FEEDBACK ON LINEAR PARKLANDS MASTER PLAN





Prepared by: Streets Alive Yarra Inc.

streets-alive-yarra.org

Foreword

Streets Alive Yarra is a non-profit, volunteer, resident and ratepayer action group with a vision for more trees, wider footpaths and vibrant businesses in thriving neighbourhoods. We see our streets being used by people from all ages, irrespective of whether they walk, roll on a wheelchair, cycle, use public transport or drive. Residents and shoppers should be able to move safely, comfortably, and conveniently around Yarra; and park near shops.



Image credit: OCULUS Landscape Architecture and Urban Design

Streets Alive Yarra was founded in 2017 and now has over 2,800 followers on Facebook. A network of local champions develops concepts and proposals for how to improve their local street or precinct. Streets Alive Yarra is also a member of the Victoria Walks Walkability Action Group network.

Further information is available at: streets-alive-yarra.org/about.

Feedback

The Linear Park would be better if public open space was expanded by closing all the minor (non DoT arterial) streets to motor vehicle traffic, as has occurred at Rathdowne and Canning Streets. The images below show opportunities totalling 3600 m², which is significant.

If access is required for bus routes (e.g. the 504, 250 or 251), then work with the Department of Transport to reduce the asphalt to a single lane, and restrict access to buses by using bollards that automatically retract when a bus approaches. Ideally, bus routes could also be reformed, e.g. to use a single bollard-controlled lane at Rathdowne Street instead of Amess Street, to reduce the number of turns in the bus route.

Small north-south paths across the park could still be retained, so that neighbourhoods remain connected for people walking or biking for short trips. The DoT arterials (Lygon Street, Nicholson Street, St Georges Road) would remain open for north-south motor vehicle traffic.



Example of public open space prioritised over asphalt at Rathdowne Street



400 m² of new public open space can be created at Amess Street



560 m² of new public open space can be created near Nicholson Street



800 m^2 of new public open space can be created at Rae Street



800 m² of new public open space can be created at Brunswick Street North



800 m² of new public open space can be created at Bennett Street

Concluding remarks

Streets Alive Yarra would be delighted to provide further detail or explanation of the themes raised in this document.

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