

The Cowes Activity Centre Plan 2015 established a clear vision for the revitalisation of Cowes and identified three key projects. The three projects are:

- Cowes Jetty Triangle and Piazza Redevelopment
- Cowes Cultural and Community Centre
- Cowes Transit Centre and All Day Carpark

The Jetty Triangle and Piazza project was completed in November 2018 and construction of the Transit Centre and All Day Carpark will soon be underway.

The Cowes Transit Centre and All Day Carpark will be located just behind the Cultural and Community Centre, spanning between Chapel and Church Street. The re-development will include over 120 car parks, as well as a bus interchange, taxi rank and associated facilities.

### **What is the cost of this project?**

The total project cost is approximately \$2.4 million. This project is funded by contributions from:

- Council - \$1.4 million
- State Government - Regional Development Victoria (RDV) - \$900,000
- Changing Places Victoria - \$100,000

### **How many car parking bays will be constructed?**

There will be a total of 123 parking bays including 115 all day parking bays, two spaces for electric vehicles (EV) charging point stations and six accessible parking bays.

### **What are electric charge point stations?**

Council intends to install two different types of chargers (Type 1 and 2 sockets – 22kW output – medium charging facility) for public use. This will cover most current electric vehicle manufacturers within today's market. At this time, the electric charge point stations will be free for public service for EV owners only.

### **What do our construction works involve?**

The proposed works include, but are not limited to:

- **Vegetation clearing** for the construction of the bus/taxi interchange and the All Day Carpark areas. Vegetation clearing is necessary to ensure the safe and efficient function of

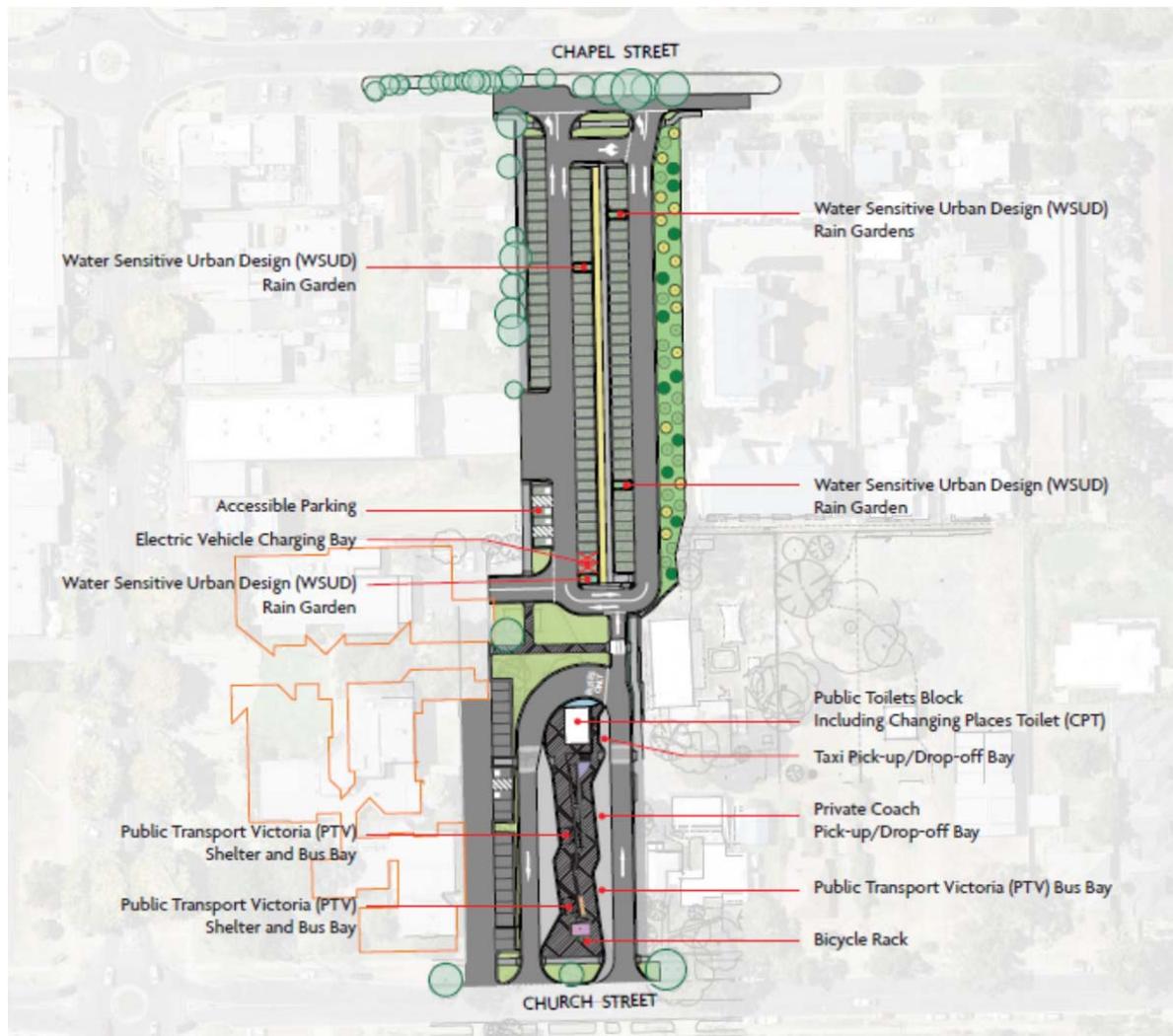
the Transit Centre, which includes significant excavation for road pavement, kerb and channel, underground stormwater and utility services across the site.

A key focus through the design process has been minimisation of the extent of vegetation required to be removed, however removal of some of the existing trees will be necessary.

- **Major earthworks** to improve levels and grade transitions across the site, with a number of retaining walls to be built. The site poses a number of challenges and complexities such as matching proposed works into existing access points for adjacent properties, achieving compliance with road and carpark design standards and providing a functional and safe layout for vehicles, pedestrians and public transport services.
- Installation of **underground stormwater drainage** to carry surface run-off from the new carpark and bus/taxi interchange areas. This will include the installation of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) rain gardens which are specially designed garden beds that slow and filter stormwater run-off from the road and surrounding areas or stormwater pipes.
- Construction and formalisation of **123 all day car parking bays**, which includes 115 general parking bays, two designated electric vehicle bays and six accessible parking bays.
- Provision for a **bus interchange facility and designated taxi rank spaces**. The bus interchange area will include accessible ramping, hardstand areas, installation of bus shelters, seating and a bicycle rack.
- A new **Changing Places and public toilet facility** will be built within the bus interchange area. A Changing Places toilet is fitted with a height-adjustable adult-sized changing table, a track and hoist system and enough space to provide a safe, clean toilet and changing environment for those with additional needs. A unisex, ambulant and fully accessible toilet will also be installed. The new Changing Places facility will be a valuable asset for locals and visitors, possibly attracting people who otherwise wouldn't have visited the area
- Installation of **accessible pathways and ramps** throughout the site to provide a safe and accessible connection to existing facilities and businesses in the immediate area
- Soft landscaping using a variety of **mature and low-level native plants** to improve the amenity and feel of the area
- Appropriate **street lighting** for the All Day Carpark and bus interchange areas
- Changes to **electricity and water supply services for the Transit Centre**, where appropriate
- **Line-marking and signage** throughout the site

## How will these works impact me?

- The existing unsealed carpark area will be **closed to the public** for the duration of this project. We appreciate that these works may be inconvenient and ask for your patience during these times
- **Construction traffic in the area and changed traffic conditions.** Please follow signage and obey traffic controllers. We encourage road users to seek alternate parking during this period.
- The use of **heavy plant and machinery including noisy and vibration works** during construction activities. Appropriate protection or risk mitigation measures will be put in place by the contractor throughout the project.
- **Working hours** include the following restrictions:
  - No work shall be carried out on any Sunday, public holiday or between Good Friday and Easter Monday inclusive.
  - No work shall be carried out on the site outside the period between 7.00am or sunrise, whichever is the later, and 6.00pm or sunset, whichever is the earlier;
  - Saturday – no plant operations shall commence before 9.00am or extend beyond 1.00pm. Refer to *Environment Protection Authority Residential Noise Regulations 48a(5)*; unless otherwise specified or approved by the Contract Superintendent.
- Our contractor will contact adjacent landowners/businesses located on the **northern end of the carpark** to discuss interim access and parking arrangements during the construction period.
- Appropriate **vehicle and pedestrian traffic control measures** will be in place throughout these works
- Our contractor will make every effort to minimise disruptions to the public, local business, adjacent landowners and other key stakeholders that may use the area. It's anticipated that the **site will be closed from early February 2019, with an expected completion date by November 2019**. Please plan your visits to this area accordingly and allow enough time to seek alternate parking options.



*Artist's Impression of Cowes Transit Centre and All Day Parking*

### **When will construction start?**

To minimise disruption to parking in Cowes over the summer holiday period, construction is scheduled to commence in early February 2019. The target completion date for all works associated with this project is November 2019. Some preliminary site works to prepare the site for construction may begin in January 2019.

### **What preparation works are required?**

Preparing the site will involve the removal of some existing vegetation along with underground service alterations such as telephone/internet, water, sewer and power requirements. Coels Shed has been relocated to a new home at PICAL Community Gardens for future restoration and use.

### **What will the new site look like?**

The design of the Transit Centre and All Day Parking area aims to maintain a natural atmosphere in line with the feel and environment of Phillip Island. The landscape plans show the planting of native vegetation, including medium-sized trees. A balance has been struck between the Transit Centre functionality, new public facilities, greenspace, connection and accessibility to pathways for community enjoyment and safety.

### **Why does some vegetation need to be removed?**

Every effort was made to avoid and minimise vegetation removal. Whilst not preferable, to make sure the finished project is functional and safe, some removal of vegetation is required. Vegetation and trees to be removed will be offset with native plantings as required under Clause 52.17 of the Bass Coast Planning Scheme.

### **Was a Planning Permit required for the vegetation removal?**

Yes, a planning permit was required for the removal of native vegetation. The issued planning permit has conditions that require removed native vegetation to be offset. In addition to the formal offset requirements, a selection of locally indigenous species will be planted as part of post-construction landscaping.

A planning permit was not required for the buildings and works for the construction of the Transit Centre and All Day Car Park as these were exempt activities under the Public Use Zone that applies to the land.

### **Why was the planning permit not publicly advertised?**

The planning permit application for the removal of native vegetation wasn't required to be publicly advertised under the Bass Coast Planning Scheme.

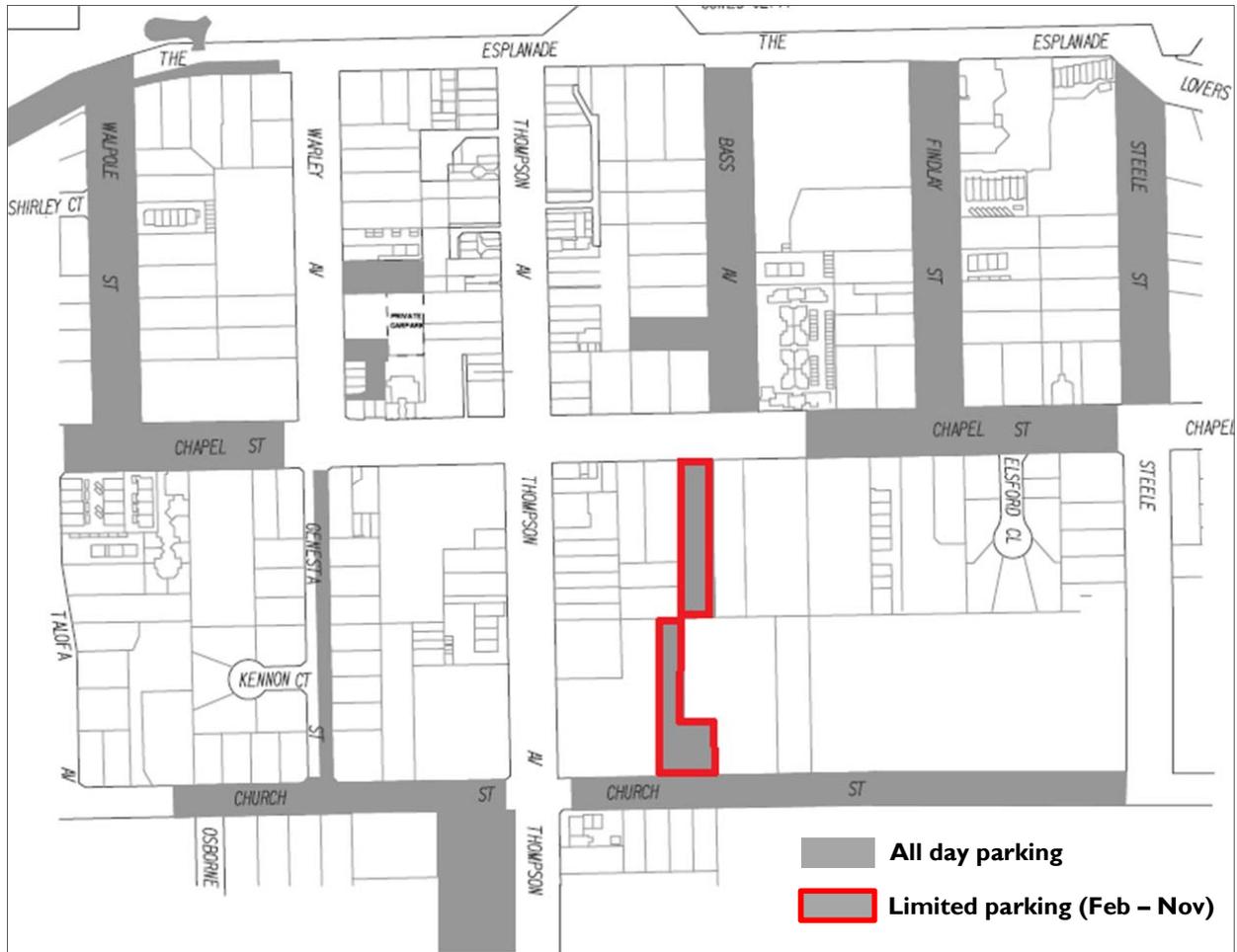
The application was required to be sent to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for review. DELWP have required specific conditions to be included in the planning permit that has been issued. A separate permit has been obtained from DELWP under the *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988* for the removal of three native flora species.

### **Where do I park to visit the Cowes Cultural and Community Centre?**

Visitors to the Cowes Cultural and Community Centre will have limited parking to the rear of the Centre between February and November 2019. It is advised that parking be sought in the streets surrounding the facility; though always ensure that you check the parking restrictions before you park. If you are planning a longer visit to the Centre there are additional all-day parking options in Cowes.

## Where are the additional parking options?

All Day Parking is available in the following areas as shown on the map below. Always ensure that you check the parking restrictions on the street before you park.



## How do I access the Phillip Island Library and drop off my books?

During the construction period the rear access to the Phillip Island Library as well the drop-off shoot will still be available, however parking will be limited. The Library can be best accessed from Thompson Avenue during the works.

## How do I safely access Phillip Island Community Adult Learning (PICAL) during the works?

PICAL can be accessed from Church Street via pedestrian pathways through the front garden. There is all-day parking available on Church Street and PICAL will make their driveway area available for mobility scooters.

## Who do I call to discuss this further?

For information or assistance please contact:

- Council's Infrastructure Delivery Team – Ravi Raveendran – Contract Superintendent or Russell Thomas – Capital Project Officer on 1300 BCOAST (226 278) or (03) 5671 2211
  - Email [basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au](mailto:basscoast@basscoast.vic.gov.au)
  - Visit our website [www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/cowesrevitalisation](http://www.basscoast.vic.gov.au/cowesrevitalisation) to get the latest updates for this project