



Spring Farm Play Space
Draft Landscape Concept
March 2023

Spring Farm Road,
Kingston,
TAS 7050

We acknowledge and respect the palawa/pakana peoples of lutruwita (Tasmania) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples across Australia as the traditional custodians of our shared lands, waters and seas.

We recognise their unique ability to care for Country and their deep spiritual connection with the land, waters and seas – the same land, waters and seas which are a central focus of our profession.

We honour Elders past, present and emerging whose knowledge and wisdom will ensure the continuation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.





Spring Farm Play Space Concept Design

The playground at Spring Farm has been designed as a series of flowing spaces, integrating play with the native landscape. The park allows for seamless active play and movement, encourages exploration and also offers quieter pockets to gather, rest and sit.

The concept has been inspired by its landscape setting tucked between Whitewater Creek and a stand of significant mature eucalyptus trees. In order to honour the broader landscape, an elemental, natural play space has been designed which combines themes of water, flow and creek bed, using raw materials such as sand, gravels, rocks and wood.

Spring Farm Play Space will bring vitality and health for people and place. This is an area where families can come together to restore, relax and explore nature. The park offers a shady retreat with the cooling effect of the garden pockets, with hope to offer an engaging and restorative landscape.



Water sensitive urban design play space: ephemeral creek bed

There is potential that Spring Farm Play Space can act as a water capture and sponge for water runoff. This is made possible through an increase in vegetation on site, and an increase in permeability, with plants that are drought tolerant and tolerant to inundation, as Whitewater Creek periodically floods.

A dry creek bed will be constructed as a main feature of the park, creating a spine that weaves through the park. This will be a flexible, playful and ephemeral component. The transient nature of water adds to the experiential learning of this nature play space; particularly with the opportunity to get up close and hands on with water and plants, with children able to stand in the creek bed and interact with it. Additionally, the water pump allows children to bring the dry-creek to life.

Water is a fundamental element in this specific locality hence the name ‘Spring Farm’, and the creek is to runoff with a connection to Whitewater Creek.



Play equipment

A spacious sand play area has a number of play features such as buckets and balancing springers allowing children to experiment and learn in a hands-on way. A metal slide launches you into the sandpit. Towards the upper section of the park there is a triple swing set with an outlook towards Whitewater Creek.

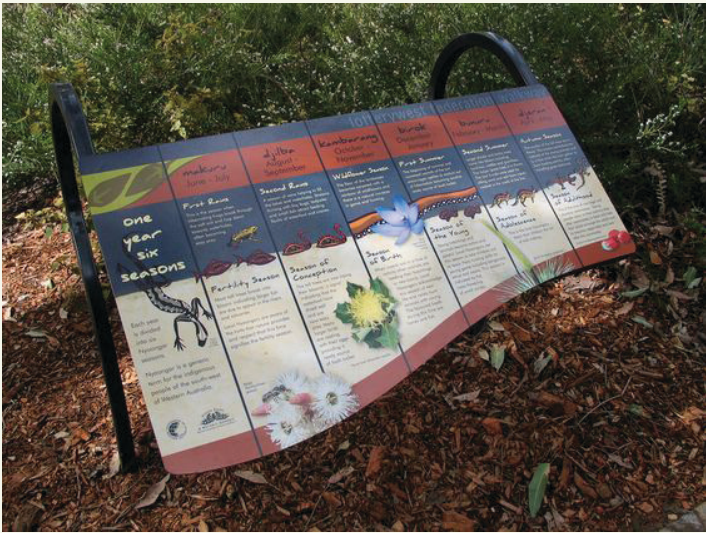
The rest of the park is based on an element of unstructured play with tunnels, log balancing beams and rock gardens which offer challenges for different age groups. All structures and materials are woven into a landscape of native sensory planting pockets, embedding the playground into a framework of layered vegetation.



Future considerations...

Interpretation + signage trail

There is potential for an interpretation and signage trail at Spring Farm Play Space that could extend to Whitewater Creek. This could feature visual artworks and information about the indigenous plants, flora and fauna in the area. It could include sculptural elements and creatively constructed signage and trail maps, or be incorporated as part of the sensory nature trail.



Future considerations...

Links to Whitewater Creek

As part of developing an integrated landscape for the Spiring Farm area it would be a fantastic opportunity to provide access and a crossing of Whitewater Creek. This could include large rock boulders for rock hopping and interacting with the plants and water in the landscape.

This water connection is an important part of the water sensitive urban design approach and an extension of the nature trail.

Whitewater Creek influences the movement, recreation, and spirit of this landscape. In order to achieve a cohesion of water management, landscape design and recreation, a connection to the creek is vital.



Key:

- 1 Plant boundary perimeters with native plants to provide a natural buffer. The garden beds planting palette uses distinctly native and sensory plants.
- 2 Create connections to existing footpaths and future path networks.
- 3 Provide seating opportunities throughout the park nestled within planting areas for shade.
- 4 Explorative nature trail area and sensory garden including protective banksia grove.
- 5 Reinforce and diversify planting edge to extend the forest edge zone. Include Eucalyptus tree plantings.
- 6 Nature play trail with rock hopping, wooden balancing beams, stepping logs and large fallen climbing trees, set within garden bed.
- 7 Compacted gravel surface with large climbing rocks and balancing beams. Interactive water pump allows kids to play with water in the creek bed.
- 8 Triple-swing set with bird's nest swing is a sociable, fun component that caters to all abilities.
- 9 Slide and climbing frame combination into sandpit. Large rocks deposited in sand for climbing or sitting on.
- 10 The dry creek bed forms a sinuous journey for children to play and interact with. It eventually leaves the park and returns to a connection with Whitewater Creek.
- 11 Grassy picnic area and open space with feature shade tree.
- 12 Welcome signage to Spring Farm Play Space.

CONNECTION TO
WHITEWATER CREEK



Link all proposed paths with future trail network. 2.5m width path for bikes and pedestrians.

Plant out bank with native plants and trees.

Future opportunity for a walking circuit loop outside of the AHT zone. Opportunity for a reserve entry sign.

Tie in the proposed footpath to existing bus stop area.



Proposed Planting palette

Grasses and Sedges



Themeda triandra - kangaroo grass



Poa labillardieri - silver tussock



Baumea juncea - Bare Twig Rush



Anigozanthos spp.- dwarf kangaroo paw



Chrysocephalum apiculatum- common everlasting

Shrubs



Juncus amabilis - Hollow rush



Amperea xiphioclada - broom spurge



Leucopogon ericoides - pink beard-heath



Westringia fruticosa- coastal rosemary



Melaleuca squamea - swamp honey-myrtle

Proposed Planting palette

Large Shrubs + Trees (Eucalyptus obliqua dry forest)



Hakea laurina – pin-cushion hakea



Dodonaea viscosa- native hop bush



Leptospermum scoparium – tea tree



Callistemon pallidus- lemon bottlebrush



Banksia marginata- silver banksia



Banksia integrifolia – coast banksia



Corymbia citriodora ‘scentuous’ – Dwarf Lemon
Scented Gum



Lomatia tinctoria – guitar plant



Allocasuarina littoralis – black sheoak



Eucalyptus viminalis – white gum

Proposed Sensory planting palette: fragrance, textures, colours, shapes, sounds



Melaleuca citrina - crimson bottlebrush



Grevillea 'Superb' - grevillea



Lomandra longifolia 'Tanika' - sagg



Micromyrtus ciliata - fringed heath myrtle



Banksia serrata - saw tooth banksia



Acacia suaveolens - sweet scented wattle



Telopea speciosissima x oreades - Shady Lady Red Waratah



Austrostipa stipoides - coast spear-grass



Diplarrena moraea - white iris



Calytrix tetragona - fringe myrtle