



THE CITY OF
GREATER GEELONG

GHERINGHAP STREET MASTERPLAN SUMMARY & FAQs

NOVEMBER 2023

HAVE
YOUR
SAY

GHERINGHAP STREET MASTERPLAN



OVERVIEW

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

We want to make Mercer, Gheringhap and Bayley streets welcoming, attractive, accessible, safe and vibrant.

This Masterplan is the first of a series of masterplans proposed in the Central Geelong Framework Plan and Revitalising Central Geelong Action Plan. The aim of this Masterplan is to establish a holistic vision for Mercer, Gheringhap and Bayley streets and provide a framework for ongoing management and decision-making.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2021, we asked the community to tell us how these streets could look. Some amazing ideas were generated and we have used these ideas to prepare a draft Masterplan for the street. We are now seeking your feedback on the draft.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

Key ideas provided by the community included; requests for footpath improvements, more trees and landscaping, better street lighting, and more street furniture.

HOW WILL THE MASTERPLAN BE USED?

The Masterplan will be used to guide the development of Mercer, Gheringhap and Bayley streets. It sets out design principles and an approach to how the streets could be upgraded.

The Masterplan will also be used to seek funding from the State Government.

WHAT DOES THE PLAN SAY?

The Masterplan analyses the street conditions and the way the streets are used. It considers current parking, public transport and cycling as well as trees and landscaping, outdoor seating, public art, safety and accessibility.

The Masterplan proposes to transform these key arrival streets from expansive asphalt, car-dominated environments, to civilised green-spines that are safe for all users. The design is underpinned by Geelong’s rich history including strong indigenous and creative cultural influences.

CONTEXT PLAN - MERCER, GHERINGHAP & BAYLEY STREETS



PROJECT CONTEXT

Mercer, Gheringhap and Bayley streets are undergoing significant changes that will substantially increase the residential and commercial populations and associated vehicle use. Achieving a balance between these competing factors will be fundamental to any proposed change to the status quo.

This project envisages a Geelong that:

- has adapted its micro climate to address current challenges and respond positively to a more varied future climate.
- is inclusive of all users, is safe, comfortable, encourages active transport and a range of street uses.
- is respectful of, and celebrates, the layers of local history.
- places the pedestrian, the active transport network user and natural systems front and centre, whilst still accommodating the changing needs of vehicles.

FOUR KEY OBJECTIVES UNDERPIN THE PROPOSED MASTERPLAN

1 LINKING KARDINIA PARK TO THE COAST

- Create a linear park which includes a diverse range of vegetation and provides a natural connection, addressing sustainability objectives.
- Create a gateway to the south (Kardinia Park).

2 CELEBRATE THE FIRST NATIONS NARRATIVE

- Tell the narratives of place and integrate culturally appropriate outcomes within the public realm.
- Showcase indigenous vegetation from country.

3 STRENGTHENING THE ACTIVE TRANSPORT NARRATIVE

- Strengthen the northern intersection of Gheringhap and Mercer streets, especially for pedestrian and cyclists.
- Prioritise pedestrian and cycle movement where possible / feasible.

4 STRENGTHENING THE MERCER ARRIVAL NARRATIVE

- Enhance the gateway into Geelong from the north.
- Celebrate the cultural and natural histories of Geelong.
- Prioritise pedestrian and cycle movement where possible / feasible.

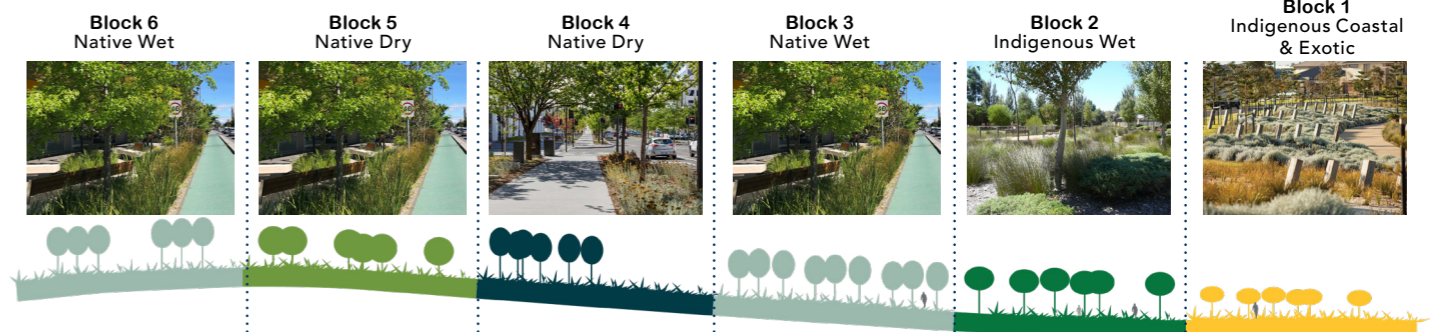
DESIGN PRINCIPLES FOR GHERINGHAP STREET

As a key entrance into Geelong from the south, Gheringhap Street will embrace a strong local landscape narrative and be transformed into a linear park experience for people and active transport users. With broader views to surrounding mountains, the journey along Gheringhap street will showcase a series of spaces for casual or formal use, with opportunities for public art and other cultural expression and interpretation woven throughout.

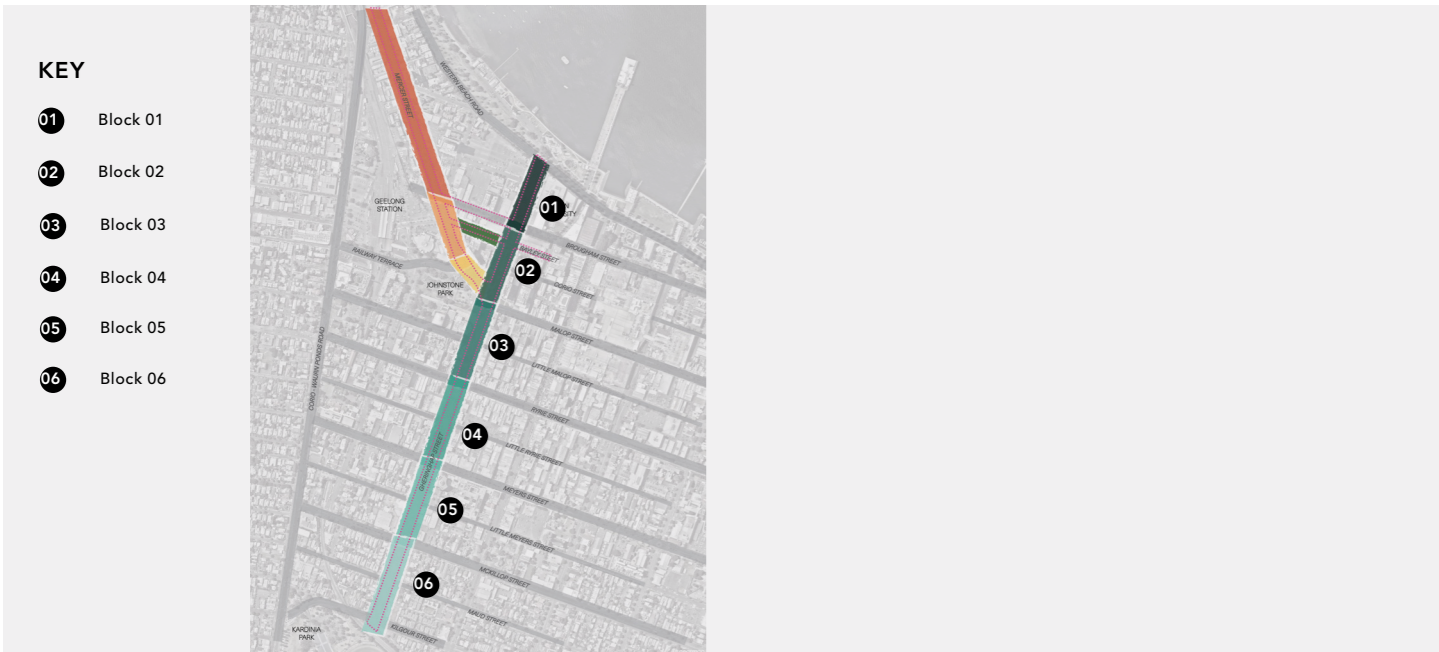


PLANTING APPROACH FOR GHERINGHAP STREET

The planting palette will focus on bringing variety and biodiversity through thematic planting per block.



BLOCK PLAN - GHERINGHAP STREET



GHERINGHAP STREET BLOCK 01

Change of the street section from two traffic lanes, one angled parking, one parallel parking lane, to two lanes of traffic with indented parking on both sides to allow for an expanded linear park on the eastern side.

- Two vehicle lanes (shared with bikes) with indented parallel parking to both sides.
- Shared zone adjacent to future Geelong Convention and Exhibition Centre which can be closed for events when needed.
- Existing trees, where possible retained. New tree planting will be incorporated to provide long term improved public realm outcomes.

GHERINGHAP STREET BLOCK 02

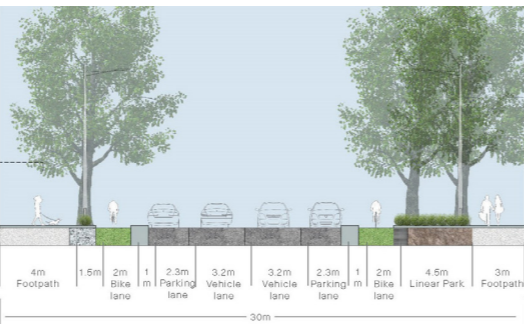
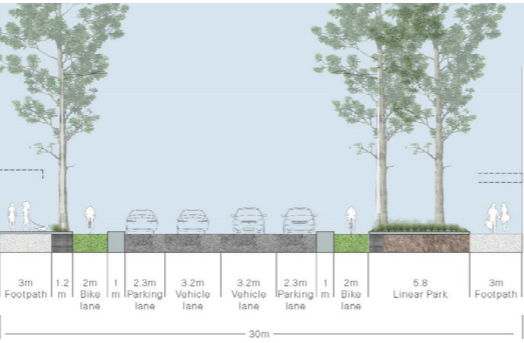
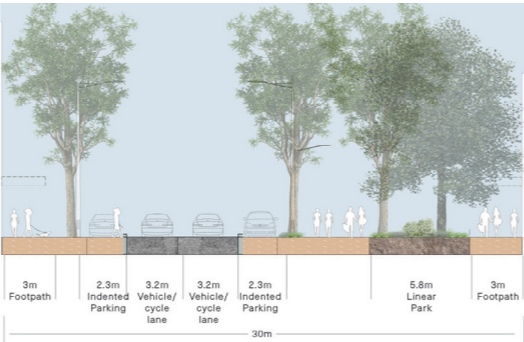
Change in street section from large vehicle lanes and bus parking to a smaller road width to allow for wider footpaths and bike lanes.

- Two vehicle lanes with two parallel parking lanes on both sides.
- Separated bike lanes.
- Most existing trees replaced to provide consistent species selection.
- Significant increase in areas for pedestrian occupation, garden and tree planting through the linear park.

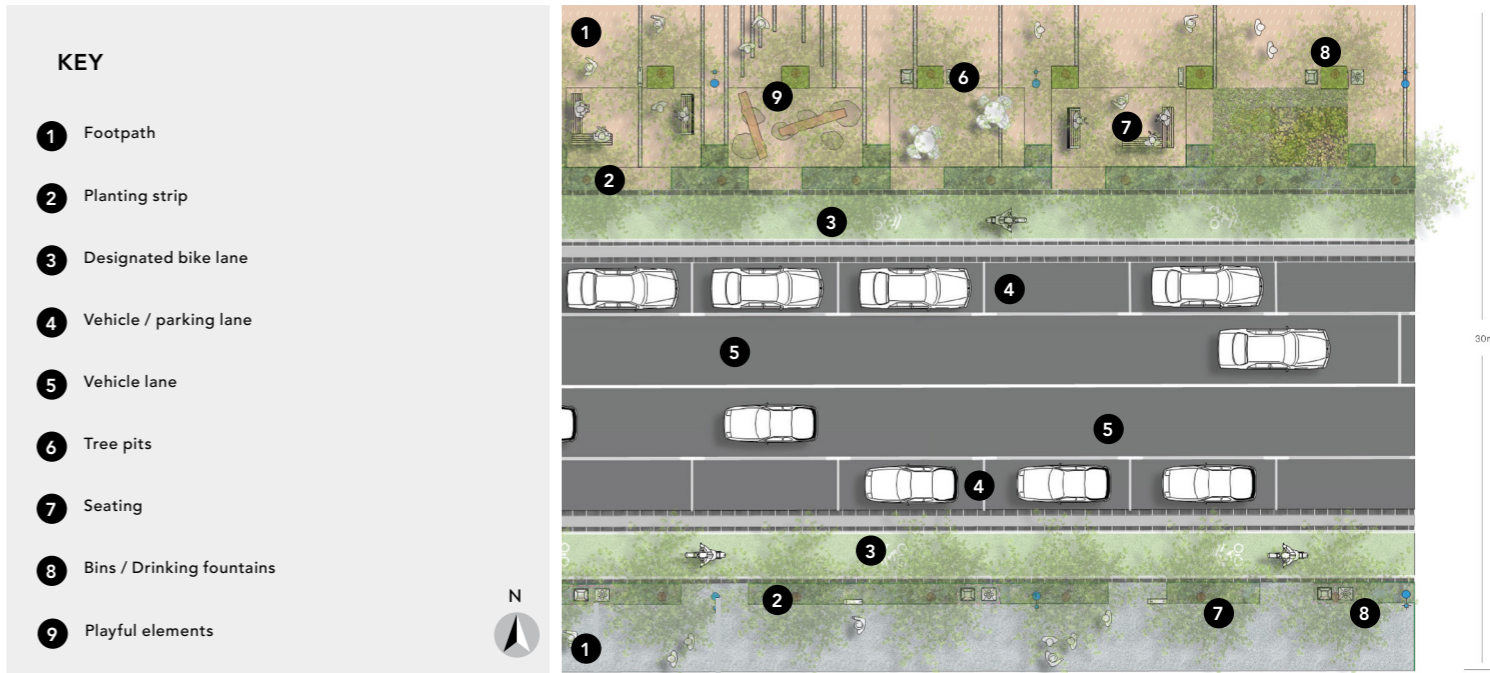
GHERINGHAP STREET BLOCKS 03 TO 06

General change of the street section from angled parking on one side to the long term vision of parallel parking to increase available space for a linear green park on the eastern side of the street.

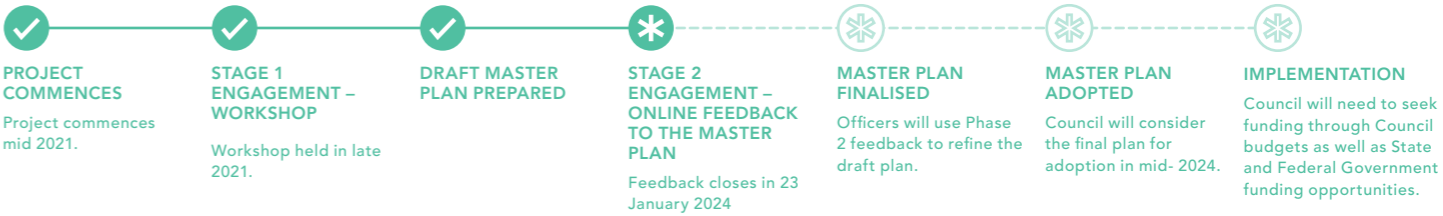
- Two vehicle lanes with two parallel parking lanes on both sides.
- New permanent separated bike lanes.
- Significant increase in areas for pedestrian occupation, garden and tree planting through the linear park.



GHERINGHAP STREET BLOCKS 3 TO 6 - TYPICAL PROPOSED PLAN



WHERE ARE WE IN THE PROCESS?



WHAT COULD THE PLAN ACHIEVE?

We want to transform Gheringhap Street into compelling arrival street which embraces a strong local landscape narrative and linear park experience for people and active transport users.

HOW WILL FEEDBACK TO THE PRECINCT PLAN BE USED?

Community feedback will be used to further refine the master plan, design principles and detailed concept plans.

WILL I GET A RESPONSE TO MY FEEDBACK?

You will receive confirmation we have received your feedback. Officers will consider matters raised in your feedback as part of the refinement of the Masterplan document.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

Feedback is requested via the City of Greater Geelong Have Your Say page <https://yoursay.geelongaustralia.com.au/MGSM>.

You can provide input in the form of a written submission, add a pin the interactive maps or complete the survey.

Officers will consider your feedback on the and finalise the Masterplan.

The final Masterplan will go to a Council in mid 2024 for consideration and adoption.

WHEN WILL WORKS BEGIN?

The final Masterplan will set out a framework for capital works expenditure which will be subject to the preparation of concept plans and detailed design plans for construction. These works will be carried out in a staged manner as funds become available.

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION?

All project materials and feedback activities can be found on the City's website www.geelongaustralia.com.au/yoursay

We can send a hard copy of the plan if you do not have access to the internet.

If you wish to speak to someone, please contact Urban Design and Heritage on 52725007. Feedback closes on 23rd January 2024.

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