

Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority



BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, 18 September 2025 at 4.30 pm
Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Gardens

Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Board Meeting Agenda, Thursday, 18 September 2025 at 4.30 pm
Goodman Building, Adelaide Botanic Gardens

Membership	The Lord Mayor 4 other members appointed by the Council 5 members appointed by the Minister for Planning
Quorum	6
Presiding Member	The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith
Deputy Presiding Member	Elinor Walker
Board Members	Kirsty Bevan Allison Bretones Ashley Halliday Justyna Jochym Stephanie Johnston Warwick Keates Mitzi Nam Councillor Keiran Snape
Proxy Board Members	Councillor Henry Davis, for Councillor Keiran Snape Dennis Rigney, for Mitzi Nam Sarah Russo, for Stephanie Johnston

Agenda

1. Welcome and Opening

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

At the opening of the Board Meeting, the Board member presiding will state:

'Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.'

1.2 Apologies

Nil

1.3 Confirmation of Minutes

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority adjourned on 17 July 2025 and reconvened on 28 August 2025 and the ordinary meeting of the Board also held on 28 August 2025 be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

2.	Conflict of Interest	
3.	Presiding Member Report (verbal)	
4.	Deputations	
	Nil	
5.	Items for Board Discussion and Decision	
5.1	Presentation - Adelaide Botanic Gardens	12 - 60
5.2	Presentation - Beach Volleyball Facility – Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27)	61 - 74
5.3	Beach Volleyball Facility – Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27)	75 - 86
5.4	Workshop - 2025 Biodiversity Survey - Exploring Aquatic Fauna of Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens	87 - 149
6.	Items for Noting	
6.1	Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects	150 - 164
6.2	Tentative List Submission for World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes - Progress Report	165 - 169
7.	Other Business	
		170 - 172
8.	Exclusion of the Public for Items requested to be considered in confidence	
	In accordance with Clause 4.8.21 of the <i>Adelaide Park Lands Authority Charter</i> and s 90(3) and 90(4) & (7) of the <i>Local Government Act 1999 (SA)</i> , this meeting of Kadaltilla will consider whether it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to discuss in confidence the report contained within section 10 of this Agenda	
9.	Items for the Board in confidence	
9.1	Results of Park Lands Commercial Expressions of Interest – Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) [s 90(3) (b), (d)]	173 - 226
10.	Meeting Close	

Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, 28 August 2025 adjourned from 17 July 2025

Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

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Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, 28 August 2025 adjourned from 17 July 2025, at 4.30 pm
Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

Present:

Presiding Member The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith

Deputy Presiding Member

Board Members

Kirsty Bevan

Allison Bretones

Warwick Keates

Mitzi Nam

Councillor Keiran Snape

Sarah Russo (proxy for Stephanie Johnston)

1 Welcome and Opening

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

At the opening of the Board Meeting, the Presiding Member, The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith stated:

‘Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.’

1.2 Apologies

Board Members -

Elinor Walker

Ashley Halliday

Justyna Jochym

Stephanie Johnston

1.3 Confirmation of Minutes

Board Decision

Moved by Warwick Keates,

Seconded by Councillor Keiran Snape -

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 26 June 2025 be taken as read and be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

2 Conflict of Interest

Nil

3 Presiding Member Report (verbal)

The Lord Mayor provided a verbal report indicating:

- On 24 June 2025, Minister Nick Champion, adopted the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036 (APLMS) without amendment.
 - In accordance with section 18(9) of the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)*, the APLMS was laid before both Houses of Parliament on 21 August 2025, at which point it came into effect.
 - Updated content has been published on the City of Adelaide and Kadaltilla websites, and

a copy is available for public inspection at the City of Adelaide Customer Centre.

- Under section 18(14) of the Act, a comprehensive review of the APLMS is due by 21 August 2030
- Today, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Department for Environment and Water requesting a briefing on the recently enacted *Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA)* and its relationship with the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)*. No response has yet been received.
- The State Government's new Adelaide Aquatic Centre project is on track for completion this summer in Adelaide's Northern Park Lands at Pardipardinyilla / Denise Norton Park (Park 2).
 - Trees are starting to be replanted, around the site.
 - Current consultation in relation to tree planting along Barton Terrace West.
- A reminder that the Kadaltilla Annual Community Forum is on Sunday, 14 September 2025, in Light Square / Wauwi at SuperCycle Sunday from 9 am to 1 pm.
- Victoria Square is currently closed at the request of the *South Australian Motor Sport Board* for the 2025 Bridgestone World Solar Challenge; cars will be coming in over the next 24hrs with various events occurring.

4 Deputations

Nil

5 Items for Board Discussion and Decision

5.1 North Adelaide Public Golf Course Act 2025

Discussion ensued

It was then –

Moved by Sarah Russo,
Seconded by Allison Bretones -

THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND COUNCIL:

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Notes the content of the presentation relating to the North Adelaide Public Golf Course Act 2025.

Carried

5.2 Tentative List Submission for World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes - Progress Report

Discussion ensued

It was then –

Moved by Warwick Keates,
Seconded by Councillor Keiran Snape -

THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES COUNCIL

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Receives the report as contained in Item 5.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 17 July 2025.
2. Notes that through the engagement with First Nations people under the principles of Free, Prior and Informed Consent, an indication was provided that Consent for the World Heritage Bid Tentative List Submission may require a longer timeframe for relationship building which may result in the project timeframe for submission being February 2027 rather than February 2026.

Carried

6 Items for Noting

Nil

7 Other Business

Nil

Closure

The meeting closed at 4.49 pm

The Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith

Presiding Member

Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Documents Attached:

Nil

Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, 28 August 2025

Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

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Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Board Meeting Minutes, Thursday, 28 August 2025, at 4.49 pm
Colonel Light Room, Adelaide Town Hall

Present:

Presiding Member The Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith

Deputy Presiding Member

Board Members

Kirsty Bevan

Allison Bretones

Warwick Keates

Mitzi Nam

Councillor Keiran Snape

Sarah Russo (proxy for Stephanie Johnston)

1 Welcome and Opening

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

'Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority acknowledges that we are meeting on traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past and present. We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

And we also extend that respect to other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations who are present today.'

1.2 Apologies

Board Members - Elinor Walker
Ashley Halliday
Justyna Jochym
Stephanie Johnston

1.3 Confirmation of Minutes

Nil

1.4 Out-of-Session Resolution

On 14 August 2025, the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Board was presented with the following recommendation to consider out of session, in accordance with clause 4.8.4 of the Kadaltilla Charter:

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Notes the decision of the Board on Thursday, 22 May 2025 in relation to the date and theme of the Kadaltilla Annual Community Forum and roving pop ups cannot be enacted as it no longer meets the requirements of the Kadaltilla Charter, due to external circumstances.
2. Revokes the decision of the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Board made at its meeting held on Thursday, 22 May 2025 in relation to item 6.2 – Proposed Dates and Location(s) for the Kadaltilla 2025 Annual Community.
3. Approves the date, time, location and theme of the 2025 Kadaltilla Annual Community Forum at SuperCycle Sunday 2025 to be:
 - 3.1. Date: Sunday, 14 September 2025
 - 3.2. Time: 10:00am to 2:00pm 3
 - 3.3. Location: Light Square / Wauwi
 - 3.4. Theme: "Cycles & Stories".
4. Approves the date, time and location of the roving pop-up to be:

- 4.1. Date: Thursday, 18 September 2025
- 4.2. Time: 3:30pm-4:30pm - prior to the September Kadaltilla Board Meeting
- 4.3. Location: Adelaide Botanic Gardens.

The resolution was carried and is a valid and effectual decision of the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Board.

2 Conflict of Interest

Nil

3 Presiding Member Report (verbal)

Nil

4 Deputations

Nil

5 Items for Board Discussion

5.1 Workshop - Park Lands Leasing and Licensing Policy

Presenters:

- Jo Podoliak, Director, City Community
- Jennifer Kalionis, Associate Director, City Culture

Precis of Item

A presentation was given to seek feedback on Guiding Principles to inform an update to the Adelaide Park Lands Leasing and Licensing Policy (Policy), which was adopted in January 2016. Feedback from the Board will be summarised and presented to Council Members at a workshop in October 2025.

6 Items for Board Decision

6.1 Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Annual Report 2024/2025

Discussion ensued

It was then –

Moved by Councillor Keiran Snape,
Seconded by Kirsty Bevan –

THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND COUNCIL:

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Approves the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Annual Report 2024/25 as contained in Attachment A to Item 6.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 28 August 2025.
2. Approves the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, incorporating the Audited Financial Statements of Kadaltilla from 1 July 2024 through 30 June 2025 into the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Annual Report 2024/25 as contained in Attachment A to Item 6.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 28 August 2025, subject to review by the Audit and Risk Committee on 24 September 2025.
3. Notes the requirement, under Clause 6.4.1(c) of the Kadaltilla Charter, to undertake an annual review of the Kadaltilla Strategic Plan in consultation with Council.
4. Approves that no amendments are required to be made to the Kadaltilla 2023–2028 Strategic Plan.
5. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, to provide a copy to Council and the Minister of Planning as the Minister responsible for the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)*.
6. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer, or delegate, to make minor, technical or typographical changes to the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Annual Report for the 2024/25 financial year as contained in Attachment A to Item 6.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 28 August 2025.

Carried

7 Items for Noting

7.1 Introduction of the Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA)

Discussion ensued

It was then –

Moved by Councillor Keiran Snape,
Seconded by Warwick Keates –

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Notes the *Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA)* has been passed by the Parliament of South Australia and will be progressively implemented over a two-year period.
2. Notes that the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (SA)* and the *Native Vegetation Act 1991 (SA)* remain in operation until amended or repealed by the *Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA)*.
3. Receives and notes the advice regarding the introduction of the *Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA)* as contained in Item 7.1 and Attachment A on the Agenda for the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority meeting held on 28 August 2025.
4. Notes the Administration will continue monitoring the State Government's progress with subordinate legislation and governance arrangements relating to the management of the Adelaide Park Lands under the *Biodiversity Act 2025 (SA)*.

Carried

8 Other Business

- The Lord Mayor announced the next meeting of the Board will be held on 18 September 2025 at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens.
- Councillor Keiran Snape noted to the Board a petition had been distributed on Tuesday with 1000 signatures opposing tower development within the Festival Plaza.

Closure

The meeting closed at 5.24pm

The Lord Mayor, Dr Jane Lomax-Smith
Presiding Member

Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Documents Attached:

Nil

Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Adelaide Botanic Gardens

**Thursday, 18 September
2025**

Board Meeting

Author:

Sarah Gilmour, Associate
Director Park Lands, Policy &
Sustainability

Public

Purpose of Presentation

This presentation by Michael Harvey, Director of the Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium of South Australia, will provide an overview of the Board's key strategic and master planning priorities, as well as upcoming initiatives.

The Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) is the principal advisor to both the State Government and the City of Adelaide on the protection, management, enhancement, and promotion of the Adelaide Park Lands. Under section 9(c) of the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005* (SA) ([Link 1](#)), Kadaltilla is required to:

“provide comments and advice on any management plan prepared by the Adelaide City Council or a State authority under this Act or the Local Government Act 1999 that relates to any part of the Adelaide Park Lands, and to monitor and, as appropriate, to provide comments, advice or reports in relation to, the implementation or operation of any such plan”

The implementation of the Adelaide Botanic Garden Master Plan and Botanic Park Master Plan is identified as an 'in progress' Strategic Priority in the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036 (APLMS) ([Link 2](#)).

These plans are highlighted as Strategic Priorities for the Botanic Estate Lands and Adelaide Zoo Precinct.

Data and Supporting Information

Link 1 – [Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 \(SA\)](#)

Link 2 - [Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036 \(APLMS\)](#)

– END OF REPORT –

Adelaide Botanic Gardens and Botanic Park

Kadaltilla Board Meeting, 18 Sept 2025



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium

Botanical Gardens

Page 14



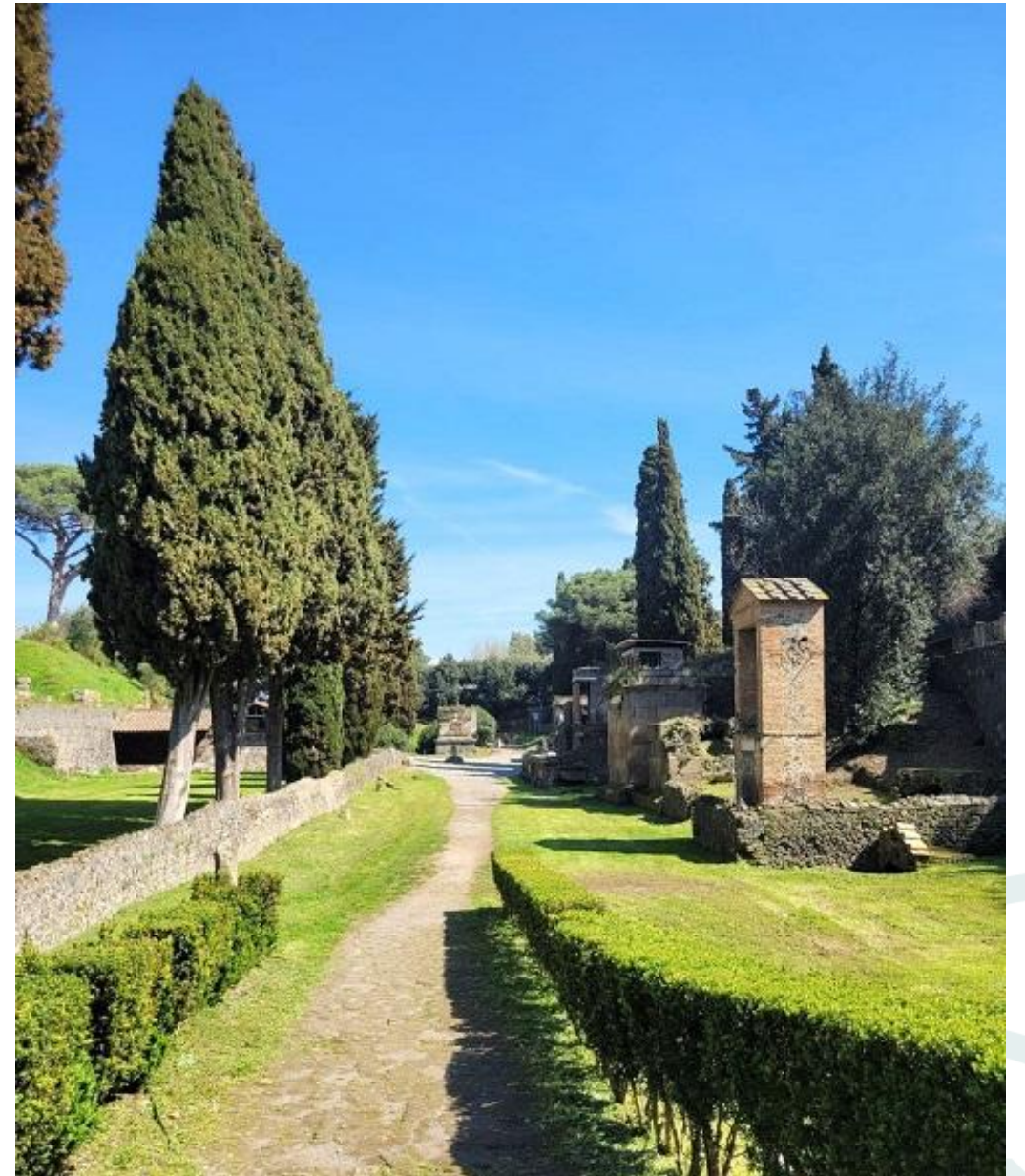
Egypt, 18th Dynasty – 1500-1200 BCE



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium



Pompeii, 79AD

Botanical Gardens

- Orto botanico di Pisa 1544
- Orto botanico di Padova 1545 – continuous



Adelaide



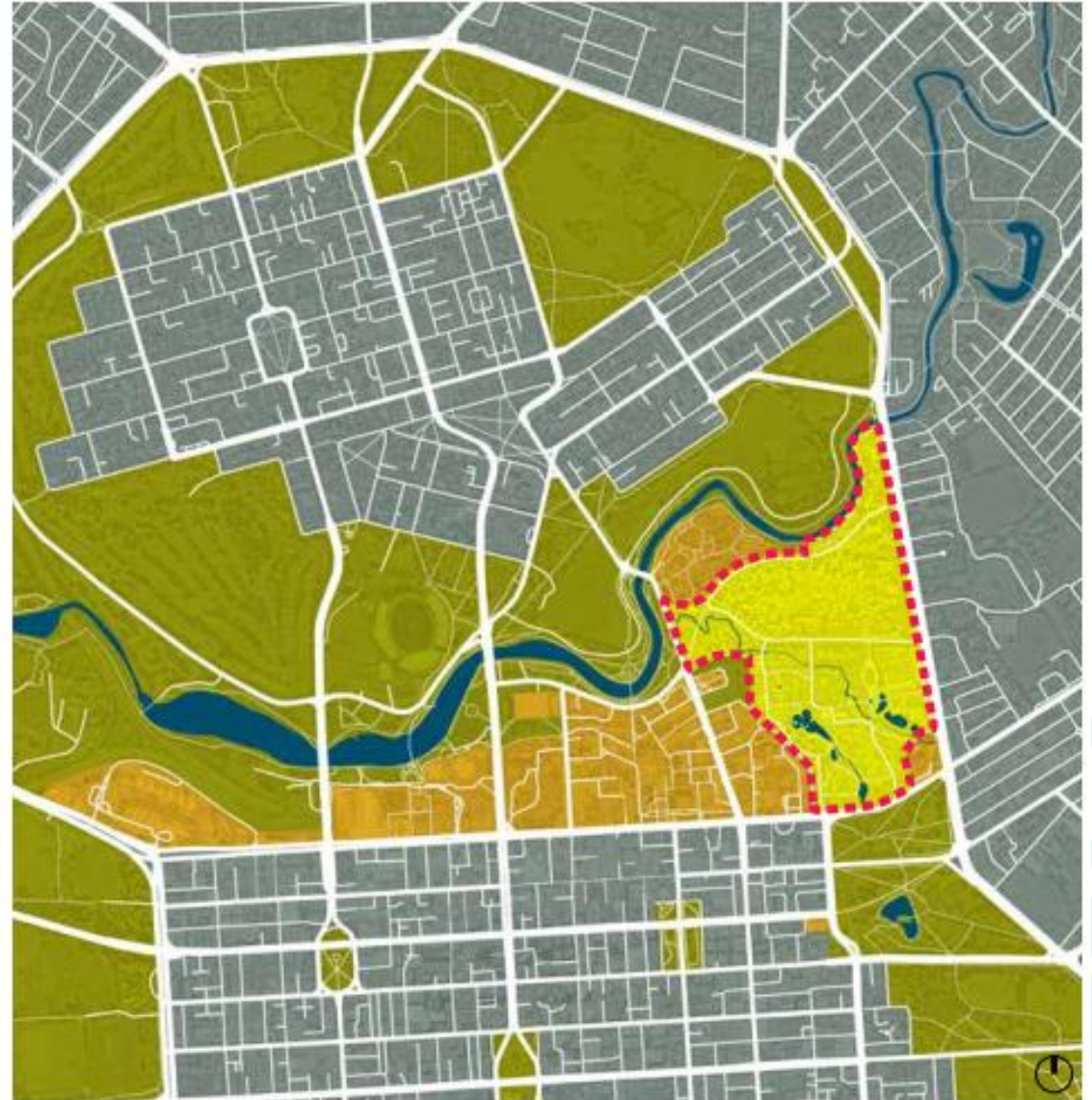
UN  Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park

 Park Lands

 Civil, cultural, scientific, health, research and educational institutions

 Waterways

 City and suburbs



What is a botanic garden?

BGSH Act says we...

- a) Establish and maintain botanic and other gardens for the use and enjoyment of members of the public...
- b) Establish in, or in connection with, its gardens exhibitions of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history
- c) Establish and maintain a herbarium... To retain original specimens included in this herbarium
- d) Accumulate and care for specimens, objects and things of interest in the fields...
- e) Accumulate and classify data...



What is a botanic garden?

BGSH Act says we...

- f) manage all lands and premises vested in or under the control of the Board...
- g) manage all fund vested in or under the control of the Board...
- h) carry out or promote research into matters of interest in the fields of botany, horticulture, biology, conservation of the natural environment or history
- i) disseminate information of interest (in these fields...)

...and new provisions around commercial activities.



What is a botanic garden?

Visitors say:

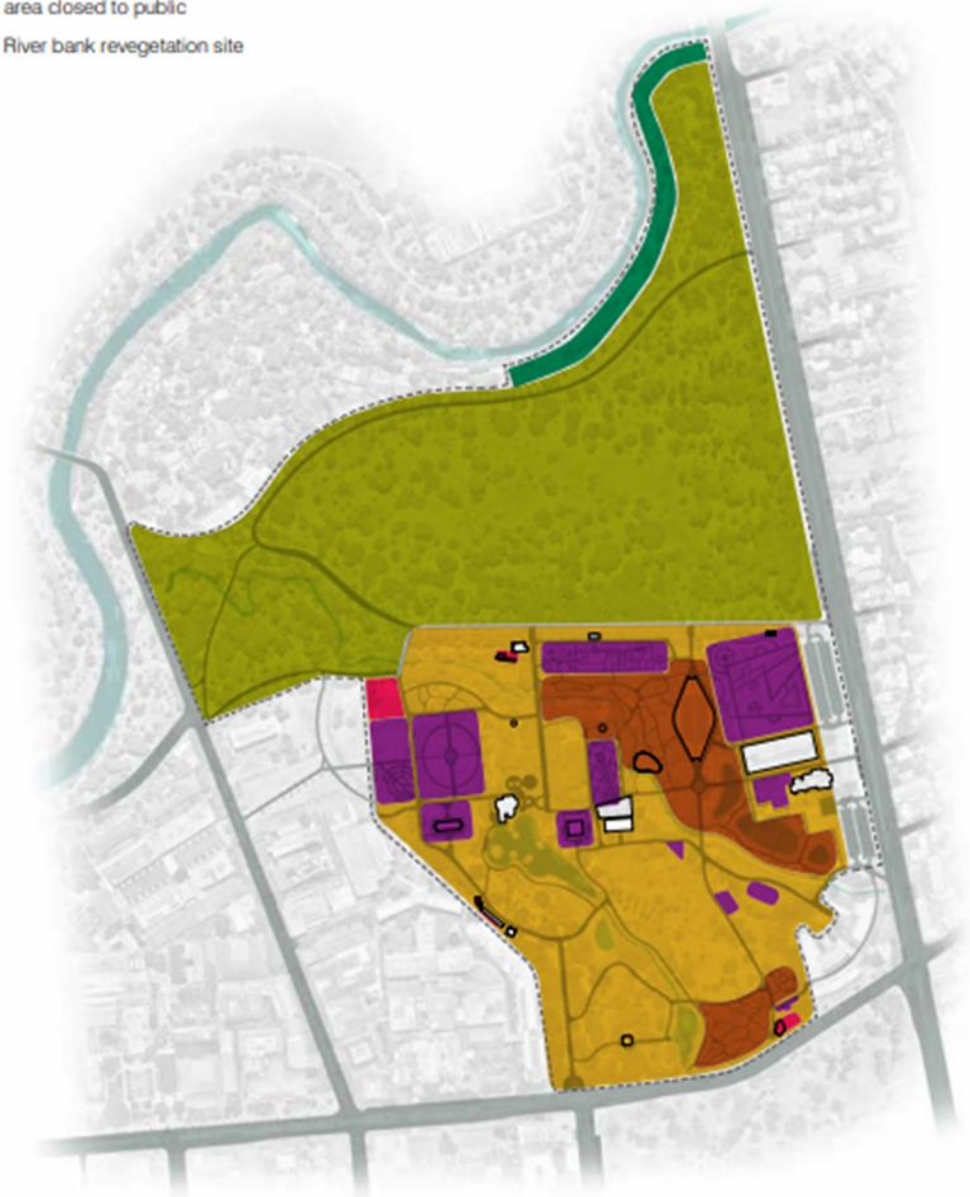
1. It is peaceful and tranquil
2. It showcases a wide diversity of plants
3. It displays plants that appear healthy
4. It makes me feel safe when visiting
5. It has a pleasing physical layout
6. It presents well as a tourist attraction
7. It displays a special collection of plants
8. It offers a broad range of experiences



Garden and Park



- Traditional Botanic Garden - open lawns and gardens
- Arboretum specimen trees and lawns
- Formal - structured display garden
- Informal - naturalistic display garden
- Service area closed to public
- Torrens River bank revegetation site



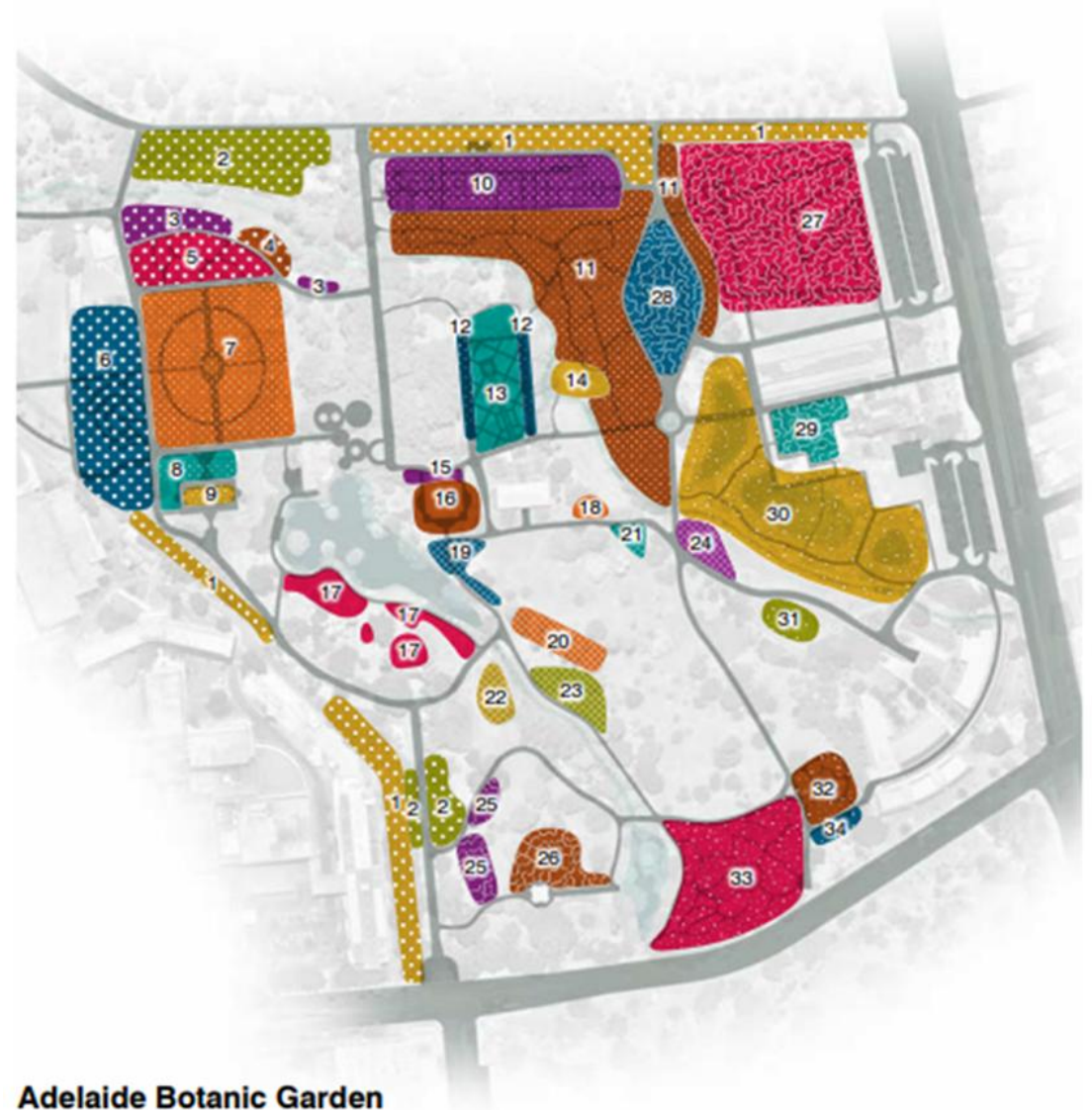




Living Collections

- 6,798 accessioned plants
- 239 plant families (out of 600)
- 1,312 plant genera
- 391 rare/vulnerable taxa (179 Australian, 212 international)

1. Screening Plants	7. Economic Garden	13. Mediterranean Garden	19. Hibiscus Display
2. Palms	8. Cacti & Succulents	14. Simpson Shadehouse	20. Araucaria
3. Solanaceae	9. Madagascar	15. Bromeliad (terrestrial)	21. Dahlia Display
4. Acanthaceae	10. Classground	16. Amazon Waterlily Pavilion	22. Nelumbo Pond
5. Western Wild Garden	11. Australian Forest	17. Cycads	23. Bamboo
6. Garden of Health	12. Wisteria Arbours	18. Native Cycads	24. Aloe



Adelaide Botanic Garden

Living Collections Over Time

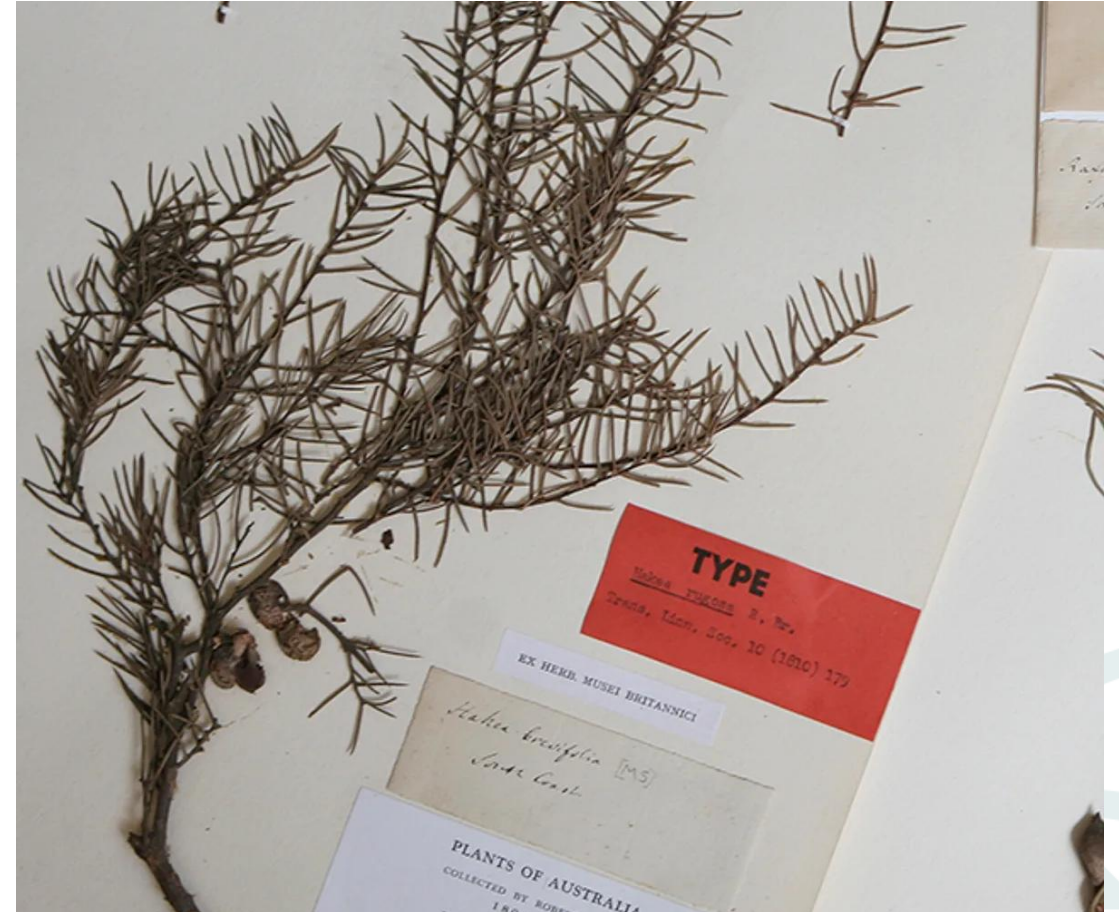
- Diversity
- Longevity
- Conservation
- Long-term Understanding





BGSH Science: Collections

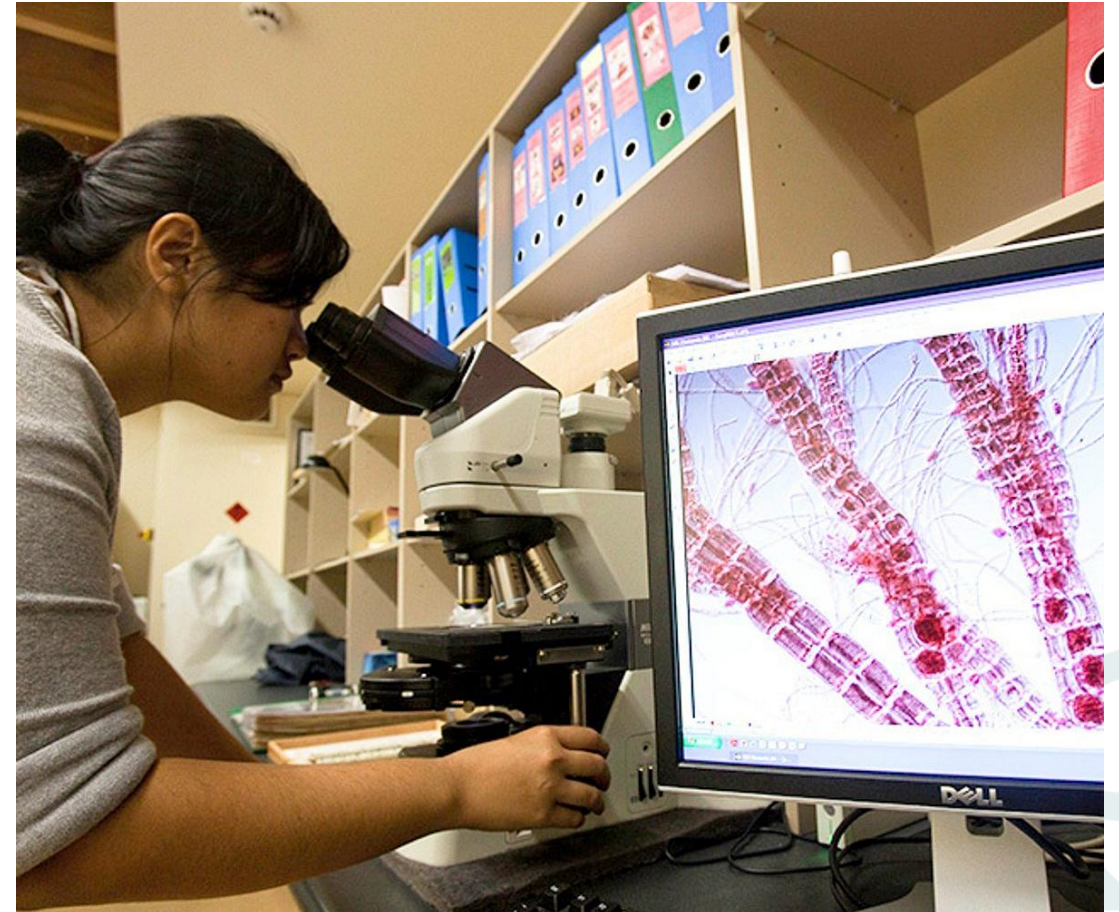
- Over 1,100,000+ Herbarium Specimens
- 800,000 vascular plants + collections of algae, bryophytes, fungi and lichens



Botanical Research

In the last 5 years:

- 654 publications, 40 research grants
- DNA sequences for 1,400 SA plant samples and 760 plant species
- 742,000 accessible plant records (Australian Virtual Herbarium: <https://avh.chah.org.au/>)
- 300 Citizen Scientists on DigiVol (digidol.ala.org.au)



SA Seed Conservation Centre

- 85% of SA Flora in Seed Bank
 - over 2,200 taxa
- 27,000 new specimens added in last 5 years



Public Engagement

An "average" year:

- 2,500,000 visits total
- 1,300,000 to ABG
- 25,000 school students
- Over 30 partnership projects
- 400 volunteers



What visitors come for:

- 35% indicated “**Viewing plants**” as their main activity at the Garden
- 16% indicated “**Relaxing/Reading**” as their main activity at the Garden
- 39% spent “**between two and three hours**” at the Garden
- 60% cited “**Friends/Family**” as the main information source that motivated their visit
- 40% suggested the main role of the Garden was to “**Provide a place of relaxation/wellbeing**”



Adelaide - Festival City



Partnerships



SEPT 2024 ⓘ APRIL 2025

CHIHULY

IN THE
BOTANIC GARDEN

ADELAIDE



Dale Chihuly, *Sapphire Star* (detail), 2010
9½ x 9½ x 9½", The New York Botanical Garden,
Bronx, installed 2017
© 2010 Chihuly Studio. All rights reserved.
Photographer: Scott Mitchell Leen



“An outstanding international event. The Botanic Garden is a wonderful venue for artistic/cultural presentations. They are strongly supported by ALL age ranges across our extended family. Really joyous, inspiring, and a huge boost to our State’s cultural standing”. – Visitor survey respondent







TOUCH OF GLASS

The colourful and intricate sculptures of contemporary glass artist Dale Chihuly have transformed the Adelaide Botanic Garden into a wonderland that's yours to explore, writes HELEN YOUNG

Emerging the seeds from the water, *Pantheus* is surrounded by lush shade plants



Glistening glass installations by American artist Dale Chihuly are drawing record attendances at the Adelaide Botanic Garden by day ... and by night.

The garden enjoyed its highest ever visitation figures during the recent long weekend as only the third city in the world outside the US to host Chihuly's massive outdoor exhibition, after London and Singapore.

The exhibition, which runs until April 29 and is an Australian exclusive, features 15 large-scale, sculptural installations created by the 83-year-old Seattle glass artist, who previously visited Adelaide in conjunction with the city's Jam Factory design centre in 2000.

Director of exhibitions for Chihuly Studio, Britt Cornett, says she has been working with the Adelaide team since visiting the Botanic Garden more than a year ago.

"There are literally thousands of pieces of hand-blown elements that make up the totality of the exhibition," Cornett says.

"From the moment we came out and wandered the garden, we spent three days here just taking in how incredibly beautiful it is."

"There's something really spectacular about being in the southern hemisphere, and being in Australia, that has presented this amazing backdrop that we have not been able to work in before. We had this vision of what we expected it might be, and I think it's probably exceeded that."

The display is free to visit during the day, but a special ticketed Chihuly Nights event



Dale Chihuly's Glacier Ice and Lapis Chandelier, main picture; Lime and Lava Red Tower, right; and Macchia Forest (detail). Pictures: Nathaniel Willson

1 - ADAM WILLSON



Story PATRICK McDONALD

LET THERE BE LIGHT

The Dale Chihuly glass exhibition at Adelaide Botanic Garden is setting records - and Advertiser readers can take advantage of a special ticket offer

66

IT'S A DRAMATICALLY DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE THAN SEEING THE WORK WITH NATURAL DAYLIGHT



showcases the works with dramatic nocturnal illumination from 6.45pm to 10pm each Thursday to Saturday.

"It's a dramatically different experience than seeing the work with natural daylight," Cornett says.

"It gives a visitor the opportunity to have two very different experiences, and you can't always do that in a traditional gallery setting."

"Light has been something that's critical to Chihuly's career from the beginning. He understood the importance of light transmitted on and through the glass. That's why he was drawn to the medium in the first place."

■ A full program of associated music performances, science talks and JamFactory exhibitions can be found at botanicgardens.sa.gov.au/chihuly
■ Advertiser readers can buy discount Chihuly Nights tickets for \$20 in October-November using the code advertiser@chihulynights
■ Book at events.humanitix.com/chihuly-nights

OCTOBER 19-20, 2024 SAWKEEND 11

LATEST

Eight spectacular reasons you can't miss Chihuly's Adelaide Botanic Garden exhibition



By Glam Adelaide

Posted on September 27, 2024



Dale Chihuly's Sapphire Star at Adelaide Botanic Garden; (inset) Dale Chihuly's Macchia Forest. Pictures: Nathaniel Willson

Glass shatters garden visitor record

Patrick McDonald

The Chihuly glass exhibition has smashed attendance records at Adelaide Botanic Garden, with more than 180,000 visitors in its first three weeks.

Its outdoor display of 15 large-scale installations by

leading US glass artist Dale Chihuly broke the previous daily visitation record on its opening day, September 27, with 10,529 attendances. A new record of 15,576 visitors was later set on October 7.

"The buzz surrounding the unveiling of the Chihuly works, combined with school

holidays and a welcome warm start to spring, has us tracking over double our attendance against the same period last year," Botanic Gardens director Michael Harvey said.

Chihuly in the Botanic Garden runs until April 29. It is free to visit during the

day. Advertiser readers can purchase discount \$20 tickets for the special Chihuly Nights event in October-November using the code advertiser@chihulynights

Book at events.humanitix.com/chihuly-nights

NIGHTLY AT 5PM

GLASS GARDEN



THE AUSTRALIAN

ARTS > VISUAL ARTS

Chihuly's glassworks are a once-in-a-lifetime experience for botanic garden visitors

By TIM RICHARDSON

5:00am November 14, 2024

0 Comments

The genesis of Dale Chihuly's ongoing Garden Cycle, which started in 2001, lies in the artist's interest in and appreciation of historical glasshouses. On one level, it was simply the thrill of exhibiting "glass inside glass" that first drew him to formal botanic garden environments.

nic Gar
State H

HIGHLIGHTS

-  **1.4 Million attendees**
-  **201,000 tickets sold**
-  **98% satisfaction rate**
-  **5,000 new plants**

VISITORS



ECONOMIC IMPACT

-  **\$55.7M economic benefit to SA**
-  **\$10.9M spent by South Australians**
-  **\$103.3M total economic footprint**
-  **\$1,290 average tourist spend**
-  **195,000 visitor nights**
-  **\$6.12M wellbeing benefit**
-  **303 new jobs created**



Government of
South Australia



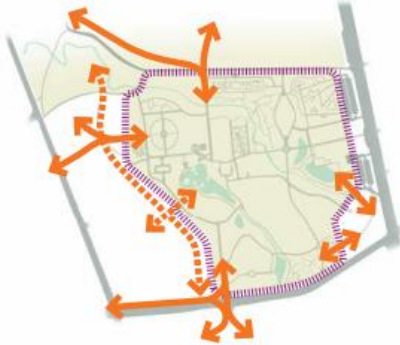




Where to next? Planning and Design Principles

8.1 Precinct Connections

Enhance the presence and identity of the Garden and make open physical and conceptual connections to the public realm and institutions neighbouring the Garden.



8.3 Entries and Arrival Experience

Enhance through consistent theming the major and lesser entries to both Adelaide Botanic Garden and Botanic Park in a manner appropriate to a significant State cultural institution.



8.5 Destinations

Acknowledge the legacies of the favourite visitor drawcards that exist in the Garden and seek opportunities to further develop existing or create new complimentary attractions within the Garden.



8.2 Garden Structure

Acknowledge the existing structure developed over the last century and a half, as a mix of 'formal and geometric' with 'informal and flowing' spaces, responding to site topography and culturally informed interventions.



8.4 Themed Precincts and Trails

Within the existing garden structure, develop themed precincts and trails across the Garden to provide a deeper, more engaging visitor experience for those that seek it.



8.6 Waterways

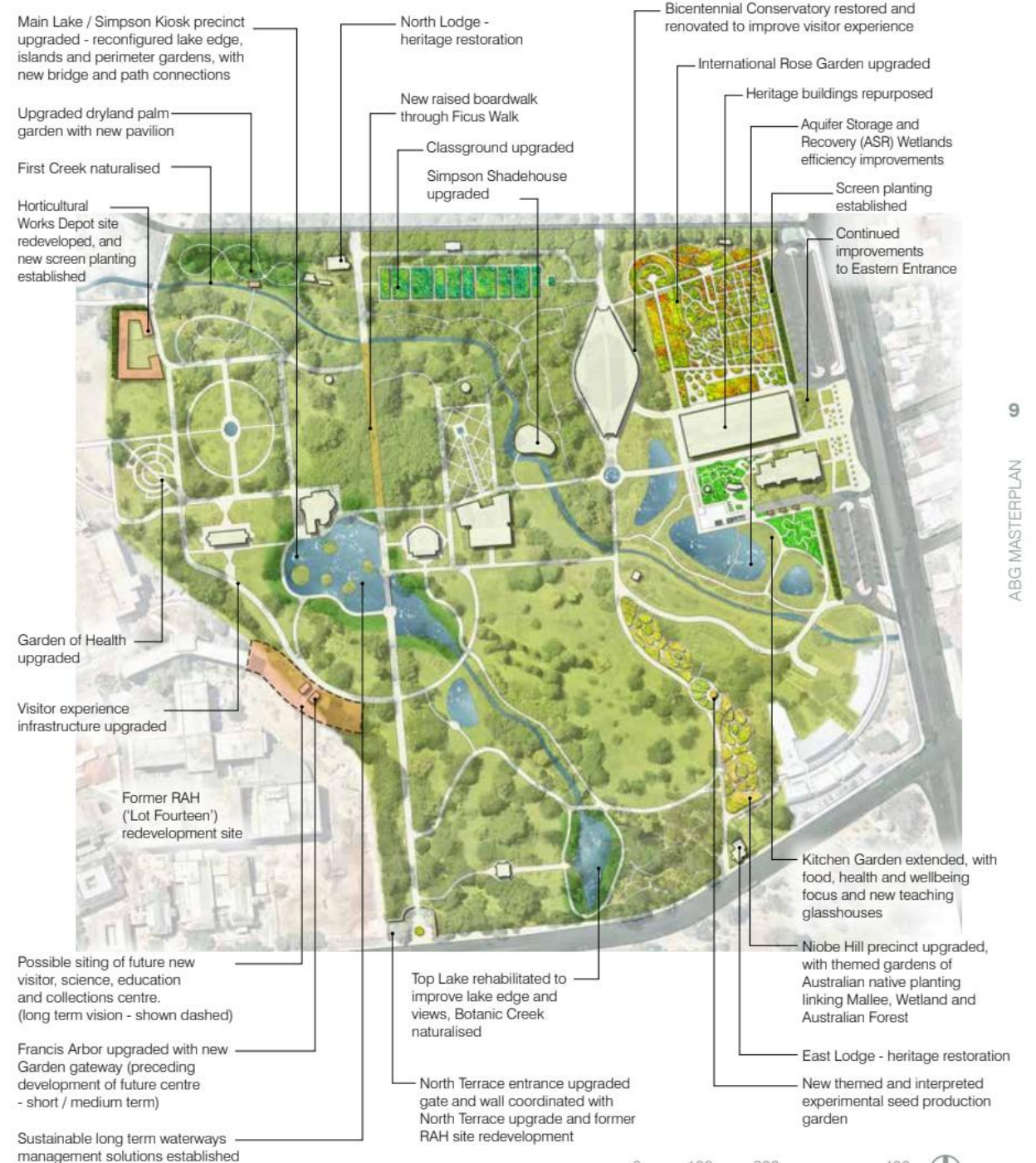
Improve the aesthetic, biodiversity and water conservation values of the Garden's waterways.



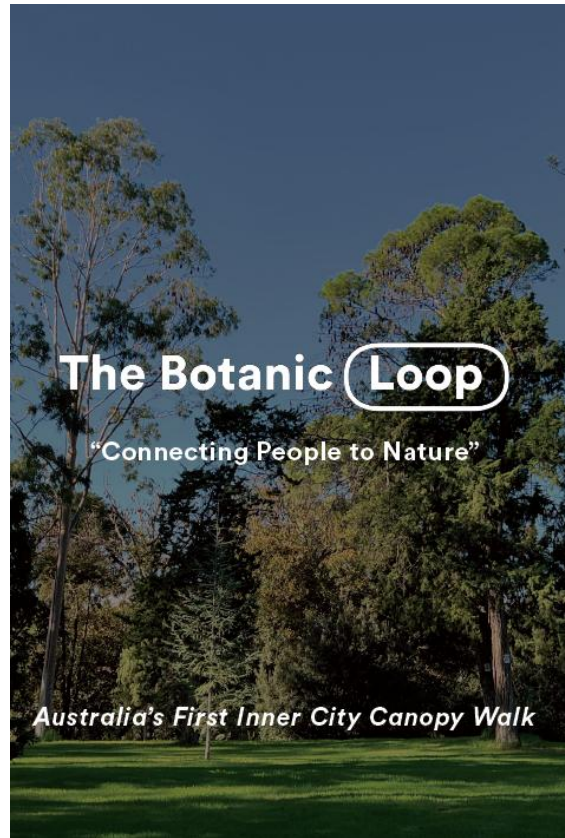
Masterplan

Recent and Current Priorities:

- Eastern Entrance ✓
- Upgrade Rose Garden ✓
- Simpson Kiosk Upgrade ✓
- Seed Production Garden ✓
- Lot Fourteen Integration
- North Terrace Entrance
- Classground Redevelopment



Botanic Loop by TreeClimb



The Botanic Loop would start at the **Friends Gate** alongside the North Lodge and circumnavigate the bat colony. Created with **3 viewing platforms** the loop would use **9 steel poles and 21 approved trees** finishing alongside the Zoo entrance. The **750m walk** would give users a new perspective of the Gardens while providing a unique opportunity to **captivate & educate** new and existing user of the gardens.

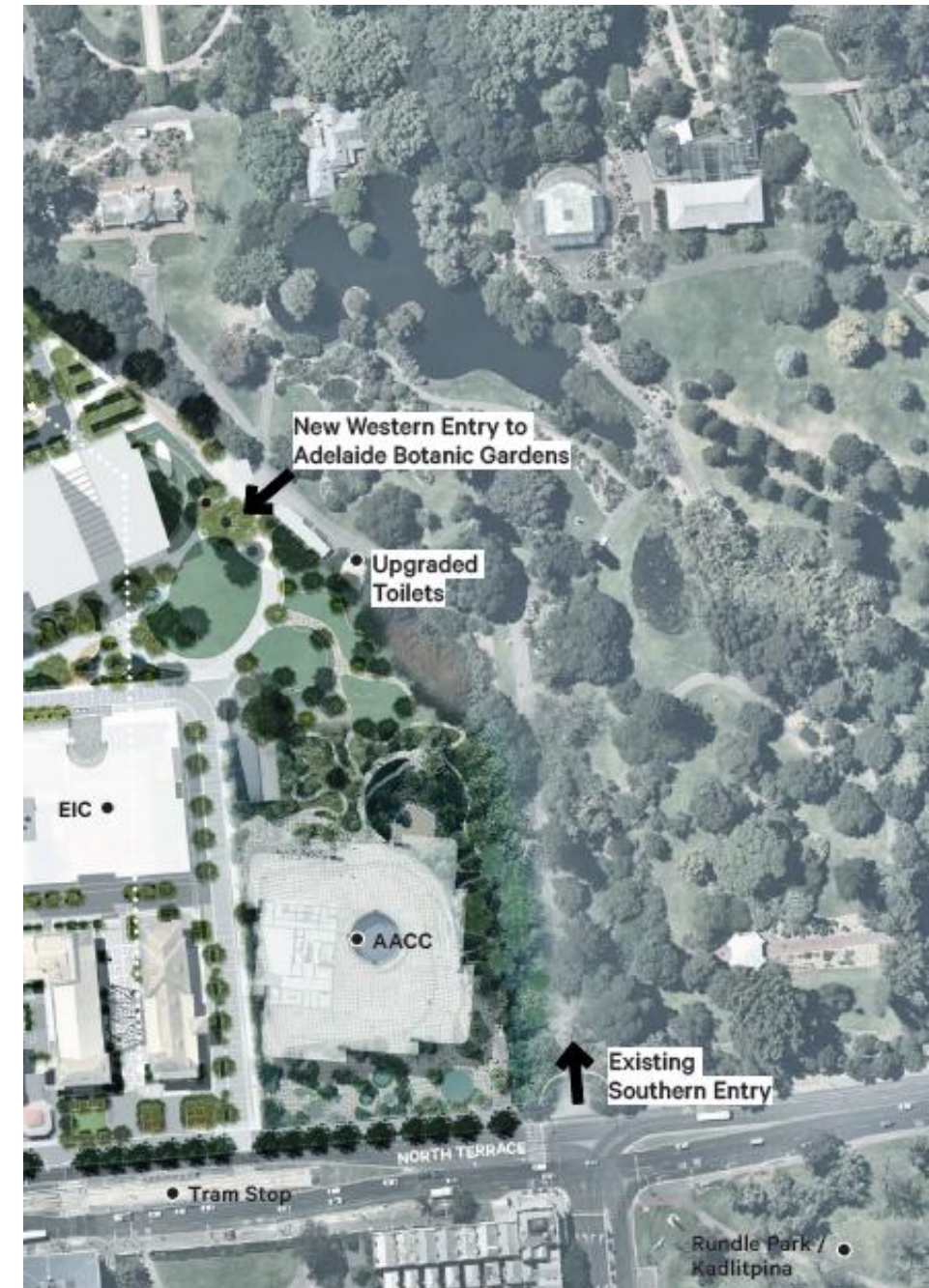


Botanic Loop

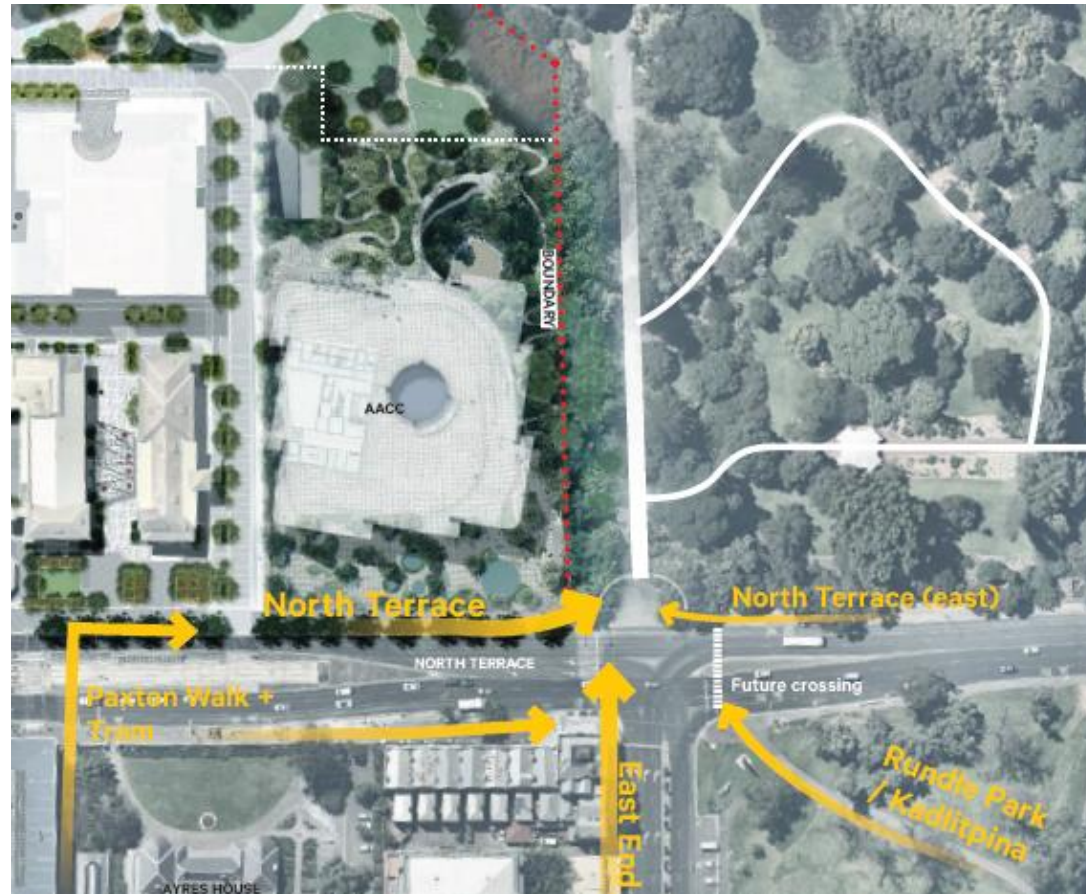
- DA Approved by City of Adelaide
- Currently finalising EPBC Act approval from Commonwealth
- April / May 2026 Construction
- Opening Oct 2026



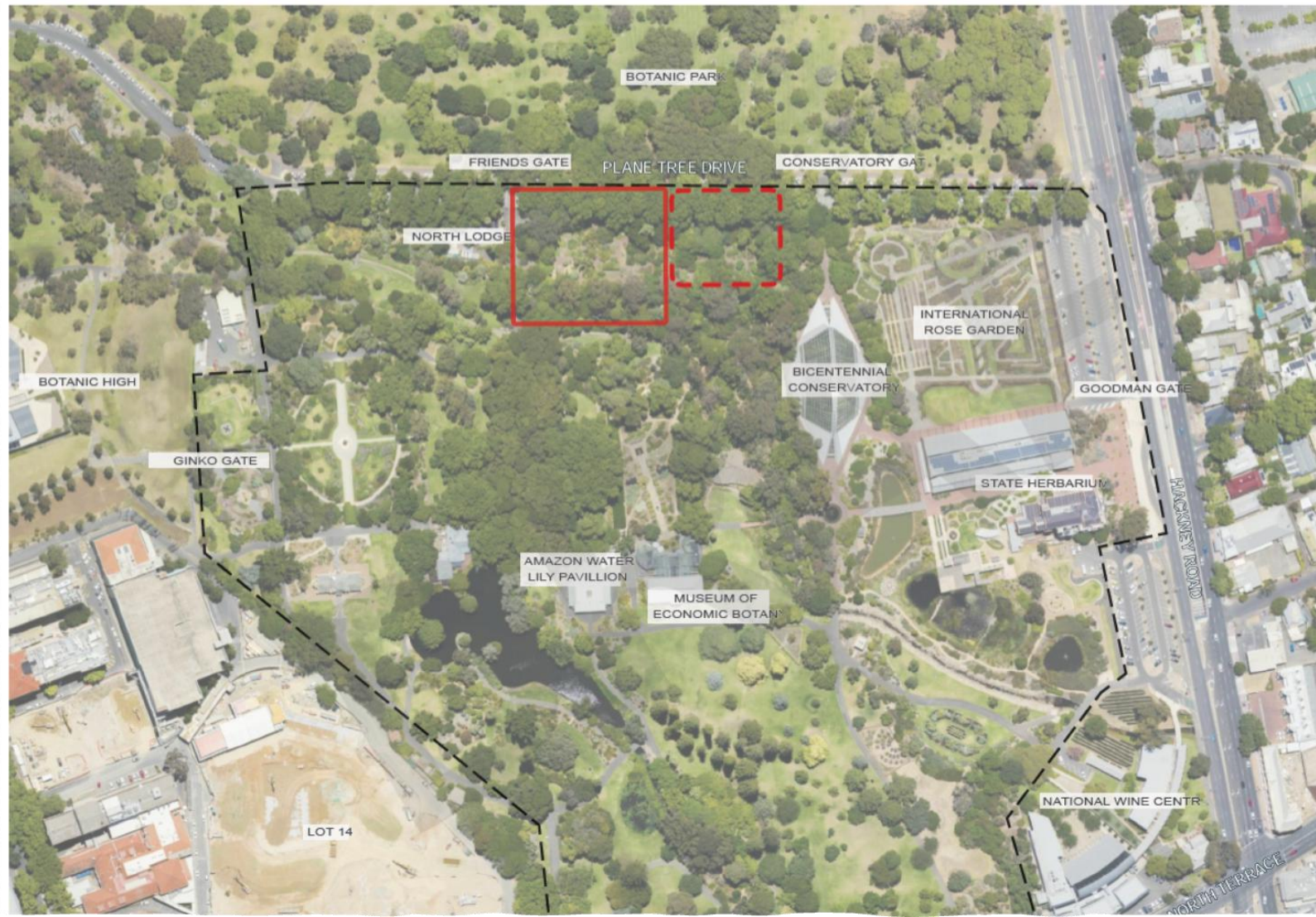
Lot Fourteen Integration



North Terrace Entrance



Classgrounds Redevelopment



- Project Scope
- - - Potential Additional Scope
- - - Adelaide Botanic Gardens (ABG)

What is a Botanic Garden?

A botanic garden is a specialized garden dedicated to the collection, cultivation, and display of a wide variety of plants, each labelled with its botanical name. These gardens serve multiple purposes, including scientific research, education, conservation, and public enjoyment. They are essential for plant research and conservation, studying plant genetics, ecology, and biology.

Botanic gardens provide educational opportunities for students, researchers, and the general public to learn about plant species, their habitats, and their uses. Additionally, they play a crucial role in conserving endangered plant species by maintaining living collections and seed banks, while also offering a space for recreation and appreciation of plant diversity.







Who Benefits?

- As of the 2021 Census, South Australia had approximately **198,000 children aged 0–9**.
- Across the state, there are about **229,000 carers**, covering all forms of caring roles

Children 0–9: There are about **198,000 children** in this age group in South Australia (based on 2021 Census).

Carers: There are around **229,000 individuals** providing care in some capacity (broadly defined).

Overlap: Not all carers care for 0–9 year-olds; some care for older children, those with disabilities, or elderly persons.

Kinship/Grandcarers: At least **2,200 children** are under the care of registered grandcarers, with broader estimates placing the number of children in informal kinship care closer to **7,000**

Formal Care: Around **4,000 children** are in formal care arrangements.



Broader Benefits

Greater childhood engagement in nature benefits society by **reducing health burdens, boosting learning outcomes, strengthening communities, fostering environmental stewardship, saving costs, and enriching cultural identity.**

1. Health and Wellbeing Benefits: Reduced long-term healthcare costs and a healthier, more resilient population.
2. Educational and Cognitive Benefits: Higher educational achievement and a workforce better prepared for complex problem-solving.
3. Social and Community Benefits: Stronger social capital, reduced antisocial behaviour, and safer communities.
4. Environmental Stewardship: A generation more committed to tackling climate change and biodiversity loss.
5. Economic Benefits: Long-term economic resilience and reduced public expenditure.
6. Cultural and Identity Benefits: Greater cultural awareness, respect for Country, and intergenerational knowledge transfer.



Play the Botanic Way!
The joy of discovering
global plant diversity.

Thank you, and see you in the gardens...



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium

Questions



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium

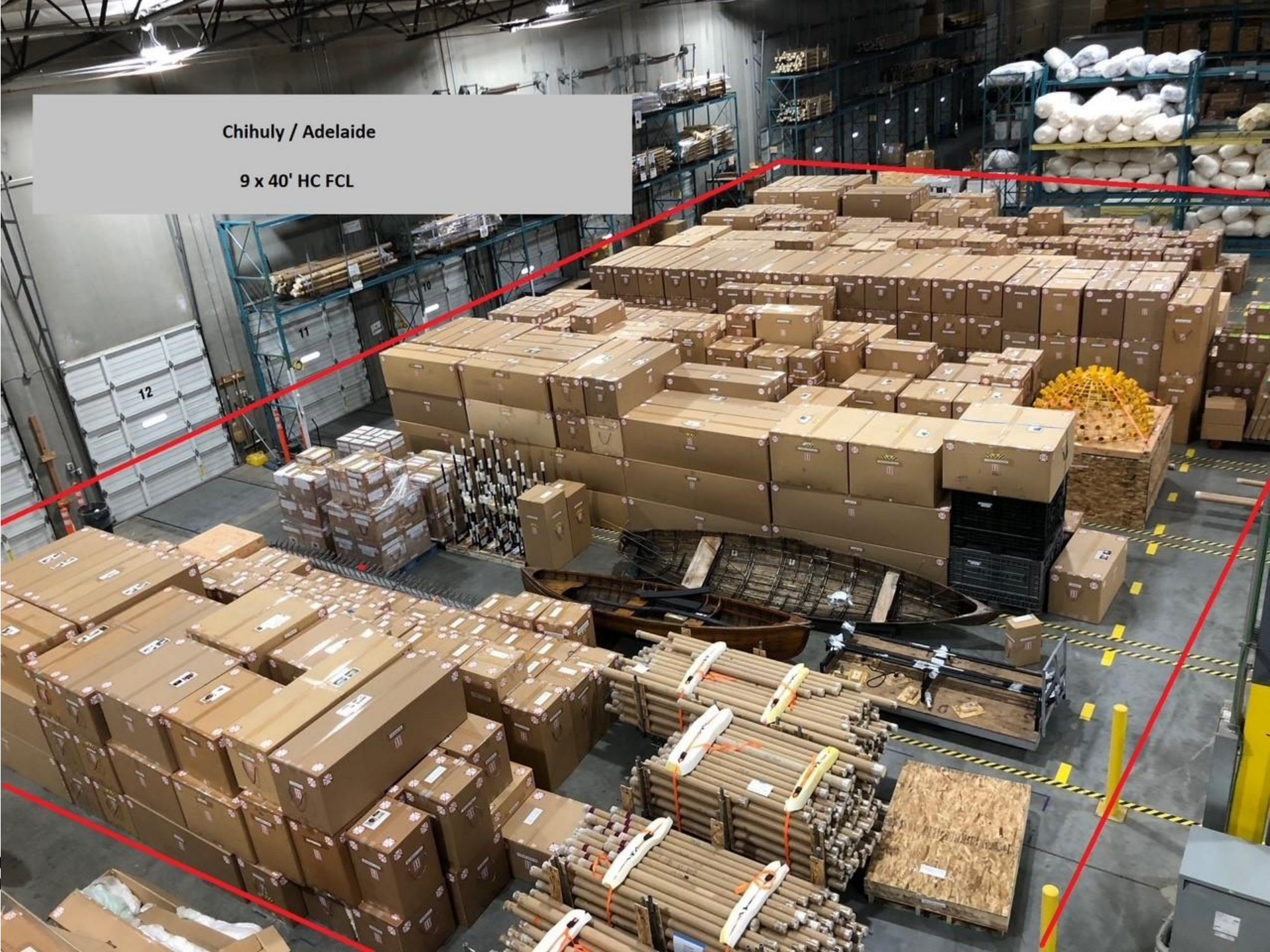
Chihuly Logistics



Government of
South Australia



Botanic Gardens
and State Herbarium



Chihuly / Adelaide

9 x 40' HC FCL









Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Beach Volleyball Facility – Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27)

**Thursday, 18 September
2025**

Board Meeting

Author:

Jennifer Kalionis, Associate
Director City Culture

Public

Purpose of External Presentation

This presentation is for Volleyball South Australia to provide information about their proposal to establish a beach volleyball facility in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27).

Key Questions

Do Board Members have any questions for Volleyball South Australia relating to their proposal to establish a beach volleyball facility in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27)?

- END OF REPORT -



Volleyball
South Australia

BONYTHON PARK
TULYA WARDLI
PARK 27



CITY OF
ADELAIDE

Kadaltilla
Adelaide Park Lands Authority

VOLLEYBALL IN SA

Volleyball SA is a not-for-profit state sporting organisation

We are the peak body for all disciplines of volleyball in South Australia – Beach, Indoor and Para

For the first time in history, Australia is about to host the Beach Volleyball World Championships in November 2025, in Adelaide (The Drive & Pinky Flat)

35,000 people play volleyball in South Australia each year

Volleyball is one of the most gender-equal sports globally – reflected in our 50/50 male/female participation

Programs span from junior development, social participation, elite pathways and para-volleyball



South Australian Chris McHugh, 2x Commonwealth Games Gold Medalist (Left)

PURPOSE OF PRESENTATION

We are seeking Kadaltilla's endorsement of the proposal to relocate Adelaide City Beach to Bonython Park/Park 27, transforming an under-utilised area into a vibrant, accessible community sports and recreation hub.



BACKGROUND

Volleyball SA leased the Adelaide City Beach location (corner Frome and Pirie St) from 2001 until its closure in 2022.

We have since been looking for a replacement.

During lease negotiations, in May 2021, the City of Adelaide Council conditionally approved Bonython Park as a suitable site for VSA's Beach Volleyball City Beach relocation. The conditions were obtaining sufficient funding for the project.

Following the election of a new Council in 2022, the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing requested that Volleyball SA seek renewed Council approval for the project.

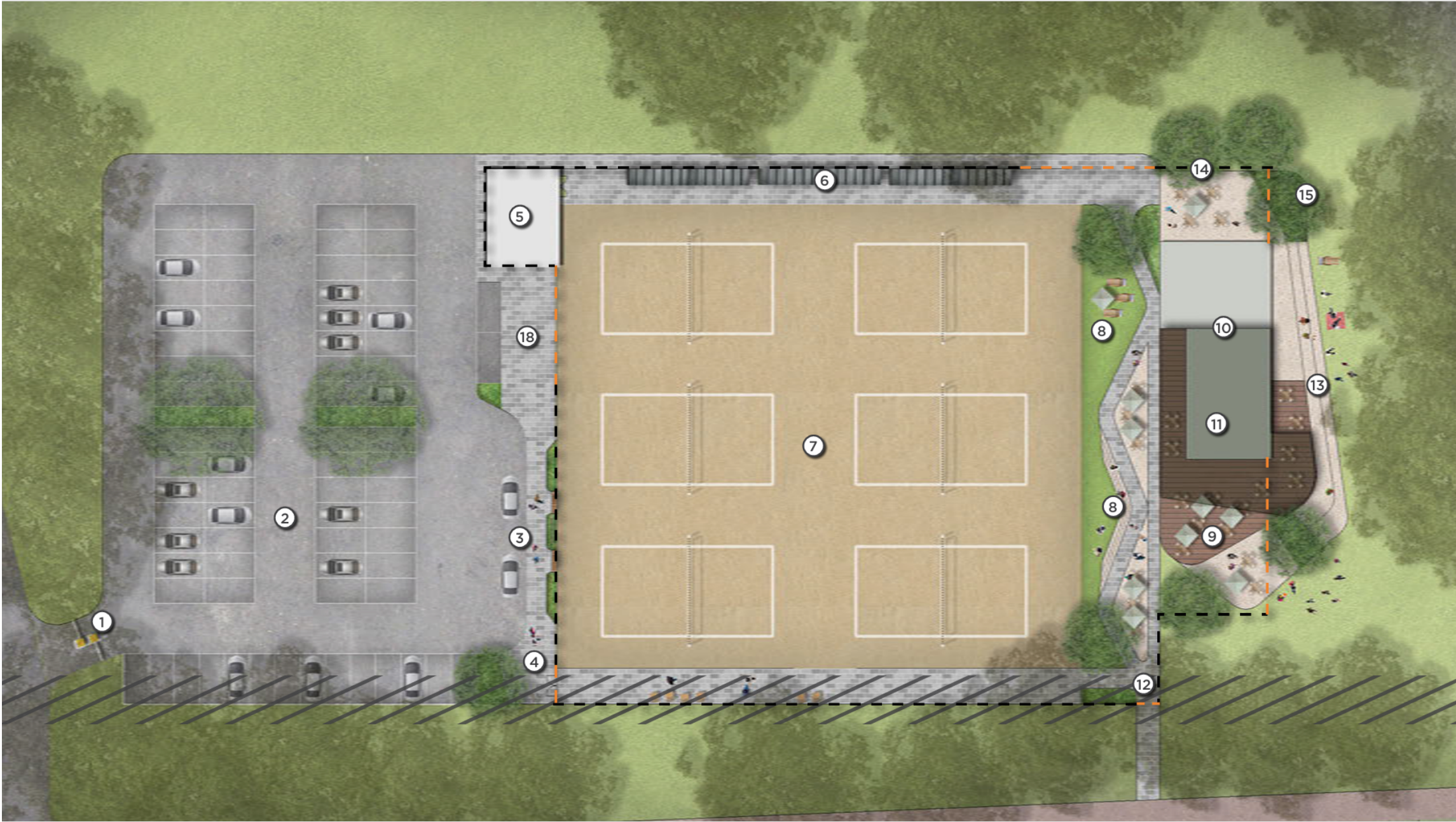
Before its closure, Adelaide City Beach welcomed 1,000+ weekly participants - a thriving community we aim to rebuild and grow.

MASTERPLAN VERSION 1

In 2022, we presented our original master plan featuring six international-sized beach volleyball courts, a venue manager’s office (1–2 staff), a café serving both the public and venue users, and a terrace for premium viewing.

LEGEND

- 1. Vehicle entrance to car park with boom gate for traffic management
- 2. Car park (approx 75 car spaces)
- 3. Coach/ drop off area
- 4. Entrance from carpark
- 5. Maintenance shed
- 6. Covered tiered grandstand
- 7. 6 x National Standard Beach Volleyball Courts
- 8. Tiered seating & lawn space
- 9. Decking with outdoor dining & seating
- 10. Volleyball SA Building (refer next page for detail)
- 11. Rooftop terrace for events
- 12. Main entrance
- 13. Terraced seating
- 14. Visually permeable fencing with retractable gates
- 15. New landscaping and trees

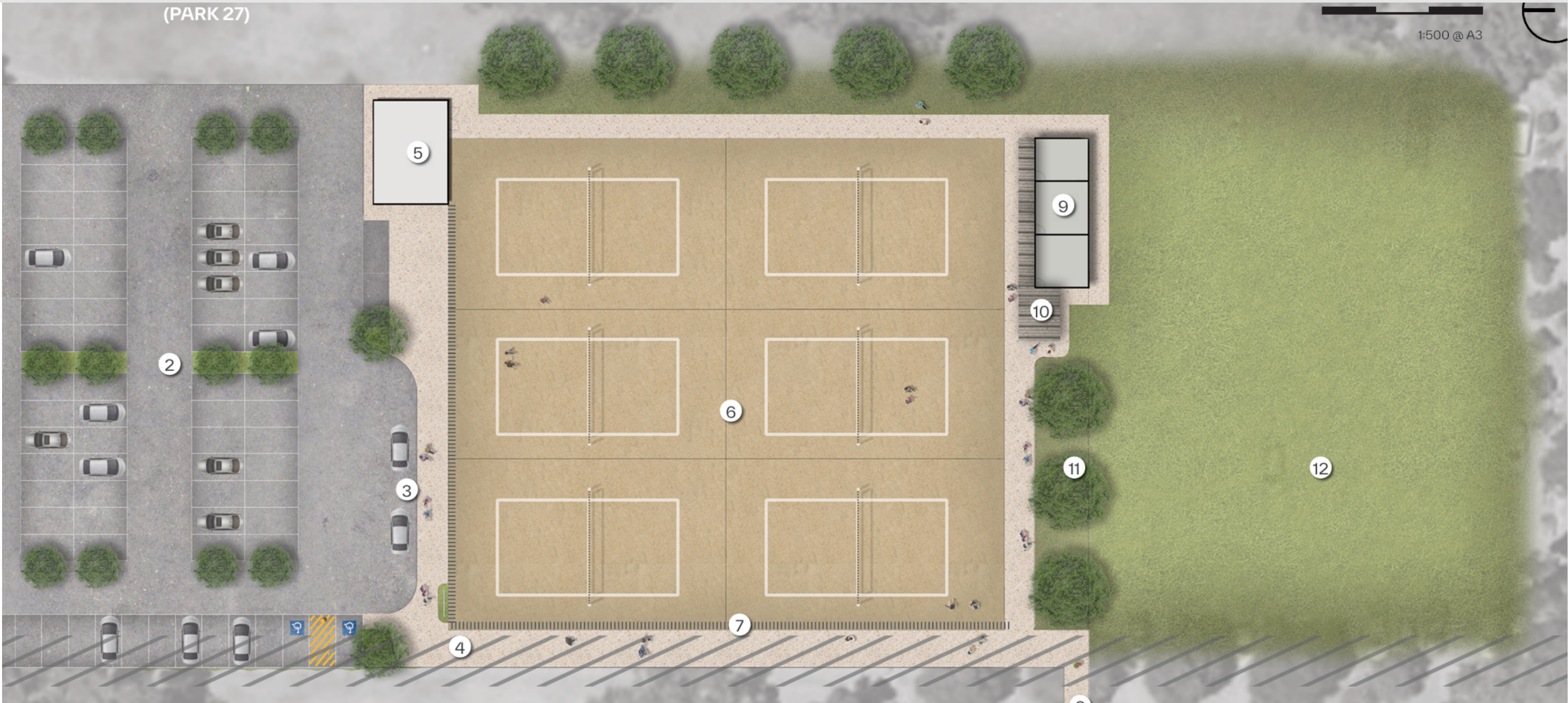


MASTERPLAN VERSION 2

The revised masterplan now features a scaled back built form, from 488sqm of total proposed floor space, to 70sqm.
From 340 existing car parks to 70 car parks.

Page 67

- 1. Vehicle entrance to car park with boom gate for traffic management
- 2. Car park (approx 70 car spaces with DDA compliant spaces)
- 3. Coach pick up drop off area
- 4. Entrance from carpark
- 5. Maintenance shed and storage
- 6. 6 x National Standard Beach Volleyball Courts
- 7. Ball containment netting to Port Road and carpark (3.0-3.6m high)
- 8. Pedestrian path connection to Livestrong Pathway and Port Road
- 9. Toilet and changerooms facilities including ambulant amenities
- 10. 4x4m undercover area for VSA staff and players during competition (power provision from external wall of building)
- 11. New tree planting
- 12. Remediation of existing asphalt to lawn (return to Park Lands area)



OPPORTUNITIES

Integrate the facility into the fabric of the parklands by reflecting the existing character and creating an interface with the wider park.

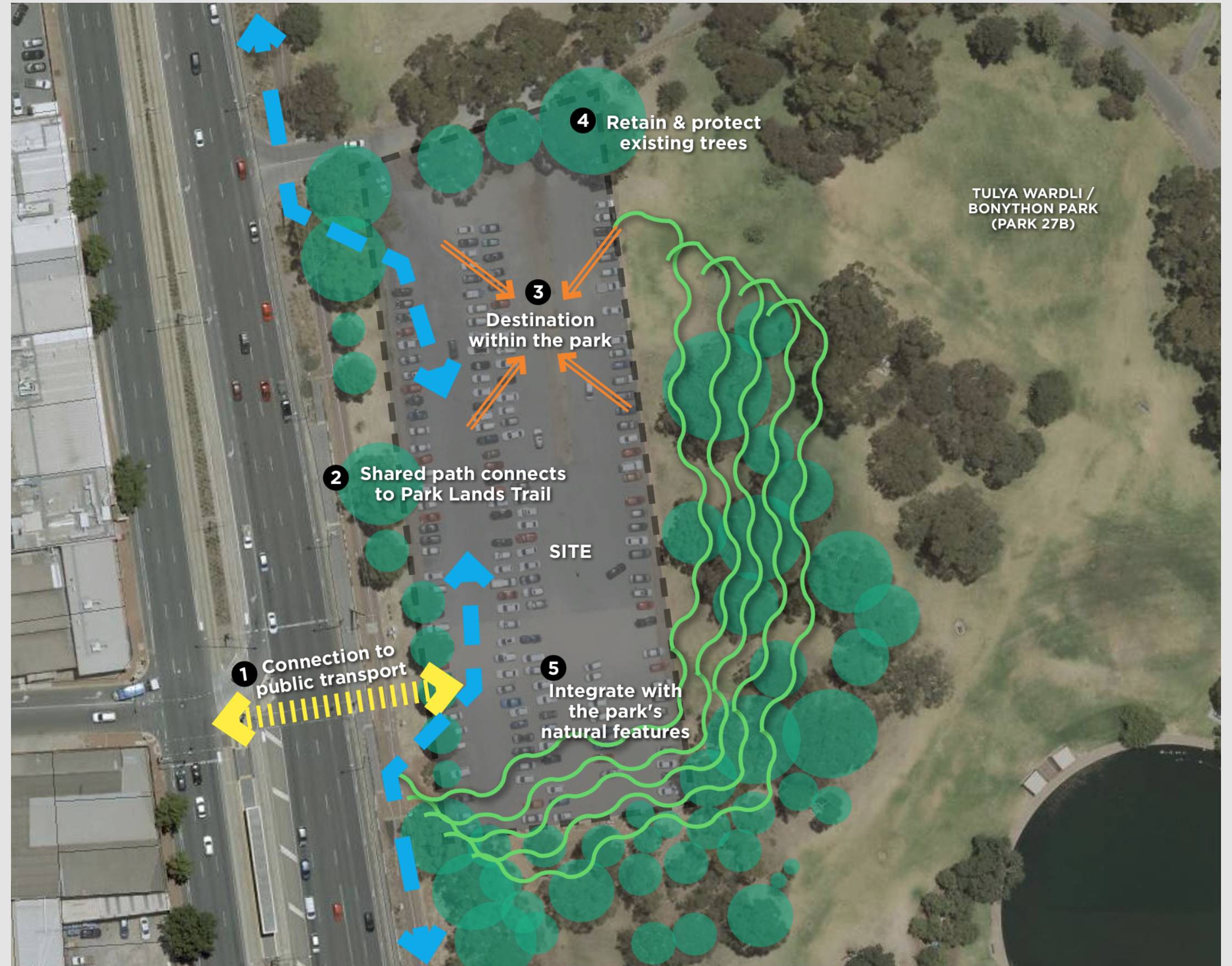
Retain trees

Create strong connections to adjacent public transport

Create a destination for the public as well as those playing Beach Volleyball and other activity/sports

Support connection between new suburb (Southwark), new Women's and Children's Hospital, Golf Course and public transport

Site provides ample room for required facilities with 1/3 of the site proposed to return to Park Lands/green space



THE SITE

The site is currently bitumised hardstand, used informally as a carpark for 340 cars

No vegetation will be disturbed during our project

We have undertaken an engineering site analysis which found:

- No contamination risks in the top 1.0m of soil
- Soil reuse onsite is safe
- Bitumen to be responsibly recycled

Volleyball SA is committed to incorporating natural elements into the design and will work closely with Kadaltilla on landscaping that reflects Kurna connection to land and enhances biodiversity.

The proposed designs include:

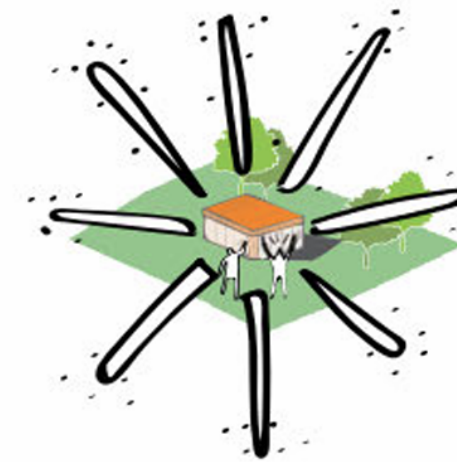
- **Less car parking – from 340 current informal parks to 70 car parks under the new design**
- Lightweight and low visual impact change facilities, designed to accommodate diverse needs
- Shaded areas
- Seating
- Picnic space on the remediated lawn
- Drinking fountains
- Lighting used for evening use and safety
- Defibrillator
- Accessible, open space for public to enjoy outside of sport and recreation times



ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Our designs consider the 6 design principles as found in the Adelaide Park Lands Building Design Guidelines

1
Celebrate the quality, identity and cultural heritage of the Park Lands

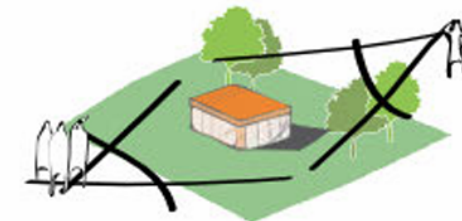


4
Be design exemplars

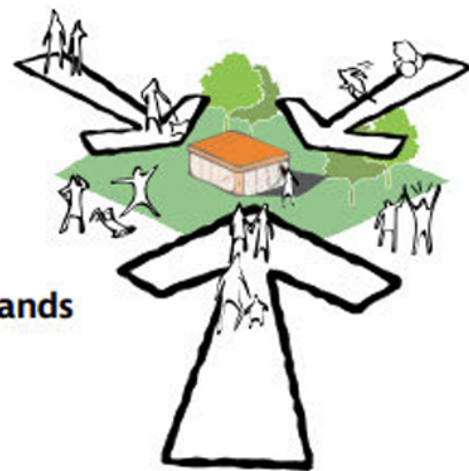


2
Apply a "whole of park" approach

5
Balance the visual impact of built form within the Park Lands



3
Activate the Park Lands



6
Design with sustainability and longevity in mind

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy Towards 2036

Goal 1 — Places and Spaces

Strategies

The Adelaide Park Lands are a place to meet and enjoy diverse experiences

The Adelaide Park Lands will host diverse events, from small to large, in more places more often

The Adelaide Park Lands are Adelaide's hub for sport and recreation

New Women's and Children's Hospital Integration

The site will be developed over the next 10 to 15 years and requires integration and connectivity within the wider Bonython Park and Riverbank Precincts.

Community Buildings

Upgrade prioritised buildings within the Adelaide Park Lands to offer purpose-designed, safe and accessible facilities, whilst also providing multi-function spaces for flexible community use.

Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) Master Plan

Deliver a master plan for Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) that provides improvements to the broader Precinct including Kaurna culture, greening, playspaces, connectivity and integration with the New Women's and Children's Hospital.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

OUR ADELAIDE. OUR FUTURE.

City Plan -



A Greener and Cooler City

Environmental sustainability is a cornerstone of City Plan with a focus on increasing green spaces and streets throughout the city and the Adelaide Park Lands supported by water sensitive urban design principles.

VSA will remediate a large part of the site to green space and will collaborate with Kadaltilla on landscaping and designs to ensure environmental sustainability is priority.



Transport Diversity

The City Plan emphasises the importance of a well-connected and efficient transportation network, with a focus on mode shift to active transport and greater transport diversity.

The site's prime location adjacent to a tram stop provides seamless access to the CBD, encouraging public transport use and reducing reliance on private vehicles. The site is also located within a cycling and walking track.



A City of Neighbourhoods

As a city of neighbourhoods, the City Plan will prioritise the enhancement of the many individual identities and places within the broader city fabric and embed place-based objectives for growth.

We will transform an under-utilised, hard stand site to a vibrant, inclusive place for all.



Housing Diversity for a Growing Population

The City Plan supports diversity in housing options, neighbourhood design and will cater to a range of needs and demographics including the missing middle of housing.

We will provide social and community infrastructure in the western part of the city and provide quality open space, recreation and sporting facilities

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT



OUR ADELAIDE. OUR FUTURE.

City Plan -

Strategy 2 – Open Space at Your Doorstep

- 2.8 Facilitate the provision of a diverse range of local open spaces to support our growing population, including through additional public open space and re-programming of open space in the Adelaide Park Lands (SPP 2.13).

Strategy 3 – Strengthening the City Spine

- 3.6 Facilitate community access to a broad range of convenient and affordable accommodation, services, employment and social opportunities with ease of access to the city spine (SPP2.1, 9.2 & 9.10).

Strategy 7 – New Housing Models

- 7.6 Lead investment in new social and community infrastructure throughout the city, particularly in the western parts of the city (SPP 6.3).
- 7.9 Advocate for development of healthy neighbourhoods that include diverse housing options, enable access to local shops, community facilities and infrastructure, promote active travel and public transport use and provide quality open space, recreation and sporting facilities (SPP 6.3).

THANK YOU



Volleyball
South Australia



CITY OF
ADELAIDE

Kadaltilla
Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Beach Volleyball Facility – Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27)

Thursday, 18 September 2025

Board Meeting

Author: Jennifer Kalionis
Associate Director City Culture

Public

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to confirm the support of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) for the repurposing of a section of the former netball courts in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) into beach volleyball courts and changeroom facilities. The report describes how a landscape design for several elements in Park 27 will provide an opportunity to enhance the broader park setting.

This matter was previously supported by Kadaltilla and approved by Council in 2021.

Volleyball SA (VSA) has developed an updated City Beach Concept Plan for the site, incorporating feedback to date. The Concept Plan contains six courts, retractable netting and changerooms, and presents an opportunity to deliver on the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy and the CoA's 2024-2028 Strategic Plan by:

- creating an active and welcoming Park Lands urban address
- enabling community-led wellbeing and physical activity opportunities
- remediating an existing hardstand area
- reducing the extent of car parking on Park Lands.

VSA has indicated that the State Government, via the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR), is willing to progress funding discussions but requires confirmation of the City of Adelaide (CoA)'s previous approval.

Recommendation

THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES COUNCIL:

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Notes the previous decision of Council approving the repurposing of a section of the former netball courts in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) into a beach volleyball facility.
2. Reconfirms its support for a section of the former netball courts in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) being repurposed into a beach volleyball facility as per the City Beach Concept Plan for Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) shown in Attachment A as contained in Item 5.3 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 18 September 2025.

Implications

Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036	This project supports multiple strategies and actions, including: 1.8 – ‘Strengthen the role of the Adelaide Park Lands as a regional destination for competitive sport and a variety of active and passive forms of recreation’. 2.11 – ‘Where appropriate, return car parking on the Adelaide Park Lands to a Park Lands Purpose and consider temporary uses of existing car parking to provide greater community benefit.’ Bonython Park Precinct – ‘Investigate the removal of the former netball courts and return to a Park Lands Purpose’.
2023-2028 Strategic Plan	Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority 2023-2028 Strategic Plan Strategic Plan Alignment – Expert Advice 4.1 – Provide advice on plans, projects, and policies for the Adelaide Park Lands.
City of Adelaide Strategies	This project aligns with the City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan; in particular, ‘Enable community-led services which increase wellbeing, social connections and participation in active lifestyles, leisure, recreation and sport’.
Policy	A proposed Park Lands Community Lease Agreement for Volleyball SA (VSA) to occupy the site in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) will be negotiated in accordance with the Adelaide Park Lands Leasing and Licensing Policy.
Consultation	The site in Park 27 was selected in consultation with VSA. Public consultation will occur on the proposed Park Lands Community Lease Agreement.
Resource	This project will be managed within existing resources.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	Site impacts will be considered and managed through the design process to ensure the beach volleyball facility is integrated into the existing landscape of Park 27.
Design	A detailed design for the beach volleyball facility will be presented to Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority and Council.
Opportunities	Enhancing the broader park setting, including Kaurna culture, greening, connectivity, and integration with the beach volleyball facility and the new Women’s and Children’s Hospital, SAPOL Mock Roadway and public art, is an opportunity.
City of Adelaide Budget Allocation	There is no funding requested of City of Adelaide as a result of this proposal.
Capital Infrastructure Projects	This report proposes the establishment of a beach volleyball facility in Park 27 with associated built form, car parking and landscaping.

Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	The assets created through the establishment of the beach volleyball facility will be owned by VSA for the life of the lease agreement.
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	VSA proposes to seek government funding for the entire project, including all site remediation costs.

Discussion

Background

1. City Beach was a four-court beach volleyball facility formerly located on the corner of Pirie Street and Frome Street. Until its closure in 2022, Volleyball SA (VSA) operated the facility for over twenty years through a lease arrangement with the City of Adelaide.
2. On 28 January 2021, Council considered a [Motion on Notice](#) (page 11 of the Minutes) and resolved:

‘That Council:

 1. *Works with Volleyball South Australia to secure a new location for Volleyball within the City of Adelaide.*
 2. *Provides in principle approval, as landlord, for a relocation by Volleyball South Australia to a site within the Park Lands.*
 3. *Seeks to ensure the new location will:*
 - a. *Be visible from a key road.*
 - b. *Be within walking distance to corporate businesses/universities/schools.*
 - c. *Be in an area where music will not disturb neighbours.*
 - d. *Have access to free carparking.*
 - e. *Have the ability to access the area with vehicles to replenish sand/delivery of stock.*
 4. *Requests the Lord Mayor write to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing seeking funding to support a relocation.’*
3. The letter referred to in Part 4 of the 28 January 2021 decision is shown here ([LINK 1](#)).
4. Working with the site criteria agreed by Council and in consultation with VSA, Administration investigated multiple Park Lands sites and concluded that the former netball courts in Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27) was the most suitable site for establishing a new beach volleyball facility.
5. On 22 April 2021, Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) received a [report](#) on this matter (page 4 of the Agenda), and resolved to provide the following advice to Council:

‘That the Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

 1. *Supports a section of the former netball courts in Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) being repurposed into a beach volleyball facility as per the City Beach Site Plan for Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) shown in Attachment A to Item 5.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of the Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 22 April 2021, subject to Volleyball SA receiving sufficient funding from the State Government and further consideration of the existing and proposed amenities to service use of the entire park.*
 2. *Recommends a significant portion of land be returned to greenspace and landscaping integrated with the volleyball facility.’*
6. On 11 May 2021, following presentation of a [report](#) to The Committee (page 10 of the Agenda), Council resolved:

'That Council:

1. *Approves a section of the former netball courts in Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) being repurposed into a beach volleyball facility as per the City Beach Site Plan for Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) shown in Attachment A to Item 10.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Council held on 11 May 2021, subject to:*
 - 1.1. *Volleyball SA receiving sufficient funding to complete the project;*
 - 1.2. *further consideration of consolidating existing and proposed amenities where practical, to service use of the entire park;*
 - 1.3. *a significant portion of the area returned to greenspace; and*
 - 1.4. *landscaping integrated with the beach volleyball facility.*
 2. *Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to Volleyball SA stating Council's intention to enter into direct lease negotiations with them for the enhancement and occupation of the former netball courts in Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) to enable them to seek funding, noting the exceptional circumstances to operate outside of the City of Adelaide Park Lands Leasing and Licensing Policy determined by the decision of Council on 28 January 2021.'*
7. On 12 July 2022 Council considered a report on the Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli Informal Car park and resolved:

'That Council;

1. *Notes the options for the informal carpark in Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27) as listed in paragraph 21 of the discussion section of Item 10.1 of the Agenda for the meeting of the Council held on 12 July 2022.*
 2. *Approves Option A, outlined in Item 10.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Council held on 12 July 2022, to close the informal car park at such time administration commences work on the return of the area to Park Lands or until such time as Volleyball SA develops the site for beach volleyball purposes.*
 3. *Investigate options for design and funding for the return to Park Lands in the Q1 budget review process.*
 4. *Notes that a temporary parking fee will not be implemented in association with the informal commuter carpark in Bonython Park/Tulya Wardli (Park 27).*
8. VSA has indicated that the State Government, via the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing (ORSR), is willing to progress funding discussions however requires confirmation that the City of Adelaide (CoA) will honour the previous approval.

Site Context

9. The former netball courts occupy an area of approximately 7,500sqm and have been used predominantly for free car parking since 1997, with an estimated capacity of 340 vehicles.
10. The site has some constraints, including uneven ground, underground services, and a deteriorating bitumen surface, as shown here ([LINK 2](#)).
11. Since 5 May 2025, SA Water has occupied the site on behalf of the new Women's and Children's (nWCH) Hospital Project.

Beach Volleyball Concept Plan

12. VSA has developed an updated City Beach Concept Plan for the site in Park 27, as shown in **Attachment A**.
13. The Concept Plan contains minimal built form, retractable netting and presents an opportunity to deliver on the Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy and the CoA's 2024-2028 Strategic Plan by:
 - 13.1. creating an active and welcoming urban address to Park 27 with public transport and active transport links
 - 13.2. enabling a community sports association to provide services to support social connections and community participation in physical activity
 - 13.3. remediating a significant portion of existing hardstand area
 - 13.4. reducing the extent of car parking on Park Lands.

14. Site impacts will be considered and managed through the design process to ensure the beach volleyball facility is integrated into the existing landscape of Park 27. A landscape design for several elements in Park 27 will provide an opportunity to enhance the broader park setting, including Kaurna culture, greening, public art, events, connectivity, and integration with the beach volleyball facility and the new Women's and Children's Hospital, Bonython Park Kiosk, SAPOL Mock Roadway, and active transport links, including the Park Lands Trail and Tram.

Next Steps

15. Subject to Kadaltilla and Council confirming support for the repurposing of a section of the former netball courts in Park 27 into a beach volleyball facility, Administration will write to VSA advising so.
16. VSA will finalise the City Beach Concept Plan, incorporating any additional feedback from Kadaltilla and Council, and continue to engage with the State Government regarding funding.
17. When funding for the facility is secured, a draft Park Lands Community Lease Agreement will be presented to Kadaltilla and Council.

Attachments

Attachment A – City Beach Concept Plan – Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27)

- END OF REPORT -



Volleyball South Australia

City Beach Concept Plan

Bonython Park / Tulya Wardli (Park 27)

Site Context



Opportunities



Design Considerations



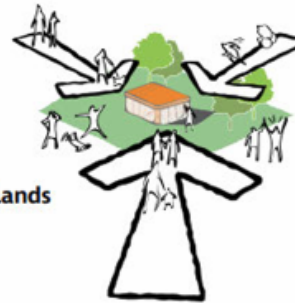
- 1**
Celebrate the quality, identity and cultural heritage of the Park Lands



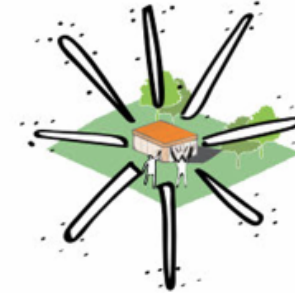
- 2**
Apply a "whole of park" approach



- 3**
Activate the Park Lands



- 4**
Be design exemplars



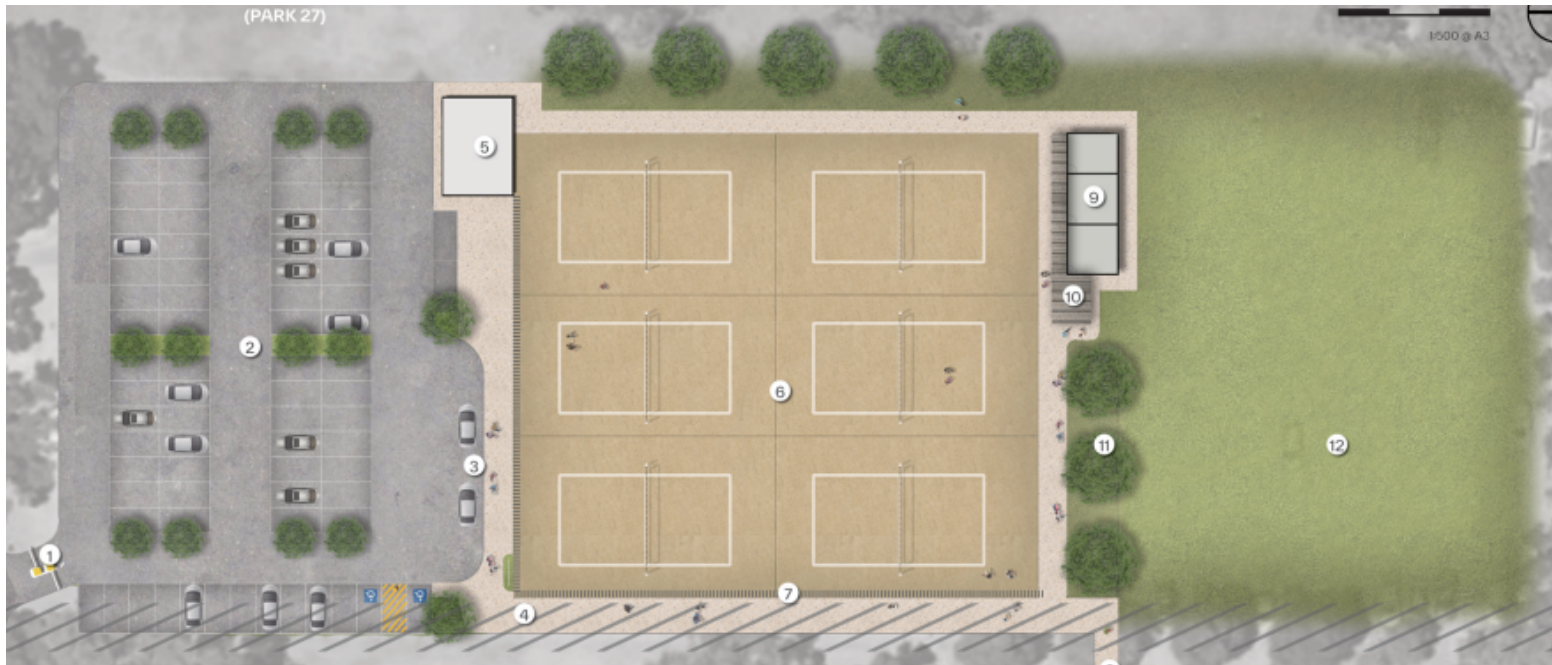
- 5**
Balance the visual impact of built form within the Park Lands



- 6**
Design with sustainability and longevity in mind

Concept Design

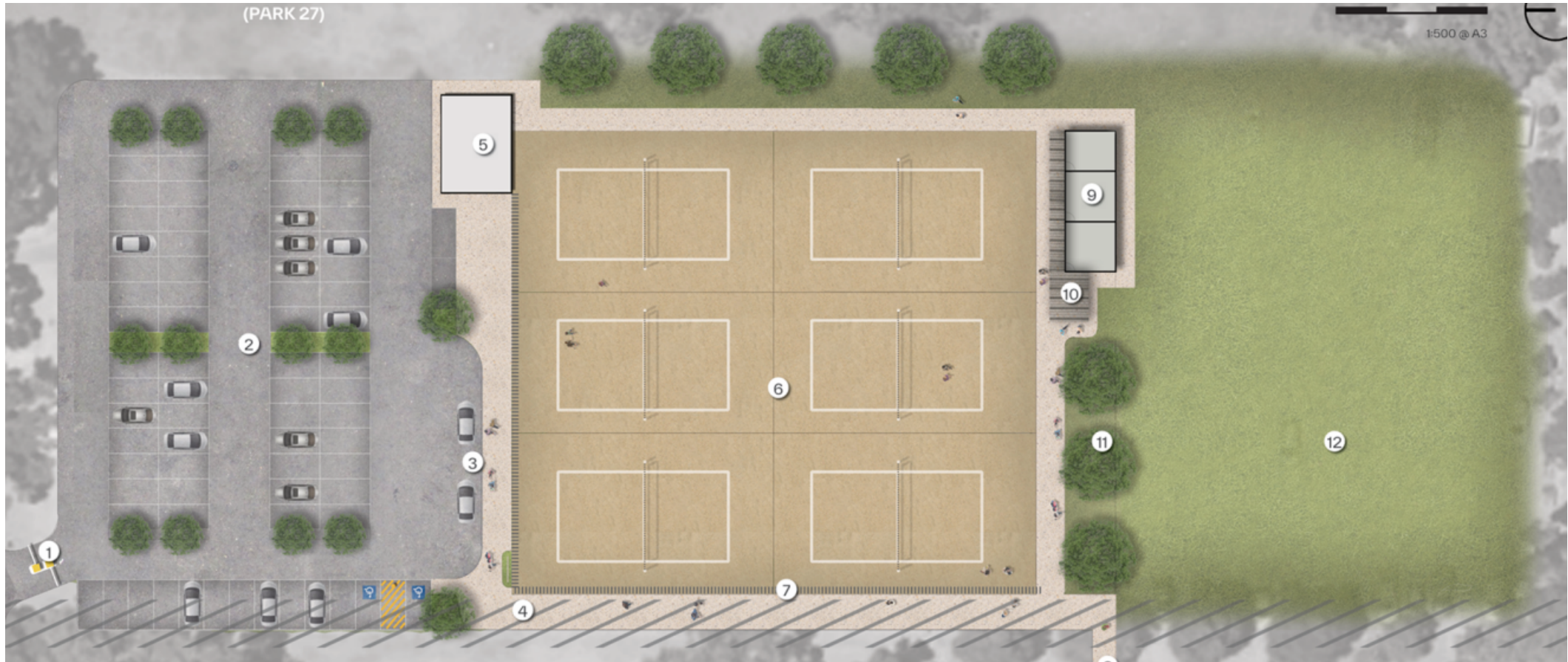
City Beach



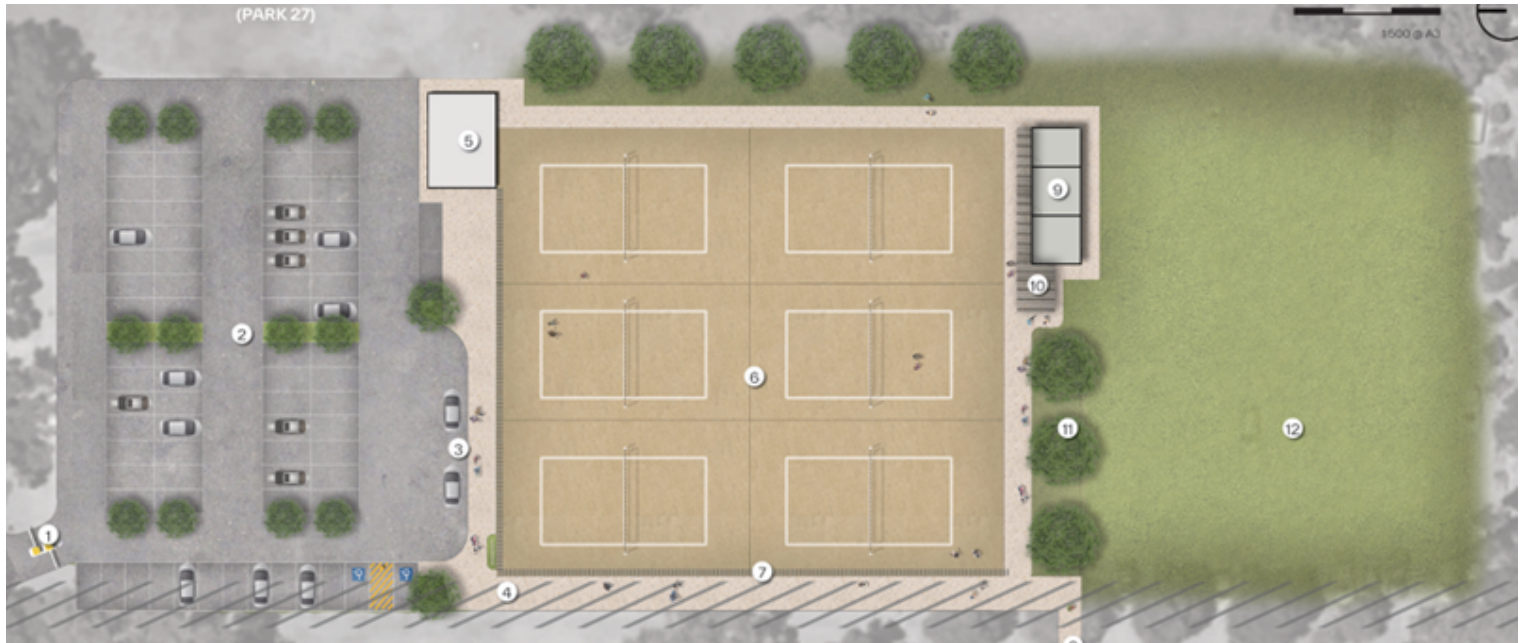
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11. New tree planting
12. Remediation of existing asphalt to lawn (return to Park Lands area)

Concept Design

City Beach



Concept Design City Beach





Adelaide Park Lands Authority

2025 Biodiversity Survey – Exploring Aquatic Fauna of Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens

**Thursday, 18 September 2025
Board Meeting**

Author: Sarah Gilmour, Associate
Director Park Lands, Policy &
Sustainability

Public

Purpose

The purpose of the workshop is to share the results of the 2025 biodiversity monitoring, evaluation and reporting program (2025 biodiversity survey) which focused on aquatic fauna found along Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens. Surveys were undertaken from Port Road to Morphett Street, Pinky Flat and Frome Road to Hackney Road.

The 2025 biodiversity survey was completed between April and June 2025.

Strategic Alignment

The biodiversity program aligns directly with the Kadaltilla Strategic Plan 2023-2028 and Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036. It also supports outcomes of the City of Adelaide's Strategic Plan 2024-2028 and Integrated Climate Strategy 2030, Resilient, Protected, Sustainable.

Background

Monitoring, evaluating, and reporting on biodiversity in the Adelaide Park Lands is vital for understanding ecosystem health and identifying trends. This work supports Kadaltilla's strategic objective (2.2) to regularly review tree canopy, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability.

A comprehensive biodiversity survey was undertaken in 2023/24, providing the first major update on biodiversity values in the Adelaide Park Lands since 2003. It examined Key Biodiversity Areas, native vegetation and revegetation sites, and key aquatic habitats, including Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens, the Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) wetlands, and the G S Kingston Park / Wirrarninhi (Park 23) wetlands.

The survey assessed the following thematic groups:

- Possums
- Bats
- Fish
- Terrestrial vertebrates
- Butterflies
- Native bees
- Insects and arthropods (invertebrates)
- Native woodland and grasslands
- Aquatic vegetation (rivers and wetlands)

The 2023/24 biodiversity survey findings were presented to Kadaltilla in June ([Link 1](#) and [Link 2](#)) and September 2024 ([Link 3](#), [Link 4](#) and [Link 5](#)), published on the new Biodiversity in Adelaide website ([Link 6](#)), and shared with Green Adelaide to support state biodiversity planning and programs.

Key Findings from the Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens Fauna Survey (Attachment A)

Building on this work, the 2025 biodiversity survey updates the biodiversity evidence base for animal species found along a 5-kilometre section of Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens. It establishes transects and Geographical Information System (GIS) point coordinates to be used for future survey work and mapping enabling direct comparisons.

The 2025 field investigation improve understanding of the diversity of fauna species across the riparian corridor through a combination of timed area searches, opportunistic observations, spotlighting and baited camera traps.

The survey recorded several notable observations:

- **Fox activity:** No scats were detected, suggesting very low numbers along the city river corridor despite their urban adaptability.
- **Frogs:** Minimal calling was detected at only one site, reflecting broader national declines and potentially influenced by recent dry conditions.
- **Waterbirds:** Breeding activity was observed for little black cormorants and nankeen night herons, the latter indicating a persistent but uncommon local population.
- **Woodland birds:** Numbers were low, likely due to the dominance of noisy miners, whose overabundance reduces bird diversity and indirectly impacts tree health.
- **Environmental context:** Extremely dry conditions may have suppressed species activity, though the river and riparian zones provided refuge.
- **Survey methods:** Bird surveys were effective, while camera traps proved resource-intensive with limited return under the dry conditions.

The findings highlight the ecological pressures of drought and noisy miner dominance, with recommendations for targeted habitat restoration to improve bird diversity and ecosystem resilience.

The biodiversity survey recommendations include:

1. Ongoing seasonal and long-term surveys with consistent methods to allow future comparison
2. Integrate more acoustic monitoring - effective for birds and bats
3. Continued weed control and pest monitoring
4. Investigate methods to mitigate the abundance and impact of noisy miners
5. Investigate additional tools (DNA sampling) to allow better targeting of surveys and locations
6. Support citizen science activities backed by standardised methods for species identification.

Next Steps

Data from the 2025 biodiversity survey will be published to the Biodiversity in Adelaide website and promoted by social media throughout Nature Festival. Data will be shared with the Biodiversity Database of South Australia (DEW) ([Link 7](#)), the Atlas of Living Australia (hosted by CSIRO), and Green Adelaide. The Atlas of Living Australia ([Link 8](#)) is the Australian node of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility – an international network and data infrastructure aimed at providing open access to data about all types of life on Earth.

The following biodiversity related activities have commenced for 2025/26:

- Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) Management Plan updates for existing KBA1 to KBA 6.
- The creation of a new KBA Management Plan for KBA 7 (Wirrarninthe).
- Development of a Tree Martin Management Plan.
- Environmental DNA testing of water and soil samples.

- Preparation for the April 2026 City Nature Challenge
 - Monitoring of the Adelaide Park Lands iNaturalist project.
-

Key Questions

1. What are the Board Members' views on the results of the aquatic fauna found along the Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens?
 2. Are there specific aspects or thematic groups of biodiversity within the Adelaide Park Lands that Board Members would like to explore in more detail?
-

Data and Supporting Information

Link 1 - [Kadaltilla Board Meeting Thursday, 27 June 2024](#)

Link 2 - [Attachment A - Adelaide Park Lands Biodiversity Survey Summary Report](#)

Link 3 - [Kadaltilla Board Meeting Thursday, 26 September 2024](#)

Link 4 - [Workshop Adelaide Park Lands Biodiversity Digital Reporting Framework](#)

Link 5 - [Adelaide Park Lands Biodiversity Digital Reporting Framework](#)

Link 6 - [Biodiversity in Adelaide website](#)

Link 7 - [Biodiversity Database of South Australia](#)

Link 8 - [Atlas of Living Australia](#)

Attachments

Attachment A – Karrawirra Pari Riparian Fauna Survey Report – Eco Logical Australia

2025 Biodiversity Survey

Exploring Aquatic Fauna of Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens

Park Lands Policy and Sustainability
Jared Wilson, Team Leader Park Lands Planning



Purpose

The purpose of the workshop is to share the results of the 2025 biodiversity monitoring, evaluation and reporting program which focused on aquatic fauna found along Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens.

The 2025 biodiversity survey was completed between April and June 2025.



Key Questions

What are the Board Members' views on the results of the aquatic fauna found along Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens?

Are there specific aspects or thematic groups of biodiversity within the Adelaide Park Lands that Board Members would like to explore in more detail?

Strategic Alignment

Strategy	Outcomes
Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy - Towards 2036	Goal 3 — Natural Systems, Cultural Landscapes and Climate Resilience Strategy 3.10 Continue to survey, monitor and improve our knowledge of Adelaide Park Lands biodiversity. Share data and report findings.
Kadaltilla Strategic Plan 2023-2028	Environmental Performance Initiative 2.2 Regularly review tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability in the Park Lands

Biodiversity Program

A city where nature thrives

Investigate

- Research
- Biodiversity Survey(s)
- Biodiversity monitoring, evaluation & reporting program
- Smart technology
- DNA resources

Integrate

- APLMS / Integrated Climate Strategy
- Key Biodiversity Area Management Plans
- Fire management
- Cultural learning
- Natural systems
- Biocorridors
- Habitat

Collaborate

- Aboriginal Ranger Program
- Species recovery
- Citizen science
- Volunteer program
- Partnerships
- Industry
- Non-Government Organisations
- Education
- Interest groups

Celebrate

- Biohub
- Community events
- Biofestival
- Promotions media
- Education
- Advocacy
- Storytelling
- Printed media

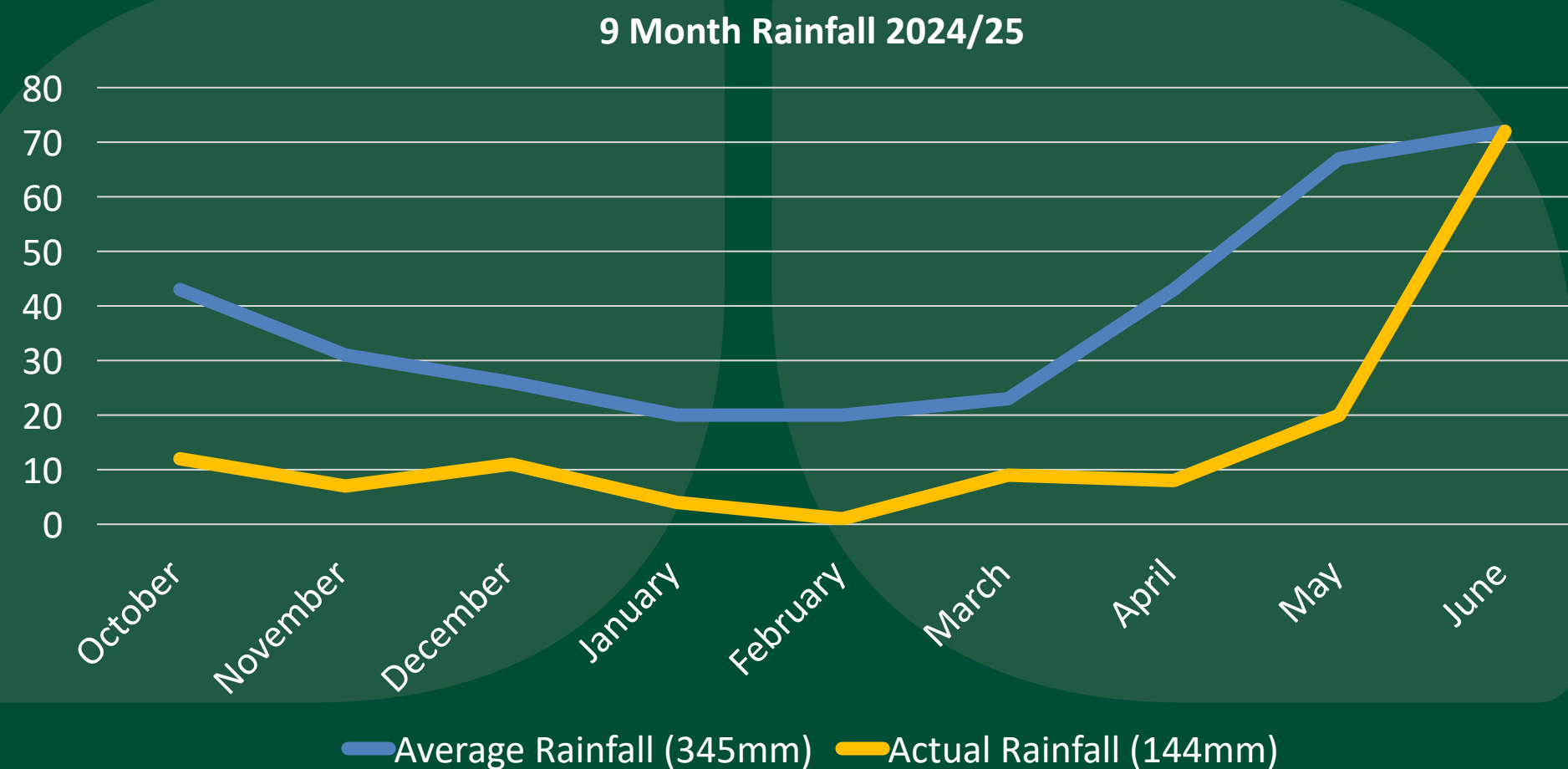
Survey Area – 5km stretch of Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens

- Port Road to Morphett Street, Pinky Flat (North) and Frome Road to Hackney Road



Influencing Factors

- Below average rainfall (41%)
- Small and major events (e.g. Gather Round, Illuminate Adelaide, Parkrun and Mothers Day Classic)
- nWCH pile driving for carpark and general construction
- Torrens Lake boat ramp renewal works
- Pathways, weed control & planting in Mistletoe Park / Tainmuntilla (Park 11) near the City of Adelaide nursery



Methods

1. Timed area surveys
 2. Spot lighting
 3. Baited camera traps
 4. Opportunistic observations
- Extended timeframe April – June 2025
 - Dawn, day and dusk surveys timed after rainfall
 - Dry conditions influenced abundance and diversity records

Landscape Typology:

Karrawirra Pari - River Red Gum vegetation association with exotic species throughout

Baits:

Peanut butter, oats and olive oil in tea strainers on a cork board

Motion sensing cameras that trigger 3 photos in rapid succession



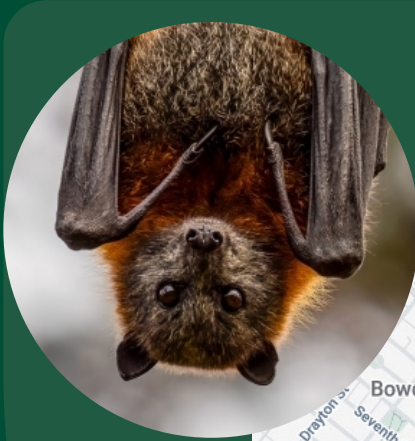
Results

- 54 total fauna species
 - 44 birds
 - 5 mammals
 - 4 reptiles
 - 1 amphibian
-
- Noted species conservation status Grey Headed Flying Fox (Vulnerable) and Brushtail Possum (Rare)
 - Local populations of both in the city
 - Frog numbers were low - single species at a single site
 - Native woodland birds in low numbers

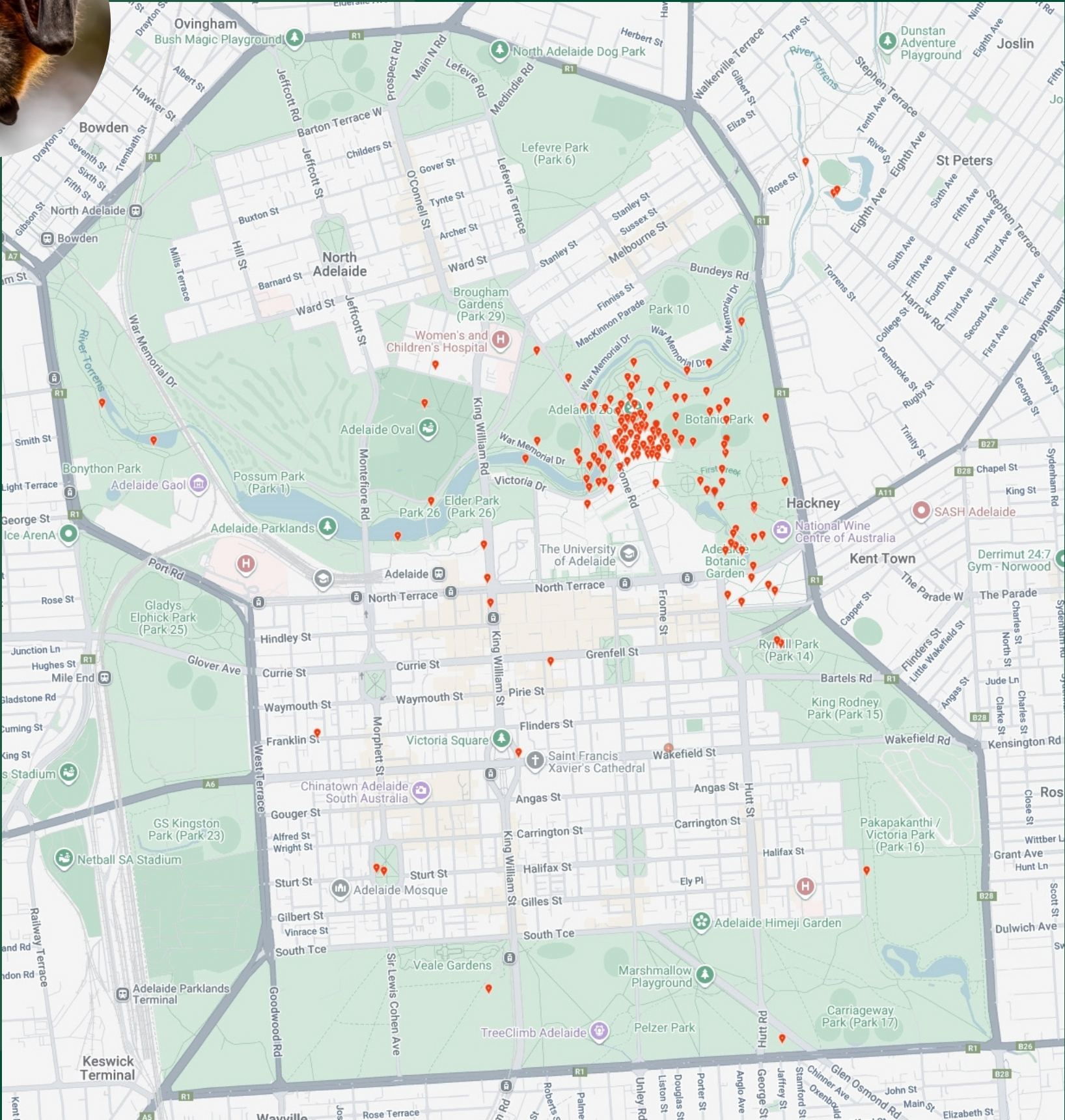


Photo credit -GregSmith.au

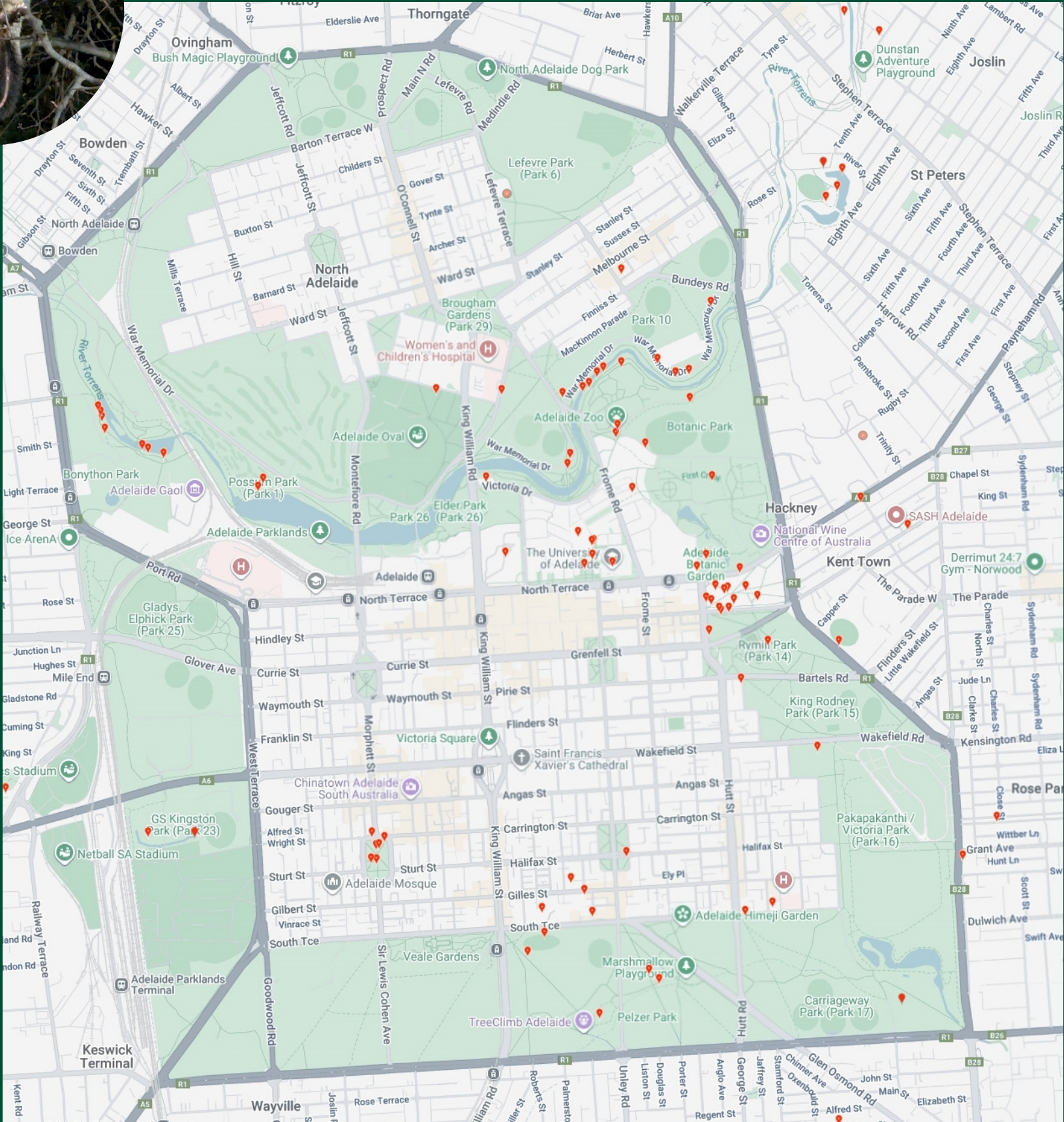
Distribution



Grey Headed Flying Fox - *Maityumaityu*



Brushtail Possum - *Pirlta*



Observations

Common and well-known urban species observed include:

- Black Ducks - *tawanta*
- Corellas
- Magpies - *kurraka*
- Rosellas - *warltu-arri*
- Rainbow lorikeets - *ngakala*
- Pigeons - *kawu*
- Noisy miners
- Seagulls - *yawu*
- Galahs
- Kookaburras - *ngungana*
- Willie Wagtails
- Pelican – *yaltu*
- Sulphur Crested Cockatoos - *kurdaki*
- Swallows - *manimaninya*
- Garden skinks - *yuru*
- Rats - *nungata*
- Mice - *purkupurku*



Observations



Australasian Darter



Little Black Cormorants

Observations

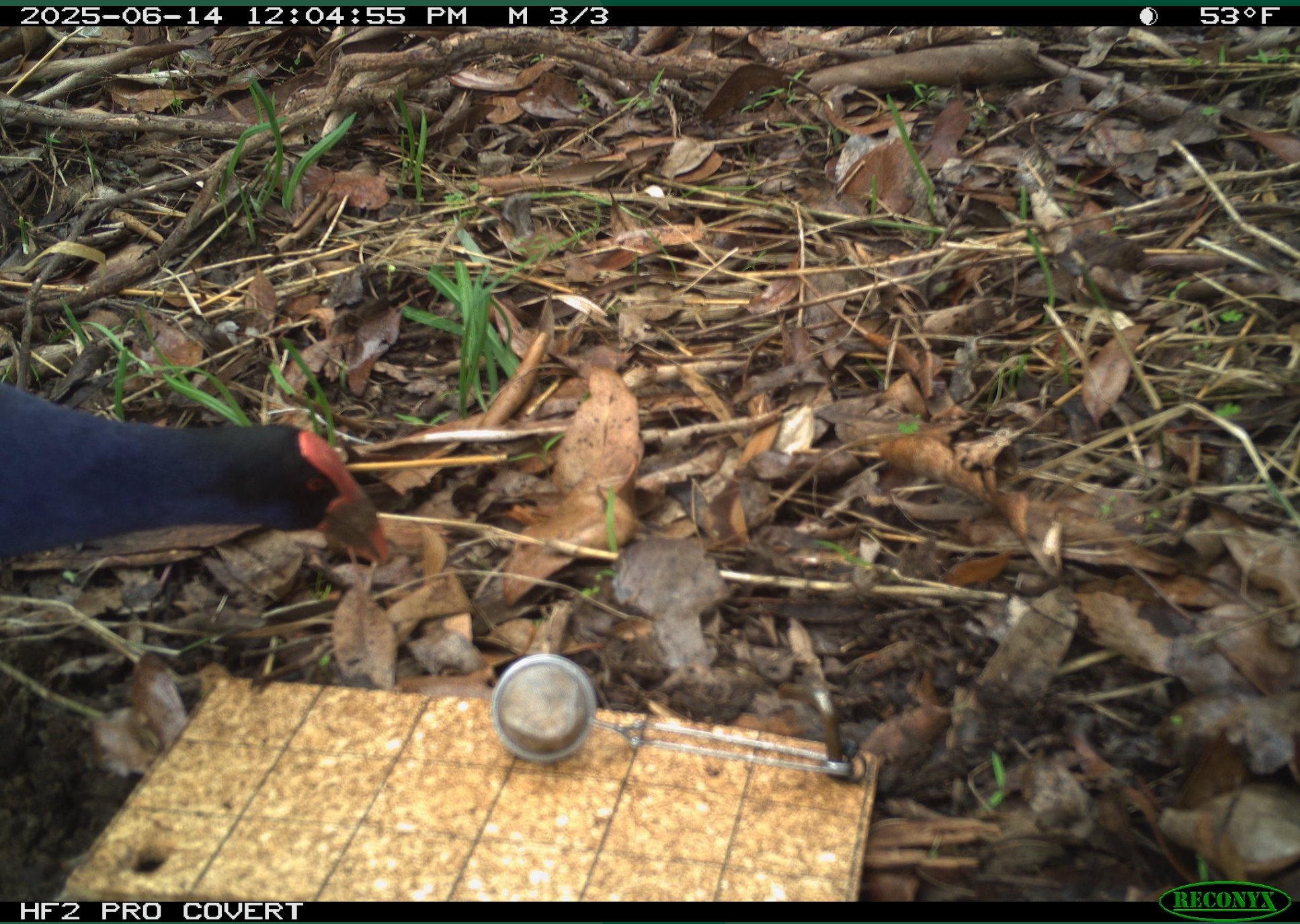


Nankeen Night Heron



Nankeen Night Heron (Juvenile)

Observations



Australasian Swamphen



Magpie

Observations



Eastern Water Skink



Rakali – Iarissa_i



Rakali - palaland

Observations



Rakali observed 27/7/25 – chuditch
iNaturalist south of Frome Road Bridge

Observations



Rat



Mouse

Observations

Page 107



Possum - *Pirlta*



Possum - *Pirlta*

What we didn't see

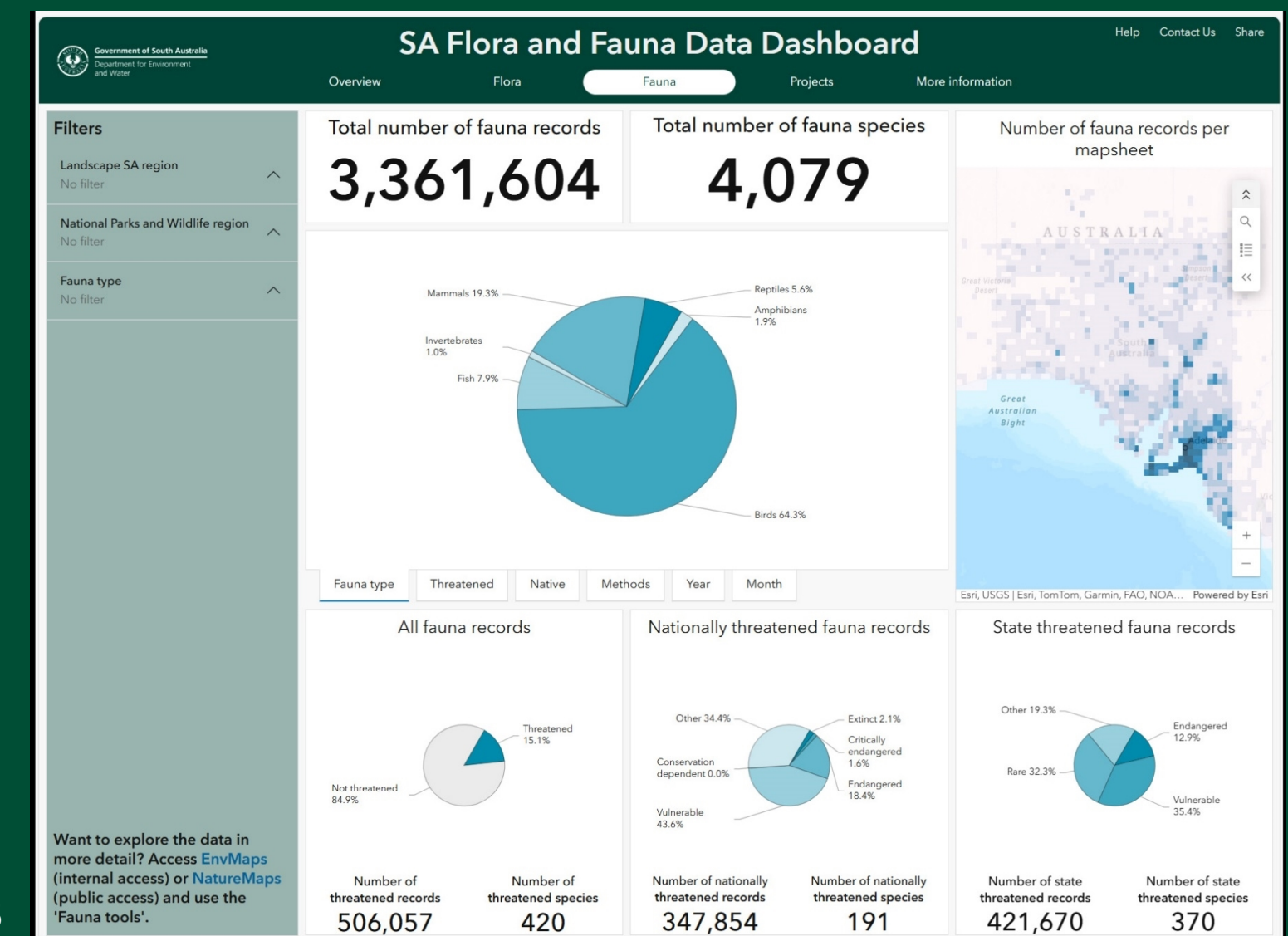
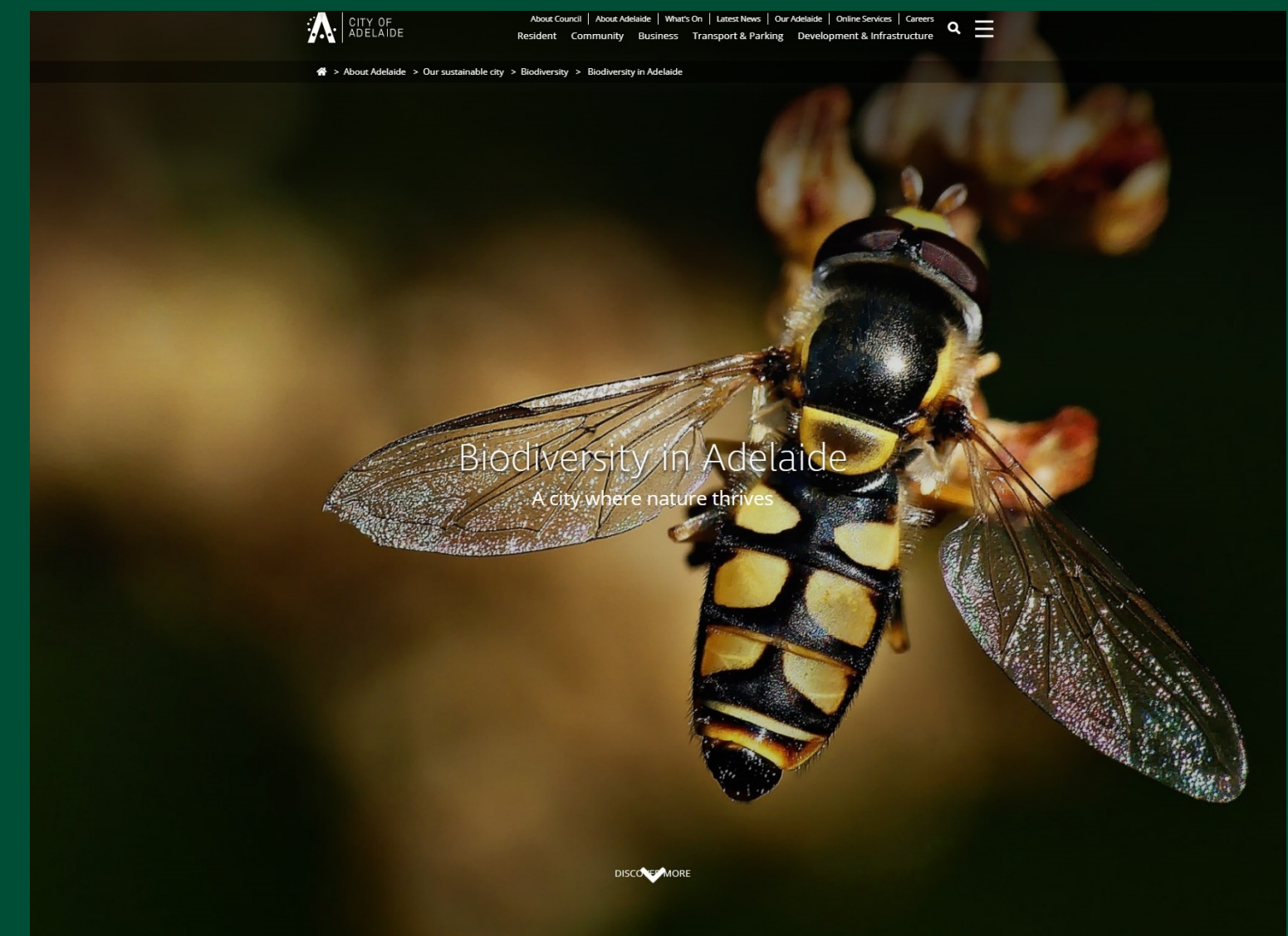


Recommendations

- Ongoing seasonal and long-term surveys with consistent methods to allow future comparison
- Integrate more acoustic monitoring - effective for birds and bats
- Continued weed control and pest monitoring
- Investigate methods to mitigate the abundance and impact of noisy miners
- Investigate additional tools (DNA sampling) to allow better targeting of surveys and locations
- Support citizen science activities backed by standardised methods for species identification

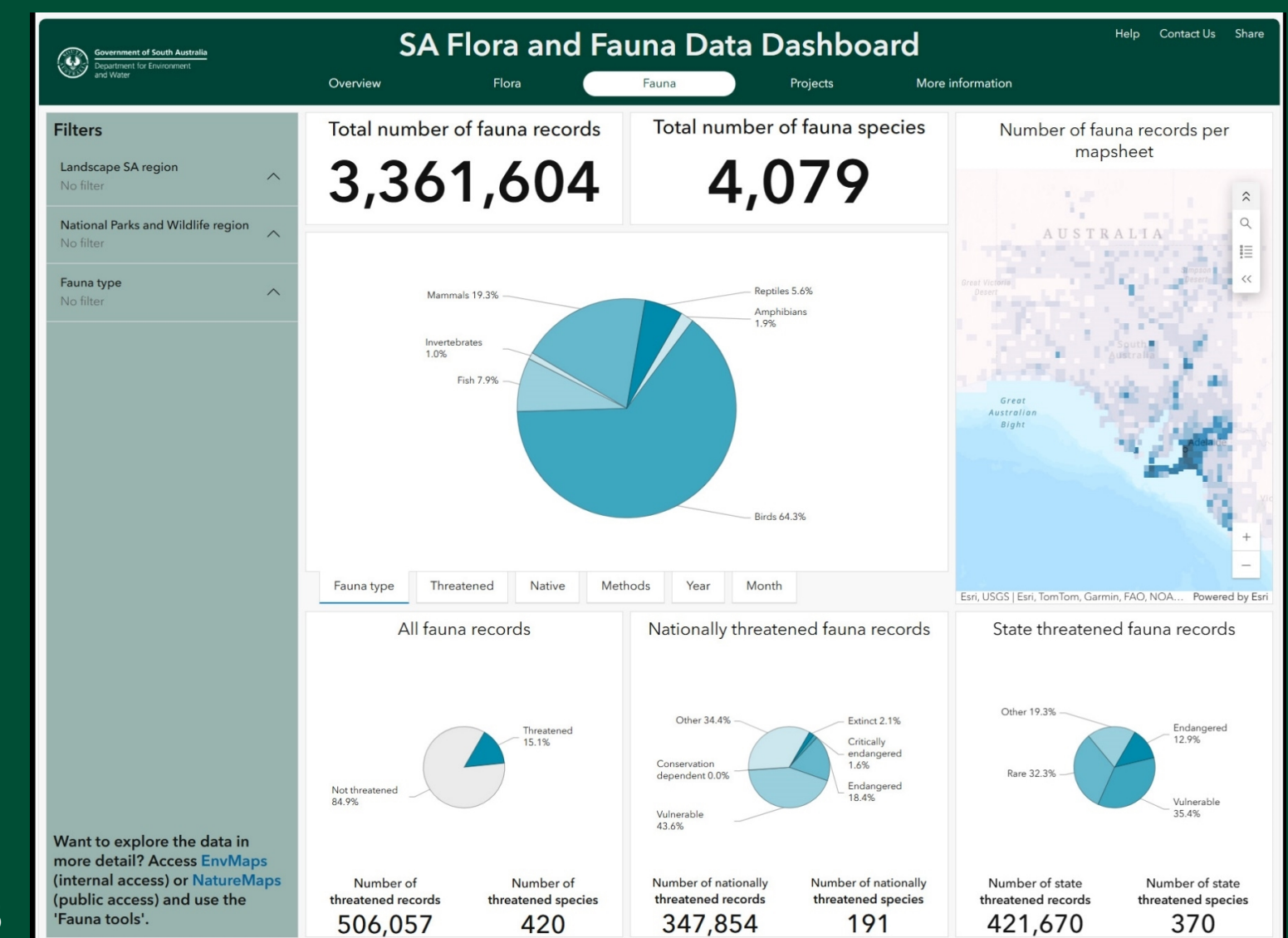
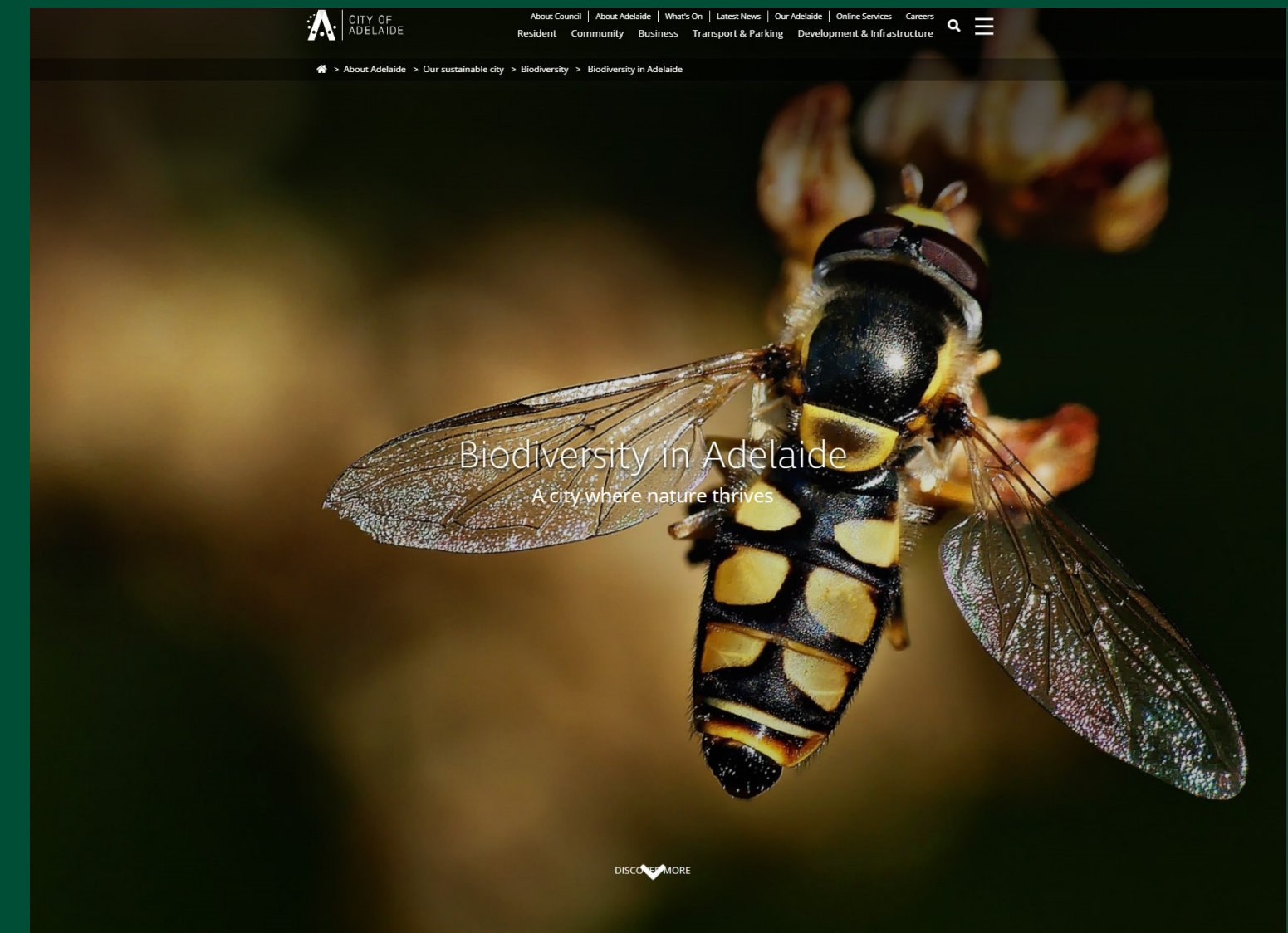
Biodiversity Program 2025/26

- Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) Management Plan Updates #1- #6
- New Key Biodiversity Area #7 Management Plan
- Tree Martin Management Plan
- Spring 2025 environmental DNA testing water and soil samples
- City Nature Challenge April 2026
 - 2025 results 3.3M globally
 - 4,136 Observations, 1,083 Species, 328 People from Greater Adelaide Region
- Adelaide Park Lands iNaturalist project is growing
 - 14,782 Observations
 - 1,307 Species
 - 1,643 People



Next Steps

- 2025 survey information published to the Biodiversity in Adelaide website
- Dataset uploaded to Biodiversity Database of SA and Atlas of Living Australia in September update
- Results shared and promoted during Nature Festival 26 September – 12 October 2025.



Key Questions

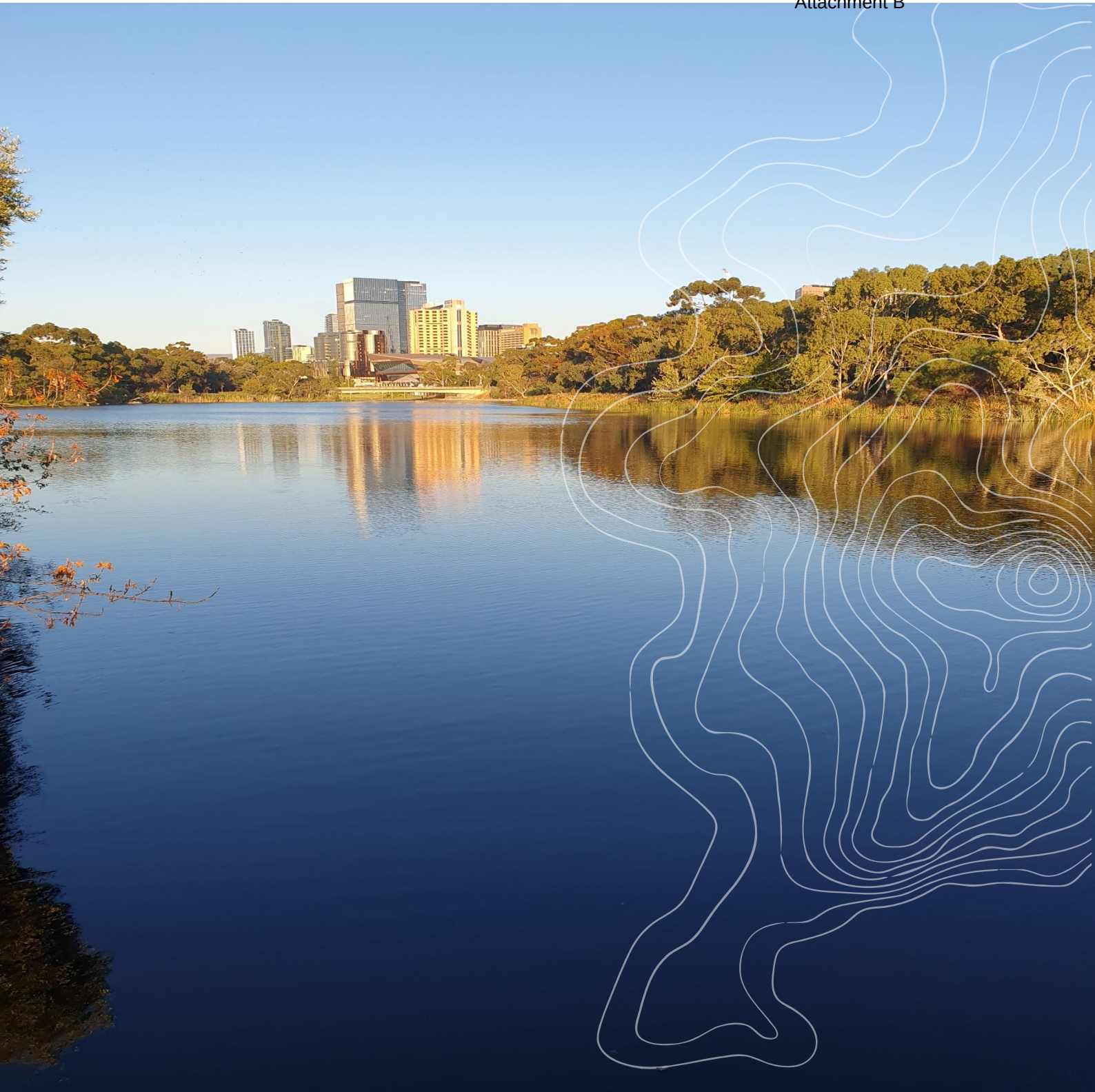
What are the Board Members' views on the results of the aquatic fauna found along Karrawirra Pari / River Torrens?

Are there specific aspects or thematic groups of biodiversity within the Adelaide Park Lands that Board Members would like to explore in more detail?

Ngaityalya (Thanks)

Kadaltilla





Karrawirra Pari Riparian Fauna Survey

City of Adelaide

Document Tracking

Project Name:	Karrawirra Pari Riparian Fauna Survey
Project Number:	24ADL9722
Project Manager:	Emrys Leitch

Version	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Approved by	Status	Date
2	Emrys Leitch and Lauren Heddle	Frank Lemckert	Louise Swann	Final	21/07/2025

This report should be cited as ‘Eco Logical Australia 2025, Karrawirra Pari Riparian Fauna Survey, Prepared for the City of Adelaide.’

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Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Description
BOM	Bureau of Meteorology
DCCEEW	Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy and the Environment
ELA	Eco Logical Australia
PMST	Protected Matters Search Tool
IBRA	The Interim Biogeographic Regionalisation for Australia
EPBC	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>
NPW	<i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972</i>
NVC	Native Vegetation Council
NVIS	Native Vegetation Information System
BDBSA	Biological Database of South Australia
ALA	Atlas of Living Australia
SE	Standard Error
SEB	Significant Environmental Benefit
BOM	Bureau of Meteorology
SPRAT	Species Profile and Threats Database
SA	South Australia
TAS	Timed Area Search
km	Kilometres
OP	Opportunistic

Executive Summary

Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) was commissioned by the City of Adelaide to survey selected riparian areas along a roughly 5 km stretch of Karrawirra Pari (the River Torrens), between Hackney Road and the Port Road–Park Terrace intersection. This study focused on areas with high biodiversity value.

The survey aimed to fill knowledge gaps about riparian vertebrate fauna following a previous survey of the Adelaide Parklands conducted in 2023-24. ELA ecologists carried out the 2025 surveys over three periods between April and June 2025. The initial scoping survey took place on April 9th, 2025, during daylight in section G-H. Additional dawn, daytime, and dusk surveys were conducted on April 22nd and 23rd, timed to follow rainfall over the preceding weekend. A nocturnal survey was also completed on June 13th, after further rainfall in the weeks before. The dry conditions throughout the survey period likely influenced the lower abundance and diversity of fauna recorded. The Study Area (Figure 1) showed generally low weed cover, possibly due to effective management and/or the dry conditions.

In total, 54 fauna species were recorded: 44 birds, 5 mammals, 4 reptiles, and 1 amphibian. Notably, the Vulnerable *Pteropus poliocephalus* (grey-headed flying fox) was observed throughout the site, including populations near Botanic Park adjacent to the Study Area. The *Trichosurus vulpecula* (common brushtail possum), listed as Rare under state legislation, was also found and is considered stable in the greater Adelaide region. Frog numbers were very low, with only one species detected at a single site. Native woodland birds were also recorded in low numbers, likely due to habitat degradation, land clearing, or high populations of aggressive *Manorina melanocephala* (noisy miner) that exclude other bird species.

To better understand these patterns, further, ongoing surveys are recommended—especially in spring when species are more active. Additional work after periods of increased rainfall will help determine how species abundance and diversity respond to changing environmental conditions.

This report also suggests incorporating acoustic recording devices into future monitoring to improve detection of fauna species. Finally, it recommends managing noisy miner populations on site, as their presence may be negatively impacting native woodland bird numbers.

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Methods	3
2.1. Desktop assessment	3
2.2. Field investigation.....	4
2.2.1. Bird surveys	4
2.2.2. Reptile, amphibian and mammal survey	4
2.2.3. Opportunistic flora and fauna sightings.....	7
3. Results	9
3.1. Birds: timed area searches	9
3.2. Fauna transects.....	9
3.1. Camera trapping	9
3.2. Opportunistic records.....	10
4. Discussion	21
5. Recommendations	23
6. References	25

List of Figures

Figure 1. Study Area showing sections A-B, C-D, E-F, G-H.....	2
Figure 2. ELA001	6
Figure 3. ELA004	6
Figure 4. ELA003	6
Figure 5. ELA002	6
Figure 6. ELA005	6
Figure 7. ELA006	6
Figure 10. Ecological features of the Study Area	8
Figure 11. <i>Eulamprus quoyii</i> (eastern water skink).....	17
Figure 12. <i>Hydromys chrysogaster</i> (rakali) habitat.....	17
Figure 13. <i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i> (little black cormorant) nests.....	17
Figure 14. <i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i> (nankeen night heron) juvenile	17
Figure 15. <i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i> (nankeen night heron) adult	17
Figure 16. <i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i> (Australasian darter)	17
Figure 17. Camera ELA001 <i>Rattus</i> sp.	18
Figure 18. Camera ELA001 <i>Porphyrio melanotus</i> (Australasian swamphephen)	18
Figure 19. Camera ELA002 <i>Rattus</i> sp.	18
Figure 20. Camera ELA002 <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> (common brushtail possum)	18
Figure 21. Camera ELA002 <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i> (Australian magpie).....	18
Figure 22. Camera ELA003 <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> (common brushtail possum)	18
Figure 23. Camera ELA003 <i>Mus musculus</i> (house mouse)	19
Figure 24. Camera ELA004 <i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> (common brushtail possum)	19
Figure 25. Camera ELA004 <i>Rattus</i> sp.	19
Figure 26. Camera ELA004 <i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i> (magpie lark)	19
Figure 27. Camera ELA005 <i>Rattus</i> sp.	19

Figure 28. Camera ELA006 *Rattus sp.* 19

Figure 29. Camera ELA006 *Mus musculus* (house mouse) 20

Figure 30. Camera ELA006 *Mus musculus* (house mouse) 20

Figure 31. Camera ELA00 6 *Rattus sp.*..... 20

List of Tables

Table 1: Camera trap location information..... 5

Table 2: Summary of detections by camera traps 9

Table 3: Timed area search locations 11

Table 4: Timed area search results..... 12

Table 5: Opportunistic fauna observations 14

Table 6: Acoustic monitoring strengths and limitations..... 24

List of Appendices

Appendix A Fauna species matrix

1. Introduction

Eco Logical Australia Pty Ltd (ELA) was engaged by the City of Adelaide to conduct a survey of selected riparian areas along an approximately 5 km stretch of Karrawirra Pari (the River Torrens) between Hackney Road and downstream to the Port Road-Park Terrace intersection (the Study Area, Figure 1). The work was intended to fill gaps in knowledge around riparian vertebrate fauna following a 2023/24 survey of the Adelaide Parklands

In Kaurna language the River Torrens is called Karrawirra Pari which means Red Gum Forest River. It is approximately 85 km long and is the main river in Adelaide, flowing down through the Mount Lofty Ranges near Mount Pleasant, to the sea at West Beach. The Urban River Torrens Recovery Project has been managing stormwater management, undertaking weed control, completing revegetation, stabilising riverbanks, reducing litter and pollutants and removing large volumes of *Cyprinus carpio* (European carp). This has assisted in improving ecosystem function and diversity, with regenerated native habitat for flora and fauna, as well as areas for recreational use.

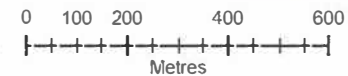
Much of this area has historically been highly degraded following European settlement, but some parts have undergone extensive restoration over the last decades. The survey area was fragmented by the highly modified Torrens Lake region, characterised by extensive lawned areas around Elder Park and extending upstream towards the Adelaide Zoo, hence this area was excluded from surveys and resulted in non-contiguous survey zones.

Fauna surveys completed to date within the Study Area include the most recent 2023/24 survey of the Adelaide Parklands (Taylor et al. 2024). Therefore, the 2025 field investigation focussed on better understanding the diversity of fauna species across the riparian corridor through a combination of timed area searches, opportunistic observations, spotlighting and baited camera traps.



Figure 1: Study Area

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <p>Watercourse</p> <p>Study Area (Section)</p> | <p>MNES recorded within 500m of the Study Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australasian darter black falcon black-chinned honeyeater blue-billed duck Cape Barren goose | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> chestnut-rumped heathwren (Mount Lofty Ranges) common brushtail possum Gilbert's whistler great Ccsted grebe little eagle little egret | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Macquarie River turtle musk duck southern water skink spotless crane white-bellied cuckooshrike white-winged chough |
|--|---|---|--|



Datum/Projection:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 54
Project: 24ADL9722-AL Date: 6/20/2025



eco
logical
AUSTRALIA
A TETRA TECH COMPANY

2. Methods

2.1. Desktop assessment

A desktop assessment was completed prior to the field investigation and included reviews of the following datasets:

- Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy and the Environment (DCCEEW) *Protected Matters Search Tool (PMST) for Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) listed under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)*
- SA Department of Environment and Water (DEW) *NatureMaps online database* (Enviro Data SA 2023)
- DCCEEW *Native Vegetation Information System (NVIS) native vegetation layer* (DCCEEW 2025)
- *Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) online database* (ALA 2025)
- DEW *Biological Database of South Australia (BDBSA)* (DEWb 2025)
- Survey guidelines for Australia's threatened birds: *Guidelines for detecting birds listed as threatened under the EPBC Act* (DCCEEW 2017)
- Pre-European floristic vegetation mapping for the area Information on threatened species recovery priorities including recovery plans, conservation advice listings, SPRAT database etc.
- Taylor et al. 2024. *Wetland Vegetation Mapping and Fauna Surveys of the Adelaide Park Lands*. Report to the City of Adelaide
- City of Adelaide, 2024. Biodiversity Report Summary Report.
- City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee, 2024. *Adelaide Park Lands Biodiversity Survey*
- Department of Environment and Heritage, 2023. *A Biodiversity Survey of Adelaide Park Lands in South Australia*.

2.2. Field investigation

The Study Area for the project (Figure 1) covered four sections of the Karrawirra Pari within the City of Adelaide area. These four sections were selected to represent the areas of expected higher biodiversity due to the presence of native vegetation: Hackney Road to Albert Bridge (Section A-B), Adelaide Oval Footbridge to Montefiore (North/Pinkey Flat Side Only) – (Section C-D), Montefiore Bridge to the Torrens weir (North and South Sides)- (Section E-F) and the Torrens Weir to the Hindmarsh Bridge (Section G-H).

The vegetation communities across the Study Area vary in structural complexity and condition. *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* (river red gum) dominate the tree canopy across most of the Study Area with a range of other, mostly planted, species including *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (sugar gum) as well as exotic species such as *Pinus sp.* (pine) and *Populus sp.* (poplar) occurring in patches. Beneath this canopy, *Phragmites australis* (common reed) forms dense thickets along much of the stream channel with the exception of the lower reaches in section G-H. The ground story though sections C-D and E-F is dominated by introduced tussock grasses (predominantly *Cynodon dactylon* - cooch) which grows to the waterline where *Phragmites australis* is absent. It is less dominant through the lower reaches of section G-H where more active revegetation has taken place, and the upper canopy creates denser shade.

The field investigations were separated into three separate trips to cover bird surveys, reptile, amphibian and mammal surveys. Surveys were conducted by Emrys Leitch (Senior Ecologist- ELA), Dave Armstrong (Ecologist - Subcontractor) and Lauren Heddle (Ecologist – ELA) as follows:

- bird surveys, dawn, daytime and dusk: 22 and 23 April
- reptile, amphibian and mammal surveys: 22 and 23 April
- mammal and frog surveys, nocturnal: 13 June
- camera traps: 13 to 16 June.

2.2.1. Bird surveys

Bird surveys considered all bird species within the Study Area. The methodology for timed area searches used a search of a two-hectare area for a period of 20 minutes, a Birdlife Australia approved method in the *Survey guidelines for threatened birds: Guidelines for detecting birds listed as threatened under the EPBC Act* (DCCEEW 2017). It is effective for detecting many bird species and is the best of the random and systematic sampling methods in detecting target species due to easy application and flexibility of observer movement (DCCEEW 2010). Free movement allows the investigator to more thoroughly explore any noises, indicative signs or favoured habitat features, than other more structured searches such as transects and point counts. The shape of the sample area can be tailored to better target preferred habitat compared with transect methods (DCCEEW 2010). This was particularly important given the narrow, linear nature of the riparian zone that forms the Study Area. Targeted avifauna surveys were undertaken at 14 sites along the four selected sections. Site locations for these are shown in Figure 8.

2.2.2. Reptile, amphibian and mammal survey

Surveys for reptiles were conducted during daylight hours, while amphibians and mammals were undertaken on foot at dawn, dusk and at night across the Study Area. A range of techniques were employed including spotlighting, thermal camera and rock rolling.

Six Reconyx H2P Hyperfire cameras were deployed in key habitat across the Study Area. This included dense *Phragmites australis* reed beds, steeper banked sections and on periodically inundated areas. Table 1 shows the location information for each camera and Figure 2 to Figure 7 show the habitat surrounding the camera.

The cameras were baited with universal bait (peanut butter, oats & olive oil) contained within a spring-loaded tea strainer and attached to a cork reference board. This camera set up was intended to capture a wide range of ground-dwelling fauna species which may be present in the survey area, as such a variety of orientations and focus points were used (i.e. focussed on a range of different habitat features) The cameras were set up to automatically record and take photographs with movement. When triggered by movement, three photographs were taken in rapid succession. The locations of the fauna transect and camera traps are shown in Figure 8.

Table 1: Camera trap location information

Camera	Start date and time	End date and time	Habitat	Photo	Latitude	Longitude
ELA001	13/06/2025 4:00PM	16/06/2025 4:00PM	Steep hill to river. Some grasses but mainly leaf litter on ground. Area mainly open with little shrubs present. Camera under large <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	Figure 2	-34.9096	138.5785
ELA002	13/06/2025 1:30PM	16/06/2025 2:16PM	Steep slope facing river, exposed area no groundcover or shrubs, one large palm behind camera	Figure 5	-34.9121	138.6056
ELA003	13/06/2025 1:55PM	16/06/2025 2:08PM	<i>Acacia paradoxa</i> , under <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> , on a hill slope	Figure 4	-34.9121	138.6083
ELA004	13/06/2025 3:16PM	16/06/2025 2:25PM	Part of embankment comes up into river, small area with slow moving river either side of embankment. Lots of leaf litter, trees and shrubs to hide	Figure 3	-34.9148	138.5811
ELA005	13/06/2025 2:50PM	16/06/2025 3:00PM	On island with dense Kikuyu and Blackberry. Camera placed on Melaleuca with small dug out area within grasses. Weir nearby and water flowing slowly	Figure 6	-34.9174	138.5868
ELA006	13/06/2025 2:27PM	16/06/2025 3:25PM	In thick reed bed. Out of water but on embankment	Figure 7	-34.9186	138.5922



Figure 2. ELA001



Figure 3. ELA004



Figure 4. ELA003



Figure 5: ELA002



Figure 6. ELA005



Figure 7. ELA006

2.2.3. Opportunistic flora and fauna sightings

Opportunistic sightings of fauna (birds, mammals and pests) and flora, including declared weeds, were recorded during the field investigation, to provide a more complete list of the flora and fauna of the Study Area.



Figure 8: Ecological features within the Study Area

- Fauna survey transects
- Watercourse
- Study Area (Section)
- Timed area search point
- Camera trap site
- Opportunistic fauna

0 100 200 400 600
Metres

Datum/Projection:
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 54
Project: 24ADL9722-AL Date: 6/20/2025



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3. Results

3.1. Birds: timed area searches

Fourteen timed area searches (TAS) were conducted across the Study Area, during which 39 bird species were observed. The location and broad habitat description for these sites are shown in Table 3. Table 4 shows the results of each of these searches. The most recorded species was *Gallinula tenebrosa* (dusky moorhen), recorded at 11 of the 14 sites. The highest number of species was detected at site TAS 06, being 17 species. This site was located just downstream of the Adelaide Oval footbridge. None of the species recorded in the timed area searches is listed under State or Commonwealth Legislation.

3.2. Fauna transects

Over 24 km of transects were surveyed across the Study Area, dawn, dusk and daytime observations were made at locations shown in Figure 8. A total of 19 species was recorded (8 birds, 4 reptiles, 6 mammals and 1 amphibian), Table 5 details the records of fauna and includes broad habitat descriptions and location information for each record.

3.1. Camera trapping

Detections by camera traps are summarised in Table 2. The cameras predominantly recorded rats, mice and brush tailed possums. Birds including *Grallina cyanoleuca* (magpie lark) and *Gallinula chloropus* (moorhen) were also recorded. A selection of the photos from the camera traps are shown in Figure 15 to Figure 29.

Table 2: Summary of detections by camera traps

Camera	Habitat	Species recorded
ELA001	Steep hill to river. Some grasses but mainly leaf litter on ground. Area mainly open with little shrubs present. Camera under large <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	<i>Rattus</i> sp. (rat) and <i>Porphyrio melanotus</i> (Australasian swamphen).
ELA002	Steep slope facing river, exposed area no groundcover or shrubs, one large palm behind camera	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> (common brushtail possum), <i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i> (Australian magpie) and <i>Rattus</i> sp.
ELA003	<i>Acacia paradoxa</i> , under <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> , on a hill slope	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> (common brushtail possum) and <i>Mus musculus</i> (house mouse).
ELA004	Part of embankment comes up into river, small area with slow moving river either side of embankment. Lots of leaf litter, trees and shrubs to hide	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> (common brushtail possum) <i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i> (magpie-lark), <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> (moorhen) and <i>Rattus</i> sp.
ELA005	On island with dense Kikuyu and Blackberry. Camera placed on Melaleuca with small dug out area within grasses. Weir nearby and water flowing slowly	<i>Rattus</i> sp.
ELA006	In thick reed bed. Out of water but on embankment	<i>Mus musculus</i> (house mouse).

3.2. Opportunistic records

Opportunistic observations of flora and fauna were recorded across all surveys. Table 5 provides a summary of opportunistic observations recorded during the field investigation. Most commonly observed fauna species was the common brushtail possum, common ringtail possum, eastern water skink and common garden skink. Interestingly, we also observed rakali resting within *Phragmites australis* on the riverbank. This data has been collated including all other records collected throughout these surveys as a species matrix in Appendix A.

Table 3: Timed area search locations

Site No	Section	Photo	Date	Timing	Habitat description	Latitude	Longitude
TAS 1	Section A-B	-	22/04/2025	AM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland with <i>Phragmites australis</i> understorey	-34.910427	138.61184
TAS 2	Section A-B	-	22/04/2025	AM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland with <i>Phragmites australis</i> understorey	-34.912736	138.60838
TAS 3	Section A-B	41	22/04/2025	AM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland. Steep with modified banks	-34.911777	138.60584
TAS 4	Section A-B	3147	22/04/2025	AM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland, weedy understorey down to waterline	-34.913584	138.60476
TAS 5	Section A-B	1316	22/04/2025	AM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland mostly introduced grasses in understorey	-34.911681	138.60784
TAS 6	Section C-D	4026	22/04/2025	AM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland entirely introduced grasses in understorey. Small island with <i>Phragmites australis</i> and <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> just offshore in the Torrens Lake	-34.918691	138.5956
TAS 7	Section E-F	5934	22/04/2025	AM	Narrow strip of <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	-34.918103	138.59115
TAS 8	Section G-H	2719	22/04/2025	PM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland, weedy grasses in understorey down to waterline	-34.915608	138.58289
TAS 9	Section G-H	5757	22/04/2025	PM	Narrow strip of <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Phragmites australis</i> at the waterline	-34.913773	138.58067
TAS 10	Section G-H	3541	22/04/2025	PM	Steep artificial bank with overhanging <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	-34.909922	138.57888
TAS 11	Section G-H	175	22/04/2025	PM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> open woodland	-34.914646	138.58115
TAS 12	Section G-H	3259	23/04/2025	AM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland <i>Phragmites australis</i> understorey	-34.911581	138.579
TAS 13	Section C-D	1735	24/04/2025	PM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understorey	-34.918596	138.59445
TAS 14	Section G-H	5115	23/04/2025	PM	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland <i>Phragmites australis</i> understorey - restricted to southern shoe of Torrens Lake	-34.917678	138.58749

Table 4: Timed area search results

Scientific name	Common name	TAS 1	TAS 2	TAS 3	TAS 4	TAS 5	TAS 6	TAS 7	TAS 8	TAS 9	TAS 10	TAS 11	TAS 12	TAS 13	TAS 14	Total
<i>Acrocephalus australis</i>	reed warbler	1														1
<i>Anas gracilis gracilis</i>	grey teal				1			1		1			1	8		12
<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	black duck	1	2	1			2	3				2	10	2		23
<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	Australian darter			1												1
<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	red wattlebird			1												1
<i>Ardea alba modesta</i>	great egret						1									1
<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	sulphur-crested cockatoo		3						2							5
<i>Cacatua sanguinea gymnopsis</i>	little corella		3									>20				>20
<i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i>	long billed corella								3			4				7
<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	Australian wood duck		16	2			3		4	12						37
<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	silver gull					1	4	2					4			11
<i>Columba livia</i>	feral pigeon										3					3
<i>Corvus mellori</i>	little raven	1					1									2
<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	galah				1											1
<i>Falco longipennis murchisonianus</i>	Australian hobby		1													1
<i>Fulica atra australis</i>	Eurasian coot			1	1		17	7	2	2			19	2		51
<i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i>	dusky moorhen	2	1	1			1	1	4	2	1		13	1		27
<i>Glossopsitta concinna</i>	musk lorikeet	2					2	2	1		2	2	1	3		15
<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	magpie lark		2	1		1	2	1	2	1			1	1		12
<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Australian magpie	1							8	2		13	1			25
<i>Hirundo neoxena neoxena</i>	welcome swallow		4				6	1	6		>10		20	>25		>70
<i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i>	white plumed honeyeater			1	1											2
<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	noisy miner	3	>10	>10		>10	1	3	>10	3	3	3	>10	2		>60
<i>Microcarbo melanoleucos melanoleucos</i>	little pied cormorant			1			5			1			2	6		15
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus australasiae</i>	nankeen night heron				2											2

Scientific name	Common name	TAS 1	TAS 2	TAS 3	TAS 4	TAS 5	TAS 6	TAS 7	TAS 8	TAS 9	TAS 10	TAS 11	TAS 12	TAS 13	TAS 14	Total
<i>Ocyphaps lophotes lophotes</i>	crested pigeon	1		2										2		5
<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	pelican						6									6
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	great cormorant						1	4								5
<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	little black cormorant													15		15
<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>	new holland honeyeater													5		5
<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Adelaide rosella		1	2												3
<i>Platycercus eximius eximius</i>	eastern rosella			2						3						5
<i>Porphyrio melanotus</i>	Australasian swamphen	1	1	3		2	1	2	3		1		8			22
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	grey-headed flying fox	6														6
<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	willie wagtail						1									1
<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian grebe		2				5	2	2				5			16
<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	Australian white ibis		3	2		1			2	6			1			15
<i>Trichoglossus moluccanus moluccanus</i>	rainbow lorikeet	2	2	3				<10	2	3	3	2	1	2		<30
<i>Vanellus miles</i>	masked lapwing									2						2

Table 5: Opportunistic fauna observations

Site	Species name	Common name	Habitat notes	Additional notes	Date	Photo	Latitude	Longitude
OP1	<i>Acrocephalus australis</i>	reed warbler	<i>Phragmites australis</i> on riverbank	Heard	22/04/2025		-34.918735	138.589167
OP2	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> , <i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common brushtail possum, common ringtail possum	In large <i>Eucalyptus</i> <i>Camaldulensis</i>	Scats	21/04/2025		-34.910072	138.611400
OP3	<i>Hydromys chrysogaster</i>	rakali	<i>Phragmites australis</i> on riverbank	Observed in water	21/04/2025	Figure 10	-34.912798	138.610897
OP4	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus cladocalyx</i>	Scat	22/04/2025		-34.917359	138.589416
OP5	<i>*Rattus norvegicus</i>	brown rat	<i>Arundo donax</i> on riverbank, edge of footpath	Recently deceased	22/04/2025		-34.919442	138.591602
OP6	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	grey headed flying fox	Overfly	Scat	22/04/2025		-34.909659	138.578559
OP7	<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	eastern water skink	River edge, minimal native veg		22/04/2025	Figure 9	-34.914040	138.580216
OP8	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	grey headed flying fox	Overfly	X 6	22/04/2025		-34.913179	138.580015
OP10	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> , <i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common brushtail possum, common ringtail possum	Weed dominated <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> woodland	Scats	22/04/2025		-34.915793	138.582238
OP11	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> , <i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common brushtail possum, common ringtail possum	Garden bed with <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> above	Scats	22/04/2025		-34.915770	138.583117
OP12	<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	eastern water skink	Artificial rocky riverbank	On rock wall below shallow weir	22/04/2025		-34.913126	138.580096
OP13	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	In large <i>Eucalyptus cladocalyx</i>	Dray	22/04/2025		-34.909656	138.577781
OP14	<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	little black cormorant	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> over <i>Phragmites australis</i>	At least x5 nests, currently breeding	23/04/2025	Figure 11	-34.918592	138.588139
OP15	<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	nankeen night heron	Water's edge, open area of riverbank surrounded by <i>Phragmites australis</i>	Juvenile night heron, likely breeding occurring	23/04/2025	Figure 12, Figure 13	-34.913003	138.609193
OP16	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	common brushtail possum	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	x2 adult female and juvenile	23/04/2025		-34.911342	138.607456
OP17	<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	kookaburra	Introduced Pine trees	x2	23/04/2025		-34.913038	138.609996
OP18	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	greater cormorant	Overfly Torrens Lake		23/04/2025		-34.918651	138.592208

Site	Species name	Common name	Habitat notes	Additional notes	Date	Photo	Latitude	Longitude
OP19	<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	grey headed flying fox	Overfly	x6	23/04/2025		-34.913025	138.610015
OP20	<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian darter	Dead log in Torrens Lake		23/04/2025	Figure 14	-34.918116	138.590973
OP27	<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	tree martin	Torrens lake	<100	23/04/2025		-34.918327	138.589025
OP28	<i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>	common garden skink	Leaf litter above river channel		23/04/2025		-34.906980	138.614330
OP29	<i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>	common garden skink	Leaf litter above river channel		23/04/2025		-34.909220	138.613410
OP30	<i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>	common garden skink	Leaf litter above river channel		23/04/2025		-34.911820	138.611520
OP31	<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	eastern water skink	Basking on exposed rocks		23/04/2025		-34.909490	138.612540
OP32	<i>Christinus marmoratus</i>	marbled gecko	Leaf litter above river channel		23/04/2025		-34.912170	138.610940
OP33	<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	eastern water skink	Basking on exposed rocks		23/04/2025		-34.912470	138.605040
OP34	<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	eastern water skink	Basking on exposed rocks		23/04/2025		-34.914230	138.580350
OP35	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	Fence of Adelaide Zoo		13/06/2025		-34.912642	138.605523
OP36	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understory	x8	13/06/2025		-34.911772	138.608111
OP37	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understory		13/06/2025		-34.911383	138.607505
OP38	<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	common brushtail possum	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understory	x2 adult female and juvenile	13/06/2025		-34.912155	138.610873
OP39	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understory	x2 adult female and juvenile	13/06/2025		-34.912491	138.605101

Site	Species name	Common name	Habitat notes	Additional notes	Date	Photo	Latitude	Longitude
OP41	<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian darter	Water's edge, open area of riverbank surrounded by <i>Phragmites australis</i>		13/06/2025		-34.915109	138.584965
OP42	<i>Ardea alba modesta</i>	eastern great egret	Water's edge, open area of riverbank surrounded by <i>Phragmites australis</i>		13/06/2025		-34.915156	138.583787
OP43	<i>Platalea regia</i>	royal spoonbill	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understory		13/06/2025		-34.915467	138.583212
OP44	<i>Crinia signifera</i>	common eastern froglet	Back water from main channel	<10	13/06/2025		-34.914798	138.581256
OP45	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understory	x2	13/06/2025		-34.913458	138.579853
OP46	<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	Scattered <i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i> with <i>Cynodon dactylon</i> understory	x2	13/06/2025		-34.914241	138.580004



Figure 9. *Eulamprus quoyii* (eastern water skink)



Figure 10. *Hydromys chrysogaster* (rakali) habitat



Figure 11. *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* (little black cormorant) nests



Figure 12. *Nycticorax caledonicus* (nankeen night heron) juvenile



Figure 13. *Nycticorax caledonicus* (nankeen night heron) adult

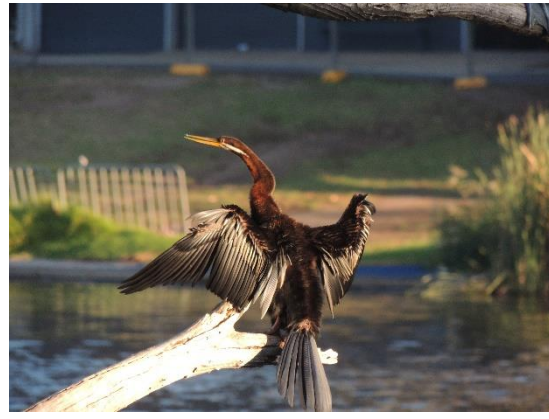


Figure 14. *Anhinga novaehollandiae* (Australasian darter)



Figure 15. Camera ELA001 *Rattus* sp.



Figure 16. Camera ELA001 *Porphyrio melanotus* (Australasian swamphen)



Figure 17. Camera ELA002 *Rattus* sp.



Figure 18. Camera ELA002 *Trichosurus vulpecula* (common brushtail possum)



Figure 19. Camera ELA002 *Gymnorhina tibicen* (Australian magpie)



Figure 20. Camera ELA003 *Trichosurus vulpecula* (common brushtail possum)



Figure 21. Camera ELA003 *Mus musculus* (house mouse)



Figure 22. Camera ELA004 *Trichosurus vulpecula* (common brushtail possum)



Figure 23. Camera ELA004 *Rattus* sp.



Figure 24. Camera ELA004 *Grallina cyanoleuca* (magpie lark)



Figure 25. Camera ELA005 *Rattus* sp.



Figure 26. Camera ELA006 *Rattus* sp.



Figure 27. Camera ELA006 *Mus musculus* (house mouse)



Figure 28. Camera ELA006 *Mus musculus* (house mouse)



Figure 29. Camera ELA00 6 *Rattus* sp.

4. Discussion

The key findings from the survey highlight several notable observations about the fauna within the Study Area:

1. Absence of *Vulpes vulpes* (fox) scats

No fox scats were observed during the survey, which is unusual as foxes commonly leave scats along walking trails as territorial markers. Given foxes' well-known adaptability and prevalence in urban environments, it is unlikely they are entirely absent from the area. More plausibly, their numbers are low along the city section of the riverine corridor.

2. Minimal frog calling activity

Frog calls were detected at only one site within the Study Area. This low calling activity may be influenced by seasonal or environmental factors, including a recent prolonged dry period. Additionally, there has been a documented dramatic decline in frog populations nationally in recent years, largely attributed to the spread of the amphibian chytrid fungus.

3. Waterbird breeding activity

Little black cormorants were observed breeding. While not a threatened species, any colonial breeding site of waterbirds near urban areas holds ecological significance.

Nankeen night herons are probable residents breeding in the area. Although not listed as threatened, they are uncommon across the Adelaide Plains. Notably, these herons were documented in the same location approximately ten years ago by Ecologist Dave Armstrong, suggesting a persistent local population.

4. Low numbers of woodland birds

Woodland birds were scarce, likely due to the dominance of noisy miners. These birds form aggressive groups that harass and exclude more timid species. The open woodland and parkland habitat along the watercourse provide ideal conditions for Noisy Miners, which thrive in fragmented landscapes.

Environmental influences on survey results

The prevailing environmental conditions likely affected survey outcomes. The months preceding the survey experienced abnormally low rainfall, representing one of the driest periods since the Millennium Drought (2001-2009) in the Adelaide region. These dry conditions may have reduced species activity and detectability. However, Karrawirra Pari and its riparian zone likely served as a refuge and consistent water source, potentially mitigating some impacts. The exact extent of this influence remains uncertain.

Effectiveness of survey methods

The surveys detected a wide range of fauna, and bird surveys appeared effective. Camera traps, trialled in the 2025 surveys, offer advantages such as extended deployment with minimal maintenance and cost-effectiveness, especially for nocturnal mammals. However, the substantial time and effort required to set up and analyse the large volume of images must be considered. Given the suboptimal conditions (notably low rainfall), the camera trapping results did not justify the effort in this instance.

Impact of noisy miners on woodland bird diversity and ecosystem health

Noisy miners were commonly encountered throughout the field investigation. Although native, their populations have surged since European colonisation, leading to over-abundance (DCCEEW 2020). They thrive in fragmented and cleared habitats, contrary to most other native birds in the area. Their aggressive behaviour reduces species richness by excluding other birds. Furthermore, noisy miners indirectly harm *Eucalyptus* trees by deterring lerp-eating birds that help control *Psyllid* populations. This defence mechanism allows *Psyllids* to proliferate, causing increased insect damage to *Eucalyptus* foliage (Low 2016; DCCEEW 2020).

The low woodland bird numbers recorded in this survey are likely influenced by the high presence of noisy miners. To support greater bird diversity, research into revegetation and maintenance of existing habitats is recommended to encourage nesting by other species and help them withstand noisy miner aggression (Crates et al. 2019). Enhancing ecosystem function through vegetation restoration that increases structural complexity may provide more effective, long-term benefits for declining small woodland birds (Grey et al. 2011; Lindenmayer et al. 2018; Beggs et al. 2019).

5. Recommendations

1. Seasonal and long-term surveys

Ongoing seasonal surveys are recommended to establish a robust baseline and accurately monitor changes in species diversity and abundance. Future surveys should ideally be conducted in spring to determine whether the relatively low fauna diversity and abundance observed in this study reflect true conditions or are influenced by survey timing and dry environmental conditions. Consistency in survey methods and locations across multiple years will enable comparison over varying environmental factors such as climate, rainfall, and temperature. This would require an ongoing funding commitment for these biodiversity surveys and monitoring to provide comparative data and to understand the effectiveness of management actions by the Council over time.

2. Incorporation of acoustic monitoring

The use of acoustic detectors should be considered as part of the monitoring program, especially to enhance detection of cryptic species. Given the low number of woodland birds recorded during timed area searches, acoustic recording devices can improve detection of a wider diversity of bird species and other fauna. While acoustic monitoring increases species detection, it does not currently provide reliable abundance estimates; therefore, follow-up surveys remain necessary to determine accurate population sizes. Acoustic analysis, however, serves as a valuable tool for ongoing monitoring. A summary of the benefits and constraints of acoustic monitoring are outlined in Table 6.

3. Monitoring of micro bats

Acoustic detectors also offer the opportunity to monitor *Microchiropteran* (micro) bat presence within the Study Area. Since both birds and bats exhibit increased activity during spring, timing surveys and acoustic monitoring accordingly will enhance detection rates. Advances in artificial intelligence and machine learning are expected to facilitate automated species identification, enabling longer-term deployment of monitoring devices with improved efficiency. A summary of the strengths and limitations of acoustic monitoring is provided in Table 6.

4. Weed and pest species monitoring

Ongoing surveillance for introduced plant species is essential, particularly given the potential for weed dispersal through the river system. Although few weed species and low cover were detected during this investigation, the recent dry conditions may have suppressed weed presence. Continued management and monitoring will help ensure early detection and control.

5. Assessment and management of noisy miners

An assessment of noisy miner abundance and their impacts on native fauna is recommended, with a focus on their effects on bird species. Exploration of control methods to mitigate their negative impact should be considered to support native biodiversity.

6. Use of additional technology

The use of smart technology including DNA sampling should be considered as part of any future monitoring. There is the potential to be able to use this to confirm species presence before undertaking targeted surveys and adjust field work programs to maximise detection of target species.

7. Citizen Science

Citizen Science can play a useful role in raising awareness and education around threatened species and the health of the river more broadly. This role can be further enhanced through the use of standard scientific methods for verification.

Summary of Recommendations:

- Repeat survey work in spring at consistent locations.
- Conduct surveys over multiple years to identify trends and environmental influences.
- Integrate acoustic detectors and automated analysis to improve species detection (including birds and bats).
- Implement ongoing monitoring of weed and pest species, potentially aligned with fauna surveys.
- Assess the abundance, impacts, and control options for noisy miners.
- Investigate the use of additional tools such as DNA sampling to allow better targeting of survey effort.
- Ongoing support for Citizen Science work backed by standardised methods for identification of species.

Table 6: Acoustic monitoring strengths and limitations

Strengths	Limitations
Allows autonomous data collection (sound recording) over long time periods.	Requires testing before deployment.
Large data storage capacity.	Large amounts of data can be generated and quickly reach storage capacity of the recording device.
Reduced fieldwork time. Recorders can be deployed throughout the day and scheduled to record for weeks or months at a time.	Only works when sound is a reliable indicator of the target species or environment.
Does not require an expert in the field for ID, ID can be completed via desktop.	Analysis is often only reliable and effective when undertaken by appropriately trained and experienced analysts.
High sampling effort with low technical investment.	May be time-consuming if it is not automated or semi-automated.
Can be used in most environments.	Only detects presence data.
Greater spatial range than traditional point data.	
Not as prone to occlusion as imagery.	
Low impact to wildlife and environment at the study.	
Data can be reanalysed (results reproducible).	
Snapshot in time for future use.	

6. References

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Appendix A Fauna species matrix

Scientific Name	Common Name	OP	ELA001	ELA002	ELA003	ELA004	ELA005	ELA006	TAS 1	TAS 2	TAS 3	TAS 4	TAS 5	TAS 6	TAS 7	TAS 8	TAS 9	TAS 10	TAS 11	TAS 12	TAS 13	TAS 14	Total
<i>Acrocephalus australis</i>	reed warbler	1							1														2
<i>Anas gracilis gracilis</i>	grey teal											1			1		1			1	8		12
<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	black duck								1	2	1			2	3				2	10	2		23
<i>Anhinga novaehollandiae</i>	Australian darter	2									1												3
<i>Anthochaera carunculata</i>	red wattlebird										1												1
<i>Ardea alba modesta</i>	eastern great egret	1												1									2
<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	sulphur-crested cockatoo									3						2							5
<i>Cacatua sanguinea gymnopsis</i>	little corella									3									<20				<20
<i>Cacatua tenuirostris</i>	long billed corella															3			4				7
<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	Australian wood duck									16	2			3		4	12						37
<i>Christinus marmoratus</i>	marbled gecko	1																					1
<i>Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	silver gull												1	4	2					4			11
<i>Columba livia</i>	feral pigeon																	3					3

Scientific Name	Common Name	OP	ELA001	ELA002	ELA003	ELA004	ELA005	ELA006	TAS 1	TAS 2	TAS 3	TAS 4	TAS 5	TAS 6	TAS 7	TAS 8	TAS 9	TAS 10	TAS 11	TAS 12	TAS 13	TAS 14	Total
<i>Corvus mellori</i>	little raven								1					1									2
<i>Crinia signifera</i>	common eastern froglet	<10																					<10
<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	laughing kookaburra	2																					2
<i>Eolophus roseicapilla</i>	galah											1											1
<i>Eulamprus quoyii</i>	eastern water skink	5																					5
<i>Falco longipennis murchisonianus</i>	Australian hobby									1													1
<i>Fulica atra australis</i>	Eurasian coot										1	1		17	7	2	2			19	2		51
<i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i>	dusky moorhen					1			2	1	1			1	1	4	2	1		13	1		28
<i>Glossopsitta concinna</i>	musk lorikeet								2					2	2	1		2	2	1	3		15
<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	magpie lark					1				2	1		1	2	1	2	1			1	1		13
<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Australian magpie			1					1							8	2		13	1			26
<i>Hirundo neoxena neoxena</i>	welcome swallow									4				6	1	6		<10		20	<25		<70
<i>Hydromys chrysogaster</i>	rakali	1																					1
<i>Lampropholis guichenoti</i>	common garden skink	3																					3
<i>Lichenostomus penicillatus</i>	white plumed honeyeater										1	1											2

Scientific Name	Common Name	OP	ELA001	ELA002	ELA003	ELA004	ELA005	ELA006	TAS 1	TAS 2	TAS 3	TAS 4	TAS 5	TAS 6	TAS 7	TAS 8	TAS 9	TAS 10	TAS 11	TAS 12	TAS 13	TAS 14	Total
<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	noisy miner								3	<10	<10		<10	1	3	<10	3	3	3	<10	2		<60
<i>Microcarbo melanoleucos melanoleucos</i>	little pied cormorant										1			5			1			2	6		15
<i>Mus musculus</i>	house mouse				1			1															2
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus australasiae</i>	nankeen night heron	1										2											3
<i>Ocyphaps lophotes lophotes</i>	crested pigeon								1		2										2		5
<i>Pelecanus conspicillatus</i>	pelican													6									6
<i>Petrochelidon nigricans</i>	tree martin	<100																					<100
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	great cormorant	1												1	4								6
<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	little black cormorant	5																			15		20
<i>Phylidonyris novaehollandiae</i>	new holland honeyeater																				5		5
<i>Platalea regia</i>	royal spoonbill	1																					1
<i>Platycercus elegans</i>	Adelaide rosella									1	2												3
<i>Platycercus eximius eximius</i>	eastern rosella										2						3						5
<i>Porphyrio melanotus</i>	Australasian swamphen		1						1	1	3		2	1	2	3		1		8			23

Scientific Name	Common Name	OP	ELA001	ELA002	ELA003	ELA004	ELA005	ELA006	TAS 1	TAS 2	TAS 3	TAS 4	TAS 5	TAS 6	TAS 7	TAS 8	TAS 9	TAS 10	TAS 11	TAS 12	TAS 13	TAS 14	Total
<i>Pteropus poliocephalus</i>	grey-headed flying fox	13						6															19
<i>Pseudocheirus peregrinus</i>	common ringtail possum	23																					23
<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	brown rat	1	1	1		1	1																5
<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	willie wagtail													1									1
<i>Tachybaptus novaehollandiae novaehollandiae</i>	Australasian grebe								2					5	2	2				5			16
<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	Australian white ibis								3	2		1				2	6			1			15
<i>Trichoglossus moluccanus moluccanus</i>	rainbow lorikeet							2	2	3					<10	2	3	3	2	1	2		<30
<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	common brushtail possum	5		1	1	1																	8
<i>Vanellus miles</i>	masked lapwing																2						2



Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects

**Thursday, 18 September 2025
Board Meeting**

Author: Sarah Gilmour,
Associate Director Park Lands,
Policy & Sustainability

Public

Purpose

This report provides an update on implementation of the Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan (the Master Plan), endorsed in June 2024 ([Link 1](#)). The Master Plan established a clear vision and improvement strategies to enhance the park's amenity, accessibility, and biodiversity.

In 2025/26, three priority design packages are being advanced to deliver on these strategies:

1. Tree planting plan – a site wide initiative to increase shade and amenity, expand canopy cover, and strengthen habitat and food sources for native fauna.
2. Community playing field reinstatement – reinstatement of a soccer field temporarily removed to enable construction of the Pakapakanthi wetland system.
3. Pathway – completion of the east–west pathway adjacent Wakefield Road to improve pedestrian and cyclist access, particularly during major event setup and pack-down.

Implementation is to be staged, with procurement and delivery of the playing field to be undertaken in Quarter 2 / Quarter 3 and tree planting scheduled to commence in Quarter 4 (April–May) of 2025/26. Delivery of the pathway will be subject to budget becoming available in 2026/25 or through future City of Adelaide's (CoA) annual business plan and budget processes.

Recommendation

THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES COUNCIL

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Receives the report and presentation (**Attachment A**) as contained in Item 6.1 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 18 September 2025
 2. Notes that implementation of the priority projects will be staged, with procurement and delivery of the community playing field to be undertaken in third and fourth quarter of 2025/26 and tree planting scheduled to commence for the planting season between April–May 2026.
 3. Notes that delivery of the pathway adjacent to Wakefield Road is subject to budget becoming available in 2025/26 or future consideration through the City of Adelaide's annual business plan and budget processes.
-

Implications

Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036	Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036 The staged implementation of the Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan, is a strategic priority in the <i>Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy – Towards 2036</i> (APLMS), to enhance accessibility, amenity, and climate resilience across the park. Key work packages include tree planting to strengthen natural systems, reinstatement of the community playing field to support recreation and wellbeing, and pathway upgrades to improve connections and safe movement. Together, these initiatives advance the APLMS goals of protecting the Adelaide Park Lands character, increasing activation, and improving community access.
2023-2028 Strategic Plan	Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority 2023-2028 Strategic Plan Strategic Plan Alignment – Environmental Performance 2.1 Define, protect, and enhance landscape values and design qualities 2.2 Promote ecologically sustainable initiatives and monitor tree canopy cover, biodiversity, and environmental sustainability and design quality
City of Adelaide Strategies	The delivery of the priority projects support the CoA's Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 and City Plan – Adelaide 2036, by increasing canopy cover, restoring open spaces, and enhancing pedestrian access, thereby contributing to climate resilience, safer movement, and a more liveable city.
Policy	Expanding tree canopy coverage supports the objectives of the CoA's Integrated Climate Strategy 2030 and the Government of South Australia's Urban Greening Strategy for Metropolitan Adelaide 2025–2030.
Consultation	Extensive community consultation informed the preparation of the Master Plan, alongside targeted engagement with stakeholders on priority projects, including the SA Motorsport Board and internal technical specialists. The City of Burnside has expressed support for street tree planting along Fullarton Road, at the boundary of the local government areas.
Resource	Project management for design development is being managed by the Park Lands Planning team, and future capital works will be managed by the Infrastructure team.
Risk / Legal / Legislative	<i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> (EPBC) – Design outcomes improve the existing butterfly conservation zone buffers. <i>South Australian Motorsport Act 1984</i> – engagement with the SA Motorsport Board has occurred in the development of the design packages. Basic search level of the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects is complete.
Design	The design packages have been guided by the principles of Good Design (ODASA) - context, inclusivity, durability, value, performance, and sustainability. The National Heritage Management Plan (NHMP) has been considered, with no anticipated impacts. The proposals include succession planting of poorly located and senescent trees, improving the urban landscape while reducing conflicts between event staging and tree health.
Opportunities	The implementation of the priority projects deliver increased amenity, enhanced climate resilience, improved accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists, and expanded formal recreation opportunities

City of Adelaide Budget Allocation	A total budget of \$434,000 has been allocated to the implementation of key priorities from the endorsed Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan in 2025/26, comprising \$250,000 (capital funding) and \$184,000 from a Government of South Australia Open Space Contribution.
Capital Infrastructure Projects	Community playing field reinstatement - reinstatement of a soccer field temporarily removed to enable construction of the Pakapakanthi wetland system. Pathway - completion of the east–west pathway adjacent Wakefield Road to improve pedestrian and cyclist access, particularly during major event setup and pack-down.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Reinstatement of the community-level playing field (soccer pitch) will require periodic maintenance, including aeration, topdressing, and turf reinforcement every 3–10 years, with a full reconstruction of the rootzone expected every 15–25 years. The concrete footpath has an estimated lifespan of 15–20 years; however, heavy vehicle use during events may reduce its durability.
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Enhanced/upgraded and new features will require corresponding asset and ongoing maintenance budgets including: • Standard operational management costs of the replaced soccer field including turf, irrigation and drainage • Watering for establishment of new tree planting • Standard footpath asset repairs and maintenance.
Other Funding Sources	A \$184,000 Open Space Grant from the Government of South Australia.

Discussion

Purpose

1. This report provides an update on implementation of the Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan (the Master Plan), endorsed in June 2024 ([Link 1](#)). The Master Plan established a clear vision and improvement strategies to enhance the park's amenity, accessibility, and biodiversity.

Background

2. In October 2021, Council requested a report be prepared for Kadaltilla outlining the necessary steps toward development of a new landscaping proposal to achieve enhanced greening - in particular tree canopy for shade across Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16).
3. A report was presented to Kadaltilla on 24 February 2022 ([Link 2](#)) outlining a proposal to develop a Landscape Concept Plan for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16).
4. At its meeting on 15 March 2022, Council noted Kadaltilla's support for the development of a new Landscape Concept Plan for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16). Key considerations included increasing shade, adapting to hotter climates, respecting cultural and social values, protecting remnant habitat, supporting diverse uses, addressing soil contamination, and creating a sustainable, inspiring landscape.
5. In early 2022, Aspect Studios was engaged to assist the City of Adelaide in developing the Master Plan for Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16).
6. A presentation was made to Kadaltilla at its meeting on 27 April 2023 ([Link 3](#)) with an overview of the master planning process and to gain feedback on the draft principles and site context for the draft Master Plan.
7. The draft Master Plan was endorsed by Council on 11 July 2023 for the purposes of public consultation. Consultation was undertaken between July and August 2023.
8. A summary of the consultation was presented to Kadaltilla at its meeting on 28 March 2024 ([Link 4](#)).
9. The Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi Master Plan was endorsed by Kadaltilla at its meeting on 27 June 2024 ([Link 5](#)) and by the Council at its meeting on 9 July 2024 ([Link 6](#)).

Master Plan

10. The Master Plan details a vision for a cooler, greener, more biodiverse, and climate resilient park that positively contributes to people's physical and mental health, provides for programmed and unprogrammed community sports and recreation, attracts and supports diverse events and activities, while celebrating cultural and social values.
11. Informed by the vision, the Master Plan identifies eight strategies that respond to the desire for increased greening, historical interpretation, multiple existing activities and recreational uses and the various open landscapes across Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16).
12. The eight key strategies are:
 - 12.1. Consolidate, Complete and Strengthen the Path Hierarchy
 - 12.2. Strengthen the Neighbourhood Connections
 - 12.3. Reveal the Narrative of Pre and Post-Colonial History
 - 12.4. Reconnect the Grandstand
 - 12.5. Celebrate the Park Lands' Character
 - 12.6. Reveal and Reconnect the Water
 - 12.7. A Park for Year Round Activation
 - 12.8. A Smart Park.
13. The Master Plan includes the following targets:
 - 13.1. Green Infrastructure
 - 13.1.1. Increase tree canopy by 8% to reach the minimum 30% canopy cover for the park. The existing canopy cover within the park is approximately 22%.

13.2. Biodiversity

13.2.1. Measured through the Biodiversity Monitoring Framework, achieve a net increase in biodiversity, habitats, and ecosystems health.

13.2.2. Through landscape changes increase Key Biodiversity Area #1 by 30% (11,735 sqm).

13.3. Hard Stand Reduction

13.3.1. Through the consolidation of path networks achieve an overall reduction of hard stand / impervious surfaces.

Community investment priorities

14. As part of the consultation on the Master Plan undertaken between July and August 2023 ([Link 4](#)), feedback was sought on which initiatives in the draft Master Plan should be prioritised. Based on the consultation feedback, the community's priorities for investment were as follows:

14.1. Improvements to the path network (and cycling infrastructure), including a perimeter pathway, improvements to the Criterium Track as well as a hierarchy, connectivity and disability access of the path network.

14.1.1. The proposed east-west pathway along Wakefield Street improves connectivity and accessibility particularly during major events such as the bp Adelaide Grand Final.

14.2. Increased greening and tree canopy (biodiversity), particularly over existing and new paths, to complement the wetlands and strategic open space areas (understorey planting to support biodiversity values).

14.2.1. A tree planting plan has been prepared, with approximately 500 trees to be progressively planted.

14.2.2. The species to be planted include River Red Gum, South Blue Gum, Norfolk Island Pine, Grey Box, Kurrajong, Dragon Tree, Bottle Tree, Claret Ash, and London Plane.

14.2.3. Planting will occur during the seasonal window of April to May, subject to the availability of tree stock and required CoA and / or volunteer resources.

14.3. Rehabilitation of Botanic Creek and erosion control in creek beds.

14.3.1. Botanic Creek Rehabilitation Project is progressing with works in Rymill Park / Murlawirrapurka (Park 14) completed in 2024/2025 and works in Rundle Park / Kadlitpina (Park 13) and King Rodney Park / Ityamai-itpina (Park 15) to be completed in 2025/26.

14.3.2. The project was the recipient of a \$198,000 Cooler, Greener, Wilder Grant from Green Adelaide.

14.3.3. A design for a new Gross Pollutant Trap is complete to improve water quality entering the Botanic Creek system from City of Burnside.

14.4. Short to medium-term investment in interpretation focused on the environment, Kurna culture and historical values of the Park.

14.4.1. In 2024, a Pakapakanthi Interpretative Trail was developed with interactive markers that cover environmental, Kurna, and historic values of the park, taking visitors on an educational journey through the ecosystem types to discover the natural and constructed landscape, before and after European colonisation.

14.5. Short to medium-term investment in a nature-based play space that is sited to reduce possible conflicts with other Park users (away from the Criterium Track).

14.6. Short to medium-term investment in public toilets designed in context with the Adelaide Park Lands setting.

Master Plan Implementation

15. In 2023/24, \$50,000 was allocated in the City of Adelaide's Annual Business Plan and Budget to deliver Master Plan projects, including the Pakapakanthi Interpretative Trail, which has been completed and features interactive markers highlighting environmental, Kurna, and historic values.

16. The 2024/25 City of Adelaide Annual Business Plan and Budget included \$250,000 for detailed design of priority projects identified within the Master Plan.

- 16.1. A series of internal and external stakeholder workshops were held in early 2025 to determine priority projects for design progression that would achieve masterplan objectives utilising available funding. The three priority projects identified were:
 - 16.1.1. Tree planting plan – a site wide initiative to increase shade and amenity, expand canopy cover, and strengthen habitat and food sources for native fauna.
 - 16.1.2. Community playing field reinstatement – reinstatement of a soccer field temporarily removed to enable construction of the Pakapakanthi wetland system.
 - 16.1.3. Pathway – completion of the east–west pathway adjacent Wakefield Road to improve pedestrian and cyclist access, particularly during major event setup and pack-down.
17. The detailed design for the three priority projects is completed and is summarised in the presentation associated with this report. The full design package is provided in [Link 7](#).

Next Steps

18. Implementation of the priority projects is to be staged, with procurement and delivery of the playing field to be undertaken in Quarter 2 / Quarter 3 and tree planting is scheduled to commence in Quarter 4 (April–May) of 2025/26.
 - 18.1. The CoA received a grant of \$184,000 through the Government of South Australia Open Space Grant Program to be utilised for the delivery of projects which will provide important assets for the local community.
 - 18.2. The grant funding has been allocated in 2025/26 towards the reinstatement of the community playing field including turfing, drainage, and amenities to restore the field as a safe and accessible recreational space for community use.
19. Delivery of the pathway will be subject to budget becoming available in 2025/26 or future years through the City of Adelaide's (CoA) annual business plan and budget processes.

Data and Supporting Information

- Link 1** – [Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi Master Plan](#) (Park 16)
- Link 2** – [Agenda item, Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority meeting, 24 February 2022](#)
- Link 3** – [Agenda item, Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority meeting, 27 April 2023](#)
- Link 4** – [Agenda item, Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority meeting, 28 March 2024](#)
- Link 5** – [Agenda item, Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority meeting, 27 June 2024](#)
- Link 6** – [Agenda item, City Planning, Development and Business Affairs Committee, 2 July 2024](#)
- Link 7** – [Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi \(Park 16\) Detailed Design Projects Package](#)

Attachments

Attachment A – Presentation – Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects

– END OF REPORT –

Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects

To provide an update on implementation of the
Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master
Plan

Park Lands, Policy and Sustainability Program

Matthew Field, Manager Park Lands and Sustainability

Haley Irvine, Senior Park Lands Planner

Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Adelaide acknowledges that we are located on the traditional Country of the Kaurna people of the Adelaide Plains and pays respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We also extend that respect to visitors of other Aboriginal Language Groups and other First Nations.

Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects

Purpose

This report provides an update on implementation of the Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan (the Master Plan), endorsed in June 2024

In 2025/26, three priority design packages are being advanced to deliver priority projects identified through consultation including:

1. Tree planting plan
2. Community playing field reinstatement
3. Pathway

Section 2 – Master Plan

2.4 Master Plan

Master Plan Overview

The Master Plan sets a framework for a series of site responsive interventions with particular emphasis on preserving and enhancing the park's much-loved structured and un-structured recreational activities and tree studded landscape character, while ensuring universal access to the park.

The Master Plan strategies should be implemented as follows.

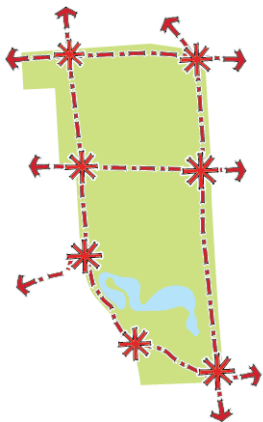
- 01 The path network will be clear and logical, enhancing connectivity, legibility and safety for all users.
- 02 Additional greening will be clustered and open tree studded grass areas enhanced. Preserve the native vegetation and extend the butterfly grassland habitat.
- 03 Upgraded park edges, entry points and activity nodes improve connections to the surrounding neighbourhoods and promote increased year round activation.
- 04 Reveal drainage lines and improve water quality through scaled micro-wetlands. Establish an interpretive hub at the Wetlands for education purposes.
- 05 Acknowledge and celebrate the importance of the River Red Gum and grassy woodland environment and celebrate the creek lines as a valuable resource to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. The park's long standing use for racing and other post-colonial events will also be interpreted.
- 06 Increase the diversity of recreational offerings within the park to maximise offerings, including:
 - All ages play
 - Picnic & BBQ facilities
 - Pop up infrastructure
 - Children's bike/trail.
- 07 Alignment of the criterium track, sports fields and existing amenities will create a strong connection between the grandstand and the park and improve pedestrian safety.
- 08 Showcase Adelaide's green energy credentials through provision of vehicle charging stations, smart technology and potential solar arrays incorporated into new structures.



ADL24018-REP001_VICTORIA PARK / PAKAPAKANTHI (PARK 16)

The Master Plan identifies eight strategies that respond to the desire for increased greening, historical interpretation, multiple existing activities and recreational uses and the various open landscapes across Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16).

Page 159



Consolidate, Complete and Strengthen the Path Hierarchy

The path network will be clear and logical, enhancing connectivity, legibility and safety for all users.

NOTE: Images are artists impressions



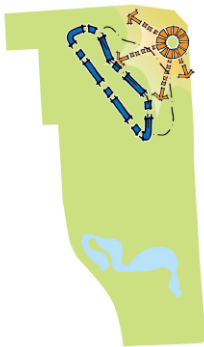
Strengthen the Neighbourhood Connections

Upgraded park edges, entry points and activity nodes will improve connections to the surrounding neighbourhoods and support increased year round activation. Investigate a pedestrian and cycle bridge over Fullarton Road to support anticipated population growth in the east.



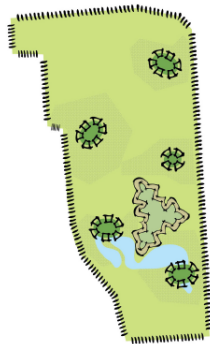
Reveal the Narrative of Pre and Post-Colonial History

Acknowledge and celebrate the importance of the River Red Gum and Grassy Woodland environment and celebrate the creek lines as a valuable resource to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. The park's long standing use for racing and other post-colonial events will also be interpreted.



Reconnect the Grandstand

Alignment of the criterium track, sports fields and existing amenities will create a strong connection between the grandstand and the park and improve pedestrian safety.



Celebrate the Park Lands' Character

Additional greening will be clustered and open tree studded grassed areas enhanced. Preserve the native vegetation and extend the butterfly grassland habitat.



Reveal and Reconnect the Water

Reveal drainage lines and improve water quality through scaled micro-wetlands. Establish an interpretive hub at the Wetlands for education purposes.



A Park for Year Round Activation

Increase the diversity of recreational offerings within the park to maximise offerings, including:

- All ages play
- Picnic and BBQ facilities
- Pop up infrastructure
- Children's bike/trike trail



A Smart Park

Showcase Adelaide's green energy credentials through provision of vehicle charging stations, smart technology and potential solar arrays incorporated into new structures.

In 2025/26, three priority design packages are being advanced to deliver on these strategies:

1. **Tree planting plan** – a site wide initiative to increase shade and amenity, expand canopy cover, and strengthen habitat and food sources for native fauna.
2. **Community playing field reinstatement** – reinstatement of a soccer field temporarily removed to enable construction of the Pakapakanthi wetland.
3. **Pathway** – completion of the east–west pathway adjacent Wakefield Road to extend pedestrian and cyclist access, particularly during major event setup and pack-down



Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects

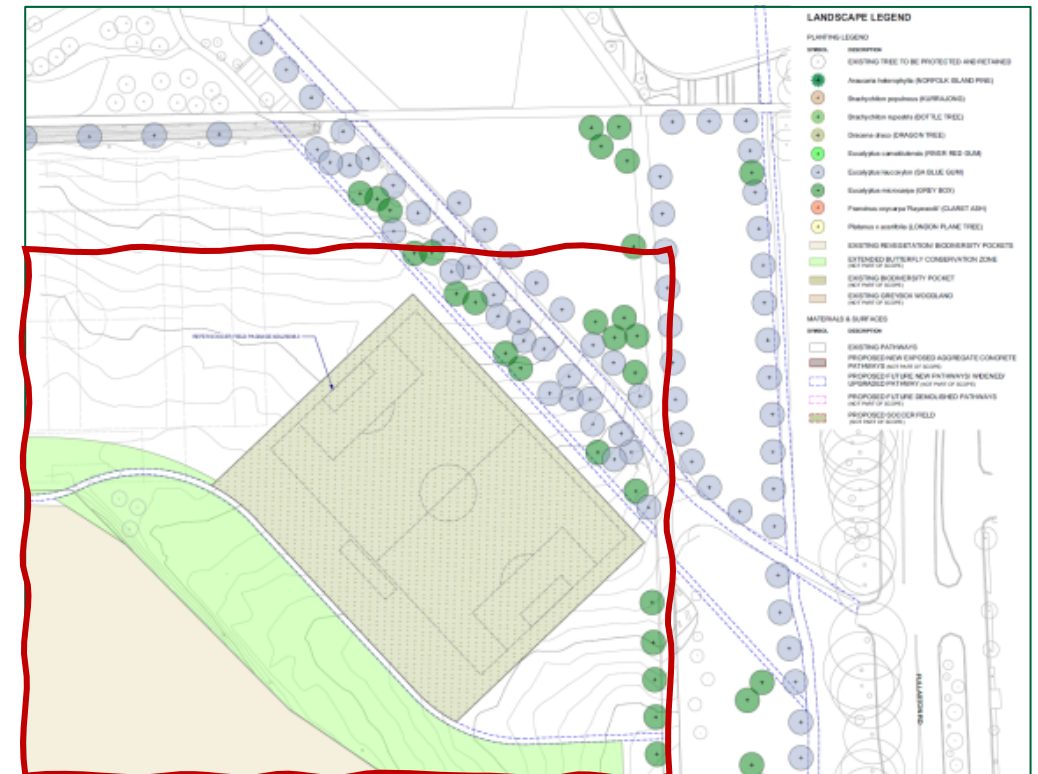
Project 1 – Tree planting plan

1. TREE PLANTING PLAN

- Over 500 trees are proposed across the site, with a mix of exotic and native species
- Tree succession planning has been considered to protect the character of the park



Page 162

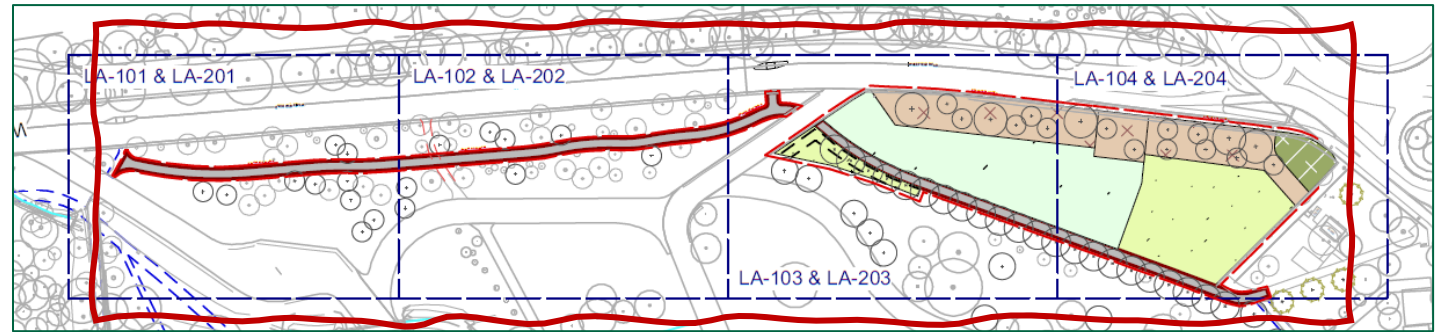


- Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects
18 September 2025

Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects

Project 3 - Pathway

3. PATHWAY



- New 4m wide path linking the existing path in the north east corner to the Adelaide Park Lands Trail to the west.
- The proposed pathway is located to avoid any tree removal
- Consolidation of degraded paths to the north east corner

Next Steps

- Implementation of the priority projects is to be staged
 - Procurement and delivery of the playing field to be undertaken in Quarter 2 / Quarter 3 of 2025/26
 - Tree planting is scheduled to commence in Quarter 4 (April–May) of 2025/26
- Delivery of the pathway will be subject to budget becoming available in 2025/26 or future years through the City of Adelaide's (CoA) annual business plan and budget processes



Victoria Park / Pakapakanthi (Park 16) Master Plan Implementation Projects

| 18 September 2025

Kadaltilla

Adelaide Park Lands Authority

Tentative List Submission for World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes - Progress Report

Thursday, 18 September 2025

Board Meeting

Author: Sarah Gilmour,
Associate Director Park
Lands, Policy & Sustainability

Public

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Tentative List Submission for the World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes (Tentative List Submission).

The remaining tasks required prior to submission to the State Government are to:

- Review, amend and approve the portions of the Tentative List Submission relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history by First Nations communities.
- Document the process to engage with First Nations communities applying the Free, Prior and Informed Consent principles and seek support to lodge the Tentative List Submission from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities whose lands may one day form part of the World Heritage property.

Since the last progress report, Administration has:

- Progressed its work on the Tentative Bid Submission and its work towards FPIC.
- Appointed a World Heritage Project Officer to assist with promotion, engagement and project management of the World Heritage Bid Tentative List Submission in 2025/26.
- Progressed correspondence through the Lord Mayor to the Deputy Premier Susan Close, on 8 August 2025, advising of our continuing efforts to seek World Heritage status for the Adelaide Park Lands and its Rural Settlement Landscapes, including our engagement with Aboriginal communities. The letter seeks confirmation of the State Government's ongoing support for the Bid. A response has not been received at the time of the Agenda publication.

Additional background to these tasks was provided to the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority (Kadaltilla) on 22 May 2025 ([Link 1](#)) and 28 August 2025 ([Link 2](#)).

A summary of FPIC was provided to the Kadaltilla at its meeting held on 27 March 2025 ([Link 3](#)).

Recommendation

THAT THE KADALTILLA / ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY ADVISES COUNCIL

That the Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority:

1. Receives the report contained in Item 6.2 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority held on 18 September 2025.
-

Implications

Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy: Towards 2036	Adelaide Park Lands Management Strategy: Towards 2036 Priority: UNESCO World Heritage Bid Recognised as one of the most complete examples of nineteenth-century colonial planning, achieving UNESCO World Heritage status for the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout would bring international recognition and attention to our region, be a source of local, state and national pride, and boost optimism and investment. Strategy 3.21 Progress World Heritage Listing of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout.
2023-2028 Strategic Plan	Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority 2023-2028 Strategic Plan Strategic Plan Alignment – Cultural Value Objective 1.4 Champion the development of World Heritage listing nomination. Initiative 1.4 Regularly review World Heritage listing submission progress. Measure of Success 1.4 State Government support for World Heritage listing submission by 2026.
City of Adelaide Strategies	Achieving world heritage listing for the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout aligns with the City of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2024-2028, Kadaltilla Strategic Plan 2023-2028, the Heritage Strategy 2021-2036 and the Adelaide Park Lands National Heritage Management Plan.
Policy	Not as a result of this report
Consultation	The City of Adelaide has been working closely with the State Government, other local government bid partners, the Federal Government and Kadaltilla for several years. Following a Council decision on 12 March 2024, the City of Adelaide has elected to lead and fund the preparation of the Tentative List Submission. Work has commenced on Aboriginal engagement and Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes with the support of SA Native Title Services (SANTS). The Kaurna Yerta Aboriginal Corporation (KYAC) has indicated a lead role in the FPIC process for the World Heritage Bid and has provided early consent for the project.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The World Heritage listing process is contingent on First Nations consent through the FPIC process. The City of Adelaide has commenced consultation and is documenting consultation activities and processes as is required for the bid. In the circumstance that Traditional Owners do not consent to the Tentative List Submission, the Submission will not be accepted by the Australian Government for consideration.
Design	The World Heritage Listing supports the principles of good design, including: - Context – Good design is contextual because it responds to the surrounding environment and contributes to the existing quality and future character of a place. - Value – Good design adds value by creating desirable places that promote community and local investment and enhance social and cultural value. The National Heritage Management Plan (NHMP) for the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout includes a policy of pursuing World Heritage Listing for the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout as a place of outstanding universal value.
Opportunities	Opportunities created through World Heritage listing include: - Improved understanding and recognition of the significance of Adelaide and its rural settlement landscapes. - Global profile and cultural tourism business and international investment attraction.

	• Creating a shared narrative about First Nations culture and history that aligns with colonial settlement. • Greater levels of protection for the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout.
City of Adelaide Budget Allocation	The City of Adelaide's 2025/26 Annual Business Plan and Budget adopted on 24 June 2025 includes a strategic project allocation of \$178,000 for the World Heritage project which includes a small consultancy budget and recruitment of a World Heritage Project Officer dedicated to managing the Tentative List process.
Capital Infrastructure Projects	Not as a result of this report
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	Not as a result of this report
Other Funding Sources	The Mount Lofty Consortium (the Consortium) has noted that there is approximately \$60,000 remaining in a fund set up by the Consortium to contribute towards the ongoing development of the World Heritage bid. This funding is being retained by the Consortium (Adelaide Hills Council). In August 2025, the City of Adelaide was successful in securing a grant of \$167,710 under the Federal Government's First Nations Heritage Grants Program Round 2 for a project to update the National Heritage Values of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout to include Kaurna heritage values. Once complete, this work will inform the World Heritage Bid (post Tentative List Submission) and strengthen National heritage protections for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage.

Discussion

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Tentative List Submission for the World Heritage Bid for Adelaide and its Rural Settlement Landscapes (Tentative List Submission).
2. The remaining tasks required prior to submission to the State Government are to:
 - 2.1. Review, amend and approve the portions of the Tentative List Submission relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history by First Nations communities.
 - 2.2. Document the process to engage with First Nations communities applying the Free, Prior and Informed Consent principles and seek support to lodge the Tentative List Submission from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities whose lands may one day form part of the World Heritage property.

Project overview background

3. The World Heritage List is a list of cultural and/or natural places considered to have outstanding universal value to humanity.
4. The settlement of Adelaide and the surrounding rural settlement landscapes c1840 was a major turning point in the way colonisation was planned and implemented, as it was for the health, well-being and prosperity of all social classes rather than just the wealthy or political classes.
5. An expert review of South Australia's early settlement landscapes has identified that collectively they are likely to be of Outstanding Universal Value and worthy of World Heritage listing.
6. Areas must clearly demonstrate the value that is being ascribed to them to be included in a World Heritage listing.
7. The areas being investigated include Adelaide, Port Adelaide, Holdfast Bay, the Barossa Valley, McLaren Vale, Cornish mining settlements, German agrarian settlements and early settlements such as Kingscote.
8. World Heritage listing has many benefits, including increased visitation through tourism.
9. To be included on the World Heritage List, a place (or series of connected places) must be assessed through the World Heritage process that includes 3 distinct stages:
 - 9.1. Tentative List Submission— a submission is prepared that includes a description of the place and outlines the potential Outstanding Universal Values. This document is submitted to the State and Federal Governments for inclusion on Australia's Tentative World Heritage List.
 - 9.2. Preliminary Assessment – a more detailed submission is prepared to be assessed by UNESCO's independent heritage advisors (International Council on Monuments and Sites, ICOMOS) to determine if there is sufficient Outstanding Universal Value for a Nation to continue pursuing World Heritage listing.
 - 9.3. Nomination Dossier – a finalised submission made to the World Heritage Centre for decision by the World Heritage Committee, and includes full details of Outstanding Universal Values, how the places will be protected and promoted, and other matters required by the World Heritage Committee.
10. Council is currently preparing a Tentative List Submission.
11. To be included on Australia's Tentative List, a Tentative List Submission must have the support of the State and Federal Governments.
12. For the Tentative List Submission to be accepted by State and Federal Governments, as well as the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, there must be evidence of Consent from the Traditional Landowner groups achieved through Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) processes.
13. A summary of FPIC was provided to the Kadaltilla at its meeting held on 27 March 2025 ([Link 3](#)).
14. The project is an opportunity to progress reconciliation through truth-telling about this period in history.
15. The Deputy Premier, Dr Susan Close wrote to Council in 2023, advising of her support for the preparation of a Tentative List Submission.
16. Administration has been progressing the preparation of the Tentative List Submission. Additional background to these tasks was provided to Kadaltilla on 22 May 2025 ([Link 1](#)) and 28 August 2025 ([Link 2](#)).

First Nations Engagement

17. Administration has engaged SA Native Title Services (SANTS) to facilitate engagement with First Nations communities.

18. This engagement is also being informed by the City of Adelaide's work with Yamagigu Consulting (yamagigu) on an Aboriginal Engagement Framework for the City of Adelaide's processes.
19. On 17 June 2025, SANTS, on behalf of the City of Adelaide, facilitated an information session with representatives of Aboriginal communities within the identified World Heritage Bid areas. An update was provided to Kadaltilla on 28 August 2025 ([Link 2](#)).
20. SANTS have since provided formal feedback to Administration which is currently being reviewed for integration into future project planning, including the progressing of larger workshops for the broader communities focussing on truth-telling and reconciliation.
21. Administration is working with SANTS to action the feedback from the information session with First Nations communities and to plan further engagements. These have been tentatively scheduled for late 2025 with final arrangements to be confirmed.
22. As previously advised, the timeframe for consent, if it is to be provided, may result in the Tentative List Submission being made in 2027 rather than 2026 to provide a longer timeframe for relationship building.
23. Based on a review of the broad and wide-reaching engagement planned, the Administration, in collaboration with SANTS, is investigating opportunities to partner with additional consultants to undertake this work.

Project Management and Governance

24. Administration has appointed a World Heritage Project Officer to assist with promotion, engagement and project management of the World Heritage Bid Tentative List Submission in 2025/26.
25. On 8 August 2025, the Lord Mayor wrote to the Deputy Premier Susan Close advising of our continuing efforts to seek World Heritage status for the Adelaide Park Lands and its Rural Settlement Landscapes, including our engagement with Aboriginal communities. The letter seeks confirmation of the State Government's ongoing support for the Bid. A response has not been received at the time of the Agenda publication.
26. Correspondence has been prepared for local governments that are party to the World Heritage bid project and to inform local government areas where the City of Adelaide, with the support of SANTS, is working with First Nations communities.
27. In August 2025, the City of Adelaide was successful in securing a grant of \$167,710 under the Federal Government's First Nations Heritage Grants Program Round 2 for a project to update the National Heritage Values of the Adelaide Park Lands and City Layout to include Kaurna heritage values. Once complete, this work will inform the World Heritage Bid (post Tentative List Submission) and strengthen National heritage protections for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage.

Next Steps

28. Next steps for the project are summarised as follows:
 - 28.1. Continued engagement with First Nations communities.
 - 28.2. Following response from the State Government, write to the Federal Government to confirm support for the World Heritage bid and Tentative List Submission contingent on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Consent.
 - 28.3. Ongoing work to refine research and attribute mapping undertaken through the heritage internship project for the purpose of clarifying the areas that may one day form part of the World Heritage area. This work is approximately 60% complete.

Data and Supporting Information

Link 1 – [Agenda – Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park lands Authority Meeting – 22 May 2025](#)

Link 2 – [Agenda – Kadaltilla/Adelaide Park Lands Authority Meeting – 28 August 2025](#) (adjourned from 17 July 2025)

Link 3 – [Agenda – Kadaltilla / Adelaide Park Lands Authority Meeting – Thursday, 27 March 2025](#)

Attachments

Nil

- END OF REPORT -

Exclusion of the Public for item requested to be considered in confidence

Requested by:
Michael Sedgman, Chief Executive Officer

Confidential - s 90(3) (b) & (d) commercial advantage/prejudice commercial position of council/commercial information of a confidential nature

Purpose

Exclusion of the public from this meeting is sought for the consideration of the following Agenda Item:

- 9.1** Results of Park Lands Commercial Expressions of Interest – Victoria Park/ Pakapakanthi (Park 16) [section 90(3) (b) (i) (ii) of the Act]

Meetings of Kadaltilla must be conducted in a place open to the public except in special circumstances. Special circumstances and associated considerations to exclude the public from a meeting are outlined in section 90 the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act).

Clause 4.8.21 of the Charter enables Kadaltilla, to order the exclusion of the public from attendance to consider in confidence any information or matter listed in section 90(3) of the Act. The exercise of this power does not exclude Board Members and/or any other person permitted by Kadaltilla to remain in the room.

The Order to Exclude for Items 9.1:

1. Identifies the information and matters (**grounds**) from section 90(3) of the Act utilised to request consideration in confidence.
2. Identifies the **basis** – how the information falls within the grounds identified and why it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public; and
3. In addition, identifies for the following grounds – section 90(3) (b), (d) or (j) - how information open to the public would be contrary to the **public interest**.

All Board members must keep confidential all documents and any information presented to them for consideration on a confidential basis prior to the meeting.

Order to Exclude for Item 9.1

THAT THE ADELAIDE PARK LANDS AUTHORITY

1. Having taken into account the relevant considerations contained in Clause 4.8.21 of the Adelaide Park Lands Authority Charter and section 90(3) (b) & (d) and 90(2) & (7) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, this meeting of the Board of Kadaltilla / Park Lands Authority dated 18 September 2025 resolves that it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public as the consideration of Item 9.1 [Results of Park Lands Commercial Expressions of Interest – Victoria Park/ Pakapakanthi (Park 16)] listed on the Agenda in a meeting open to the public would on balance be contrary to the public interest.

Grounds and Basis

This Item is commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret), the disclosure of which could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting business, prejudice the commercial position of the Council and prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information and confer a commercial advantage on a third party.

The disclosure of information in this report could reasonably prejudice the commercial position and identity of the proponent who supplied 'commercial in confidence' information containing a business case and capability to undertake a promotional opportunity for evaluation by Council at the request of the Council for which 'commercial in confidence' discussions have been undertaken and remain current. Disclosure of this

information may adversely impact project viability, prejudice the ability to undertake/participate in future negotiations on the proposal and prejudice the Council's commercial position and opportunity for Council to participate in future like considerations or discussions

Public Interest

The Board is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because the disclosure of this information may result in the release of information prior to the finalisation of commercial Lease negotiations with the preferred proponents and competitors receiving the information to the detriment of the proponents who supplied information at this point in time, may materially and adversely affect the financial viability of the proponent for any future projects and severely prejudice Council's ability to discuss/participate or influence a proposal for the benefit of the Council and the community in this matter and in relation to other commercial Lease negotiations.

2. Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act), this meeting of Kadaltilla dated 18 September 2025 orders that the public (with the exception of members of Corporation staff and any person permitted to remain) be excluded from this meeting to enable this meeting to receive, discuss or consider in confidence Item 9.1 listed in the Agenda, on the grounds that such item of business, contains information and matters of a kind referred to in section 90(3) of the Act.

Discussion

1. The *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)* requires the Authority to operate utilising Chapter 6 Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)* (the Act). Chapter 6 Part 3 relates to public access to meetings and outlines the conduct to be observed by the Authority.
2. It is a requirement of the *Adelaide Park Lands Act 2005 (SA)* [13 (c)] reflected in clause 4.8.19 of the *Adelaide Park Lands Charter* (Charter), that meetings of the Authority be conducted in a place open to the public except in special circumstances. These circumstances and associated considerations to exclude the public from a Board meeting are outlined in Chapter 6, Part 3 of the Act.
3. In considering whether an order should be made to exclude the public the order must specify
 - 3.1. the grounds on which the order was made; and
 - 3.2. the basis on which the information or matter to which the order relates falls within the ambit of each ground on which the order was made; and
 - 3.3. if relevant, the reasons that receipt, consideration or discussion of the information or matter in a meeting open to the public would be contrary to the public interest.
4. In considering whether an order should be made to exclude the public, it is irrelevant that discussion of a matter in public may:
 - 4.1. cause embarrassment to the council or council committee concerned, or to members or employees of the council; or
 - 4.2. cause a loss of confidence in the council or council committee.
 - 4.3. involve discussion of a matter that is controversial within the council area; or
 - 4.4. make the council susceptible to adverse criticism
5. When determining whether to exclude the public from the meeting the Authority is required to consider & resolve whether it is necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public to consider the following information in confidence.
 - 5.1. Information contained in Item 9.1 [Results of Park Lands Commercial Expressions of Interest – Victoria Park/ Pakapakanthi (Park 16)]
 - 5.1.1. Is not subject to an existing Kadaltilla / Park Lands Authority Confidentiality Order
 - 5.1.2. Is subject to an existing City of Adelaide Reconciliation Committee Confidentiality Order
 - 5.1.3. The grounds utilised to request consideration in confidence is 90(3) (b) & (d) of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*
(b) information the disclosure of which—

- (i) *could reasonably be expected to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting, or proposing to conduct, business, or to prejudice the commercial position of the council; and*
 - (ii) *would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest*
- (d) *commercial information of a confidential nature (not being a trade secret) the disclosure of which—*
 - (i) *could reasonably be expected to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or to confer a commercial advantage on a third party; and*
 - (ii) *would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest*

Attachments

Nil

- END OF REPORT -

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