



WHITEHORSE CITY COUNCIL

# Partnership Opportunities

November 2024



# Councillors

---



**Cr Kieran Simpson**  
Cootamundra Ward  
0431 486 849  
Kieran.Simpson@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Daniel Griffiths**  
Eley Ward  
0431 486 455  
Daniel.Griffiths@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Blair Barker**  
Elgar Ward  
0459 857 280  
Blair.Barker@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



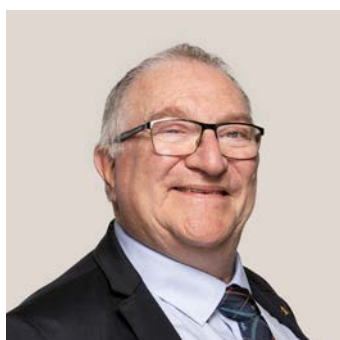
**Cr Kirsten Langford**  
Kingsley Ward  
0423 445 390  
Kirsten.Langford@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Hayley Weller**  
Lake Ward  
0431 486 836  
Hayley.Weller@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Jason Martin**  
Mahoneys Ward  
0431 486 973  
Jason.Martin@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Peter Allan**  
Sparks Ward  
0423 504 325  
Peter.Allan@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Jarrod Gunn**  
Terrara Ward  
0431 487 348  
Jarrod.Gunn@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Ben Stennett**  
Walker Ward  
0448 375 937  
Ben.Stennett@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



# Contact us

---



**Cr Andrew Davenport**  
Mayor,  
Wattle Ward  
  
0407 652 145  
Andrew.Davenport@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au



**Cr Prue Cutts**  
Deputy Mayor,  
Simpson Ward  
  
0409 867 540  
Prue.Cutts@  
whitehorse.vic.gov.au

---

## Table of contents

Whitehorse Council welcome .....	4	Open Spaces .....	15
Outdoor Recreation and Open Spaces.....	6	North East Link .....	16
Bennettswood Reserve .....	7	Plan for Victoria .....	17
Davy Lane Reserve .....	8	Integrated Water Management.....	18
Sparks Reserve – Upper .....	9	Walking, Cycling and Public Transport .....	20
Nunawading Basketball .....	10	Local Economy and City Planning.....	21
East Burwood Reserve .....	11	Funding Opportunities: \$60,000 – \$175,000 .....	22
Mahoney’s Reserve.....	12	Funding Opportunities: \$180,000 – \$280,000 .....	23
Indoor Sports Facilities .....	13	Funding Opportunities: \$280,000+ .....	24
Aqualink Nunawading .....	13	City of Whitehorse Map .....	27
Suburban Rail Loop .....	14		



## Council welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with all levels of governments to deliver great outcomes for Whitehorse and beyond

Located 15 kilometres east of central Melbourne, the municipality of Whitehorse is well recognised as a highly diverse community. Whitehorse has more than 150 cultures represented with a greater proportion of residents born overseas (42 per cent) compared to Greater Melbourne (36 per cent). Victoria's population is expected to grow from 6.5 million (in 2021) to 10.3 million by 2051 with the population for the City of Whitehorse forecast to increase substantially.

Whitehorse is home to 178,639 people, supports 83,325 jobs and has an annual economic output of \$24.598 billion. The Construction industry sector makes the greatest contribution to economic output in the region, which at \$3.1 billion accounts for 13.81 per cent of total output. With 12,183 jobs

representing 14.6 per cent of total employment, the Health Care and Social Assistance is the industry sector is the region's largest employer.

### **Population impacts**

The intense development will have many implications for the current and future needs of the City. The State Government's housing target for additional dwellings in Whitehorse is 79,000. It is expected to particularly impact Box Hill and Burwood, with State Government Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) Precinct Visions outlining significant growth in these suburbs. The SRL Precinct Visions indicate that building heights could increase up to 40 storeys at the centre of Box Hill and up to 20 storeys near the Burwood SRL station.





The significant increase in population will put pressure on Council's ageing infrastructure. Council will need to upgrade or build community facilities, including leisure and recreation services, to support the proposed population growth and Council will need to help facilitate open space options for the community.

### **Partnering with Whitehorse**

Whitehorse is eager to engage in creative and constructive partnerships with the federal and Victorian Governments, as well as neighbouring local government authorities (LGAs). We aspire to think big and pursue projects that yield benefits beyond our municipal boundaries. We have projects ready for collaboration and opportunities to engage on a larger scale.

### **Whitehorse profile:**

- Population: 178,639
- Land area 64.24 square kilometres
- Eligible voters (citizens aged 18+): 59.8%
- Top 3 age cohorts: 35-49 year olds (20.5%), 25-34 year olds (14%), 50-59 year olds (12.4%)
- Population born overseas: 42% (compared to 36% across Greater Melbourne)
- Languages spoken at home other than English: Mandarin 16.2%, Cantonese 5.5%, Greek 2.2%
- University degree qualified: 42% (compared with 33% across Greater Melbourne)

(Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2021)





## Outdoor Recreation and Open Spaces

**Outdoor sport facilities in Whitehorse are at or over capacity. Demand will increase as our population grows, and as participation of girls and women is supported to grow.**

Our sports field capacity is almost fully utilised. Some areas are oversubscribed including Mitcham, Box Hill, Blackburn, Nunawading, Vermont and Vermont South.

In Whitehorse, there are more than 12,000 seasonal sport participants vying for the use of 53 seasonally allocated sports fields and 28 seasonally allocated sporting pavilions.

There has also been huge growth in female participation in sport. Allocation requests for other sports has also increased including rugby (+43%), Ultimate Frisbee (+50%) and hockey (+18%).

The use of our existing sports fields is impacted by factors including ground condition, grass type, irrigation and drainage, weather conditions, type of use and intensity of use. Open space is also significantly impacted by the North East Link (NEL) and Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) major transport projects.

Council seeks partnerships to increase outdoor sport capacity. We invite conversations from schools, other councils, the private sector and

especially the Victorian and federal governments on ways we can partner to increase capacity.

### Open space

There are existing demands and pressures on the open space network within the Whitehorse municipality. The growing population predicted by the Victorian Government will exacerbate this. Council is aware of community interest in the Brickworks site in the Box Hill Precinct, as is the State Government.

This land is in private ownership. Council will explore all opportunities to secure and maintain open space in Whitehorse and in particular in Box Hill, where the population is expected to significantly increase in light of State Government projects and policy.

Council will continue its advocacy relating to open space opportunities, particularly noting the proposed population forecasts for Whitehorse identified as part of the Victorian Government's Housing Targets with 79,000 homes to be built within the City by 2051. Council is seeking a collaborative approach that enables the Government and Council to address an immediate shortfall of open space associated with the Suburban Rail Loop and North East Link major projects. A particular emphasis will focus on the Box Hill and Burwood areas.



## Bennettswood Reserve

Bennettswood Reserve in Burwood is adjacent to Gardiners Creek to the west and Deakin University to the east. The future Burwood SRL station will be located directly south of Bennettswood Reserve, on the other side of Burwood Highway. It contains two ovals; one unfenced and mainly used for informal recreational purposes, and a fenced and floodlit oval used for cricket and football. The site also includes a pavilion and cricket practice nets. The entire area is a dog off-leash area. The area has three land owners: Council, Deakin University and Crown land.

There is an opportunity to provide new and improved open space, sports and recreation facilities to meet the needs of the growing community resulting from the SRL precinct plans.

### Bennettswood Reserve community groups

- Cricket clubs
- Football clubs
- Recreational walkers and runners
- Families

### Bennettswood Reserve funding Opportunities

**Council maximum funding contribution: \$2 million**

**External funding requirement: \$9 million**

**Total project: \$11 million** (total cost is not all Council's project)

**Status:** Masterplan in progress

### Bennettswood Reserve government areas

#### State

- Legislative Council (Upper House)
  - » North Eastern Metropolitan Region
  - » Southern Metropolitan Region (close to border)
- Legislative Assembly (Lower House)
  - » Box Hill District
  - » Ashwood District (close to border)

#### Federal

- Chisholm





# Davy Lane Reserve

The Davy Lane site is located in Forest Hill, on part of the former Healesville Freeway Reserve. Davy Lane sits adjacent to other open spaces including the Strathdon House and Orchard precinct to the west and the Nunawading Community Gardens to the east. There is currently one sports field that has been used for community sport since 1975.

The quality of the turf for organised sport and other activities is not at a high standard (there is no irrigation or drainage) and there are no supporting amenities such as change rooms, public toilets, lighting or formalised car parking. Upgrading the reserve presents an opportunity to address some of the area’s sporting demand as well as improve the experience of those using the area for walking and other activities.

Following community consultation, the following is being proposed:

- two natural turf, floodlit sporting fields
- pavilion to support competition and training
- sealed car park
- pathways through the reserve.

Davy Lane funding opportunities

**Council’s maximum funding contribution: \$11 million**

**External funding requirement: \$10 million**

**Total project: \$21 million**

**Status:** Masterplan in progress

Davy Lane government area

**State**

- Legislative Council (Upper House): North Eastern Metropolitan Region
- Legislative Assembly (Lower House): Glen Waverley District

**Federal**

- Deakin

Davy Lane community groups

- Sporting clubs
- Families
- Recreational walkers
- Dog walkers





## Sparks Reserve – Upper

Sparks Reserve supports a National Premier League (NPL) soccer club with 500 players. The club supports senior women, senior men, junior girls, junior boys and it has outgrown its facilities.

Due to the volume of players the one-and-a-half ovals available for regular training and games are highly overused. This causes the pitches to degenerate quickly.

The upgrade to a synthetic soccer pitch will allow for the continued high use on a good quality surface. It will support a popular sport as the population increases and support the club's ambitions.

### Sparks Reserve — Upper Community Groups

- Box Hill United Soccer
  - » Senior women
  - » Senior men
  - » Junior girls
  - » Junior boys

### Sparks Reserve – Upper funding opportunities

**Council's maximum funding contribution: \$2 million**

**Club contribution: \$75,000**

**External funding requirement: \$3.925 million**

**Total project: \$6 million**

**Status:** Concept design complete

### Sparks Reserve – Upper government areas

#### State

- Legislative Council (Upper House)
  - » North Eastern Metropolitan Region
- Legislative Assembly (Lower House)
  - » Box Hill District

#### Federal

- Chisholm



# Nunawading Basketball

Nunawading Basketball Centre supports one of the largest basketball associations in Australia with women’s and men’s teams in NBL1 South. The Nunawading Basketball Association offers competitions and programs for nearly 12,000 players – including junior girls, junior boys, senior women and senior men – coaches and officials on a weekly basis.

Many Australian Olympic and World Championship representatives have come through Nunawading Basketball’s programs and competitions – more than any other association in the country.

Council’s Indoor Sports Feasibility Study 2020 found that participation in basketball in Whitehorse was projected to grow more than any other indoor sport, but was constrained by existing facilities having reached capacity. The State Basketball Facility Strategy 2017 identified that improvements were needed to maintain the site’s regional status, including additional courts.

The redevelopment of this site will allow for this strong, sustainable sporting program to continue and also cater for the growing population of the municipality.

The potential development into a multi-use venue will provide opportunities for other sporting groups, including netball and badminton, and more chances for our community to get involved.

## Nunawading Basketball funding opportunities

**Council’s maximum funding contribution: \$35 million**

**External funding requirement: \$65 million**

**Total project: \$100 million**

**Status:** Masterplan endorsed. Feasibility study in development

## Nunawading Basketball government areas

### State

- Legislative Council (Upper House): North Eastern Metropolitan Region
- Legislative Assembly (Lower House):
  - » Glen Waverley District

### Federal

- Chisholm
- Deakin (close to border)

## Nunawading Basketball community groups

- Nunawading Basketball – one of Australia’s largest basketball programs





## East Burwood Reserve

Council has developed a comprehensive masterplan for the redevelopment of this large site. It is currently hosting cricket, tennis, football, athletics, cycling velodrome, basketball, cultural clubs and community halls with ageing and inaccessible facilities.

### East Burwood Reserve Bill Sewart Athletics Track and Multipurpose Community Building

#### Part of East Burwood Reserve

The Bill Sewart Athletics Track and Multipurpose Community Building have ageing infrastructure, with the track last undergoing resurfacing in 2012 and the pavilion being constructed in 1984. The entire athletics precinct currently needs to meet accessibility standards. In order to address these shortcomings, a comprehensive redevelopment plan has been proposed, encompassing the pavilion and athletics track and formalisation of a soccer field. A redeveloped facility will be able to accommodate a substantial user base.

### East Burwood Community Pavilion

#### East Burwood Reserve community groups

- Schools
- Athletic clubs
- Triathlon clubs
- Soccer clubs
- Community groups
- Dog walkers
- Cycling clubs
- Tennis club

#### Part of East Burwood Reserve

The South Pavilion is ageing and doesn't meet the latest accessibility standards. A redeveloped pavilion will cater for cricket, football and other tenants of the East Burwood Reserve as well as cultural clubs and community groups.

#### East Burwood Reserve Bill Sewart Athletics Track & Multipurpose Building

**External funding requirement: \$10 million**

**Status:** Masterplan endorsed and concept design report complete

#### East Burwood Community Pavilion

**Council's maximum funding contribution: \$5.3 million**

**External funding requirement: \$4.5 million**

**Status:** Masterplan endorsed and concept design report complete

#### East Burwood government areas

##### State

- Legislative Council (Upper House): North Eastern Metropolitan Region
- Legislative Assembly (Lower House): Glen Waverley District

##### Federal

- Chisholm
- Deakin (on boundary)



## Mahoney’s Reserve

Mahoney’s Reserve is 9.8 hectares of open space. It offers a variety of sporting and recreational opportunities such as soccer, cricket, badminton, table tennis, walking, dog off-lead area and play. These groups are currently serviced by three separate buildings. This project will consolidate the existing buildings on the reserve to better meet the needs of sporting groups and scouts. The masterplan will also consider upgrading the playground, providing dog-related infrastructure, paths, recreational and park facilities.

### Mahoney’s Reserve community groups

- Soccer clubs
- Cricket clubs
- Badminton clubs
- Table tennis clubs
- Scouts clubs
- Recreational walkers
- Dog walkers

### Mahoney’s Reserve funding opportunities

**Council’s maximum funding contribution: \$5.9 million**  
**External funding requirement: \$11 million**  
**Status:** Masterplan in development

### Mahoney’s Reserve government areas

#### State

- Legislative Council (Upper House):
  - » North Eastern Metropolitan Region
- Legislative Assembly (Lower House):
  - » Glen Waverley District

#### Federal

- Deakin



# Indoor Sports Facilities

Council’s Indoor Sports Facility Feasibility Study (ISFFS)<sup>1</sup> analysed the demand for indoor sports. It sets a strategic direction to address the requirements of indoor sports and facilities across the municipality. Our population is forecast to increase by about 25 per cent to 207,424 people by 2036, which is likely to mean an additional 4,000 people seeking local facilities to play indoor sport.

Schools have also identified that additional public (and school) indoor sport courts are needed to serve schools.

There is inadequate capacity in existing facilities to allow any sports to grow at peak times or to accommodate additional indoor sports. Most indoor sports facilities have constraints in meeting current sporting requirements, largely due to the age of assets and changing sporting codes.

Court size and roof height is a major issue in most of the older facilities, especially schools.

Sports, such as netball, are constrained mostly by facility design issues, whereas growth in table tennis and gymnastics is constrained by a lack of dedicated facilities.

## Aqualink Nunawading

Aqualink Nunawading is a much-loved and well used facility that caters for:

- recreation and leisure
- training, fitness and competition users including Nunawading Swim Club
- education, including learn-to-swim and schools
- health and wellness users including group fitness classes, gym and rehabilitation programs.

The 2021 Aqualink Feasibility Study concluded that Aqualink Nunawading is at end of life and will require a significant financial investment to continue operating into the future to cater for current users and provide services for more of the community.



Aqualink funding opportunities

**Council’s maximum funding contribution:**  
\$80 million

**External funding requirement:**  
\$20 million

**Status:** Business case in development

Aqualink Nunawading government areas

**State**

- Senate (Upper House): North Eastern Metropolitan Region
- Lower House:
  - » Glen Waverley District
  - » Ringwood District (close to border)

**Federal**

- Deakin

Aqualink Nunawading community groups

- Swimming clubs
- Learn to swim providers
- Club associations
- Group fitness and gym users
- Special needs users
- Wellness and seniors’ rehabilitation programs

1 .www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/ISFFS



## Suburban Rail Loop

**The Suburban Rail Loop (SRL) has the potential to change how we move around metropolitan Melbourne and influence where we work, learn and live. Whitehorse City Council looks forward to the improved transport options that this project will bring. While being generally supportive of the project, Whitehorse City Council wishes to work with the Victorian Government on four issues:**

1. Create a genuinely integrated transport hub in Box Hill, where existing transport infrastructure is improved and connected with new SRL infrastructure.
2. Avoid and minimise the social, amenity and environmental impacts on the Whitehorse community, particularly those close to the new Box Hill and Burwood construction sites.
3. Maximise the look, feel and useability of the SRL infrastructure and the areas surrounding the stations.
4. Partner with Council to develop the Precinct Plans

for the areas around each station in a truly collaborative effort.

Council calls upon the Victorian Government to include the following elements:

- Redevelop the dysfunctional and unsafe bus interchange that is currently above the Box Hill Central shopping centre.
- Protect residents and businesses from noise, vibration, poor air quality, loss of amenity and open space impacts of the project.
- Retain heritage buildings and structures as possible.
- Minimise the space and time impacts of construction works on Box Hill Gardens.
- Return Sinnott Street Reserve in Burwood to Council after construction is complete.
- Ensure the SRL east-west cycling path within the Whitehorse Road median connects to the Box Hill to Hawthorn Strategic Cycling Corridor, via Nelson Road, Hopetoun Parade and Thurston Street.



- Continue the proposed naturalisation of Gardiners Creek through to Highbury Road, Burwood.
- Design the project to ensure that tree retention is maximised to the greatest extent.
- Plan and deliver infrastructure within the Box Hill Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) in accordance with the vision contained in the draft Box Hill Structure Plan and Urban Design Framework.
- Plan and deliver infrastructure beyond the Box Hill MAC and near the Burwood station that complements the Whitehorse Housing Strategy, Neighbourhood Character Study and Residential Corridors Built Form Study.
- Ensure the Victorian Government funds and delivers services, infrastructure and amenity enhancements in Burwood and Box Hill to address the growing population resulting from the SRL Precinct Plans, particularly providing new quality open space in appropriate locations.



## Open Space

The Victorian Government has released plans to accommodate 70,000 homes and 230,000 jobs around 6 Suburban Rail Loop precincts, with towers of up to 40 storeys high proposed for Box Hill and 20 storeys in Burwood. The need for more housing and jobs will need to be balanced with provision of open space and other amenities.

Increases in height and density on the scale proposed by SRLA will be a significant change for Burwood, where most dwellings are one or two storeys. It's critical the Victorian Government works with Council to ensure new public open space is provided, as the Box Hill and Burwood populations and their workforces are set to more than double by 2056.

In Whitehorse, roughly 15 MCGs of open space could be temporarily or permanently impacted during the construction of the Suburban Rail Loop and North East Link projects. Extra residents and workers as a result of SRL precinct planning will place an even greater stress on our open spaces.

We want to work with the Victorian Government to unlock a larger area to provide space for residents who deserve to enjoy the benefits of living near open space.





## North East Link

**North East Link (NEL) is having significant impacts on those who live, work, study or visit Whitehorse. Council wants to work with the Victorian Government to ensure the project meets transport objectives while respecting the local needs of the community.**

Council calls for the NEL to continue to adapt designs to incorporate a smaller footprint for the Eastern Freeway. This has a range of benefits for the Whitehorse community including:

- minimising the environmental impact on Koonung Creek
  - retaining mature vegetation
  - better amenity for adjacent residents by not installing noise walls close to their back fences
  - reduced visual, noise and air amenity impacts to residents and users of adjacent sporting and open space facilities.
- To improve community outcomes in Whitehorse, Council also calls on the Victorian Government to:
- address the congestion and deteriorated function the NEL is predicted to cause on arterial and local roads, particularly (but not limited to) Elgar Road, Station Street, Middleborough Road, Surrey/Blackburn Road
  - design the project to ensure that tree retention is maximised as well as noise and air quality impacts are minimised to the greatest extent
  - improve degraded sections of Koonung Creek to enhance the ecological, habitat and aesthetic value
  - upgrade the Koonung Creek Trail including:
    - » make walking and cycling more comfortable by resurfacing the path and installing additional lighting, toilets, drinking fountains, seating and shelter.
    - » improve wayfinding and signage along the entire trail.
    - » upgrade the existing underpasses to ensure they are aesthetically pleasing and safe for users to want to enter.
    - » grade separate the trail on the south side of the Eastern Freeway at Middleborough Road, Surrey Road and Springvale Road.
    - » improve the trail's connectivity on the east side of Middleborough Road.
    - » develop a walking and cycling link from the trail to Bushy Creek.
  - provide new open space and enhance existing spaces to compensate for the loss of usable space.





# Plan for Victoria

The Victorian Government is working on a new Plan for Victoria, the first statewide strategy to guide Victoria's growth until 2050.

Victoria's population is expected to grow from 6.5 million (in 2021) to 10.3 million by 2051.

For Whitehorse, the housing target has been set at 79,000 additional dwellings by 2051.

This will have significant impacts on Melbourne's eastern regions with the population expected to grow by half a million residents over 30 years.

The Eastern Region Group (ERG) of Councils is joining forces to ensure our local communities are heard as the Victorian Government develops a new Plan for Victoria.

The ERG includes Knox, Maroondah, Manningham, Whitehorse and Yarra Ranges Councils and represents almost 1 million residents.

The ERG councils have identified 4 priorities for planning for the east:

## 1. Community access and productivity

Increase sustainable transport options and reduce car dependency through bus and train network improvements.

## 2. Infrastructure to support growth

Fund and deliver drainage, recreation, social and community infrastructure to support sustainable growth and protect amenity and environmental values.

## 3. Our natural assets

Maintain and improve access to quality open space and our urban tree canopy to build climate and community resilience.

## 4. Managing housing growth

Leverage major projects and local council expertise to deliver diverse and affordable housing, in areas with access to services and that are not exposed to flood and climate risk.





# Integrated Water Management

**The population of Whitehorse is expected to grow significantly and there will be a large increase in building and development. Council wants to make sure all future developments are sustainable, drought-proof and designed to adapt to climate change.**

## **Storm water harvesting at Elgar Park, Mont Albert North**

It is a priority for Council to manage our sports fields in a sustainable and socially responsible way. With climate change being a critical global issue, Council is seeking investment in options for improved management of irrigating sports fields.

Elgar Park is a key sports facility within Whitehorse and will be significantly impacted by North East Link works. It is an ideal location to install water management systems to improve the sustainability of Council and Victorian Government works in the area.

Water harvesting infrastructure below the Elgar Park North West oval would reduce the amount of potable water used to irrigate the natural turf sports ovals within the Elgar Park precinct.

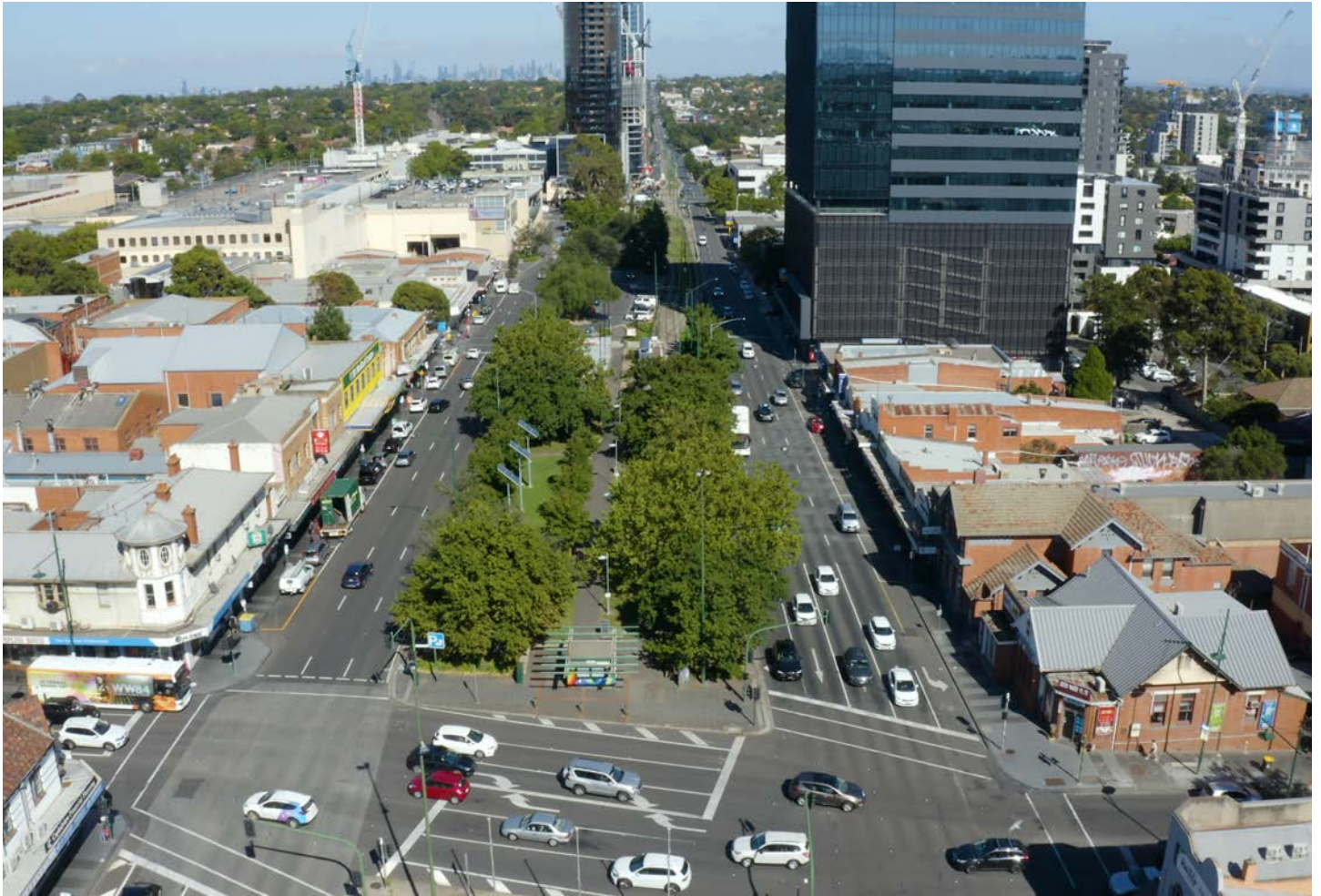
## **Naturalisation of Gardiners Creek to Highbury Road, Burwood**

Council welcomes the proposal of the Suburban Rail Loop Authority to naturalise Gardiners Creek south of Burwood Highway, Burwood. The project, however, plans to cease the naturalisation midway to Highbury Road.

The draft Suburban Rail Loop East Precinct Vision for Burwood includes a preliminary idea to “extend and enhance the natural features of Gardiners Creek”. The recent community engagement conducted by Suburban Rail Loop Authority found that this idea was supported by 82 per cent of respondents.

Given the overwhelming support, Council is calling for the project to be completed from Burwood Highway to Highbury Road and beyond.





## **Urban storm water harvesting at Box Hill Gardens**

Box Hill Gardens is an oasis among the growing high-density residential and commercial developments of Box Hill. It provides passive and active opportunities for community members of all ages and respite for the workers, students and patients of nearby health facilities.

The Gardens play a vital environmental role in providing green infrastructure where the urban heat island effect is becoming evident.

Up to one-quarter of Box Hill Gardens will be occupied for approximately 7 years to facilitate the construction of the Box Hill Suburban Rail Loop station.

Council is seeking the replacement of the underground urban storm water harvesting system. The existing system is not fit for purpose due to the pollutant contamination up-stream. A new storm water harvesting system would enable the elimination of the use of potable water for garden, lawn and tree irrigation.

## **Best practice integrated water management practices throughout the Suburban Rail Loop precincts in Box Hill and Burwood**

The Victorian Government has commenced the development of Structure Plans for the areas up to 1.6km around each of the 6 new Suburban Rail Loop East stations.

Within the City of Whitehorse, the Structure Plans aim to accommodate the needs of an additional 77,500 residents in Box Hill and 44,500 residents in Burwood.

Council is seeking best practice integrated water management practices to be embedded through planning controls within the Whitehorse Planning Scheme.

The aim is to ensure all future developments within the Suburban Rail Loop precincts are sustainable, drought-proof and designed to adapt to climate change.





## Walking, Cycling and Public Transport

**Council is committed to ensuring our community, and those who travel through the municipality, have access to transport options that are sustainable, convenient, accessible, safe, and enhance the liveability of our city.**

Safe, sustainable and active modes of transport have many health, environmental and community benefits. Council actively supports the ongoing transition to zero emissions transport, expressing interest in participating in the statewide EV charging network, funding active transport infrastructure, and enhancing public transport investment for better integration and accessibility in growth areas. Our Whitehorse Integrated Transport Strategy 2011 encourages increased use of sustainable transport modes, including walking, cycling and public transport.

The strategy's four strategic objectives are to:

- encourage walking
- maintain and improve the cycling network
- encourage an increased shift towards public transport
- provide safe and efficient movement of vehicles.

We believe partnerships are vital to move towards more sustainable transport. Council is seeking to work with the Victorian and federal governments on projects to encourage walking and cycling as modes of transport, including:

- creating a walking and cycling bridge over the Belgrave/Lilydale rail line to connect Nelson Road and Thurston Street, Box Hill
- provide a connection on Nunawading-Syndal Pipe Track shared user path at Springvale Road and Canterbury Road
- providing a new walking and cycling crossing of Springvale Road to connect the Healesville Freeway Reserve to the Nunawading-Syndal Pipe Track
- reviewing traffic signals to give better priority to pedestrians and public transport at key locations in Box Hill

**Status:** Assessment and review required

- ensuring an integrated and coordinated approach between the Suburban Rail Loop Authority, Level Crossing Removal Project and Department of Transport to improve transport infrastructure in Whitehorse, including the Box Hill Transit Interchange, Box Hill Train Station and the Box Hill to Hawthorn Strategic Cycling Corridor
- Status:** Long-term vision and project coordination required.





# Local Economy and City Planning

## Planning reform

In recent years, the Victorian Government has implemented a series of changes to the planning system in Victoria. These changes have been made without involving local councils or the community. These changes are noteworthy because they strip away the following elements:

- council's role as the Responsible Authority
- planning permit requirements
- public consultation
- consultation with local government
- third-party appeal rights of residents.

The participation of the community is vital to establish a transparent planning system that enhances the amenity of local neighbourhoods. Consequently, extensive community consultation must form an integral part of significant planning decisions.

## Precinct Investment Plans

We are actively pursuing a comprehensive, transparent, and long-term commitment to economic planning investment in Whitehorse, including Box Hill and Burwood. These areas possess the potential to become National Employment and Innovation Clusters (NEICs), which would reinforce their importance as nationally significant hubs for employment and business

activity. Accomplishing this feat necessitates the provision of appropriate support, such as implementing a 'Precinct Investment Plan.'

## 20-minute neighbourhoods

The concept of 20-minute neighbourhoods contributes to the overall liveability of an area. By ensuring people can access most of their daily necessities within a 20-minute walk from their homes, while also benefiting from safe cycling routes and local transport options, we foster sustainable living practices that positively impact us all.

## Affordable housing

In the City of Whitehorse, housing costs have significantly increased relative to incomes. It is estimated that there is a current shortfall of 2,570 affordable houses in the municipality, which is projected to increase to 3,740 houses by 2041 if no action is taken. To meet this growing need, 190 additional affordable houses will be required annually by 2041.



# Funding Opportunities: \$60,000 – \$175,000

**Hunter Knoll**  
BLACKBURN SOUTH  
Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$125,000

**Walker Park Play Space**  
NUNAWADING  
Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$130,000

**Murray Drive Reserve**  
BURWOOD  
Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$135,000

**Licola Reserve**  
VERMONT SOUTH  
Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$135,000

**Hurter-Finch Reserve**  
BLACKBURN SOUTH  
Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$140,000





# Funding Opportunities: \$180,000 – \$280,000

## Tunstall Park NUNAWADING

Installation of exercise equipment.

Funding opportunity: up to \$200,000

## Box Hill to Ringwood Shared Path near Laburnum Station

Path upgrade.

Funding opportunity: up to \$250,000

## Springfield Park BOX HILL NORTH

Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$265,000

## Edinburgh Patch BLACKBURN SOUTH

Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$275,000

## Memorial Park Play Space BOX HILL NORTH

Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$275,000

## Schwerkolt Cottage Play Space MITCHAM

Play space renewal.

Funding opportunity: up to \$280,000





# Funding Opportunities: \$280,000+

## Tyrol Park Multi-sports Court VERMONT SOUTH

Install multi-sports half court.

Funding opportunity: up to \$600,000

## Billabong Park VERMONT SOUTH

Batting cage renewal and relocation.

Funding opportunity: up to \$600,000

## East Burwood Reserve BURWOOD EAST

Multipurpose netball cricket training net.

Funding opportunity: up to \$600,000

## East Burwood Reserve BURWOOD EAST

Play and community space (north of Velodrome).

Funding opportunity: up to \$750,000

## Surrey Drive BOX HILL

Play space renewal

Funding opportunity: up to \$1.1 million

## East Burwood Reserve BURWOOD EAST

Athletic track upgrade including DDA access and spectator area.

Funding opportunity: up to \$1.45 million

## Pipe Track Shared Path FOREST HILL

Connect the sections of the shared user path near the intersection of Springvale Rd and Canterbury Rd.

Funding opportunity: up to \$1 million

## East Burwood Reserve BURWOOD EAST

Active recreation precinct (pump track, multipurpose court, incidental skating, path and landscape).

Funding opportunity: up to \$1.85 million

## Healesville Freeway Reserve FOREST HILL

Provide a walking and cycling connection across Springvale Rd to connect the Healesville Freeway Reserve to the Pipe Track.

Funding opportunity: up to \$3 million

## East Burwood Reserve Pavilion + Masterplan Implementation BURWOOD EAST

The new pavilion will be home to football, cricket and cycling clubs. Other community uses such as Veteran Cricket Victoria, Nunawading Triathlon Club will also be included.

Funding opportunity: up to \$4.5 million









## PRIORITY PROJECTS

- 1 Bennettswood Reserve
- 2 Davy Lane
- 3 RHL Sparks Reserve
- 4 Nunawading Basketball

## ACROSS WHITEHORSE

- North East Link
- Suburban Rail Loop

MANNINGHAM

EASTERN FWY

BELMORE RD

Box Hill Hospital

Box Hill Institute

Box Hill Gardens

Box Hill Station

Aqualink  
Box Hill

BOROONDARA

RIVERSDALE RD

Deakin University

Burwood Station

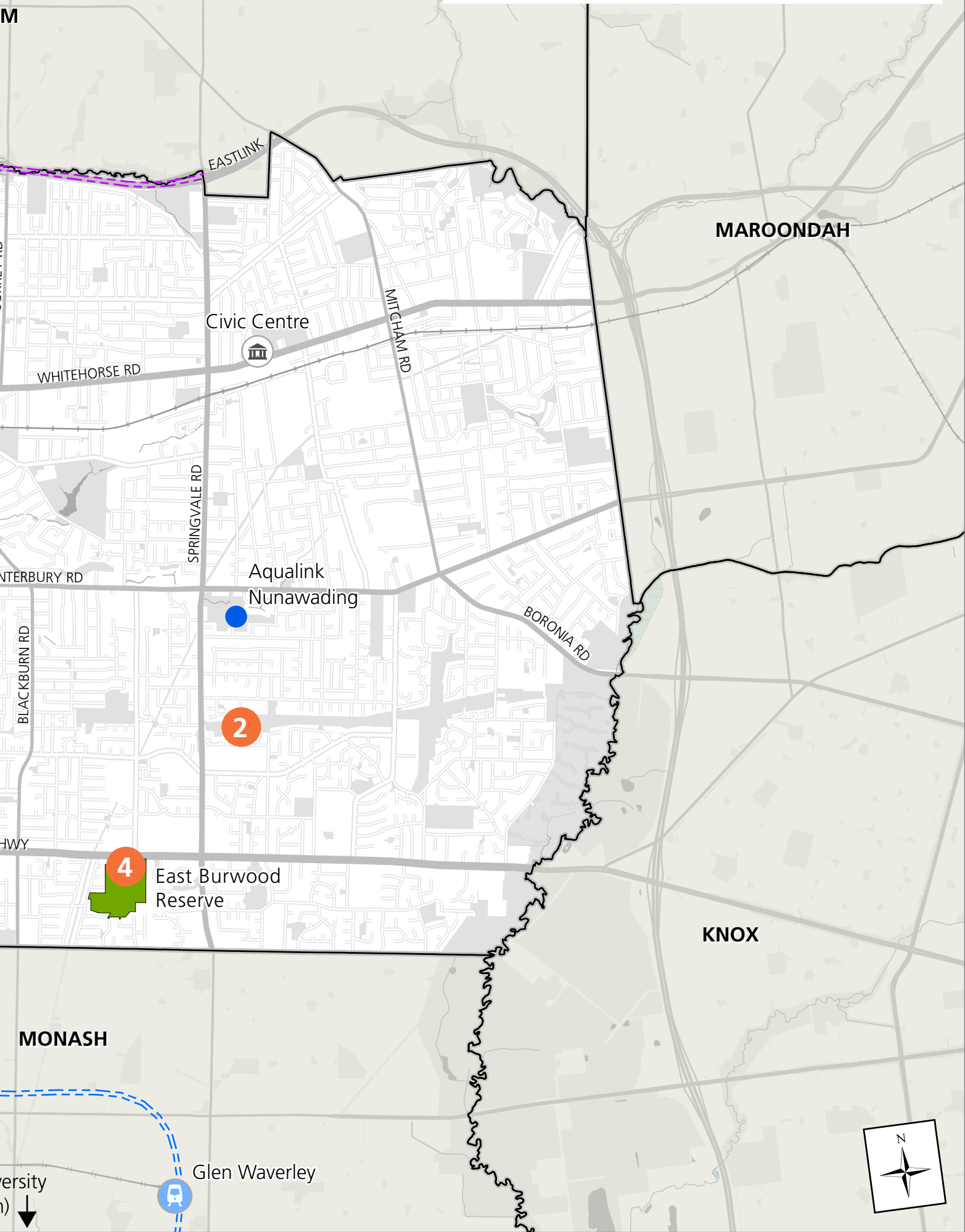
HIGHBURY RD

BURWOOD

Monash Univ  
Clayton (4km)



# City of Whitehorse Map







## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

---

Whitehorse City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people of the Kulin Nation as the Traditional Owners of the land. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

## CONTACTING COUNCIL

---

**Postal Address:** Whitehorse City Council  
Locked Bag 2  
Nunawading Delivery Centre 3131

**ABN:** 39 549 568 822

**Telephone:** 9262 6333 (including language support)

**NRS:** 133 677 then quote 9262 6333  
(Service for deaf or hearing impaired people)

**Service Centre:** Whitehorse Civic Centre  
379–399 Whitehorse Road  
Nunawading 3131

**Website:** [www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/contact-us](http://www.whitehorse.vic.gov.au/contact-us)

**Email:** [customer.service@whitehorse.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer.service@whitehorse.vic.gov.au)

**Social Media:** Connect with Whitehorse City Council

