

Note:

The land-use and design concepts provided on this plan should be read in conjunction with the key objectives and strategic responses detailed in the Mernda Strategy Plan document. Refinement of Precinct Plans may occur in the preparation of detailed development plans.

Low density residential lots to create an open character near the edge of the plan area. Mirrored by corresponding development on the south side of Bridge Inn Road.

treatments in visually sensitive areas

Low density residential interface to provide a Low density residential buffer along Masons High amenity gateway treatment at the Key conservation area. Trees not included in visual transition to surrounding rural land. Lane to achieve subtle transition from rural to open space should be protected through northern entrance to the Mernda growth These lots should have internal access as sensitive residential design. Refer to Figure area. Design should be responsive to local shown in Figure 3.4. 3.15 for possible design solutions. environmental and rural character. Open Space connection to Grassy Red Gum Woodland north of Masons Lane. MASONS LANE Key conservation area protected in passive open space. Regional recreational node. Accessible and close to Mernda town centre. Will contain high-grade football/cricket ovals, soccer fields, tennis complex, bowling greens and sites for an aquatic centre and multi-purpose stadium. Strongly integrated with medium density housing areas and passive open space. Historic bluestone house "Preston Hall" to be retained and incorporated into active recreation precinct. Heritage places such as Graff's farmhouse and St Josephs Church to be protected within medium density housing area. Development in proximity to the Mernda town centre to contain higher residential densities to support retail and community land uses and public transport. Key heritage items such as the Mechanics Institute should be incorporated into designs to maintain connections with the area's rural history. Precinct activity centre comprising retail, Refer to Figure 3.7 for recommended design Sites for retail and business/commercial

business/commercial and community land

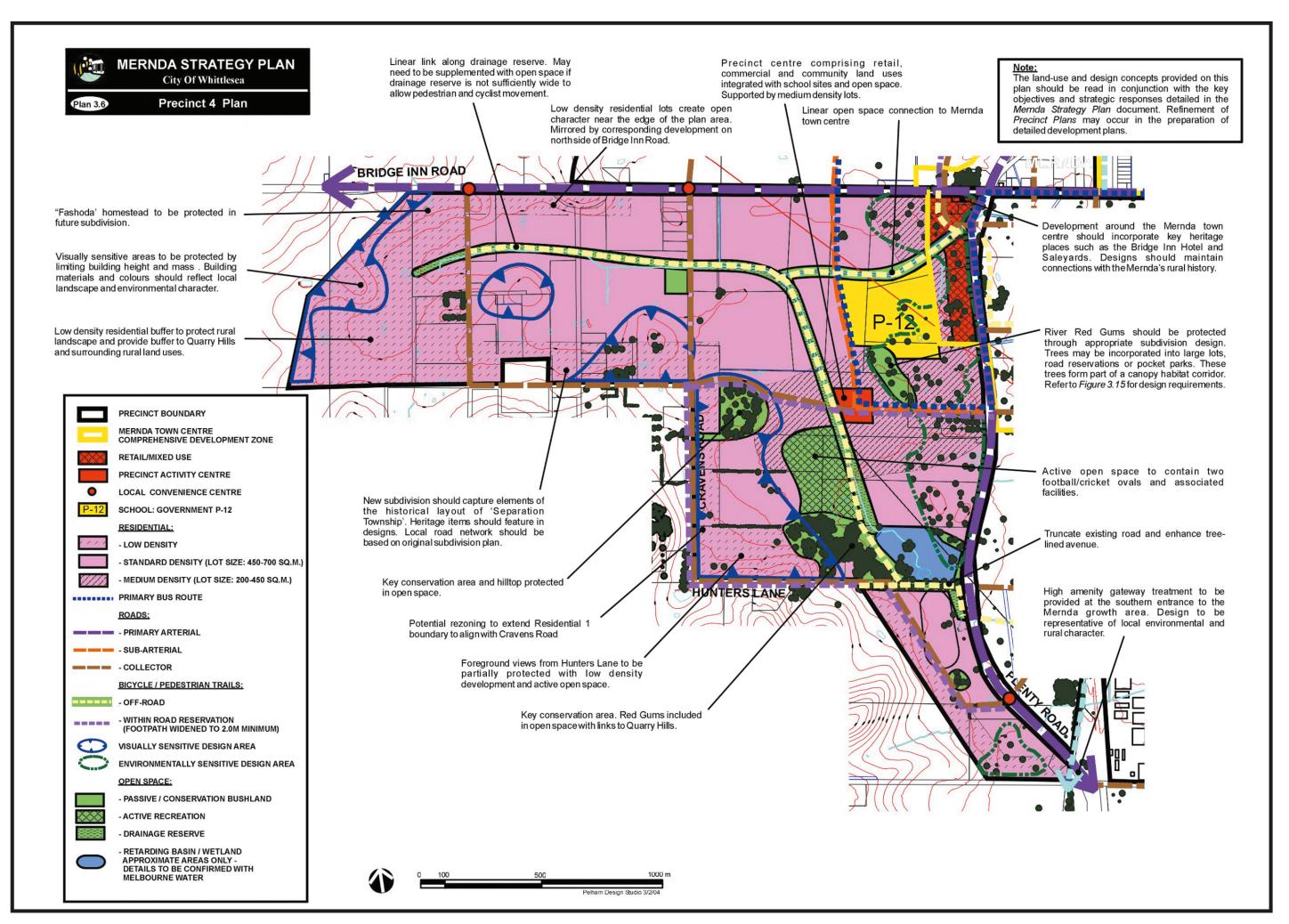
uses integrated with school sites and open

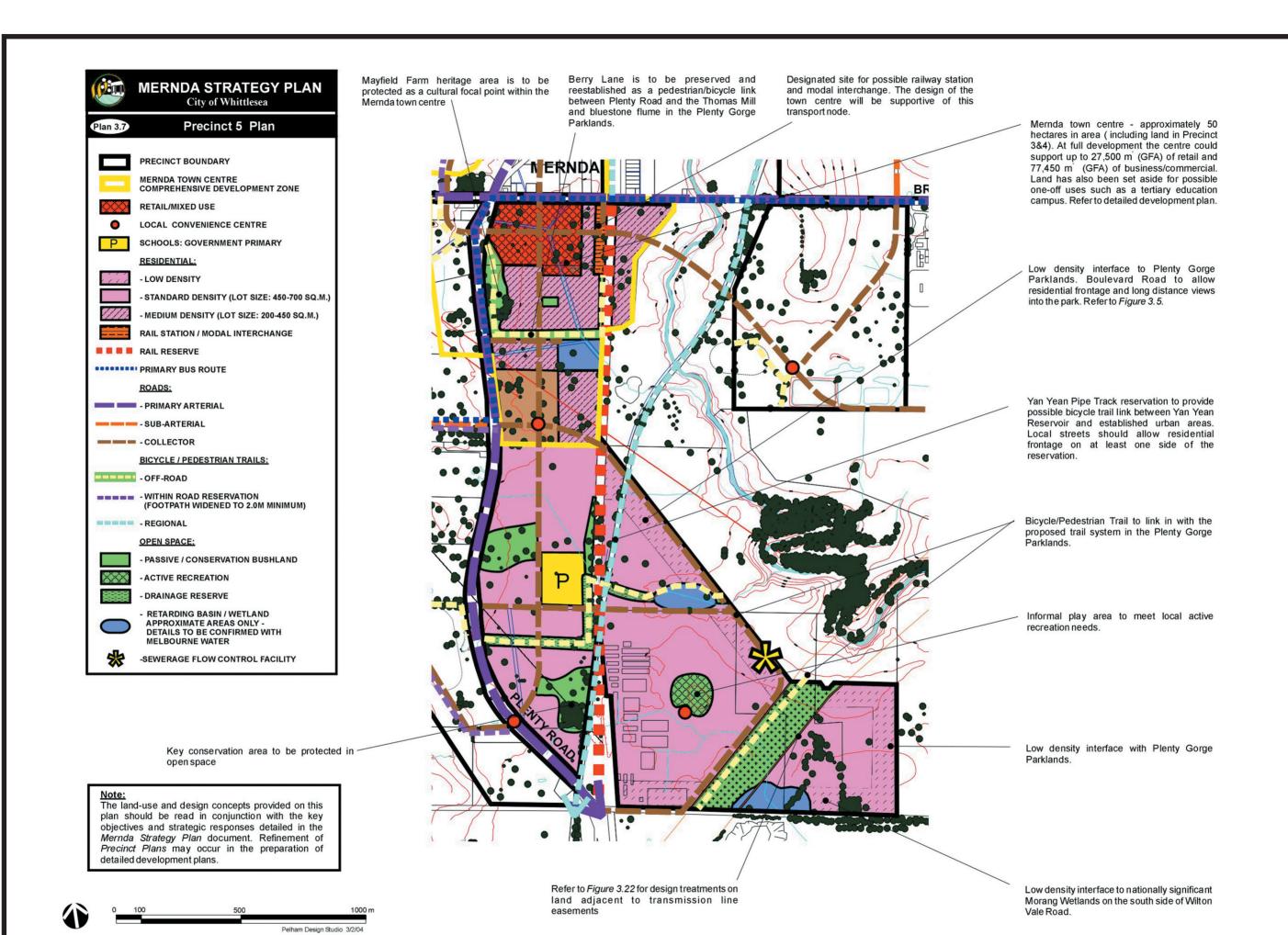
space and supported by medium-density





land-uses requiring arterial road frontage.





3.2 The Transportation System

Key Objective:

To put in place an efficient, equitable and environmentally sustainable transportation system that reduces car dependence, encourages walking and cycling for local trips, and supports local economic activity.

Strategic Actions:

3.2.1 The Road Network

- The MSP area will be served by an integrated road network comprising:
 - Primary Arterial Roads
 - Secondary Arterial Roads
 - Sub Arterial Roads
 - Collector Roads
 - Local Streets and Laneways
- Plan 3.8 Road and Public Transport System shows the proposed network of arterial and major collector roads. A description of each road type is given in Table 3.2 and typical cross sections are provided in Figure 3.8.
 Table 4.1 gives further information on road infrastructure requirements.
- The road network should be designed to integrate transport and land-use. Land-uses that generate a high number of vehicle trips, such as employment nodes, should be located on roads that can efficiently carry these traffic loads. Land-uses such as schools and community facilities, which attract significant numbers of pedestrians and cyclists, should be situated to be accessible by these transport modes.

a) Arterial and Collector Roads

 Arterial and collector roads will form the skeleton of the Mernda growth area. They should have the following characteristics:

- provide the most convenient routes for long-distance travel to external destinations and other arterial roads such as the Metropolitan Ring Road
- have direct development frontage through the use of service lanes
- be integrated with lower-order roads in the network
- provide access to activity centres without becoming barriers to pedestrian movement and social activity
- incorporate water sensitive urban design treatments

b) Local Streets and Laneways

- The local street and laneway system will be designed as part of the Development Plan process. These streets should have the following characteristics:
 - connect residential precincts and activity centres
 - be based on a modified-grid layout that is responsive to landform
 - allow development to front streets and open space
 - not attract large volumes of traffic destined for arterial roads
 - offer multiple routes to internal destinations in order to evenly distribute traffic and provide better environments for cyclists and pedestrians
 - incorporate water sensitive urban design treatments

Refer to Figure 3.9

Figure 3.9 Small local parks should be provided at the termination of culs-de-sac to allow pedestrian and bicycle access and permit future road connections if required.

Source: W.A. Planning Commission (1997)

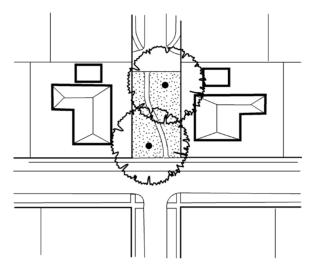


Figure 3.11 Water sensitive road layout.

Source: Melbourne Water (1999)

Water sensitive

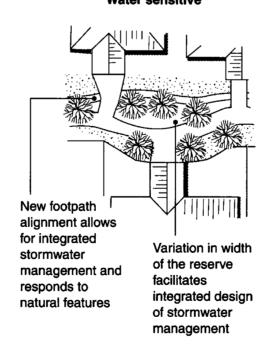


Figure 3.10 Water sensitive cross-section of road.
(Source Melbourne Water,1999)

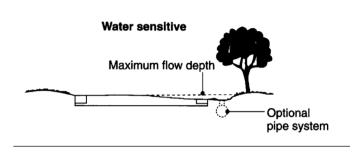
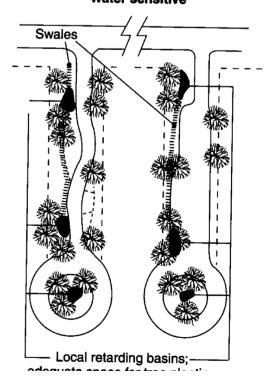


Figure 3.12 Water sensitive road verge design and management

Source: Melbourne Water (1999)

Water sensitive



3.2.2 Streetscape Themes

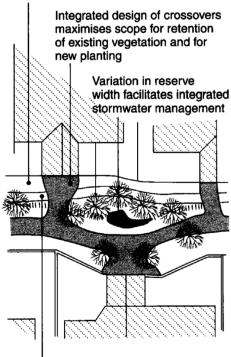
- All roads should be designed to make a
 positive contribution to the urban landscape.
 The arterial and collector roads in Mernda
 should appear as parkways that link key
 destinations. Road reservations should
 accommodate mature canopy trees and
 plantings should extend into adjoining
 developments.
- Local streets should have planting themes that are appropriate to the prevailing site conditions. For example, streets near "key

Figure 3.13 Water sensitive building/street interface.

Source: Melbourne Water (1999)

Narrow road reserve reduces area requiring irrigation

Water sensitive



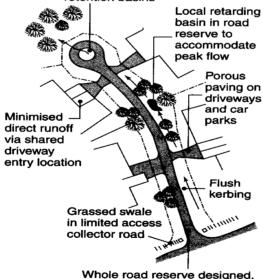
Footpath alignment response to natural feature and stormwater management to create spaces that are easy to maintain and efficient to irrigate conservation areas", as identified on the Precinct Plans, should be planted with indigenous species. All local streets should appear to be an extension of the open space system. They should be thought of as public spaces that play a wider role than merely enabling traffic movement. Existing trees should be protected in road reservations wherever possible.

 Streetscapes should be designed to meet stormwater management requirements as well as vehicular and pedestrian needs. This may involve reduced lot frontage widths, the use

Figure 3.14 Water sensitive Cul-de-sac streetscape
Source: Melbourne Water (1999)

Water sensitive

Integrated network of open space and stormwater disposal system use cul-de-sac heads for local retention basins



Whole road reserve designed, constructed and planted to act as floodway for runoff

of roads for stormwater storage or diversion, and the landscaping that compliments WSUD principles.

3.2.3 Walking

- Walking should be encouraged by concentrating attractions in highly accessible activity centres. Attention to urban design and the treatment of roads as "public spaces" will make walking an attractive transport option.
- Footpaths should generally be provided on both sides of all streets and roads. Where development occurs on only one side of the street, or where traffic volumes are particularly low (<100 vpd), a footpath on one side of the street may be appropriate. On these roads a grass swale may be provided on the other side of the road. Footpaths should generally be 1.5 metres wide and at least 2 metres wide near schools and activity centres. The design of footpaths should have regard for the needs of disabled and elderly people. Consistent construction materials and adequate lighting should be provided.</p>
- Pedestrian routes should have surveillance from buildings and roads wherever possible.
 Pathways through car spaces and other unsupervised spaces should be avoided.
- Walking for recreation and health purposes will be encouraged through the provision of off-road trails throughout the open space network. These are shown on Plan 3.9

 Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail Network.

3.2.4 Cycling

 Arterial roads must be designed to provide safe conditions for both commuter and recreational cyclists. On Plenty Road, Bridge Inn Road, the E6, and Yan Yean Road a

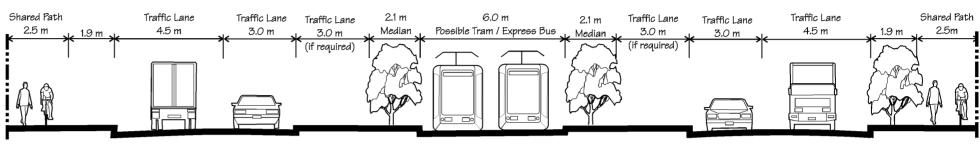
- dedicated off-pavement cycle land should be provided. On sub-arterial and collector roads carrying in excess of 3,000 vehicles per day, marked on-pavement cycle lanes with widened car parking spaces should be provided. Details about cycle lanes on various road types is provided in Table 3.2.
- The local streets should be designed to provide low-speed, on-pavement cycle routes that can be used as an alternative to arterial or collector roads.
- Widened dual-use footpaths (minimum width of 2 metres) that cater for cyclists and pedestrians should be provided on key routes near activity centres and schools. Where subarterial or collector roads form an important link in the cycle trail system, widened footpaths will also be required. These roads are identified on Plan 3.9.
- Cycle storage facilities should be provided at public transport nodes to encourage multipurpose trips.

3.2.5 Public Transport

- The extension of a heavy rail service to Mernda is central to the overall transport strategy. It is envisaged that the Epping line will be extended initially to South Morang and ultimately to a transport interchange in the Mernda Town Centre. Parking space should be provided near the station to encouraging park-and-ride commuting from the wider catchment.
- The timely introduction of rail-based public transport should be promoted by ensuring that development in the Mernda Town Centre is physically supportive of these services. Built form around transport nodes should have the following characteristics:

- higher than average residential densities
- a diversity of land-uses to generate activity over a 24-hour period
- convenience and safety for public transport
- Bus routes should follow arterial and collector roads and link key destinations such as activity centres, schools and the regional recreation reserve in Precinct 3.An indicative bus route is shown on Plan 3.8 – Roads and Public Transport.
- The option of providing a fixed-route express bus or light-rail service along Plenty Road and Bridge Inn Road should be preserved by providing a central reservation in the road cross-section.

Figure 3.8(a) Typical cross sections for Primary Arterial Roads



PRIMARY ARTERIAL ROAD - PLENTY ROAD (Hunters Lane to Bridge Inn Road)

40 m Road Reserve

6 Lane Divided Carriageway Central Median Lane for Tram or Express Bus Off-pavement Bicycle Lanes

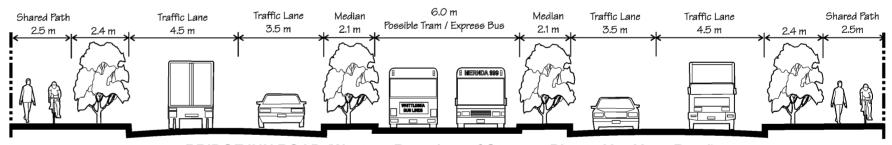


PLENTY ROAD (Bridge Inn Road to Masons Road)

40 m Road Reserve 4 Lane Divided Carriageway

Central Median Lane for Tram or Express Bus

Off-pavement Bicycle Lanes

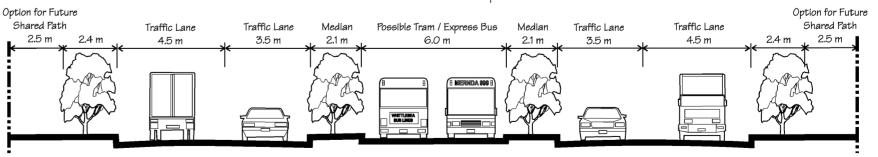


BRIDGE INN ROAD (Western Boundary of Strategy Plan to Yan Yean Road)

36 m Road Reserve

4 Lane Divided Carriageway

Central Median Lane for Tram or Express Bus



BRIDGE INN ROAD (E6 Roadway to Western Boundary of Strategy Plan to Yan Yean Road) & E6 ROADWAY (Bridge Inn Road to Findon Road)

36 m Road Reserve 4 Lane Divided Carriageway Central Median Lane for Tram or Express Bus