

## **Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation project – FAQs**

### **What is the Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation project?**

The Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation project is part of the Victorian Government's \$154 million Suburban Parks Program (the program), a 2018 election commitment to create more than 6,500 hectares of new and upgraded parks and trails across Melbourne's outer suburbs.

As part of this program, the Victorian Government is funding \$5 million of upgrades at Seaford Wetlands with a focus on:

- Improving safety, access, and connection for visitors
- Strengthening the wetlands' ecological health
- Embedding cultural values into the wetlands' design and management.

The program delivers on the Victorian Government's [Open Space for Everyone Strategy](#), which is a blueprint guiding the planning, management, and delivery of Melbourne's open spaces for the next 30 years.

### **Who will deliver the project?**

Frankston City Council will deliver and lead the project with Kingston City Council upgrading the shared use path component. The project will be done in collaboration with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation (BLCAC) and Melbourne Water.

BLCAC has undertaken a Cultural Values Study as part of the project and recommendations from the study will be incorporated into the design and planning of a self-guided biocultural trail and other cultural activities.

### **What will Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation project deliver?**

The \$5 million Victorian Government investment will deliver:

- Cultural Values Study — completed by BLCAC
- New shared-use path to 'close the loop'
- New canal bridge
- Habitat and ecological improvements
- Self-guided biocultural interpretative trail
- Upgraded facilities
- Other minor improvements.

## **How were the projects decided?**

A Seaford Wetlands Steering Group has been established to identify projects, this includes representatives from:

- Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Frankston City Council
- Kingston City Council
- Melbourne Water
- Local Member for Carrum

During the initial stages, several feasibility studies and workshops were held with key stakeholders to identify projects and determine their feasibility. These included:

- Access and mobility priorities — shared-use path options
- Use of recycled water from a treatment plant as a source of fresh water

These feasibility studies concluded that upgrading the southern levee bank (on Kananook Creek Canal) to 'close the loop' has high environmental and safety risks and options on the north bank were then pursued to achieve a shared use path circuit around the wetlands.

In addition, the water treatment project is complex and requires more research and assessment. This will be pursued by Melbourne Water and not funded under Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation project.

## **How can the community help shape the project?**

Preliminary plans and designs for the wetlands' upgrades are currently being developed and public consultation will start in February/March 2022 and continue periodically until June 2023. Further opportunities to shape individual design elements in relation to some aspects of the project will be available during this time. Final upgrades are expected to be completed by June 2023.

## **Where can people get more information?**

Follow this project page for future updates and 'Have your say' opportunities.

Find out more about the Seaford Wetlands Rejuvenation project by going to the [Suburban Parks Program website](#). You can read more about [other projects in the Suburban Parks Program](#), or email the Suburban Parks Program team at [metro.parkland@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:metro.parkland@delwp.vic.gov.au).