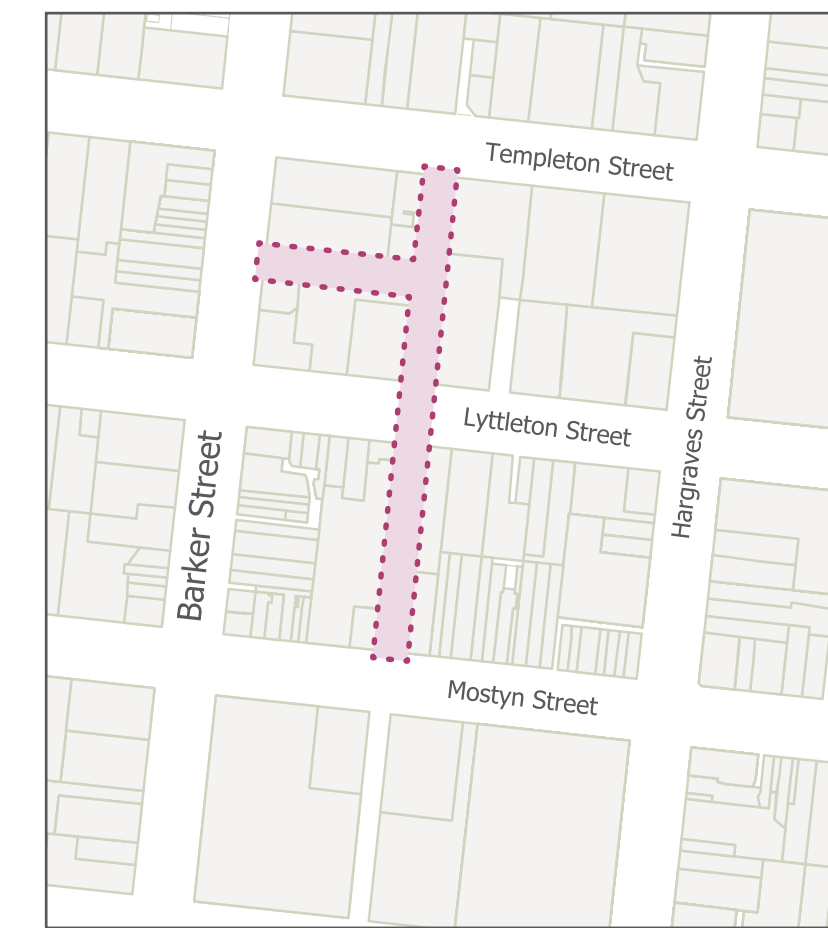


Frederick Street Precinct Streetscape Upgrade

Landscape concept designs

The Frederick Street precinct concept plans are based on the Castlemaine Town Centre Streetscape Masterplan, which Mount Alexander Shire Council adopted in June 2020. The masterplan was informed by several rounds of community consultation between 2017 and 2019. It sets out various public realm development priorities for Castlemaine.



The Frederick Street precinct is recognised as a priority project within the masterplan for the role it plays in the daily life of the township. The precinct concepts support a broad range of day to day activities and includes a range of improvements:

- At-grade (level) kerbs for many areas, to improve pedestrian access and amenity.
- Upgrades to pavement surfaces.
- A shared zone recognising cyclists and pedestrians as equal users of the street.
- An increase in public safety measures through the addition of public lighting.
- More street trees and other plantings throughout the precinct.

Landscape design principles

Concept plans for Frederick Street have been developed based on the following principles:

- Realise a safe and pleasant civic environment for all times of the day and night, as well as throughout the year.
- Realise an improved pedestrian and bicycle environment that is accessible to all while still supporting vehicle functions.
- Provide opportunities throughout the precinct for integrated art, performance and temporal art works.
- Showcase a streetscape that reveals the story of water through embedded landscape elements and planting.
- Develop new and existing public spaces within the precinct and the activities they support.

Landscape palette

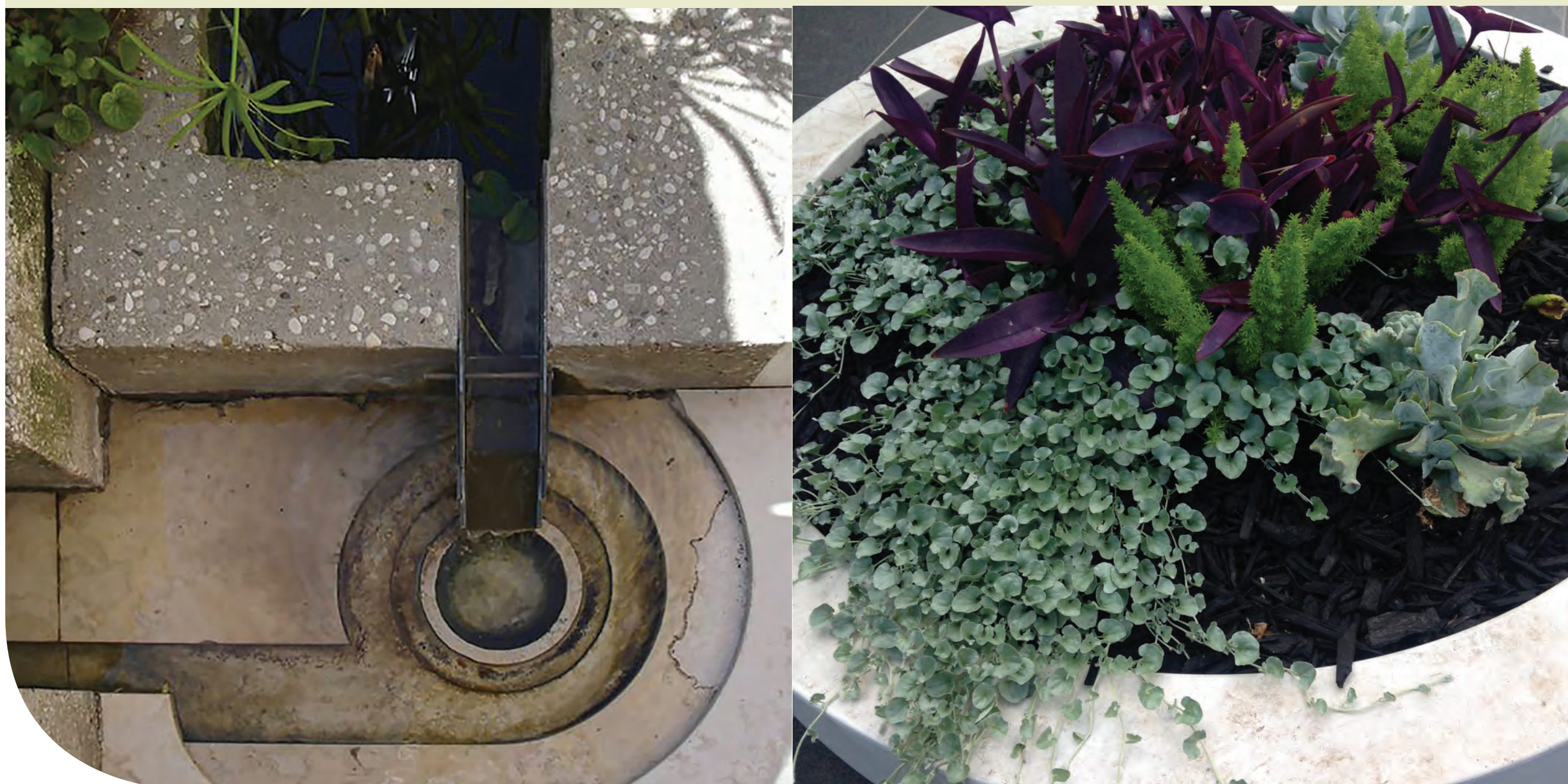
The material palette proposed for the precinct incorporates many finishes currently found throughout central Castlemaine, including locally sourced stone, cast iron for heritage elements and timber for seating surfaces. A more contemporary use of granite is proposed for some paver and block elements throughout the precinct to achieve subtle textural contrast with more traditional finishes.

Planting and water

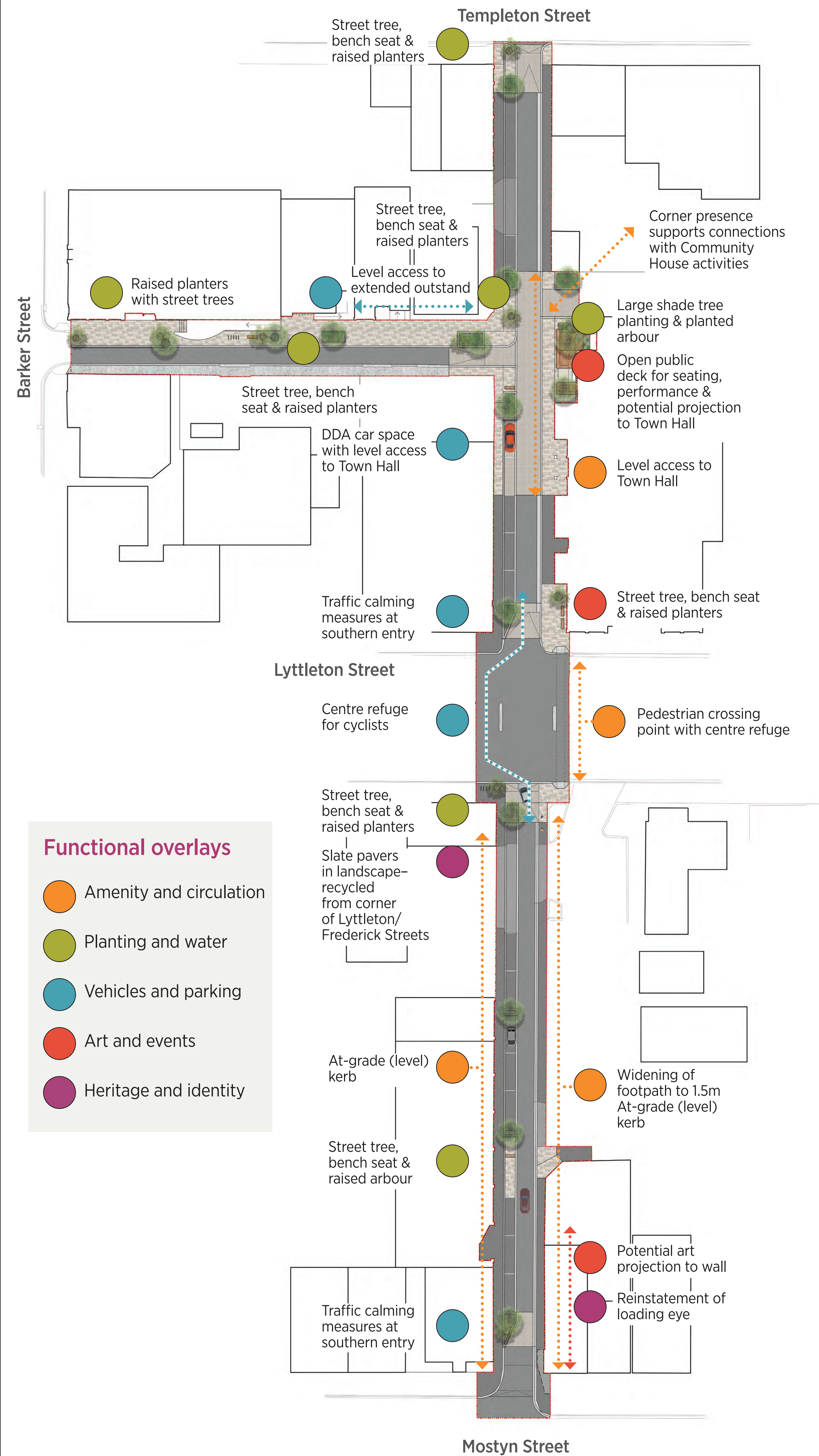
A key aspect of the concept plans is the inclusion of more planting in the precinct and this will be achieved through a combination of species, scale and seasonality selections. Trees along Frederick Street will be planted in modular, structural root cells that allow for full root development, thereby optimising tree growth and health. Where underground services do not allow for in-ground trees, raised, irrigated planters will be used to disperse greenery through the streets.

As Frederick Street has a noticeable slope from north to south, there is an opportunity to tell a 'story' within the streetscape of the role of water in our public places.

This will be in the subtle form of contours and 'streams' in certain landscape elements, potentially realised in collaboration with local artisans and artists.



Concept plan



Art and events

A range of integrated art sites as well as spaces supporting more temporal art possibilities are proposed throughout the precinct. This allows the streets to have both embedded commissions by local artists (subject to approval) as well as small areas for performances and music when public events are held. These spaces double their function as small public seating and gathering spaces in normal daily usage. Opportunities for projection based works are also suggested in numerous locations both as flat wall projections on buildings and as 3D projection mapping to the precinct's heritage façades.



Vehicles and parking

As a VicRoads recognised Shared Zone, Frederick Street and Mechanics Lane will provide equal priority to pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists. It is proposed as a low speed environment with visual and physical cues throughout to clearly reinforce safety for all users. A crossing point is proposed at Lytleton Street which will align with the DDA parking bays in the centre median and provide a refuge for pedestrians.

As part of this treatment, kerbs to the western side of Frederick Street will have an at-grade (level) profile supporting ease of movement while the east side necessarily retains its raised kerb for drainage in some locations.

Existing vehicle movements will be supported throughout the precinct with most of the current car parking to remain. The location of dedicated Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) car parking bays adjacent the Town Hall entry has been moved to achieve better outcomes for drivers requiring these bays including direct kerb-less access to the hall entry. Loading bays are maintained throughout the precinct as well as access for emergency and waste collection vehicles.

Amenity and circulation

The footpath on Frederick Street is in need of repair as well as some places having steep cross-gradients, narrow sections, tripping hazards and unpredictable kerb profiles/depths. The proposed works aim to remediate these issues and achieve a public precinct that is accessible by all users irrespective of age or ability.

In addition, visual and material cues and landscape elements will assist pedestrians navigate this precinct with greater safety and legibility. Plans will embody Australian Standards for optimum amenity including material contrast for people who are vision impaired, slip resistant pedestrian surfaces, design of public furniture for all ages and abilities, provision of DDA compliant car parking bays, lighting levels for safety in public and more.

Heritage and identity

The concept design adheres to the guidelines in the Castlemaine Town Centre Streetscape Design Standards in that it maintains a consistent material palette throughout and uses these materials in a similar way to elsewhere in Castlemaine. Locally sourced granite kerbs are a predominant feature and these elements help to frame the streetscapes of central Castlemaine. They are therefore proposed to function in a similar way whether as gutter profiles or at-grade pavement delineation, to give structure to the streets and the surrounding heritage buildings.



Existing intact heritage elements including the iron loading eye and the slate flagstones both presently located in the southern block of Frederick Street will be either reinstated or reused within the streetscape. Opportunities for interpretive signage will also be worked into the designs. Some additional heritage elements such as cast-iron bollards will be incorporated into the streetscape where appropriate.

The design aims to minimise new streetscape elements that might conflict with the heritage fabric of the precinct and instead 'frame' existing buildings in a legible and timeless setting. Small contemporary interventions provide moments of contrast with the surrounding buildings and support the active enjoyment of the precinct.

Have your say

We want to hear what you think about these designs. What do you like? What could be better? Is there anything we have forgotten?

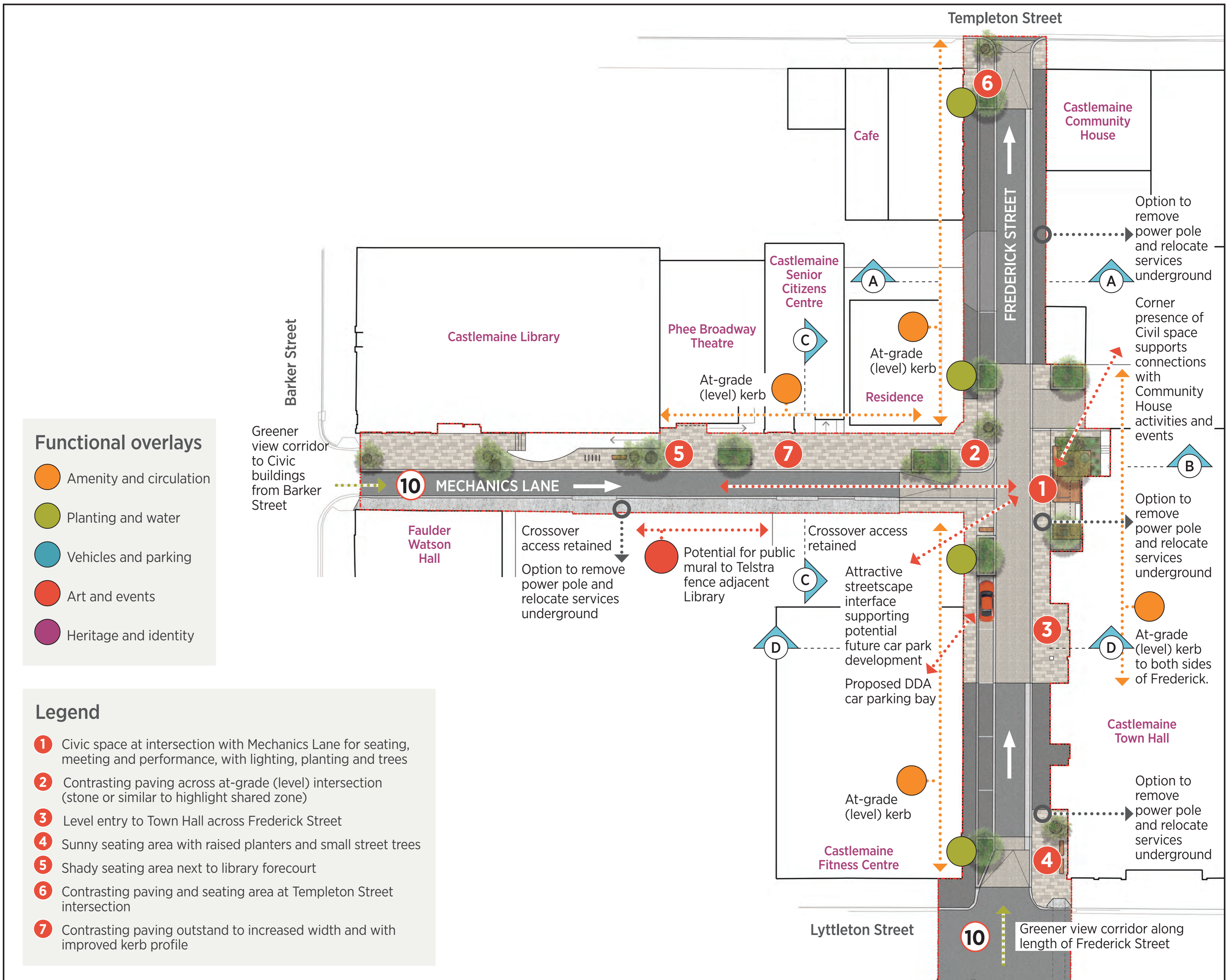
You can provide feedback in a number of ways. Complete a short survey via www.mountalexandervic.gov.au/HaveYourSay, send a letter to Frederick Street feedback, Mount Alexander Shire Council, PO Box 185, Castlemaine VIC 3450 or email info@mountalexandervic.gov.au.

Submit your feedback by 5.00pm on Monday 22 March.

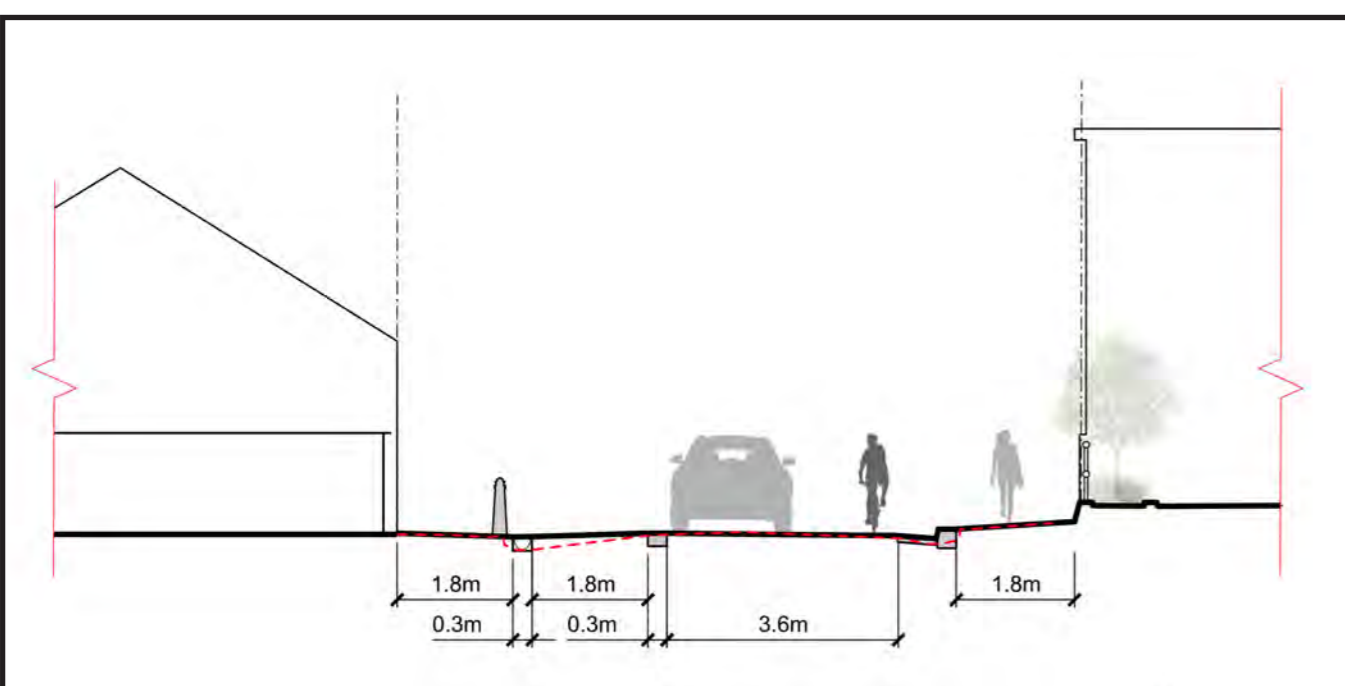
Want to have a chat about the project? Call our Infrastructure Team on 5471 1700.

Frederick Street Precinct Streetscape Upgrade

Landscape concept designs



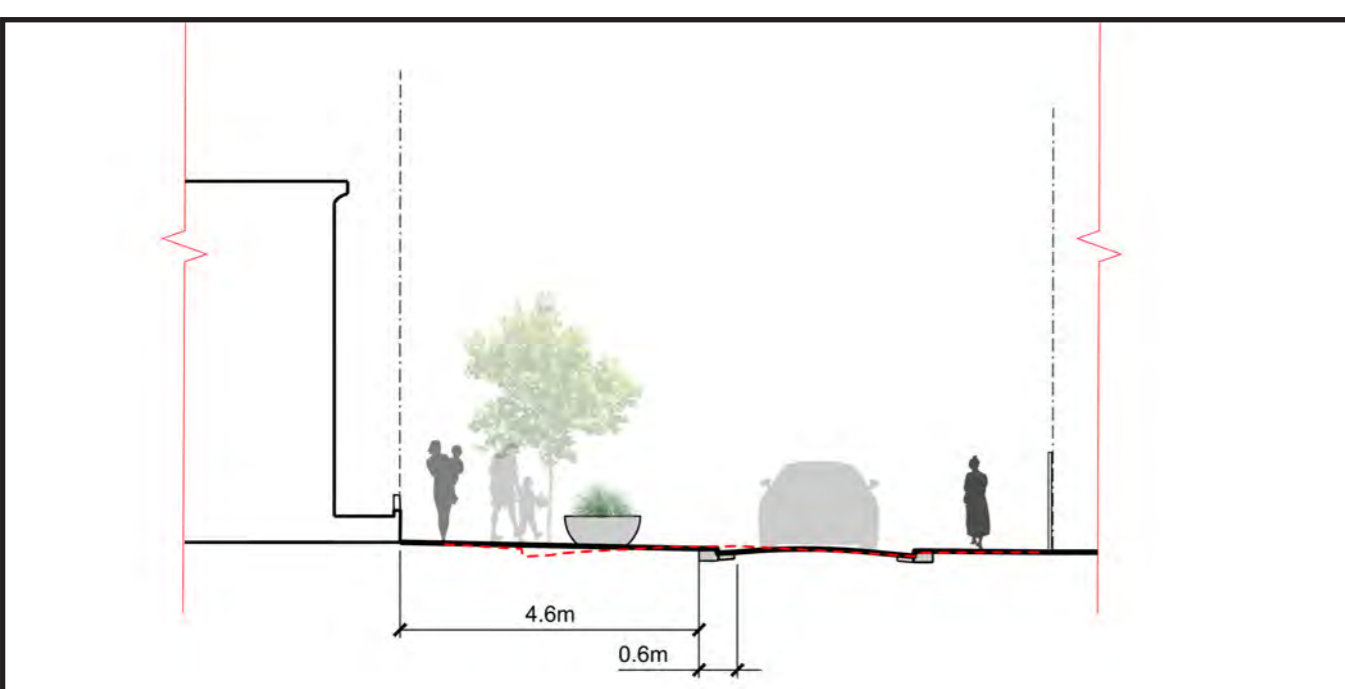
Section A



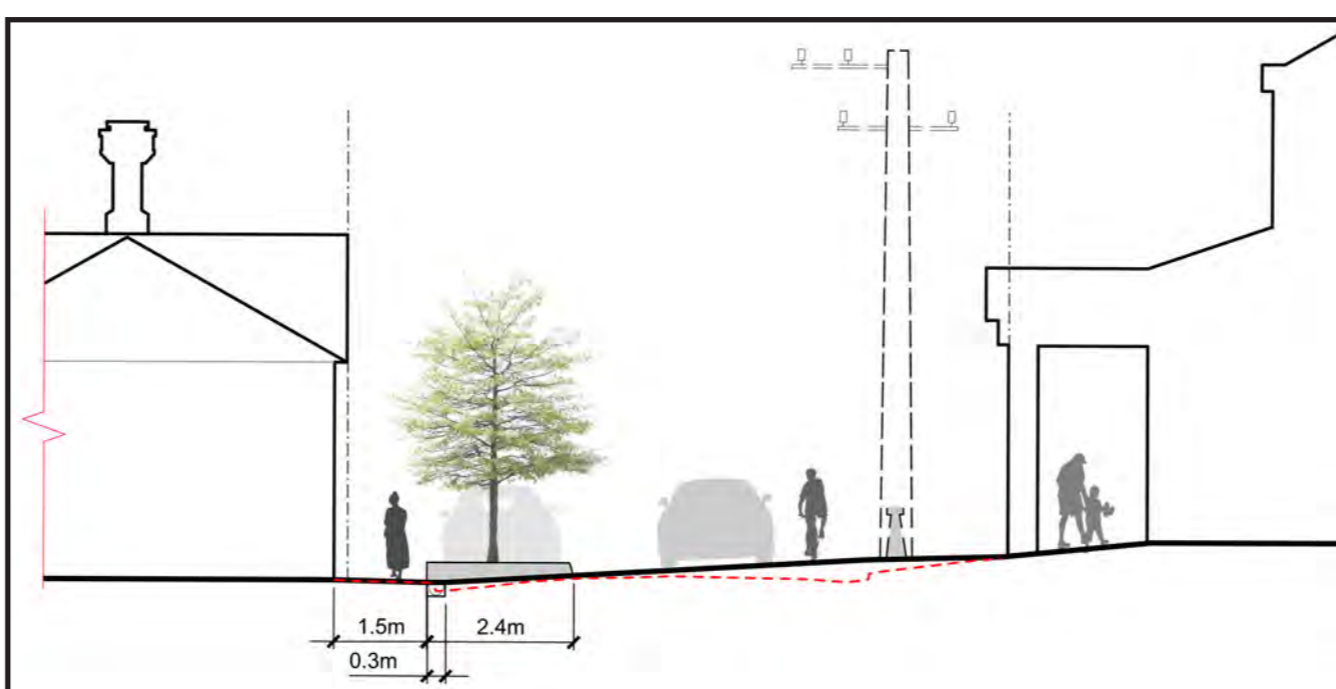
Section B



Section C



Section D



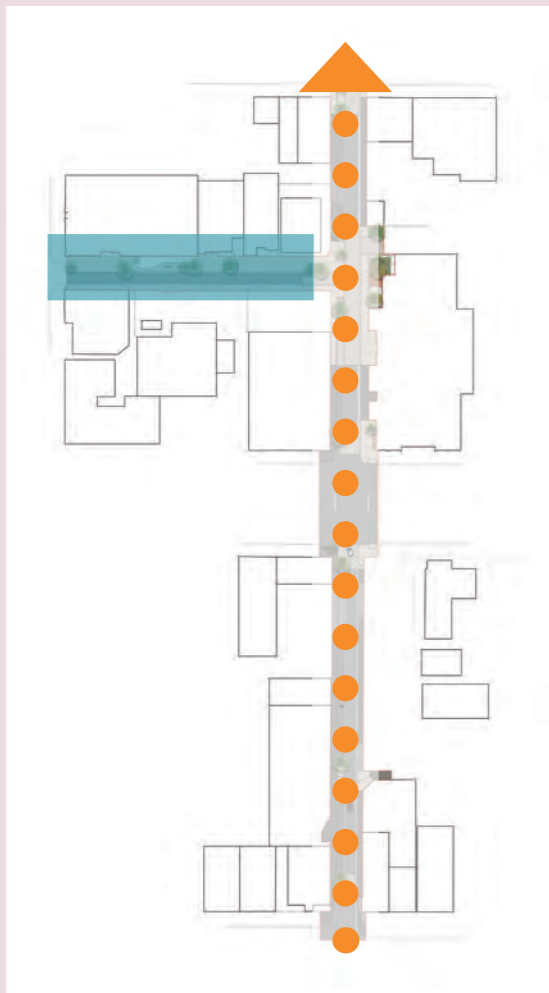
Civic seating area at Mechanics Lane intersection

Located at the highly visible intersection of Mechanics Lane and Frederick Street, this site will act as a landmark for day to day meetings as well as impromptu and organised performance. Structured as a landscape with terraced decks, this 'Stage' would support active public life within this key civic precinct.

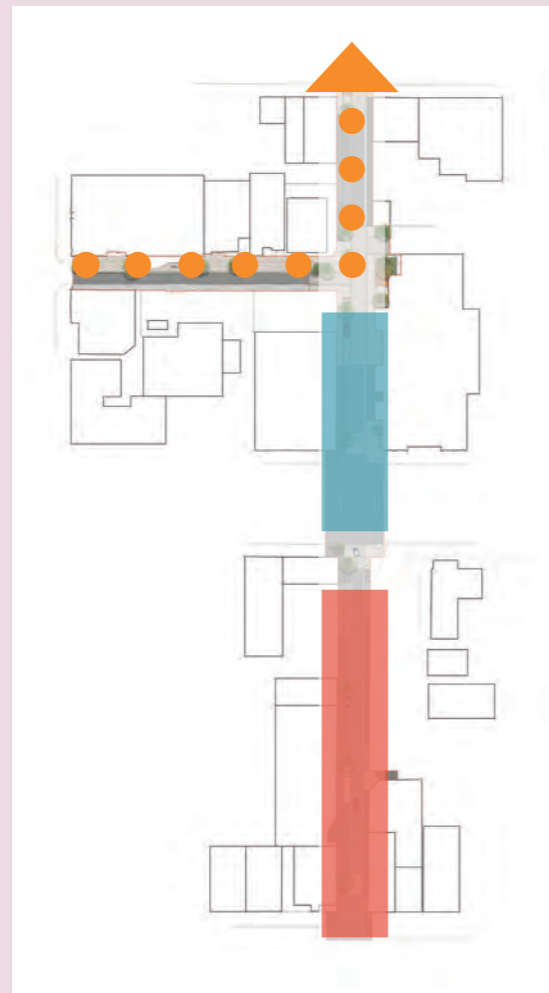
Frederick Street Precinct Streetscape Upgrade

Landscape concept designs

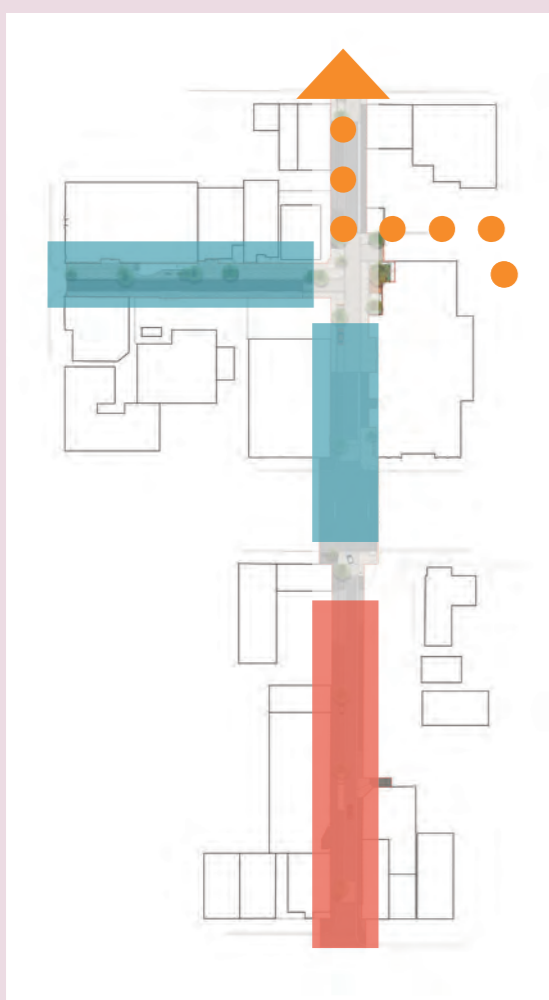
Event opportunities: Street closure options for events



Partial closure of Mechanics Lane only allowing through traffic

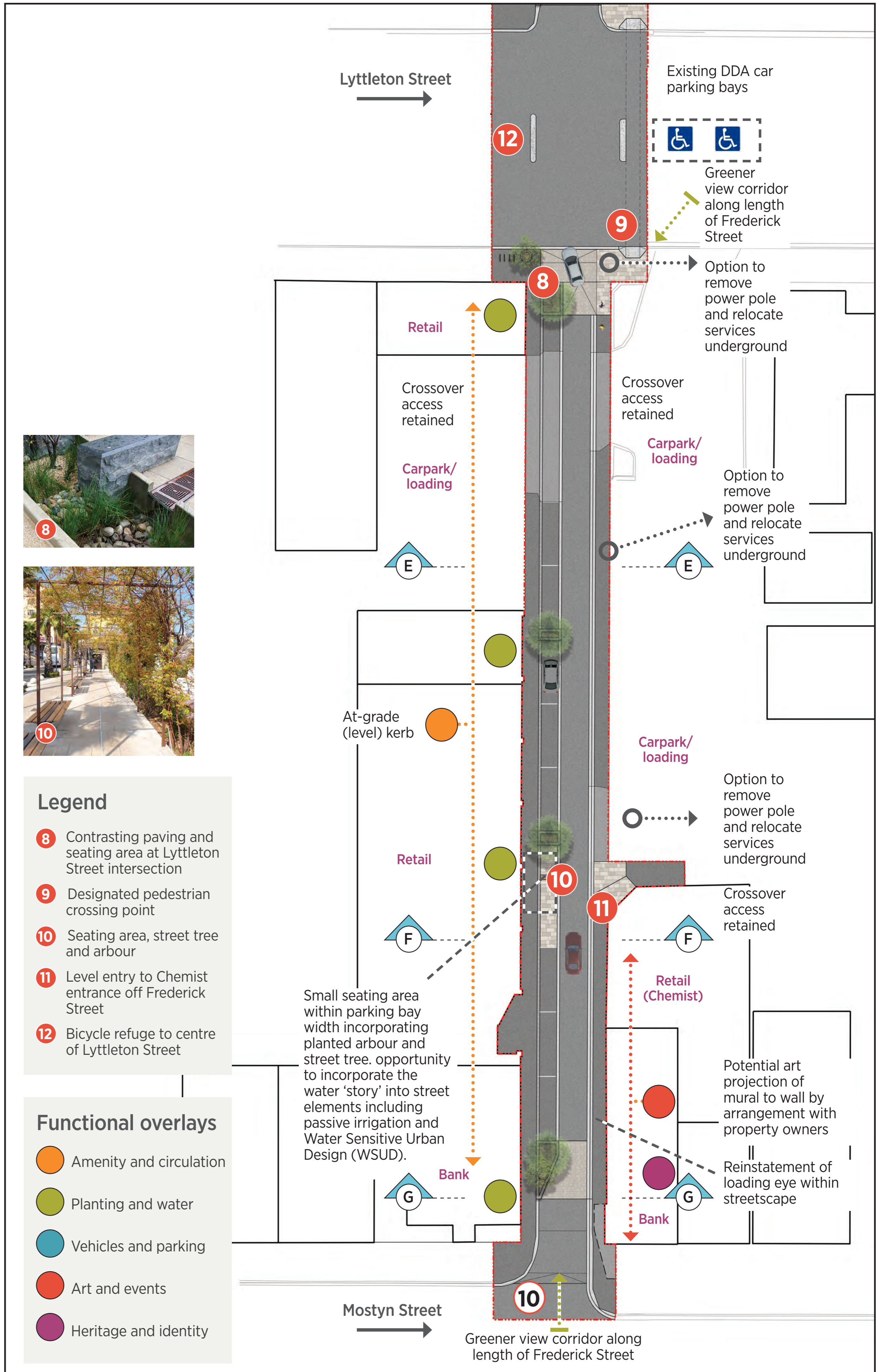
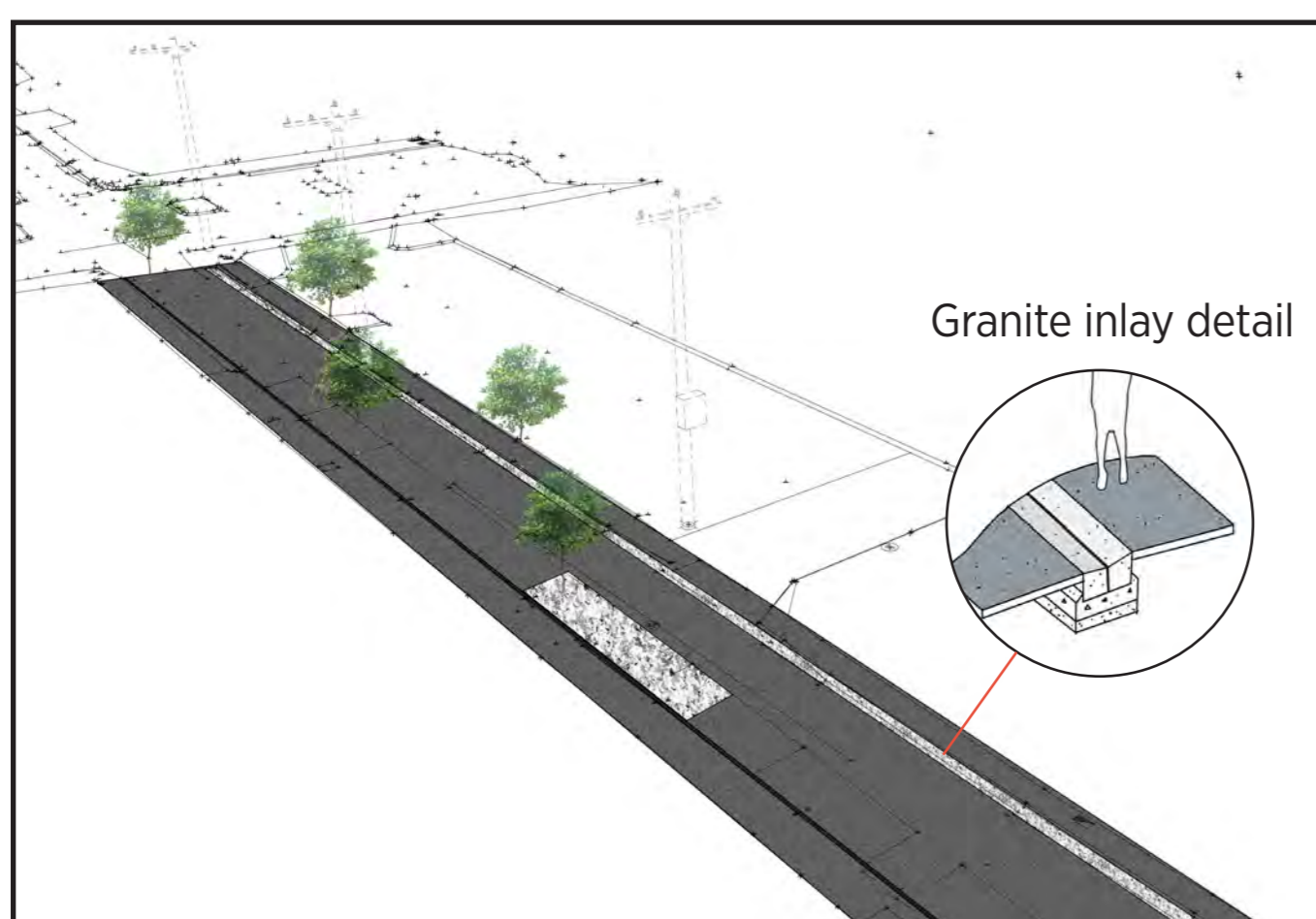


Partial closure of Frederick Street south of Mechanics Lane

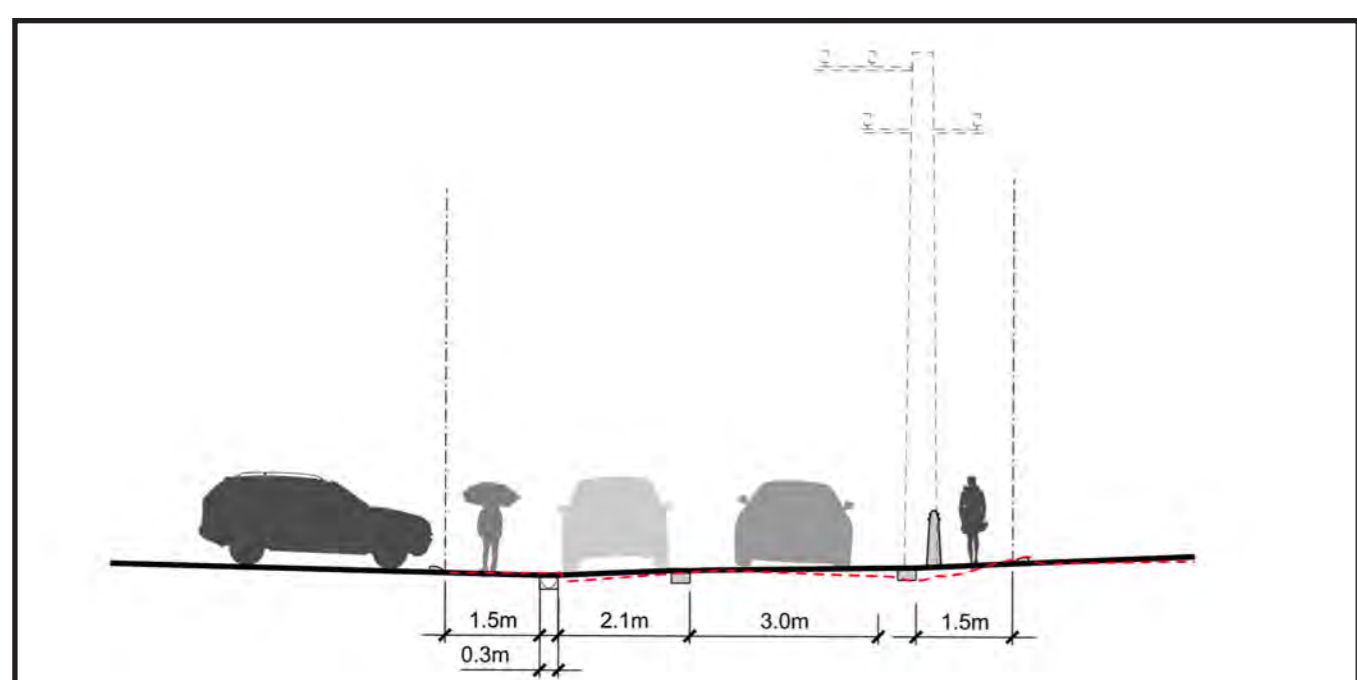


Alternative partial closure arrangements by agreement

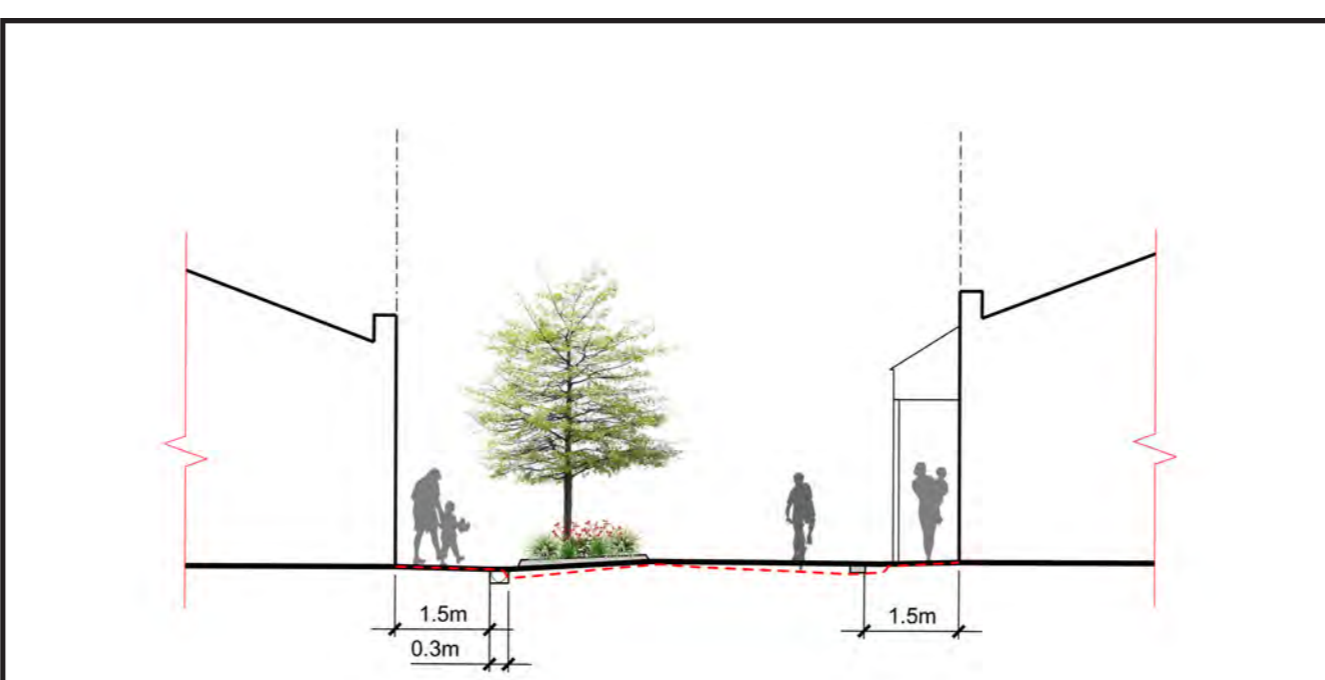
Proposed street layout - flush kerb



Section E



Section F



Section G

