

Metropolitan Greenspace

COOKS RIVER CORRIDOR PLAN

Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Canterbury Bankstown acknowledges the traditional country of the Daruk (Darag, Dharug, Daruk, Dharuk) and the Eora People.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land.

We acknowledge they are of continuing importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living today.

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INTRODUCTION 1

INTRODUCTION

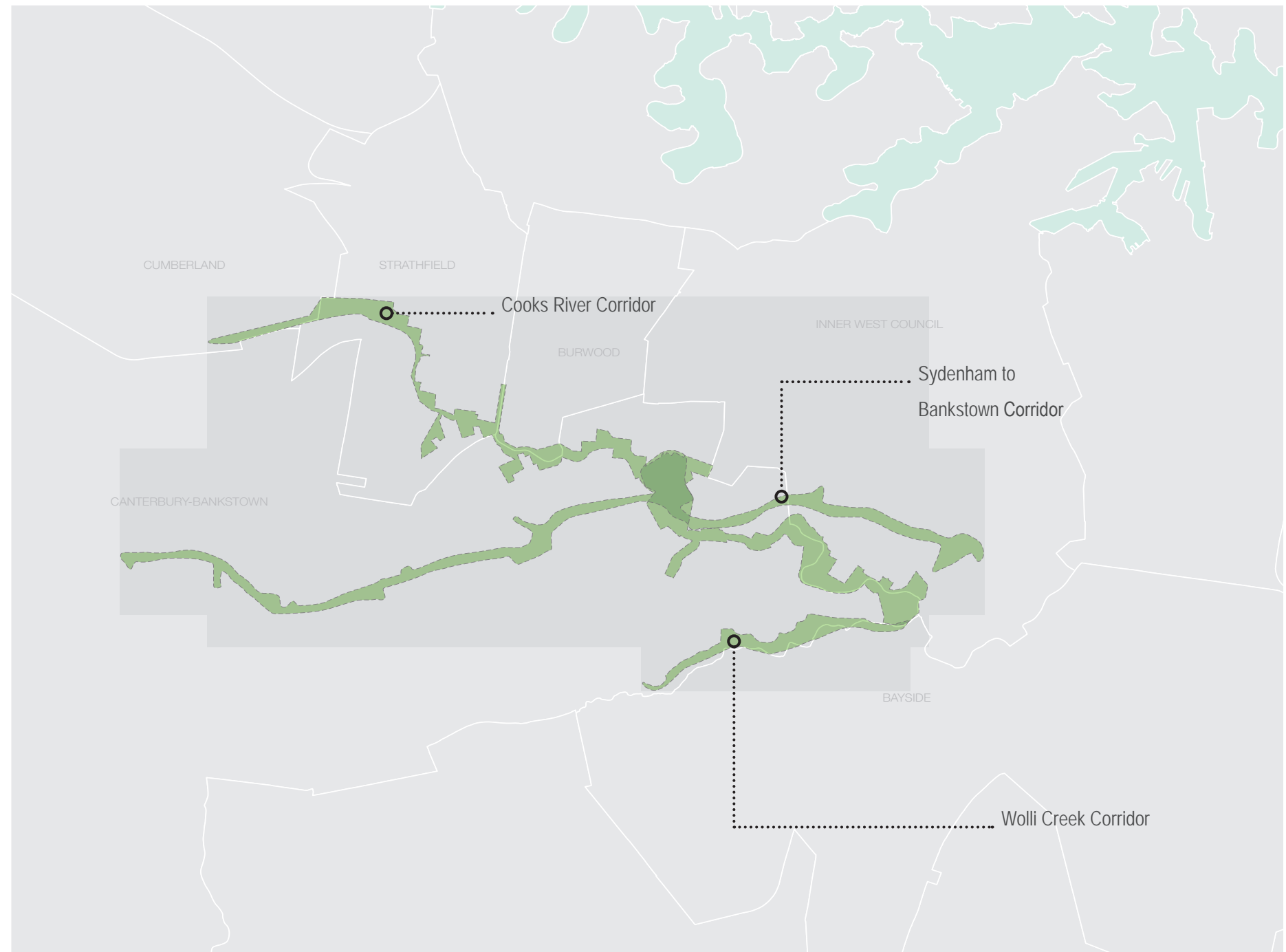
Open space is one of Sydney's greatest assets. The national parks, harbour, beaches, coastal walks, promenades, playgrounds and reserves are integral to character and liveability of the metropolitan region. As population density increases, the challenge to shape the built environment while promoting sustainable development and also maximising quality of life and well-being becomes more important. The COVID-19 pandemic has further emphasised the importance of open space in supporting the health and well-being of communities. In recognition of these challenges, the Government Architect New South Wales (GANSW) has identified a network of high-quality green spaces that connect town centres, public transport hubs and major residential areas. Known as the Sydney Green Grid, it is an integral part of the Greater Sydney Region and District Plans. The Greater Sydney Green Grid will keep the region cool, encourage healthy lifestyles, support walking and cycling, provide better access to open space, enhance bushland and support ecological resilience.

In 2020, Canterbury-Bankstown Council commenced planning for the land included within the local government area which formed part of three broader open space corridors;

- The Cooks River;
- Sydenham to Bankstown; and
- Wolli Creek.

All corridors are located within the South District in the Greater Sydney Metropolitan Region, and have been identified as Priority Green Grid Corridors as part of the Sydney Green Grid.

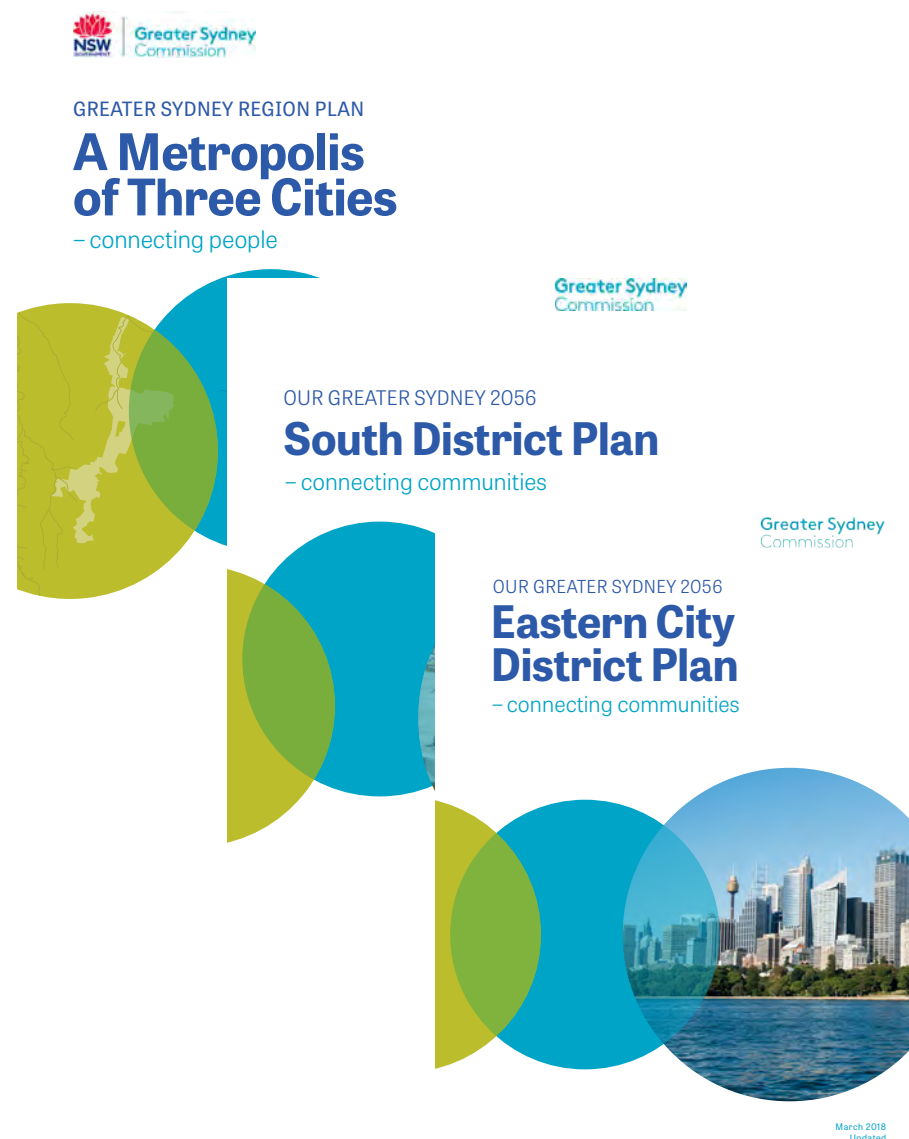
This area is one of the most culturally, socially and economically diverse communities in Sydney. It is also bound and intersected by ecological corridors and natural areas that are critical components of Greater Sydney's ecological and hydrological corridors as well as key contributors to the City's liveability and amenity. The corridors intersect many local government areas and central to this project has been the extensive involvement and collaboration from City of Canterbury Bankstown Council (CBCity), Strathfield Council, Sydney Water, Transport for New South Wales and many other stakeholders and community members.



PLANNING CONTEXT 2

STRATEGIC PLANNING CONTEXT

Region, District and Local Plans



Greater Sydney Region Plan

The Greater Sydney Regional Plan, delivered by the Greater Sydney Commission (GSC), is a 40-year plan that sets out the vision for a “Metropolis of Three Cities” being the Eastern Harbour City (Sydney CBD), the Central River City (Parramatta) and the new Western Parkland City (Western Sydney Aerotropolis). The plan projects a population of 8 million people by 2056 and seeks to rebalance the growth, and benefits of growth, across Greater Sydney and support the 30-minute City, where residents can live within 30 minutes of their jobs, education and health facilities, services and great places.

As set out in this 40-year vision, green infrastructure such as urban tree canopy, green ground cover, bushland, waterways, parks and open spaces will be valued for its economic, social and environmental benefits and will help to establish the Greater Sydney Green Grid, a network of walking and cycling links that will become increasingly important in daily travel arrangements improving sustainability and the well-being of residents.

The District Plans contain the planning priorities and actions for implementing the Greater Sydney Region Plan, A Metropolis of Three Cities, at a district level and is a bridge between regional and local planning. All three corridors sit within both South and Eastern district and will help deliver priorities set in the Region Plan through both the District Plans.

South District Plan

The South District Plan is a 20-year plan to start implementing the 40-year vision for Greater Sydney in the Greater Sydney Region Plan and deliver places that are liveable, productive, and sustainable and supported by infrastructure. The plan reiterates the 10 Directions of the Greater Sydney Region Plan with planning priorities and actions for each district. The South District is expected to have a population of 945,350 people by 2036.

The South District Plan identifies three Green Grid priority projects, Bankstown to Sydenham Open Space Corridor, Cooks River Open Space Corridor, Wolli Creek Regional Park and Bardwell Valley Parklands.

Eastern District Plan

The Eastern City District Plan is a 20-year plan to manage growth in the context of economic, social and environmental matters to achieve the 40-year vision for Greater Sydney. It contains the planning priorities and actions for implementing the Greater Sydney Region Plan, A Metropolis of Three Cities, at a district level and is a bridge between regional and local planning.

The Eastern District Plan identifies three Green Grid priority projects; Iron Cove GreenWay and the Hawthorne Canal, Mill Stream and Botany Wetlands Open Space Corridor, and Cooks River Open Space Corridor.

Sydney Green Grid

A specific objective of both District Plans is to support delivery of the Sydney Green Grid to protect and provide open space and areas of biodiversity, particularly as housing density increases. GANSW proposed a network of high-quality green space that connects town centres, public transport hubs and major residential areas. Known as the Sydney Green Grid, it is an integral part of delivering the public benefit embedded in the Greater Sydney Region and Districts.

All three corridors investigated by Canterbury-Bankstown (Cooks River, Wolli Creek and Sydenham-Bankstown) can facilitate opportunities to increase tree canopy, improve accessibility, nurture habitat and enhance water quality within future projects. Specific opportunities identified for the corridors include:

- Planting trees to improve air quality and mitigate the urban heat island effect
- Creating and improving pedestrian and cyclist friendly environments
- Enhance the biodiversity and ecology through extending habitat areas and improving water quality

These opportunities associated with the ecological, hydrological and recreational grid can be realised through the Corridor Plans.



Sydney Green Grid

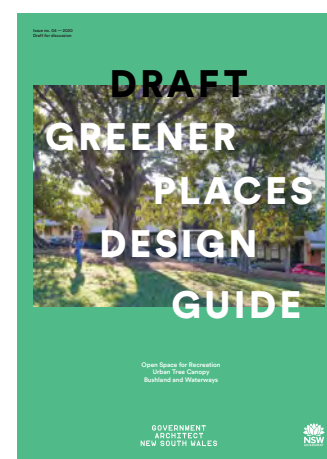
Green Infrastructure Policy

The Department of Planning and Environment and GANSW Greener Places draft policy sets an expectation for planning, design and delivery of green infrastructure in urban areas across NSW. The aim of the policy is to create a healthier, more liveable, more resilient and sustainable urban environment by improving community access to recreation and exercise, walking and cycling connections. It is about the creation of a networked urban ecosystem of green space that encompasses parks and open spaces including urban trees, streets, squares and waterways to help create a healthier, more liveable and resilient place to live.

The principles of integration, connectivity, multi-functionality and participation can be found embedded in the concepts for all three corridors, which further aligns the opportunity with Sydney's existing and developing urban policy framework.

CBCity 2028 Community Strategic Plan

A 10 year Community Strategic Plan that identifies seven Destinations for our future City. Goals relevant to improving open space relate to being 'Clean and Green; 'Moving and Integrated' and 'Healthy and Active'.



Green Infrastructure Policy



CBCity 2028 Community Strategic Plan

Pathways include:

- A clean and sustainable city with healthy waterways and natural areas
- Protect and promote local biodiversity
- Promote accessible parks and open spaces catering to all ages and cultures.

Connective City 2036 Local Strategic Planning Statement

A 20 year plan for land use and managing change into the future. Bankstown and Campsie are expected to grow as strategic centres. The plan identifies Cooks River Corridor as a part of City's Green Web to create an integrated network of ecological and green spaces between urban and suburban places.

Actions include -

- Advocate for an enhanced green corridor link along the Metro Corridor that connects wildlife habitats and ecological communities from the Cooks River
- Deliver the priorities of Council's existing policies in alignment with green web and active transport priorities
- Continue to identify and plan for new and improved public spaces to support residents, workers and visitors in priority growth areas
- Identify and promote local wildlife species



Connective City 2036 Local Strategic Planning Statement

STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 3

WHAT WE'VE HEARD - COOKS RIVER

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

A stakeholder workshop for the Cooks River Corridor was held online in April 2021. Various stakeholders attended including Strathfield Council, Inner West Council, Bayside Council, Burwood Council, Sydney Water, TfNSW, Sydney Metro, Crown Land department and the Cooks River Alliance.

Some of the key points to come out of the discussion were:

Recreation

- Public amenities and basic facilities - these are lacking in the upper catchment which reduces the usage of the corridor in this section
- Improve the attractiveness and recreational experience of the corridor and make it more comfortable – provide places to stop, provide shade (increase tree canopy), utilise urban design and landscape opportunities to attract users
- Safety considerations – sections of the channel are fenced due to public safety risks; people enter the channel but it can be too difficult to get out if the banks are too steep; increased naturalisation of the bank by Sydney Water and removal of fencing would help to make; there are a lot of underpasses and concealed spaces in the upper catchment which provide a safety concern
- Access the water for recreation is desired but there are challenges navigating the ownership of the river wall and edge access
- Protect the green spaces and look for the opportunities to enhance biodiversity

Culture and Heritage

- Culture and heritage are seen as important priorities for the corridor
- Indigenous appreciation - engagement with indigenous groups is required to understand their current and future priorities
- Governance and management – collaborative planning and working collectively to delivery of the overall strategy for the corridor is desired

Connectivity

- Wider cycle network – improve connectivity to other corridors and key cycleways that are part of the wider active transport network
- Local cycle access - improve local access to the Cooks River Corridor from properties, community facilities, open spaces and key local centres (Campsie, Auburn, Lidcombe, Strathfield north/south, Homebush, Olympic Park)
- Improve the shared path – make it wider and safer to improve user-ship; improve lighting; improve road crossings
- Connections across the river – these require upgrading as they are not in great conditions and not wide enough to accommodate both cyclists and pedestrian condition

Biodiversity

- Increase habitat – look for opportunities (within channel edge or elsewhere) to increase habitats to attract wildlife; naturalisation of the channel banks provides opportunity for habitat creation.
- Opportunities to develop wetlands – junction with Cox's River; freight rail land
- Endangered plant communities - need to be protected; salt marsh communities at risk
- Conflicts – increasing recreation spaces and activities conflicts with creating areas for protecting biodiversity
- Management of the habitats – education and training of the benefits and protection of natural habitats; management practices that increase habitats; monitoring of habitats to better understand varieties, diversity and volume
- Community – the river is well supported by the community; community groups (i.e. Mudcrabs) provide great support for the river

Hydrology

- Water quality is a big issue; reduce stormwater volumes entering river; look for opportunities to capture litter before it enters the river; look for WSUD opportunities to improve water quality before entering river; EPA could be a good resource/partner in this area
- Flooding was identified as another issue; channel wasn't designed to alleviate the amount of water that it now has to deal with; look to reduce hard surfaces/no increase to hard surface areas; need to also consider climate change impacts of sea level rise (effects wetlands – salt marsh and mangrove – which need to be cared and managed); active transport links and open spaces need to allow for flooding/sea level rise

As Sydney Water and TfNSW are key stakeholders, the following key considerations have been noted.

Key considerations from Sydney Water

Safety Considerations

Parts of the channel contain steep and slippery banks and are therefore fenced off for public safety. Fences are not required where there is a batter slope of 1:5 or shallower and in the areas that Sydney Water naturalises along water bodies. Fencing of naturalised areas is usually requested by Council and community groups. Sydney Water owns the concrete channels that were built by Public Works in the 1930s. These have a strategic plan for future naturalisation, however timing of the naturalisation is dependent on existing asset degradation.

Biodiversity, water quality and hydrology

It is important to consult with Sydney Water on any proposals that involve changes to waterside channels, slopes and vegetation.

Key considerations from TfNSW

Connectivity

The strategic cycle network plays an important role in the overall connectivity of the Cooks River Corridor.

The south Strathfield area has potential to become better connected to the Cooks River. It is important to provide opportunities to link community facilities to the network.

The connections to facilities from properties (now through roads) need to be improved for the overall connectivity of the precinct.

Consider opportunities to connect Auburn and Lidcombe to the Cooks River. There are opportunities to connect the Cooks River to the gateway motorway, airport link and connect into south Strathfield (Rockwood Road), Homebush and Olympic Park. There is an opportunity to consider Campsie as strategic centre with a cycle connection to Cooks River.

Consider delineated cycling and walking paths due to existing conflict between cyclists and pedestrians. There are opportunities for wider facility or wider shared paths, e.g. between Wardell Road and Illawarra Road). Also consider appropriate signage to direct users.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In collaboration with



The Green Corridors Community Survey was undertaken between April and May 2021 by JOC Consulting. In total, 176 participants undertook the survey. Many participants were passionate in their responses and expressed that the corridors are a great asset for the area, creatively referring to the corridors as the “recreation-al lifeblood”, “lungs” and “life veins of the land”. Even though the survey covered all three corridors, the questions led participants to provide responses for individual corridors.

For the Cooks River, the top three priorities that resulted from the survey were:

- Restore natural river processes, aquatic habitats and improve water quality
- Conserve and enhance the natural environment
- Encourage sustainable transport connections and promote safe walking and cycling access

Figure 3.1 shows all the priorities from the survey.

Restoring natural river quality was paramount to participants. Participants considered waterways important for their value in:

- Providing “life affirming”, well-being qualities
- Offering opportunities to connect with nature and wildlife
- Supporting biodiversity and planetary health
- Maintaining vistas which are a key attraction of living and visiting the area
- Preserving the natural heritage of the area

Participants wished to see clearer waterways as the current state was noted as prone to littering and by extension is considered visually unappealing. Impacts on the natural environment were also important as participants communicated the need to restore a natural balance within the environment for flora and fauna that rely on aquatic habitats. As part of this, survey and social pinpoint responses suggested “bank naturalisation”, by planting trees and low-lying native fauna habitats where otherwise concrete, fenced banks are present.

When asked what kinds of activities and uses did the participants want to see along the corridor, the top three answers were:

1. Nature regeneration
2. Walking paths
3. Quiet and relaxing spaces

Figure 3.2 shows all the Activities and Uses from the survey.

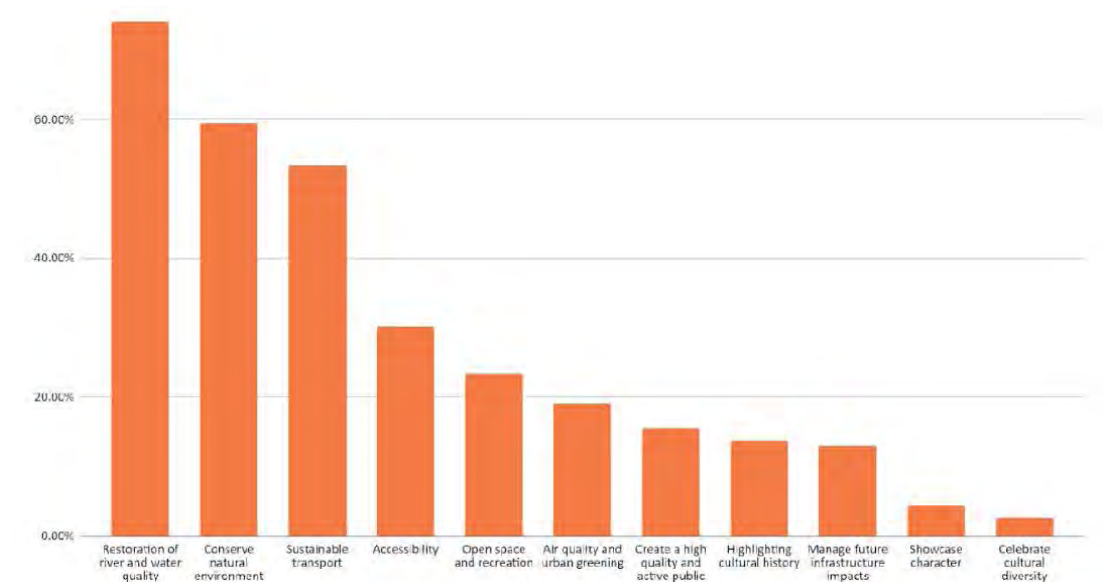


Figure 3.1 Priorities from the Community Engagement Survey

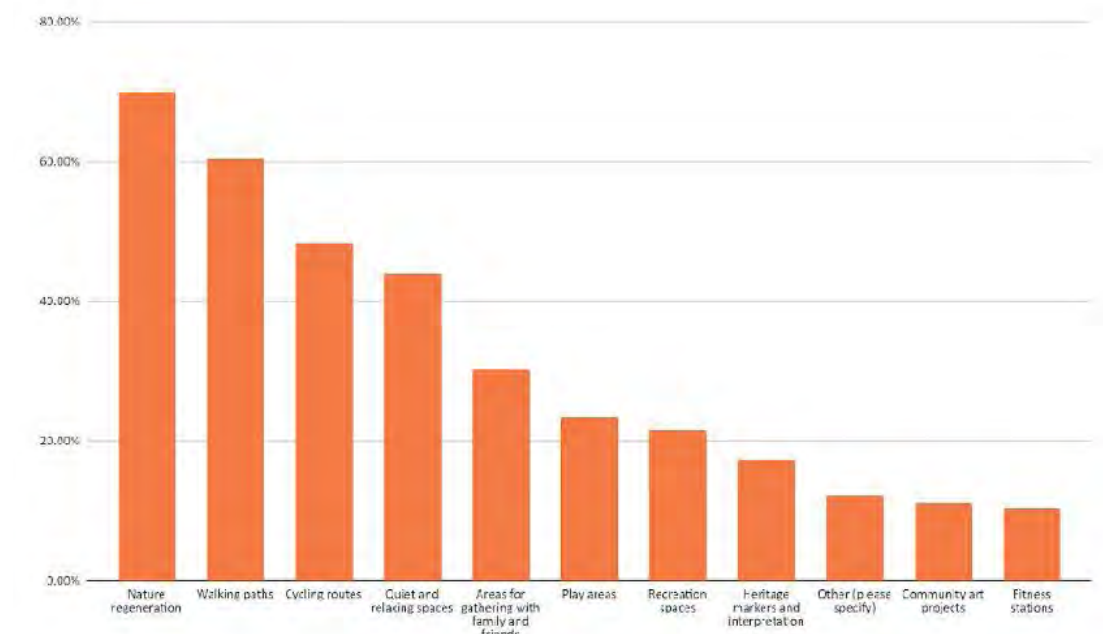


Figure 3.2 Activities and Uses from the Community Engagement Survey

“The Cooks River is a recreational lifeblood of this part of Sydney. It currently provides so much to so many people (sporting, recreation, quiet time in nature, play for kids) we should invest in these invaluable spaces.”

- Response from the MGP Community survey



Most respondents recognised the health of the waterways as essential for a thriving ecosystem, and linked this with boosting the community’s physical, social, and mental health. To the respondents, the Cooks River was a valuable asset that needed to be taken care of.

Improving amenities and social spaces came through strongly. Participants wished to see improved amenities and social spaces in the Cooks River Corridor. They envisioned a range of active and passive recreation areas that accommodate play and social infrastructure which are inclusive for all ages. It was expressed that facilities such as water stations and bike pump tracks would encourage further cycling and walking patronage.

Key ideas to improve amenities and social spaces include:

- Frequent water stations
- Well-lit walking paths such as solar lighting
- Accessible, unlocked public toilets
- Bike pump tracks
- Comfortable seating for rest
- Off-leash dog exercise areas
- Better signage and wayfinding
- Shade cloths/sails over playgrounds
- Additional rubbish bins



Photo: Wanstead Reserve

VISION 4

VISION + OBJECTIVES

The themes from the Green Grid have been used to shape the vision and objectives for the corridor along with community consultation.

Restore natural river systems of the Cooks River while creating spaces and linkages that support the diversity of the adjacent neighbourhoods

Objectives



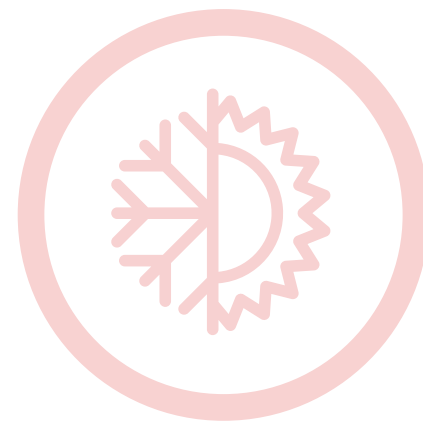
DRIVE A WATER QUALITY AGENDA THROUGH RECREATION AND ACCESS

- Create a 'playful' rivers edge and allow people of all ages and abilities to engage with the water
- Capture litter and filtering stormwater run off to improve water quality
- Explore opportunities for multi-functional integrated water management solutions



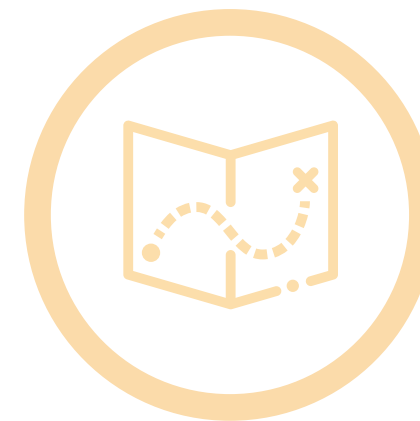
RESTORE NATURAL RIVER PROCESSES, LAND AND AQUATIC HABITATS

- Protect and enhance existing habitats and identify locations to adapt or improve the river to reintroduce aquatic habitats
- Explore opportunities to create ecological pathways along the corridor and connections to other areas
- Explore opportunities to naturalise the rivers edge, tributaries and streams where safe and feasible



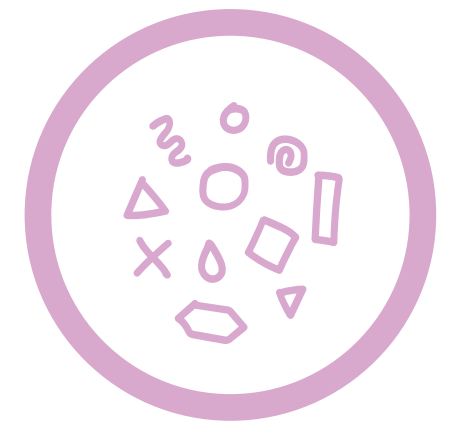
CREATE A RESILIENT CORRIDOR FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

- Develop spaces that are adaptable to flood impacts
- Identify spaces for indigenous habitats to adapt to climate change impacts such as sea level rise
- Mitigate impacts of heat island affect through canopy coverage and shade
- Use the corridor to sequester carbon through revegetation, carbon farming and soil improvement



PROVIDE SAFE AND LEGIBLE ACCESS TO AND THROUGH THE CORRIDOR

- Create consistent wayfinding to and through the corridor
- Create safe linkages using CPTED principles and lighting
- Identify opportunities for links outside of the corridor to other Green Grid Corridors and neighbourhoods



RE-IMAGINE COOKS RIVER AS A HOME FOR DIVERSITY

- Provide a greater diversity of recreation activities for all ages and abilities
- Engage with the diverse communities and cultures along the corridor to create unique spaces
- Encourage community ownership and resilience through community gardens, food production and restoration projects

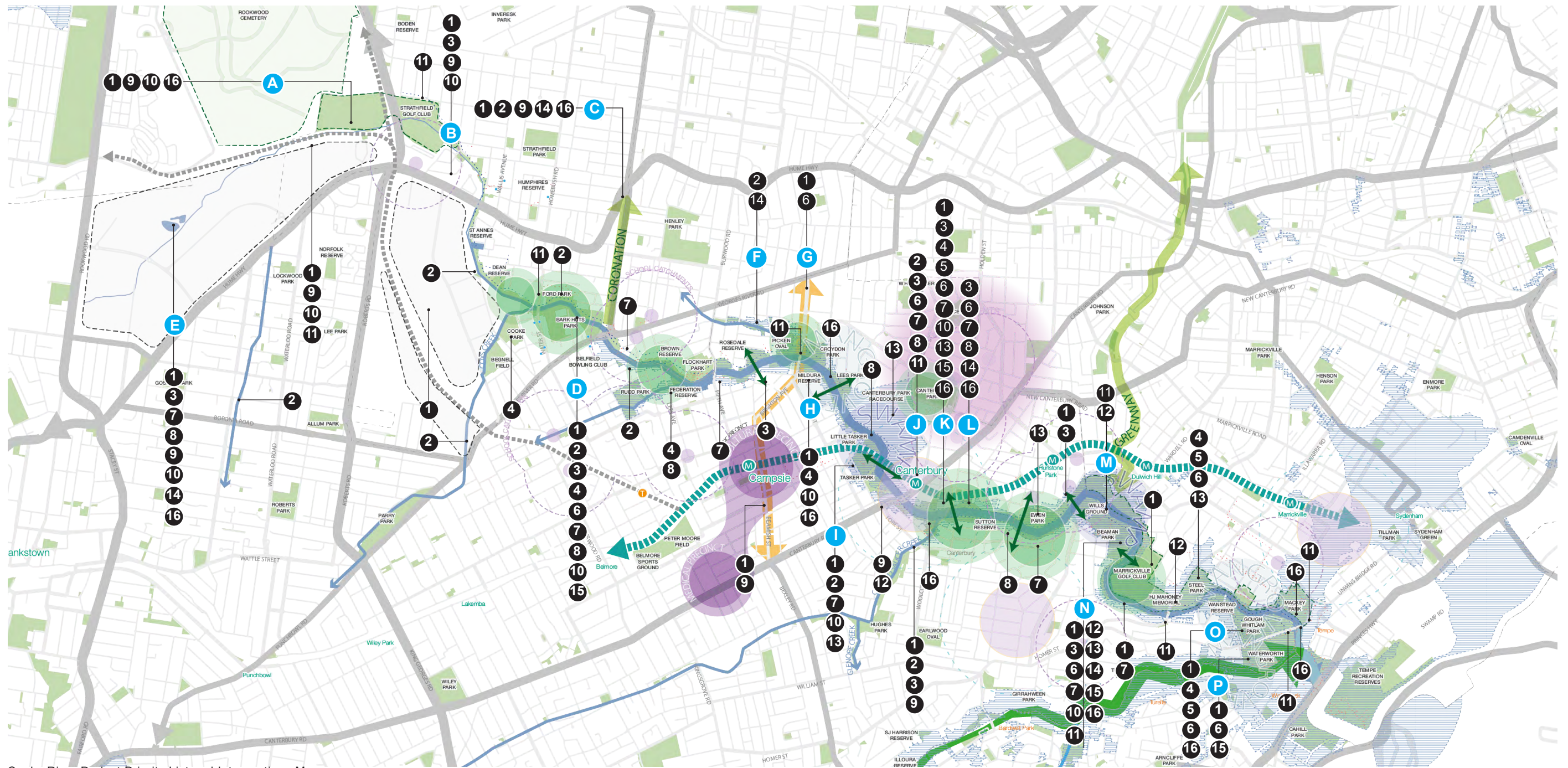
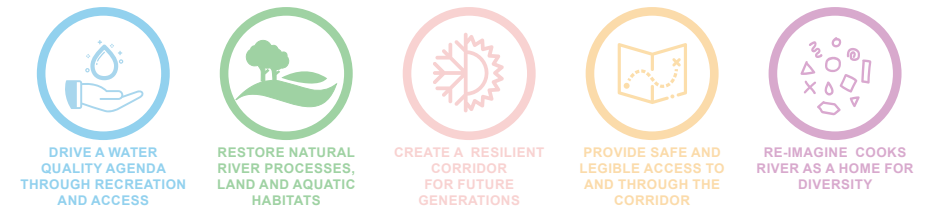
CORRIDOR PLAN 5

PROJECT OVERVIEW

To achieve the Cooks River vision and objectives a list of interventions have been identified across the corridor. Clustering of these interventions have then formed the priority list of potential projects. The project objectives that apply to each intervention have been identified with the corresponding coloured dot.

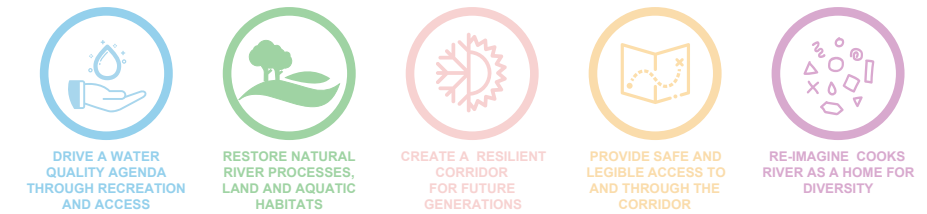
Each project is described in more detail in the following pages.

- 1 Canopy Cover** ●●●●
 Mature tree canopy cover to provide shade and cooling benefits, particularly along pedestrian and cycleways, contributing towards achieving the premiers priority in planting 5 million trees by 2030.
- 2 Naturalisation** ●●●●●
 In collaboration with Sydney Water explore opportunities to naturalise the River and tributaries contributing to waterway health, flood mitigation, biodiversity and improving the character of the River.
- 3 Ecological Linkages** ●●●●●
 Create ecological linkages by increasing multi-storey vegetation of shrubs, plants and mature trees particularly at locations between existing plant communities. Incorporate strategic planting to contribute to wayfinding.
- 4 Play For Seniors** ●●●
 Play and exercise for the elderly e.g. giant chessboards, exercise equipment.
- 5 Play For All** ●●●
 Amenity that facilitates play and exercise for people of all abilities, children and teenagers to promote healthy and active lifestyles.
- 6 Extend the Day for Play** ●●●●●
 Create multi-functional play spaces that can be used at all times of day. Achieve through improved safety and assist in defining spaces and uses for twilight activity. Opportunities to include artistic installations and to engage with local artists and communities.
- 7 Amenity** ●●●●●
 Investigate to provide basic standard of amenity at regular intervals to improve comfort and encourage visitors e.g. shelter, seating, water filling stations, cycle racks and pumping stations.
- 8 Wayfinding and Entrance Points** ●●●●
 Improve wayfinding and enhance entrances to the corridor and parks, this can be achieved through integrated signage, lighting, identifiable markers such as installation art and planting.
- 9 Strategic Streets** ●●●●●
 Enhance the walking and cycling experience and environmental performance along streets, particularly to key destinations to promote more sustainable modes of transport and safe movement of vulnerable groups i.e. children and seniors.
- 10 Pedestrian And Cycling Paths** ●●●●●
 Investigate to provide inclusive formal walking and cycling routes, surfaced paths at a minimum 3m wide.
- 11 Pedestrian And Cycling Priority** ●●●●●
 Investigate to provide pedestrian and cycling crossings where missing and upgrade 'z-crossings' to improve safety and ease of movement along the corridor.
- 12 Pedestrian And Cycle Bridge** ●●●●●
 Investigate to provide pedestrian and cycling connections where missing to improve safety and ease of movement along the corridor.
- 13 Water Storage** ●●●●●
 Integrate flood mitigation interventions into parks and reserves and sporting infrastructure - designing them to purposefully hold/contain water.
- 14 WSUD (Water Sensitive Urban Design)** ●●●●●
 Strengthen water sensitive urban design initiatives slowing down and capturing water run off to improve waterway health, particularly in areas adjacent the corridor at higher topographical levels. These could include increase in vegetation and permeable ground cover, rain gardens and swales.
- 15 Sustainable Energy** ●●●●●
 Investigate to provide renewable energy, particularly near sporting fields providing power for lighting and associated amenity and infrastructure. Opportunity to collaborate with local universities, institutions and/or start ups to use sites as testing grounds for new technologies. This infrastructure could also be used as a placemaking mechanism; an identifiable marker along the corridor promoting a sense of community pride.
- 16 Education** ●●●●●
 Provide interpretive signage, information boards or interactive displays to highlight Cooks River's vital flora and fauna (including over 50 species of birds), ecological processes and local heritage. This will foster a sense of community pride and stewardship for generations to come.



Cooks River Project Priority List and Interventions Map

Note: Corridor wide project Q not marked on the map as it extends along the entire length of the corridor.



A. Strathfield Golf Course (SC)

Policy Alignment: Strathfield Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2030 Strathfield Active Travel Plan (2016), Premiers Priority: Greening Our City, Pipeline Corridor Spatial Framework

- In collaboration with Strathfield Golf Course investigate opportunities to provide public access to the Centenary Drive underpass. This will facilitate a continuous pedestrian and cycle route linking Cooks River to the future Pipeline corridor.
- Provide wayfinding, lighting and Increase tree canopy coverage along the cycle way.



B. 1km Linear Park: Hume Highway to Humphires Reserve (SC)

Policy Alignment: Strathfield LSPS, Active Transport Action Plan (CBC) Active Travel Plan for Strathfield Strathfield Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2030, Cooks River People's Plan, Premiers Priority: Greening Our City and Greener Public Spaces

- In collaboration with Sydney Water investigate opportunities to transform the current easement from Liverpool Road/Hume Highway to Fitzgerald Crescent into an accessible open space.
- Investigate opportunities to reduce the Verona Street carriageway - transforming it into a one way street with no kerbside parking and reallocating space to provide a linear park. Currently approximately seven lots require access from Verona Street, and only one development fronts the street.



C. Coronation Parade (SC)

Policy Alignment: Strathfield LSPS, Active Travel Plan for Strathfield, Strathfield Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2030, Cooks River People's Plan, Premiers Priority: Greening Our City

- Collaborate with Burwood Council to celebrate the heritage of Coronation Parade as a key active transport and recreation corridor spanning over 1km by providing:
 - a formal pedestrian path from Hill Street to Cooks River
 - tree canopy cover and multi-storey vegetation
 - recreation amenity for seniors - Strathfield having a higher proportion of persons aged 60 or older than the Strathfield Council area
 - integrated WSUD this could include swales and rain gardens.



D. Maria Reserve and Elliot Reserve Dog Park (SC)

Policy Alignment: Strathfield LSPS, Strathfield Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2030, Draft Cooks River Corridor Natural Area Plan of Management (2020), Active Travel Plan for Strathfield, Cooks River Pedestrian and Cycle Path: Improvement Study - Pathway Development Strategy, Draft Elliot Reserve Plan of Management (2020), Premiers Priority: Greening Our City

- Provide a formalised pedestrian and cycle path from Maria Street through Maria Reserve to Cooke Park and Begnell Field including new pedestrian crossings on Maria St and Water St.
- Space adjacent Cooks River and Cox's Creek provides opportunity for naturalisation (in collaboration with Sydney Water) and habitat creation.
- Increase tree canopy cover and provide play equipment including play for seniors (close proximity to bus stop) this will assist to activate the open space between Water St and Chisholm St.
- Opportunity for future land acquisition of adjacent land between Cox's Creek and Cooks River.
- Diversify uses of the park to include recreation amenity for children and seniors (good public transport access) and basic amenity such as seating, shade and lighting.
- Increase tree canopy along the south west boundary (adjacent residential development) to provide shade and a buffer to residents.
- Increase landscaping along boundaries shared with industrial lands to reduce visual and micro-climatic impacts.
- In collaboration with private landowners explore opportunities to extend the green and blue grid into industrial lands.

Note: Projects marked * SC are located within Strathfield Council and not within the Canterbury-Bankstown local government area. The Cooks River Corridor Plan was prepared in collaboration with Strathfield Council.



E. Yana Badu Wetlands

Policy Alignment: Connective City 2036 (CBC LSPS)* subject to collaboration with Sydney Water

- In collaboration with Sydney Water and private land owners investigate opportunities to provide a publicly accessible walking and cycling route south of the freight corridor and north of the industrial lands.
- In collaboration with Sydney Water explore opportunities to create a publicly accessible open space and recreation destination including boardwalks, viewing platforms, lighting, seating and shade.
- Create habitat for the endangered Green and Golden bell frog that are known to inhabit other water bodies in the area.



F. Picken Oval to Burwood Road

Policy Alignment: Open Space Strategy (CBC), Playgrounds and Play Spaces Strategic Plan (CBC), Canterbury Open Space Strategy

In collaboration with Sydney Water investigate opportunities to naturalise the stormwater channel from Brighton Avenue to Burwood Road. This would facilitate the removal of fencing and improve use of approximately 1.72ha of underutilised open space.

- Investigate opportunities to provide formal walking and cycling paths from Brighton Avenue to Burwood Road.
- Investigate opportunities for provide playspaces, seating, shading and lighting to activate the park throughout all times of the day.
- Design recreation and sporting amenity to capture and store water in the event of heavy rain.
- Design swales, rain gardens and strategic planting along hard surface edges to assist in flood mitigation.



G. Brighton Avenue

Policy Alignment: Campsie Masterplan (CBC)*, Connective City 2036 (CBC LSPS)*, Draft Active Transport Action Plan, Premiers Priority: Greening Our City

- Investigate opportunities with TfNSW to remove the central turning lane (approximately 500m) and reallocate road space to provide improved and safer cycle lanes.
- Increase mature tree canopy and multi-storey vegetation along both sides of the road to improve walkability, contribute to flood mitigation, and create an ecological corridor to assist in reinforcing the urban spine.



H. Mildura Reserve

Policy Alignment: Campsie Masterplan (CBC)*, Connective City 2036 (CBC LSPS)*

- Investigate opportunities to acquire land east of Brighton Avenue aligned with the Campsie Masterplan.
- Advocate a continuous formal pedestrian and cycle path along the southern bank, including a new crossing on Brighton Avenue.
- Investigate opportunities for a new bridge connecting from Clissold Parade to the future redeveloped Canterbury Racecourse precinct.
- Plant multi-storey vegetation along the shared boundary with residents to provide a buffer, shade and habitat.
- With good access to public transport, advocate play for seniors and basic amenity such as seating, shade, lighting and water filling stations.

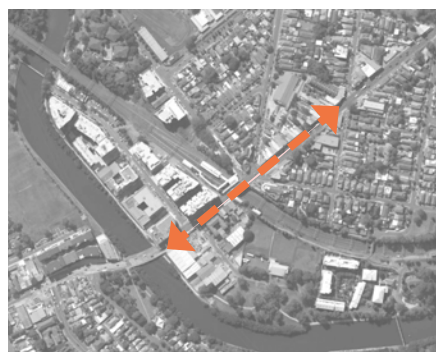
Note: * Denotes project is directly referenced in policy/strategy report. Aerials are not to scale (adapted from sixmaps.nsw.gov).



I. Tasker Park

Policy Alignment: Campsie Masterplan (CBC)*, Playgrounds and Play Spaces Strategic Masterplan (CBC)*, Leisure and Aquatics Strategy (CBC), Sports Facilities Strategic Plan (CBC - draft), Complete Streets (CBC), East West Cycle Link (Sydney Metro)*

- Co-ordinate with the Canterbury Leisure and Aquatic Centre upgrade to provide an integrated sports and recreation destination (public and private) along the corridor.
- In collaboration with Sydney Water investigate opportunities for river naturalisation with planting of new mangrove communities to provide habitat, contribute to waterway health and flood mitigation.
- In collaboration with Sydney Metro investigate to replace the Cooks River Walk Bridge to enable safe and comfortable pedestrian and cycle movement - including junctions at either end.
- Investigate opportunities to improve pedestrian footpath along the river bank coupled with shade and lighting.
- Enable renewable energy capture to power park facilities and lighting to encourage use throughout the day.
- Design recreation and sporting amenity to capture and store water in the event of heavy rain.
- Plant multi-storey vegetation to provide shade, habitat, assisting in flood mitigation and providing a buffer to residents.



J. Canterbury Station

Policy Alignment: Sydney Metro, CBC Community Strategic Plan 2028, Connective City 2036 (CBC), Creative City Strategic Plan 2019-2029 (CBC), Active Transport Action Plan (CBC)

- Advocate shade structures to improve pedestrian experience over Canterbury Road bridge. Design could reference the natural landscape and provide a visual link across the bridge.
- Located approximately 150m away from the River, improve wayfinding to/from Canterbury Station and mark corridor entrance west of Canterbury Road to the Sugar House Road.



K. Canterbury Bowling Club

Policy Alignment: Sydney Metro, CBC Community Strategic Plan 2028, Connective City 2036 (CBC), Creative City Strategic Plan 2019-2029 (CBC), Active Transport Action Plan (CBC)

- Investigate opportunity to relocate the existing waterfront dog park to the Canterbury Bowling Club site to increase access and views to the river.
- Provide diverse play spaces and basic amenity such as lighting, seating, shade, bike pumping station and water filling station.
- Install public art to celebrate the heritage of adjacent sites including the Sugar Works, this could be done through a public competition to facilitate community engagement.
- In collaboration with Sydney Metro explore opportunities for a cycle path south of the rail corridor connecting into the Cooks River cycleway.



L. Boat Harbour Heritage Precinct

Policy Alignment: Creative City Strategic Plan (CBC), CBC Community Strategic Plan 2028, Canterbury Leisure and Aquatic Strategy (CBC), Playgrounds and Play Spaces Strategic Plan (CBC)

- Celebrate and promote Canterbury Sugar Works and the Boat Harbour as a heritage precinct and destination along the River.
- Explore opportunities to utilise the Boat Harbour for ecological restoration and providing habitat.
- Explore opportunities to provide a pontoon or boardwalk to facilitate greater interaction with the water.

Note: * Denotes project is directly referenced in policy/strategy report. Aerials are not to scale (adapted from sixmaps.nsw.gov).



- Install public art referencing the adjacent the Sugar Works along the river bank. This could be implemented through a public design competition to engage with local and emerging artists.
- Provide seating, shade and lighting to enable people to stop and dwell.



M. Wardell Road Bridge

Policy Alignment: Marrickville Golf Course Masterplan Draft (Inner West Council)

- Investigate opportunities to increase pedestrian and cycle shared path to a minimum of 3m, or investigate opportunities to provide a dedicated pedestrian and cycle bridge east of Wardell Road Bridge.
- Investigate opportunities to provide direct access to Beaman Park off the bridge.
- Advocate to upgrade 'z-crossing' to a wombat crossing (south-side) and provide pedestrian and cycle priority crossing (north-side).
- 'Riverside Pathway' bridge underpass and wildlife underpass (north-side).



N. Beaman Park

Policy Alignment: Open Space Strategy (CBC) Sports Facilities Strategic Plan (CBC - Draft)

- Investigate opportunities to formalise pedestrian paths through the park e.g. from Vera Lane and the corner of Vera Avenue and Flinders Street.
- Advocate extending the day for play with solar powered lights.
- Provide ecological links by extending mangrove communities along the rivers edge and provide information boards on the importance of mangroves for water management and habitat creation.



O. Gough Whitlam Park

Policy Alignment: Gough Whitlam Park and Waterworth Park Plan (CBC)*, Playgrounds and Play Spaces Strategic Masterplan (CBC), Canterbury Open Space Strategy

- Capitalise on existing amenity and access, and reinforce Gough Whitlam Park as a major destination for passive recreation for all.
- Provide ecological linkages by increasing multi-storey vegetation and canopy cover, particularly salt-marsh vegetation along the riverbanks.
- Provide information boards on the importance of wetlands, mangroves and salt-marshes for water management and habitat creation.
- Diversify passive recreation amenity for people of all ages, including seniors and abilities e.g. giant chessboards and integrated nature play.
- Provide shade, particularly over the BBQ areas and improve lighting to facilitate night use.
- Improve Bayview Avenue entrance to the park and wayfinding to/from Tempe Station (approximately 200m away) and Wolli Creek Regional Park.
- Investigate opportunities to upgrade crossing at Bayview Avenue to give pedestrians and cyclists priority.
- In collaboration with TfNSW investigate opportunities to increase footpath over Bayview Avenue bridge to a minimum of 3m to provide a safe and comfortable bi-directional shared path or provide a new separated pedestrian and cycle bridge.

Note: * Denotes project is directly referenced in policy/strategy report. Aerials are not to scale (adapted from sixmaps.nsw.gov).



- Integrate flood mitigation strategies with car parks, recreation and sporting amenity to capture and storage of water in the event of heavy rain.
- Assist in flood mitigation with strategic planting and use of swales and rain gardens, particularly along hard surfaced area such as footpaths and car parks.



P. Waterworth Park

Policy Alignment: Creative City Strategic Plan (CBC), CBC Community Strategic Plan 2028, Creative City Strategic Plan 2019-2029 (CBC), Gough Whitlam and Waterworth Parks Draft Masterplan 2017 (CBC)*

- In collaboration with Sydney Water investigate to formalise fishing points and viewing platforms at the water's edge.
- Improve pedestrian and cycle access through the site and provide amenity such as seating, shelter, water filling stations and bike racks.
- Provide ecological linkages by increasing multi-storey vegetation and canopy cover, particularly along the river and creek banks.
- Provide information boards on the importance of wetlands, mangroves and salt marshes for water management and habitat creation.
- Improve Bayview Avenue entrance to the park and wayfinding to/ from Tempe Station (approximately 200m away).
- Improve access and signage to Wolli Creek's Lower Track and Jackson Track along Unwin Street.
- Advocate to enable renewable energy capture to power lighting and park facilities.
- Integrate WSUD initiative such as rain gardens, wetlands and strategic planting of vegetation, particularly west of the park at the bottom of the steep terrain up to Unwin Street. Landscaping could also contribute to wayfinding and providing a visual link/ continuation between Waterworth Park and the Regional Park.



Q. Cooks River Wayfinding (corridor wide)

Policy Alignment: Active Transport Action Plan 2020-2030 (CBC), Bankstown Complete Streets (CBC), Canterbury Bike Plan 2016 (CBC), Creative City Strategic Plan (CBC)

- Provide a suite of wayfinding and signage typologies that can be installed across the corridor, strengthening the identity of the River.
- Locate signage or markers such as art installations or lighting at key entrances to the corridor and parks and at key intersections.
- Collaborate with local Indigenous and cultural groups to explore opportunities to recognise and celebrate sites of cultural significance. This could be reflected in information boards, symbolism, art or adopting names in local languages.
- Collaborate with the local community groups to explore opportunities to for storytelling of past histories.
- Investigate opportunities to integrate brail or more tactile signage for the visually impaired.
- Provide information boards at locations of flora and fauna communities to communicate their importance and role in maintaining environmental and waterway health. This will contribute to fostering a sense of pride and ownership.

Note: * Denotes project is directly referenced in policy/strategy report. Aerials are not to scale (adapted from sixmaps.nsw.gov).

