

30 August 2023
City of Parramatta Council
Transport Planning Team

Phone: 1300 617 058 Email: transportplanning@cityofparramatta.nsw.gov.au

Dear Council

RE: BIKE PLAN REFRESH – Consultation August 2023.

OBJECTION - to Bike Plan as Exhibited.
SUBMISSION - to Environmental Sustainability Strategy

We reject the current Plan as exhibited that fails in these important and basic areas. The Bike Plan does not cross-reference its detail obligations to NSW Policies or Regulations on Threatened Species and Heritage.

- A. Plan ignores reference or framework to Natural Areas, Cultural or Environmental Heritage.**
- Incredibly the "Refresh Plan" does not appear to make any detail or mention of the terms "natural environment", "natural habitats" or "wildlife corridors" which the Council is aware of.
 - Many areas of the Plan (that we can focus on around Toongabbie Creek) have ignored substantial existing ecological values that must inform the routes with least-possible impact.
- B. Plan ignores aboriginal people or their heritage as custodians with connections to country.**
- Despite the platitudes such as "we seek to reflect and embrace the rich culture and heritage of the Dharug people, and their deep connection to the River, in strategic directions regarding the future of Parramatta.." the Plan does not demonstrate this.
 - There is no detail or mention of aboriginal liaison, or targeted cultural heritage surveys that have actually informed the plan. What is the dialogue engagement, more than asking for submissions.
- C. Plan ignores inter-generational equity.**
- This is becoming a big issue - since the inter-generational report just released. The issue here is that the bike plan must consider future issues - this would include the impact of irreversible (negative) change on the natural and cultural environment, and the impact on future use and pressures from further development. Although a cycleway could be seen as benefitting future generations, this should not be at the expense of the natural environment and cultural heritage. Otherwise you are trading one thing for another.
 - As well, use will probably increase (with increased pressure on natural areas) as a result of future population/housing growth and development. The plan mentions "...improve and create safe, easy and enjoyable walking and cycling trips." – THIS enjoyment objective must also include observing and enhancing wildlife habitat and cultural values.

This Objection focuses on the *Key Regional-Route* proposed through *Winston Hills - Toongabbie and North Parramatta Heritage Riparian Precinct* due to the vague and unclear details of the plan.

We submit the following **Attachments as suggested Amendments** and seek positive involvement and engagement with the *Cycleway Taskforce* to design detailed routes.

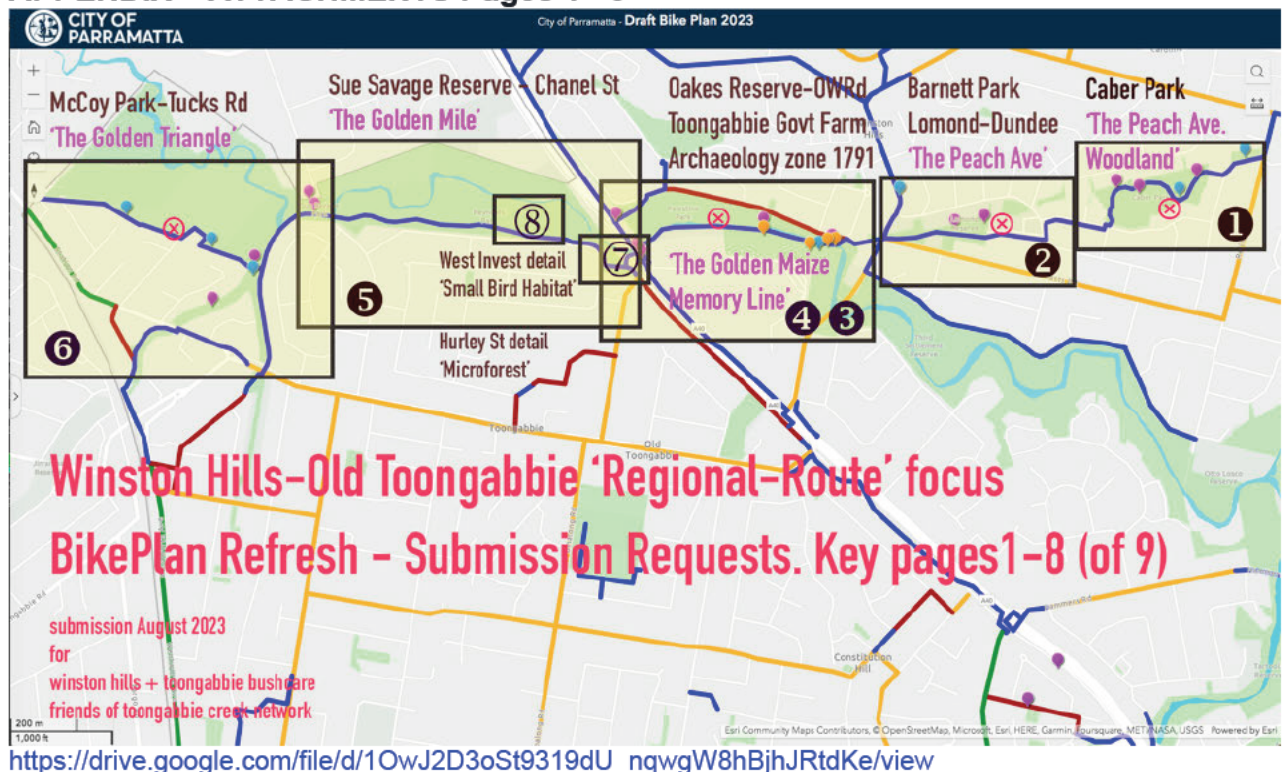
The attached Pages cover these focus areas that need modification to demonstrate Cycleway Design policy features we request, to:

- **Exclude Route construction from all Remnant Tree TPZ** (tree protection zones).
- **Retain Tree Clusters intact** and not subject to civil-work encroachment.
- **Demonstrate minimum impact and maximum benefit** of Route, least 'on-road'.
- **Enhance the Setting and Interpretation** through Suburban Cultural Plan Investment.
- **Include natural swales and enable more Bushcare** Planting and Engagement.
- **Embed innovation** (e.g. permeable paving) and **Artworks** at Nodes & Intersections.

THE SITES OUR SUBMISSION GIVE FOCUS TO:

- ❖ **CABER PARK, Winston Hills**
 - Key Issues - locate New Path outside of Woodland Core (Endangered Ecological Community)
 - Align with Transmission easement, Include Cultural-Plan investment, Bushcare
- ❖ **BARNETT – LOMOND – DUNDEE PARK, Winston Hills**
 - Key Issues - locate New Path with least on-road, align Transmission Easement
 - Include Cultural-Plan investment, Peach Avenue, Bushcare
- ❖ **OAKES RESERVE, Winston Hills and Old Toongabbie**
 - State Heritage Site to prioritise, distinct 'natural earth track (Great West Walk GGW)
 - Key Issues – locate New Bridge Crossing & Path aligned with Transmission Easement
 - Include Archaeological Research, Active and productive Interpretation, with Bushcare
- ❖ **SUE SAVAGE RESERVE, Chanel St Cycleway, Old Toongabbie**
 - Existing Path Precedent, successfully established Cycleway distinct from earth track (GWW)
 - Include priority Landcare strategy, Climate-responsive Shade planting as “Golden Mile”
- ❖ **GIRRAWEE CRK CHANNEL, Old Toongabbie**
 - Key Issues – locate New Crossing as twin-bridge 'arc' linking 4 sides of channels
 - Include Cultural-Plan investment and Landscape Enrichment as “Golden Triangle” Landcare
- ❖ **McCOY BASIN PARK, Old Toongabbie**
 - Key Issue – locate New Path on Levee Ridgeline, excluding all remnant Trees (EEC)
 - Include existing Swales, for ecological value-adding Bushcare and Cultural-plan Artwork
- ❖ **Also HARRIS St BRIDGE, Toongabbie Creek, Westmead-North Wentworthville**
 - Key Issue – location and design of bridge without impact on Sydney Bluegum, Powerful Owl
- ❖ **WISTARIA GARDENS / RIVER CONFLUENCE PRECINCT, North Parramatta**
 - Key Issues – Separate Path Hierarchy to distinct GGW (Govt Phillip Track) from Regional Path
 - Cumberland East Campus State & National Heritage Cultural-Plan Landscape detailing.

APPENDIX – ATTACHMENTS Pages 1 - 9



APPENDIX

2. BARNETT-LOMOND-DUNDEE PARK

1. ROUTE leaves short Aberdeen Rd section to run through DUNDEE Park,
 1. Include new Shade MicroForest Plot and Peach-tree Avenue
2. RETRO-FIT NEW Traffic Island crossing feature, Caledonian Ave+Lomond Cres.
3. LOMOND CRES ON-ROAD ROUTE (least used Left Lane) to #19 Barnett Park Access lane
4. TURN from Access Lane into recently fenced Barnett Park below Transmission Easement.
 1. **Major Peach Tree Avenue Display** Plantings full length of long gradient west
5. EXIT Barnett Park Corridor as "sweep through" to Barnett Rd Bustop
 1. Devise pathway arc to enable **Shade Planting north of Bus Stop, and**
 2. **Peach Tree Avenue Display Plantings** feature
6. Crossing Barnetts Rd where appropriate

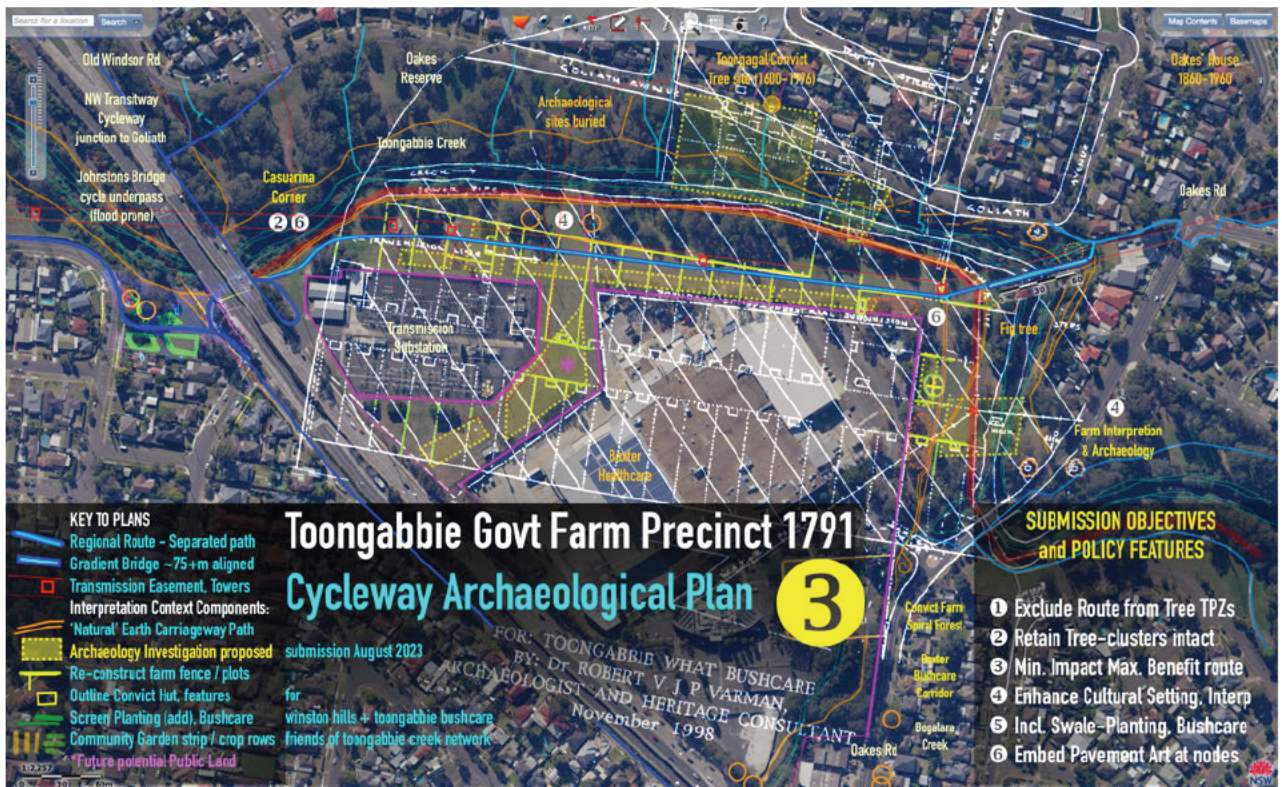


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APPENDIX

3. OAKES RD - ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLAN - Great West Walk (GWW) stretch

1. Design Research and Education Plan, refer to
2. <https://digital.library.sydney.edu.au/nodes/view/10481>
3. Robert Varman Report, 1998 (for WHaT Bushcare, CoP Funded)
4. State Heritage Listed 2012, yet to be excavated to strategic plan.
5. <https://www.hms.heritage.nsw.gov.au/App/Item/ViewItem?itemId=5061406>
6. * Potential addition to Public Lands? re Surplus Endeavor Energy property (cultural values)
7. Linear Areas for Community Urban Agriculture in template of Historic Farm Interpretation
 1. -

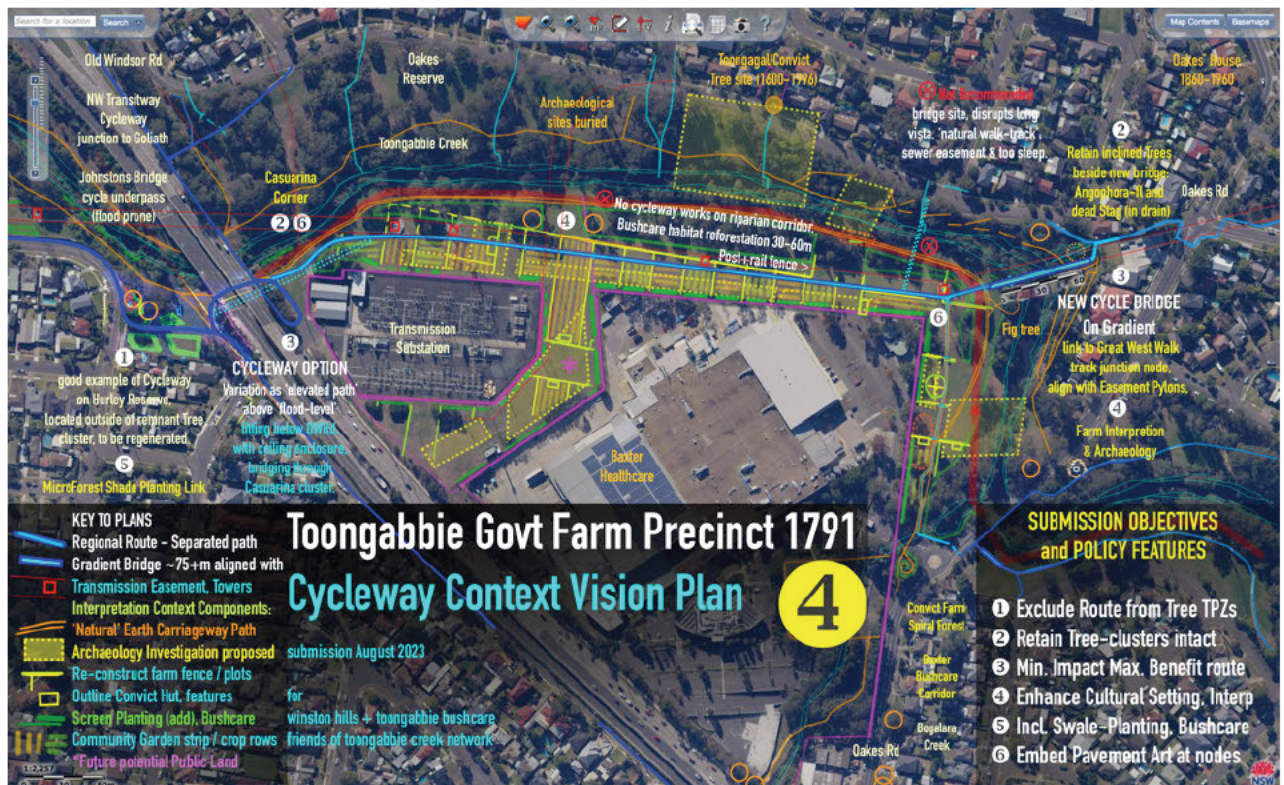


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4. OAKES RD PRECINCT

1. - Being Toongabbie Govt Farm Archaeological Site
2. = the Golden Maize identity promotional section
3. ISSUE ROUTE fork to **NEW BRIDGE CROSSING** from existing link (to Goliath Ave)
4. New inclined Bridge ideally on 'corner bend', not over the "convict-steps", minimal impact
5. Gentle Gradient for Level-change down to meet 'Sewer Easement' GWW track, forming node
 1. Possibly 1 bridge support on inside bend of riverbank, above typical floods.
6. Enhance intersection node meeting 'old earthen track' GWW to remain on natural level. (flood-prone)
7. Alternate Crossing is NOT RECOMMENDED from opposite #24 Goliath Ave, on road link.
 1. That option disrupts the long-view vista, cutting across GWW track (without headroom under...)
8. **ROUTE to WEST Aligns to south-side** of Transmission Pylons, (above floods).
9. Straight line adjacent to Power Pylons down to "Casuarina Corner", intersecting 'archaeological farm plan'.
10. Entry from Baxter Drive via 'natural earthen Carriageway track' through Heritage Site.
 1. Carriageway walk tracks provide options into Oakes Reserve (engaging with archaeology sites and interpretation).
11. ISSUE **Primary Archaeological Research** and Interpretation Project Proposed
 1. further to *Robert Varman Report (above), 1998 (for WHaT Bushcare, CoP Funded)*
12. ISSUE ROUTE **CONNECTS** to existing Cycleway Loop under Johnston Bridge, Old Windsor Rd.
13. NB. **POTENTIAL OPTION** for a 'elevated section' at this Western End through Casuarina
 1. Ideally would be modular, inserted with least Casuarina tree demolition
 2. If elevated the 'bridging cycleway' section would connect (neatly) with Existing Cycleway path that 'dips under' the OWRd Bridge, and up to the west at Hurley St.
 3. This concept could be approx.. 1.5m "higher" than existing path above floodway, and requiring a 'ceiling' below bridge, with lighting, due to pigeons, dust and safety.

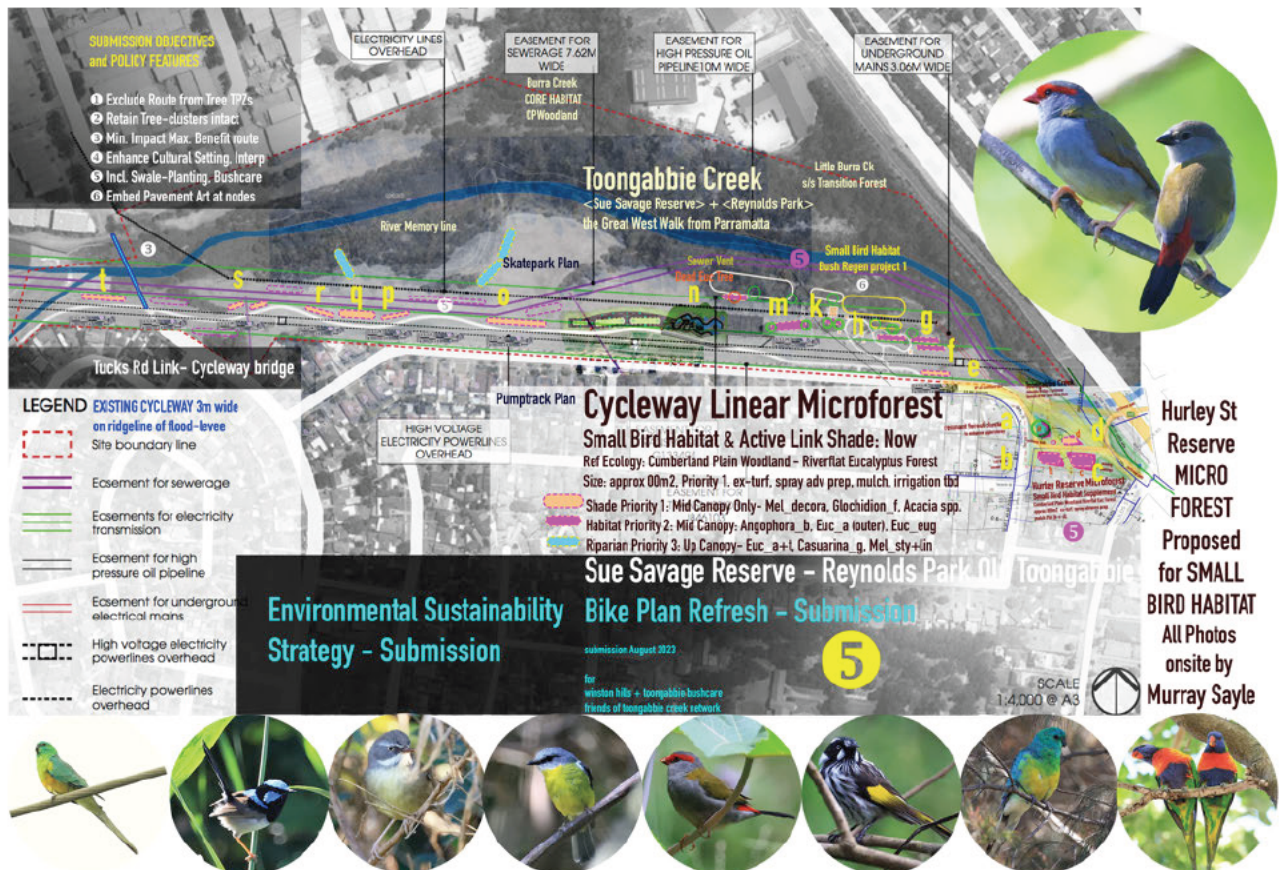


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5. CHANEL ST- SUE SAVAGE RESERVE EXISTING ROUTE

1. = The Golden Mile identity promotional section
2. Ref. CoP Masterplan 2017, as later plans re WestInvest Project not made available?
3. ISSUE - Enhance Existing Cycleway through Hurley St Reserve for Shade and Amenity
4. Immediate Proposal for new Micro-forest Planting to shade and enrich experience of existing cycleway and expand Small Bird Habitats, as a community bushcare priority,
5. Existing Route runs west along Flood-levee ridgeline to Tucks Rd, then follows Pendle Creek Channel.
6. ISSUE - NEW BRIDGE CROSSING over Toongabbie Creek floodway, to link to Tucks Rd North, Seven Hills – involves Blacktown City Council joint planning.
7. Art embedded at Intersection at new crossing.
 1. Plinth feature Artwork at node, as Suburban Cultural-Plan Investment program.
8. = **The Golden Mile** with multiple Acacia species and short trees under Power Easements.
 1. Multi-active Corridor Shade and mid-stratum Corridor Plantings requires Funding.
 2. Proposed partnership with Greater Sydney Landcare (Creating Canopies) Supply
 3. *Small Bird Habitat community Bushcare priority, with Red-browed Finch, Superb Fairy Wren, Spotted Pardalote, Golden Whistlers, Red-rump Parrots, All Onsite*



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APPENDIX

6. McCOY PARK - Girraween Creek

1. = Golden Triangle identity promotional stretch
2. Existing Regional Cycleway follows Channel shoulder.
3. **ISSUE - TWO SHORT BRIDGES** as DUAL CROSSING - in 'arc' linking all 4 sides for pedestrian access.
 1. Crossing to be accessed at the junction of Pendle & Girraween Creek Channels
 2. Art Plinth feature location, in Suburban Cultural-Plan Investment Program
 3. -
4. **ISSUE - ROUTE Turns North, Crosses Swale and Ramps up and around TPZ** of all Remnant Eucalypts.
5. **HAIR-PIN BEND FEATURE** - (at optimum gradient) around to 'top of McCoy Basin Levee'
 1. Exclude Route from Boundary Fence-lines, and Scout Hall precinct, keeping to 'ridgeline'
 2. Swale line Planting (which is a significant lengthy characteristic of educational value)
6. **ROUTE follows Ridgeline west**, all the way to 'natural ground level' near Soccer Ovals.
7. Straight ROUTE up between various trees (mostly clear mown strip)
8. Enhance all of Swale-line to be Planted with Paperbark, Sedges and Casuarina.
 1. Connection node at McCoy Carpark and Station Rd, with embedded artwork.
 2. Note gravel runoff in carpark
9. Route to enable benefit of Shade Corridor Tree Planting to north and western sides

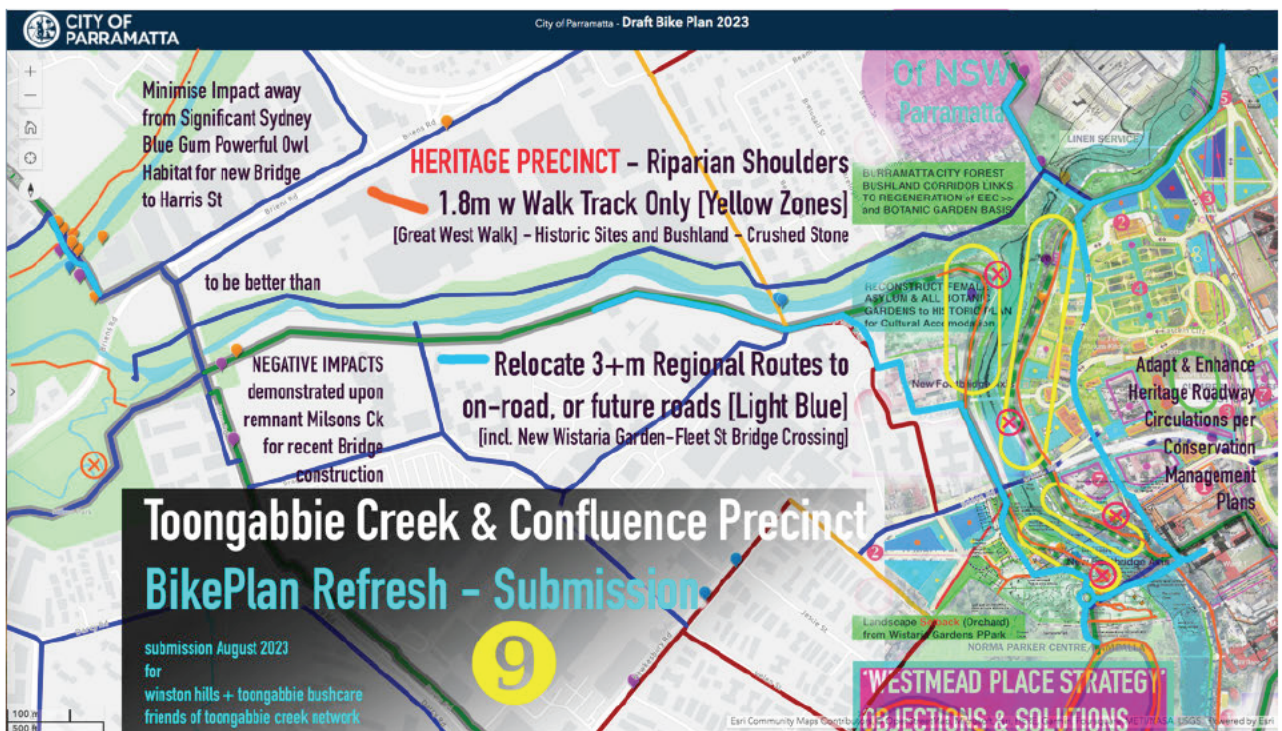


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9. NORTH PARRAMATTA RIVER CONFLUENCE

1. = State Heritage Precinct
2. Exclude New 3+m wide ROUTE from Riparian shoulders of Heritage Precinct
3. Include historic and new roadway circulation in path Hierachy with
 1. 'lesser scale' Great West Walk to Cultural Plan, and archaeology sites
4. NB Wistaria Gardens State Heritage site, route needs to follow existing Garden Way path NW and
 1. exit Northern end down under Bridge Road bridge (Health Dept) to join a
 2. Natural Crushed Stone pathway for e.g. 1.8m max
 3. through Bushland (to be regenerated)
5. ISSUE – Route and design of New Bridge Crossing between OBriens Rd and Harris St needs to be developed to have least possible impact on Sydney Blue Gum and the known Powerful Owl, and
 1. stabilise serious solodic-clay river-bank erosion – with best natural / green engineering, ideally excluding un-manageable rock-gabbions, that become intractable weed-infestations.



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SEE ALL PLAN SUGGESTION REQUESTS

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1fVrY4CTcEs1ys-xC3lx2bhBQgTIFaVRC>

your sincerely

[Redacted]
for
Winston Hills & Toongabbie Bushcare
Friends of Toongabbie Creek Network
[Redacted]
parramatta australia