

QUEENS DOMAIN  
MASTER PLAN  
2013 – 2033



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## ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE TEXT

DAC	Domain Athletic Centre
DTC	Domain Tennis Centre
THAC	The Hobart Aquatic Centre
RSL	Returned and Services League
RTBG	Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
SWCA	Sullivans Cove Waterfront Authority



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

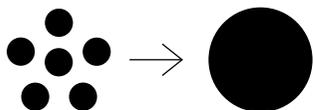
The Queens Domain is one of Hobart’s pre-eminent open spaces with claims to being the City’s premier urban park. Incorporating over 230 hectares of bushland and riverside setting, the Domain hosts features, attractions and facilities that have a wide range of values to the nation, Tasmania and local residents.

Past development and management has largely focused on natural and cultural values conservation. Lacking a ‘spatial’ plan to guide physical improvements to the place, the Domain has become ‘many places’ rather than one. Importantly despite much good work, long-held concerns about presentation and appearance, access, circulation, use, safety and activity remain unresolved.

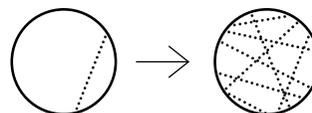
This Master Plan, is the first of its kind for the Domain. It provides guidance about how to: create distinct high quality settings within the rich landscape of the site; unify a diverse history of singular developments; and make the Domain accessible in ways that have not been realised to date, all within the context of a respect for its natural and cultural values.

### In short:

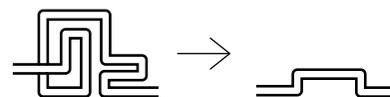
The Domain is many places not one – make one place of many.



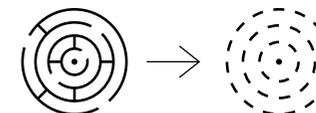
The Domain is under-used – more people should use the Domain than do now.



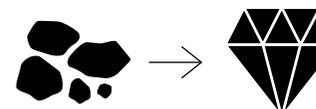
The Domain is hard to get to – it should be easy to reach.



The Domain is difficult to get around when you are there – getting around should be easy.



The Domain is under-loved – the appearance of the Domain should reflect its status as a pre-eminent public open space in the City, it should be much loved.



In addressing these issues, the Queens Domain Master plan will assist Council in achieving the people’s vision.

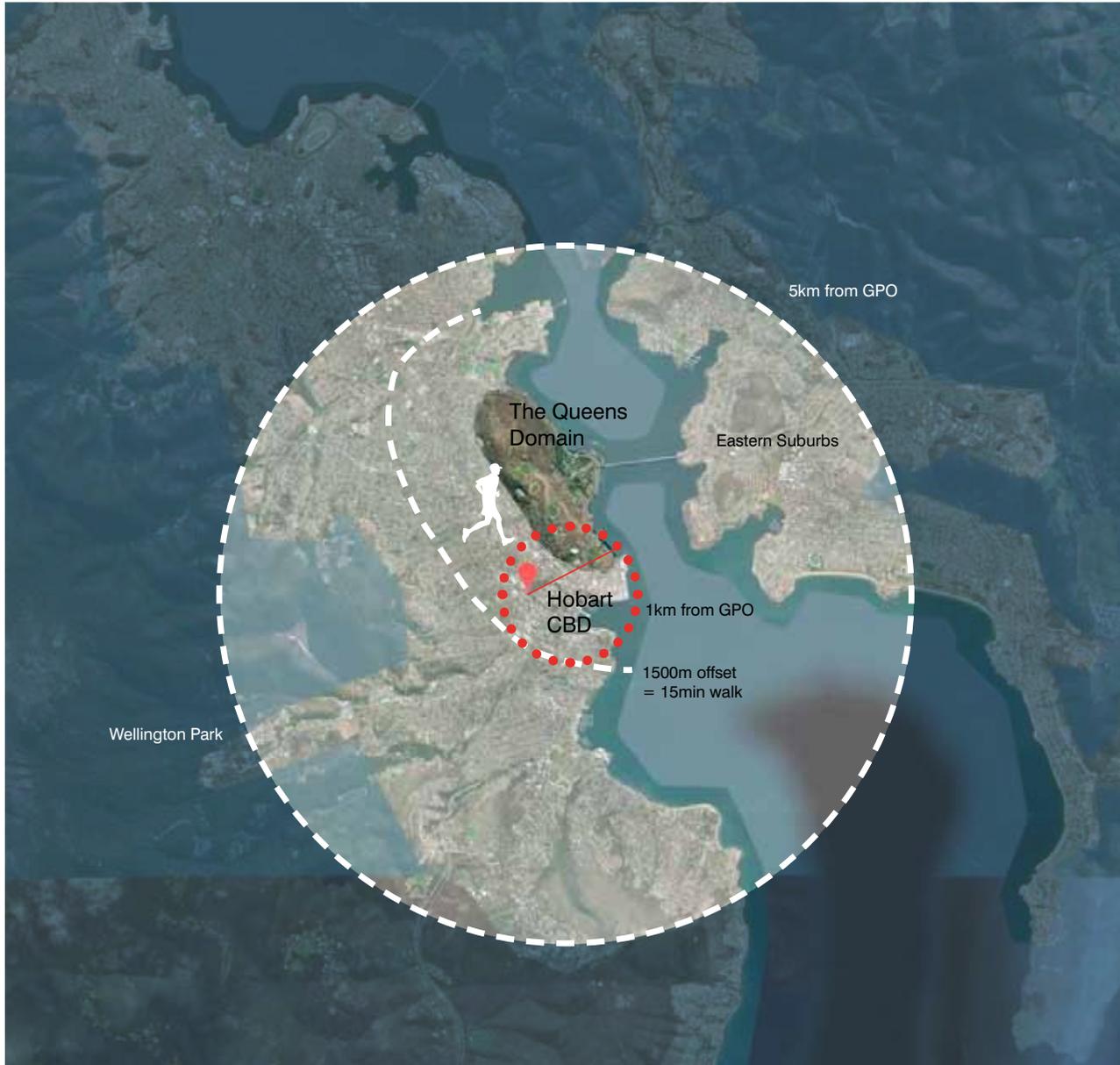
*The Domain shall be a park for the people that celebrates and protects its significant natural landscape and rich cultural history whilst providing for the education, recreation, health and enjoyment of its visitors.*



INTRODUCTION

## THE QUEENS DOMAIN

...almost **2 MILLION** people visit and use the Queens Domain **EACH YEAR** and millions more enjoy its role as a visual feature of their arrival to the City...



# 1. INTRODUCING THE QUEENS DOMAIN – A VALUED LANDSCAPE

The *Queens Domain* (hereafter referred to as the Domain) is claimed to be Hobart's premier urban park. Located on the edge of the City's central business district and within walking distance<sup>1</sup> of some 22,000 residents, the Domain's significance is comparable to other celebrated capital city parks in Australia.

The Domain's ~ 230 hectares of bushland and riverside setting hosts features, attractions and facilities that have a wide range of values to the nation, Tasmania and local residents.

These values include:

- sites of Aboriginal occupation and evidence of a range of aspects of their pre-European way of life
- cultural elements such as the Royal Tasmanian Botanic Gardens, Government House, the State's pre-eminent war memorial at the Cenotaph, the nationally significant Soldiers Memorial Avenue and other important heritage buildings, stories and sites
- an impressive array of regional/state level sporting facilities for tennis, swimming, diving, athletics, cricket and football
- a diversity of spectacular landscape settings such as the rural vistas fronting Government House, great views of Mount Wellington, its foothills and the River Derwent
- formal gardens of great beauty and exotic plant collections that interlace with rare indigenous open grassy woodlands containing nationally endangered plant species
- a wide range of open space and recreational facilities – a playground, walking/running tracks, parks and gardens, pleasant picnic settings and a picturesque café / restaurant at the Botanical Gardens

- long personal associations with the place through close proximity to the Glebe, recreation, events and outings to the point where the Domain strongly contributes to people's sense of Hobart as a place.

As a result of these values, almost 2 million people visit and use the Queen's Domain each year and millions more enjoy its role as a visual feature of their arrival to the City or as a backdrop to many vistas from across the regional setting.

With such substantive inherent value and lands and buildings worth of over \$70M, the challenge for the future is to gain the best return on this investment whilst sustaining the Domain's unique qualities thus making real the claim for the Queens Domain to be 'Hobart's premier urban park'.

<sup>1</sup> Walking distance is defined as 1.5 km or the distance a person can walk in 20 minutes. Source of calculation: Hobart City Council.

Left: (top to bottom) Centennial Park – Sydney, Olympic Park – Melbourne, Kings Park – Perth

## 1.1 A Managed Landscape

The traditional owners of the Domain, the Mouheneenner, lived in the region and through their lifestyle practices managed the Domain for at least 8,000 years before Hobart's European settlement in 1803. From as early as 1811, areas of the Domain were reserved for Government purposes with public agitation commencing in the 1830s to have the Domain confirmed as a public space. By the 1850s Hobart City Council was advocating for the land to be set aside forever as a place of recreation. Legislation to that effect was passed in 1858. Later, in 1917, the Queens Domain was vested in the Council as a public reserve and has remained so since that time with only some limited changes to its boundaries.

In 2012 Council, under the auspices of the *1993 Local Government Act*, act as the primary management authority for the City's open space system of parks, bushland reserves and sporting facilities including the majority of the Queens Domain. Care of the Domain is guided by Council policies on bushland and cultural heritage management and more specifically by the *1996 Queens Domain Management Plan* [1] and the *Queens Domain Fire Management Plan 2008* [2].

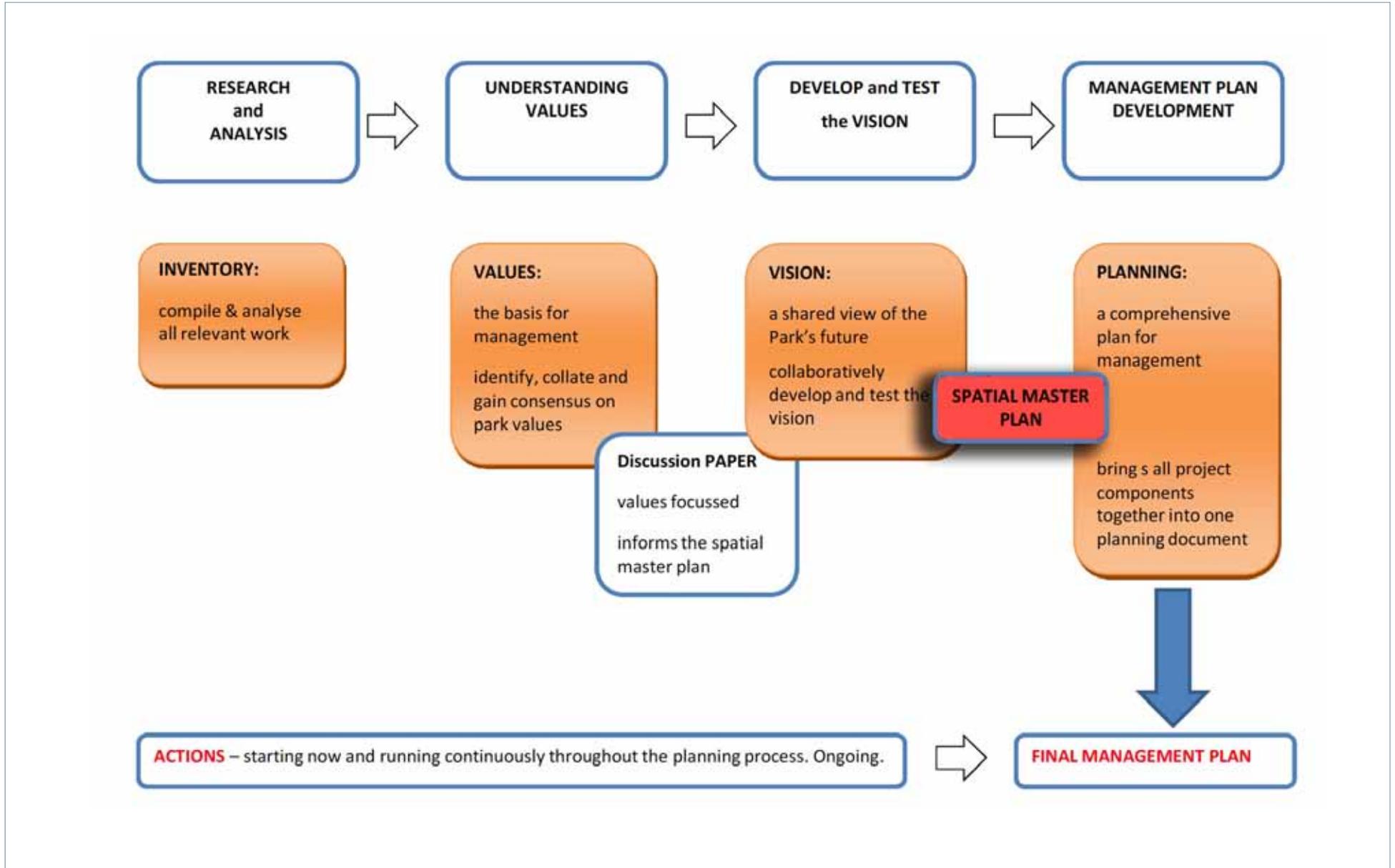
Development on the Domain is controlled by two planning schemes, both administered by the Hobart City Council. The City of Hobart Planning Scheme (1982) applies to the majority of the area. The Sullivans Cove Planning Scheme (1997) applies to the Cenotaph area east of the Tasman highway.

Other management bodies with responsibilities for portions of the Domain include the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (~14ha), Government House (~15ha), the State Government (for a small array of areas are managed by the Crown), the University of Tasmania and Tasports. A small area of land at the Huon Quays is privately owned. The three state-level sporting facilities on the Domain (Domain Athletic Centre, Domain Tennis Centre, and the TCA ground) are leased from the HCC by sporting bodies.



Left: (top to bottom) Franklin Square, St Davids Park, Bicentennial Park with Wellington Park in the background. Right: The Domain is Hobart's largest formal park crowning a suite of historic inner city parks. It is also one of the large bushland reserves managed by Council including Knocklofty Reserve, Bicentennial Park, Ridgeway and Wellington Park.





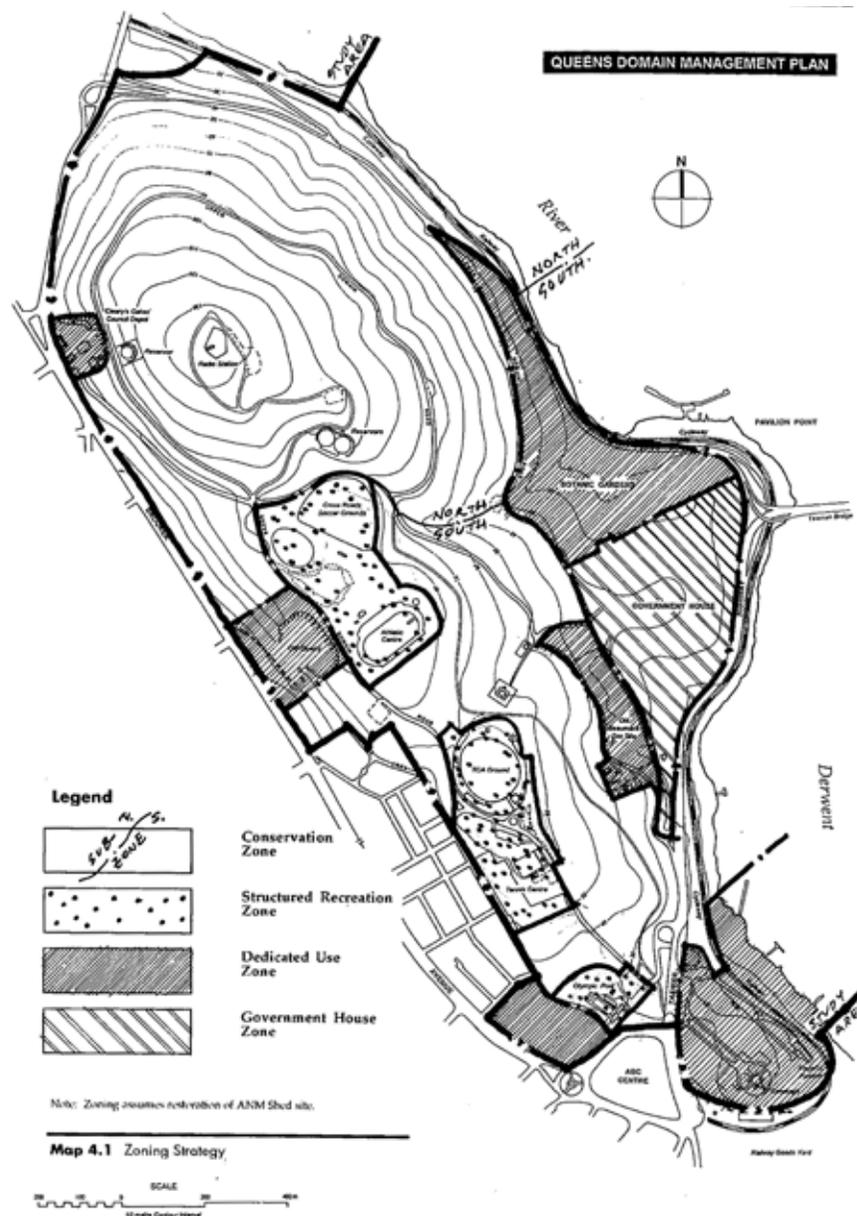
## 1.2 A Master Plan for the Queens Domain...

Since the 1880s there have been calls for a “plan in order that all work connected with improvement of the Queens Domain might be done under a distinct system” [3]. It wasn’t until 1972, however, before written management advice was given to Council [4] about how the Domain should be cared for. More recently, in 1982, a comprehensive management plan was prepared to guide Council in its conservation of the Domain’s natural and cultural values [5] and in 1996 the current *Queens Domain Management Plan* was adopted.

Council’s goal then and now is to create a comprehensive plan for management of the Queens Domain that brings together a range of policies and strategies, previous studies and issue specific investigations that have been developed to date.

Amongst all its previous work, however, Council has never developed a plan to guide physical improvements on the Domain, that is, a ‘spatial master plan’. As a result, development has been *ad hoc* leading to the Domain being ‘many places’ rather than one. Importantly, despite much good work, long-held concerns about presentation and appearance, access, circulation, use, safety and activity remain unresolved.

In late 2011, recognising the need for a spatial master plan to guide Council in making ‘one place of many’, a Request for Tender for preparation of such a plan was sought from consulting groups. After consideration of the offers made, Inspiring Place with the assistance of Liminal Architecture and Liminal Graphics was selected to prepare the *Queens Domain Master Plan 2013–2033* (hereafter the Master Plan).



Left: The current ‘spatial master plan’ in the context of the over-arching management plan for the Domain.

Right: Zoning strategy for the Domain proposed in the 1996 *Queens Domain Management Plan*.

### 1.3 ...to Make One Place of Many

The goal of the Master Plan is to establish the long-term directions and to develop substantive plans for 'physical place' improvements on the Domain to enhance its contribution to the civic life of the City and 'make one place of many'.

To achieve its goal, the Master Plan must:

- sustain the values that make the Domain unique and that are appreciated by the community
- activate and renew the Domain's various precincts
- evoke the special qualities of the place
- resolve the well known issues of identity, lack of consistency of treatments, movement of people and vehicles, arrival, and the creation of distinctive precincts within a unified whole
- embrace sustainability in its recommendations
- respond to City, regional and State needs
- inspire the community and Council to take action
- attract State, Federal and private funding.

Importantly, the Master Plan will give Council clear directions for moving forward in strengthening its claim for the Domain's to be the City's premier urban park.



Right: The Domain Athletic Centre (top), the Domain Tennis Centre (left) and the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (right).

Far Right: Detail Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (top left), the sporting facilities along the Davies Avenue corridor (top right), Government House (left) and the TCA ground (right). Active hubs at the core of the life of the city.



## 1.4 Approach

Preparation of the Master Plan has involved a comprehensive review of previous studies and available information, site investigations and consultation with key public and private stakeholders.

Initial concepts were presented to Council officers in the form of a Directions Statement, these concepts and Councils response being amalgamated into this draft Master Plan for further Council review.

In time the draft will be exhibited to Council Aldermen, key stakeholders and the public for their comment before a final report and Master Plan are prepared.

The draft plan that follows is in five parts:

- this introduction that describes the background to and defines the purpose of the Master Plan (Section 1)
- some under-pinning analysis that has guided the form of the Master Plan (Section 2)
- an outline of the guiding principles that have acted as criteria for the proposals made in the Master Plan (Section 3)
- a discussion of four key issues that the Master Plan has addressed (Section 4)
- the Master Plan itself (Section 5).

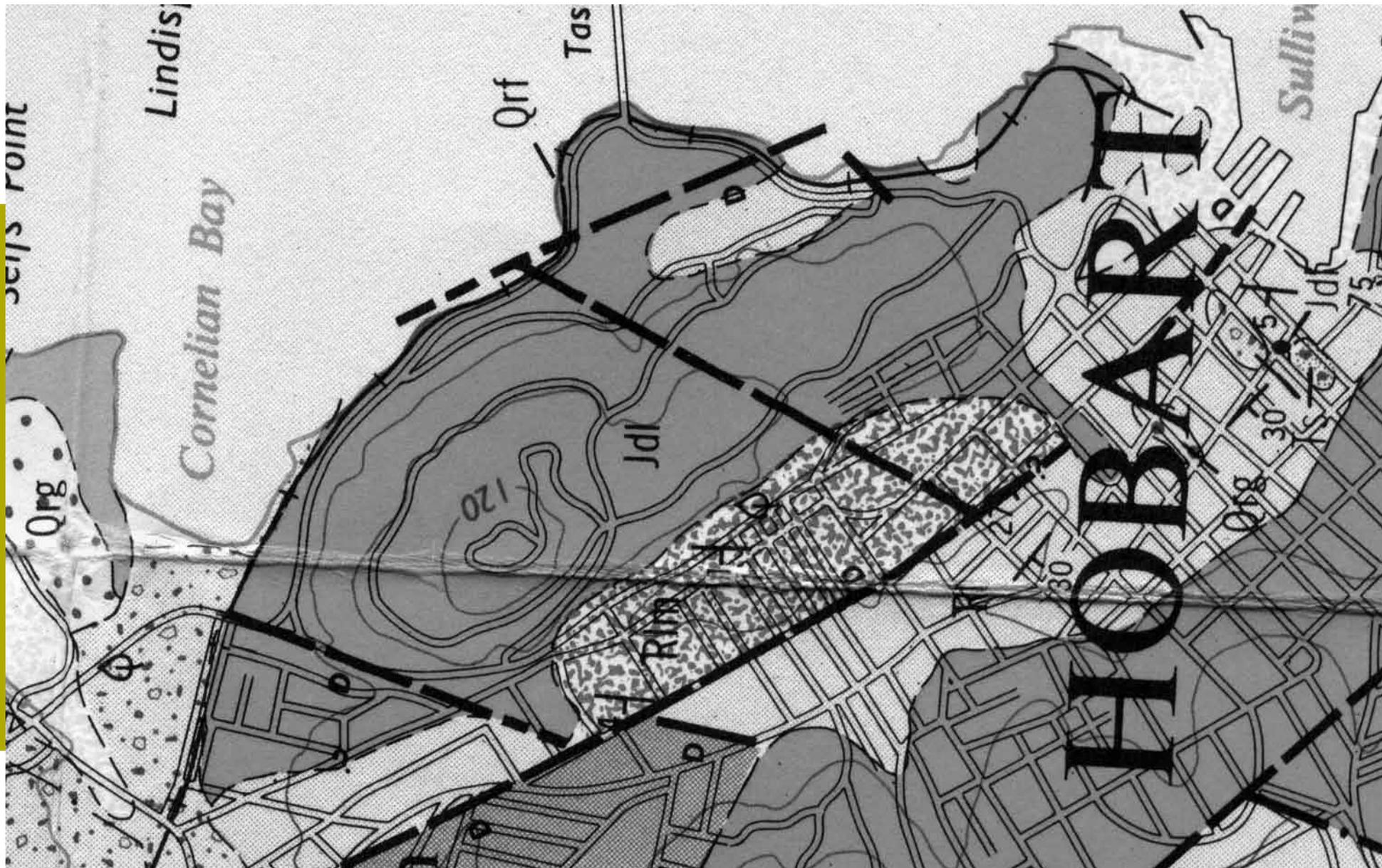
It is important to note that the plan drawings herein are in effect *diagrams of how the Domain may be developed* rather than a refined master plan showing how it will be developed. Importantly, the development concepts herein have been proposed in the absence of any business proposal or marketing, audience, market or demand analysis that would provide substantive rationale for any development proposal.

The purpose of the Master Plan, therefore, is to give Council, the community or potential investors the sense of where and how the Domain might be appropriately developed. The plans are concepts rather than specific proposals establishing fixed footprints for buildings, roads or path layouts, landscaping, etc. The Master Plan presupposes the greater depth of investigation, community consultation planning, heritage and environmental approvals that are required to provide greater surety to Council and the community that the objectives for the Domain are being achieved and for development to proceed.

ANALYSIS

THE WAY IT IS

...to **SUSTAIN** the Domain's natural  
and cultural **VALUES**, it is important  
to appreciate the 'way it is'...



## 2. THE WAY IT IS

If the Master Plan is to sustain the Domain’s natural and cultural values, it is important to appreciate the ‘way it is’, that is, to understand its inherent character and fabric and how that influences and shapes what might occur there.

Of its many elements, five have the greatest influence on how the Master Plan has developed: the underlying geology and resulting topography, the Aboriginal landscape, the history of development since 1803, the significance of the Domain’s remnant native grasslands and its historic cultural landscape.

### 2.1 The Influence of Geology

The landform of the Domain has its origins in the split up of the super continent of Gondwana about 200 million years ago. At that time, large scale melting of the earth’s mantle caused uplifting and cracking of the crust with molten material rising through the cracks and forcing its way between the layers of earlier sedimentary sandstones and mudstone. Faulting has also played an important role in the shape of the landscape, with shifts and fracturing of the crust adding to the complexity of the broad topography of the region.

It is these forces of igneous intrusion and movement that creates much of the landscape of Hobart today including such prominent features such as Mt. Wellington, Mt. Nelson, Mt. Rumney and Mt Direction.

These forces are also important to the Queens Domain where the bulk of the area is dolerite but with important remnants of earlier sedimentary rocks. The latter underlies much of the Government House grounds and was quarried for construction from the late 1820s onwards, including for

Government House itself. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century, dolerite was quarried along the western edges of the Domain for general use in road construction.

The boundaries between rock types and fault lines also strongly influenced the boundaries and elongated shape of the Domain. To the southeast the boundary between sedimentary and igneous rock help defined the course of the Park Street Rivulet that is now covered by the Brooker Highway. To the north, a fault defines the alignment of Bell Street. The saddle between the TCA and DAC and the drainage line that runs from it down through the Powder Magazine and the RTBG also reflect faulting. The rocky shoreline of the river results from the exposure of the hard-wearing dolerite exposed to waves and wind.

Since these early, mass land-forming processes, the effects of wind, water and chemical action have more subtly shaped and created today’s moderately steep topography over which sit relatively shallow soils.

Importantly, the flatter ground of the Domain is almost all human created rather than the result of geo-morphological influences, with reclamation and fill playing key roles in the creation of playing fields, the ‘playground’ at the RTBG and the working floor of Sullivans Cove [6].

Left: Detail from 1:50000 Hobart Geological Map. Jdl = Jurassic dolerite, Rbs = Mudstone / Sandstone, Qrf = Quaternary fill. Dashed lines = fault lines.



Left: Aerial view of the original shoreline, highlighting the influence of settlement in creating the 'floor' of Sullivans Cove.

Right: (top to bottom) Early settlement with Queens Domain in middleground (*View of part of Hobart Town from the windmill* JB Henderson). Earl's Panorama of Hobart, 1828.

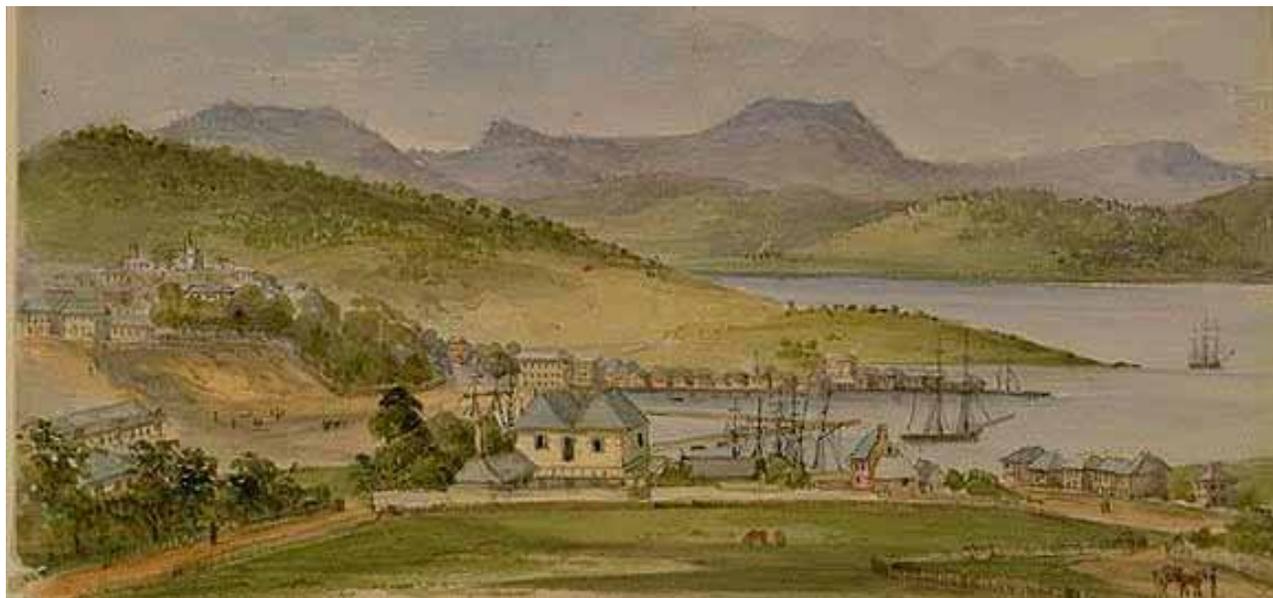
## 2.2 An Aboriginal Landscape

The Queens Domain is the traditional country of the Mouheneenner group of the South East Aboriginal people who exploited the estuarine fauna of the shoreline, the mammalian fauna on land and the wide range of plant foods available there. The shell middens and stone artefacts found across the Domain speak to the long and continuous occupation of the area by Tasmanian Aboriginal people prior to colonisation by the British.

The Mouheneenner were one of the first Aboriginal groups to encounter the 'ghostly' strangers who intruded on their country. Initially characterised by friendly encounters and the exchange of goods, the British subsequently alienated the Mouheneenner from their traditional lands.

Aboriginal people value the evidence of Aboriginal occupation of the Domain. The value of that evidence results from both its rarity, as a result of disturbance by settlement, and from the meanings it has to the contemporary Aboriginal community. Notably, the Aboriginal community does not differentiate levels of significance of sites. Rather, they assign a high value to all known sites of Aboriginal occupation.

The wider non-Aboriginal community also value Aboriginal sites for the stories they tell of their forerunners and of the interactions between cultures since occupation.



The Domain is more than a suite of Aboriginal sites, it is also an Aboriginal cultural landscape, shaped and adapted over a long period of time by Aboriginal firing practices and a remnant of what was once a much more extensive land system across the lower Derwent valley. Like artefacts and evidence of occupation, the Aboriginal cultural landscape of the Domain is valued by the contemporary Aboriginal community as an example of the way of life practised by their ancestors.

Accordingly, it is the view of the Aboriginal community that these grasslands should be protected and that management practices promote their ongoing survival, amidst what is a highly modified and urbanised region [7].

All sites known from the Queens Domain are listed on the Tasmanian Aboriginal Site Index held by the Aboriginal Heritage Office in DEPHA. Protection is provided to all Aboriginal sites under the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975*.



## 2.3 A Developed Landscape...

European occupation of the Domain began in 1804 after the colonists' first camp at Risdon Cove was abandoned and Hobart was first settled. Initially set aside for the pleasure and profit of the Governor of the colony, the Queens Domain has gradually evolved to be an extensively developed setting with a rich and layered history (albeit retaining important areas of native vegetation – see Section 2.4).

In part, the present day landscape reflects the utilitarian needs of the colonists, the Domain once being a place to put noxious activities like abattoirs, to quarry building materials, to agist animals, to grow food, to build and berth boats, to store munitions, to erect houses and to house the Governor of Tasmania.

In time, the Domain also became a venue for the pleasure of the people with the development of carriage drives, botanical gardens, a zoo, baths, sporting facilities, ceremonial spaces and events spaces and facilities.

Through time, the Domain has become increasingly isolated from the river and adjacent city and residential areas. The construction of the rail line in 1875 grossly severed the connection to the Derwent. The Domain was further disconnected from the river and cut into parts by the link road between the floating bridge and the City in 1943. This link later expanded to become an extension of the Tasman Highway, reinforcing the disconnection between the Cenotaph and the body of the Domain. To the west, the Brooker Highway was built in 1961 along the length of Park Street.

Throughout this history, the Domain has been a place “entwined” with the public imagination. As a place over which people have maintained a “constant vigilance” in the face of consistent pressure for occupation, it has long been a “battleground for citizens’ rights and democratic action against patriarchal and well-heeled authorities” [8 and 9].

Not all of the battles to preserve the open space of the Domain were won. Today, the clearly defined landform and the grassy woodlands of the Aboriginal landscape have been eroded in many ways. The result is a relatively isolated patchwork cultural landscape of interlaced modern facilities, memorials, extant historic features, areas of archaeological sensitivity and exotic gardens and remnant natural vegetation.

Right: Historic images of the Cenotaph (top) and the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens (bottom) are indicative of the rich history of the Domain and its importance to the daily life of the city.





KEY

Heritage Listed Sites

1. Government House
2. Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
3. Domain House and Phillip Smith Centre
4. HM Powder Magazine
5. Former Guard House – 2 Carriage Drive
6. Coastal Wireless Centre
7. Martins Hot Shot Oven and Queens Battery (archaeological features)
8. Former HMAS

Other Major Facilities

- A. Cenotaph
- B. Hobart Aquatic Centre
- C. Domain Tennis Centre
- D. TCA Ground
- E. Domain Athletic Centre
- F. Soldiers Memorial Ovals
- G. Soldiers Memorial Avenue
- H. Cleary's Gates Depot

Significant historic features are protected by their permanent listing on the Tasmanian Heritage Register under the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*.



Left to right:  
Beaumaris Zoo, Government House, Davies Avenue Corridor with the Hobart Aquatic Centre (foreground) – Domain Athletic Centre.  
TCA Ground and Soldiers Memorial Ovals (distant background).  
TCA Ground with HM Powder Magazine in the foreground.  
The photos show the contrast between the historic and the modern 'evolved' cultural landscapes of the Domain.



## 2.4 ...With Significant Natural Landscape Values...

Despite a long history of development, the Domain retains nationally significant remnants of its once extensive grassy woodland landscape. Amongst the seven native plant communities mapped on the Domain, two are significantly rare. Lowland *Themeda triandra* grasslands are listed as 'Critically Endangered' under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC) and *Eucalyptus globulus* forest and woodlands are listed as Threatened under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*.

These communities include over 130 native plant species of which 3 are listed as endangered or vulnerable under the EPBC and a further 16 are listed as rare or threatened under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* [2].

As well as its importance for its rarity value, the native vegetation of the Domain substantially contributes to its visual appearance, the dusty buff colours of its grasses and the silver grays of its tree species giving it a distinct hue.



Right: Map of Plant Communities on the Domain [2].

Far right: (top to bottom) A swathe of *Themeda australis*, the native kangaroo grass (top) lends a distinctive colour to the macro landscape of Domain. *Ptilotus spathulatus*, pussy tails (middle) and *Clematis gentianoides* offer the visitor spectacular beauty at the micro scale.



## 2.5 ... And Historic Cultural Landscape Values

In contrast to its native landscapes, the Domain is also home to significant exotic gardens and plantings of a completely different appearance.

From early settlement, areas of the Domain have been planted with a view to create a 'park like' setting in the tradition of the Victorian period. Of the gardens created, the RTBG and Government House are most significant. Other smaller gardens were developed around the University grounds, the Phillip Smith Centre and the various houses on the Domain, at the Coastal Wireless Station and more latterly at the rose garden at the Brooker roundabout.

Extensive tree plantings were also undertaken along the principal roadways and carriage drives (Davies Avenue/ Upper Domain Road and the Soldiers Memorial Avenue) and elsewhere such as in the Pinetum, the University Grounds and the Beaumaris Zoo. Today, the age and scale of these specimens strongly influence the character of the Domain with over 50 trees being listed in the City of Hobart Significant Tree Register in the 1982 Planning Scheme [10].

Amongst the many significant trees planted, the conifers are noted as having international importance for their diversity, the RTBG alone hosting 230 species including 60 of the 69 extant genera in the world, many of which are rare in the wild and/or cultivation in the world [10].

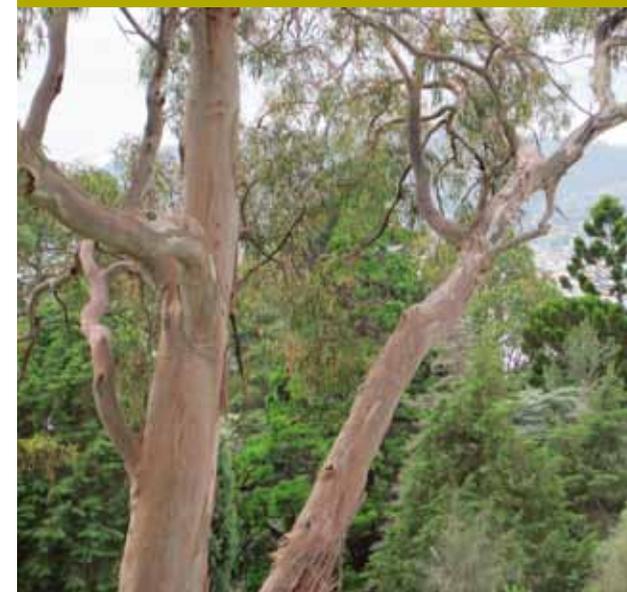
The native vegetation has also been considerably disturbed by a 'thousand cuts' – that is, many small interventions, purposeful or not, have inevitably led to invasion by exotic

shrub, herb and grass species. Such areas are spread across the Domain wherever clearing, excavation or construction have occurred. Nonetheless, even these areas have rare native plants within them that require consideration.

The Domain's landscape today is a feature of the City setting from every angle. Looking down from Mt Wellington its vegetated form is clearly defined by adjacent development and the river's edge. From the eastern shore its exotic gardens feature in the foreground to the more distant Wellington Range. By contrast, the views from the Domain frame the City, the river and distant landscapes creating picture postcard views.

*In toto*, then, the Queens Domain is a significant post-settlement cultural landscape as much as it is an Aboriginal cultural landscape. The Aboriginal cultural landscape remains in tact because of conscious or unconscious non-intervention since settlement, whilst the post-settlement cultural landscape has 'organically evolved' showing various layers of changing land use and occupation since the early 1800s. The significance of the post settlement cultural landscape is made all the greater because of its juxtaposition with the Aboriginal landscape as well as being important in its own right.

Right: (top to bottom) Soldiers Memorial Avenue winds through a distinctively coloured field of kangaroo grass. The clean skin of a manna gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) in the foreground contrasts with the evergreen colours of the Pinetum, part of a world class collection of conifers, in the background.





Top: The wild native grassland in the foreground falls away to reveal a cultured landscape below and the Derwent River beyond – together these natural landscapes and created landscapes make the Domain an 'evolved cultural landscape' of significant importance.

Bottom: Formal plantings and trees of considerable scale strongly influence the character of the Domain. The University Rose Garden (left), the Soldiers Memorial Avenue (middle) and an old oak in the Government House Grounds (right).

PRINCIPLES

A PARK FOR THE PEOPLE

History records the vehemence of the people's concerns that the Domain be **RESPECTED BY ALL** who look on it, visit it and manage it.



### 3. A PARK FOR THE PEOPLE

Prior consultation with the community and stakeholders has led to remarkably consistent conclusions about the value of the Domain, what the vision for it should be and the principles on which it should be managed to achieve its vision [11].

The protection of its inter-twined natural and cultural values, public use, play and enjoyment and public ownership all feature highly in any conversation about the Domain. In essence, it is the people's park and is to be respected by all who look on it, visit it and manage it. History records the vehemence of the community's concerns in this respect.

#### 3.1 The Vision for the Queens Domain

The vision expressed in 1996 management plan is not dissimilar to that put forward in 1917 when the land was vested with Council, the 1996 plan stating that:

*The Queens Domain shall be a park for the people that celebrates and protects its significant natural landscape and rich cultural history whilst providing for the education, recreation, health and enjoyment of its visitors [1].*

This vision remains relevant today and is the basis for the preparation of the Master Plan.

The 1996 management plan also set four objectives that remain relevant, albeit with some minor modifications (marked as follows with strikethrough text). The objectives have been adapted for the current project to give greater clarity about some of the terminology used in 1996 and to allow focus on improvements to the standard at which recreation, play and tourism is delivered.

The objectives are to:

- identify, protect and promote the ~~intrinsic~~ natural and cultural values of the Domain
- manage and promote informal recreation uses related to the area's ~~intrinsic~~ natural and cultural values
- consolidate ~~and/or contain~~ existing structured recreation, play and tourism activities within a dedicated zones ~~at current standards of provision~~
- improve Council's capacity to undertake the management activities required to achieve the ~~Primary~~ other objectives.

## 3.2 Principles to Guide Development

Supporting the vision and objectives, are the clear and consistent principles for development espoused by a range of parties. These principles have acted as touchstones in the preparation of the Master Plan and should act as criteria for assessment of future proposals that advance this plan. The principles adopted herein are:

1. Development must not be at the expense of the inherent values of the Domain and, indeed, should be directly inspired by those values.

The Domain is not vacant land waiting for development, but a valuable resource in its own right. Land on the Domain should only sparingly be given over to development and only when it advances the vision for the area. The landscape must be dominant over new built forms or activities so that the natural character, Aboriginal values and historic cultural heritage of the Domain are preserved.

2. The Queens Domain is a public asset that should be developed as a major destination for residents within and visitors to southern Tasmania.

The Queens Domain should be 'the jewel in the crown' of the City's parks and open space. At present its value as a destination for education, recreation, health and enjoyment is significantly under-realised.

3. Future development must be guided by a planning framework that avoids piecemeal use and development.

The Master Plan is particularly pointed at this principle, giving Council the strategies required to 'make one place of many'.

4. Community accessibility to the area must be promoted and enhanced.

The vision for the Domain is to be a "park for the people" yet despite its proximity to the City and its residents, there are significant physical barriers to its use that must be overcome.

5. Preference will be given to promoting site development opportunities through leasing rather than freehold titles over publicly owned land.

The vesting of the land demands that the public open space of the Domain remain in public ownership. The requirement, therefore, is for the leasing of land to prospective developers for a length of time that will enable them to make a return on investment that is independent of the sale value of the land.

6. Future development of the area should deliver economic, social and environmental returns to the Council and community.

Multiple benefits should flow from the use and development of the City's public open spaces. These benefits are multi-faceted and not just about financial 'return on investment' but include health and well-being, social equity and environmental sustainability. Importantly, development should assist in revealing the story of the Domain's cultural and natural landscape in an authentic manner.

7. The quality of development must be appropriate to the Domain's standing as the City's premier park.

High quality spatial planning and design of and investment in considered and unified treatments of park infrastructure are required to achieve the vision for the Domain.

8. Development should facilitate safe and legible movement to and through the Domain's quality public spaces.

Safe, clear and easy movement is a cornerstone of good open space planning. Such movement has not been achieved on the Domain to date and is a central consideration of the Master Plan.

9. Development must account for the predicted future changes in climate, lifestyle, resource availability and demographics.

The world is evolving – climate change is happening, private vehicle accessibility will reduce, the population is aging and resources like oil and natural vegetation are becoming scarcer. Each of these trends will influence how the Domain is used over the next century.

10. Programming the use of existing spaces must be given equal priority to the development of new spaces.

A focus on programming addresses the infinite possibilities to use what is already there. Programming activates existing space, builds new constituencies and adds value to existing investment with little new cost.

11. Adhere to the plan. The success of making 'one place of many' is dependent on the consistent application of the treatments recommended herein.



To achieve these principles, the Master Plan has been framed to:

- respond to and understand the evolution of the Domain as a cultural landscape
- take advantage of the value of the Domain within the wider City landscape
- recognise the Domain as an important element at the gateway to the City
- recognise that the Domain is a park and not a parking lot
- promote public health and well being through the provision of significant amounts of open space and the promotion of linkages between the Domain and the broader City
- consider a mix of appropriate uses and potential developments that could create the opportunity for feasible investment and partnership arrangements in the redevelopment of areas of the Domain
- provide comfortable and continuous pedestrian and cycle access across the whole of the Domain
- improve the appearance of the Domain by better managing parking and consistent, quality design of park infrastructure
- consolidate development at activity nodes that can be designed as integrated spaces, incorporating relevant facilities
- maximise public involvement in the process of managing, developing the Queens Domain.

ISSUES

MANY PLACES, NOT ONE

Sadly the whole is not greater than the sum of the parts. Each **DEVELOPMENT** has occurred in **ISOLATION** from the greater opportunity and as a result the Domain is many places not one.



**KEY**

1. Government House
2. Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
3. Soldiers Memorial Oval
4. Domain Athletic Centre
5. Cottage Guard House
6. HM Powder Magazine
7. TCA Ground
8. Zoo Keeper's Cottage
9. Former Guard House – 2 Carriage Drive
10. Domain Tennis Centre
11. Hobart Aquatic Centre
12. Domain House and Phillip Smith Centre
13. Cenotaph
14. Police House

**City Destinations**

- A. TAFE
- B. Menzies Centre
- C. Royal Hobart Hospital
- D. Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
- E. Orchestra Hall
- F. ABC/Baha'i Centre

■ Areas dominated by native vegetation  
 Soldiers Memorial Avenue  
■ Building  
 Operational Areas

## 4. MANY PLACES, NOT ONE

Over two hundred years of development has had a significant impact on the once contiguous natural landscape of the Domain. Today, scattered across the landscape there are kilometres of made paths, over 50 buildings ranging from small sheds to Government House, gardens of varying scales, substantive sportsfields, numerous memorials and a wealth of Council owned or managed infrastructure including ~7.5 kilometers of internal roads.

Many of these facilities have value in their own right (see Section 1) but not all do. Sadly, the whole is not greater than the sum of its parts. Synergies have been lost. Nothing holds it all together. Each development has typically occurred in isolation from the greater opportunity to add to or make better the Domain as the City's premier urban park. As a result, the Domain is many places, not one.

The key task of the Master Plan, then, is to provide the mechanisms for making-good 200 years of uncoordinated development.

Four obvious, interrelated issues need to be addressed if the goal of making one place of many is to be achieved:

- the Domain is hard to get to – it should be easy to reach
- the Domain is difficult to get around when you are there – getting around should be easy as well
- the Domain is under-used – more people should use the Domain than they do now
- the Domain is under-loved – the appearance of the Domain should reflect its status as a pre-eminent public open space in the City, it should be much loved.

### 4.1 Hard to Get to

The Domain is generally cut off from the City by surrounding highways and at the Cenotaph by the functions of the port and rail yard. There are only a few vehicle and safe pedestrian access points. Public transport is virtually non-existent – there being only one bus stop at the Aquatic Centre servicing the Domain and no ferry or rail services.

The major cloverleaf at the Cenotaph is the only truly safe vehicle access to or from the Domain. Elsewhere arriving and departing vehicles must merge with high speed, high volume traffic using less than desirable length slip lanes.

Access is particularly problematic for those unfamiliar with the geography of the City and the Domain. Pedestrian movement from Sullivans Cove and the City are especially fraught. From New Town there is no direct access at all.

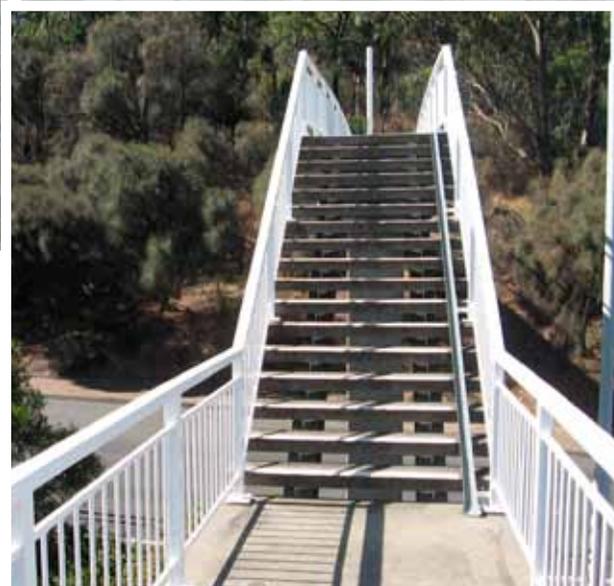
The underpass at the Brooker Highway and the at-grade crossing nearby are the safest locations for pedestrians to get to the Domain. The shared path adjacent to Davey Street and the Inter-City Cycleway provide the only safe pedestrian links to the Cenotaph area.

Pedestrian access to the RTBG is poorly developed and widely recognized as being unsafe when crossing the Domain Highway [11]. The Strategic Master Plan for the RTBG has recognised this and proposed a bridge linking the Gardens to the foreshore over the highway [12].

Council has critically examined alternative routes from the City and Sullivans Cove to the Domain [13]. That project has resulted in proposals for directional signage leading people to the underpass at the Brooker Highway, identifying it as the 'primary pedestrian gateway' to the Domain. Bridging over the Brooker at Bathurst Street [14] and over the Tasman Highway at the Cenotaph [15] have been suggested as mechanisms for improving access to the Domain and to reestablish a connection with the Cenotaph. Others have promoted lowering or 'burying' the Tasman Highway to create a land bridge between the Cenotaph to the Domain [16].

Proposals for the rail yard examined by the SCWA look to create an integrated multi-use quarter of the City. The development principles they propose are grounded in the need to create new pedestrian, vehicle and public transport connections between the Cove and the Cenotaph [15] and between the Cenotaph and the Domain.

In effect, the Domain is an island with few clear and safe links to it – cut off from the City by 50,000–60,000 cars moving around its edge each day. What is required is a comprehensive access system that caters for all of the modes of transport and that makes the Domain easy to reach from any direction – a system that turns 'hard to get to' into 'easy to get to'.



Right: Pedestrian access to the Domain is fraught. This bridge is the only safe pedestrian link to the Queens Domain for all the people living within the area of the aerial photograph.

KEY

1. Walking and cycle access to the Cenotaph but from there it is difficult to reach the rest of the Domain.
2. Walking access via the roundabout takes pedestrians under the highway and then back up to grade.
3. The pedestrian bridge at the old high school. After climbing numerous steps up from the highway, you cross to the side of the hill where you then have a steep climb to reach the developed spaces of the Domain.
4. The Cornelian Bay foreshore walk eventually leads to a dangerous highway crossing to reach the RTBG.



Safe pedestrian access points





## 4.2 Difficult to Get Around

Not only is the Domain hard to reach, but once there, there is a lack of clarity about how to reach key destinations making it difficult to get around.

An aerial view reveals (left), the number and complexity of pedestrian desire lines, the network of roads and the distribution of car parking across the Domain.

The criss-crossed nature of the formal and informal path network indicate the disparate destinations on the Domain and the lack of legibility about how to reach them. The paths themselves, suggest little hierarchy of movement. Few are paved, many are simply wear lines or pads through the grass.

Apart from the Inner-City Cycleway, if you are on your bike you use the same paths as the pedestrians, except they aren't marked as such (apart from Davey Street through Sullivans Cove) nor are they wide enough to suit shared use. Whilst the lack of paving in places might suit those on mountain bikes: beginners, families or those on conventional road bikes struggle. More can be made to make the Domain a cycling destination for all cyclists big and small, fast and slow – space, smooth surfaces, speed maintenance, clear sightlines, connectivity and information being important principles.

The road network, whilst less extensive, does not suggest any hierarchy either. Pavements are similar throughout and generally in only adequate repair. Apart from signage little is done to limit speeds (on average traveling at 52–54 kph, nearly twice the speed limit in comparable major capital city parks or in Sullivans Cove). Little is also done to promote courtesy to pedestrians and cyclists by way of line painting (apart from at the Aquatic Centre) or pavement treatments. The way the roads are arranged and the location of Council's depot also encourages cut-through traffic – an undesirable outcome if you are trying to make a family friendly space.

Car parking adds to the difficulty of getting around the Domain. On a normal day, all available space for free parking is sought after by commuters and there is often too little visitor parking in places, such as the RTBG and at Domain House. On weekends in high use periods such as the soccer season, other locations suffer a lack of parking as well. On the days and nights of big events, parking areas are frequently and inconveniently full. Furthermore, few car parks are connected to where visitors want to go by good footpaths.

User parking issues are made the more complex by 'city worker' parking: all day parking for people who work in the city and treat the Domain as a car park, not a park. There are over 700 free non time-bound car parking on the Domain representing some 5–9% of the City's total parking supply [17].

Some efforts and investigations have been made to overcome issues of getting around the Domain. For instance, the decision in the 1990s to close the loop road out to the northern extremity of the Domain has been extremely successful in creating a safe, shared space for walkers, runners, cyclists and those in wheelchairs. More recently, Council has explored links to the Domain, proposing a link across the Domain from the City edge to the RTBG [13]. The RTBG's strategic master plan proposes closing part of Lower Domain Road to through traffic as a means of creating much needed parking and to improve safety around its entry [12]. Council has also begun the debate about parking management on the Domain identifying the price differential between core CBD and fringe parking as being at the core of the problem [17].

Simply put, the Domain should be easier to get around than it is. What is required is a circulation system that caters for different transport modes, manages traffic and parking and creates an attractive, safe and legible destination for vehicles, cycling, walking and running – a network that works for the individual as well as catering for the big events that draw big crowds.

Left: Plan prepared by Hobart City Council (left) showing the complex network of 'desire lines', i.e. the paths and foot pads, that traverse the landscape of the Domain. Parking and pedestrians don't mix well and certainly don't create a parklike atmosphere (top). One of hundreds of footpads created due to lack of a clear, well designed network of footpaths to link the key features of the Domain (middle). The nationally important Soldiers Memorial Avenue is let down by the poor appearance of its entry and the quality of the walking surface (bottom).

## 4.3 Under Used

Despite its size and proximity to the City and its residents, the Domain is under-used. Some areas receive intensive daily visitation such as the RTBG and the Aquatic Centre (accounting for more than half of the 2 million visitors per annum to the Domain). Other areas are infrequently visited and remote locations have attracted unsociable activities.

As previously discussed, some of the under use derives from the 'island' effect and the lack of appropriate infrastructure to help people safely navigate the expanse of the Domain. Overcoming these obstacles alone would vastly increase patronage of the reserve.

Under-use also arises from:

- under-development such as at the Regatta Ground where there is great scope for year round activation of the foreshore and Cenataph area whilst providing facilities for the conduct of major events
- under-utilisation of single purpose venues such as the Regatta Pavilion and the TCA which have significant potential for greater year-round use for a wider variety of activities
- limited imagination about the adaptive reuse of assets such as the Beaumaris Zoo, the Powder Magazine or the historic single family residences
- limited exploration of how to better use the Domain's bushland, including not only 'the Hill', the summit of the Domain at the heart of its grasslands, but also the foreshore between Regatta Point and Cornelian Bay
- a focus on investment in facilities for competitive sport at the expense of informal, non-time bound recreation, play and tourism that would attract, all-season use of the Domain by a wider demographic
- poor attention to user safety including conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles and the lack of lighting in key use areas

- a lack of resources, the RTBG for instance being strapped for funds to implement its strategic master plan
- poor event and other programming that can build new audiences for the Domain with little requirement for new investment
- a need for engagement with key stakeholders such as the Aboriginal community that might open new ways of understanding and telling the story of the Domain.

Council's recent initiative to introduce community facilities at the Soldier's Memorial Oval Precinct is one example of how greater use of the Domain could be achieved without impact on values [18]. Renewal of the Soldier's Memorial Avenue is a further recent attempt to expand the usage of the Domain in keeping with its heritage values. The recent Threatened Species Day celebration at the Beaumaris Zoo is an excellent example of how event programming can breathe new life into a space and develop new interest in the Domain. The proposal in the *Greater Hobart Mountain Bike Master Plan* to build a contour track around the northern perimeter will further activate the Domain [19].

These are but some of the issues preventing greater use and examples of how, whilst respecting its values, the Queens Domain could go from being 'under used to well used'.

Right: The long under-used Beaumaris Zoo site (top) with its established trees and extant historical features calls out to be better utilised. The John Colvin Stand and Regatta Grounds are largely single purpose venues that sit vacant all but a few days of the year (middle). The top of the water tanks (bottom), a broad, level surface that is opportunistically used by children learning to ride their bikes. However, it could be so much better done and better integrated with nearby facilities to bring expanded use.



## 4.4 Under Loved

Previous discussion has asserted that the Domain is an 'organically evolved' space rather than a planned place, a space where facilities have been developed in isolation without consideration of the whole. As a result, little has been done to appropriately treat the 'left over' or abandoned ground between the Domain's main attractions. Whilst most facilities on the Domain are well cared for within their boundaries and at their immediate edges, the 'left over' bits feel just that, left over and un-loved.

The treatment of the perimeter highways is exemplary of this situation. The highways work for cars but not for the Domain. Highway edges are typically poorly vegetated, un-mown, weed infested or simply steep rock embankments. As a result, they do not present in a manner that is commensurate with the Domain's role as a key landmark in the arrival sequence to Tasmania's capital city.

Park furniture across the Domain is inconsistent and often of a low quality or poorly maintained. Seating, pavement treatments, bollarding, landscaping and lighting are widely diverse and unrelated as opposed to a consistent approach that exudes a unified corporate identity.

The Domain's appearance also suffers from a lack of 'editing', that is, the removal of elements that no longer serve their intended purpose or are past their 'use by date'. Concrete slabs, signposts without signs, fences, even buildings (such as the Police House) that are no longer needed, etc. These examples illustrate that subtraction in master planning can be as important as addition.

Substantive areas of the Domain are fenced off from general access. Fencing contributes to the fragmentation of the Domain physically and visually. Steep embankments created by cut of fill also create barriers. Disturbed sites like these are often weed-infested or un-mown further adding to a feeling of neglect and presenting psychological barriers to access.

Whilst the 'organically evolved' landscape of the Domain is valued, there is the significant opportunity to recreate it as a 'designed cultural landscape'. In the designed cultural landscape interventions are purposeful. They maximise community access and benefits. They create individual vignettes of delight that share commonalities with the whole. In the designed landscape there is attention to the details and quality in the infrastructure that is provided. Shelter, furniture, lighting, landscaping and pavements all speak to each other and go beyond meeting pure functional needs to providing delight.

Consistency will generate unity and project positively, turning the Domain from an 'unloved space' into a 'much loved place'.



Highway edges (top left), such as this one are poorly vegetated and often just bare earth. Not a good look for the City's premier park.

Historically, the Domain has been a place to 'put things'. Here, building (left) materials and rubble degrade the surrounds to important heritage buildings in Carriage Drive.

Everything that goes on the Domain should be of a standard that reflects the importance of the place. No greater disrespect for a place is shown than when parks become parking lots or furniture is allowed to fall into disrepair.



STRATEGIES

MAKING ONE PLACE OF MANY

The **MASTER PLAN** gives form to the 'physical place' improvements making 'one place of many' and enhancing the Domain's claim to be the City's **PREMIER** park.



**KEY**

- Upgrade urbanised foreshore edges
- Natural edges (remove weeds and dead trees, encourage natural regeneration of trees and ground cover)
- Remove weeds and dead trees, encourage natural regeneration of trees and ground cover
- Feature plantings Brooker Highway (establish mass plantings of native species – see cross sections page 48)
- Feature plantings Lower Domain Highway (establish mass plantings of native species – see Landscaping)
- Cultural heritage edges (remove weeds, mown grass)
- Mow as fire break
- Feature artwork to embankment (to celebrate Domain, taking advantage of the highway cutting as a driver for design)
- Establish mass feature planting of she oaks

## 5. MAKING ONE PLACE OF MANY

The range of strategies set out in the following sections are required to make the Domain ‘one place of many’. In each case, an over-arching strategy is formed from which flow a range of detailed recommendations.

The recommendations in each section are supported by plans, illustrations and precedent images in conjunction with the text and many are more fully illustrated on the area plans and whole of Domain plan in Sections 5.7 and 5.8.

For some recommendations:

- further rationale is provided that expands on the more general analysis of previous sections
- realistic and ideal solutions are proposed, recognising that higher priorities such as costs might take precedence in the early years of implementing the plan.

### 5.1 Eight Kilometers of Edge

**Strategy 1.** Establish and define the boundary landscaping of the Domain.

#### Benefits

- Identifies the Domain as a key landmark within the City.
- Improves the arrival sequence to the State’s capital city.
- Enhances the access and amenity of the foreshore and highway edges.

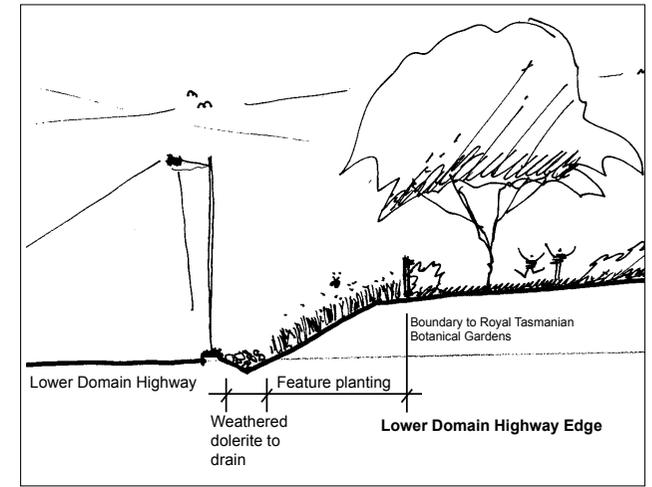
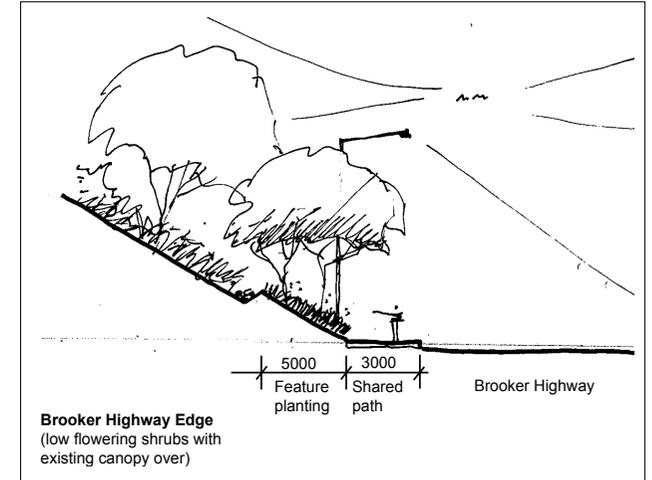
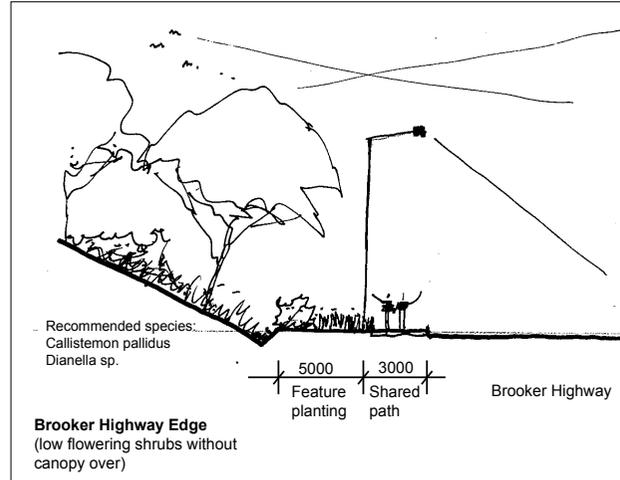
See also Section 5.2 Bridges, 5.4 Walking, Section 5.6 Landscaping, Section 5.7 Regatta Ground, 5.9 One Place

#### Foreshore Edges (~3.5 kilometres)

- Develop an ‘urbanised’ foreshore edge at the Regatta Ground and Pavilion Point including ramped and stepped access to the water, pedestrian promenades and shared paths, landscaping, quality street furniture and lighting.
- Retain the foreshore on the western side of the Tasman Bridge as an ‘urbanised’ foreshore edge including the Derwent Mercantile Collegiate rowing club, car parking, foreshore parkland and extending this urbanised edge treatment through to include the RTBG’s land.
- Maintain the rest of the foreshore as a ‘natural edge’, removing invasive weed species and litter and promoting natural vegetation communities.
- Ensure liaison with the Aboriginal community when assessing any proposed development along the foreshore.

## Highway Edges (~4.5 kilometres)

- Remove weed species and increase maintenance to present a 'neat and tidy' look (minimum requirement).
- Establish mass plantings to rehabilitate bare slopes and/or to mask them (ideal).
- In key locations (such as at the junction of the Brooker Highway, the clover leaf at the Brooker Highway and at Lower Domain Road use retaining or screening feature walls to mask steep slopes that cannot be re-vegetated).



Roadside treatment along the Eastern Freeway in Melbourne are exemplars of quality roadside landscaping.

## 5.2 Six New Bridges

**Strategy 2.** Create new pedestrian linkages to the Domain.

### Benefits

- Facilitates safe and convenient access by pedestrians and bikes from the edges of the Domain to it including from residential areas, the city centre, the Derwent River foreshore and Sullivans Cove.
- Improves connectivity within the City for both residents and visitors.
- Makes public access to the Domain a strong and visible feature of the City's planning.
- Raises public awareness about the Domain and its accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.

See also Section 5.3 City to Gardens Way Project, Section 5.4 Walking/Cycling, 5.7 Regatta Ground 5.8 One Place



### KEY

1. Brooker Highway – Bathurst Street to Domain House and University residences
2. Sullivans Cove – ‘Cove floor’ to the Cenotaph
3. Tasman Highway – Cenotaph to the Domain proper
4. Brooker Highway – New Town/North Hobart to Cleary’s Gates
5. Lower Domain Road – RTBG to the Cornelian Bay Walk
6. Lower Domain Highway – RTBG to the Cornelian Bay Walk

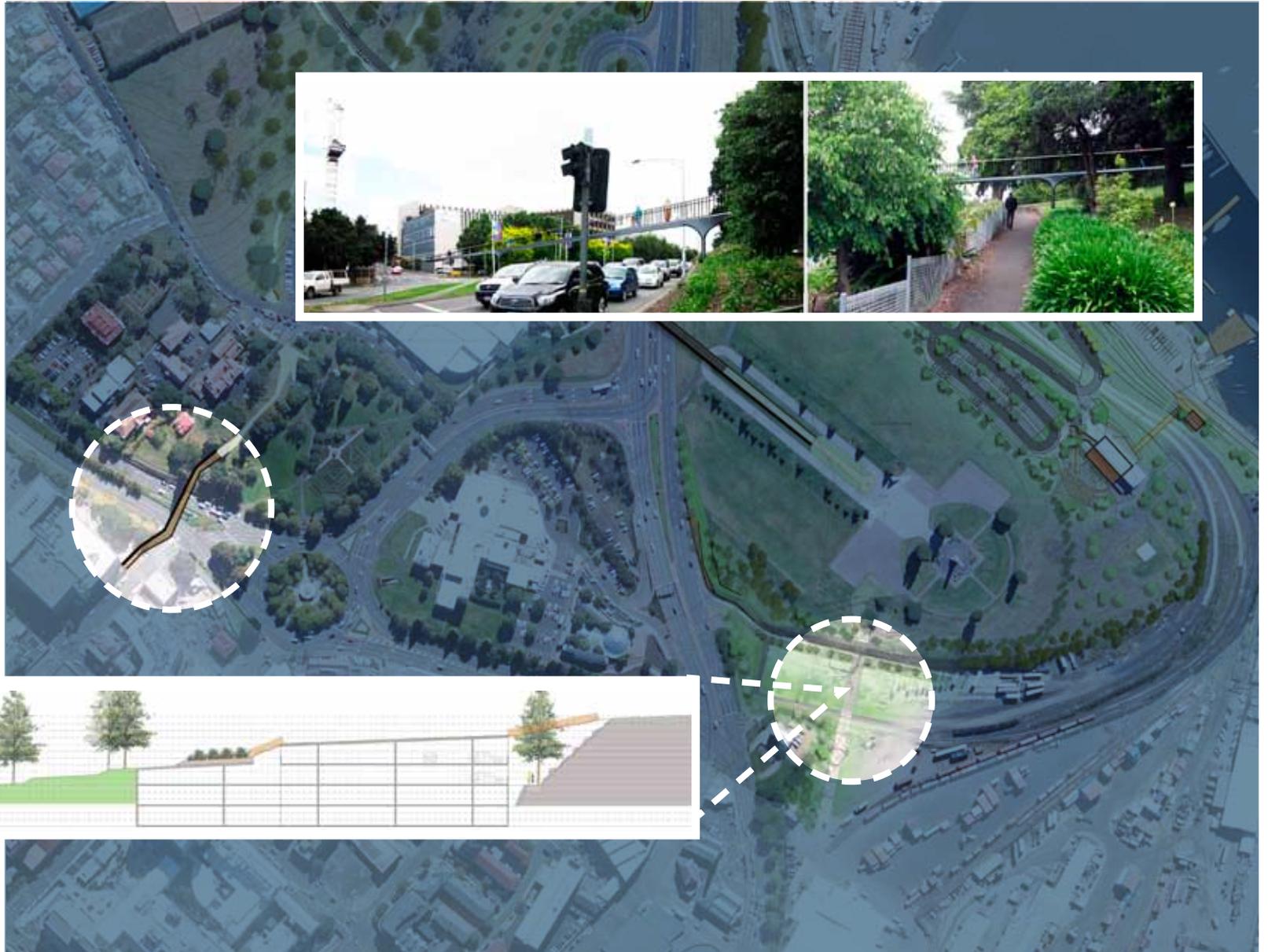
Of the bridges shown, Numbers 1, 4 and 3 have priority subject to funding.

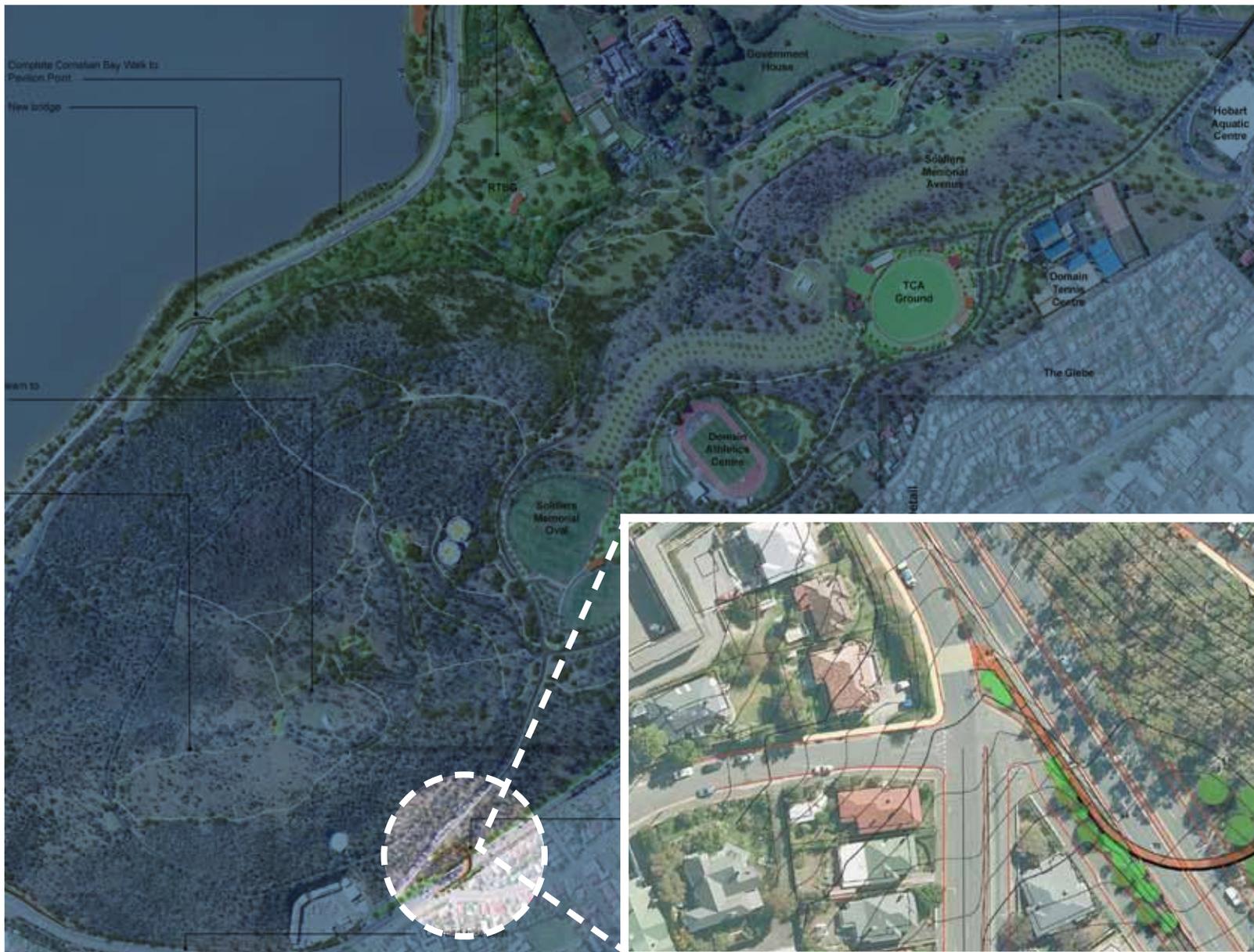
### Bathurst Street

- Connect the CBD to the Domain launching a new bridge from the dais of the TAFE building and landing opposite on the grounds of Domain House [14].
- Design to ensure bridging of the existing pedestrian path along the Brooker frontage.

### Sullivans Cove

- Connect the Cenotaph to the floor of Sullivans Cove via a land bridge over a new public car park (services Hunter Street, the Cove generally and future multi-use development in the rail yard).





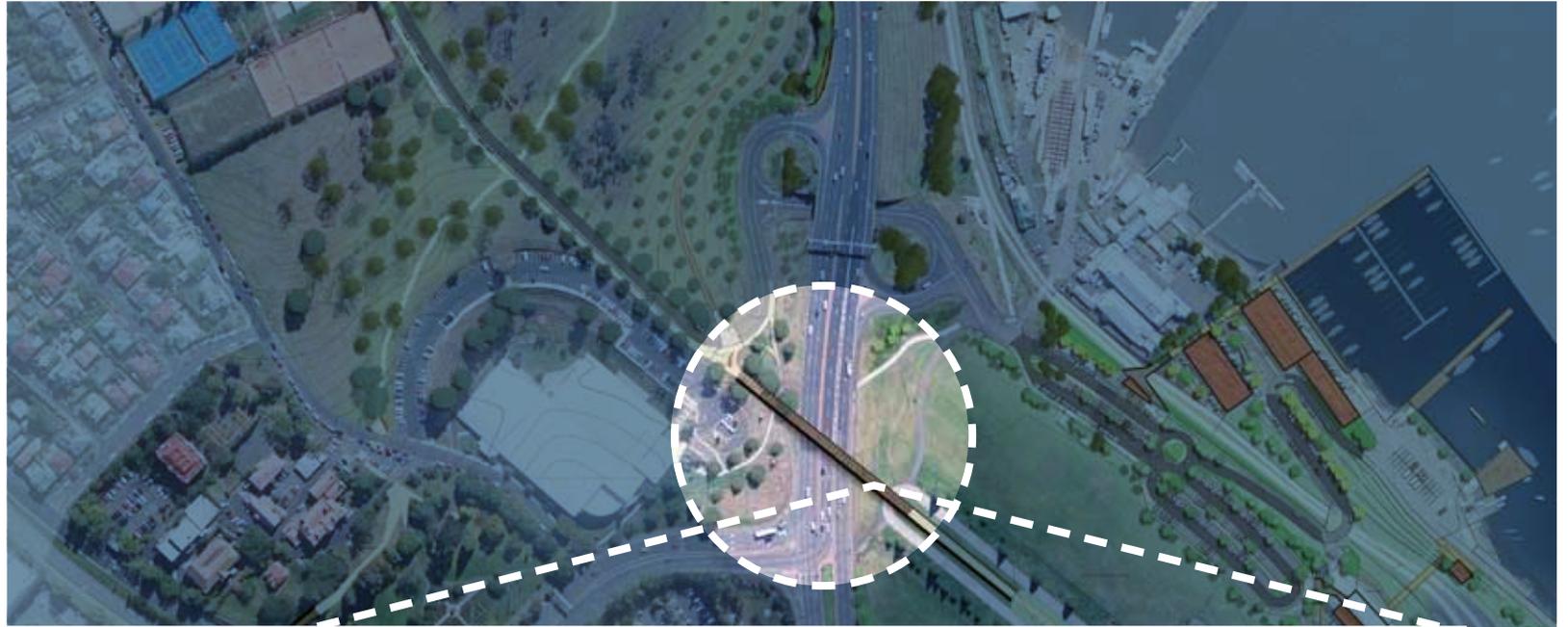
### New Town

- Create a new shared bridge link connecting New Town to the Domain
- Requires study and detailed design to protect distant views to City centre
- Screen balustrade to residential edge



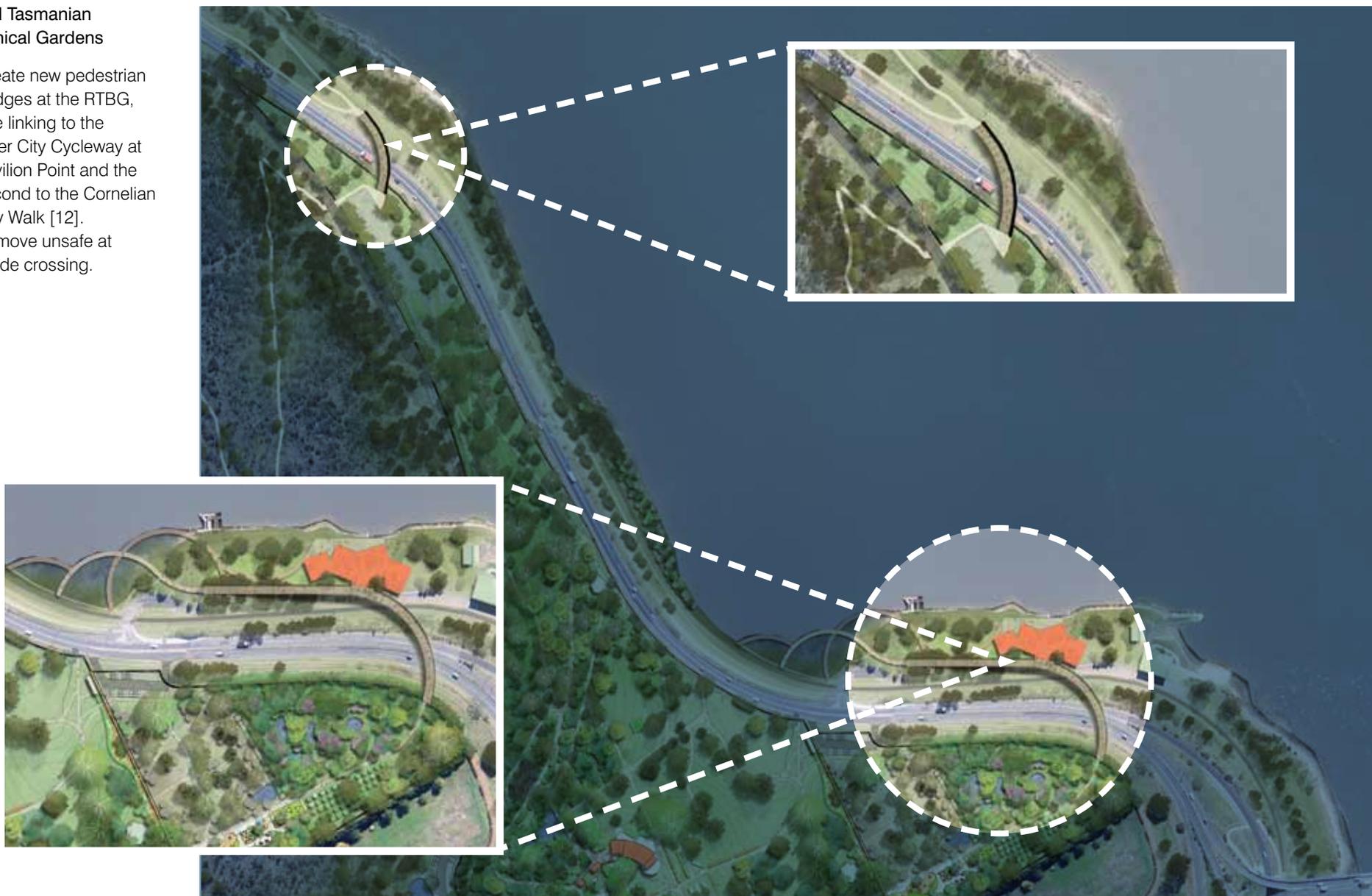
## Cenotaph

- Create a new shared path over the Tasman Highway to link the Cenotaph area with the Domain and the Soldiers Memorial Avenue.
- Ensure any design is respectful of the dignity of the Cenotaph and its surrounds.
- Design to ensure bridging of the existing pedestrian path along the Tasman Highway frontage.



### Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens

- Create new pedestrian bridges at the RTBG, one linking to the Inner City Cycleway at Pavilion Point and the second to the Cornelian Bay Walk [12].
- Remove unsafe at grade crossing.





**KEY**

1. Government House
2. Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens
3. Pinetum
4. Beaumaris Zoo
5. Former Guard House
6. HM Powder Magazine
7. Zoo Keeper's Cottage
8. 2 Carriage Drive

- A TAFE
- B Menzie Centre
- C Royal Hobart Hospital
- D Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery
- E TSO
- F ABC/Baha'i Centre

█ The City to Garden Way  
 Contour range 14–38–30m

17m Height above sea level

## 5.3 One Critical Path – The City to Gardens Way

**Strategy 3.** Establish a high order pedestrian/cycle connection from Sullivans Cove and the City to link with the RTBG.

### Benefits

- Establishes a safe, well developed and maintained pedestrian/cycle connection between the city and the RTBG that can be promoted to visitors, residents and Domain users.
- Raises public awareness about the Domain and its accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Improves linkages between the various attractions, facilities and landscapes of the Domain and the City.
- Encourages less use of vehicles in accessing the Domain.

See also Section 5.2 Bathurst Street, Section 5.4 Walking/Cycling

### Way Finding

- Further enhance the safety and appearance of the Liverpool Street connection under the Brooker Highway through better lighting, the artistic treatment of the underpasses and maintain high standards of care of landscaping within the space (this should be the minimal treatment).
- Develop a new pedestrian bridge over the Brooker Highway at Bathurst Street (this is the ideal).
- Traverse the slopes of the Domain to achieve a gradient of 1:20 (as far as possible) and without steps linking from the Brooker Highway to the RTBG.
- Integrate the route with the reactivation of the Beaumaris Zoo site.
- Tell the story of the features that are passed along the way (the Soldiers Memorial Avenue, 2 Carriage Drive, the Zoo Keeper's Cottage, the Beaumaris Zoo, the Pinetum and the RTBG).
- Develop as a shared path, 2.4 metres wide, exposed aggregate concrete surface with pedestrian scale lighting between Bathurst Street and the Upper Domain Parkway.

## 5.4 Four Modes of Transport

**Strategy 4:** Develop a hierarchical system of transport to, from and within the Domain.

### Benefits

- Promotes clear and safe movement for all users.
- Supports opportunities for better access through public transport, walking and cycling.
- Rationalizes roads, where possible, so as to enhance alternative and better use of public spaces.
- Helps modify driving behaviour commensurate with value of the Domain as a significant public park environment.

See also Section 5.2 Six Bridges, 5.3 One Critical Path, 5.7 Four Precincts, 5.8 One Place

### Cars

- Close the Lower Domain Road from the Domain Highway through to RTBG [12] to create increased parking and improved safety at the entry to the RTBG. This action may require examination through a trial closure and/or progressive implementation/staging to condition drivers to the changes to the operation of the road.
- Consider closing the loop of the summit road and terminating the road at the uppermost car park to create a pedestrian safe walking path around the summit with good grade access to the lookout area whilst still retaining close road access to the Wireless Institute.
- Establish a clear hierarchy of road treatments elsewhere that indicates to drivers that they are in a park environment and that their driving behaviour should be modified accordingly including through:
  - » introduction of a 40kph speed limit across the whole of the Domain
  - » centre line, edge line and bike lane marking throughout
  - » clear delineation between vehicle and walking/cycling interface (i.e. using bollards or different pavement surfaces or line-marking and road paint).
- Renaming of the principle road loop to be the Lower Domain Parkway (not Lower Domain Road) and the Upper Domain Parkway (not Upper Domain Road).
- Improve appearance of road shoulders through formed edge treatments (i.e. flush kerbs), dolerite lining and planting of swale drains, and improved maintenance regimes.



### ... and Car Parks

- Rationalise off-road parking through progressive removal of gravel car parks and progressive replacement with sealed, marked, landscaped and contained parking lots giving particular attention to areas at McVilly Drive, the TCA, Soldiers Memorial Oval and on Upper Domain Road above Allambee Crescent.
- Develop a strategy for prioritising paid/unpaid, time bound/unbound parking across the Domain related to adjacent uses and the need for shorter term parking in some areas and for Council recovery of some of its costs in investment in improvements to the Domain.
- Identify and designate overflow parking areas for use in peak events.
- 'Dynamically manage' peak events parking as required including use of designated overflow areas (as above), the use of parking marshals, shuttle bus links to offsite car parks and/or promotion/underwriting of public transport.
- Consider opportunities for implementation of water sensitive design practices and initiatives in all parking areas.



Left: By improving the treatment of the road and its edges, the Domain quickly looks its part as the centrepiece of the City's open space system. Right: Examples of well designed car parks – sealed surfaces, kerbing, line marking, lighting and bollards all project a positive image well suited to an urban park.



**KEY**

- Principle 'Parkway' with improved, high quality surface, edge treatments and speed controls
- Other roadways with quality surface and edge treatments
- Proposed parking
- 1 Possible roundabout
- 2 Upper Domain Parkway
- 3 One way – Authorised vehicles only
- 4 Lower Domain Parkway
- 5 Close (open for events)
- 6 Close

**KEY**

-  Ferry Access points
-  Designated Taxi and Bus drop off and layby areas
-  Metro Tasmania defined bus stops
-  Transit station
-  New transit route  
light rail, express bus –  
Northern suburbs to City



## Public Transport

- Improve ferry facilities at Pavilion Point (RTBG) and develop a new ferry terminal at Regatta Point.
- Create and designate bus and taxi lay-by and parking areas at key destinations (Cenotaph, Regatta Grounds, Aquatic Centre, University Campus, Domain Tennis Centre, TAC and DAC).
- Promote the concept of a public transit corridor (light rail line or an express bus lane) on the existing rail line (soon to be made redundant) with transit stops at the RTBG and the Regatta Ground.

Top: Light rail has been proposed for the rail corridor when it becomes available for alternative uses. Another option is the use of this space for an express bus route (guided buses or otherwise) such as in the top left (Germany) and top right photos (Nantes, France).



Right: Whatever form of transport, taxi, bus or rail, quality facilities including shelter and seating are required at transit stations. Two recent Tasmanian examples of bus lay-bys – St Aloysius High School (bottom left) and Montrose Bay High School (bottom right).



## Walking

- Establish a hierarchy of paths that link important nodes and provide comfortable pedestrian access within the Domain.
- Provide 'universal access' where possible (natural topography likely constrains the potential for this to be consistently achieved).
- Rename the Joggers Loop, the 'Upper Domain Walk' to better express its role in the activation of the Domain.
- Maintain and promote the Inner City Cycleway as a regionally important asset.
- Improve the linkage between the Powder Jetty and the Inner City Cycleway for pedestrians, install seating in an appropriate location (i.e. address conservation policies) and present and tell its story.
- Explore opportunities to create a pedestrian only foreshore track between Pavilion Point and Regatta Point similar to the existing path from Cornelian Bay track.
- Complete the Cornelian Bay walk through to the former RTBG rail platform and on to the intersection with the slip road to the old ANM shed site.
- Implement the City to Gardens Way project (Section 5.3).
- Widen and upgrade the path surface to a high order standard and install pedestrian scale lighting along the existing path along the Upper Domain Parkway between the THAC and the Soldiers Memorial Oval.
- Create a new contoured path from the Soldiers Memorial Oval through to the DTC.
- Complete footpath along length of Lower Domain Parkway from Domain Highway to Tasman Highway.
- Construct new loop track through Pinetum subject to environmental constraints.
- Develop new shared path along Upper Carriage Drive to link intersection with Tasman Lookout Road.
- Complete Soldiers Memorial Avenue.
- Link Soldiers Memorial Avenue to Summit Loop track.
- Retain dog exercise and off-lead areas in current locations.



Recent trackwork at Knocklofty and along the Domain foreshore near Cornelian Bay (above) demonstrate low impact construction in a sensitive setting that is suited to new paths on 'the Hill'. Lower Sandy Bay Beach foreshore promenade (left) – a fine example of how quality design and construction bring a setting alive in a way that more ordinary treatments don't.





KEY

1. New link from New Town bridge to the summit of 'the Hill'.
  2. Rename 'joggers loop' as the Upper Domain Walk.
  3. Explore possibilities for a pedestrian only track parallel to and along the Inner City Cycleway.
  4. Complete the Cornelian Bay Walk through to the junction with the slip road at the old ANM shed site.
  5. Complete the City to Gardens Way project (see Section 5.3).
  6. Create well lit and constructed path (shared or separated) along the length of Davies Avenue from the THAC to the Soldiers Memorial Ovals.
  7. Create a contoured pedestrian path from the Soldiers Memorial Ovals through to the Domain Tennis Centre.
  8. Construct Pinetrum loop.
  9. Complete footpath along length of Lower Domain Parkway.
  10. Construct joggers loop extension.
  11. Complete Soldiers Memorial Avenue.
  12. Link Soldiers Memorial Ovals to Summit Loop Track.
-  Proposed six bridges to improve walking and cycle access to Domain. (see 5.2)  
 Innercity cycle way  
 Cornelian Bay walk  
 Walking track  
 Proposed  
 Soldiers Memorial Avenue

KEY

1. Incorporate cycle paths within proposed fire trail routes.
2. New contoured mountain bike loop.
3. Close summit loop road and use surface to create a playful, learn to ride circuit trail linked to the lookout and barbeque/parking facilities.
4. Upgrade pavements and facilities along the Upper Domain Walk to service walkers and cyclists.
5. Create new off-road bike path along Brooker Highway.
6. New mountain bike path on western face.
7. Implement City to Garden Way project (see Section 5.3).
8. Complete Inner City Cycleway to connect with Davey Street via the rail yards.
9. Improve footpath surface and widen footpath from Tasman Bridge to Lower Domain Parkway (explore on road options to avoid steep climb).
10. Create on-road bike path along Carriage Drive.
11. Upgrade path surface along Soldiers Memorial Avenue to create shared trail.
12. Upgrade water tanks to include learn to ride facilities.
13. Extension of joggers loop.
14. Connect Cenotaph to new bridge at Bathurst Street.
15. On road link Cleary's Gates Bridge to Davies Avenue.
16. New link to mountain bike track network from street lights.

- Bike stations
- Trail head facility (parking, signage bike racks, water)
- Trail head (signage only)
- Off road bikes only
- Off road shared
- On road bikes
- Pedestrian only

Note: Disburse mountain bike skills features across the Hill.



## Cycling

- The principle trails on the Domain to be shared links unless there is a specific physical, safety or experiential need to separate pedestrians from cycle movements.
- Investigate new contour loop mountain track below Summit Loop.
- Investigate new western face mountain bike track.
- Promote entry level cycling and skills training for individuals and families on both road bikes and mountain bikes including development of:
  - » a family learn to ride circuit around Summit Loop Road
  - » off-road circuit of paths on designated fire access routes for introductory mountain bike riding (minimum width, surface standard treatment and drainage as required to minimise erosion)
  - » install skills features in appropriate locations throughout the path network.
- Develop a designated on-road cycle path along Upper Domain Parkway.
- Develop an off-road shared trail linking the City to Gardens Way Project, via Soldiers Memorial Avenue to the Soldiers Memorial Ovals and on to trails on the Hill.
- Develop an off-road bike lane along Carriage Drive.
- Adopt the recommendations of the *Queens Domain Fire Management Plan* for a new fire access track around the northern perimeter of the Domain and adapt the track for entry mountain bike riding.
- Adopt the recommendation of the *Greater Hobart Regional Mountain Bike Master Plan* for an off-road bike path parallel to the Brooker Highway.
- Extend the Inner City Cycleway through to Davey Street along the existing rail corridor (in the short term extend as far as the John Colvin Stand – see Section 5.7 Regatta Ground).



- Establish bike stations at key facilities (upper and lower entries to the RTBG, Regatta Point, THAC, DTC, DAC, TCA, Soldiers Memorial Ovals).
- Develop trailhead facilities at principle access points to the Domain and at cycling destinations/starting points.
- Develop new shared path along Upper Carriage Drive to link intersection with Tasman Lookout Road.
- Connect underpass at Cenotaph to new Bathurst Street bridge.
- Create on-road cycle link from Cleary's Gates to Davies Avenue.



The Inner-City Cycleway (top right) sets a standard for urban bike paths in Australia but ends too soon and needs to be linked through the rail yards to Davey Street. A learn to ride course (above) incorporating a range of features to educate children about the road rules in a safe setting. Cycle lanes, shared trails and better surfaces on path and trails will lead to increased cycling on the Domain.

## 5.5 Five Buildings

**Strategy 5:** Implement the policies and procedures of the Queens Domain Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CMP) in regards to key heritage features of the Domain [20].

### Benefits

- Conserves and manages buildings of heritage value.
- Removes accretions that detract from the heritage values of the buildings and their settings.
- Identifies alternative uses and opportunities for the buildings.

See also Section 5.7 Four Precincts and 5.8 One Place

Note: Of the 50+ buildings on the Domain these have been selected for examination because of their central location and potential, through redevelopment, to activate the park. The following recommendations accord with advice in the CMP for the Former Guard House, Zoo Keeper's Cottage, Guard House Cottage and Her Majesty's Powder Magazine.

The CMP makes no mention of the Police House and it is assumed that it has very limited heritage value. It is incongruous in the Domain setting, detracts from the adjacent Government House landscape and does nothing to enhance the 'gateway' to Hobart.

The recommendations that follow recognize existing residential uses of some buildings. It is considered, however, that there may be higher purposes to which these buildings could and should be put.

### Police House (1 Lower Domain Road)

- Fully record the Police House following Heritage Tasmania *Practice Note 3: Procedures for an Extant Recording of a Heritage Place*.
- Remove the Police House and its pavements, surrounding landscaping and fencing.

- Re-grade the site to achieve a flowing topography as it would have had prior to construction of the house and so that it integrates with the Government House precinct of which it was once part.
- Re-instate appropriate landscape treatments following demolition and earthworks to integrate with Government House Grounds.

### Former Guard House (2 Carriage Drive)

- Undertake a detailed heritage architecture analysis of the building fabric to determine appropriate levels of demolition of inappropriate extensions, catch up maintenance and/or restoration of fabric that best tells the story of the use and evolution of this historic feature.
- Continue to use the cottage as a residence.
- Limit the amount of vehicle parking at the site to those vehicles associated with its use as a residence.
- Remove wire enclosures, firewood piles, sandstone piles and metal sheds to open and rationalise views from the Soldiers Walk.
- New fencing, if required, should adopt appropriate heritage construction and forms and be based on photographic or recorded evidence.
- The grounds should be landscaped and maintained in an authentic Victorian manner.
- Consider thinning of screening vegetation to open views to this important building.

- Consider night-lighting that might highlight the house as a feature in the landscape in the view from the Tasman Highway.
- Consider alternative use opportunities including conversion to a temporary residence for visiting dignitaries, artist/writers/academics in residence, events, cultural programs, etc.

### Zoo Keeper's Cottage (1923)

- Retain and conserve the Zoo Keeper's Cottage.
- Continue to use the cottage as a residence.
- Remove accretions to the rear of the cottage including wire enclosures, firewood piles, sandstone piles and sheds to open and rationalise views from the Soldiers Walk.
- Reinstate fencing that is appropriate to the construction of the cottage during the inter-war period based on historic photographs of the site.
- Landscape and maintain the grounds of the cottage in an authentic manner related to the period of the Zoo.
- Develop interpretation that tells the story of the cottage and its relationship to the Beaumaris Zoo.
- Consider alternative use programmatic opportunities including those that support a continuing relationship with the Zoo site.



KEY

- 1. Police House
- 2. Former Guard House  
– 2 Carriage Drive
- 3. Zoo Keeper's Cottage
- 4. Guard House Cottage
- 5. Her Majesty's Powder Magazine

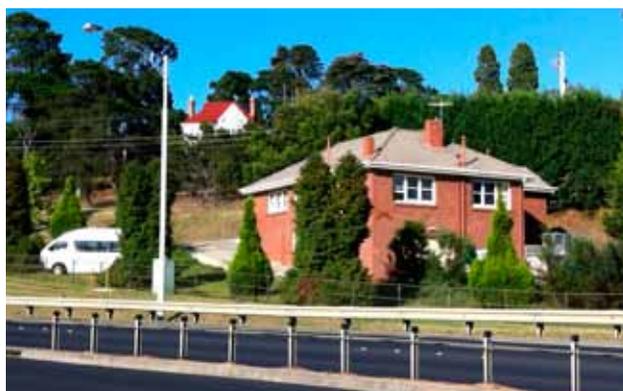
## Guard House Cottage

- The Guard House Cottage should be retained and conserved with early sections of the building highlighted in an appropriate manner.
- Remove contemporary accretions to the rear of the cottage including wire enclosures, firewood piles, sandstone piles and sheds.
- Develop interpretation that tells the story of the cottage and its relationship with H.M. Powder Magazine.
- Consider alternative use opportunities including conversion to a temporary residence for visiting dignitaries, artist/writers/academics in residence, events, cultural programs, etc.



## Her Majesty's Powder Magazine (1851)

- Retain, conserve and interpret the Powder Magazine.
- Under-take catch up maintenance to ensure soundness of the stone and pointing.
- Remove surrounding fencing to allow greater public access.
- Place power supply underground.
- Consider night-lighting of the building.
- Create a bounded gravel and appropriately drained ground space around the building.
- Maintain a low height, matching geometric grass space around the gravel perimeter with attention to the establishment of a crisp geometry that enhance the appreciation of what is a fine, strong piece of architecture.
- Develop interpretive media that tell the story of the building and its users within the thematic framework that is proposed for the Domain (Section 5.9).
- Explore opportunities to make better use of the building as an events space and/or for cultural programs.



Left column: The Police House

Right column: The former Guard House at 2 Carriage Drive



Left column: The Zoo Keeper's Cottage  
Middle column: The Guard House Cottage  
Right column: Her Majesty's Powder Magazine



## 5.6 A Suite of Park Elements

**Strategy 6:** Implement a consistent approach to the park elements of the Domain including shelter, furniture, lighting and landscaping.

### Benefits

- Supports public awareness of the Domain as one unified public space.
- Sets a high design standard for park elements that are practical to maintain.
- Improves the facilities and general amenity of the Domain.

See also Section 5.3 Critical Path, 5.4 Modes of Transport, 5.7 Precincts, 5.8 One Place

### Shelter

- Develop a series of ‘shelters’ or ‘belvederes’ at key locations to support activation of the site.
- Buildings should be of a robust nature (robust, maintenance free) and of a subtle form that allows the landscape to be the dominant focus.

### Furniture

- Prepare a detailed furniture manual that:
  - » identifies a custom suite of park furniture for uniform application across the Domain
  - » includes an assessment of where furniture should be sited (i.e. types of furniture should respond to adjacent uses, so for instance drinking fountains should be provided at barbeque shelters or trailheads only)
  - » design furniture for its utilitarian values (robust, maintenance free) and of a subdued form (allows landscape to be the dominant focus)
  - » avoid the use of faux historic elements, instead focusing on contemporary solutions that incorporate characteristics from the place.

Right: Custom designed park elements such as bus shelters and shelters may be appropriate for the Domain. However, they require a considered approach to their design to ensure they arise from an authentic response to the Domain’s many values.





Example (only) of the suite of elements required for the Domain. A considered approach to their final design is required. Custom designed elements for the Domain can be made more cost effective if they share component with furniture being developed for other City parks. In any case, new furniture needs to authentically respond to the unique qualities of the Domain. Variables to be examined in selecting furniture include: durability/maintenance, whole of life materials and energy analysis, origin, cost and design quality. The important thing is the consistency of application across the Domain and ideally the replacement of existing furniture is completed as a single task rather than over an extended period of time.

top row: Seat/bench  
 second row: picnic table  
 third row: rubbish bins/pavements  
 fourth row: bollards  
 fifth row: retaining walls  
 top large photo: lookout  
 bottom large photos: feature wall

**KEY**

-  Shelter only
-  Shelter and BBQ facilities
-  Proposed Soldiers Memorial Community Facilities
-  Proposed City to Gardens Way





**Proposed Lighting**

TASMAN BRIDGE

REGATTA POINT

LOWER DOMAIN PARKWAY

UPPER DOMAIN PARKWAY

HOBART

NORTH HOBART

- KEY**
- Proposed feature lighting
  - A. RTBG entry gates
  - B. Government House
  - C. HM Powder Magazine
  - D. Former Guard House – 2 Carriage Drive
  - E. Domain House
- Proposed Road/Path Lighting

## Lighting

- Consider lighting feature buildings – Government House, 2 Carriage Drive, HM Powder Magazine, Domain House and the entry gates to the RTBG.
- Provide pedestrian and street lighting to:
  - » the Upper Domain Parkway between the Tasman Highway intersection and the junction with the Lower Domain Parkway at Soldiers Memorial Oval
  - » Lower Domain Parkway from the RTBG to the Tasman Highway
  - » the City to Gardens Way Project from and including the Bathurst Street Bridge through to the Upper Domain Parkway
  - » the urbanised foreshore of the Regatta Ground and its parking areas
  - » the bridge from the Cenotaph to the Soldiers Memorial Avenue
  - » the urbanised edge of the RTBG as part of future development there.
- Select light fixtures for their utilitarian values (robust, maintenance free) and of a subdued form (allows landscape to be the dominant focus).
- Upgrade underground power at the Zoo and Cenotaph area in support of events.



Left: We-Ef fixtures with galvanised steel poles at Long Beach are suited to the foreshore areas of the Domain.  
 Right: We-Ef fixture on timber/galvanised steel pole proposed for the parkland areas of the Domain.



Trees (Exotic)  
 Quercus robur (English oak)  
 Quercus rubra (scarlet oak)  
 Quercus palustris (pin oak)  
 Aesculus hippocastaneum (horse chestnut)



Trees (Native)  
 Eucalyptus globulus (blue gum)  
 Eucalyptus pulchella (white peppermint)  
 Eucalyptus viminalis (white gum)  
 Acacia dealbata (silver wattle)  
 Acacia melanoxylon (blackwood)



Shrubs and Grasses  
 Calocephalus brownii  
 Correa alba  
 Dianella revoluta and Indigofera australis  
 Helichrysum apiculatum  
 Juncus pallidus and Isolepis nodosa  
 Lomandra longifolia  
 Poa rodwayi  
 Poa labillardieri  
 Westringia fruticosa

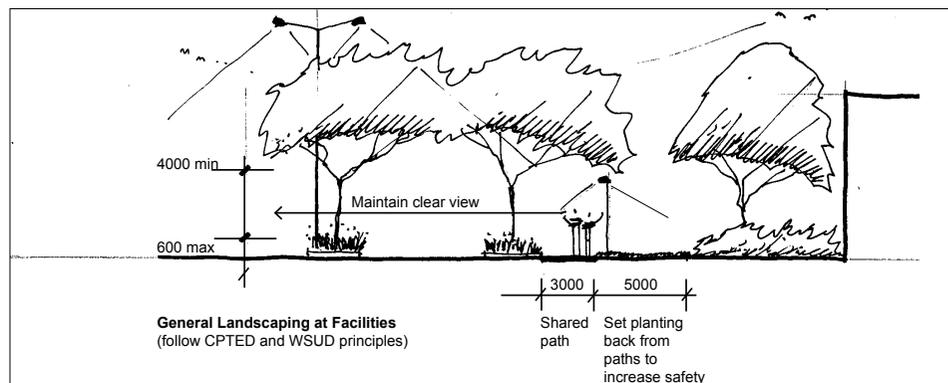
## Landscaping

### Vision

- Ornamental landscaping on the Domain should aim to:
  - » protect the nationally significant remnants of grassy woodland present on the Domain for their biological importance and their significance as an Aboriginal cultural landscape – in particular the Domain’s native grasslands provide an association between the modified landscape today and the Aboriginal landscape which was sustained in the area for many thousands of years
  - » maintain an open woodland landscape character, the open setting being consistent with the Victorian park-like atmosphere that characterises the evolved cultural landscape of the Domain
  - » enhance the aesthetics and natural functioning of disturbed areas across the Domain.

### Detail

- Adopt the following criteria as a guide to all ornamental landscaping on the Domain:
  - » use locally indigenous species for all plantings with the exception of the RTBG landscape, within historically significant settings or adjacent to historic buildings
  - » nominated plantings should give preference to species over cultivars or varieties
  - » species that are likely to be invasive, facilitate transmission of disease, be sources of introgression (i.e. genetic contamination) or public health risks are to be prohibited
  - » tree plantings should consider viewshed impacts, prior use, adjacent vegetation and current uses
  - » create well-presented mass plantings of overstorey trees, low shrubs and grasses (using the attached species list) in mulched beds at key facilities where there is an expectation for a landscaped surround i.e. THAC, DTC, entry to the TCA, etc.



‘Ornamental’ landscaping (top left and middle) can be used to repair damaged areas or to provide a more cultured look to areas around the entry to major facilities. Enhanced mowing regimes along the edges of paths and road can make all the difference to the feeling of care for the place (bottom).

- » middlestorey vegetation should be avoided as it conflicts with the goal of an open woodland character and its impacts on natural surveillance by users
- » only plants of known provenance should be used when planting locally indigenous species, and that provenance should be from within 5 kilometres of the Domain
- » include threatened plant species in designed landscape plantings where possible
- » examine opportunities to better landscape, rehabilitate or screen steep cut/fill faces including the use of retaining features, mass plantings or scraping back of shallow soil to expose rock
- » implement water sensitive design practices and initiatives where possible [21]
- » adopt appropriate grass maintenance i.e. mown/unmown areas depending on adjacent usage and numbers of viewers (narrower mown edges to less used roads, wider along higher usage roads).
- Further develop the species selection guide provided herein.

#### Maintenance of indigenous natural landscape values

- The Domain is a highly disturbed and isolated park. Its floristic assets (vegetation communities and threatened species) are the strongest and most distinctive component of the Domain's natural landscape values.
- The Domain's conservation significance is rooted in the representativeness of its lowland open grassy woodland community and the many threatened species it supports. The remnant grasslands are of national significance and are a large remnant by any comparison.
- Vegetation management priorities should be delivered by a strategic vegetation quality based approach which identifies the highest quality core conservation areas and directs works to maintain their quality first and foremost.

- The ecological burning regime as detailed in the Domain's Fire Management Plan [2] is a primary driver of vegetation management across large areas of the Domain – this regime is required to maintain grassland health and can help to “open up” the vegetation to achieve a mutually beneficial Victorian park like character in the bush. The burning regime also includes extensive pre and post burn weed control works.
- Undertake ecosystem restoration in strategic locations – for example: in some grassland locations; the foreshore is highly disturbed vegetatively, but none the less a rare estuarine asset deserving of resources as it also provides continuous movement around the River Derwent edge.
- Threatened species – where possible avoid impacting on threatened species and include in designed landscape plantings where possible.
- Weeds and disturbance are substantial natural resource management issues affecting the park and require constant attention in regard to work practices, hygiene procedures etc. For example, many *Pinus Radiata* have unintentionally spread across the Domain, encroaching on it bushland or historic cultural landscape value, and should be removed where they are not historically significant.

#### Replacement of Significant Trees

- All proposals for replacement of significant trees should be approved by the Director of Parks and Gardens Customer Services.
- Significant trees will only be replaced where they:
  - » present a concerns for public safety
  - » exhibit disease or decline
  - » require excessive maintenance not justified by their retention
  - » are redundant (that is they occur elsewhere on the Domain, do not contribute to a significant collection and/or are significantly represented in cultivation in the community) or

- » do not contribute to the landscape vision for the Domain as above.
- Where a tree is of exceptional historic or horticultural value consideration should be given to its replacement with a plant of similar species provided that it will not degrade the natural values of the Domain through invasion.
- Elsewhere priority in selecting species to replace significant trees is to be given to those locally indigenous species that develop and enrich the open woodland character of the Domain.
- Replacement of species of heritage value will consider use of stock propagated from the original source or from authenticated sources.

#### Signage

- Develop a signage guide for principle entry signs and interpretive installations. to include:
  - » dimensioned construction drawings for a suite signs that brand the Domain
  - » apply the signage in a uniform and comprehensive manner as a singular project
  - » an assessment of where signage should be sited (i.e. types of signs should respond to adjacent uses.
- Apply Council's current signage manual elsewhere across the Domain.

## 5.7 Five Principle Precincts

**Strategy 7:** Enliven and further develop each of the principle precincts of the Domain as activity centres – Cenotaph / Regatta Ground, Davies Avenue Corridor, TCA, Soldiers Memorial Oval and the Hill.

### Benefits:

- Makes the Domain easier and safer to access and to move around.
- Has a consistency of approach to design and landscaping.
- Identifies new opportunities for improving tourism, recreation and commercial use.
- Promotes an understanding of their inter-relatedness.

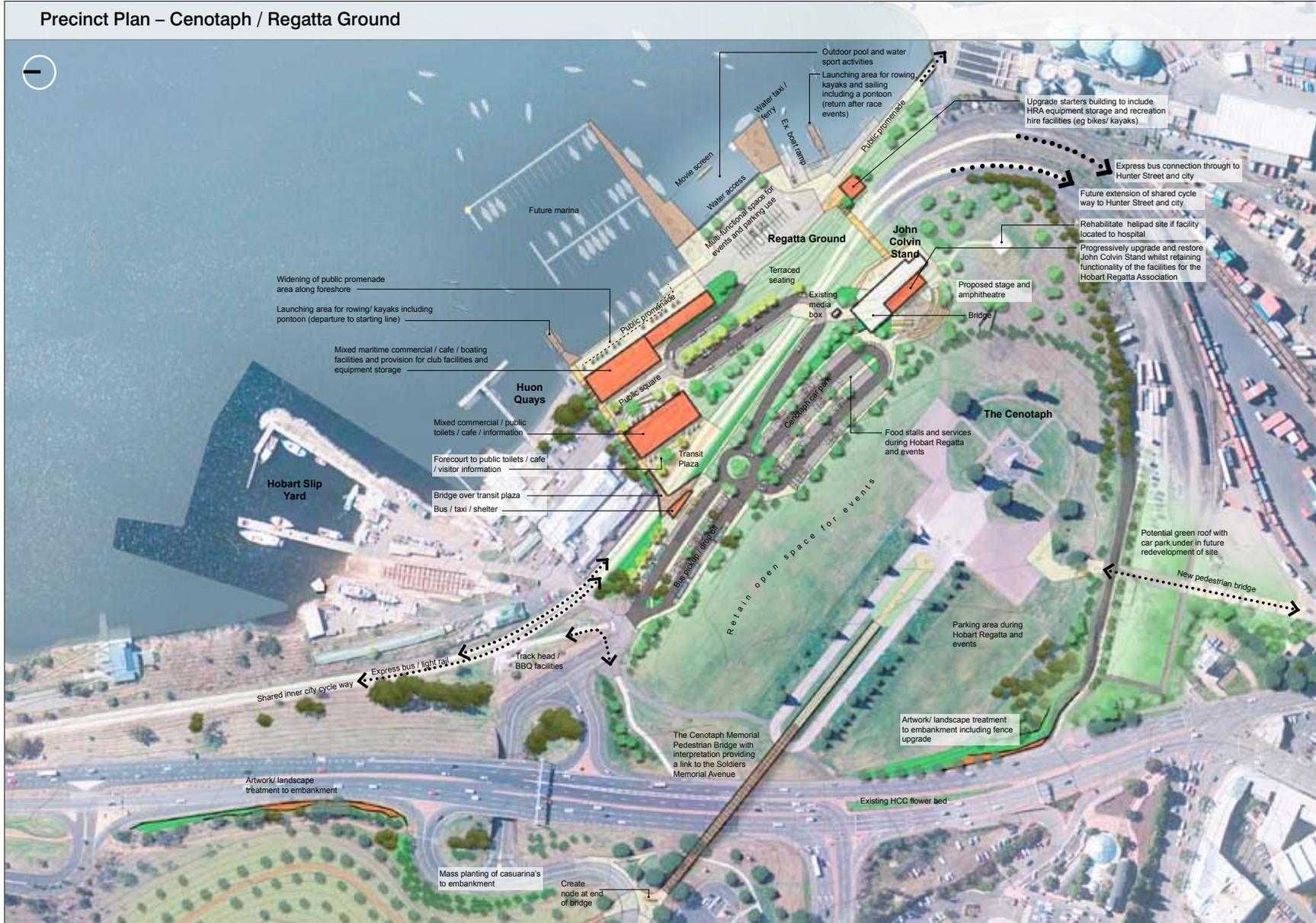
The following recommendations for each precinct and the detailed plans incorporate the key recommendations from Sections 5.1 – 5.6. Detailed plans are provided for the Cenotaph / Regatta Ground, Davies Avenue Corridor and the Soldiers Memorial Oval precincts. Recommendations for the Hill are shown on the plan in Section 5.8 One Place.

Note: The plans for the Regatta Ground area recognise the unresolved questions around future development the rail yard site.

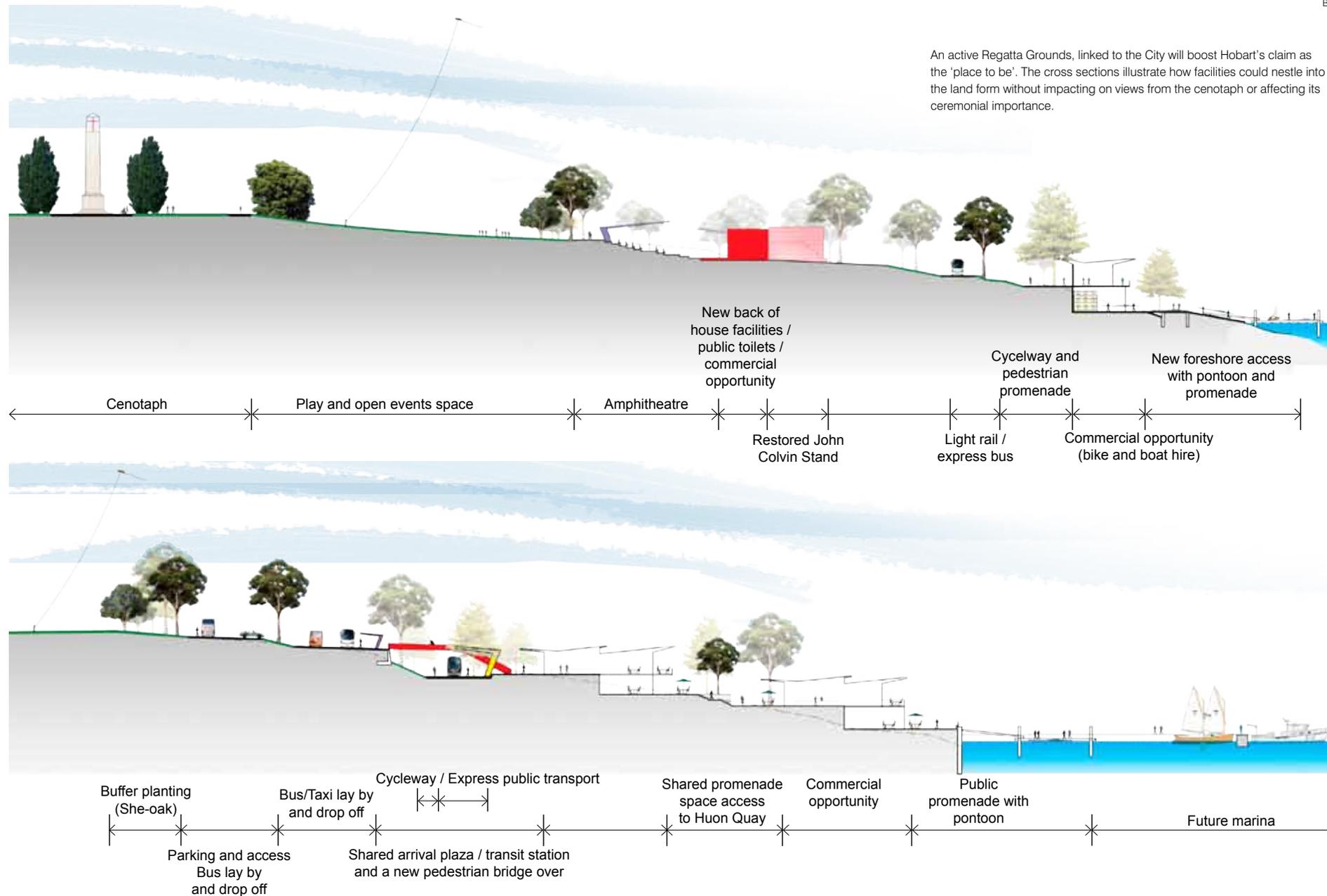
### Cenotaph / Regatta Ground

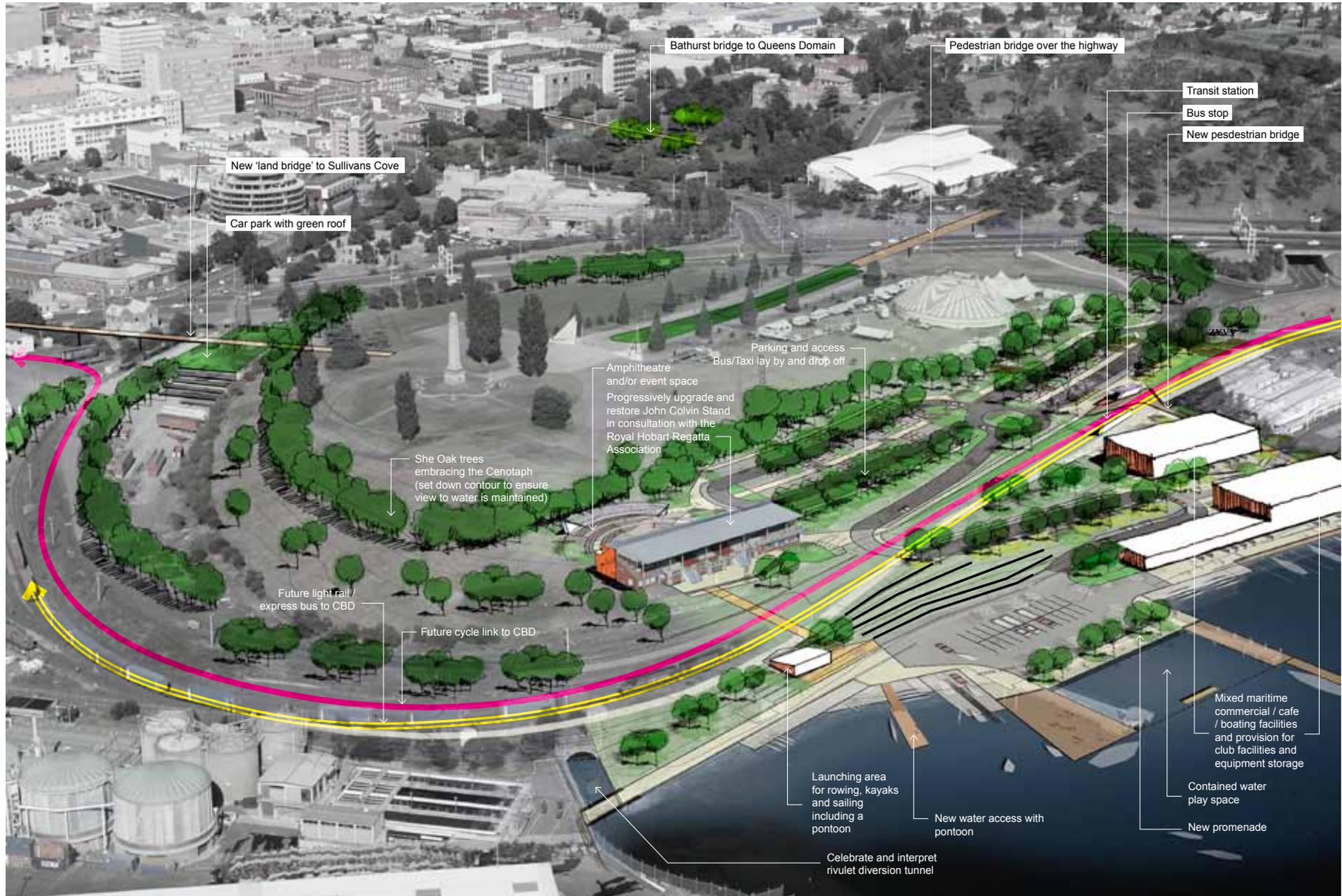
- Develop new facilities to the rear of the Colvin Stand including clubrooms and viewing, public toilets, meeting and other spaces.
- Create new open-air amphitheatre at the rear of the John Colvin Stand.
- Retain the Hobart Rivulet diversion tunnel and interpret its role and function in the City landscape.
- Develop an urbanised edge to the Cenotaph / Regatta Ground that incorporates opportunities for:
  - » water play
  - » launching and retrieval of small water craft
  - » pedestrian promenades with quality paving and street furniture and lighting.
- Promote further development of the area for mixed maritime commercial opportunities including marina facilities.
- Create dedicated, quality parking areas, bus and taxi pick up/drop off/lay-by along the contour below the Cenotaph with screen planting separating the two functions.
- Demolish existing public toilets and bike hire facilities and:
  - » relocate the latter to a new position to the front of the John Colvin Stand (expands and activates the empty building at this location)
  - » provide new toilets as part of the proposed commercial development.
- Establish perimeter planting of she oaks around the contour below the Cenotaph ensuring that distant views over the planting to the river and hills are retained in the long term.
- Extend the Inner City Cycleway through the site, eventually connecting with Davey Street and the future mixed use development of the rail yard.
- Develop a 'transit station' plaza for express public transit service between the northern suburbs and the City.
- Create a pedestrian bridge spanning the Tasman Highway to link the Cenotaph with Soldiers Memorial Walk.
- Create a land bridge from Sullivans Cove to the Cenotaph / Regatta Ground (in conjunction with a car parking garage underneath, located up against the existing quarry face).
- Acknowledge and retain, where possible, remnants of historic structures including sandstone edging.
- Place all utilities and overhead wires underground as far as practical.

Precinct Plan – Cenotaph / Regatta Ground



An active Regatta Grounds, linked to the City will boost Hobart's claim as the 'place to be'. The cross sections illustrate how facilities could nestle into the land form without impacting on views from the cenotaph or affecting its ceremonial importance.





## Davies Avenue Corridor

- Upgrade and extend the footpath along Upper Domain Parkway from the THAC to the Soldiers Memorial Oval.
- Redevelop the area between the DTC and the TCA to:
  - » realign the road away from the edge of the DTC to create a new arrival plaza to its facilities
  - » redevelop parking and drop off through the zone to facilitate safe and easy movement.
- Upgrade the gravel car park to the rear of the TCA and incorporate new picnic facilities, improved footpaths and passive mown lawn space for free play.
- Implement the City to Gardens Way Project using proposed alignment.
- Activate the Beaumaris Zoo site by:
  - » creating walking paths along the length of the former promenade
  - » construction of a gathering place/shelter at the base of the 'amphitheatre'
  - » undertaking more regular mowing of grasses on flatter slopes
  - » removal of unnecessary fencing along Upper Carriage Drive.
- Implement recommendations for the Zoo Keeper's Cottage, the former guard house and the Powder Magazine including removal of inappropriate outbuildings, stored materials and cyclone fences.

## Soldiers Memorial Oval and Surrounds

- Upgrade and widen the existing gravel track along Upper Domain Parkway to a shared path standard from the car park north of the TCA to and through the Soldiers Memorial Oval area to link with 'the Hill'.
- Create a new path linking from the car park north of the TCA along the eastern side of the DAC and through the Soldiers Memorial Oval area to link with 'the Hill'.
- Implement Council's plans for new community facilities at the Soldiers Memorial Ovals including play area, pizza oven, club rooms/kiosk and parking.

- Create a new passive 'parkland' space to the east of the above facilities and between the ovals and the DAC including additional barbeque shelters, additional play equipment, more regular mowing of grass and connecting paths.
- Create new overflow car park to DAC and move fencing in to meet demand and create a more open feel in this area.
- Separate pedestrian and vehicle traffic at entry to DAC.
- Extend and complete plans for the Soldiers Memorial Avenue.
- Implement proposed WSUD strategies to the south of the DAC and at Grassland Gully. [21]
- Upgrade and expand facilities at the water tanks to include:
  - » expanded parking off Lower Domain Parkway
  - » line painting to the roof of the tanks to create a learn to ride environment
  - » a paved 'plaza' at the entry onto the tanks
  - » a picnic/barbeque area with trailhead facilities for links onto the remainder of the hill (ensure a safe crossing is created between this area and the water tanks).

## The Hill

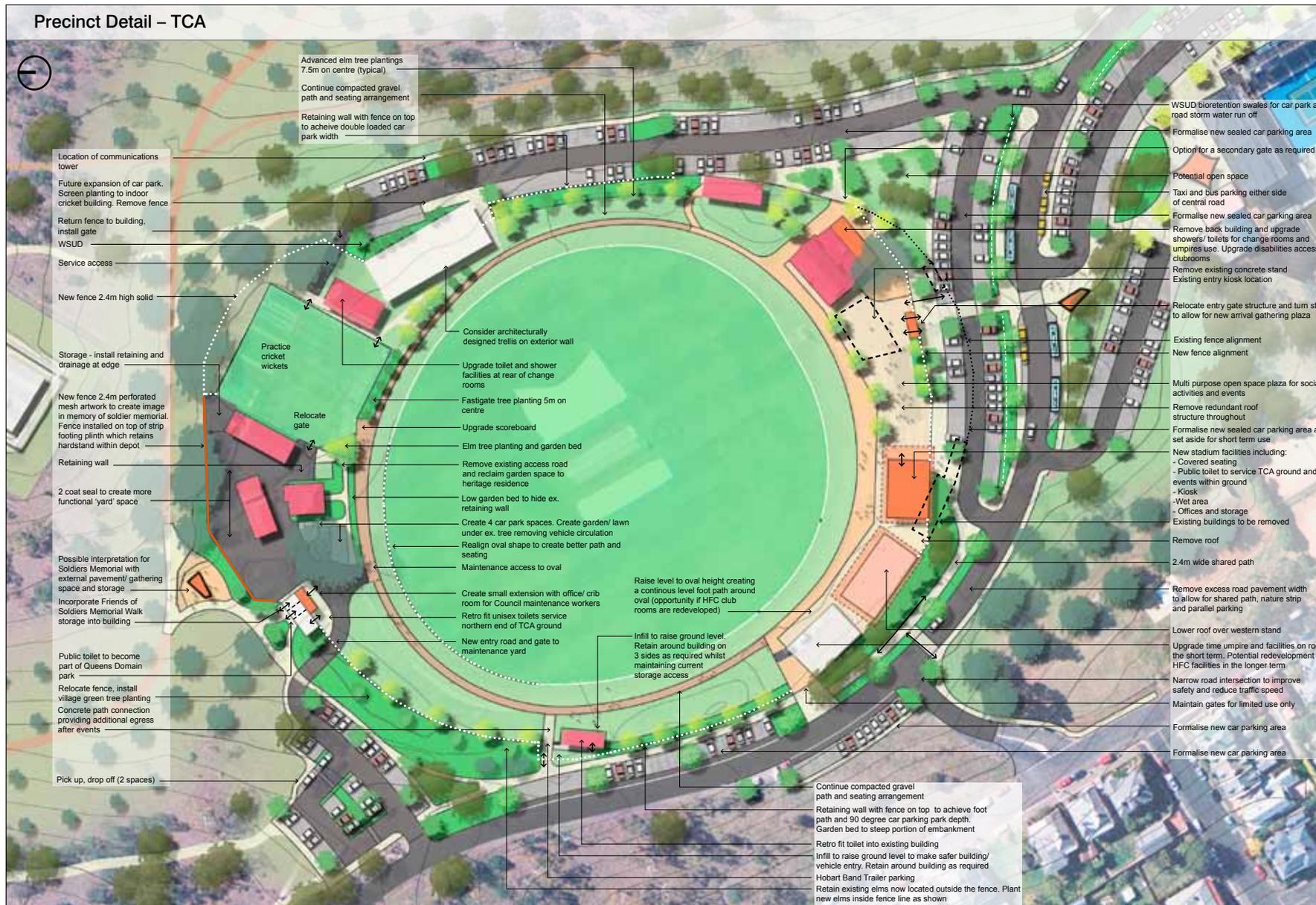
- Promote the Hill as a recreational nature reserve with a focus on walking, cycling and orienteering.
- Close the summit road at the uppermost car park and create a learn to ride circuit including road paint and other installations in support of teaching good riding behaviour.
- Examine opportunities for fire trails to double up as mountain biking trails, creating a network of moderate to easy rides across the area.
- Create new path linkages from the Hill to the proposed New Town entry bridge.
- Adopt the recommendation of the *Greater Hobart Regional Mountain Bike Master Plan* for an off-road bike path parallel to the Brooker Highway.

## The TCA

- Upgrade the arrival and entry experience to the Ground including improved safety and efficiency of parking and vehicular movement.
- Improve public safety and pedestrian movement within and around the perimeter of the ground.
- Revitalise the public space and facilities at the southern end of the Ground including:
  - » removal of redundant roof structure and small grandstand
  - » commence planning for new spectator stand and associated facilities including kiosk, toilets and office space
  - » upgrade toilets and showers at the HC Smith Stand and the visitor change rooms.
- Upgrade the depot caretaker's cottage area including:
  - » restrictions/rearrangements of vehicular access to protect mature tree and to improve efficiency of the space
  - » new entry to Council depot
  - » retrofit public toilets to work into the park and the ground
  - » new artistic screen fencing to face Soldiers Memorial Avenue.
- Upgrade power and water supply to better cater for events.
- Upgrade HC Smith Stand including:
  - » new showers and toilets for change rooms and umpires use
  - » improve disabilities access to clubrooms.



Precinct Detail – TCA







## 5.8 One Place – Hobart’s Premier Urban Park

**Strategy 8:** Create one place of many using improvements to access to and through the Domain, the application of consistent treatments to furniture, signage and lighting, enhanced maintenance and activation of key areas as mechanisms to create a whole of Domain experience.

### Benefits

- Sustains the values that make the Domain unique and that are appreciated by the community.
- Activates and renews the Domain’s various precincts.
- Evokes the special qualities of the place.
- Resolves well known issues of identity, lack of consistency of treatments, movement of people and vehicles, arrival, and the creation of distinctive precincts within a unified whole.
- Embraces sustainability in its recommendations.
- Responds to City, regional and State needs.
- Inspires the community and Council to take action.

Importantly, the Master Plan gives Council clear directions for moving forward in strengthening its claim for the Domain’s to be the City’s premier urban park.

The following plan incorporates the key recommendations from Sections 5.1– 5.6 and particularly Section 5.7.

## 5.9 A Few Non-Spatial Questions

**Strategy 9:** Advance to the completion of an over-arching Queens Domain Management Plan that incorporates all of the planning components that have occurred to date including the Master Plan.

### Benefits

- Provides an over-arching and comprehensive framework for decision making.
- Creates confidence to begin detailed design for the changes that need to occur.
- Establishes a strong case for prioritising works on the Domain over those elsewhere in the City.

Amongst many things, the Management Plan should:

- incorporate a Thematic Interpretation Strategy ensuring
  - » archaeological and extant heritage features are used to their best advantage to tell the story of the Domain
  - » the Aboriginal and cultural heritage landscapes are recognised, revealed and interpreted
  - » the media for interpretation are related to target audiences
  - » installations have a consistency across the Domain as for other park elements and that they are consolidated with other development rather than being stand alone elements that might clutter the landscape

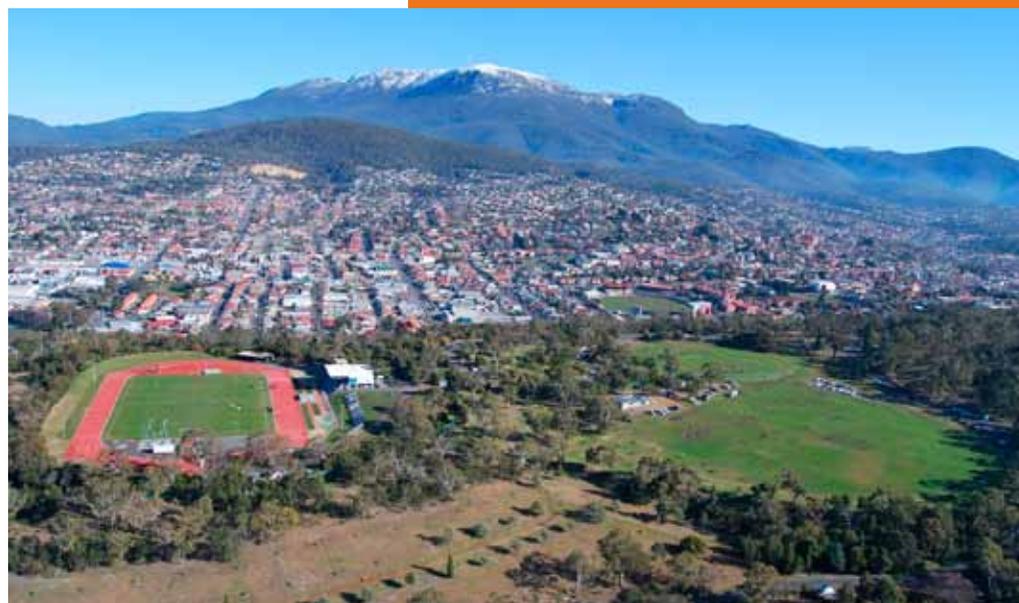
- identify recommendations for program enhancements (the Domain is “infinitely programmable” [16]) that build off the Domain’s infrastructure and further activate it such as events, tours, holiday programs, sports and/or healthy lifestyle, education, interpretation programs and third party offerings
- incorporate a Living Collections Policy, developed along similar lines to that for the RTBG and specifically addressing a replacement policy for existing significant trees but also to guide future landscaping more generally and considering how the RTBG’s vision might be better achieved through integration with Council’s management of the vegetation on the Domain
- develop a brand for the Queens Domain through a branding workshop, the brand becoming a touchstone document against which to judge proposals.

## 5.10 The Immediate Future

The Master Plan reaffirms a long held view that the Queens Domain is a place for the people that celebrates and protects a significant place in the experience of the City. As such, the Master Plan has identified a range of projects, both visionary in scope and timeframe and more immediate and commonplace. Both kinds of strategies are necessary, one to spur imagination and enthusiasm for needed change. The other to allow the Council to move forward while larger projects can be developed and budgets agreed.

Of the many project herein, several have priority.

- Finalise design and construct the Soldiers Memorial Oval community facilities – this is well advanced through the planning stages and has strong community support.
- Construction/implementation of the City to Gardens Way – prior planning has identified the need for this project and Council has already advanced portions of the investigatory work.
- Design development and documentation of the Bathurst Street Bridge over the Brooker Highway – this project is recognised as a high priority project under the Inner City Action Plan [14] with a heightened priority due to the pending completion of University housing on the Domain campus.
- Removal of redundant roofing structure and the small grandstand at the TCA – these structures significantly degrade the visual character of the Ground and have been programmed awaiting the findings of the Master Plan.
- Continuation of planning for resolution to parking rationalisation – investigatory works on this project are well advanced and will resolve long-standing concerns.
- Closure of the road to the Tasman Lookout – this project has strong support as a means to reducing concerns about anti-social behaviour in this area.
- Commence design and documentation for parking upgrade at the TCA/DTC – addresses key element in creating an appropriate look and feel across of Domain as the City's premier urban park.
- Complete the Cornelian Bay walk in the area of the former rail station at the RTBG – planning for this task is well developed and removes a significant encumbrance to use of the foreshore.





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