Montgomery Park
Draft Master Plan 2018

Montgomery Park Draft Master Plan  
May 2018
introduction

Montgomery Park is located in the suburb of Essendon within the Buckley Ward and within the Essendon neighbourhood. It is bounded by Tennyson Street to the west, Albion Street to the south, Lawson Street to the east and Hilda Street to the north. It is located less than 100 metres from the Moonee Ponds Creek.

The Park is approximately 3.2 hectares and is defined in the Moonee Valley Open Space Strategy as a ‘Municipal’ Open Space. Its primary character is classified as ‘informal’ and secondary classification as ‘Play’.

The site contains:
- Two playspaces
- Two picnic areas with barbeques
- Public toilet
- Central mown grass areas with scattered tree planting
- Tree planting and vegetated embankments
- Gravel paths
- Seating
- Two tennis courts for casual use
- The Montgomery Park Children’s Centre, Montgomery Park Kindergarten and Maternal and Child Health Services
- The Essendon Traffic School

A Master Plan was prepared for Montgomery Park in 2007 and is not due for review. A Notice of Motion 2016-16: Master Plans for the Ordinary Meeting of Council 26 July 2016 included that Council ascertain the status of the Master Plan for Montgomery Park and undertake a refreshed Master Plan.

Montgomery Park Master Plan

May 2018

Montgomery Park - open space context
The Ancestry of Essendon by R.W. Chalmers includes the following entries about the history of Montgomery Park:

1871/1947 – Albion Street residents, at a Meeting held in the Moorooduc Town Hall, discussed plans for the development of the Albion Street Reserve. A petition signed by 157 residents was presented outlining the importance of a reserve in the area to serve the 250 children. The reserve was renamed “Montgomery Park” and reserved for future development by the East Essendon Progress Association.

4/5/1982 – The Essendon Traffic School in Montgomery Park… was officially opened. The School was a project of the Essendon Rotary Club. It covered more than one acre on the corner of the park and comprised over 1,000 feet of 12-foot-wide roadway. It was built at a cost of $3,000, with the Rotary Club providing $1,500 and the remaining $1,500 coming from private donations.

6/1992 – The Essendon City Council stood by its decision to lease Montgomery Park to the Ukrainian Lions’ Soccer Club for a period of 7 years, despite a letter of protest from the Essendon District Football League Secretary.

18/4/1994 – The Lions Soccer Club played their first State League Match against Slavia at their new home ground, Montgomery Park.

2/2/1981 – The former playgroup headquarters in Montgomery Park… began to operate under the direction of Vivian Gabb, assisted by Virginia Poole.

9/3/1986 – The Opies also led public protests when the Essendon Council, during Barry Rowe’s Mayoral term in 1977, permitted Montgomery Park, East Essendon’s family park, to be used as a soccer ground without community consultation. Playground equipment built from funds raised by the East Essendon Community, was removed to a corner of the park. The Soccer Club unsuccessfully applied to build a Grandstand to accommodate 10,000 spectators.

24/11/1985 – The Essendon Traffic School… completed its 10th year since reopening in 1976… during which time it had been visited by over 200,000 people (mainly school children). It was reopened with the help of the Community Action for Road Education Group, the Essendon Council and the Essendon Rotary Club and 17,000 students and staff attend lessons in Road Safety each year under the guidance of Director, Marion Camargi and her staff. The complex was originally built by the Rotary Club of Essendon in 1961… but was forced to close down due to a lack of man power.

7/1/1991 – The Board of Works planned to commence work on Stage 1 of the north western trunk sewer – an 11.7 kilometre tunnel extending from Millers Road, Brooklyn to Montgomery Park… Work was expected to begin in two months and would be completed in 1992.

10/1992 – The Montgomery Park Children’s Centre… the first child care centre for public sector employees in Australia, was officially opened. The centre was funded by the Australian Taxation Office, the Essendon Council and the State Government. It caters for 50 children, 26 places to be reserved for children of staff working at the Gladstone Street Taxation Office and the remaining 30 places for local children.

The Wurundjeri people are the traditional owners of the land and have inhabited the area for at least 40,000 years. The Maribyrnong River, Moorooduc Creek and Steve Creek were important resources for fishing, transport and food.

The Indigenous Australians who lived in the area from Healesville to Kilmore and from Dandenong to Woori Bung, belonged to the Woiwurrung language and culture group. A sub clan of the Woiwurrung, the Wurundjeri-willam, meaning white gum tree dwellers, claimed the area between the Maribyrnong River and Darbin Creek, stretching up to the Dividing Ranges and including the area now known as Moorooduc Valley.

More information can be found in Wurundjeri: The Original Inhabitants of Moorooduc Valley available on Moorooduc Valley City Council’s website.

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Montgomery Park Master Plan

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previous master plan

A previous Master Plan was prepared for Montgomery Park in 2007. This has now expired and is due to be updated.

A summary of previous Master Plan recommendations includes:
- Gravel path upgrades
- New planting
- Upgrade of basketball half-court, tennis half-court
- Upgrade of cricket net, replace fencing
- Potential for football or soccer goals.
- Retain central open space and new open grass playspace proposed [between south-west playspace and oval area]
- Upgrade and expand north-east playspace for all ages and abilities and upgrade secondary playspace near giant slide.
- Upgrade north picnic area and south-west picnic area
- Enhance kindergarten forecourt with new paving and park furniture. Remove bluestone, fencing, ivy and retain existing trees.
- Investigate removal of disused toilet facility behind kindergarten building
- Improvements to tennis courts to be considered.
- Upgrade lighting including timers programmed to turn off at 9:00pm.
- Additional landscaping around sewer pit covers in compliance with authority guidelines.
- Investigate possible improvements to carpark areas adjacent Lawson Street.
- Remove existing park entry at Hilda Street and enhance the Albion and Hilda Street pedestrian entries with feature paving and reserve signage, and upgrade the north-west entry.
- Ensure entry path grade into the park can accommodate people with mobility aids.
- Investigate possible improvements to Kindergarten facades.

Of the recommendations that were not, or not fully implemented in the life of the previous Master Plan, a number will be included in recommendations for this draft Master Plan recommendations.
land ownership and planning

Montgomery Park is owned and managed by Moonee Valley City Council. The Park is made up of multiple titles.

Under the Moonee Valley City Council Planning Scheme Montgomery Park is zoned Public Park Recreation Zone (PPRZ).

A Melbourne Water sewer drain runs diagonally across the park. Melbourne Water approval is required for any structures to be built over or near any of its underground assets or easements, or for any installation of utilities or excavation across or parallel to Melbourne Water assets.

A proportion of the park is located within 200 metres of the Moonee Ponds Creek and as such, a Cultural Heritage Management Plan is required to be in place prior to any works being undertaken.

The draft Significant Tree Register 2017 has identified two trees proposed to be protected under the Environmental Significance Overlay. The two Populus nigra ‘Italica’ (Lombardy Poplars) are located near Lawson Street.
strategic directions

MV2040 Visioning Paper
The MV2040 Visioning Paper has been prepared to inspire and stimulate conversation about the type of city and neighbourhoods we want to live in. Community feedback on this paper will inform the Draft MV2040 Strategy – long term plan for improving the health and liveability of our city over the next two decades.

The building blocks of our healthy city and the key themes in the visioning paper, with high level directions, objectives and actions included for each:

- A Fair City that values diversity, where everyone feels safe and included, is healthy and has access to services and housing.
- A City that is Thriving with access to jobs, lifelong learning and vibrant and dynamic activity centres.
- A Connected City of accessible, active and sustainable transport choices.
- A Green City that is ecologically healthy and environmentally responsible.
- A Beautiful City that celebrates its identity, heritage and open spaces.

Moonee Valley's open spaces, waterways and parks form an integral part of the urban structure. The themes of Green and Beautiful contain specific strategic directions to ensure we manage, upgrade and create new opportunities of public space as a critical ingredient in the liveability of our city.

Open Space Strategy 2009
Vision: A linked, sustainable and accessible system of quality open space well used by Moonee Valley’s diverse community, comprising the waterway corridors that are highly valued for their native habitat and recreational use, and a diverse range of other open space reserves across the City including historical gardens, large sporting reserves and a network of smaller vibrant open spaces.

The Open Space Strategy 2009 nominates the character of Montgomery Park as ‘Informed’ (primary classification) and Play (secondary classification) and it’s hierarchy as ‘Municipal’.

The Open Space Strategy 2009 includes the following Community Survey outcomes for the precinct:
- Need for more facilities and upgrades to the existing open spaces.
- Improved maintenance
- Additional shade trees
- Value the open space that is provided

The Open Space Strategy recommends to: Implement the existing Montgomery Park Master Plan (2007).

Leisure Strategy 2013 - 23
The Leisure Strategy focuses on enabling, supporting and improving people’s capacity to be active socially, mentally and physically.

The Leisure Strategy 2013-23 principles aim to:
1. Build Community health and wellbeing
2. Provide access for all; and
3. Social inclusiveness.

Draft Water Sensitive City Action Plan
To create a healthier, more liveable city we seek to use water sensitively and take an integrated approach to water management to support healthy natural environments, waterways and green spaces.

The Draft Water Sensitive City Action Plan sets out targets and to become a Water Sensitive City in line with MV2040 to address challenges including climate change, urban heat, flood risks and pressures on potable water. The plan includes the following action:

Ensure Open Space Master Plans incorporate integrated water management, WSUD elements and are designed for climate resilience.

The Plan sets objectives and quantifiable targets to:
- Reduce the use of potable (or drinking quality) water
- Improve the quality of stormwater entering waterways
- Reduce the volume and frequency of stormwater discharged to waterways by retaining more rainfall within the urban landscape
- Mitigate flooding impacts
existing conditions and recommendations

Planting, water and urban ecology
Montgomery Park contains informal, predominantly native planting which compliments its informal use. It contains a large central mown grass space area, scattered trees and native embankment plantings along the Tennyson Street frontage and to the western section of the Albion and Hilda Street frontages. There are a number of trees that have been identified as significant trees and are planned to be retained and protected under the Environmental Significance Overlay.

Montgomery Park is located less than 80 metres from the bank of the Moonee Ponds Creek and is located within creek catchment. As such it presents an opportunity as a retention area to reduce local and downstream flooding of the creek. This also provides the opportunity to use captured stormwater to irrigate the park.

Montgomery Park is currently un-irrigated. In considering whether to irrigate passive open spaces, Montgomery Park could be considered a high priority given the combination of the following criteria:
- Park hierarchy
- Distance to another irrigated park
- Proximity to an economic precinct
- Proximity to a high use Council facility

In 2014 an Urban Ecological Scenario was prepared to answer the question - does a urban ecology scenario look like? Using a hypothetical park, with the only requirements being to enhance ecology, a range of interventions were identified as a set of ideas to inform the future open space design.

The site used as the hypothetical park was Montgomery Park which gives the ideas increased relevance for consideration. Some of the ideas in the document include:
- Harvesting from local stormwater drains including diverting drains to capture more stormwater
- Including a large wetland
- Including a diversity of planting types (woodlands, shrub lands, grasslands/flower meadows, wetlands) and habitats
- Nature play and water play
- Social spaces
- Green roof
- Improved connections to the Moonee Ponds Creek

The Draft Moonee Ponds Creek Master Plan – Chain of Ponds includes proposals for implementing opportunities to improve the Moonee Ponds Creek including:
- The implementation of a WSUD rain garden within Montgomery Park
- Transformation of roadways fronting the creek as entrances and gateways into the Moonee Ponds Creek Linear Park which may include: rain gardens, WSUD tree pits and bio-retention swales, street greening, permeable road pavements, strategies to de-pave and installation of pollutant traps. There are also opportunities for property owners within the ‘court’ to voluntarily implement rainwater tanks, lot greening, permeable pavements, green roofs and on site detention.

Recommendations
There is an opportunity to increase native planting and plant diversity and reinforce the bushland planting theme of the park by:
- Expanding planting to embankments and Hilda St west edge
- New native tree planting throughout of native and indigenous species
- Locating tree to provide shaded seating
- There is an opportunity to include trees suitable for climbing, located near the junior playspace.

The two Populus nigra ‘Italica’ (Lombardy Poplars) located near Lawson Street are to be retained and protected in accordance with the Environmental Significance Overlay.

There is an opportunity to plant new exotic shade trees at key locations within the Early Years Childrens Centre and Essendon Traffic School to increase shade.

There is an opportunity to provide sensory planting within or near the Early Years Services facilities. Selection of plants that typically cause allergies will be avoided within the Early Years Services facilities.

There is an opportunity to retain a minimum 70 metre diameter central mown grass area to provide for informal games and mown grass areas to the north-east corner of the park.
existing conditions and recommendations

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Urban Ecological Scenario 2015 - The Australian Research Centre for Urban Ecology & Zoe Methera

Example of bio-retention basin

Design for ecological structure image, Urban Ecological Scenario 2018
The Australian Research Centre for Urban Ecology & Zoe Methera
existing conditions and recommendations

Recommendations continued

Consideration shall be given to the planting design for replacement of trees that may reach the end of their life within the life of the Master Plan.

There is opportunity to consider strategies to enable mown grass areas and other planting areas to be irrigated, to provide flood retention and improve Moonee Ponds Creek water quality. These strategies may include one or a combination of:

- Bio-retention system to improve stormwater quality (1,000m² area indicated shown) including the potential to divert stormwater into the park from Albion and/or Elida Streets
- Passive irrigation directing stormwater on Tennyson and Albion Street to irrigate adjacent planted embankments
- Raising sections of path around the central mown grass area to retain a dry, accessible path while creating flood retention for times of very wet weather, to protect the waterway environment and community uses downstream
- Creating a natural sub surface storage area under a central mown grass area which can be designed to naturally 'wick up' to irrigate the grass
- Underground tank storage of treated stormwater for park irrigation
- Provision of water play - subject to suitable treatment

All the above options are subject to further feasibility to determine the preferred approach.

Feasibility for water sensitive urban design will consider any implications for facilities such as the Integrated Early Years Centre of potential flood retention functions including whether buildings need to be raised.

There is an opportunity to consider treatments to the west end of Elida Street and Gordon Street to reinforce links to the Moonee Ponds Creek including wayfinding signage and street greening.

There is an opportunity to incorporate environmental education to the urban ecology initiatives of the Master Plan for children at the Early Years Centre to increase understanding about the park ecology. Education components could take place at various stages including planning and construction and may include park education sessions and a children’s ecology trail.

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existing conditions and recommendations

Pathways and pedestrian circulation

The paths at Montgomery Park include a circuit path around the central open space, access paths to picnic and play areas to the north east of the park and linking paths to entries on Albion St, Hilda St and north of the Children Centre on Lawson Street.

The existing pathways in Montgomery Park are predominantly gravel. The traffic school includes concrete paved ‘roadways’. The gravel paths tend to become soaked in sections after rain but provide a bushland feel of the park and a preferred surface for running.

Vehicle speed and volume surveys indicate that vehicles are regularly travelling above the current 50 kilometres per hour speed limit along Albion Street impacting perceptions of safety for pedestrians crossing to and from the park. Some concern has been also been expressed regarding traffic speeds along Lawson Street.

Works are planned to construct splinter islands with pedestrian refuges at the Albion and Tennyson Street intersection to assist pedestrian access.

Recommendations

There is an opportunity to upgrade the path network in accordance with the new layout proposed to accommodate proposed elements including water sensitive urban design.

It is proposed that paths to key destinations be concrete or alternative hard paved surface including to playspaces, picnic areas, toilets and the north-south connection from Hilda to Albion Street, with remaining paths to be an upgraded gravel surface.

There is an opportunity to raise some sections of paths to help create a flood retention area which will assist with path drainage.

There is an opportunity to extend the existing narrow concrete footpaths on the park side of Tennyson Street to the fence line.

It is proposed for Council to undertake vehicle speed and volume surveys along Tennyson, Lawson and Hilda Streets to determine if speed mitigating devices or a 40 kilometres per hour speed limit is warranted.

There is an opportunity for new raised median on Albion Street and splinter islands at the intersection of Albion and Lawson Street to assist pedestrian crossings and reduce vehicular speeds, subject to further investigation to determine bus and truck movements.
existing conditions and recommendations

Active leisure elements
Montgomery Park contains two public asphalt surfaced tennis courts, surrounded by a chain mesh fence. These are reportedly well used. Council’s draft Growth in Tennis Plan and Infrastructure Report 2017 states that both courts are in a poor state with the western court classified as unsafe to play. It includes recommendations for upgrading the courts including resurfacing, installing an on-line booking program, court lighting and adjacent tree maintenance.

It proposes the possible inclusion of an additional court if recommended within the master plan process. An additional court is not proposed in the Master Plan due to space demands.

Recommendations
There is an opportunity to upgrade the existing tennis courts including:
- Multi-lined acrylic surface for tennis, netball and bike skills use
- Install Book a Court system
- Install court lighting
- Trim trees and vegetation from perimeter fencing
- Provide a gate into the courts from the Traffic School to support court use for bike education skills.

It is proposed to relocate and upgrade the basketball key and hit up wall to a new location near the tennis courts and senior play space. The key will be line marked with a netball shooting circle and a dual basketball/netball ring included to allow for basketball and netball use. There is an opportunity for a climbing wall to be located on the back of the hit up wall as part of the adjacent play space.

The relocation of the basketball key and hit up wall will free up space for the potential future stormwater treatment area. It is also proposed for this reason to remove the cricket net.

It is proposed to provide additional active leisure opportunities including outdoor exercise equipment and the provision of a mini pump track near the proposed new Traffic School entry to provide skates and bike facilities to complement the activities at the Traffic School.

There is an opportunity to provide distance markers around the paths for joggers.

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existing conditions and recommendations

Playspaces, picnic facilities and park furniture

Montgomery Park contains two playspace areas. The playspace to the north-east of the site has a senior play focus and has been recently upgraded. A number of play elements are spread across the south-west corner of the park including a giant slide and a space net.

Picnic facilities are located adjacent to each of the playspaces and include picnic tables and a single burner barbeque. The north-east picnic area includes a large picnic shelter.

There is a bluestone seating area located at the north end of the kindergarten. Seating and bins are provided around the park. Drinking fountains are located to the north-east picnic area and at the north end of the tennis courts.

A single unit automated public toilet is located in the north-east corner of the park adjacent to the existing picnic facilities. It is open from 8am-6pm.

There are some park lights located along paths within the park.

Recommendations

It is recommended to create a consolidated, senior playspace around the giant slide utilising the slope to include more challenging adventure-style play elements with a focus on older children.

Play elements may include: flying fox, additional slide, swings, climbing and bridge elements, and nature play elements. The existing giant slide is proposed to be rectified to improve sliding function and the space net is proposed to be relocated to this area. It is proposed to incorporate universal design play elements to provide for a range of abilities. If possible, an area will be retained to allow for tall rolling.

It is recommended to retain the existing junior playspace to be upgraded in accordance with scheduled renewal timetables.

It is proposed to upgrade the south-west picnic facilities including shelter, barbeque, picnic tables and drinking fountain and small shelter, and to better integrate with the adjacent playspace.

It is proposed to upgrade the picnic facilities to the north-east of the park and relocate adjacent to the junior playspace including shelter, barbeque, and picnic tables.

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existing conditions and recommendations

Recommendations continued
It is recommended to remove the existing bluestone seating area and brick furniture to the north east picnic area.

Proposed improvements include a multi-use undercover area that can function as an outdoor classroom for the Kinder and Childcare as well as a shelter, event space and/or stage for community use.

There is an opportunity to incorporate public toilets with a separate access within the proposed redeveloped Integrated Early Years Centre building form.

It is recommended to retain existing lighting within the park.

It is recommended to provide additional seating including in shaded areas and to consider smaller sized seating elements near the junior play space.

A new drinking fountain is recommended near the upgraded south west picnic area. It is proposed to monitor vandalism to the existing drinking fountain in the relatively secluded location north of the tennis courts, and consider possible future removal.

It is recommended to review furniture elements and review requirements for quantity and location as part of detailed design including:
- bins
- bike racks
- dog bag dispensers
- signage

It is recommended to review the existing signage to identify opportunities to improve way finding information, including to and from the Moonee Ponds Creek, and to identify park facilities. There is an opportunity to install educative signage about the park ecology.

There is an opportunity to repair fencing and replace sections as required as part of scheduled renewal.

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Example of grant slide with rock terrace, Royal Park.

Example of open classroom / event pavilion, Royal Botanic Gardens, Cranbourne.

Montgomery Park - existing and proposed play spaces and park furniture
existing conditions and recommendations

Early Years Children's Services
Montgomery Park contains a number of Early Years Children Services including:
- The Montgomery Park Kindergarten which provides 69 licensed places (currently Council owned and managed)
- The Montgomery Park Children Centre - Long Day Care which provides 85 licensed places (currently Council owned and managed)
- Maternal Child Health service - a single room located within the Children Services building
- Outdoor enclosured spaces

The Montgomery Park Kindergarten opened in the 1970s in a building that was previously a playgroup centre converted from a sports pavilion. It contains disused public toilets that are in poor condition and are planned to be demolished. The Children's Centre was opened in 1992.

Council's direction for Early Years Services at Montgomery Park is to redevelop the Montgomery Park Children's Centre into an Integrated Early Years Centre including a double size kindergarten to meet the needs of the community in response to existing and projected demand for education and care facilities at Montgomery Park.

Council's Family and Children's Services has progressively moved towards integrated service delivery in facilities, with a preference for flexible, multi-functional spaces that are responsive to future changing needs.

The Open Space Strategy includes guidelines for buildings in open space that will guide future proposals for new expanded or upgraded non-open space dependent facilities such as Children Services facilities.

Recommendations
There is an opportunity to implement the Montgomery Park Integrated Early Years Centre to provide an improved, integrated early years' service within the park setting. This is subject to future Council direction in relation to early years' services at Montgomery Park and to future consultation and design.

Implementation of an Integrated Early Years Centre at Montgomery Park does not necessarily mean an increase in building footprint as building forms can be reconfigured and some functions co-located. Note that the building and outdoor space footprint shown for the Integrated Early Years Centre is based on national standards for childcare space requirements but is indicative and subject to future planning and design.

It is recommended that new, reconfigured or expanded buildings and structures associated with the Integrated Early Years Centre:
- Minimises net encroachment into open space in accordance with the Open Space Strategy guidelines for buildings in open space
- Meets indoor/outdoor childcare space requirements in accordance with national standards
- Considers future increased demand for car parking including short-term parking in response to expanded facilities and planning permit requirements, and how these can be accommodated without encroaching into open space in accordance with the Open Space Strategy guidelines for car parking in open space
- Includes flexible, multi-use, shared spaces and facilities
- Is oriented to maximise northern exposure to increase the amenity to building occupants
- Complements the informal, natural character of the park and is well integrated into the park environment including:
  - Being sympathetic in materials and forms, including use of organic forms interfacing with the park environment
  - Consideration for the opportunity for a green roof
  - Buildings and outdoor spaces incorporate physical and visual permeability to the parkland including high quality glazing, permeable and semi-permeable fencing and gates

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existing conditions and recommendations

- In accordance with guidelines of the Open Space Strategy including:
  - Use best practice environmentally sustainable principles in siting and design, particularly in relation to water and energy
  - Building siting and design should not block prominent public views to the reserve, not create hidden or unusable areas around them and passively survey the open space
  - Demonstrate waste management is adequately provided for including appropriate bin enclosures and recycling initiatives
  - Adequate bicycle parking facilities integrated into the building design
  - Provide all-ability access in accordance with current Australian Standards
- Include public toilets for the park within the building footprint of the integrated Early Years Centre, to avoid the need for a separate structure in accordance with the Open Space Strategy. A separate external toilet entry to be provided in a location with passive surveillance.
- Considers inclusion of direct gate access between the Integrated Early Years Centre and the Traffic School.
- Considers the opportunity for the inclusion of an open-sided, sheltered outdoor classroom within the park that can also be used as a picnic shelter, event space or stage for community use.

There is an opportunity to consider consistent high quality pool type fencing treatment for facilities including the Early Years Centre and the Essendon Traffic School.

Council will undertake suitable consultation with users and local residents about future design proposals for the Integrated Early Years Centre at Montgomery Park.

Future design of building structures will consider the implications of proposals for the park to become a flood retention area. Refer previous section: Planting, water and urban ecology.

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existing conditions and recommendations

Essendon Traffic School
The Essendon Traffic School is a well-used educational and recreational facility for children located within Montgomery Park. The Traffic School is utilised by school and preschool excursions, during public sessions and hired for children’s parties. The adjacent Children Services use the Traffic School facilities.

The Essendon Traffic School is considering opportunities to upgrade facilities and may consider possible future use by alternative users such as people with disabilities.

Recommendations
There is an opportunity to improve integration between the Traffic School and the park by providing a path access directly into the park and gate access into the Integrated Early Years Centre to foster ongoing integration between these programs.

Recommendations include:
• Refurbish the tram interior to provide a more usable layout and to provide a new semi-enclosed classroom/party hire structure adjacent to the tram. It is proposed to consider an alternative to the existing shade cloth over the tram which may include providing protective coating to the tram roof.
• Remove the existing storage shed and replace with new elements including a stationary trapeze structure and new low storage elements incorporating village facades that provide additional experiences and improve passive surveillance.
• Provide an additional toilet to meet demands.

• Provide seating outside the entry to accommodate for patrons waiting to enter the Traffic School and to consider decorative gate signage for the Traffic School to enhance the entry experience.
• Consolidate play elements in a central location, adding village / street scene elements to match the transport theme.
• Incorporate a walking circuit to include a pedestrian education experience.
• Provide an additional drinking fountain.
• Replace the shade cloth over the picnic tables with a permanent shelter to improve functionality and reduce ongoing maintenance. This picnic area could be re-located to provide for the control playspace area.
• Provide direct access via a gate from the Traffic School to the tennis courts to allow use of the courts for practising bike skills.
• Upgrade the perimeter fencing of the traffic school with a higher quality pool type fencing. This should match the fencing proposed for the Children’s Services outdoor spaces.
• Additional planting including shade trees to increase vegetation and provide more shade.
• Consider possible future use for NDIS training for people with disabilities. Detailed design for the traffic school upgrade works would need to be undertaken in conjunction with an access consultant to ensure suitability and compliance to access standards.

The above proposals are subject to funding priorities and detailed design.

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City of Moonee Valley
existing conditions and recommendations

1. Path access into park, Children's Centre and Tennis Courts for bike education
2. Refurbish tram interior and provide adjacent undercover classroom/party hire space
3. Remove storage shed and replace with low storage elements with village façade and stationary train element
4. Additional toilet
5. Entry seating and decorative gate entry
6. Consolidate central playspace with streetscape elements
7. Add pedestrian circuit
8. Additional drinking fountain
9. Upgraded and relocated picnic area with permanent shelter
10. Upgrade perimeter fencing
11. New tree planting including shade trees

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May 2018

Montgomery Park - proposed Essendon Traffic School layout
existing conditions and recommendations

Dogs
Montgomery Park is designated as a dog on-leash park.

The park is well used by dogs and their owners and many dog are allowed by their owners to be off-leash resulting in some conflict with other park uses.

Gross Keys Reserve, located 1.7km to the north of Montgomery Park is the nearest Moonee Valley dog off-leash park.

Recommendations
It is recommended to trial dog off-leash use at Montgomery Park, confined to the central mown grass area and to designated times only.

Proposed buffer planting adjacent to playspaces will reduce conflict with children.

Consideration should be given to Children's Services closing times to determine suitable designated dog off-lease times, and the provision of suitable signage and adequate dog bag dispensers.

Maintenance
Park maintenance is currently undertaken in accordance with requirements as indicated by the existing park elements and the park's municipal hierarchy.

Recommendations
Changes to park maintenance regime will be required in response to the implementation of Master Plan proposals. The most significant of these will be the implementation of Water Sensitive Urban Design elements but will also include expanded playspaces, exercise equipment, shelters and planting.

Changes to park maintenance regimes will be considered as part of detailed design for all proposed Master Plan proposals.

Montgomery Park Master Plan

May 2018
Montgomery Park
Draft Master Plan

1. Stormwater harvesting & treatment. For park Irrigation and to improve creek water quality, includes diversion of stormwater. Subject to feasibility study.
2. Passive irrigation. Capturing stormwater from street to irrigate the planted embankment.
3. Flood retention area. Create an occasional flood retention area around the oval by raising paths. Subject to feasibility study.
4. Underground storage. Potential natural sub-surface or tank storage for irrigation and/or flood retention. Subject to feasibility study.
5. Concrete paths. Improve access to key locations and as a north-south link through the park. Widen Tennyson Street footpath.
8. Mown grass open space area for informal games.
9. Dog off leash trial. Restricted to oval and designated sites.
11. Tree planting. Native trees, with some exotic shade trees within the Traffic School and Integrated Early Years Centre.
12. Park furniture. Additional seating and other park furniture.
13. Picnic area. Upgraded with shelter, barbecue, tables and drinking fountain.
14. Senior playground. Consolidated & upgraded with more challenging equipment around the giant slide (rectified). Relocate space net to this area.
15. Basketball key/ netball circle & hit up wall relocated.
16. Tennis/netball courts. Upgrade and multi-use for tennis, netball and inline-education with lighting and back and court system. Provide gate to traffic school.
18. Picnic area. Upgraded and relocate next to playground. To include shelter, barbecue, tables. Existing bluestone seating area to be removed.
19. Integrated Early Years Centre. Indicative footprint for improved integration into park setting, subject to future planning and design.
22. Exercise station.
23. Mini pump track. For skateboard and BMX use.
24. Moonee Ponds Creek connections. Greening and signage.
25. Intersection treatment. To improve pedestrian access and reduce vehicle speeds.
consultation

Community consultation - Information Gathering
A first round of consultation gathered information, ideas and concerns. Consultation included:
- Feedback forms, letter box drop with reply paid envelopes to 1,390 surrounding addresses.
- A community session at Montgomery Park 9-11am on Saturday 25 November 2017

A total of 92 submissions were received including feedback forms, emails, facebook posts, letters and comments made at the consultation event. Feedback received was used to guide the preparation of a draft Master Plan.

Key feedback included request for:
- Upgrade and expansion of playspaces
- Dog off-leash park / Concern about dogs off-leash activity
- Upgraded tennis courts
- Exercise equipment
- Soccer or football goals
- Skate facilities
- More shade and shelters
- More planting
- Upgraded basketball facilities
- Resurfaced paths
- Improved grass area
- Improved lighting

In addition, specific feedback was received from children and staff from the Early Years Children Services and specific feedback was collected about the Traffic School.

Internal consultation
- City Design
- Children and Family Services
- Engineering Services
- Operations
- Property Services
- Research & Facilities Planning
- Sport and Recreation
- Transport and Major Projects
- Sustainability

Montgomery Park Master Plan

Montgomery Park - community consultation
November 2017

Have your say

Help shape the future of Montgomery Park

General Information: a master plan is being developed to ensure that this important park is well connected and enhances liveability and amenity for residents and visitors to the area.

A series of workshops and a community meeting will be held. There will be opportunities to provide feedback on any aspect of the Master Plan.

Feedback gathered during this process will be used to help develop the Draft Master Plan for the future of this park.

Montgomery Park Master Plan

May 2018
The Montgomery Park Master Plan Implementation Plan has been developed based on the current facility upgrade needs and feedback received from the community.

The purpose of Master Plans for open spaces such as Montgomery Park is to provide a document that can carefully guide any future development that may occur within the Park.

The Master Plan implementation will occur over a period of approximately fifteen years and will be subject to budgetary considerations and possible external funding opportunities.

Notes:
- The stormwater harvesting system and WSUD items are subject to further feasibility studies.
- Upgrades to the Integrated Early Years Centre have not been included. Implementation and timing are subject to external funding.
- Upgrades to the Essendon Traffic School have not been included. Implementation and timing are subject to funding priorities.
- Upgrades to the Tennis Courts have not been included as they are subject to sports development capital works priorities.

## Implementation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short Term 2018/19 - 2023/24</th>
<th>Cost Estimate $</th>
<th>Maintenance/programmed replacement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018/19 Traffic design – study and design for median and splitter islands and speed reduction options.</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Plan for recurrent maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSUD feasibility study - of potential stormwater harvesting, irrigation and storage opportunities. Investigate feasibility of stormwater diversion, bio-retention, wicking of oval, passive irrigation and underground storage.</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>Review recurrent maintenance requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dog off leash trial - consultation and implementation of trial dog off leash.</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Recurrent maintenance required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal 2019/20</strong></td>
<td>(50,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020/21 Traffic construction – of median and splitter islands.</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>Recurrent maintenance required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WSUD design - stormwater harvesting, treatment, storage &amp; irrigation* including grading and drainage for oval and paths.</td>
<td>250,000</td>
<td>Plan for recurrent maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape design: picnic areas, shelters, drinking fountains, rockwork, barbecues, furniture, signage, planting, fencing, paths, exercise station, mini pump track, basketball key and hit up / climbing wall, investigate feasibility of water play.</td>
<td>In-house</td>
<td>Plan for recurrent maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal 2020/21</strong></td>
<td>(350,000 + in-house)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022/23 WSUD - construction of stormwater harvesting, treatment, storage &amp; irrigation including diversion, oval regrading, reseeding, paths, drainage, removal of cricket nets and wicket.*</td>
<td>2,200,000</td>
<td>Recurrent maintenance required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal 2022/23</strong></td>
<td>(2,200,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023/24 Pathways – construction of pathways including exercise station, mini pump track for BMX/skating and basketball key.</td>
<td>370,000</td>
<td>Recurrent maintenance required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape construction: picnic areas, shelters, drinking fountains, rockwork, barbecues, furniture planting and fencing.</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>Recurrent maintenance required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal 2023/24</strong></td>
<td>(970,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Medium Term 2024/25 - 2028/29</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024/25 Integrated Early Years Centre – scope of works is subject to future planning and design. Design to incorporate public toilet facilities in the building footprint.</td>
<td>TB</td>
<td>Plan for recurrent maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playspace design - senior (south-west) playspace design. (re-location of space net, new play equipment, planting.</td>
<td>In-house</td>
<td>Plan for recurrent maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-use pavilion design</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>Plan for recurrent maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2025/26</strong> Playspace construction –senior playspace</td>
<td>360,000</td>
<td>Allow for playspace renewal within approximately 20 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-use pavilion construction</td>
<td>160,000</td>
<td>Recurrent maintenance required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal medium term</strong></td>
<td>(410,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Montgomery Park Master Plan May 2018**