

Outer Circle Railway Linear Park Management Plan

DRAFT

Glen Eira City Council



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

ASPECT Studios®

Document Title: Outer Circle Railway Linear Park Management Plan DRAFT

Revision: C

Date: 17.10.18

Contents

1.		4. Outer Circle Railway Linear Park	26	6. Management Plan	50	8. Project Implementation	80
1.1. Executive Summary	05	4.1. Existing Landscape Character Overview	27	6.1. Management Plan	51	8.1. Project Implementation Summary	81
2. Introduction and Background	06	4.2. Existing Landscape Character	28	6.2. Management Plan Summary	52	8.2. Implementation Plan	82
2.1. Location & Context	07	4.2.1 Boyd Park North	28	6.3. Management Plan Overview	54	8.2.1 Boyd Park North To be updated	82
2.2. Scope	08	4.2.2 Boyd Park Central	29	6.3.1 Movement & Access	54	8.2.2 Boyd Park Central To be updated	83
2.2.1 Boyd Park	08	4.2.3 Link Space	30	6.3.2 Spatial Arrangement & Features	55	8.2.3 Link Space To be updated	84
2.2.2 Springthorpe Gardens	08	4.2.4 Boyd Park South (Kitmont Street)	31	6.4. Management Plan	56	8.2.4 Boyd Park South (Kitmont Street) To be updated	85
2.2.3 Riley Reserve	08	4.2.5 Springthorpe Gardens	32	6.4.1 Boyd Park North	56	8.2.5 Springthorpe Gardens To be updated	86
2.3. Background Documents	09	4.2.6 Riley Reserve	33	6.4.2 Boyd Park Central	58	8.2.6 Riley Reserve To be updated	87
2.4. Aboriginal Significance	10	4.3. Community Uses Overview	34	6.4.3 Link Space	60		
2.5. Cultural Significance	12	4.4. 2004 Community Uses and Consultation	35	6.4.4 Boyd Park South (Kitmont Street)	62		
2.5.1 Boyd Park & Outer Circle Railway	12	4.5. Site Analysis	36	6.4.5 Springthorpe Gardens	64		
2.5.2 Springthorpe Gardens	13	4.5.1 Points of Interest	36	6.4.6 Riley Reserve	66		
2.6. Ecological Significance	14	4.5.2 Site Movement and Analysis	37	6.5. Artists Impression - Springthorpe Gardens	68		
2.7. Ecological Vegetation History	15	4.5.3 Site Edge Condition	38	6.5.1 Existing Character	68		
2.8. Aerial Imagery	16	4.5.4 Site Topography	39	6.6. Artists Impression - Boyd Park Central - Active Space	70		
2.8.1 Date - 1945	16	4.6. Existing Trees and Vegetation	40	6.6.1 Existing Character	70		
2.8.2 Date- 2018	17	4.6.1 Existing Trees and Vegetation	40	6.6.2 Aspirational Character	71		
3. Context	18	4.6.2 Existing Trees and Vegetation (Melbourne Water Works Impact)	41	6.7. Public Consultation Summary	72		
3.1. Open Space Provision	19	4.7. Impact of Level Crossing Removals	42	6.8. Public Consultation Summary	73		
3.2. Planning and Environment - Zoning	20	4.7.1 Riley Reserve	42				
3.3. Planning and Environment - Overlays	21	4.7.2 Boyd Park 'Kitmont Street'	43	7. Detailed Guidelines	74		
3.4. Public Transport Network	22	5. Vision & Principles	44	7.1. Detailed Guidelines Summary	75		
3.5. Active Transport Network	23	5.1. Vision	45	7.2. Wayfinding Strategy	76		
3.6. Locations/Points of Interest	24	5.2. Key Design Principles	46	7.2.1 Park Access/Entrance types:	76		
3.7. Movement and Access (PEDSHED)	25	5.3. Design Principles	47	7.2.2 Signage Examples	77		
		5.3.1 Connectivity, Access and Movement	47	7.3. Park Furniture	78		
		5.3.2 Spatial Arrangement, Zones and Spaces	48	7.3.1 Types:	78		



1. Executive Summary

1.1. Executive Summary

This landscape management plan proposes a refined vision for the Outer Circle Railway Linear Park - Boyd Park, Springthorpe Gardens, and Riley Reserve.

The project provides a new framework to guide management, development and decision making into the future, based on a shared vision and guiding principles.

The purpose of this document is to clearly present the future management plan of Outer Circle Railway Linear Park for community engagement and review.

This report encompasses the overall design strategies and actions for Boyd Park, Springthorpe Gardens and Riley Reserve, which have been developed in collaboration with Glen Eira City Council.

The document is broken down into the following sections:

- Introduction & background, provides a short summation of the location and scope of the site, as well as a historical overview.
- Context, an overview of the project site and surrounding areas.
- Site analysis.
- Vision and Principles, the vision and principles established to inform the development of the project.
- Wayfinding Strategy, a strategy to inform wayfinding signage throughout the park.
- Materials and finishes, an overview of the materiality and finishes to be used in the park.

A photograph of a paved path leading through a green gate with stone pillars, surrounded by trees and a clear sky. The path is made of light-colored concrete and leads into a lush green area with many trees. The gate is made of green metal bars and is flanked by two large, weathered stone pillars. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1. Location & Context

The Outer Circle Railway Linear Park consists of Boyd Park, Springthorpe Gardens and Riley Reserve. The site is located in the city of Glen Eira, 16km south-east of the Melbourne CBD.

While each is considered a separate open space, due to their proximity and connectivity they are considered a collective significant local open space.

The linear park is bordered by Dandenong Road in the north, Wilson Street, Riley Street and Kitmont Street to the east, the Dandenong Railway Reserve to the south and Montrose Court and housing to the west. The land is a combination of Council freehold land, Crown Land and VicTrack land and is managed by Council under Committee of Management delegation.

Southern boundaries of Boyd Park and Riley Reserve are adjacent to the Caulfield to Dandenong Grade Separation project.



2.2. Scope

The refreshed Management Plan provides an update of the existing 2004 Landscape Management Plan for the Outer Circle Railway/Boyd Park.

Importantly the plan will address the significant changes being made to the southern boundaries of Boyd Park and Riley Reserve through the Caulfield to Dandenong Grade Separation Project. Areas that once adjoined a fenced rail corridor become activated through a newly created linear park, and see the connections, access and function of these spaces change dramatically.

Additionally a Melbourne Water project to duplicate drainage pipes has seen major disruptions to the environment to Riley Reserve, Springthorpe Gardens and the central area of Boyd Park.

The Management Plan will address the following matters, but not limited to:

- Assessment of maintenance regimes and their impact and make any necessary recommendations to ensure the integrity of the park is adhered to with a suitable action plan;
- Address the significant landscape characteristics of each space;
- Recommendations presented in the Glen Eira Open Space Strategy;
- Development of specific landscape and infrastructure treatments;
- Consideration to align the level crossing removal project and Melbourne Water drain upgrade;
- Management and development of the existing vegetation and facilities;
- Consider connectivity and access around the park; and
- Security and CPTED considerations.

2.2.1 Boyd Park

Boyd Park is the only park in Glen Eira where vegetation and trees are unique and are protected by a 'Vegetation Protection Overlay'. These trees and vegetation are highly valued by the Glen Eira community and is a popular destination for residents to walk and picnic.

Boyd Park is a linear open space and part of the former Outer Circle

Railway that originally extended much further north to Kew East.

Facilities located at Boyd Park include a playground, picnic facilities, walking/bicycle track, rotunda, Merrick Boyd memorial marker and a Scout hall adjacent to the railway line. Sections of Boyd Park are included in a S.B.O (drainage) overlay under the local planning scheme.

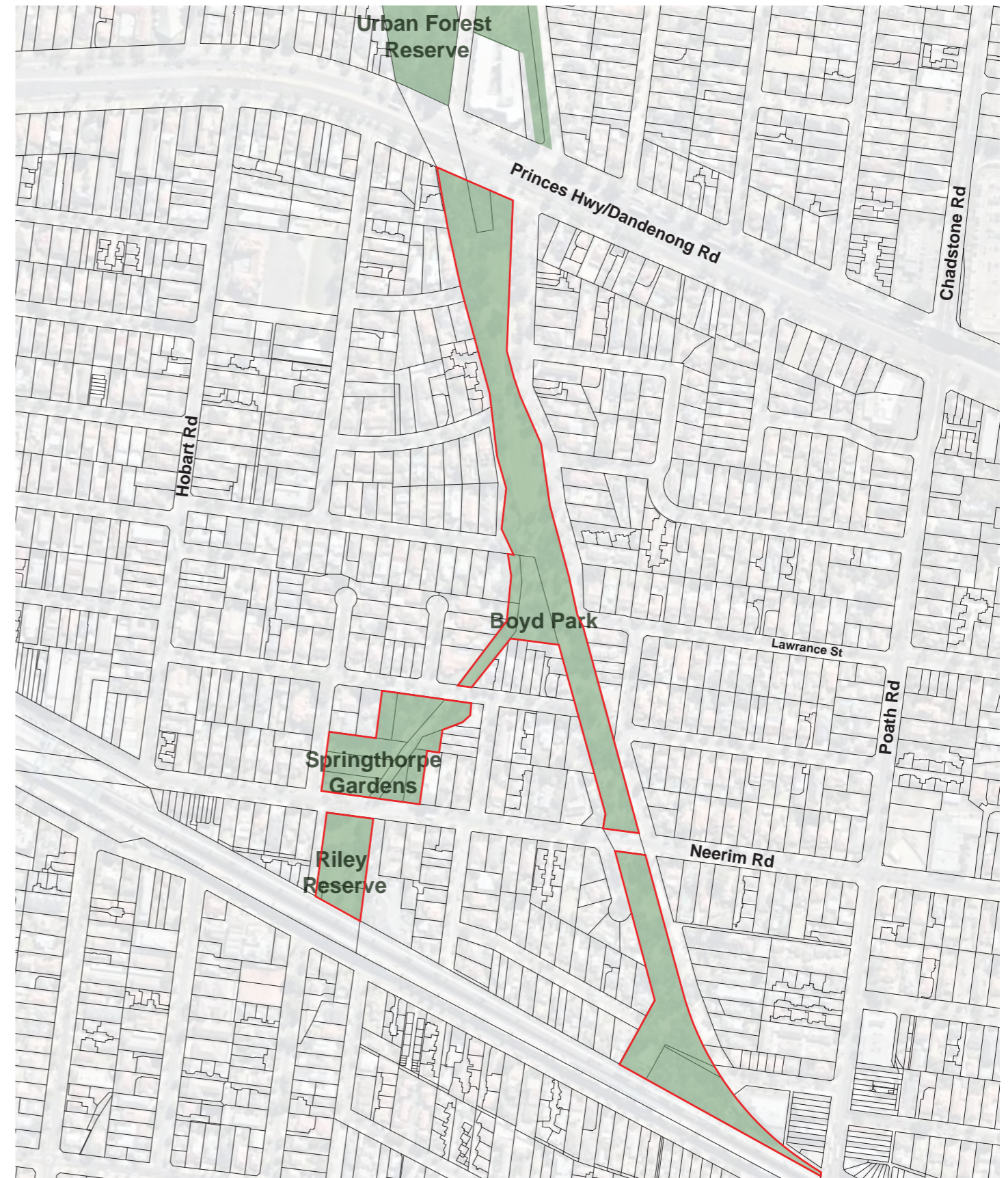
2.2.2 Springthorpe Gardens

Springthorpe Gardens is a Council owned reserve of 0.75 ha bordered by Neerim Road, Tuckett Street and Omama Road in Murrumbeena. Springthorpe Gardens have a more formal layout with exotic trees, garden beds and open grassed areas. This is in contrast with the indigenous and native species found within Boyd Park.

A major feature of Springthorpe Gardens are the park gates which were the original lodge gates of the Royal Melbourne Hospital prior to 1860, before being installed as entrance gates to Joyous Gard, the property of Dr Springthorpe. The gates were later donated and installed at their present site in 1934. The gates are protected by a heritage overlay and the park site is included in a S.B.O (drainage). An adjoining property (21 Omama Road, Murrumbeena) has a significant landscape overlay under the local planning scheme.

2.2.3 Riley Reserve

Riley Reserve is a Council owned reserve of 0.41 ha and is bordered by Neerim Road, Arthur Street and the Dandenong Railway Reserve. Significantly the southern boundary will be adjacent to the elevated rail corridor and linear park being created through the State Government Grade Separation project.



2.3. Background Documents

In the development of this landscape management plan and associated drawings, ASPECT Studios have taken into consideration the following background documents.

Open Space Strategy 2014:

Recommendations:

Boyd Park

Continue to implement the existing Management Plan with an emphasis on strengthening the indigenous and landscape character of this reserve.

Riley Reserve

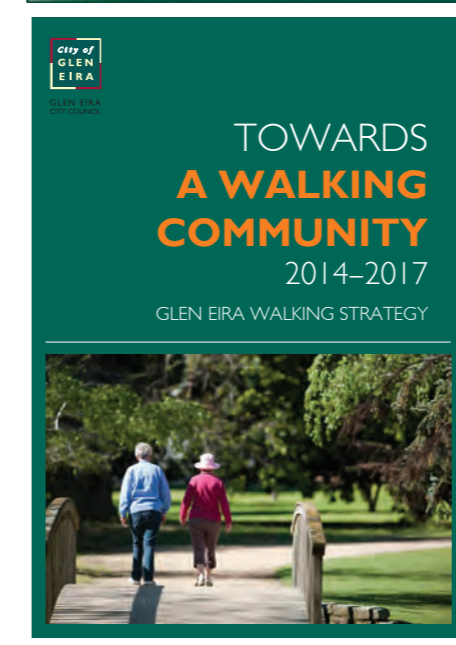
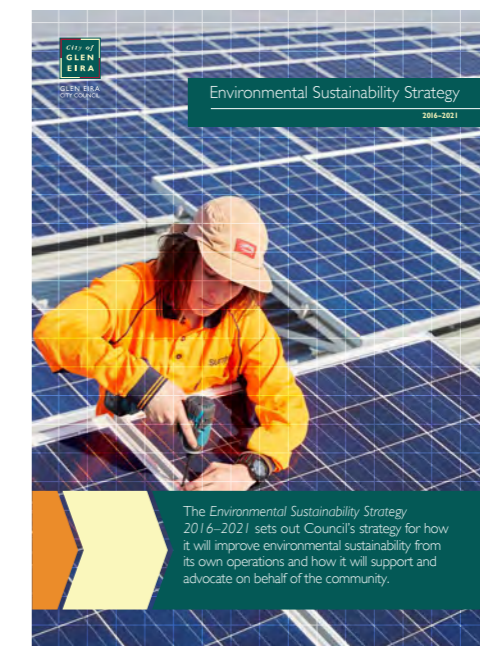
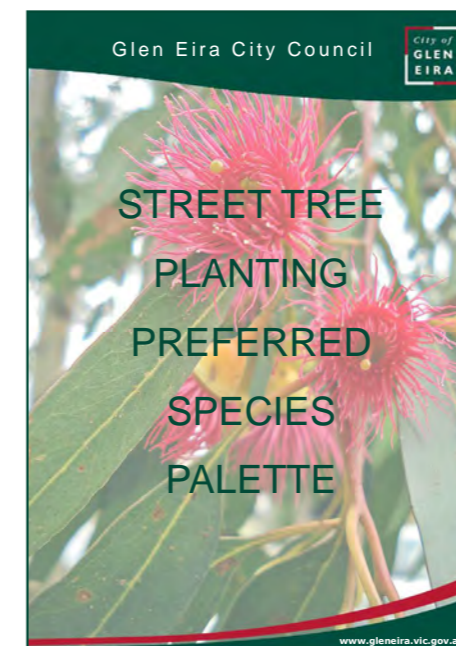
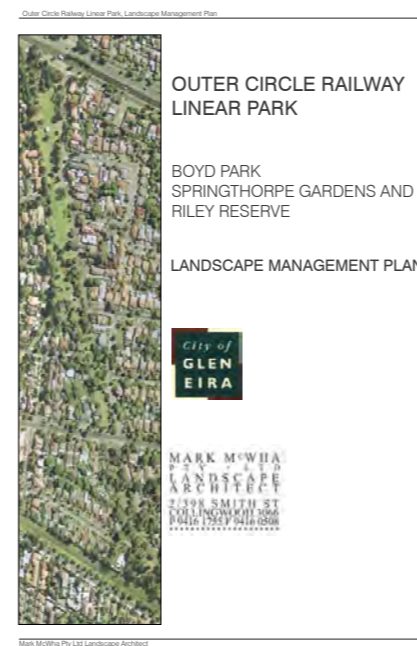
Minor upgrade to provide additional informal recreation facilities including seats and walking path to improve accessibility. Investigate the need for a pedestrian crossing between Riley Reserve to Springthorpe Gardens to improve linear links.

Springthorpe Gardens

Continue to maintain this open space and link through to Boyd Park, and implement recommendations in the existing Boyd Park Management Plan.

Other relevant strategies considered:

- Outer Circle Railway Linear Park Management Plan 2004
- Street Tree Strategy
- Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2016-2021
- Integrated Transport Strategy 2018-2031
- Towards A Walking Community 2014-2017
- Biodiversity in Glen Eira 2018



2.4. Aboriginal Significance

The Boon Wurrung/Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation are the Traditional Owners of this area that now makes up the southern and south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne, which includes the municipality of Glen Eira.

The Kulin People of Central Victoria

Long, long ago in the Creation, the all-powerful Bundjil took the form of the eagle and created the Kulin people – their languages, their laws and their lands.

Later, Barwool, an ancestral headman, cut the Birrarung (Yarra River) to free the country of floodwaters. This inundated the plain where the Kulin had hunted kangaroo and formed Narm (Port Phillip Bay). The Kulin are a federation of five distinct but strongly related communities.

They prospered in approximately two million hectares of what is now known as south central Victoria.

The five communities are known as:

- **Woiewurrung (Wurundjeri)** of the Birrarung (Yarra) catchment
- **Boonerwung** of the bays and south coast
- **Taungurung** of the Katiella catchment (Goulburn River)
- **Wathaurung** of the western plains
- **Dja Dja Wrung** of the northwest region (Loddon River).

Each of these large groups are divided into a number of smaller, land-owning communities. But all Kulin had as their defining social moiety (totem) either *Bundjil*, the eagle, or *Waa*, the raven (crow). An individual's moiety, inherited from the father, dictated all behaviour, social relationships, even marriage partners. Therefore a network of alliances was created and maintained by regular meetings for trade, initiations, celebrations and resolving differences. Sorcery, magic and *murrup* (spirit) were also fundamentals of society – though little of their deep significance was ever written down. Such knowledge was passed on by the oral tradition of the Elders.

Long before the Kulin had contact with the European world, they had established complex trading networks. In the north of **Woiewurrung** country is *Wil-im-ee Mooring* (Mount William) axe quarry. *Murring* (axe heads) made from this treasured green stone passed by many transactions to what is now Adelaide and New South Wales. Few of these special axes were found in Gippsland, probably because the Kulin and Gunai/Kumai federation were not allies. *Murring* gained prestige the further they travelled. One highly crafted possum-skin cloak was required for exchange of three axes. Fine examples of craft and art can be found in Bunjilaka at Melbourne Museum and the Koorie Heritage Trust Cultural Centre in the city.

When *ngamudji* (white men) arrived at Port Phillip in 1835 they pushed aside the Kulin people and mission stations were built to 'look after' this now displaced society. The first reserve was located at an important meeting place beside *Birrarung*, where the Royal Botanic Gardens are now situated. Later, a school for Aboriginal children was established at another important place where the Merri Merri creek enters *Birrarung*. The nearby, modern suburb of Fitzroy continues as a focus for the Aboriginal population of Melbourne. There are still reminders in Melbourne of traditional Kulin life: a scarred tree stands in Fitzroy Gardens; rock wells and shell middens still exist along the *Narm* coast; and earth rings in north west suburbs most likely hosted important ceremonies. All these special places are protected by State & Federal legislation.

Today Kulin people continue to live, practice and strengthen their culture in urban Melbourne and central Victoria.

References
Edelson, M. 1997. *The Melbourne Dreaming*. Aboriginal Studies Press.
Presland, G. 1994. *Aboriginal Melbourne*. McPhee Gribble.
Brough Smyth, R. 1878. *The Aborigines of Victoria*. Melbourne.

Further Information
www.yarrahealing.melb.catholic.edu.au
www.blackpages.com.au
www.abc.net.au/message

Proudly supported by
Parks Victoria, Aboriginal Affairs Victoria and Royal Botanic Gardens

Victorian Aboriginal Peoples

For Aboriginal people the place now known as 'Victoria' has been home since the beginning of time.

Archeological evidence reveals a connection extending beyond 40,000 years. Ancestors of today's communities witnessed volcanic eruptions of Tapook (Mt. Napier) in the west. They also hunted giant kangaroos and worried over the rising seas, which marked the end of the last Ice Age.

Today, Aboriginal concerns are about self-determination, restoring their lands and living their culture.

It is estimated that between 20,000 and 60,000 people, speaking over 30 languages, lived throughout 'Victoria' when Europeans arrived in 1835. The rapid colonisation resulted in a devastating loss of languages, traditions and lives. During this violent period of Victorian history, families were forced off their lands and on to missions. These were bitter-sweet places. They were a home and haven from the violence but also a place where there was little choice except conformity with Christianity and Western ways. Ironically, it was from these missions that well-known activists rose to fight for better conditions for their people.

Today well over 25,000 Aboriginal people live throughout Victoria, and this number is growing.

Murray River Valley
Othout, the mighty Cod carved out the Millewa (Murray River) while fleeing the spears of Totyerguil, the hunter. The rich lands of the Millewa supported hundreds of generations. Even when the river was in flood people fished and moved about in bark canoes, living on high earth mounds while feeding on the abundance of food brought by the flood waters. These mounds can still be seen today. There are also scarred trees from which slabs of bark were removed to make canoes, bows and shelters.

Today, the people of the Murray continue the struggle for the return of their homelands at the Barmah Forest.

Western District
Aboriginal people have lived in Garriwerd (The Grampians) since before the last Ice Age. The 'old people' left the most extensive rock art in Victoria – over 120 art sites. The red and white painted figures and hand stencils hold the secrets of activities that went on for millennia. South at Carrap (Lake Condah), people lived in semi-permanent, dome-shaped huts and harvested eels in long woven baskets fixed to stone-walled channels. Lake Condah became a mission station in 1867. People still maintain strong ties there, and at Teerak – the Framlingham station near Wheringkernitch (Warrambool). Thousands of tourists visit the Brambuk Cultural Centre in Garriwerd to see contemporary art, crafts and performances and to explore bush tracker trails.

Mallee and Wimmera
Between rich Millewa Valley and the western plains lies a desert region. A Creation Story tells how Purra, an Ancestral Kangaroo Spirit, marked the route of Barbarton (Wimmera River) from Stawell north to Ngelbakutya (Lake Alpacutya) and Gooro (Lake Hindmarsh). Wirringer (Wirrengrain Plain), in the middle of this desert, was an important meeting place for people throughout this region and beyond. Ebenezer Mission became a major regional focus and was deliberately built on an important place of traditional ceremony, as well as being a known massacre site.

Gippsland
Aboriginal people have lived in the mountains of Gippsland and visited the rugged coast of sacred Wammum or Yirruk (Wilson's Promontory) for over 30 millennia. Some made the long annual trek to the high plains for ceremonies – timed to coincide with the harvest of the Bogong moth. The Lake Tyers mission was built in 1861 at Warnang gully, a favourite fishing place. Together with the later forest settlement of Jackson's Track, these places have been home for many Aboriginal families. Traditional skills in baskets, spears, shields, and canoe making may be found in the Krowathunkulung Keeping Place in Bairnsdale.

1 Njindadj	13 Barapabarapa	24 Boonerwung
2 Ladjiladji	14 Dja Dja Wrung	25* Bratauloong
3 Wergaia	15 Djab Wurrung	26* Braiakuloong
4 Wotjobaluk	16 Djagurd Wurrung	27* Tatungaloong
5 Jardwadjali	17 Gadubanud	28* Krauatungaloong
6 Buandid - Bunganditj	18 Wathaurung	29 Brabralung
7 Gournditch-Mara	19 Woiewurrung (Wurundjeri)	30 Way Wurru
8 Girai Wurrung	20 Taungurung	31 Dhurooa
9 Jarijari	21 Yorta Yorta	32 Ngarigu
10 Dadidadi	22 Bangerang	33 Maap (Bidawal)
11 Wadiwadi	23 Ngurai-illam Wurrung	
12 Wembawemba		

*Members of the Gunai/Kumai federation

Note: All locations and spellings are indicative only.

Source: North Central Catchment Authority, Kulin People Central VIC Aboriginal Heritage Fact Sheet

Mallanbool Reserve ...'Pool with reeds'



Mallanbool Reserve — history

Kulin — the people of the Land

The site where you are standing is today called Mallanbool Reserve. The reserve occupies land that has been home to local Aboriginal families, the Kulin, for tens of thousands of years.

Over this time they moved through the area, following the rhythms of nature, hunting the native animals and gathering plants for medicine, food and fibre. The land sustained them in both body and spirit.

The Kulin had a familiarity and a deep, intricate connection with their country. They knew the songs of all their special places and had an equally profound knowledge of the seasonal cycles of nature. Their movements responded to these cycles as they travelled to collect the abundant native flora and fauna. Kulin management of these areas ensured that production was sustained. It was designed, through their respect for the land, to meet their community needs and was practised with an implicit acknowledgment of the wellbeing of future generations.

The arrival of ngamudji, the white settlers

The arrival and settlement of these lands by ngamudji, the white settlers, led to the disintegration of millennia upon millennia of traditional land use and connection in less than one decade.

Introduction of cattle and sheep meant plants used by the Kulin were lost, the diversity and migration patterns of native animals dimmed. In time even the very land was altered, as the once abundant wetlands were drained and special places erased by the grid of roads and houses.

European diseases previously unknown to the Kulin people were introduced and rapidly decimated this original civilisation. This same intervention left its silent mark through the Australian cultural landscape, touching the entire Aboriginal population of this continent at some level.

Added to this were the inevitable and often brutal conflicts over land. The European mindset of land ownership was inconceivable to Aboriginal society. Kulin were part of the land, and the land was part of the people — they were truly custodians of country.

'Honour the Land and its Spirit and it shall honour you and your descendents'

The traditional European system of fences and ploughing and utilising the land as a commodity smothered the old ways of ancestral connection, custodianship and knowledge. As indigenous foods became scarce the Kulin were forced to turn to a diet of introduced foods in order to survive. This led to a growing dependence upon European crops and practices at the expense of the traditional techniques and culture.

In a single generation the entire Kulin society and their complex traditional culture was shattered and forced into dramatic change. Yet even as they faced these immense upheavals Aboriginal people held on to a tenacious will to survive.

'We are here, we are part of this place'
The region now known as Melbourne is the ancestral lands of the Boonerwurrung and Woiewurung (Wurundjeri) people of the Kulin nation.



Mallanbool Reserve ...'Pool with reeds'



The Kulin continuum

The impact of European colonisation on the Kulin population and their traditional culture was dramatic. Only a handful of decades of contact with the namadji (the white spirit) saw the unravelling of a culture born out of tens of thousands of years of connection to the land. This affected family traditions, songs, ceremonies and even sacred sites. A complete way of life was shaken to the core and many lives were lost.

For many colonial Europeans in those early years, the destruction of Aboriginal lives and culture was viewed as an inevitable result of social evolution. Unfortunately, after almost 200 years many people still hold on to this 19th century rationale.

'The Kulin, indeed all Aboriginal people and their diverse culture, survive!'

Continuity of Aboriginal people and their connection to the Land can be likened to a bushfire. Initially nothing seems to remain but ash and smouldering stumps, but soon new shoots and new life emerge — a resurgence of vigour and strength.

Although Aboriginal people are often viewed in a historical sense, they have adapted and grown in this new landscape. They now pursue not the emu but careers as computer programmers, artists, athletes, motor mechanics, teachers, government officials — some live in the very suburb in which you now stand.

However there are many reminders throughout Melbourne of traditional Kulin life — a 'scar' tree stands in Fitzroy Gardens, there are rockwells and shell middens along Narm (Port Phillip Bay) and earth rings in Sunbury that once hosted important ceremonies. Even names very familiar to Melbourneans today reach back to the ancestral Kulin with metropolitan suburbs such as Mooroolbark, Kooyong, Mordialloc and Warrandyte. Even major urban centres like Dandenong and Tullamarine are places rooted in Kulin culture and tradition.

This interpretive trail

In the series of interpretive signs that make up this trail you will have the opportunity to piece together a glimpse of local Kulin life and culture. As you walk the Land you can connect these stories — stories of great harmony and equal sadness. By doing so, in a small way you will be walking the same path that Victorian Aboriginal people walk today. The loss of traditional lands and the struggle of generations of Aboriginal people for rights and acknowledgement means they too must re-weave the intricate threads of their indigenous culture, songs and stories. While much may 'seem' gone, one thing which always endures for Aboriginal people is their Spirit with the Land.

So please, feel the shape and flow of this Land under your feet, listen for the cry of Waa the black Raven, and look at the indigenous vegetation that surrounds you now. Aboriginal people and their culture are still here — indeed just like this very bushland their connections grow and gain in strength.

'Always, eternally connected to the Land.'

We hope you have enjoyed your visit to Mallanbool Reserve. Glen Eira City Council is proud to pay tribute to the traditional custodians of this area and wishes to acknowledge both the Ancestors and their descendants who continue to walk and care for this Land, in life and in Spirit.

'We are here, we are part of this place'
The region now known as Melbourne is the ancestral lands of the Boonerwurrung and Woiewurung (Wurundjeri) people of the Kulin nation.



Mallanbool Reserve ...'Pool with reeds'



The Kulin — 'the local mob'

The Port Phillip region is the ancestral home to the eastern Kulin, a federation or nation of five distinct but strongly related communities covering a vast area of more than 2.5 million hectares of land, today known as south-central Victoria. These traditional communities shared similar wurrungs or languages, trade, marriage, cultural and communal tradition.

Social moiety, totems

All Kulin had as their defining social moiety (totem) either Bundjil the creator of All, who flew the country as the Wedge-tail Eagle or Waa the Black Raven, the fire keeper and protector. An individual's moiety, inherited from the father, dictated all behaviour and social relationships.

With the guidance of the Elders a network of alliances was created, maintained by regular meetings or ngarjee, for trade, initiations, the resolution of differences, and communal politics. These Kulin reunions were normally organised in sync with times of seasonal abundance. Besides considering the diverse community business requiring attention, ngarjee were important times for communal celebration, stories, song and dance. They also served to reinforce blood ties, economic agreements and religious kinships between traditional families and clan groups.

The Boonerwurrung people

Mallanbool Reserve occupies territory of the Boonerwurrung people at the time of European contact. Each clan may have consisted of 100 people or more. This was too large a number for normal day to day activities so clans broke up into family based units, dispersing themselves throughout the landscape and reacquiring themselves with the local rhythms of their country.

Evolving boundaries

Aboriginal people have been connected to this local place for more than 40,000 years. Inevitably, traditional boundaries have evolved and changed during the continuous connection with this land. It is this same land that, in comparatively recent times, we today call Mallanbool, or Murrumbena or even metropolitan Melbourne.

NB: This map only provides an indication of the Kulin language boundaries.



'We are here, we are part of this place'
The region now known as Melbourne is the ancestral lands of the Boonerwurrung and Woiewurung (Wurundjeri) people of the Kulin nation.



2.5. Cultural Significance

2.5.1 Boyd Park & Outer Circle Railway

Boyd Park formed part of the Outer Circle Railway. The railway was completed in 1891 and ran in three sections from Oakleigh to Fairfield Park. After closure in 1897, sections of land surrounding the railway link (now Boyd Park and surrounds) were fenced off and leased for agistment of horses.

While the land was not officially public parkland, it was frequented by community members for recreation activities such as bike riding, bonfires, fishing and canoeing in the creek. Murrumbeena Creek flowed under Dandenong Road and frequently flooded during heavy rainfall. The land remained as an unkempt paddock until 1960, when a local resident group formed, with intentions of beautifying the area. Council took over the maintenance of the park during the mid 1960s.

Following the announcement by the Premier in February 1988 of the creation of the Outer Circle Linear Park between Kew and Caulfield, residents proposed that part of the park within Caulfield be named Boyd Park. This was to honour the family of talented painters, writers and musicians, one branch of who lived and worked close to the parkland.

Boyd Park is part of the original route of the Outer Circle Railway line. Despite it being long closed, the remnants of the railway line, including its tracks and a bridge, were present when Merric Boyd came to Murrumbeena. The line opened in 1890 and operated for just five years in Murrumbeena. It had originally run for 12 kilometres, from Fairfield to Oakleigh, and its construction overseen by the young, and later highly distinguished, Sir John Monash. It was first proposed in the early 1870s in a period of Victorian railway expansion to bring rail traffic from Gippsland into Melbourne through its northern suburbs. Its construction was seen as being an advantage to the government of the day in restricting the growth of privately owned rail companies, and was supported by Melbourne's outer eastern districts which saw the line as a way of encouraging development.

The railway was a commercial failure. A major problem was that it never ran as one continuous line, which made it necessary for passengers to change trains between sections. The land boom that was expected to take place along its course did not eventuate, and goods and passenger traffic from Gippsland never used the line into Melbourne. By the time it was in operation, the government had bought the private railway which operated from South Yarra to Flinders Street, and a line connected Oakleigh to Melbourne. The Outer Circle was shut down in sections, beginning in 1893. The Oakleigh to Ashburton section, which included Murrumbeena, closed in 1885 and would never open again.

In Murrumbeena, the Outer Circle came off the Dandenong line near present day Hughesdale and ran the short distance to Neerim Road, continuing on a gentle downhill slope into a minor valley formed by Murrumbeena Creek in present day Boyd Park. The creek, now barrelled and running entirely underground, ran through what is now Springthorpe Gardens in Neerim Road and into Boyd Park. It and the Outer Circle Railway intersected at the bottom of Wahroonga Crescent, a bridge and embankments carrying the line over the creek. Although the creek ran barely a trickle in summer, it could become a torrent after heavy rain. Local children, including the Boyd children often played in the creek after a downpour. A number of them, including David and Mary Boyd, and Lucy's son Robert, almost lost their lives in a flooded Murrumbeena Creek.

After the Outer Circle's closure and as Murrumbeena developed, it became a space for local residents to use. Sections were fenced and leased for horse agistment and for a period, a riding school operated from there. Children used the reserve — and especially the railway bridge and its embankments — as an adventure playground. They, including David Boyd, built a bike track on the large section of open space on the slope between Wahroonga Crescent and Wahroonga Road. Locals constructed communal bonfires for events such as Guy Falke's Night. An especially large one was built to celebrate the end of the Second World War.

Around 1930, the railway bridge was demolished. The line remained until wartime when the rails were pulled up for scrap. Later, when the creek was barrelled, the two small footbridges that had crossed it at Wahroonga Crescent and Wahroonga Road were demolished. Merric often sketched from the Wahroonga Crescent bridge. It was also frequently used by the Boyd family and countless others to buy their milk from the well-known Cove's Dairy in Wilson Street.

In 1955 the Outer Circle Railway in Murrumbeena was rezoned from Railway Easement to Future Main Road Reservation, in order for a new road to be built. This was abandoned in December 1983. It was then proposed to zone the railway land Residential C, enabling sections of it to be sold and subdivided. A community association, the Murrumbeena Outer Circle Parkland Retention Group, formed to fight the proposal. Their lobbying, which included significant media events and the involvement of Guy Boyd through The Age newspaper, was supported by Caulfield Council. It led to the formation of a study group to investigate creating one long linear park that incorporated all of the remaining Outer Circle land. In late 1986 the study group recommended that the Outer Circle Railway land be transferred to Crown ownership and that an Outer Circle Railway Linear Park be established, and in February 1988, this took place. In 1989 and 1990 significant community tree planting began in the reserve, organised by the Caulfield Environment Group with the assistance and support of Council. It was officially named Boyd Park in 1992.



Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957), Saturday 4 February 1939, page 3

TRAGEDY OF THE OUTER CIRCLE RAILWAY

THE OUTER CIRCLE RAILWAY.

A public meeting of the ratepayers of Sandridge was held last evening with reference to the proposed line of railway to Gipps Land, and to oppose the outer circle scheme. The mayor of the borough occupied the chair, and he stated that the meeting had been convened in consequence of a resolution which was passed at the last meeting of the borough council. Mr. Swallow, in proposing the first resolution, dwelt at some length upon the injustice which would be done to the inhabitants of the colony by the adoption of the outer circle line of railway in making them pay for a railway which would take an unnecessary detour of at least eight miles. The only persons benefited by the proposed route would be the property holders in that district. The traffic from Gipps Land would, by the outer circle line, be conveyed to North Melbourne, and thence to Williamstown, instead of going by the most direct and nearest road, Sandridge. The resolution was as follows: "That in the opinion of this meeting the proposal to carry that portion of the Gipps Land Railway from Melbourne to Oakleigh along the route known as the outer circle is at once impolitic, extravagant and unfair, inasmuch as by so doing the great centres of population between the points named would be entirely avoided, the cost of construction of the line, as well as the transit of passengers and merchandise, would be greatly and unnecessarily increased, and an amount of incon-

The Outer Circle in its heyday. The picture shows the type of engine and carriage used on the line in the 'nineties.

**Visionary Line to Relieve City Traffic
had a Chequered, Depressing History**

By JOHN STEELE

TO the residents of the eastern suburbs of Melbourne the Outer Circle railway is a remnant connecting East Camberwell with Ashburton, but this remnant is all that remains of a courageous vision conjured up by misplaced confidence in the

Source: <https://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/Places-and-events/Arts-and-Culture/Boyd-walking-tour/Site-6-Boyd-Park-and-the-Outer-Circle-Railway>

2.5.2 Springthorpe Gardens

These bluestone gates stood at the entrance of Dr John Springthorpe's Joyous Gard Estate. They were from the Melbourne Hospital, Melbourne's first public hospital, on the corner of Lonsdale and Swanston Streets. Dr Springthorpe was presented with these gates in 1910 in appreciation for his services when the hospital site was redeveloped. Tuckett Street was once a part of the original driveway of the Tuckett's Omama home. Apart from the Springthorpe Estate, the subdivision of Omama led to the creation of the Corinan Estate, which extended from Tuckett Street almost to Hobart Road. This estate included a grand house which faced Neerim Road near Tuckett Street. It included ponds, aviaries and free running deer.

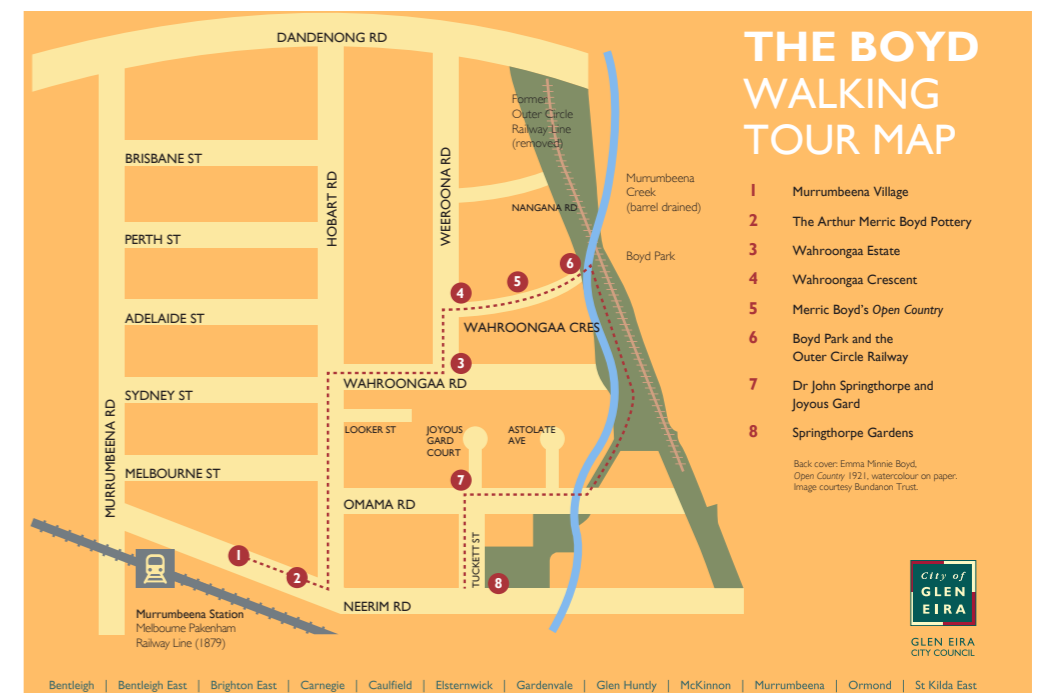
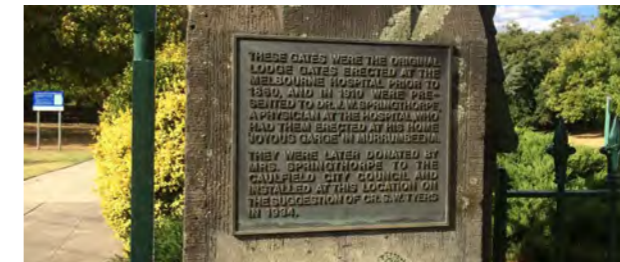
The Springthorpe Estate, along with Corinan and remnants of the Wahroonga Estate, were **the** last of the significant properties to be subdivided in the northern section of Murrumbeena between Neerim Road and Dandenong Road. They had been present when Merric Boyd arrived and remained intact until their development in the 1930s. It was then that the rural nature of northern Murrumbeena was changed forever. The only home that remains from the subdivision of Omama is Yaralla, on the corner of Omama Road and Tuckett Street.

While many Murrumbeena residents lamented the loss of Murrumbeena's estates and rural character, Merric Boyd does not appear to be one of them. He seems to have adapted readily to the changes that occurred around him. He was genuinely interested in all things in his environment, natural and man-made, and created images of both.

The Boyd heritage is one of the very special features of Murrumbeena. As a creative family whose interests touched virtually every area of the arts, the Boyds stand alone, and while their physical presence has gone, their memory in Murrumbeena lives on. It survives in the presence of Tralee, the original home of Arthur Merric and Emma Minnie Boyd at 4 Wahroonga Crescent. It endures in the thousands of drawings that Merric created of the area, and in the minds of those who knew the Boyds and pass on their memories to others. It continues with those who appreciate and value the things the Boyds valued — like creativity, self-expression and family life. And it lives on in those who take the time to travel the streets of Murrumbeena and learn about this creative Australian family.



Corner Tuckett Street and Neerim Road, Murrumbeena



Source: <https://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/Places-and-events/Arts-and-Culture/Boyd-walking-tour/Site-8-Springthorpe-Gardens>

2.6. Ecological Significance

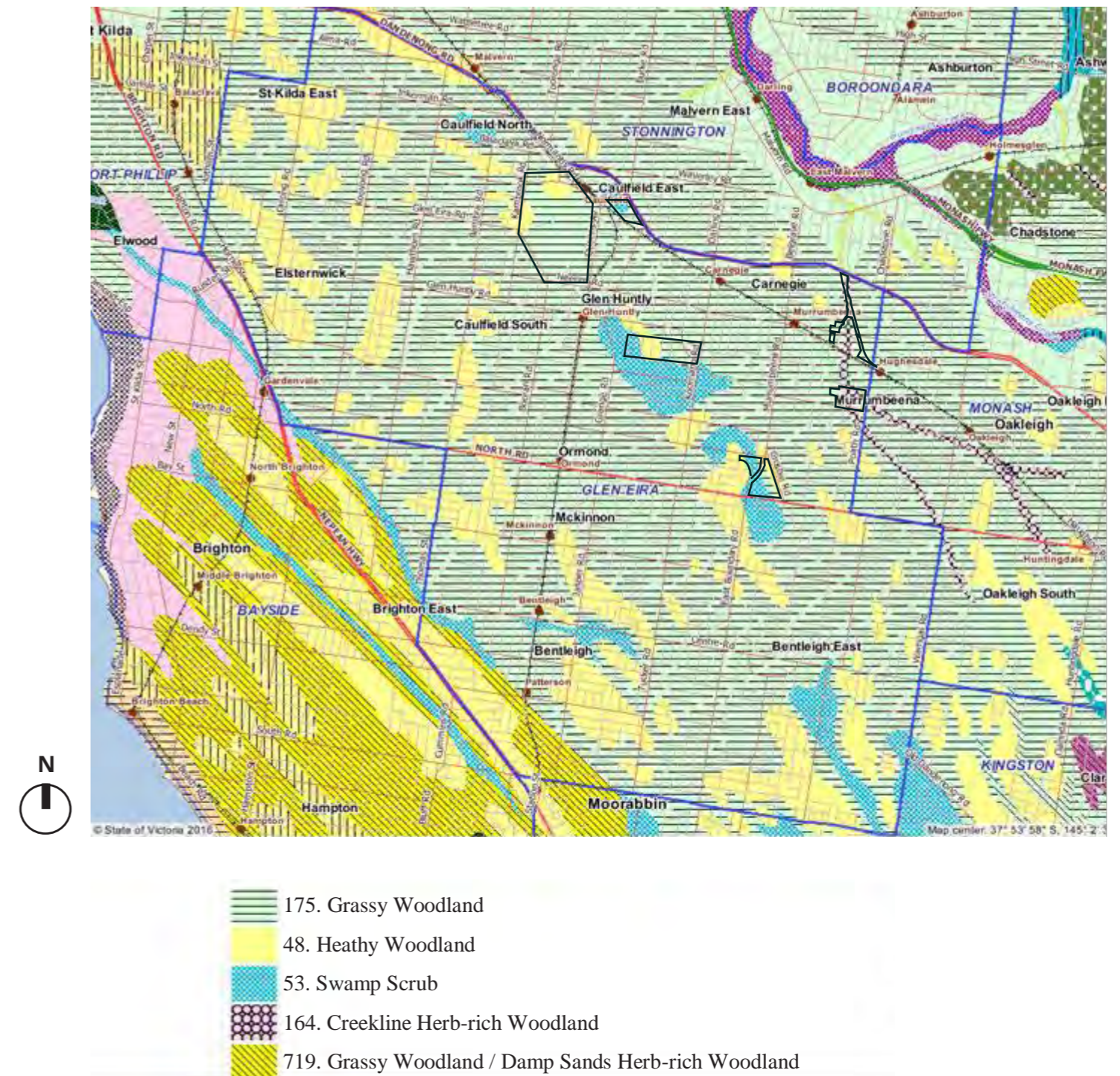
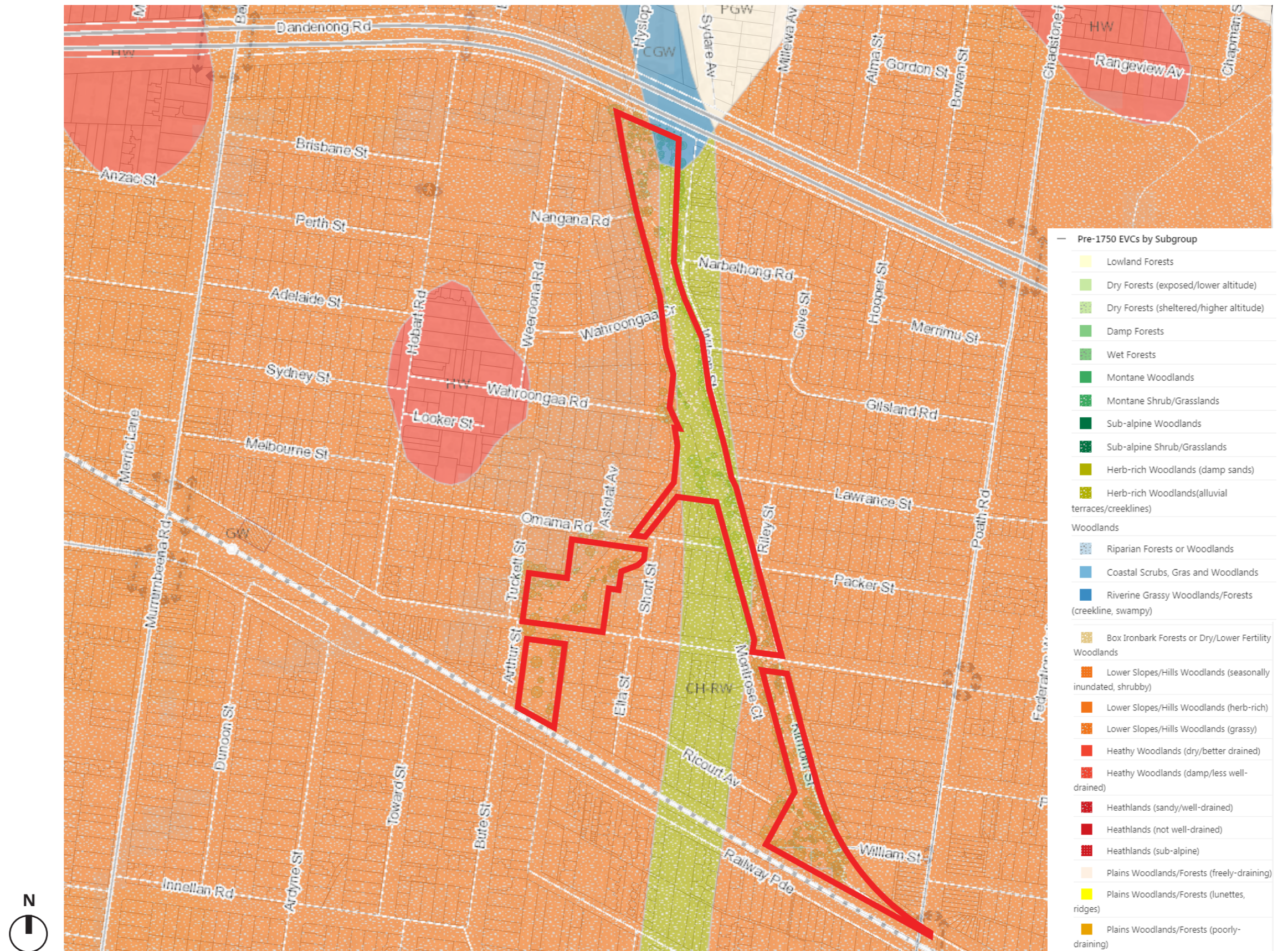


Figure 1. Map of Ecological Vegetation Classes in and near Glen Eira in 1750, inferred from geology and topography. From the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning’s ‘Biodiversity Interactive Map’ website. Municipalities are outlined in dark blue, with Glen Eira in the middle.

Source: City of Glen Eira Biodiversity Report

2.7. Ecological Vegetation History



2.8. Aerial Imagery

2.8.1 Date - 1945



2.8.2 Date- 2018



3. Context



3.1. Open Space Provision

Boyd Park (including Springthorpe Gardens and Riley Reserve) is the most significant and accessible open space within the local context. Immediate to the north is the Urban Forest Reserve, which is bisected by the Princes Highway.

Whilst the City of Glen Eira has a widely distributed provision of public recreational space, there are no significant other municipal open spaces within the immediate context of the Outer Circle Linear Park.

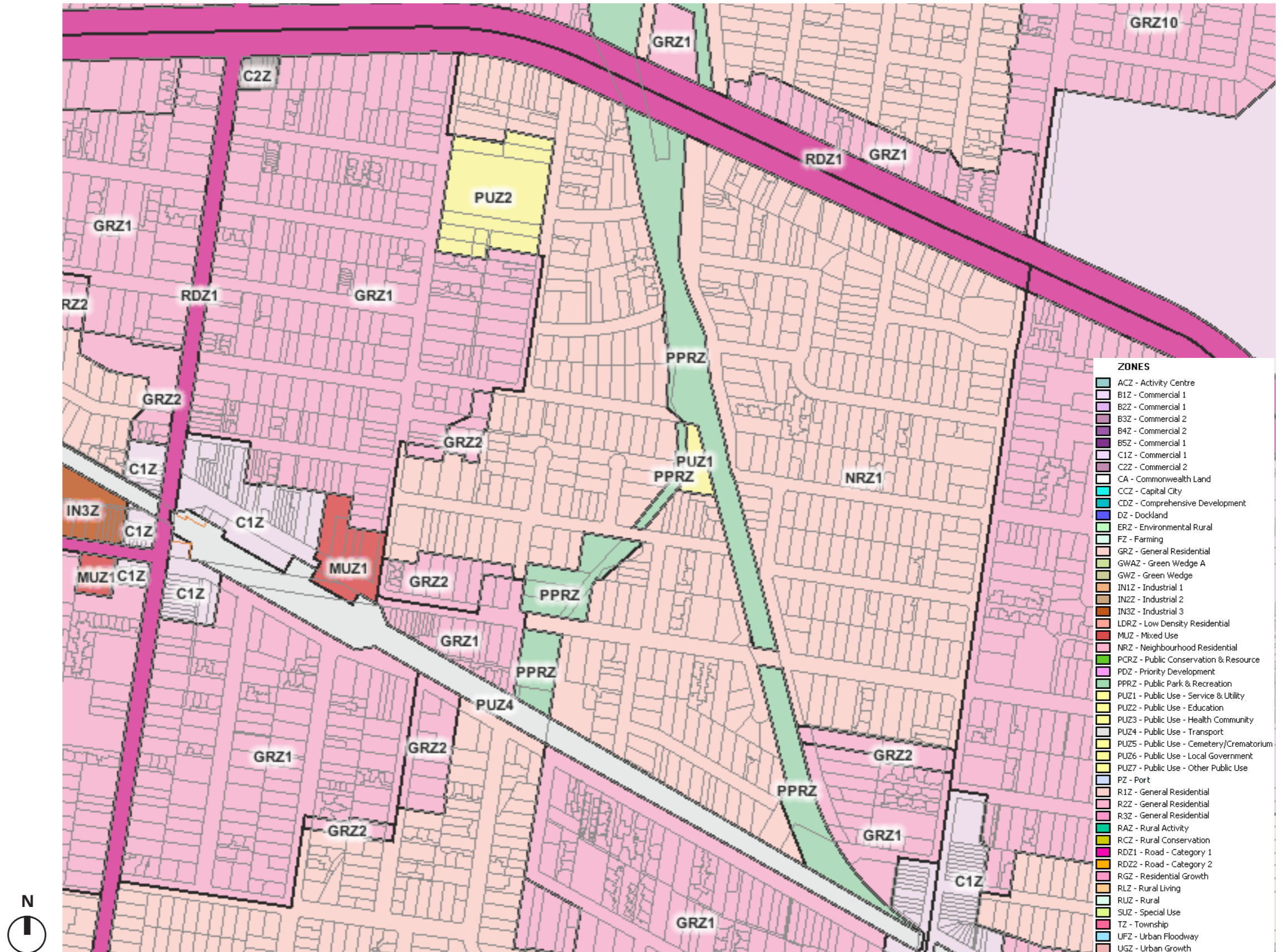
The works of the level crossing removals along the rail corridor are of key relevance to open space provision, and the development of the linear park will have wide-reaching consequences for the wider and local context.



Source: *Open Space Strategy GECC*

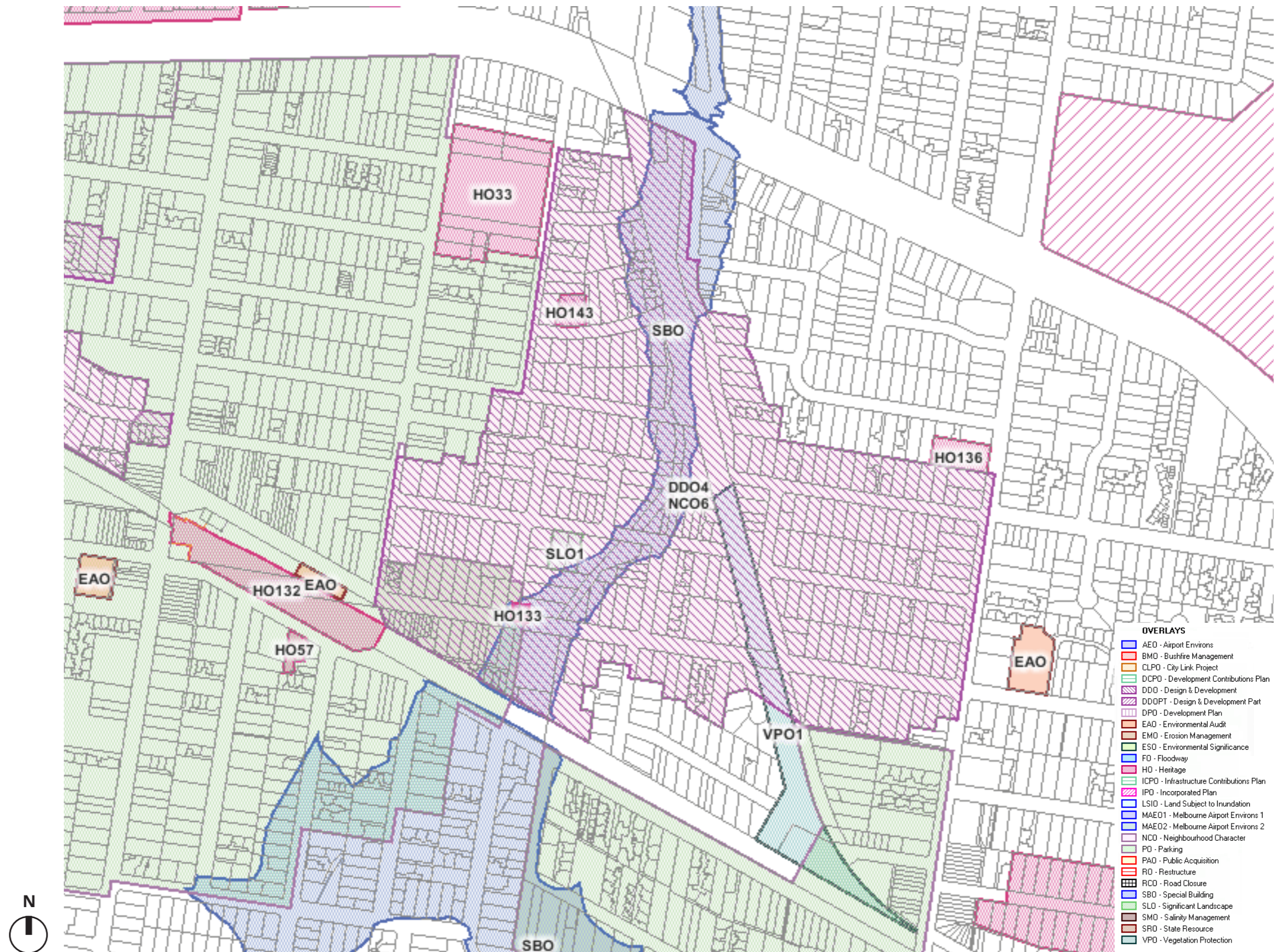
3.2. Planning and Environment - Zoning

Map source: Planning Schemes Online - Glen Eira Maps. Map source date: 17.09.18

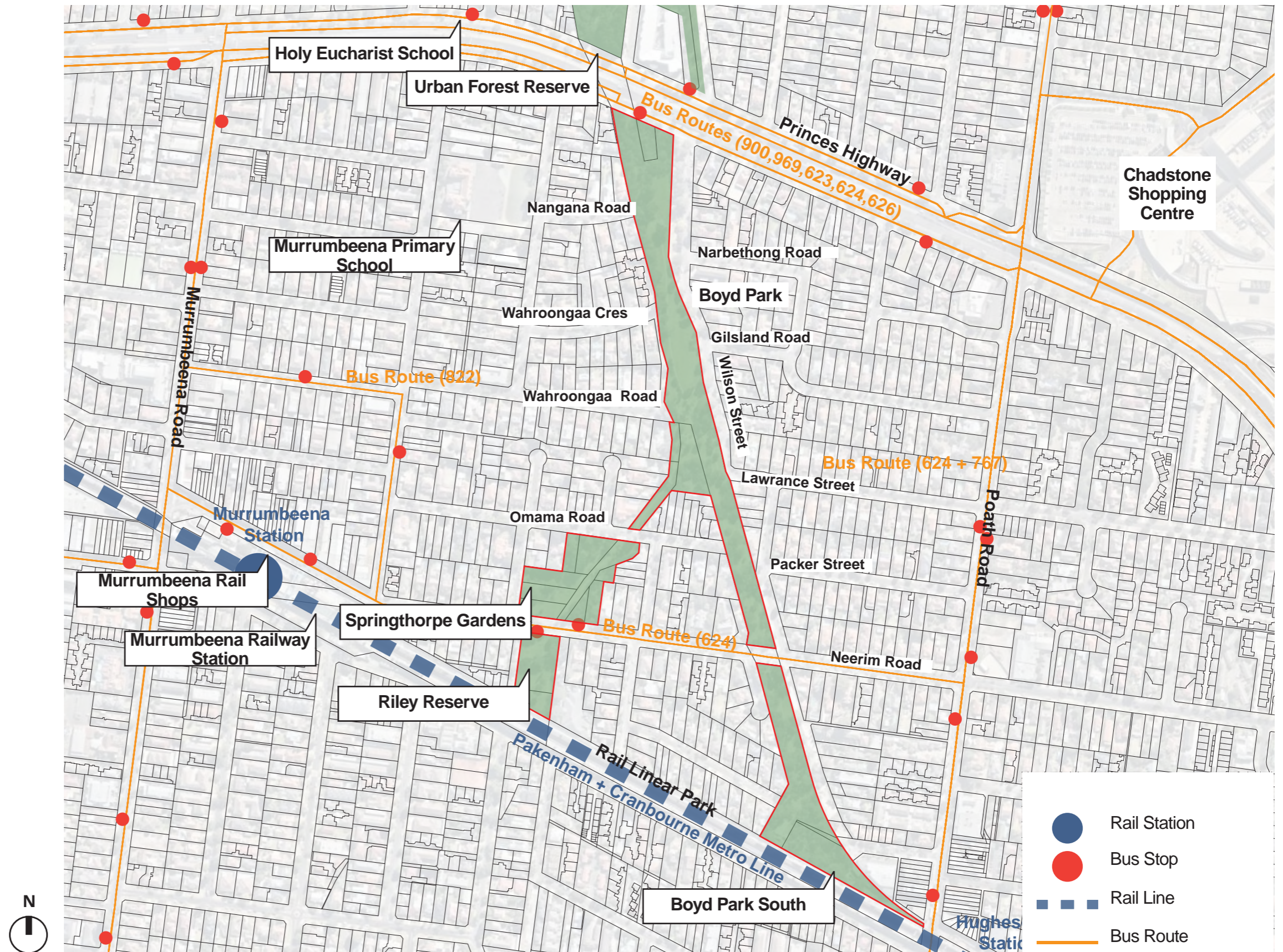


3.3. Planning and Environment - Overlays

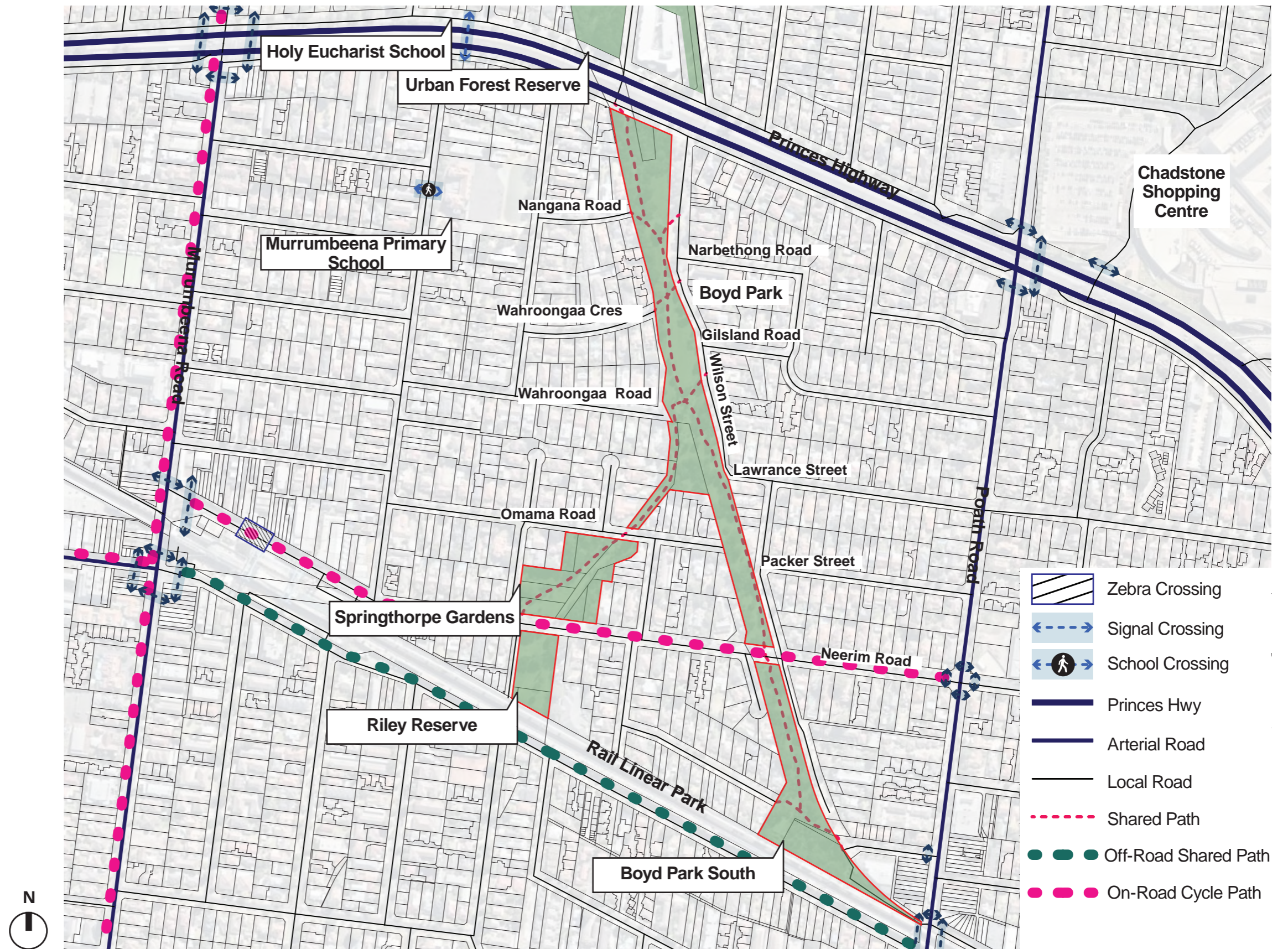
Map source: Planning Schemes Online -
Glen Eira Maps. Map source date: 17.09.18



3.4. Public Transport Network



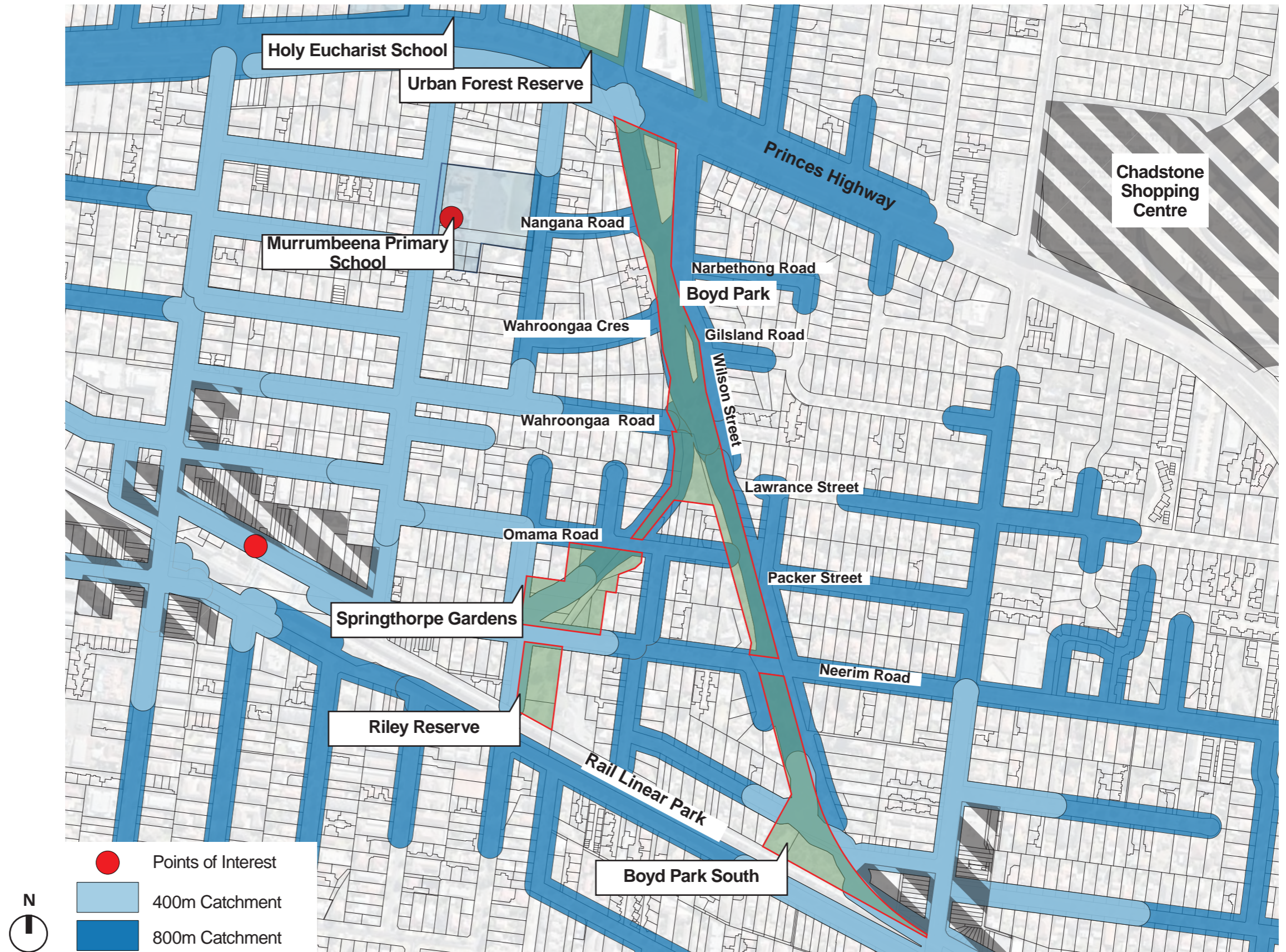
3.5. Active Transport Network



3.6. Locations/Points of Interest



3.7. Movement and Access (PEDSHED)





4. Outer Circle Railway Linear Park

4.1. Existing Landscape Character Overview

Boyd Park North

Along the northern park boundary is an extensive mulched planting area containing predominantly indigenous plant species, with isolated exotic trees that creates a 'naturalistic' bushland character.

Further south, the dominant landscape character is open grassland with trees of mixed species, and isolated mulched garden beds.

The topography in this area is generally flat with gentle slopes/ variations, and does not contain any significant grade changes.

Dominant activities here include walking, dog walking, cycling, use of picnic facilities and rotunda, a central playground area, and use of open areas for informal recreation.

Sightlines are open and expansive given the open nature of the space, and allow long and clear lines of sight from the rotunda to the playground.

Boyd Park Central

A linear space comprised of open grassland with mixed tree species and mulched planting beds. There are also a few remnant Red River Gums.

The topography in this area is generally flat with gentle slopes/ variations, and does not contain any significant grade changes.

Dominant activities here include walking, dog walking and cycling, and is mainly used as a passage to other areas of the park.

Visually, sightlines can be limited due to the narrow linear nature of the space and ranges from poor to moderate levels of visual quality, due to a lack of vegetation and boundary fencing from neighbouring residential properties.

Link Space

This is a narrow, linear space which is comprised of a single path and grass cover which connects Boyd Park Central to Springthorpe Gardens. Due to Melbourne Water works, this area has been completely stripped of the path and vegetation cover, and is addressed in the proposed plan.

Boyd Park South - Kitmont Street

A predominantly nature conservation landscape containing large numbers of remnant indigenous trees with clusters of native and exotic species. A significant vegetation protection overlay has been applied on the southern section which contains a fenced sanctuary containing a high amount of remnant plant species.

The topography in this area is generally flat with gentle slopes/ variations, and does not contain any significant grade changes.

Dominant activities here include walking, dog walking and cycling. The natural indigenous landscape character is a main point of interest.

Sightlines are open and clear along the extent of the path, with vegetation on the edges providing a visual buffer between the park and the neighbouring properties.

Springthorpe Gardens

A traditional local public garden consisting of mainly open grass and exotic trees, with isolated ornamental garden beds and a mulched garden bed on the perimeter.

Dominant activities include walking, dog walking, with some amenities for users such as benches, tables, bins and drinking fountains.

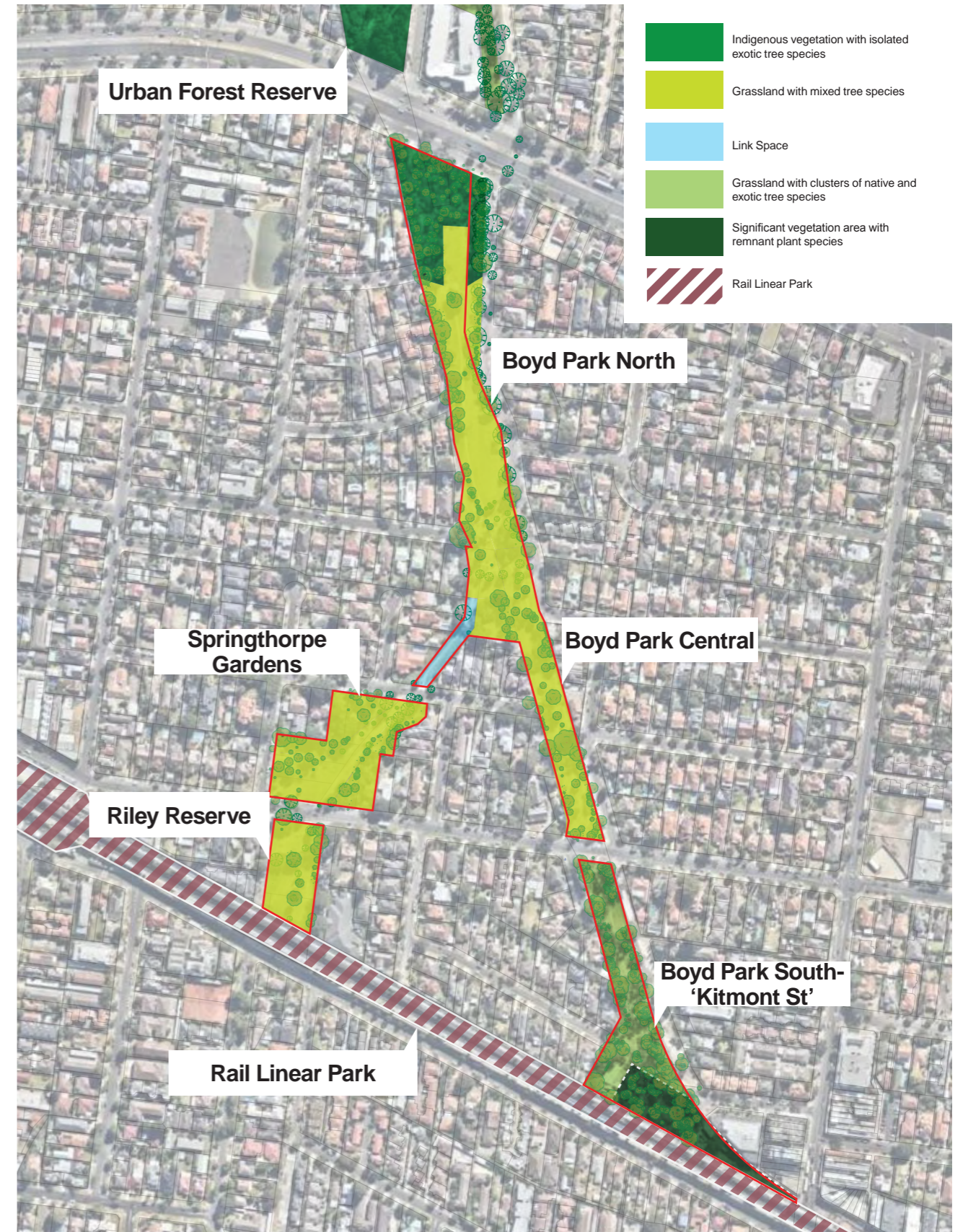
Lines of sight are clear along the path, with a clear visual connection to the adjoining roads.

Riley Reserve

Open grass area with isolated exotic trees and ad-hoc distribution of garden beds.

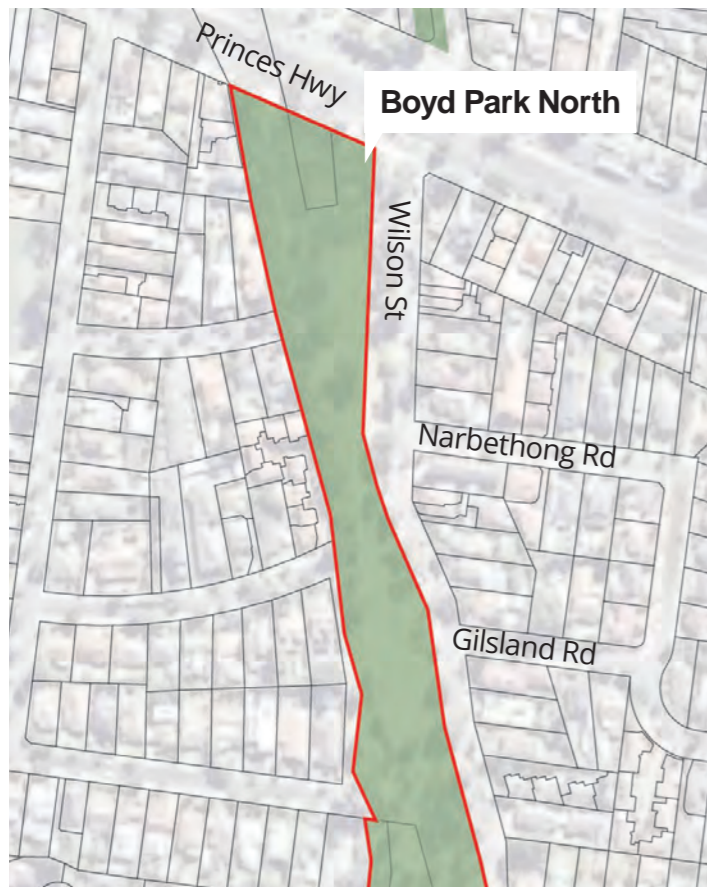
Flat topography.

Dominant users of the space are dog-walkers, but this is expected to change due to the Level Crossing Linear park and its influence on future plans for the area.



4.2. Existing Landscape Character

4.2.1 Boyd Park North



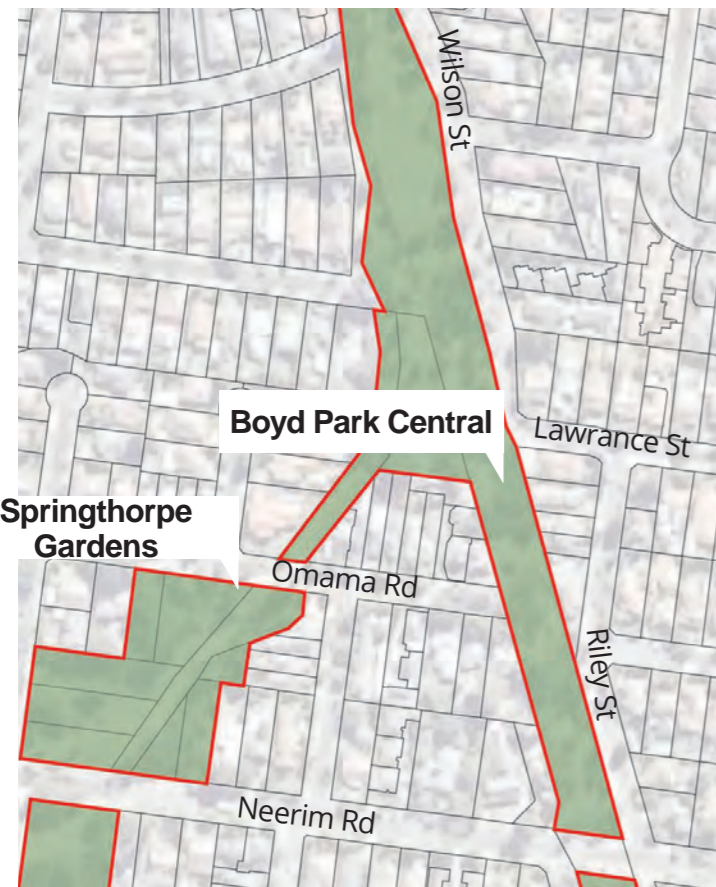
Boyd Park North

The planting at the northern end of Boyd Park consists of extensive areas of mulched garden beds that have been established with indigenous plant species. This zone provides a significant and successful buffer and visual screen to Princes Highway. The planting creates a more naturalistic or bushland character to this part of Boyd Park, yet it is dotted through with isolated, mature exotic trees such as Monterey Pines, a Canary Island Palm, an Apple tree etc., and remnants from an old house site. This area has had significant input from the Glen Eira Environmental Group.

The central part of this area includes wide-open grassed areas, with isolated trees of indigenous, native and exotic species, with areas of mulched garden beds. These garden beds were established with a range of various styles, with native trees and shrubs: Grevilleas, Hakeas, Eucalypt species, Acacias, Casuarinas, etc., some of which have now reached maturity. Those which have been established close to path edges, have been trimmed and 'hedged', and have lost naturalness and informality seen in other areas of planting.



4.2.2 Boyd Park Central

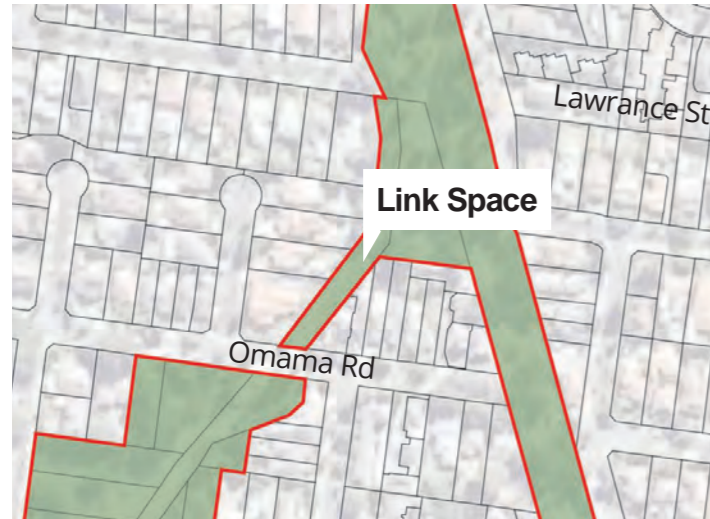


Boyd Park Central

This area narrows down and contains less open grass areas, and less mulched massed planting beds. There are some isolated remnant River Red Gums and some significant stands of remnant rows of Desert Ash trees, which were commonly planted along the railway lines in earlier times. This tree species is regarded as an environmental weed tree species, in most natural site contexts. These trees should be removed over a reasonable period of time.



4.2.3 Link Space

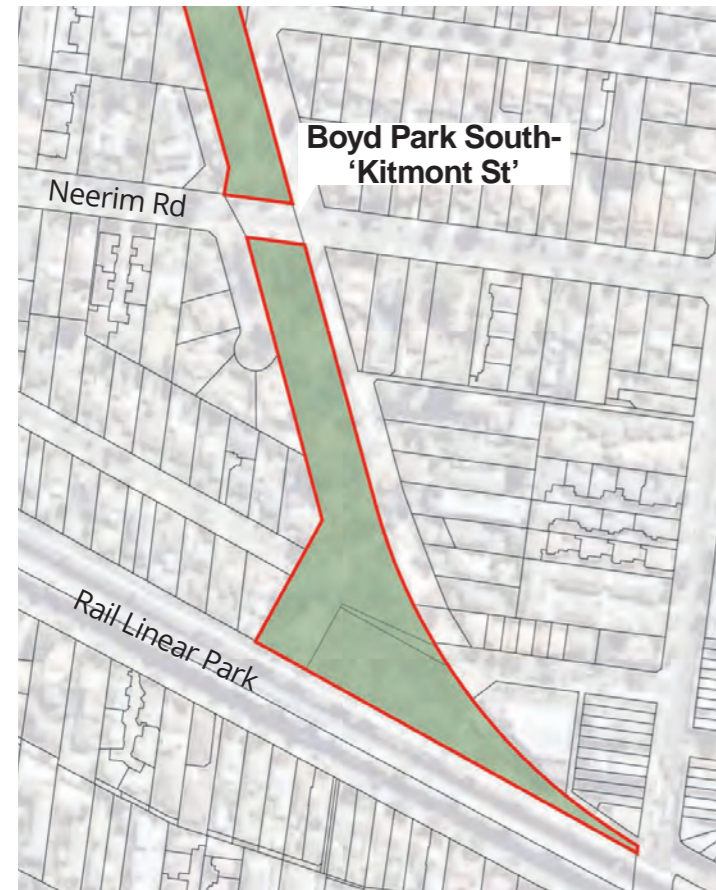


Link Space

This is a narrow, linear space which is comprised of a single path and grass cover which connects Boyd Park Central to Springthorpe Gardens. Due to Melbourne Water works, this area has been completely stripped of the path and vegetation cover, and is addressed in the proposed plan.



4.2.4 Boyd Park South (Kitmont Street)



Boyd Park South - Kitmont Street

This area is predominantly indigenous landscape with a few clusters of native and exotic trees such as Iron Bark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*) and Ash Trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*). This area also contains the largest number of remnant River Red Gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) and Swamp Gums (*Eucalyptus ovata*). There are approximately 26 indigenous species found in this area and the significant vegetation diversity warrants the areas inclusion as a special vegetation protection 'Overlay' area in the Glen Eira Planning Scheme. The southern section of Boyd Park has been developed as a primarily indigenous vegetation environment. It has a focus on replanting, rejuvenating and protecting the remnant vegetation.



4.2.5 Springthorpe Gardens



Springthorpe Gardens

Springthorpe Gardens provide a completely contrasting landscape character to that of Boyd Park. It is a traditional 'municipal-style' park, with open grass and isolated specimen trees. Most of the trees are exotic, including Cedars, Tulip Tree, Liquidamber, Plane Trees, Palms, Poplars etc. There are three bluestone edged circular ornamental planting beds, some planted with annuals/perennials, and a perimeter garden bed with extremely sparse planting adjacent to the residential lots to the north-west and south-west. Many of the trees in Springthorpe Gardens are now starting to decline and some trees have been removed, leaving gaps with a corresponding decline in the visual quality of the open space.



4.2.6 Riley Reserve



Riley Reserve

The dominant character of Riley Reserve is open grass with isolated exotic specimen trees. The location of garden beds within Riley Reserve is somewhat adhoc, consisting of a rose garden with sleeper edge, and a bluestone edged garden bed to the east boundary, planted with species such as Cannas, Cordylines, Ginger, Geraniums etc.



• From Riley Reserve, towards southern section of site boundary - before level crossing removal works (2016)

4.3. Community Uses Overview

As part of the former Outer Circle Railway, Boyd Park is recognised for its heritage values and its environmental character including stands of indigenous vegetation.

The survey undertaken as part of the Open Space Strategy in 2014 highlighted that the main reasons people visit the reserve is for walking, dog walking, visiting the playground, cycling, convenient/close by and its natural character and trees.

The smaller open space reserves include Springthorpe Gardens and Riley Reserve, both of which are exotic in character, providing diversity in landscape character from the predominantly native and indigenous landscape character of the nearby Boyd Park.

The Pakenham/Cranbourne Line railway runs east-west through Murrumbeena, and where Railway Avenue adjoins the railway line to the south, the overstorey trees provide a contribution to the open space character of the precinct.

Areas within Murrumbeena recognised for the heritage and neighbourhood character values include the Boyd Park Area. This is significant for its tree-lined streets grading down to Boyd Park and the picturesque inter-war and post-war homes with landscaped gardens.

Open space	Area Ha	Hierarchy	Primary Character Classification	Secondary Character Classification
Boyd Park	3.79	Municipal	Linear	Nature conservation
Duncan Mackinnon Reserve	8.68	Municipal	Sporting	Informal, Nature conservation
Mallanbool Reserve	2.21	Neighbourhood	Nature conservation	Restricted sporting, Informal, Linking space
Murrumbeena Park	5.34	Municipal	Sporting	Informal
Riley Reserve	0.41	Local	Informal	
Springthorpe Gardens	0.75	Local	Heritage	Public garden
Total area	21.20			

Most frequently visited open space reserves:

Use	Open space	Reason to visit	Suggested improvements
Open space within walking distance			
51%	Boyd Park	walking (17%) dog walking (13%) playground (10%) relaxing (8%)	Provide additional toilets and trees.
40%	Murrumbeena Park	walking (12%) dog walking (10%) playground (10%) dogs off-lead area (6%) exercising (6%)	Provide shade to playgrounds, provide additional trees and toilets and enforce dog off-lead areas.

Source: 2014 Open Space Strategy, pp.240

4.4. 2004 Community Uses and Consultation

Community Use

Boyd Park

Boyd Park contains the only playground facilities – a small local playground, comprised of just a few play elements, and a half circle basketball-court area, now without a basketball hoop. The hoop was removed in response from local residents, due to the noise source being so close to houses.

Boyd park also has large open grassed areas, which potentially provide space for more active recreation such as kick-around ball games. The linear nature of the grassed area limits the opportunity for kite flying. It has a primary off-road trail network which links to Gardener’s Creek Trail (City of Stonnington) to the north, and the ‘Three Stations Trail Project’ (Parks Victoria) to the east.

There are limited opportunities for picnicking within Riley Reserve because of the smaller size of the reserve. Springthorpe Gardens has more space, and does include a few picnic tables, but no formal picnic facilities or barbecues. Boyd Park provides the only picnic shelter and barbecue facilities.

All of the open space reserves cater for dog walking activities. These are areas which have been designated and signposted for both ‘dog-on leash’ zones and ‘off-leash’ zones.

Boyd Park, north of Neerim Road, is a dog ‘off’ leash zone. Dog-tidy bag facilities could be improved in all of the open space areas. The only two ‘dog tidy’ bag dispensers are located within Boyd Park, and better participation in this activity might occur, if a dispenser were attached to each ‘Totem’ park sign throughout the park.

Recommendations from the Biodiversity Report include adding protection to the planted area at the northern area of the park for protection from dogs for fauna.

Springthorpe Gardens

This is a designated dog ‘on’ leash zone, where dogs are not allowed to roam without being controlled on a leash. This control seems appropriate and seems to function well.

Riley Reserve

This is a designated dog ‘on’ leash zone.

This control seems appropriate, and seems to function reasonably well.



Community Consultation

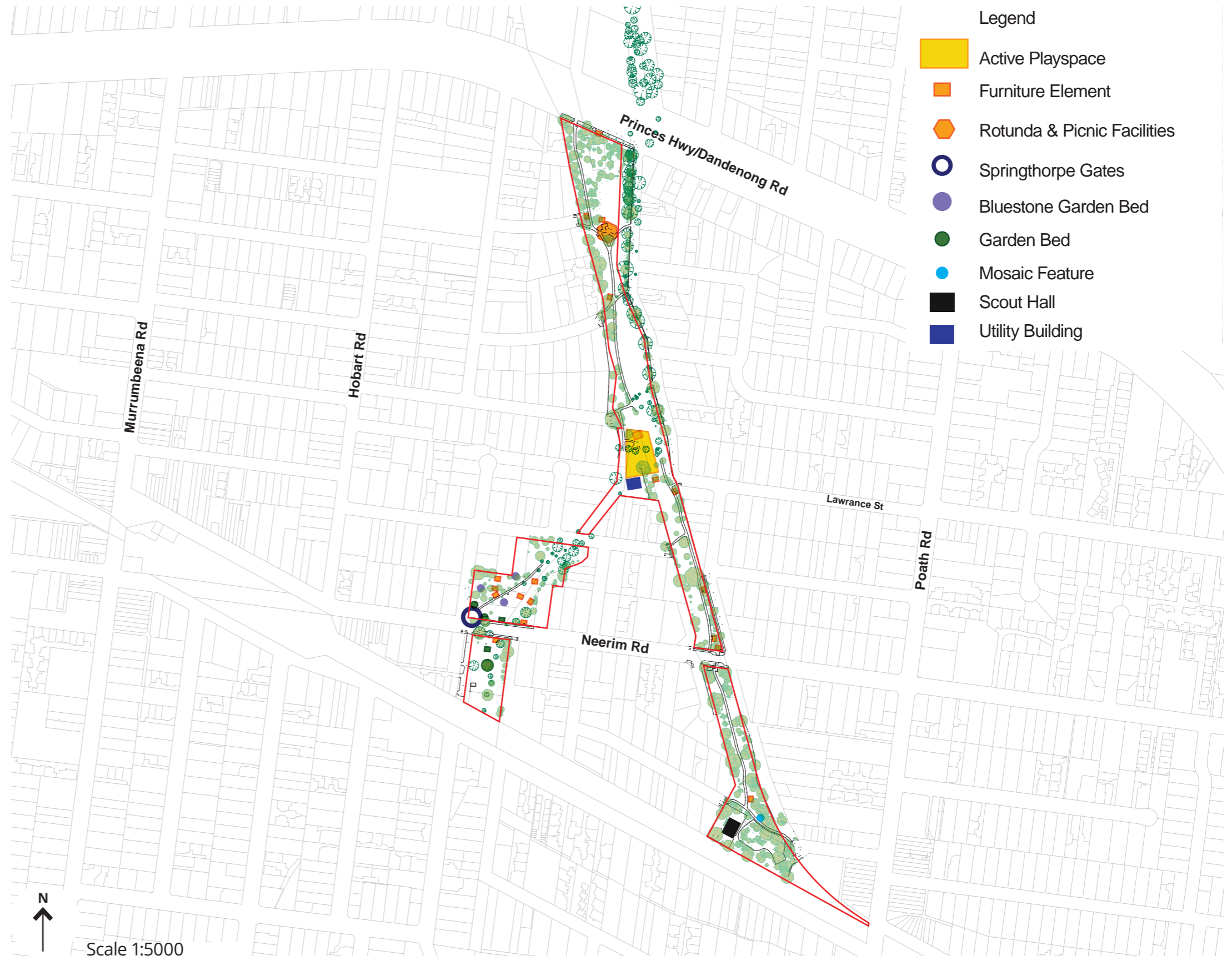
A public meeting was held on the 11th December 2002 to inform the local community about the study and to allow local residents to raise concerns and issues related to the open space. About one hundred people attended the meeting. After a general information presentation, the attendees were invited to break-up into smaller groups (12 total), to workshop ideas and concerns about the open space. Notes were marked-up onto study area plans. A leaflet was distributed which provided the opportunity for written responses. These were later collated, and a list of the summarised issues raised at the meeting were included in Appendix I of the 2004 Outer Circle Railway Linear Park, Landscape Management Plan.

Further community engagement to review the updated Outer Circle Railway Linear Park Management Plan will be scheduled by GECC.

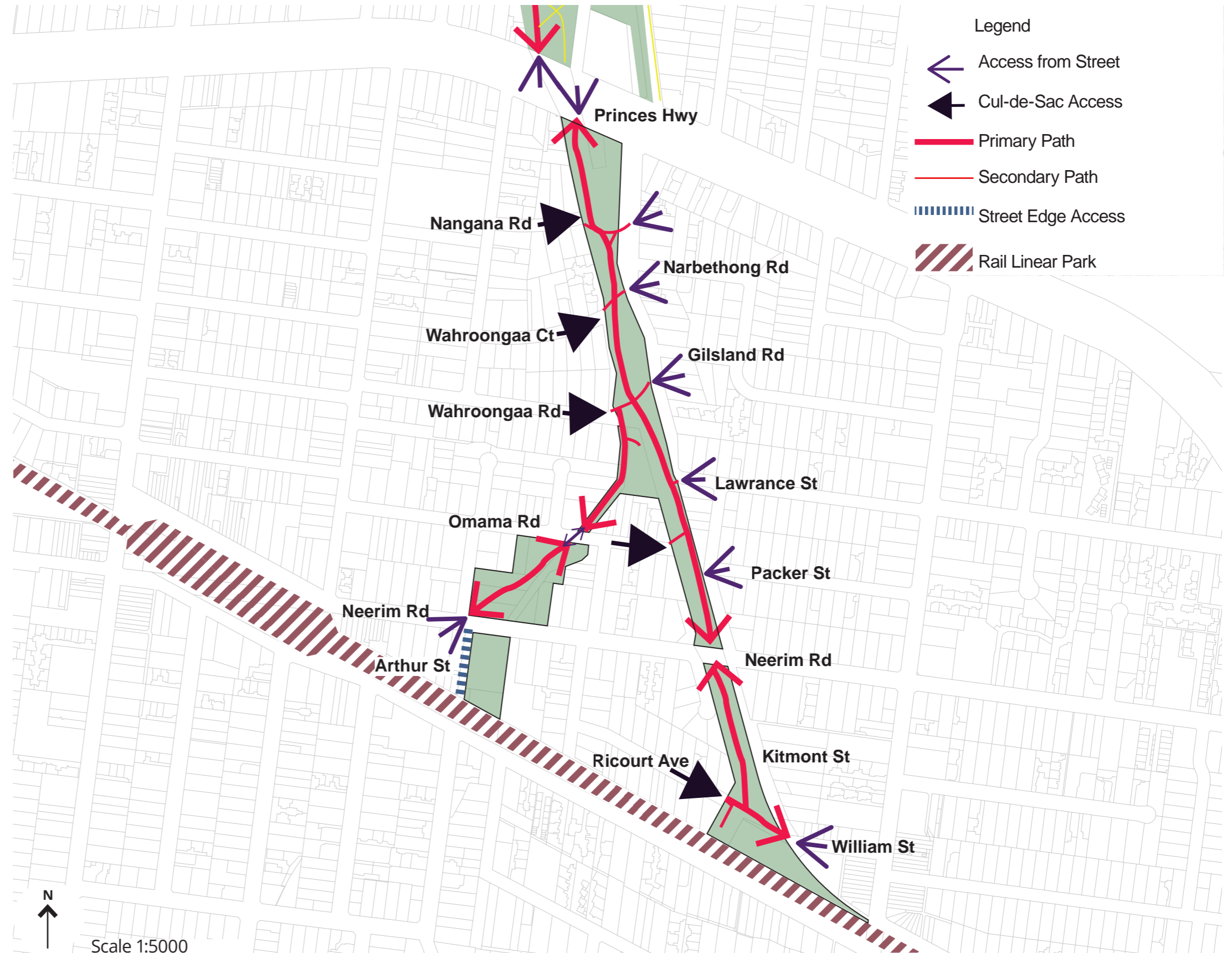
Source: 2004 Outer Circle Railway Management Plan GECC

4.5. Site Analysis

4.5.1 Points of Interest



4.5.2 Site Movement and Analysis



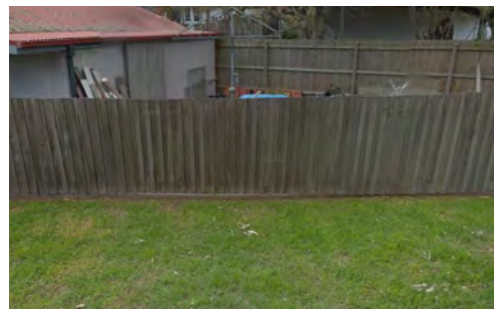
DRAFT

4.5.3 Site Edge Condition

The site edge conditions of the linear park varies in permeability and type of fencing used to delineate the boundaries. It is mainly comprised of 'post & rail', 'post & rail fencing', 'paling fence', and steel wire mesh. It should be recognised that there is a point of difference between the 'post & rail fence' and the 'post & rail', where the latter is much lower and allows pedestrians to cross into the park without hindrance, and is used primarily to keep vehicular traffic out.



Timber P&R Fence



Timber Paling Fence



Timber Post & Rail

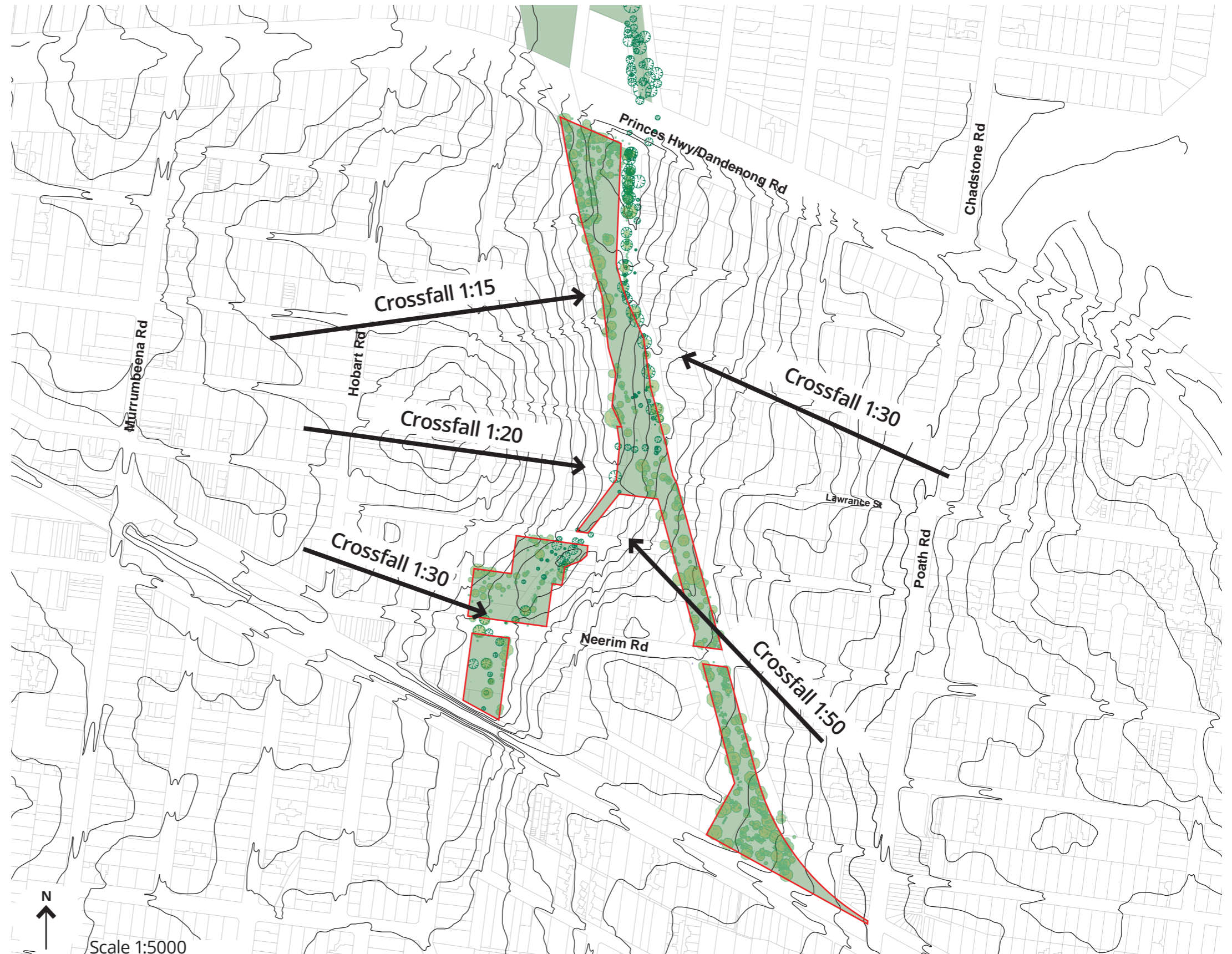


Steel Wire Mesh



- Legend
-  Timber Paling Fence
 -  Timber Post & Rail
 -  Steel Wire Mesh
 -  Rail Linear Park

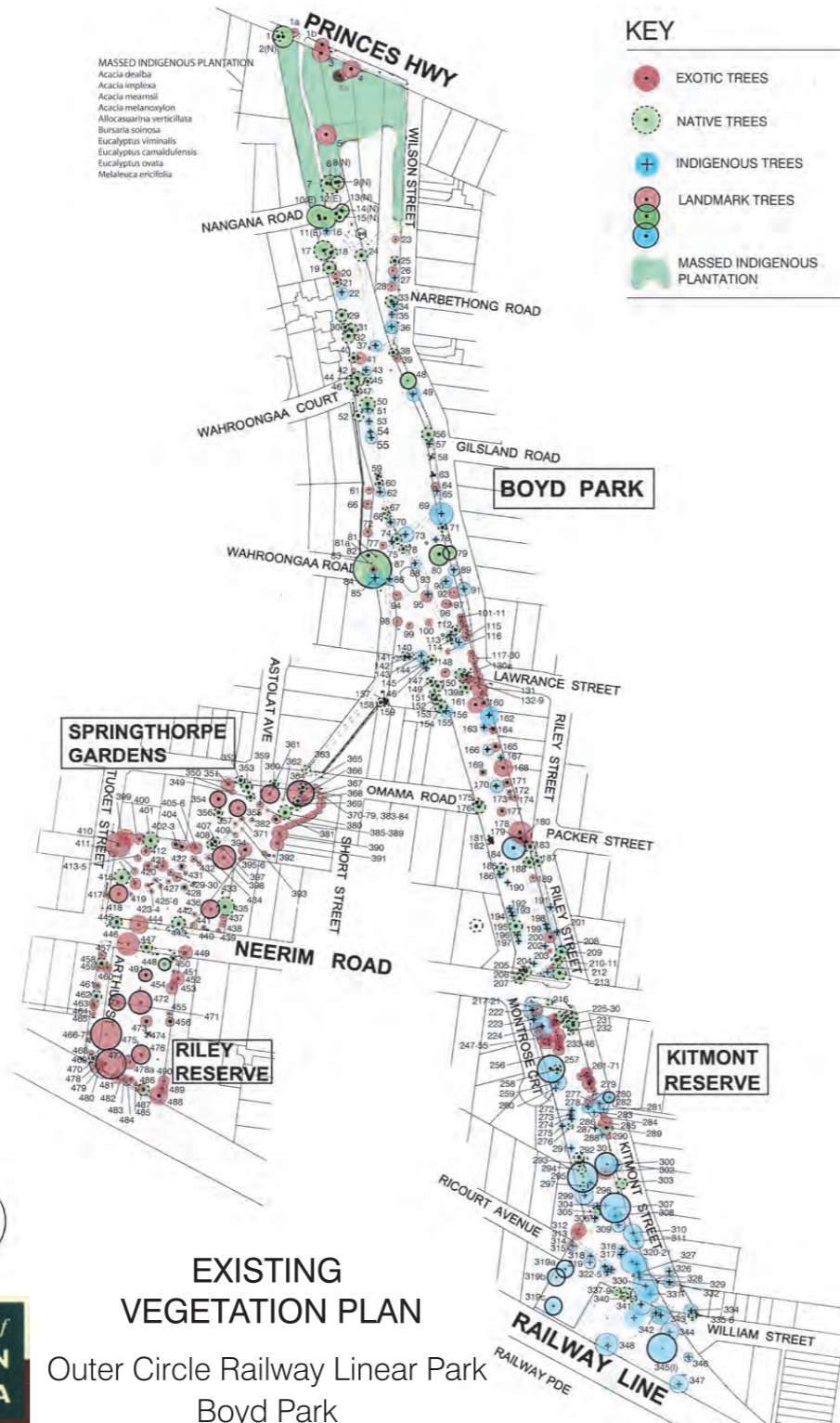
4.5.4 Site Topography



4.6. Existing Trees and Vegetation

4.6.1 Existing Trees and Vegetation

2002 Existing Vegetation Plan



Source: 2004 Outer Circle Railway Management Plan GECC

2018 Vegetation Plan (To Be Confirmed)

Due to the timing of the surveys and the anticipated Melbourne Water works which will impact the highlighted zones, the draft management plan is based on the information available at the time and recognises that the location of specific trees in the impacted zones will need to be verified.



4.6.2 Existing Trees and Vegetation (Melbourne Water Works Impact)



Tree removal

To construct the new drain, vegetation removal is required. A thorough process was undertaken to minimise tree removal by assessing the drain location, design efficiencies and construction methodology. The assessment was supported by arborist advice.

Trees in Springthorpe Gardens have been removed. Trees in the remaining areas will be removed week commencing 14 May.

Trees will be marked as follows:



Immediate removal



It is possible the tree may be removed but will not be removed immediately. The tree will be assessed when construction works commence under the supervision of an arborist to identify if the tree can safely remain or requires removal.

Significant pruning of some trees will also take place to reduce the possibility of damage during our works.

Please contact the project team if you would like a larger version of the map emailed or delivered, or to arrange an onsite meeting to discuss any concerns or questions you may have.

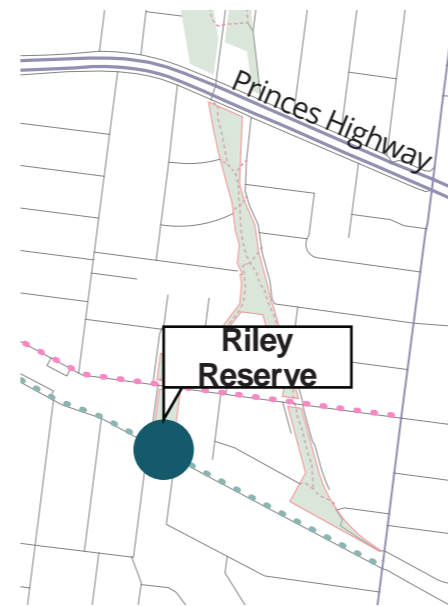
Legend

 Temporary Access Corridors	Trees
 Excavation Envelope	 No Impact
 Construction Corridor	 Potential Removal (TBC during works)
	 Removal

4.7. Impact of Level Crossing Removals

4.7.1 Riley Reserve

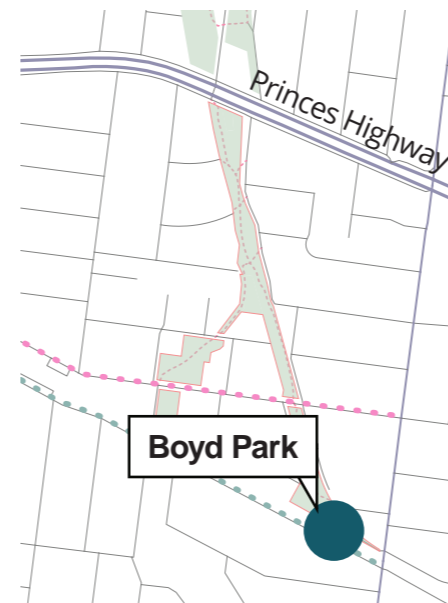
As part of the level crossing removals project, the southern section of Riley Reserve will be impacted, and plans for the development of this area will need to be taken into consideration as part of an update to the landscape management plan for this site.



Source: <https://levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/projects/murrumbeena-road-murrumbeena>

4.7.2 Boyd Park 'Kitmont Street'

As part of the level crossing removals project, the southern section of Boyd Park will be impacted, and plans for the development of this area will need to be taken into consideration as part of an update to the landscape management plan for this site.



Source: <https://levelcrossings.vic.gov.au/projects/murrumbeena-road-murrumbeena>