Urban Biodiversity Strategy

BOROONDARA

2024-2034

Table of contents

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

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.

Introduction

Council developed its previous Urban Biodiversity Strategy in 2013 as a 10-year strategy to guide biodiversity protection and enhancement in Boroondara, with the target of increasing the total area managed for biodiversity from 36 to 45 hectares (ha). Throughout the life of the strategy, Council, in partnership with local friends groups, has demonstrated this commitment by proactively taking steps to improve the quality of biodiversity and habitat connectivity within the urban environment, and actively fostering greater community awareness and involvement in biodiversity projects.

At the completion of this previous strategy, Council is managing approximately 60.8 ha of land for biodiversity values, exceeding the strategy's target. In addition to incrementally exceeding yearly targets, this has largely been achieved through the transfer of sites and changes to management practices. For example, Burke Road Billabong was transferred from an existing Committee of Management (approximately 5.3 ha of biodiversity zones) and Fritsch Holzer Park garden beds, which were not identified in the previous strategy, are now managed for biodiversity (approximately 2.3 ha). These changes represent a benefit for biodiversity as it ensures the sites are managed with specialist staff with a focus on enhancing them for biodiversity benefit. While this is not new land and does not involve the transformation of grassed areas to biodiversity sites, it does involve qualitative improvements to biodiversity.

Council remains dedicated to its mission to protect and enhance biodiversity in Boroondara and has developed this current strategy to guide our approach over the next ten years.

The term biodiversity refers to the entirety of living organisms and encompasses not only the number and variety of living beings but also their genetic information, the habitats and ecosystems they inhabit, and their interconnections with other forms of life and the natural world as a whole. In most cases however, when people talk about protecting biodiversity, it is local biodiversity they are referring to. That is, the biodiversity that is native to a particular area. It is this definition of biodiversity that this strategy has been largely developed to protect and enhance. However, many plant species that are native to other areas of Australia, or even some exotic species that are not considered to be weeds, can provide resilience in the face of climate change, and still provide valuable habitat for our native wildlife and contribute to creating a greener, more sustainable city.

Despite our heavily urbanised and modified environment, Boroondara's many parks and reserves play a crucial role in supporting a diverse range of native flora and fauna. Our biodiversity helps to provide essential ecosystem services such as regulating temperature, purifying air and water, reducing the risk of flooding, and absorbing carbon dioxide, helping

to combat climate change. Our biodiversity has the potential to improve the quality of life for community members by enhancing green spaces like parks, gardens, and urban forests, which offer recreational opportunities and improve mental and physical well-being.

Our community highly value our parks and urban green spaces. In the 2021–2031 Boroondara Community Plan consultation, 69% of respondents nominated 'Your Parks and Green Spaces' as a top three priority for Council over the next 10 years, with the desire to protect green spaces and assist private land owners to retain greenery coming through as important.

Boroondara's native biodiversity faces multiple challenges, including climate change, development, weed proliferation, invasive fauna, light pollution, and domestic pets. In response to these concerns, this strategy outlines not only the threats but also identifies opportunities to enhance biodiversity. Council will deliver on these opportunities under 4 strategic objectives:

1. Protect and enhance biodiversity on public land.

2. Improve biodiversity on private land through community engagement.

3. Reduce land use and development impacts on biodiversity.

4. Ensure decision-making is based on sound knowledge and up-to-date evidence.

This strategy is supported and influenced by various legislation, policies, and strategies from across all levels of government (outlined in Appendix 1) and sets our 10-year strategic vision for biodiversity management. The strategy will be supported by Action Plans which outline specific actions to be taken over 2-year periods.

Image: *Podargus strigoides* - Tawny Frogmouth

Vision and Purpose

A sustainable urban landscape where thriving ecosystems and green corridors connect, supporting a diverse range of native flora and fauna, and where the community values biodiversity and actively seeks out opportunities to connect with, and protect nature.

This strategy details how Council intends to work towards the vision for Boroondara's biodiversity, ensuring that it is protected and enhanced, and adapts to the challenges detailed within this strategy.

The strategy is designed to guide Council in making informed decisions that prioritise the conservation and promotion of biodiversity in Boroondara and beyond.

Image: *Eucalyptus melliodora* - Yellow Box

Urban Biodiversity in Boroondara

Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung are the Traditional Custodians of Boroondara. In the Woi wurrung language of the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, Boroondara means 'where the ground is thickly shaded'. Therefore, this legacy of the word 'Boroondara' shows that this has always been a place of trees. The term 'Wurundjeri' in the Woi-wurrung language, the word 'wurun' means Manna Gum *Eucalyptus viminalis* and 'djeri' is the grub that lives with the tree. Therefore, the Wurundjeri ancestral lands are where the Manna Gum and its associated grub occur. We see Manna Gum growing along the Yarra, along with River Red Gums *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and Yellow Box *Eucalyptus melliodora*.

Boroondara is situated at the junction of the Gippsland Plain and the Victorian Volcanic Plain bioregions, and predominantly exhibits flat terrains with few hills and fertile soils, making it suitable for diverse agricultural uses. This has led to the transformation of land for farming and urban expansion since European settlement, resulting in a notable reduction in native vegetation. Despite the extensive clearing of vegetation that has occurred since European settlement, Boroondara harbors pockets of remnant vegetation and restored habitats that hold value for biodiversity conservation.

These are mainly found along Boroondara’s biodiversity corridors that create a network of green spaces to facilitate the dispersal of fauna throughout the municipality (refer to Figure 1). By linking parks, reserves and waterways, biodiversity corridors play a pivotal role in supporting the movement of plants and animals, promoting genetic diversity, and enabling the survival of various species.

Boroondara has approximately 260 open space reserves covering approximately 613 ha of land (equating to 10.2% of the municipality). Of this, approximately 60.8 ha is currently managed for biodiversity values. In addition, public golf courses cover 26 ha and private golf courses add another 106 ha of restricted open space within the municipality.

Figure 1. Map of Boroondara's Biodiversity Corridors

BOROONDARA

Key to significant sites

1. Winfield Road Reserve, Balwyn North
2. Koonung Creek Reserve, Balwyn North
3. Koonung Creek East of Bulleen Road, Balwyn North
4. Freeway Golf Course, Balwyn North and Bulleen
5. Yarra Flats, Balwyn North
6. Burke Road Billabong, Kew East
7. Kew Golf Club
8. Greenacres Golf Course, Kew East
9. Willsmere Park, Kew East
10. Chandler Park, Kew
11. Yarra Bend Park, Kew
12. River Retreat Reserve, Kew
13. Victoria Bridge Escarpment, Kew and Hawthorn
14. Pridmore Park Riverbank, Hawthorn
15. Yarra Bank Reserve, Hawthorn
16. Riverbank, Fairview Park Area, Hawthorn
17. Scotch College, Hawthorn
18. Yarra River, Hawthorn and Kew
19. Gardiners Creek Corridor
20. Burke Road South Reserve, Glen Iris
21. Nettleton Park Reserve, Glen Iris
22. Eric Raven Reserve, Glen Iris
23. Dorothy Laver Reserve, Glen Iris
24. Ryburne Avenue Reserve and Neighbouring Tree
25. Clifford Close Reserve, Ashburton
26. Markham Reserve, Ashburton
27. South Surrey Park, Surrey Hills
28. Back Creek – Riversdale Roadd to Cornell Street
29. Back Creek – Toorak Road to Denman Avenue, Camberwell
30. Rail Reserve – Burwood Station to Alamein Station
31. Outer Circle Railway Corridor
32. Outer Circle Linear Park at Asquith Street, Kew
33. Stradbroke Park, Kew East
34. Kew High School Woodland
35. Hays Paddock, Kew East
36. Kilby Park Stud, Kew East
37. Victoria Park, Kew (72 River Red Gums some centuries old)
38. Boroondara General Cemetery, Kew
39. Kew Residential Services Redevelopment
40. Willsmere Estate, Kew
41. River Red Gum at 83 Walpole Street, Kew
42. River Red Gum at 10-12 Gellibrand Street, Kew
43. Xavier College, Kew
44. Kellett Reserve, Kew
45. Hilda Crescent, Hawthorn
46. Grace Park's Yellow Gums, Hawthorn
47. Lennox Street Rail Reserve, Hawthorn
48. St James Park, Hawthorn
49. John Gardiner Reserve, Hawthorn East
50. Cato Park, Hawthorn East
51. Canterbury Gardens' River Red Gum, Canterbury
52. John August Reserve, Balwyn
53. Beckett Park, Balwyn
54. Maranoa Gardens, Balwyn
55. Belmont Park, Canterbury
56. Deepdene Park's River Red Gums, Balwyn
57. Bundy Tree on Belmore Road, Balwyn North
58. Leigh Park, Balwyn North (no sig rating)

Biodiversity Corridors

Yarra River Corridor

The Yarra River Corridor is the most significant biodiversity corridor in Boroondara, boasting an extensive and nearly uninterrupted stretch of vegetation from Yarra Bend Park to the Freeway Golf Course. The Yarra River and its surrounding open spaces serve as a vital corridor, facilitating the dispersal of wildlife, including flying, terrestrial, and aquatic species. Moreover, it supports the dispersal of pollen, seeds, and other propagules of indigenous flora.

Within this corridor, there are ten sites of national significance, highlighting its significant biological value. The river and its billabongs provide habitat for several threatened fish species including Murray Cod *Maccullochella peelii,* Australian Grayling *Prototroctes maraena*, and Macquarie Perch *Macquaria australasica* that rely on the Yarra River for their essential migratory patterns. Other notable species that have been observed in this corridor include the Platypus *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*, Rakali *Hydromys chrysogaster*, Common wombat *Vombatus ursinus*, Grey-headed Flying Fox *Pteropus poliocephalus*, and various microbat species.

The riparian habitat of the river offers nesting and foraging sites for numerous threatened bird species, including the Azure Kingfisher *Alcedo azurea*, Nankeen Night Heron *Nycticorax caledonicus*, and Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus*. The reeds and vegetation along the riverbanks are home to Gippsland Water Dragons *Intellagama lesueurii*, snakes, and skinks.

Creek Corridors

Gardiners Creek

Gardiners Creek, running along Boroondara's south-western boundary, forms a natural biodiversity corridor. Despite modifications and water quality issues, it sustains a diverse range of native flora and fauna, including several native fish species such as Common Galaxias *Galaxias maculatus*, and Flathead Gudgeon *Philypnodon grandiceps*.

Council's Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan 2022-2032 presently informs the management of this corridor. Additionally, the Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Regional Collaboration, initiated in 2021, forms a coalition of various organisations and groups, including Council. This coalition is primarily dedicated to working together to safeguard and improve the Gardiners Creek catchment area.

Back Creek

The Back Creek corridor links with the Gardiners Creek corridor as well as linear and stepping stone corridors. It provides habitat for a diverse range of fauna, including bird species such as the Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla*, Eastern Rosella *Platycercus eximius*, Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus,* and Musk Lorikeet *Glossopsitta concinna*, and frog species such as the Eastern Banjo Frog *Limnodynastes dumerilii*.

Image: *Limnodynastes dumerilii* - Eastern Banjo frog

Koonung Creek

Koonung Creek, which joins the Yarra River at the Freeway Golf Course, has been partially converted into underground barrel drains. In areas where the creek remains visible above ground, these stretches serve as crucial wildlife habitats. In areas where the creek flows underground, the network of interconnected open spaces preserves corridor connectivity. The engineered wetlands within the Koonung Creek Reserve, positioned along this corridor, play a crucial role in supporting a diverse array of fauna including the Eastern snake-necked turtle *Chelodina longicollis,* and Australasian Swamphen *Porphyrio melanotus*.

Koonung Creek Reserve will be impacted by the widening of the Eastern Freeway for the Victorian Government's North East Link, losing up to 7 ha of land. This will negatively impact the biodiversity in the reserve, and although some reinstatement will occur, a significant amount of vegetation will still be lost. Council will work to ensure the best possible outcomes for the reserve.

Linear Corridors

Despite the absence of an uninterrupted canopy and sparse mid and understory vegetation, the linear corridors play a pivotal role as habitats for a diverse range of fauna, providing essential support for bats, birds, arboreal mammals, and invertebrates. The strengthening of these corridors will provide even further benefits to local fauna.

Stepping Stone Corridors

Through the strategic selection of stepping stone corridors and designated encouragement areas, a deliberate effort is underway to establish connections between natural spaces. These corridors have the potential to link the Yarra River, creek corridors, linear corridors, reserves, and neighbouring natural areas.

The creation of functional pathways to facilitate fauna dispersal within residential zones hinges upon a cooperative approach with the community. Council has outlined 48 Biodiversity Encouragement Areas, and actively fosters engagement with residents situated in these areas. This engagement encourages their participation in the Backyard Biodiversity project, an initiative aimed at increasing native vegetation on privately owned properties.

Flora and Fauna

Boroondara boasts a wealth of biodiversity, hosting 899 species of flora and fauna, 525 (58%) of which are indigenous. Table 1 provides a representation of the diversity of flora and fauna present within Boroondara. It highlights the vast array of life forms found in Boroondara and underscores the importance of ongoing efforts to protect and conserve urban biodiversity.

Table 1. Number of Flora and Fauna species recorded in Boroondara[1].

	Total	Indigenous	Non-indigenous native	Exotic	Listed[2]
FLORA	622	284 (46%)	26	312	9 (<2%)
FAUNA	277	241 (87%)	6	30	23 (8%)
Birds	158	145	0	13	15
Fish	28	15	4	9	5
Mammals	17	11	0	6	2
Invertebrates	50	47	0	3	0
Reptiles	12	12	0	0	0
Amphibians	12	11	1	0	1
TOTAL	899	525 (58%)	31	342	32 (<4%)

[1] The figures in the table represent records within the Victorian Biodiversity atlas since 1990, which may underestimate the actual number of species in Boroondara within certain taxon. This is especially true for invertebrates, which make up approximately 75% of fauna species globally, while only contributing to 18% of recorded fauna species in Boroondara.

[2] These figures represent species listed under the *FFG Act* and *EPBC Act* and includes threatened and migratory species.

Ecological Vegetation Classes

Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) serve as categorisations of plant communities based on shared environmental conditions, encompassing factors such as floristic composition, vegetation structure, landform, soil type, and climate.

Only a limited portion of Boroondara's land encompasses native vegetation still representative of EVCs, with those remaining in Boroondara including:

- Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)
- Swamp Scrub (EVC 53)
- Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
- Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
- Box Ironbark Forest (EVC 61)
- Creekline Grassy Woodland (EVC 68)
- Swampy Riparian Complex (EVC 126)
- Creekline Herb-rich Woodland (EVC 164)
- Floodplain Wetland Complex (EVC 172)

- Grassy Woodland (EVC 175)
- Aquatic Sedgeland (EVC 308)
- Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
- Aquatic Herbland (EVC 653)
- Tall Marsh (EVC 821)
- Escarpment Shrubland (EVC 895)
- Wet Verge Sedgeland (EVC 932)

Information about the species composition of these EVCs and their location in Boroondara can be found in Appendix 2 (The *Biodiversity Sites Plan*).

Community Engagement with Biodiversity

We are fortunate to have 10 friends groups in Boroondara, all working hard alongside Council to protect and enhance our native biodiversity. The efforts of these groups have resulted in the restoration of many sites and the return of birds and other fauna. Friends group members undertake a variety of important tasks such as planting, watering, pruning, weed removal, mulching, wildlife monitoring, and helping to engage the community through organised events at biodiversity sites.

Council runs a number of biodiversity education and engagement programs to help grow community interest in biodiversity protection and enhancement. Such programs include our award-winning Backyard Biodiversity project, which takes participants through a series of workshops to learn how to create safe havens for native animals and includes landscape gardening advice and free native plants. We also engage the community in a range of citizen science opportunities, which strengthens participants' connection to nature while collecting valuable data on our biodiversity.

Image: *Petaurus notatus* - Krefft's Glider

Biodiversity Sites Plan

The Biodiversity Sites Plan is designed to assist in the maintenance, management, financial and resource planning of biodiversity and revegetation sites and corridors within the municipality. It establishes a detailed baseline of the extent of Council's biodiversity sites and details up to 25 ha of potential future Council managed assets that can be managed for biodiversity values without negatively impacting on other open space uses.

It provides a 10-year framework for improving the condition and connectivity of areas currently managed for biodiversity (53 sites), as well as a strategy for creating new zones at existing biodiversity sites and selected new sites at a rate of one ha per year for the next 10 years. It is included in this strategy as Appendix 2.

Challenges for Urban Biodiversity Conservation

Climate Change

Climate change presents threats to urban biodiversity in Boroondara, particularly as South-east Australia is projected to experience a warmer and drier climate, along with more frequent and extreme weather events. These climatic changes are expected to lead to increased flooding, damage to waterways, and reduced vegetation health during prolonged periods of drought. Moreover, the altered climate may disrupt the timing and distribution of natural events, such as flowering and breeding, disturbing the delicate balance of urban ecosystems. Smaller and isolated biodiversity sites within the municipality face elevated risks due to limited genetic diversity and potential inbreeding in flora and fauna populations. As climate change intensifies, ecosystems become more vulnerable and these effects are likely to compound existing threats to biodiversity conservation.

Responding to climate change is recognised as important to consider across all actions undertaken to protect and enhance biodiversity.

Managing Biodiversity on Private Land

Urbanisation in Boroondara presents distinctive challenges in managing biodiversity on private land. The autonomy and rights of landowners can lead to inconsistent land management practices, hindering cohesive conservation efforts. Moreover, a lack of awareness and understanding of urban biodiversity among private landowners further complicates preservation initiatives. Additionally, the fragmented nature of private land ownership makes it difficult to implement comprehensive and coordinated conservation strategies across larger landscapes. The further development of relationships with private landholders is important as numerous ecologically significant sites and land along biodiversity corridors fall under private ownership.

Community Perception

Differing views on the value of biodiversity can impede efforts to gain widespread support for urban biodiversity initiatives. When urban biodiversity is not recognised as valuable or essential, preservation efforts may lack the necessary enthusiasm and commitment. By promoting a deeper understanding and appreciation of the importance of urban biodiversity, Council can foster stronger support for its conservation and create a more sustainable urban environment.

Development

Development can have detrimental effects on the environment, both during construction and after completion. These impacts encompass vegetation clearing, loss of canopy trees on private land, damage to trees on public land, runoff from construction sites contributing to water pollution, erosion of surrounding landscapes, improper dumping of construction waste, and utilisation of public land and reserves for construction access. There is a need to strengthen regulations related to vegetation protection to reduce the loss of biodiversity as a result of development.

An example of development impacting on biodiversity is the widening of the Eastern Freeway for the Victorian Government's North East Link. This project will acquire up to 7 hectares (equivalent to 25%) of the Koonung Creek Reserve. Council is advocating to the North East Link Program (NELP) to guarantee the best possible outcomes for biodiversity restoration. We have developed a Tree Canopy Replacement Plan, which will guide the replacement of trees that will be removed from Boroondara as a result of NELP. We have also developed the Koonung Creek Reserve master plan which will guide the replacement of native vegetation and amenity plantings removed from the reserve by the NELP.

Weeds

Weedy species, both invasive and native, pose a significant threat to biodiversity in Boroondara. They can outcompete indigenous plants, reducing their population and diversity. Rapid growth and reproduction allow them to form dense monocultures, disrupting urban ecosystems by altering habitats and reducing food for native fauna. Weedy species may not offer the same ecological benefits as indigenous plants, further impacting native fauna diversity and weakening the resilience of urban ecosystems. Weed management is an important and ongoing action for this strategy.

Council uses a variety of methods to manage weeds including the use of herbicides, and in sensitive areas such as playgrounds, mechanical methods (like hand weeding).

Until the end of November 2024, Council is trialling weed management practices that don't use the herbicide glyphosate along Gardiners Creek. Council is also undertaking several strategies to reduce the use of all herbicides. These include an increased mulching and planting regime, steam treatments in sensitive areas, increased service levels and higher dilution rates.

Degrading Waterways

Urbanisation poses a significant threat to waterway health in Boroondara. The replacement of green spaces with buildings and hard landscaping disrupts the flow of stormwater, carrying litter, nutrients, and pollutants into creeks, causing fluctuations in water flow and leading to erosion and degradation of aquatic and riparian habitats.

Consequently, the water quality in Boroondara's rivers and creeks has been reported as poor. This issue extends beyond the local level since Boroondara is part of the Yarra catchment, meaning that pollution levels in local waterways are influenced by actions occurring upstream, and water quality downstream in the Yarra River and Port Phillip Bay is impacted by activity in Boroondara.

The Integrated Water Management Strategy is Council's primary strategy for waterway improvement, however the Urban Biodiversity Strategy recognises the importance of riparian vegetation maintenance and enhancement to waterway health. The Biodiversity Sites Plan (Appendix 2) sets out how riparian zones will be managed for biodiversity benefit.

Invasive Fauna

Urban biodiversity in Boroondara faces a challenge posed by invasive fauna. These non-native species disrupt the delicate balance of the local ecosystem, creating detrimental impacts on urban biodiversity. Invasive fauna species recorded in Boroondara include foxes, rabbits, and the Common Myna, and recognising the scale and consequences of their presence is vital for implementing effective management and conservation strategies. Collaboration with other councils and land managers will be important in addressing invasive fauna, and the Eastern Region Pest Animal Strategy will be important in determining appropriate management pathways.

Native Pests

Native species, while integral to ecosystems, can also detrimentally impact biodiversity in urban environments when they become overabundant. Managing native pest species poses challenges due to the absence of direct control options as native wildlife is protected in Victoria. In Boroondara, the Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala* and Common Brush-tailed Possum *Trichosurus vulpecula* are sometimes considered native pests. The Noisy Miner's dominant behaviour can displace other native bird species, necessitating strategies to discourage their proliferation. The Common Brush-tailed Possum can damage vegetation through over-browsing and competes with other native wildlife, primarily in residential areas rather than biodiversity reserves.

Domestic Pets

Domestic dogs and cats exert a significant impact on biodiversity. Off-leash dogs in natural areas disturb wildlife, affecting their behaviour, habitat use, and breeding. Additionally, the roaming and hunting behaviours of both stray and registered cats pose a threat to native birds, small mammals, and reptiles, disrupting ecological balance and reducing native wildlife populations. Investigating the implementation of interventions to lessen the impacts of domestic pets on our wildlife is an important action.

Myrtle Rust and Phytophthora

Myrtle Rust and *Phytophthora* are pathogens that significantly impact urban biodiversity. Myrtle rust affects plants in the family Myrtaceae, leading to defoliation and death. The water mould *Phytophthora* (*cinnamomi* and other species) includes root, foliage disease and damage. Overall outcomes include loss of susceptible species, reducing plant diversity and favouring invasives. These pathogens disrupt ecosystems, endanger native plants, and alter ecological dynamics. Although not currently a major issue in Boroondara, it is important that Council remains vigilant and has processes in place to manage this issue as needed.

Canopy Dieback

Canopy dieback observed in large old trees, particularly River Red-gum *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, stems from a combination of factors. These include drought stress, excessive grazing by possums, and the impact of leaf-feeding insects. An additional important cause is the decrease in populations of small insect-eating birds which help prevent die back by feeding on lerps that suck the sap out of leaves, which can result in the discoloration of leaves, leading to them eventually dying and falling off.

The reduced presence of these birds can be attributed to their displacement by more dominant species, such as the Noisy Miner *Manorina melanocephala*. This displacement is closely related to the vegetation structure in urban environments, specifically the scarcity of suitable shrubby understorey areas that serve as vital havens for the smaller bird species. The creation of more understorey habitat where feasible needs to be a focus at reserves across Boroondara.

Light Pollution

Artificial light sources in urban settings exert a significant influence on the natural behaviour of various fauna species. Nocturnal fauna are dependent on darkness for essential activities like navigation, feeding, and reproduction. Unfortunately, light pollution disrupts their biological rhythms, leading to disorientation, reduced efficiency in foraging, and altered migration patterns. There is a need to ensure that wildlife friendly lighting principles are considered in the development of all Council lighting projects.

Targets and Strategic Objectives

The 4 strategic objectives from the previous Urban Biodiversity Strategy will again help deliver Council's vision for urban biodiversity over the next 10 years. They are:

1. Protect and enhance biodiversity on public land.
2. Improve biodiversity on private land through community engagement.
3. Reduce land use and development impacts on biodiversity.
4. Ensure decision-making is based on sound knowledge and up-to-date evidence.

While considerable progress has been made in accomplishing the actions contained in the earlier strategy, similar challenges to urban biodiversity endure, highlighting the continued relevance of the previous strategy's objectives.

The strategy also includes 2 targets:

1. Increase the area of land managed for biodiversity by one hectare per year.
2. Residents and schools plant 5,000 new native plants per year.

These targets are consistent with the adopted targets in Council's Climate Action Plan. Please note that approximately 60.8 ha of land is currently managed for biodiversity and that losses of up to 7 ha at Koonung Creek Reserve are anticipated due to the widening of the Eastern Freeway for the Victorian Government's North East Link. Council's target is to bring additional land under biodiversity management at a rate of one ha per year, and although Council is advocating to the North East Link Program (NELP) to guarantee the best possible outcomes for biodiversity restoration, the overall increase in land managed for biodiversity over the 10 year life of the strategy is likely to be less than 10 ha. Considering the predicted losses due to NELP, Council will seek opportunities to exceed the one hectare a year target if feasible.

Objective 1: Protect and enhance biodiversity on public land

Enhancing biodiversity on public land involves protecting remnant vegetation and restoring native habitats that may have been degraded over time, to create environments for native wildlife, including pollinators, to thrive. This includes managing weeds.

Through restoration and enhancement initiatives, Council can contribute to the preservation and restoration of diverse urban ecosystems, making them more resilient to challenges and disturbance, including climate change.

Strategic Actions

1.1	Progressively implement the Biodiversity Sites Plan to improve the habitat condition of remnant vegetation and existing areas under biodiversity management.
1.2	Progressively extend revegetation to improve connectivity between biodiversity sites and along corridors as set out in the Biodiversity Sites Plan.
1.3	Ensure continued focus on the establishment of mid and understory vegetation to support populations of small insect-eating birds.
1.4	Respond to existing issues (e.g. climate change, pest animals, significant weeds, lighting, domestic pets) and emerging threats (e.g. Myrtle Rust and Phytophthora) to native flora and fauna.
1.5	Protect our waterways as natural landscapes and for their ecological values.
1.6	Use streetscapes to support native flora and fauna, including promoting the use of nature strips to enhance biodiversity and habitat for pollinators.
1.7	Ensure a diverse range of climate-ready species are planted.
1.8	Undertake habitat restoration, including the installation of artificial nesting sites, to provide improved habitat for a range of hollow dependent species at appropriate locations.

1.9	Seek engagement with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Corporation (such as the Narrup team) and other Aboriginal groups in revegetation projects.
1.10	Continue to work with other public land managers (Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, VicTrack) to enhance habitat condition and connectivity across the municipality. Advocate for these State Government agencies to actively increase area managed for biodiversity to offset the areas lost as a direct result of State Government projects.

Image: Before and after photos of revegetation at Clifford Close Reserve. After image taken in August 2024.

Objective 2: Improve biodiversity on private land through community engagement

This objective is centred on continuing to build community support for the protection and enhancement of biodiversity through inspiring and empowering active participation in Council's biodiversity programs.

Through education and engagement programs, Council aims to create accessible opportunities for residents to engage with nature. Through nature-based activities, citizen science programs, wildlife gardening programs, and hands-on conservation opportunities, individuals can experience biodiversity firsthand, fostering a deeper connection with their environment.

Collaborative partnerships with community groups, schools, businesses, and organisations are essential to achieving this objective. By uniting efforts and sharing knowledge, Council can foster collective strengths and resources to implement conservation projects.

Strategic Actions

2.1	Promote and deliver community education projects and activities that encourage positive behaviours and values towards biodiversity conservation.
2.2	Encourage and incentivise native restoration, revegetation, and gardening across the municipality (including on nature strips).
2.3	Maintain (and expand as necessary) educational signage at strategic sites to promote key biodiversity messages and support management objectives.
2.4	Work with friends groups and other community organisations that contribute to biodiversity conservation locally.
2.5	Provide the community with a range of citizen science opportunities to increase their knowledge of and connection to nature and contribute valuable data about biodiversity in Boroondara.
2.6	Engage with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Corporation to provide education and engagement opportunities to the community with an indigenous focus.

Objective 3: Reduce land use and development impacts on biodiversity

This objective acknowledges the impacts of land use and development on urban biodiversity and seeks to develop strategic actions to protect and preserve biodiversity on private land.

Several sites of significance and land along biodiversity corridors are private land that is not controlled by Council. Collaboration with these landowners offers valuable opportunities to preserve and enhance urban biodiversity in Boroondara and beyond.

An opportunity lies in supporting urban biodiversity through a review and amendment of the Boroondara Planning Scheme. With development posing challenges to biodiversity conservation, strengthening regulations and powers related to vegetation protection can help address issues including vegetation loss and fragmentation. This proactive step would allow Council to prioritise environmental values, expand canopy cover, protect biodiversity corridors and sites of significance, and promote sustainable construction practices.

Strategic Actions

3.1	Encourage private landowners with significant habitat (e.g. golf clubs) to protect, manage and enhance habitat.
3.2	Strengthen biodiversity protection through the Boroondara Planning Scheme where possible.
3.3	Investigate the purchase, sub-division and re-selling of land adjacent to river corridors to support better biodiversity access and management. Where this land would be of regional benefit Council will advocate to the State Government for them to purchase.

Objective 4: Ensure decision-making is based on sound knowledge and up- to-date evidence

This objective aims to ensure that all decisions and actions related to biodiversity are grounded in reliable knowledge and up-to-date evidence. Recognising the importance of making informed choices in the management of urban biodiversity, Council strives to adopt a rigorous and scientific approach to biodiversity conservation.

The primary focus of this objective is on embracing adaptive management principles and fostering a culture of continuous improvement through consistent monitoring and evaluation. Through ongoing ecological data collection and monitoring, Council can gain valuable insights into the changes in Boroondara's biodiversity over time and refine its strategies in response to emerging challenges (for example climate change) and opportunities.

By sharing knowledge and best practices, stakeholders can align their conservation strategies, creating a cohesive network of protected areas and biodiversity corridors. This collaborative approach enhances the effectiveness of conservation efforts and supports the long-term viability of urban biodiversity.

Strategic Actions

4.1	Support the technical knowledge and capacity of staff, contractors, and friends group volunteers.
4.2	Participate in knowledge sharing with other councils and expert bodies. For example, through participation in groups such as the Yarra Collaboration Committee and Gardiners Creek (KooyongKoot) Regional Collaboration, and collaboration with the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Cultural Heritage Corporation.
4.3	Undertake regular monitoring of biodiversity sites.
4.4	Review and update key guiding documents to address remaining gaps in knowledge and data.
4.5	Incorporate biodiversity considerations into key Council documents as appropriate.
4.6	Contribute data to relevant state and national biodiversity inventories.

Consultation

This strategy was shaped by a thorough literature review of online resources and a series of engagement workshops involving Council officers, local friends groups, and various stakeholders. These efforts led to the identification of several challenges concerning urban biodiversity conservation within Boroondara, as well as opportunities to address the identified challenges.

Public consultation took place in May and June 2024. Feedback received from 102 community members was overwhelming positive, with 95% of survey respondents supporting the strategy's vison. There was also strong support for all 4 of the strategy's objectives. Minor amendments were made to both the strategy and action plan based on the feedback.

Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation

The Urban Biodiversity Strategy has been prepared with a vision for the future and a set of long-term strategic objectives to be implemented over a 10-year period.

A separate 2-year Action Plan outlines specific actions to be undertaken and supports the implementation of the strategy. The Action Plan will be reviewed and refreshed after each 2-year period. Council's internal corporate reporting system will be used to monitor the implementation of the strategy's actions. The progression and completion of actions will be monitored annually throughout the life of the strategy.

Image: *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* - River Red Gum

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Strategic Context

A selection of relevant plans, strategies and documents are outlined below.

Federal

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

The EPBC Act protects matters of National Environmental Significance. Under the EPBC Act, actions that are likely to have a significant impact on a matter of National Environmental Significance must be referred to the Commonwealth and are subject to a detailed assessment and approval process.

The Act identifies seven matters of national environmental significance including: World Heritage properties, National heritage places, Wetlands of international importance, threatened species and ecological communities, Migratory species, Commonwealth marine areas and nuclear actions (including uranium mining).

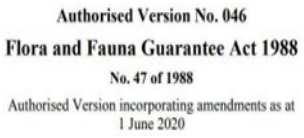
Potential EPBC matters within Boroondara are likely to be limited to any proposal that impacts habitat of a listed threatened species.

Australia's Strategy for Nature (2019-2030)

Australia's Strategy for Nature 2019-2030 is the overarching framework for all national, state and territory and local strategies, legislation, policies and actions that target nature. The strategy sets out three goals, all of which align with the objectives of the Urban Biodiversity Strategy: Connect all Australians with nature, Care for nature in all its diversity and share and build knowledge

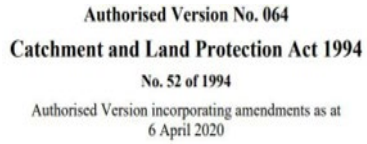
State

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG Act)


Authorised Version No. 046
Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988
No. 47 of 1988
Authorised Version incorporating amendments as at
1 June 2020

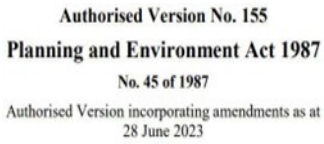
The FFG Act is the primary piece of Victorian legislation that provides for the conservation of biodiversity and the management of associated potentially threatening processes. The FFG Act provides a listing of taxa, threatened communities, and threatening process and how these must be managed. This legal framework guides our approach to identifying and protecting threatened species.

Catchment and Land Management Act 1994 (CaLP Act)


Authorised Version No. 064
Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994
No. 52 of 1994
Authorised Version incorporating amendments as at
6 April 2020

The CaLP Act serves as the primary legislation in Victoria that governs the management of invasive plants and animals. Under this Act, all landowners and land managers are required to manage declared noxious weeds and pest animals on their land. The Urban Biodiversity Strategy outlines threats posed by weeds and pest animals and resolves to manage their negative impacts.

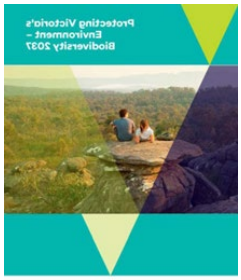
Planning and Environment Act 1987


Authorised Version No. 155
Planning and Environment Act 1987
No. 45 of 1987
Authorised Version incorporating amendments as at
28 June 2023

The Planning and Environment Act 1987 defines a framework for urban planning and the use and development of land in Victoria. The Boroondara Planning Scheme is the local expression of this Act. It provides a legal framework that allows for the integration of biodiversity conservation measures into urban planning and development decisions.

The Urban Biodiversity Strategy recognises the threats posed to biodiversity from development and proposes approaches to further integrate biodiversity conservation measures into planning decisions.

Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037



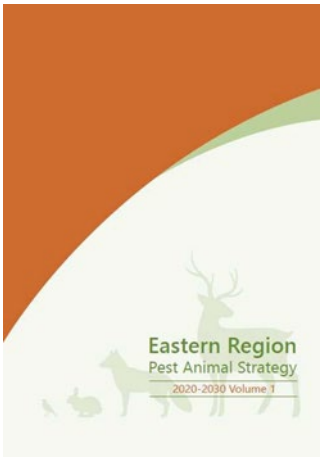
Biodiversity 2037 outlines a long-term approach to the conservation and management of biodiversity within the state. It sets goals and strategies for safeguarding native flora, fauna, and ecosystems, promoting habitat restoration, enhancing ecological resilience, and engaging communities in biodiversity conservation efforts. These all align with the objectives of the Urban Biodiversity Strategy.

Regional

Burndap Birrarung burdap umarkoo, Yarra Strategic Plan (2022-2032)

Burndap Birrarung burndap umarkoo, Yarra Strategic Plan (2022–2032) is a ten-year plan for the sustainable management and enhancement of the Yarra River and its surroundings in Melbourne. Through integrating ecological restoration, cultural heritage preservation, and community engagement, the plan aims to improve the river's health, accessibility, and significance.

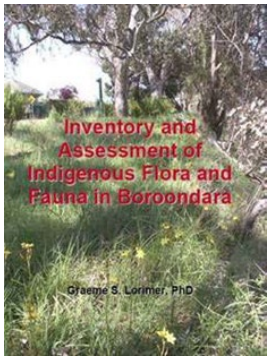
Eastern Region Pest Animal Management Strategy 2020-2030



The Eastern Region Pest Animal Strategy provides a regional framework for vertebrate pest animal management in the Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne Region. Recognising that effective, long-term pest animal management requires cooperation from most land managers in an area, it articulates agreed pest animal management principles and overarching objectives for regional pest management. The Urban Biodiversity Strategy recognises the threat pest animals pose to biodiversity and identifies the relevance of the Eastern Region Pest Animal Strategy in determining appropriate management pathways.

Council

Inventory and Assessment of Indigenous Flora and Fauna in Boroondara (2006)

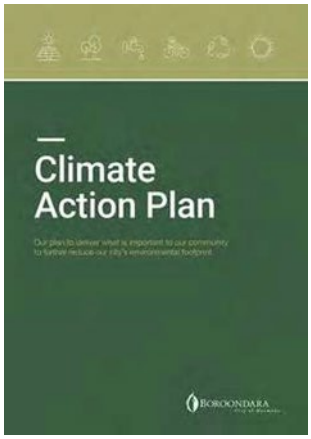


The document includes an assessment of 58 sites and details the vegetation condition and habitat quality, species present, level of significance, potential as a source of propagation material, threats and priorities for protection and management. The inventory has been instrumental to the success of the previous strategy and future updates will be important. The Urban Biodiversity Strategy highlights the importance of updating key guiding documents to ensure decision-making is based on sound knowledge and up-to-date evidence.

Biodiversity Corridors Plan (2004)

Council's Biodiversity Corridors Plan assessed fauna dispersal potential within the municipality and neighbouring Local Government Areas. This plan identifies existing corridors facilitating fauna dispersal in Boroondara and highlights the need to enhance specific areas to improve habitat connectivity throughout the municipality. The goals of this plan are still relevant in today's context, and the Urban Biodiversity Strategy highlights the importance of continued investment in strengthening the biodiversity corridors in Boroondara.

Climate Action Plan (2021)



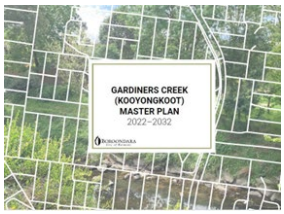
Council's Climate Action Plan acknowledges the significant threat posed by climate change to the environment, human well-being, and the quality of life for present and future generations. Under the theme of 'Biodiversity and trees', the plan and associated implementation plan outlines a range of actions to enhance and protect Boroondara's biodiversity in response to climate change impacts. It also sets out targets for 2030:

- Hectares of land managed for biodiversity increases from 51 to 61
- Residents and schools plant 50,000 new indigenous plants including 10,000 trees

Integrated Water Management Strategy 2012

Council's Integrated Water Management Strategy recognises that water is vital for life and provides for the daily needs of our community as well as our natural environment. It sets out a vision of a '… a healthy, green and resilient city … where a diversity of water sources is available so that the right quality of water is available when and where it is required … contributing to healthier waterways and open spaces for greater community well-being.'

Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan 2022-2032



The Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot) Master Plan (2022-23) was created to enhance the green corridor encompassing Gardiners Creek and its catchment, including Back Creek and spanning the suburbs of Hawthorn, Hawthorn East, Glen Iris, Ashburton, Camberwell, and Canterbury. The master plan's core aim is to boost the creek's overall health, with a focus on acknowledging the traditional owners' role. The City of Boroondara and the City of Stonnington collaborated to develop the plan, aligning efforts to address issues negatively impacting the river catchment.

Boroondara Community Plan 2021–2031

The Boroondara Community Plan is structured around seven themes that represent what our community want us to focus on over the next 10 years. The Urban Biodiversity Strategy aligns with the Boroondara Community Plan across most themes, with the most significant linkages being:

- Community, Services and Facilities – Strategy 1.1. Neighbourhoods and community spaces facilitate social connections and belonging.
- Community, Services and Facilities – Strategy 1.2. Health and wellbeing are improved.
- Parks and Green Spaces – Strategy 2.2. Our sustainable urban forest is preserved and increased.
- Parks and Green Spaces – Strategy 2.4. Green spaces are maintained and increased.
- The Environment – Strategy 3.4. Trees and vegetation on private land are valued.
- The Environment – Strategy 3.5. Our leafy streetscapes are maintained and improved.
- The Environment – Strategy 3.6. Our biodiversity is conserved and maintained.
- Neighbourhood Character and Heritage – Strategy 4.4. New development positively contributes to amenity and liveability.
- Neighbourhood Character and Heritage – Strategy 4.5 Better development outcomes are achieved.
- Leadership and Governance – Strategy 7.8 - Celebrate and recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, knowledge and heritage.

The Urban Biodiversity Strategy will also support us to deliver on the health priorities which form a significant part of our Health and Wellbeing Plan. These priorities include 'improving mental wellbeing and social connection', 'tackling climate change and its impacts on health', and 'increasing active living'.

Appendix 2 - Biodiversity Sites Plan

Biodiversity Sites Plan 2024-2034

Introduction

This Biodiversity Sites Plan supports the Urban Biodiversity Strategy 2024-2034 and is designed to assist in the maintenance, management, financial and resource planning of biodiversity and revegetation sites and corridors within Boroondara. The key objectives in maintaining and protecting biodiversity in Boroondara, as outlined in the Urban Biodiversity Strategy are:

1. Protect and enhance biodiversity on public land.

2. Improve biodiversity on private land through community engagement.

3. Reduce land use and development impacts on biodiversity.

4. Ensure decision-making is based on sound knowledge and up-to-date evidence.

This Plan includes maps of all current and potential future Council managed biodiversity assets in order to protect and manage them into the future. Up to 25 hectares (ha) of potential future biodiversity zones are detailed in this Plan. In line with the Urban Biodiversity Strategy 2024-2034 the Plan includes the prioritisation of 10 ha of future land to be managed for biodiversity values between 2024 and 2034.

Methodology

The Plan was developed using a combination of desktop analysis, staff knowledge and continuous proofing on-site where required. The extent overlays are indicative only and should always be confirmed on-site. Council funding approval is required for all work programs identified in the plan, and the timing and scope of the works may differ from that shown in this plan.

Ecological Vegetation Classes

To assess, protect, restore, or revegetate biodiversity sites and corridors it is important to understand the representative Ecological Vegetation Class. Ecological Vegetation Classes (EVCs) are communities of co-occurring plant species particular to individual environments. In Boroondara, the most widespread community is Plains Grassy Woodland which was found growing on the grassy undulations across the majority of Boroondara. EVCs found in Boroondara are as follows:

Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)

Plains Grassy Woodland is a pure or near-pure stand of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gum) (20% cover) with a few sparse shrubs and a species-rich grass and herbaceous understorey. In Boroondara, Plains Grassy Woodland is found in most areas except for ridge tops and alluvial valleys and floodplains. Plains Grassy Woodland has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)

Floodplain Riparian Woodland is an open Eucalypt woodland extending from a waterway. It is generally characterised by an open canopy of *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gum) with an abundant mid storey of *Melicytus dentatus* (Tree Violet) and a ground layer of aquatic herbs and sedges. In Boroondara, Floodplain Riparian Woodland is in broad plains along the Yarra River. Floodplain Riparian Woodland has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Grassy Woodland (EVC 175)

Grassy Woodland is characterised by an open canopy of *Eucalyptus melliodora* (Yellow Box), *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* and sometimes *Eucalyptus viminalis* (Manna Gum). Understorey trees include *Acacia melanoxylon, A.mearnsii* and may include Allocasuarina. It generally has a sparse shrub layer and a diverse ground layer of grasses and herbs. In Boroondara, Grassy Woodland is located on ridge tops. Grassy Woodland has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)

Riparian Woodland is characterised by a canopy dominated by *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (River Red Gum) accompanied by tall *Acacia dealbata* (Silver Wattle). It may also feature *E. viminalis* and *E. ovata* and an understorey dominated by tussock grasses, particularly *Poa labillardieri*. In Boroondara, Riparian Woodland is located on the moist lower banks of the Yarra River and Gardiners Creek. Riparian Woodland has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)

Valley Grassy Forest is characterised by an open canopy dominated by *Eucalyptus melliodora* (Yellow Box) mixed with *Eucalyptus radiata* (Peppermint Gum) and an occasional *E. obliqua*. It generally has a sparse shrub layer and a dense, species-rich grassy understorey. In Boroondara, Valley Grassy Forest is found on the lower slopes of

low ridges and hills where average rainfall exceeds 700mm. Valley Grassy Forest has a conservation status of vulnerable in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Swamp Scrub (EVC 53)

Swamp Scrub is characterised by its location on moist, swampy soil and tall and densely growing *Melaleuca ericifolia* (Swamp Paperbark). It has a closed canopy to 8 metres tall, a sparse understorey and sometimes features scattered *Eucalyptus ovata (*Swamp Gum). In Boroondara, Swamp Scrub is restricted to Dorothy Laver Reserve. Swamp Scrub has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Creekline Grassy Woodland (EVC 68)

Creekline Grassy Woodland is characterised by a canopy of *Eucalyptus ovata* (Swamp Gum) with *E. camaldulensis* adjacent. The understorey is generally densely grassed. In Boroondara, Creekline Grassy Woodland grows in narrow strips along gullies and creeks with an average rainfall below 700mm. Creekline Grassy Woodland has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Escarpment Shrubland (EVC 895)

Escarpment Shrubland is characterised by dense, shrubby woodland with abundant *Acacia implexa* (Lightwood) and *Bursaria spinosa* (Sweet Bursaria) or *Acacia pycnantha* (Golden Wattle) and *Dodonaea viscosa* (Wedge-leaf Hop Bush) with occasional *Eucalyptus leucoxylon, E. camaldulensis, E. radiata* and *E. melliodora*. The understorey is generally sparse with gaps dominated by grasses including *Austrodanthonia geniculata, A. setacea and Austrostipa mollis.* In Boroondara, Escarpment Shrubland grows on steep slopes along the Yarra River and Gardiners Creek above the high-tide line. Escarpment Shrubland has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Creekline Herb-rich Woodland (EVC 164)

Creekline Herb-rich Woodland is characterised by a canopy of *Eucalyptus ovata* (Swamp Gum) and *Eucalyptus viminalis* (Manna Gum) with a mid storey of *Acacia melanoxylon* (Blackwood). It has a moderately dense shrub layer and an understorey of grasses, sedges, and herbs. In Boroondara, Creekline Herb-rich Woodland is heavily modified but would be in narrow bands along swampy gullies where annual rainfall exceeds 700mm. Creekline Herb-rich Woodland has a conservation status of endangered in the Gippsland Plain Bioregion.

Floodplain Wetland Complex (EVC 172)

Floodplain Wetland Complex is characterised by seasonal or perennial wetlands featuring floating aquatic plants and fringing plants. In Boroondara, these occur as billabongs and depressions along the Yarra River. EVC 172 was replaced in 2007 with 5 wetland zones which can vary dramatically depending on conditions: Tall Marsh (EVC 821), Wet Verge Sedgeland (EVC 932), Aquatic Sedgeland (EVC 308), Aquatic Herbland (EVC 653) and Open Water (990). These EVCs are described below.

Tall Marsh (EVC 821)

Tall Marsh is generally characterised by a low number of tall emergent sedge, rush or reed species such as Narrow-leaf Cumbungi (*Typha domingensis*) and occasional herbs such as Water Ribbon (*Triglochin procera*) and Slender Knot-weed (*Persicaria decipiens*). This EVC typically occurs in association with other wetland types.

Wet Verge Sedgeland (EVC 932)

Wet Verge Sedgeland is a transition EVC in Floodplain Riparian Woodland characterised by a range of tussock forming sedge and rush species with a high diversity of herbs. Tussocks include Tall Sedge (*Carex appressa*), Tassel Sedge (*Carex fasicularis*) and Green Rush (*Juncus gregiflorus*). Herbs include Upright Water-milfoil (*Myriophyllum crispatum*) and Short-fruited Nardoo (*Marsilea hirsuta).*

Aquatic Sedgeland (EVC 308)

Aquatic Sedgeland typically co-exists with Aquatic Herbland and is characterised by robust rhizomatous sedges tolerant of inundation. It is generally dominated by one or two species such as Tall Spike-sedge (*Eleocharis sphacelata*).

Aquatic Herbland (EVC 653)

Aquatic Herbland Complex is characterised by semi-permanent to seasonal wetlands dominated by herbaceous aquatic species. It generally features Water- milfoil (*Myriophyllum ssp*.), Water Ribbons (*Triglochin procera*), Running Marsh- flower (*Villarsia renifomis*) and River Buttercup (*Ranunculus inundatus*).

Open Water (EVC 990)

Open Water is often seasonally present and is characterised by a lack of flora.

Asset Condition Ratings

In order to assess and categorise the quality of vegetation in biodiversity sites in Boroondara, Asset Condition Ratings are allocated. This assessment is critical to provide a simple method to determine the status and the work required to enhance a site. Asset Condition Ratings are determined on a scale of 1-4, where 1 is highest quality and 4 is lowest quality. Asset Condition Ratings have been developed in line with Boroondara Asset Management standards and the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action's vegetation quality assessment guidelines. Asset condition ratings are not applicable to indigenous landscapes planted for landscape, amenity, or design purposes.

Condition Ratings

Condition 1

Vegetation with a condition rating of 1 is characterised by an undisturbed site with high ecological diversity and quality. It represents a stable community with EVC structure, species composition and variation typical of a community in a non-urban situation. Vegetation of condition rating 1 is remnant or regeneration.

Condition 2

Vegetation with a condition rating of 2 is characterised by a relatively stable community with some fragmentation and degradation. It is relatively intact structurally with moderate to high species variation and EVC characteristics and composition. It may have low to moderate weed cover. Vegetation of condition rating 2 is remnant, regeneration or high-quality restoration.

Condition 3

Vegetation with a condition rating of 3 is moderately fragmented or degraded. It is characterised by moderate to high species variation, characteristics, and composition and/or low to moderate weed cover. Vegetation of condition rating 3 may be remnant, regeneration, restoration, or quality mature revegetation.

Condition 4

Vegetation with a condition rating of 4 is characterised by an unstable plant community with low or no indigenous species variation, characteristics, and poor composition and/or moderate to high weed cover.

The below tables set out the criteria for scoring against each of the components that make up the condition rating. The components are outlined in more detail in the next section.

Table 1. Asset condition rating scoring matrix.

Condition Rating	Mature Tree canopy	Species Diversity	Composition	Weeds	Recruitment	Disturbance	Organic Litter
4	Absent/Rare /Low	Absent/Rare /Low	Absent/Rare	Very High to High	Absent/Rare	Very High to High	Absent/Rare /Low
3	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate
2	High	High	High	Low	Moderate	Low	High
1	Complete	Complete	Complete	Absent/Rare	High	Absent/Rare	Very High

Table 2. Criteria for asset condition rating scoring matrix.

Definitions	
Absent	<5% of expected cover or number of individuals, cover, and/or not observed.
Rare	5-10% of expected cover or number of individuals, cover, and/or difficult to observe.
Low	10-25% of expected cover or number of individuals, cover, and/or easily counted.
Moderate	25-50% of expected cover or number of individuals, cover, and/or easily observed.
High	50-75% of expected cover or number of individuals, cover, and/or difficult to count.
Very High	>75% of expected cover or number of individuals, over, and/or obvious.
Complete	Approximately 100% of expected cover or number of individuals.

Component Descriptions

Biodiversity Asset Condition is determined by the average score of seven individual components. To improve accuracy, a best fit may be adopted by removing extremely high or low individual ratings. Each of the individual components is described below to assist with assessment uniformity.

Mature Tree Canopy

Mature tree canopy is considered to be the uppermost stratum of foliage formed by woody vegetation over the height of 5 metres. Only species typical of the EVC are considered as part of the tree canopy. The tree canopy is assessed as an approximate percentage of foliage cover when compared to the EVC benchmark (See Table 4). A score should not be allocated for treeless EVCs as this would bias the condition rating.

Species Diversity

Species diversity is the variety of populations of individuals capable of interbreeding to produce fertile offspring. Species diversity is assessed as a percentage of the populations of individuals present in comparison to the EVC benchmark, outlined in the table below.

Table 3. EVC Benchmark Expected Number of Species

EVC No.	EVC	Trees	Small trees & large shrubs	Small & medium shrubs	Herbs	Grasses/ Rushes	Scrambler/ Climber	Ferns	Total Species
653	Aquatic Herbland	0	0	0	8	5	0	0	13
68	Creekline Grassy Woodland	2	2	4	11	18	0	0	37
164	Creekline Herb-rich Woodland	2	2	5	8	8	0	2	27
895	Escarpment Shrubland	2	3	5	12	14	1	1	38
56	Floodplain Riparian Woodland	2	2	12	14	10	2	0	42
175	Grassy Woodland	2	2	10	13	11	2	1	41

55	Plains Grassy Woodland	1	1	4	14	14	0	0	34
641	Riparian Woodland	2	2	5	10	10	1	0	30
53	Swamp Scrub	0	2	4	5	9	1	1	22
821	Tall Marsh	0	0	0	11	4	0	0	15
47	Valley Grassy Forest	3	2	1	16	22	1	0	45

Composition

Composition is the variety of life forms present in the biodiversity zone including large trees, understorey trees, large and small shrubs, grasses and rushes, groundcovers, and flowering herbs. As EVCs may naturally lack one or more stratum, composition is assessed as an estimated percentage of the range of life forms present in comparison to the EVC benchmark, outlined in the table below.

Table 4. EVC Benchmark % Expected Cover

EVC No.	EVC	Trees	Small trees & large shrubs	Small & medium shrubs	Herbs	Grasses/ Rushes	Scrambler/ Climber	Ferns	Organic Litter
653	Aquatic Herbland	0	0	0	45%	35%	0	0	10%
68	Creekline Grassy Woodland	15%	10%	5%	20%	50%	0	0	40%
164	Creekline Herb-rich Woodland	20%	10%	15%	5%	35%	0	20%	20%

895	Escarpment Shrubland	15%	10%	20%	20%	40%	5%	5%	20%
56	Floodplain Riparian Woodland	20%	10%	15%	30%	40%	5%	0	40%
175	Grassy Woodland	15%	10%	20%	20%	50%	5%	5%	20%
55	Plains Grassy Woodland	20%	5%	10%	30%	60%	0	0	10%
641	Riparian Woodland	20%	10%	15%	30%	45%	5%	0	30%
53	Swamp Scrub	0	50%	10%	25%	40%	1%	5%	40%
821	Tall Marsh	0	0	0	25%	45%	0	0	10%
47	Valley Grassy Forest	20%	10%	15%	35%	60%	1%	0	20%

Weeds

Weeds are considered to include introduced species and non-indigenous native species. Weeds are assessed as an estimated percentage of total foliage cover of all weed species in the zone.

Recruitment

Recruitment is the establishment of individual indigenous plants beyond the initial seedling stage to maintain or improve site condition. Recruitment includes both woody and herbaceous species and may be difficult to detect due to seasonal variation. Recruitment is expressed as an observation of the presence, diversity, and number of new individuals in suitable locations such as bare ground, clearings and fringe areas.

Disturbance

Disturbance is defined as the disruption of normal processes or conditions. It may be visible as soil upheaval, fire, erosion by wind or water, major weed control or heavy mulch application. Disturbance is expressed from very high to rare.

Organic Litter

Organic litter is defined as organic material located on the ground or ground storey vegetation which has detached from native and indigenous parent plants. Organic litter includes both coarse and fine plant material such as fallen leaves, twigs, small branches but does not include branches greater than 10 cm in diameter nor hanging material.

Biodiversity Site List

The Biodiversity Site List provides a snapshot of Biodiversity Sites in Boroondara in 2024.

Site	Ecological Vegetation Community (EVC)
Ashburn Grove Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Ashburn Grove Road Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Back Creek Reserve - Denman Av to Toorak Rd	Creekline Grassy Woodland (EVC 68)
Balwyn Community Centre	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Balwyn Library Roof Garden	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Beckett Park	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Belmont Park	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Brixton Rise Reserve	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Burke Road Billabong Reserve	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Chandler Park	Escarpment Shrubland (EVC 895)
Clifford Close Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Cornell Street Land	Creekline Grassy Woodland (EVC 68)
Dorothy Laver Reserve East & West	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Dunlop Street Reserve	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Eric Raven Reserve	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
Estella Street -June Cres	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
Fairview Park	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Freeway Golf Course	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Fritsch Holzer Park	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Gardiners creek linear park; Burke Road to Tooronga Road	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Greythorn Park	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)

Site	Ecological Vegetation Community (EVC)
H A Smith Res	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Hambledon WSUD	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Harrison Crescent Reserve	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
Hays Paddock	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Koonung Creek Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Kew Residential Services (KRS) Canopy Ave Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Kew Residential Services (KRS) Park Ave Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Lewin Reserve	Open Water (EVC 990)
Lynden Park	Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)
Maranoa Botanic Gardens	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Markham Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Medlow Reserve	Creekline Herb-rich Woodland (EVC 164)
Muir Street Reserve	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
Nettleton Park	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Outer Circle Linear Park D - Asquith Street	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Outer Circle Linear Park Z - Ashburn Grove	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Patterson Reserve	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Pridmore Park	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
River Retreat Reserve	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
Ryburne Avenue Reserve	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)

Site	Ecological Vegetation Community (EVC)
South Surrey Park	Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)
Stradbroke Park	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Wallen Road Reserve	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Walmer Street Land	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Welfare Parade Indigenous Reserve	Plains Grassy Woodland (EVC 55)
Willsmere Park	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)
Winfield Road Reserve	Valley Grassy Forest (EVC 47)
Wurundjeri Gardens	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
Yarra Bank Reserve	Riparian Woodland (EVC 641)
Yarra Flats Reserve	Floodplain Wetland Complex (EVC 172)
Yarra Street Extension	Floodplain Riparian Woodland (EVC 56)

Existing and Future Sites

The following site descriptions and maps describe the current and potential future biodiversity zones. On the maps, the status of the zones is indicated by boundary colour. White boundary lines represent current zones and white and black striped boundary lines represent potential future zones.

The attached tables show a description of the vegetation category for each zone. Each category is allocated through a combination of evidence, records and local knowledge.

Category (Cat)	Description
Rm	Remnant
Rv	Revegetation

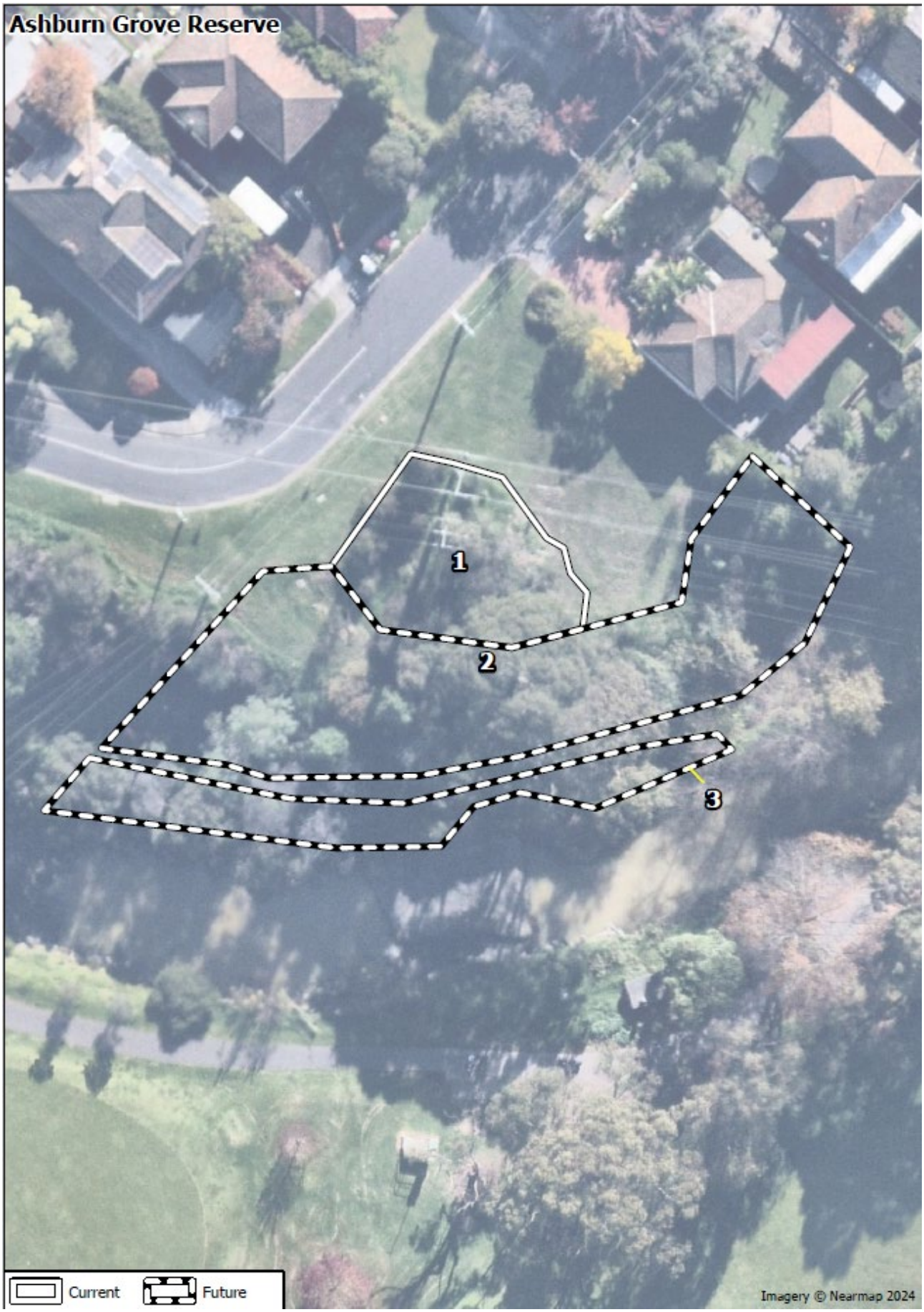
Description and Mapping of Current Biodiversity Sites

Ashburn Grove Reserve, Ashburton

Ashburn Grove Reserve is located on the corner of Ashburn Grove and Ryburne Avenue, Ashburton. The site forms part of the Gardiners Creek corridor with a desired corridor width of 30 metres. The site consists of 3 zones: Plateau, Embankment and Creek embankment. The current site extent is 258 m2. An additional area of 1,013 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	258	-	55	Rm	Plateau
2	-	795	55	Rv	Upper embankment
3	-	218	56	Rv	Creek embankment


Ashburn Grove Reserve
1
2
3
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Ashburn Grove Road Reserve, Ashburton

Ashburn Grove Road Reserve is located on the west side of Ashburn Grove between High Street and Alamein Station. The site forms part of the Outer Circle corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. Current site extent is 3,576 m2. An additional area of 807 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,576	807	55	Rm	Road Reserve


Ashburn Grove Road Reserve
1
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Back Creek Reserve – Denman Avenue to Toorak Road, Camberwell

Back Creek reserve Denman Avenue to Toorak Road forms part of the Back Creek corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. This is achievable on many parts of the site, however is restricted in places due to access issues on the southern side of the creek, as well as the steep and eroded nature of the creekline itself. Back Creek has 5 zones; the upper embankment, creek embankment north of the creek, creek embankment south of the creek, Denman Avenue frontage beds and the northern upper embankment that connects to Toorak Road. Current site extent is 1,939 m2. An additional area of 5,698 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones. Expansion into future areas will require aid from other stakeholders, such as Melbourne water and the Bass Care retirement home which could provide some access.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	561	-	68	Rv	Upper embankment
1A	915	-	68	Rv	Upper embankment
2	-	234	68	Rv	Creek embankment
3	-	513	55	Rv	Denman frontage
4	463	1,569	68	Rv	Northern upper embankment
5	-	3,382	68	Rv	Southern embankment

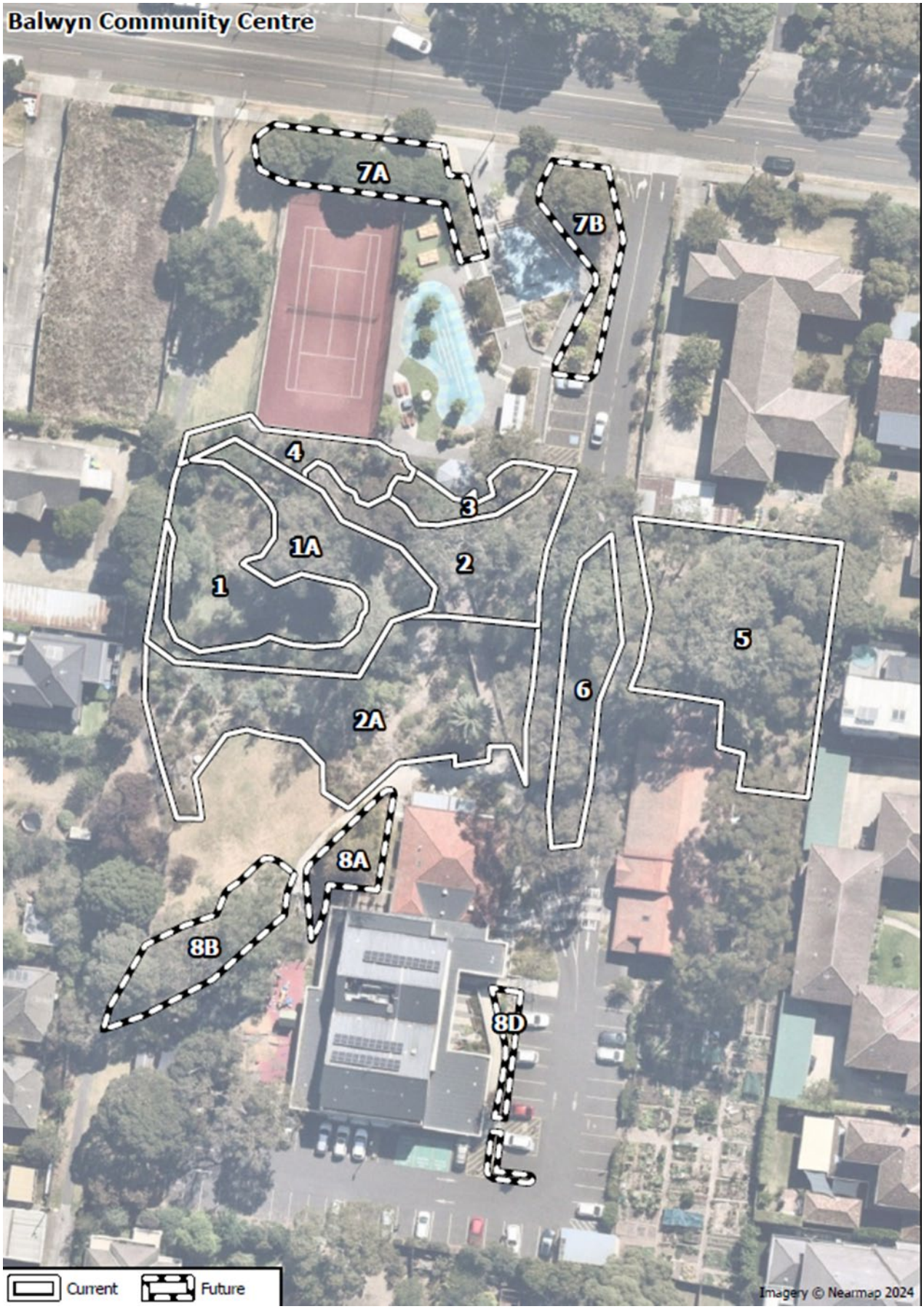

Back Creek Reserve - Denman Av to Toorak Rd
4
4
1
1A
2
5
3
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Balwyn Community Centre, Balwyn

Balwyn Community Centre makes up part of the Canterbury/North Balwyn stepping stones corridor and encompasses the wetland and immediate surrounds. There are 6 current zones, including the wetland, creek inlet and surrounds north and west. The future extent is currently being managed as open space and ornamental garden beds, with the potential for expansion of biodiversity zones. Current site extent is 3,620 m2. An additional area of 864 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.0.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	477	-	172	Rv	Wetland
1A	467	-	172	Rv	Wetland surrounds
2	376	-	68	Rv	Creek
2A	933	-	55	Rv	Creek
3	108	-	55	Rv	North surrounds
4	163	-	55	Rv	West surrounds
5	831	-	55	Rm	Western treed lawn
6	265	-	55	Rv	Driveway
7A	-	265	55	Rv	North tennis court bed
7B	-	197	55	Rv	North tennis court bed
8A	-	113	55	Rv	Main building bed
8B	-	240	55	Rv	Main building bed
8C	-	49	55	Rv	Main building bed


Balwyn Community Centre
7A
7B
4
3
1A
2
1
5
6
2A
8A
8B
8D
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Balwyn Library Roof Garden, 336 Whitehorse Road, Balwyn

The roof garden on Balwyn library is currently managed by the biodiversity team despite having a range of exotic species. It forms part of the Canterbury and North Balwyn stepping stone corridors. There is one zone with a current extent of 101 m2.

As a roof garden planted for landscape, amenity, or design purposes, no Asset Condition Rating has been assigned.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	101	-	55	Rv	Rooftop


Balwyn Library Roof Garden
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Beckett Park, Balwyn

Beckett Park has 3 distinct areas, the flora reserve west, flora reserve east and the Southeast corner (Tower block). Current site extent is 13,514 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.43.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	4,110	175	Rm	Flora Reserve west
2	5,573	175	Rm	Flora Reserve east
3	275	175	Rv	Surrounds west
3A	1,512	55	Rm	Now current
4	634	175	Rv	Surrounds east
4A	416	55	Rm	Now current
5	994	55	Rm	Tower


Beckett Park
3A
1
4A
3
2
4
5
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Belmont Park, Deepdene

Belmont Park has 8 zones consisting of small and large indigenous grass patches and ornamental beds throughout the park. Increased grassland management is feasible while still maintaining functional and accessible open space for park users. The site sits close to the Outer Circle corridor. Current site extent is 4,622 m2. An additional area of 2,299 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.29.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,741	-	55	Rm	North grassland
2	1,436	772	175	Rm	Central grassland
3	1,445	280	175	Rv	Ornamental beds
4	-	677	175	Rv	East boundary
5	-	570	175	Rv	South boundary


Belmont Park
1
1
4
2
2
3
5
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Brixton Rise Reserve, Glen Iris

Brixton Rise is located between Nettleton Park and Muswell Hill. The site forms part of the Gardiners Creek Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. The site could be improved through the planting of scattered indigenous trees in the open lawn area and through quality improvement and extension of riparian revegetation. The current site extent is 897 m2. An additional area of 2,144 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

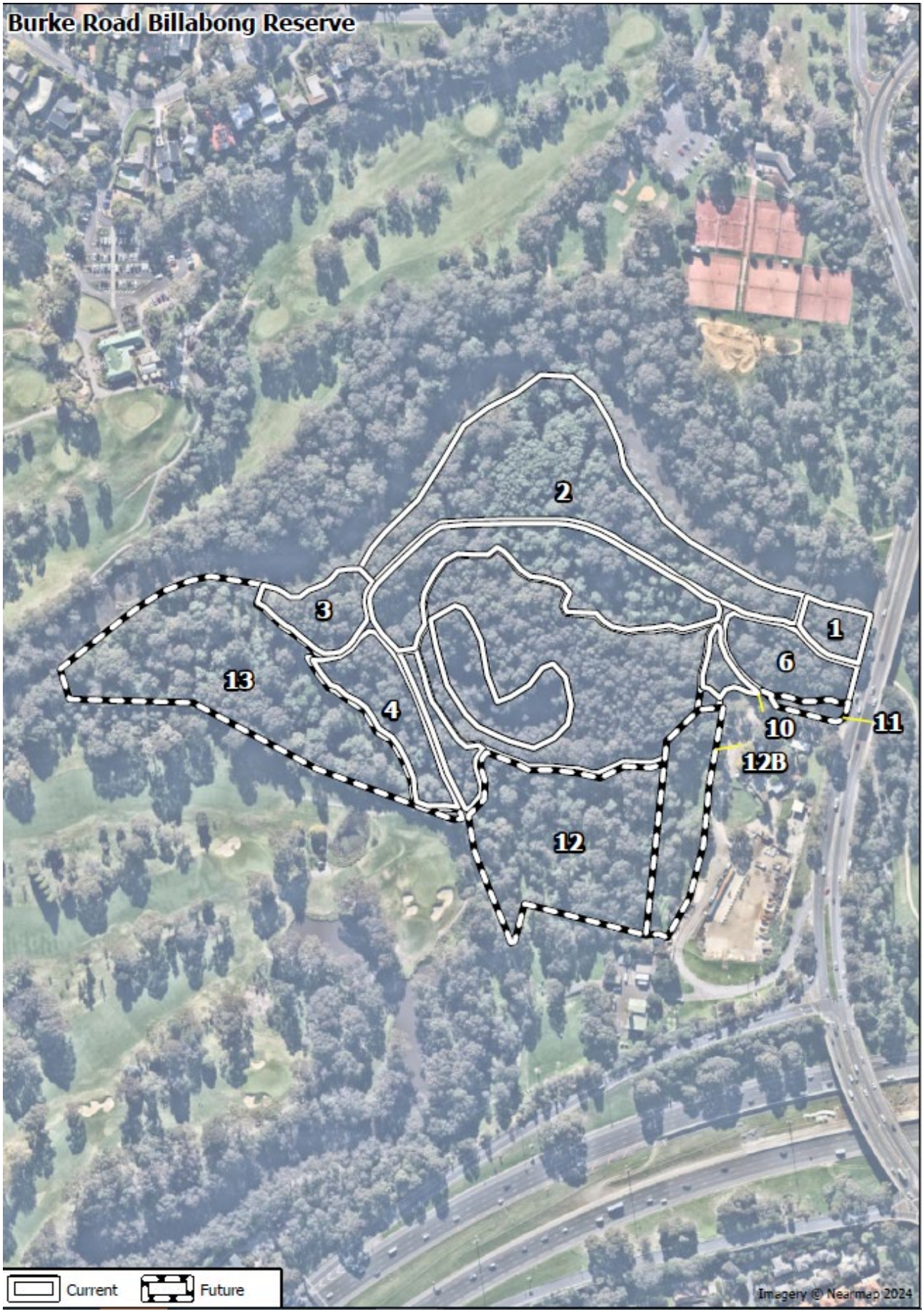
Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	897	1,122	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	-	1,022	55	Rv	Open treed lawn


Brixton Rise Reserve
2
1
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Burke Road Billabong Reserve, Kew East

Burke Road Billabong Reserve forms part of the Yarra River corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. This is achievable throughout most of the site and will be a priority focus for the 10-year plan from 2024-2034. The site has been separated into 13 zones, but there are 5 main zone groupings; the river frontage zones, the central zones surrounding the wetlands, the entrance beds near coming in from Burke Road, the southern woodlands beds and the beds abutting the Freeway Golf course on the westernmost side of the site. While canopy cover is extensive throughout the site, understory enrichment and control of weeds will add biodiversity value for a variety of species. Current site extent is 52,732 m2. An additional area of 34,304 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones. In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,418	-	56	Rm, Rv	River frontage east
2	15,590	-	56	Rm, Rv	River frontage north
3	2,650	-	56	Rm, Rv	River frontage west
4	3,976	-	56	Rm, Rv	Shared path west
5	1,535	-	56	Rm, Rv	Shared path east
6	3,489	-	56	Rm, Rv	Burke road entrance
7	9,211	-	56	Rm, Rv	Central north beds
8	16,135	-	56	Rm, Rv	Central bed
9	4,288	-	172	Rm	Wetland
10	740	-	56	Rm, Rv	Driveway bed
11	-	713	56	Rv	Entrance beds
12	-	12,721	56	Rm	Southern woodland
12B	-	4,629	56	Rm	Southern woodland
13	-	16,241	56	Rm	Golf course beds


Burke Road Billabong Reserve
2
3
1
6
13
4
10
11
12B
12
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

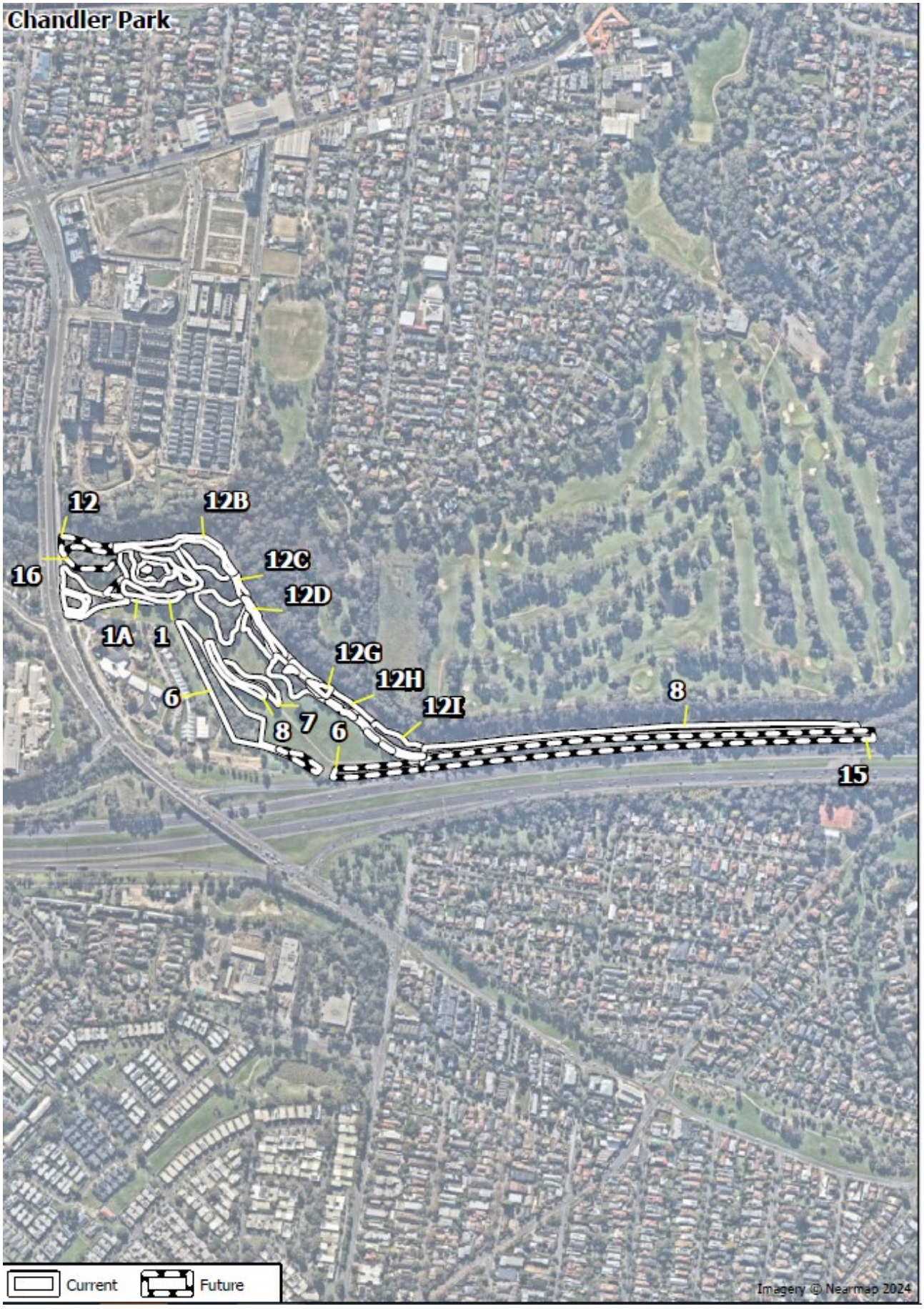
Chandler Park, Kew

Chandler Park forms part of the Yarra Corridor with a desired corridor width of 30 metres. The site provides adequate width to complete the recommended corridor with minor constriction to retain the open lawns recommended in the Willsmere-Chandler Park Management Plan and tapering at the eastern end as the park narrows. The site is divided into the billabong, riparian fringe, open grass and revegetation beds. Current site extent is 31,195m2. An additional area of 23,458 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,102	-	895	Rv	Billabong embankment
1A	614	-	895	Rv	Billabong embankment
1B	-	384	895	Rv	Billabong embankment
2	4,152	-	56	Rv	Billabong surrounds
3	2,000	-	172	Rm	Billabong ephemeral
4	1,298	-	172	Rm	Billabong wetland
5	47	-	56	Rv	Billabong island
6	6,453	2,626	895	Rv	Southern border
7	1,384	-	55	Rv	Path bed north
8	1,138	-	55	Rv	Path bed south
9	2,608	-	56	Rv	North of billabong
10	3,316	-	56	Rv	Southeast of billabong
11	395	-	56	Rv	Tree beds 1-5
12A	1,814	1,109	56	Rv	Riparian fringe

Zone	Current m²	Future m²	EVC	Cat	Description
12C	355	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
12D	775	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
12E	134	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
12F	452	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
12G	329	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
12H	1,030	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
12I	1,577	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
13	-	2,452	56	Rv	Floodplain
13A	3,943	-	56	Rv	Floodplain
13B	90	-	56	Rv	Floodplain
14	3,908	-	56	Rv	Floodplain
15	-	12,085	895	Rv	Southern border


Chandler Park
12
12B
16
12C
12D
1A
1
12G
12H
12I
6
8
7
8
6
15
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Clifford Close Reserve, Ashburton

Clifford Close Reserve is part of the Gardiners Creek Corridor and has a desired width of 30 metres. The desired vegetated width would severely impact on the use and safety of the reserve and therefore a narrower corridor width is recommended. In addition to the vegetated creek corridor, there are remnant grasses through the centre of the reserve. The site has 3 zones: riparian fringe, upper embankment and open grassland. Accessibility to the upper embankment limits its function and maintenance. The current site extent is 3,665 m2.

An additional area of 843 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.43.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1A	1,227	-	172	Rv	Riparian fringe
1B	973	-	172	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	-	843	55	Rm	Upper embankment
3	1,465	-	55	Rv	Grassland


Clifford Close Reserve
1
2
3
1B
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

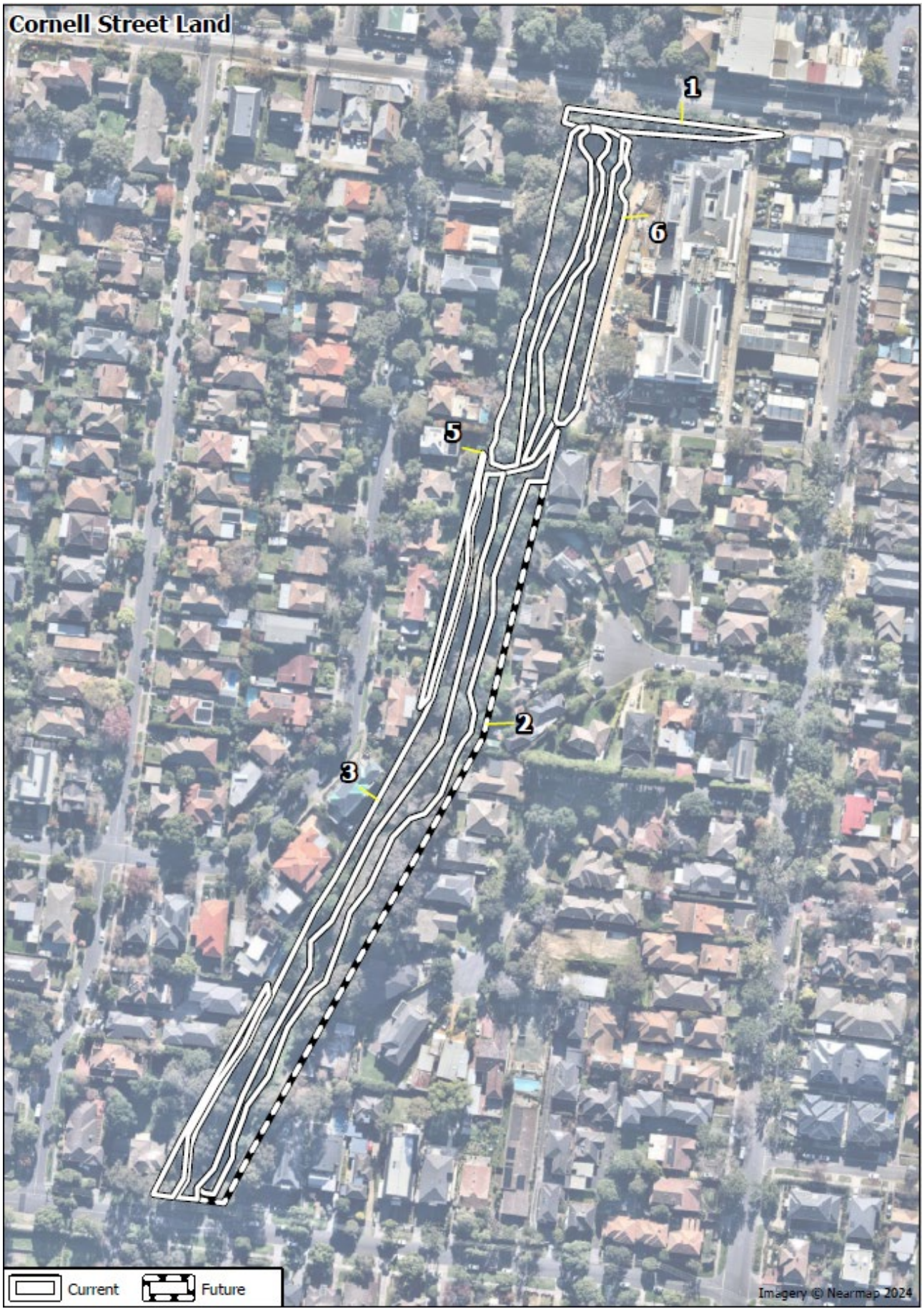
Cornell Street Land, Camberwell

Cornell Street Land is part of the Back Creek Corridor with a recommended width of 30 metres. The site extent is restricted on all sides, however quality extension is possible. The site is divided into 3 areas: west bank, east bank and base, and Riversdale Road embankment. The site is subject to Melbourne Water capital works program to manage willows, bank stabilisation and water flow.

The current site extent is 9,483 m2. An additional area of 2,812 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	440	-	895	Rv	Riversdale embankment
2	3,042	2,812	68	Rv	Creek base
3	3,738	-	47	Rv	West bank
4	851	-	47	Rv	East bank
5	620	-	47	Rv	West of path
6	792	-	47	Rv	Quinton Road


Cornell Street Land
1
6
5
2
3
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Dorothy Laver Reserve East, Ashburton

Dorothy Laver Reserve East has a desired corridor width of 30 metres as part of the Gardiners Creek Corridor. The proposed extent is restricted by physical assets and recreational use. The environmental area has 2 zones, riparian fringe and open treed lawn with potential for extension along the creek and lower plateau in addition to tree planting in the open lawn area. The current site extent is 3,262 m2.

An additional area of 63 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	478	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
1A	927	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	314	-	56	Rv	Floodplain
3	1,543	-	56	Rv	Open treed lawn
4	-	63	56	Rv	Car park


Dorothy Laver Reserve East
2
4
1
1A
3
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Dorothy Laver Reserve West, Ashburton

Dorothy Laver Reserve West forms part of the Gardiners Creek Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. The site is restricted by existing form and function but has potential for extension. The site has 4 biodiversity areas – swamp scrub (pavilion to drain culvert), riparian fringe (drain culvert to boardwalk), open treed lawn (lake lawn from weir to Dunlop St planting) and island frontage (Dunlop Street plantings and island). Improvement involves extension of vegetation within the island frontage zone and weed control and species enrichment within all other areas. The current site extent is 6,278 m2.

An additional area of 3,856 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.71.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	2,965	1,592	53	Rm	Swamp scrub
2	1,813	1,486	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
3	479	-	56	Rv	Oval bed
3A	158	-	56	Rv	Oval bed
4	338	-	56	Rv	Southern border
5	525	152	56	Rv	Southern path entrance
6	-	444	56	Rv	Island
7	-	182	932	Rv	Lake wet fringe


Dorothy Laver Reserve West
2
1
1
3
2
3A
6
7
5
5
4
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Dunlop Street Reserve, Ashburton

Dunlop Street Reserve is located opposite Dorothy Laver Reserve East and forms part of the Gardiners Creek Corridor. It has a desired width of 30 metres which is partially achievable when combined with an open tree canopy in existing lawn areas. The site has 3 areas: riparian fringe, ornamental beds and WSUD. Extension is possible through tree planting, species enrichment and connection of the ornamental beds.

The current site extent is 3,515 m2. An additional area of 697 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.43.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1A	1,530	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
1B	608	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	603	-	56	Rv	Ornamental beds
3	774	-		Rv	WSUD
4	-	697	56	Rv	Open lawn


Dunlop Street Reserve
4
1A
2
3
1B
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Eric Raven Reserve, Glen Iris

Eric Raven Reserve forms part of the Gardiners Creek corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. Corridor width is restricted along the creek by the shared path and car park however this is compensated by the large remnant grassland on the High Street embankment. The park is divided into 3 areas: riparian fringe, High Street embankment and oval embankment (east of the cricket nets). There is capacity within the park to extend the High Street embankment to the south while allowing for continued pedestrian access. In addition, the eventual failure and removal of the car park Cypress trees will provide opportunity for further revegetation. The current site extent is 5,916 m2.

An additional area of 2,879 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.86.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,509	1,640	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	4,290	868	55	Rm	High Street embankment
3	117	-	55	Rv	Oval embankment
4	-	371	641	Rv	High St/Creek embankment


Eric Raven Reserve
4
1
2
2
3
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Estella Street, Glen Iris

Estella Street creates a link connecting Eric Raven Reserve to Dorothy Laver Reserve East (Bridge to Saxby Road) and forms part of the Gardiners Creek corridor. The site has 2 zones: riparian fringe and east side of the shared path. Any future extension would require the removal of a number of self-sown Oak trees on the creek embankment. The current site extent is 6,267 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.0.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1A	1,052	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
1B	544	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
1C	915	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
1D	505	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
1E	742	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	1,881	641	Rv	East of path
2A	383	641	Rv	East of path
2B	245	641	Rv	East of path


Estella Street - June Crescent
5
2A
1D
2
1C
1B
1A
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Fairview Park, Hawthorn

Fairview Park forms part of the Yarra River Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. The desired corridor width is not achievable as it extends across the oval and playground. Extension is possible to the gravel path and to the southern park boundary. The current site extent is 3,650 m2.

An additional area of 390 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,650	390	56	Rv	Riparian fringe


Fairview Park
1
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Freeway Golf Course, Balwyn North

Freeway Golf Course is a significant site in both the Yarra River and Koonung Creek corridors with a desired corridor width of 30 metres. This is partially achievable with restrictions caused by hard landscaping and recreational function. There is enormous potential for enhancement along and between the riparian corridors in out- of-play areas between the fairways and around the wetlands. The site has eight areas; Yarra riparian north (Koonung to north fence), Yarra riparian south (Koonung to Yarra Flats), 6th Billabong, 10th Billabong, 13th Billabong, Koonung riparian west (Yarra River to proposed 10th), Koonung riparian central (Proposed 10th to car park bridge) and Koonung riparian southeast (Car park bridge to Bulleen Road). Although Koonung Creek is severely degraded, it remains a high priority for further action due to the significance of the corridor and the location adjacent to the Yarra River. The current site extent is 20,141 m2.

An additional area of 40,047 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	7,632	-	56	Rv	Yarra Riparian north (North of Koonung)
2	-	3,706	56	Rm	Yarra Riparian south (South of Koonung)
2A	1,997	-	56	Rv	Yarra Riparian south (South of Koonung)
2B	991	-	56	Rv	Yarra Riparian south (South of Koonung)
2C	1,023	-	56	Rv	Yarra Riparian south (South of Koonung)
2D	950	-	56	Rv	Yarra Riparian south (South of Koonung)
3	-	1,211	990	Rv	Billabong open water
4	-	1,112	932	Rv	Billabong ephemeral fringe
5	-	361	932	Rv	wetland
6	6,022	-	990	Rm	Billabong open water

Zone	Current m2	Future m2	EVC	Cat	Description
7	1,526	-	653	Rm	Billabong ephemeral fringe
8	-	5,840	56	Rm	Billabong ephemeral wetland
9	-	3,672	56	Rm	Billabong fringe
11	-	7,650	56	Rv	Koonung riparian northwest (Bridge to car park bridge)
12	-	7,247	56	Rv	Koonung riparian southwest
13	-	5,924	56	Rv	Koonung riparian east
14	-	3,324	56	Rv	Billabong


Freeway Golf Course
14
9
6
13
1
7
11
12
2
2A
4
5
2B
2D
2C
Current
Future

Fritsch Holzer Park, Hawthorn

Fritsch Holzer Park is a stepping stone park that forms part of the Burwood Road stepping stones corridor. The site is a water retaining basin for the surrounding area and before European settlement formed part of a rare local EVC, Swamp Scrubland (EVC 53). Fritsch Holzer Park was used as a tip for many years before being transformed into parkland that still serves as a water retaining basin and features an ephemeral wetland. The site features 7 zones; The eastern Rose Street entrance beds, the southern boundary beds, the South west corner, the Northern boundary beds, the Camberwell Road entrance beds, and the artificial wetlands. The current site extent is 23,060 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	57	-	55	Rv	Rose St entrance
1A	3,248	-	55	Rv	Rose St entrance
1B	49	-	55	Rv	Rose St entrance
1C	1,147	-	55	Rv	Rose St entrance
2A	4,124	-	55	Rv	Southern boundary
2B	1,154	-	55	Rv	Southern boundary
2C	37	-	55	Rv	Southern boundary
2D	67	-	55	Rv	Southern boundary
3A	2,961	-	55	Rv	Southwest corner
3B	98	-	55	Rv	Southwest corner
4A	3,479	-	55	Rv	Northern boundary
4B	225	-	55	Rv	Northern boundary
4C	202	-	55	Rv	Northern boundary
4D	336	-	55	Rv	Northern boundary
4E	654	-	55	Rv	Northern boundary
5A	2,132	-	55	Rv	Soccer field west
5B	1,296	-	55	Rv	Soccer field west

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
5C	26	-	55	Rv	Soccer field west
6A	252	-	55	Rv	Camberwell road entrance
6B	248	-	55	Rv	Camberwell road entrance
7	1,268	-	53	Rv	Wetlands


Fritsch Holzer Park
4A
4B
4C
4D
4E
5A
5B
5C
6A
6B
7
1A
1B
1C
2A
2B
2C
2D
3A
3B
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Gardiners creek linear park: Burke Road to Tooronga Road, Glen Iris.

Gardiners creek linear park: Burke Road to Tooronga Road forms part of the Gardiners creek corridor with a desired width of 30 metres and connects to the Lewin Reserve wetlands. Revegetation of the site from 2013 consisted mainly of understory and ground layer plantings along the shared path, with a small section (zone 3) planted on the creek embankment. The total site extent is 5,628m2. Any future enhancement of the site to achieve the desired width of 30 metres will require collaboration with Melbourne Water for works along the rest of the creek embankment and works south of the creek abutting the Monash freeway.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.43.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,091	-	68	Rv	Shared path embankment East.
2	1,992	-	68	Rv	Shared path embankment West
3	545	-	56	Rv	Creek embankment


Gardiners creek linear park; Burke Road to Tooronga
1
2
3
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Greythorn Park, Balwyn North

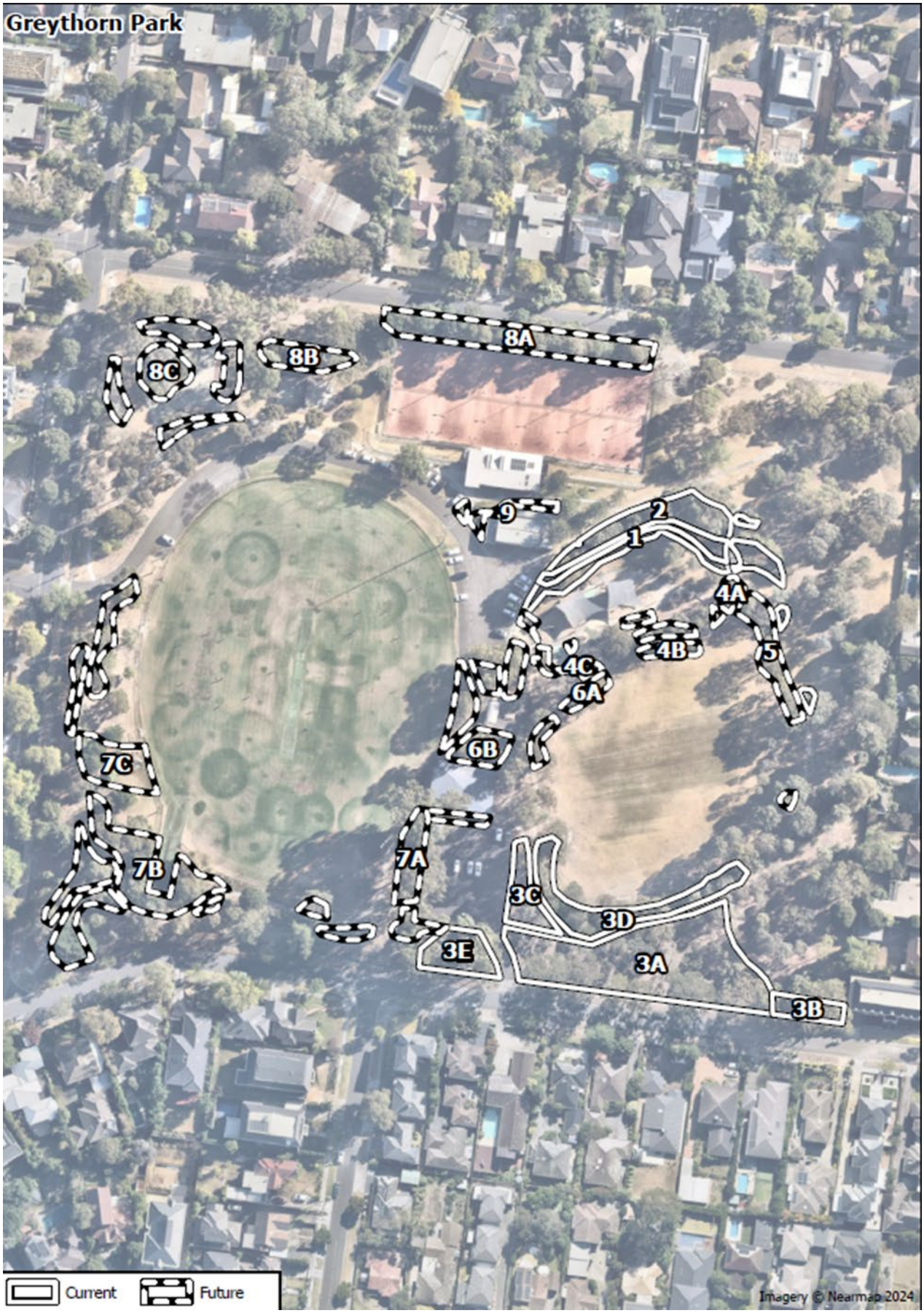
Greythorn Park has three distinct areas that have been further broken up into 9 zones: the wetland, the grasslands and the ornamental beds around the playgrounds, sports oval and structures, which will be turned into biodiversity beds over time. The grassland is located in the Southeast corner of the park; defined by the car park, gravel path, Alpha Street footpath and the row of new Eucalypts. This area features significant remnant grass and has potential for indigenous grassland management practices. Current site extent is 4,256 m2.

An additional area of 5,200 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.86.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	360	-	308	Rv	Wetland ephemeral
2	743	-	55	Rv	Wetland surrounds
3A	1,875	-	55	Rm	Grassland
3B	162	-	55	Rm	Grassland
3C	245	-	55	Rm	Grassland
3D	557	-	55	Rm	Grassland
3E	314	-	55	Rm	Grassland
4A	-	77	55	Rv	Playground beds
4B	-	177	55	Rv	Playground beds
5	-	310	55	Rv	East beds
6A	-	154	55	Rv	BBQ area
6B	-	504	55	Rv	BBQ area
7A	-	484	55	Rv	Southwest beds
7B	-	1,114	55	Rv	Southwest beds
7C	-	634	55	Rv	Southwest beds

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
8A	-	762	55	Rv	Northwest Beds
8B	-	219	55	Rv	Northwest Beds
8C	-	669	55	Rv	Northwest Beds
9	-	96	55	Rv	Hall beds


Greythorn Park
8A
8B
8C
9
2
1
4A
4B
5
4C
6A
6B
7C
7B
7A
3C
3D
3E
3A
3B
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

H.A Smith Reserve, Hawthorn

H.A Smith Reserve forms part of the Gardiners creek corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. The desired width is not achievable, with restrictions in several areas due to the shared path and the existing sports fields and playground. There are 4 biodiversity zones; Freeway embankment west, freeway embankment centre, freeway embankment east which connects to Patterson reserve, and North of shared path. The current site extent is 3,839 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.29.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,261	-	55	Rv	Freeway embankment west
2	98	-	55	Rv	Shared path north
3	2,210	-	55	Rv	Freeway embankment centre
4	270	-	55	Rv	Freeway embankment east


H A Smith Reserve
1
2
3
4
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Hambledon WSUD, Hawthorn

The Hambledon WSUD forms part of the Yarra River corridor and takes stormwater from the nearby streets in order to slow and filter it before it drains into the Yarra. The site consists of one zone, the WSUD and connected riparian fringe, and the site extent is 633 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.86.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	633	-	56	Rv	WSUD and Riparian fringe


Hambledon WSUD
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Harrison Crescent Reserve, Hawthorn

Harrison Crescent Reserve is a very steep site on the Yarra River with a desired corridor width of 30 metres. The site features 2 small pockets of remnant vegetation and a large number of weed tree species. The site has two zones: Riparian Fringe and Upper Embankment. Improvement of the site is hampered by its inaccessibility. The current site extent is 3,564 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.71.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,931	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	1,633	895	Rv	Upper embankment


Harrison Crescent Reserve
1
2
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Hays Paddock, Kew East

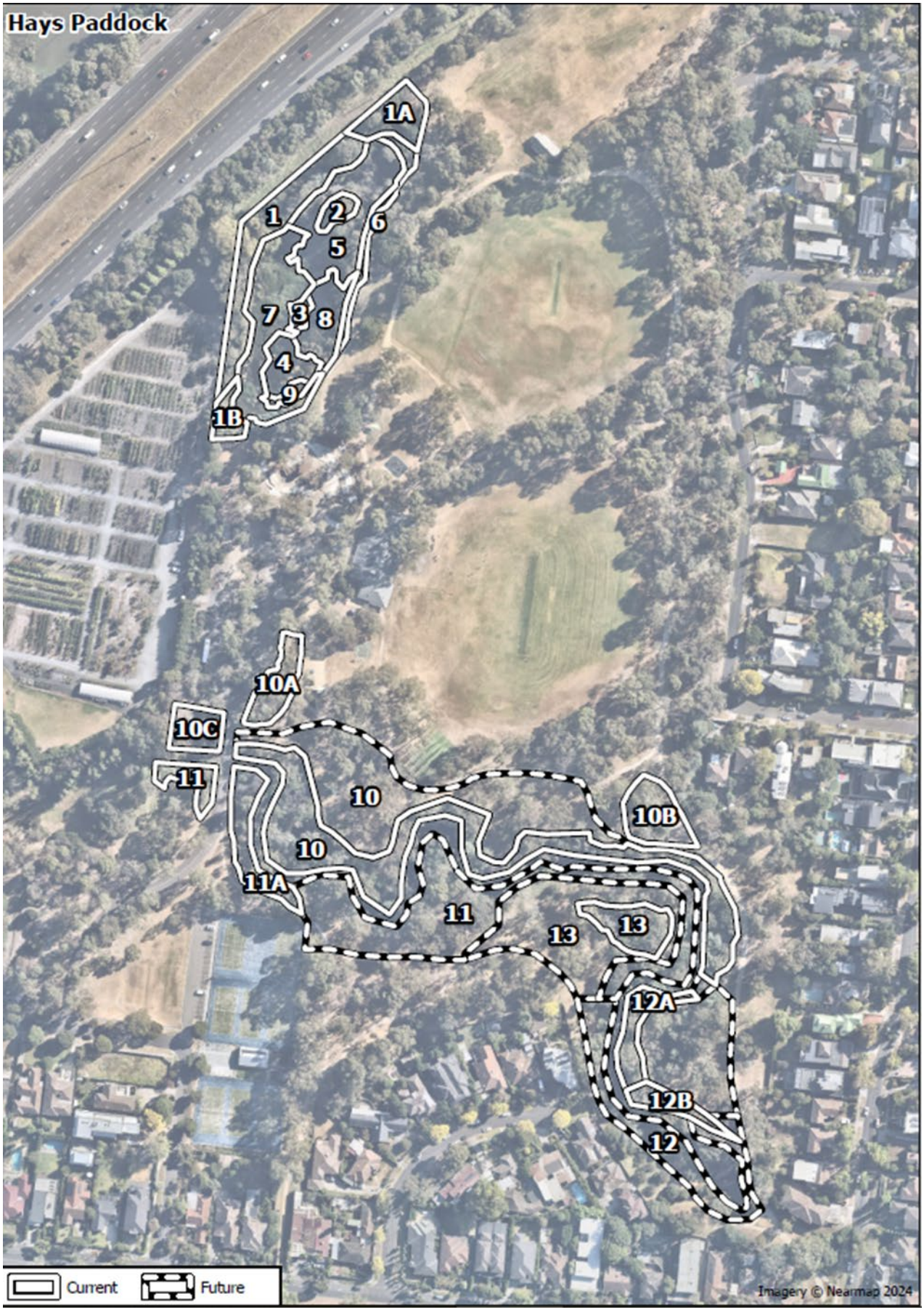
Hays Paddock forms part of the Glass Creek Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. Biodiversity areas comprise the wetland (fringe, open water, island and ephemeral wetland), creek, open treed lawns and eastern boundary. Site extensions include continued revegetation of the creek riparian zones, development of the ephemeral wetland on the south side of Glass Creek and further improvement of the billabong fringe and open water areas. The current site extent is 18,049 m2.

An additional area of 17,539 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.86.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,873	-	56	Rv	Wetland western surrounds
1A	724	-	56	Rv	Wetland western surrounds
1B	305	-	56	Rv	Wetland western surrounds
2	223	-	56	Rv	Wetland island
3	124	-	653	Rm	Wetland north open water
4	577	-	990	Rm	Wetland south open water
5	1,959	-	653	Rv	Wetland north ephemeral
6	455	-	932	Rv	Wetland east fringe
7	2,009	-	821	Rm	Wetland southwest fringe
8	834	-	653	Rm	Wetland centre shallows
9	124	-	308	Rm	Wetland south shallows
10	4,761	5,075	56	Rv	Creek - north
10A	659	-	56	Rv	Creek - north
10B	589	-	56	Rv	Creek - north
10C	545	-	56	Rv	Creek - north
11	390	4,800	56	Rv	Creek - southwest
12	-	2,075	56	Rv	Creek - southeast

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
12A	649	-	56	Rv	Creek - southeast
12B	424	-	56	Rv	Creek - southeast
13	825	5,589	56	Rv	Creek - southeast peninsular


Hays Paddock
1A
1
2
6
5
7
3
8
4
9
1B
10A
10C
11
10
10B
10
11A
11
13
13
12A
12B
12
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Kew Residential Services (KRS) Canopy Avenue Reserve, Kew

KRS is a recent residential development on Princess Street Kew. The site has a number of small pockets of remnant vegetation. The current site extent is 285 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 3.0.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	285	55	Rm	Grassland


Kew Residential Services (KRS) Canopy Ave Reserve
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Kew Residential Services (KRS) Park Avenue Reserve, Kew

KRS is a recent residential development on Princess Street Kew. The site has a number of small remnant pockets and a water treatment wetland. The site features a number of mature remnant Eucalyptus camaldulensis and connectivity to Yarra Bend Park and the Yarra River. The current site extent is 6689 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.86.

Zone	Current m2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,572	172	Rv	Wetland
2A	1,590	55	Rv	Hutchinson Drive
2B	242	55	RV	Interior North
2C	346	55	Rv	Princess Street North
2D	427	55	Rv	Princess Street Centre
2E	428	55	Rv	Princess Street South
2F	84	55	Rv	Interior South


Kew Residential Services (KRS) Park Ave Reserve
2A
1
2B
2C
2D
2F
2E
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Koonung Creek Reserve, Balwyn North

Koonung Creek Reserve is a major site within the Koonung Creek Corridor, extending from Mountain View Road to Doncaster Road. The desired corridor width of 30 metres is fully achievable while still retaining open lawns for passive recreation. Biodiversity areas include Freeway Mounds, Kosciusko Road, Carron Street, Shared Path corridor, Tree beds, Wilburton Parade, Wandeen Street, Wetland, Wetland surrounds and Doncaster Road. The current site extent is 116,297 m2. Site will be heavily impacted by the North East Link project, leading to an eventual reduction in biodiversity area available.

Due to North East Link works, no Asset Condition Rating has been assigned in 2024.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	21,841	-	175	Rv	Freeway mound west
2	3,481	880	55	Rv	Shared path Mt View to Balwyn Rd
2A	1,073	-	55	Rv	Shared path Mt View to Balwyn Rd
2B	1,519	-	55	Rv	Shared path Mt View to Balwyn Rd
3	4,000	-	55	Rv	Kosciusko Road
3A	970	-	55	Rv	Kosciusko Road
4	2,401	3,379	55	Rv	Shared path Balwyn to overpass
5	1,161	-	55	Rv	Tree beds west
6	6,036	-	55	Rv	Carron Street West
7	3,006	-	55	Rv	Central BMX beds
8	2,921	-	55	Rv	Freeway overpass west
9	24,645	-	175	Rv	Freeway mounds central
10	2,731	-	55	Rv	Carron to Wilburton
11	12,491	-	55	Rv	Overpass east
12	1,657	-	55	Rv	Tree beds Arama
13	9,986	-	56	Rv	Wetland surrounds
14	3,113	-	990	Rv	Wetland open water

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
15	1,352	-	932	Rv	Wetland ephemeral fringe
16	3,753	-	56	Rv	Wetland terrestrial
17	1,644	4,380	47	Rv	Shared path Wandeen to Doncaster
18	4,017	-	47	Rv	Doncaster Road
19	2,499	-	47	Rv	Underpass


Koonung Creek Reserve
1
2
3
3A
4
6
7
8
9
10
11
17
17
18
19
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Lewin Reserve, Hawthorn

Formally known as Burke Road Billabong south, Lewin Reserve forms part of the Gardiners Creek corridor with a desired width of 30 meters. Lewin Reserve is situated along the Monash freeway where the Gardiners Creek has been barrelled, before it daylights again just to the west. Despite this, Lewin Reserve still serves as a home for water birds and other aquatic species due to the constructed wetlands which is fed by stormwater from the freeway, filtering and slowing the runoff before it drains back into the daylighted creek. The desired width of 30 metres is achievable in some sections but is restricted in places by the shared path, the University of the 3rd Age and its carpark. There are four biodiversity zones: the freeway soundwall, the riparian fringe, the Silt pond wetlands and the Wetlands proper. The current site extent is 15,066 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	652	-	990	Rv	Silt wetland
2	3,756	-	990	Rv	Wetland
3	5,172	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
4	5,486	-	68	Rv	Freeway soundwall


Lewin Reserve
3
3
1
3
3
3
4
4
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Lynden Park, Camberwell

Lynden Park forms part of the Back Creek corridor and has a recommended width of 30 metres. The average width of the linear section of the park is 25 metres. The site is divided into 2 zones: east and west of the gravel path. The extent of enhancement of the east zone is indigenous tree planting in open lawn for fire management, access and personal safety purposes. Current site extent is 5,960 m2 .

An additional area of 707 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.43.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,980	-	47	Rv	West
2	1,114	707	47	Rv	East
2A	866	-	47	Rv	East


Lynden Park
2
1
2A
2
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Maranoa Botanic Gardens, Balwyn

Maranoa Botanic Gardens is located on Kireep Road adjacent to Beckett Park. The site has one biodiversity zone located in the Northwest corner of the garden.

Extension of the remnant patch is not proposed, however an improvement in quality is possible through species enrichment. The current site extent is 910 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.29.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	910	55	Rm	Northwest corner


Maranoa Botanic Gardens
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Markham Reserve, Ashburton

Markham Reserve is a major part of the Gardiners Creek corridor with an achievable width of 30 metres. The site has 6 biodiversity areas including Plains Grassy Woodland (south and west of sportsground), creek riparian fringe and floodplain (western end), creek riparian fringe (remnant Floodplain Riparian Woodland), creek riparian fringe (east), upper embankment (west of maintenance track) and upper embankment (east of maintenance track). Future site development includes the open grass in the western floodplain to meet the Plains Grassy Woodland zone and further extension of the creek corridor through to Warrigal Road. The current site extent is 27,516 m2.

An additional area of 2,030 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.86.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,633	-	55	Rm	Ashburton Forest
1A	3,700	-	55	Rm	Ashburton Forest
1B	461	-	55	Rm	Ashburton Forest
1C	-	1,443	55	Rm	Ashburton Forest
2	6,971	-	895	Rv	Embankment West
3A	776	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe West
3B	1,337	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe West
3C	664	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe West
3D	2,710	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe West
4	3,400	-	895	Rv	Embankment East
5	664	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe East
5A	812	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe East
5B	167	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe East
5C	600	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe East
6A	2,537	587	56	Rv	Urban forest
6B	1,084	-	56	Rv	Urban forest


Markham Reserve
1C
1A
1
2
4
6A
6B
5B
5C
5
3D
5A
1A
3A
3B
3C
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Medlow Reserve, Surrey Hills

Medlow Reserve forms part of the Back Creek Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. This is achievable for the main portion of the reserve but is restricted as the park tapers to the west. Three biodiversity zones include: Reserve, Creek fringe (within the reserve) and Creek (west of the reserve). Extension comprises quality in both the reserve and the creek although this is complicated by inaccessibility. The current site extent is 153 m2.

An additional area of 826 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 3.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	-	826	47	Rv	Reserve
2	153	-	164	Rv	Creek east


Medlow Reserve
2B
1
2C
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Muir Street Reserve, Hawthorn

Muir Street Reserve extends along the Yarra River between Pridmore Park and Harrison Crescent Reserve. It has a desired width of 30 metres which is limited by residential housing. The site consists of 2 biodiversity zones: The riparian fringe and the rear of 10 Harrison Crescent. Future extension of the site will require input from other stakeholders such as Melbourne water, most short-term future work will be consolidation and improvement of existing vegetation. The current site extent is 684 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	470	-	641	Rm, Rv	Riparian Fringe
2	178	-	641	Rv	Rear 10 Harrison Cr


Muir Street Reserve
2
1

Nettleton Park, Glen Iris

Nettleton Park forms part of both the Gardiners Creek and Back Creek corridors with a recommended corridor width of 30 metres. This is partially achievable, limited by the shared path, oval, pavilion, playground and cricket nets. The site has 5 biodiversity areas: Grassland, Riparian fringe, Peninsular, Riparian fringe south (bridge to bridge), and ornamental beds. Biodiversity extension is predominantly qualitative. The current site extent is 13,798m2.

An additional area of 3,905 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.86.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,494	-	55	Rv	Grassland
2	-	2,651	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
2A	1,321	-		Rv	Riparian fringe
2B	3,216	-		Rv	Riparian fringe
3	1,734	-	55	Rv	Ornamental beds
4	1,406	-	55	Rv	Peninsular
4A	137	-		Rv	Peninsular
4B	1,780	-		Rv	Peninsular
5	2,475	1,254	641	Rv	Riparian fringe south
6	235	-	55	Rv	Ornamental beds south


Nettleton Park
2A
2B
4A
1
2
3
5
6
5
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Outer Circle Linear Park D – Asquith Street, Kew

OCLP D – Asquith Street has a recommended width of 10 metres as a linear corridor. This is achievable with potential for further expansion across the top of the embankment and in vegetation quality. The site is divided into 6 zones: Northeast bank, Southeast bank, Northwest bank, Southwest bank, Top of bank east and Top of bank west. Current site extent is 5,603 m2.

An additional area of 1,582 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.71.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,195	-	55	Rv	Northwest
2	836	-	55	Rv	Northeast
3	1,196	-	55	Rv	Southwest
4	662	-	55	Rv	Southeast
5	-	1,063	55	Rv	Top west
6	-	519	55	Rv	Top east
7	1,714	-	55	Rv	North fence line


Outer Circle Linear Park D - Asquith Street
1
2
5
7
3
4
6
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Outer Circle Linear Park Z - Ashburn Grove, Ashburton

OCLP Z – Ashburn Grove is located opposite Markham Avenue and is part of the Outer Circle corridor. It has a desired corridor width of 10 metres. The site is divided into 2 zones, embankment and open treed lawn with the open drain as the border. The site is at a very early stage and development entails weed control, management of the Microlaena remnant and revegetation. Current site extent is a total of 1,924 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,924	55	Rv	Embankment


Outer Circle Linear Park Z - Ashburn Grove
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Patterson Reserve, Hawthorn

Patterson Reserve forms part of the Gardiners Creek Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. This is achievable with some restrictions due to the proximity of the shared path and hockey fields. The site features two zones; Top of bank and Upper embankment. Extension is available through additional tree canopy, extension and connection of existing beds and species enrichment. Current site extent is 6,752 m2.

An additional area of 2,643 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.29.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	617	-	56	Rv	Top of bank
2	2,556	2,643	56	Rv	Embankment
3A	1,354	-	56	Rv	Shared Path East
3B	270	-	56	Rv	Shared Path East
4A	585	-	56	Rv	Shared Path West
4B	1,370	-	56	Rv	Shared Path West

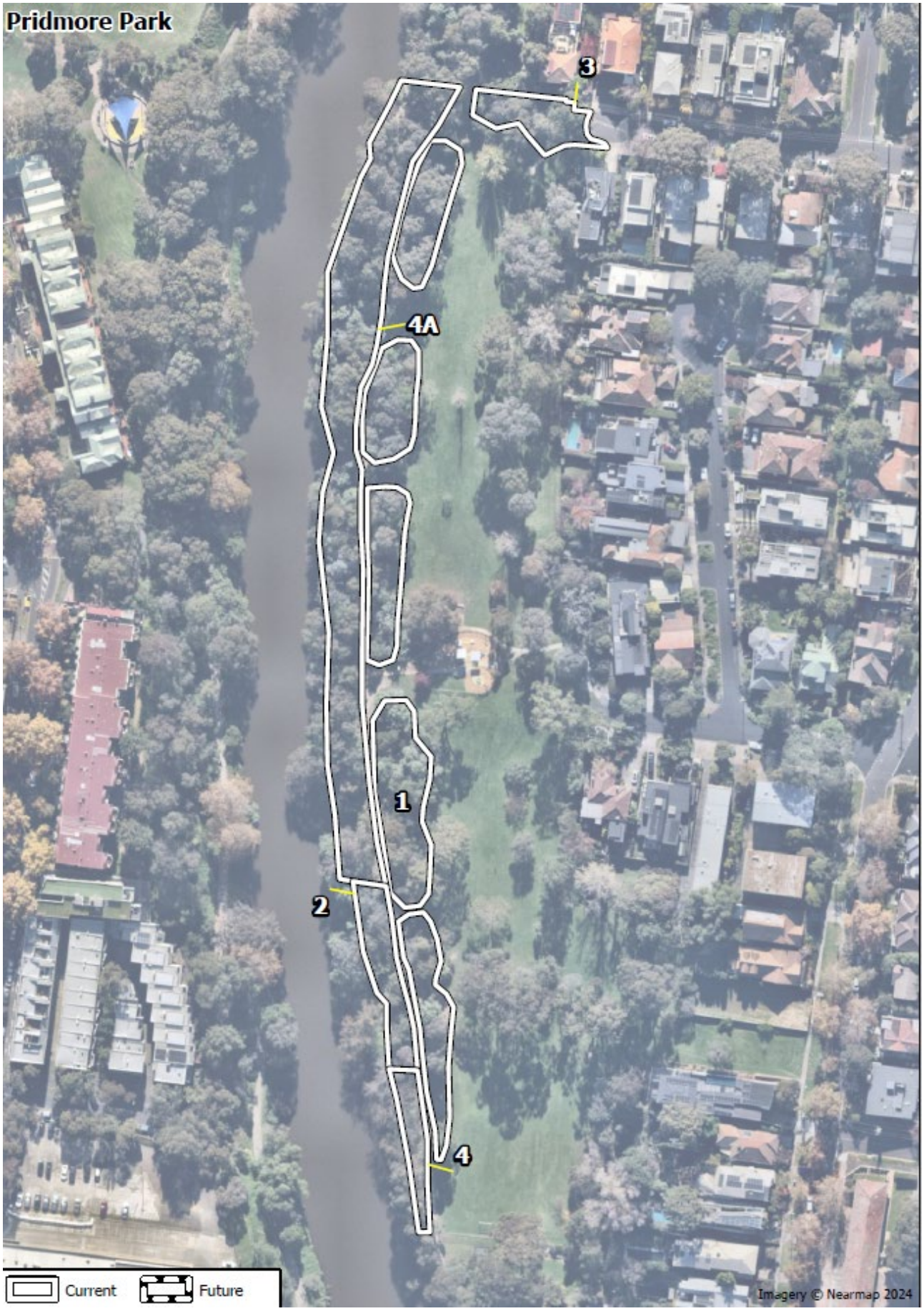

Patterson Reserve
4B
4A
2
3B
3A
2
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Pridmore Park, Hawthorn

Pridmore Park forms part of the Yarra River Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. There is capacity to fulfil this except at the southern end where an informal soccer field limits opportunities. The site is divided into 4 zones, East of path, top of bank, ornamental beds and Embankment. The river embankment is currently managed by Melbourne Water with potential for alternative management arrangements in the future. It is recommended that lawn be retained between beds on the east of the path to maintain views and access to the river. A future extension may be possible to the southern end of the park. Current site extent is 8,326 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,390	-	641	Rv	East of path
2	569	-	641	Rv	Top of bank
3	477	-	641	Rv	Ornamental
4	3,890	-	641	Rv	Embankment


Pridmore Park
3
4A
1
2
4
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

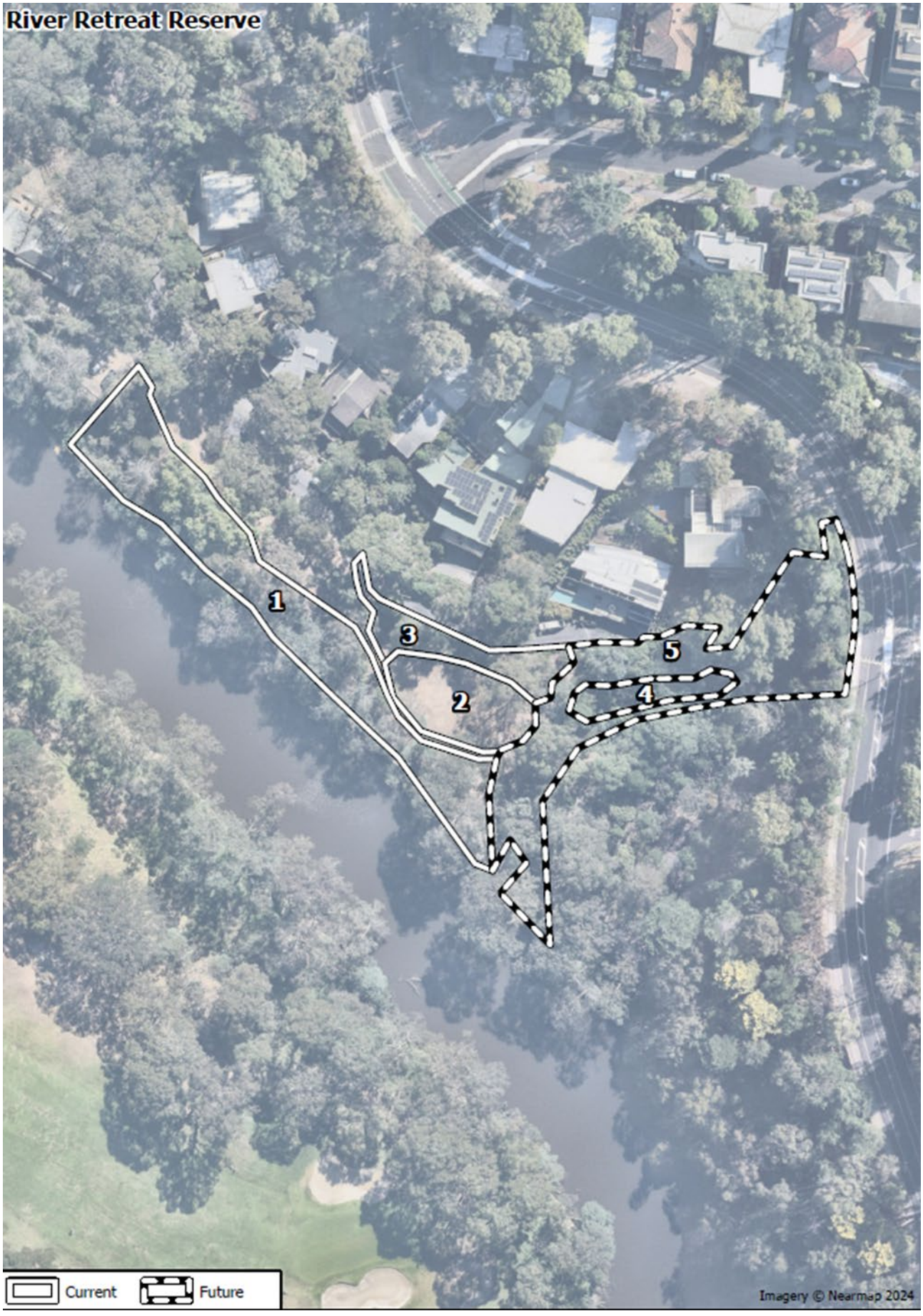
River Retreat, Kew

River Retreat forms part of the Yarra River Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. This is predominantly achievable with more capacity at the southern end of the reserve. The site has 3 existing biodiversity zones: Riparian fringe, Microlaena lawn and Driveway border. Extension is possible to the embankment and wetland and through qualitative improvement. The current site extent is 2961 m2.

An additional area of 2,278 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.71.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,927	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
2	583	-	56	Rv	Microlaena lawn
3	451	-	56	Rv	Driveway border
4	-	239	308	Rv	Wetland
5	-	2,039	641	Rv	Embankment


River Retreat Reserve
1
2
3
4
5
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Ryburne Avenue Reserve, Ashburton

Ryburne Avenue Reserve forms part of the Gardiners Creek Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. This is achievable with a combination of lower and upper embankments connected by open tree canopy although extension is restricted by accessibility to steep embankments. The site has 4 zones: Riparian fringe, ornamental beds, microlaena lawn and upper embankment. Extension involves staged weed control and revegetation in combination with increased remnant management. Current site extent is 3,680 m2.

An additional area of 2,082 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	98	-	641	Rm	Microlaena
2	2,368	-	641	Rv	Riparian fringe
3	737	-	641	Rv	Ornamental
4	477	2,082	641	Rv	Upper embankment


Ryburne Avenue Reserve
3
4
4
1
2
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

South Surrey Park, Surrey Hills

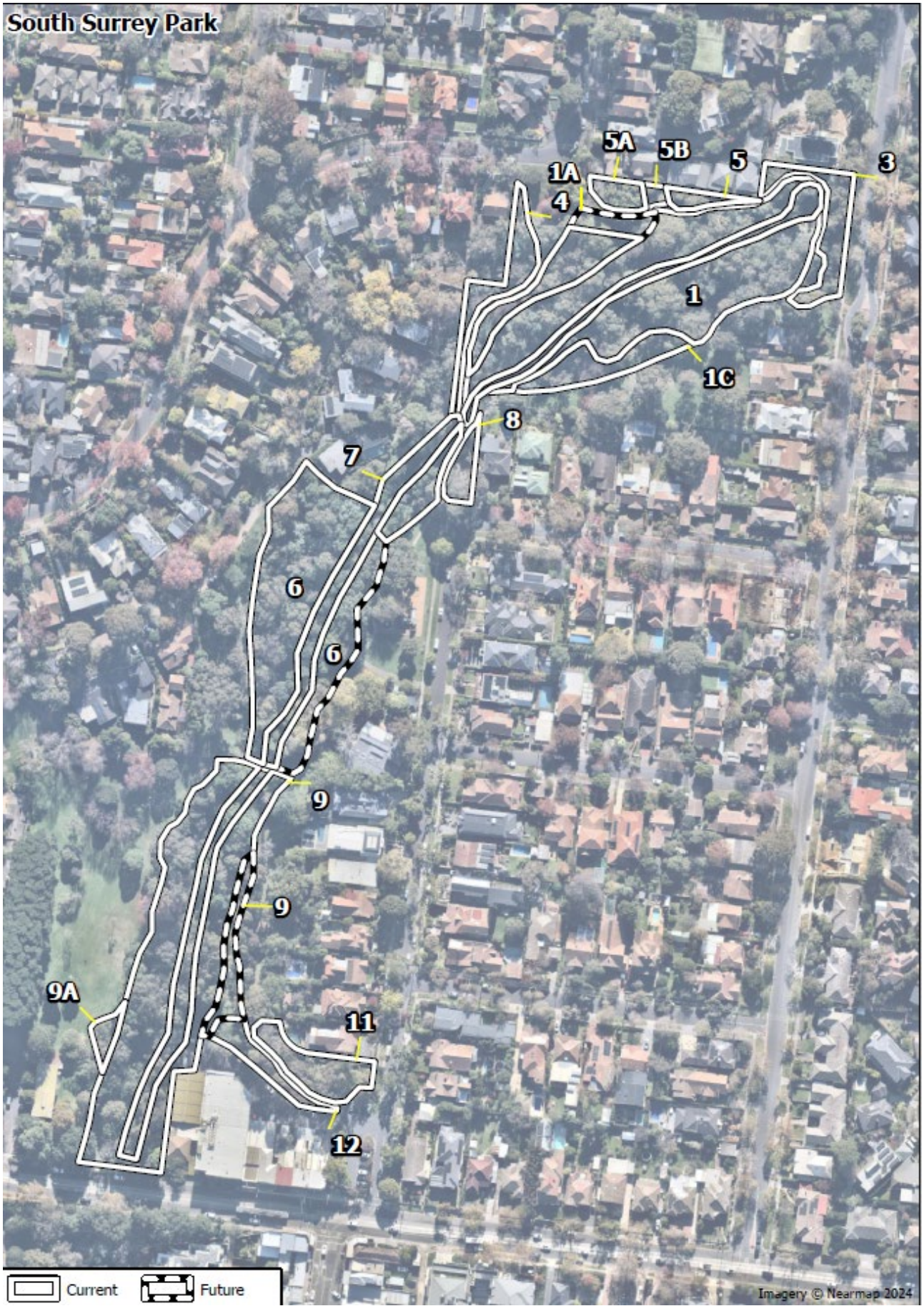
South Surrey Park forms part of the Back Creek Corridor and has a desired width of 30 metres. As a large site, this is predominantly achievable. The park has 3 main sections, north (located between Union Road and the low bridge), middle (between the low bridge and high bridge) and south (between the high bridge and Riversdale Road). Within these areas, the site is divided into creek zones, Valley Grassy Forest and lawn areas. Lawns may be treed or open depending on use and located adjacent to houses. The extent of vegetation is relatively complete with infill, small extensions and species enrichment to occur. The current site extent is 24,310 m2.

An additional area of 2,107 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	5,475	-	47	Rv	Creek surrounds north
1A	-	322			Creek surrounds north
1B	1,008	-	47	Rv	Creek surrounds north
1C	850	-	47	Rv	Creek surrounds north
2	897	-	641	Rv	Creek north
3	876	-	47	Rv	Union Road embankment
4	760	-	47	Rv	West border
5	202	-	47	Rv	North border
5A	294	-	47	Rv	North border
5B	98		47	Rv	North border
6	3,893	1,250	47	Rv	Creek surrounds central
7	1,345	-	641	Rv	Creek central
8	343	-	47	Rv	Lille Street corner
9	5,432	535	47	Rv	Creek surrounds south
9A	197	-	47	Rv	Creek surrounds south
10	1,318	-	641	Rv	Creek south

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
11	835	-	47	Rv	Verdun Street entrance
12	487	-	47	Rv	Car park embankment


South Surrey Park
5A
5B
5
3
1A
4
1
1C
8
7
6
6
9
9
9A
11
12
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Stradbroke Park, Kew

Stradbroke Park forms part of the Glass Creek Corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. There is significant capacity within the existing extent to improve vegetation quality through weed control and species enrichment. The current site extent is 13,614 m2.

An additional area of 3,646 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.57.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	4,058	208	55	Rv	High Street corridor
1A	208	-	55	Rv	High Street corridor
2	916	297	55	Rv	Rear of Oxford Street
2A	264	-	55	Rv	Rear of Oxford street
3	8,068	420	55	Rv	Urban forest
3A	-	279	55	Rv	Urban forest
3B	100	-	55	Rv	Urban forest
6	-	1,509	55	Rv	Lawrence Street
7	-	933	55	Rv	West border


Stradbroke Park
1
1
3A
2A
2
2
3
3B
6
7
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Wallen Road Reserve, Hawthorn

Wallen Road Reserve forms part of the Yarra River Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. This is not achievable due to existing hard and soft landscaping. The preferred extent is defined by the gravel path and car park boundary. Extension is possible through weed control, species enrichment below, above and to the west of existing revegetation. The current site extent is 3,268 m2.

An additional area of 846 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.43.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,314	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
1A	1,674	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
1B	280	-	56	Rv	Leonda bed
1C	-	846	56	Rv	Riparian fringe


Wallen Road Reserve
1B
1C
1A
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Walmer Street Land, Kew

Walmer Street Land forms part of the Yarra River Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. The site has 3 biodiversity zones: Riparian zone and east and west bridge embankments. The current site extent and total is 3,065 m2.

Walmer Street Land has been significantly altered due to bridge works in 2022-23, however in conjunction Parks Victoria revegetation of the area will still be possible going forward to match the sites' current extent.

There is no assessment for 2024 as replanting has only recently been completed.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	410	56	Rv	East bridge embankment
2	1,990	56	Rv	Riparian zone & WSUD
3	665	56	Rv	West bridge embankment


Walmer Street Land
3
1
2
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Welfare Parade Indigenous Reserve, Glen Iris

Welfare Parade Indigenous Reserve forms part of the Outer Circle Linear Park Corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. The site is located between Burwood Station and Baker Parade. Within the site there are 3 main sections: Fenced Flora Reserve, North and South. The section to the south of Dion Rail Link contains significant remnant vegetation in varying condition. Increased management should be a high priority. The current site extent is 10,653 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.86.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,340	55	Rm	Fenced Flora Reserve
2	1,124	55	Rv	North section
3	6,189	55	Rm	South of Dion Rail Link


Welfare Parade Indigenous Reserve
2
1
3
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Willsmere Park, Kew East

Willsmere Park is a major ecological site within the Yarra River Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. As a large informal site, this is predominantly achievable. The park has 8 main sections: Corridor, Peninsula, Riparian fringe (shared path to golf course), Billabong, Billabong surrounds, constructed wetland, Golf course border and Freeway border. Within these zones there is qualitative extension throughout. The narrow corridor between Chandler and Willsmere Parks has 2 sections; Freeway embankment and River embankment, separated by the shared path. The current site extent is 59,838 m2.

An additional area of 12, 998 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.86.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	2,202	-	56	Rv	Billabong entrance
1A	587	-	56	Rv	Billabong entrance
2	7,767	-	990	Rm	Billabong open water
3	3,457	-	653	Rm	Billabong ephemeral
4	22,413	-	56	Rv	Billabong surrounds
5	2,828	-	56	Rv	Peninsula (3)
6	1,352	2,701	56	Rv	Golf course border
6A	1,236	-	56	Rv	Golf course border
7	3,497	-	895	Rv	Freeway embankment
8	7,605	-	56	Rv	Corridor river embankment
9	389	-	821	Rv	Constructed wetland (2)
10	1,070	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland
10A	448	-	56	Rv	Constructed wetland surrounds

Zone	Current m2	Future m2	EVC	Cat	Description
10B	232	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland
11	-	7,582	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
11A	1,716	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland
11B	1,234	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland
12	-	2,715	895	Rv	Corridor freeway embankment
12A	536	-	895	Rv	Corridor Freeway Embankment
13A	786	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland
13B	234	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland
13C	140	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland
14	109	-	56	Rv	Floodplain Riparian Woodland


Willsmere Park
11B
11
11A
5
6
4
6A
6
2
13C
10A
1
7
12
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Winfield Road Reserve, Balwyn North

Winfield Road Reserve forms part of the Koonung Creek Corridor and has a desired width of 30 metres. The site has 4 main sections, Winfield Road embankment, ornamental beds, mound and Freeway embankment. Future enhancement could include management of the embankment grassland and further revegetation of the mound. Current site extent is 17,315 m2.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 1.57.

Zone	Current m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	6,957	47	Rm	Winfield Road embankment
2	871	47	Rv	Ornamental beds
2A	674	47	Rv	Ornamental beds
3	4,012	47	Rv	Vicroads embankment
4	1,450	47	Rv	Mound
5	2,296	47	Rv	Vicroads embankment
6	1,055	47	Rv	Sweyn Crt


Winfield Road Reserve
4
2
2A
3
1
5
6
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

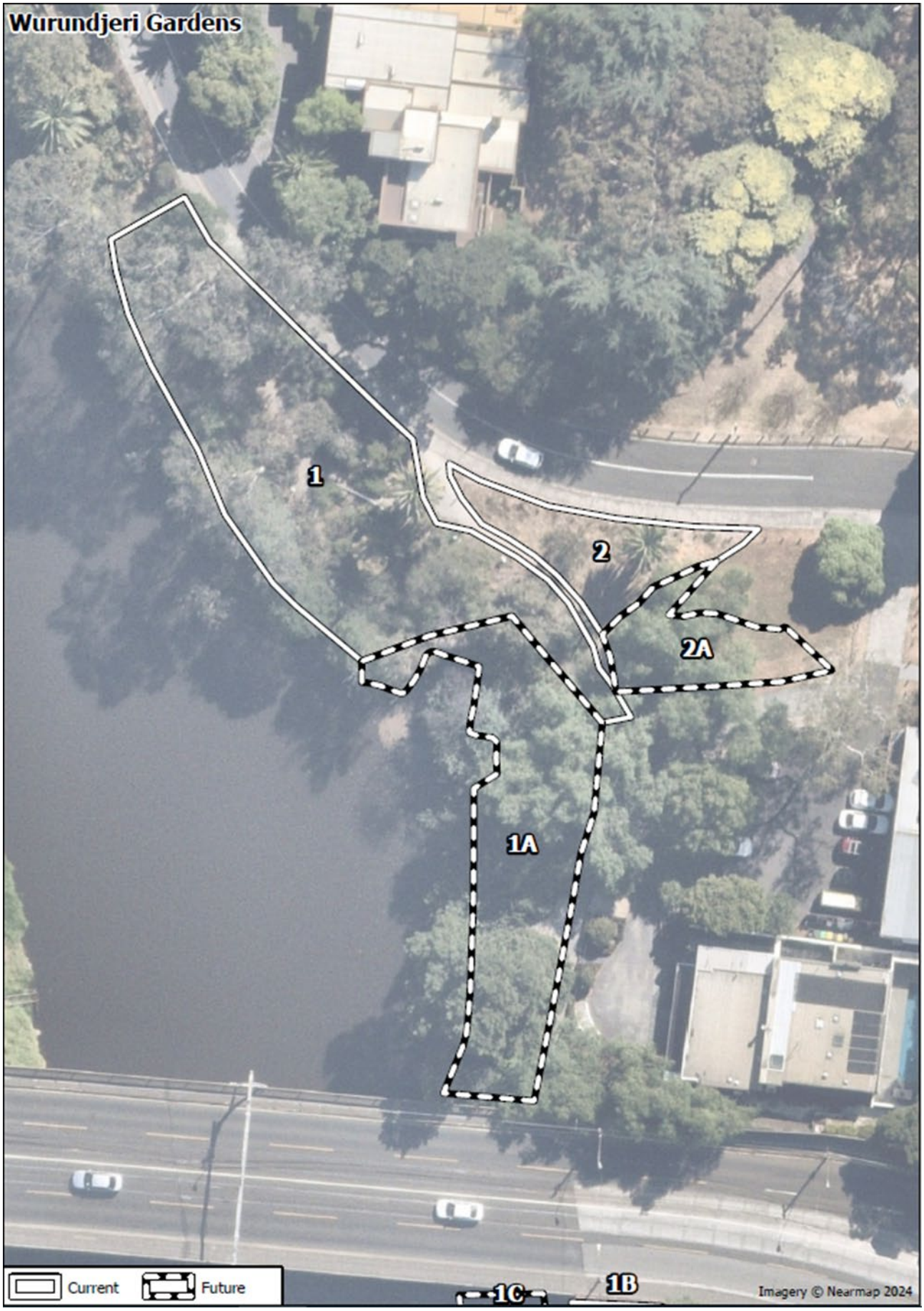
Wurundjeri Gardens, Hawthorn

Wurundjeri Gardens is located within the Yarra River Corridor. As a native plant food garden, it is not representative of the site EVC Riparian Woodland (EVC 641). The site has 2 zones comprising the river bank and open lawn. The site has potential to extend into the open lawn area. The current site extent is 970 m2.

An additional area of 970 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.43.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	807	-	641	Rv	River embankment
1A	-	460	641	Rv	River embankment
2	163	-	55	Rv	Grassland
2A	-	141	641	Rv	Open lawn


Wurundjeri Gardens
1
2
2A
1A
1C
1B
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Yarra Bank Reserve, Hawthorn

Yarra Bank Reserve forms part of the Yarra River Corridor and has a desired width of 30 metres. The desired width is not achievable due to hard and soft landscaping. Indigenous vegetation is limited to the river embankment with the exception of individual large River Red Gums. There is qualitative extension available particularly in the northern zone. The current site extent is 1,210 m2.

An additional area of 776 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.29.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,153	776	641	Rv	River embankment
2	57	-	641	Rv	Scar Tree


Yarra Bank Reserve
1
2
1
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Yarra Flats Reserve, Balwyn North

Yarra Flats Reserve forms part of the Yarra River Corridor and has a desired corridor width of 30 metres. As a large informal site, this is entirely achievable. The park has 5 zones: open treed lawn, Burke Road embankment, Freeway embankment, Riparian fringe and Ephemeral wetland. Extension includes qualitative improvement particularly of the lower riparian fringe and the eastern end of the riparian fringe, in addition to development of the ephemeral wetland. There is particular potential to improve the vegetation connection to Freeway Golf Course. The current site extent is 22,641 m2.

An additional area of 7,542 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.14.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,508	-	895	Rv	Burke Road embankment
2	3,842	3,041	56	Rv	Freeway embankment
3A	2,412	-	895	Rv	Riparian fringe
3B	5,809	-	56	Rv	Riparian fringe
3C	9,070	-	56	RV	Riparian fringe
4	-	183	172	Rv	Ephemeral wetland
5	-	4,318	56	Rv	Open treed lawn


Yarra Flats Reserve
3C
1
4
3B
2
5
2
3A
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

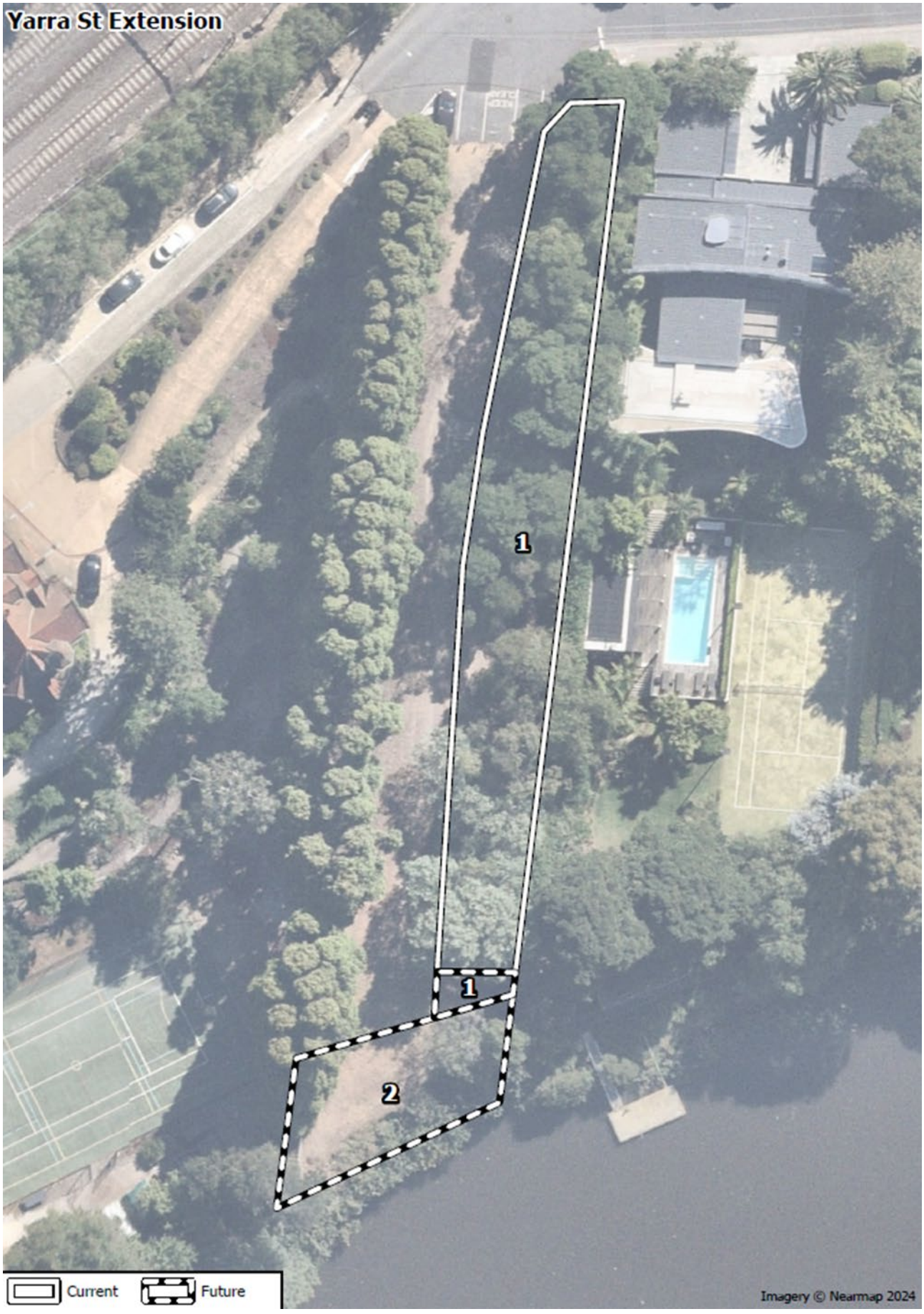
Yarra Street Extension, Hawthorn

Yarra Street Extension forms part of the Yarra River Corridor and has a desired width of 30 metres. As a narrow site, this is partially achievable. The park has 2 zones: Eastern embankment and River embankment. The river embankment is generally too steep for safe access from the park and would require Melbourne Water assistance for revegetation. Extension is possible through quality improvement including tree planting in open lawn, infill of the eastern embankment and weed control and revegetation of the river embankment. The current site extent is 725 m2.

An additional area of 274 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

In 2024 the site was assessed as having an Asset Condition Rating of 2.29.

Zone	Current m^2	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	725	25	56	Rv	Eastern embankment
2	-	249	56	Rv	River embankment


Yarra St Extension
1
1
2
Current
Future
Imagery © Nearmap 2024

Future Biodiversity Revegetation Sites

In addition to sites already currently managed or partially managed as biodiversity sites, there are several sites recommended for future development to increase the area being maintained as biodiversity sites. These sites have been identified as biologically significant either in the Inventory and Assessment of Indigenous Flora and Fauna or by site audit.

Table 5. Additional sites proposed for future development.

Site	Suburb	EVC	Corridor
Back Creek Reserve - Dawson Drive to Glen Iris Road	Glen Iris	PGW 55	Back Creek
Back Creek - Ferndale Park to Denman Ave	Glen Iris	PGW 55	Back Creek
Ferndale Road Reserve	Glen Iris	PGW 55	Ashburton
Hill'n Dale Park	Glen Iris	PGW 55	Ashburton
Kelvin Grove	Ashburton	GW 175	Outer Circle
King Street Chain	Balwyn	PGW 55	Glass Creek
Muswell Hill Reserve	Glen Iris	FPW 56	Gardiners Creek
Rockingham Close Reserve	Kew	RW (641)	Yarra River
Scotsburn st Reserve	Hawthorn	FPW 56	Yarra River
Shrublands Creek Reserve	Canterbury	PGW 55	Canterbury
Summerhill Linear Park	Glen Iris	PGW 55	Ashburton
Gardiners creek linear park; Tooronga road- Toorak Road	Hawthorn East	(EVC 56)	Gardiners Creek
Winton Road Reserve	Ashburton	(641)	Gardiners creek

Description and Mapping of Future Biodiversity sites

Back Creek Reserve - Dawson Dve - Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris

Back Creek Reserve forms part of the Back Creek corridor. It is possible to achieve the desired width of 10 metres by extending and connecting the indigenous tree canopy, phasing out exotic trees and extending and infilling shrub beds while retaining open areas for passive recreation. An area of 9,698 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,930	55	Rv	West corridor
2	2,098	55	Rv	West corridor
3	1,480	55	Rv	East corridor
4	2,190	55	Rv	East corridor

Back Creek Ferndale Park - Denman Ave, Glen Iris

Ferndale Park forms part of both the Ashburton and Back Creek corridors. It is possible to achieve the desired width of 10 metres by extending and connecting the indigenous tree canopy, phasing out exotic trees and extending and infilling shrub beds while retaining open areas for passive recreation. There is also potential for understorey planting under existing trees on the southern embankment between the cricket nets and playground. An area of 5,580 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	5,430	55	Rv	South corridor

Ferndale Road Reserve, Glen Iris

Ferndale Road Reserve forms part of the Ashburton Corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. This is achievable by planting indigenous trees, phasing out exotic trees and introducing revegetation beds on the north side of the path while retaining open areas for passive recreation on the south side of the path. An area of 1,400 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,400	55	Rv	North

Gardiners creek linear park; Tooronga Road - Toorak Road

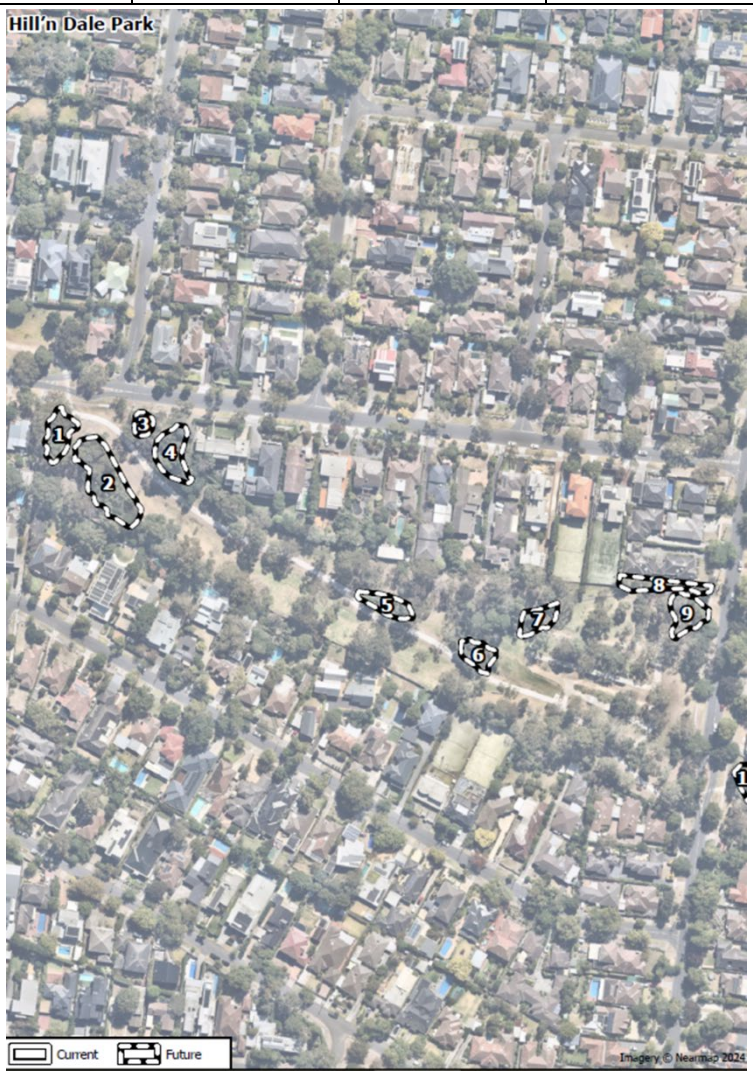
Gardiners creek linear park: Tooronga Road-Toorak Road forms part of the Gardiners creek corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. Width is not achievable due to shared path and large scale development of the area, however a 10m corridor is possible if both sides of the shared path are established. An area of 2,857 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,304	56	Rm	Creekside east
2	526	56	Rm	Path side east
3	970	56	Rm	Creekside middle
4	57	56	Rm	Creekside west

Hill'n Dale Park, Glen Iris

Hill'n Dale Park forms part of the Ashburton Corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. This is fully achievable through a combination of informal revegetation beds in low-lying areas, revegetation under existing tree canopy and planting of scattered individual trees in open lawn. An area of 2,692 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

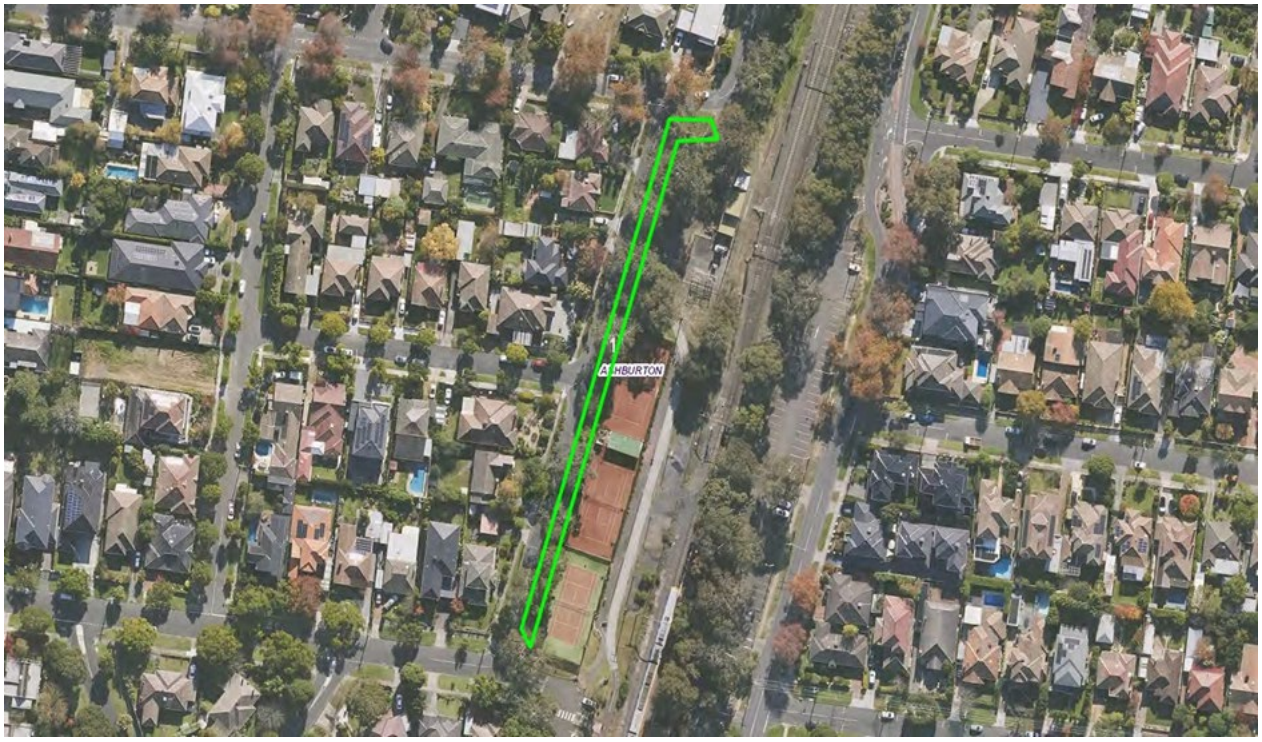
Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	280	68	Rv	Under existing trees
2	792	68	Rv	Under existing trees
3	100	68	Rv	Under existing trees
4	363	68	Rv	Under existing trees
5	219	68	Rv	Under existing trees
6	202	68	Rv	Under existing trees
7	204	68	Rv	Under existing trees
8	242	68	Rv	Under existing trees
9	290	68	Rv	Under existing trees



Kelvin Grove, Ashburton

Kelvin Grove is a road reserve is located on the east side of Kelvin Grove from Aitchison Avenue to Yuile Street forming part of the Outer Circle corridor. The site has a desired width of 10 metres which is not achievable due to the narrow width of the road reserve. The site features remnant Eucalypt canopy warranting improved site management. An area of 1,060 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

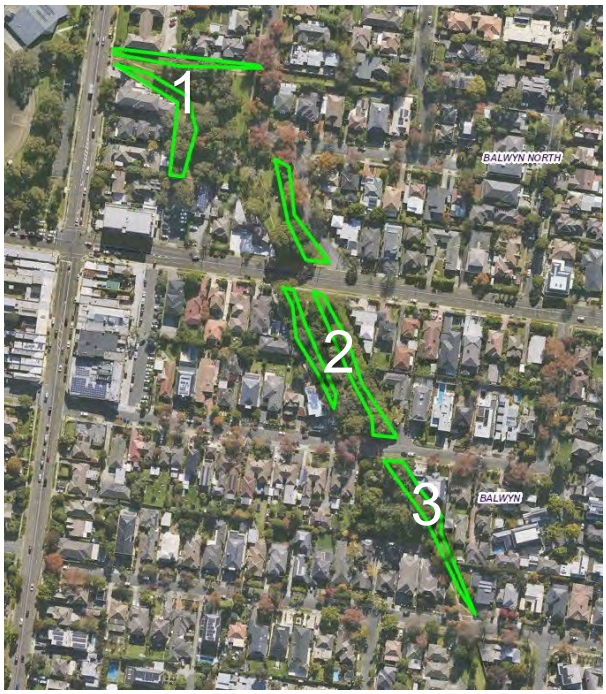
Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,060	175	Rv	Road Reserve



King Street Chain, Balwyn

King Street Chain is a series of connecting parks between Nicholson Street and Wynette Avenue. The chain forms part of the Glass Creek Corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. This is mainly achievable through a combination of open treed lawns and revegetation beds although the corridor is seriously compromised at two points including the Deepdene Tennis Club. Corridor improvement includes phasing out exotic trees, infilling with indigenous trees and connecting and enriching revegetation beds. An area of 6,263 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,800	55	Rv	Belmore Rd to Burke St
2	1,368	55	Rv	Belmore Rd to Head St
3	495	55	Rv	Birdwood St to Head St
4	2,070	55	Rv	Gordon St to King St
5	530	55	Rv	Naroo Street Reserve



Muswell Hill Reserve, Glen Iris

As part of the Gardiners Creek corridor, the desired corridor width for Muswell Hill Reserve is 30 metres. This is not possible due to the proximity of houses and the impact on limited open space. Enhancement would include weed control and species enrichment of the riparian fringe to achieve a 15-17 metre corridor in addition to an extended indigenous tree canopy being phased in as exotic trees in the open lawn decline. An area of 3,091 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	3,091	56	Rv	Riparian fringe

Rockingham Close Reserve

Rockingham Close Reserve forms part of the Yarra River corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. Due to restricted access this width is not achievable without large scale help from other stakeholders. There are two future zones, the upper bank where there is access for mowing, and the lower bank which would require a long term staged management plan to revegetate due to the conditions, slope, infestation of difficult weedy species, and highly restricted access. An area of 3,495 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	850	641	Rm	Upper bank
2	2,645	641	Rm	Lower bank

Scotsburn Street Reserve, Hawthorn

Scotsburn Street Reserve forms part of the Yarra River Corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. As a small park surrounded by residential properties, this is not achievable. Enhancement would involve staged weed control and revegetation with consideration to retaining views to the river. The site has one biodiversity zone, the Riparian fringe. An area of 1,665 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,665	56	Rv	Riparian fringe

Shrublands Creek Reserve, Canterbury

Shrublands Creek Reserve forms part of the Canterbury corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. The site offers opportunity for development of an open tree canopy without limiting usable open space. An area of 3,763 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	2,218	55	Rv	East corridor
2	570	55	Rv	West corridor
3	690	55	Rv	West corridor
4	285	55	Rv	West corridor

Summerhill Linear Park, Glen Iris

Summerhill Linear Park forms part of the Ashburton Corridor with a desired width of 10 metres. This is achievable through a combination of indigenous tree planting, phasing out exotic trees, species enrichment in existing beds, planting underneath existing tree canopy and introducing new beds in low-lying wet areas and embankments. This site offers an opportunity to plant water tolerant species mixes unsuitable for many areas of Boroondara. In particular, the swale offers opportunity for revegetation without limiting usable open space. An area of 2,119 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,215	68	Rv	North
2	195	68	Rv	East
3	121	68	Rv	Creekline swail
4	114	68	Rv	Roadside
5	129	68	Rv	Roadside corner
6	149	68	Rv	Centre
7	196	68	Rv	Creekline depression

Winton Road Reserve, Ashburton

Winton Road Reserve forms part of the Gardiners creek corridor with a desired width of 30 metres. This is not achievable due to the restricted access of the site and the surrounding developments. Winton Road Reserve serves as an extension of Ryburn Avenue Reserve and could act as a connecting piece of land between larger biodiversity dedicated areas such as Markham reserve to the east and Dorothy Laver East and West to the North West. There is significant land use by the nearby residents as an area of private open space due to restricted access, and land has notably been used for BMX jumps on many occasions. Any future works would need to keep current resident uses in mind. An area of 1500 m2 has been identified as potential future biodiversity zones.

Zone	Future m^2	EVC	Cat	Description
1	1,500	641	Rv	Riparian fringe

Plan to increase area managed for biodiversity values by 1ha per year

The development of the 10 year new works program is based on the assumption that to successfully create these areas, it is required to prepare, establish and maintain these sites over a 4 year period. For new sites, operational activities begin in year five.

Year	Description
One	Pre-planting preparation (weed suppression and removal)
Two	Pre-planting preparation (weed suppression and removal)
Three	Planting and establishment (weed suppression and watering)
Four	Establishment and post planting maintenance (weed suppression and watering)

The following sites are nominated for expansion over the next ten years. Please note, Council funding approval is required for all work programs identified in the plan, and the timing and scope of the works may differ from that shown in this plan due to unforeseen circumstances. The Biodiversity Sites and Revegetation team will regularly review progress and may make adjustments to the following ten-year site expansion plan if required to ensure the most valuable outcomes for biodiversity enhancement.

Start year	Site	Future zones (m2)	Zone(s)	Corridor
24-25	Summerhill Park	1,927.0	Zones 1 and 2	Ashburton creek
24-25	Balwyn Community Centre	863.0	Zones 7 and 8	Canterbury stepping stones
24-25	Greythorn Park	3,398.0	Zone 7B-C and 8A-B-C	Near North Balwyn stepping stones
24-25	Lynden Park	707.0	Portion of zone 2	Back Creek
24-25	Medlow Reserve	400.0	Portion of zone 1	Back Creek

24-25	Stradbroke Park	2,950.0	Unmapped embankment	Glass Creek
	Total hectares for 24-25	**1.02 ha**		
25-26	Markham Reserve	1,605.0	Jubilee zones	Gardiners creek
25-26	Nettleton park	500.0	Zone 2	Gardiners creek/Back creek
25-26	Summerhill linear Park	2,118.2	Zones 1-7	Ashburton
25-26	Burke Rd Billabong Reserve	2,000.0	Portion of zone 13	Yarra River
25-26	Willsmere park	1,700.0	Portion of zone 11	Yarra River
25-26	Freeway Golf Course	3,700.0	Zone 2	Yarra River
	Total hectares for 25-26	**1.16 ha**		
26-27	Burke Rd Billabong Reserve	2,000.0	Portion of zone 13	Yarra River
26-27	Willsmere park	3,000.0	Portion of zone 11	Yarra River
26-27	Dorothy Laver Reserve West	500.0	Zones 5 and 6	Gardiners creek
26-27	Nettleton park	950.0	TBM Melaleuca stand and path	Gardiners creek
26-27	Hill'n Dale Park	2,708.0	Zones 1-9	Ashburton
26-27	Chandler park	1,000.0	12A	Yarra River
	Total hectares for 26-27	**1.02 ha**		
27-28	Back Creek Reserve – Denman to Toorak	460.0	Zones 2 and 3	Back Creek
27-28	Eric raven reserve	370.0	Zone 4	Gardiners creek
27-28	Chandler park	2,500.0	Zone 13	Yarra River
27-28	Hays Paddock	1,000.0	Portion of zone 10	Yarra River
27-28	Burke Road Billabong Reserve	3,000.0	Portion of zone 13	Yarra River
27-28	Freeway Golf Course	3,000.0	Zone 9	Yarra River

	Total hectares for 27-28	**1.03 ha**		
28-29	Back creek Reserve – Dawson to Glen Iris	1,000.0	TBC	Back Creek
28-29	Back creek- Ferndale Park	1,000.0	TBC	Back Creek
28-29	Burke Rd Billabong	2,000.0	Portion of zone 13	Yarra river
28-29	Freeway golf course	5,000.0	Zone 8	Yarra River
28-29	Eric raven reserve	220.0	To be mapped	Gardiners creek
28-29	Lewin reserve	650.0	To be mapped Overpass bed	Gardiners creek
	Total hectares for 28-29	**0.99 ha**		
29-30	Back creek Reserve – Dawson to Glen Iris	1,000.0	TBC	Back Creek
29-30	Back creek- Ferndale Park	1,000.0	TBC	Back Creek
29-30	Burke Rd Billabong	2,000.0	Portion of zone 13	Yarra river
29-30	Freeway golf course	2,000.0	TBD	Yarra river
29-30	Tooronga to Toorak	850.0	Portion of zone 1	Gardiners creek
29-30	King street chain- Belmore to Burke Rd	2,000.0	To be mapped	Glass creek
	Total hectares for 29-30	**0.97 ha**		
30-31	Back creek Reserve – Dawson to Glen Iris	1,000.0	To be mapped	Back Creek
30-31	Back creek- Ferndale Park	1,000.0	To be mapped	Back Creek
30-31	Ferndale road reserve	2,000.0	Zones 1 and 2	Ashburton creek
30-31	Burke Rd Billabong	2,000.0	Portion of zone 12	Yarra river
30-31	Freeway golf course	2,000.0	TBD	Yarra river
30-31	King street chain- Belmore to Head Street	2,000.0	To be mapped	Glass creek
	Total hectares for 30-31	**1.00 ha**		

31-32	Burke Rd Billabong	2,000.0	Portion of zone 12	Yarra river
31-32	Freeway golf course	2,000.0	TBD	Yarra river
31-32	King street chain- Gordon to King streets	2,000.0	To be mapped	Glass creek
31-32	Back creek Reserve – Dawson to Glen Iris	1,000.0	To be mapped	Back Creek
31-32	Back creek- Ferndale Park	1,000.0	To be mapped	Back Creek
31-32	Summerhill Park	2,000.0	To be mapped	Ashburton creek
	Total hectares for 31-32	**1.00 ha**		
32-33	Burke Rd Billabong	2,000.0	Portion of zone 12	Yarra river
32-33	Freeway golf course	2,000.0	TBD	Yarra river
32-33	Stradbroke Park	2,500.0	Zones 6 and 7	Glass Creek
32-33	Back creek Reserve – Dawson to Glen Iris	2,000.0	To be mapped	Back Creek
32-33	Summerhill Park/Summerhill linear	1,500.0	To be mapped	Ashburton creek
	Total hectares for 32-33	**1.00 ha**		
33-34	Willsmere park	2,000.0	Portion of zone 11	Yarra river
33-34	Freeway golf course	2,000.0	TBD	Yarra river
33-34	Burke Rd billabong	3,000.0	Portion of zone 12	Yarra river
33-34	Back creek Reserve – Dawson to Glen Iris	2,000.0	To be mapped	Back Creek
33-34	Kelvin grove road reserve	1,000.0	To be mapped	Ashburton creek
	Total hectares for 33-34	**1.00 ha**		
	Total hectares over 10 years of the strategy	**10.19 ha**		