

Dry Creek Corridor, Modbury Precinct Master Plan

January 2023

CITY OF
TEA TREE GULLY
Naturally Better

Contents

Overview .....

Introduction .....

The site .....

Vision and key moves .....

Overall Master Plan .....

Concept designs .....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Toolkit .....

Staging plan .....

Appendices

Background information .....



Overview

As part of the future strategic planning for Modbury, Jensen PLUS were invited to work together with the City of Tea Tree Gully to develop the Dry Creek Corridor – Modbury Concept Design. Consisting of six reserves separated by intersecting roads, the corridor is the largest connected open space within Modbury. It became evident from the outset of this project that the Dry Creek Corridor was a hidden treasure that the local and broader community were largely unaware existed and were not utilising. Early community engagement identified that those who did use it or were aware of the corridor's existence saw the potential to make it a destination that the local and wider community of Adelaide could love and safely recreate in.

Extensive site analysis and background research of existing Council strategic documents and asset management were reviewed to better understand the key issues and opportunities that existed in the Dry Creek Corridor within Modbury. Consideration was also given to how the corridor could be integrated into the broader Adelaide context as a linear trail and as a natural water way.

The vision for Dry Creek, Modbury and the issues and opportunities were tested in a series of strategic planning workshops to ensure that holistic, achievable and sustainable designs were proposed for the Master Plan Concept. From these workshops a series of Key Design Moves were identified.

These include:

- Elevate the profile of Dry Creek
- Create good connections and accessibility
- Rediscover Dry Creek
- Create a balance of active and passive recreation
- Slow the flow

Further testing and technical investigations were undertaken to understand how Dry Creek functions as a natural watercourse and what storm water interventions or infrastructure could be proposed to improve its health and future-proof it as a natural asset in our changing climate. Technical investigations were also undertaken to review options for safer pedestrian crossings between the reserves.

A costing analysis and staging plan were developed to inform the implementation of the Dry Creek – Modbury Concept, with the Stage 1 Edinburgh Inclusive Playspace identified as a higher priority for the 2021 financial year. Other key priority projects include upgrading upstream stormwater infrastructure and wayfinding.

Introduction

Dry Creek within the broader Adelaide context

The Dry Creek Corridor in Modbury forms one section of the broader Dry Creek watercourse which extends from the Adelaide Hills to Barker Inlet. Through Modbury the corridor includes walking and cycle trails but they are not continuous for the whole of dry creek.

The Creek

A significant portion of the northern suburbs of Adelaide drains to Gulf St. Vincent via Dry Creek and its tributaries. The headwaters of this system originate in the Hlls Face escarpment to the north east of Adelaide and flow onto the plains where significant urban development has occurred adjacent to the creek channels.

Quick facts:

- Dry Creek whole catchment area: 100km2
- Upstream catchment area: Steep, rural residential agricultural, livestock, mining quarrying
- Central catchment area: Medium density urban residential
- Downstream catchment area: Medium density urban residential areas, Barker Outlet.

Upstream development and human activity have implications to the water quality and health of the ecosystems downstream. The creek transports any nutrients, sedimentation, chemical pollutants and litter all the way the the Barker Inlet where it can affect sea grass population and aquatic wildlife populations. These impacts can be reduced by implementing better storm water management and treatment upstream.

The Trail

Unlike the River Torrens Linear Trail and the O-Bahn which have a continuous uninterrupted shared use trail ideal for commuting, the shared use path along Dry Creek is intersected by multiple road crossings. These crossings low the user down, encouraging them to stay and play in the Dry Creek Corridor.

The configuration of the Dry Creek shared use trail lends itself to creating destinations within the corridor to recreate whilst still serving its function as a passive transport corridor by creating legible user friendly pedestrian and cycling connections to the River Torrens Linear Park, Civic Park and public transport.

The site



Vision and key moves

The Dry Creek Master Plan proposes a vision along with five key design moves

Vision

As Modbury's largest, connected open space reserve, the Dry Creek Corridor is a natural feature to be protected, rediscovered and celebrated.

To protect Dry Creek is to acknowledge and respect the creek corridor as a natural water body within Modbury and in its broader Adelaide context. Interventions along the creek and its reserves should aim to improve water quality, continue to support healthy biodiversity and ensure resilience to changing climatic conditions.

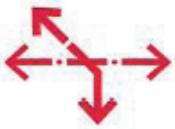
As a hidden treasure in Modbury, Cry Creek needs to be rediscovered by the local and broader community. Building on the existing elements within the reserves, the corridor can transform into a linear park with a balance of passive and active recreation, easy wayfinding and increased amenity and accessibility for all. Opportunities to create new destinations for fun and whimsy in the corridor should be included.

To celebrate Dry Creek is to identify and highlight the uniqueness of the corridor and its key areas as well as the individual character of its reserves. Creating a linear park that the residents of Modbury and Adelaide can be proud of and appreciate as a natural asset and destination in its own right.



Key move 01: Elevate the profile of the Dry Creek Corridor

- Re-branding Dry Creek in Modbury to promote and educate the community about its local and broader context
- Longevity through well planned, cost effective design



Key move 02: Creating good connections + accessibility

- Create better, safer, all inclusive transitional links within the Modbury Precinct
- New wayfinding and destination signage to assist with navigation for different transport modes and abilities



Key move 03: Rediscovering Dry Creek

- Create gateways and destinations within the creek corridor to encourage visitation by local users and others
- Provide a consistent language of elements throughout the corridor



Key move 04: Create a balance of active and passive recreation

- Improve amenity and create opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to have fun, congregate and enjoy the natural surrounds
- Create opportunities and partnerships with local business



Key move 05: Slowing the flow

- Maintain and improve the creek as a natural system encouraging healthy biodiversity
- Promote environmental initiatives and educate

Overall Master Plan

Concept designs

Style guide

Staging plan



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