

# Connected habitats



Council is committed to restoring, protecting and enhancing the 64-hectares of greenspace for future generations. This strategy aims to restore the traditional landscape and create a parkland that reflects the area's pre-settlement ecology.

This strategy emphasises the importance that healthy and connected ecosystems hold in maintaining biodiversity and links to Country and culture. The park will grow its vital role as part of our city's greenspace network, contributing to its character, liveability and environmental credentials.

## Key spatial moves



### Connect habitat corridors

Expand and rehabilitate areas of the park that contain remnants of traditional ecosystems and endemic flora species. Create a planted habitat corridor that provides connections for fauna within the park that helps them succeed.



### Create an avenue of trees

Create a structured avenue of trees to frame sections of the parkway loop. Use straight, fast-growing species iconic to Brisbane and South East Queensland.



### Protect key habitats and hollows

Many of our native animal species rely on tree hollows for shelter and nesting. Protect existing hollow-bearing trees that provide important habitats for native birds and animals.



### Reinstate woodland character to the hill tops and ridge lines

Reintroduce spotted gum woodlands with a native wildflower understorey aligned to the original planting character of the higher points of the park.



### Rewild the hillsides as eucalypt open forest

Supplement the existing hillside terrain with open forest planting including eucalypts to provide overhead canopy and a rainforest understorey critical for wildlife habitat.



### Revegetate gullies and dry creek beds

Introduce denser rainforest and fig species in existing gullies and dry creek beds with a rainforest understorey to help attract and sustain native fauna.



### Deliver aquatic and riparian species

Reintroduce soft, weeping foliage, sedges and grasses around the wetlands and waterholes that reflect pre-settlement planting based on a broad-leaved paperbark wetland environment.



### Enhance Gundoo Memorial Grove

Focus on enhancing the historic community-planted grove of trees by enhancing the existing understorey with pollen-rich native shrubs and pockets of turf.



### Education Hub to deliver on-site learning

Enhance the community's awareness of the biodiversity, ecosystems and processes that sustain the environment through conservation and education programs. Include an outdoor bush classroom as the epicentre of these and other gatherings.

## Other actions

### Reintroduce pollinators

Select plants that provide an all-year flowering cycle and dense structure for smaller pollinators. Animal pollinators like native bees, flying mammals and birds play important roles in maintaining healthy ecosystems and improving the park's biodiversity.

### Attract species that act as system engineers

Encourage fauna that live and forage in ground vegetation. Species like scrub turkeys, insects and small mammals play a vital role in aerating and creating soils. They improve water infiltration to plants, spread seeds, and assist in seed germination.

### Reinstate planting to its origins

Select plant species that are representative of past vegetation types, have particular cultural significance for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultures, and provide cyclic foraging resources for endemic fauna.

### Plant for continuous flowering

Select plant species that will provide winter food resources and will contribute to year-round fruiting and flowering, in concert with other species. This supports different species' survival during periods of limited resources such as late autumn, winter and early spring.

### Deliver 60% canopy cover

Implement a staged strategy of planting canopy trees that will progressively deliver a minimum of 60% coverage over the life of the Master Plan. This provides better thermal regulation in habitats, and contributes to park cooling.

### Optimise healthy soil

Introduce groundcovers and mulch with forest litter and woody debris to maintain healthy soil moisture levels. This supports invertebrates and micro-organisms that are important to sustaining healthy soil and plant communities.



Figure 6 Connected habitats strategy – key spatial moves