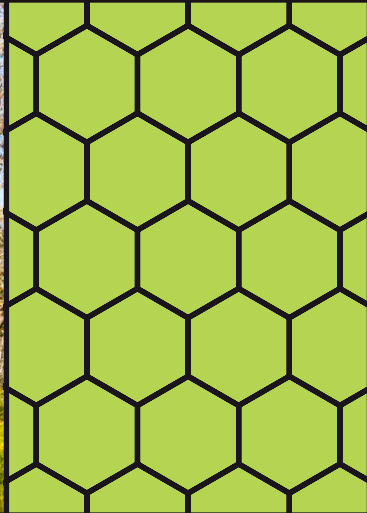




# GREATER DANDENONG OPEN SPACE STRATEGY 2020 - 2030



# CONTENTS

	MAYOR'S MESSAGE	3			
	EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3			
<b>01</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	5	<b>04</b>	<b>SUBURB ANALYSIS</b>	19
	COMMUNITY CONSULTATION	6		ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE – SUBURB ANALYSIS	19
	WHAT IS OPEN SPACE?	6		SPRINGVALE	22
	WHAT IS AN OPEN SPACE STRATEGY?	7		SPRINGVALE SOUTH	25
	WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF OPEN SPACE?	8		NOBLE PARK NORTH	27
				NOBLE PARK	30
<b>02</b>	<b>OPEN SPACE IN GREATER DANDENONG</b>	9		DANDENONG NORTH	33
	WHERE IS IT?	9		DANDENONG	36
	KEY INFLUENCES & CHALLENGES	10		DANDENONG SOUTH	39
	OPEN SPACE TYPES & PROVISION STANDARDS	14		KEYSBOROUGH	41
				LYNDHURST & BANGHOLME	43
<b>03</b>	<b>WHAT IS COUNCIL'S VISION FOR OPEN SPACE?</b>	17	<b>05</b>	<b>IMPLEMENTATION</b>	45
	VISION	17		OPEN SPACE PLANNING	45
	ACHIEVING THE VISION	17		GUIDING CRITERIA	45
				FUNDING	45
				ACTION PLAN	45
				MONITORING	45
				PARTNERSHIPS	45
			<b>06</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>	48
				A. OPEN SPACE HIERARCHY	48
				B. PARK DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS	49
				C. OPEN SPACE FRAMEWORK, ACTION & MONITORING PLAN	51
				D. SUBURB PRIORITY ACTION PLAN	59
				E. LAND SELECTION CRITERIA	75
				F. OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS CRITERIA	77

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The City of Greater Dandenong's revised Open Space Strategy recognises that open space provides many benefits for our residents and the environment. It encourages social connection and helps people stay healthy by providing passive and active recreation opportunities. Open space also allows trees, plants and animals to survive and thrive, and combats the impact of climate change.

The Strategy encourages well-designed spaces that support a variety of outdoor uses and looks at further improving existing open spaces and investing in more open space for suburbs that have a higher density of housing and in areas of need.

Open space can include sporting grounds, playgrounds, bushland, wetlands, streetscapes, public squares and walking and cycling trails.

Council is committed to providing an open space network that meets the needs of our current residents and visitors while planning for future generations. This Strategy will help us achieve these objectives.

It is derived from the Council's Imagine 2030 framework and considers key issues such as population growth, cultural diversity, climate change and increasing residential densities.

Council encourages residents to enjoy the great outdoors and be more active and we believe this Strategy will help us deliver many opportunities for residents and visitors alike to do this.

**Cr Jim Memeti**  
Mayor



*The City of Greater Dandenong respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples and the Traditional Owners of the land. We acknowledge and respect their continuing connection to climate, culture and country.*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The City of Greater Dandenong is a culturally diverse place to live, work and visit. Located 35km from Melbourne CBD and encompassing an area of 12,900 hectares, Greater Dandenong has a population of around 174,000 people, and almost 700 hectares of public open space land.

Council is committed to providing a high-quality, accessible and sustainable open space network for the enjoyment of the Greater Dandenong community.

The Greater Dandenong Open Space Strategy 2020-2030 (the Strategy) provides the strategic framework to achieve this vision by helping to inform the design of open spaces, and the decision-making processes and activities in relation to open space management and planning across the municipality. The Strategy recognises and responds to a range of key issues including population growth, cultural diversity, climate change and increasing residential densities.

Key implementation strategies include:

- Increasing the quantity of publicly accessible open space (owned by either Council or other public authorities) by delivering well-designed new spaces in areas of identified need, extending existing spaces and improving access to open space; and
- Improving and maintaining the quality of existing open space and connections ensuring they provide the appropriate standard of facilities for each suburb especially in higher density residential neighbourhoods.

In addition to a five-yearly operational desktop review, an annual update will provide updates on Council's commitment to achieving a high-quality open space network for the benefit of the entire community.







*Open space comes in many forms including parks, gardens, reserves, sports fields, urban plazas, streetscapes and waterways which are enjoyed by all Greater Dandenong residents.*

*Open space enables social connections, helps people be healthy, allows trees, plants and animals to survive and thrive and combats the impact of climate change.*

The City of Greater Dandenong is a diverse city, home to many valued areas and types of open space. Open space is an important part of everyday life for residents, workers and visitors of Greater Dandenong.

The area in which Greater Dandenong is now located is the territory of the Wurundjeri and Boonwurrung (or Bunurong) tribes of the Kulin Nation and has been for tens of thousands of years. The availability and occurrence of water that influenced living patterns and concentrations of Indigenous people occurred around the former Carrum Swamp, the floodplain, wetlands and elevated areas along Dandenong Creek. These areas continue to play an integral role in Greater Dandenong's open space network and important groups of highly valued scarred trees remain on both public and private land.<sup>1</sup>



With a growing population and higher expectations of open space, this Strategy recognises the rich diversity of people in Greater Dandenong and the importance of maintaining and enhancing a high-quality open space network.

The Strategy provides a framework for Council to manage and improve the quality, design and provision of open space over the next 10 years to ensure the needs of the existing residents and future generations are met.

The framework is derived from the Council's Imagine 2030 framework with principles and goals that align with the overarching themes of **Place, People and Opportunity**. Corresponding actions and measures set out how Council will achieve its vision of **a high quality, accessible and sustainable open space network**.

The Strategy includes a comprehensive analysis of open space needs for the municipality broken down by each suburb that takes particular consideration of walkability, land use and population growth. The Strategy also includes guiding criteria and park development standards to inform the implementation of a range of actions, such as site selection for new open space and open space improvements. A Framework, Action and Monitoring Plan, Open Space Contributions Plan and Council Policy will guide the implementation of the Strategy.

The Strategy takes a holistic approach by focusing on improving the quality of public open space and on where the demand is greater rather than simply using a per person provision ratio. Benchmarked against other municipalities, the previous open space provision is no longer considered appropriate and doesn't take into account local context or population increases. The Strategy focuses on areas of need to ensure the quality and quantity of open space in these areas is improved. Targets for acquisition of land for new open space and improvement of existing open space are included, along with a range of other measures to monitor the success of the Strategy.

The completion of actions will be subject to available budget and will generally be resourced according to their stated priority. Funding is derived from general rate revenue, government grants and contributions by developers, which Council collects and holds in an Open Space Reserve fund. Following adoption of the final Strategy, the Public Open Space Contributions Plan and Council Policy will be revised to implement a revised rate of contribution and operation of the Open Space Reserve.



## COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

In the past few years, Council consulted the community on a range of projects associated with open space, including Park Master Plans, Physical Activity Participation Survey and the Future of Parks. More specifically, in 2019, community feedback was sought to inform the preparation of the Strategy and again in 2020 to seek feedback on the draft.

Improving the quality of open space was the highest priority for many respondents followed by increased tree planting and greening of open spaces. This is consistent with earlier feedback when over a quarter of submitters indicated being outdoors with trees and nature was of most importance. Similarly, the expansion of the existing open space network is of high importance to many respondents. The Strategy seeks to respond to feedback by:

- Continuing to prioritise improvements to the quality of open spaces (including tree planting);
- Including additional measures and targets;
- Clarifying monitoring and reporting requirements;
- Placing greater emphasis on biodiversity and climate change.

## WHAT IS OPEN SPACE?

*Land that provides outdoor recreation, leisure and/or environmental benefits and/or visual amenity*

*(Victorian Planning Authority)*

The Strategy focuses on open space land that is accessible to the public and provides value to the community through:

- Opportunities for outdoor recreation and sport;
- Social connections and relaxation;
- Health benefits;
- Natural habitats;
- Environmental benefits; and/or
- Visual amenity/attractiveness.

Traditional types of open space include parks and gardens, playgrounds, sports fields and recreational facilities.

In response to steady population growth and increasing pressure and demand for open space, Council recognises the importance of non-traditional open space including:

- Urban and civic spaces;
- Schools and tertiary institutions;
- Cemeteries;
- Transport corridors, streets, paths, streetscapes and nature strips;
- Railway corridor and tree reserves.

These spaces also provide opportunities to participate in a variety of activities resulting in a range of benefits to the community. The benefits of open space are discussed further on page 8 of this strategy.

Quality open space is connected to the broader open space network via linear links and trails, which may also include the road network.





## WHAT IS AN OPEN SPACE STRATEGY?

*This Strategy provides direction on how Council will improve the open space network for the benefit of the entire community.*

### POLICY CONTEXT

The Victorian Planning Provisions (Clause 19 Open Space) seek to establish, manage and improve a diverse and integrated network of public open space that meets the needs of the community. Identified strategies to achieve this include:

- Ensuring that open space provides for multiple uses, such as opportunities to connect with nature, sport, recreation and play, active transport, social interaction, community gardens, wildlife corridors and flood storage basins.
- Ensuring open space provision is fair and equitable.



Figure 01 - Plan Melbourne - 20-minute neighbourhoods

The way in which residents access open space is a key element in determining where it is provided. The Victorian State Government's Metropolitan Planning Strategy Plan Melbourne seeks to implement a network of 20-minute neighbourhoods throughout the metropolitan area. A 20-minute neighbourhood needs to provide a range of easily accessible open spaces including sporting and recreation facilities, local playgrounds and parks. This principle underpins Council's vision of providing an accessible open space network.

The benefit of a 20-minute neighbourhood is that it can create a more cohesive and inclusive community reducing social exclusion, as well as improving health and wellbeing amongst other social and economic benefits.

The Greater Dandenong Open Space Strategy seeks to align with these policy directions through:

- The protection and enhancement of existing open space (quality);
- Planning for an increase in open space and better access to public land (eg. schools) in areas identified as lacking or undergoing substantial population growth (quantity); and
- An increased focus on the environmental resilience and sustainability of open space (opportunity).

The continued implementation and/or preparation of a range of City of Greater Dandenong programs and strategies help to implement these policies and achieve Council's vision for open space.

These include:

- Activity Centre's Placemaking Framework
- Community Safety Plan 2015-22
- Community Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021
- Conservation Management Plans
- Cycling Strategy 2017-2024
- Draft Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy, 2020-2030 (under preparation)
- Green Wedge Management Plan (revised January 2017)
- Greening our City – Urban Tree Strategy 2018-2028
- Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme
- Integrated Transport Plan 2017-2022
- Make Your Move Physical Activity Strategy 2020-2030
- Noble Park Activity Centre Structure Plan 2009 (under review)
- Park Master Plans/ Concept Plans
- Playground Strategy 2013-2023
- Springvale Activity Centre Structure Plan 2017
- Sustainable Public Lighting Strategy (under preparation)
- Sustainable Stormwater Strategy 2017-2037
- Sustainability Strategy 2016-2030
- Urban Forest Strategy (under preparation)
- Walking Strategy 2015-23



## WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF OPEN SPACE?

*‘Quality public open space that is well-located and well-developed, positively contributes to urban amenity as well as the environmental, social, health and wellbeing, and economic sustainability of the community.’*

*(CGD Housing Strategy, 2014-2024)*

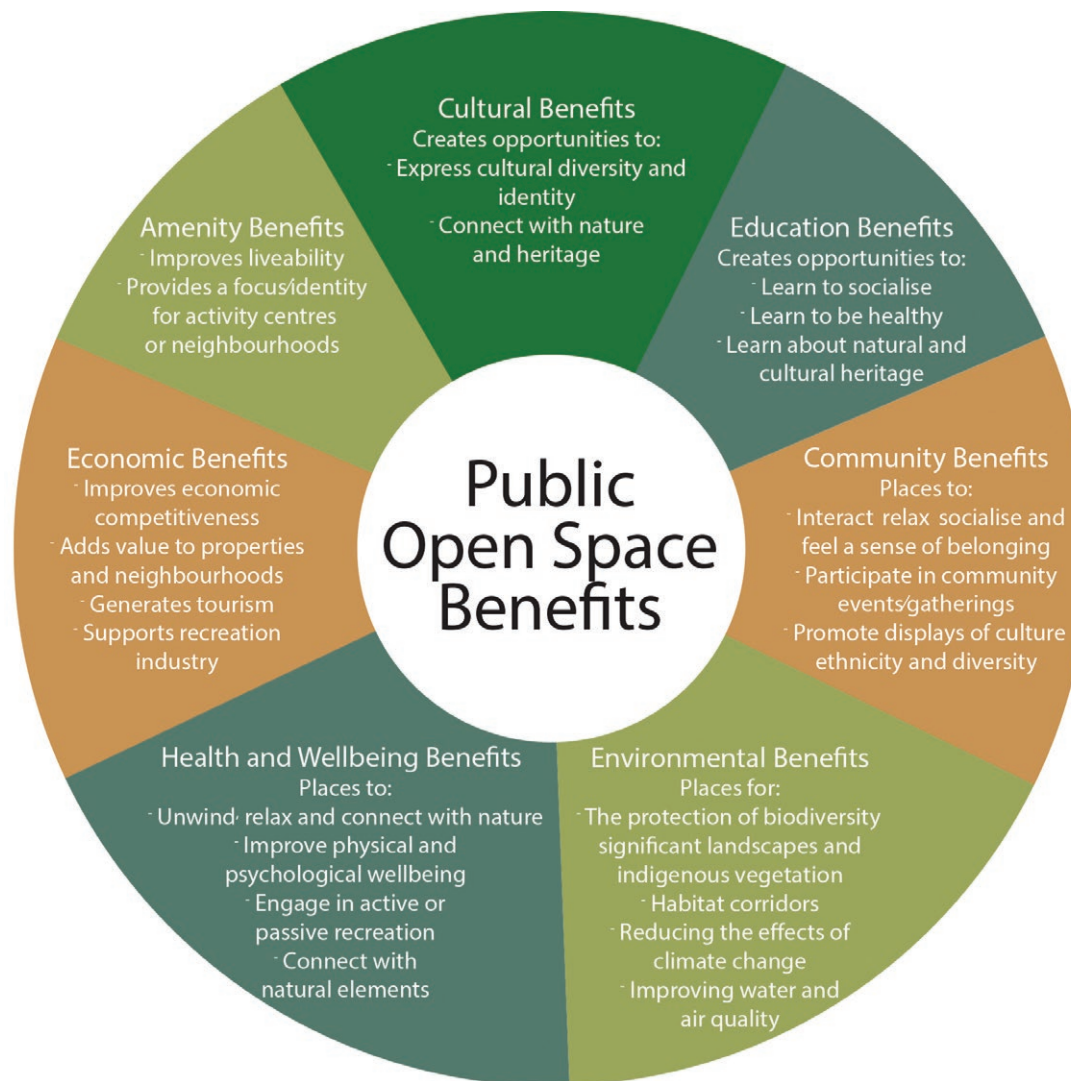


Figure 02: Public Open Space Benefits (Graphic based on the Auckland Plan 2012 Report, Auckland Council)

# 02 OPEN SPACE IN GREATER DANDENONG

## WHERE IS IT?

Open space makes up around 5.3% of land within the municipality of Greater Dandenong (approx. 700 hectares). Neighbouring municipalities are home to large regional open spaces including Police Paddocks, Braeside Park, Churchill National Park and Edithvale Wetlands.

Significant open spaces within Greater Dandenong include the Tirhatuan Park, Greaves Reserve, Tatterson Park, Spring Valley Reserve, Warner Reserve, Ross Reserve, Dandenong Park, and the Dandenong Flood Plains.

Major walking and cycling paths such as the Djerring Trail, Eastlink Trail and the Dandenong Creek Trail form the spine of Greater Dandenong's open space network.

These trails not only provide important open space corridors for people to enjoy but also sustainable transport connections throughout the City and to adjoining municipalities. The Djerring Trail share path along the Caulfield - Dandenong rail corridor has added approximately 9ha of open space to the Greater Dandenong open space network.

Key vegetation and habitat connections include Dandenong Creek, Mile Creek, Eumemmerring Creek and Yarraman Creek.

Greenfield development in Keysborough South has also added a variety of new open spaces in recent years.

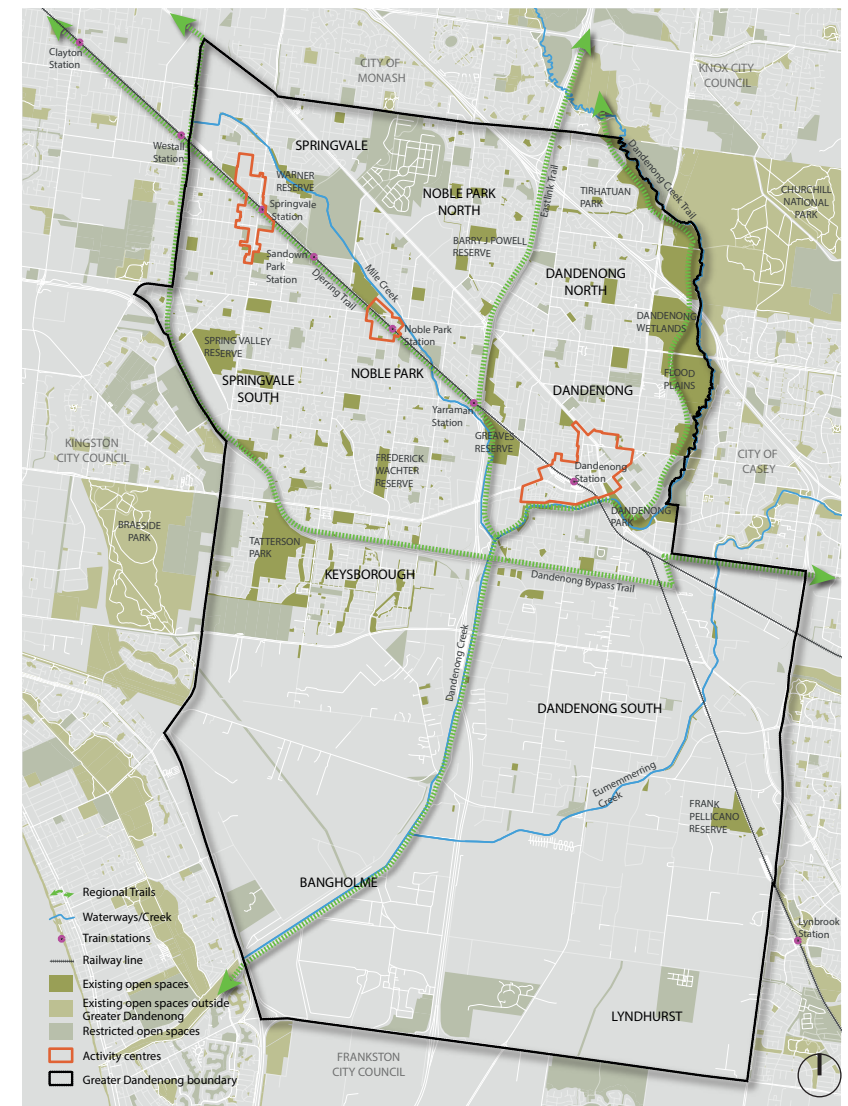


Figure 03: Greater Dandenong Overall Map With Existing Open Spaces

(Note: The building footprints of indoor sports facilities are not included in the calculation of the open space areas)



## KEY INFLUENCES & CHALLENGES

### LAND USE

The municipality of Greater Dandenong includes a variety of land uses, predominantly residential, commercial, industrial and green wedge. The land uses provide an indication of the expected types of change within an area and the resultant demand for and on open space. Residential land use, including activity centres, places the highest demand on open space as it is expected to cater for the diverse activities of the community and be within easy walking distance for people to access.

Plan Melbourne identifies Dandenong as a place of state significance as it has the facilities and capacity to provide a range of jobs, activities and housing. Retail and commercial opportunities, as well as government, health, justice and education services play a major service delivery role in central Dandenong making it an appropriate area for investment and growth in population.

Open space within industrial areas is expected to provide opportunities for workers to relax and engage with nature. It can also help reduce the visual and noise impacts of some land uses and provide valuable opportunities for conservation.

The Greater Dandenong Green Wedge provides a green and spacious relief from surrounding urban development and supports a range of activities including agriculture, water treatment, recreation, education, and rural living. While the demand on open space in the green wedge is much less than in residential areas, it provides significant opportunities for habitat links and sustainable transport connections.

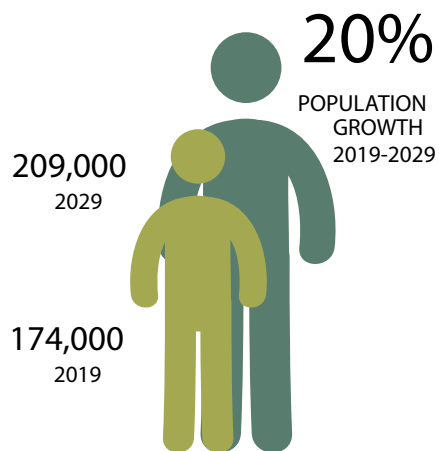


Figure 04: Estimated Population Growth

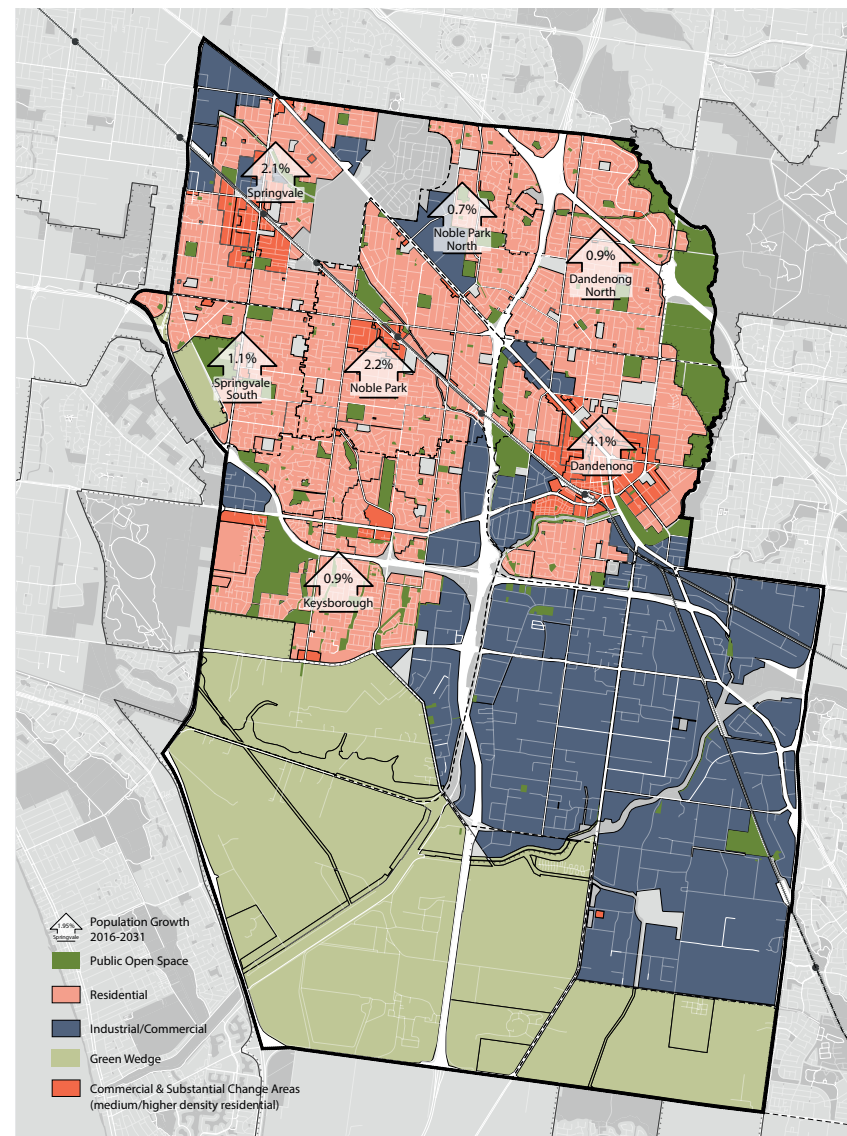


Figure 05: Greater Dandenong Major Land Uses & Population Growth





## CLIMATE CHANGE

In January 2020, Greater Dandenong City Council, declared a 'Climate and Ecological Emergency'. This Strategy recognises the role of open space in mitigating the impact of climate change on the community and the need to take action. Extreme weather events caused by climate change, such as floods, extreme heat, drought and bushfire events will increasingly have a negative impact on the quality of open space, the way people use it and increase the cost of maintenance.

Priority needs to be given to a range of measures including:

- Assessing the vulnerability of open spaces to the impact of a changing climate and its capacity to adapt.
- Tree planting throughout Greater Dandenong, particularly native and drought resistant species which require less demand on irrigation, drawdown carbon, cool the city during periods of higher temperatures and increase shade cover.
- A variety of climate change education programs.
- Development of sustainable transportation networks to reduce reliance on motorised transport.
- The exploration of future water needs and water availability, including but not limited to water sensitive

urban design (WSUD) techniques to ensure open spaces are safe, healthy and inviting places.

- Innovative methods to manage higher stormwater runoff caused by increasingly less permeable residential areas, including, but not limited to resilient vegetation and the creation of dual-purpose open space/drainage retention systems at suitable locations.
- Increasing application and use of green infrastructure to ensure improved biodiversity and passive irrigation outcomes.



## HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The incidence of chronic disease, including obesity-related illnesses, cardiovascular disease and diabetes together with mental health concerns can be reduced through increased access to natural environments including vegetated areas such as parks, playgrounds and conservation areas. Individuals in lower socio-economic areas such as Greater Dandenong<sup>6</sup> are at a higher risk of adverse health outcomes associated with decreased physical activity and increased sedentary behaviors. Only 49 per cent of Greater Dandenong residents meet the physical activity guidelines of 30 minutes of moderate to vigorous exercise per day compared to the Victorian average of 73 per cent.

We also know that one reason for decreased physical activity is a lack of access to green spaces<sup>7</sup>, such that residents living within 400m of open space are three times more likely to undertake moderate-vigorous physical activity.<sup>8</sup>

## COMMUNITY GARDENS

Community gardens are generally not-for-profit, local spaces that operate on designated land for residents and volunteers to grow fresh food, participate in sustainable urban practices, improve food literacy, learn horticultural skills, and build community connections through shared activities. Council recognises community gardening as a sustainable living option and a way for people to get involved with

their local community. Community gardens contribute to health and wellbeing, learning, social connections and can improve local food security through access to fresh food. In terms of the use of public open space land, building strong partnerships between Council, community groups and organisations in the local community is key to the long-term success of community gardens.

Open space provides the opportunity for everyone to exercise, relax, grow food, and connect with nature to improve health outcomes.

## CULTURAL DIVERSITY

The City of Greater Dandenong is the most culturally diverse community within Australia, with 61.6% of the population speaking a language other than English at home.<sup>5</sup>

Cultural diversity presents a unique challenge in terms of open space design and provision and can impact the demand for different facilities be they for emerging non-traditional sports, accommodating female only participation, larger social gatherings or concerns around safety and other potential barriers.

It is essential that open space affords the opportunity for everyone to participate in various forms of recreation, relaxation and physical activity.



## PARTICIPATION TRENDS

Residents of Greater Dandenong have low levels of participation in physical activity which is contributing to low levels of health and wellbeing within the municipality. The focus of physical activity has shifted from an emphasis on organised sport (traditional sport), including team sports, to unorganised/unstructured physical activity.

Future provision of physical activity opportunities that are provided within the municipality need to consider this new focus which considers affordable, accessible and equitable provision for all. For example, the most popular activity undertaken by local residents is walking (57%) highlighting the need to prioritise improvements to walking trails and shared paths. Increasing and promoting physical activity and engagement with those who are less active, such as women and girls, children and young people, people with a disability, culturally and linguistically diverse and older adults is of high importance.

It is also recognised that climate change and extreme weather events will likely impact how people use open space.

## INCREASING COSTS

Increasing land costs make it difficult for Council to purchase land for new open space or expand existing open spaces where required.

The cost of ongoing improvements and life-cycle maintenance is increasing not only because of more people using open space more often but also due to factors associated with climate change. Ongoing budget allocation to maintain a quality, accessible and sustainable open space network is required to ensure open spaces are inviting places, meet safety standards, and are fit for purpose.

Given the lower socio-economic position of most Greater Dandenong residents, the cost of paid physical activities, such as sporting club or gym memberships is not an affordable option. This places greater importance on the need for Council to ensure quality public open space is available for free or low-cost activities or programs.



## OPEN SPACE TYPES AND PROVISION STANDARDS

*The Victorian Planning Provisions, open space hierarchy and park development standards outlined below help Council to:*

- *Identify how the network of different types of open spaces provides people with access to a variety of experiences;*
- *Ensure an equitable distribution and quality of open space;*
- *Identify the current use and future potential demand on open spaces; and*
- *Allocate investment and resources where needed.*

### VICTORIAN PLANNING PROVISIONS

The Victorian Planning Provisions (VPPs) for public open space reinforce the State Government's vision of 20-minute neighbourhoods and require:

- Local parks within 400 metres safe walking distance of at least 95 percent of all dwellings;
- Active (Sports) open space of at least 8 hectares in area within 1 kilometre of 95 percent of all dwellings;
- Linear parks and trails along waterways, vegetation corridors and road reserves within 1 kilometre of 95 percent of all dwellings;
- To provide an interconnected and continuous network of safe, efficient and convenient footpaths, shared paths, cycle paths and cycle lanes based primarily on the network of arterial roads, neighbourhood streets and regional public open spaces.

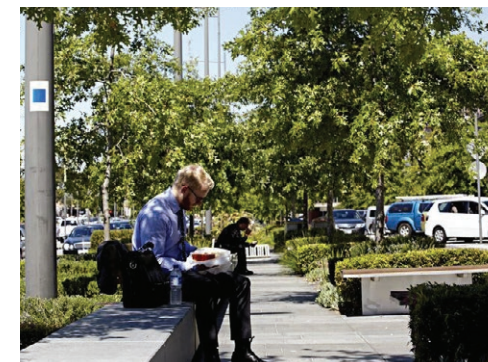
### HIERARCHY

The VPP requirements form the basis of classifying open space into the following categories (as detailed further at Appendix A):

- Access / Ownership- who owns and manages the open space;
- Typology- the main use and function of the open space;
  - Conservation
  - Linear, Links & Trails (including streets)
  - Passive
  - Sports
  - Urban & Civic
  - Ancillary
- Hierarchy - the size of the open space and the area it serves;
  - Regional
  - District
  - Neighbourhood
  - Local
  - Small Local
  - Pocket Park
- Land Use - provides an understanding of current and future demand on open space (High, Medium, Low).

### PARK DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS

The Park Development Standards provided at Appendix B provide guidance on the types of facilities and infrastructure that may be found in an open space depending on the hierarchy, typology and surrounding land use.













## VISION

*A high quality, accessible and sustainable open space network.*

The City of Greater Dandenong's Imagine2030 Community Plan established a vision for the future to integrate the way economic, social and environmental sustainability issues are addressed through three key priority areas – Opportunity, People and Place.

The Open Space Framework, Action and Monitoring Plan (detailed at Appendix C) is underpinned by Imagine 2030 and uses the three key priority areas as guiding principles to provide a strategic approach to achieving Council's vision, namely:

- Principle 1 - Place - High Quality Parks, Reserves and Connections
- Principle 2 - People - Open Space for All
- Principle 3 - Opportunity - Greening our City

The Open Space Framework, Action and Monitoring Plan identifies what Council seeks to achieve across these areas, and how this will be undertaken and monitored.

## ACHIEVING THE VISION

Improving Greater Dandenong's open space network will be achieved by two main methods:

- Increasing the **quantity** of publicly accessible open space by delivering new spaces, extending existing spaces and entering into access agreements with other land owners such as schools and Melbourne Water; and
- Improving the amenity and **quality** of existing spaces and links to spaces ensuring they are resilient to the impact of climate change and providing the appropriate level of facilities for the catchment, particularly within higher density neighbourhoods.

To achieve improved quantity and quality outcomes, recommended actions include, but are not limited to:

- Upgrading of existing facilities;
- Improved connections both on and off road to further encourage walking and cycling;
- Continued implementation of master plans/ concept plans and conservation management plans;
- Continued upgrades in response to the needs of both existing and future population;

- Ensuring open spaces are planned and managed to increase their resilience to the impacts of climate change
- Repurposing of existing Council land (including streets);
- Acquisition of land for new open spaces; and
- Utilisation of land not typically considered public open space.

Figure 09 demonstrates options available to Council as the demand on open space changes with a larger population and increased residential density. Such that, as the density of housing and population increases open space **quality** is required to improve (e.g. more facilities) or the **quantity** of open space needs to increase (expansion or reclaiming other spaces).

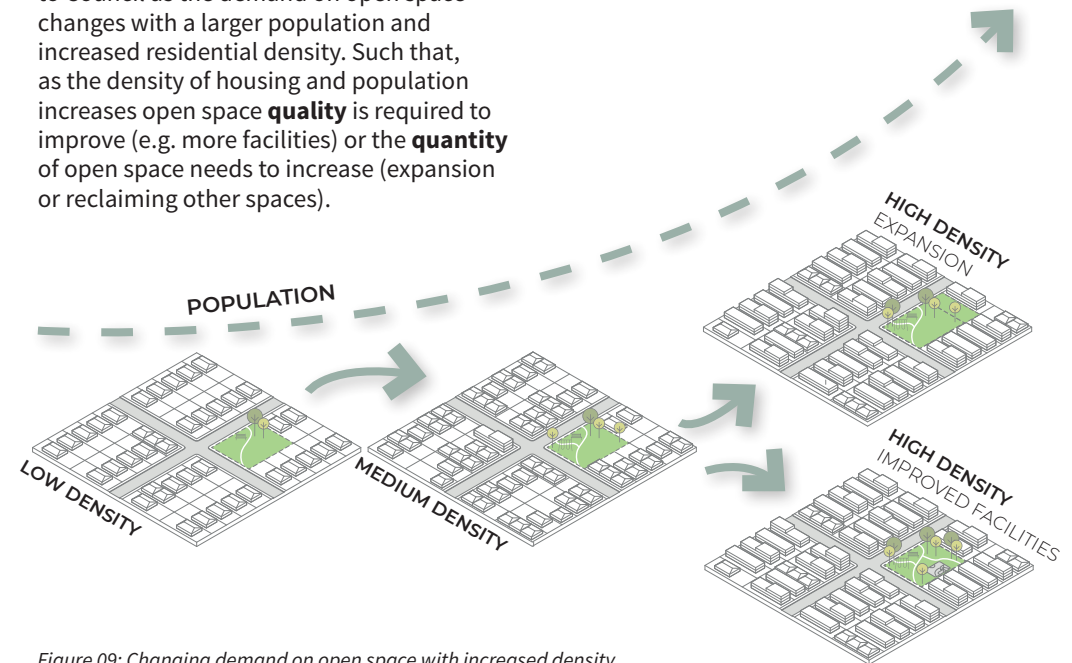


Figure 09: Changing demand on open space with increased density







## ACCESS TO OPEN SPACE – SUBURB ANALYSIS

The information that follows provides a detailed analysis and list of actions for each suburb. The suburbs have been formed by existing suburb boundaries, except for combining Lyndhurst and Bangholme.

The analysis is based on the existing distribution of open spaces including hierarchy, typology and the surrounding land use. Projected residential and employment population forecasts and densities inform where there may be a greater need for open space to service more people.

Current Council strategic projects, master/concept plans and structure plans also form part of the broader analysis of each suburb.

Any improvements proposed are indicative and subject to the Open Space Framework, Guiding Criteria and available funding. Priority is to be given to areas of identified need for the existing population and/or areas forecast to accommodate high population growth. These areas are identified as ‘Priority Areas’ on each suburb’s Access and Action Map.

A holistic needs analysis of each suburb incorporates the following considerations:

- A **physical gap** in the ability of residents to access open space within a safe walkable distance of 400m;
- Amount of **open space required** for the number of people living and working in the immediate area (currently and predicted);
- **Quality** of open space; and
- **Diversity** of open space allowing for different activities based on the hierarchy and typology of open spaces.



## WALKABILITY

This analysis of access to open space uses GIS data to map the area/properties that are within the catchment specified for each hierarchy:

- 800 metres for district and regional parks;
- 500 metres for neighbourhood and local parks; and
- 300 metres for small local and pocket parks.

The technique determines the true walkable accessibility to open spaces by mapping roads and pathways, rather than applying a generic ‘as the crow flies’ radius. The analysis also recognises significant barriers such as railway lines and major freeways.

This results in the identification of ‘gaps’ in open space provision such that residential properties located beyond the walkable catchments are identified in each suburb map. In several suburbs the predominance of cul-de-sacs prevents easy pedestrian permeability but provides good environments for street play and street party initiatives due to the low volume of traffic.

‘Gaps’ in industrial or commercial areas are not considered a priority as this type of land use places considerably less demand on open space.

## WALKSCORE

In addition, the WalkScore® is provided for each suburb as a simple tool to measure the impact of improvements to the open space network. The WalkScore website is a large-scale, public access walkability index that assigns a numerical walkability score to any address in the United States, Canada, and Australia. WalkScore® measures the walkability of an area on a scale from 0 - 100 based on walking routes to destinations such as shops, schools, parks and restaurants. The average WalkScore® for residential areas in Greater Dandenong (i.e. excluding Dandenong South industrial area, Lyndhurst & Bangholme) is considered “somewhat walkable” at 56. A score greater than 70 means that most errands can be made on foot (such as Carlton on 97), while 49 or less requires residents to be much more reliant on using a car (such as Narre Warren on 35).





## LAND USE AND POPULATION GROWTH

Population growth data is included in the analysis to understand how the management and supply of open space in each suburb will need to respond to changing conditions, including increased residential density. Major growth and population change are expected to occur in land zoned Comprehensive Development Zone, Mixed Use Zone, Commercial Zone and Residential Growth Zone, with the activity centres being made up of these zones. As such, the Springvale, Noble Park and Dandenong suburbs needs analysis includes analysis of these land use zones identified for substantial change.





# WARNER RESERVE





## SPRINGVALE

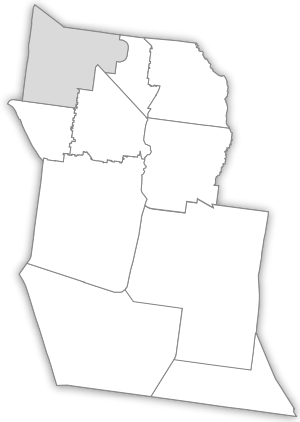


Figure 10: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Springvale

### SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**32.14** ha of open space

**21** total open spaces

**2.9%** of total suburb area is open space



### OVERVIEW

The area of Springvale was formerly laden with grassy, swampy riparian and herb-rich woodlands.

Today Springvale contains a mix of passive parks, sports reserves and dog off leash areas. Warner Reserve is the largest of the four district parks. The majority of these public parks and reserves are smaller neighbourhood and local parks within the large central residential area. These parks provide local playgrounds, grass areas to play, shaded areas to sit under trees and in some parks picnic and barbeque facilities. The Springvale Botanical Cemetery, Sandown Racecourse and the Greyhound Course are the predominant land uses within the eastern section of the suburb. The Cemetery is open for public use during the day and provides pedestrian connections from the Princes Highway to Police Road.

Low pedestrian accessibility within residential areas of Springvale is generally limited to the Nullawil St and Phillip St areas to the north, and the Ross Crt, Woodward St & Rosa Ave area west of Lawn Rd to the south as a result of the street network and cul-de-sacs.

Springvale has a WalkScore® of 66 making it the 108th most walkable neighbourhood in Melbourne.

### OPPORTUNITIES

The redevelopment of the Springvale Civic Site will provide a major open space anchor to the south of the activity centre and will result in further movement of people along the length of Springvale Road to balance the predominant east/west movements. Council recognises the need to improve connectivity between this new facility and the heart of the activity centre and the Springvale railway station. The Springvale Road Boulevard project seeks to improve much of this experience through tree canopy planting and improved pedestrian and cycling amenity.

Public realm improvements and pedestrian links nominated in the Springvale Major Activity Centre Structure Plan and small urban plazas through potential future development sites will continue to be actively pursued.

Given the substantial increase in residential density supported in this area and expected population growth, the deficiency in significant public open space is of high priority. Council will continue to reclaim space from cars, create new pedestrian zones and pursue opportunities to acquire land for open space purposes within the core of the Springvale Activity Centre.

Any future redevelopment of the Sandown Racecourse will be required to provide new open space/s and to improve connectivity

with the existing open space network. The interface with Mile Creek, Warner Reserve and Ross Reserve will be important considerations for this area.

Ongoing improvements to walking and cycling paths will strengthen active transport connections. Links to the Djerring Trail and improving access through the Springvale Botanical Cemetery will be investigated.

### MAIN ISSUES

- Lowest percentage of open space provision in Greater Dandenong.
- Lack of 'green' open space within the core of the Springvale Activity Centre.
- Increasing population density in and around the activity centre will place greater demand on open space.
- Deficient connectivity across the railway, across Princes Hwy and on the north end.
- Diminished connectivity and continuity of ecological network along Mile Creek.



Figure 11: Access and Action Map - Springvale



## SPRINGVALE

### PRIORITY ACTIONS

- P-1** Continue to revitalise the Springvale Major Activity Centre:
  - Implement the Springvale Activity Centre Structure Plan open space and public realm improvements and the Springvale Activity Centre Laneway Strategy.
  - Prepare and implement Springvale Activity Centre 10-year tree planting plan.
  - Advocate for new open space in Warwick Avenue Precinct.
  - Upgrade the Newcomen Rd/Springvale Rd intersection.
  - Implement Springvale Road Boulevard Project including increasing the tree canopy and investigate extending the Project south to the Civic Site.
  - Support the use of the Springvale Civic Site as a key community open space.
  - Implement open space improvements to Multicultural Place and adjoining laneways.
- P-2** Facilitate improved access to open space, including the Springvale Botanical Cemetery, and/or new open space and improved streetscape/ initiatives to address the 'gap' areas.
- P-3** Facilitate improved access to Springvale West Primary School.

- P-4** Prepare and/or implement the Master Plan/concept plans for Springvale Reserve, Warner Reserve, Andrew Ericksen Gardens, Gove St Reserve and Turner Reserve.
- P-5** Identify and facilitate options to increase the provision and diversity of open space within the 'higher projected open space needs' areas.

### ACTIONS

- A-1** Support the use of the Djerring Trail as a key walking/cycling open space.
- A-2** Any future redevelopment of Sandown Racecourse to include new open space, and improved connectivity to Warner Reserve.
- A-3** Facilitate improved access to the Springvale Botanical Cemetery Reserve and Mile Creek.
- A-4** Facilitate improved access/ connectivity to Norman Luth Reserve.

### MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

-  Prepare concept plans and implement open space improvements for an additional five reserves (Glendale Reserve, Hope Reserve, Edinburgh Reserve and International Peace Park).
-  Implement landscape improvements to five reserves (Mile Creek Reserve, Peter Reserve, Sullivan Reserve, Turner Close (37) Reserve, Victoria Reserve).

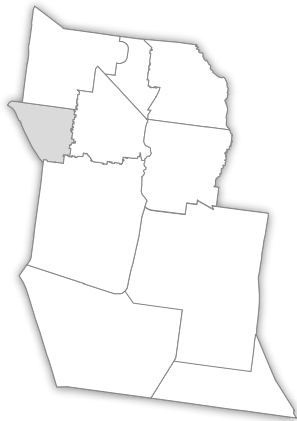


Figure 12: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Springvale South

## SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**52.16** ha of open space

**20** total open spaces

**11.5%** of total suburb area is open space



## OVERVIEW

Springvale South contains a mix of passive parks, sports reserves, a conservation reserve and dog off leash areas. The Dandenong Bypass regional bike trail connects Springvale South to the broader open space network. Burden Park is an important district park, and Alex Wilkie Nature Reserve is a valuable educational and cultural resource. Spring Valley Reserve provides the largest park in this area and forms part of the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge and the Sandbelt Chain of Parks.

Population growth is expected to be moderate and there are minimal open space provision gaps. This is reflected in the WalkScore® of 46 making Springvale South the 238th most walkable neighbourhood in Melbourne.

## OPPORTUNITIES

Recommendations include upgrading the quality of facilities within existing parks and continuing to implement the existing master plans so that the needs of the existing and future population are met. Improved pedestrian and cycle connections to existing spaces should be investigated for Coomoora Reserve and Spring Valley Reserve. Negotiations with education facilities to allow and/or increase after-hours access for the broader community could reduce the identified gaps in open space provision and provide an increased variety of open space opportunities.

## MAIN ISSUES

- Several small physical gaps in residential areas generally due to the residential road layout which has several cul-de-sacs preventing pedestrian permeability.
- Low tree canopy cover in open spaces and street network.

## PRIORITY ACTIONS

- P-1** Facilitate improved access and connectivity to Keysborough Primary School and Keysborough Secondary College for the broader community.

## ACTIONS

- A-1** Facilitate improved access/ connectivity across Springvale Road to Spring Valley Reserve.
- A-2** Support the use of Spring Road and the Dandenong Bypass Regional trail as key walking/cycling open space.

## MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

-  Prepare and/or continue to implement master/concept plans and open space improvements for nine reserves (Burden Park, Spring Valley, Bartley Reserve, Darren Reserve, Doris Reserve, Elisabeth Reserve, Martin Reserve, Spring Road (82-98) Reserve and Springvale South Reserve).
-  Implement landscape improvements at five reserves (Charlotte Reserve, Eggleston Lane, Janelaine Reserve, Springfield Road Reserve, Springvale Road (593) Tree Reserve).



## SPRINGVALE SOUTH



Figure 13: Access and Action Map - Springvale South



Figure 14: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Noble Park North

## SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**27.75** ha of open space

---

**16** total open spaces

---

**7.6%** of total suburb area is open space



## OVERVIEW

Noble Park North will experience limited residential population growth and is well serviced by a mix of passive parks and sports reserves. The majority of these are smaller neighbourhood and local parks providing local playgrounds, grass areas and some picnic/BBQ areas. Oakwood Park offers a scenic wetlands experience while sporting facilities are focussed at G.J Duggan and Barry J. Powell Reserves. The EastLink Regional Bike Trail provides an important north/south sustainable transport connection.

The only notable gap in open space provision is in the industrial/commercial area. Smaller gaps in the north of the suburb occur within residential areas with cul-de-sacs preventing easy pedestrian movement. Noble Park North has a WalkScore® of 49 making it the 219th most walkable neighbourhood in Melbourne.

## OPPORTUNITIES

Continued implementation of the Barry J Powell Reserve master plan to provide improved open space amenity and quality for both existing and future residents.

Negotiations with education facilities to allow and/or increase after-hours access for the broader community should be investigated, with the view to addressing many of the gaps in the residential areas.

Improved cycle connections, including increased safety for on-road paths and increased canopy coverage along the Eastlink trail, will provide appealing active transport links through Noble Park North.

Investigating access to the Springvale Botanical Cemetery to the west to increase opportunities for passive recreation within the gardens could improve connectivity and variety of open space experiences in this area.

## MAIN ISSUES

- Some physical gaps due to street network and cul-de-sacs.
- Barriers to pedestrian movement surround the precinct.
- Low tree canopy cover in open spaces.



## PRIORITY ACTIONS

- P-1** Facilitate improved access and connectivity to Carwatha College.

## ACTIONS

- A-1** Support the use of the Eastlink Trail connections to Barry J Powell Reserve as a key walking/cycling route along Halton Rd through wayfinding and improved amenity of street connections and shade.
- A-2** Facilitate improved access to the Springvale Botanical Cemetery.
- A-3** Facilitate ways to support increased access & use of private passive open space for workers to address the industrial 'gap' area.

## MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

-  Prepare and/or continue to implement master/concept plans and open space improvements for five reserves (WJ Turner Reserve, Barry J Powell Reserve, Birkley Reserve, Galos Reserve, Heyington Reserve).
-  Implement landscape improvements at three reserves (Reserve 37 Elonera Road, Browns Road (165A) Tree Reserve, Elonera Reserve).





## NOBLE PARK NORTH



Figure 15: Access and Action Map - Noble Park North







## NOBLE PARK



Figure 16: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Noble Park

### SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**44.86** ha of open space

**39** total open spaces

**5.2%** of total suburb area is open space



### OVERVIEW

Noble Park was formerly home to many magnificent river red gums, manna gums, peppermint gumtrees, and black wattle and tea trees; underpinned by Mile Creek. Noble Park contains a mix of passive parks, sports reserves and civic spaces. Cyclists and walkers can take advantage of the Djerring Regional Trail and the EastLink Regional Bike Trail. Ross Reserve is the largest park in Noble Park, with extensive sporting and aquatic facilities and passive recreation areas. Noble Park is expected to accommodate significant population growth primarily in the Noble Park Activity Centre and immediate surrounds putting increased demand on open spaces within the centre, including Copas Park and Mills Reserve. Access to open space has been considerably improved through the level crossing removal and the associated Djerring Trail.

Low pedestrian accessibility within residential areas of Noble Park is considerable as a result of the street network and cul-de-sacs. Gap areas include Callaghan St, French St & Chandler Rd area, Jellicoe St & Pamela St to the east, Shepreth Ave, Arnold St and Mather Rd area (south of Djerring Trail) and the Taranto Dr, Kleine St & Temple Ct (near Corrigan Rd) area to the south of the activity centre.

Noble Park has a WalkScore® of 48 making it the 231st most walkable neighbourhood in Melbourne.

### OPPORTUNITIES

The implementation of a revised Noble Park Major Structure Plan through actions such as a program of public realm and streetscape improvements, enhancing the new Station Civic Space, facilitation of new urban open spaces as part of key redevelopments and naturalisation of Mile Creek will help to achieve Council's open space vision.

Improved laneway connections, increased tree canopy coverage in existing open spaces, improved connections to the railway station, and the activation of Ian Street will enhance the pedestrian amenity of the activity centre.

Other opportunities include identifying opportunities for increased pedestrian space and shared urban spaces within existing road reserves, providing connections to Dandenong via the extension of the Djerring Trail, improving pedestrian and cycle connectivity to Ross Reserve from Princes

Highway, the Springvale Botanical Cemetery and any future redevelopment of Sandown Racecourse.

### MAIN ISSUES

- Large physical gaps around the activity centre.
- Potential lack of open space in the future due to increased population density in and around the activity centre.
- Intermittent Mile Creek ecological link.
- Lack of diversity in typologies west of activity centre and in the southeast.
- Lack of different types of open space west of activity centre and in the southeast.



## NOBLE PARK



Figure 17: Access and Action Map - Noble Park



## NOBLE PARK

### PRIORITY ACTIONS



- P-1** Continue to revitalise the Noble Park Major Activity Centre:
  - Continue to implement the Noble Park Activity Centre Structure Plan open space and public realm improvements.
  - Prepare and implement 10 year tree planting plan.
  - Prepare and implement the Noble Park Activity Centre Laneway Strategy.
  - Implement open space improvements to the Civic Space.
- P-2** Facilitate improved access and connectivity to Chisholm Institute, Noble Park Secondary College and St Anthony's Primary School for the broader community.
- P-3** Prepare and/or implement the Master Plan/concept plans for Aubrey Moss Memorial Reserve, Copas Park, Mills Reserve and Ross Reserve to address the 'higher projected open space needs'.
- P-4** Facilitate new open space and/or improved streetscape/initiatives to address the 'gap' areas.
- P-5** Support the use of the Djerring Trail as key walking/ cycling connections through improved way finding, street amenity and shade.
- P-6** Continue to advocate to Melbourne Water for the naturalisation of Mile Creek and improved open space connections.

- P-7** Facilitate improving the railway underpass (Callaghan St to Douglas St).
- P-8** Identify and facilitate options to increase the provision and diversity of open space within the 'higher projected open space needs' areas.

### ACTIONS

- A-1** Any future redevelopment to include new open space, and access/ connectivity improvements to surrounding area.
- A-2** Facilitate improved access and connectivity to Yarraman Oaks Primary School for the broader community.
- A-3** Support the use of the Eastlink Trail linkages to Fotheringham Reserve through way finding, street amenity and shade to address the 'gap' areas.

### MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

-  Prepare and/or continue to implement master/concept plans and open space improvements for fifteen reserves (Noble Park Reserve, Parkfield Reserve, Deborah Crt Reserve, Edith MacPherson Park, Greenglade Reserve, JB Sheen Reserve, Kenneth Reserve, Kiwanis Reserve, Martin Reserve, Maxwell Reserve, Racecourse Reserve, Sandra Reserve, Verbena Reserve, William Robert Lees Park, Wyuna Reserve).
-  Implement landscape improvements at seven reserves (Avon Reserve, Chandler Road Tree Reserve, Corrigan Rd Reserve, Eggleston Lane (off Broakoak Street) Reserve, Leon Trembath Reserve, Liege Reserve, Parramatta Reserve).

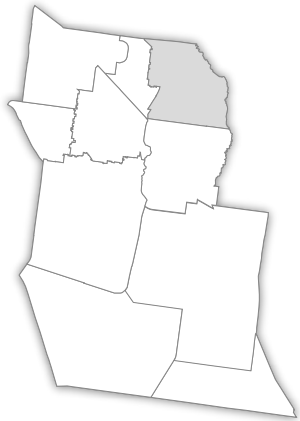


Figure 18: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Dandenong North

### SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**167.01** ha of open space

**36** total open spaces

**17.5%** of total suburb area is open space



### OVERVIEW

Dandenong North contains a mix of passive parks, sports reserves and conservation areas. Residents can enjoy the Dandenong Creek Trail, which links major open spaces, wetlands and floodplains in Dandenong North. Tirhatuan Park is a key part of this corridor, providing important habitat for native flora and fauna. The ecological value of the open spaces along the Creek are highly significant for the whole Municipality and beyond, providing significant benefits for the environment and the community.

The Monash and Eastlink Freeways present major barriers to sustainable transportation movements within this suburb. However, the EastLink Trail provides a major north/south off-road cycling and pedestrian connection.

Limited population growth is forecast for this area which has no major activity centre and is dominated by residential land. Open space provision gaps are generally contained to the area north-east of the Lyndale Secondary College due to the street network and cul-de-sacs.

Dandenong North has a WalkScore® of 43 making it the 258th most walkable neighbourhood in Melbourne.

### OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation of concept plans for larger open spaces such as Tirhatuan Park and Lois Twohig Reserve will enhance their amenity for both existing and future residents to enjoy. Continued involvement with the Port Phillip and Westernport Catchment Management Authority's Living Links Program, along with other landholders, will improve the biodiversity along the Dandenong Creek corridor for the benefit of the region.

Negotiations with the Department of Education and Training and Lyndale Secondary College improve access for the broader community could help improve open space provision and provide an increased variety of open space opportunities in this area.

Links along existing footpaths and roads leading to open spaces and cycle/pedestrian trails and wayfinding improvements will be investigated, including east/west cycling connections to and beyond the EastLink and Dandenong Creek Trails.

### MAIN ISSUES

- Several physical gaps generally due to low connectivity.
- Major freeways and roads limit pedestrian access to open space.
- Intermittent and insufficient east-west ecological links.
- Lack of different types of open space.

### PRIORITY ACTIONS

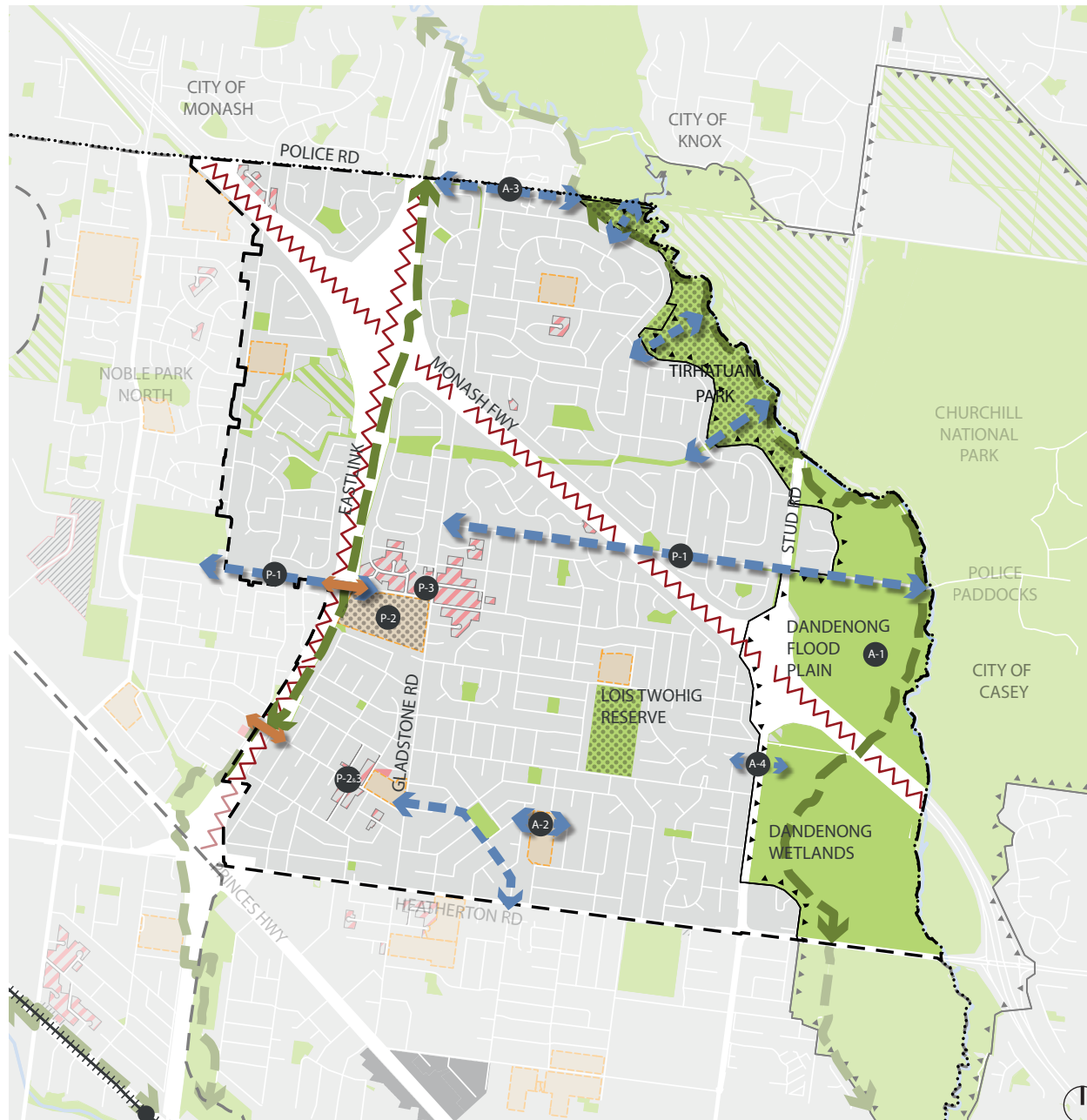
- P-1** Support the use of the regional trails as key walking/ cycling connections through improved way finding, street amenity and shade.
  - Eastlink Trail to Dandenong Creek Trail along Brady Rd.
  - Eastlink Trail to Barry J Powell Reserve along Halton Rd.
- P-2** Facilitate improved access and connectivity to Lyndale Secondary College and Lyndale Greens Primary School for the broader community.
- P-3** Identify and facilitate new open space and/or improved streetscape/initiatives to address the 'gap' areas.

### ACTIONS

- A-1** Continue to implement and investigate biodiversity improvements along Dandenong Creek through the Living Links Program.
- A-2** Facilitate improved access/connectivity of the Emerson School.
- A-3** Advocate the City of Monash for the completion of the Police Rd walking/ cycling route between the Eastlink Trail and Dandenong Creek Trail to support the use of the regional trails.
- A-4** Facilitate improved access/connectivity across Stud Rd to Dandenong Wetlands.



## DANDENONG NORTH



### MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

Prepare and/or continue to implement master/concept plans and open space improvements for twelve reserves (Tirhatuan Park, Lois Twohig Reserve, Cardinia Close Reserve, Currajong Street Reserve, Cypress Grove Reserve, Gatley Court Reserve, Madison Avenue Reserve, Manks Court Reserve, Pitman Street Reserve, Police Road Tree Reserve, Purley Drive Reserve, Simpson Drive Reserve).

- Greater Dandenong boundary
  - Urban Growth Boundary
  - - - Suburb boundary
  - Railway station
  - Existing open space
  - Restricted open space
  - Waterways
  - Institutions / Schools
  - Barriers / Limited connectivity
  - Existing masterplans
  - New/Upgrade links
  - Existing links
  - Existing regional shared pathways
  - Gaps in non-residential zones
  - Gaps in residential zones
  - Higher open space needs area
- Priority areas

Figure 19: Access and Action Map - Dandenong North









Figure 20: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Dandenong

## SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**161.00** ha of open space

---

**45** total open spaces

---

**14.2%** of total suburb area is open space



## OVERVIEW

Historically, Dandenong was a land of river red gums, creek floodplains and dry heathland. Nowadays, Dandenong has a Metropolitan Activity Centre at its core and is expected to accommodate significant population growth. The needs analysis shows minimal physical open space provision gaps, however the population is anticipated to increase significantly which will place significant pressure on the major open spaces within central Dandenong, such as Harmony Square, Palm Plaza and Dandenong Park.

Dandenong is home to some of the City's major recreational facilities, including the Oasis Leisure Centre and the Hemmings Park Skate Park and BMX trail. Other significant open spaces include Greaves Reserve and Fotheringham Reserve. Major regional bike trails include the Dandenong Creek Trail, Dandenong Bypass Trail and the EastLink Trail that connect major regional corridors of open space, including the Dandenong wetlands and floodplain. Waterways within the suburb are particularly important as many adjoin significant areas of open space.

The Revitalising Central Dandenong initiative has made significant improvements to the centre through landscaping and streetscape works, way finding and additional connected civic/urban spaces such as Halpin Way and Harmony Square to improve the walkability of the centre. Harmony Square is a highly used civic and major event space. Dandenong has a WalkScore® of 64 making it the 120th most walkable neighbourhood in Melbourne.

## OPPORTUNITIES

Given the substantial increase in residential density and expected population growth, Council will continue to give high priority to reclaiming space from cars and pursuing opportunities to acquire land for open space purposes within the core of the Dandenong Metropolitan Activity Centre.

Negotiations with the Department of Education and Training to allow and/or increase after-hours access for the broader community could improve open space provision and provide an increased variety of open space opportunities.

Recommendations for Dandenong include maximising open space opportunities within the activity centre to enable increased tree canopy coverage, water sensitive urban design, a diverse range of social offerings and quality landscaping.

The implementation of the Dandenong Park Master Plan will continue to increase connections and signage to the park will

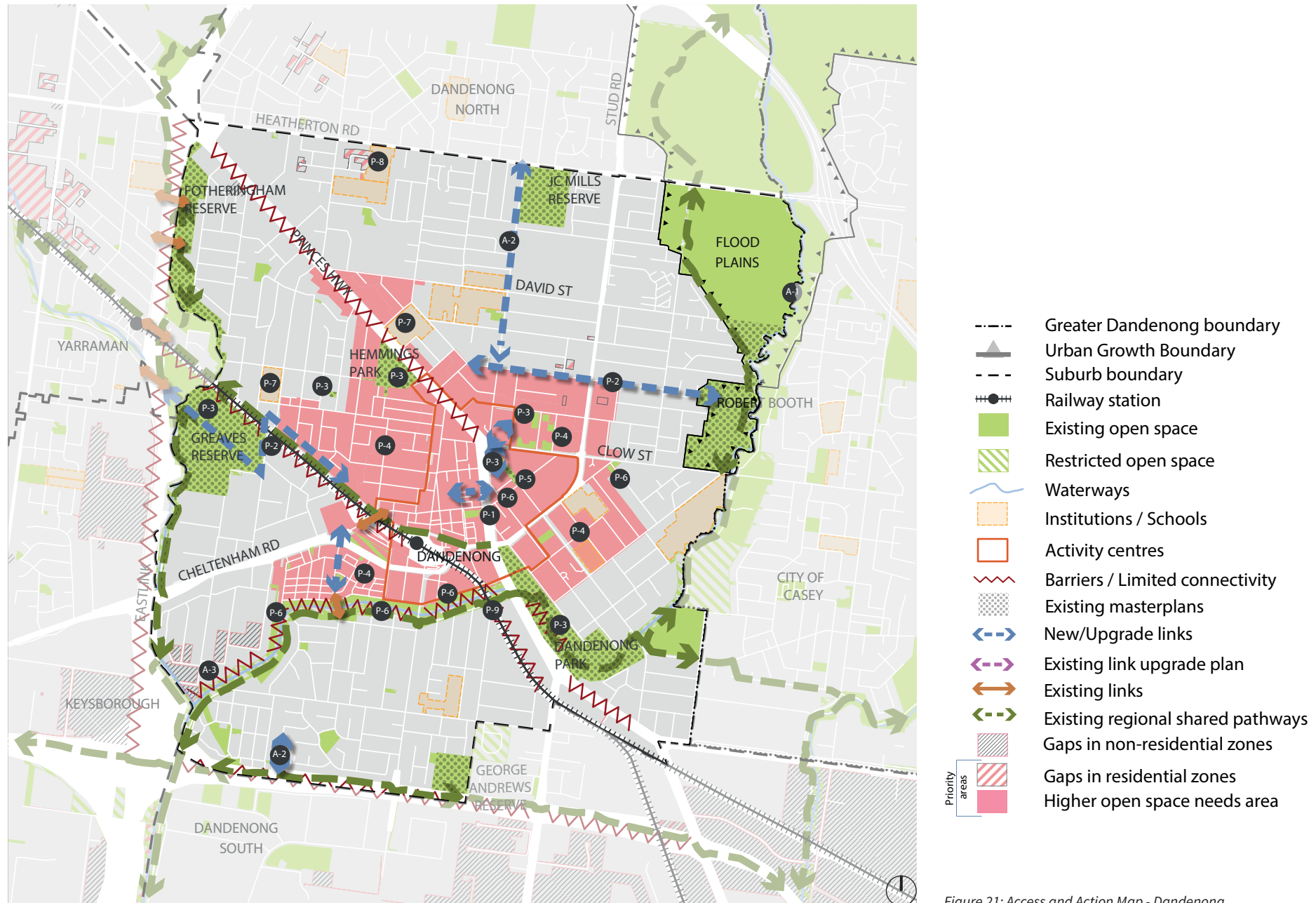


enable more workers to utilise this space. Concept plans for Robert Booth Reserve and Fotheringham Reserves will be prepared and implemented together with ongoing improvements to the public realm in central Dandenong. Maximising the best use of Council owned land and strategic future acquisitions to facilitate improved public realm outcomes will be a high priority so the needs of the existing and future population are met.

Further focus on integrating open space, water sensitive urban design and stormwater management practices will provide multiple benefits and better outcomes for the community.

## MAIN ISSUES

- Increasing population density in and around the activity centre will place greater demand on open space.
- Barriers to pedestrian flow from the creek, rail and highway.
- Intermittent and insufficient east-west ecological links.
- Poor connectivity and amenity between open spaces through pedestrian and cycling links.





## PRIORITY ACTIONS



- P-1** Continue to revitalise the Dandenong Metropolitan Activity Centre:
  - Open space, streetscape, pedestrian connectivity and public realm improvements (Boyd Lane, Cleeland/ Clow St, Pultney St, Thomas St, Halpin Way, Vanity Lane, Mason/Robinson St).
  - Prepare and implement 10 year tree planting plan.
  - Landscape and tree planting improvements in Harmony Square.
  - Prepare and implement the Dandenong Activity Centre Laneway Strategy.
- P-2** Support the use of the regional trails as key walking/ cycling connections through improved way finding, street amenity and shade:
  - Yarraman Station to Dandenong Station along Djerring Trail extension.
  - North of railway line to Eastlink Trail.
  - Dandenong Creek Trail along Herbert St.
- P-3** Prepare and/or implement the Master Plan/concept plans for Fifth Ave Reserve, Dandenong Park (including Thomas P Carroll Reserve, Greaves Reserve, Hemmings Park, Woodcock Reserve and Pioneer Park to address the 'higher projected open space needs'.
- P-4** Identify and facilitate options to increase the provision and diversity of open space within the 'higher projected open space needs' areas.

- P-5** Prepare and implement Palm Plaza/ McCrae St Mall upgrade including open space and landscaping improvements to increase the provision and diversity of open space within the 'higher projected open space needs' area.
- P-6** Implement landscape improvements to Dandenong Creek Reserve, Foster St East Reserve and Keneally Reserve.
- P-7** Facilitate improved access and connectivity to Dandenong West Primary School and Dandenong High School for the broader community
- P-8** Improved streetscape and way finding to Gerard Reserve to address the 'gap' area.
- P-9** Improved connections to Dandenong Park and Dandenong Creek trail through the level crossing removal.

## ACTIONS

- A-1** Continue to implement and investigate biodiversity improvements along Dandenong Creek through the Living Links Program.
- A-2** Support the use of the regional trails as key walking/ cycling connections through improved way finding, street amenity and shade:
  - Dandenong Bypass Regional Trail.
  - Cleeland St to JC Mills Reserve.
- A-3** Facilitate streetscape improvements, such as tree planting to address the 'gap' in the industrial area.

## MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

-  Prepare and/or continue to implement master/concept plans and open space improvements for ten reserves (Dandenong Floodplain (South of Heatherton Rd), Fotheringham Reserve, Gardiner Reserve, George Andrews Reserve, Gerard Reserve, J C Mills Reserve, Norine Cox Reserve, Robert Booth Reserve, Stuart St Reserves, Vivien Reserve).
-  Implement landscape improvements at twelve reserves (Bassett Reserve, Cheltenham Rd Reserve, David Street Reserve, Hornsby St Reserve, Jim Hardy Reserve, Keating Reserve, Keshava Grove Reserve, Kyla Reserves 1 & 4, Morwell to Dawn Creek Reserve, Progress Hall Reserve, Wilma Reserve).

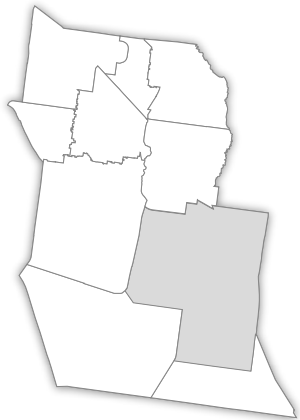


Figure 22: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Dandenong South

## SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**38.31** ha of open space

**21** total open spaces

**1.3%** of total suburb area is open space



## OVERVIEW

Dandenong South is dominated by industrial land, so the anticipated population growth is negligible in terms of generating any significant demand for open space.

The Eastlink Trail and Dandenong Bypass Regional Trail provide sustainable transport connections in this area and to regional corridors of open space, including the Dandenong Creek.

Significant open spaces include the Frank Pellicano Reserve conservation area, 265-285 Greens Road Reserve; and the Logis Boulevard Reserve which provides a high quality passive open space for workers.

Level crossing removals are planned in this area which will provide significant connectivity improvements.

The Dandenong South WalkScore® of 24 reflects the industrial nature of the area and reliance on cars.

## OPPORTUNITIES

The Dandenong South Industrial Area Development Plan and Dandenong South Native Vegetation Precinct Plan will ensure the continued provision of open space and conservation reserves in this area.

There are opportunities for improved connections and wayfinding including along the Cranbourne Rail corridor, Perry Road, and the Dandenong Bypass Regional trail extension.

A high standard of street tree planting throughout the suburb will continue to improve tree canopy coverage, increase biodiversity, improve visual amenity and provide recreational opportunities for workers.

## MAIN ISSUES

- Key improvements to the amenity of open space are reliant on the implementation of the Development Plan.



## ACTIONS

- A-1** Development/ improvement of shared paths to improve sustainable transport connections:
  - Through the level crossing removals – (Greens Rd to South Gippsland Hwy, Cranbourne Rail corridor, and South Gippsland Hwy between Princes Hwy & Dandenong Bypass).
  - Dandenong Bypass Regional Trail Extension.
  - Dandenong to Frankston along Jayco Dve and Colemans Rd.
  - Frankston Dandenong Rd to Sth Gippsland Hwy along Glasscocks Rd.
- A-2** Facilitate potential extension of Eumemmering Creek Trail (from Princes Hwy to Frankston Dandenong Rd).
- A-3** Continue to implement new open space as per the Dandenong South Industrial Area Development Plan and Dandenong South Native Vegetation Precinct Plan.
- A-4** Continue to implement and investigate biodiversity improvements along Dandenong Creek through the Living Links Program.

## MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

-  Implement landscape improvements at eight reserves (Amberley Reserve, Frankston -Dandenong Tree Reserves, National Drive Tree Reserves, South Gippsland Hwy Tree Reserves, South Link Tree Reserve, Ventura Place Reserve).



## DANDENONG SOUTH

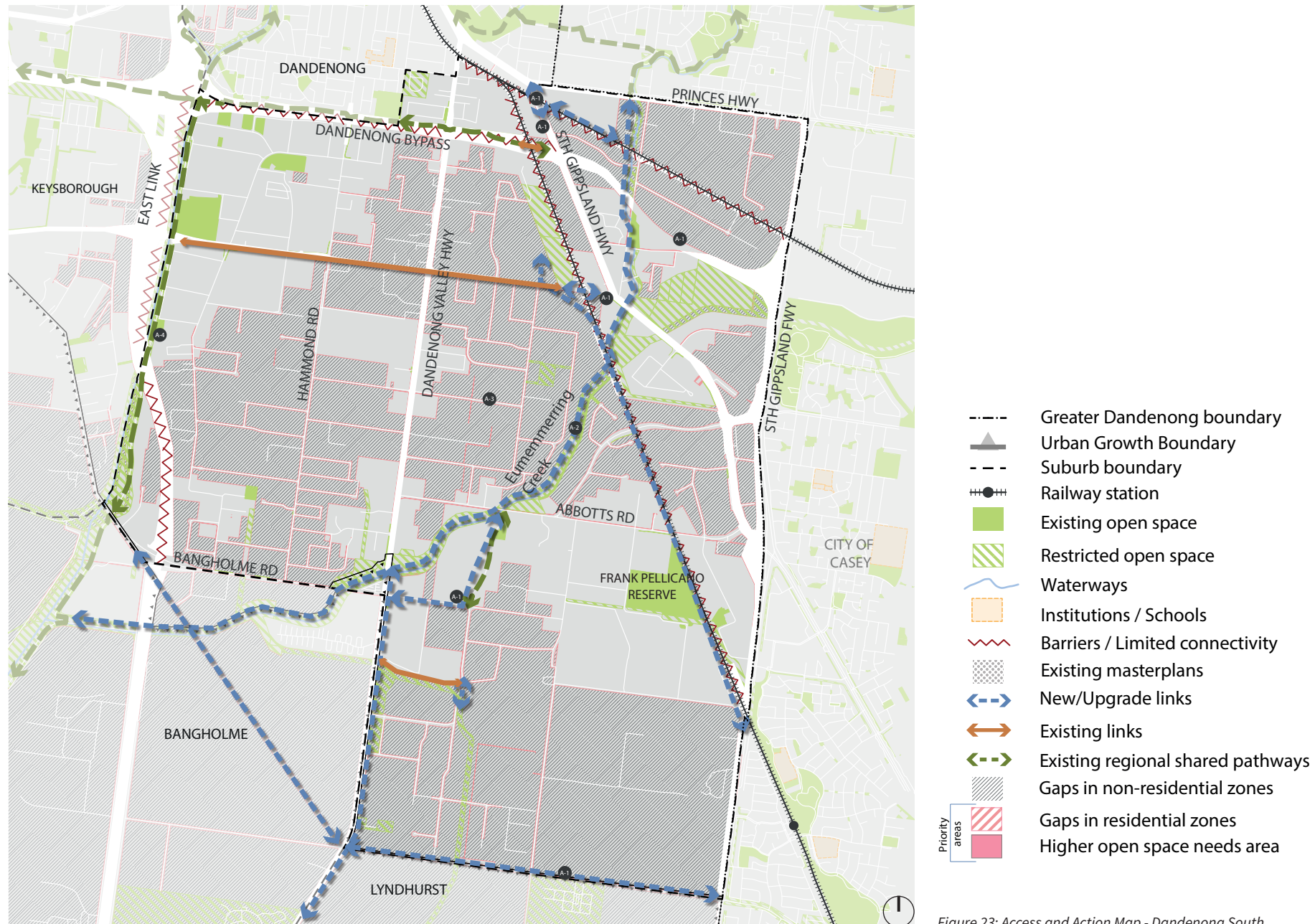


Figure 23: Access and Action Map - Dandenong South

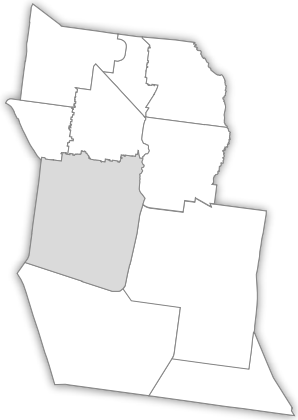


Figure 24: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Keysborough

### SUBURB OPEN SPACE PROVISION

**163.87** ha of open space

**110** total open spaces

**7.5%** of total suburb area is open space



### OVERVIEW

Keysborough has a variety of land uses and its residents are well serviced with public parks and reserves. The Dandenong Bypass Trail connects Keysborough to Springvale South and provides an important connection to the Eastlink Trail and to Keysborough's large open space network.

The Keysborough South residential area is characterised by linked corridors of linear open space and wetlands incorporating shared path trails, playgrounds and bbq picnic facilities and remnant River Red Gums. Tatterson Park is an important district park with a strong conservation focus. Other significant reserves include Frederick Wachter, Roth Hetherington and Coomoora Reserves. Coomoora Woodland is important ecologically to the municipality, being home to a number of threatened bird and fauna species.

Open space provision gaps are primarily along the eastern boundary of Keysborough and mainly within the industrial and commercial areas adjacent to EastLink, or within the Green Wedge to the south outside of the urban growth boundary.

Keysborough has a WalkScore® of 49 making it the 222nd most walkable neighbourhood in Melbourne.

Recommendations include improving connectivity and way finding to existing open spaces, such as Coomoora Reserve to the Dandenong Bypass Trail.

### OPPORTUNITIES

Implementation of the existing masterplans for Tatterson Park, Rowley Allan and Frederick Wachter Reserves, and upgrades as and where required so the needs of the existing and future population are being met.

Negotiations with the Department of Education and Training to improve access for the broader community could help improve open space provision and provide an increased variety of open space opportunities in this area.

### MAIN ISSUES

- Reliance on school sites to provide access for recreational use.
- Maintaining high quality landscaping throughout the area.

### ACTIONS

- A-1** Support the use of the Dandenong Bypass Regional Trail as key walking/cycling connections through improved way finding, street amenity and shade.
- A-2** Construction of shared paths to improve sustainable transport connections:
  - Springvale Rd to Perry Rd along Hutton Rd.
  - Dandenong South along Perry Rd.
- A-3** Facilitate improved access and connectivity to Keysborough Resurrection School and Keysborough Secondary College for the broader community.

### ACTIONS

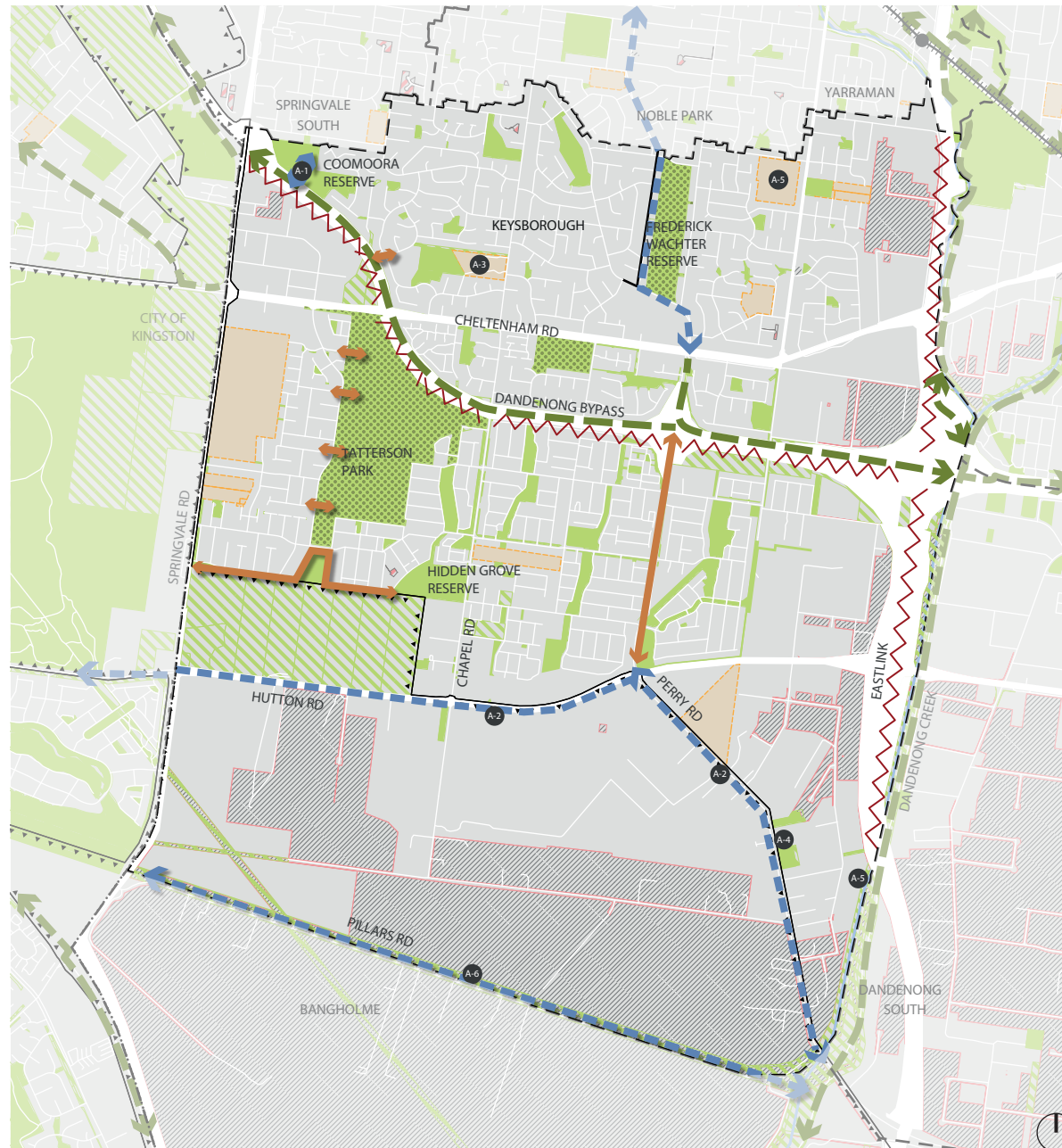
- A-4** Continue to implement the Dandenong South Industrial Area Extension Structure Plan (Keysborough & Lyndhurst) to achieve improved biodiversity outcomes.
- A-5** Facilitate new opportunities and continue to implement biodiversity improvements through the Living Links Program.
- A-6** Facilitate improved Mordialloc Creek equestrian trails and facilities.

### MASTER/CONCEPT PLANS AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

-  Prepare and/or continue to implement master/concept plans and open space improvements for eighteen reserves (Frederick Wachter Reserve, Rowley Allan Reserve, Tatterson Park, Accra Reserve, Alan Corrigan Reserve, Bergen Reserve, Bilbungra Reserve, Cheviot Reserve, Donnici Reserve (South Side), East Reserve, Fabian Reserve, Keylana Reserve, Kinnoul Reserve, Laidlaw Court Reserve, Loxwood Reserve, Malmo Reserve, Parkland Reserve, Rosene Reserve).



## KEYSBOROUGH



Implement landscape improvements at thirty-seven reserves (Albert Park Reserve, Albert Park Way Reserve, Allington Reserve, Brett Drive Tree Reserve, Cabinda Drive Tree Reserve, Chapel Road Tree Reserves, Chapel Road Reserves, Dewberry Drive Reserve, Donnici Drive Tree Reserve, Edgewater Drive Reserve, Elmswood Boulevard Reserves, Havenstone Drive Reserves, Hawkins Reserve, Hedgeley Reserve, Hidden Grove Reserve, Homeleigh Road Reserve, Howland Place Reserve, Juneberry Drive Reserves, Lachlan Place Reserve, Serpentine Reserve, Leeson Place To Piccadilly Crescent – Walkway, Linden Reserve, Liverpool Drive Reserve, Loxwood Avenue Reserve, Marriott Drive Reserve, Milliners Reserve, Princeton Drive Tree Reserves, Rosette Cres Reserve, Scotch Reserve, Snowgum Reserve, Somerfield Dr North Reserves, Springside Kindergarten Reserve, Springvale Road Reserve, Stanley Road Tree Reserve, The Water Course Reserve, Wagga Court – Walkway, Westwood Boulevard Tree Reserve).

- Greater Dandenong boundary
- Urban Growth Boundary
- - - Suburb boundary
- Railway station
- Existing open space
- Restricted open space
- Waterways
- Institutions / Schools
- Barriers / Limited connectivity
- Existing masterplans
- New/Upgrade links
- Existing links
- Existing regional shared pathways
- Gaps in non-residential zones
- Gaps in residential zones
- Higher open space needs area

Figure 25: Access and Action Map - Keysborough



Figure 26: City of Greater Dandenong Suburbs - Lyndhurst & Bangholme



## OVERVIEW

Lyndhurst and Bangholme are primarily outside of the Urban Growth Boundary and within the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge. The Melbourne Water Eastern Treatment Plant is within Bangholme and the section of Lyndhurst located within Greater Dandenong is predominantly used for industrial purposes.

The Greater Dandenong Green Wedge does not provide large remnants of natural habitat but rather provides a stepping stone for more mobile fauna such as migratory birds and aquatic species. Public open space within the main portion of the Green Wedge is limited to the Patterson River National Water Sports Centre and the shared bicycle/pedestrian path which runs alongside the east side of the Patterson River linking to Dandenong in the north and Patterson Lakes/ Carrum to the south-west.

Given the limited residential population and primarily industrial/agricultural character, a detailed gap analysis has not been undertaken for this suburb.

Lyndhurst and Bangholme have a WalkScore® of 19 and 25 respectively, making them the 329th and 323rd most walkable neighborhoods in Melbourne.

## OPPORTUNITIES

Uses and development within the Green Wedge are guided by the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge Management Plan (revised January 2017). The Plan outlines key objectives for open space within this area and these recommendations will continue to be implemented as part of the Open Space Strategy. Overarching objectives relating to open space include investigating ways to improve recreational trails and overall access and connectivity throughout the area and biodiversity improvements particularly around the waterways.

## MAIN ISSUES

- Improvements reliant on external partnerships and funding.

## ACTIONS

- A-1 Implement improved connectivity in the Green Wedge through improved commuter, equestrian and recreational trails and shared paths (including Pillars Rd, Riverend Recreational Loop, Patterson River loop).
- A-2 Facilitate opportunities to improve open spaces, connectivity and waterway improvements (in conjunction with Melbourne Water).
- A-3 Facilitate sustainable transport connection along Perry Rd reserve.



LYNDHURST & BANGHOLME



Figure 27: Access and Action Map - Lyndhurst & Bangholme

## OPEN SPACE PLANNING

Council manages a progressive program of capital improvement works which is informed by the overall directions of the Strategy. Structure plans guide future development and change in each Activity Centre, and where appropriate these plans are reflected in the suburb recommendations. The open space component of future structure plans will be informed by this Open Space Strategy. Open spaces within activity centres must be high performing and successfully attract and retain diverse participation by residents, workers and visitors.

## PARTNERSHIPS

Like much of Melbourne, public schools throughout Greater Dandenong contain considerably underutilised recreational assets. This Strategy supports the utilisation of such public land to benefit the whole community, through shared-use agreements and informal after-hours access. It is anticipated that the number of agreements between Council and the Victorian Department of Education and Training should increase, particularly in Priority Areas, given the direction of the draft State Government's Melbourne Metropolitan Open Space Strategy.

## OPEN SPACE ACTION PLANS

The Open Space Framework, Action and Monitoring Plan (Appendix C) and the Suburb Priority Action Plan (Appendix D) detail how Council will achieve its vision of a high quality, accessible and sustainable open space network by linking directly to the Council Plan, including a suburb by suburb analysis, and actions relating to funding and process improvements.

The actions within this strategy will be prioritised over a 10-year period. The timeframes for delivery will be influenced by the rate of change in land use, changes in forecasted population density, budget allocation, differing timelines for partnership negotiations and the collection and distribution of open space contributions.

An annual update on the progress made towards achieving Council's vision for open space will be completed using a variety of qualitative and quantitative measures. These updates will be made available on Council's website and at Customer Service locations. A five-yearly operational desktop review will be undertaken to report on the progress made towards achieving the goals outlined in the Strategy and the actions completed or underway.

## GUIDING CRITERIA

Two sets of criteria will be used by Council in making decisions around increasing the quantity or improving the quality of open space.

### LAND SELECTION CRITERIA

Where it has been identified that the purchase of land or re-purposing of existing Council land for new open space is required to meet demand, a set of criteria will be applied. The criteria at Appendix E will ensure the proposed open space meets minimum standards, fulfils the needs of the community, that Council funds are expended appropriately and aligns with the three key principles of the Council Plan and this Strategy:

- Place – high quality parks, reserves and connections,
- People – open space for all; and
- Opportunity – greening our city.

### OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS CRITERIA

The purpose of the Open Space Improvements Criteria at Appendix F is to provide guidance on open space investment decisions for capital improvements, so they are made equitably across areas of identified need and to provide maximum benefit.

## FUNDING

The funding of open space projects will vary depending on the type of action and opportunity. While some actions listed in this Strategy are within Council's influence, resources are not necessarily available currently and will be the subject of the usual budget approval processes. Similarly, some actions are reliant on external influences and opportunities arising in a manner on which Council can capitalise, such as appropriate land becoming available for purchase. Funding sources include general rates revenue, open space contributions, development contributions, external grants and contributions from user groups.

The completion of actions will be subject to funding being available through Council's annual budget process and will generally be resourced according to their stated priority. Funding is derived from general rate revenue, government grants and contributions by developers. Council holds all cash contributions in a single Open Space Contribution Reserve Fund with two accounts, namely Public Open Space Capital Improvement and Public Open Space Acquisition. A Council Policy will guide the operation of the Open Space Reserve Fund.

Council will continue to review the open space contribution rate through a revised Open Space Contributions Plan to ensure sufficient funding for works in higher need areas.



## ENDNOTES

1. Historical Narrative - Activity Centres, City of Greater Dandenong
2. Plan Melbourne 2017 - 2050, Metropolitan Planning Strategy, Victorian State Government.
3. Plan Melbourne 2017 - 2050, Metropolitan Planning Strategy, Victorian State Government; 72 & 73.
4. City of Greater Dandenong, Health and Wellbeing Profile, 2019.
5. City of Greater Dandenong (Australian Bureau of Statistics) – Data by Region
6. Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016 – SEIFA (Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas) Data by Region; Family and Community
7. Ball K, Carver A, Downing K, Jackson M & O’Rourke K 2015. Addressing the social determinants of inequities in physical activity and sedentary behaviours. Health Promotion International 30(Suppl. 2):ii18–19.
8. Hooper, P et al 2018. Testing spatial measures of public open space planning standards with walking and physical activity health outcomes: Findings from the Australian National Liveability Study, Landscape and Urban Planning 171, p57-67.

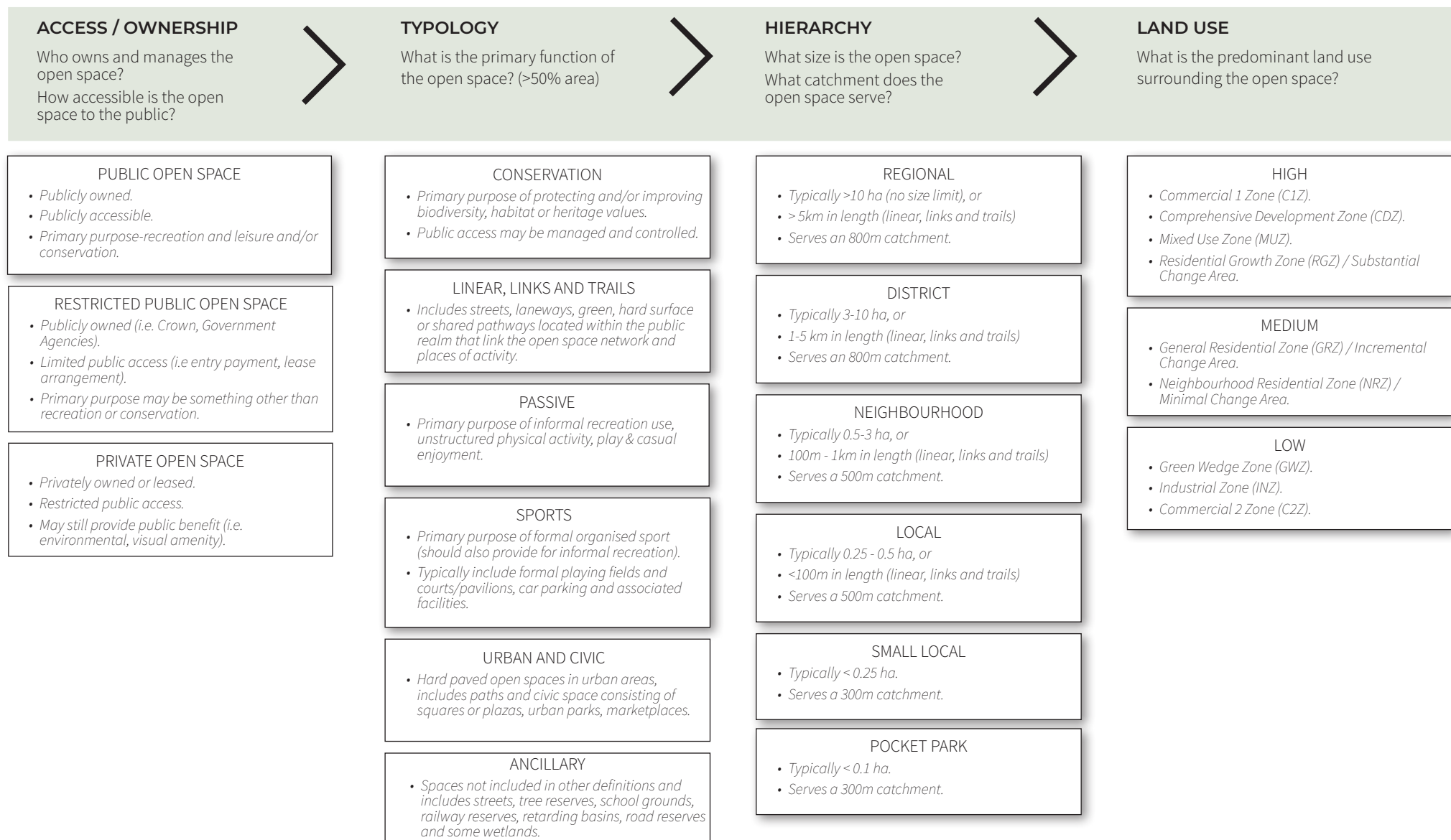


SHEPLEY





## A. OPEN SPACE HIERARCHY







HIERARCHY	REGIONAL					DISTRICT					NEIGHBOURHOOD										LOCAL										SMALL LOCAL										POCKET																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
TYPOLOGY	SPORTS	PASSIVE	CONSERVATION	LINEAR	URBAN & CIVIC	SPORTS	PASSIVE	CONSERVATION	LINEAR	URBAN & CIVIC	SPORTS	PASSIVE	CONSERVATION					LINEAR					URBAN & CIVIC					SPORTS	PASSIVE	CONSERVATION					LINEAR					URBAN & CIVIC					SPORTS	PASSIVE	CONSERVATION					LINEAR					URBAN & CIVIC																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
LAND USE	NA					NA					NA	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L	H	M	L

H = HIGH (C1Z, CDZ, MUZ, RGZ) M = MEDIUM (GRZ, NRZ) L = LOW (GWZ, INZ, C2Z)

✓✓ should have ✓ may have × should not have xx must not have

6 - Plantation of trees specifically to draw down carbon.



## C. OPEN SPACE FRAMEWORK, ACTION AND MONITORING PLAN

	PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS	PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL	PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY
WHAT WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Better connections to open spaces and other places of interest to make it easier and more comfortable for residents to walk, cycle or catch public transport.</li> <li>- A range of quality open spaces that build community pride.</li> <li>- Resilient and adaptable open spaces to serve future generations for a range of purposes, functions and experiences.</li> <li>- Create inviting, attractive open spaces that provide stronger human connections to nature and place.</li> <li>- Create multi-functional open spaces that range in size, purpose and environments.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide a range of opportunities for physical activity.</li> <li>- Equitable distribution of open space and open space types across the municipality.</li> <li>- Innovative approaches to open space including occupying streets and lanes.</li> <li>- Unlock existing connections and land that will add value to the open space network.</li> <li>- Well-designed, appropriate, inclusive open spaces that can be used by everyone.</li> <li>- Enhanced open space meeting places in Activity Centres.</li> <li>- Improved perception of safety in open spaces.</li> <li>- Increased opportunities for social connectedness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase the tree canopy and vegetation coverage in open spaces.</li> <li>- Enhanced community access to the benefits of being outdoors and with nature.</li> <li>- Sustainable open space design and management practices.</li> <li>- Prepare for and mitigate the effects of climate change.</li> <li>- Enhanced wildlife habitats, habitat links/corridors and ecological value of open spaces.</li> </ul>



**PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS**

- Prioritise investment in the design and quality improvements to open spaces and linear connections, particularly in activity centres and areas of high population growth/high demand.
- Plant more trees & vegetation along linear connections, especially regional trails to make them more appealing and comfortable.
- Maximise the existing key regional trails (Djerring, Eastlink, Dandenong Bypass and Dandenong Creek) by creating 'green spines' that provide better quality connections between all suburbs and beyond.
- Implement a program of works to ensure all open spaces across the municipality are of an appropriate and equitable standard.
- Complete and implement an assessment tool to measure the quality of open space and establish a baseline and future targets.
- Ensure open space planning considers quality and multi-purpose requirements.
- Create stronger partnerships with adjoining municipalities, State Government Departments and Authorities including Education, Melbourne Water, VicTrack and other key stakeholders to achieve cost effective provision of quality local and regional open space (eg. more sharing of restricted open space for community use).
- Preparation and implementation of an Open Space Asset Management Plan.

**PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL**

- Prioritise investment in open space where there are gaps in provision.
- Prioritise investment in different open space types where there are gaps in provision.
- Prioritise investment in open space in activity centres and urban renewal areas to increase the range of activities undertaken in open spaces.
- Maximise the provision of quality open space through the implementation of plans for strategic development areas.
- Ensure open space planning considers the needs of the community, in particular safety requirements and cultural diversity.
- Support increased community involvement in the management of open space and increase the community's capacity for local food growing activities in open space (such as community gardens and edible food gardens).
- Increase the use of local streets for physical activity and social interaction through street play and street parties.

**PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY**

- Identify available tree sites and renewing old or unsuitable trees in open spaces across the municipality.
- Increase the quality and quantity of vegetation cover in open spaces through increased planting and consideration of low cost, low maintenance and resilient species.
- Concept plans should increasingly consider the inclusion of low cost, low maintenance gardens with a variety of species, to create inviting attractive spaces.
- Ensure open space planning considers water sensitive urban design, stormwater management, irrigation and water availability as appropriate.
- Maximise the opportunities for learning about the environment through educational, formal programs and community activities.
- Maximise opportunities to partner with adjoining municipalities, State Government Departments and Authorities including Melbourne Water and other key stakeholders to implement biodiversity and ecological improvements.

PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS			PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL			PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY		
MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
Prioritisation list developed for suburb actions (A-1, A-2 etc.), concept plans and landscape improvements for each level of open space hierarchy'	Completed in 2020/21	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Open space land area per suburb	Percentage baseline (as noted in each Suburb Analysis) to be maintained or improved	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Tree canopy cover on Council owned open space (including urban/civic open space and streets in Activity Centres)	Baseline to be established by 2023 through the completion of a full park tree inventory (as per Greening our City Strategy - Urban Tree Strategy 2018-2028).	Business, Engineering & Major Projects
Number of concept plans prepared	District parks - 1 per annum  Neighbourhood parks - 2 per annum  Local parks - 5 per annum  Small Local/ Pocket -2 per annum	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Number of sites investigated to acquire/ repurpose for open space	Six (6) sites investigated & presented to Council per annum	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Improved and/ or new wildlife corridor links	Two wildlife corridor links improved (tree plantings) or acquired by 2023	Business, Engineering & Major Projects



PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS			PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL			PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY		
MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
Number of Concept Plans implemented	District parks - 1 per annum	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Area of land acquired and/or repurposed for public open space especially in Priority Areas (as defined by the Strategy)	Minimum of 1500sqm of open space acquired per annum	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Corporate Services  Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Improvement or maintenance of biodiversity and ecological health in open spaces	Open Space Quality Assessment Tool completed by 2020  Baseline to be established and maintained or improved  Identification of projects and project outcomes	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Business, Engineering & Major Projects
	Neighbourhood parks - 2 per annum	Business, Engineering & Major Projects						
	Local parks - 5 per annum							
	Small Local / Pocket - 2 per annum							
Number of landscape improvements	Seven (7) Planting Plans prepared and implemented per annum	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Improvement in PlaceScores for civic & urban open spaces within Activity Centres	Nominated urban/civic open spaces achieve the highest PlaceScore rating of "Exceptional people place" (every 5 years)	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Implementation of relevant actions from Council's Climate Change Strategy, Greening our City - Urban Tree Strategy, Cooling our City - Urban Forest Strategy	Implementation of relevant actions from Council's Strategy	Business, Engineering & Major Projects  City Planning, Design & Amenity
Number of tree plantings along linear connections	Baseline to be established and maintained or improved	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Residents who meet the Australian physical activity guidelines	Increase in percentage (2019 Baseline = 49%)	Community Development	Number of indigenous seedlings planted	18,000 per annum	Business, Engineering & Major Projects

PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS			PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL			PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY		
MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
Improvement in quality using the Open Space Quality Assessment Tool	Open Space Quality Assessment Tool completed by 2020  Baseline to be established and maintained or improved	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Opportunities for social activity on local streets, eg. street play initiatives	Qualitative - case studies (identification of projects and project outcomes)	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Number of Reserve Management Plans prepared or reviewed	One per annum	Business, Engineering & Major Projects
Greater access to open space through the use of Department of Education and Training land	Increase the number of partnerships with Department of Education and Training	Community Development	Local residents views are sought and inform the design of playgrounds and open space facilities	All community consultation is undertaken in accordance with the Greater Dandenong Community Engagement Planning Framework 2019	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Community Development	Mitigate the heat island effect within activity centres through a diversity of interventions	Implementation of Priority Actions in activity centres (as identified in each suburbs' Access and Action Map)  Implementation of the Greater Dandenong Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-30	Business, Engineering & Major Projects
Increase in the length and coverage of the shared path network	Qualitative due to changing size/scale/ budget of projects  Identification of projects and project outcomes	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Range of activities & social offerings undertaken in urban/civic open spaces within Activity Centres	Behavioural Mapping reports completed every 2 years	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Advocacy outcomes for the rehabilitation of channelised sections of waterways within the City of Greater Dandenong - Parks, Reserves & Waterways	Annual advocacy actions to relevant authorities and included in annual update	Business, Engineering & Major Projects (in collaboration with Melbourne Water)



PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS			PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL			PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY		
MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
Kilometres of streetscapes in activity centres renewed to a high urban design standard	Implementation of the Activity Centre Framework Plans  Identification of projects, kilometres and project outcomes	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Policy support for local food growing activities (such as community gardens and edible food gardens) in open space	Local policy on community gardens completed in 2021	Community Development  City Planning, Design & Amenity	Percentage of reserves that are supported by irrigation from an alternative water supply  Identification of projects and project outcomes	Baseline to be established and maintained or improved	Business, Engineering & Major Projects
Advocacy outcomes for shared user paths as part of major State Govt infrastructure projects	Implementation of the Greater Dandenong Cycling and Walking Strategies	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Facilities within open space	Improved variety of facilities within open spaces in accordance with the Open Space Strategy, Playground Strategy and other supporting Council strategies and plans	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Community Development	Concept plans that include WSUD, integrated water/irrigation treatments	80 per cent	City Planning, Design & Amenity  Business, Engineering & Major Projects

	PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS			PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL			PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY		
	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE	MEASURE	TARGET/INDICATOR	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
	Improved pathways and key linear links to and within open spaces	Average condition rating maintained or improved  Implementation of the Greater Dandenong Cycling and Walking Strategies including the identification of projects that provide improved access for pedestrians and cyclists	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Policy support for better lighting in activity centres and public open spaces	Preparation of Sustainable Public Lighting Strategy in 2020/2021  Implementation of relevant actions from Council's Sustainable Public Lighting Strategy	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Number of Council community environmental education events/ programs	Existing Education Programs - Maintain Engagement Levels  Identification of projects and project outcomes	Business, Engineering & Major Projects
	WalkScore or other industry recognised measure (by suburb)	Baseline (as noted in each Suburb Analysis) to be maintained or improved	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Maintain the Safe City CCTV system in accordance with specified performance standards	0% outages	Regulatory Services			
	Management and level of investment in open space assets maintained in accordance with defined service standards	Preparation and implementation of Open Space Asset Management Plan in 2020/2021	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments	100% of concept plans to include CPTED assessments	City Planning, Design & Amenity			



PRINCIPLE 1: PLACE - HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS PRINCIPLE 2: PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL PRINCIPLE 3: OPPORTUNITY - GREENING OUR CITY			
FUNDING & PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS	MEASURE	TARGET	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
	Mid-block connections - Develop a register of key sites that could be acquired (when for sale) to create new links (and potentially sell off residual land for Affordable Housing)	Commence in 2020/2021 and ongoing	City Planning, Design & Amenity
	Advocate to State Government to review Funding Models (inc the Subdivision Act and Planning & Environment Act) to enable open space developer contributions to be payable on sites previously subdivided and to be developed with high density housing, i.e. Where the new population and demand on open space will be much higher	Representation made to State Government in 2021	City Planning, Design & Amenity
	Prepare revised Open Space Contributions Plan and commence implementation via PSA	Planning Scheme Amendment commences in 2020/2021	City Planning, Design & Amenity
	Develop Council policy to guide internal operation of Open Space Strategy and Open Space Reserve Fund	Policy adopted in 2020/2021	City Planning, Design & Amenity

*Most items will be reported on annually, some will be in accordance with an appropriate data collection timeframe.*

*The completion of actions will be subject to funding being available through Council's annual budget process and will generally be resourced according to their stated priority.*

## D. SUBURB PRIORITY ACTION PLAN

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--



ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--



ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--



ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY                      SUPPORTING		TIMEFRAME
NOBLE PARK NORTH						
P-1	Rainsford Drive 'gap area'	Facilitate improved access and connectivity of Dept of Education land (Carwatha College) for the broader community	Opportunity	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Community Services	Short

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--



ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--



ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--



ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE		TIMEFRAME
PRIMARYSUPPORTING						
DANDENONG						
P-2	Herbert Street	Support the use of Herbert St as a key walking/cycling connection to the Dandenong Creek trail through wayfinding and improved connections and shade	Programmable	Business, Engineering & Major Projects		Short
P-3	6-8 Fifth Ave	Prepare concept plan for Fifth Avenue Reserve and implement open space improvements	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Immediate
P-3	Dandenong Park	Continue to implement the Dandenong Park Masterplan, including Thomas P Carroll Reserve, to address the 'higher projected open space needs'	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Short
P-3	Greaves Reserve	Prepare and implement the Greaves Reserve concept plan to address the 'higher projected open space needs' and improve access/connectivity to surrounding area	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Short
P-3	Hemmings Park	Continue to implement the Hemmings Park concept plan to address the 'higher projected open space needs' and improve access/connectivity to surrounding area	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Short
P-3	Pioneer Park	Prepare and implement the Pioneer Park concept plan to address the 'higher projected open space needs'	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Medium

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE PRIMARY	
------------	----------	--------	-------------	------------------------------	--

ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE		TIMEFRAME
PRIMARYSUPPORTING						
DANDENONG						
P-5	Palm Plaza	Prepare design and implement Palm Plaza/McCrae St Mall upgrade including open space and landscaping improvements to increase the provision and diversity of open space within the 'higher projected open space needs' area	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Medium
P-6	Keneally Reserve	Implement landscape improvements to Keneally Reserve	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Medium
P-6	Woodcock Reserve	Implement landscape improvements to Woodcock Reserve	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Immediate
P-6	Dandenong Creek Reserve	Implement landscape improvements to Dandenong Creek Reserve	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Immediate
P-6	Foster St East Reserve	Implement landscape improvements to Foster Street East Reserve	Programmable	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	Short
P-7	Dandenong West Primary	Facilitate improved access and connectivity of Dept of Education land (Dandenong West Primary School & Dandenong High School) for the broader community	Opportunity	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Community Services	Short
P-8	Gerard Reserve	Improved streetscape and wayfinding to Gerard Reserve to address the 'gap' area	Opportunity	Business, Engineering & Major Projects		Short



ACTION NO.	LOCATION	ACTION	ACTION TYPE	WHO'S RESPONSIBLE		TIMEFRAME
PRIMARYSUPPORTING						
DANDENONG						
P-9	Webster St & Woodcock Reserve	Improved connections to Dandenong Park and Dandenong Creek trail through the level crossing removal	Programmable	Business, Engineering & Major Projects	City Planning, Design & Amenity	Medium

## TIMEFRAMES

Immediate – commence within 12 months

Short – commence within 1-3 years

Medium – commence within 4-6 years

Long – commence within 7-10 years

Ongoing

*Priority actions are those which address either a physical gap in open space provision or seek to increase the provision and diversity of open space within the 'higher projected open space needs' areas in and around each activity centre.*

*The completion of actions will be subject to funding being available through Council's annual budget process and will generally be resourced according to their stated priority.*

*All 'Opportunity' action types are also subject to external influences and opportunities arising in a manner on which Council can capitalise, such as appropriate land becoming available for purchase in the timeframe period.*

## E. LAND SELECTION CRITERIA

### PLACE – HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS

#### Needs and Demand

The site should be within a Priority Area (Gaps in residential zones or Higher open space needs area) as identified in the needs Suburb Analysis of the Strategy.

Priority should be given to address Priority Areas (physical gaps in residential zones) that are greater than 2,000sqm.

Priority should be given to acquiring land in suburbs with the least percentage of total open space.

#### Land Quality

The site should be suitable for the intended purpose, giving consideration to the gradient of the site and flooding to minimise development and maintenance costs and ensure long term flexibility in the use of public open space.

The site should be free from inherent issues such as contamination or weed infestation.

#### Connectivity

The site should be located on or near identified active transport (pedestrian and cycle) networks and offer potential to link to the wider open space network including forming open space linkages.

#### Shape

Land should be of regular shape to allow flexibility for useable open space. Preferably the land would be square or a wide shallow rectangular shape. Alternatively, land that has the capacity to function as a linkage or access corridors in the Open Space network must be a minimum width of 10 metres.

#### Size

The size of the site will determine categorisation in the open space hierarchy and should meaningfully contribute to the broader open space network or contribute to the assembly of a parcel of land. The site must be a minimum land area of 500m<sup>2</sup>; preferably 750m<sup>2</sup> and minimum width of 20m. Connectivity linkages or access corridors have no minimum land area but must have a minimum width of 10m.

#### Adjoining Land Use (compatibility)

The adjoining land has a positive influence contributing to the recreational, ecological, social and cultural value of the open space, without private appropriation of public open space or excessive traffic, noise, light spill or overshadowing.

#### Constraints

The site should not be constrained by contaminated land restrictions, property easements, drainage lines, overhead structures, etc.

The site should be free of structures and protrusions, such as balconies or other building projections that may encroach into the public open space reserve, except for historic buildings or structures relating to the designated public open space.

#### Ongoing Maintenance and Management

Council can adequately resource the ongoing management and maintenance of the land.

## E. LAND SELECTION CRITERIA

PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL
<b>Accessibility</b>  The location and design of the public open space should provide for people of all abilities.  The site should provide an entrance from a public roadway.
<b>Amenity</b>  Visual and passive amenity values relate to the influence open space has on the liveability of neighbourhoods, providing visual relief from built form, the break open space provides from noise levels associated with traffic and other urban land use activities and adequate levels of sunlight (a minimum of 3 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm during mid-winter and at least 5 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm on September 22).
<b>Equity</b>  The Greater Dandenong community should have reasonable access to public open space.  The site should contribute to the broader open space network to ensure the provision of public open space meets the objectives and standards of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme.
<b>Physical Activity</b>  The potential for the site to accommodate a range of organised, unstructured and informal recreational physical activities.

OPPORTUNITY – A GREENER CITY
<b>Visibility</b>  The site should have potential to provide a high degree of casual surveillance and passive security.  Corner sites or sites with substantial road frontage are preferred to ensure good access and community surveillance  The site should have the ability to provide public open space which is consistent with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles.
<b>Character – Landscape &amp; Cultural Heritage</b>  Its contribution to the character and attractiveness of the neighbourhood.  Indigenous and non-Indigenous values that could be enhanced and protected in the open space including natural features such as large canopy trees.  These values will also influence the future use and design of the open space.
<b>Ecological</b>  The site has existing biodiversity values or potential to contribute to improving/creating future habitat/wildlife corridors.



## F. OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS CRITERIA

PLACE – HIGH QUALITY PARKS, RESERVES AND CONNECTIONS	OPPORTUNITY – A GREENER CITY
<b>Land Use</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the existing and potential residential density of the surrounding area?</li> <li>• Is the current open space conveniently located to services and existing or future users?</li> </ul>	<b>Amenity Benefits</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What other benefits could be achieved through improvements as identified in other Council plans and strategies?</li> </ul>
<b>Quality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The potential of the open space to be upgraded for existing and future needs of the community</li> <li>• The extent and condition of existing facilities, vegetation and habitat. How well does the quality of the open space measure using an Open Space Quality Assessment Tool?</li> <li>• The extent to which the open space meets the Park Development Standards (Appendix B) as appropriate to the identified hierarchy and typology</li> </ul>	<b>Sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which improvements could contribute to sustainable land management outcomes, including mitigating the impact of climate change on the open space</li> </ul>
PEOPLE - OPEN SPACE FOR ALL	
<b>Identified Need</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the area within a walkable distance to existing open space?</li> </ul>	
<b>Typology Need</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent to which the open space has the capacity to be multi-use and support a range of passive and active recreational activities for people of all abilities.</li> <li>• Is there a variety of different open space types within the area?</li> </ul>	

