

SOUTHBANK REPORT ON PROJECTS & PRIORITIES

2010-2021



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners

The City of Melbourne respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong Boon Wurrung peoples of the Eastern Kulin and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. We are committed to our reconciliation journey, because at its heart, reconciliation is about strengthening relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, for the benefit of all Victorians.

Council Plan 2021-25

The Council Plan 2021-25 sets out our strategic direction and commitment to the community for the next four years. Based on six strategic objectives for our city, this is our detailed plan for our city's revitalisation and considers the needs of all people who access and experience the City of Melbourne municipality. For more information visit melbourne.vic.gov.au/council-plan



Melbourne's unique identity and place

Melbourne is a city defined by its places, people and cultures, assets we want to celebrate and protect. Driven by our creative, entertainment and education sectors we will ensure Melbourne remains a unique, vibrant and creative city with world-leading liveability.

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Issue 1 - Southbank Report on Projects and Priorities 2010-2021

14 December 2021

Cover Image: Southbank Promenade. Photo Credit: City of Melbourne

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PURPOSE

The report highlights key achievements as they relate to the recommended actions in the Southbank Structure Plan 2010.

The report reaffirms the City of Melbourne's continued commitment to support an inclusive, diverse, and resilient community in Southbank. It serves as a concluding document to the Southbank Structure Plan 2010.



Image 1: Aerial image of Southbank

SOUTHBANK STRUCTURE PLAN 2010

Southbank Structure Plan 2010 established a vision, strategy and initiatives to guide the future transformation of Southbank.

The Structure Plan outlined initiatives to promote a liveable and sustainable precinct. These initiatives provided the basis for ongoing investment and targeted projects to meet the present and future needs of the Southbank community.

Key Initiatives of the Structure Plan include:

- Three new urban 'hearts' (of commercial, retail and community infrastructure)
- Connect and integrate Southbank with the central city and the Yarra River.
- A high quality, expanded public realm
- A new streetscape vision (new built form controls)
- A connected and permeable neighbourhood
- Sustainable buildings
- Connect halves (decking over the void)
- Sustainable Infrastructure

This report undertakes a review of key initiatives relating to the public realm and built environment to ensure the overarching vision of the Structure Plan has been achieved. This includes a review of subsequent masterplans, strategies and projects. A key summary of the findings are as follows:

- New open space has been delivered at Boyd Park as part of the community hub. The adjacent development site now comprises an approved planning permit (as of July 2021). The subsequent development of this site will result in the replacement of temporary open space, adjacent to the permanent park.
- Additional open spaces in proximity to Boyd Park, within the Kings Way undercroft, are in design phases and will be delivered as part of the City Road Masterplan.
- The Melbourne Arts Precinct Transformation project is currently in preparation with an ambition to provide additional public open space, improved pedestrian connections, new buildings and cultural uses.
- New street trees have been delivered through the implementation of the Urban Forest Strategy Precinct Plan.
- New bike lanes have been delivered as part of the Transport Strategy 2030, including more recent pop-up protected bike lanes that improve connectivity to the Hoddle Grid. Further bike lanes are scheduled to be delivered as part of the capital works program.

An inclusive, diverse and resilient place that exemplifies the ecological, community and commercial prosperity of a sustainable urban district, while enhancing its presence as a world class cultural and arts precinct in the heart of Melbourne's parkland and riverfront.

- Southbank Structure Plan 2010 Vision

- Sturt Street Cultural Spine Amendment C273 is awaiting approval by the Minister of Planning. The Amendment proposes new planning controls to encourage fine grain built form and uses to complement the existing arts and cultural venues.
- Robust built form controls delivered through Amendment C270 and subsequent design guidelines for new development in the central city (Amendment C308) has sought to improve the quality of new built form.

SOUTHBANK PROJECTS 2010-2021

The City of Melbourne has worked together with the community and key stakeholders to deliver on the following recommended strategies identified in the Southbank Structure Plan 2010.

Southbank Structure Plan 2010

THEMES	STRATEGIES
Land Use	L1 - Develop Southbank as part of the Central City L2 - Promote three local activity nodes (Boyd School, Arts Precinct, CityLink Deck) L3 - Deck over the CityLink 'void' with new development L4 - Enhance the role of the regional arts precinct L5 - Explore the future re-use of the Victoria Barracks for cultural, community and mixed use L6 - New accessible public open spaces L7 - Increase the provision of affordable housing L8 - Assess flooding impacts of climate change
Development Activity and Built Form	B1 - Introduce new built form / setback controls into a schedule in the Planning Scheme B2 - Deliver streetscape vision objective 2: a lively and characterful streetscape B3 - Mandate improved environmental building performance on all new developments B4 - Mandate improved environmental building performance on redevelopment of existing buildings B5 - Mandate the delivery of green roofs on all new developments B6 - Generate 10% of new development energy requirements on-site B7 - Protect City Road West Precinct
Mobility and Access	M1 - Improve walkability M2 - Expand the bicycle network M3 - Maximise the potential of public transport M4 - Reduce car use
Open Space Network	O1 - Deliver the <i>Southbank Plan</i> O2 - Create a new central park (CityLink Deck) O3 - Provide access to existing open spaces O4 - Introduce new public neighbourhood open space (Boyd School site) O5 - Upgrade existing public neighbourhood open spaces O6 - Connect public open space O7 - Explore the retention and storage of stormwater in public open space O8 - Maintain solar access to existing key public open spaces and provide solar access to new key public open spaces

* The coloured tags (e.g. M1, O1, etc.) correspond to the relevant strategies identified in the Southbank Structure Plan 2010 (table above)

LAND USE

The Southbank Structure Plan 2010 identified a number of Land Use objectives to support a high quality and liveable urban environment in Southbank. The proposed Amendment C323 aims to encourage the provision of arts and creative industry along Sturt Street, while Amendment C270 (CCZ3) has provided a stronger alignment and consistency with the character of the Central City.

Affordable housing provisions have been explored under the Affordable Housing Strategy 2020-2030, while a review of flooding impact has been conducted as part of the proposed Amendment C384: Updated Inundation Overlays.

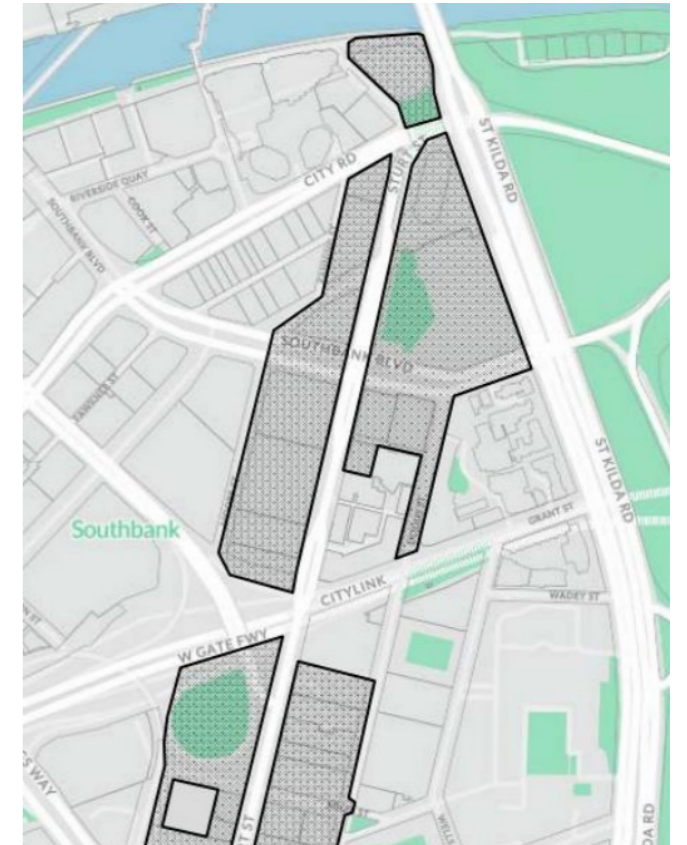
The delivery of the Arts Precinct vision remains an on-going commitment to support the vision of Southbank as a leading Arts and Culture destination.

Delivered Projects

- Amendment C270 Central City Built Form Review: Capital City Zone 3 **L1**
- Proposed Amendment C323 Melbourne Arts Precinct **L4**
- Boyd School Activity Node **L2**
- Affordable Housing Strategy 2020-2030 **L7**
- Proposed Amendment C384: Updated Inundation Overlays **L8**

On-going Investigations

- Arts Precinct Activity Node - in progress **L2**



Proposed Amendment C323. (L4 - Deliver the Sturt Street Cultural Spine using the planning scheme and other mechanisms)

DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY & BUILT FORM

The Structure Plan 2010 identified a number of built form issues relating to the street level impact of high rise developments, inactive public interfaces and carparking.

The new built form controls Amendment C270 provide greater clarity in built form typology, height, and setbacks to establish the street wall as the primary street interface.

The recently gazetted Amendment C308 aims to reduce the negative impact of ground floor services, restrict the use of unsleeved podium car parking, and encourage design details that respond to the human scale quality of the street.

Delivered Projects

- Amendment C270 Central City Built Form Review: Design Development Overlay 10 **B1**
- Amendment C308 Urban Design in Central Melbourne Design Development Overlay 1 **B2, B7**
- Green Our City Action Plan **B3-B6**



Amendment C308: DDO1 / Central Melbourne Design Guide was approved in September 2021. (B2 - Streetscape vision objective 2: a lively and characterful streetscape)

MOBILITY & ACCESS

Transportation and connectivity provide a key role in shaping the future of Southbank as an attractive and desirable precinct. The Structure Plan 2010 highlighted the need to prioritise sustainable and efficient modes of transportation, such as public transport and cycling, and reduce the role of cars where possible.

Transport Strategy 2030 outlines a 10-year strategy to reduce traffic, expand footpaths and transform Melbourne into the country's leading bicycle city. In recent years, City of Melbourne has delivered new bike lanes on Kavanagh Street, Moray Street and Southbank Boulevard. On-going investigations on Power Street and St. Kilda Road aim to provide a stronger connection between the precinct and its surrounding areas.

The City Road Masterplan aims to transform City Road into a safe and welcoming place for residents, workers, and visitors. City of Melbourne will continue to work with VicRoads to support this vision.

Delivered Projects

- Transport Strategy 2030 **M1-M4**
- City Road Masterplan 2016 **M1-M4**
- Bike Lane Improvements on Queensbridge Street, Normanby Road, Kavanagh Street, Moray Street, and Southbank Boulevard **M2**

On-going Investigations

- St. Kilda Road Bike Lane **M2**
- Whitman Street Bike Lane **M2**

OPEN SPACE NETWORK

The Open Space Strategy 2012 complemented the recommendations outlined in the Structure Plan 2010. These strategies and further community consultation informed the delivery of key new open spaces, including the Southbank Boulevard Transformation Project and Boyd Park. The proposed Amendment C278 Sunlight to Parks aims to protect sunlight amenity in key public spaces.

The City of Melbourne will continue to explore opportunities to provide new open spaces and innovative solutions to maximise the use of under-utilised existing spaces. Council Plan 2021-2025 identified the delivery of 1.1ha of new open space in Southbank as a key major initiative.

Delivered Projects

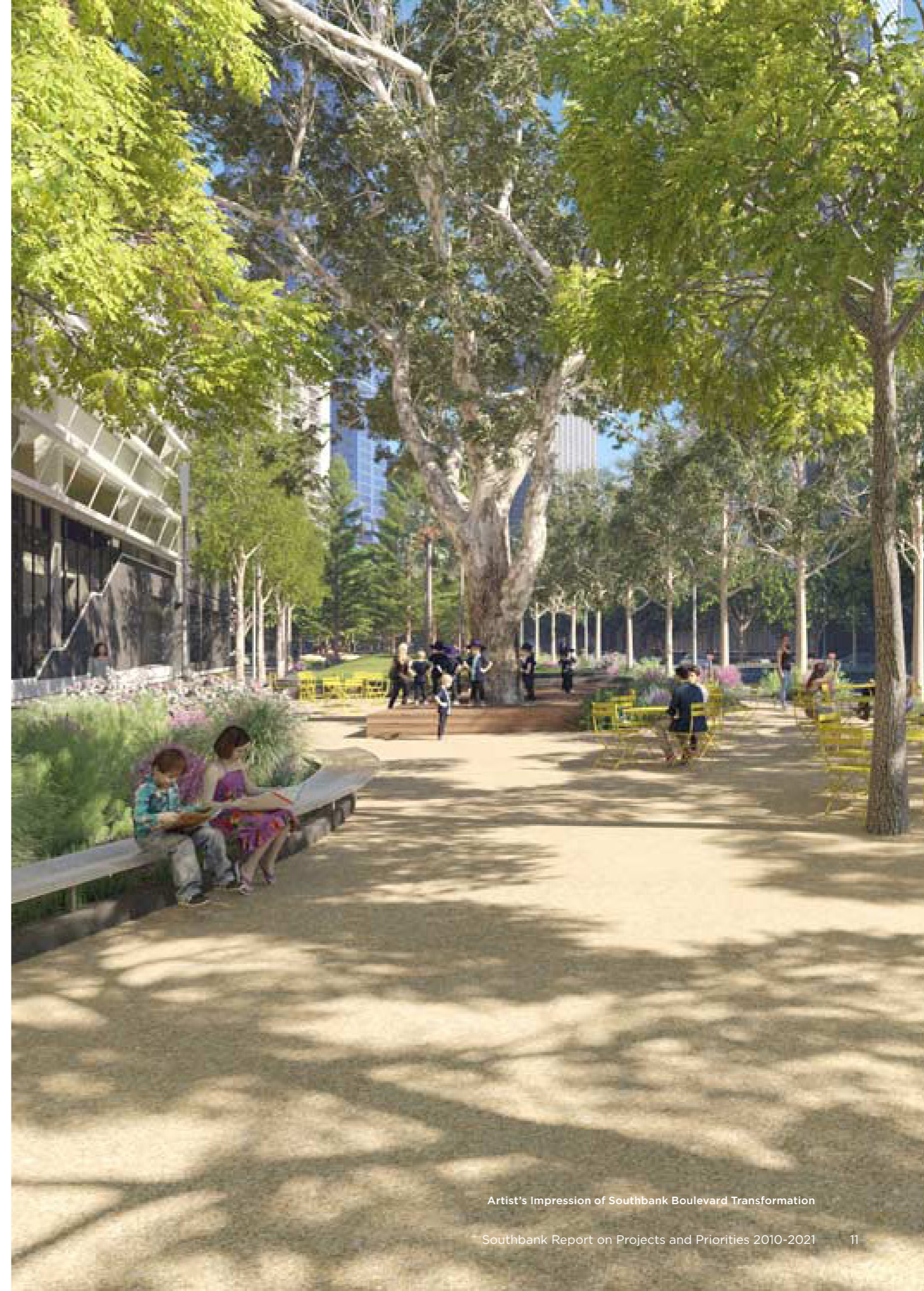
- Southbank Boulevard Transformation Project **O1**
- Boyd Park **O4**
- Proposed Amendment C278 Sunlight to Parks **O8**



New bike lanes to provide safe and efficient connections. (M2 - Expand the Bicycle Network)



City Road Master Plan 2016 identified opportunities to widen footpaths along City Road, provide new bike lanes, and pedestrian crossings. (M1 - Improve Walkability, M2 - Expand the Bicycle Network, M4 - Reduce Car Use)



Artist's Impression of Southbank Boulevard Transformation

SUMMARY OF PROJECTS 2010-2021

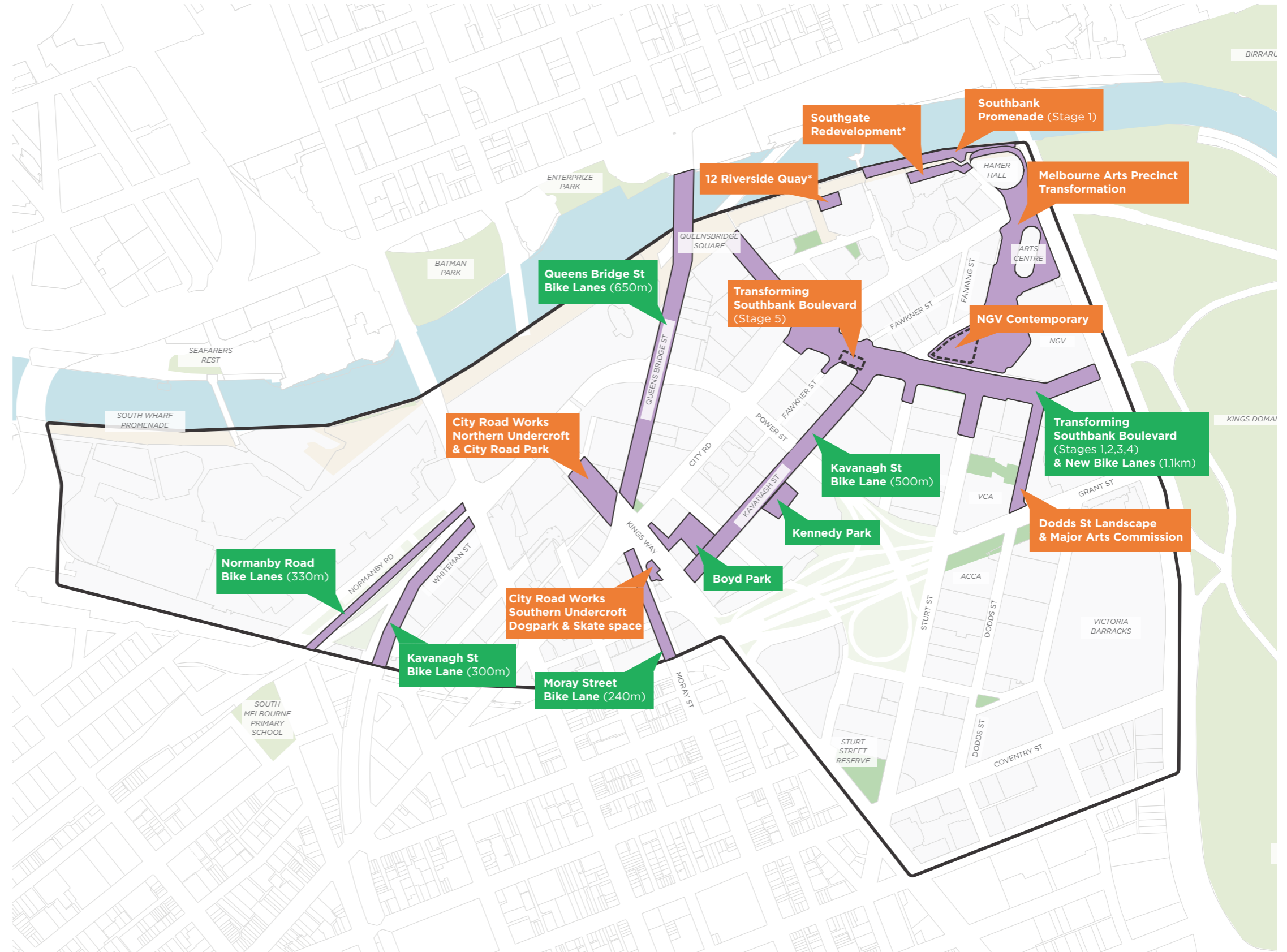
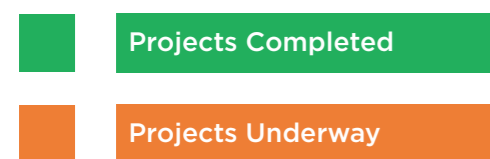
Key completed public realm projects include the Transforming Southbank Boulevard Project, Boyd Park and Kennedy Park. Construction for Stage 5 of the Transforming Southbank Boulevard Project (play space) will commence in early 2022.

New public parks are proposed as part of the City Road Masterplan to incorporate outdoor recreational spaces within the under-utilised undercroft of Kings Way. Construction has commenced for a new dog park and skate space along Moray Street, while a potential new park at the northern undercroft is currently in concept design stage. Further community consultation will take place in 2022 to inform the detail design of this space.

The City of Melbourne will continue to work closely with the development industry to maximise opportunities for establishing new open spaces. This includes a potential new open space as part of the 12 Riverside Quay development and an elevated park as part of redevelopment of Southgate.

New bike lanes were delivered on Normanby Street, Whiteman Street, Queensbridge Street, Southbank Boulevard, Kavanagh Street, and Moray Street. New trees were planted along parts of Queensbridge Street, Southbank Boulevard, Normanby Street and Whiteman Street.

Legend



* New open spaces proposed as part of redevelopment of sites. Delivery and timing subject to Planning and construction.

LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO SOUTHBANK

Southbank as a vibrant place for residents, workers, and visitors.

There has been a significant increase in the number and diversity of residents, workers and visitors in Southbank since 2010. As Southbank continues to evolve, the City of Melbourne is committed to working with the community and key stakeholders to ensure a sustainable and liveable precinct for the future. Council Plan 2021-2025 and the Neighbourhood Statement 2021-2022 outline key initiatives to guide future investments and works in Southbank.

Council Plan 2021-2025

Council Plan 2021-2025 identified a set of performance indicators and major initiatives under each Council goal. The following are applicable to Southbank:

Safety and Wellbeing

Relevant Indicators

- Proportion of people who report feeling safe in the city - 90% by day, 65% by night
- Melburnians' self-reported sense of belonging to community - At least 70 on a scale of 100
- Proportion of adults who get adequate physical exercise - Increase
- Number of transport related injuries and fatalities - Decrease

Major Initiatives

- 47: As part of delivery of the City Road Master Plan, the City of Melbourne will design and deliver the upgrades to the City Road northern undercroft by end of 2023-2024 and advocate to the Victorian Government for the full delivery of upgrades to the City Road East and West

Melbourne's Unique Identity and Place

Relevant Indicators

- Area of new public open space in Southbank - 1.1ha (by 2025)

Major Initiatives

- 16: Increase the amount of public open space in the municipality with a focus on areas of greatest need, such as Southbank and emerging urban renewal areas
- 19: Celebrate, partner and advocate for investment in the city's three key waterways, the Yarra River-Birrarung, the Maribyrnong and Moonee Ponds Creek, to connect these key recreational and biodiversity assets of our city

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency

Relevant Indicators

- Percentage of tree canopy cover in the public realm - 27% (by 2025)
- Number of trees planted in the municipality -2400 plus number of trees removed in previous year, or 3000, whichever is more

Major Initiatives

- 31: Deliver on our Urban Forest Strategy including tree canopy, private greening incentives and city greening

Reference Documents

The following reference documents will continue to guide future projects and priorities in Southbank:

Southbank-specific strategies/plans

- Southbank Structure Plan 2010
- Southbank Plan 2007
- Urban Forest Precinct Plan 2015-2025
- City Road Masterplan 2016
- Transforming Southbank Boulevard 2017
- Dodds Street Concept Plan 2017
- Southbank Public Art Strategy 2017-2018

Key Municipal-wide strategies

- Council Plan 2021-2025
- Neighbourhood Statements 2021-2022
- Nature in the City 2017
- Open Space Strategy 2012
- Transport Strategy 2030

Neighbourhood Statement 2021-2022

The Neighbourhood Statement provided a snapshot of committed services and investment in Southbank in 2021-2022.

Key Initiatives

- Deliver and manage a Business Precinct Program
- Provide accessible creative opportunities to everyone through expanded arts and library programming
- Facilitate integrated water management solutions to support increased greening, reduced flooding, and reduced pollution to the bay
- Increase the amount of public open space in Southbank
- Deliver high quality urban design in the Central City and Southbank through Amendment C308.
- Implement Amendment C323 which seeks to introduce planning controls to encourage the provision of arts and creative industry along Sturt Street to support the Melbourne Arts Precinct.

Capital Works

- \$20M - New Southbank open space reserve
- \$4.3M - Public Art
- \$3.35M - Transforming Southbank Boulevard and Dodds Street
- \$5.21M - Dodds Street Linear Park
- \$3.8M - Southbank Promenade Stage 1
- \$650K - City Road Master Plan
- \$48K - Furniture and Equipment New Purchases



Artist's impression of the proposed Melbourne Arts Transformation Project (MATP). Source: NGV Contemporary Design Competition.

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