BOROONDARA
City of Harmony

Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan

Background Report

23rd August 2023

hansen



Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Boroondara acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and original custodians of this land, and we pay our respects to their Elders past and present.

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Introduction

Background

1.0 Introduction

This section introduces the purpose of this report and the project process.

1.1 The Myrtle and Macleay Master Plan

Hansen Partnership has been engaged by the City of Boroondara to prepare a Master Plan for Myrtle and Macleay Parks in Balwyn North. The aim of the Master Plan is to provide Council with a strategic vision to guide the future planning and development of the Reserve over the next 5 to 10 years.

The Master Plan will provide a long-term plan for the reserve to further promote public recreation.

The Master Plan will address the following key strategic objectives:

- To provide for the community's diverse structured sporting needs, considering current and future needs of organised sport.
- To provide for the community's informal passive recreational needs (considering current and future needs of the local and regional community).
- To provide amenities to facilitate visitors' enjoyment of the park, including park furniture, shade, shelter, public toilets, lighting and paths.
- To reduce conflicts between vehicular and pedestrian circulation within the park and its connections to the neighbourhood (based on recommendations from a separate Traffic and Parking Study).
- Improves access and wayfinding throughout the park.

1.2 Purpose of this report

The Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan Background Report summarises the review and analysis of information gathered about the Park, in the first phase of the project process.

It considers a wide range of issues and opportunities for Myrtle and Macleay parks, which will guide the second phase of the project: The design and development of the Master Plan.

Opportunities listed in this Background Report are not final initiatives. The report purpose is to frame an understanding of the park for further consideration in the design phase.

All diagrams, plans, and images featuring in this report are indicative only.

1.3 Project process

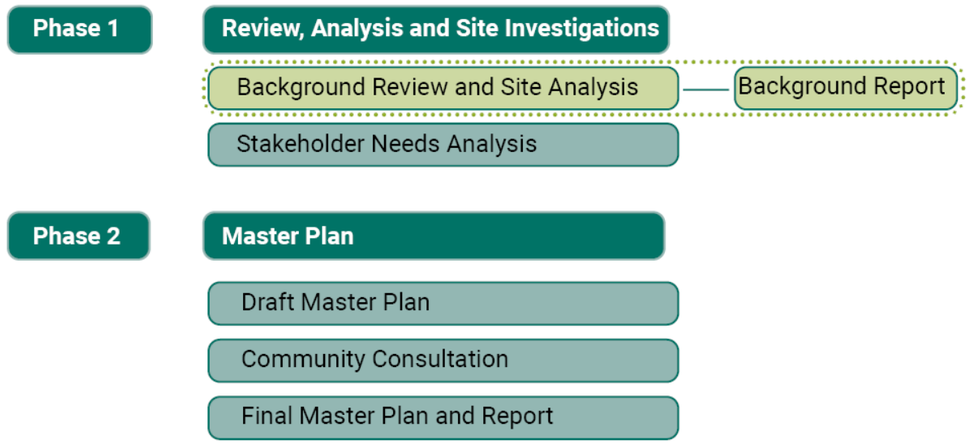
The project is a collaborative effort between Hansen Partnership and it's sub-consultants, City of Boroondara, key stakeholders including Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and the local community.

Valued feedback will help to inform and shape the design concepts.

The project process is separated into two main phases:

Phase 1: Review, Analysis and Site Investigations
In this phase, background research combined with surveys and initial consultation with community members advised the consultant team of the challenges and opportunities presented in the parks.

Phase 2: Master Plan
In this phase, findings from phase 1 will be used to test ideas for a draft master plan.
The broad community will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft master plan.
The feedback will be taken into consideration for the final master plan development.



Study Area

This section addresses the reserve's broader site and surrounding context.

Landscape character and existing user groups have been identified to provide in-depth insight and understanding of the site.

2.0 Study Area

2.1 Broader context

The City of Boroondara is located in Melbourne's inner and middle eastern suburbs, approximately 5 to 10 kilometres from the city centre. It includes the suburbs of Ashburton, Balwyn, Balwyn North, Camberwell, Canterbury, Deepdene, Hawthorn, Hawthorn East, Kew and Kew East, and parts of Glen Iris, Surrey Hills and Mont Albert.

It is one of Melbourne's most vibrant municipalities, covering a land area of 60.17 square kilometres.

The original inhabitants of the City of Boroondara were the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.

Myrtle and Macleay Parks are situated within the City of Boroondara, approximately 26.7km from the Melbourne Central Business District in the suburb of Balwyn North.

Myrtle and Macleay Parks are an essential part of the open space network for the area. They are classified as a sporting reserve in the Boroondara Open Space Strategy.

The site is located at the southern boundary of the township along Belmore Road, adjacent to the Balwyn township.

At the 2021 census, Balwyn North had a population of 21,302 people and the median age was 42 years. (Australian Bureau of Statistics, "Balwyn North ", accessed 29/05/2023).

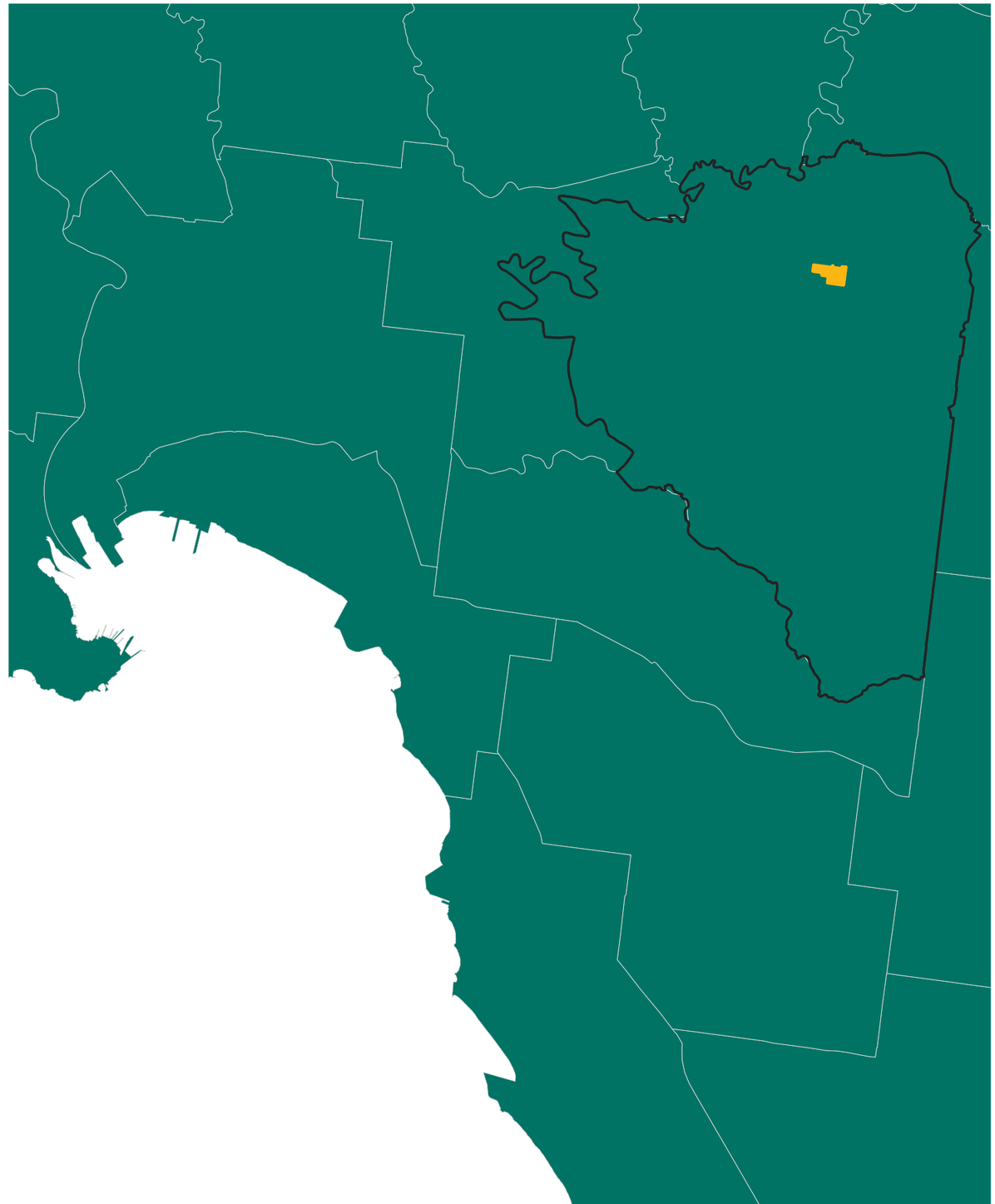


Figure 1 Context Map

2.2 Site and surrounding context

The site is bounded in the south by Belmore Road and Buchanan Avenue to the east. Residential land adjoins the site from all directions, with public pedestrian access points dotted along the west, east and south boundaries, with only one pedestrian link along the north side.

Balwyn High School adjoins the Reserve to the north with one operational gate, occasionally open, located along the school fence. North Balwyn Bowl's Club and Men's Shed are located in the north-east of the site with no pedestrian link offered currently.

There are two car access points to the park without a connection between them. The main access point being on Belmore Road and provides access to 116 formal car parking spaces and 48 informal car park spaces in the overspill car park (Myrtle and macleay Park, Balwyn North- Parking and Traffic Study, Stantec 2023). A secondary access from Gildan Street provides access to 35 informal car parks. A planted island with a pedestrian only access limits thoroughfare access

There is only one designated pedestrian crossing located on Belmore Road, leading to one of the informal entries to the park near the play space.

Residential properties surrounding the site are predominantly single and double-story in height. Where properties directly abut the parkland to the north and southwest, there are long expanses of solid rear impermeable fencing. Some of the properties along Gildan Street have open views overlooking the parks from the second storey. Many of the properties abutting the park also have access gates opening into the park.

There are several buildings present in the parkland, with the Scout Hall located to the right of the entryway and the Boroondara Netball Association Pavilion located to the left. The Macleay Park Sports Pavilion is centrally positioned between Oval No. 2 and Oval No. 1, while the Myrtle Park Sports Pavilion is situated between the West and East Ovals. The Macleay Park Sports Pavilion has had recent upgrades while the other pavilions are in fair to good condition. The layout of the Myrtle Park Sports Pavilion does not allow for the best use of the space and needs improvements.

There is a popular playground located near Belmore Road entry point with some picnic settings nearby.

The parks are not well lit with the exception of Macleay Park Oval 1 and 2, 3 of the 8 netball courts, Myrtle Park East Oval cricket cage and some parts of the Myrtle Park pathways in between the ovals.



Figure 2 Site Context Map

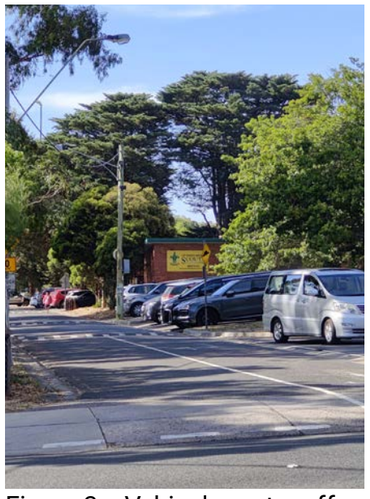


Figure 3 Vehicular entry off Belmore Road

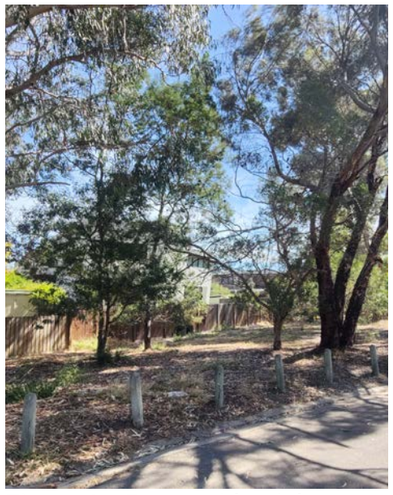


Figure 4 Rear residential property fencing

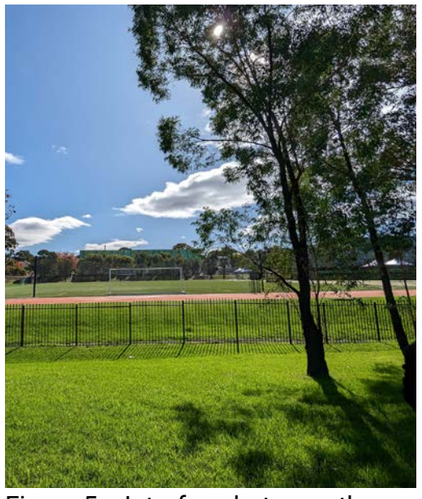


Figure 5 Interface between the park and Balwyn High School

2.3 Site history

Limited records exist regarding the Aboriginal history of Myrtle Park and Macleay Park. The 2004 City of Boroondara Indigenous Heritage Study conducted an investigation on the Myrtle Park site and uncovered the subsequent discoveries:

'Myrtle Park consists of heavily landscaped parkland with a series of ovals used for recreational purposes. The park is possibly situated in a former watercourse/swampland/depression. There was no ground surface visibility due to extensive grass cover. Due to poor ground surface visibility and its highly modified nature, the park was deemed unsuitable for further survey'.1 1 Terra Culture Heritage Consultants, An Indigenous Heritage Study City of Boroondara: Stage 2, City of Boroondara, June 2004, p. 21.

During the colonisation and sale of land by the Crown, Henry Elgar acquired the area of Myrtle Park under a Special Survey scheme in 1841. The land, totaling 5,120 acres, was primarily used for farming and grazing, including orchards and dairy farms.

86 mature River Red Gum trees on Myrtle Park were removed through an open tender in 1892.

In 1913, the land of Myrtle Park was divided into 50 parcels ranging in size from one½ to nine acres each. Lots 41 and 42 currently make up Myrtle Park, covering a total of 18 acres and being advertised as a splendid garden block. Lots 43, 44, and 47 now constitute Macleay Park, and these lots had drainage easements within or bordering the land.

Various developments and additions, such as sports facilities, playgrounds, and pavilions, were made over the years to create what now is Myrtle and Macleay Park.

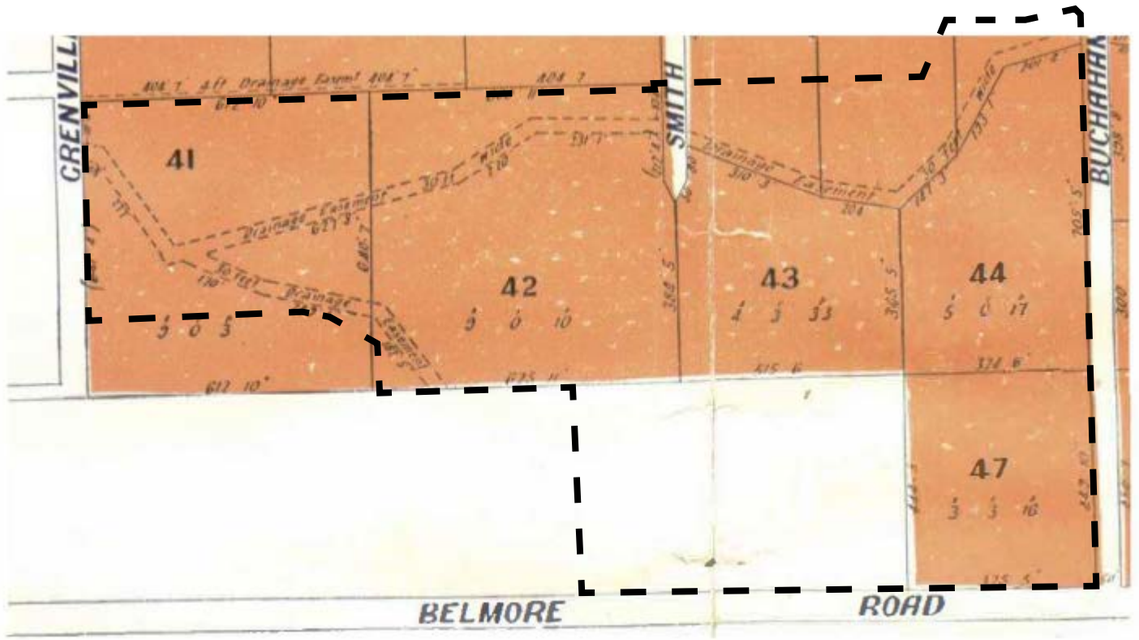


Figure 6 Part of Myrtle Park Subdivision showing drainage easement in what is now Myrtle Park and Macleay Park. Source: History summary, Myrtle and Macleay Park, Boroondara Library (July 2022)

2.4 Site landscape character

The Myrtle and Macleay Parks are a large open space including a number of sport and recreation assets, including eight outdoor netball courts, six sporting fields, three sports pavilions, a scout hall and a district level playground. North Balwyn Bowling Club and Men's Shed are located in the northeast corner of the site and will be considered in this Master Plan in terms of potential connections, linkages and interfaces.

There is a large number of existing mature trees scattered around the parks. The tree species data 529 trees in Macleay Park and 211 trees in Myrtle Park and 52 trees in Balwyn North Bowls Club (Source: Tree species data 2023, Xylem tree Care for the City of Boroondara)

The most prevalent tree species are ***Eucalyptus camaldulensis*** and ***Corymbia maculata***, with Macleay Park also having a significant number of large, deciduous trees, mostly oaks and elms, adding to the character of the park.

The high point of the Parks are located in the south-east corner of Macleay Park and the low point located in the north-west corner of Myrtle Park. Some of the ovals have embankments or steep drops on some sides (Refer to Site Analysis Landscape and Environment Map on page 29).

The Myrtle Park ovals and Oval 2 of Macleay Park are surrounded by single to double storey houses with high fences limiting views out from the Park in this section except on to Severn Street, which is a residential street. Macleay Park on the other hand has views opening up from within the Park outwards onto Belmore Road, Buchanan Avenue and towards the North Balwyn High School which has a low visually permeable metal fence. The western fence and building facade of the North Balwyn Bowls Club limits some views from within the park in this section. The fences along the Men's Shed and North Balwyn Bowls Club car parking and along the south side of the Bowls Club vegetable garden are visually permeable but do not provide access opportunities. In some sections of the park, mature trees offer screening. Some of the embankments offer great informal viewing locations of the ovals.

The parks are characterised by predominantly native evergreen trees in grass along the west and southern outer perimeter. The north outer perimeter has a mix of native evergreen and exotic deciduous trees in grass. The western perimeter along Macleay Park oval 3 has a line of mature exotic evergreen, cypress trees, in grass. The eastern perimeter along Buchanan Avenue is characterised by a mix of evergreen and exotic evergreen trees in grass. The areas in between the ovals are dominated by exotic deciduous trees planted in grass with a scattering of evergreen trees. The park does not contain many garden beds with most trees planted in grass (Exception being the screen planting in a mulch bed along Gildan Street to the south of Myrtle Park East Oval, refer to site analysis map - existing tree character on page 31).

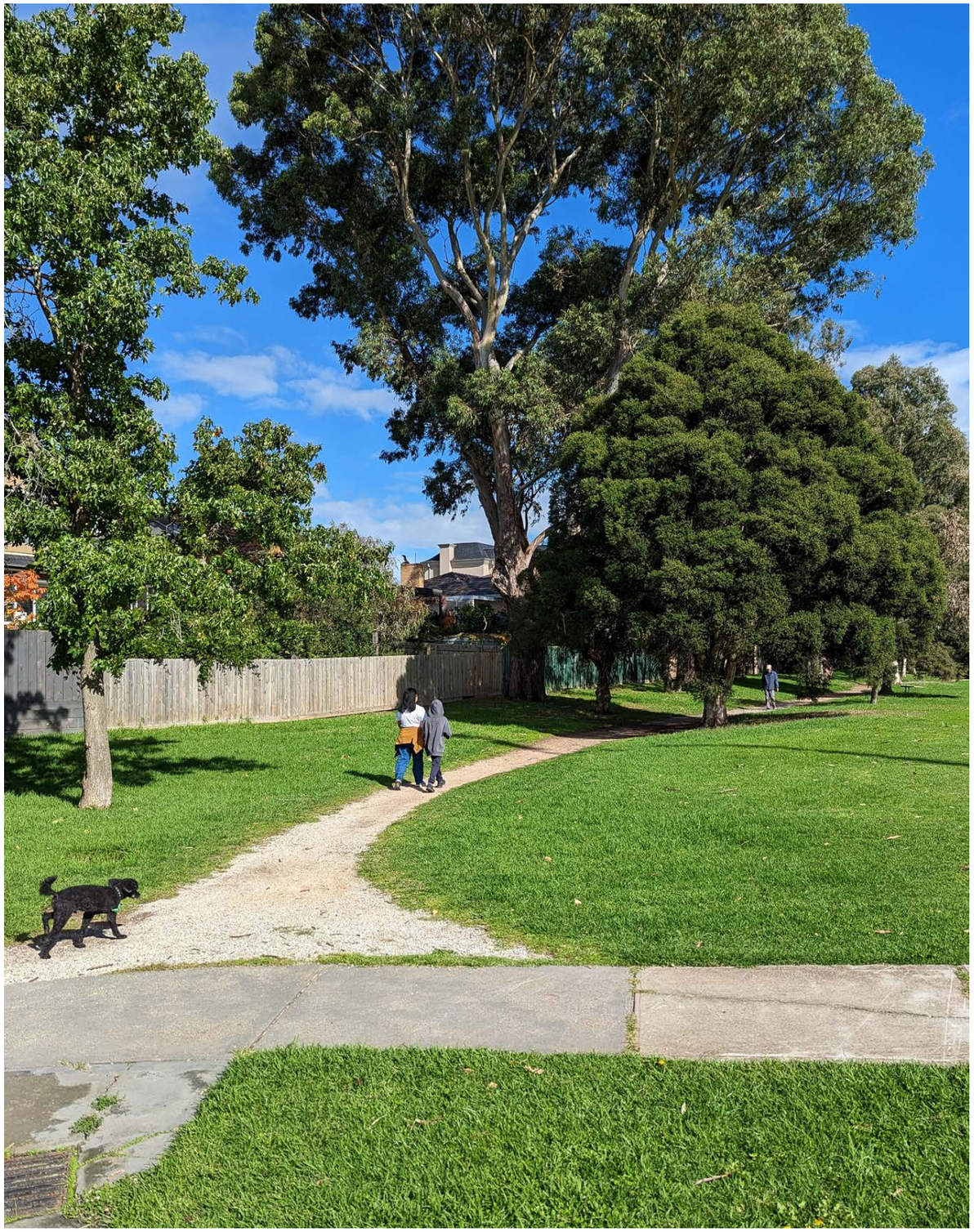


Figure 7 Site photograph showing mix of native and decidous trees in the parks

2.5 Existing user groups

The key user groups of the Myrtle and Macleay Parks are:

- Local residents.
- Myrtle and Macleay Park Sporting Clubs/organisations.
- Men's Shed.
- North Balwyn Bowls Club.
- North Balwyn Scouts Group.
- Students, parents, and employees of Balwyn High School, Balwyn North Primary School and St Bede's Primary School.

Tenant Sporting Clubs/organisations include:

- Balwyn Saints Cricket Club.
- Boroondara Cricket Club.
- Boroondara Eagles Football Club.
- Boroondara Netball Association.
- Melbourne Baseball Club.
- Miss Spartan Group Fitness.
- North Balwyn Baseball Club.
- North Balwyn Bowls Club.
- North Balwyn Cricket Club.
- North Balwyn Scout Group.
- One FC.



Figure 8 Site photograph showing netball courts and pavilion surrounds

Background Document Review

Relevant reports, policies and strategies will be reviewed and collated into a concise background summary in this section to help inform the development of Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan.

3.0 Background Document Review

3.1 Planning Scheme Zones

Myrtle and Macleay Parks are controlled under the **Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ).**

The purpose of this zone is:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To recognise areas for public recreation and open space.
- To protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate.
- To provide for commercial uses where appropriate

Minor changes including planting, landscaping and installation of smaller furniture items may not require a planning permit. However, other building works will need to consider impacts to the care and management of the site and adjacent land, as well as the appropriate design and siting of the proposed development.

Zones Adjacent to the site boundaries

As shown in Figure 9, the types of uses that occur adjacent to the site boundaries are determined by the following zones within City of Boroondara Planning Scheme:

- **Neighbourhood Residential Zone (NRZ)**
- **Public Use – Education Schedule 2 (PUZ2)**
- **Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ)**
- **Principal Road Network Schedule 2 (TRZ2)**

The Public Recreation Zone expands to the northeast of the subject site and extends through North Balwyn Bowls Club, North Balwyn Tennis Club to Hislop Reserve and Gordon Barnard Reserve. The purpose of this zone is noted above.

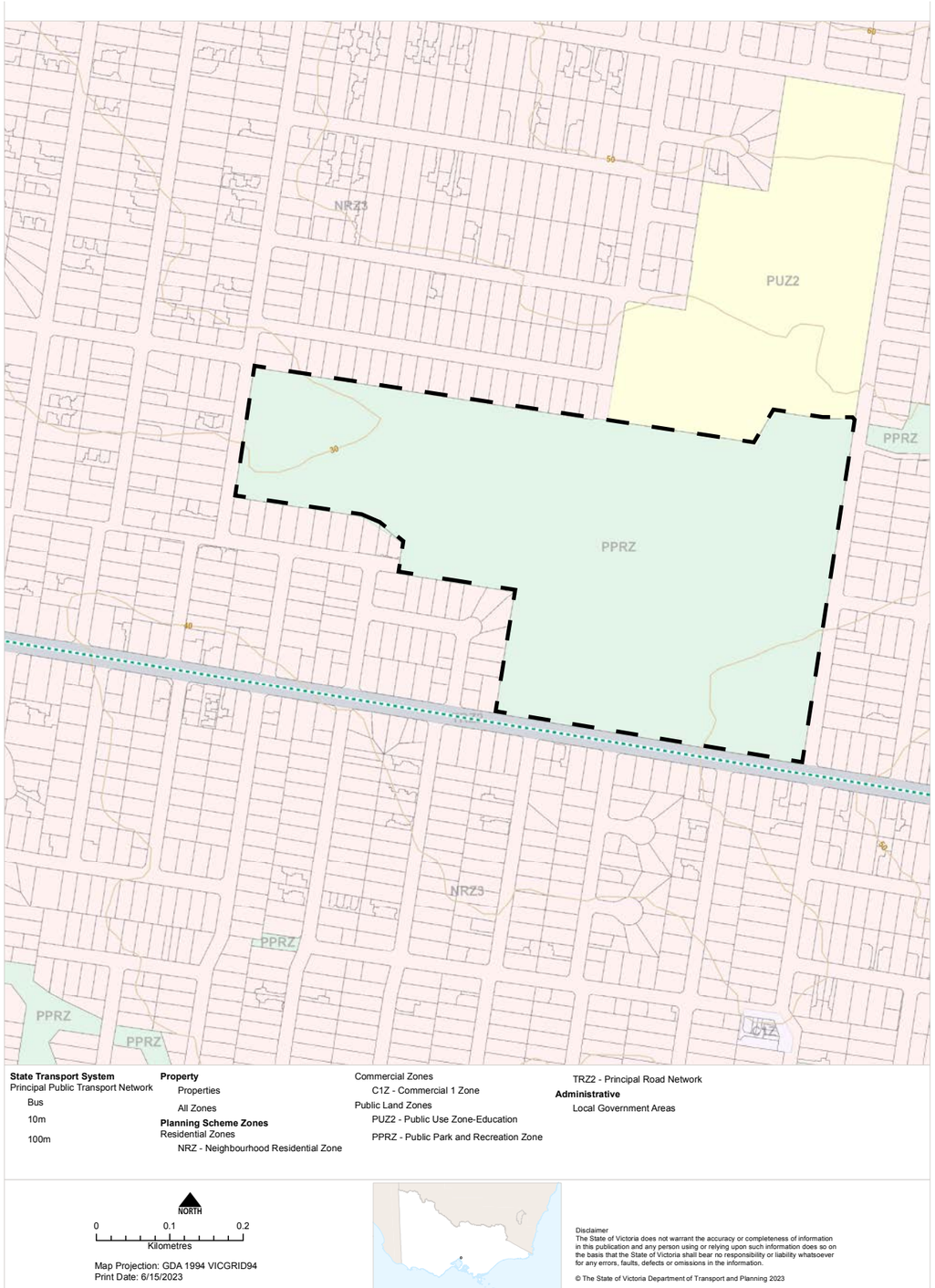


Figure 9 Zoning map showing boundary of Myrtle and Macleay Parks and surrounding areas. Source: VicPlan

Areas surrounding the park from all directions, apart from the northwest portion of the boundary, are designated **Neighbourhood Residential Zone.**

The purpose of this zone is to:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To recognise areas of predominantly single and double-storey residential development.
- To manage and ensure that development respects the identified neighbourhood character, heritage, environmental or landscape characteristics.
- To allow educational, recreational, religious, community, and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.

Section of the park along the northern boundary is adjacent to **Public Use – Education Zone.**

The purpose of this zone is to:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To recognise public land use for public utility and community services and facilities.
- To provide for associated uses that are consistent with the intent of the public land reservation or purpose.

The road corridor, stretching along the southern boundary of the site is a designated **Principal Road Network Schedule 2 – TRZ2.**

The purpose of this zone is to:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To provide for an integrated and sustainable transport system.
- To identify transport land use and land required for transport services and facilities.
- To provide for the use and development of land that complements, or is consistent with, the transport system or public land reservation.
- To ensure the efficient and safe use of transport infrastructure and land comprising the transport system.

3.2 Planning Scheme Overlays

As shown in Figure 10, land within Myrtle and Macleay Park is affected by the following overlay controls:

Special Building Overlay (SBO)

This overlay is applied to land along the west and north boundary and the northeast corner of the site. The purpose of this overlay is to:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework.
- To identify land in urban areas liable to inundation by overland flows from the urban drainage system as determined by, or in consultation with, the floodplain management authority.
- To ensure that development maintains the free passage and temporary storage of floodwaters, minimises flood damage, is compatible with the flood hazard and local drainage conditions and will not cause any significant rise in flood level or flow velocity.
- To protect water quality and waterways as natural resources by managing urban stormwater, protecting water supply catchment areas, and managing saline discharges to minimise the risks to the environmental quality of water and groundwater.

A permit is required to construct a building or to construct or carry out works including, but not limited to: fence, roadworks, bicycle pathways and trails, public toilets, a deck, a disabled access ramp. This does not apply to (as relevant) :

- To landscaping, driveways, vehicle cross overs, footpaths or bicycle paths if there is no significant change to existing surface levels, or if the relevant floodplain management authority has agreed in writing that the flow path is not obstructed.
- To fencing with at least 25% openings and with the plinth at least 300mm above the flood level.
- To a replacement fence in the same location and of the same type and materials as the existing fence.
- To radio masts, light poles or signs on posts or attached to buildings.
- If a schedule to this overlay specifically states that a permit is not required.

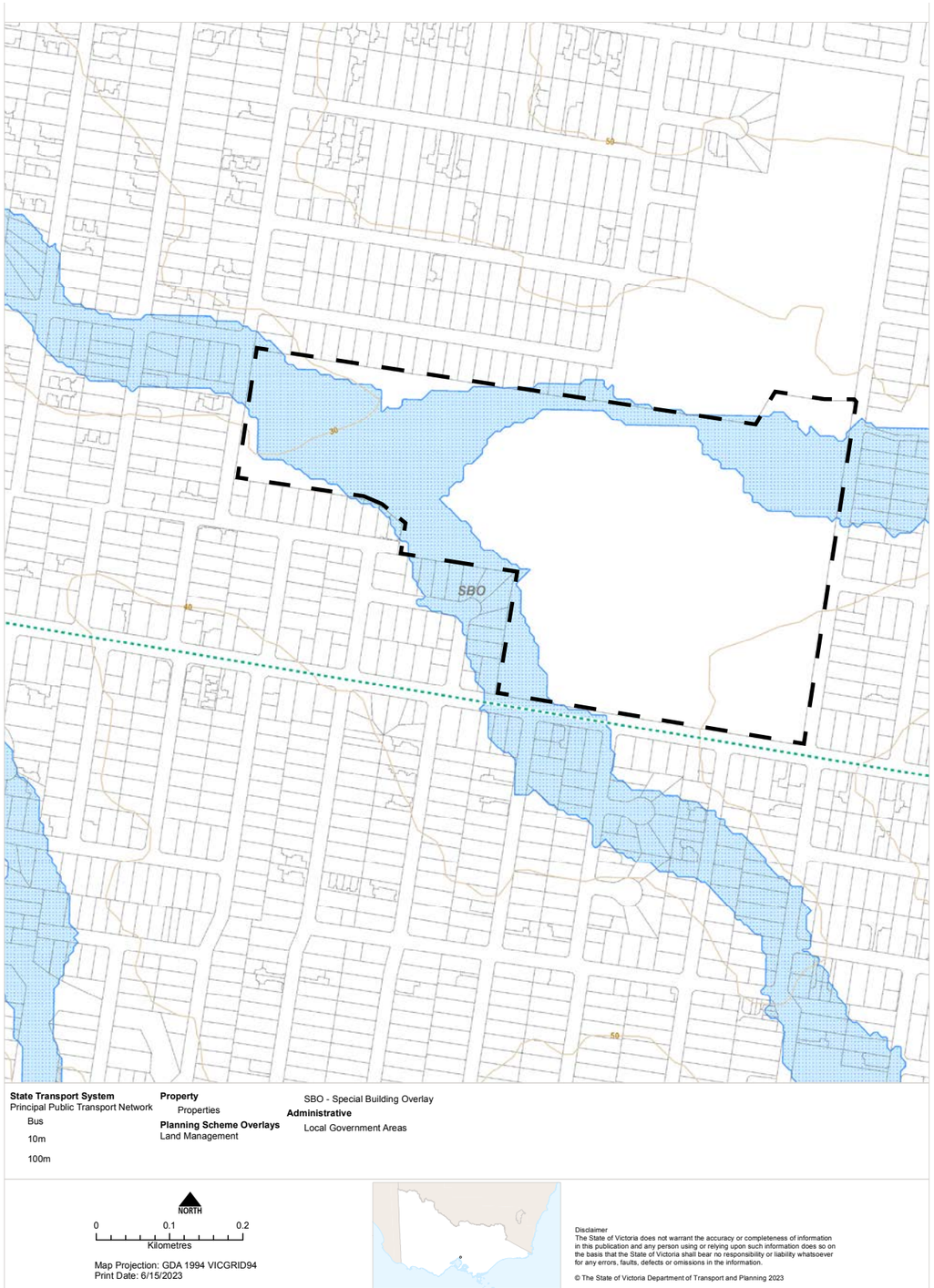


Figure 10 Overlay map showing Myrtle and Maceay parks and surrounding areas
Source: VicPlan

3.3 Strategic Policies, Documents And Council Resolutions

To ensure the Master Plan is aligned with key strategies and policies we have analysed the following:

Boroondara Community Plan

The Boroondara Community Plan 2021–31 (BCP) captures the community's aspirations and priorities, reflecting changes in priorities and experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic, while balancing current needs with future challenges and opportunities over the next decade. The Plan, developed through an inclusive engagement process with the community, enhances Boroondara's existing strengths and highlights what the community values most, providing a practical road map for the council to realise the community's vision and benefit all its members.

Relevant Initiatives

The Myrtle and Macleay Master Plan specifically relates to the following key themes and relevant strategies of the BCP:

Theme 1: Community, Services and Facilities.

- Strategy 1.1: Neighbourhoods and community spaces facilitate social connections and belonging by providing, maintaining, and activating places for people to meet, organise activities and celebrate events.
- Strategy 1.4: Facilities and sports precincts encourage equal access through social planning, delivery, asset maintenance and renewal activities.
- Strategy 1.6: Residents and visitors feel safe in public spaces through encouraging local activity and creating and maintaining civic areas.

Theme 2: Parks and Green Spaces.

- Strategy 2.1 Parks and green spaces enable sport and recreation opportunities by maintaining and improving recreation spaces and equipment.
- Strategy 2.2: Our sustainable urban forest is preserved and increased through managing and renewing our open space trees and understorey growth.
- Strategy 2.3: Parks and green spaces are accessible and appealing through maintaining, improving and increasing amenities.
- Strategy 2.5: Playgrounds are engaging and safe by improving shading and renewing and diversifying equipment.



Theme 3: The Environment.

- Strategy 3.6: Our biodiversity is conserved and maintained through improving the way we manage our diverse plants, animals and natural spaces.

Theme 5: Moving Around.

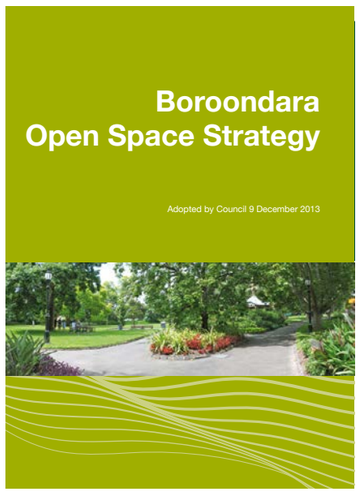
- Strategy 5.3: Shared paths and footpaths are fit-for-purpose through continued improvements to surface condition and lighting.

Boroondara Open Space Strategy (BOSS)

The Boroondara Open Space Strategy (Part 7) outlines the Council's approach to the management of public open spaces within the relevant precinct, with Balwyn North being a location of interest.

Relevant Initiatives

Macleay and Myrtle Park are listed among the major sporting reserves for this precinct, with Macleay Park being the most popular of all the reserves within the precinct. Balwyn High School is listed as an ancillary Open Space, being located near Macleay Park and contributing to its open space character. Both Macleay and Myrtle Parks are classified as sporting reserves (Primary Character Classification). No recorded heritage values are listed for open space in Balwyn North.



The forecast population change for Balwyn North has indicated a likely increase in the number of older people and lone-person households, along with a slight increase in family households and age ranges under 60 years. Open Space Gap Areas for Balwyn North analysis for the vicinity of Myrtle and Macleay Park indicates a likely to increase in population numbers as two activity centers are located nearby.

Recommendations and Implications for Master Plan

Future open space planning should increase the diversity of facilities for older adults. Any changes to open spaces will be designed to provide a diverse range of opportunities for all age groups. Gap area - there is an extensive system of open space that can be reached without the need to cross major roads. Balwyn High and Balwyn North Primary Schools are located in this gap area, providing ancillary open space. The focus therefore should be to improve pedestrian access south to the open space and increase the quality and diversity of facilities to cater to increased levels of use.

Tree Strategy Action Plan 2017

It's a strategy to address the management of all trees in the public realm in the City of Boroondara.

Relevant Initiatives

The Myrtle and Macleay Master Plan specifically relates to the following key themes and relevant actions of the Tree Strategy Action Plan:

Theme 1: Preserving the character of our streets and neighborhoods.

- Action 1.1: introduce a new proactive street and park tree renewal plan addressing the City's aging tree population and to increase species diversity for a resilient future tree population.

Theme 3: Enhancing health, wellbeing and community connectedness.

- Action 3.2 Ensure adequate shade provision from tree planting in areas of need, including retail areas, playgrounds, key walking routes, public transport routes, and areas of social vulnerability.
- Action 3.3 Continue to provide adequate park tree shade to ensure amenity of parks to encourage residents to spend time in them.
- Action 3.4 Plant new trees to encourage active recreation along walking and cycling paths.

Theme 6: Improving our Natural Environment.

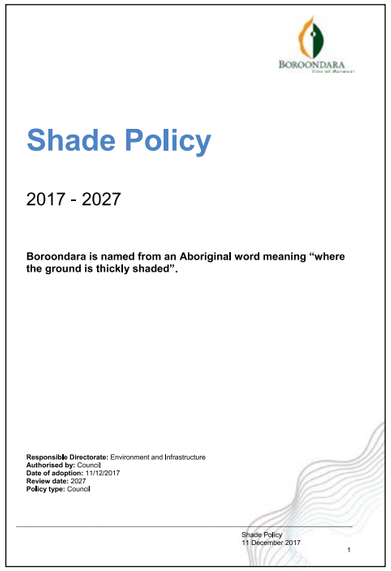
- Action 6.1 Explore opportunities for people to connect with nature through trees when undertaking capital projects (e.g.. Playgrounds and building renewal projects).

Shade Policy 2017-2027

The Shade Policy aims to create comfortable and safe outdoor environments, promote healthy active lifestyles, and guide decision-making on shade provision in the public realm, ensuring the Boroondara community has access to shade while encouraging personal sun protection practices.

The key principals of guiding this policy are to:

- Prioritise the use of natural shade in open space (above that of built shade) as a long term shade solution to reduce costs and maximise environmental and community health and well-being benefits.
- Prioritise the use of shade at playgrounds.


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Shade Policy

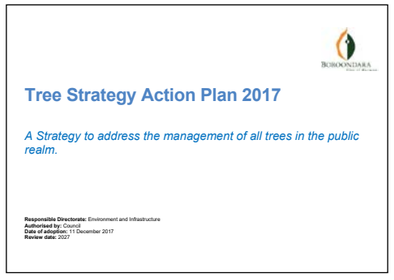
2017 - 2027

Boroondara is named from an Aboriginal word meaning "where the ground is thickly shaded".

Responsible Directorate: Environment and Infrastructure
Authorised by: Council
Date of adoption: 11/12/2017
Review date: 2027
Policy type: Council

Shade Policy
11 December 2017

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Tree Strategy Action Plan 2017

A Strategy to address the management of all trees in the public realm.

Responsible Directorate: Environment and Infrastructure
Authorised by: Council
Date of adoption: 11 December 2017
Review date: 2027

- For the design of new or the upgrade of existing District Playgrounds (Myrtle and Macleay playground is classified as district level) use natural shade from existing trees where possible. Where adequate natural shade cover cannot be achieved in the short term, then built shade may be considered when upgrading the playground. In such circumstances built shade solutions will be an interim shade solution only until the natural shade from trees becomes effective, at which time the built shade structure may be considered for removal.
- Prioritise the use of natural shade along key walking and cycling routes.

Boroondara Sport and Recreation Strategy

The City of Boroondara's Sport and Recreation Strategy aims to promote active participation in sport and recreation for all residents, regardless of circumstances, through development initiatives, ultimately leading to a healthier and improved quality of life for the community.

Relevant Initiatives

The sport and recreation activities that have been identified as experiencing a high growth in demand and requiring additional access to facilities in the future are:

- Basketball.
- Netball.
- Australian rules football.
- Soccer.
- Skate and BMX.
- Hockey.

With the exception of Skate and BMX and hockey, the sporting activities identified above will be reliant upon facilities that cater for multiple sports such as highball courts and sports grounds. There may be the need to increase the provision of highball, skate and BMX facilities and increase the carrying capacity of sports grounds (Sport and Recreation Strategy 2026 Foundation Paper 3). The North East and North West precincts have also been identified as the most appropriate locations for skate and BMX facilities.

As the population grows and sport and recreation remain integral to people's lives, there is a need to reassess the adequacy of current facilities and services in Boroondara, as there is a strong demand for sports grounds from various user groups, emphasising the importance of maintaining a balance between structured and unstructured activities and promoting their coexistence in shared spaces.

The strategy identifies that many of the sporting fields are at capacity coping with population and sporting trends showing upward growth in usage from locals, sporting clubs and schools. Overall, the sport and recreation vision for Boroondara is to ensure equal opportunities and support for active participation in sports and recreation activities for all individuals, irrespective of their circumstances, leading to improved well-being and a higher quality of life.

City of Boroondara Climate Action Plan

The Boroondara Climate Action Plan has been formulated to address the community's priorities and acknowledge the growing environmental threat, prioritising the well-being and quality of life for present and future generations in response to the impact of climate change.

The Climate Action Plan includes a range of commitments with the most relevant to Myrtle and Macleay Master Plan being:

Theme 2: Biodiversity and trees.

- Action 2.8: Provide support for increasing the number of canopy trees and shade to reduce urban heat.

Theme 3: Water and waterways.

- Action 3.2: Continue to increase water harvesting at Council buildings, parks and sports grounds.

Theme 4: Transport.

- Action 4.3: Pursue opportunities to include electric vehicle and bicycle charging in all relevant Council civil works.
- Action 4.8: Support improved off-road shared or separated bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure.

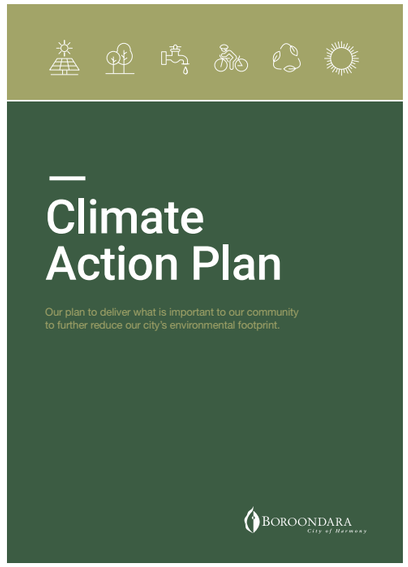
Boroondara Disability Action Plan 2018–22

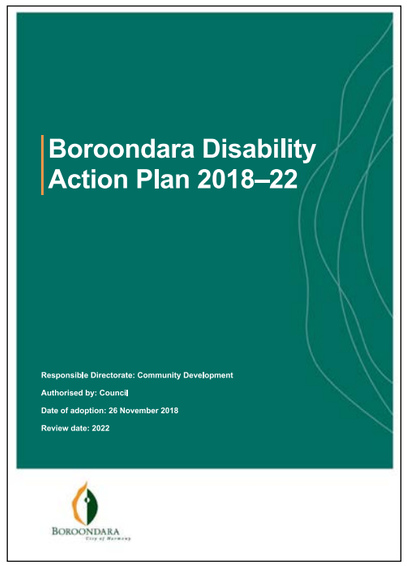
The City of Boroondara Disability Action Plan 2018-22 aims to facilitate the full participation of individuals with disabilities in all aspects of community life by outlining the Council's strategies and actions, building on previous achievements, aligning with community priorities, and fulfilling obligations under the Victorian Disability Act 2006.

Some of the key relevant heath issues identified in the Plan are promoting mental health and social connection as well as promoting active living.

Key themes relevant to the Master Plan works include:

Priority Theme: Your Community, Services and Facility.





- Action: Increase and improve physical access to Council's services, facilities and other infrastructure such as seating for people with a disability and kerb ramps on pedestrian crossings.
- Action: Increase and improve participation and inclusion of people with a disability in sport and recreation activities.

Priority Theme: Your Parks and Green Spaces.

- Action: Provide and promote play equipment and infrastructure in parks and open spaces that is accessible to all abilities.

Boroondara Bicycle Strategy and Implementation Plan 2022

The Boroondara Bicycle Strategy outlines a 10-year framework to promote the development of bicycle infrastructure and increase the use of bicycles as a mode of transportation in the City of Boroondara. The Strategy and Implementation plan were adopted by council in July 2022.

The Strategy serves multiple purposes, including setting a vision for an ideal bicycle network, informing investment decisions in bicycle infrastructure, and providing guidance for the phased implementation of prioritised actions. Its ultimate goal is to enhance cycling opportunities and create a more bike-friendly environment within the municipality.

The aspirational route classifications in the strategy classifies Mayland Avenue and the East-West path along the North of the Myrtle and Macleay Parks as a Neighbourhood and Local Link (C4 classification in the Department of Transport's Movement and Place Framework). The proposed infrastructure needed for the aspirational network classifies Mayland Avenue as a bicycle street and the East-West path along the North of the parks as typically unsealed informal off-road shared path. No new cycleway is planned for recreational parkland across Kew and Balwyn including Myrtle and Macleay Parks. Rather, the proposals involve formalising unmade tracks "goat tracks" with unsealed (gravel) surfaces, similar to the existing gravel paths in these areas and maintenance of the existing gravel paths. The existing gravel paths in the parks are not intended to be sealed but instead, maintained to ensure they are fit for purpose in line with current standards. It is important to note the current standards for recreational paths are 3.0m wide.

The implementation plan outlines the Boroondara Bicycle Strategy actions for the next 10 years. The recommendations for Myrtle and Macleay Parks outlined in the implementation plan includes inspection, assessment and renewal/upgrading the existing unsealed path along the northern edge of Myrtle and Macleay Parks through to Buchanan Avenue in the form of an unsealed (gravel) path 3.0m wide with composite edging to prevent path washout.

Boroondara Reconciliation Strategy 2022-2026

The Boroondara Reconciliation Strategy reflects Council's commitment to fostering trust, respect, and relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider community, aiming to address historical impacts and achieve equality in various areas. Developed through engagement with local Indigenous organisations, and stakeholders, the Strategy emphasises the importance of truth-telling, acknowledging the effects of colonisation, and building genuine relationships based on cultural understanding and reciprocity. The four-year vision and action plan align with the perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, as well as the broader Boroondara community, and involve collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation and other stakeholders to implement reconciliation initiatives.

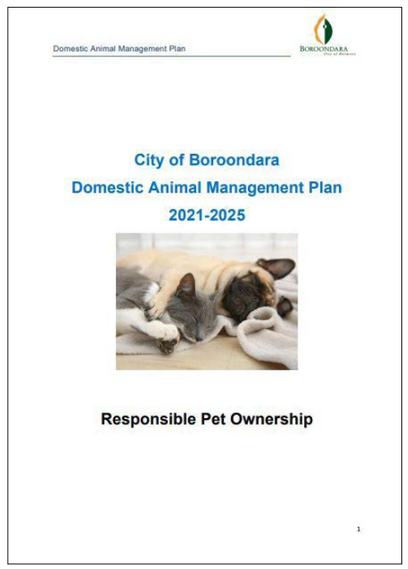
With a whole-of-Council approach, the Strategy emphasises continuous learning for the non-Indigenous community and showcasing the strengths and contributions of local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to Boroondara. It builds upon existing reconciliation efforts, addresses identified themes and areas for action, and ensures accountability and leadership across Council in driving the reconciliation agenda.

The Key topic relevant to Myrtle and Macleay Master Plan identified through the consultation process is:

Topic 5: Acknowledge and celebrate local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stories, histories, cultures and peoples.

Acknowledge and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and peoples all year round and not just during significant dates. Suggestions included providing spaces in the municipality which include reflections of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories through visual arts or reflective landscaping.





City of Boroondara Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025

The Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-25 details the Council's strategic approach to animal management services. The Council's Dog Control Order designates dog off-leash areas and prescribes the obligations of dog owners when using these areas. This order designates Macleay Park as a designated off-lead dog park, except when there are organised sports training sessions and matches on the ovals. There are also other rules which apply within off-leash dog areas relating to both the management of dog behaviour and:

- Keeping your dog at least 30m away from in-use barbecues or picnic areas, public meetings or sporting events, including matches or organised training
- Not allowing your dog within a playground and keep it on a lead within 10m of the perimeter of a playground

A community of dog walkers submitted a petition to council in 2022 fundamentally seeking a safe, well-lit area to be available for dogs off-lead in the Macleay and Myrtle Parks area.

Boroondara Netball Association proposal for additional courts at Macleay Parks

In 2021, Boroondara Netball Association (BNA) proposed to add four courts and lighting to the existing eight netball courts at MMP. Also in 2021, Boroondara Netball Association secured $1.2 million in funding from the Australian Government for improvements and expansion.

Council reviewed the proposal and explored community feedback on options to co-locate the courts with the current 8 courts, as well as other opportunities to increase court time for the BNA.

The proposal for four additional courts is considered unsupportable at Myrtle and Macleay Park although the council remains committed to working with the BNA and Netball Victoria to upgrade lighting and resurface the existing courts at MMP. Council and will explore future opportunities for increasing netball provision at other locations within Boroondara to support the long term strategic growth of netball.

Site-specific reference documents

Myrtle and Macleay Park Management Plan 2018

The Myrtle and Macleay Park Management Plan (MMMP) provides a framework for Council to effectively manage the active sporting field assets located at Myrtle and Macleay Parks, determining usage levels and types for active sports within the area, while considering the varied interests of other park users and neighbouring residents.

MMMP provides valuable data on Park usage types in summer and winter season. It also lists detailed inventory of assets including sport and activity suitability across the parks as illustrated in the table below.

Location	Summer	Winter
Macleay No. 1/ D.S Bull Oval	Cricket (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale	Soccer (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale
Macleay No. 2 Oval	Cricket (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale	Soccer (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale
Macleay No. 3 Oval	Cricket (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale	Soccer (all levels) School use Personal training and other activities of a similar scale
Macleay No. 5 Oval	Cricket (junior and training overflow) General active sporting use	Soccer (junior and training overflow) General active sporting use
Boroondara Netball Centre	Netball	Netball
Myrtle East Oval	Cricket (all levels)	Baseball
Myrtle West Oval	Cricket (junior and training overflow)	Baseball

Finally it talks about key issues and opportunities highly relevant to the production of the Master Plan, which include:

- Achieving the right balance between active sporting use and residential amenity in the park and surrounds, being particularly mindful of lights, noise and traffic.
- Achieving the right balance between active sporting use and passive park use.
- Ensuring dog walkers have access and opportunities, noting that Macleay Park is a dog off leash park.
- Providing clarity and guidance around when and how Council will consult with residents and park users.
- Managing turf quality and asset longevity.

Macleay Park Stormwater Harvesting: Functional Design

This report focuses on the proposal for a stormwater treatment and harvesting system, known as the MP system, at Macleay Park. It provides a comprehensive description of the system's key features, dimensions, and specifications. Additionally, the report addresses critical issues that influence the system's design. It predicts the performance of the system and the crucial inputs required for analysing its effectiveness.

It also provides information on existing services.

The proposed raingarden, that forms part of the stormwater system is shown in the report in the form of a functional layout plan and will inform the Master Plan.

Overall, the report offers a detailed overview of the proposed stormwater treatment and harvesting system at Macleay Park.



Figure 11 Macleay park services plan showing proposed stormwater treatment and harvesting system at Macleay Park. Source: Macleay Park Stormwater Harvesting: Functional design, E2Designlab

Myrtle and Macleay Park, Parking and Traffic Study 2023

This report provides a technical assessment and impact review of car parking demand, pedestrian movement, vehicle circulation and congestion, and safety. In the context of the Master Plan, the report presents opportunities for improvement. The findings of this report will be considered alongside community feedback to help guide the development of the Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan.

Findings

The findings present information from inspections completed in August 2022. This information is supported also by parking occupancy counts in June 2021, operational details about the sporting ovals and considers regulatory documents such as the City of Boroondara Planning Scheme.

Assessments occurred during the winter, when car parking demands are understood to be greater than summer demands and represents peak sporting car parking demand for the precinct.

Some key findings include:

- Peak operating times occur between 9am - 10am on Saturday in Winter, where peak demand is expected to be in the order of 450-500 spaces.
- During Peak operating times, car parking demand overspills from the 119 formal car parking spaces available at Myrtle and Macleay Parks (including 48 spaces at the unsealed Macleay Park Overflow car park)
- Demand for parking on other days is significantly less with the next highest demand occurring on Sunday (221 spaces) and Thursday (76 spaces).
- With most vehicles turning left at the exit onto Belmore road, minimal delays were observed.
- Informal conversations with park users during the 2022 August site inspections indicated that there were a meaningful proportion of drivers who have destinations more easily accessed by turning right onto Belmore Road who choose to turn left instead due to delays and safety concerns associated with turning right.
- Unsafe conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles were observed regularly at the Belmore Road entry to the Parks. These conflicts are especially concerning during peak hours.
- Traffic demand is contributed to by activities at the park other than sporting competitions such as dog training classes, fitness classes, and parents with children.
- Parking duration tended to be longer during the peak operating time (Saturday) with around 35% of vehicles parking to do a drop-off. There was a shorter duration of parking occurring on other days. In comparison, about 50% of parking events on a Thursday were drop-offs or only for up to 30mins.
- It was observed that not many children arrived at the site via bicycle, bus or walking.

Issues

Several issues are identified through the findings of the report. These can be summarised into the following themes:

• Existing pedestrian crossing and intersection operations at Belmore Road

• Vehicle circulation behaviours contributing to congestion

• Lack of separated pedestrian pathways

• Illegal parking and inefficient parking in the unsealed over-flow parking area

Opportunities

The report offers opportunities for further consideration in the Master Plan to address the identified traffic issues. These include:

- Formalising the existing Macleay Park overflow car park.
- Improve Macleay Park internal road turn-around with consideration for a typical passenger vehicle's swept path such as providing a 'court bowl' arrangement.
- Consider managing parking on Elliot Avenue and Monash Avenue to reduce uncontrolled pedestrian crossing at Belmore Road.
- Consider introducing dynamic signage showing real-time car parking vacancy (particularly for Saturdays) to assist motorists to make informed decisions about entering the precinct to look for parking and reduce unnecessary circulation with the precinct's internal road network when there is no car parking available.
- Improve pedestrian access, movement and wayfinding to and from the Parks.
- Strengthen pedestrian priority at key conflict points within the precinct, and traffic calming measures to slow traffic through the internal road at Macleay Park
- Providing indented parallel or angled parking along the western side of Buchanan Avenue (with consideration given to the potentially significant impacts that would be generated by this)
- The potential to provide an additional car park access/egress onto Belmore Road from within the overflow car park (it is noted in the report that this additional access is not warranted as the existing access operates adequately and significant capital works would be required).

Additionally, the report includes a high level concept design for the formalisation of the Macleay Park overspill car park.

Myrtle and Macleay Parks Arboricultural Report, August 2023

This report presents the findings of an arboricultural site assessment conducted in July 2023 at Myrtle Park and Macleay Park in the City of Boroondara. Based on these findings, a technical analysis was prepared to help inform the preparation of the Master Plan.

Tree population and species origins

A total of 763 trees were surveyed across both Parks consisting of 89 distinct species. The most common indigenous species is the River Red Gum *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (148 instances), followed by the Lemon Scented Gum *Corymbia maculata* (86 instances).

The tree population is made up of 31% Indigenous trees, 49% native non-indigenous trees and exotic trees account for 20% of the population. No trees in the surveyed area are identified as a 'Significant Tree' according to the City of Boroondara's Register of Protected and Significant Trees.

More information about Boroondara's Significant Trees can be found on Boroondara's Protected and significant trees website.

Health and Longevity

The assessment concludes that the health of trees at Myrtle and Macleay Parks is mostly positive, with the majority of the trees considered in good (86%) or fair (9%) health.

The outlook for the tree population was long-lived for the majority, with 58% of the surveyed tree population expected to live beyond 20 years, and a further 30% up to 20 years.

The tree population will inherently reduce over time. Based on the assessment criteria, a total reduction of 12% of the total current population is expected in the short term. Canopy cover is projected to reduce by 5% in the short term (the next 5 years) but actual canopy loss might be slightly less depending on maintenance and other factors.

Recommendations

The report identified a series of recommendations for pruning and maintenance based on the corresponding priorities assigned to individual tree conditions. Trees recommended for removal are to be monitored for further decline by Council's Trees Department in line with City of Boroondara tree management guidelines.



Figure 12 Plan showing projected tree canopy coverage for Myrtle and Macleay Parks. Red Trees represent projected canopy coverage loss over 5 years (Source: Myrtle and Macleay Parks Arboricultural Report, August 2023)

4.0 Traditional Owners

In support of the strategies outlined in Council's key strategic documents, Boroondara Community Plan 2021-31, and the Boroondara Reconciliation Strategy 2022-2026, the traditional owners of Boroondara are considered key stakeholders for the Myrtle and Macleay Master Plan.

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation as Stakeholders

City of Boroondara provides the following information:

The area now known as the City of Boroondara is located on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples in the Inner Eastern suburbs of Melbourne and includes the suburbs of Ashburton, Balwyn, Balwyn North, Camberwell, Canterbury, Deepdene, Hawthorn, Hawthorn East, Kew and Kew East, and parts of Glen Iris, Surrey Hills and Mont Albert.

The City of Boroondara's name is derived from the Woi-wurrung language meaning 'where the ground is thickly shaded'. The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung community has a strong historical, cultural and spiritual connection to their traditional lands and waterways. They continue to practice the responsibilities bestowed by their ancestors of protecting, preserving and managing the land and waterways in accordance with culture and traditions.

The Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation (WWCHAC) is formally recognised through the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 as the Traditional Owners for the land and waterways in Boroondara. As the Registered Aboriginal Party, the WWCHAC has important legislated roles and functions in managing and protecting the Aboriginal cultural heritage of their recognised lands.

As the Registered Aboriginal Party, the WWCHAC has important legislated roles and functions in managing and protecting the Aboriginal cultural heritage of their recognised lands including evaluating Cultural Heritage Management Plans and assessing Cultural Heritage Permit applications. They also offer key services in the community including natural resource management services, cultural practices for events such as performing a Welcome to Country and smoking ceremonies, cultural consultations to provide feedback on projects being developed on their land, education and cultural awareness specific to their heritage and culture, and language and place naming protocols and advice.

Consultation

The Myrtle and Macleay Master Plan project was initially presented by City of Boroondara to the WWCHAC on 23rd June 2023, and will continue to meet throughout the development of the Master Plan.

City of Boroondara have invited any ideas, suggestions or guidance on the following:

- Any background knowledge about the park and surrounds, and any known sacred sites within the park that should be protected.
- To contribute to the background study with information about the traditional owners, the precolonial landscape, any other information about the site itself or significance of the Balwyn area to the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people.
- To integrate opportunities that respect the traditional owners the land into the proposed design in a way that respects and reflects the cultural heritage of the traditional owners of the land.

The ongoing advice and discussions with the WWCHAC will inform the development of the Master Plan for Myrtle and Macleay Park.

Site Analysis

Site analysis provides an overview of Myrtle and Macleay Park's existing conditions. The site analysis findings provide a solid foundation of background knowledge that will assist in the development of the design vision and principles for the site in the final Master Plan.

5.0 Site Analysis

The aerial site context map to the right and accompanying site photographs provide an overview of the existing site conditions of Myrtle and Macleay Parks.

A series of plans have been prepared to highlight existing conditions, issues and opportunities.

The Site Analysis Plan reviews the reserve functions including the existing physical features and highlights points of interest and conflict. The analysis provides an overall review of the existing facilities, use and function.

The following descriptions explore the existing topography of the site, natural elements, built form and other notable features and have been defined under the following sub-headings:

- **Access and Movement** - Entry points - Pathways - Car parking.
- **Land Use and Built Form** - Sports Facilities - Playground - Furniture - Services -buildings – fencing.
- **Landscape and Environment** - Outlooks and high points - Drainage and Easement - vegetation - embankments.

The Existing Trees Plans identify existing tree character, overall health and structural health of trees in the parks.

The Issues and Opportunities Plan further explores the reserve and surrounding context to highlight key constraints and opportunities that the plan will take into consideration and address through design actions and interventions.

The site analysis findings provide a solid foundation of background knowledge that will assist in the development of the design vision and principles for the site in the final master plan.



Figure 13 Site Context Map. The numbers on this map relate to photographs on the next page



1. Park signage example


2. Rear residential property fencing


3. Key access route without pedestrian connection


4. Interface between the park and North Balwyn Bowling Club


5. Interface between the park and Balwyn High School


6. Pedestrian links throughout the park


7. Myrtle Park pavilion


8. Lack of access to Men Shed / Bowling Club parking area in north east corner of the park



9. Bus stop on Buchanan Avenue

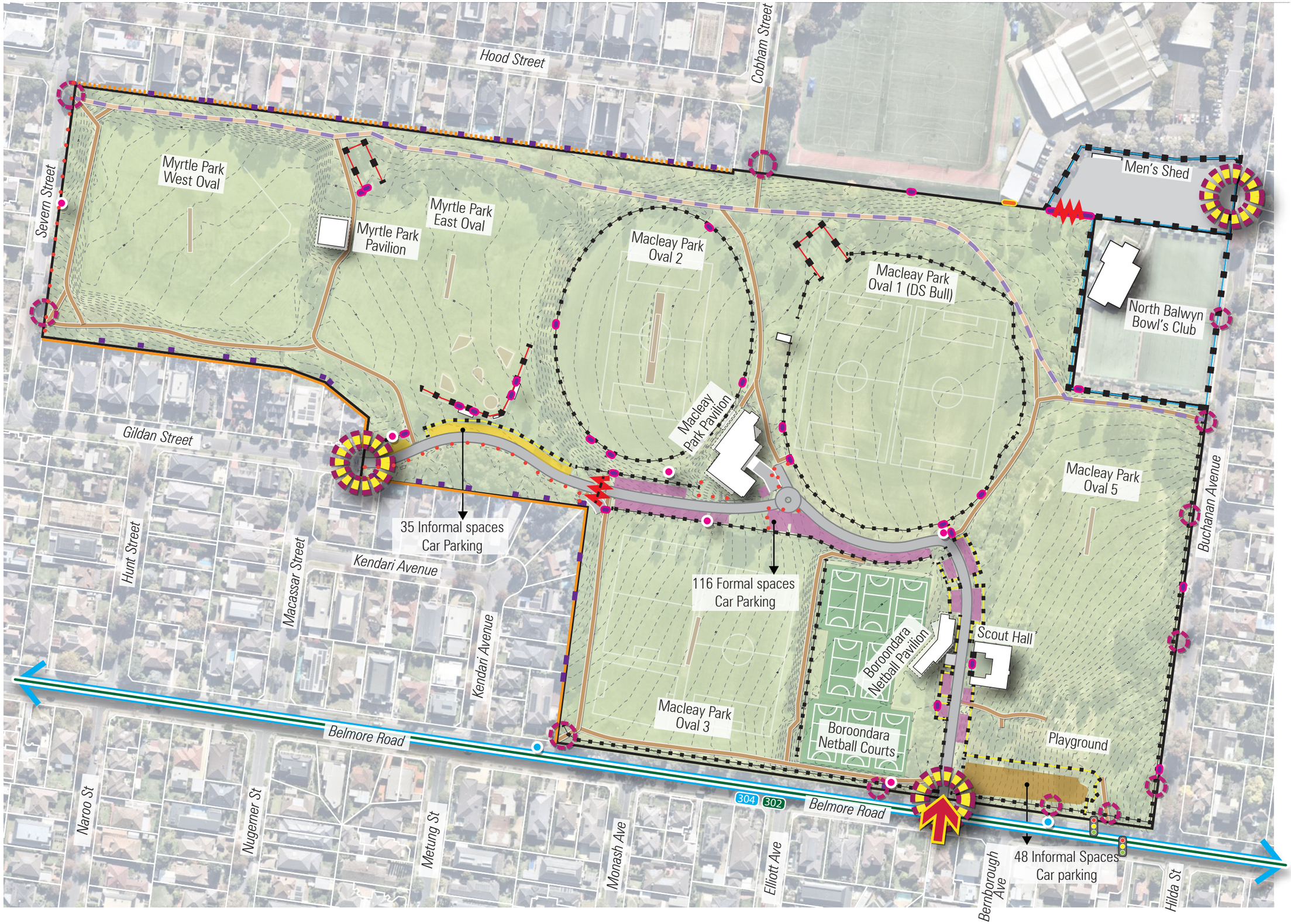

10. Unsealed car park


11. Main entry to the park


12. Vehicular barrier on main access road


13. Informal shared path: east-west link


14. Netball courts and pavilion surrounds

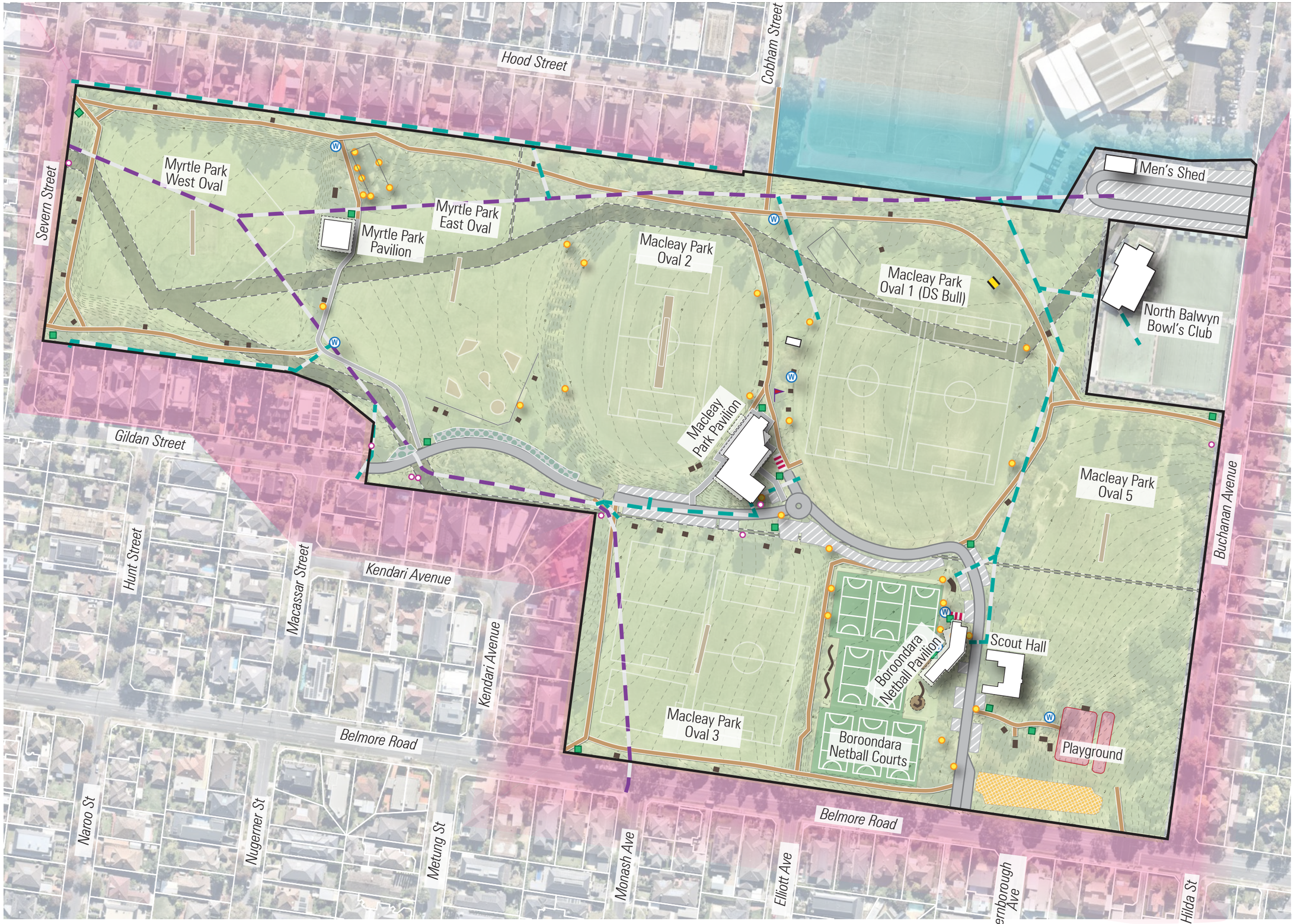


Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan

Site Analysis - Access and Movement

Legend

- Subject site
- Primary site entrance
- Vehicular entrance
- Pedestrian entrance
- Informal Car Parking
- Formal Car Parking
- Overspill Car Park
- Unsealed path
- Road
- Bus route
- Informal off-road shared path
- Bus Nos. 304
- Bus stop
- Signage/wayfinding
- High Chainlink Fence
- High Sport Screen
- Low Barrier Chainlink Fence
- Low Barrier Balustrade Fence
- Rear Property Fence
- Bollard
- Road Barrier
- Barrier
- Gate (School)
- Gate (Residences)
- Gate (Maintenance)
- Traffic lights



Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan

Site Analysis - Land-use and Built form

Legend

- Subject site
- Built form
- Asphalt road
- Gravel path
- Concrete path
- Car park sealed
- Overflow car park unsealed gravel
- Permeable car park surface
- Residential interface
- School interface
- Play area
- Open space / sports field
- Netball court
- Cricket pitch
- Baseball field
- Drainage easement
- Melbourne Water Drainage
- City of Boroondara Drainage
- Lighting
- Shelter
- Seating
- Bins
- Bike racks
- Drinking water fountain
- Flag pole
- Digital scoreboard
- Water pits



Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan

Site Analysis - Landscape and Environment

Legend

- Subject site
- Built form
- Asphalt road
- Gravel path
- Concrete path
- Car park
- Existing Evergreen Trees
- Existing Deciduous Trees
- Bowl's Club Vegetable Garden
- Overall Site- High/ Low point
- Oval- High/ Low point
- Contours
- Special Building Overlay
- Embankment/Informal viewing area
- Netball court
- Football field
- Cricket pitch
- Baseball field
- Drainage easement
- Lighting
- Dog off-leash area
- Flying fox
- Toilets



Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan

Site Analysis - Existing Tree Character

Legend

- Subject site
- Indigenous
- Australian
- Exotic



Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan

Site Analysis - Existing Tree Health

Legend

- Subject site
- Good health
- Fair health
- Poor health
- Dead



Myrtle and Macleay Parks Master Plan

Site Analysis - Existing Tree Structure

Legend

- Subject site
- Good structure
- Fair structure
- Poor structure
- Very poor structure
- Hazardous structure

Hazardous trees are actioned for remedial pruning or removal.

Opportunities and Constraints

The “Opportunities and Constraints” section offers guidelines for the development of the Masterplan, drawing from a comprehensive background review and insights from community engagement

6.0 Issues

6.1 Access and Movement

- Vehicular access issues resulting in traffic chaos during peak usage times.
- No on-site parking or navigable road available for large buses to access the parks.
- Lack of pedestrian connections along the main Macleay Park access roadway off Belmore Road: no clearly marked pedestrian zone, no dedicated footpath beside the road, narrow road if pedestrians and cars are sharing.
- Poor wayfinding signage across the site.
- Some sections of pedestrian pathways are in poor condition with gravel areas worn out/ with water logging issues (This could be challenging particularly for people with disability).
- Unsafe conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles were observed regularly at the Belmore Road entry to the Parks. These conflicts are especially concerning during peak hours.
- Overflow car parking off Belmore Road is unsealed, has unmarked car parks and grade is not meeting accessible standards.
- 90 degree angled parking is provided along both sides of the main internal access road off Belmore Road. A particular concern is that cars must back out directly onto the road.
- Car parking adjacent to Myrtle Park is on uneven grass pavers and car parking spaces are unmarked. This car parking is accessed from Gildan street and reaches maximum capacity on Saturday mornings and cars have been observed parking on nature strips in front of residences. Potential conflict with baseball balls hitting cars.
- Pathway connecting the main roadway to the northeast corner of the site (towards the Bowls Club)- Pathway accessibility could be improved: the surface is gravel and is uneven with varied cross falls.
- Stairways to Macleay Pavilion are not compliant to Australian Standards.
- Playground topography has a steep gradient generally so access paths connecting to other areas are steep. Connecting paths have uneven surfaces and various cross-falls.
- Some drinking fountains are not universally accessible.
- Limited site information and cues.
- Dust issues due to unsealed overflow car park.
- Lack of line marking reduces the efficiency of the overflow car park.
- The pedestrian-operated signals situated on Belmore Road are in close proximity to Bernborough Avenue. However, they are significantly distant from Elliot Avenue or Monash Avenue. It is anticipated that the majority of people parking at Elliot Avenue or Monash Avenue would cross Belmore Road uncontrolled.
- Limited options within the precinct and its surrounds to increase the supply of car parking without removing public open space or recreational facilities.
- Conflicts between dog owners and organised sports activities. Unclear demarcation of dog off-leash areas between parks confusing.

6.2 Land Use and Built Form

- Some of the furniture requires updating as per the Public Realm Asset Manual (2023).
- The playground is functional with standard play equipment but does not contribute a unique character to the area.
- Myrtle Park pavilion needs an upgrade.
- Macleay Park oval 5 is uneven and slopped.
- Macleay Park Oval 3 and Myrtle Park East Ovals have average turf conditions with drainage and irrigation issues.
- Macleay Park Oval 5 and Myrtle Park West have poor turf conditions.
- Playground located relatively close to busy Belmore road and not geographically central to park activities.
- Playground has limited shading from surrounding trees.
- Inadequate passive amenities such as seating, picnic areas and shelter across the parks.
- Inadequate lighting throughout the reserve.
- Lack of toilets particularly publicly accessible toilets near the playground and netball courts.

6.3 Landscape and Environment

- Existing Melbourne Water infrastructure located on site.
- Views of residential fencing along site boundaries.
- Some tree roots impacts are visible on netball courts.
- Tree mix heavily dominated by Myrtaceae (Macleay Park 61%, Myrtle Park 81%).
- Mud and drainage issues throughout the parks.
- High compaction of soil throughout the site (high clay silt content).

7.0 Opportunities

7.1 Access and Movement

- Consider partial or full vehicular access through the site.
- Consider traffic management measures during peak times.
- Consider ‘safe’ east-west link pathway upgrade, aligned with Boroondara Cycling strategy.
- General upgrades to existing paths and links.
- Consider risk fencing near ovals where potential conflicts exist.
- Consider access opportunities from the Bowls Club corner.
- Formalise existing Macleay Park overflow car park.
- Potential to provide additional car park access/egress onto Belmore Road.
- Opportunities to enhance vehicle circulation at the end of the internal road in Macleay Park, allowing drivers to turn around without the need for reverse movement or performing a three-point turn.
- Potential to enhance pedestrian priority across the entirety of the park.
- Opportunity to reconsider dog-off lead areas.

7.2 Land Use and Built Form

- Consider risk fencing near cricket fields along the pathways.
- Adequate sporting facilities needed to provide safe and comfortable change rooms and toilet facilities for sporting clubs and organisations.
- Potential use of Balwyn High School grounds after school hours / during school holidays.
- Oval 3, if improved, could cope with higher usage.
- Turf improvements to be considered for Macleay Park Oval 3, Macleay Park oval 5 and Myrtle Park East and West ovals.
- 1st North Balwyn Scout Group Hall could be more integrated with the playground area.
- Implement designated active nodes and improved path network around the ovals to encourage social interaction and physical activity.
- Potential to create an exercise node with all ability fitness equipment suitable for everyone, regardless of age, ability, or skill level.
- Upgrade and expand playground and facilities to include nature and adventure play.
- Review furniture and provide a consistent suite throughout the reserve (including bins, seating, bike parking, drinking fountains). Increase number of seats, bins and shelters.
- Review boundary treatments (including fencing) for improved amenity outcomes in consultation with the responsible authority.
- Improve interface between Bowling Club and the Park.
- Pavilions to be improved and locations reviewed.
- Sport field orientations within ovals to be optimised where possible.
- Provide more publicly accessible toilet facilities.
- Increased lighting for evening activities. Consider sensor and solar lighting options.

7.3 Landscape and Environment

- Drainage issues could be addressed through introduction of rain gardens and other water sensitive urban design measures.
- Garden areas could be formalised for ease of maintenance.
- Add diversity to the tree mix.
- Provide for a quality greenspace and tree canopy that benefits park users and the surrounding neighbourhoods.
- Increase tree planting, to provide shade for park users and to help mitigate extreme heat events.
- Macleay Park oval 5 offers passive recreation opportunities.
- Large open space areas increase exposure of trees to wind so grouping future plantings into groves is good from a shade perspective as well as building resilience of trees.
- Potential drainage improvements could be incorporated into passive recreation areas (eg. raingardens)
- Consider new opportunities at Myrtle and Macleay Park advised by traditional owners through ongoing consultation.

Contact page

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Speak and Listen: **1300 555 727**
Free interpreting service: **9278 4002**

BOROONDARA
City of Harmony