



Nick Ascenzo Reserve

MASTER PLAN 2023

Draft Report March 2023



City of
Whittlesea

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 Overview

Thomastown

Nick Ascenzo Reserve is situated in Thomastown, in the southwest area of the municipality. Thomastown is approximately 15 square kilometres in size, and although it is known as a residential area, it also has a significant industrial area. Thomastown is surrounded by Merri Creek in the west and Darebin Creek in the east. The Metropolitan Ring Road, Hume Freeway, Edgars Road, High Street and Dalton Roads present barriers to safe walking access to open space within the suburb.

The forecast residential population change in Thomastown represents a 10.3 percent increase in the total population with a forecast increase of approximately 2,183 people by 2026. This is distributed throughout the established residential areas with higher levels of concentration of change around the Neighbourhood Renewal areas east and west of High Street.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics census data (ABS) provided information on the demographics, cultural and language diversity of Thomastown. Some of the key information found are as to right:



POPULATION

20,234 residents in 2021

Population density
1,349 persons per square km

+ 8000 more residents **by 2041**

27.5% of population
are **60+ years of age**

27% of population are
less than 25 years of age



CULTURAL DIVERSITY

56.4% were born overseas

71.8% speak a language other
than English at home



WILL BE IMPACTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE

5-10°C hotter above the
non-urban baseline



FAMILIES

42.1% of households are couples
with children

35.4% of households are couples
without children

20.1 are one parent family



OPEN SPACE AND TREES

23 square meters
provision of usable
(unencumbered) **open**
space per resident (2023)

17 square meters projected
provision of **usable open**
space per resident (2041)

Recommended minimum
open space provision is
20-25 sqm per resident

7.02% canopy cover

(Greening Whittlesea City
Forest Strategy 2020-2040)

Figure 1: Thomastown Data (Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics census data (ABS) 2021)

Nick Ascenzo Reserve

Nick Ascenzo Reserve is one of the City of Whittlesea's open space reserves in Thomastown, an established area of the municipality. Nick Ascenzo Reserve is identified as part of Alexander Avenue Shopping Precinct Improvement Project, which will transform the precinct including, revitalisation of the town centre, neighbourhood open space and includes improvements to traffic management in the precinct.

Phase 1 the Alexander Avenue Town Centre Revitalisation program was a 2020/21 Council Action Plan, that aims to improve the functionality, attractiveness, and vibrancy of local and neighbourhood town centres across the City of Whittlesea. Phase Two of the precinct revitalisation is Nick Ascenzo Reserve Master plan development.

The Open Space Strategy 2016 identifies the reserve as one of the most frequently visited open space reserves within walking distance of residents with a peaceful/quiet environment. In terms of the hierarchy and character classification, it is specified as a municipal open space with sporting and service easement as a primary and secondary character.

The Open Space Strategy recommends "Preparation of a Landscape Master plan to guide future upgrades and use of this park for both structured and unstructured sport and recreation use." This review is to consider the car parking facility location (including the play area); improving the connection between the adjoining shopping precinct and the park; and improving visual access into the park through trimming selected vegetation.

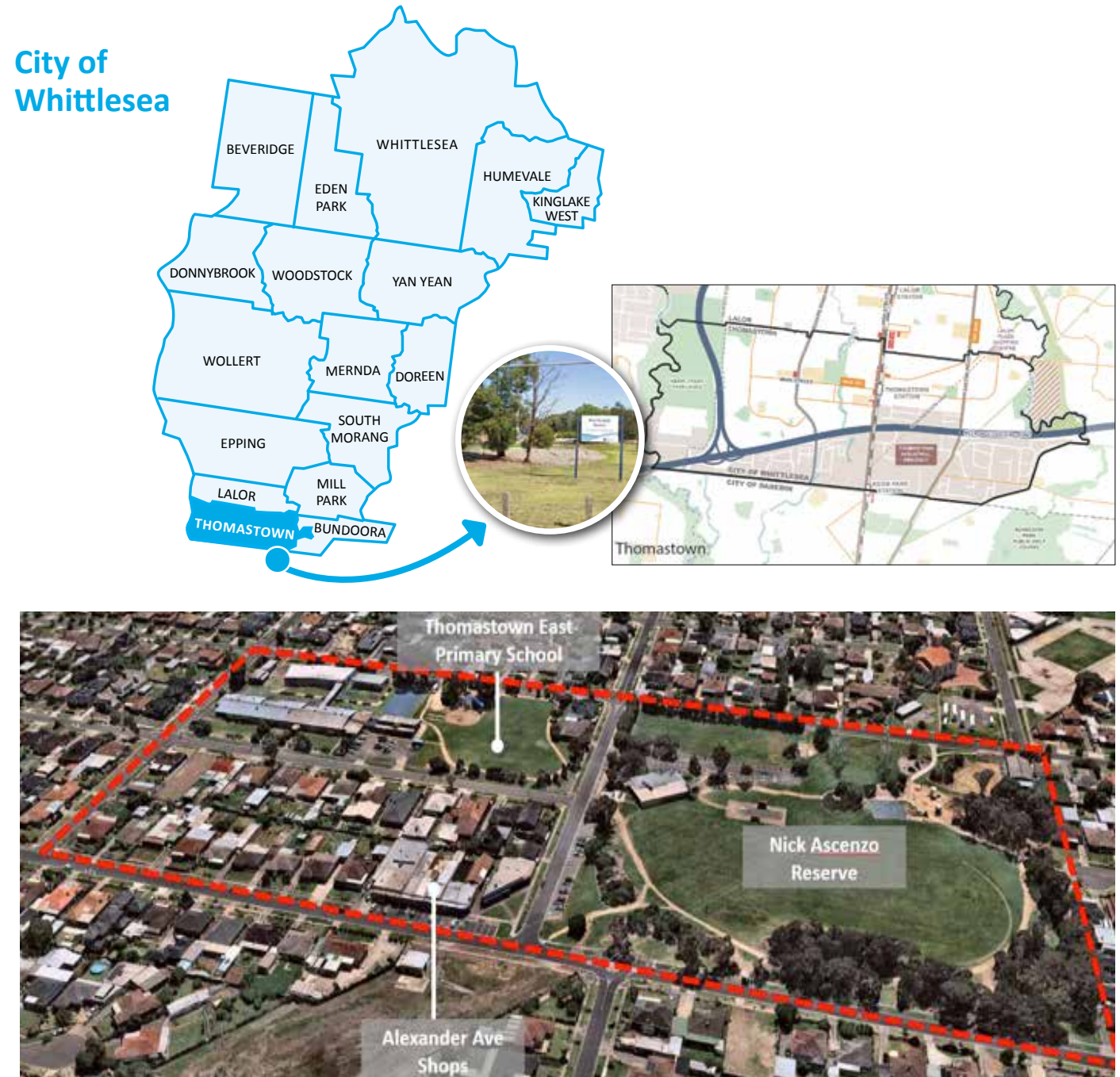


Figure 2. Alexander Avenue Precinct



Figure 3. Context Plan

1.2 Purpose of master plan

The purpose of this master plan is to guide the future development and management of Nick Ascenzo Reserve.

The masterplan endeavours to:

- Create a safe and inclusive, highly accessible reserve that supports and encourages use by people of all ages and abilities;
- Promote environmental sustainability through ecological conservation and improvement, increased tree canopy cover and water-sensitive urban design;
- Improve community safety through a well-considered functional layout as well as adherence to CPTED principles and applying gender-sensitive lens;
- Inform future capital works, as stand-alone projects, or staged with a logically cumulative sequencing;
- Recommend necessary improvements to the reserve to achieve a high-quality landscape setting while protecting and enhancing its existing character.

1.3 Project method

The development of the master plan has involved a comprehensive review of background documents as well as extensive engagement with the community and consultation with key external and internal stakeholders. Informed by consultation and site understanding, key recommendations were developed for the overall site. In preparing this report, background research and reviews of existing documents was initially conducted, as summarised below, as well as an analysis of the study area, to build an understanding of the context. The analysis focussed on the study area's existing conditions, current issues and challenges and opportunities to improve the site.

The background analysis and site understanding were expanded by a visit to the study area. The project process then focussed on the Stakeholder/Community Engagement process, which sought inputs from residents and traders, about Alexander Avenue shopping precinct and Nick Ascenzo Reserve.

The purpose of these engagement activities was to gain greater knowledge about the issues, opportunities and priorities for the shopping precinct and Nick Ascenzo Reserve, to form a more detailed brief for the planning work going forward in the project, and to provide the foundations for developing a vision for the Nick Ascenzo Reserve. The Stakeholder Engagement Findings Report can be found in Appendix 1.

In the next stage, the project process focussed on the development of the concept plan for the site. Following this, a second phase of community engagement will take place to gather feedback on the draft master plan.

The diagram illustrates the steps for the project.



1.5 Planning controls

Nick Ascenzo Reserve is located within a Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ), next to Commercial Zone (C1Z), General Residential Zone – Schedule 5 (GRZ5) and Public Use Zone – Education (PUZ2), as presented in Figure 5.

The electricity transmission line with a 60m easement width runs along the middle of the reserve, dividing the site into two parts physically and visually and limits development around this corridor as seen in Figure 6.

According to the flood modelling, this area is not in a floodplain zone, as per Figure 7.



Figure 5. Planning Zone

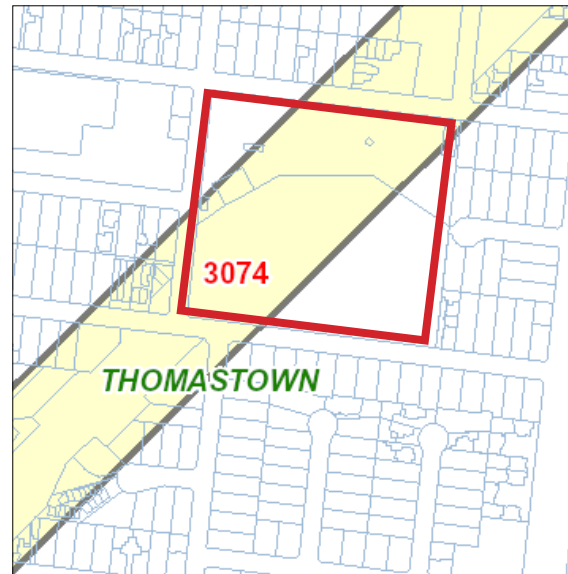


Figure 6. Transmission Easement

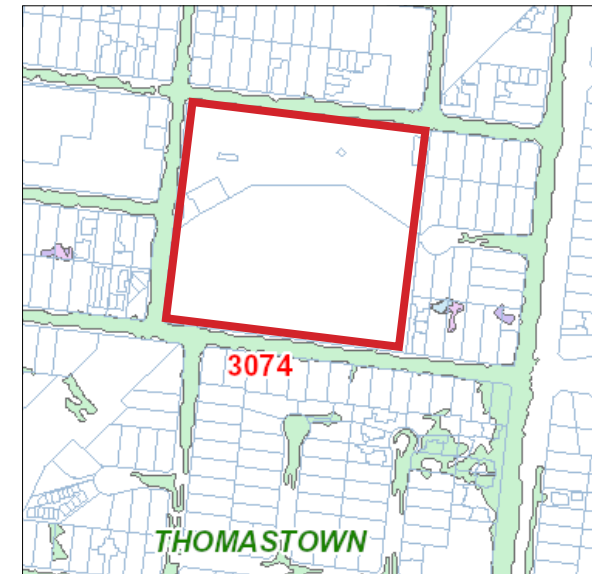


Figure 7. Flood Modelling

2.0 Background documents

Several existing strategic planning documents, policies and strategies have influenced the Nick Ascenzo Master Plan. A review and summary of each including key directions relevant to the park is included in Appendix 1 for further information. The documents reviewed are as follows:

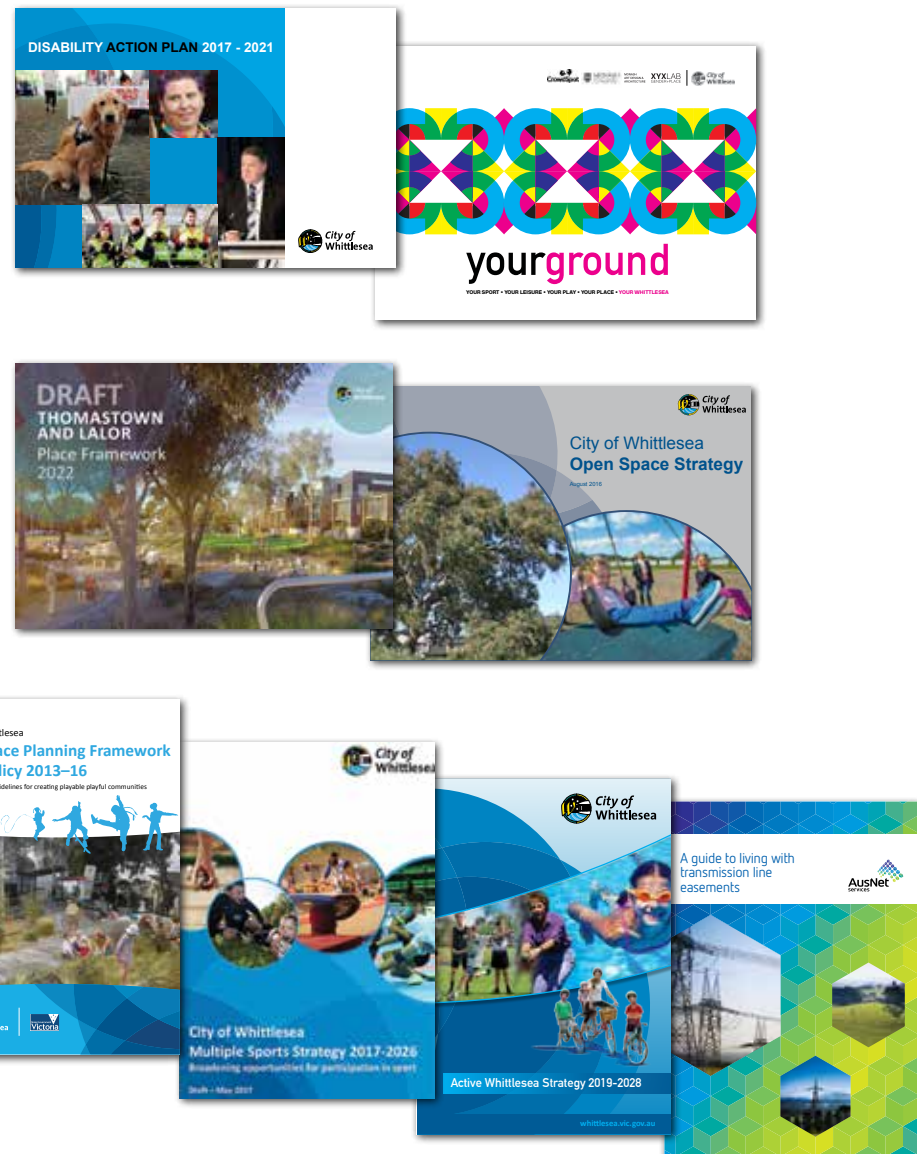
City of Whittlesea

- Whittlesea 2040 – A place for all
- Whittlesea Open Space Strategy 2016
- Active Whittlesea Strategy 2019-2028
- Recreation Strategy 2012-2017
- Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework Draft 2022
- Dog Off-Leash Area Policy and Management Plan 2016–2026
- Walking and Cycling Plan 2022-2027
- Multiple Sports Strategy 2017-2026
- Your Ground Project 2021
- Play space Planning Framework and Policy 2013-16
- Spaces 8 to 12+: Creating Engaging Places for Young People 2013-2018
- Disability Action Plan 2017-2021
- Natural and Built Shade Policy 2016
- Park Lighting Strategy 2006
- Lighting for Shared User paths (SUPs) Guiding Principles, City of Whittlesea - Arup 2022

AusNet

- A guide to living with transmission line easements
- AusNet services, Your guide to planting near electricity lines

Nick Ascenzo Reserve Arborist Report



3.0 Site analysis and assessment

3.1 Existing conditions

The analysis covers findings categorised into the following themes:

-  **Movement and access**
-  **Recreation and park infrastructure**
-  **Environment and landscape**

3.1.1 Movement and access

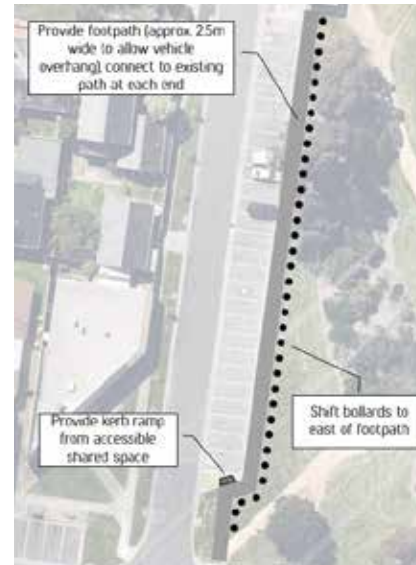
Footpath

The study area has relatively good walking facilities in place, with footpaths provided along Waratah Street and Alexander Avenue. There is an informal footpath on the eastern side of Boronia Street along the reserve which is interrupted by the toilet platform and on-street parking in this street.

There is a combination of formalised and unformalised footpaths in the reserve which provides an oval walking path around the park from the park entrances in the surrounding streets.

A few locations in the study area have been identified to be lacking in pedestrian connection and footpaths. These are along the eastern side of Boronia Street near the car parking area and toward the roundabout intersection with Waratah Street.

Pedestrian and cyclist surveys were conducted by SALT3 in the study area to quantify the movements of active travellers at key locations. SALT3 recommendations for footpaths surrounding the Nick Ascenzo Reserve are as follows:



Proposed footpath along Boronia Street parking spaces



Proposed footpath on the northern section of Boronia Street

It is proposed to provide a footpath along the end of the 90-degree parking spaces for ease of pedestrian movement to and from the reserve and shops from these parking spaces. This footpath should be 2.5m wide to allow for overhang of the parked vehicles. The existing bollards should be shifted eastward adjacent to the footpath. This can connect into the existing paved footpath near the public toilets to the north, and the existing footpath on Alexander Avenue.

A kerb ramp should be provided from the accessible parking shared space to the new footpath to allow access for those with mobility devices.

It is proposed to extend the footpath along Boronia Street and provide a barrier kerb with landscaped nature strip along the eastern side of Boronia Street.

This footpath will connect to the paved area at the car park entrance and community centre and the existing footpath set back within the park slightly.

Furthermore, there is potential to provide a further landscaped nature strip at the frontage of the car park entrance as this area is currently unutilised.

Cycling path

There are no on- or off-road cycling paths within the study area. In the vicinity of the site, Dalton Road and The Boulevard are provided with on-road bike lanes. The residential nature of many of the streets in and around the study area provides a low-speed and volume environment, suitable for sharing between vehicles and cyclists.

It is noted that Alexander Avenue is recognised as a priority corridor for walking and cycling improvements, within Council's Walking and Cycling Plan.

Public transport

The area is well-served by public transport, with bus and train services in the vicinity.

Bus route 559 operates on Alexander Avenue, with a bus stop situated to the south of Nick Ascenzo Reserve. This is a circular bus route throughout Thomastown and provides access to Thomastown Station, Lalor Plaza and Lalor Station. Bus route 570 operates on The Boulevard, with bus stops located near the intersection with Acacia Street. This operates between Thomastown and RMIT Bundoora Campus.

The study area is located in close proximity to Thomastown Railway Station which is situated at the eastern end of Alexander Avenue, approximately 1km (12-minute walk) from the study area. Thomastown Station is on the Mernda train line, between Melbourne CBD and the northern suburbs.

Park entrances

There are seven entrances including two main entrances from the north and southwest corner and five minor entrances. According to undertaken pedestrian count, north, west and car park entrances are identified as mainly used entrances, so these entrances can be more prominent.

The pedestrian count was undertaken at the study area on the following days/times:

- Thursday 30 November 2022 between 8am-10am; and
- Friday 2 December 2022 between 3.30pm-6pm.



Figure 8. Pedestrian count

Car parking

Car parking is provided throughout the study area including on-street and off-street provisions. The locations of parking in the study area is shown in Figure 9.

Parking occupancy surveys were undertaken by SALT3 across the study area at the following days/times:

- Saturday 10 September 2022 between 10am-4pm; and
- Wednesday 14 September 2022 between 8am-9.30am and 3pm-4pm.

From this, the peak hours for parking occupancy are found to be at 9.30am and 3pm on Wednesday, and at 11.30am on Saturday. The parking utilisation across the study area at these times is presented in Figures 10-13.

The total car parking capacity in the precinct is 382 spaces, and according to the parking analysis, it can be concluded that parking is widely available within the precinct with a weekday peak occupancy of 61 spaces (16% occupied) occurring at 3pm, and a weekend peak occupancy of 75 spaces (20% occupied) occurring at 11.30am.

The internal car park capacity is 54 spaces. Peak occupancy of the car spaces is 40% on weekdays and 22% on weekends. This indicates an opportunity to reduce the existing car park spaces.



Figure 9. Car parking in the Alexander Avenue Precinct

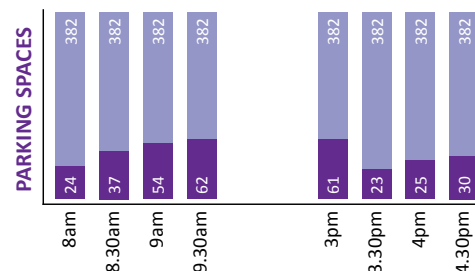


Fig 10. Parking survey results – Wed 14 September 2022



Fig 11. Peak hour parking occupancy – Wed 14 September 2022

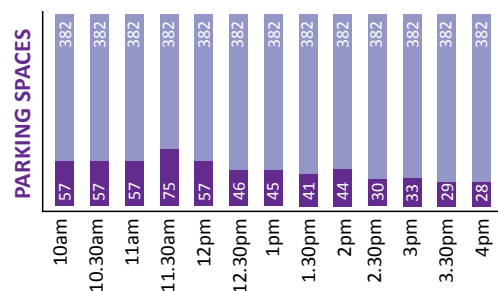


Fig 12. Parking survey results – Sat 10 September 2022



Fig 13. Peak hour parking occupancy – Sat 10 September 2022

Supply Occupancy

Intersections

According to the traffic and pedestrian analysis, it is recommended by SALT3 to develop a footpath on the eastern side of Boronia Street and a raised intersection in the intersection of Boronia and Cedar Streets to reduce vehicle speeds and improve pedestrian safety and connection.

The proposed raised intersection at Boronia and Cedar Streets will assist to slow vehicles and improve pedestrian crossing safety. This treatment results in the removal of one parallel parking space. However, this improves pedestrian sight lines to oncoming traffic when exiting the park, thus is a positive improvement.

It is also recommended to extend the footpath to allow pedestrians to cross Boronia Street from the southern side of Cedar Street.

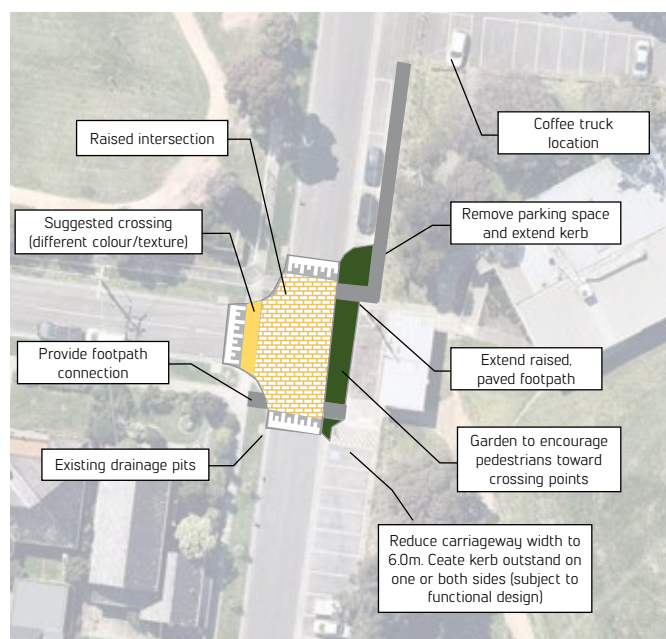


Figure 14. Boronia Street / Cedar Street raised intersection

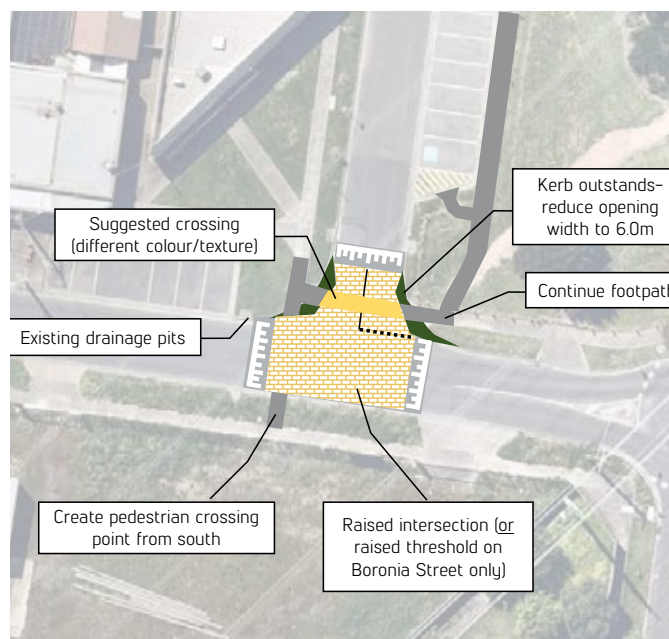


Figure 15. Alexander Avenue / Boronia Street proposed raised intersection



3.1.2 Recreation and park infrastructure

The reserve is comprised of several facilities including playground, rock climbing wall, bocce rink, half basketball court, table tennis, playground, picnic facilities, public toilet, car parking, footy and soccer goals, community hall and scout hall. Some of these facilities are in a dilapidated situation and/or dysfunctional and require a master plan to assess their community need and upgrade.



3.1.3 Environment and landscape

This reserve is generally characterised by open grass area surrounded by garden beds and mature trees offset from the reserve boundaries. The study area is not in a floodplain zone but the lawn area is subject to water logging in winter.

The electricity transmission line with a 60m easement width runs along the middle of the reserve, dividing the site into two parts physically and visually and limits development around this corridor. Figure 17, 18 and 19, provides a summarised analysis of existing conditions.

The following pages provide images of a summarised analysis of existing conditions.



Figure 16. Electricity transmission corridor and towers





Movement and access

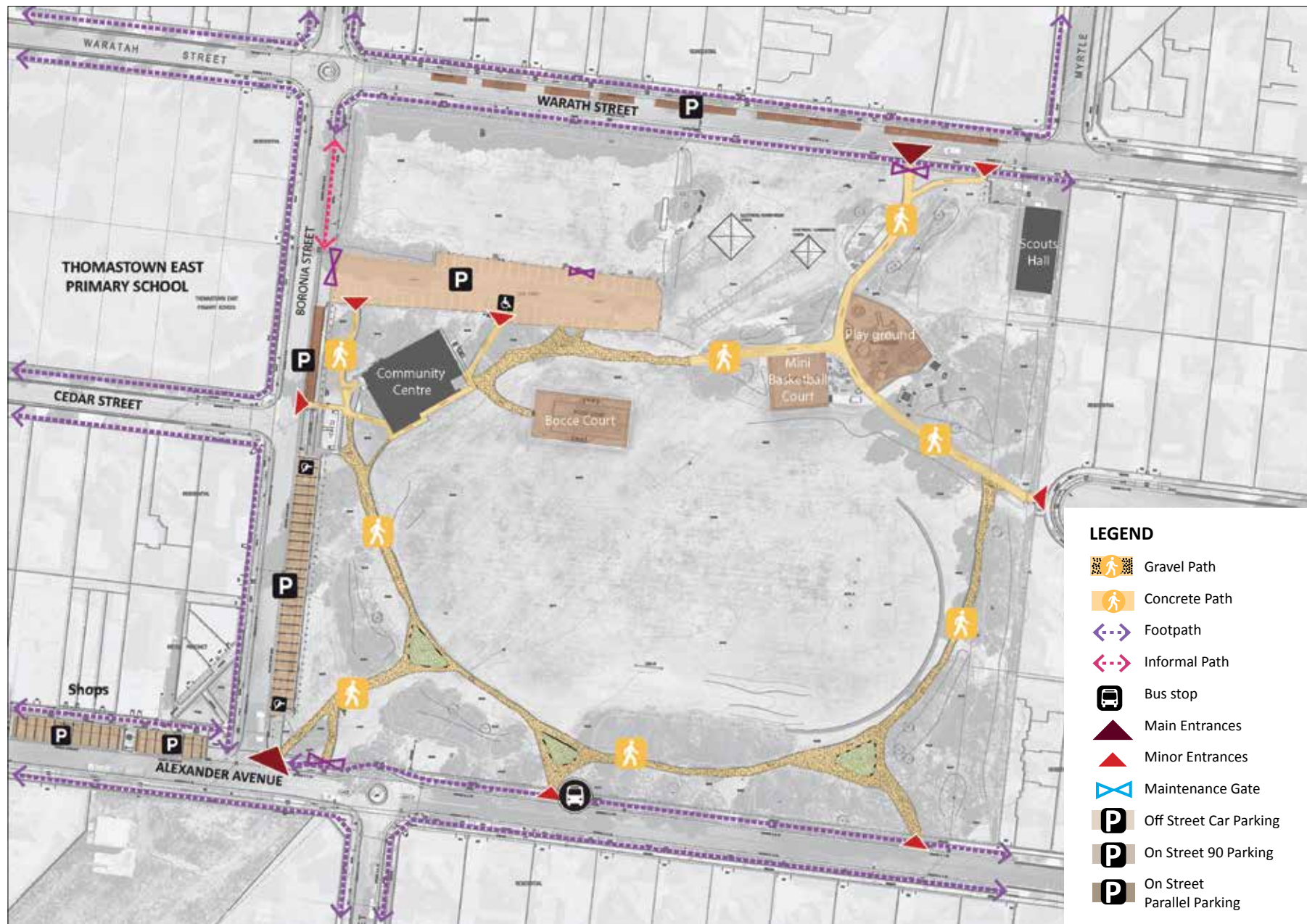


Figure 17



Recreation and park infrastructure

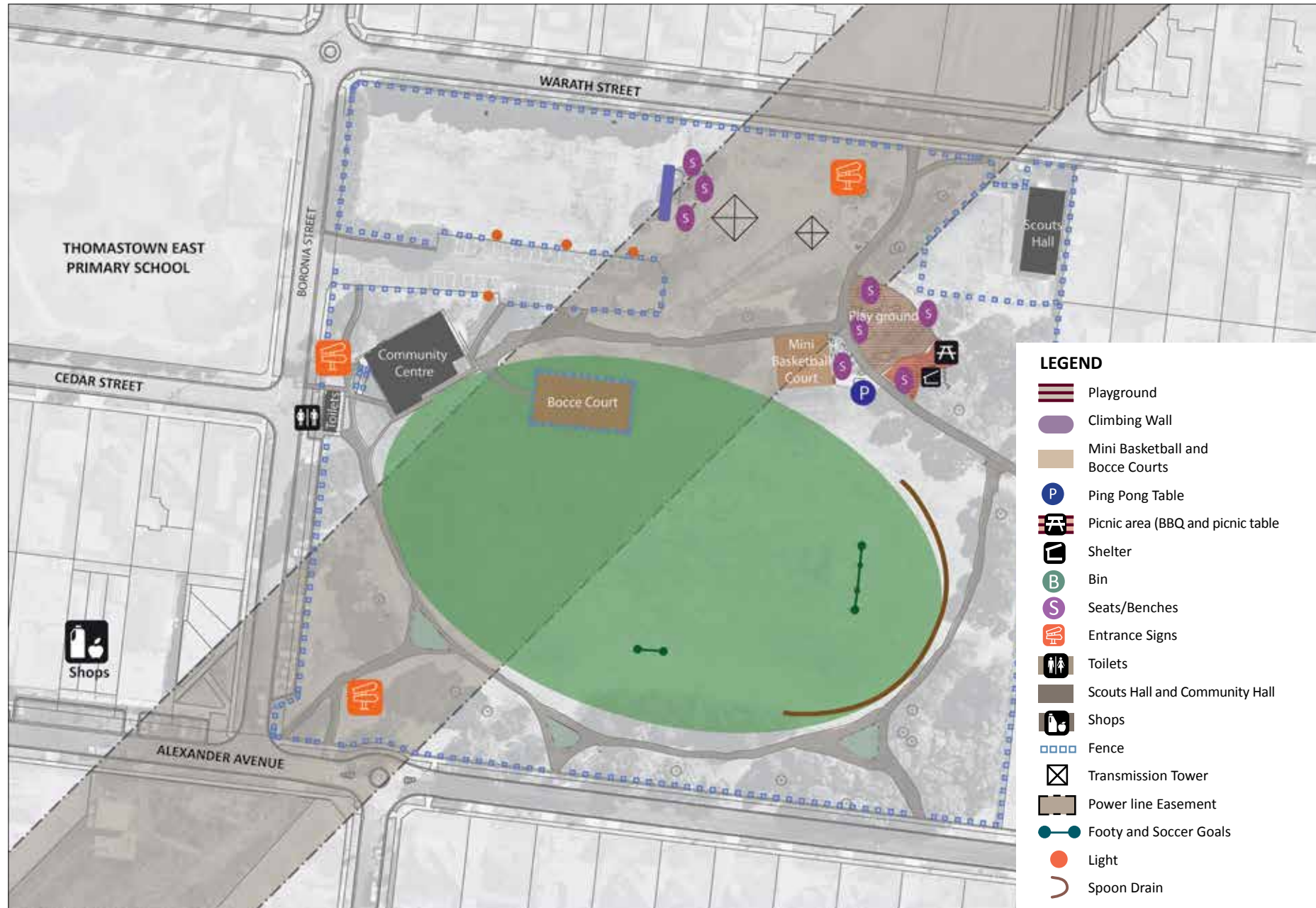


Figure 18



Environment and landscape



Figure 19

3.2 Analysis

Site and desktop analysis, and internal and external consultation work were undertaken to identify key issues and opportunities of the site.



3.2.1 Issues



Movement and access

Paths

- Pathways within the reserve are predominantly compacted gravel around the open grassed area with varying widths. These informal footpaths meet minimum DDA requirements, however, can be increasingly expensive to maintain and do not meet the needs of people with limited mobility
- The paths surrounding the community centre, scouts hall, and toilets are inconsistent in paving and not DDA compliant
- There is an informal footpath along the northern side of Boronia Street and lack of footpath along the southern section
- The concrete footpaths surrounding the reserve are inconsistent and lack line of travel
- The width of the external footpath does not allow parents with prams to pass
- Sense of discomfort due to the lack of buffer distance between community centre and footpath on the south-east side of the community centre
- Lack of pathways throughout the reserve

Car parking

- No current footpath access to the carpark from Boronia Street
- The 54 car spaces within the car park are highly underutilised and with a peak of 40% occupancy at peak time, indicating there is an excessive amount of carpark
- Car tracks and anecdotal evidence indicate motorcycles and cars are entering the oval

Entrance

- No way finding signage within or outside the reserve
- Lack of crossing facilities, particularly between the primary school and the reserve



Issues – Movement and access

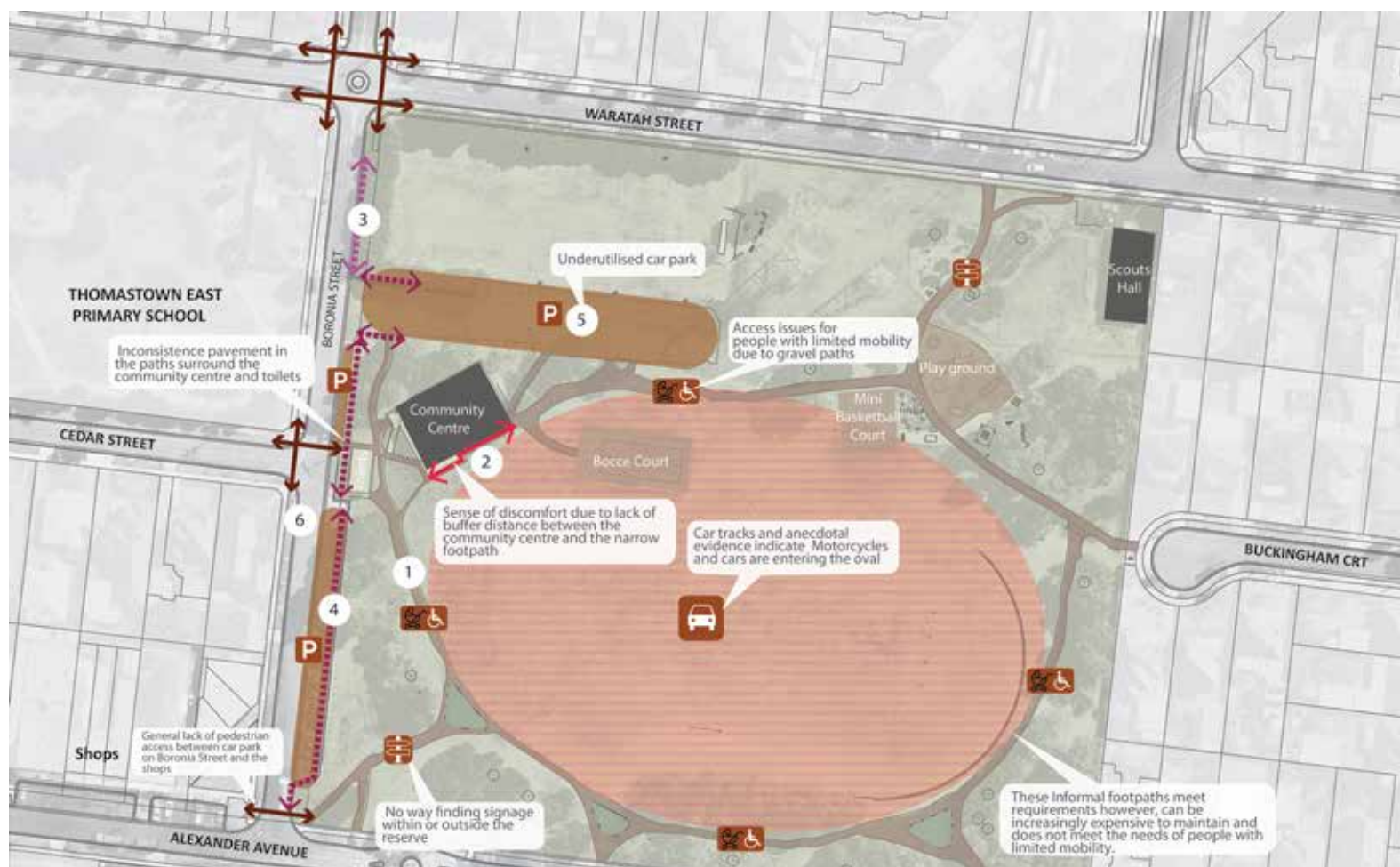


Figure 20

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ① High maintenance cost of gravel paths | ③ Informal footpath along the northern side of Boronia Street | ⑤ Highly underutilised car park spaces with peak of 40% occupancy |
| ② Sense of discomfort due to lack of buffer distance between community centre and footpath | ④ Lack of footpath along the southern section of Boronia Street | ⑥ Lack of crossing facilities along Boronia Street |





Recreation and park infrastructure

Play space

- Lack of suitable activities for older kids/youth e.g., skate parks, exercise equipment and community sports
- Rock-climbing wall is dilapidated and non-compliant with raw screws protruding from the wall and is isolated in the northwest end of the park away from the existing play space which results in underutilisation
- The playground is disconnected from the Community Hall and Primary School

Recreation facilities

- Bocce court is in a dilapidated condition and fenced off from public use. The condition of the Bocce court indicates underutilisation
- Lack of informal and structured shade within the play space
- The footy and soccer oval goals are rusted, outdated and within proximity to powerlines (errant balls)
- The east orientation of the footy goals and proximity to the footpath is not ideal as the direction of sunlight could risk passer by being injured
- Lack of buffer between the pedestrian path and adjacent footy and soccer goals risk pedestrian safety (errant balls)

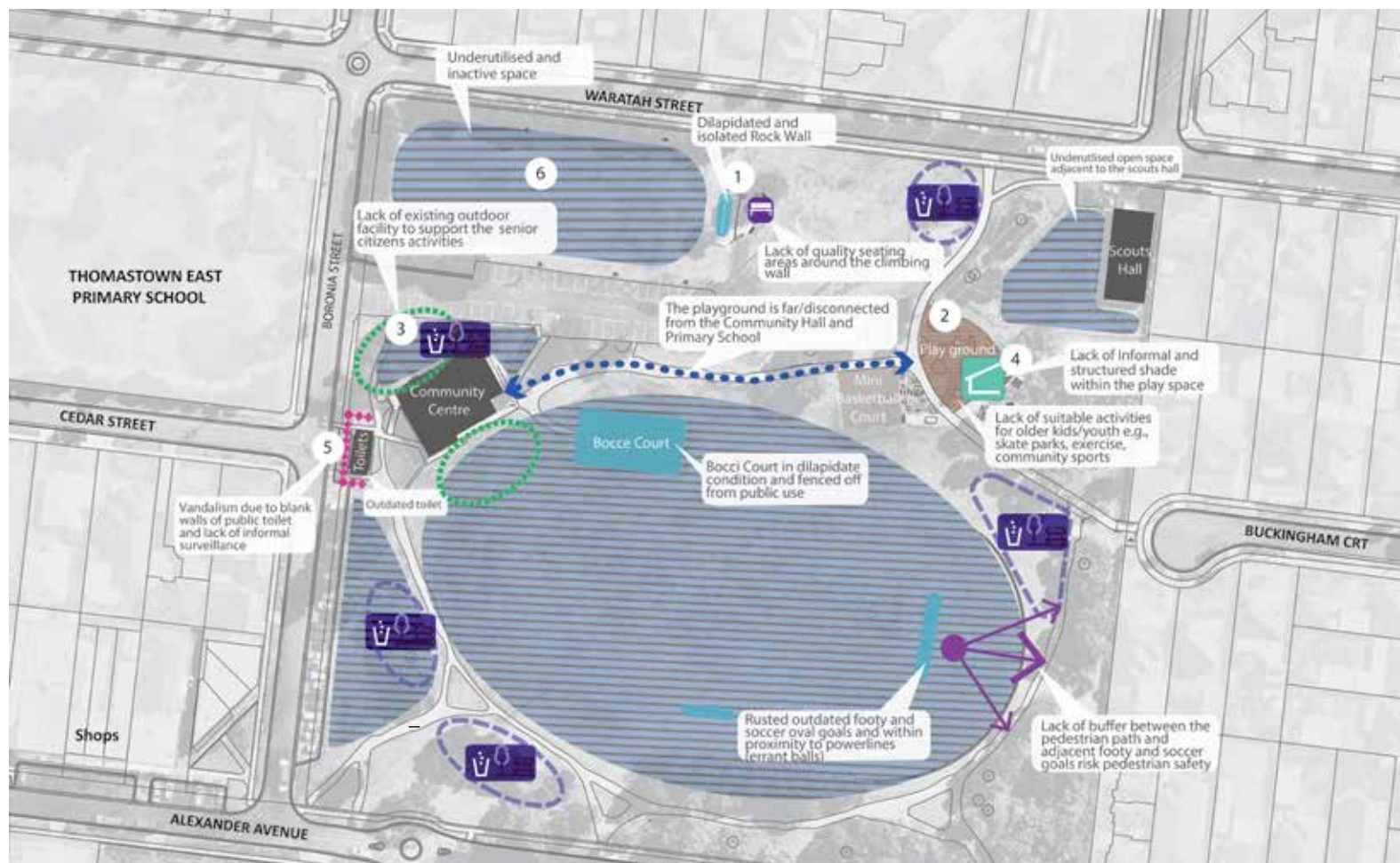
Community facilities

- Lack of quality seating areas around the climbing wall
- The increasing rubbish in the carpark and reserve indicate lack of sufficient rubbish bins
- Lack of drinking fountains and bottle refill stations exist within the reserve
- Lack of existing outdoor facility to support the community centre's senior citizens
- The toilets although in high demand are outdated and require a complete upgrade or replacement to bring up to standards and meet the growing needs of the community
- There is a significant amount of vandalism due to blank walls of public toilet and lack of informal surveillance
- Underutilised and inactive space on the north-west side of the park, south-west near the shops and the sports oval under 60m electricity transmission easement corridor
- Underutilised fenced-off open space adjacent to the scouts hall
- Seats and benches are predominantly located on the north side of the reserve and not equally distributed along paths
- The existing seats and benches are inconsistent in type and most are not DDA compliant





Issues – Recreation and park infrastructure



LEGEND

Disconnected playground

Dilapidated facilities

Lack of quality seating areas



Lack of facilities including bins, drink fountain, benches and bike rack



Underutilised and inactive spaces



Vandalism due to blank walls of public toilet



Lack of shade



Pedestrian safety risk due to lack of buffer



Lack of outdoor supportive activities for the community centre

① Dilapidated rock climbing wall/Lack of quality seating areas

② Lack of suitable activities for older kids/youth eg., skate parks, exercise, community sports

③ Lack of outdoor facility to support the community centre

④ Lack of informal and structured shade within the play space

⑤ Outdated toilets

⑥ Underutilised and inactive space on the north-west side of the park and adjacent to scouts hall

Figure 21





Environment and landscape

Landscape and vegetation

- The landscape is disjointed as a result of the carpark which segregates the two open space landscapes
- The grass area is not maintained and often result in overgrown grass
- The south lawn is dry and patchy which discourages use
- Concealment areas due to shrubs and thick bushes which act as visual barriers
- The location and lack of surveillance from within buildings such Community Hall and Dance School/Scouts Hall to the park create a sense of abandonment and create a sense of feeling unsafe
- The lawn area is subject to water logging in winter

Visual impact and permeability

- The bushes and the raised garden beds especially near the traders limit the line of sight and increase the anti-social behaviour
- Dense understory planting along the reserve creates visual barriers
- The north section of the reserve near the neighbouring property are bare
- Poor perceptions of safety in the area (i.e., lack of lighting at night-time, poor passive surveillance and open views, lack of activities/ things to do near the shops)
- The visual impact of electricity transmission line is unappealing and can deter people from visiting the park
- The visual impact of the Scouts Hall car park and fence is unappealing

Look and feel

- No pathway or entrance lighting exists within the reserve
- The existing solar lighting within the car park and external footpaths do not provide sufficient lighting resulting in the area being perceived as unsafe especially by the female members of the community
- Lack of lighting and the presence of anti-social activity around the public toilet and the car park





Issues – Environment and landscape

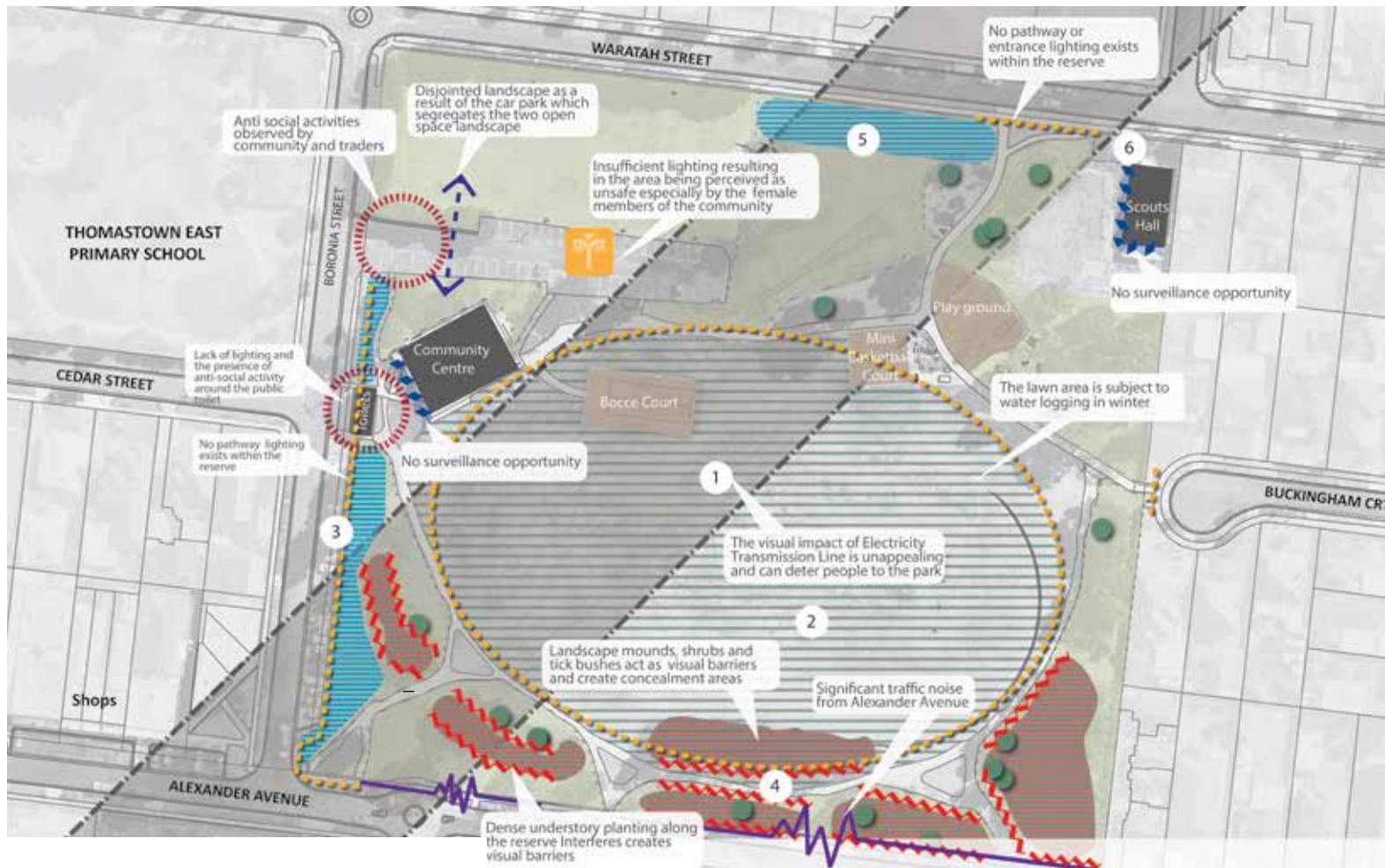


Figure 22

① The visual impact of electricity transmission line

② The lawn area is subject to water logging in winter

③ Lack of lighting and the presence of anti-social activity around the public toilet

④ Dense understory planting along the reserve

⑤ The north section of the reserve near the neighbouring property is bare

⑥ Visual impact of the scouts hall car park and fence



3.2.2 Opportunities



Movement and access

Paths

- Formalising the main existing paths within the reserve to concrete to create consistency within the reserve and minimise maintenance cost
- Footpath widening around the community centre, toilets, scout hall and external surrounding footpath
- Electricity transmission line provides a linear corridor which could be developed as a landscape cycling/ walking path across the reserve
- Increasing pedestrian access into and through the reserve
- Improving consistency of footpath surrounding the reserve (line of travel)
- Investigating alternative paths around community centre and reinforce green and softscape buffer between the community centre and path

Car parking and vehicle access

- Upgrading carparking and return the excess space to open space
- Investigating relocation of the internal carpark
- Investigating increasing bollards surrounding carpark to the reserve to eliminate vehicles from entering the reserve
- Extending existing path from Boronia Street to carpark

Entrances

- Enhancing site entrances from surrounding streets to be more prominent, accessible and welcoming
- Traffic calming initiatives at intersections





Recreation and park infrastructure

Play space

- Providing new rock-climbing wall closer to the play space
- Considering diversity in play comprising nature play elements and increase play space size in future playground upgrade
- Increasing play space size towards community facility to attract greater diversity comprising of more challenging features for older children and teenagers

Sport facilities

- Facilitating bocce court fence removal to allow the general public to access and use
- Increasing informal and structured coverage for wet weather and hot summer days in all children's play areas
- Investigating the opportunity to upgrade the central lawn/oval for community sport (multi-purpose sports field, frisbee, golf, croquet and water play area)
- Informal and passive recreation activities in the park with the appropriate orientations and supporting infrastructure
- The south-east end of the central lawn could benefit from catch nets to prevent balls from the footy goals rolling onto the road.

Other park facilities

- Providing more supportive facilities such as bins, seating areas, drinking fountains, bike racks and shade
- Investigating the opportunity to upgrade the central lawn for community sports or outdoor activities, informal recreation and school programs in the park with the appropriate orientations and supporting infrastructure
- Providing supportive facilities for the community centre by utilising underutilised spaces adjacent to it
- Investigating removal of the fence or taking some of the fenced-off area around Scout Hall, encouraging greater use of facility and supportive activities



Environment and landscape

Landscape and vegetation

- More shade trees around the play spaces
- Reinforcing green and softscape buffers on north side of the reserve
- Additional tree planting

Visual impact and permeability

- Improving visibility to the reserve by thinning out overgrown understory vegetation or replacing with more suitable greenery
- Potential additional buffer planting to soften the visual outlook
- Consider replacing fencing of Scout Hall carpark by Scouts Victoria to improve look of the north entrance
- Reducing the visual impact of the electricity towers

Look and feel

- Considering time sensitive lighting within the reserve to increase use at night and increase passive surveillance. Lighting should be considered around high traffic areas such as: toilets, entrances, and play spaces.
- Investigating floodlight tower to activate the oval
- Additional lighting to illuminate the internal/off-street car park at night on a timer based system
- Providing active frontages to streets
- Improve safety through activating underutilised spaces in the reserve and enhance passive surveillance opportunities
- Establishing wayfinding signage to support pedestrian access and movement across the reserve

4.0 Consultation summary

This section provides a summary of consultation activities undertaken through the *Alexander Avenue shopping precinct revitalisation* and *Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework* projects.

Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework Engagement Summary 2023

As part of developing the *Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework*, a draft plan was presented to the community and through the project engagement, the following five concerns were identified relevant to Nick Ascenzo Reserve:

- Shade, and coverage in children play areas
- Anti-social behaviour and concealment areas
- Car and motorcycle tracks on the sports oval
- Lack of maintenance
- Potential for recreational activities

Alexander Avenue shopping precinct revitalisation Engagement Summary, September 2022 and May 2023

The purpose of the community consultation was to gain an understanding of how the community use the reserve and how they would like to be using the reserve in the future. One phase of consultation was undertaken with the results used to directly inform the key directions of the master plan. Refer to Appendix 1 for the full report.

Methodology

Community consultation on the Nick Ascenzo master plan will be undertaken in two phases:

- Phase 1 – capturing challenges and opportunities of the site as part of the *Revitalisation of Alexander Avenue shopping precinct*, August 2022
- Phase 2 – presentation of the draft master plan, May and June 2023

A range of methods and tools will be used to engage with the community and key stakeholders over the two phases of consultation. These include the following:

- Meeting with key Council internal stakeholders
- Meeting with key external stakeholders
- Onsite interviews with the community
- Direct mail outs
- Surveys
- Onsite pop-up sessions

Key internal stakeholders

Several key stakeholder meetings were held with Council staff from a range of departments and with various subject matter experts.

Key external stakeholders

Meetings were held with representatives from various key external stakeholders including the following:

- Retailers on Alexander Avenue
- Thomastown East Primary School (staff and parents)
- Community Activity Centre users
- Scouts
- Residents
- Potential visitors to the shops
- Alexander Avenue Enhancement Group



Phase 1

Feedback was received from 144 participants including traders in the activity centre, residents of the surrounding neighbourhoods, visitors to the shops and Nick Ascenzo Reserve as well as the students, their parents, and staff members of Thomastown East Primary School.

Overall, the feedback indicated that the area's infrastructure is degrading and in need of repair, paths and carparking areas do not meet current standards of compliance and existing land uses in the precinct could be better connected. Residents and visitors perceive the area as 'unsafe', 'uninviting' and 'dull'.

Community engagement highlighted three main points:

- There are poor perceptions of safety in the area (such as lack of lighting at night-time, poor passive surveillance and open views, lack of activities/things to do near the shops).
- Pedestrian safety and access is a concern of the community and traders; and
- Any improvement would be supported, especially those designed to activate the area (such as outdoor dining or public art).

Based on the feedback received, the priorities for change are as follows:

- General safety
- Pedestrian access and safety
- Greenery
- Parking and traffic movements
- Public art
- High quality design
- More things to do

General access and safety are identified as the top three priorities for change by women.

Recommendations

The issues that were most commonly identified for Nick Ascenzo Reserve are as follows:

General safety

- Lighting issues.
- Larger bushes need trimming/replanting with less foliage.
- Activities or design that prevents people from misusing large empty spaces.
- Toilet block feels unsafe.

Greenery

- Open/clear out bushes in the reserve, trees with low foliage density.
- Create possum boxes or similar on trees.

Lack of activities

- Space for youth centric activities – skateboarding, tennis, cricket, etc.
- Seating and barbecue area.
- Urban agriculture/community gardens (social enterprises may also be interested in urban agriculture area)
- Scouts Hall not very well utilised.
- Bocce court is not utilised for intended use, currently used as informal dog park.

Maintenance and upkeep

- Better pathways.
- Lawn needs to be cleaned/ free of litter, broken glass.

“The paths need to be paved, we walk our dog here and the paths are gross and muddy especially when it rains. It is very deserted and sad looking, could do with fencing and some landscaping for a good dog park.”
– Community member

“Always lots of rubbish, broken glass, the lawn is usually not well looked after.”
– Community member

Alexander Avenue shopping precinct revitalisation Engagement (phase 1)

August 2022



General safety



Pedestrian access and safety



Greenery



Parking and traffic movements



Public art



High quality design



More things to do

Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework, 2022

July 2021 and November – December 2022



Shade, and coverage



Anti social behaviour, concealment areas and safety issues



Lack of maintenance



Potential for recreational activities



Cars and motorcycles are entering the sports oval



Fig 23. Community feedback summary

5.0 Master plan

5.1 Vision and key objectives

The site analysis and consultation work undertaken has resulted in a vision to improve the functional layout of Nick Asceznzo Reserve as a Municipal Park upon the delivery of seven key objectives:

Vision

Nick Ascenzo Reserve is an inclusive and distinctive park that provides a range of active recreation and social opportunities for all people to enjoy whilst enhancing the natural values of the park. It provides an environment that is accessible, well-connected, attractive and sustainably managed.

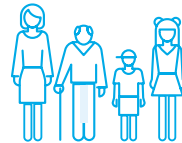
Objectives



Establish a well-maintained reserve



Promote environmental sustainability and landscape character



Invite and inspire people of all ages and abilities



Promote and facilitate social community use and events



Provide well-defined, safe and accessible connections within the park and the Alexander Avenue shops



Upgrade community facilities and opportunities for physical activities



Improve perceptions of safety

5.2 Recommendations and concept plan

Path and entrances



Example of granitic sand path



Example of way finding signage



Example of entrance

Car parking



Example of sustainable car park



Play space



Example of nature play



Example of inclusive play



Example of play space

5.2 Recommendations and concept plan

Recreation and community facilities



Example of active corner



Example of multi-purpose court



Example of senior exercise park

Landscape and vegetation



Example of mounds



Example of garden bed with feature planting

Visual impact and look and feel



Example of shade trees



Example of lighting



Example of park fences

The images illustrated are only examples and the recommendations provided may vary in their actual result.

Nick Ascenzo Reserve concept plan

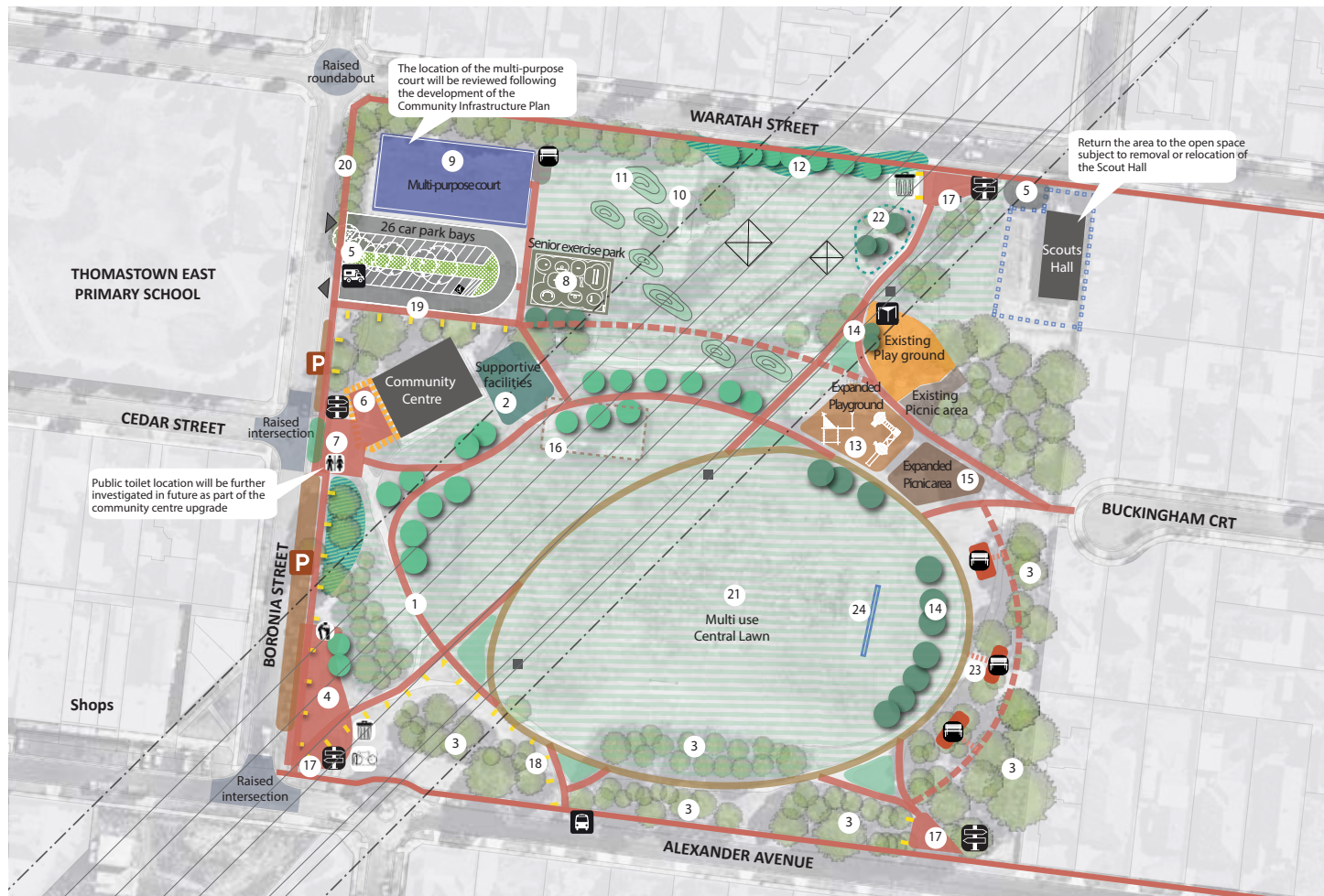


Figure 24

LEGEND

	Granitic sand path		Proposed way finding signage		Electricity tower		Proposed bicycle rack
	Concrete path (main path)		Proposed bins		Electricity pole		Proposed low maintenance garden beds
	Concrete path (secondary path)		Proposed seating area		Existing trees/plants		Proposed lighting
	Bus stop		Proposed drinking fountain		Proposed trees		Toilet
	Coffee truck location		Shelter/shade sails		Proposed trees (low planting)		

- ① Realign and upgrade circuit path with granitic sand for walking and jogging
- ② Proposed supportive facilities for Community Centre
- ③ Remove understory planting and open sightlines
- ④ Proposed supportive facilities for shops including seating area, drinking fountain and small shade trees
- ⑤ Proposed upgraded car park (26 car park bays)
- ⑥ Improve the entrance of Community Centre
- ⑦ Upgrade the toilet
- ⑧ Proposed senior exercise park
- ⑨ Proposed multi-purpose court
- ⑩ Remove the existing dilapidated rock climbing wall and install a new one in the proposed play space
- ⑪ Proposed mounds within 20 metres distance from each tower centre considering AusNet guidelines
- ⑫ Proposed trees (Low native planting)
- ⑬ Proposed playground including range of play spaces (nature-based play)
- ⑭ Increase canopy cover around play space and walking track where possible or develop shade sails
- ⑮ Expand the picnic area to the south-west with a new shelter, picnic seatngs, drinking fountain and bins
- ⑯ Remove bocce court
- ⑰ Entry node with way finding signage
- ⑱ Proposed lighting along the path from the bus stop to the reserve, car park and main entrances
- ⑲ Proposed footpath from Boronia Street to the car park accessing the Community Hall and the proposed senior exercise park
- ⑳ Proposed concrete footpath along Boronia Street
- ㉑ Flexible central lawn for games, events and picnics
- ㉒ Mulch the garden bed and plant small trees
- ㉓ Proposed benches and pathway lawn connections
- ㉔ Remove the existing goals and install one multipurpose goal

6.0 Implementation plan

To be added for the final plan.

7.0 Appendix 1:

Review of relevant plans,policies and strategies

A number of the City of Whittlesea's existing strategic planning documents, policies and strategies have influenced the Nick Asceznzo Reserve Master Plan.

The following section contains summaries of the main background documents reviewed including any key directions relevant to the reserve.

Whittlesea 2040 – A place for all

Whittlesea 2040 – A place for all is a long term vision supporting the municipality to be ready for the challenges and opportunities that the future will bring, and ensures that the City of Whittlesea is a great place to live now and in the future.

Whittlesea 2040 outlines four interconnected goals which have been identified as essential elements to realising the core vision.

The community consultation undertaken for *Whittlesea 2040* included over 4,000 people participating through submissions, workshops and forums. Feedback was received from all ages ranging from three years to 85+. Listed below are the key goals related to the actions and objectives in the master plan:

Goal 1 – Connected community

- A socially cohesive community
- A healthy and safe community
- A participating community

Goal 2 – Liveable neighbourhoods

- Well-designed neighbourhoods and vibrant town centres

Goal 4 – Sustainable environment

- Valued natural landscape and biodiversity
- Climate ready
- Leaders in clean, sustainable living

Active Whittlesea Strategy 2019-2028

The City of Whittlesea's *Active Whittlesea Strategy 2019-2028* is an evidence-based strategy and action plan to guide the planning, provision and promotion of sport, leisure and recreation programs, services and facilities within the City of Whittlesea over the next ten years. *Active Whittlesea* aims to increase the number of residents who are physically active by 10 per cent and includes actions to achieve the overall goal of: *75 per cent of residents participating in one or more hours of physical activity per week by September 2028*. To achieve this goal Council will implement three key directions, consistent with community feedback and grounded in evidence-based practice.

Key Direction 1	Communications and Promotion — increasing the physical literacy and community awareness of inclusive participation opportunities
Key Direction 2	Responsive Programs and Partnerships — programs that respond to local needs and partnerships that share skills, knowledge and resources to generate positive community outcomes
Key Direction 3	Open Space / Infrastructure — ensuring local communities have access to places and spaces that are safe, inclusive, accessible and meet their needs

Priority actions applicable to Nick Ascenzo Reserve include:

- 2.1 Support, promote and facilitate club development opportunities to build capacity of existing and new sports clubs and strengthen participation from under-represented groups
- 3.1 Improve equity, accessibility and safety of community spaces through the development of infrastructure plans and the delivery of inclusively designed new works projects
- 3.4 Connect, improve and expand existing travel networks to create built environments that support active travel, incidental exercise and physical activity

Draft Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework 2023

The *Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework* guide and prioritise Council's future initiatives for Thomastown and Lalor utilising an integrated place-based approach. The framework builds upon the extensive work and community consultation previously undertaken and identifies projects based on this research. It plans for now and the future, whilst providing a framework for continued improvements that will build upon what makes Thomastown and Lalor a special place.

During the community consultation *the Thomastown and Lalor Place Framework* challenges and opportunities in July 2021, the community provided feedback in relation to Nick Ascenzo Reserve. The comments were generally positive and highlighted the park's role in leisure and recreation for the residents of Thomastown despite the concerns around the antisocial behaviour around the public toilets.

Additionally, during the community consultation for *Thomastown and Lalor Draft Place Framework* in November-December 2022, the following feedback was received in relation to Nick Ascenzo Reserve:

- Create more coverage for wet weather and hot summer days. Add in public toilets and ensure the surrounding grass is kept maintained.
- Shade and covers for sun protection and wet weather in all childrens play areas would be great. Removal of tan bark and replacing with pour rubber surfacing.
- Could be really lovely space to use. At the moment motorcycles and cars can get on the oval and drive recklessly. One happened just this afternoon. There was a homeless person sleeping under the childrens playground for over a month with all there personal items left there during the day. No lights or safety outside of the main daylight hours. People regularly leave used needles lying around and broken glass everywhere. There are not enough bins.

- Make this an area enticing to families. Lots of undesirables leave rubbish in the car park and aren't there for positive reasons. Possibly include a dog park and try to make the oval one that can be used for community sport. Make the nearby shops enticing for restaurants and cafes for young people with outdoor seating.
- It'd be great to make use of this open space. Currently very run-down but full of potential to be a place to recreation and community.
- Please fix the park. The garden is ugly.

Open Space Strategy 2016

The *Open Space Strategy* guides the future design and management of public open space in the City of Whittlesea, and provides a framework for the planning and provision of open space across the older established urban and rural areas of the municipality. The strategy includes specific actions for all the existing and proposed open space in the established areas.

The *Open Space Strategy* identified a general gap in open space provision on the eastern side of the railway. Nick Ascenzo Reserve is considered the only significant area of open space north of the Metropolitan Ring Road between High Street and Dalton Road. It is a municipal scale open space with a 500m walkable catchment.

Through the consultation for the strategy, Nick Ascenzo Reserve was one of the more frequently visited spaces mainly for walking and enjoying the peaceful/quiet atmosphere. The community suggested the provision of more flowers and colourful vegetation. Other general comments were to provide additional multiuse spaces, improve ambiance and provide diverse and more challenging playground equipment.

The Open Space Strategy includes recommendations for existing individual open spaces in Thomastown. Action 5.9E-5 which has not been initiated yet pertains to the Nick Ascenzo Reserve specifically as a medium priority action.

Prepare a Landscape Master plan to guide future upgrades and use of this park for both structured and unstructured sport and recreation use. This review is to consider the car parking facility location (including the play area); improving the connection between the adjoining shopping precinct and the park; and improving visual access into the park through trimming selected vegetation.

Walking and Cycling Plan 2022-2027

Alexander Avenue is identified within the City of Whittlesea *Walking and Cycling Plan 2022-2027* as a priority project. It is in the feasibility stage to provide improved walking and cycling facilities between Thomastown Station and Dalton Road.

Your Ground Project 2021

Your Ground is a collaboration between Crowd Spot and Monash University's XYX Lab to crowd-source women and gender-diverse people safety related experiences of public and recreational space. Two comments that were recorded by the community indicated low levels of perceived safety around Alexander Avenue, as follows:

- No lighting at ALL at night. It's fine during the day but at night its pitch black with trees people can hide in.
- Lots of men hanging around the toilet area and cars constantly driving up, approaching the men and then driving off again. Occurs in the car park here also. Most probably drug deals.



Multiple Sports Strategy 2017-2026

The *Multiple Sports Strategy 2017-2026: Broadening opportunities for participation in sport* provides information and direction on how Council can support less traditional or emerging sports to ensure residents have access to a range of sport and recreation opportunities.

The strategy investigates the needs and demands of 34 different sports and makes recommendations on future facility requirements and development opportunities to support the growth of these sports.

The high priority sports have been identified as:	Seven sports have been identified as second tier priority:
Athletics	Hockey
Baseball	Badminton
Calisthenics	Bocce
Dance	Croquet
Softball	Kabaddi
Gymnastics	Volleyball
Martial Art	Table Tennis
Touch Football	
Rugby League	
Rugby Union	

Each sport covered in this strategy has been given a level of priority to help guide Council resources and investment into their future planning and development. Ten sports were given a high priority as these are seen to have the greatest demand at the local level.

In addition to the sports above, 17 sports were identified as requiring no action in the short term. Nick Ascenzo Reserve currently has bocce court and table tennis from the sports listed in the report.

Playspace Planning Framework and Policy 2013-16

The City of Whittlesea's *Playspace Planning Framework and Policy 2013-16* is a comprehensive document aimed at informing Council officers and developers responsible for providing or maintaining play spaces within the municipality with an understanding of the value and principles of play. The policy reflects current research into the importance of play and nature play for children as well as adults and acknowledges that play happens everywhere while providing direction on how to design and provide best practice play environments in delineated municipal play spaces and playgrounds.

As Nick Asceznzo Reserve is identified as a municipal level open space as part of the *Open Space Strategy*, the *Playspace Planning Framework and Policy* defines a Municipal Reserve as a district play space. A district play space is a space that provides a broad range of play opportunities and amenities, which allows for a longer stay, and is often co-located with a sports reserve or a passive recreation reserve with a range of parkland features. A district reserve is likely to have more amenities than smaller parks and provide for a range of play and social opportunities for all ages and abilities.

Other characteristics of a district play space, as described in the *Policy*, are listed below:

- District play spaces should be located within a 15-minute cycle trip - around two kilometres from residents' homes.
- Catchment populations are estimated to be around 8000 persons.
- Embellishment costs for the play space (not including amenities that may be provided for if it was located within a reserve with existing amenities) could range from \$300,000 to \$500,000
- District play spaces provide a range of play and social opportunities for all ages and abilities. Taking into account the disability design features of local and neighbourhood play spaces, district play spaces could provide specialised facilities, for example, a play space designed to cater for children with specific disability such as hearing impairments. It is known that play opportunities and equipment designed for children and young people with a disability provide greater variety, stimulation and play value for all children and young people.



Spaces 8 to 12+: Creating Engaging Places for Young People 2013-2018

The main purpose of the City of Whittlesea's *Spaces 8 to 12+: Creating Engaging Places for Young People* is to encourage public realm design to consider the needs of young people (ages 12-25) and older children in their middle years (ages 8-12). The report argues that they not only have the right to have access to age appropriate, engaging and challenging places but also to be actively involved and consulted regarding their provision.

Changes in the health of young people such as increasing obesity rates, decreased physical activity and increasing mental health concerns as well as decreased independent mobility owing to parental fears has highlighted the need for a shift in governance and the planning and design process to create more child friendly cities and encourage a move back to safer pedestrianised and connected communities. *Spaces 8 to 12+* outlines five principles for designing places and spaces for young people. The views of young people and related research are detailed under each principle and linked to best practice responses and resources. The five principles identified are as follows:

1. **Accessible:** Creating the public realm that is accessible to all young people
2. **Diverse:** Diversity of uses for diverse young people
3. **Inclusive:** Making the public realm socially inclusive and connected for young people
4. **Safe:** The public realm must enable young people to feel safe and to be safe
5. **Engaged:** Young people are experts on things related to young people

Disability Action Plan 2017-2021

The *Disability Action Plan* is a key part of the *City of Whittlesea Disability Strategy* which aims to remove barriers and build opportunities for people with disabilities to participate fully in their local communities. The plan has been informed by widespread consultation and identifies many of the priorities and challenges faced by the individuals, carers and families who live with disability across the community.

The Plan advocates that Council will commit to:

- Removing physical, social and procedural barriers to equity of access;
- Ensuring people with disabilities remain in good health, housing and wellbeing;
- Ensuring people with disabilities have universal rights and treated with respect, equity and dignity; and
- There is an equity of access to education and training to enable employment opportunities and inclusiveness through cultural, sporting and leisure activities.

Given the steepness of the east side of Boronia Street along Nick Ascenzo Reserve, the challenge will be in providing a DDA compliant footpath.

Relevant Actions

4.3.2 Investigate the development of playground communication signage at parks and gardens across the municipality for use by people with autism.

Dog Off-Leash Area Policy and Management Plan 2016-2026

The City of Whittlesea's *Dog Off-Leash Area Policy and Management Plan 2016-2026* provides Council with clear direction for the provision, management and operation of off-leash areas within the municipality. The plan's mission is to provide residents and their dogs with safe and sustainable off-leash opportunities that can be accessed equitably, while considering the needs of all open space users.

There are three types of off-leash areas considered under the *Management Plan*: open unstructured; confined unstructured and confined structured. Nick Ascenzo Reserve isn't identified under the plan as a future off-leash area. The plan didn't identify any existing or future dog off-leash area in the Thomastown area.



Park Lighting Strategy 2006

The City of Whittlesea *Park Lighting Strategy* provides a strategic framework for the inclusion of lighting within public open space areas. The strategy also provides direction for Council in relation to the provision of lighting in existing open space areas, should the need be identified. In this case, the level of implementation will be subject to available Council funding. According to the *Park Lighting Strategy*, Nick Asceznzo Reserve is considered as a local/neighbourhood park, and the strategy recommends that the provision of lighting within Council's neighbourhood parks should not be considered except in isolated cases, where there is a demonstrated need for after hour recreational pursuits such as walking or exercise trails or where a case may exist for the illumination of a path within a neighbourhood park where that path is utilised as a high traffic thoroughfare connecting an area of high night time pedestrian access.

The strategy provides guiding principles for the provision of lighting in public open spaces:

- Provide a strategic framework for the installation of lighting in Council's open space areas.
- Promote, comfortable and safe use of parks.
- Enhance the perception of the City of Whittlesea's parks and open space as a major asset.
- Make a contribution to the legibility of the Council's major open space areas at night.
- Create memorable and individual images of the parks and open space at night.
- Improve the attractiveness of parks and open space for regular night activities and occasional festive events.
- Consider new lighting technologies, environmental initiatives and sensible efficiencies in the running costs associated with these technologies.

Lighting for Shared User Paths (SUPs) Guiding Principles, City of Whittlesea - Arup 2022

Lighting for Shared User Paths presents the culmination of a 10 month project to develop a set of high level guiding principles using an evidence based, co-design approach to improve perceptions of community safety after dark through informing and influencing lighting design outcomes in the City of Whittlesea.

The recommendations in this document reflect high level considerations towards providing gender-inclusive night time amenity across shared user paths in the City of Whittlesea.

The guideline provides site specific design considerations when implementing the guiding principles for lighting to improve perceptions of community safety.

The following should be considered in relation to parks and passive recreational use such as dog-off leash areas:

- How can lighting work to increase visibility and sense of personal safety?
- Are there areas in which lighting can facilitate a better experience of the space, travelling through or long term enjoyment?
- How active will this park be during the later hours? Will the lighting levels vary as the usage of the space declines?

Lighting for Shared User Paths outlines five principles to improve perceptions of community safety with light. These principles reflect in-depth qualitative and quantitative analyses of night time experiences in three representative shared user paths in the City of Whittlesea.

The five principles identified are as follows:

Guiding beacons of light

- Marker, or 'glowing' lights to indicate changes and variations in pathways.
- Highlighted landmarks to help orientate the user in the space and improve wayfinding
- Warmer colour temperatures more welcoming than cold colour temperatures and multi coloured lights

Considered lighting context

- High uniformity of lighting across a site is preferred as it is less dramatic and distracting.
- Implement transitional lighting spaces with a gradual change of brightness.
- Subtle ambient light is preferred over harsh bright light

Brightness journeys

- Implement lighting during reasonable functional hours outside daytime hours
- Efficient solar lighting is a desirable design outcome for implementation
- Lighting of a whole pathway is not required to improve spaces at night

More consistent lighting

- Highlight amenities and material qualities of a space for visual clarity and safety
- Light gaps and dark corners to enable awareness of environment.
- Light up dark spaces to increase feelings of safety

Layers of light

- Implement uplighting and diffused lighting for a more organic glowing quality
- Light to vertical surfaces as a visual aid for people with vision impairment.
- Light at varying levels which covers planting, pathways and approaching figures.

Nick Ascenzo Reserve Arborist Report

To be added for the final plan.

AusNet services, a guide to living with transmission line easements

The guideline specifies restrictions on easement use. In general, restrictions limit the use of easements to mainly ground level activities to prevent hazards that may result from reduced clearances, fire, impact or an explosion from any activity on the easement. The guideline specifies permitted and prohibited uses of transmission line easements. The more relevant uses to Nick Ascenzo Reserve are outlined below.

Permitted uses of transmission line easements:

- Grazing and agriculture.
- Market gardens, orchards and horticultural nurseries, excluding buildings.
- Water storage dams, subject to sufficient clearances from conductors and towers.
- Trees and shrubs with a mature growth height not exceeding three metres.
- Vegetation density is generally restricted to scattered trees or limited area clumps and shelter belts to control the total quantity of burnable materials on the easement.
- A tree clear area of 20 metres radius is generally required at tower sites for line maintenance purposes. Closer trees may be permitted in some locations where the interference caused to access and essential line maintenance is acceptable. However, a greater clearance area is required at future tower sites to provide for construction of new transmission lines.
- Landscaping and paving, subject to sufficient clearances to the conductors and towers if changes to the natural surface levels are proposed.

- Non-metallic fences up to three metres in height. Metallic fences, or fences incorporating metallic materials, must be suitably earthed and sectionalised and are subject to AusNet Services' approval.
- Sewerage, drainage and water pipes constructed of earthenware or plastic materials, but no closer than 20 metres to towers.
- Parking of sedan and utility types of vehicles. Barriers of an approved design may be required to protect towers from damage by vehicles.
- Tennis courts on 500 kV and 330 kV easements subject to certain specific requirements. Please contact AusNet Services for fencing requirements and further information.
- Tennis courts on 220 kV line easements, provided that earthed metal net posts are used. An elevated earthed umpire's chair is also permitted, provided that it is earthed, of all-metal construction, with a metal screen above the seating position. Perimeter fences should also be earthed.
- Ground level sporting activities, such as football, cricket, golf, basketball and netball, subject to special requirements regarding the design of fences, goals and lights.
- Lighting poles, subject to sufficient clearance to the conductors and towers. The power supply must be underground and the lighting poles must lower to the ground for servicing.
- Playground equipment, subject to a 1 metre maximum height limit.
- For 220 kV line easements only – car, boat and trailer sales yards, excluding buildings.

Prohibited uses of transmission line easements:

- Houses, other buildings and structures, including eaves, awnings, canopies, shelters and the like. For 220 kV line easements only, domestic garages (non-habitable), carports and garden sheds may be permitted a limited distance onto the easement subject to a number of requirements being met. These include sufficient safety clearance to towers and overhead conductors; three metre maximum height; construction made largely of non-flammable materials and not attached to a dwelling.
- Erection of scaffolding.
- Swimming pools, both above and below the ground, including filtration equipment.
- Storage of materials in industrial type waste bins and skips.
- Stockpiling of excavated materials.
- Storage or handling of flammable liquids or gases. For 500 kV easements only, the storage or handling of such liquids or gases from bulk delivery vehicles is not permitted within 60 metres of the centreline of the transmission line.
- Fuelling of and repairs to vehicles, plant and equipment.
- Use of vehicles and equipment such as cranes, excavators, elevated working platforms and the like exceeding three metres in operating height.
- Parking of large trucks and caravans (traversing or crossing easements is permitted).
- Loading, unloading and load adjustment of large trucks.
- Operation of large water spray irrigators of the gun type.
- Metal pipes (including reinforced concrete), power cables and other electrically conductive materials within 30 metres of any tower steelwork.
- For 220 kV easements only, this minimum distance reduces to 20 metres.
- Electrical detonation or storage of explosives including fireworks.

AusNet services, Your guide to planting near electricity lines

The guideline specifies several key points regarding planting vegetation on transmission easements, including:

- Choose species that have a maximum maturity height of no more than three metres.
- Trees or shrubs should be scattered or clumped across the easement (an overall vegetative cover for mature trees and shrubs of up to 10 per cent is acceptable).
- Vehicle access along the easement should not be inhibited.
- As maintenance vehicle access is required, only grasses or low growing vegetation should be planted within a distance of 20 metres from each tower centre.
- In special circumstances, such as in gullies or watercourses, these requirements may be varied. Contact AusNet Services for guidance.
- When planting adjacent to, but not on an easement, make sure the vegetation will not impede vehicle access or pose a fire risk if it were to fall onto the easement.
- Low-growing species, with a mature height of no more than three metres, can be planted within seven metres of the line.

- For trees outside the seven metre zone, plant them at such distances so that if they do blow over, they will not fall on the lines. For example, a 10 metre tall tree should be planted at least 13 metre from the lines.
- As you approach mid-span (the mid-point of the line between two poles), gradually increase the distances between the powerline and any tree or shrub by an extra three metres.
- Do not plant vegetation within three metres of powerpoles

Indigenous species have been highlighted in this guideline as appropriate to plant near transmission lines and distribution powerlines. They have been chosen for their low growing height. this guideline provides a table with some suitable indigenous plants indicating the plants' growth habits and botanical zones. The provided species should be considered in the detailed design of Nick Ascenzo Reserve.



8.0 Appendix 2: Community Engagement

To be added after undertaking the engagement phase 2.

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