




Domain Precinct Design Response

May 2019 - for consultation

For consultation
May 2019

For more information and to contact the project team

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 www.portphillip.vic.gov.au

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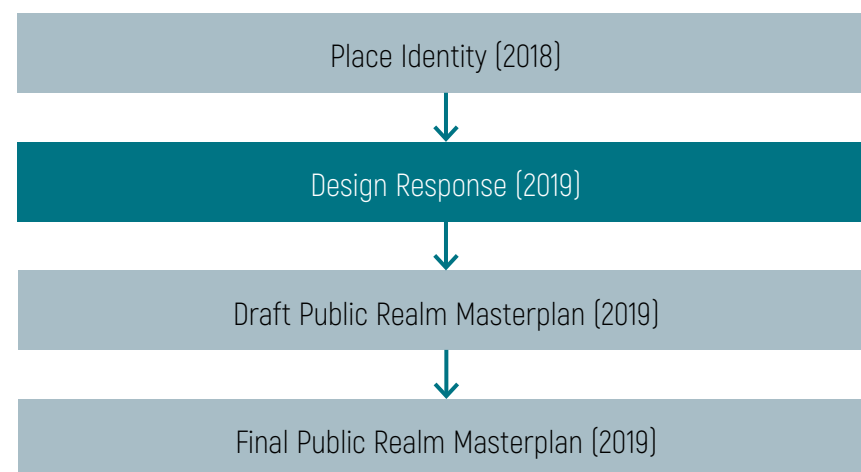
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Introduction

The Domain Precinct, located 1.5 km south of the Melbourne CBD, is experiencing unprecedented change due to activities led by both the Victorian Government and private property developers.

To respond to the opportunities and challenges that these changes present, Council is preparing a Public Realm Masterplan to improve public spaces in the precinct for the community.

Council will achieve this in three stages and build upon the feedback received through Place Identity consultation in 2018.



What is a Design Response?

This Design Response is a preliminary document informed by community feedback on Domain's Place Identity in late-2018, and other technical studies.

It includes a site analysis, design principles, a draft street hierarchy and draft tree planting palette and introduces public realm projects that could be constructed in the Domain Precinct, subject to delivery and funding commitment.

What is a Public Realm Masterplan?

The Domain Precinct Public Realm Masterplan will be a document that combines community feedback received on the projects proposed in this Design Response and various technical studies commissioned by Council.

It will align with key focus areas from a number of Council's strategies, including:

- [Move, Connect, Live \(2018-28\)](#)
- [Act and Adapt \(2018-28\)](#)
- Public Space Strategy (currently in development).

The Public Space Strategy will consider the priority of potential projects, including those in the Domain Precinct, in a municipal-wide context.

What will it do?

The Public Realm Masterplan will propose a number of improvements to the Domain Precinct's public realm, including footpaths, roads, trees and streetscapes.

What won't it do?

The Public Realm Masterplan will not provide any guidelines or recommendations on building heights and setbacks.

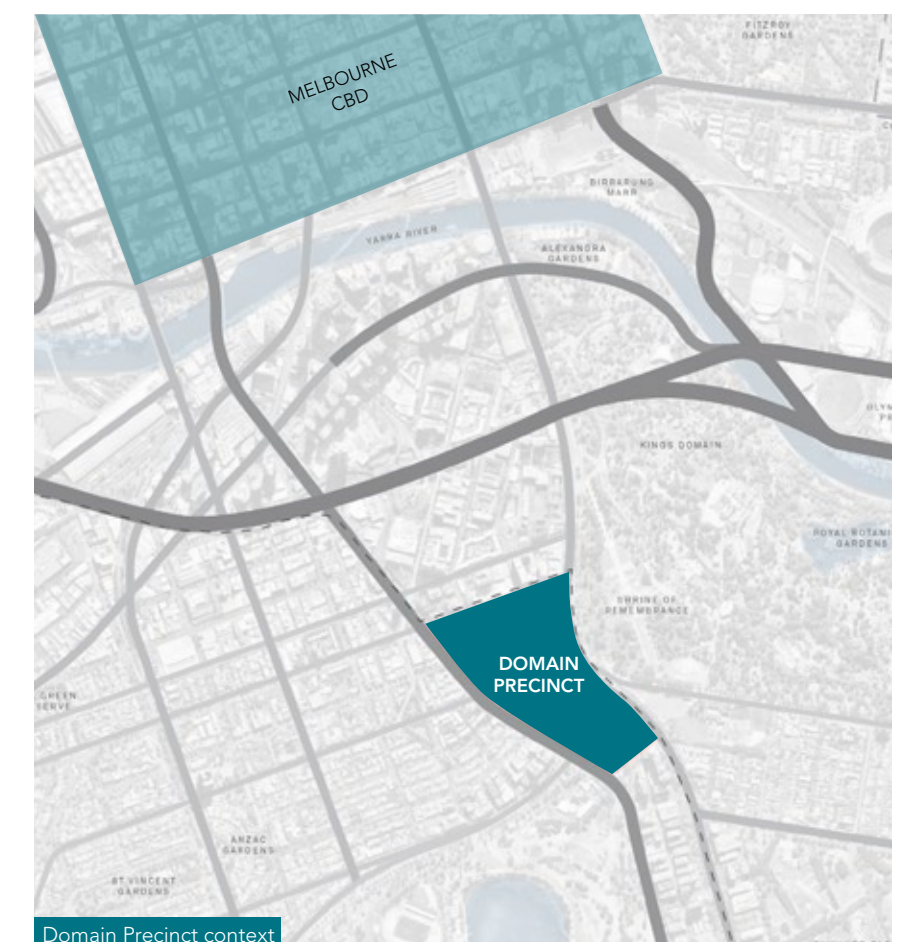
This project acknowledges the work of Rail Projects Victoria (RPV) in the delivery of Anzac Station and surrounding Albert Road Reserve, but does not propose any changes to the design of this area.

About Domain Precinct

The Domain Precinct is bounded by Melbourne's Arts Precinct and some of its best green spaces, including the Royal Botanic Gardens, Shrine of Remembrance and Albert Park.

It is an important connection for people travelling between the CBD, suburbs and other popular destinations. St Kilda Road – one of Melbourne's most famous boulevards and busiest transport corridors – runs through the precinct.

The precinct's strategic location and mixed uses makes it an attractive precinct to live and work in.



Context

What you told us

Place Identity

Council engaged with the community on Domain's Place Identity in late-2018 through an online survey and facilitated workshop. A total of 453 survey responses were received, and 14 people attended the workshop.

The engagement provided an opportunity for the community to let Council know what is valued most about Domain and what it wanted to see improved.

The community identified a few things that weren't working well in Domain:

- poor pedestrian connections and environment
- a lack of community heart and social disconnection
- a loss of established trees and landscape character due to the Metro Tunnel Project.

We heard that the community wants Domain to have:

- walkable, green, safe and relaxing spaces
- high quality streets
- easy access to trams, bike connections and parking.

For an in-depth summary of these engagement outcomes, download the Community Engagement Report from haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au

What is happening in Domain?

Several significant private and public projects are currently underway in Domain, most notably the construction of Anzac Station as part of the Victorian Government's Metro Tunnel Project (MTP). It is anticipated over 40,000 people will use the station daily once it is operational in 2025.

The City of Port Phillip overall has seen a high-level of Victorian Government investment, including funding for public transport, public realm and pedestrian improvements such as:

- Park Street tram and bike link (Rail Projects Victoria)
- Moray Street bike link (Rail Projects Victoria)
- Albert Road Reserve (Rail Projects Victoria)
- Shrine to Sea project (Parks Victoria)
- St Kilda Road central bike corridor (Dept. of Transport)
- Various MTP Network Enhancement Projects (NEPs), such as Kings Way improvements (Rail Projects Victoria).

Together these projects are rapidly reshaping our City and creating new opportunities for improvement.

Strategic planning context

The precinct is experiencing unprecedented change. Following the Minister for Planning's approval of the [St Kilda Road North Precinct Plan](#) through Planning Scheme Amendment C107 in 2015, the precinct has witnessed a significant influx in planning applications and increase in average building heights.

As of March 2019, there are 22 developments in the precinct that have been approved by Council or the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT).

Demographic profile

Population

The Domain Precinct had a population of 4,573 at the 2016 Census (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2006). This comprises approximately 4.1 per cent of the total municipal population (110,634).

Household size

The average household size in the Domain Precinct is 1.87 people - slightly lower than the municipal average of 1.91 people.

Transport to work

Most residents in the Domain Precinct prefer to take public transport to work (36 per cent). This is higher than the municipal average of 26.8 per cent.

This mode is followed by car (29 per cent), walking (20 per cent), and bike riding (2.9 per cent).

Car ownership

Around 23 per cent of Domain Precinct households do not own a car. This is higher than the municipal figure of 16 per cent of households without a car.

Precinct map



Draft vision

The Domain Precinct will be a diverse neighbourhood celebrated for its open space, tree-lined streets and heritage elements.

This vibrant precinct will provide safe spaces for pedestrians and bike riders, facilitate new social connections and be a great place to live, work and visit.

Have your say

Through Place Identity, the community explored what Domain should be known for in 10 years' time. This feedback has informed a draft vision.

Do you agree with the proposed vision for Domain Precinct that was created with the community?

Complete the online survey  haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au

Site context

Strategic priorities

This section illustrates the endorsed strategic actions from both the Victorian Government and City of Port Phillip that impact the Domain Precinct in terms of:

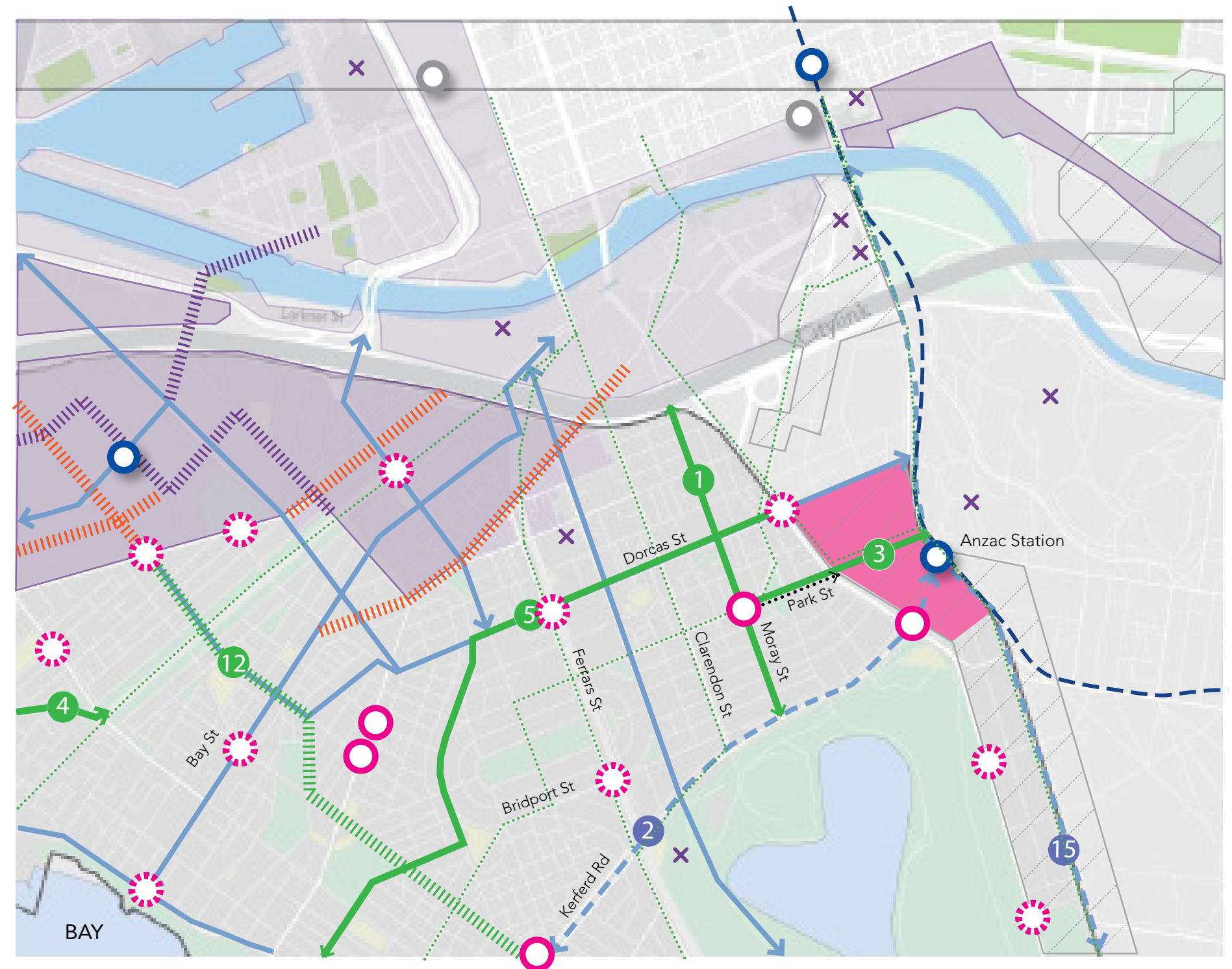
- regional role and identity
- transport networks
- growth precincts
- public space and landmarks

Source documents include:

- Move, Connect, Live Integrated Transport Strategy (2018-28)
- St Kilda Road North Precinct Review (2015)
- Plan Melbourne (2015).

KEY

- Existing tram routes
- Gap in tram route
- Existing train station
- Proposed train station
- Strategic Bike Riding Corridors (by Victorian Government)
- Bike corridor by 2027/28 (by Council)
- Bike corridor post 2027/28 (by Council)
- Upgrade intersection crossing
- Potential new intersection crossing (with VicRoads)
- Fishermans Bend Urban Renewal area
- Secondary Urban Renewal Area (Plan Melbourne)
- Key Melbourne Precinct (Plan Melbourne)
- Fishermans Bend proposed bike corridors
- Fishermans Bend proposed shared corridors
- Major Melbourne landmarks



Site analysis

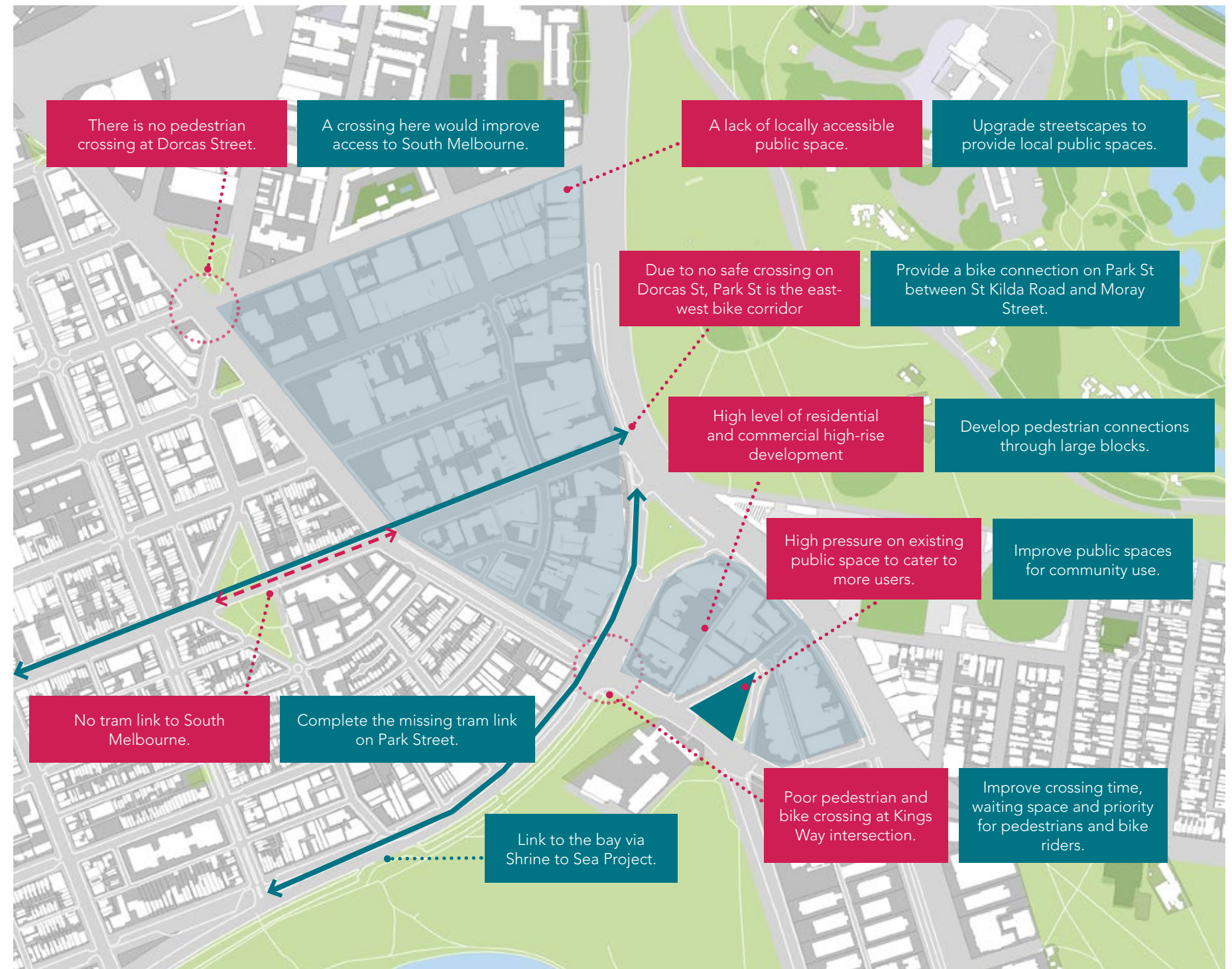
Challenges and opportunities

This section analyses the challenges and opportunities for the Domain Precinct from a strategic or long-term perspective and community level.

The analysis has been considered alongside the community's feedback on Domain's Place Identity to establish a set of design principles that guide each of the design response projects.

This analysis has been undertaken in terms of:

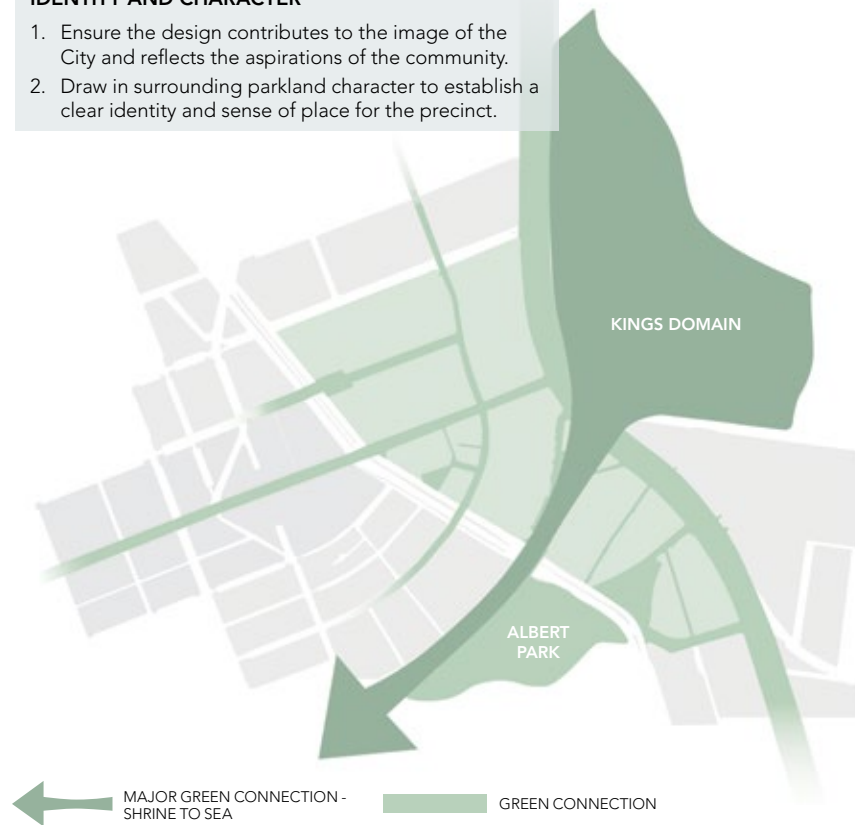
- local identity and character
- regional transport networks
- local pedestrian connections
- local bike corridor links
- public space.



Design principles

IDENTITY AND CHARACTER

1. Ensure the design contributes to the image of the City and reflects the aspirations of the community.
2. Draw in surrounding parkland character to establish a clear identity and sense of place for the precinct.



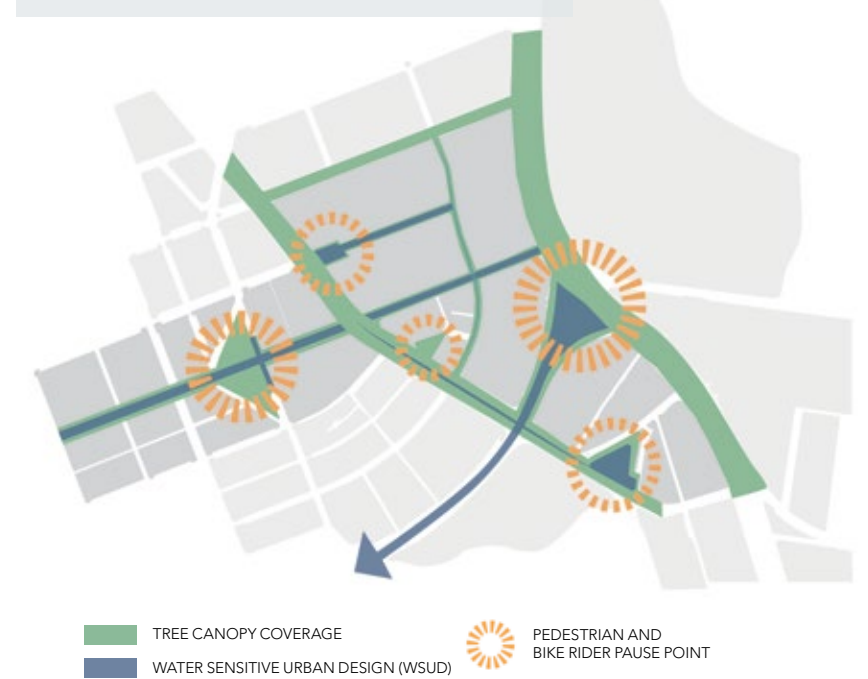
PEDESTRIAN PERMEABILITY AND PUBLIC SPACE

1. Reallocation of road space to prioritise walking, greening and public space over wide road carriageways.
2. Enhance local permeability (directness of links) with a network of walkable connections.
3. Enhance legibility of the local street network through design treatments to assist wayfinding.



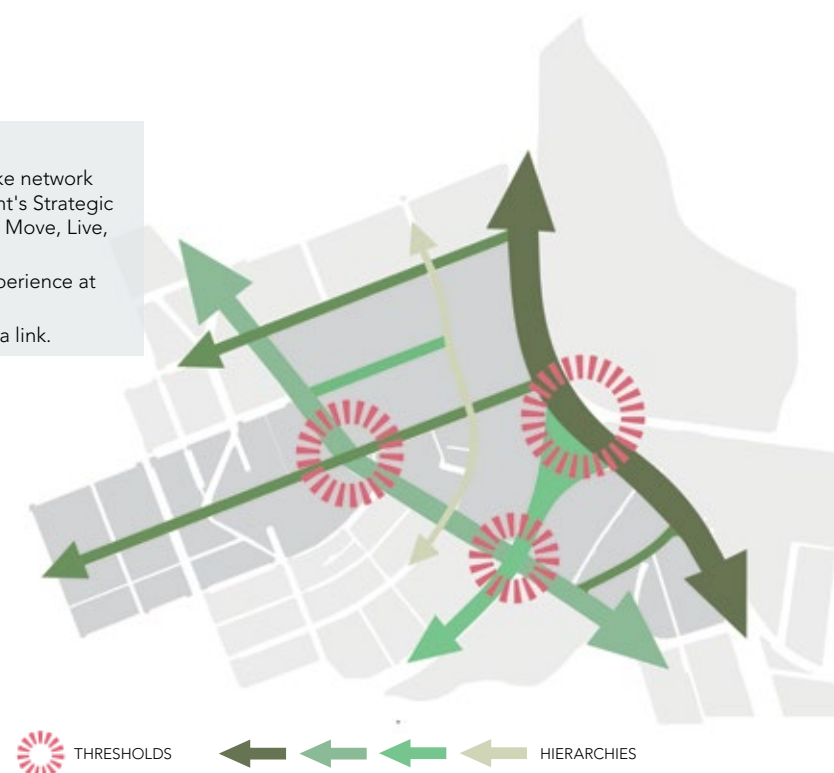
SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC SPACE

1. Provide spaces for engagement and interaction in the public realm.
2. Integrate environmental initiatives for enduring success and longevity of the precinct.



BIKE NETWORKS AND CONNECTIVITY

1. Establish a clear street hierarchy and bike network as identified in the Victorian Government's Strategic Cycling Corridor Strategy and Council's Move, Live, Connect Strategy 2018-28.
2. Improve crossing priority, safety and experience at major intersections.
3. Support the delivery of the Shrine to Sea link.



Design response

Design response

About these projects

Following the community's feedback on Domain's Place Identity in 2018, Council has identified three key project areas and two broader project themes that respond to the design principles and site analysis.

| PROJECT | WHAT WE HEARD IN PLACE IDENTITY | OUR DESIGN RESPONSE |
|--|---|--|
| Park Street Link To meet demand for future population growth and connect the precinct to the rest of Melbourne, this project proposes to deliver a safe bike connection, improved pedestrian streetscape and missing tram link along Park Street. | You want: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a walkable place that prioritises people over vehicles good bike connections around the precinct a place with both day and night time activity a mixed-use environment with variety of residential, business, tourism a sense of life and vibrancy, with fine grain connections to the street. | We've proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> high-quality pedestrian environments, with street furniture, lighting and paving to make it easier for people in the precinct to get to surrounding areas (such as South Melbourne) by prioritising public transport, pedestrian and bike connections to balance car parking design and restrictions in light of other streetscape priorities |
| Kings Way Reserve Upgrade This local park with significant, quality shade trees provides a number of amenities including public toilets, seating, fitness equipment and a barbecue. This project proposes to improve the reserve and its pedestrian environment. | You want: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a place with a neighbourhood human-centred heart a place that acknowledges, celebrates and serves the needs of a variety of community members quality open spaces that provide a range of uses access to green space an improved pedestrian environment for the Kings Way barrier with more greenery and trees to retain and celebrate Domain's heritage. | We've proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to update existing amenities and provide new amenities for locals to enjoy create a visual and sound barrier to Kings Way increasing the amount of public space by closing Queens Road at Kings Way infill tree planting and understorey planting where possible. |
| Millers Lane / Kings Place Plaza This area is currently of poor design, consisting of a wide road, on-street parking and inconsistent and sparse tree planting. This project proposes to provide a new public plaza for the community to enjoy. | You want: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a central point to gather and celebrate places designed to accommodate a culturally diverse community. | We've proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> creating a new public plaza and link between Park Street and Anzac Station improving the pedestrian environment along Kings Way reducing road space to provide increased public space and landscaping. |
| Streetscape improvements This project identifies several streets that currently have poor amenity for pedestrians, and inconsistent landscaping and tree planting. | You want: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> an expanded tree canopy to add character to the precinct and improve amenity. | We've proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increasing tree canopy and understorey planting to reduce heat island effect to balance car parking design and restrictions in light of other priorities kerb outstands to improve pedestrian amenity high-quality pedestrian environments, with adequate lighting and street furniture. |
| Pedestrian connections These links have been identified to improve the permeability (directness of links) of the entire precinct. | You want: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> places that foster connectivity, a sense of the hidden, activity and a sense of journey. | We've proposed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> easier, direct and more engaging ways to get around the precinct with mid-block links a potential for day and night activation. |



KEY

FUNDED PROJECTS

PARK STREET LINK

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

KINGS WAY RESERVE UPGRADE

MILLERS LANE / KINGS PLACE PLAZA

STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS

CURRENT PROJECTS

METRO TUNNEL PROJECT
(FUNDED, RAIL PROJECTS VICTORIA)

Design response

Park Street Link

Funded by the Victorian Government

Council is committed to a City connected by safe and efficient travel choices. However there is no existing safe, direct connection for bike riders and no direct tram link between St Kilda Road and the activity hubs of South Melbourne, Port Melbourne and the western CBD.

Bike link

Park Street is the missing link to complete this connection, as it crosses Kings Way. The Victorian Government has committed \$1.2 million for Council to deliver a protected bike connection and improvements on Park Street.

Tram link

This project also proposes a solution to complete the missing tram link on Park Street, which Council has advocated for since 2002. The design future-proofs Park Street for future tram tracks from Kings Way to Heather Street.









The link will allow trams to travel from St Kilda Road, along Park Street to Clarendon Street and Spencer Street, and is expected to become operational prior to the completion of the Metro Tunnel Project in 2025.

Project objectives

- prioritise sustainable and active transport modes
- retain parking where possible amongst any new fixed transport infrastructure
- replant trees where removal is required for infrastructure
- deliver a safe bike corridor between St Kilda Road and Moray Street (Outcome 2, **Move, Connect, Live** 2018-28).



KEY

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---------------------|
|  | HIGH QUALITY FOOTPATH AND PEDESTRIAN LINK |  | FUTURE TRAM LINK |
|  | ROADWAY |  | PEDESTRIAN CROSSING |
|  | BIKE LANE (DESIGN TO BE DETERMINED) |  | FUTURE DEVELOPMENT |
|  | WSUD | | |
|  | SHARED ZONE WITH HIGH QUALITY FLUSH PAVING AND PEDESTRIAN LINK | | |

Have your say










1. What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Eastern Road at Park Street?
2. If you have any other suggested streetscape improvements on Park Street, let us know.

Complete the online survey haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au



Park Street streetscape improvements - proposed condition

KEY

-  HIGH QUALITY FOOTPATH AND PEDESTRIAN LINK
-  ROADWAY
-  BIKE LANE (DESIGN TO BE DETERMINED)
-  WSUD
-  SHARED ZONE WITH HIGH QUALITY FLUSH PAVING AND PEDESTRIAN LINK
-  FUTURE TRAM LINK
-  PEDESTRIAN CROSSING
-  FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
-  COMPLEX INTERSECTION ONGOING DISCUSSION WITH VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT

Design response

Kings Way Reserve Upgrade

Potential project

This project provides an opportunity to enhance Kings Way Reserve while retaining features that have endured since its construction in the 19th century.

The reserve currently features significant and mature trees that provide shade for residents and nearby workers. Current amenities include a toilet block, barbecue area, fitness station and bike parking.

This project proposes to increase open space by closing Queens Road to Kings Way and improve amenity by providing a visual and sound barrier to Kings Way.

Additional landscaping, such as understorey planting, is proposed to enhance the green character of the reserve. There is a potential opportunity to upgrade or re-locate the existing toilet block.

Project objectives:

- retain and protect all trees
- not reduce public open space
- retain local access to all buildings
- explore opportunities to improve current amenities
- explore opportunities for an improved visual and sound barrier to Kings Way
- retain the heritage aspect of the layout and form of the reserve.

Have your say

1. What do you think about increasing the amount of open space for public use by closing Queens Road at Kings Way?
2. If you have any other suggested improvements at Kings Way Reserve, let us know.

Complete the online survey haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au



KEY

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--|------------------------|--|--|
| | HIGH QUALITY FOOTPATH AND PEDESTRIAN LINK | | FUTURE DEVELOPMENT | | WSUD |
| | ROADWAY | | CURRENT GRAVEL SURFACE | | SHARED ZONE WITH HIGH QUALITY FLUSH PAVING AND PEDESTRIAN LINK |

Millers Lane / Kings Place Plaza

Potential project

The [St Kilda Road North Precinct Plan](#) (2015) identified the areas of Millers Lane and Kings Place as an opportunity to provide a public plaza for locals and visitors to enjoy.

This proposed plaza and laneway will provide a pedestrian link between Park Street and Albert Road to Anzac Station. It includes creating a shared street environment, landscaping (including WSUD) and opportunities for public art.

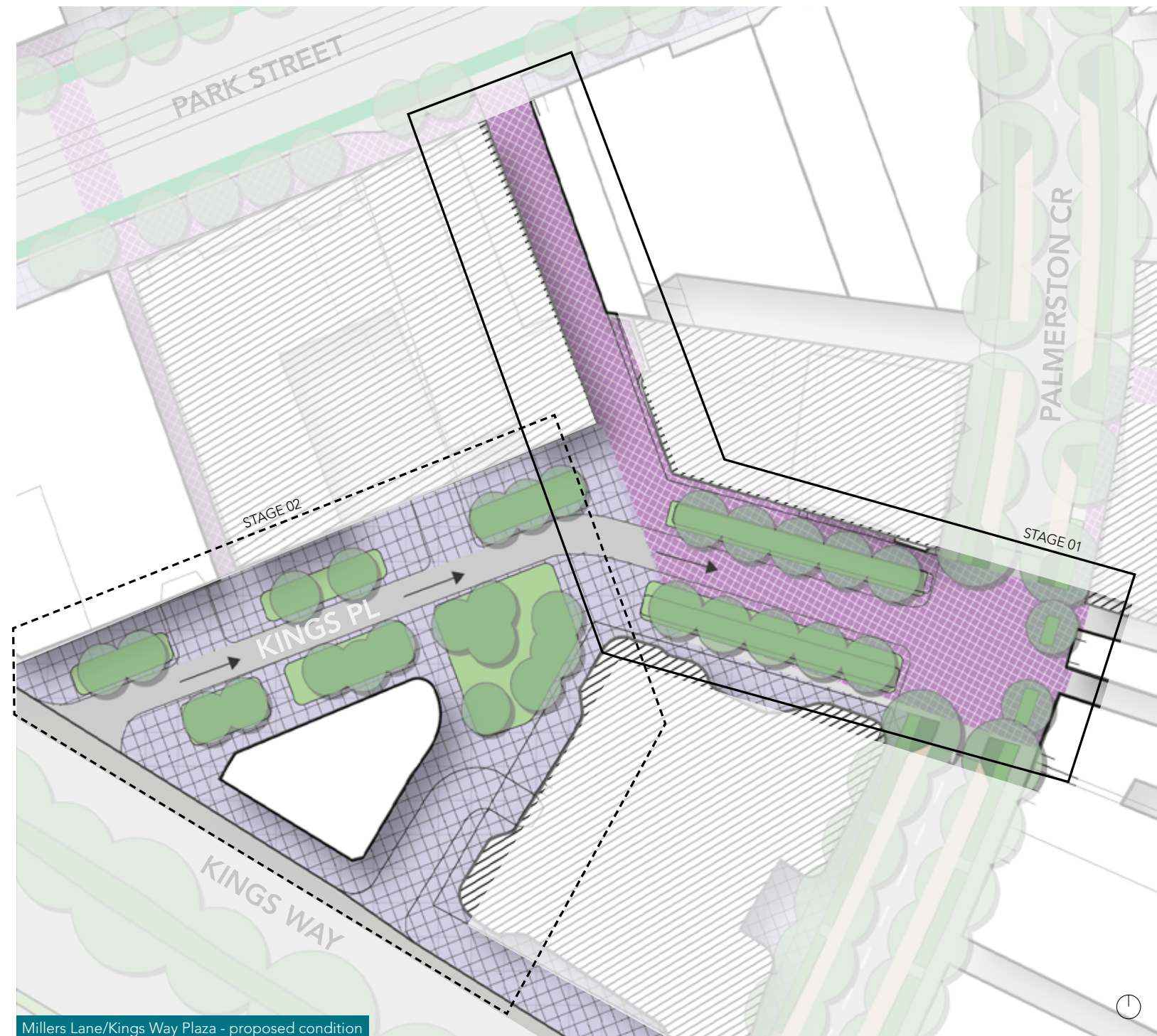
Project objectives

- maintain access and servicing to existing buildings on adjacent roads and streets
- improve pedestrian connectivity and permeability between trams and trains
- not impact permitted buildings, including 8 Palmerston Crescent, 1-13 Cobden Street and 28-32 Albert Road.

Have your say

1. What do you think about creating a new public space by reducing the road width of Kings Place?
2. What types of uses could this new public space provide for residents, workers and visitors?

Complete the online survey haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au



KEY

| | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------|--|--|
| | HIGH QUALITY FOOTPATH AND PEDESTRIAN LINK | | FUTURE DEVELOPMENT | | WSUD |
| | ROADWAY | | PEDESTRIAN CROSSING | | SHARED ZONE WITH HIGH QUALITY FLUSH PAVING AND PEDESTRIAN LINK |

Design response

Streetscape improvements

Potential project

Several areas have been identified in the precinct where improvements could be made to the pedestrian experience. These improvements could include:

- tree planting
- kerb outstands
- high-quality paving
- street furniture
- lighting.

Pedestrian improvements to Kings Way would require further discussion with and approval from VicRoads and other Victorian Government agencies.

Have your say

1. If you have any other suggestions for streetscape improvements in the Domain Precinct, let us know.

Complete the online survey haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au



Pedestrian connections

Potential project

[Design and Development Overlay 26 \(DDO26\) of the Port Phillip Planning Scheme](#) has a discretionary requirement for large redevelopment and proposals that consolidate smaller sites to incorporate through-block pedestrian links, such as laneways and arcades.

The potential future pedestrian links that Council considers to be important are shown on the map opposite. They may be delivered in future as sites redevelop.

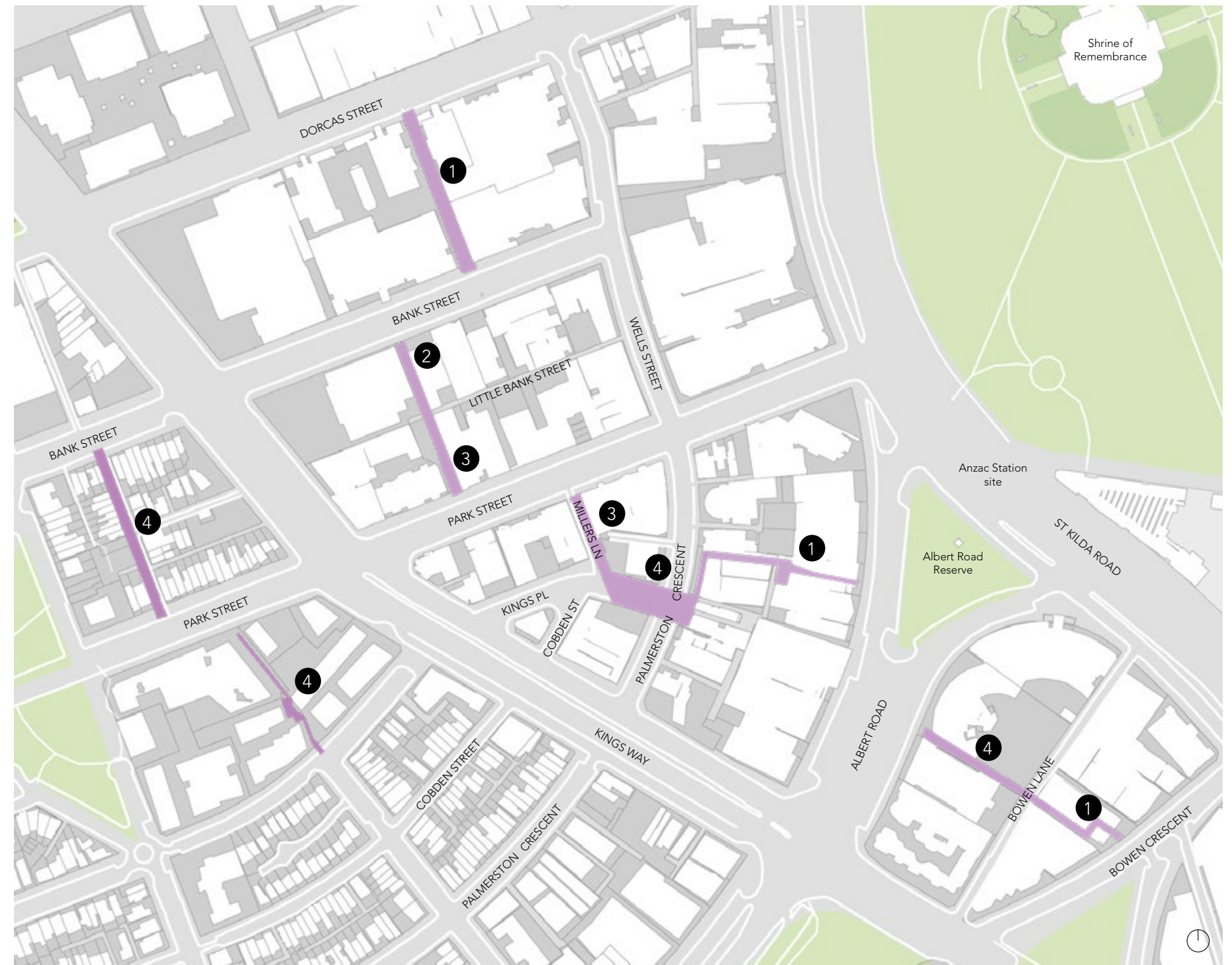
Have your say

1. We've identified a series of connections to make it easier for people to move around the Domain Precinct. What ideas do you have for creating a more positive experience along these pedestrian links?

Complete the online survey haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au

KEY

- 1 EXISTING / APPROVED PEDESTRIAN LINK THROUGH BUILDINGS ON PRIVATE LAND
- 2 EXISTING PEDESTRIAN LANEWAY ON PRIVATE LAND
- 3 EXISTING PEDESTRIAN LANEWAY ON PUBLIC LAND
- 4 POTENTIAL FUTURE PEDESTRIAN LANEWAY ON PRIVATE LAND



Draft tree species palette

Streetscape character

Future infill and replacement street tree planting should:

- maintain and reinforce existing avenue plantings
- build on existing or establish new and consistent species themes for streets to unify character
- utilise kerb outstands and new civic spaces to showcase feature trees
- consider the use of deciduous species along the frontages of north and west facing kerbside dining areas so that winter solar access is maximised.

Overhead wires

Where possible, power and telecommunications infrastructure should be situated underground or aerial bundled to remove visual clutter and provide opportunity for the planting of large canopy trees.

Draft tree species palette

The character objective for the Domain Precinct is for consistent species, rather than a mix of species, along streets.

The following species are provided for guidance only.

Have your say

1. We've proposed a draft tree species palette to increase the tree canopy and provide a more consistent landscape character in Domain. Do you have any feedback on the draft tree species palette?

Complete the online survey haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au



ESTABLISHED ELM BOULEVARDS

E Maintain and reinforce existing Elm theme. *Ulmus 'Sapporo Autumn Gold'* (Autumn Gold Elm) to replace English Elms.

ST KILDA ROAD BOULEVARD

P Maintain and reinforce existing London Plane theme. *Platanus acerifolia* (London Plane).

KINGS WAY

S Maintain and reinforce existing Spotted Gum theme in central median. *Corymbia maculata* (Spotted Gum).

BANK STREET

L Maintain and reinforce existing Brush Box theme. *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box).

Establish a new and consistent large evergreen theme.

Species suggestions:

- Calodendron capense (Cape Chestnut)
- Angophora costata (Smooth-barked Apple)
- Quercus agrifolia (Coast live oak)
- Vitex lucens (Puriri).

Establish a new and consistent large deciduous street tree theme. Species suggestions:

- Ulmus 'Sapporo Autumn Gold' (Autumn Gold Elm).
- Taxodium distichum (Bald Cypress)
- Quercus phellos (Willow Oak)
- Acer platanoides (Norway maple).

Establish a new and consistent medium evergreen street tree theme. Species suggestions:

- Banksia integrifolia (Coast Banksia)
- Buckinghamia celsissima (Ivory curl tree)
- Eucalyptus leucoxylon subsp. Megalocarpa (Yellow Gum)
- Harpulia pendula (Tulipwood).

Establish a new and consistent medium deciduous street tree theme. Species suggestions:

- Fraxinus pennsylvanica (Green Ash)
- Pyrus calleryana (Callery Pear)
- Sapium sebiferum (Chinese tallow tree)
- Ulmus parvifolia (Chinese Elm).

Opportunity for large feature trees.

Species suggestions:

- Phoenix canariensis (Canary Island Date Palm)
- Eucalyptus viminalis subsp. pryoriana (Manna Gum)
- Pinus pinea (Stone Pine).

Opportunity for future laneway greening.

Street trees, de-paving and innovative solutions for green infrastructure. Consider the use of feature species in newly created civic spaces, where space allows.

LARGE EVERGREEN



Cape Chestnut



Smooth-barked Apple

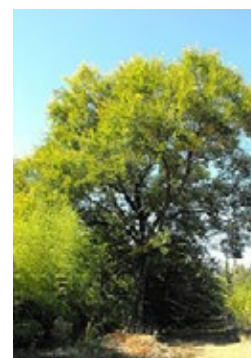


Coast Live Oak



Puriri

MEDIUM DECIDUOUS



Autumn Gold Elm



Bald Cypress



Willow Oak



Norway Maple

MEDIUM EVERGREEN



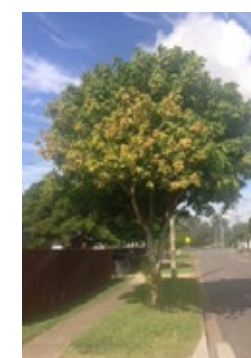
Coast Banksia



Ivory Curl



Yellow Gum



Tulipwood

LARGE DECIDUOUS TREES



Green Ash



Callery Pear



Chinese Tallow



Chinese Elm

LARGE FEATURE TREES



Gippsland Manna Gum



Canary Island Date Palm



Stone Pine

Next steps

Have your say

You can have your say on this Design Response by completing a short online survey at **haveyoursay.portphillip.vic.gov.au** or and/or registering your interest to attend an independently facilitated workshop on Saturday 25 May 2019 at Seasons Botanic Gardens.

You can also email the project team directly at **domain@portphillip.vic.gov.au** or contact ASSIST on 03 9209 6777.

Anyone with an interest in the Domain Precinct is welcome to participate in this consultation. Whether you're a resident, visitor, business owner or employee – we'd love to hear from you. This is a great opportunity to have your say about the place where you work, live and play.

Alternatively, register for project updates via the City of Port Phillip website at **www.portphillip.vic.gov.au** to be kept up to date about what's happening in the Domain Precinct.

Developing the Public Realm Masterplan

Following community engagement on this Design Response, officers will collate and incorporate your feedback into a draft Public Realm Masterplan.

There will be another opportunity to get involved and contribute your feedback to the project during a formal exhibition process later this year.

Following formal exhibition of the draft Public Realm Masterplan and incorporation of the community's feedback, Council will consider the final Public Realm Masterplan for adoption at an Ordinary Meeting in late-2019.

Acknowledgments

The City of Port Phillip acknowledges the following organisations and agencies who have contributed to the development of the Domain Precinct Design Response:

- HASSELL
- Victorian Government.





Contact us

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 www.portphillip.vic.gov.au