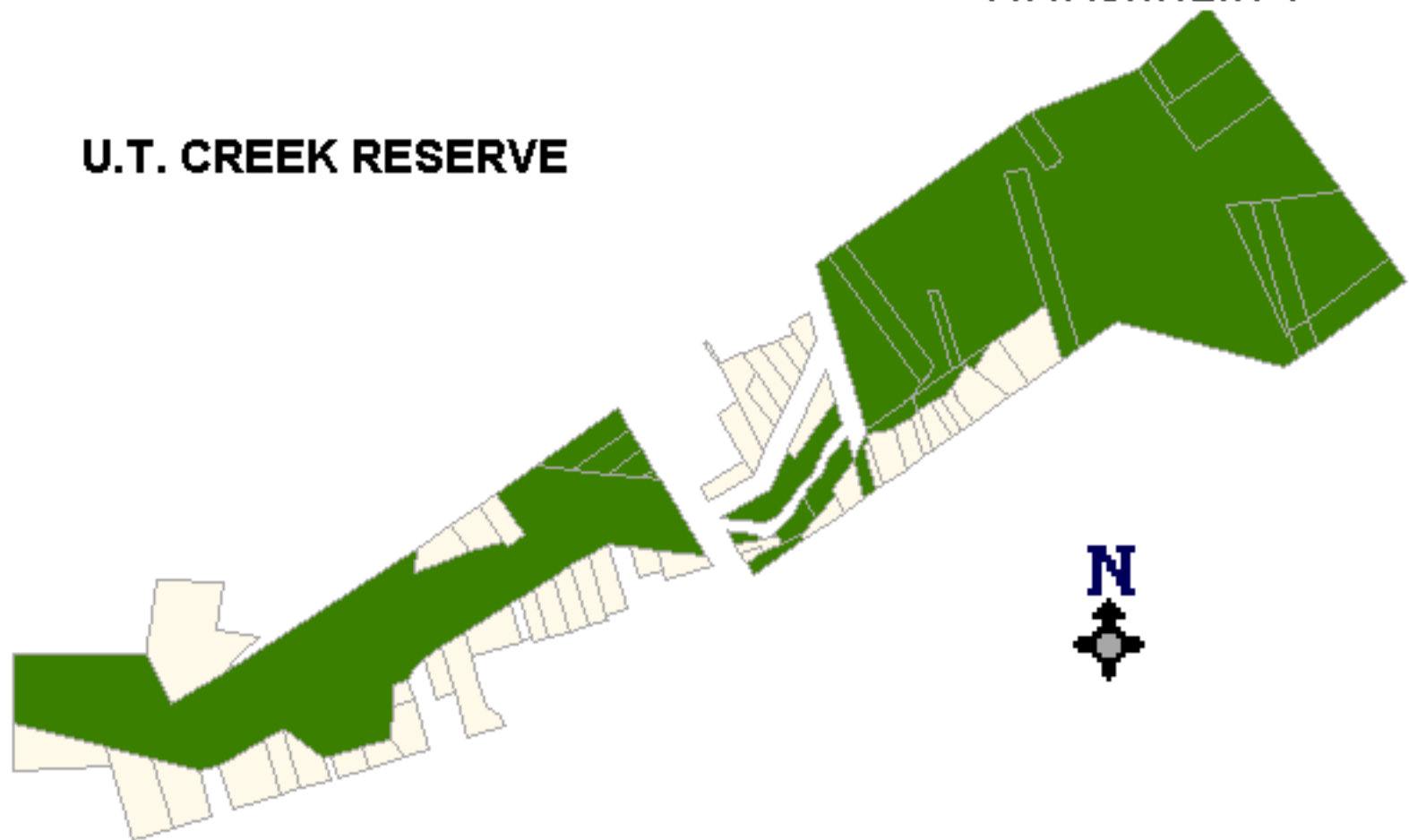
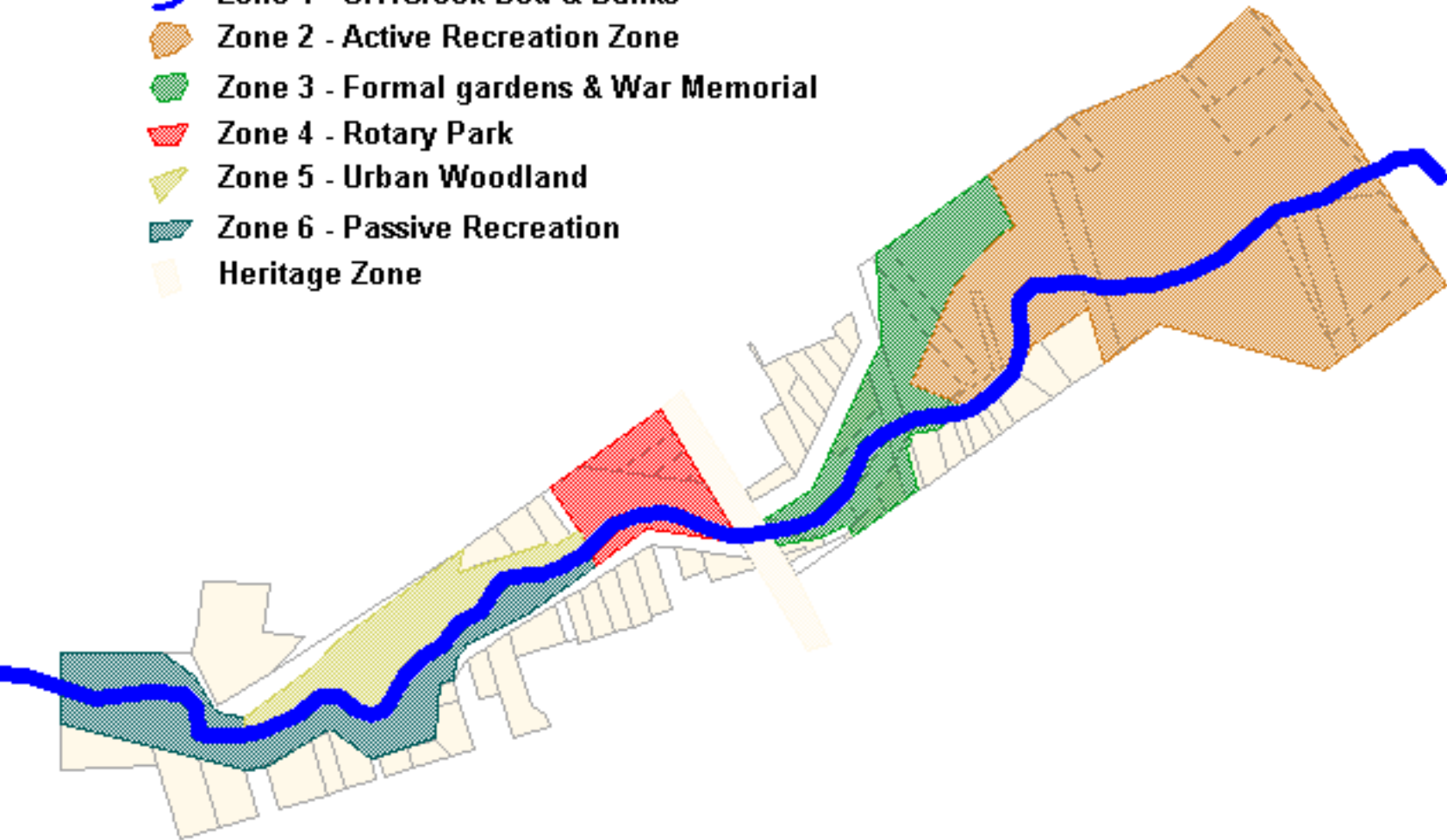


U.T. CREEK RESERVE



RECOMMENDED ACTIVITY ZONES

-  Zone 1 - U.T.Creek Bed & Banks
-  Zone 2 - Active Recreation Zone
-  Zone 3 - Formal gardens & War Memorial
-  Zone 4 - Rotary Park
-  Zone 5 - Urban Woodland
-  Zone 6 - Passive Recreation
-  Heritage Zone



U.T.CREEK ENHANCEMENT COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

RECOMMENDED DEVELOPMENT CONTROLS FOR THE ACTIVITY ZONES IN THE U.T. CREEK RESERVE

NOTE- Chapter 3.2 includes Overall Concept Principles which apply to the whole Reserve and to each of these Zones, but specific Landscape Principles or Controls are provided , where applicable , to each Zone specifically.

ZONE 1 U.T.CREEK BED & BANKS - STATION STREET TO HALLS RD

[THE COMMUNITY LEISURE CENTRE]

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

Improve the appearance of the creek and it`s banks with the long term aim of creating a low maintenance natural waterway sustaining flora that is mostly indigenous and provides an effective corridor for native birds and animals.

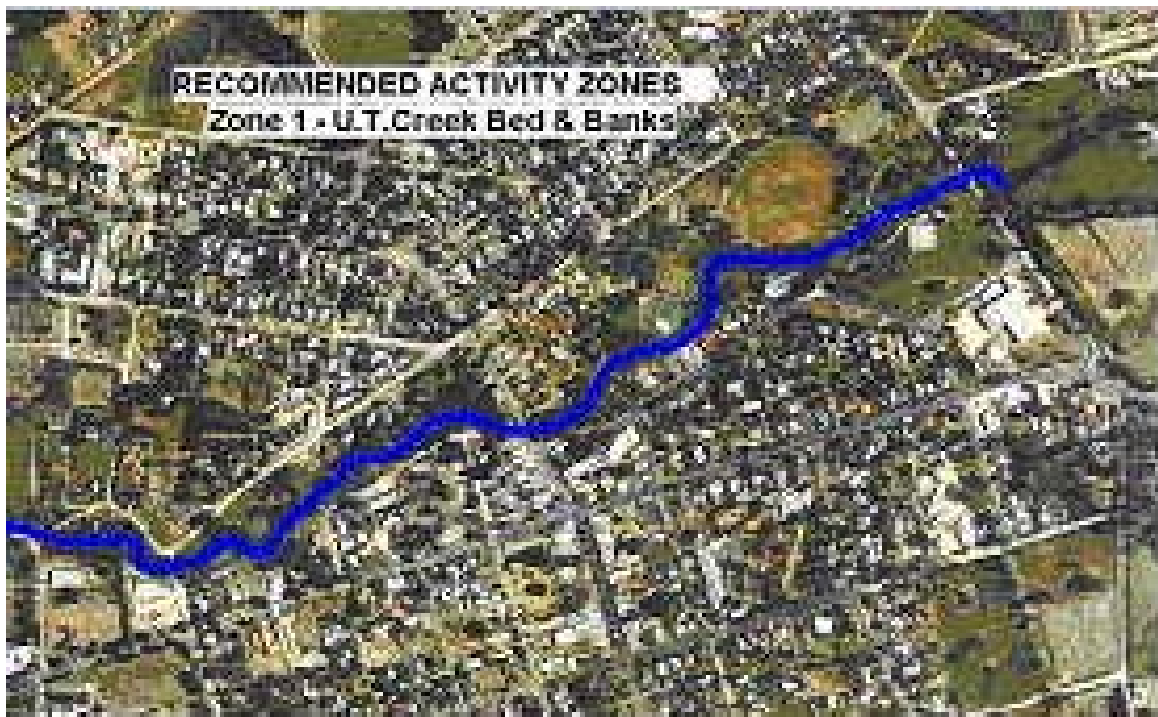
This planting should be continuous enough for wild life corridor purposes, but must allow adequate access for residents to the Creek and preserve vistas.

DEVELOPMENT SPECIFICS

- The Shire has some responsibilities for Weed control , but a partnership between Shire, Catchment Management Authority and the U.T.Creek Group to remove weeds is necessary.
- By use of Community groups and individuals who “adopt “ a section of the banks, to work towards the removal of weeds and exotic vegetation and replace with indigenous species.
- with the co-operation of these community groups , the Shire and CMA and U.T.Creek Group to restore and maintain a wild corridor along the Creek .
- The Catchment Management Authority has the primary responsibility to maintain and manage stream flow and restore water quality, in the U.T Creek and the Shire in the catchment areas , eg Wattle Creek and Rose Street Creek for Storm Water.
- Group to arrange for an appropriate supply of indigenous plants for the above purposes.

LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLES/CONTROLS

- Establish, insofar as can be known, stretches of vegetation that were prevalent before white settlement. This should include as many original species as possible , from water plants to trees. It is accepted that this will be an ongoing project and the complete removal of introduced species will probably never be accomplished.
- Those areas of the Creek which run through formal or semi-formal areas such as the Jack Shiel Gardens and Rotary Park should also include some indigenous plantings, which would complement the formal existing plantings and so ensure the continuity of the corridor.
- The plantings should provide for human interaction with the Creek itself, allowing points of close contact to banks where it is considered safe to do so.
- Pleasant vistas of the Creek from the walking track should be identified and those vistas enhanced and kept open and accessible to viewers.
- Where good specimens of non-invasive exotics plants exist [eg the Bunya Pine near the Tennis courts] they should be protected, but when replacement trees are considered , preference should be given to endemic species.



ZONE 2 ACTIVE RECREATION ZONE

BOUNDARIES Station Street/Vickery Street/Perkins Street. Perkins Side of the Creek , west to Swimming Pool. Vickery Side of the Creek , west to the old Tennis Courts and including the Bowls Club. Excludes the War Memorial , part of ZONE 3.

PRESENT USERS Alexandra Tennis Club
 Little Athletics Group
 Helipad & Alexandra Secondary College Driving School
 Alexandra Cricket Club
 Soccer Club
 Alexandra Swimming Pool
 Alexandra Bowls Club
 The Cathedral Cluster Schools use the facilities of this Zone for various activities , inc Swimming & sports training & competition
 Walking /Jogging Track
 Passive Recreation

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

This is the area of the Reserve , within which Active Recreation should be concentrated, including the existing and any future sporting activities. Other than Active and Passive Recreation , NO OTHER USES SHOULD BE PERMITTED. Existing and future users should produce Master Plans of their needs , as required, for approval by Council. Landscaping should be consistent , with the rest of the Reserve, but special requirements should be met. The major Walking Track will be a significant facility for both pleasure and active recreation.

DEVELOPMENT SPECIFICS

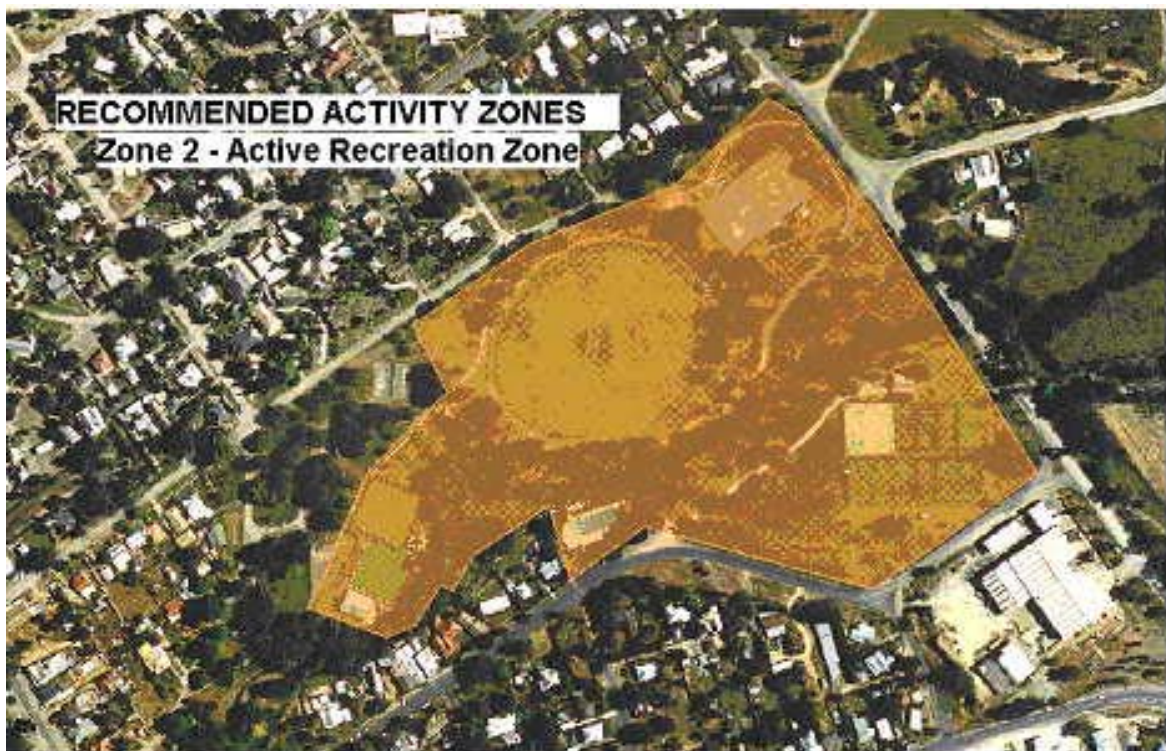
- Present users to develop Master Plans reflecting their needs and where possible their long term requirements, before submitting requests for expansion or major change.
- Future users to prepare a detailed statement of their requirements and a Master Plan of any future needs to ensure the community needs and existing users are not effected. Prior to any proposals which impact on this Zone, Council to rule on any proposals , on recommendation of U.T.Creek Group.
- The Walking & Cycling Track [possibly with exercise facilities & seats] will meet both passive and active recreation needs.
- U.T. Creek Group and the Shire to develop Parking arrangements for existing and future users.
- U.T.Creek Group and the Shire to develop protection measures for green spaces to stop unwanted use, such as motor traffic.

4.

- The Shire to seek appropriate funding sources for Parking and protection.

LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLES / CONTROLS

- Plantings to be carried out by negotiation with representatives of the sporting facility. In general they should consider user access and safety but also be made to soften, shade, enhance and to integrate the facility with the park surroundings.
- To negate the potential for degradation of the park's amenity as open space all considerations for future expansion should be considered as to the facility's effect on the landscape of the park as a whole.



ZONE 3 FORMAL GARDENS AND WAR MEMORIAL

BOUNDARIES AND EXTENT

- JACK SHIEL GARDENS –Perkins Street to the Creek
- PAYNES AVENUE GARDENS- Paynes Ave to the Creek-includes Dove Cottage , plus Vickery Street east to the old Tennis Courts.
- WAR MEMORIAL AND LIONS PLAYGROUND

NOTE - The CWA Building and the Alexandra Public Library are located in Public Use Zone 6 and are presumed not to be in the U.T.Creek Reserve.

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

Future development should fall within the Overall Concept Principles developed for the Reserve [ie Plantings to be a mix of indigenous and imported –deciduous- species] , but recognising the formal nature of their existing condition , particularly Jack Shiel Gardens, which should be a guide to the rest of this Zone.

DESIGN SPECIFICS/CONTROLS

- this zone should be retained for formal and informal gardens and park spaces. Apart from the walking track , this Zone should have no Active Recreation. Formal Gardens, Trees and shrubs should be the normal format , with seats for visitors for leisure and contemplation. Design of Landscape Furniture , we assume , will arise from the Urban Design Framework.

LANDSCAPING PRINCIPLES/CONTROLS

- Those formal areas, such as the Jack Sheil Gardens and the semi formal areas of Leckie Park, War Memorial and Dove Cottage should be given protection and consideration not only for their aesthetic values but their historic values as well.
- The War Memorial and River Red Gum form a central focus for the Park and all care should be taken to protect their historical associations , with appropriate planting to provide a sense of tranquility, seclusion and to allow for quiet reflection.

6.

- Dove Cottage, with its sense of the Town's beginnings, should be protected as a feature of the Park. Sensitive restoration and further complementary plantings to enhance the building as a picturesque entrance to Leckie Park.
- Future design and plantings should consider human interaction with the area, eg the placement of exotic trees to provide shade in the summer and sun in the winter , the enhancement and creation of aesthetic vistas and pictures formed paths, seating and picnic tables.
- Replacement plantings should give preference to those listed species, both native and exotic, which are known to thrive in the area and are resistant to disease , pests and drought.



ZONE 4 ROTARY PARK [INCLUDES VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE AND PLAYGROUND]

NOTE ADJOINING IS THE YOUTH PRECINCT IN HEC INGRAM RESERVE- PART OF PUBLIC PURPOSES RECREATION ZONE – BUT NOT PART OF THE U.T.CREEK RESERVE]

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

- Developed as a PUBLIC PARK, by the ROTARY CLUB and the SHIRE, with a current need to meet ceremonial needs eg, Australia Day, serve as a focus and venue for major events [eg Easter Fair, Truck , Ute & Rod Show, Carols by Candlelight, Senior Citizens Lunch etc. Houses the Visitor Information Centre , provides a welcome to visitors with Toilets and picnic facilities and is the town`s principal public Park.

DEVELOPMENT SPECIFICS & LANDSCAPING PRINCIPLES

- Consequent on the new Information Centre building and as a condition of Rotary acceptance of the new building, the Park is to be extended into vacant Council land at the Western end and re-landscaped, particularly to accept the function of the stage at the rear of the Information Centre. A clear viewing and seating area focussed on the stage , must be a major feature of any landscaping changes.
- Re-landscaping will be within the Landscape principles expressed in this Report continuing the strong influence of the mix of existing Deciduous Trees and natives [in Rotary Park the theme “ River to Plain to Alpine “ has already been agreed] in the Reserve and Alexandra generally.
- Re-landscaping will be staged over some years and should be overseen by a new Committee of Management, if our Recommendation in Para 3.16 is approved. These controls should be the guide for such re-landscaping, but the Group`s advice or interpretation is available.



ZONE 5 URBAN WOODLAND

EXTENT & BOUNDARIES

North Side of U.T.Creek, bounded by Vickery Street, west of Residential properties west of Rotary Park to Rose Street Bridge.

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

- creation of a woodland of clumps of indigenous trees and shrubs , in a plain of native grasses and wildflowers, with gravel paths wandering through and around the clusters of trees and shrubs. Grasses to be managed by regular mowing along the paths. Grasses can be at a greater height away from the paths, but open safe areas for family picnics and games to be maintained. Overflow Parking for major events at Rotary Park is acceptable.

LANDSCAPE PRINCIPLES/CONTROLS

- the creation of an Urban Woodland should highlight and showcase the extreme diversity, beauty and endurance of our local vegetation. A vegetation class that has been so depleted since white settlement that only 2% remains, with much of this in a degraded state.
- Species selected should encompass a cross section of the native vegetation of the area, including rushes , grasses, flowers , shrubs and trees.
- It is accepted that this vegetation will not be in a completely “natural” state- with the necessity for mowing of some areas, some pruning and the tidying of tracks.
- Gravel walking paths should complement the natural setting, include views to the creek and be sensitively placed for access and safety.
- Any labelling of species or other signage for educational purposes should be relatively unobtrusive and sensitive to the bush setting. Seating should also be in keeping with the surroundings.



ZONE 6 PASSIVE RECREATION

EXTENT & BOUNDARIES

South Side of U.T. Creek, from Bayley Street to Halls Rd [Community Leisure Centre] and North side of U.T.Creek from Rose Street Bridge to Halls Rd [the existing Ford]

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT

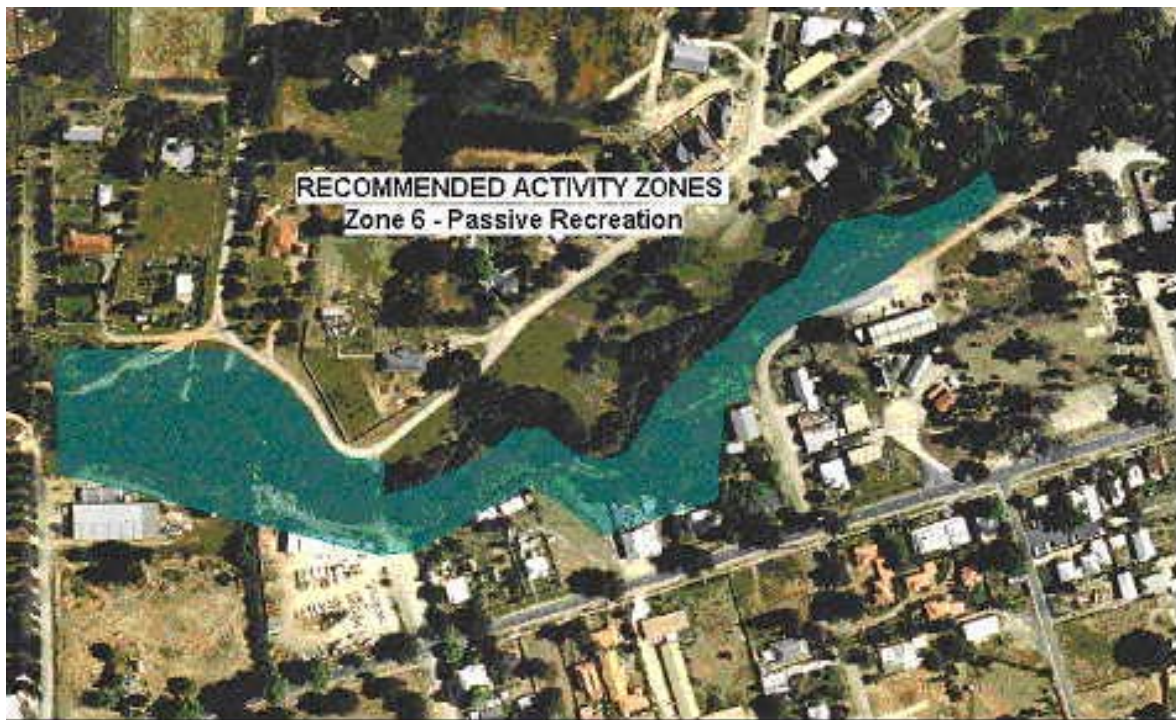
-Primarily WALKING/CYCLING TRACK along the U.T.Creek with Feeder tracks to Theme areas [eg Urban Woodland] and major connections [eg Timber & Tramway Museum and Youth Precinct.], passing through parkland, along the edge of the Creek.

DEVELOPMENT SPECIFICS

- SURFACE favourable to walking and cycling only , preferably crushed rock with rolled toppings of a natural colour [eg Yea Wetlands Track] . If later desired , the Group would accept asphalt , but not concrete.
- While it is proposed that the surface should initially be rolled crushed rock and toppings, the Track should be Wheelchair “ Friendly “ , by ensuring that access should always be by ramps of approved gradients and steps should be excluded throughout.
- The Track must be safe for users after dark and some areas will need lighting to enable evening use.
- Track to be edged , preferably with timber and level with the surrounding surface , to simplify mowing of grass. Surrounding Grass should be mown on both sides of the Track , to a zone of at least 2 metres, regularly.
- Where new planting is carried out , protective fencing will be required.
- a bridge will be necessary , between Rose Street and Halls Road , over a drain.

LANDSCAPING PRINCIPLES/CONTROLS

- landscaping should be of a walking track passing through parkland, with mown grass, where grass is present, on either side of the Track. Trees and shrubs will conform to the overall concept of a mix of exotic and native species.
- vistas along and across the creek must be recognised and those vistas enhanced and kept open and accessible to viewers.
- plantings should provide for human interaction with the Creek itself, allowing points of close access to banks where it is considered safe to do so.
- Seating and possibly exercise facilities should be provided.



REVEGETATION GUIDE FOR THE GOULBURN BROKEN CATCHMENT

For reference in any revegetation in the Reserve, the Guide of the GBCMA is attached.

APPENDIX A

URBAN WOODLAND PROPOSAL

APPENDIX B