

Norman Creek

2012-2031



Key initiatives from the Master Plan



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Lord Mayor's message



Drought and flood have reshaped our relationship with water.

The Norman Creek catchment is one of the city's most urbanised places, separated from the CBD only by the Brisbane River. The Norman Creek Master Plan acknowledges the rich urban fabric of the catchment and provides new opportunities to bring nature back into the city, re-establishing natural processes and reconnecting communities with their waterways.

The overarching master plan, summarised on the following pages, is a blueprint to guide long-term investment and coordinate community actions. It shows what is possible and where to focus our efforts. Delivering it will require not only substantial resources but unparalleled partnerships between residents, business, industry, government and community groups.

Council is committed to driving its delivery. This plan will inform our activities and guide our negotiations with other government bodies, local residents and business owners.

Norman Creek 2012-2031 is not just about rejuvenating local waterways. This project has been designed to achieve multiple outcomes for the city, from strengthening our economy to improving access and inclusion for all residents and making the city cleaner and greener.

Residents have been working for decades to green and restore local waterways, individually or as part of community groups such as the Norman Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee. Their passion inspired Council to embark on this ambitious project and will carry it through to reality.



Graham Quirk
LORD MAYOR



Front Cover Mural "Flow" by Karen Cipressi

The mural at the Norman Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee (N4C) headquarters in Baron Street, Greenslopes, was a community activity involving members of the N4C and interested participants from the broader community.

The aim of this mural is to highlight the objectives of Norman Creek 2012-2031, an initiative of Brisbane City Council to rejuvenate the creek catchment by promoting:

- healthy ecosystems
- recreation and activity
- living with Brisbane's climate
- connected communities.

Discussions about the artistic style, colour palette and the visual outline of the mural were held with members of N4C and a consensus was reached. The central image is Norman Creek which begins life as a clear droplet of water and then meanders until it reaches the Brisbane River and Moreton Bay.

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Next steps

About the Norman Creek Catchment

The clear headwaters of Norman Creek begin in the wooded ridgelines of Toohey Forest and Mount Gravatt, combining as four distinct waterways heading north to the Brisbane River. The easternmost of these, Mott Creek, runs through Holland Park, before passing under Logan Road and flowing into Norman Creek. Glindemann Creek runs just to the west of Mott Creek, largely following Logan Road from the northern base of Mount Gravatt, before joining with Ekibin Creek to form the main channel of Norman Creek. After a big rain event, Ekibin Creek runs along both sides of the Pacific Motorway from the foothills of Mount Gravatt, becoming Norman Creek upon meeting Glindemann Creek. Sandy Creek, the westernmost of these upper waterways, links the hills of Tarragindi and Wellers Hill with Norman Creek at Ekibin Park South.

Norman Creek bends around Stephens Mountain and runs beneath the motorway losing its naturalness as it passes through parks and sporting fields in Greenslopes on its way to Stones Corner. The surrounding hills are dotted with 'Queenslanders' as the creek moves into more established parts of the inner city to pick up Kingfisher Creek at Woolloongabba.

There's a ridge on the eastern half of the catchment near Whites Hill that runs through Coorparoo towards East Brisbane. Coorparoo Creek and Bridgewater Creek flow either side of this ridge, joining Norman Creek in the flatter catchment plains. Bridgewater Creek links parks and green patches through Camp Hill and Coorparoo on its way to Norman Park, winding past schools, sporting fields and floodplains.

Older neighbourhoods, filled with character, drape the higher ground either side of Norman Creek as it passes through the final tidal reach to link up with Scott's Creek and Ben's Hole Creek before spilling into the Brisbane River.

Norman Creek 2012-2031

1 Vision & Concept



Two years ago Council announced its intention to fund Australia's first master plan for an entire waterway catchment. The first two project stages are now complete:

1. Vision and concept planning
2. Master planning

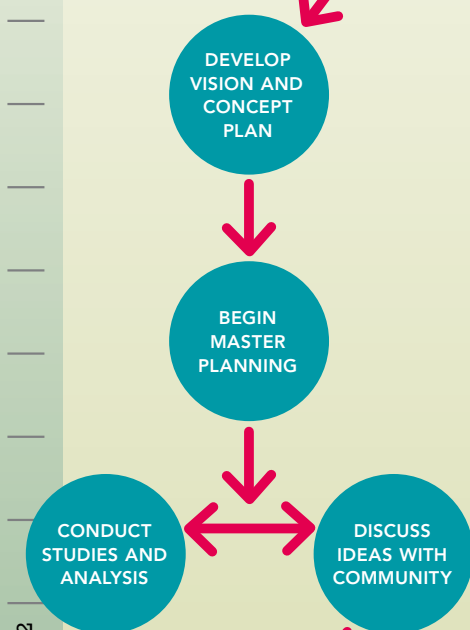
Working closely with people who live and work in the Norman Creek catchment, including members of community groups, Council first prepared a *Vision and Concept Plan* for the project. This document captured early community ideas and articulated a broad vision to guide future activities.

Council sent out flyers and posted an online survey to provide an opportunity for everyone to comment on the draft document. Overall, community feedback was very positive and locals expressed their enthusiasm for the project.

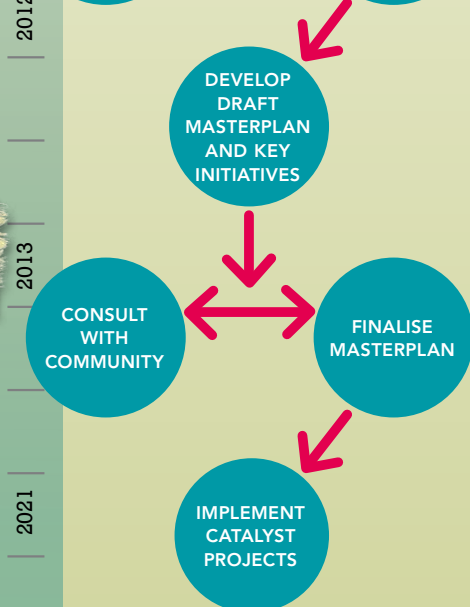
Council then commissioned urban planners, landscape architects, ecologists, flood and civil engineers and other specialists to develop a broad master plan for the catchment.

This team reviewed all existing plans and studies, conducted additional technical research, considered current rehabilitation activities and spent time talking with members of local environmental groups and the project's Community Reference Group. This process uncovered many possible solutions and strategies for the catchment.

2 Master Plan



3 Implement



2031

Vision



- A catchment enjoyed for its subtropical open spaces, green transport options and healthy waterways.
- An urbanised place that celebrates water and is resilient during times of drought and flood.
- A creek reconnected with the Brisbane River and local waterways, bordered by safe and attractive wildlife corridors.
- Water smart communities who appreciate water's integral role in sustaining life and manage it sustainably.

The following document presents the key initiatives identified during this master planning process.

Delivering these projects will require strong partnerships. Some initiatives need investment from the Queensland Government others are dependent on redevelopment activities or may support infrastructure projects such as the Eastern Busway. Most need in-depth analysis to refine early concepts and determine accurate project costings.

This document highlights the projects considered most feasible offering the greatest benefit to the community and to waterway health based on studies conducted to date.

These are catalyst projects, designed to heighten community awareness, engender private investment and pave the way for flow-on activities. Many are high profile.

Council has selected three catalyst projects as the focus for its investment over the next five years.

These are large, integrated projects with the power to change the way we think about the catchment.

1. Creating a 'water smart' community park in Coorparoo.
2. Building a series of 'stepping stone' green spaces from the heart of Woolloongabba to Kingfisher Creek.
3. Transforming Hanlon Park at Stones Corner into an attractive and versatile public space.

Additional feature projects for suburbs across the catchment are outlined on the following pages, along with smaller, supporting initiatives. We need to plan these together and think carefully about how, and when, they should be delivered. Some will be funded in the medium-term while others will take longer. This document also outlines catchment-wide opportunities applicable for locations right across the catchment.

Council will continue exploring all projects identified through the master planning process and will use various background reports and studies to guide additional local improvements. It's also important that community groups continue to proactively seek support from Council for new ideas and concepts which are beyond the scope of this master plan.

Goals



Healthy ecosystem

Connect catchment ecosystems and ensure water remains healthy as it enters and moves through the catchment.



Recreation & activity

Improve the accessibility and diversity of open space areas and create sport and recreation activities to meet the needs of a growing community.



Living with Brisbane's climate

Design homes, buildings, streets and neighbourhoods with water in mind so they are resilient, even during times of drought and flood.



Connected communities

Strengthen community connections to history, place, activities and services within the catchment.

Catchment-wide opportunities

The master planning process revealed opportunities that could be applied in locations right across the catchment. These are detailed on the following pages.

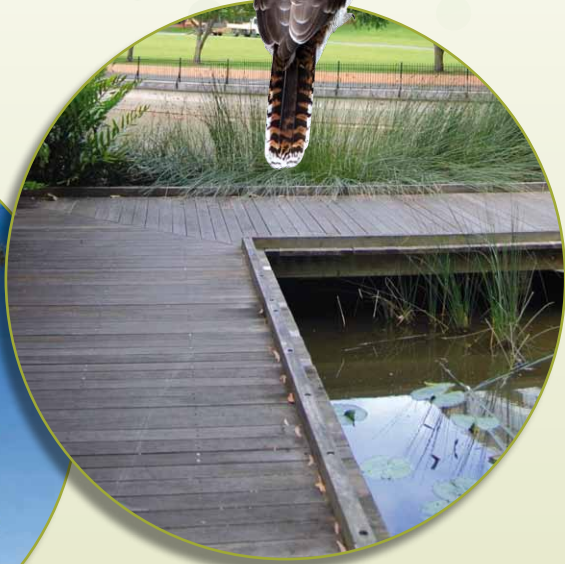
Top 3



- 1 Increase and connect parkland and waterways



- 2 Increase tree cover and vegetation to build creek habitats



- 3 Reduce the impact of pollution and litter on waterways



Planting habitat vegetation along riparian corridors will enhance ecological health

Greening the banks

Local residents and community groups have been revegetating creek banks and removing weeds for many years. This will continue to be a priority. Revegetating the waterway corridor and establishing habitat connections between local creeks and bushland areas at Toohey Forest Park and Mount Gravatt are central to re-establishing the ecological function of Norman Creek.

Council will continue to encourage backyard tree planting and support community revegetation projects, particularly in locations near the creek.

Public space could be more robust by being adaptive to future development



Artwork can be interactive and help keep alive the stories of the catchment



Water smart building

Though Brisbane is a subtropical city, development has not always been designed with the climate, or broader natural environment in mind. New development planned for Woolloongabba, Mount Gravatt and around the Eastern Busway stations in Buranda, Stones Corner and Coorparoo opens up opportunities to embed water smart thinking into the built environment of the catchment, not just its green spaces.

Regulations have been tightened in recent years around the way new development collects and manages water. Now, Council is exploring ways to support new multi-storey developments to incorporate sustainable elements such as rooftop gardens, green walls, raingardens, landscaped urban commons and onsite stormwater treatment devices within buildings.



Art and history

In the future signage, public art, interpretive displays and even plant selection will be used to share, reflect and celebrate the catchment's rich history and culture. In revealing the story of the creek, these tools will help build understanding of its behaviour and flows, inspiring new relationships with nature.

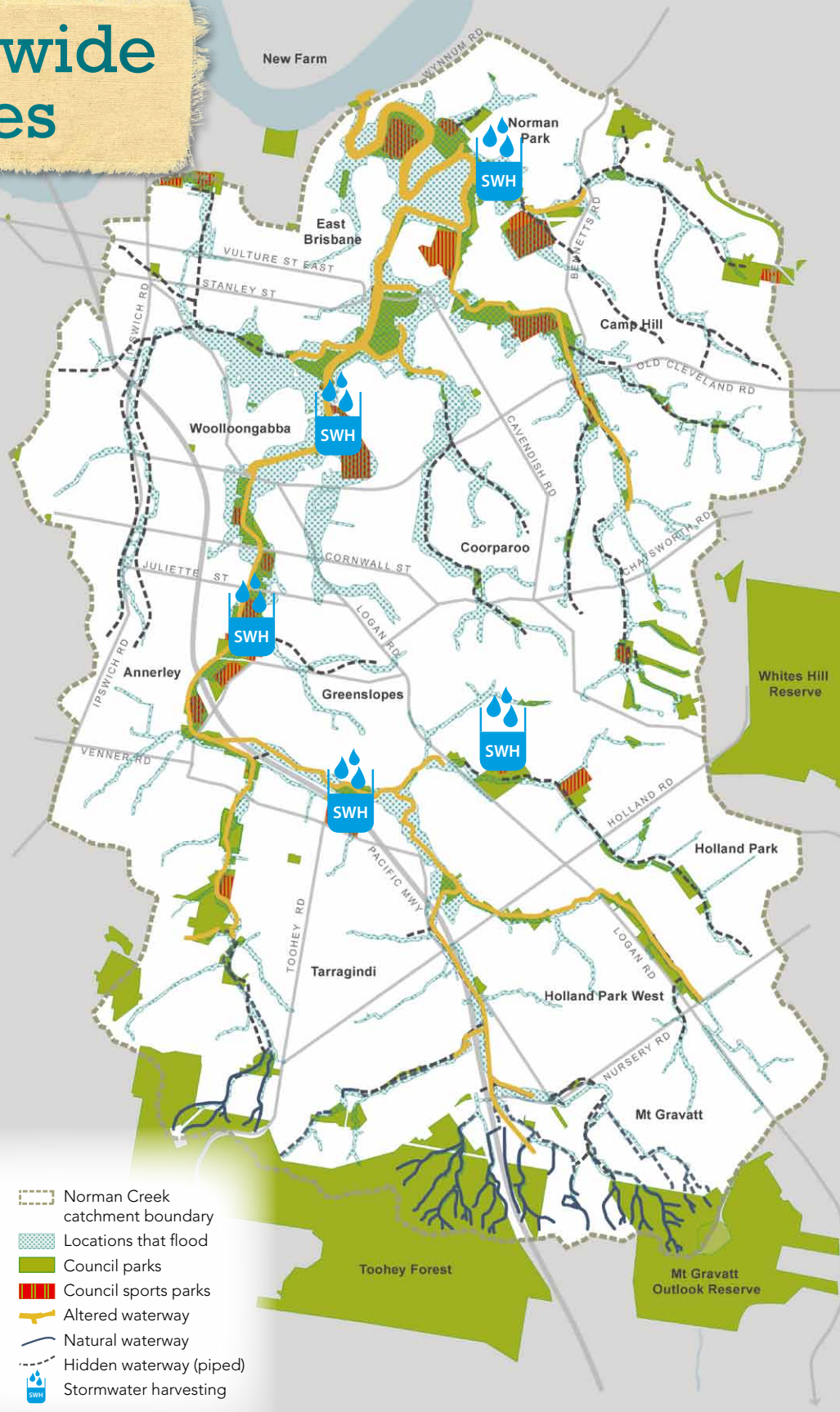
Totems, artworks, street signs and other markers will also help bring hidden waterways back into view, revealing complex creek systems. Busy street crossings that pass close to the creek will be investigated as potential locations for streetscape detailing and interpretive artwork. These include Wynnum Road, Stanley Street East, Deshon Street, Logan Road (near Birdwood Road and at Sterculia Avenue) and Old Cleveland Road (near O'Keefe Street and at Bennetts Road).

Catchment-wide opportunities

Urban stormwater harvesting

Five locations within the catchment have been identified as suitable for some form of stormwater harvesting. In each of these locations, drinking water is currently used to irrigate nearby sporting fields and parks, yet ample stormwater could be captured from surrounding areas to keep the grounds lush and green.

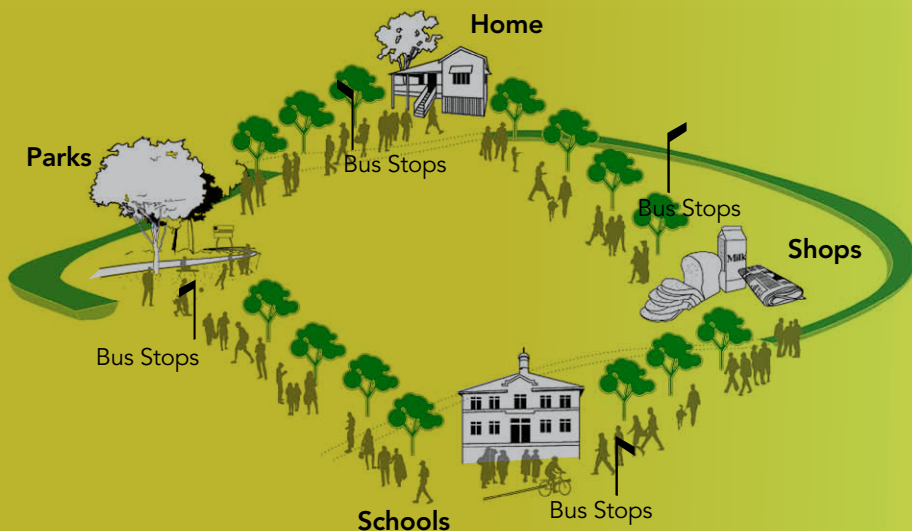
When it comes to stormwater harvesting solutions, one size doesn't fit all. In some places, harvested stormwater will be stored in tanks above or under the ground. In others, stormwater will be collected in an open storage pond. This more natural solution has the added benefit of bringing beauty and wildlife habitat to the local area.



Integrating stormwater harvesting into urban centres will strengthen people's relationship with seasonal water processes



Making our streets more comfortable



Subtropical boulevards and neighbourhood shadeways

Council is committed to filling in missing links in the cycling and walking network to make moving around the catchment more comfortable. Priority locations for 'shadeways' between the creek and urban spaces such as shopping areas, public transport stations, community facilities and schools were identified through the master planning process.

New development in places such as Coorparoo Junction will also be required to build key links within, and across, new 'urban villages', plus install extra facilities to support walking and cycling.

Existing

Local roads in some locations in the Norman Creek Catchment could be transformed into more walkable streets.

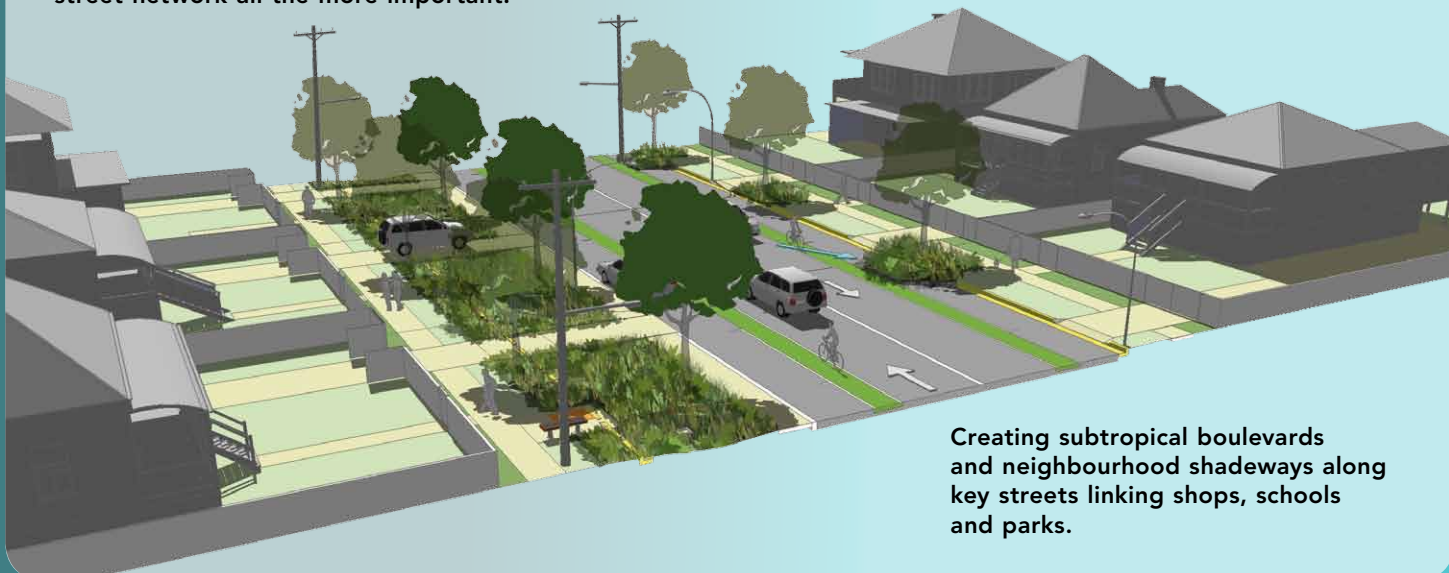


Space to grow

As the city grows, our open spaces must evolve into multi-purpose areas suitable for a range of activities. Council also knows that new communities will need additional public spaces. Ideas to maximise existing spaces are outlined on the following pages. They range from subtle redesigns of formal sporting fields to enhancing local roads for pedestrians. Council will need to look closely at each space before settling on a tailored solution.

Future potential

The vast majority of open space in the catchment sits either on a hilltop or along a waterway corridor, making links through the suburban street network all the more important.



Creating subtropical boulevards and neighbourhood shadeways along key streets linking shops, schools and parks.

Local opportunities



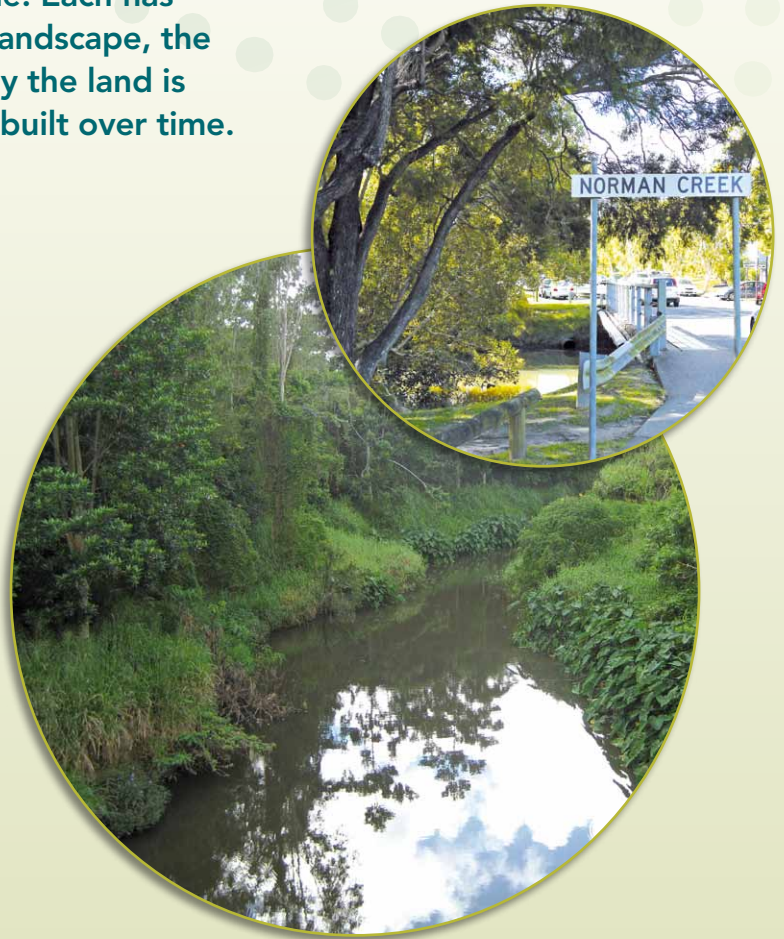
No two suburbs in Brisbane are the same. Each has its own character drawn from the local landscape, the people who live and work there, the way the land is used and the structures that have been built over time.

Likewise, the creek displays many faces as it passes through the catchment, moving from forest stream to urban creek, concrete channel and even underground pipe before finally returning to a mangrove-lined tidal waterway.

Rejuvenation projects must be tailored to the unique 'personality' of the creek in local areas. They must respect the way the surrounding land is used and the desires of the local community. All should contribute to the overall vitality of the catchment.

The following pages present a selection of key initiatives for suburbs within the catchment. Each has been chosen because it contributes to one or more project goals. Feature projects generally contribute to all four goals.

These ideas form the basis for long-term planning and investment.



Three Priority Precincts

Coorparoo

.....

Woolloongabba

.....

Stones Corner



Our focus areas

Woolloongabba

PRIORITY PRECINCT

Greenslopes

PRIORITY PRECINCT

Tarragindi

Stones Corner

Holland Park West

Norman Park

Coorparoo - Camp Hill

Coorparoo

Holland Park



Coorparoo

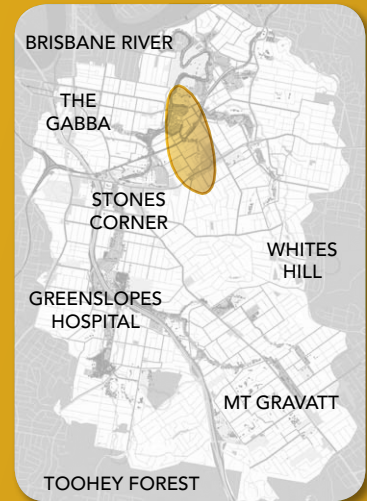


Coorparoo Creek once connected Coorparoo Junction to Norman Creek but over time this tidal waterway slowly disappeared under homes, factories, sheds, shops and streets. Today, it's visible only where it joins Norman Creek near Turbo Drive and for a short stretch near the railway line where it's confined to a narrow channel.

Bringing Coorparoo Creek back into view in the heart of Coorparoo Junction and managing local floodwaters is the key focus for this area. It's also the inspiration for Council's major catchment initiative, Coorparoo Creek Park, that will reinstate part of the waterway near the future Coorparoo Junction Bus Station. Council has already begun planning this 1.6 ha, multi-use park, which will become the focal point for a new urban village from the corner

of Old Cleveland and Cavendish Roads to Harries Road.

While Coorparoo is largely commercial, pockets of industry remain nearby along the rail line. Industrial businesses provide jobs, keep Brisbane's economy strong and offer convenient local services. The Norman Creek 2012-2031 project will seek new ways to help local workers connect to, and enjoy, nearby creek-sides spaces.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION & ACTIVITY



LIVING WITH BRISBANE'S CLIMATE



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

PRECINCT FOCUS

Coorparoo Creek Park

It's less than 15 minutes to the CBD from Coorparoo now that the Eastern Busway has been extended to Langlands Park. The busway is expected to trigger significant redevelopment at Coorparoo Junction over the long term. Coorparoo Creek Park will support this growth, and the economic revitalisation of the area, by providing more public space for workers and residents, easing local flooding and aiding movement through the area.

Although it's early in the planning process, the park is expected to form a green corridor either side of the revived

waterway between Old Cleveland Road and Barnes Avenue. Council has already begun purchasing land and the Eastern Corridor Neighbourhood Plan also includes requirements for developers to contribute land to the park. Developer interest in the urban village will trigger future investment from Council to construct the park.

Early studies show the park has the capacity to direct stormwater away from private properties and will require some downstream works to manage floodwaters throughout the Coorparoo precinct. Council is committed to working with the community to design the park.





The Common

Coorparoo Creek passes a patchy collection of green spaces before reaching Norman Creek. Known as 'The Common', this district, informal recreation park already hosts a skate facility that Council supports expanding into a multi-sport venue with a focus on action sports including skateboarding, freestyle BMX, freestyle scootering and in-line skating alongside other sport and recreation activities. These options will be investigated, along with opportunities to reconnect green spaces in this area.

The Common also acts as a thoroughfare between Coorparoo Railway Station, schools and workplaces. Making it easier to cross Stanley Street East into the

parkland and to walk along the creek's edge even across into Moorhen Flats would enhance this essential function. Clearer views of the parkland from nearby roads and properties would also aid commuter safety.

Early studies showed that the boggy swale north of Stanley Street East offers the perfect spot for a constructed wetland while the southernmost parkland areas could be turned into vegetated spaces with high biodiversity. Simply flattening the creek's edge and replanting the plain with salt couch, melaleucas and other tidal plants could spark the regeneration of complex natural systems essential to waterway health.

Council will begin planning this project in more detail in the short term, in partnership with the community.

Revegetate The Common and transform it into a multi-purpose parkland.



IMPROVED ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY IN AND AROUND COORPAROO

Woolloongabba

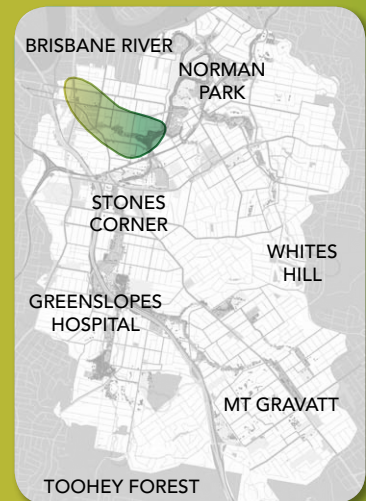
PRIORITY
PRECINCT

Woolloongabba has immense potential to become a major employment and residential precinct, underpinning Brisbane's future economic prosperity. Once a thriving commercial and industrial hub, the suburb lost its vitality as the South East Freeway began diverting traffic away from local businesses. Now, rejuvenation efforts are reshaping the area.

Based on current plans, Woolloongabba's population will increase more than 50% over the longer term. Much of the new development will be focused around the 'Gabba. New urban villages will incorporate attractive public squares and open spaces with access to creatively-designed streets, nature strips and nearby parks.

Despite being highly urbanised, Woolloongabba has hidden parkland

along Kingfisher Creek, a tidal tributary of Norman Creek. Navigating there by foot from Woolloongabba's centre however is not easy. In generations gone by a string of lagoons filled with crayfish, eels and fish marked the way. These 'whirling waters' even gave Woolloongabba its name. Now, we must find new ways of leading locals and visitors back down to local green gems so they can rediscover the creek.



HEALTHY
ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION &
ACTIVITY



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CONNECTED
COMMUNITIES

PRECINCT FOCUS

Stepping stones to water

For Woolloongabba to evolve into a thriving employment precinct it must offer workers an attractive environment, where nature is close by, and everything they need is within a comfortable walk.

While Woolloongabba's waterholes are long gone, they could inspire a series of beautiful 'stepping stone' parks and urban spaces spread across the precinct that link workplaces to the creek. The first park might be a simple green space with a water-themed sculpture close to the 'Gabba, the next a public plaza with water elements leading to a landscaped boulevard or small urban wetland that hints of the wild

beauty to come. Public spaces close to the urban edge must be built to cope with high usage but as they move towards the creek, paving and other man-made elements could give way to greener landscapes.

Stepping stone parks could follow Logan Road from the 'Gabba antique precinct along Logan Road before crossing Wellington Road to move into the Kingfisher Creek waterway corridor, ultimately linking to Woolloongabba Rotary Park and Moorhen Flats.

Council considers this a project of high importance and will begin work identifying stepping stone parks, spaces, and streets, plus potential



treatments, in the short-term. Council will also review how minor roads and local paths between existing local parks function and consider prioritising pedestrians over cars through simple road treatments, plantings, signage and wider footpaths. Some street sections could even be returned to parkland.



Creek treatments

Kingfisher Creek frequently experiences local flooding after heavy rain. It's narrow, piped in places, and receives large volumes of stormwater runoff. Council will investigate increasing vegetation and modifying areas along the creek to improve water flows.

Over time, Kingfisher Creek has been degraded by litter and pollution. Council will continue to work with local businesses and residents to improve local waterway health here. Naturally treating more stormwater within Moorhen Flats may also assist in filtering out pollutants, as would raingardens within nearby streets.



Raingardens reduce the impact of pollution and litter on waterway health.



Celebrating Moorhen Flats

Thanks to almost two decades of combined community effort, this triangular tract of land where Norman Creek and Kingfisher Creek meet has matured into a peaceful bushland refuge. Some remediation work is required to open up the now dense vegetation and improve sightlines for public safety along paths. Combined with better signed links to surrounding paths, these measures could entice more visitors and bushwalkers to the site.

Replacing the high fencing separating adjoining properties from Moorhen Flats with lower, transparent fencing, gates and tracks from nearby sheds would greatly increase safety along fringe areas and inspire more workers to take advantage of this fabulous outdoor lunchroom. If this idea proves popular with the local community, Council will design an example solution for local businesses and work with them to take advantage of this inner-city, ecological asset.

Improve physical links into, and through, Moorhen Flats from surrounding industrial areas.



Plant more shady trees along Kingfisher Creek to aid waterway health and make it more comfortable for walking and cycling.



IMPROVED ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY IN AND AROUND WOOLLOONGABBA

Stones Corner



Stones Corner is best known for its commercial precinct near the historic Stones Corner Hotel. Over the next 20 years, this area is expected to evolve into an exciting 'urban village' with a mix of apartments, offices, shops, cafes and public spaces. The Eastern Corridor Neighbourhood Plan, developed by Council and the local community, allows for growth around both the Stones Corner and Buranda Busway Stations.

Norman Creek forms the northern and western border of the future village. Apartments could potentially extend from the commercial centre to the waterway corridor at Hanlon Park. Converting this expansive green strip, with its old, cracked, concrete channel and handful of shade trees into a large scale, public space would not only produce beautiful spaces for future residents but also boost local economic vibrancy by giving workers

and visitors new places to relax and enjoy.

Norman Creek here was once a biodiversity hotspot, a place where freshwater met salt and aquatic life moved between the two. Master planning shows that re-establishing this 'transition zone', as part of any rejuvenation project, will be critical to enabling wildlife adaption to Brisbane's ever changing climate.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION & ACTIVITY



LIVING WITH BRISBANE'S CLIMATE



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

PRECINCT FOCUS

Hanlon Park redevelopment



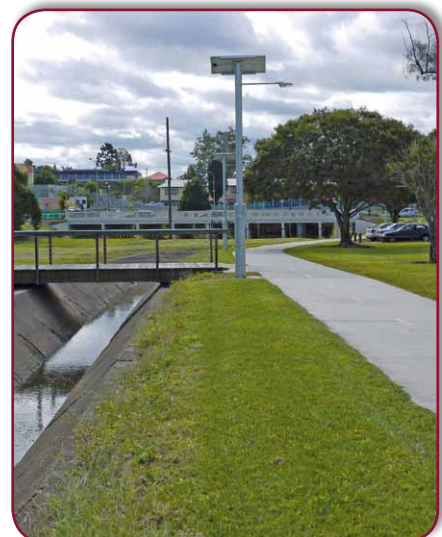
There are a number of options for redeveloping Hanlon Park. This entire space could be transformed into a wetland with native grasses, sedges and reeds.

Or, perhaps a versatile public space, with boardwalks, viewing platforms, cafes perched out over smaller wetland areas and space for community gatherings. A redesign could alternatively focus on creating playing fields connected by sculptured bridges overlooking running streams.

Whatever the solution, it must balance community needs with sensitive flood

management. This low-lying site will always be subject to flooding so any redesign must contribute to managing local flows.

Council will begin this project in the short term by commissioning a concept plan and establishing local priorities with existing park users, residents and business owners. Council will also ensure the project integrates with the Queensland Government's new commuter bikeway (veloway) adjacent to the nearby Pacific Motorway.





Green-thinking development

Existing regulations stipulate that all new development within urban villages must feature high-quality landscaping and a design that promotes safety. Council will also encourage local developers to invest in water smart innovations such

as rooftop gardens, green walls, raingardens, landscaped urban commons and onsite stormwater treatment devices connecting to the redeveloped Hanlon Park.

Embrace water smart initiatives within new developments to conserve, cleanse and celebrate water.



IMPROVED ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY IN AND AROUND STONES CORNER



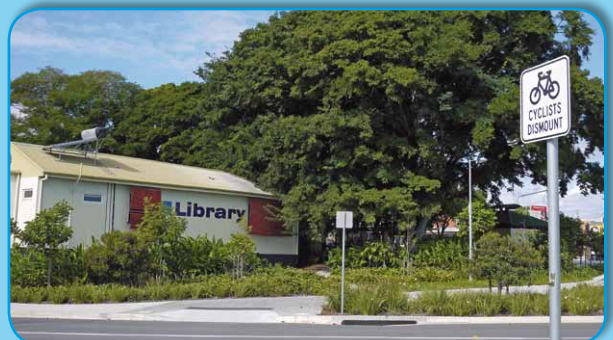
The call of the water

One of Stones Corner's greatest assets is its proximity to water, yet few shoppers strolling down Logan Road would know there's a creek over their shoulder. Converting Hanlon Park into an attractive park, with better links to and across the waterway, would give this business community fresh incentives to turn back and embrace their creek.

Future developers will be encouraged to orientate their properties towards the waterway and build safe new cross-block links through the commercial precinct and down to the water. These paths should extend to the busway stations, local community facilities and sporting clubs. Council would look to support new development

Build shady boulevards and paths from Stones Corner's shopping precinct to the creek.

by turning linking streets off Logan Road into tree-lined, subtropical boulevards with lush plantings, more shade trees, extra seating, footpath improvements and water-inspired artwork, leading people back to water.

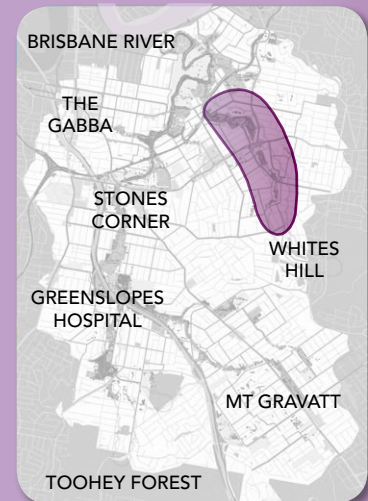


Coorparoo-Camp Hill

Tracing Bridgewater Creek from Coorparoo Heights, adjacent to Whites Hill Reserve, through the suburbs of Camp Hill and Coorparoo to where it joins Norman Creek is no easy task. While the lower reaches are buffered by green parkland, many sections further south lie piped beneath roads or obscured by back fences. Yet this route also embraces some of the area's most scenic spots.

Bowies Flat, a beautiful constructed wetland, sits mid-way along the creek. Council developed this award-winning wetland in partnership with the local community in 2001 and since then it has grown into a popular local attraction. Moving north, the creek flows over rocky channels, beside towering figs and vegetated banks as it passes through partially remediated sections of Wembley Park.

Imagine more green oases like these, right along the creek, linked by shady boulevards and paths, allowing you to walk all the way from Camp Hill's boutique Martha Street precinct to Wembley Park and beyond. Council supports this long-term vision for the future and is willing to partner with community groups, local businesses and future developers to make it a reality.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION & ACTIVITY



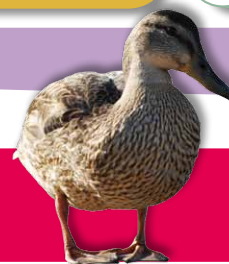
LIVING WITH BRISBANE'S CLIMATE



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

Wembley on Bridgewater



Wembley Park hosts some of the community's most popular facilities. On the weekend, the park's netball courts, cycling paths and guide hut are a hive of activity. But Wembley Park is also evolving into an environmental sanctuary, thanks to extensive remediation works by local community groups.

Council will continue to help realise the concept plan previously developed for this site and is willing to actively find solutions that balance competing demands for space. Some park users, for example, would like to widen riparian vegetation throughout the park

while others value every inch of court space. Council could potentially relocate some of the netball courts that are located close to the creek to other parts of the park to address this issue. Council will also further investigate ways to make it easier to access the park.

Council believes Wembley Park could be expanded into a multi-purpose sporting facility that's enjoyed for all kinds of activities throughout the week. With clever design, open spaces around the netball courts could easily support activities such as bike riding, nature education and exploratory play without impacting on club games, court

space or parking facilities. Council is willing to explore these ideas further, in consultation with the community.

Master planning pinpointed the steep channel through the southern parkland as well-suited to a joint community project to naturalise, revegetate and potentially flatten the channel.





Liveable communities

Council's Eastern Corridor Neighbourhood Plan allows the shopping precinct on Old Cleveland Road to grow into a neighbourhood hub with extra shops and medium-rise apartments. A busway station is planned for this location in the longer term.

Construction of the busway station presents an ideal opportunity to widen, reshape and revegetate Bridgewater Creek between Wembley Park and Bowies Flat, creating new public spaces and parkland areas for surrounding communities. New creek-side paths could also be constructed at this time. Council will work closely with future developers to ensure new buildings integrate with the restored parkland.

Capitalise on redevelopment to open up access to the creek.



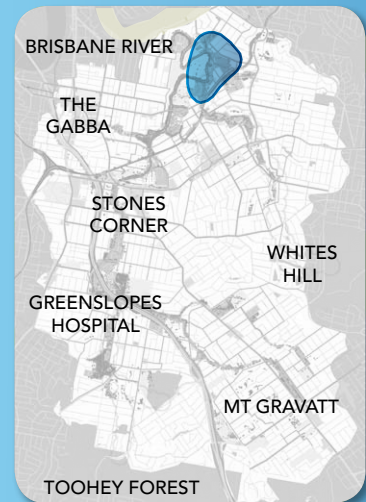
Norman Park

In Norman Park, the mangrove-lined Norman Creek winds its way slowly towards the Brisbane River, meandering in and out across a broad floodplain. Once, the land was covered in dense pine scrub while the salty creek waters teemed with aquatic life. Remnants of this wild beauty still remain.

Locals love walking through Norman Park's quiet back streets, lined with their historic Queenslanders, to hidden green pockets along the creek. Parks and sporting fields fill low-lying lands on both sides of the creek, making the area a popular destination for residents from nearby suburbs.

Norman Park's many green spaces allow stormwater to spread out as it streams down from the middle

and upper parts of the catchment after heavy rain. Historically, the heavily vegetated floodplain acted as a natural filter, slowing flows and removing sediment before it reached the Brisbane River. Over time, these natural systems have been eroded, replaced by roads, roofs and other hard surfaces. The master planning process identified re-establishing natural systems to soften the effects of development as a key theme for this area.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION & ACTIVITY



LIVING WITH BRISBANE'S CLIMATE



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

Restoring natural flows

Norman Creek here has retained many of its natural features but where local tributaries meet the creek, they have been straightened, stripped of vegetation and confined within concrete channels. Returning these channels to a natural state would greatly benefit the environment and create new places to play.

Scott's Creek is well-located for this kind of activity. Highly visible from nearby busy roads, it links Norman Creek to the local railway station and connects two well-used parks.

A project of this nature would require more detailed planning, but offers great potential as a joint Council and community project.

The stretch of Bridgewater Creek next to Giffin Park, where tidal and fresh waters mix together, is another ideal site. Before committing to this project, Council will explore the cost of removing the concrete channel and conduct detailed studies to ensure restoration works won't cause floodwaters to backup in Wembley Park.





Creek connections

Locals told us they love to interact with the creek, to see the water and smell its salty tang. But much of the creek is hidden behind thick mangroves, making it virtually inaccessible. Carving bush tracks down to the creek in suitable locations and marking the path with signs would open up the creek further for recreation and enjoyment in the short term. Council would also like to investigate more viewing platforms through this area over the long term.



Draw people to water through tracks and signage.



Revegetation & regeneration

The mangrove corridor along Norman Creek's tidal reaches has re-established itself following flood mitigation works by Council in the 1990s, providing an excellent basis for future revegetation activities.

Planting more mangroves along creek banks and extending the floodplain vegetation would all help nature recolonise, aiding waterway health. Opportunities should also be sought to create more continuous parkland along the creek.

Extend floodplain vegetation and densely replant creek banks.



Natural playgrounds

Norman Park has the potential to become a multi-use sporting precinct with high environmental value. Simply adding shade or extra facilities to a park can make it more suitable for nature-based play. Planting more trees within local parks and redesigning them to incorporate natural systems such as wetlands would not only help cleanse stormwater but transform these spaces into rich recreational assets.

Parkland at the end of Norman Avenue could be a special focus for this activity. A space with undeveloped potential, this area hides a rare salt couch that deserves showcasing. It's also an ideal spot to harvest stormwater for irrigating nearby sporting fields.

Promote the area as a multi-use sporting precinct where nature also thrives.



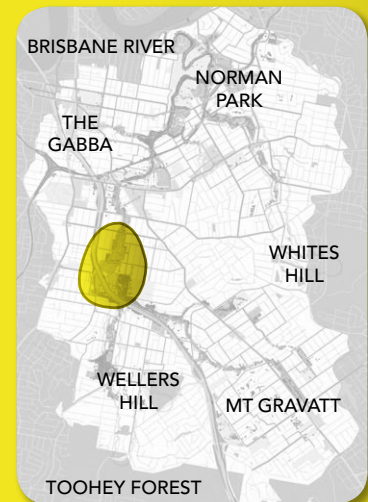
Greenslopes

Greenslopes is filled with character and history. Settled in the 1850s, the suburb still boasts a fine collection of heritage-listed properties and older character homes.

Greenslopes is located at the heart of the catchment and attracts visitors from across the region to its well-located sporting precinct. Ekibin Park South, Ekibin Park, Thompson Estate Reserve and AJ Jones Recreational Reserve sit adjacent to the Pacific Motorway, directly beside Greenslopes Busway Station. Council expects this sporting precinct to grow in popularity over the coming decades.

Norman Creek flows along the precinct's western edge. In all but

a few areas, it's carried along by concrete channel. A handful of trees skirt the park's fringe and Little Swamp Creek along the eastern edges add a touch of wild beauty, but for the most part the parkland has been stripped of its ecological value. Returning the creek to a more natural state, without diminishing the park's function as a district sporting destination or its capacity to manage floodwaters, should be the focus of activities in this area.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION & ACTIVITY



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CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

Sporting paradise

Follow the creek south from Arnwood Place towards Greenslopes Hospital and you'll see evidence of years of hard work. Remediation efforts by community groups such as the Norman Creek Catchment Coordinating Committee (N4C) have enticed nature back into the city and sparked environmental regeneration. These efforts serve as inspiration for ongoing rejuvenation.

Early studies indicate that the waterway corridor through Greenslopes sporting fields could be returned to a more natural state without impacting downstream flooding. It's essential that the creek continues to efficiently move floodwaters so significant alterations to

its shape and depth however, may not be possible. Detailed analysis to confirm this finding is required.

With the community's support, Council would like to commission a concept plan for this entire parkland stretch, partnering with many stakeholders to develop a staged delivery plan. This process would search for ways to balance environmental and community needs, and may even suggest how to better orientate sporting fields for nature's benefit. It would also consider safety, options to capture stormwater for irrigating adjacent sporting fields and enhanced access into and through the parkland, particularly from the busway station.

Construction of a new commuter cycleway (veloway) from O'Keefe Street to Lewisham Street by the Queensland Government will make it easier to cycle to Ekibin Park and Council will deliver another link to the cycleway next to Greenslopes Private Hospital (via Nicholson Street). This means existing paths alongside the fields, normally used by bike commuters, could be transformed into pedestrian-friendly walkways and public spaces.

This is a long-term project that requires significant investment by Council and key stakeholders in order to develop the best possible outcome for the entire community.





Celebrating diversity

Greenslopes has a strong multicultural character with a quarter of residents born outside Australia. Ekibin Park South is a favourite gathering place for members of many local ethnic communities. While the full-sized field has line markings and goals, it's not used for formal club sport but friendly weekend soccer matches.

Slightly redesigning this park and perhaps adding extra facilities such as outdoor shelters and barbecues could enhance its function as a cultural hub and encourage more impromptu games, celebrations and community activities.

Council will ensure concept planning for the nearby formalised sporting fields also considers this special use of Ekibin Park South.

Tailor creek-side green spaces to better match community needs.



Construct more safe, shady links for walkers and cyclists along the creek to the sporting fields, hospital and busway station.



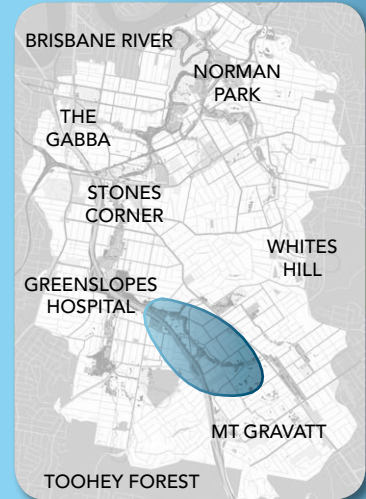
Holland Park West

Holland Park West is just eight kilometres from the CBD, yet far from the hustle and bustle of city living. It's a place where many people come to settle down, raise a family and be part of a strong community.

Glindemann Creek runs through the heart of the suburb before heading west, roughly tracking alongside the South East Freeway from Marshall Road, before joining Ekibin Creek to form Norman Creek which traverses around Stephens Mountain to Greenslopes' popular sporting fields. This creek acts as a vital wildlife corridor within the catchment, linking animals from Toohey Forest down to lower catchment areas and, ultimately, the Brisbane River. Preserving it is critical to the future survival of local species

and the city's overall biodiversity.

Recent studies indicate that Glindemann Creek could become a vegetated waterway corridor accompanied by tracks and paths all the way from Logan Road to the hospital and the sporting fields beyond. Achieving this would require unparalleled partnerships between Council and local residents. Currently, the creek not only borders many backyards but also flows directly through some private properties. In places close to Logan Road, the creek has even disappeared from view.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION & ACTIVITY



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CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

Backyard action

More than any other location within Norman Creek Catchment, rejuvenating the Glindemann Creek corridor through Holland Park West will require ongoing community commitment. However, small actions by many property owners with help from Council, community groups and local schools could reap big rewards.

Glindemann Creek is mostly a narrow channel from Logan Road to Joachim Street, part grassed, part concrete-lined. It is dotted with small parks but the creek is generally difficult to access. Remediation efforts should

focus on creating a vegetated buffer right along the creek. Some parts of the creek are particularly narrow so, ideally, nearby backyards could be used to extend the riparian vegetation. By replacing high fences with low, transparent fencing or none at all, homeowners could also make it safer to walk or cycle along future creek-side paths.

If these ideas prove popular, Council could match community activities by removing the concrete channel and constructing paths alongside creek sections as they are remediated.

Additional creek crossings may be required. Council will also consider purchasing private land within the waterway corridor as it comes on the market, subject to budget.

Master planning studies identified an opportunity to construct a chain of lagoons through the channel, located where stormwater pipes discharge from surrounding streets, to store and cleanse waters before slowly releasing them into the creek.

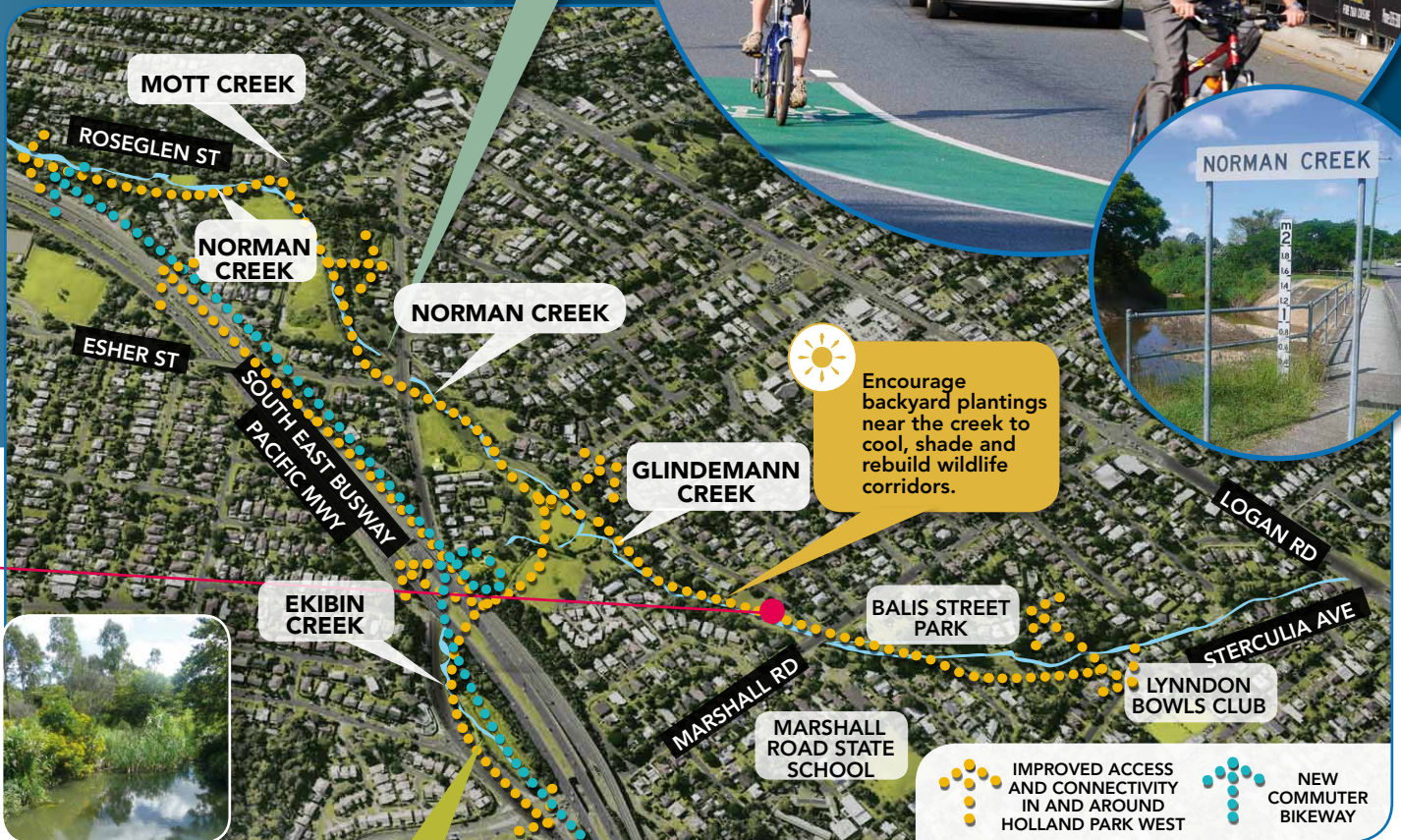
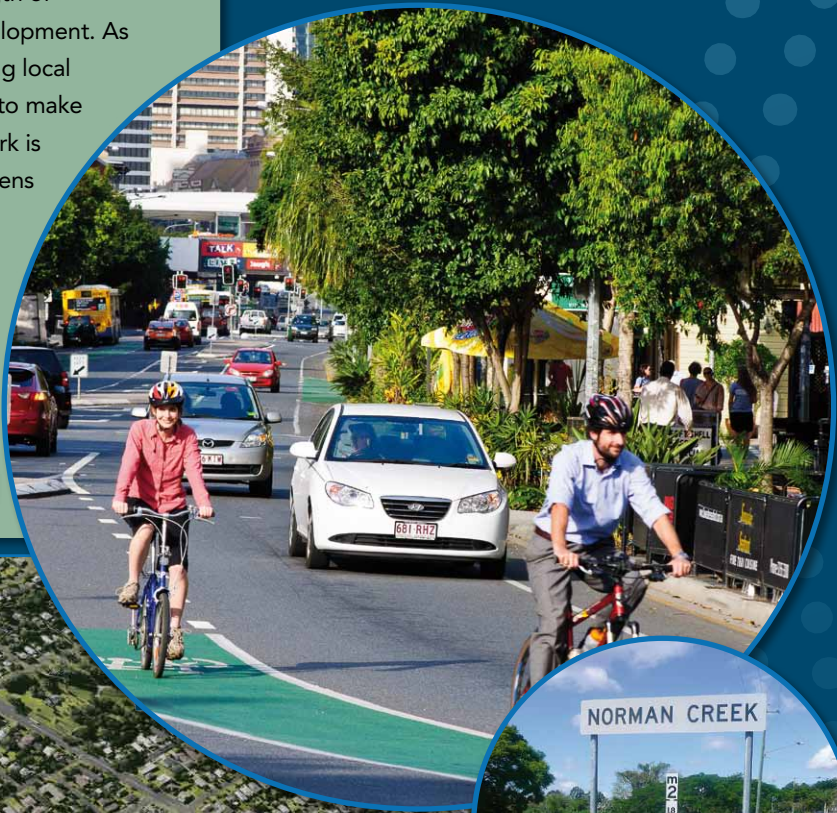


People-friendly streets

Constructing a continuous path along the entire length of Glindemann Creek is not possible due to urban development. As an alternative solution, Council may focus on greening local streets such as Joachim Street and Sterculia Avenue to make it easier to walk or cycle between creek sections. Work is also needed to make creek-side tracks around Stephens Mountain safer to access.

Master planning pinpointed two locations where local creeks cross under busy roads as sites that would benefit from better pedestrian connections. More detailed feasibility studies will be required to determine how these improvements might be made.

Green local streets along and near the creek and make creek crossings safer for walkers and cyclists.



Hidden gems

Not far from Marshall Road is a small green space where Ekibin Creek flows under the Pacific Motorway to join with Glindemann Creek. Adding extra facilities such as a shelter or barbecue could help this little patch grow into a popular local park. A formal entrance with

Revegetate and naturalise the creek.

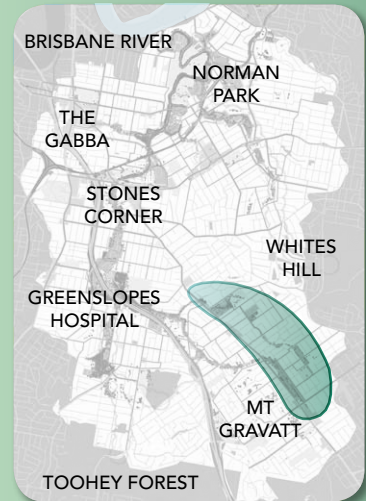
a designated parking area would also help the park stand out to visitors. Council will investigate these options further. Naturalising the creek in this park would make a great joint Council and community project.

Holland Park

Farming first drew early European settlers to Holland Park but as early as the 1880s land was being subdivided for housing estates. The Logan Tram extension from Greenslopes to Holland Park, in 1926, spurred on development and by the late 1940s the suburb had swelled to 6000 people. Today, Holland Park is a well-established residential community.

Locals love Holland Park's quiet old streets and its proximity to the busway, motorway, schools, shops and local parks. The suburb also has a strong Indigenous history. Aboriginal people often held corroborees in the area and camped in clearings along local creeks. These areas remain treasured community gathering places.

CB Mott Park, a former Aboriginal ceremonial site, has been a reserve or park since 1887 and Glindemann Park inherited its name from early German settlers. Returning local creeks to a more natural state as they pass through these parks is the primary focus for activities in this area.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



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CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

CB Mott Park

Mott Creek, a tributary of Norman Creek, flows through CB Mott Park and WJ Scott Park but is only visible in the north west corner of CB Mott Park. During early settlement, this part of CB Mott Park was used as a freshwater reserve.

Early studies suggest this site lends itself to becoming a wetland, perhaps incorporating an open body of water near Abbotsleigh Street, reminiscent of its use as a former reserve. Water captured could irrigate nearby gardens and park areas during dry periods. Boardwalks could wend their way through the wetland and better paths

would make it easier to walk from Abbotsleigh Street across to Victor Street and over to WJ Scott Park.

This environmental rehabilitation initiative requires more detailed planning but would be suited to a joint project between Council, community groups and local schools. Through this initiative, students could help create stimulating, outdoor environments for learning and play while gaining new understandings about their role as stewards of the creek.





Street connections

Holland Park's shady streets help keep the suburb cool. Planting extra trees along well-used streets between the creek and nearby schools, shops and neighbourhoods could entice more residents down to the creek on hot summer days. Extending these priority links to Whites Hill Reserve and complementing them with additional plantings in local parks, would also enable them to act as local wildlife corridors.

Master planning recommended investigating an additional creek crossing within Glindemann Creek's

Create shady 'greenways' between creek-side parks and schools, shops and nearby bushland.

northern section, mirroring the one further south in Glindemann Park. Streetscaping works, including signage to the creek, would make the intersection of Nursery and Logan Roads more attractive, helping draw people to the creek. It's also an ideal location for a highly visible, perhaps sculptural, device to capture and treat water runoff from the nearby commercial precinct before it enters the waterway.



Nature play

Transform creek-side spaces into outdoor playgrounds.

Glindemann Park wraps around both sides of Glindemann Creek as it flows from Nursery Road, along the eastern side of Logan Road, to cross under Logan Road. Glindemann Park's southern end is a favourite spot for weekend picnics and birthday parties.

Better access across the steep grassed gully here would make the park more useable for people of all ages and abilities. Revegetation efforts should continue to focus on the more natural sections of creek, north of the footpath creek crossing.

Young kids love Glindemann Park's flying fox, cubby house, swings and slide, but the northern parkland section has untapped potential to become a wild, natural space for exploring, education and play, tailored to older children and young teens.

Wetlands, ponds and thicker vegetation along the bank would draw nature to the site and could be used to capture stormwater for later reuse. Early studies suggest that widening the creek here to capture water within a large pond or open wetland may alleviate minor flooding further downstream. This option will be further investigated.

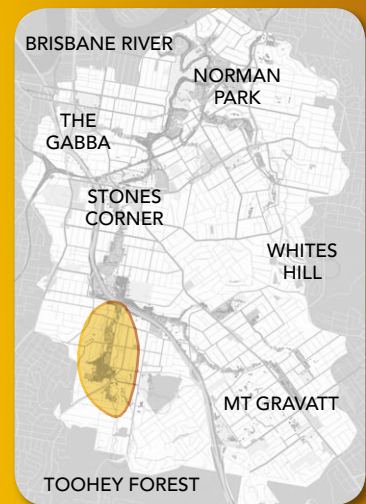


Tarragindi

The suburb of Tarragindi spreads out over a leafy valley that slices between Tarragindi Hill and Wellers Hill at the foothills of Toohey Mountain. Little streams trickle down the mountain and collect at its base to form Sandy Creek before flowing north through the valley to Greenslopes. Until the 1930s, Tarragindi was known as Sandy Creek and this waterway continues to shape life in the suburb.

Tarragindi is renowned for its hilly streets and green leafiness. Families are drawn to the area's mix of post-war and new homes, broad range of local schools and easy commute to the CBD. The Queensland Government's new commuter bikeway (veloway), from Eight Mile Plains to the CBD, traces the suburb's north-eastern edge along the motorway, making cycling to the city a breeze.

Parkland lines both sides of Sandy Creek for most of its length. As the streams leave Toohey Forest Conservation Park, they disappear from view before the creek emerges at Tarragindi Recreation Reserve and becomes a grassed swale through Laura Street Park. This section of creek, between Cracknell Road and Sexton Street, should be the focus of remediation and renewal efforts in Tarragindi.



HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



RECREATION & ACTIVITY



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CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

FUTURE OPPORTUNITY

Back-to-the-wild nature play

Laura Street Park is the perfect spot for a nature play space, a place where children can discover the joy of spontaneous, unstructured play in the great outdoors. Research shows outdoor play helps refine motor skills, giving children confidence in being active. There are many school aged students in Tarragindi and nearby neighbourhoods with three schools based within the suburb.

Sandy Creek's waters are clean enough to catch tadpoles or watch fish flick through the water and with a bit of work the natural meandering bank could be restored to its former glory.

A wetland at the head of a revegetated waterway would also improve water quality and draw nature to the site. Additional water-themed artwork, interpretive signs, environmental sculptures, edible landscapes and tailored playground equipment could all be used to spark children's natural curiosity and inspire imaginative, exploratory play.

Council supports the evolution of Laura Street Park into a nature-play precinct with perhaps an unmanned kiosk or one day, even an education space coordinating water-focused programs and activities. If this idea

proves popular with local residents, Council will seek funding to commission a concept plan for the site and work with community members to explore ideas.



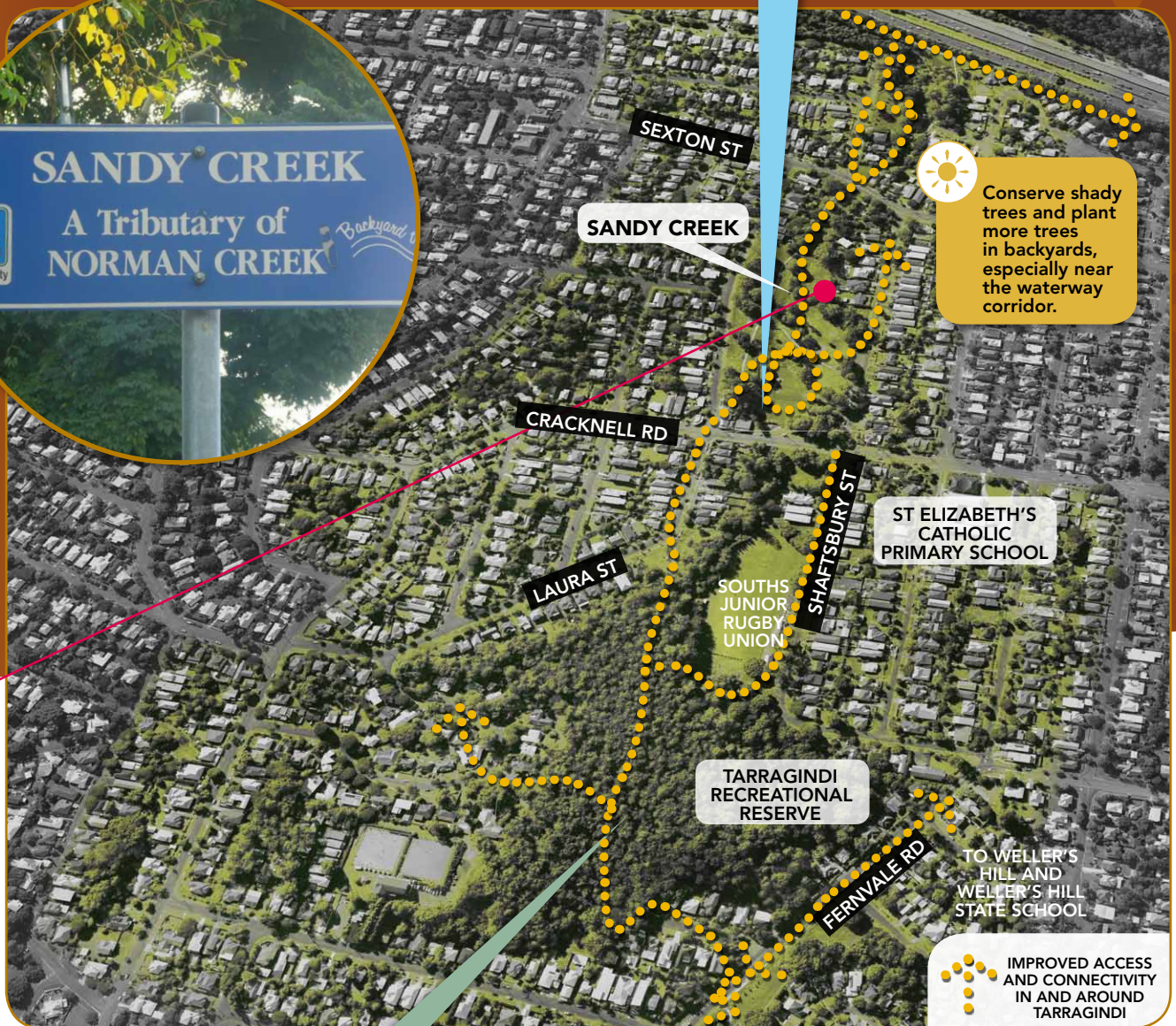
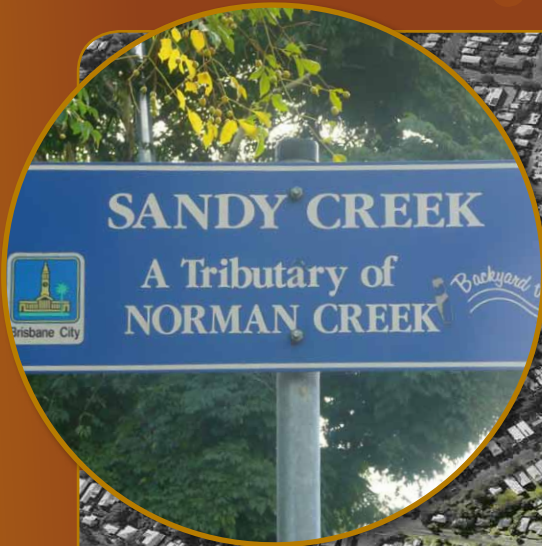


Slowing local flows

In Tarragindi, water escapes quickly from roofs, roads and pipes into Sandy Creek. In places, fast-moving streams erode gullies and scour the creek bank, transporting pollutants quickly into lower catchments.

Capture and cleanse stormwater in local streets before it reaches the creek.

Raingardens in streets, around local shopping areas and in backyards would help slow water flows and give nature time to purify local streams. Council will gradually install more natural systems to treat stormwater and seek out ways to help residents build similar systems.



Conserve shady trees and plant more trees in backyards, especially near the waterway corridor.



IMPROVED ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY IN AND AROUND TARRAGINDI



Park connections

Thick bushland covers most of Tarragindi Recreation Reserve. Council constructed a bikeway through the reserve in 2009 and now it's popular with joggers and cyclists. There's also a small sporting field in the north-east corner that needs a better pathway across Sandy

Promote creek-side walking and cycling by improving paths and facilities.

Creek to the bikeway. A more formal entrance into the reserve, off Fernvale Road, and a small gathering space would show bushwalkers or cyclists where to access tracks and make it easier to meet up before heading into the reserve.

Next steps

The first two stages of Norman Creek 2012-2031 are now complete. The project timeframe extends from now until 2031.

1 Vision & concept plan 2011

- Talk to locals and technical experts to uncover the broad issues facing the catchment.
- Explore fresh ideas and new solutions to old problems.
- Develop broad goals to guide activities.
- Create an overarching vision and concept plan to inform detailed master planning.
- Seek community comments on early ideas.

2 Master plan 2012

- Conduct technical studies to work out which ideas are feasible and which ones will work best.
- Undertake detailed master planning.
- Present key master planning initiatives for community feedback.
- Council to consider community feedback in finalising the master plan.

3 Implement 2012-31

- Use master planning ideas to guide Council's long-term planning and investment.
- Begin turning the ideas into reality through targeted projects.
- Partner with locals, businesses and community groups to undertake key initiatives.
- Ongoing community engagement.

Note: The master plan will not be a statutory plan. It won't add another layer of rules over local development, though it may suggest changes to existing regulations. Instead, it will help guide Council's long-term planning and spending and coordinate government and community efforts.





Brisbane City Council
Information
GPO Box 1434
Brisbane Qld 4001

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