

ZONE 2 : THE SPORTING EXPANSE SIR ZELMAN COWEN PARK

‘A healthy and vibrant sports precinct for everybody, supported by a verdant tree canopy for improved amenity and comfort’

EXISTING CONDITION

Sir Zelman Cowen Park is a highly-used sporting zone, dominated by a range of sporting fields, car parking and various pavilions. The area is in particularly high use on weekends (when car parks are full) and after school, with organised sports that caters for the community and school groups.

The area is also heavily used by dog walkers who enjoy meandering the footpaths, and ovals when not in use. There is occasional conflict of dogs not on lead, cyclists and ball sports as all try to enjoy this space.

Close to Kooyong Station and Glenferrie Road tram line, the park is highly accessible.

The corridor site is dominated by lawn, and lacks ecological corridors between ovals. There are well-established native and non-indigenous trees however the zone is lacking in the understory and mid-story. Currently some recycled water is harvested from the creek and used for irrigation of the ovals.

Ecological rating:

- Habitat score = 28%
 - Weeds = 2 (high coverage of significant weeds)
- Score rating 0 -15. 0 = High coverage, 15 = Weed-free.



FUTURE CHARACTER

- An active, social and community minded space that caters for a wide range of activities from dog walking to special events such as all-abilities festivals, farmers markets & passive recreation.
- A destination for sport and play.
- An open green space with distinct activity nodes, surrounded and embedded in native vegetation.



OPPORTUNITIES & PRIORITIES



2.1
Upgrade signage and way finding at Sir Zelman Cowen Park north, aiding in navigation to major local & regional destinations.

2.2
Create a landform berm with planting creating seating and protecting path users.

2.3
Install new signage and way finding at key junctions, aiding in navigation to major local & regional destinations.

2.4
Investigate possibility of relocating entire car park to enable establishment of pedestrian/picnic area and pedestrian priority between sporting ovals.

2.5
New pedestrian crossing to increase pedestrian safety along proposed path.

2.6
Upgrade existing path typology to General Access Path along the northern edge of Sir Zelman Cowen Park.

2.7
Landform berm with tree planting creating seating and protecting path users.

2.8
New play /picnic area.

2.9
WSUD treatment swale to treat storm-water before returning to Gardiners Creek (KooyongKoot).

2.10
Landform berm with tree planting creating seating and protecting path users.

2.11
New barbecues and new shelter.

2.12
Install WSUD treatment swale to treat storm water before returning to Gardiners Creek (KooyongKoot).

A.9
Advocate to Melbourne Water for the removal and naturalisation of concrete canal.

2.13
Landform berm with tree planting creating seating and protecting path users.

2.14
Enhance vegetation buffer between open space and Monash Freeway to reduce impact of adjacent motorway.

2.15
Upgrade barbecues and park facilities.

2.16
Install WSUD treatment swale to treat storm water before returning to Gardiners Creek (KooyongKoot).

2.17
Enhanced park entry & upgraded picnic facilities to create gateway to park.

2.18
Rest and fitness station points at intervals along path to enable pausing points to stop and enjoy open space.

2.19
New car parking between existing trees with permeable paving along southern side of access road to increase parking provision.

2.20
New General Access Path along the south-west border of Sir Zelman Cowen Park.

2.21
New regional all access, all abilities playground. Dispersed adventure play.

2.22
Upgrade car park facilities to meet regional play requirements. Upgrade to include WSUD and planting.

2.23
Informal social area under proposed shady trees with landform mounding for social interface between pavilion and oval ensuring not to impede views.

2.24
Enhance vegetation buffer between new playground and adjacent property to increase ecological value of site.

2.25
Extend recycled water reuse scheme. Increasing capacity to irrigate more ovals, reducing consumption of potable water.

2.26
Formalise park entry to enhance community accessibility.

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2.28
New General Access Path to connect proposed shared user path.

TALBOT RESERVE

‘A quiet reserve supporting water cleaning and passive respite’

EXISTING CONDITION

Talbot Reserve is an area of parkland that has a residential pocket-park feel, with lawn and trees scattered in an informal manner. Within the reserve is a small sports field for juniors and informal sports and a sports pavilion that in its current state cannot support the needs of sporting clubs. The oval is adjacent to Sir Zelman Cowen Park, but currently feels disconnected by a car park that divides the two. This car park also dissects the main footpath.

Adjacent to the reserve will be the future elevated rail delivered by the Toorak Road Level Crossing Removal Project.

Similar to Sir Zelman Cowen, this area has well-established native and non-indigenous trees however the zone is lacking in understory and mid-story vegetation.

Ecological rating:

- Habitat score = 28%
- Weeds = 2 (high coverage of significant weeds)
Score rating 0 -15. 0 = High coverage, 15 = Weed-free.



CHARACTER:

Talbot Reserve

- A greener and finer grain extension of Sir Zelman Cowen Park, complementary in its recreational offer.
- An urban woodland with local-scale sports and recreation opportunities.
- A space for passive recreation and respite amongst dense tree canopies.

General

- Stonnington LGA
- Contour line
- Structure above
- LXRA Area of works

Walls + Edges

- Battered edge
- Concrete terrace

Pavements

- Gardiners Creek Trail (Existing-New/Upgrade)
- Discovery trail (Existing-New/Upgrade)
- Adventure trail, gravel (Existing-New/Upgrade)
- Adventure trail, boardwalk (Existing-New/Upgrade)
- Special slow zone
- Roads & carparks
- Flexi zones
- Enhanced path connection

Architecture + Site Structures

- Existing building
- Building
- Bridges
- Underpass

Water Elements

- Waterbodies
- Wetlands existing
- Wetlands
- WSUD swale

Furniture + Fittings

- Toilets
- Drinking Fountains
- Stopping point
- Enhanced park entry
- Decision point

Planting

- Lawn
- Sports lawn
- Native grassland/gardenbed

Trees

- Existing permeable trees
- Vegetation Enhanced
- Proposed permeabl trees



OPPORTUNITIES & PRIORITIES



3.1 New sports and community pavilion at the time of redevelopment supplying high end gender inclusive sporting facilities. (Demolish existing facility)

3.2 Upgraded understory and tree cover to help achieve urban forest strategies.

3.3 New General Access Path to create the main trail along the northern edge of Sir Zelman Cowen Park away from recreation users. (Relocated from southern edge of park)

3.4 Install rain gardens, increasing water retention and treatment.

3.5 Enhance vegetation buffer between open space and Monash Freeway to reduce impact of adjacent motorway.

3.6 Enhanced park entry with upgraded signage and amenities to create gateway to regional park.

3.7 New play /picnic area.

3.8 Install rain gardens, increasing water retention and treatment.

3.10 Retain existing path as pedestrian only path. SUP to east.

3.9 Reconfigured flexible space at time of pavilion redevelopment enabling car parking and community events. (Demolish existing car park)

3.11 Rest and fitness station points at intervals along path.

3.12 Enhanced buffer planting along the adjacent property boundary providing small trees and shrubs for small birds.

3.13 Reinstated planting on existing rail corridor to create a buffer between proposed rail works.