



Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan

/ August 2026



Department
of Transport
and Planning

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) proudly acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the eastern Kulin Nation as Traditional Owners and pays respect to their Elders past and present and emerging.

We acknowledge their ongoing connection to land, water and natural and built landscapes, and acknowledge the ongoing contribution this makes to the Moonee Ponds (Moonee Moonee) Creek.

We support the need for genuine and lasting partnerships with Traditional Owners to support self-determination and the protection of Country.

DTP is committed to working towards equity of outcomes and ensuring an equal voice for Traditional Owners.

We recognise the Moonee Ponds Creek as a living and integrated natural entity and the landscapes through which it flows, from the uplands to the sea, supporting and bringing life to the region.



Description of artwork

Aaron (Gunaikurnai) 'Movements Between the Five Clans' 2019, acrylic on canvas.

"The tracks are going between the five clans of the Gunaikurnai and the hands are the symbols of my spirit travelling around the campsites."

This artwork was created through programs provided by the Torch. The Torch provides art, cultural and arts industry support to Indigenous offenders and ex-offenders in Victoria. The Torch aims to reduce the rate of re-offending by encouraging the exploration of identity and culture through art programs to define new pathways upon release.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Moonee Ponds Creek is a highly valued natural resource that is vital to the liveability and sustainability of inner-city Melbourne.

Moonee Ponds Creek (the Creek) is one of Melbourne's most urbanised and modified creek systems, and with population expected to increase in nearby urban renewal areas in coming years, developing the Creek's opportunities for recreation, habitat, flood management and active transport will become increasingly important. If properly managed, the Creek corridor will strengthen Melbourne's biodiversity, reduce the risk of flooding and meet a need for new open space.

The *Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan* (the Plan) is an outcome of the master plan initiative funded by the West Gate Tunnel Project, a major transport project delivered by the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority as a recommendation of the project's *Inquiry and Advisory Committee Report* (October 2017) which assessed the project's Environment Effects Statement.

The Victorian Planning Authority (now part of the Department of Transport and Planning) and Melbourne City Council partnered with key Victorian Government agencies to prepare the Plan to identify implementation pathways to support improvements to the lower reaches of the Creek. The Plan relates to the section of creek corridor within the City of Melbourne.

The Plan has been updated since 2021 to reflect updated government department names and the status of projects.



Victorian Government departments and agencies that have contributed to the Plan include:

- Melbourne Water
- Port of Melbourne
- VicTrack
- West Gate Tunnel Project, a major transport project delivered by the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority
- Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (previously Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning)
- Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and the Regions (previously Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions), and
- Development Victoria.

A collaborative approach to the renewal of the Creek is required given the complex challenges affecting the realisation of the vision for the waterway to become a *‘thriving corridor that supports the liveability and resilience of the city.’*

The Plan builds on work being undertaken by the Victorian Government and the council in Arden and Macaulay. The planning for Arden and Macaulay has involved consultation with Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung, Boon Wurrung and Bunurong Peoples as part of the process for preparing the *Arden Structure Plan* and *Macaulay Structure Plan*. Ongoing and further consultation regarding Traditional Owner cultural values should be undertaken by stakeholders when considering projects. Continued engagement with Traditional Owners is essential to ensure values are appropriately and respectfully incorporated into the renewal of the Creek.

This Plan:

- Summarises the key challenges that have impacted on efforts to revitalise the Creek
- Assesses projects identified in the *Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan* prepared by the City of Melbourne
- Outlines projects that are proposed to be delivered as part of the renewal of Arden and Macaulay, and
- Identifies key stakeholder relationships that will support the implementation of projects that will protect and enhance the Creek.

The Plan maps out a path forward for the Victorian Government and the council that can be used to guide investment and coordinate delivery that supports the long-term transformation of the Creek in the City of Melbourne. The identified projects will support the restoration of the ecological, cultural and recreational values of the Creek and contribute to Melbourne’s liveability and climate resilience.

The next step is for lead agencies to collaborate and deliver the projects with a clear funding pathway and to advocate for the projects needing further exploration.



1 INTRODUCTION

The Moonee Ponds Creek is a major tributary of the Yarra River that begins at the edge of suburban Melbourne, and runs 35 kilometres through the city's northern suburbs.

Prior to European settlement, the lower reaches of the Creek were occupied by the Aboriginal people of the East Kulin Nation. Today the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung People are recognised as the Traditional Owners of the land.

Until the latter part of the 19th century, the lower reaches of the Creek were known as the Moonee Moonee Chain of Ponds, which flowed into a thriving wetland known as the West Melbourne Swamp (also known as Batman's Lagoon).

Since then, the Creek has undergone wide-ranging drainage and infrastructure works including significant realignment, so that it now joins the Yarra River at Docklands. Extensive urban and industrial development has also impacted the Creek's health. Despite these developments, the Creek is still highly valued by the community.

Many years of prioritising transport and infrastructure uses in the Creek corridor have impacted on the ecological, amenity and cultural values of the Creek.

Today the Creek forms the spine of major urban renewal precincts that have been delivered, are being planned or proposed for the future including Arden, Macaulay, Docklands, Dynon and E-Gate.

The Creek corridor is an important local feature to the community and as such, the Melbourne City Council and the Victorian Government have been working together to plan for its revitalisation via implementation of a strategic vision for the lower part of the Creek corridor.

The origin of the Plan

The Plan is an outcome of the masterplan initiative funded by the West Gate Tunnel Project, a major transport project delivered by the Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority (previously Major Transport Infrastructure Authority), as a recommendation of the project's *Inquiry and Advisory Committee Report* (October 2017) which assessed the project's Environment Effects Statement:

13. Fund a masterplan for a linear reserve along the Moonee Ponds Creek between Dynon Road and Footscray Road including the proposed open space west of the Creek. The plan should be prepared by the relevant land manager in consultation with the City of Melbourne, Melbourne Water, and other relevant authorities, the Friends of Moonee Ponds Creek and the Moonee Ponds Creek Co-ordination Committee.

- *West Gate Tunnel Project Inquiry and Advisory Committee Report, October 2017.*

The purposes of the Plan

The Plan provides a central point of coordination for state and local government projects that will support the renewal of the lower reaches of the Creek.

The Plan outlines the progress of projects and potential future actions, all of which will contribute to the improvement of the Creek's amenity, transport and environmental performance.

The purposes of the Plan are to:

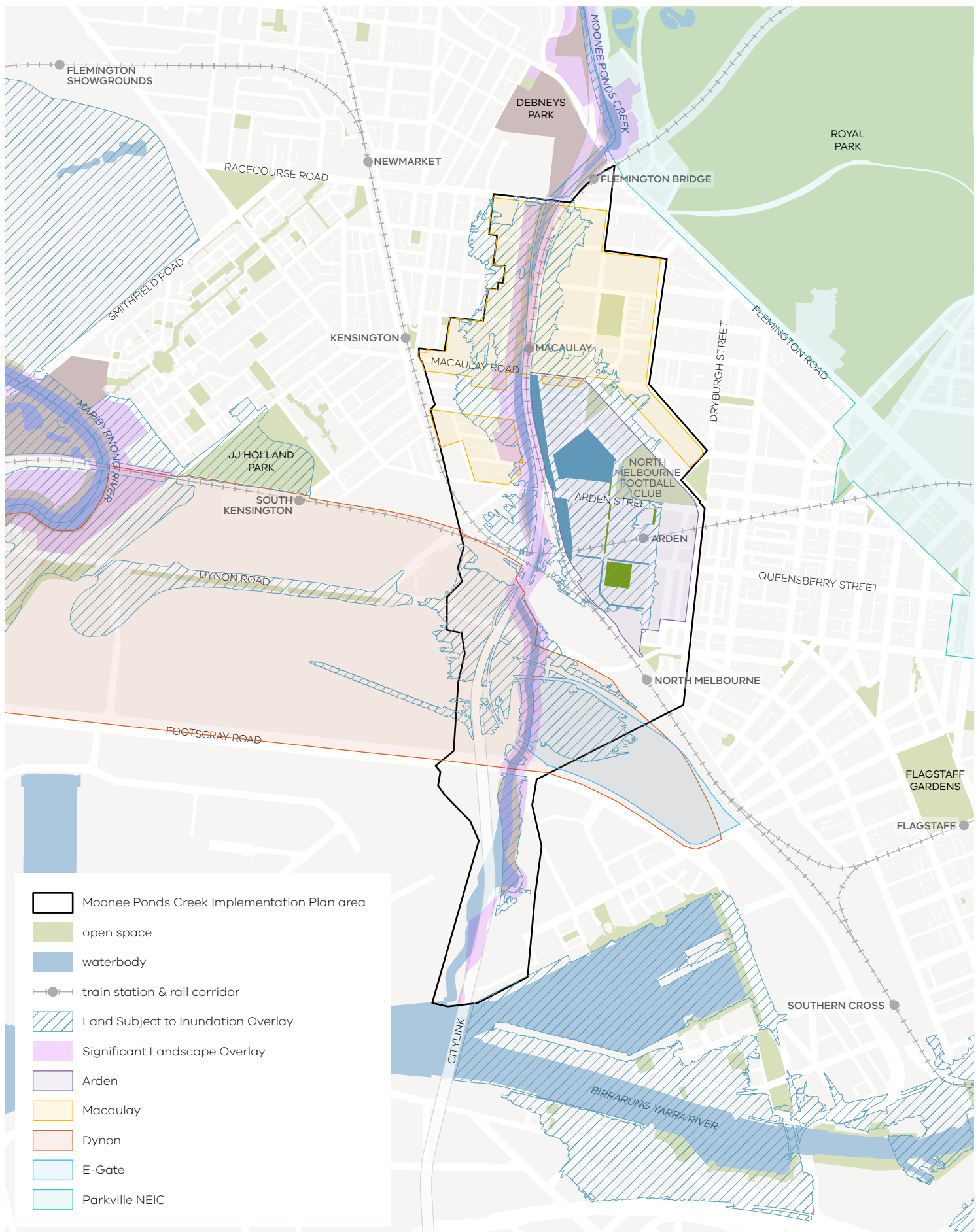
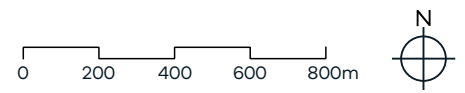
- Provide a vision and series of key directions for the future of the part of the Creek within the City of Melbourne, ensuring it supports the aspirations of the community that live, work and invest there now and in the future
- Present an overall action plan that identifies investment, project delivery partners and allows for a co-ordinated approach to realise the vision for the ongoing revitalisation of the Creek corridor, and
- Consider each of the projects identified in Melbourne City Council's *Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan* (MPCSOP) to identify those with a clear funding pathway versus projects needing further exploration to determine a funding pathway or which are out of scope.

As multiple stakeholder cooperation is key to the Plan's delivery, it's important to map a collaborative path forward for the Victorian Government and the council, to guide investment and coordinate delivery that supports the long-term transformation of the Creek in Melbourne's central city. This path forward will support and enhance the ecological, cultural and recreational values of the Creek and contribute to Melbourne's liveability and climate resilience.

Plan 1 – Moonee Ponds Creek and surrounding area shows the Creek corridor and surrounding area.

Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan

Plan 1 – Moonee Ponds Creek & surrounding area



2 STRATEGIC POLICY CONTEXT

Long-standing commitment to improving the Creek

Over the last 20 years, both state and local government have prepared plans for the revitalisation of the Creek.

This has included a history of community activism and support that has influenced various plans, including the 1992 *Moonee Ponds Creek Concept Plan* by the Friends of the Moonee Ponds Creek (formerly the Moonee Ponds Creek Association).

Other notable strategic planning initiatives and policies that provide the background to this Plan include:

Healthy Waterways Strategy (2018)

Melbourne Water prepared the [Healthy Waterways Strategy](#) in 2018 and included performance objectives around the environmental health and community connection of the Creek.

Chain Of Ponds Collaboration (2018)

In 2018 the Moonee Ponds Creek [Chain of Ponds Collaboration](#) was formalised through a Memorandum of Understanding between Melbourne Water, the Victorian Planning Authority, a number of local councils, water authorities and ‘friends of’ groups.

The aim of the collaboration was to “transform the Moonee Ponds Creek into an iconic waterway for Melbourne that provides high social and environmental benefits”.

The Chain of Ponds – Moonee Ponds Creek Plan (2015–2018)

The [Chain of Ponds – Moonee Ponds Creek Plan](#) was prepared jointly by Moonee Valley City Council and Merri-bek City Council, formerly Moreland City Council. It sought to establish a collaborative and innovative planning and management approach to improve the ecological health of the Creek, support community wellbeing, and protect the Creek from unsuitable urban development.

North and West Melbourne Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment (2021)

The Victorian Planning Authority and City of Melbourne undertook a *North and West Melbourne Aboriginal Cultural Values Assessment*. This study included the Moonee Ponds Creek environs and beyond and sought to inform this Plan and the planning for Arden and Macaulay.

Plan for Victoria (2025)

To accommodate Melbourne’s growing population and meet the City of Melbourne’s housing target of 119,500 additional homes by 2050, several major urban renewal precincts – including Arden, Macaulay, Fishermans Bend, Dynon and E-Gate – are planned for higher-density housing and employment growth.

As these former industrial areas redevelop, increasing populations will place greater demand on open space, transport connections and environmental assets such as the Creek.

The Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan (2019)

In August 2019, the City of Melbourne adopted the [Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan](#) to advocate for improved open space, movement, biodiversity, water management and heritage outcomes in the lower reaches of the Creek where it passes through the city.

"Moonee Ponds Creek will become a thriving corridor that supports the liveability and resilience of the city."

Following consultation on the Strategic Opportunities Plan in March and April 2019, community feedback included strong support for the vision and for coordinated action and investment. Urban renewal and growth in the area was seen as a catalyst for critical investment in the Creek corridor.

The Strategic Opportunities Plan has a vision for the Creek which highlights the importance of five themes to get right:

- Water management
- Open space
- Biodiversity
- Movement
- History and culture.

The Strategic Opportunities Plan is intended to provide a guiding and directional framework. Its purpose is not to deliver a land use plan that supports rezoning, or deliver specific project outputs such as detailed design, costings, feasibility or business cases.

The Strategic Opportunities Plan includes 38 projects identified as strategic opportunities in council's plan and two additional Victorian Government projects to deliver the council's vision for the Moonee Ponds Creek.

Arden Structure Plan and Arden Development Contributions Plan (2022)

The [Arden Structure Plan](#) outlines the redevelopment of Arden as a high-density, mixed-use precinct centred on the new Arden Station, accommodating 15,000–20,000 residents and up to 34,000 jobs over the next 30 years.

Planning Scheme Amendment C407 (C407melb) implements the *Arden Structure Plan*. Gazetted in July 2022, it rezoned the 46-hectare former industrial area into a high-density, mixed-use employment and residential hub centred around the new Arden Station.

The planning for Arden's renewal acknowledges the important role the Creek will play in supporting the urban renewal of the area, as well as the new community.

"The Moonee Ponds Creek corridor will be revitalised as a new green spine for Melbourne. It will be a celebrated waterway with a valued environmental and cultural heritage, serving recreational, biodiversity habitat and active transport functions. The Creek corridor will be an essential link for Arden and neighbouring urban renewal precincts."

The Moonee Ponds Creek corridor will be valued as an environmental, recreational and active transport asset, and an integrated water management approach will ensure that water is shared and reused across the precinct."

The detailed planning of open spaces will draw on the rich Aboriginal and natural history of the area and local knowledge of the community to inform the design of the public realm and restore connections with the Moonee Ponds Creek and Arden's ecology."

The Moonee Ponds Creek has a significant role as a major natural connector between several communities located along the Creek."

The *Arden Development Contributions Plan* (DCP) establishes a funding mechanism to secure developer levies that pay for and contribute towards new local roads, drainage and flood mitigation works, the public realm, and community facilities.

Projects identified in the *Arden Development Contributions Plan* are included in this Plan and will have an important role in the revitalisation of the Creek.

Waterways of the West Action Plan (2021)

The [Waterways of the West Action Plan](#) was released by the Victorian Government in December 2021. The Action Plan aims to improve all rivers and Creeks in western Melbourne, including the Moonee Ponds Creek.

It is a transformational, five-year plan that will bring life to a 50-year vision developed by the community, with guidance from the Bunurong, Wadawurrung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Traditional Owners. It seeks to protect and elevate the significance of the Creek corridor by introducing stronger landscape and environmental planning controls and new regional policy.

The Action Plan includes an aspirational 50-year vision for all western waterways with the following reference to Moonee Ponds Creek:

"Along waterways in our cities and towns, like Moonee Ponds (Moonee Moonee) Creek, cyclists pass protected natural areas with native vegetation and wildlife. Urban development is designed to protect and improve the health of the Creek."

The Action Plan has three parts:

- Nine directions and 40 actions that guide the Victorian Government's commitment to implementation
- The 50-year Waterways of the West Community Vision
- The background for the actions, setting out the key issues for the waterways and the implementation context for the Action Plan.

The Action Plan includes short- and long-term actions that consider necessary changes to institutional arrangements, strengthen planning provisions for waterways and strengthen the role of Traditional Owners in planning and management. Completion of longer-term actions will be dependent on funding availability. Decisions about the implementation and timing of these actions will be made in line with government policy and budget processes. Further information and detail for specific actions is contained in the Action Plan.

Of particular relevance to the Plan are:

Direction 1: Recognise the Waterways of the West as living and integrated natural entities and the Traditional Owners as the 'voice of these living entities'.

Direction 2: Embed Traditional Owners' values in planning and decision-making for waterways.

Direction 3: Strengthening planning policy and controls for waterways.

Direction 4: Improve waterway amenity to meet community expectations.

Planning Scheme Amendment VC278 – Significant Landscape Overlay Schedule 4

In December 2025, the Minister for Planning approved Amendment VC278 to the Victoria Planning Provisions by applying Significant Landscape Overlays to 17 waterways and strengthening state policy for all waterways.

Specifically the amendment introduced and applied the Significant Landscape Overlay – Schedule 4 (SLO4) to the Creek environs. The SLO4 recognises the Creek and its landscape hold deeply embedded cultural and spiritual significance for Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people. The SLO4 highlights the ecological values of the Creek, with species found along the Creek today including Eastern Great Egret, Powerful Owl, Growling Grass Frog and Brown (Bibron's) Toadlet.

The schedule introduced planning controls that seek to:

- Enhance the role of the waterway as an integrated and continuous landscape corridor, protecting the environmental, cultural and landscape values of the waterway system
- Retain indigenous riparian vegetation and canopy trees or existing grasslands as the dominant landscape feature, and enhance the revegetation and ecological improvement of the waterway corridor while managing the introduction of potential bushfire hazards
- Ensure the visual impact of buildings and works, including the storage of goods, is minimised when viewed from the waterway corridor
- Ensure that earthworks are minimised and do not affect the natural drainage function and landscape character of the waterway
- Ensure that fencing interfacing the waterway corridor is designed and located to be visually transparent and recessive in the landscape.

Macaulay Structure Plan and Macaulay Urban Renewal Precinct Development Contributions Plan (2026)

The [Macaulay Structure Plan](#) guides the transformation of Macaulay into a mixed-use neighbourhood expected to support approximately 10,000 residents, 9,500 jobs, community facilities and new open spaces.

The precinct is directly north of the Arden urban renewal precinct and the new Arden Station which is part of the Metro Tunnel Project.

Planning Scheme Amendment C497melb implements the *Macaulay Structure Plan*. Anticipated for gazettal in mid-2026, it updates the planning controls for 90 hectares of land in the suburbs of North Melbourne and Kensington.

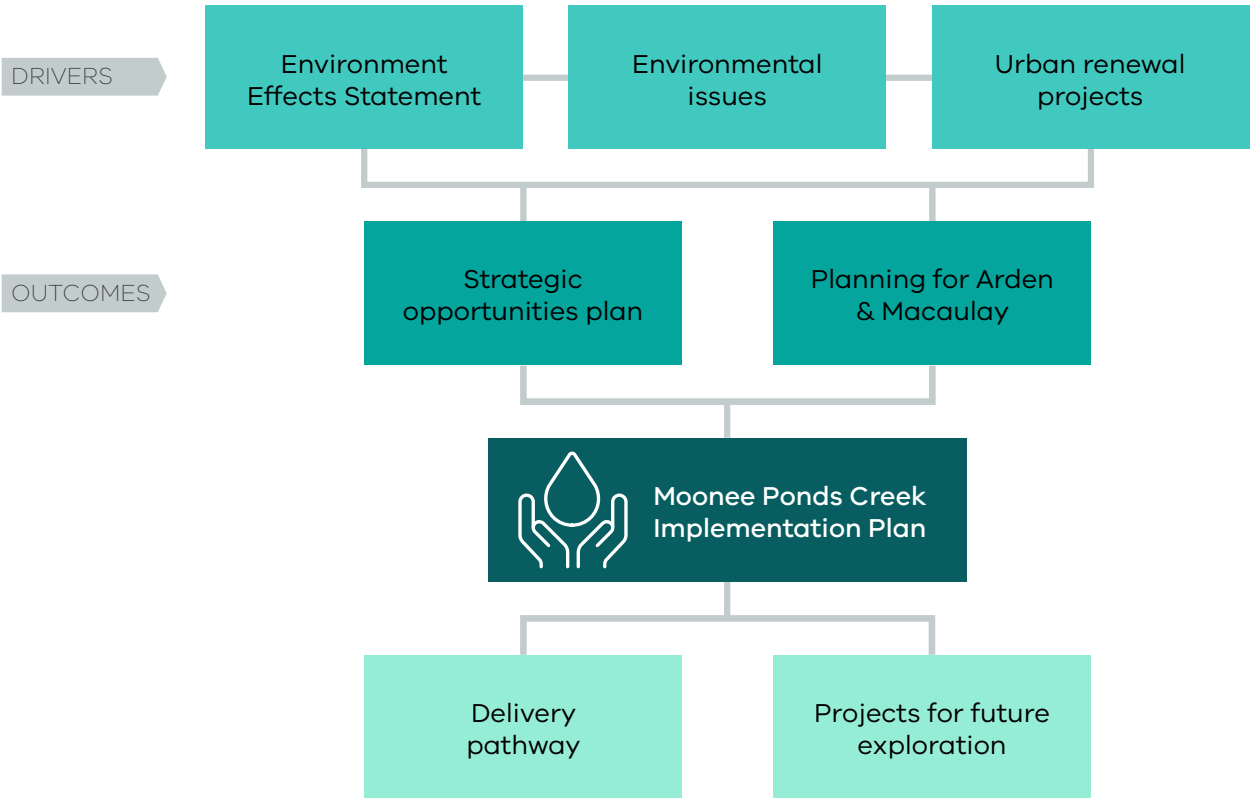
The *Macaulay Urban Renewal Precinct Development Contributions Plan* (Macaulay DCP) has been developed to formalise the funding of shared infrastructure to support the development of the Macaulay Precinct.

The Macaulay DCP enables the collection of levies to fund the required infrastructure, together with other sources of funding including works by developers, open space contributions, a future contributions mechanism for major drainage, utility service provider contributions and capital works projects by the council and Victorian Government agencies.

Projects identified in the Macaulay DCP are included in this Plan and will have an important role in the revitalisation of the Creek. For example the Macaulay DCP includes funding for the purchase of Macaulay Terraces for future drainage open space, adjacent to the Creek.

Figure 1 – The implementation plan process
below summarises the process for preparing the Implementation Plan, its drivers and outcomes.

Figure 1 – The implementation plan process





3 CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

Lower reaches of the Moonee Ponds Creek today

The lower reaches of the Creek are a valued natural asset to the local communities of Kensington, North Melbourne, West Melbourne and Docklands.

The waterway has been moved and altered from a chain of ponds to its current form today. True to its beginnings, the Creek still plays an important role during flood events. The lower reaches of the Creek remain a floodplain, with much of the adjacent area in Arden and Macaulay subject to flooding during 1 in 100 year rainfall events.

In addition to the waterway itself, the Creek corridor provides a shared user path for pedestrians and cyclists which forms part of the Capital City Trail. The Creek corridor also contains the Upfield rail line, which runs along the eastern bank, and the CityLink Freeway which is elevated above the rail corridor.

The Creek corridor is adjoined by significant urban renewal areas including the Arden, Macaulay, Docklands, Dynon and E-Gate precincts as well as the Port of Melbourne (refer to **Plan 1 – Moonee Ponds Creek and surrounding area**).

Challenges

The following implementation challenges have been identified in planning for the Creek's future:

Land ownership and governance

Where the Creek is not Crown Land (the lower reaches), it is owned by multiple Victorian Government agencies. This means several organisations are responsible for managing and maintaining the Creek and its surrounding environment. A collaborative approach to governance will be required if projects under the plan are to be successfully delivered.

Multiple funding regimes

The funding of projects that are proposed to support and deliver the revitalisation of the Creek is sourced from different mechanisms including Clause 53.01 (Public Open Space Contributions) of the *Melbourne Planning Scheme*, and the Development Contributions Plans for Arden and Macaulay. The funding to support other projects may not be identified at this stage, with contributions towards projects potentially partially sourced from future DCPs (or similar).

Waterway health

Levees along the eastern side of the Creek are predominantly concrete walls, and parts of the waterway proper have been converted into concrete channels. Concreting has damaged the ecological values of the Creek and presents poor visual amenity outcomes for people visiting the waterway.

Infrastructure assets

Infrastructure assets in this part of the Creek corridor include the West Melbourne Terminal Station and high voltage transmission lines. These assets are likely to be required to service the new communities being established and so will not be able to be relocated.

Potential contamination

Some areas of the Creek corridor, including all land owned by VicTrack, is potentially contaminated and costly remediation may be required before any change of use. Support from the Environment Protection Authority will be required as part of the remediation process. The lead agency (or champion) for each project identified in the Plan will be responsible for addressing these requirements with the Environment Protection Authority.

Transport

The Creek corridor has a single shared user path, predominantly running along its eastern bank. The path experiences flooding issues and provides little opportunity for respite and recreation along its length. Regular crossings of the Creek by local roads and railway lines diminish the path's function and subject it to regular flooding.

VicTrack is an important landowner within the corridor, however its land is reserved for transport purposes, unless otherwise advised by DTP. It is possible that some projects may not fully align with safety or rail regulations.

Upfield rail corridor

The Upfield rail line is located on the eastern side of the Creek and poses multiple challenges for achieving public access to the Creek corridor and crossing the Creek. Land in the rail corridor is likely to be prioritised for transport purposes.

CityLink Freeway

The CityLink Freeway is elevated above the rail corridor and in sections can contribute to the perception of an unwelcoming environment in the Creek environs.

Flood risk

A significant challenge and threshold issue for existing and future development around the Creek is mitigating the impacts of the 1 in 100 year flood level. For example, significant areas of Arden and Macaulay are impacted by this flood level which can complicate development outcomes.

Access

The local community's access to the Creek is heavily constrained with limited opportunity to cross the waterway. Large portions of the Creek banks are inaccessible to the local community due to fragmented land ownership and management. It is noted that improving access and filling gaps in the existing path networks and improving connections (including to nearby open space) is a performance objective in the Victorian Government's *Healthy Waterways Strategy* for the Port Phillip and Westernport region.

Safety

The Creek corridor's isolation due to physical built structures and location of the shared pathway in areas with poor visual surveillance and lighting, create the perception of an unsafe environment for the Creek corridor users and are a catalyst for its underutilisation.

Opportunities

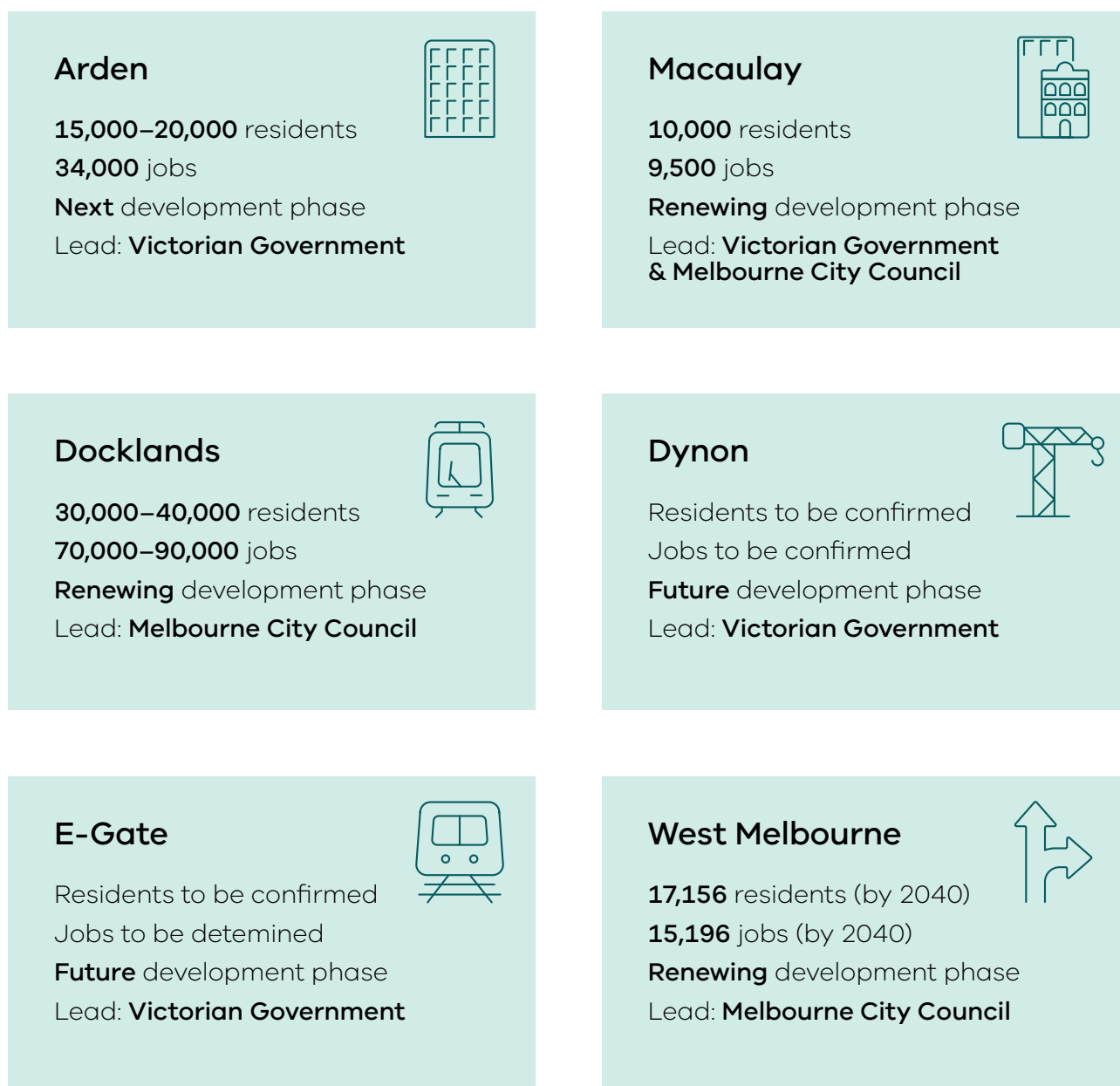
Population growth

The *Victoria in Future 2023* report projects that Melbourne's population will almost double over the next three decades, rising from 4.7 million residents in 2016 to 10.3 million by 2051 (DTP).

Melbourne's expected population growth will be substantial and numerous precincts located adjacent to Moonee Ponds Creek are earmarked for renewal, including Arden, Macaulay, Docklands, Dynon and E-Gate. These urban renewal areas adjoin the Creek, which will become an important amenity for the new communities.

Estimated growth for each of these areas by 2051 is provided below.

Figure 2 – Estimated urban renewal growth



Urban renewal in Arden and Macaulay

The planning for Arden and Macaulay recognises the Creek corridor as an integrated flooding solution and green linear space. Both projects identify potential areas near the Creek that could combine the provision of open space for future population growth and flood mitigation.

Together, the Arden and Macaulay renewal precincts present an opportunity to improve the Creek corridor. Coordinated investment by the Victorian Government, Melbourne City Council and relevant stakeholders has the potential to enhance public access, address gaps in walking and cycling connections, improve environmental and waterway health, and create a more connected and accessible open space network.

As both precincts are anticipated to accommodate substantial population and employment growth, coordinated planning and delivery of the Creek corridor improvements will be critical to ensuring the waterway can support increased recreational demand while enhancing its environmental, social and economic value.

At the same time, the renewal of precincts adjacent to the Creek presents a significant opportunity to realise the community's vision for the corridor. Through collaborative planning and continued investment in public realm and drainage infrastructure, the Victorian Government and Melbourne City Council can integrate precinct redevelopment with improvements to the Creek, enhancing its environmental health, accessibility, flood resilience and connection to surrounding communities.

Future projects and investment

To manage the impacts of flooding on the land around the Creek, Melbourne Water is currently developing a combined drainage strategy for the Arden and Macaulay precincts. This strategy aims to deliver new flood mitigation infrastructure in the precinct. It is possible investment in the Creek waterway will be required to manage the impacts of flooding. The funding and timing of the delivery of this infrastructure is still being resolved.

Key outcomes of the drainage strategy may include:

- new flood storage basins
- an integrated stormwater management open space in Arden North (proposed between Fogarty Street, Henderson Street, Gracie Street and Langford Street)
- underwater storage tanks, and
- upgrades to pumps, levees and other drainage assets in the Creek corridor.

Existing infrastructure

The Capital City Trail is in situ and is well used and valued by the community. It provides safe and accessible regional cycle access to the suburbs in Moonee Valley and Merri-bek councils (via Royal Park and the Upfield bike path) and on to Docklands, Footscray and Fishermans Bend.





4 HOW THE PLAN WAS FORMULATED & KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Formulation of the plan

The Plan builds on the previous work undertaken by government stakeholders, the council and community groups.

The Plan provides an overview of the range of projects that have been completed, are intended to be delivered and those projects that could be subject to future investigation.

The Plan demonstrates that there are a diverse range of existing and potential projects that can support the ongoing use of the Creek by the community and the importance of government interests in the planning for its future.

Figure 3 – Government stakeholders highlights the different roles and responsibilities of state and local government in delivering a vision for the Creek.

The plan has been developed by:

- Acknowledging its origin as an outcome of the West Gate Tunnel Project
- Reviewing what the council already knew about the community's aspirations for the Creek
- Recognising the overall strategic intentions of Plan for Victoria, as well as the need to align with the *Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan* and the *Waterways of the West Action Plan*
- Interrogating the expected planning and delivery of projects through the urban renewal precincts in Arden and Macaulay
- Understanding the existing and future challenges and opportunities within the Creek, and
- Engaging Victorian Government departments and agencies and the council to identify existing and additional future projects for inclusion.

Key stakeholders

Underpinning implementation of the *Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan* is the foundational goal for 'collaborative governance'. This approach is supported by this Plan.

The key government stakeholder agencies in the lower reaches of the Creek are shown below.

Figure 3 – Government stakeholders

Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action

- Major landowner with land and water management responsibilities.
- Currently holds the property title to the waterway proper.

Department of Transport and Planning

- Oversees the leasing of land in the Creek corridor to Metro Trains Melbourne (Upfield corridor and Dynon rail yards), Transurban (CityLink Freeway) and Port of Melbourne.
- Responsible for coordinating investment and overseeing the delivery of the Arden Precinct.
- Responsible for assessing planning scheme amendments in Arden, Macaulay and other areas within the Creek environs.
- Responsible for determining land requirements for transport.

Development Victoria

- Responsible authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* for land adjacent and abutting the Creek in the Docklands area.

Environment Protection Authority

- Responsible for overseeing works that may require remediation of contaminated land in the Creek corridor.

Melbourne City Council

- Responsible for providing open space, local transport connections and local drainage works but does not own or manage land in the Creek corridor.
- Identified local projects in the *Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan* that may be identified in this Plan.

Melbourne Water

- Responsible for the management of the Creek for the purposes of waterway health and regional drainage as a designated waterway under the *Water Act 1989*.

Port of Melbourne Operations

- Responsible for ensuring efficient operation of the Port of Melbourne.

Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority

- Authority responsible for the delivery of the West Gate Tunnel Project and Metro Tunnel Project, which both required limited project related works to be undertaken in the Creek corridor which have been completed as part of these projects.

VicTrack

- Major landowner, responsible for land used for transport purposes under the *Transport Act 2010*.

Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation

- Traditional Owners of the Creek corridor.



5 PROJECTS & IMPLEMENTATION

The Plan in 2026

The Plan builds on the work progressed by the *Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan*. Since the *Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan* was originally developed, several of the identified projects have been completed, while the renewal projects for Arden and Macaulay have significantly advanced.

Additionally, alternative approaches to projects are being implemented. For example, Melbourne Water is progressing an alternative approach to the Urban Renewal Cost Recovery Scheme in the form of a strategy that envisages a development contributions plan to provide funds towards additional drainage infrastructure in Arden and Macaulay.

Key stakeholders will continue to work to identify funding for essential infrastructure supporting urban renewal in the Arden and Macaulay precincts. Development contribution plans will help fund shared infrastructure needed for precinct development, including initiatives identified in this Plan.

The community will be kept informed as future funding arrangements and project priorities are finalised.

Project prioritisation

Projects have been grouped generally according to the classifications that are identified in the *Moonee Ponds Creek Strategic Opportunities Plan*.

An additional category of completed projects has also been added.

Each grouping includes a table identifying the community benefits and delivery responsibility for each project.

Table 1 – Project prioritisation categories

Project category	Assessment criteria
Completed	The project has been recently completed within the Moonee Ponds Creek corridor environs.
Deliver	The project has an identified pathway for implementation through any of the following: – public open space contributions collected under Clause 53.01 of the <i>Melbourne Planning Scheme</i> – the Arden and Macaulay Development Contributions Plans – committed scope of works for a major transport infrastructure project – committed investment in the City of Melbourne capital works program – committed investment by the Victorian Government
Explore	The project can be embedded in incremental change as investment in the Creek progresses, for example incorporating whole of Creek initiatives into the design and delivery of larger future infrastructure projects. The project requires further work to determine an appropriate implementation pathway.
Out of scope	The project is not within the City of Melbourne boundary or able to proceed.

6 PROJECT STATUS, ACTIONS & NEXT STEPS

Implementation of the Plan will take time and need to be adaptive. Long-term opportunities will depend on other processes, such as planning for port and transport infrastructure, and urban renewal drainage strategies.

The full implementation of a linear park and creek revitalisation will require ongoing coordination of many agencies and groups and should harness existing community support.

Projects are grouped according to the classifications in **Table 1 – Project prioritisation categories**.

The projects listed in **Table 2 – Completed projects**, **Table 3 – Deliver projects** and **Table 4 – Explore projects** have Champions and Delivery Partners. The Champion is the agency responsible

for advocating, planning and promoting the project within Government. The Champion has a responsibility to coordinate delivery. Delivery Partners are essential to the success of the project and will work closely with the Champion. For projects that are to be delivered via a development contributions plan item, Champions and Delivery Partners may not be specified as the delivery of the project will be managed via the development contributions plan delivery process.

All projects referenced are based on publicly available information. Final project delivery may be subject to change as detailed design development progresses.

Actions to implement each project are detailed in the following sections.

Community benefits

The projects detailed on the following pages have a range of community benefits identified.



Water management

Improving how stormwater is directed and stored in the natural environment



Open space

Creating and improving spaces for the community to relax, play, and interact with nature



Biodiversity

Creating clean, healthy and diverse environments that allow plants and fauna to thrive



Movement

Improving walking and cycling paths to connect communities and destinations

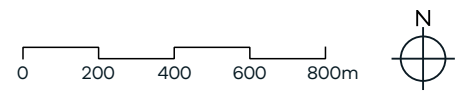


History and culture

Celebrating Aboriginal culture and remembering the area's historical uses

Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan

Plan 2 – Completed projects



Projects

- C1 The connected veloway
- C2 West Gate Tunnel Park (BMX pump track)
- C3 Dynon Road walking and cycling bridge
- C4 Landscape protection



Completed projects

Table 2 – Completed projects details projects that have been recently completed within the Moonee Ponds Creek corridor environs.

Table 2 – Completed projects



C1 The connected veloway

A new elevated cycling bridge along Footscray Road, with the bright green 2.5km path running from Shepherd Bridge in Footscray to the city-side of Moonee Ponds Creek, linking into the Federation Trail

Community benefit	Movement
MPCSOP reference	M3
Champion	Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority West Gate Tunnel Project
Current landowner	Victorian Government
Future land tenure or management needs	Victorian Government



C2 West Gate Tunnel Park (BMX pump track)

A revamped space under CityLink provides a new BMX track suitable for different skill levels, along with seating for spectators and added shrub planting to enhance the surrounding landscape

Community benefit	Open space	Biodiversity	Movement
MPCSOP reference	N/A		
Champion	Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority West Gate Tunnel Project		
Current landowner	Victorian Government		
Future land tenure or management needs	Victorian Government		



C3 Dynon Road walking and cycling bridge

The Dynon Road walking and cycling bridge provides a more direct safer route for people to walk and ride safely from North Melbourne to the Moonee Ponds Creek Trail and connects with the recently opened Footscray Road walking and cycling bridge

Community benefit	Water management	Biodiversity	Movement
MPCSOP reference	M2		
Champion	Victorian Infrastructure Delivery Authority West Gate Tunnel Project		
Current landowner	Victorian Government		
Future land tenure or management needs	Victorian Government		



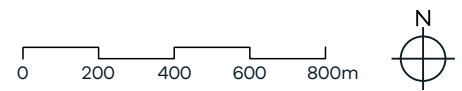
C4 Landscape protection

Amendment VC278 introduced and applied Significant Landscape Overlay controls into the *Melbourne Planning Scheme*, including to land in the Creek environs. Applied as part of the *Waterways of the West Action Plan*, the overlay aims to enhance the role and landscape character of the waterway

Community benefit	Biodiversity
MPCSOP reference	N/A
Champion	Department of Transport and Planning
Current landowner	N/A
Future land tenure or management needs	N/A

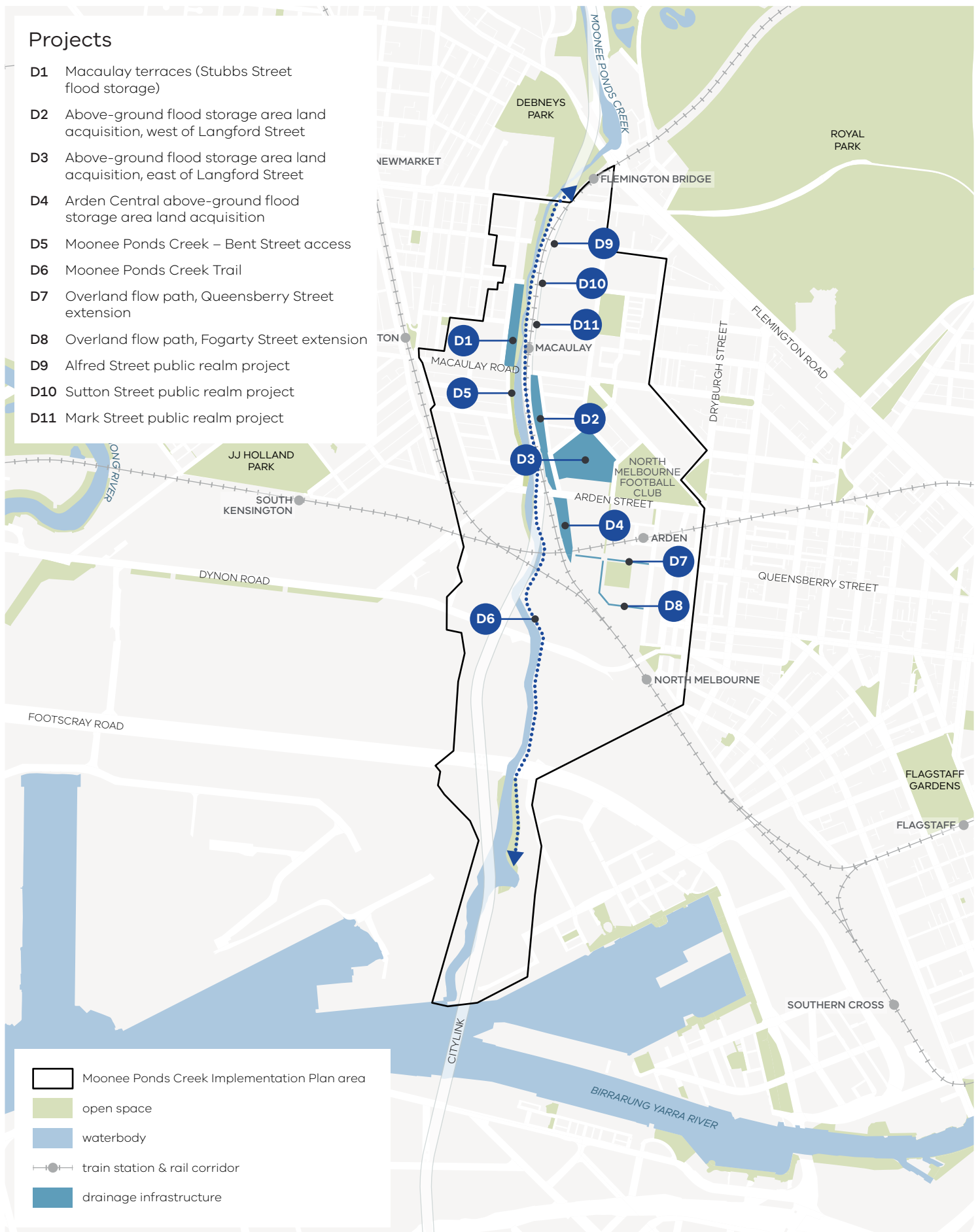
Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan

Plan 3 – Deliver projects



Projects

- D1 Macaulay terraces (Stubbs Street flood storage)
- D2 Above-ground flood storage area land acquisition, west of Langford Street
- D3 Above-ground flood storage area land acquisition, east of Langford Street
- D4 Arden Central above-ground flood storage area land acquisition
- D5 Moonee Ponds Creek – Bent Street access
- D6 Moonee Ponds Creek Trail
- D7 Overland flow path, Queensberry Street extension
- D8 Overland flow path, Fogarty Street extension
- D9 Alfred Street public realm project
- D10 Sutton Street public realm project
- D11 Mark Street public realm project



Deliver projects

Table 3 – Deliver projects details the projects that have a clear path for delivery, i.e. a funding pathway has been identified through a development contributions plan, capital works program or another form of investment.

All projects must involve early engagement with the Traditional Owners of the land.

Table 3 – Deliver projects

	D1 Macaulay Terraces (Stubbs Street flood storage)					2026–2051
	Construction of local open space reserve, including landscape works, footpaths, street furniture, lighting, tree planting and drainage treatments Land to be acquired for drainage land at Macaulay Terraces (5,824 square metres)					
Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity	Movement	History & culture	
MPCSOP reference	OS4					
Champion	Melbourne Water – land acquisition and delivery of drainage infrastructure Melbourne City Council – amenity improvement					
Delivery partners	Melbourne City Council					
Existing land use	Industrial development with private leases					
Current landowner	VicTrack					
Future land tenure or management needs & interests	Melbourne Water Ongoing collaboration between the council, Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government to deliver project and determine future land management arrangements					
Potential future sources of funding	Macaulay Development Contributions Plan (DCPO2) projects: OS-01: Construction of local open space reserve, including landscape works, footpaths, street furniture, lighting, tree planting and drainage treatments LA-02: Land to be acquired for drainage land at Macaulay Terraces (5,824 square metres)					



D2 Above-ground flood storage area land acquisition

2021–2046

Land acquisition on the west side of Langford Street for retarding basin in accordance with the future urban structure

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity	Movement	History & culture
MPCSOP reference	W6				
Champion	Melbourne Water – land acquisition and delivery of hydraulic asset Melbourne City Council – amenity improvements				
Delivery partners	N/A				
Existing land use	Industrial development with private leases				
Current landowner	VicTrack with private leases				
Future land tenure or management needs	Victorian Government to resolve land arrangements for drainage purposes Ongoing collaboration between the council, Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government to deliver project and determine future land management arrangements				
Potential future sources of funding	Arden Development Contributions Plan (DCPO4) project: DR-01: Land acquisition for retarding basin in accordance with the future urban structure Future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP: To be investigated				



D3 Above-ground flood storage area land acquisition

2021–2046

Land acquisition on the east side of Langford Street for retarding basin in accordance with the future urban structure

Community benefit	Water management	Biodiversity	Movement
MPCSOP reference	N/A		
Champion	Melbourne City Council – amenity improvements; community facilities		
Delivery partners	Department of Transport and Planning		
Existing land use	Industrial and commercial		
Current landowner	Privately owned		
Future land tenure or management needs	Victorian Government to resolve land arrangements for drainage purposes Ongoing collaboration between the council, Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government to deliver project and determine future land management arrangements		
Potential future sources of funding	Arden Development Contributions Plan (DCPO4) project: DR-02: Land acquisition for retarding basin in accordance with the future urban structure Future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP: To be investigated		



D4 Arden Central above-ground flood storage area land acquisition

2021–2046

Land acquisition on the west side of the Arden Precinct adjoining railway reserve for retarding basin in accordance with the future urban structure

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity	Movement	History & culture
MPCSOP reference	N/A				
Champion	Melbourne City Council – amenity improvements				
Delivery partners	Department of Transport and Planning				
Existing land use	Industrial development with private leases				
Current landowner	VicTrack with private leases				
Future land tenure or management needs	Victorian Government to resolve land arrangements for drainage purposes Ongoing collaboration between the council, Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government to deliver project and determine future land management arrangements				
Potential future sources of funding	Arden Development Contributions Plan (DCPO4) project: DR-03: Land acquisition for retarding basin in accordance with the future urban structure Future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP: To be investigated				



D5 Moonee Ponds Creek – Bent Street access

2026–2051

Construction of linear open space reserve, including landscape works, footpaths, street furniture, lighting, tree planting and drainage treatments

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity	Movement	History & culture
MPCSOP reference	OS6 OS3 B5				
Champion	Melbourne City Council – amenity improvements				
Delivery partners	VicTrack				
Existing land use	Waterway/informal open space				
Current landowner	VicTrack				
Future land tenure or management needs	To be resolved between Melbourne City Council and VicTrack Ongoing collaboration between the council, Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government to deliver project and determine future land management arrangements				
Potential future sources of funding	Macaulay Development Contributions Plan (DCPO2) project: OS-02: Construction of linear open space reserve, including landscape works, footpaths, street furniture, lighting, tree planting and drainage treatments				

		D6 Moonee Ponds Creek Trail	2021–2046
		Construction of an upgrade to the existing Moonee Ponds Creek Trail	
Community benefit	Open space	Biodiversity	Movement
MPCSOP reference	M6		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Delivery partners	Department of Transport and Planning (Strategic Cycling Corridor north of Footscray Road)		
Existing land use	Combination of existing trails, industrial land and waterway/informal open space		
Current landowner	Various landowners along the corridor		
Future land tenure or management needs	Melbourne City Council to resolve asset ownership and future management requirements Ongoing collaboration between the council, Melbourne Water and the Victorian Government to deliver project and determine future land management arrangements		
Potential future sources of funding	Arden Development Contributions Plan (DCPO4) project: CC-01: Construction of an upgrade to the existing Moonee Ponds Creek Trail for the section of trail within Arden project area Macaulay Development Contributions Plan (DCPO2) projects: AT_01: Construction and embellishment for an active transport corridor containing pedestrian and cycling path between Racecourse Road and Macaulay Road within Boundary Precinct. LA_01: Land for the active transport corridor (AT_01) (0.5802 hectares).		

		D7 Overland flow path, Queensberry Street extension	2021–2046
		Land acquisition for overland flow path in accordance with the future urban structure	
Community benefit	Water management		
MPCSOP reference	N/A		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Delivery partners	N/A		
Existing land use	Existing public road network		
Current landowner	Melbourne City Council		
Future land tenure or management needs	Public realm upgrades will be managed by council and retained as council assets upon completion		
Potential future sources of funding	Arden Development Contributions Plan (DCPO4) project: DR-04: Land acquisition for overland flow path in accordance with the future urban structure		

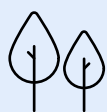


D8 Overland flow path, Fogarty Street extension

2021–2046

Street closure and upgrade to public realm including footpaths, bike paths, landscape works, street furniture, tree planting and drainage

Community benefit	Water management
MPCSOP reference	N/A
Champion	Melbourne City Council
Delivery partners	N/A
Existing land use	Existing public road network
Current landowner	Melbourne City Council
Future land tenure or management needs	Public realm upgrades will be managed by council and retained as council assets upon completion
Potential future sources of funding	Macaulay Development Contributions Plan (DCPO2) project: DR-05: Land acquisition for overland flow path in accordance with the future urban structure Future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP: To be investigated

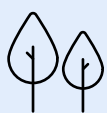


D9 Alfred Street public realm project

2026–2051

Street closure and upgrade to public realm including footpaths, bike paths, landscape works, street furniture, tree planting and drainage

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Movement
MPCSOP reference	N/A		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Delivery partners	N/A		
Existing land use	Existing public road network		
Current landowner	Melbourne City Council		
Future land tenure or management needs	Public realm upgrades will be managed by council and retained as council assets upon completion		
Potential future sources of funding	Macaulay Development Contributions Plan (DCPO2) project: PR-01: Street closure and upgrade to public realm including footpaths, bike paths, landscape works, street furniture, tree planting and drainage Future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP: To be investigated		

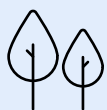


D10 Sutton Street public realm project

2026–2051

Street closure and upgrade to public realm including footpaths, bike paths, landscape works, street furniture, tree planting and drainage

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Movement
MPCSOP reference	N/A		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Delivery partners	N/A		
Existing land use	Existing public road network		
Current landowner	Melbourne City Council		
Future land tenure or management needs	Public realm upgrades will be managed by council and retained as council assets upon completion		
Potential future sources of funding	Macaulay Development Contributions Plan (DCPO2) project: PR-02: Street closure and upgrade to public realm including footpaths, bike paths, landscape works, street furniture, tree planting and drainage Future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP: To be investigated		



D11 Mark Street public realm project

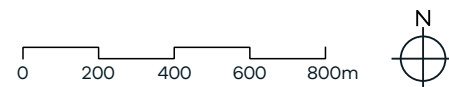
2026–2051

Street closure and upgrade to public realm including footpaths, bike paths, landscape works, street furniture, tree planting and drainage

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Movement
MPCSOP reference	N/A		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Delivery partners	N/A		
Existing land use	Existing public road network		
Current landowner	Melbourne City Council		
Future land tenure or management needs	Public realm upgrades will be managed by council and retained as council assets upon completion		
Potential future sources of funding	Macaulay Development Contributions Plan (DCPO2) project: PR-03: Street closure and upgrade to public realm including footpaths, bike paths, landscape works, street furniture, tree planting and drainage Future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP: To be investigated		

Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan

Plan 4 – Explore projects



Projects

- E1** Stubbs Street bank
- E2** Docklands Biodiversity hotspot
- E3** Native vegetation restoration
- E4** Novel habitats
- E5** Art trail
- E6** Moonee Ponds Creek mouth – a community hotspot
- E7** Moonee Ponds creek civic overflow route
- E8** Levee banks water storage
- E9** Litter management
- E10** E-Gate salt marsh & mangrove reserve
- E11** Expanded salt marsh zone
- E12** The research wetlands
- E13** Flemington bridge station connection upgrade
- E14** Fishermans Bend connection
- E15** Arden–Macaulay pedestrian bridges
- E16** Re-design of bridges
- E17** E-Gate stormwater park
- E18** CityLink water collection



Explore projects

Table 4 – Explore projects below identify projects to be explored in the future. The first section identifies projects with a single landowner, and the second section identifies more complex projects requiring significant capital investment and/or collaboration between multiple landowners with diverse operational requirements and regulations. The locations of these projects are shown on **Plan 4 – Explore projects**.

All projects must involve early engagement with the Traditional Owners of the land.

Table 4 – Explore projects

Explore projects with single landowners



E1 Stubbs Street bank

A potential flood mitigation project, involving land acquisition and construction of a retarding basin to increase flood storage capacity

Would enhance the creek corridor through expanded open space, increased canopy tree planting and ecological habitats, while incorporating levees and shared pedestrian connections that support open space and movement outcomes

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity	Movement	History & culture
MPCSOP reference	OS1 OS3 B5				
Champion	Melbourne City Council				
Explore through	The Macaulay DCP includes the Stubbs Street South project, known as the Macaulay Terraces There is also potential for a complementary Stubbs Street North project to extend these improvements and deliver additional benefits to the creek corridor Further investigation of this opportunity could be undertaken following completion of the future potential Arden–Macaulay Drainage DCP				



E2 Docklands biodiversity hotspot

Expand the creek corridor, creating wetlands and detention ponds with a focus on flood mitigation and new habitat for threatened species – its isolation could be beneficial for fragile ecologies

Community benefit	Open space	Biodiversity
MPCSOP reference	B4	
Champion	Melbourne City Council	
Explore through	Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions	



E3 Native vegetation restoration

Restore native vegetation, including brackish grasslands of the creek corridor

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity
MPCSOP reference	B6		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Explore through	Melbourne City Council – maintenance and improvement works and programs		



E4 Novel habitats

Where natural habitats cannot be achieved, create novel habitats in specific locations – bee hotels, wildlife hollows and in-stream habitat structures. Create nesting boxes and wildlife habitats in hard structures, such as bridges and the noise wall

Community benefit Open space

MPCSOP reference B7

Champion Melbourne City Council

Explore through Melbourne City Council – maintenance and improvement works and programs



E5 Art trail

Investigate creative art and naming opportunities along the creek that celebrate the Aboriginal and local heritage of the area and the role of the creek in water management

Community benefit History & culture

MPCSOP reference H1

Champion Melbourne City Council

Explore through Council and Victorian Government improvement works and programs



E6 Moonee Ponds Creek mouth – a community hotspot

Consider making the mouth of Moonee Ponds Creek (where it meets the Yarra River) a community meeting place with a boardwalk and recreational activities

Community benefit Biodiversity Movement

MPCSOP reference OS5

Champion Melbourne City Council

Explore through Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions
Department of Transport and Planning for the Webb Dock Freight Link



E7 Moonee Ponds Creek civic overflow route

Create an overflow creek pathway behind the levee that connects Racecourse Road and Macaulay Road

Community benefit Water management Open space Biodiversity Movement History & culture

MPCSOP reference W5

Champion Melbourne City Council

Explore through Melbourne Water – improvement works and programs (subject to program funding)



E8 Levee banks water storage

Investigate constructing culverts under levees to re-engage the floodplain storage and improve use of western creek berms in the Central Reach to improve open space

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity
MPCSOP reference	W8		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Explore through	Melbourne Water – improvement works and programs (subject to program funding)		



E9 Litter management

Explore whole of catchment collaboration for a strategic approach to litter reduction measures, including solutions such as education, enforcement, community activities, clean-up efforts, structural interventions and data collection to inform policy and develop new approaches

Community benefit	Water management	Open space
MPCSOP reference	W8	
Champion	Melbourne City Council	
Explore through	Melbourne Water – improvement works and programs (subject to program funding)	

Explore projects requiring significant capital investment and/or requiring collaboration between multiple landowners or agencies with diverse operational requirements and regulations



E10 E-Gate saltmarsh and mangrove reserve

Create saltmarsh and mangroves reserves, converting decommissioned rail bridges into pedestrian and bicycle bridges to link both sides of the creek and investigate a tidal barrier to guard against tidal surges

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity
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MPCSOP reference	B2
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Champion	Melbourne City Council
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Explore through	Advocate for the project as part of future planning for the E-Gate precinct by the Victorian Government
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E11 Expanded saltmarsh zone

Create opportunities for enhanced biodiversity and habitats in the creek at Docklands through expanded saltmarshes that are important for carbon sequestration

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity
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MPCSOP reference	B4
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Champion	Melbourne City Council
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Explore through	Advocate for the project as part of future planning for the E-Gate precinct by the Victorian Government
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E12 The research wetlands

Create a series of biodiverse wetlands with varying vegetation, habitat and ecologies as a site for research and education. Opportunities to research the value of carbon sequestration ecologies such as mangroves. A simple boardwalk system would allow passive public enjoyment of the landscape

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity
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MPCSOP reference	B8
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Champion	Melbourne City Council
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Explore through	Advocate for the project as part of future planning for the E-Gate precinct by the Victorian Government
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E13 Flemington Bridge Station connection upgrade

Upgrade the connections between the creek and Flemington Bridge Station

Community benefit	Biodiversity	Movement
MPCSOP reference	M1	
Champion	Melbourne City Council	
Explore through	Department of Transport and Planning – Consider as part of wider network planning and asset management in the immediate area Melbourne City Council – Advocate as part of maintenance and improvement works and programs	



E14 Fishermans Bend connection

Create a link from Docklands to Fishermans Bend, connecting the urban renewal areas of Melbourne and the water story of the city

Community benefit	Biodiversity	Movement
MPCSOP reference	M4	
Champion	Melbourne City Council	
Explore through	Advocate for works as part of the delivery of the Fishermans Bend Precinct and the Webb Dock Freight Link	



E15 Arden–Macaulay pedestrian bridges

Connect the Arden and Macaulay precincts with existing communities through new lightweight pedestrian bridges that could incorporate art initiatives

Community benefit	Biodiversity	Movement
MPCSOP reference	M5	
Champion	Melbourne City Council	
Explore through	Department of Transport and Planning – network planning and asset management (subject to resolution of multiple transport infrastructure government decisions) Melbourne City Council – maintenance and improvement works and programs	



E16 Redesign of bridges

Remove or re-construct pipe bridges and transport bridges to reduce the hydraulic constraints they impose, while improving cycle and pedestrian connections, respecting heritage and supporting the future potential hospitals in Arden

Community benefit	Water management	Movement
MPCSOP reference	W1	
Champion	Melbourne City Council	
Explore through	Melbourne City Council – local road network planning Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action/Melbourne Water – planning for creek crossing and water management	



E16 E-Gate stormwater park

Create a series of wetlands to capture and cleanse catchment stormwater before entering Moonee Ponds Creek to use for park irrigation and other greywater uses

Community benefit	Water management	Open space	Biodiversity
MPCSOP reference	W7		
Champion	Melbourne City Council		
Explore through	VicTrack – planning for E-Gate (subject to Victorian Government support for initiating planning for E-Gate)		



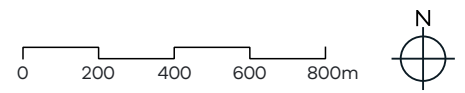
E17 CityLink water collection

Harvest runoff from CityLink and divert it into reconstructed ponds, wetlands and water treatment zones along the creek

Community benefit	Water management	Biodiversity
MPCSOP reference	W9	
Champion	Melbourne City Council	
Explore through	VicRoads/Department of Transport and Planning – stormwater treatment offset requirements	

Moonee Ponds Creek Implementation Plan

Plan 5 – Out of scope projects



Projects

- OOS1** Travancore Park Creek naturalisation
- OOS2** Mt Alexander Road nature gateway
- OOS3** Debney's Park wetlands
- OOS4** CityLink land bridge
- OOS5** Community canvas



Out of scope projects

Table 5 – Out of scope projects identifies projects out of scope for this plan, generally due to their location being outside the municipal boundary of the Melbourne City Council. The location of these projects is shown on **Plan 5 – Out of scope projects**.

Table 5 – Out of scope projects

OOS1 Travancore Park Creek naturalisation	
Remove the existing concrete channel and re-naturalise the creek by reinstating a chain of ponds featuring native plantings, rockwork and wetlands that create a habitat for threatened species	
Address flood mitigation and connect the naturalised creek with Travancore Park in the City of Moonee Valley	
MPCSOP reference	W2
OOS2 Mt Alexander Road nature gateway	
Increase the capacity of the detention basin at Melbourne's art gateway to help mitigate flooding. Create a natural landscape for the basin to provide amenity in high and low flood conditions	
MPCSOP reference	W3
OOS3 Debney's Park wetlands	
Create physical connections between Flemington Housing Estate and the creek. Mitigate against flooding by investigating the creation of Debney's Water Park	
MPCSOP reference	W4
OOS4 CityLink land bridge	
Explore a new connection that links the communities divided by CityLink, potentially creating a biodiversity connection between Royal Park (on the east side of the motorway) and the creek (on the west side) as proposed in the <i>Chain of Ponds Masterplan</i>	
MPCSOP reference	B1
OOS5 Community canvas	
Use the motorway noise wall as a canvas for art, light installations and cinema screenings. Integrate the wall as a feature of the park and as a backdrop for community and council activities	
MPCSOP reference	H2

7 SECURING ONGOING REVITALISATION OF THE CREEK

The Plan maps out the path forward for the Victorian Government, the council and other key stakeholders, to guide investment and coordinate delivery that supports the long-term transformation of the Moonee Ponds Creek in Melbourne's central city.

In considering options for new governance arrangements, it is essential that any new approaches:

- do not replicate or conflict with existing governance
- avoid conflicts with the obligations of agencies under legislation or regulation (for example, the obligations under the *Transport Integration Act 2010*, or with contracts with commercial entities, such as in the Port of Melbourne area), and
- avoid arrangements that make existing management of open spaces and waterways more complex.

Existing governance arrangements provide a strong foundation for coordinating planning and investment within the Moonee Ponds Creek corridor, creating opportunities to build on established partnerships and decision-making processes.

A collaborative approach to meeting individual organisation's responsibilities can ensure that the vision for the Creek as a thriving place can be achieved, whereby the ecological, cultural and recreational values of the Creek are restored to contribute to Melbourne's liveability and climate resilience.

Ongoing and further consultation regarding Traditional Owner cultural values should be undertaken by stakeholders when considering projects. Continued engagement with Traditional Owners is essential to ensure values are appropriately and respectfully incorporated into the renewal of the Creek.

The urban renewal of Arden and Macaulay clearly and transparently identifies a series of projects that will deliver improved outcomes in the Creek and its surrounds. The West Gate Tunnel Project has delivered improvements to the lower reaches of the Creek between Dynon Road and Footscray Road.

The Plan identifies project leads and champions to coordinate planning, funding, partnerships and implementation activities, helping to ensure projects are progressed in a timely and effective manner.

Melbourne City Council and local community groups including the Chain of Ponds Collaboration will continue to be strong advocates for the revitalisation of the Creek corridor, promoting the delivery of priority projects and encouraging investment and collaboration across government, agencies and the broader community to realise the long-term vision for Moonee Ponds Creek.



Department
of Transport
and Planning