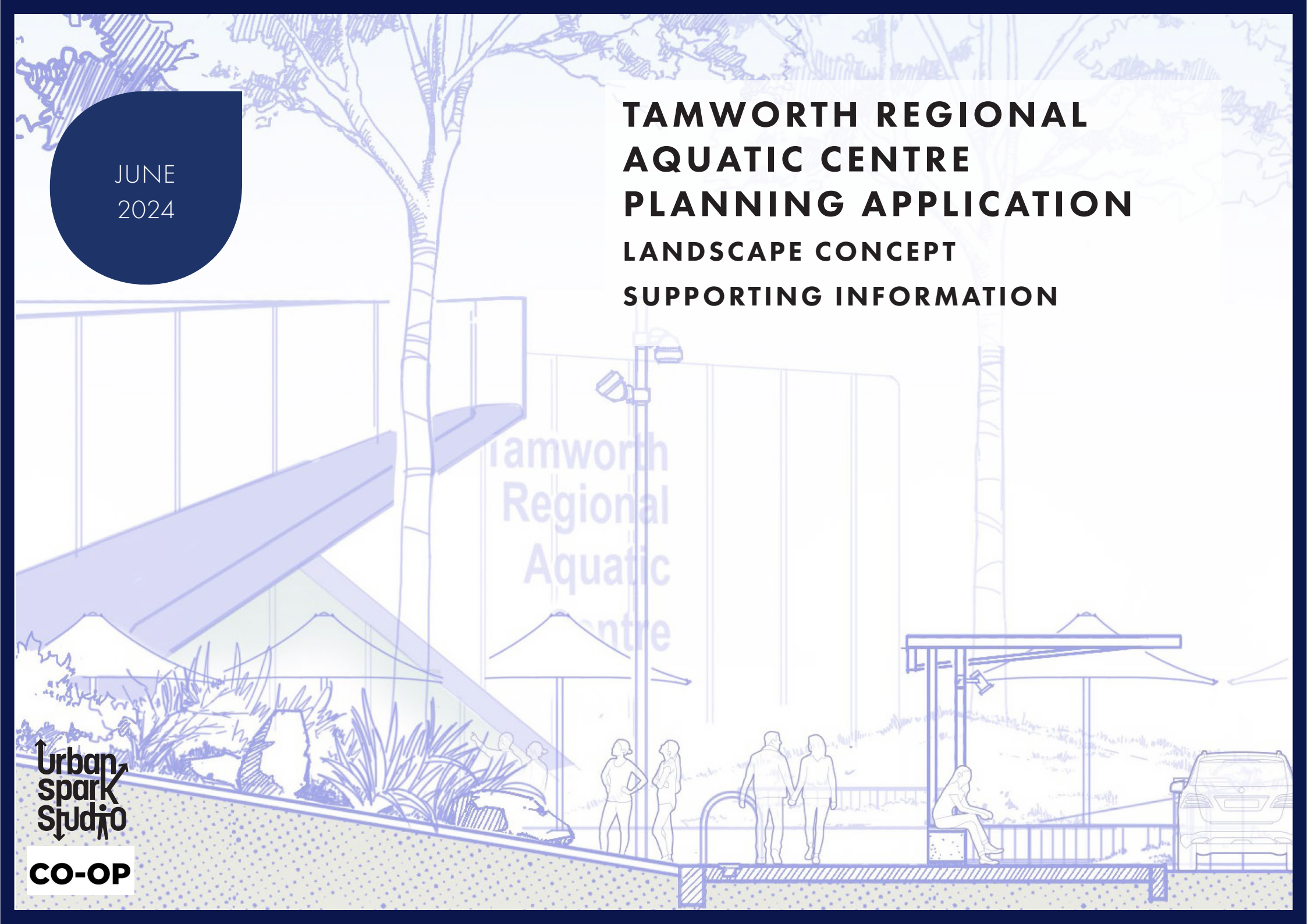


JUNE
2024

TAMWORTH REGIONAL AQUATIC CENTRE PLANNING APPLICATION LANDSCAPE CONCEPT SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Urban
spark
studio

CO-OP



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DESIGN INTENTION

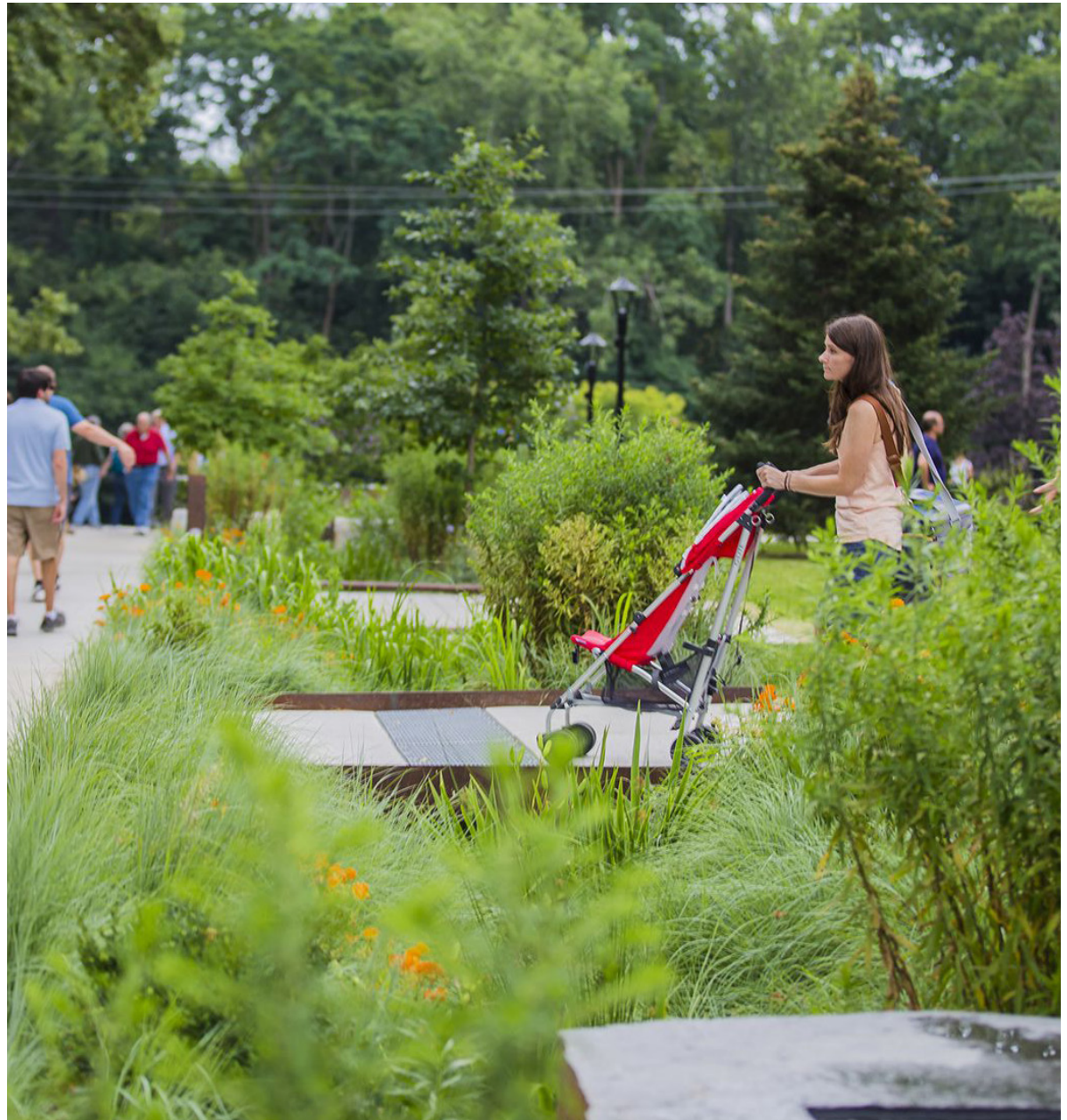
Tamworth Regional Aquatic Centre will nestle into its new landscape context. The proposed landscape will maximise the great greening potential of the site while highlighting the aspects and views and responding to topography and drainage lines. The landscape will create a unique and inviting place for people to dwell, meet, socialise, or move through on arrival and departure. A landscape that makes access to the centre easy, clear and memorable. The landscape embraces a natural frame and offers an inviting and distinct space for use pre and post-swim, on event and non-event days, in the morning, day and evening. The innovative green landscape envelops the building and creates a new landscape feel for its surroundings.

The landscape design is not just about creating spaces, but about fostering a sense of belonging and connection. We have used a layered planting approach, from ground covers to tree canopies, to create a cohesive and inviting landscape. The selection of plant species and sizes will be a collaborative effort, ensuring that the right plants are chosen for the right place and conditions. This approach, combined with the use of native plants, will enhance the community's sense of ownership and pride in the project.

The initial thoughts on the planting approach are to be explored using a variety and diversity of plants. Combining the use of known local species that flourish, including Trees like Eucalyptus, Sugar Gum, White Box, Yellow Box, Red Gum, shrubs like the Bottlebrush, Grevilia, Emu Bush, Banksia, Westringia, and ground covers and tufting plants like Kangaroo Paw, Blue Flax, Yellow Garland and Darling Lilies and Wallaby and Kangaroo Grasses to name a few. Some plants might also be chosen for their attraction to nature such as Salvia for the Blue Banded Bee, Red Hot Pokers loved by the Honeyeater birds and Creeping Boobialla loved by the endangered Golden Rayed Blue Butterfly. Planting meadow-like grasslands supplemented by canopy tree plantings will facilitate species richness. We will look toward habitat attraction and refuge opportunities for fauna species, such as bee and bug houses and bird nesting. A local planting list is illustrated in the Planting Palette section of this document.

The approach is biodiverse and indigenous, providing a beautiful aesthetic and an encouraged native habitat for small birds, lizards, frogs and bees. The layered approach to planting will further facilitate user experience at appropriate points along pathways, pause points, entries and seating areas, exploring textures, colours and forms that combine with water sensitivity, shade creation and microclimate cooling, shade tolerance and climate resilience.

Our approach is guided by climate change and the need for water conservation. Water-Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) strategies are highlighted by Council and stakeholders as a critical attribute in the design approach. The use of water, including rainwater capture,



Pedestrian bridges into the central plaza

DESIGN INTENTION

rain gardens, and a swale network, are crucial elements of this circular landscape the Aquatic Centre project will enable. The WSUD layer is a vital part of the topographic approach designed to guide the water distribution from hard and soft landforms and building infrastructure. Water is managed within the landscape by capturing, slowing release and reusing rainwater through rain garden planting areas, promoting passive irrigation, sustainability and environmental responsibility.

The project is not just about creating a biodiverse landscape, but also about providing a welcoming space for the community and visitors. The beautiful, sheltered entry plaza is designed as a communal gathering space, offering opportunities for relaxation. The space is equipped with shaded seats, seats in sunny spots, and bicycle parking, making it a warm welcome to all.

The mounds covered in ornamental and native grasses create a meadow-like landscape that dances with the wind, teeming with wildflowers and pollinators. The inclined mound greening softens walls and edges, creating shaded, natural, calming spaces. The mounds will be graded for active interaction.

The plaza is also enlivened with a family of furniture and lighting, highlighting the ambience and encouraging a restful welcome and stay time. The hardscape paving will generally be exposed aggregate concrete with low concrete retaining wall edges, and timber top seating of varying sizes and shapes some including armrests and backs. Public art opportunities will be explored, including the subtle crafting of the exposed concrete finishing that reveals texture and aggregate at specialist points. The signage and wayfinding will integrate at key moments for added user needs. Grades remain slight, gentle and accessible on hard-standing surfaces and negate the need for any handrails. The clear, direct and natural pedestrian routes through the plaza and onto the centre entry are highlighted with little pedestrian bridges over a crafted swale line with a biodiverse landscape, providing a dynamic and educational journey towards the Aquatic building and taking overland flows.

The car park entry includes a network of pedestrian paths leading into the plaza. Native trees will help create an established shade structure, allowing light to filter and providing a natural screen as much as possible. Under the trees, pockets of flowering shrubs and native grasses will provide interpretive points on Indigenous planting journeys and cultural relevance. This planting technique will also help provide a habitat corridor to local birds, many of which are rare and on the brink of extinction.



Planting diversity to create a biodiverse habitat

FURNITURE (ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES)

This is just a baseline selection of furniture. These will be developed further in the next stages of design.

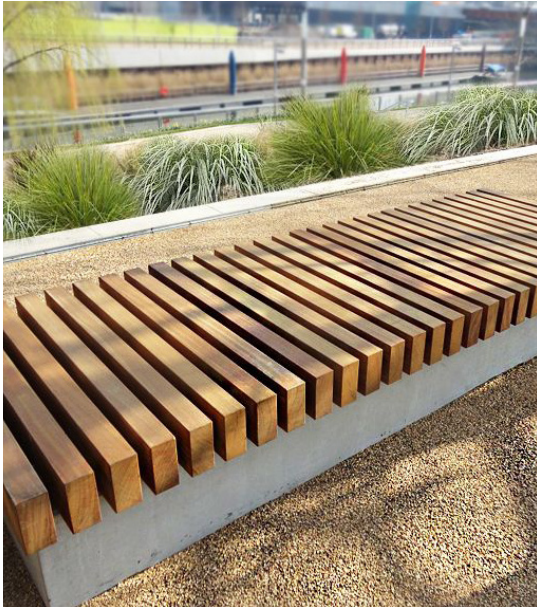
Shade examples - Mak Max Australia



Shade sail example



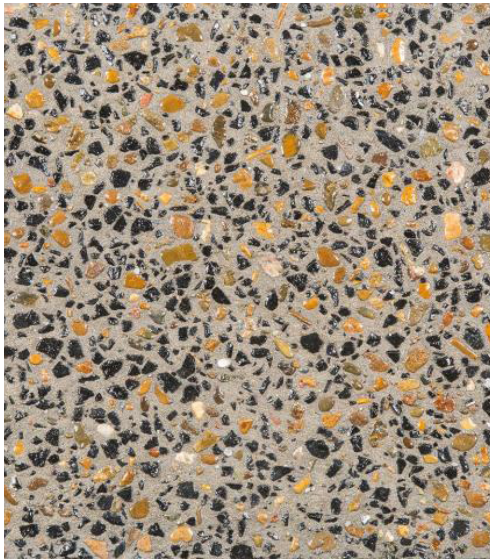
Timber top concrete retaining edge seating bench



Timber top concrete retaining edge seating



Sandblasting technique removes the top layer of concrete. This exposes the aggregate layer which displays the design



Exposed aggregate concrete



Timber top concrete retaining edge seating with back



Timber top concrete retaining edge seating bench & back

BIODIVERSE LANDSCAPE

ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY PRE-SETTLEMENT FLOODPLAINS, WOODLANDS, AND GRASSLANDS

The site’s topography and the proximity of the Tamworth regional river system suggest that it was once part of a rich floodplain. When the pastoralists settled in the district, they drained the fields (similar to the linear drain through our site) and set up farms. The forests here are also gone; the wood was used for buildings and fuel.

Only a fraction of the original White Box Yellow Box, Red Gum woodlands, and native grasslands that were once abundant remain.

Acknowledging this pre-settlement geography and restoring some of the ecology helps to embed the building into its context.

CORRIDORS AND SWALES

A Corridor (Wildlife Corridor, Biodiversity Corridor, Habitat Corridor, or Pollinator Corridor) is a connection across the landscape that supports natural processes that occur in a healthy environment, including the movement of species to find food and water, breed, and genetic diversity. Combining water movement (drainage) with the corridor concept can be helpful in a constrained site as it will provide multiple uses of the same space—water treatment, drainage, indigenous vegetation, habitat for small birds, lizards, and frogs, aesthetic landscaping, and a water feature. The corridor can also be designed to shelter people from the prevailing wind and sun (as per shelterbelt).

Given the proposed recto-linear layout of the site – car park, swimming pool, buildings – and the proposed linearity of the swale drains that will fit in with that aesthetic, it would be helpful to create a meandering nature for the swales. This could be achieved gently by placing rocks and rock baffling within the swale and through tufts of reeds. In addition to creating some interest and softening the hard edges, this would help slow and filter the water and hold it on the site longer to promote plant uptake of the water and nutrients.

Rytidosperma geniculatum: Wallaby Grass is a preferred habitat for many butterflies and moths. This includes the critically endangered Golden Sun Moth



White Box, Yellow Box, Red Gum trees are native to this area



Myoporum Parvifolium: Creeping Boobialla is loved by endangered Golden Rayed Blue Butterfly



Native grasslands once in abundance remain in this area

BIODIVERSE LANDSCAPE

INDIGENOUS PLANT PALETTE

To promote and enhance biodiversity planting should be in layers—from ground covers, mulches, grasses, and shrubs to different layers of tree canopies. This provides the most diverse habitat for the best biodiversity, e.g., lizards (rocks, mulch, grass tufts) and small birds and insects such as the blue banded bee (grasses, prickly shrubs, trees).

The Tamworth Regional Landcare Association has expertise in local endemic species, biodiversity, regeneration, and habitat plantings, and it will be a great source of knowledge and advice on appropriate indigenous plants for the site. They also run a nursery with various native and endemic plants grown from locally collected and propagated seeds. We intend to seek their advice throughout the next stage of this project.

BIRDS

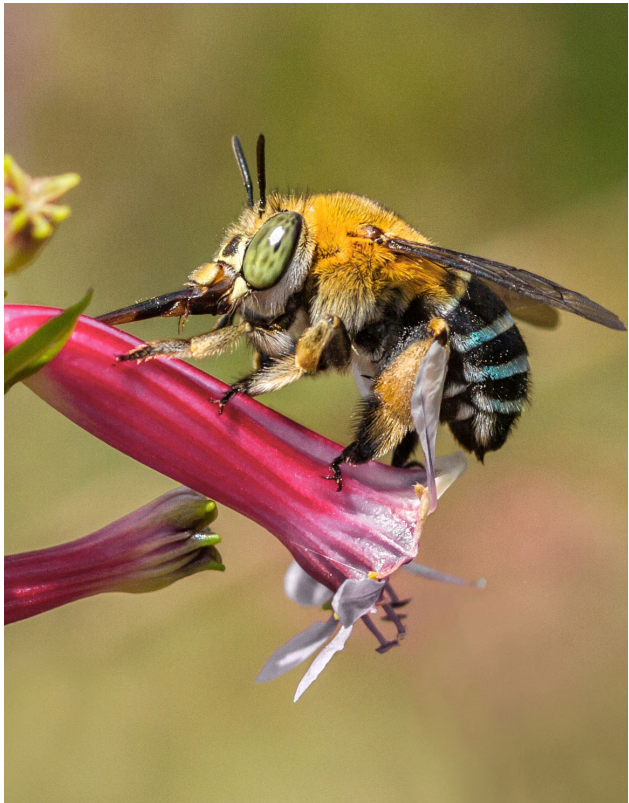
There is a huge range of birds in the area. According to the Tamworth Birders brochure, the list of birds in the area ranges from quite common to very rare ones. We believe that planting a varied and diverse landscape suited to these birds with pockets of flowering shrubs and native grasses, e.g., flowering gums and bottlebrushes, will attract small native birds, creating a native habitat for them.

‘It is the native shrubs, perennial herbs and grasses that are critically important to insects and small birds. This understorey is their refuge.’

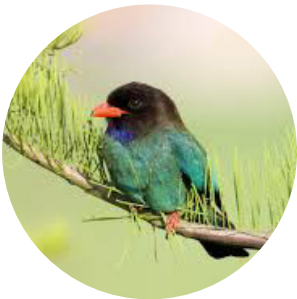
Vick Bachelard, Waverley Council



Local threatened species include: Spotted Tail Quoll, Koala, Blue Banded Bee



BIRDS SEEN WITHIN THE TAMWORTH REGION



Dollarbird (common)



Jacky Winter (common)



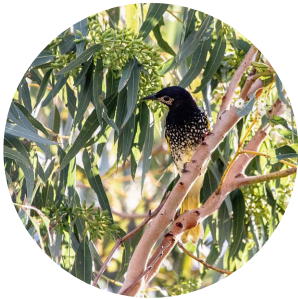
Red Capped Robin (uncommon)



Turquoise Parrot (uncommon)



Yellow Tail Black Cockatoo (uncommon)

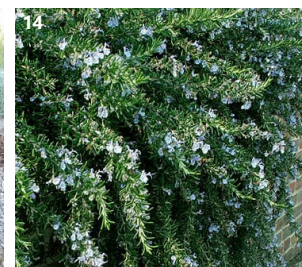
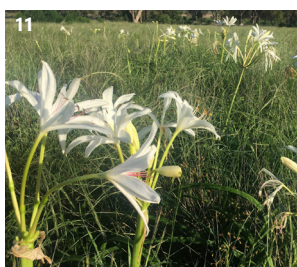
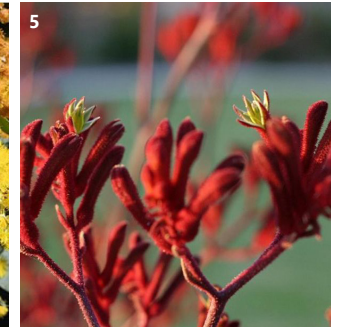


Regent Honey Eater (very rare/ endangered animals at risk of extinction)

PLANTING PALETTE

This is just a baseline selection. We are aiming to create a diverse selection of plants and the habitat for the most possible biodiversity, e.g., lizards (rocks, mulch, grass tufts) and small birds and insects such as the blue banded bee (grasses, prickly shrubs, trees)

- 1 MYOPORUM PARVIFOLIUM
YAREENA: CREEPING BOOBIALLA
- 2 SANTOLINA CHAMAECYPARISSUS:
COTTON LAVENDER
- 3 CALOSTEMMA AUREA YELLOW
GARLAND LILY
- 4 ACACIA PYCNANTHA: GOLDEN WATTLE
- 5 ANIGOZANTHOS : KANGAROO
PAW
- 6 BULBINE SEMIBARBATA: NATIVE LEEK
- 7 GAURA LINDHEIMERI: WHIRLING
BUTTERFLIES
- 8 PENNISETUM: PURPLE & WHITE
FOUNTAIN GRASS *
- 9 REVOLUTA: BREVICAILIS BLUE
FLAX LILY /BLUEBERRY LILY
- 10 BANKSIA: BIRTHDAY CANDLES
- 11 CRINUM FLACCIDUM: DARLING LILY
- 12 LIBERTIA PANICULATA: BRANCHING
GRASS FLAG
- 13 WESTRINGIA HYBRIDA AUSSIE BOX:
COASTAL ROSEMARY
- 14 ROSMARINUS OFFICINALIS:
ROSEMARY
- 15 CALLISTEMON: BOTTLEBRUSH
- 16 GREVILIA BLOOD ORANGE
- 17 EREMOPHILA NIVEA: EMU BUSH
- 18 RYTIDOSPERMA GENICULATUM:
OXLEY WALLABY GRASS
- 19 WAHLENBERGIA COMMUNIS CAROLIN:
TUFTED BLUEBELL
- 20 THEMEDA TRIANDRA: KANGAROO
GRASS



PLANT LIST

TAMWORTH LANDCARE NURSERY SEASONAL PLANT LIST

This is just a baseline selection which will be developed further in the next stages of design.

		Category	Bush tucker or Bush medicine
<i>Arthropodium milleforium</i>	Vanilla Lily	gound cover	Bush tucker
<i>Austrostipa verticillata</i>	Slender Bamboo Grass	ground cover	
<i>Bulbine semibarbata</i>	Native Leek	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Calostemma aurea</i>	Yellow Garland Lily	ground cover	
<i>Carex appressa</i>	Tall Sedge	ground cover	
<i>Carpobrotis glaucescens</i>	Pigface	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Crinum flacidum</i>	Darling Lily	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Cyperus sp</i>	Sedge (medium size)	ground cover	
<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	Blue Flax Lily	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Dianella caerulea</i>	Flax Lily Narrow leaf fm	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Eleocharis sphaculata</i>	Tall Spikerush	ground cover	
<i>Juncus sp</i>	Pin Rush	ground cover	
<i>Lomandra hystrix</i>	River Mat Rush	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Lomandra longifolia</i>	Spiny Mat Rush	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Mentha diemenica</i>	Slender Mint	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Mentha satireioides</i>	Native Pennyroyal	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Common Reed	ground cover	
<i>Rhagodia condolleana</i>	Seaberry Saltbush	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Rhagodia spinescens</i>	Spiny Saltbush	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Tetragonia tetragonioides</i>	Warrigal Greens	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Typha domingensis</i>	Narrow-leaved Cumbungi	ground cover	bush tucker
<i>Acacia cultriformis</i>	Knife Leaf Wattle	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Acacia deanii</i>	Dean's Wattle	Medium sized bush	
<i>Acacia decora</i>	Western Silver Wattle	Medium sized bush	
<i>Acacia harpophylla</i>	Brigalow	Medium sized bush	
<i>Acacia iteaphylla</i>	Flinders Rangers Wattle	Medium sized bush	
<i>Acacia montana</i>	Mountain Wattle	Medium sized bush	
<i>Acacia nerifolia</i>	Silver Wattle or Moonbi Wattle	Medium sized bush	
<i>Acacia podalyriifolia</i>	Queensland Silver Wattle	Medium sized bush	
<i>Acacia terminalis</i>	Sunshine Wattle	Medium sized bush	
<i>Atriplex nummularia</i>	Old Man Saltbush	Medium sized bush	Bush tucker
<i>Beackea sp</i>	Swamp Tea Tree	Medium sized bush	
<i>Callistemon linearis</i>	Narrow-leaved Bottlebrush	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Callistemon phoeniceous</i>	Scarlet Bottlebrush	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Callistemon sieberi</i>	River Bottlebrush	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Carissa spinarum</i>	conkerberry	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Citrus australasica</i>	Finger Lime	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Crinum pedunculatum</i>	Swamp Lily	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Cyperus exaltatus</i>	Tall Cyperus	Medium sized bush	
<i>Dianella longifolia</i>	Blueberry Liliy	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Dodonaea viscosa</i>	Hop Bush	Medium sized bush	bush medicine
<i>Ficus coronata</i>	Sandpaper Fig	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>	Rusty Fig	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Hovea lanceolata</i>	Hill Hovea	Medium sized bush	
<i>Leptospermum polygalifolium</i>	Tantoon	Medium sized bush	bush medicine
<i>Melaleuca bracteata</i>	Black Tea Tree	Medium sized bush	bush medicine
<i>Pittosporum angustifolium</i>	Berrigan	Medium sized bush	bush tucker
<i>Senna artemesiodes</i>	Silver Senna	Medium sized bush	
<i>Senna barclayana</i>	Pepper-leaved Senna	Medium sized bush	
<i>Swainsona galegifolia</i>	Smooth Darling Pea	Medium sized bush	

<i>Acacia pendula</i>	Weeping Myall	Tree	
<i>Acacia salicina</i>	Cooba	Tree	
<i>Acacia stenophylla</i>	River Coobah	Tree	
<i>Alectryon oleifolius</i>	Western Rosewood	Tree	
<i>Alphitonia excelsa</i>	Soap Bush or Red Ash	Tree	
<i>Alstonia constricta</i>	Quinine	Tree	
<i>Angophora floribunda</i>	Rough Barked Apple	Tree	
<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>	Kurrajong	Tree	bush tucker
<i>Brachychiton rupestris</i>	Bottle Tree	Tree	bush tucker
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Weeping Bottlebrush	tree	bush tucker
<i>Callitris glaucophylla</i>	White Cypress Pine	tree	
<i>Capparis mitchellii</i>	Native Orange or Bumble	tree	bush tucker
<i>Casuarina cristata</i>	Belah	tree	
<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	River Oak	tree	
<i>Corymbia citriodora</i>	Lemon Scented Gum	tree	bush tucker
<i>Eucalyptus albens</i>	White Box	Tree	
<i>Eucalyptus blakelyi</i>	Blakely's Red Gum	Tree	
<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>	River Red Gum	Tree	
<i>Eucalyptus crebra</i>	Narrow-leaved Ironbark	Tree	
<i>Eucalyptus dealbata</i>	Tumbledown Gum	Tree	
<i>Eucalyptus melanophloia</i>	Silver-leaved Ironbark	tree	
<i>Eucalyptus meliadora</i>	Yellow Box	tree	
<i>Eucalyptus moluccana</i>	Grey Box	tree	
<i>Eucalyptus populnea</i>	Bimble Box or Poplar Box	tree	
<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i>	Mugga Ironbark	tree	
<i>Hymenosporum flavum</i>	Native Frangipany	Tree	
<i>Livistona australis</i>	Cabbage Tree Palm	tree	bush tucker
<i>Notolaea microcarpa</i>	Native Olive	tree	
<i>Podocarpus elatus</i>	Plum Pine	tree	bush tucker
<i>Psyrax odorata</i>	Lamboto or Canthium	tree	
<i>Syzygium paniculatum</i>	Magenta Lilly Pilly	tree	bush tucker
<i>capparis lasiantha</i>	Native passionfruit or Nepine	vine	bush tucker
<i>Clematis glycinoides</i>	Headach Vine	vine	bush medicine
<i>Clematis microphylla</i>	Small-leaved Clematis	vine	
<i>Eustrephus latifolius</i>	Wombat Berry	vine	bush tucker
<i>Pandora pandorana</i>	Wonga Wonga	vine	



Wahlenbergia Communis Carolin: Tufted Bluebell & Calotis lappulacea Yellow Burr Daisy

OVERALL SCHEMATIC



- ① MAIN ENTRANCE
- ② SHADED PEDESTRIAN PATHS
- ③ SWALE
- ④ PEDESTRIAN ROUTE
- ⑤ ENTRANCE PLAZA
- ⑥ MEADOW MOUNDS
- ⑦ PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES
- ⑧ SUN LAWN
- ⑨ INTERNAL COURTYARD
- ⑩ LAWN

1. CENTRAL PLAZA & ENTRANCE



① MEADOW MOUNDS

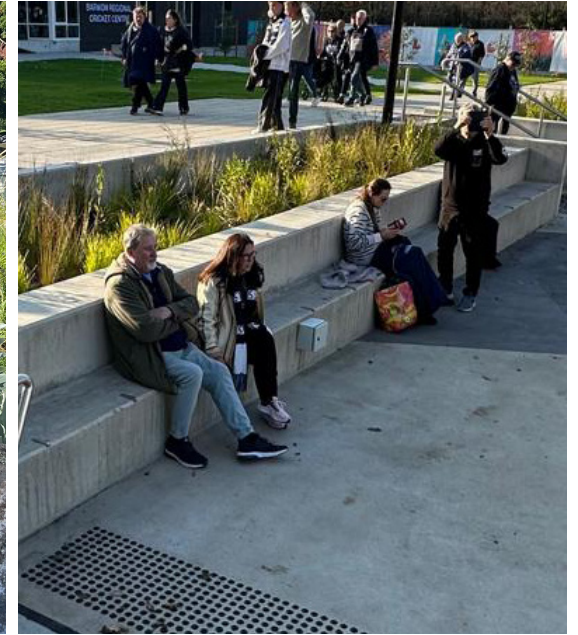
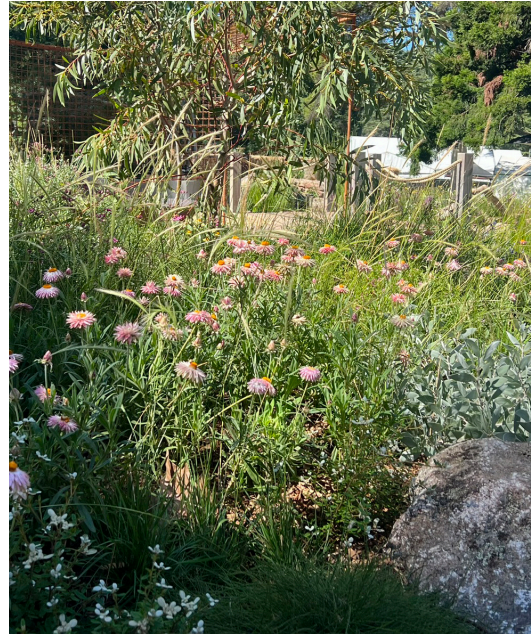
② PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES

③ ENTRANCE PLAZA

1. LANDSCAPE INSPIRATION CENTRAL PLAZA & ENTRANCE

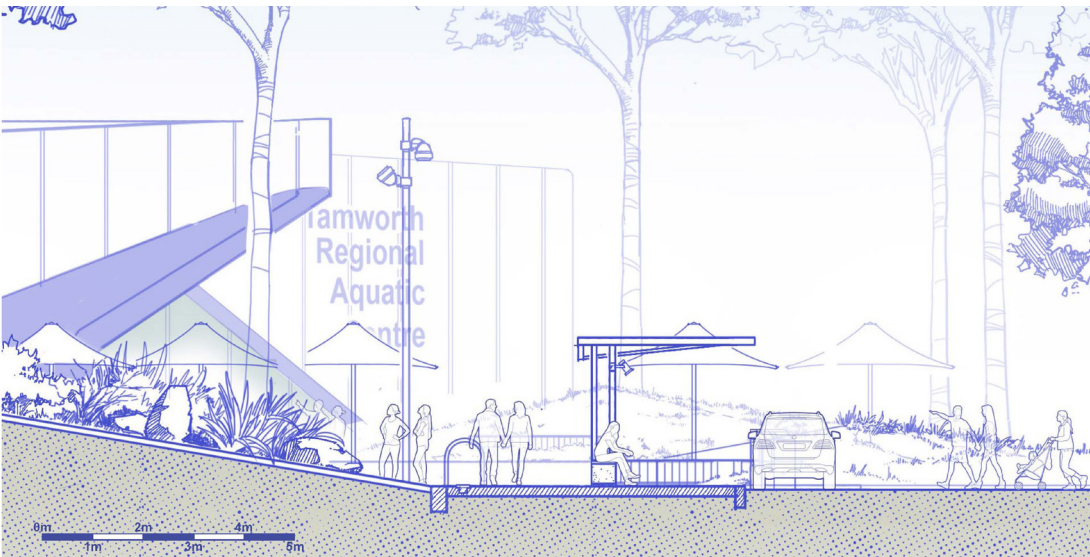
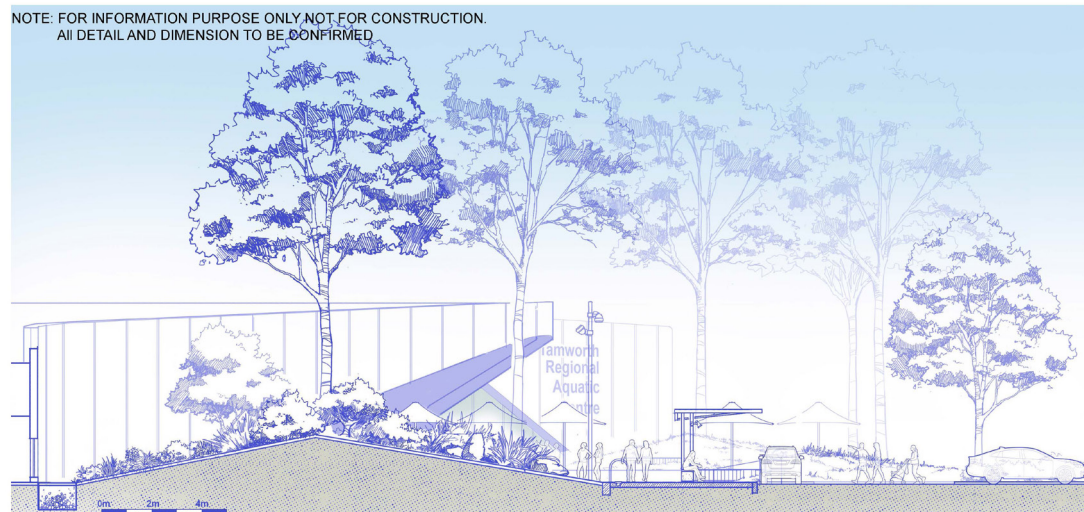


1. LANDSCAPE INSPIRATION CENTRAL PLAZA & ENTRANCE

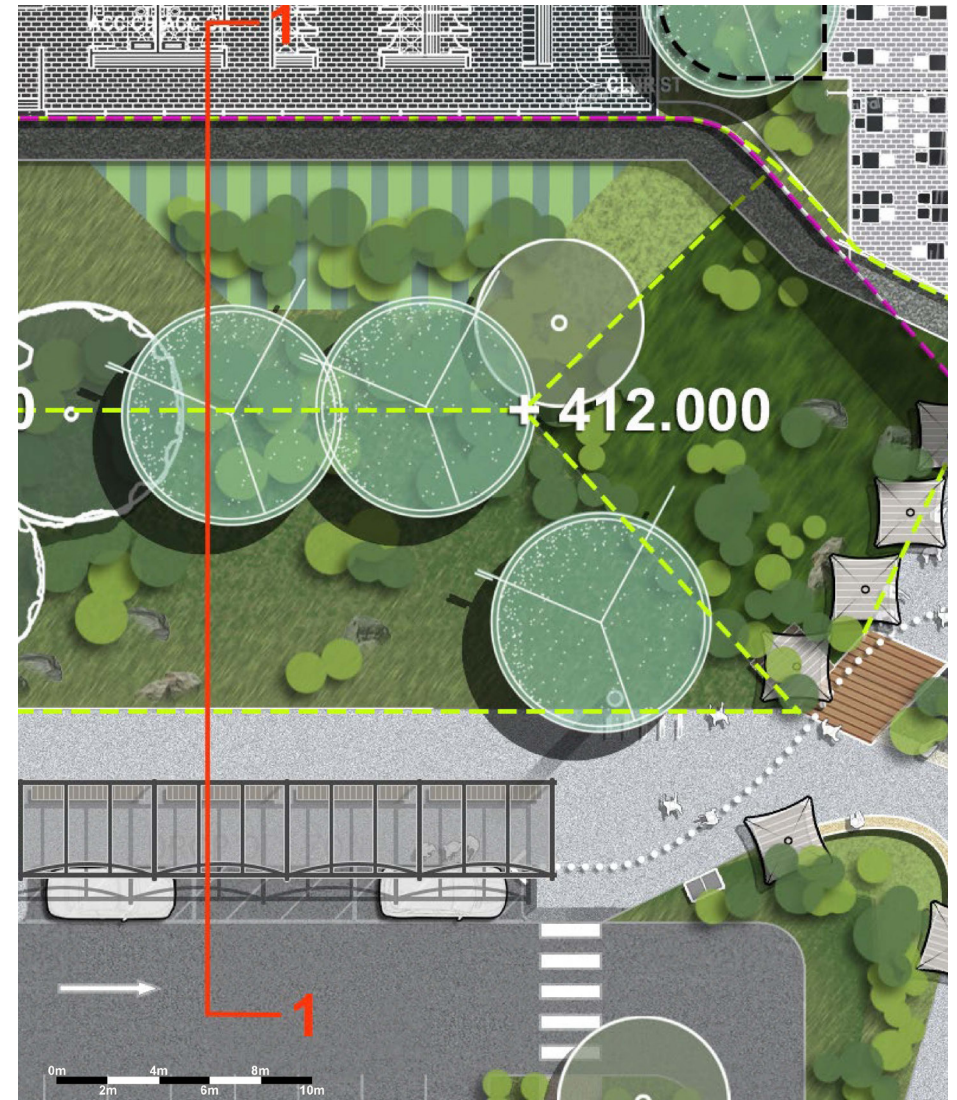


1. CENTRAL PLAZA & ENTRANCE SECTION 1:1

NOTE: FOR INFORMATION PURPOSE ONLY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.
ALL DETAIL AND DIMENSION TO BE CONFIRMED

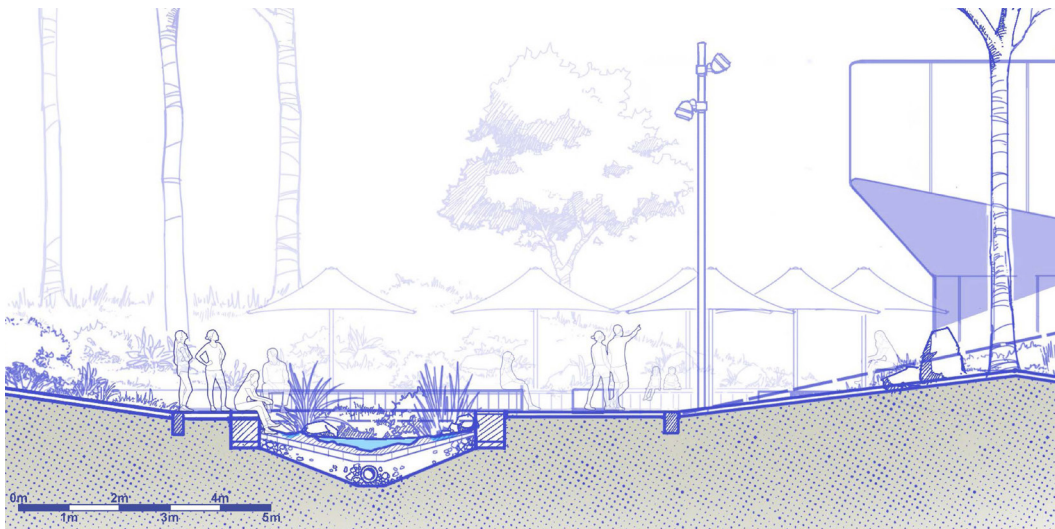
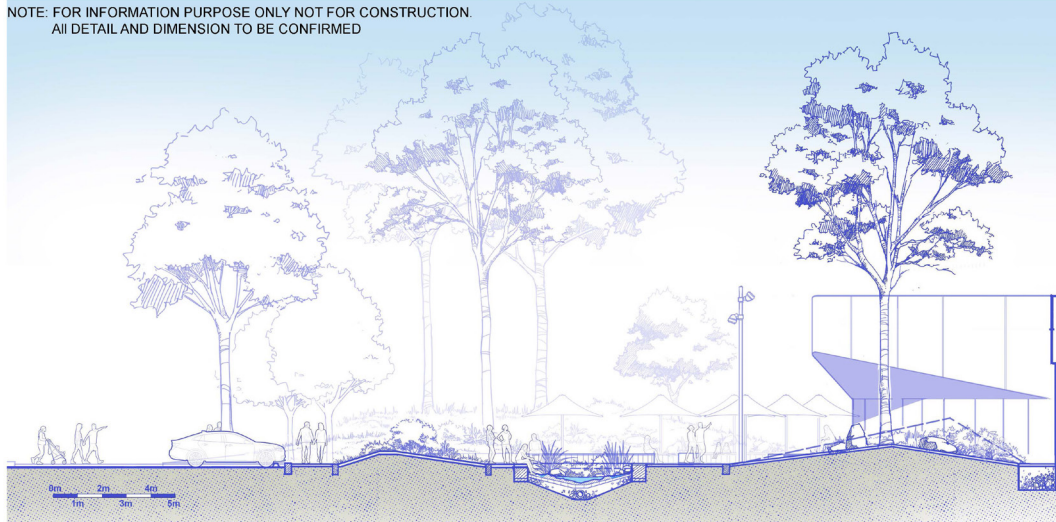


SECTION 1:1
MEADOW MOUNDS

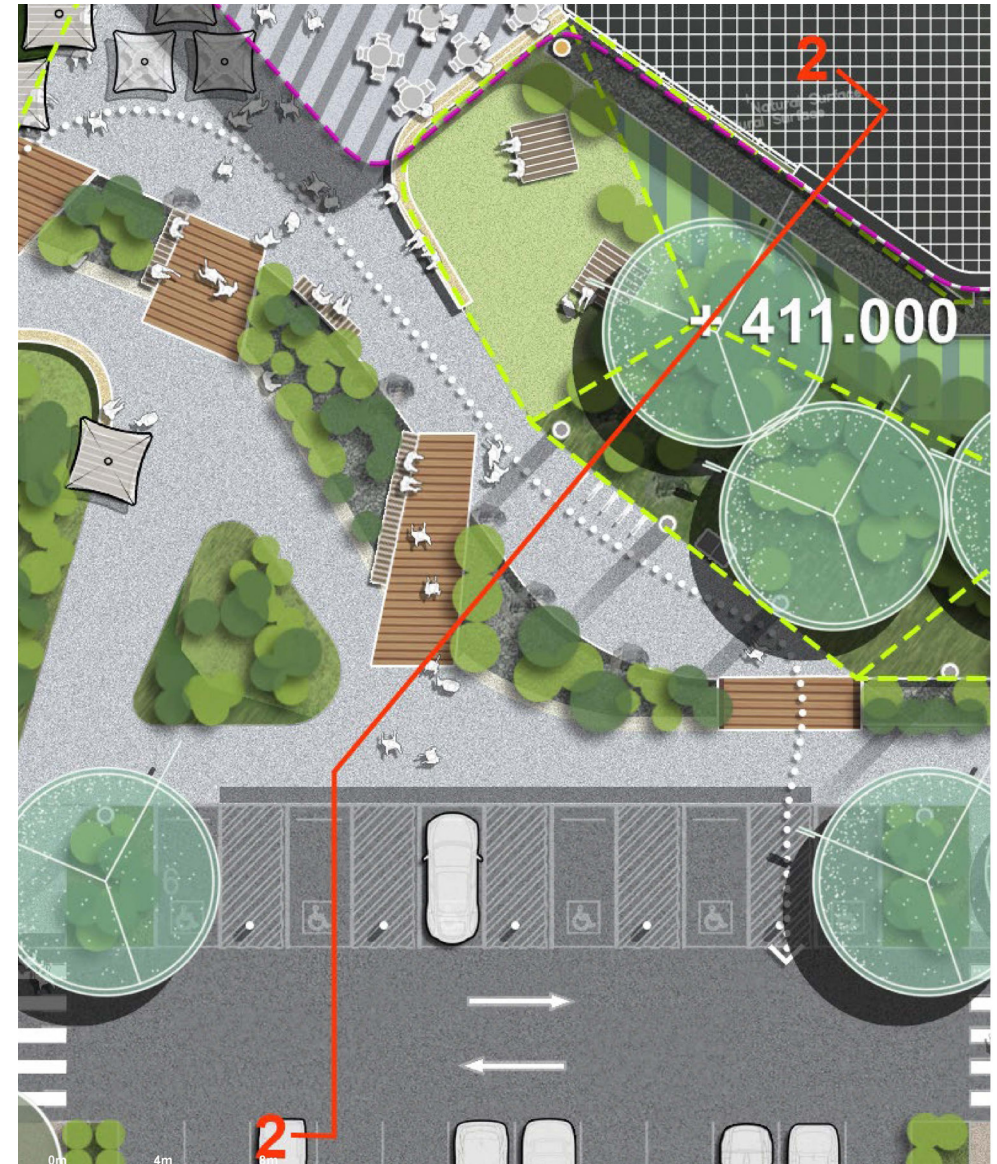


1. CENTRAL PLAZA & ENTRANCE SECTION 2:2

NOTE: FOR INFORMATION PURPOSE ONLY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.
ALL DETAIL AND DIMENSION TO BE CONFIRMED



SECTION 2:2
MEADOW MOUNDS & PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES



1.CENTRAL PLAZA & ENTRANCE PLANTS



CREEPING
BOOBIALLA



COTTON
LAVENDER



TRAILING
ROSEMARY

A SELECTION OF
POSSIBLE PLANTS THAT
COULD BE FEATURED IN
THIS AREA



DARLING LILY



GARLAND
LILY



BLUE FLAX LILY



NATIVE LEEK



GOLDEN
WATTLE



KANGAROO
PAW



WHIRLING
BUTTERFLIES



BRANCHING
GRASS FLAG



WALLABY
GRASS



KANGAROO
GRASS



FOUNTAIN
GRASS



LOMANDRA



COASTAL
ROSEMARY



BOTTLEBRUSH



GREVILLIA

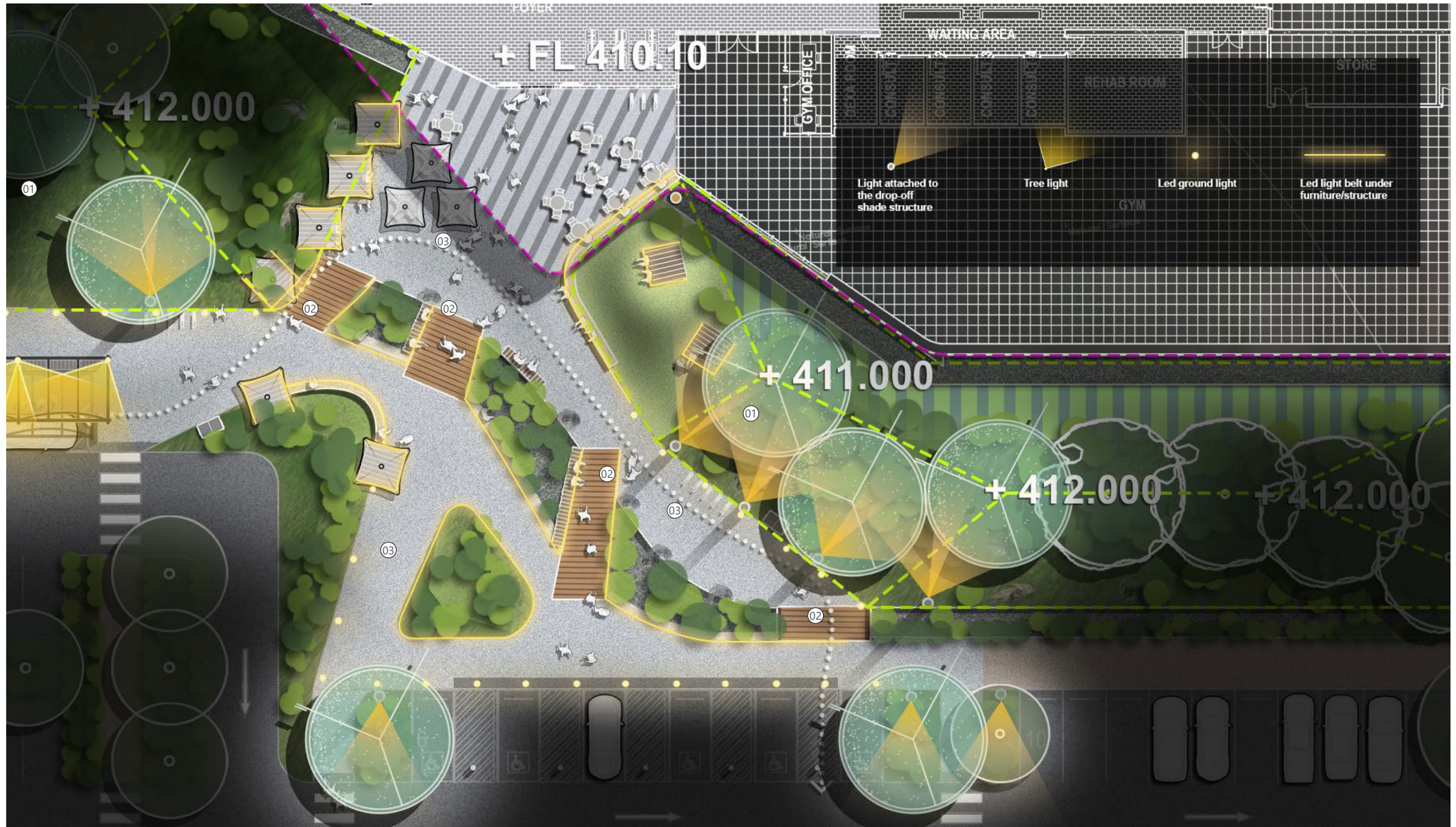


BANKSIA



EMU BUSH

1. CENTRAL PLAZA & ENTRANCE LIGHTING

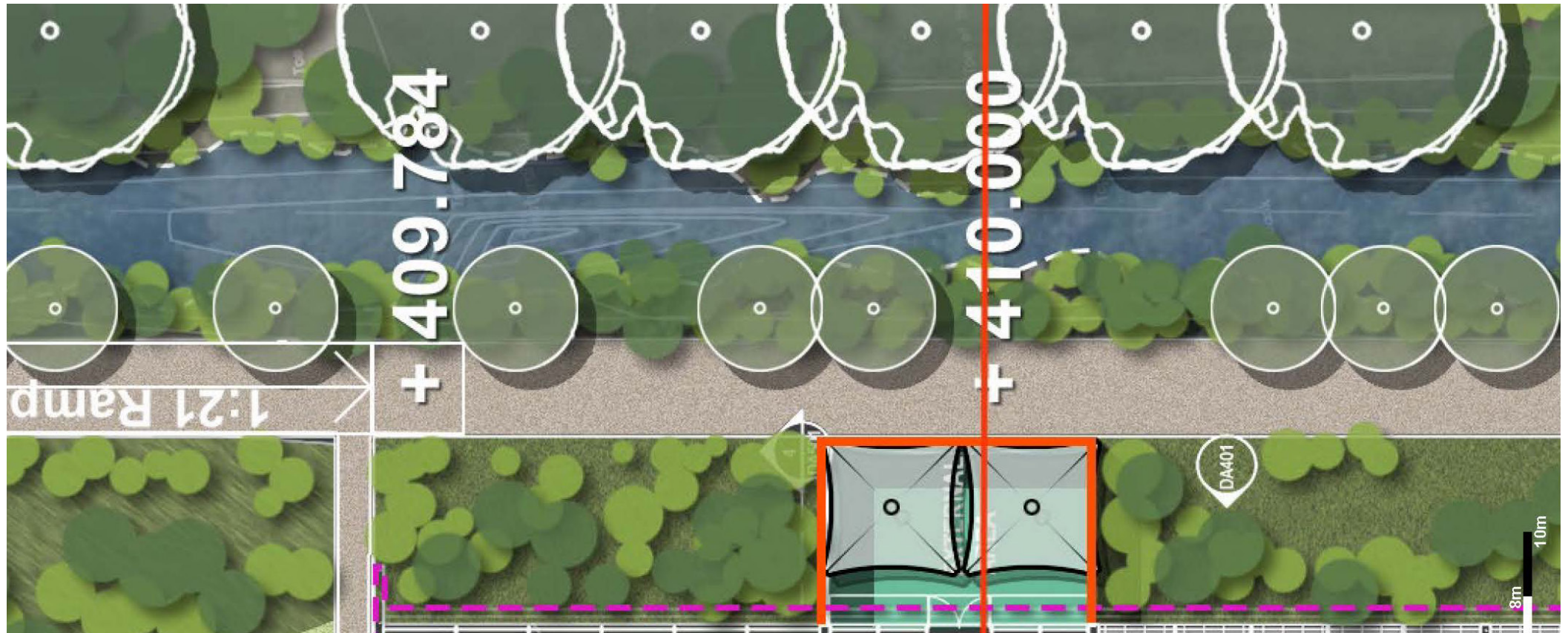


① MEADOW MOUNDS

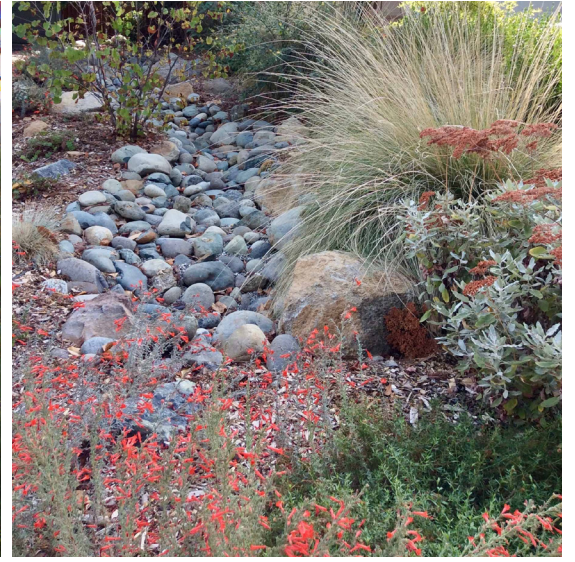
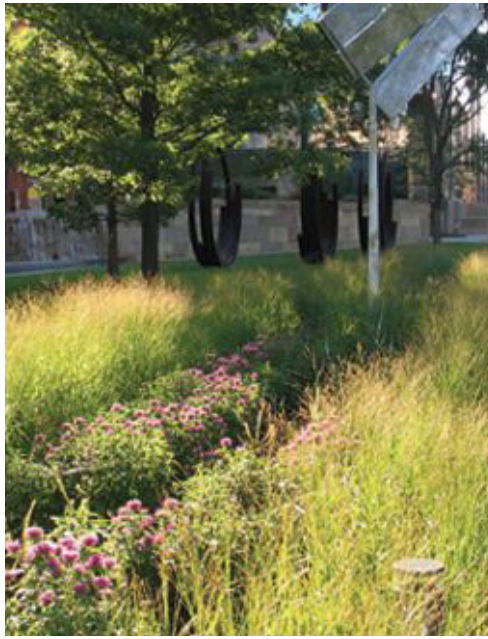
② PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES

③ ENTRANCE PLAZA

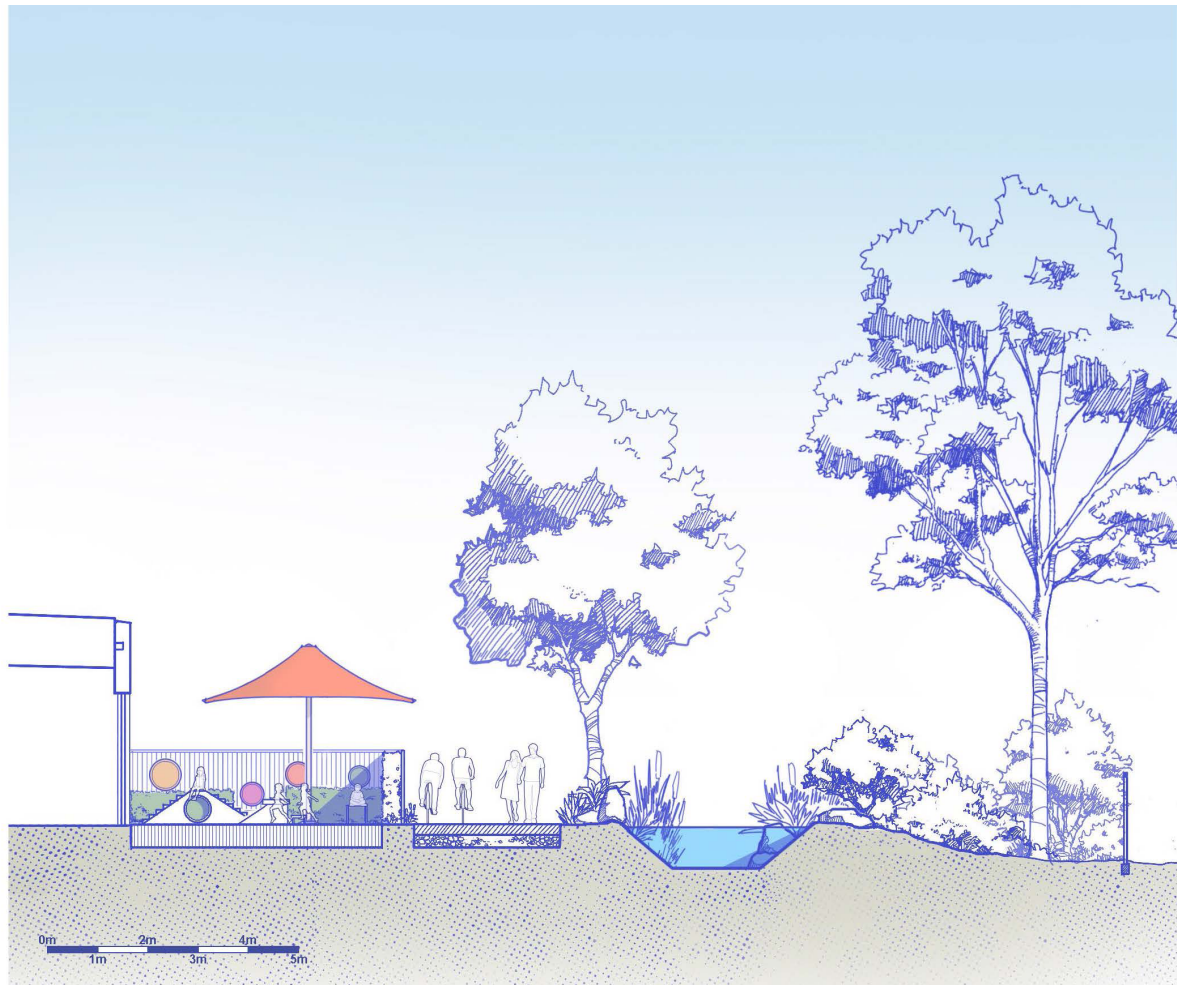
2. THE SWALE



2. SWALE INSPIRATION

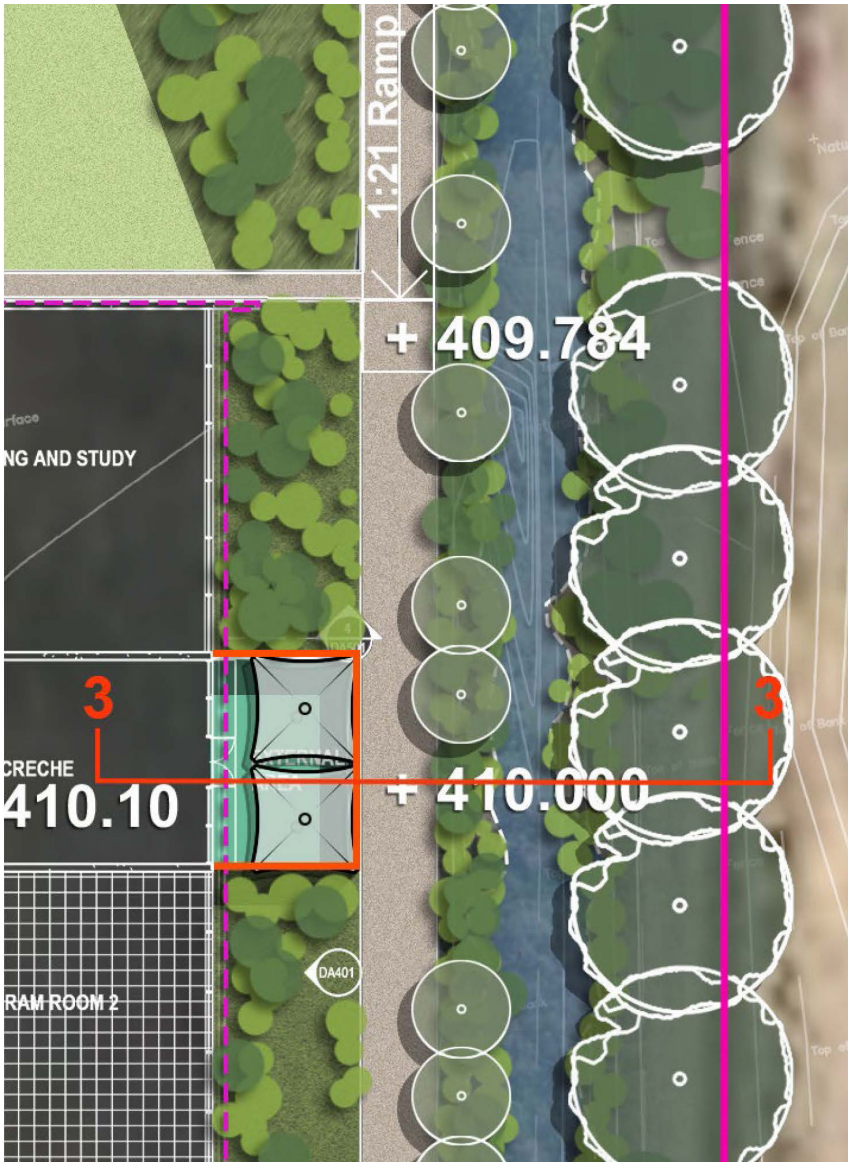


2. SWALE IN SECTION 3:3

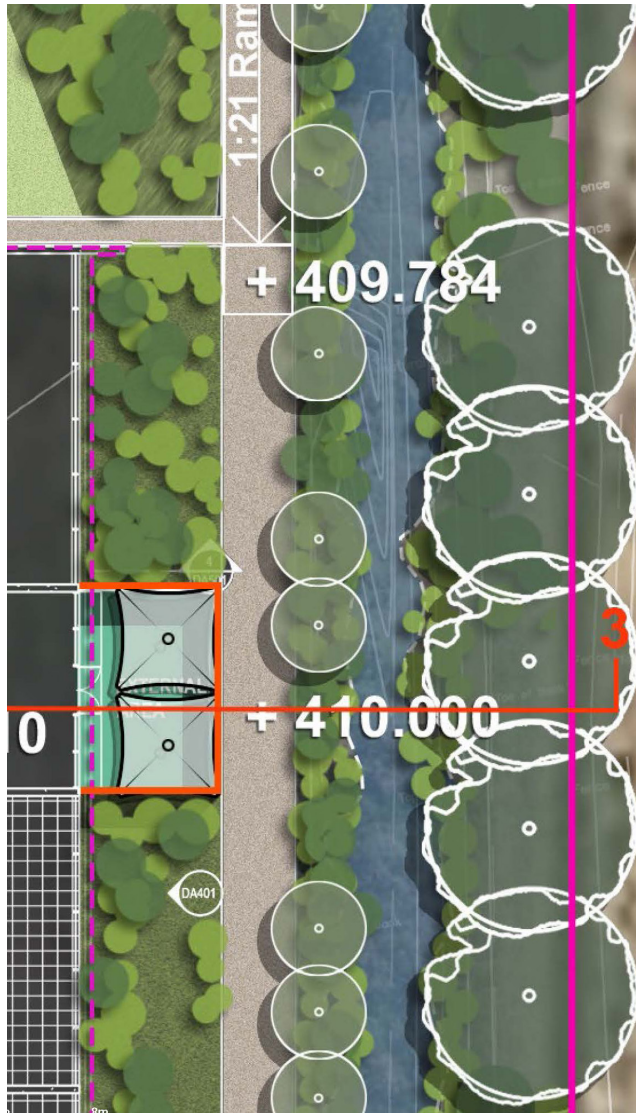


SECTION 3-3 1:50 IN A1

NOTE: FOR INFORMATION PURPOSE ONLY NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.



2. SWALE PLANTS



CREeping
BOOBIALLA



TRAILING
ROSEMARY

A SELECTION OF
POSSIBLE PLANTS THAT
COULD BE FEATURED IN
THIS AREA



BLUE FLAX LILY



NATIVE LEEK



BRANCHING
GRASS FLAG



SLENDER
MINT



LOMANDRA
FLUVUATILIS



LOMANDRA
KATIES BELLES



LOMANDRA
HYSTRIX



COASTAL
ROSEMARY



WALLABY
GRASS



KANGAROO
GRASS



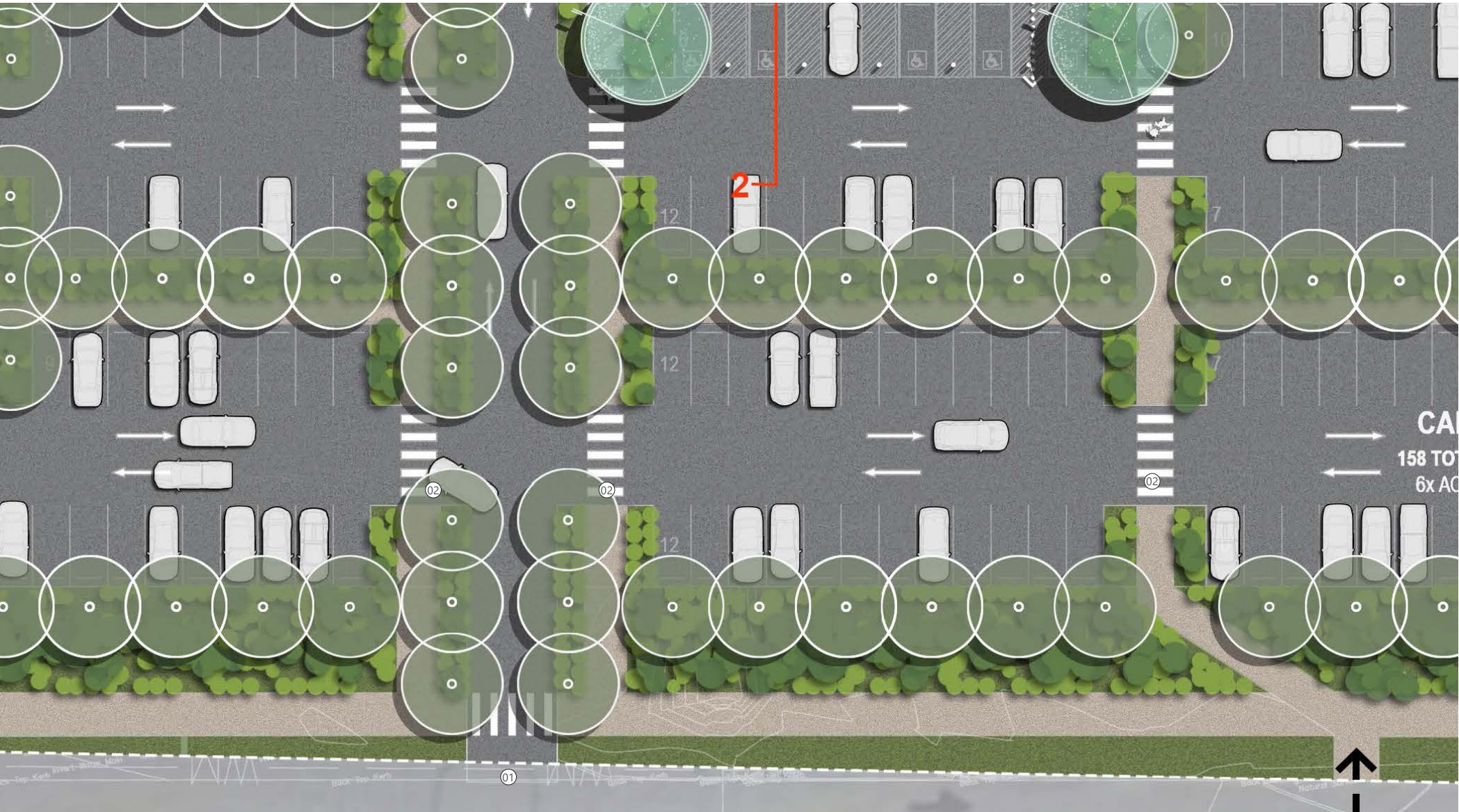
YALPA
GRASS



BOTTLEBRUSH

We intend to design the swales with a selection of plants that will suit both sun and shade. The swales will be densely planted with plants that resemble a rain garden and those that like a dry environment with some wet periods of time. This will be designed in the next stage of work.

3. THE CAR PARK



01 MAIN ACCESS

02 TREE LINED PEDESTRIAN ROUTES

CAR PARK INSPIRATION



3. THE CAR PARK PLANTS



BRANCHING GRASS FLAG



BLUE FLAX LILY

A SELECTION OF POSSIBLE PLANTS THAT COULD BE FEATURED IN THIS AREA



WALLABY GRASS



KANGAROO GRASS



FOUNTAIN GRASS



LOMANDRA



POA TUSOCK GRASS



BOTTLEBRUSH

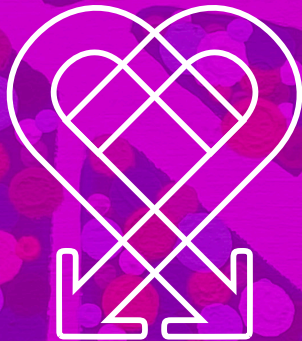


GREVILLIA



BANKSIA





Urban Spark Studio

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