**Around the Bay - May 2020**

While government restrictions are in place, we are moving ahead with delivering infrastructure projects on the ground and keeping our city and its economy moving. This provides local jobs and sets our city up for success for when restrictions are lifted. A couple of projects from each ward are highlighted below and check out our website for more information at [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au)

**Cherry Lake Ward**

**Doug Grant Reserve fencing**

Native and migratory birds at the Laverton Creek Spit Conservation Zone are now better protected with the installation of protective fencing along the shared trail from the western boundary of Apex Park to the most western section of Doug Grant Reserve and habitat fencing on the foreshore side of the shared trail at Doug Grant Reserve. The Laverton Creek Spit Conservation Zone holds some of Hobsons Bay’s highest conservation value attracting diverse birdlife. For more information, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/HabitatConservation](file:///C:\Users\jmcminn\jmcminn\vault-8008\Objects\www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au\HabitatConservation)

**Brooklyn open space upgrades**

Work is progressing well on the Brooklyn public space upgrades. Rowan Avenue Reserve upgrade is complete with new play equipment and a shelter. DN Duane Reserve has new play equipment and the shelter is expected to be completed by the end of May. Solar lighting has been installed at the links between Cypress Avenue and the Federation Trail. Lastly, construction of a new public toilet in Brooklyn Reserve is expected to be finished in June. This project is a partnership between the Victorian Government and Council as part of the West Gate Tunnel project. For information, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brooklynparkupgrades](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/brooklynparkupgrades)

**Frazer Reserve upgrade**

Frazer Reserve in Altona will soon receive a new picnic shelter, new footpaths, additional trees and garden beds and fencing along the south side of the reserve facing the Esplanade. The work aims to improve the amenity, safety and habitat of the park. Construction is expected to be completed in June. During these works the reserve will be closed off to the public, however, access to the existing public toilets facing Millers Road will be maintained. Visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/FrazerReserve](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/FrazerReserve) for details.

**Strand Ward**

**Armstrong Reserve facelift**

Work upgrading Armstrong Reserve in Newport is progressing well. Concrete has been poured for the pathways, concrete slab for the picnic shelter and the pram crossing. When finished, the upgrade will include improved access to and within the reserve, tree plantings, a picnic facility and storytelling and nature play corner. For more information, visit [participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/armstrong-reserve-park-upgrade](https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/armstrong-reserve-park-upgrade)

**Paine Reserve Landscape Masterplan**

Stage 1 construction works of Newport’s Paine Reserve landscape upgrade will kick off this month.  It will take just over six months to complete and features a new playspace, custom park signage, new seating and bike parking and a large open lawn with a timber seating deck at the Hub main entry. During construction the reserve will be closed. For more information, visit <https://participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/painereserve/paine-reserve-landscape-master-plan-in-detail>

**Williamstown Botanic Gardens Masterplan implementation**

Implementation of the Williamstown Botanic Gardens Masterplan is in full swing. Installation of the new irrigation system at the Pinetum is now complete. The new garden and path edging is complete and work will soon begin in replacing the boundary fence of the Pinetum with a new black chain mesh fence. The mesh fence will be eventually be covered by hedge; cuttings from an existing hedge in the garden are currently being grown. For more information, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Council/Current-Projects/Parks-Foreshore-Projects/Williamstown-Botanic-Gardens-Master-Plan](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Council/Current-Projects/Parks-Foreshore-Projects/Williamstown-Botanic-Gardens-Master-Plan)

**Wetlands Ward**

**Tree planting in Wetlands Ward**

Council’s 2020 Tree Planting Program has kicked off in Wetlands Ward with planting along the Skeleton Creek Shared Trail at the rear of Bruce Comben Reserve. This year 1,500 trees are scheduled to be planted in the Wetlands Ward. A diverse range of trees will be planted including, Eucalyptus luecoxylon ‘rosea’, Angophora costatas, Zelkova serrata and Eucaluptus robusta ‘matong’ and the deciduous ‘Zelkova’, also known as a Japanese Elm. In total, 4,000 trees will be planted throughout Hobsons Bay. For more information on local trees, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Services/Trees-Nature-Strips](https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Services/Trees-Nature-Strips)

**Altona Sports Centre extension works**

Stage 1 works at the Altona Sports Centre in Altona Meadows are nearing completion with a new carpark to the south and new outdoor netball courts. Stage 2 works to extend the centre have commenced. The extension will include four additional indoor courts, change room facilities, office space and café facilities when it is complete in May 2021. For more information, please visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/AltonaSportsCentre](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/AltonaSportsCentre)

**Skeleton Creek Trail stage 3 and 4**

Cyclists and pedestrians are enjoying the upgraded Skeleton Creek Trail between Ravenswood Court and Point Cook Road. The last section of the trail to be upgraded between Point Cook Road and St Anthony’s Court is now available to use, as the fence has been recently removed. The final stage of the project is upgrading the Lan Avenue Bridge, which when completed, will provide all weather access for the community. A detailed design of the bridge is currently being developed. For more information, visit www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/SkeletonCreek

**Seabrook Traffic Calming Project**

Following consultation and a vote on five community-suggested options, the community has advised it prefers *Option 1: the installation of removable bollards to restrict vehicle movements during morning peak times* to calm traffic in Seabrook*.* Council will now implement this option in close consultation with nearby residents. It is anticipated works will begin in September 2020. For more information, visit participate.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au

**General**

**Recycling 2.0**

In recycling news, residents can now recycle plastics with code number 5 in their mixed recycling yellow bin – including yoghurt containers, ice cream containers and butter / margarine tubs. Our recycling partner, Australian Paper Recovery (APR), has successfully secured an Australian end market for the plastic 5s.

If residents are in any doubt about whether an item can be recycled, try downloading the new Hobsons Bay Recycling 2.0 app, where the answer can be found in the “Which bin does this go in?” feature. The free app is available on the App Store and Google Play.

For some larger households, the COVID-19 pandemic has seen an increase in their waste. Council is offering eligible Hobsons Bay households an upsize of their rubbish bin to a larger 240 litre bin, at no charge (until 1 July 2021). Council will continue to offer a free weekly rubbish drop off service every Saturday, 8.30am to 2.30pm at Council’s Altona Operations Centre.

For more information or to lodge a request for a larger bin, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Recycling](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Recycling) or call Council’s Customer Service on 9932 1000.

**Art Apart**

Council is encouraging Hobsons Bay’s creative community to become part of Art Apart, a new initiative set to bring the work of our artists to the wider community.

Artists and creative practitioners who live or work in Hobsons Bay strongly contribute to the diverse, inclusive and vibrant community we know and love. During this challenging time, many in our community are being comforted by music, inspired by films, engrossed in digital content, or experiencing moments of delight as gigs, exhibitions, performances and cultural experiences have swiftly adapted to a socially distant reality.

Council is seeking expressions of interest for innovative and creative projects that engage the community of Hobsons Bay using a mix of digital, virtual or socially-distant modes of delivery. Up to $5,000 is available per project for successful applicants. The total program pool is $30,000.

To find out more about Art Apart or to submit an expression of interest, visit [www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Art-Apart](http://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/Art-Apart)