



Wurundjeri
Tribe

Land & Compensation
Cultural Heritage
Council Incorporated



Connecting People, Connecting Culture through road projects: A VicRoads and Wurundjeri partnership.

ANET conference, 1st May 2018

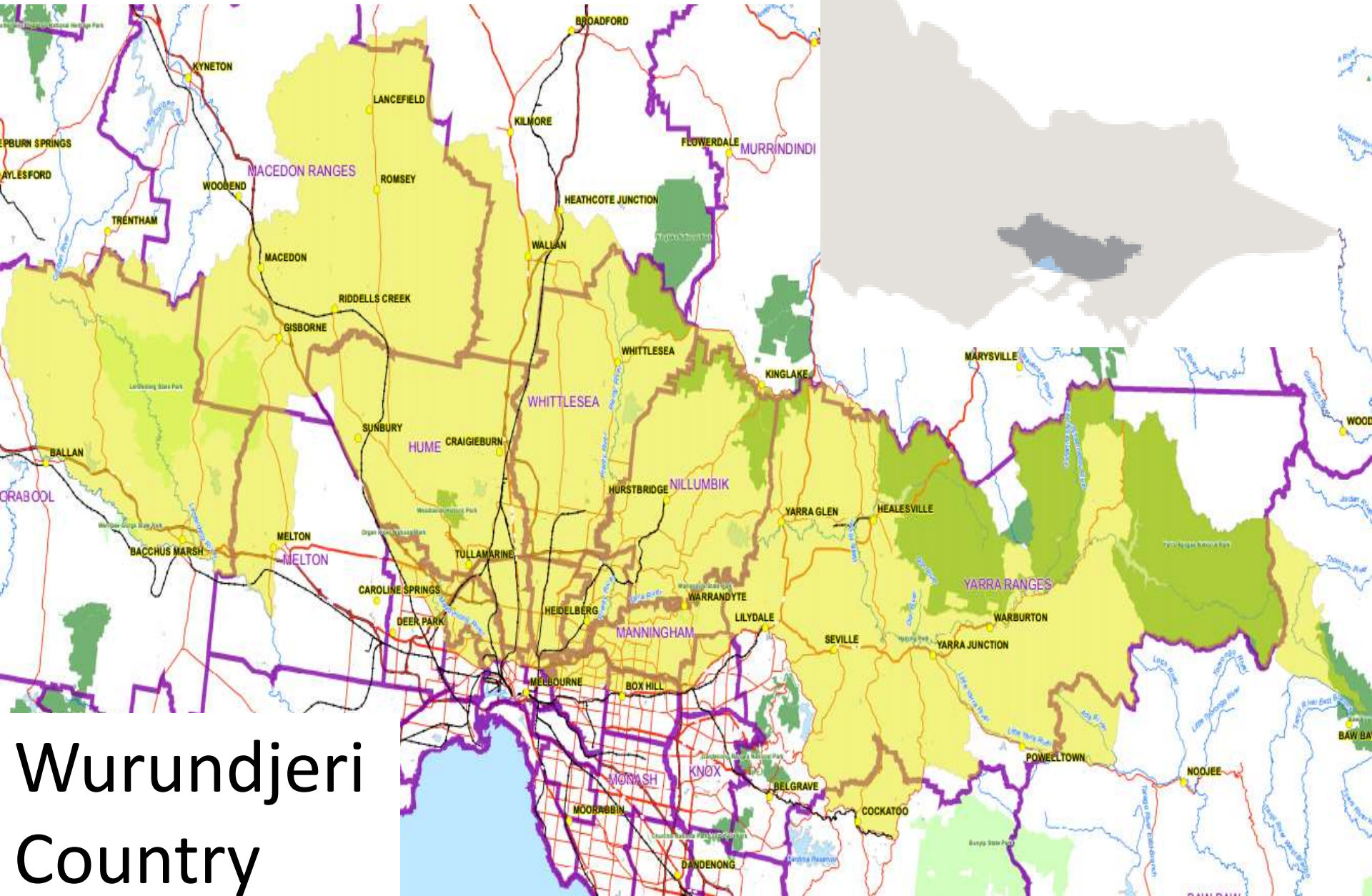
**Doreen Garvey Wandin (Senior Wurundjeri elder and
VicRoads - Wurundjeri Indigenous Liaison Coordinator)**
**Matt Mooney (VicRoads Cultural Heritage and Native Title
Coordinator)**

The Wurundjeri People take their name from the Woiwurrung language word '*wurun*' meaning the Manna Gum (*Eucalyptus viminalis*) which is common along '*Birrarung*' (Yarra River), and '*djeri*', the grub which is found in or near the tree. Wurundjeri are the 'Witchetty Grub People' and our Ancestors have lived on this land for millennia.



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Wurundjeri Country

- For the Wurundjeri community the natural world is also a cultural world;
- Wurundjeri people have a special interest in preserving not just their cultural objects, but the natural landscapes of cultural importance.
- This includes a variety of landforms, ecological niches and habitats as well as continuing cultural practices and archaeological material.
- All of these things are essential to the identity and wellbeing of the Wurundjeri people.

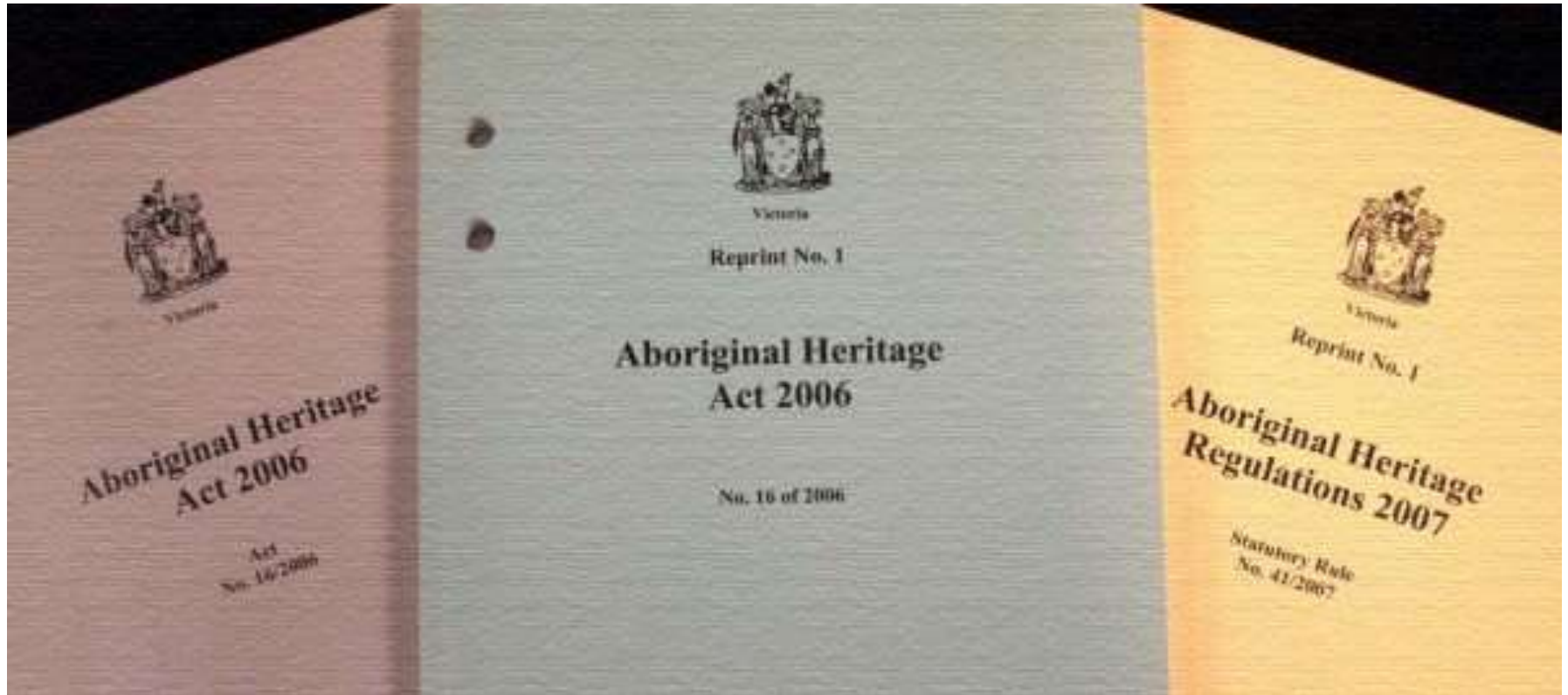


One of the key aspirations of Wurundjeri Council is to provide a holistic approach to working on our traditional Country. We have an established Natural Resource Management (NRM) team, referred to as the Narrap Team, to support this aspiration.





Initial focus: Compliance



Source: Dr. Vincent Clark & Associates
www.vincentclark.com.au

Cultural Heritage and Native Title

- Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
- Aboriginal Heritage Regulations 2007
- Native Title Act 1993
- Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010

Cultural Heritage Management Plan

Purpose of a CHMP:

- Define the nature and extent of any Aboriginal cultural heritage within the project area.
- Determine the extent to which the project can avoid and minimise impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- Prescribe measures to protect and manage Aboriginal cultural heritage in an appropriate and sensitive manner.
- Provide authorisation for impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage to occur where impacts cannot be avoided (as agreed with Registered Aboriginal Parties).
- Provide a process for Registered Aboriginal Parties to authorise whether heritage places can be impacted, and under what conditions.

Cultural heritage management plans

- Mandatory CHMP triggered when all or part of an activity is
 - a high impact activity; AND
 - in an area of cultural heritage sensitivity
- An area which has been subject to significant ground disturbance is not an area of cultural heritage sensitivity
- High impact activities:
 - a roadway with a length exceeding 100m.
 - a walking track with a length exceeding 100m.
 - a bicycle track with a length exceeding 100m.

Areas of sensitivity



Areas of sensitivity





Photograph S.Lane, 2012



Source: Minter Sons, Tristan Minter.

Aboriginal artefacts found





Photographs: M. Mooney, 2012 - 2014.



Source: *Western Hwy Duplication Burrumbet to Beaufort CHMP, Dr. Vincent Clark & Associates 2011.*



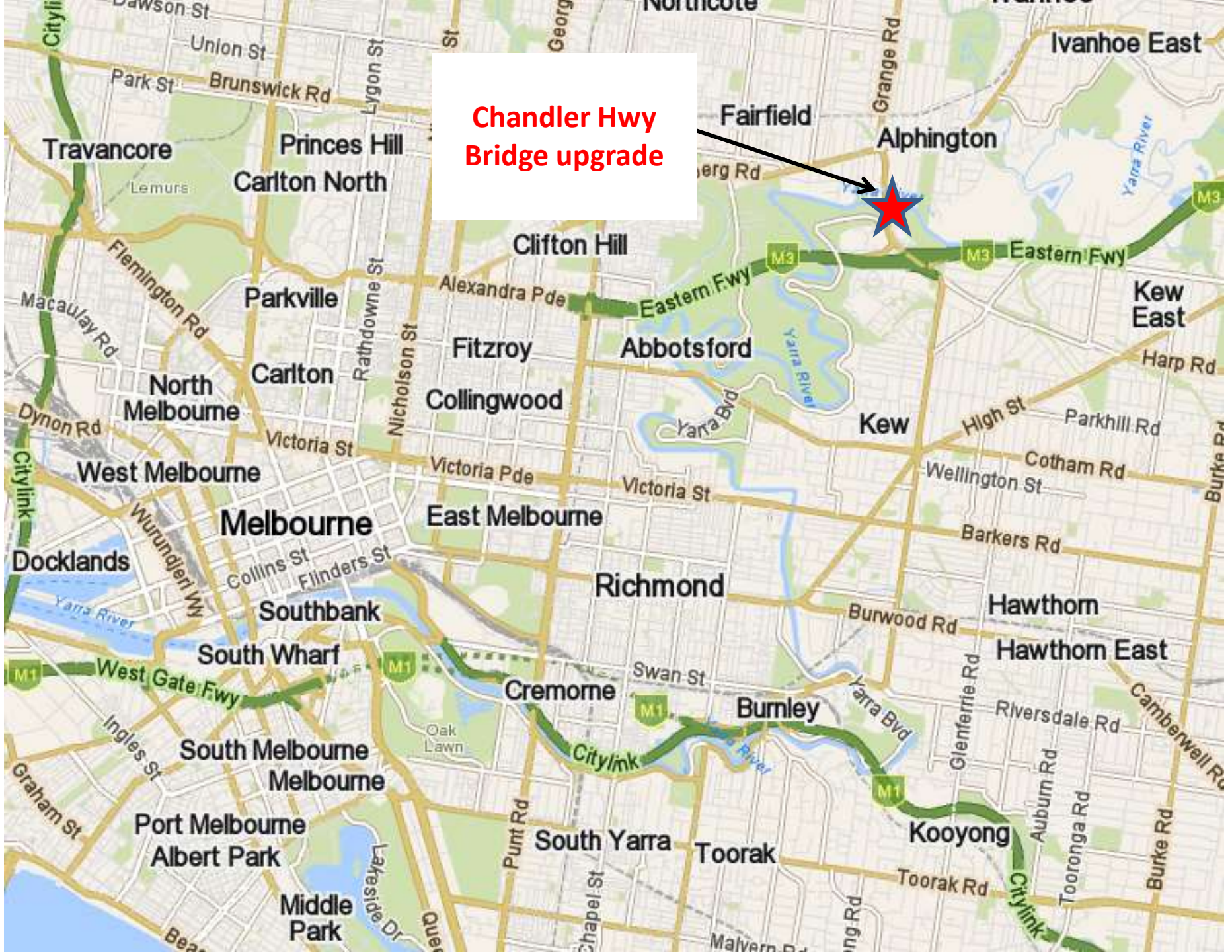
Source: *Cultural Heritage Due Diligence Assessment, Muddy Ck, Yulecart, M. Mooney 2013.*



Source: *Calder Fwy, Kyneton to Faraday, Archaeological Monitoring during Construction, Dr. Vincent Clark & Associates, 2011.*



**Chandler Hwy
Bridge upgrade**



Chandler Hwy Bridge Upgrade CHMP 13765

- New bridge across the Yarra River and new shared-user paths.
- No Aboriginal heritage recorded during field survey (standard assessment) – poor ground visibility.
- Subsurface investigations: No Aboriginal heritage recorded. One 1 m x 1 m excavation pit, two 2 m x 1 m machine excavated pits and fourteen 400 mm x 400 mm shovel test pits were excavated (complex assessment).

Chandler Hwy Bridge Upgrade CHMP 13765

- A cultural heritage awareness induction must be undertaken by those project workers undertaking ground disturbing works (Wurundjeri to present induction).
- A copy of the CHMP must be kept on site during the construction project.
- Compliance inspections must be undertaken by Wurundjeri during the construction phase of the project.



Chandler Hwy Upgrade – Beyond compliance

Respect, recognition and acknowledgment

- 2 Welcome to country and smoking ceremonies for this project (opening of new bridge and at final completion of project).
- Interpretive elements to be incorporated into viewing platform; Woi-Wurrung language included on interpretive signs; Wurundjeri artwork.



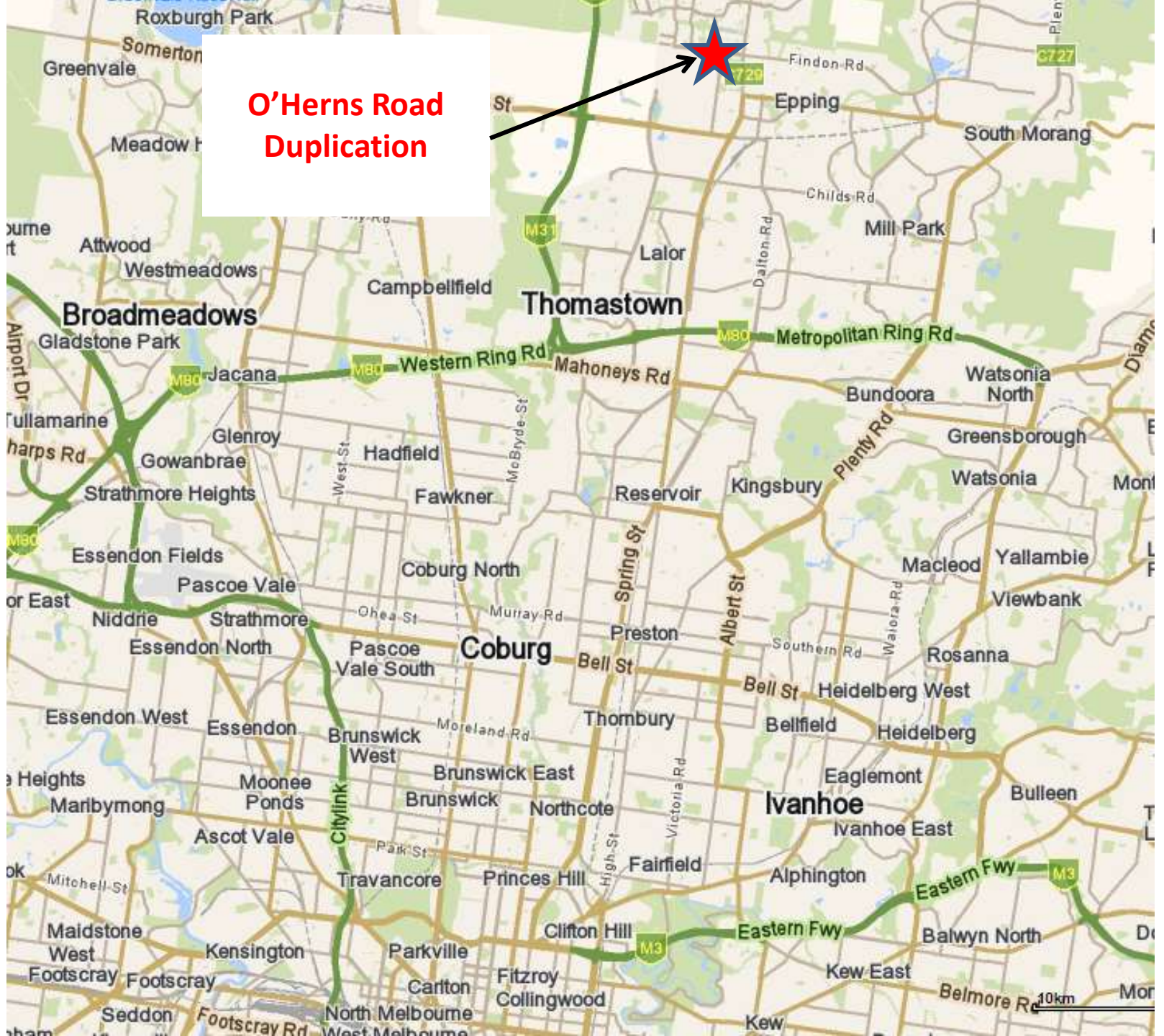
Education: local school opportunities

- Wurundjeri elder, Bill Nicholson to run a field visit and speak about the Yarra River (Birrarung).
- Wurundjeri teacher, Rebecca Axford, teaches the Woiwurrung language at Thornbury Primary School. Will form part of field visit.
- School children to work alongside Wurundjeri, VicRoads and Seymour Whyte (contractors) to undertake revegetation along the Yarra River.





**O'Herns Road
Duplication**



O'Herns Rd Duplication, Epping, CHMP 14428

- One Aboriginal heritage place previously recorded within the project area (subsurface stone artefact distribution)
- One surface artefact was recorded during the field survey (standard assessment).
- Four areas of archaeological potential were identified during this assessment. These places were all stony rises.
- Subsurface testing recorded stone artefacts on all four of the stony rises (complex assessment).



O'Herns Rd Duplication, Epping, CHMP 14428

- All personnel involved in overseeing or undertaking ground disturbing works to attend a cultural heritage induction prior to the commencement of works (Wurundjeri to provide induction).
- Compliance inspections during works
- Temporary fencing (no go zones)
- Salvage excavation
- Artefact reburial



O'Herns Rd Duplication, Epping, CHMP 14428

Beyond compliance

- A cultural ceremony took place prior to works commencing and prior to removal of large River Red Gum.
- Welcome to country and smoking ceremony.
- Attended by VicRoads, City of Whittlesea and community members.
- Tree reuse: donated back to community: park benches, artwork and the Wurundjeri people for cultural practices.





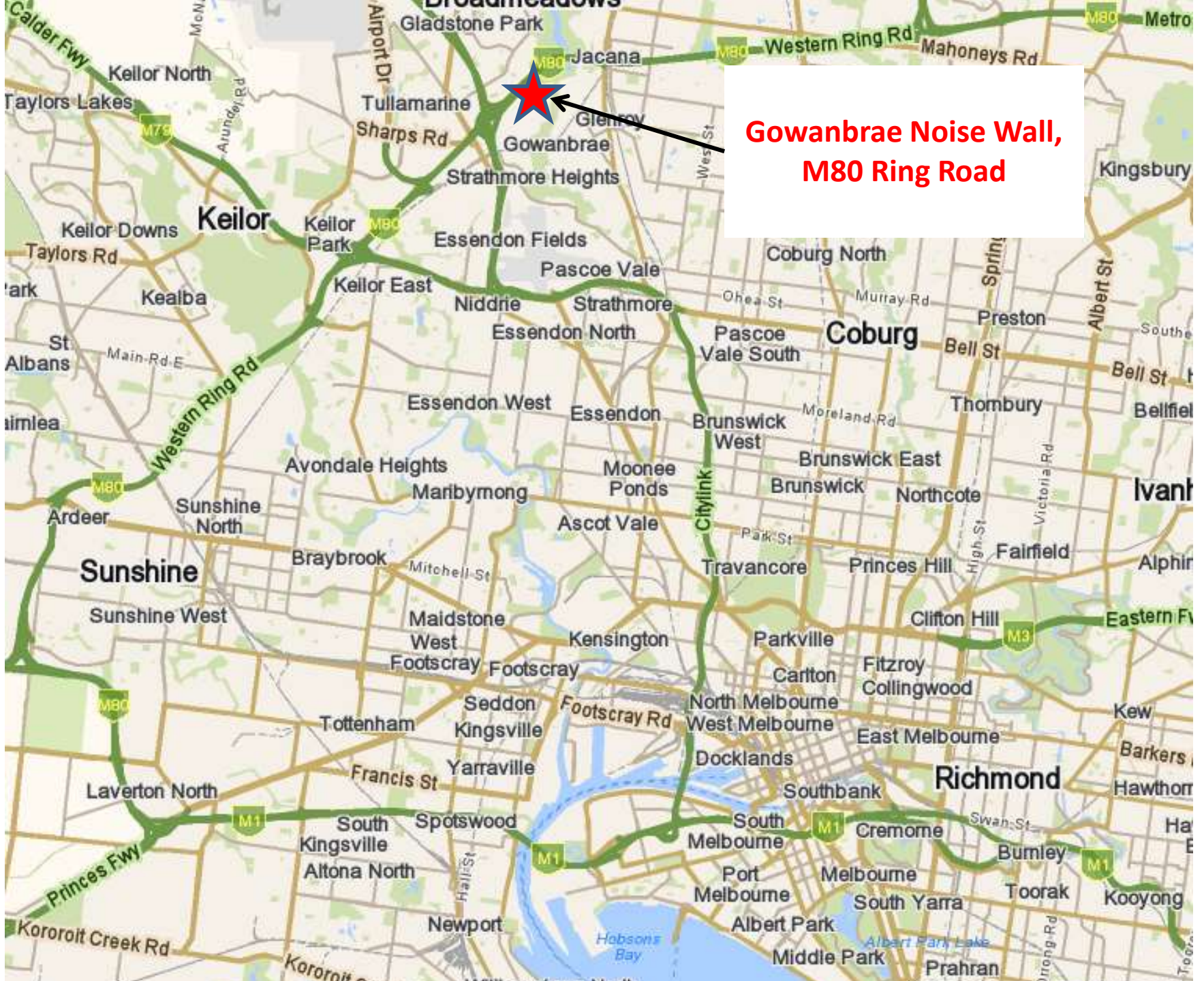
**Welcome to
Country**



**Smoking
Ceremony**



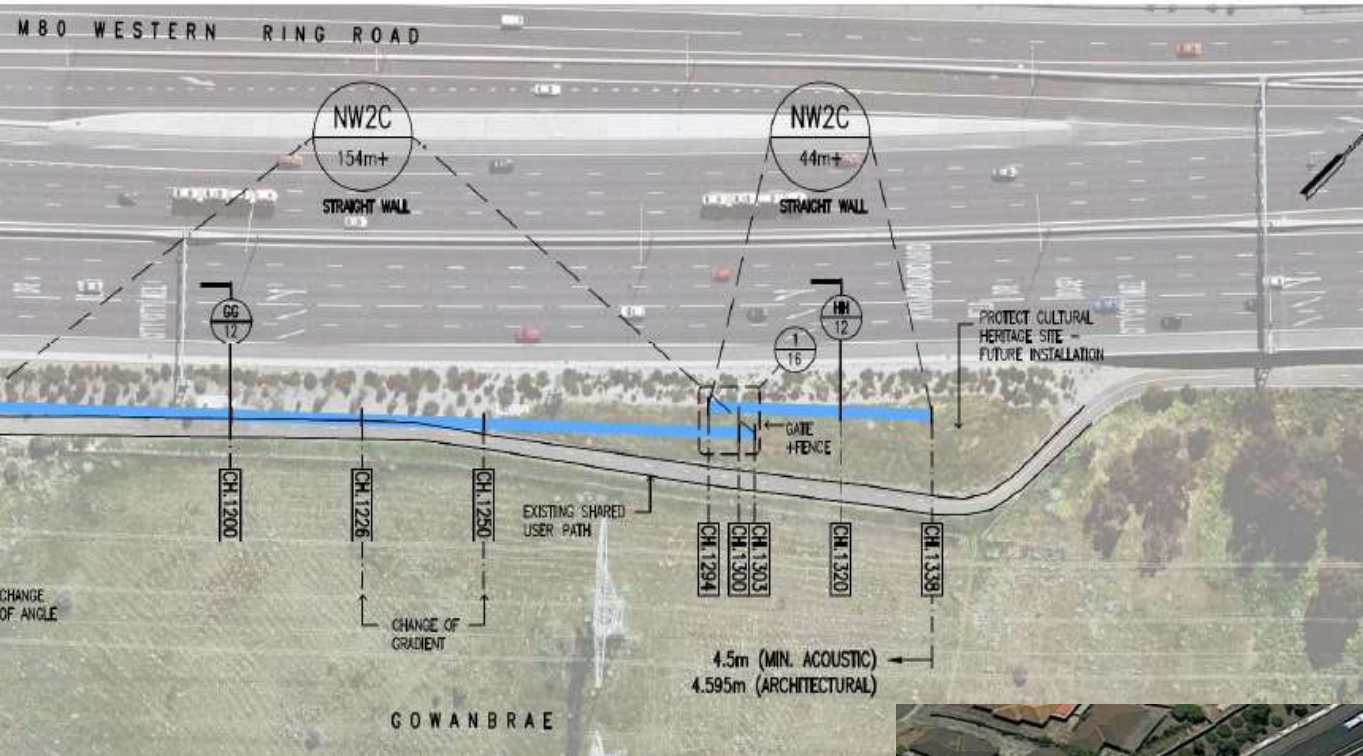




**Gowanbrae Noise Wall,
M80 Ring Road**

M80 (Metropolitan Ring Road), Gowanbrae: Noise Wall





**Gurragu
mang-mang
'Stop and
Remember'**

Wurundjeri
commemorative
garden and
revegetation.



M80 (Metropolitan Ring Road), Gowanbrae: Noise Wall



1. Revegetation and landscaping plans prepared
2. Planting of locally Indigenous tubestock.
3. Will complement planting along the Maribyrnong River and adjacent escarpment by Melbourne Water.
4. Work to be undertaken by Wurundjeri's Narrap (natural resource management) team.
5. Interpretative elements (signs, commemorative boulders etc).

Other initiatives on Wurundjeri country





Cultural Interpretation

Connections through country



THE BRIDGE
The bridge was built in 1870 by the NSW Government as part of the Sydney to Melbourne railway line. It was the first bridge of its kind in Australia and was a major engineering achievement of the time.

THE LAND
The land around the bridge was once a lush landscape of native plants and animals. It was a place of great beauty and was home to many different types of people.

THE PEOPLE
The bridge was built by a mix of people from different backgrounds. Some were from the local area and some were from other parts of the world. They all worked together to build this important piece of infrastructure.



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THANKS

