



Interim GreenWay Arts & Community Cultural Strategy

Draft – April 2011



www.greenway.org.au

Working towards a recognisable environmental, cultural and non-polluting transport corridor linking the sub-catchments of the Cooks River and Iron Cove.





Above: Inaugural GreenWay Arts Exhibition 2010, ArtEST, Leichhardt

Acknowledgements

The Draft Interim GreenWay Arts and Community Cultural Strategy was prepared by Nick Chapman in consultation with community representatives and local stakeholder groups on behalf of the GreenWay Steering Committee.

1. Vision

A “creative community” hub which compliments and reinforces the GreenWay vision. A place to celebrate and interpret the rich history of the GreenWay and its environment using local talent, stories and creative energy. A community place which people find enjoyable, easy to relate to, attractive, animated and safe.

2. Objectives

Develop and implement a coordinated and sustainable program of creative works and cultural activities which:

- Is consistent with the vision, principles and objectives of the GreenWay Coordination Strategy and Community Master Plan (October 2009).
- Gives expression to the themes and ideas in the GreenWay Cultural and Arts Corridor Audit Report (December 2009) – see section D.
- Provides the context and direction for public art and other cultural opportunities associated with the construction of the GreenWay and extension of the Lilyfield to Dulwich Hill Light Rail (2010-2012).
- Aligns with the strategic direction of the four GreenWay stakeholder councils (Leichhardt, Ashfield, Marrickville and Canterbury), in particular their community and cultural planning and activities.
- Gives expression to the Sydney Metropolitan Strategy (2011) in the Inner West, in particular its objectives for culture, environment, economy and place.
- Actively involves state government asset owners along the GreenWay including (but not limited to) the Ministry for the Arts, NSW Arts Gallery, State Property Office, RailCorp, Sydney Water, Transport NSW, RTA and the Dept. Education and Training.



- Is inclusive, by actively encouraging participation by the full range of demographic and cultural groups within the GreenWay catchment and in the areas adjacent to it.

- Engages young people in developing the GreenWay as a place to express their sense of identity and belonging and to enhance the use and enjoyment of “their “place.



- Provides a platform for public and public partnerships to reinforce the GreenWay’s contribution to the state significant “creative industries hub” which is emerging in Sydney’s Inner West, including the Iron Cove Community and Culture Precinct which extends from Cockatoo Island and Callan Park to Hawthorne Canal and the GreenWay .

- Leverages off major residential, commercial and infrastructure developments to support and implement creative works and cultural activities along the GreenWay, in areas adjacent to it, and along roads and pathways leading to it.

- Ensures a balance is maintained between the GreenWay’s role as a vibrant hub of community and cultural activity and its capacity to be a place of tranquillity, beauty, reflection and social connection in the busy Inner West.

- Embraces best practice “safer by design” and CPTED (crime prevention through environmental design) principles and practices along the GreenWay, in the vicinity of the new light rail stops and along the local roads and paths leading to the GreenWay.

- Actively encourages artists, creative workers and the broader community to use the GreenWay as a source of inspiration and a showcase for innovation and inter-disciplinary arts, including (but not limited to) environmental, installation, visual and performing arts.

- Supports a range of cultural and educational activities which celebrate and interpret the qualities of the place and the social and physical connections which provide its identity.

- Develops a sustainable creative arts and cultural program, which is financially and socially viable over the short to long term, from commissioning and operation through to decommissioning or renewal.

4. Action Plan

Description	Sites (see map & locations attached)	Timing Short 1-2yrs Med. 3-5yrs Long 5-10yrs	Cost low < \$10,000 med. \$10-50,000 high > \$50,000	Priority
3.1 Performing Arts				
3.1.1 Professional public performances (theatre, music, dance, multi-media) in existing performance spaces (see below)	2, 17	short to med.	med. to high	med
3.1.2 Professional outdoor events eg music, processions	Various eg 1, 3, 9, 12,14, 15, 17	Short to med.	med. to high	med to high
3.2 Visual Arts and Design				
3.2.1 Curated outdoor exhibits and program eg sculpture, artistic cycle racks, environmental art/design	Various eg 1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 17	Short to long	Med. to high	Med.
3.2.2 Curated indoor exhibits and program eg painting, photography, interior/spatial design	2, 4, 5, 17, local spaces (see below)	Short to med	Med.	high
3.3 Community Arts				
3.3.1 Community theatre event(s) eg outdoor processions, indoor performance	Various eg 1, 3, 5, 9, 12,14, 15, 17	Short to med.	med. to high	med to high
3.3.2 GreenWay “battle of the bands” and/or youth concert	2,4, 17, local space eg schools, Blackmore Oval, Petersham Bowling Club	Short to med	Low to med	high

Description	Sites (see map & locations attached)	Timing Short 1- 2yrs Med. 3-5yrs Long 5- 10yrs	Cost low < \$10,000 med. \$10- 50,000 high > \$50,000	Priority
3.3.3 Cartoon/new media competition/exhibitions eg virtual tours, spatial/interior design	2, 5, various (in/out doors), local space	Short to med	Low to med	high
3.4.4 Youth arts workshops (photography, painting, theatre, dance, music, design)	2, 4, 5, 17, local space eg ArtEst	Short to med	Med.	high
3.4 Animation and Public Art				
3.4.1 Legal graffiti walls trial	Various eg 5, 10, 11, 15,	Short to med	Low to med	high
3.4.2 GreenWay outdoor cinema	2,4, 56, 11	Short to med.	Med. to high	Med to high
3.4.3 GreenWay Festival	Various eg 1, 6,8, adjacent local areas, 12, 17	Short to med	Med to high	high
3.4.4 Mural program - tunnels & gateways	Various eg 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17	Short	Low to high	high
3.4.5 Environmental art trail and/or pathway art and/or road intersection art (for traffic calming)	Various eg 3, 7, 9, 10, 14, 17	Short to med	Low to high	Med to high
3.4.6 Laser light art /new media show (temporary or permanent)	Various eg 2, 5, 11, 12, 13,	Med to long	Med to high	med
3.4.7 Light rail stop public art and design eg mosaics, environmental art, “safer by design”/CPTED works, street furniture	At light rail stops & adjacent roads or paths	Short to med	Med to high	high

Description	Sites (see map & locations attached)	Timing Short 1- 2yrs Med. 3-5yrs Long 5- 10yrs	Cost low < \$10,000 med. \$10- 50,000 high > \$50,000	Priority
3.5 Local history, interpretation and way-finding				
3.5.2 Light Rail way-finding signage	throughout, eg stops, gateways	Short to med.	Med. to high	high
3.5.3 GreenWay interpretation boards eg water cycle, urban ecology, weeds	throughout GreenWay	Short to med	Med to high <i>NB already underway via USP</i>	high
3.5.4 GreenWay heritage interpretation program eg oral history, indigenous heritage, infrastructure (rail, canal history)	GreenWay & adjoining areas, virtual eg via web & mobile phone	short to long	Med	high
3.5.5 Walking and cycling tours, linking with regional networks eg Bay Run, arts bike trail (Green Ring)	GreenWay and adjoining areas	Short to long	Low	High
3.6 Governance and planning				
3.6.1 GreenWay Arts and Community Culture Coordination Group	relevant GreenWay stakeholders	short to long	low	high
3.6.2 Council, state agency and stakeholder consultation program	As above	short to long	low to med	high
3.6.3 GreenWay Arts and Community Culture Strategy	As above	short to long	low	high
3.6.4 Memorandum of Understanding with State Government	As above	short to long	low to med	high
3.5.5 GreenWay Arts and Community Culture Fund	As above	short to long	med to high	Med to high

NB Priority in the above table is evaluated according to a number of criteria, including:

- Cost
- Timing
- Number of arts and community culture objectives achieved
- Promotional impact on the broader community
- Chances of success
- Potential partners available
- Likelihood of funding.

4. Local venues

There are a number of local venues and spaces within or adjacent to the GreenWay which can be used for exhibitions and performances, including (but not limited to) the following:

- ArtEst, Lords Rd, Leichhardt
- Boomali Aboriginal Arts Cooperative, Flood St., Leichhardt
- Various local primary and secondary schools eg Sydney Secondary College, Kegworth Public School, Fort Street, Petersham Public School, Canterbury Public School, Summer Hill Public School, Dulwich Hill School of Performing Arts etc.
- Petersham Bowling Club, Brighton Street
- Mungo Scott Mills (various temporary spaces)
- Studio @ 62 Constitution Road, Dulwich Hill.

5. GreenWay Arts and Cultural Corridor Audit

In 2009 a group of local artists and enthusiasts undertook a site visit and prepared an audit of potential sites and opportunities for arts and cultural activities in the GreenWay. The report and associated map is included in Appendix I. This document can be used for future arts and cultural planning activities.

6. Conclusion

The Interim Arts & Cultural Strategy provides a basis for future planning and further consultation with local Councils, the local community and the NSW Government, including public art opportunities planned as part of the Inner West Light Rail Extension and GreenWay Project in 2011 and 2012.

Appendix 1

GreenWay Arts and Cultural Corridor Audit & Map

Greenway Cultural & Arts Corridor Tour

Stage 1 - 21 August 2009

Stage 2 - 28 November 2009



Purpose:

To identify existing art along the Hawthorne Canal/GreenWay corridor (see attached map) and to assess locations/themes for future art works, cultural activities and public animation, for incorporation in the GreenWay Master Plan and Coordination Strategy.

Stage 1 - Iron Cove to Carlton Terrace, Summer Hill

attended by:

- Suzy Carter, Leichhardt Resident, (Director, Hero Frock Hire P/L, Canal Rd Film Centre)
- Nick Chapman, Greenway Working Group Community Representative, Haberfield resident (Place Manager @ City of Ryde)
- Inara Walden, Leichhardt resident [Curator @ Museum of Sydney]
- Gilbert Walden, Leichhardt resident [yr 9 student @ Newtown School of Performing Arts]
- Jenni Carter, Tempe resident (Head Photography Studio, Art Gallery NSW, Canal Rd Centre)



Note: In addition to the locations along the GreenWay identified in this Report, there are various local art exhibition spaces which could be used for GreenWay art eg Leichhardt - Art Est, Lords Rd.; Boomali Indigenous Arts Gallery; Ashfield – Rosedale St Gallery; Summer Hill Community Centre.

1. Lilyfield Road Bridge

description :- a grassed park on the former Lilyfield Road Bridge, where Hawthorne Canal flows in to Iron Cove. A highly visible, well-trafficked site next to the City West Link used by lots of pedestrians and cyclists on the Bay Run and Lilyfield Rd Cycleway.

potential:-

- outdoor performance space – good location for processional theatre/community arts performance eg fireworks, water, giant puppets etc. Conveniently located next to Lilyfield Road Arts Hub with undercover work spaces & rehearsal spaces available.
- Highly visible from City West Link (major arterial road) – therefore good location for public art, environmental art/sculpture. Strategically located outside the front of new Art Gallery of NSW. Ministry of Art could commission some art works/cultural activities?
- overlooks mooring area for “The Italian Fleet”- significant local cultural/heritage/marine site.
- interpretation signs/notice board.



2. Lilyfield Road Arts “hub”

Description: Location for a number of major arts premises on Ministry of Arts owned site adjacent to Hawthorne Canal. Current premises include Art Gallery of NSW (storage), Red Box Physical Theatre, Museum of Contemporary Art (storage), Australian Opera (storage/set making), Sydney Theatre Co. In addition, several small independent performance and arts companies located in various offices and outbuildings. Good access and reasonable parking.

Potential

- venues for public performances (subject to Council licences/approval), cafes
- Location for community workshops/meetings/arts vacation “camps” for school students eg visual arts, performance etc
- A major component of the “creative industry/arts hub” in the GreenWay



3. Hawthorne Canal (City West Link) Bridge

Description: Major road bridge for City West Link. Existing mural under Western side of bridge.

Potential

- Leichhardt side of Canal - “legal” graffiti art site, mural
- Haberfield side of Canal - mural already in place c.1998, room for some additional paintings/installations under the bridge



4. Blackmore Oval

Description: Leichhardt Council sports oval plus substantial sports pavilion and ancillary buildings. Primarily used for local sports (particularly base ball). Good access and parking. Also used for rehearsal space for actors, casting sessions, filming location / spillover activities from Canal Rd Film Centre.

Potential

- community art workshops in sports pavilion
- events on oval eg environmental arts festival, farmers market
- public art/murals around the perimeter, facing the Canal-side footpath, which is heavily used
- Streamwatch bug survey & environmental interpretation in City West Stormwater Detention Basin.



5. Canal Rd Film Centre

Description: 2nd major component of the creative industries/arts hub along the GreenWay. Home to over 80 companies actively engaged in Film eg Service Companies, workshops, production offices, grips, lighting, props & costume, setbuilders, unit & caterers, production base for film/TV shoots.

Potential

- consolidation of industry infrastructure, generating employment and creative businesses
- flagship for the “creative industries” hub in Sydney’s Inner West
- community workshops &/or students work experience to raise the profile of this important film facility
- Potential “legal” wall space for public/graffiti art eg attach plywood to external warehouse fence which forms the boundary of the footpath and cycleway
- Site for public art/sculpture using film industry “artifacts”



6. Cafe Bones

Description: Well known local cafe in a converted, council owned park “kiosk”. Favoured by dog walkers throughout Inner West and further afield. Heavily used at weekends and also quietly busy during the week. One of the few viable cafes in Sydney which you have to walk to (min 300 ms walk from nearest car park). Existing “Doggy” mural on cafe wall.

Potential

- Mural (augmenting existing one on Cafe Bones wall)
- public sculpture/ artwork/mosaic adjacent the canal
- Decorative lighting &/or “arty” street furniture adjacent to cafe seating area
- Outdoor exhibitions (temporary/permanent)
- readings and/or performance on summer evenings



7. Leichhardt (off-leash) Dog Park

Description: Known as one of the best and largest off leash dog parks in Inner Sydney. Very popular inner west amenity Used every weekend for dog training (up to 60 dogs at a time). Also used for one day events eg Dogs Big Day Out”

Potential

- “dog related” events & other community celebrations/theme days
- Public art
- Fairs/festivals
- Mural on pedestrian tunnel at Southern entrance to dog park (next to Council depot)



8. Entrance to Richard Murden Reserve (off Marion St)

Description: Highly visible “gate way” to Northern section of the GreenWay, at the entry to Richard Murden Reserve, next to Marion Street Bridge. Prime entry point to the nationally listed “Federation suburb” of Haberfield. Heritage significant sandstone block canal wall highly visible from Marion Street. Major road crossing, bus and cycle access to the GreenWay. Existing bronze sculpture of Richard Staunton, who built half of Haberfield, erected by Ashfield Council. Site of major Inner West Environment Group Bush regeneration area known as the Olympics Site”.

Potential

- More sculpture
- Interpretation signage (heritage, bush regeneration, heritage listed Canal)



9. Canal Walk – Marion St to Parramatta Rd

Description: landscaped, shady canal side footpath extends for 1 km from Marion St to Parramatta Rd. Existing Kegworth School Canal Mural on Lords Rd pedestrian tunnel under Rozelle Goods Line.

Potential

- “Sculpture by the Canal” ?? art competition [similar to Sculpture By the Sea”]
- major community mosaic art work to be installed adjacent to Kegworth Mural
- environmental interpretation/education site eg interpretative signs outlining history and native flora& fauna [similar to Bay Run or along Whites Creek, Annandale], feral animals (cats, foxes) vs. native animals (bandicoots, native birds), aboriginal heritage
- creative lighting and pathway art
- interpretation board displaying Kegworth Streamwatch results as per bush fire sign eg high, moderate, low water pollution, educational walks/tours for community & schools



10. Footpath to Cadigal Reserve – Parramatta Road to Carlton Terrace

Description: Parramatta Road bridge across Canal, constructed with heritage sandstone. Third oldest bridge in NSW. Degraded Canal-side footpath linking Parramatta Road to Cadigal Reserve and Trafalgar Crescent. Major site for quality graffiti extending along the entire length of the Canal wall. Unattractive and “spooky” at night, poor street lighting.

Potential:

- Heritage signage/interpretation eg Aboriginal heritage (Cadigal people), Sea
- Battle Bridge, Parramatta Rd
- May Lane style area of artworks?
- Much better footpath lighting required
- Sculpture on the theme of “bureaucracy” because at this point the boundaries for 3 councils, RTA, RailCorp and RTA all meet (just next to Road Bridge, at side of Canal)



11. "Whipple" Rail Bridge site, Grosvenor Crescent

Description: Historic location where main Western Rail Line (Sydney – Parramatta – Blue Mountains - Perth) crosses Hawthorne Canal. Dramatic "industrial/hard-edged" site featuring major "chunks" of 19th Century rail, road, water, sewerage, electricity and stormwater infrastructure. Existing major graffiti works on rail bridge walls and along Canal wall.

Potential

- Major legal graffiti and/or community art site
- Large scale ""hanging/ installation" art site
- large scale art to "mark" site's industrial heritage
- sound and light shows?]
- heritage interpretation



Stage 2 – 28 November 2009

Carlton Terrace to Cooks River

attending

- Suzy Carter, Leichhardt Resident, (Director, Hero Frock Hire P/L, Canal Rd Film Centre]
- Nick Chapman, Greenway Working Group Community Representative, Haberfield resident (Place Manager @ City of Ryde)
- Inara Walden, Leichhardt resident [Curator @ Museum of Sydney)
- Bruce Ashley, Dulwich Hill resident, GreenWay Working Group (Transport Consultant)
- Ros Gibbons, Canterbury Resident (GreenWay Project Coordinator)
- Gilbert Grace, Dulwich Hill resident (artist)



12. Mungo Scott Flour Mill & “Lewisham Towers”, Carlton Crescent

Description: Carlton Crescent forms the approximate boundary between the Cooks River and Parramatta River catchments. Location for large, iconic 19th century Mungo Scott flour mill, which ceased trading in January 2009. Last active “destination” for goods trains along Rozelle Line. The dramatic flour mill building on the Western side of the rail line has great potential for adaptive reuse, most probably for residential apartments.

“Lewisham Towers” site on the Easter side of the rail line is presently occupied by one storey, rather run-down industrial buildings. A development proposal is under consideration by the State Government to redevelop for high density residential and some retail. Re-zoning yet to be achieved.

Potential:

- Laser light shows/sculpture could be incorporated in flour mill building
- Major location for public art/animation reflecting the industrial heritage of the site
- Potential light rail stop.



13. Davis Street, Waratah Mills

Description: Davis Street crosses over the rail line, providing good views to the City. The bridge is next to Waratah Mills, which was redeveloped for residential apartments in the late 1990’s. The award winning redevelopment includes some industrial artifacts, quality landscaping and a small meeting hall and outdoor area. The rail corridor at this location is a major IWEG revegetation site.

potential

- Public art celebrating the bush regeneration at this site
- Signs and/or mural/art works celebrating the local bandicoot population eg signal box
- Major industrial heritage interpretation/celebration



14. Johnson Park, Constitution Road

Well used park with formal & informal open space areas, bandstand, kids playground etc. Various items of visual and/or heritage significance eg interpretative signs for Bloodworth Farm, 1950's style "rocket" feature, historic Arlington Recreation Ground (soccer etc.). Within walking distance of 7 local schools. Popular venue for local community events eg fireworks, Xmas carols etc

Potential

- youth events (in/out doors) and youth workshops
- additional community events eg kids cinema
- exhibition space for local artists\public art

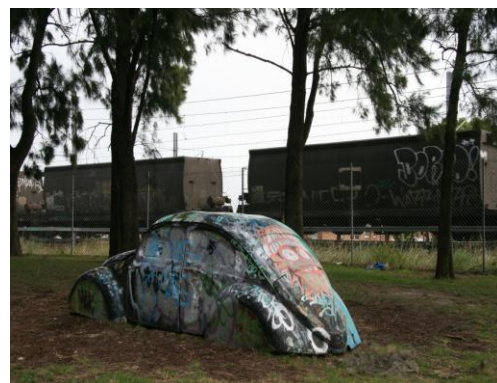


15 Jack Shanahan Reserve, Dulwich Hill Station

Dilapidated, isolated and quite intimidating, triangular-shaped "youth recreation area" surrounded on all sides by rail lines, with no visual connection to surrounding streets and houses. Facilities include a run-down tennis court and toilets, reasonably popular skate park, under-utilised mountain bike track, small rotunda and basket ball court. Wide range of graffiti on walls and skating surface.

Potential

- craft workshops & artists market
- bush regeneration
- "safer by design" improvements eg improved visual links to surrounding streets, lighting
- pedestrian paths linking to potential future Dulwich Hill light rail station
- public art installations eg "VW Beetle" sculpture



16 Tennyson Street Park

Small, rather run-down pocket park leading to Marrickville Golf Course and the Cooks River. Marks the Southern end of the GreenWay. Surfaced with Astroturf. Attractive location overlooking river.

Potential

- Signs marking the Southern end of GreenWay with connections to Cooks River bike paths
- Improved pedestrian access to golf course and foreshore
- Public art space



17 Cooks River Foreshore, Lang Rd Footbridge & Marrickville Golf Course

Marrickville Golf Course (plus tennis courts) occupies the Cooks River foreshore on the Northern side and Wills Oval, home of the Canterbury-Petersham Rugby Club, occupies the Southern foreshore, linked by the Lang Rd footbridge to the Cooks River cycleway.

Potential















- Site for major community events eg Cooks River Arts Festival
- club house could be a performance space for wider audience (not just club members)
- youth arts workshop facilities (visual & performing arts)
- foreshore public art/installations/heritage interpretation



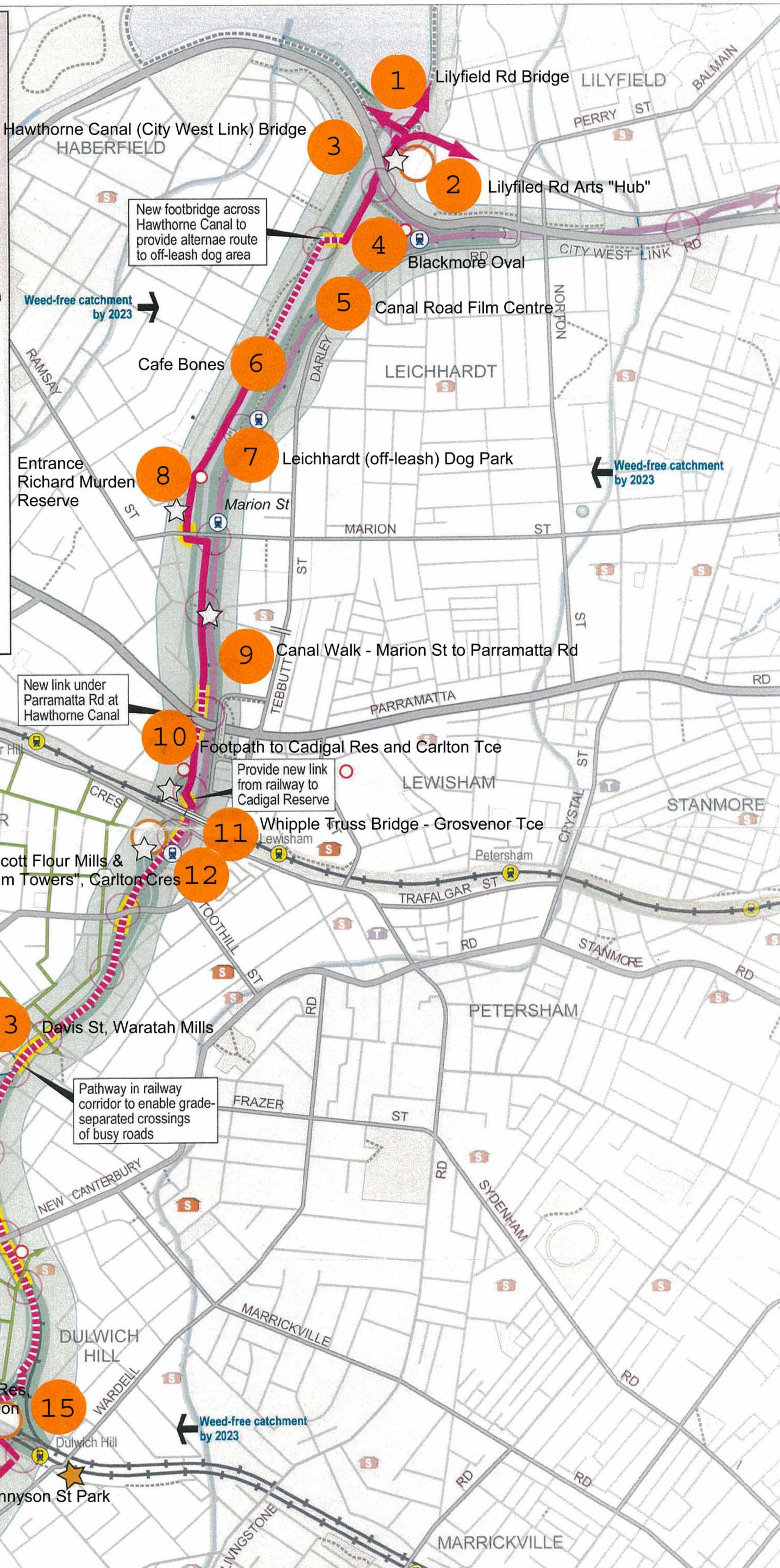
**Report by Suzy Carter &
Nick Chapman for the
GreenWay Working Group
December 2009**

to be continued!

Legend

-  Cooks River to Iron Cove GreenWay catchment (Weed-Free by 2023)
-  GreenWay Trail - immediate development of a marked shared walking/cycling route linking Cooks River pathway to the Bay Run at Iron Cove
-  New section(s) of GreenWay Trail requiring immediate construction
-  Priority/critical sections of trail (for grade-separated or signalised crossings of busy roads, and where use of rail corridor required due to physical constraints)
-  Potential for future development of a cycling priority "veloway" in rail corridor in conjunction with extension of Light Rail. Potential light rail station locations shown
-  Linkages from GreenWay Trail and veloway/light rail to other networks & modes
-  Indicative "Trellis" greenstreet walking & cycling network & corner shop "nodes" (SE sector shown)
-  "Creating a Bush Link" corridor - 7 existing and 23 proposed bushcare sites within rail corridor or adjacent to streamside/shoreline
-  GreenWay habitat corridor - sympathetic planting on adjoining lands to support the Bush Link corridor
-  Potential location for habitat and weed monitoring site
-  Remnant vegetation site requiring protection
-  Potential location for cultural & community node
-  Major interpretive feature or artworks location
-  Indicative location for stormwater demonstration site

0 1km



New footbridge across Hawthorne Canal to provide alternate route to off-leash dog area

Weed-free catchment by 2023

Weed-free catchment by 2023

Weed-free catchment by 2023

Pathway in railway corridor to enable grade-separated crossings of busy roads

Weed-free catchment by 2023

New link under bridge to provide grade-separated crossing

Prepared for GreenWay Coordination Strategy Working Group
Draft for Discussion. Base map © Chain Gang Press February 2008



Transport, Biodiversity, Cultural and Catchment Concepts for the Cooks River to Iron Cove GreenWay
Concept Plans for Discussion February 2008