



Dunstan Adventure Playground, St Peters

Concept Design Report
March 2022



This document has been
prepared for the



**City of
Norwood
Payneham
& St Peters**



issue

rev	date
A review	21.02.22
B workshop material	24.02.22
C CEO review	22.03.22
D For Council Endorsement	28.03.22
E For Council website	04.04.22



contents

return brief
site analysis
consultation findings & opportunities
design principles & themes
draft concept design
section & visualisations
art & interpretation
precedent imagery

Site Recent History

- Dunstan Adventure Playground was named after Don Dunstan who opened the park and was pivotal in securing funding for the project
- Park built from 1974 - 1976
- Park opened in September 1976
- Prior to the park it was a site for dumping excess fill, along the River Torrens
- Larger flying fox was once on site

Kaurna Occupation (taken from the Document Prepared by Denise Schumann, Cultural Heritage Consultant, City of NPSP (2021))

- Karrawirra pari is the Kaurna name for the River Torrens that runs adjacent the site
- 'Karrawirra' refers to the once abundant 'redgum forest' (karra is 'redgum' + wirra is 'forest') on Adelaide plains adjacent the River Torrens and its tributary creeks
- Areas such as St Peters and adjoining locations along the Karrawirra pari provided an environment that supplied crucial resources. This included for shelters, for fires and implement-making and so were prime areas for camping and ceremonial grounds.
- The ancient forests of Eucalyptus camaldulensis in Hackney, St Peters and Walkerville supplied the Kaurna with resources for ceremonial artefacts, funeral biers and firewood for burials.
- The clay soils of the river were also a source of ochre for Kaurna ceremony. The Karrawirra pari was also the location for major Kaurna burial grounds because in certain areas the soft sandy soils were easy to excavate to create burial mounds.
- The project site is near an important Kaurna burial site on the southern side of the Tennyson Bridge at the corner of Tenth Avenue and Stephens Terrace.

Existing Site Features

- Sloping and undulating site
- Upper play zone and lower play zone
- Retain existing rope play
- Located on the River Torrens
- Located adjacent the O-bahn bus route
- Existing steel embankment slide is a key play item of the site. This will need replacement due to current play standards.
- The majority of the play equipment to the upper play zone is tired and in need of an upgrade, some high risk safety concerns have been raised.

Design Brief

Entry & Access

- Review and upgrade fencing to Winchester Street
- Create a new Entry Statement
- New pedestrian and cycle entry from Winchester Street
- Retain car parking location
- No accessible car park
- Review of on street and off street parking efficiencies
- Provide cycle parking
- Retain location of pathway and connection to linear trail
- Explore ways to slow cycle movement at intersection
- Review levels at this junction

Signage

- Review new signage opportunities throughout the reserve;
 - entry
 - directional
 - interpretative

Services

- New lighting - security only
- No CCTV required
- Explore opportunities to connect to WIFI
- New toilet facilities - unisex toilet (2 x cubicles ideal)
- Toilets away from housing

Play

- 'Adventure Play' theme
- Cater to both younger (5-9 years old) and older (10-14 years old) children
- Provide a combination of 'off-the-shelf' equipment with bespoke equipment - TBD
- Morialta, Heywood, Felixstow - reference projects
- Upgrade embankment slide to meet new standards and resolve safety concerns
- Review connection from play to River Torrens

Amenity

- New shelter structure(s) and/or shade sails
- Barbeque
- Explore art integration opportunities
- Create spaces for seating
- Explore opportunities to incorporate seating into existing mounding
- Retain trees where possible, locate play away from trees where practical
- Bank improvements

The development of a concept plan for Dunstan Adventure Playground will determine the future thinking for Dunstan, with costings determining staging and future priorities.





1. PLAYSPACE LOOKING WEST TOWARD OBAHN



2. METAL EMBANKMENT SLIDE



3. ROPE PLAY



4. MOUNDS TO EASTERN SIDE OF PLAYSPACE



5. ARTIST MURAL OPPORTUNITY



6. EXISTING FENCING TO WINCHESTER STREET



7. MOUNDING & VEGETATION TO EASTERN EDGE



8. SEATING UNDER EXISTING EUCALYPTS



9. PLAYSPACE & PATH LOOKING NORTH WEST



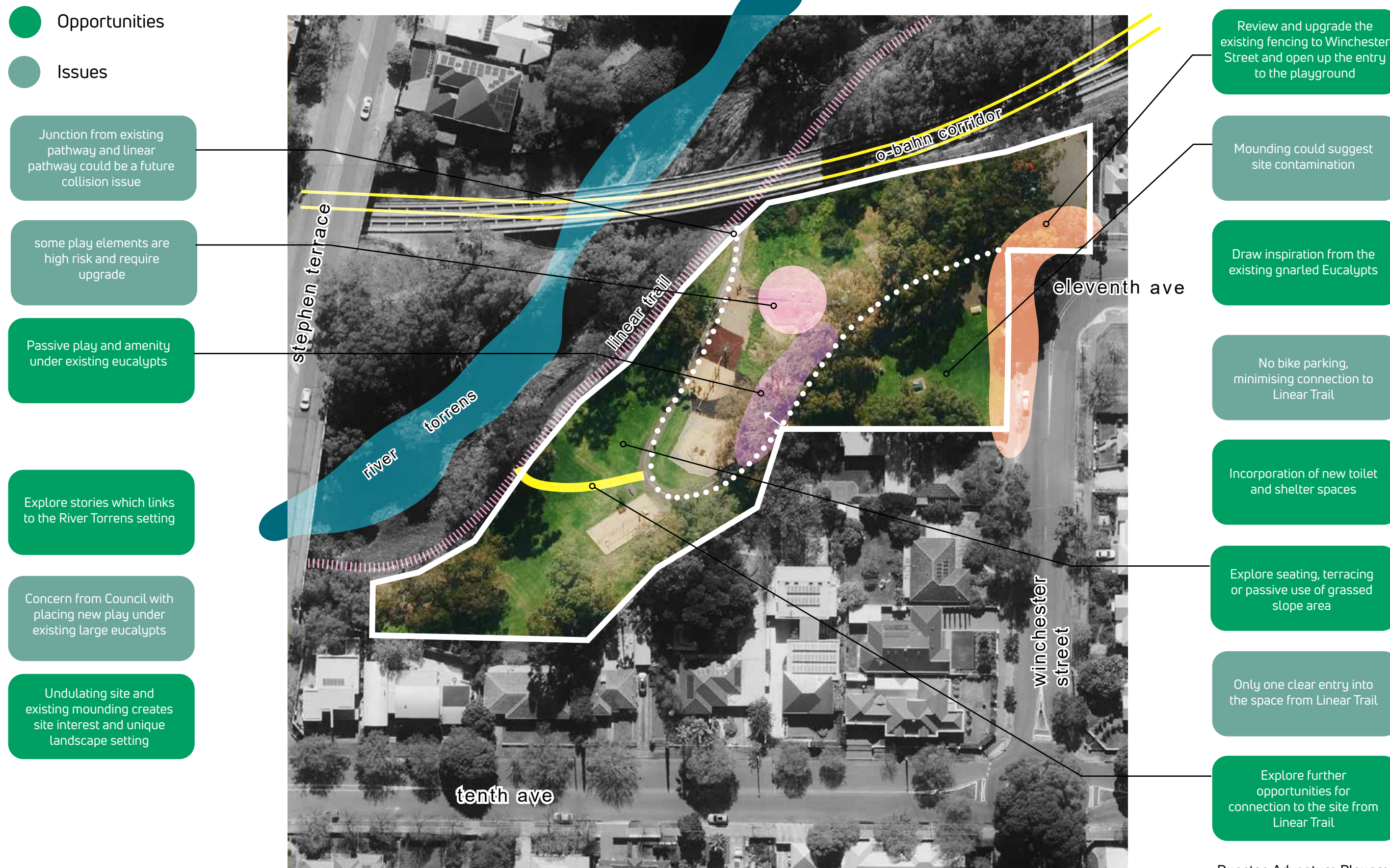
10. LINEAR PATH UNDER OBAHN OVERPASS



11. RIVER TORRENS UNDER OBAHN OVERPASS



12. OBAHN OVERPASS



The consultation process outlined below has been developed to gather ideas and thoughts on the upgrade to Dunstan Adventure Playground.

The consultation approach will aim to gather views from a broad spectrum of user groups and demographics.

The purpose of the consultation is to understand community and user desires and vision for the space.

As well as engaging with local community users, the aim is to promote a broad cross section of users, including the younger audience and instill a sense of ownership over the built outcomes.

Consultation Approach

The adjacent Consultation Plan outlines the following;

WHO: a list of stakeholders to engage

HOW: a description of proposed activities required

WHEN: a program for engagement

WHO are we engaging?

Stakeholder groups are listed below who have been selected to influence the design outcomes.

Community

Community Consultation Day:

- December 4th, 10am-1pm

Local Schools (selected based on proximity to Dunstan Adventure Playground)

- Adelaide East Primary School, Public School on Second Avenue

Council Staff

Elected Members

HOW and WHEN are we engaging?

The below table outlines a draft program for engagement including the activity type and the group being consulted.

WHO:	HOW:	WHEN:
STAKEHOLDER	ACTIVITY	PROGRAM
Community	Survey: Survey questions provide further insight into the community usage, primary demographic, and future needs for the broader community Community Drop-In: Held at Dunstan Reserve Develop consultation material to aid in gathering community wants, ideas, likes and dislikes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Example images of future outcomes; likes and dislikes Sticky notes to encourage community to write down ideas/comments 	Survey: Tuesday 23rd November - Tuesday 14th December Community Drop-in: Saturday 4th December
Schools:	Tasks undertaken with a selected student group Task 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw your favourite play experience Task 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present example images of what could be in the space Give each child 3 x dots Place a dot on your top three elements you want see at Dunstan Playground Task 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does Adventure mean to you? Children to express words that best describes adventure. 	Date/time: 9:30am Dec 2nd, 2021
KYAC	Workshop 1: Site Vision, Stories, Sharing Ideas Workshop 2: Design critique, further review and development of ideas	W1: 31st January, 2022 W2: 1st March, 2022
Council Staff	Workshops throughout Concept, DD, 50% and 75% Development	First workshop - March Second workshop - April Third workshop- May Fourth workshop - June
Elected Members	Present Draft Concept Design	1st March, 2022

SCHOOL CONSULTATION FINDINGS:

On Thursday 2nd Dec 2021, Clover with Council, visited the East Adelaide Primary school to facilitate a workshop with 15 grade 6 students.

The students were presented with the Dunstan Adventure Playground site and all students were familiar with the playground and visited the playground prior to the session.

We then discussed what they liked and didn't like about the playground. Some comments were as follows;

What do you like/don't like about Dunstan Adventure Playground?

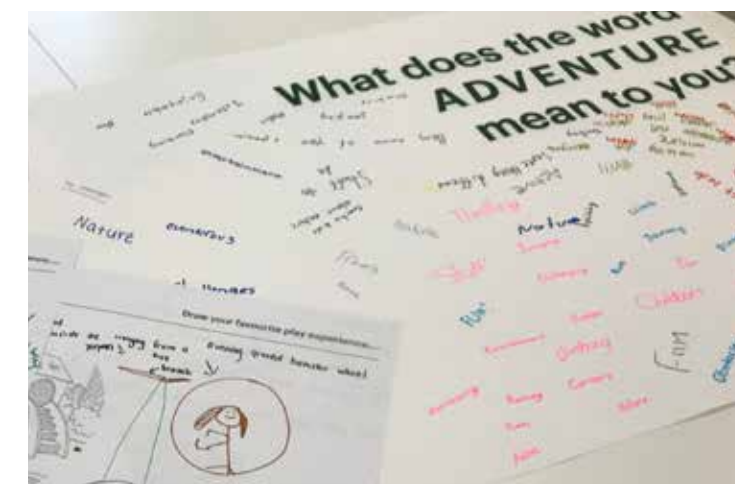
Like

- long slide - is a bit rusty though and need steps up to it
- rope area; different ways to play on it
- rocks down stream we use to cross the river; challenges bodies and minds

Don't Like

- we like the slide but its too skinny, can get stuck, hot in summer, end of the slide is a bit sharp, if you're sweaty you get stuck
- flying fox; not fast enough, get stuck, too low, rusty
- no toilets
- swings and monkey bars are rusty and too low to the ground

The students were then divided into two groups and conducted multiple tasks.



Draw Your Favourite Play Experience:

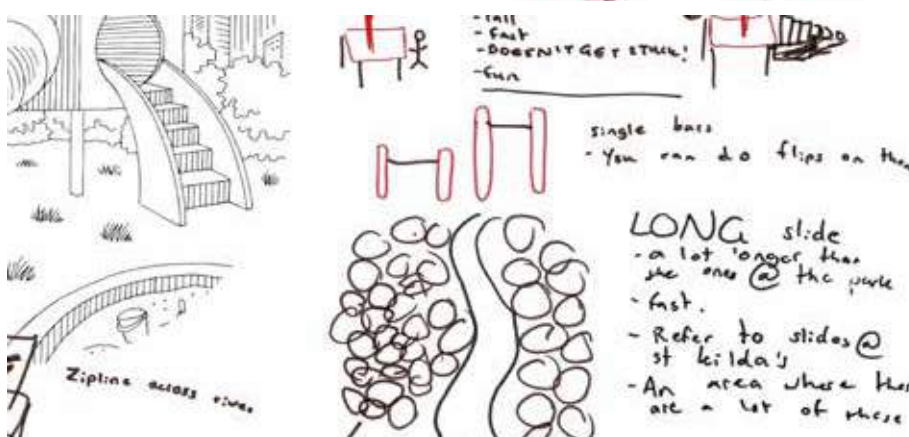
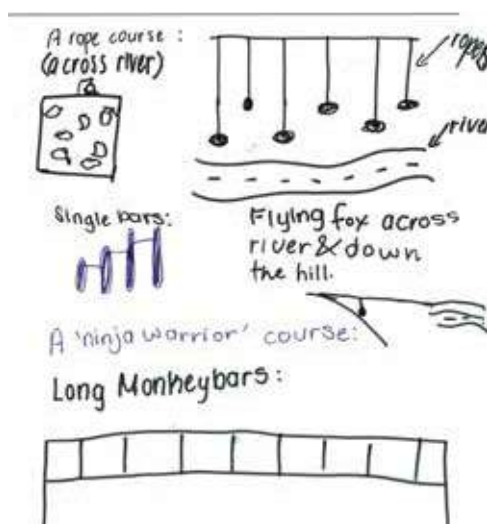
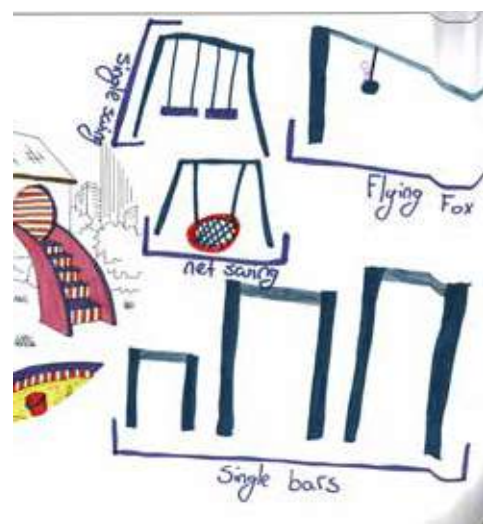
We asked the students to draw a picture of a playground or play items which they like or would like to see at Dunstan Playground. Common themes which emerged from this exercise were;

- long/large flying fox
- flying fox with a seat attached
- inground trampolines
- long slides
- swings and rope swings

Words That Mean 'Adventure'

The students were asked to describe in words what adventure means to them. Some key words were as follows;

nature • fun • challenge • something different • thrilling • amazing
adventurous • climbing • journey • explore • risk taking • ninja warrior
something fun to do • exciting • outdoors • trees • active • obstacles



Sticky Dot Exercise:

We asked the students to select their favourite (green dot) or least favourite (red dot) 'play' or 'amenity' elements from boards which showed a range of images, refer image below. From collating green dots and red dots the top 'likes' and 'dislikes' are as follows:



likes

Play Elements:

- big slide (12 dots)
- inground trampolines (4 dots)
- nature play climbing wall/trunk (4 dots)
- inclusive play/carousel (4 dots)

Other Amenity:

- toilet (13 dots)
- terraced seating (7 dots)
- public art integration (6 dots)



dislikes

Play Elements:

- hollow logs/tunnels (10 dots)
kids may collide with other kids in the tunnel
- sensory log steppers (9 dots)
seemed too boring

Other Amenity:

- garden beds (12 dots)
didn't see any use to garden beds, looked too spiky and might hurt if fell into it.
- picnic settings (8 dots)
the image didn't show any shelter or shade over the picnic tables



COMMUNITY DROP-IN CONSULTATION FINDINGS:

Clover with Council undertook Community Consultation on Saturday December 4th from 10am - 1pm at the Dunstan Adventure Playground. The consultation session involved interactive boards and provided opportunity for users of the Dunstan Adventure Playground to discuss any concerns or ideas for the playground upgrade. It is estimated that approximately 30+ people including children, were involved in discussions throughout the morning.

Exercises which the public were encouraged to partake in were;

- what is liked and not liked about the current playground,
- sticky dot exercise to select favourite images, and
- additional comments recorded on a sticky note.

What do you like/don't like about Dunstan Adventure Playground?

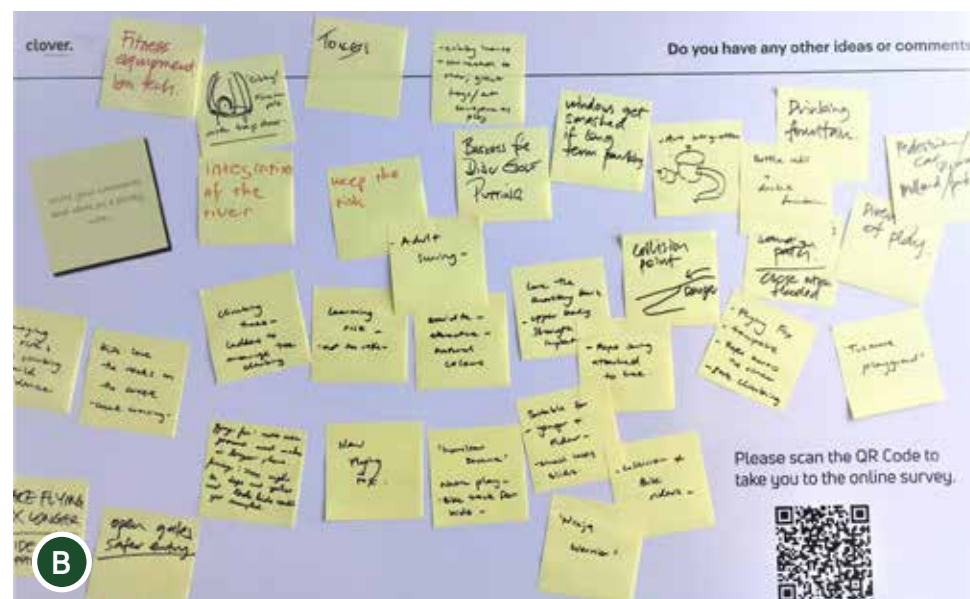
We asked the public what do they like or don't like about the Dunstan Adventure Playground, key comments recorded were as follows;

We like...

- ...the hills and climbing
- ...the big slide
- ...located on the River Torrens
-rock steppers across the Torrens
-rope climb
-it offers a range of experiences for varying ages
-the big trees

We don't like....

- ...Safety concerns with collisions and bike riders
-limited access to Stephen Terrace
-no direct link toward the City when bike riding





ONLINE CONSULTATION FINDINGS:

An online survey was developed to provide questions to the broader community, seeking their thoughts and opinions. The online responses provide further insight into the usage and future needs of the Dunstan Adventure Playground from a community perspective.

The survey was launched on 23rd of November and closed 14th December, 2021. In total 44 people participated in the survey. A copy of the survey and questions are provided adjacent.

Dunstan Adventure Playground Upgrade
Have your say!

The City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters will be upgrading the Dunstan Adventure Playground, located adjacent the River Torrens / Karrawirra Park at the intersection of Winchester Street & Eleventh Avenue, St Peters.

The Council is seeking input from the local community on the types of play equipment and facilities to be included in the upgrade.

Consultation closes at 5.00pm on Tuesday 14 December 2021.

You can simply provide your input by completing this survey. The information provided will be used in the development of a draft concept plan for the Playground upgrade.

All written submissions received as part of the Dunstan Adventure Playground Upgrade consultation will be presented to the Council for information and consideration prior to endorsement of the draft concept plan.

For more information about the project, please visit www.nps.sa.gov.au/consultation or contact the Council's Project Manager, Jared Barnes, on 8366 4506.

SURVEY

First name _____
Last name _____
Residential suburb _____

1. How often do you visit Dunstan Adventure Playground? (choose one answer)
☐ Daily
☐ Weekly
☐ Monthly
☐ Yearly
☐ Never

2. What is the main reason that you visit the Dunstan Adventure Playground? (choose one answer)
☐ To use the playground equipment
☐ To access and use the River Torrens Linear Park Shared Path
☐ Other _____

3. What do you like about the Dunstan Adventure Playground?

City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters
175 The Parade, Norwood SA 5067
Telephone 8366 4555
Facsimile 8332 6338
Email townhall@nps.sa.gov.au
Website www.nps.sa.gov.au

City of Norwood Payneham & St Peters

The Dunstan Adventure Playground is designated to have an 'adventure theme' and cater to both younger (5-9 years old) and older (10-14 years old) children of different abilities.

How important are the following to you? (choose one answer for each)

4a. Traditional play equipment (e.g. slides, monkey bars, swings)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat important	<input type="checkbox"/> Very important
4b. Natural elements that provide opportunities to play (e.g. fallen logs, sand, rocks, trees)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat important	<input type="checkbox"/> Very important
4c. Opportunities to be active, take managed risks, be challenged (e.g. climb high, get wet or muddy)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat important	<input type="checkbox"/> Very important
4d. Artistic elements (e.g. sculptures, murals, use of different textures and materials)	<input type="checkbox"/> Not important	<input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat important	<input type="checkbox"/> Very important

5. Which of the following elements do you think should be included as part of the upgrade? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> better paths and connections between Eleventh Avenue / Winchester Street and the River Torrens Linear Park Trail, including path lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> a barbecue
<input type="checkbox"/> new play equipment (adventure themed)	<input type="checkbox"/> a picnic shelter
<input type="checkbox"/> shade over play equipment/play areas	<input type="checkbox"/> new park furniture (e.g. seats)
<input type="checkbox"/> toilets	<input type="checkbox"/> new landscaping (e.g. garden beds) and irrigation
	<input type="checkbox"/> bank improvements for accessibility, safety and to reduce erosion

6. Are there any other elements that you suggest are considered to be included as part of the upgrade? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. Do you have any other ideas or comments that you would like the Council and its design consultants to consider for the Dunstan Adventure Playground upgrade? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

If you would like to be kept up-to-date with the Dunstan Adventure Playground Upgrade as it progresses, please provide your email address below.

Email: _____

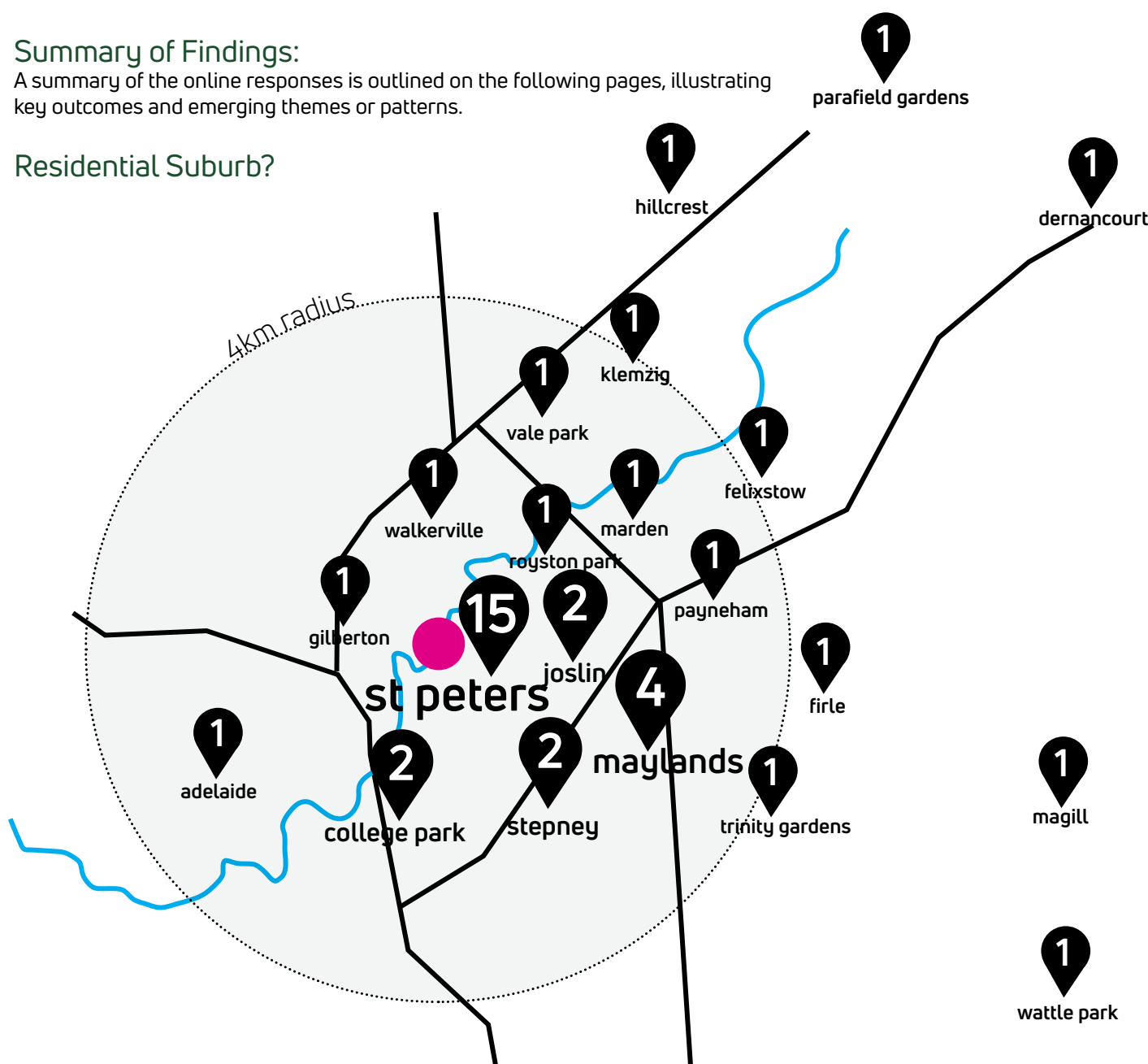
You can also use this email address to sign up to our bi-monthly eNewsletter Your NPSP, to stay up to date about the Council's programs, services, events and initiatives.

I would like to receive the Council's eNewsletter: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Summary of Findings:

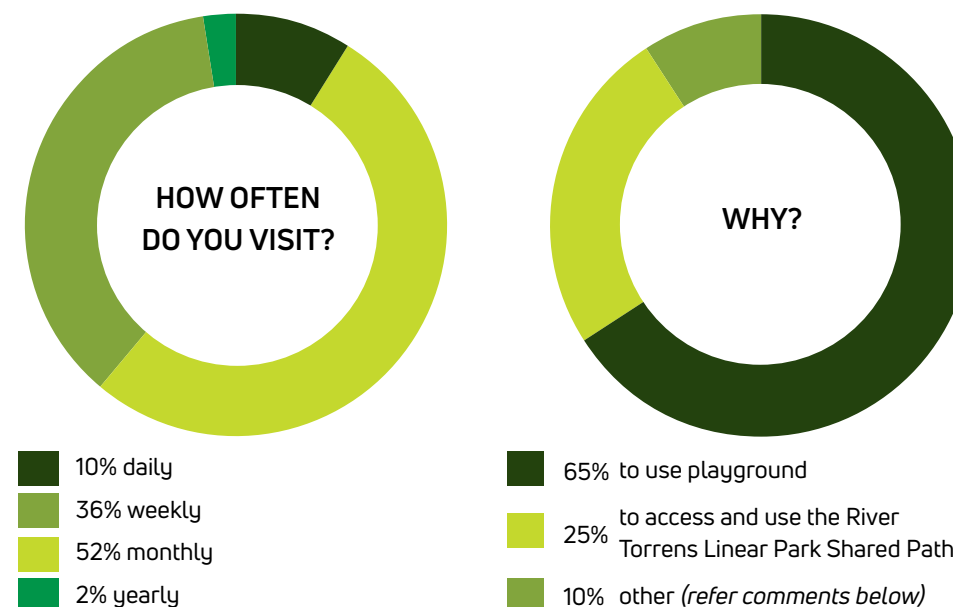
A summary of the online responses is outlined on the following pages, illustrating key outcomes and emerging themes or patterns.

Residential Suburb?



The above map illustrates the a majority of the survey participants who use the playground are local to the area. From 44 participants within the survey the majority live within 4km of Dunstan Adventure Playground with 30% residing in St Peters.

How often do you visit Dunstan Adventure Playground and why do you visit?



More than half of the participants of the survey visit the Dunstan Adventure Playground every month and visit to primarily use the playground equipment.

Further comments are noted below, which provide more description about the reasons for visiting the Dunstan Playground;

"Meet up with other mums- kids ages quite varied"

"Use both the playground, slide and shared path as well as the river torrens and walk along the rocks"

"Use equipment & access linear park"

"Cross the large stones over the river"

"Recently also purchased a home on Tenth that backs onto the playground"

"We ride our bikes there and play on the playground."

"Also monthly for children to use the playground /meet friends there"

"Both, to use the Shared Path, as I walk that route every day, but also all my grandchildren have enjoyed the park over the last 20 years"

"The slide is amazing"

"We live next door to the park and access the area often - to both walk the Linear Park for our own enjoyment as well as to allow our 4 grandchildren to play on the equipment (ages 3, 6, 8 and 10)."

"My kids are 2 & 4 so the play equipment is too big for them at the moment but we love riding past & playing in the flat bit of the river there."

What do you like about Dunstan Adventure Playground?

The majority of comments note the importance and use of the big slide, re-iterating the value it has to the public. Key themes which are most liked by the community are as follows;

1. big slide
2. challenging adventure theme
3. natural setting; trees, river, open space

Comments are noted below;

Caters for little and big children. The big slide!

"The big slide, Rope bridge, See saw for toddlers"

Open open area and large playground with lots of equipment

It's location

Equipment, green space, location

Not too crowded with equipment so shy kids have their space. Nice and shady

Opportunity for risky play still accessible to younger kids

The giant slide and slope make the playground unique

The giant slide mainly, but also the large extent of play options for the kids

The slide!

Lovely open space

Kids love the slide, flying fox and the climbing frame. My kids are 7 and 9

The long slide, the spider web and the rope bridge that allow for safe adventures

Open space, variety of play equipment, linear park setting

Lots of different activities not like all the rest of the playground's around.

The big slide is a point of difference to other parks

The climbing equipment. The different levels so children can walk up and down the slopes. Access to the river.

Play equipment

"Equipment for older children ie the new climbing equipment that's there

The big slide.... Although it needs some maintenance "

We love the location of the playground, just beside the river bank and no cars. Also the lovely trees offer a lot shade.

The variety of the equipment is fantastic. As well, it's good to have some equipment that is challenging for 12+ aged kids.

It's close proximity to our house

Kids love the slide. Nice area

The higher 'risk' of adventure makes it more fun to play on

The giant slide

Lots of shade, parking

My kids love the giant slide and the rope jungle gym

The long slide

Equipment and location

Close to home

The space, the diffiof the equipment, eg slippery dip very challenging and the rope and spider climbing frame very exciting for the youngies

The slippery dip and swings

The slide for the kids and the surroundings for me as a parent

The long open slippery dip

Lovely quiet area, very scenic, great walking/cycling facilities, good playground for young children with a great range of activities for them.

The slide is a huge draw card for my 12 yo and my 4 yo

"The environment - river nearby, big trees

It's on the Torrens path for stop off on bike rides

The big slide!!!

Varied equipment for different age/competency levels

"Love the long slide, but it is difficult to use (kids seem to get stuck on it). Would be great if it was replaced with a material that kids could slide on.

Currently there are great climbing obstacles.

Adventure elements, different from other playgrounds

"big slide

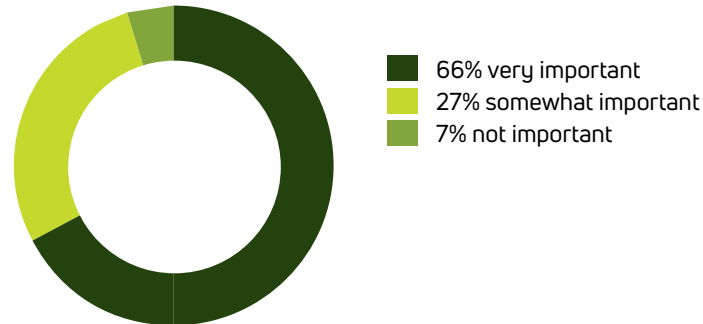
big play equipment"

Large space/natural surrounds

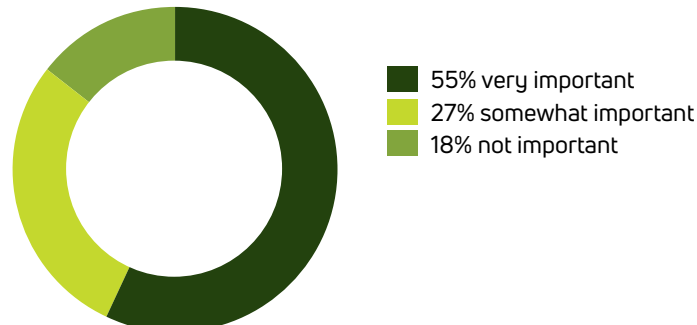


How important is...

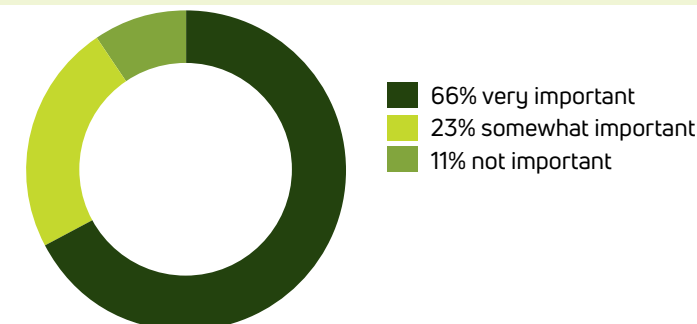
...traditional play equipment



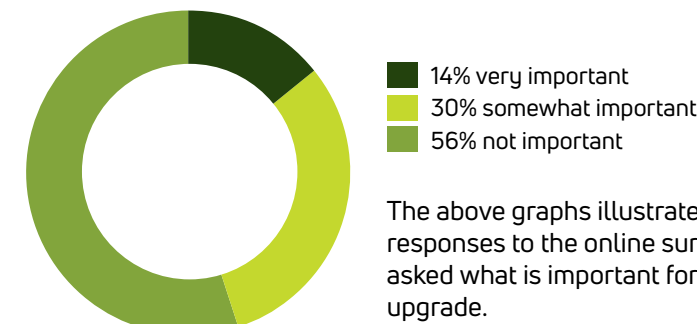
...natural elements that provide the opportunity for play



...opportunities to be active, take managed risks, be challenged



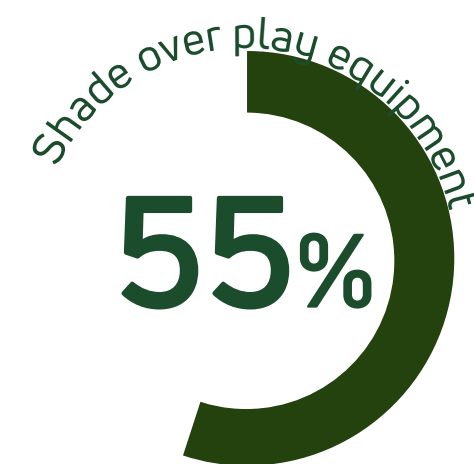
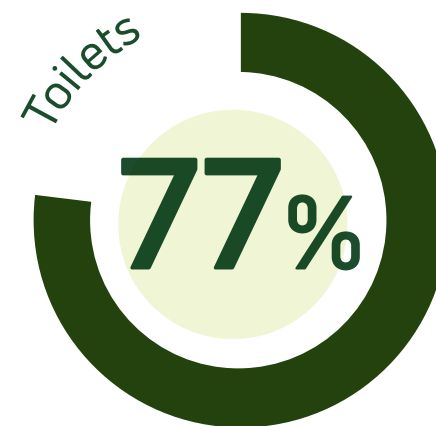
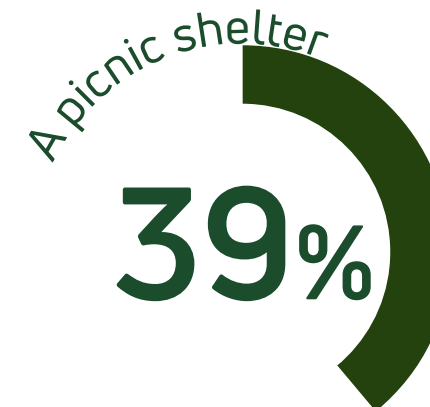
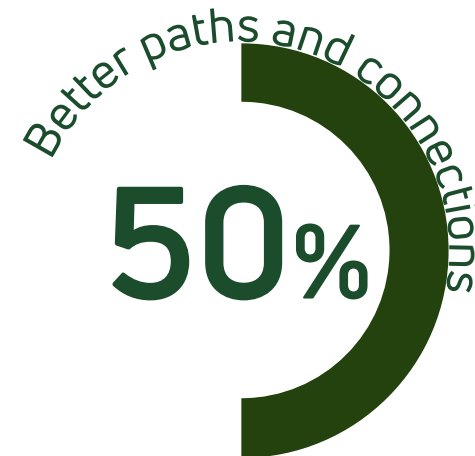
...artistic elements



The above graphs illustrate a summary of responses to the online survey question which asked what is important for inclusion within the upgrade.

Traditional play and active and challenging play were captured as being the most important, where as artistic elements were the least supported, noting the majority felt they were 'not important' to be included within the upgrade.

Which of the following elements do you think should be included as part of the upgrade?



The adjacent graphs illustrate the percentage of surveyed participants who support the inclusion of the described elements as shown.

Both toilets and new play equipment are by far the clear preferred for a majority of participants, with over 70% wanting these elements included within the upgrade.

New park furniture and shade were other supported elements with just over 50% preferring these elements for inclusion.

New landscaping, and interestingly a new barbeque and picnic shelter were lower priorities. This finding is contradictory to the feedback during the Community Drop-in Session, where barbeque's were preferred over other elements to be integrated within the reserve.



Summary of Consultation Findings:

During the consultation period for Dunstan Adventure Playground, park users were consulted through a range of methods:

School consultation – conducted on 2nd December 2021

Community onsite drop-in – held 4th December 2021

Online survey consultation – open from 23rd November – 14th December 2021

Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) - 31st January and March 1st 2022

After a review of all consultation outcomes, five key points have emerged common across all forms of consultation. These are as follows:

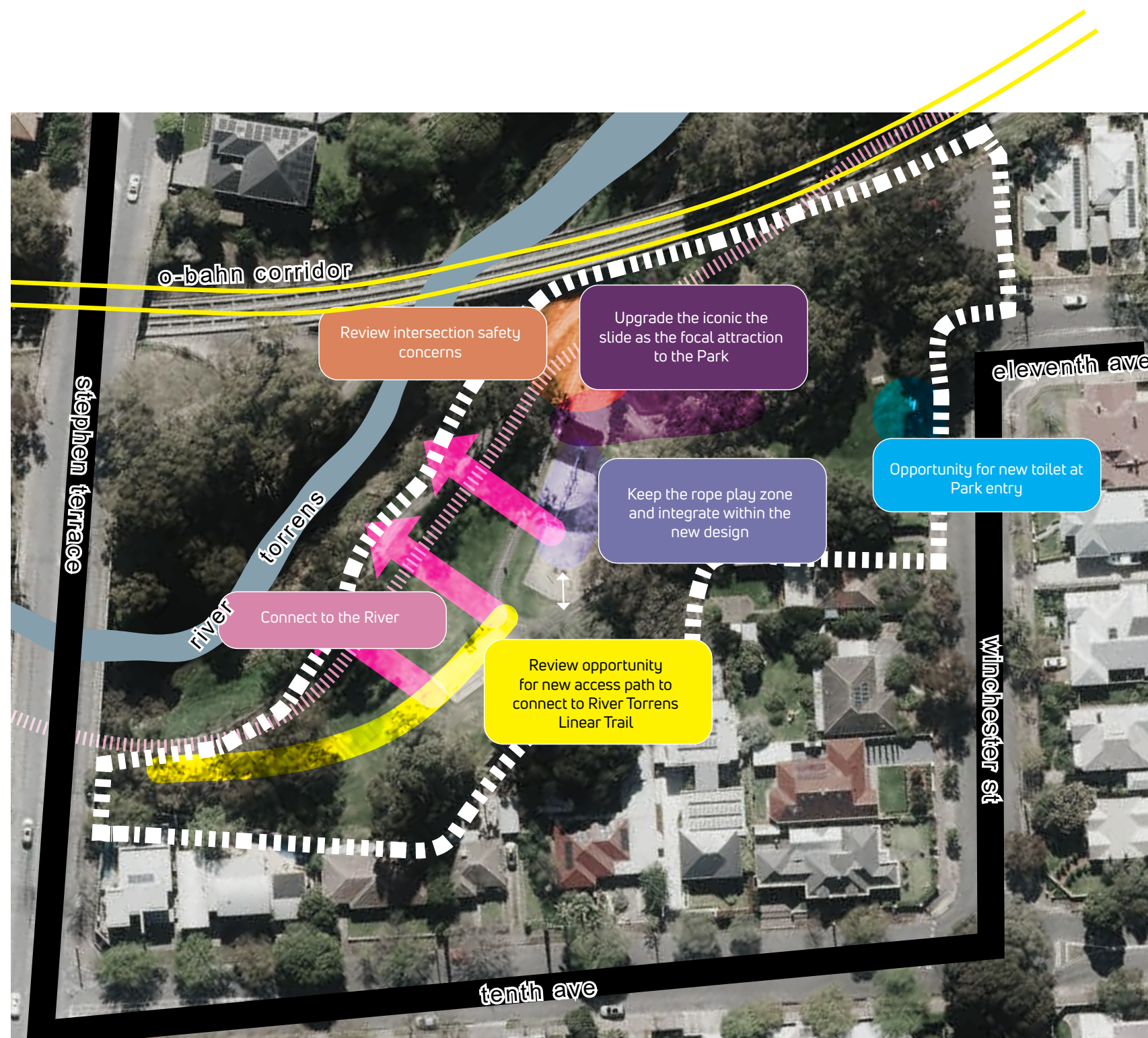
1. Keep and upgrade the big slide
2. Connect to the river
3. Incorporate challenging play
4. Resolve safe cycle movement
5. Include toilets

The adjacent plan visually highlights key opportunities taken from the consultation findings to be considered during the development of the concept design.

During the KYAC consultation key themes emerged during the conversations. These are as follows:

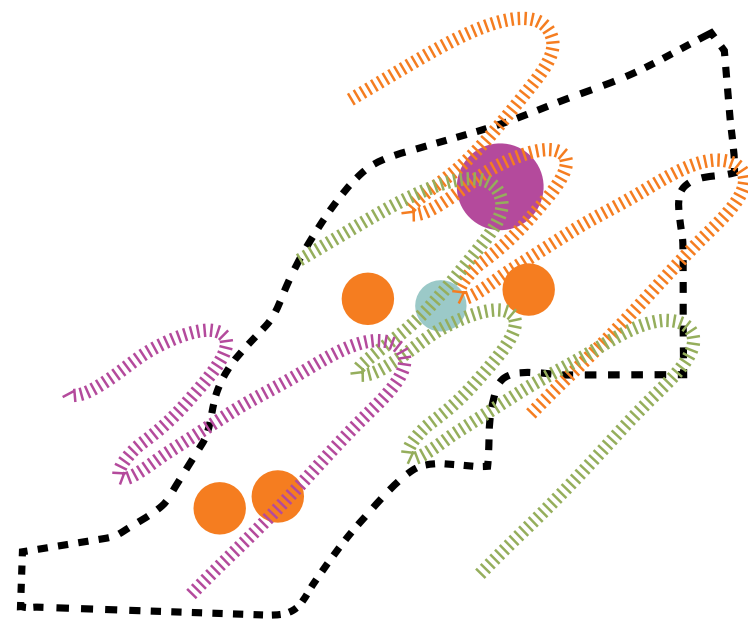
1. Underlying Kaurna narrative: ways of understanding this Country
2. Connection to the River Karrawirra Pari
3. Restoring landscape: 'bring back things that were there before'
4. Repatriating cultural ways

These themes will provide an overarching narrative to the developing concept plan.

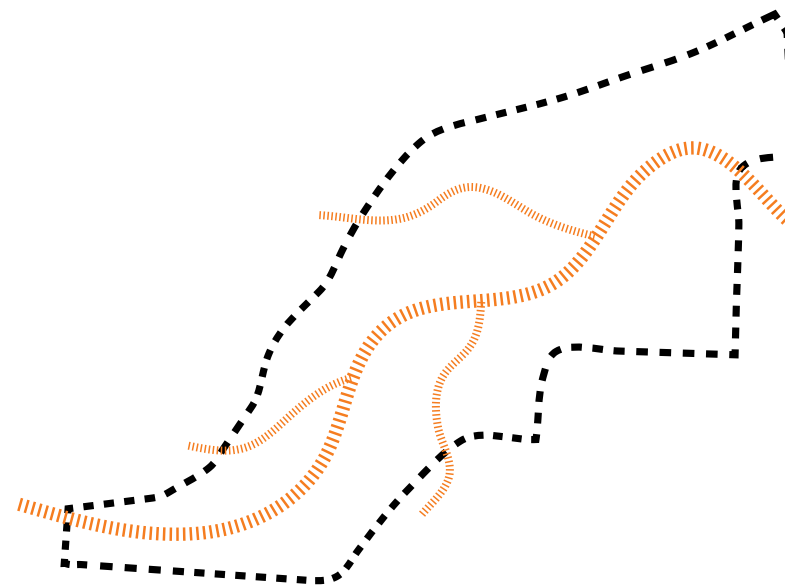




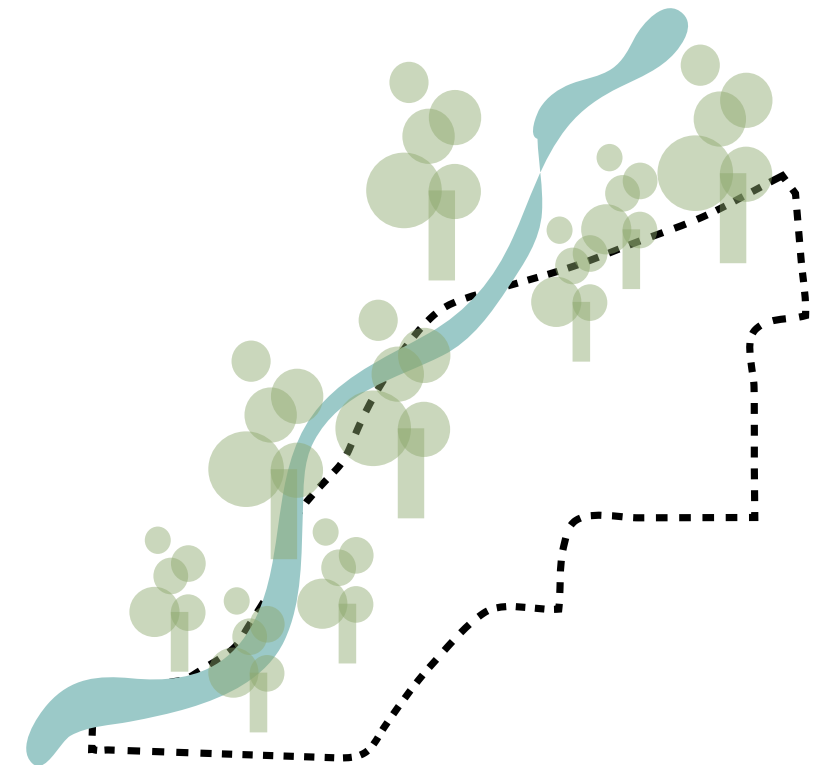
The Dunstan Adventure Playground upgrade will...



...offer adventure themed experiences and challenges to cater for a broad range of age groups and users of all abilities.



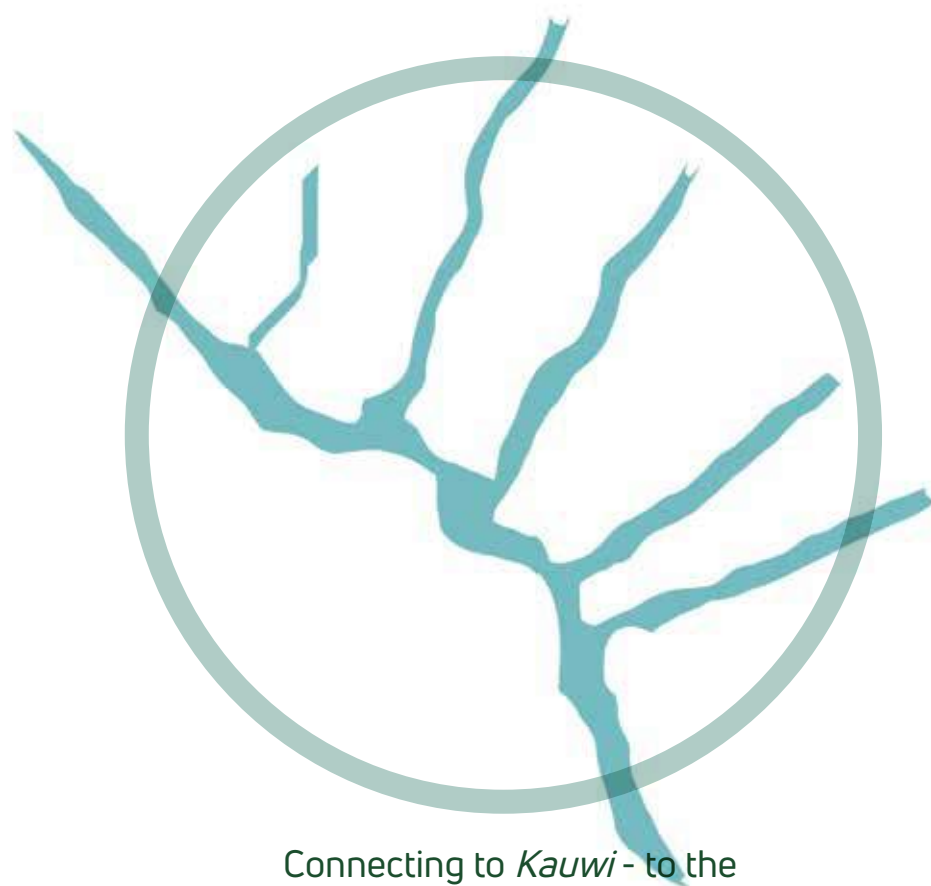
...ensure safe play, movement and access for all users.



...draw inspiration from the *Karrawirra Pari* River Torrens environment.



Drawing inspiration from conversations with the Kurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) board members and the landscape character of Dunstan Adventure Playground, the below illustrations reflect key design themes to integrate within the playspace design.



Connecting to *Kauwi* - to the River and all the river represents for the Kurna

- *Kauwi* (water) refers to rivers, creeks, springs, lagoons, reed beds, estuaries and the coastal waters of Gulf St Vincent.
- Rivers, creeks and springs connected the Kurna to Country through ecology and cosmology.

important to tell the story of what was here before - Tania

repatriating cultural ways - Madge

story telling needs to come from the heart - Tania

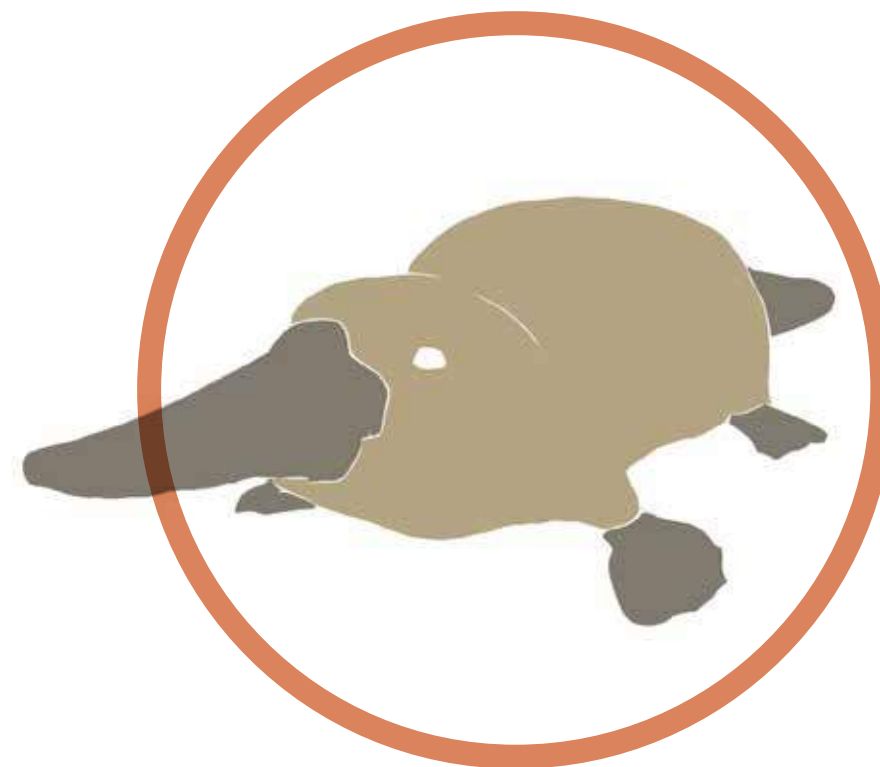


Restoring the Natural Landscape

- What did this place used to look like?
- New planting undertaken within the project to integrate bush food species and rush-type forms
- Interpretive signage and artworks can educate on the landscape that once was and local fauna and flora

the sound of wind in the rushes - Rosalind

educating kids about Country - Tania



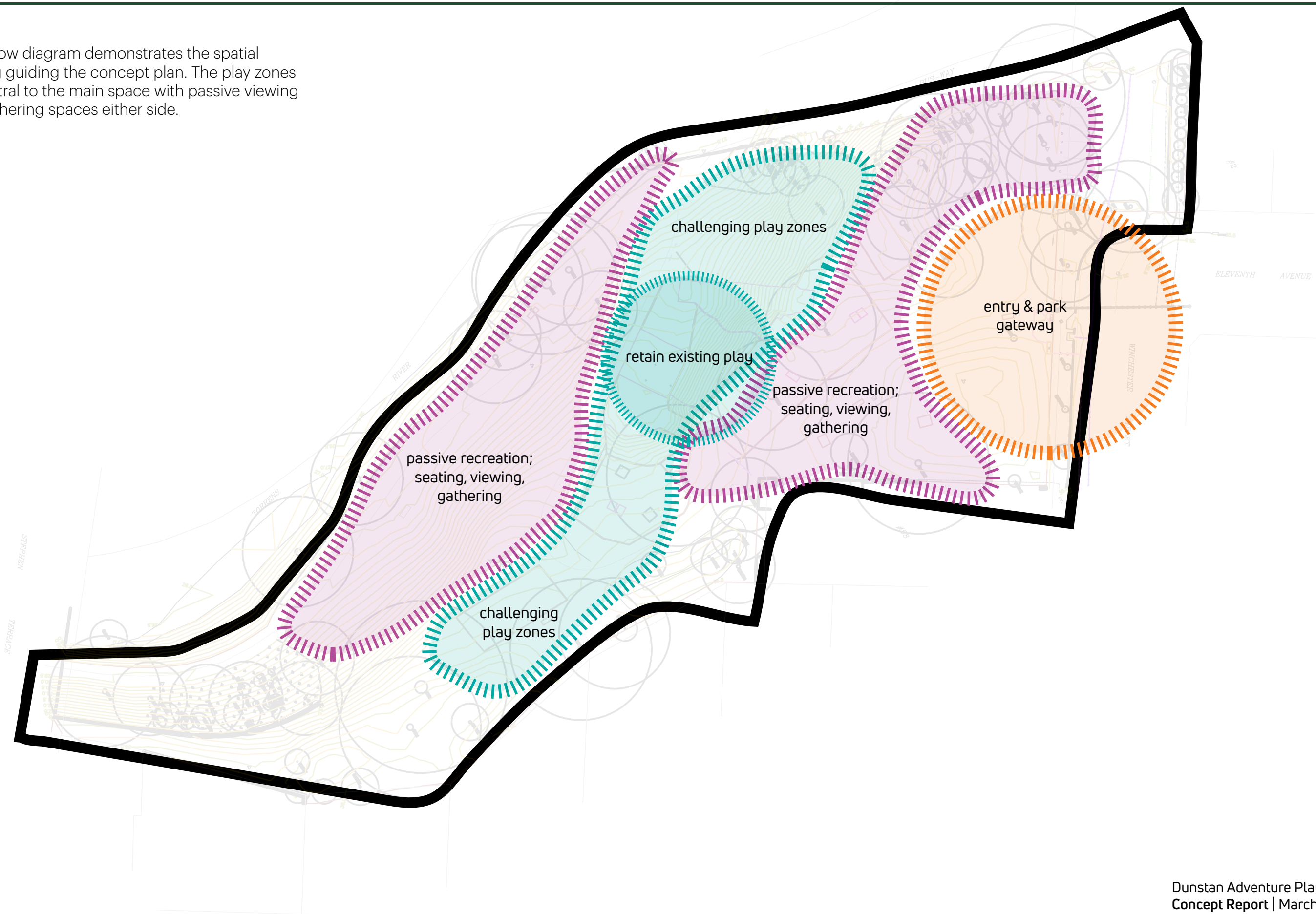
Telling Stories Through Play

- Represent important Kurna stories within play elements
- The significance of the fish trap and woven nets
- The importance of the platypus
- The art of weaving using local reeds
- Encourage education of the younger audience through integrated interpretive elements and artworks

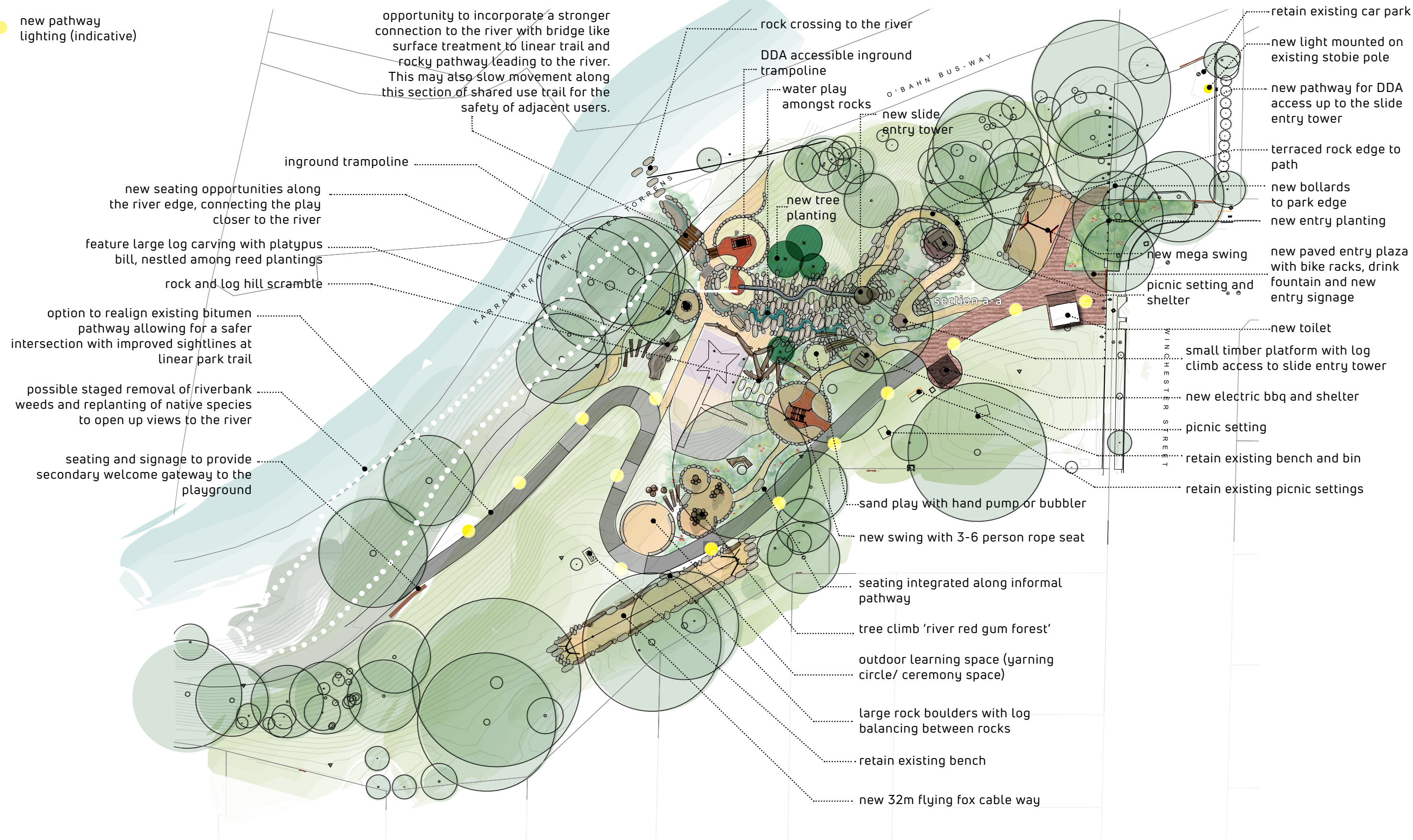
story of different types of water systems through the river - Rosalind

incorporation of Kurna food and plants - Tania

The below diagram demonstrates the spatial thinking guiding the concept plan. The play zones are central to the main space with passive viewing and gathering spaces either side.



● new pathway
lighting (indicative)



1 4 10m





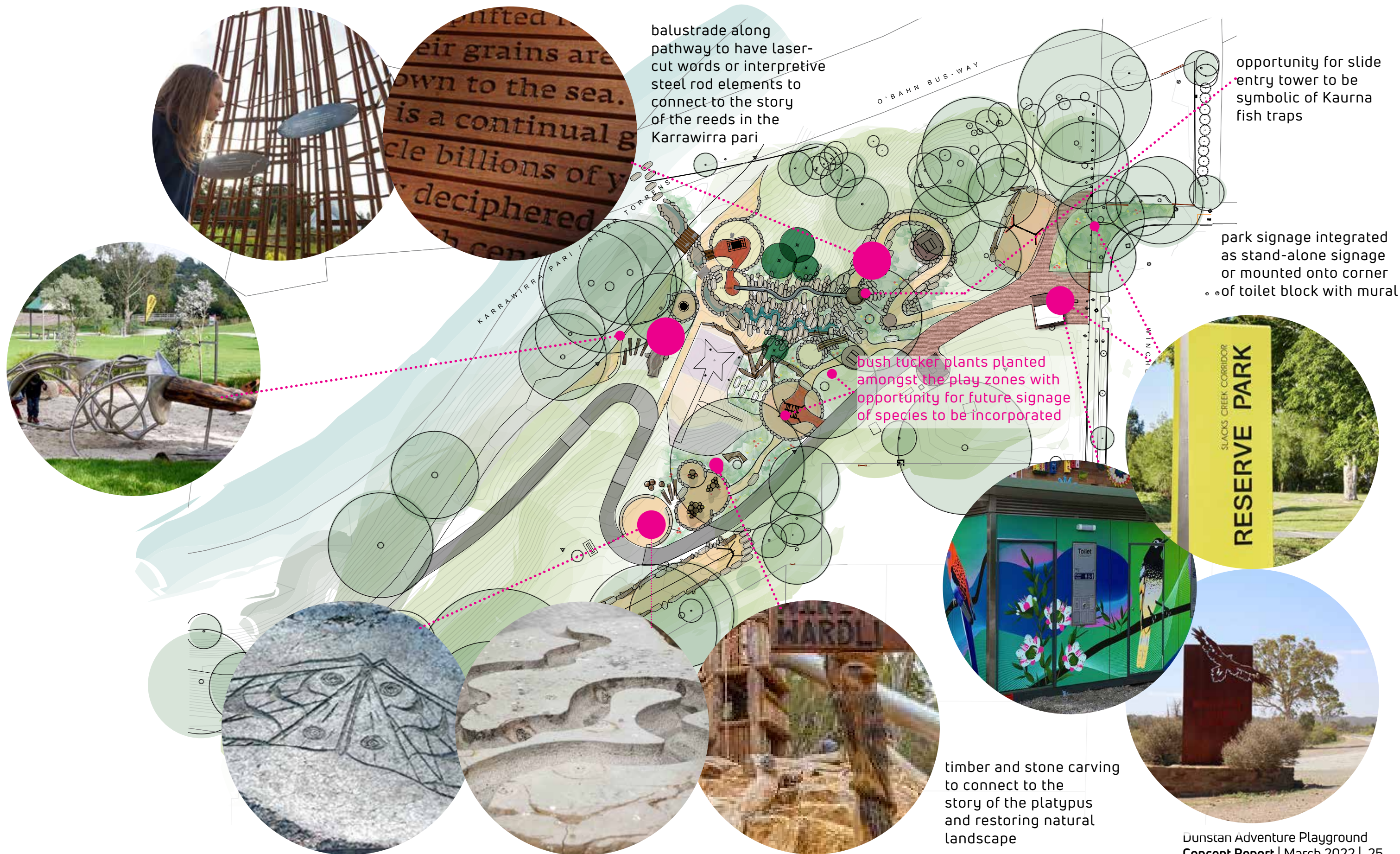
The above visualisation is an indicative view of the play and recreation experiences between the new slide and the bank of the Karrawirra pari. It shows the DDA accessible inground trampoline, sand play, boulder scramble, play swale and integrated planting.

3D visualisation - climbing tree trunks



The above visualisation is an indicative view looking south across the climbing tree trunks play zone towards the Kaurna yarning circle/ ceremony space. The foreground includes the integration of one of the existing large Eucalypts, with new planting and an informal pathway between play zones.





message posts - story telling

Integrating storytelling into a project needs to come from the heart

we belong to the land - Trevor

kids like tangible stories - Les

footprints of our stories need to be in there to show the significant of this place - Ann

telling the story of the flow of water from the hills to the sea - Tania

this would have been a significant campsite - as a high point along the river, you would have seen many campfires - Trevor

the river is an important historical place - Madge

stories need to connect with the play elements and reflect the area - Rosalind

imagine how Kurna people would manage, interact with, celebrate in this place

Above are paraphrased notes, ideas and quotes from meetings with the KYAC board.



Message posts located alongside seating areas throughout the playground provide digital storytelling experiences through QR code technology. This is an opportunity for Kurna stories to be told by the Kurna community.

precedent imagery - furniture elements



public toilet (Drage Reserve)



pole top lighting



shelter and BBQ



bike racks



drink fountain/bottle filler



bollards



large stone slab seats



picnic table

precedent imagery - materiality



insitu concrete pavement



compacted sand



pine chip softfall



rubber softfall



local species planting



sand and pebble



bitumen pathway



large rock boulders