



## What did we see?

- The White Avenue reserve is located within an established central residential area of Bacchus Marsh.
- The site is well overlooked by many houses providing natural passive surveillance.
- The site is well elevated and slopes relatively steeply down to the north east. This aspect also means that the site is vulnerable to strong winds and can be uncomfortably hot in summer.
- The reserve has a number of both young and mature trees, although many are not in good health and require maintenance.
- The most obvious path connection would be to link the south end of the reserve (where the existing footpath stops) with the intersection of White Avenue and Maddern Drive. The change in height between these locations is six metres.
- The two large Eucalypt trees that flank the existing play space provide a lovely character and sense of shelter and suggest that a new play space should remain in a similar position.
- The expanse of grass with some canopy trees but no shrub or groundcover plants provides little biodiversity or habitat.
- If the disused water channel is converted into a public corridor there is a good connection to the linear reserves along the Werribee River

## What did we hear?

Initial consultation was undertaken with the local community in September resulting in 25 completed surveys.

Most respondents were supportive of the park remaining a local reserve with upgraded paths, play equipment and shade. Landscaping and biodiversity were also considered very important.

Other significant findings include:

- Playing in the reserve was the most popular reason for using the reserve, with socialising and relaxing also popular
- A potential BBQ was divisive with equal proportions of positive and negative views
- A potential shelter was not as desired as the priorities listed above
- There was recognition of the need for path upgrades as a way to increase accessibility and the safety of users
- Potential lighting should be sensitive to wildlife and the possibility of attracting negative nighttime use
- Many respondents mentioned improving the space to allow for informal ball games by providing a flatter area and a way to stop balls from rolling down the hill.
- Comfort around the hottest and coldest times of the year needs improvement

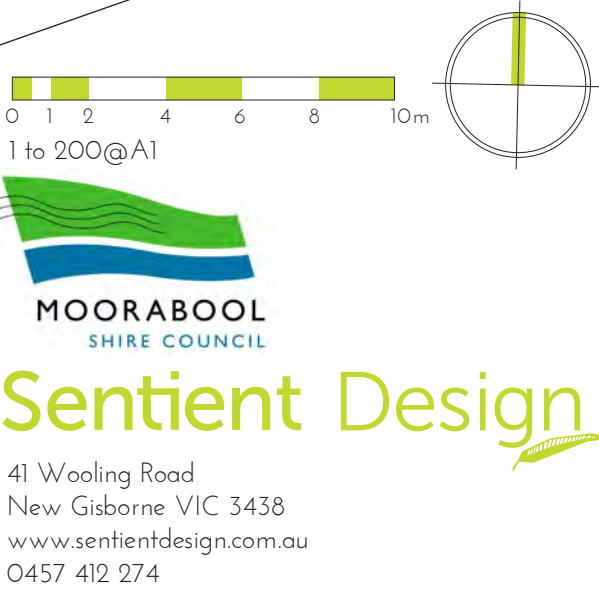
## What are the benchmarks?

Local governments are responsible for developing public open space for residents that is functional, welcoming and inclusive.

Specifically this means:

- Universal Design Principles should be used to maximise accessibility throughout the play space and broader reserve.
- Paths must be compliant with access requirements and be less than 1 in 20 grade to support universal access.
- Infrastructure such as seats and picnic settings should be sited to connect with the accessible paths. They should include features such as backs and armrests and allow for adjacent wheelchair access.
- All equipment and the play space setting should be designed to be compliant to the relevant Australian Standards.
- A variety of play equipment should be included to provide for the cognitive, social and physical play of different age groups. Solid safety surfacing should be included to allow for access to some equipment.
- Proposed landscaping should support biodiversity by protecting existing trees and using local species for new landscaping
- Reserves and play spaces should be designed with consideration to how they will be maintained

Client:  
Moorabool Shire Council  
Project:  
White Avenue Reserve  
Drawing Title & Version:  
Preliminary Concept: Whole Reserve  
Date:  
18 December 2023





Proposed Plant Species

Trees

There are many existing Eucalyptus and Eucalyptus-type trees existing already within the reserve, so other types of trees are proposed to increase biodiversity. Trees are proposed to be planted as advanced stock and irrigated adequately to support health, resilience and the development of a healthy root system. As they grow trees

are to be maintained with a clean trunk and a raised canopy to support CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) objectives. Some deciduous trees are also proposed for the shade benefit they provide as well as year round foliage changes.



*Allocasuarina verticillata*  
Drooping Sheoak  
Mature height: 6-8m  
Mature Width: 4-6m

The Drooping Sheoak is a striking local tree species with narrow pendulous pine-like evergreen foliage and large textured seedpods. The Sheoak is local to the Bacchus Marsh area and is tolerant of dry soils, drought and frost. The tree can be either male and female, with each producing different features during the year. The trees attract seed-eating birds including black cockatoos. First Owners used the hard wood for making spears, boomerangs and artefacts. Young cones and foliage were chewed to alleviate thirst. European settlers used the timber for house shingles, wagon bearings and as fodder during drought.



*Acacia implexa*  
Lightwood, Hickory Wattle  
Mature height: 8-15m  
Mature Width: 4-6m

Lightwood is a long lived local wattle species with sickle shaped foliage and pom pom flowers in Autumn. It is tolerant of dry and damp soils as well as drought and frost. Birds like the seeds and the insects that the tree attracts. The phyllodes were used by the Traditional Owners as a dye, and the bark fibres were used for manufacturing string used in nets.



*Fraxinus pennsylvanica* 'Cimmaron'  
Cimmaron Ash  
Mature height: 13m  
Mature Width: 8m

The Cimmaron Ash tree is a large hardy deciduous tree. The dark green foliage provides excellent summer shade and striking brick red autumn colour. When established this tough tree is tolerant to wind and low levels of drought.



*Lagerstroemia indica x L. fauriei* 'Biloxi'  
Biloxi Crepe Myrtle  
Mature height: 7m  
Mature Width: 5m

Crepe Myrtles are small deciduous trees well suited to the Victorian climate. Masses of small pink flowers cover the tree in late autumn. The foliage turns a reddish-orange in autumn. A striking feature of crepe myrtles is the smooth mottled bark they develop as they age. This particular cultivar will grow to 7m in height and is tolerant of heat, frost and dryness.

Low Planting

A variety of species are proposed for low planting area. These species are well suited to the local environment and will attract birds and insects, improving the biodiversity and habitat value of the reserve. The proposed shrubs will not exceed a height of 1m in order to maintain clear sightlines through the site. Additional native species have been proposed where they will add aesthetic appeal and sensory interest.

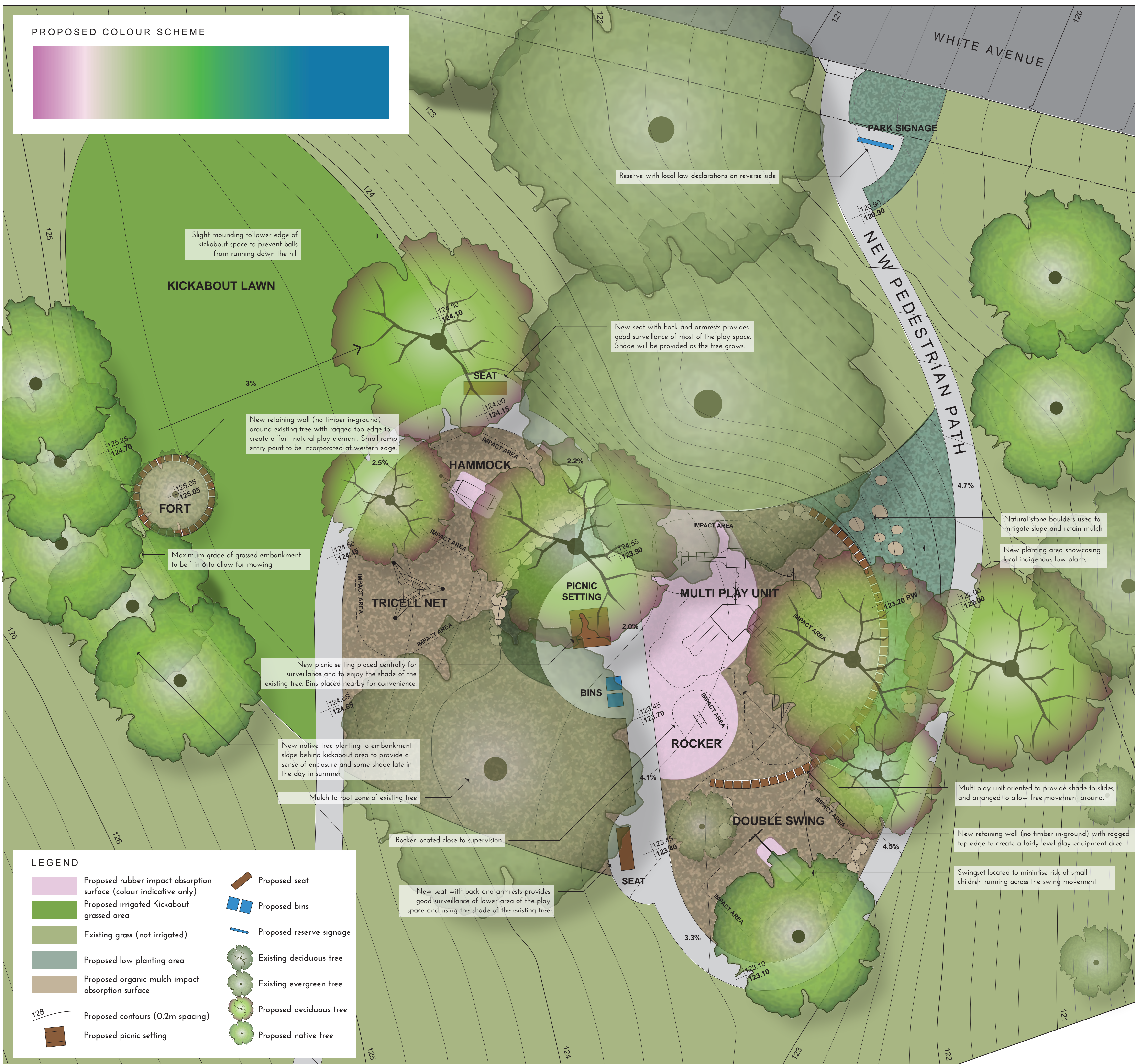


L - R  
*Themeda triandra* Kangaroo Grass (Indigenous)  
*Carex appressa* Tall Sedge (Indigenous)  
*Chrysocephalum apiculatum* Common Everlasting (Indigenous)  
*Poa sieberiana* Grey Tussock-grass (Indigenous)  
*Calocephalus citreus* Lemon Beauty-heads (Indigenous)

L - R  
*Chrysocephalum semipapposum* Clustered Everlasting (Indigenous)  
*Grevillea juniperina* 'Gold Cluster' Gold Cluster Grevillea (Native)  
*Myoporum parvifolium* Creeping Boobialla (Native)  
*Hardenbergia violacea* Purple Coral-pea (Indigenous)  
*Leucophyta brownii* Cushion Bush (Native)  
*Lomandra 'Tanika'* Tanika Mat-rush (Native)



## PROPOSED COLOUR SCHEME



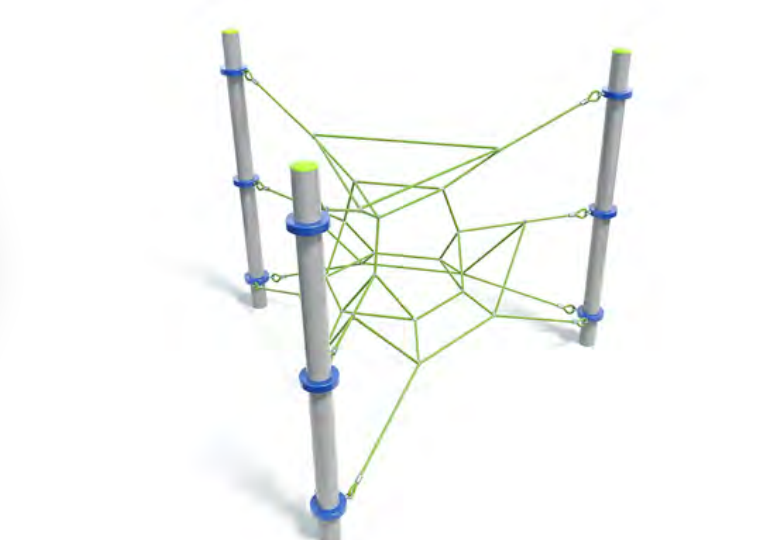
## Proposed Play Equipment



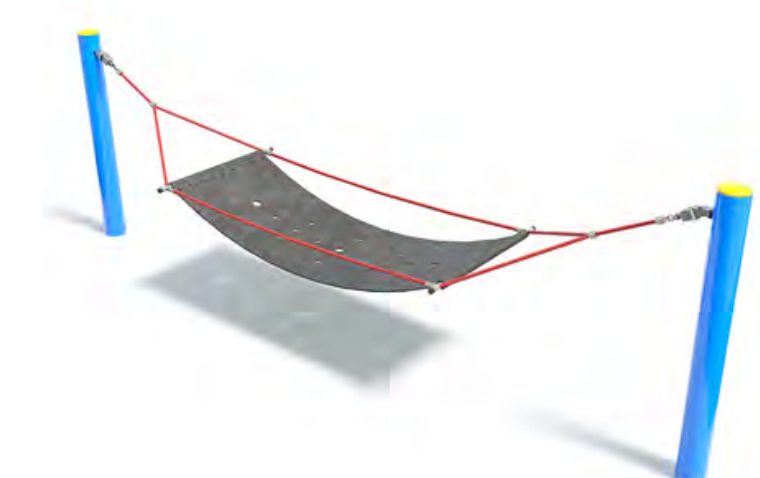
- Strickland Multiplay unit**  
**Supplier: Adventure Plus**
- Australian manufacturer
  - Fully steel frame construction
  - Three platform unit
  - Junior twin slide and senior slide
  - Climbing and balancing challenges provided by the inclined net bridge, the teepee stepper and disc crossing
  - Hanging rings support upper body strength



- Community Double Swingset**  
**Supplier: Adventure Plus**
- Australian manufacturer
  - Steel posts in ground
  - Toddler and child seats
  - Provides vestibular stimulation
  - Provides social and physical play opportunities



- Tricell**  
**Supplier: Kaebel Leisure**
- Australian manufacturer
  - Steel posts in ground
  - Graduated climbing challenge
  - Provides social, cognitive and physical play opportunities



- Hammock**  
**Supplier: Kaebel Leisure**
- Australian manufacturer
  - Steel posts in ground
  - Provides social, cognitive and physical play opportunities
  - Provides vestibular stimulation



- Spring Rocker**  
**Supplier: Adventure Plus**
- Australian manufacturer
  - Suitable for infants
  - Provides vestibular stimulation

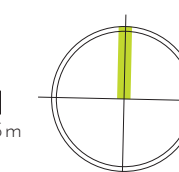


- Fort Structure**  
**Custom Build**
- Provides social, cognitive and imaginative play opportunities
  - Level access point at western edge to maximise access flexibility

## LEGEND

- |  |  |  |                          |
|--|--|--|--------------------------|
|  | Proposed rubber impact absorption surface (colour indicative only) |  | Proposed seat            |
|  | Proposed irrigated Kickabout grassed area                          |  | Proposed bins            |
|  | Existing grass (not irrigated)                                     |  | Proposed reserve signage |
|  | Proposed low planting area   |  | Existing deciduous tree  |
|  | Proposed organic mulch impact absorption surface                   |  | Existing evergreen tree  |
|  | Proposed contours (0.2m spacing)                                   |  | Proposed deciduous tree  |
|  | Proposed picnic setting  |  | Proposed native tree     |

0 1 2 3 4 5m  
 1 to 100@A1



Client:  
 Moorabool Shire Council

Project:  
 White Avenue Reserve

Drawing Title & Version:  
 Preliminary Concept: Play Space  
 Date:  
 18 December 2023



**Sentient Design**

41 Wooling Road  
 New Gisborne VIC 3438  
 www.sentientdesign.com.au  
 0457 412 274