

Victoria Park Barrambin

Draft Master Plan

September 2022



Dedicated to a better Brisbane



Acknowledgement of Country

Brisbane City Council acknowledges this Country and its Traditional Custodians. We acknowledge and respect the spiritual relationship between Traditional Custodians and this Country, which has inspired language, songs, dances, lore and dreaming stories over many thousands of years. We pay our respects to the Elders, those who have passed into the dreaming; those here today; those of tomorrow.

May we continue to peacefully walk together in gratitude, respect and kindness in caring for this Country and one another.

Barrambin (meaning 'windy place') and Walan / Woolan (meaning 'bream') comprised the areas now known as Herston and Bowen Hills. The land was undulating, with hills punctuated by a chain of waterholes and gullies. Barrambin and Walan were meeting and gathering places for groups travelling to and from other parts of South East Queensland, as well as dance and corroboree sites, and hunting and fishing lands for local Aboriginal people of Brisbane. The area now contained within Victoria Park / Barrambin was an extensive Aboriginal camp and is a significant European contact and cultural site.

In 2008, Victoria Park was given the dual name of Barrambin following engagement with the local Turrbal group.

*Artist impressions:
Front cover: The Tree House
This page: Dancing circle at the
Visitor Centre | Dancers depicted
from the Nunukal Yuggera
Aboriginal Dance Company
Back cover: Nature water play gully*



Lord Mayor's message

Victoria Park / Barrambin is now a huge part of Brisbane's incredible network of more than 2100 parks and I'm excited to share the Draft Master Plan with you. In this plan, we've outlined how we want to transform 64-hectares of inner-city greenspace over time into an iconic parkland that is uniquely Brisbane.

Residents and visitors have been exploring and enjoying the parkland since July 2021 and its reputation as one of Brisbane's best parkland destinations is growing. We've already seen parts of the park come to life with the Green Heart Fair, which drew more than 15,000 attendees, as well as a host of other community and corporate events and activations.

When we first asked residents what they wanted to see at this parkland more than 51,000 people shared their thoughts for the park's future, informing the Victoria Park Vision in 2019 and 2020. The Draft Master Plan consolidates the community's feedback to guide the vision, transforming the park into a place for discovery, adventure and connection with nature.

At the heart of this transformation is the rewilding of the park – returning vast areas of the park to its natural state and significantly increasing tree canopy cover for residents and visitors to enjoy now and into the future. Through the creation of the Vision and the Draft Master Plan, we've worked with Traditional Custodians to understand the land and their connection to it.

The park will strengthen Brisbane's reputation as one of the world's most liveable cities. It will become a space where culture and vibrancy are balanced with the natural environment, adding to our city's clean, green and sustainable outlook. It's this vision and focus that makes Brisbane the best place to live, work, relax and raise a family.

As we prepare for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, all eyes of the world will be on the parkland in ten years' time when it hosts temporary venues for the equestrian cross country and BMX freestyle events.

Through this Draft Master Plan, you have the opportunity to provide feedback on how we propose to deliver the park's long-term transformation. I encourage you to have your say and help shape this iconic parkland into a place that truly has something for everyone.



Adrian Schinner
Lord Mayor





Artist impression:
Adventure playground



Table of contents

Introduction	2
Victoria Park / Barrambin: Over time	4
Victoria Park / Barrambin: A driver for our city's future success	6
The Draft Master Plan	8
From Vision to Draft Master Plan	10
Bringing the Vision to life	12
Cultural landscape	14
Room for water	18
Connected habitats	22
Health and recreation	26
Connections	30
Unique places and experiences	38
Creative expression	42
Partnerships and relationships	44
Other key enablers	46
Draft Master Plan precincts	48
Parkland main entry	50
Parkland centre	54
Northern parkland	58
Western parkland	62
Southern parkland	66
Technical insights	70
Land management planning	72
Next steps	74

Introduction

This Draft Master Plan represents the next stage of Victoria Park Barrambin's design evolution, integrating community feedback with more technical refinements.

This document reflects Council's commitment to sharing our latest progress, and invites your further feedback on this next stage.

The role of the Master Plan

The Victoria Park / Barrambin Draft Master Plan presents a refined and tested roadmap for the park's future. It is based on the final *Victoria Park Vision* – the culmination of six months extensive community and stakeholder consultation – and detailed technical studies that inform how we can successfully bring this Vision to life.

This draft document includes detailed visualisations of what the park may look like, maps that show key features and spaces, and connections within and through the park.

With Brisbane playing host to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Victoria Park / Barrambin will become the equestrian cross-country and BMX freestyle event venues. Council has worked to integrate these temporary venues into the master planning process. This Draft Master Plan incorporates design elements that will support the event venue, alongside the park's evolution as a vital sanctuary for the people of Brisbane.

Council is obliged to prepare a Land Management Plan for the park and the engagement process and scope of the Draft Master Plan will be used to meet Council's obligations under the *Land Act 1994*. Further information about land management matters and your opportunity to comment on those aspects are included in this Draft Master Plan.

We need your help again to evolve the Victoria Park Barrambin Draft Master Plan from draft to final.

Timeline: Victoria Park / Barrambin Vision and Master Plan

Aug-Sep 2019

Have Your Say –
Ideas for Victoria Park

Jan 2021-Jun 2022

Detailed technical site assessments
and master planning

WE ARE
HERE

Phase 1

Phase 2

Jan-Jul 2020

Have Your Say –
Draft Victoria Park Vision

Dec 2020

Victoria Park Vision
released

Sep-Oct 2022

Have Your Say –
Draft Master Plan

What you've told us so far

Council released the draft Vision for Victoria Park Barrambin in January 2020. By the time the consultation period closed in July that year, more than 35,000 people had visited the draft vision online and we'd received more than 2000 submissions, surveys and pieces of feedback. These ideas informed the final *Victoria Park Vision*, which has guided our development of the Victoria Park Barrambin Draft Master Plan.

These are the key themes identified by the community for the Vision, which we have addressed in this Draft Master Plan.

- Restore and expand waterways and native habitats.
- Focus on the site's importance and involve our local Aboriginal communities in the park's design and operation.
- Offer small-scale experiences and community-oriented events.
- Offer a mix of outdoor recreation and shady, quiet spaces.

- Create safe and easy connections to and through the park for all ages and abilities.
- Support active travel and public transport options, with a balanced approach to providing car parking.
- Create a place that offers opportunities for learning, cultural experiences and creative expression.
- Collaborate with residents and neighbouring institutions.

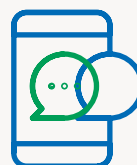
Vision engagement



86%
support for the
draft Vision



2000+
pieces of feedback,
submissions and
surveys received



>35,000
people engaged with the
draft Vision online

Dec 2022

Finalise Master Plan based on community feedback

Jan 2023 onwards

Seek Land Management Plan approvals and commence planning approval pathway for Master Plan

Phase 3

Jan 2023 onwards

Implementation of the Master Plan including early projects

Victoria Park / Barrambin

Over time

From thousands of years of Aboriginal occupation through to more recent European settlement and development, Victoria Park Barrambin's stories are part of what makes Brisbane the city it is today.

20,500 years ago Archaeological evidence

The Wallen Wallen Creek archaeological site in Moreton Bay reveals evidence, including stone tools and animal bones, of continual Aboriginal occupation from over 20,000 years ago.

4,000-5,000 years ago Archaeological evidence

Another archaeological site in Brisbane's north-west reveals evidence of Aboriginal occupation dating back to the time when the Pyramids of Giza were being built. Few archaeological sites remain undisturbed in Brisbane because of the area's rapid expansion following the closure of the Moreton Bay penal settlement in 1842.



View from Gregory Terrace over what was then known as York's Hollow, 1864
Source: John Oxley Library #108131

1840s-1860s

Colonisation and conflict

Free settlement leads to conflict between settlers and Aboriginal groups in the area. Settlers erect temporary dwellings on site and convert the local 'pullen-pullen' (tournament) ground into a brick-making yard. Aboriginal people from the area supply much of the charcoal, firewood, fish, bark sheets and decorative native plants for the growing town.

1860s-1870s

Naming and defining the park

The Queensland Secretary for Lands reserves the land as a public park named in honour of Queen Victoria. Neighbouring schools use part of the park for sporting fields. The Queensland Rifle Association establishes a rifle range in the northeast corner for the Queensland Voluntary Brigade.

1800s-1840s

Early exploration

Early explorers and surveyors record the area as covered with gum trees, ironbarks, bloodwoods, stringybarks, wattles and dense scrub. Wetlands host teatrees, casuarinas and mangroves. Lagoons, gullies, streams and waterholes dot the landscape. Kangaroos, possums, emu, gliders, echidna, waterfowl, and fish are abundant.

1880s-1890s

Railway, quarry and landfill

In 1882, Queensland Railways opens a new line that bisects the park. A quarry is established on the park's north-eastern boundary and operated by George Bowser. Portions of the park are used for landfill until the 1900s. The last remaining lagoon is drained to Breakfast Creek via a culvert.

1930s

Victoria Park Golf Course

The golf course and clubhouse open in 1931. Gilchrist Avenue construction starts, and the park's Jacaranda trees are planted.

1940s

WWII military camp

The Commonwealth Government requisitions Victoria Park in 1942 for a military camp. Named Camp Victoria Park, it serves Australian and US troops, closing in 1946.

1910s-1920s

Warehouse and university site

During the First World War, the Queensland State Wool Committee leases the former quarry and builds numerous woolsheds and a railway siding. Brisbane City Council's Electricity Department subsequently occupies part of the area. Council transfers some of the site to the University of Queensland but construction of a new campus doesn't eventuate.



Victoria Park Assembly Area, August 1944
Source: Australian War Memorial, #068147

1890s-2010s

Native title and infrastructure

Local Aboriginal representatives register the Turrbal Native Title claim, and other Native Title claims are lodged. Archaeological excavations conducted ahead of the Inner City Bypass construction uncover artefacts that are given to the Queensland Museum. In the 2000s, the Inner City Bypass and Inner Northern Busway are completed, and the York's Hollow area is redeveloped. The southern portion of the golf course is resumed during construction of the Legacy Way Tunnel in the 2010s.

2008

Barrambin meaning 'windy place', adopted as the dual Aboriginal name for Victoria Park after engagement with Traditional Custodians Turrbal Association Inc.

2022 and beyond

Exciting future and transformation of the park.

2020s

Enhanced transport and a new Victoria Park

Council announces the Victoria Park transformation project in 2019. The *Victoria Park Vision* is released in 2020. Cross River Rail construction gets underway in the park's north-east. Looking ahead, the Brisbane Metro will service the park from late 2023, with the nearby Exhibition Station set to open in 2025.

Last stages in construction of Club House, 1931
Source: John Oxley Library, #191374



1950s-1980s

Queensland's centenary and golf course expansion

The Queensland State Housing Commission retains the barracks as emergency housing for homeless and vulnerable people, including Aboriginal families. This discontinues in the 1960s, and the barracks are demolished. The Centenary Pool is built to celebrate Queensland's centenary. The golf course is extended, adding York's Hollow, an artificial lake, as part of Australia's bicentennial celebrations.

Victoria Park / Barrambin:

A driver for our city's future success

Victoria Park / Barrambin is the largest urban parkland project currently being planned in Australia, with the potential to become a globally significant destination. Located within an important development precinct in the inner city, it presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to shape Brisbane's future liveability, accessibility, inclusiveness and prosperity on a macro scale.

Role and function within the city

Victoria Park / Barrambin does not stand alone. It plays a distinct and complementary role within Brisbane's broader strategic network of parks, recreational spaces and ecological systems.

Brisbane's existing network of inner city parklands and major open spaces provide a diverse range of recreation and entertainment functions, with an emphasis on formally-designed European horticulture. Victoria Park Barrambin will establish a rewilded landscape of distinctly local ecological and cultural significance, embedding traditional, naturalistic landscapes and experiences in the heart of the city. The park will also provide much-needed greenspace for the surrounding suburbs and contribute to the green lungs of the city.

The COVID-19 pandemic has amplified the importance of access to natural, open spaces to creating liveable cities. Victoria Park Barrambin will be an accessible and adaptable community asset that enhances Brisbane's ability to survive and thrive in the face of future uncertainty.

Global competitiveness

Access to nature and high-quality green spaces are critical factors in the global competition for attracting and retaining talent. Victoria Park / Barrambin represents an opportunity to renew, revitalise and boost the impact of Brisbane's spatial network, ensuring our continued appeal and relevance in a dynamic global-city context.

Supporting innovation and economic prosperity

The park sits at a significant junction of Brisbane's health, knowledge and innovation corridor and local neighbourhoods such as Kelvin Grove and Herston. It is well-served by high-frequency transport infrastructure. As a major driver of inner-city improvement, Victoria Park / Barrambin will increase precinct appeal and help attract investment in nearby precincts, which support sustainable job growth and strengthen Brisbane's economic output.

Boosting events capacity

Victoria Park / Barrambin will boost Brisbane's capacity to host an expanded range of diverse events and activations. Offering a full spectrum of enabling spaces and infrastructure, the park will program everything from small-scale activations through to major festivals, furthering Brisbane's vibrancy, diversity and its international appeal.

At 64-hectares, Victoria Park Barrambin is larger in size than all of the other iconic inner city parklands combined.



Victoria Park / Barrambin:

64-hectares of parkland including areas of rewilded traditional natural habitat with strong links to Country and heritage.

Roma Street Parklands:

16-hectares of subtropical landscapes, known for the exceptional horticultural standard of its formally-designed gardens.

New Farm Park:

15-hectares of sprawling, riverfront open space with historic traditional gardens.

Brisbane City Botanic Gardens:

18-hectares of rich and mature botanic gardens, with a significant horticultural legacy of distinct plant species and a major open space provision in the city centre.

South Bank Parklands:

14-hectares of diverse riverfront parklands, iconic destinations, event spaces and facilities, cultural infrastructure and community amenities.

Figure 1 Victoria Park / Barrambin's role within Brisbane's strategic park network.

The Draft Master Plan

NORTH

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Urban pump park and small car park (approx. 15 spaces) | 21 Parkway kiosk |
| 2 Park administration and operations | 22 Naturalised waterholes |
| 3 Kelvin Grove Busway plaza | 23 Active transport connection |
| 4 Active transport pedestrian pathway and drop-off | 24 Community sports precinct including a sports field, multi-purpose courts, cricket nets, tennis courts, amenities and storage shed |
| 5 Adventure valley with mountain bike track and high ropes course | 25 Gilchrist Avenue drop-off zone and on-street parking (approx. 100 spaces) |
| 6 The Tree House, lookout and cafe | 26 Cascading water feature |
| 7 Small car park and lift to accessible bridge (approx. 15 spaces) | 27 Small community event spaces |
| 8 Revitalised waterway | 28 Upper wetlands |
| 9 Dog park | 29 Driving range |
| 10 Upgraded pedestrian and bikeway bridge | 30 Car park (approx. 70 spaces) |
| 11 Green waste storage and operations facility | 31 Victoria Park Bistro, putt-putt and function centre venues |
| 12 Trails and rewilding area | 32 Multi-storey car park. Maximum 2 storey, with 3 levels of carparking (approx. 330 spaces) |
| 13 Parkway loop | 33 Car park (approx. 315 spaces) |
| 14 York's Hollow (revitalised) | 34 Visitor Centre |
| 15 Elevated connection to land bridge | 35 Main parkland entry (with signalised intersection) |
| 16 Nature water play gully | 36 Herston Busway plaza |
| 17 Education Hub | 37 Old Clubhouse (offices/ medical suites) |
| 18 Lower wetlands and boardwalk | 38 Inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge |

SOUTH

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 39 Community tennis courts | 44 Dog park |
| 40 Spring Hill Common | 45 Gundoo Memorial Grove |
| 41 Community edible garden | 46 Community fitness precinct |
| 42 Centenary Pool and car park (approx. 130 spaces) | 47 Council Maintenance Facility |
| 43 Upgraded playground | 48 Heritage entry plaza |

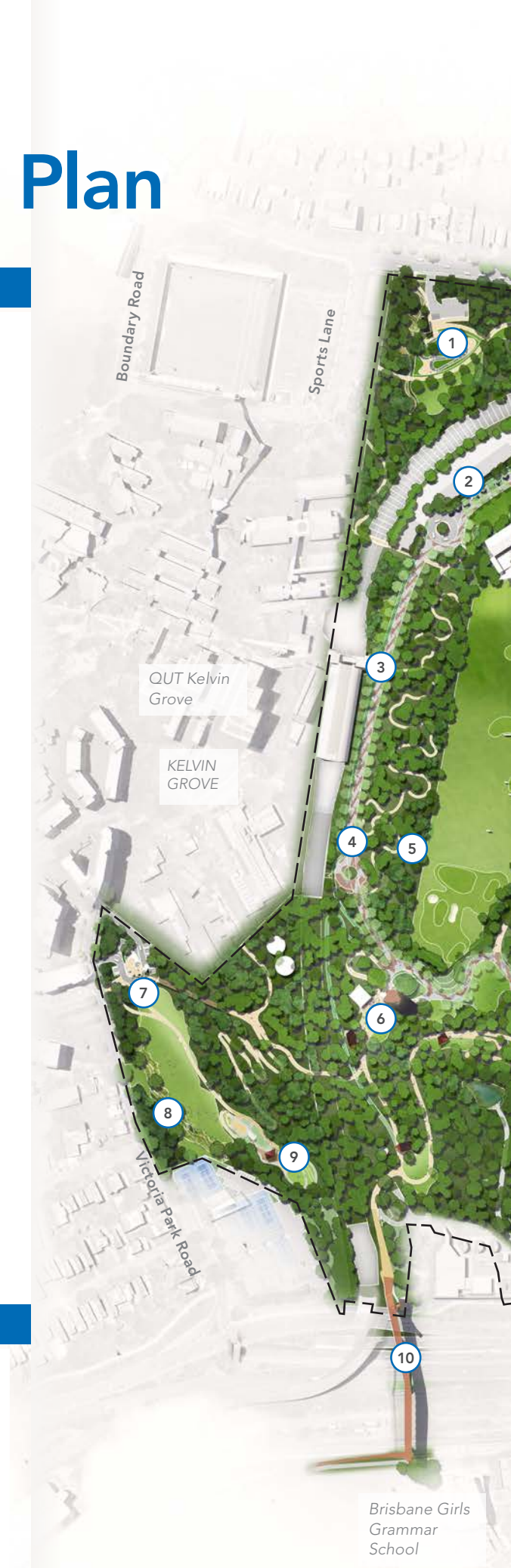


Figure 2 The Draft Master Plan



HERSTON

UQ School of Dentistry

Herston Quarter

QIMR Berghofer Medical Research Institute

RNA Showgrounds

SPRING HILL

St Joseph's College
Gregory Terrace



From Vision to Draft Master Plan

The *Victoria Park Vision* was the starting point for the transformation of the park. Council has incorporated community feedback, with the outputs of extensive technical investigations to deliver the detailed Draft Master Plan.

This has resulted in some changes from the Vision to accommodate the opportunities and constraints identified during these investigations. Key responses are identified in Figure 4.

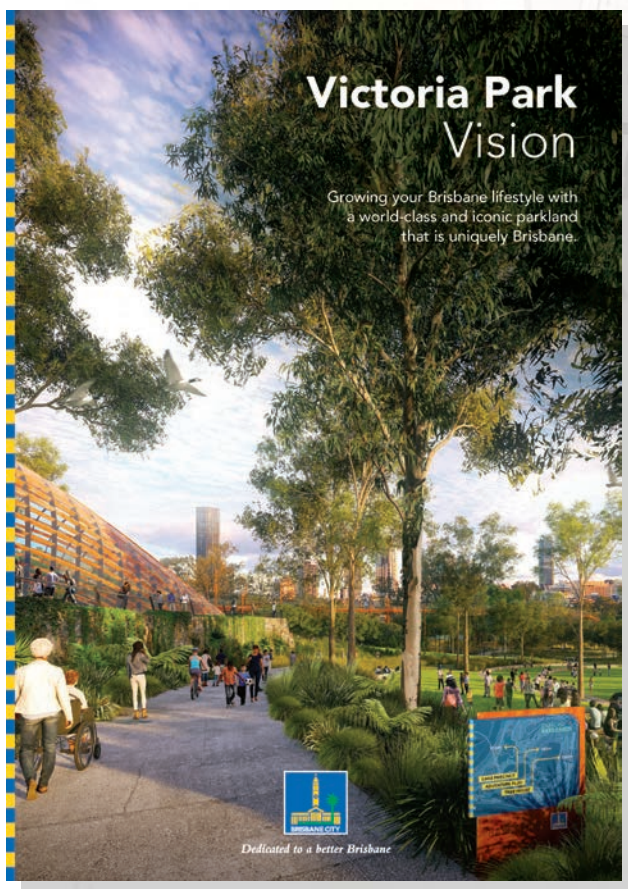
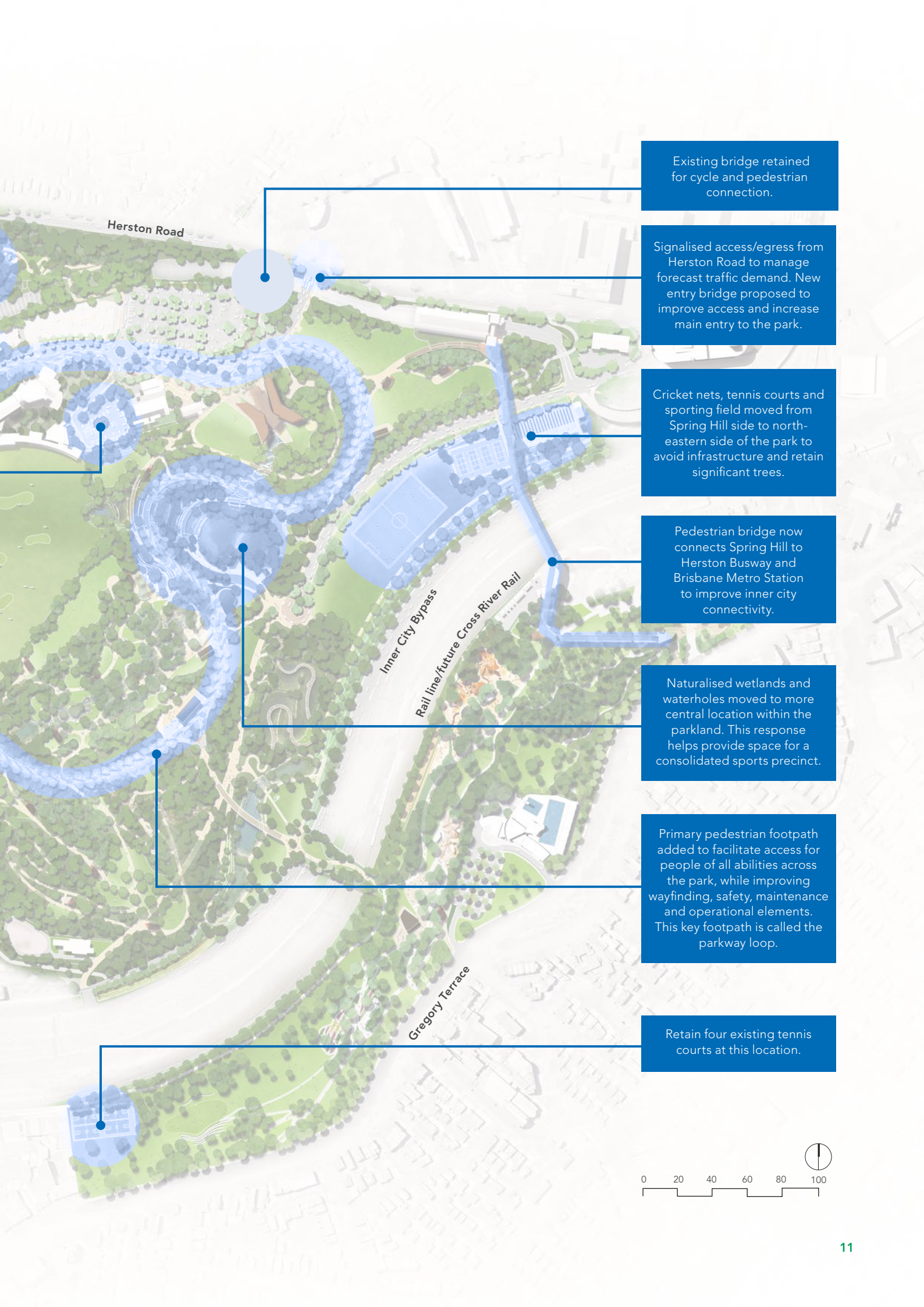


Figure 3 *Victoria Park Vision 2020*



Figure 4 Key Draft Master Plan changes from the Vision



Herston Road

Inner City Bypass
Rail line future Cross River Rail

Gregory Terrace

Existing bridge retained for cycle and pedestrian connection.

Signalised access/egress from Herston Road to manage forecast traffic demand. New entry bridge proposed to improve access and increase main entry to the park.

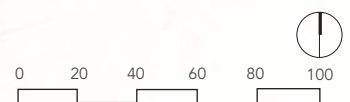
Cricket nets, tennis courts and sporting field moved from Spring Hill side to north-eastern side of the park to avoid infrastructure and retain significant trees.

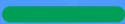
Pedestrian bridge now connects Spring Hill to Herston Busway and Brisbane Metro Station to improve inner city connectivity.

Naturalised wetlands and waterholes moved to more central location within the parkland. This response helps provide space for a consolidated sports precinct.

Primary pedestrian footpath added to facilitate access for people of all abilities across the park, while improving wayfinding, safety, maintenance and operational elements. This key footpath is called the parkway loop.

Retain four existing tennis courts at this location.





Bringing the Vision to life

Principles and strategies for
realising our shared vision for
Victoria Park / Barrambin



*Artist impression: Aerial view over the Visitor Centre
looking to the south-west*

In 2019 and 2020, Council connected widely with the Brisbane community to find out what people most wanted to see in a new urban greenspace. The feedback we received was clear and has informed the eight core themes that we've used to shape the Draft Master Plan.

The Vision:

The park will be a natural retreat, an urban park for adventure, discovery and reconnection.

The Draft Master Plan incorporates technical guidance as to how the park will develop, as well as design elements that suggest how the park may look. The following section describes each of the themes that came from the Vision process, and sets out strategies for how Council will deliver on these community aspirations.

Three guiding principles

Three guiding principles connect each of the strategies in the park:



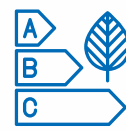
Recognition

We will create a place that honours and celebrates the connections between Country, culture and history across past, present and future generations.



Restoration

We will create transformational connections that weave the park into Brisbane's city fabric.

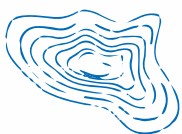


Reconnection

We will heal the landscape by reinstating and reintroducing the interconnected ecosystems unique to the region.

Master plan strategies

Each strategy reflects a core theme identified by the community through the Vision process. In each strategy, we set out the specific actions we are proposing to achieve our shared vision for the park.



Cultural landscape



Room for water



Connected habitats



Health and recreation



Connections



Unique places and experiences



Creative expression

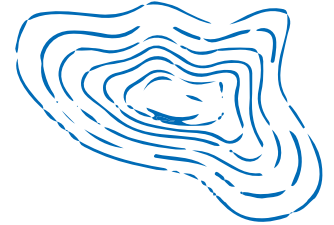


Relationships and partnerships



Other key enablers

Cultural landscape



The park will become a natural space that celebrates Country, and Brisbane's shared Aboriginal and European heritage. For thousands of years this area has been a central gathering point for groups of different knowledge systems and languages. As a living landscape, the park's stunning natural features will merge this history with art and culture to educate and delight locals and visitors alike.

Council has engaged with Traditional Custodians and Elders with connections to Country at Victoria Park Barrambin. We will continue to consult with the areas Traditional Custodians throughout the project and beyond, to feature Aboriginal design elements, language, stories and heritage across the park.

Key spatial moves



Visitor Centre

Create a welcoming and inclusive space that shares the park's Aboriginal and heritage stories, and incorporates materials of Country in its design.



Deliver sensory landscapes

Establish immersive and regenerative landscapes that celebrate the seasons and support play, education and cultural knowledge sharing.



Connecting to Country

Create visual and storytelling links from the Tree House's elevated views – from nearby connections, to more distant mountain ranges, hills and landscapes.



Performance spaces

Dedicate places for gathering, performing and storytelling, with places for cultural exchange and reflection.



Learning through play

Design play spaces to incorporate cultural knowledge and activities inspired by Aboriginal ways of knowing, playing in, and managing the landscape.



Playground

Build a nature-based destination playground that shares stories of Country – of the seasons, animals, plants, and more.



Create quiet places

Define places of calm that allow for quiet, immersive landscape experiences.



Yarning

Introduce places and spaces that encourage groups of various sizes to gather, yarn and share stories.



Dancing circle

Create spaces for formal and informal dancing circles for traditional performance and customs.



Healing circle

Include a healing circle for quiet reflection in a tranquil part of the park.



Connection to Kelvin Grove

Establish landscape and cultural connections to QUT's Kelvin Grove Campus that align with its own Campus to Country Strategy.



York's Hollow

Restore York's Hollow to improve habitat quality and create landscape spaces for quiet enjoyment.



Continue the sporting legacy

Celebrate almost 100 years of sport on the site by formalising a consolidated sports precinct that integrates the heritage-listed 'Play the game' artwork wall.

Other actions

Truth-telling

Acknowledge Country and allow shared histories to be told through interpretation, programs and artful treatments.

Use Aboriginal languages through the park

Work with Traditional Custodians to use languages and place names throughout the park that reflect its importance to Aboriginal community.

Cultural rangers

Develop an Aboriginal ranger program to manage and maintain the landscape and commercial opportunities, using cross-cultural training and education initiatives.

Outdoor classrooms

Establish outdoor spaces that will encourage people to participate in educational, informational, ceremonial and other knowledge sharing opportunities.

Celebrate Aboriginal knowledge and cultural systems

Program activities and experiences that are specific to contexts, locations, seasons and activities – supporting the sharing of stories, knowledge and history. Create channels that allow a two-way exchange of educational, informational, ceremonial and other forms of knowledge.

Built form expression

Incorporate elements in built forms that respond to the site's diverse histories, and reflect their connection to Country. This may be through the materials used, like earth, stone, timber, and other resources, and how they're blended with the landscape and surrounding views.

Enhance awareness of layered, post-settlement history

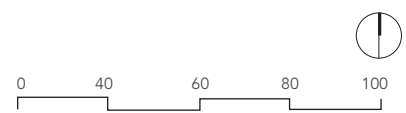
Expose and preserve key remnants of the park's early post-settlement years through to its role as a WWII camp for American and Australian forces.

Acknowledge heritage plantings

Recognise heritage plantings by Harry Oakman, Brisbane's first Superintendent of Parks, across the site.



Figure 5 Cultural landscape strategy – key spatial moves



Aboriginal culture

Victoria Park / Barrambin was once an open woodland, marked by waterholes and lagoons, and fed by gullies and ravines. 'Barrambin' or 'windy place', was used by some Traditional Custodians and historians to describe the area later known as 'York's Hollow'. Aboriginal people have lived here, gathered here, performed ceremony here, and cared for this Country over many thousands of years, right up until present times.

The park is being reimagined as a place where Country is once again understood as a unifying experience of the park's myriad offerings. Here, the walks and activities, meeting spaces and landscapes contribute to an appreciation of Country and its importance in creating healthy places and fostering healthy lives. The shelters and built elements within the park have been influenced by engagement with Traditional Custodians, and reflect both materials and forms that make a clear connection to the park's historic role as an Aboriginal campsite.

The park's design takes its cues from Country, with restored habitats and improved water quality. The design includes visual connections to distant landscapes such as Mt Coot-tha and beyond.

Places for joyful play and educational experiences feature strongly, along with spaces that allow for quiet reflection, and for recognising the impacts of colonisation and conflicts on the site. Performance spaces will support exciting cultural events, and language will be shared through place names and building names, as well as through signage and wayfinding. The design captures the nuances of the cultural seasons, and builds understanding through considered landscape restoration and interpretation.

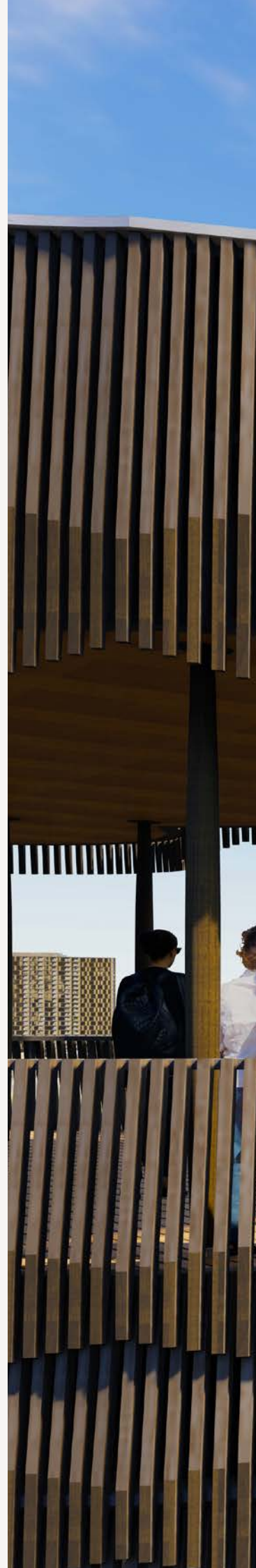
We will create a sense of welcome at significant entry points to the park. These will frame visitors' experience and understanding of this significant place. The renewed Victoria Park / Barrambin will celebrate, entertain, educate and encourage interactions on Country – a small but important step in the longer reconciliation journey.

European heritage

The story of Victoria Park / Barrambin has many chapters: from its time as a place that supported a permanent Aboriginal presence, to the days of Brisbane's colonisation, to the migrant population that lived here in temporary housing, to its more recent entry on the Queensland Heritage Register as one of the state's most important cultural places. The Draft Master Plan will link these narratives and create opportunities for people to experience this layered and rich history first-hand.

Victoria Park / Barrambin's history lives on today in many ways: as existing structures and plantings, as archaeological remains, and in the more intangible stories it holds. The Draft Master Plan explores, understands, and celebrates this rich and diverse history. The stories of Brisbane's early history and the role the park played in this narrative will be recognised through architectural design, integrated art, careful management of heritage items, and creative interpretation approaches.

The Draft Master Plan retains and amplifies elements of the park that link it to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This includes the use of interpretive signage to recognise its earlier uses for the city's fledging industries, and as a rifle range.





The Draft Master Plan acknowledges the park's recent European heritage alongside Aboriginal narratives of place, recognising and sharing our history and experiences as a unified community.

Artist impression. The Tree House lookout

Room for water



Re-established waterways, wetlands and waterholes will contribute to urban cooling, and provide cleansing, drainage and site-wide irrigation functions, as well as habitats for wildlife.

Council will enhance and reintroduce water as part of a broader approach to healing the land. We will use water sustainably to support a range of outcomes including recreation, irrigation, and providing wildlife habitats. This approach acknowledges the important role the park plays in flood management for the local area, including water storage during floods.

Key spatial moves



Recreate centralised waterholes

Establish a series of connected naturalised waterholes in the heart of the park, linking to its traditional function as a place of water. The waterholes play a key role in balancing water in the broader park and catchment, and offer tranquil water elements for visitors to enjoy in the park's quieter core.



Cleanse stormwater through wetlands

Establish wetlands with densely vegetated native aquatic plants that will filter and cleanse stormwater, ensuring the water system's ongoing health.



Harvest stormwater for irrigation

Filter and store stormwater as a sustainable alternative source for irrigation in the park. Expand storage by duplicating the existing 0.6 megalitre header tank near the Tree House and adding a one megalitre stormwater harvesting tank underground at the Gilchrist Avenue turnaround.



Enhance and protect York's Hollow

Renew and naturalise York's Hollow, with vegetated edges to improve water quality and habitat value. An upstream sediment capture pond will protect York's Hollow and allow for efficient maintenance.



Refresh water during dry times

Recirculate water that has been filtered and cleaned in the wetlands as a means of refreshing water quality during dry spells.



Incorporate passive irrigation

Capture water run-off from hard surfaces such as roads and car parks, and reuse it for passive irrigation and park cooling. Landscape elements direct water to shade trees and vegetation to replenish soil moisture levels, and promote larger, healthier canopy trees or support lush landscapes and turf.



Preserve overland flow paths

Maintain the existing overland flow paths to cater for large rain events and convey stormwater flows.



Explore effective passive turf irrigation

Explore the use of passive irrigation to optimise drainage to key turfed areas.



Deliver a natural water play gully

Naturalise the existing gully, creating a living waterway that mimics a natural creek with flowing water, aquatic plants, rocks and log habitat features. Pump water to ensure constant flow.



Create an aesthetic water feature

Connect land and water with a cascading and constantly circulating water feature. This adds an attractive visual and acoustic element to the park, and reinforces its traditional water-focused origins.



Reinstate water elements at Kelvin Grove

Intercept stormwater and divert it into a naturalised channel to improve water quality through native vegetation and infiltration.



Introduce formal water play

Introduce a zero-depth, pop-jet water play area for people to play and interact directly with water.

Other actions

Manage flood levels for the local area

Retain current flood storage volumes and detention functions. Provide flood resilience into the park by making room for water and retaining overland flow paths.

Recycle water

Investigate options to reuse water to provide reliable alternative source to rainfall. Recycled water, roof water, run-off and harvested stormwater could provide water for toilet flushing and reduce pressure on the potable water supply.

Showcase water systems

Provide opportunities to teach visitors how water is sustainably used in the park. This includes the benefits of recycled water, how the wetlands reduce stormwater pollutants, and how stormwater is used as an alternative irrigation source.

Reintroduce native aquatic habitat and fauna

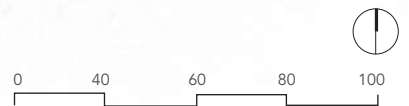
Expand the areas of diverse aquatic habitat to support natural ecological systems, attracting and allowing the reintroduction of various native fish and birds.

Restore cultural values

Enhance existing water systems within the park to reinstate culturally significant and relevant flora and fauna.



Figure 6 Room for water strategy – key spatial moves





Water returned as a central feature

The Draft Master Plan returns flowing water back into the park as it did in the earliest days of Brisbane's history. A chain of wetlands and natural waterholes follow the central park gully and highlights these water elements as the heart of the park.

The Draft Master Plan lets park users and visitors interact with water in a multitude of ways. From meandering wetland boardwalks, stepping stones along the naturalised edges of the waterholes to the flowing nature gully and filtered water play, water is a source of enjoyment and a defining feature of the park.

Sustainable water use

The Draft Master Plan adopts a fit-for-purpose approach to water use, matching its uses with appropriate water quality to achieve a sustainable balance. This means using stormwater and recycled water where possible, and reducing the demand on potable water.

Stormwater harvesting provides an alternate source of water for irrigation and maintains water levels in the wetlands and waterholes. Lush landscapes with dense tree canopies and breezes across water will cool the parklands and encourage recreation throughout the year. The Draft Master Plan maximises opportunities to capture water runoff from hard surfaces within the park, and passively redirect it to landscape areas to further reduce irrigation demands.

The Draft Master Plan design allows parts of the park to continue to function naturally as overland flow paths and flood plains, building in its resilience to flood events.



Artist impression: The waterholes and wetlands.

Connected habitats



Council is committed to restoring, protecting and enhancing all 64-hectares of Victoria Park Barrambin's greenspace for future generations. This strategy aims to restore the traditional landscape and create a parkland that reflects the area's pre-settlement ecology.

This strategy emphasises the critical importance healthy and connected ecosystems hold in maintaining biodiversity and links to Country and culture. The park will grow its vital role as part of our city's greenspace network, contributing to its character, liveability and environmental credentials.

Key spatial moves



Connect habitat corridors

Expand and rehabilitate areas of the park that harbour remnants of traditional ecosystems and endemic flora species. Create a planted habitat corridor that provides critical connections for fauna within the park that helps them succeed.



Create an avenue of trees

Create a structured avenue of trees to frame sections of the parkway loop. Use straight, fast-growing species that are iconic to Brisbane and South East Queensland.



Protect key habitats and hollows

Many of our native animal species rely on tree hollows for shelter and nesting. Protect existing hollow-bearing trees that provide important habitats for native birds and animals.



Reinstate woodland character to the hill tops and ridge lines

Reintroduce spotted gum woodlands with a native wildflower understorey aligned to the original planting character of the higher points of the park.



Rewild the hillsides as eucalypt open forest

Supplement the existing hillside terrain with open forest planting including eucalypts to provide overhead canopy and a rainforest understorey critical for wildlife habitat.



Revegetate gullies and dry creek beds

Introduce denser rainforest and fig species in existing gullies and dry creek beds with a rainforest understorey to help attract and sustain native fauna.



Deliver aquatic and riparian species

Reintroduce soft, weeping foliage, sedges and grasses around the wetlands and waterholes that reflect pre-settlement planting based on a broad-leaved paperbark wetland environment.



Enhance Gundoo Memorial Grove

Focus on enhancing the historic community-planted grove of trees by enhancing the existing understorey with pollen-rich native shrubs and pockets of turf.



Deliver on-site learning

Enhance the community's awareness of the biodiversity, ecosystems and processes that sustain the environment through conservation and education programs. Include an outdoor 'bush classroom' as the epicentre of these and other gatherings.

Other actions

Reintroduce pollinators

Select plants that provide an all-year flowering cycle and dense structure for smaller pollinators. Animal pollinators like native bees, flying mammals and birds play important roles in maintaining healthy ecosystems and improving the park's biodiversity.

Attract species that act as system engineers

Encourage fauna that live and forage in ground vegetation. Species like scrub turkeys, insects and small mammals play a vital role in aerating and creating soils. They improve water infiltration to plants, spread seeds, and assist in seed germination.

Reinstate planting to its origins

Select plant species that are representative of past vegetation types, have particular cultural significance for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultures, and provide cyclic foraging resources for endemic fauna.

Plant for continuous flowering

Select plant species that will provide winter food resources and will contribute to year-round fruiting and flowering, in concert with other species. This supports different species' survival during resource bottlenecking periods such as late autumn, winter and early spring.

Deliver 60% canopy cover

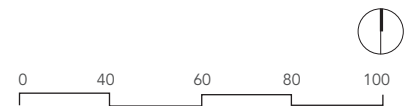
Implement a staged strategy of planting canopy trees that will progressively deliver a minimum of 60% coverage over the life of the Master Plan. This provides better thermal regulation in habitats, and contributes to park cooling.

Optimise healthy soil

Introduce groundcovers and mulch with forest litter and woody debris to maintain healthy soil moisture levels. This supports invertebrates and micro-organisms that are important to sustaining healthy soil and plant communities.



Figure 7 Connected habitats strategy – key spatial moves





Artist impression: The lower wetlands

Bringing nature to the city

Making a significant contribution to the green lungs of the city, a core principle of the Draft Master Plan is to bring the natural environment closer to the city and its residents, workers and visitors. The park provides an opportunity for the community to enjoy, connect and interact with nature directly. It provides us with a chance to get a deeper understanding of unique ecosystems, flora and fauna that are different from other urban parks in the city.

Rewilding

Rewilding, in the context of urban greenspace, is about reconnecting modern society with wilder spaces. Rewilding focuses on enhancing ecosystems to protect, consolidate and enhance natural areas so they function in a self-sustaining manner with less human intervention.

A key part of this strategy is reinstating the flora and ecosystems that pre-date European settlement. By revegetating areas of the park, we create new, resilient patches of habitat and strengthen existing ones. This approach builds habitat and creates multi-layered plantings in forested areas of the park while also making a significant contribution to our target of 60% canopy cover and improved urban cooling.

Enhancing biodiversity

Healthy, connected ecosystems are critical to maintaining Brisbane's biodiversity. Delivering more diverse plantings and habitats within the park attracts transient species and encourages some species to stay longer or establish resident populations. The Draft Master Plan focuses on planting that creates a mosaic of species that will flower and fruit at different times throughout the year. This provides food and other resources to resident native animals and encourages honey-eaters (birds), flying-foxes and other pollinators to visit.

The park has many old and mature trees. These veteran trees are considered ecological assets as many contain hollows that animals use for shelter and nesting. This strategy will prioritise retaining and enhancing areas for these trees.

Micro-habitats such as fallen logs, deep leaf litter, rocky shelves and introduced artificial habitat hollows enhance the diversity for plant and animal life in the park.

Native plant pollination is often an ecosystem function that can suffer in urban environments. This strategy focuses on bringing back the bird pollinators through planting dense vegetation. In addition, reintroducing stingless native beehives will improve the park's diversity, its ongoing pollination and endemic seeding. Figure 8 below outlines the spectrum of species and biodiversity targeted for Victoria Park / Barrambin.

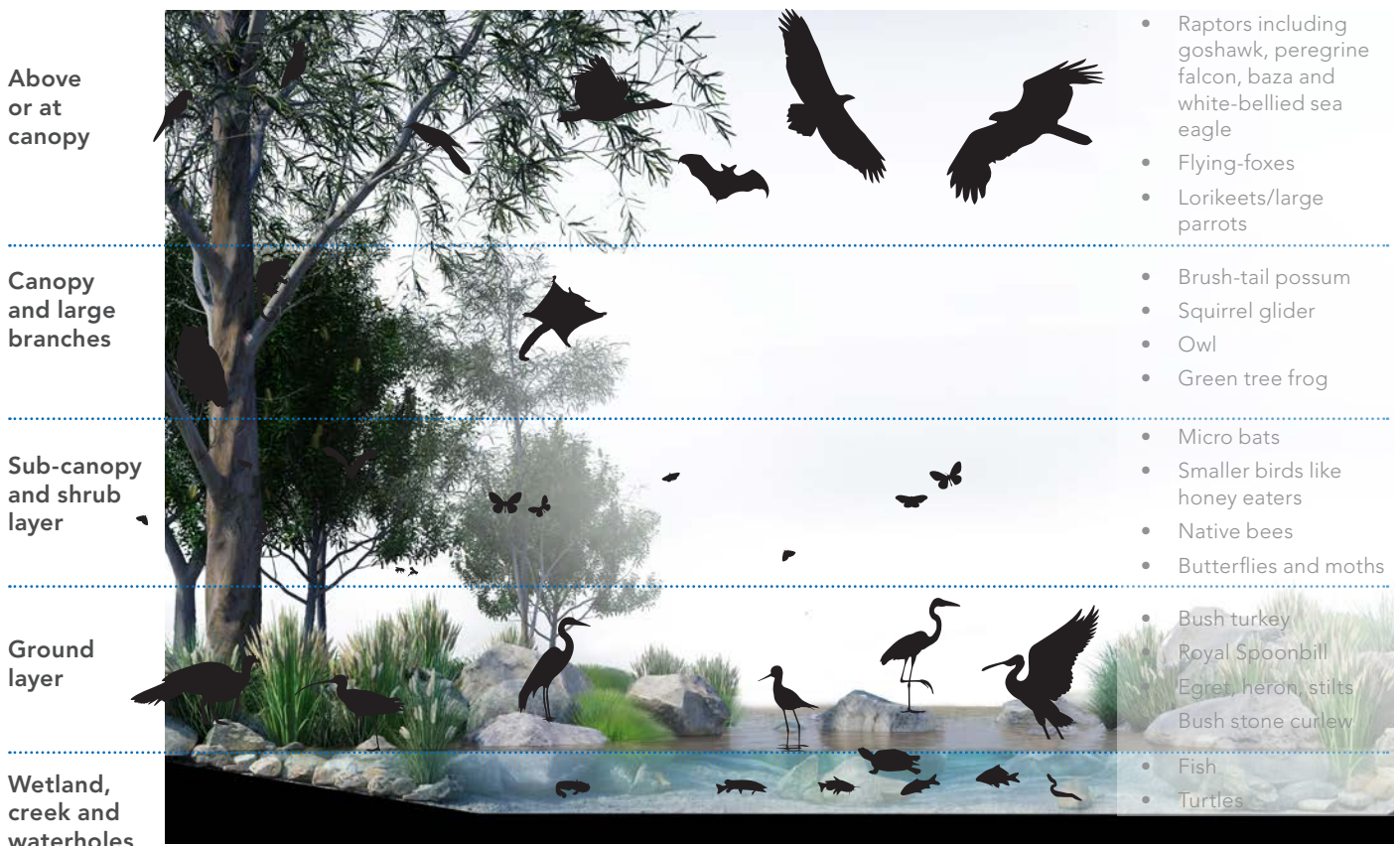


Figure 8 Target biodiversity species for Victoria Park / Barrambin

Health and recreation



The park will be a retreat in the heart of the city that promotes healing and wellness through a strong connection to nature. The park will have something for everyone and will become a new setting for Brisbane's relaxed, outdoor lifestyle with a range of formal and informal spaces and activities.

Outdoor activities, adventures, community sporting facilities and amenities will cater to people of all ages and abilities, inspiring active lifestyles. The park offers a natural experience in the city; somewhere people can reconnect with nature as part of maintaining their mental and physical health and wellbeing.

Key spatial moves



Consolidate community sports

Create a consolidated sports precinct south of Gilchrist Avenue. This includes a rugby-sized sports field, 20 cricket nets, four tennis courts, and one multi-purpose court, along with equipment storage facilities and an amenities block.



Create a community fitness precinct

Create a dedicated public fitness area, set amongst existing fig trees, that caters for activities including parkour and provides a multi-purpose court space, along with a 100-metre running track.



Upgrade and provide new community dog parks

Deliver new dedicated small and large dog off-leash area near Kelvin Grove (subject to tenure resolution) and upgrade the existing dog park at Spring Hill for dog exercise and local community socialising.



Provide areas for inclusive play

Introduce accessible and inclusive destination play spaces to connect children and families with nature and water.



Introduce a park running trail (5-km circuit)

Formalise a park running loop that starts and finishes in the Visitor Centre arrival plaza.



Formalise the 'bridge loop' (3-km circuit)

Create a three-kilometre park circuit for running, walking and cycling that connects both bridges.



Introduce a parkway loop (2-km circuit)

Formalise a comfortable running, walking and cycling loop along the parkway with links to Brisbane's broader active transport network.



Maintain the driving range as a key activity

Continue to operate the existing golf driving range as an important activator of the park.



Retain putt-putt as key attraction

Keep the existing putt-putt offer as a key attraction for the park.



Centenary Pool

Continue to operate Centenary Pool as an iconic facility at Victoria Park / Barrambin.



Deliver a nature water play gully

Create a natural gully where water flows and visitors can explore and play.



Create spaces for quiet reflection

Introduce a variety of sanctuary spaces within the park for quiet reflection and immersion in nature.



Provide ample public amenities

Locate accessible toilets at convenient and key positions through the park.



Offer new cycle experiences

Add an urban pump track to the northern parkland near Herston Road.



Create the Spring Hill Common

Formalise a flat, open area with stepped seating, fringing shade, and room for active play and recreation at Spring Hill.



Introduce Adventure Valley

Add mountain biking trails and a high ropes course with varying degrees of difficulty as exciting activities.



Encourage managed community edible gardens

Build a community garden where local residents and visitors can grow food and share their interest with other community members.



Create healing/sensory gardens

Establish areas of plants that stimulate all the senses with an array of fragrances, sounds, colours and textures.

Other actions

Facilitate electric/shared bicycle usage

Encourage visitors to ride their own bikes. Alternatively, provide facilities for visitors to borrow or hire from bike share stations across the park.

Allow for formalised nature-based activities

Enable formalised outdoor activities that make use of the natural landscape, such as cross-country running and orienteering.

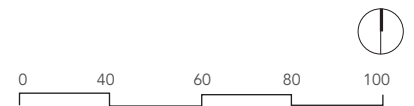
Offer ample picnic spots

Provide picnic spaces and amenities across the park.

HERSTON



Figure 9 Health and recreation strategy – key spatial moves



A place for all

Creating a sense of inclusivity is important. Urban parks are at the heart of our city, providing valuable social, cultural and environmental functions. Research affirms how having a place for social interaction and connection to nature that is accessible to all is critical for cities' wellbeing¹. Rather than split nature from society and culture, this Draft Master Plan recognises the mental and physical benefits people gain from greenspace that are integrated with other urban areas.

Active opportunities

Council is protecting and expanding our city's greenspaces to make it easier for everyone to enjoy the great lifestyle Brisbane offers. The park will be a cornerstone of our park network and be an outdoor tourism destination for the city.

Outdoor adventures

Nature-based recreation in the park will appeal to young and old, with spaces and activities that will suit everybody. At Adventure Valley, visitors can travel through the trees on the high ropes course, while mountain bikers and trail runners will challenge themselves on the myriad of trails and tracks below.

Children will love splashing about in the nature and water play gully, an all-ages wild-play area with water elements in a gully setting.

Physical activity

Victoria Park / Barrambin will continue to provide the driving range and putt-putt activities, as well as locations for sports competition, interspersed with spaces for running, cycling, exercise and activity programs for individuals and small groups.

¹ Source: Nature by Design, S.R Kellert, 2018.

Contemplative spaces

The park is a place people can go to reconnect to nature, reduce stress levels and feel happier.

Health and wellness

The restorative and healing spaces of the park's natural landscape, sensory gardens and flowing water provide meaningful opportunities for healing and wellness. The park's direct connection and relationship to neighbouring health-focused institutions such as the Herston Health Precinct, QUT Kelvin Grove, the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital and UQ School of Dentistry gives surrounding students, researchers, workers, visitors and patients alike an important asset and source of retreat and respite.

A place of retreat and relaxation

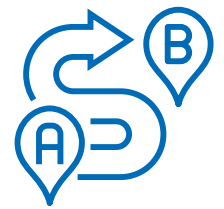
The park offers a natural environment with a balanced range of experiences, including areas for safe and comfortable sanctuary, activity and social stimulation. This strategy delivers sanctuary spaces that complement the more programmed and active parts of the park. These locations will play a critical role in giving people a chance to find some respite from the busy world while promoting a sense of healing and regeneration.





Artist impression: Adventure Valley high ropes and mountain biking

Connections



A key principle of the Draft Master Plan is to reconnect the park with its neighbours and the wider community. Connecting the park makes it easier to get to, and encourages and promotes sustainable travel choices, which in turn helps get more cars off Brisbane's roads.

This strategy is about making travel to, and within the park as easy as possible for everyone. The park will be accessible by private vehicles and tour operators, and parking facilities will be upgraded. Despite the site's hilly terrain, the Draft Master Plan achieves equitable and inclusive access across most of the park's pathways.

Key spatial moves



Define clear gateways

Create clear and easily recognisable gateways to mark park arrival points for pedestrians, cyclists and those using e-mobility.



Create distinct vehicle entries

Provide dedicated motor vehicle access points to enable easy drop-off and connection to parking resources.



Deliver an accessible internal parkway loop

Create a generous shared accessible parkway loop for people walking, cycling and using e-scooters. The parkway provides for emergency and maintenance vehicle access at slow speeds.



Connect primary active transport routes

Cater for higher-speed commuter traffic (e.g. cyclists, e-scooters) with a dedicated separate cycle route.



Create new north/south active transport link

Introduce a dedicated north/south active transport connection through the park.



Deliver high-quality pedestrian and secondary active transport connections

Provide a clear hierarchy of secondary paths across the park.



Connect to surrounding pedestrian pathways

Provide seamless pedestrian connections to the surrounding network of footpaths and routes.



Unlock inner city active travel connection

Introduce a significant city-shaping shared cycle/pedestrian bridge that provides critical connections to key transport, employment and residential areas in Herston, Fortitude Valley and Bowen Hills. Providing this connection has the added benefit of opening the park to a larger nearby catchment of users.



Upgrade shared connection

Upgrade the current pedestrian-only bridge into a shared walking and cycling connection that opens up the western end of the park and facilitates north-south connections.



Overcome terrain at Kelvin Grove

Provide an elevated walkway to help pedestrians overcome the very steep terrain, and connect Kelvin Grove with the Tree House and the rest of the park.



Link the land bridge to the heart of the park

Provide an elevated pedestrian and cycle link from the land bridge over York's Hollow into the park.



Deliver Busway and Brisbane Metro Station entry plazas

Introduce clear, welcoming arrival spaces to the park at public transport nodes.



Connect vertically

Provide lifts for inclusive access where it is not feasible to provide ramped access.



Provide suitable parking

Introduce supplementary car parking areas across the park. These resources provide greater access and options for people with a disability.



Accommodate flexible overflow parking

Use the flat grassed area and playing fields as temporary additional parking during events.



Improve vehicle access and drop-off

Introduce new drop-off zones to service the core destinations, including the Visitor Centre, the Tree House, Centenary Pool and Gilchrist Avenue.



Expand car park

Upgrade car parking at the main entry. Expand car parking at Centenary Pool, incorporating sensitive design principles that respect the location's heritage.



Upgrade entry off Herston Road

Introduce a new, signalised intersection at the main entry to the park to respond to network demand. Retain the existing bridge link for cyclist, pedestrian and emergency vehicle access.



Maintain intersection signals at Gregory Terrace

Keep the existing intersection signal configuration that currently services the Cross River Rail compound to allow access to the proposed Council maintenance facilities.

Other actions

Augment connections and access into the park and its surrounds

Introduce new connections into the park and enhance existing ones to create a sense of welcome, and to integrate it with surrounding suburbs.

Expand the electric fleet

Locate e-mobility hubs at transport stations to enhance access into the park.

Provide cycle parking

Provide enhanced cycle parking at key locations in the park including Centenary Pool and main entry area off Herston Road.



Figure 10 Connections strategy – key spatial moves



Artist impression: Inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge, and adjacent lawn near Gilchrist Avenue.

City-shaping bridge connections

The two new bridges proposed in the Draft Master Plan are significant city-shaping moves. They provide important linkages that help overcome the barriers of the Inner City Bypass and rail line. The bridges serve not only the park but also improve pedestrian and bicycle access between important inner urban precincts and key public transport nodes.

The alignment of the inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge to the east of the park has been specifically designed to provide much needed connectivity from the south to the north.

This means areas such as Fortitude Valley, RNA and Exhibition rail stations are easily accessible from Herston Quarter and the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

The upgraded western pedestrian and bikeway bridge creates a more direct connection between the city centre, Roma Street Parklands and the Grammar schools on the south, to the suburbs and bikeway network to the north.



Reconnecting the park with its surrounds

Only 33% of the park's edges are currently accessible due to the nature of surrounding roads and infrastructure. The Draft Master Plan optimises the existing open edges and interfaces while delivering stronger, more defined connections that make it easy to get into and out of the park.

Promoting sustainable travel options

Victoria Park / Barrambin is right on the doorstep of the city. It's a short bus ride from the city along the Inner Northern Busway. The Herston and Kelvin Grove Busway and Brisbane Metro Stations are on the park's edge. With high-frequency turn-up-and-go public transport services planned as part of the Brisbane Metro, as well as high-quality walking and cycling paths to and within the park, public and active transport will be an attractive, sustainable travel choice for many park visitors.

This strategy supports active transport, through a long-term view of minimising traffic and parking pressure on the park and surrounding streets. As more people choose shared and private e-mobility transport options, visitors and local residents will have more convenient travel choices open to them.

We have had strong community support for more direct primary cycle routes through the park. To address this, direct cycle routes are included that connect with the broader cycle network. The north-south active transport route through the park offers direct and flatter grades. This move, along with a better alignment of the east-west route to the Northern Bikeway, will greatly improve the park's connectivity between the city centre and the northern suburbs.

E-mobility vehicles such as electric scooters and bikes are another option for visitors to travel to and around the park. Geofencing technology will manage shared e-scooter speeds and parking within the park. This will regulate slower speeds on the accessible parkway loop and minor paths that are shared by pedestrians. There is potential for the shared e-bike scheme to extend to Victoria Park / Barrambin, with e-mobility hubs proposed for the Busway and Brisbane Metro Stations and other key locations to give people different travel choices throughout the park. Parking will be provided for cycling and e-mobility devices at key locations in the park.

Moving around the park

One of the most important considerations in the Draft Master Plan's design is ensuring it is as easy as possible to navigate and move around the full extent of the park. Whether on foot, bike or in a vehicle, enjoying safe, intuitive and easy access is essential to the long-term success and performance of the park.

Inclusive, equitable connections and access

The park's undulating terrain adds to its unique appeal but also makes walking and cycling a challenge. A central feature of this strategy is ensuring people of all ages and abilities can access the park. In key areas of particularly steep elevation, we have included lifts that connect to elevated walkways.

The Draft Master Plan design delivers 18 kilometres of park pathways and connections, 95% of which meet inclusivity and accessibility compliance standards.

We have incorporated a slower speed access route for shared vehicles as part of the parkway loop between the main car parking area and the Tree House. This allows for passenger set-down and vehicle turnarounds.

Vehicle access and car parking

This strategy proposes clear vehicular access points and car parking that caters for the uses within the park, while meeting the demand generated by new visitors.

Investigations into travel demand and supply, alongside behaviours and travel patterns, has shown that car parking will be important, particularly in the park's early establishment. The research also shows that not everyone will be able to use public or active transport options to access the park.

The strategy combines a main car park with additional, smaller car parks dispersed around the park. Overall the park will see a 31% increase in car parking with a maximum of 990 spaces provided across the park². Car parking upgrades and increases are proposed to be staged over time. This quantum addresses local residents concerns about increased pressure on on-street parking.

²Note: Total car parking figure includes on-street parking on Gilchrist Avenue and parking at Centenary Pool.

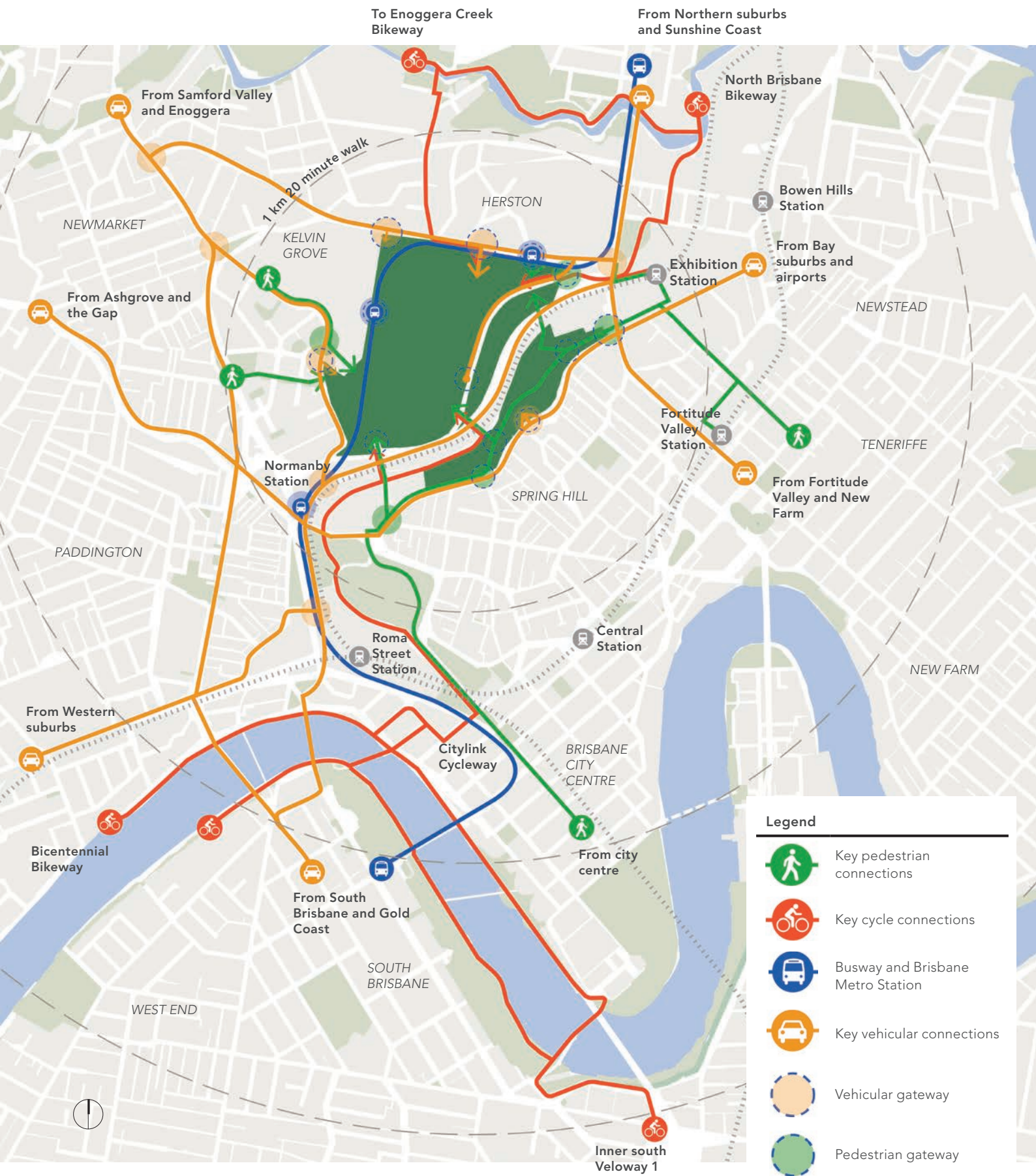


Figure 11 Strategic connection and arrival

The parkway loop

The parkway is the central organising feature of the park. Two kilometres long and seven metres wide, the parkway loop uses gentle, sloping gradients – making it accessible and easy to use for people of all abilities. The parkway will be a shared access path for pedestrians, wheelchair users, slower-speed cyclists and e-mobility riders, as well as for occasional event management, maintenance and emergency vehicles.

The parkway weaves through the northern portion of the park creating a loop that links the main park entry and Visitor Centre to the wetlands and naturalised waterholes. It winds past the nature water play gully, through patches of existing stands of significant vegetation, and south to the landmark Tree House lookout and cafe. It then continues along the western edge of the park linking back to the Victoria Park Bistro, function centre and main car park.

The design of the parkway loop itself incorporates an organic swirling pattern, as a modern interpretation of the patterning found on the trunk and bark of the native paperbark tree. The pavement pattern links back to this inspiration with waves of white and ochre-coloured exposed aggregate and coloured concrete.

The Draft Master Plan includes widened areas along the parkway near amenities and attractions where people can stop and take in the beautiful views of the surrounding landscape including the Brisbane CBD and Mount Coot-tha.





Artist impression: The parkway loop

Unique places and experiences



The park reinforces Brisbane's distinctive image as a world-class city by expressing our outdoor lifestyle in an array of unique places and experiences. The park will become a drawcard for tourists as well as locals, contributing significant social and economic benefits to our city.

This strategy establishes a series of activated destinations across the park, inviting people of all ages and backgrounds to join in community life.

The rewilded natural park is the place to experience nature in the city, and to retreat for daytime relaxing, night-time fun and city-wide celebrations.

Great parks shape cities

International research shows successful public spaces share four basic attributes: they are accessible, comfortable, can host activities, and are meeting places for locals and their visitors³. The best parks capture a city's spirit while working with the site's existing features and community. Building these attributes into the park ensures it fulfils its true potential for our city.

Hosting diverse activities

The park's design locates the various destinations, facilities and activities close to the parkway, and around existing buildings and major entry points. Over time, Victoria Park / Barrambin experiences will evolve to reflect the community's changing needs and appetites, maturing alongside new plantings as they grow and establish, and create a truly iconic Brisbane place.

The park will build on the success of the existing Victoria Park Bistro, function centre, driving range and putt-putt facility. It will add to Brisbane's quality venue offerings for small, medium and larger-scale events.

The lawn spaces next to the Visitor Centre accommodate more relaxed events and community gatherings. The park also caters for smaller scale, curated events along the parkway. A few times a year, larger events will be hosted in the driving range turning this into a multi-purpose space. All events will be able to make the most of the park's easy bump-in and bump-out infrastructure.

A place to meet

With its panoramic views of the city and surrounds, its proximity to nature and expansive green lawns, the park will become one of Brisbane's best spots to meet and relax. Various food and beverage offerings will range in scale and style, from the parkway kiosk and casual dining at the Tree House, to the more formal spaces in the function centre.

³ Research provided by Project for Public Spaces.

Key spatial moves



Attractions and destinations

Establish a collection of unique attractions and destinations across the park.



Provide amenities and shelters for gatherings

Install shelters and BBQ facilities throughout the park to encourage community gatherings and social interactions.



Quiet core

Establish a quieter inner core with a focus on connecting with nature. Include spaces for reflection and exploration, as well as opportunities for learning.



Reconnecting outwards

Extend access networks into the surrounding neighbourhoods to make it easier to access the park.



Mark arrival points

Incorporate sculptural entry-points markers at key locations.

Other actions

Identity and image

Establish the park's identity as a centre of social and cultural life in a distinct natural setting.

Flexibility in design

Design spaces in a way that allows them to be used in a variety of ways.

Seasonal strategies

Change park programming with the seasons, celebrating different flora and fauna at different times of the year.

Central role of management

Centralise and integrate park management to ensure the park remains a safe and lively place to go.

Range of event spaces

Deliver spaces across the park that can accommodate a diverse range of events of varying scales.

Bespoke architecture

Design built elements across the park to incorporate and complement local traditions and stories. This approach, coupled with the quality and authenticity of the architecture, will make it uniquely 'of this place', enhancing the park's appeal.



Figure 12 Unique places and experiences strategy – key spatial moves

A day in the park...

The park offers plenty of experiences and opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to enjoy all day long.

1

Park gatherers

These people are everyday users who come to the park to meet friends, to gather, and to enjoy their free time in and around nature. They come to relax and refresh in a beautiful greenspace.

2

Park adventurers

These people are attracted to Victoria Park / Barrambin for a specific purpose. They come to participate in sport, for events, and to enjoy curated activities.

3

Park discoverers

Discoverers appreciate the park's wild qualities, its natural amenity, and its healing, restorative powers. They enjoy getting up close with the flora and fauna, and learning about the park's Aboriginal and European history, as well as its sustainability aspects.

Locals enjoy a stroll through the park with their dogs.



Children join in various activities on the community sports field, cricket nets, tennis, multi-purpose courts and running tracks.



Birdwatchers try to spot early morning fauna activity.



Early morning
6am

Peak morning
9am

Mid-morning
10:30am



Fitness groups are in full swing at the community fitness precinct.



Family groups congregate around the nature water play gully and playscapes across the park.



Community members tend to the community edible gardens.

Groups enjoy picnics and early afternoon BBQs near the nature water play gully.



Visitors amble through the park and around the waterholes.



Visitors grab a bite to eat at food trucks.



Midday

12 noon

Mid-afternoon

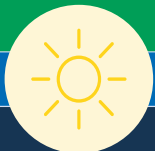
3pm

Early evening

6pm

Evening/night-time

9pm



Lunch at the Tree House and Bistro.



Runners, joggers and dog-walkers make use of the park's path network.



Evening light show⁴. Feature lighting, evening activation and events. Relax on the lawn under the Tree House.

⁴Evening light show images credit: Artist: Skunk Control. Artwork – Bastions of Light, 2018 41

Creative expression



We invite people to discover, reconnect and adventure through the place that is Victoria Park Barrambin. One way we will encourage this is through artistic and other creative experiences that will let people have encounters, share and make their own stories in this special place.

The park will play a significant role in creative and cultural life in Brisbane. This strategy specifically addresses the different ways people can express creativity in the park using art, architecture and performance, as well as integrating art with the landscape. One of this strategy's principal aims is to express stories through time.

This curatorial vision centres on the idea of Story Making, celebrating tens of thousands of years of Aboriginal knowledge through to the park's European history. It is also about the park's evolving role as part of Brisbane's living history, and will encourage people to create new stories that will become part of the park's collective memory of experience.

Creative principles

Draw the park's creative principles from these narrative themes:

Connection to Country

Work with Aboriginal artists to share their stories of Country, community and continuing culture.

Revealing the landscape

Integrate with and draw inspiration from Brisbane's natural habitats to connect visitors to the park's environmental features.

Memories across generations

Create a place where people come together to share both old and new experiences, build new stories and generate ongoing cultural and artistic expression for generations to come.

Uniquely South East Queensland

Commission established and emerging local artists and makers to create works that share South East Queensland perspectives.

Authentic placemaking

Create a memorable, world-class cultural destination for Brisbane through artistic and other creative interventions.

Design excellence

The park's design quality reflects Brisbane's unique character, identity and climate.

Creative opportunities

The park will take arts and entertainment into the open air. The park will support creativity through a diverse array of expression, including permanent structures, temporary activations and new experiences.

Sculptural forms

- Sculptural architecture, bridges and furniture
- Inspired by natural forms
- Stand-alone sculptural artworks
- Kinetic sculptures

Interactivity

- Artist-designed play elements
- Soundscapes
- Water play
- Tactile materials

Creative lighting

- Illuminating unique design features
- Wayfinding and navigation
- Projection

Language

- Type-based sculptures
- Language on walls and pavements
- Naming, poetry and quotations
- Guided walks and tours

Graphic expression

- Graphic application to pavements, ceilings and undercrofts
- Colour and shapes in sport and fitness areas

Program

- Brisbane events and festival partnerships
- Live performance, music and dance
- Temporary activations and exhibitions
- Artists and thinkers in residence programs

Sculptural forms



Artist: Jamie North
Artwork: Reminders 20 & 21, 2018

Language

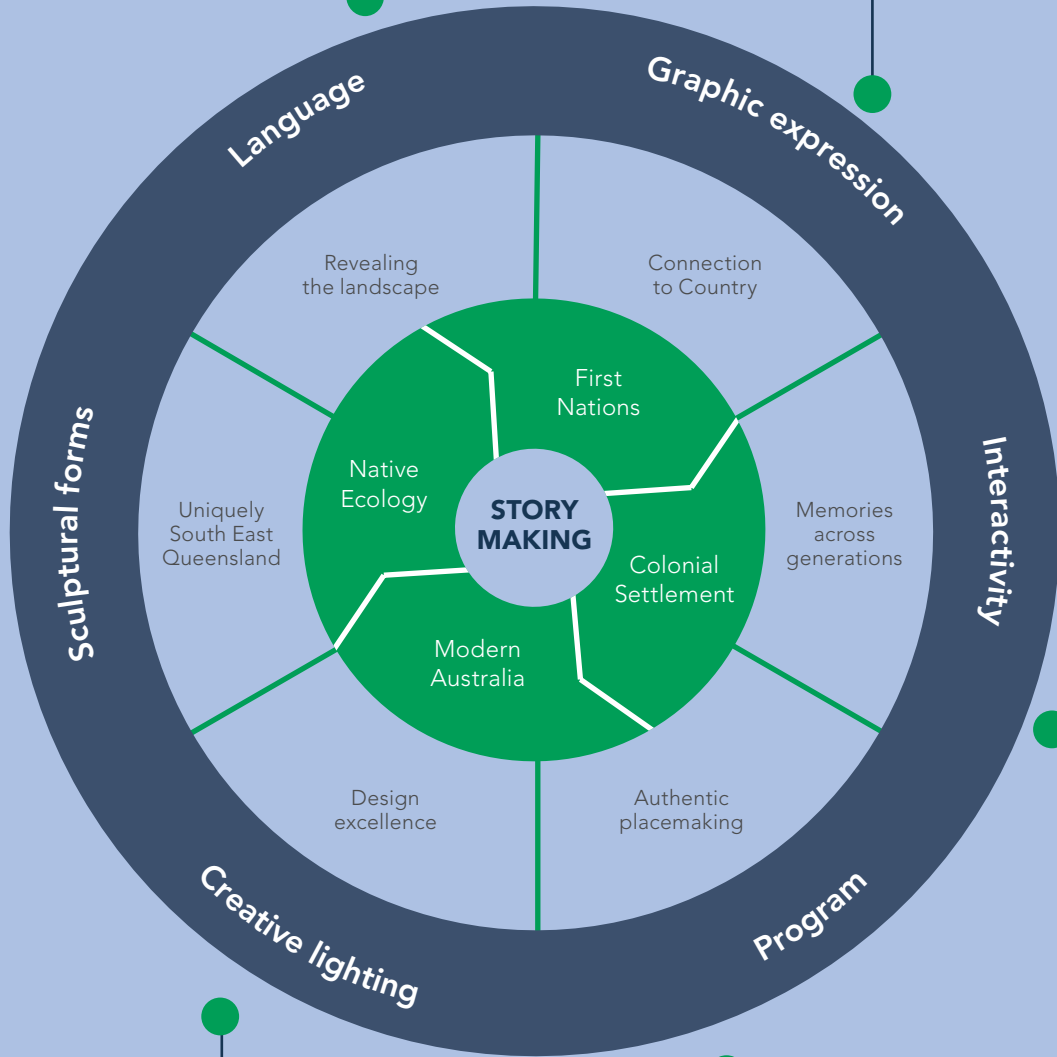


Artist: Jenna Lee
Artwork: Language pillars, 2022

Graphic expression



Artist: Ingrid Bartkowiak
Artwork: Native Flora, Fauna and Backyard Feel, 2021



Creative lighting



Artist: Esem Projects
Artwork: Superorganism, 2021

Program



Artist: Leila Honari
Artwork: Farsh-e-Parandeh (Flying Carpet), 2022

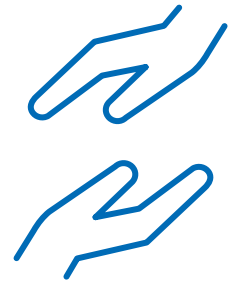
Interactivity



Artist: Susan Hawkins
Artwork: Between the River and the Cliffs, 2019

Figure 13 Creative expression framework

Partnerships and relationships



The park is in a unique position to take advantage of the nearby communities of knowledge, health and creativity to become a beloved place of learning, innovation and expression for generations to come. Council is committed to exploring and supporting the many partnerships available to ensure the park continues to foster community connection and stewardship well into the future.

A place of excellence, ideas and wellbeing connected by a world-class park

Together, the neighbourhoods surrounding the park form one of the most significant urban renewal areas and innovation precincts in Brisbane. The area is also home to one of the state's most successful knowledge and technology clusters, with hospitals and allied health facilities, universities, schools, research institutes and creative arts precincts interwoven with accommodation and event spaces.

Brisbane's ongoing major urban regeneration projects are providing a dynamic mix of lifestyle amenities for the area, including housing, dining, retail, commercial and entertainment. The new Brisbane Metro and Cross River Rail stations will provide high-frequency, high-capacity public transport infrastructure for workers and visitors to access the district's heart at Victoria Park / Barrambin and the nearby Brisbane Showgrounds. Better active transport connections will integrate each of these elements seamlessly with each other, and with the city more broadly.

Victoria Park / Barrambin's health and recreation benefits will play a key role in attracting and retaining knowledge workers, and in enhancing the residential community. The wider district will also attract a diverse mix of services and facilities, growing a vibrant entertainment and leisure destination that is essential to sustaining its significant resident, worker, student and visitor population.

A living laboratory

The park's size, strategic location and transformative potential provides a vital source of 'green relief' for residents, workers, students and visitors. The park's central location in this globally renowned innovation district presents a unique opportunity for it to be a 'living laboratory'.

Here, we can study new ideas and concepts that align with the wider district's health, education, research and creative industries' focus.

Victoria Park / Barrambin's transformation opens opportunities to carry out long-term studies into the benefits of greening urban spaces, including biodiversity, urban cooling, air and water quality, and community health and wellbeing.

Supporting community-building and local business

Victoria Park / Barrambin will play host to a range of programs, activities and events that will have broad community appeal and keep it active and lively throughout the year. The nature of the park's spaces lends them to multiple uses such as:

- open green areas could host wellness clinics and outdoor horticultural learning experiences and festivals
- indoor and outdoor spaces could serve as classrooms
- architectural structures could become canvases for digital art or performance backdrops
- revegetated areas could sustain environmental and medical research, or work placements for secondary and tertiary students.

Council will continue to engage with the local and wider community, including businesses, institutions, universities, schools, not-for-profit organisations and peak bodies throughout the park's evolution. We look forward to building a sense of custodianship and shared ownership of the park's places and spaces through community collaboration and partnerships. This includes encouraging local businesses, particularly local Aboriginal businesses, to offer services that align with the park's vision to its visitors.

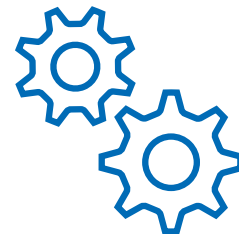
Council will explore partnerships and relationships with the Brisbane community and its surrounding neighbours to ensure the park is a connected space for everyone to enjoy.

If you have an idea and are interested in exploring a partnership opportunity with Victoria Park / Barrambin, contact Council at victoriapark@brisbane.qld.gov.au



Figure 15 Framework for partnerships and relationships strategy

Other key enablers



The park takes a world-class approach to its operational, management and maintenance functions. This not only ensures the park's long-term viability, sustainability and safety, but considers the park as the venue for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games for the temporary cross country equestrian and BMX freestyle events.

Park management and operations

Victoria Park / Barrambin's long-term success as a world-class parkland demands a high standard of maintenance and operational management.

Council will manage the park using an integrated park management approach including two dedicated locations on site for operations and maintenance facilities. These facilities will cater to the needs of the park itself, as well as contributing more broadly to other Council-managed parks and assets. The front-of-house Park Administration and Operations facility is located between the Inner Northern Busway and the current Victoria Park Bistro. It is supported by a green waste storage and sustainable water reuse facility near the Inner City Bypass corridor. A Council maintenance facility is located in the southern parkland under the inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge.

Sustainability

Redeveloping Victoria Park / Barrambin into a world-class public park is an ideal opportunity for us to embed large-scale, best practice sustainability principles, and showcase our city's innovation and leadership. With this in mind, the Draft Master Plan ensures the park:

- is as energy efficient as possible
- delivers a carbon neutral facility
- tracks the amount of carbon sequestered in the urban forest
- moves toward clean energy operations and maintenance regimes
- reuses local materials to minimise emissions
- incorporates significant revegetation to reduce the impacts of urban heat and promote urban cooling
- cleanses water on site using natural processes
- captures and reuses stormwater to support irrigation across the site
- maximises on-site power generation including introducing photovoltaic (PV) technology to rooftops to capture solar energy for use on site
- makes active travel an easy choice to get to the park.

Access and inclusion

The park's approach to accessibility and inclusion incorporates mandatory disability standards including NCC/BCA Part H.2, Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport (DSAPT). It also implements best practice professional advice to meet the intent of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and the goals/principles of universal design.

Safety and security

The park's design incorporates the thoughtful placement of paths, connections, amenities and places in a way that will promote social behaviours that align with the park's purpose, boosting visitors' sense of safety at all times.

Lighting is used to enhance night-time experiences and visitors' sense of safety, without disturbing the park's neighbours or its nocturnal wildlife. Code-compliant lighting along all primary path connections provides safe routes through the park at night. A closed-circuit television (CCTV) network is supported by 24/7 security with on-site monitoring.

Wayfinding

The approach to wayfinding integrates the requirements of accessibility, information, identification, orientation, safety, education and interpretation. A spectrum of design elements including physical signage identify major and minor entry points for all user types. Wayfinding design and approaches will build an identity that showcases the park as a world-class destination parkland and acknowledges its unique role in the city.

Technology-enabled

As a contemporary park, technology capability and capacity now and into the future are critical. Capturing key operational and maintenance data plays a significant role in keeping the park functional and relevant.

Important data and metrics include how the park is used, for example how many visitors it has and how long they stay, as well as environmental factors like air quality, temperature, water use and quality, noise and lighting levels, and wildlife activity. The park's network of sensors and fibre optic cabling will ensure connectivity across its different precincts, and programming capabilities for elements like creative lighting.



Figure 16 Other key enablers strategy – key spatial moves

Key spatial moves



Support sustainable park management
Introduce park administration and operations facilities to support sustainable management.



Deliver 24/7 security
Provide monitoring rooms and dispatch to ensure after hours safety and responsiveness.



Showcase park identity with wayfinding and signage
Incorporate a suite of wayfinding signs at key locations and attractions around the park.



Illuminate plaza and key spaces
Light plaza and larger spaces to improve safety.



Light primary travel paths
Install code-level path lighting ensuring safe passage through the park after hours.



Future-proof technology
Strategically locate Wi-Fi and Bluetooth connectivity across the park.

Draft Master Plan precincts

Design intent and detail

Northern parkland

Western parkland

Parkland centre

Artist impression:
Aerial view of the park from Spring Hill.

An aerial rendering of a parkland development. A multi-lane highway curves through the center. To the left, a large green area with trees and a pond is labeled 'Parkland main entry'. To the right, another green area with a pool and buildings is labeled 'Southern parkland'. A dashed white line outlines the parkland's boundary. Blue lines connect the text labels to their respective areas. A red bridge structure is visible over the highway.

Parkland main entry

Southern parkland

Parkland main entry

The parkland's main entry serves as the primary arrival and formal celebration point, welcoming visitors to Victoria Park Barrambin.

The Visitor Centre incorporates shady outdoor areas for greeting individuals and groups as they arrive in the park. Here, Park Rangers and guides can meet visitors, share their knowledge of the park's history and features, and answer questions before people explore its varied offerings.

The Visitor Centre combines exhibition and community spaces, outdoor performance spaces, a café and other amenities to create an authentic and uniquely Brisbane experience while making the most of the city's iconic views.

The park's main car parking area is located close to the entry and provides easy access to the Visitor Centre, the existing venues and the park itself. The existing car park next to the driving range and the function centre will, at least in the short term, be retained. As public transport options and travel patterns change over time, this area may be re-evaluated as car park and potentially change to green space.

A sloping lawn connects the Visitor Centre with the Victoria Park Bistro, putt-putt, function centre and venues and the wider parkland. Capturing views over the waterholes to the adjoining wetlands and the city, the lawn will have the capacity to host small- to medium-sized events.

Legend

- ① New primary parkland entry with signalised intersection (subject to negotiations with Queensland Government)
- ② Repurposed existing entry bridge for active travel and emergency access
- ③ Car park (approx. 315 spaces) with easy access to the Visitor Centre, parkway loop and venues
- ④ Multi-storey car park. Maximum 2 storeys, with 3 levels of carparking (approx. 330 spaces)
- ⑤ Retained existing car park (approx. 70 spaces)
- ⑥ Victoria Park function centre
- ⑦ Victoria Park function centre marquee
- ⑧ Vehicular drop-off and forecourt plaza for Visitor Centre and function centre
- ⑨ Visitor Centre, including visitor exhibits and information, community spaces, gallery, outdoor performance spaces and café
- ⑩ Sloping lawn with capacity for small community events
- ⑪ Cascading water creates a visual, physical and audible connection between the Visitor Centre and the waterholes
- ⑫ The parkway loop provides continuous accessible path of travel throughout the parkland
- ⑬ Amenities block
- ⑭ Herston Busway and Brisbane Metro Station entry plaza
- ⑮ Path connection to Gilchrist Avenue and Herston Road
- ⑯ Inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge with lift connection to Gilchrist Avenue
- ⑰ Community sports precinct including a sports field, multi-purpose courts, cricket nets, tennis courts, amenities and storage shed



Figure 17 Detailed plan of the parkland's main entry precinct

A second large lawn space, adjacent to the Herston Busway and Metro Station also provides a flexible area for small community events. An amenities block located near the Parkway services this part of the park.

The inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge is a critical link between the parkland and the CBD. It connects with the Herston Busway and Brisbane Metro Station, providing shared access to the Herston Quarter.

The bridge safely navigates pedestrians and cyclists over the Inner City Bypass, while offering glimpses of the broader parkland setting. The bridge includes lift access to the community sports field, cricket nets and tennis courts south of Gilchrist Avenue.



Precinct location within the park



The Visitor Centre

The Visitor Centre welcomes visitors to the park and enhances their understanding of place, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and the site's heritage. Providing an open welcoming arrival destination, Country extends through the building to create a place where landscape and architecture are one. The building incorporates rammed earth and the design funnels visitors through to the inviting entry, framing views to the park's waterholes and the city skyline.

The centre includes visitor exhibits and information, community spaces, gallery, outdoor performance spaces, a café and other amenities. The Visitor Centre serves as a key point to navigate into the parkland, and understand all it has to offer.

To the west of the Visitor Centre is the Victoria Park Bistro, function centre, driving range and putt-putt course. A new shared-entry forecourt plaza welcomes visitors arriving by car or public transport, and orients them safely to their destination. The entry forecourt plaza also acts as an anchor for the Victoria Park / Barrambin parkway loop, which provides all-abilities access through the rest of the parkland.



Artist impression: Visitor Centre forecourt and arrival experience.



Parkland centre

The parkland's centre provides a deep connection to the natural and rewilded environment, offering spaces for quiet retreat as well as opportunities to engage with water, flora and fauna.

The traditional nature of the land will be restored and reinstated by creating a series of wetlands and waterholes. These will be aligned with the park's natural contours and existing overland flow paths, while maximising visibility and access. The waterholes will be tiered to support water flow and cleansing. Visitors can explore the native beauty of the water systems along its boardwalks, walkways and stepping stones.

The Draft Master Plan proposes a cascading water feature from the Visitor Centre to the waterholes as an iconic visual and cooling element. The circulating water provides visual and acoustic appeal, and makes water a defining feature of the parkland's centre. Water is sustainably captured and managed through the park's network of waterholes, and flow paths and wetlands, which cleanse the water and improve its quality.

The Draft Master Plan maintains the existing land bridge connection to the southern part of the parkland at Spring Hill, with elevated links providing direct access to the parkland's main activity nodes.

An adventure playground blends a contemporary and sophisticated play structure with engaging nature play. A zero-depth water play area invites visitors to frolic and explore this fun and interactive environment.



Precinct location within the park

Legend

- 1 Cascading water feature
- 2 The parkway loop provides continuous accessible path of travel throughout the parkland
- 3 Walkway over upper wetland
- 4 Upper wetlands
- 5 Naturalised waterholes
- 6 Emergency vehicle access to parkway
- 7 Flexible lower lawn
- 8 Gilchrist Avenue set down, arrival plaza and vehicular turnaround
- 9 Parkway kiosk
- 10 Adventure playground
- 11 Water play area
- 12 Amenities block
- 13 Lower wetlands and boardwalk
- 14 Education Hub
- 15 Nature water play gully
- 16 Elevated connection to land bridge
- 17 Trails and rewilding area
- 18 Healing circle for quiet reflection
- 19 York's Hollow (revitalised)
- 20 Sediment and biofiltration basin
- 21 Active transport connection
- 22 Proposed location for green waste storage and operations facility

Figure 18 Detailed plan of the parkland centre



Inner City Bypass

Rail line/future Cross River Rail





Artist impression: Nature water play gully



Nature water play gully

Flowing water is reintroduced into the heart of the park. Making use of the existing topography, local hydrology and ecological heritage, the nature water play gully is a series of channels and ponds that cascade from the Tree House down to the waterholes.

The nature water play gully is an inclusive experience that provides an abundance of play value for every visitor, regardless of age or ability. Play has been embedded intuitively with experiences rather than a reliance on equipment.

Visitors can engage in nature play and explore among stepping-stones and logs, hunt for tadpoles and insects, and get their hands dirty. Soft weeping foliage, sedges and grasses enhance the distinct nature of each pond providing interest for visitors year-round. The water experience extends beyond the gully to a filtered water play area and adventure playground established within the rewilded landscape.

Northern parkland

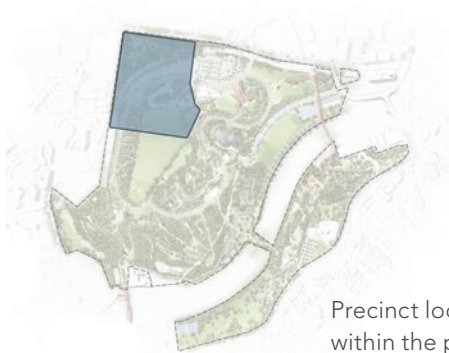
The northern parkland creates opportunities for people to enjoy passive and active recreation pursuits in a space that capitalises on the dramatic landscape and extensive existing vegetation.

Tucked next to the existing Murray Spinaze Bushland in the park's north-east corner, the northern parkland is a green retreat and play-space for the Brisbane community. Its pedestrian links connect it with QUT's Kelvin Grove campus and Herston Road, creating a blended and accessible landscape for all to enjoy.

The northern parkland takes advantage of the dramatic topography, incorporating an urban pump track. Shade pavilions, public amenities, terraced seating and a picnic green makes this space a perfect location for a day out with the family.

Importantly, the Murray Spinaze Bushland remains, and is expanded within the parkland, along with significant stands of existing Corymbia and Eucalypt species on the boundary with QUT. Combined with a colourful wildflower understorey, showcasing plants native to Kelvin Grove and Herston, this landscape creates a verdant and cool sanctuary for park visitors.

Sustainable and efficient management and maintenance of the park is essential. The park's administration and operations compound is located in this precinct to help minimise any disruptions to the park's visitors, and maximise efficiency for the park's maintenance and operations teams. Nestled between the entry road and the existing Inner Northern Busway, the compound will be screened and planted so it blends with its surrounds.



Precinct location within the park

Legend

- ① Small car park (approx. 15 spaces)
- ② Urban pump park
- ③ Pedestrian connection to QUT Kelvin Grove
- ④ Picnic lawn
- ⑤ Small skateable features
- ⑥ Emergency access to the Inner Northern Busway tunnel
- ⑦ Path connection to the Victoria Park Bistro, function centre and putt-putt course, venues and other parts of the park
- ⑧ Screening to Inner Northern Busway tunnel
- ⑨ Multi-storey car park. Maximum 2 storeys, with 3 levels of carparking (approx. 330 spaces)
- ⑩ Park Administration and Operations including sustainable design features
- ⑪ The parkway loop provides continuous accessible path of travel throughout the parkland
- ⑫ Active transport connection
- ⑬ Vehicle drop-off
- ⑭ Path connection and existing bridge to QUT Kelvin Grove
- ⑮ Victoria Park Bistro and putt-putt course
- ⑯ Victoria Park golf driving range
- ⑰ Car park (approx. 70 spaces) including water sensitive design

Figure 19 Detailed plan of the northern parkland



Herston Road

Murray Spinaze
Bushland

Inner Northern Busway/future Brisbane Metro

1

2

5

7

3

6

4

8

9

10

12

11

15

17

14

13

16

0 10 20 30 40

Urban pump track

A cycling pump track with small skateable features creates a destination for Brisbane families. Taking advantage of the park's existing natural topography, the pump track offers a space for younger children, along with providing elements for intermediate riders, creating the opportunity for a perfect day out for the whole family.

A small car park, amenities block and informal seating areas are also featured to enhance the family friendly destination.





Artist impression: Urban pump track

Western parkland

The western parkland provides a variety of user friendly park activities and spaces as well as an important access point to Kelvin Grove and suburbs immediately west of the park.

Adventure Valley focuses on revegetating and rewilding large portions of landscape, transforming it into endemic forest. Once the newly planted trees reach a mature height, they will provide a lush backdrop for a high ropes course and mountain bike track.

To the west, the parkway loop connects the Victoria Park Bistro to the Kelvin Grove Busway and Brisbane Metro Station and the Tree House. This gives the park a key north-south connector for pedestrians, cyclists and controlled vehicles access.

From the western-most edge, an accessible and compliant pathway weaves its way through existing eucalypt forests – home to native fauna – connecting the Tree House with the park and Kelvin Grove Urban Village. An eight-metre high lift tower and connecting pathway network provides easy access to the Tree House, further promoting inclusion across the site.

Visitors can access the reinstated waterway and enjoy stepping stones, native vegetation and landscaping that blends with the revegetated forest canopies, leading visitors to shaded picnic areas and a dog park.

Above the water line, plantings of native flora give shade and space to take in the surrounds, while bush walks through existing forests give visitors the chance to re-connect with nature.

Perched at the site's highpoint, the Tree House is a spectacular landmark within the park. The Tree House's elevated viewing platform will take in panoramic views of Brisbane's CBD and Mt Coot-tha. No visit to the park is complete without a trip to the top of the tower.

The Tree House lookout has slender and lightweight form of maximum three storey height. Timber is incorporated into the building with the potential to mimic natural textures such as layers of paper bark tree or patterning of the bunya nut cone. The viewing deck and balconies are visible as a landmark in the park, enticing visitors to explore the building itself and enjoy the views it offers.

The Tree House plaza incorporates natural stone and is complimented by a large open lawn and kiosk located next to the tower. This place gives visitors the chance to enjoy a drink, gather and attend nearby events, all backdropped by panoramic CBD views.

The upgraded pedestrian and bikeway bridge over the Inner City Bypass will provide access to the western edge of the parkland and connect cyclists with the city centre and northern suburbs (subject to negotiations with Queensland Rail).

Legend

- 1 Small car park (approx. 15 spaces)
- 2 Lift to accessible bridge
- 3 Picnic green
- 4 Connection to QUT Kelvin Grove
- 5 Reinstated waterways
- 6 Dog park
- 7 Accessible pathway through treed lined incline
- 8 Adventure Valley with mountain bike track and high ropes course
- 9 The parkway loop provides continuous accessible path of travel throughout the parkland
- 10 The Tree House with lookout and cafe
- 11 Active transport connection
- 12 Upgraded pedestrian and bikeway bridge (subject to negotiations with Queensland Rail)



Precinct location within the park

Note: Proposed upgrades in this area are reliant on tenure negotiations with Queensland Government (Department of Transport and Main Roads).



Kelvin Grove Busway and Brisbane Metro Station

QUT Kelvin Grove

Inner Northern Busway

Rochester Street

Victoria Park Road

Normanby Terrace

Brisbane Grammar School tennis courts

Legacy Way

Inner City Bypass (ICB)

Figure 20 Detailed plan of the western parkland



The dog park

We heard how important a dog off-leash area is for nearby residents and the community of Kelvin Grove Urban Village. In response, the Draft Master Plan includes a dog park, nestled in the tree-lined embankment of the western parkland edge near the area known locally as Shaggy Ridge.

Separate areas for large and small dogs are provided along with informal seating. A paved pathway shaded by existing vegetation set in a rewilded landscape leads to the dog park, which includes a sheltered space for relaxation and informal socialising.



Artist impression: The dog park

Southern parkland

The southern parkland serves as a gateway into the park's northern precincts, and as a destination for the surrounding residential communities of Spring Hill, Bowen Hills and Fortitude Valley.

The existing heritage gates of the former horse riding row, at the intersection of Bowen Bridge Road and Gregory Terrace provide a welcoming arrival to this precinct and the park. A heritage entry plaza extends into the park and the landing of the western inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge.

Visitors to the southern parkland can meander along the forest trails in the enhanced Gundoo Memorial Grove. The spaces and trails provide a sensitive natural retreat that touches the ground lightly through large eucalypts, and encourages people to feel a deeper connection to Country. On the fringes of the grove, next to the rail corridor, a multi-use active recreation area for community fitness is proposed. This will offer locals of all ages and abilities the chance to enjoy the benefits of an active lifestyle. The area will cater for activities like basketball, table tennis and parkour, and will include a 100-metre sprint track and boot camp equipment.

The network of upgraded paths lead deeper into the precinct, where visitors can enjoy the dog park. Families will delight in the upgraded playground next to the large open central plaza. This space creates a central point from which visitors can choose to adventure any way they please. While some may cross the land bridge into the northern park, others may elect to wander to the community garden and Spring Hill Common that bookends the southern-most point of the precinct. The Common provides a level turfed area, offering extra recreation space for residents and the broader community.



Precinct location within the park





Figure 21 Detailed plan of the southern parkland

Community edible garden

A managed community edible garden brings a permaculture experience to the city. The garden is positioned as a series of terraces to make the most of its northern aspect.

The community edible garden offers a chance for locals and visitors to come together, learn and enjoy the benefits of locally grown fresh food as part of a sustainable and healthy lifestyle. The community garden will have storage and other appropriate amenities to support maintenance and operations.





Artist impression: The community edible garden

Technical insights

Technical assessments have identified the site's constraints and opportunities, and have shaped the evolution and design of the Draft Master Plan.

Tenure

Land within the Draft Master Plan area comprises various tenure forms, including freehold land, leasehold land, trust land and unallocated state land. This adds a layer of complexity which the Draft Master Plan seeks to resolve through exploring simplified and consolidated tenure outcomes.

Archaeological sensitivity

The site has significant archaeological value, with the potential presence of Aboriginal materials, as well as artefacts relating to the early European settlement of Brisbane. Discovery of archaeological finds and concentrations will be sensitively managed through appropriate protocols and procedures during the implementation of the Draft Master Plan.

Heritage

Victoria Park / Barrambin has many layers of history, from its use for thousands of years by Aboriginal groups to housing early European settlers to Moreton Bay in the mid-nineteenth century and more recently its use as a golf course. Areas of the park are heritage-listed at the local and state government level. Careful consideration for the ongoing management and protection of heritage forms a key part of the Draft Master Plan, and appropriate protocols and procedures will be adopted during implementation.

Contamination

Areas of potential contamination are identified on the Environmental Management Register and will be carefully managed during project delivery.

Hydrology and water

The park is located within the Enoggera Creek (Breakfast Creek) subcatchment and forms part of the Lower Brisbane River catchment area. The park acts as an informal regional detention basin. The Draft Master Plan preserves the park's important role as a catchment for 106-hectares of surrounding area, allowing stormwater from the west to the north-east to drain through the park. The Draft Master Plan seeks to minimise hazards and enables the park to continue to respond effectively to overland flow from major weather events, particularly in areas south of Gilchrist Avenue and north of the Inner City Bypass.

Flora

More than 3000 trees have been assessed and surveyed as part of the Draft Master Plan process. The Draft Master Plan takes valuable cues from the existing vegetation to inform the types of flora needed to reinstate and restore the site's ecosystems. It focuses on protecting and retaining the Gundoo Memorial Grove at Spring Hill, high-quality trees and those identified as habitat trees.

Fauna

The park habitats range from open, cleared parkland to structured forest. Detailed investigations revealed the unexpected presence of species such as the Squirrel Glider, Southern Boobook and Brown Goshawk, as well as other species. These finds are a positive indicator that park rewilding will be beneficial and provide ecological connectivity. The Draft Master Plan proposes to expand the quantum and quality of habitat to encourage fauna to thrive.

Infrastructure

There is a range of existing essential underground services across the site, including sewer, drainage, gas and electrical infrastructure. The site shares a boundary with one of the state's key substations at the corner of Bowen Bridge Road and Gregory Terrace. Several easements and high-voltage underground cabling corridors fan out from this location and across the park. These alignments limit uses or structures in these locations. There is also a trunk sewer alignment north of the Inner City Bypass. The Draft Master Plan acknowledges this and limits significant change in this area to reduce the extent of sewer relocation works.

Transport

Network modelling reveals that traffic demands along Herston Road will increase over the next decade. The modelling indicates that, even with no intensification of the park, the existing main vehicle access intersection on Herston Road will require upgrading or modification in the medium term to accommodate the forecast traffic movements. In response, the Draft Master Plan proposes a new park access and signalised intersection on Herston Road (subject to negotiations with Department of Transport and Main Roads). Emergency vehicles can access deep into the park via Gilchrist Avenue and the parkway loop.



Figure 22 Key technical insights

Legend

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>1 The most constrained part of the park due to potential contamination, flooding and presence of underground services. Maintaining existing uses within this location is recommended.</p> <p>2 Gundoo Memorial Grove: high concentration of good-quality trees that warrant preservation.</p> <p>3 Area of important habitat. Opportunity to protect and enhance park elements near this location.</p> <p>4 Area over Inner Northern Busway required for upgraded access/egress point to the site off Herston Road subject to negotiations with Department of Transport and Main Roads</p> | <p> Site boundary</p> <p> Identified habitat trees</p> <p> Key fauna habitat</p> <p> Underground power line/ significant easement</p> <p> Location of existing trunk sewer, stormwater and water mains</p> <p> Area of potential contamination identified on the Environmental Management Register (EMR)</p> | <p> Overland flow and flooding zone</p> <p> Area of mature landscape vegetation including plantings by Harry Oakman</p> <p> Transport reserve land - Draft Master Plan outcomes subject to negotiations with Department of Transport and Main Roads</p> <p> Inner Northern Busway corridor</p> |
|---|--|--|

Land management planning

A large portion of land within the Draft Master Plan area is managed by Council as trustee to the Queensland Government under a Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT). The permitted primary purposes for the land under the DOGIT are for park and recreation.

A land management planning process is being adopted to ensure the land is managed in a sustainable way, upgrades and changes occur in a planned way over time, and that secondary uses are suitable for the site. The Land Management Plan (LMP), as required under the *Land Act 1994*, considers the proposed land uses (as proposed in this Draft Master Plan) and identifies the secondary uses proposed to occur within the park.

The LMP will reflect the Final Master Plan, incorporating community feedback. It will document:

- proposed land uses and planned upgrade priorities
- relevant park management and operational practices
- the extent to which the secondary uses support, enhance and contribute to the primary purposes and maintenance of the trust land.

The LMP provides:

- fulfillment of the trustee obligations under the *Land Act 1994*, such as maintaining the land in a good condition, implementing good management practices, and protecting and enhancing natural attributes of the park
- coordinated identification of secondary uses proposed to occur within the trust land where it is demonstrated that the uses support the primary purpose
- determination of economic and social benefits associated with the secondary uses proposed.

Community feedback is sought on the Draft Master Plan, including the secondary uses and land management matters.

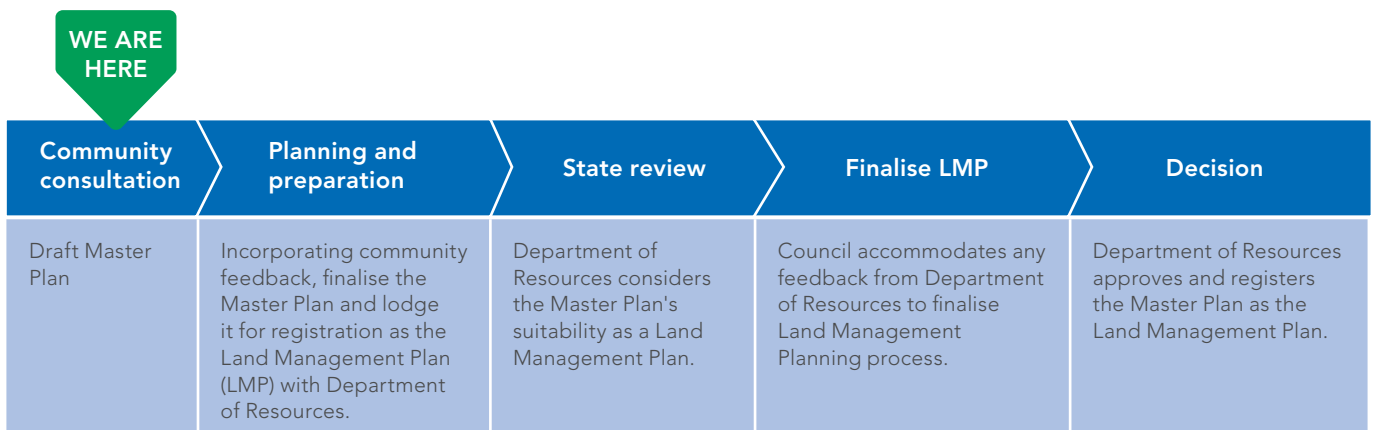


















Figure 23 Process for Land Management Plan



Figure 24 Secondary use plan

Legend

-  Site boundary
-  Existing secondary use
-  Proposed secondary use
-  Existing secondary use relocated
-  1 Victoria Park function centre
-  2 Victoria Park Bistro and putt-putt
-  3 309 Herston Road (Old Clubhouse - commercial offices and medical suites)
-  4 Centenary Pool (including commercial premises)
-  5 Visitor Centre (gallery, conference/training, gift shop, cafe, indoor and outdoor space)
-  6 Parkway kiosk/cafe and multipurpose function room
-  7 Tree House (lookout structure with ground level cafe/bar and integrated iconic design)
-  8 Adventure Valley high ropes course (ticketed and privately operated parkland experience)
-  9 Multi-storey car park
-  10 Driving range
-  11 Spring Hill tennis courts
-  12 Gilchrist Avenue tennis courts and cricket nets

Note:

The park will accommodate the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games as well as temporary hire-able spaces for events and functions which may also be considered to be secondary uses.

Next steps

Brisbane’s biggest new park is open for visitors and the transformation is already well underway with restoration of habitats and tree plantings, as well as events and activations making this a major new destination in the city.

The Draft Master Plan features an array of projects, some of which have already started such as the Spring Hill Common, which is scheduled for completion in late-2023 and the urban pump track, scheduled to be open in mid-2024.

The indicative timing for project delivery across the Draft Master Plan in the short, medium and long-term is outlined below. Areas of rewilding and tree planting will occur at various stages across the implementation of the Master Plan.

Council wants to hear your feedback on all aspects of the Draft Master Plan, including your favourite features and the projects that are most important to you, so that we can seek to prioritise their delivery.

Short-term

- Adventure playground
- Urban pump track
- Spring Hill Common
- Main park entry with signalised intersection at Herston Road (subject to negotiations with Department of Transport and Main Roads)
- Commencement of parkway loop and amenities building
- Dog park at Kelvin Grove (subject to tenure resolution)
- Pedestrian access from Kelvin Grove and Hertson Busway and Metro Stations
- Inner city pedestrian and cycle bridge (eastern)

Medium-term

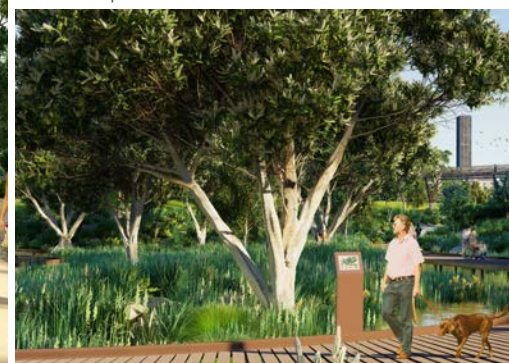
- The Tree House lookout and cafe
- Completion of the parkway loop and elevated connection to existing land bridge
- Park Administration and Operations



Artist impression: Adventure playground



Artist impression: The Tree House



Artist impression: Lower wetlands



Now it is time for you to have your say on the transformation of Victoria Park / Barrambin. You can provide your feedback on the plan by visiting www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/victoriapark or scanning the QR code.

Through this phase of consultation, Council will also be using your feedback to inform the Land Management Plan for the park.

Council will review all feedback and report back to the community with a final Master Plan to be released in 2023.

Long-term

- Lower wetlands and boardwalk
- York's Hollow (revitalised)
- Nature water play gully
- Trails

- Upgraded pedestrian and bikeway bridge (western)
- Visitor Centre
- Naturalised waterholes and upper wetlands
- Water play
- Community edible gardens

- Community sports fields, tennis courts and cricket nets
- Dog park at Spring Hill (upgraded)
- Adventure Valley
- Community fitness precinct



Artist impression: Visitor Centre



Artist impression: Adventure Valley




Brisbane City Council
GPO Box 1434
Brisbane Qld 4001

Every effort is made to ensure that
information is correct at time of publication



CA22-712876-03-6065
©2022 Brisbane City Council

 brisbane.qld.gov.au
 3403 8888

 /BrisbaneCityCouncil
 @brisbanecityqld
 @brisbanecitycouncil