

CHAPTER 4

THEMES



FUTURE PUBLIC SPACE

This section of the document outlines objectives, principles and strategies by theme:

- » Attaining quality
- » Providing quantity
- » Making places
- » Creating connections
- » Enabling responsiveness
- » Achieving environmental responsibility



FIGURE 9: Future Public Space Montage



ATTAINING QUALITY

Crafted, high quality urban public spaces

- » Fishermans Bend is a transformational, city shaping renewal area; 480ha of land in the heart one of the world's most liveable city. This expanded central city location demands high quality.
- » Quality must be integral to the planning process, the criteria and location of new public spaces and the benchmarks for individual places.
- » The area must demonstrate how to live well in a high-density environment. The scale of growth in Fishermans Bend must be matched by the timely provision of well designed public spaces, delivered throughout all stages of the development process.

- 1. Unify Fishermans Bend by creating a distinct, coordinated public realm character**
 - 1.1** Develop a primary public realm design language including minimum design standards, palette of materials, requirements and common elements to apply throughout Fishermans Bend
 - 1.2** Develop a set of precinct specific standards, elements and requirements based on the function, character and demographic of each precinct
- 2. Design public spaces for longevity, ease of maintenance and to ensure a high quality environment**
 - 2.1** Set benchmarks for a high quality of design and specify high quality, low maintenance enduring materials in all design and construction projects that build upon Universal Design Principles and the City of Melbourne and Port Phillip Design Standards
 - 2.2** Ensure the provision of active public interfaces to new buildings in land use and development approvals
 - 2.3** Support and reward design excellence through the planning scheme
 - 2.4** Embed a design review requirement in the Development Application Process for key public open space sites
 - 2.5** Reward participation in a design review process through time savings in the planning process or similar
 - 2.6** Incentivise design excellence and innovation through development bonuses for design competitions'

3. Ensure the location and design of public spaces provides a micro-climate that supports comfortable human activity and activated public spaces

- 3.1** Public open space must receive a minimum of 3 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm on June 22 and at least 5 hours of direct sunlight between 9am and 3pm on September 22
- 3.2** To ensure that any new buildings do not adversely impact public open spaces development applications must demonstrate response to the micro-climate of the site by (site and cumulative) analysis of solar access, movement patterns, wind patterns and visibility of open space, along with impacts upon precinct scale overshadowing and precinct scale wind movement

4. Ensure a variety of recreational spaces is provided that caters for different demands and uses both day and night

- 4.1** Provide a range of types of public open spaces across Fishermans Bend that cater for both active and passive recreation and the needs of residents and workers as per the established hierarchy
- 4.2** Provide public amenities in public open spaces throughout Fisherman Bends' Public open spaces
- 4.3** Incorporate clutter free spaces that create a stage for people, events and activity, allow flexible use and free movement
- 4.4** Reconsider existing public open spaces within Fishermans Bend in the context of a changing urban condition:
 - » Redesign and expand Westgate Park to incorporate more active uses, multifunctional spaces and improved interface design. Refer to Parks Victoria Westgate Park Master Plan project (see case study)
 - » Explore the establishment of a Joint Service Agreement with Melbourne Grammar to enable public access the Melbourne Grammar Sports Fields
 - » Explore improvements to JL Murphy Reserve, and North Port Oval to allow more intensive public uses (see case study)
 - » Undertake a feasibility study to investigate further community use of North Port Oval (see case study)
 - » Consider ways to use open spaces associated with schools as public assets during weekend and evening hours (see case study)
 - » Repurpose areas of private open space and areas of public open space under private leaseholds for public use, including the go-kart track adjacent to West Gate Park as per Parks Victoria's West Gate Park Masterplan

1

OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES: ATTAINING QUALITY

- 5. Utilise the range of contaminated land mitigation and remediation measures available to maximise public access and user safety**
 - 5.1** Address any contamination issues by remediating land to a standard that is suitable for its intended use
 - 5.2** Investigate the feasibility of creating a waste transfer certificate for Fishermans Bend which could allow the creation of interesting land forms within areas of public open space (see case study)
- 6. Establish a governance model that supports the implementation of Fishermans Bend public space projects**
 - 6.1** Formalise existing partnerships between local and state governments to ensure that all existing and future areas of public space are well managed and maintained into the future
 - 6.2** Develop an evaluation process that monitors the success of spaces over time, utilise the monitoring process to develop a response to changing demographics and land use
 - 6.3** Ensure new public spaces are financially supported through long term commitments by local and state government
 - 6.4** Review the provision of open space in Fishermans Bend every five years or earlier if open space needs change.

CASE STUDY :
WESTGATE PARK

Westgate Park will act as a public open space anchor, drawing people along the Turner Street spine towards this unique attraction, while retaining its natural values and important conservation role.

A masterplanning process for Westgate Park is currently being undertaken by Parks Victoria. The masterplan proposes that the core of the park will continue to be an important nature space for the Lower Yarra while various improvements are made to park entrances, car parking, walking paths and gathering places. The masterplan highlights opportunities for active recreation in the areas underneath the Westgate bridge and for the Go Kart track to the east of the Park to be repurposed as an area of active recreation to service the growing population. This strategy supports these recommendations.

Currently Westgate Park is surrounded by road infrastructure and industrial uses. To make the most of this public open space asset, the edges of the park should be reconsidered for more intensive and flexible public open space uses as illustrated in **(Figure 10)**, with the central area protected for its habitat and biodiversity values.

Mixed use development fronting the park would create a safer environment for future park users throughout the day and evening hours.



FIGURE 10: Creating active edges around Westgate Park



Westgate Park

CASE STUDY: SCHOOL YARDS

The Ferrars Street Education and Community Precinct (Under Construction) has been designed to create a space that both the school and wider community can use. A new park on the corner of Douglas and Ferrars Streets will be a joint use facility enabling community use outside of school hours. Additionally, a number of spaces and services within the building will also be made available for the community such as an early childhood centre and competition grade netball courts.

In New York City a number of school playgrounds are open for public use outside of school sessions providing much needed public open space within highly dense urban environments. In San Francisco, with 30 public schools now enrolled in the Shared Schoolyard Project.

In Moe, Victoria, a community adventure playground has been developed at Moe Primary School, the local community has access to the school grounds and the adventure playground after school hours. More information and guidelines on shared facilities can be found in the Department of Educations Schools as Community Facilities Policy Framework and Guidelines.

CASE STUDY: COMMUNITY USE OF OVALS & SPORTS GROUNDS

Victoria Park Oval in Abbotsford has recently undergone a \$7 million upgrade to create a major community recreation space. The oval is open to the public while also hosting ticketed games. Fencing and gates would have to be designed to allow these facilities to continue to host ticketed events. Fencing and gating design should be considered at an early stage and incorporated into the overall park design to ensure that the areas appear as welcoming public open spaces.



The Ferrars Street Education and Community Precinct (Hayball Architects)



School playground open for community use



Recreation field open for community use

CASE STUDY: WASTE TRANSFER CERTIFICATE

Land for public open space is at a premium in Fishermans Bend and innovative ways are needed to create enough public open space for the future resident and worker populations.

Northala Fields in London is a completely new park that was designed to transform derelict land into four man-made mounds which were constructed using the rubble or ‘spoil’ from the demolition of the original Wembley Stadium. The purpose of the park was to shield the main part of the recreation park from road noise and pollution and to reduce carbon footprint of the site by allowing developers to take their spoil from Wembley Stadium to the Northala park for a small fee rather than travel a greater distance to a landfill site. The mounds also create new views from new high points.

The relevance to Fishermans Bend of this project is great, as there will be a significant amount of construction material on site during the redevelopment process, that could be re-used and redeveloped into landscape elements.

It took 60,000 truck loads to construct the Northala Park mounds. With each load charged at a rate of \$173.60 AU, they were able to make \$10,416,000 from demolition spoils (it can cost up to \$700/tonne to remove soil off site, therefore this is an economically viable solution)

Given the contamination issues a ‘waste transfer certificate’ could be created for Fishermans Bend which would allow material to be relocated within Fishermans Bend rather than removed and treated off site. Material could then be landformed and remediated to create new areas of public open space and views towards the city, the Yarra and the Bay. It may also be possible to use these landform structures to bridge over the Westgate, increasing connection and permeability through Fishermans Bend, as illustrated in **(Figure 11)**.

Waste material could also come from the wider Melbourne area, not just from within Fishermans Bend.



Northala Fields- new park created from construction waste.



FIGURE 11: Creating landforms with bridge link to on-ramp open space

Image: Lensaloft Aerial Photography



2

PROVIDING QUANTITY

Enough public space in a compact city

- » A high density living and working environment demands public space that is highly accessible, pleasant and provides respite. Public spaces become backyards and lunch spots, areas for gatherings and events, places to relax and exercise. These needs must be met in an equitable distribution and a variety of ways.
- » Providing adequate public open space will be measured by utilising a 9m² per capita target identified in this Strategy.

7. Ensure an equitable distribution of public open spaces across Fishermans Bend

- 7.1** Provide an equitable distribution of varying sizes of public open spaces from metropolitan level spaces to pocket parks as per the established hierarchy (see over page for proposed location and type of proposed and existing public open space)
- 7.2** Provide at least one dog off-leash area within each precinct of Fishermans Bend

8. Provide sufficient public open spaces to achieve an integrated, accessible network that ensures a high quality living and working environment

- 8.1** Provide 9m² of public open space per resident and worker. This translates as:
 - » 17.1m² of public open space per dwelling (based on an occupancy rate of 1.9 people per dwelling and a proposed residential population of 80,000)
 - » 9m² of public open space for every 25m² of employment floorspace (based on 60,000 proposed workers)
- 8.2** Privately owned open space which is proposed or used as public open space will not form part of the 9m² per capita target
- 8.3** Rezone all areas of public open space to Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) early in the development process where sites are nominated for acquisition and as soon as is practical where public open spaces are delivered as parts of redevelopment
- 8.4** Increase the public open space contribution of the development area or site value payable in land or cash, or locate alternative funding sources to address the funding gap under the current planning scheme contribution rates of 5% and 8%

8.5 Acquire strategic sites to achieve the needed levels of public open space provision and investigate site consolidation opportunities at a precinct level for public open space provision

8.6 Provide additional accessible public or semi-public open space on podiums and rooftops in addition to the 9m² per capita (resident and worker) target

8.7 Identify roads (or part thereof), which could be upgraded for public open spaces uses, including the closure of roads, reconfiguration and the narrowing of roads

9. Ensure that all new areas of public open space are well located for access and amenity

- 9.1** Where possible locate public open spaces in close proximity to activity centres, public transport routes and community facilities
- 9.2** Expand existing areas of public open space through acquiring land adjoining existing public open space
- 9.3** Acquire land for new areas of public open space that is unencumbered by noise and pollution buffers
- 9.4** Ensure the design of public open spaces enables easy accessibility for pedestrians and is not adversely impacted by vehicular traffic
- 9.5** Ensure that public open spaces located on strategic developments sites are masterplanned, and are designed as part of the overall public space network

MAP 5: EXISTING & PROPOSED OPEN SPACE



PROPOSED AREAS OF PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

	AREA	% OF TOTAL GROSS PRECINCT LAND AREA
Existing Public open space	51.92 ha	10.81%
Proposed Public open space*	59.77 ha	12.45%
TOTAL PUBLIC OPEN SPACE	111.69 ha	23.26%
<i>Area per resident (80,000)[#]</i>	<i>13.96m</i>	
<i>Area per resident and worker (140,000)[#]</i>	<i>7.97m</i>	

TABLE 7: Existing and Proposed Open Space

NB. Melbourne Grammar owned land is not included in existing or proposed open space calculations.

	EXISTING POS (HA)	PROPOSED POS (HA)	TOTAL (HA)
Employment	36.01	27.34	63.35
Lormier	-	3.94	3.98
Montague	-	4.93	4.93
Sandridge	3.42	9.32	12.74
Wirraway	12.47	14.25	26.72
TOTAL[#]	51.92	59.77	111.69

TABLE 8: Existing and Proposed Open Space by Precinct

NB. # Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

Melbourne Grammar owned land is not included in existing or proposed open space calculations

3

MAKING PLACES

Great public spaces for work, rest and play

- » Fishermans Bend will have a public space network with a strong sense of place that will endure over time. It will work well as an integrated design structure, and as vibrant individual spaces.
- » The public spaces of Fishermans Bend will be inclusive for all people and encourage social interaction and cohesion.
- » Great places are created by people. Fishermans Bend will provide opportunity for residents and workers to be involved in the ongoing evolution of the public space network.

- 10. Ensure the design of spaces facilitates community gathering, social interaction and cohesion**
 - 10.1** Incorporate activated, integrated spaces to provide informal meeting places for the community
 - 10.2** Use street furniture and park furniture that promotes interaction and relaxation
- 11. Create opportunities for the whole Fishermans Bend community to be involved in the evolution of its Public open spaces (see case study)**
 - 11.1** Create ways to engage future residents and workers with building and improving the biodiversity of the area through initiatives like the City of Port Philip's 'adopt a tree' program and the City of Melbourne's 'bio blitzes'
 - 11.2** Provide opportunities for community involvement in the management of public open spaces through 'friends of' groups and similar initiatives
 - 11.3** Include quotas for gender, youth and people of colour on decision making panels
 - 11.4** Create methods for on-going engagement and participation with the development of Fisherman Bends' public open spaces
 - 11.5** Establish partnerships with existing and future community organisations such as friends groups, residents, sporting clubs, local businesses and tenants, as partners in both the delivery, maintenance and activation of spaces
- 12. Provide safe places for people of all ages, abilities and interests (see case study)**
 - 12.1** Ensure all spaces are multifunctional, irrespective of primary purpose
 - 12.2** Provide places suitable for all age groups in the community, including a choice of types of seating, informal performance areas, gathering spaces and facilities for group activities, markets and meetings
 - 12.3** Ensure spaces are accessible for all ages and abilities through the application of DDA guidelines to all public spaces
 - 12.4** Improve the amenity of existing public open spaces for expanded active and passive recreation while accommodating existing patterns of activity and resources
 - 12.5** Incorporate aspects of play and discovery into streetscapes and public open spaces through the use of sculpture, art and materials
 - 12.6** Incorporate areas of natural play within public spaces to allow connection to nature and freedom to explore the natural environment
 - 12.7** Include play streets which can be closed at certain times to allow additional space for children and families
 - 12.8** Design spaces which cater for young adults and include opportunities for skateboarding and parkour

- 12.9** Create a diverse, robust and flexible public space network that is capable of adapting to changing conditions, community demographics, diversity, ability and needs over time
 - 12.10** Include spaces for community food growing and productive tree planting to increase community resilience, with due consideration of contamination issues, and facilitate food production on appropriate sites through planning scheme provisions or local laws
- 13. Ensure all public spaces are safe (CPTED principles)**
- 13.1** Design, develop in detail and maintain public spaces in ways that both make obvious their range of legitimate community or individual uses, and encourage their use
 - 13.2** Design and manage public space to have appropriate levels of passive surveillance, both within the space and from the outside
 - 13.3** Design pathways that add to surveillance and enjoyment of public spaces in ways that do not interfere with the activities of others in those spaces
 - 13.4** Thoughtfully design public spaces that provide opportunities for connecting with nature, seeking privacy and quiet contemplation in a way that balances this with the security advantages of surveillance by others
 - 13.5** Design public spaces to ensure good legibility
 - 13.6** Carefully consider, when placing active uses (such as cafés) in relation to public spaces, the relative and contrasting advantages of putting them deep within the place or at its edge
- 14. Reinforce the character of precincts through their public spaces**
- 14.1** Ensure that the location and design of public spaces builds on the cultural, environmental and built form heritage of each precinct (see case study)
 - 14.2** Incorporate design guidelines that recognise and respond:
 - » to the rich history and heritage of Fishermans Bend (selected case studies included for illustration only)
 - 14.3** Retain heritage items in situ wherever possible with public access
 - 14.4** Encourage the inclusion of public art within public spaces (see case study)
- 15. Improve opportunities for active recreation**
- 15.1** Ensure a well distributed network of areas for active recreation
 - 15.2** Include areas for active recreation within linear parks
 - 15.3** Design a network of recreational loops along linear parks and within public spaces for safe walking, running and cycling (see case study)
 - 15.4** Consider the growth in women's sports at the elite level when planning active recreation facilities

CASE STUDY:
INVOLVE THE COMMUNITY

The design on individual areas of public space should be tested with the local community to ensure that what is being delivered on the ground is what is needed.

There are examples of this process happening across Melbourne including Co-Design's Jonas Street Park in Richmond, this park began as a temporary space which the local community tested and gave feedback on before becoming permanent.



Jonas Street Park in testing phase

CASE STUDY:
PLACES FOR EVERYBODY

Creating exciting and unexpected areas for play, rest and discovery will ensure public space within Fishermans Bend is exiting and engaging, encouraging residents to explore their urban surroundings. Allowing for whimsical moments amongst the built environment generates a strong sense of place for both residents, workers and visitors alike.

Successful play spaces are located and designed with reference to their location and surroundings. Harnessing opportunities that create intrigue and add value to the overall design of Fishermans Bend will only seek to enhance the urban fabric as a whole.

CASE STUDY:
REINFORCE CHARACTER

A series of layers of history can be identified in Fishermans Bend which contribute to the distinctive character of the area. These layers are evident from surviving historic buildings, the pattern of subdivision and urban form, in street and lane layouts, tree planting, parkland, and the mix of old and newer buildings and the strong association with Melbourne's waterways, port and port activities.

The land we call Fishermans Bend was part of the Yarra River delta. Prior to the arrival of European settlers, it was comprised of salt water wetlands, salt lagoons and sand ridges extending from the Yarra to the Bay.

Existing planting in Fishermans Bend is characterised by a mix of large and medium evergreen Australian native trees along major corridors such as Lorimer Street and Todd Road.



Examples of integrating elements of play

CASE STUDY: ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

Aboriginal people called the Yarra River “Birrarrung” meaning the ‘River of Mist’. It was a central focus of Aboriginal life before European settlement and that connection remains today.

The significance of water to Aboriginal people cannot be overstated. In Aboriginal culture, rivers are seen as arterial conduits rather than barriers. The Yarra River is the focus of many mythological and spiritual attachments including creation stories. Despite the change of alignment to the Yarra, the spiritual connection to the water endures.

Before European settlement, Fishermans Bend was well known to Aboriginal groups. In fact, many rail lines and major roads which pass through the area are believed to follow traditional Aboriginal paths. Aboriginal people lived along the south bank of the Yarra in Melbourne’s early years and the history of the area is integral to broader themes and stories of the city. Significant Aboriginal people who are known to have been active in and connected to Fishermans Bend include Derrimut, William Barak, Yaunki Yaunker, Benbow, Billibellary and Poleorong.

Aboriginal people maintained and passed on creation stories of Bunjil, the creation of the Birrarrung as well as stories about the lost lands in Port Phillip Bay. These stories explained why they adapted from being river to coastal people. Aboriginal people have continued to use the area; particularly the coast for recreation.

Emerald Hill was a prominent spot overlooking the swamplands and dunes of Fishermans Bend and is culturally important as a traditional

social and ceremonial meeting place for a number of Aboriginal tribes. Fishermans Bend was a rich hunting and gathering ground for game, fish and tubers. Aboriginal people hunted native wildlife, caught fish, collected shellfish, eggs and a wide range of plants for food and medicine. Aboriginal people still know Station Pier and Princes Pier as good locations for collecting mussels.

In the same way that other migrants had to create a new way of living, arriving from elsewhere, Aboriginal people came to work in the area from around the country. Many Aboriginal families returned to the area after living on the missions.

Maintaining connections to heritage values and places is a vital part of the Aboriginal and wider community’s sense of place and cultural identity, these connections will help to define the characteristics of each Fishermans Bend neighbourhood and create interesting places.

There are opportunities to “build in” Aboriginal culture at Fishermans Bend, through a mix of passive design elements and active interpretation, installations and programs, which reflect the previous and continued presence of Aboriginal culture stating ‘Aboriginal people are part of this place’.

CASE STUDY: INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE

Fishermans Bends changed after Europeans arrived. Significant reshaping of the physical landscape, the construction of the Coode Canal (1880-1892) forming the northern boundary of Fishermans Bend enabled the development of industry.

Fishermans Bend became one of Melbourne's earliest industrial estates. During the Depression the area became a focus of public works programs. This Government stimulus – together with the establishment of a fledgling automotive industry – helped drive industrial growth in the precinct during the 1930s. In 1929 the Town Planning Commission proposed that – besides industry – a large proportion of Fishermans Bend should be reserved for residential purposes. After World War Two, the area became a location for the accommodation and employment of migrant workers. Mass production of consumer goods generated employment opportunities for an increasingly diverse community. By 1954 the Melbourne Metropolitan Planning Scheme recognized that a significant proportion of Fishermans Bend had been developed for industrial purposes, impacting the amenity of residential areas. As a result the 1954 Scheme

zoned the area north of Williamstown Road for industry because due to its proximity to the port and the CBD it would benefit “both the worker and the industrialist.” After 1954, industrial and residential land uses were increasingly separated in Fishermans Bend through the location of open space and roads.

Since the 1990's, though, the industrial land use at Fishermans Bend has changed. The emphasis shifted from primarily manufacturing and engineering to include business parks, commercial space, warehousing, wholesale trade and construction. Consequently, the Montague Precinct now hosts a diverse range of businesses – including a growing creative industry sector.

Fishermans Bend is well placed to accommodate growth while strengthening Melbourne's international competitiveness. The challenge is to ensure that, as it grows, the precinct retains its connections to the rich history of Fishermans Bend.



Lancaster Bomber demonstrated at Fishermans Bend Airfield

CASE STUDY: PUBLIC ART

Public Art can play a vital role in defining and enriching the quality of urban spaces. Art can determine the experience of a city, provide compelling responses to the history of the precinct and contribute to the interpretation of specific sites. It can take many forms, be temporary and programmatic in nature or deliver permanent spatial reference points.

To ensure high quality outcomes curatorial expertise, artistic expression and technical craftsmanship need to be embedded into the development process in an appropriate way. Integrated planning and collaboration in delivery are key requirements regardless of the scale of the artwork.

The commissioning of public art should be guided by a clear policy or framework that ensures support for visionary propositions and impeccable execution.



Temporary public art

CASE STUDY: ACTIVE RECREATION

The approach to delivering active public open spaces must be flexible, with areas provided within non traditional spaces, such as under bridges and on rooftops.

Flexibility must also be built in to the active public open space areas as demand dictates, with ovals and courts open to alternative uses. Spaces must be multifunctional wherever possible. Linear parks will provide additional area for active pursuits such as basketball and other court sports, running and incidental activities.

Existing areas of active recreation are at capacity and will be extended and redesigned to allow more intensive active use.



Basketball courts at Brooklyn Bridge Park, New York City

CASE STUDY: RECREATIONAL LOOPS

The public open space network could be designed to make active transport and healthy activities accessible and easy. A network of linear parks, public open spaces and links have been designed to encourage residents and workers to walk, run and cycle.

The St Kilda Cycling Club presently operates a temporary criterium circuit for cycling races within Sandridge, the circuit follows the path of Johnson St, Brady St, White St and Boundary St. The potential for a temporary criterium circuit to be developed as an early activation initiative should be considered.



Port Melbourne Criterium Circuit in Sandridge

4

CREATING CONNECTIONS

A connected network that prioritises pedestrians and cyclists over cars

- » In the future, every resident and worker in Fishermans Bend will be within an easy walking distance of high quality publicly accessible space. A safe and enjoyable cycle or longer walk will take you to larger areas of public open space with places for organised sports, walking trails and picnics.
- » Fishermans Bend will be easy to move around by foot, bicycle and public transport. Every street, footpath and public open space will contribute to a network of high quality public spaces which support healthy travel choices, strong communities, prosperous businesses and green corridors.
- » Connections to surrounding areas of public space and other attractions will be seamless and integrated into the public space network.
- » Streets must be considered as places for people, with large canopy trees providing shade, space for street activity, cafés to spill out, people to meander and meet. The street hierarchy will provide an overall structure and legibility to Fishermans Bend, along with much needed areas of public open space.
- » Existing streets currently make up 109.5 hectares of the overall land area in Fishermans Bend. This strategy proposes to re-purpose 5.5 hectares of this area as public open space with a series of 12m wide linear parks which will provide active as well as passive recreation.

16. Create an accessible and connected public space network

- 16.1 Ensure that all residents and workers are within 200m of publicly accessible open space (either publicly or privately owned).
- 16.2 Develop design guidelines for wayfinding signage and public art to create a legible place, that is easy to navigate
- 16.3 Explore innovative ways to provide public open space in strategic locations in the public space network such as above, below or through the multi-use of buildings, shopping centres and car parks

17. Support active travel and low speed modes such as walking and cycling

- 17.1 Design the street hierarchy so that the movement of people is prioritised over that of cars
- 17.2 Provide safe, separated, legible cycle links within 500 metres of all residents and workers and between key destinations within Fishermans Bend and existing and future cycle routes including regional cycling routes (i.e. the Capital City Trail and Bay Trail)
- 17.3 Define a network of segregated commuter cycling routes
- 17.4 Define a network of casual cycling routes which can be combined with linear parks
- 17.5 Develop a series of street cross sections which support mode share targets of 80 per cent of trips by walking, cycling and public transport including:
 - » Providing footpaths on both sides of the street
 - » Use tight kerb radii at intersections to shorten pedestrian crossing distances and reduce vehicle speeds

18. Improve connections within Fishermans Bend

- 18.1 Overcome existing road barriers by providing enhanced pedestrian crossings.
- 18.2 Improve links between key destinations, including:
 - » between Melbourne Grammar Sports Fields and Westgate Park along Todd Road
 - » The Westgate Punt with the Fishermans Bend walking and cycling network
- 18.3 Deck over the tram route at Woodgate Street to create a new neighbourhood park and improve connections between Fishermans Bend and Clarendon Street/Southbank and the CBD
- 18.4 Test the feasibility of bridges across the West Gate Freeway at Graham Street/Bridge Road to open access into the 'green circle' of land encumbered by the freeway on-ramp and to improve connection between the Employment Precinct and Wirraway
- 18.5 Widen bridges to create additional green space and enhanced connections at Salmon Street and Ingles Street

- 19. Improve connections out of Fishermans Bend to surrounding public spaces and other destinations**
- 19.1** Improve connections over Lorimer Street to Bolte Precinct West, Point Park and Yarra Edge Park
 - 19.2** Create a boulevard along Williamstown Road to improve legibility
 - 19.3** Create connections across the Yarra River to Newport and Docklands to increase connectivity to Fishermans Bend and surrounding areas of Public open space
 - 19.4** Provide safe, separated and legible pedestrian and cycle links between Fishermans Bend and key destinations, such as Albert Park, the Royal Botanical Gardens, Port Melbourne Beach, Sol Green and outdoor fitness stations in Port Phillip and the CBD
- 20. Ensure that streets are designed as great places to spend time in, not just as thoroughfares (see case study)**
- 20.1** Design streets to allow sufficient space to plant large canopy trees and retain existing trees wherever possible
 - » Where possible, plant deciduous trees on both sides of east-west streets
 - » Ideally, space trees so that the canopies touch when mature. Generally allow a minimum 1.5 x 1.5 metre planting area for a substantial tree
 - » Where trees are in the carriageway (i.e. vehicles drive over root zones) plant trees in structural soils to maximise air and water supply, and the horizontal root zones
 - 20.2** Maximise landscaping in all streets
 - 20.3** Design streets with wide pavements to encourage activity to 'spill out' onto streets

CASE STUDY: STREET CHARACTER

The character of the streets within Fishermans Bend will vary across precincts however, an overall design logic will apply to aid legibility and connection.

Boulevard

Plummer Street, Fennell Street, Normanby Road, Ingles Street (in Lorimer), City Road and Williamstown Road will create boulevards to replicate the grand character of main thoroughfares in central Melbourne, including St Kilda Road and Royal Parade, providing a grand entrance to Fishermans Bend and to complement the broader city structure.

Civic connection

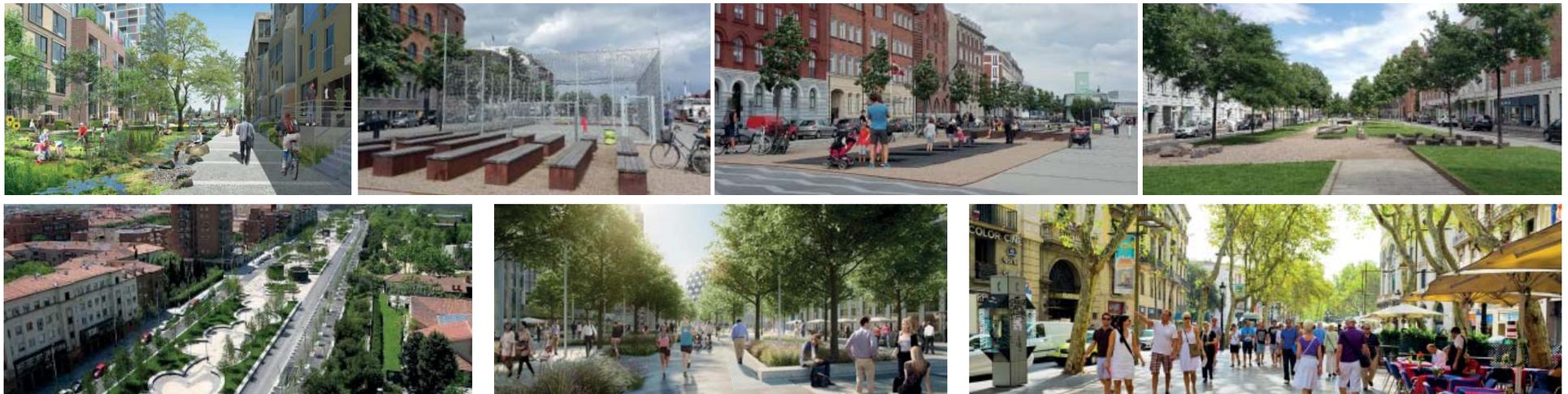
Turner Street, Todd Road, Salmon Street, Ingles Street (in Sandridge) and Lorimer Street will provide key public transport and cycle routes through and towards Fishermans Bend.

Wide pavements, large canopy trees and public open spaces along the civic spines will complement the public transport network, providing places to meet, rest and work.

Local connection

Local connections will act as important areas of public open space, 12m wide linear parks will provide active and passive recreation opportunities in some locations.

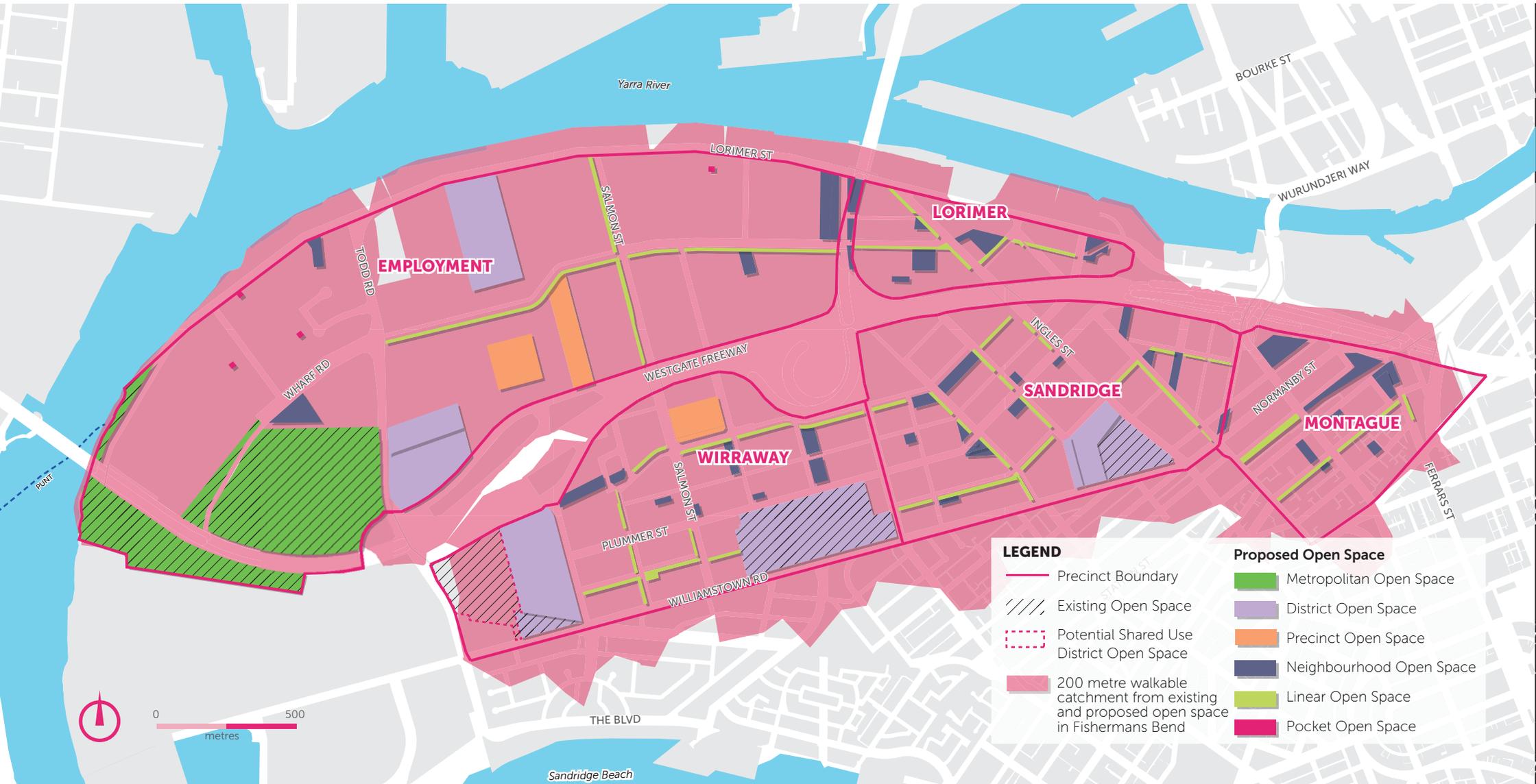
These streets will be richly planted with a focus on pedestrian movement and pause places.



MAP 6: WALKABLE CATCHMENT FROM EXISTING OPEN SPACE



MAP 7: WALKABLE CATCHMENT FROM EXISTING & FUTURE OPEN SPACE WITHIN FISHERMANS BEND

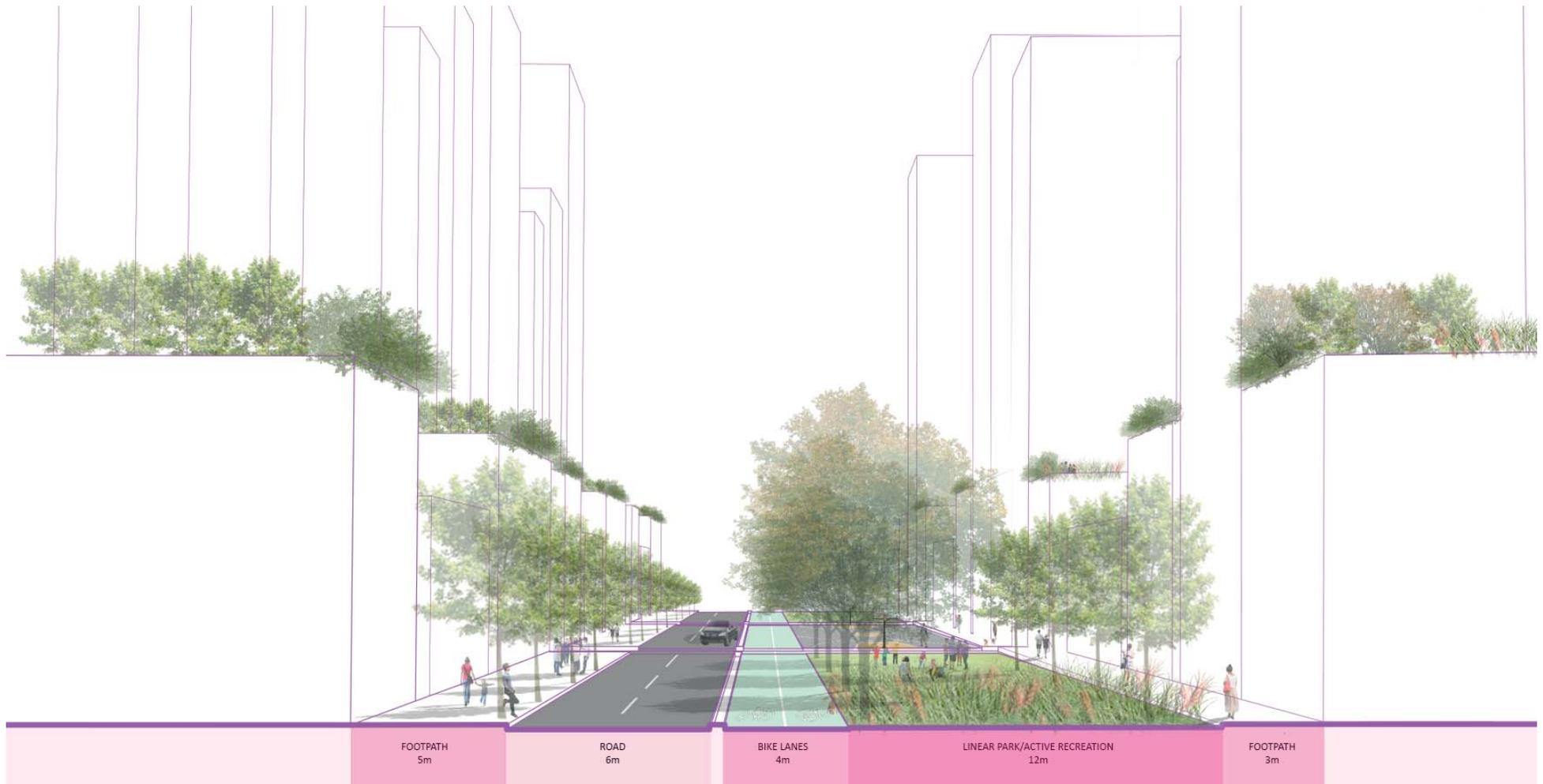


MAP 8: FUTURE CONNECTIONS



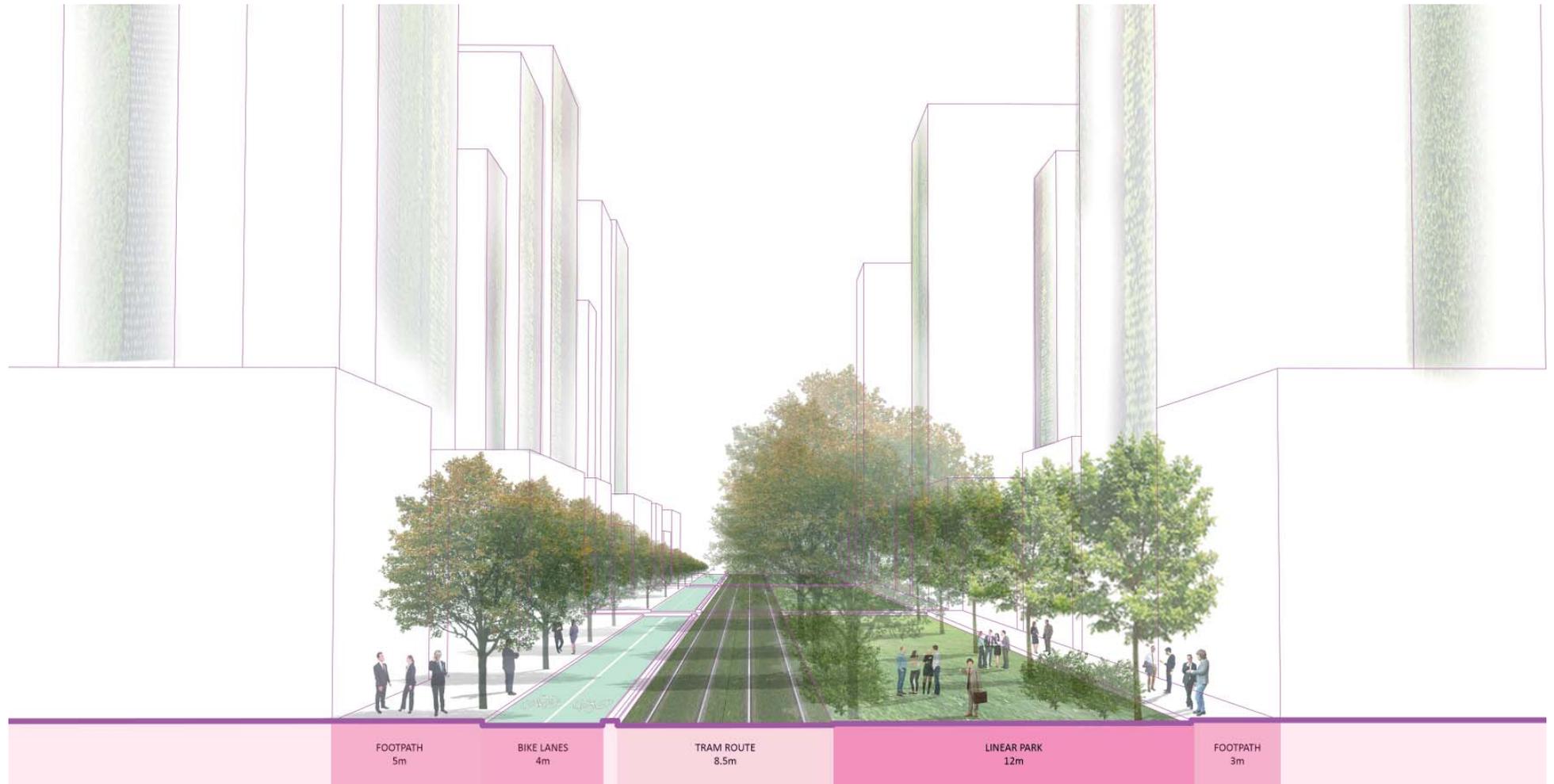
EXAMPLE: CREATING CONNECTIONS

FIGURE 12: A linear park for active and passive recreation



EXAMPLE: CREATING CONNECTIONS

FIGURE 13: Linear park for civic connections and passive recreation



BRIDGES

A number of bridges are proposed as part of this strategy to improve connection between precincts (see Map 9).

1. Todd Road

The connection to Westgate Park along the proposed Turner Street spine crosses Todd Road which carries heavy port traffic. A bridge crossing should be investigated in this location to create safe walking access. In the short term a crossing could also be established with signalised traffic lights.

2. Rocklea Drive and 4. Thackray Rd

A new walking and cycling connection across the Westgate Freeway at Rocklea Drive and Thackray Road connects public open space and increases safe connections between Wirraway and the Employment Precinct (the bridges could be decked to join with the Salmon Street Bridge).

3. Salmon Street and 7. Ingles Street

Salmon Street and Ingles Street will form major north south connections. The bridges in these locations should be widened to create opportunities to extend the green linkages over the West Gate Freeway and create a more pleasant and safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists.

5. City Link Turning Circle Bridge

The land encumbered by the Westgate/Bolte Bridge on ramp is the same size as Flagstaff gardens. A green bridge is suggested in this location to open up this vast area of green space and improve connections between Sandridge and Lorimer and the Employment Precinct.

6. Graham Street

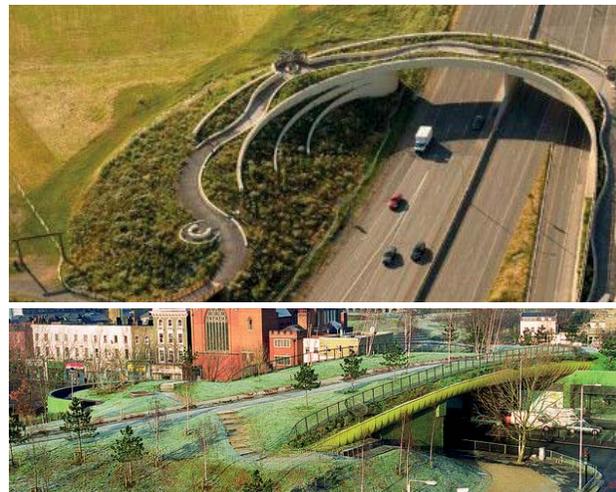
A new walking and cycling connection between Sandridge and Lorimer at Graham Street would provide a key connection between precincts as well as enabling access along Graham Street to the surrounding area. This alignment also enables a possible future connection to the Moonee Ponds Creek trail. Parts of this bridge could be incorporated into the City Link Turning Circle Bridge.

8. Brady Street

A bridge from Brady Street in Sandridge through Lorimer would enable Fennell and Plummer Streets to act as a key transport corridor in Fishermans Bend. This connection could continue further north towards a new Yarra River Crossing connecting Fishemrand Bend to the Melbourne Central Business District.

9. Route 109

A bridging structure over the existing tram depot is proposed for the Montague Precinct to create a highline style park and improve connections between Fishermans Bend and Normanby Road/Clarendon Street and the CBD.



Green bridges in Vancouver and London



Highline Park, New York

MAP 9: BRIDGES

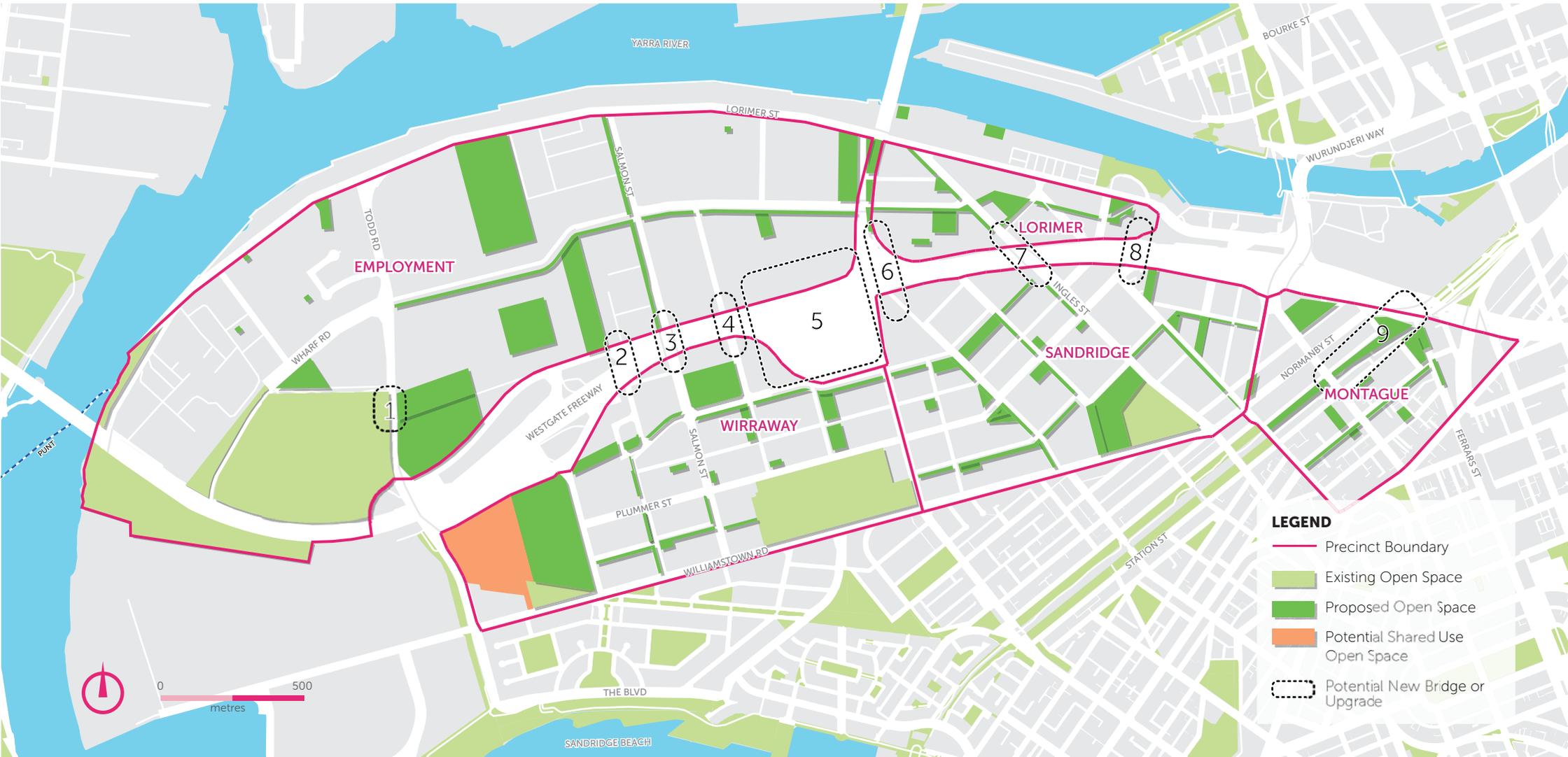


FIGURE 14: Open Space Montage



5

ENABLING RESPONSIVENESS

Every space utilised in the Public Space Framework

- » A traditional approach to public space provision is not sufficient for the planned density of Fishermans Bend. Spaces for activity and recreation need to be found in opportunistic ways. This section addresses the utilisation of corridors, left over spaces and encumbered land and finding public open space in unusual places.
- » No land within Fisherman's Bend will be left idle; all public open spaces will be dynamic and able to be a highly utilised part of the wider green infrastructure network.

- 21. Ensure that encumbered land is included in the planning of the public space network (see case study)**
 - 21.1** Identify encumbered land and establish partnerships with relevant agencies, so that these spaces can be utilised as public open spaces
 - 21.2** Protect and enhance the accessibility of encumbered spaces such as bridge undercrofts, road easements, and service corridors
 - 21.3** Use innovative design to enable high use of encumbered and unused spaces
 - 21.4** Support the West Gate Park Masterplan including redesigned encumbered areas beneath the West Gate Bridge
 - 21.5** Encourage utilisation of vacant sites and encumbered land for green links, vertical gardens and urban greening
 - 21.6** Protect and enhance the amenity of encumbered spaces
- 22. Encourage temporary use of encumbered, unused or vacant spaces as a catalyst for identity and behaviour change in renewal areas (see case study)**
 - 22.1** Incorporate a range of temporary and permanent public art projects within areas of encumbered land to reflect the evolving culture and identity and activate public open spaces. Align this work with existing Council Street Art policies and funding programs
 - 22.2** Identify sites for temporary, pop-up and medium-term public open space solutions and encourage community participation in their evolution
 - 22.3** Identify sites/projects and policies to support early activation, such as the Montague Community Park. Co-ordinate early activation locations with the early delivery of community infrastructure projects as identified in the 2017 Community Infrastructure Plan
- 23. Include mechanisms within the planning scheme to encourage public and semi-public open spaces within private developments.**
 - 23.1** Identify mechanisms within the planning scheme to increase the number of publicly accessible podium gardens and rooftops
 - 23.2** Identify mechanisms within the planning scheme which mandatorily require developers to incorporate on-site communal outdoor space, and to have it close to ground level where the environment is more conducive to spending time
- 24. As opportunities arise create additional points of access to the Yarra River (see case study)**
 - 24.1** Work with the Port of Melbourne Corporation to provide additional access to the Yarra River frontage
 - 24.2** Identify and protect views to the River from the surrounding street network
 - 24.3** Investigate ways in which to connect people with the operations of the port, for example through real time signage describing the movement of ships or other methods of interpretation

CASE STUDY: PLAN FOR ENCUMBERED LAND

In Fishermans Bend it will be necessary to look towards encumbered and ‘left over’ spaces to supplement the public open space provided in more traditional ways (see Map 10).

Fishermans Bend is not a blank slate but an area where the regeneration will require a repositioning the type of place it is and the activity it supports. It includes former (and still functioning) industrial and manufacturing areas, residential areas that are dramatically intensifying and a greater of mixture of uses generally.

There are various pockets of land throughout Fishermans Bend that are under bridges, currently in road reservations, within noise and air quality buffers or locked up in road infrastructure that can be better utilised for public space.

These incidental spaces will add a richness and diversity to the public open space network and ensure that all areas are considered and designed to be great, useful places.



Opening up large areas of encumbered land through redesign, bridging and improved connections



Simple interventions turn roads into play spaces and skateparks

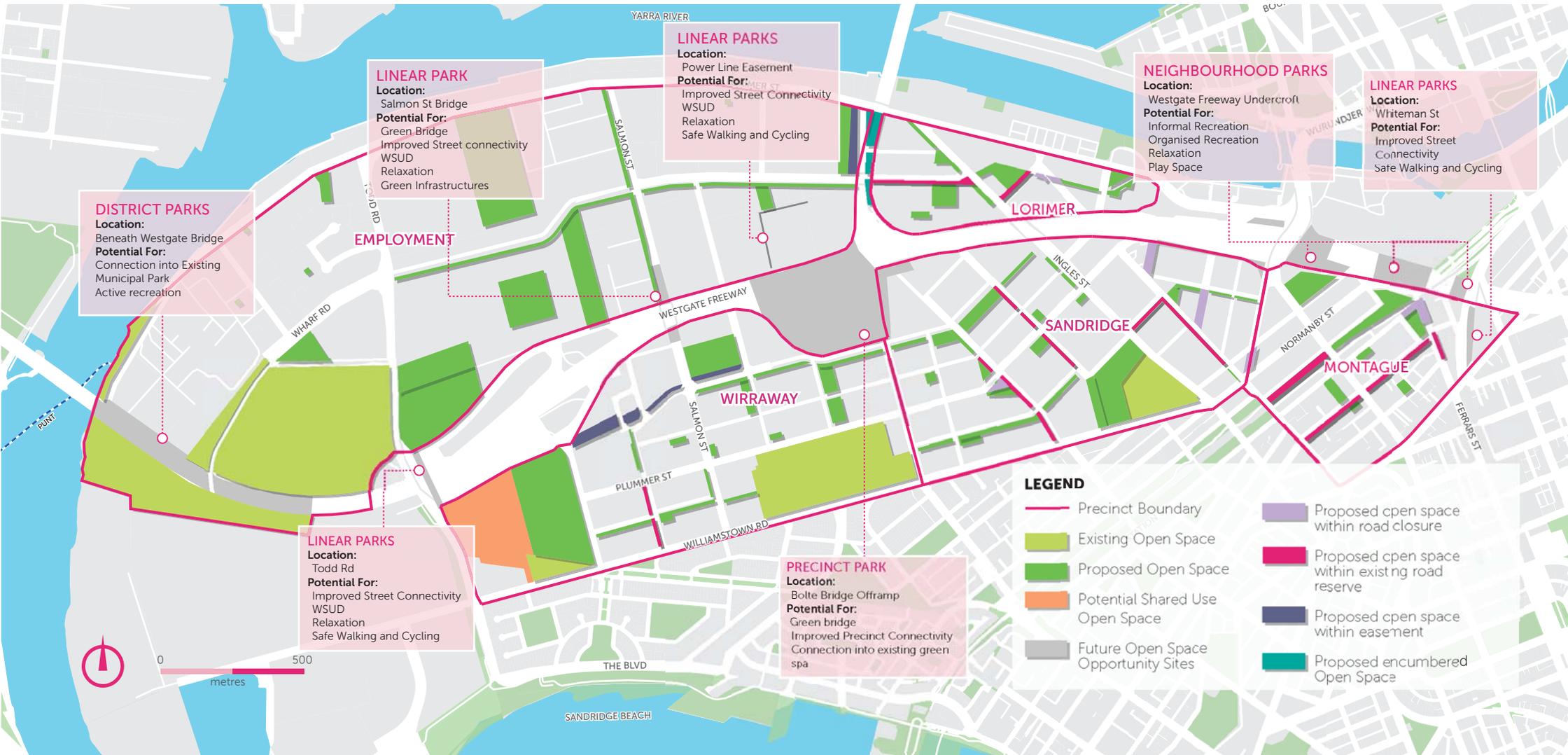


Active uses underneath bridge structures



Active uses underneath bridge structures

MAP 10: ENCUMBERED LAND OPPORTUNITIES



CASE STUDY:
CATALYST PROJECTS

Activation of the temporary, left over and encumbered spaces will be an important part of changing the perception of Fishermans Bend.

The development of Fishermans Bend will create new movement patterns and usage patterns across the area. Due to its industrial nature it is currently a place for cars, industry and employment. People and bikes are rarely seen. Early activation projects could draw people into the area and movement patterns could be observed to aid future designs.

Whilst some buildings have already been constructed, many vacant or undeveloped lots will remain for the foreseeable future. These lots can be used for catalyst projects during the transition phase.

A selection of place specific catalyst projects should be identified to encourage behaviour change in Fishermans Bend.

The Montague Community Park and projects in Lorimer and Sandridge could invite locals and future residents to use spaces for a variety of purposes, including pop up gardens, pop up cafés, markets and play spaces.

A planned series of activities utilising the proposed network of looped trails could include cycling events, running events and festivals. This would encourage people to come to Fishermans Bend and aid in building a sense of community and making it feel like a part of Melbourne's active heart.

The redevelopment of the Bolte Precinct West, while not within Fishermans Bend, will aid in attracting new people to the area to partake in a variety of recreational opportunities.



Temporary buildings to encourage economic activity and change the nature of use



Unexpected places to play

CASE STUDY:
RIVER INTERFACE

The interface with the Yarra River is one of Fishermans Bends greatest assets (see Figure 15). Currently the river front is locked up in port operations, essential to the servicing of Melbourne.

Development of the public open space network and future built form and transport must be designed to make the most of any long term future interface with the Yarra River, with buildings on Lorimer Street fronting on to the river, and public open space allowing views and connections over the river and towards the city and bay.

There are numerous examples of innovative ways to encourage interaction with an active waterfront. Auckland's waterfront combines public access with port operations. Active uses front the working port and public open spaces are designed to celebrate the industrial and maritime character of the area and provide visual and physical connection to the water.

Other examples include creating additional public open space by creating floating areas for active recreation, this approach would not be suitable for areas within the working port but could be considered east of the Bolte Bridge.

In the short term, interpretive signage could be installed along Lorimer Street to tell the story of the working port and maritime heritage.

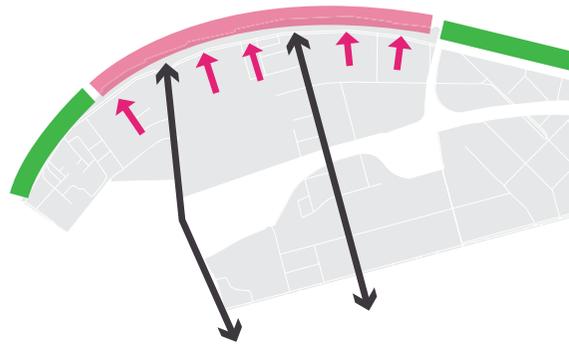
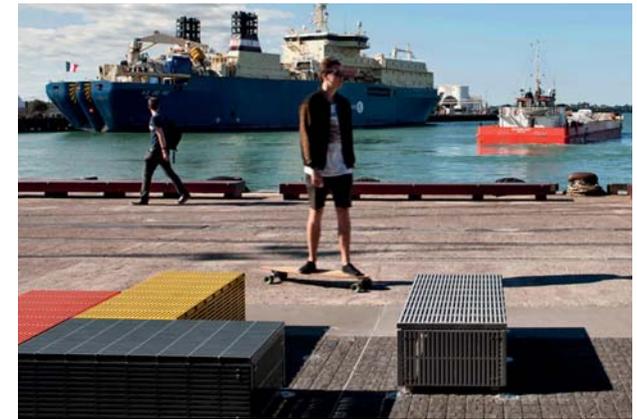


FIGURE 15: Interface with the Yarra River frontage



Auckland's waterfront designed by TCL Landscape Architects



Floating stadium on Marina Bay in Singapore



Bridges Waterfront, Hamburg, Germany

6

ACHIEVING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Turning grey to green.

- » Fishermans Bend will be a Green Star Community with a wide range of different types of public and private spaces that are designed to incorporate best practice environmental sustainability in terms of reducing heat island, maximising biodiversity and requiring low water usage.
- » The design, layout and character of Fishermans Bend is underpinned by high quality, sustainable design principles that embrace the importance of environmentally sensitive design, construction and liveability.
- » The landscape enhances the city's urban forest, provides refuge for nature and forms a habitat network which assists in attracting nature to the renewal area.
- » The long term management of the public spaces within Fishermans Bend will be designed to be resource efficient and fiscally sustainable.

- 25. Incorporate the requirements of GreenStar Communities into the design and development of the public open space of Fishermans Bend (refer to Appendix C)**
 - 26. Ensure that Fishermans Bend is no hotter than Greater Melbourne (see case study)**
 - 26.1** Design new areas of public space in accordance with the City of Melbourne's Urban Forest- Identifying Vulnerability to Future Temperature report
 - 26.2** Incorporate measures such as green walls, green roofs and green tram tracks to reduce the urban heat island effect, improve thermal efficiency and add to the overall sense of landscape within the streetscape
 - 26.3** Adopt 50% canopy cover for public spaces and streets in Fishermans Bend
 - 27. Create a public space network that enhances the biodiversity of Fishermans Bend and supports local wildlife (see case study)**
 - 27.1** Design new areas of public space in accordance with the City of Melbourne's Forest Strategy and the Urban Ecology and Biodiversity Strategy, the City of Port Phillip's Greening Port Phillip Strategy and the Inner Melbourne Action Plan's Growing Green Guidelines
 - 27.2** Utilise drought resistant tree species that are suited to the locality in terms of shade provision, height, canopy spread, maintenance regime, high groundwater table, ground contamination and safety, in accordance with a Schedule of Species for Fishermans Bend
 - 27.3** Protect existing indigenous vegetation within Fishermans Bend and increase the use of indigenous species
 - 27.4** Where possible, explore the opportunity of creating ecologically more sophisticated green streets, by incorporating a whole range of green elements and mid-storey habitat in the same space: eg. grass, bush, trees
 - 27.5** Develop a plan to increase soil health in parks, gardens and medians, including a review of chemical use in land management practices
 - 27.6** Introduce artificial habitats such as bird boxes and bee-hotels to aid migration of species to Fishermans Bend
 - 27.7** Design part of the new public open space in the Employment Precinct as a flagship biodiversity and urban ecology project that is recognised locally and internationally as an innovative and outstanding example of re-wilding in a dense urban fabric
- 28. Provide connected green infrastructure throughout Fishermans Bend**
 - 28.1** Design linear parks and streets to enhance ecological connectivity within Fishermans Bend and to create green linkages between larger green spaces
 - 28.2** Plant trees early to establish the future green infrastructure
 - 28.3** Identify mechanisms within the planning scheme, such as Local Policies, DDOs and Incorporated Documents, which mandatorily require developers to provide green roofs, green walls, shared paths and tree planting as part of new developments
 - 28.4** Consider ways in which the planning scheme and development contributions can create a connected green network early in the redevelopment process

29. Design all public spaces to be water sensitive (see case study)

- 29.1** Identify and utilise existing biodiversity and natural drainage features in the design of public open spaces – such as in Westgate Park
- 29.2** Incorporate Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) features including bio-retention swales into all streetscapes and public open spaces to maximise visual amenity
- 29.3** Where practical, incorporate WSUD elements in the centre median of dual travel-way streets
- 29.4** Incorporate basement rainwater tanks and third pipe systems in new buildings in order to accommodate stormwater harvesting. The provision of recycled water will enable the use of recycled water for the irrigation of open spaces ensuring maximum vegetation health and urban heat island benefits.
- 29.5** Specify drought resistant species, including warm season grass on sporting fields, for all new planting across Fishermans Bend
- 29.6** Maximise the use of permeable surfaces throughout all public open spaces

CASE STUDY:
REDUCE THE HEAT ISLAND EFFECT

Research undertaken by Melbourne City Council has found that average temperatures within Melbourne’s CBD are up to 4°C higher than the surrounding suburbs. During the evenings, the temperature difference can be up to 12°C.

Trees and vegetation lower surface and air temperatures by providing shade and through evapotranspiration. Shaded surfaces, for example, may be 11–25°C cooler than the peak temperatures of unshaded materials. Evapotranspiration, alone or in combination with shading, can help reduce peak summer temperatures by 1–5°C.

Trees are a defining part of Melbourne and the parks, gardens, green spaces and tree-lined streets contribute enormously to the liveability of the city. The City of Melbourne’s Urban Forest Strategy sets out a number of goals including an increase in canopy cover, increase in urban forest diversity, improved soil moisture and water quality, improved urban ecology and community engagement. Adopting these goals for Fishermans Bend will assist in reducing the heat island effect and improving livability outcomes for the future residents and workers.

CASE STUDY:
ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY

In cities, ecosystems play a crucial role in maintaining people’s health and wellbeing through providing meaningful places where they can live, work and play, as well as healthy environments where their basic needs of clean air, water and food are provided for. Biodiversity is crucial to the functioning of these ecosystems and therefore underpins the delivery of many of these benefits

Enhancing and protecting the existing biodiversity within Fishermans Bend and designing additional green spaces will improve livability outcomes and assist in connecting people to nature.

The overall green structure in Fishermans Bend should be designed as a network and connected through linear parks and public open spaces, complemented by a structural diversity of planting understorey, rooftop balcony, green walls and green tram tracks.

The City of Melbourne’s Urban Ecology and Biodiversity Strategy further details strategies for designing the city as an ecosystem.



Green tram tracks add to the overall green infrastructure.



Urban bee hives on a rooftop in the Melbourne CBD



Multi level street planting to encourage biodiversity

CASE STUDY: A WATER SENSITIVE PLACE

Research has been undertaken by the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities (CRC), Melbourne Water and South East Water in relation to creating a water sensitive Fishermans Bend. The University of Monash defines a water sensitive city as one where water's journey through the urban landscape is managed with regard for its rural origins, coastal destinations and spiritual significance.

The redevelopment of Fishermans Bend offers the opportunity to plan for the movement, storage and use of water at a precinct level.

The public open spaces of Fishermans Bend can be designed to support the concept of a water sensitive city through the inclusion of water sensitive urban design (WSUD) solutions such as rain gardens and bio-swales, roof gardens, green walls, increased tree planting and stormwater harvesting will allow recycled water to be used in landscape irrigation. WSUD and stormwater harvesting and reuse will positively influence urban water runoff, infiltration, drainage and soil moisture improving the overall health of the Fishermans Bend ecosystem.



An urban rain garden



A bio-swale example



An imagined network of green infrastructure prepared by Realm Studios for the Cooperative Research Centre for Water Sensitive Cities

