



ZONE 3 - THE LOCAL OASIS

A tranquil and intimate local environmental retreat

ZONE 3 - THE LOCAL OASIS

Context

Zone 3 encompasses Tooronga park, which sits between Toorak Road and Tooronga Road, and is proximal to Tooronga station. Insulated by existing open woodland, the park serves as a recreational node and breakout space for nearby residents and commercial outlets. It comprises of recreational and play facilities as well as open grassland areas that are popular among dog walkers, especially those from the nearby animal pound and shelter facility situated at the park's eastern entrance.



ZONE 03
Existing Context Plan

1:2000 @ A3



ZONE 03 Overall Concept Plan

1:2000 @ A3

Objectives

The project objectives for Toorong Park include:

- to introduce a wetland to treat local storm water
- the creation of additional fitness, play and recreational opportunities
- introduce new park facilities such as picnic shelters, seating, play and BBQs to increase community use
- to enhance vegetation buffer to the freeway and increase habitat corridor
- to introduce new signage and way finding at key junctions facilitating key movement and connections
- enhanced legibility and safety of key pathway connections



Site Context Plan

The current site conditions shows no clearly defined or safe route for pedestrians moving further east of Tooronga Park to connect back to the Gardiners Creek Trail.

Option 01 (in grey) identifies the current route pedestrians and cyclists must take to connect to the Trail. It requires prior knowledge of the site or a reliance on google maps as there is no guiding signage, and takes the visitor through back streets of industry. Pedestrian conflict with large trucks and vehicles is a possible risk throughout the travel. TCL has been instructed to progress the concept design based on the current condition.

Two alternative routes have been identified to provide safe and legible access for pedestrians to travel from Tooronga Park to the Gardiners Creek Trail and vice versa.

Option 02 is reliant on the outcomes of the anticipated LXRA project, with the preferred development being built above ground to encourage public space below. Safe pedestrian access could be accommodated in the underlying space and provide visitors access directly to the Tooronga Road overpass.

Given the timeline of the LXRA is currently unknown, Option 03 offers an alternative route in the meantime or should the LXRA proposal not accommodate building a pedestrian in the railway's previous alignment.

Option 03 will require enough area to accommodate an accessible ramp to meet flush with the peak of the Tooronga Road overpass. The proposed alignment utilises the vegetation buffer between the council depot and the overpass. Further coordination with Council and feature surveys will be required to ensure there is adequate for the proposed pathway.



Existing Conditions



Existing, established trees spread throughout site with open lawns with slight topography changes



Existing habitat trees to be protected retained on site



Access to Tooronga Station requires ramping up due to level difference. Station is currently at grade and has been identified for a level-crossing removal (LXR) project. To be confirmed if the rail will be above or below ground.



Existing drain requires large offset footprint and fencing



Wayfinding beyond site and to Gardiners Creek Trail beyond is non-existent, ending abruptly with no continuing and accessible path for pedestrians



Spatial Diagram

Key Moves:

- Locate activity around centrally located wetland. This includes senior play, picnic and BBQ facilities and passive recreational activity.
- Provide continuous walking track, with opportunity for fitness stations to be placed at various intervals on path.
- Unstructured play area
- Key signage for wayfinding at entries to wetlands.
- Opportunity for wetland and activity interpretation and signage around relative nodes.
- Encourage biodiversity and habitat through enhancement of natural landscape around wetland with natural edges and barriers to wetland such as rocks, planting, dead logs.
- Enhance buffer planting around perimeter to reduce noise pollution from Monash Freeway and to contribute to the overall landscape character.
- Create defined, inviting and accessible connection to Tooronga Park from station.

LEGEND

Shared User Path

Secondary Path

Discovery Node

Wayfinding/Signage at Junction Points

Key Node

Multi-Functional Passive Recreation Area

Wetland

Nature Reserve

Enhanced Buffer Planting



Concept Plan

LEGEND

Existing native tree

Existing exotic tree

Proposed native tree

Proposed exotic tree

BBQs

Picnic Tables and Benches

Shared User Path

Gravel Path

Soft fall Surface

Slow-Zone Intersection path treatment

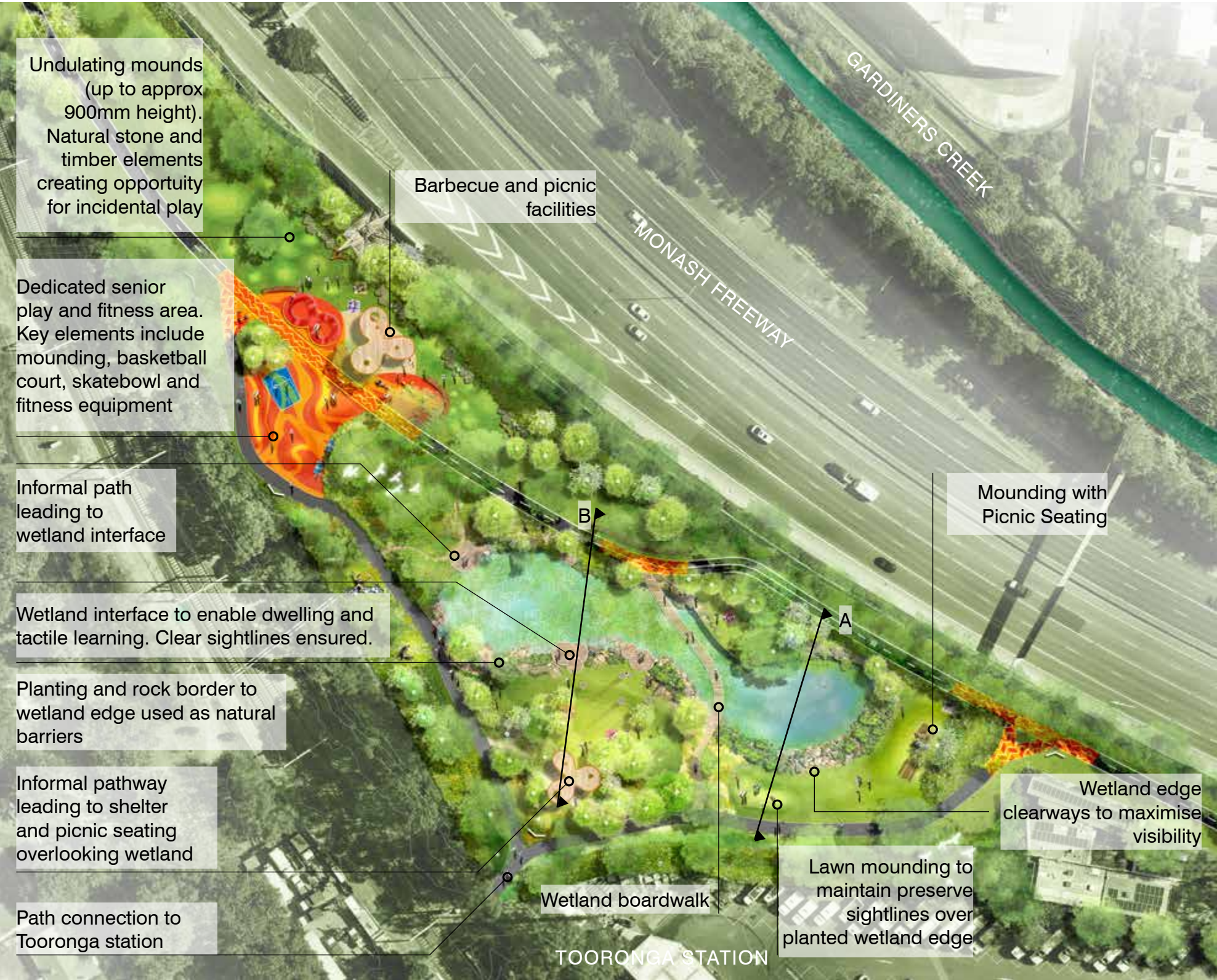
SUP Conflict zone path treatment

Existing Basketball Hoop with attached netball ring

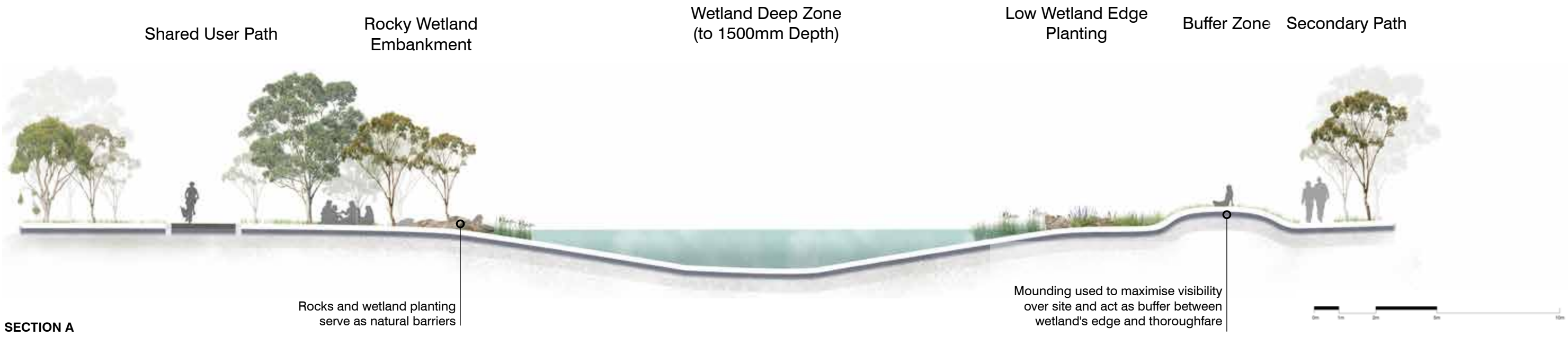
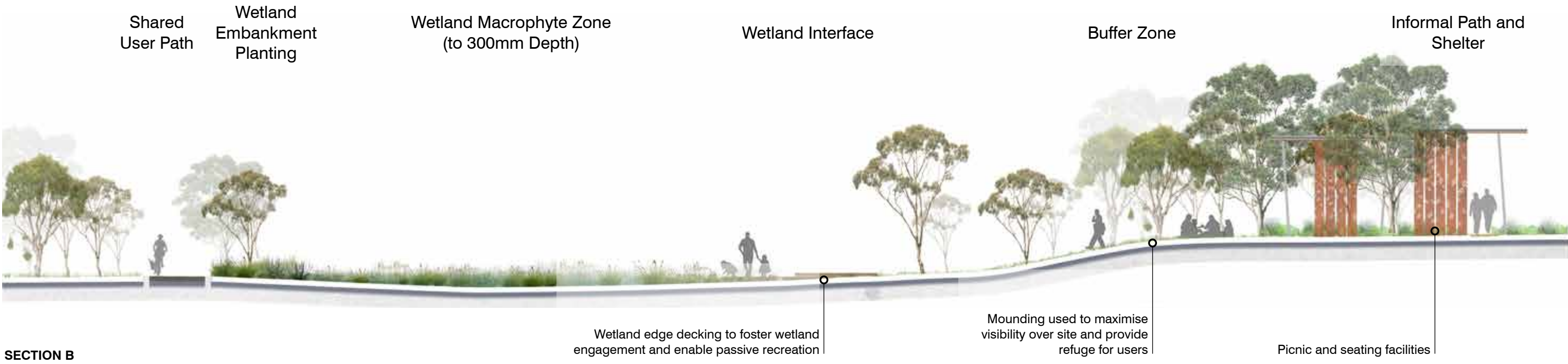
Shelter

Timber bench

Fitness Equipment Stations



Tooronga Park Wetland Sections



Character

Once a local transition space, Tooronga Park becomes an ecological hotspot and key recreational attraction for the community. The park builds upon its existing uses of dog-walking, habitat and play to create a park of discovery, biodiversity and play for all ages alongside upgrades to the shared user path.

The park centres around a significant wetland of immense functional and recreational impact. This wetland will create significant habitat and water treatment value, whilst also integrating layers of education and discovery. A wetland boardwalk provides respectful access, connecting visitors with water health and biodiversity.

Various levels of play are integrated to accommodate for all age groups. Interpretation and tactile learning feeds off the story and habitat of the wetland. A rocky interface is developed between the play and wetland to ensure shallow water depths and provide educational nature spaces.

A mounded soft fall area provides a space for senior play; skating, basketball, skatebowl and fitness equipment.

Lastly fitness stations provide nodes with simple fitness equipment to encourage movement and strength building.

This large array of activity is supported by shelters with picnic and barbecue facilities - providing the capacity for all-day activity and activation.

Tooronga Park provides a significant blue green infrastructure to the community, tying together water treatment functionality, public amenity to improve health, shade and native vegetation mitigate urban heat island effect and increase biodiversity.





Water Sensitive Urban Design

Tooronga park is an additional key site for integrating a holistic water treatment chain as part of the broader WSUD strategy for KooyongKoot. The local watershed encompasses a 16 Ha catchment bounded by Malvern road and Tooronga road, which drains through an existing storm water pipe located along the west side of Tooronga station. The wetland system will be gravity fed by flows diverted from the storm water pipe underneath the railway line. Storm water will be treated via a series of bio-treatment processes as it moves through the wetland before then discharging into an existing storm water drain that is conveyed to KooyongKoot. The outflows are regulated by a "riser" to ensure a minimum of 48 hours residence time is maintained.

It is estimated that each year the wetland will remove the following pollutants from the broader KooyongKoot watershed:

- 6000 kg of Total Suspended Solids (TSS)
- 12 kg of Total Phosphorus (TP)
- 60 kg of Total Nitrogen (TN)



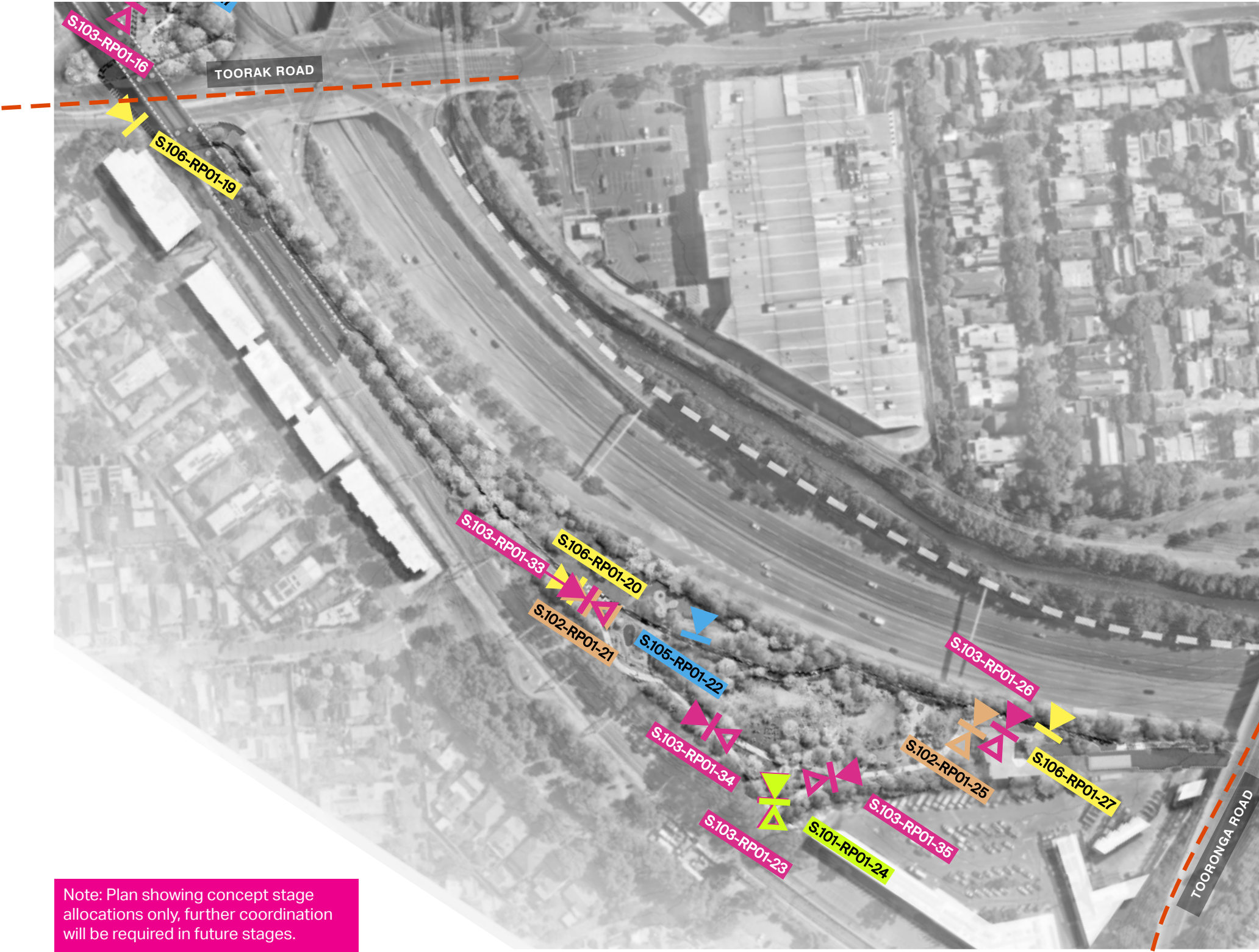
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Wayfinding Allocations

Sign Types

- S.101 Entry ID
- S.102 Identification Sign
- S.103 Directional Sign
- S.104 Regulatory Sign
- S.105 Interpretive Sign
- S.106 Floor Marking



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Nature Based Fitness Nodes

Fitness circuits within the KooyongKoot corridor aim to create a unique blend of traditional fitness station equipment and nature inspired movement. Focusing on simple, multi-purpose structures nestled into the landscape to create accesible nodes that encourage all movement.

The fitness palette blends reclaimed and FSC certified timber with durable steel components to softly compliment the creek's natural character.

Where possible, salvaged, locally sourced hardwood will be prioritised in fitness elements.

Consistent materials within the furniture palette align with the wider extents of the project to create continuity as well as meet City of Stonnington's Sustainable Assets Criteria.

Selected fitness elements offer multi-purpose strength and mobility oppurtunities. The palette emphasises simple equipment with dynamic uses for multiple age groups.



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Education and Play Opportunities

Tooronga Park presents the opportunity to provide education and play for a range of age groups and of a formal and informal variety.

Educational opportunities draw inspiration from the Wetland, presenting ways of moving through landscape that encourage curiosity and learning.

More formal facilities for basketball, skating and fitness equipment act as important features for teenagers and adults to encourage movement and social interaction.



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