

# Green Spine Project

The Green Spine project will transform central Geelong with a vibrant linear park along the length of Malop Street, connecting the Geelong Station precinct, Johnstone Park and Eastern Park creating a central destination.

The project will reclaim Malop Street as a pedestrian and active transport zone, enhancing alfresco and social opportunities and delivering a unique and distinctive streetscape showcasing Geelong's UNESCO City of Design status.

Cities around the world are embracing linear parks to support health and wellbeing. Once complete, nearly a hectare of new green space will be added to the Geelong CBD.

Along with its appealing, natural public spaces, Malop Street plays an important social, environmental and economic role in central Geelong.

Selected blocks of this project are delivered as part of the \$500 million Geelong City Deal, a collaborative plan to transform Geelong and the Great Ocean Road through the Revitalising Central Geelong Action Plan.

The Green Spine consists of six city blocks along Malop Street.

**Block 1** Gheringhap Street to Moorabool Street (Stage 1, north side complete)

**Block 2** Moorabool Street to Yarra Street (complete)

## Current engagement:

**Block 3** Yarra Street to Bellerine Street

**Block 4** Bellerine Street to Swanston Street

**Block 5** Swanston Street to Fitzroy Street

**Block 6** Fitzroy Street to Garden Street

## Key project objectives are to:

- improve the quality of shared community spaces in central Geelong
- support the health and well-being of the community with improved active transport options
- increase opportunities for diverse uses of the street space along Malop Street (such as outdoor dining)
- improve the environmental sustainability of central Geelong
- increase community safety by simplifying traffic movements
- create a unique and vibrant destination for tourists
- improve biodiversity, environmental resilience and demonstrate Geelong's reputation as a modern, liveable, vibrant city.





## About Block 3 Yarra Street to Bellerine Street

A concept design for Block 3 has been developed to showcase the exciting possibilities for this section of Malop Street.

The design aims to enhance the street environment by creating a functional and attractive community space for retail and dining, business, active transport and cultural activities.

The design elements will seamlessly connect with previously completed blocks, including the continuation of the botanic walk along both the north and south sides of Malop Street complemented by native vegetation and planting, separated bike lanes for improved cyclist safety, and rehabilitation of the road consistent with Block 2.

The design balances open space with the established built form, and carefully considers the connectivity, linkages, and spatial movements of people and road users along the entirety of Malop Street.

### Biophilic design principles

A key feature in the design is the use of 'biophilic' design principles, which seek to connect buildings and people more closely with nature. Biophilic city design has been proven to deliver a range of environmental, social and economic benefits to the community.

### Traffic and parking changes

A key objective of this project is to support active transport in Geelong and balance the need of vehicles, active transport users and pedestrians in central Geelong.

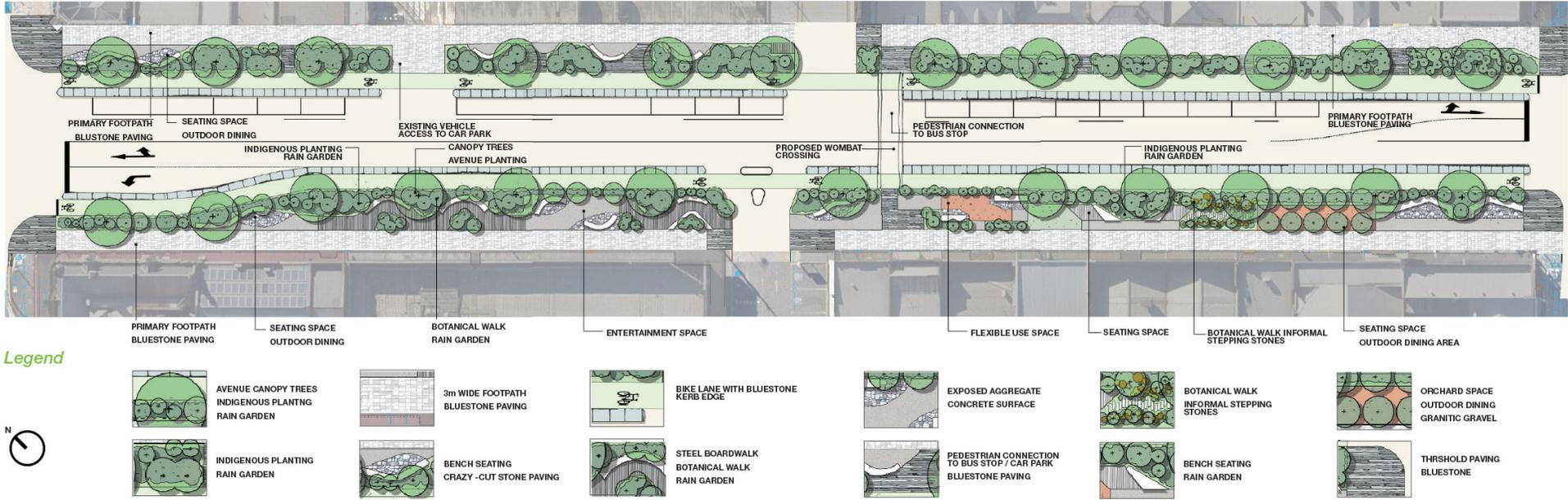
Two-way traffic will be maintained along Malop Street and the road layout and active transport design elements will be consistent with Blocks 1 and 2 to ensure safety requirements are met. The design has also taken into consideration opportunities to improve traffic flow from previous block designs. Driveway access for businesses and residents will be retained.

### Key features of the concept designs

- Safer cycling infrastructure and priority for active transport users with one-way separated bicycle lanes on both sides of the street.
- Enhanced pedestrian experiences as part of the botanic walk, becoming a tourist and visitor drawcard.
- Upgraded road functions equally balanced between vehicles and active transport, with single two-way lanes each for cars and cyclists.
- Interconnected gathering spaces and community activity zones linked by paths including outdoor dining, seating and street furniture, a music zone, neighbourhood villages and dedicated art and exhibition zones.
- Intuitive and supportive navigation elements such as safe pedestrian lighting and improved ground surfaces to improve all abilities access.
- Use of resilient and sustainable materials that represent the distinct and unique authenticity and integrity of the city.
- A dedicated cultural and heritage corner that incorporates Wadawurrung Aboriginal co-design elements and heritage values of the Wool Stores area of Geelong.
- Urban forest zones and visual interest habitat zones including indigenous and exotic trees and plantings that will reduce thermal warming and filter air pollution enhancing our health and wellbeing.
- Water Sensitive Urban Design features including plantings, to assist rainwater filtration prior to discharge to the stormwater system.

# High-level concept designs

## BLOCK 3



## Find out more

The concept design for Block 3, along with designs for Blocks 4 to 6, have been released to showcase the exciting possibilities for the remainder of the project.

**The concept designs will be on display until midnight on Sunday 6 March 2022.**

We are seeking your feedback to ensure the designs reflect local interests and values.

To find out more, explore the concept designs and provide your feedback, visit:

[revitalisingcentralgeelong.vic.gov.au](https://revitalisingcentralgeelong.vic.gov.au)

If you are not able to provide feedback online, or would like to get in touch, please contact our project team via email at

[rcg@geelongcity.vic.gov.au](mailto:rcg@geelongcity.vic.gov.au) or call **03 5272 4131**

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