# action plan

The Action Plan is broken into two sections. The first actions on this page are to implement the baseline measures for this Plan. On the following pages the actions have been generated to realise the strategic directions of this Plan.

This approach will result in an overall understanding of the quality of the open space network and actions that deliver integrated outcomes.

#### **Knox Open Space Plan:**

Owner: Landscape and Open Space Design

#### Year 1, task 1:

Undertake an assessment of Knox's open space network to determine the priorities for investment across the municipality.

Review open space financial allocations in the Long Term Financial Strategy to adjust to priorities as determined by task 1.

Use information collected in Task 1 to determine appropriate service levels for municipal, neighbourhood and local open spaces .

#### Year 1, task 2:

In conjunction with the Capital Works Planning process ensure that priority projects across Council are synergised where possible to achieve improved delivery efficiencies.

#### Measures.

All open spaces are prioritised according to the selection criteria outlined in this Plan.

Increase in number of integrated projects in open space, where multiple teams across Council plan, deliver and manage spaces together.

#### Strategic Direction 1: Create healthy creek corridors that people love

Objective: Partner with Melbourne Water, other stakeholders (including adjacent business and industry) and the community in developing a Plan to rehabilitate creek corridors

| Approach   | Action owner/<br>partners   | Action  | Resources                       | Partners   |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Biodiversity:  Build community appreciation of the importance of biodiversity through education, activities and interpretation focused in the creek corridors and locations that form links to these creek corridors.  Connections:  Provide way-finding signage to encourage use of creek corridors between | Owner: Landscape & Open Space Design team. Partners: Biodiversity, Traffic and Transport and Communications.  | Year 1:  Develop a comprehensive communication strategy that integrates way-finding, destinations, recreation, biodiversity, water and other systems. Determine priority intervention sites and scope projects.  Year 2 -4:  Progressively implement the priority intervention sites on a year by year basis. | \$80,000  As scoped by projects | <ul> <li>Parks Victoria,<br/>Melbourne<br/>Water, Bicycle<br/>Victoria</li> <li>Friends groups</li> <li>Knox<br/>Environment<br/>Society</li> <li>Local schools</li> </ul> |
| destinations (E.g. key streets, facilities, shops, points of interest).  Links to other strategies/  | · ·   | and educational information rridors, creating nodes of intere   | · ·                             |  |
| <ul><li>plans/teams</li><li>Bicycle Plan</li><li>Shared Path Plan</li></ul>  | Outcome: The community will develop appreciation of biodiversity in creek corridor through indirect information and through engagement in community activities such friends groups.                 |   |                                 |  |
| <ul><li>Pedestrian Plan</li><li>Sites of Biological<br/>Significance</li></ul>   | connection to natural a   | health and well being is imposure as and through increased cooplemention of the Pedestrian  | ommunity activitie              | es.  |
| <ul><li>WSUD Plan</li><li>Drainage Strategy</li></ul>  | Outcome: Improved pa  | assive surveillance and increas   | ed perception of s              | safety   |
| <ul> <li>Sustainable Environment<br/>Strategy</li> </ul>   | An integrated way-finding and communication strategy is developed incorporating movement, biodiversity, key destinations, community areas of interest etc., and is delivered along creek corridors. |   |                                 |  |
| Recreation Plan  | More people use creek corridors as recreation, relaxation, journeys and for movement  |   |                                 |  |
|  | An increase of biodiver   | sity (flora and fauna)  |                                 |  |
|  | An increase in community patronage of shared paths and open spaces along creek of An increase in the number of memberships and attendance of friends groups, bird groups and other activities.      |   |                                 |  |
|  | An increased patronag   | e of the shared path and bicyc  | le networks                     |  |
|  | There is a reduction in network   | n the number of gaps in the r   | network the share               | ed path and bicycle  |

| Approach   | Action owner  | Action  | Resources             | Partners  |
|--|---|---|-----------------------|---|
| Consider creek corridors as local, neighbourhood and municipal open spaces that offer a unique setting as linear | Owner: Landscape &<br>Open Space Design<br>team<br>Partner: Operations,<br>Recreation and<br>Community facilities.  | Year 1: Review creek corridor amenity and assess open spaces in relation to the urban design framework and high demand community destinations. Prioritise and scope projects for design intervention, stakeholder groups, community consultation and budget requirements. | Within<br>resources   | <ul> <li>Across Council<br/>teams as<br/>determined by<br/>the nature of<br/>the project</li> </ul> |
| <ul><li>Shared Path Plan</li><li>Pedestrian Plan</li><li>Sites of Biological<br/>Significance</li></ul>          |   |   | As scoped by projects |   |
| <ul><li>Drainage Strategy</li><li>Sustainable Environment<br/>Strategy</li><li>Recreation Plan</li></ul>         | Outputs/Outcomes  Output: Creek corridors are developed as journeys to/through different types of spaces including bushland settings, urban spaces, playgrounds, places for pets, parks and reserves.  Outcome: Improved health and well being of community measures, through increased time in natural spaces, indirect social activity, increased exercise.  Outcome: Increased passive surveillance and increased perception of safety.  Measures  Increased patronage of shared paths and open spaces along creek corridors.  Increased delivery and community planning of different types of spaces along creek corridors, including local, neighbourhood and municipal open spaces.  Increased patronage of shared path users including recreational walking and biking and commuting to work on bike and shared paths.  Increased community led activities in open spaces. |   |                       |   |
|  |   |   |                       |   |

| Approach  | Action owner   | Action   | Resources                  | Partners   |
|---|--|--|----------------------------|--|
| Water: Progressively turn drainage areas into more natural places and integrate them into the inter-connected open space network.  Links to other strategies/ plans/teams | Owner: Drainage team Partners: Landscape & Open Space Design, Biodiversity and Operations teams. | Year 1: Review creek corridors and drainage lines to assess opportunities to daylight water to improve drainage, creek health and community outcomes. Prioritise and scope projects for design intervention, stakeholder groups, community | \$60,000                   | <ul> <li>Melbourne Water</li> <li>Australian Playtpus Conservancy</li> </ul> |
| <ul> <li>Bicycle Plan</li> <li>Shared Path Plan</li> <li>Pedestrian Plan</li> </ul>   |  | consultation and budget requirements.  Year 2-4:  Advocate for Melbourne   | \$35,000/ha<br>x area of   |  |
| <ul><li>Sites of Biological<br/>Significance</li><li>WSUD Plan</li><li>Drainage Strategy</li></ul>  |  | Water and other authorities for funding to implement findings of Year 1 tasks.  Progressively deliver  | drainage<br>catchment size |  |
| Sustainable Environment<br>Strategy  Recreation Plan  |  | integrated outcomes that<br>Council is responsible for<br>including the Revegetation<br>Plan.  |                            |  |
|   | Outputs/Outcomes   | Implement the Water<br>Sensitive Urban Design Plan<br>and Drainage Strategy.   |                            |  |
|   | Output: Rehabilitated c<br>Outcome: Knox's creek   | reek corridors.<br>and biodiversity networks are   | enhanced and in            | creased.   |
|   | Measures  Creeks are progressively   | y returned to natural systems.   |                            |  |
|   | Water quality improves   |  |                            |  |
|   |  | of biodiversity increases.   | mo will increase           |  |
|   |  | ty and quality of habitat syste<br>e their participation in partne   |                            | e the effects of   |

## **Strategic Direction 2: Activate Community Hubs**

 $Objective: Identify community \ hub \ locations \ in \ collaboration \ with \ community \ and \ other \ stakeholders.$ 

| Approach  | Action owner   | Action   | Resources                      | Partners  |  |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------|---|--|
| People: Increase the diversity of open space activities and services available at community hubs to ensure these become lively, | Owner: Community Wellbeing Partners: Recreation and Landscape and Open Space Design  | Year 1:  Develop an action plan to integrate indoor facility based community hubs and leisure based activities with open space community hubs. | Within<br>current<br>resources | <ul> <li>Sports clubs,<br/>friends<br/>groups,<br/>community<br/>facilities,<br/>libraries</li> </ul> |  |
| engaging and well-used places.  Leisure: Use community hubs   |  | Year 2: Implement integrated design processes and delivery at identified community hubs.   | As scoped by projects          |   |  |
| as the location for new group activities, building  |  | Facilitate integrated use of community hubs.   |                                |   |  |
| the role of hubs as active community places.  | Outputs/Outcomes   |  |                                |   |  |
|   | Output: The community engages with a diverse range of activities and knowledge sharing at community hubs.                  |  |                                |   |  |
| Links to other strategies/<br>plans/teams   | Outcome: A local sense of connection to place through activities and knowledge sharing is enhanced through community hubs. |  |                                |   |  |
| <ul> <li>Community Health and<br/>Wellbeing Strategy</li> </ul>   | Output: Guidelines and principles are developed for the inclusion and role of clubs in community hubs.                     |  |                                |   |  |
|   | Outcome: The commun  | ity feels safe in open spaces and a po   | ositive culture a              | round the use of  |  |
| <ul> <li>Strategic Planning</li> <li>Framework</li> </ul>   | open space is increased.   |  |                                |   |  |
| Dlan  | Measures  More open space activities such as farmers markets, busking and friends groups use and exist at community hubs.  |  |                                |   |  |
|   | Community led initiative   | es and community activities increase a   | at community h                 | ubs.  |  |
|   | Increase in the number   | of user groups in community hubs.  |                                |   |  |
|   | Increase in the number   | of people using open spaces and mov  | ring between de                | estinations.  |  |

| Approach   | Action owner  | Action  | Resources  | Partners  |
|--|---|---|--|---|
| Locate formal and informal play spaces at community hubs to increase the diversity of opportunities at these hubs.  Links to other strategies/ plans/teams |   | Year 1:  Create multi-generational environments that are inclusive, interesting and diverse by developing a community masterplan for play spaces within community hubs through a design review and community stakeholder project group that is place based. | Within<br>current<br>resources   | As identified<br>by project<br>stakeholder<br>group |
| <ul><li>Healthy Aging</li><li>Youth Plan</li></ul>   | Outputs/Outcomes  Output: Diverse experiences are integrated with play and other facilities to encourage exploration and interaction for a diverse range of users .   |   |  |   |
| Site of Biological     Significance  | Outcome: All generations feel welcome and included in open spaces.  Measures  Increase in the range of 'play' activities at community hubs.  Increase the range of users of open space who occupy and are engaged in open space at community hubs |   |  |   |
| Approach Culture: Engage local artists in community hubs to develop a cultural presence, express local identity and to enliven spaces with art,            | Strengthening and<br>Landscape and Open<br>Space Design   | Action  Year 1:  Facilitate local arts and the community in scoping their presence and vision for the community hub.  | Resources<br>\$12,000<br>to fund a<br>community<br>engagement<br>partner | • As identified by project stakeholder group        |
| Links to other strategies/   | Outputs/Outcomes Output: Community art based projects are promoted using community hubs as a focus point Outcome: The community develop a local cultural presence throughout the municipality  Measures   |   |  |   |

events and other cultural and art activities.

hubs.

Wellbeing Strategy

More local artists and community members use community hubs as a base for story-telling,

An increase of artist and community events, interpretation of place and activity in community

and Wellbeing

Strategy

#### Strategic Direction 3: Empower the community to be stewards of open spaces

Objective : Develop a community engagement strategy to inform the establishment of an information sharing strategy in open space that focuses on liveability, sustainable living and biodiversity, by building community custodianship of open space, strengthening community ties and general well being.

| Approach   | Action owner  | Action  | Resources  | Partners   |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| People:  Build participatory models of community engagement and apply to open space planning, development and maintenance.  Enable communities to partner with Council in planning, developing and maintaining their local parks and community spaces. | Owner: All teams who plan, develop and maintain open spaces, including Landscape and Open Space Design, Place Management, Recreation, Arts and Culture, Biodiversity, etc.  | Year 1-4: Embed Council community engagement plans into   | To be scoped within the feasibility of all proposed projects and business cases. |  |
| Links to other strategies/plans/teams  • Community Engagement Manual   | Outputs/Outcomes Output: The community have an opportunity to be part of planning, development and management of open space. Outcome: The community develops a stronger sense of connection to place, which promotes price of place, safety and a healthy community.  Measures Increase in number of community initiatives to invest and engage in open space.  Vandalism in open spaces decreases. |   |  |  |
|  |   |   | ngage in open space.   |  |
| Approach   | Vandalism in open spaces decre  |   | ngage in open space.  Resources  | Partners   |
| Approach Culture: Support local artists and community groups working together to connect local people and places and to help build increased use and   | Action owner Owner: Cultural Services Partners: Community Strengthening, Landscape and Open Space Design, Placemakers   | eases.  Action  Year 1:  Ensure that Cultural Services  | Resources As determined by project scope   | Partners  • As identified by project stakeholder group     |
| Culture: Support local artists and community groups working together to connect local people and places and to help  | Action owner Owner: Cultural Services Partners: Community Strengthening, Landscape and Open Space Design, Placemakers   | Action Year 1: Ensure that Cultural Services is a key stakeholder in design ard development of open space projects to initiate new culture projects in open spaces. | Resources  As determined by project scope  ral  filitate active and visual       | As identified by project stakeholder group  al use of open |

Increased cultural activity in open space.

occupy open spaces.

Increased number of partnerships between cultural groups, community groups and artists who

| Approach  | Action owner   | Action   | Resources   | Partners    |
|---|--|--|---|-------------|
| Foster local community initiatives to use and build the productivity of open spaces: for example, community gardens, solar power (etc.)  Links to other strategies/plans/teams  • Economic Development Strategy  • Strategic Framework Plan  • Community Health and Well Being Strategy | Owner: Strategic and<br>Economic Development<br>Partners: Community  | Year 1: Identify opportunities with other land owners where open space lean be connected with private land to improve the amenity of industry and business areas.  Allow small scale economic activities like busking or coffee carts to enliven local spaces.  Year 2: Work with groups identified to scope projects and develop a Plan of action.  Year 3: Facilitate Action Plan delivery | Within current resources  |             |
| Community     Engagement Manual   | Output: Business, industry and Outcome: Open spaces offer a experiences. Outcome: Workers have acces  Measures Increase in permits received a New community destinations | raders operating informally in oper diretail engage with open spaces. It range of experiences to the common stood space, contributing to an and granted for informal and small space shaped through the attraction food stand along a shared path.   | nunity including of enjoyable work of enjoyable work of each business act | experience. |

| Annuach   | Askism suman   | Action  | Рессииса                            | Doubous  |  |  |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| communities in creating play spaces to suit their needs, using and combining public open space, gardens and | Action owner  Owner: Landscape and Open Space Design  Partners: Youth Services, Cultural Services, Healthy Ageing, Recreation, Community Strengthening   | Year 1-4: Engage the community around their local play spaces in order to develop masterplanned outcomes for their open spaces. | Resources Within existing resources | <ul> <li>As identified<br/>by project<br/>stakeholder<br/>group</li> </ul> |  |  |
| backyards, streets and other spaces (e.g. school grounds).  Links to other strategies/plans/teams           |  | Year 2 - 4:<br>Implement masterplans as they are developed.   | As determined by masterplan         |  |  |  |
| <ul><li>Youth Plan</li><li>Transport Plan</li><li>Site of Biological</li><li>Significance</li></ul>         | Outputs/Outcomes  Output: The local community are active participants in planning their local open space.  Outcome: The community has a sense of custodianship, pride and local identity in open space.  Outcome: Greater opportunity for broader community to connect/appreciate to nature. |   |                                     |  |  |  |
|   | Measures  An increase in community involvement in planning open space.  Community use of open space increases and vandalism of open space decreases.   |   |                                     |  |  |  |

#### Strategic Direction 4: Engender a network of sustainable spaces

Objective: Progressively develop open spaces, using the lenses of this Plan to create a sustainable network of spaces across the city.

| Approach   | Action owner   | Action  | Resources   | Partners   |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Water:  Take a holistic approach to Knox's water system and progressively improve its health through infrastructure improvements and innovation.  Links to other strategies/plans/teams  Drainage Plan  Water Sensitive Urban Design Plan  Sites of Biological Significance  Integrated Transport Plan | Owner: Drainage  Partners: Landscape and Open Space Design, Biodiversity and other teams as determined by projects | Year 1 -4:  Integrate and align business plans across Council to deliver cohesive open space outcomes.  Invest in Water Sensitive Urban Design in all open space projects to increase the quality of water entering the creek system and increase recharge of groundwater.  Continue to Work with areas that are greater than 500m from local open space to find appropriate access solutions.  Year 2-4:  Establish a project working group to plan, deliver and manage all projects identified. | Within current resources, and as determined by Business Cases | As identified in project scope, including Melbourne Water, Vic Roads |
|  | Outputs/Outcomes   |   |   |  |
|  | ·  | e Urban Design is progressively in  | •   |  |
|  | Outcome: Increased co  | ommunity awareness of the healt   | h of water syst   | ems.   |
|  | Measures   |   |   |  |
|  | Increased health and c   | uality of water in creek corridors  |   |  |
|  | Increased community participation in Water Sensitive Urban Design treatment increased interpretive information.    |   |   |  |

| Approach   | Action owner  | Action   | Resources                       | Partners                                     |  |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Sustainable: Build flexibility into all open space design so that it can accommodate new sustainable technologies and demonstrate sustainable landscape management practices.  Links to other strategies/plans/teams | Futures Partners: Open Space  | Year 1: Review the Knox Environmentally Sustainable Development Policy to ensure that Knox's open spaces engage with Knox's sustainable infrastructure.  Year 2: Plan and deliver projects that engage with Knox's sustainable infrastructure. | As<br>determined<br>by projects | As     determined     by project     scoping |  |
| Climate Response   | Outputs/Outcomes  |  |                                 |  |  |
| Plan  • Sustainable  | Output: Review the Knox Environmentally Sustainable Development Policy to ensure that Knox's open spaces engage with Knox's sustainable infrastructure. |  |                                 |  |  |
| Environment Strategy   | community.  | nable initiatives foster an awarene  | ess of sustainal                | ole living in the                            |  |
|  | Measures Increase sustainable te  | echnology in open space.   |                                 |  |  |
|  |   | and community response to susta  | ainability focus                | ed educational                               |  |

| Approach  | Action owner  | Action  | Resources                       | Partners  |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Partner with State government authorities such as Melbourne Water and VicRoads to develop an accord designed to ensure land is managed with biodiversity as a key priority. Seek specific |   | Year 1 – 4: In planning and delivery of all projects ensure that indigenous vegetation is included.  Year 1 – 4: Develop an accord with State Government authorities to | Within<br>existing<br>resources | <ul> <li>As         determined         by project         scoping,         incluidng         Melborne         Water,         VicRoads and         Parks Victoria</li> </ul> |
| opportunities to actively<br>build biodiversity across<br>these different public  |   | progressively manage and enhance open space with a biodiversity focus.  |                                 |   |
| land tenures, taking an integrated approach.  | Outputs/Outcomes Output: Appropriate indigenous vegetation is planted in open space |   |                                 |   |

## Links to other strategies plans/teams

• Site of Biological Significance

Outcome: Knox's open spaces are healthier supporting local plants and animals

#### Measures

Increase of biodiversity, habitat and local fauna across the municipality.

| Approach   | Action owner  | Action  | Resources                 | Partners                         |  |
|--|---|---|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
|  | and Economic Development, Community Facilities, Traffic and Transport   | Year 1 – 4: Ensure that an integrated design process is undertaken that looks specifically at site context, opportunities and crosses all management boundaries (e.g. footpaths and road design) to determine the type and variety of design opportunity in open space. | Within existing resources | As     determined by     project |  |
| Links to other<br>strategies/plans/<br>teams         | Outputs/Outcomes  Output: Progressively deliver a variety of open spaces across the city.  Outcome: Improved community health and well being through more inclusive and |   |                           |                                  |  |
| <ul> <li>As determined by project context</li> </ul> | accessible spaces for all generations and abilities.  Measures  |   |                           |                                  |  |
|  | An increase in the diversity of open space types and increased patronage of open spaces.  |   |                           |                                  |  |
|  | Increase in multi-gene same time.   | rations and users co-existing a   | and occupying op          | en spaces at the                 |  |



## references

- American Society of Landscape Architects, Lady Bird
  Johnson Wildflower Centre at the
  University of Texas at Austin, United States
  Botanic Garden, 2009, 'The sustainable
  Sites initiative', The Case for Sustainable
  Landscapes', American Society of Landscape
  Architects, Texas
- Australian Government 2010, 'Our Cities, The challenge of change, Background and research paper, Department of infrastructure and Transport
- Australian Government 2010, 'Our Cities, The challenge of change, Discussion paper, Department of Infrastructure and Transport
- Australian Government, 2010, Wetlands Australia, National Wetlands Update 2010 Issue No. 18, Australian Government
- Australian Government, 2011, Wetlands Australia, National Wetlands Update 2011 - Issue No. 19, Australian Government
- Australian Davos Connection & KPMG, 2010, Australia Report 2010 Risks and Opportunities, Australian Davos Connection
- ADC Forum ed. Roux, A., Prof. Stanley, J.,, 2010, ADC Cities Report, Enhancing Liveability, ADC Forum
- Butler, J. D. & Walbert, D.F. (eds) 1986, Abortion, Medicine and the Law, Facts on File Publications, New York.

- Brundtland Commission, f. t. 1987, Our Common Future,
  Published as Annex to General Assembly
  document A/42/427, World Commission on
  Environment and Development, UN General
  Assembly.
- Green Building Council Australia, 'Green Star Communities National Framework, Green Building Council Australia, Melbourne
- CABE, The Value of Public Space, Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment, London
- City of Booroondara, 2011, Strategic Directions Neighbourhood Activity Centres Paper, Camberwell
- Early Childhood Services, 2009 'Early Childhood Outdoor Learning Environments: Vision and Values, Government of South Australia, Adelaide
- Editorials Various, 2011, 'Minimal reforms, but destructive',
  The Age, retrieved 01/08/2011, theage.com.
  au/national/letters/minimal-reforms-butdestructive
- Kearns, A. (2011). Climate Adaptation Triggers for Transforming Urban Landscapes. Canberra: CSIRO Climate Adaptation Flagship.



- Kearns, A., 2011, 'Building Urban resilience through Green Infrastructure Pathways', CSIRO Ecosystem Sciences, Canberra
- Kellert, Stephen R. 2005, "Nature and Childhood Development." In Building for Life: Designing and Understanding the Human-Nature Connection. Washington, D.C.: Island Press. (Abstract by Charles, 2007)
- Moore, D., 2010, 'Only children can make secret places':
  Children's secret business of place,
  (unpublished) Monash University (thesis for
  Masters of Education, (Early childhood)
- Parks forum, 2008, 'The Value of Parks', Parks Forum, IUCN World commission of Proctected Areas, and The People and Parks Foundation, Fitzroy
- Sipe, J. D. (2008). Unsettling Suburbia: The New Landscape of Oil and Mortgage Vulnerability in Australian Cities. Brisbane: Griffith University.
- VEAC (Victorian Environmental Assessment Council), 2011, Metropolitan Melbourne Investigation Final Report, VEAC, East Melbourne
- Vial, D. 2011, Managing public open space, Local Government Manager, December 2010/ January 2011, pp 26-27

#### Conferences/Seminars

- 2011 February 18th, Sustainable Urbanism: a resilient future, various speakers tbc.
- 2011, August 16th, Open Space Planners Network and Play Australia Local Government network Joint Meeting, Glen Park Community Centre, Bayswater North, Hosted Maroondah City Council

#### **Electronic Media**

- AILA Victoria. (2009, 11 04). 2009 AILA Victoria Project Awards. Retrieved 08 22, 2011, from AILA Victoria - AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS: www.aila.org.au
- Bernecich, A., 2010, Upper Ferntree Gully Green Wedge ire grows, Knox Leader, Retrieved 18/03/2011, from knx-leader.whereilive.com.au/news/ story/upper-ferntree-gully-green-wedgeire-grows
- Carey, A., 2011, 'Want to buy a park? Council plan angers locals', The Age, retrieved 01/08/2011, theage.com.au/victoria/want-to-buy-a-park-council-paln-angers-locals
- CMA, P. P. (2011). Living Links. Retrieved 08 03, 2011, from Living Links: http://www.livinglinks.com.
- Dowling. J. 2011, 'Open spaces to shrink as Melbourne Grows' The Age, retrieved 16/08/2011, theage.com.au/victoria/open-spaces-toshrink-as-Melbourne-grows

- Knox, T. (2011, 08 18). About Transition Knox. Retrieved 08 26, 2011, from Transition Knox Inc: http://transitionknox.wordpress.com/about/
- Melbourne Water, 2011, 'Dandenong Valley Wetland', Retrieved 03/05/2011, Melbournewater. com.au/content/current\_projects/rivers\_ creeks\_and\_wetlands
- Motzenbecker, D., 2011 'An Infusion of Commons Thinking Can Transform the Future Of Our Communities' On the Commons, Retrieved 17/05/2011, onthecommons.org/infustioncommons-thinking-can-transform-futureour-
- Office of Water 2011, 'Living Melbourne, Living Victoria Roadmap' Government Programs, Retrieved 04/05/2011, water.vic.gov.au/programs/ living-victoria2/living-victoria-roadmap
- Queensland Board for Urban Places, 2011, A Charter For Queensland Places, Retrieved 02/02/2011, from Urban Design Forum, udf.org.au/udf-quarterly/udfq-92-december-2010/article/a-charter-for –queensland-places
- The Resilience Alliance. (2002, 10 29). Resilience. Retrieved 08 31, 2011, from Resilience Alliance: http://www.resalliance.org/index.php/resilience
- Walk 21, 2006, 'International Charter For Walking', WALK21 international conference series, October 2006, Retrieved 2011, walk21.com
- VCAT, 2011, 'Stupak v Hobsons Bay CC (Red Dot) [2011]
  VCAT 618 (11 April 2011), Public Open Space
  Contribution, Retrieved 02/05/2011, austlii.
  edu.au/cgi-bin/sinodisp/au/cases/vic/
  VCAT/2011/618
- West, A., 2011, 'Transport study derails thinking on outer suburbs', The Age, 5th January 2011, retrieved 02/02/2011, theage.com.au/victoria/transport-study-derails-thinking-on-outer-suburbs
- Zeitvogel, K. 2011, 50 million 'environmental refugees' by 2020, experts say', Retrieved 18/03/2011, news.smh.com.au/breking-news-world/50-million-environmental-refugees-by-2020

## Knox City Council Plans and Strategies

#### **Healthy, Connected Communities**

- Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Knox Strengthening and Social Equity Plan
- Affordable Housing Plan
- Access and Inclusion Plan
- · Drug and Alcohol Plan
- · Graffiti Management Plan
- Healthy Ageing Strategic Plan 2009-2013
- Off to a Flying Start: Municipal Early Years Plan
- Youth Plan
- Municipal Emergency Management Plan
- Community Engagement Framework

#### **Culturally Rich & Active Communities**

- Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Knox Arts Plan
- Festival and Event Plan
- Knox Performing Arts Centre Plan
- Knox Recreation Plan
- Skate and BMX Plan
- · City of Knox Heritage Study
- Library Plan

#### **Dynamic Services & Facilities**

- Strategic Asset Management Plan
- Building Asset Management Plan
- Footpath and Shared Path Asset Management Plan
- Road Asset Management Plan
- Road Management Plan
- Drainage Asset Management Plan
- Stormwater Drainage Management Plan
- Service and Facility Planning Project

#### **Accessible Transport Choices**

- Knox Bicycle Plan
- Footpath and Shared Path Asset Management Plan
- Integrated Transport Plan
- Road Asset Management Plan
- Road Management Plan
- Access and Inclusion Plan

#### **Sustainable Natural Environment**

- Sustainable Environment Strategy 2008-2018
- Knox Community Fire Safety Plan
- Sites of Biological Significance Plan
- · Water Sensitive Urban Design
- Knox Open Space Plan 2004-2014
- Stormwater Quality Management Plan
- Waste Management Plan
- Greenhouse Action Plan
- · Sustainable Water Use Plan
- KinderGardens for Wildlife Memorandum of Understanding
- Placemakers Community Art Project Evaluation Report, Wicks Wonderland Photography Workshop and Exhibition
- Guy Turner Reserve Background and Context Report

#### **Attractive & Vibrant places**

- City of Knox Heritage Study
- Knox Urban Design Framework 2020
- Municipal Strategic Statement
- Knox Housing Statement
- Streetscape Policy
- Water Sensitive Urban Design
- Bayswater 2020 Bayswater Activity
- Boronia Structure Plan
- Knox Central Urban Design Framework

#### A Prosperous Modern Economy

Economic Development Strategy

#### A Well Governed & Leading Organisation

- Strategic Resource Plan
- Long Term Financial Strategy
- Annual Budget

- Strategic Asset Management Plan
- Information and Communications Technology Strategic Plan 2007-2010
- · Building and Asset Management Plan
- Community Engagement Framework

# Abbreviations & glossary of terms

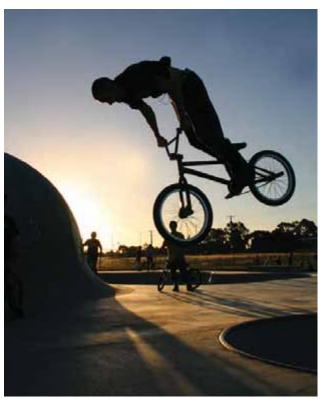
| Description                   | Definition   |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Accessible/accessibility      | Open space that is available to a wide range of mobility                   |
|                               | types.   |
| Active open space             | Open spaces that have structured sporting activity                         |
|                               | occurring within them, for example tennis courts.                          |
| Civic open space              | A space that is owned and managed on behalf of the                         |
|                               | community, such as a city square.  |
| Community hubs                | The term 'community hub' refers to open space areas                        |
|                               | that have many layers of community activity occurring within them.         |
| Community infrastructure      | Elements such as paths, benches, drinking fountains,                       |
|                               | shade that support community use of spaces such as                         |
|                               | shared paths.  |
| CPTED                         | Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design.                             |
| Connectivity                  | Open spaces that are connected to shared paths and                         |
|                               | streets, making them easy to access on foot and by                         |
|                               | vehicle.   |
| Daylighting                   | Removing a piped section of creek and restoring a                          |
|                               | natural above ground creek system.   |
| DDA                           | Disability and Discrimination Act.   |
| Ecosystem services            | Resources and processes that are supplied by natural                       |
|                               | ecosystems such as drinking water and crop pollination.                    |
| Enviro-infrastructural system | A large natural system that serves as an infrastructure                    |
|                               | system such as creeks and rivers.  |
| EVC                           | Ecological Vegetation Class  |
| Gateway                       | A marked entrance or exit on a boundary.                                   |
| Hard onen space               | Defere to hard toytured or constructed metarials such as                   |
| Hard open space               | Refers to hard textured or constructed materials such as paving and walls. |
|                               | paving and wans.   |

| Indigenous                       | Belonging to a certain place or ecosystem   |  |  |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| 'informal recreation facilities' | 2004-2014 Recreation Plan term for passive open space   |  |  |
| Infrastructure role              | A large system that performs a specific function such a drainage.   |  |  |
| MSS                              | Municipal Strategic Statement   |  |  |
| Native                           | Belonging to a region or country.   |  |  |
| Nature/natural                   | An open space that has soft elements including plants and trees and creeks that are in their unbuilt state.   |  |  |
| Node                             | A destination, gathering or pivot point in open spaces.   |  |  |
| Ownership                        | A feeling of custodianship, stewardship or responsibility in open space.  |  |  |
| Open space                       | Land set aside for recreation purposes, for natural systems and for plants and animals.   |  |  |
| Place (relationship to)          | Where people strongly identify with a particular geographical area or location.   |  |  |
| Private open space               | Open spaces owned or managed privately such as backyards.   |  |  |
| Programming space                | Organising activities or events in open space   |  |  |
| Remnant                          | Flora representative of the Ecological Vegetation Class   |  |  |
| SEIFA Index                      | Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas  |  |  |
| Service Plan                     | A Council Plan that details how specific services are to be achieved.   |  |  |
| Social capital                   | Value of social relations and the role of cooperation and confidence to get collective or economic results.   |  |  |
| Social infrastructure            | See 'community infrastructure'.   |  |  |
| Soft open space                  | This refer to materials that are soft in texture including gravels and living elements.   |  |  |
| Undeveloped open space           | Spaces that are not actively managed or maintained.   |  |  |
| Urban Heat Island Effect         | Increases in local temperatures due to an increase of hard and impervious surfaces, especially in urban areas.  |  |  |
| Urban open space                 | Open spaces that are designed in an urban area with a higher ratio of hard materials and community infrastructure. For example a square or promenade. |  |  |
| WSUD                             | Water Sensitive Urban Design  |  |  |





Billy cart racing near a mens shed



BMX at Gilbert Park Skate Bowl

'We have lived in Wantirna for over 20 years and have a Council space behind our back fence. It has been a great space for morning and afternoon dog exercise.

That all changed about 7 years ago when a lady from up the road, brought her dog down to exercise too. From that chance meeting, our "dog" group has extended to regular daily meetings and now includes at least 8 different neighbours and up to 12 dogs.

The social networking that this has provided to this group include a "Pups in the Park" Christmas party, Australia Day cricket and BBQ as well as invitations to 18th, 21st, 60th, 70th, 80th & 90th birthday gatherings and one 60th Wedding Anniversary. What a diverse age range!! So our "special space" has not just given us extra area to walk our dogs, but introduced us to a different lifestyle, involving a wide range of ages and adventures.

Since contacting the Council to see if this area could be improved from a "paddock" to attractive park, we have been delighted to see the recent development and provision of native plants, pathway and some seats and access for our eldest member in his mobile scooter. We are looking forward to our next gathering which will be the planting of the indigenous plants that the Council are providing and no doubt will culminate in some socialising as well.

I'm Shirley Pettitt and I love my community.'

# Vision 2025 & key strategies

Vision 2025 is delivered through three key strategies, Council Plan, the Municipal Strategic Statement and detailed plans for key areas of activity (for example the Knox Open Space Plan (2012-2022). This Appendix provides an introduction to Vision 2025 and its implementation tools for readers of the Knox Open Space Plan (2012-2022) who are not familiar with these documents. A full version of each document is available on the Knox City Council website (www.knox.vic.gov.au).

To help achieve Vision 2025, three key strategies have been developed to guide the City of Knox. These are:

Social: Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy

**Environment: Sustainable Environment Strategy** 

Economy: Economic Development Strategy

Vision 2025 is also reflected in the Council Plan and the Municipal Strategic Statement. Each of these is briefly explained below.

#### Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy

The Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy offers nine guiding principles:

- Healthy living
- · Strong family & community

- Education & lifelong learning
- Work fulfillment
- Economic capacity
- Housing choice
- Culture & leisure
- Mobile & accessible community
- Safe community

#### **Sustainable Environment Strategy**

The Sustainable Environment Strategy presents six key themes that guide Knox towards the goal of:

'to meet the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.' (Brundtland Commission, 1987)

When we consider environmental sustainability, we are considering ways in which we can live a high quality lifestyle both now and in the future without damaging the ecological systems that we rely on to survive while, at the same time, reversing the damage that has already been done.

| Global Drivers for change      | Sustainable Environment<br>Strategy | Community Health and<br>Wellbeing Strategy              | Economic Development Strategy<br>(taken from the Knox Economic<br>Futures Study)   |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Demographic                    | Stronger communities                | Healthy living  | Demographics, including an aging population and a growing and moving population  |
|                                | Healthier communities               | Strong family and community                             |  |
|                                | New social values                   | Work fulfilment   |  |
|                                | Social equity                       |   |  |
|                                | Community and council               | Safe community  |  |
| Urbanisation                   | Public transport                    | Housing choice  | Urbanisation   |
|                                | Walking and cycling                 | Mobile and accessible community                         |  |
|                                | Housing                             |   |  |
|                                | 3                                   |   |  |
| Knowledge /<br>technology base | Community awareness                 | Education and lifelong<br>learning<br>Economic Capacity | On-going shift from a production and processing based economy to an experimental/knowledge based                                 |
|                                |                                     | есопотпіс сарасіту                                      | economy  |
|                                |                                     |   | Integrated regional economy  |
|                                |                                     |   | Entrepreneurialism   |
| Climate change                 | Plants and animals                  | Leisure and culture opportunities                       | Environmental concerns, including, green aspirations and climate change and carbon trading issues embedded into economic systems |
|                                | Connected to nature                 |   |  |
| Water                          | Water                               |   |  |
| Energy                         | Energy                              |   |  |
| Waste                          | Waste                               |   |  |

Table showing the key drivers defined in Knox Council's strategies

#### **Economic Development Strategy**

The Economic Development Strategy looks at eight key elements to move Knox towards a prosperous modern economy:

- · A global economy
- Leading edge, environmentally sustainable industry and technology
- · Contemporary business opportunities
- Support for entrepreneurship
- Activity centres with a unique and valued identity and image
- Business precincts that are recognised nationally
- · Employment opportunities for all
- · Retail and industrial business attraction

These principles are embedded in the Municipal Strategic Statement (see below).

#### **Municipal Strategic Statement**

The Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) is one of Council's key strategic documents, and is an integral part of the Knox Planning Scheme. It provides the overarching strategic directions for land use and development in the City of Knox.

#### Relationship to Council Plan

Knox's Council Plan is developed every four years collaboratively between the elected Councillors and the organisation. Council Plan details the key four-year priorities that Council will pursue to achieve specific objectives under each of the key themes.

The Council Plan is reviewed on an annual basis and its achievements are reported to the community in Knox's Annual Report.

#### Responding to global drivers of change

The table below summarises seven global drivers and the responses in each of the three key strategies: Community Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the Sustainable Environment Strategy and the Economic Development Strategy.

"Ecosystem resilience is the capacity of an ecosystem to tolerate disturbance without collapsing into a qualitatively different state that is controlled by a different set of processes. A resilient ecosystem can withstand shocks and rebuild itself when necessary.

Resilience in social systems has the added capacity of humans to anticipate and plan for the future. Humans are part of the natural world. We depend on ecological systems for our survival and we continuously impact the ecosystems in which we live from the local to global scale.

The Resilience Alliance, 2002

|              | Related Plans and teams/   |  | Provides guida | ance on:          |              |
|--------------|--|--|----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Lenses       | Owners   | Other stakeholders                                       | Maintenance    | Service<br>levels | Priorities   |
| All          | Municipal Strategic     Statement  |  |                | 100010            |              |
|              | Open Space Asset     Management Plan   |  | ✓              | ✓                 | ✓            |
|              | <ul> <li>Local laws</li> </ul>   |  |                |                   |              |
| Biodiversity | Sites of Biological     Significance   | <ul><li>Melbourne Water</li><li>Parks Victoria</li></ul> | <b>√</b>       | $\checkmark$      | ✓            |
| Connections  |  |  |                | $\checkmark$      | $\checkmark$ |
| Culture      | Proposed Arts and Culture/Public Arts Plan   |  |                |                   | ✓            |
|              | Heritage Policy     Structure Plane  |  |                |                   |              |
| Economy      | Structure Plans,     Planning Overlays, Place     Management Plans and     Strategies, Economic     Development Plan |  |                | ✓                 | ✓            |
| _eisure      | Recreation Plan  |  |                |                   |              |
|              | Sporting reserves & Facility     Development Guidelines  |  | $\checkmark$   | $\checkmark$      | ✓            |
| People       | Social Policy and Planning   |  |                |                   |              |
|              | Community Engagement     Policy  |  |                | ✓                 | <b>✓</b>     |
|              | Community Strengthening  |  |                |                   |              |
| Play         | Early Years Plan,  |  |                |                   |              |
|              | Play Space Strategy  |  |                |                   | ✓            |
|              | Young people Plan  |  |                |                   | •            |
| Sustainable  | Healthy Ageing   |  |                |                   |              |
|              | Sustainable Environment     Strategy   |  |                | ✓                 | ✓            |
|              | WSUD and Stormwater     Management Strategy  | Melbourne Water  | <b>√</b>       |                   | <b>√</b>     |
|              | Drainage Strategy  |  |                |                   |              |

# Knox's open spacesa spatial framework for Knox

Knox's open spaces are a vital asset for the community. Open space provides habitat, links people to places, creates spaces for meeting, places to feel healthy and exercise. Open spaces are drainage corridors, shared trails, opportunities for coffee, art and recreation. Open space includes urban plazas and squares.

Put simply, the sum of the parts is greater than the whole.

Moving from the community's aspirations expressed in Vision 2025 to the actual creation, management and maintenance of an area of open space is a complex task, requiring careful planning and the involvement of many parts of the whole Knox City Council organisation. The key

strategies in Vision 2025 help determine where actions and investment should be considered.

Aspects of open space embodied in these strategies include:

Environment: including water: topography, rivers, creeks, drains, pits and pipes; habitat and biodiversity: a network of trees, rivers, creeks, vegetation, farms and backyards.

Social: including a network of various types of places including squares and plazas, open grassy places, play spaces, lakes, gardens, trails, corridors and the bush.

Economy: including shops, commercial and industrial areas, business parks and residential areas and sustainable infrastructure like solar panels, cogeneration plants, water and waste treatment.

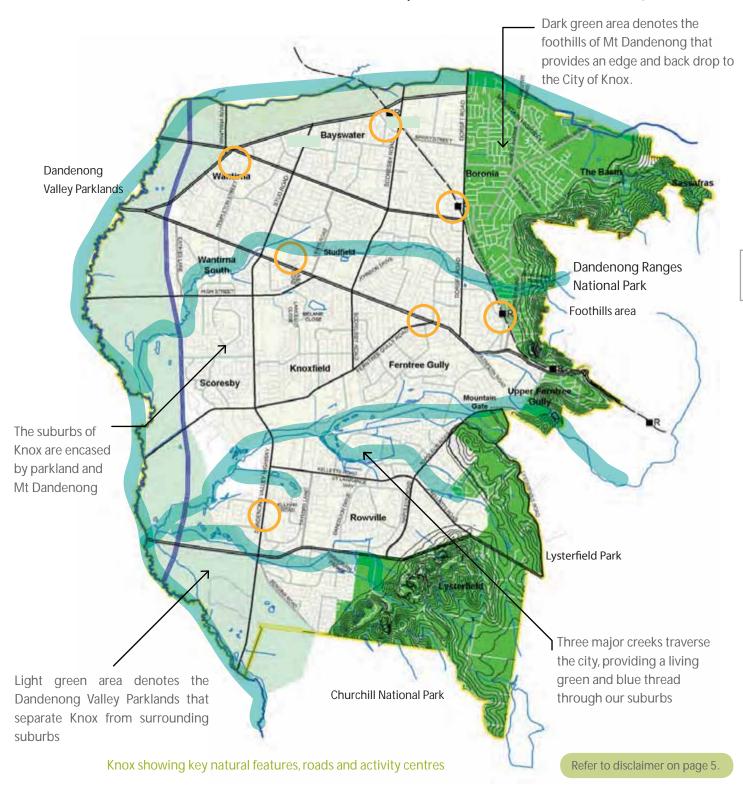
#### Knox's open space framework

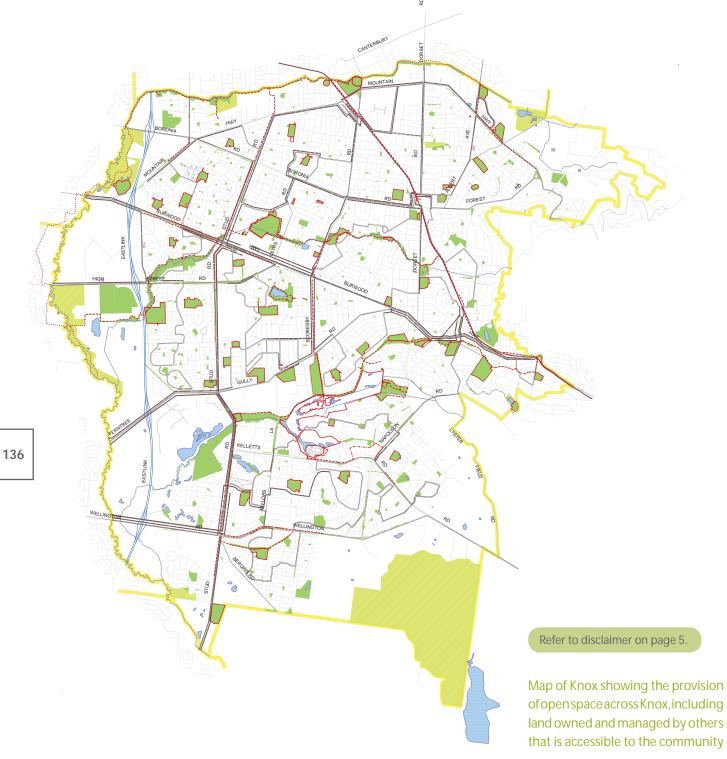
#### Knox's physical setting

The spatial form of Knox is created by a combination of natural features, land uses and activities, the road network and activity centres.

#### 'People make places, places make people' Gruenewald (2003)

"Open Space needs to allow for many functions, drainage, water treatment, local energy production, food production, passive and active recreation, community gathering, play, protection of biodiversity, etc. Open space needs to be designed in such a way that it can accommodate many functions." Environment Advisory Committee





#### Community perspectives on open space

The community tell us that open space is a vital part of their way of living. It is to be protected, enhanced and cared for. The green and leafy image has been highlighted in a number of strategic documents including the Corporate Plan and the Municipal Strategic Statement (2009). These perspectives are confirmed by the 2012 Community consultation on this Plan.

Municipal boundaries Railways Shared paths Bus routes Creek corridor flood zones Knox open space Parks Vic (accessible) Active open space



Creek corridors, drainage lines and habitat links are examples of environmental systems that extend across the whole of the city and need to be managed as part of our open space network. Our roofs, gutters, trees and gardens also feed into these wider environmental systems.

It is important for environmental systems to be planned and managed holistically, recognising that the environment is indivisible and extends across the whole city and beyond Knox's municipal edges.

#### Map showing Knox's environmental systems including water and biodiversity

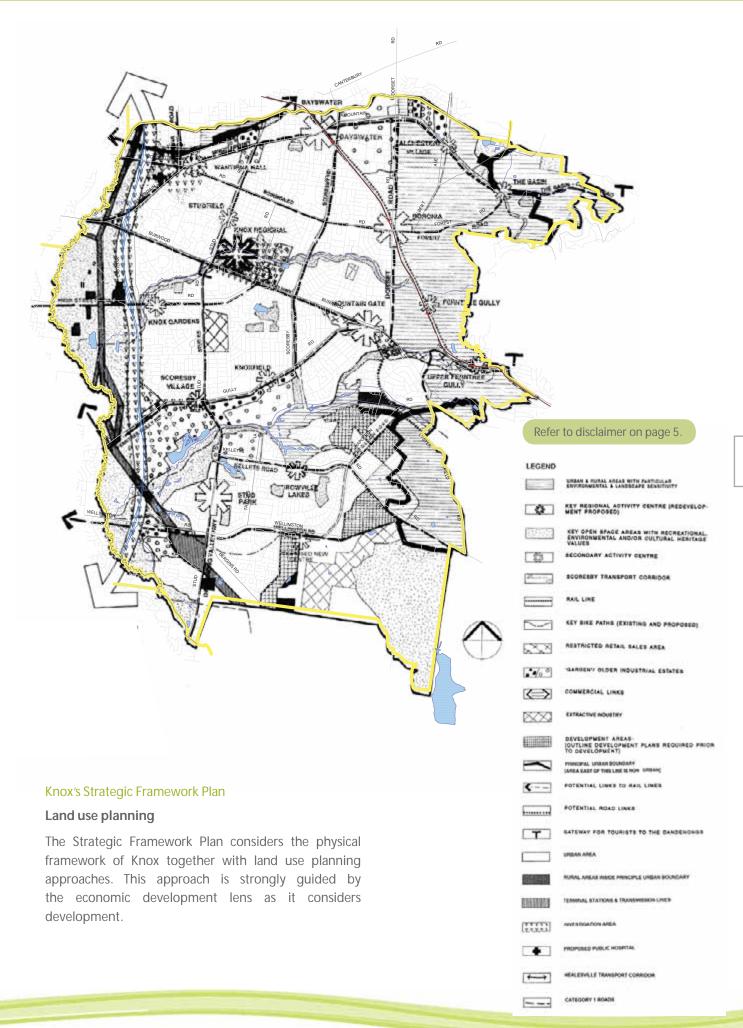
Creek, rivers, retarding basins, floodways and drainage systems

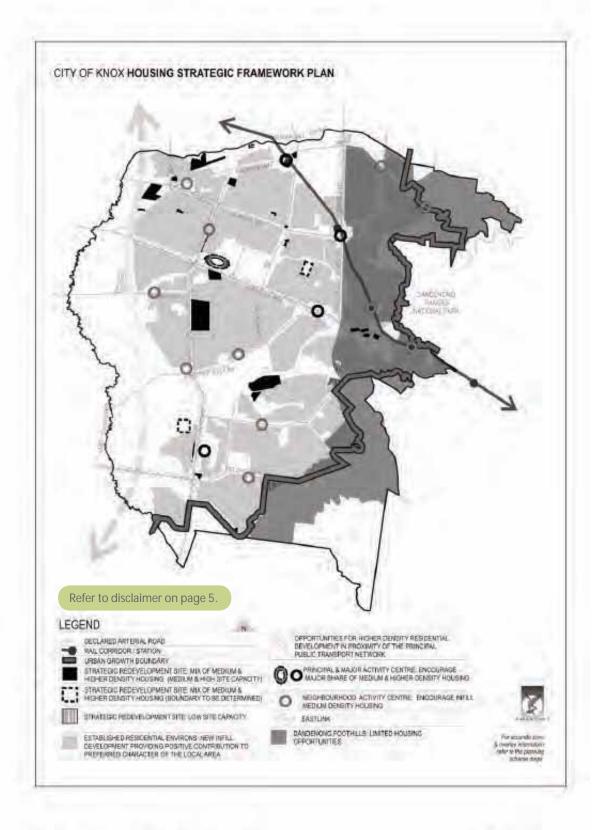
Different sites of biological significance, creek corridors and vegetation protection zones

Gardens for Wildlife

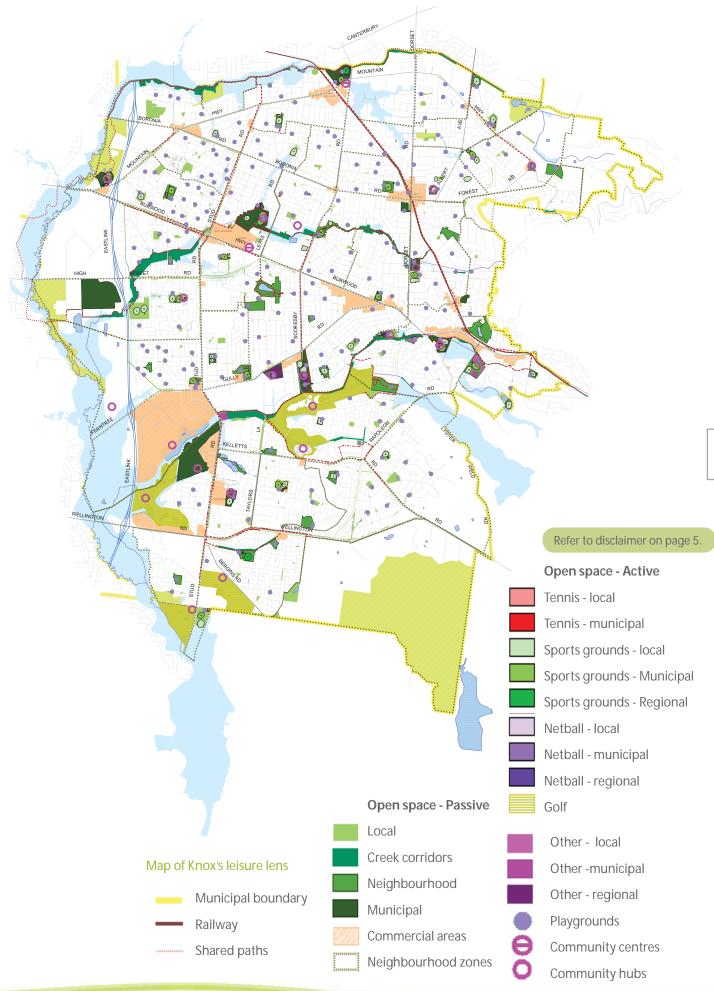
Friends Groups

RD











## case studies

The case studies in this section illustrate an approach or outcome of each lens.



Murrindal butterfly oasis, Murrindal Preschool, Rowville

#### case study - biodiversity

The KinderGardens for Wildlife program is an excellent example of partnerships between Council and other land managers. This partnership promotes extending the biodiversity network across privately managed spaces, for the benefit of Knox's plants and animals. The KinderGardens for Wildlife (KG4W) is an innovative program supported by Knox City Council and the Knox Environment Society as an extension of the residential Gardens for Wildlife program.

This program harnesses the willingness of early years services to contribute to and work towards the enhancement of habitat for local wildlife.

The program provides professional and children's resources, together with customised consultancy to Knox Early Childhood services to further assist them to become more sustainable by increasing indigenous flora and fauna in their local environment.

Benefits of the program include:

- The reconnection of children with the natural world;
- Increasing the biodiversity network across the muncipality;
- Children, families and staff are empowered to work on environmental problems within their local community;
- Inclusion of education for sustainability as part of everyday practice within the philosophy and curriculum of the service;
- Promotion of respect and care for our environment with children and families:
- Opportunities for children to experience natural play spaces; and
- Encouraging the development of children's sense of place and responsibility within the local environment.



Merri Creek Trail, wayfinding signage. Photograph by Aspect Studios

#### case study - connections

Client: Moreland City Council and Darebin City Council

"The collaboration between both Councils is a feature of this project. The project illustrates the important role local government plays in addressing broad open space issues through site specific outcomes. The result is an enhanced open space experience for users of the park network. One that sees a holistic approach to outcomes that extends beyond the limitations of municipal boundaries". Australian Institute Landscape Architecture Victoria Judging comments

Merri Creek Trail traverses a 27km path along Merri Creek from Mahoneys Road on the outskirts of Melbourne, to its confluence with the Yarra River at Dight's Falls. The Merri Creek Trail provides a key

north-south link passing through the cities of Moreland and Darebin.

The signage strategy offers coherence and clarity along the trail's length by including information and maps across many categories: wayfinding, directional, warning, informational, regulatory, permissible, alternate flood warning and alternate flood route. Information is clearly displayed including the identification of local items of interest and site safety warnings.

The signage is robust, and durable incorporating sustainable sourced materials and fabrication principles that will retain their aesthetic integrity over many years, respond to the rigours of the elements and vandalism. (AILA, 2010)



Rachael Kennedy with her son Lockie and nephew Callum at Wicks Wonderland Photography Exhibition

## case study - culture

The Wicks Wonderland Photography Exhibition celebrates a local place through the lens of the community. The World Environment Day photography workshop was organised to focus on taking photos of special places and features in Wicks Reserve.

The project had a community development approach where the focus was on local partnerships and an all-ages, inclusive activity that was fun for the whole community.

The project linked with promoting the newly built bio-infiltration system and World Environment Day,

encouraging people who don't usually visit the reserve to come and be involved in their local space.

The use of photography provided the opportunity to gather interest from people who liked photography to come along to an environment focused activity. The involvement of the Knox Photography Society meant Council developed a partnership with a local community group that has existing membership and skills in delivering a workshop.

Inviting the CFA to put on the sausage sizzle tapped into another local resource with existing membership and supported their services by donation to the sausage sizzle.



Banner from the Australian farmers' market association website

# case study - economy

The Charter of the Australian Farmers' Markets Association (AFMA) has the following key aims:

- To facilitate the formation of a network of authentic Farmers' Markets across Australia.
- To support the viable and self-sufficient operation of existing and future Farmers' Markets.
- To define clearly the concept of an authentic Farmers' Market and facilitate the development of this model in the cities and regions of Australia.
- To provide a basic framework including benchmarks for the viable operation of designated Farmers' Markets.
- To clearly distinguish the concept of a Farmers' Market from other markets, both retail and wholesale.
- •To provide a simple resource to community groups and individuals seeking to establish authentic, successful Farmers' Markets.

### Mission

Farmers' Markets operate with multiple beneficial aims.

The four primary aims are:

- 1. To preserve farmland and sustainable agriculture.
- 2. To support and stimulate the profitable trading, viability and business growth of independent primary producers, hobby farmers, community and home gardeners, and associated artisan produce value-adders.
- 3. To provide customers with regular supplies of fresh food and access to improved nutrition.
- 4. To contribute to the economic, social and health capital of the host community.

### **Community values**

Farmers' Markets are an integral part of the host community and aim to provide various economic, social and health benefits including:

- Support of sustainable agricultural practices
- Food and nutrition education
- Promotion of fresh and local produce consumption
- Revitalisation of town and public space
- Regeneration of community spirit
- Rural/ urban linkages
- •Facilitation of community-based food security programs
- Recycling of green waste and appropriate packaging



Aerial photograph of Jenola Park, Wantirna South

# Case study - leisure

Jenola Park in Wantirna South was upgraded in 2010 to provide leisure and recreational facilities for the local community.

A new playground, shaded areas, seating and Water Sensitive Urban Design elements, as well as walking tracks, links to local bike paths and passive recreation areas, are all featured in the new-look Jenola Park.

Council also officially acquired land at the rear of the site to allow the preservation of one of Knox's last remaining remnant bushland areas as habitat for local wildlife.

A young basketball enthusiast Anthony Neos, 14, was the driving force behind the delivery of a basketball half-court at the upgraded Jenola Park in Wantirna South. Anthony had made a budget submission to Council to push the case for the basketball half-court after Anthony circulated a petition to local residents seeking signatures in support of his project.

"Anthony was the key instigator behind this project and he's helped deliver a wonderful asset for his local community," Cr Cooper said. "It's a great example of a resident getting involved in their community, and the terrific results that can flow."



Streets for Living Project opening

# case study - people

The Streets for Living Project in Bayswater, was delivered as a result of a collaboration between the community, Council and the State Government (Department Of Transport). The project was for developing safe neighbourhoods and encouraging walking and cycling open spaces and street infrastructure for community use, shaped by the community.

The long term objectives of the project are to enhance health and wellbeing outcomes that foster greater civic participation, access to decision-making mechanisms and respond to community aspirations in pursuit of an enhanced democratic and engaged Knox community.

A cross-team Council approach – led by Open Space and Landscape Design with Placemakers, and Traffic and Transport, worked together to ensure all key stakeholders in the 'milestone group' were involved in all the design aspects of the site actively.

The benefits of the approach to this project were:

Community action and participation (involvement) creates sustainable change: The community members and agencies are engaged and want to do more – they are already planning Stage 2. They are looking after the community notice board and working together.

The relationships that have been developed have shown that this area is now sharing resources and planning together. For example, the Church cooks a breakfast for school kids. The Bowling club is taking school kids in to 'come-n-try'.

The 'Pause Place' or meeting point, designed within the streetscape is a well used area which acts as a discussion point for current and future activities in the area.



Geelong Youth Activity Area, photograph supplied City of Greater Geelond

## case study - play

The Geelong Youth Activities Area represents a new benchmark for intergenerational public spaces in Australia. The Australian Institute of Landscape Architecture Jury commends the City of Greater Geelong and Convic Design for their bold choice of site, placing youth activities at the pride of place along the Geelong waterfront. The design is an outstanding example of how the traditional skate park is being transformed into multi-purpose street-style plazas that cater for a multitude of users and events.

The park demonstrates social sustainability by providing a space that can be reinvented over time as well as being a catalyst for social rejuvenation in the area. The bold angular forms of the multi-functional steel gantries epitomise the durability and energy that this space embodies whilst providing a platform for the unique digital interactive technologies used in the park.

Carefully executed, the final built work demonstrates excellence in documentation, innovation in the use of materials and an attention to detail that demands applause. Destined to be actively enjoyed by the local community and international visitors alike, this new genre of park sets an example for youth spaces around the world as well as continuing the tradition of excellence through the ongoing development of the foreshore by the City of Greater Geelong. (AILA Victoria, 2009)

This case study provides an example of intergenerational play, events space, a municipal space and a community hub.



#### WHERE AND WHAT IS SUSTAINABILITY STREET?

Vox Bandicoot's Sustainability Street Approach (SSA) focuses on positive change, coming together and learning about sustainable living through knowledge sharing and community connectedness.

Sustainability Street can be in your backyard, street or local neighbourhood. Currently there are three Sustainability Street Hubs in the City of Whitehorse Blackburn, Box Hill and Vermont South as part of the Sustainability Street Program ( Susty Street ) in conjunction with Vox Bandicoot.

The Susty Street Hubs meet on a regular basis to learn about resource conservation (like water and energy) in the home and local community and to work on projects/events to raise awareness of environmental significance. *Communiversity* is a highlight where a Susty Streeter presents their handy tips/ideas and expertise.



By coming together as local groups and sharing the common aim in creating and shaping a sustainable path, this will have a powerful impact locally to inspire and bring new changes at a personal level.

### HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED OR LEARN MORE?

www.sustainabilitystreet.org.au





### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Learn what your neighbours are doing to save water and energy.

Share your handy tips and ideas in gardening and composting.

Get involved with local projects/events/initiatives to build local capacity and understanding.



Picture: Box Hill Susty Streeters at their Graduation.

# HIGHLIGHTS OF RECENT COMMUNIVERSITY

Seed and produce swapping.

A Susty Streeter /climate scientist presented information on carbon storage technologies and the topic of climate change.

Workshops on home insulation and

Workshops on home insulation and composting



Picture: Communiversity Demonstration in creating your own DIY compost bin.

# Case Study - Sustainability

Sustainability Street program, City of Whitehorse



Photograph of Cardiff Street Park, Boronia

# case study - water

Cardiff Street Park in Boronia is a local park used by residents for recreation. It had grassy open space and a small but ageing play ground.

Knox City Council redesigned the park in 2009 to help alleviate the drainage system that was over capacity and causing flooding.

Council partnered with Melbourne Water to install rain gardens to increase the health of the water, and designed the open space as a retarding basin to hold water in 1 in 10 year rain events.

The Drainage Department in Council teamed up with other specialists across Council to consider the park for residents use, maintenance and drainage.

Cardiff Street Park is a good example of how a small park can do big things. It also illustrates the challenges associated with design, including the need for thorough community consultation.

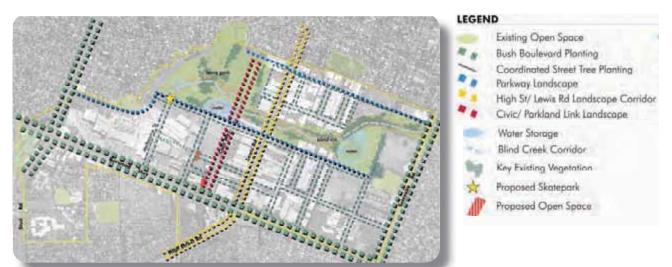
# activity centres

This section identifies open spaces in activity centres where promenades, piazzas and other types of urban spaces should be considered.

The following map shows the key activity centres in Knox.

Activity Centres in Knox where open space areas should have urban characteristics

### **Knox Central**



Landscape/Environment map extracted from the Knox Central Urban Design Framework

As Knox Central develops, new civic squares, promenades, alfresco areas, boardwalks, bush walks and other types of open spaces will be developed to create a rich, varied and vibrant series of urban, landscaped, bushland and recreational spaces.

## **Bayswater**

Plan

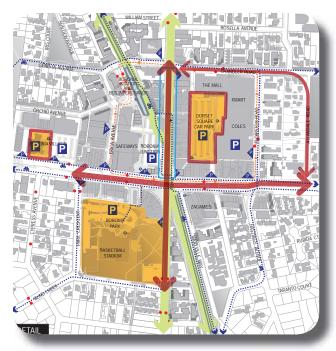


Bayswater is a major town within Knox and has a variety of open space types including a large park. As the town centre develops there will be increased opportunity to develop civic squares, piazzas, promenades and gardens.

The Bayswater Structure Plan and Bayswater Triangle Masterplan outlines a number of key public open space opportunities including; creating promenades through the widening of footpaths, better pedestrian connections, use of carparks for community activities and new central open space that provides a future hub for community services

New public plaza creates a focal point and improves links to the train station

### **Boronia**



Access map extracted from the Bronia Activity Centre Structure Plan

Boronia is a major town within the municipality of Knox. It's urban environment is dominated by two large roads and a series of large carparks. As the town centre develops there will be increased opportunity to develop civic squares, piazzas, promenades and gardens.

The Boronia Structure Plan outlines a number of key public open space opportunities including; improved street amenity and crossing points for pedestrians. The open space opportunities within the Activity Centre include optimising the use of Dorset Square in off-peak times as a civic, market or festival space; improving the use of the promenade surrounding Dorset Square; investigating the use of Boronia Junction car-park in a similar fashion; improving pedestrian amenity and alfresco areas along streets; enabling better pedestrian connections to Boronia Park and creating a village common in Boronia Village.



### **Mountain Gate**



Extract from Draft Mountain Gate Structure Plan

Mountain Gate is a key Activity Centre in the municipality. It has limited open space within the retail and industrial areas, relying heavily on streetscapes and car parks to provide amenity to the area. These areas of streetscapes, especially adjoining retail areas can be further activated by local businesses with café areas. There is a small adjoining park to the Mountain Gate retail core that has opportunity to be addressed and activated by foodretail as a small neighbourhood square. The carpark also offers some opportunity to be used in off-peak times for markets or events.



# **Stud Park Shopping Centre**



Potential new plaza and square

- Community centre

Stud Park is a large shopping area within the municipality. Adjacent to the shopping centre area is the Rowville Community Centre and Stud Park Reserve. Open space and a diversity of community facilities are well provided for, however, the connections between these areas and the shopping precinct are poor. The shopping centre area could take advantage of the adjacent open space by facing and engaging with the interface.

Community area

- - - Interface area

**Stud Park Shopping Centre** 

# further information

This section provides related information.

| Lens         | Lens Related Plans Selec   | ć             | Sele               | ection criteria and | Selection criteria and related budget streams | ns         |               |
|--------------|--|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|---|------------|---------------|
|              |  | Capital Works | Capital works      | Capital works       | Capital works                                 | Operations | Other funding |
|              |  | Asset renewal | Legal requirements | Major projects      | New and upgrade                               |            | sources       |
| Biodiversity | Sites of Biological Significance                                       |               |                    |                     |   | <          | <             |
|              |  |               |                    |                     |   | <          | <             |
| Sustainable  | Sustainable Environment Strategy                                       |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Climate Change Response Plan   | <             |                    |                     | <   | <          |               |
| People       | Access and Inclusion Plan  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Affordable Housing   |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Housing Policy Review  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Community Safety   |               |                    |                     |   | <          | <             |
|              | Emergency Management Plan  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | <ul> <li>Community Strengthening and Social<br/>Equity Plan</li> </ul> |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
| Play         | Play Strategy  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Early Years Plan   | •             | •                  |                     | *   |            |               |
|              | Youth Plan   | *             | 4                  |                     | 4   |            |               |
|              | Healthy Aging Plan   |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
| Arts         | Arts and Culture Plan  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Heritage Plan  |               |                    |                     | <   | <          | <             |
|              | Multicultural Plan   |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
| Leisure      | Recreation and Leisure Plan  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | <ul> <li>Sporting Reserve and Facilities<br/>Guidelines</li> </ul>     | <             | <                  | <                   | <   | <          | <             |
| Connections  | Integrated Tracel Plan   |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Shared Path Plan   | <             | <                  |                     | <   | <          |               |
|              | Bike Plan  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
| Water        | WSUD Plan  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |
|              | Drainage Plan  | <             |                    |                     | <   | <          |               |
|              |  |               |                    |                     |   |            |               |

