Whitehall Street and Maribyrnong River

The West Gate Tunnel Project is more than a road, we are also delivering new cycling and walking paths and creating nearly nine hectares of new open space. This open space will be made up of parks and wetlands, and over 17,000 trees will be planted along the project corridor.

At the Whitehall Street and Maribyrnong River areas, we will deliver a greener and better-connected west by:

• Turning industrial land into new open space and wetlands.
• Providing a new, naturalised environment that directly links Yarraville Gardens to new open spaces via the new walking and cycling path over Whitehall Street and down to the Maribyrnong River.
• Retaining elements of the former rail alignment to Maribyrnong Street and the walking and cycling path, celebrating its heritage through interpretive wayfinding design.
• Retaining the existing anchor sculpture on Maribyrnong Street at the Maribyrnong River as a symbol of the area’s historic river trade.
**WHITEHALL STREET AND MARIBYRNONG RIVER**

**Tree and plant species**

A selection of mostly native grasses, trees, ground covers and shrubs, will green and colour the landscape and wetlands at the Yarraville Gardens and Maribyrnong River crossings.

The exotic Canary Island Date Palm will bring a grandness to the landscape, while shrubs and ground covers including Pink Bells, Running Postman and Common Everlasting will provide bursts of yellow, pink and red.

*Please note that the species and images listed are not limited to that shown above and are only a selection from the overall planting palette.

*Artist impression – subject to further development*

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**Native Trees**

- Swamp Mistletoe
- Red Flowering Yellow Gum
- Queensland Brush Box
- Yellow Box
- Black Nativity

**Native Grasses**

- Jointed Wire Rush
- Blue Flax Lily
- Blue Fescue
- Beaked Grass
- Tussock-grass

**Groundcovers**

- Milky Beauty Heads
- Creeping Saltbush
- Native Figilace Running Postman
- Common Everlasting

**Screening & Large Shrub**

- Gold-dust Wattle
- Fragrant Saltbush
- Australian Indigo
- Woolly Tea-tree
- Silver Cassia

**Exotic Trees**

- Italian Pencil Pine
- Umbrella Tree
- Canary Island Date Palm

**Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)**

- Tall Rush
- Green Rush
- Tall Sedge
- Rush Sedge
- Soft Twig sedge

**Small Shrub**

- Common Everlasting
- Red-flowered Yellow Gum
- Fraser Peach
- Yellow Box
- Silver Cassia

**Native Fuchsia**

- Yellow Box Rush Sedge
- Tree Everlasting
- Black Tea-tree Soft Twig-sedge
- Pink-bells

**Interpretive artwork**

- Throughout wetland

**Freeway Control Centre**

- Yarraville Gardens

**New seating**

- Artist impression for the new walking and cycling path to Maribyrnong River from Harris Street

**New walking and cycling path**

- Artist impression of new boardwalk

**New walking and cycling bridge over Whitehall Street**

- Retained trail along the old rail alignment

**New landscaped recreation space**

- Existing Maribyrnong Street Anchor Sculpture

**New seating**

- New seating

**New walking and cycling bridge over Whitehall Street**

- New walking and cycling bridge over Whitehall Street

**New walking and cycling path**

- New walking and cycling path connecting Hyde Street and Yarraville Gardens to Shepherd Bridge and Footscray Road

**New bridge over the river**

- New bridge over the river

**New seating**

- New seating

**New seating**

- New seating

**New landscaping area in Sims Street Loop**

- New landscaping area in Sims Street Loop

**New veloway**

- New veloway

**New walking and cycling path**

- New walking and cycling path connecting Hyde Street and Yarraville Gardens to Shepherd Bridge and Footscray Road

**Maintenance building**

- Maintenance building

**Freeway Control Centre**

- Freeway Control Centre

**Northern tunnel portal**

- Northern tunnel portal

**North road**

- North road

**New seating**

- New seating

**Yarraville Gardens**

- Yarraville Gardens
Designing open space

The Whitehall Street landscape design has been shaped by:

- Integrating interpretive art on the boardwalk and providing a lookout space for views west across the wetland.
- Enhancing pedestrian linkages further north between Youell Street, new and old walking and cycling paths, and Whitehall Street.

The Maribyrnong Riverfront landscaping design has been shaped by:

- Including features that encourage passive recreation, such as seating and signage to highlight environmental and cultural elements of the area.
- Retaining the former rail alignment to Maribyrnong Street, as much as possible.

Working with stakeholders

After years of talking with communities, local authorities and our Community Liaison Groups, we understand that landscaping is of great interest to locals.

Feedback indicates that community members are keen to see vegetation replaced quickly, with a focus on native plants that will complement and adapt well to the existing local environment, and provide a green visual screen in a range of areas, including near new noise walls.

Residents are also keen to see the project construction sites transform into open spaces for the community, creating new recreation areas along the project corridor.

We will continue to work with local authorities and the community as we build the new open space.

Our West Gate Tunnel Project Visitor Information Centre provides a one-stop shop for project information and enquiries.