CM13.6. Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review & Draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan - Public Exhibition Submissions

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CONFIDENTIAL	No		
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Purpose of Report

To provide Council with a summary of the feedback received during the Public Exhibition of the Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review and seek endorsement of the final versions of the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Revision B), Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan (Revision B) and Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan.

Background

The Murray River Experience (MRE) Master Plan was endorsed by Council in February 2007. The Master Plan provides high level concept designs for eight sites along the foreshore of the Murray River and Lake Hume, including:

- Wonga Wetlands;
- West Albury Reserves (Padman/Mates Park, Kremur Street Boat Ramp and the wetlands in West Albury through to Horseshoe Lagoon);
- Central Riverside Parks (Oddies Creek Park, Noreuil Park, Noreuil Park Oval, Australia Park, Hovell Tree Park, Albury Swim Centre, Albury Sports Ground, Monument Hill and linking to the CBD);
- Doctors Point Reserve;
- Mungabareena Reserve and Eastern Hill Reserve;
- Lake Hume Reserves;
- Bowna Waters Reserve; and
- Table Top Reserve.

In addition to providing high level concept designs for each of these open space areas, the MRE Master Plan also provides the vision for the future Wagirra Trail to follow the Murray River to link Wonga Wetlands in the west to Lake Hume Village in the east (42km) and extend the trail along the Lake Hume Foreshore from Lake Hume Village to Bowna Waters Reserve (40km).

The key objectives of the MRE Master Plan are to:

- strengthen the relationship between the community and the Murray River;
- provide greater access to the Murray River;
- provide quality amenities in all open spaces;
- promote and develop a diversity of experiences;
- significantly improve the health and wellbeing of the Murray River;

- protect and improve viewing points to and from the Murray River; and
- promote the Aboriginal community's connection with the River.

Since the initial endorsement of the MRE Master Plan in 2007, a range of significant MRE projects have been completed by AlburyCity, including:

- Albury Riverside Precinct;
- Wagirra Trail (Union Bridge to Wonga Wetlands (8.5kms);
- Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk (and realignment) – 15 Aboriginal artworks;
- Wagirra Trail Wonga Loop extension around Wonga Wetlands (12kms);
- Oddies Creek Play Space (two stages);
- Kremur Street Boat Ramp;
- Noreuil Park Foreshore Master Plan and upgrade;
- Oddies Creek Streambank weed removal and revetment work (300m);
- Wood Fired Oven establishment and upgrade;
- Precinct Place upgrade;
- Padman Park Flying-Fox viewing platform;
- Wonga Wetlands Tourism Product Development Master Plan;
- Mungabareena Reserve Boat Ramp upgrade;
- Mungabareena Reserve declared Aboriginal Place and associated Management Plan;
- Waterview Road Canoe Launch;
- Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan;
- Table Top Reserve improvements (public toilet, new play equipment, rock barriers to restrict vehicle access and revegetation);
- Lake Hume Reserves risk abatement works (removal of dead pine trees);
- Lake Hume Boat Ramp rock revetment works;
- Lake Hume Boat Ramp lighting;
- Albury Botanic Gardens Master Plan;
- Monument Hill Master Plan and redevelopment (Stage 1);
- Riverside Artwork '*Bungambrawatha*' at Riverside Precinct;
- Hovell Tree Park Public Toilets and Changing Places facility;
- Noreuil Park Foreshore weed removal and revetment works (225m); and
- Noreuil Park Foreshore main swim area streambank maintenance work.

The implementation of the MRE Master Plan has involved a variety of delivery pathways, including the establishment of a dedicated AlburyCity Aboriginal Works Team (the Wagirra Crew). The Wagirra Crew has been involved in the delivery of the Oddies Creek Play Space, Kremur Street Boat Ramp, Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk, Waterview Road Canoe Launch and Wagirra Trail construction, as well as improvements at Mungabareena Reserve.

Other major MRE projects that are significantly advanced, in readiness for delivery or under construction include:

- Australia Park improvements including car park, linking pedestrian bridge, levee bank upgrade, and revegetation program for Oddies Creek Park;
- Wonga Wetlands Visitor Education Experience Centre with associated car parking and landscaping; and

- Wagirra Trail from Lake Hume Village to Bethanga Bridge.

With many of the primary signature projects either complete or underway, it was determined that a review of the MRE Master Plan was required to review the extent of MRE recommendations completed and identify future priorities that can guide the implementation of future AlburyCity projects. Through a joint submission received via a procurement process, 'Chrofi' and 'McGregor Coxall' were engaged as consultants to undertake the MRE Master Plan Review.

The scope of the MRE Master Plan Review included two parts:

Part A – Murray River Experience Master Plan Review

- Review the concept designs for each open space area and outline the following:

    a. evaluate completed initiatives;
    b. assess ongoing projects;
    c. adapt to evolving priorities; and
    d. identify the next set of priorities.

- Investigate the next priorities for the construction of the Wagirra Trail.

Part B – Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan

- Develop a revised, more detailed Master Plan for Albury Central Riverside Parks.

Following an extended period of internal and external stakeholder consultation, a draft report documenting the MRE Master Plan Review (Part A) was prepared, along with the development of a revised Draft Master Plan for Central Albury Riverside Parks. These two foundational documents were used as part of the Phase Two community consultation that was undertaken over a 56-day period during February-April in 2024, along with the following two other site-specific plans:

- Draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan; and
- Draft Noreuil Park Riverbank Rehabilitation Concept Plan.

There were 725 submissions received during the Phase Two consultation of the MRE Master Plan Review. The majority of the submissions received from the community were in relation to the draft Noreuil Park Riverbank Rehabilitation Concept Plan, with significant opposition expressed by the community with extensive amendments sought to the proposed concept design. In contrast, the feedback received in relation to the MRE Master Plan Review document, Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan, and the Draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan was typically more supportive, with only minor amendments proposed. The combined findings of Phase Two consultation were presented to the Council meeting held on 8 July 2024, whereby Council resolved to:

a. receive and note the community feedback received through the Phase One and Phase Two consultation;

b. endorse the following Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review documents and place on public exhibition for a minimum of 56 days:
   - Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Revision B);
   - Draft Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan (Revision B);
   - Draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan; and

c. endorse the Draft Noreuil Park River Bank Rehabilitation Stakeholder Engagement Plan, which will facilitate further community consultation and revisions to be made to the Noreuil Park River Bank concept design.

Following the above Council resolution, the Phase Three community consultation (public exhibition), of the Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review, Draft Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan, and Draft Lake Hume Master Plan commenced on Monday 5 August 2024 and concluded on Monday 30 September 2024. During this time, a Have your Say webpage was developed with the relevant Master Plan Review documents. Hard copy documents were also available at the Lavington Library, Albury Library Museum and at the Council Offices. The consultation period was promoted through social media, advertisement in the Border Mail and electronic mail to key stakeholders and interested community members who were able to provide a response (and contact details) through Phase Two consultation. Approximately 25 signs were also placed at strategic locations in Council reserves within the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review area.

There were also several face-to-face opportunities to provide feedback at the three pop-up sessions held at Lavington Square, West End Plaza and Riverside Precinct (Noreuil Park Foreshore).

During the public exhibition period, the Have Your Say website had 439 visits from 294 different visitors, and at the conclusion there were a total of nine submissions that included five submissions received through the online platform and an additional four submissions received by email. The submissions are included in Attachment 1, and the table below provides a summary of the submissions received, along with an Officer response.

Online Submission 1 – South West Anglers (Terry Maloney)

As Secretary of South West Anglers Association, I would like to comment on the Doctors Point Draft Plan.

We feel it is important to retain the boat launching facility at the Doctors Point Reserve for several reasons:

- There is a need for a small passive boat launch location for recreational fishers that have smaller boats, and with many being retirees and elderly, the challenge of using the larger and busy boat ramps is somewhat daunting.
- Most of their activities are mid-week or just for a short while and they are just about having some relaxation that might result in a fish.
- They do not want grand boat ramps and would be happy with a gravel ramp that would be capable of launching a small tinny.
- They would also be more than happy with a 4km speed limit in the immediate area. We have unfortunately had reports of such fishers being discouraged (to say the least) by the big boat

people at Kremur Street and being told they would be better off going somewhere else as it might get a bit wild around here. Unfortunately, there are not a lot of options in or around Albury.

- Recreational fishing is worth about $4B to the NSW economy and the Murray Darling Basin alone contributes about $1.4B. I would suggest that Albury Local Government area does not get a very large share of that money and that may be attributed to lack of facilities available along the Murray River.

By all means enhance the area but do not alienate a significant group of river users and demand that they use facilities that are designed for the water based recreational activities such as water skiing, wake boarding, etc. Their activities simply do not mix.

Officer Response

Thank you for your feedback.

Doctors Point Reserve is not recognised by the NSW Government as a formal boat launching facility, with the nearest authorised boat ramp located at Mungabareena Reserve, approximately 3kms upstream. The MRE proposed works summary for Doctors Point Reserve identifies the need to "review the river access point", which can include further review and investigation of future passive recreation opportunities. However, it is noted that the site has several constraints that will need to be considered carefully to ensure the sensitive local environment continues to be managed for its unique value. The river access review will involve a stakeholder engagement process which the South West Anglers will be identified as a key stakeholder.

Online submission 2 – Greta Seebacher

I have walked along here a number of times. I'm not sure what you are trying to do but it looks very sad. If possible, it would be nice to have an explanation as what your plans are.

Officer Response

Contributor did not specify the particular area of MRE identified in their response.

All plans were available on the website for review by the public, which were accessible via QR code.

Online submission 3 – Hugh Jamieson

Don't wreck River Deck Cafe area. We like the trees and grass. Excessive concrete gets hot in summer

Officer Response

Noted. The Noreuil Foreshore River Bank Rehabilitation project has been removed from the MRE review process and will continue as a separate project with additional community consultation opportunities.

Online submission 4 – Jessica Wiltshire

I am excited to see the plans for the central Albury riverside areas. In particular the splash park would be wonderful. My only feedback is that I hope there will be shade options around and over the water areas to increase the ability for kids to play throughout the Summer months.

Officer Response

Thank you for your feedback.

The Oddies Creek Park Splash Park will have additional community engagement opportunities, and shade will be a major consideration in the design process for the project.

Online submission 5 – Nicole H

1. Mungabareena should be an icon Aboriginal site for the area, our town has stunning Aboriginal art surrounding important cultural sites.
2. This has made our town unique and most important challenging culture norms. I believe this is Albury's opportunity to make a difference and support our local Aboriginal leaders.
3. Along side the boardwalk, we should have huge Aboriginal stonework (link provided in the submission). This would truly put Albury on the map.

Officer Response

1. Thanks for feedback and comment noted.
2. Thanks for feedback and comment noted.
3. The Bungambrawatha artwork was recently commissioned and installed through an expression of interest process. At this point in time there is no other public artwork proposed for this area.

Email submission 1 – Ant Packer - Parklands Albury Wodonga

Is AlburyCity chasing funding to do more work on the Murray River Experience? If so, it would be great to include engineering designs and detailed costings for a footbridge over the Murray River at the end of Abercorn Street, South Albury.

Officer Response

The first stage of the extension of the Wagirra Trail is to determine the alignment through South Albury (only general options are proposed at this stage) in conjunction with the Murray River Adventure Trail project. Once alignments have been established then appropriate river crossings can be further investigated. The Abercorn Street area can be included as an option but with the Union Bridge approximately 500 metres downstream it may not be the most appropriate location.

Email submission 2 – Parklands Albury Wodonga

Parklands Albury Wodonga provided a range of opportunities to progress the Murray River Adventure Trail which have relevance to Albury City Council's Murray River Experience Strategies. (Maps were provided in the submission)

They are:

1. Wagirra Trail along Oddies Creek embankment – off road natural corridor.
2. Footbridge design & cost estimates – commuter trail between Albury & Wodonga CBDs.
3. Townsend St closed road connection to Albury CBD – commuter trail.
4. Normans Lagoon wetlands circuit – wetland circuit
5. Footbridge design and cost estimates – Thurgoona residents access to Murray River.
6. Footbridge design and cost estimates – Lake Hume residents access to Murray River.

Officer Response

AlburyCity is aware of the Murray River Adventure Trail project and will continue to work with consultants, Parklands Albury Wodonga, landholders and the broader community to identify appropriate trail alignments as well as appropriate locations to cross the Murray River to access the wider trail network.

Email submission 3 – Rohan Rehwinkel – Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Does the statement *"Review the existing river access point. Retain the area as a passive recreation area"* mean that the boat ramp may be removed or is it under review to be removed from the area?

Officer Response

Doctors Point Reserve is not recognised by the NSW Government as a formal boat launching facility, with the nearest authorised boat ramp located at Mungabareena Reserve, approximately 3kms upstream. The MRE proposed works summary for Doctors Point Reserve identifies the need to "review the river access point", which can include further review and investigation of future passive recreation opportunities. However, it is noted that the site has several constraints that will need to be considered carefully to ensure the sensitive local environment continues to be managed for its unique value. The river access review will involve a stakeholder engagement process which the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development will be identified as a key stakeholder.

Email submission 4 – Thurgoona Wirlinga Community Action Group (TWCAG)

TWCAG would like to make the following points for consideration:

1. If the aim is as stated "Fundamentally, the design aims to create a practical environment that is easy to navigate, **aesthetically pleasing**, and inclusive, **promoting a seamless connection with nature**" then approval of industrial/commercial developments along the wider Murray River should not be allowed, not simply in terms of the existing restrictions but also in terms of any degradation to the scenic amenity of riparian areas. As it affects the experiences of those people also using the river for recreation.
2. We are generally supportive of a greater diversity of walking track experiences at Wonga Wetlands.
3. We think the proposed interpretive signage at Padman Park should not just focus on flying foxes but also be inclusive of the mature trees and the habitat value to a range of wildlife.
4. The proposal for improved picnic areas, play facilities and bridge to gateway Island should be mindful of the proposed relaxation of constraints along this section of the Murray.
5. We support that the "Development of management plans and revegetation strategies should be consistent with the existing Padman Park Management Plan and existing river edge revegetation controls".
6. The proposed Horseshoe Lagoon boardwalk, interpretive signage and additional seating should focus on the wetlands birds that frequent the lagoon. The local Birdlife Australia people have considerable expertise.
7. The development of Doctors Point Reserve should consider synergies with the Eastern Hill Reserve Master Plan.
8. There is a problem with people accessing parts of Bowna Waters with their cars by cutting through existing fencing. We are strongly supportive of new fencing to restrict vehicular access and hence promoting revegetation fences.
9. TWCAG is supportive of having a bike/dog walking/pedestrian/horse riding strip alongside/as part of the existing road network in Bowna Waters.
10. We would like to see improved management of the public access points and informal picnic areas that have been created along the lake shore south-east beyond the boat ramp car park at Bowna Waters.
11. Tabletop Reserve: We would like to see some better direction of the public/pedestrian access should they wish to go down to the lake area.
12. Wagirra Trail improvements: new measures should be mindful of the proposed relaxation of constraints along this section of the Murray River.

Officer Response

1. Noted. Industrial developments are not included in the MRE Master Plan Review as the plan focuses on mainly open space and passive recreation opportunities. Commercial opportunities are explored through the Albury Sportsground redevelopment and in Noreuil Park. The Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan (Part B) proposes a new urban edge along Wodonga Place which will provide further opportunities for people to access and enjoy the riverside parklands.

2. Noted.
3. Noted. An interpretive signage strategy is proposed to be developed as part of the West Albury Reserves Master Plan, which can further explore and interpret the regions natural and cultural values.
4. The detailed design and approval process for each project element will consider these constraints in further detail prior to construction.
5. Noted.
6. Noted. Three wildlife interpretive signs have recently been installed around Horseshoe Lagoon including one on local bird species.
7. Noted.
8. Noted. A dedicated Master Plan will be developed for Bowna Waters Reserve following determination of an unresolved Aboriginal Land Claim. Restriction of vehicle access can be considered further as part of the master planning process.
9. Noted.
10. Noted. A dedicated Master Plan will be developed for Bowna Waters Reserve following determination of an unresolved Aboriginal Land Claim. This can be considered in that master planning process.
11. Noted, however the water subsides quickly from this area and land directly south to the reserve is private. Signage may be difficult as it can only be installed on Council managed land above the 100% Lake Hume level.
12. The detailed design and approval process will consider these constraints in more detail prior to construction.

Email Submission 5 – DPI Fisheries

1. Doctors Point provides anglers with smaller boats the opportunity to launch then travel downstream to fish. The ramp is also important in winter when water levels are generally low.
2. Consultation with local angling groups has also indicated this is an important access location access.
3. An objective of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* is for DPIRD Fisheries, as administrators of the Act, to provide for quality recreational fishing opportunities. As such, access points such as the boat launch at Doctors Point Reserve are seen to be a priority for DPIRD Fisheries and anglers due to the amenity they provide. As such, we contend they should be retained for future public use.
4. Socio economic importance is also outlined in the submission.

Officer Response

1. Noted.
2. Noted.
3. Doctors Point Reserve is not recognised by the NSW Government as a formal boat launching facility, with the nearest authorised boat ramp located at Mungabareena Reserve, approximately 3kms upstream. The MRE proposed works summary for Doctors Point Reserve identifies the need to “review the river access point”, which can include further review and investigation of future passive recreation opportunities. However, it is noted that the site has several constraints that will need to be considered carefully to ensure the

sensitive local environment continues to be managed for its unique value. The river access review will involve a stakeholder engagement process which the DPI Fisheries will be identified as a key stakeholder.

4. Noted.

Public Exhibition Summary

At the close of the Phase Three engagement period there were nine submissions received, which is significantly less than the 725 submissions received during the Phase Two community consultation. There were submissions received expressing concerns that the river access point at Doctors Point Reserve would be closed and preclude recreational watercraft from accessing the water at this location. It is acknowledged that this location does provide an alternative access to the river through an informal earthen river access point (mainly used by small fishing boats and personal watercraft). This informal access is intended to continue at this stage. However, it should be noted that it would be difficult to upgrade the site to a more formalised boat ramp, noting the natural constraints and small size of this reserve make vehicular access and parking difficult. A future review of the river access point will include a stakeholder engagement process. Key stakeholders identified in the stakeholder engagement plan will include Transport for NSW, Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (Fisheries) and South West Anglers. The review will investigate how the river access can be retained for small watercraft, without impacting on the natural and unique values of Doctors Point Reserve.

The balance of public exhibition feedback received was typically positive, with a smaller number of issues and suggestions raised that can typically be addressed as individual projects progress to further investigation and concept design.

Based on the submissions and feedback received there are no changes proposed to the following Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review documentation, and therefore the following documents could be endorsed as the final versions:

a. Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Revision B) (see Attachment 2);
b. Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan (Revision B) (see Attachment 3); and
c. Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan (see Attachment 4).

Strategic Alignment

Towards Albury 2050

A Growing Sustainable Economy:

1.2 Albury has an accessible, integrated transport network that connects our city through safe and efficient travel options.
  1.2.1 Effectively plan, upgrade and maintain our network of roads, bridges, cycleways, footpaths, walkways and street lighting.
1.3 Albury will offer diverse and innovative tourism experiences to attract new and repeat visitation.
  1.3.3 Investigate partnerships to attract visitors to our region, and increase the diversity in attractions, events and facilities for our community and visitors.

An Enhanced Natural Environment:

2.2 Albury embraces the cultural heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

2.2.1 Our Community values Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander's Cultural Heritage, through the preservation and celebration for future generations, with the adoption of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's land management practices.

2.4 Albury is a recognised leader in the conservation and management of our natural assets.

2.4.3 Acknowledge our connection to the natural environment by providing opportunities for the community to connect and respectfully enjoy our natural surroundings.

A Caring Community:

3.1 Albury's local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community is empowered through self-determination.

3.1.2 Advocate and collaborate for the priorities of the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representative groups.

3.3 Our community values arts, culture, heritage and place. All residents share and celebrate our multiculturalism in a welcoming and open community.

3.3.3 Our spaces will provide a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for our community to enjoy.

3.5 Albury is a safe, inclusive and accessible region for our entire community.

3.5.2 Our buildings and spaces are designed to be inclusive and accessible to all community members.

3.5.3 AlburyCity will create safe spaces and places by using the latest technology and approaches available.

3.6 Albury is a vibrant region that values the enrichment offered by arts and cultural activities and provides for diverse lifestyles and experiences.

3.6.1 Albury will create vibrant and interesting public and cultural spaces and places that support and encourage the development of participation in and celebration of arts and culture.

3.6.3 Albury will provide a diverse range of experiences – including entertainment, art and cultural experiences, sport and community driven events**.**

Early Years and Young Peoples Plan

The Early Years and Young Peoples Plan was recently endorsed by Council on 28 October 2024. As part of the development of this plan, AlburyCity completed an extensive range of community engagement activities, with over 1,000 people providing feedback during this time. The community told us that to make Albury a better place they would like to see improvements to open space including parks and playgrounds, and a splash park was identified as a high priority.

Environmental Sustainability Framework and Action Plan

Priority Sustainable Challenges - (PSC9) Delivery of high quality, accessible and biodiverse green infrastructure.

Delivering a Sustainable Transport Network - (STN2.1) Improve walking and cycling connections.

Regional Natural Environment Strategy

7.2.1 Natural Places – Protect and enhance habitat.
7.2.2 Waterways and Wetlands – Protect and restore riparian zones, wetlands and aquatic habitats.
7.2.6 Liveability – Provide opportunities for everyday connections with nature and waterways. Plan strategically for appropriate recreational use of natural areas.

Two Cities One Community Strategic Plan 2022-2025

2.2 The Environment – We preserve and experience the beautiful and unique area we live in.
3.3 Our Community – We are a liveable community, connected to our region and other cities.

Risk

- **Business Risk** – The Murray River Experience Master Plan is a long-term strategic plan. Minimal financial analysis has been carried out as part of the review process, however upon endorsement the actions can be included in the Project Management Framework and future budget processes for Council's consideration. There are a large number of projects identified whereby funding will be required to complete significant environmental and cultural investigations and design work prior to seeking approvals and ultimately undertake construction. The intention is to progress projects to a stage where they are shovel ready for construction which makes them suitable to apply for grant funding for the construction stage.

- **Corporate Risk** – Developing Master Plans for sites provides a strategic direction for all key stakeholders and Council. It is also critical to achieving grant funding, and this creates a positive image for Council. There may be community expectations that works associated with the Master Plans will occur quickly, and these expectations will require careful management. Each project identified in the updated Murray River Experience Master Plan will have a standalone Project Plan that will include a Stakeholder Engagement Plan and further engagement with the community as individual projects progress.

  Given the extent of opposition received on the Draft Noreuil Park River Bank Rehabilitation concept design during the previous Phase Two community consultation, Council resolved to remove the current Noreuil Park River Bank Rehabilitation concept design from the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review process, and undertake further community engagement and refinement of this concept design as a separate standalone project. Consequently, there was only a small number of submissions received during Phase Three public exhibition which may indicate the community have a greater level of comfort with the publicly exhibited documentation.

- **WHS and Public Risk** – WHS and risk management have only been considered at a high level during the master planning process. Further risk management consideration will be undertaken during the design development phase of each project and during construction when this occurs.

- **Environmental Risk** – Construction projects adjacent to the Murray River require careful consideration. Each of the projects identified in the Master Plan will require detailed Biodiversity and Cultural Heritage due diligence and likely require a Review of Environmental Factors to be prepared during the detailed design phase and prior to construction. To date, significant environmental works have been undertaken (especially streambank work associated with the Murray River and revegetation) as part of the original MRE Master Plan. There have been several positive environmental impacts resulting from the majority of completed works including Murray River streambank revetment works, reinstatement of public parkland (Noreuil Park Foreshore and Hovell Tree Park) and revegetation works. Environmental impacts will continue to be considered in detail as part of the design process for future MRE projects.

- **Delivery Program Risk** – The adoption of the final version of the MRE Master Plan and associated documentation will allow Council to take a considered approach to prioritising projects outlined in the MRE Master Plan and Four-Year Deliver Plan. As projects move through the phases of the Project Management Framework, project funding will be presented to Council in future budgets for consideration.

  There are a number of projects identified in the Four-Year Delivery Plan related to the Murray River Experience Master Plan. Endorsement of the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review documents will enable these projects to continue with further investigations, design and ultimately construction. These projects include:

  - Oddies Creek Park Splash Park;
  - Australia Park Car Park, Pedestrian Bridge and Levee Bank Reconstruction;
  - Wagirra Trail – Ongoing Construction and design (noting need to work closely with key stakeholders to further investigate preferred trail alignment and connections with the Murray River Adventure Trail);
  - Hume Weir Parks Improvements;
  - Apex Park (Lake Hume) Improvements;
  - Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan;
  - Mungabareena Aboriginal Place Management Plan Implementation (working closely with Mungabareena Aboriginal Place Management Group to determine priorities); and,
  - West Albury Reserves Master Plan.

Options

That Council

1. endorse the following Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review documents as the final versions:

   a. Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Revision B) (Attachment 2);
   b. Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan (Revision B) (Attachment 3); and
   c. Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan (Attachment 4). **Recommended.**

This is a preferred option as the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review has involved three phases of community consultation. Phase Two consultation received over 725 submissions with the majority relating to Noreuil Park. The removal of the Noreuil Park River Bank Rehabilitation project from the MRE review process along with the minor amendments to the other MRE review documents resulted in nine submissions received through the Phase Three public exhibition period with no significant opposition received from the community. Consequently, there are no further amendments proposed resulting from the submissions received.

2. Do not endorse the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review documentation and request amendments. **Not Recommended.**

   This is not the preferred option as the Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review documentation has been developed following three phases of consultation, with minimal feedback received through Phase Three consultation and no significant opposition to the publicly exhibited documents.

Conclusion

The MRE Master Plan was endorsed in 2007 and is an overarching strategic plan for improving access to and infrastructure along the Murray River. Since its initial endorsement, significant investment has been made on projects associated with the Master Plan which has transformed the way the community interacts with the river. These works have been instrumental in achieving the key MRE objectives which seek to strengthen the relationship between the community and the Murray River, provide greater access to the Murray River, provide quality amenities in all open spaces and promote and develop a diversity of experiences.

As the original Master Plan was endorsed in 2007, it has been important to reflect on what has been achieved, but to also look at the actions remaining and identify what the community priorities are for future investment. As we grow as a city, the way that we interact with the Murray River and Lake Hume not only continues to be an important recreational past time for many members of our community but is important to pivot to reflect best practice in design and environmental considerations.

The Murray River Experience Master Plan Review has now completed three phases of community consultation. Phase Two consultation received over 725 submissions with the majority relating to Noreuil Park, which resulted in the removal of the Noreuil Park River Bank Rehabilitation project from the MRE review process along with the minor amendments to the other MRE review documents. As a result, there were nine submissions received through the Phase Three public exhibition period, with no significant opposition received from the community. Consequently, there are no further amendments proposed and it is now considered timely to endorse the draft MRE documentation as the final version to allow proposed concepts to proceed to future implementation.

Recommendation

That Council:

a. receive and note the community feedback received through the phase three Murray River Experience Master Plan Review - Public Exhibition; and
b. endorse the following final versions of the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review:
    i. Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Revision B);
    ii. Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan (Revision B); and
    iii. Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan.

Attachments

1. Murray River Experience Master Plan Review Feedback – Public Exhibition Submissions redacted (DOC24/247249).
2. Murray River Experience Master Plan Review – Revision B - Final Version (DOC24/247646).
3. Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan – Revision B – Final Version (DOC24/247634).
4. Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan – Final Version (DOC24/239864).

Have Your Say

Draft Murray River Experience Master Plan Review Feedback

Jul 01, 2024 - Sep 30, 2024

Project: Murray River Experience

Tool Type: Form

Activity ID: 280

Exported: Oct 01, 2024, 09:04 AM

Exported By: JacquelineOwens

socialpinpoint

Response No: 1

Contribution ID: 18001
Member ID:
Date Submitted: Sep 29, 2024, 10:47 PM

Q1 **First Name**

Short Text Terry

Q2 **Last Name**

Short Text Maloney

Q3 **Email address**

Email [redacted]

Q4 **Please provide your feedback below**

Long Text As secretary of South West Anglers Association I would like to comment on the Doctors Point Draft Plan. SWAA is an association of recreational fishing clubs in southern NSW and has a number of member clubs in Albury/Wodonga as well as the surrounding area.
We feel it is important to retain the boat launching facility at the Doctors Point Reserve for several reasons. There is a need for a small passive boat launch location for recreational fishers that have smaller boats and with many being retirees and elderly the challenge of using the larger and busy boat ramps is somewhat daunting. Most of their activities are mid week or just for a short while and they are just about having some relaxation that might result in a fish. They do not want grand boat ramps and would be happy with a gravel ramp that would be capable of launching a small tinny. They would also be more than happy with a 4kn speed limit in the immediate area. We have unfortunately had reports of such fishers being discouraged (to say the least)by the big boat people at Kremur Street and being told they would be better off going somewhere else as it might get a bit wild around here.
Unfortunately, there are not a lot of options in or around Albury. Recreational fishing is worth about $4B to the NSW economy and the Murray Darling Basin alone contributes about $1.4 b. I would suggest that Albury local Government area does not get a very large share of that money and that may be attributed to lack of facilities available along the Murray River. By all means enhance the area but do not alienate a significant group of river users and demand that they use facilities that a designed for the water based recreational activities such as water skiing, wake boarding etc. Their activities simply do not mix.
Terry Maloney. Sec SWAA

Response No: 2

Contribution ID: 17700
Member ID:
Date Submitted: Sep 06, 2024, 08:58 AM

Q1 **First Name**

Short Text Greta

Q2 **Last Name**

Short Text Seebacher

Q3 **Email address**

Email [redacted]

Q4 **Please provide your feedback below**

Long Text I have walked along here a number of times I'm not sure what you are trying to do but it looks very sad
If possible, it would be nice to have an explanation as what your plans are..

Response No: 3

Contribution ID: 17594
Member ID:
Date Submitted: Aug 23, 2024, 06:21 PM

Q1 **First Name**

Short Text Hugh

Q2 **Last Name**

Short Text Jamieson

Q3 **Email address**

Email [redacted]

Q4 **Please provide your feedback below**

Long Text Don't wreck river deck Cafe area. We like the tree's and grass. Excessive concrete gets hot in summer.

Response No: 4

Contribution ID: 17565
Member ID:
Date Submitted: Aug 21, 2024, 07:13 PM

Q1 **First Name**

Short Text Jessica

Q2 **Last Name**

Short Text Wiltshire

Q3 **Email address**

Email [redacted]

Q4 **Please provide your feedback below**

Long Text I am excited to see the plans for the central Albury riverside areas. In particular the splash park would be wonderful. My only feedback is that I hope there will be shade options around and over the water areas to increase the ability for kids to play throughout the Summer months.

Response No: 5

Contribution ID: 17416
Member ID:
Date Submitted: Aug 12, 2024, 11:37 AM

Q1 **First Name**

Short Text Nicole

Q2 **Last Name**

Short Text H

Q3 **Email address**

Email [redacted]

Q4 **Please provide your feedback below**

Long Text http://tripadvisor.com.au/attraction_review-g261616-d6540410-reviews-australian_standing_stones-glen_innes_new_south_wales.html

Mungabareena should be an Icon aboriginal site for the area, our town has stunning aboriginal art surrounding important cultural sites, thanks to the Murray family.
This has made our town unique and most important challenging culture norms.
I believe this is Albury's opportunity to make a difference and Support our local aboriginal leaders.

Along side The boardwalk , we should have huge aboriginal stone work as shown in the link above.

This would Truly put Albury on the map.

From: Ant Packer <[redacted]>
Sent: Monday, 9 September 2024 5:02 PM
To: Rob Sharpe
Subject: planning for Murray River Experience?

Hi Rob

Further to discussions some months ago, I was wondering whether Albury City Council is chasing funding to do more design work for the Murray River Experience?

If yes, it would be great to include engineer designs and detailed costings for a footbridge over the Murray River at the end of Abercorn Street, South Albury, which would create a 3.8km off road rail trail between Albury CBD and Wodonga CBD.

Talk further?

Ant Packer
Community Ranger
Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd ***- bush parks and trails connecting community***
p: [redacted] **m:** [redacted]
a: [redacted] | **e:** [redacted]

Parklands Albury Wodonga acknowledge the traditional custodians of lands throughout Australia and pay our respect to their elders, past, present and emerging. We also acknowledge our gratitude that we share this land today, our sorrow for some of the costs of that sharing, and our hope and belief that we can move to a place of equity, justice and partnership together.

Tax deductible donations accepted online at http://ourcommunity.com.au/directories/listing?id=8823

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Parklands Albury Wodonga Ltd.

ABN: 75 109 213 121 | ACN: 109 213 121 | a: [redacted]
p: [redacted] | m: [redacted]
e: [redacted] w: www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au

City Landscapes Team
PO Box 323
Albury, NSW 2640
info@alburycity.nsw.gov.au

25 September 2024

Input to Murray River Experience consultation

Dear City Landscapes Team

At the 20 August 2024 meeting of the Board of Parklands Albury Wodonga, a range of opportunities were identified to progress the Murray River Adventure Trail which have relevance to Albury City Council''s Murray River Experience Strategies.

NO.	SECTION	BENEFICIARIES
1	Wagirra Trail along Oddies Creek embankment	Off road natural corridor
2	Footbridge design & cost estimates	Commuter trail between Albury & Wodonga CBDs
3	Townsend closed road connection to Albury CBD	Commuter trail
4	Norms Lagoon wetlands circuit	Wetland circuit
5	Footbridge design & cost estimates	Thurgoona residents access to Murray River
6	Footbridge design & cost estimates	Lake Hume residents access to Murray River

Over page are maps with notes.

Thank you for your time in considering this options. We look forward to working together to progress detailed assessments and designs.

Regards

Ant Packer
Executive Officer / Community Ranger

Our Vision:

Our bush reserves and trails will have a high standard of biodiversity and natural values, achieved by empowering community participation and partnerships.



NO.	SECTION	BENEFICIARIES	INFRASTRUCTURE
1	Wagirra Trail along Oddies Creek embankment	Off road natural corridor	Shared path
2	Footbridge design & cost estimates	Commuter trail between Albury & Wodonga CBDs	Footbridge
3	Townsend closed road connection to Albury CBD	Commuter trail	Shared path & small bridge
4	Norms Lagoon wetlands circuit	Wetland circuit	Shared path & boardwalks
5	Footbridge design & cost estimates	Thurgoona residents access to Murray River	Footbridge
6	Footbridge design & cost estimates	Lake Hume residents access to Murray River	Footbridge



1. Wagirra Trail along western side of Oddies Creek amongst some magnificent River Red Gums
2. Pedestrian bridge over Murray River into Townsend Street road reserve. This provides a 3.8km direct off road trail from Wodonga CBD to Albury CBD via the High Country Rail Trail through Gateway Island and Northern Wodonga. Off road trail or green painted on-road trail along Olive Street to Albury CBD.
3. Could utilize existing Townsend Street then Abercorn Street bridge or build a separate pedestrian bridge and trail along Kiewa Street
4. Wagirra Trail along Kiewa Street to Doctors Point. If able to negotiate easement (blue line) then could be away from the quiet Kiewa Street.

Numbers 1, 2 & 3 – Oddies Creek trail to Townsend Street then along Kiewa St and Willowbank Road



1. Wagirra Trail along western side of Oddies Creek amongst some magnificent River Red Gums
2. Pedestrian bridge ▭ over Murray River into Townsend Street road reserve. This provides a 5.7km direct off road trail from Wodonga CBD to Albury CBD via the High Country Rail Trail through Gateway Island and Northern Wodonga. Off road trail or green painted on-road trail along Olive Street to Albury CBD.
3. Could utilize existing Townsend Street then Abercorn Street bridge or build a separate pedestrian bridge and trail along Kiewa Street
4. Wagirra Trail along Kiewa Street to Doctors Point. If able to negotiate easement (blue line) then could be away from the quiet Kiewa Street.

Number 2 - Footbridge design & cost estimates. 5.7km commuter trail from Dean Street, Albury to Junction Place, Wodonga



Number 4 - Norms Lagoon wetlands circuit



1. Wagirra Trail along western side of Norms Lagoon as Doctors Point Road very narrow. Magnificent trail amongst the River Red Gums.
2. Could do circuit back to Devils Glen Gully (yellow)
3. Boardwalks (not very deep) across Norms Lagoon to return to trail

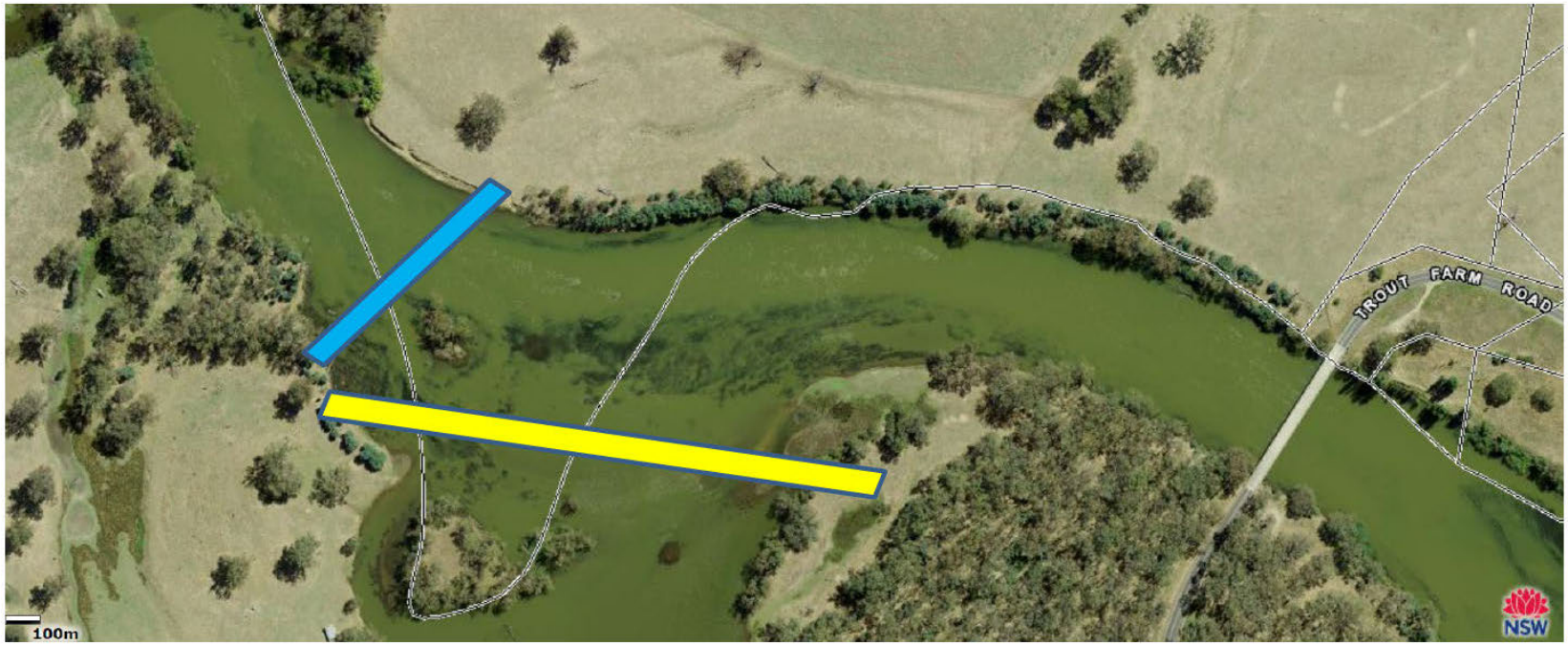
Number 5 - Footbridge design & cost estimates. Off Riverside Lane, Albury and connect with Kerr Road shared paths



1. Wagirra Trail along Riversdale Road (change from operational to public road) to Murray River "Port" where have picnic area
2. Bridge over Murray River to Crown land on south where ever suits
3. Alternate is two bridges over Old Murray River and New Murray River (Frauenfelder Short Cut)

Number 6 - Footbridge design & cost estimates. Off Trout Farm Road, Lake Hume or via Dam Wall shared path to Lake Hume Village.

Options for iconic bridge across Old Murray River (Heywoods) or footbridge across Murray River to NSW Crown frontage



1. 320m+ iconic bridge over Old Murray River onto Victorian Crown land near Heywood bridge with links to Lake Hume Village via the Hume Dam walk shared path.
2. Alternate is bridge over Murray River onto freehold land for 300metres before NSW Crown land near Heywood bridge.

From: Rohan Rehwinkel <[redacted]>
Sent: Friday, 9 August 2024 8:49 AM
To: OLG - Albury Council, City of
Subject: Draft Murray Experience Master Plan - Doctors Point

Categories: Green Category

Hello,

I've just been going through the Murray River Experience – Master Plan Review and am seeking some clarity re the Doctors Point boat ramp.

Does this statement "Review the existing river access point. Retain the area as passive recreation space..." mean the boat ramp may be removed or is under review to be removed from this area?

Parking and Picnic Area	The existing gravel car park will be reconfigured to define vehicular movement, with de parking from the picnic area leading to the existing boat ramp. Willow removal from th embankment and park area should be a priority.

Regards,

Rohan

Rohan Rehwinkel
Fisheries Management Officer – Inland Access
Primary Industries
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

T [redacted] M [redacted]
E [redacted]

dpird.nsw.gov.au

Albury



Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Thurgoona Wirlinga Community Action Group

[redacted]

City Landscapes Team
Albury City Council,
553 Kiewa Street,
Albury NSW 2640

Re: Murray River Experience Master Plan

Thurgoona Community Action is a group of people that represents the Thurgoona – Wirlinga community, ensuring and advocating for future development in the region that is balanced and beneficial including promotion of liveability, healthy lifestyle choices and amenity. This includes:

- Being a representative body for associated Thurgoona organisations
- Advocacy to ensure a sustainable balance between development and the environment including protection of native and remnant vegetation, riparian zones, forward tree plantings and significant trees; management of pest plants and pest animals.
- Ensuring the future health of the Thurgoona region's water catchment systems.
- Promotion of liveability, healthy lifestyle choices and amenity
- Provision of sustainable energy sources for the Thurgoona region.

Our group appreciates Council giving us time to allow the group to make a submission on the proposed Murray River Experience Master Plan. TWCAG would like to make the following points for consideration:

- If the aim is as stated "Fundamentally, the design aims to create a practical environment that is easy to navigate, **aesthetically pleasing**, and inclusive, **promoting a seamless connection with nature**" then approval of industrial/ commercial developments along the wider Murray River should not be allowed, not simply in terms of the existing restrictions but also in terms of any degradation to the scenic amenity of riparian areas. As it affects the experiences of those people also using the river for recreation
- We are generally supportive of a greater diversity of walking track experiences at wonga wetlands
- We think the proposed interpretive signage at Padman park should not just focus on flying foxes but also be inclusive of the mature trees and the habitat value to a range of wildlife
- The proposal for improved picnic areas, play facilities and bridge to gateway Island should be mindful of the proposed relaxation of constraints along this section of the Murray
- We support that the "Development of management plans and revegetation strategies should be consistent with the existing Padman Park Management Plan and existing river edge revegetation controls".
- The proposed Horseshoe Lagoon boardwalk, interpretive signage and additional seating should focus on the wetlands birds that frequent the lagoon. The local Birdlife Australia people have considerable expertise.
- The development of Doctors point reserve should consider synergies with the Eastern Hill reserve master plan.
- There is a problem with people accessing parts of Bowna waters with their cars by cutting through existing fencing. We are strongly supportive of new fencing to restrict vehicular access and hence promoting re-vegetation fences
- TWCAG is supportive of having a bike/dog walking/pedestrian/horseriding strip alongside/as part of the existing road network in Bowna waters

- We would like to see improved management of the public access points and informal picnic areas that have been created along the lake shore south east beyond the boat ramp car park at Bowna waters
- Tabletop reserve: We would like to see some better direction of the public/pedestrian access should they wish to go down to the lake area
- Wagirra Trail improvements: new measures should be mindful of the proposed relaxation of constraints along this section of the Murray River

Yours sincerely,

Jonathon Howard

Chair

On behalf of TWCAG

26/09/2024

City Landscapes Team
Albury City Council
Po Box 323
Albury, NSW 2640

By email: info@alburycity.nsw.gov.au

Re: **DPI Fisheries submission re Murray River Experience Master Plan review**

Dear City Landscapes Team,

DPIRD Fisheries (formerly DPI Fisheries) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review as part of the public consultation process and provides the following comments in relation to recreational fishing access and opportunities across the sites. These comments follow on from our previous submission in April 2024.

Doctors Point Reserve

- As detailed in DPIRD Fisheries' initial feedback, the informal boat ramp at Doctors Point provides anglers with smaller boats the opportunity to launch at this location then travel up or downstream to fish. This ramp is also important in winter when water levels are generally low and navigating can be more difficult and is strategically located near the confluence with the Kiewa River.

- Consultation with local angling groups has also indicated this is an important access location.

An objective of the *Fisheries Management Act 1994* is for DPIRD Fisheries, as administrators of the Act, to provide for quality recreational fishing opportunities. As such, access points such as the boat launch at Doctors Point Reserve are seen to be a priority for DPIRD Fisheries and anglers due to the amenity they provide. As such, we contend they should be retained for future public use. We also wish to highlight the socio-economic importance of recreational fishing in NSW, particularly in regional areas. You may be interested to note that on an annual basis the recreational fishing sector is enjoyed by 1 million people, contributes $3.2 billion to the NSW economy, and supports 14,000 jobs. Importantly, loss of access to fishing locations is recognised as having the potential to limit the socio-economic benefits of the sector in NSW.

DPIRD Fisheries welcomes the opportunity to work collaboratively Albury Council, and other relevant stakeholders, to improve access amenity along the Murray River. For enquiries relating to angler access and recreational fishing opportunities, please do not hesitate to contact me on [redacted] or email [redacted].

Sincerely

[redacted]

Rohan Rehwinkel

Fisheries Management Officer

Angler Access Program

DPI Fisheries

26 September 2024



MURRAY RIVER EXPERIENCE
MASTER PLAN REVIEW
PART A

Albury City



Acknowledgement of Country

AlburyCity-dyu yindyamali Wiradjuri mayiny. Wiradjuri bala walumaldhaanygalang ngurambang-gu. Ngurambang-ga ngiyanhi murunwigi yindyamali-yanhi mudyigaanggalam-bu balumbambal-bu. Nganhaguliyalaa wirimbili giilanggalam-bu winhangangidyal-bu Wiradjuri-giyalang-bu ngurambangguwal-giyalang-bu

AlburyCity acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the traditional custodians of the land in which we live and work and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, culture, tradition and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that contribute to our community.

Artwork by Teisha Maksymow-McGuiness.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Murray River Experience Master Plan (MRE) remains a cornerstone in the strategic development of open spaces along the Murray River and Lake Hume within the Albury Local Government Area. Originating from a community-driven vision in 2007, this comprehensive plan has continually shaped the city's connection with its natural surroundings.

Endorsed by Albury City Council in 2007, the MRE identified focal points along the Murray River and Lake Hume which included:

- West Albury Reserves (Padman/Mates Park, Kremur Street Boat Ramp and the wetlands in West Albury through to Horseshoe Lagoon);
- Central Riverside Parks (Oddies Creek Park, Noreuil Park, Noreuil Park Oval, Australia Park, Hovell Tree Park, Albury Swim Centre, Albury Sports Ground, Monument Hill and linking to the CBD);
- Doctors Point Reserve;
- Mungabareena Reserve and Eastern Hill Reserve;
- Lake Hume Reserves;
- Bowna Waters Reserve; and
- Table Top Reserve.

Guided by overarching design drivers, the plan aimed to strengthen community ties with the river, enhance accessibility, ensure quality amenities, promote diverse experiences, and improve the river's health in fostering the Aboriginal community's connection.

Since the initial endorsement of the MRE Master Plan in 2007, a range of significant MRE projects have been completed by AlburyCity, including:

- Albury Riverside Precinct;
- Wagirra Trail (Union Bridge to Wonga Wetlands (8.5kms);
- Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk (and realignment) – 15 Aboriginal artworks;
- Wagirra Trail extension around Wonga Wetlands (12kms);
- Oddies Creek Play Space (two stages);
- Kremur Street Boat Ramp;
- Noreuil Park Foreshore Master Plan and Upgrade;
- Oddies Creek Streambank weed removal and revetment work (300m);
- Wood Fired Oven establishment and upgrade;
- Precinct Place upgrade;
- Padman Park Flying-Fox viewing platform;
- Wonga Wetlands Tourism Product Development Master Plan;
- Mungabareena Reserve Boat Ramp upgrade;
- Mungabareena Reserve declared Aboriginal Place and associated Management Plan;
- Eastern Hill Activation Plan;
- Table Top Reserve improvements (public toilet, new play equipment, rock barriers to restrict vehicle access and revegetation);
- Lake Hume Reserves risk abatement works (removal of dead pine trees);
- Lake Hume Boat Ramp rock revetment works;
- Lake Hume Boat Ramp lighting;
- Albury Botanic Gardens Master Plan; and
- Monument Hill Master Plan and redevelopment (Stage 1).

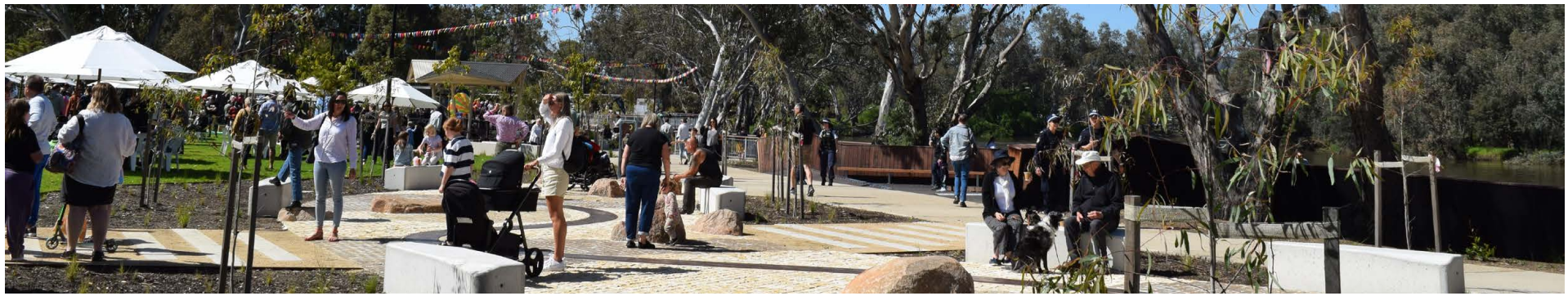
With the primary signature projects either complete or underway, a review of the MRE Master Plan is now required to review the extent of recommendations completed to date and identify future MRE priorities that can guide the implementation of future Albury City projects.

As urban expansion continues, particularly in the Thurgoona Wirlinga growth area, more opportunities to access the Murray River or the foreshore of Lake Hume will become available. When they arise they should be supported with the creation of quality public open space areas.

The current review serves a dual purpose: evaluating completed initiatives and assessing ongoing projects. Adaptation to evolving priorities is paramount, necessitating the identification of the next set of priorities. This reflective exercise ensures that the development of Albury's open spaces remains dynamic and responsive to the community's evolving needs.

The review underscores the successful implementation of initiatives that have strengthened the community's relationship with the Murray River. Access has been expanded, quality amenities integrated, and diverse experiences promoted.

In adapting to evolving priorities, the review identifies key focus areas for the future. These include further enhancing accessibility, fostering environmental sustainability, and deepening community engagement. The incorporation of technological advancements and innovative design approaches is also considered to ensure the longevity and relevance of open spaces to meet the future needs of our expanding community.



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INTRODUCTION

The Murray River Experience Master plan (MRE), developed by Urban Initiatives Pty Ltd 2007 and endorsed by Albury City Council, February 2007, stands as a comprehensive strategic planning document. This visionary plan examines and sets a guiding direction for future open space priorities along the Murray River and the shores of Lake Hume, within the Albury Local Government Area.

The focal points within the study area, as outlined in the MRE, encompass several key spaces, including Wonga Wetlands, West Albury Reserves, Central Albury Riverside Parks, Doctors Point Reserve, Mungabareena Reserve and Eastern Hill, Lake Hume Reserves, Bowna Reserve, and Table Top Reserve.

Originating from a community-driven vision to fortify Albury's connection with the Murray River, the MRE consolidates elements from pre-existing plans and strategies. It not only reviews but also proposes developments to the master plans of specific sites, guided by a set of overarching design drivers:

1. Strengthening the relationship between the Community and the River
2. Providing greater access to the River
3. Ensuring quality amenities in all open spaces
4. Promoting and developing a diversity of experiences
5. Improving the health and wellbeing of the River, including fostering the Aboriginal Community's connection with the River

Since its endorsement in 2007, AlburyCity has actively implemented the outlined actions in the master plans, and this endeavor is ongoing with the continuous development of open space areas. The current review of the existing Murray River Experience Master Plan serves as a vital status update on the actions undertaken in the MRE, supplemented by the inclusion of future directions. The primary objectives of this review are to:

- Evaluate completed initiatives
- Assess ongoing projects
- Adapt to evolving priorities
- Identify the next set of priorities

This reflective review not only serves as a gauge of accomplishments but also as a roadmap for the future, ensuring that Albury's open spaces continue to evolve as urban expansion continues. As the Thurgoona Wirlinga area grows, more opportunities to access the Murray River or the foreshore of Lake Hume will become available. When they arise they should be supported with the creation of quality public open space areas which are in harmony with the community's vision and the principles laid out in the MRE.



VISION

The vision for Albury is to increase the value of open space as an asset for the community, capitalising on the increasing trend of people moving to regional areas. A place for locals, businesses, tourists and community that celebrates the value of the environment with a variety of offerings.

The MRE aims to enhance the significance of open spaces as a valuable asset for the community. Acknowledging the Murray River and the picturesque foreshores of Lake Hume as a focal point and celebration of environmental value, manifested through a diverse array of public spaces.

This strategic vision is not a solitary pursuit but aligns harmoniously with the principles and overarching themes delineated in Albury City's Towards Albury 2050, Community Strategic Plan (2022-2050). It underscores a commitment to long-term planning that considers the evolving needs and aspirations of the community over the next few decades.

Additionally, recognizing the significance of cultural diversity and inclusivity, the vision emphasizes extensive consultation with Indigenous groups. This approach reflects a commitment to honoring and incorporating the perspectives and heritage of the Indigenous communities in the planning and development processes.

The vision also places a strong emphasis on accessibility, ensuring that the open spaces are not just expanses of land but areas that are easily reachable and enjoyed by everyone ensuring that these spaces should be effortlessly accessible, inviting everyone to partake in their beauty and utility. It is fundamental these open areas are inclusive to all, where every individual, regardless of age, ability, or background, can easily reach and revel in the surrounding natural splendor.

Albury City's commitment to embrace and integrate the 10 principles of the NSW Public Spaces Charter will further reinforce the dedication to effective planning and design of these public spaces. The charter, acting as a guiding framework, ensures that open spaces become dynamic environments that facilitate community engagement, provide avenues for recreation, and contribute significantly to the overall well-being of the residents.

In summary, this document provides an overall vision for Albury that strengthens the relationship between the community and the Murray River and Lake Hume through the development of open space opportunities that will meet the future needs of the Albury Community and visitors as the city expands.



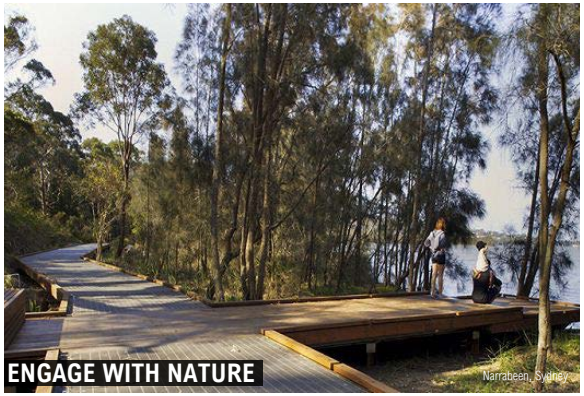
Kremur Street Boat Ramp, Albury

DESIGN PRECEDENCE

Whilst the MRE identifies a diverse range of spaces, the primary design considerations remain consistent and revolve around fostering an accessible and functional space. These include encouraging movement and connection through active links, integrating natural elements for a harmonious engagement with nature, prioritizing ease of navigation for all with a focus on accessibility, infusing playful and exploratory elements through nature play, utilizing a mix of materials in blended materiality for both utility and aesthetics, and establishing key points for social interaction through active nodes.

Fundamentally, the design aims to create a practical environment that is easy to navigate, aesthetically pleasing, and inclusive, promoting a seamless connection with nature.











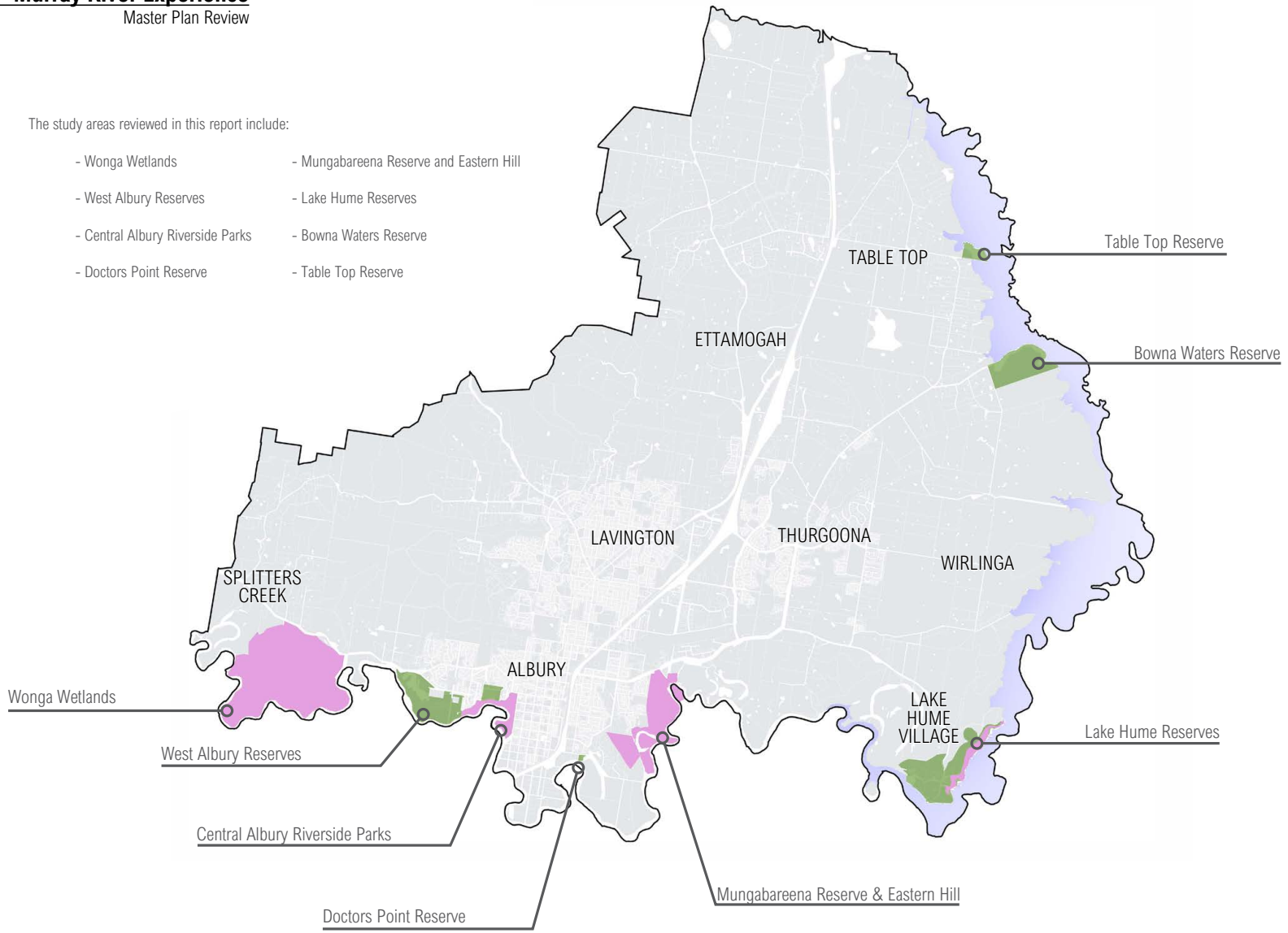




MRE RESERVES
SUMMARY & STATUS UPDATE

The study areas reviewed in this report include:

- Wonga Wetlands
- West Albury Reserves
- Central Albury Riverside Parks
- Doctors Point Reserve
- Mungabareena Reserve and Eastern Hill
- Lake Hume Reserves
- Bowna Waters Reserve
- Table Top Reserve





01 WONGA WETLANDS

01 WONGA WETLANDS



Wonga Wetlands features a 590ha area of wetlands, bushwalking, sightseeing and birdwatching potential, just 5 minutes from Albury centre. The site is used by the general public, school groups, and scientific researchers, learning about the riverine and wetland ecosystems. Traditionally, the site provided a source of fish, mussels, turtles, crayfish, snails and birds to the Wiradjuri people. The Wonga Wetlands Visitor Education Experience Centre to the north of the site will provide education on the traditional lifestyle of the Indigenous people of the area as well as valuable environmental education (particularly wetlands) for school groups and visitors.

NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Development of visitor education centre and entry carpark
2. Upgrade gravel pit access - car park and path extension
3. Planning and construction of recreational fishing platforms
4. Investigate future small scale commercial opportunities that complement the natural environment - such as bike hire and coffee vans
5. Investigate opportunities for additional short distance loop trails
6. Continue works on natural enhancement of the area
7. Investigate feasibility for additional trail links to Splitters Creek and beyond.

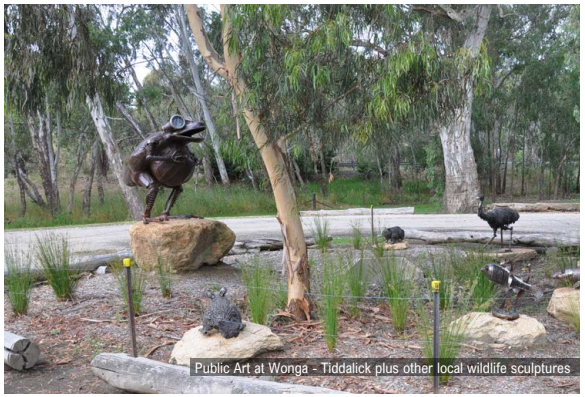


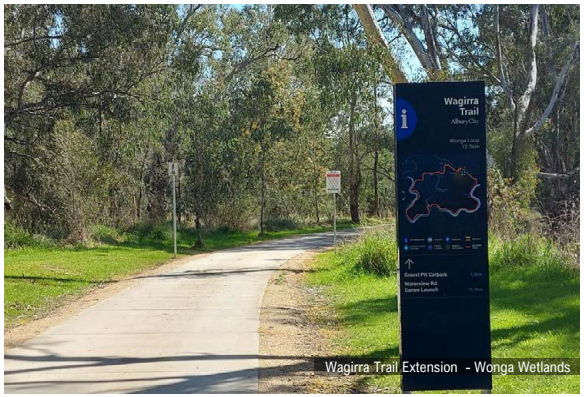
01 WONGA WETLANDS - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Wagirra Trail at Wonga Wetlands


Wonga - Streambank post revetment work


Wagirra Trail at Wonga Wetlands


Public Art at Wonga - Tiddalick plus other local wildlife sculptures



Wagirra Trail Extension - Wonga Wetlands


Wonga Wetlands Visitor Education Experience (Concept Design)

01 WONGA WETLANDS WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	DETAIL
Development of a new entry road and visitor arrival car park	Provisions of an improved visitor access into the Wonga Wetlands and new car park	Planning	This action has been included into the Wonga Wetlands Visitor and Education Centre project (currently in detailed design phase)
Possible Eco Park Accommodation	A proposal for high quality sustainable cabins.	Not Commenced	The feasibility of this action has been discussed in the revised Albury Wodonga Destination Management Plan 2024-2028 including overnight stays. Further analysis of this action will be required when the Wonga Wetlands Tourism Product Development Master Plan is reviewed.
New/improved walking trail	The plan suggests an alignment for a large shared path circuit/trail system which is intended to maximise users experience.	Completed	The Wagirra Trail Wonga Wetlands Loop is complete and opened in September 2023.
Canoe/water vessel landing	A possible future landing platform at Wonga Wetlands	Completed	Completed as part of the Wagirra Trail Upgrades. March 2022.
River Access via walking tracks	The plan identifies new walking track connections to potential river beach locations with swimming opportunities.	Planning	The construction of the Wagiira Trail around Wonga Wetlands has opened up more opportunities to access the river. As suitable locations have been identified, improvements to these sites will be considered.
Development of master plan for the site	Prepare a master plan to guide development of facilities at Wonga Wetlands.	Completed	Council endorsed the Wonga Wetland Tourism Product Development Master Plan in 2014
Recreational Fishing Platforms	Activate the Gravel Pit for recreational fishing with platforms.	Planning	An agreement is in place with NSW Fisheries to access the gravel pits for fishing purposes. Fishing platform designs to be undertaken.
New additional walking trail	Investigate opportunities for additional short distance loop trails.	Not Commenced	Short walks in addition to those aroumd Wonga Wetlands will be investigated as a part of the future planning for the area.
Upgrade Gravel Pit access	Upgrade car park off Riverina Highway to access Gravel Pit	Planning	A small gravel car park with fence realignments is in the planning phase in conjunction with NSW Fisheries.
Wayfinding/Signage Strategy	Implement an on-going interpretive signage plan	Construction	Installation of way finding and interpretive signage has commenced and will be ongoing
Wagirra Trail emergency access	Investigate and implement an access and egress plan for emergency access to the Wagirra Trail	Completed	Completed as part of the Wagirra Trail Wongo Loop upgrade.
Future small scale commercial opportunities	Investigate opportunity for tourism business to operate from Wonga such as bike hire and coffee cart etc	Not Commenced	Nature based experience products are discussed in the revised Albury Wodonga Destination Management Plan 2024-2028 including ecotourism products. Further analysis of this action will be required when the Wonga Wetlands Tourism Product Development Master Plan is reviewed.
Off road trail Extension	Construction of off road trail along the Riverina Highway	Not Commenced	The extension of the Wagirra Trail along Riverina Highway will provide an off road connection between the Splitters Creek Community and the Central Albury Riverside Parks. The connection could also be extended to the City boundary ready for connection to adjacent LGA connection.
Continue works on natural enhancement	Continue works on ensuring Wonga Wetlands is kept natural	Initiated	Continue natural area enhancements including pest management, revegetation, streambank stabilisation along with other habitat enhancement works.

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported



02 WEST ALBURY RESERVES

02 WEST ALBURY RESERVES



West Albury Reserves is a 152ha group of reserves featuring picnic spots, natural views, native vegetation, and cultural trails. The Wagirra Trail and Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk link the reserves to Wonga Wetlands along a 15km (return) shared path, with a 5km section presenting the sculptural works of local Indigenous artists.

The site also hosts a nationally significant flying fox colony.

NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Develop a Master Plan for West Albury Reserves capturing Horseshoe Lagoon to Kremur Street Boat Ramp area and Padman Park
2. Improve river access points
3. Extend the 4 knot zone to Kremur Street to protect swimmers in this area
4. Improve wayfinding signage



02 WEST ALBURY RESERVES - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Wagirra Trail at Kremur Street Boat Ramp


Flying Fox Colony - Leaney's Bend Padman Park


Kremur Street Boat Ramp


Flying Fox Colony Viewing Point - Padman Park


Riverview at Padman Park


Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk information at Kremur Street Boat Ramp

02 WEST ALBURY RESERVES - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Connection to Country Artwork


Bogong Moth artwork


Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk - starting point


Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk



Flying Fox Colony interpretative signage


Celebrate Together Artwork

02 WEST ALBURY RESERVES WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Kremur Street Car Park	An attractive sealed car park will be developed to cater for both car and trailer movements.		Kremur Street car and boat parking area were completed in 2012
Boat Ramp	New boat ramp and facilities including toilet block and picnic shelter		Boat ramp, parkland improvements and public toilet were completed in 2012
River Beach Access	Improved controlled pedestrian access to the existing river beach.		Some informal river access points have been established. Continue to review and implement other suitable river access points to prevent conflict between swimmers and boat ramp users.
Potential Lookout	Development of a new lookout with interpretative signage for Padman Park		A Flying Fox colony relocated to Padman Park in 2014. A Flying Fox Management Plan for Padman Park was endorsed by Council in 2019. Interpretive signage and lookout was completed in 2020. Other lookout locations throughout the park with interpretive signage should be ongoing.
Local Park Improvements	Improved picnic areas, play facilities and planting in Padman Park.		The alternative to this is to review existing trails within Padman Park and construct a walking track to Day Street Park where existing play space and picnic facilities are located. This would allow for a walking loop to be created between Kremur St and Riverside Precinct. Include a lookout from Day Street Park over Padman Park and the river. This is to be considered further in the West Albury Reserves Master Plan.
New walking trail	Development of a 2.5m wide shared pathway		Completed as part of the Wagirra Trail project.
Informal sporting recreation space	An informal open village green for picnics, ball games, kite flying with associated car parking.		To be considered as part of the Open Space Strategy.
Possible future bridge	New pedestrian bridge to Gateway Island		Liaise with Wodonga City Council to construct Murray River Pedestrian Crossing to link the Yindamarra Sculpture Walk and the Gateway Island Cultural Trail. This would also create an additional recreational link to Gateway Island.
Youth activity area	Possible provision of BMX track and other recreational activities in a secure managed environment		The feasibility of this project requires further investigation once the Kremur St Waste Water Treatment Plant is decommissioned. The activities of the treatment plant may deem the land unusable.

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported

02 WEST ALBURY RESERVES WORKS SUMMARY CONTINUED

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Revegetation and Land Management	Development of management plans and revegetation strategies should be consistent with the existing Padman Park Management Plan and existing river edge revegetation controls.	Initiated	Flying fox management plan implemented in 2019. Review and update the Padman Park Management Plan (incorporating the Flying Fox Management Plan). Consider expanding the management plan to Horseshoe Lagoon or, if more appropriate develop a new plan that covers the area from Kremur Street Boat Ramp to Horseshoe lagoon.
Swimming Safety	Liaise with RMS to extend the 4 knot zone to Kremur Street to protect swimmers in this area.	Initiated	Initial discussion has occurred with Transport NSW on adjusting the 4 Knot zones. Further discussions to be undertaken at the completion of the River Precinct project.
Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk Trail public facilities development	Continue to develop the Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk Trail including car parking, picnic facilities, seating etc.	Completed	The original ten sculptures of the Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk were installed in 2014. The upgrade, realignment and additional sculptures were completed in 2021. The upgrade works also included seating and upgraded car parking at Horseshoe Lagoon.
Day Street Park Improvements	Activation of Day Street Park with improved picnic facilities and walking trail links with Wagirra Trail.	Not Commenced	To be further explored with the development of the Master Plan.
New Connections	Investigate the feasibility of a crossing over Riverina Highway from Monument Hill to Day Street Parkland and Wagirra Trail.	Not Commenced	To be further explored with the development of the Master Plan.
Kremur St Parkland River Access Improvements	Investigate opportunity to improve River access at Kremur St parkland to reduce conflict between swimmers and boat ramp users.	Not Commenced	To be investigated further once the 4 knot zone extension is finalised.
New Action - Yindyamarra Sculpture Walk public facility improvements	Horseshoe Lagoon boardwalk, interpretive signage and additional seating	Completed	Construction Completed in 2024.

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported



03 CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS

03 CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS



Central Albury Riverside Parks, located adjacent to the Albury CBD on the Murray River, is a 54ha site which includes Monument Hill Parklands, the Botanic Gardens, Hovell Tree Park, Noreuil Park, Australia Park, and Oddies Creek Park. These parks, and additional amenities, accommodate a broad range of opportunities from sport and recreation at Albury Swim Centre and the Albury Sportsground, picnic and spaces along the river and Noreuil Park, kids play at Oddies Creek Park, and horticultural history at the Botanic Gardens.

Refer to the separate Murray River Experience Review: Central Albury Riverside Parks Master Plan document for a more in depth review and vision for the parklands.

NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Completion of Australia Park Car Park and linking pedestrian bridge
2. Complete feasibility of Oddies Creek Splash Park
3. Continue Murray River streambank woody weed removal and revetment work
4. Improve river access points at Noreuil Park Foreshore
5. Initiate design work for upgrade of Albury Sports Ground and Grand Diagonal pedestrian/cycle link
6. Initiate design for River Precinct pedestrian bridge across the Murray River
7. Implement key actions included in the Botanic Gardens Master Plan
8. Develop master plan for Monument Hill and surrounds to create a link from Dean Street to Memorial Bowl and Monument Hill
9. Improve pedestrian/cycle access from Smollett Street to the new riverside precinct.

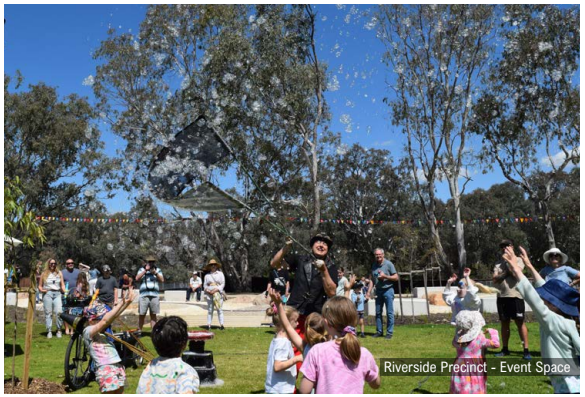


03 CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Tobias - Public artwork in Oddies Creek


Monument Hill Upgrades


Noreuil Park Foreshore Picnic Tables


Riverside Precinct - Event Space

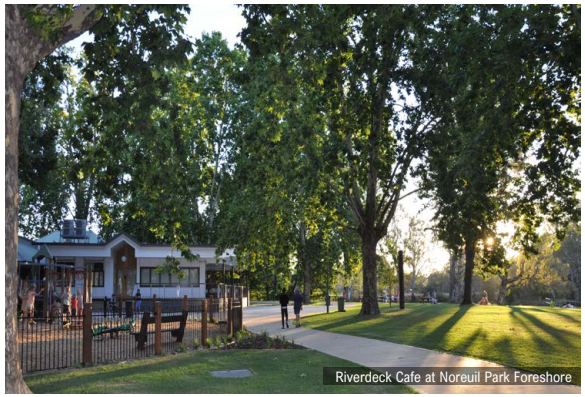

Wood Fired Oven redevelopment at Hovell Tree Park


Noreuil Park Foreshore BBQ Area

03 CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

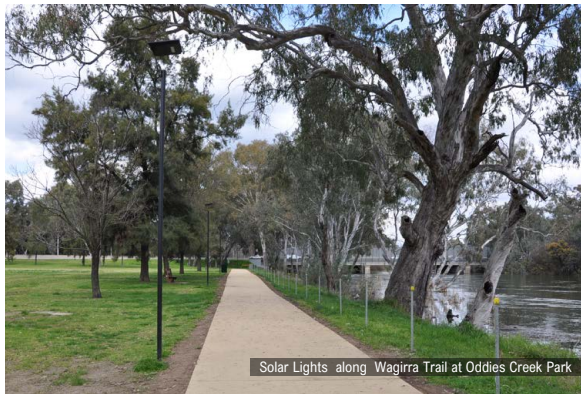

Noreuil Park Foreshore


Noreuil park Foreshore Play Space


Riverdeck Cafe at Noreuil Park Foreshore


'Bungambrawatha' Riverside Gateway Art Installment


Oddies Creek Play Space


Solar Lights along Wagirra Trail at Oddies Creek Park

03 CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

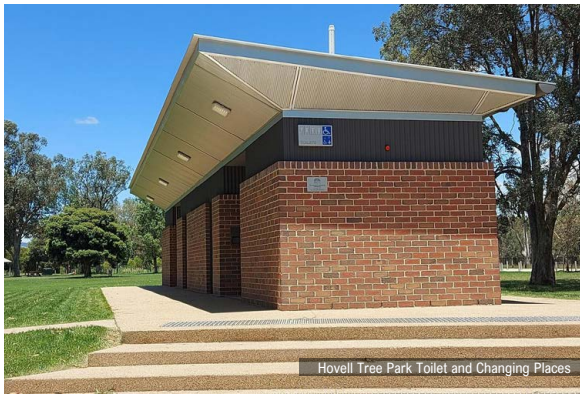

Riverside Precinct - Bungambrawatha viewing area and platforms


Riverside Precinct Area


Riverside Precinct - Precinct Place Viewing Platform


Riverside Precinct - Bungambrawatha Boardwalk


Riverside Precinct Area


Hovell Tree Park Toilet and Changing Places

03 CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS - WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Wodonga Place Improvements	Development of Wodonga Place as a generous tree lined boulevard with normal urban levels of traffic will create a new sense of entry into Albury and overtime it will encourage street life that leads to the parklands being more integrated with the life of the city.	Planning	This element is included in the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks
Botanic Gardens Enhancement	Closure of Smollett Street as a through Road to allow partial development	No Longer Supported	Realignment of Riverina Highway along Dean Street is not supported. Alternative Riverina Highway route to be investigated.
Tea House development	A tea House is proposed for Wodonga Place	Not Commenced	With surrounding development this may not be economically feasible. This action is included in the Albury Botanic Gardens Master Plan (2022) which will guide future enhancements of the Gardens.
Aquatic Centre Redevelopment	The masterplan anticipates redevelopment of the Aquatic Centre in a form that better addresses the river.	Not Commenced	This element is included in the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks
Albury Football Club	This plan can accommodate the retention or relocation of the Albury Football Club. In the event that the Albury Football Club stays, alternative club facilities would be provided on the western side of the field.	Not Commenced	The Albury Football Club remains at the Albury Sports Ground with facilities moved to the Western side of the ground. Action is included in the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks
Existing Grandstand	The master plan recommends the restoration and completion of the grandstand.	Not Commenced	This action is included in the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks
A possible new multi purpose event venue	New building to accommodate club social functions to be designed to also service weddings and other events associated with the Botanic Gardens.	Not Commenced	This element is included in the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks
Albury City Depot Site	The master plan supports the notion of relocating this facility when economic conditions best suit Council.	Initiated	This element is included in the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks. Agreements are in place with the NSW Government to progress the redevelopment of this site
Dean Street Improvements	Improvement of Dean Street along the edge of the Botanic Gardens will also enhance the gardens relationship to the urban centre and improve accessibility.	Not Commenced	The Albury Botanic Gardens Master Plan proposes improvements to this area including, naturalising Bungambrawatha Creek. Small pocket parks are to be created covering culvert with planted roof gardens. The shared pathway under the Smollett Street (Riverina Highway) road bridge will improve off road access to the river.
New Water Edge Promenade	The northern section of the riverbank from Hovell Street to the frontage of the Aquatic Centre is proposed to be redeveloped to provide a lower level river walk for public access by day and night.	Completed	Construction of the Albury Riverside Precinct commenced in 2021. This involves the redevelopment of the 530 metre section of river streambank and public space between Mudges Canal and Bungambrawatha Creek including the upgrade of the Wood Fired Oven area.
New park access road	New park access road that will provide circulation and a park parking system	Initiated	Traffic movements around Noreuil Park Foreshore and Noreuil Park Oval has been considered as part of a master plan for this area. The upgraded Noreuil Foreshore has increased usage while the oval facilities require reviewing with the increase in usage with the three user groups. The road between Mudges Canal to Precinct Place has been closed to through traffic. The entry adjacent to Hovell Street is to be retained in the short term. A new car park in Australia Park is in the design process.
New focal wetlands	A series of artificial wetlands and water bodies will be developed along Oddies Creek	No Longer Supported	Initial investigations have indicated that the artificial wetlands are not feasible. Weed removal program for Oddies Creek is almost complete, focus should be to revegetate the Oddies Creek with riparian species with the possibility of a smaller water body close to Wodonga Place. Considered in the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks.

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported

03 CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS - WORKS SUMMARY CONTINUED

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Monument Hill	Proposed redevelopment of public amenities at Monument Hill	✓ & ✎	Master plans have been developed for Monument Hill and World War II Memorial Bowl (scheduled construction 2024/25). A master plan for the section between Dean Street and World War II Memorial Bowl should be undertaken with the aim to strengthen the link from Dean Street to the World War II Memorial Bowl and to World War I Monument (atop of Monument Hill). A vegetation management plan should be developed to maintain clear vistas from Dean Street to the Monument atop of Monument Hill.
Event Spaces	Proposed multi purpose event spaces	✓	Event spaces available at Hovell Tree Park, Noreuil Park and Noreuil Park Oval.
Reshaped floodway control	Proposed clean-up and weed management of existing drainage	✓	Bungambrawatha Creek weed control and revetment work completed as part of the riverside precinct project.
City Entrance Treatment	New city entrance artwork will be incorporated into the jersey barrier design	○	Jersey barriers have been removed which improves the vista into Oddies Creek Park. The city entrance artwork priority will be reviewed as part of the Urban and Public Art Strategy. The installation of City entrance art piece in this location requires further consideration in conjunction with the existing play space and any expansions as well as the site topography.
New children's Play area and Picnic Facilities	A large regional playground at Oddies Creek parkland	✓	The play space was constructed in 2011 with stage 2 completed in 2019. The Murray River Experience Master Plan Review (Part B) Master Plan Central Albury Riverside Parks include consideration of additional stages including a water play zone.
Renaming Wodonga Place	Proposed renaming of Wodonga Place to Riverside Boulevard.	✗	This action is no longer supported at this point in time
Noreuil Park Improvements	The community is passionate about Noreuil Park and do not what to see any significant development in this area. The proposed plan aims to provide additional public amenity including replacement and the addition of furniture, erection of shelters, improved river entry points, extension of the River Deck Café, addition of a small playground adjacent to the main swim area to replace the relocated Play space	✓	Significant improvements have been completed at Noreuil Park Foreshore including upgrade of park furniture, new BBQ shelters, additional furniture, path lighting upgraded, car parks, path network realignment and play space improvements. These works have been guided by the Noreuil Park Foreshore Master Plan (2016)
Amphitheatre Space	Development of a natural amphitheatre space is recommended for the existing flood control gate area..	✗	This action is no longer supported, Significant engineering works would be required to ensure the space was usable and meets the requirements of the flood mitigation system.
Wagirra Trail	Development of a recreational trail along the Murray River	✓	The Wagirra Trail has been constructed between Union bridge to Wonga Wetlands (8.5 kilometres) Refer to Wagirra section in this document for further information.
Noreuil Park Streambank Rehabilitation	Reconstruction of the river access at Noreuil Park to improve safety, access and replace aging infrastructure	✎	The 2007 Murray River Experience Master Plan refers to improved river access points including beach access at Noreuil Park Foreshore. The beach concept has been deemed impractical due to the river flow rates and high likelihood of sand transportation. The existing infrastructure continues to deteriorate so progress of alternative concept deigns are been developed. The aim is to improve access to the water (ensuring DDA compliance) via pathways from the car park to the river including low winter levels.

✓ Completed › Initiated ✎ Planning 🔧 Construction ○ Not Commenced ✗ No Longer Supported



04 DOCTORS POINT RESERVE

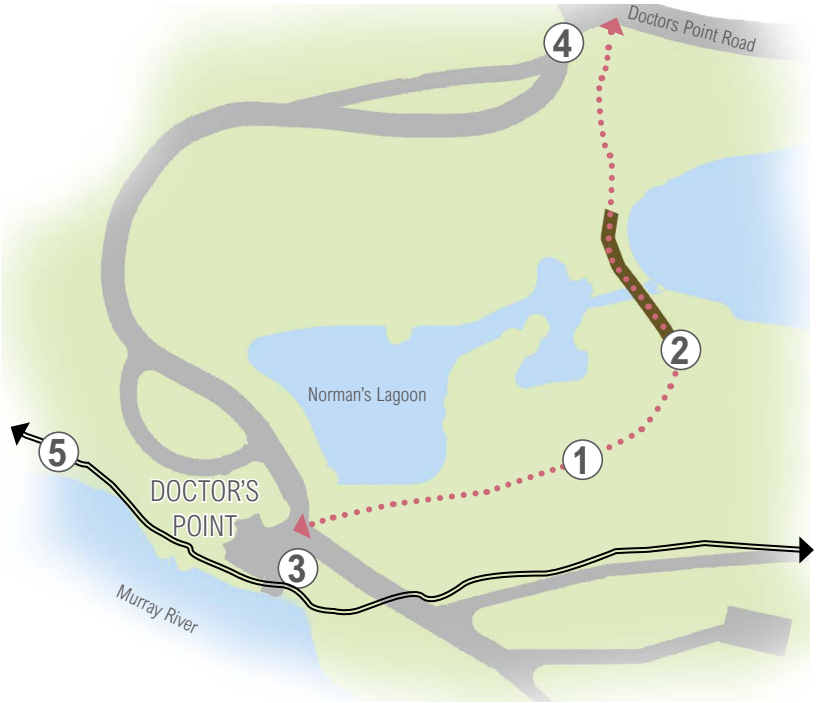
04 DOCTORS POINT RESERVE



Doctors Point Reserve is small 2.2ha local 'pocket park', included within the broader Eastern Hill and Mungabareena Reserve boundaries. Doctors Point Picnic Area features 'Normans Lagoon', a large, natural billabong, and important habitat, refuge site and breeding ground for both local and migratory birds. Open hillside ecologies of Box Gum Grassy Woodland, and river environs of the Murray River itself, provide further habitat diversity to support wildlife.

NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Upgrade and rationalise access tracks into the site
2. Investigate feasibility of boardwalk across Normans Lagoon
3. Investigate new picnic facilities and carparking
4. Design and implement entry and signage improvements
5. Investigate Wagirra Trail access



04 DOCTORS POINT RESERVE - WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Vegetation management and revegetation	Enhancement of this wetland will reintroduce the natural billabong habitat		Some revegetation works has been completed. The area will be continually monitored with ongoing weeds and pest management.
Path System	Development of recreational boardwalk which connects the residential precinct to Doctors Point		Investigate the inclusion of a boardwalk or off road trail alignment during the investigation phase of the Wagirra Trail extension to Mungabareena Reserve.
Boardwalk and Bird Hides	New boardwalks and bird-hides will enable visitors and locals to experience this special habitat for passive activity		Investigate the feasibility of a boardwalk along Normans lagoon. This should link with any proposed Wagirra Trail extension.
Parking and Picnic Area	The existing gravel car park will be reconfigured to define vehicular movement, with defined parking from the picnic area leading to the existing boat ramp. Willow removal from the river embankment and park area should be a priority.		Review the existing river access point. Retain the area as passive recreation space with upgraded picnic areas and reconfigure the gravel car park. Consolidate and improve access from Doctors Point Road. Install appropriate signage and way finding.
Picnic facilities	Upgrade picnic facilities and associated infrastructure to align with MRE		A picnic table has been installed at the site. Additional picnic tables are not required at this stage.
New Action - Doctors Point Reserve Improvements	Investigate the acquisition of adjacent land parcels to facilitate increasing the size of Doctors Point Reserve to improve access and amenity		To be reviewed as a part of the next stage of the Wagirra Trail extension.
New Action - Wagirra Trail Access	Liaise with adjoining land holders to facilitate access for the Wagirra Trail from Mungabareena Reserve to the Riverside Parks		To be reviewed as a part of the next stage of the Wagirra Trail extension.





05 MUNGABAREENA RESERVE & EASTERN HILL

05 MUNGABAREENA RESERVE & EASTERN HILL



Mungabareena Reserve is a popular swimming, fishing, and picnic area, the site of significant natural and cultural heritage value, and a Declared Aboriginal Place as of 2016. Located within the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri People, the site of Mungabareena Reserve was used as a meeting place before crossing the river, for Indigenous people in the surrounding areas on their way to Mount Bogong in the Alps.

Mungabareena has been designated as an Aboriginal Place and therefore all works will have specific requirements for engaging with the local Aboriginal community prior to any works taking place.

The 2007 Murray River Experience provided a high level master plan for Mungabareena Reserve and Eastern Hill. The Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan was endorsed by Council in November 2023, while the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan and an updated vegetation management plan are currently being developed.

NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Completion of the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan and update the Mungabareena Reserve Vegetation Management Plan
2. Design and construct Wagirra Trail section between the boat ramp to the main picnic area and beyond.
3. Continue to implement vehicle control measures throughout Mungabareena Reserve.
4. Implement actions identified within the Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan



05 MUNGABAREENA RESERVE & EASTERN HILL - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Mungabareena Reserve Toilet block


Mungabareena Reserve Fish Cleaning Station


Mungabareena Reserve Picnic Area


Mungabareena Reserve Boat Ramp


Concept design - Trig Point Lookout - Eastern Hill


Concept design - Upgraded Rotary Lookout - Eastern Hill

05 MUNGABAREENA RESERVE & EASTERN HILL WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Boat Ramp Reserve			
Formalised access road	One entry road is to be developed and all other tracks re-vegetated or used for walking trails. The new access road will be sealed and edged, and will limit car access to designated roadways and parking areas.	Planning	Review the current network of track and rationalise. Some to remain gravel. Concrete blocks have been installed to prevent additional vehicle access through other informal roads. To be considered as part of the Wagirra Trail detailed design process which has been initiated. Remove access to and revegetate unsupported tracks. Monitor illegal use.
Boat Ramp	The existing boat ramp is to be upgraded, boat parking provided, access track formalised and landscape managed and re-vegetated in accordance with the Mungabareena vegetation management plan.	Completed	The boat ramp was upgraded in 2014 with other improvements (installation of picnic tables, fish cleaning station and minor gravel track and car park works). Further upgrades to be considered in the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan
Mungabareena Picnic Area			
New Path Network	This plan proposes the development of a 2.5m wide sealed shared pedestrian/cycle pathway network which will offer enhanced user experience around Mungabareena Reserve, and improve the definition of the Hume and Hovell, trail as it passes through this area.	Planning	Initial investigation on the preferred alignment has commenced. The preferred alignment is to be included in the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan. New sections of trail being installed as either spray sealed/ concrete/ buckshot depending on terrain and site sensitivities.
New Bridge Crossings	Development of new small bridge and boardwalk type crossings to provide continuous connection of the shared pathway network	Not Commenced	To be investigated as part of Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan.
New Action - Implement measures to control vehicle access to key locations	Vehicle damage is an ongoing issue. Implement measures to control vehicle access and minimise opportunities for damage.	Construction	Some barriers have been installed at key locations. Installation should continue to protect this significant landscape.
Formalised access road	The road will be sealed and edged to limit car movement to designated 90 degree parking spaces, and long vehicle bays. Access to the eastern tip of the peninsular will be limited to pedestrians only. The river side of the road will be edged with timber bollards. Existing parking space on the north of the site should be fenced and re-vegetated.	Not Commenced	To be considered in the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan. The road surfacing, parking configuration and bollard/barrier types will be considered as part of the master planning process
Picnic facilities	Shelters, picnic tables and barbecues will be carefully located throughout, with a concentration on the eastern tip of the peninsular to take advantage of the picturesque river aspect and preferred swimming location. The relocation and upgrade of the public amenities is also proposed.	Not Commenced	Supported. To be considered in the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan.
River edge Revegetation zone	Revegetation of the degraded river embankment and removal of willow species following vegetation establishment and embankment stabilisation is recommended.	Not Commenced	Supported. To be considered in the Mungabareena Reserve Vegetation Management Plan and Master Plan.
Open Space Management	The central open space area is to be managed for general public recreation use and Indigenous cultural events. Grassed areas could be levelled, upgraded and planned for best management practices. Additional trees should be planted with appropriate riparian tree species.	Not Commenced	Supported. To be considered in the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan. Formalise car park area and traffic movement
Possible indigenous cultural interpretation	The significance of this site should be explained through interpretive signs or other means provided they can remain viable in such a remote unsupervised site.	Not Commenced	Supported. To be considered in the Mungabareena Reserve Master Plan.

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported

05 MUNGABAREENA RESERVE & EASTERN HILL WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Eastern Hill			
Public Amenities	Replacement of public amenities to provide access for all abilities.		Replacement of the public toilet facility is included in the public toilet strategy, while funding should be allocated to this project through the Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan.
Picnic Facilities	Replacement of park furniture and the provision of interpretive signs.		These items are included in the Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan.
Hume and Hovell Track	Upgrading of the Hume & Hovell Track.		This is a NSW Department of Planning and Environment - Crown Land asset. Upgrading will require discussions with the relevant department
Revegetation areas	Assessment of current lease arrangements and determine future use for the area. This may involve the fencing of areas and revegetation of portions of the hillside.		There is currently no lease on the area. Future use and revegetation areas are itendified within the Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported



06 LAKE HUME RESERVES

06 LAKE HUME RESERVES



Lake Hume Reserves, which includes Lake Hume Tourist Park Beach to the south, Apex Park to the north, and other council parks, features a range of recreational, leisure, and tourism activities. The 40 hectare site is used extensively for swimming, water skiing, fishing, walking, and picnicking, making use of public barbeques and shelters. Boat ramps at either end allow accessibility for fishing, boats and jet skis to Lake Hume.

The Draft Lake Hume Master Plan will be placed on public exhibition as part of the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review.

NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Endorsement of the Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan
2. Upgrade public amenities, including beach access, toilets, bbq areas and furniture at Lake Hume Reserves
3. Wagirra Trail section from Lake Hume Village Boat Ramp Car Park to Bethanga Bridge
4. Revetment work to address significant erosion at the Lake Hume Village Boat Ramp Car Park
5. Investigate the feasibility in constructing a pedestrian/cycle path across Bethanga Bridge to link into the Victorian trail network
6. Commence design work for the boat trailer and car park at Apex Park
7. Continue to support open space opportunities on the foreshore of Lake Hume and along the Murray River as residential areas expand



06 LAKE HUME RESERVES - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Bethanga Bridge - Potential Pedestrian/Cycle link


Apex Park Boat Ramp rock revetment works


Lake Hume Reserves - Apex Park Tree Removal and Tree Planting


Lake Hume Reserves - Apex Park Boat Ramp Lighting


Lake Hume Reserves - Lake Hume Village Beach Area


Lake Hume Village Boat Ramp

06 LAKE HUME RESERVES WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
New Walking Trail	Development of a 2.5m wide, shared bitumen pathway would encourage walking and cycling activities along the water's edge.	Planning	Detailed design underway for the Wagirra Trail extension that links Lake Hume Village to Apex Park. The aim is to extend the trail to Bethanga Bridge with the view to have a shared pathway across the bridge to be able to link into the Victorian Trails and ultimately a Lake Hume Loop. Trail surface is yet to be determined.
Apex Park Improvements	Upgrade car access areas and boat launching facilities by sealing roads and restricting off road vehicular access. Improve visitor picnic areas with new furniture, new playground equipment and upgraded facilities. Manage established vegetation to reduce public risk, new tree planting and formalise boat launching facilities.	Initiated	A draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan has been developed for this area and will be placed on public exhibition as part of the Murray River Experience Master Plan Review. Feedback from this consultation period will be taken into consideration to develop the final version of the master plan. The master plan addresses this action. Some works have been completed such as new picnic tables, boat ramp upgrades (including solar lights) and tree planting.
Lake Hume Boat Launching Area	Improve public access to the boat ramp. Develop walkway to beach areas from main car park.	Planning	Included in the draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan on public exhibition as part of the Murray River Experience Review. Upon the endorsement of the final version of the Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan, this action would be a high priority to progress to detailed design.
Floating & Fishing Pontoons	Investigate possible floating and fishing pontoons at key locations, with formalised access road.	Not Commenced	Included in the draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan on public exhibition as part of the Murray River Experience Review
Improved Entrance Road & New Tourist Route	The plan proposes a new roundabout on the entry road to slow traffic and provide an entrance feature to Lake Hume. Roundabouts could exhibit local flora display beds. The new touring route will improve public access to the Lake Hume waterfront and visitor facilities.	Not Commenced	This action is to be included in the Lake Hume Village Structure Plan reivew.
Proposed subdivision	This plan would encourage medium density sub-division of this land in the approximate configuration shown, with underground services and significant landscape treatment and perimeter screening.	Not Commenced	This action is to be included in the Lake Hume Village Structure Plan review.
Vegetation management and revegetation	Manage established vegetation to reduce public risk. New tree planting and establishment of revegetation and management zones is encouraged.	Construction	Extensive pine tree removal has occured throughout the reserve with strategic revegetation carried out in selected areas of Apex Park. A revegetation plan will be developed as a part of the Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan. Measures to be implemented to minimise erosion at the transition point of the high water mark and parkland.
Public Open Space development	Public open space development on reclaimed land is recommended (along lake side of the new tourist road). New boundary fencing of the caravan park will allow public access around the peninsula. Co-locate improved facilities including the playground, shelters, new public toilet block and park facilities	Initiated	Included in the draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan on public exhibition as part of the Murray River Experience Review
Bethanga Bridge pedestrian/cycle link	Conduct a feasibility study for active travel crossing of Bethanga Bridge	Initiated	Initial discussions have occurred with Transport for NSW. This has been Included in the draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan on public exhibition as part of the Murray River Experience Review. Upon endorsement, this project can progress.
Water Monitoring	Investigate access to varying water levels at Lake Hume Beach.	Not Commenced	Included in the draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan on public exhibition as part of the Murray River Experience Review
Future Recreational Trail	Feasibility of a recreational trail to connect to Bowna Reserve	Not Commenced	Commence planning for long term vision of connecting Lake Hume Village to Bowna and Table Top Reserves.
New Lake Hume Open Space opportunities	As Urban expansion occurs opportunities to develop new open space areas along the forshore of Lake Hume should be supported.	Not Commenced	There is limited access to the forshores of Lake Hume from Bethanga Bridge to Table Top Reserve. As Urban expansion grows closer the Lake Hume open space area at the waters edge will become important. Opportunities that arise to gain public access to the waters edge should be investigated.

Completed · Initiated · Planning · Construction · Not Commenced · No Longer Supported



07 BOWNA WATERS RESERVE

07 BOWNA WATERS RESERVE



Bowna Waters Reserve, a 100ha site to the north-east of Albury, is a relatively natural parkland, used primarily for boat launching and water access. The site includes a picnic area with two barbeques, along with an additional picnic area, toilets and playground. Re-vegetation of the site, which had been extensively cleared, commenced in 2002.

Many initiatives of the Murray River Experience Master plan have not been commenced in Bowna Waters Reserve. It is recommended that a new master planning process be undertaken to plan for the future of the area once the current Aboriginal Land Claim has been resolved.

NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Establishment of pedestrian/cycle link from Bowna Waters Reserve to greater trail network
2. New 2.5m shared trail
3. Existing toilet block and picnic area retained and upgraded
4. Investigate feasibility of a lookout location
5. Rationalise car parking

***Implementation of future priorities are subject to resolution of existing Aboriginal land claim.**



07 BOWNA WATERS RESERVE WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
New car park	Gravel car parks, which cater for 5-6 cars, shall be located near existing picnic shelters.		Rationalise existing picnic areas and associated car park areas along Bowna Waters Road. Improve car and trailer vehicle circulation and parking adjacent to the boat ramp. To be further addressed as part of the Master Plan.
New walking trails	Development of a 2.5m wide shared bitumen pathway to create a recreational walking/cycling circuit.		Develop a shared recreational trail from Old Sydney Road car park through the reserve as a loop suitable for walkers and bike riders. Trail surface is yet to be determined. Install way finding and interpretation along this trail.
New farm fencing	New fencing is recommended to restrict vehicular access and hence promoting re-vegetation.		Install new fencing along the road reserve to reduce vehicular access to the lake foreshore where possible. A review of the fencing and barriers to control vehicle access to the foreshore should be considered in a master plan for this site.
Existing toilet block and facilities	Existing picnicking facilities will be relocated, the toilet block is retained.		Existing toilet, picnic facilities and play space to be retained and upgraded. Upgrades should be considered through the Master Plan development for the reserve.
Relocated picnic area	New picnic facilities will be set at various locations adjacent to the car park addressing the water.		To be addressed as part of the Master Plan development.
Lookout	Possible lookout located on the high point.		Develop as part of walking/cycling loop.
New café development	Possible cafe' development with caretaker's residence.		Visitation and water levels do not support this project
Revegetation zone	Area to be revegetated with new planting.		Significant revegetation has occurred previously. The development of a more detailed Master Plan can identify additional revegetation areas.
Land management zone	Management of existing vegetation and associated maintenance all in accordance with existing conservation plan. Localised revegetation as required.		To be addressed as part of the Master Plan development.
Public shared path	Public shared path and horse trail above the high water level is to be established through public and private land to provide future continuous lake edge path system to Lake Hume Reserves and beyond. Path to be negotiated with land owners.		This action to be considered further in the Master Plan development of the site. A feasability study is to be undertaken as part of the Wagirra Trail future alignments project.
New Action - Bowna Reserve Trail	Investigate a MTB trail around Bowna Waters Reserve from Old Sydney Road car park.		The Albury Mountain Bike Strategy identifies Bowna Water Reserve as a potential location for mountain bike trails. This action is to be considered during the development of a more detailed Master Plan for the reserve.
New Action – Extension to shared trail network	The existing trail network along Table Top Road ceases at the northern extent of Thurgoona. With future development planned for this area, the extension of the shared trail should be considered to link to Bowna Waters Reserve (Note: a section of this extension is part of the NSW Governments Hume and Hovell Track).		To be addressed in furter stages of planning.

Note: to ensure that the reserve meets future community needs a more detailed master plan should be developed for the site

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported

07 BOWNA WATERS RESERVE - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Bowna Waters Reserve boat ramp rock revetment works


Bowna Waters Reserve Picnic Area


Bowna Waters Reserve Boat Ramp


08 TABLE TOP RESERVE

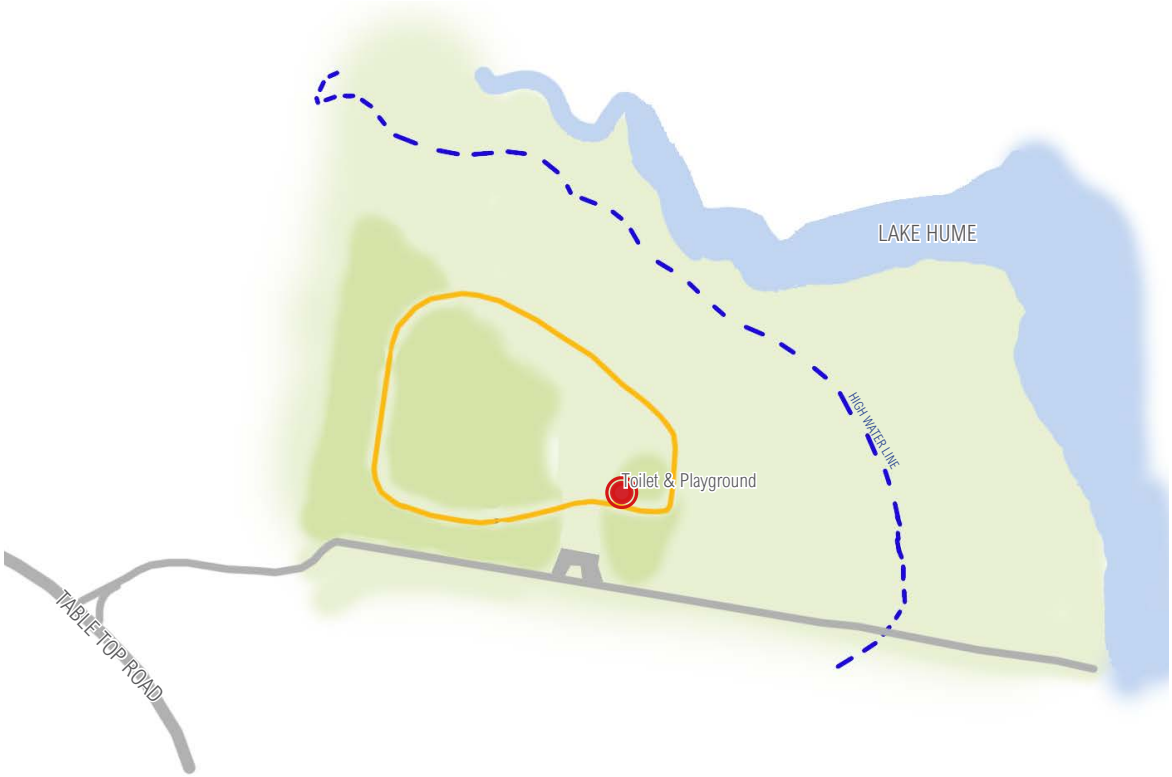
08 TABLE TOP RESERVE



Table Top Reserve is located on the waterfront of Lake Hume, providing water access for local residents. The 20 hectare land parcel has only seven hectares above the high water mark of Lake Hume with a large portion now revegetated. Approximately two hectares is now maintained parkland which includes a small playground, picnic tables, seating, public toilet and mature shade trees. There is no direct vehicle access to the lake for launching boats.

NEXT PRIORITIES

- No major improvements are identified as high priority for this site



08 TABLE TOP RESERVE WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS	DETAIL
Formalised car park	The existing car park will be redeveloped to create a more attractive space. The car park would be sealed and edged. The north edge would be a vegetated depression, soil from this would then be used to create mounds on the east and west ends of the car park. A small earth bridge will span the depression which will allow for pedestrian and restricted maintenance vehicle access. The centre of the area would remain grassed and could be used for overflow parking if required.	Completed	The Action has been reassessed. Rock barriers have been installed to limit vehicle access. The informal car park is to be retained with restricted vehicle access. Low visitation doesn't warrant further improvements at this time.
Picnic space	Picnic and playground facilities will be consolidated into a central mown space.	Completed	Playground, picnic facilities and public toilet upgraded. Linking path established from toilet block to car park area. Vehicle access restricted.
Visual connections	Limited vegetation removal to open a direct view from the picnic area to Lake Hume.	Completed	The maintained area has been reduced with a large portion of mown area revegetated. When Lake Hume water levels are high there is sufficient access points to the water.
New shared path	Development of a 2.5m wide shared pathway to create a recreational and interpretive walking/ cycling circuit, which incorporates both long external views and localised bush environment appreciation.	Not Commenced	The park has low visitation and is not a priority at this point in time.
Future Garden walking path	A proposed intimate gravel walking path through a garden of indigenous plants.	No Longer Supported	This project is no longer supported due to low visitation.
Water edge access trail	Proposed controlled access point for vehicles to Lake Hume edge along a tree lined gravel road. Limited lake edge access and canoe landing will be required.	No Longer Supported	This project is no longer supported due to low visitation and low water levels (water levels reduce quickly and early in the season at Table Top Reserve)
Recreational trail connections	Conduct a feasibility study for a long distance recreational trail from Table Top Reserve via Bowna Waters Reserve to Bethanga Bridge and Lake Hume Village.	Not Commenced	This is to be further considered as part of the Bowna Waters Reserve Master Plan and broader Murray River Experience Master Plan.

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported

08 TABLE TOP RESERVE - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Table Top Reserve Picnic Tables


Table Top Reserve Play Space


Table Top Reserve Public Toilet



09 WAGIRRA TRAIL EXTENSION

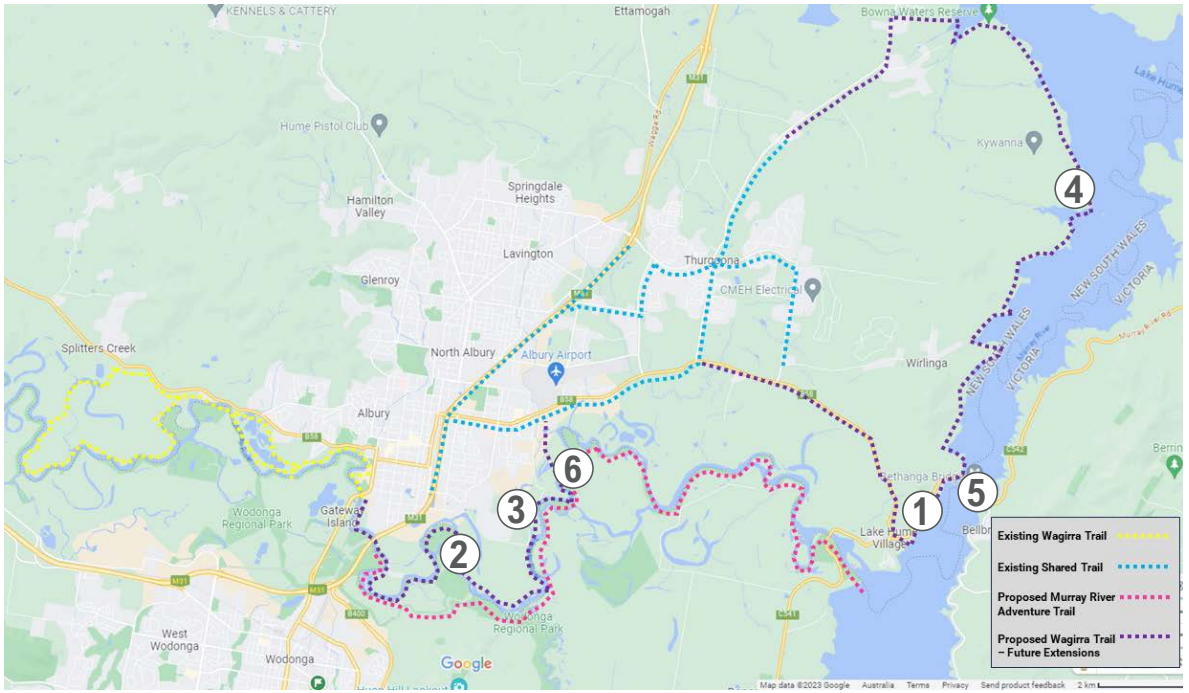
09 WAGIRRA TRAIL EXTENSION

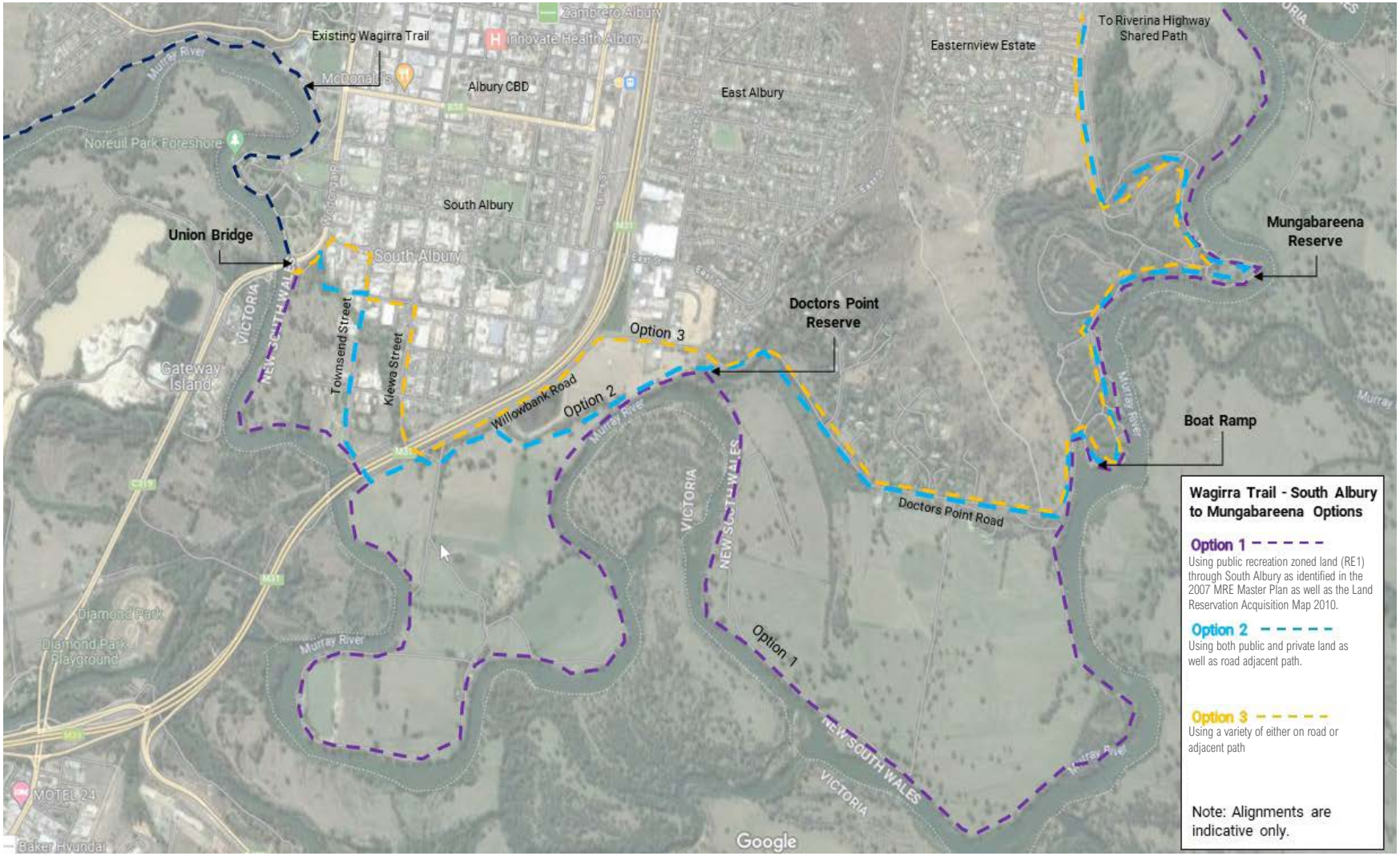


The Wagirra Trail has the potential to be one of Australia's premier riverside trails that links the Albury Riverside Parks with both Wonga Wetlands and Mungabareena Reserve. The ultimate destination is still to provide a pedestrian cycle link from Albury to and along the foreshore of Lake Hume. Since the endorsement of the Murray River Experience Master Plan in 2007, approximately 23 kilometres of trail has been constructed from the Union Bridge (Albury Riverside Parks) to Wonga Wetlands. This includes a 12.5-kilometre loop around Wonga Wetlands.

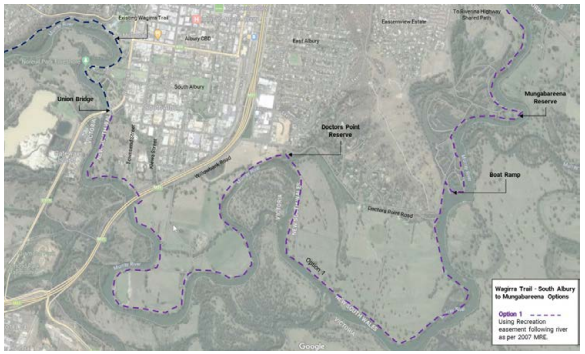
NEXT PRIORITIES

1. Construction of the Wagirra Trail to link Lake Hume Village to Apex Park.
2. Commence investigations, feasibility, consultation and cost estimate process to extend the Wagirra Trail from Albury Riverside Parks to Mungabareena Reserve through South Albury.
3. Work with the Mungabareena Aboriginal Place Management Group to determine the Wagirra Trail alignment through Mungabareena Reserve that links the boat ramp to the picnic area.
4. Undertake initial planning for the long-term vision of connecting to Lake Hume and to Bowna and Table Top Reserves.
5. Investigate feasibility to construct a shared path across Bethanga Bridge.
6. Progress feasibility of connection between Albury to Lake Hume that includes links via the Riverina Highway and the proposed Murray River Adventure Trail.




Existing Wagirra Trail
Albury CBD
East Albury
Easternview Estate
To Riverina Highway Shared Path
Noreuil Park Foreshore
South Albury
Union Bridge
Mungabareena Reserve
Doctors Point Reserve
Option 3
Option 2
Option 1
Townsend Street
Kiewa Street
Willowbank Road
Gateway Island
Boat Ramp
Doctors Point Road
Murray River
Diamond Park
Diamond Park Playground
MOTEL 24
Baker Hyundai
VICTORIA
NEW SOUTH WALES
Google
Wagirra Trail - South Albury to Mungabareena Options
Option 1
Using public recreation zoned land (RE1) through South Albury as identified in the 2007 MRE Master Plan as well as the Land Reservation Acquisition Map 2010.
Option 2
Using both public and private land as well as road adjacent path.
Option 3
Using a variety of either on road or adjacent path
Note: Alignments are indicative only.

09 WAGIRRA TRAIL EXTENSION UNION BRIDGE TO MUNGABAREENA POTENTIAL OPTIONS



OPTION 1

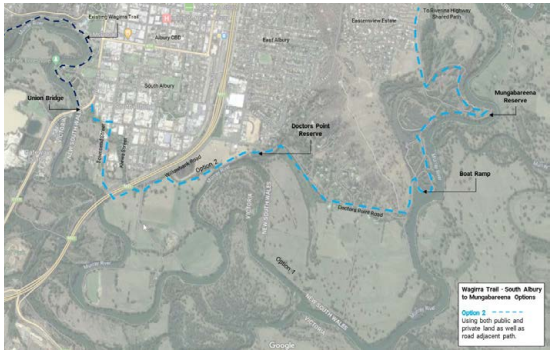
Follows the alignment identified in the 2007 MRE master plan. This alignment follows along the river edge from Union Bridge to Mungabareena Reserve.

Opportunities

- There is a Public Recreation zone (RE1) adjacent to the river which has been identified in the Land Reservation Acquisition Map 2010 could be used to construct the trail adjacent to the river
- Links several council owned land parcels
- River edge alignment considered to have the best amenity
- Potential to link with Murray River Adventure Trail
- Completely off road
- Utilisation of existing unformed roads (road reserves) for maintenance access.

Constraints

- Multiple private land tenures
- Requires access under State government assets (Highway and rail corridor)
- Not appropriate as a commuter connection from East Albury due to distance (13.3km)
- Limited road access for emergency services
- High construction cost
- Potential impacts to private property access with activation of road reserves



OPTION 2

This alignment uses a mix of both on road reserve through South Albury and private land access via existing road reserves. Follows Doctors point Road into Mungabareena Reserve

Opportunities

- Greater use of existing infrastructure than option 1
- Utilisation of existing unformed roads (road reserves) to construct trail
- Link key destinations Normans Lagoon and Doctors Point Reserve
- Opportunity to create an East Albury Loop by linking with Borella road shared path and Albury Thurgoona Trail
- More direct access for commuters to the CBD
- Links to existing Eastern Hill Reserve access points

Constraints

- Infrastructure required – bridges and boardwalks will impact cost.
- Trail doesn't follow the river
- Adjacent to industrial zone land in South Albury - Not aesthetically ideal
- Narrow sections of Doctors Point Road will require engineering solutions
- Safety



OPTION 3

This alignment utilises existing road alignments on Nurigong St, Townsend St, Kiewa St Willowbank Road and Doctors Point Road with construction of on road or pathways adjacent to the road.

Opportunities

- Could be implemented as a short-term option while private land access is negotiated.
- Potentially the lowest cost of the 3 options
- Minimal infrastructure requirements
- Most desirable access for commuters
- Direct links for commuters
- Link key destinations Normans Lagoon and Doctors Point Reserve
- Opportunity to create an East Albury Loop by linking with Borella road shared path and Albury Thurgoona Trail
- Links to existing Eastern Hill Reserve access points

Constraints

- Not aesthetically preferred
- Does not align with the intent of the Wagirra Trail to follow the river
- Not "off road" – most of the path would be within the road reserve
- On road pathways considered less safe option
- Narrow sections of Doctors Point Road will require engineering solutions
- Safety

09 WAGIRRA TRAIL - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


The Bigger Picture Artwork


Maya Fish Trap


Wonga Loop


Wagirra Trail - Kremur Street Boat Ramp


Scar Tree Sculpture

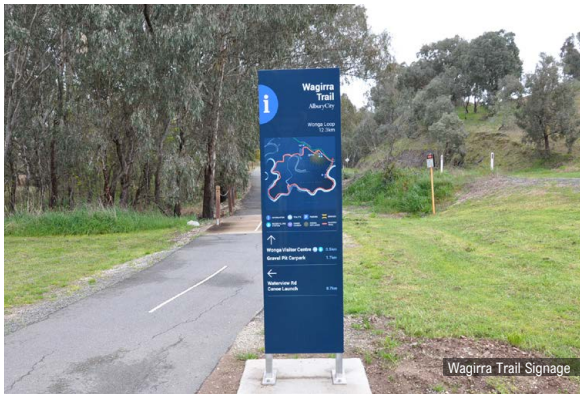

Googar Goanna Sculpture

09 WAGIRRA TRAIL - COMPLETED WORKS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS


Canoe Launch near Wonga Wetlands


Family Gathering


Wagirra Trail bridge at Wonga Wetlands



Wagirra Trail Signage


Wagirra Trail at Wonga Wetlands


Gugaburra's

09 WAGIRRA TRAIL EXTENSION WORKS SUMMARY

ACTION	SUMMARY	STATUS
Lake Hume Village to Apex Park and Victorian trail links	The improvements identified in the Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan will help increase visitation to the region. The Master Plan identifies a pedestrian/cycle link between Lake Hume Village and the Bethanga Bridge. Even though the vision is to link Apex Park to Bowna Waters Reserve, there is an opportunity to cross Lake Hume at Bethanga Bridge and establish a trail link to Tallangatta and to the Rail Trail network. This would create a grand circuit around the Mitta Mitta arm of Lake Hume back to Wodonga and to the Riverside Parks in Albury.	Planning
Bowna Waters Reserve	The existing trail network has been constructed part way out to Bowna Waters Reserve along Table Top Road to Spring Park. The extension of the trail network (part of the NSW Government Hume and Hovell Track) could be constructed in the short term. The Albury Mountain Bike Strategy proposes new cycle trails at Bowna Waters Reserve. The extension of the Table Top Road trail network would improve access for cyclists if future mountain bike trails are established.	Not Commenced
Riverside Parks to Mungabareena Reserve	This important connection is complicated by multiple private land tenures. Potential alignments have been identified, however these require further investigation including a feasibility study, community and stakeholder consultation (particularly with private landholders), and establishment of cost estimates prior to finalising the preferred alignment.	Not Commenced
Albury to Lake Hume Link	As per the 2007 MRE, the long-term visions for the Wagirra Trail is to link Albury to Lake Hume and beyond. An initial concept and feasibility needs to be undertaken to identify if the proposal could proceed. Alternative alignments to Lake Hume could include the proposed Murray River Adventure Trail or links along the Riverina Highway.	Planning

*Investigations should continue to determine the most appropriate alignment of connections on the NSW side of the river due to the proposed Murray River Adventure Trail. Planning should occur concurrently with Murray River Adventure Trail investigations to ensure that a river trail is not duplicated on both sides of the river.

Completed Initiated Planning Construction Not Commenced No Longer Supported

CONCLUSION

The ongoing review of the Murray River Experience Master Plan (MRE) reaffirms AlburyCity's commitment to the vision crafted in 2007. The comprehensive assessment of completed initiatives and ongoing projects reflects the city's dedication to creating open spaces that not only meet current community needs but also align with evolving priorities.

Since the plan's endorsement, the successful implementation of the MRE's outlined actions has strengthened the community's bond with the Murray River. To date the improvements which have resulted from the MRE's vision, have ensured better river access, integrated amenities, and the promotion of diverse experiences have transformed these spaces into vibrant hubs for residents and visitors alike. The MRE has provided positive steps in fostering the Aboriginal community's connection with the river stand as a testament to AlburyCity's commitment to inclusivity and cultural sensitivity.

This review identifies key future focus areas, ensuring that Albury's open spaces continue to evolve in harmony with the community's vision and the principles laid out in the MRE. The emphasis on enhancing accessibility, fostering environmental sustainability, and deepening community engagement sets the stage for a forward-looking approach whilst ensuring that as urban expansion continues. As the Thurgoona Wirlinga area expands, more opportunities to access the Murray River or the foreshore of Lake Hume will become available and should be supported.

This reflective process serves not only as a gauge of accomplishments but also as a roadmap for the future. AlburyCity's ongoing dedication to the principles of the MRE ensures community-driven outcomes are achieved. The journey from the inception of the MRE to the current review exemplifies the city's proactive stance in creating a vibrant, inclusive, and environmentally conscious community for generations to come.

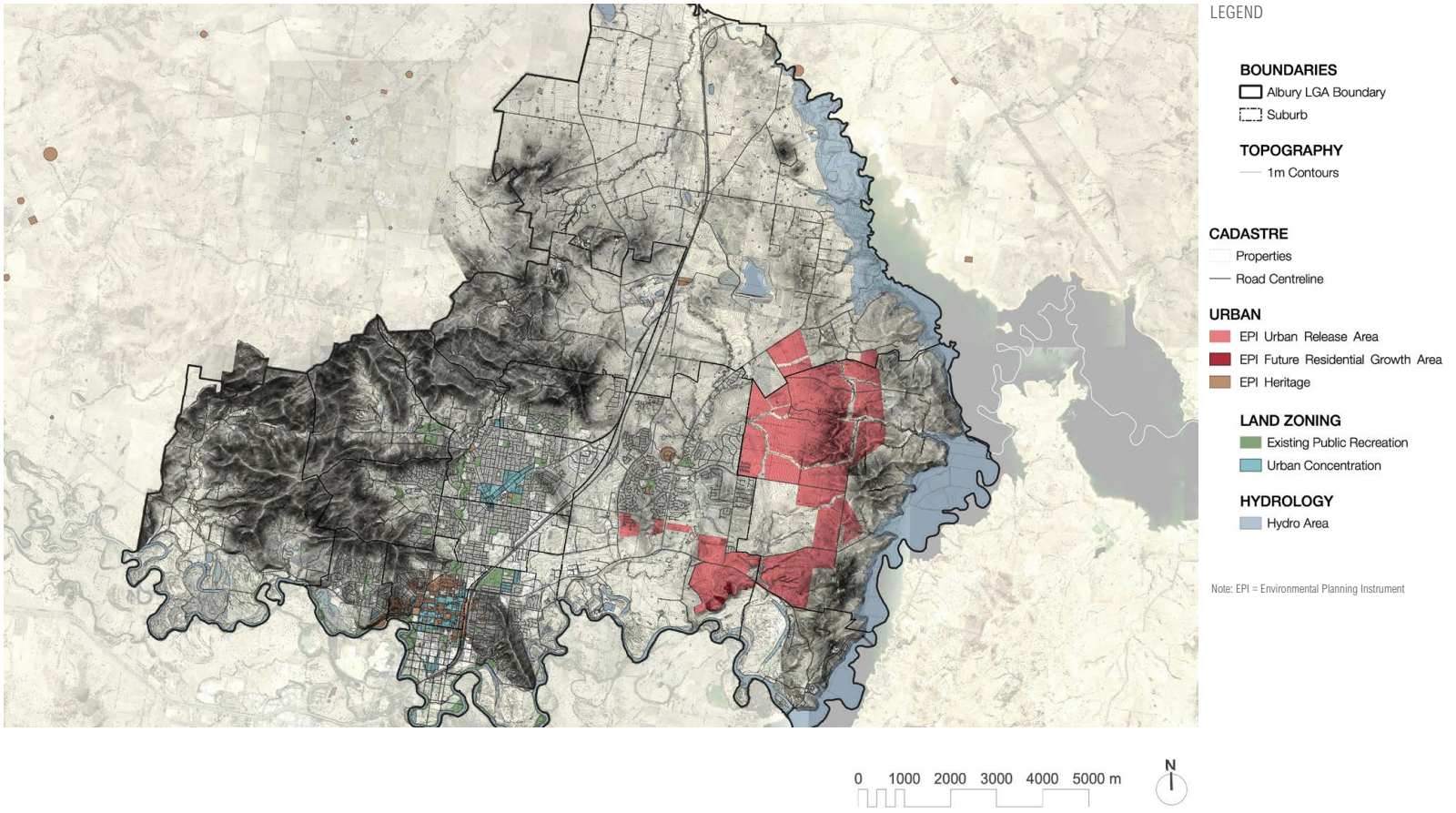




10 APPENDICES

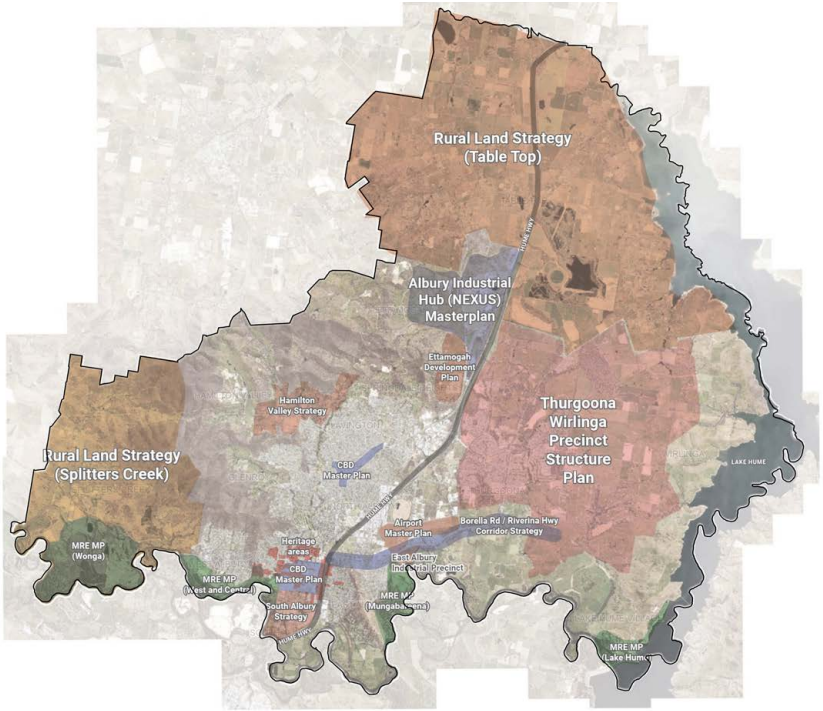
APPENDIX A:

ALBURY LGA - CONTEXT



APPENDIX B:

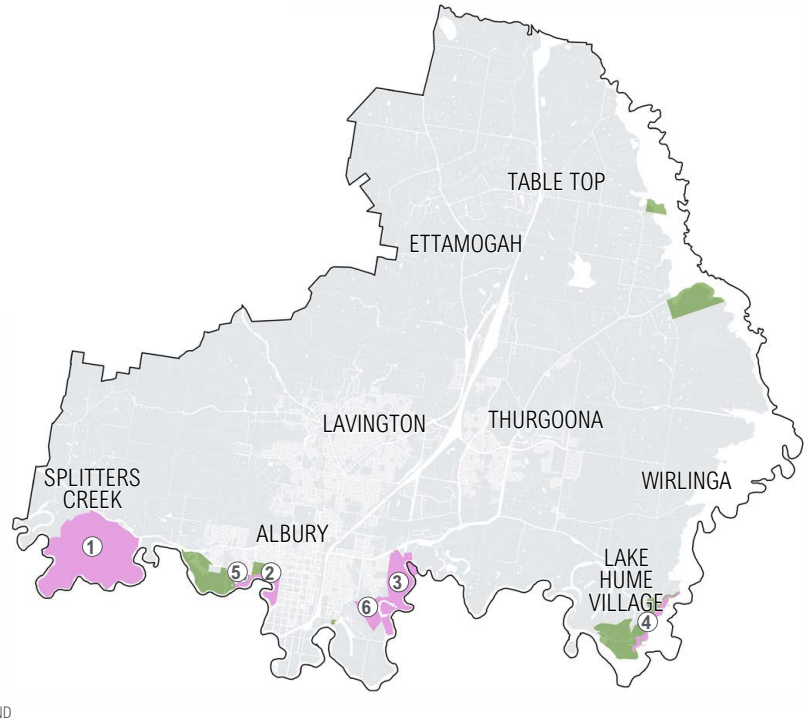
ALBURY LGA - 2020 LOCAL STRATEGIC PLANNING STATEMENT



Key location-specific plans and strategies include:

- Thurgoona Wirlinga Precinct Structure Plan (2013)
- Rural Lands Strategy for Table Top and Splitters Creek (2015)
- South Albury Strategy (2004)
- Albury and Lavington CBD Master Plans (2009)
- Hamilton Valley Strategy (2002)
- Murray River Experience Master Plan (2007)
- Albury Industrial Hub Master Plan (Nexus) (2010)
- East Albury Industrial Precinct Master Plan (2012)
- Airport Master Plan (2018)

MASTER PLANS WITHIN THE STUDY AREA



LEGEND

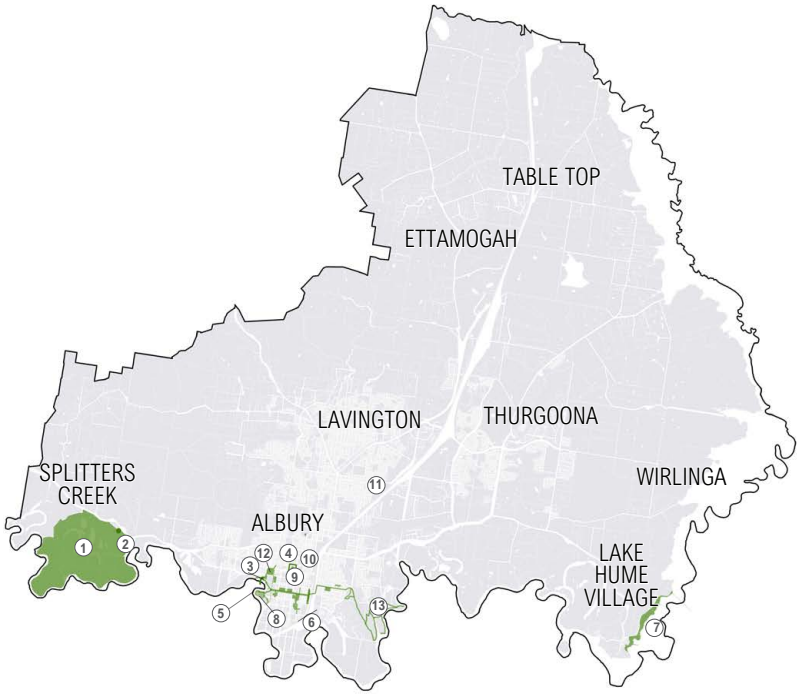
Sites with updated Master Plans

1. Wonga Wetlands Tourism Product Development Master plan 2014
2. MRE Masterplan: Central Albury Riverside Parks 2022
3. Mungabareena Aboriginal Place Management Plan 2019
4. Draft Lake Hume Reserves Master Plan 2023
5. Padman Park (Leaney's Bend) Flying Fox Camp Management Plan 2018
6. Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan 2023

MRE Existing Reserves - Study Areas
MRE Reserves with Updated Master Plans

APPENDIX C:

RELEVANT STRATEGIES AND PLANS



1. Wonga Wetlands Tourism Product Development Master Plan 2014
2. Wonga Visitors and Education Experience Centre 2017
3. Albury Riverside Precinct 2019
4. Bungambrawatha Creek Catchment Assessment 2023
5. Noreuil Park Riverbank Rehabilitation 2019
6. Wagirra Trail - Noreuil to Mungabareena Link 2020
7. Lake Hume Reserves Draft Master Plan 2023
8. Noreuil Park Foreshore Landscape Plan 2016
9. Albury Cultural Precinct (MAMA, AEC and Library/Museum) 2021
10. Cultural Precinct Master Plan 2021
11. Albury Regional Skate & Recreation Hub 2019
12. Albury Botanic Gardens Master Plan 2022
13. Eastern Hill Activation Master Plan 2023
14. Open Space Strategy (under development)

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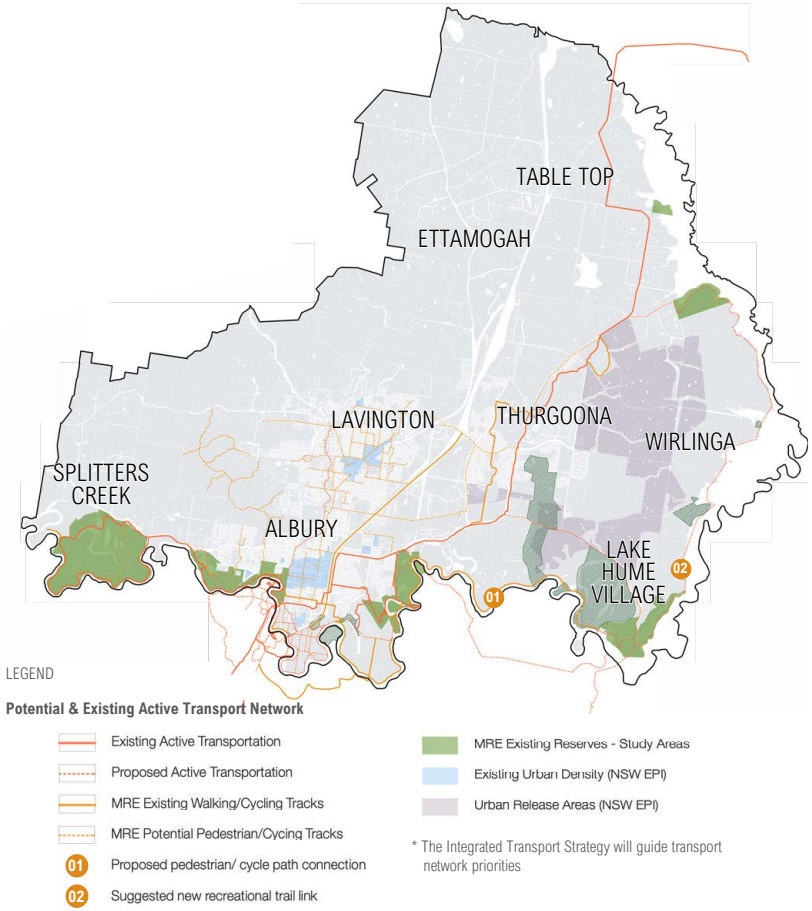
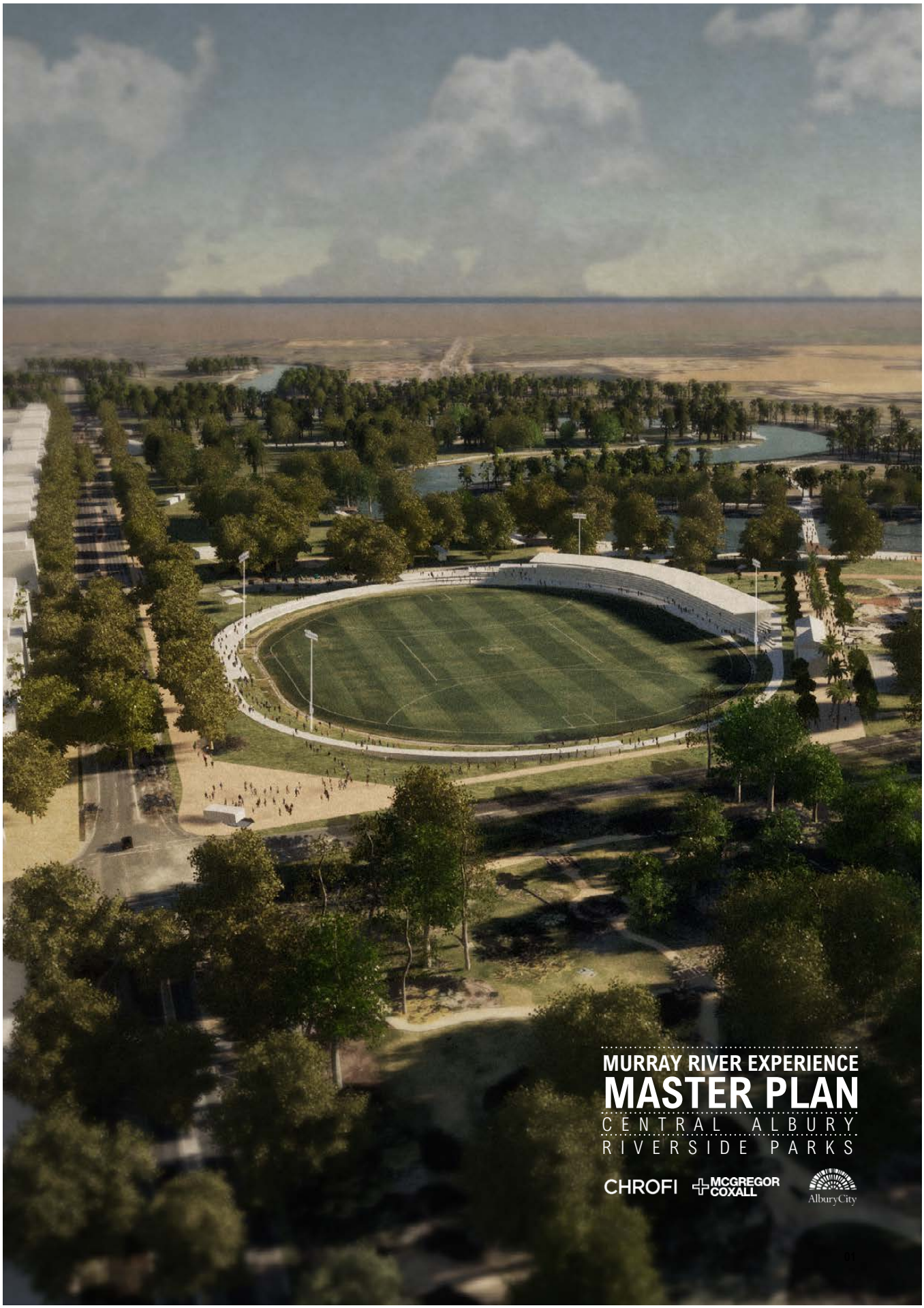
ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION & TRAIL NETWORK





MURRAY RIVER EXPERIENCE
MASTER PLAN REVIEW

Albury City



MURRAY RIVER EXPERIENCE
MASTER PLAN
CENTRAL ALBURY RIVERSIDE PARKS

CHROFI MCGREGOR COXALL Albury City





Acknowledgement of Country

AlburyCity-dyu yindyamali Wiradjuri mayiny. Wiradjuri bala walumaldhaanygalang ngurambang-gu. Ngurambang-ga ngiyanhi murunwigi yindyamali-yanhi mudyigaanggalam-bu balumbambal-bu. Nganhaguliyalaa wirimbili giilanggalam-bu winhangangidyal-bu Wiradjuri-giyalang-bu ngurambangguwal-giyalang-bu

AlburyCity acknowledges the Wiradjuri people as the traditional custodians of the land in which we live and work and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, culture, tradition and hopes of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that contribute to our community.

Artwork by Teisha Maksymow-McGuiness.



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Executive Summary

The vision is to capitalise on the strategic location of Albury on the Murray and the Hume Highway by forging a stronger connection between the City, people and the river. The plan is to create a jewel-in-the-crown, destination precinct, that reinforces the prominence of Albury-Wodonga in the Riverina Murray Region. The Riverside Parks will strengthen the competitiveness of Albury-Wodonga as a destination to live and visit. The aim is to create a new heart on the Murray to compliment Dean St and Cultural Precinct. The design focus is to amplify and clarify the assets and make a cohesive public domain of exceptional quality. The Riverside Parks will be generous, with varied and restorative landscapes, structures and experiences that engage with the water and new public buildings to deepen the connection with the Murray. The masterplan will include connections to Gateway Island and future tourism development, with great links to nearby destinations.



[FIG 02] Location of the Albury Riverside Parks in the broader Albury LGA

The Murray River is an Australian icon with vast historical, cultural and recreation value for the City of Albury. But, over the course of history the Albury CBD has shifted away from the River. The once integral relationship between the river, the parks and the city grid has become disjointed and the Riverside Parks are increasingly fragmented. Investment has generally been concentrated on Dean Street and Kiewa St and this has led to the strengthening of the thriving high street, which unfortunately has only a tangential relationship to the river.

The opportunity is to further capitalise on the strategic location of Albury on the Murray River, by making a more attractive place for locals and visitors alike. Better connections between the CBD and the river also reinforce the competitiveness of Albury as a destination to live and visit. Ultimately, this Masterplan aims to connect Albury CBD to the Murray River through the Central Albury Riverside Parks (Riverside Parks). This can be achieved through the implementation of several public projects to be investigated in further detail and undertaken over a longer time frame. This document is a road map to achieve a better-quality experience of the parklands that capitalises on the presence of the Murray in such close proximity to the CBD. Through these projects, Albury City can turn and face the river again.

This document is the missing link in the masterplanning framework of Albury City. It updates the Murray River Experience Masterplan (MRE) and the considerations for the western edge of the city from the CBD Masterplan. This document will act as a foundation for understanding the western edge of the city in any future CBD Masterplans.

The Riverside Parks are an important area of focus for future planning for a number of reasons:

- A roughy 300,000 sqm area (30 hectare), they are larger than Fitzroy Gardens in Melbourne and roughly twice the size of Hyde Park in Sydney.
- During recent community consultation, a large portion of respondents told us they wanted improvements in the area.
- The area is the Western gateway to the city, welcoming people from the Lincoln Causeway and Riverina Highway.
- The area is a significant piece of social and recreational infrastructure for nearby residents
- The Parks' proximity to the city and walkability make the area a crucial piece of the tourism strategy for Albury-Wodonga.
- The Riverside Parks have connections to nearby trails for visitors or locals venturing to other destinations on the Murray, facilitated by current and future connections to the west and east. The Riverside Parks are also an important urban renewal catalyst for South Albury and the city's western edge.
- They are a good opportunity to galvanise the twin-city concept of Albury-Wodonga by adding links across the river

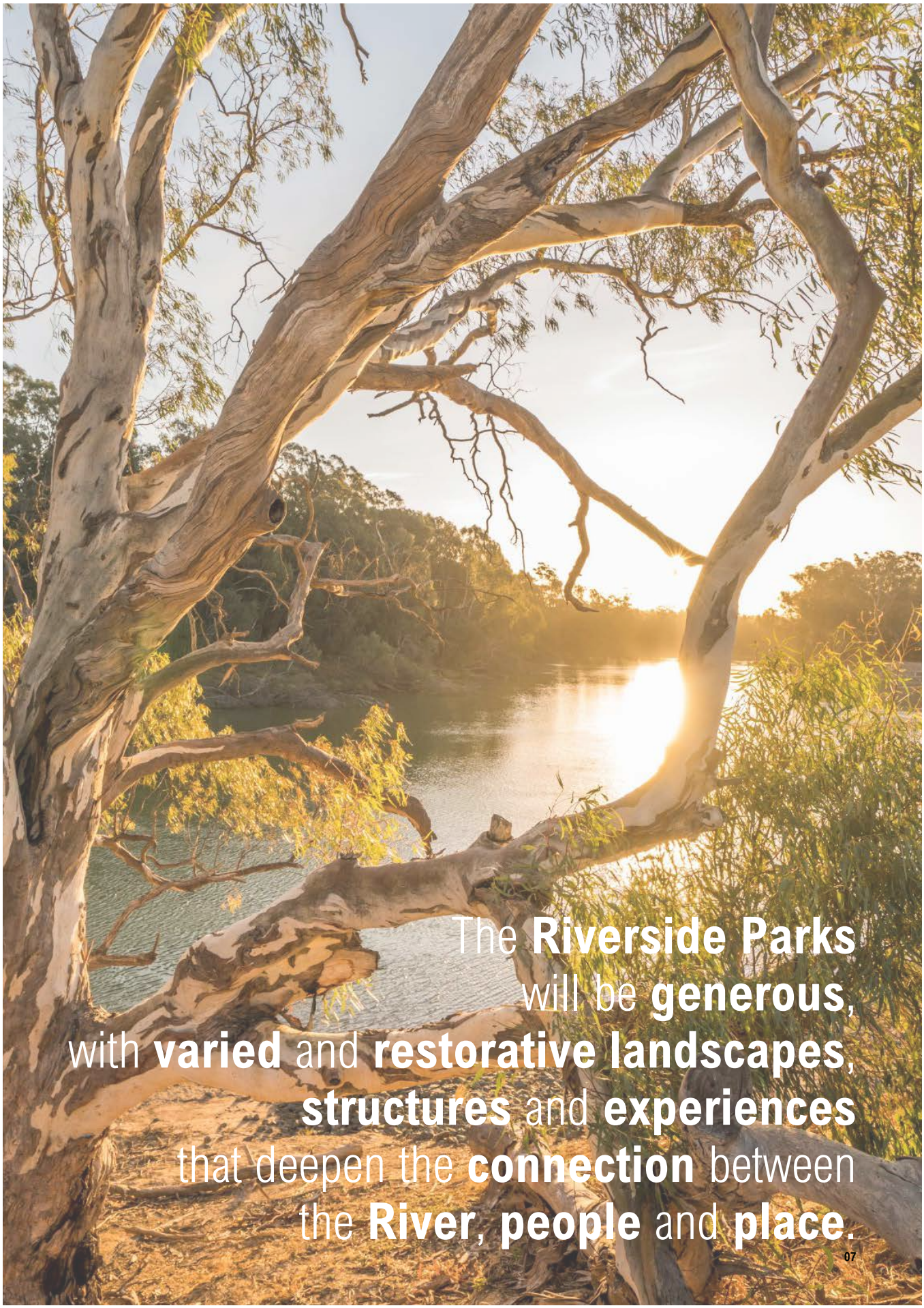
The masterplan process has deeply considered the issues at play:

- Walking from Dean St towards the river can feel circuitous due to the zig-zag movement through the city grid.
- In addition, the quality of buildings and consistency of activation dissipates towards the park edge.
- After you move through the Botanic Gardens, there is a knot of well-loved community infrastructure that unfortunately blocks access to the river.
- The parks offer underwhelming gateways, poor sightlines and poor pedestrian amenity.
- There are a limited number of ways to meaningfully connect with the Murray River. Without connection, the value of the Murray is not captured. The opportunity is to draw from the Murray and find new ways to reinforce the connection between the River, the people and the place.

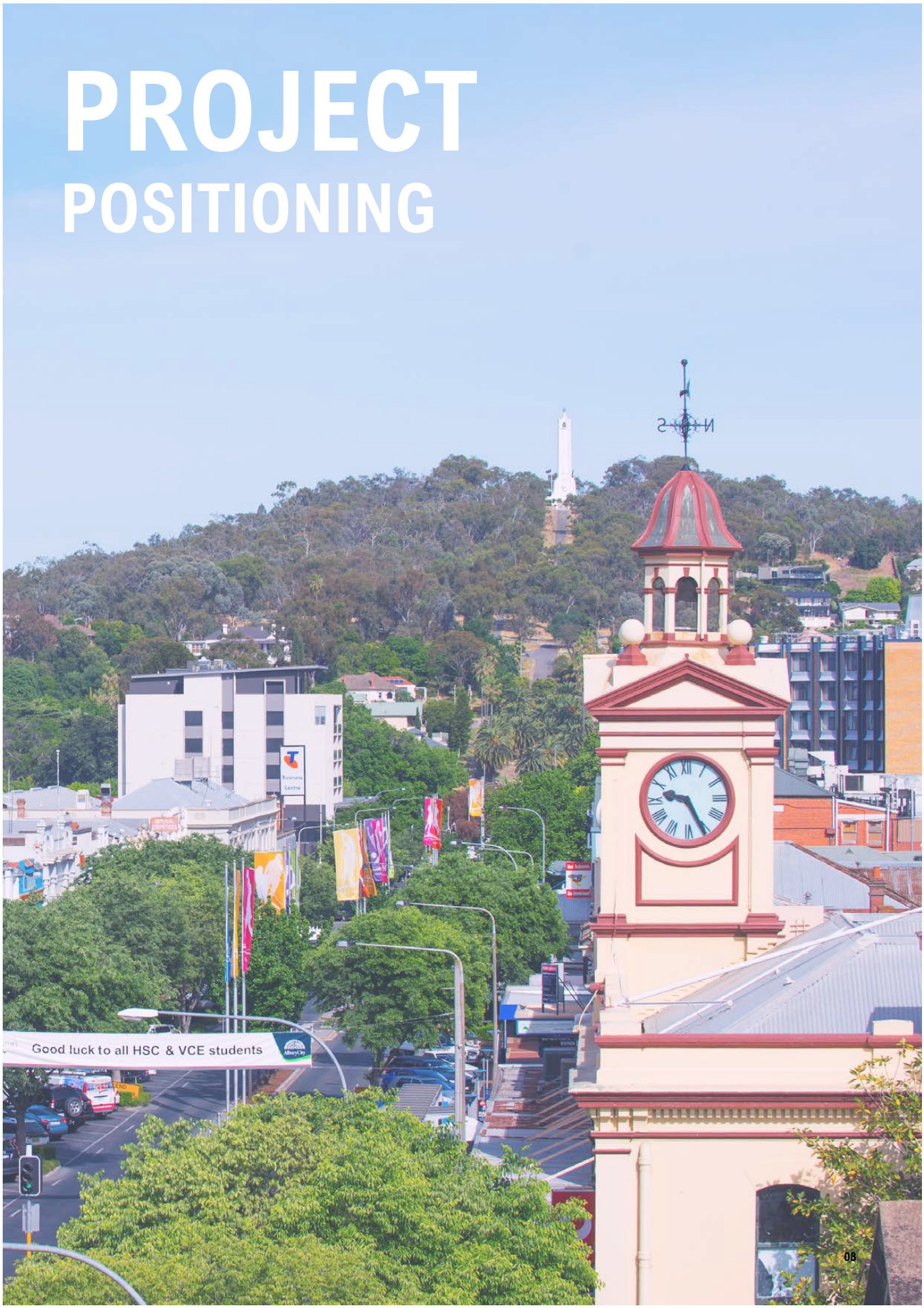
The recommendations of this report aim to amplify and clarify Albury's existing assets on the River, to compliment Dean St and Cultural Precinct. The works have the potential to become a destination parkland that will become known nationally, linked to the tourism, city branding strategies of Albury-Wodonga.

The resulting place would have a cohesive public domain of exceptional quality that capitalises of recent investment in the parklands and connects to future investment in Gateway Island and nearby Tourism Destinations. The landscape would be varied, with ways to restore the native ecology. New structures, buildings and experiences are all tailored to expose people to the Murray River environment in new, meaningful, and memorable ways. The projects also offer an opportunity to sensitively capture value through commercial opportunities in the parkland.

The masterplan finds a multitude of new ways to connect to the River edge and stitch the assets, the city and the parkland together. Each project can be achieved independently, increasing the likelihood of the outcomes being achieved in the short and medium term. Longer term ambitions will require integrated design, planning and consultation to come to be realised.


The **Riverside Parks**
will be **generous**,
with **varied** and **restorative landscapes**,
structures and **experiences**
that deepen the **connection** between
the **River**, **people** and **place**.

PROJECT
POSITIONING



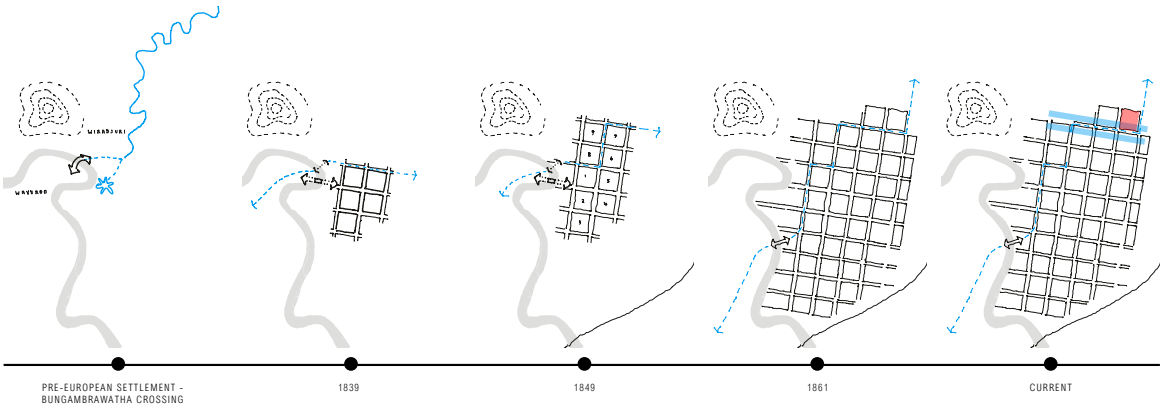


[FIG 03]

1881



1888



[FIG 04]

History of the Riverside Parks

Pre-European Settlement

"...The Murray River was not a border but a liminal zone for groups that had their centre of gravity in adjacent areas. Thus, in the Albury-Wodonga area the Waveroo were reputed to have accessed north banks of the Murray, as were the Wiradjuri.' - Nineteenth Century Indigenous Land Use of Albury (NSW)

1839

A ford and punt formalise a point to cross the Murray. Thomas Townsend's founding survey responds to this crossing point by setting out the first streets and blocks of Albury with an integral relationship to the River and what is now the peninsular of Noreuil Park.



[FIG 05]

1849

"The next township is 'Albury' situated (140 miles beyond Gundagai) at the crossing place of the Hume River, a more eligible spot than this could not have been selected for a township. It is beautifully situated in the heart of an extensive and fertile district. It is on the bank of the a splendid river. It is on the high road from Sydney to Melbourne." - Sydney Morning Herald, March 6, 1841

1861

European settlement had initially been concentrated in the alluvial flats near the crossing place. The 1847 floods alerted the Albury residents to the vulnerability of this location and in consequence, the focus of the town, higher quality buildings and the city grid expansion began to shift north towards higher ground.

Current

As the city has evolved the investment and activity has consolidated to the north, with a tangential relationship the river. Over time, the Riverside Parks have become fragmented, with multiple blockages to pedestrian flow.

[FIG 03] The introduction of roads subdivided the Albury Riverside Parks and create three separated characters, limiting its ability to be seen as a cohesive whole.
[FIG 04] A timeline of Albury's growth
[FIG 05] Location of the "crossing place"
[FIG 06] Bright Splash Park, Victoria - example of an all-ages splash park picked up in the community feedback



[FIG 06]

Community Consultation

Albury Council is committed to working with the community and key stakeholders in the ongoing development of the Riverside Parks. The design decisions made in this master plan have carefully considered the input from a number of important user groups, Council and stakeholders.

Have Your Say

Council led a "Have Your Say" community consultation process prior to the commencement of the MRE Masterplan Review. A large portion of responses and suggestions focused on the Central Albury Riverside Parks and these comments have influenced the resulting draft masterplan for instance:

- The need for an improved cycle and walking network
- Improved pedestrian flow and passive surveillance between the gardens and the river
- A splash park for the use of all ages
- Active community focused development.

Albury Tigers Football Club

Engagement with the Tigers Club have been productive, acknowledging the challenges with the existing Albury Sports Ground facilities and the opportunity for the grounds to become an integral part of surrounding parklands. Preliminary concepts and ideas were discussed to optimise the space around the oval, whilst optimising the game day experience and the contribution of the oval to city life events. Following these positive discussions, the decision was made to put forward a new, high level vision for the Albury Sports Ground through this masterplan.

Swim Club & Water Polo Teams

Several meetings were held between Albury Swim Club stakeholders and the project team to understand their urgent and long-term needs and challenges facing the Albury Swim Centre. One reoccurring need vocalised by individual stakeholders was for renewal of the change and club rooms, which are currently run-down. Another overarching goal of the pool users is to retain and nurture sporting talent in Albury, which is difficult in the colder months when the pool must shut. Stakeholders are looking for further clarity through an updated Aquatic Centre Strategy. Through these discussions, we understand the Albury Swim Centre is a well-loved facility with a number of shortcomings for ongoing use. We understand there is a significant cost of renovating the Albury Swim Centre. The area plays a crucial role as a gateway to the parklands and has a number of spatial constraints. For these reasons, it was deemed suitable to put forward a vision for the future of the site.

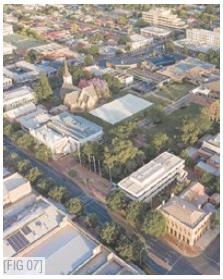
Indigenous Community

Discussions were held with senior members of the Aboriginal community. The riverside parks are significant to Indigenous culture and our discussions centred around the opportunity for better representation of Wiradjuri culture in the parklands, thereby increasing the exposure of Indigenous culture to locals and visitors alike. It was discussed that this could be made physical through the inclusion in a new visitor and cultural centre.



MASTERPLAN

Guiding Design Principles


[FIG 07]

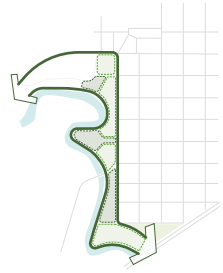

[FIG 08]

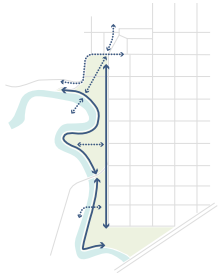

[FIG 09]

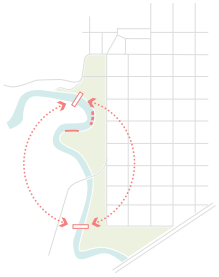

[FIG 10]

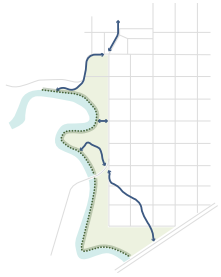

[FIG 11]











Two Hearts

Albury can have two, high quality cultural gathering places in the emerging Cultural Precinct and Noreuil Park. The two places are complimentary and reflect the urban and Riverina characters of Albury respectively. Cultural and community facilities and events can be shared between the hearts and planned in a complementary way. Connections between the two hearts should be developed.

Variety Within A Cohesive Whole

The Riverside Parks should provide a multitude of experiences and activities whilst maintaining a cohesive character overall. The strength of each part contributes to the experience of the whole parkland and city edge, celebrating the natural beauty and unique ecology.

Prioritise Pedestrians

The Riverside Parks are a walkable size and should be very easy to cycle. But currently there are large areas dedicated to parking and roads. Convenience and accessibility are important, but parking and roads could be consolidated at the Wodonga Place edge, where visitors can exit their vehicle and enter a generous walking environment, with shade and engaging experiences.

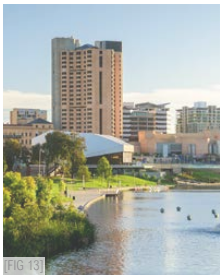
Engage With The River

The Murray River can be experienced by locals and visitors year round in a multitude of ways. This masterplan aims to enhance the experience of the Murray River by providing new ways to engage with the river and improving the existing, by bridge, walking, play, viewing, boating, kayaking, cycling, engaging with the history and culture or by swimming.

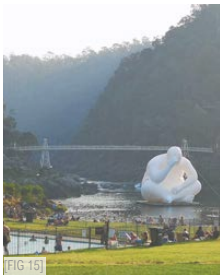
Value Creeks, Landscape and Ecology

Creeks and natural ecology could contribute more to the parkland, and if treated well can reconnect locals and visitors to the landscape of the Murray. Creeks and ecology play a vital role in maintaining biodiversity in the area. By naturalising Bungambrawatha Creek and Mudges Canal at the end of Hovell St and improving Oddies Creek, the parkland can continue to provide a home for wildlife and the experience of the parks will benefit from this.

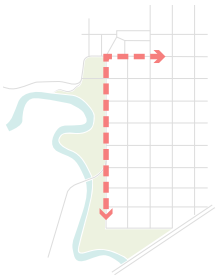

[FIG 12]

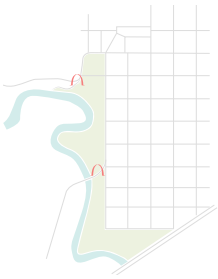

[FIG 13]

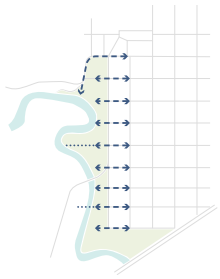

[FIG 14]


[FIG 15]

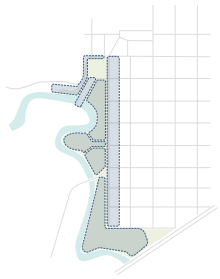

[FIG 16]











A Quality Urban Edge

The activation, energy and quality of Dean St dissipates towards the river. Much of Wodonga Place is dominated by traffic leading to a poor pedestrian experience and low quality built form. The opportunity exists for an entirely new urban renewal area for the Albury CBD, that would leverage investment in public domain, parks and road. A confident and well designed built form edge to the city, facing the river, has the added benefit of improving this entry point to the city.

Memorable Entry Points

To strengethen the entry point this masterplan proposes creating memorable entry points that announce these important. It is easy to drive past the Murray River and Riverside Parks without seeing them. These key entry points to the City are fleeting and underwhelming. This focuses the attention on the cluster of assets around Bungambrawatha Creek, Smollett St, the Botanic Gardens Depot and the Albury Swim Centre (the Western Gateway to the city) and Wodonga Place, Oddies Creek and Australia Park (the Southern Gateway).

Extend The Urban Grid

Capitalise on Albury's strong urban grid to give the parkland structure, assisting in way-finding, car parking logic and defining areas within the Riverside Parks.

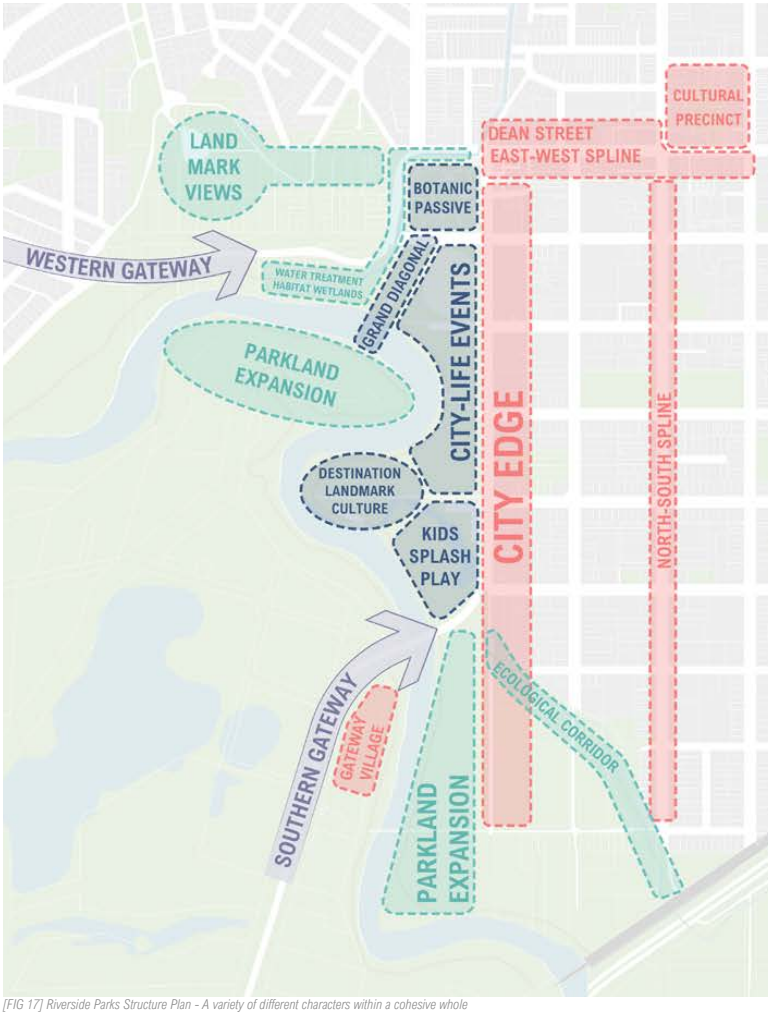
Focus On A Few Exceptional Experiences

The natural beauty of the parkland's should always be the primary experience of the place. By focusing on the design of a few exceptional experiences, we can strengthen a series of destinations spread evenly throughout the parkland without dominating the natural beauty of Parks.

Key Projects Can Be Undertaken Individually

Each of the key projects within the masterplan can be executed individually whilst the rest of the parkland continues to function. None of the outcomes are solely dependent on a different project. This is crucial to the delivery of the individual projects over time.

[FIG 07] Albury Cultural Precinct, the 'urban' heart of Albury
[FIG 08] Linear Park, Parramatta
[FIG 09] Shared pedestrian and bike path, Hyde Park, London
[FIG 10] Local enjoying the Murray River, Albury
[FIG 11] Walking the Dry Creek River Trail, Salisbury, South Australia
[FIG 12] Indicative Built form for Wodonga Place, Andrew Burns, McAvoy Apartments
[FIG 13] North Terrace, Adelaide
[FIG 14] Plaza of the Human Rights, Munich, Germany
[FIG 15] Cataract Gorge Reserve, Launceston, Tasmania
[FIG 16] Heritage ticket booth at Victoria Sports ground, Abbotsford, Melbourne



[FIG 17] Riverside Parks Structure Plan - A variety of different characters within a cohesive whole

City Structure

The public domain structure of Albury can be considered as a series of public rooms each with its own individual character that collectively create a diverse and focused network of public spaces.

A strong built form edge along Wodonga Place would act as a definitive edge of the city that provides a western gateway experience for Albury complimented by a generous public domain, new active commercial offerings and additional car parking close to the park.

The structure also defines an area for 'city life events' that would leverage the success of Hovell Tree Park and is supported by a redeveloped Albury Sports Ground with the ability to host inclusive events that might spill over between the two spaces.

There are exciting experiences for families at the western and southern gateways to the parkland, including a new splash play area and nature play area close to the revitalised creeks.

The Botanic Garden would be preserved with improved connections through and around to more directly link Dean Street with the Murray River. Refer to the Albury Botanic Gardens Master Plan 2022-24 for more detail.

The structure plan connects to Gateway Island, unlocking the use of this area and better connecting Gateway Village and a possible new Tourism Park. Another area of suggested expansion of the parkland is to the south of the Union Bridge, where visitors can find a preserved, quintessential Murray River landscape.

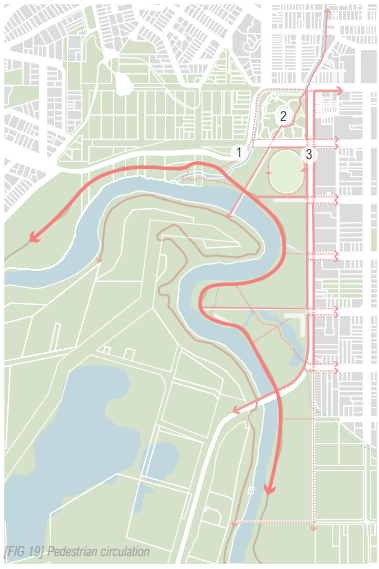


1. Dean Street
2. Botanic Gardens - Refer Albury Botanic Gardens Master Plan 2022-24
3. Smollett Street
4. Netball Courts (x2) exact location TBD
5. Heritage Grand Stand
6. Riverina Highway
7. Naturalised Bungambrawatha Creek
8. Play Space (Nature Play, Noreuil Park Foreshore and Hovell Tree Park)
9. Grand Diagonal
10. Albury Sports Ground Redevelopment
11. Council Depot
12. Car park
13. Riverside Precinct
14. New Pedestrian/Cycle Bridge
15. Pizza Ovens
16. Hovell Tree Park Event Space
17. Riverside Promenade
18. Redeveloped Urban Edge
19. Wodonga Place
20. Gateway Island
21. Boardwalk
22. Murray River
23. Noreuil Park Fitness Zone
24. River Access Point
25. Noreuil Park Oval
26. Upgraded Foreshore River Access
27. Redevelopment of Riverdeck Cafe to include, Visitor and Cultural Centre - Restaurant and Canoe Club
28. Visitor and Cultural Centre - Oddies Creek Pavilion
29. Visitor and Cultural Centre - Gateway Building and Sports Pavilion
30. Oddies Creek to be re-vegetated
31. Unleashed Dog Area
32. Turks Head Buildings
33. Oddies Creek Play Space and Splash Park
34. Wodonga Place Extension
35. Heritage Building
36. Parkland Expansion

*Design is indicative for further investigation and development

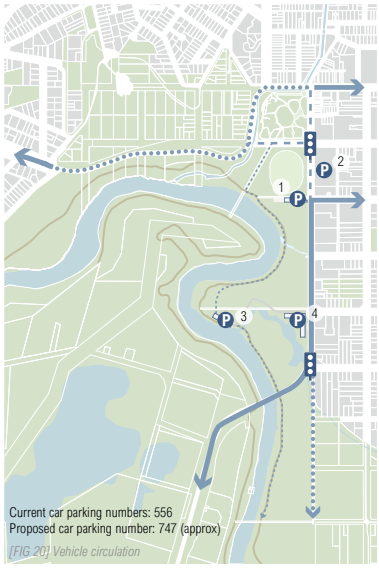
[FIG 18] Masterplan

Movement



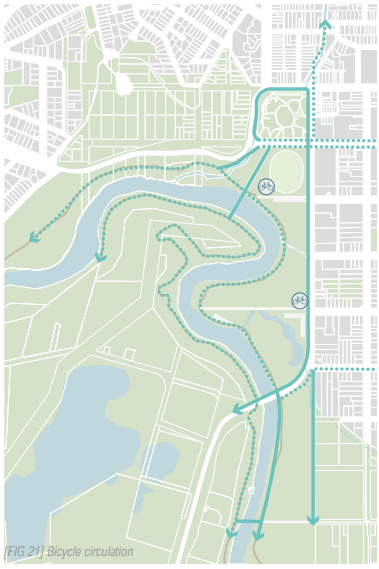
[FIG 19] Pedestrian circulation

Main Pedestrian Connector
Secondary Pedestrian Connector
Wagirra Trail



[FIG 20] Vehicle circulation

Service Vehicle Access
Main Site Connector Roads
Traffic Calmed Roads
Consolidated Parking
New Signalised Intersection



[FIG 21] Bicycle circulation

Proposed Bike Paths
Existing Bike Paths
Bike Hub

Pedestrian Circulation

A new strategy for pedestrian circulation would focus on improving a number of key paths including the foreshore Wagirra Trail. Recommendations include:

- Continuation of the Wagirra trail as a wide pedestrian and bike path along the river's edge, punctuated with moments of activation and attraction. To the west the trail connects to West Albury and the Wonga Wetlands, to the east the trail will connect to Doctors point and Mungabareena Reserve.
- Construction of a new 8m wide boulevard footpath along the park-side of Wodonga place.
- Smaller pedestrian paths connect through the parkland linking car parking and other amenities.
- Three ways to improve connections from Dean Street to the river: (1) Upgrading the path around Bungambrawatha Creek, including covering the drain in Dead Street (2) A well sign-posted, meandering path through the Botanic Gardens combined with a new crossing in the middle of Smollett Street to be linked with the Grand Diagonal. (3) Improved connections and amenity along Wodonga Place and around the redeveloped Sports Ground.
- The addition of a pedestrian bridge at the end of the Grand Diagonal offering access to Gateway Island.
- A southern pedestrian bridge that connects the parkland expansion area with the Gateway Village.
- Room for further improvement to the existing connection north along Bungambrawatha Creek

Vehicle Movement

To promote restoration and active transport in the parkland the proposed strategy is to move most of vehicular circulation out of the parkland and consolidate parking at the Wodonga Place edge.

- A cohesive parking strategy across the Riverside Parks.
- Wodonga Place to become an organising spine providing parking and access to the parkland.
- Traffic calming on Wodonga Place between Smollett Street and Hume Street for further investigation.
- Car parking located at arrival points to the parkland, for instance at the southern end of Albury Sports Ground (1), the new Council Depot redevelopment(2), Noreuil Park(3) and at Australia Park(4).
- Additional event parking under the redeveloped Council Depot (No net loss of public car parking spaces).
- Investigate the need for a new signalized intersection at Smollett Street and Wodonga Place to improve pedestrian access.
- An extension of Wodonga Place into the southern parkland expansion area investigate the need for a revised intersection at Nurigong Street and Wodonga Place.
- Traffic calming and a 'parkland road' character to the Riverina Highway for further investigation.
- The removal of cars on Smollett Street between the Smollett Street Bridge and Wodonga Place would have desirable outcomes for pedestrians and the parkland, but is a significant traffic engineering challenge and requires consultation with state authorities. Instead, the Masterplan proposes narrowing the road corridor whilst maintaining the same number of vehicle lanes.
- Review the Riverina Highway Route and investigate alternative realignment options away for the CBD and Riverside Parks area

Bike Paths

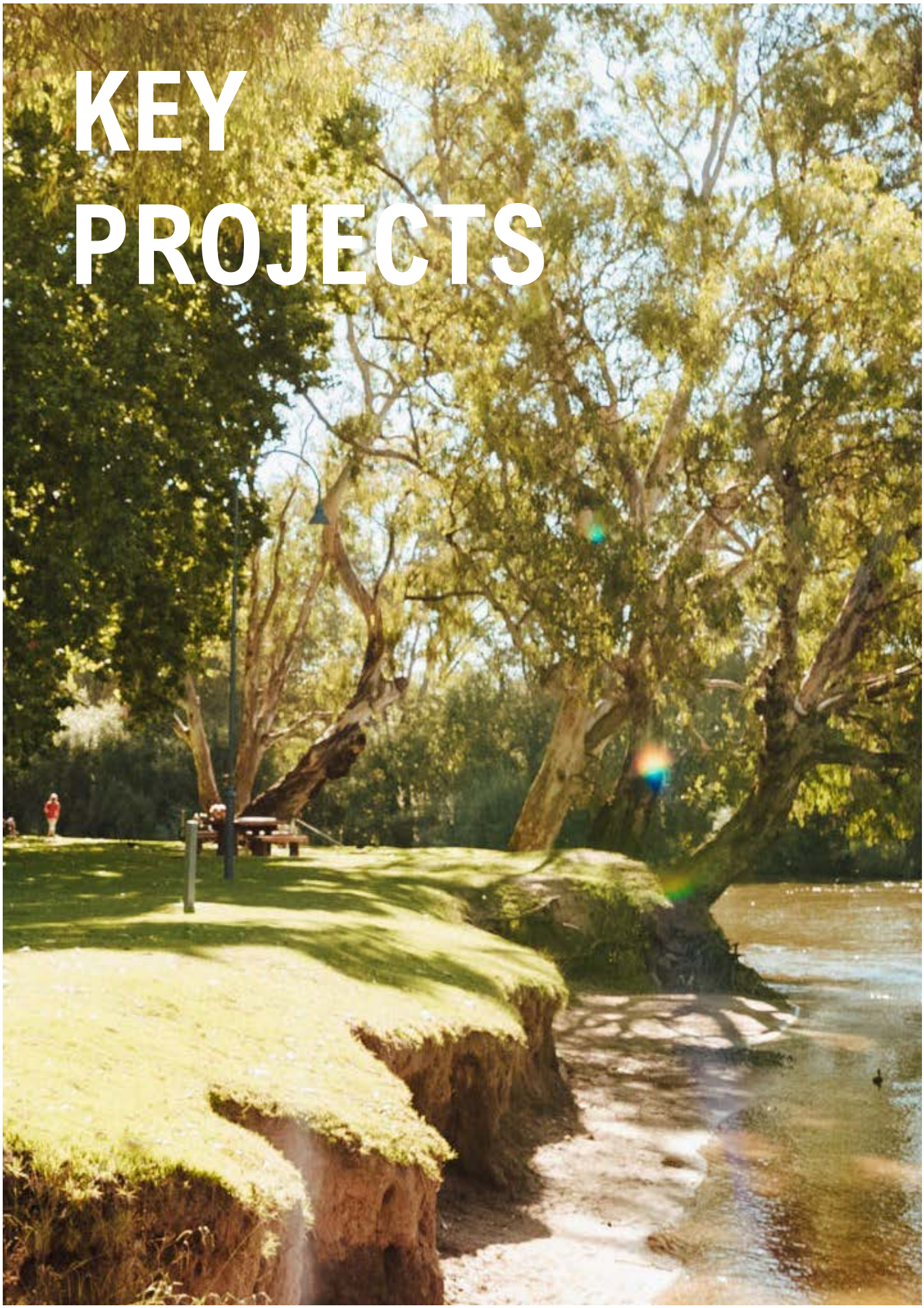
The low topography of the river's edge makes Albury a fantastic place for cycling. Improvements and new paths will amplify the experience of riding. Recommendations:

- A new bike lane along the 8m wide pedestrian boulevard along the park-side edge of Wodonga Place.
- Extension and improvements to the Wagirra Trail that accommodate a generous bike and pedestrian path.
- A bike path along the Grand Diagonal.
- Change alignment of the Bungambrawatha creek Bike Path around the edge of the Botanic Gardens, and possibly under the Smollett Street Heritage Bridge, to connect to the Wagirra Trail
- Possible new bike hubs at the redeveloped Albury Sports Ground and the proposed Visitors & Cultural Centre at Australia Park and the entrance to Noreuil Park.



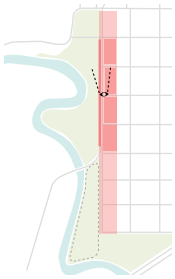
[FIG 22] Visualisation only. Looking south at the redeveloped Sports Ground, Grand Diagonal, bridge across to Gateway Island and upgraded Wodonga Place edge.

KEY PROJECTS





[FIG 23] A view looking north along the revitalised Wodonga Place, highlighting the mixed-use precinct on the Council Depot site



Private Land

A New City Edge

The Wodonga Place can become a boulevard by the park that acts as an edge to the city and provides an urban counterpart to the parkland precinct. This important gateway into Albury would be transformed from a highway, with limited amenity, into a boulevard with a generous public domain and a complementary and consistent built form edge.

The built form along Wodonga Place will become a new urban renewal area for Albury sparked by investment in the parkland. The council depot site presents an opportunity for Council to take a lead role in setting the built form and public domain standard for Wodonga Place, providing a benchmark for future development as well as additional public parking.

The masterplan maintains the road width along most of Wodonga Place, and puts forward an opportunity to narrow the road corridor between Smollett Street and Hume Street where we understand traffic numbers decrease. There is also room at the edges of the road that can be used for street tree planting and to improve the experience of walking and cycling along Wodonga Place. By matching the scale of the road with the scale of the street wall the city can achieve an impressive edge and a bold gateway experience. It enjoys a favourable western aspect ideal for activation, F&B and dining along the ground floor and twilight rooftop bars..

Recommendations

- A Wodonga Place Public Domain Concept Plan accompanied by detailed traffic engineering input, consultation with state authorities and detailed design of the road corridor and footpath edge.
- A 'Special Character' planning area for the buildings along Wodonga Place including land economics input into feasibility to achieve a desirable outcome.
- Stringent built form guidelines for the built form edge that will increase the likelihood of consistency over the long term. Further feasibility and design investigation required as a next step

[FIG 24] Manly Triangle, CHROFI, indicative built form
[FIG 25] Passeig De St Joan, Barcelona, Spain
[FIG 26] Les Allees de Neuilly, Paris France
[FIG 27] Yannan Avenue Highway adaptation, Chongqing, China

*Diagrams show simple massing diagrams to illustrate design principles for alignment with MRE principles

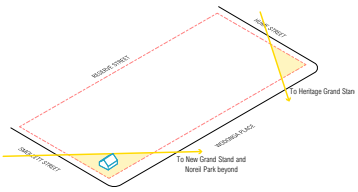

[FIG 24]


[FIG 25]

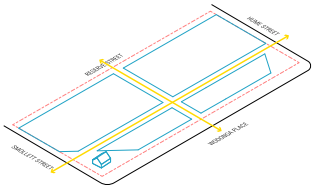

[FIG 26]


[FIG 27]

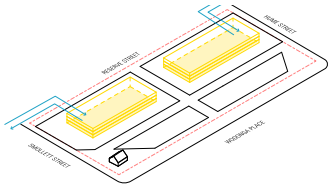
Wodonga Place Key Site Design Principles



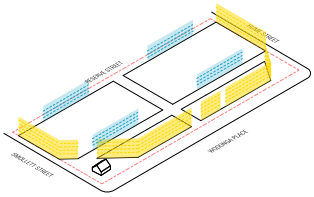
[FIG 28] Clear corners to maintain sight lines through to parkland



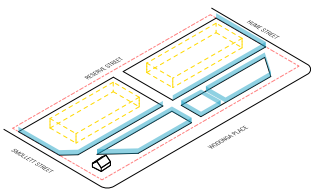
[FIG 29] Five metre setback off Wodonga Place and through-site links



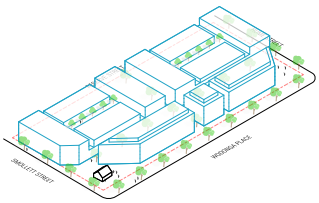
[FIG 30] Internalise public and private car-parking



[FIG 31] Five floor street frontage with low scale rear and internal lane ways



[FIG 32] Active frontages along Wodonga Place and adjoining side streets



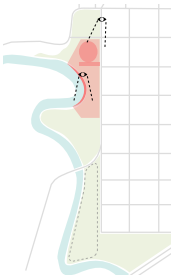
[FIG 33] Indicative built form massing envelopes


[FIG 34] Section through Wodonga Place and the Boulevard



[FIG 35] Aerial view looking south over the Albury Riverside Parks redeveloped sports ground, grand diagonal and upgraded Wodonga Place

A Place For City-Life Events



Private Land

[FIG 36] A view looking towards Noreuil Park with the Riverside promenade and elevated board walk in the foreground
[FIG 37] Cafe and restaurant facing the park in rear of stadium, Le Grand Stade, France
[FIG 38] Planted edge to avoid fencing, Victoria Stadium, Abbotsford, Melbourne
[FIG 39] River front board walk, Lyon River Bank, France.
[FIG 40] Sketch Looking towards the activated side of the oval redevelopment
[FIG 41] Section through the River Edge Promenade

Albury Sports Ground Redevelopment

The Albury Sports Ground is an asset to the parkland and the city, but currently has a number of issues that impede sight-lines and connection to the River. The vision is to transform the sports ground and facilities from a blockage in the parkland, to an oval for the people. A renewed Albury Sports Ground, can leverage its heritage, parkland setting and proximity to the CBD by connecting to its context and becoming an expanded area for city-life events. When coupled with Hovell Tree Park the re-imagined oval can also host events and outdoor festivals.

The redevelopment of the oval offers numerous benefits to the public. A public walkway around the outside of the field and new public domain at the corners will improve connections through the parkland to the River from the Botanic Gardens and Wodonga Place. The removal of permanent fencing encourages passive use of the oval edge. A new activated building edge, under the tiered seating, facing the parkland and river presents an exciting opportunity for restaurants, cafe & bike hub.

There is also an opportunity to reveal the heritage grandstand, historic tickets booth and score board. Lastly, upgraded facilities will ensure the ongoing success of the Albury Tigers Club, whilst improving the space for major events close to the heart of Albury.

River Edge Promenade

The river's edge is a dynamic ecosystems that offers a number of ways to experience and enjoy the Murray. The current walkway is narrow. A wider continuation of the Wagirra Trail along the edge will help pedestrians and bicycles to move more freely, particularly with the inclusion of running groups and dog walkers. The construction of a board walk over the Murray can foster a closer relationship to the Murray with places to stop and enjoy the outlook. The promenade should integrate smoothly with the Riverside Precinct that is currently underway.

Recommendations

- Action an Albury Sports Ground Renewal Masterplan in close consultation with the current lease-holder. The masterplan should further develop the concept of the activated river facing edge, public domain and publicly accessible sports ground loop. New buildings should be integrated with the levee bank where possible.
- Research and implement ways of introducing a ticket zone around the field that doesn't rely on permanent fences.
- Design development of the River Edge Promenade utilising existing paths where possible.
- To capitilise on the amenity and connection to the river the removal of the Noruiel Park Parade should be considered.

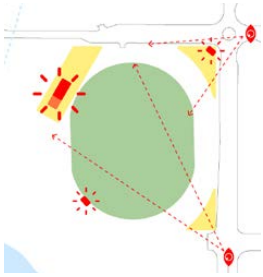

[FIG 36]

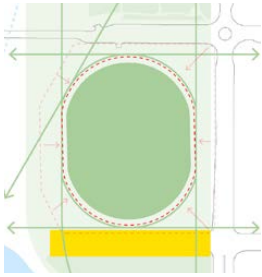

[FIG 37]

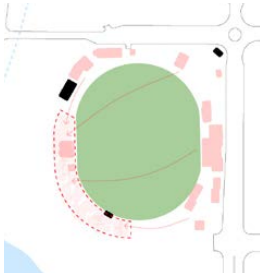

[FIG 38]

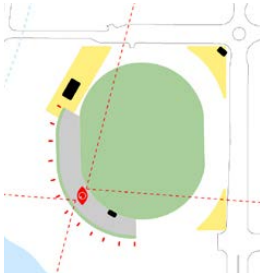

[FIG 39]

Albury Sports Ground Opportunities


Reveal Football Heritage


Connected Parkland


Consolidate and Update Facilities


Active & Green Edge

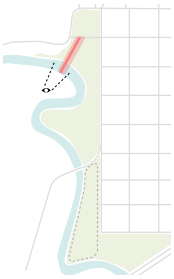

[FIG 40]


[FIG 41]



[FIG 42] View looking north towards Dean Street, pedestrian bridge, grand diagonal, nature play and Sports Ground redevelopment

Linking Albury to The River



Private Land

[FIG 43] Plan of the Grand Diagonal and proposed bridge
[FIG 44] Royal Botanical Gardens, Melbourne
[FIG 45] Gosta Bridge, Mänttä, Finland
[FIG 46] Adelaide riverbank pedestrian bridge, Adelaide
[FIG 47] Water Lilies bridge, Tulln, Austria

Grand Diagonal

The Riverside Parks offer complimentary natural assets to the urban qualities of the CBD but overtime the relationship between the two has weakened. Part of the issue is that the connections between the city and the River have low-amenity and are unclear. The Grand Diagonal is a clear and a direct link between the end of Dean Street and the Murray River, radically changing the experience of travelling between the two destinations.

The Grand Diagonal is a new generous public path and cycle route, with adjacent public domain areas and amenities within the oval redevelopment and Bungambrawatha Creek nature play area and anchored by the heritage grandstand. The integration of the Grand Diagonal into the forthcoming Riverside Precinct will amplify the public benefit of this project. The success of the Grand Diagonal relies on a new pedestrian crossing midway along Smollett Street between Wodonga Place and the Smollett Street Bridge which will assist in traffic calming and greatly improve pedestrian movement into the parkland.

Access to the Grand Diagonal could be through the meandering paths of the Botanic Gardens, along Wodonga Place and along the improved circulation on the edge of Bungambrawatha Creek. This could be supplemented with an additional path under the Smollett Street Bridge.

Gateway Island Bridge

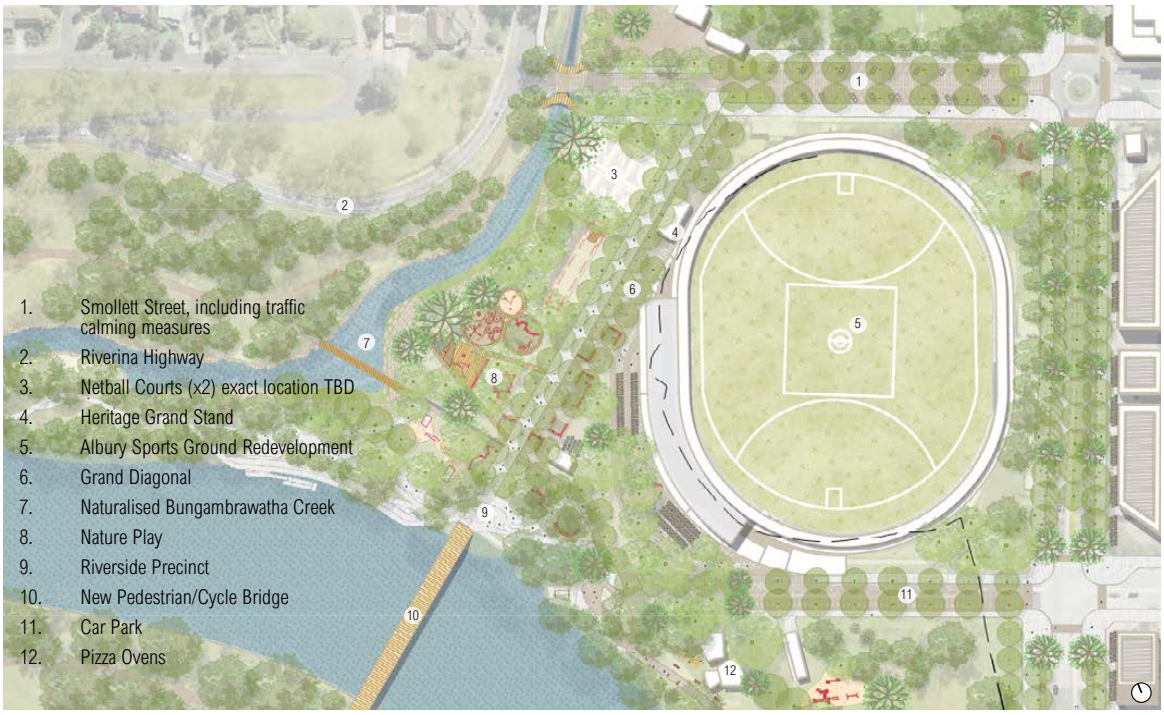
Albury has an impressive history of bridges including the second steel bridge built in Australia (Smollett Street Bridge), the Murray River railway bridge and the Hume Dam. The crossing place is deeply connected to the way Albury was initially planned, reinforcing this with a much needed new pedestrian bridge in the same location can reinforce this historically important place.

The new bridge links Albury and Wodonga and unlocks the additional parkland on Gateway Island.

The location and height of the bridge are subject to further design investigations, however a lower bridge would minimise the need for ramps and stairs. This may mean the bridge is designed to flood and/or the bridge is operable for the passage of larger boats. Further investigations is needed on the requirements of the bridge with river authorities including Transport for NSW-Maritime.

Recommendations

- Work with traffic consultants to understand the traffic calming and crossing at Smollett Street.
- Design development of the Grand Diagonal, associated signage and street works.
- Further design development of the bridge, including the height above the River to be undertaken with input from Transport for NSW - Maritime and river authorities.



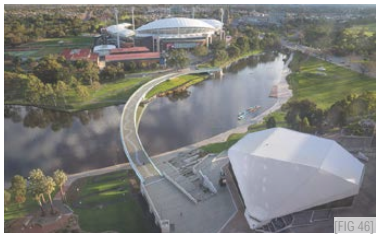
[FIG 43] Plan of the Grand Diagonal and proposed bridge



[FIG 44]



[FIG 45]



[FIG 46]

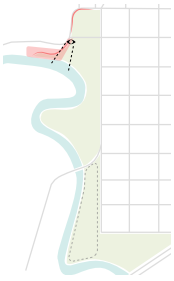


[FIG 47]



[FIG 48] View looking towards the Murray with Bungambrawatha Creek and nature play in the foreground

Nature Play by the Bungambrawatha Creek



– – – Private Land

Bungambrawatha Creek is an essential place to reinforce connection to the River and its tributaries. While the position of the canal does not align with the original creek, the ambition to naturalise the corridor has many benefits.

The naturalised creek will dramatically improve the experience of coming to Albury via the Riverina Highway and from the West Albury Parks and provide a setting for the historically significant Smollett Street Bridge. A nature play area adjacent is a great way to encourage families to interact with the landscape and waterway. Furthermore, the location is close to the Riverside Precinct and new commercial offerings at the sports ground redevelopment.

Investigation and feasibility of naturalisation of the Bungambrawatha Creek catchment is underway. This should also consider appropriate locations to capture trash prior to reaching this area.

The Albury Swim Centre would need to be relocated for this important area to be realised for the following reasons:

- The pool is sandwiched between the creek and the stadium. The pool pump area prevents any dramatic improvement to the creek.
- Road and parking demands conflict with the open space needs and principles of the masterplan.
- The significant costs to rebuild change rooms and club rooms necessitate bigger picture thinking.
- Water play options will be provided at Oddies Creek with the addition of splash play area.

If the updated Albury City Aquatic Strategy determines to retain the Albury Swim Centre, concepts proposed in this Master Plan will require reviewing.

Recommendations

- Review and update the Albury City Aquatics Strategy to reflect the design intent of this master plan to decommission the Albury Aquatics facility.
- Build new facilities, such as the water play park before the Albury Swim Centre is decommissioned.
- Explore the feasibility and impacts of decommissioning of 25m pool in the short term to allow for more space for public circulation between the pool and the stadium.
- Investigate the detailed feasibility of naturalising Bungambrawatha Creek. This is to include the review of Bungambrawatha Creek catchment and tributaries including the provision of trash racks at strategic locations upstream of the river precinct to protect the area.

[FIG 49] Lizard Log Playground, Sydney
[FIG 50] Visualisation of naturalised creek
[FIG 51] Bottière Chênaie, Nantes, France
[FIG 52] Nature Play at Adelaide Zoo
[FIG 53] Section through the naturalised Bungambrawatha Creek, nature play and Grand Diagonal


[FIG 49]


[FIG 50]


[FIG 51]


[FIG 52]

Transformation Process

Existing



Proposed



Step 1

Build water play area at Oddies Creek

Step 2

Build the Grand Diagonal. This may require the removal of water slide and 25m pool.

Step 3

Progress the recommendations in the Albury City Aquatic Strategy to replace the Albury Swim Centre

Step 4

Remove the Albury Swim Centre and parking and remediate the site.

Step 5

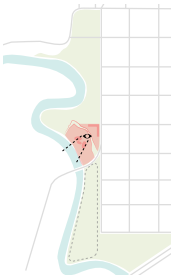
Naturalize Bungambrawatha Creek and build nature play area.


[FIG 53]



[FIG 54] View of the possible new water play

Destination Water Play



Private Land

A swim in the Murray River is a welcome relief from the heat but strong currents can make swimming dangerous. There is a need to provide a safe place to enjoy water close-by. A destination water play area would facilitate this and provide a tourist destination and an accessible way to connect with water.

Albury holds a special place along the Murray, so it is fitting that the water play will become a destination for visitors and locals and a draw card for the city that strengthens its role as the premier stop along the river and the Hume Highway.

The location is convenient for visitors with close proximity to the Turks Head Buildings and carpark as well as Oddies Creek and playground. The potential for further improvements could include the re purposing of the Turks Head Buildings into a complimentary use for the parkland. Possible uses could include a cafe, rentable function rooms, bike rental, change rooms and amenities for the water play and or family rooms. Improved car parking at Australia Park, realignment and enhancement of the levee bank and improved cycle linkages to the expanded Oddies Creek play space will amplify the destinational quality of the area.

The water play area can be designed to be used as a dry playground during cooler months with water elements able to be turned on as the days begin to warm.

Recommendations

- Design development of water play area
- Continue activation of the Turks Head and other buildings in the area
- Integration of the upgraded levee bank works into the carpark and other park enhancements
- Improved cycle linkages to the expanded Oddies Creek play space.

[FIG 55] Plan, Splash Play and Oddies Creek
[FIG 56] Yagan Square Play Space, Perth
[FIG 57] Blaxland Riverside Park Water play, Sydney
[FIG 58] Seville Water Park, Victoria
[FIG 59] Ian Potter Children's Wild Play, Sydney



[FIG 55] Plan of proposed Splash Play and Oddies Creek



[FIG 56]



[FIG 57]



[FIG 58]

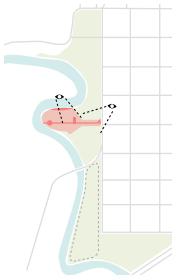


[FIG 59]



[FIG 60] Sketch showing the redeveloped Noreuil Park, showing the three-part 'Visitor and Cultural Centre'

Destination Landmark Experience



Private Land

Noreuil Park is a remarkable place due to its setting on the River, favourable aspect and combination of natural assets including Oddies Creek, the foreshore and the variety of established trees all contained by a peninsular land form. The projects at Noreuil Park are aimed at clarifying and enhancing the current experiences, magnifying the value these assets provide to the city.

Visitor Centre

A new 'Visitor and Cultural Centre' would become an anchor for the Noreuil Park Peninsular, drawing attention to and framing the well-loved natural assets. Offering a clear and iconic arrival point for tourists information, visitor conveniences and directions to nearby destinations but also providing a meaningful way for people to connect with the unique culture and history of the place.

The major benefits of the project are two-fold. Firstly, a series of small, public buildings along a path that is an extension of the Ebden street axis. The Visitor and Cultural Centre is split into three connected parts, linked by a direct path to the foreshore and river access points. The buildings redevelop and improve upon existing facilities, (such as the Riverdeck Cafe, Canoe Club, Amenities and other infrastructure associated with Noreuil Park Oval) and provide new spaces to linger, learn and enjoy the parkland setting.

Access To The Water

On any warm summer day you will find locals and visitors plunging into the Murray River and doing 'A Float' around the peninsular. This quintessentially Albury experience could be improved with enhanced river entry that provides access for all abilities at a range of river levels at Noreuil Foreshore. Once again the river takes centre stage in the life of the Albury Riverside Parks.

Recommendations

- Consider the role of the visitors centre to provide a meaningful connection to place and reflection of local culture.
- Design development of the Visitors and Cultural Centre, including concept development, feasibility and uses.
- Understand and action the upgrades to the foreshore and river access point.
- Rationalise roadways through the site and promote a pedestrian friendly experience.

[FIG 61] View looking south toward Noreuil Park with the river access point in the foreground
[FIG 62] Lake Parramatta, Sydney
[FIG 63] Section through the beach and the upgraded Wagirra Trail
[FIG 64] Bowali Visitors Information Centre, Kakadu National Park
[FIG 65] Lizard Log Amenities, Sydney
[FIG 66] Queenstown Bay Beach, New Zealand


[FIG 61]



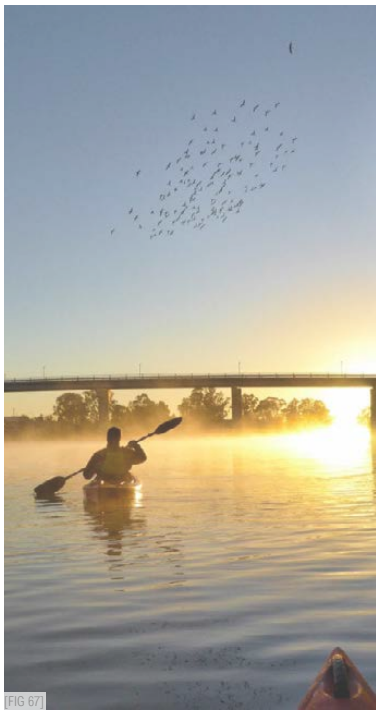
[FIG 62]

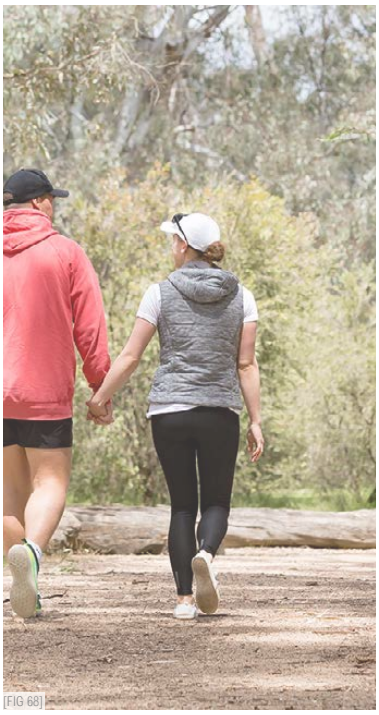

[FIG 63]


[FIG 64]

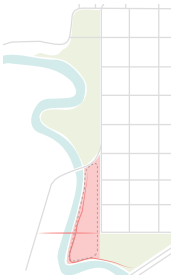

[FIG 65]


[FIG 66]


[FIG 67]


[FIG 68]


[FIG 69]



Private Land

Room For Expansion

The untouched landscape to the south of the Union Bridge is a great example of the Riverina region that can function as an counterpoint to the landscape of Noreuil Headland which is populated with European tree species.

The Wagirra Trail could be extended through the area providing a much needed link in the trail through to Doctor's Point and Mungabareena Reserve.

The area is currently privately owned, but offers a great opportunity to future proof the parks for expansion.

The addition of a new bridge presents another great opportunity to connect across the river, providing access to Gateway Village.

Wodonga Place would be extended into the area as a parkland road, providing more parking and linkages to the South Albury street grid.

Recommendation

- Council to investigate opportunities to purchase the land to the south of the Union Bridge for inclusion into the Albury Riverside Parks and at least the extension of the Wagirra Trail.
- Restoration of heritage building on the land and investigate possible uses.

[FIG 67] Kayaking on the Murray River
[FIG 68] Wonga Wetlands, Albury
[FIG 69] Yindymarra Sculpture Walk

Summary of Actions

SHORT TERM

- Albury Sport Ground Masterplan
- Develop Wodonga Place Masterplan
- Design development of River Edge Promenade
- Design development of the Grand Diagonal
- Feasibility and Design Development of bridge over to Gateway Island
- Review the Albury-Wodonga Aquatic Centre Strategy considering the proposal outlined in this Master Plan
- Review and update the Master Plan of the Noreuil Park Foreshore
- Design development of Noreuil Park Foreshore River access points
- Design development of regional splash play
- Continue streambank vegetation removal and rock/log revetment work

MEDIUM TERM

- Built Form Guidelines for development along Wodonga Place
- Design development of Visitor and Cultural Centre
- Upgrade to Noreuil Park Foreshore
- Upgrades and extensions to the Wagirra Trail
- Update the Botanic Gardens and establish the Botanic Gardens Master Plan
- Improved linkages from the Botanic Gardens and Dean Street to Monument Hill
- Off Road Pedestrian and Cyclist connections from the CBD to the River Precinct

LONG TERM

- Naturalisation of Bungambrawatha Creek
- Purchase land to the south of the Union Bridge for inclusion into the Albury Riverside Parks
- Work with traffic consultants to understand the Trafficing Calming of Smollett Street including new mid street crossing

Engage with the river | Priorities the pedestrian | Value creeks, landscapes and ecology | Contribute to the quality of the urban edge | Memorable entry points | Can be achieved individually

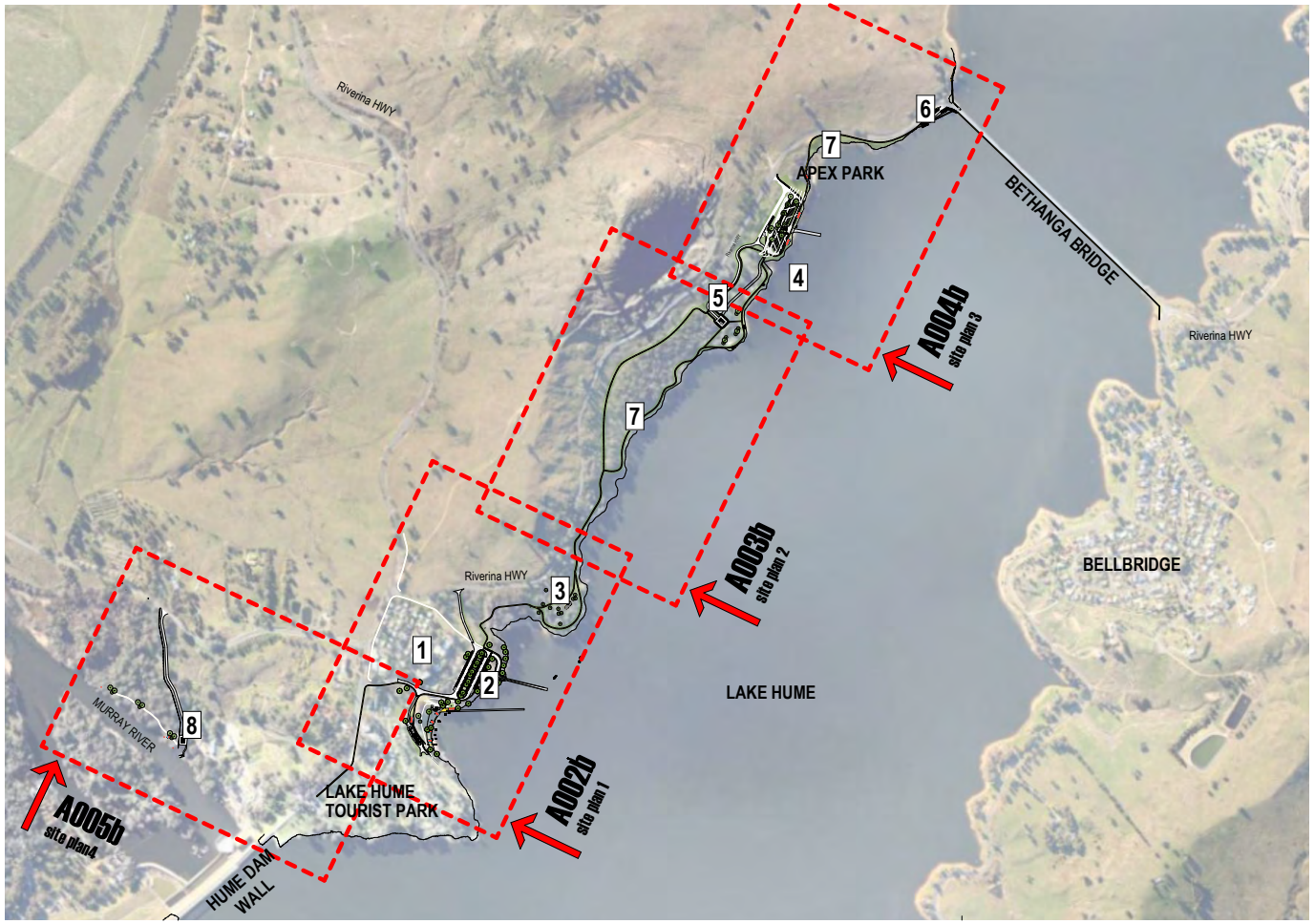


Central Albury Riverside Parks

Murray River Experience Masterplan

CHROFI + MCGREGOR COXALL

AlburyCity



GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

PARKLAND AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT
- Provide connectivity of tree canopy through the entire area to enhance habitat for native species.
- Provide planting of native shade trees along the Wagirra trail.
- Enhance biodiversity values and vegetation connectivity through the area.
- Resolve drainage issues from the Riverina Highway to the natural environment.
- Identify opportunities for additional shade planting in activated areas.

LIGHTING DESIGN
Improve lighting to areas with high activity.

STRUCTURES ON LAKE HUME
- Liaise with NSW and VIC authorities regarding requirements for boat prohibited zones.
- There are commercial opportunities for water activities such as: floating pontoons, inflatable water fun parks, canoes, water bikes, and paddle board hire.
- Investigate temporary mooring of water craft.

SIGNAGE
- Improve wayfinding and interpretive signage to key activities areas
- Liaise with Transport for NSW to provide wayfinding signage from Riverina Highway to key areas.
- Provide indicative signage for the closest public amenities.
- Improve signage for traffic inside the reserve (boat ramps, parking, and accessibility)
- Improve safety signage for water activities.
- Provide educational signage in the natural reserve areas.

MAINTENANCE
- Review maintenance program for all areas.
- Discuss longer term maintenance requirements for the Lake Hume Beach area with Lessee.

1. **LAKE HUME TOURIST PARK**
2. **LAKE HUME BOAT RAMP**
3. **SCENIC LOOKOUT**
4. **APEX PARK BOAT RAMP**
5. **RECREATION LANE**
6. **BETHANGA BRIDGE REST AREA**
7. **WAGIRRA TRAIL**
8. **BELOW WEIR WALL PARKLAND**

01 **master plan area**

A001

north

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Albury City Council, Murray River Experience Master Plan Review

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locality
1:12500 @ A3 09.10.24

Drawing No.
A001b

Ledger No. W1745.5015 Project No. 18/01898



01 **lake hume tourist park area**

A002

north

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Drawing
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A002b

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01 **recreation lane area**

A003

north

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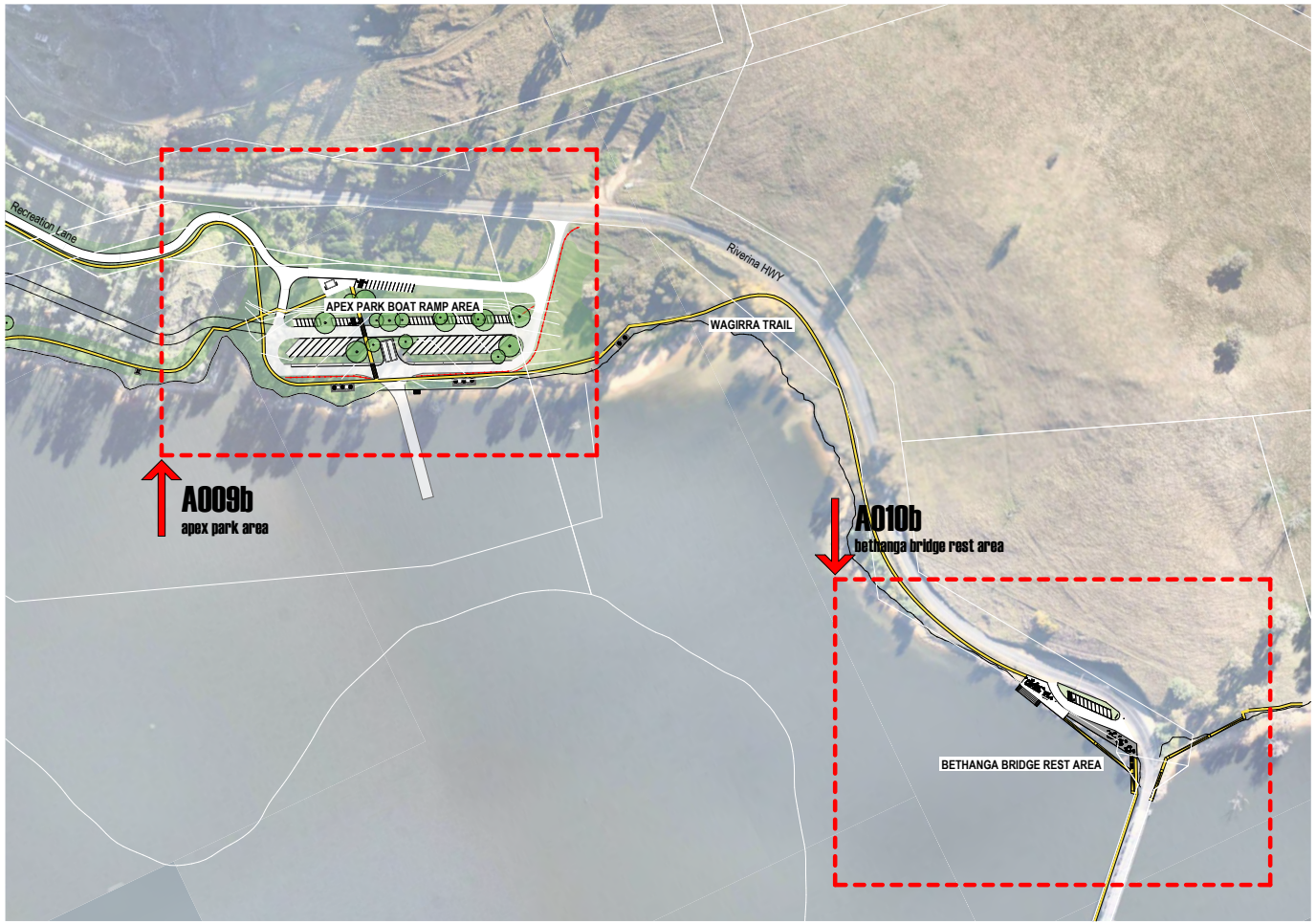

01 **apex park area**

A004

north

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A004b

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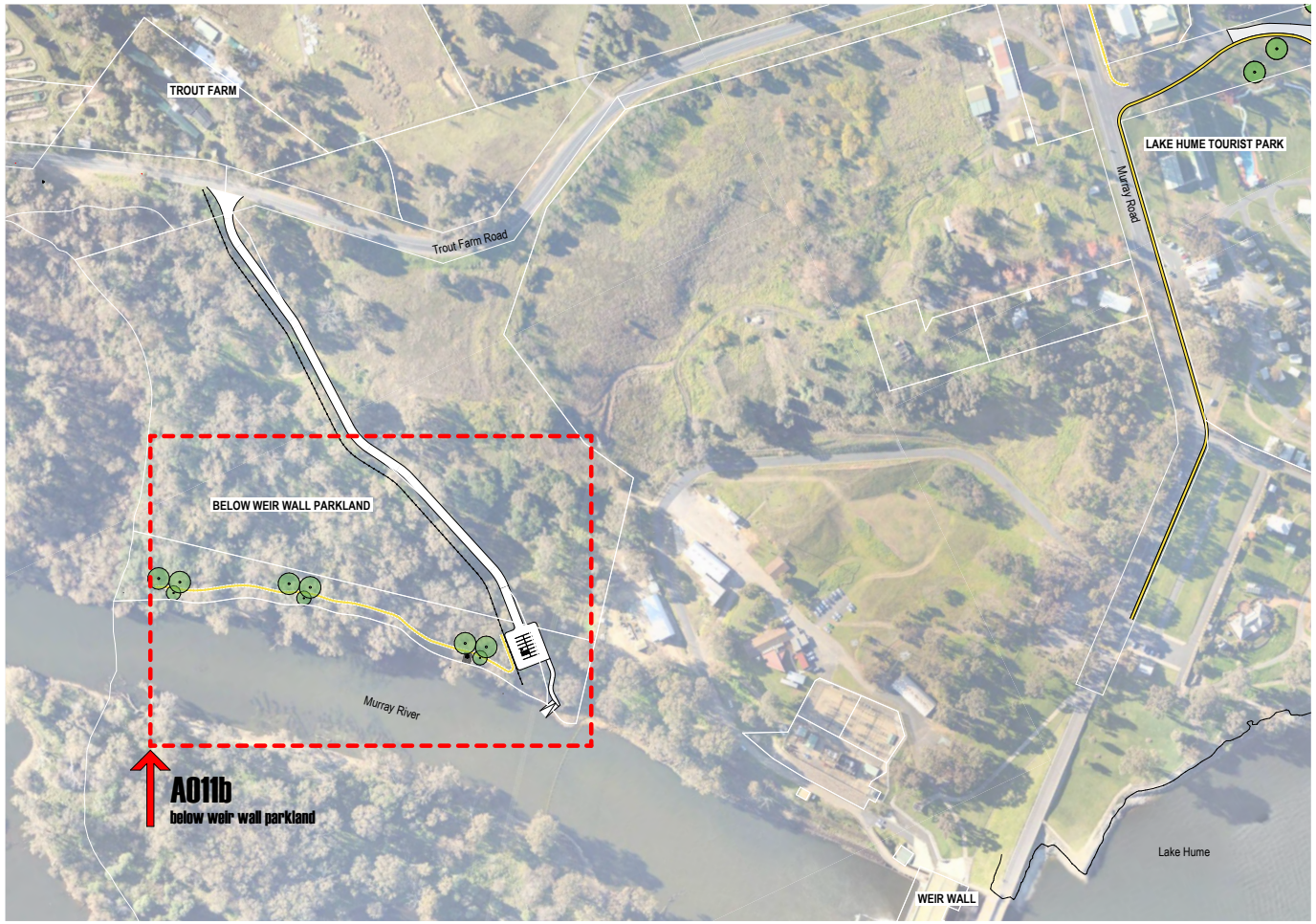

01 **below weir wall parkland**

A005

north

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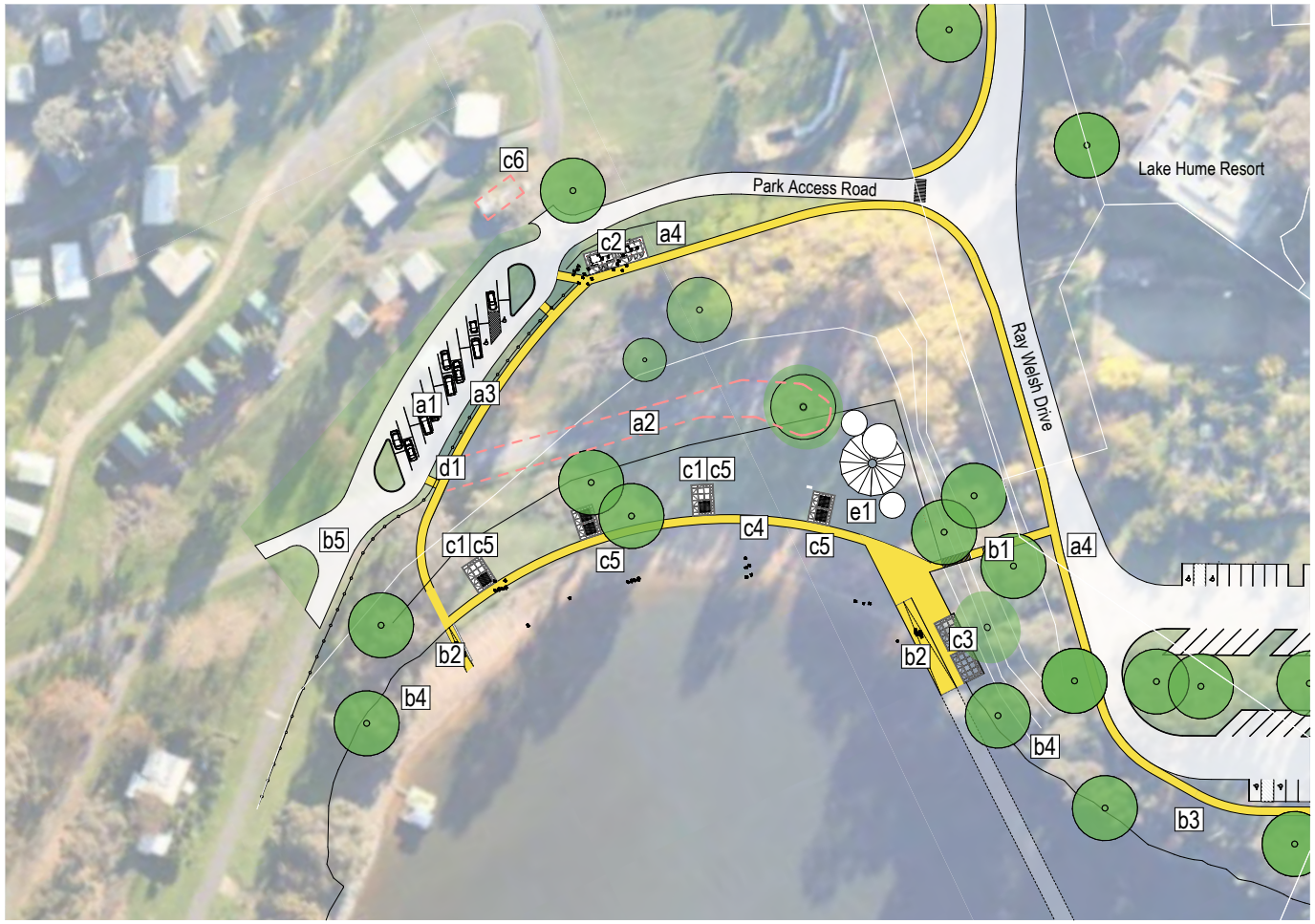

01 lake hume beach area

A006

north

RECOMMENDATIONS

LAKE HUME BEACH AREA

a. VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING

a1. Provide new asphalt loop car parking on the upgraded access road (25 car spaces approx).

a2. Demolish the existing car parking area and replace it with turf.

a3. Implement Water Sensitive Urban Design principles in car park areas.

a4. Improve entry signage to public area.

b. PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ACCESS

b1. Provide a 2.5 m wide staircase from the Lake Hume Boat Ramp car park to the beach area.

b2. Provide a staircase and investigate a DDA compliant ramp from the grass to the sand under the 100% water line of the beach.

b3. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide a 2.5m wide, shared pathway to create a recreational connection along the lakeside. The paths should include connections to lookouts, vistas, picnic areas, water access points and car parks from the dam wall to the Bethanga Bridge.

b4. Investigate the feasibility of improving access from the 100% capacity level to the 50% capacity level.

b5. No public access past this point.

c. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

c1. Provide BBQ.

c2. Provide new public amenities.

c3. Provide larger sheltered structure that can facilitate potential commercial activities.

c4. Provide a retaining-seating wall on the 100% water line.

c5. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide shelters and seating along the Trail.

c6. Demolish old amenities block when new toilets are built.

d. FENCING

d1. Provide removable bollards for maintenance and emergency access to the beach.

e. ACTIVITIES

e1. Provide additional recreational activities including a district level nature-based play space.

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01 lake hume boat ramp area

A007

north

RECOMMENDATIONS

LAKE HUME BOAT RAMP AREA

a. VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING

a1. Linemark and investigate tree planting opportunities. (Existing car park - 75 car spaces and 50 trailer spaces).

a2. Investigate new access road linking the car park to the Riverina Highway.

a3. Implement Water sensitive urban design principles in car park areas.

a4. Improve entry signage to public area.

b. PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ACCESS

b1. Provide a 2.5 m wide staircase from the Lake Hume Boat Ramp car park to the beach area.

b2. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide a 2.5m wide, shared pathway to create a recreational connection along the lakeside. The paths should include connections to lookouts, vistas, picnic areas, water access points and car parks from the dam wall to the Bethanga Bridge.

b3. Improve interface between 100% water level and parkland with revetment works and controlled access points.

b4. Investigate a shared trail along the Riverina Highway to connect to the existing trail network.

c. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

c1. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide shelters and seating along the Trail.

d. FENCING

d1. Provide vehicle exclusion fencing and install removable bollards for maintenance access to the parkland.

e. ACTIVITIES

e1. Liaise with Lake Hume Resort Owners to reactivate outdoor mini golf, basketball court and tennis court.

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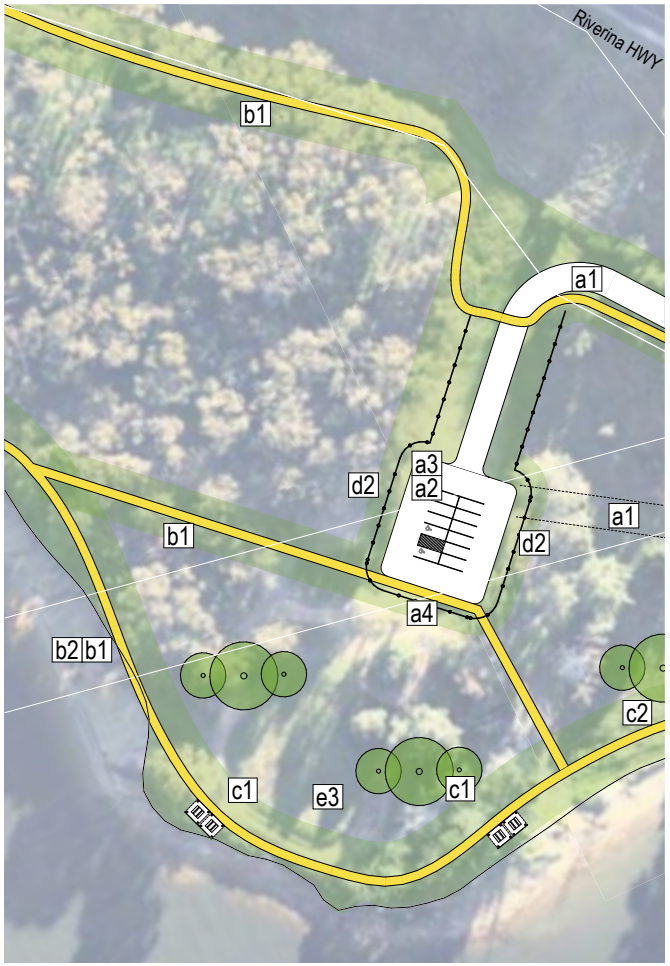
01 **scenic lookout**

A008



02 **recreation lane car park**

A008

north

RECOMMENDATIONS

01 SCENIC LOOKOUT

b. PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ACCESS

b1. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide a 2.5m wide, shared pathway to create a recreational connection along the lakeside. The paths should include connections to lookouts, vistas, picnic areas, water access points and car parks from the dam wall to the Bethanga Bridge.

c. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

c1. Provide picnic shelters, tables and feature seating beside the lake.

c2. platform seats and tree planting next to the 100% capacity.

c3. Investigate opportunities for building a scenic lookout.

e. ACTIVITIES

e1. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Investigate opportunities for a cultural interpretation.

02 RECREATION LANE

a. VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING

a1. Short term - resurface existing road.
Long term - Investigate alternative alignment of Recreational Lane.

a2. Improve car parking to facilitate new picnic areas.

a3. Implement Water sensitive urban design principles in car park areas.

a4. Improve entry signage to public area.

b. PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ACCESS

b1. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide a 2.5m wide, shared pathway to create a recreational connection along the lakeside. The paths should include connections to lookouts, vistas, picnic areas, water access points and car parks from the dam wall to the Bethanga Bridge.

b2. Improve interface between 100% water level and parkland with revetment works and controlled access points.

c. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

c1. Provide picnic shelters, tables and feature seating beside the lake.

c2. Platform seats and tree planting next to the 100% capacity.

d. FENCING

d1. Provide removable bollards for maintenance and emergency access to the parkland.

e. ACTIVITIES

e1. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Investigate opportunities for cultural interpretation.

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A008b

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01 apex park boat ramp area

A009

north

RECOMMENDATIONS

APEX PARK BOAT RAMP AREA

a. VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING

a1. Extend boat ramp to access water at 30% capacity (currently 47%).

a2. Upgrade the boat ramp with turning circles and waiting lines suitable for larger boats.

a3. Provide a new car park for cars and boat trailers.

a4. Short term - resurface existing road.
Long term - investigate alternative alignment of Recreational Lane.

a5. Implement Water sensitive urban design principles in car park areas.

a6. Improve entry signage to public area.

b. PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ACCESS

b1. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide a 2.5m wide, shared pathway to create a recreational connection along the lakeside. The paths should include connections to lookouts, vistas, picnic areas, water access points and car parks from the dam to the Bethanga Bridge.

b2. Improve interface between 100% water level and parkland with revetment works and controlled access points.

c. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

c1. Short term - upgrade the existing amenities.
Long term - Provide new public amenities closer to the car parking area.

c2. Investigate a barrier for vehicles to avoid driving outside the ramp area.

c3. Provide picnic shelters, tables and feature seating beside the lake.

c4. Platform seats and tree planting next to the 100% capacity.

d. FENCING

d1. Provide removable bollards for maintenance and emergency access to the parkland.

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01 bethanga bridge rest area

A010

north

RECOMMENDATIONS

BETHANGA BRIDGE REST AREA

a. VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING

a1. Investigate opportunities to create a car park at Bethanga Bridge turning point area.

a2. Implement Water sensitive urban design principles in car park areas.

a3. Improve entry signage to public area.

b. PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ACCESS

b1. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Provide a 2.5m wide, shared pathway to create a recreational connection along the lakeside. The paths should include connections to lookouts, vistas, picnic areas, water access points and car parks from the dam to the Bethanga Bridge.

b2. Provide a pedestrian/cycle link across the Bethanga Bridge that would connect the Victorian Trail network. This connection would be an integral element to create a Lake Hume Trail loop which could link Lake Hume Village, Bethanga, Tallangatta and Wodonga.

b3. Improve interface between 100% water level and parkland with revetment works and controlled access points.

b4. WAGIRRA TRAIL - Investigate opportunities to run a trail under the bridge, to avoid crossing the Riverina Highway.

b5. Investigate recreational trail linking Lake Hume Reserves to Bowna and Table Top along the 100% water line.

c. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

c1. Investigate opportunities for building a scenic lookout with shelters and feature seating at the Bethanga Bridge.

c2. platform seats and tree planting next to the 100% capacity.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

BELOW WEIR WALL PARKLAND

a. VEHICLE ACCESS AND CAR PARKING

a1. Implement water sensitive urban design principles in car park areas.

a2. Improve entry signage to public area.

a3. Improve access road and car parking.

b. PEDESTRIAN AND BIKE ACCESS

b1. Improve interface between 100% water level and parkland with revetment works and controlled access points.

b2. Investigate non-powered vessel launching area

b3. Provide a 2.5m wide pathway to create a connection along the river.

b4. Liaise with local land service for maintenance and upkeep of traveling stock reserve (TSR).

c. BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

c1. Provide picnic shelters, tables and feature seating beside the lake.

c2. Investigate opportunities to improve access for fishing e.g. Fishing platform.

d. FENCING

d1. Provide removable bollards for maintenance and emergency access to the parkland.

01 **below weir wall parkland**

A011

north

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