

HEALTHY AND ACTIVE TRANSPORT PROGRAM – Sample Project

Jerrabomberra Wetlands Path, Canberra

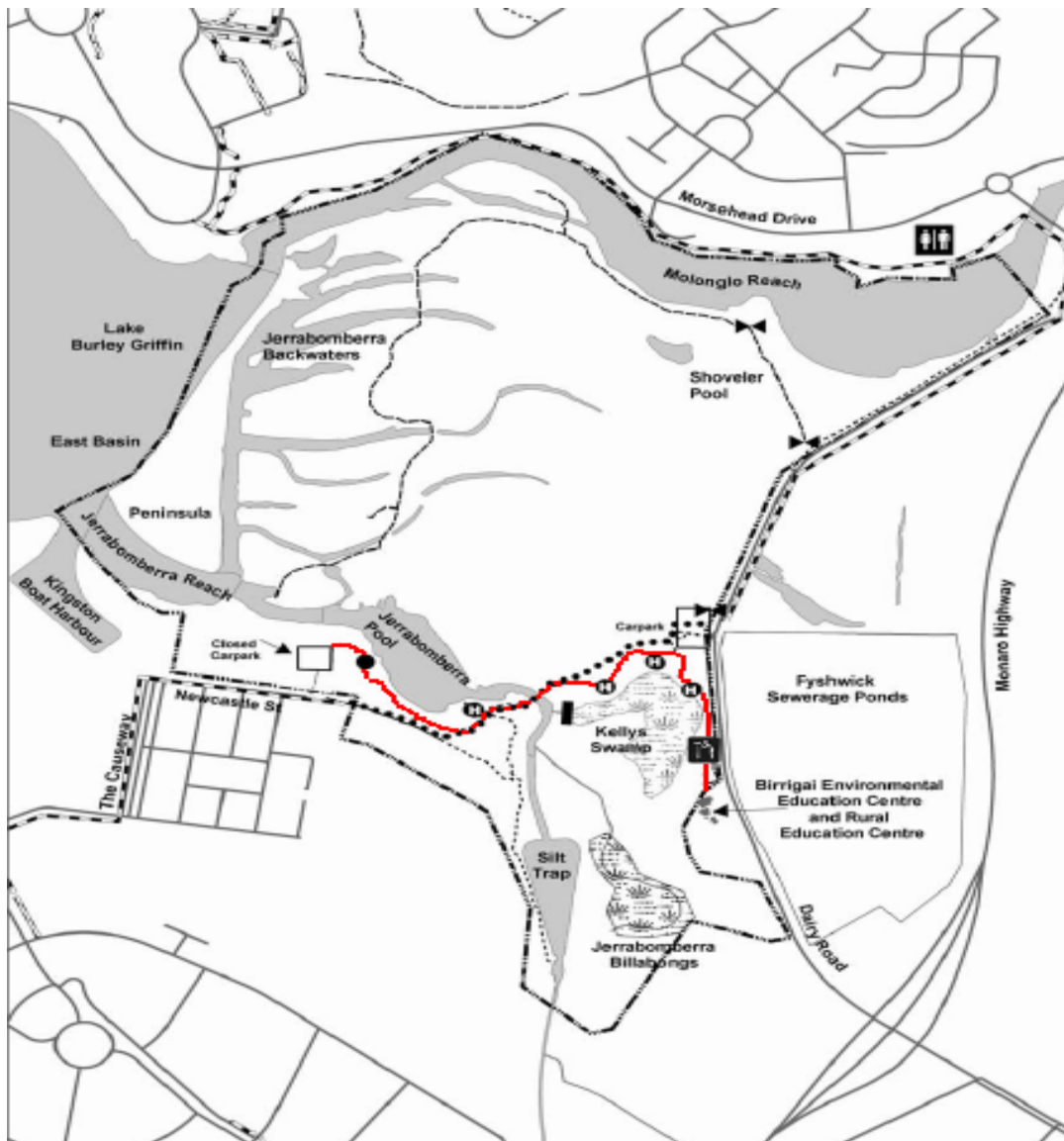
Federal electorate: Fraser

The Project

The Jerrabomberra Wetlands path is a link in arguably the most used and recognised path in Canberra. It is part of the shared path around Lake Burley Griffin which passes many of the National Icons, including; Australian National Library, Questacon, High Court, National Gallery of Australia, Duntroon, Defence Offices and Monument, The Carillon, Captain Cook Fountain. As well as providing access to the Jerrabomberra Wetlands, which is an internationally recognised bird sanctuary.

The shared path around Lake Burley Griffin comprises approximately 40kms of continuous path which has three connected loops to provide options for various recreational rides and walks, or commuter connections into central Canberra.

The Jerrabomberra Wetlands Link is a narrow unpaved winding section approximately one kilometre long. Upgrading this section of path would provide a key link to complete the lake system, providing a safe, convenient and pleasant cycling and pedestrian path joining North and South Canberra.



The Benefits

Tourism and recreational cycling will be enhanced with the upgrading of the Lake Burley Griffin east basin loop to a safe path for all users extending the access to National Icons and Monuments to include the major Wetlands and Bird Sanctuary.

The Jerrabomberra Wetlands Path also provides a Key Link to commercial centres in both North and South Canberra including; Parliamentary Triangle/Barton, Fyshwick, Manuka/Kingston, Civic, Airport commercial centre, Russel Offices, and CIT.

Cycling commuter travel is in both directions during peak periods and the narrow path is a potential hazard with narrow, uneven surfaces and poor sight distance. Upgrading will encourage increased cycle and pedestrian usage and contribute to relieving the parking problems in the commercial centres and reducing cars in the central Canberra areas with improvements to local air pollution and greenhouse emissions. The ACT governments Sustainable Transport Strategy to increase cycle commuting to 5% of the total trips will also be positively influenced.

Consultation

A Plan of Management for the Jerrabomberra Wetlands has been prepared and public release is imminent. Consultation for the Plan of Management was carried out with all stakeholders and addresses the high environmental significance of the wetlands for water quality management and as an internationally recognised bird sanctuary. The pathway has been incorporated into the Plan of Management and no significant environmental concerns have been identified. The path is integral to the Plan of Management to provide access to the wetlands, in particular for disabled access.

Proposal

The proposal to upgrade the Jerrabomberra Wetlands path includes a new bridge over Jerrabomberra Creek and a link to the Fyshwick commercial precinct. To safely cater for the two way peak hour commuter traffic a 3.0metre concrete path with good alignment is desirable. The estimated cost of the project is as follows:

Mundaring Drive to Newcastle St Shared Path Link; 1.0kms	\$115,000
Fyshwick Commercial Precinct Link; 1.4kms	\$160,000
Jerrabomberra Creek Bridge	\$250,000
Directional and Interpretative Signs and Bicycle parking facilities	\$20,000
TOTAL	\$545,000

Thanks go to Pedal Power ACT for this HEAT example