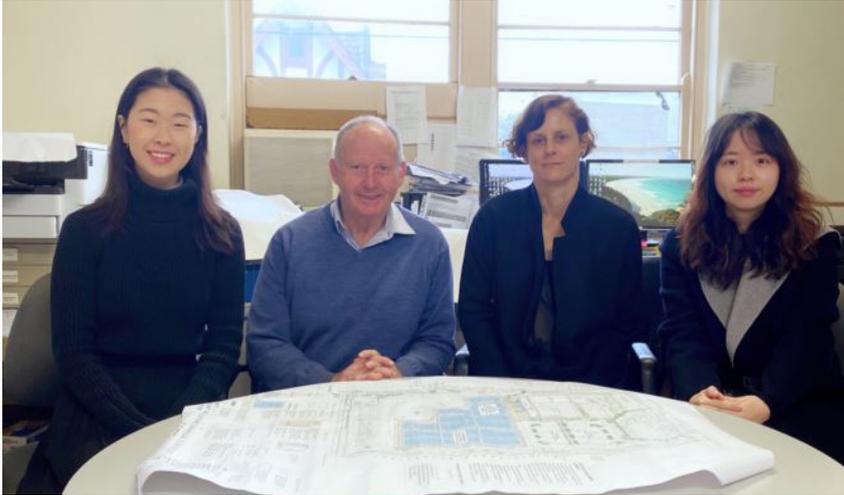


# MICHAEL SMITH & ASSOCIATES

## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN

Firstly, we wish everyone all the best in conquering the Coronavirus and we trust that our business contacts remain healthy and can negotiate the present and future difficult health/survival and economic period.



### CURRENT PROJECTS

#### Stringer Road Reserve Blairgowrie, Concept Plan

As a panellist on Mornington Peninsula Shire's Open Space and Recreation Panel, the Shire engaged our practice in conjunction with ASR Research and David Harlock and Associates to prepare the Concept Plan for Stringer Road Reserve located toward the southern end of the Mornington Peninsula. The reserve is a key open space for mainly locals to enjoy exercise and participate in community building programs. There is a really successful 900 square metre community garden, a soon to be constructed Men's Shed that will focus on assisting constructing local community projects and a dog walking group who regularly meet and walk their dogs in the reserve. The oval at the reserve is undersized but caters for overflow from the RJ Rowley Reserve in Rye. The reserve is special in that 30% of the area is covered in indigenous coastal tree species such as Moonah, Coast Banksia, Drooping Sheoak and Coast Tea Tree.

We have undertaken discussions on site with user groups and sporting clubs. Fortunately these discussions were conducted between the COVID-19 restrictions of stage 3 and 4. From our discussions with Council's Project Team, user groups and our site assessment, we have prepared the Preliminary Concept Plan, the literature review and site analysis. We are about to present our findings and the Preliminary Concept Plan to the user groups.

## Newsletter

### WINTER 2020



*Photos of the dog walking group and the Community Garden taken during our site visit*

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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN



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## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN

### Apex Park Wonthaggi, Design and Documentation

Apex Park is the premier civic open space in Wonthaggi's Central Business Area. Bass Coast Shire Council engaged our practice and consultant team of TD and C Engineers, Paoli Smith, EcoStream Irrigation, Stantec Lighting Design, G. Terenyi Engineers, David Harlock and Associates, Equal Access and AS James to undertake the preparation of the concept plan, then design documentation of the 0.5 Ha space.

Fortunately in the window of opportunity between the stage 3 and 4 COVID-19 restrictions, our team met on a glorious mid-winter's day on site with Council's Project Team. Key elements are to provide a performance area, doubling up as a farmer's market space. The former railway building, which is home to the Wonthaggi Historical Society and Museum, is a key building on the site that links in with the Wonthaggi Rail Trail that spans across the north.

Other elements are the construction of new pathways with some motifs and images, provision of directional signage, lighting, replacement of the public toilets and allocation of space for a performance area. We are at the concept stage and the first cost plan has been prepared.

### Eildon Reserve Precinct Masterplan

Murrindindi Shire Council engaged our practice and multi-disciplinary team to work closely with the community of Eildon in the preparation of the masterplan for two reserves adjacent to each other. They are Walter Moore Reserve and Thomas Marr Reserve, totaling approximately 6 Ha in area, within the core precinct of the town. Key aspects are the upgrade of the limited playspace to a regional playspace, the upgrade of the public toilets and picnic shelter, provision of a MBT track and defined areas for ball games.

COVID-19 restrictions led to our team undertaking considerable telephone and email communication with the Eildon community through April and May to listen to and discuss their ideas and our ideas to prepare concept strategies. We maintained contact through phone calls, emails and Zoom with Council's Project Team. Our subconsultant David Harlock and Associates, has prepared two iterations of cost plans. Council has sought funding.

### Kinglake Memorial Reserve Masterplan

We inspected the recreation reserve, prepared the analysis plan and reviewed Council's relevant studies. We prepared a media release and bulletins and made contact with sporting and user groups. We conducted several Zoom meetings with Council's Project Team and user groups in May and June. There was significant community response based on the Preliminary Draft Masterplan. One hundred and fifty locals responded to the first bulletin and accompanying survey questionnaire. Comments were collated by Survey Monkey software program, then further assessed by our team prior to the preparation of the Preliminary Draft Masterplan. This was issued to the community and user groups for further review and comment. Favoured comments allowed our team to finalise the Masterplan and Cost Plan.

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Apex Park, Coloured Concept Plan



Photo of Kinglake Memorial Reserve front entrance

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## LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN

### Santa Cruz Boulevard, Roxburgh Park Playspace Design

As a panellist for Hume City Council, we prepared the concept to design development drawings for replacement of existing playspace apparatus at this reserve, that features several magnificent spreading specimens of River Red Gum trees. A feature of the playspace will be challenging parkour elements to suit teenagers and adults. Hume City Council is about to place the design development plan and illustrations/palette of materials on Council's website for review by the community.

### Lockwood Drive Reserve, Roxburgh Park

As a panellist for Hume City Council, we prepared concept to design development drawings for the replacement of fitness apparatus and refurbishment of furniture and shade trees. In close collaboration with playspace suppliers and council officers, we have selected durable fitness apparatus and prepared detailed cost plans. We are about to undertake contract documentation.

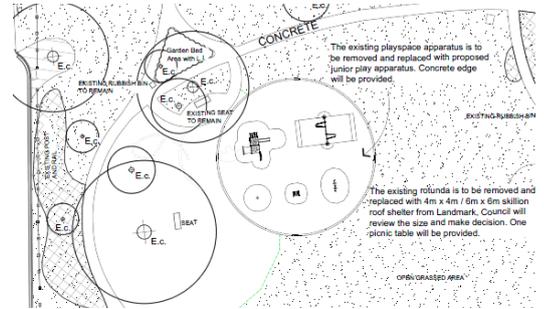
### Bayside Indigenous Plant Display Garden

Following from the success of our first small display garden in front of Bayside City Council's Service Centre of last year, Council directed us to prepare planting plans for a 500 square metre indigenous plant display garden immediately north of the first stage display garden. The purpose of the indigenous plant display garden is to promote to local coastal plants available at Council's nursery and illustrate the diversity of foliage, texture, form and colour of local coast and heathland plants of the sand heathlands of the Cheltenham and Sandringham district. Rate payers to the Bayside municipality can purchase indigenous coastal plants at Council's nursery.

We are in the process of preparing the planting plan with pathways meandering through the garden. Low moundings will provide further interest in exploration of plant groups.

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### WINTER 2020



Excerpt of playspace for Santa Cruz Boulevard



Visualisations of the Bayside Indigenous Plant Display Garden

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### Vibert Reserve Shepparton, Planting Plan.

Cohen Leigh Architects engaged our practice to prepare a planting plan to the front of neighbourhood/community rooms within the reserve. We prepared the plan featuring a range of colourful native plants. Where space permitted, we located the graceful and colourful *Eucalyptus caesia* "Silver Princess" on low mounds with a special soil mix to provide good drainage for these trees to successfully develop.

### Altona North Primary School

Workshop Architecture have been working with the Education Department on major refurbishments to two blocks of classrooms centrally located within the school. We undertook a site visit in December 2019 and since then, have been working on the landscape development of three large courtyard spaces, working closely with Workshop Architecture over the past six months. Key elements have been the layout of a frog pond, custom designed bench seats and feature small shade trees. The project is currently out to tender.

### Bensonhurst Parade Reserve

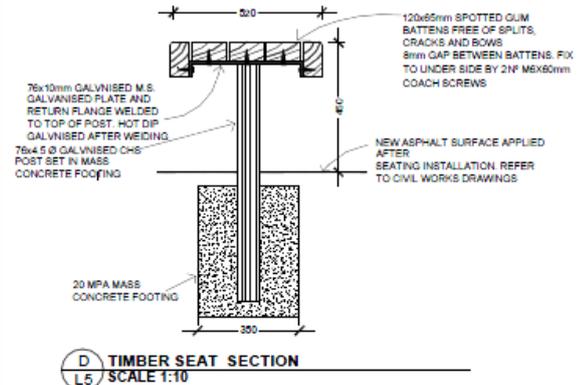
As a subconsultant to LD Eng, we have prepared the landscape design for the surrounds to an oval and soccer pitches. A feature is the pedestrian entrance to the reserve, the surrounding civic space to a bocce rink. We are about to commence contract documentation working drawings and the landscape specification.

### Memorial Park, Dunkeld

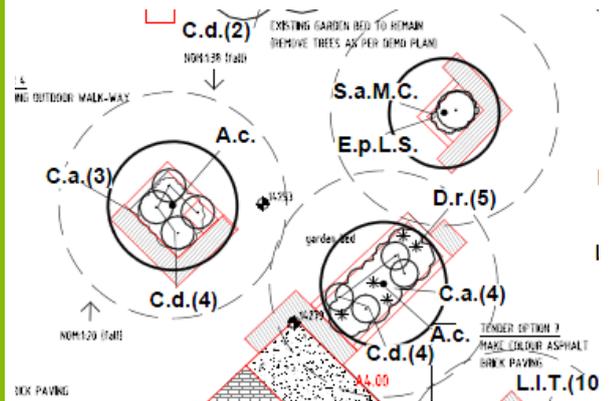
Following our team's work in 2018 on the Dunkeld Visitor Hub Concept Design, Southern Grampians Shire recently engaged our practice in conjunction with Stantec Lighting Design to work on the preparation of documentation of the access pathway and lighting to connect Memorial Park to the Visitor Hub. This project will be put on hold until we can visit the site, due to the stage four COVID-19 restrictions.

## Newsletter

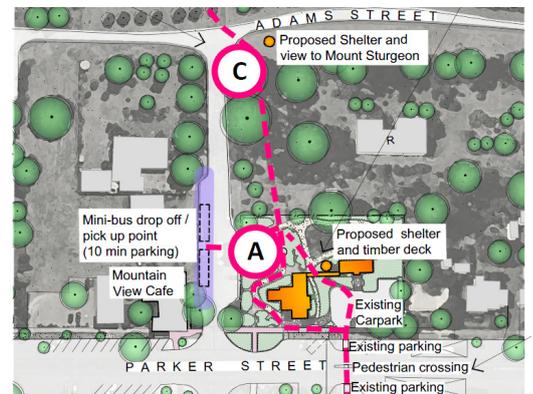
### WINTER 2020



Timber seat detail for Altona North Primary School



Excerpt of courtyard tree planting and seats for Altona North Primary School



Excerpt of plan for Dunkeld Visitor Hub

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