

INFO SHEET NO.4 – 20 January 2015

“JEWELL OF BRUNSWICK” – NEW PUBLIC SPACE AT WILSON AVENUE

When is construction starting?

Construction is scheduled to start on 2 February 2015, and is expected to take 16-20 weeks. Following a public tender process, a building contractor (Supergardens Pty) has been appointed to construct the new public space. In addition, the “Urban Bouldering Wall” (see below) will be constructed and installed by a specialist contractor (Big Fish Pty).

What is the “Jewell of Brunswick” Public Space project?

The “Jewell of Brunswick” is a project to build a new public space on Wilson Avenue, between Sydney Road and Black Street, Brunswick. The new space will contain trees, seats, bins, bike racks, new lighting, a grass mound, CCTV and an urban bouldering wall.

This project is part of a wider program of urban renewal in the Jewell Precinct, as identified in the State Government’s *Plan Melbourne*. The Department of Justice have provided Moreland City Council with a grant to build a new public space, plus urban bouldering wall at this location and Council has allocated funds towards the project. Melbourne Water has also provided grant funding to implement Water Sensitive Urban Design features in the new space.

Who is going to manage and maintain the new space?

The new space will be actively managed and maintained by Moreland City Council. This means that each day the bins will be emptied and the footpath sweeper will pass through the space. The trees and grassed area will be on a regular maintenance schedule and the space will be cleaned by high pressure hose on a frequent basis. In addition, an open program of events and activities will be programmed. This will include climbing instruction, small markets, food trucks and performances (limited to daytime and early evening).

What is the project trying to achieve?

The primary aim of this project is to improve safety and health in the precinct. In addition, this project will help to improve local businesses and jobs. This area suffers from litter, graffiti and various other safety issues, all of which we are trying to address. Significant urban renewal and population growth in the precinct is expected in the short and medium term. Urban renewal at Jewell Station itself by Vic Track is the ‘next cab off the rank’. The Jewell village area is anticipated to grow and has great potential to be a vibrant, safe and well loved place.

What else is being done to help address safety issues in the precinct?

A public space, on its own, is unlikely to be successful in addressing public safety issues. The public space project is one part of a range of initiatives and interventions in the Jewell village, which include:

- CCTV (four locations in the precinct, installed June/July 2014)
- Community safety audit and action plan (completed mid 2014)
- PSO officers at Jewell Station (mid 2014)
- Increased liaison between the Police, Licensed premises, community and Council (ongoing)

What about carparking and access?

On street carparking in the immediate area will be reduced by removing eight carparks at the eastern end of Wilson Avenue. In addition there will be modifications to on-street parking on Black Street and Barkly Street to allow large vehicles to enter. It must be noted that there are 1350 carparks around the wider Jewell Precinct. Vehicle traffic movements on Wilson Avenue will also change. Vehicles will have to use alternative access to Wilson Avenue, via Black Street or Little Gold Street (see alternative access map on our webpage). This alternative access has been approved by Council and Vic Roads.

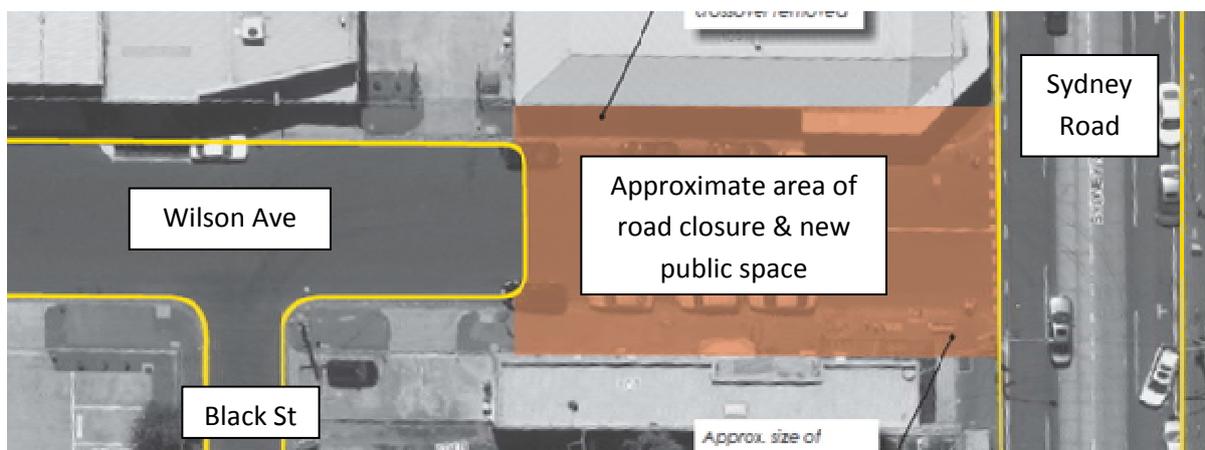
What about the “urban bouldering wall”?

One feature of the new public space is an ‘urban bouldering wall’. The wall will be less than 3.5m in height, be surrounded by soft fall and be ‘route set’ for both beginners and experienced climbers. Council’s public liability insurance applies as it does in playgrounds or skateparks. The idea with the wall is to bring people together in a positive and self-sustaining activity.

What are the next steps?

Activity	When
Commence Construction Project on Site	2 February 2015
Demolition, underground services, earthworks & site preparation	February – March 2015
Installation of lighting, grass mound, seats, trees & urban bouldering wall	April-May 2015
Open New Public Space	May / June 2015

Please visit moreland.vic.gov.au and [facebook/morelandcitycouncil](https://www.facebook.com/morelandcitycouncil) for regular updates, or for more information contact Council’s Project Manager – Brunswick Place Manager on 9240 1111 or wcoogan@moreland.vic.gov.au



This project is partially funded under the Victorian Government's Community Crime Prevention Program. In addition, Melbourne Water has provided grant funding towards the project.