricket Ground and Glenferrie Road and High Street)
- Malvern East (Phoenix Park/Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park, community centre, skate park, playground, Library)

Source: City of Stonnington Strategic Framework Plan (Municipal Strategic Statement - clause 21.01)


Kooyong
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern
Glen Iris
Wattletree Road
Toorong
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Chadstone Road
Dandenong Road
Warrigal Road

2.2 STREETS

Figure 5: Public space category: Streets

In the past, the planning, design and maintenance of streets, roads and laneways has focused on vehicular traffic. Now it is recognised that residential and commercial streetscapes play a significant role in the composition of the urban public realm, in addition to their primary function as the main vehicular traffic network. Perception of streetscapes has shifted from a narrow definition and management approach to one that embraces social activities, street trees, habitat, community activities, recreation, sustainable transport (public transport, cyclists and pedestrians) and water sensitive urban design (WSUD).

Commercial streetscapes are becoming increasingly popular pedestrian urban public spaces, and tree-lined residential streets also perform an important public realm role. For example, features of these streetscapes include visual green spaces such as landscaped road reserves, roundabouts and corner treatments. While these are not inhabitable public space, they nevertheless contribute to the overall perception and aesthetic of the public realm.

2.2.1 Types of streets

The main types of streetscapes identified in this Strategy are:

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streetscapes
- Residential green streetscapes
- Green fabric

Gateway streets

These include the main entry roads into Stonnington. They mark the entry and exit points to the municipality. Gateways are best designed to create a memorable linear experience (e.g. through significant planting) rather than a single gateway point (e.g. a gateway sign). Stonnington's gateway streets are Punt, Dandenong and Warrigal Roads and Alexandra Avenue.

Main grid streets

These include the main commercial, transport and higher density residential roads throughout the municipality, and they form a grid pattern across Stonnington.

North–south streets

- Punt Road, Chapel Street, Williams Road, Orrong Road, Kooyong Road, Glenferrie Road, Tooronga Road, Burke Road, Darling Road, Belgrave Road and Chadstone Road

East–west streets

- Toorak Road, Malvern Road, High Street, Dandenong Road, Wattletree Road and Waverley Road

Commercial streetscapes

These are streetscapes dominated by commercial activity such as retail, food outlets, outdoor dining and offices. The street forms the backbone to the commercial area and contributes significantly to creating a village identity. The quality of the streetscape environment works in synergy with the economic wellbeing of the centre and social wellbeing of the local community.

Main commercial streetscapes

- Glenferrie Road, Malvern
- Commercial Road, South Yarra
- Toorak Road, South Yarra
- Toorak Village, Toorak
- Chapel Street, Prahran, South Yarra, Windsor
- Greville Street, Prahran
- High Street, Armadale
- High Street and Orrong Road, Prahran, Armadale
- High Street and Chapel Street, Windsor, Prahran
- Prahran East Village
- Malvern Village
- East Malvern Village

Smaller shopping villages

- Hawksburn Shopping Centre, Toorak
- Wattletree Village, Malvern
- Waverley Road, East Malvern
- Beatty Avenue, Toorak
- Malvern Valley, Malvern
- Punt Road, Windsor
- Kooyong Village, Toorak
- Gardiner Village, Glen Iris
- Glen Iris Village, Glen Iris
- Warrigal Road, East Malvern
- Malvern Hill Village, Malvern
- Darling Village, Malvern East
- Central Park, Malvern East
- High Street and Tooronga Road, Malvern, Glen Iris
- East Malvern Terminus

Residential green streetscapes

These are areas of established street tree planting that contribute significantly to the public realm character and quality of the area. Green streetscapes are a prominent feature in:

- Toorak
- Armadale
- Malvern
- Kooyong
- East Prahran
- East Malvern (west of Belgrave Street)
- Dandenong Road

Green fabric

The green fabric is defined as a network of small green spaces associated with streets; for example, pocket parks, road closures, easements and roadside spaces. Although these spaces are traditionally small, they make a significant contribution to the amenity and character of the suburb. They are found primarily in Windsor, Prahran and Armadale.

2.2.2 Key existing strategies specific to streets

- Street Tree Strategy
- Sustainable Transport Policy
- Urban Strategies (Chapel Vision, Toorak Village, Forrest Hill, Waverley Road etc)
- Inner Melbourne Action Plan
- Bicycle Strategy
- Commercial Precincts Style Guide and Improvement Program

Urban Squares
Malvern Town Square, Malvern (Source: Rush Wright Associates)

Water Sensitive Urban Design in Residential and Main Streets
(Source: City Of Stonnington)

Tree-lined Residential Street
South Yarra (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Commercial Street
Toorak Road, South Yarra (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public space category: Streets

Examples of street types within Stonnington.

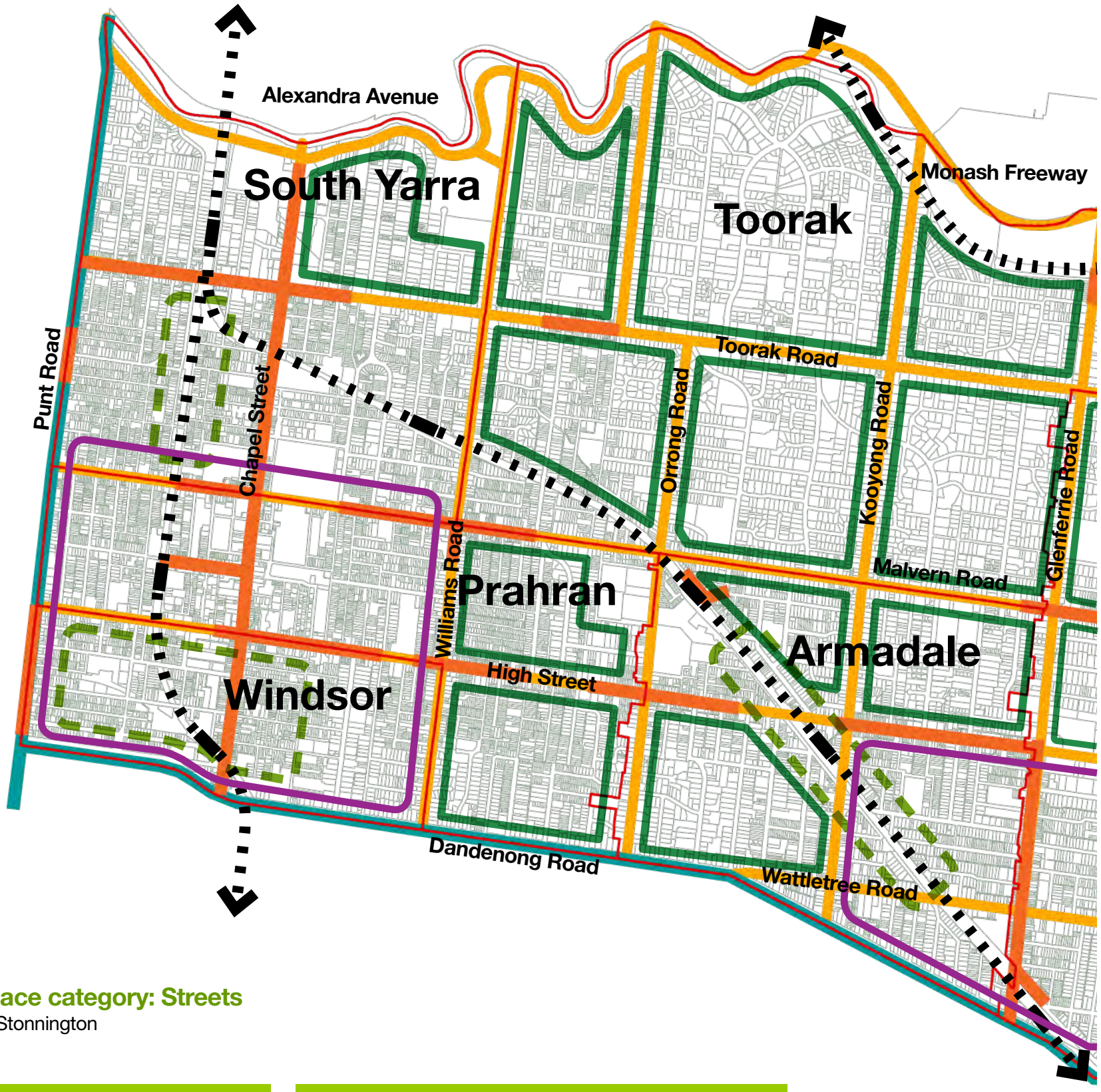


Figure 5 – Public space category: Streets
Mapping of streets within Stonnington

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Railway line/station

Gateway streetscapes

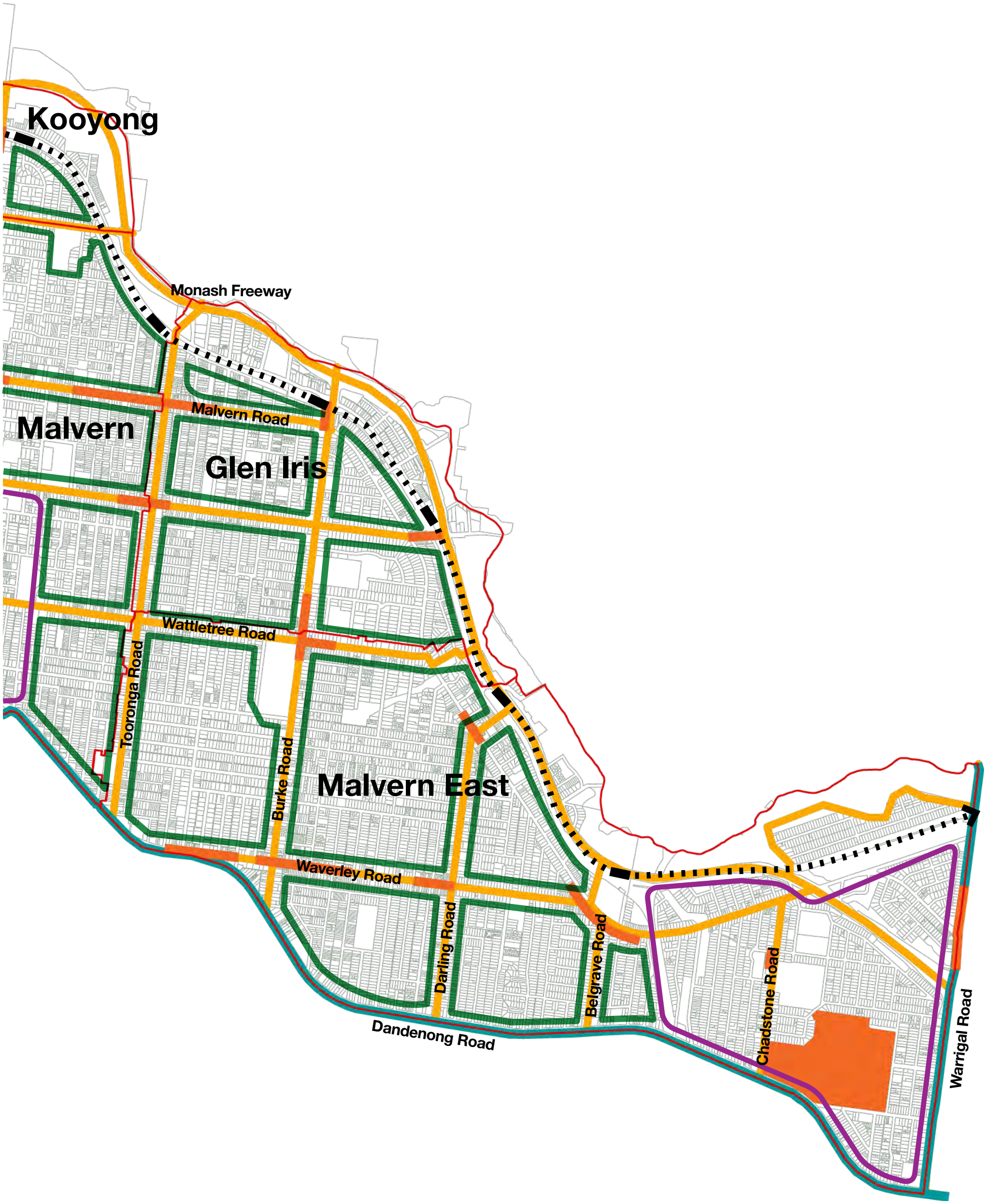
Main grid streetscapes

Commercial streetscapes

Residential green streetscapes
Areas of established street tree planting that contributes significantly to the public realm character and quality of the area:
- Toorak
- Armadale
- Malvern
- Kooyong
- East Prahran
- East Malvern (west of Belgrave Street)
- Dandenong Road

Green fabric
Areas where small green spaces make up a significant contribution to the public realm of the area e.g. pocket parks, road closures, easements, roadside spaces:
- Windsor
- South Yarra
- Armadale

Green upgrade
- Streetscapes in need of improvement


Kooyong
Monash Freeway
Malvern
Malvern Road
Glen Iris
Wattletree Road
Toorong
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Dandenong Road
Chadstone Road
Warrigal Road

2.3 GREEN SPACES

Refer to Figures 6, 7, 8.

Green spaces primarily cover the well-known types of public open spaces, such as parks, reserves, sportsgrounds and waterways. These are the traditional building blocks of public space and are enshrined in the Local Planning Scheme.

Green open spaces have traditionally provided the areas for small and large scale community recreation and outdoor activity, both formal and informal. They include soft and green spaces, and hard paved plazas with planting.

Importantly, green spaces have a far wider benefit for urban communities in contributing to the local area amenity, as expressed in the following extract. 'Open space is not only for recreation and conservation of environmental and cultural values; it is the foundation of urban liveability. It underpins many social, ecological, and economic benefits that are essential to the healthy functioning of the urban environment.' Parks Victoria (2002), Linking People and Spaces report.

2.3.1 Types of green spaces

Stonnington's primary types of green spaces include:

- Historical parks
- Sports parks / grounds
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Parks and reserves

Historical parks

Stonnington has an extensive history of premium historical parks and gardens, with many dating back to the Edwardian period. These spaces give Stonnington a distinctive identity and public space heritage. They are normally managed through a combination of heritage management plans and master plans.

Parks in Stonnington with historical significance

No.	Heritage – Edwardian Parks	Suburb	Area (m^2)
1	Ardrie Park	Malvern East	16,914
2	Central Park	Malvern East	36,286
3	Hedgeley Dene Gardens	Malvern East	18,749
4	Malvern Public Gardens	Malvern	27,401
5	Victoria Gardens	Prahran	12,549
6	Grattan Gardens	Prahran	3,496
7	Princes Gardens	Prahran	12,318
8	Rockley Gardens	South Yarra	7,364
9	Como Park	South Yarra	19,203

Sports parks

Stonnington has an array of sports spaces, from formal competition fields and club-shared fields, to general recreation ovals.

Sports parks / grounds in Stonnington

No.	Sports parks / grounds	Suburb	Playing area m^2
1	Como Park	South Yarra	1,920
2	Como Park North	South Yarra	940
3	Como Park North (Thomas Oval)	South Yarra	760
4	Central Park	Malvern East	2,500
5	Darling Park – Lucas Oval	Malvern East	1,510
6	Darling Park – Basil Oval	Malvern East	2,100
7	Darling Park – Stanley Grose	Malvern East	960
8	Percy Treyvaud Park (East)	Malvern East	1,210
9	Percy Treyvaud Park (West)	Malvern East	590
10	Waverley Oval	Malvern East	1,710
11	Malvern Valley Public Golf Course	Malvern East	–
13	Gardiner Park	Glen Iris	1,150
14	Glen Iris Park (TH King)	Glen Iris	1,630
15	Orrong Romanis Reserve	Prahran	1,000
16	Orrong Park	Prahran	780
17	Kooyong Park 1 (Birrell)	Kooyong	610
18	Kooyong Park 2 (L Thompson)	Kooyong	1,180
19	Kooyong Park 3 (McAlpine)	Kooyong	1,060
20	Kooyong Park 4 (Righetti)	Kooyong	1,580
21	Kooyong Park 5 (Ferrie)	Kooyong	640
22	Malvern Cricket Ground	Malvern	1,200
23	Sir Robert Menzies	Malvern	1,040
24	Toorak Park	Armadale	1,650

Environmental spaces

These are small to large green spaces that are managed as an urban natural system. Stonnington has two significant environmental spaces – the Urban Forest in Malvern East and the Glen Iris Park wetlands along Gardiners Creek and the Scotchman's Creek corridor. These are discussed in more detail in section 2.4 on links. Over time, it is expected that additional natural systems spaces will be developed in Stonnington along waterways.

Main environmental spaces in Stonnington

No.	Environmental spaces	Suburb	Area (m^2)
1	Urban Forest	Malvern East	30,139
2	Gardiners Creek corridor (including Darling Park, Gardiner Park, Glenburn Bend, Muswell Bend and Tooronga Park)	Malvern East	–
3	Glen Iris Park wetlands	Malvern East	35,312
4	Scotchman's Creek corridor (including Ivanhoe Grove and Peverill Park)	Malvern East	–

Urban spaces

Urban spaces are generally located adjacent or close to civic or community facilities such as town halls, community facilities and railway stations. These spaces are typically hard paved and function as gathering, seating, market, performance and outdoor eating spaces, as well as providing a civic foreground to Council's main buildings.

Stonnington has a small number of these spaces, including:

- Malvern Town Hall plaza, west corner Glenferrie Road and High Street, Armadale
- Malvern Town Hall civic surrounds, east corner Glenferrie Road and High Street, Malvern
- Prahran Town Hall plaza, Chapel Street, Prahran
- Grattan Square, south end of Grattan Gardens, Greville Street, Prahran
- Toorak/South Yarra Library forecourt, Toorak Road, South Yarra
- Dyeworks Park, Simmons Street, South Yarra (a combination of park and urban square)

Parks and reserves

Stonnington has numerous smaller parks and reserves throughout its suburbs. These spaces play a significant role at the local level, providing a close, accessible area for recreational, social and nature-based activities.

Reserves
Siding Reserve, South Yarra (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Sports Parks
Malvern East (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Historical Parks
Hedgeley Dene Gardens, Malvern East (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Environmental Parks
Urban Forest Reserve, Malvern East (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public space category: Green spaces

Green space types within Stonnington

2.3.2 Key existing strategies specific to green spaces

- Open Space Strategy 2000
- Park master plans
- Playground Improvement Program
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Gardiners and Scotchman's Creeks Water Plan
- Sustainable Water Management Strategy
- Sustainable Environment Plan
- Warm Season Grasses Planting Program
- Sub-surface Irrigation Program
- Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan
- Urban Strategies (Chapel Vision, Toorak Village, Forrest Hill, Waverley Road etc)
- Sports Grounds and Pavilions Allocation and Charging Policy

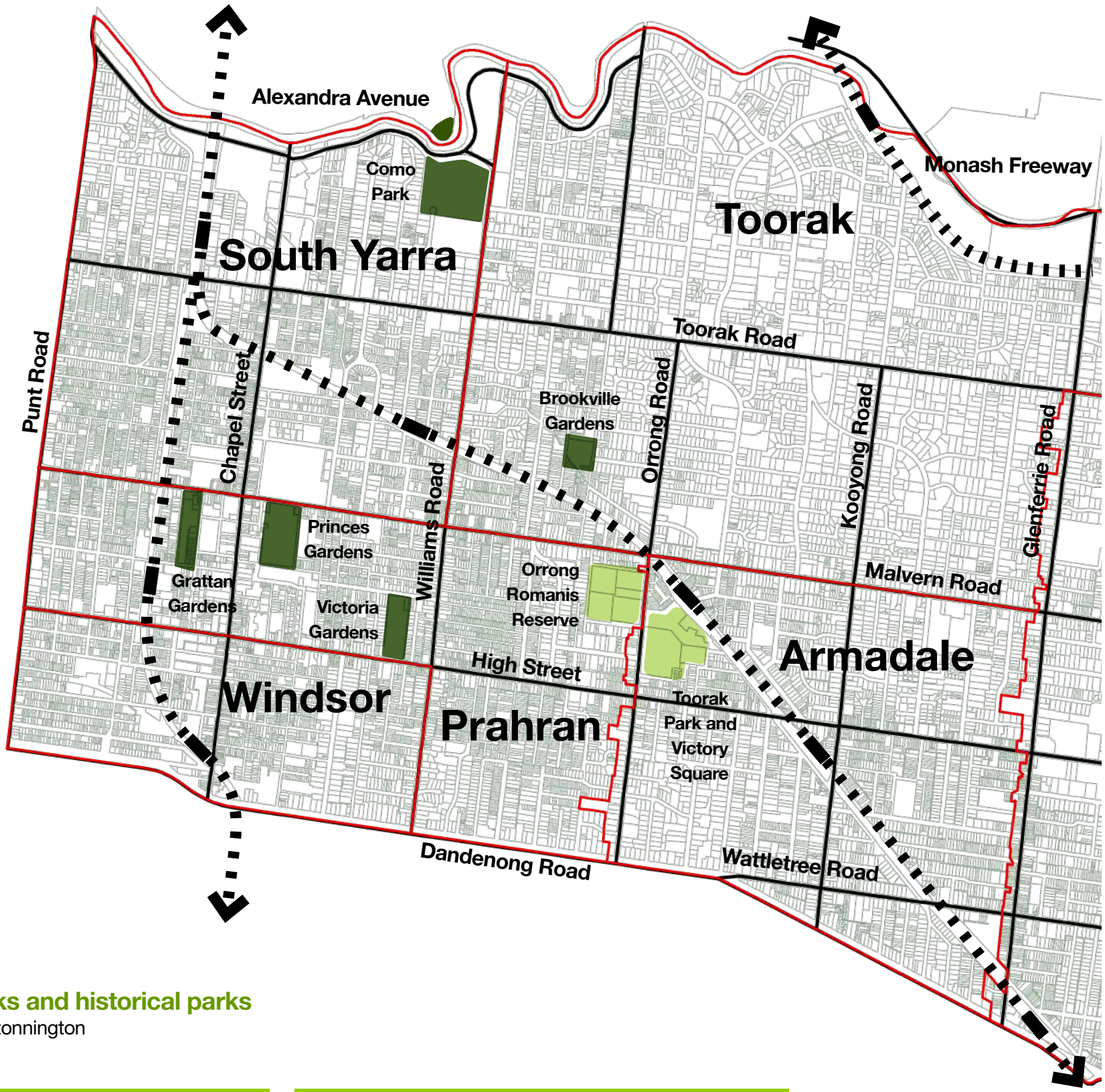


Figure 6 – Main parks and historical parks
Mapping of parks within Stonnington

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Railway line/station

Main parks
The most significant parks and reserves within the central fabric of Stonnington (excluding the parks along Gardiners Creek and Yarra River) and serving a distinct community:

- Orrong Romanis Reserve, Prahran
- Toorak Park, Armadale
- Brookville Gardens, Toorak
- Robert Menzies Reserve, Malvern
- Phoenix Park, Malvern East
- Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park, Malvern East

Main historic parks
The main parks and gardens displaying heritage vegetation, design and layout:

- Como Park, South Yarra
- Victoria Gardens, Prahran
- Central Park, Malvern East
- Malvern Public Gardens, Malvern
- Hedgeley Dene Gardens, Malvern East
- Ardrie Park, Malvern East
- Princes Gardens, Prahran
- Rockley Gardens, South Yarra
- Grattan Gardens, Prahran

Kooyong
Robert Menzies Reserve
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern Public Gardens
Glen Iris
Malvern
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Central Park
Burke Road
Hedgeley Dene Gardens
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Ardrie Park
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Waverley Oval
Urban Forest Reserve
Chadstone Road
Phoenix Park
Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park
Warrigal Road
Dandenong Road

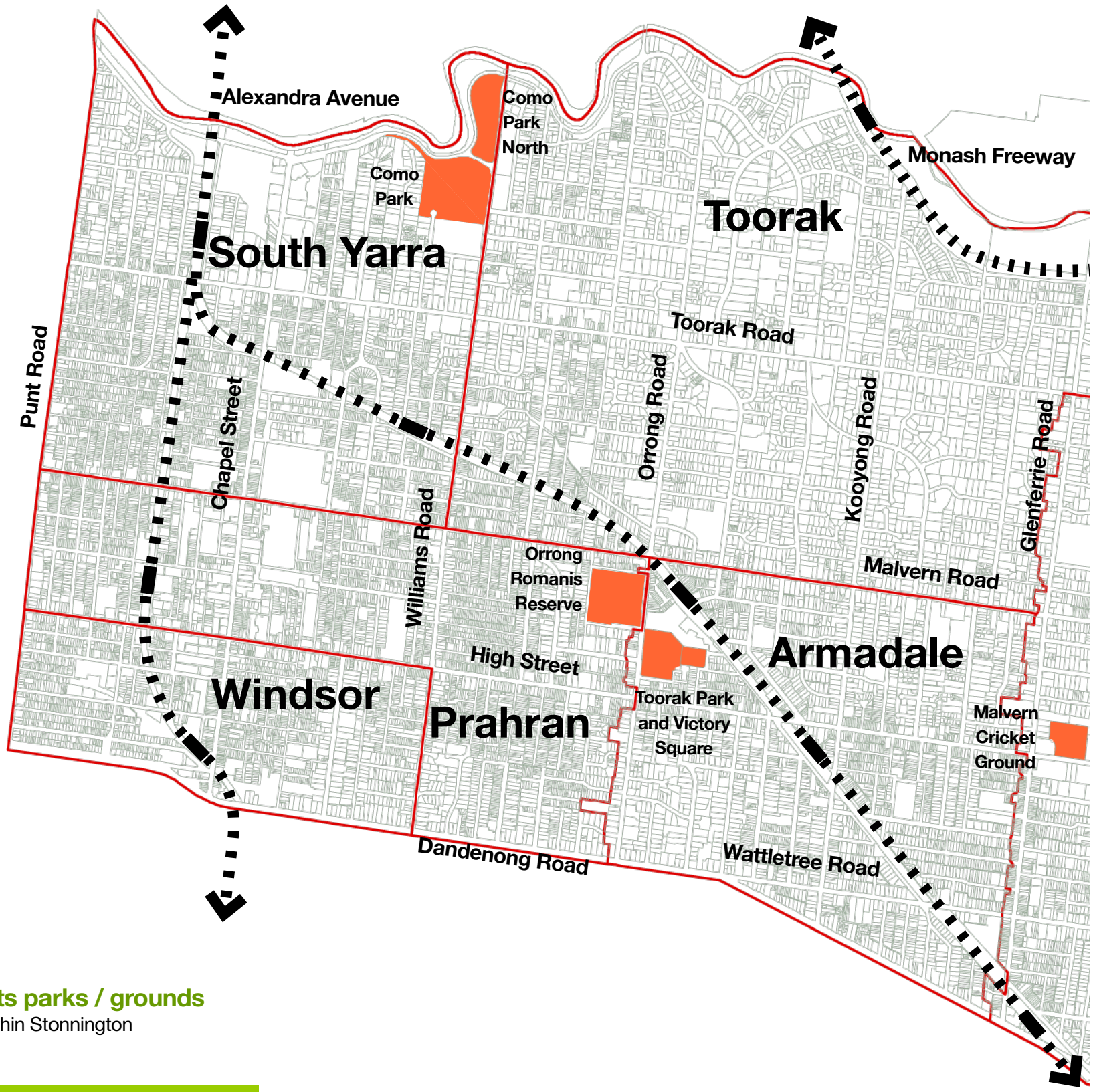


Figure 7 – Main sports parks / grounds
Mapping of sports parks within Stonnington

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Railway line/station

Main sports parks and grounds

- Como Park, South Yarra
- Como Park North, South Yarra
- Orrong Romanis Reserve, Prahran
- Toorak Park, Toorak
- Malvern Cricket Ground, Malvern
- Robert Menzies Reserve, Malvern
- Gardiner Park,Glen Iris
- TH King Oval, Glen Iris
- Central Park, Malvern East
- Waverley Oval, Malvern East
- Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park
- Malvern Valley Public Golf Course
- Darling Park, Malvern East
- Kooyong Park, Kooyong

Kooyong
Kooyong Park
Robert Menzies Reserve
Monash Freeway
Gardiner Park
Malvern Road
Glen Iris
Malvern
TH King Oval
Wattletree Road
Central Park
Toorong Road
Burke Road
Darling Park
Malvern Valley Public Golf Course
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Waverley Oval
Chadstone Road
Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park
Warrigal Road
Dandenong Road

Figure 8 – Green space types (main functions only)
Mapping of green space within Stonnington*

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Parks and reserves
- Historical parks
- Sports parks / grounds
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces

* This plan highlights only the main function of each space. Many spaces in Stonnington have mixed functions. For example Como Park is both a historical park and a sports park and Orrong Romanis Reserve is both a sports park and a reserve.

Kooyong
Kooyong Park
Robert Menzies Reserve
Monash Freeway
Gardiner Park
Malvern Road
Glenburn Bend Park
Malvern Public Gardens
Glen Iris
Malvern
TH King Oval
Wattletree Road
Toorong Road
Central Park
Hedgeley Dene Gardens
Darling Park
Malvern Valley Public Golf Course
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Ardrie Park
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Waverley Oval
Phoenix Park
Urban Forest Reserve
Chadstone Road
Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park
Caulfield Racecourse
Dandenong Road
Warrigal Road

2.4 LINKS

Refer to Figure 9.

Indicative images of links

Links are the less obvious public realm type. They are generally long, linear and narrow spaces that form important pedestrian, cycle and natural links through the municipality. This Strategy identifies two major link scales: large-scale council-wide links (and those that interconnect with councils) and smaller inter-neighbourhood links. They contribute to the permeability and walkability of each precinct, particularly when providing pedestrian/cyclist access to larger open spaces and main commercial streets.

2.4.1 Types of links

Stonnington's primary types of links are:

- Green and blue links
- Infrastructure links
- Bike lanes and shared pathways links
- Pedestrian links

Green and blue links

Green and blue links are generally larger scale links, which are made up of interconnecting green spaces and waterways. Stonnington has two perimeter waterways, the Yarra River and Gardiners Creek . The management and development of these links needs to be in cooperation with adjacent Councils and other stakeholder authorities (e.g. Melbourne Water and Parks Victoria). They are best managed as inter-linking spaces, rather than as independent and individual spaces.

Stonnington's major green and blue links

- Yarra River – This is the largest waterway link for eastern Melbourne and provides a significant ecological and recreational link across the northern end of Stonnington. It also provides local open space for the adjacent suburbs of South Yarra and Toorak. This link is important as it is a primary link between Stonnington and adjacent suburbs
- Malvern East drainage corridor – This creekline is predominantly underground as it passes through Stonnington. It links Princes Highway to the Monash Freeway/Gardiners Creek link. This path also links with the paths in Glen Eira municipality
- Urban Forest – This is the northern part of a longer green link connecting to the south to Boyd Park (Glen Eira Council), and which intermittently (no formal link) links with Gardiners Creek at the northern end
- Gardiners Creek – This forms Stonnington's eastern boundary, is the longest waterway link in Stonnington and provides a significant ecological and recreational link for Stonnington residents. It includes the Glen Iris Park wetlands and Glenburn Bend Park. Its primary value is ecological, with links for pedestrian and cyclist connections and sport. This path also links with the paths in the Monash and Boroondara municipalities

Infrastructure links

Stonnington is criss-crossed by three railway lines that provide good access to the public transport network. The eastern edge of Stonnington is bordered by the Monash Freeway, the Glen Waverley railway line and Gardiners Creek.

The railway lines provide excellent public transport as well as adjacent, but interrupted, linear space for pedestrian and cycle use. It is important that Council and the relevant railway authorities negotiate the extensions of these links. Remnant vegetation within Road such as the Monash Freeway and Railway Corridors across the City would also benefit from similar cooperative management.

Stonnington's infrastructure links

- Sandringham, Dandenong and Glen Waverley railway lines
- Monash Freeway – There is a shared pathway and vegetation link along the south of the Monash Freeway, between Warrigal Road and East Malvern Station (where it joins with the Gardiners Creek shared pathway)

Bike lanes and shared pathways links

Bike links and shared pathways have been increasing in Stonnington over the last ten years. There has been an increase in bike lanes across metropolitan Melbourne and the network is growing to accommodate and encourage further use. In Stonnington, the creation of bike links is informed by Stonnington's Bicycle Strategy, Parks Victoria's Linking People and Places Strategy and the Inner Melbourne Action Plan (for the western suburbs only of Stonnington).

On-road bike links are signed or surface-marked bike lanes on the road. They generally follow the main grid roads.

Shared pathways (off-road bike lanes) are separate, generally shared pathways (for both pedestrians and cyclists) that are located alongside railway lines, freeways, waterways and major green spaces.

Pedestrian links

Pedestrian links are typically short and narrow pedestrian paths that provide links between roads and public spaces. Many pedestrian links have been developed over time in an ad hoc pattern as land that has become available through development and as leftover space is converted into a useful path.

Pedestrian links provide an easy means for pedestrians to move through Stonnington and to gain access to public spaces and community facilities such as kindergartens and libraries. Well-located pedestrian links play an important role in encouraging walking in the community.

Stonnington's pedestrian links

- Narrow paved links between properties to connect two roads
- Designed pedestrian links through larger-scale developments
- Pedestrian tunnels and bridges, especially negotiating the freeway, railway lines and Gardiners Creek to the east of Stonnington

2.4.2 Key existing strategies specific to links

- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2009-2013
- Sustainable Transport Strategy
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Sustainable Water Management Strategy
- Sustainable Environment Plan
- Bicycle Strategy
- Gardiners and Scotchman's Creeks Water Plan
- Commercial Precincts Style Guide and Improvement Program
- Urban Strategies (Chapel Vision, Toorak Village, Forrest Hill, Waverley Road etc)
- Various park master plans
- IMAP
- Parks Victoria's Linking People and Spaces

Green and Blue Links
Creek Link, Gardiners Creek (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Railway Links
Lovers Lane, Prahran (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Pedestrian Links
Laneway link, Stonnington (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Pedestrian Links
Pedestrian Links over Monash Freeway, Glen Iris (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public space category: Links

Link types within Stonnington.

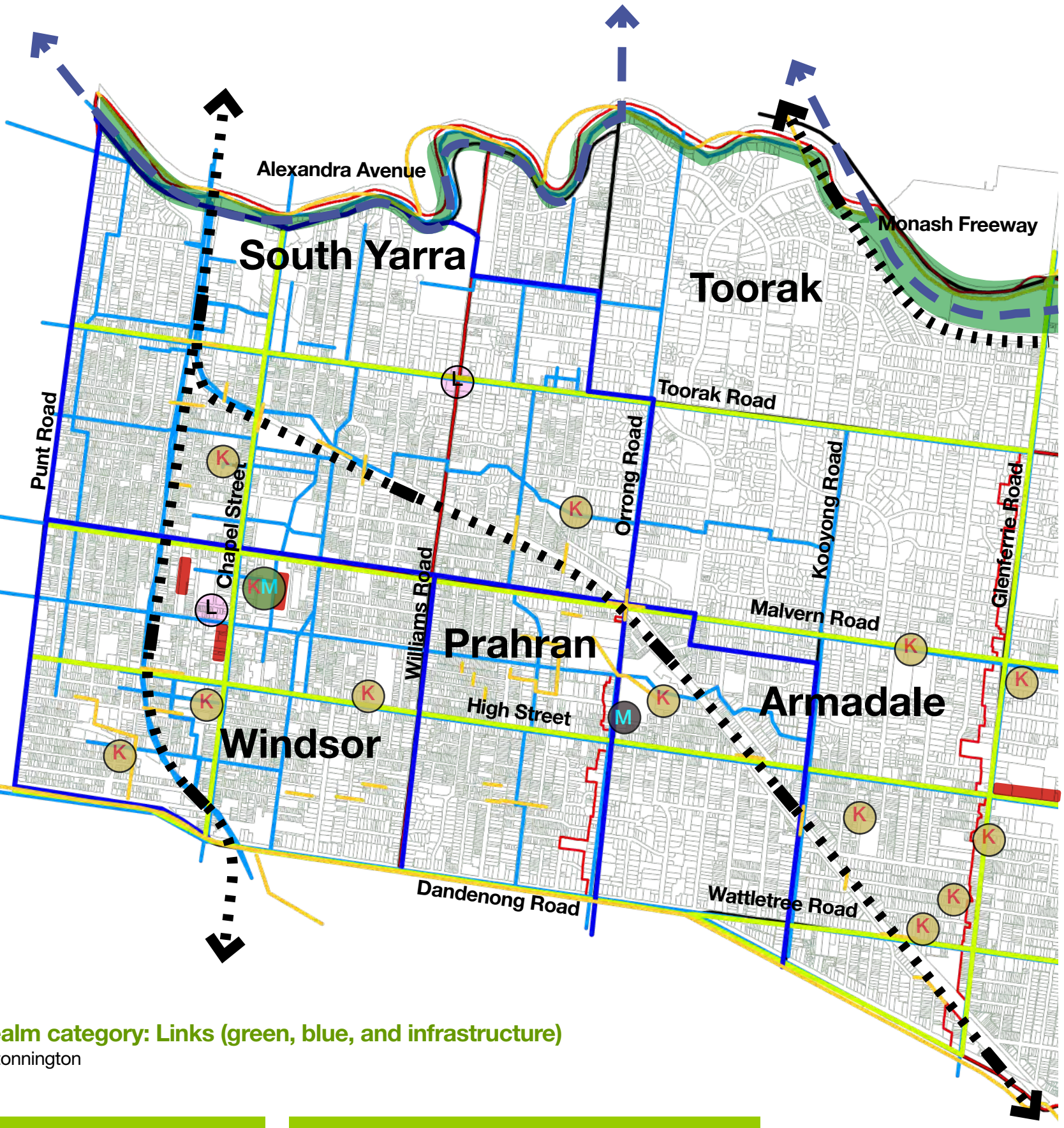


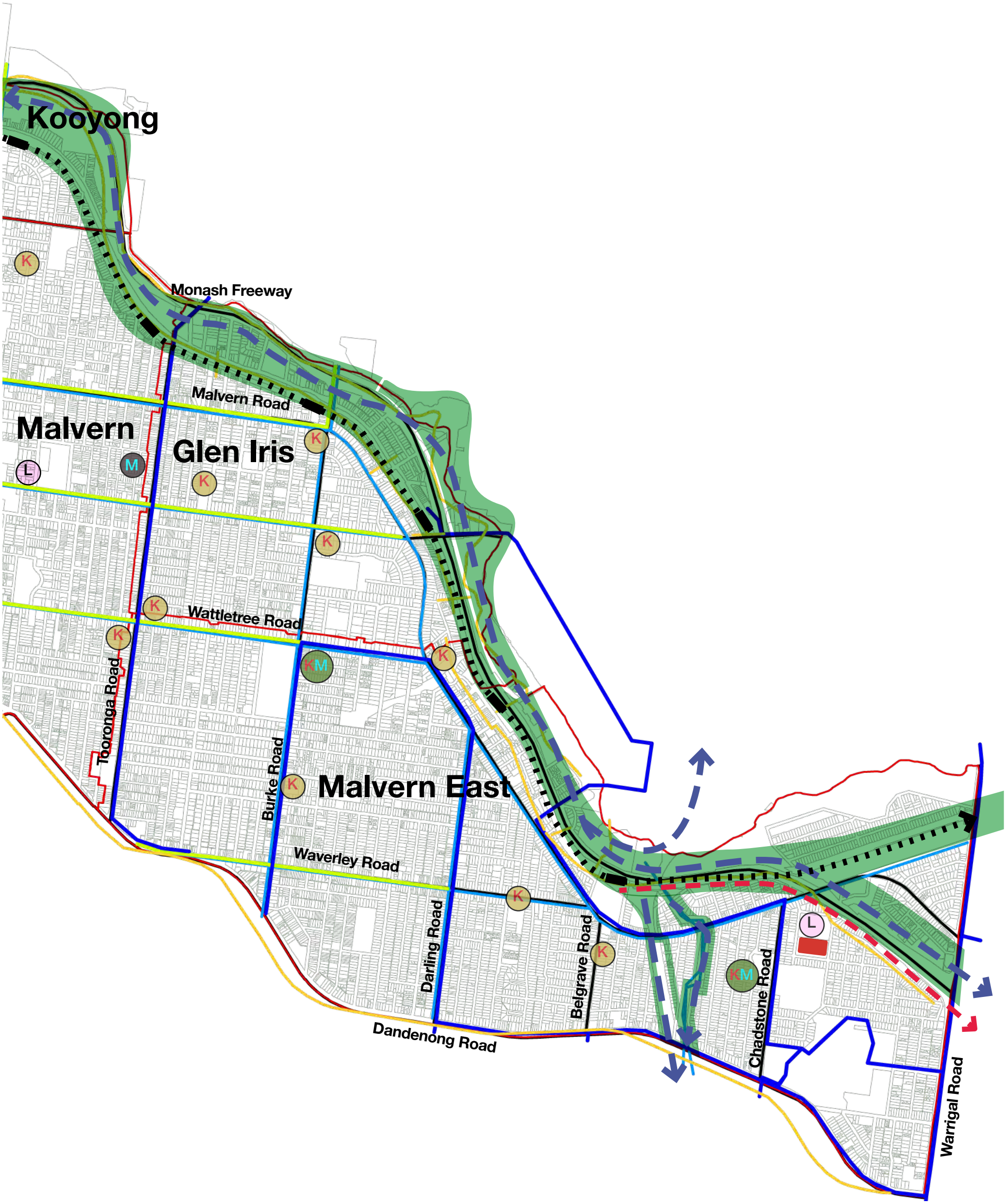
Figure 9 – Public realm category: Links (green, blue, and infrastructure)
Mapping of links within Stonnington

Legend

- **Precinct boundaries**
- **Railway links**
  The linear green spaces and shared pathways along the:
  - Sandringham Line
  - Dandenong Line
  - Glen Waverley Line
- **Existing tram routes**
- **Existing bus routes**
- **Existing pedestrian and bicycle links**
- **Proposed pedestrian and bicycle links**
- **Green and blue links**
- The linear parklands, waterways and pathways:
  - Yarra River
  - Gardiners Creek
  - East Malvern Drainage Line/Urban Forest
  - Glen Iris Wetlands and Glenburn Bend Park – ecological focus zones
- **Freeway links**
  - Monash Freeway

Community Facilities

- **Libraries**
- **Kindergartens and child care centres**
- **Maternal and child care centres**
- **Co-located child care and health facilities**
- **Community hubs**


Kooyong
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern
Glen Iris
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Dandenong Road
Chadstone Road
Warrigal Road

2.5 THINKING OF THE FUTURE: EMERGING TRENDS IN PUBLIC SPACES

The preceding sections reviewed the traditional and current types of public space in Stonnington. In addition to these, there are a series of new and emerging trends in the public realm. Looking at emerging trends presents a fuller picture of the future needs and desires of the community.

In particular, public spaces need to address:

- Community desire for different and non-traditional types of recreation. Traditional sport is always popular, but other types of sports are also increasing in popularity, such as skateboarding and personal training
- The shrinking of private outdoor space, particularly in the western suburbs of Stonnington. For example, the increase in apartment dwellers has led to a decrease in the availability of private open space, and a subsequent increase in the use of viable public space
- Changing demographics and changing needs. Over time, the age and culture of the population changes, which may dictate a change in the way spaces are designed and maintained
- Sustainability in our public realm. Sustainability includes; reduced energy consumption and greenhouse emissions, sustainable materials, reduced water consumption in parks and public buildings and water sensitive urban design
- A gradual increase in registered dog numbers in recent years together with an increase in population density and a corresponding reduction in private open space has resulted in increased wear, tear and damage to open space and particularly sports grounds in dog off-leash areas

Predicting the future form of the public realm in Stonnington is a challenging task. Many Council strategies do not necessarily identify new physical types of space, but instead identify new types of programs, activities or uses that the public realm needs to cater for. Various Council strategies have identified the current and future needs of the community with regard to lifestyle, community services, safety and sustainability, and these have informed the new types of open spaces required in the municipality. These new types of public space need to be embraced and incorporated into the relevant strategies and policies to ensure their contribution is harnessed.

2.5.1 New trends in public realm spaces

Water sensitive urban design (WSUD)

Examples of WSUD in public spaces:

- Rain gardens – garden beds that capture and treat stormwater run-off in streets and parks, filtering pollutants prior to excess water entering Stonnington's storm water system and waterways
- Water tanks (above and below ground) for irrigation of sports fields and garden beds
- Use of low-water consumption vegetation

Virtual and physical public realm

Public space is increasingly being used for computer-based virtual 'chat' in a manner similar to the bench seat's traditional use for face-to-face chat. There are opportunities to embrace emerging technologies in our public realms, to encourage outdoor and group interaction. Such chat is particularly well-utilised by younger people. Providing communications technology (e.g. wireless internet or hot spots) within public spaces (particularly dense urban spaces) with a strong community service orientation has benefits, including better access to information, and potential physical interaction between internet users in public spaces.

Non-traditional sports and activities

The provision of traditional sports activities is fundamental to the provision of quality public space in Stonnington. However, there is an increasing need to accommodate non-traditional activities. While many areas provide space they are not designed to facilitate non-traditional activities.

For example:

- Outdoor fitness training requires fitness station equipment or appropriate grassed areas for training groups
- Dog walking requires parks or special areas within parks designed for off-leash dog exercise
- Youth activities require areas like Community Youth Activity Nodes that include space to 'hang out', skate parks and BMX tracks
- Markets and events spaces need to be highly adaptive and flexible for small and large-scale events
- Adult play requires non-standard play and recreation equipment, such as large-scaled sculptural play elements, climbing walls, and interactive public art to encourage adult activity and interaction

Public art in the public realm

Public art can contribute to the public realm more comprehensively when the artwork or art program is integrated with the values and design of public spaces. Many new forms of contemporary art reinforce physical and cultural links to the site.

Mini street greens

Many small green spaces are created through road closures and extending nature strips further into the road. Though small, these spaces provide much needed green space and amenity in areas where open space is limited. Well-coordinated green spaces can create a green fabric for a suburb.

Controlled commercial uses in public space

There is a tradition of providing hospitality functions in public space. These small cafes provide the opportunity for additional social activities and facilities sought by the community. It is not suggested that commercial activities should be a common element of public spaces, but in select cases their addition can be of benefit to the community.

Shared-use spaces

These areas, where the road and pedestrian surface is one level surface, promote a balance between car, pedestrian and bike use, rather than creating a space where vehicles predominate. Shared-use spaces are becoming more popular throughout Victoria and Australia.

Community gardens

These spaces provide horticultural growing spaces or plots for people without gardens or with only small private gardens. They are highly valued shared spaces that can become important social, environmental and educational hubs.

Community streets

There is an opportunity to encourage and enable local street communities to form and then play a part in local sustainable actions. This can take the form of street parties and activities, community street tree planting, edible fruit trees, productive use of nature strips, group composting and the safe use of streets for play and people.

Public realm as economic value

Public spaces are increasingly providing space for activities, events and commercial facilities that add economic value to the broader community. For example, seasonal events in suitably sized and located parks bring pleasure to the community, as well as additional visitors and commercial patronage to the area.

2.5.2 New trends in private areas that contribute to the public realm

Private space contributes significantly to the character, amenity and function of public space. One term used to explain this is 'borrowed landscape', meaning that the public space borrows elements such as gardens and private buildings from the broader landscape.

It is important to note that private areas are not directly controlled by the Council. A productive dialogue between Council planning and new development is encouraged to ensure development contributes to quality and experience of public space.

The emerging issues discussed below are significant as they contribute to the future shape of the public realm.

Private–public pedestrian links
These include pedestrian path links through private developments and ensure pedestrian connectivity is maintained or enhanced in the area.

The private forest
Mature trees within private gardens contribute significantly to Stonnington's green character. Their value to the public realm should not be overlooked.

Vertical green walls and green roofs
Green walls (vegetation grown specifically on walls) and green roofs on private buildings that are highly visible to the broader public contribute to the amenity of the public realm. Green walls and roofs are increasingly being used in new developments to improve the sustainability of buildings and their public interface. In dense urban areas, these green elements provide a new form of city greening.

Landscape setbacks
Setbacks occur where the lower floor of a building is set back from the property line along the street frontage, providing additional green space. Setbacks for buildings are regulated through traditional urban planning tools and spaces. Designed and managed appropriately, their contribution to the streetscape will increase in importance as areas become denser and private open space is limited.

Public art in developments
The use of public art as part of larger developments is to be encouraged to further contribute to the quality of the public realm.

Chapter 2
Stonnington's public realm

Traffic Management and Street Greens
Mini street greens provide greenery where there is limited green space to improve the residential streetscape
Street in Prahran (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Traffic Management and Street Greens
Road closures function as traffic management devices but also provide small local amenity spaces
Street closure in Prahran (Source: ASPECT Studios)

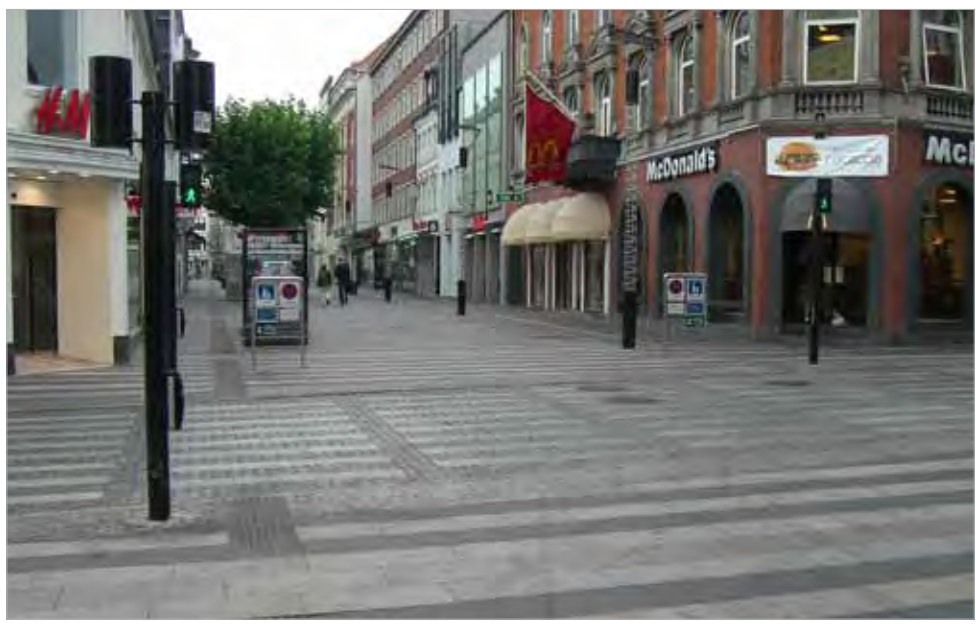
Commercial Activities in Streets
Small commercial ventures add vibrancy to streets
Small lock up stalls in Singapore (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Commercial Activities in Streets
Leased outdoor area for restaurants with elegant protective structure
Little Bourke Street, Melbourne (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Pedestrian Links
Public link through multi-dwelling developments
SY21 on Chapel, South Yarra (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Non-traditional types
Public space category: New trends in public realm space in Stonnington and other cities.

Shared Surfaces
Shared surfaces provide the potential to increase pedestrian and cyclist movement in the public realm
Street in Canberra where the removal of kerb allows easier pedestrian movement in a safer road environment. Designed by EDAW (Source: ASPECT Studios)



Shared Surfaces
Traffic limited and restricted to pedestrian speed
Denmark (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Water Sensitive Urban Design
Tree pit
Docklands streetscape, Melbourne (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Water Sensitive Urban Design street gardens in Stonnington
(Source: City of Stonnington).

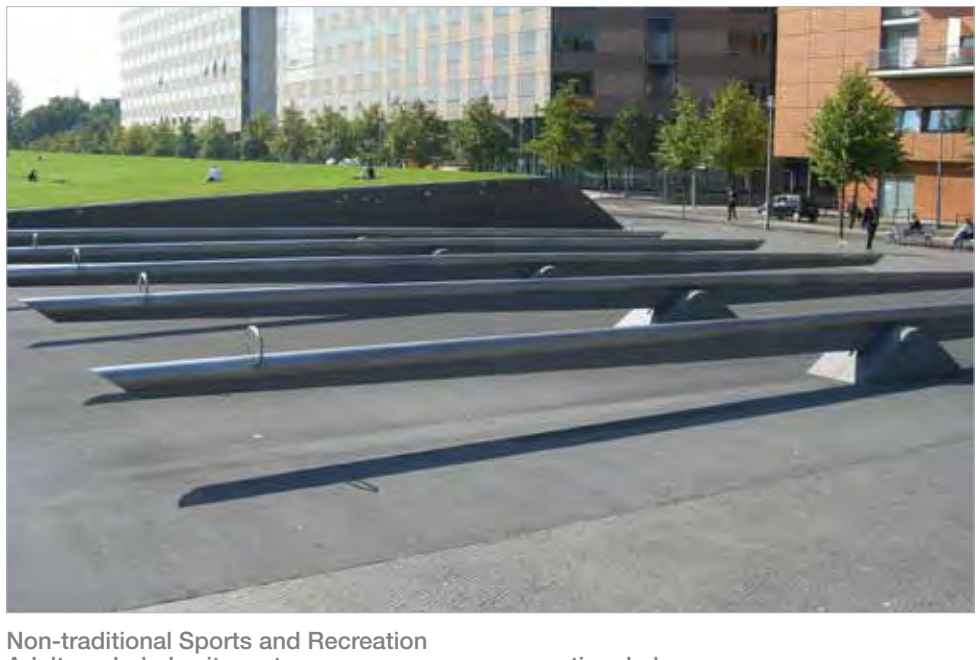
Shared Pathways
Raised pedestrian and cyclist shared pathway over local road
Albion Street, Coburg (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Shared Pathways
Purpose built wide cycle paths
Cycle path from lower to upper Manhattan, New York (Source: ASPECT Studios)

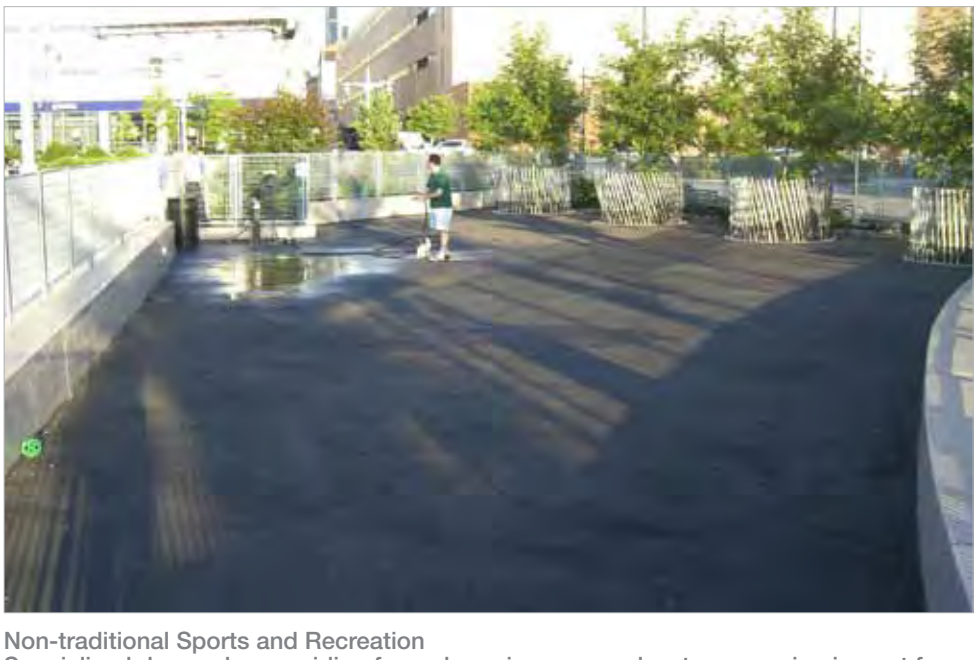
Non-traditional types
Public space category: New trends in public realm space in Stonnington and other cities.

Non-traditional Sports and Recreation
Combining volleyball court with play surface and seating area
Sports Park in Berlin. Designed by Bureau B and B (Source: unknown)

Non-traditional Sports and Recreation
Integration of play equipment in the landscape
Sports Park in Berlin. Designed by Buren B and B (Source: unknown)



Non-traditional Sports and Recreation
Adult-scaled play items to encourage cross generational play
Sports Park in Berlin (Source: ASPECT Studios)



Non-traditional Sports and Recreation
Specialised dog parks, providing fenced running area and water, removing impact from well used parks
Dog park, New York (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Non-traditional Social Activities
Ephemeral or creatively designed space to provide non-traditional social space
Pink Ghost, Paris, France. Designed by Periperiques Marin-Trottin + Trottin and Paillard and Jumeau, 2002 (Source: Pages Paysages Landscape Review)

Non-traditional Social Activities
Social activities such as dancing are popular in public spaces throughout the world (Source: unknown)

Non-traditional types

Public space category: New trends in public realm space in Stonnington and other cities.

Non-council Land Public Spaces
This public housing development provides a new public space at the street and educates the public in water sensitive urban design
The Department of Housing residential apartments on Raleigh Street, Windsor. Designed Land Arch (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Non-council Land Public Spaces
St Ambrose Church public space was implemented by City of Moreland to provide green space along Sydney Road in Brunswick, where green space is scarce
St Ambrose Church, Brunswick. Designed by Cath Stutterheim (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Community Gardens
Public housing community garden in Prahran
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Non-traditional types

Public space category: New trends in public realm space in Stonnington and other cities.

Stonnington's public realm

Environmentally Conscious Public Realm
Ephemeral water features fed by captured storm water
Western Parklands, Sydney. Designed by Speckman and Mosop (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Environmentally Conscious Public Realm
Sustainable water feature that only operates when it rains
(Source: unknown)

Environmentally Conscious Public Realm
Park structures can be used for solar generated electricity
Park pavilion at Rodes Park, Brisbane. Designed by Brisbane City Council
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Environmentally Conscious Public Realm
Use of hardy colourful urban vegetation in urban public spaces
North Promenade, Adelaide. Designed by TCL
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Environmentally Conscious Public Realm
Glen Iris Wetland treats storm water before releasing it to Gardiners Creek and provides a model for a biodiversity strategy
Wetland, Gardiners Creek, Glen Iris
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Non-traditional types

Public space category: Public space category: New trends in public realm space in Stonnington and other cities.

The Private Realm
The private realm contributes significantly to the amenity, function and health of the public realm
Green walls on buildings provide increased thermal performance for the building and a great 'green' addition to the streetscape
Patrick Blanc Green Wall, Paris (Source: ASPECT Studios)

The Private Realm
Green wall by local Melbourne suppliers (Source: ASPECT Studios)

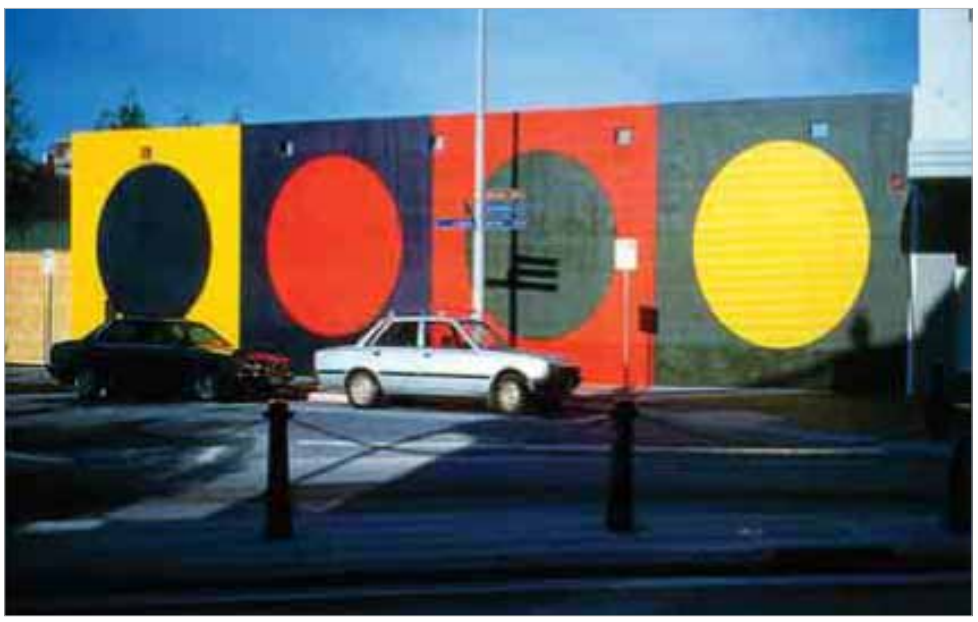
The Private Realm
A green roof can provide extra outdoor space for residents
Five Docks Square, Sydney (Source: ASPECT Studios)

The Private Realm
A rooftop as part of a commercial development
The Netherlands (Source: ASPECT Studios)

The Private Realm
Trees in private spaces contribute to the public realm
Private residence, Prahran (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Non-traditional types
Public space category: New trends in public realm space in Stonnington and other cities.

Chapter 2
Stonnington's public realm



Public Art Integration into Public Realm
Reclaimed Walls for Art, Fremantle, 2002. Designed by Australian Centre for Concrete Art (Various Artists)
(Source: unknown)

Public Art Integration into Public Realm
Wall lighting, Sydney, Australia, 2000. Designed by Hassell with City Projects, City of Sydney, Peter McGregor (Source: Landscape Australia)

Public Art Integration into Public Realm
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Art Integration into Public Realm
Interactive fountain, Millennium Square, Chicago, USA, 2004. Jaume Plensa
(Source: Paul Costigan)

Non-traditional types

Public space category: New trends in public realm space in Stonnington and other cities.

3.0 PROVISION OF QUALITY PUBLIC REALM – HOW WILL WE ACHIEVE IT?

This chapter outlines the current quality of Stonnington's public realm, and the standards and guidelines available to determine appropriate and optimum provision of public space.

3.1 BENCHMARKS FOR QUALITY

In Victoria, there are a number of benchmarks that guide the quality of public space in our suburbs. These government benchmarks primarily focus on green spaces, which are defined by the State Planning Scheme as public open space, and to a lesser extent on waterways and infrastructure easements (such as drainage, and electrical and underground services).

These benchmarks are used only as a guide to determine the appropriate provision of public space in Stonnington. It is important to note that many Victorian benchmarks have been established to guide public space provision in new suburbs or greenfield sites. Therefore, only some of these can be applied to inner city established suburbs.

What is quality public space?

The following are necessary for quality public open space in Stonnington.

- Performance: That the community believes that the spaces and their maintenance are performing well. Community satisfaction can be benchmarked against community satisfaction in other Councils
- Type: That there is a variety of types of open space (e.g. a good mix of sports fields, parks and nature-based places) available to the local community
- Quantity: That there is a good quantity of open space for the population and it is distributed equitably to areas of higher population
- Catchments: That there are spaces for small, local and large groups of people and that these are well distributed across the municipality
- Accessibility: That all residents have an open space within 400 metres or within a 'Stonnington block' (see 3.6.2 The Stonnington block standard)
- Distribution: That there is equitable distribution of open space across the municipality
- Maintenance: That there is an appropriate and sustainable level of maintenance for each public space achieved with the resources at hand

3.1.1 Comparative benchmarks

The use of quality measures, drawn from existing industry benchmarks, can provide one measure for comparison. The use of benchmarks is not effective when measuring design, maintenance and planning standards.

Any given municipality has characteristics and constraints specific to that particular location. To benchmark Stonnington against other neighbouring municipalities is therefore pointless, as the site characteristics, such as population density, demand, capital funding, soil structure and existing public open spaces, are different. Instead, benchmarks can be used to provide the direction for public space provision. It is important to use all benchmarks to ensure a holistic approach.

3.1.2 Benchmarks: Where do they come from?

There is a significant amount of information regarding traditional and contemporary benchmarks, guiding the ideal amount, size, type and distribution of traditional public spaces in a suburb. This Strategy reviewed various benchmarks, including State planning codes and other public open space strategies in adjacent municipalities, to determine a set of appropriate benchmarks for Stonnington. The policies reviewed include:

- Melbourne 2030
- Stonnington Open Space Strategy, 2000
- City of Port Phillip Open Space Strategy, City of Port Phillip, 2008
- Yarra Open Space Strategy, City of Yarra, November 2005
- Open Space Policy, Boroondara, 1996
- Moreland Open Space Strategy, Moreland City Council, August 2004
- Draft Open Space Strategy, City of Melbourne, 2007
- Open Space Strategy, City of Glen Eira

3.1.3 Planning and design guidelines to improve public space

There is also a range of additional standards and guidelines that guide the physical design in public spaces. All public space development in Stonnington should, and in some cases must, adhere to the following guidelines:

- Relevant government legislation and codes
- Environmental Sustainable Design (ESD)
- Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)
- Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED)
- Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)
- Appropriate Australian standards
- Playground standards
- Accessibility for All standards

3.2 BENCHMARK: PERFORMANCE

The City of Stonnington has been participating in community satisfaction surveys regarding its public spaces since 2001. These surveys provide insight into the general level of community satisfaction for the main public spaces across the municipality. Primarily, they indicate an increasing level of community satisfaction with quality in comparison to other councils across Melbourne.

Performance in comparison to other councils

The outcome from surveys undertaken between 2001 and 2010 is shown below. The actual values identified in these surveys are useful as a benchmark comparison; however, the survey numbers are small and therefore should be considered as indicative only. Stonnington has retained a rating of 7.5 (out of a possible 10) over the last six years. This demonstrates Stonnington's commitment to the public realm.

Ranking (against other surveyed Councils)

- 2001 – no rankings undertaken
- 2002– no rankings undertaken
- 2003 – 6th out of 10
- 2004 – 4th place out of 21 surveyed
- 2005 – 13th place out of 21 surveyed
- 2006 – 6th from 18 surveyed
- 2007 – 4th from 17 surveyed
- 2008 – 4th place out of 21 surveyed
- 2009/10 – 7th from 17 surveyed

Refer to Appendix 2 Benchmark Park User Satisfaction Surveys 2001 - 2010 for the main trends in community satisfaction over the last nine years.

3.3 BENCHMARK: TYPE

What types of spaces are needed?

Stonnington has a wide variety of public realm spaces. 'Type' refers to the dominant character of, and activities offered by, the space. For example, a park primarily used for sport would be classified as a sports park. While many spaces offer multiple activities and experiences, they have been classified to reflect their dominant activity for this exercise.

Understanding type provides direction for use and management of facilities and character. For example, a primarily historic park would place some limits on its ability to accommodate large sporting activities. Similarly, a large-scale event in a historic park would require appropriate management to ensure historic values are protected.

Stonnington's primary public space types

Green spaces

- Parks and reserves (small to large parks or reserves)
- Historical parks (parks identified as having historical significance)
- Sports spaces (space primarily for sport and active recreation)

- Environmental spaces (small to large green spaces managed as an urban natural system)
- Urban squares (hard paved urban squares, primarily located within commercial hubs)

Links
- Green and blue links (linear natural areas and waterways)
- Pedestrian links

Streetscapes
- Green fabric spaces (a network of small green spaces associated with streets)

Review of main open space types by suburb*

	Prahran	Windsor	South Yarra	Armadale
Parks and reserves	4	5	6	4
Historical parks	2	0	2	0
Sport	0	0	1	2
Environmental	0	0	0	0
Urban squares	0	0	1	0

	Toorak / Kooyong	Glen Iris	Malvern	Malvern East
Parks and reserves	2	2	4	10
Historical parks	1	1	2	4
Sport	1	1	2	3
Environmental	0	3	0	1
Urban squares	0	0	1	0

* Stonnington has a total of around 120 green spaces. In this assessment approximately 60 main green spaces are surveyed to give a general overview by suburb of main green space numbers and type. This assessment only takes into account the main function of space types.

Observations
- There is a fairly equal spread of the different types of spaces across the municipality
- Most of the environmental spaces are located in the east, aligning with the main waterways
- Sporting reserves or parks are more abundant in the middle and eastern suburbs
- Inner urban suburbs of the west have less diverse spaces

Objectives for benchmark
- There should be a diversity of open space types in each suburb, including formal, informal, natural and urban spaces, as well as playgrounds and gardens
- There should be opportunities for core activities in open spaces in every suburb (e.g. walking, cycling, walking the dog, relaxing, enjoying the views, jogging, playing or watching sport, informal ball games, skating, rollerblading, promenading, playing)
- There should be access to contemplative space for relaxation and escape (i.e. good environmental quality or views, no facilities other than seats/paths)
- Each suburb should have at least:
  - A variety of smaller local parks
  - A larger formal or historic park
  - A larger playground, children's and youth space
  - A sporting reserve for active recreation
  - A natural or conservation-based place
  - An urban plaza associated with an activity or community hub
  - Pedestrian, green and, if possible, blue linkages across the suburb
  - A coordinated set of street greens in areas where there is a shortage of public open space

3.4 BENCHMARK: QUANTITY

Refer to Figure 10 Demographics.

Is there enough public space in Stonnington?

Various benchmarks exist in Australia for determining the public space provision in suburbs. There are no universal benchmarks for public space in relation to population or location because of the variety of roles, functions and demands placed on POS. One way to determine an appropriate allocation of land for public space within a community is to benchmark against similar communities elsewhere.

Various councils throughout Melbourne have adopted the figure of one hectare per 1000 people (approximately ten square metres per person) to guide their provision of public space. The following table demonstrates how Stonnington compares to other adjacent councils in regard to this benchmark.

Comparison of public space* per population per municipality

Council	Ha	% of area	Population	Hectares per 1000 people	Sqm per person
Stonnington	182.0	7.0	90,600	2.0	20
Boroondara	665.0	11.0	158,701	4.1	41
Port Phillip	435.0	21.0	78,227	5.5	55
Glen Eira	163.0	4.2	117,199	1.3	13
City of Yarra	235.0	12.2	68,800	3.4	34
Moreland	576.14	–	135,461	4.2	42
Melbourne	565.0	15.5	57,200	9.9	99

Sources: Stonnington Open Space Strategy, 2000; City of Port Phillip Open Space Strategy, City of Port Phillip, 2008; Yarra Open Space Strategy, City of Yarra, November 2005; Open Space Policy, Boroondara, 1996; Moreland Open Space Strategy, Moreland City Council, August 2004; Open Space Strategy, City of Melbourne, 2007; Open Space Strategy, City of Glen Eira.

*Figures apply to traditionally defined green spaces only (e.g. parks, reserves, gardens, sports ovals, but not forecourts, railway links etc). In addition the population figures have been taken from various Council reports.

Population levels for Stonnington suburbs *

	Population 2006	Forecasted 2011	Forecasted 2021	% Population increase (2006-2021)	% of total population 2021	% of land in Stonnington	Percentage of open space in suburb	Area of open space per person (m2) 2006	Area of open space per person in 2021 (m2)	Reduction in area of open space per person in 2021(m2)
South Yarra	13,636	16,606	20,365	49%	19%	10%	7%	12.80	8.57	4.23
Windsor	6,014	6,641	6,937	15%	6%	4%	3%	5.33	4.62	0.71
Prahran	10,651	12,036	13,942	31%	13%	7%	5%	8.63	6.59	2.04
Glen Iris	8,172	8,674	8,879	9%	8%	11%	7%	24.54	22.59	1.95
Malvern East	19,594	21,452	22,897	17%	21%	30%	7%	29.01	24.83	4.18
Armadale	8,467	8,965	9,853	16%	9%	8%	2%	5.80	4.98	0.82
Malvern	9,422	10,606	10,974	16%	10%	11%	4%	13.07	11.22	1.85
Toorak-Kooyong	13,127	15,558	15,858	21%	14%	19%	4%	12.89	10.67	2.22
Total Population	89,083	100,538	109,705							

*** Source Stonnington Council. Recent Council projections estimate a total population of approximately 109,700 by 2021.**

Observations

- Stonnington has the second lowest level of open space provision compared with a selection of other municipalities in the Melbourne metropolitan area
- The most comparative municipalities are the adjacent councils of Port Phillip, Boroondara, Yarra and Glen Eira

3.4.1 Change in population and demand on public space

Identification of areas of increased density within the suburb is a logical way to determine where additional public space might be required. The table on page 52 identifies current and projected future population levels by suburb.

In addition, looking at locations of future development opportunities provides a further indication of probable increased open space demand. Refer to Figure 11.

Stonnington-wide observations

- The total population of Stonnington was 89,083 at Census 2006. The 2009 projection estimates the population will be 109,705 in 2021 an increase over the 2006 population estimates
- Much of this new population will be in the Forrest Hill precinct and South Yarra area
- There will be slightly strong growth in single person households and couples without dependants of 23% each
- In Stonnington, group households, single parents and two members of family type households will increase modestly
- In South Yarra, high overall growth rates will contribute to significant growth in all household types
- There will be housing density growth along main roads and on individual sites

Source: Stonnington City Profile data.

3.4.2 A comparison of Stonnington's suburbs

Suburb	Comparison of population statistics and demand for open space
South Yarra	· 7% of land is open space. A component of this is along the Yarra River and remote from many residents · This area will undergo the largest increase in population (49%) due to increases in apartment living · It will hold 19% of Stonnington's total population in 2021, in 10% of Stonnington's land area · This area will see higher pressures placed upon public spaces, compared to most other areas of Stonnington
Windsor	· 3% of land is open space. It has one of the smallest percentages of open space in Stonnington · This area will experience approximately 15% increase in population · It has the lowest area per person in Stonnington at 5.33 m^2 (2006) and is projected to have 4.62 m^2 in 2021, highlighting the need to optimise the use of existing spaces well, and to find additional public space opportunities to meet demand
Prahran	· 5% of land is open space. It has one of the smallest percentages of open space in Stonnington · This area will undergo an increase in population by approximately 31%, giving it the third highest growth rate in Stonnington · It has the third lowest area per person in Stonnington at 8.63 m^2 (2006) and is projected to have 6.59 m^2 in 2021, highlighting the need to optimise existing public space and to identify additional public space to meet increasing demand
Glen Iris	· 7% of land is open space. A large percentage of this space is located to the eastern side of the railway and freeway · This area will undergo approximately 9.0% increase in population and will therefore contribute the third lowest growth rate in Stonnington · It has the second highest area of open space per person in Stonnington at 24.54 m^2 (2006) projected to drop to 22.59 m^2 in 2021
Malvern East	· 7% of land is open space. A large percentage of this space is located to the northern side of the railway and freeway · This area will undergo around 17% increase in population and will be the second lowest growth area in terms of population · It has the highest area per person in Stonnington at 29.01 m^2 (2006) projected to drop to 24.83 m^2 in 2021
Armadale	· 2% of land is open space. This is concentrated into three main parks and the rest is in smaller green spaces · This area will undergo around 16% increase in population and will be the fourth highest growth area in terms of population · It has the seventh lowest area per person in Stonnington at 5.80 m^2 (2006) projected to drop to 4.98 m^2 in 2021
Malvern	· 4% of land is open space. A large percentage of this space is within four parks and the rest is in smaller green spaces · This area will undergo around 16% increase in population and will be the fifth highest growth area in terms of population · It has the third highest area per person in Stonnington at 13.07 m^2 (2006) projected to drop to 11.22 m^2 in 2021
Toorak / Kooyong	· 4% of land is open space. A large percentage of this space is located to the east side of the railway and freeway and along the Yarra River · This area will undergo around 21% increase in population and will be the lowest growth area in terms of population · It has the fourth highest area per person in Stonnington at 12.89 m^2 (2006) projected to drop to 10.67 m^2 in 2021

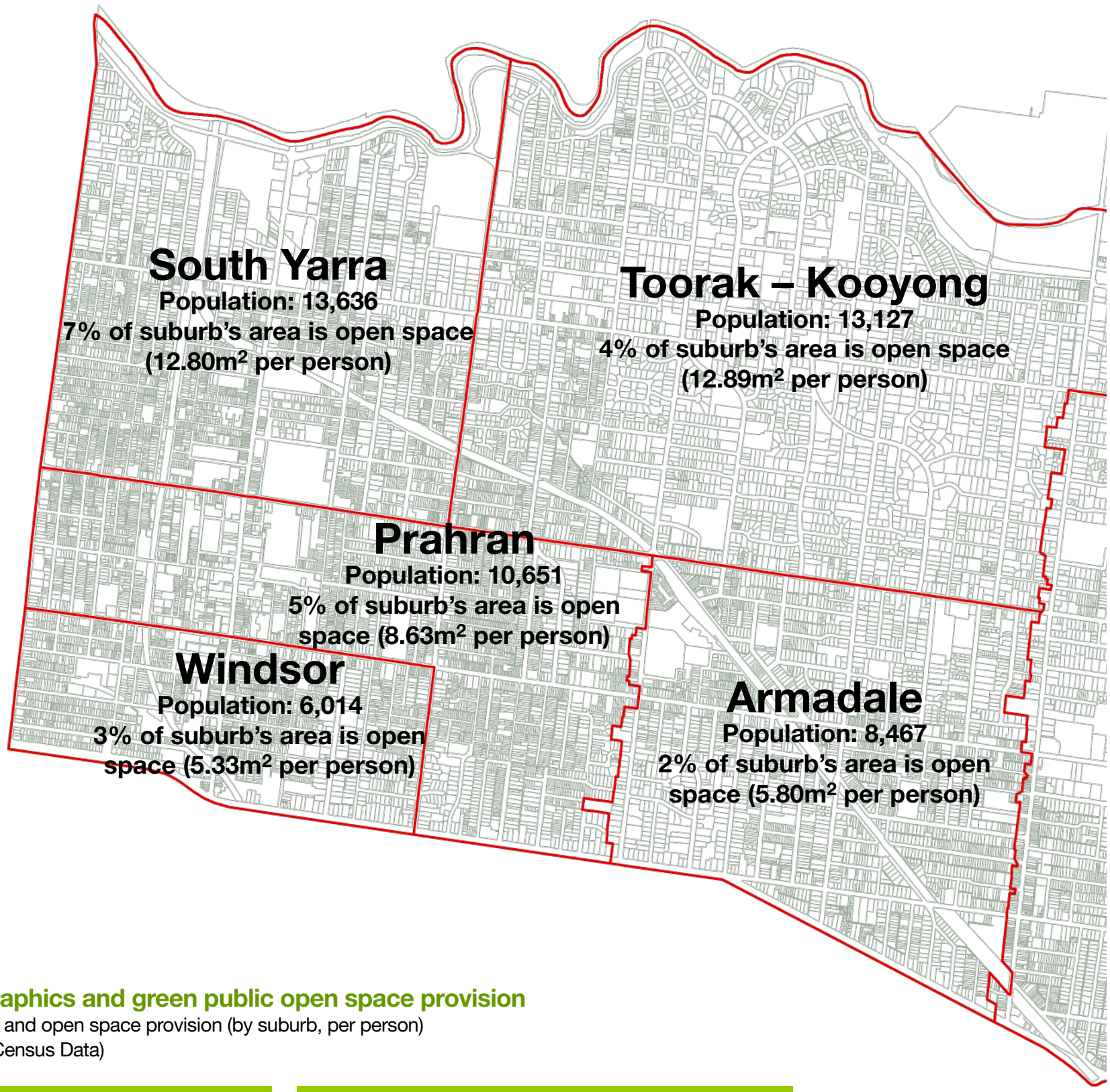


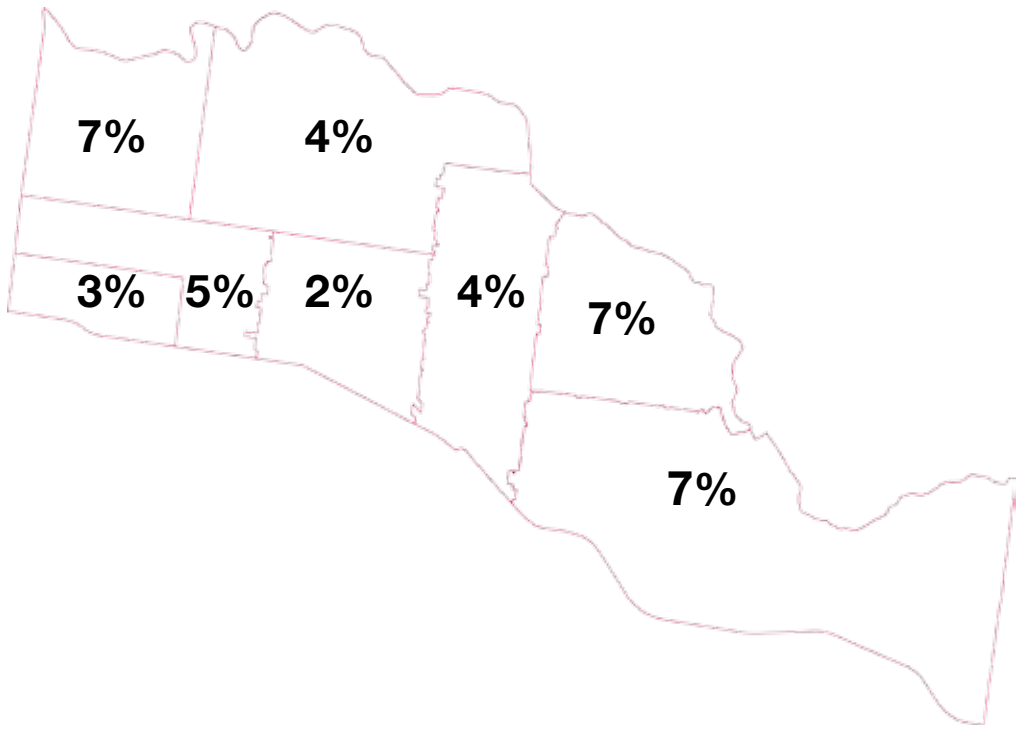
Figure 10 – Demographics and green public open space provision
Mapping of demographics and open space provision (by suburb, per person) within Stonnington (2006 Census Data)

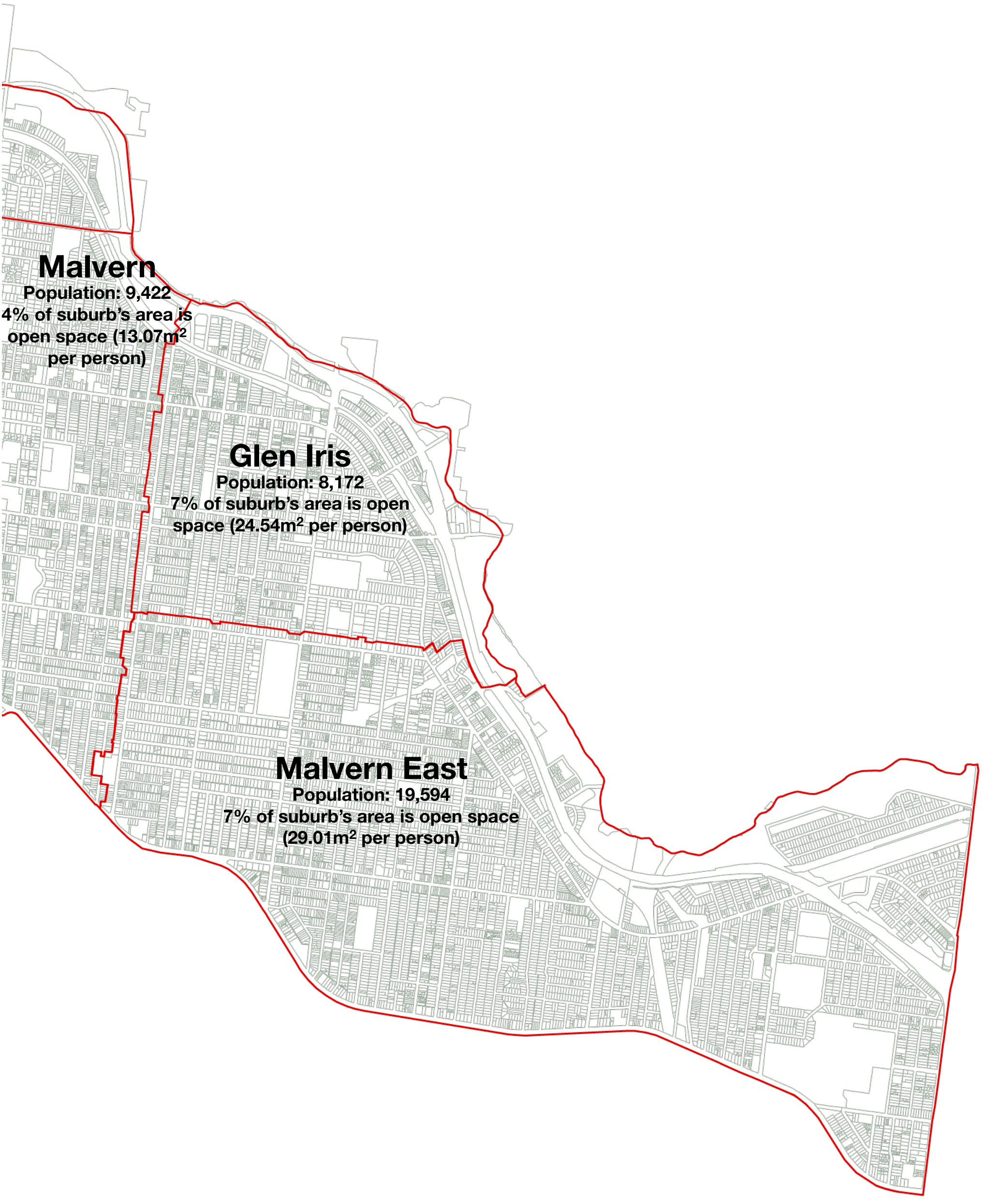
Legend

Precinct boundaries

Existing conditions

Stonnington's percentage of green public open space relative to its overall area by suburb.




Malvern
Population: 9,422
4% of suburb's area is open space (13.07m² per person)
Glen Iris
Population: 8,172
7% of suburb's area is open space (24.54m² per person)
Malvern East
Population: 19,594
7% of suburb's area is open space (29.01m² per person)

3.5 BENCHMARK: CATCHMENTS

Refer to Figure 12 Catchment hierarchy.

How large a community should public spaces service?
The designation of public spaces (for green spaces) requires consideration of catchments to determine the amount of people, and types of age groups the space may service, and if the users are local or part of the wider community.

There is a general correlation between the size of the space and the scale of catchment it can service. A regional space is normally a larger park allowing multiple activities and serving a wider community; while a local space usually services the immediate residents.

The catchment hierarchy used in this Strategy is consistent with the primary State Government references: Guide for Urban Open Space (Ministry for Planning and Environment, 1989) and the Victorian Planning Provisions. While the Victorian Planning Provisions are explicit in the delivery of public space in new suburbs, there is no prescribed standard for established inner urban areas.

3.5.1 Catchment hierarchy for green spaces

Drawing on these sources and the existing Stonnington Open Space Strategy, the catchment hierarchy for Stonnington's green spaces is proposed in the table below.

Catchment hierarchy for green spaces

Catchment hierarchy	Definition	Minimum size (ha)	Type of activity
Regional	Visited and utilised by people from all over Melbourne. Technically none in Stonnington, but a few nearby that service the residents of Stonnington.	5.0 + Large scale spaces	Active and passive
City-wide	Used by residents from all over and outside the municipality.	All scales	Active and passive
Neighbourhood	Used by people within the precinct.	1.0	Active and passive
Local	Has a smaller catchment of the surrounding residential blocks.	0.4	Social, family, recreation

(Sources: Guide for Urban Open Space [Ministry for Planning and Environment, 1989] and the Victorian Planning Provisions)

Observations

- Reviewing the number and location of the types of public green spaces across Stonnington reveals there are no regional parks within the municipality. However, regional parks exist in adjacent areas to Stonnington, such as Fawkner Park and the Royal Botanic Gardens
- There are spaces in Stonnington that are smaller than regional parks (as defined by State Government and Parks Victoria standards) but attract regional visitors. For example Como Park and Central Park
- The other three categories of green space are generally well balanced and evenly distributed across the municipality
- It is not imperative for Council to pursue a regional size park in Stonnington – there are many regional parks available to Stonnington residents in close proximity and there is limited land available that could be designated as a regional park

3.6 BENCHMARK: DISTRIBUTION AND ACCESSIBILITY

Are the spaces in the right location?
The Victoria Planning Provisions is the key policy document relating to the distribution of public spaces in Victoria. This is a state-wide reference document from which planning schemes are sourced and constructed. The most relevant provision for this Strategy is Clause 56.05 Urban Landscape. The policy outlines objectives relating to the integrated urban landscape (Clause 56.05-1) and public open space provision (Clause 56.05-2).

A key objective under Integrated Urban Landscape (56.05-1) is:
To provide attractive and continuous landscaping in street and public open spaces that contribute to the character and identity of new neighbourhoods and urban places or to existing or preferred neighbourhood character in existing urban areas.

Other objectives of this policy include the provision of links between open spaces, and ensuring public open space is situated in convenient locations and is of appropriate quality and quantity to meet the needs of the community.

Benchmarks of accessibility of public green spaces to residents

Type	Accessible to residents
Regional	Within a 2 kilometre range; visited and utilised by people from all over Melbourne
City-wide	Visited by people from the whole municipality
Neighbourhood	Within 500 metres safe walking distance; used by people within the precinct or suburb
Local	Within 150–300 metres safe walking distance; generally a small space with a smaller catchment of the immediate surrounding community
Pedestrian and Bike Trail (off road)	Within an approximate 3 minute walk of all residences

(Sources: Guide for Urban Open Space [Ministry for Planning and Environment, 1989], the Victorian Planning Provisions and the Stonnington Open Space Strategy, 2000)

3.6.1 Distribution hierarchy for green spaces

Refer to Figure 12 Catchment hierarchy, and Figure 13, Gaps in catchment benchmark.

Note: City-wide open space types have been mapped with a 500 metre catchment as they perform neighbourhood as well as city-wide service.

Observations
The main under-serviced areas include:

- Toorak (the south and south-east areas of Toorak)
- Malvern (the north-east areas of Malvern, and between Central Park Road and Dandenong Road)
- Prahran (just north of Dandenong Road)
- Armadale (just north of Dandenong Road and south of the railway line)
- Glen Iris (between High Street and Wattletree Road)

3.6.2 The Stonnington block standard

Refer to Figure 14 The Stonnington blocks.

Stonnington is characterised by a large number of main roads, arterials, thoroughfares and railway lines. These represent significant physical and psychological barriers to pedestrians' access to public space. In consideration of these barriers, this Strategy recommends that there is at least one public green space within each 'Stonnington block'.

Observations
The following Stonnington blocks currently lack a central local public green space. Many contain small reserves at their outer edges. However the preference is for POS in a central location.

Toorak/Kooyong
- Williams/Toorak/Grange/Yarra River
- Grange/Toorak/Kooyong/Yarra River
- Kooyong/Toorak/Glenferrie/Monash Freeway
- Orrong/Malvern/Kooyong/Toorak
- Kooyong/Malvern/Glenferrie/Toorak

Armadale
- Malvern/Kooyong/High/Glenferrie
- Triangle between the railway line and Dandenong Road

Malvern
- Glenferrie/Wattletree/Tooronga/High

Glen Iris
- High/Burke/Wattletree /Malvern

Malvern East
- Central Park Road/Tooronga Road/Dandenong Road/Burke Road
- Dandenong Road/Burke Road/Darling Road/Manning Road
- Darling Road/Malvern Road/Waverley Road

3.7 BENCHMARK: MAINTENANCE

One major consideration for quality public space is maintenance. The relationship between planning, design and the maintenance of public spaces is pivotal. In the planning, design and use phases, maintenance should be a key ingredient and an important consideration. This is not to ensure the status quo is retained, but that the project does not stretch the maintenance budget beyond its capabilities. Future open spaces may require different types of maintenance regimes than those that are currently common practice; or, more specifically, they may need to provide more for the community at a decreased budget, level and/or frequency.

Community expectations generally drive maintenance, care and action. In the future, maintenance regimes will need to change in order to take into account factors such as reduced water use. Community perceptions of parks may have to shift from perpetual green lawns to brown lawns in summer and garden beds containing drought-tolerant plants. This is not to suggest that historic parks will be extensively modified to suit drier conditions.

The table below illustrates how the type of public space dictates the level of maintenance.

Maintenance ranking of public spaces

Type of public spaces	Level of maintenance
Significant historic parks	These parks require intensive labour to achieve quality. They will generally receive higher levels of watering than other parks.
High-profile parks	These parks are well-utilised spaces. They require a solid level of maintenance to maintain their quality.
Parks and reserves	These spaces receive a lower level of maintenance in comparison to the above categories.
Natural environmental parks	These spaces receive a lower level of maintenance in comparison to the significant and high-profile parks but require specific conservation maintenance regimes.
Sportsgrounds	These spaces receive maintenance levels as required by the sports activities. These require high levels of maintenance all year round and particularly during the summer months to ensure their quality and usability are maintained.
Green streets (with or without WSUD)	These spaces receive a lower level of maintenance in comparison to the significant and high-profile parks, but require specific maintenance regimes.
Other garden bed plantings	These spaces receive a lower level of maintenance in comparison to the significant and high-profile parks, but require specific maintenance regimes.

High-profile parks and spaces
It is important to identify which spaces, of all Stonnington's green spaces, are high profile. High-profile spaces receive a greater level of maintenance, as they have high levels of patronage, significant historic vegetation and are well utilised for community events.

Significant and high-profile parks in Stonnington

Significant and high profile parks	Suburb	Area (m^2)
Ardrie Park	Malvern East	16,914
Central Park	Malvern East	36,286
Como Park	South Yarra	67,626
Dyeworks Park	South Yarra	806
Hedgeley Dene Gardens	Malvern East	18,749
Malvern Public Gardens	Malvern	27,401
Princes Gardens	Prahran	12,318
Rockley Gardens	South Yarra	7,364
Victoria Gardens	Prahran	12,549
Malvern City Square	Malvern	64
Grattan Gardens	Prahran	3,496
Malvern Town Hall	Malvern	590
Northbrook Gardens	Malvern	190
Prahran Police Station	Prahran	50
Stanley Street	Malvern East	7,346
Toorak/South Yarra Library	South Yarra	991
Brookville Gardens	Toorak	9,699
Union Street Gardens	Armadale	7,125

3.8 SUMMARY OF QUALITY

As part of the preparation of this Strategy, most public spaces were visited to gain an understanding of their current quality. Quality can be broadly defined as an enjoyable experience of the external spaces of Stonnington. The following is a brief summary of this review and the issues that emerged.

Stonnington does very well in designing and maintaining the following types of spaces:
- Historic parks (e.g. Central Park)
- High-profile parks (e.g. Central Park and Orrong Romanis Reserve)
- Urban squares (e.g. Malvern and Grattan Gardens Squares)
- High-value commercial streetscapes (e.g. Toorak and Glenferrie Roads)
- Playgrounds
- Local parks
- Interfaces between community facilities and the public realm (e.g. Grattan Gardens and Prahran Library, Phoenix Park and Community Centre)
- Residential streetscapes
- Toilets

Historically, Stonnington is challenged in sustainable use and maintenance of high-quality public spaces. Recommendations for improvement include:
- Providing capital works actions to follow through on master plans
- Shifting away from water-based features/design to reflect environmental challenges unless alternative water sources are used
- Increasing maintenance in highly-used public spaces in dense urban areas (e.g. Windsor public realm)
- Maintaining parks in high population density areas (e.g. Gladstone Gardens)
- Maintaining and upgrading waterway and conservation areas (e.g. Gardiners Creek)
- Providing a balance between sporting opportunities and the sustainability of sporting grounds
- Providing appropriate levels of maintenance for Council parks used extensively by local schools
- Providing appropriate levels of maintenance; in particular, ongoing extensive cleaning and repair for commercial streetscapes
- Providing links through infrastructure, particularly across and along railways, freeways and waterways
- Negotiating quality maintenance regimes with utility authorities, and programs for spaces that are not Council owned but are perceived as Council public space (e.g. railway reserve land and freeway easements)

Stonnington has the potential to increase the quantity and quality of its parks by developing to public space standard:
- The many reserves and links through eastern East Malvern
- Small open spaces in dense areas that are underperforming in use and amenity
- Railway land (this requires coordination with railway authorities and land acquisition)
- Underdeveloped residential streetscapes in dense areas (e.g. narrow footpaths, little streets)

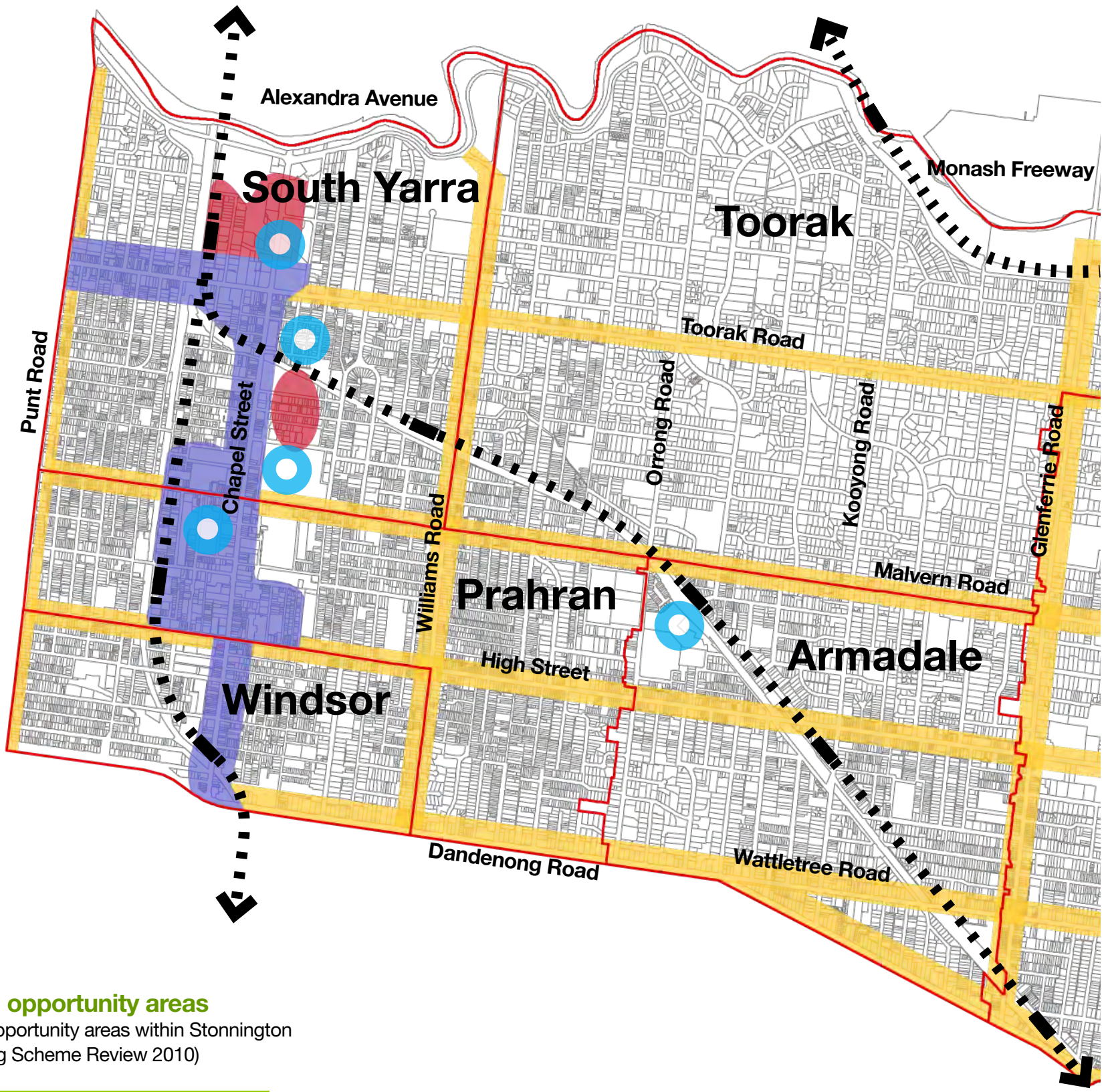


Figure 11 – Housing opportunity areas
Mapping of key housing opportunity areas within Stonnington
(Source: MSS and Planning Scheme Review 2010)

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Key areas
- Key redevelopment sites
- Larger activity centres
- Main roads (with trams and smart routes)

Kooyong
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern
Glen Iris
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Chadstone Road
Dandenong Road
Warrigal Road

Figure 12 – Catchment hierarchy
Mapping of catchment hierarchy within Stonnington

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Railway line/station

Regional public open spaces
- Visited and utilised by people from all over Melbourne. Technically none in Stonnington, but a few nearby that service the residents of Stonnington

City-wide spaces
- Used by residents from all over the municipality

Neighbourhood catchment
- Used by people within the precinct

Local catchment
- Has a smaller catchment of the surrounding residential blocks

Kooyong
Park
Kooyong
Robert
Menzies
Reserve
Monash Freeway
Gardiner
Park
Malvern Road
Malvern
Malvern
Public
Gardens
Glen Iris
Glenburn
Bend
Park
Glen Iris
Park
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Central
Park
Darling
Park
Hedgeley
Dene
Gardens
Malvern
Valley Public Golf
Course
Waverley
Oval
Ardrie
Park
Phoenix
Park
Caulfield
Racecourse
Urban
Forest
Reserve
Percy
Treyvaud
Memorial Park
Warrigal Road

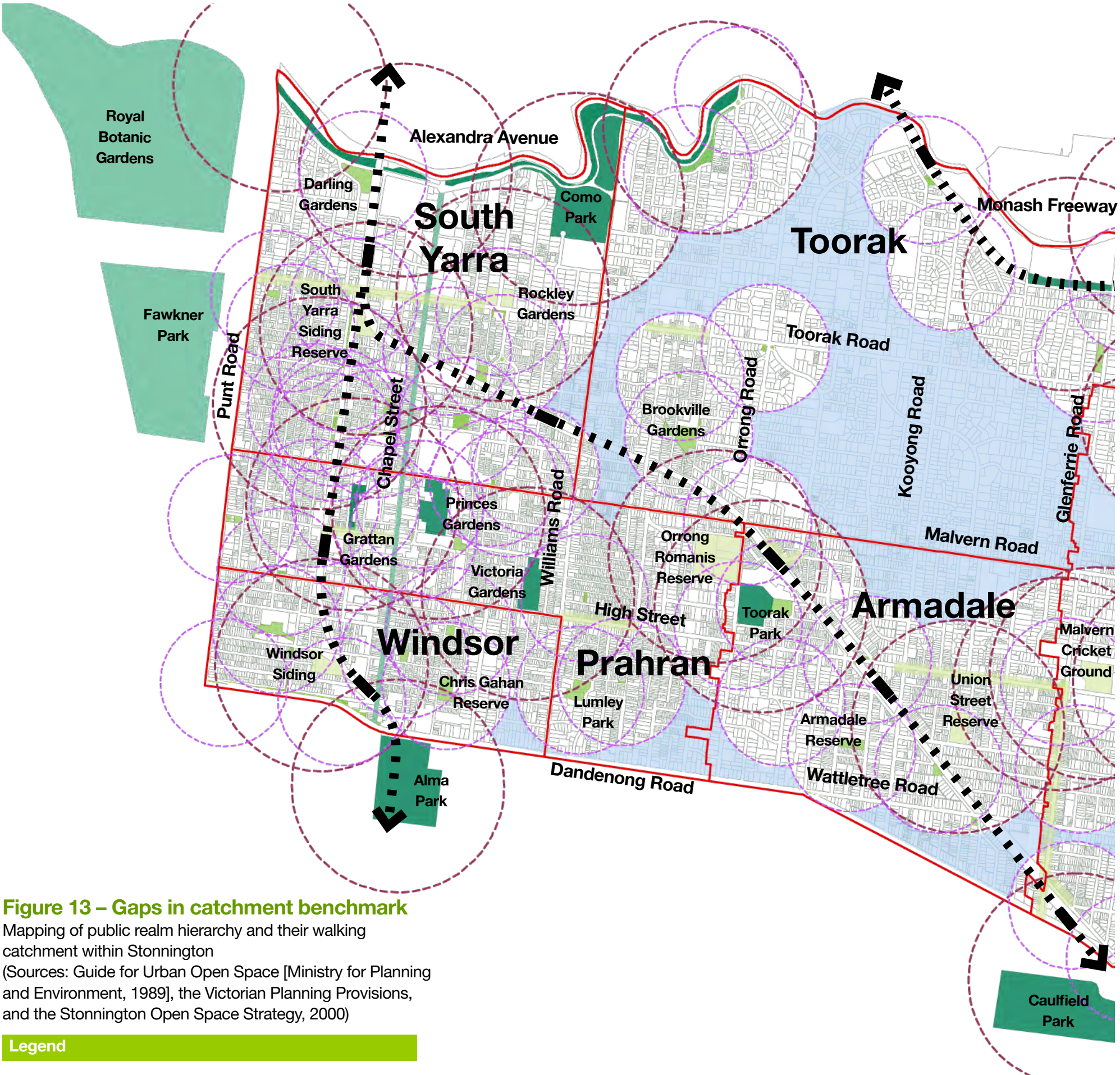


Figure 13 – Gaps in catchment benchmark

Mapping of public realm hierarchy and their walking catchment within Stonnington
(Sources: Guide for Urban Open Space [Ministry for Planning and Environment, 1989], the Victorian Planning Provisions, and the Stonnington Open Space Strategy, 2000)

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Regional public open spaces
- City-wide spaces
- Neighbourhood catchment
- Local catchment

Green spaces walking catchments

- Walking catchments – 300m
- Walking catchments – 500m
- Gaps in the catchment provision benchmark

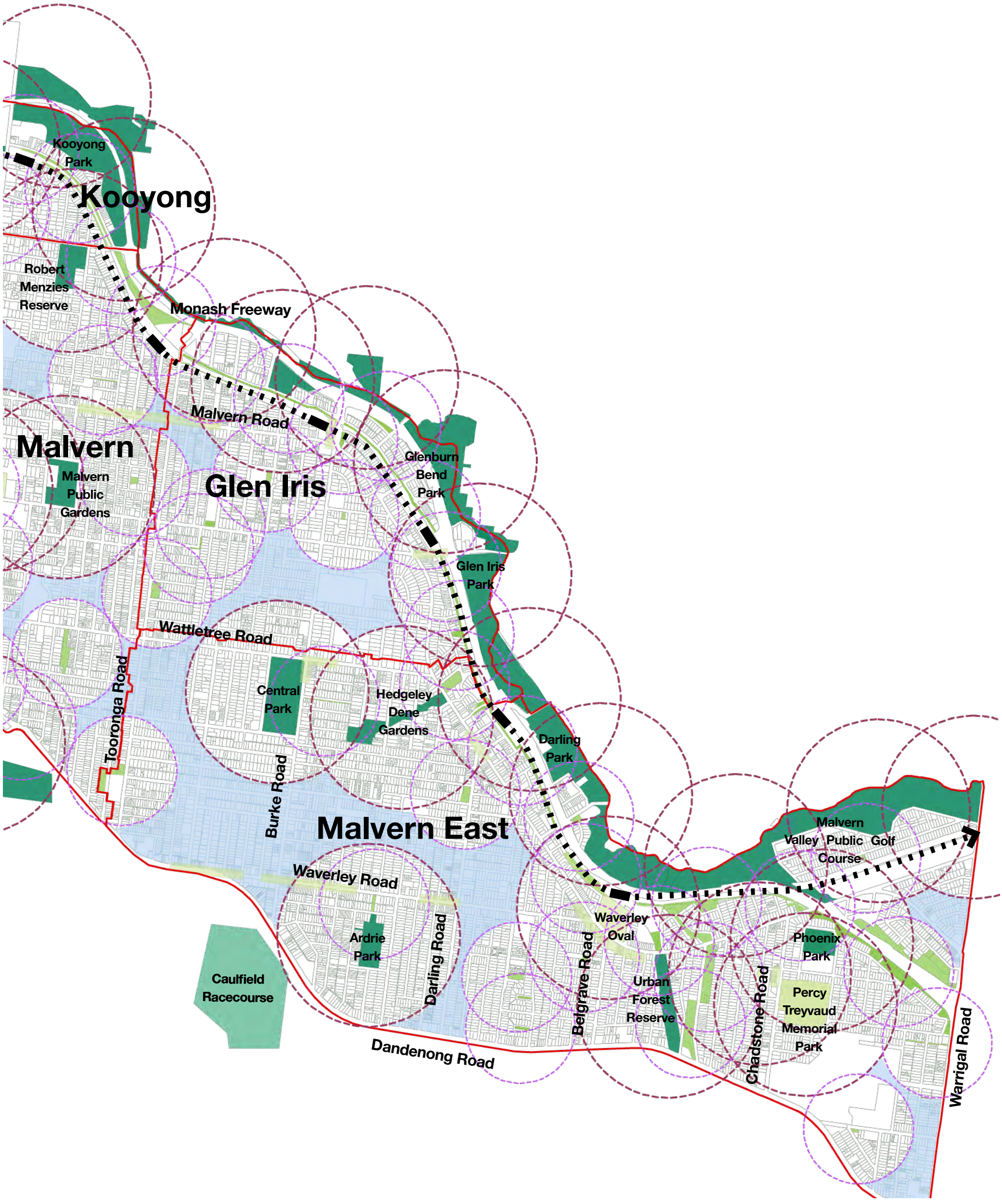

Kooyong Park
Kooyong
Robert Menzies Reserve
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern
Malvern Public Gardens
Glen Iris
Glenburn Bend Park
Glen Iris Park
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Central Park
Hedgeley Dene Gardens
Darling Park
Burke Road
Malvern East
Malvern Valley Public Golf Course
Waverley Road
Ardrie Park
Darling Road
Waverley Oval
Belgrave Road
Phoenix Park
Urban Forest Reserve
Chadstone Road
Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park
Caulfield Racecourse
Dandenong Road
Warrigal Road

Figure 14 – The Stonnington blocks
Mapping of blocks within Stonnington

Legend

- Railway line/station
- Existing public open spaces
- Adjacent public open spaces
  - Outside of City of Stonnington
- Areas where public open space is lacking within the Stonnington block
- Major roads forming the Stonnington block

Kooyong
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern
Glen Iris
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Chadstone Road
Dandenong Road
Warrigal Road

3.8.1 Differences in quality across the municipality

Stonnington's public spaces are fairly typical in distribution, type and classification compared with other inner city local governments in Melbourne. The quality differential between various suburbs within Stonnington is revealed when comparing suburbs geographically. The following table provides a brief description of the major differences in public spaces from the west to the east of the municipality.

Public space comparison between the western, middle and eastern suburbs of Stonnington

Suburbs	Assessment
Western suburbs: South Yarra, Prahran, Windsor	· Series of small spaces; some larger parks · Some variance in quality and maintenance of spaces, even when spaces are in close proximity to each other · High level of borrowed landscapes contributing to the public realm · A series of high-quality and highly-used public spaces in a dense commercial environment and higher population density
Middle suburbs: Toorak, Kooyong, Armadale, Malvern	· High-quality heritage parks · Small well-maintained parks · A number of long commercial streets and smaller villages · Spaces adjacent to small community facilities · Spaces are well integrated into built fabric · Larger and more formal sports/recreation parks
Eastern suburb: Malvern East	· Open space constructed by infrastructure or adjacent infrastructure (e.g. along freeway and railway) · Larger public spaces · Green spaces are suburban in character – mainly lawn, mature trees and active recreation facilities · Creek spaces · More parks with natural character · Some parks with a lack of, or poor, tree and vegetation coverage · Lower quality of some spaces when compared to those located in the middle of the municipality · No high-heritage or high-profile parks east of Belgrave Road

Public Spaces Performing Very Well
Historic park: Ardrie Park, Malvern East (Source: ASPECT Studios)

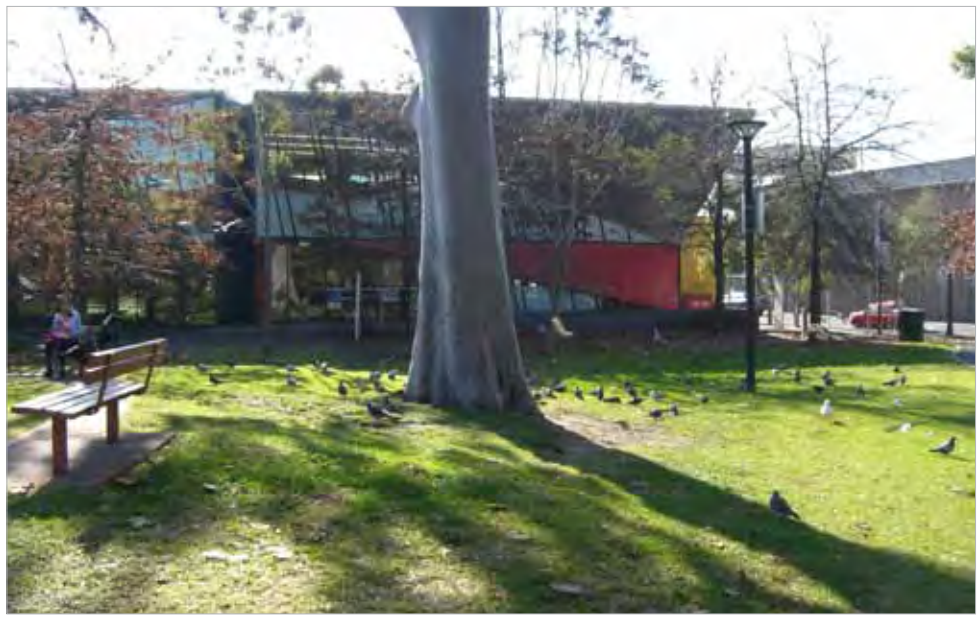
Public Spaces Performing Very Well
Parks and sports park: Orrong Park, Prahran East (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Spaces Performing Very Well
Urban squares: Greville Street Plaza, Prahran (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public spaces performing very well

Public space category: Public spaces performing very well.

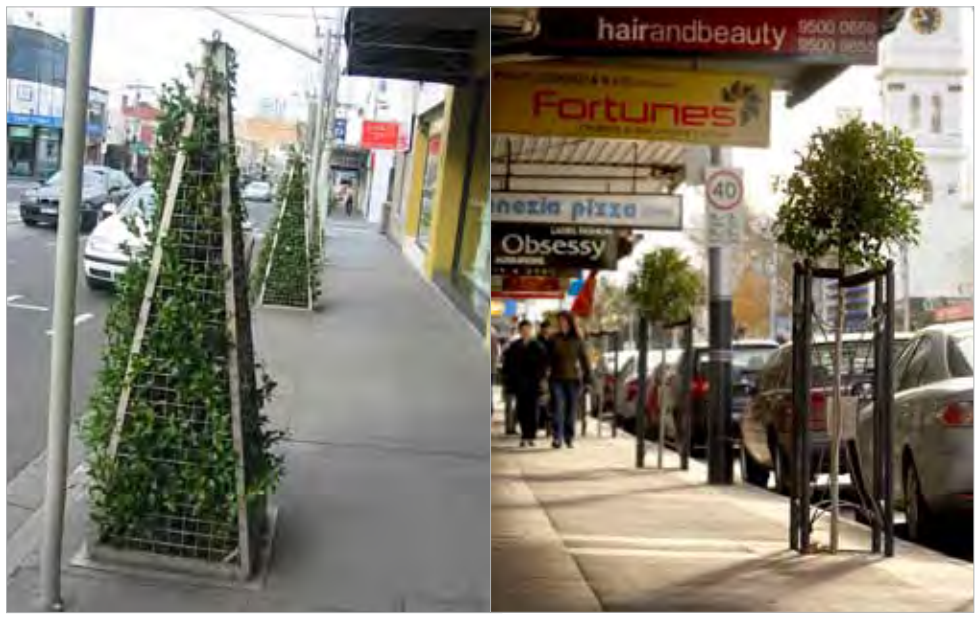
Public Spaces Performing Very Well
Playgrounds with parks: McArthur Street, Malvern (Source: ASPECT Studios)



Public Spaces Performing Very Well
Interaction between community facilities and the public realm: Grattan Reserve, Prahran (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Spaces Performing Very Well
Local park: Chris Gahan Reserve, Windsor (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Spaces Performing Very Well
Toilets in public space (Source: ASPECT Studios)



Public Spaces Performing Very Well
High value commercial streets: Toorak Road, South Yarra and Glenferrie Road, Malvern (Source: City of Stonnington)

Public spaces performing very well

Public space category: Public spaces performing very well.

Potential New and Improved Public spaces
Improving the amount of trees for shade, amenity and biodiversity across all parks, in particular parks in the east. Sydare Avenue and Hyslop Parade, East Malvern
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Potential New and Improved Public spaces
Across the municipality there is potential to increase the amount of public open space through better utilisation of railway land. This requires negotiation and agreement with railway authorities. Chapel Vision has identified land near Windsor Railway Station suitable for public space. Railway line, Windsor
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Potential New and Improved Public spaces
Small parks throughout the municipality should be reviewed to ascertain if they are fit for purpose or are providing meaningful space for the local community. For example Stonnington Gardens has little seating and few paths and as such is not a usable space. Stonnington Gardens, Prahran
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Potential New and Improved Public spaces
Windsor has a low number of parks and very narrow streets. There is unrealised improvement potential in regards to street tree planting, e.g small road closures to improve the green amenity of the areas. De Murska Street, Windsor
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Potential new and improved public spaces

Public space category: Potential new and improved public spaces.

Public Space Challenges
The need to shift away from high water use features to respond to environmental challenges. Dyeworks Park
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Space Challenges
To achieve a quality public realm master plans need to be implemented in a timely manner. Phoenix Park, Malvern East
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Space Challenges
Parks within the more densely populated western suburbs require maintenance to match their use. Harry Gregory Reserve
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Space Challenges
Natural environmental parks require specific maintenance and management regimes over long periods of time to enable increased biodiversity values. Gardiners Creek Parklands and Shared Trail (Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Space Challenges
Many links are over, under, and alongside infrastructure. These links provide vital connections to public space. In particular Gardiners Creek to the east is in need of general improvements including maintenance and signage. Path under Glen Waverley line
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public Space Challenges
Path adjacent to Glen Waverley line
(Source: ASPECT Studios)

Public space challenges

Public space category: Public space challenges.

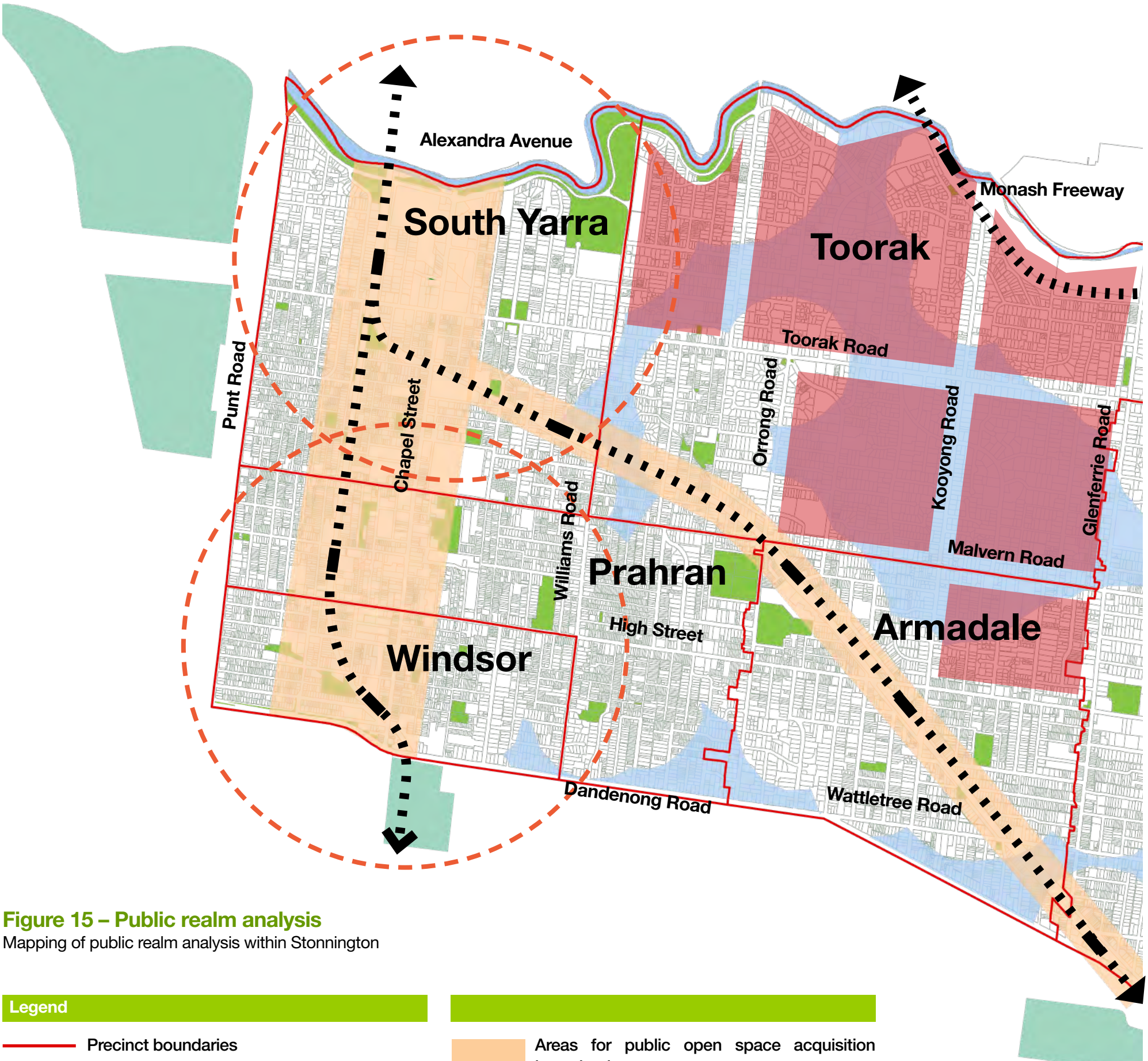


Figure 15 – Public realm analysis
Mapping of public realm analysis within Stonnington

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Existing public open spaces
- Adjacent public open spaces
  - Outside of Stonnington City Council
- Areas where public open space is lacking within the Stonnington block
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Areas of low-quality links to public open space
- Moderate to low open space in highest population and housing growth areas within Stonnington
- Areas for public open space acquisition investigation

Objectives would be to:

- Enlarge existing spaces
- Create new pedestrian links
- Enhance linear POS corridor – along railway line

Kooyong
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern
Glen Iris
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Chadstone Road
Dandenong Road
Warrigal Road

3.9 SUMMARY OF GREEN SPACES QUALITY AND MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS

Refer to Figure 15 Public realm analysis.

	South Yarra	Prahran	Windsor	Toorak / Kooyong
Under-serviced as per Stonnington block	Serviced.	Serviced.	Serviced.	3 blocks do not have green space. (Many contain small reserves at their outer edges. However the preference is for POS in a central location.)
Under-serviced as per distribution of space	Serviced.	South east Prahran: This suburb has low servicing, as per the distribution standard and has a low amount of open space per person. Therefore, the development of additional green space in this suburb is warranted.	Serviced.	East Toorak: Though technically under-serviced as per distribution standard, it is not imperative to increase the amount of open space as this area is comprised largely of larger sized house blocks and gardens, extensive private recreation areas, and the population density is less than other areas of Stonnington.
Identified key areas of population and housing density increase	✓	✓	✓	×
Under-serviced as per quality review	Under-serviced in regard to links and connective urban space.	Under-serviced in regard to the smaller open spaces.	Under-serviced in regard to the smaller open spaces and links.	Serviced.
Key recommendations	Increase quantity of urban public space where possible to meet the demands of the future community. Increase the quality of open space particularly in regards to links and streetscapes to provide quality public realm where access to green open space is limited. Ensure links to the Yarra and eastern regional green spaces (i.e. Botanic Gardens and Fawkner Park).	Focus on increasing the green amenity of the area through improving the quality of the multiple small road reserves and railway links throughout this area. Concentrate on the development of a public realm through higher quality residential and commercial streetscapes, i.e. High Street and Glenferrie Road. Pursue the development of local space in the south east corner as part of major redevelopment sites.	Focus on increasing the green amenity of the area through improving the quality of the multiple small road reserves and railway links throughout this area. Concentrate on the development of public realm through higher quality residential and commercial streetscapes, i.e. Chapel Street.	Concentrate on the development of public realm through higher quality residential streetscapes. Pursue the development of local space in the south-east corner as part of major redevelopment sites for the area.
Acquisition recommendations	Acquire land south of South Yarra Sidings Reserve to link station with Portland Place and contribute to a full-length pedestrian link along railway line. Investigate acquiring land in Forrest Hill to achieve an east west link.	In areas within this precinct where the population/demand on public space is increasing and there is an identifiable lack of public open space, there needs to be formalised directives to improve and upgrade streetscapes. These may include road closures, increased set backs and other means of improving and greening the residential streets. Lumley Gardens: Opportunity to extend this public space and upgrade, through property acquisition. This would also help offset limited open space in the Windsor precinct.	Windsor Siding Reserve: Acquire/buy/redevelop/ demolish existing building to the north of the park to improve the park's safety and its connections with the suburb. If unable to acquire seek the site's redevelopment to ensure active frontages to park and street.	Limited access to open space throughout precinct, especially south-east corner. Demand for traditional open space is low, and land acquisition is costly, therefore place more emphasis on Yarra River and streetscapes to provide public realm amenity.

	Armadale	Glen Iris	Malvern	Malvern East
Under-serviced as per Stonnington block	2 blocks do not have green space.	1 block does not have green space.	1 block does not have green space.	3 blocks do not have green space. (Many contain small reserves at their outer edges. However the preference is for POS in a central location.)
Under-serviced as per distribution of space	South Armadale: This area has low servicing as per the distribution standard and also has a low amount of open space per person. Therefore, the development of additional green space is warranted.	Middle Glen Iris: The central part of Glen Iris is not well serviced as per distribution standard, but has a high amount of open space per person. Therefore, the development of additional green space is not urgent.	West Malvern: The areas including North, West, and South Malvern are technically under-serviced using the distribution standard. This suburb has a high amount of open space per person, and as such the development of additional green space is not urgent.	East Malvern: Concentrate on the improvement in quality of the existing public realm. This suburb has a high amount of open space per person, and as such the development of additional green space is not urgent.
Identified key areas of population and housing density increase	✓	×	×	×
Under-serviced as per quality review	Serviced.	Under-serviced in regard to the links connecting east to Gardiners Creek parklands.	Serviced.	Under-serviced in regard to the spaces along Monash Freeway/ railway line and local spaces, east of Belgrave Road.
Key recommendations	Focus on increasing the green amenity of the area through improving the quality of the multiple small road reserves and railway links throughout this area. Concentrate on the development of public realm through higher quality residential and commercial streetscapes, i.e. High Street and Glenferrie Road. Pursue the development of local spaces as part of major redevelopment sites.	Make the extensive parklands to the east more accessible to the community through improved pedestrian and bike links. Concentrate on the development of public realm through higher quality residential streetscapes.	Pursue the possibility of a small green space being included in the Waverley Road area redevelopment. Concentrate on the development of public realm through higher quality residential and commercial streetscapes, i.e. Waverley Road.	Concentrate on the development of public realm through higher quality public spaces.
Acquisition recommendations	Potential area for POS acquisition north of Wattletree Road and Orrong Road. Difficult area for acquisition as properties are on large lots. Seek to acquire pedestrian linkages in any subdivisions.	There is little POS within the western area of Glen Iris. However there is limited opportunity to acquire land. Should land become available, the opportunity to acquire it should be considered.	No need for additional public open space as precinct is above benchmark level of POS.	No need for additional public open space as precinct is above benchmark level of POS.

4.0 Municipal Wide Principles

The following principles have been identified by the Strategy to achieve improvements in the quality of Stonnington's public realm:

- Synergy of strategies
- A living document
- Climate change and sustainability
- Environmental health and biodiversity
- Social capital and health and wellbeing
- Demographic shifts and changing lifestyles
- Value of public open space
- Availability and affordability of public open space

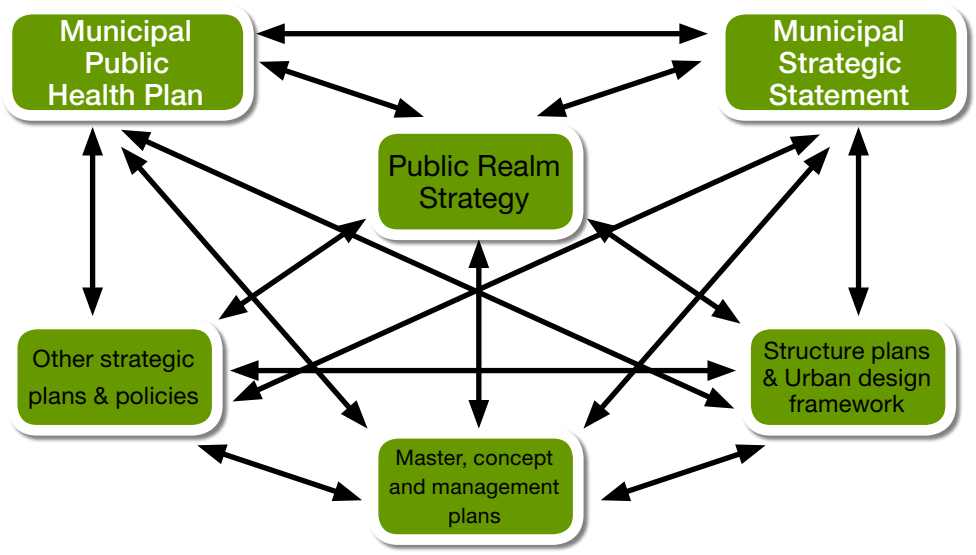


Diagram displaying strategies for improving Stonnington's public realm

4.1 SYNERGY OF STRATEGIES

The Public Realm Strategy provides a strategic basis for planning and decision making on the design and management of public spaces. The strategy:

- Will be incorporated as a reference document in the Planning Scheme
- Provides strategic context for consideration within Council decisions
- Provides opportunities for the development of the public realm

Refer to page 14 for the strategic context of the Public Realm Strategy. The Stonnington Strategic Framework provides the opportunity for the following recommendations.

Recommendations

- Use the Public Realm Strategy as a tool to assist with an integrated approach to design, maintenance and planning for public realm spaces
- Take into account other Council strategies and coordinate planning, design and capital funds across these departmental strategies to ensure a coordinated approach to the public realm
- Recognise that precinct and structure planning are integral to public realm planning
- Adopt an information system that records and archives all public realm documents, and that is easily accessible and able to be used by all Council staff

4.1.1 Planning and design context

This Strategy should be used in conjunction with Council's strategic planning and should be informed by the structure planning of activity centres and urban design frameworks. Likewise, individual site master plans will be informed by and inform the Public Realm Strategy.

Primarily, the Public Realm Strategy should work in conjunction with structure planning to set the public realm vision for each area.

4.2 A LIVING DOCUMENT

The Public Realm Strategy is a working, living document. This means it requires regular updates and revision to remain relevant and useful. Its main purpose is to ensure a holistic approach to the public realm, and that any future actions are undertaken in the spirit of the Strategy. It also serves as an up-to-date reference point for Council officers about suburbs and specific public realm sites.

Recommendations

- Update the strategy every 3–5 years
- Create a database to record site-specific recommendations and actions, and monitor the progress

4.3 CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

4.3.1 Dealing with drought and water restrictions in public spaces

Stonnington contains a number of significant gardens and parks, and there is a community expectation that these will be maintained to a high standard regardless of the water restrictions. A policy is therefore required to prioritise which parks and gardens will receive higher amounts of water and thus have a more significant level of 'green' amenity.

Not all spaces can be developed and maintained at the highest level. It may be appropriate to rank or grade public open space within Stonnington to determine the level of maintenance for each space. For example, a highly rated 'grade 1' site may receive more intensive management in terms of resource allocation (e.g. watering, mowing height/frequency, irrigation system, standard of park lighting, toilets), whereas a 'grade 4' site may only qualify for quarterly mowing, or similar.

When faced with water restrictions it then becomes a clear strategy as to why some parks and sportsgrounds are watered or managed intensively and others are not. This could also be used to provide a strategic focus on drought-proofing (as much as possible) highly ranked sites by ensuring appropriate capital funding is allocated.

Water use within all public spaces will need to be reduced. More inventive and innovative ways to harvest, store and use stormwater and recycled water will need to be investigated and implemented, specifically focusing on water sensitive urban design (WSUD), vegetation and water usage, irrigation and water features.

Recommendations

- Rank all green open spaces to determine level of water and resource allocation. Advertise this ranking to the community to ensure community understanding of the system and the benefits to the environment
- Implement WSUD throughout the planning, design and maintenance of all public spaces and their facilities, including streets and green spaces and pavilions. For example:
  - Examine the feasibility of constructing bio-retention planter boxes for streetscapes, roundabouts, traffic islands etc. This will also reduce the need to water street trees
  - In open space, minimise the construction of hard surfaces to promote infiltration of rain rather than generating run-off. Where the construction of a hard surface is unavoidable, develop design strategies that capture and utilise the rainwater on site
  - Ensure equipment (e.g. pumps, sprinklers, taps, showerheads, toilets etc.) and facility upgrades are more water efficient than the equipment or the facility being replaced
  - Use greywater or stormwater for irrigation/toilet flushing (where health will not be compromised)
  - Use waterless urinals in facilities
  - Where appropriate, incorporate gross pollutant traps or other litter capture devices into design features. Ensure all-weather access is available to service the installation
- Continue the water-harvesting program. (Current projects include Northbrook, Prahran Aquatic Centre, Waverley Park and Argo Reserve)
- Use captured or recycled water over mains water for appropriate tasks
- Continue the warm season grasses planting program (changing to low water usage grass) and sub-surface irrigation program (to significant park trees)
- Increase the use of drought-tolerant, indigenous and native vegetation in public spaces to minimise watering and fertilising requirements (e.g. minimise the use of annual beds containing species with high-water requirements)
- Reduce irrigation in non-high-profile parks
- Where the use of irrigation systems is unavoidable, undertake regular checks of the efficiency and operation of the sprinkler system to ensure effective watering
- Ensure irrigation systems are only activated at night to minimise evaporative losses
- Minimise the use of water features
- Minimise the surface area of fountains/ponds and position them in shaded locations or locations protected from prevailing winds to minimise evaporation
- Use stormwater in water features
- Fix leaks in ponds/fountains to minimise water losses and undertake regular maintenance inspections
- Use gravity and innovative design to create water movement rather than active pumping
- Where active pumping cannot be avoided, use energy efficient pumps to minimise energy consumption
- Use renewable energy sources (e.g. photovoltaic) to power pumps/lights/barbecues/facilities wherever practical
- Use timers to switch off pumps and fountains at night

4.3.2 Energy and the public realm

The public realm is a major user of non-renewable energy, but has the potential to produce green energy. Council needs to pursue actions and strategies that will facilitate a reduction in the reliance on non-renewable energy.

Recommendations

- Implement the recommendations of the Stonnington Sustainable Environment Plan, Sustainable Transport Policy, Sustainable Water Management Strategy and Waste Management Strategies
- Utilise Environmental Sustainable Design (ESD) principles in the design, construction and maintenance of the public realm. For example:
  - Integrate passive solar design into the design of new facilities or refurbishment of old facilities
  - As far as possible, use fully recycled materials or durable long-lived materials for the construction of paths, signs, seating, shelters, playgrounds and buildings in open spaces
  - Design and build infrastructure and facilities to incorporate planning for deconstruction, re-use, adaptation, modification and recycling
  - Where feasible, use renewable energy sources (e.g. photovoltaic) to power park/feature lighting, water features and barbecues
  - Reduce energy consumption. Ensure that when a facility is replaced, the new facility is more energy efficient than the old one
- Promote walking and cycling as major forms of transport
- Prioritise the allocation of space within the public realm to walking, cycling and public transport
- Integrate programs such as the Walking School Bus into the planning of pathways through open space, to ensure that pathways may serve a multitude of functions
- Minimise lighting to key signs and for safety. For example:
  - The hours of operation of park/feature lighting should be consistent with the hours during which the open space is being actively used by the community. For instance, timers could be used to switch off lighting after 10pm
  - Light only key pathways through well-used parks for safety
- Use ornamental and ambient lighting discriminantly
- Establish an ongoing replacement program of existing lamps to energy-efficient ones
- Investigate the use of carbon credits to offset carbon emissions
- Use more energy and cost effective lighting for sportsgrounds

4.3.3 Carbon credits

Carbon offsetting is an emerging strategic practice in Australia that seeks to offset global warming and greenhouse emissions through emissions trading and carbon reduction schemes. Carbon offsetting can be undertaken in two main ways:

- Utilising the public realm and tree planting as a local means of offsetting Council carbon emissions, and the potential to also offset other private organisations
- Look to other locations outside the municipality for carbon offsetting

Recommendations

- Investigate the emerging strategy of carbon credits and carbon trading as a means of offsetting Council carbon emissions

4.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND BIODIVERSITY

Ecological health and wellbeing of our landscapes and waterways is fundamental to a high quality public realm.

Vegetation within public and private areas not only provides a leafy and green environment that contributes to the character, amenity and identity of Stonnington but also ecological conservation.

With the loss of flora and fauna diversity, due to urbanisation, there are precious areas of habitat that must be protected and enhanced to maintain biodiversity. This is integral to the ecological processes that give us clean water, clean air and soil formations.

Open space areas, especially those of a linear nature along transport infrastructure and waterways, perform an invaluable function as habitat and food source for varieties of fauna. They also provide a base of indigenous flora species, thereby encouraging biodiversity within Stonnington.

Recommendations
- Implement the recommendations of the Stonnington Sustainable Environment Plan, Sustainable Water Management Strategy and Waste Management Strategy
- Develop a Biodiversity Strategy

4.4.1 Trees
The major components of Stonnington's leafy and green environment are street trees and mature trees in public spaces and private gardens.

Recommendations
- Continue implementing the Street Tree Strategy
- Develop a strategy for gateway main roads, in conjunction with VicRoads
- Continue with the mature trees in Parks Risk Maintenance Strategy
- Implement a tree replacement strategy for all public spaces, especially historic parks and gardens
- Monitor and manage the effects of reduced water to Stonnington's public trees
- Protect significant trees on private property to ensure overall quality and amenity of public and borrowed space
- Develop a register of significant trees and gardens and encourage their retention (as per recommendations in Clause 21 Heritage, Municipal Strategic Statement)
- Encourage public–private partnership, such as 'adopt a tree' maintenance of street trees by adjacent traders or residents

4.4.2 Fertilisers and waterways
Inappropriate fertiliser, herbicide and pesticide use can impact significantly upon aquatic ecosystems.

Recommendations
- Check for the existence of a management plan or guidelines for the use of fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides in open spaces and water sensitive urban design treatments as managed by City of Stonnington

4.4.3 Biodiversity
Biodiversity concerns itself with the ecological health and wellbeing of the environment. For Stonnington, the prime objective is to increase the natural biodiversity of the green spaces and thus provide more habitat for indigenous flora and fauna.

Recommendations
- Continue planting of indigenous species along designated wildlife corridors and at appropriate open space locations, such as along waterways
- Establish linkages by creating corridors between remnant indigenous vegetation within Stonnington and neighbouring municipalities
- Wherever possible, incorporate integrated pest management, which combines biological control, host plant resistance and appropriate planting practices, and minimises the use of pesticides (Agenda 21, United Nations, 1992)
- Install appropriately designed nesting boxes/shelters where indigenous vegetation is immature, or depleted, and unable to provide shelter/habitat for species
- In open space, develop guidelines to discourage the community from feeding exotic and indigenous species (e.g. feeding ducks in ornamental ponds, feeding pigeons)

4.4.4 Waste management
Waste management is a core service provided by Council. Providing appropriate opportunities for waste disposal, reduction of waste and reduction of litter are the base principles for waste management in public spaces.

Recommendations
- Implement environmentally sustainable design (ESD) principles
- Implement waste management education programs. "Recycling in our Sports Clubs" and "Recycling in our Pools" are examples of waste management in major open spaces
- Implement community engagement and education programs to improve waste and littering habits
- Continue to run City of Stonnington events as Waste Wise and increase the number of events that are "Waste Wise" each year. Also increase the range of Parks in which waste wise events are held in order to increase the audience exposed to these events
- Consider placing recycling bins in a number of open spaces where the community can be engaged and educated
- Encourage community groups who hold events in Council parks to run these as "Waste Wise"

4.5 SOCIAL CAPITAL, HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The public realm is pivotal to providing social interaction and relaxation for the whole community. Diverse non-traditional social, leisure and recreation activities are emerging and these need to be planned and catered for throughout the public realm.

4.5.1 Safety
Community safety is about feeling safe to participate in a broad range of activities at a range of times and places. Community safety includes minimising and preventing personal injury and crime. Creating safe streets and neighbourhoods requires the use of safe design outcomes and continuing public realm modifications and maintenance to increase people's real and perceived safety. Safe transport, access and movement can be promoted by supporting safe, accessible and convenient local destinations, public transport options and walking and cycling routes.

By incorporating safe design principles, desired behaviours for a particular pubic space can be encouraged. Design can also assist in discouraging antisocial behaviour, crime and the potential for injury.

The public realm should be safe for day and night use. Public safety is an important objective and issue within the municipality. Public space and public safety are inherently linked. Increased population and limited open space will create higher demands for public open space and also intensify the need for all groups of society to occupy public space in a harmonious way.

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2009–2013 identifies the importance of the physical environment in daily life. Personal health and wellbeing is greatly enhanced by a safe environment, but the perception of safety can have as great an impact on people's lives as actual levels of safety or crime. Concerns about safety may restrict access or participation in certain locations or at particular times. In order to increase the perception of safety, the challenge is to create public space that encourages greater use and public surveillance, and can promote opportunities for social interaction and participation.

Recommendations
- Implement the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2009–2013
- Ensure areas that attract high levels of vandalism are maintained on a regular basis to ensure maintenance is perceived as a priority
- Ensure night lighting is adequate to reduce vandalism and improve safety
- Promote safe night routes through parks where necessary; however, it is preferable to promote streetscapes for safe night-time movement
- Design new facilities to ensure that blind spots are avoided and walls are created in a manner that minimises their susceptibility to graffiti attack
- Use materials that are not conducive to supporting illegal graffiti or use coatings that facilitate quick removal
- Developing a Walking Strategy

4.5.2 Diverse groups in public space

The public realm should cater for a broad range of individuals, groups and activities. Parks need to support the diversity of users and create a balanced approach to servicing all members of the community. For example, designated youth parks are available for all ages but have an obvious orientation towards youth issues in their design and management. In such cases, consideration should be given to the types of opportunities in the areas surrounding youth parks. Council must ensure the entire community, including an ageing population and those of all forms of ability, has access to and enjoyment of the public realm. In doing this, thought must be given to what associated amenities are provided within the context of the public realm (e.g. toilets, bins, meeting spaces, drinking fountains).

Recommendations

- Encourage cultural activities in public spaces
- Encourage casual usage and unstructured use in public spaces
- Research the emerging demands on public spaces and provide appropriate physical form and activities
- Ensure spaces are designed to encourage and cater for diverse groups. Ensure public spaces comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and Australian Standards
- Undertake a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) during the planning stage to consider the impacts the proposed changes are likely to have on existing/ potential users and the local community. It also enables negative outcomes to be identified and changes made to mitigate the impacts
- Encourage play in public spaces

(Source: Corporate and Community Planning)

4.5.3 Recent retirees and older persons

The term ‘recent retirees’ defines those people who have retired from the workforce within the last five years. The majority of residents retiring within the next five years will live for at least two decades; many will live for three decades in retirement.

Stonnington predictions to 2026:

- The number of people aged over 65 years will increase from the current 12,829 to around 17,913 within the 20 years to 2026, representing a 40% increase
- The proportion of people aged over 65 years will grow from the current 14%, to over 18% by 2026
- The proportion of people over 85 years will grow from the current 2% to approximately 3% by 2026, representing a 28% increase from 1,991 in 2006 to 2,557 in 2026

Research indicates that the patterns established in the first five years of retirement set the pattern for later retirement. To enable a long and active retirement requires that early retirees establish healthy physical and mental activities, connect with their community to establish the sense of community, and establish healthy eating habits.

The challenges for Council include:

- Engaging recent retirees as early as possible to establish active, social and healthy living patterns in later retirement
- Providing free or cheap recreation and leisure activities to keep this group healthy and active, acknowledging that many will face increasing financial pressures

It is increasingly important to acknowledge the impact of an ageing community and the demands on the physical infrastructure in all spaces (e.g. safe access, lighting, increased attention to trip hazards).

Recommendations

- Undertake the public space recommendations in the Older Persons Strategy, 2008–2012
- Ensure their key needs in terms of safety, accessibility and appropriate facilities are incorporated into existing and new public realms
- Cater for the needs of an ageing population and all forms of ability to maintain access to and enjoyment of the public realm
- Consider themes for plantings. For instance, plant appropriate species to create a sensorial trail (e.g. smell, texture) that can be enjoyed by visually impaired residents

4.5.4 Youth

The public realm should cater more specifically to the youth of today and the future. Youth in our communities has changed since the 1960s when a few scout halls and basketball courts were deemed sufficient for teenagers. Youth in Stonnington today is quite varied in terms of both family background and education. Youth Services in Stonnington have taken a proactive stance to engage with youth in the municipality and have formed a Youth Council and a drop in youth centre in Prahran.

Public spaces are one of the main spaces for youths to socialise and recreate. Over the years, Council has sought to include youth issues within its parks, for example, through skate parks. There is a need, however, to provide more specialised spaces for youth in parks, that embrace not only skating but other types of activities.

Recommendations

- Identify and implement designated youth parks or youth areas that have a high tolerance of youth activities (e.g. Princes Gardens and Windsor Siding)

4.5.5 Playgrounds (public space and child care)

Playgrounds and play areas are critical for children’s wellbeing and growth. Play spaces / grounds are located in public spaces and in the grounds of child care and kindergarten areas, under the authority of Council.

Playgrounds need to be designed and maintained to meet the appropriate Australian standards.

Recommendations

- Develop a playground policy to ensure the inventory, inspection and maintenance of all playgrounds to Australian Standards

4.5.6 Sport and recreation

Areas designated for sport and recreation are key public spaces and take up a considerable amount of public space in Stonnington. Council needs to undertake a Sport and Recreation Strategy, which guides the recreation use and facilities within the broader public realm. It is recognised that Stonnington does not have the physical capacity to match the demands of formal sport users. Therefore intelligent design and management is needed to ensure maximum use of spaces for the entire community.

Sport

‘Green’ sports fields play an important role in the visual amenity and value of an area, which is balanced against the increased impact on local area amenity with the associated parking, noise etc. of sporting activities. Outside of the physical benefits of participating in sport, active sport plays a role in strengthening communities, providing social opportunities and contributing to the overall fabric of the community.

It is recognised that Stonnington does not have the physical capacity to accommodate additional sports fields; however, the current carrying capacity of sports fields may be increased by investment in lighting works, turf and drainage improvements. This would be in preference to converting current open space into active sports fields, which would alienate residents who oppose any reduction to the current non-sports oriented open space provision.

In the eastern area of the municipality, many of the sports fields and clubs are adjacent to neighbouring municipalities. As a result, there are broader user catchments that increase the impact of use on these sports fields. Similarly, it could be argued that some Stonnington residents seek out sporting opportunities in these adjacent municipalities as well.

Key issues

- Increased demand for facilities and space by sports clubs
- Significant growth in junior sport. Children’s participation in organised sport increased between 2000 (64%) and 2006 (68%), compounded by a growth within this age group

- Increased diversity in sporting opportunities and consequent changing demands
- Demand for higher-quality playing surfaces
- Provision of drought-resistant surfaces
- Demand for space to accommodate minor/alternative/emerging/casual sports
- Ongoing changes to participation rates in sport and recreation

Recreation
The public realm plays an important role in the overall health and wellbeing of the community by providing the opportunity to participate in physical and social recreation and leisure activities. The continual improvement of quality and promotion of quality facilities in open space will actively promote community participation.

Participation in recreation activities by Stonnington residents is above the State average, with popular activities including walking, running, cycling, swimming and tennis. The casual nature of these activities and the changing work/life patterns of residents means these activities are undertaken at most times of the day, and the public realm needs to respond to and encourage this type of participation.

Residents should have the opportunity to undertake core free recreational activities within their neighbourhood. These include walking, cycling, jogging, skating, dog walking, relaxing and informal sport. Further opportunity can be provided by free access to infrastructure such as tennis rebound walls, basketball rings, community tennis courts, golf hitting cages or small-sided soccer goals in open space.

Common barriers to participation in sport and recreation include age, injury, illness, lack of interest or insufficient time. Through the planning, design and promotion of spaces and facilities, these barriers can be reduced in the following ways.
- Improving lighting to facilitate usage across a wide range of times
- Improving accessibility, including gentle gradients, handrails and seating
- Enhancing vistas into reserves and parks to encourage and promote open space use
- Creating multi-use spaces to encourage shared use

Key issues
- Higher-density housing will place additional pressure and importance on the public realm
- The competing demands of recreation activities and formal sports on public areas
- Pavilion redevelopment and extensions and their impact on open space
- The demand for indoor venues
- Increasing expectations of high quality venues
- Increasing commercial leisure options from regional shopping venues, entertainment complexes etc
- A strong community interest in the use of linear paths and linkages

Recommendations
- Develop a Recreation Strategy that links with the Public Realm Strategy to ensure efficient coordination of the planning, design, implementation and maintenance of sports and recreation spaces
- Assess use of sportsgrounds to identity opportunities to maximise the facilities in a manner appropriate to assets and maintenance
- Investigate the use of synthetic surfaces
- Undertake planning for those spaces where there are competing demands for open space from sports activities, clubs and more passive activities
- Recognise that Stonnington does not have the physical capacity to match the demands for formal and club sport, and needs to coordinate with adjacent Councils to meet and manage this demand
- Provide a balanced response to the key elements of fencing, oval use and lighting
- Undertake master planning for all sportsgrounds and pavilions to ensure coexistence of active recreation and passive park usage
- Provide clear indication of ‘sport only’ parks and those parks that need to be more multi-use

Sports pavilions
The interface between the public realm and sports pavilions can provide outlets for young people, older adults and people of all abilities. The ‘single use’ focus of sports pavilions will be replaced with the notion that pavilions can become community activity hubs and assist in providing recreation opportunities for the wider community.

Recommendations
- Implement the recommendations of the Pavilion Redevelopment Strategy
- Implement the recommendations of the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and Municipal Early Years Plan
- Link existing and future community facilities to open space where possible
- Diversify the use of sports pavilions to embrace wider sections of the community

4.5.7 Community facilities
Community facilities, such as child care centres, community houses, sports clubs and schools, have historically been located adjacent to or within public spaces. This association is important to the character and functionality of a community. In addition to this, community and social planning is integral to the functionality and implementation of public spaces. In Stonnington, the crossovers are obvious: youth, community wellbeing, recreation and community facilities. Council must coordinate and integrate with community services and facilities to deliver a quality public realm.

The public realm surrounding these facilities often defines and influences the interactions between the users of these facilities and both the users of the public realm and the public realm itself.

4.5.8 Dogs
Dog ownership generally encourages physical activity as dogs require regular exercise, and this is often achieved within the public realm. As of June 2008 there were 6,833 registered dogs in Stonnington and 25 off-leash areas. It is predicted that dog ownership will increase in the future.

Dog walking is a legitimate recreational/health-related pursuit as it encourages owners to become physically active and often provides social outlets with other dog owners. Dog ownership is not exclusive to any particular area and the need for dog-friendly spaces around high-density housing pockets is important. The overall requirement for dog-friendly spaces needs to be balanced with other potentially conflicting activities such as active sports and children’s playgrounds.

The promotion of responsible dog ownership can be incorporated into park design and facilities that may include:
- Bags for dog droppings (to be provided for the short to medium term)
- Access to off-leash areas
- Dog drinking fountains

Dogs place high demands on the public realm; they are clearly an ongoing design, management and maintenance issue. Predictions of increased dog ownership, and increased demand for open space to exercise pets, indicates a strategy is required to reduce conflict between public realm users and dogs.

Recommendations
- Implement local laws and signage related to dogs in each green public space
- Implement special ‘dog parks’ or smaller dog enclosures within appropriate public spaces. For example, areas that provide appropriate facilities such as scoops, bags, bins and drinking water

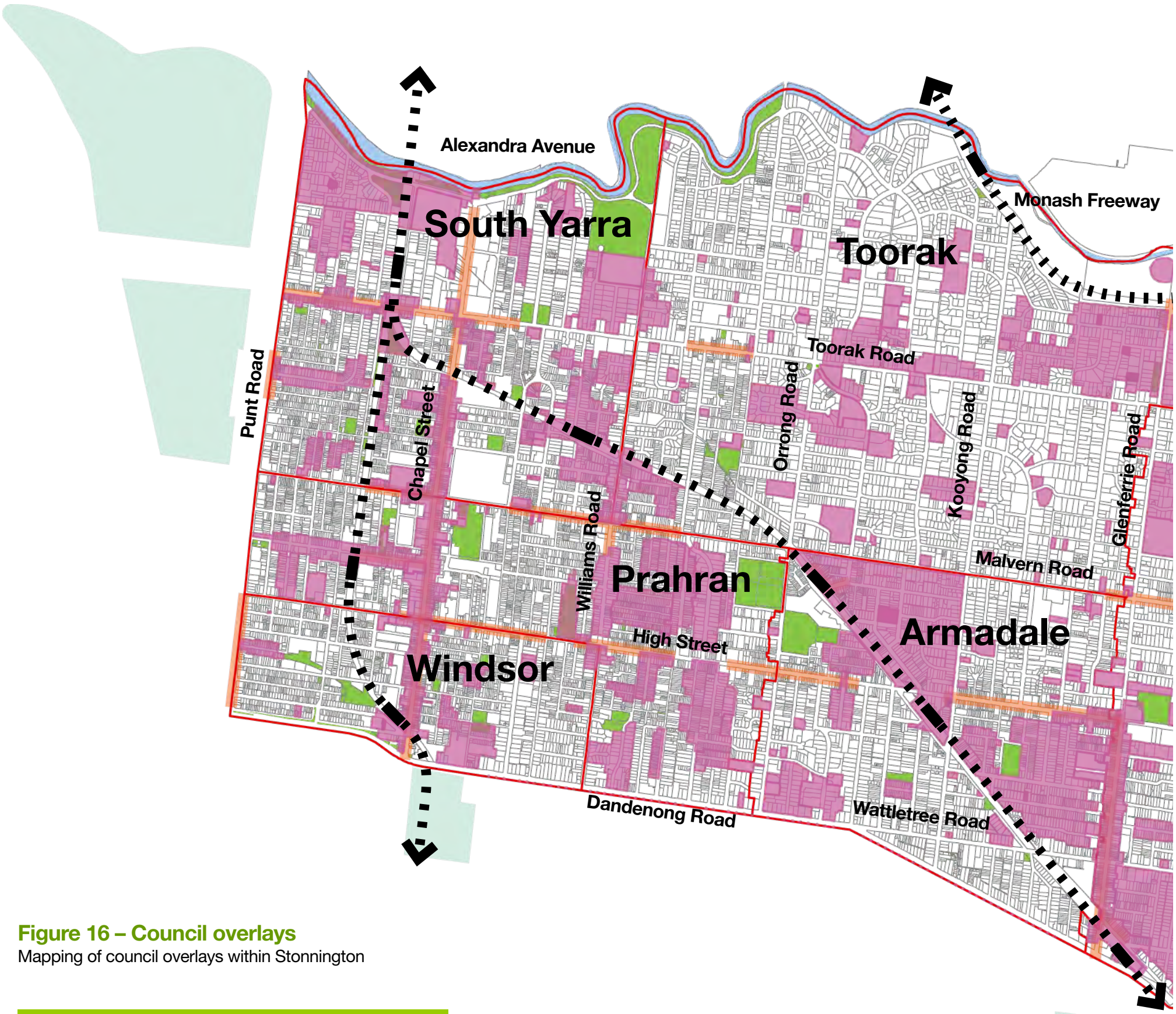


Figure 16 – Council overlays
Mapping of council overlays within Stonnington

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Existing public open spaces
- Adjacent public open spaces
  - Outside of Stonnington City Council
- Neighbourhood character overlay
- Main commercial areas
- Heritage overlay
  (interim heritage overlays not shown)

Kooyong
Monash Freeway
Malvern Road
Malvern
Glen Iris
Wattletree Road
Tooronga Road
Burke Road
Malvern East
Waverley Road
Darling Road
Belgrave Road
Chadstone Road
Dandenong Road
Warrigal Road

4.5.9 Commercial activities in open space

The main types of commercial activity within Stonnington's public realm are:

- Local low-level hospitality
- Events in Stonnington's parks (Spring into Gardening, Carols by Candlelight, Opera in the Park, Symphony in the Park, Jazz in the Park, Melodies in the Park, Viva)
- Private fitness training

Local low-level commercial hospitality activities are in operation in Stonnington's public spaces. These are limited to small cafes associated with existing community and recreation facilities or re-use of park buildings. Currently there are four in operation throughout the municipality, which work well to complement the inner urban character of the community. They are located in Como (Alexandra Avenue), Phoenix Park, Union Street Reserve, and Orrong Romanis Reserve, and are situated so as to form part of the recreation facility, streetscape or community facility.

The location and function of these cafes have a significant bearing on the quality of the public realm. The challenge for Council involves retaining these facilities at a scale and standard that is suitable for use within community land that forms part of the public realm. Council also needs to promote private involvement to assist in the ongoing maintenance and surveillance of the public realm.

Events in Stonnington's parks have been very successful and well patronised. These events contribute to the cultural and social wellbeing of the community, and also attract people from further afield. Their continuation is encouraged and this needs to be matched with appropriate maintenance and management of the parks to accommodate such high use.

Public spaces are also increasingly being used for small group and personal training activities. Often these activities make use of elements within the public realm (e.g. playground equipment, specific sports facilities), and are sometimes in conflict with the intended users. The management of these types of fitness training activities needs to be addressed in order to reduce conflict between users.

Recommendations

- Commercial activities in parks should be strictly controlled and must be compatible and complementary to the public space values
- Council-run events in parks should not have commercial gain as their primary purpose
- Avoid isolation of public space
- Avoid reduction in the quality of public space and no loss of public space to commercial use

4.5.10 Community use of open space

The public realm should encourage community use of open space to build and strengthen attachment and value to these areas, and support social interaction and relaxation. Effective design that accommodates a broad range of activities will ensure the community value of open space is retained and developed.

Recommendations

- Encourage, support and promote community groups that have adopted an area of open space (e.g. Friends groups)
- Encourage and support schools to adopt a local open space. Conduct planting, weeding and litter clean-up days with the schools in these areas
- Incorporate national events into planning for open space. For example, community plantings for National Tree Day could be allocated to specific locations and form an ongoing part of the site revegetation works

4.6 DEMOGRAPHIC SHIFT AND CHANGING LIFESTYLES

While the public realm need not be designed for a single demographic or constrained by a particular use, it does need to ensure that specific groups' (in particular the young and the aged) major needs are catered for. The public realm should also continue to offer opportunities for these different demographics to interact and intermingle.

Demographic projections for Stonnington highlight an increase in the older populations as well as increased single-occupant dwellings, particularly in the west of the municipality.

Recommendations

- Undertake additional statistical planning to match change in demographics to the needs of the local populations and open space
- Undertake a review of local open spaces and assess if changes or additional infrastructure and elements are required in local open spaces. For example, provide additional seats in areas where there is an increase in elderly population

4.7 VALUE OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Council must protect and maintain the value of public space through no 'net loss' in public space across the municipality. Public space and, in particular, green public open space (public open space as described in the Stonnington Planning Scheme) is fundamental to the wellbeing of the community and the environment.

With the introduction of carbon trading, Stonnington's open space land holding may well be considered as having additional financial value.

Recommendation

- Incorporate a statement of the value of the public realm and the no net loss of public space into the Municipal Strategic Statement

4.8 AVAILABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

Stonnington has a low amount of public open space in comparison to other inner city municipalities. As the cost of property acquisition increases, the affordability of providing additional green public open space is reduced significantly.

Figure 16 – Council overlays.

4.8.1 The growing need for public space

Increased population has led to higher housing densities. This has caused a reduction in public and private open spaces, creating additional demand on the public realm. A review of Stonnington's public realm shows that, according to particular standards, there is a low provision of public and/or green space in some suburbs. For example, there are areas where there is no park or reserve within the 'Stonnington block' (see section 3.6).

Stonnington has a low ratio of public space (square metres of POS per 1,000 population) compared to the national average and adjacent municipalities. The municipality will be undergoing additional densification and population increase in the future, particularly in the western areas. It is predicted that the suburbs of South Yarra, Windsor, Prahran and Armadale will see an increase in population and this will further increase the demands on the current open spaces.

As there is limited potential for Council to acquire significant tracts of land (particularly in the west) to meet the expected demand for open space, significant costs to the Council and community will be incurred if Council does not address this issue.

Recommendations

- Increase the size of existing public open spaces. Acquire strategic smaller parcels as they become available to add incrementally to the existing fabric
- Increase linkages and the quality of existing linkages along railway lines and waterways for improved access and biodiversity
- Make better use of non-Council owned and managed publicly accessible land, such as railway land
- Provide new open spaces in areas under provisioned and with projected population increases
- Ensure one public green space is provided for every 'Stonnington block'
- Ensure a green space is within 300–500 metres of every Stonnington resident

4.8.2 Acquisition of new public spaces

In order to increase the amount of green open space in these areas, Council will need to acquire land. The difficulty in pursuing land acquisition is that the process is complex and involves a high cost.

Stonnington has extensive areas of heritage protection. Heritage overlays cover many areas identified as being under-serviced by public space. Heritage overlays can constrain the potential for space to become public space, as it prohibits the demolition of built form.

Council's key method of acquiring funds to buy land is through obtaining developer contributions as outlined in Clause 22.01 the Open Space Policy and Clause 52.01 Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision of the Stonnington Planning Scheme. In larger scale developments, Council may pursue the provision of additional open space as part of a comprehensive development contributions plan. The development contribution funds are pooled by suburb where they are collected and utilised over time to both acquire land and improve the quality of open space in that same area.

Recommendations

An improved acquisitions framework can be achieved through:

- A clear geographic mapping of hot-spot acquisition areas to guide public open space contribution funds and the acquisition of additional open space if required
- Ensuring the relationship between the Municipal Strategic Statement, Strategic Planning Policy, Open Space Policy, and the acquisition process and capital works plans is maintained
- Identifying opportunities to maximise the application of public open space contribution funds
- Considering an acquisitions budget separately from the general public open space improvement budget
- Considering contextual methods to establish clearer statistical need (e.g. the need may be lower if the nearest local open space or regional parkland is in another municipality)
- The potential for the contribution funds to be used for projects that provide municipal-wide benefits

4.8.3 Alternative solutions to increase public space

Council must consider more creative and lateral means to supply quality public space experiences to the community. To increase Council's green open space percentage (i.e. physical square metres) is both expensive and strategically difficult due to existing land ownership patterns and land values. For example, funds may not be sufficient to acquire a preferred strategic site, or such land does not come onto the market at the right time for Council to act. Council has an existing acquisition reserve for public space in Stonnington, which is set aside each year, however this reserve is limited. Therefore, less traditional means may provide Council with alternative solutions to the challenges associated with land acquisition.

Recommendations

- Increase use of non-traditional public spaces to improve public open space (e.g. Council car parks, public building forecourts, railway land)
- Encourage other public authorities to improve the quality of their land that is accessible to the public and to increase the level of vegetation coverage (especially trees), where appropriate
- Better manage existing open spaces owned by Council to create more usable open space (i.e. consolidate services across individual buildings into a single structure)

4.8.4 A balance between quality space and more public space

Council must increase the quality of existing open space areas, through the acquisition of links to these open spaces. It is important to acknowledge the difficulty in acquiring additional public open space in Stonnington. Furthermore, the acquisition of additional open space will not necessarily deliver higher-quality space, as constraints involving accessibility and maintenance of these areas still apply.

It is important to focus on improving the amenity of existing links between public spaces, either those under Council control or those under other land managers (e.g. VicTrack and VicRoads). An integrated approach is required to deliver a high-quality public realm for the future.

Recommendations

The quality of existing public open space areas can be improved through:

- Negotiation and coordination with State agencies to facilitate upgrades and maintenance to the infrastructure related to the links that connect existing public areas
- Negotiation with State agencies to agree to release the links to Council for acquisition or lease to ensure maintenance is undertaken

Chapter 5
The Public Realm Vision

5.0 THE PUBLIC REALM VISION

This Public Realm Strategy advocates the vision of the public realm as an integrated entity comprised of hubs, streetscapes, green spaces and links.

The vision comprises four key sections:
- Vision statement
- Key outcomes of a quality public realm
- Objectives for key components valued within the public realm
- Principles to assist with improving the quality of the public realm

5.1 VISION STATEMENT

Stonnington Council Plan sets out a vision for the City as follows:
'Stonnington will be seen as community-minded, unique in style and character, renowned for its quality and attractive environs, cosmopolitan lifestyles and prosperous business sector.'

The Public Realm Strategy vision statement provides an overarching direction for the strategic objectives of the public realm.

Stonnington's public spaces – urban, green, large and small, streets, parks – are constantly evolving. They are fundamental to the health and wellbeing of the City's community and its vision.

To ensure these spaces continue to serve the needs of the City, their management must respond effectively to future challenges while respecting Stonnington's Indigenous, post-contact and modern histories.

Key among these future challenges will be:
- *To provide for a diversity of ages, family groups and cultures*
- *To accommodate a more urbanised population with increased and non-traditional demands on limited public space*
- *To achieve sustainability in planning, design and maintenance*

By adopting a dynamic approach that adapts to new issues and opportunities through revised strategies, policies and practices, the management of Stonnington's public realm will protect vital assets and ensure the preservation of the cornerstone of Stonnington's unique identity.

5.2 KEY OUTCOMES OF A QUALITY PUBLIC REALM

Key outcomes of a quality public realm for Stonnington include the following features:
- A quality urban environment that:
  - Protects and maintains heritage parks, green spaces and historic sites
  - Connects and engages with community facilities
  - Maintains places for recreation, socialisation and contemplation
  - Contains a diversity of types and uses
  - Embraces principles of environmental sustainability
- Quality urban links – safe pedestrian and cyclist routes that are well maintained and designed to promote pubic safety and discourage unacceptable behaviours
- Quality urban 'forest' – treed and leafy public spaces and streets
- Quality private 'forest' – treed and leafy private outdoor spaces

5.3 OBJECTIVES FOR KEY COMPONENTS VALUED WITHIN THE PUBLIC REALM

Refer to Figure 17 - Public realm identity.
Refer to Figure 18 - Indigenous and post-contact historical sites.

The vision diagram illustrates the vision for the public realm of Stonnington. It visualises the most significant and recognisable public realm places within the municipality and their characteristics.

There are several key values in Stonnington's public realm that need to be protected, maintained and developed. These include hubs, streetscapes, green spaces and links.

5.3.1 Hubs (commercial and community)
These hubs are the keystones of Stonnington's economic and social wellbeing. The public spaces of these hubs contribute to their identity and provide physical connections between facilities.

The main commercial and housing density hubs (existing and proposed) include:
- South Yarra, Prahran and Windsor (including Chapel Street)
- East Malvern and Chadstone
- Malvern, Glenferrie Road and environs
- Toorak Village, Toorak
- Malvern Road, Hawksburn
- Waverley Road, East Malvern

The main community hubs include:
- Prahran (Prahran Town Hall, Princes Gardens, Grattan Gardens and Chapel Street)
- Malvern (Malvern Town Hall, Malvern Library, Malvern Square, Malvern Cricket Ground, Glenferrie Road and High Street)
- Malvern East (Phoenix Park/Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park, community centre, cafe, skate park, playground, library)

Key objectives
The public realm vision seeks to increase the quality of the hubs in the municipality by:
- Managing the various spaces throughout hubs as holistic, integrated public realm, following a place management model
- Investigating opportunities of enlarging and creating new public spaces in dense hub areas
- Integrating with activity centre strategies and urban design frameworks
- Integrating with public art

5.3.2 Streetscapes
Streetscapes are the key connecting elements of Stonnington's urban public realm. Their role today and in the future is not only to provide efficient transport but also to provide quality public space.

The main types of streetscapes are:
- Main grid streets
- Gateway streets
- Commercial streetscapes
- Green residential streets
- Green fabric

Key objectives
The public realm vision seeks to increase the quality of streetscapes in the municipality by:
- Managing each street on a case by case basis to achieve the appropriate balance between vehicular, pedestrian and cyclist movement
- Establishing an urban commercial/shopping streetscape improvement program
- Integrating street infrastructure with public realm works
- Implementing WSUD streetscape design
- Developing a main roads improvement strategy (in partnership with VicRoads)
- Improving the quality of frontages of new developments onto streetscapes
- Upgrading laneways and streetscapes
- Improving levels of maintenance
- Supporting community based activities in streets to improve the local community and sustainability
- Implementing the capital works Street Tree Planting Program
- Implementing the capital works Arterial Road Tree Planting Program

5.3.3 Green spaces
Green spaces are fundamental in providing health, ecological, recreational and social function for Stonnington's community. They include parks, gardens, reserves, conservation areas and waterways.

Stonnington's primary types of green spaces include:
- Historical parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Parks and reserves

Key objectives
The public realm vision seeks to increase the quality of green spaces in the municipality by:
- Developing and implementing site master and concept plans
- Ongoing asset management
- Implementing recreation management plans
- Developing maintenance programs
- Implementing tree maintenance programs
- Developing a signage strategy
- Improving accessibility
- Promoting public safety and discouraging unacceptable behaviour
- Drought proofing parks (within the authority and control of the City of Stonnington) via potable water supply substitution, WSUD and drought-tolerant horticultural practices
- Reviewing the maintenance hierarchy of green spaces, to match the level of use and character with an appropriate level of maintenance

5.3.4 Links
Links are the connective public realm spaces in Stonnington. They serve pedestrians, cyclists, walkers, joggers and natural systems.

The key components to value include:
- Green and blue links (linear natural areas and waterways)
- Infrastructure links (shared pathways along railway lines)
- Bike lanes and shared pathways links
- Pedestrian links

Key objectives
The public realm vision seeks to increase the quality of links in the municipality by:
- Establishing links in partnership with infrastructure authorities (e.g. Railway and freeway links)
- Working with adjacent councils to ensure linkages across suburbs
- Considering links as both access and green amenity opportunities
- Providing links between public and private open space
- Providing links through large private development
- Using signs to improve knowledge and use of links
- Improving street lighting of links

5.3.5 Emerging public realms and the 'borrowed landscape'
Hubs, streets, green spaces and links provide the backbone for Stonnington's public realm. There is an additional array of spaces and elements that contribute positively to the public realm, which Council should encourage in private developments and in their own built form developments.

Key objectives
The public realm vision seeks to increase the quality of borrowed landscape in the municipality by:
- Encouraging green walls and green roofs as part of new private and public developments as key sustainable design initiatives
- Encouraging private gardens or terraces in multi-unit developments to provide adequate space for private leisure and food growing
- Ensuring any built form setbacks for commercial, retail or large-scale residential developments provide on-ground public amenity that connects directly to the streetscape

5.4 PRINCIPLES TO ASSIST WITH IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF THE PUBLIC REALM

5.4.1 Implementation of projects
- Ensure the implementation of relevant plans and concepts are coordinated to involve all related Council departments, State agencies and private organisations in order to maximise use of resources, including public funds and intellectual knowledge, and assist ongoing sustainability
- Ensure review and consideration of existing Council strategies, plans and budgets are undertaken prior to the implementation of new plans to avoid 're-inventing the wheel' and incurring unnecessary expense
- Ensure the short- and long-term objectives and constraints are integral to each stage of the project
- Ensure the implementation of relevant master plans and concepts work within an appropriate time frame

5.4.2 Maintenance
- Ensure an appropriate level of maintenance for each public space
- Ensure planning and design of public spaces coordinates with maintenance systems and budgets

5.4.3 Funds
- Ensure the required capital funds for proposed work is planned for in yearly capital works budgets

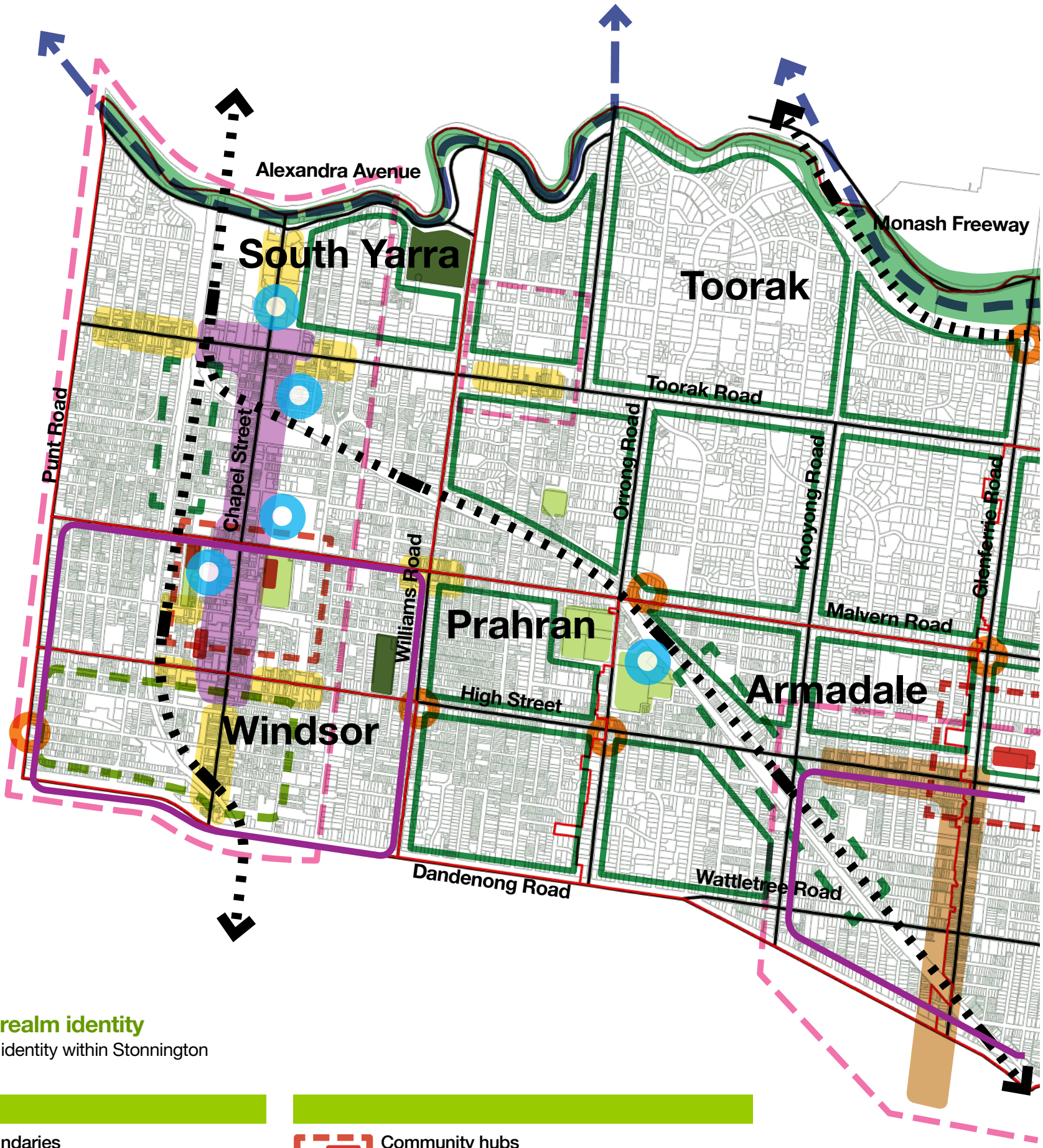


Figure 17 – Public realm identity
Mapping of public realm identity within Stonnington

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Railway line/station

Activity hubs
- The main commercial and housing density hubs (existing and future)

Principal activity centre
- South Yarra and Prahran (Chapel Street)
- Chadstone

Major activity centre
- Glenferrie Road, Malvern, and High Street, Armadale

Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- West Toorak Road, South Yarra
- Toorak Village, Toorak
- Malvern Road, Toorak
- Chapel Street, Windsor

Neighbourhood activity centres (small)

Key redevelopment sites

Community hubs
Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public spaces:
- Prahran (Prahran Town Hall, Chapel Street, Grattan Gardens and Princes Gardens)
- Malvern (Town Hall, Library, Malvern Square, Malvern Cricket Ground and Glenferrie Road and High Street)
- Malvern East (Phoenix Park/Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park, community centre, skate park, playground, library)

Green precinct upgrades
- Precincts in need of general streetscape improvement

The Public Realm Vision

Green fabric
Areas where small green spaces make up a significant contribution to the public realm of the area e.g. pocket parks, road closures, easements, roadside spaces:

- Windsor
- South Yarra
- Armadale

Green streetscapes
Areas of established street tree planting that contribute significantly to the public realm character and quality of the area:

- Toorak
- Armadale
- Malvern
- Kooyong
- East Prahran
- East Malvern (west of Belgrave Street)
- Dandenong Road

Main historic parks
The main parks and gardens appreciated for their heritage vegetation, design and layout:

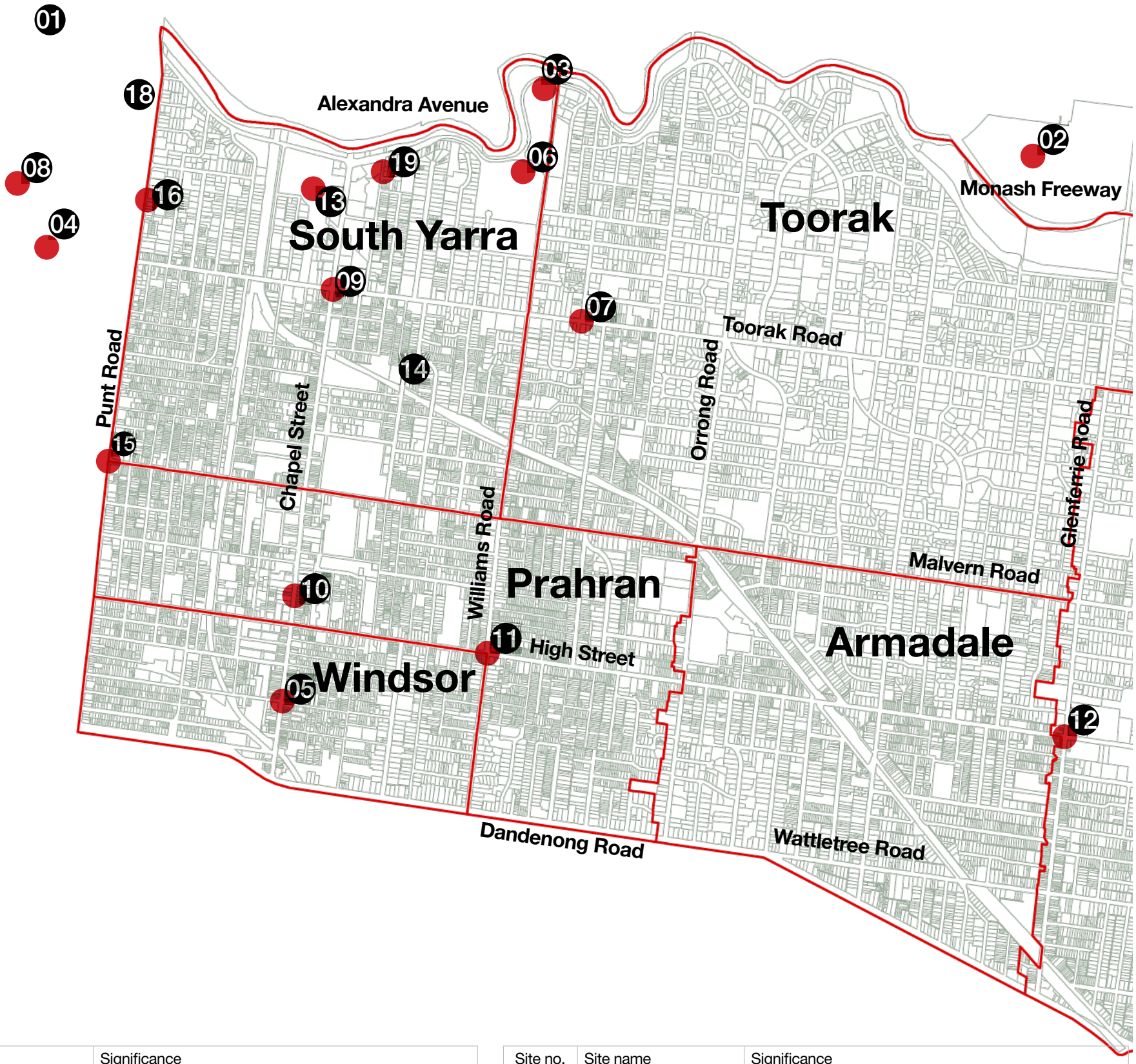
- Como Park, South Yarra
- Victoria Gardens, Prahran
- Central Park, Malvern East
- Malvern Public Gardens
- Hedgeley Dene Gardens, Malvern East
- Ardrie Park, Malvern East
- Princes Gardens, Prahran
- Rockley Gardens, South Yarra
- Grattan Gardens, Prahran

Main parks and reserves
The most significant parks and reserves within Stonnington (excluding the parks along Gardiners Creek and Yarra River):

- Orrong/Romanis Reserve, Prahran
- Toorak Park, Armadale
- Brookville Gardens, Toorak
- Robert Menzies Reserve, Malvern
- Phoenix Park, Malvern East
- Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park, Malvern East

Green and blue links
The linear parklands, waterways and pathways:

- Yarra River
- Gardiners Creek
- East Malvern Drainage Line/Urban Forest
- Glen Iris Wetlands and Glenburn Bend Park ecological focus zones



Site no.	Site name	Significance
1.	Tromgin	Waterhole at Royal Botanic Gardens. Location of campsites, cremations, Protectorate office and Walpole's station 1830–1840s
2.	Gardiner Station	Site of conflict 1838
3.	Turruk	Aboriginal campsite during 1840s
4.	North west corner of Fawkner Park	Camping and corroboree site in the late 1840s and 1850s, camping place of Derrimut
5.	Chapel Street, Windsor	Known camping site in the late 1840s and 1850s
6.	Lake Como, Como Park	Favourite resort of Aborigines, late 1840s and 1850s
7.	Site of Toorak Hotel	Campsite of Murrey, the King of the Yarra Yarra tribe
8.	Forest between Church of England Grammar School and Toorak Road	Campsite of Aborigines in late 1850s
9.	Toorak Road, Chapel Street junction	Aboriginal campsite in tea-tree scrub; used by Aboriginal people visiting from Gippsland
10.	Chapel Street between Dandenong and Commercial Roads	Meeting place and venue for staging corroborees
11.	Site of Mt Erica Hotel, corner Williams Road and High Street	Corroboree site during the early history of Prahran

Site no.	Site name	Significance
12.	High Street near Malvern Town Hall	Meeting place and venue for staging corroborees
13.	Site of Melbourne High School Playground	Campsite of Derrimut
14.	South Yarra	895 acre site of Government Mission under supervision of George Langhorne, 1837–1839; site of burials and temporary residence of Protectorate officials, 1839
15.	South East corner of Punt and Commercial Roads	Gathering of Aboriginal people to celebrate the marriage of the Prince of Wales in 1863
16.	Residence at 462 Punt Road	Former home of pro-Indigenous activist Helen Baillie 1940s–1970; place of residence of Indigenous people visiting Melbourne, particularly from the Framlingham community
17.	Kooyong Park	Some 1500 artefacts excavated from Kooyong Park 1975–78 by local resident Dennis Mayor
18.	East of Anderson Street	Residence of George Langhorne, site of government mission buildings and site of numerous burials
19.	Terneet/ Tivoli	Residence of Chief Protector George Augustus Robinson from 1843–1852; residence of Tasmanian Indigenous people (1839–1842) and burial place of several Indigenous people

Figure 18 – Indigenous and post-contact historical sites

Mapping of Indigenous and post-contact historical sites within Stonnington

6.0 MUNICIPAL WIDE OPPORTUNITIES

It is important to take advantage of the following opportunities through Council action to overcome the challenges outlined in Chapters 3 and 4. They are identified as the primary actions for Council to employ in order to begin implementation of the recommendations and initiate a coordinated approach across the municipality.

6.1 GENERAL OPPORTUNITIES

6.1.1 Implementation of existing strategies, structure plans, urban design frameworks and master plans

- Implement the existing approved planning strategies, urban design frameworks and master plan public realm recommendations through a coordinated system
- Undertake public realm review and recommendations as part of all structure and urban design frameworks

6.1.2 Whole of Council approach to public realm planning, design and management

- Incorporate the Public Realm Strategy into the Stonnington Planning Scheme as a reference document

6.1.3 Public realm library and GIS and Stonnington intranet

- Undertake the collation and organisation of public realm information (i.e. structure plans, master plans, designs and construction documents) for ease of Council access
- Ensure regular updates of the Council's GIS system

6.1.4 Ensure yearly capital program aligns with Public Realm Strategy

- Public Realm Strategy to inform forward capital programs

6.2 SPECIFIC STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

6.2.1 Recreation and sports strategy

- Prepare a recreation strategy that coordinates with the Public Realm Strategy and individual place master plans where appropriate

6.2.2 Links implementation

- Focus on the planning and implementation of pedestrian, shared pathway and pedestrian bridge links across the municipality and regional linkages, in particular railway lines and waterways. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)
- Develop master plans/action plans for a continuous shared pathway along the Sandringham and Glen Waverley Railway lines and Gardiners Creek
- Links along Yarra River and Gardiners Creek are established and should be upgraded as required

Links which require more extensive attention include:

Sandringham Line

- The vision is to provide an uninterrupted shared pathway from the Yarra River to Dandenong Road. This requires significant consultation with railway authorities and potential land acquisition. The opportunities for a public realm network along this path are well documented in the Chapel Vision Structure Plan

Dandenong / Cranbourne Line

- This line has less potential than the other lines as it is well entrenched in the residential fabric, in cuttings and with roads adjacent. There is little useable easement available alongside for a shared pathway; however, opportunities exist to improve the quality and safety of many of the short linkages along its length

Glen Waverley Line

- While the Gardiners Creek path and Yarra Trail are the main metropolitan trails, and are within close proximity to this line, the Glen Waverley Line affords more local and inter-neighbourhood linkages. Various lengths of open easement and path linkages currently exist along its length. These easements and linkages should be improved over time and have great potential to provide additional biodiversity and greenery to the community. Council should develop as many local pedestrian and shared pathway links as possible along the railway line and utilise any remnant space available for planting and landscape works (being mindful of fire issues). This requires ongoing negotiation and collaboration with railway authorities

Links to Gardiners Creek and Parklands

The area centred on Gardiners Creek, the Monash Freeway and the Mount Waverley train line is a significant infrastructure, open space, recreation and environmental corridor. Numerous strategies provide for the Gardiners Creek and associated parklands, however, the connectivity to these spaces is limited and low quality, with the linkages made difficult by non-Council managed freeway and rail infrastructure. A closer examination of the current and potential cross-links (location and quality) through this area is required.

6.2.3 Shade strategy

Prepare a shade strategy, as identified and supported by the Open Space Strategy 2000 and Municipal Early Years Strategy. A good opportunity exists to combine the shade policy with the continued refurbishment/replacement of the playgrounds program and the trees in streets and parks program.

6.2.4 Signage strategy

Prepare a corporate signage strategy for wayfinding, place identity, commercial, access, road and governance signage. Signage has been identified as a key issue for orientation, information, and cultural identity across the municipality and streetscape declutttering.

Multiple strategies identify signage as a key issue for orientation, information and cultural identity across the municipality, including the:

- Open Space Strategy
- Stonnington Council Public Bicycle Parking Audit
- Gardiners and Scotchman's Creek Waterway Plan
- Bicycle Strategy
- Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan
- Inner Melbourne Action Plan (IMAP)

6.2.5 Green fabric improvement plans

The aim of the Public Realm Strategy is to ensure an equality of public open space quality and quantity across the municipality. The Strategy identifies areas in which the quality of the spaces is not acceptable and in which action can take place. Parts of Prahran and Windsor are below par in quality and quantity of open space. While it is difficult in these very dense areas to acquire substantial additional open space it is possible to improve the quality of the existing open space which is under great pressure from high use. East Malvern has an adequate amount of open space but many of its green open spaces are of lower quality than surrounding areas. These spaces can be improved to provide better recreational, ecological and aesthetic quality for the community.

Windsor green fabric improvement plan

- Produce a master plan to improve quality of network of small green spaces in an increasingly populated Windsor and identify opportunities for additional open space. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)

Prahran green fabric improvement plan (predominantly between Punt Road and Chapel Street)

- Produce a master plan to improve quality of network of small green spaces in an increasingly populated Prahran and identify opportunities for additional open space. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)

Armadale green fabric improvement plan (along the north and south sides of the Dandenong railway line)

- Produce a master plan to improve quality of network of small green spaces in an increasingly populated Armadale and identify opportunities for additional open space. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)

6.2.6 East Malvern public realm upgrade

There is a clear difference in public realm character and quality between the areas west of Belgrave Road and the remaining Malvern East area (formerly Chadstone). The upgrading of Phoenix Park, the Urban Forest, and Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park are key public realm upgrades. Between these places is a series of underdeveloped reserves and links.

- Produce open space concepts and implementation plan to upgrade entire precinct over time, to the same level of quality found throughout the rest of the municipality. The continued development of the Chadstone Shopping Centre and potential increased housing density will also place pressure on the future public realm of this precinct.

6.2.7 Commercial precincts plan

Most of the main commercial and retail hubs of Stonnington are fortuitously still centred on streets, with the exception of Chadstone Shopping Centre. These streetscapes form the primary public realm arteries throughout Stonnington, for local residents and visitors. The significance of these streets in providing public realm opportunities should not be underestimated and is recognised in the Council Plan.

The main commercial streets within the municipality – Chapel Street, High Street, Toorak Road and Glenferrie Road – are also coupled with important community facilities and other institutions. The secondary commercial/retail streets form a network across the municipality and provide a more local service.

Develop a plan for the design, implementation and maintenance cycle for streets in commercial (shopping and retail) precincts, including adjacent streets and lanes. This would build on the work of the Commercial Precincts Style Guide 2005 and work in tandem with urban design / structure plan strategies for activity centres.

6.2.8 Public art strategy

Revise the existing public art strategy. Reconfirm current objectives including public art acquisition strategy, integrated public art in public spaces and community art initiatives. Develop a funding policy in conjunction with Economic and Cultural Development and City Strategy Planning to support the incorporation of public art in future developments.

6.2.9 Public lighting strategy

Prepare a lighting strategy for public outdoor spaces, including night recreation lighting for sporting fields.

6.2.10 Local self-sustainability initiatives

Develop a set of guidelines and initiatives to support community and council and community partnerships in local based sustainability practices. For example, zero emission suburbs, food production in streets, local composting services, mulching and food trading.

6.2.11 Public realm technical notes manual

Prepare a public realm technical notes manual. Technical notes and guidelines will guide the cost, style, type, placement, installation and maintenance of the various municipal elements such as street furniture, surfaces and pavements, signage and road materials. Issues would include DDA compliance, safety sustainability, maintenance, procurement and replacement strategy.

6.2.12 Public open space acquisition policy and plan

Prepare an acquisitions policy to maximise the application of public open space contribution funds. Prepare an acquisition plan for the acquiring of additional open space in areas of under provision and high demand for open space. The Public Realm Strategy identifies key areas that would greatly benefit from additional open space. These need to be further investigated on land use, financial and demographic grounds.

6.2.13 Dogs and public realm plan

Prepare a dogs and public realm plan that should include procedures for implementing local laws and signage related to dogs in each green public space and implementing special ‘dog parks’ or smaller dog enclosures within appropriate public spaces. For example, areas that provide appropriate facilities such as scoops, bags, bins and drinking water.

6.2.14 Playground plan

Prepare a playground plan that ensures the inventory, inspection and maintenance of all playgrounds to Australian Standards and also identifies those sites for significant upgrades, removal and new playgrounds.

City of Stonnington

Public Realm Strategy

Part B: Precinct Recommendations

2010

Introduction

This section of the report focuses on site-specific recommendations, based on the strategic principles identified in Part A.

Therefore, these recommendations should be read in conjunction with Part A strategic recommendations, in particular:

- Chapter 3: Provision of Quality Public Realm (including land acquisition recommendations)
- Chapter 6: Municipal-wide Opportunities

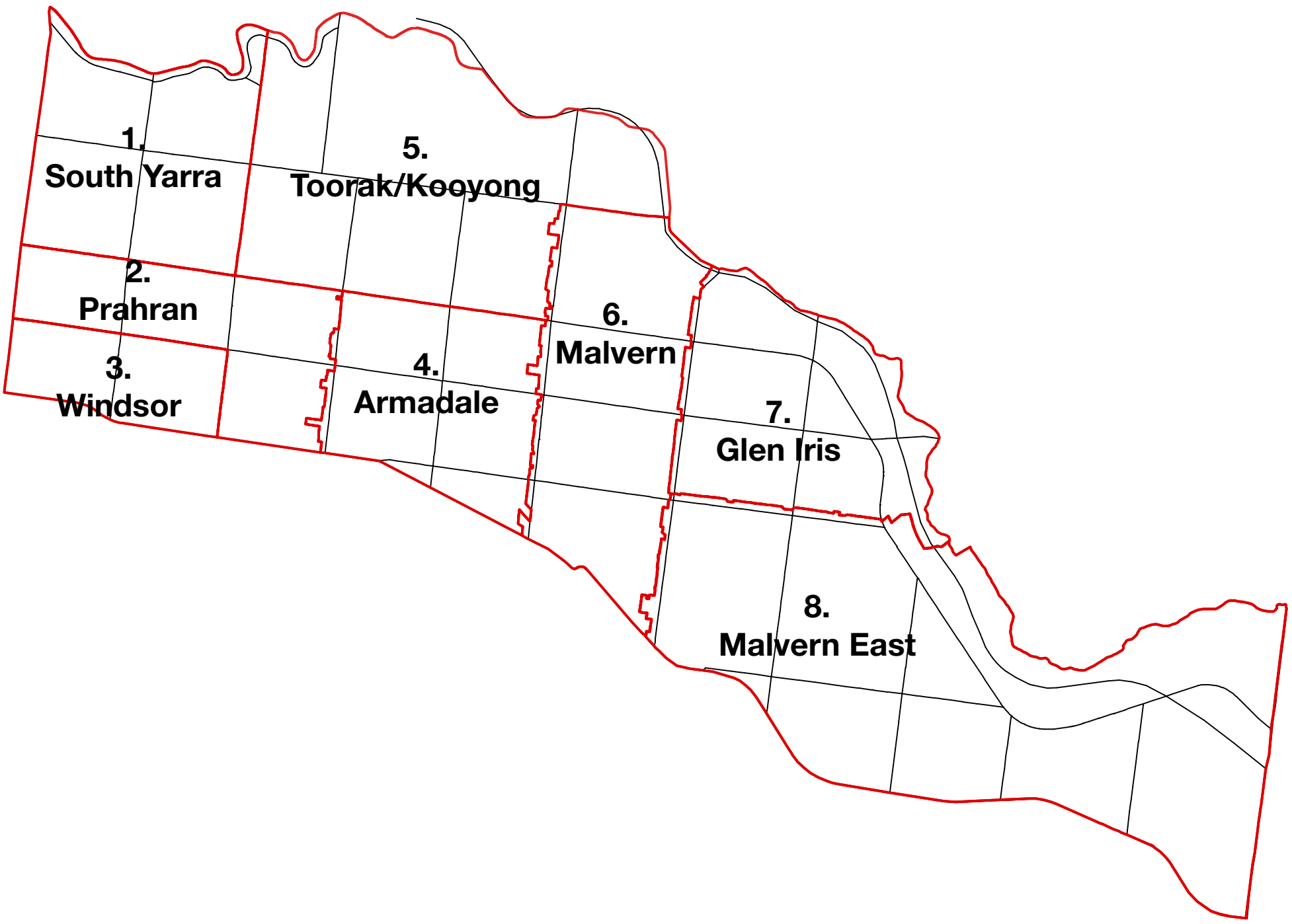
The precincts are individual suburbs or grouped suburbs, as defined by postcode, and match the Australian Bureau of Statistics census data areas.

The precincts are:

1. South Yarra
2. Prahran
3. Windsor
4. Armadale
5. Toorak/Kooyong
6. Malvern
7. Glen Iris
8. Malvern East

Note: All population projections are from 2006 data.

Precinct boundaries



7.1 South Yarra 3141

Analysis

Dyeworks Park (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Lovers Walk (type: link). Source: ASPECT Studios

Yarra River edge (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Chapel Street, 24-hour shopping and leisure destination (type: commercial street). Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	13,636
Projected population (2021)^	20,365

* Source: ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	1,692	12%
20–34	5,637	41%
35–59	4,427	31%
60+	2,171	15%

** Source ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- There is a diverse range of public realm types
- Riverside parks and small parks/squares are dominant
- There are a number of very popular shopping strips
- Overall, the quality of the public realm space meets the statistical benchmark of the quantity of public space

Quality of the public realm

- Punt Road is a barrier to the Botanic Gardens and Fawkner Park
- The railway lines and easements are a major barrier, but also contain significant potential for further linkages
- The varied quality and maintenance of spaces varies: some are very high quality and well maintained, while others are under developed

Linkages

- There are significant areas of open space in adjoining municipalities, such as the Botanic Gardens. Links to these are vital
- There are key links along the Yarra River and the existing railway lines

Precinct demographics*

- South Yarra has a similar population profile to Windsor, Prahran and Armadale. It is dominated by 20–39 year-olds and single person households (p. 26 Local Housing Strategy)
- The population of South Yarra accounts for 15.13% of the total municipality
- The highest percentage of people in South Yarra are aged 25–44 years. This group accounts for 45% of South Yarra's population and 19% of Stonnington's population
- South Yarra has a relatively low percentage of children relative to Stonnington's overall population. It has the second lowest percentage of 0–11 year-olds and the third lowest percentage of 12–17 year-olds. However, it should be noted that while this demographic is poorly represented in terms of residents, it is a very popular youth and family destination for visitors and the public realm should reflect this

***Source: Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- South Yarra is a dense, inner city suburb with a large range of residential, retail and commercial areas, including Chapel Street, which is an important regional leisure and commercial precinct of Melbourne with high visitor levels from a regional and overseas catchment. It has the highest density of commercial streetscapes in the City of Stonnington, and is a regional shopping hub and 24-hour leisure destination
- There is a high percentage of apartment dwellers – 59% of the dwelling stock is made up of flats and apartments, with only 12% being separate dwellings. Therefore, there is little private open space, which places a high demand on the public realm
- Two railway easements dissect the precinct, forming significant barriers to circulation
- The Yarra River, on its northern perimeter, forms a regional link and provides an important linear open space

Future demand on the public realm

- South Yarra's population is predicted to increase at a greater rate than any other suburb in Stonnington
- Young professionals are the main demographic that will continue to increase
- It is already a highly populated inner city suburb with the population expected to increase by 49%. The majority of this increase will be apartment dwellers for whom the public realm is essential for leisure and social interaction
- The demand for major open spaces adjacent to the suburb boundaries (e.g. the Botanic Gardens, Fawkner Park and the Yarra River banks) is expected to increase so the links to these regional public open spaces should be reviewed
- Significant development includes Forrest Hill and Surrey Road Park. Surrey Road Park will increase the amount of green open space in the area by 5,000 square metres

Strategic context

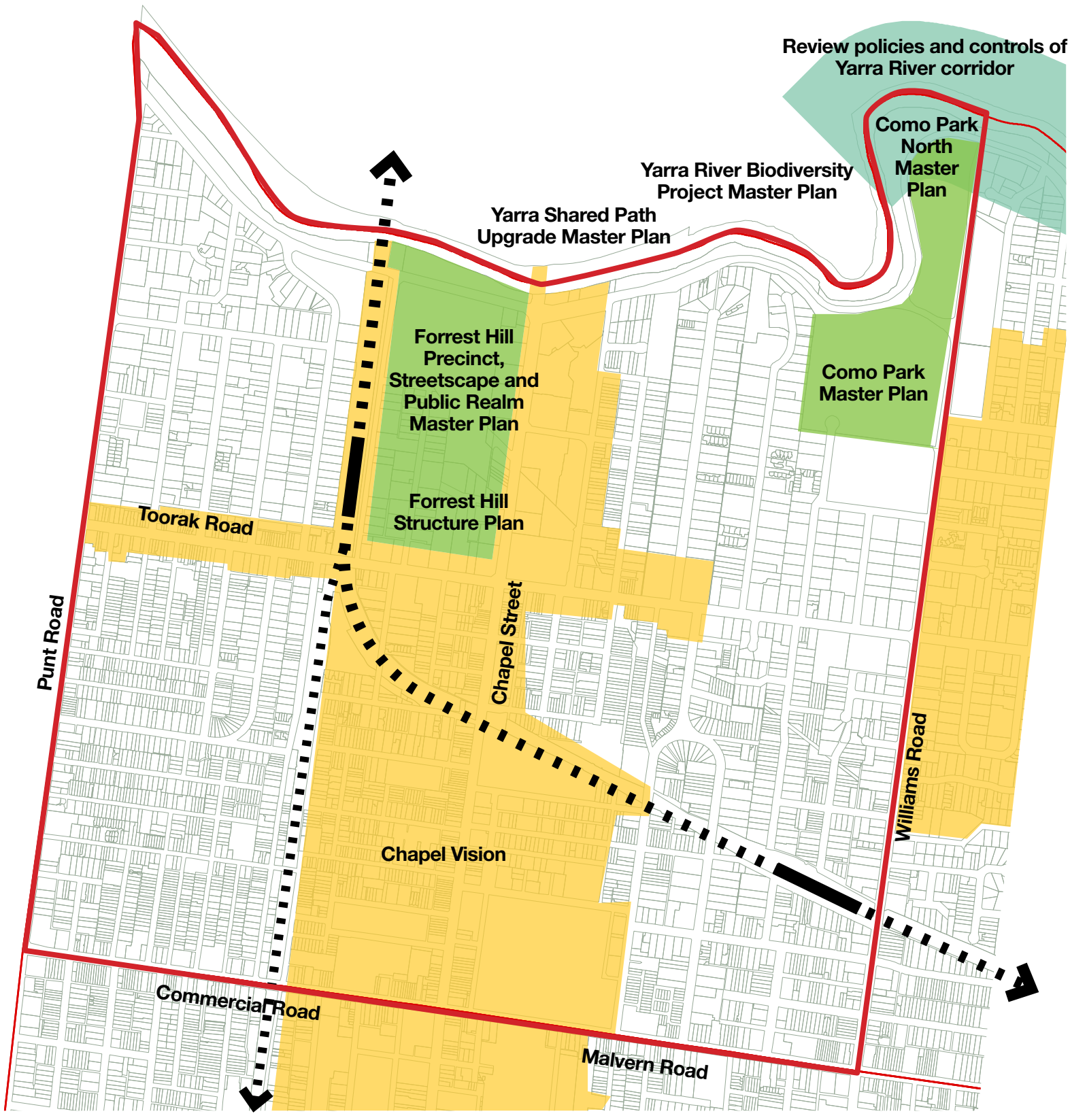
Relevant reports and strategies

- Chapel Vision Structure Plan (December 2007)
- IMAP – The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (2005)
- Forrest Hill Structure Plan (December 2005)
- Forrest Hill Precinct, Streetscape and Public Realm Master Plan (2008)
- Review of Policies and Controls for the Yarra River Corridor: Punt Road to Burke Road (June 2005)
- Yarra Shared Path Upgrade Master Plan
- Como Park North Master Plan (2010)
- Yarra River Biodiversity Master Plan (draft 2010)

South Yarra Siding Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Argo Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Barry Street/Prahran Market car park (type: green fabric). Source: ASPECT Studios



South Yarra, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	1.75
Projected (2021)^	1.80
Overall suburb area	25.16
% of open space in suburb	7%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	12.80
Projected (2021)	8.57

^ Surrey Road Park 5000 m^2
* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

Commercial hubs:

- Chapel Street, South Yarra and Prahran
- West Toorak Road, South Yarra

Community hubs:

- n/a

Streets

Main commercial streets:

- Chapel Street
- Toorak Road
- Commercial Road/Malvern Road
- Punt Road

Green streets (refer also to Chapel Vision):

- Yarra Street (proposed)
- Claremont Street (proposed)
- Daly Street (proposed)
- William Street
- Chambers Street
- Osborne Street Railway Reserve

Green spaces

Main green spaces:

- Rockley Gardens
- Argo Reserve
- Caroline Gardens
- Como Park
- Como Park North
- Rowing precinct
- Darling Gardens
- Grosvenor Reserve
- Osborne Reserve (northern and southern pocket reserve)
- Surrey Road Park
- South Yarra Siding
- Toorak Road Bridge Plaza
- Public Housing – Malvern Road Link
- Dyeworks Park

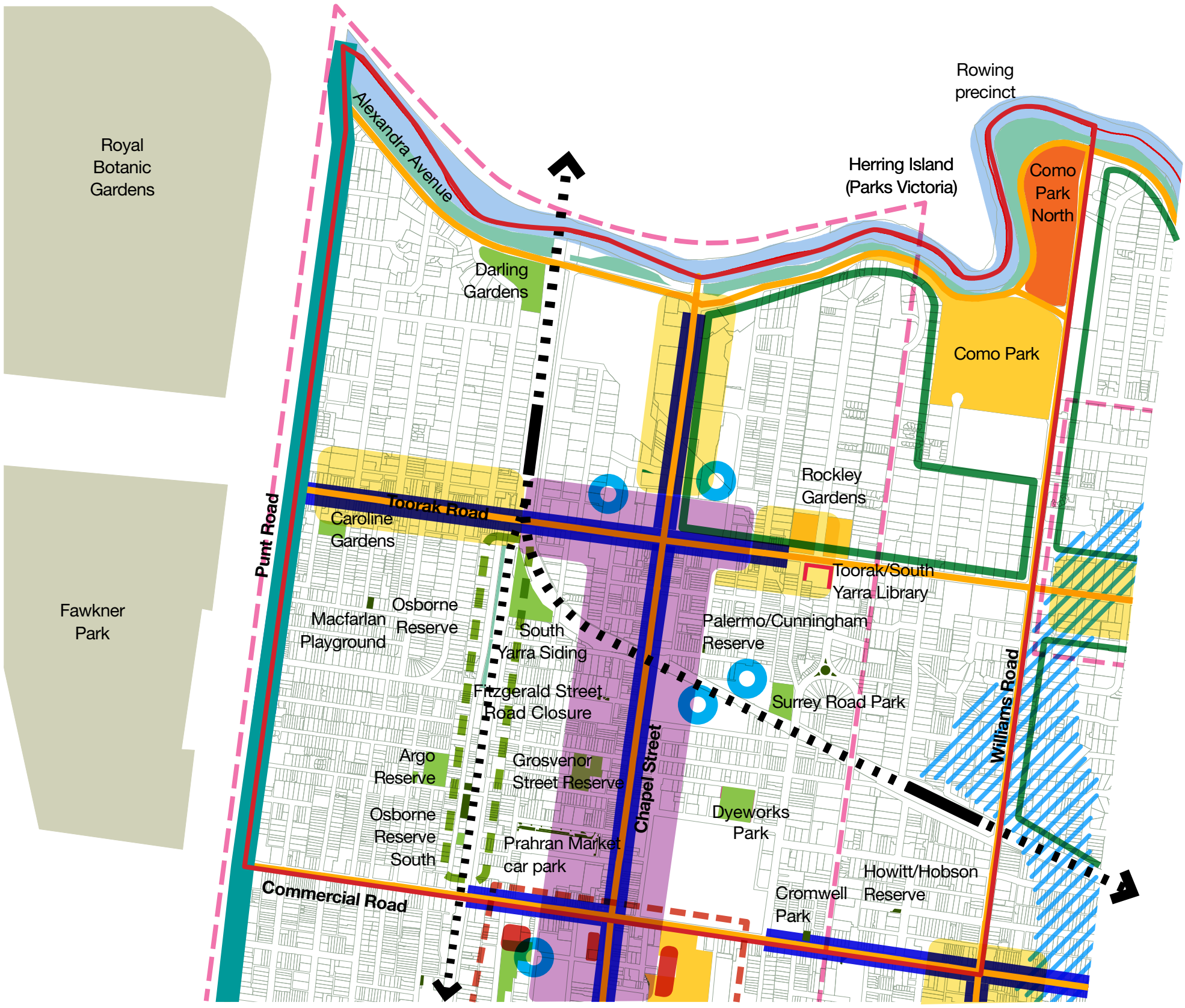
Other green spaces:

- Macfarlan/Alexandra Playground
- Howitt and Hobson Reserve
- Palermo and Cunningham Reserve
- Argo/Osborne Reserve
- Argo/Osborne Playground
- Toorak/South Yarra Library

Links

Main links:

- Lovers Walk
- Railway line pedestrian links (Sandringham and Dandenong lines)
- Yarra River shared pathway
- South Yarra Station link



South Yarra, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs

Toorak Road and Chapel Street
- Undertake recommendations as per Chapel Vision Structure Plan

Streets

Main commercial streets:

1. Toorak Road
- Major works have been undertaken along the western length of Toorak Road between Chapel Street and Punt Road. Continue to implement streetscape works and Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives

2. Chapel Street
- There is potential for more urban 'green' hot spots along its length. Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance

3. Commercial Road
- Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance
- Ensure links to Grattan Gardens and Wattle Street are reinforced

Other streets:
- Chapel Vision Structure Plan identifies a series of streets for additional street tree planting and landscape works

Residential Streetscapes
- Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets

Green spaces

4. Como Park
- Implement master plan recommendations
- Set up an alternative water supply using drainage water for the irrigation of the park and with the potential to supply water to Como Park North
- Plant a greater diversity of drought tolerant tree species
- Extend drip irrigation to protect trees of significance from drought conditions

5. Como Park North
- Ensure a master plan for Como Park North is completed and implemented. The Recreation Unit has identified Thomas Oval and Como Park North as a potential ground for junior soccer
- Ensure that the master plan recommends the development of indigenous vegetation as an important habitat zone abutting the Yarra River

6. Surrey Road Park
- In construction 2010

7. South Yarra Siding
- Implement concepts from Chapel Vision Structure Plan and ensure park is fully linked with Toorak Road and Portland Place, and has improved internal circulation
- Explore the opportunity to plant more indigenous vegetation, particularly trees

8. Toorak Road Bridge Plaza
- Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan proposal for new public plaza

9. Rockley Gardens
- Protect established trees and continue to upgrade gardens when necessary
- Improve sustainability with the availability of water from alternative sources and supply drip irrigation to significant trees

10. Argo Reserve
- Implement landscape concept plan and review long-term viability of water feature
- Introduce a greater diversity of drought tolerant plants

11. Grosvenor Reserve
- A well used green space and pedestrian link. Continue to upgrade as necessary and ensure linkages to adjacent community facilities

12. Yarra River rowing precinct
- Undertake a master plan for precinct
- Undertake improvements to precinct and provide pedestrian connections to Como Park North
- Develop indigenous vegetation within the precinct as an important habitat zone abutting the Yarra River

13. Darling Gardens
- Continue to upgrade as required
- Continue to introduce new trees to ensure a healthy tree population is maintained for the long term

14. Dyeworks Park
- Review park design and water feature, and determine appropriateness for current urban context
- Expand into adjacent car park to create more usable park size
- Consider replacing the shade sail with another form of shade protection

15. Osborne Street Reserve (north)
- Opportunity to develop indigenous vegetation along the length of this linear reserve on the opposite side of the railway line to South Yarra Siding
- Upgrade furniture in this reserve which is a popular venue with office staff and others for eating lunch

16. Osborne Street Reserve (southern pocket reserve)
- Develop space into a small local park with amenities. Potential to open park into future shared pathway along railway line

17. Caroline Street Gardens
- Upgrade park furniture in this park used by office workers as a lunch area

Links

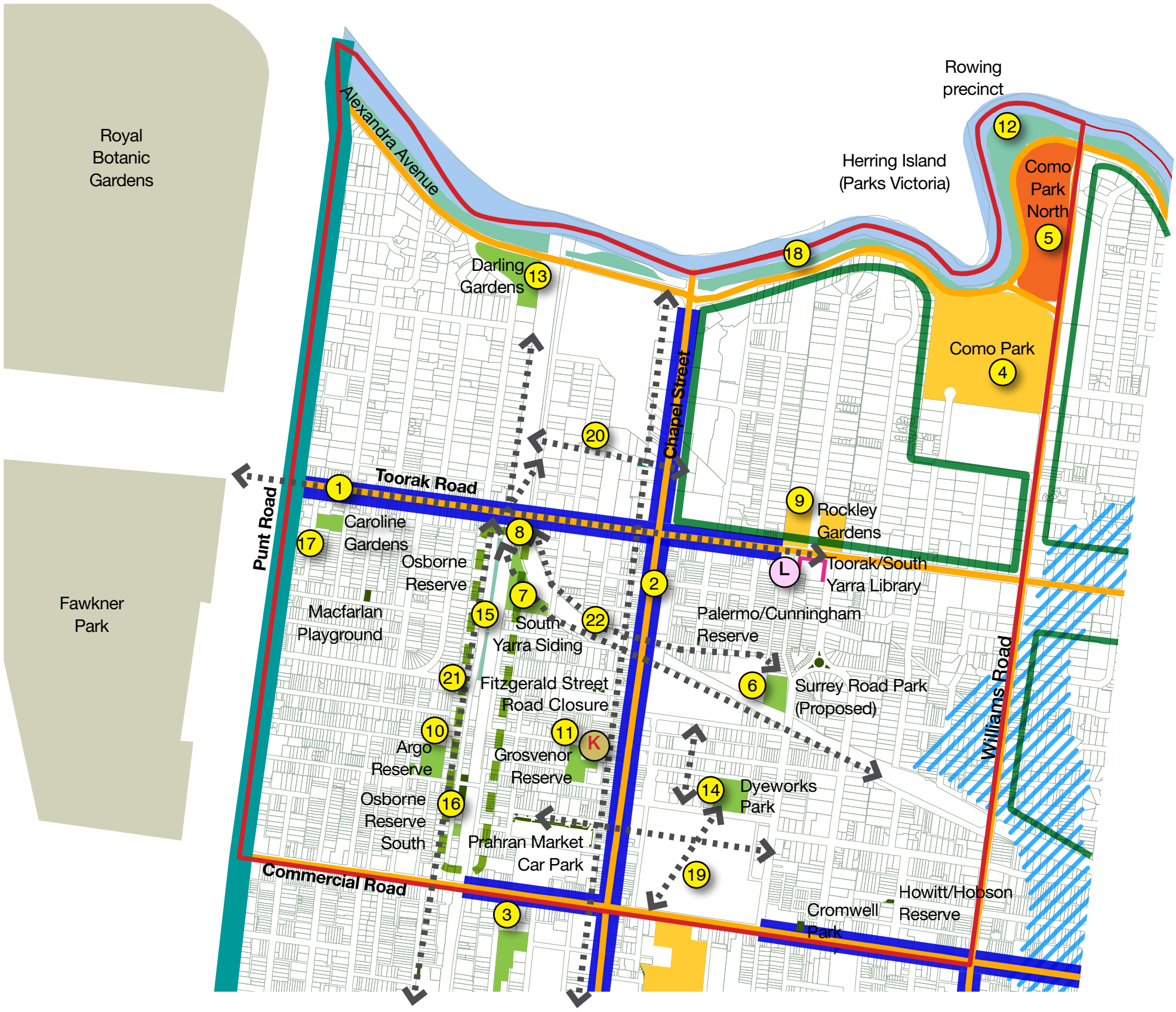
18. Yarra River
- Finalise master plan and continue to implement works. Ensure pedestrian links to shared path trail from South Yarra
- Continue the upgrade of the Yarra River shared path in accordance with the Bicycle Strategy
- Explore opportunities to plant indigenous vegetation to increase habitat along the Yarra corridor

19. Dyeworks Park/Princes Gardens – Office of Housing (Horace Petty Estate)
- Continue to pursue opportunities to open up links and public open space through housing estate. Refer to Chapel Vision Structure Plan

20. Forrest Hill Precinct
- Implement over time the recommendations and actions of the Forrest Hill Precinct Master Plan and Forrest Hill Precinct Streetscape and Public Realm Master Plan, including east–west pedestrian link and public plaza

21. Sandringham Line Shared Pathway
- Create full-length pedestrian/bike link along railway line. Acquire properties south of South Yarra Sidings Reserve to link station with Portland Place

22. Cranbourne Line
- Lovers Walk: widen and improve links



South Yarra, main opportunities

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Community facilities

- L — Libraries
- K — Kindergartens and child care centres
- M — Maternal and child health care centres
- M — Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- 1 — Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

7.2 Prahran 3181

Analysis

Victoria Gardens (type: historic park). Source: ASPECT Studios

Princes Gardens (type: historic park). Source: ASPECT Studios

Chapel Street (type: commercial street). Source: ASPECT Studios

Orrong Romanis Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	10,651
Projected population (2021)^	13,942

* Source: ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	1,139	12%
20–34	4,188	39%
35–59	3,434	32%
60+	1,708	16%

** Source: ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- There is less open space than the traditional benchmark
- There is limited public open space in the southern part of the precinct

Quality of the public realm

- There is good diversity of large and minor parks
- Lumley Gardens is well utilised

Linkages

- There are poor visual links between Orrong Romanis Reserve and Toorak Park
- There are poor links between eastern and southern residential streets and Orrong Park

Precinct demographics*

- Prahran has a high percentage of 25–44 year-olds. Overall, it has a young population with a similar age profile to South Yarra, Windsor and Armadale
- It has a high proportion of single households
- 51% of the dwelling stock comprises flats and apartments, with 30% separate dwellings. There has been an ongoing trend to build larger-scale apartment dwellings
- The majority of the lots in Prahran West are small
- Prahran has a high percentage of rental properties (53%)

***Source: Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- Prahran includes Princes Gardens, Grattan Gardens and Victoria Gardens, which are some of the most significant historical parks in the Stonnington municipality
- Prahran contains a significant amount of commercial streetscape, dominated by Chapel Street
- Princes Gardens and Orrong Romanis Reserve are the largest green spaces in the precinct
- The public realm is highly utilised, with 24-hour use and a diversity of social and age types
- There is a mix of private and government housing
- There is adequate diversity and quality of parks and large recreational areas
- Prahran East has bigger block sizes than western Prahran, making it more similar to Armadale
- There is a patchwork of heritage overlays

Future demand on the public realm

- A significant increase in population numbers for this precinct is predicted, which will result in greater pressure and demand upon the public realm, as will the predicted large-scale apartment developments
- Open space is scattered around the suburb so the links remain very important
- The lack of open space in Prahran West is deemed a lower priority than Prahran East because this area will have less development pressure (except along High Street and Dandenong Road)

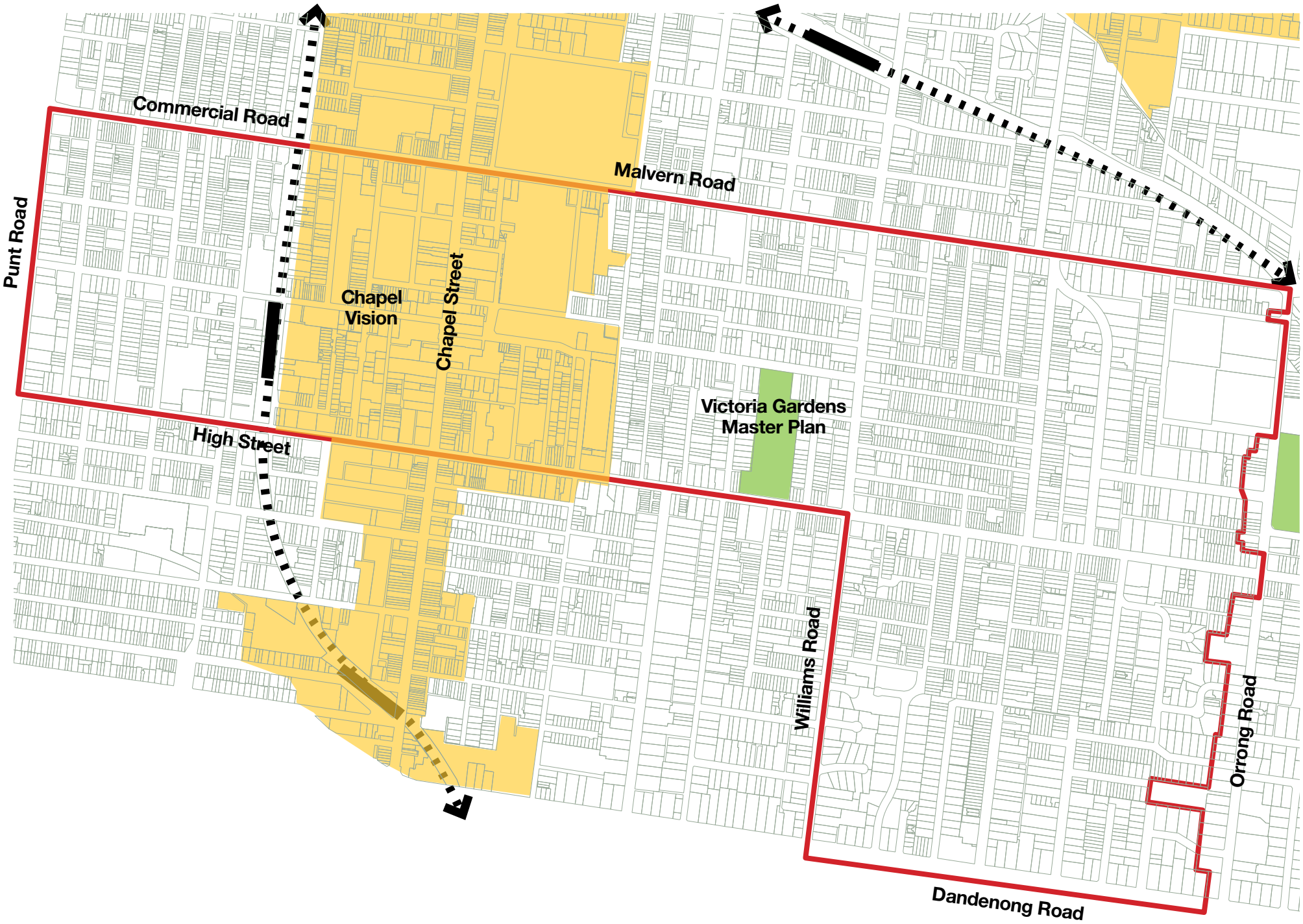
Current public realm status

Relevant reports and strategies

- Chapel Vision Structure Plan (December 2007)
- IMAP – The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (2008)
- Victoria Gardens Master Plan

Lumley Gardens (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Aberdeen Road (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios



Prahran, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	0.92
Projected (2021)	0.92
Overall suburb area	18.50
% of open space in suburb	5%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	8.63
Projected (2021)	6.59

* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

Commercial hubs:
- Chapel Street, South Yarra and Prahran
- Malvern Road, Toorak

Community hubs:
- Prahran – Prahran Town Hall, Princes Gardens, Grattan Gardens and Chapel Street

Streets

Main commercial streets:
- Chapel Street
- Greville Street
- Malvern Road
- High Street
- Hawksburn Shopping Centre, Malvern Road

Green streets:
- Little Chapel Street
- Packington Place Walkway

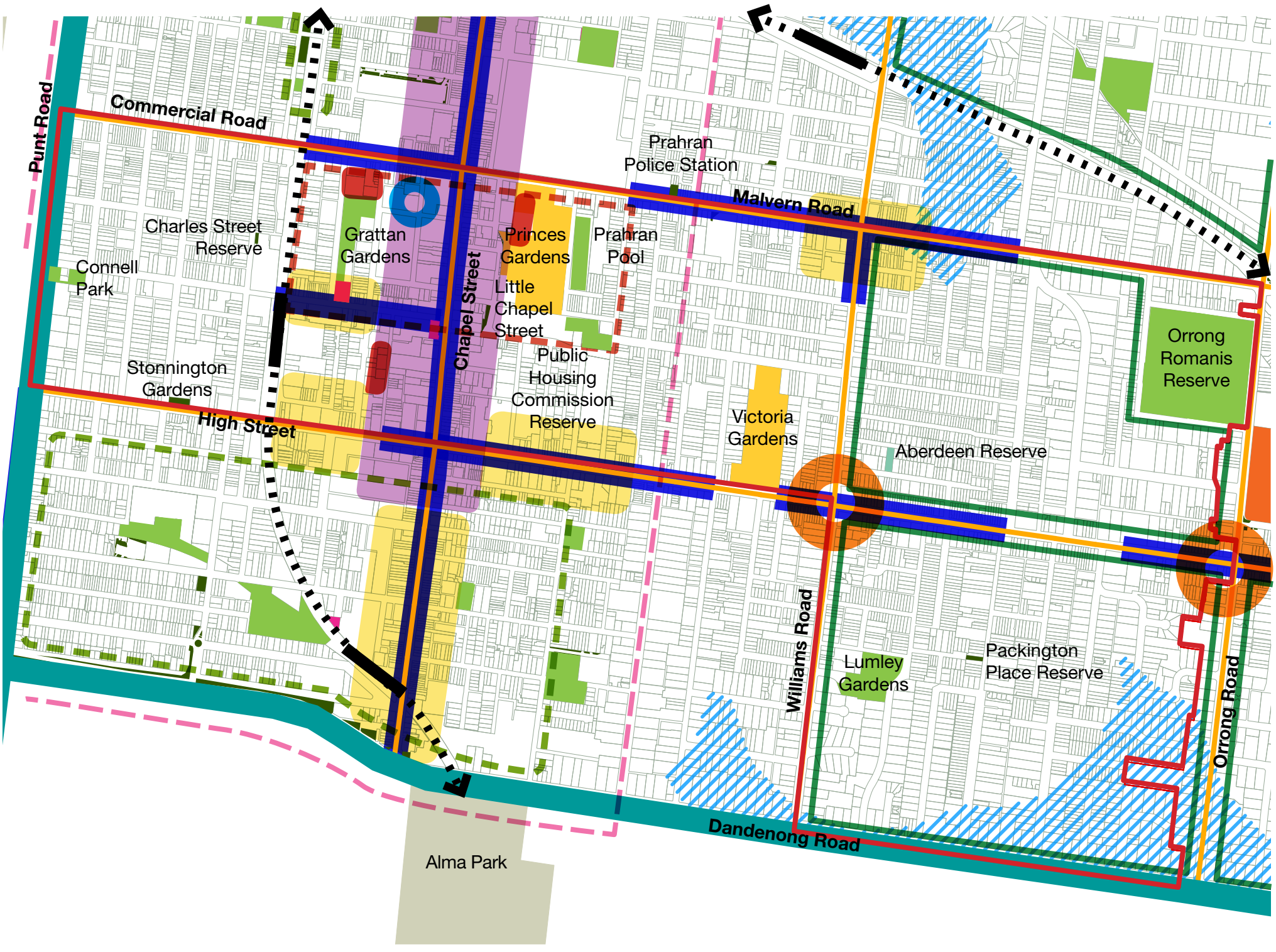
Green spaces

Main green spaces:
- Princes Gardens and Prahran Pool
- Victoria Gardens
- Grattan Gardens
- Connell Park
- Wattle Street Square
- Raised Public Plaza, Chatham Street
- Prahran Town Hall Square
- Flying Duck – Housing Commission Open Space
- Lumley Gardens
- Orrong Romanis Reserve

Other green spaces:
- Cromwell Park
- Prahran Police Station
- Charles Street Reserve
- Stonnington Gardens
- Grattan Gardens Community Centre

Links

- Wattle Street
- Railway line pedestrian link (Sandringham line)



Prahran, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs

Commercial hubs:

Toorak Road and Chapel Street
- Undertake recommendations as per Chapel Vision Structure Plan

Community hubs:

1. Prahran Town Hall Plaza
- Redevelop the Prahran Town Hall Precinct plaza

2. Cato Street Car Park and Wattle Street
- Green link from Grattan Gardens to Princes Gardens along Cato/ Wattle Street
- Proposed new public plaza (at northern end of car park) to connect Grattan Gardens and Princes Gardens (Chapel Vision Structure Plan)

Streets

3. High Street and Hawksburn Centres
- Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy

4. Chapel Street
- There is potential for more urban 'green' hot spots along its length. Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives and continuation of urban design solutions. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance

5. Greville Street
- Majority of master plan has been implemented. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance

6. Malvern Road (Hawksburn Shopping Centre)
- Improvement works have been undertaken in the past. Review as part of Commercial Streetscape Strategy and implement recommendations

Residential Streetscapes
- Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets

Green spaces

7. Princes Gardens
- Develop a precinct plan for Princes Gardens
- Expansion of park as per Chapel Vision recommendation
- Seek alternative sources of water to sustain the horticultural and arboricultural assets within the park
- Install drip irrigation to support significant mature trees
- Increase levels of surveillance to control antisocial behaviour and reduce risk to the community

8. Victoria Gardens
- Continue to maintain and protect the historic park
- Set up an alternative source of water to sustain the horticultural and arboricultural assets within the park
- Upgrade subsurface and drip irrigation to drought proof garden beds and the sunken oval
- Increase plantings of drought tolerant exotic plants in the garden beds

9. Grattan Gardens
- Continue to implement master plan and Chapel Vision Structure Plan recommendations and ensure high-quality landscape adjacent to the Senior Citizens Centre
- Install drip irrigation to support significant mature trees

10. Lumley Gardens
- A well used park. There is opportunity to extend this public space and upgrade through property acquisition

11. Orrong Romanis Reserve
- This site has undergone a high level of redevelopment and diversification of uses but surrounds of ovals could improve opportunities for passive recreation. Develop visual links to Toorak Park and to Station
- Upgrade the standard of Orrong Park Oval with sustainable options (e.g. improved levels and warm season grasses)

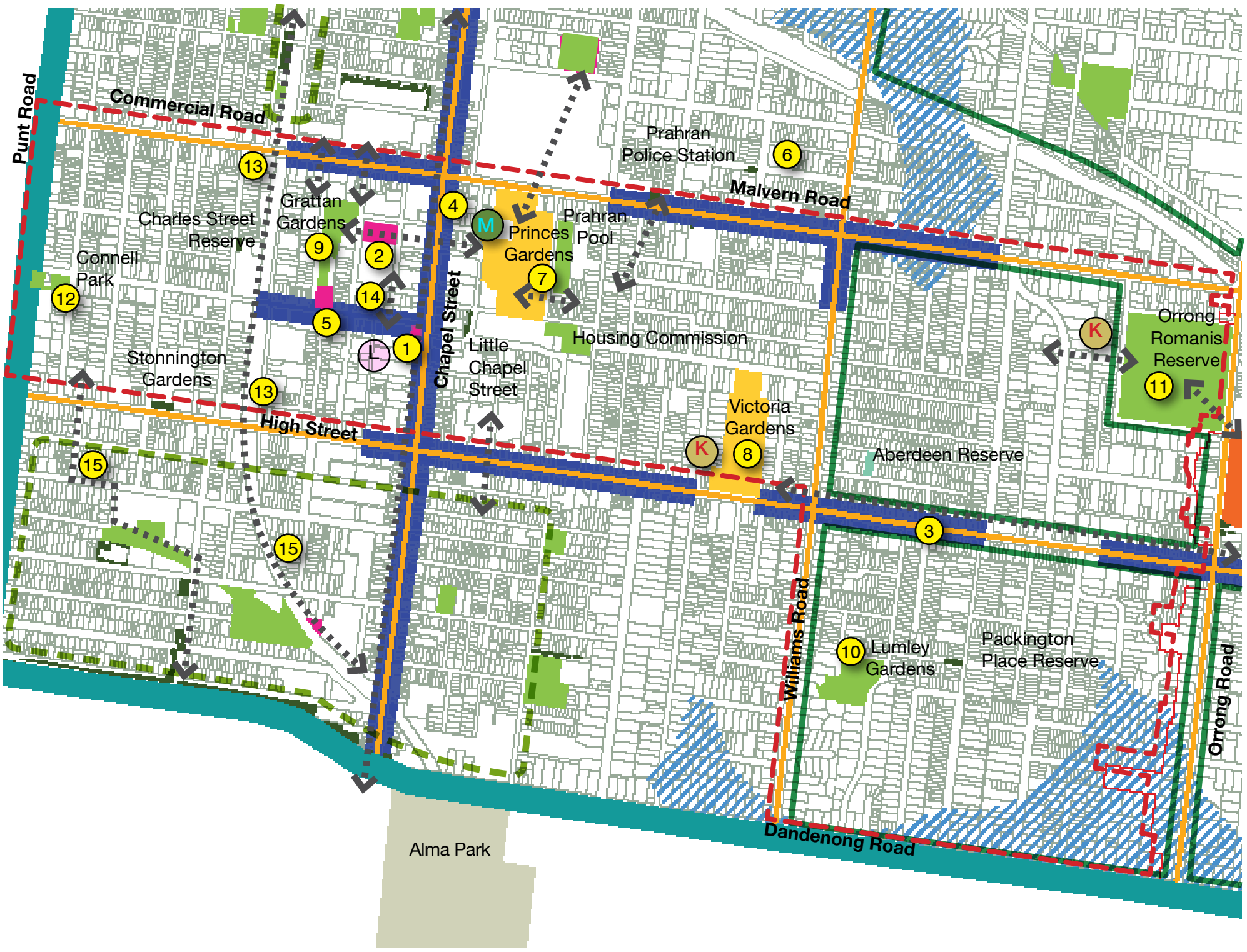
12. Connell Park
- Implement master plan

Links

13. Sandringham Line
- Create a full-length pedestrian link and shared path along the railway line
- High priority link between Prahran Station and High Street

14. Chatham Street to Greville Street Link
- New link between Chatham Street and Greville Street

15. Shared pathway system between Dandenong Road and Alexandra Avenue
- Develop a coordinated shared pathway link between Dandenong Road and Alexandra Avenue, two key commuter (railway) and recreational (West Prahran) pathways



Prahran, main opportunities

Legend

Community facilities

- L — Libraries
- K — Kindergartens and child care centres
- M — Maternal and child health care centres
- M — Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- 1 — Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

7.3 Windsor 3181

Analysis

Windsor residential street (type: green fabric). Source: ASPECT Studios

Windsor Siding (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Harry Gregory Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Corner Union and Upton Streets (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	6,014
Projected population (2021)^	6,937

* Source ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	668	11%
20–34	2,482	41%
35–59	1,865	31%
60+	992	16%

** Source ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- Windsor, in particular, suffers from a lack of public open space. The narrow streets make it difficult for street tree upgrades. Therefore, streetscape quality and links to nearby suburbs and open space are important
- Street closures and green links within new developments are the best opportunities to increase the amount of public realm

Quality of the public realm

- There are a variety of different types of public spaces, but the precinct needs more high quality open spaces dedicated for use by young people
- The quality of the existing spaces is mixed, but generally adequate to low when compared to other spaces across Stonnington
- A number of the smaller parks are tucked away or have very limited access points

Linkages

- The railway line and its location is problematic and requires better links
- Links to Albert Park Lake need to be enhanced

Precinct demographics*

- Windsor has a relatively low number of children, but young professionals in the 25–44 year age bracket make up a high proportion of Windsor's demographic and predominantly live in single person households
- More than half of the households are rented and median housing prices have more then doubled in the last decade

***Source: ABS Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- Windsor is a dense and highly populated inner city suburb. It is characterised by smaller lots and the ongoing redevelopment of larger lots is resulting in a higher proportion of flats and apartments. Windsor is comprised of 44% flats and apartments and just 17% separate houses
- Windsor is bisected by the railway line and it is important that this barrier is remediated by links wherever possible
- The largest area of public space is Windsor Siding
- As a busy commercial strip, Chapel Street is a major influence on traffic
- Windsor has a number of particularly narrow streets, which means that the Street Tree Strategy is often not practical. Alternatives such as increased setbacks and green walls should be considered

Future demand on the public realm

- Residential density is increasing (predominantly apartment blocks) and will increase pressure on the public realm
- There is a general need to cater to an increasingly young adult population in public realm planning
- Chapel Street will continue to put pressure on the surrounding residential areas

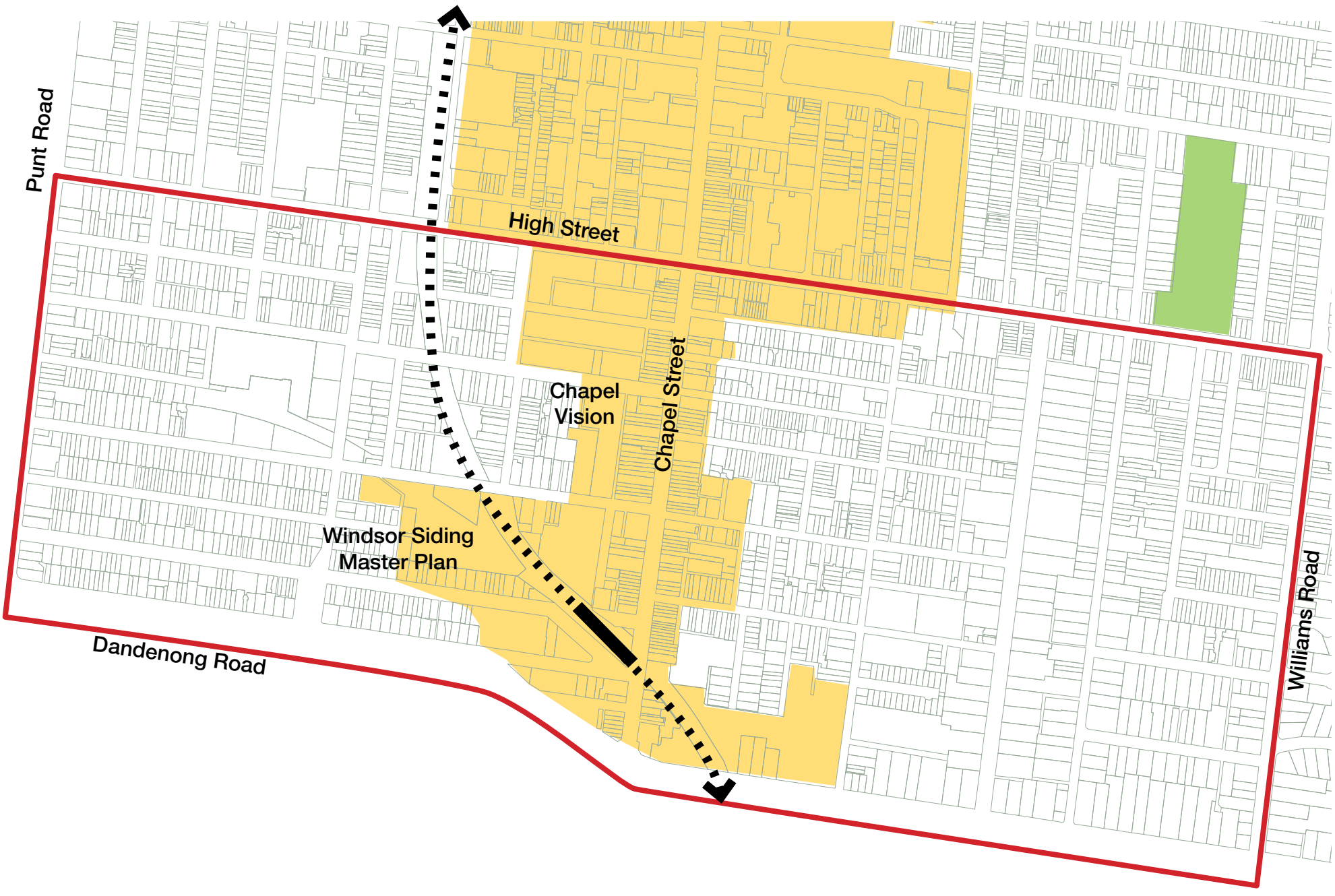
Current public realm status

Relevant reports and strategies

- IMAP – The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (2005)
- Chapel Vision Structure Plan (December 2007)
- Windsor Siding Master Plan

Windsor residential street (type: green fabric). Source: ASPECT Studios

Chris Gahan Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios



Windsor, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	0.32
Projected (2021)	0.32
Overall suburb area	10.04
% of open space in suburb	3%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	5.33
Projected (2021)	4.62

* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

Commercial hub:
- Chapel Street, Windsor

Community hubs:
- n/a

Streets

Main commercial streets:
- Chapel Street
- High Street

Green streets:
- Green Street
- Upton/Charles Street
- Windsor West streetscape (numerous streets)
- Albert and Peel Street traffic islands
- Albert Street
- Vine Street
- Pine Grove nature strips
- Union Street (Ministry of Housing)
- Upton and Peel Street traffic islands

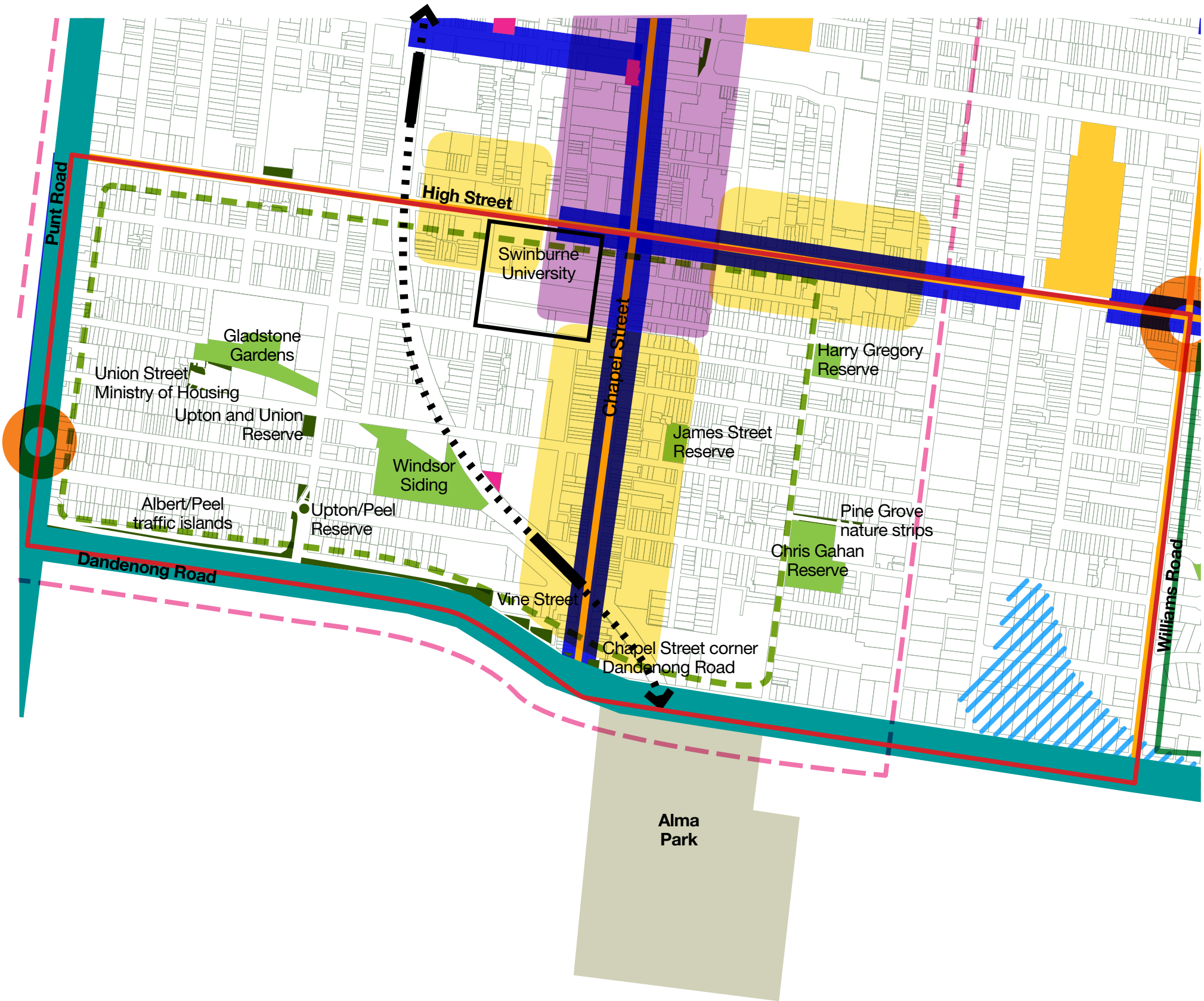
Green spaces

Main green spaces:
- Chris Gahan Reserve
- Gladstone Gardens
- Harry Gregory Reserve
- James Street Reserve
- Windsor Siding Reserve

Other green spaces:
- Upton and Peel Reserve
- Upton and Union Reserve

Links

- Shared pathway along railway line (north and south side)
- Swinburne University Campus



Windsor, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs
Commercial streets:

Chapel Street
- Undertake recommendations as per Chapel Vision Structure Plan

Streets

1. Chapel Street
- There is potential for more urban ‘green’ hot spots along its length. Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance

2. High Street
- Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy
- Develop a more civic landscape connection between High Street and Swinburne University

Residential streets:
- Review existing streets for opportunities for improvement in quality and additional open space. Refer to the Windsor Green Fabric recommendations in Part A
- Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets

Green spaces

3. Windsor Siding Reserve
- Enhance current youth park and community park status. Seek to buy/redevelop/demolish the existing building. Improve park as a ‘youth park’ with due sensitivities to adjacent community facilities
- Consider the replacement of the existing high maintenance, little used BMX track with a skate facility
- An increase in the size of the central lawn would increase active and passive recreation opportunities in this off-leash park

4. Windsor Station precinct – railway square and super tram stop
- Implement the concept from Chapel Vision Structure Plan for squares at Maddock Street and Albert Street

5. Harry Gregory Reserve
- This degraded park requires a major review and capital improvements. The review should discourage inappropriate competitive sports, such as soccer

6. Chris Gahan Reserve
- Continue to maintain park and ensure adjacent buildings do not dominate character

7. Gladstone Gardens
- Upgrade according to concept plan

8. James Street Reserve
- This small underdeveloped space requires a concept plan and upgrade for better community use

Links

- Implement IMAP link recommendations

9. Sandringham Line
- Create full-length pedestrian and cycle shared link along railway line to Dandenong Road

10. Sandringham Line and station precinct
- Improve connections between Windsor Station, Windsor Siding Reserve, Maddock Street and Bowling Green Lane via widening of pathways, directional signage and maximising surveillance opportunities

11. Upton and Charles Streets
- Promote as a green connection street as per IMAP recommendations

12. Swinburne University
- Negotiate with the University for a legible north–south pedestrian link through campus

13. Peel Street/Albert Street
- Review this intersection and remodel to provide useable pedestrian space. Access required by fire station

14. Southern links
- Chapel Street to Presentation Girls College and Dandenong Road
- Pedestrian links to Dandenong Road footbridge

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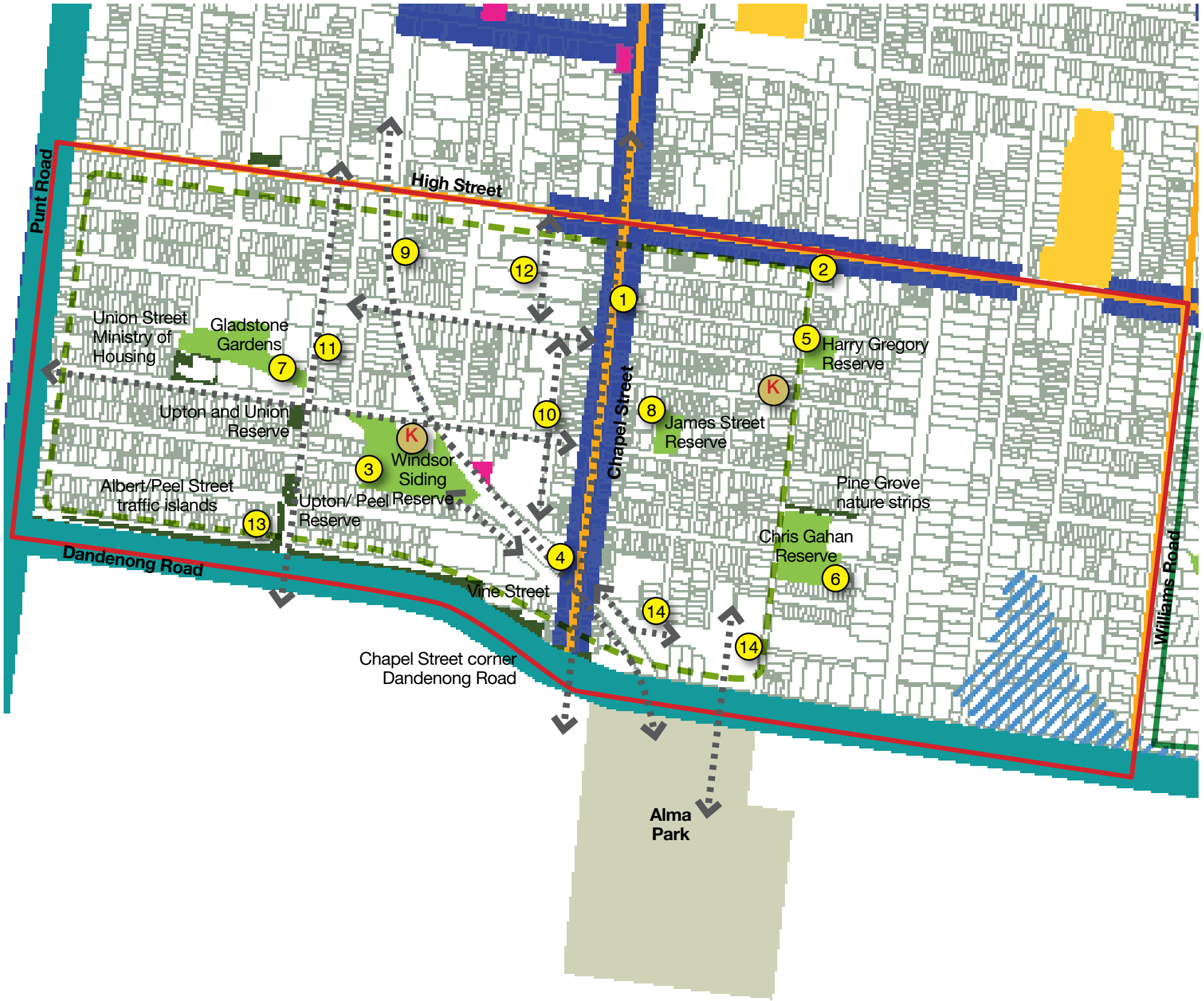


Windsor, main opportunities

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Community facilities

- L — Libraries
- K — Kindergartens and child care centres
- M — Maternal and child health care centres
- M — Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- 1 — Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

7.4 Armadale 3143

Analysis

Victory Square Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Union Street Gardens (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Armadale Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Orrong Romanis Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	8,467
Projected population (2021)^	9,853

* Source: ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	1,426	17%
20–34	2,634	31%
35–59	2,790	33%
60+	1,617	19%

** Source: ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- Armadale has one of the lowest percentages of public space in Stonnington, with approximately nine parks (4.9 ha of open space)
- The south-eastern and north-western sides of the suburb have limited public open space. The area east of the railway line and west of Tooronga Road has no public open space, but there are a higher proportion of separate houses in this area so this is not considered a priority area

Quality of the public realm

- The quality of the public space varies. The larger parks and main streetscapes are good quality and are well used; however, some require upgrades to reach their full potential
- Victory Square is not well used

Linkages

- Dandenong Road is a major barrier and requires links to access the adjacent Caulfield Park
- There are several arterial roads, including Dandenong Road, with few links and with no reserves easily accessible nearby
- A steep escarpment to the railway line acts as a barrier, and a greater number of pedestrian crosslinks need to be implemented to mitigate the link's barrier nature

Precinct demographics*

- Armadale has a similar population profile to Windsor, Prahran and South Yarra. It is dominated by 20–39 year-olds
- The population of Armadale accounts for approximately 9% of the total municipality
- 61% of residents live in family households

***Source: ABS Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- Major arterial roads through this precinct divide it physically and the railway crosses diagonally through the area from north-west to south-west
- The railway easement is deeply incised and the steep embankments are not usable for recreational purposes. The railway creates a barrier within the suburb for access to major areas of open space
- Some areas of the suburb have heritage significance – the largest area is Glenferrie Road. It does not have any local open space located within it
- Toorak Park is the largest open space in the area

Future demand on the public realm

- There will be an increase in pressure on the public realm as the population increases
- Armadale's demographics are not likely to change extensively
- Residents have identified that there is not enough open space within walking distance

Current public realm status

Relevant reports and strategies

- IMAP – The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (2005)
- Toorak Park Master Plan (in progress)

Inverness Avenue Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Armadale, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	0.49
Projected (2021)	0.49
Overall suburb area	21.48
% of open space in suburb	2%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	5.80
Projected (2021)	4.98

* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

- n/a

Streets

Main commercial streets:

- High Street
- Glenferrie Road (shared with East Malvern)
- Beatty Avenue (Toorak Station)

Green spaces

Main green spaces:

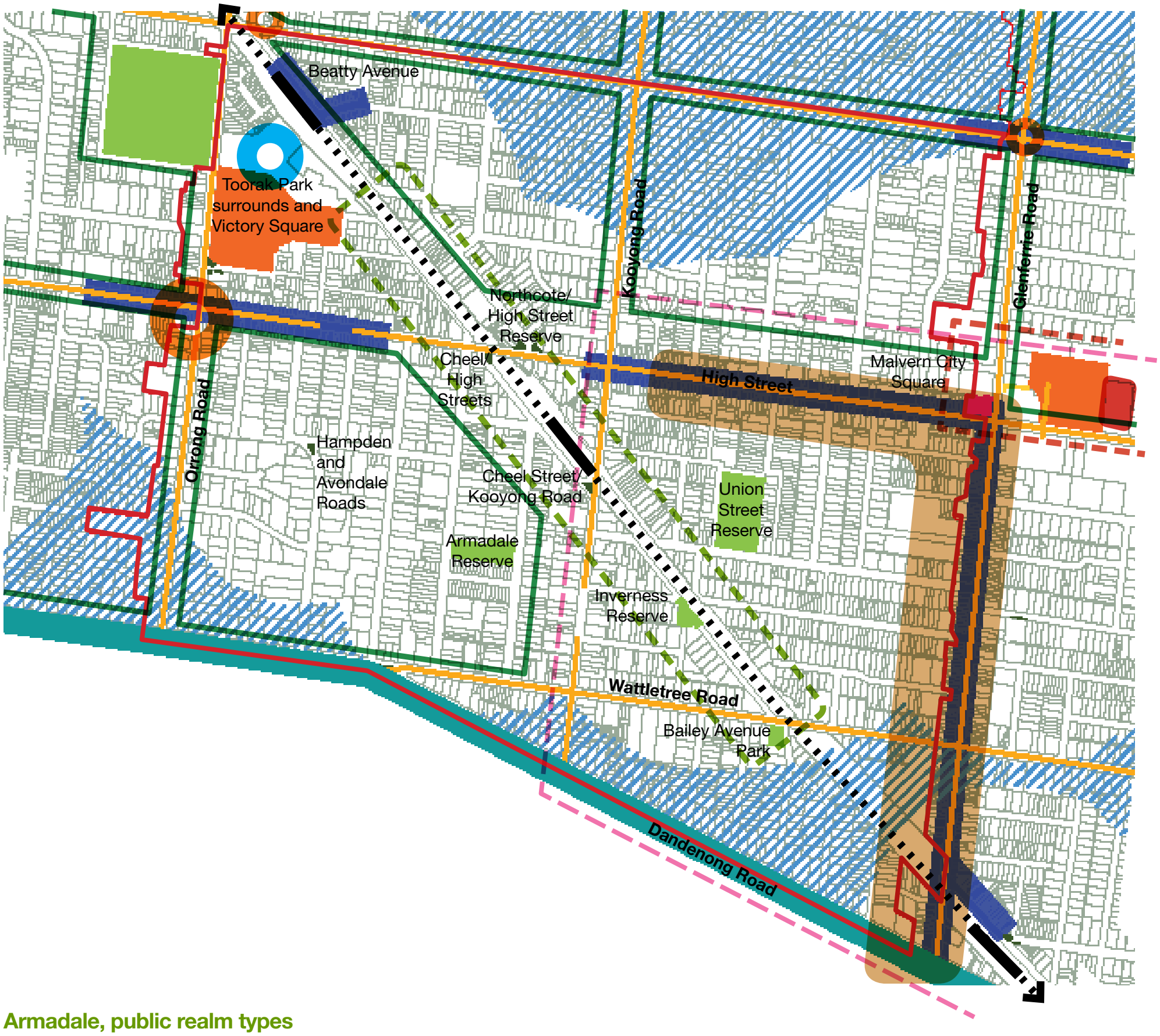
- Union Street Reserve
- Armadale Reserve
- Bailey Avenue Park
- Inverness Park
- Toorak Park surrounds
- Victory Square

Other green spaces:

- Northcote Road and High Streets
- Cheel and High Streets

Links

- Various intermittent and short pedestrian thoroughfares along the south side of the railway line
- Proposed pedestrian bridge link over railway line to Victory Square



Armadale, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs
- No major activity or community hubs are located in this precinct

Streets

Commercial streets:

1. High Street
- Improve pedestrian, bike and green links to commercial streetscapes

2. Beatty Avenue
- Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy

Green fabric:
- The fabric of small green spaces throughout Armadale, predominantly created by the street pattern and closed roads, especially around the railway line, contributes to the 'green amenity' of the suburb. These spaces should be maintained as primarily large tree planting places with limited shrub species to allow clear lines of sight. For example:
  - Northcote and High Street Reserves
  - Cheel Street and Kooyong Road traffic island
  - Cheel and High Streets traffic island
  - Bailey Avenue Park
  - Inverness Park
  - Hampden Road and Avondale Road traffic island

Residential streetscapes:

North of railway line and High Street
- This area has little green open space and there are potential difficulties acquiring land within the historic precinct. Undertake a traffic management study to determine which roads can be closed off to provide small green street spaces. Take into account acquisition strategy and heritage overlay plus land value factors
- Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets

Green spaces

3. Toorak Park and Victory Square
- Implement the adopted Master Plan for Toorak Park and Victory Square

4. Union Street Reserve
- Upgrade as required

5. Armadale Reserve
- Continue to upgrade the horticultural and arboricultural assets with the aid of the ground water bore

6. Inverness Park
- Upgrade garden beds with drought tolerant species

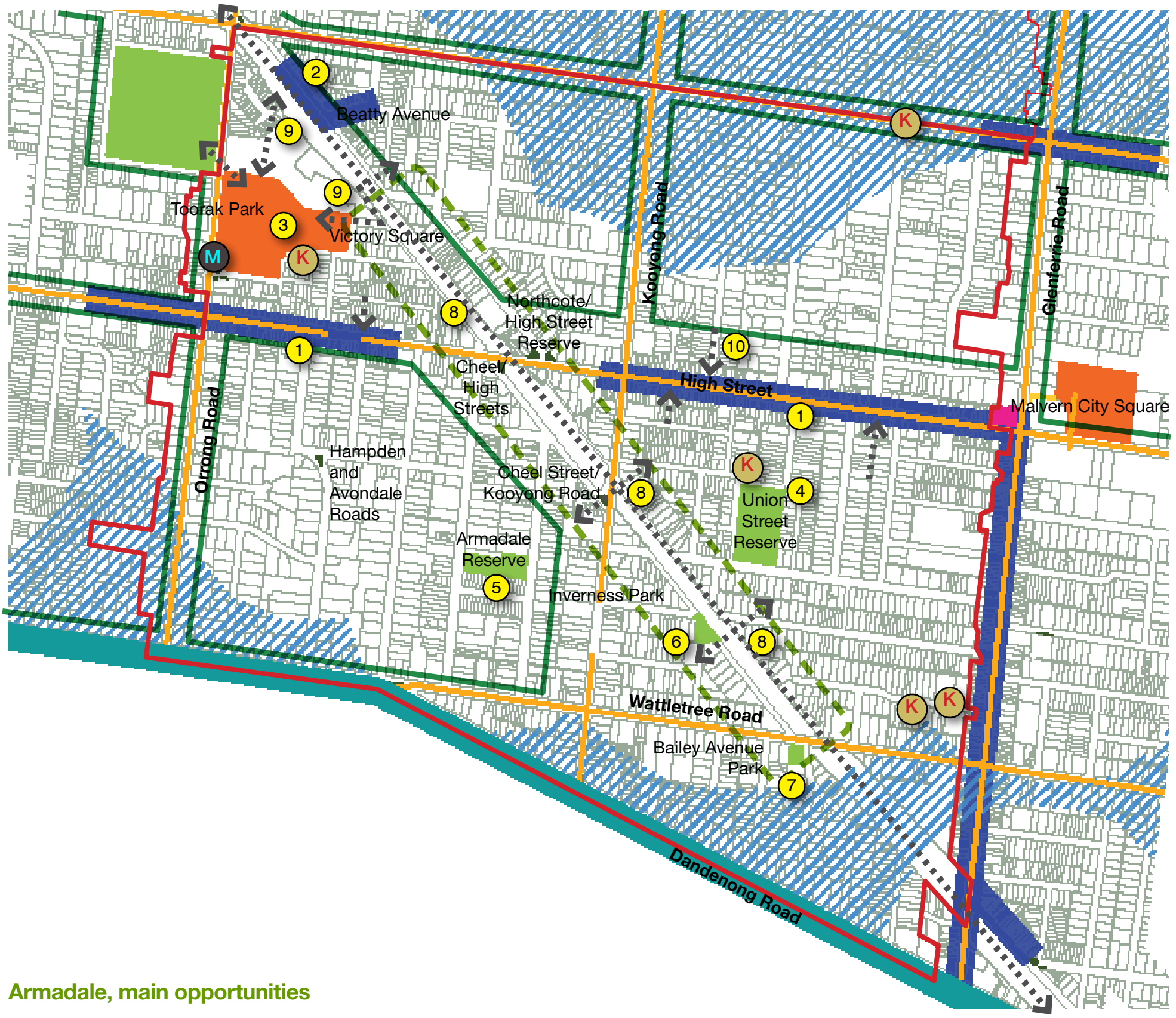
7. Bailey Avenue Park
- Upgrade garden beds with drought tolerant species

Links

8. Cranbourne Railway Line pedestrian link
- Railway easement: It is difficult to establish a parallel link because the railway and surrounding roadways are not at grade, but a comprehensive network of links is required to reduce the barrier effect and improve links to adjacent green spaces

9. Toorak Park and Victory Square links
- There is potential for a bridge connection over the railway line between Beatty Avenue and Victory Square Reserve. However, this may be redundant if a pathway can be established along the SKM site adjacent to Toorak Park/Victory Square that links to the station
- Seek a pedestrian link through land to the north in the event of that land's redevelopment
- Improve links between Toorak and Orrong Parks

10. High Street
- Seek additional pedestrian and cycle links to High Street as part of redevelopment projects (refer to Bike Strategy)



Armadale, main opportunities

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Community facilities

- L — Libraries
- K — Kindergartens and child care centres
- M — Maternal and child health care centres
- M — Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- 1 — Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

7.5 Toorak 3142 / Kooyong 3144

Analysis

Brookville Gardens (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Typical residential street. Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	13,127
Projected population (2021)^	15,858

* Source: ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	2,424	19%
20–34	2,881	22%
35–59	4,325	33%
60+	3,496	27%

** Source: ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- The quantity of public open space is low
- A public square has been proposed for Toorak Village (Toorak Village Activity Centre Structure Plan)
- Established green streetscapes make an important contribution to the public realm

Quality of the public realm

- Good quality streetscapes should be maintained to support the character of the precinct

Linkages

- Well established streetscapes should continue to receive ongoing investment
- The railway and Yarra corridors are strong regional links that should be maintained

Precinct demographics*

- This area has a good representation of younger age groups with 0-17 equating to 19%
- 78% of residents live in family households
- Toorak has more flats than detached houses (48% are flats as opposed to 35% detached houses)
- Parts of Toorak have been developed to take advantage of larger lots in this suburb
- Toorak has a higher proportion of home ownership (64%) than other suburbs, although this is mainly flats

***Source: ABS Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- The overall character of the suburb is one of shady streets lined with established street trees. These avenues contribute to the overall landscape and open space character
- Unlike other Stonnington suburbs, the majority of roads are 'no through' roads due to the topography
- Toorak has virtually no public open space; however, due to large lot sizes, there are significant amounts of private open space and an established streetscape character
- There is a heritage overlay over large areas of the precinct
- The precinct has high property values

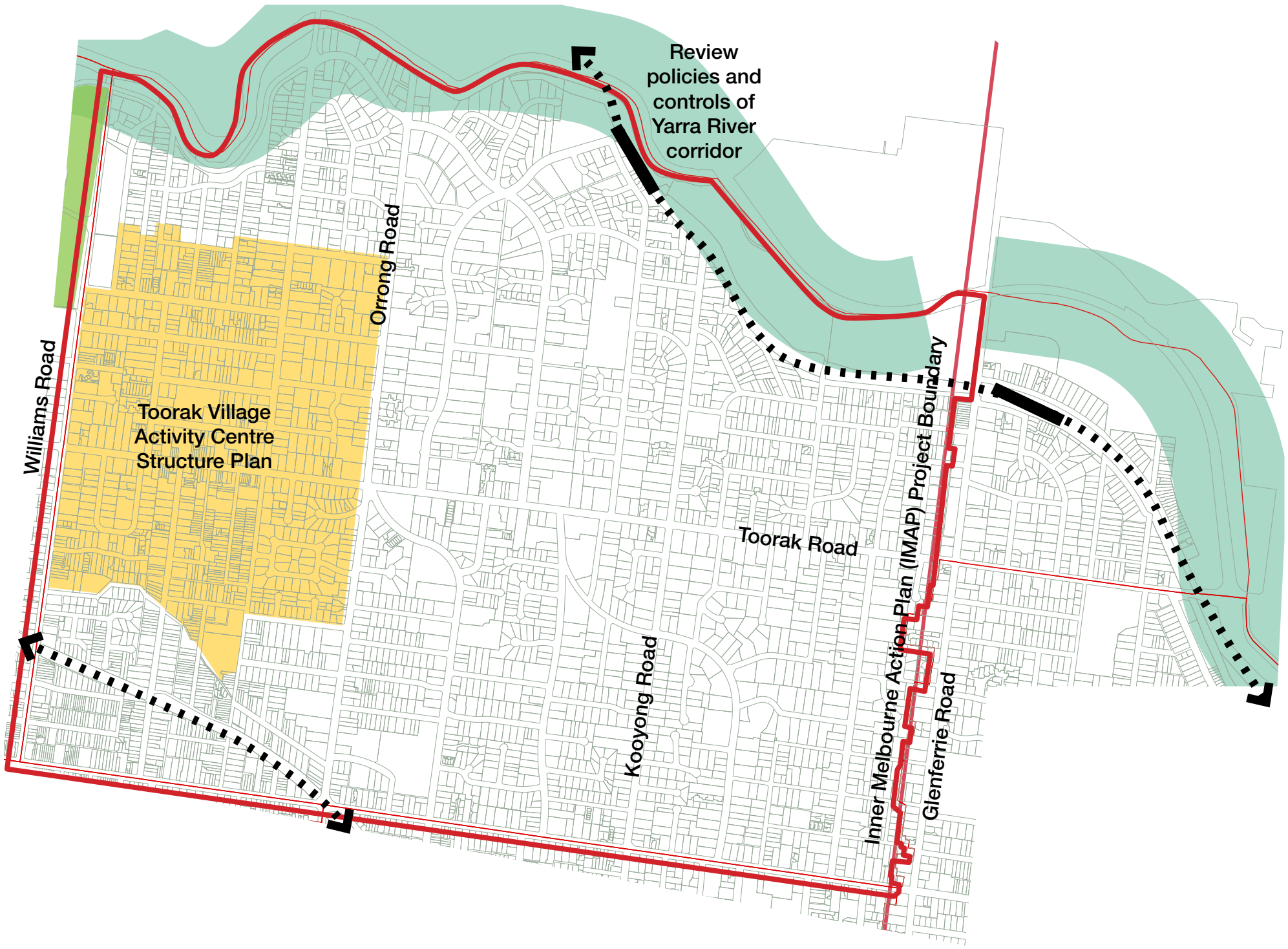
Future demand on the public realm

- The residential population is not predicted to vary much in the next few years
- There have been some areas of larger apartment development and some subdivision, but this is not expected to increase
- Toorak Village's public realm will be enhanced through a new public square or plaza
- The northern railway easement has the potential to be an open space link upgraded for recreation
- High property values make it difficult for Council to acquire any large tracts of land. Therefore the streetscapes and links become highly important, and the open space approach for this area should be focused on the links rather than plots of public space

Current public realm status

Relevant reports and strategies

- IMAP – The Inner Melbourne Action Plan (2005)
- Yarra River Usage Management Plan (Melbourne Water)
- Toorak Village Activity Centre Structure Plan (2007)



Toorak / Kooyong, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	1.69
Projected (2021)	1.69
Overall suburb area	47.74
% of open space in suburb	4%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	12.89
Projected (2021)	10.67

* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

Commercial hubs:

- Toorak Village, Toorak Road

Community hubs:

- n/a

Streets

Main commercial streets:

- Jackson Street
- Toorak Village
- Kooyong Village

Green fabric:

- St Georges and Lansell Roads traffic island
- Orrong and Malvern Roads traffic island
- Orrong Road and Martin Court traffic island
- Grange and St Georges Roads roundabout

Green spaces

Main green spaces:

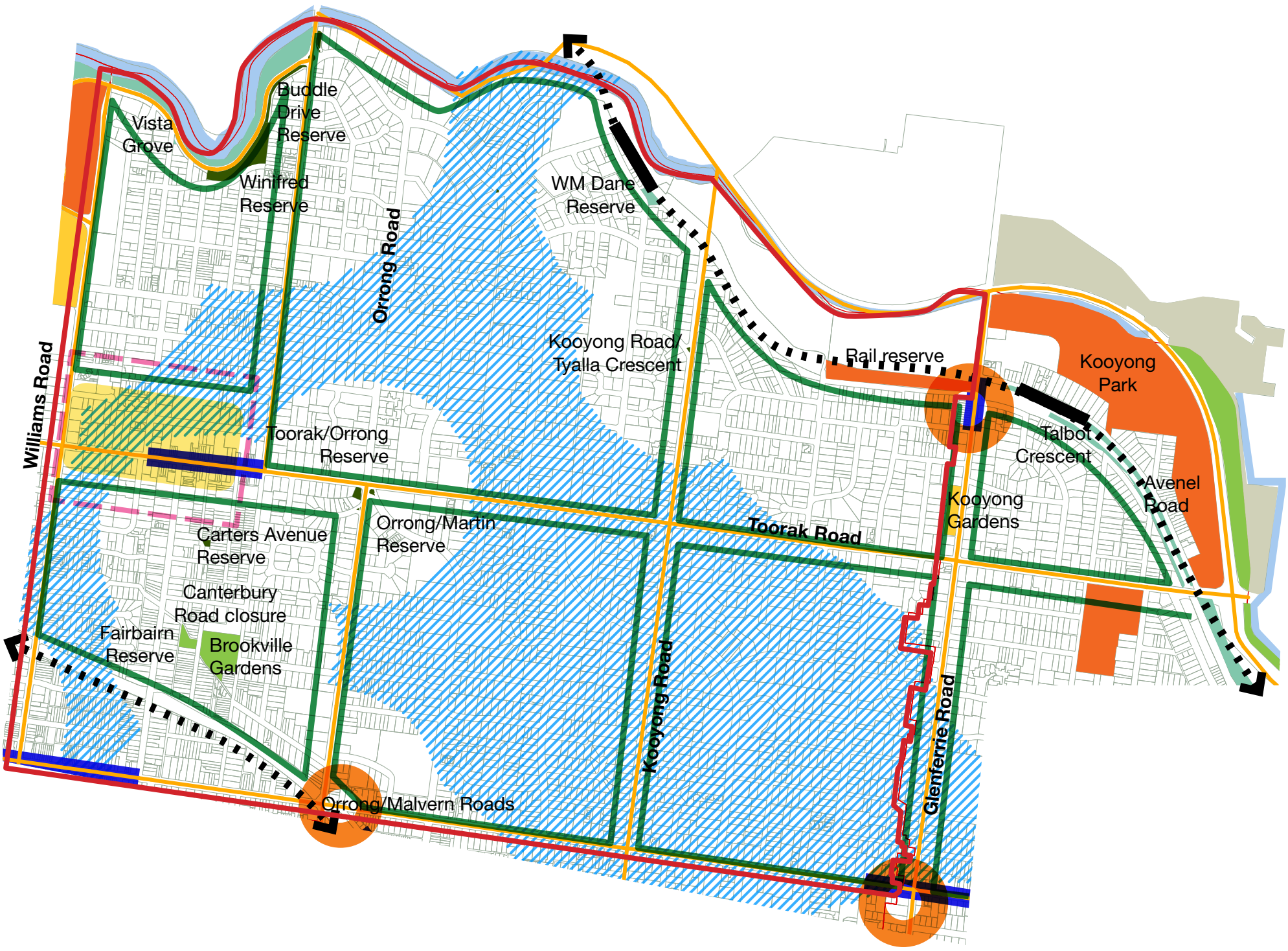
- Brookville Gardens
- Fairbairn Reserve
- Kooyong Gardens
- Kooyong Park
- Jackson Street Open Plaza

Other green spaces:

- Winifred Reserve
- Buddle Drive Reserve
- Toorak/Orrong Reserve
- Carters Avenue Reserve
- Grange and St Georges Reserve
- WM Dane Reserve
- Alexandra Avenue (Verdent Avenue to Williams Road)

Links

- Yarra River
- Toorak Road
- WM Dane Reserve
- Canterbury Road closure
- Vista Grove Road Reserve
- Avenel Road
- Talbot Crescent
- Railway reservation (Dandenong line)
- Pedestrian links across railway and freeway to Gardiners Creek parkland



Toorak / Kooyong, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs

1. Toorak Village
- There is opportunity to address poor disability access to public transport, improve footpath treatments and remove visual clutter (Toorak Village Activity Structure Plan)

Streets

Commercial streets:

2. Jackson Street
- Expand southern footpaths and landscape and improve bike and pedestrian access (Toorak Village Activity Structure Plan)

3. Kooyong Village, Glenferrie Road
- Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy

Residential streetscapes:
- Implement the Street Tree Strategy throughout the suburb. Trees are highly significant in this precinct

Green spaces

4. Brookville Gardens and Fairbairn Reserve
- Complete the Conservation Management Plan
- Ensure adequate path access and seating throughout the gardens
- Improve the management of Brookville Gardens in consultation with Toorak Primary School to reduce wear and tear and/or consider the installation of an area of synthetic turf for school use

5. Kooyong Park
- Invest in improving links to and from Kooyong Park. Balance the competing interests of sport and passive recreation in the parklands
- Investigate the opportunities to obtain water from alternative sources to drought proof
- Maintain the integrity of the sporting and other horticultural and arboricultural assets
- Increase the distribution and density of indigenous plantings in this park abutting Gardiner Park

6. Jackson Street Open Plaza
- A new square is proposed for Toorak Village to help offset any increased demand caused by densification (Toorak Village Activity Structure Plan)

7. Kooyong Gardens
- Retain the historical character of the park and continue to upgrade as required

8. Orrong and Toorak Reserve
- Maintain as an important visual green space

9. Carters Avenue Reserve
- Maintain as a children's playground
- Expand Carters Avenue as per Toorak Village Activity Centre Structure Plan (2007) recommendation

10. WM Dane Reserve
- Maintain indigenous vegetation
- Extend existing walking path from Heyington Station to Turnbull Avenue through to Glenferrie Road in consultation with VicTrack

11. Winifred Reserve
- Upgrade tree planting with species more sympathetic to the Yarra River Corridor

12. Buddle Drive Reserve
- Incorporate indigenous plantings into the existing garden beds

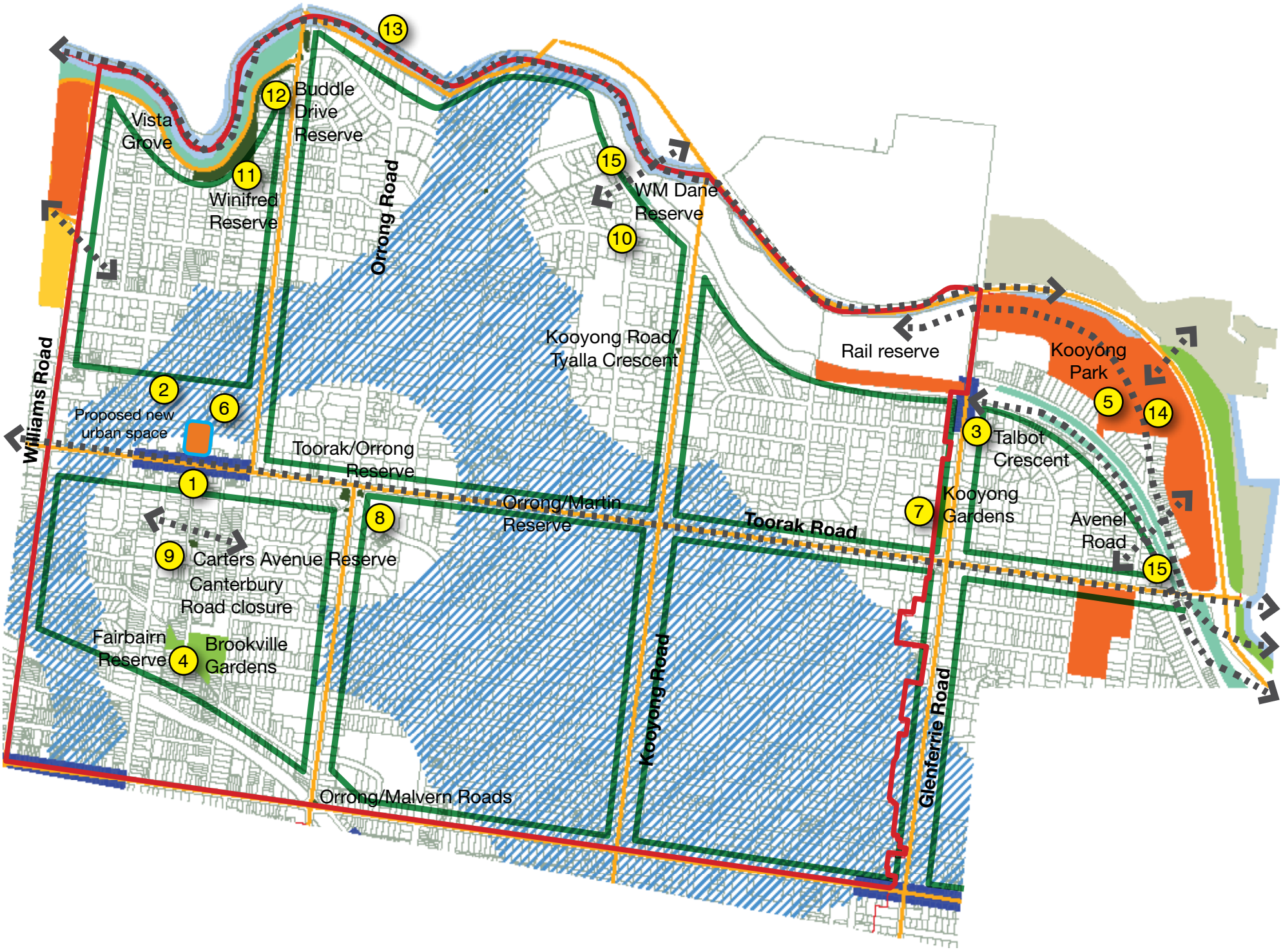
Links

- Implement IMAP link recommendations

13. Yarra River
- Ensure Policy 'C50 – Interim Controls – Land beside the Yarra River east of Grange Road' is implemented

14. Gardiners Creek
- Protect and enhance the significant ecological and recreational parklands and links

15. Railway line
- Develop a continuous bike and green link along the railway line and improve links across railway to Gardiners Creek



Toorak / Kooyong, main opportunities

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Community facilities

- L — Libraries
- K — Kindergartens and child care centres
- M — Maternal and child health care centres
- M — Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- 1 — Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

7.6 Malvern 3144

Analysis

Milton Gray Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Northbrook Gardens (type: green space/historic park). Source: ASPECT Studios

Malvern Square (type: green space/urban space). Source: ASPECT Studios

McArthur Street Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	9,422
Projected population (2021)^	10,974

* Source: ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	2,284	24%
20–34	2,029	22%
35–59	3,247	34%
60+	1,862	20%

** Source: ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- While it meets the traditional benchmarks, there is a large discrepancy between Malvern's areas, with much more open space in the north

Quality of the public realm

- There are some good quality sporting and recreation reserves that are well utilised
- The southern section has less open space, which puts pressure on spaces like Penpraze Park
- The public spaces surrounding the main Town Hall have been upgraded and the Town Hall's immediate landscape needs to reach the same level of quality

Linkages

- The links are generally adequate; however Caulfield Park and Kooyong Park have problematic links with barrier conditions at the north and south of the suburb

Precinct demographics*

- There is a relatively even spread of age groups compared to other suburbs
- 83% of residents live in family households
- Malvern has a higher proportion of detached housing (56%) than other suburbs, and it has quite a high percentage of home owners (70%)
- Only 27% of the housing stock is rented, and this correlates with the 26% of the housing stock made up of flats or apartments

***Source: ABS Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- Mid to large lot sizes of mostly detached houses allow a significant amount of private open space
- The southern area has a large heritage overlay; the northern side is split by the railway and freeway
- Malvern Road and Glenferrie Road are the main commercial precincts
- Recently there has been a trend for medium density housing development to be randomly distributed through the precinct

Future demand on the public realm

- There is not a statistical lack of open space in terms of the traditional benchmark
- Development along Malvern Road is expected; however, there is little change expected in the population. It is anticipated that the average age will increase and the demographic will consist of a higher proportion of families
- Any future development is most likely to be subdividing the existing blocks
- Linking to Kooyong's public open space is important to emphasise as this public space can service a larger population than just those living in Kooyong

Current public realm status

Relevant reports and strategies

- Malvern Public Gardens Master Plan
- Gardiners and Scotchman's Creeks Water Plan

Glenferrie Road (type: commercial street). Source: ASPECT Studios

Malvern Cricket Ground (type: green space/sports park). Source: ASPECT Studios

Malvern, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	1.23
Projected (2021)	1.23
Overall suburb area	29.27
% of open space in suburb	4%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	13.07
Projected (2021)	11.22

* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

Commercial hubs:

- Glenferrie Road, Malvern
- High Street, Malvern

Community hubs:

- Malvern Town Hall, Malvern Library, Malvern Square, Malvern Cricket Ground, Glenferrie Road and High Street

Streets

Main commercial streets:

- Glenferrie Road
- Malvern Hill Village, Malvern Road

Green fabric:

- Victoria Road North traffic island
- Winter Street car park nature strips

Green spaces

Main green spaces:

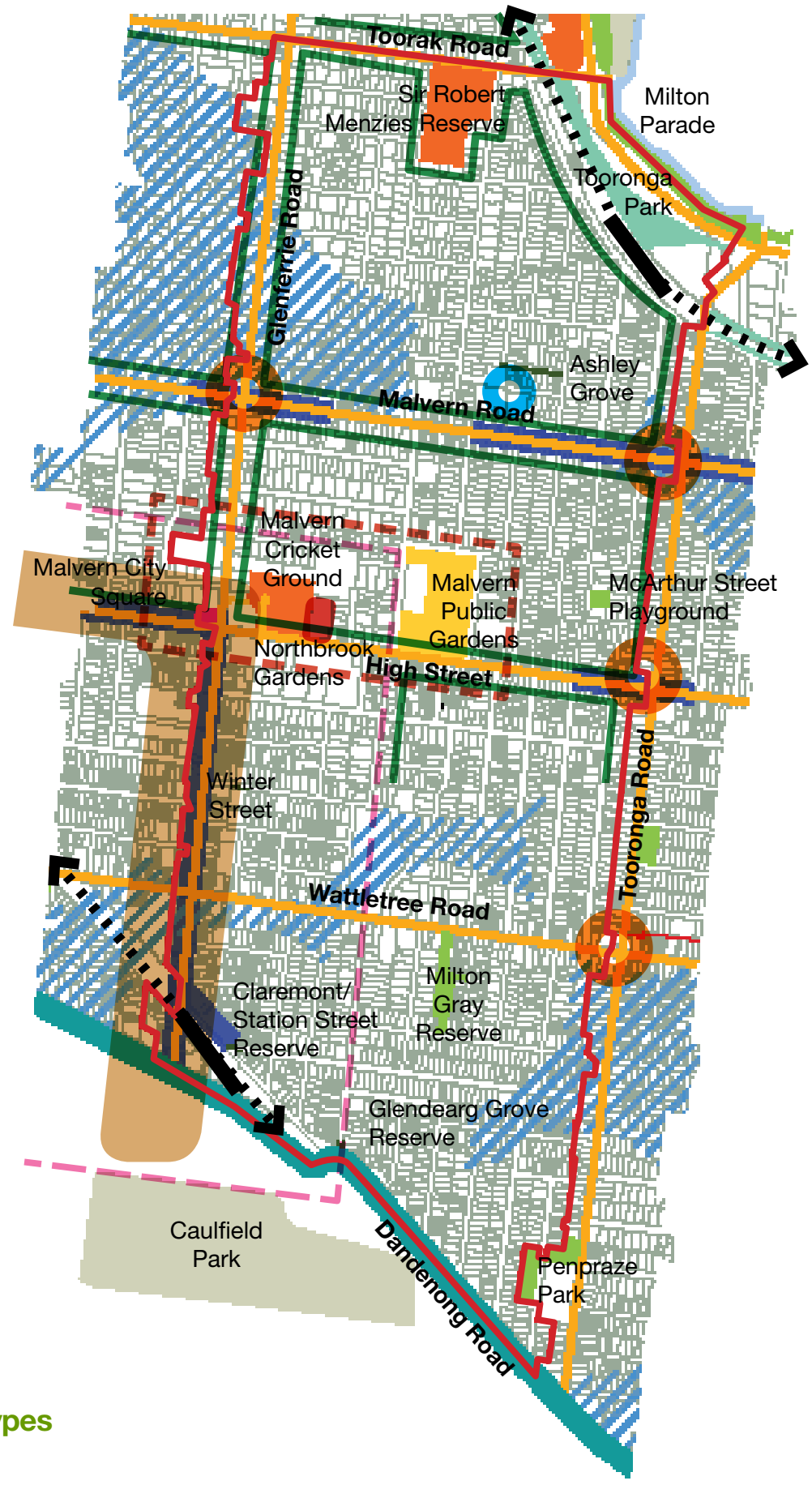
- Malvern Public Gardens
- Northbrook Gardens
- Malvern City Square
- Malvern Cricket Ground and Town Hall precinct
- McArthur Street Playground
- Milton Gray Reserve
- Penpraze Park
- Sir Robert Menzies Reserve
- Tooronga Park

Other green spaces:

- Ashley Grove
- Claremont and Station Streets Reserve
- Glendearg Grove Reserve

Links

- Pedestrian links across railway and freeway to Gardiners Creek parklands
- Railway link (Glen Waverley line)
- Stonington Mansion
- Milton Parade



Malvern, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs

Commercial hub:

Glenferrie Road
- Undertake a structure plan and/or public realm improvement plan for the commercial hub. This should include improving pedestrian and cycling links to the hub and main street

Community hub:

Malvern Town Hall precinct
- Undertake an integrated master plan and development for the Malvern Town Hall hub. This area contains open space, recreation facilities, library, town hall and associated car parking and is used heavily

Streets

Commercial streets:

1. Glenferrie Road (High Street-Dandenong Road)
- This streetscape has undergone streetscape upgrade for the last few years. Ensure all planned works are completed

2. Malvern Hill Village
- Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy

Residential streets:
- Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets

Green spaces

3. Malvern Cricket Ground
- Develop as per the Malvern Town Hall Precinct Plan
- Develop an alternative water supply by desalinating ground water for the irrigation of the oval
- Replant the oval with warm season grasses

4. Malvern Public Gardens
- Implement the Conservation Management Plan
- Reduce excessive wear and tear in consultation with Malvern Central School and De La Salle College, e.g. transfer sporting activities to local sportsgrounds

5. Sir Robert Menzies Reserve
- Complete Conservation Management Plan and Landscape Master Plan

6. Tooronga Park
- Review quality of space and pedestrian connections in light of adjacent Council depot development and improve as necessary
- Continue development of indigenous vegetation to provide additional habitat in close proximity to Gardiners Creek

7. Northbrook Gardens
- Upgrade this small historical garden behind the library as required
- Reduce the Garden's dependence on potable water with the supply of water from an alternative source

8. Malvern City Square
- Redeveloped in 2005–2006. Upgrade as required

9. Milton Gray Reserve
- Relocate the scout hall when the opportunity presents itself
- Following the scout hall relocation prepare a concept plan for the reserve

10. McArthur Street Playground
- Upgrade this small local green space when necessary

Links

11. Links to Gardiners Creek and parklands
- Improve links to Gardiners Creek parklands and trail, through railway line and freeway. These need to be of high quality and with clear signage and visibility. Negotiate and collaborate with VicTrack and VicRoads

12. Railway link
- Develop local pedestrian and shared pathway links along the railway line. Negotiate and collaborate with VicTrack
- Use any remnant space available for planting and landscape works (keep in mind fire issues). This requires negotiation and collaboration from railway authorities

13. Stonington Mansion
- Ensure pedestrian links through any development of the site to improve local 'green' amenity and links

Malvern, main opportunities

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Community facilities

- Libraries
- Kindergartens and child care centres
- Maternal and child health care centres
- Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

7.7 Glen Iris 3146

Analysis

Viva Street Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Gardiners Creek (type: link). Source: ASPECT Studios

York Road Underpass (typical link under railway and freeway). Source: ASPECT Studios

Glenvale Road Reserve (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	8,172
Projected population (2021)^	8,879

* Source: ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	1,627	20%
20–34	1,939	24%
35–59	2,987	37%
60+	1,617	20%

** Source: ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- Open space in Glen Iris is above the traditional benchmark due to the large tract of open space along the river/creek
- While this suburb reaches the benchmark statistically, the public open space is clustered around northern and eastern edges, placing high pressure upon the streetscapes in the suburb's centre, and its southern and western edges

Quality of the public realm

- A number of streets have established trees which enhance the quality of the streetscapes
- Gardiners Creek parklands are diverse in function and quality, ranging through environmental, recreational and community types
- The quality of the railway link is both under-developed and, in areas where it is developed, of low quality

Linkages

- Gardiners Creek link and shared trail offer regional links; however, cross links are constrained and highly problematic because they are not well signed and do not connect with broader links

Precinct demographics*

- Glen Iris consists predominantly of family households (85%), although the number of single person households is slightly increasing
- Glen Iris has a higher proportion of detached housing (64%) and a high percentage of home owners (72%)
- Glen Iris accounts for 8.98% of the municipality's population

***Source: ABS Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- Most of the precinct's public open space is located on the northern and eastern edges of the suburb and pedestrian and bike users have to navigate across the freeway, railway line or creek to reach them
- Burke Road, High Street and Tooronga Road are the major commercial precincts in Glen Iris
- The streetscapes are generally of good quality and tree-lined
- Central Park (in Malvern East) to the south is the closest formal park

Future demand on the public realm

- There is an expected increase in average age, which will affect how the public realm is used and the facilities required
- There are some areas in the south and east of the precinct with limited access to public open space

Current public realm status

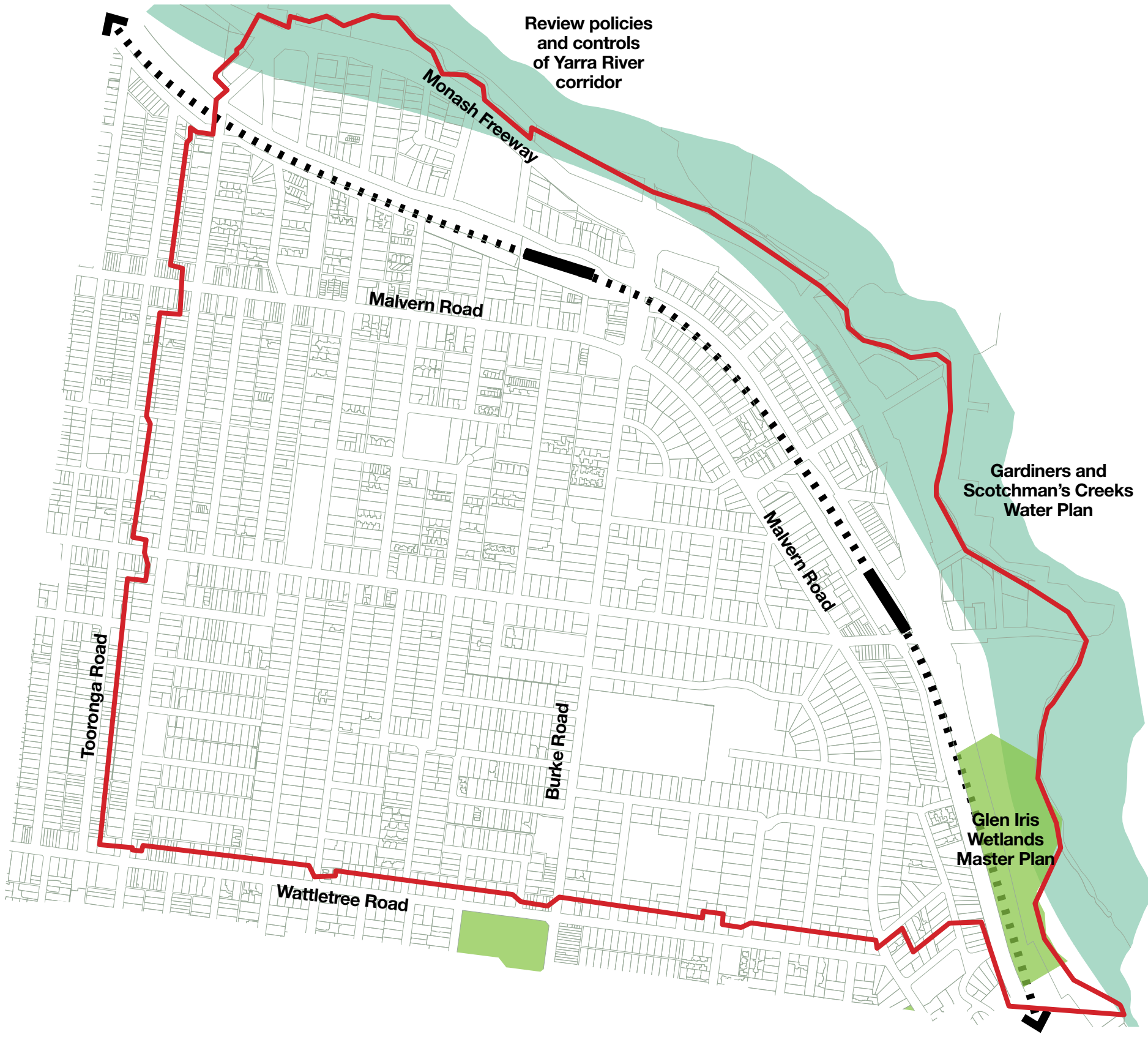
Relevant reports and strategies

- Glen Iris Wetlands Master Plan
- Gardiners and Scotchman's Creeks Water Plan (2006)

Glen Waverley railway line, Glen Iris (type: link). Source: ASPECT Studios

Peace Park (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Glen Waverley railway reserve, Glen Iris (type: link). Source: ASPECT Studios



Glen Iris, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	2.01
Projected (2021)	2.01
Overall suburb area	27.00
% of open space in suburb	7%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	24.54
Projected (2021)	22.59

* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

Commercial hubs:

- Neighbourhood activity centres

Community hubs:

- n/a

Streets

Main commercial streets:

- Wattletree Village, Wattletree Road
- Glen Iris Village, High Street
- Gardiner Village, Burke Road
- Malvern Village, Malvern Road

Green spaces

Main green spaces:

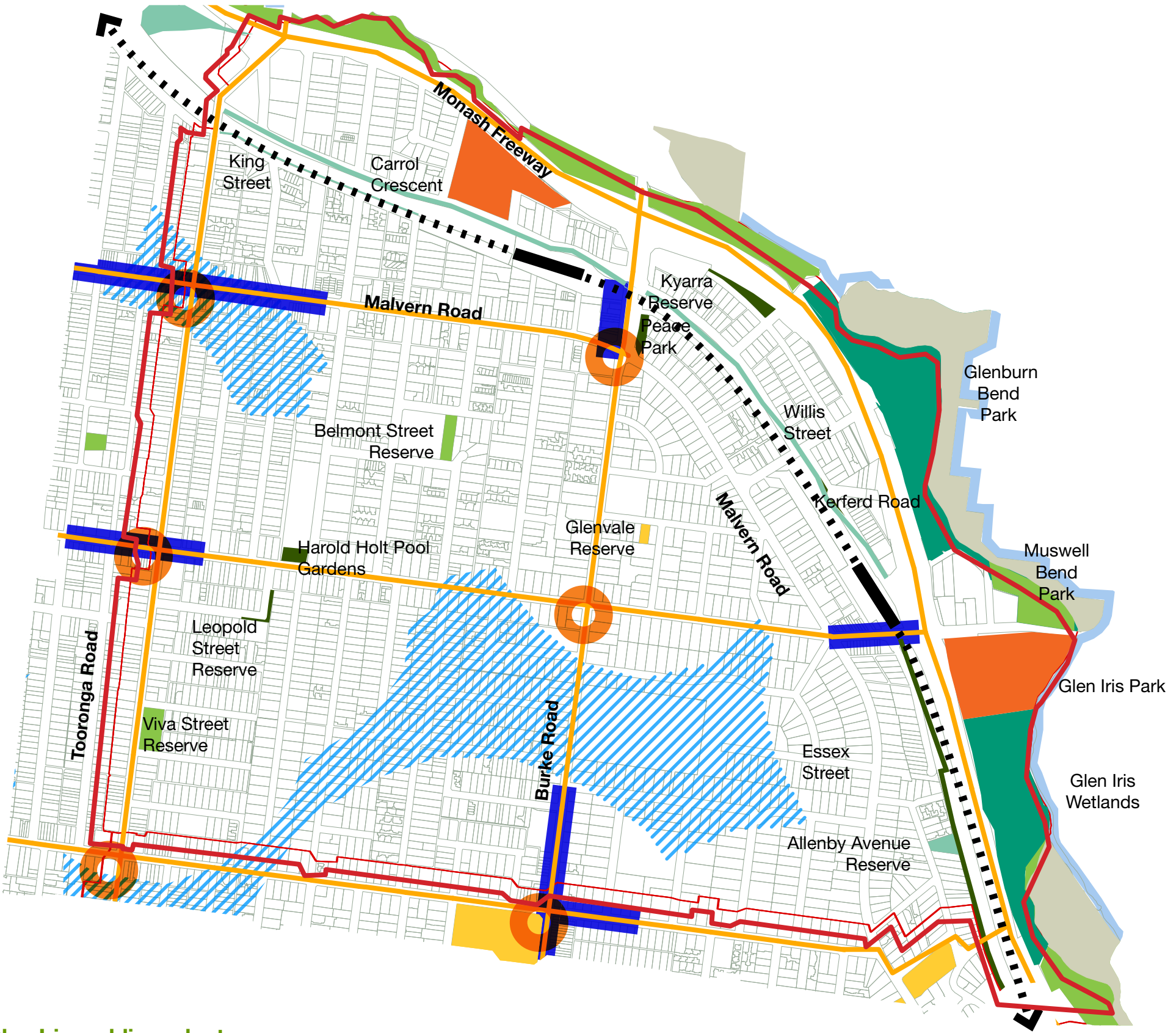
- Muswell Bend
- Gardiner Park
- Glen Iris Park and Wetland
- Harold Holt Swimming Pool (front landscape)
- Belmont to Nash Street Reserve
- Glenburn Bend
- Glenvale Reserve
- Viva Street Reserve

Other green spaces:

- Essex Street
- Leopold Street Reserve
- Peace Park (corner Burke Road and King Street)
- Kerferd Road Reserve
- Kyarra Road Reserve

Links

- Gardiners Creek
- Pedestrian links across railway and freeway to Gardiners Creek parkland
- Railway link (Glen Waverley line)
- Carroll Crescent
- King Street
- Wills Street



Glen Iris, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs
- No major activity or community hubs are located in this precinct

Streets

Commercial streets:
1. Wattletree Village, Wattletree Road; Glen Iris Village, High Street (Glen Iris Station); Gardiner Village, Burke Road (Gardiner Station); Malvern Village, Malvern Road.
- Due to the limited access to the existing public open space, the commercial streetscapes provide important public realm opportunities. Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy

Residential streetscapes:
- Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets

Green spaces

2. Gardiner Park
- Complete Landscape Master Plan improvements

3. Peace Park
- This park has a Burke Road frontage and is located at an important gateway/entrance to Stonnington therefore its presentation needs to be improved

4. Allenby Avenue Reserve; Glenvale Reserve; Viva Street Reserve; Gardiner Primary Reserve (also called Belmont Street Reserve).
- These small local green spaces require upgrades as necessary

Links

5. Gardiners Creek parklands (Muswell Bend, Glen Iris Park and Wetlands and Glenburn Bend)
- Implement the Environmental Education Centre
- Improve off road links along Gardiners Creek and connections to other municipalities
- Protect and enhance the significant ecological and recreational parklands and links
- Complete the upgrade of the water bodies in Glen Iris Park and integrate with the environmental objectives of Glenburn Bend Park, Muswell Bend and Glen Iris Park
- Continue the development of indigenous plantings and creation of habitat in these natural environment areas
- Continue to liaise with Melbourne Water regarding stream bank works along Gardiners Creek
- Continue relationship with and support to, the Friends of Gardiners Creek Valley
- Continue to carry out plantings with school groups in natural environment areas
- Develop park interpretation in natural environment areas
- Ensure a balance between active recreation fields, shared pathways and environmental areas

6. Complete the off road shared path between Muswell Bend Park and Glenburn Bend Park.

7. Links to Gardiners Creek and Parklands
- Improve linkages to Gardiners Creek parklands and trail, through railway line and freeway. These need to be of high quality and with clear signage and visibility. This needs to be done in negotiation and collaboration with VicTrack and VicRoads

8. Railway link
- Develop local pedestrian and shared pathway links along the railway line. This needs to be done in negotiation and collaboration with VicTrack
- Utilise any remnant space available for planting and landscape works (keep in mind fire issues). This requires negotiation and collaboration with railway authorities

Glen Iris, main opportunities

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Community facilities

- L — Libraries
- K — Kindergartens and child care centres
- M — Maternal and child health care centres
- M — Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- 1 — Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

7.8 Malvern East 3145

Analysis

Pheonix Park (type: community hub/green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Sydare Avenue (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Hedgeley Dene Gardens (type: green space/historic park). Source: ASPECT Studios

Urban Forest (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Population figures

Current population*	19,594
Projected population (2021)^	22,897

* Source: ABS Census 2006
^ Source: http://www.id.com.au/stonnington/forecastid

Demographic information**

Age	2006	% of suburb's population
0–19	4,935	25%
20–34	4,309	22%
35–59	6,806	35%
60+	3,544	18%

** Source: ABS Census 2006

Existing issues

Quantity of public realm space

- There is a high quantity of public space (east of Belgrave Road) but not all of it has been developed to its potential
- There is limited open space within walking distance between Tooronga Road and Darling Road, south of Manning Road
- Acquisition of land is constrained by large areas with heritage overlays

Quality of the public realm

- The public space west of Belgrave Road is noticeably higher quality than the public space east of Belgrave Road
- There are high quality historic parks in the west of the precinct
- The eastern area has a large amount of low-quality public open space that is underdeveloped and does not appear to be in high demand

Linkages

- Links across the railway line and freeway to Gardiners Creek parkland are of poor quality
- The quality of the railway line paths is mixed
- There are not enough links over the railway line and freeway to allow access to the Gardiners Creek parklands

Precinct demographics*

- Malvern East consists largely of families with children and this trend will continue; however single person households and couples without children will also slightly increase
- There is a high percentage of separate detached housing (66%) and a high percentage of home ownership (70%)
- Malvern East has the highest percentage of Stonnington's population and the largest physical area

***Source: ABS Census 2006**

Existing conditions of precinct and its public realm

- There is no lack of public space – the majority is located along Gardiners Creek parklands; however, the railway and the arterial road on the north-eastern boundary are significant barriers for visual and physical access to these parklands
- There is a significant difference in the quality and type of public space east and west of Belgrave Road
- Shopping precincts are generally smaller and local, compared to the more inner city suburbs of the municipality

Future demand on the public realm

- Overall, population numbers are expected to remain relatively unchanged, with perhaps a very slight population rise
- The area around Monash University Caulfield Campus is expected to become more developed with student housing, which will place greater demand on the surrounding public realm and streetscapes
- Chadstone Shopping Centre and its surrounds will experience increased development pressure which will result in increased residential density and potentially reduced public amenity
- The eastern area of Malvern East has an increased demand for family and youth-orientated open spaces

Current public realm status

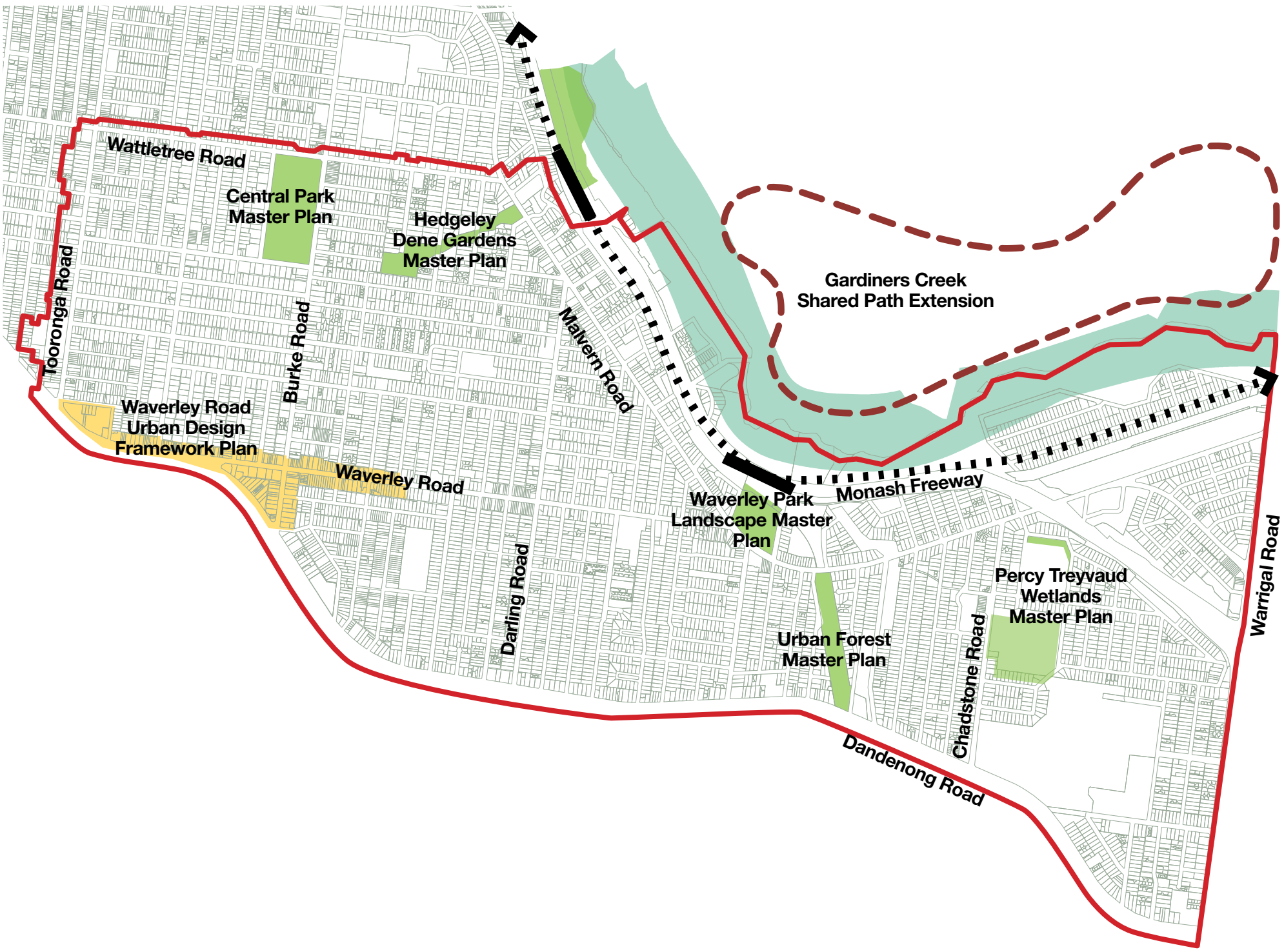
Relevant reports and strategies

- Waverley Road, Neighbourhood Activity Centre – Urban Design Framework
- Central Park Master Plan
- Hedgeley Dene Precinct – Urban Character and Landscape Study (RG Harvey and J Lee, 1998)
- Gardiners and Scotchman's Creeks Water Plan (2006)
- Percy Treyvaud Wetlands Master Plan
- Waverley Park Landscape Master Plan (2008)
- Urban Forest Master Plan

Peverill Park (type: green space). Source: ASPECT Studios

Ivanhoe Grove Reserve (type: link). Source: ASPECT Studios

Ardrie Park (type: green space/historic park). Source: ASPECT Studios



Malvern East, relevant reports and strategies

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station
- Waterways plan
- Current key strategies and plans
- Master plans (existing and in progress)

Public realm types

Public realm facts

Green public open space (ha)

Current (2006)	5.68
Projected (2021)	5.68
Overall suburb area	77.14
% of open space in suburb	7%

Green public open space per person (m^2)*

Current (2006)	29.01
Projected (2021)	24.83

* Benchmark is 10 m^2 per person.

Public realm types

Hubs

Commercial hubs:

- Neighbourhood activity centres

Community hubs:

- n/a

Streets

Main commercial streets:

- Warrigal Road
- West Malvern Village (Malvern Village), Malvern Road
- East Malvern Terminus, Waverley and Darling Roads
- Waverley and Burke Roads
- Dandenong Road
- Darling Village, Malvern Road
- Central Park, Burke Road

Green fabric:

- Dandenong Road
- Cooinda Place
- Langville Court roundabout
- Dandenong Road nature strips
- Knox Street
- Clynden Avenue
- Moira Street overpass
- Lewes Drive roundabout
- Winton and Thornbury Streets
- Corner Webster Street and Warrigal Road
- Dandenong Road – nature strip
- Malvern Valley Golf Course nature strip

Green spaces

Main green spaces:

- Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park
- Ardrie Park
- Central Park
- Hedgeley Dene Gardens
- Bowen Gardens
- Camino Terrace
- Dairy Park
- Darling Park
- Woodlands Park
- Peverill Park
- Phoenix Park
- Sydare Avenue Reserve
- OT Flight Reserve
- Rialto Reserve
- Urban Forest
- Waverley Park
- Serrell Street Park
- Stanley Street
- Malvern Valley Golf Course
- Ambrose Avenue Reserve

Other green spaces:

- Villiers Square
- Bretonneux Square

Links

- Prior Road Park
- Ivanhoe Grove Reserve
- Ivanhoe to Waverley Roads
- Allenby Avenue
- Oravel Avenue
- Peak Park
- Peak and Shrewsbury Streets
- Camino Terrace
- Short Street
- Webster Street ROW
- Chadstone Shopping Centre (small pedestrian links)
- Gardiners Creek
- Railway/freeway link (Glen Waverley line)

Malvern East, public realm types

Legend

- Precinct boundaries
- Railway line/station

Hubs

- Activity hubs
- Principal activity centre
- Major activity centre
- Neighbourhood activity centre (large)
- Neighbourhood activity centre (small)
- Key redevelopment sites
- State government proposed development sites
- Community hubs (Areas where there is a concentration of community, municipal and public space)

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

Opportunities

Hubs

Commercial hubs:

1. Chadstone Shopping Centre
- Work with Chadstone to provide a quality public realm interface and connections. Any future development should be linked to quality public realm outcomes for the area
- Advocate for additional pedestrian linkages and upgrade existing ones. This needs to be undertaken in collaboration with local residents

2. Waverley Road East precinct
- Implement the public design strategy for the area as proposed by the Waverley Road Urban Design Framework
- Improve streetscape amenity and safety. Upgrade footpath surfaces, conduct planting in nature strips, boulevard and kerb outstands along Waverley Road, and widen nature strips

Community hubs:

3. Phoenix Park
- Continue to upgrade the entire precinct to a regional or city-wide park/community hub
- Implement remaining appropriate master plan recommendations
- Ensure any additional community facilities are well integrated into the Park and that there is permeable public access throughout the space

Streets

Commercial streets:

4. East Malvern Village, Malvern Road; East Malvern Terminus, Waverley and Darling Roads; Darling Village, Malvern Road; Central Park, Burke Road.
- Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy

Residential streetscapes:
- Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets

Green spaces

5. Sydare Avenue Reserve, OT Flight Reserve and Rialto Reserve
- Undertake a concept plan for Sydare Avenue Reserve, OT Flight Reserve and Rialto Reserve, and provide shared pathway connections from Boyd Park to the Monash shared pathway (see Bicycle Strategy). Implement tree planting immediately. Develop concept plan for wetlands

6. Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park
- Continue upkeep and investigate water management opportunities
- Continue with tree planting
- Complete the reconstruction of the wetland to improve water quality and the local environment with the introduction of indigenous habitat

7. Urban Forest
- Continue to implement the intent of the master plan with regard to future plantings

8. Waverley Oval Park
- Continue the Implementation of the Waverley Park Landscape Plan

9. Ardrie Park
- Prepare a conservation master plan for Ardrie Park
- Consider heritage listing of the Elm avenue in Ardrie Park

10. Central Park
- Implement master plan recommendations for Central Park

11. Hedgeley Dene Gardens
- Implement master plan recommendations for Hedgeley Dene Gardens
- Ensure Central Park, Hedgeley Dene and Ardrie Park receive appropriate levels of maintenance fitting their heritage status

12. Malvern Valley Public Golf Course
- Improve the ecological sustainability of the course, particularly along Gardiners Creek

13. Peverill Park
- Develop a landscape concept plan and improve linkages

14. Penpraze Park
- Prepare a concept plan and balance the Park's intensive use against appropriate maintenance regimes
- Continue to manage in consultation with Malvern Primary School

15. Ivanhoe Grove Reserves through to Prior Road Park
- Continue to upgrade the Gardiners Creek / Scotchman's Creek shared path in accordance with the Bicycle Strategy 2007
- Continue to develop indigenous vegetation to provide habitat along the Scotchman's Creek corridor

16. Allenby Avenue
- Define as a link to Glen Iris Park and Wetlands

17. Bowen Street Reserve
- Develop a landscape master plan for the precinct

18. Camino Terrace – Rialto Reserve

Develop a landscape plan to guide the development of a large open, active recreation zone together with passive, treed areas underplanted with indigenous vegetation.

19. Dairy Park
- Carry out replacement and reinforcement plantings with drought tolerant species

20. Darling Park
- A large reserve abutting Gardiners Creek and containing a section of the shared path, indigenous vegetation zones and 3 sportsgrounds
- Continue to extend and upgrade indigenous vegetation zones

21. Oravel Avenue
- Tree planting required

22. Peak Park
- An undeveloped open space of greater than a hectare abutting the Monash Freeway and owned by VicRoads and maintained by Council. It could be developed as a link from Waverley Road through to Peverill Park and Warrigal Road
- Ample opportunity exists for further tree planting and planting of indigenous vegetation

23. Stanley Street Reserve
- Manage significant and mature trees to ensure their longevity, while interplanting young trees

24. Winton/Thornbury Reserve
- Develop this reserve abutting the Malvern Valley Golf Course as a natural environment area

25. Ambrose Avenue Reserve
- Upgrade local neighbourhood playground as required

Links

26. Chadstone Shopping Centre
- Work with Chadstone to ensure links to Chadstone are retained and additional links added where feasible. This needs to be undertaken in collaboration with local residents

27. Railway line and freeway shared pathway (including Ivanhoe Grove Reserve)
- This pathway system is well used but requires more links and improved signage to adjacent public realm areas (e.g. Phoenix Park)

28. Gardiners Creek parklands (Darling Park)
- Protect and enhance the significant ecological and recreational parklands and links
- Integrate the environmental objectives of Muswell Bend and the Glen Iris Wetlands in this precinct
- Ensure balance between active recreation fields, shared pathway and environmental areas
- Complete pathway expansion in conjunction with the issues and recommendations from the Waterways Plan
- Work with Boroondara Council and Melbourne Water to provide continuous shared pathway along Gardiners Creek to Warrigal Road

29. Links to Gardiners Creek and parklands
- Improve linkages to Gardiners Creek parklands and trail, through railway line and freeway. These need to be of high quality and with clear signage and visibility. This needs to be done in negotiation and collaboration with VicTrack and VicRoads

City of STONNINGTON

Malvern East, main opportunities

Legend

Precinct boundaries

Community facilities

- Libraries
- Kindergartens and child care centres
- Maternal and child health care centres
- Co-located child care and health facilities

Links

- Important connections

Opportunities

- Opportunity number

Streets

- Gateway streets
- Main grid streets
- Commercial streets
- Residential green streets
- Green fabric
- Green upgrade

Green spaces

- Yarra River
- Parks and reserves
- Historic parks
- Sports parks
- Environmental spaces
- Urban spaces
- Areas where residents lack public open space within 500m
- Adjacent public open space

City of Stonnington

Public Realm Strategy

Part C: Implementation Plan

2010

Implementation Plan

This section of the report focuses on the opportunities arising from Part A and Part B.

Implementation Plan

Municipal opportunities

MUNICIPAL WIDE OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED STRATEGIES	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Implementation of existing strategies, structure plans, urban design frameworks and master plans	Implement the existing approved planning strategies, urban design frameworks and master plan public realm recommendations through a coordinated system	All	Planning and Development, City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Transport and Parking, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, City Strategy	All	Ongoing
	Undertake public realm review and recommendations as part of all structure and urban design frameworks		Planning and Development, City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces, Infrastructure Services, Leisure and Libraries, Aged Diversity and Health, Children and Family Services, Community Amenity, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning, Economic and Cultural Development	All	Ongoing
Whole of Council approach to public realm planning, design and management	Incorporate the Public Realm Strategy into the Stonnington Planning Scheme as a reference document	All	Planning and Development, City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces, Infrastructure Services, Physical Works and Services, Aged Diversity and Health, Leisure and Libraries, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning, Economic and Cultural Development	City Strategy	Short
Public realm library, GIS and Stonnington Intranet	Undertake the collation and organisation of public realm information (i.e. Structure plans, master plans, designs and construction documents) for ease of Council access	Refer to Public Realm Strategy, Chapter 1, 1.8. List of Reviewed Strategies	City Works, Sustainable Future	Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Infrastructure Services	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Ensure regular updates of the Council's GIS system	Refer to Public Realm Strategy, Chapter 1, 1.8. List of Reviewed Strategies	Sustainable Future, City Works	City Strategy, Environment and Public Spaces	City Strategy	Ongoing
Capital Works Program	Public Realm Strategy to inform forward capital programs	Refer to Public Realm Strategy, Chapter 1- 1.8 List of Reviewed Strategies - Strategic Planning	Planning and Development, City Works, Corporate Services, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Environment and Public Spaces, Infrastructure Services, Finance, Leisure and Libraries, Corporate and Community Planning, City Strategy, Economic and Cultural Development	All	Ongoing
Specific strategic recommendations						
Recreation and Sports Strategy	Prepare a recreation strategy that coordinates with the Public Realm Strategy and individual place master plans	Refer to Public Realm Strategy, Chapter 1 - 1.8 List of Reviewed Strategies	Social Development	Leisure and Libraries	Leisure and Libraries	Short
Links implementation	Focus on the planning and implementation of pedestrian, shared pathway and pedestrian bridge links across the municipality and regional linkages, in particular railway lines and waterways. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)	Stonnington Sustainability Environment Plan (2005), Bicycle Strategy (2005), Stonnington Sustainable Transport Policy (September 2008)	Planning and Development, Corporate Services, City Works, City Strategy	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Finance, Environment and Public Spaces, Infrastructure Services, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning	City Strategy, Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Develop master plans/action plans for a continuous shared pathway along the Sandringham and Glen Waverley Railway lines and Gardiners Creek	Chapel Vision Structure Plan (2007), Sustainable Transport Strategy (2008), Stonnington Transport Strategy (2008)	City Works, Planning and Development, Sustainable Future	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
Shade plan	Prepare a shade strategy, as identified and supported by the Open Space Strategy 2000 and Municipal Early Years Strategy	Municipal Early Years Plan (2007-2010), Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2009-2013)	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, Children and Family Services, Aged, Diversity and Health	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
Signage strategy	Prepare a corporate signage strategy for wayfinding, place identity, commercial, access, road and governance signage. Signage has been identified as a key issue for orientation, information, cultural identity across the municipality and streetscape declutttering	Place Management Stonnington Model - A Discussion Paper (2004), IMAP - Inner Melbourne Action Plan (2005), Commercial Precincts Style Guide and Improvement Program (2005), Stonnington Sustainable Transport Policy (September 2008)	Planning and Development, City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Economic and Cultural Development, City Strategy	All	Medium to long
Playground plan	Prepare a playground plan that ensures the inventory, inspection and maintenance of all playgrounds to Australian Standards and also identifies those sites for significant upgrades, removal and new playgrounds	Future Recreation and Sports Strategy	Planning and Development, City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Leisure and Libraries, Environment and Public Spaces	Leisure and Libraries	Medium

MUNICIPAL WIDE OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RELATED STRATEGIES	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Windsor green fabric improvement plan	Produce a master plan to improve quality of network of small green spaces in an increasingly populated Windsor and identify opportunities for additional open space. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)	Chapel Vision Structure Plan (2007), Sustainable Transport Strategy (2008), Stonnington Neighbourhood Character Study (2006), Bicycle Strategy (2005)	Planning and Development, Corporate Services, City Works, Sustainable Future	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Finance, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
Prahran green fabric improvement plan (predominantly between Punt Road and Chapel Street)	Produce a master plan to improve quality of network of small green spaces in an increasingly populated Prahran and identify opportunities for additional open space. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)	Chapel Vision Structure Plan (2007), Sustainable Transport Strategy (2008), Stonnington Neighbourhood Character Study (2006), Bicycle Strategy (2005)	Planning and Development, Corporate Services, City Works, Sustainable Future	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Finance, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Short
Armadale green fabric improvement plan (along the north and south sides of the Dandenong railway line)	Produce a master plan to improve quality of network of small green spaces in an increasingly populated Armadale and identify opportunities for additional open space. (Coordinate with acquisition strategy)	Sustainable Transport Strategy (2008), Stonnington Neighbourhood Character Study (2006)	Planning and Development, Corporate Services, City Works, Sustainable Future	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Finance, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
East Malvern public realm upgrade plan	Produce open space concepts and implementation plan to upgrade entire precinct over time, to the same level of quality found throughout the rest of the municipality. The continued development of the Chadstone Shopping Centre and potential to increase housing density will also place pressure on the future public realm of this precinct	Sustainable Transport Strategy (2008), Stonnington Neighbourhood Character Study (2006)	Planning and Development, City Works, Sustainable Future, Social Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Finance, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning	Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Planning Services	Short to medium
Commercial precincts plan	Develop a plan for the design, implementation and maintenance cycle for streets in commercial (shopping and retail) precincts, including adjacent streets and lanes. This would build on the work of the Commercial Precincts Style Guide 2005 and work in tandem with urban design / structure plan strategies for activity centres	Commercial Precincts Style Guide (2005), Structure Plans, Urban Design Frameworks, Main Roads Built Form Study (Draft 2009)	Planning and Development, City Works, Sustainable Future	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Building Control, Infrastructure Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
Public art strategy	Revision of existing public art strategy. Reconfirm current objectives including public art acquisition strategy, integrated public art in public spaces and community art initiatives. Develop a funding policy in conjunction with Economic and Cultural Development and City Strategy Planning to support the incorporation of public art in future developments	Stonnington Integrated Art and Design Strategy (2001)		Economic and Cultural Development, Environment and Public Spaces, Corporate and Community Planning	Economic and Cultural Development	Short
Public lighting strategy	Prepare a lighting strategy for public outdoor spaces, including night recreation lighting for sporting fields	Stonnington Sustainability Environment Plan (2005), Activities in Parks Policy	City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Environment and Public Spaces, Infrastructure Services, Leisure and Libraries, Community Amenity, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning, Economic and Cultural Development	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
Community sustainability projects	Develop a set of guidelines and initiatives to support community and council / community partnerships in locally based sustainable practices. For example, zero emission suburbs, food production in streets, local composting services, mulching and food trading	Stonnington Sustainability Environment Plan (2005), Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan (2009-2013)	City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Environment and Public Spaces, Community Amenity, Corporate and Community Planning, City Strategy, Economic and Cultural Development	Corporate and Community Planning, Environment and Public Spaces	
Public realm technical notes manual	Prepare a public realm technical notes manual. Technical notes and guidelines will guide the cost, style, type, placement, installation and maintenance of the various municipal elements such as street furniture, surfaces and pavements, signage and road materials. Issues would include DDA compliance, safety, sustainability, maintenance, procurement and replacement strategy	Draft Education Strategy 2010	Planning and Development, City Works, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Transport and Parking, Infrastructure Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Corporate and Community Planning, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
Public open space acquisition policy and plan	Prepare an acquisitions policy to maximise the application of public open space contribution funds. Prepare an acquisition plan for the acquiring of additional open space in areas of under provision and high demand for open space. The Public Realm Strategy identified key areas that would greatly benefit from additional open space. These need to be further investigated on land use, financial and demographic grounds	Structure Plans, Urban Design Frameworks, Main Roads Built Form Study (draft 2009)	Planning and Development, Corporate Services, City Works, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Finance, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Corporate and Community Planning	City Strategy	Short

Implementation Plan

Precinct opportunities – South Yarra

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
Toorak Road and Chapel Street	Undertake recommendations as per Chapel Vision Structure Plan	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Ongoing (as identified by Chapel Vision Structure Plan)
Streets **Main commercial streets:**					
1. Toorak Road	Major works have been undertaken along the western length of Toorak Road between Chapel Street and Punt Road. Continue to implement streetscape works and Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives	City Works, Planning and Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Infrastructure Services, Transport and Parking	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing (as identified by Chapel Vision Structure Plan)
2. Chapel Street	There is potential for more urban 'green' hot spots along Chapel Street's length. Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services	Ongoing
3. Commercial Road	Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance	City Works, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services	Ongoing
	Ensure links to Grattan Gardens and Wattle Street are reinforced	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Short to medium
Other streets:					
	Chapel Vision Structure Plan identifies a series of streets for additional street tree planting and landscapes works	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
Residential streetscapes					
	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
4. Como Park	Implement master plan recommendations	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Ongoing
	Set up an alternative water supply using drainage water for the irrigation of the park and with the potential to supply water to Como Park North	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Plant a greater diversity of drought tolerant tree species	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Extend drip irrigation to protect trees of significance from drought conditions	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
5. Como Park North	Ensure a master plan for Como Park North is completed and implemented. Recreation Services has identified Thomas Oval at Como Park North as a potential ground for junior soccer	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Ensure that the master plan recommends the development of indigenous vegetation as an important habitat zone abutting the Yarra River	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
6. Surrey Road Park	Construct Surrey Park	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
7. South Yarra Siding	Implement concepts from Chapel Vision Structure Plan and ensure park is fully linked with Toorak Road and Portland Place, and has improved internal circulation	City Works, Sustainable Future	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Explore the opportunity to plant more indigenous vegetation, particularly trees	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
8. Toorak Road Bridge Plaza	Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan proposal for new public plaza	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Long
9. Rockley Gardens	Protect established trees and continue to upgrade gardens when necessary	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Improve sustainability with the availability of water from alternative sources (supply drip irrigation to significant trees)	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
10. Argo Reserve	Implement landscape concept plan and review long-term viability of water feature	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to Medium
	Introduce a greater diversity of drought tolerant plants	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
11. Grosvenor Reserve	Continue to upgrade as necessary and ensure links to adjacent community facilities	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
12. Yarra River rowing precinct	Undertake a master plan for precinct	City Works, Planning and Development, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Short
	Undertake improvements to precinct and provide pedestrian connections to Como Park North	City Works, Planning and Development, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Develop indigenous vegetation within the precinct as an important habitat zone abutting the Yarra River	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
13. Darling Gardens	Continue to upgrade as required	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Continue to introduce new trees to ensure a healthy tree population is maintained for the long term	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
14. Dyeworks Park	Review park design and water feature, and determine appropriateness for current urban context	City Works, Planning and Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Planning Services (Urban Design)	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
	Expand into adjacent car park to create more usable park size	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
	Consider replacing the shade sail with another form of shade protection	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
15. Osborne Street Reserve (north)	Opportunity to develop indigenous vegetation along the length of this linear reserve on the opposite side of the railway line to South Yarra Siding	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Upgrade furniture in this reserve which is a popular venue with office staff and others for eating lunch	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
16. Osborne Street Reserve (southern pocket reserve)	Develop space into a small local park with amenities Potential to open park into future shared pathway along railway line	City Works, Sustainable Future	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
17. Caroline Street Gardens	Upgrade furniture in this park used by office workers as a lunch area	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Links					
18. Yarra River	Finalise master plan and continue to implement works Ensure pedestrian links to shared path trail from South Yarra	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Continue the upgrade of the Yarra River shared path in accordance with the Bicycle Strategy	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
	Explore opportunities to plant indigenous vegetation to increase habitat along the Yarra corridor	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
19. Dyeworks Park/Princes Gardens – Office of Housing (Horace Petty Estate)	Continue to pursue opportunities to open up linkages and public open space through housing estate. Refer to Chapel Vision Structure Plan	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Leisure and Libraries	All	Short to long
20. Forrest Hill precinct master plan	Implement over time the recommendations and actions of the Forrest Hill Precinct Master Plan and Forrest Hill Precinct, Streetscape and Public Realm Master Plan, including east–west pedestrian link and public plaza	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Leisure and Libraries	All	Short to long
21. Sandringham line shared pathway	Create full-length pedestrian/bike link along railway line Acquire properties south of South Yarra Siding Reserve to link station with Portland Place	Planning and Development, City Works, City Works	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Currently under investigation
22. Cranbourne line	Lovers Walk: widen and improve links	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long

Implementation Plan

Precinct opportunities – Prahran

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
Commercial hubs:					
Toorak Road and Chapel Street	Undertake recommendations as per Chapel Vision Structure Plan	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Ongoing
Community hubs:					
1. Prahran Town Hall Plaza	Redevelop the Prahran Town Hall Precinct (Chapel Vision Structure Plan)	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Short
2. Cato Street car park and Wattle Street	Green link from Grattan Gardens to Princes Gardens along Carlton/ Wattle Street	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Proposed new public plaza (at northern end of car park) to connect Grattan Gardens and Princes Gardens (Chapel Vision Structure Plan)	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Corporate Services	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
Streets					
3. High Street (and Hawksburn centres)	Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
4. Chapel Street	There is potential for more urban 'green' hot spots along Chapel Street's length. Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives and continuation of urban design solutions. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services, City Strategy	Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services	Ongoing
5. Greville Street	Majority of master plan has been implemented. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services	Physical Works and Services	Ongoing
6. Malvern Road (Hawksburn Shopping Centre)	Improvement works have been undertaken in the past Review as part of Commercial Streetscape Strategy and implement recommendations	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
Residential streetscapes					
	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
7. Princes Gardens	Develop a precinct plan for Princes Gardens	City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future, Corporate Services	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, City Strategy	All	Medium
	Expansion of park as per Chapel Vision Structure Plan recommendations	City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, City Strategy	All	Medium
	Seek alternative sources of water to sustain the horticultural and arboricultural assets within the park	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Long
	Install drip irrigation to support significant mature trees	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Increase levels of surveillance to control antisocial behaviour and reduce risk to the community	City Works, Social Development, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, City Strategy	All	Short
8. Victoria Gardens	Continue to maintain and protect the historic park	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Set up an alternative source of water to sustain the horticultural and arboricultural assets within the park	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Completed
	Upgrade subsurface and drip irrigation to drought proof garden beds and the sunken oval	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Increase plantings of drought tolerant exotic plants in the garden beds	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
9. Grattan Gardens	Continue to implement master plan / Chapel Vision Structure Plan recommendations and ensure high-quality landscape adjacent to the Senior Citizens Centre	City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Install drip irrigation to support significant mature trees	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Completed
10. Lumley Gardens	A well used park. There is opportunity to extend this public space and upgrade through property acquisition	City Works, Planning and Development, Corporate Services	Environment and Public Spaces, Planning Services, Finance	All	Medium
11. Orrong Romanis Reserve	This site has undergone a high level of redevelopment and diversification of uses but surrounds of ovals could improve opportunities for passive recreation. Develop visual links to Toorak Park and to Station	City Works, Sustainable Future, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, City Strategy	All	Medium
	Upgrade the standard of Orrong Park Oval with sustainable options (e.g. improved levels and warm season grasses)	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
12. Connell Park	Implement master plan	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Links					
13. Sandringham line	Create a full-length pedestrian link and shared path along the railway line	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Traffic Management, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Medium
	High priority link between Prahran Station and High Street	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Traffic Management, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Short to medium
14. Chatham Street to Greville Street link	New link between Chatham Street and Greville Street	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Traffic Management, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Short to medium
15. Shared pathway system between Dandenong Road and Alexandra Avenue	Develop a coordinated shared pathway link between Dandenong Road and Alexandra Avenue, two key commuter (railway) and recreational (West Prahran) pathways	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Traffic Management, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces, Transport and Parking (on road)	Short to long

Implementation Plan

Precinct opportunities – Windsor

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
	No major activity or community hubs are located in this precinct				
Chapel Street	Undertake recommendations as per Chapel Vision Structure Plan	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Continuing
Streets					
1. Chapel Street	There is potential for more urban 'green' hot spots along Chapel Street's length. Implement Chapel Vision Structure Plan objectives. Maintain street in accordance with its premium regional and local importance	City Works, Social Development, Sustainable Future, Corporate Services	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Physical Works and Services	Short to long
2. High Street	Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Develop a more civic landscape connection between High Street and Swinburne University	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Medium
Residential streets:					
	Review existing streets for opportunities for improvement in quality and additional open space. Refer to the Windsor green fabric recommendations in Part A	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
3. Windsor Siding Reserve	Enhance current youth park and community park status Seek to buy/redevelop/demolish the existing building Improve park as a 'youth park' with due sensitivities to adjacent community facilities	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces Leisure and Libraries, Children and Family Services	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
	Consider the replacement of the existing high maintenance, little used BMX track with a skate facility	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
	An increase in the size of the central lawn would increase active and passive recreation opportunities in this off-leash park	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
4. Windsor Station precinct – railway square	Implement the concept from Chapel Vision Structure Plan for squares at Maddock Street and Albert Street	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Medium to long
5. Harry Gregory Reserve	This degraded park requires a major review and capital improvements. The review should discourage inappropriate competitive sports, such as soccer	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
6. Chris Gahan Reserve	Continue to maintain park and ensure adjacent buildings do not dominate character	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
7. Gladstone Gardens	Upgrade according to concept plan	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
8. James Street Reserve	This small under-developed space requires a concept plan and upgrade for better community use	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
Links					
	Implement IMAP link recommendations	Planning and Development, City Works	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces (off road)	Ongoing
9. Sandringham line	Create full-length pedestrian and cycle shared link along railway line to Dandenong Road	Sustainable Future, City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	City Strategy	Medium to long
10. Sandringham line and station precinct	Improve connections between Windsor Station, Windsor Siding Reserve, Maddock Street and Bowling Green Lane via widening of pathways, directional signage and maximising surveillance opportunities	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
11. Upton and Charles Streets	Promote as a green connection street as per IMAP recommendations	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
12. Swinburne University	Negotiate with the University for a legible north–south pedestrian link through campus	City Works, Planning and Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Planning Services	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
13. Peel Street/Albert Street	Review this intersection and remodel to provide usable pedestrian space. Access required by fire station	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
14. Southern links	Chapel Street to Presentation Girls College and Dandenong Road	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces,	All	Medium to long
	Pedestrian links to Dandenong Road footbridge	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Urban and Public Spaces,	All	Medium to long

Precinct opportunities – Armadale

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
	No major activity or community hubs are located in this precinct				
Streets					
Commercial streets:					
1. High Street	Improve pedestrian, bike and green links to commercial streetscapes	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	All	Short to medium
2. Beatty Avenue	Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
Green Fabric:					
Northcote and High Street Reserves, Cheel Street and Kooyong Road traffic island, Cheel and High Streets traffic island, Bailey Avenue Park, Inverness Park	The fabric of small green spaces throughout Armadale, predominantly created by the street pattern and closed roads, especially around the railway line, contributes to the 'green amenity' of the suburb. These spaces should be maintained as primarily large tree planting places with limited shrub species to allow clear lines of sight	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	
Residential streetscapes:					
North of railway line and High Street	This area has little green open space and there are potential difficulties acquiring land within the historic precinct. Undertake a traffic management study to determine which roads can be closed off to provide small green street spaces. Take into account acquisition strategy and heritage overlay plus land values factors	Planning and Development, City Works, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	City Strategy	Medium
	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
3. Toorak Park and Victory Square	Implement the adopted Master Plan for Toorak Park and Victory Square	Planning and Development, City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, Major Projects	Leisure and Libraries	Short
4. Union Street Reserve	Upgrade as required	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
5. Armadale Reserve	Continue to upgrade the horticultural and arboricultural assets with the aid of the ground water bore	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
6. Inverness Park	Upgrade garden beds with drought tolerant species	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
7. Bailey Avenue Park	Upgrade garden beds with drought tolerant species	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Links					
8. Cranbourne railway Line pedestrian link	Railway easement: It is difficult to establish a parallel link because the railway and surrounding roadways are not at grade, but a comprehensive network of links is required to reduce the barrier effect and improve links to adjacent green spaces	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
9. Toorak Park and Victory Square links	There is potential for a bridge connection over the railway line between Beatty Avenue and Victory Square Reserve. However, this may be redundant if a pathway can be established along the SKM site adjacent to Toorak Park/ Victory Square that links to the station	City Works, Planning and Development, Sustainable Future, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Strategic Planning, Leisure and Libraries	All	Long
	Seek a pedestrian link through land to the north in the advent of that land's redevelopment	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Strategic Planning, Leisure and Libraries	All	Short
	Improve visual links between Toorak and Orrong Parks	City Works, Planning and Development, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Strategic Planning, Leisure and Libraries	All	Short to medium
10. High Street (major cycling route)	Seek additional pedestrian and cycling links to High Street as part of redevelopment projects. Refer to Bike Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development,	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long

Implementation Plan

Precinct opportunities – Toorak/Kooyong

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
1. Toorak Village	There is opportunity to address poor disability access to public transport, improve footpath treatments and remove visual clutter (Toorak Village Activity Structure Plan)	City Works, Planning and Development, Sustainable Future	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Open Spaces	All	Short to medium
Streets **Commercial streets:**					
2. Jackson Street	Expand southern footpaths and landscape and improve bike and pedestrian access (Toorak Village Activity Structure Plan)	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
3. Kooyong Village, Glenferrie Road	Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
Residential streetscapes:					
	Implement the Street Tree Strategy throughout the suburb Trees are highly significant in this precinct	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
4. Brookville Gardens and Fairbairn Reserve	Complete the Conservation Management Plan	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Ensure adequate path access and seating throughout the gardens	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Improve the management of Brookville Gardens in consultation with Toorak Primary School to reduce wear and tear and/or consider the installation of an area of synthetic turf for school use	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
5. Kooyong Park	Invest in improving links to and from Kooyong Park Balance the competing interests of sport and passive recreation in the parklands	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Short to Medium
	Investigate the opportunities to obtain water from alternative sources to drought proof	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Maintain the integrity of the sporting and other horticultural and arboricultural assets	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Increase the distribution and density of indigenous plantings in this park abutting Gardiner Park	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
6. Jackson Street Open Plaza	A new square is proposed for Toorak Village to help offset any increased demand caused by densification (Toorak Village Activity Structure Plan)	City Works, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
7. Kooyong Gardens	Retain the historical character of the park and continue to upgrade as required	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
8. Orrong and Toorak Reserve	Maintain as an important visual green space	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
9. Carters Avenue Reserve	Maintain as a children's playground	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Expand Carters Avenue as per Toorak Village Activity Centre Structure Plan (2007) recommendation	City Works, Planning and Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Planning Services	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
10. WM Dane Reserve	Maintain indigenous vegetation	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Extend existing walking path from Heyington Station to Turnbull Avenue through to Glenferrie Road in consultation with VicTrack	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
11. Winifred Reserve	Upgrade tree planting with species more sympathetic to the Yarra River Corridor	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
12. Buddle Drive Reserve	Incorporate indigenous plantings into the existing garden beds	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Links					
	Implement IMAP link recommendations	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
13. Yarra River	Ensure Policy 'C50 – Interim Controls – Land beside the Yarra River east of Grange Road' is implemented	Planning and Development	Planning Services	Planning Services	Short to medium
14. Gardiners Creek	Protect and enhance the significant ecological and recreational parklands and links	City Works, Social Development, Planning and Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
15. Railway line	Develop a continuous bike and green link along the railway line and improve links across the railway to Gardiners Creek	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Transport and Parking, Urban and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Transport and Parking (on road), Urban and Public Spaces	Medium

Precinct opportunities – Malvern

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
Commercial hub:					
Glenferrie Road	Undertake a structure plan and/or public realm improvement plan for the Commercial hub. This should include improving pedestrian and cycling links to the hub and main street	City Works, Planning and Development, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	City Strategy, Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
Community hub:					
Malvern Town Hall precinct	Undertake an integrated master plan and development for the Malvern Town Hall hub. This area contains open space, recreation facilities, library, town hall and associated car parking and is used heavily	City Works, Transport and Parking, Social Development	Planning Services, Environment and Pubic Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Pubic Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Short to medium
Streets					
Commercial streets:					
1. Glenferrie Road, High Street-Dandenong Road)	This streetscape has undergone streetscape upgrade for the last few years. Ensure all planned works are completed	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short- medium
2. Malvern Hill Village	Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Residential streets:					
	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
3. Malvern Cricket Ground	Develop as per the Malvern Town Hall Precinct Plan	City Works, Social Development	City Works, Leisure and Libraries	City Works, Leisure and Libraries	Medium
	Develop an alternative water supply by desalinating ground water for the irrigation of the oval	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Completed
	Replant the oval with warm season grasses	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
4. Malvern Public Gardens	Implement the Conservation Management Plan	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Reduce excessive wear and tear in consultation with Malvern Central School and De La Salle College, e.g. transfer sporting activities to local sportsgrounds	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Ongoing
5. Sir Robert Menzies Reserve	Complete Conservation Management Plan and Landscape Master Plan	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Long
6. Tooronga Park	Review quality of space and pedestrian connections in light of adjacent Council depot development and improve as necessary	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
	Continue development of indigenous vegetation to provide additional habitat in close proximity to Gardiners Creek	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
7. Northbrook Gardens	Upgrade this small historical garden behind the library as required	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Reduce the Garden's dependence on potable water with the supply of water from an alternative source	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Completed
8. Malvern City Square	Redeveloped in 2005–2006. Upgrade as required	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
9. Milton Gray Reserve	Relocate the scout hall when the opportunity presents itself	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Long
	Following the scout hall relocation prepare a concept plan for the reserve	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Long
10. McArthur Street Playground	Upgrade this small local green space when necessary	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Links					
11. Links to Gardiners Creek and parklands	Improve links to Gardiners Creek parklands and trail, through railway line and freeway. These need to be of high quality and with clear signage and visibility. Negotiate and collaborate with VicTrack and VicRoads	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
12. Railway link	Develop local pedestrian and shared pathway links along the railway line. Negotiate and collaborate with VicTrack	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Use any remnant space available for planting and landscape works (keep in mind fire issues). This requires negotiation and collaboration from railway authorities	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Long
13. Stonington Mansion	Ensure pedestrian links through any development of the site to improve local 'green' amenity and links	Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, City Works	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	City Strategy, Planning Services	Short to medium

Implementation Plan

Precinct opportunities – Glen Iris

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
	No major activity or community hubs are located in this precinct				
Streets					
Commercial streets:					
1. Wattletree Village, Wattletree Road; Glen Iris Village, High Street (Glen Iris Station); Gardiner Village, Burke Road (Gardiner Station); Malvern Village, Malvern Road	Due to limited access to the existing public open space, the commercial streetscapes provide important public realm opportunities. Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
Residential streetscapes:					
	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
2. Gardiner Park	Complete Landscape Master Plan improvements	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
3. Peace Park	This park has a Burke Road frontage and is located at an important gateway/entrance to Stonnington therefore its presentation needs to be improved	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
4. Allenby Avenue Reserve; Glenvale Reserve; Viva Street Reserve; Gardiner Primary Reserve (also called Belmont Street Reserve)	These small local green spaces require upgrades as necessary	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
Links					
5. Gardiners Creek parklands (Muswell Bend, Glen Iris Park and Wetlands and Glenburn Bend)	Implement the Environmental Education Centre	City Works, Planning and Development, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Major Projects and Property Improvements, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Improve off road links along Gardiners Creek and connections to other municipalities	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Protect and enhance the significant ecological and recreational parklands and links	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Complete the upgrade of the water bodies in Glen Iris Park and integrate with the environmental objectives of Glenburn Bend Park, Muswell Bend and Glen Iris Park	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Continue the development of indigenous plantings and creation of habitat in these natural environment areas	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Continue to liaise with Melbourne Water regarding stream bank works along Gardiners Creek	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Continue relationship with, and support to, the Friends of Gardiners Creek Valley	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Continue to carry out plantings with school groups in natural environment areas	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Develop park interpretation in natural environment areas	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Ensure a balance between active recreation fields, shared pathways and environmental areas	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Medium
6. Shared path between Muswell Bend Park and Glenburn Bend Park	Complete the off road shared path between Muswell Bend Park and Glenburn Bend Park	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Long
7. Links to Gardiners Creek and Parklands	Improve links to Gardiners Creek parklands and trail, through railway line and freeway. These need to be of high quality and with clear signage and visibility. This needs to be done in negotiation and collaboration with VicTrack and VicRoads	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
8. Railway link	Develop local pedestrian and shared pathway links along the railway line. This needs to be done in negotiation and collaboration with VicTrack	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Use any remnant space available for planting and landscape works (keep in mind fire issues). This requires negotiation and collaboration from railway authorities	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Long

Implementation Plan

Precinct opportunities – Malvern East

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
Hubs					
Commercial hubs:					
1. Chadstone Shopping Centre	Work with Chadstone to provide a quality public realm interface and connections. Any future development should be linked to public realm quality outcomes for the area	Planning and Development, City Works, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Medium to long
	Advocate for additional pedestrian linkages and upgrade existing ones. This needs to be undertaken in collaboration with local residents	Planning and Development, City Works, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	All	Medium to long
2. Waverley Road East precinct	Implement the public design strategy for the area as proposed by the Waverley Road Urban Design Framework	City Works, Sustainable Future	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Improve streetscape amenity and safety. Upgrade footpath surfaces, conduct planting in nature strips, boulevards and kerb outstands along Waverley Road, and widen nature strips	City Works, Planning and Development	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
Community hubs:					
3. Phoenix Park	Continue to upgrade the entire precinct to a regional or city-wide park/community hub	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, Children and Family Services	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Short
	Implement remaining appropriate master plan recommendations	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, Children and Family Services	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Short
	Ensure any additional community facilities are well integrated into the Park and that there is permeable public access throughout the space	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, Children and Family Services	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Short
Streets					
Commercial streets:					
4. East Malvern Village, Malvern Road; East Malvern Terminus, Waverley and Darling Roads; Darling Village, Malvern Road; Central Park, Burke Road	Review as part of the Commercial Streetscape Strategy	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Residential streetscapes					
	Continue to implement the Street Tree Strategy for residential streets	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
Green spaces					
5. Sydare Avenue Reserve, OT Flight Reserve and Rialto Reserve	Undertake a concept plan for Sydare Avenue Reserve, OT Flight Reserve and Rialto Reserve, and provide shared pathway connections from Boyd Park to the Monash shared pathway (see Bicycle Strategy). Implement tree planting immediately	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Develop concept plan for wetlands	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
6. Percy Treyvaud Memorial Park	Continue upkeep and investigate water management opportunities	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Continue with tree planting	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Complete the reconstruction of the wetland to improve water quality and the local environment with the introduction of indigenous habitat	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Completed
7. Urban Forest	Continue to implement the intent of the master plan with regard to future plantings	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
8. Waverley Oval Park	Continue the implementation of the Waverley Park Landscape Master Plan	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Ongoing
9. Ardrie Park	Prepare a conservation master plan for Ardrie Park	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Consider heritage listing of the Elm avenue in Ardrie Park	City Strategy	City Strategy	City Strategy	Short
10. Central Park	Implement master plan recommendations for Central Park	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Ongoing
11. Hedgeley Dene Gardens	Implement master plan recommendations for Hedgeley Dene Gardens	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Ensure Central Park, Hedgeley Dene and Ardrie Park receive appropriate levels of maintenance fitting their heritage status	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
12. Malvern Valley Public Golf Course	Improve the ecological sustainability of the course, particularly along Gardiners Creek	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
13. Peverill Park	Develop a landscape concept plan and improve linkages	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
14. Penpraze Park	Prepare a concept plan and balance its intensive use against appropriate maintenance regimes	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Medium
	Continue to manage in consultation with Malvern Primary School	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Ongoing

OPPORTUNITIES	DESCRIPTION	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL DIRECTORSHIP	RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL UNITS	LEAD	PRIORITY
15. Ivanhoe Grove Reserves through to Prior Road Park	Continue to upgrade the Gardiners Creek / Scotchman's Creek Shared Path in accordance with the Bicycle Strategy 2007	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking (on road), Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Continue to develop indigenous vegetation to provide habitat along the Scotchman's Creek corridor	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
16. Allenby Avenue	Define as a link to Glen Iris Park and Wetlands	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
17. Bowen Street Reserve	Develop a landscape master plan for the precinct	City Works, Social Development, Planning and Development, Sustainable Future	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, Strategic Planning	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries, Strategic Planning	Short to medium
18. Camino Terrace – Rialto Reserve	Develop a landscape plan to guide the development of a large open, active recreation zone together with passive, treed areas underplanted with indigenous vegetation	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Medium
19. Dairy Park	Carry out replacement and reinforcement plantings with drought tolerant species	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
20. Darling Park	A large reserve abutting Gardiners Creek and containing a section of the Shared Path, indigenous vegetation zones and 3 sportsgrounds	City Works, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
	Continue to extend and upgrade indigenous vegetation zones	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
21. Oravel Avenue	Tree planting required	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short
22. Peak Park	An undeveloped open space of greater than a hectare abutting the Monash Freeway and owned by VicRoads and maintained by Council. It could be developed as a link from Waverley Road through to Peverill Park and Warrigal Road	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Long
	Ample opportunity exists for further tree planting and planting of indigenous vegetation	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
23. Stanley Street Reserve	Manage significant and mature trees to ensure their longevity, while interplanting young trees	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
24. Winton/Thornbury Reserve	Develop this reserve abutting the Malvern Valley Golf Course as a natural environment area	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
25. Ambrose Avenue Reserve	Upgrade local neighbourhood playground as required	City Works	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium
Links					
26. Chadstone Shopping Centre	Work with Chadstone to ensure links to Chadstone are retained and additional links added where possible This needs to be undertaken in collaboration with local residents	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	Planning Services, Environment and Public Spaces, City Strategy	Short to Medium
27. Railway line and freeway shared pathway (including Ivanhoe Grove Reserve)	This pathway system is well used but requires more links and improved signage to adjacent public realm areas (e.g. Phoenix Park)	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
28. Gardiners Creek parklands (Darling Park)	Protect and enhance the significant ecological and recreational parklands and links	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium
	Integrate the environmental objectives of Muswell Bend and the Glen Iris Wetlands in this precinct	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces	Environment and Public Spaces	Medium to long
	Ensure balance between active recreation fields, shared pathway and environmental areas	City Works, Sustainable Future, Planning and Development, Social Development	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Environment and Public Spaces, Leisure and Libraries	Short to Medium
	Complete pathway expansion in conjunction with the issues and recommendations from the Waterways Plan	City Works, Social Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Ongoing
	Work with Boroondara Council and Melbourne Water to provide continuous shared pathway along Gardiners Creek to Warrigal Road	City Works, Social Development, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Short
29. Links to Gardiners Creek and parklands	Improve links to Gardiners Creek parklands and trail, through railway line and freeway. These need to be of high quality and with clear signage and visibility. To be done in negotiation and collaboration with VicTrack and VicRoads	City Works, Planning and Development	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Transport and Parking, Environment and Public Spaces	Short to medium

Implementation Plan

Master plans priority rating

PARK/RESERVE	DESCRIPTION	SUBURB	PRIORITY Short: 2–3 years Medium: 3–5 years Long: 5+ years
Camino Terrace – Rialto Reserve	Develop a landscape plan to guide the development of a large open, active recreation zone together with passive, treed areas under planted with indigenous vegetation	Malvern East	Medium
Bowen Street Reserve	Develop a landscape master plan for the precinct	Malvern East	Short
Penpraze Park	Prepare a concept plan and balance its intensive use against appropriate maintenance regimes	Malvern East	Long
Peverill Park	Develop a landscape concept plan and improve linkages	Malvern East	Long
Ardrie Park	Prepare a conservation master plan for Ardrie Park	Malvern East	Medium
Sydare Avenue Reserve	Undertake master plans for reserve and implement immediate tree planting	Malvern East	Long
OT Flight Reserve	Undertake master plans for reserve and implement immediate tree planting	Malvern East	Long
Rialto Reserve	Undertake master plans for reserve and implement immediate tree planting	Malvern East	Long
Gardiner Park	Develop a landscape master plan	Glen Iris	Long
Milton Gray Reserve	Relocate the scout hall when the opportunity presents itself	Malvern	Long
	Following the scout hall relocation prepare a concept plan for the reserve	Malvern	
Sir Robert Menzies Reserve	Develop a conservation management plan and landscape master plan	Malvern	Long
Malvern Public Gardens	Implement the Conservation Management Plan	Malvern	
	Reduce excessive wear and tear in consultation with Malvern Central School and De La Salle College, e.g. transfer sporting activities to local sports grounds		Short
Brookville Gardens and Fairbairn Reserve	Develop a conservation management plan	Toorak	Medium
Toorak Park and Victory Square	A master plan is being undertaken for Toorak Park and Victory Square. This will recommend improvements to the parks amenity and links to adjacent spaces	Armadale	Current
James Street Reserve	This small under-developed space requires a concept plan and upgrade for better community use	Windsor	Long
Princes Gardens	Develop a precinct plan	Prahran	Medium
Dyeworks Park	Review park design and water feature, and determine appropriateness for current urban context	South Yarra	Long
Como Park North / Thomas Oval	Ensure a master plan for Como Park North and Thomas Oval is completed and implemented. Recreation Services has identified Thomas Oval at Como Park North as a potential ground for junior soccer	South Yarra	Current
Surrey Road Park	A master plan is currently being developed for this park	South Yarra	Current
Yarra River Biodiversity Master Plan	A master plan is currently being developed for the length of Yarra River within Stonnington (Punt Road – Grange Road, Toorak)	South Yarra, Toorak	Current