



sorrento coastal and marine management plan

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MARKTRAVERS
landscape architect



**MORNINGTON
PENINSULA**
Shire

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Sorrento Beachside Tourism
Rotary Club of Sorrento

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The Baths
Searoad Ferries
Sorrento Stand Up Paddle

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Mornington Peninsula Shire Officers

Report Authors
Mornington Peninsula Shire
Jeska Dee, Strategic Planner - Coastal
Mark Travers Landscape Architect
Richard Simon - Simon Leisure (Public Consultation)

Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges and pays respect to the Boon Wurrung/ Bunurong people, the traditional custodians of these lands and waters.

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executive summary

Victoria's Mornington Peninsula features magnificent landscapes, coasts and beaches that are of State significance and attract thousands of visitors every year.

The Sorrento foreshore holds important values around the natural environment, cultural heritage and recreation – for local residents and visitors alike. Managing these values for their future protection is vital given the projected growth in local and regional populations and the likely increase in demand for coastal recreation.

In this context, the *Sorrento Coastal and Marine Management Plan* (SCMMP) has been prepared to provide strategic guidance for the future use, development and management of the Sorrento foreshore reserve.

Through consultation with key stakeholders, community groups and members of public, a vision for the reserve has been developed that reflects the aspirations of the community and other stakeholders:

*'To provide an improved level of service and an enhanced, high quality, coastal experience for both residents and visitors.
To protect and maintain the unique natural and cultural history of the Sorrento Foreshore Reserve.'*

In planning to achieve this vision, the SCMMP builds on the foundation of the *Mount Eliza to Point Nepean Coastal Action Plan* (CCB 2005) by designating areas as zones of activity, recreation or environmental sensitivity. In this way different areas of the foreshore are allocated different primary roles, providing a framework for planning by public land managers and community groups involved in their management. Any future development proposals are also assessed within this context.

This Plan has been developed for the coastal Crown land at Sorrento Foreshore as a Coastal and Marine Management Plan for endorsement under the Marine and Coastal Act 2018 (MACA). The MACA is Victoria's key legislation for coastal Crown land and marine environmental planning and management.

'Mornington Peninsula Shire acknowledges and pays respect to the Boon Wurrung / Bunurong people, the traditional custodians of these lands and waters'.

executive summary

The SCMMP provides strategies for the future planning and management of the Sorrento foreshore reserve. The below themes and strategies have been developed to address the objectives and the guiding principles as outlined in the MACA (see appendix A).

- natural systems
- cultural heritage
- recreation
- safe access and use
- infrastructure and buildings
- climate change adaptation
- commercial operators, tourism and events
- community awareness and involvement

Each strategy describes existing conditions and identifies objectives and actions where relevant. The main issues are also highlighted.

Key actions outlined within this plan include to:

- Consideration and planning for the likely impacts of climate change
- Improve public amenity within the open spaces of the reserve
- Improve pedestrian accessibility to and within the reserve
- Review car parking throughout the reserve
- Improve maintenance within the reserve
- Create awareness of local history and natural environment
- Protection of Aboriginal and Historical cultural heritage sites
- Conservation and regeneration of indigenous vegetation

The SCMMP also includes a works plan and timing for the proposed staging of works recommended. Works should be implemented over three, five and eight year stages with a review of the planned works at the end of each stage.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the plan

The *Sorrento coastal and marine management plan* (SCMMP) has been prepared to *guide the future management; use; and development of the Sorrento foreshore coastal and marine environments.*

The SCMMP covers the geographical area identified in Section 1.4.

The purpose of a coastal and marine management plan is to:

- identify a vision for the coastal foreshore reserve
- identify environmental, heritage and recreational values
- develop strategies to protect these values
- guide future use and management and include a review of the CoM boundaries for consistency of management of the reserve
- identify actions and timeframes in which to achieve the actions
- provide a works schedule and timeline which prioritizes works over three, five and eight year stages
- provide a framework for coordinated and informed decision making; management and engagement with the community and key stakeholders
- provide a process for monitoring and review

1.2 Structure of the plan

The plan's structure is as follows:

It establishes a vision for the foreshore informed by community and stakeholder consultation.

It then designates sections of the foreshore in terms of planning units i.e. Activity zone, Recreation zone and Sensitive areas.

The designation of planning units is based on a combination of existing conditions; patterns of land use and infrastructure; the extent to which an area has been modified; and an analysis of natural systems, cultural heritage and social values. In this way, different sections of the foreshore are allocated different roles.

introduction

After this, the plan outlines strategies for the foreshore based on the following themes:

- natural systems
- cultural heritage
- recreation
- safe access and use
- infrastructure and buildings
- climate change
- commercial operators, tourism and events
- community awareness and involvement.
- monitoring and review

Each strategy describes existing conditions and identifies objectives and actions to be implemented over three, five and eight-year stages. Key actions and issues are also highlighted. (Refer to Appendix E for Proposed Recommendations)

Landscape master plans have also been developed to illustrate proposals for the redesign of three significant 'nodes' along the Sorrento Foreshore. These plans include recommendations for achieving the key actions identified in the plan and are included as an Appendix (Appendix F) to the report.

The final section of the plan deals with implementation. The actions throughout the plan are given a priority level and timing. A works plan has been developed to better understand how the Shire will deliver on these actions. The Works Plan and Timing are included as appendices to this plan (Appendix C)

It is noted that, while it is important to record all relevant issues and the aspirations of the community and stakeholders, it may not always be possible to incorporate all of these into actions to be undertaken by the Shire within a specified period. In the SCMMP, actions identified relate to what the Mornington Peninsula Shire, as the land manager, is committed to achieving while the plan is in effect.

The SCMMP is primarily intended to provide a future planning and management tool for the Sorrento Foreshore. In some cases, where major capital works are required and/or other stakeholders are primarily responsible for implementing works, the plan may identify the need for advocacy or additional precinct plans, which may be subject to separate consultation, approval and funding arrangements.

1.3 Context

1.3.1 Planning framework

The coast is a complex environment whose management is generally guided by the State government's *Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014* and any relevant coastal action plans, as well as other related legislation, policy and planning documents.

Key legislation, policy and planning documents that apply to or provide context for the SCMMP are summarized in Appendix A and are listed below.

- *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*
- *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007*
- *Draft Regional Coastal Action Plan 2014*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1970*
- *Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988*
- *Heritage Act 1995*
- *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*
- *Mt Eliza to Point Nepean Coastal Action Plan 2005*
- *Mornington Peninsula local planning scheme*
- *Mornington Peninsula Strategic Plan 2013 - 2018*
- *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
- *Sorrento Foreshore Reserve Masterplan 2001*
- *Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014*

introduction

Each document has been reviewed for relevance to the development of the SCMMP and appropriate directions have been included where relevant.

1.3.2 The Mornington Peninsula Shire

The Mornington Peninsula is located south-east of Melbourne and is often described as Melbourne's playground. The Mornington Peninsula is a 720 square kilometre, boot-shaped promontory separating Port Phillip and Western Port. The area has a diversity of scenic landscapes, with coastal boundaries totaling 192 kilometres – approximately 10 per cent of Victoria's coastline. It is characterized by a mixture of bushland, urban areas, resort towns, tourist developments and rural land.

The Peninsula features magnificent landscapes, coasts and beaches that are of State significance and attract thousands of visitors every year.

Most of Mornington Peninsula's residential population lives along the coastline of Port Phillip. In 2013 the Australian Bureau of Statistics estimated the shire's population to be 152,260, comprising diverse age groups and socio-economic backgrounds. The Shire also has a significant non-resident population that can increase, in total population, by up to 30 per cent during the summer months.

Mornington Peninsula's social, economic and environmental diversity means that a 'one size fits all' management approach is not suitable. Mornington Peninsula Shire Council recognises the need to respect and nurture this diversity. The development of coastal management plans for individual foreshore areas are developed to tailor solutions to local needs, while working in line with relevant legislation and policies.

1.3.3 A sustainable peninsula

Mornington Peninsula Shire Council recognises the competing tensions within and pressures on our coastal foreshore reserves and is committed to working with the community to achieve outcomes that are socially, ecologically and economically sustainable.

In developing coastal and marine management plans, Mornington Peninsula Shire adopts an ecologically sustainable management approach, which requires that:

- land use and land management practices must be compatible with the area's ecological capacity
- the impacts of local decisions must be examined in a regional context
- planning must consider long-term change and unexpected events
- rare landscape elements and associated species must be preserved
- large contiguous or connected areas that contain critical habitats will be retained
- the effects of development on ecological processes will be avoided or minimized and must be compensated for where appropriate.



introduction

1.4 Sorrento foreshore plan area

The Sorrento foreshore reserve is located along Port Phillip within the township of Sorrento. Figure. 1 shows the location of Sorrento foreshore in a regional context.

The Sorrento foreshore area, to which the SCMMMP applies, includes the foreshore land between Sullivan Bay carpark at its most eastern point, and the Sorrento boat ramp at its western boundary. The Mornington Peninsula Shire is the committee of management for the foreshore, which is coastal Crown land. (see Figure 2).

The Sorrento foreshore reserve varies in width from 20 to 150 metres and includes approximately 2.5 kilometres of open space and carpark area. The high tide line of Port Phillip Bay forms the northern boundary whilst a combination of private properties and sections of Point Nepean Rd form the southern boundary.

The Sorrento pier and ferry terminal effectively separate the Sorrento boat ramp at the western end from the main body of the reserve. The main pedestrian access from the Sorrento boat ramp to the foreshore reserve is via pedestrian crossings across The Esplanade at the entrance to the ferry terminal.

The foreshore is generally included within the Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) under the Mornington Peninsula planning scheme. The purpose of this zoning is to recognize areas for public recreation and open space; protect and conserve areas of significance; and provide for commercial uses where appropriate.

The reserve is subject to Environmental significance , Heritage, Design and Development, and Vegetation Protection overlays. The Reserve is also affected by the Victorian Heritage Register and contains areas of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Sensitivity (Appendix A).



Figure 1: Location map showing Sorrento foreshore in a regional context

introduction



Figure 2: Sorrento foreshore coastal and marine management plan study area

Mornington Peninsula Shire

Mornington Peninsula Shire is appointed as the Committee of Management for the Sorrento foreshore reserve under Section 14 of the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 dated 1 October 1983. Through this appointment, the Shire may manage, improve, maintain and control the land for the purposes for which it is reserved. The Shire may also lease areas of the foreshore reserve.

Refer to appendix D for further information regarding the Mornington Peninsula Shire C.O.M. boundary.

Based on the best practice model of Integrated Coastal and Marine Planning, the Shire works closely with other State Government agencies to achieve positive outcomes on all of its coasts, including at Sorrento.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

DELWP is the nominal landowner of coastal Crown land whose management it administers on behalf of all Victorians.

Any proposal to use or develop coastal Crown land must gain written consent from DELWP under the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018*. At Sorrento foreshore, the sea-bed (from mean high water mark) is unreserved Crown land managed by DELWP's Public Land Division.

Parks Victoria

Parks Victoria (PV) is both the local Port Authority and holds responsibility for the management of recreational boating (including personal water craft starting at the mean high water mark. Their key areas of responsibility are to enforce the *Marine Safety Act 2010* (Vic) and the *Marine Safety Regulations 2012* (Vic, including the five knots speed limit; boat user safety equipment; boating and swimming zones; and monitoring of licenses. PV also manage the Sorrento Pier and the Collins Settlement site as a Committee of Management.

1.4.2 Development of the Sorrento coastal and marine management plan

The identification of values for the SCMMP was determined through extensive consultations with the community and partner agencies; site visits; and a review of existing conditions and background literature.

Community and stakeholder groups were consulted throughout March and April 2017 to assist in the identification of the foreshore vision; use; and management issues; and to discuss potential opportunities for improvement within the reserve.

A combination of meetings and interviews were held with key stakeholders. The wider general public was consulted through an online survey via council website from 30th March to 28th April 2017.

A draft management plan along with three landscape masterplans were presented to representatives from key stakeholder groups on the 6th of July 2017 and, following a briefing to the MPS Councillors on the 15th of August 2017. The document was then placed on public exhibition from 31 October to 1 December 2017. A drop-in session was also held on 11 November 2017. Submissions received during the public exhibition period were reviewed and, where appropriate, suggestions were incorporated into the plan.

Refer to accompanying community consultation report prepared by Simon Leisure, 2017 along with spread sheet of public exhibition feedback and actions, 2018.

vision and objectives



2. Vision and objectives

2.1 Introduction

In preparing a coastal and marine management plan, it is important to establish an overarching sense of direction – or vision – regarding the future role, function and character of the foreshore area as a whole and for specific locations (or nodes) within the area, which is both inspirational and shared with the widest possible range of stakeholders.

Such visions provide a means to coordinate actions; encourage participation; and measure progress. The vision for the Sorrento foreshore has been developed through an iterative process of consultation with the community.

2.2 Vision for the Sorrento Foreshore

'To provide an improved level of service and an enhanced, high quality, coastal experience for both residents and visitors. To protect and maintain the unique natural and cultural history of the Sorrento Foreshore Reserve.'

The SCMMP's vision and objectives reflect the long-term strategies of Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and the objectives identified are consistent with existing strategic coastal policy (e.g. *Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014* and the *Point Nepean to Mt Eliza Coastal Action Plan 2005*) for coastal foreshore land and surrounding areas. Importantly, the vision and objectives highlight the needs and aspirations of the local community, key stakeholders and other foreshore users.

2.3 The Mornington Peninsula Shire coastal experience

Through the SCMMP, the Shire commits to a high-quality coastal experience including:

- protecting and managing natural systems and processes
- identifying and protecting both Aboriginal and Historical cultural values
- providing a safe and clean environment
- providing access and recreational opportunities for a range of users
- encouraging community awareness and involvement
- managing and protecting our coastal areas for current users as well as future generations
- leadership on climate change within our community
- consideration of available resources and effective actions
- provide consistent way finding signage throughout the reserve

vision and objectives

To provide an improved level of service and an enhanced, high quality, coastal experience for both residents and visitors. To protect and maintain the unique natural and cultural history of the Sorrento Foreshore Reserve.



2.4 Sorrento foreshore planning unit structure

This coastal and marine management plan builds upon the *Mt Eliza to Point Nepean Coastal Action Plan 2005* by designating areas of the foreshore as Activity, Recreation or Sensitive zones.

These designations are based on the careful consideration of a combination of factors including existing conditions, patterns of land use and infrastructure, the extent to which an area has been modified and habitat/environmental values.

In this way different areas of the foreshore are allocated different primary roles, providing a framework for planning by public land managers and community groups involved in their management. Any future development proposals will also be assessed within this context. This approach is also consistent with the principles of the *Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014*.

The following units have been identified as part of the Sorrento foreshore (Figure 3).

Activity nodes

Activity zones may contain activities which are less coastal dependent and new developments will be considered where the proposal is a suitable development that provides environmental, social and economic benefits; enhances the community's value of the coast; integrates with the coastal landscape and setting and is of a scale suitable to the local context, appropriately sited and designed.

Recreation nodes

Recreation zones include designated areas of higher recreational functions such as boat ramps, walking/cycling tracks and community buildings.

Sensitive areas

These areas are defined primarily as having high ecological and/or cultural heritage values that should be preserved. While some informal recreation such as swimming, snorkelling or walking may still occur within these areas, the emphasis in these areas is on the preservation and conservation of these values.



Figure 3: Planning units

Activity Node

The Activity node contains activities which are less coastal dependent but any new proposals must demonstrate net community benefit and be sympathetic with the coastal setting. There are smaller areas that contain high ecological, cultural and recreational values which must be protected and enhanced.

Recreation Node

Includes designated areas of higher recreational functions such as boat ramps, walking/cycling tracks and community buildings.

Sensitive Areas

Defined primarily as having high ecological and/or cultural heritage values that should be preserved. While some informal recreation such as swimming, snorkelling or walking may still occur within these areas, the emphasis in these areas is preservation and conservation.

3. Strategies

3.1 Strategies for natural systems

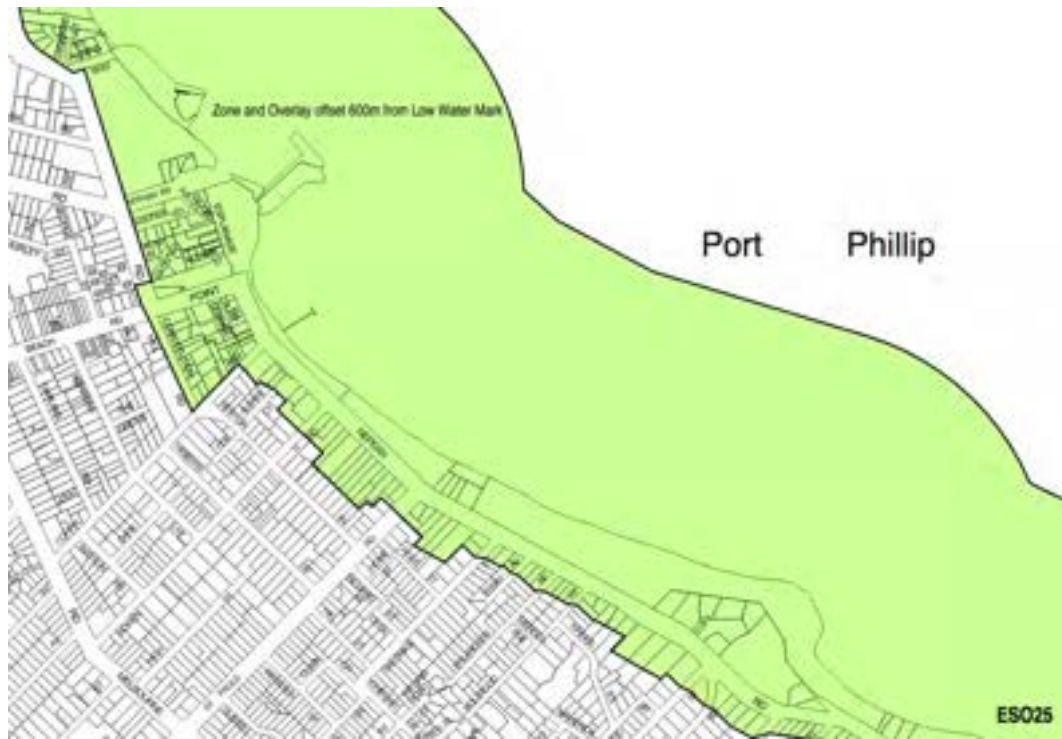


Figure.4 Environmental Significance Overlay - Schedule 25

The Port Phillip coastal area and adjoining offshore areas contain some of Victoria's most significant cultural and natural features, including sites of ecological, archaeological, geological, geomorphological, aesthetic and cultural heritage value. These places are of cultural, scientific and educational value to current and future generations.

3.1.1 Flora and fauna protection and enhancement

Native flora status

The primary goal for native vegetation management in Victoria is that there should be 'no net loss in the contribution made by native vegetation to Victoria's biodiversity'. This goal is established through *Victoria's Native Vegetation Permitted Clearing Regulations* which have been designed so that native vegetation removal has a neutral impact on biodiversity while balancing the needs

of the environment with other community objectives. Unless exempt under the provisions of the planning scheme, a primary requirement for use and development of foreshore land should be to retain and enhance native vegetation.

The vegetation within the reserve includes historic plantings of Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*), parkland areas of exotic canopy trees, weed infested dunes, and to remnant Moonah (*Melaleuca lanceolata ssp. lanceolata*) woodlands on the western sister headland of Sullivan Bay.

The 'Coastal Alkaline Scrub' 858 Ecological Vegetation Class (EVC) can be identified as being originally located within the Sorrento foreshore reserve (DELWP 1750 & 2005 EVC Maps). Some vegetation is representative of the FFG listed 'Coastal Moonah Woodland' Community.

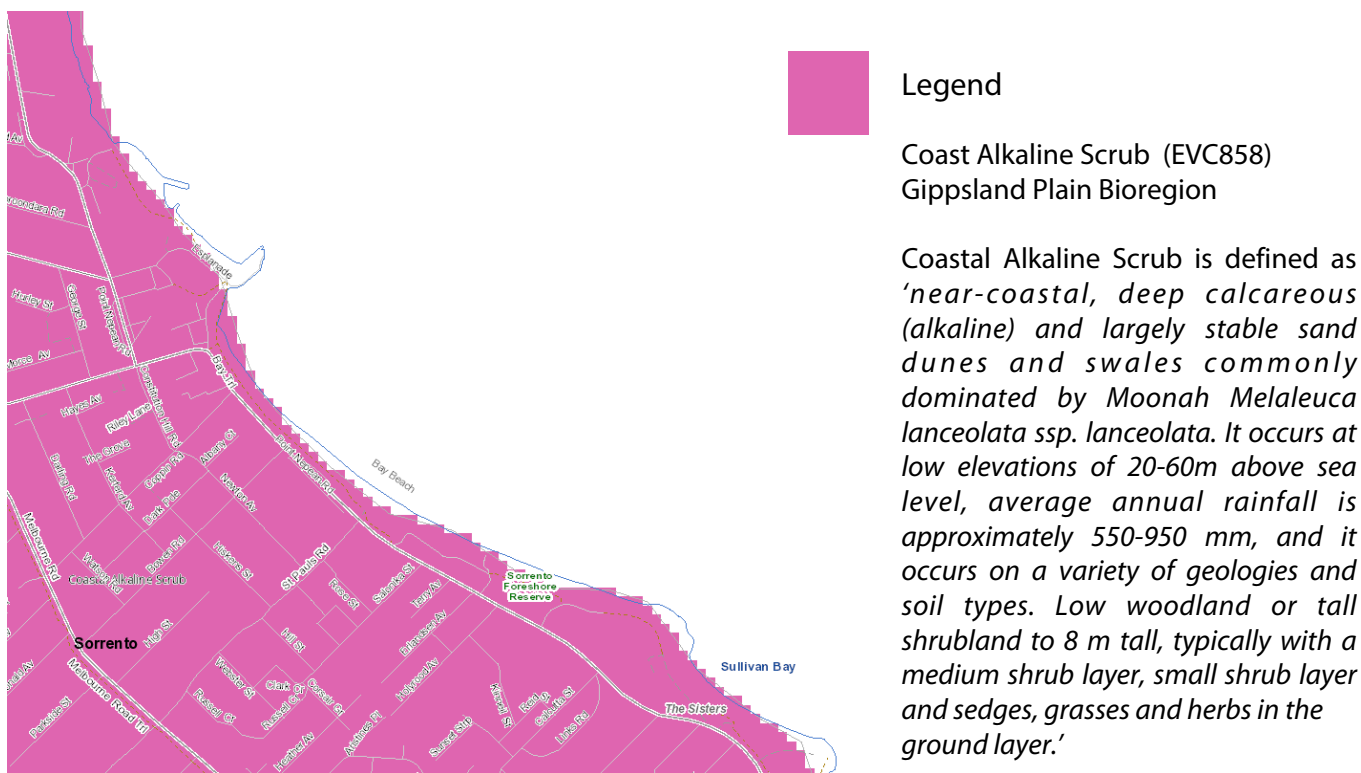


Figure. 5 Modeled Extent of Native vegetation pre-1750

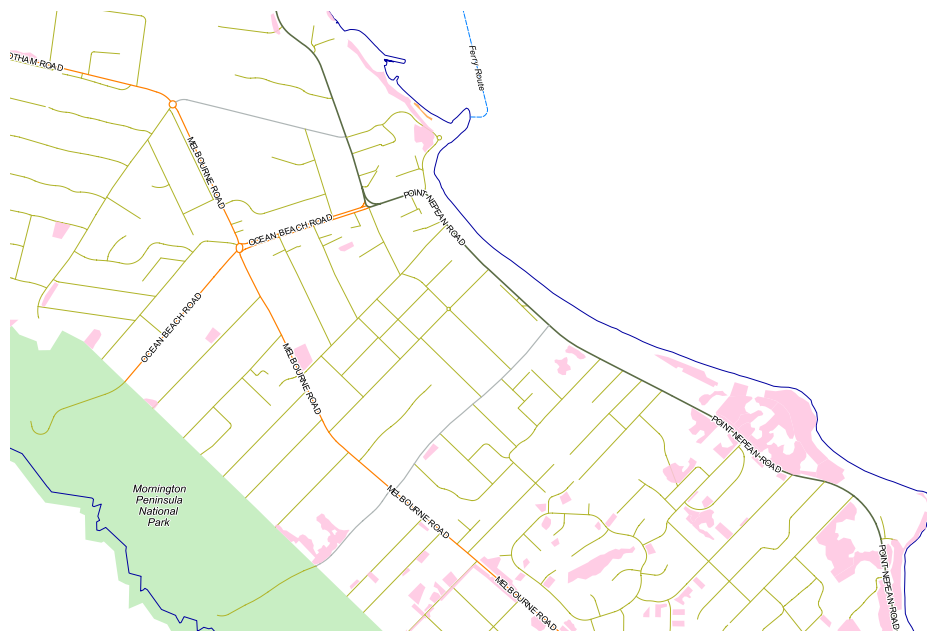


Figure. 5 Modeled Extent of Native vegetation, Mornington Peninsula Shire, 2006



*Beach at Sorrento (Western Sister Headland)
Edward Stanfeild Wardell Circa 1900-1910,
State Library of Victoria.*

Dominant weed species included Myrtle-leaf Milkwort *Polygala myrtifolia*, Sweet Pittosporum *Pittosporum undulatum*, Boneseed *Chrysanthemoides monilifera*, African Boxthorn *Lycium ferocissimum* and Panic Veldt Grass *Ehrharta erecta*.

Native Fauna status

The Sorrento foreshore study area contains 'a number of vulnerable and critically endangered bird species and the vulnerable Swamp skink (*Egernia coventryi*).

These are considered to be *Very Highly* valued. Rare and threatened species are at a *Very High Risk* of invasion by exotic flora and fauna. (*Mt Eliza to Point Nepean CAP 2005*).

The foreshore reserve has varying habitat types ranging from woodlands, cliffs, low beach dunes and parklands. Remnant Moonah woodland is found along the Western sister headland provides homes for reptiles, birds and mammals. Fallen tree limbs and large branches within areas of woodland and scrub create ground logs with small hollows that are home to reptiles, insects and possibly terrestrial mammals. The sandy primary dunes, provides homes for lizards, some birds and swamp rats.



*Sorrento from the East,
Rose Series Postcard circa 1920-1954,
State Library of Victoria.*

Port Phillip Bay generally is a rich source of food for coastal birds. Overall, the environs of the foreshore are considered to be of regional significance, with taxa throughout the area listed at local, regional, state and national levels.

Like much of Victoria, the Mornington Peninsula faces a mass depletion of natural vegetation and fauna populations, including the loss of some significant species. Weeds, vermin and human disturbance are the greatest causes of local extinction of habitat and fauna populations on the peninsula and within the study site.

Public education on appropriate vegetation, ongoing weed control, regeneration or restoration of the original EVC are recommended. Introduced fauna can cause pressure on remaining native fauna and should be eradicated or controlled. Public awareness of the impacts of introduced fauna on native species will assist with controlling this issue.

3.1.2 Fire Management

The shire's fire management plans have been developed in consultation with the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMP). The MFMP consists of representatives from the shire as well as all relevant fire management agencies. The MFMP aims to achieve a consistent and effective approach to fire management planning across the Mornington Peninsula. The MFMP collaborates to develop prevention, preparedness, response and recovery strategies for all types of fire risk.

Fire management plans detail works to be undertaken at bushland reserves to reduce fire risk to assets such as houses. Each plan identifies the location of fuel management zones (FMZs). These zones are inspected annually to identify works required to maintain the zones. There is a fire management plan for the Western Sister.

3.1.3 Coastal geology, processes and infrastructure

The Sorrento Foreshore has a dune topography, with unconsolidated Holocene dunes overlying Pliocene dune calcarenite. The calcarenite extends into the bay past Mud Island and is visible in the cliffs either end of Sullivan Bay, locally known as 'The Sisters'.

The foreshore faces north-east, locally generated wind waves approach from the west through to east-southeast whilst swell waves approach Sorrento from the North West, as they diffract into Port Phillip Bay from Bass Strait.

The primary direction of longshore sediment transport along the foreshore is from the north west to the south east with swell waves being the dominant force of sediment transport.

The most significant modifications to the Sorrento foreshore occur at the western end of the reserve between the Sorrento pier and 'The Baths' restaurant. Retaining walls and bulk fill have historically been used to formalize public space. Rock revetments reinforce the boat ramp and Ferry terminal and over time sand has accreted to widen beaches by up to 100m.



strategies

Issues

- Weed infestations are often in areas difficult to access, where weed removal could cause erosion
- In some areas vegetation blocks access and sight lines from existing footpaths
- Monterey Cypress trees between 'The Baths' restaurant and Websters corner are reaching the end of their lifespan and present an increasing risk.
- Many old vegetation protection fences remain along the foreshore in damaged and derelict condition.
- The overflow parking area between Bowen and St Pauls Road is barren and is the entry to the Sorrento Township
- Sand blows up into the reserve at most access paths to the beach
- Uncontrolled vehicle access is compacting soils and damaging Moonah trees in carpark areas



Objectives

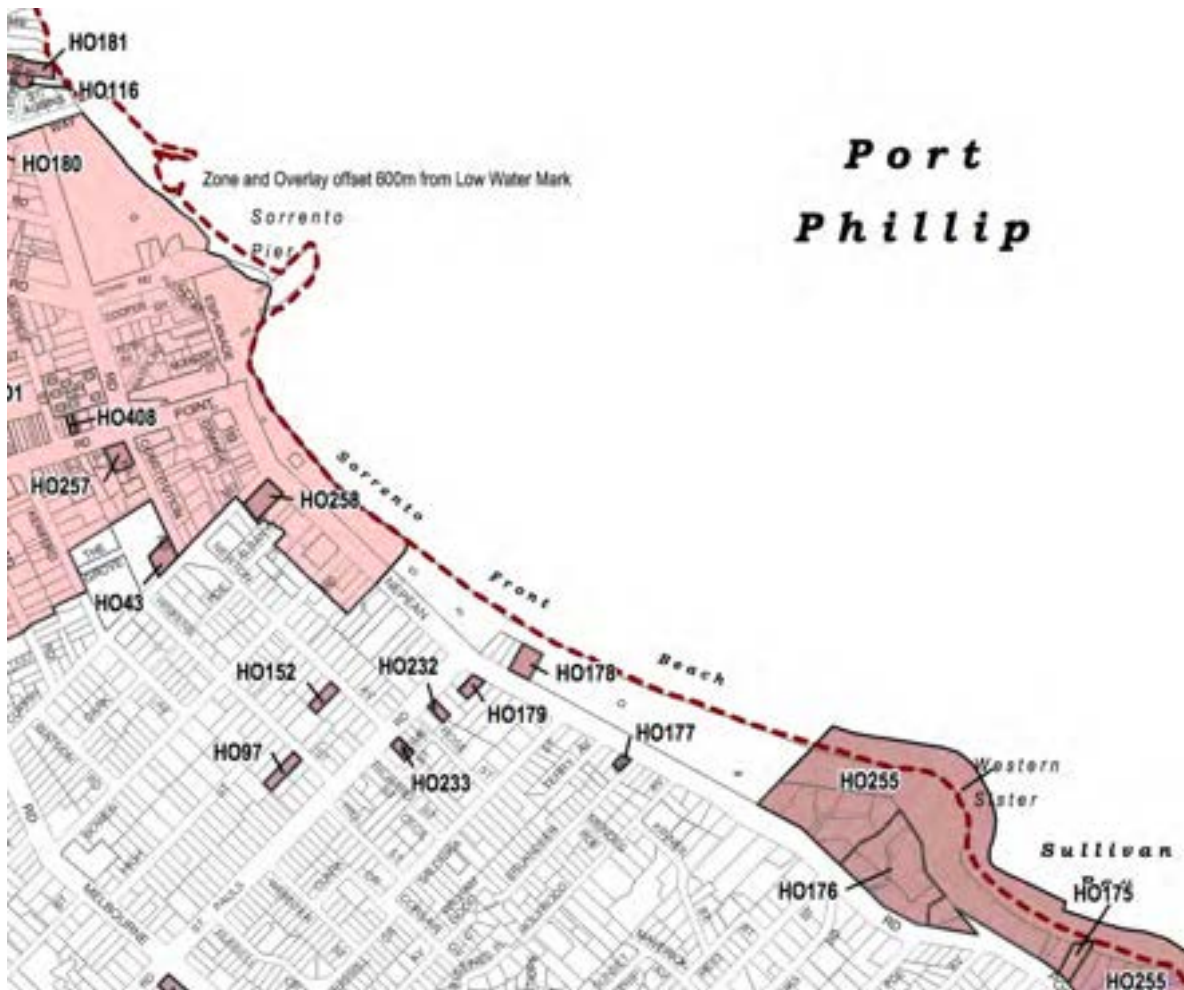
- Strategically target weed management and re-vegetation activities
- Provide safe access through out the reserve
- Reduce risk posed by vegetation
- Reduce visual clutter within the reserve
- Improve visual amenity within the reserve
- Restrict vehicle access in sensitive areas.



Actions

- Improve vegetation management
 - Control environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion, such as *Lotus creticus* around the Sorrento Pier
 - Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation
 - Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate
- Assessment of Cypress trees between 'The Baths' and 'Webster's Corner'. Removal of those identified as dangerous and replacement planting with locally sourced indigenous plants.
- Review existing vegetation protection fences along foreshore
 - remove old and damaged fences
 - Where appropriate install new fences to council standards, CHMP may be required.
- Install perimeter tree planting for shade and improved sense of place, install low level planting along the shared trail to improve amenity and separate from car parking in the overflow carpark lawn area between Bowen Rd and St Pauls Rd.
- Install dune fencing to prevent sand blowing into reserve
- Formalize carparks and install timber bollards with locked slip rail where required to control vehicle access under existing Moonah Trees
- Cut back road side vegetation to improve sight lines for pedestrians entering and existing 'Tuckey Track'.





*Heritage Overlay
Including HO255 Collins Settlement Site*

3.2 Strategies for cultural heritage

The Sorrento foreshore reserve includes many areas of historical significance, most sensitive being the Collins Settlement site at Sullivan bay and the Western Sister headland.

The area is one of few 'founding' sites that have survived two centuries of change. Like 'The Rocks' in Sydney and Risdon Cove in Tasmania, the landscape of Sullivan Bay has revealed evidence from its founding period. (Heritage Victoria)

The Collins Settlement site is registered with Heritage Victoria and National Trust listed . It is of

state significance as the site of the first official attempt to establish a British colony in the Port Phillip district, during 1803.

It symbolizes the beginning of an active process of colonization which displaced the aboriginal peoples of Victoria, changing their culture irrevocably. The contact between and overlaying of the two cultures is demonstrated at Sullivan Bay.

During 2002 a future directions Management plan was prepared for the Collins Settlement site as a joint project for both Parks Victoria and Mornington Peninsula Shire.

The recommendations of this plan have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated into the SCMMP recommendations.



3.2.1 Indigenous cultural heritage

The area lies within the traditional lands of the *Bunurong/Boon Wurrung* tribe, this tribe belonged to the inter-marriage network and language ties group known as the *Kulin* that inhabited areas around Melbourne. The Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation is a registered Aboriginal Party that holds decision-making responsibilities under the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 for protecting Aboriginal cultural heritage within the Mornington Peninsula Shire.

The region would have been one of high strategic value for Aboriginal people.

Underlying the 1803 settlement site are a series of Aboriginal middens. These are located on higher ground close to both the Eastern and Western Sisters. The middens indicate that the area was used extensively by Aboriginal people over a long period prior to and possibly directly after the removal of the Collins settlement to Hobart. (Shire of Flinders Heritage Study 1992)

Based on archeological evidence, Sullivan bay is likely to have been a regular shellfish collecting area for Aboriginal people over the last few thousand years. The lack of animal bones in the midden deposits leads to the conclusion that these sites were occupied on a short term basis and were not base camps which were most likely to have been located further inland.

(Context and Urban Initiatives, 2002)

Between the Sorrento Pier and 'The Baths' restaurant pre-contact land surfaces and archaeological values along the foreshore have been modified or buried by activities such as tree clearance, park development, and filling associated with coastline stabilization.

Both the Boon Wurrung Foundation and the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation have been consulted during the preparation of the Sorrento Foreshore coastal and marine management plan. Both groups have been invited the opportunity to tell their story in recognition of the traditional owners of country within which Sorrento Foreshore reserve is located.

Submission from the Boon Wurrung foundation:

The Time of Change

The birrarang-ga (country – river location) of the Boonwurrung covers the biik (land) along the coast from the Werribee River galen-bareeam (east) to Wilsons Promontory. It goes inland as far as Dandenong. For many thousands of years, the Boonwurrung walked this biik (land) when the biik, we now call Melbourne, extended right out to the warreeny. Port Phillip Bay was then a large flat plain where the Boonwurrung hunted guyeem (kangaroo) and cultivated the murnong (yam daisy).

The Boonwurrung people passed on their history from one generation to the next through story and drawings. They had survived many natural catastrophes, including the great flood, earthquakes and ferocious wiiny (fire).

There came a time in the late 1700s when the Boonwurrung made their first sightings of new visitors – strange white people in ships that looked like goyeep goyeep (bird). It was about this time that a great sickness spread among their people. The Boonwurrung, like other Indigenous peoples, had little or no immunity to new diseases that came with European settlement.

During this time, the population of the Boonwurrung began to decline from disease. They also lost some of their bagurrk (woman), who were kidnapped by the sealers, who began their trade in merreeng-mum (seal) furs during the late 1790s.

In 1803, the Boonwurrung observed the first settlement of the white men, who arrived in their birrarang-ga in ships at what is now known as Sorrento. Among these visitors was a young boy named John Pascoe Fawkner, who in 1836 was part of the first settlement in Melbourne.

When the people saw the arrival of the white men, they were frightened. They came in strange ships, there were only guleeny (man) and no bagurrk. They wore strange clothes and carried strange weapons. The Boonwurrung had heard about these people through the stories told by other Indigenous groups and nations with whom they traded.

The people were frightened and went to the weegabeel guleeny (old man) and bagurrk of their clan to seek advice. The weegabeel guleeny and bagurrk retired away from the group to discuss the crisis that confronted them. When they returned to their people, they told them that they had seen a vision of the future.

In this vision, they had seen a time of great crisis. They had seen that these visitors had come, and not left. They saw that these visitors would break many laws of Bundjil: killing animals, but not eating the meat, destroying the murnong crops, damming the wurneet (creek/river) and stopping the iilk (eel) from breeding. The wurneet would turn from guying (blue) to yaleen (brown) and wiiny (fire) would rain down on their birrarang-ga. They saw death and pain for their people.

The people became even more frightened, and then became angry.

Then the weegabeel wise people told them that there was a second part of their vision. They foresaw a time, many years later, when the white men who stayed began to understand the laws of Bundjil and the Boonwurrung people. They saw a time when the spirit of the Boonwurrung would be reborn, a time when wurneet would run clean again, and tarrang (tree) and forests would regrow. The weegabeel wise people saw a time when the strong spirit of the traditional owners, their culture and their enjoyment of this wonderful landscape would be reflected again in this land.

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Submission from the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation:

The Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation is a large and inclusive organization that represents Bunurong/Boon Wurrung people, their culture and heritage. We provide a unified voice for our 160 members and support our people's cultural goals and aspirations. We are based in Frankston South, the gateway to the Mornington Peninsula. Over 1000 generations of our people have been here before us.

We work with schools, universities, Government, Shire Councils, developers, archaeologists, friends groups, artists, filmmakers, the local community and others in a range of ways to ultimately protect and promote Bunurong/Boon Wurrung culture and heritage. We have a very special relationship and a large amount of respect for the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council and the Warringineer Team, who have worked together with us on many great projects. Their unrelenting support has been very humbling for our community.

Over the last 35,000 years our people have adapted to a range of significant changes within their Country. Our stories of the Bay flooding with water, asteroid impacts near Cranbourne, Arthurs Seat once being an Island, volcanic activity in the western suburbs, the great floods, fires and earthquakes all speak of such events. We continue to adapt today reaching high levels of corporate governance and expanding our enterprises. We are currently developing a 'Caring for Country' team, which will service the Mornington Peninsula area, working mostly on crown land within natural resource management. This is an important step in getting our people back out on Country, caring for and connecting with their land, as our ancestors have done before us.

All of our Country is highly significant, every square inch, every rock, every leaf, every dune and every artefact. Our ancestors collected an ocean of information about the Peninsula, on every living thing here, every tree, every animal and the key to the

complex balance of all things, which our people had managed to evolve and sustain.

People today are still learning of the complexities of our ancestors.

The coastline of the Peninsula contains layers and layers of burnt shell (kitchen middens). Some of these layers have gaps of over 1000 years between them, where our people eventually sat directly over the same place again, over 1000 years later, to do the same thing, make fire, cook food, eat together and tell stories. The whole region, from Point Nepean to the Sisters and Arthurs Seat to Cape Schanck are all connected by a thousand generations worth of tradition, story and song.

Some of our sites on the Peninsula were created at a time when our people could look back over the bay to see a grassy plain with the Yarra River winding its way out to sea over a beautiful waterfall.

The connection we have to this land as a result of this long history is not easy to quantify into words, which usually barely begin to scratch the surface, making all attempts to describe its significance feel understated; this is no exception.

The Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.





Sketches of Collins Settlement by Deputy Surveyor General Harris, 1803

3.2.2 European cultural heritage

The following is a brief history of the changing perceptions and management of Sorrento foreshore.

Mornington Peninsula Shire recognises the historic importance and integrity of the 1803 Collins First European Settlement in Victoria at Sullivan Bay, the Eastern and Western Sisters, Tuckey's Track and St Paul's lookout. In depth historical information regarding the 1803 Sullivan Bay settlement and the Sorrento township can be found at the Sorrento Historical Society. Refer to Appendix D for the Collins Settlement Landscape Masterplan, 2002.

Acting Lieutenant Murray found the entrance to Port Phillip in 1802 and the first official white settlement was established under Lt Col. Collins at Sullivan Bay in 1803.

"At half past 3p.m. we got to anchor in a sandy cove in 7 fathoms water...I went on shore and walked through the woods a couple of miles. The ground was hard and pleasant to walk on. The trees are at a good distance from each other and no brush intercepts you. The soil is good as far as we may be judges. I saw several native huts and very likely they have burnt off several hundred acres of ground. Young grass we found springing up overall the ground we walked; the only birds we saw were a few parrots." John Murray, 1802. *'The birth of Melbourne'*, Tim Flannery, Text Publishing Company, 2002.

After Melbourne was established in 1835, the first pastoralists appeared on the Nepean Peninsula, but they soon found producing lime from the local limestone for the ever expanding Melbourne their most lucrative occupation. During the 1830's and 40's the pioneering industries of fishing and lime burning flourished on the mornington peninsula.



*Sorrento Pier Postcard
Circa. 1907
State Library of Victoria.*

During this time the foreshore reserve is used primarily for utilitarian purposes of transport and storage in support of industry.

From the 1870's onwards Sorrento became known as a health retreat and holiday destination, it is through this period that sections of the the foreshore close to the township are enthusiastically modified with the aim of formalized amenity. Both the Sorrento Pier and the 'The Baths' are built with the land in-between retained with timber walls to create a flat public space.

By the 1880's Sorrento becomes a major tourist resort. An article in the Mornington standard December 1891 describes the rapid changes Sorrento has gone through since 1876. *'the Sorrento hotel was in the process of building, and the township contained one or two dwellings of a primitive character... The place was nothing better than a mass of sandhills... The Sorrento of today and 15 years ago are two different places.'*

When writer describes the Sorrento of 1891 as *'splendidly kept streets, handsome buildings, fitted with all modern requirements.'*



*Sorrento Foreshore
Circa. 1910
State Library of Victoria.*

The change of perception from industry to amenity was not without conflict, in *The Age* February 1886 an article describes how fisherman John Watson is ordered to remove a recently built fishing hut for net and gear storage from public land on the Sorrento foreshore by the Lands Department (possibly this was close to the current site of the Sorrento Sailing Club Boat Club).

John Watson wrote to the editor following reading the article and describes ' *The true reason I was compelled to pull down my (fishing gear storage) hut was because it was situated about 40 yards from Dr. Blair's bathing box, which is built on the beach also.* '

Inundation from storm surges is an ongoing issue, in 1887 George Coppin introduced a deputation to the minister of public works to take steps to protect the esplanade from sea damage.

A 'Rocket shed' was built on the foreshore during 1891 for the storage of life saving rescue equipment. In 1902-1903 the Rotunda bandstand is built and by 1904 The Sorrento Progressive League advise Council to take over control of the foreshore '*it was over twenty years since the government had done anything to the foreshore and the result was it was in a disgraceful state.*'

Lack of funding, maintenance, erosion control, beautification improvements, public accessibility and provision of sanitary amenities are the main issues from the late 1800's into the early 1900's.



*The Camping Area, Sorrento Circa. 1950's
State Library of Victoria*

In 1906 it is feared that the road will be washed away in front of the Koonya hotel. By 1908 contractors were engaged to repair retaining walls along the front of the foreshore between the pier and the baths in an effort to protect the foreshore reserve from future storm damage.

During the early 1900s Point Nepean Road is called The Esplanade and runs along the back of the beach dune to Websters Corner where it turns up onto higher ground. There are many reports during these years of storm surges damaging the foreshore and roads.

For the past ten days there have been extraordinarily high tides here. A great amount of damage has been done. Nearly the whole of the sheet piling from the pier to the baths has been washed away, and half the esplanade, between the pier and baths, has disappeared. On the east side of the baths the sea went right across the metal road, and deposited seaweed on it..... Article 'Damage at Sorrento' The Age, 29.06.1906

In the early 1930's after years of complaints regarding poor condition of the roadway the approach to Sorrento is deviated to its current location on higher ground .

By 1928 a report from the health department stated that toilet blocks should be provided for every twenty campers. Funding for improvements were sourced from campers permits, bathing box fees, boat house fees and car parking permits.

During 1938 the government make grants available for further works in a campaign to check foreshore erosion around the Bay.

Camping continued to become popular and during 1945 the chief health inspector met with representatives from foreshore committees along the bay and warned the need to control campground numbers and provide increased toilet blocks. In 1952 nearly 100 campers were evicted from the Sorrento back beach by the foreshore management committee due to lack of facilities.

strategies

Current day Sorrento foreshore reserve encompasses the RSL cenotaph, boat ramps, carparks, 'The Baths' restaurant, camping grounds, Sailing Coota Boat Club along with heritage sites of state significance.

Issues

- some areas of the foreshore are hard to identify as public
- lack of spatial hierarchy around both the RSL Cenotaph and the historic Bandstand
- lack of recognition for both European heritage and traditional owner group's stories
- Due to high heritage significance the eastern end of the reserve, from Webster's corner onward, is sensitive to any future works
- Aboriginal cultural heritage sites are being impacted by erosion and foot traffic

Objectives

- Protect and enhance the heritage values of the Sorrento foreshore.
- Improve community awareness of both European heritage and the Boon wurrung/Bunurong culture and traditions.
- Any improvements to be non-intrusive, minimalist, consistent with the heritage values of the site and well designed bollards protective of the vegetation and integrity of the heritage site

Actions

- Identify small area of beach to the west of the boat ramp as a public space and name i.e. 'Aquarium Beach'.
- Remove existing tree carving and design new plaza area around existing R.S.L. Cenotaph

- Installing plaques on thirteen Norfolk Island Trees to recognize the 'Thirteen sons of Sorrento' killed in action during WW1
- Create an interpretive sculpture project along the foreshore. The MPS will be respectful and continue to negotiate in good faith with local indigenous elders and preserve the heritage of the area.
- Support for the Tuckey Track project community based working group focusing on:
 - Restoration and protection of Coastal Moonah Woodlands habitat
 - Installation of identification and interpretive signage which complies with the council signage strategy in consultation with community group.
- Works within Sorrento Campground to occur as determined by the CHMP that is currently under development. All works are required to be in line with the Sorrento coastal and marine management plan and Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014.
- 'Lavender Hill' picnic area has been identified by traditional owner groups as an area of sensitivity
 - No subsurface disturbance
 - Any future works to be undertaken in consultation with traditional owners
- Traditional owner groups have identified vegetated slopes on the western side of the western sister as a potential location for a firestick burn trial with mosaic weed removal and revegetation
- Develop a masterplan for the 'Western Sister headland' in conjunction with DELWP, Parks Victoria and other key stakeholders
- Review the COM boundaries of the Sorrento foreshore between the current Southern boundary and the Whitecliffs to Cameron's Bight Foreshore COM including the Eastern Sister.
- Preservation of a clear visual connection from the Western Sister lookout to the lookout over Bass Strait at St Paul's.

3.3 Strategies for recreation

3.3.1 Recreation areas and activities

Sorrento foreshore accommodates a wide range of activities and is a popular destination for locals and tourists, particularly in the summer peak season. The foreshore is an important component of the Sorrento township but also serves a much wider catchment in relation to its recreational opportunities.

Due to the scale of the reserve, the Coastal and Marine Management Plan recognizes four distinct recreational areas each based on individual landscape character.

The main recreational areas and uses are identified and described below:

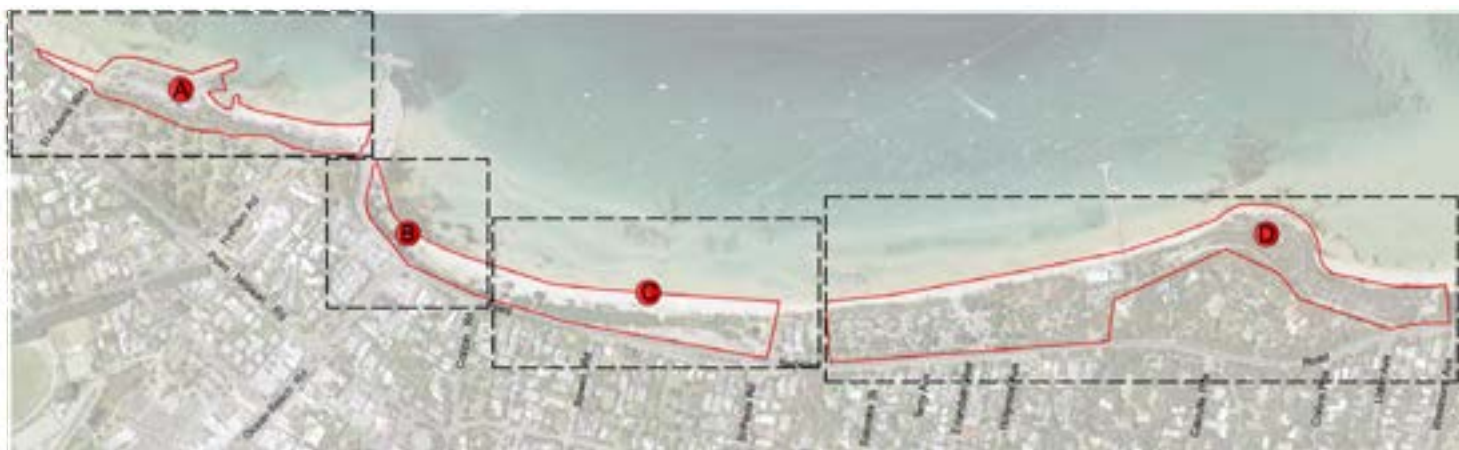


Figure 5. Aerial view of Sorrento foreshore with recreational areas based on usage and landscape characters

The Recreational areas:

- A: 'Aquarium Beach' and Boat Ramp
- B: Main Beach
- C: 'The Baths' to 'Webster's Corner'
- D: Camp ground to Sullivan Bay

strategies



Aquarium Beach and Boat Ramp

Running from the small beach in front of the old Sorrento Aquarium site at the western end through to the Sorrento pier in the east, this area is largely based on reclaimed land in front of the existing calcarenite cliff.

Specific activities include:

- Boat ramp and jetties
- Scenic appreciation from parked cars
- Sheltered Swimming areas
- Trail walking
- Swimming/sunbathing
- Boating access, fishing charter services, sailing and kayaking



Main Beach

Located between the Sorrento pier and 'The Baths' Restaurant to the east, the defining characteristic of this area is one of a semi-urban beach with the ability to cater for large numbers of visitors. This area is a pedestrian space and offers the most constructed visitor amenities along the foreshore with picnic facilities, historic bandstand and cenotaph, canopy trees, public toilets and open lawn areas.

Activities include:

- Promenading
- Picnics
- Entry to the Sorrento township for people disembarking from the Ferry terminal
- Stand up paddle board hire
- Social activities and Weddings
- Community and group events
- Dining
- Local history information and ANZAC memorial



'The Baths' to 'Webster's corner'

From 'The Baths' restaurant to the 'Webster's Corner' playground and picnic area in the west in the south this zone contains large Monterey Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) and features a relatively wide beach with a vegetated embankment upto approximately 10m high in some places. There is a flat lawn area with Bay trail shared pathway from the top of the embankment to Point Nepean Road. The main facilities provided through this area are toilet blocks, play equipment and picnic facilities along with informal gravel/lawn carparks and the 'Baytrail' shared pathway with timber staircases down to the beach.

Activities include:

- Swimming, kayaking, snorkelling and other water based activities.
- Trail walking
- Bike riding
- Scenic appreciation
- Picnics
- Playground



Camp ground to Sullivan Bay

This area spans from the Sorrento camp ground through to the Sullivan Bay carpark and picnic area. Significant sites of cultural heritage are located in this section of the foreshore along with the Sorrento Sailing Cousta Boat Club and the Camping Ground.

Activities include:

- Camping
- Barbecues and picnics
- Water based activities.
- Trail walking
- Bike riding
- Scenic appreciation
- Sailing boat access
- leash free Dog walking
- launching of small boats across sand dunes
- Social activities and Weddings
- Local history information

strategies

Issues

The following activities were identified as the main reasons for visiting the reserve.

- Exercise
 - Access to the foreshore
 - Walking the dog
 - Sit and relax
- Most popular suggestions for reserve improvement identified by discussions with community groups:
 - Expand and upgrade the area surrounding the cenotaph
 - Remove the Cypress trees east of 'The Baths'
 - Investigate option to install a pedestrian crossing across Point Nepean Road at The Baths and adjacent to the entrance to the Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club (to link sections of Tuckey Track). In consultation with Vicroads.
 - Create a sense of place/ arrival to Sorrento in the area of the Rotunda – a meeting place.
 - Improve the amenity and functionality of the main Sorrento beach precinct by introducing measures to mitigate sand drift, widening footpaths, increasing lighting, adding park furniture such as seats/ picnic tables, bins, and drinking fountains, and providing permanent 'plug-in' power sources for events.

- An on-line questionnaire was available on the Council website for the period 30 March to 28 April 2017. A total of 24 surveys were completed. Most popular improvements suggested were :
 - to improve the walking tracks and access to the beach
 - to improve the toilets
 - to improve the general maintenance of the area
- Overall there is concern by community groups regarding future overdevelopment of the foreshore and that any new works must be coastal sensitive.

Objectives

- Improve public access and public safety in regard to the area's various recreational opportunities
- Reduce the potential for conflict between cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles
- Facilitate a range of unstructured outdoor recreational activities and community events

Actions

- Redesign the main beach area to improve amenity and create a sense of arrival for pedestrians disembarking from the Searoads Ferry.
- Review CoM boundaries to include foreshore reserve east of Webster's corner, Sullivan Bay beach and Collin's settlement site
- Redesign footpath layout and lawn area.
 - Remove main path from lawn area and relocate under the Norfolk pines. Ensure widths are appropriate for a shared path as per 'Bay Trail' requirements, with DELWP approval.
 - Maintain grassed area as a large flexible use open space.
 - Design as a boardwalk incorporating new picnic facilities, seating and fitness equipment.
 - Review opportunities for uplighting of trees and installation of Christmas lights.

- Consider reduction of boat storage near 'The Baths' Restaurant to allow increased usable open space for events
- Upgrade areas as per masterplans incorporating:
 - Revised parking layout
 - Seating and footpaths
 - Increased plantings
 - Incorporate feature elements evocative of the 1803-04 Collins settlement
- Upgrade picnic facilities on eastern side of 'Lavender Hill'

3.3.2 Boating facilities

Boat Ramps

Key features of the Sorrento boat ramp include a three lane ramp and associated finger jetties, formal car/trailer parking bays spread across various tiers from the lower levels near the ramp to higher one back towards Point Nepean Road. Areas for vessels to rig and de-rig are also provided. Man-made groynes offer shelter for vessels from waves and unfavorable weather.

In 2011 the Mornington Peninsula Shire prepared the Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan (SRBPP). This plan is an important planning tool to provide for the future long-term sustainable use and management of the boat ramp, overall Mornington Peninsula Shire will continue to refer to the SRBPP for future management of the Boat ramp.

The SRBPP suggested a range of actions which have recently been echoed by community groups during the consultation phase of the SCMMP.

These actions include:

- Complete numerical modeling of coastal processes to determine the potential impacts of extending the northern finger jetty and groyne on the coastal environment, assets and values.
- Subject to these findings extend the northern finger jetty using floating pontoons and groyne if required.
- Dredge to increase the area of deeper water in front of the ramp to include the area beside the finger jetty.
- Undertake regular cleaning and maintenance of the ramp and jetty.
- At the end of their lifespan, replace all jetties with wider floating pontoons.
- Provide an additional, unisex toilet on the lower level of the precinct.
- Install raised pedestrian crossings at points where paths intersect the car park

strategies

The Mornington Peninsula Shire Council Managed Boating Facilities Demand and Capacity Study 2014 identifies the potential to increase tie up moorings.

The 2015 Mornington Peninsula Marine Precincts Strategy reviews the Sorrento Boat Ramp as the most modern boat ramp on the Mornington Peninsula. However, the level has fallen from good in 2007 to average in 2013. The adequacy of car parking is sufficient except during peak days in summer and individual days of warm weather.

However, there is limited ability to expand the facility and it is subject to the Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan (2011), which has no actions to increase car parking and deals more with improving the efficiency of the existing layout.

Parks Victoria

Parks Victoria's responsibility for foreshore management starts at the mean high water mark, they have no responsibility for land management. Their key areas of responsibility are to enforce the *Marine Safety Act 2010 (Vic)* and *Marine Safety Regulations 2012 (Vic)*, including the five knots speed limit, boat user safety equipment, boating and swimming zones, and monitoring of licenses.

Issues

- the closest toilet block is some distance from the ramp up a set of stairs within the historic park, often people will use the bushes instead of walking to the toilet block
- increased tie up space has been identified as required
- Pedestrian access through the lower level boat ramp carpark could be made safer

Objectives

- Improve efficiency of boat ramp
- Provide higher level of public amenity
- Improve pedestrian safety

Actions

- Continue implementing the recommendations of the Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan (SRBPP).
 - install unisex toilet on same level as boat ramp
 - increase tie up space with a possible extension to the northern finger jetty
 - Install raised pedestrian crossings within boat ramp carpark

3.4 Strategies for facilitating safe access and use

3.4.1 Access for pedestrians and cyclists

The SCMMP area is intrinsically linked to the Sorrento township. There is a need to 'bring the town centre and the foreshore closer together' through improved pedestrian wayfinding and linkages that maximize pedestrian movement in and around the foreshore. This should also encourage alternate modes of transport such as cycling. The improvement of the design of public spaces will contribute to its overall attractiveness for pedestrians and cyclists.

Issues

- Wayfinding is difficult throughout the reserve, often foreshore visitors are unaware that pedestrian footpaths run the length of the foreshore
- Tourist information needs to be better placed in key locations
- Maintenance is required for existing beach access points and footpaths
- Clear and safe pedestrian access points are needed to better connect the foreshore to the township
- Complaints received of boat moorings within Sullivan Bay being too close to shore

Objectives

- Reduce the potential for conflict between cyclists, pedestrians and vehicles.
- Create a safe and high quality pedestrian and bicycle environment in the SCMMP area.

- Improve pedestrian and bicycle access between the foreshore and the Sorrento township.
- Increase alternative modes of transport such as cycling and walking.
- Improve the safe and efficient flow of pedestrians, bicycles and vehicles in the area.

Actions

- Develop an effective signage strategy to ensure signage is coordinated.
 - Remove out dated old signs
 - Consolidate directional and regulatory signage
 - Incorporate creative interpretive cultural history and local history information
- Upgrade pedestrian access steps linking upper level boat ramp overflow carparking to lower level boat ramp
- Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation and upgrade furniture
- Construct new path connecting two existing footpaths
- Rationalize and upgrade main beach access points incorporate into each node:
 - bike racks
 - seating
 - outdoor showers
 - signage
- New site for visitor information nodes at existing toilet blocks near pier and within Webster's Corner Carpark
- Although PV currently have no plans to reduce moorings in the area, Council to continue to liaise with Parks Victoria regarding future quantities and locations of moorings within Sullivan Bay. Following community concern that there are too many moorings close to the beach.

strategies

3.4.2 Traffic

A key planning challenge for the Sorrento foreshore is access management — safe traffic movement and adequate separation between pedestrians and vehicles in particular.

Access points for pedestrians entering and exiting the foreshore from the Sorrento township are inefficient and confusing. Congestion at peak times, especially at the intersection of The Esplanade and Ocean Beach Road in front of the Koonya Hotel site, needs ongoing review.

Issues

- Lack of a main controlled pedestrian access crossing into reserve
- Poor visibility of cars exiting 'The Baths' carpark for oncoming traffic

Objectives

- Improve pedestrian connection to the reserve from the Sorrento Township
- Improve visibility for vehicles entering Point Nepean Road from the foreshore reserve

Actions

- Review strategic pedestrian access from Sorrento Township to Foreshore
- Create a formal, raised, pedestrian crossing across The Esplanade in front of the Koonya Hotel Site.

3.4.3 Access for people with limited mobility

Mornington Peninsula Shire's public foreshore present unique opportunities and challenges for people with limited mobility.

Mornington Peninsula Shire has almost 38,000 residents with a disability and of those, 5000 are estimated to have a physical disability. Added to this is the association between limited mobility and ageing.

By 2021 it is estimated the Shire will have a population of approximately 34,100 people aged 70 years and over - which equates to more than 17 per cent of the total population. Hence, planning for the needs of older and less mobile people and those with disabilities within the Shire is more important than ever.

The Shire also has a high and growing proportion of young families. The provision of improved amenities and access will greatly assist families with prams, strollers and young children.

Finally, due to the foreshore's popularity a tourist destination, it is also important for the Shire to provide for visitors with and without disabilities.

Mornington Peninsula Shire's *Health, hope and well-being plan* (2013-2017) found that equal access to recreational opportunities and public open space enhanced quality of life. In 2005, the Shire adopted a recommendation to integrate (disability) access within all areas of council work. This includes the planning of public open space, consistent with our requirements under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* to provide equitable access to premises used by the public.

The Shire's *Access and equity policy 2016* also articulates our support for human rights, including 'having access to healthy places and spaces, healthy life choices, quality life opportunities, participation in active local communities and a sense of hope and belonging now and in the future'.

Having access to beach and water is also one of the outcomes from the 2010–2020 National Disability Strategy to create inclusive and accessible communities. The stated outcome of the strategy is for ‘people with disability to live in accessible and well-designed communities with opportunity for full inclusion in social, economic, sporting and cultural life’.

Issues

- lack of disabled access to toilet block at Webster’s corner
- Condition of surfaces make disabled access to shoreline or ‘The Baths’ jetty very difficult.

Objectives

- Prioritize a high standard of disabled access in the main beach area between the Sorrento pier and ‘The Baths’ restaurant
- Improve the safety and condition of designated access tracks along the foreshore
- Provide for rest areas along the foreshore walking tracks.

Actions

- Review the provision of existing seating along the foreshore and provide for upgrades, repairs and additional seating as required.
- Formalise carparking at ‘Websters corner’ and Sullivan Bay, incorporate disabled access parking spaces into the new design
- Continue to liaise with ‘The Baths’ restaurant regarding the storage of beach access mat during peak periods
- Provide all abilities access path to existing toilet block at ‘Webster’s Corner’



strategies

3.4.4 Dogs

Dog walking is very popular along stretches of the Mornington foreshore. Proper exercise of pets can reduce instances of nuisance pet complaints such as barking and wandering. Equally, dog walking is an important opportunity for exercise, recreation and social connection for pet owners.

While many of the Shire's foreshores provide great opportunities for dog walking, it is important to recognize there are places and times when it is not appropriate to have dogs on the beach. This includes the potential for dogs to cause a nuisance during peak summer time when the foreshore can be crowded with beach users including young children. It is also important to avoid having dogs off-leash in ecologically sensitive areas, particularly near significant nesting sites for native fauna.

Whilst dogs must be on leash for the majority of Sorrento Beach, the section of beach between the Sailing club jetty and the western sister is designated as a 'Off-leash' area year round, with time restrictions.

At all times, dog owners must be responsible for picking up after their pets and ensuring they have effective control of their animal(s). All dogs must be on a leash in public places unless they are being exercised in a designated leash-free zone.

Objectives

- Continue to regulate pet owners who exercise with their dogs in foreshore areas in accordance with foreshore regulations, the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* and Orders of Council.

3.4.5 Litter and rubbish dumping

Litter and rubbish dumping is detrimental to the foreshore environment. It detracts from the foreshore's aesthetic qualities and can present a serious risk to public health as well as to wildlife that may ingest or become tangled in foreign materials.

Litter at Sorrento foreshore comes in all forms from a number of sources. It can wash up on our shores from storm water drainage throughout Port Philip Bay, including local outfalls and creek mouths. It may also be carried by wind or be the result of careless individuals. Litter discarded afar and at sea by boat users and the shipping industry is also brought to shore through currents and tidal dynamics. A particular issue on most foreshores is litter from recreational and commercial fishing (e.g. fishing line and lures). Illegal dumping of large objects also occurs within the foreshore reserve.

Due to the widespread nature of this problem, litter and rubbish dumping is a shared responsibility between all levels of government, private industry and individuals. There are also community-oriented initiatives aimed at addressing litter such as the 'Clean-up Australia' day.

The Shire's cleansing program addresses routine litter removal along the Sorrento Foreshore by either mechanical means or by hand.

The Sorrento beach is cleaned mechanically on a weekly basis from the start of November to the end of April.

The Shire does not provide rubbish bins on beaches given the difficulty associated with wheeling bins across sand. Bins for community use are provided near car parks and people are encouraged to take their rubbish home.

Issues

- The Main beach area between the Pier and 'The Baths' Restaurant has high visitor rates year round and produces large amounts of rubbish
- In peak period and at events, existing bins appear to be insufficient
- Existing bins are dated and need to be upgraded
- Funding is an ongoing requirement to manage litter and instances of illegal rubbish dumping on the Sorrento foreshore.
- The widespread nature and magnitude of the problem involves coordination among many stakeholders.

Objectives

- Reduce the amount of litter that washes up on the foreshore from the sea and drainage outfalls.
- Reduce incidents of rubbish dumping.
- Reduce impacts of rubbish generated from events.
- Upgrade quality of street furniture

Actions

- Actively support campaigns and actions aimed at reducing litter, particularly if an opportunity emerges for direct application within the Sorrento foreshore.
- Increase collection of rubbish in peak periods where appropriate

3.4.4 Signage

Signage is currently used on the Sorrento foreshore for a variety of purposes including:

- notification of relevant by-laws and in support of enforcement of by-laws
- warning for potential hazards
- interpretation of historical features
- information and direction

Issues

- While signage can be useful for all for all of these purposes, too much signage or signage that detracts from the area's aesthetics is also a concern expressed in our local communities.
- Some foreshore signage may be redundant and/or in poor condition.

Objectives

- Ensure that signage is kept to the minimum necessary to inform and for enforcement purposes.
- Consider the height, material used and siting of signage to minimize visual impacts without compromising the need for the message.
- Install signage in a coordinated manner. Wherever possible, consider placing multiple messages on one well-designed and well situated sign.
- Audit signage regularly. Illegible and redundant signage should be removed or replaced.
- Use signage to notify and protect the public from risk (this may include the installation of temporary signage and/or closure of areas through temporary or permanent fencing as required).

strategies

Actions

- Audit the existing signage on the foreshore to determine what signage is required.
- Improve the quality of signage of the foreshore through improved design, siting and inclusion of multiple messages into a single sign where possible.
- Remove or replace illegible and redundant signage as required.
- Initiate a working group to address signage in a coordinated manner on the foreshore. This group should include community representatives and groups interested in installing interpretive signage.

3.4.5 Emergency management and planning

Emergency incidents can happen at any time and in any location. The foreshores are a natural rather than a controlled environment and it is important to maintain them as such.

While no amount of action can completely remove the risk of an emergency incident occurring on our foreshores, we can work towards having the best reporting procedures in place and providing access for attending vehicles and crews where appropriate.

Incidents that may arise in a coastal location such as Sorrento include:

- Water quality issues
- Cliff rescues
- Land slips
- Boating incidents such as groundings or collisions
- Attending venomous bites or stings (e.g. jelly fish, snakes, etc.)
- Attending to abrasions and injuries from rocks
- Drownings and water rescues

Issues

- Provision of access for emergency crews in cliff areas
- Provision of access for emergency vehicles in over-crowded carparks.
- Difficulty identifying incident locations on public land, which can delay the emergency response
- Reporting channels and response for water quality issues

Objectives

- Minimise public health risks for foreshore users
- Reduce the possibility of delays in emergency response times Improve suitable access for emergency services and improved identification of locations on public land.
- Improve reporting, monitoring and education around incidents and processes.

Actions

- Implement the Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority - Emergency Marker Program on Sorrento Foreshore
- Provide for emergency vehicle access in all future landscaping proposals
- Continue to include government agencies and volunteer emergency rescue providers that operate on our foreshores in consultation processes.

3.5 Strategies for infrastructure and buildings

3.5.1 Car parking

Public parking is provided along the length of the foreshore both within the reserve and as parallel parking on sections of Point Nepean Road.

Locations where car parks are located within the reserve include:

- Asphalt carpark at the Sorrento boat ramp
- Asphalt carpark on the western side of the Pier
- Gravel carpark at 'The Baths' restaurant
- Informal lawn overflow carpark between Bowen and St Pauls Rd
- Gravel carpark at 'Webster's Corner' picnic and playground area
- Asphalt carpark associated with the Sailing Club
- Gravel carpark on the western side of the western sister headland
- Gravel carpark at Sullivan Bay Picnic area

Issues

- Landscape Masterplan from 2001 recommends the formalization of carpark areas at Webster's Corner and Sullivan Bay in an effort to restrict cars parking underneath Moonah Trees
- Future overdevelopment of the foreshore and that any new works must be coastal sensitive.
- Some car parks throughout reserve are gravel and when unmaintained large potholes form creating drainage issues

strategies

Objectives

- Improve the layout of car parking areas to improve efficiency and traffic movement.
- Include best practice water sensitive urban design and *The siting & design guidelines for the Victorian coast 1998* in the upgrade of car parks.
- Consider emergency and maintenance vehicles access in any foreshore car park upgrades.
- Require all commercial lease holders and public events to consider parking impacts and alternatives such as off site parking.
- Increase the number of disabled car parks within the reserve
- Carparks to be resurfaced with gravel and maintenance to be increased. Higher use areas should be prioritized.

Actions

- Improve vision for vehicles exiting 'The Baths' carpark by removing parking bay on Pt Nepean Rd either side of entry/exit.
- Reconfigure the carparks at Webster's Corner, Sailing Club and Sullivan Bay to obtain efficient layout.
 - Incorporate disabled access carparking spaces
 - Comply with relevant Australian Standards
 - Review carpark surfacing maintenance schedule

3.5.2 Toilet facilities and other structures

The provision of clean and sufficient numbers of toilet facilities has been identified as an important part of providing a high-quality coastal experience.

There are 4 public toilets available within the reserve these are:

- Within the main beach area on the eastern side of the pier
- On the eastern side of 'The Baths'
 - On the foreshore between Bowen Rd and St Pauls Rd
- Near the 'Webster's Corner' Playground and picnic area

In March 2012, Council adopted the shire's Public Toilet Strategy to provide a framework for the provision and refurbishment of the 134 public toilets on the Peninsula. Public toilet blocks within the Sorrento foreshore reserve have been assessed and given a priority for upgrade as part of this strategy.

Issues

- The 2011 Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan recommends the installation of a unisex toilet block close to the ramp
- The main toilet blocks on the eastern side of the pier take up a large footprint on the reserve.
- The toilet block on the eastern side of 'The Baths' is derelict
- Ensure that cleansing and maintenance of foreshore public toilet blocks are able to cope with high demand through peak periods

Objectives

- Improve accessibility to existing facilities
- Improve the safety and condition of council assets
- Enhance the overall attractiveness and function of the area for coastal recreation

Actions

- Installation of new single cubicle public toilet with outdoor shower at the Sorrento boat ramp
- Existing toilet blocks on eastern side of the pier to be reviewed as part of public toilet strategy refurbishment program. Increase cleaning schedule during peak season
- Remove existing toilet block east of 'The Baths' Restaurant
- Installation of new single outdoor shower at the Sullivan Bay car park
- Increase maintenance of historic bandstand Rotunda and incorporate supply of 3 Phase power.

3.6 Strategies for climate change

The Mornington Peninsula Shire has been preparing for the potential impacts of climate change for more than a decade.

The Shire's approach has been driven by the Sustainable Peninsula Initiative, developed in conjunction with the community in 2001.

This initiative ensures that sustainability principles are incorporated into the shire's operations.

Key aspects of the approach have included reducing the Shire's greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and vulnerability to the potential effects of a changing climate (adaptation).

The main areas of concern include longer and more severe droughts, increased intensity when it does rain, increases in average temperature, sea-level rise, higher-fire-risk weather and more frequent and intense storms.

The *Victorian Coastal Strategy (2014)* requires authorities to plan for a sea level rise of 0.8 m by 2100, taking into account local conditions and other contributing factors, in making decisions for coastal areas. Development subject to potential impacts should be avoided unless it is designed to be appropriately protected from climate change effects and/or the expected design life is within the timeframe of potential effects.

Issues

- Climate change is likely to impact on foreshore areas and associated infrastructure through increased storm surges, erosion and coastal inundation
- Areas of the SCMMP are low lying and susceptible to future coastal inundation from sea level rise and coastal inundation

strategies

- Uncontrolled dinghy storage along the length of the foreshore over many years has resulted in trampled dune systems littered with buried, abandoned boats and equipment
- The Shire needs to prepare for climate change, although we need to exercise balanced decision making to avoid mal-adaption. E.g. failing to invest in facilities which will promote significant community benefits due to long term risk exposure beyond the intended design life

Objectives

- Continue to develop strategies to mitigate greenhouse gas outputs within the Mornington Peninsula Shire
- Be a leading council by proactively participating in research to determine best-practice decision making for climate change.
- All future landscape projects must plan for sea-level rise of 0.8m by 2100
- To promote healthy strong dune systems

Actions

- Improve dune management
 - remove exotic grass species
 - control pedestrian access points where possible
 - create revegetation areas with indigenous plants to help minimise sand drift and future erosion
 - provide temporary protection to new plants until revegetation areas are mature
- Maintain lawn edge to main beach area
 - periodically place sand back up against lawn edge to prevent further erosion
- Review dinghy storage along beach
 - Remove all unused and derelict boats
 - Review appropriate locations and storage methods

- Existing storage of Dinghies on the beach to be only permitted if associated with an authorized mooring, until review of long term management is completed.

3.7 Strategies for commercial operators, tourism and events

Sorrento foreshore hosts many activities, events and commercial operations ranging in scale from small exercise classes to major annual events.

Objectives

- Ensure future foreshore works take into account and allow for operation of community events where appropriate
- Ensure all events are in line with the *Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014*
- Minimize conflict between foreshore users, particularly during events
- Avoid approval of any new itinerant traders on the foreshore
- Ensure commercial operators pay fair commercial rates for the use of public land
- Ensure that private operators are assessed in terms of their net benefit to the community

Actions

- Use event registration form and a coordinated booking system for foreshore areas

3.8 Strategies to build community awareness and involvement

3.8.1 Volunteer groups and activities

A number of volunteer groups, including local schoolchildren, friends and environmental groups, help manage the foreshore through a variety of activities such as collecting rubbish and participating in re-vegetation initiatives.

These groups add significant value to the conservation of the foreshore reserve, as well as inject community pride and local responsibility for their public asset.

Issues

- There are diminishing numbers of volunteers
- Volunteer groups require assistance and spread their efforts across a wide range of various endeavors
- Volunteer groups take considerable pride in their works completed especially within the Main Beach area of the reserve
- Volunteer groups are key stakeholders and would like greater involvement in decision making in relation to the foreshore
- Ongoing consultation with the wider community is required for Council to make thorough, best practice decisions on future works within the reserve

Objectives

- Provide support and acknowledgement for activities proposed by volunteers groups that benefit the reserve
- Ensure that long term decisions are made after consultation with both Key stakeholder groups and members of the wider community

Actions

- Continue to help volunteer groups identify appropriate sites for works, such as litter removal, weeding and re-vegetation that are co-ordinated with Shire work programs/proposals and do not compromise safety or function
- Continue to help volunteer groups find locations that provide opportunities for re-visiting and monitoring progress on re-vegetation projects
- Continue to seek opportunities to showcase and reward the work of volunteers that contribute to our foreshores
- Keep volunteer groups informed of developments and involved in consultation in an integrated manner
- Provide platforms to assist volunteer groups to recruit members through the Shire's Volunteering Mornington Peninsula Program

3.9 Strategies for monitoring and review

Regular monitoring of the implementation of the Plan is required to ensure that progress is made, recommendations remain relevant, priorities are addressed, and management approaches and decisions remain consistent with the vision and principles set out in the Plan. Best practice monitoring, evaluation and reporting (MER) is informed by the adaptive management cycle which is illustrated below.

Knowledge and information management underpin this cycle and are crucial for ensuring comprehensive and effective MER. Information is generated, collected, collated and transferred at various stages in the cycle. MER of the Plan will keep the implementation process on track, and ensure the visions and objectives are being met and that the Shire is meeting the requirements under the delegation.

Issues

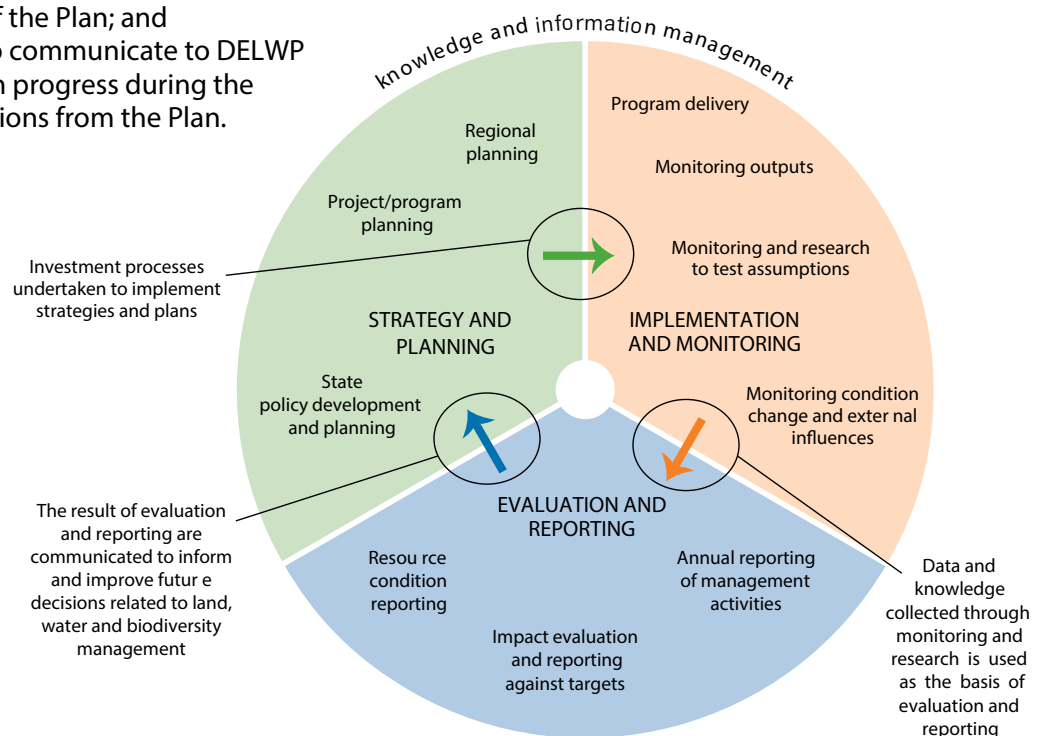
- Identifying which actions have/have not been implemented from the Plan;
- Consistency in collating data and reporting on the implementation of the Plan; and
- Understanding how to communicate to DELWP and the community on progress during the implementation of actions from the Plan.

Objectives

- Create a MER framework which enables the Shire to ensure key objectives of the Plan are being met, actions are being implemented and to provide information on what changes are occurring; and
- Assess the efficiency, effectiveness and appropriateness of actions in meeting the Plan vision and objectives.

Actions

- Annually review delivery of actions through Council's framework to track the delivery of the Plan;
- Provide annual reports to DELWP on the implementation of the actions listed in the Plan;
- Provide a report to DELWP on the coastal management indicators listed in Section 3.8 of the Guidelines for the Preparation of Coastal Management Plans 2017.



MER and key elements of the adaptive management cycle.

Source: Guidelines for the Preparation of Coastal Management Plans (DELWP, 2017)

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appendix a

Appendix A: Planning and legislative framework

Commonwealth legislation

Environment protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999

The *Environment protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* delineates areas of federal and state responsibility for the natural environment. This Act defines the Australian Government's role in managing the environment as limited to matters of national environmental significance, such as Ramsar wetlands. The Act aims primarily to provide for the protection of the environment, promote ecologically sustainable development and promote the conservation of biodiversity.

State legislation, policy and plans

Environmental Protection Act 1970

The Environment Protection Act 1970 provides the legal framework by which environmental objectives, regulations and goals are established throughout the state for industry, commerce and the general public. The Act reflects the precautionary principle, the protection of intergenerational equity, the polluter pays principle, and the protection of biodiversity. It puts responsibility for sound environmental management on Victorian businesses, communities and individuals. It aims to achieve greater environmental performance through shifting to collaboration and co-regulation as opposed to the traditional 'command and control'.

Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988

The Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 incorporates a wide range of measures for conserving all Victoria's native plants and animals. Its broad aim is to prevent the extinction of any more plants and animals, both by saving those that are threatened and by preventing those that are currently secure from being threatened.

The Heritage Act 1995

The Heritage Act 1995 provides protection and conservation of places and objects of cultural significance and the registration of these places. The Act protects all categories of historic cultural significance relating to non-Aboriginal settlement of Victoria.

Marine and Coastal Act 2018

The *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* provides for the coordinated strategic planning of Victoria's coastal resources. The Act requires an application for consent to use or develop marine and coastal Crown land. When considering an application, the Minister for Environment and Climate Change must ensure consistency with: the Marine and Coastal Policy; the Marine and Coastal Strategy; the objectives set out in Part 2 of the Act; the guiding principles set out in Part 2 of the Act; any product made under a regional and strategic partnership that applies to any land affected by the consent; any environmental management plan applying to that land; any coastal and marine management plan applying to that land; and any relevant coastal recommendation.

appendix a

Appendix A: Planning and legislative framework

Marine and Coastal Act 2018

Marine and Coastal Act 2018
No. 26 of 2018

Part 2—Objectives and guiding principles for the planning and management of the marine and coastal environment

Part 2—Objectives and guiding principles for the planning and management of the marine and coastal environment

7 Objectives

The objectives for the planning and management of the marine and coastal environment are—

- (a) to protect and enhance the marine and coastal environment; and
- (b) to promote the resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems, communities and assets to climate change; and
- (c) to respect natural processes in planning for and managing current and future risks to people and assets from coastal hazards and climate change; and
- (d) to acknowledge traditional owner groups' knowledge, rights and aspirations for land and sea country; and
- (e) to promote a diversity of experiences in the marine and coastal environment; and
- (f) to promote the ecologically sustainable use and development of the marine and coastal environment and its resources in appropriate areas; and
- (g) to improve community, user group and industry stewardship and understanding of the marine and coastal environment; and
- (h) to engage with specified Aboriginal parties, the community, user groups and industry in marine and coastal planning, management and protection; and
- (i) to build scientific understanding of the marine and coastal environment.

Authorised by the Chief Parliamentary Counsel

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Marine and Coastal Act 2018
No. 26 of 2018

Part 2—Objectives and guiding principles for the planning and management of the marine and coastal environment

8 Integrated coastal zone management

- (1) It is a guiding principle for the management of the marine and coastal environment that planning and management should be co-ordinated and integrated, as appropriate, across—
 - (a) the marine and coastal environment and associated catchments; and
 - (b) the water cycle, including as it relates to estuaries, oceans, bays and coastal waters, groundwater and waterways, where this affects the marine and coastal environment and water quality; and
 - (c) industry sectors and users of the marine and coastal environment; and
 - (d) land tenure where this affects the marine and coastal environment.
- (2) Planning and management should also take into account long-term and short-term environmental, social and economic considerations.

9 Ecosystem-based management

- (1) It is a guiding principle for the management of the marine and coastal environment that the maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of marine and coastal ecosystem structure and function is fundamental to the current and future use and enjoyment of Victoria's marine and coastal environment, its resources, and the ecosystem services provided.
- (2) An ecosystem-based approach should underpin Victoria's marine and coastal planning and management system, incorporating—
 - (a) avoiding detrimental cumulative or incremental ecosystem impacts; and

Authorised by the Chief Parliamentary Counsel

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Appendix A: Planning and legislative framework

Marine and Coastal Act 2018

Marine and Coastal Act 2018
No. 26 of 2018

Part 2—Objectives and guiding principles for the planning and management of the marine and coastal environment

- (b) working with natural processes where practical; and
- (c) building ecosystem resilience to climate change impacts where possible.

10 Ecologically sustainable development

It is a guiding principle for the management of the marine and coastal environment that use and development that affects the marine and coastal environment should be focused on improving the total quality of life of Victorians, across current and future generations, in a way that maintains the ecological processes on which life depends.

11 Evidence-based decision-making

It is a guiding principle for the management of the marine and coastal environment that marine and coastal planning and management decisions should be based on best available and relevant environmental, social and economic understanding, recognising that information will often be limited.

12 Precautionary principle

It is a guiding principle for the management of the marine and coastal environment that if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental and other damage, lack of full certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental or other degradation.

13 Proportionate and risk-based principle

It is a guiding principle for the management of the marine and coastal environment that risk management and regulatory approaches should be proportionate to the risk involved.

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Marine and Coastal Act 2018
No. 26 of 2018

Part 2—Objectives and guiding principles for the planning and management of the marine and coastal environment

14 Adaptive management

It is a guiding principle for the management of the marine and coastal environment that decision-makers should learn from the outcomes of operational programs and, in light of that, change policies and practices.

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The Planning and Environment Act 1987

The Planning and Environment Act 1987 establishes state planning and land use processes including provisions for planning schemes for individual council areas. A planning scheme is a statutory document, which sets out objectives, policies and provisions relating to the use, development, protection and conservation of land in an area to which it applies.

A planning scheme regulates the use and development of land through planning provisions to achieve those objectives and policies. Every planning scheme includes the State Planning Policy Framework. The framework comprises general principles for land use and development in Victoria and specific policies dealing with settlement, environment, housing, economic development, infrastructure, and particular uses and development.

The Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014

The *Victorian Coastal Strategy (VCS)* is the state government's policy commitment for coastal, estuarine and marine environments in Victoria. It provides a long-term vision for the planning, management and sustainable use of our coast, and the policies and actions Victorians will need to implement over the next five years to help achieve that vision.

The Aboriginal heritage act 2006

The *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* commenced operation on 28 May 2007 and provides for the protection and management of Victoria's Aboriginal heritage with processes linked to the Victorian Planning system. The Act also has processes for handling dispute resolution.

The Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007

The *Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007* give effect to the Act. The Regulations came into operation on 28 May 2007 and should be read in conjunction with the Act. The Regulations set out the circumstances in which a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) is required to be prepared, and the standards for the preparation of a CHMP.

Coastal and regional policy and plans

Draft Regional Coastal Action Plan 2015

The *Draft Regional Coastal Plan for the Central Coastal Region* is a statutory document prepared under the provisions of the Marine and Coastal Act 2018. It provides a regional framework for planning and decision making on both public and freehold land at the local level. It also provides a focus for all agencies with responsibility for coastal management to act together to plan and manage the coast.

Mt Eliza to Pt Nepean coastal action plan 2005

The *Mt Eliza to Point Nepean coastal action plan (2005)*: this CAP provides a long-term framework to manage this section of the coast and an integration mechanism that encourages high-level coordination for the resolution of coastal planning issues.

appendix a

The Recreational Boating Facilities Framework 2014

The *Recreational Boating Facilities Framework (2014)* for the Central Region lists the Sorrento boat ramp as a district facility in both 2013 and 2030.

Local policy and plans

The Mornington Peninsula Strategic Plan 2013 - 2017

The *Mornington Peninsula Strategic Plan 2013 - 2017* has been developed by Council through ongoing community consultation and engagement. The Plan expresses the elected Council's vision, goals and priorities for the Mornington Peninsula Shire over the next four years (2013-2017), and includes strategic goals, outcomes and strategies that the Shire will implement to reach this vision.

The Sorrento Foreshore Reserve Masterplan 2001

The *Sorrento Foreshore reserve 2001* was prepared to provide a guide for future planning, development and management of the area to cater for existing and community needs on a sustainable basis over a 5-10 year period.

Mornington Peninsula Planning Scheme

The *Mornington Peninsula planning scheme* sets out policies and controls for the use, development and protection of land within the municipality. The planning scheme is based on model planning provisions for Victoria called the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPPs), which allow for each municipality to insert certain local provisions.

The State Planning Policy Framework

The State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) sets out the policies relevant to all land across Victoria.

Clause 12-2 – Coastal Areas

The most relevant aspect of the SPPF for the planning of the Sorrento foreshore is Clause 12.2 – Coastal Areas. This clause includes the following objectives:

- Protection of coastal areas: to recognize and enhance the value of the coastal areas to the community and ensure sustainable use of natural coastal resources.
- Appropriate development of coastal areas: to ensure development conserves, protects and seeks to enhance coastal biodiversity and ecological values.
- Coastal Crown Land: to achieve development that provides an environmental, social and economic balance.
- Coastal tourism: to encourage suitable located and designed coastal and marine tourism opportunities

For each objective a range of strategies and policy guidelines are identified.

Under 'appropriate development of coastal areas' and 'coastal Crown land', the policy guidelines include: 'Any relevant coastal action plan or management plan approved under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* or *National Parks Act 1975*'

Clause 13 – Environmental Risks

This includes Clause 13.01 - Climate Change Impacts, Which has the following objective:

- Coastal inundation and erosion: to plan for and manage the potential coastal impacts of climate change.

The relevant strategy specifies the need to 'plan for sea-level rise of not less than 0.8 metres by 2100'.

The policy guidelines again include: 'Any relevant coastal action plan or management plan approved under the *Coastal Management Act 1995* or *National Parks Act 1975*'

The Local Planning Policy Framework

The Municipal Strategic Statement of the Mornington Peninsula Shire Planning Scheme contains following clauses that are most relevant to the Sorrento Foreshore:

Clause 21.01 - The Mornington Peninsula Framework Plan

This clause outlines the over-arching policy directions for planning the Mornington Peninsula, including:

Distinguishing between the Port Phillip foreshore as an area capable, in selected locations, of sustaining recreational opportunities for large numbers of people and Western Port and Bass Strait/Wild coast, which are more fragile environments, with greater sensitivity to modification.

Clause 21.08 - Foreshores and Coastal Areas

This includes the following objectives, as well as a range of strategies:

Objective 1: To protect and enhance the natural ecosystems and landscapes of the coast for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations

Objective 2: To achieve coordinated development of public and private facilities that increases the sustainable social, economic and recreational value of the coast and foreshore to the community.

This Clause also outlines how strategies are implemented by applying planning controls (Zones and Overlays).

Clause 36.02 - Public Park and Recreation Zone

The Sorrento Foreshore is situated within the Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ).

This zone (like all zones and overlays) has a range of land use and development controls. It's purpose is:

- To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- To recognise areas for public recreation and open space.
- To protect and conserve areas of significance where appropriate.
- To provide for commercial uses where appropriate.

appendix b

Appendix B: Key Strategic Recommendations

Refer to Appendix E SCMP Proposed Recommendations pages 1 - 5 for specific locations

Item	Strategies for Natural Systems
NS -1	Improve vegetation management: - Control environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion - Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation - Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate
NS -2	Assessment of Cypress trees between 'The Baths' and 'Webster's Corner'. Removal of those identified as dangerous and replacement planting with locally sourced indigenous plants.
NS - 3	Review existing vegetation protection fences along foreshore - remove old and damaged fences - Where appropriate install new fences to council standards, CHMP may be required.
NS - 4	Install perimeter tree planting for shade and improved sense of place, install low level planting along the shared trail to improve amenity and separate from car parking in the overflow carpark lawn area between Bowen Rd and St Pauls Rd
NS - 5	Install dune fencing to prevent sand blowing into reserve
NS - 6	Formalise carparks and Install Timber bollards with locked slip rail where required to control vehicle access under existing Moonah Trees
NS - 7	Cut back road side vegetation to improve sight lines for pedestrians entering and existing 'Tuckey Track'.
Strategies for Cultural Heritage	
CH - 1	Identify small area of beach to the west of the boat ramp as a public space and name i.e. 'Aquarium Beach'.
CH -2	Remove existing tree carving and design new plaza area around existing R.S.L. Cenotaph
CH - 3	Install plaques on thirteen Norfolk Island Trees to recognise the 'Thirteen sons of Sorrento' killed in action during WW1
CH -4	Review opportunities to create an interpretive sculpture project telling the indigenous story of the local area. The MPS will be respectful and continue to negotiate in good faith with our local indigenous elders and preserve the heritage of the area.
CH - 5	Works within Sorrento Campground to occur as determined by the CHMP that is currently under development. All works are required to be inline with the Sorrento Coastal management plan and Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014.
CH -6	Ongoing support for the Tuckey Track project community based working group focussing on: - Restoration and protection of Coastal Moonah Woodlands habitat - Installation of identification and interpretive signage which complies with the council signage strategy in consultation with community group.
CH - 7	Lavender Hill' picnic area has been identified by traditional owner groups as an area of sensitivity - No future subsurface disturbance - Any future works to be undertaken in consultation with traditional owners
CH -8	Traditional owner groups have identified vegetated slope as a potential location for a firestick burn trial with mosaic weed removal and revegetation
CH - 9	Develop a masterplan for the 'Western Sister headland' in conjunction with DELWP, Parks Victoria, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corp. and other key stakeholders. Masterplan to include protection of indigenous cultural heritage.
CH -10	Review the COM boundaries of the Sorrento foreshore between the current Southern boundary and the Whitecliffs to Cameron's Bight Foreshore COM including the Eastern Sister. If the review leads to the Shire's COM boundary to include the Eastern Sister, then a review and update of the 2002 Masterplan should be undertaken.

Strategies for Recreation	
RE - 1	Redesign area to improve amenity and create a sense of arrival for pedestrians disembarking from the Searoads Ferry.
RE - 2	Redesign footpath layout and lawn area. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove main path from lawn area and relocate under the Norfolk pines. Ensure widths are appropriate for a shared path as per 'Bay Trail' requirements. - Maintain grassed area as a large flexible use open space. - Design as a boardwalk incorporating new picnic facilities, seating and fitness equipment. - Review opportunities for uplighting of trees and installation of Christmas lights.
RE - 3	Consider reduction of boat storage to allow increased usable open space for events
RE - 4	Upgrade area as per masterplan incorporating: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revised Parking layout - Seating and footpaths - Increased plantings - Incorporate feature elements evocative of the 1803-04 Collins settlement
RE - 5	Upgrade picnic facilities on eastern side of 'Lavender Hill'
Strategies for Safe Access and Use	
SA - 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an effective signage strategy to ensure signage is coordinated. - Remove out dated old signs - Consolidate directional and regulatory signage - Incorporate creative interpretive cultural history and local history information
SA - 2	Upgrade pedestrian access steps linking upper level boat ramp overflow carparking to lower level boat ramp
SA - 3	Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation and upgrade furniture
SA - 4	Construct new path connecting two existing footpaths
SA - 5	Review footpath layout to improve safety for pedestrians entering and exiting the reserve
SA - 6	Council to continue to work with Vicroads to investigate opportunity for raised pedestrian crossing in The Esplanade
SA - 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalize and upgrade main beach access points incorporate into each node: - bike racks - seating - outdoor showers - signage
SA - 8	Relocate visitor information shelter following identification of alternative site
SA - 9	Potential new site for visitor information shelter in association with Webster's Corner Carpark
SA - 10	Provide all abilities access path to existing toilet block at 'Webster's Corner'
SA - 11	Council to continue to work with Vicroads to investigate opportunity for pedestrian refuge in Pt Nepean Rd
SA - 12	Council to continue to liaise with Parks Victoria regarding future quantities and location of moorings within Sullivan Bay. Following community concern that there are too many moorings close to the beach.

appendix b

Strategies for Infrastructure and Buildings	
IB - 1	Modify boat ramp as per Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan 2011 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase tie up area by installing additional floating pontoons to existing jettys - Review dredging program to ensure safe operation of boat ramp in future
IB - 2	Consider installation of new single cubicle public toilet with outdoor shower and raised pedestrian crossing through carpark as per Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan 2011
IB - 3	Existing toilet blocks to be reviewed as part of public toilet strategy refurbishment program. Increase cleaning schedule during peak season
IB - 4	Increase maintenance Rotunda and incorporate supply of 3 Phase power.
IB - 5	Install locked slip rail for council maintenance alongside 'The Baths' Restaurant
IB - 6	Demolish existing toilet block close to 'The Baths' Restaurant
IB - 7	Reconfigure carpark to obtain efficient layout. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporate disabled access carparking spaces - Comply with relevant Australian Standards - Carpark surface to be gravel
IB - 8	To maintain surface of shared path with compacted and stabilised crushed local limestone to allow for walking and cycling track to be kept closed to through vehicle access at existing barriers which allow for emergency access

Strategies for Climate Change	
CC-1	Improve dune management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - remove exotic grass species - control pedestrian access points where possible - create revegetation areas with indigenous plants to help minimise sand drift and future erosion - provide temporary protection to new plants until revegetation areas are mature
CC-2	Maintain lawn edge to beach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - periodically place sand back up against lawn edge to prevent further erosion
CC-3	Review dinghy storage along beach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove all unused and derelict boats - Review appropriate locations and storage methods - Consider all dinghies to be removed over winter

Strategies for Commercial operators, tourism and events	
CO-1	Area used for small non-intrusive temporary public events
CO-2	Area used as Itinerant Trading Location
CO-3	The Baths' Restaurant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council to investigate with DELWP the lease arrangements with 'The Baths' to determine if the lease is suited to be with MPS or DELWP in future
CO-4	Leased area for Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club

appendix c

Appendix C : Works Plan and Timing

The works plan itemizes actions from both the proposed recommendations and the Masterplans allocates an approximate cost (Ex. GST) and indicative timing. This listing does not include ongoing routine maintenance (beach cleaning, vegetation management, risk control works etc).

In terms of the general recommendations (but not those relating to car park upgrades – see below), High priority generally corresponds to works to be considered in Years 1 – 3, Medium years 5 – 8, Low years 8 - 10. The timeframe for Low Priority works needs to be reviewed as the plan develops and in the light of available funding.

The proposed car park upgrades are listed separately as these will be assessed and prioritized in the context of Council's overall policy and program in relation to the construction of unsealed car parks and policy development in relation to the construction of coastal car parking areas.

Note: all funding decisions are subject to Council's annual budget review process and the availability of external funding.

Item	Strategies for Natural Systems	1-3 Years	5-8 Years	8-10 Years
NS -1	Improve vegetation management: - Control environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion - Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation - Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
NS -2	Assessment of Cypress trees between 'The Baths' and 'Webster's Corner'. Removal of those identified as dangerous and replacement planting with locally sourced indigenous plants.	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
NS - 3	Review existing vegetation protection fences along foreshore - remove old and damaged fences - Where appropriate install new fences to council standards, CHMP may be required.	\$25,000.00		
NS - 4	Install perimeter tree planting for shade and improved sense of place, install low level planting along the shared trail to improve amenity and separate from car parking in the overflow carpark lawn area between Bowen Rd and St Pauls Rd	\$25,000.00		
NS - 5	Install dune fencing to prevent sand blowing into reserve	\$25,000.00		

NS - 6	Formalise carparks and Install timber bollards with locked slip rail where required to control vehicle access under existing Moonah Trees		\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00
Strategies for Cultural Heritage				
CH - 1	Identify small area of beach to the west of the boat ramp as a public space and name i.e. 'Aquarium Beach'.	Refer SA-1		
CH - 2	Remove existing tree carving and design new plaza area around existing R.S.L. Cenotaph	\$100,000.00		
CH - 3	Install plaques on thirteen Norfolk Island Trees to recognise the 'Thirteen sons of Sorrento' killed in action during WW1	\$6,500.00		
CH - 4	Create an interpretive sculpture project telling the indigenous story of the local area. The MPS will be respectful and continue to negotiate in good faith with our local indigenous elders and preserve the heritage of the area.		\$100,000.00	
CH - 5	Works within Sorrento Campground to occur as determined by the CHMP that is currently under development. All works are required to be in line with the Sorrento coastal and marine management plan and Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014.	N/A		
CH - 6	Ongoing support for the Tuckey Track project community based working group focussing on: - Restoration and protection of Coastal Moonah Woodlands habitat - Installation of identification and interpretive signage which complies with the council signage strategy in consultation with community group.	N/A		
CH - 7	Lavender Hill' picnic area has been identified by traditional owner groups as an area of sensitivity - No subsurface disturbance - Any future works to be undertaken in consultation with traditional owners	N/A		

CH -8	Traditional owner groups have identified vegetated slope as an potential location for a firestick burn trial with mosaic weed removal and revegetation	Refer to NS-1		
CH - 9	Develop a masterplan for the 'Western Sister headland' in conjunction with DELWP, Parks Victoria, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corp. and other key stakeholders. Masterplan to include protection of indigenous cultural heritage.	\$50,000.00		
CH -10	Review the COM boundaries of the Sorrento foreshore between the current Southern boundary and the Whitecliffs to Cameron's Bight Foreshore COM including the Eastern Sister. If the review leads to the Shire's COM boundary to include the Eastern Sister, then: - a review and update of the 2002 Masterplan should be undertaken, and; - a toilet be constructed at the Leggett's Way and Visitor Centre precinct.	TBC	TBC	TBC
Strategies for Recreation				
RE - 1	Redesign area to improve amenity and create a sense of arrival for pedestrians disembarking from the Searoads Ferry.	Refer to RE-2		
RE - 2	Prepare detailed design and install footpath layout and lawn area. - Remove main path from lawn area and relocate under the Norfolk pines. Ensure widths are appropriate for a shared path as per 'Bay Trail' requirements. - Maintain grassed area as a large flexible use open space. - Design as a boardwalk incorporating new picnic facilities, seating and fitness equipment. - Review opportunities for uplighting of trees and installation of Christmas lights.	\$880,000.00		
RE - 3	Consider reduction of boat storage to allow increased usable open space for events	N/A		
RE - 5	Upgrade 'Websters corner' and 'Sullivan Bay' as per masterplans incorporating: - Revised Parking layout - Seating and footpaths - Increased plantings		\$500,000.00	

RE - 6	Upgrade picnic facilities on eastern side of 'Lavender Hill'		\$50,000.00	
	Strategies for Safe Access and Use			
SA - 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an effective signage strategy to ensure signage is coordinated. - Remove out dated old signs - Consolidate directional and regulatory signage - Incorporate creative interpretive cultural history and local history information 	\$15,000.00		
SA - 2	Upgrade pedestrian access steps linking upper level boat ramp overflow carparking to lower level boat ramp		\$45,000.00	
SA - 3	Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation and upgrade furniture	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
SA - 4	Construct new path connecting two existing footpaths	\$5,000.00		
SA - 5	Review footpath layout to improve safety for pedestrians entering and exiting the reserve	Refer to RE-2		
SA - 6	Council to continue to work with Vicroads to investigate opportunity for raised pedestrian crossing in The Esplanade	\$20,000.00		
SA - 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationalize and upgrade main beach access points incorporate into each node: - bike racks - seating - outdoor showers - signage 		\$120,000.00	
SA - 8	Relocate visitor information shelter following identification of alternative site	Refer to RE-5		
SA - 9	Potential new site for visitor information shelter in association with Webster's Corner Carpark	Refer to RE-5		
SA - 10	Provide all abilities access path to existing toilet block at 'Webster's Corner'	Refer to RE-5		
SA - 11	Council to continue to work with VicRoads to investigate opportunity for pedestrian refuge in Pt Nepean Rd	TBC		

SA - 12	Council to continue to liaise with Parks Victoria regarding future quantities and location of moorings within Sullivan Bay. Following community concern that there are too many moorings close to the beach.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Strategies for Infrastructure and Buildings				
IB - 1	Modify boat ramp as per Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan 2011 - Increase tie up area by installing additional floating pontoons to existing jettys - Review dredging program to ensure safe operation of boat ramp in future		\$500,000.00	
IB - 2	Installation of new single cubicle public toilet with outdoor shower and raised pedestrian crossing through carpark as per Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan 2011		\$75,000.00	
IB - 3	Existing toilet blocks to be reviewed as part of public toilet strategy refurbishment program. Increase cleaning schedule during peak season	N/A	N/A	N/A
IB - 4	Increase maintenance Rotunda and incorporate supply of 3 Phase power.	TBC	TBC	TBC
IB - 5	Install locked slip rail for council maintenance alongside 'The Baths' Restaurant	\$2,000.00		
IB - 6	Demolish existing toilet block close to 'The Baths' Restaurant	\$20,000.00		
IB - 7	Reconfigure carpark to obtain efficient layout. - Incorporate disabled access carparking spaces - Comply with relevant Australian Standards - Carpark surface to be gravel	Refer to RE-5		
IB - 8	Maintain surface of Sullivan Bay Shared Path with compacted and stabilised crushed local limestone, allow for emergency vehicle access only	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00


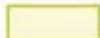

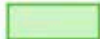

IB - 9	Installation of new single outdoor shower	\$15,000.00		
Strategies for Climate Change				
CC-1	<p>Improve dune management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - remove exotic grass species - control pedestrian access points where possible - create revegetation areas with indigenous plants to help minimise sand drift and future erosion - provide temporary protection to new plants until revegetation areas are mature 	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
CC-2	<p>Maintain lawn edge to beach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - periodically place sand back up against lawn edge to prevent further erosion 	Refer to RE-2		
CC-3	<p>Review dinghy storage along beach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remove all unused and derelict boats - Review appropriate locations and storage methods - Consider all dinghies to be removed over winter 	\$20,000.00		
Strategies for Commercial operators, tourism and events				
CO-1	Area used for small non-intrusive temporary public events	N/A		
CO-2	Area used as Itinerant Trading Location	N/A		
CO-3	<p>The Baths' Restaurant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council to investigate with DELWP the lease arrangements with 'The Baths' to determine if the lease is suited to be with MPS or DELWP in future 	N/A		
CO-4	Leased area for Sorrento Sailing Couta Boat Club	N/A		
Strategies for monitoring and reviewing				
MR-1	Annually review delivery of actions through Council's framework to track the delivery of the Plan.	N/A (MPS)	N/A (MPS)	N/A (MPS)
MR-2	Provide annual reports to DELWP on the implementation of the actions listed in the Plan.	N/A (MPS)	N/A (MPS)	N/A (MPS)
MR-3	Provide a report to DELWP on the coastal management indicators listed in Section 3.8 of the Guidelines for the Preparation of Coastal Management Plans 2017.	N/A (MPS)	N/A (MPS)	N/A (MPS)
		\$1,648,500.00	\$1,920,000.00	\$530,000.00

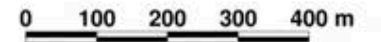
Appendix D: Map of Management boundaries & 1803 Collins Settlement Site Landscape Masterplan 2002

The full 1803 Collins Settlement Site: Future Directions Manager Plan (December 2002) can be located at http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/313258/Collins-Settlement-Site-FDP.pdf

Sorrento Foreshore Reserve




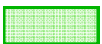



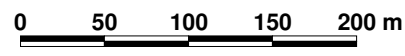
- | | | | |
|--|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
|  | DELWP Owned |  | Committees of Management |
|  | Vicroads Roads |  | Mornington Peninsula Shire |
| | |  | Parks Victoria |
| | | | Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight |

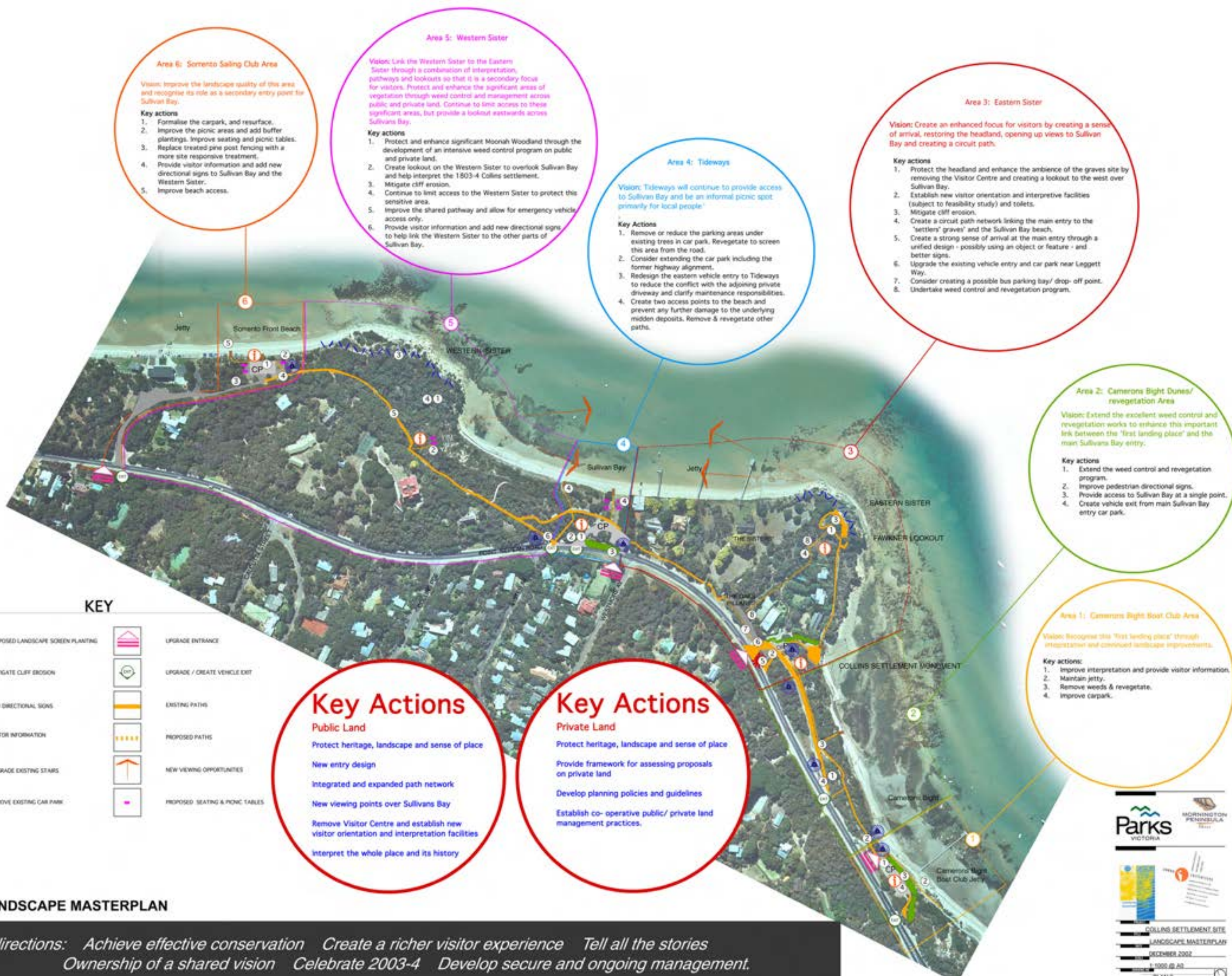


Sorrento Foreshore Reserve



- | | | | |
|--|----------------|---|-------------------------------|
|  | DELWP Land |  | Committees of Management |
|  | Vicroads Roads |  | Mornington Peninsula Shire |
| | |  | Parks Victoria |
| | | | Whitecliffs to Camerons Bight |





Area 6: Sorrento Sailing Club Area

Vision: Improve the landscape quality of this area and recognise its role as a secondary entry point for Sullivan Bay.

Key actions

1. Formalise the carpark, and resurface.
2. Improve the picnic areas and add buffer plantings. Improve seating and picnic tables.
3. Replace treated pine post fencing with a more site responsive treatment.
4. Provide visitor information and add new directional signs to Sullivan Bay and the Western Sister.
5. Improve beach access.

Area 5: Western Sister

Vision: Link the Western Sister to the Eastern Sister through a combination of interpretation, pathways and lookouts so that it is a secondary focus for visitors. Protect and enhance the significant areas of vegetation through weed control and management across public and private land. Continue to limit access to these significant areas, but provide a lookout eastwards across Sullivan Bay.

Key actions

1. Protect and enhance significant Moonah Woodland through the development of an intensive weed control program on public and private land.
2. Create lookout on the Western Sister to overlook Sullivan Bay and help interpret the 1803-4 Collins settlement.
3. Mitigate cliff erosion.
4. Continue to limit access to the Western Sister to protect this sensitive area.
5. Improve the shared pathway and allow for emergency vehicle access only.
6. Provide visitor information and add new directional signs to help link the Western Sister to the other parts of Sullivan Bay.

Area 4: Tideways

Vision: Tideways will continue to provide access to Sullivan Bay and be an informal picnic spot primarily for local people.

Key Actions

1. Remove or reduce the parking areas under existing trees in car park. Revegetate to screen this area from the road.
2. Consider extending the car park including the former highway alignment.
3. Redesign the eastern vehicle entry to Tideways to reduce the conflict with the adjoining private driveway and clarify maintenance responsibilities.
4. Create two access points to the beach and prevent any further damage to the underlying midden deposits. Remove & revegetate other paths.

Area 3: Eastern Sister

Vision: Create an enhanced focus for visitors by creating a sense of arrival, restoring the headland, opening up views to Sullivan Bay and creating a circuit path.

Key actions

1. Protect the headland and enhance the ambience of the graves site by removing the Visitor Centre and creating a lookout to the west over Sullivan Bay.
2. Establish new visitor orientation and interpretive facilities (subject to feasibility study) and toilets.
3. Mitigate cliff erosion.
4. Create a circuit path network linking the main entry to the 'settlers' graves' and the Sullivan Bay beach.
5. Create a strong sense of arrival at the main entry through a unified design - possibly using an object or feature - and better signs.
6. Upgrade the existing vehicle entry and car park near Leggett Way.
7. Consider creating a possible bus parking bay/ drop-off point.
8. Undertake weed control and revegetation program.

Area 2: Camerons Bight Dunes/ revegetation Area

Vision: Extend the excellent weed control and revegetation works to enhance this important link between the 'first landing place' and the main Sullivan Bay entry.

Key actions

1. Extend the weed control and revegetation program.
2. Improve pedestrian directional signs.
3. Provide access to Sullivan Bay at a single point.
4. Create vehicle exit from main Sullivan Bay entry car park.

Area 1: Camerons Bight Boat Club Area

Vision: Recognise this 'first landing place' through interpretation and continued landscape improvements.

Key actions:

1. Improve interpretation and provide visitor information.
2. Maintain jetty.
3. Remove weeds & revegetate.
4. Improve carpark.

Key Actions
Public Land

- Protect heritage, landscape and sense of place
- New entry design
- Integrated and expanded path network
- New viewing points over Sullivan's Bay
- Remove Visitor Centre and establish new visitor orientation and interpretation facilities
- Interpret the whole place and its history

Key Actions
Private Land

- Protect heritage, landscape and sense of place
- Provide framework for assessing proposals on private land
- Develop planning policies and guidelines
- Establish co-operative public/ private land management practices.

KEY

	PROPOSED LANDSCAPE SCREEN PLANTING		UPGRADE ENTRANCE
	MITIGATE CLIFF EROSION		UPGRADE / CREATE VEHICLE EXIT
	NEW DIRECTIONAL SIGNS		EXISTING PATHS
	VISITOR INFORMATION		PROPOSED PATHS
	UPGRADE EXISTING STAIRS		NEW VIEWING OPPORTUNITIES
	IMPROVE EXISTING CAR PARK		PROPOSED SEATING & PICNIC TABLES

PLAN 9 LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN

*Strategic directions: Achieve effective conservation Create a richer visitor experience Tell all the stories
Ownership of a shared vision Celebrate 2003-4 Develop secure and ongoing management.*

Parks
VICTORIA

MORNINGTON PENINSULA
VIC 3114

COLLINS SETTLEMENT SITE
LANDSCAPE MASTERPLAN
DECEMBER 2002
1:1000 @ A3
PLAN 9

appendix e

Appendix E: Proposed Recommendations



Strategies for Cultural Heritage

CH-1 Identify small area of beach as a public space and name i.e. 'Aquarium Beach'.

Strategies for Safe Access & Use

SA -1 Develop an effective signage strategy to ensure signage is coordinated.
 - Remove out dated old signs
 - Consolidate directional and regulatory signage
 - Incorporate creative interpretive cultural history and local history information

SA -2 Upgrade pedestrian access steps linking upper level boat ramp overflow carparking to lower level boat ramp

SA -3 Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation and upgrade furniture

SA -4 Construct new path connecting two existing footpaths

Strategies for Natural Systems

NS -1 Improve vegetation management:
 - Control environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion
 - Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate

Strategies for Climate Change

CC -1 Improve dune management
 - remove exotic grass species
 - control pedestrian access points where possible
 - create revegetation areas with indigenous plants to help minimise sand drift and future erosion
 - provide temporary protection to new plants until revegetation areas are mature

Strategies for Infrastructure & Buildings

IB -1 Modify boat ramp as per *Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan 2011*
 - Increase tie up area by installing additional floating pontoons to existing jetties
 - Review dredging program to ensure safe operation of boat ramp in future

IB -2 Consider installation of new single cubicle public toilet with outdoor shower and raised pedestrian crossing through carpark as per *Sorrento Recreational Boating Precinct Plan 2011*



Strategies for Cultural Heritage

- CH-2** Remove existing tree carving and design new plaza area around existing Cenotaph
- CH-3** Install plaques on thirteen Norfolk Island Trees to recognise the 'Thirteen sons of Sorrento' killed in action during WW1

Strategies for Safe Access & Use

- SA -1** Develop an effective signage strategy to ensure signage is coordinated.
 - Remove out dated old signs
 - Consolidate directional and regulatory signage
 - Incorporate creative interpretive cultural history and local history information
- SA -3** Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation and upgrade furniture
- SA -4** Construct new path connecting two existing footpaths
- SA -5** Review footpath layout to improve safety for pedestrians entering and exiting the reserve
- SA -6** Council to continue to work with Vicroads to investigate opportunity for raised pedestrian crossing in The Esplanade

Strategies for Natural Systems

- NS -1** Improve vegetation management:
 - Control environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion
 - Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation
 - Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate

Strategies for Climate Change

- CC -1** Improve dune management
 - remove exotic grass species
 - control pedestrian access points where possible
 - create revegetation areas with indigenous plants to help minimise sand drift and future erosion
 - provide temporary protection to new plants until revegetation areas are mature
- CC -2** Maintain lawn edge to beach
 - periodically place sand back up against lawn edge to prevent further erosion

Strategies for Recreation

- RE - 1** Redesign area to improve amenity and create a sense of arrival for pedestrians disembarking from the Searoads Ferry.
- RE - 2** Redesign footpath layout and lawn area.
 - Remove main path from lawn area and relocate under the Norfolk pines. Ensure widths are appropriate for a shared path as per 'Bay Trail' requirements.
 - Maintain grassed area as a large flexible use open space.
 - Design as a boardwalk incorporating new picnic facilities, seating and fitness equipment.
 - Review opportunities for uplighting of trees and installation of Christmas lights.

- RE - 3** Consider reduction of boat storage to allow increased usable open space for events

Strategies for Infrastructure & Buildings

- IB -3** Existing toilet block to be reviewed as part of public toilet strategy refurbishment program. Increase cleaning schedule during peak season
- IB -4** Increase maintenance of Rotunda and incorporate supply of 3 Phase power.

Strategies for Commercial operators, tourism and events

- CO -1** Area used for small non-intrusive temporary public events
- CO -2** Area used as Itinerant Trading Location
- CO -3** 'The Baths' Restaurant - Council to investigate with DELWP the lease arrangements with 'The Baths' to determine if the lease is suited to be with MPS or DELWP in future



Strategies for Cultural Heritage

CH-4 Review opportunities to create an interpretive sculpture project telling the indigenous story of the local area. The MPS will be respectful and continue to negotiate in good faith with our local indigenous elders and preserve the heritage of the area.

Strategies for Safe Access & Use

SA-8 Rationalize and upgrade main beach access points incorporate into each node:

- bike racks
- seating
- outdoor showers
- signage

SA-9 Relocate visitor information shelter following identification of alternative site

SA-10 Potential new site for visitor information shelter in association with Webster's Corner Carpark

SA-11 Create disabled access footpath to existing toilet block

Strategies for Natural Systems

NS-1 Improve vegetation management:

- Control environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion
- Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation
- Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate

NS-2 Assessment of Cypress trees between 'The Baths' and 'Webster's Corner'. Removal of those identified as dangerous and replacement planting with locally sourced indigenous plants.

NS-3 Review existing vegetation protection fences along foreshore

- remove old and damaged fences
- Where appropriate install new fences to council standards

NS-4 Install perimeter tree planting for shade and improved sense of place, install low level planting along the shared trail to improve amenity and separate from car parking in 'Village Green' area

NS-5 Install dune fencing to prevent sand blowing into reserve

Strategies for Climate Change

CC-1 Improve dune management

- remove exotic grass species
- control pedestrian access points where possible
- create revegetation areas with indigenous plants to help minimise sand drift and future erosion
- provide temporary protection to new plants until revegetation areas are mature

CC-3 Review dinghy storage along beach

- Remove all unused and derelict boats
- Review appropriate locations and storage methods
- Consider all dinghies to be removed over winter

Strategies for Recreation

RE-4 Prepare masterplan for area incorporating

- Shade structure over picnic facilities
- New play equipment.
- Seating and footpaths
- Increased plantings

Strategies for Infrastructure & Buildings

IB-3 Existing toilet block to be reviewed as part of public toilet strategy refurbishment program. Increase cleaning schedule during peak season

IB-5 Install locked slip rail for council maintenance alongside 'The Baths' Restaurant

IB-6 Demolish existing toilet block close to 'The Baths' Restaurant

IB-7 Reconfigure carpark to obtain efficient layout.

- Incorporate disabled access carparking spaces
- Comply with relevant Australian Standards
- Carpark surfacing to be gravel

Strategies for Commercial operators, tourism and events

CO-1 Area used for small non-intrusive temporary public events

CO-2 Area used as Itinerant Trading Location



- Strategies for Cultural Heritage**
- CH-5** Works within Sorrento Campground to occur as determined by the CHMP that is currently under development. All works are required to be inline with the Sorrento Coastal and Marine management plan and Victorian Coastal Strategy 2014.
 - CH-6** Ongoing support for the Tuckey Track project community based working group focussing on:
 - Restoration and protection of Coastal Moonah Woodlands habitat
 - Identification signage for historic walking track
 - Installation of identification and interpretive signage which complies with the council signage strategy in consultation with community group.
 - CH-7** Lavender Hill' picnic area has been identified by traditional owner groups as an area of sensitivity
 - No future subsurface disturbance
 - Any future works to be undertaken in consultation with traditional owners

- Strategies for Safe Access & Use**
- SA -1** Develop an effective signage strategy to ensure signage is coordinated.
 - Remove out dated old signs
 - Consolidate directional and regulatory signage
 - Incorporate creative interpretive cultural history and local history information
 - SA -12** Council to continue to work with Vicroads to investigate opportunity for pedestrian refuge in Pt Nepean Rd

- Strategies for Natural Systems**
- NS -1** Improve vegetation management:
 - Consider environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion
 - Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation
 - Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate
 - NS -3** Review existing vegetation protection fences along foreshore
 - remove old and damaged fences
 - Where appropriate install new fences to council standards
 - NS -6** Formalise carparks and Install Timber bollards with locked slip rail where required to control vehicle access under existing Moonah Trees
 - NS -7** Cut back road side vegetation to improve sight lines for pedestrians entering and existing 'Tuckey Track'.

- Strategies for Climate Change**
- CC -3** Review dinghy storage along beach
 - Remove all unused and derelict boats
 - Review appropriate locations and storage methods
 - Consider all dinghies to be removed over winter
- Strategies for Infrastructure & Buildings**
- IB -7** Consider reconfiguration of carpark to obtain most efficient layout. New parking layout should:
 - Incorporate disabled access carparking spaces
 - Comply with relevant Australian Standards
 - Carpark surfacing to be gravel
- Strategies for Commercial operators, tourism and events**
- CO -4** Leased area for Sorrento Sailing Coutu Boat Club



PAGE 4
REFER TO

Refer to Masterplan .3

Strategies for Cultural Heritage

- CH-7** Lavender Hill' picnic area has been identified by traditional owner groups as an area of sensitivity
 - No future subsurface disturbance
 - Any future works to be undertaken in consultation with traditional owners
- CH-8** Traditional owner groups have identified vegetated slope as an potential location for a firestick burn trial with mosaic weed removal and revegetation
- CH-9** Develop a masterplan for the 'Western Sister headland' in conjunction with DELWP, Parks Victoria, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corp. and other key stakeholders. Masterplan to include protection of indigenous cultural heritage.

- CH-10** Review the COM boundaries of the Sorrento foreshore between the current Southern boundary and the Whitecliffs to Cameron's Bigt Foreshore COM including the Eastern Sister. If the review leads to the Shire's COM boundary to include the Eastern Sister, then a review and update of the 2002 Masterplan should be undertaken.

Strategies for Safe Access & Use

- SA-9** Beach access points incorporate into each node:
 - bike racks
 - seating
 - outdoor showers
 - signage
- SA-13** Council to liaise with Parks Vic regarding future quantites and location of moorings within Sullivan Bay.

Strategies for Natural Systems

- NS-1** Improve vegetation management:
 - Control environmental weed species unless likely to cause further erosion
 - Maintain pathways to areas not subject to future inundation
 - Revegetate with locally sourced indigenous plants where appropriate
- NS-2** Remove senescent Cypress trees and replace with appropriate plantings

- NS-3** Review existing vegetation protection fences along foreshore
 - remove old and damaged fences
 - Where appropriate install new fences to council standards
 - CHMP may be required
- NS-6** Formalise carparks and install timber bollards with locked slip rail where required to control vehicle access under existing Moonah Trees

Strategies for Climate Change

- CC-3** Review dinghy storage along beach
 - Remove all unused and derelict boats
 - Review appropriate locations and storage methods
 - Consider all dinghies to be removed over winter

Strategies for Recreation

- RE-4** Upgrade as per masterplan for area incorporating
 - Revised parking layout
 - Seating and footpaths
 - Increased plantings
- RE-5** Upgrade picnic facilities

Strategies for Infrastructure & Buildings

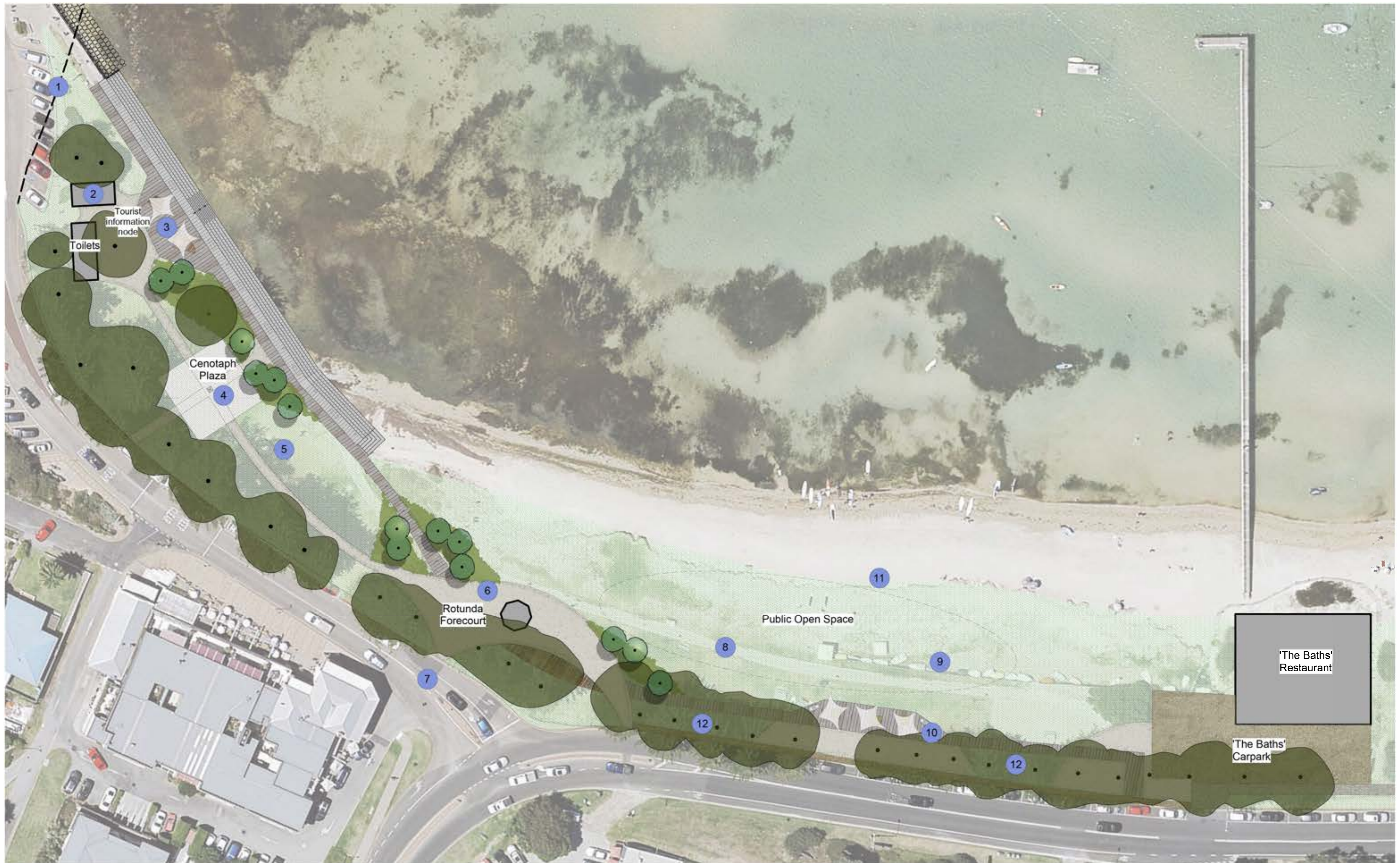
- IB-7** Reconfigure carpark
 - New parking layout should:
 - Incorporate disabled access carparking spaces
 - Comply with relevant Australian Standards
 - Carpark surfacing to be gravel
- IB-8** To maintain surface of shared path with compacted and stabilised crushed local limestone to allow for walking and cycling track to be kept closed to through vehicle access at existing barriers which allow for emergency access
- IB-9** Installation of new single outdoor shower

Strategies for Commercial operators, tourism and events

- CO-4** Leased area for Sorrento Sailing Couts Boat Club

appendix F

Appendix F: Master Plans



Key Elements

- 1 Potential future outline of Ferry Terminal expansion, design development will need to incorporate pedestrian access through new Ferry layout. Area is subject to planning scheme amendment 209.
- 2 Existing toilet blocks to be reviewed, increase maintenance during peak periods and consider combining male and female into one footprint
- 3 Construct feature boardwalk along side existing concrete steps, widen board walk in areas to provide information such as local history interpretive signage, directional maps and tourist information.

- 4 Create plaza space around cenotaph to better integrate into surrounding landscape and accommodate large crowds. Install plaques on 13 Norfolk Pines to commemorate 'WW1 13 Sons of Sorrento' Liaise with Portsea Sorrento regarding final design.
- 5 Remove existing cypress stump sculpture
- 6 Create small 'community space' forecourt around existing rotunda. Incorporate three phase power into existing rotunda.
- 7 Review opportunity for raised pedestrian crossing creating a safer connection between the reserve and streetscape

- 8 Remove existing concrete footpath, bins and seating and refurbish as a lawn space for low key public events that demonstrate need to be sited on the coast.
- 9 Remove existing section of timber fence and refurbish areas as a lawn for temporary public events
- 10 Construct feature boardwalk which incorporates, picnic facilities, bins and seating. Width of boardwalk to comply with standards for shared pathways.
- 11 Periodically mound sand up against lawn to prevent further erosion of lawn area

- 12 Maintain lawn areas under Norfolk Pines for informal seating in shade



1:500 at A3

Sorrento Foreshore Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Sketch Masterplan 01

Pier Carpark to 'The Baths' - P.1



Key Elements

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Formalise existing entry to carpark from Point Nepean Road 2 Plant new canopy trees along existing shared 'Bay Trail' footpath, protect from vehicles with bollards 3 Plant out grassed area with native shrubs and canopy trees to soften carpark area 4 Formalise layout of existing carpark and review surface material. Note the siting and design guidelines for Structures on the Victoria Coast, May 1998 makes reference to 'Car parks and roads should be minimised in sensitive coastal environments'. 5 Create area within carpark for tourist information signage and directional maps 6 Maintain locked slip rail for council maintenance vehicles 7 Reconstruct fences, remove weeds and revegetate planting areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Construct new 'nature play' playground incorporating playground equipment with locally sourced logs boulders and plants. 9 Install new central compacted crushed rock footpath with low informal seating decks and outdoor shower 10 Construct new shade structure similar to existing at Hughes Rd picnic area with new BBQs and picnic tables 11 Construct new sand mitigation fences to control sand blowing into reserve 12 Audit of dinghies in dunes, remove unused or derelict boats and consider removal of all dinghies over winter period 13 Install 'disabled access' Footpath from carpark to existing toilet block |
|--|--|



Key Elements

- 1 Modify existing carpark layout for efficiency but retain as a non-intrusive gravel carpark consistent with its heritage site. Note the siting and design guidelines for Structures on the Victoria Coast, May 1998 makes reference to 'Car parks and roads should be minimised in sensitive coastal environments'
- 2 Quality uniform bollards be sensitively placed to prevent cars from parking under existing Moonah trees and plant out with native ground covers. Install bollards parallel with Point Nepean Road to prevent access by 4WD vehicles
- 3 Install single outdoor shower
- 4 Create gravel area with relocated local history information boards, directional and regulatory signage, seating, bins and bike racks
- 5 Refurbish existing lawn area and upgrade picnic tables
- 6 Install new central compacted crushed rock footpath
- 7 Remove existing cypress trees, plant out new garden bed with native ground covers and canopy trees

- 8 Construct new timber deck look out over Sullivan Bay with interpretive signage discussing cultural and local history
- 9 Retain existing second footpath and retain embankments to control erosion through midden site
- 10 Audit of dinghies in dunes, remove unused or derelict boats and consider removal of all unused dinghies over winter period
- 11 Plant new canopy trees along existing shared 'Bay Trail' footpath, protect from vehicles with bollards
- 12 Maintain surface of shared path with compacted and stabilised crushed local limestone, allow for walking and cycling. Track to be kept closed to through vehicle access at existing barriers which allow only for emergency access. All works subject to Heritage Victoria Permit
- 13 Incorporate into detailed design landscape elements evocative of the 1803-04 Collins settlement