

APPENDIX 4

OPPORTUNITIES & ISSUES

ANGLESEA RIVERBANK MASTERPLAN



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CHARACTER ZONES

Issues and opportunities for each of the landscape character zones have been identified through the Analysis and Consultation Process and reflect the Design Principles.

1. Great Ocean Road - Approach
2. Bridge
3. Great Ocean Road - Waterfront
4. West Bank - North Corner
5. West Bank - Promenade
6. West Bank - Sheltered Open Space
7. East Bank - River Trail
8. East Bank - Sheltered Open Space
9. East Bank - Bushland
10. East Bank - Conservation Area
11. River
12. River Mouth & Beach



CHARACTER ZONES GREAT OCEAN ROAD GATEWAY

The Great Ocean Road Approach Zone includes the round-a-bout and stretches to the bridge. It is characterised by the enclosure provided by the tree canopy and vegetation to either side of the road beyond the round-a-bout.

The round-a-bout functions as the turn off point from the Great Ocean Road to the shopping centre, the bowls club and other facilities. It also provides the first opportunity to slow down and orientate.

As a driving experience this narrow stretch clearly separates the shopping centre from the riverbank.

This zone forms a key part of the Anglesea Riverbank arrival/gateway experience and reflects the Anglesea 'where the bush meets the sea' character.



CHARACTER ZONES

GREAT OCEAN ROAD GATEWAY

ISSUES

Pedestrian

- No room along road verge for paths – current unsafe use of road verge as pedestrian route.
- Poor visibility limits pedestrian crossing options.
- Pedestrian crossing at round-a-bout unsafe.
- Existing road infrastructure limits options for improving pedestrian connectivity.

Orientation

- Poor orientation to pedestrian routes resulting in unsafe use of road of verge as most direct route.
- Lack of orientation to crossing points encourages informal road crossing at unsafe points.
- Poor driver orientation, lack of clear directional signage identifying destinations within the town.

Gateway

- The round-a-bout serves as a poor gateway to the township

Environmental

- High weed presence in bush areas either side of the road.

Traffic & Congestion

- Consultation and analysis identified issues of peak season congestion at the round-a-bout.



CHARACTER ZONES

GREAT OCEAN ROAD GATEWAY

OPPORTUNITIES

Pedestrian

- Provide a well defined, alternative pedestrian route to the south of the Great Ocean Road connecting the bridge and the crossings to the town centre.
- Provide a clear crossing point to the west side of the round-a-bout.
- Remove other pram ramps at round-a-bout to discourage crossing at unsafe points.

Environmental

- Rehabilitate bush areas either side of the road to remove weeds and implement additional planting as required.

Orientation

- Provide clear orientation signage to direct pedestrians to safe routes between the bridge and the town centre at either end of the pass.
- Provide clear orientation to crossing points.
- Create gateway road orientation signage indicating key destinations within the township.

Gateway

- Create a gateway marker/signage at the round-a-bout to signal the entrance to Anglesea.
- Improve quality of road side vegetation to reinforce the 'where the bush meets the sea' character of Anglesea.



CHARACTER ZONES

BRIDGE

The bridge provides the only vehicle crossing point in Anglesea and the main pedestrian crossing point within the township. The zone is characterised by the broad views to the riverbanks north and south of the bridge and bush setting to the east and north east.

The bridge provides the first window to the river mouth and first impression of the Anglesea waterfront experience.



ISSUES

Pedestrian

- No pedestrian connection between the north and south of the river.
- Poor condition of connection between pedestrian paths and the bridge at the south east end of the bridge.
- Narrow pedestrian walkway within existing bridge structure.

Infrastructure

- Great Ocean Road and bridge divides the north and south areas of the Anglesea River.
- Opportunities to improve pedestrian connectivity are limited by the existing bridge structure.
- Convoluted traffic patterns at the Noble street intersection limit options for provision of pedestrian crossing near the bridge.

Views

- Views are generally impacted on by infrastructure and structures in poor condition and poorly designed roads and car parking areas.
- Views to the south west of the bridge are dominated by the back of a low grade toilet block.
- Views across the river to the west are dominated by the commercial buildings on the corner of Noble Street.

CHARACTER ZONES

BRIDGE

Identity

- The bridge lacks any distinctive characteristics as a structure.
- The quality of the built form (excluding the boat sheds) creates an indistinct, run-down identity to the area and detracts from the qualities of the river, the vegetation and the boatsheds.

Entry Point

- As an entry experience to the Riverbank area the bridge and views from the bridge are limited by the existing built form of the toilet block, the views to the Nobles Street Shops and the bridge structure itself.



OPPORTUNITIES

Pedestrian

- Investigate implementation of a pedestrian refuge to the west end of the bridge & associated lane widening on bridge, to improve connections between the north and south sections of the river.
- Develop pedestrian boardwalks either side of the existing bridge structure to provide stronger east-west connections.

Infrastructure

- Develop means to improve pedestrian connectivity within the limitations of the existing bridge structure.
- Explore means to improve pedestrian connectivity through improvement of adjacent areas such as the Noble Street intersection and the Anglesea round-a-bout.
- Improvements to be designed for a 20 year plan to manage existing infrastructure with the longer term intention of rebuilding the bridge to allow pedestrian connections under the bridge, reconnecting the north and south of the river.
- The long term vision of rebuilding the bridge is beyond this masterplan, but should be considered the ultimate goal in terms of reconnecting the north and south of Anglesea and the river and realising the concept of 'where the bush meets the sea'.
- Although the river and estuary are the true iconic elements of Anglesea, rebuilding the bridge would provide an exciting opportunity to create an iconic element in the landscape that physically and symbolically reconnects the bush to the sea.

CHARACTER ZONES

BRIDGE

Views

- Upgrade the landscape and parking areas to both sides of the bridge to provide more efficient, less expansive parking areas and to improve the quality of the views from the bridge.
- Remove the toilet block beside the bridge.
- Provide a distinctive, lightweight shelter structure in the north corner zone to enhance views across the river
- Restore the boat sheds to the north-west of the bridge to show case the historic face of the river. This shed could be utilised for nature based commercial activities.
- Views across the bridge to the Noble Street intersection and shops to be enhanced by providing streetscape vegetation to frame the buildings, in line with the Anglesea Character Study recommendations.

Identity

- Upgrade edge treatments and pedestrian structures on the bridge to provide a distinctive character to the main crossing point in Anglesea.
- Create a distinctive entry experience and upgrade the landscape to enhance views and reflect the bush & river character of Anglesea.

Entry Point

- Create an entry experience that showcases the historic, the contemporary and environmental qualities of Anglesea through the upgrade of the boat sheds to the north west of the bridge and the development of a new shelter structure to the south-west, framed by Moonah and Eucalypt canopies.

CHARACTER ZONES

GREAT OCEAN ROAD - WATERFRONT

The Great Ocean Road Waterfront experience is characterised by the sweeping views across the river and to the ocean. It is considered to be the first window to the ocean in the Great Ocean Road experience.

Views through the stands of Moonahs on the west bank and views across to the Moonahs on the east bank are a distinctive part of the character of the area.

The road is bound by a range of residential and commercial buildings to the west and the grassed riverbank areas and parking areas to the east.



CHARACTER ZONES

GREAT OCEAN ROAD - WATERFRONT

ISSUES

Identity

- The sense of identity provided by the Moonahs and the views to the river and the river mouth is limited by the poor quality of infrastructure and structures within the riverbank area and the lack of vegetation along the road edges.

Streetscape

- Low grade and indistinctive paving, lighting, furniture and edge treatments detract from the waterfront experience
- Café/restaurant/retail area lacks distinction as a precinct within the streetscape

Pedestrian

- The pedestrian experience to the west of the road is dominated by the expanse of the road.
- Limited options for safe pedestrian crossing.
- The central and northern pedestrian refuges do not relate to destinations and paths on the riverbank.
- Pedestrian crossing points are not clearly signed.
- There is no directional signage indicating pedestrian crossing points.

Edge Condition

- Lack of edge definition between the road and the riverbank park area
- Lack of road side vegetation to frame prominent commercial built form.



CHARACTER ZONES

GREAT OCEAN ROAD - WATERFRONT

ISSUES

Infrastructure

- The current location of the middle pedestrian refuge limits bus parking options.
- This pedestrian crossing point is also poorly located in terms of driver visibility.
- Community concern regarding flooding of the Great Ocean Road.
- There is currently no treatment of the stormwater collected from the Great Ocean Road and drained directly into the river.

Views

- Dominated by expanse of car parking areas in parts, particularly the central area near the jetty.
- Views interrupted by excessive and poorly planned signage in areas.
- Weedy shrubs interrupt views to the river and ocean along the northern stretch of the riverbank area.
- Views along the road are down graded by a range of prominent and poor quality commercial buildings.
- Anglesea Town Character outlines that buildings should be framed within vegetation, this often not the case along this stretch of road.

Traffic & Parking

- Limited data is available on existing traffic conditions.
- A traffic strategy for the area is not available, and not likely to be produced in the near future.
- The lack of data and direction limits the potential for addressing traffic and congestion management within this Masterplan
- Peak season and event parking numbers are not been currently met
- Noble Street intersection is difficult to cross & has been poorly planned.

CHARACTER ZONES

GREAT OCEAN ROAD - WATERFRONT

OPPORTUNITIES

Identity

- Create a memorable waterfront identity for this stretch of the Great Ocean Road through planting and streetscape treatments that frame the views and enhance to the experience of the riverside drive.
- Upgrade the streetscape at the McMillan Street intersection to identify the connection to the community & civic hub of Anglesea.
- Develop a distinctive streetscape treatment to mark the central hub of the Riverbank and adjacent cafes and shops.

Pedestrian

- Street trees and bollards to define pedestrian areas
- Relocate the central pedestrian refuge to connect the central hub to the shops, and to allow bus parking along the road edge under the moonahs.
- Provide an additional pedestrian refuge closer to the McMillan Street intersection to improve the connection between the waterfront and the community & civic hub.
- Provide clear indication of pedestrian crossing points.

Edge Condition

- Provide definition of the open space edge along the Great Ocean Road through tree planting and bollards.

Infrastructure

- Provide road side bus, trailer and caravan parking at the central waterfront hub. Relocate central pedestrian refuge to allow for this.
- Bus parking and drop off areas required at the central facilities hub and at the beach access area.
- Council to install one-way valves in the Great Ocean Road stormwater drains to avoid backflow, which causes flooding on the Great Ocean Road.
- Support upgrade of Councils Stormwater Management Strategy to include implementation of treatment of stormwater from the Great Ocean Road to ensure future increases in traffic volumes and future development do not impact on the river water quality and the health of the marine environment.

Views

- Redesign car parks to provide more efficient use of parking areas and to reduce visual impact on the waterfront.
- Rationalise signage and directional information to improve visual amenity and orientation.
- Remove weedy shrubs and small trees to improve views to the water front
- Plant high canopy trees to frame views and provide shade.
- Respond to the recommendations of the Anglesea Town Character Study providing street tree planting to ensure built form along the Great Ocean Road is framed by vegetation.

CHARACTER ZONES

GREAT OCEAN ROAD - WATERFRONT

OPPORTUNITIES

Streetscape

- Trees to frame existing built form and views to river
- Upgrade paving.
- Upgrade vegetation to embankment at the Noble Street intersection.
- Provide distinctive streetscape treatment at the bus stop on either side of the road and seating if possible.

Traffic & Parking

- Parking design is to allow for retention of existing parking numbers.
- Install bollards along parking edges and the Great Ocean Road to restrict informal parking.
- Management of peak season congestion will be addressed by encouraging alternative means of transport such as cycling and walking.
- Improved pedestrian connections to Lions Park car park will make this a more viable overflow parking option.
- Support Council's development of clearly marked bike lanes on main access roads, including the Great Ocean Road.
- Install bicycle racks at all destinations to encourage bike use, particularly during peak seasons.
- Develop a campaign to promote bike use and walking in conjunction with the Pathways Strategy, to address issues of traffic congestion and parking.
- Identify pedestrian safety issues at Noble Street intersection and support Council investigation of traffic solutions for the Noble Street intersection to improve pedestrian connectivity within the township.



CHARACTER ZONES

West bank north corner

The north corner of the west bank is characterised by the stand of Moonahs and the bridge as a back drop. It is the main boating activity area of the river and one of the main fishing spots. It is also one of the more popular swimming spots within the study area. This activity greatly contributes to the vitality and attraction of the area.

The boat sheds which are now long gone, used to typify the views across the Anglesea River bridge.

This area also provides picnic, BBQ and toilet facilities and is close to the fish and chip shop across the road.

The Moonahs provide a buffer between the road, the riverbank area and shade the picnic area.

CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK – NORTH CORNER

ISSUES

Visual Amenity

- Views across the river to the Anglesea Recreation Assoc. Shed are detracted from by the run down quality of Lions Park and the associated car park.
- The visual amenity of the area is also downgraded by the poor condition of the existing toilet block.

Toilet Block

- The existing toilet block is in poor condition and detracts from the area.
- It services a relatively small area and is located fairly close to the central toilet block
- It is considered poorly maintained by the community.

BBQ & Picnic Facilities

- The existing BBQ & picnic tables are very close to the road
- The current location of these facilities does not take advantage of the buffer provided by the Moonahs.

Commercial Activity Access

- Bollards along the river edge impede manoeuvrability of trailers to access the water.
- Launching off the retaining wall is difficult without sand beaching to provide an informal ramp.

OPPORTUNITIES

Visual Amenity

- Remove toilet block and provide a light weight, high quality shelter structure.
- Upgrade the immediate and adjacent landscape areas.

Toilet Block

- Toilet block to be removed as part of the rationalisation of toilet facilities.
- The central toilet facilities to be upgraded to service the central and northern area of the riverbank
- Shelter and change facilities to be provided in the northern corner
- The distinctive, lightweight shelter structure design is to incorporate sustainable design principles to showcase the contemporary and environmental qualities of Anglesea.

BBQ & Picnic Facilities

- Relocate BBQ and picnic facilities away from road edge to develop a closer association with the river edge
- Reinforce vegetation buffer between picnic area and the road

Commercial Activity Access

- Design of area to support current nature based commercial activities to ensure vitality to this area of the river.
- Remove bollards and obstacles to boat trailer access.
- Ensure river edge allows for safe boat access and launching, particularly for paddle boats and adventure tour operators.

CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK - PROMENADE

The West Bank Promenade area is a linear open space, flanked on one side by the Great Ocean Road and on the other by the Anglesea River. This area is characterised by the expansive grass area and views to the river and ocean. The backdrop of vegetation on the east bank is a key element to the views across the river.

The open space is punctuated by sparsely scattered vegetation with a dense stand of Moonahs, car park, jetty and toilet block marking the central area of the space. The centre is also located close to a café/store and service station.

Easy access to ocean views, the beach and facilities make this a popular stopping point for visitors. The area is also popular for walking and other informal activities with the local community and visitors alike.



CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK - PROMENADE

ISSUES

Identity

- As the heart of the township this area lacks a sense of identity.
- The iconic qualities of the Anglesea River and Estuary are detracted from by the poor quality of the infrastructure and built form, and scattering of facilities and furniture across the foreshore open space.
- Relationship to the community and civic hub of Anglesea in McMillan Street is poor
- Poor quality vegetation and concrete path impose a 'suburban' feel to the open space.

Pedestrian Connections

- Safe pedestrian access across the Great Ocean Road is limited.
- Two of the pedestrian refuges are poorly located in terms of pedestrian connectivity
- The Great Ocean Road creates a barrier between the north and south stretches of the river.

Parking

- Unmarked parking areas are spatially inefficient
- Current expanses of parking on the riverbanks detract from the waterfront experience.
- Bus parking is not currently adequately catered for
- Parking needs to allow for caravan and trailers as well as buses
- Informal overflow parking occurs on grassed areas

Edge Condition

- Areas of the west bank are dominated by the asphalt expanse of the Great Ocean Road.

Views

- Views to the river are detracted from in areas by the expanse of car parking
- Poor quality furniture and built form detract from views
- Poorly considered signage detracts from views
- Weedy shrubs and low trees impede views to the river
- Some gaps in the east bank vegetation expose the caravan park beyond and detract from the views across the river.

Support Facilities

- There are too many toilet blocks along the foreshore and not enough cubicles in the more heavily used facilities.
- Toilets are considered to be poorly maintained and in poor condition.
- A range of furniture in various conditions detracts from the character of the open space.
- There is a lack of shelter and shade along the grassed area and river banks.
- The concrete ramp adjacent to the existing jetty is in poor condition and requires trailer access to the adjacent car park.
- Although there is lighting to much of this area, lighting of the buildings and beneath the heavier tree canopies is required.

CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK - PROMENADE

ISSUES

Signage & Orientation

- There is a distinct lack of information at the central area which is a key stop over point in Anglesea
- Orientation to the town centre and other attractions does not exist
- Information regarding the natural processes of the estuary would assist the local community and visitors to understand the changing nature of the environment
- There is no information outlining the cultural and natural history of the area, adding to the lack of identity.

Vegetation

- Moonahs are under pressure from informal access and soil compaction.
- Many of the trees and shrubs dotted along the area between the stands of Moonahs are weed species.
- The river edge lacks vegetation.
- Areas of grass are in poor condition.

Open Space

- This area has been identified as significant open space in Anglesea.
- Currently cluttered with poor quality vegetation, signage, poorly planned car parking, and poor condition built form.
- Besides the central jetty and the path, the open space is generally underutilised outside of specific events.

Management Strategies

- Management of the space needs to support the large range of users and programmes for the site.
- The site should be managed to accommodate large scale events such as the markets as well as everyday users and occasional visitors.
- Maintenance during peak seasons is perceived to be inadequate.
- Litter and dog poo are considered to be major problems.
- Water quality management is considered to be a major management issue for the future, particularly with the anticipated increase of traffic to the Great Ocean Road.
- Additional café facilities are required for peak season periods, but not all year round.

CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK - PROMENADE

OPPORTUNITIES

Identity

- Create an identity for the landscape as the heart and soul of Anglesea.
- Create informal gathering spaces to encourage further activation of the space and create a vibrant community atmosphere.
- Provide opportunity for integration of artworks into the landscape, or temporary installation events to reflect the unique qualities of the Anglesea community.

Pedestrian Connections

- Relocate the central pedestrian refuge to provide connection between the shop and the central car park
- Provide improved pedestrian links to the McMillan Street Community/Civic Hub.
- Improve orientation to and signage of crossing points.
- Modify sections of the existing concrete path to create a more distinctive and memorable waterfront promenade experience

Management Strategies

- Ensure adequate maintenance for this high profile area of Anglesea.
- Provide dog litter bags and bins.
- Council to ensure enforcement of dog poo and rubbish by-laws.
- Identify stormwater infrastructure issues and recommend areas for upgrade and treatment works by Council.
- Consider seasonal, mobile café/catering operations on the west bank

Edge Condition

- Provide tree planting and bollards to visually define the open space edge and provide relief from the asphalt expanse of the road and traffic activity.

Views

- Upgrade parking areas and landscape elements to improve the visual amenity of the area.
- Upgrade built form and frame with vegetation.
- Rationalise signage to minimise obstacles to river views.
- Ensure vegetation screening of caravan park to protect views across the river.

Parking

- Redesign car parks to provide current parking numbers with a more efficient use of space.
- Improve visual amenity of car parking areas by reducing the gravel expanse
- Develop edge treatments for parking areas that minimise the visual impact on the open space.
- Provide for bus, caravan and trailer parking along the edge of the Great Ocean Road.
- Remove the southern access to the central car park to allow road side bus parking beneath the moonahs.
- Restrict informal overflow parking on grassed areas with bollards along the Great Ocean Road.

OPPORTUNITIES

Support Facilities

- Rationalise toilet facilities, remove the northern block, replace the central block and upgrade the southern block.
- Install rainwater tanks, where feasible to provide some of the flushing water and to increase public awareness of water recycling and conservation.
- Provide visitor information in the central hub in response to the high visibility and accessibility of the area and to add to the service/stop over facilities of the hub.
- Potential to add to the central hub by providing visitor information, taking into consideration the high visibility and accessibility of the area, proposed increased use of the area and to add to the service/stop over facilities of the hub.
- Redevelop central toilet block to increase cubicle numbers, supported by the potential to accommodate a visitor information booth and to provide shelter adjacent to the picnic and parking areas.
- Implement high canopy tree planting to provide additional shade.
- Ensure day and night use of the area by upgrading existing lighting and providing lighting at bbq and picnic areas.
- Upgrade existing furniture and provide additional seating along the promenade.
- Develop a distinctive suite of furniture that reflects and reinforces the character of Anglesea Riverbank.

CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK - PROMENADE

Signage & Orientation

- Encourage increased length of stay by improving orientation and information through signage.
- Provide interpretation on the natural and cultural values of the site.
- Integrate existing information projects including the Great Ocean Road Plaque and the William Buckley signage.
- Provide information on recycling and water conservation, solar power and other sustainable design aspects of the site.

Vegetation

- Extend existing Moonah plantings.
- Develop gravel tracks to picnic facilities beneath Moonahs to discourage informal access and compaction beneath the trees.
- Remove weedy shrubs along the waterfront.
- Implement additional shade tree planting and road edge tree planting to frame the space and the views.
- Grass to be irrigated with recycled water.

Open Space

- Hub aligned activities with support amenities, not compromising the open space, and providing designated spaces for informal or passive recreation or nature based exploration.
- Enhance areas of open space by removing clutter and obstacles.
- Create versatile spaces that can fill up for events and provide a sense of space and tranquillity at other times.

CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK - SHELTERED OPEN SPACE

The sheltered open space on the west bank occurs at the south end of riverbank and includes the beach access car park. This area is broader than the northern areas of the west bank and so provides more distance between the road and the open grass space.

The area is characterised by a smaller grassed open area, sheltered from onshore winds provided by dense dune vegetation. Although the area opens onto the banks of the river, views to the ocean are obstructed by the vegetation and dunes.

Beach access, limited boating activities and adventure tour operators activate this area.



CHARACTER ZONES

WEST BANK – SHELTERED OPEN SPACE

ISSUES

Access & Movement

- Beach access from river bank and grassed area difficult when the river swings over towards the west bank
- No bus access allowed in car park
- Bus drop off point required for school groups and to support adventure tour operators.

Support Facilities

- BBQs and picnic facilities are not located within the shelter of the vegetation
- The toilet block, although relatively new is of poor quality
- The outdoor shower is in poor condition
- There is no shade or shelter
- The space does not cater for performances and events very well

Infrastructure

- Stormwater infrastructure needs to be upgraded
- Exposed stormwater outlet currently poses a pedestrian hazard

Environment

- Stormwater from the car park flows directly into the river mouth without any treatment
- Potential for dune vegetation and habitat areas to be extended

Infrastructure

- Upgrade stormwater outlets.

OPPORTUNITIES

Access & Movement

- Implement a board walk to provide access between the grassed area and the beach at all times of the year. This would also protect the vegetation from traffic.
- Provide road side bus parking and drop off zone at the entrance to the car park.
- Provide launching access, and gathering spaces for adventure tour operators.

Support Facilities

- Upgrade and relocate picnic and BBQ facilities to the edge of sheltered open space.
- Upgrade toilet block.
- Relocate and upgrade outdoor shower.
- Install water tanks for toilet flushing.
- Provide shelter for small and large groups.
- Increase shade and shelter from winds through additional plantings of Moonahs.

Environment

- Identify and recommend areas for stormwater treatment to be further investigated and developed by Council.
- Increase indigenous shade vegetation around open areas.
- Supplement existing dune vegetation areas to improve and increase habitat.
- Prevent impact on vegetation by providing defined access paths.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK – RIVER TRAIL

The East Bank River Trail is formed by a gravel track, and a series of dirt trails, that run along the east bank of the Anglesea River between the bridge and river mouth.

To the north the trail runs adjacent to Lions Park, the Anglesea Recreation Assoc. Shed and bushland. The central stretch of the track is bounded by Fairylands Nature Reserve. The southern stretch is flanked by bushland and the caravan park. Some of the caravan park boundaries are fenced and some are defined by vegetation.

This area is characterised by the backdrop of Moonahs and river edge vegetation. The river and the bush buffer the trail from the bustle of the Great Ocean Road, shopping centre, caravan park and residential areas.

The Surf Coast Walk is connected into Anglesea via this trail.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK – RIVER TRAIL

ISSUES

Infrastructure

- Rubbish collects in the open channels and stormwater outlets from the caravan park
- The groynes located near the river mouth have not been successful, are in a state of disrepair and have developed depressions at the of each one which are hazardous to children swimming in this sheltered area.
- The culvert at Blind Creek fills with debris and rubbish and inhibits the original flow from the salt marsh area.
- It may be possible to remove some sections of the stone retaining wall and reinstate riverside vegetation.
- Tracks and informal earthworks interrupt drainage to some areas of salt marsh.
- There is currently no lighting along this trail. Low level lighting could provide better defined night access to the caravan park, but could also create a false sense of security in an isolated area.

Seating

- No seating exists along this trail.

Environment

- There are weeds throughout the riverside vegetation.
- Litter and pollutants from storm drains impact on the river water quality, particularly from the caravan park in peak season.
- Riverbank erosion occurs along the cleared areas adjacent the caravan park.

Access & Movement

- The track is prone to flooding and difficult to access in parts during periods of inundation.
- Fire access is required to the river, particularly in relation to the caravan park.
- The potential for linking the riverside trail into broader walking circuits on the river bank is limited by the existing caravan park fenced boundaries.
- Fishing access to the vegetated edge of the river has created a series of tracks through the vegetation
- Numerous informal tracks occur through the bushland areas and along the river bank.
- Informal and undefined access to the caravan park has created a series of informal tracks through the vegetation.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK – RIVER TRAIL

OPPORTUNITIES

Infrastructure

- Caravan park to install litter traps or similar treatments to manage litter being washed into the river with stormwater.
- Council and CCMA to investigate alternative methods for sand stabilisation in the river mouth.
- Remove the culvert at blind creek and install a bridge to provide pedestrian access.
- Further investigation required to establish whether sections of the existing stone wall can be removed and water edge vegetation re-established.
- Reinstate drainage to salt marsh areas where possible and provide boardwalk access as required in these areas.
- Investigate low level lighting opportunities along the east bank taking into consideration low levels of use during the off season and the potential of creating a false sense of security in a very isolated location.

Seating

- Provide seating at key locations along tracks.

Environment

- Remove weeds throughout bushland areas.
- Provide control systems where necessary to ensure adequate stormwater treatment.
- Revegetate and provide boardwalk access along eroded bank at river mouth.

Access & Movement

- Regrade track to address drainage issues
- Provide boardwalks in areas prone to flooding.
- Maintain fire access to the river, particularly near the caravan park.
- Ensure adequate load bearing capacity for paving and boardwalk structures in fire access areas.
- Develop a broader trail circuit that links into the east bank track.
- Renegotiate caravan park boundaries adjacent to Fairylands to allow a broader trail circuit on the east bank.
- Provide boardwalk access and renegotiate caravan park boundaries if necessary, to allow connection between the east bank track and the Surf Coast Walk.
- Provide an additional fishing platform near the mouth of Blind Creek.
- Rationalise track system to minimize the number of tracks and increase habitat areas.
- Revegetate existing goat trails.
- Reduce the number of informal caravan park access trails.
- Introduce fencing the full extent of the caravan park boundary to discourage informal access.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK - SHELTERED OPEN SPACE

The sheltered open space on the east bank is bounded by the Great Ocean Road, the river, the bowling club and bushland. The space is located on a popular pedestrian route the town centre and shops. Lions Park playground, BBQ facilities and the skate ramp are located within this area.

The space is characterised by open grassed and gravel areas and poor quality facilities. Although the riverfront aspect of this area is exposed to the Great Ocean Road the space in general is removed from the bustle of west bank, shopping centre and beach access activity.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK - SHELTERED OPEN SPACE

ISSUES

Access & Movement

- The pedestrian connection between the bridge and this area is in poor condition.
- Pedestrian connections to the town centre are in poor condition and not clearly defined.

Orientation

- The existing path layout does not provide clear direction between the river and the town centre
- Pedestrians often take the more direct route along the Great Ocean Road verge due to this lack of orientation between destinations.
- Access to the beach and the caravan park is not clearly defined.
- Access to the Lions Park car park from the shopping centre is not sign posted or clearly defined.

Facilities

- The skate ramp does not provide for a range of skill levels.
- Seating and shade is required for the playground, BBQ and skate ramp area.
- The play equipment is in faded and needs to be upgraded.
- The gravel car park is in poor condition and is not efficiently designed.

Drainage

- The gravel car park and grassed areas are poorly drained.
- Lions park grassed areas are poorly drained in some areas.

Visual Amenity

- The poor quality of the play equipment, skate ramp and general infrastructure detracts from the quality of the space.
- Exposure to the Great Ocean Road near the bridge impacts on the visual amenity of the space.

Identity

- This area lacks identity as a community and family space.

Future Management

- Due to possible future development within this area upgrade of facilities and development of a community space is limited.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK - SHELTERED OPEN SPACE

OPPORTUNITIES

Access & Movement

- Upgrade the pedestrian connection between the bridge and Lions Park to address existing level change and grading issues.
- Provide a well defined, direct, pedestrian route connecting the shopping centre through Lions Park.
- Develop directional signage to encourage the use of Lions Park car park as an overflow parking facility for the west bank.
- Install low level lighting along the pedestrian connection between the shopping centre and the bridge.
- Install low level lighting at the picnic facilities.

Orientation

- Develop well defined pedestrian routes and directional signage to discourage pedestrian use of the Great Ocean Road verge between the shopping centre and the bridge
- Provide directional signage and well defined pedestrian routes to link the shopping centre, west bank, caravan park, beach access and Lions Park.

Facilities

- Skate ramp location and upgrade to be considered upon confirmation of the location for the Great Ocean Road Gateway Centre.
- Upgrade area adjacent to existing skate ramp, provide seating and shade planting.
- Provide seating and shade planting to playground and picnic areas.
- Upgrade play equipment and create a defined play area using landform.
- Create a versatile open space that can be used for a range of events as well as informal recreation use.
- Provide bicycle racks to encourage bike use.
- Provide parking bay definition and shade planting to decrease the expanse of open gravel and improve parking efficiency.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK - SHELTERED OPEN SPACE

OPPORTUNITIES

Drainage

- Undertake a survey of the area to identify existing drainage patterns.
- Grade car park to address drainage issues.
- Grade Lions Park grassed areas to address drainage issues.

Visual Amenity

- Upgrade facilities and infrastructure.
- Use planting to define the open space.
- Provide screen planting between the Great Ocean Road and Lions Park
- Provide screening between the car park and Lions Park.

Identity

- Create a low key character identifying this community and family space by creating defined spaces with connections to the riverbank.
- Promote increased activity and use through improved orientation and upgraded facilities.

Future Management

- Develop a low key, interim design to address the next 10 years.
- Development of this zone as a key community and family hub is to be addressed upon confirmation of direction for the proposed G.O.R. Gateway centre.
- Identify Lions car park as the proposed area for car parking overflow from markets and large scale riverbank events.



CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK - BUSHLAND

Bushland areas are located to north and south of the Fairyland Nature Reserve on the east bank of the river. These zones are characterised by a combination of Moonah woodland and marshland vegetation.

Both areas are riddled with informal tracks. The tracks in the southern pocket of bushland are more prominent and are associated with caravan park access.



CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK - BUSHLAND

ISSUES

Access & Movement

- No formal tracks are provided through these areas.
- The areas are separated by the caravan park and Fairylands fencing.
- The only connection between the two bushland zones is along the riverbank
- There is no formal connection between the residential areas to the east and the riverbank.

Seating

- No seating or facilities are located in these areas.

Orientation & Signage

- No information on flora and fauna of the area is provided.
- There is no clear direction to the town centre, beach and caravan park from these areas.

Drainage

- Parts of these areas are marshland and are prone to inundation.
- Minor earthworks to the southern bushland zone impedes natural drainage of the area.

Environment

- Both areas are infested with weeds
- Informal tracks damage vegetation and promote the spread of weeds.



CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK - BUSHLAND

OPPORTUNITIES

Access & Movement

- Develop a defined track circuit connecting key locations.
- Renegotiate caravan park boundaries to allow access around the Fairylands Reserve.
- Implement a pedestrian connection to the residential areas to the east.

Seating

- Provide destinations within the track circuit, including seating and shelter areas

Orientation & Signage

- Provide interpretation material on the natural qualities and cultural heritage of the bushland area.
- Interps to be built into access structures to ensure minimal impact on the visual experience of the trails.
- Provide clear directional information connecting the shopping centre, caravan park, beach access and west bank through this zone.

Drainage

- Design access to allow for season inundation of marshland areas.
- Reinstate drainage to areas where natural grading has been interfered with.

Environment

- Ensure remnant vegetation is identified and managed appropriately.
- Undertake a detailed vegetation survey of the area prior to design development and implementation of the proposed works.
- Undertake a survey to establish drainage patterns and issues with the site.
- Implement a programme for weed eradication.
- Revegetate networks of informal tracks.



CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK – CONSERVATION AREA

The conservation area known as Fairylands has been fenced off to protect remnant vegetation. This area is characterised by Moonah woodland and salt marsh vegetation. Blind Creek runs from the salt marsh into Anglesea River.

The reserve was named after the Pink Fairy Orchids which are found beneath the Moonahs. Angair maintains the area and undertakes regular weed management. The area is popular for bird watching and plant spotting.

CHARACTER ZONES

EAST BANK – CONSERVATION AREA

ISSUES

Access & Movement

- Public access is not allowed within the reserve area
- Access around the perimeter is limited by the caravan park fencing

Facilities & Infrastructure

- No facilities exist within or around the reserve.
- The post and wire fence requires repairs in some areas.

Views

- Views into the reserve are limited to the perimeter of the salt marsh on the river front.

Signage

- There is minimal information about the flora and fauna of the reserve at two points on the boundary.
- The broader community generally do not know or understand why the area is fenced off and have limited or no knowledge of the significance of the vegetation.

Environment

- Dogs are able to access the area having some impact on the flora and fauna.
- Informal access occurs within the site.

OPPORTUNITIES

Access & Movement

- Continue restricted access to the conservation area.
- Increase access to the perimeter of the conservation area.

Facilities & Infrastructure

- Provide seating at key vantage points around the perimeter of the conservation area.
- Investigate the viability of a bird hide within the conservation area to be accessed by a boardwalk.
- Repair and upgrade fencing where necessary.

Views

- Bird hide and perimeter vantage points to provide views into the site.

Signage

- Provide additional information on the ecology of the area at key points around the perimeter
- Encourage care and respect for the conservation area through raising public awareness of its natural values.

Environment

- Implement a dogs on leads policy for the area all year round.

CHARACTER ZONES

ANGLESEA RIVER

The Anglesea River comes from a relatively small catchment. The main tributaries are Salt Creek and Marshy Creek. The river has been highly disturbed through various developments, primarily the Alcoa Power Station and the township of Anglesea.

The area of the river within the study area receives the majority of the town's stormwater, most of which is untreated.

The river is characterised by its highly changeable nature and intermittently open river mouth. Boating, fishing and swimming take place within the river.



CHARACTER ZONES

ANGLESEA RIVER

ISSUES

River Data

- A lack of river data and a series of concurrent studies on this area river result in insufficient information being available to address any design issues beyond the edge of the river.

Infrastructure

- The existing stone retaining wall is in poor condition and unstable in certain points

Environment

- Although the water quality is generally adequate there is a high level of community concern regarding the ongoing management and health of the river.
- Only two of the stormwater outlets are fitted with gross pollutant traps.
- Most of the stormwater drained from the Great Ocean Road is untreated.
- Increased future traffic on the Great Ocean Road will increase the impacts on the river water quality.
- Most of the existing stormwater outlets are in poor condition.
- Some of the outlets have become pedestrian hazards.



CHARACTER ZONES

ANGLESEA RIVER

OPPORTUNITIES

River Data

- This Masterplan will address the land based areas to either side of the river within the study area.
- Design to banks of river only within this Masterplan.
- Identify issues such as edge treatments, stormwater management issues and erosion control to be further investigated and addressed by CCMA and Council.
- This Masterplan will be supported by the River Management Plan currently being developed by Council.

Infrastructure

- The state of the existing stone retaining wall is to be reviewed by Council & the CCMA.
- Opportunities to remove the stone retaining wall and revegetate, or replace with stone beaching are to be further investigated by Council and the CCMA.
- Further geomorphological and hydrological investigations will have to be undertaken to establish impacts of these and other interventions.

Environment

- Address community concerns regarding the future water quality of the river by undertaking ongoing monitoring.
- Prioritise implementation of stormwater treatment systems.
- Manage stormwater drainage treatment to cater for future increased traffic on the G.O.R.
- Upgrade stormwater outlets that are in need of repair.
- Address management of informal stormwater drainage such as the caravan park drainage channels.
- Support development and implantation of a river and estuary significant vegetation/environmental overlay to regulate development in the long-term.

CHARACTER ZONES

RIVER MOUTH & BEACH

The river mouth and beach zones are highly changeable environments and provide access to a range of water based activities.

The river mouth is characterised by its intermittent opening and sanding up. Various interventions in the river mouth have not had a major impact on the character of the river, but have left the area strewn with remnants of each project.

The river mouth provides shallow protected swimming opportunities and access to the beach and is popular with young families, school groups and commercial adventure operators