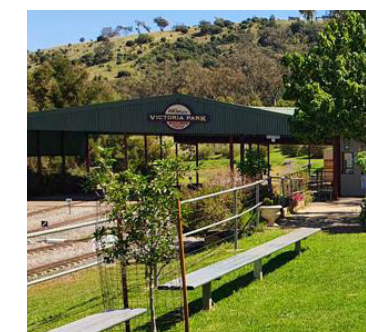
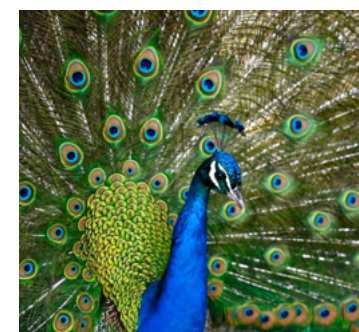
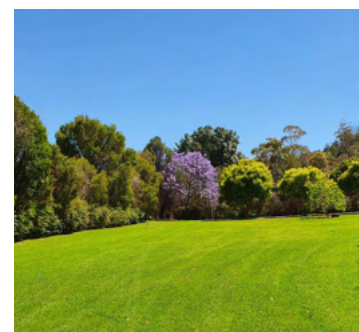
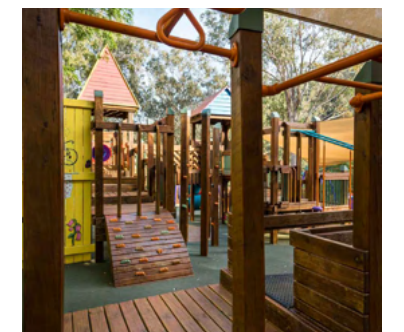
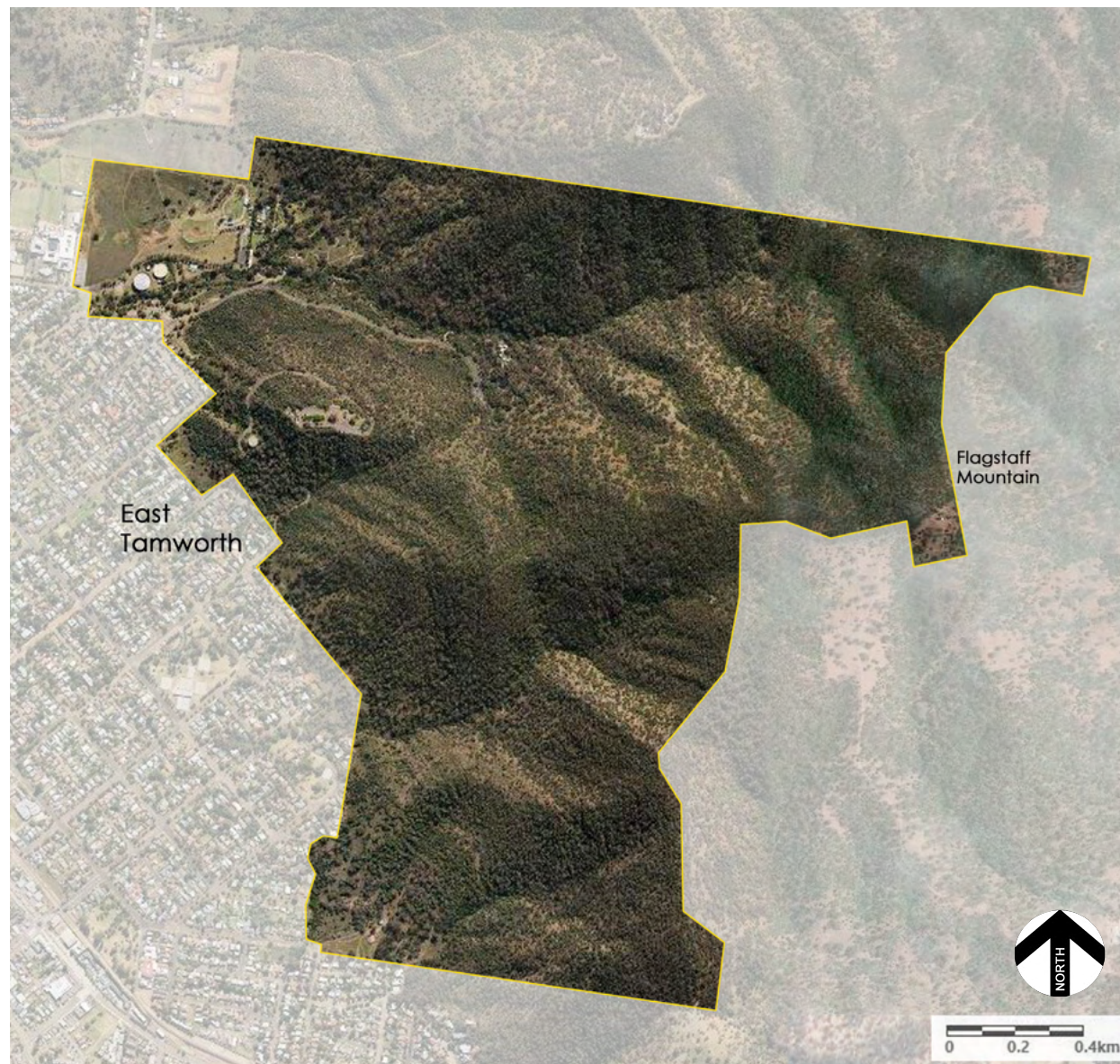


APRIL 2021

TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL Victoria Park Master Plan

Piper Street / Endeavour Drive, Tamworth

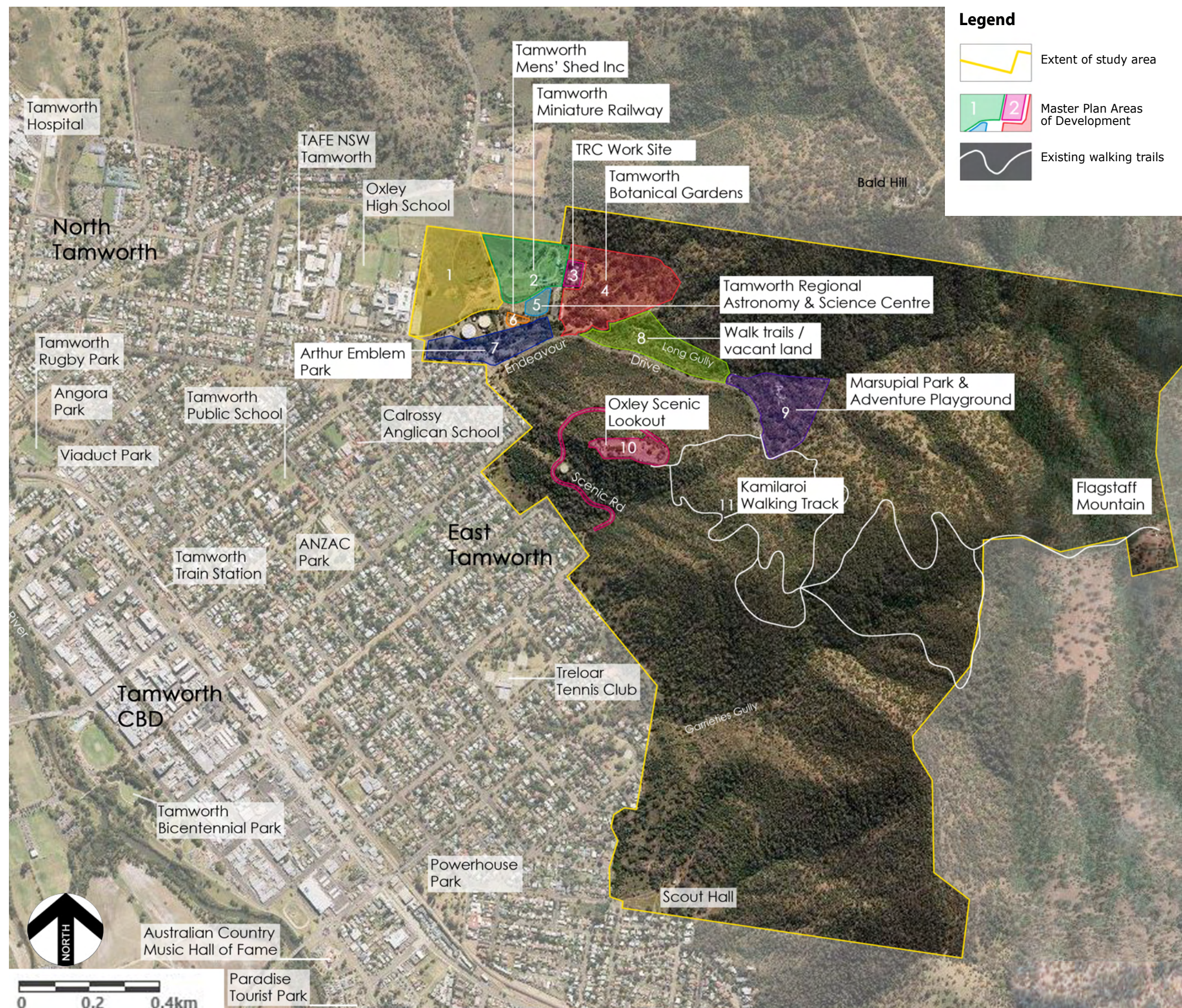


Victoria Park Master Plan

Piper Street / Endeavour Drive, Tamworth

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Study Area & Context Plan • Key Objectives of the Master Plan	3
Victoria Park Areas	4
Strategic Alignment	5
Site Analysis	6
Indigenous Background	6
Existing vehicular & pedestrian circulation adjacent to the study area	7
Existing vehicular & pedestrian circulation throughout Victoria Park precinct	8
Proposed vehicular & pedestrian circulation throughout Victoria Park precinct	9
Landscape Character Analysis	10
Proposed Development Opportunities for Victoria Park precinct	11
 Master Plan Proposals for Victoria Park	
Design Inspiration	12-14
Victoria Park Master Plan Overall	15
Commercial Opportunities	15
Operational Management	15
Master plan Area 1 Vacant Land	16
Master plan Area 2 Tamworth Miniature Railway	17
Master Plan Area 3 Tamworth Regional Council work site	18
Master Plan Area 4 Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens	19
Master Plan Area 5 Tamworth Regional Astronomy and Science Centre	20
Master Plan Area 6 Tamworth Men's Shed Inc	21
Master Plan Area 7 Arthur Emblen Park	22
Master Plan Area 8 Walking trails	23
Master Plan Area 9 Tamworth Marsupial Park & Adventure Playground	24
Master Plan Area 10 Oxley Scenic Lookout	25
Master Plan Area 11 Kamilaroi Walking Track	26
Master Plan Character sketches	27-40
Design standard - park furniture	41
Volunteers • Tourism	42
 Conclusion	43
 Appendix	
A Prioritiation Schedule	
B Victoria Park 2012 Master Plan Actions	
C Existing site conditions photos	



Introduction

InSite EM LA were engaged by Tamworth Regional Council to prepare a Master Plan for the Victoria Park precinct in the north east region of Tamworth.

Victoria Park encompasses the Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens, Tamworth Miniature Railway, Tamworth Men's Shed Inc and the Tamworth Regional Astronomy & Science Centre, along with Tamworth Marsupial Park and Adventure Playground, Oxley Scenic Lookout & the Kamilaroi Walking Track.

The purpose of this document is to develop a master plan for Victoria Park which will guide, govern and manage the future development of the park.

Victoria Park is largely utilised for recreational pursuits. The park is a destination for local families and visitors to the region.

The potential for the Victoria Park precinct to become a major regional tourist resource cannot be overestimated. This is due to its proximity to Tamworth CBD, the popularity the precinct has within the community and with the visiting public and the diverse range of tourism opportunities, both existing and potential that the precinct possesses.

The master plan aims to improve, enhance and strengthen tourism and community connections with Victoria Park and its context.

Study Area & Context Plan

The study area as shown in the Study Area & Context Map (left), is located to the immediate eastern edge of Tamworth.

The study area is bound by Daruka Road in the north, Eloura Road to the East of the range, Armidale Road to the south and Tamworth city to the west.

Key Objectives of the Master Plan

- Integrate the Victoria Park Master plan with Councils Blueprint 100;
- To identify and address existing issues within the study area;
- To identify opportunities to improve connectivity between the study area and Tamworth CBD precinct;
- To identify and improve pedestrian connections in the study area relative to context;
- To consider the future development of the park and its impact on existing facilities and circulation around the study area;
- To enhance existing and investigate future tourism opportunities within the park;
- To develop a hierarchy of park furniture and buildings/shelters within the study area to guide future installations and development;
- To provide a destination park with focus on accessibility, legibility, safety and connectivity throughout the park and adjacent precincts.

The Master Plan outlines a collective vision for Victoria Park that would activate and encourage social, cultural, recreational, tourism and environmental benefits to the community and visitors to the region for an experience that is unique to Tamworth.

This Master Plan is considered to be a living document and is to be used as a guide for the future development of Victoria Park.

Study Area & Context



Victoria Park Areas

For the purpose of this master plan, Victoria Park is separated into 11 key areas which identify the range of activities within the park.

The Master Plan will investigate each area, detailing the opportunities for each in this document.

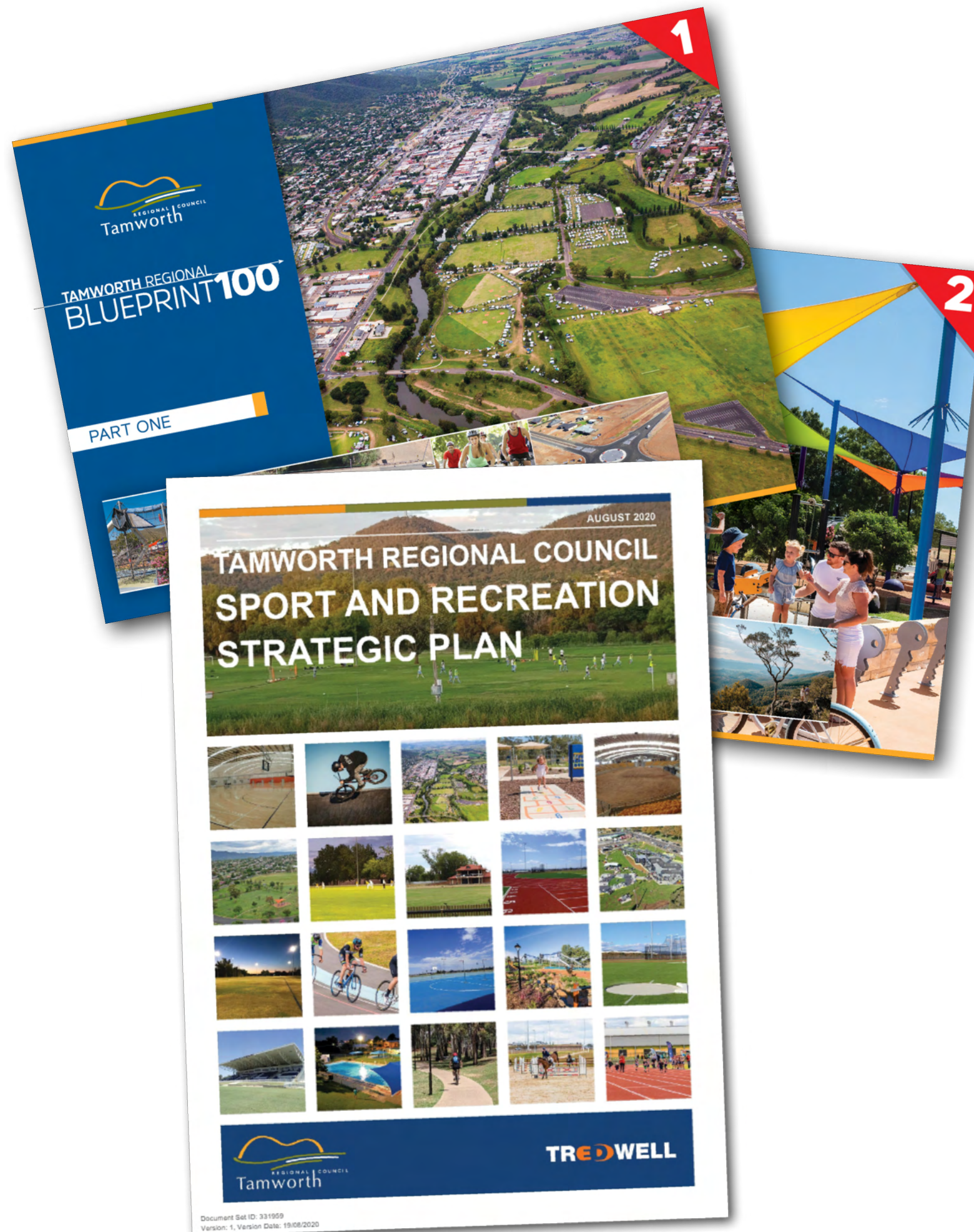
Key to Victoria Park Areas

- Area 1 Victoria Park - Vacant Land
- Area 2 Tamworth Miniature Railway
- Area 3 TRC Work Site
- Area 4 Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens
- Area 5 Tamworth Regional Astronomy and Science Centre
- Area 6 Tamworth Men's Shed Inc
- Area 7 Arthur Emblem Park
- Area 8 Walking Trails (informal/vacant land)
- Area 9 Tamworth Marsupial Park & Adventure Playground
- Area 10 Oxley Scenic Lookout
- Area 11 Kamilaroi Walking Track

Legend

- Extent of study area
- Master Plan Areas of Development
- Existing walking trails

Victoria Park Areas Diagram



Strategic Alignment

The Strategic direction for sport and recreation is influenced by a number of strategies. The Victoria Park Master Plan aligns with the planned population growth identified in Council's Blueprint 100 Strategy and the needs associated with passive recreation and facility requirements identified in Council's Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan.

Tamworth Regional Council has embarked on a process to draw all its efforts toward a coordinated approach for future planning and infrastructure delivery. This has been coined **Blueprint 100**. It encompasses the Local Strategic Planning Statement, Growth Management Strategy and other council initiatives. Blueprint 100 is a strategy to guide future use of land within the region towards a population of 100,000 people. For the Council area, it will ensure that there is sufficient infrastructure and opportunities for jobs growth and great places for people to live.

Tamworth Regional Council acknowledges the contribution open space brings to the community and places high value on the benefits that engagement in passive and active recreation brings to the community. Blueprint 100 takes into account the design of all open space and the needs of the growing community in relation to structured and unstructured recreation.

The Victoria Park Masterplan will ensure that popular areas for passive recreation in Tamworth can continue to service the growing population and includes additions to the Park to expand its utilisation as the population grows.

Dovetailing with Blueprint 100, Council's **Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan** provides a road map for planning and developing sport and recreation facilities (structured and unstructured) across the Tamworth region to align with the planned growth identified in Blueprint 100. This will ensure Council is prepared to service the future recreation needs of the community and visitors to the Council area.

The need for the Victoria Park Masterplan is identified in Action 2 of the Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan. This action details Council is to "ensure that Tamworth Regional Council offers a balanced variety of regional-level sport and recreation facilities across the LGA which provide for the needs of Northern Inland NSW as well as local participants and attracts tournaments, events and visitors from beyond this catchment". Part of achieving action 2 is sub action 2.6 which is the 'immediate' delivery of the Victoria Park Masterplan to guide and enhance Victoria Park as a regional level recreation precinct that showcases key destinations and natural areas.

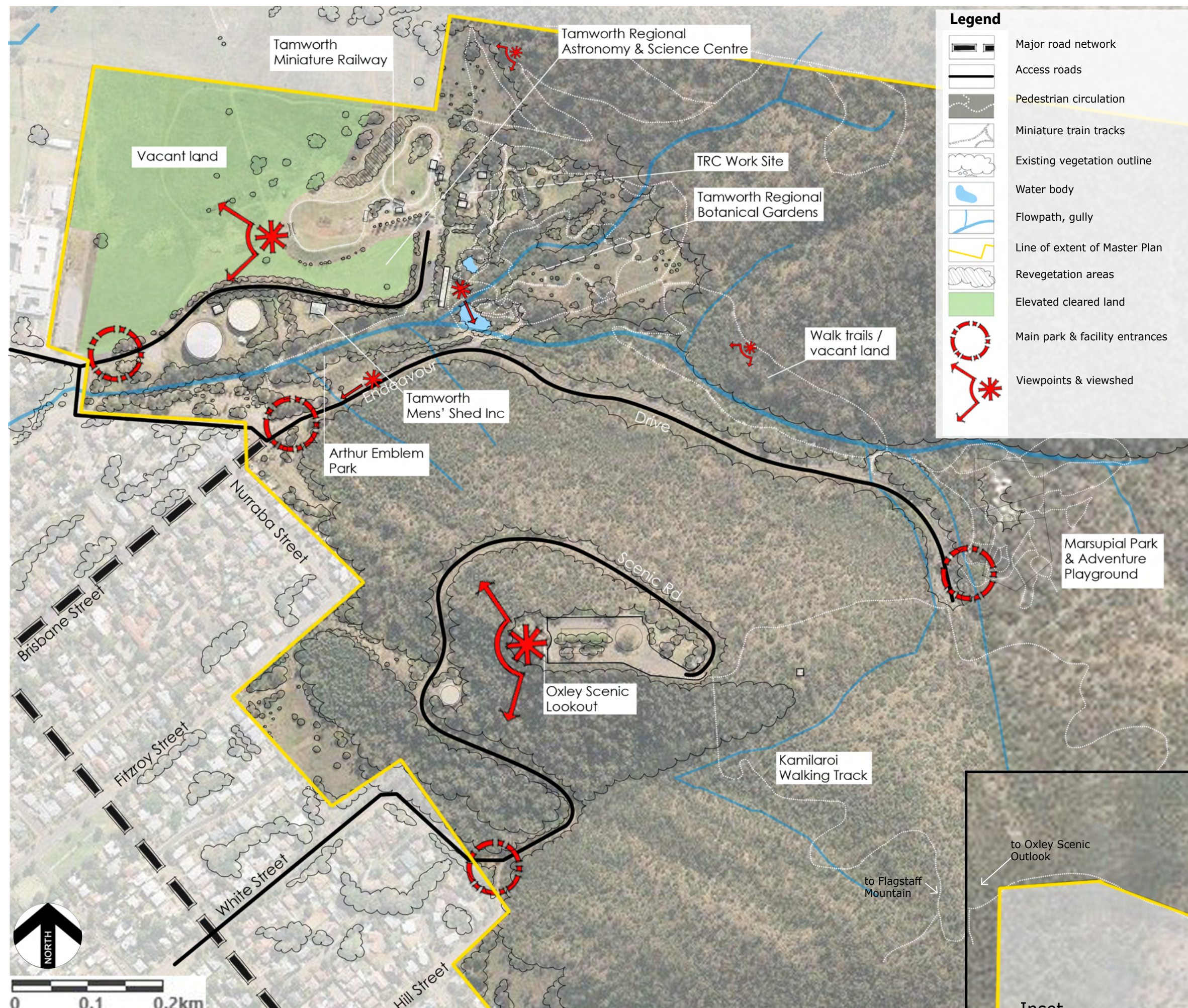
The Sport and Recreation Strategic Plan identifies key challenges and opportunities for sport and recreation across the Council area. Those the Victoria Park Masterplan will need to address include:

Challenges

- Water security;
- Regional catchment;
- Population growth;
- Encourage active lifestyles; and
- Support facilities.

Opportunities

- Maximising usage and attracting events;
- Resilient and flexible use facilities;
- Inclusive sport and recreation;
- Capacity building and community empowerment; and
- Recreation trails and active transport.



Site Analysis

A broad analysis of all relevant existing conditions in the study area was undertaken.

The site analysis included a physical overview of the study area including a photographic study and assessment of existing open space facilities, structures and connections to and between the study area and its context.

Indigenous Background

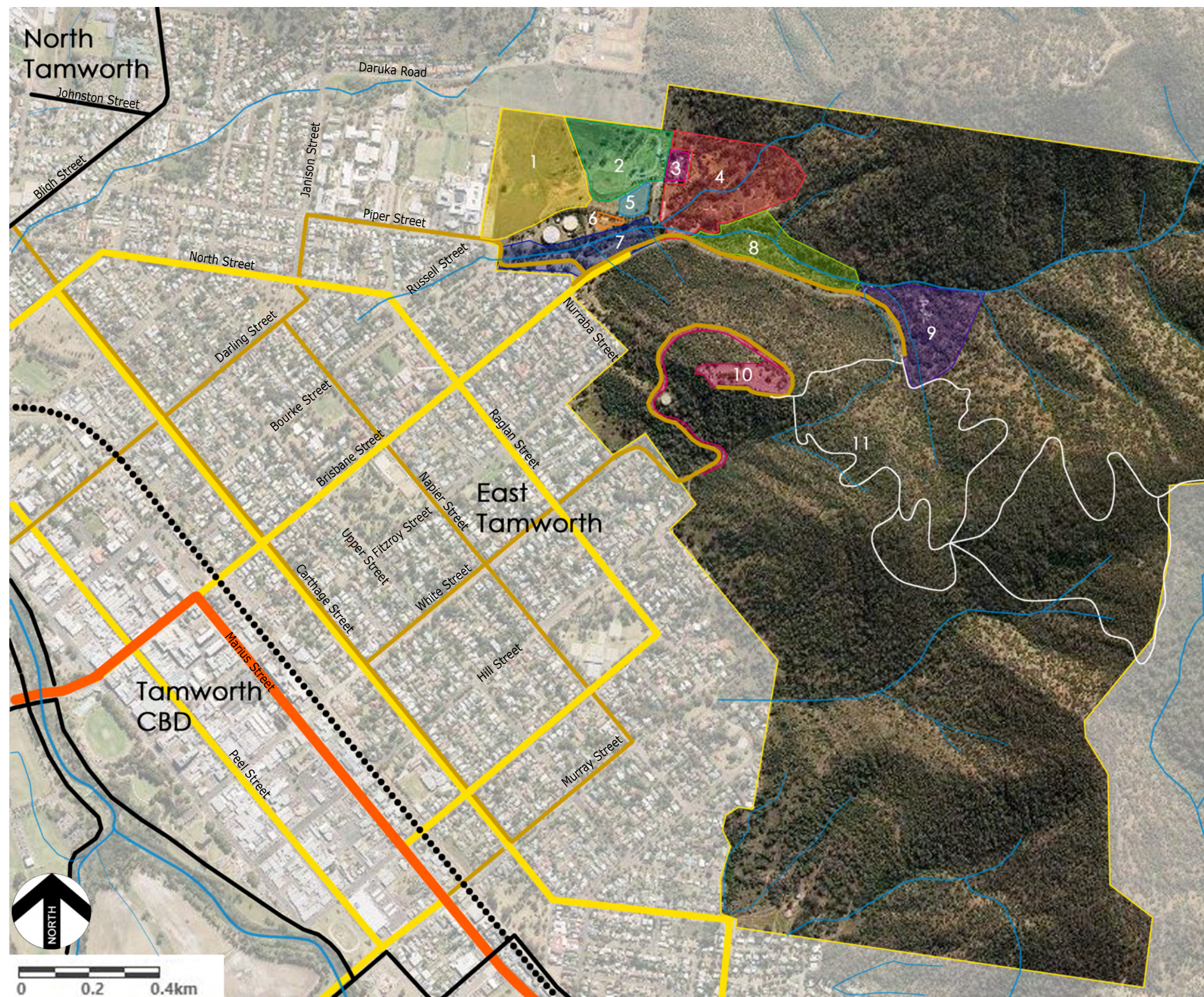
Victoria Park holds cultural significance to the Aboriginal community. The park falls within the area belonging to the Kamilaroi/Gamilaroi/Gomerioi Tribal or dialectal group and is within the Land Council Zone of the Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Past Aboriginal peoples use of the area can be ascertained by the use of the registered sites that were contained in an extensive AHIMS search of the area. This search in June 2018 revealed that there were 53 registered sites in the area bounded by 298000-306000 East and 65570000-6562000 North (with a buffer of 50 meters). Most sites within this area included scatters of stone artefacts with an occasional modified tree and one instance of grinding grooves suggesting the area was well used by Aborigines in the past.

The land is Crown Land that is managed by Tamworth Regional Council and a number of Aboriginal Land Claims exist over or nearby Victoria Park. All proposals detailed in this Plan will consider these Land Claims and appropriate consultation will be undertaken with the Aboriginal community.

The Tamworth Local Aboriginal Land Council, Council, The NSW Aboriginal Land Council and NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment - Crown Lands have been involved in a Land Negotiations Program since 2016. Given that Victoria Park is considered part of this Program, Council acknowledges different outcomes for Victoria Park as opposed to what are detailed in this Plan may result.

Site Analysis



Existing vehicular & pedestrian circulation adjacent to the study area

The study area is situated a short distance from the CBD which is further separated from East Tamworth by New England Highway and the state rail line.

The Park currently has 3 vehicular access points, these are;

1. Piper Street
2. Brisbane Street/Endeavour Drive
3. Scenic Road

As stated earlier in this master plan, the legibility of the connectivity between the study area and the Tamworth CBD is currently poor.

This master plan will, in subsequent sections, elaborate on solutions to this lack of connection.

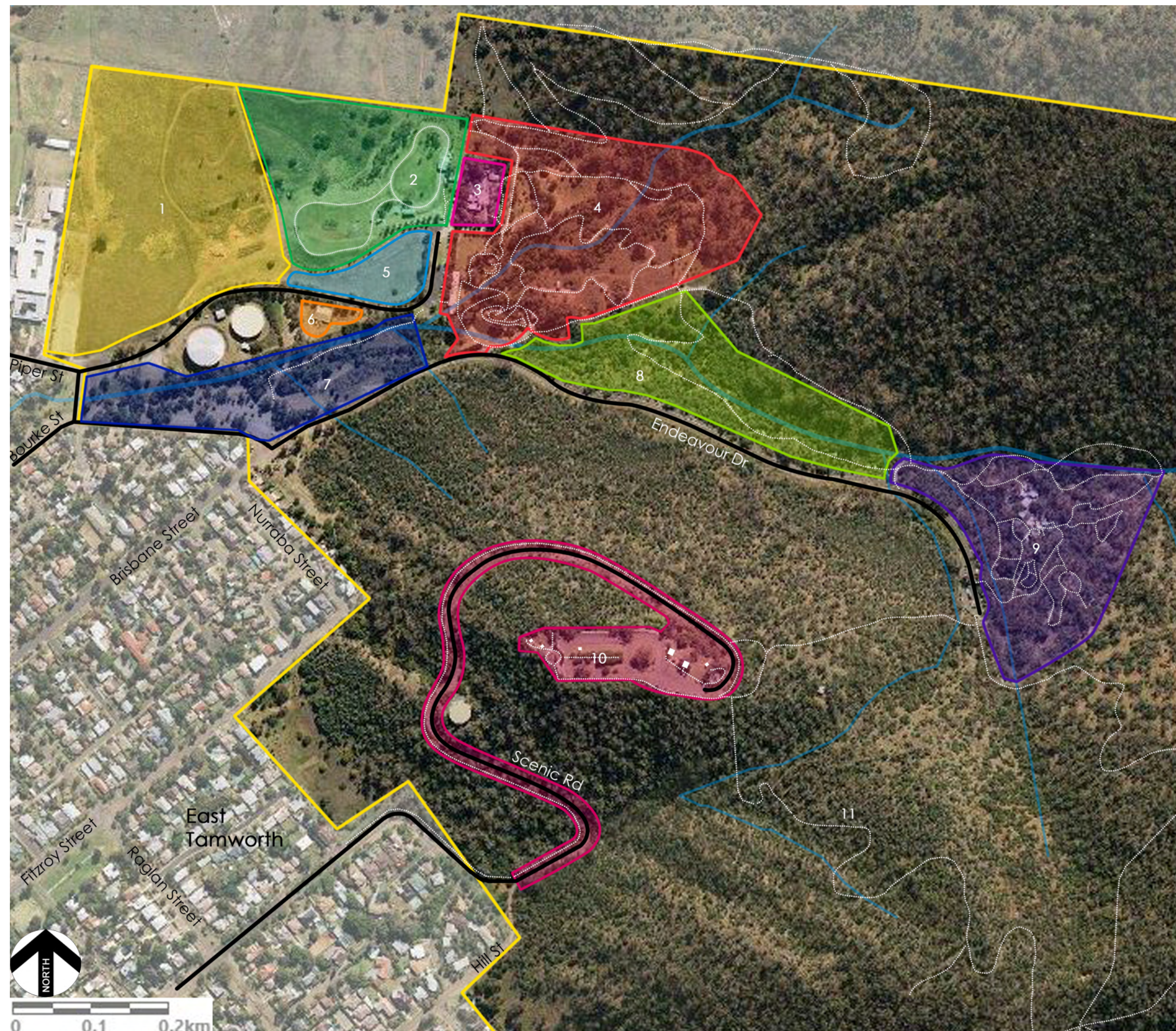
In brief, the solutions are;

1. A new vehicular entry off Endeavour Drive to access areas 1 to 6 of the precinct
2. Improved pedestrian pathway and cycling network to all parts of the precinct
3. The provision of well designed and located directional signage from the CBD to the precinct.

Legend

	Highways
	Major road network
	Bicycle/pedestrian network - Existing*
	Bicycle/pedestrian network - Future*
	Flowpath, gully
	Rail line
	Study Area extent of Master Plan
	Victoria Park Areas of development
	Existing walking trails

Existing vehicular & pedestrian circulation adjacent to the study area



Existing vehicular & pedestrian circulation throughout Victoria Park precinct

Internal vehicular circulation is confined to sealed carparks accessed via public roads.

These carparks are all in good condition and are closed to public vehicles for specified times.






Internal pedestrian circulation is confined to either sealed or concrete footpaths in the more formal settings or unsealed walking trails in the balance of the study area.

In general the footpaths and trails are well maintained and serviced in the areas of high visitation.

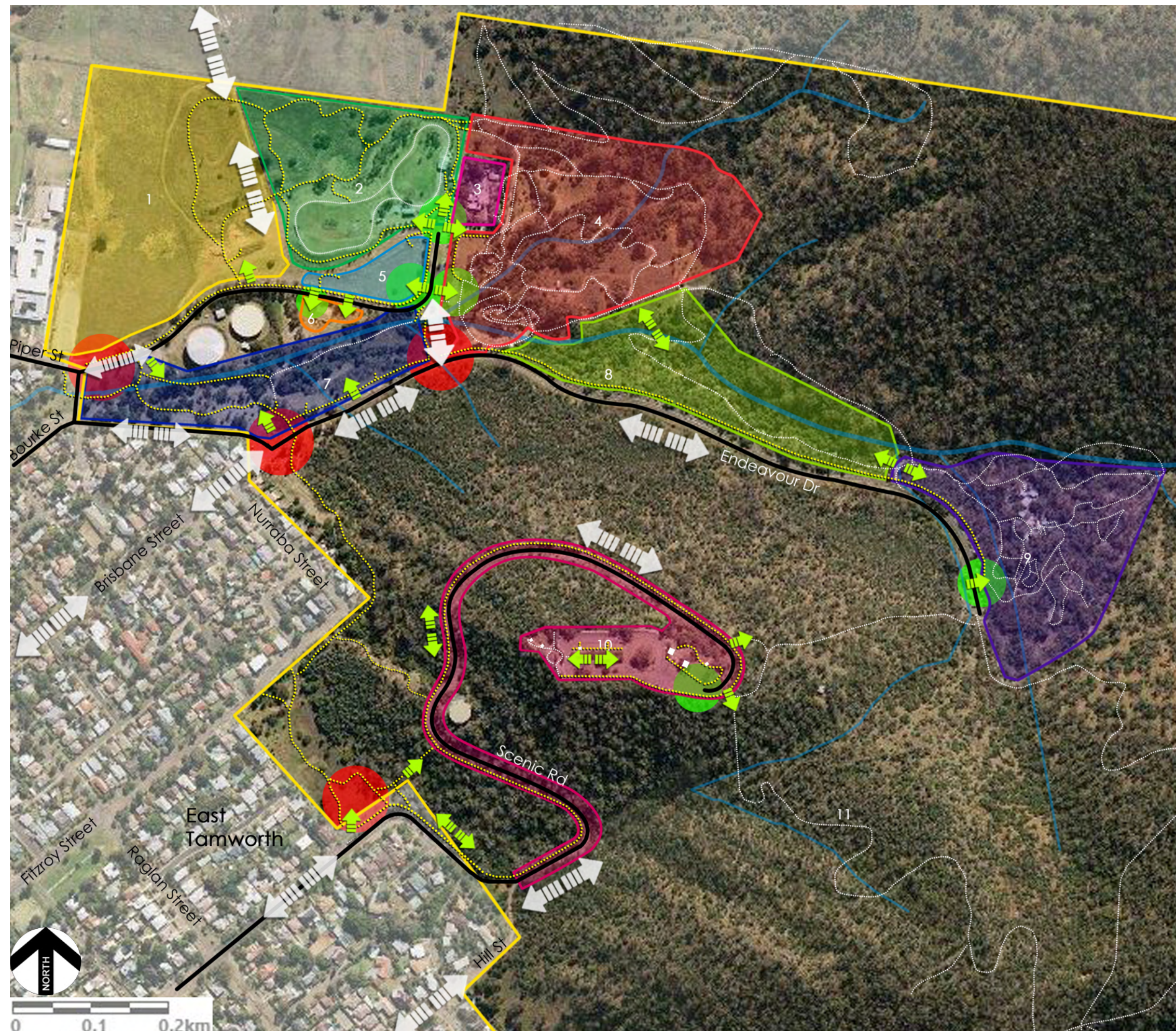
However, many of the back country trails lack erosion control measures, directional signage, seating, hand rails & steps.

Furthermore, most of these trails pass through highly degraded environments which require rectification.

Legend

-  Existing vehicular circulation
-  Existing pedestrian circulation
-  Existing Train tracks
-  Study Area extent of Master Plan
-  Victoria Park Areas of development

Existing vehicular & pedestrian circulation throughout Victoria Park precinct



Proposed vehicular & pedestrian circulation throughout Victoria Park precinct

Internal vehicular circulation;

- Provide new feature main entry off Endeavour Drive for public access to area 2,4,5, & 6
- Retain existing access off Piper Street as secondary public entry when the new main entry is closed due to flooding and for service and TRC works vehicles
- Seal existing unsealed internal road for TRC vehicles to access TRC Works Depot, eliminating the need for these vehicles to traverse through the public carpark.

Internal pedestrian circulation;

- Formalise the off road trail network through Arthur Emblen Park from Piper Street to the Botanic Gardens and from Endeavour Drive to White Street to improve pedestrian connectivity between the neighboring suburbs and the attractions
- Undertake a condition audit of the pathway and trail network and prepare an upgrade and maintenance schedule
- Establish greater internal connections between all attractions and facilities via a pneumatic tyred passenger train path for the future growth of the precinct.

Legend

- Existing vehicular circulation
- Existing pedestrian circulation
- Existing train experience
- Study Area extent of Master Plan
- Victoria Park Areas of Development
- Proposed vehicular circulation improvements
- Proposed destination arrival experience improvements
- Proposed pedestrian circulation improvements
- Proposed destination arrival points of entry
- Proposed attraction/facility arrival points of entry

Proposed vehicular & pedestrian circulation throughout Victoria Park precinct



Landscape Character

The landscape in the Victoria Park precinct is predominately Dry Sclerophyll forest with expanses consisting of both native and exotic grass land species to the lower portions of the range.

Landscape enhancement works have been installed around the Oxley Lookout carpark and picnic areas & large shade trees planted in an avenue effect have been established along the northern side of Victoria Parks Piper Street extension/access road.

Aside from natural attrition, trees may need to be removed as a result of storm damage, decline in health, condition, disease and death of trees over time. This can visually alter the character of the landscape.

An ongoing vegetation maintenance program is essential to provide for long-term success of the environment within Victoria Park, along with regular monitoring to detect any issues with the health of trees.

Additional tree plantings in the form of revegetation and regeneration works as required will further enhance the park environment, whilst maintaining the parks natural character into the future.

Legend

- Dry Sclerophyll forest (shrub/grass subformation)
- Native grasslands
- Gardens/landscaped areas
- Watercourses
- Study Area extent of Master
- Existing walking trails

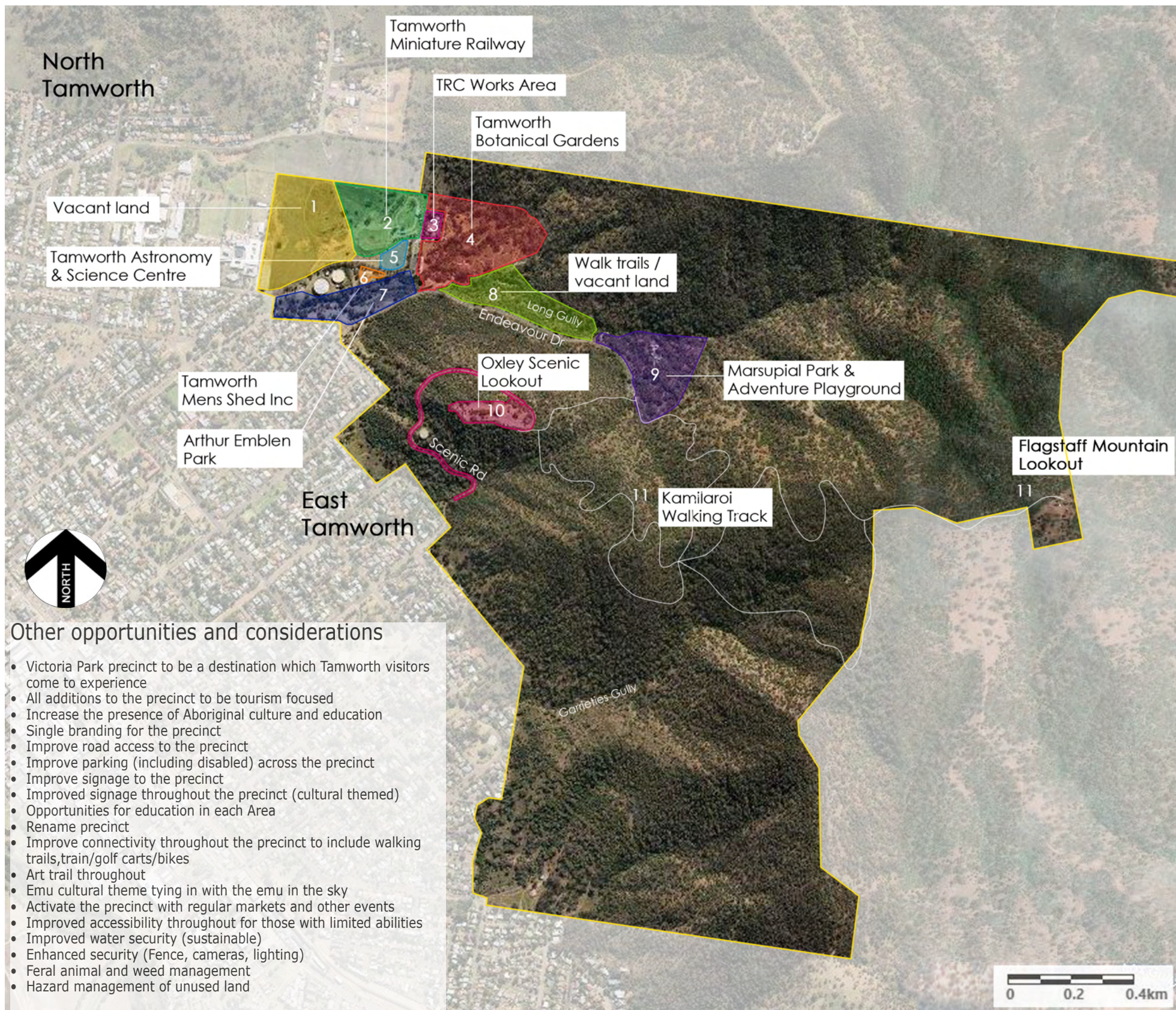
Landscape Character Definitions

Open grassland;
Open areas of grass including playing fields. open grassland can include regularly maintained and irrigated areas to natural unmown areas and may contain a small grove of trees.

Garden;
Gardens consist of primarily ornamental horticultural displays and flower beds. Gardens may also include trees, hedges and statues or monuments.

Wooded grassland;
More trees are found in these areas than in open grassland. Usually irregularly spaced evergreen trees providing light shade or random cover to an area of mown or unmown grass.

Landscape Character Analysis



Other opportunities and considerations

- Victoria Park precinct to be a destination which Tamworth visitors come to experience
- All additions to the precinct to be tourism focused
- Increase the presence of Aboriginal culture and education
- Single branding for the precinct
- Improve road access to the precinct
- Improve parking (including disabled) across the precinct
- Improve signage to the precinct
- Improved signage throughout the precinct (cultural themed)
- Opportunities for education in each Area
- Rename precinct
- Improve connectivity throughout the precinct to include walking trails, train/golf carts/bikes
- Art trail throughout
- Emu cultural theme tying in with the emu in the sky
- Activate the precinct with regular markets and other events
- Improved accessibility throughout for those with limited abilities
- Improved water security (sustainable)
- Enhanced security (Fence, cameras, lighting)
- Feral animal and weed management
- Hazard management of unused land

Proposed Development Opportunities for Victoria Park precinct

Area 1 - Vacant Land

- Walking tracks
- Overflow parking area
- Aboriginal Keeping place
- Maintain in clean condition

Area 2 - Tamworth Miniature Railway

- Landscape site (drought tolerant)
- Tree planting for shade & amenity
- Improve overall appearance
- Rail Track expansion within site
- Placement of an Astronomy Radio Dish on site
- Extend shade roof over southern end of the station

Area 3 - TRC work site

- Staff work office
- Screen area with landscaping
- Additional water tank
- Seal entry road

Area 4 - Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens

- Park entrance building to include;
 - Information Centre (pertaining to park)
 - Location of conference/functions/education centre with cafe/restaurant
 - Education Rooms
 - Gift shop
- Distinctive garden areas throughout the botanic gardens
- Improve water security
- Line ponds and dam to minimise water loss
- Artefact display building
- Aboriginal artefact site with board walk
- Signage for all plants
- Develop the lookout within the Botanic Gardens area
- Refurbish the bush chapel
- Presence of public art
- Flora highlighting aboriginal cultural practices & to be used in education (bush tucker garden, lomandra grasses for weaving)
- Connect existing sewer to new sewer main
- Continue threatened species project

Area 5 - Tamworth Regional Astronomy & Science Centre

- Landscaping
- Barbecue /picnic area with shelter
- History of astronomy plaza (sculptures)
- Relocate Stargazer statue from Gallery to Astronomy Centre
- Sundial
- Installation of Radio Dishes

Area 6 - Tamworth Men's Shed Inc.

- Investigate extension of facility
- Seal the carpark
- Provide storage area for material storage
- Provide static display area

Area 7 - Arthur Emblen Pk

- Access to the park off Brisbane Street across the eastern end of Arthur Emblen Park
- Site for stormwater detention
- Embellish the park in accordance with the Open Space Management Guide

Area 8 - Walking Trails

- Improve walking trails
- Provide seating as appropriate
- Potential relocation site for emus
- Revegetate

Area 9 - Tamworth Marsupial Park & Adventure Playground

- Power (solar or fixed)
- Sewer connection
- Carpark expansion along Endeavour Dr
- Marsupial Park becomes an interactive 'hands on' animal park
- Increased animal presence
- Nocturnal House
- Handling aviary
- Quarantine aviary
- Kiosk
- Upgrade free flight aviary to mesh
- Amphitheatre/outdoor classroom
- Breeding program
- Additional barbecues
- Address site erosion
- Night animal tours

Area 10 - Oxley Scenic Lookout

- Improve walk from the bottom to the top of the lookout
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Designated parking area at the bottom of lookout
- Map & fixed binoculars
- Carpark/road improvements including painted directional arrows and line marking

Area 11 - Kamilaroi Walking track

- Walking track improvements
- Improved directional signage
- Seating & shelter as required
- Upgrade end of track/lookout creating a destination
- Implement measures to minimise erosion of track



Bridge style for vehicle and pedestrian crossings



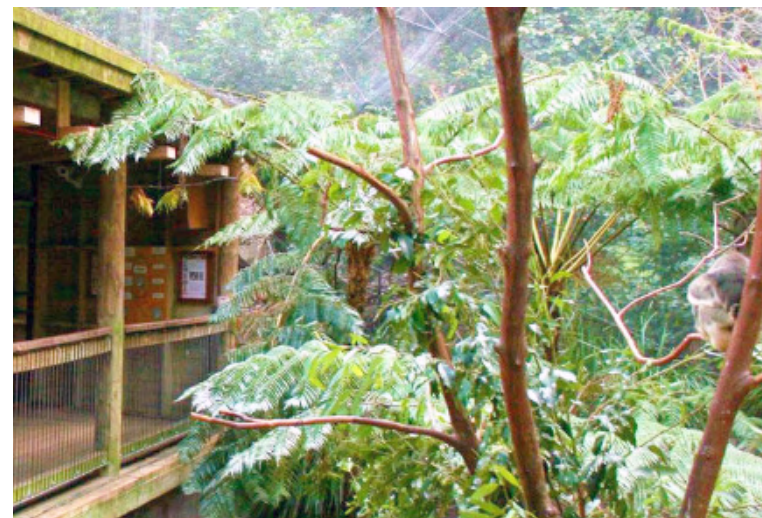
Wombat exhibit



Boardwalk access through Indigenous garden experience



Almphotheatre example



Koala sanctuary exhibit example



Koala sanctuary exhibit example



Interpretive signage style example



Miniature railway attraction



Natural exhibits and enclosure style

Design inspiration



Pneumatic tired tourist train example



Nature based play



Free flight aviary example



Nature based play and explore trails



Kangaroo feeding grassed areas



Tourist train example



Fitness station example



Alfresco dining style



Nocturnal house exhibit example

Design inspiration



Walking trail example



Kamilaroi carving



Indigenous art displays



Education opportunities and cultural events



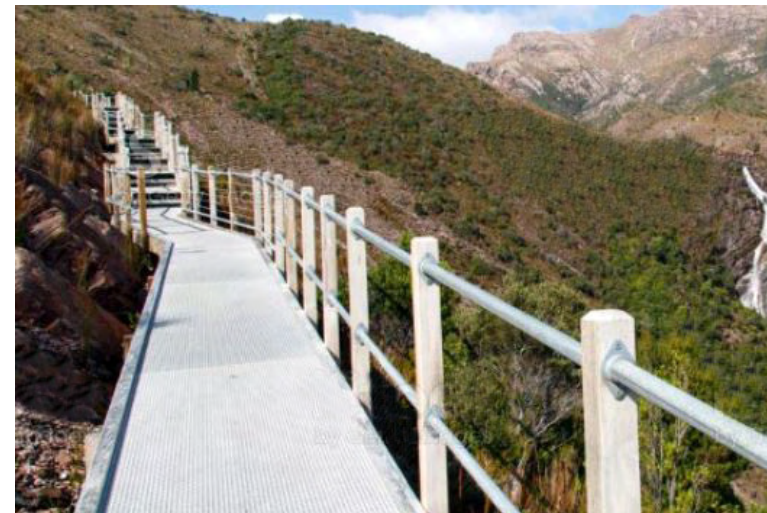
Indigenous cultural activities



Indigenous interactions



Astronomy and culture

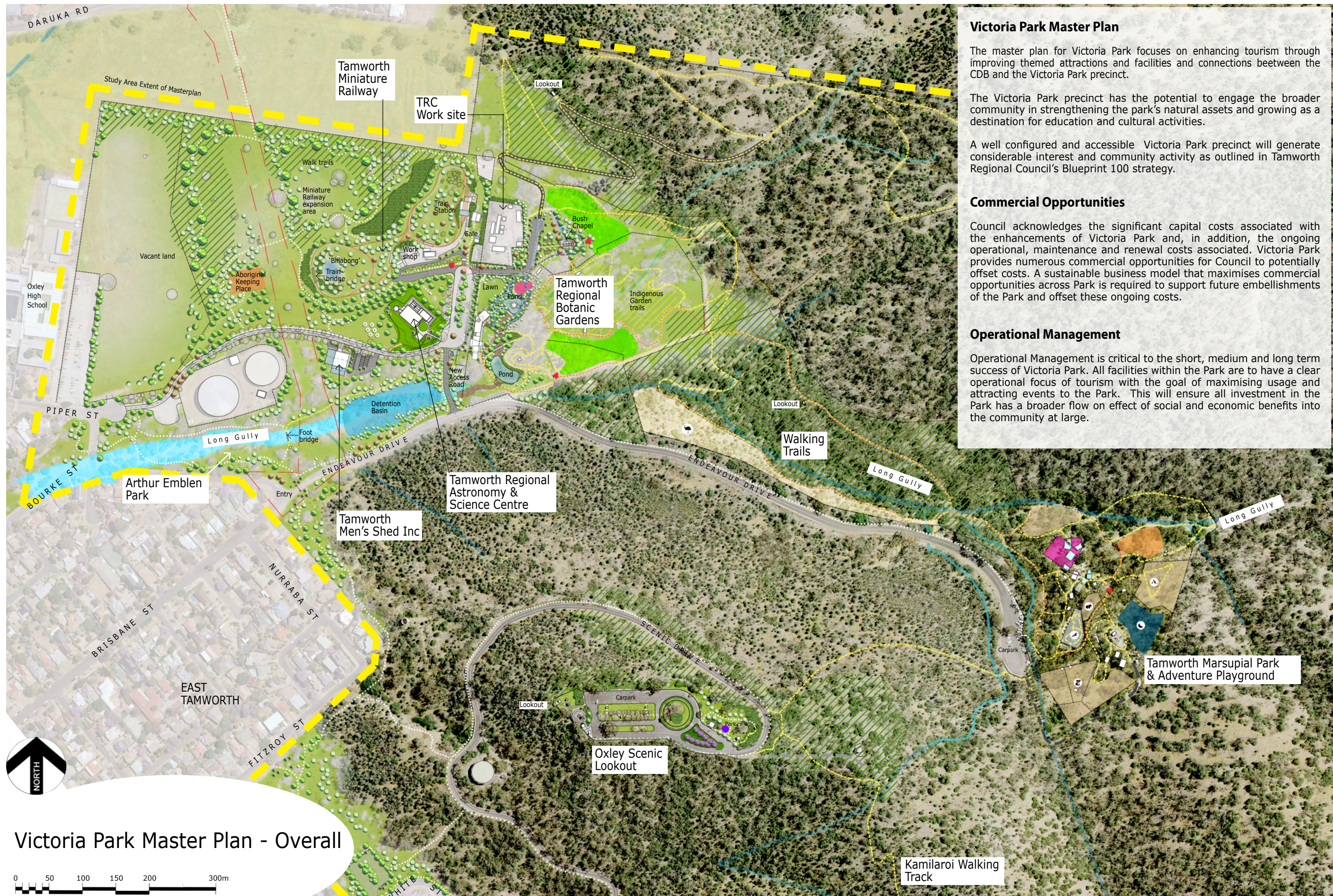


Cantilevered boardwalk installation example at edges of access roads



Path with steps for walking tracks

Design inspiration



Victoria Park Master Plan

The master plan for Victoria Park focuses on enhancing tourism through improving themed attractions and facilities and connections between the CDB and the Victoria Park precinct.

The Victoria Park precinct has the potential to engage the broader community in strengthening the park's natural assets and growing as a destination for education and cultural activities.

A well configured and accessible Victoria Park precinct will generate considerable interest and community activity as outlined in Tamworth Regional Council's Blueprint 100 strategy.

Commercial Opportunities

Council acknowledges the significant capital costs associated with the enhancements of Victoria Park and, in addition, the ongoing operational, maintenance and renewal costs associated. Victoria Park provides numerous commercial opportunities for Council to potentially offset costs. A sustainable business model that maximises commercial opportunities across Park is required to support future embellishments of the Park and offset these ongoing costs.

Operational Management

Operational Management is critical to the short, medium and long term success of Victoria Park. All facilities within the Park are to have a clear operational focus of tourism with the goal of maximising usage and attracting events to the Park. This will ensure all investment in the Park has a broader flow on effect of social and economic benefits into the community at large.

Victoria Park Master Plan - Overall

0 50 100 150 200 300m
Scale 1:5000 A3



- ① Walking Trails integrated with new landscaping and revegetation works to open space area; provide adequate access, seating, shelters and security for these activities; maintain in clean condition. Revegetation planting to be predominantly native trees and low level shrubs and native grasses
- ② Overflow parking area and open space; kickabout field; maintain in clean mown condition; Refer note below
- ③ Easement / future road to be kept free of any other development works; maintain in mown clean condition
- ④ Aboriginal Keeping Place designation; cultural experience including yarning circle, bush tucker garden, information centre, exhibits, interpretive elements, educational interactions
- ⑤ Carpark; vehicle parking for visitors to adjacent attraction, stabilised gravel or grass paver surface
- ⑥ Pedestrian path connecting Victoria Park and Daruka Road

Legend

- Existing pedestrian circulation
- Study Area extent of Master Plan
- Revegetation areas; local native shrub & grass species
- Proposed pedestrian circulation improvements
- Grassed areas
- Proposed mass planted garden beds
- Proposed shade/amenity tree planting
- Existing trees to be protected and maintained where possible at all times



Master Plan - Area 1 Vacant land

0 10 20 30 40 50 100 150m
Scale 1:2500 A3



- 1 Tamworth Miniature Railway; improve existing railway attraction with additional rail loops creating additional experiences within the journey
- 2 Landscape works within and adjacent to the tracks, provide and enhance views and vistas outward to surrounding areas, create a seasonal billabong in the western loop with relevant native plantings, add arbors, sidings and picnic areas in close proximity to train track to improve overall aesthetic
- 3 Train Station; improve facilities as required to enhance the train ride experience, heritage elements and decor, colours and train 'conductor' experience, provide clear waiting and disembarking platforms and pathways, addition of a station bypass loop
- 4 Cafe & shelter area; improve connections between these buildings, maintain grass in front of canteen and add awning to the northern side of the cafe
- 5 Entry; enhance the entry experience into the miniature railway attraction, rustic and natural elements incorporated with signage and entry structure, path access to station and cafe/kiosk, seating nodes along path, shade trees
- 6 Train Bridge & Outlook; provide natural and sculptural 'scenery' to view from the railway including tree lined sections, rocky outcrops, tunnel entrance enhancements, open space and vistas outward to surrounding areas
- 7 Workshop Area; improve aesthetics to integrate with entrance and station presentation, shade trees, possible limited access or public viewing areas, working displays, interactive opportunities
- 8 Access road for railway maintenance vehicles; to be sealed and restricted to service vehicle only to minimise the risk of conflict
- 9 Vegetation; maintain existing vegetated area and integrate with future revegetation works
- 10 Train Tunnels; provide tunnel entry and exit experience with landscape features including rock, timbers and vegetation, possible 'glow-worm' installations within tunnel ceiling to create interest along the journey
- 11 New service road and carpark for approx 45 vehicles
- 12 Tourist train station; Arrival & departure point for pneumatic tyred tourist train.
- 13 Potential expansion area for Tamworth Miniature Railway, extending the train ride though proposed trees & gardens, to future design

Legend

- Existing pedestrian circulation
- Study Area extent of Master Plan
- Existing train track experience
- Proposed train track extension
- Revegetation areas; local native shrub & grass species
- Proposed pedestrian circulation improvements
- Grassed areas
- Proposed mass planted garden beds
- Proposed shade/amenity tree planting
- Existing trees to be protected and maintained where possible at all times
- Proposed pneumatic tyred train station

Master Plan - Area 2 Tamworth Miniature Railway




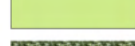




0 1 2 3 4 5 6m
Scale 1:100 A3

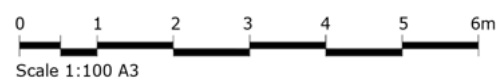


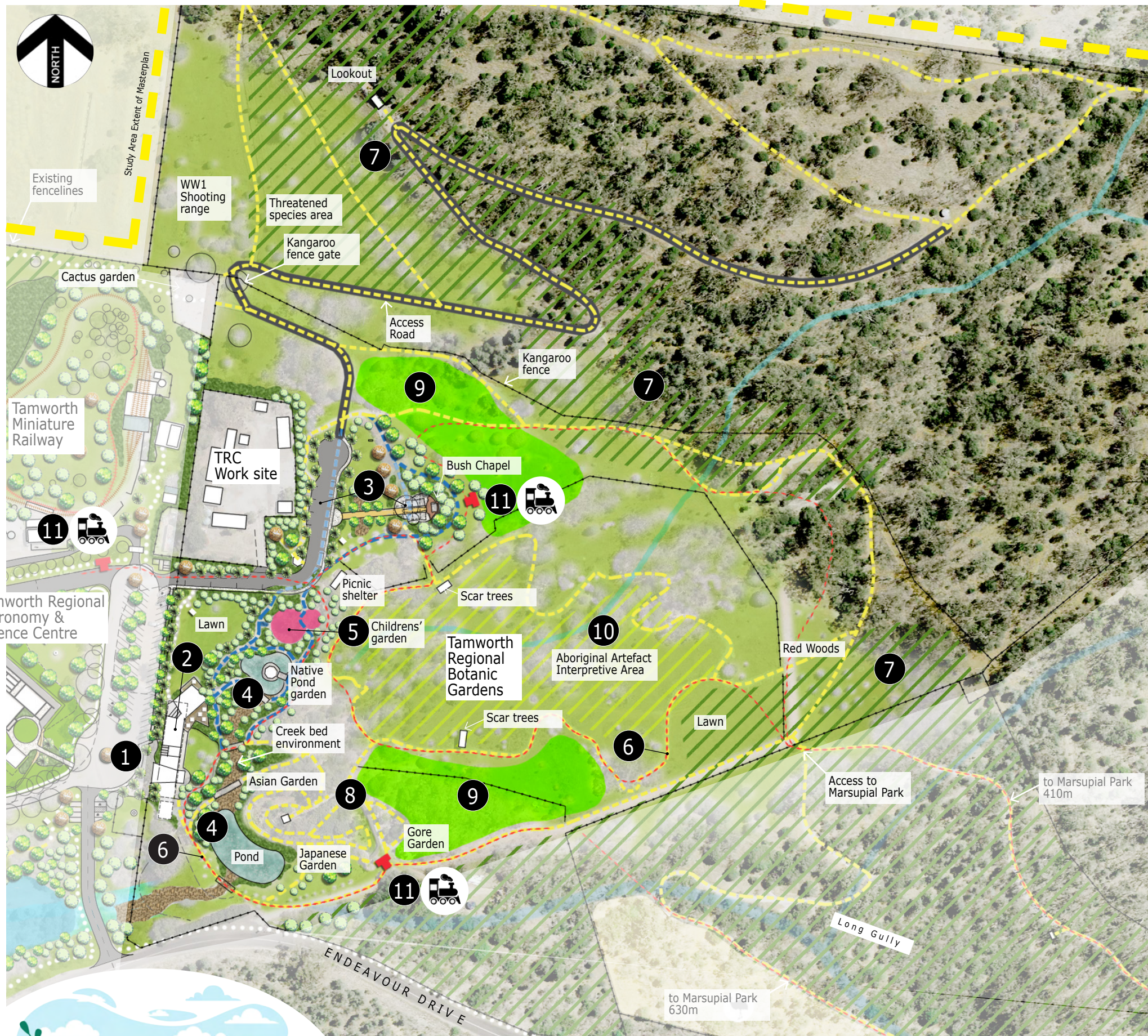
- ① TRC Work site; improve storage areas and maintain in a clean tidy condition, provide a water tank
- ② Entry; seal the road and maintain the entry and exit point in a neat and tidy condition
- ③ Machinery shed; improve facilities as required and maintain in a clean tidy condition
- ④ Potting shed; improve facilities as required and maintain in a clean tidy condition
- ⑤ Nursery facilities; improve facilities as required and maintain in a clean tidy condition
- ⑥ New staff site office
- ⑦ Vegetation screen; provide dense vegetative screen along all boundaries of TRC work site to mask views from botanic gardens activities including bush chapel events

Legend

-  Existing vehicular access road & pedestrian trail
-  Existing pedestrian circulation
-  Existing pedestrian footpaths
-  Grassed areas
-  Proposed mass planting garden beds
-  Proposed shade/amenity tree planting

Master Plan - Area 3 Tamworth Regional Council Work Site





Master Plan - Area 4 Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens

0 50 100 150 200 300m
Scale 1:5000 A3

- 1 New formal entrance to Botanic Gardens; provide formalised entry experience from new carpark with shade trees & feature landscaping in roundabout, clear pedestrian paths, built elements and signage for ease and accessibility into gardens, improve seating & tables & integrate these items with new park development style
- 2 New Conference Centre, Cafe & Amenities; new building designed for sustainability and sensitivity to the surrounding environment to consist of conference facilities, reception, information, educational areas/library and amenities, situate for best views across gardens and surrounds
- 3 Bush Chapel; reconfigure existing bush chapel site oriented away from afternoon sun for photography, provide arrival experience via sealed access road and parking for longer vehicles (including buses), provide solid decorative path from drop off to chapel and solid surface under seating and shelters for function space, landscape surrounds to allow views and vistas outward to surrounding environment
- 4 Existing ponds; repair and improve ponds for sustainable water storage, line ponds and stop leaks, investigate bore water sources, rainwater harvesting, filtering stormwater runoff from carpark for example, underground storage tank options and re-using water, re-activate the pond areas and improve these areas by connecting the ponds via an appropriately landscaped creek bed, circulate water between ponds creating a cascading feature through a forested area
- 5 Childrens garden; future nature based play space in garden surrounds providing low level climbing, scrambling and balance challenges along with sensory elements
- 6 Tourist train path; pneumatic tyred tourist passenger train connecting internally between attractions on a select path, widen and improve existing paths as required
- 7 Revegetation areas; partner with landcare groups, indigenous groups and community to revegetate open areas with suitable, locally sourced native plant, shrub and grass species
- 8 Memorials; develop a policy with regard to memorials within the Botanic Gardens that allows the recognition of significant persons or personal contributions to the local community to avoid random placement of memorial items through the gardens
- 9 Future areas of possible expansion of the Botanic Gardens features
- 10 Indigenous Gardens; rationalise native plants and remove weeds and unsuitable vegetation, improve walking trail surfaces, include a boardwalk & make all trails accessible where possible, food trails, interpretive signage improvements along trail, interactive elements, cultural demonstrations
- 11 Tourist train Station; arrival & departure point for pneumatic tyred tourist passenger train, shelter roof over





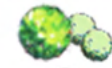

Legend

- Existing vehicular access road & pedestrian trail
- Existing pedestrian circulation
- Existing pedestrian footpaths
- Flowpath, gully
- Revegetation areas
- Proposed pedestrian circulation improvements
- Proposed pneumatic tyred train path & station
- Grassed areas
- Proposed mass planting garden beds
- Proposed shade/amenity tree planting
- Existing trees to be protected and maintained where possible at all times



- 1 Tamworth Regional Astronomy & Science Centre building; under construction at time of master plan preparation
- 2 Access paths & circulation; appropriate path connections with surrounding context
- 3 Garden beds; low level native plant selections to enhance and 'ground' the new building structure to its location
- 4 History of Astronomy Plaza
- 5 Picnic/barbecue shelter in new development style
- 6 Sundial feature
- 7 Radio Dish locations
- 8 New lawns & shade trees; elevated lawn areas surrounding new building with shade trees appropriately selected and located to avoid screening of astronomy viewing areas
- 9 Stone lined drainage paths; assist rainwater direction away from new buildings as appropriate
- 10 Proposed pedestrian paths & circulation (indicative); pedestrian pathways, solid surfaced allowing ease of movement between the various facilities and attractions, provide seating and shelter for visitor comfort at appropriate points along these paths
- 11 2m wide concrete footpath

Legend

-  Grassed areas - existing
-  Grassed areas - proposed
-  Mass planted garden beds - proposed
-  Proposed pedestrian circulation
-  Proposed shade/amenity tree planting
-  Existing trees to be protected and maintained where possible at all times

Master Plan - Area 5 Tamworth Regional Astronomy & Science Centre

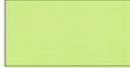





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Scale 1:500 A3



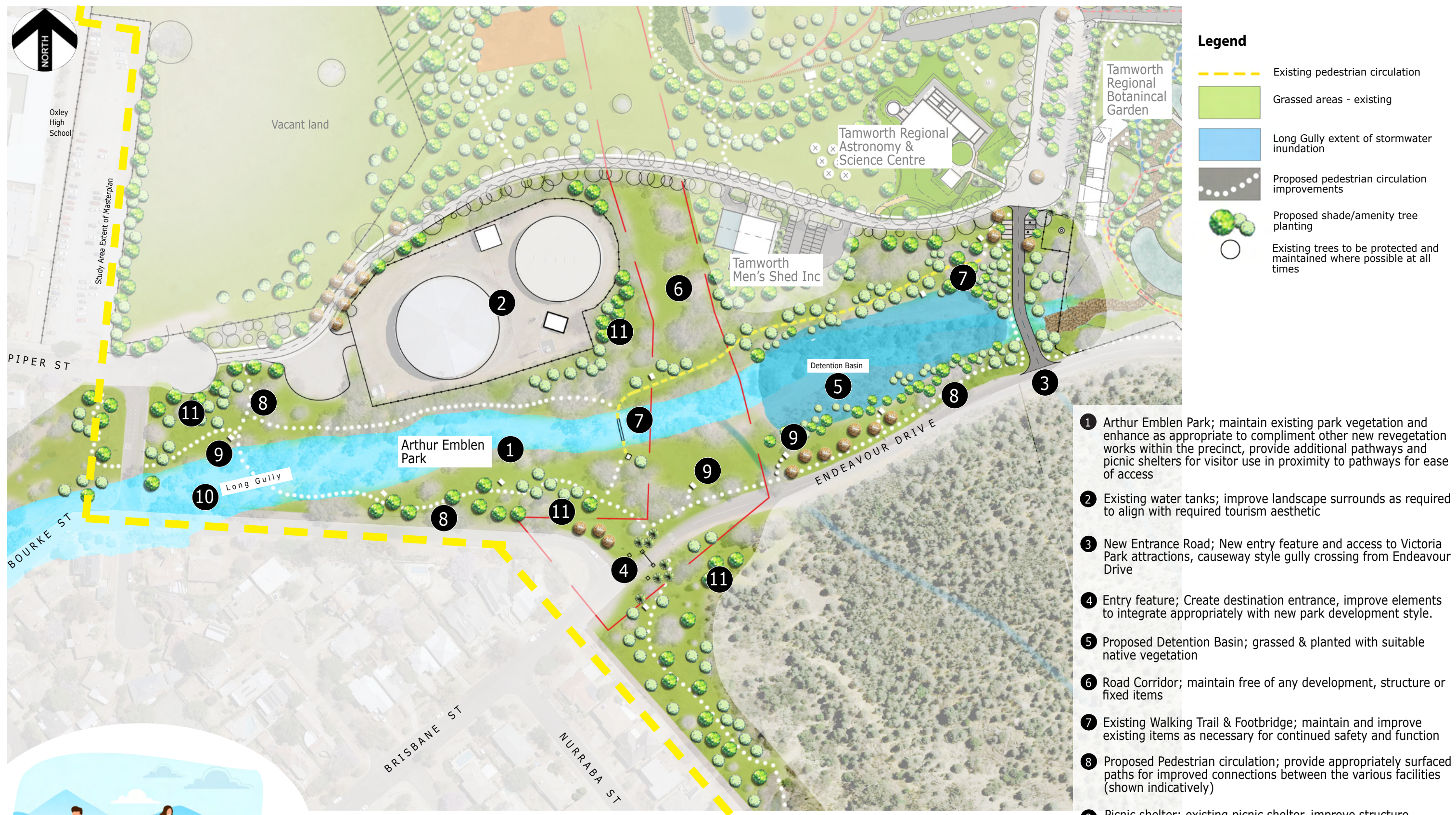
Master Plan - Area 6 Tamworth Men's Shed Inc

- 1 Tamworth Men's Shed Inc; maintain existing building in a clean and tidy standard of presentation for the enjoyment of all users and guests, investigate room for expansion of facility
- 2 Carpark; existing carpark to be sealed for improved aesthetic, provide security fences to capark and storage areas as required
- 3 Formal lawn; lawn area for small event days, social gatherings and recreational use by Men's Shed users, maintain to a clean and tidy standard of presentation
- 4 Garden beds; maintain and improve existing garden beds in a neat and tidy standard of presentation
- 5 Building extension; 2 bay shed extension
- 6 Covered Outdoor Work Area (COWA); provide appropriate shelter roof as required to facilitate various demonstrations and workshops and maintain area to a clean and tidy standard
- 7 Vegetation; maintain existing surrounding vegetation in a clean and safe condition, enhance these areas as appropriate with additional native plantings to compliment other new revegetation works

Legend

-  Grassed areas - existing
-  Grassed areas - proposed
-  Mass planted garden beds - proposed
-  Proposed pedestrian circulation
-  Proposed shade/amenity tree planting
-  Existing trees to be protected and maintained where possible at all times

0 5 10 15 20 30m
Scale 1:500 A3



Master Plan - Area 7 Arthur Emblen Park

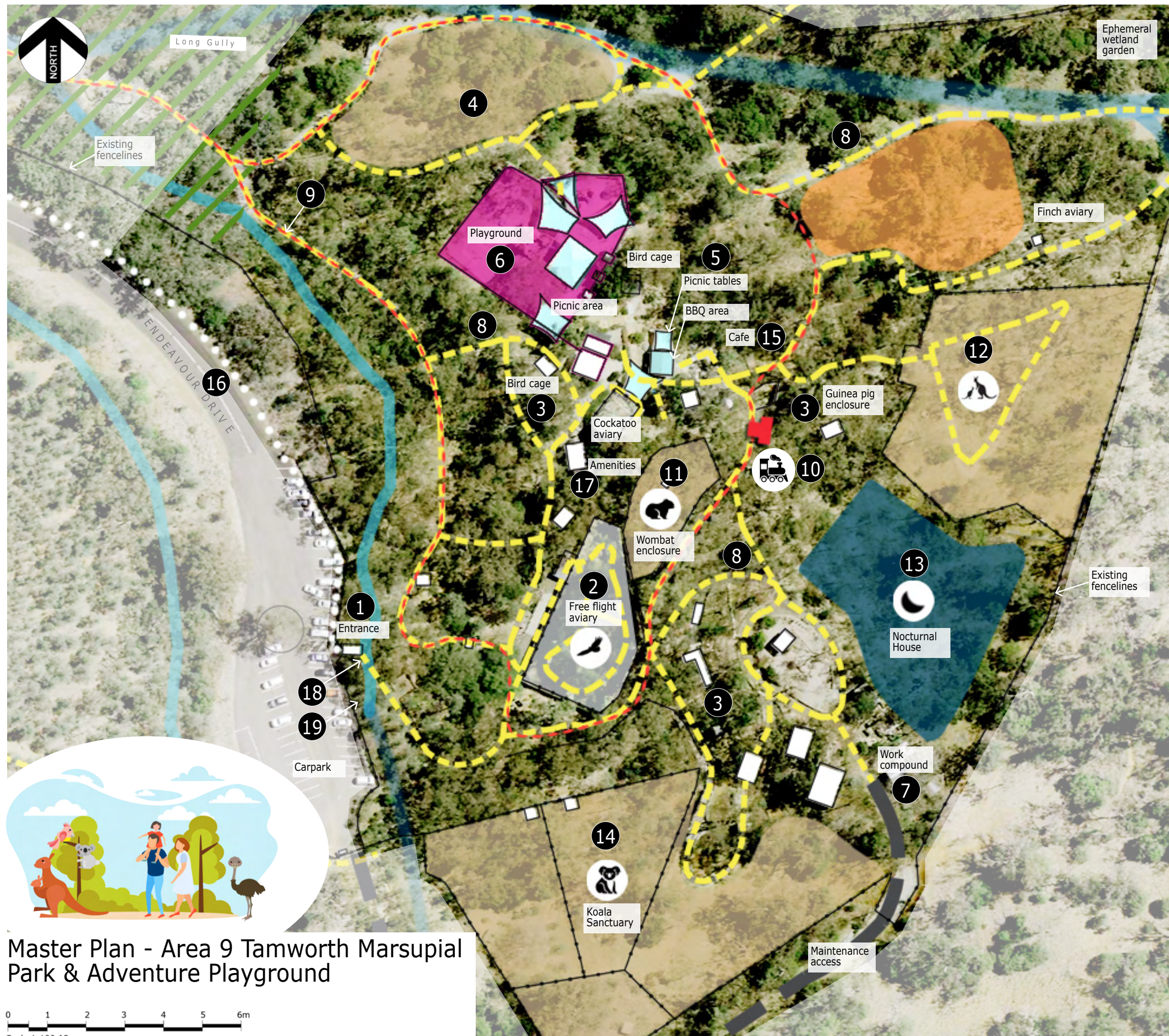


0 10 20 30 40 50 100 150m
Scale 1:2000 A3



Master Plan - Area 8 Walking trails





- 1 Entrance building & arrival experience; Improve existing entry structure, develop a consistent way finding and interpretive signage style for the attraction
- 2 Free flight aviary structures; improve all aviary structures and landscapes within these areas to a clean and attractive contemporary aesthetic
- 3 Animal enclosures; improve all animal enclosures and create naturalistic settings within with new surface materials and vegetation as appropriate to each area
- 4 Introduce additional enclosures to enhance attraction; Council is actively open to working with other groups to partner/collaborate with bodies that are complementary to the fit & purpose of the park precinct
- 5 Picnic facilities; maintain and improve all picnic settings and shelters and integrate with new park development style
- 6 Adventure Playground facilities; maintain existing facilities in a clean and safe condition, improve play areas and equipment as necessary
- 7 Work compound aesthetic; improve work area aesthetic and maintain in a clean and safe condition, provide new storage enclosures and security fencing as required to adequately store and prepare animal foods and equipment, potential for wildlife hospital facility
- 8 Walking paths; rationalise all paths and accesses and improve for safety and accessibility as required
- 9 Train ride experience; pneumatic tyred tourist passenger train path through attraction
- 10 Tourist train station; pneumatic tyred tourist passenger train station, provide relevant styled arrival & departure platform within attraction, improve & widen existing paths as required, shelter roof over
- 11 New wombat enclosure
- 12 Kangaroo enclosure
- 13 New Nocturnal House exhibit
- 14 New koala sanctuary; investigate potential collaboration & resources with Gunnedah's new koala facility
- 15 New Cafe
- 16 Investigate formalising carparking spaces along Endeavour Drive at the Marsupial Park end
- 17 Amenities block; requires significant upgrade
- 18 Power; connect power to Marsupial Park (solar or fixed)
- 19 Sewer; provide sewer connection to town sewer at Brisbane Street




Legend

- Existing vehicular access road & pedestrian trail
- Existing pedestrian circulation
- Grassed areas - existing
- Flowpath, gully
- Proposed pneumatic tyred train path

Master Plan - Area 9 Tamworth Marsupial Park & Adventure Playground

0 1 2 3 4 5 6m
Scale 1:100 A3

Legend

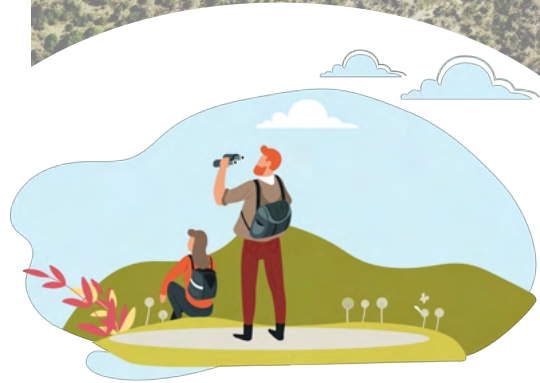
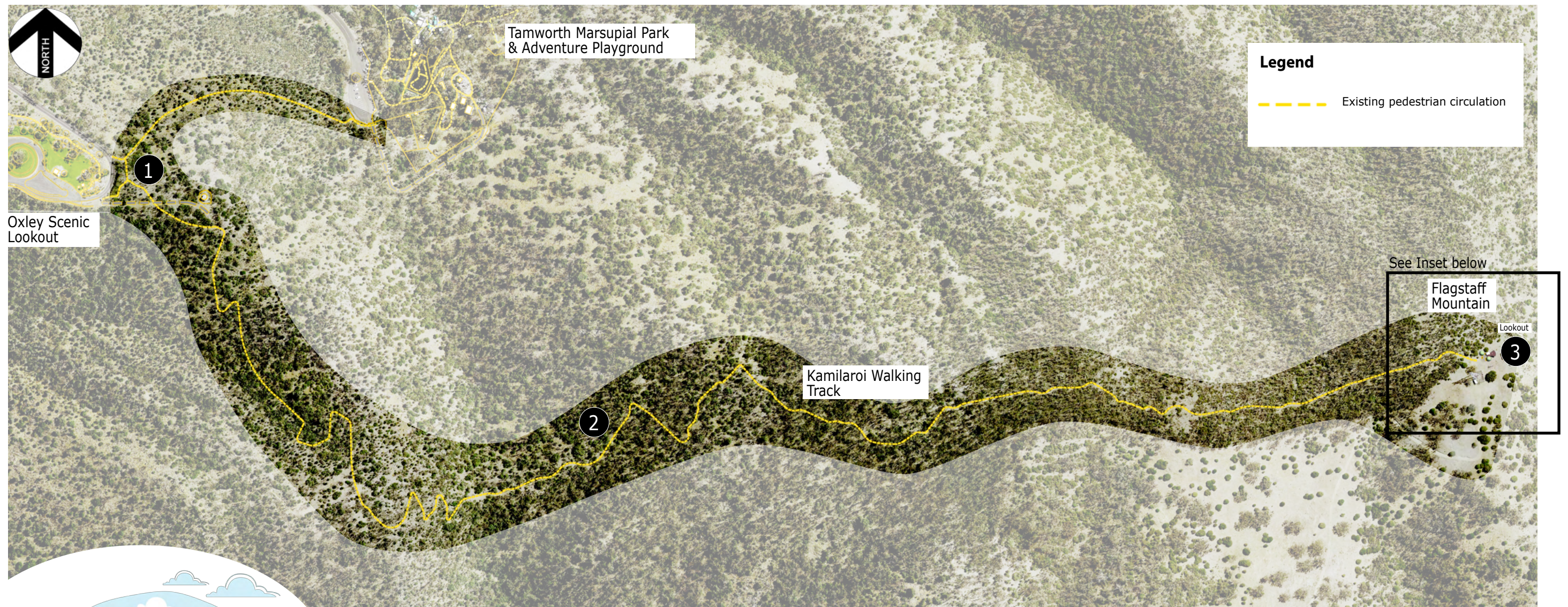
-  Existing pedestrian circulation
-  Study area extent of master plan
-  Area of revegetation works
-  Proposed pedestrian circulation
-  Grassed areas - existing
-  Mass planted garden areas
-  Proposed shade/amenity tree planting
-  Existing trees to be protected and maintained where possible at all times



Master Plan - Area 10 Oxley Scenic Lookout

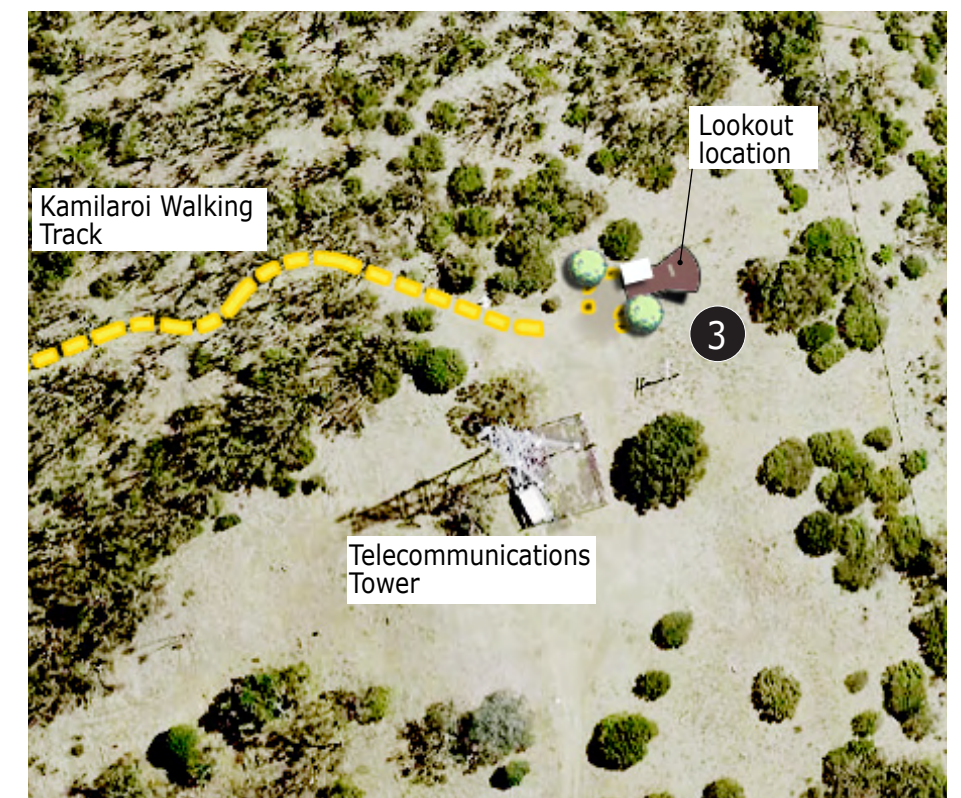
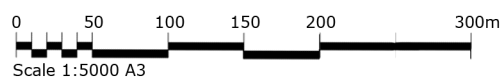
- 1 Arrival to Oxley Scenic Lookout; new central island with designated carpark linemarking and appropriate complimentary landscapes to enhance the arrival experience, minimise undesirable driving activities, formalise and highlight the arrival experience, provide additional picnic tables in landscaped island
- 2 Roundabout improvements; improve the existing roundabout aesthetic, remove table setting to more appropriate location, install new low level native groundcover plants to roundabout, install sculptural element, signage and way finding
- 3 Car parking; formalise car parking via new linemarking for safety and organisation of the space
- 4 Picnic facilities; improve all picnic table and shelter settings and integrate with new park development style
- 5 Oxley Scenic Lookout platform & surrounds; maintain lookout facilities and surrounding environment in a clean and safe condition, improve and repair as necessary, provide barbecue facility
- 6 Fitness equipment station; provide new fitness station equipment as appropriate to community use and which compliments the colours and style of the park and other fitness activities within the park
- 7 Pedestrian access path to Scenic Drive; improve pedestrian path along Scenic Drive to the lookout area, provide cantilevered boardwalk installations at pinch points on road edge to enable safe access route for the entire length of the road
- 8 Walking Track entrances; enhance walk track entrances and provide way finding signage to all points of entry, intersections and trail nodes, integrate all signage with new park development style
- 9 New carpark; provide carpark area for visitors who wish to park and walk to the lookout or explore the many walking trails within the precinct from a base point, stabilised or sealed or grass paver surface treatment, provide appropriate way finding signage in the new park development style
- 10 Walking track from lower carpark to Scenic Road; provide new pedestrian link uphill to connect with Scenic Road pedestrian path
- 11 Provide an area that can be utilised for a coffee/food van on a regular basis

0 10 20 30 40 50 100 150m
Scale 1:2000 A3



Master Plan - Area 11 Kamilaroi Walking Track (Oxley Scenic Lookout to Flagstaff Mountain Lookout)

- ① Walking track entrance; Highlight and formalise the entry points to the Kamilaroi Walking track, provide new way finding and interpretive signage in new park development style at all points of interest, intersections and access points, maintain all walk/run tracks in a safe and tidy condition
- ② Walking track improvements; improve the walking track as required for safe pedestrian negotiation, improve the location of the trail, provide steps, ramps and cantilevered or suspended path sections where necessary for ease of access and safety
- ③ Flagstaff Mountain Lookout arrival & facilities; create a destination at the top of Flagstaff Mountain, extend the existing platform and provide a shelter roof and additional bench seat appropriately oriented to capture the views from the destination point, provide interpretive signage in the new park development style



Inset
Scale 1:2000



Views to western ranges beyond

Oxley High School

Open grassed vacant land

Aboriginal Keeping Place

Water tanks

Existing Piper Street road to
Victoria Park attractions

New path connecting Victoria Park
and Daruka Road

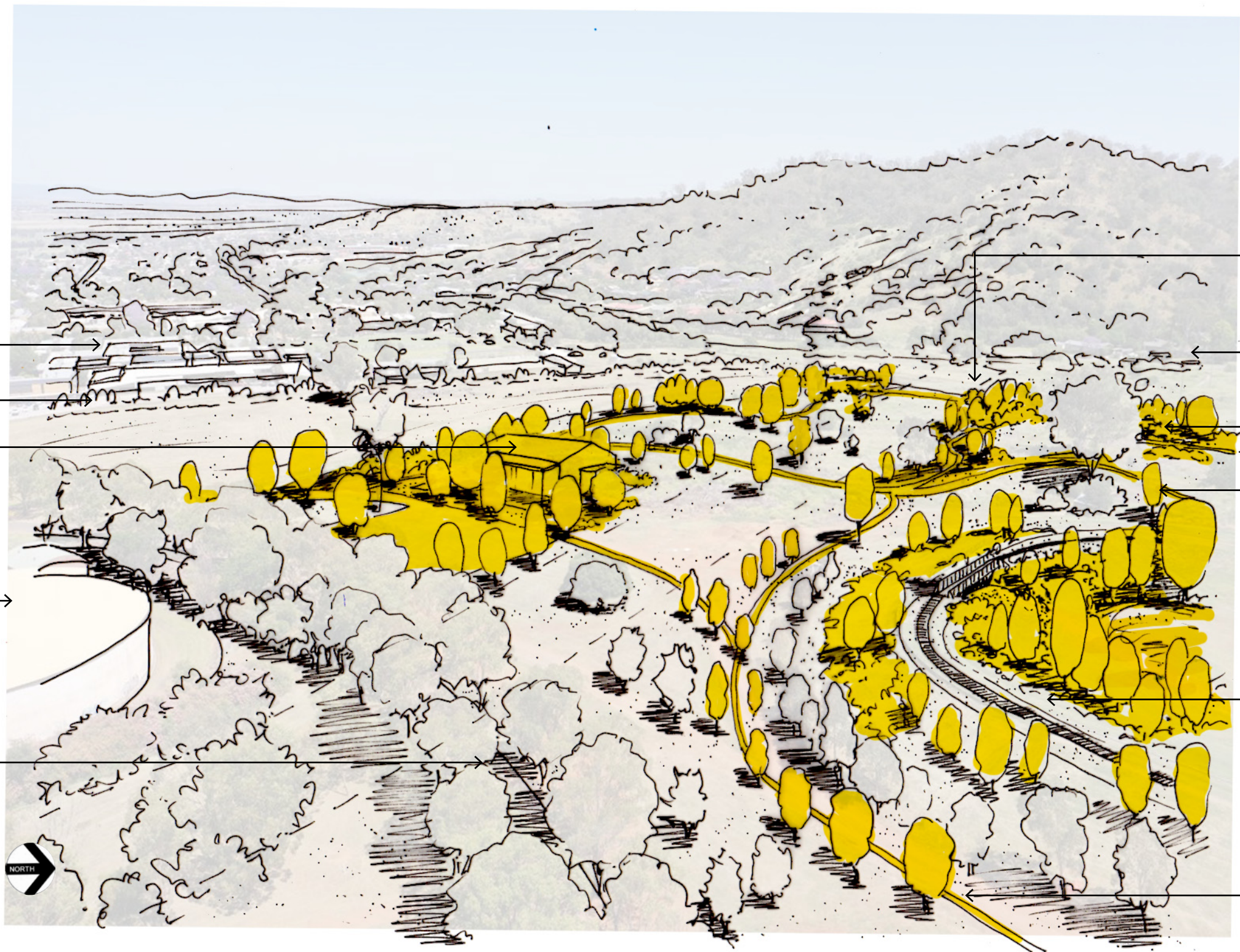
Daruka Road

New paths and revegetation
works on vacant land

New landscape works within
Tamworth Miniature Railway
attraction

Tamworth Miniature Railway
attraction

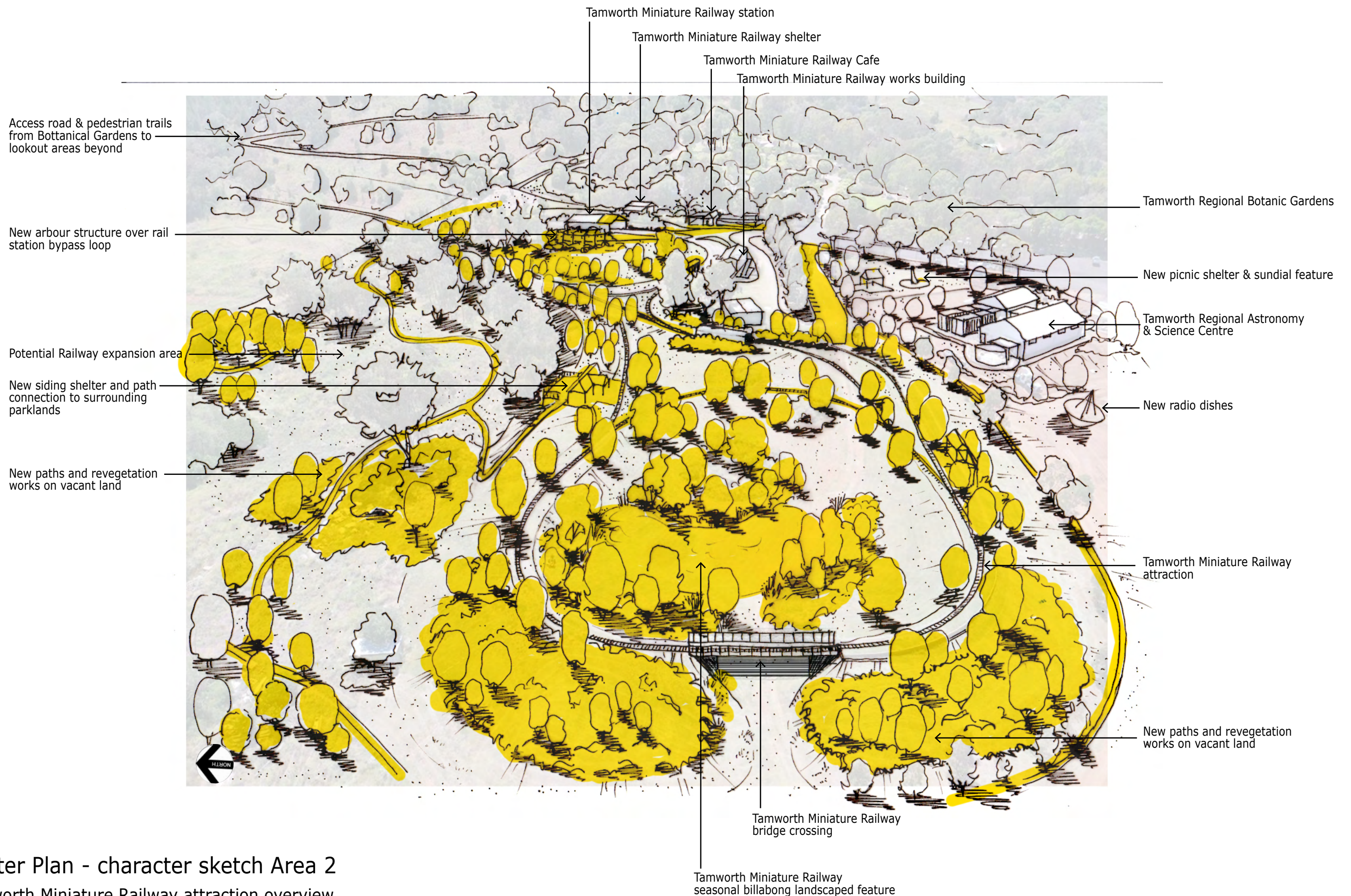
Pedestrian path



Master Plan - character sketch Area 1

Vacant land overview

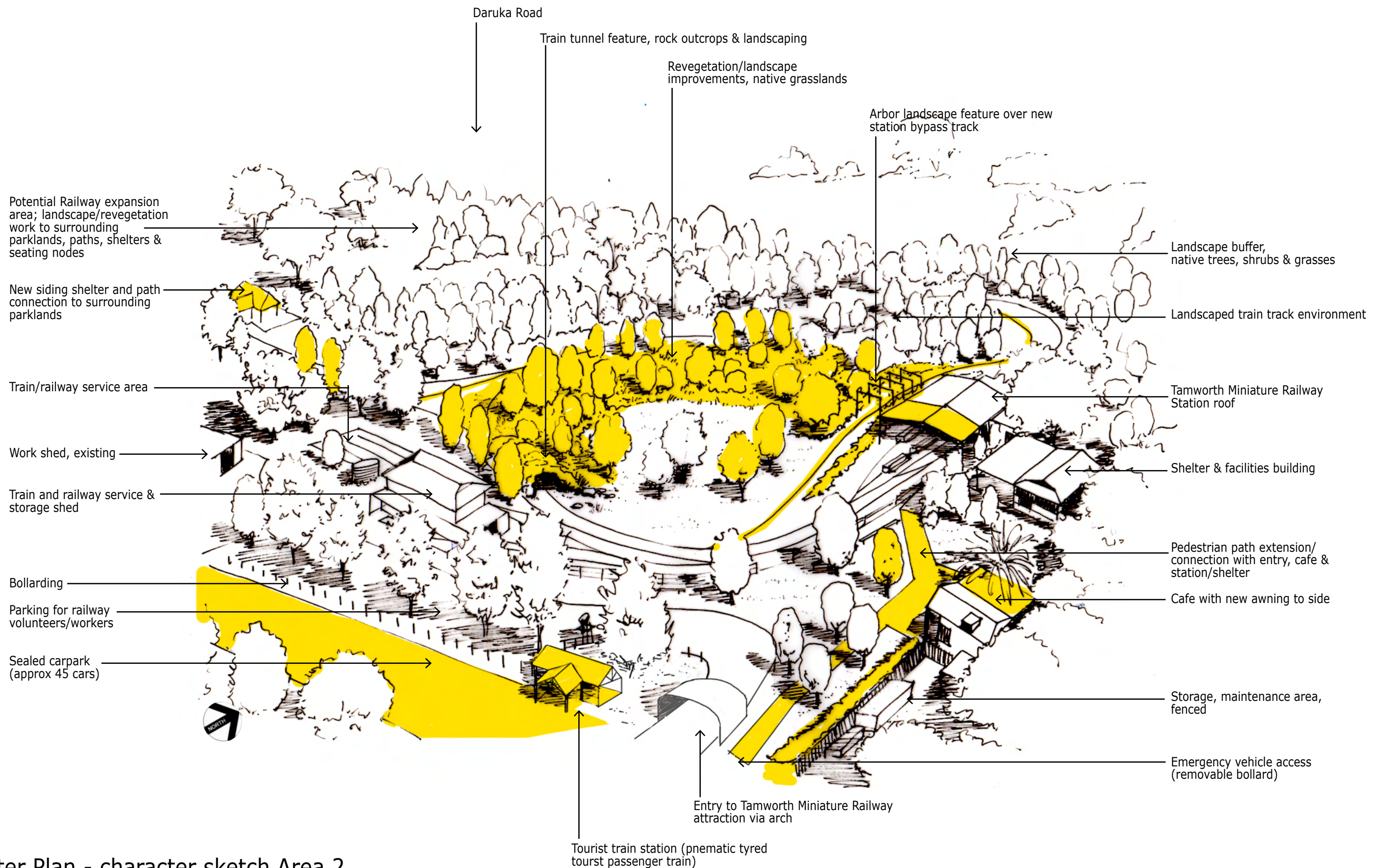
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 2

Tamworth Miniature Railway attraction overview

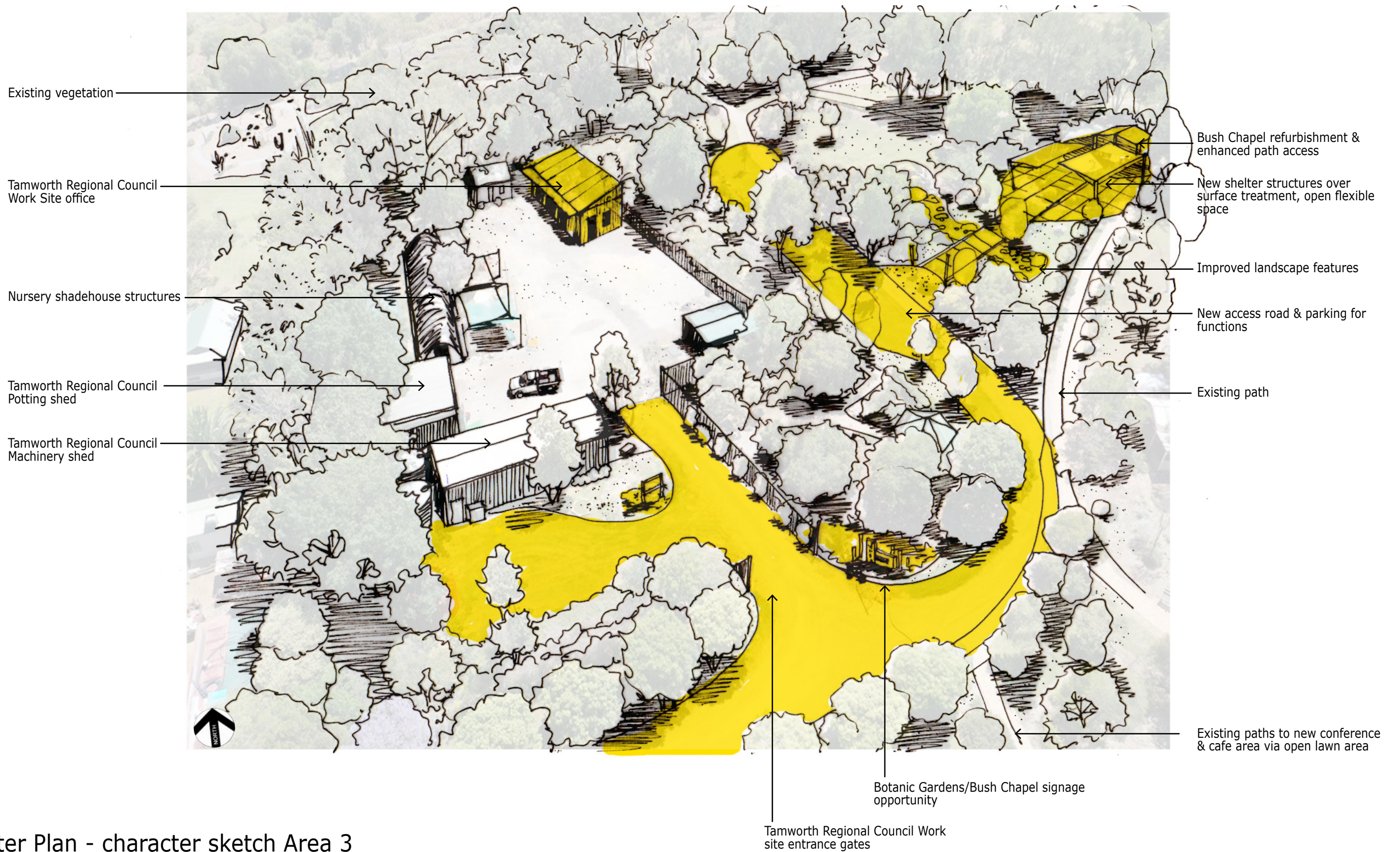
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 2

Tamworth Miniature Railway attraction - entry & station overview

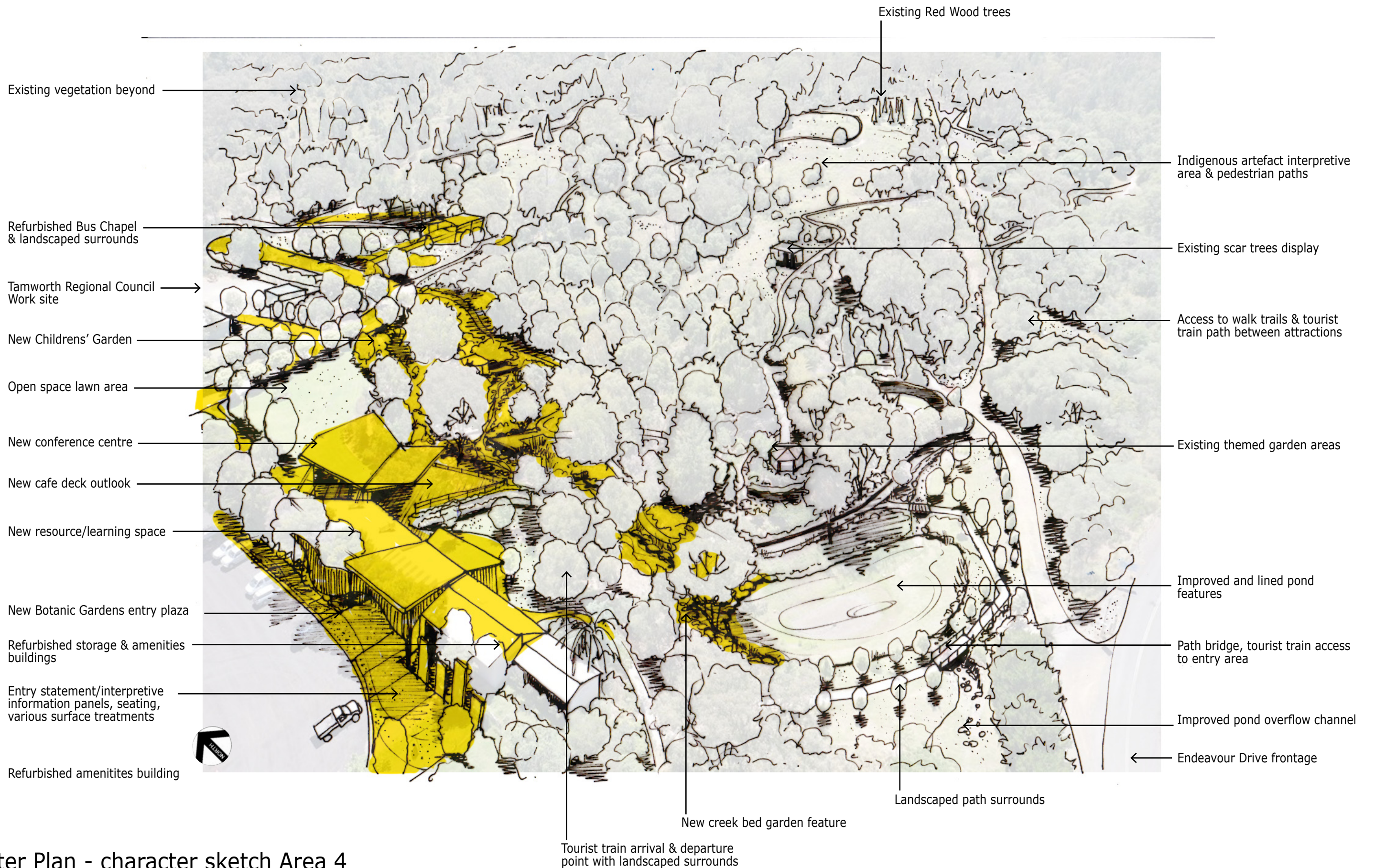
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 3

Tamworth Regional Council Work Site overview

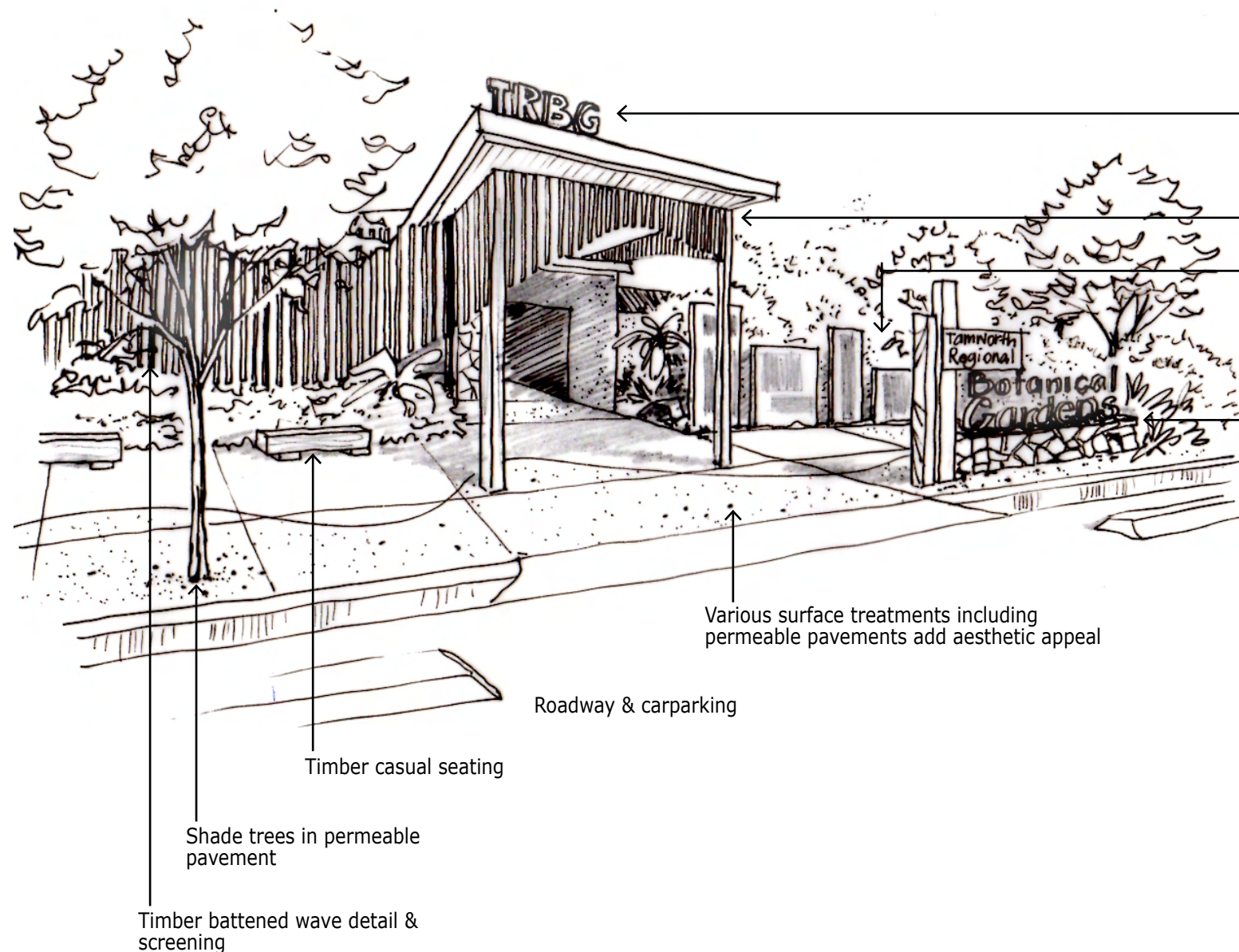
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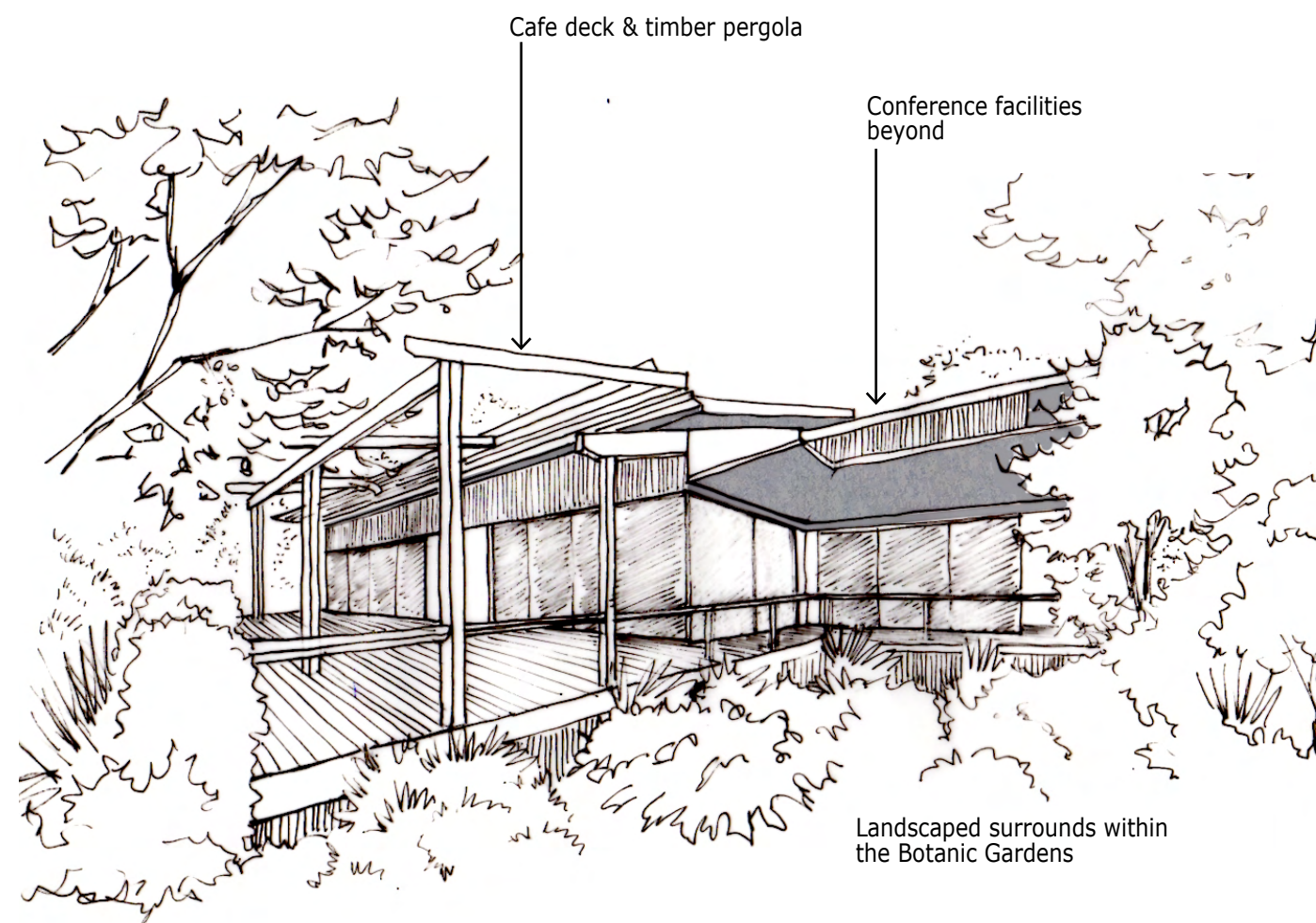
Master Plan - character sketch Area 4

Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens overview

Not to scale



entry plaza impression

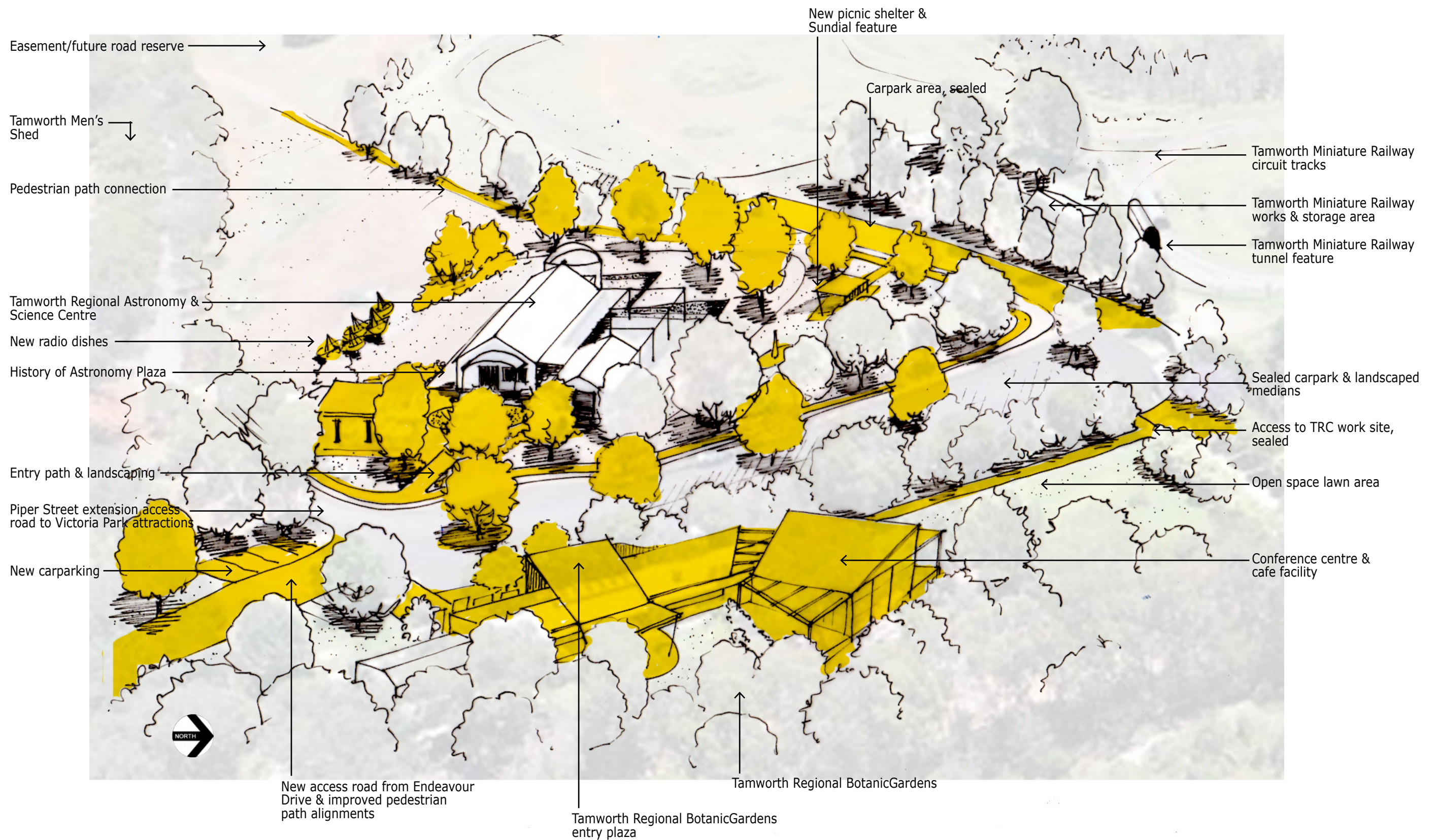


cafe + conference facility impression

Master Plan - character sketch Area 4

Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens facilities

Not to scale



Master Plan - character sketch Area 5

Tamworth Regional Astronomy & Science Centre overview

Not to scale



Master Plan - character sketch Area 6

Tamworth Men's Shed overview

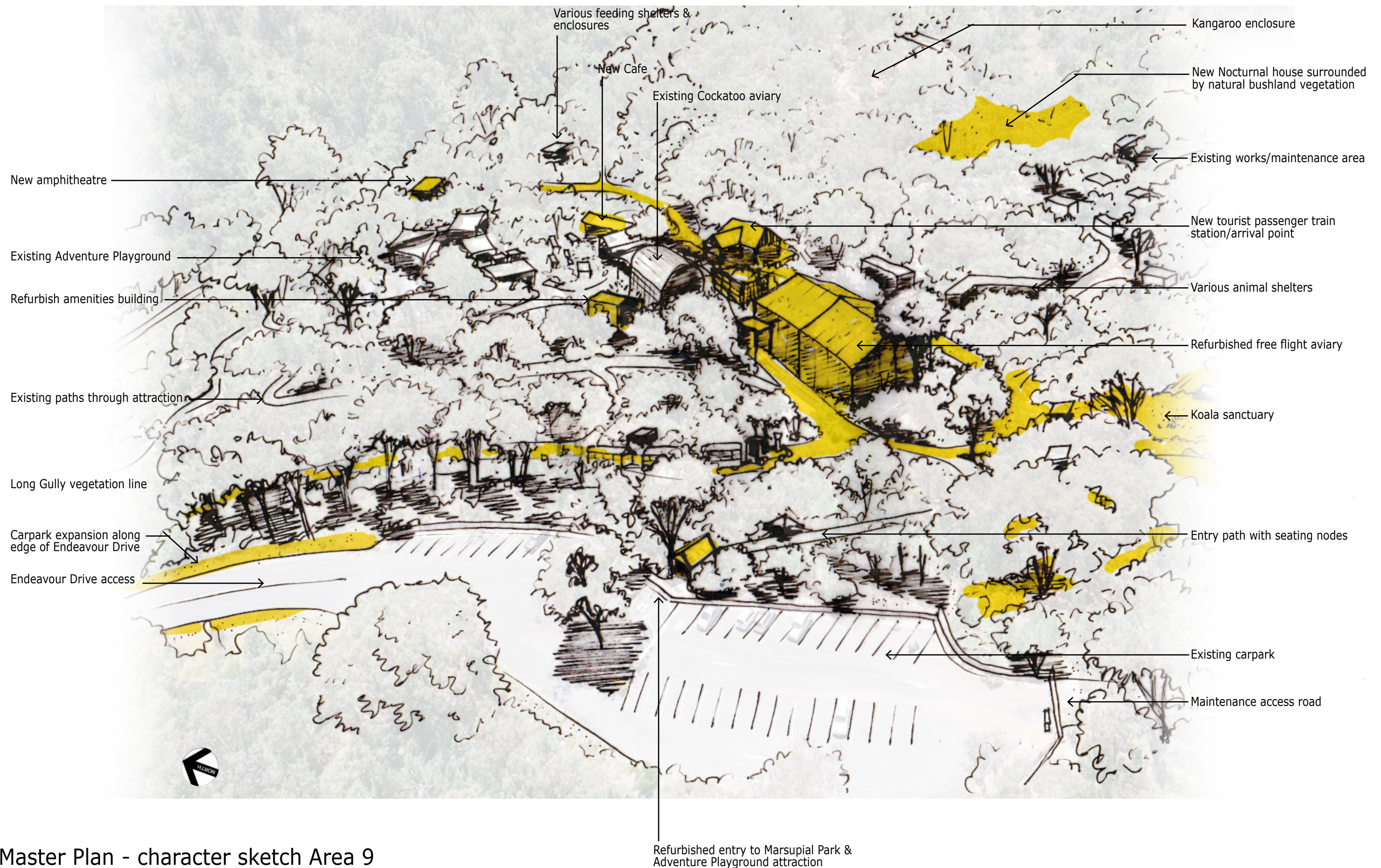
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 8

Tourist passenger train path experience

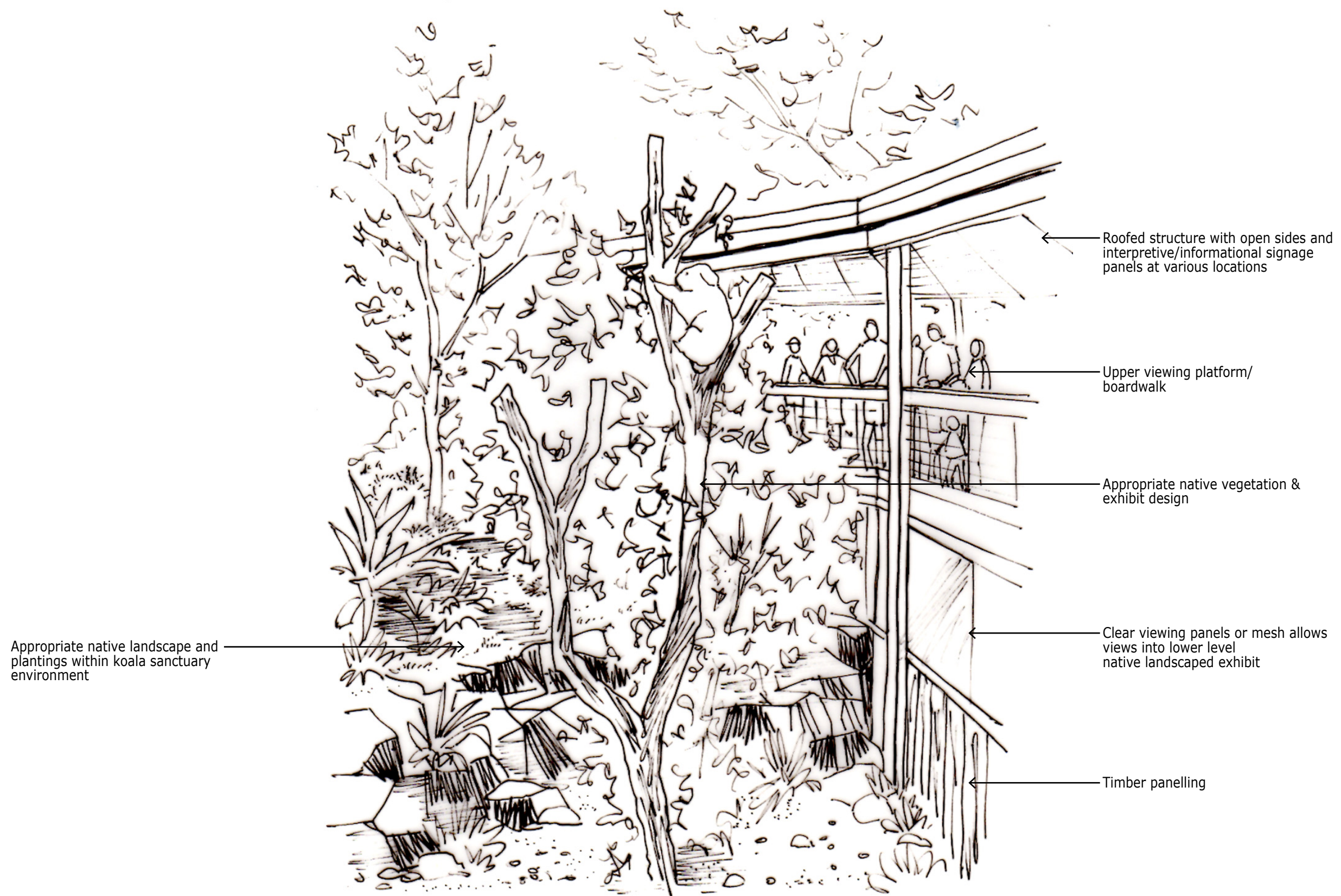
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 9

Marsupial Park & Adventure Playground overview

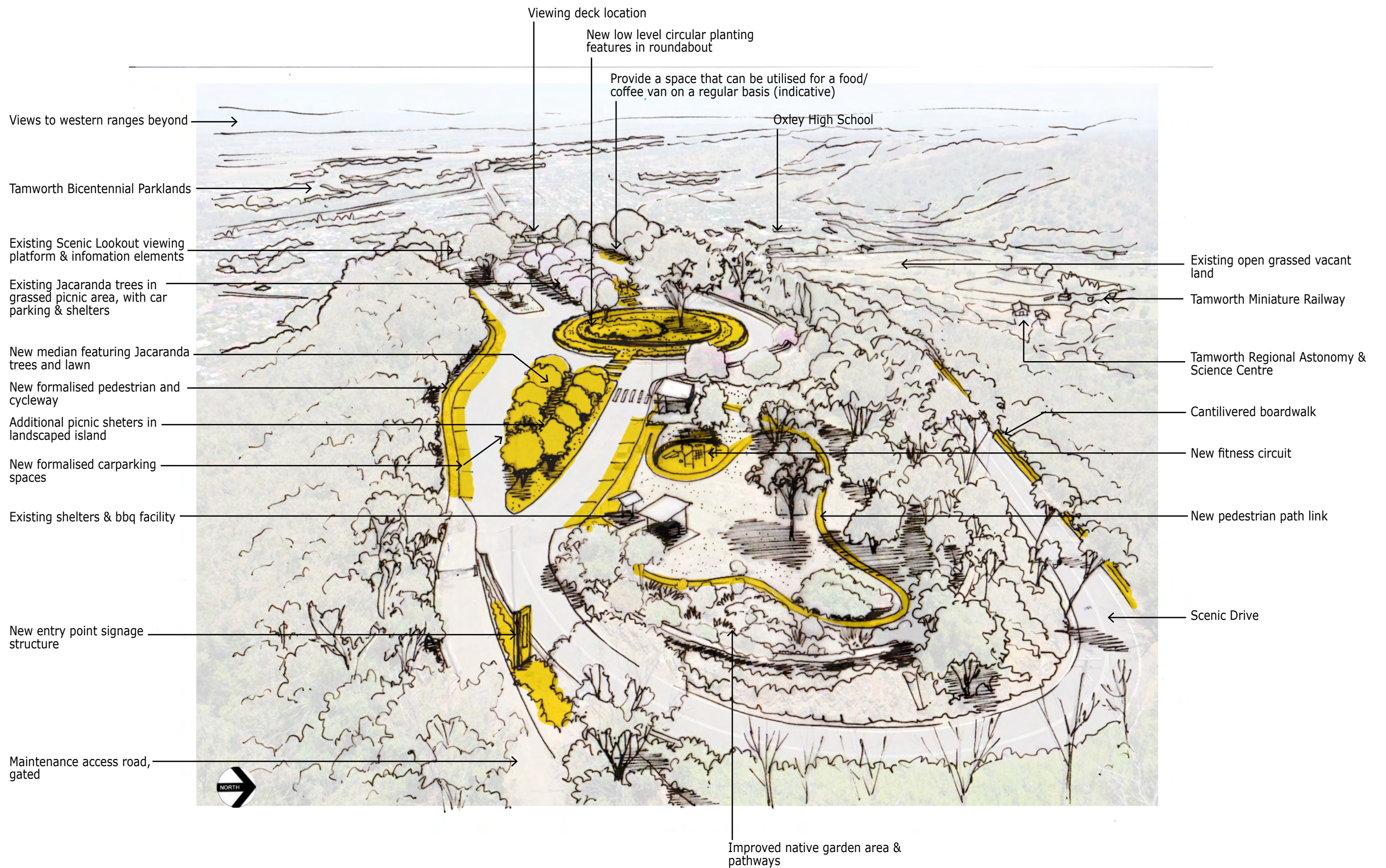
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 9

Marsupial Park & Adventure Playground - koala sanctuary

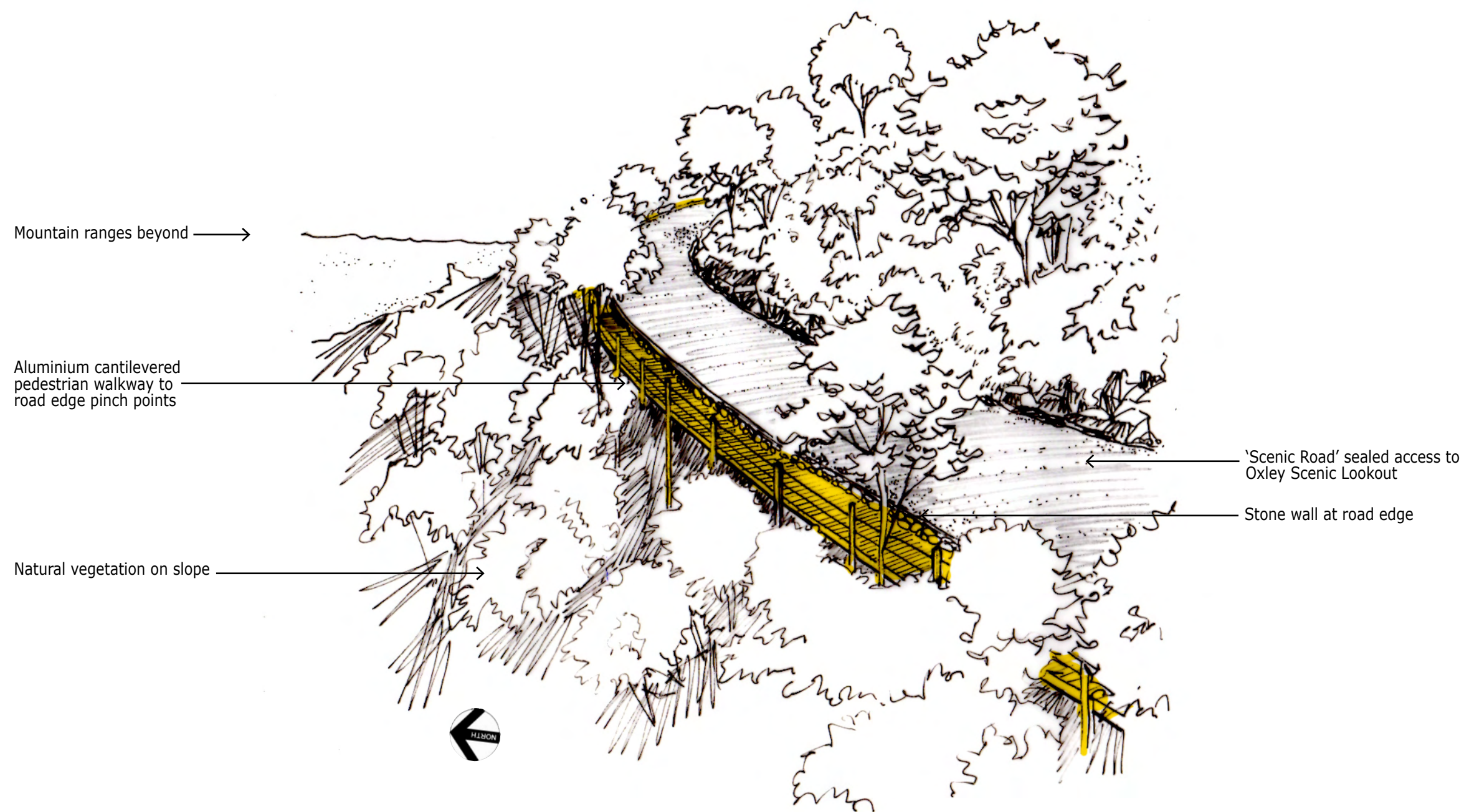
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 10

Oxley Scenic Lookout overview

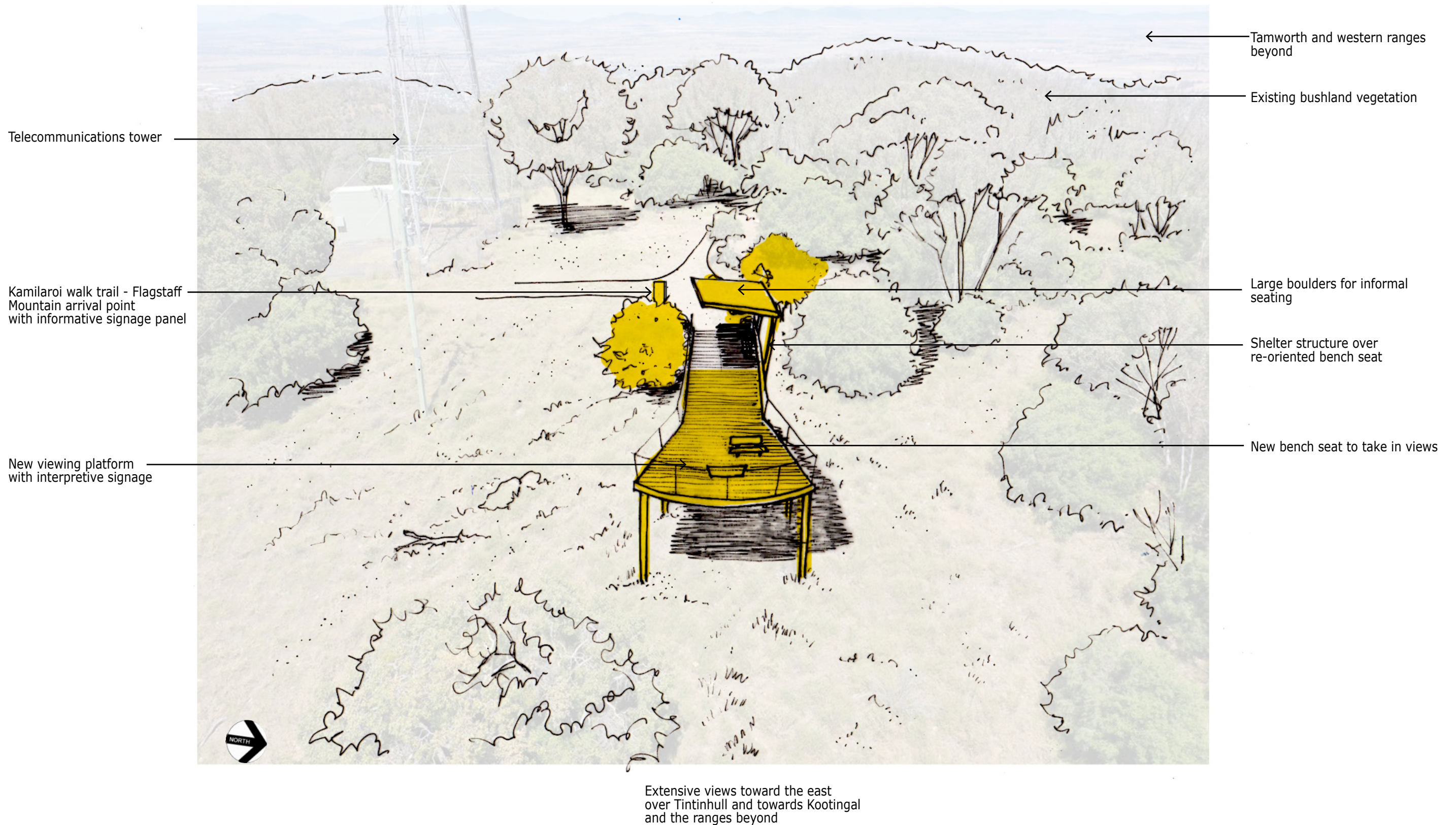
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Master Plan - character sketch Area 10

Scenic Road pedestrian access path

Not to scale



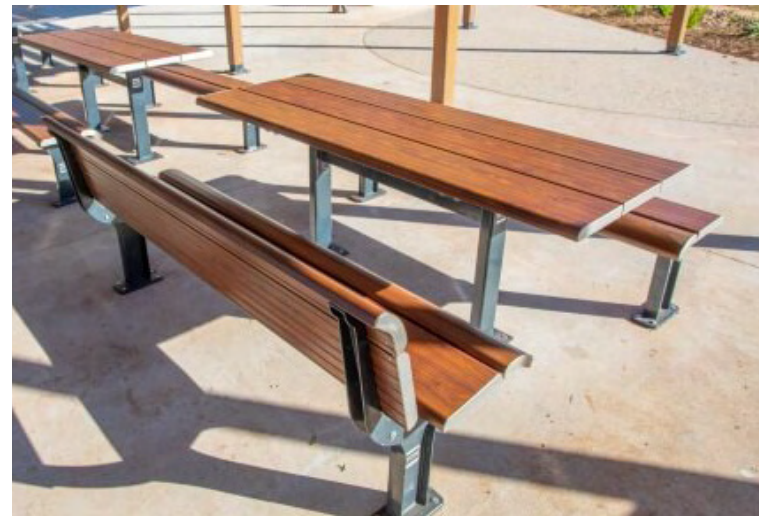
Master Plan - character sketch Area 11

Flagstaff Mountain Lookout overview

Not to scale



Shelter structures; aluminium structures with skillion roofs



Picnic table settings; aluminium timber-look slatted settings (Knotwood)



Bench seating; aluminium timber-look slatted seating



Bin enclosures; aluminium timber-look slatted design



Platform bench example



Example interpretive signage items



Train station/siding shelter style with cross gabled roofed entry

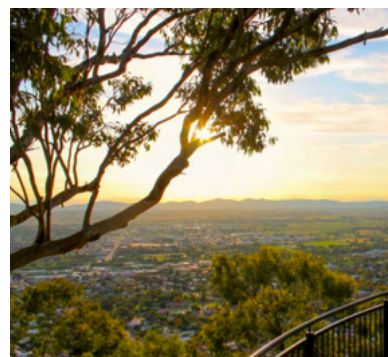


Signage style; reclaimed timbers with steel detailing and informative wayfinding sign panels appropriate to each area



Example of outdoor dining space with picnic table settings and various relaxation options

Design style - park furniture options



Volunteers

Tamworth Regional Council acknowledges the significant contribution volunteers make to the region. The dedication and commitment of volunteers ensures that many events and precincts across Council are the success they are.

Volunteers in the Tamworth region play an integral part in achieving Tamworth Regional Councils strategic plan of a spirit of community. Volunteers help build a more cohesive, safe and stronger community and are essential in maintaining numerous community services and visitor spaces in the region.

On average volunteers contribute over \$8 million in economic value to the Tamworth region each year. 'Volunteer involvement is a two way relationship, providing an opportunity for organisations to achieve their goals by involving volunteers in their activities, and for volunteers to ne a meaningful use of the time and skills, contributing to social and community outcomes' - volunteering Australia.

With effective management and support, volunteers can assist Tamworth Regional Council to grow an develop spaces for both community and visitor to enjoy. Volunteers can provide the time, skills, expertise and knowledge to assist Council to pursue programs and activities that benefit the community. The continued involvement of volunteers at Victoria Park is critical for its future success. Council will continue to encourage and support volunteers at the Park.

Tourism

Tourism and events are a key pillar of the Tamworth Tomorrow Economic Development Strategy.

Tamworth has key tourism strengths and assets including a significant major events calendar, a large Visiting Friends and Relatives (VFR) market, a growing business sector that continues to attract more corporate visitors and recreational precincts such as Victoria Park.

Tamworth received over 1.125m visitors in 2019 (Source Local Government Area Profiles|Tourism Research Australia) with tourism generating over \$316.2m towards the local economy bolstered by Tamworth's globally recognised Country Music Festival which receives 50,000 visitors annually, generating over \$100m in economic benefits. The domestic overnight visitor stays an average of 2.4 nights spending \$384 during their stay. Around 20% are business travellers with Tamworth also receiving a high proportion of visitors holidaying (45%) and visiting friends and family (26%). Over 14,000 international visitors stay an average of 26 nights. As identified by the Tamworth Capital of Country Destination Management Plan 2016, the region can also be positioned as a centre for sporting events and cultural tourism with opportunities to extend length of stay and international visitation. In addition, the business event sector can be expanded and leveraged to promote local tourism products, increase average length of visitor stay and encourage repeat visitation. The strengthening of wider tourism opportunities and opening avenues to expand tourism experiences is essential to support the goal of growing the population to 100,000, as identified in Blueprint 100.

The potential for the Victoria Park precinct to become a major regional tourist resource cannot be overestimated. This is due to its proximity to Tamworth CBD, the popularity the precinct has within the community and with the visiting public and the diverse range of tourism opportunities, both existing and potential that the precinct possesses.



Conclusion

Tamworth Regional Councils Blueprint 100 and this master plan for the Victoria Park precinct provides a set of initiatives for the development of the park over several years. The potential development of the park arises from the recognition that the parks amenity is aging and there is a need to improve and preserve the park for future recreation, community benefit and tourism.

The underlying element of the master plan is to consolidate the precinct's many attractions to encourage greater tourism, community involvement and visitation, public and educational interactions and enhance the overall experience within the park.

The master plan also considers a range of other potential development opportunities within and adjacent to the study area which will in turn benefit the surrounding community.

The directions outlined in the master plan will define a relevant and unique tourist and community destination, along with educational and recreational experiences for the Tamworth region.

Key Components of the Master Plan

- Create a new entry off Endeavour Drive into the lower section of the precinct for the Botanic Gardens, Astronomy and Science Centre, Miniature Railway and Men's Shed
- Improve the way finding signage from the CBD to each of the attractions or facilities and between them
- Enhance the visitor experience to the Botanic Gardens and Marsupial Park by improving existing and adding additional displays
- Improve the visual amenity of the Miniature Railway by providing a landscaped environment through which the miniature trains would travel
- Add outdoor exercise equipment to the Oxley Scenic Lookout to provide additional facilities for the large number of people who use this destination for exercise on a routine basis but also to energise this area in a way of minimising anti-social behaviour here
- Provide cantilevered walkways on Scenic Drive to improve pedestrian safety and encourage unstructured recreational activity
- Improve the visitor experience and safety on the walking trail network by providing visitor facilities such as seating, steps, ramps and elevated walkways
- Implement a Land Management Strategy to the bushland areas of Victoria Park to control erosion and weeds and revegetate degraded environments
- Implement a Volunteer Scheme to attract, manage and service volunteers at the Botanic Gardens, Marsupial Park and for bushcare in the Reserve
- Council to review the management of the Park and produce a strategy in line with the Plans prioritisation schedule
- Council to review the existing and proposed operations of the Park and identify future revenue streams to potentially offset the Parks ongoing costs.

Appendix

- A Prioritisation Schedule
- B Victoria Park 2012 Master Plan Actions
- C Existing photos of Victoria Park precinct

Prioritisation of works

Strategy	Precinct ID	Item	Action	Timing		
				Short 0-5years	Medium 5-10 years	Long 10+ years
Preliminary actions	Areas 1-11	P1	Develop a style manual/guide for park furniture including shelters, all seating, bbq facilities, drinking fountains, bike racks, waste bin enclosures, lighting fixtures, signage/directional devices, bus shelters etc	S	M	L
		P2	Develop a staged tree replacement program to be initiated to remove and replace dangerous trees on a 'triaged' process	S	M	L
Consolidation actions	Areas 1-11	C1	Victoria Park precinct to become a unique visitor destination, cultural and educational experience; all additions to the Victoria Park precinct to be tourism focused and provide educational opportunities within each facility	S	M	L
		C2	Improve signage, informational elements, parking and access including disabled access across the precinct	S	M	L
		C3	Enhance security across the precinct with fencing, security cameras and lighting	S	M	L
		C4	Improve way finding signage in Tamworth City directing users to the Park	S		
		C5	Investigate renaming and branding of the precinct	S		
		C6	Investigate and improve water security with sustainable solutions for the precinct	S		
		C7	Improve the access road to the precinct		M	
		C8	Enhance the emu cultural theme, tying in with the 'Emu in the Sky' story		M	
		C9	Increase the presence of Aboriginal culture and education and culturally themed signage throughout the precinct	S	M	
		C10	Improve connectivity via walking trails throughout the precinct	S		
		C11	Improve connectivity throughout the precinct via pneumatic tyred tourist passenger train		M	
		C12	Implement measures to control feral animal and weed suppression	S	M	L
		C13	Investigate and implement a hazard management plan for unused land	S	M	L
		C14	Establish an art trail throughout the precinct	S	M	L
		C15	All enhancements of Victoria Park will have an emphasis on sustainability	S		
		C16	Council to review the management of the Park & produce a strategy in line with the Plans prioritisation schedule	S		
		C17	It is acknowledged that significant capital & ongoing costs are associated with the proposed enhancements to Victoria Park; Council to review the existing & proposed operations of the park & identify future revenue streams to potentially offset the parks ongoing costs	S		

AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Victoria Park / Vacant land	Area 1	A1.1	Establish walking trails, seating, picnic areas & relevant facilities on the vacant land	S		
		A1.2	Establish Aboriginal Keeping Place structure with carparking area & pedestrian connection with adjacent context	S	M	
		A1.3	Include a shared path between Daruka Road & Victoria Park	S		
Tamworth Miniature Railway	Area 2	A2.1	Establish tree planting for shade & amenity; Extend shade roof over southern end of train station; Install Astronomy radio dish on site; add awning to northern site of café	S		
		A2.2	Review the current lease agreement and land encompassed within	S		
		A2.3	Expand railway track within site	S	M	
		A2.4	Improve overall appearance of this area with additional landscape works and establish an ongoing program of revegetation and maintenance; create seasonal billabong in western loop of train tracks	S	M	L
TRC Work Site	Area 3	A3.1	Establish a staff work office; Screen area with landscaping; Install additional water tank; Seal entry road	S		
Tamworth Regional Botanical Gardens	Area 4	A4.1	Install pond linings for water retention;	S		
		A4.2	Connect existing sewer to new sewer main	S		
		A4.3	Shade trees are required in the carpark along with statement roundabout plantings	S		
		A4.4	Improve water security	S	M	
		A4.5	Develop the lookout within the gardens area; Install & maintain flora which highlights aboriginal cultural practices & same to be used in education	S	M	
		A4.6	Continue with threatened species project	S	M	L
		A4.7	Provide distinctive garden areas throughout the Botanic Gardens; Include signage for all plants; Improve presence of public art	S	M	L
		A4.8	Establish new park entrance building to include Information Centre, Conference/function/education centre, café/restaurant, Gift shop		M	
		A4.9	Establish Artefact display building; Aboriginal artefact site with boardwalk access		M	
		A4.10	Refurbish the existing Bush Chapel	S		
Tamworth Regional Astronomy & Science Centre	Area 5	A5.1	Relocate Stargazer statue from Gallery to new Astronomy Centre site; install Sundial feature; Install radio dishes adjacent to new Astronomy Centre	S		
		A5.2	Establish landscaping; Install bbq/picnic area with shelter; Establish 'History of Astronomy sculpture 'plaza'	S	M	
Tamworth Men's Shed	Area 6	A6.1	Investigate the extension of the existing facility; Provide storage area for material storage; Provide static display area	S		
		A6.2	Seal the carpark		M	
		A6.3	Maintain in a clean and tidy state befitting to the entrance of the precinct	S	M	L
Arthur Emblen Park	Area 7	A7.1	Provide vehicular access off Endeavour Drive into carpark adjacent to Botanic Gardens	S		
		A7.2	Establish site for stormwater detention	S	M	
		A7.3	Embellish the Park in accordance with the Open Space Management Guide.		M	

Appendix A Prioritisation Schedule (Page 3 of 3)

Area Improvements - continued

Walking Trails	Area 8	A8.1	Improve walking trails; Provide appropriate seating; Provide revegetation works	S		
		A8.2	Investigate potential relocation site for emus	S	M	
Tamworth Marsupial Park & Adventure Playground	Area 9	A9.1	Investigate / establish a handling aviary and a quarantine aviary	S		
		A9.2	Establish night tours of the marsupial park	S	M	
		A9.3	Address site erosion measures and implement those solutions	S		
		A9.4	Significant upgrades to the toilet block is required in Marsupial Park	S		
		A9.5	Address sewer connection to Marsupial Park	S		
		A9.6	Address power supply to Marsupial Park - solar or fixed solutions	S		
		A9.7	Identify and formalise carparking spaces along Endeavour Drive	S		
		A9.8	Establish a Nocturnal House facility		M	
		A9.9	Establish breeding programs		M	
		A9.10	Establish an amphitheatre / outdoor classroom for visitor education	S	M	
		A9.11	Establish kiosk and provide additional barbecues with shelter	S	M	
		A9.12	Pursue discussions with Gunnedah regarding the potential future collaboration & sharing of resources with the new Gunnedah Koala Sanctuary	S		
		A9.13	Establish koala sanctuary	S	M	
		A9.14	Establish wombat enclosure	S	M	
		A9.15	Investigate animal species and expand future animal enclosures	S	M	
		A9.16	Establish Tamworth Marsupial Park as a significant regional 'hands-on' interactive animal park for both tourism and education	S	M	L
		A9.17	Establish a café in central area	S	M	
Oxley Scenic Lookout	Area 10	A10.1	Provide map and fixed binoculars at lookout site	S		
		A10.2	Provide outdoor exercise equipment and connecting pathways	S		
		A10.3	Provide additional picnic shelters within the new parking island	S		
		A10.4	Designate parking area at the base of Scenic Road/below lookout		M	
		A10.5	Road and carpark improvements including painted directional arrows and line marking and an additional central island		M	
		A10.6	Improve the pedestrian walk on Scenic Road	S	M	
Kamilaroi Walking Track	Area 11	A11.1	Improve walking track surface	S		
		A11.2	Implement measures to minimise the erosion of the walking track between Scenic Lookout and Flagstaff Mountain	S		
		A11.3	Improve directional and informational signage	S		
		A11.4	Investigate additional walking trails with Victoria Park	S		
		A11.5	Provide seating and shelters as required	S	M	
		A11.6	Create a destination at Flagstaff Mountain, upgrade end of track and arrival experience, provide shade & seating	S	M	

Appendix B Victoria Park 2012 Master Plan Actions (Page 1 of 2)

Number	Item	Completed	Partially Completed / Underway	Ongoing	Not Completed	Superseded / No longer applicable	Comment
4.2	Interim Improvement Works Option 1						
	Upgrade the existing driveway including rectification of existing drainage issues. These works should include a bituminous seal of the driveway.			Yes			Driveway and unturfed car park area sealed. Drainage yet to be finalised.
	Provide a new entry road and carpark. The carpark should incorporate bus layby and additional parking provision.				Yes		Not a priority due to cost.
	Shift the Botanic Gardens main entry northwards to a position approximately aligned with the existing ridgeline.				Yes		Not highlighted as a priority.
	Establish new building facilities in a central location adjacent to the new entry. New buildings may include a new Botanic Gardens entry/kiosk, Aboriginal Keeping Place and new toilet block. The buildings should be linked via a 4 to 5 metre wide covered pedestrian link.				Yes		Not highlighted as a priority.
	The existing botanic garden kiosk/office/building is to be retained for future use by the Friends of Tamworth Botanic Gardens.	Yes					Friends have used this building as a meeting room only. The Friends do not open to the public.
	Construct 2.0 to 2.5 metre wide cycleway in Long Gully Park connecting residential areas to the west to the Botanic Gardens.				Yes		Not identified in the 2014 Bike Plan.
	Construct new footpaths up both sides of Brisbane Street from Raglan Street, connecting to the cycleway in Long Gully Park.				Yes		Not identified in a Footpath Plan.
	Consideration of the provision of a shared pedestrian vehicle zone over the crest of the hill in Brisbane Street, adjacent Weswal Gallery. This initiative will help to define the entry into the recreation precinct as well as assist in calming traffic speeds at the crest of the hill.				Yes		Not identified as a priority.
	New prominent well designed signage at the entry to the recreation precinct. This should be in lieu of the existing signage which appears dated.	Yes					Arch signs installed at the end of Piper St and in Arthur Emblem Park.
	Weed removal and re-vegetation in Long Gully in the vicinity of the Botanic Gardens.				Yes		Not identified as a priority.
	Interim Improvement Works Option 2						
	This is a much more direct and legible access than currently exists as it is essentially an extension to Brisbane Street which is the most direct vehicular route from the Tamworth Town Centre.				Yes		Not a priority due to cost.
	The arrival experience to the Botanic Gardens facility itself is enhanced by virtue of a newly configured axial entry road and pedestrian spine and its passing over a new dam structure/ water body. This dam structure/ water body has the potential to be incorporated into the Botanic Gardens as an extension to its existing attractive water gardens.				Yes		Not a priority due to cost.
	Prominent new signage at the top of Brisbane Street can advertise and celebrate the entry to both facilities at Botanic Gardens and Marsupial Park without the confusion of directing visitors down different entry access routes.		Yes				Arch signs installed at the end of Piper St and in Arthur Emblem Park.
4.3	Longer Term Improvement Works						
	An extension of facilities in the central hub. New facilities may include a multi-use function centre to cater for wedding receptions, conferences, education and training and special events, and a restaurant. New building facilities may also include a new staff building. A Sustainability Centre has also been suggested as a possible facility.				Yes		
	The existing botanic garden kiosk/office/building is to be retained for future use by the Friends of Tamworth Botanic Gardens		Yes				Friends use the kiosk for meeting only.
	An extension to the carpark facility to provide for up to 100 vehicles.				Yes		Large open area where current construction of the Astronomy building was used for overflow parking.
	Informal overflow carparking in the vicinity of the Men's Shed.	Yes					Men's Shed have built a gravel car park as part of their DA.
	A playground facility in conjunction with and in close proximity to the expanded building hub.				Yes		Not identified as a priority.
	A passive recreation area in close proximity to the carpark and expanded building hub. This passive recreation area may require some earthworks to provide for a flatter 'kick around' area. Shaded picnic and seating facilities can be positioned on the periphery of the space.				Yes		Area existed however it was not improved or formalised.
	Extension of the Botanic Gardens generally towards the west, incorporating existing areas associated with the Miniature Railway, passive recreation facilities and other possible garden additions such as a garden maze.				Yes		Not undertaken due to budgetary constraints.

Appendix B Victoria Park 2012 Master Plan Actions (Page 2 of 2)

Number	Item	Completed	Partially Completed / Underway	Ongoing	Not Completed	Superseded / No longer applicable	Comment
4.4	Improvement Works at Marsupial Park						
	Improvement of the existing carpark - These works do not so much involve an extension to the carpark (minor extensions in some places will be necessary) as rationalisation of the carpark and full carpark sealing and drainage works. Provision for bus drop off, turning and a layby should ideally be located adjacent and north of the existing entry building. This will enable the greater area of the carpark to the south to be utilised for the maximisation of carparking spaces	Yes					Car park sealed and line marked.
	A route through the park itself could be identified and modified to accommodate a rubber wheeled train. The concept of a rubber wheeled train connecting Botanic Gardens to Marsupial Park is recommended as a novel and fun way to link the two facilities and to provide an extra dimension to the whole park precinct		Yes				Trail within Marsupial Park has been upgraded and could be used by a rubber wheeled train.
	The existing concept of a new playground in Marsupial Park supported. In this regard a playground in Marsupial Park will compliment the existing facilities provided in the park and is physically separated enough from playground facilities proposed in the Botanic Gardens for it not to be considered to be "in competition".	Yes					The Adventure Playground was constructed in 2015.
5.2	Prioritisation of Works						
1	Provide additional Tamworth Staff resources to Botanic Gardens and Marsupial Park.				Yes		Not undertaken due to budgetary constraints.
2	Form Working Party to oversee and implement the project.				Yes		Not undertaken.
3	Prepare funding proposals for specific components of the Master Plan , including the Aboriginal Keeping Place.				Yes		Not undertaken.
4	Prepare detail survey, geotechnical and engineering investigations in relation to the new road crossing of Long Gully.				Yes		Not undertaken due to budgetary constraints.
5	Prepare detailed design Master Plan for the core area of Botanic Gardens.				Yes		Not undertaken.
6	Implement new road crossing and carpark area.				Yes		Not undertaken due to budgetary constraints.
7	Implement 1st stage building works, possibly including new Botanic Gardens entry/ kiosk, Aboriginal Keeping Place and toilet block.				Yes		Not undertaken due to budgetary constraints.
8	Adaptive re-use of existing building near the Botanic Gardens Entry - potential for staff and training facility.		Yes				The Tafe building houses the council staff office and a training / meeting room.
9	New cycleway in Long Gully.				Yes		Not identified with the 2014 Bike Plan.
10	Investigation into significance of Rifle Target area in DET land.				Yes		Not undertaken.
11	Conduct competition for naming of Community Facilities precinct.				Yes		Not undertaken.
12	Design and erect new signage at the top of Brisbane Street.	Yes					Updated arch sign installed.



Existing entrance to Endeavour Drive



Existing entrance to Marsupial Park



View of existing native gardens



Existing animal enclosure entrance



Existing environment within the marsupial park



Existing adventure playground environment



Existing playground seating environment



Existing playground condition



Existing playground and picnic table area

Appendix C Existing photos of Victoria Park precinct



Existing playground environment



Existing internal pathways within park and Adventure Playground



Existing picnic and barbecue facilities near Adventure playground



Existing shelter and seating area



Existing condition of Marsupial Park animal enclosures



Existing view of aviary enclosure



Existing aviary structure and surrounding environment



Existing seating, signage and waste facilities



Existing picnic table space

Appendix C Existing photos of Victoria Park precinct



Existing condition of shade shelters and surrounding enviroment at Oxley Scenic Lookout



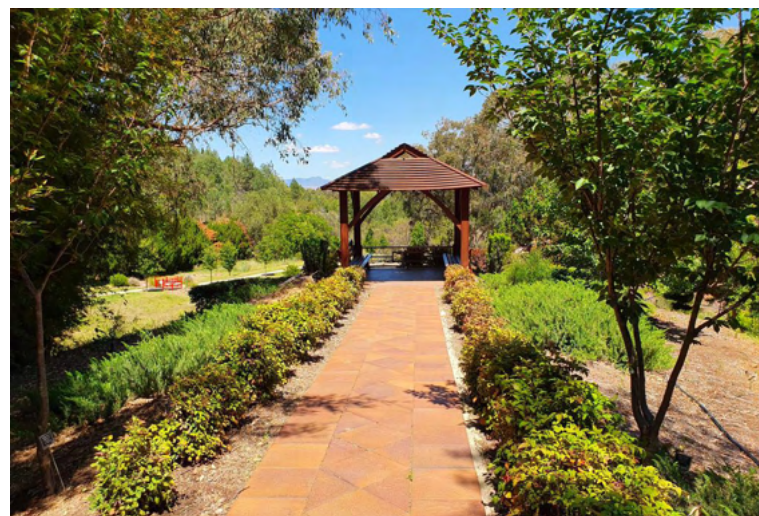
Existing environment within Tamworth Botanic Gardens



Existing Botanic Gardens amenity



Existing condition of picnic seating and shelters at Oxley Scenic Lookout



Existing gazebo shelter and path within Tamworth Botanic Gardens



Existing Scar Tree display



Existing Botanic Gardens Indigenous Garden information panel



Existing Botanic Gardens trail through Indigenous Garden



Existing Botanic Gardens Bush Chapel structure

Appendix C Existing photos of Victoria Park precinct



Existing shelter structure within Botanic Gardens



Existing bench seating within Botanic Gardens



Existing condition of ponds with shelters and path accesses



Existing condition of dry creek bed



Existing Botanic Gardens Entry Building



Existing grassed field within Botanic Gardens



Existing view across to shelter and ponds within Botanic Gardens



Existing entrance to Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens (internal view)



Existing Tamworth Regional Botanic Gardens park entry structure

Appendix C Existing photos of Victoria Park precinct



View of existing Tamworth Men's Shed



Construction of new Tamworth Regional Astronomy & Science Centre building



View of existing Tamworth Miniature Railway environment



Existing condition of miniature railway tracks and environment



Existing cafe associated with the miniature railway area



View of existing miniature railway and cover structure



Existing railway environment



Existing view from the miniature railway looking toward the western ranges beyond Tamworth



Existing Men's Shed materials storage area

Appendix C Existing photos of Victoria Park precinct