



**PORT PHILLIP
EMERGENCY
CLIMATE
ACTION
NETWORK**

**GLEN EIRA
EMERGENCY
CLIMATE
ACTION
NETWORK**

GREENLINE

SANDRINGHAM RAIL CORRIDOR

BIRRARUNG - GARDENVALE

PROPOSAL

28/08/2022

GREEN LINE PROPOSAL

GREEN LINE OVERVIEW

The Green Line is a community-developed proposal for a linear park that follows the route of the Sandringham rail corridor from Birrarung to Gardenvale Station.

The Green Line uses existing public open space and walking paths, and expands these by connecting and linking existing open space, along with rehabilitating underutilised spaces.

The Green Line will improve pedestrian and cycling accessibility, and increase habitat for biodiversity and tree canopy cover.

Suburbs along the Green Line will undergo significant population growth and urban densification in the coming decades. However, these suburbs already suffer from a lack of public open space, and are poorly prepared for population growth and the impacts of climate change.

Plan Melbourne 2017 – 2050 has identified South Yarra, Prahran, Balaclava and Elsternwick as Major Activity Centres. The challenge will be to accommodate this growth in a way that is socially equitable and environmentally sustainable.

The Green Line directly responds to *Plan Melbourne's* goals:

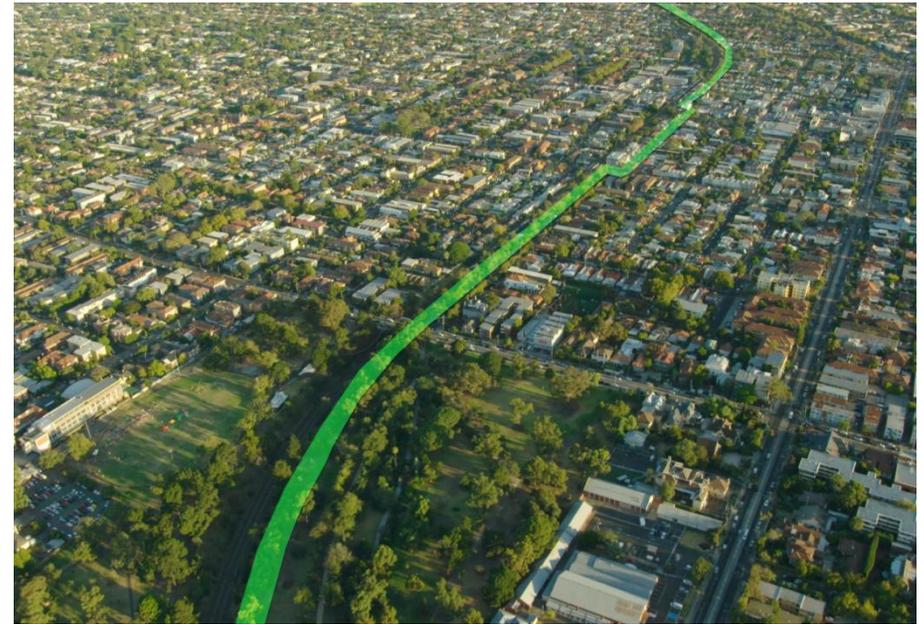
- Enhance urban amenity and quality
- Improve landscape connectivity
- Build resilience to climate change

Plan Melbourne directs that these more liveable outcomes be achieved by:

- Protecting existing green spaces
- Creating new opportunities for urban greening
- Improving water-sensitive urban design
- Increasing permeable surfaces

This proposal identifies opportunities to protect and improve each precinct along the route, each with their own strengths and challenges.

Delivering a project at this scale requires federal, state, local government and community collaboration and commitment.



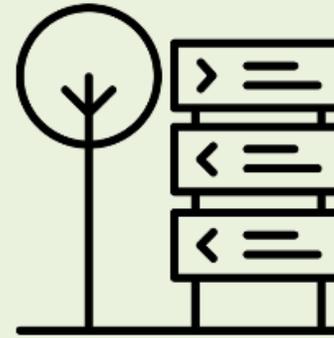
GREEN LINE PROPOSAL

BENEFITS

The Green Line offers significant public, economic and environmental benefits to the City of Stonnington, City of Port Phillip and City of Glen Eira.

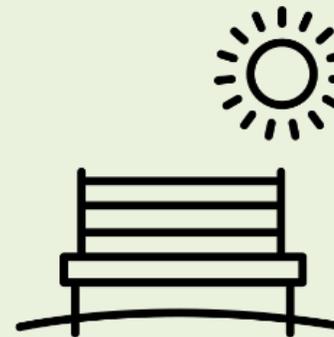


COMMUNITY CONNECTION



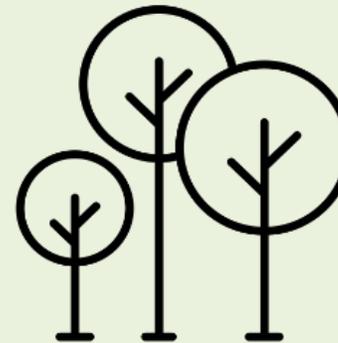
- Pedestrian centred amenity linking existing public open spaces
- Improved pedestrian access to public transport
- Improved pedestrian and cycling access to local business precincts
- Improved recreation opportunities
- Community safety through improved lighting, amenity, and accessibility
- Separated bike lanes

PLACE ACTIVATION



- Amenity that strengthens community identity
- Improvement of underutilised spaces
- Increased public open space
- Improved connection to major open spaces such as the Yarra Main Trail, Port Phillip Foreshore, Elsternwick Park Nature Reserve, and Elster Creek.

ENVIRONMENT



- Improved ecological health through a biodiversity corridor
- Increased tree canopy through climate resilient plantings
- Increased permeability of water by replacing on-street parking with planting reserves and permeable paving
- Allows people to build a relationship with nature in the city

GREEN LINE PROPOSAL

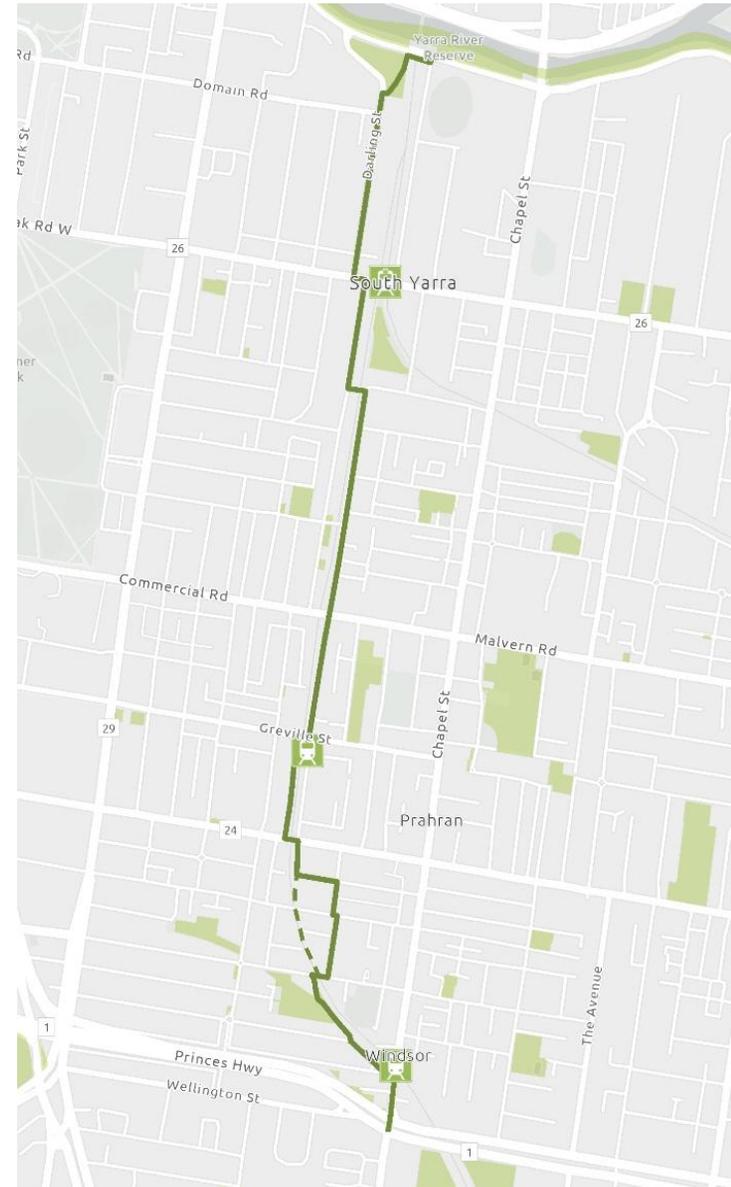
GREEN LINE SECTIONS

The Green Line follows a linear route along the Sandringham Rail Corridor and for the purposes of planning and implementation has been portioned into the following precincts: Stonnington, Port Phillip, Glen Eira.



STONNINGTON PRECINCT (SOUTH YARRA – WINDSOR)

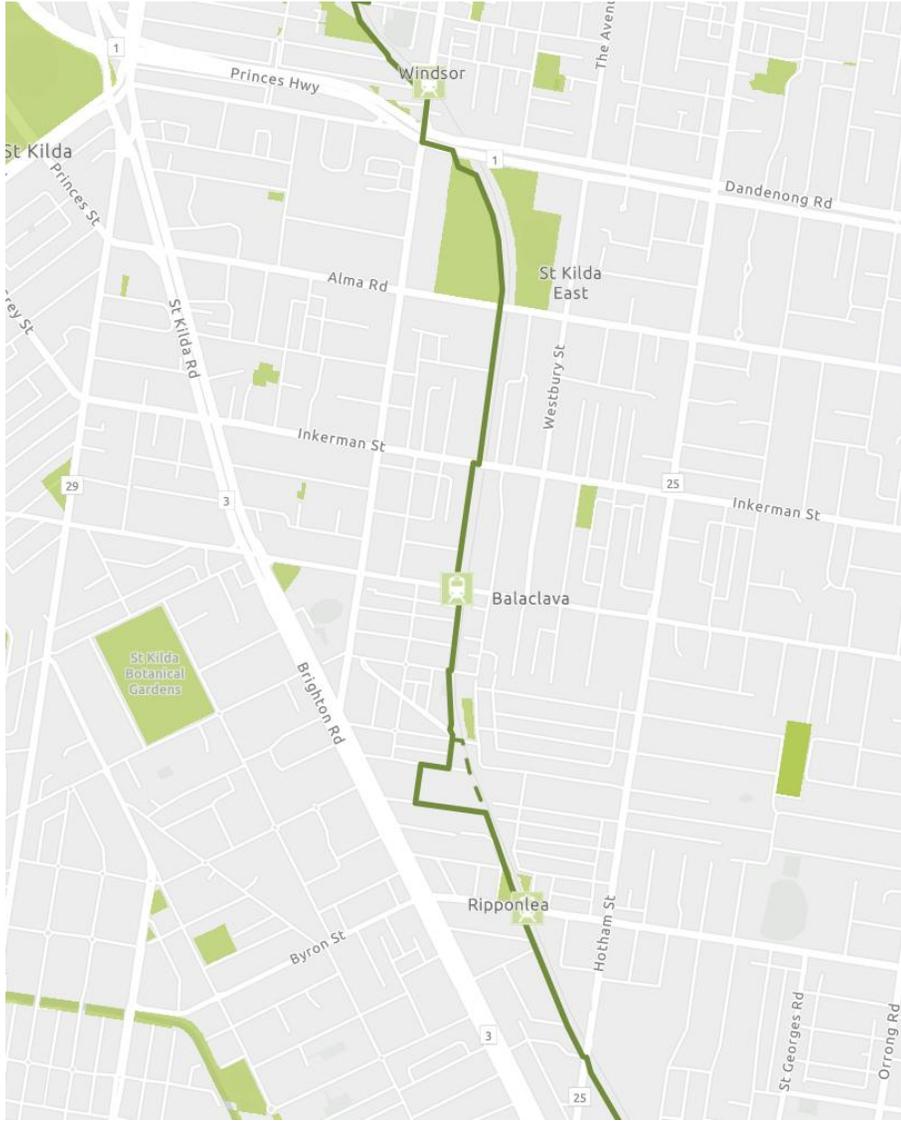
The Sandringham Precinct runs for 3 kilometres from Birrarung to Windsor Station. Many sections of that corridor are already high value diverse habitat. There is already a lot of informal community involvement in sustaining this corridor.



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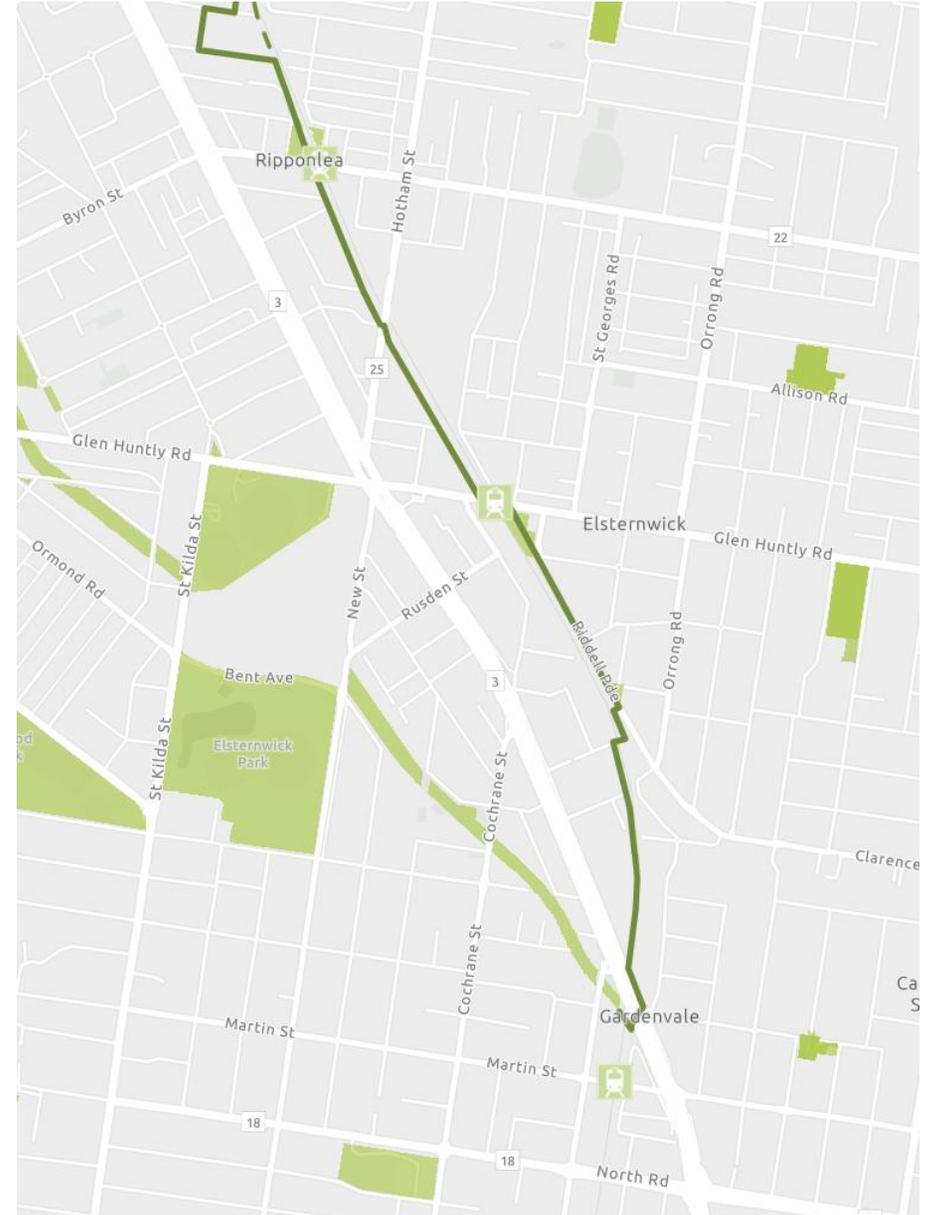
PORT PHILLIP PRECINCT (ST KILDA – RIPPONLEA)

The route of the Green Line in Port Phillip uses existing public open space and walking paths, and expands these by connecting, linking and rehabilitating.



GLEN EIRA PRECINCT (ELSTERNWICK – GARDENVALE)

The Glen Eira precinct is set to undergo significant population growth in the coming year. The precinct will need to balance densification along with the need to preserve existing community character, amenity and spirit.



GREEN LINE PROPOSAL

BENEFITS OF THE GREEN LINE

The Green Line offers significant public benefits to the cities of Stonnington, Port Phillip and Glen Eira.

The reserve links key public spaces from the Yarra River to the redeveloped Elsternwick Nature Reserve. Along its route, the Green Line connects Alma Park and Rippon Lea Estate, as well as Elwood Canal precinct.

The project specifically responds to the long term acute deficiency in open space across these suburbs. The areas adjacent to the Green Line rank among the lowest Melbourne suburbs for access to public open space.

- City of Stonnington (adjacent areas): ~6% public open space
- City of Port Phillip (adjacent areas): ~5% public open space
- City of Glen Eira (adjacent areas): ~4% public open space

Other benefits include improvements in:

- Public accessibility along the Green Line route
- Walking and cycling connection from South Yarra to Gardenvale
- Increased tree canopy cover
- Bio-diversity support through indigenous (and suitable) planting, and dedicated corridor for wildlife along the rail line route
- Permeability of water by replacing on-street parking with planting reserves and permeable paving
- Integration with urban densification precincts along the rail corridor.

PRIORITY SECTIONS

The realization of the Green Line project requires long-term local community engagement and investment by the local governments, state government, and other agencies.

However, key elements are achievable and affordable in the near-term.

Key sections of the Green Line could be tackled initially, and would immediately contribute to local amenity while progressing the overall Green Line initiative.

COMMUNITY ACTIVATION

The Green Line supports the community engagement and further activation of community groups along each area of its route. The local residents must be involved in the process of co-designing each section of the Green Line.

In addition to the core Green Line Alliance groups, other community groups along the proposed route support the project:

- Balaclava Environment and Trees (BEST)
- St Kilda Community Gardens Club
- Elsternwick South-West Precinct Community Group
- Elsternwick Park Association
- Friends of Alma Park

Other groups are providing support for the project, including Rob Youl from the Danks Street Biolinks project, Rob Scott from Naturelinks, as well as experienced members from the Port Phillip EcoCentre.

ACCESSIBILITY

The goal of the Green Line is to improve accessibility along the length of the line, ensuring accessibility to people with mobility requirements. This would involve working to ensure that footpaths, road crossings, and rail overpasses are fully accessible.

WALKING AND CYCLING RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

While the Green Line is predominately pedestrian-focused, most of its length is readily accessible to cyclists. All sections can incorporate adjacent on-street cycle paths. Several sections, such as the Balaclava Station precinct, could be designated for shared use by cyclists and pedestrians.

Some sections offer the opportunity for other activities such as using overhead bridges for exercise programs, bluestone walls for belaying etc.

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STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

VICTORIA STATE GOVERNMENT

The Green Line proposal directly supports and delivers the goals of a number of the state government's current guidelines and strategies:

- Plan Melbourne 2017-2050: 20-minute neighbourhoods
- Plan Melbourne 2017-2050: Cooling and Greening Melbourne
- Plan Melbourne 2017-2050: Open Space for Everyone
- Open Space Strategies: Planning Practice Note 2015
- Living Melbourne: Our Metropolitan Urban Forest
- *Trees for Cooler and Greener Streetscapes - Guidelines for Streetscape Planning and Design (DELWP)*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

The Green Line proposal directly supports and delivers the goals of a number of the strategic plans in place at Stonnington, Port Phillip, and Glen Eira, such as:

- Act and Adapt, Sustainable Environment Strategy
- Move, Connect, Live Strategy
- Greening Port Phillip - an Urban Forest Approach
- Public Space Strategy (draft)
- Playspace Strategy
- Greening Port Phillip Street Tree Planting Guide
- Road Management Plan
- Activating Laneway Strategy
- Placemaking Action Plan
- Sustainable Public Lighting Guidelines
- Tree Protection Guidelines
- Wayfinding Guide to Signage

Additionally, the Green Line supports the goals of these plans:

- Elwood Foreshore and Recreation Reserves Management Plan
- Foreshore and Hinterland Vegetation Management
- Nature Strip Guidelines



GREEN LINE PROPOSAL

PRECEDENT PROJECTS

There are already adaptive reuse landscape projects within the proposed project area. These open space assets improve liveability and access for residents and visitors.

ELWOOD CANAL TRAIL, ELWOOD

Shared bike and pedestrian track that follows the bluestone Elwood Canal, linking the Elsternwick Park Nature Reserve to the Elwood foreshore. Groups such as *Friends of the Elster Creek* are actively engaged in conservation activities such as fauna surveys, indigenous flora revegetation and water quality monitoring.



CANTERBURY ROAD LIGHT RAIL LINEAR RESERVE

Linear reserve that utilises the remanant land alongside the St Kilda light rail track. It is an unpaved track vegetated with native plantings. A calm pedestrian friendly path along what is otherwise a traffic major throughfare. It provides access to the light rail stops, MSAC and Albert Park Lake amenities.



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SANDRIDGE RAIL TRAIL, PORT MELBOURNE

A linear park that utilises the remanant land alongside the 109 tram line in Port Melbourne. It is used recreationally by cyclists, joggers, dog walkers and for ball games. It offers a connction that links the Port Melbourne foreshore to the CBD.

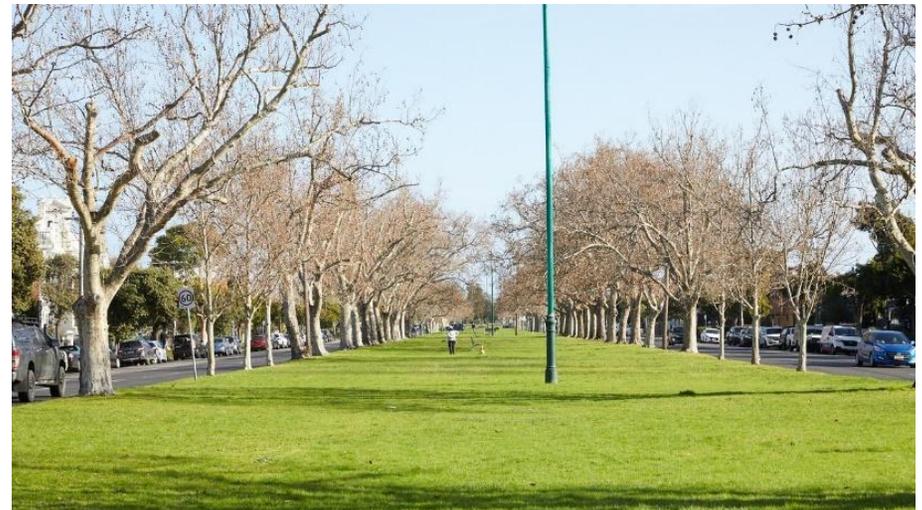


OTHER PRECEDENT PROJECTS

Greenline (Proposed), City of Melbourne



Shrine to Sea, Port Phillip



GREEN LINE PROPOSAL

GREEN LINE ALLIANCE



The Green Line project is a collaboration between the members of the Green Line Alliance:

- Port Phillip Emergency Climate Action Network (PECAN)
- Rewilding Stonnington
- Glen Eira Emergency Climate Action Network (GECAN)

Additionally, the Green Line project is supported by:

- Friends of Alma Park
- Balaclava Environment and Trees (BEST)
- St Kilda Community Gardens Club

CONTACT US

To discuss the Green Line proposal, contact us:

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GECAN: gecan2030@gmail.com

REWILDING STONNINGTON

Rewilding Stonnington is a local group dedicated to reintroducing indigenous and endemic plants to Stonnington, and to raise public awareness and connect with the pre-colonial heritage of our local Council area.

We rewild nature strips and pocket parks with indigenous species and advocate for the inclusion of indigenous plantings in other public spaces to boost biodiversity, reduce the heat island effect and build community.

Our goal in rewilding is to:

- boost biodiversity
- attract pollinators
- reduce the urban heat island effect
- reduce stormwater runoff
- add interest and diversity to the landscape
- improve mental and physical health
- reduce noise pollution from lawn mowers
- reduce the need for artificial fertilisers and weed killers
- improve our biophilic connection to nature
- respect and advocate for Aboriginal ways of caring for country, in consultation with local Traditional Owners.

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PECAN

The Port Phillip Emergency Climate Action Network (PECAN) aims to create and sustain a strong climate action movement in Port Phillip to address the climate crisis. We are politically non-partisan and we encourage an exchange of views and connections between member groups that make up the network, and with other like-minded groups.

PECAN comprises:

- Australian Conservation Foundation Macnamara
- Australian Youth Climate Coalition
- Bayside Climate Crisis Action Group
- Community Alliance of Port Phillip
- Elsternwick Park Association
- Elwood Floods Action Group
- Extinction Rebellion Port Phillip
- Locals Into Victoria's Environment
- Port Phillip Alliance for Sustainability
- Port Phillip EcoCentre
- Stop Adani Macnamara
- unChain St Kilda

GECAN

The Glen Eira Emergency Climate Action Network (GECAN) aims to compel the Glen Eira Council to declare a climate emergency and to develop an action plan for swift and robust action on climate to bring council and the community to zero emissions in line with the accepted science.

GECAN comprises:

- Environment Victoria – South East Volunteers
- SECAN: South East Climate Action Network
- XR Port Phillip
- Stonnington Climate Action
- BCCAG: Bayside Climate Crisis Action Group
- South East MP Engagement Group
- GEBUG: Glen Eira Bicycle Users Group
- PECAN: Port Phillip Emergency Climate Action Network
- Glen Eira Environment Group
- MCAG – Malvern Climate Action Group



GREEN LINE PROPOSAL

GREEN LINE PLANTING

The planting activities along the Green Line should adhere to these goals:

- Primary goal to provide habitat for wildlife
- All indigenous planting
- Plant species selection and structure to minimise invasive species incursion
- Focus on understory and middle story planting

